



**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
REPORT TO THE NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT
COUNCIL
OCTOBER 2006**

Fisheries managed by the State of Alaska since the last council report include salmon, crab, scallops and groundfish.

Salmon Troll Fishery (FIGURE 1)

The Southeast Alaska troll salmon spring season was prosecuted from April 15 through June 30. The spring season targets Alaska hatchery-produced Chinook salmon. Spring fisheries occur along chinook migration paths or near hatcheries and release sites.

The summer troll fishery occurs in state and federal waters east of Cape Suckling and north of Dixon Entrance, from July 1 through September 20. Trollers may harvest all salmon species, though the harvest of chinook salmon is limited to a specific quota. During the first chinook salmon opening which opened on July 1, trollers targeted 70 percent of their summer quota. The remainder of the chinook salmon quota was harvested in August, following closures for coho salmon conservation and/or allocation. In 2006, trollers were allowed to retain chinook

salmon during July 1–12 and August 13–22. After offloading their chinook salmon, trollers continued to fish for other salmon species. The coho salmon fishery is managed to ensure escapement goals and to achieve allocation guidelines established by the Alaska Board of Fisheries. In years of high coho salmon abundance, the season for coho salmon may be extended through September 30, if there are no conservation concerns. That was the case this season in the northern districts (outside waters north of Pt. Slocum, Icy Strait and Cross Sound, Northern Chatham Strait, Frederick Sound and Stephens Passage) and in the Yakutat area north of Cape Fairweather. Coho returns to the mainland systems in Lynn Canal, the Taku and Stikine Rivers and Yakutat area systems were coming in strong, and in the case of the Taku, a near record year. The southern districts were not extended due to concerns for reduced returns to the low gradient systems that may have been more severely affected by the 2004 drought.

High prices kept the effort higher than normally seen during an extension, as prices for coho were as high as \$2.85/lb in some areas.

Aleutian Islands Golden King Crab (FIGURE 2)

The 2006/07 Area O (Aleutian Islands) commercial golden king crab fishery opened Tuesday, August 15, 2006 and will close at 11:59 PM on Tuesday, May 15, 2007 for Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ), Community Development Quota (CDQ) and the Adak Community Allocation (ACA) fisheries. A total allowable catch (TAC) of 5.7 million pounds is established for the golden king crab fishery. The TAC is apportioned east and west of 174° W Longitude.

The eastern TAC of 3.0 million pounds is apportioned as follows:

IFQ 2,700,000

CDQ 300,000

The western TAC of 2.7 million pounds is apportioned as follows:

IFQ 2,430,000

ACA 270,000

To date, approximately 1.33 million pounds of crab (49 percent) have been harvested in the Eastern subdistrict with 0.3 million pounds (13 percent) harvested in the Western subdistrict.

Pribilof Islands King Crab and St. Matthew Island Blue King Crab (FIGURE 3a, b)

The Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) have completed analysis of 2006 NMFS trawl survey results for the Saint Matthew Island Section and Pribilof District of king crab Registration Area Q. King crab population and biomass estimates for these areas were made using survey data and catch-survey analysis model output. Based on survey results, the Saint Matthew Island Section blue king crab and the Pribilof District red and blue king crab fisheries will remain closed for the 2006/07 season.

Saint Matthew Island Section blue king crab: (FIGURE 3a)

Survey estimates for Saint Matthew blue king crabs indicate continued low though slightly increased abundance of mature male and female crabs. The stock is above the mature male biomass threshold of 2.9 million pounds of mature males. However, the calculated total allowable catch (TAC) is only 0.90 million pounds, well below the harvest strategy minimum TAC of 2.5 million pounds. The minimum TAC plays an important role in promoting stock rebuilding and is an important determinant in the rebuilding schedule for this stock.

Pribilof District red and blue king crab: (FIGURE 3b)

Survey results of Pribilof District blue king crabs indicate continued low abundance. The minimum threshold for a fishery opening is a total mature biomass (TMB) estimate of at least 13.2 million pounds of blue king crabs for two consecutive years.

The 2006 estimate of TMB is 1.6 million pounds of mature blue king crabs, or approximately 12 percent of the threshold value and the second lowest on record. The Pribilof blue king crab stock has not achieved the minimum threshold for opening and will remain closed.

Estimates of TMB and mature male abundance for Pribilof District red king crab in 2006 show an increase compared to estimates from previous years. Precision of the estimate for mature male abundance is poor, with a 95 percent confidence interval of ± 63 percent of the model point estimate. Most males captured during the 2006 survey were post-recruit legal crabs and survey indication of future recruitment to the mature or legal male size class was poor. Due to the continued decline in the blue king crab stock, the high degree of uncertainty surrounding the estimates of red king crab abundance, and concern for blue king crab bycatch, the red king crab fishery in the Pribilof District will remain closed for the 2006/2007 season.

Bristol Bay Red King Crab (FIGURE 4)

The Alaska Department of Fish & Game and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) have completed analysis of NMFS trawl survey data for Bristol Bay red king crab. Abundance and biomass estimates were computed using survey data and length-based analysis model output.

The Bristol Bay red king crab stock is estimated to be above the mature female abundance threshold. The Effective Spawning Biomass (ESB) of the Bristol Bay red king crab stock is estimated to be 67.2 million pounds. Based on the 2006 data, ESB increased 9.3 percent between 2005 and 2006. Mature male abundance increased 7.4 percent over the 2005 estimate and legal male abundance increased 9.5 percent. Since the ESB estimate is greater than 55.0 million pounds, a 15 percent exploitation rate was applied to the estimated mature male abundance to derive total allowable catch (TAC) for the 2006/07 season as follows:

IFQ	13,974,300 pounds
CDQ	1,552,700 pounds
Total	15,527,000 pounds

The 2006/07 TAC was calculated using an average live weight of 6.25 pounds per legal male crab and includes a 4.58 percent deduction based on handling mortality

associated with discarding of legal-size male red king crabs during the 2005/06 fishery.

The 2006/07 Bristol Bay red king crab fishery will open at 12:00 NOON on October 15 and will remain open through January 15, 2007. The pot limit for this fishery is 450 pots per vessel.

For all rationalized crab fisheries, current regulations require proof of a current valid United States Coast Guard (USCG) Commercial Fisheries Safety Decal before a vessel registration is issued. Participating vessels must also have an activated vessel monitoring system approved by National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

The operator of a vessel participating in IFQ, or CDQ crab fisheries must notify the USCG at least 24-hours prior to departing port when carrying crab pot gear.

Vessels participating in IFQ and CDQ fisheries may form gear operation cooperatives. Each vessel must register those vessels authorized to operate the vessel's gear at the time of registration. When a vessel transports crab pot gear to the fishing grounds for another vessel, the vessel owning the crab pot gear must be active within seven days in the registration area where the crab pot gear is deployed.

Bering Sea Snow Crab (FIGURE 5)

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) have completed analysis of NMFS trawl survey data for the Bering Sea snow crab stock and of stock abundance and biomass indices estimated by the area-swept method and by the 2006 snow crab assessment model.

The total mature biomass (TMB) of male and female snow crabs in the Bering Sea is estimated to be above the harvest strategy minimum threshold for a fishery opening. The 2006/07 snow crab total allowable catch (TAC) is summarized as follows:

IFQ	32,909,400 pounds
CDQ	3,656,600 pounds
Total	36,566,000 pounds

The 2006/07 snow crab TAC was calculated using an exploitation rate of 14.88 percent applied to the mature male biomass. This calculation resulted in a TAC greater than the harvest strategy cap of 58 percent of the exploited legal male abundance. Therefore the 2006/07 TAC was set using a 58 percent harvest rate on the exploited legal male abundance. Exploited legal males are defined as all new-shell male snow crabs greater than or equal to four inches carapace width (CW) and 25 percent of old-shell male snow crabs greater than or equal to four inches CW.

The 2006/07 Bering Sea snow crab fishery will open at 12:00 NOON October 15, 2006 and will remain open through May 15, 2007 in the Eastern Subdistrict and through May 31, 2007 in the Western Subdistrict. The snow crab fishery is open in all waters of the Bering Sea District west of 166° W Longitude, except for ADF&G statistical area 695700 which lies between 169° W Longitude and 170° W Longitude and 57° N Latitude and 57° 30' N Latitude. ADF&G statistical area 695700 will be closed to commercial fishing for snow crabs to protect the Pribilof blue king crab stock. The majority of blue king crabs captured during the 2006 survey were found in or in close proximity to this statistical area. This closure reduced snow crab TAC calculations for 2006/07 by 0.248 million pounds. The pot limit for this fishery is 450 pots per vessel.

Vessel operators may harvest Tanner crab and snow crab concurrently. Each vessel operator is restricted to a single species allocation of crab pot gear (450 pots) and must designate at the time of registration the quantity of pot gear registered and the quantity of pot gear configured for each species.

Vessel operators shall notify the department within 72-hours of completing fishing operations in a registration area or when departing the registration area with gear in

long-term storage. The Board of Fisheries established a 14-day period when unbaited gear may be stored outside of designated storage areas after fishing is completed. Pots must be removed from the water or placed in long-term storage if left unattended in a registration area for more than a 14-day period. Additionally, a vessel's registration will be invalidated after 14-days of inactivity in a registration area.

Bering Sea Tanner Crab (FIGURE 6)

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) have completed analysis of NMFS trawl survey data for the Bering Sea Tanner crab stock. The Bering Sea Tanner crab stock is above the minimum mature female biomass threshold of 21.0 million pounds. The Bering Sea District Tanner crab stock is managed east and west of 166° W Longitude, with a separate total allowable catch (TAC) for each area. There is no minimum total allowable catch (TAC) for Bering Sea District Tanner crab. The department calculated the TAC east of 166° W Longitude, using a 10 percent harvest rate applied to the molting mature male abundance. West of 166° W Longitude, the TAC was calculated using a 25 percent harvest rate applied to the exploitable legal male abundance estimate. The 2006/07 Bering Sea District Tanner crab TACs are summarized as follows:

IFQ - East	1,687,500 pounds
CDQ - East	187,500 pounds
Total - East	1,875,000 pounds

IFQ - West	984,600 pounds
CDQ - West	109,400 pounds
Total - West	1,094,000 pounds

In the area west of 166° W Longitude, ADF&G statistical area 695700 which lies between 169° W Longitude and 170° W Longitude and 57° N Latitude and 57° 30' N Latitude will be closed to commercial fishing for Tanner crab to protect the Pribilof blue king crab stock. The majority of blue king crabs captured during the 2006 survey were found in this area. Approximately 326,000 exploitable legal male Tanner crabs were estimated to be in this statistical area, however those estimates were not used in setting the 2006/07 TAC.

The 2006/07 Bering Sea Tanner crab fishery will open at 12:00 NOON on October 15, 2006 and will remain open through March 31, 2007. The pot limit for this fishery is 450 pots per vessel. Vessel operators may harvest Tanner crab and snow crab concurrently west of 166° W Longitude, as well as Tanner crab and Bristol Bay red king crab east of 166° W Longitude. Between 163° W Longitude and 166° W Longitude, Tanner crab may only be harvested in the directed Tanner crab fishery. Vessel operators may not concurrently register for Tanner crab fishing east and west of 166° W Longitude. Each vessel operator is restricted to a single species allocation of crab pot gear (450 pots) and must designate at the time of registration the quantity of pot gear registered and the quantity of pot gear configured for each species.

Weathervane Scallops (FIGURE 7)

Weathervane scallop fisheries in the Yakutat, Prince William Sound, Kodiak, Alaska Peninsula, Bering Sea, and Adak Registration Areas opened on July 1, 2006. The Kamishak district of Cook Inlet opened on August 15, 2006. Staff will review fishery performance during the season to assess if the upper end of the Guideline Harvest Range (GHR) should be taken or if harvests should be limited within the range. The department may close the season prior to achieving the upper end of the GHR if fishery performance is at or below fishery performance benchmarks as measured by catch per unit effort (CPUE). In the Northeast District of the Kodiak Area, the GHR will be 0 to 90,000 pounds of shucked meats with harvest capped by statistical area(s) as follows, (1) the harvest cap in statistical area 525702 is 30,000 pounds, (2) the harvest cap in statistical area 525630 is 20,000 pounds, (3) the harvest cap for the remainder of the Northeast District south of a line at Cape Izhut

(58° 06.00' N Latitude.), is 25,000 pounds, and (4) the harvest cap for the area north of the line at Cape Izhut (58° 06.00' N Latitude.) is 15,000 pounds.

In the Shelikof District of the Kodiak Area, the GHR will be 0 to 160,000 pounds of shucked meats. Statistical areas 535831 and 535832 will be managed as one unit, with a maximum harvest of 130,000 pounds of shucked meats. Statistical areas 535801 and 535802 will be managed as one unit, with a maximum harvest of 30,000 pounds of shucked meats.

In the Alaska Peninsula Registration Area, historically important scallop grounds between 160° W Longitude and 161° W Longitude will open for a small exploratory fishery with a guideline harvest range 0 to 15,000 pounds of shucked meats. The harvest will be capped at 10,000 pounds of shucked meats from any single statistical area between 160° W Longitude and 161° W Longitude. Catch data from this area will be reported on a 24 hour basis. The department may allow the harvest to reach the upper end of the GHR if catch and effort is distributed among statistical areas and fishery performance (CPUE) is at acceptable levels. The GHR for the remainder of the Alaska Peninsula Registration Area, outside of 160° W Longitude and 161° W Longitude, will be 0 to 10,000 pounds of shucked meats.

The Dutch Harbor Registration Area will remain closed to allow for recruitment and growth of the stock.

Several areas have closed for the remainder of the 2006/07 regulatory season. These include fisheries in the Shelikof District of the Kodiak Registration Area, and the waters between Cape St. Elias and Kayak Island.

Central Region Pacific Cod (FIGURE 8)

Prince William Sound

The 2006 Prince William Sound state managed Pacific cod season open at noon on March 7, 2006, which was seven days after the close of the federal fishery. The GHL has been set at 910,730 pounds, which is calculated as 10 percent of the

federal Eastern Gulf ABC. Only one vessel has participated in the fishery, therefore harvest data remains confidential.

Cook Inlet

The GHL for the 2006 state waters season is 3,131,088 pounds. That GHL is calculated as 3.75 percent of the Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) for the federal Central Gulf of Alaska area. In Cook Inlet, the state waters fishery opened on March 1, 2006 which was twenty-four hours after the close of the federal fishery. Approximately 1.2 million pounds of Pacific cod has been harvested by the pot sector to date. By regulation, the fishing season for vessels longer than 58 feet in overall length with pot gear shall close when 25 percent of the guideline harvest level has been taken by those vessels. That occurred on May 1, 2006. Jig effort remains confidential given the number of fishermen participating. Because jig gear did not harvest their allocation, by regulation the remaining fish became available to both gears again on September 1, 2006. On October 2, 2006, the state waters fishery closed to allow the opening of the parallel fishery. This allows additional gear participation in the fishery.

Westward Region Pacific Cod (FIGURE 9)

Kodiak Pacific Cod (FIGURE 10)

The Kodiak fishery opened on March 7, 2006 which was seven days after the close of the federal fishery. The GHL is 10.43 million pounds, which is 12.5 percent of the Central Gulf of Alaska ABC. The GHL is allocated 50 percent to mechanical jig and hand troll gears and 50 percent to pot gear. The fishery closed to pot gear on March 29, 2006. The catch for that sector is about 4.9 million pounds. Harvest by the jig fleet continued until September 1, 2006, when the fishery closed to allow the parallel fishery to resume with the federal "B" season reopener. Closing the state-waters fishery and allowing the parallel season to open, allows more effort and gear types, but does not exclude any gear type from the fishery. All gear types that would normally participate in a state-waters fishery would be allowed to fish under parallel fishery rules. In addition to the state-waters gear types, longline, and trawl effort would be allowed.

Pacific cod fishing is generally slower during the fall, and there is usually less effort. If fishing is slow and/or if effort is low the less restrictive parallel fishery regulations would allow the opportunity for more participation and harvest. Vessel operators that were participating in the Kodiak, Chignik, or South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters season were required to deliver their harvest prior to participating in the parallel 'B' season. Harvest had to be delivered within 48-hours of the September 1st closure. The final jig harvest under the state fishery was about 1.5 million pounds. Jig fishing in Kodiak was not as productive as past years. Pacific cod in the Kodiak area also did not seem as concentrated as they were in past years. While Pacific cod price was high, so was fuel. Many participants also fished or tendered salmon, reducing effort.

Chignik Pacific Cod (FIGURE 11)

The Chignik area Pacific cod season opened by regulation on March 1, 2006. The GHL is 7.3 million pounds, which is calculated as 8.75 percent of the Central Gulf of Alaska ABC. The GHL is split to allow pot fishermen 90 percent of the quota. In the Chignik District, approximately 3.4 million pounds had been harvested by the pot fleet through September 1, 2006. There had been no harvest from the jig fleet by that time. The fishery closed September 1, 2006 to allow additional gear sectors to operate under the state's parallel fishery guidelines. As with Kodiak, this fleet stopped fishing with half the quota remaining to start salmon fishing. Other factors impacting the fleet were the high fuel price and dispersed fish.

South Alaska Peninsula Pacific Cod (FIGURE 12)

The Pacific cod fishery in the South Alaska Peninsula opened on March 9, 2006. This was seven days after the closure of the federal fishery in the Western Gulf of Alaska. The GHL is 14.8 million pounds, which is 25 percent of the Western Gulf of Alaska ABC. The harvest is allocated 85 percent to pot gear and 15 percent to jig gear. Pot harvest in this fishery reached approximately 11.6 million pounds, and the fishery finally closed to pot gear on April 8, 2006. The jig fleet harvested about 72,000 pounds of their 2.2 million pound allocation. This season is in contrast to the past six seasons (2000-2005) when the jig fleet harvested all remaining quota. Jig

fishermen reported early in the season that fish were not concentrated, making them more difficult to catch and costly to pursue. As was the case with Kodiak and Chignik, the Peninsula fishery also closed on September 1, 2006 to allow fishermen to operate in state waters under the parallel fishery regulations.

Aleutian Islands Pacific Cod (FIGURE 13)

The state-waters Pacific cod fishery in the Aleutian Islands District west of 170° W Longitude reopened on June 10, 2006. The remaining portion of the 2006 state-waters guideline harvest level (GHL) was 4,349,592 pounds, or 33.9 percent of the GHL. During the March 2006 state-waters Pacific cod season 8,481,180 pounds or 66.1 percent of the GHL was harvested.

The state-waters fishery was open to jig, pot, longline and non-pelagic trawl gear types. However, trawl and longline gear could not be used from May 1 through September 15, unless operating in the 60 feet and under vessel size limitation areas near Adak Island. In Sitkin Sound, near Adak Island, the vessel size limit is in effect year-round for all gear types.

Five boats participated in the fishery, and less than 5 percent of the GHL was harvested. There were three smaller vessels, and two large ones. Many vessels that indicated an interest in participating were involved with other fisheries and subsequently never participated in the cod fishery for this area. Fishermen reported difficulty initially locating fish, but several indicated that once on them, they did well. Regardless, the GHL was not expected to be reached by the regulatory closure on December 31, 2006. In order to maximize harvest opportunity in state-waters, the state-waters fishery for Pacific cod in that portion of the Aleutian Islands District west of 170° W Longitude closed to commercial fishing at 11:59 AM September 1, 2006. As was done in the Gulf of Alaska, state-waters immediately reopened to commercial fishing for Pacific cod at 12:00 NOON September 1 under parallel fishery rules. This reopening coincided with the federal Pacific cod opening in waters more than three miles offshore of the Aleutian Islands. The department will make 3.5 million pounds of the projected unharvested portion of the state-waters GHL available for harvest in federal/parallel fisheries. The department will hold

500,000 pounds of the state-waters GHL in reserve to allow for a potential reopening of the state-waters fishery. The department will evaluate reopening the state-waters fishery based on effort and fishing opportunity provided in the parallel Pacific cod fishery in the Aleutian Islands District. The Aleutian Islands District Pacific Cod Management Plan has a provision to allow the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to return projected unharvested GHL to NMFS. The management plan provision is: 5 AAC 28.647 Aleutian Islands District Pacific Cod Management Plan(C). If the commissioner determines that the guideline harvest level will not be harvested in the state waters season, the commissioner may notify the National Marine Fisheries Service that the projected unharvested guideline harvest level may be available for harvest in the federal fishery.

Fishermen participating in the parallel fishery are required to complete a Westward Region groundfish registration and comply with all vessel monitoring system requirements, Steller sea lion protection measures and bycatch limits. In addition, the six Aleutian Islands coral garden protection area closures made by the department on March 16, 2006 and vessel size limit restrictions near Adak remain in effect.

This is the first year that the Aleutian Islands District Pacific cod fishery management plan has been in effect. As currently written, the management plan for the state waters fishery sunsets December 31, 2007. The Alaska Board of Fisheries will be revisiting the Aleutian Islands fishery during their October 2006 work session on October 14-15 in Anchorage.

Southeast Groundfish (FIGURE 14)

In Southeast Alaska, the lingcod fishery closed in the Icy Bay Sector (IBS) on June 7, 2006 to retention as the all gear (directed fishery, and longline and troll bycatch) quota of 66,660 pounds was taken. Participation in the directed fishery based out of Yakutat was quite high forcing the fishery closed after only three weeks. The directed fishery took approx 63,000 pounds and longliners took almost 17,000 pounds. Longline retention of lingcod was permitted at the start of the IFQ season.

The Icy Bay Sector was closed prior to the start of the troll season in this area, therefore trollers were denied any lingcod bycatch this year.

During this reporting period, troll bycatch of lingcod was closed in waters of the Northern Southeast Outside (NSEO) in July, and for the Southern Southeast Outer Coast (SSEOC) in August. The longline bycatch was also closed in Southern Southeast Inside (SSEI) waters in late July.

Directed lingcod landings have been sporadic with most of the effort in the Central Southeast Outside (CSEO). Approximately half of the 86,400 pounds CSEO quota and one third of the 50,000 lbs SSEOC quota have been taken. NSEO effort is low and most of the 17,000 pound quota remains.

The Southern Southeast Inside (SSEI) or Clarence Strait longline fishery which opened June 1 2006, closed by regulation on August 15, 2006. Approximately 456,000 pounds were harvested. The SSEI pot fishery (4 permits) opened on September 1, 2006.

The Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) or Chatham Strait longline fishery opened on August 15, 2006 with a harvest objective of 2,053,000 round pounds. The equal quota share for the 105 permits is 19,550 pounds. Approximately 850,000 pounds have been landed to date. The fishery closes by regulation on November 15.

Small amounts of Pacific cod bycatch have being landed in the IFQ fisheries. There have been no vessels targeting Pacific cod since early spring.

In the directed Southeast black rockfish fishery, there has been no recent activity. Only about 7,000 pounds have been landed by that fleet.

Alaska Board of Fisheries (FIGURE 15)

The Alaska Board of Fisheries will be meeting in Anchorage at the Howard Johnson hotel, beginning on Thursday, October 12, 2006. The first two days will be devoted to their work session; dealing with Agenda Change Requests, cycle organization,

and stocks of concern. On October 14-15, they will take up 6 proposals that might be of interest to the NPFMC.

- Proposal 1, submitted by the King Cove Advisory Committee, seeks to establish a state waters pollock fishery for the Western Gulf of Alaska area. They have requested a portion of the federal TAC equal to past history within 0-3 miles, plus 15 percent. They ask that the fishery be limited to vessels less than or equal to 58 feet in length.
- Proposal 2, submitted by the Sand Point Advisory Committee, also seeks to establish a state waters pollock fishery in their area. Similarly, they request average catch within 0-3 miles, plus 15 percent. There is no vessel length restriction.
- Proposal 3, submitted by the Aleut Enterprise Corporation, proposes several changes to the existing Aleutian Island Pacific cod management plan. These include changes to season dates, vessel size restrictions, and allocations based upon vessel size. It also asks the board to revisit the management plan in three years.
- Proposal 4, submitted by the department, proposes several changes to the existing Aleutian Island Pacific cod management plan. These changes would clarify board intent on fishing seasons, maintain daily harvest and trip limits, provide enforcement opportunities for those limits, and put coral garden closures in regulation.
- Proposal 5, submitted by the department on behalf of the board, would create a new state-managed pollock fishery in the Central Aleutian Islands area. Vessels would be restricted to less than or equal to 58 feet in length. Options establish open fishing areas and harvest limits, as well as other regulatory requirements.
- Proposal 6, submitted by the department on behalf of the board, would create a state waters pollock fishery in the Cook Inlet area. Options would determine whether the fishery was prosecuted as parallel or state-managed, as well as establishing harvest limits.

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
REPORT TO THE NPFMC
Agenda Item B-4**



October 2006

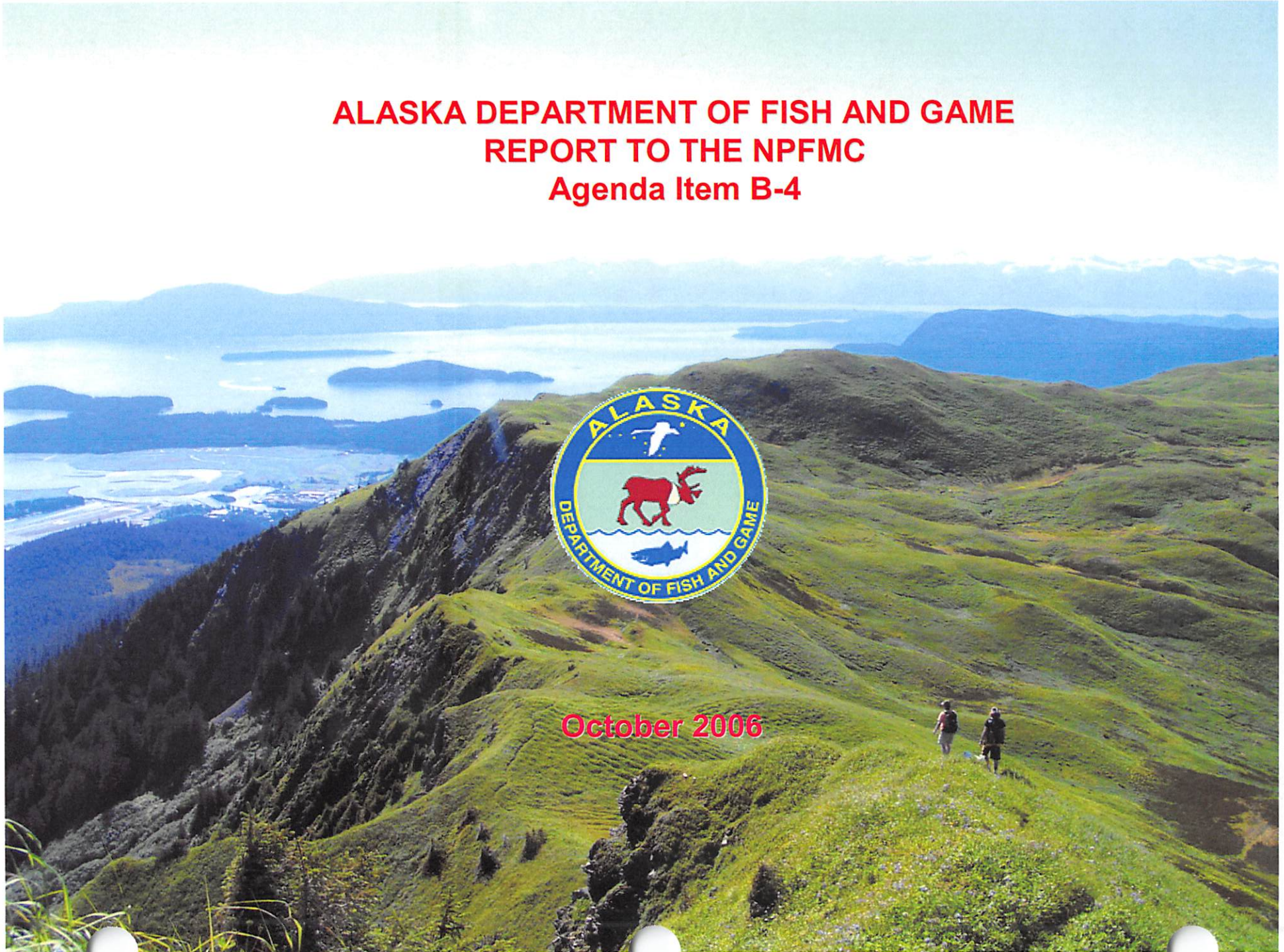


Figure 1.

SEAK Troll Salmon Catches

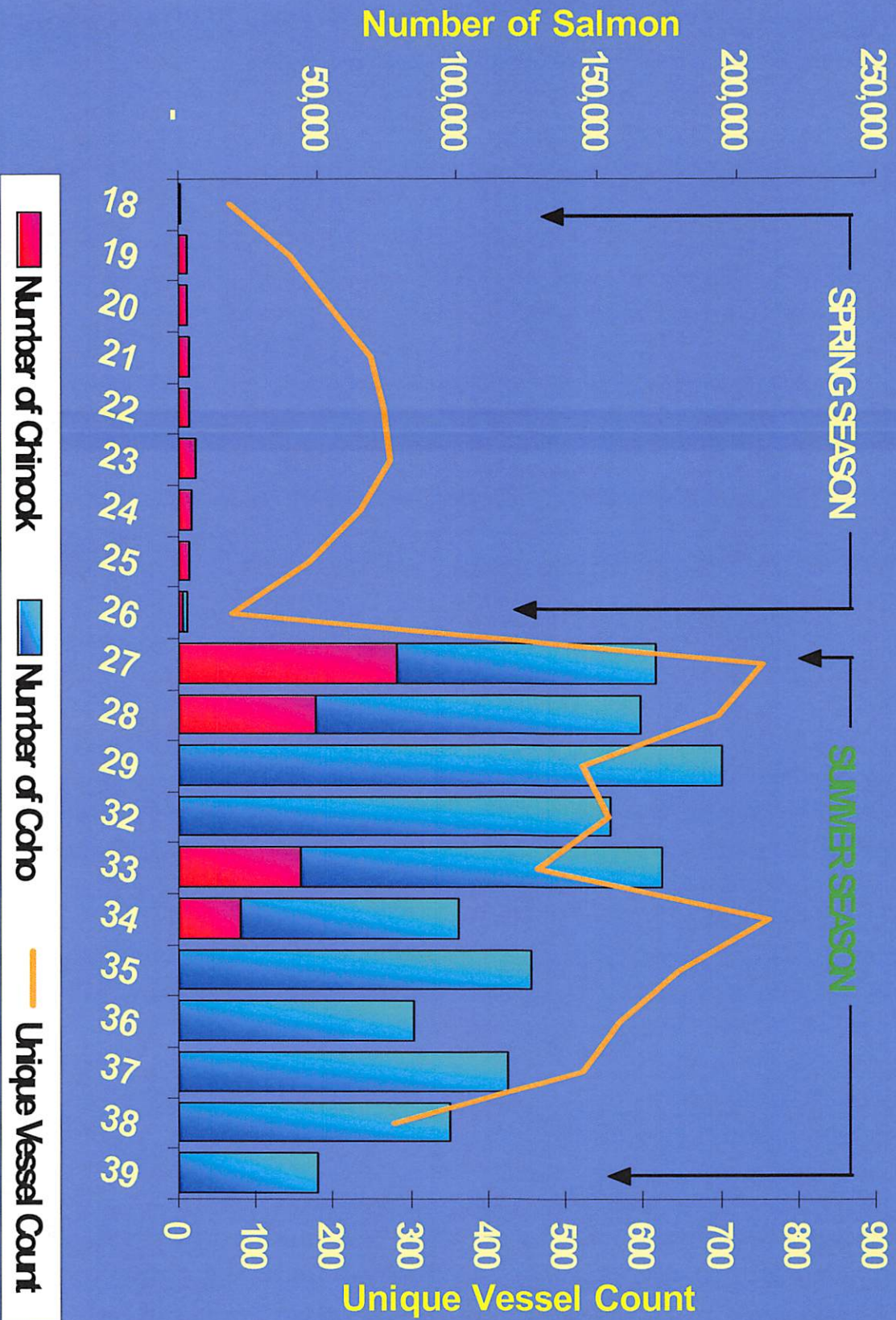
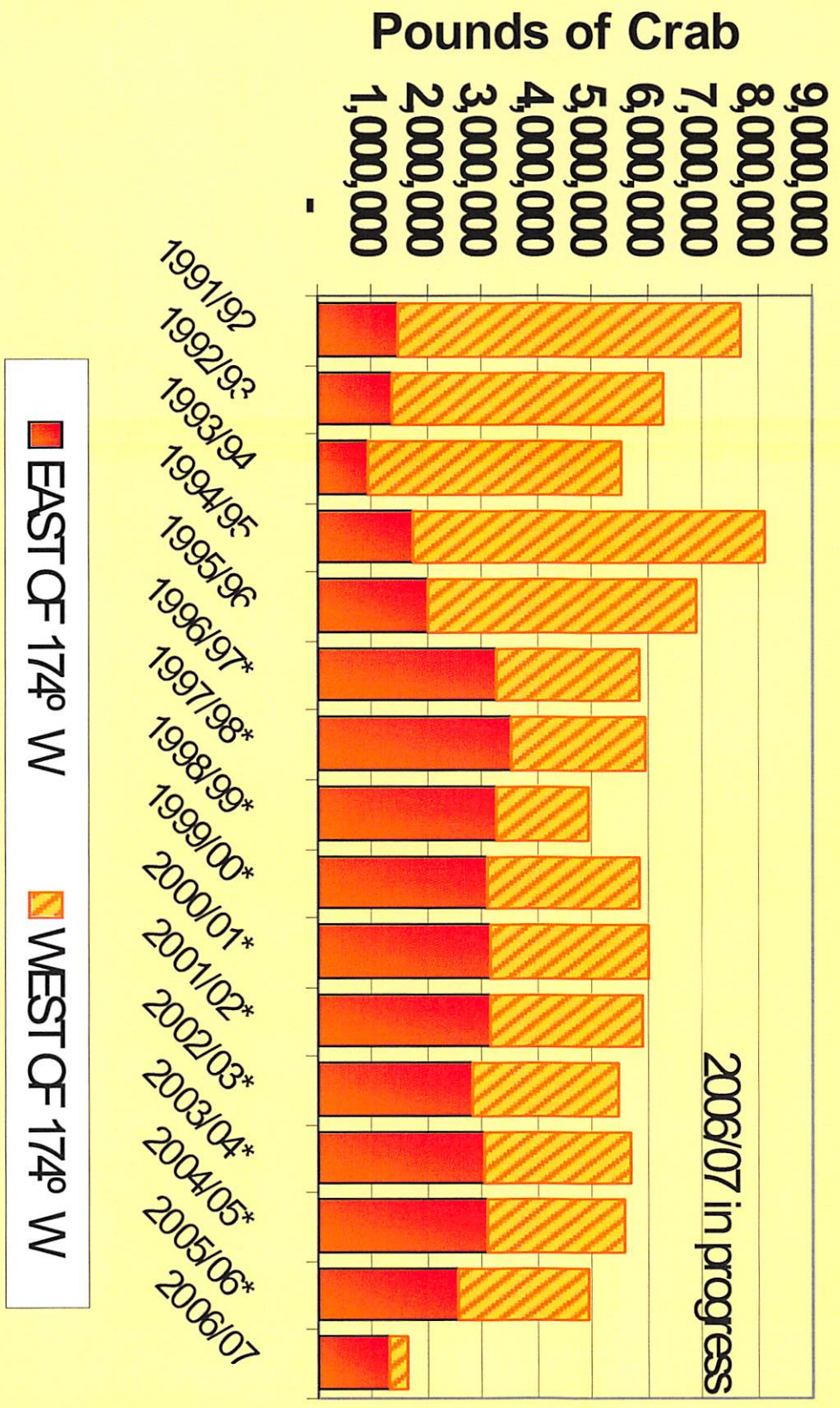


Figure 2

Aleutian Islands Golden King Crab Harvests



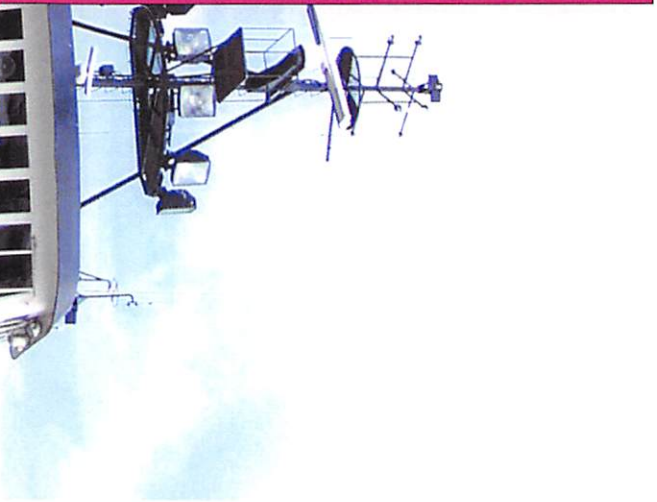
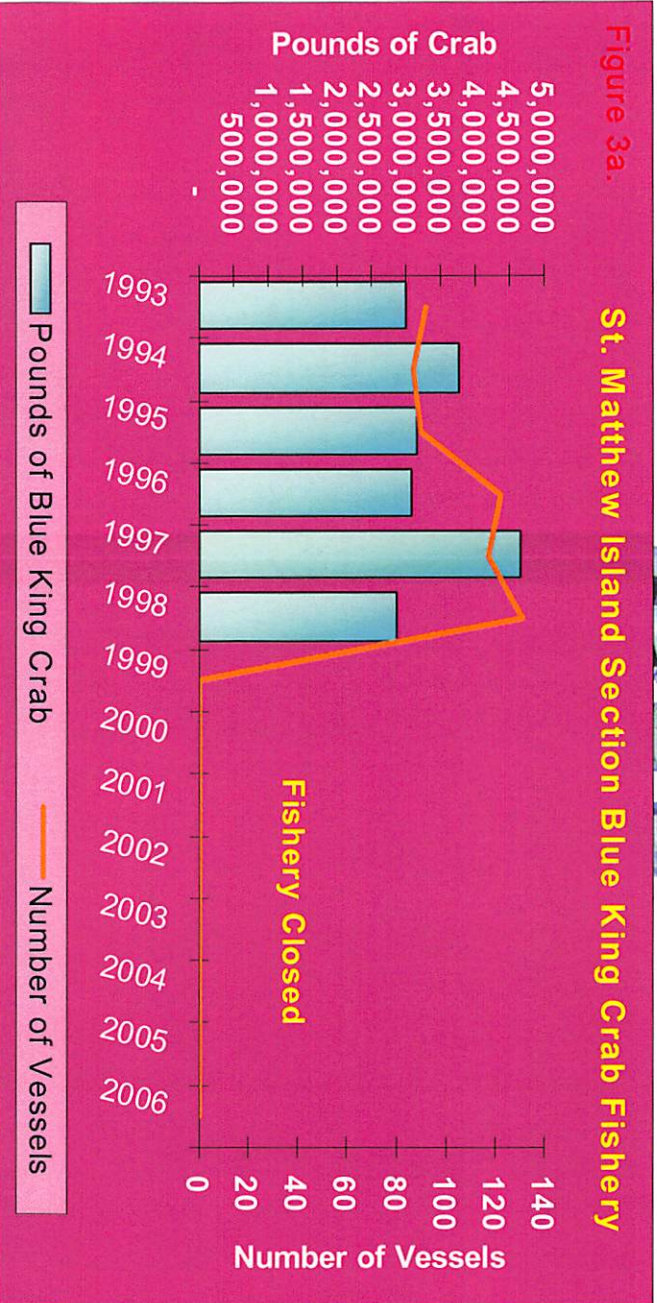
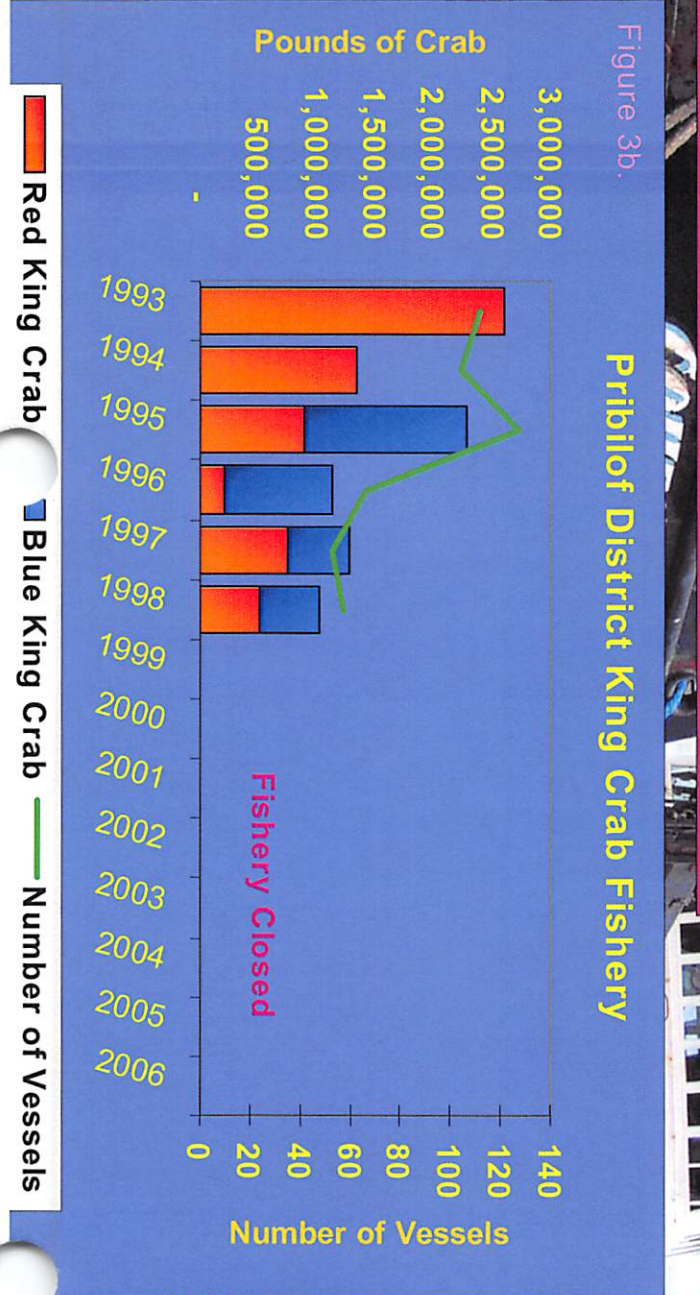


Figure 4.

Bristol Bay Red King Crab Harvests

GENERAL FISHERY ONLY

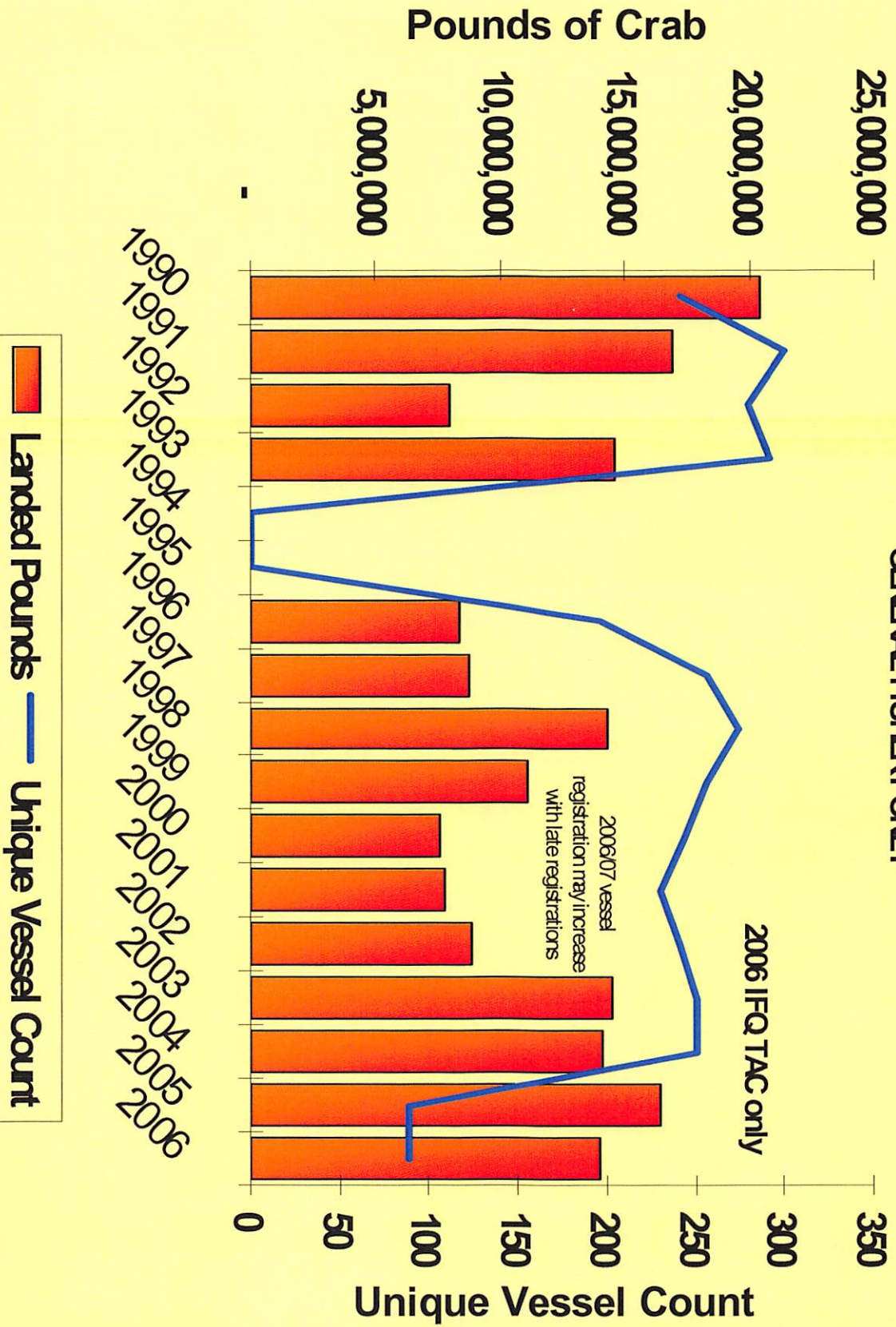


Figure 5.

Alaska *C. opilio* Crab Harvest

1998-2006 are General Fishery Only

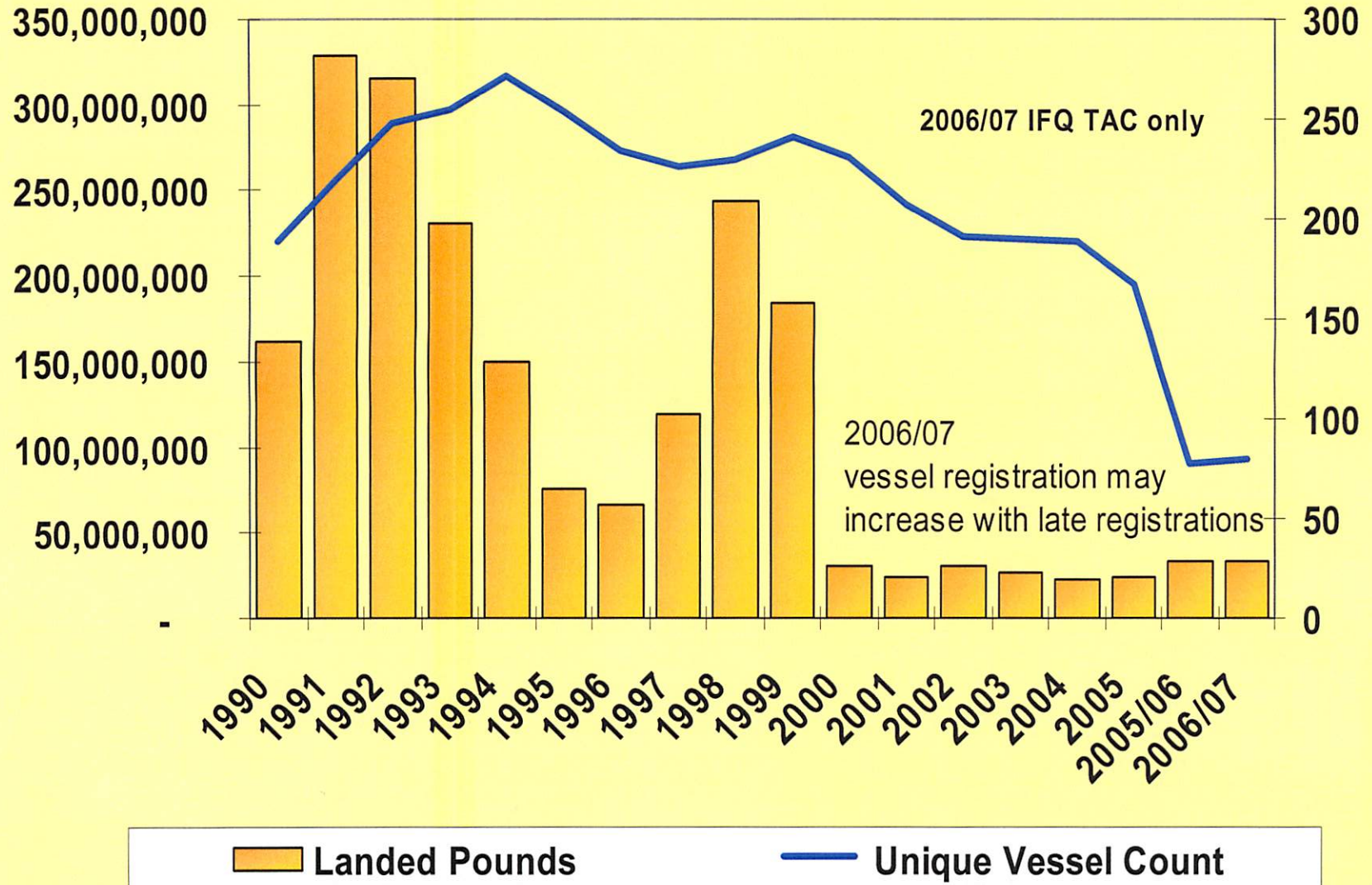
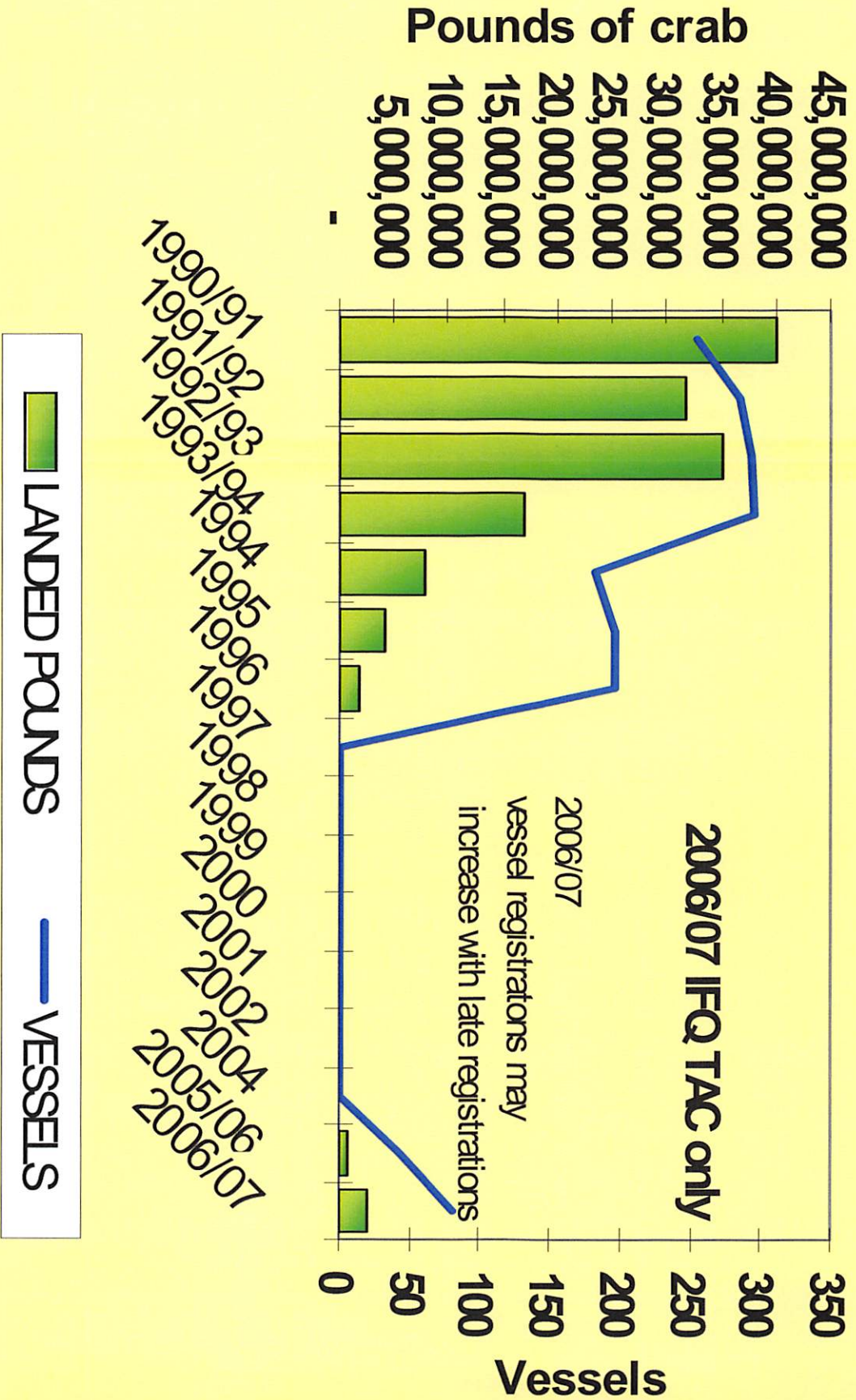


Figure 6.

BSA C. bairdi Harvest



WEATHERVANE SCALLOPS

Registration Area	Guideline Harvest Range (pounds of shucked meat)	Bycatch Limits	
		Tanner Crab	King Crab
Yakutat			
Area D	0 to 150,000	NA	NA
District 16	0 to 21,000	NA	NA
Prince William Sound	To be announced	To be announced	NA
Kodiak			
Northeast District	0 to 90,000 ¹	302,000	24 ²
Shelikof District	0 to 160,000 ³	66,132	76
Alaska Peninsula	0 to 25,000 ⁴	26,500	156
Dutch Harbor	Closed	NA	NA
Bering Sea	0 to 50,000	260,000 <i>C. bairdi</i> 300,000 <i>C. opilio</i> and hybrids	500
Adak	0 to 75,000	10,000	50

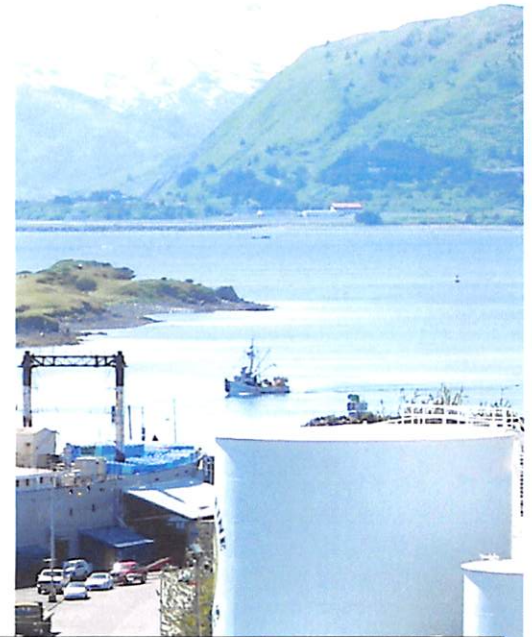


Figure 7.

Statewide Weathervane Scallop Harvests

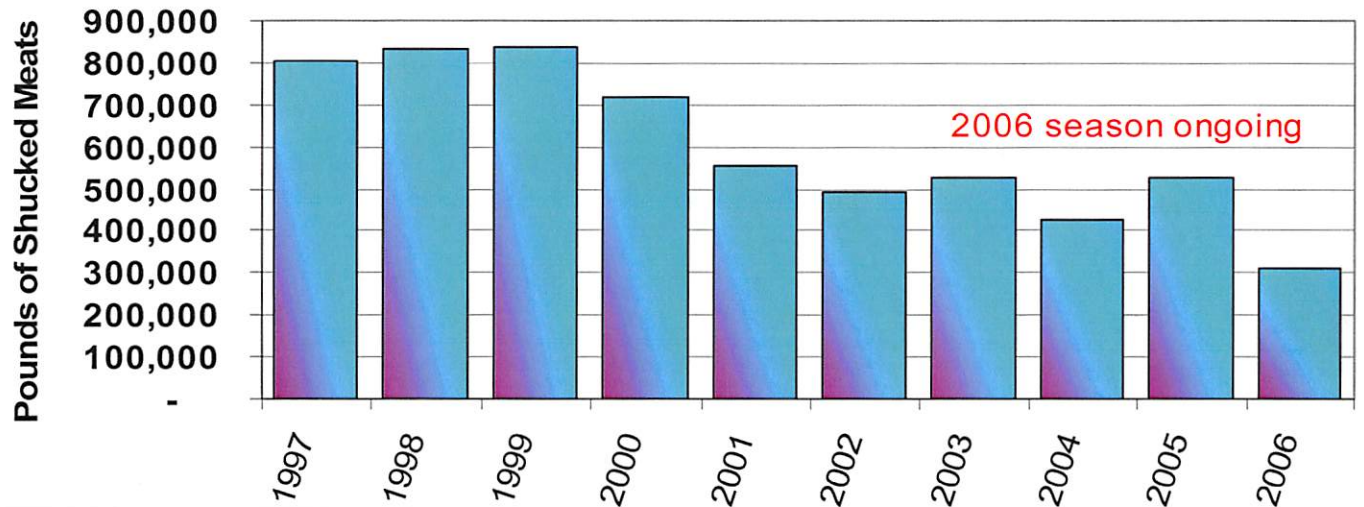


Figure 8. **2006 harvest guideline, effort, and catch reported for state water fisheries through Sept 15**

This summary censored for CONFIDENTIAL reports or records.

Pacific Cod		PARALLEL SEASON - STATE WATERS					
		Cook Inlet Management Area			Prince William Sound		
Gear		Vessels	Landings	Pounds	Vessels	Landings	Pounds
Hand troll		-	-	-	-	-	-
Jigs		-	-	-	-	-	-
Trawl		-	-	-	4	4	581
Longline		38	71	26,254	23	41	9,044
Pots		5	61	319,648	-	-	-
Totals		43	132	345,902	27	45	9,625
Status		Bycatch			Bycatch		
Federal seasons:		Directed Opened - Closed			Directed Opened - Closed		
Central Gulf		Jan 1 - noon Feb 28			Jan 1 - noon Feb 28		

Parallel season concurrent with federal waters of the Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA).
Totals include Pacific Cod bycatch to other directed fisheries e.g. halibut & sablefish.

Pacific Cod		*STATE SEASON - STATE WATERS					
		Cook Inlet Management Area			Prince William Sound		
GHL (lb)		3,131,088			910,730		
Gear		Vessels	Landings	Pounds	Vessels	Landings	Pounds
Jigs	782,772	1	Confidential	Confidential	1	Confidential	Confidential
Pots < 58'		10	139	1,201,741	-	-	-
Pots > 58'	782,772	1	Confidential	Confidential	-	-	-
Totals		12	149	1,201,741	1	Confidential	Confidential
State seasons:		Opened - Closed			Opened - Closed		
State seasons:		noon March 1 -			noon March 7 -		
Jigs		Open			Open		
*Status		Opened - Closed			Opened - Closed		
Pots		noon March 1 - noon May 1			noon March 7 -		
		June 15 - Oct 2					
*Status		Closed			Open		

*The state managed fishery for Pacific cod opens by emergency order to pot and jig gear under exclusive area registration 24 hours after the Federal closure in Cook Inlet and 7 days in PWS.
Includes only directed fishery harvest.

Gear and vessel length restrictions are not in effect after Sept 1.

Figure 9.

2006 STATE MANAGED GROUNDFISH
PRELIMINARY PACIFIC COD HARVEST BY FISHERY WEEK

updated 9/5/06



Vessel Registration

	Total	Pot	Jig
Current	106	-	106
Overall	150	44	106

2006 GHJL

10.43 Million Pounds

ALLOCATIONS:
50% Jigs, 50% Pots
Pots >58' restricted to 25% of total GHJL before Sept. 1.
Jigs = 5.21 million, Pots = 5.21 million, >58' pots 2.60 before Sept.1

DATES:

3/1 to 3/4

3/5 to 3/11

3/12 to 3/18

3/19 to 3/25

3/26 to 4/1

4/2 to 4/8

4/9 to 4/15

4/16 to 4/22

4/23 to 4/29

4/30 to 5/6

5/7 to 5/13

5/14 to 5/20

5/21 to 5/27

5/28 to 6/3

6/4 to 6/10

6/11 to 6/17

6/18 to 6/24

6/26 to 7/1

7/2 to 7/8

7/9 to 7/15

7/16 to 7/22

7/23 to 7/29

7/30 to 8/5

8/6 to 8/12

8/13 to 8/19

8/20 to 8/26

8/27 to 9/2

ACCUMULATIVE

CATCH

KODIAK				
	Total	Pot	Jig	
	106	-	106	
	150	44	106	
10.43 Million Pounds				
50% Jigs, 50% Pots Pots >58' restricted to 25% of total GHJL before Sept. 1. Jigs = 5.21 million, Pots = 5.21 million, >58' pots 2.60 before Sept.1				
	Pots		Jigs	
	Landings	Catch	Landings	Catch
Fishery Opens 3/7/06 at 12:00 Noon				
3/1 to 3/4	13	186,773	Confidential	Confidential
3/5 to 3/11	60	1,527,414	15	38,376
3/12 to 3/18	60	1,759,000	16	97,742
3/19 to 3/25	34	1,410,451	50	249,582
3/26 to 4/1	Closed 3/29		33	89,262
4/2 to 4/8	Closed 3/29		35	95,573
4/9 to 4/15	Closed 3/29		40	62,098
4/16 to 4/22	Closed 3/29		36	94,543
4/23 to 4/29	Closed 3/29		28	53,478
4/30 to 5/6	Closed 3/29		45	154,236
5/7 to 5/13	Closed 3/29		46	162,112
5/14 to 5/20	Closed 3/29		33	93,747
5/21 to 5/27	Closed 3/29		23	77,285
5/28 to 6/3	Closed 3/29		19	54,885
6/4 to 6/10	Closed 3/29		7	14,578
6/11 to 6/17	Closed 3/29		13	51,940
6/18 to 6/24	Closed 3/29		8	16,216
6/26 to 7/1	Closed 3/29		17	32,965
7/2 to 7/8	Closed 3/29		4	2,136
7/9 to 7/15	Closed 3/29		Confidential	Confidential
7/16 to 7/22	Closed 3/29		6	12,801
7/23 to 7/29	Closed 3/29		No Effort	
7/30 to 8/5	Closed 3/29		3	5,691
8/6 to 8/12	Closed 3/29		No Effort	
8/13 to 8/19	Closed 3/29		Confidential	Confidential
8/20 to 8/26	Closed 3/29		Closed 9/1	
8/27 to 9/2	Closed 3/29		Closed 9/1	
	167	4,883,638	477	1,459,246
	(Total combined)		6,342,884	

CHIGNIK				
	Total	Pot	Jig	
	18	15	3	
	18	15	3	
7.30 Million Pounds				
90% Pots, 10% Jigs Fishery opened 3/1/06 12:01 am Pots = 6.57 million Jigs = .73 million				
	Pots		Jigs	
	Landings	Catch	Landings	Catch
3/1 to 3/4	5	42,316	No Effort	
3/5 to 3/11	13	193,531	No Effort	
3/12 to 3/18	16	208,294	No Effort	
3/19 to 3/25	13	176,497	No Effort	
3/26 to 4/1	21	389,812	No Effort	
4/2 to 4/8	21	476,624	No Effort	
4/9 to 4/15	18	425,197	No Effort	
4/16 to 4/22	25	474,123	No Effort	
4/23 to 4/29	27	441,633	No Effort	
4/30 to 5/6	20	291,463	No Effort	
5/7 to 5/13	19	239,534	No Effort	
5/14 to 5/20	5	80,497	No Effort	
5/21 to 5/27	No Effort		No Effort	
5/28 to 6/3	No Effort		No Effort	
6/4 to 6/10	No Effort		No Effort	
6/11 to 6/17	No Effort		No Effort	
6/18 to 6/24	No Effort		No Effort	
6/26 to 7/1	No Effort		No Effort	
7/2 to 7/8	No Effort		No Effort	
7/9 to 7/15	No Effort		No Effort	
7/16 to 7/22	No Effort		No Effort	
7/23 to 7/29	No Effort		No Effort	
7/30 to 8/5	No Effort		No Effort	
8/6 to 8/12	No Effort		No Effort	
8/13 to 8/19	No Effort		No Effort	
8/20 to 8/26	No Effort		No Effort	
8/27 to 9/2	Closed 9/1		Closed 9/1	
	203	3,439,521	-	-
	(Total combined)		3,439,521	

SOUTH ALASKA PENINSULA				
	Total	Pot	Jig	
	24	-	24	
	67	43	24	
14.80 Million Pounds				
85% Pots, 15% Jigs Pots = 12.58 million Jigs = 2.22 million				
	Pots		Jigs	
	Landings	Catch	Landings	Catch
Fishery opens 3/9/06 at 12:00 Noon				
3/1 to 3/4	Confidential	Confidential	-	-
3/5 to 3/11	96	3,091,616	Confidential	Confidential
3/12 to 3/18	108	3,390,613	6	6,428
3/19 to 3/25	111	3,738,132	5	15,137
3/26 to 4/1	40	1,220,081	4	12,444
4/2 to 4/8	8	199,742	Confidential	Confidential
4/9 to 4/15	Closed 4/8		7	16,668
4/16 to 4/22	Closed 4/8		Confidential	Confidential
4/23 to 4/29	Closed 4/8		5	14,461
4/30 to 5/6	Closed 4/8		Confidential	Confidential
5/7 to 5/13	Closed 4/8		5	7,079
5/14 to 5/20	Closed 4/8		Confidential	Confidential
5/21 to 5/27	Closed 4/8		No Effort	
5/28 to 6/3	Closed 4/8		No Effort	
6/4 to 6/10	Closed 4/8		No Effort	
6/11 to 6/17	Closed 4/8		No Effort	
6/18 to 6/24	Closed 4/8		No Effort	
6/26 to 7/1	Closed 4/8		No Effort	
7/2 to 7/8	Closed 4/8		No Effort	
7/9 to 7/15	Closed 4/8		No Effort	
7/16 to 7/22	Closed 4/8		No Effort	
7/23 to 7/29	Closed 4/8		No Effort	
7/30 to 8/5	Closed 4/8		No Effort	
8/6 to 8/12	Closed 4/8		No Effort	
8/13 to 8/19	Closed 4/8		No Effort	
8/20 to 8/26	Closed 4/8		No Effort	
8/27 to 9/2	Closed 4/8		Closed 9/1	
	363	11,640,184	32	72,217
	(Total combined)		11,712,401	

CONFIDENTIAL = less than 4 boats; data combined with following week

Figure 10.

Kodiak State Managed Pcod Harvests

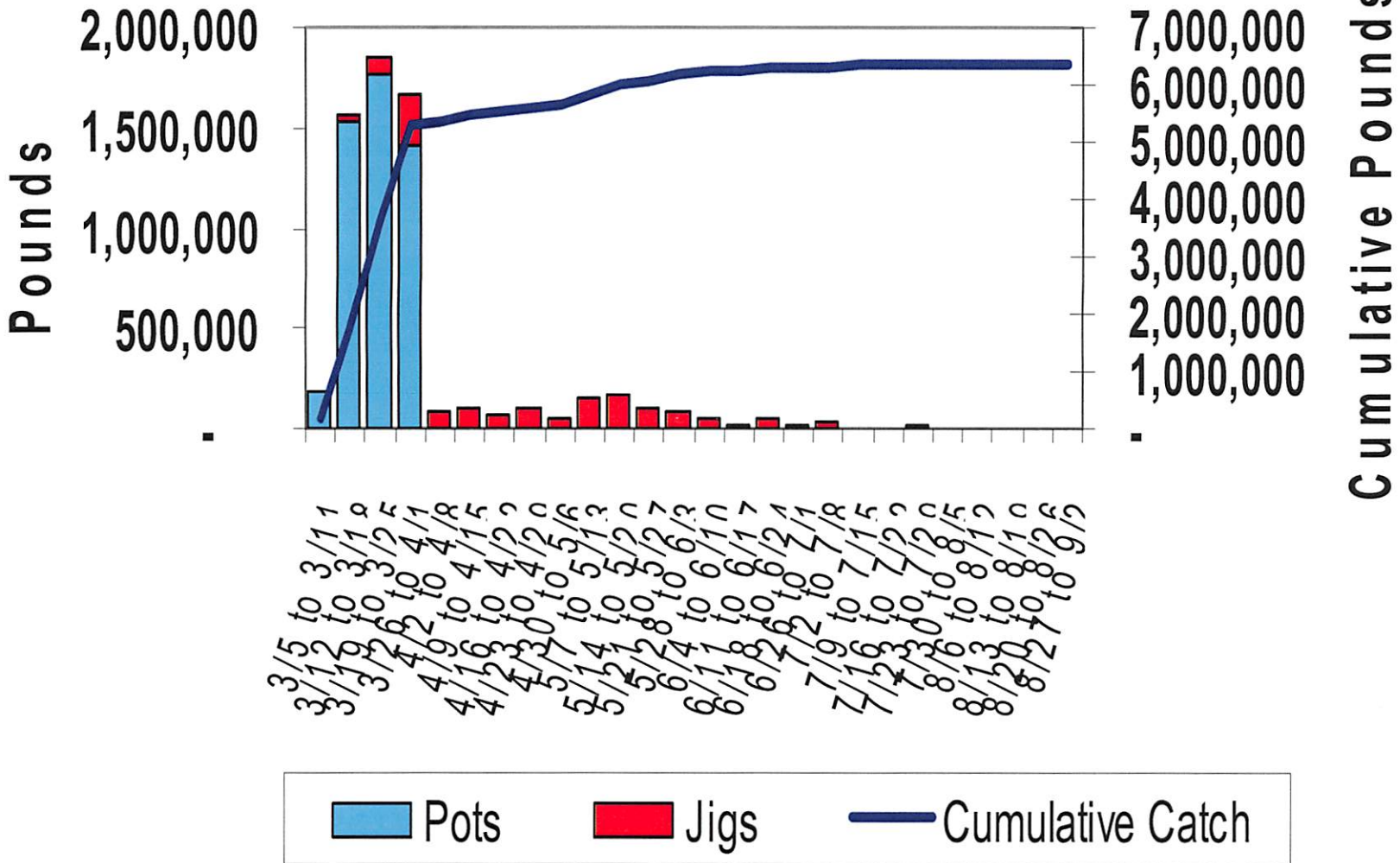


Figure 11.

Chignik State Managed Pcod Harvests

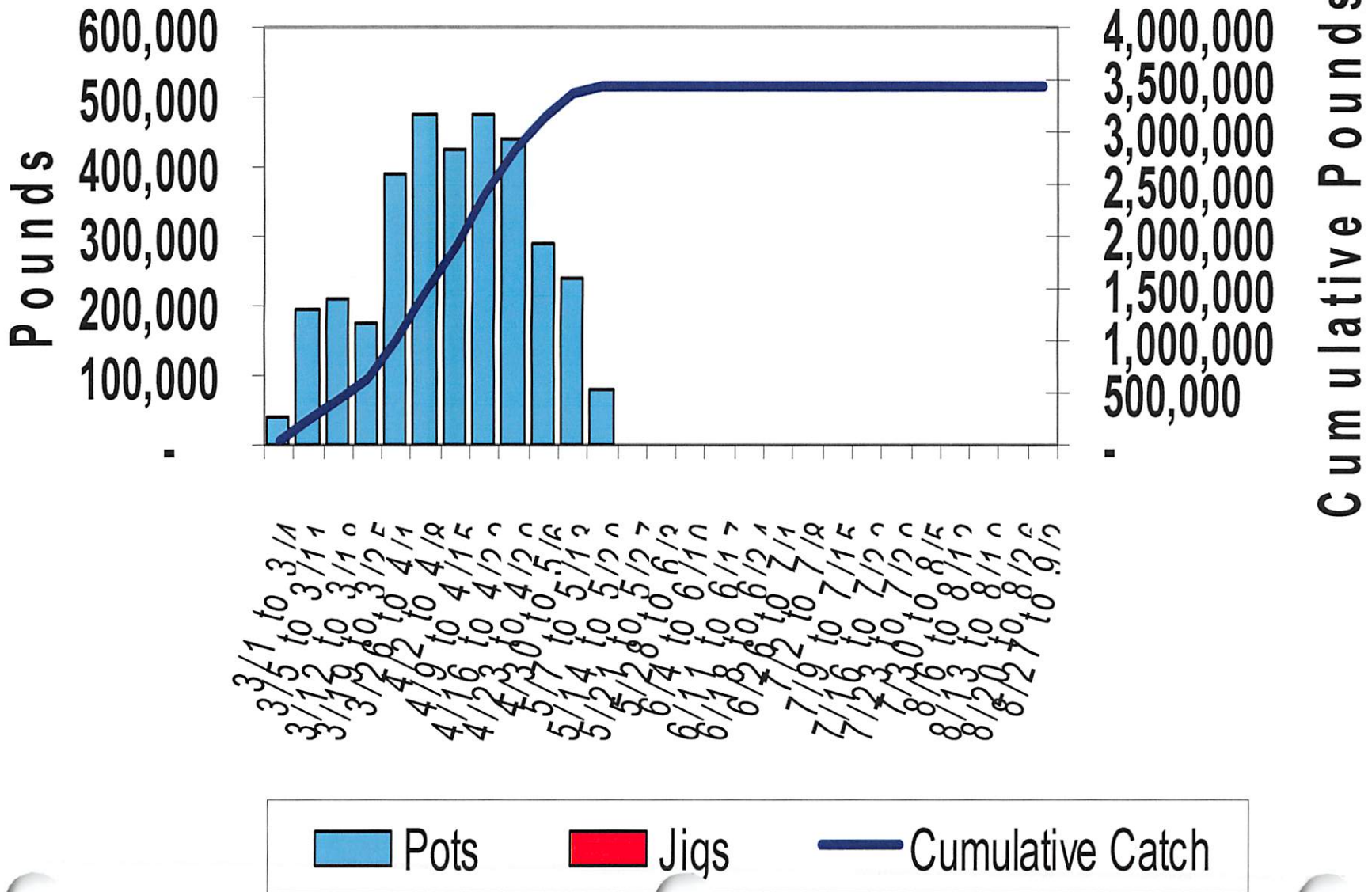
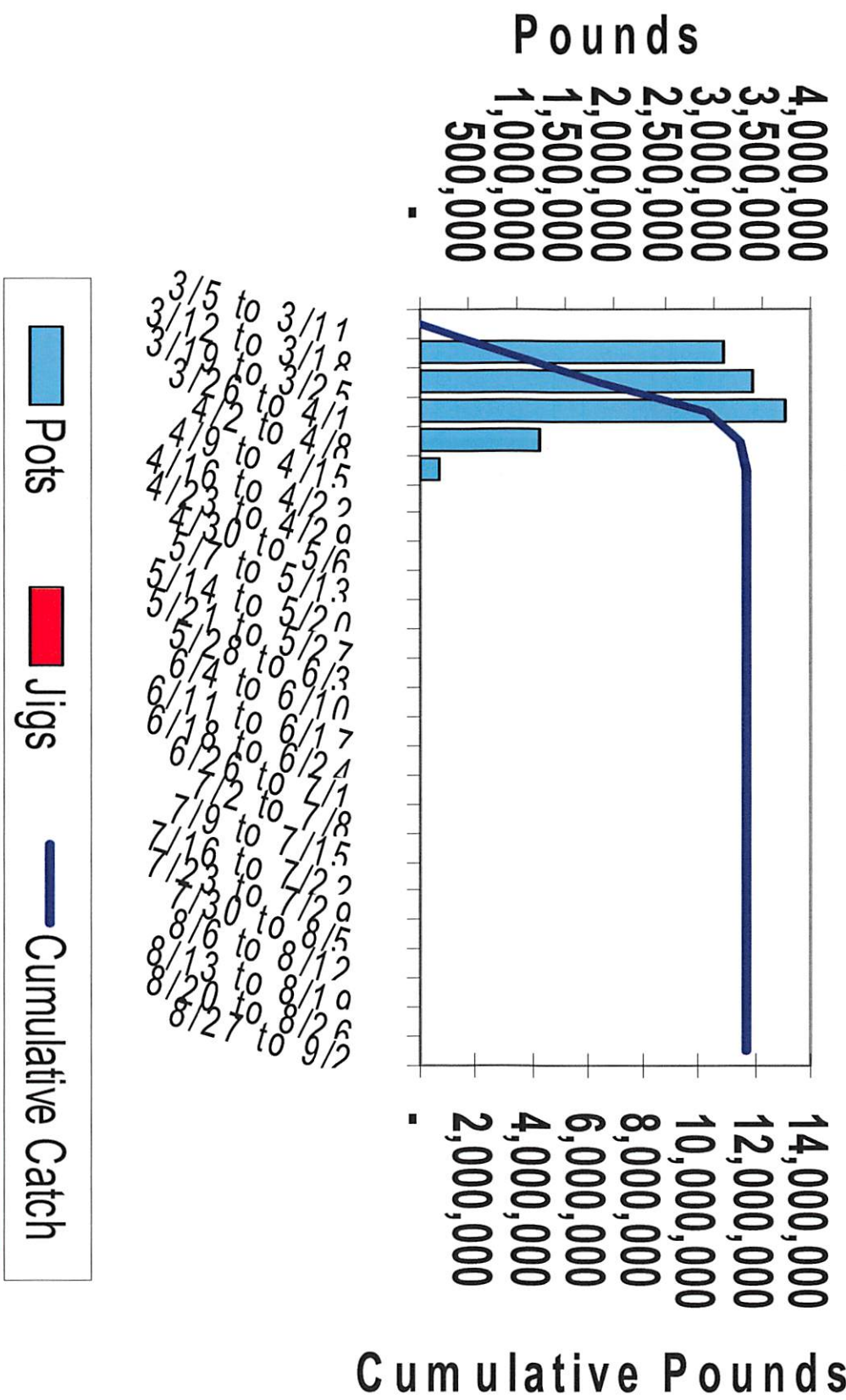


Figure 12.

S. AK. Peninsula State Managed Pcod Harvests



ADAK STATE MANAGED PACIFIC COD FISHERY

March 15 – March 24, 2006

8,481,180 pounds harvested (66.1%)

June 10 – August 30, 2006

4,349,592 pounds available (33.9%).

Actual harvest was less than 5% of available

September 1 –

State fishery closed, parallel season reopens.

State retained 500,000 pounds of cod for possible state-managed fishery later this year.

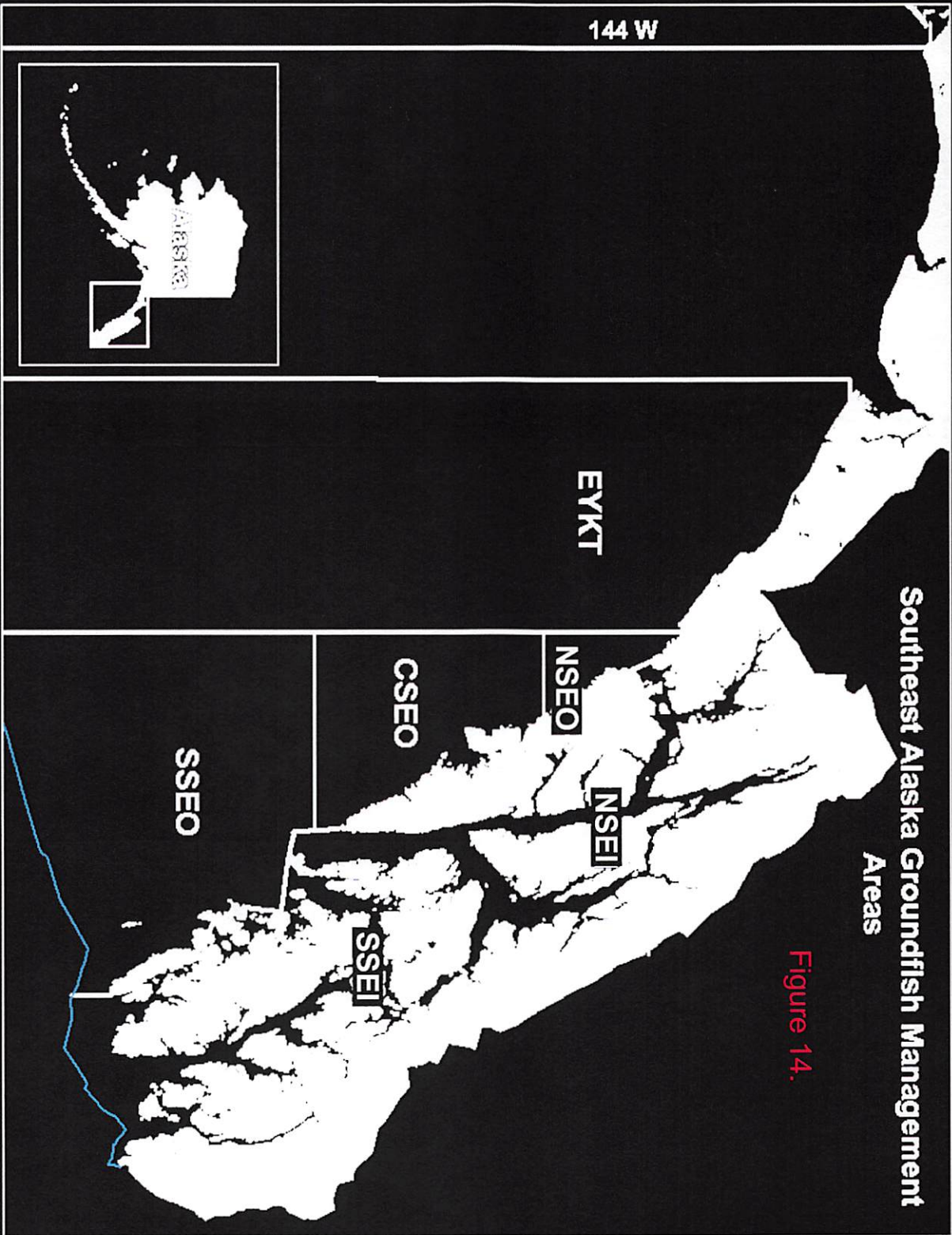


Figure 14.

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

Proposal 1 : Establish a State-managed Pollock fishery in the WGOA
with a 58' limit

Proposal 2 : Establish a State-managed Pollock fishery in the WGOA

Proposal 3 : Amend the AI District Pacific Cod Management Plan

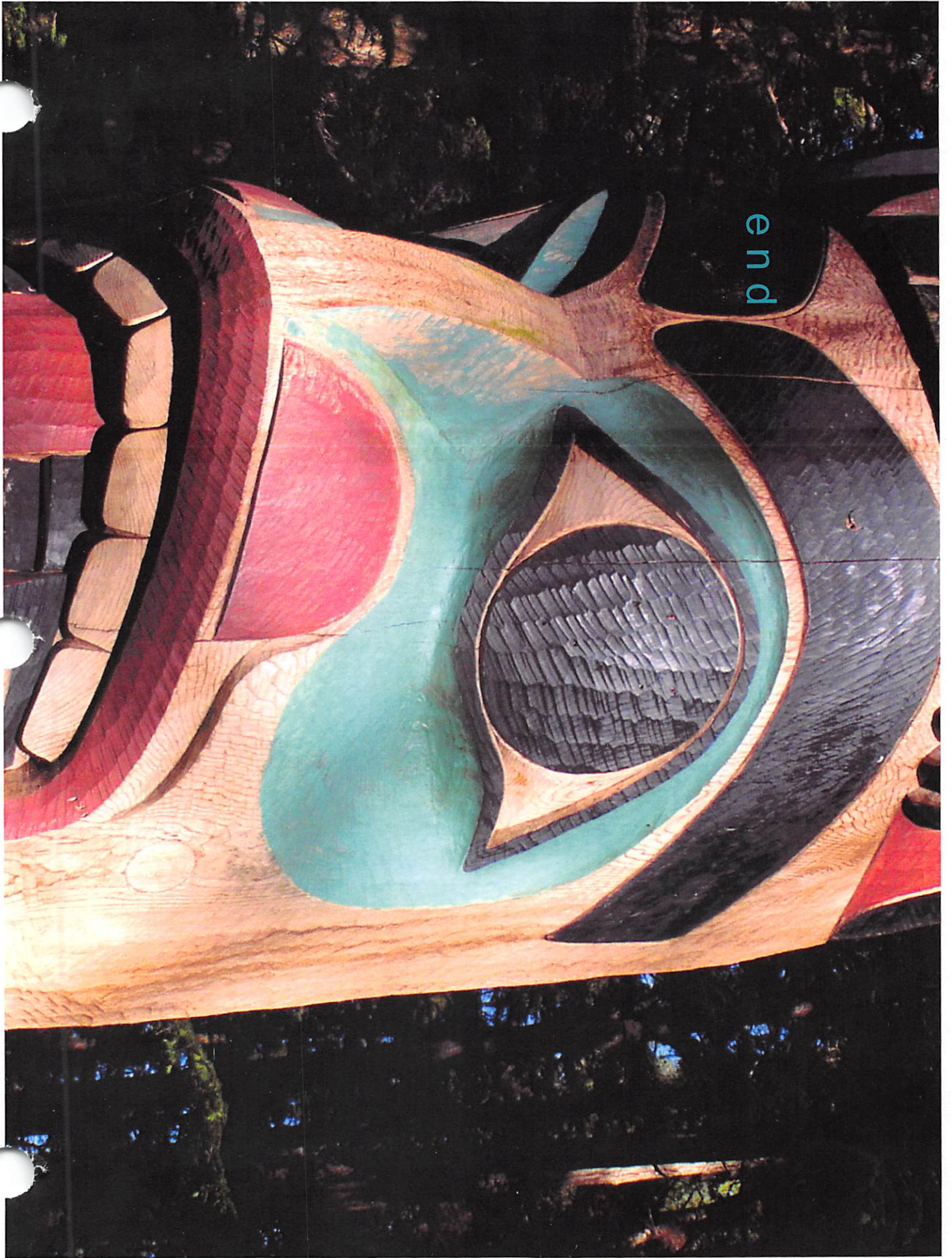
Proposal 4 : Amend the AI District Pacific Cod Management Plan

Proposal 5 : Create a State-managed Pollock fishery in the Central AI area

Proposal 6 : Create a State-managed Pollock fishery in the CGOA

PROPOSAL BOOKS AVAILABLE ONLINE

http://www.boards.adfg.state.ak.us/fishinfo/meetinfo/2006_2007/bof-prop06-07.pdf



end