

**Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands  
Crab Rationalization Program Report  
Fishing Year 2005/06**



**Alaska Region, NOAA Fisheries (NMFS)  
Restricted Access Management (RAM)  
November 2006**

## **Purpose and Acknowledgments**

This *Crab Rationalization Program Report for Crab Fishing Year 2005/06* provides a summary of the first-year of Alaska's Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Crab Rationalization Program (Program). The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) requested this report on program activities, which include: application/appeals processing, quota issuance and distribution, arbitration, harvesting, processing, quota transfers, cost recovery fees, reporting, compliance monitoring, safety, community protection measures, and other program features.

The report was developed by staff of the NOAA Fisheries (NMFS) Restricted Access Management (RAM) Program. Major contributors and data sources include (in alphabetic order): the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) staff and Reports; NOAA Fisheries (Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Office of Administrative Appeals (OAA), Office of Law Enforcement (OLE), RAM Program, and Sustainable Fisheries Division); the Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation Report (Crab SAFE) for the King and Tanner Crab Fisheries of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Regions, compiled September 2005); and the USCG.

Agency staff would like to acknowledge industry's outstanding support and cooperation during initial phases of the Program.

Photography is courtesy of NOAA.

## QS/PQS Fishery - Transfers

- Total transfer transactions: 503
  - 59% leases, including inter-cooperative transfers
- QS/IFQ transfers: 456
  - 56% leases
- PQS/IPQ transfers: 47
  - 85% leases

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**Errata**

1. Minor formatting errors and inconsistencies will be corrected for the version to be posted on the Internet at: [www.fakr.noaa.gov](http://www.fakr.noaa.gov).
2. Any references to "CR Program" mean "Program"
3. Table 2: note (b) should read "Weights are confidential"
4. Table 3.2: Table, column, and row legends should refer to "Quota Type", not "IFQ Type".
5. Table 3.9: The table refers to holders of harvesting QS. The rows for each fishery titled "Unique Nr of persons" should be deleted because the data therein include holders of all quota types, including PQS. Also, the final row of the table "Total unique persons holding QS" should read "489" in the first data column and "486" in the second data column.
6. In the text below the legend for Table 3.2, under "Allocations, Harvests and Landings", the first sentence should start: "When the last season ended on May 31, IFQ permitholders and their Hired Masters had used permits to report a total of 645 vessel landings..."
7. In Tables 3.22 and 3.23: the "Available IFQ pounds" for BST, owner type should read: 1,414,431 pounds.
8. Contact information should have been included on a final page, or on the inside of the back cover. NOAA Fisheries, RAM can be reached by telephone at: 1-800-304-4846 option 2; or (in Juneau) 907-586-7344; or by E-mail at: [RAM.Alaska@noaa.gov](mailto:RAM.Alaska@noaa.gov). The NOAA Fisheries web site is at: [www.fakr.noaa.gov](http://www.fakr.noaa.gov)

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## List of Abbreviations

<b>AFA</b>	American Fisheries Act
<b>BSAI</b>	Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands
<b>CDQ</b>	Community Development Quota
<b>CFVS</b>	Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety Program
<b>COPPS</b>	Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving
<b>CMP</b>	Catch Monitoring Plan
<b>CPC</b>	Catcher Processor Crew
<b>CPO</b>	Catcher Processor Owner
<b>CR</b>	Crab Rationalization
<b>CVC</b>	Catcher Vessel Crew
<b>CVO</b>	Catcher Vessel Owner
<b>EDR</b>	Economic Data Report
<b>ECC</b>	Eligible Crab Community
<b>ECCO</b>	Eligible Crab Community Organization
<b>FCVP</b>	Federal Crab Vessel Permit
<b>IFQ</b>	Individual Fishing Quota
<b>IPQ</b>	Individual Processing Quota
<b>LLP</b>	License Limitation Program
<b>MSA</b>	Magnuson-Stevens Act
<b>NA</b>	Not applicable (in tables); ellipsis points (...) indicate "not available"
<b>NOAA</b>	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
<b>Nr</b>	"Number" (in tables)
<b>OR</b>	Official CR Record
<b>PSMFC</b>	Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
<b>PQS</b>	Processor Quota Share
<b>QS</b>	Quota Share (Harvesting)
<b>RCR</b>	Registered Crab Receiver
<b>ROFR</b>	Right of First Refusal
<b>SAR</b>	Search and Rescue
<b>SCC</b>	Safety Compliance Check
<b>SFP</b>	Stationary Floating Processor
<b>TAC</b>	Total Allowable Catch
<b>USCG</b>	United States Coast Guard
<b>VMS</b>	Vessel Monitoring System

### **Fisheries**

<b>BBR</b>	Bristol Bay red king crab
<b>BSS</b>	Bering Sea snow crab
<b>BST</b>	Bering Sea Tanner crab
<b>PIK</b>	Pribilof Islands red/blue king crab
<b>SMB</b>	St. Matthew blue king crab
<b>EAG</b>	Eastern Aleutian Islands golden king crab
<b>WAG</b>	Western Aleutian Islands golden king crab
<b>WAI</b>	Western Aleutian Islands red king crab
<b>EBT</b>	East Bering Tanner crab (starting 2006/07 year)
<b>WBT</b>	West Bering Tanner crab (starting 2006/07 year)

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## **Program Overview**

### **PURPOSE**

The Crab Rationalization Program (Program) allocates BSAI crab resources among harvesters, processors, and coastal communities. The Council developed the Program over a 6-year period to accommodate the specific dynamics and needs of the BSAI crab fisheries. The Program builds on the Council's experiences with the halibut/sablefish Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) program and the American Fisheries Act (AFA) cooperative program for Bering Sea pollock. The Program is a dedicated access privilege program that balances the interests of several groups who depend on these fisheries. The Program addresses conservation and management issues associated with the derby fishery, bycatch and associated discard mortality, and safety of crab fishermen by ending the race for fish. Share allocations to harvesters and processors, together with incentives to participate in crab harvesting cooperatives, will increase efficiencies, provide economic stability, and facilitate compensated reduction of excess capacities in the harvesting and processing sectors. Community interests are protected by Community Development Quota (CDQ) allocations and regional landing and processing requirements, as well as by several community protection measures.

### **HISTORY**

In January 2004, the U.S. Congress amended §313(j) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA) through the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-199, section 801). As amended, §313(j)(1) requires the Secretary of Commerce to approve and implement by regulation the Program, as it was approved by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council). In June 2004, the Council consolidated its actions on the Program into Amendment 18 to the FMP. Additionally, in June 2004, the Council developed Amendment 19 to the FMP, which represents minor changes necessary to implement the Program. NMFS published a final rule to implement Amendments 18 and 19 on March 2, 2005 (70 FR 10174). Crab fishing under the Program began on August 15, 2005.

### **FISHERIES AND EXCLUSIONS**

The first year, the Program applied to the following 8 BSAI crab fisheries (of 22 Alaska and FMP crab stocks): Bristol Bay red king crab (*Paralithodes camtschaticus*), Western Aleutian Islands (Adak) golden king crab (*Lithodes aequispinus*) - west of 174°W. long., Eastern Aleutian Islands (Dutch Harbor) golden king crab - east of 174°W. long., Western Aleutian Islands (Adak) red king crab - west of 179°W. long., Pribilof Islands blue king crab (*P. platypus*) and red king crab, St. Matthew Island blue king crab, Bering Sea snow crab (*Chionoecetes opilio*), and Bering Sea Tanner crab (*C. bairdi*). Golden king crab is also known as brown king crab. In this document, the phrases "crab fishery" and "crab fisheries" refer to these fisheries, unless otherwise specified. A License Limitation Program (LLP) license is no longer required to participate in these crab fisheries, but one is still required for the FMP crab fisheries excluded from the Program.

The following FMP crab fisheries are excluded from the Program: the Norton Sound red king crab fishery, which is operated under a vessel registration intended to protect the interests of local, small-vessel participants, the Aleutian Islands Snow and bairdi Tanner crab fishery, the Aleutian Islands red king crab fishery east of 179° W. long., and the Bering Sea golden king crab, scarlet king crab (*L. couesi*), triangle Tanner crab (*C. angulatus*), and grooved Tanner crab (*C. tanneri*) fisheries.

## **HARVESTING SECTOR**

Qualified harvesters were allocated quota share (QS) in each crab fishery based on recent fishery participation. Quota share represents an exclusive but revocable privilege that provides the QS holder with an annual allocation to harvest a specific percentage of the total allowable catch (TAC) from a fishery. IFQs are the annual allocations of pounds of crab for harvest that represent a QS holder's percentage of the TAC. A harvester's allocation of QS for a fishery was based on the landings made by his or her vessel in that fishery. Specifically, each allocation is the harvester's average annual portion of the total qualified catch during a specific qualifying period. Qualifying periods were selected to balance historical and recent participation. Different periods were selected for different fisheries to accommodate closures and other circumstances in the fisheries in recent years.

Quota share is designated as either catcher vessel (CV) shares or catcher/processor (CP) shares, depending on the nature of the LLP license and whether the qualifying harvests were processed onboard the harvesting vessel. Catcher vessel IFQ is issued in two classes, Class A IFQ and Class B IFQ. Crabs harvested with Class A IFQ must be delivered to a processor holding unused processing quota. Class A IFQ landings also are subject to a regional delivery requirement. Under this regional requirement, landings will be delivered either in a North or in a South region (in most fisheries). Crabs harvested with Class B IFQ can be delivered to any processor and are not regionally designated. Landings in excess of available IFQ will be forfeited in all cases. Class B IFQ provides ex-vessel price negotiating leverage to harvesters. For each region of each fishery, the allocation of Class B IFQ is 10 percent of the total allocation of IFQ to the CV sector.

Transfer of QS and IFQ, either by sale or lease, is allowed subject to limits, including caps on the amount of shares a person may hold or use. To be eligible to receive transferred QS or IFQ, a person must be an initial recipient of QS, a CDQ group, an eligible crab community entity, or meet specific eligibility criteria.

Separate caps limit the amount of QS and IFQ a person can hold and limit the use of IFQ onboard a vessel. These caps prevent negative effects from an excessive consolidation of shares, prohibited by the MSA. Different caps were chosen for the diverse fisheries because fleet characteristics and resource dependence vary across crab fisheries. Separate caps on QS holdings are established for CDQ groups, which represent rural western Alaska communities. Processor holdings of QS are limited by caps on vertical integration. Quota share holders can retain and use initial allocations of QS above the caps.

## **CREW SECTOR**

To protect their interests in the fisheries, crew with historic and recent participation were allocated 3 percent of the initial QS pool. These shares provide long-term benefits to captains and crew. The allocation to crew was based on the same qualifying years and computational method used for QS allocations to LLP license holders. Crew (C) QS was issued as CVC QS and CPC QS, depending on activity in the qualifying years. To ensure that Crew QS and IFQ benefit at-sea participants in the fisheries, Crew IFQ can be used only when the IFQ holder is onboard the vessel unless it is assigned to a cooperative.

CV Crew IFQ (CVC IFQ) must be delivered to shore-based processors for processing. CVC IFQ is not subject to specific delivery requirements through June 30, 2008. However, starting July 1, 2008, CVC IFQ will be subject to the Class A IFQ/Class B IFQ distinction with commensurate regional delivery requirements unless the Council determines, after review, not to apply these designations. In April 2007

the Council intends to review CVC IFQ landing patterns to determine whether the distribution of landings among processors and communities of CVC IFQ differs from the distribution of IFQ landings.

CPC QS and IFQ include a harvesting and onboard processing privilege. Crab harvested with CPC IFQ also can be delivered to shore-based processors.

Crew QS and IFQ can be transferred to eligible individuals. Leasing of Crew IFQ is permitted before July 1, 2008. After June 30, 2008 leasing will be permitted only in the case of a documented hardship (such as a medical hardship or loss of vessel) for the term of the hardship, subject to a maximum of 2 years over a 10-year period. Use caps apply to individual Crew QS holdings.

### **PROCESSING SECTOR**

Qualified processors were allocated processor quota share (PQS) in each crab fishery. PQS represents an exclusive but revocable privilege to receive deliveries of a specific portion of the annual TAC from a fishery. The annual allocation of pounds of crab based on the PQS is IPQ. IPQ is issued for 90 percent of the IFQ allocated harvesters, equaling the amount of IFQ allocated as Class A IFQ. Processor privileges do not apply to the remaining TAC allocated as Class B IFQ or for Crew IFQ until July 1, 2008. IPQ is regionally designated for processing (corresponding to the regional designation of the Class A IFQ).

PQS allocations are based on processing history during a specified qualifying period for each fishery. A processor's initial allocation of PQS in a fishery equaled its share of all qualified pounds of crab processed in the qualifying period. Processor shares are transferable, including the leasing of IPQs and the sale of PQS, subject to caps and to community protection measures. IPQs can be used without transfer at any facility or plant operated by a processor. New processors can enter the fishery in any of five ways: by purchasing PQS or IPQ, purchasing crab harvested with Class B IFQ, as CDQ groups, or as the Adak community entity.

A PQS holder is limited to holding 30 percent of the PQS issued for a fishery, except that initial allocations of shares above this limit can be retained and used. In addition, in the snow crab fishery, no processor is permitted to use or hold in excess of 60 percent of the IPQs issued for the northern region.

### **CATCHER/PROCESSOR SECTOR**

Catcher/processors (CPs) have a unique position in the Program because they participate in both the harvesting and processing sectors. Qualified CPs were allocated CP QS in accordance with the allocation rules for QS for all qualified catch that was processed onboard. These shares represent a harvest privilege and an onboard processing privilege. The regional administrator allocates Catcher/Processor QS without regional designation.

### **CRAB HARVESTING COOPERATIVES**

Harvesters may form voluntary crab harvesting cooperatives in order to collectively harvest their IFQ holdings. A minimum membership of four unique QS holders is required for crab harvesting cooperative formation. A crab harvesting cooperative is required to apply for a crab harvesting cooperative IFQ permit, which displays the aggregate amount of IFQ in each crab fishery yielded by the collective QS holdings of the members.

Subject to NMFS approval, IFQ can be transferred among crab harvesting cooperatives. For

intercooperative transfers, the crab harvesting cooperative designates the crab harvesting cooperative member engaged in the transaction to apply the use cap of that member to the IFQ being transferred. Crab harvesting cooperative members are allowed to leave a crab harvesting cooperative or change crab harvesting cooperatives annually before the August 1 deadline for the annual crab harvesting cooperative IFQ permit application. Vessels used exclusively to harvest crab harvesting cooperative IFQ are not subject to use caps. Crab harvesting cooperatives are free to associate with one or more processors to the extent allowed by antitrust law.

## **REGIONALIZATION**

The regional delivery requirements for QS preserve historic geographic distribution of landings in the fisheries. Communities in the Pribilof Islands are the prime beneficiaries of this regionalization provision. Two regional designations were created in most fisheries. The North region comprises all areas in the Bering Sea north of 56°20' N. The South region is all other areas. Legal landings in a region in the qualifying years resulted in QS and PQS designated for that region. Catcher vessel QS, Class A IFQ, PQS, and IPQ are regionally designated. Crab harvested with regionally designated IFQ are required to be delivered to a processor in the designated region. Likewise, a processor with regionally designated IPQ is required to accept delivery of and process crab in the designated region.

The Program has two exceptions to the North/South regional designations. In the Western Aleutian Islands golden king crab fishery, 50 percent of the Class A IFQ and IPQ is designated as west shares to be delivered west of 174° W, regardless of historic landing locations in the fishery. The remaining 50 percent of the Class A IFQ and IPQ has neither regional designation nor regional delivery requirement. A second exception is the Bering Sea Tanner crab fishery, which has no regional designation. This fishery is primarily concurrent with the regionalized Bristol Bay red king crab and Bering Sea snow crab fisheries, making the regional designation of Tanner crab landings unnecessary.

## **COMMUNITY PROTECTION MEASURES**

The Program includes several provisions to protect communities from adverse effects from the Program. Communities eligible for community protection measures are those with 3 percent or more of the qualified landings in any crab fishery included in the Program. NMFS has determined that the following crab communities meet this criteria: Adak, Akutan, Unalaska, Kodiak, King Cove, False Pass, St. George, St. Paul, and Port Moller. All of these communities are identified as eligible crab communities (ECCs) for community protection measures.

### *“Cooling Off” Provision*

Until July 1, 2007, PQS and IPQ based on processing history from the ECCs cannot be transferred from those communities. The use of IPQ outside the community during this period is limited to 10 percent of the IPQ and for specific hardships. PQS and IPQ from three crab fisheries are exempt from the cooling off provision: Tanner crab, Western Aleutian Islands red king crab, and Western Aleutian Islands golden king crab.

### *IPQ Issuance Limits*

IPQ issuance limits are established to limit the annual issuance of IPQ in seasons when the Bristol Bay red king crab or snow crab TAC exceeds a threshold amount. Under these circumstances, Class A IFQ

issued in excess of these thresholds will not be required to be delivered to a processor with IPQ but will be subject to the regional delivery requirements.

#### *Sea Time Waiver*

Sea time eligibility requirements for the purchase of QS are waived for CDQ groups and community entities in ECCs, allowing those communities to build and maintain local interests in harvesting. CDQ groups and ECCs are eligible to purchase PQS but are not permitted to purchase Crew QS.

#### *Right of First Refusal (ROFR)*

ECCs, except for Adak, have a ROFR on the transfer of PQS and IPQ originating from processing history in the community if the transfer will result in relocation or use of shares outside the community. The City of Kodiak and the Kodiak Island Borough in the Gulf of Alaska (GOA) have a ROFR on the transfer of PQS and IPQ from communities in the GOA north of 56°20' N. Adak is not eligible for the ROFR provision because Adak receives a direct allocation of Western Aleutian Islands golden king crab.

### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT QUOTA (CDQ) PROGRAM AND COMMUNITY ALLOCATIONS**

Started by the Council in 1992, the CDQ Program provides the means for starting or supporting commercial fisheries business activities that will result in an ongoing, regionally based, fisheries-related economy in Western Alaska. Under the Program, the CDQ Program was extended to include the Eastern Aleutian Islands golden king crab fishery and the Western Aleutian Islands red king crab fishery. In addition, the CDQ allocations in all crab fisheries covered by the Program increased from 7.5 to 10 percent of the TAC. The increase does not apply to the CDQ allocation of Norton Sound red king crab because this fishery is excluded from the Program.

#### *Adak Community Allocation*

The community of Adak receives an annual allocation of 10 percent of the TAC of Western Aleutian Islands golden king crab. The Adak Community Development Corporation, with a board of directors elected by the community, was incorporated with the State of Alaska on June 15, 2005 as the nonprofit entity representing Adak. For 2005/06 crab harvested under this allocation was processed in both Adak and Dutch Harbor.

#### *Community Purchase*

Any non-CDQ community in which 3 percent or more of any crab fishery was processed can form a non-profit entity to receive QS, IFQ, PQ and IPQ transfers on behalf of the community. The nonprofit entity is an eligible crab community organization (ECCO).

ECCOs must submit an application to become an ECCO and the Regional Administrator must approve that application. This application is required to establish a person's eligibility to receive QS, PQS, IFQ, or IPQ by transfer, if the person is an ECCO. To date, no ECCOs have formed.

### **PROTECTIONS FOR PARTICIPANTS IN OTHER FISHERIES (“SIDEBOARDS”)**

The Program greatly increases the flexibility for crab fishermen to choose when to fish for their IFQ, and this increased flexibility provides crab fishermen with increased opportunity to participate in other



fisheries. Restrictions on participation in other fisheries, also called sideboards, restrict sideboarded vessels harvests to their historical landings in all GOA groundfish fisheries (except the fixed-gear sablefish fishery). Restrictions are applied to specific vessels and also restrict landings using a groundfish LLP license derived from the history of a vessel so restricted, even if that LLP license is used on another vessel. Groundfish sideboards in the GOA are managed by NOAA Fisheries through fleetwide sideboard directed fishing closures in Federal waters and for the parallel fishery in State waters.

### **MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT**

NOAA Fisheries and the State coordinate crab fishery monitoring and enforcement. Harvesting and processing activity are monitored for compliance with the implementing regulations. Methods for catch accounting and catch monitoring generate data to provide accurate and reliable round weight accounting of the total catch and landings to manage QS and PQS accounts, prevent overages of IFQ and IPQ and determine regionalization requirements and fee liabilities. Measures include use of certified scales, monitoring of landed catch weight and species composition, bycatch, and deadloss to estimate total fishery removals. The USCG also participates in at-sea compliance and monitoring.

### **ECONOMIC DATA COLLECTION**

The Program includes a comprehensive economic data collection reporting requirement to aid the Council and NOAA Fisheries in assessing the success of the Program and in developing amendments necessary to mitigate unintended consequences. An Economic Data Report (EDR) containing cost, revenue, ownership, and employment data is collected first for three historic years and then annually from the harvesting and processing sectors. The data will be used to study economic effects of the Program on harvesters, processors, and communities. Pursuant to §313(j) of the MSA, the data and identifiers are also used for program enforcement and qualification for QS. With limited exceptions, participation in the data collection process is mandatory for all participants in the crab fisheries.

### **COST RECOVERY AND FEE COLLECTION**

NOAA Fisheries established a cost recovery fee system, required by §304(d)(2) of the MSA, to recover actual costs directly related to the management and enforcement of the Program. The crab cost recovery fees are paid in equal shares by the harvesting and processing sectors and are based on the ex-vessel value of all crab harvested under the Program, including CDQ and Adak crab. NOAA Fisheries also entered into a cooperative agreement with the State of Alaska to use IFQ cost recovery funds in State management and observer programs for BSAI crab fisheries. The crab cost recovery fee is prohibited from exceeding 3 percent of the annual ex-vessel value. Within this limit, the collection of up to 133 percent of the actual costs of management and enforcement under the Program is authorized, which provides for fuller reimbursement of management costs after allocation of 25 percent of the cost recovery fees to the crew loan program.

### **CREW LOAN PROGRAM**

To aid captains and crew in purchasing QS, a low-interest loan program (similar to the loan program under the halibut and sablefish IFQ program) will be created. This program will be funded by 25 percent of the cost recovery fees as required by the MSA. Loan money will be accessible only to active participants to purchase either QS or Crew QS. Quota share purchased with loan money will be subject to all use and leasing restrictions applicable to Crew QS for the term of the loan.

The loan program will not be available for the 2006/07 crab fisheries. Under the Federal Credit Reform Act, Federal loans require a subsidy cost and loan ceilings, neither of which have been authorized for BSAI crab QS loans. Consequently, NOAA Fisheries can make no BSAI crab QS loans unless Congress takes action. Additionally, the legislation authorizing the Program requires implementing regulations. Because regulations involve a lengthy development and approval process, the loan program is delayed until all of these elements are in place.

## **ARBITRATION SYSTEM**

### *Purpose*

BSAI crab fisheries have a history of contentious price negotiations. Harvesters have often acted collectively to negotiate an ex-vessel price with processors, which at times delayed fishing. The Arbitration System was developed to resolve failed price negotiations arising from the creation of QS/IFQ and PQS/IPQ. The complications include price negotiations that could continue indefinitely and result in costly delays and the "last person standing" problem where the last Class A IFQ holder deliveries will have a single IPQ holder to contract with, effectively limiting any ability to use other processor markets for negotiating leverage. To ensure fair price negotiations, the Arbitration System includes a provision for open negotiations among IPQ and IFQ holders and various negotiation approaches. This includes (a) a share-matching approach in which IPQ holders make known to unaffiliated IFQ holders the amount of uncommitted IPQ they have available so that IFQ holders can indicate an intent to deliver uncommitted IFQ catch to IPQ holders; (b) a lengthy season approach that allows parties to postpone binding arbitration until sometime during the season; and (c) a binding arbitration procedure to resolve price disputes between an IPQ holder and eligible IFQ holders.

The arbitration process begins preseason with a market report for each fishery prepared by an independent market analyst selected by the PQS and QS holders and the establishment of a nonbinding fleetwide benchmark price formula by an arbitrator who has consulted with fleet representatives and processors. Information provided by the sectors for these reports is historical in nature and at least 3 months old. This nonbinding price guides the above-described negotiations. Information sharing among IPQ and IFQ holders, collective negotiations, and release of arbitration results is limited to minimize the antitrust risks of participants in the Program. The participants in the Arbitration System also select Contract Arbitrators who assist in binding arbitration.

### *Mandatory Participation*

All CVO QS/IFQ and PQS/IPQ holders must participate by joining an Arbitration Organization by May 1 of each year. This organization establishes contracts with the three groups of experts, gives copies of the reports to its members, and collects fees for the Arbitration System. CVC IFQ holders are not required to join an arbitration organization until the 2008/09 fishing year.

The binding arbitration procedure is a last best (or final) offer format. The IPQ holder, each IFQ holder, and each crab harvesting cooperative can submit an offer. For each IFQ holder or cooperative, the arbitrator selects between the IFQ holder's offer and the IPQ holder's offer. After an arbitration decision is provided, an eligible IFQ holder with uncommitted IFQ could opt-in to the completed contract by accepting all terms of the arbitration decision as long as the IPQ holder held sufficient uncommitted IPQ.

## **PROGRAM REVIEW**

In April 2007 the Council will review the PQS, binding arbitration, and crew share components of the Program. After July 1, 2008, the Council will conduct a preliminary 3-year review of the Program. A full 5-year review of the Program will be undertaken in 2010. Additional reviews will be conducted every 5 years. These reviews are intended to objectively measure the success of the Program in achieving the goals and objectives specified in the Council's Problem Statement and the MSA. Reviewers will examine effects of the Program on vessel owners, captains, crew, processors, and communities, and include an assessment of options to mitigate negative effects.

## CDQ and Adak Fisheries

### CDQ FISHERY

The CDQ Program was created by the Council in 1992 to provide western Alaska communities an opportunity to participate in the BSAI fisheries that had been foreclosed to them because of the high capital investment needed to enter the fishery. The Program included all pre-existing CDQ crab allocations except for Norton Sound, created new CDQ allocations for the Eastern Aleutian Islands golden king crab and the Western Aleutian Islands red king crab fisheries, and increased CDQ crab allocations to 10% of TAC. CDQ fisheries are managed as commercial fisheries by the State under authority deferred to it under the FMP. The State has the following varied duties:

- ✓ establishes observer coverage and permitting requirements;
- ✓ establishes transfer provisions among the CDQ groups;
- ✓ monitors catch to determine when CDQ allocations have been reached;
- ✓ enforces penalties associated with CDQ overages;

Under the Program, compliance monitoring is shared among the State, NOAA Fisheries, OLE, and the USCG. The USCG also provides critical search and rescue services.

Crab harvested under CDQ allocations (other than Norton Sound king crab) are subject to most Federal requirements that apply to all Program fisheries, including permitting, recordkeeping and reporting, a vessel monitoring system (VMS), and cost recovery fees.

CDQ groups also may participate in the Program's IFQ/IPQ fisheries as holders of both QS and PQS. First, some CDQ groups were initial recipients of QS through LLP license holdings. In addition, CDQ groups may receive QS or PQS by transfer, subject to QS use caps.

The tables below show CDQ harvests and vessel participation. ADF&G is the source for data in both tables.

**Table 2.1 Crab CDQ allocations<sup>a</sup> and harvests<sup>b</sup>, 2003–2005 and for 2005/06.**

Years	Allocation/ harvest <sup>a</sup>	BBR	BSS	PIK (Red)	PIK (Blue)	SMB	BST	EAG King <sup>b</sup>	WAI
2003	Allocation	1,167,040	2,120,637	Fishery Closed	Fishery Closed	Fishery Closed	Fishery Closed	No Fishery	No Fishery
	Harvest	1,166,662	2,118,899						
2004	Allocation	1,135,326	1,782,081	Fishery Closed	Fishery Closed	Fishery Closed	Fishery Closed	No Fishery	
	Harvest	1,133,013	1,772,222						
2005 <sup>c</sup>	BSS 2005 Allocation		1,858,807						
	BSS 2005 Harvest		1,856,337						
2005/06	Allocation	1,832,900	3,718,400	Fishery Closed	Fishery Closed	Fishery Closed	162,000	300,000	Fishery Closed
	Harvest	1,830,877	3,717,744				161,572	Confidential	

<sup>a</sup> All weights are in raw (unprocessed) crab pounds. Harvests reflect landed weights, including sold, personal use, and deadloss.

<sup>b</sup> Eastern Aleutian Islands Golden King crab fishery is not displayed because simple subtraction allows computation of confidential data. Weights are confidential if fewer than 4 vessels participated in the fishery.

<sup>c</sup> The 2005 BSS fishery began before the CR Program took effect, so there are two separate harvest and allocation data for BSS 2005 and BSS 2005/06 fisheries (first 2005 BSS fishery = Jan 27, 2005–March 23, 2005; second 2005/06 BSS fishery = Oct 15, 2005–May 31, 2006).

**Table 2.2 Number of vessels participating in CDQ crab fisheries, 2003–2005 and for 2005/06**

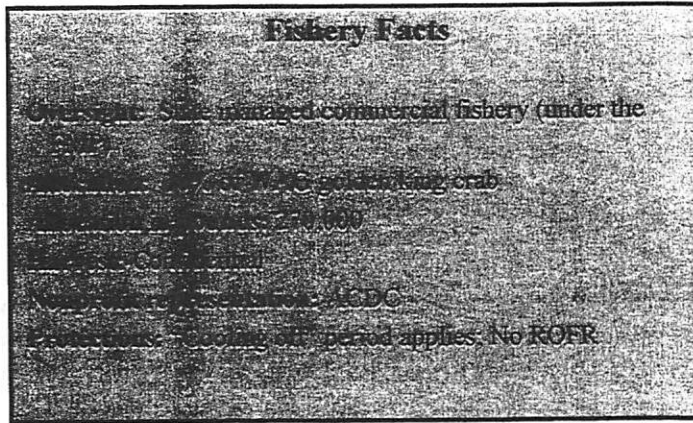
Number of Vessels Fishing CDQ				
Years	BBR	BSS <sup>b</sup>	BST	EAG
2003	13	10	Closed	0
2004	12	10	Closed	0
2005	NA <sup>c</sup>	9	NA <sup>c</sup>	NA <sup>c</sup>
2005/06	13	15	6	3

<sup>a</sup> Adak fishery is confidential and is not included in this table because fewer than 4 vessels participated in the fishery.

<sup>b</sup> The 2005 BSS fishery began before the CR Program took effect, so there are two separate harvest and allocation data for BSS 2005 and BSS 2005/06 fisheries (first 2005 BSS fishery = Jan 27, 2005–March 23, 2005; second 2005/06 BSS fishery = Oct 15, 2005–May 31, 2006).

<sup>c</sup> NA = not applicable.

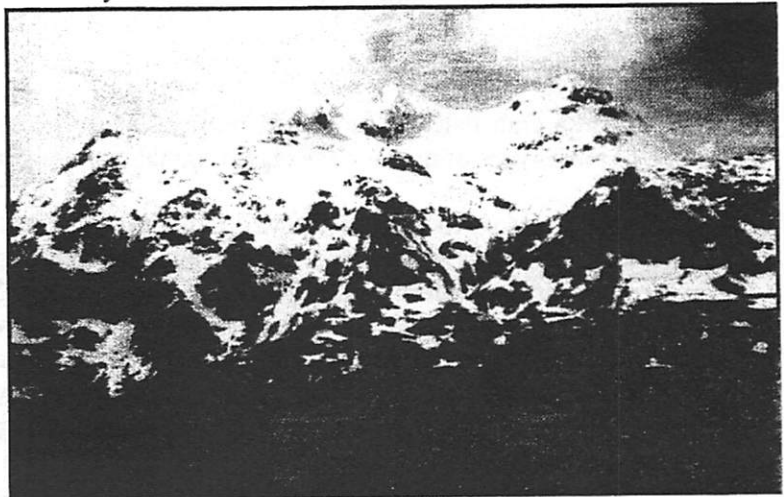
## ADAK COMMUNITY ALLOCATION



Under the Program the community of Adak receives an annual allocation of 10 percent of the TAC of Western Aleutian Islands golden king crab (WAG). As the nonprofit entity representing the community, the Adak Community Development Corporation (ACDC) receives the allocation. The State manages the fishery and provides an implementation review to the Council to ensure benefits derived from the allocation accrue to the community and achieve goals of the fisheries development plan.

Like the CDQ allocations, crab harvested under the Adak allocation is subject to some requirements that apply to all crab fisheries under the Program, including: permitting, recordkeeping and reporting, a VMS, and cost recovery fees. Because of population size and number of individuals fishing, participation and harvest data for Adak remain confidential. However, for 2005/06 crab harvested under this allocation was processed in both Adak and Dutch Harbor. ACDC expects to use proceeds from the Adak crab allocation to contribute to the community boat harbor and related facilities.

► Adak Island sits centrally amid the Andreanof Islands of Southwest Alaska along the partially submerged volcanic Aleutian chain. Photograph is courtesy of NOAA Fisheries.



## **Quota Share and Processor Quota Share**

### **THE INITIAL QS/PQS APPLICATION PROCESS**

#### **QS/PQS Facts**

**60-day closed Application Period**

**543 Distinct Applicants**  
**(including nonindividuals)**

**509 Distinct Persons Initially Issued Quota**

**91 Distinct Persons denied eligibility claims by RAM**  
**(as of 6/30/06)**

#### ***Application Process***

NOAA Fisheries required participants in the crab fisheries to submit applications to receive QS and PQS initially. The application period lasted 60 days and ended June 3, 2005. To facilitate the process, NOAA Fisheries distributed information and application materials by mail, online ([www.fakr.noaa.gov](http://www.fakr.noaa.gov)), by facsimile (FAX), and in person on request.

Along with written information, a number of public workshops were held in Alaska, Washington, and Oregon to ensure that

applicants gained a thorough understanding of the Program and application process.

#### ***Official Record***

To support QS and PQS eligibility determinations, RAM assembled the Official Record (OR). To prepare the OR, RAM used the best available State and Federal licensing, landing, processing, vessel ownership and LLP permit information. Then RAM mailed applications to persons the OR indicated were eligible. Each such person received a personalized, nonconfidential summary based on eligibility criteria and was invited to apply for QS and/or PQS.

#### ***Application Processing***

In the 2005/06 crab fishing year, RAM received and processed applications from 543 distinct applicants for one or more types of quota in the eight original crab fisheries.

Applicants were free to dispute RAM's initial findings but had the burden of proof. If claims on an application differed from the OR and were not sufficiently supported by attached documentation, RAM provided applicants written notice of the issues and a single 30-day period in which to submit supporting evidence. At the end of the evidentiary period, applications were again reviewed; substantiated claims were approved and the OR amended accordingly. Claims that remained unsubstantiated or were contested by other applicants were denied in an Initial Administrative Determination (IAD). In the IAD RAM reviewed the applicant's participation, provided a copy of regulations, and a 60-day opportunity to appeal disapproved claims to the Office of Administrative Appeals (OAA). The IAD set out the nature of the dispute, discussed the relevant evidence and regulatory requirements, made a formal determination on the applicant's claims, and explained the appeal process. By the end of the 2005/06 crab fishing year, NOAA Fisheries had issued 91 IADs, some of which were appealed.

No disputed QS/PQS is issued until an applicant's due process rights are completely satisfied and Final Agency Action is taken on the claim.

## Eligibility

“Potential eligibility” reflects RAM’s eligibility expectations from the OR before start of the application period. As claims were reviewed, some persons’ eligibility status changed. Tables 3.1 and 3.2 show how initial eligibility estimates and numbers of applicants varied from the actual numbers of QS/PQS initial recipients.

**Table 3.1 Comparison of OR eligibility expectations to numbers of applicants and initial QS/PQS recipients**

IFQ type	Nr potentially eligible <sup>b</sup>	Nr potentially eligible who applied <sup>b,c</sup>	Nr potentially eligible who did not apply <sup>b</sup>	Nr applicants (eligible or not) <sup>b</sup>	Nr initial issuees <sup>b,c,d,f</sup>
Crew <sup>a</sup>	250	233	17	272	231
Owner <sup>e</sup>	238	238	0	252	270
Processor	26	25	1	35	26
Number of distinct applicants <sup>e</sup>	499	478	21	543	509

<sup>a</sup> Throughout this document, QS issued to individuals based on State permits held and fish tickets signed is referred to as “crew quota.”

<sup>b</sup> Numbers of persons by IFQ type are not additive because some applied for or were issued quota in more than one type of IFQ.

<sup>c</sup> Joint holders of LLP licenses were counted once as a potentially eligible person (column 2), but if the quota award was split, each joint LLP holder receiving quota is counted as an initial issuee in column 5.

<sup>d</sup> Number of persons initially issued QS and/or PQS.

<sup>e</sup> QS issued to persons based on LLP licenses held is referred to as “owner quota.”

<sup>f</sup> Actual number of distinct (individual and nonindividual) persons.

## Results of the Application Process

Appeals are ongoing as of the date of this report; however, a total of 509 persons have been initially issued some type of QS or PQS. Table 3.2 summarizes these data.



**Table 3.2 Number of persons initially issued QS/PQS by fishery and IFQ type**

Fishery	IFQ type	Nr persons <sup>a</sup>
BBR	Crew <sup>b</sup>	181
	Owner <sup>c</sup>	251
	Processor	17
	<i>Unique number of persons all IFQ types</i>	437
BSS	Crew <sup>b</sup>	155
	Owner <sup>c</sup>	241
	Processor	20
	<i>Unique number of persons all IFQ types</i>	403
BST	Crew <sup>b</sup>	176
	Owner <sup>c</sup>	258
	Processor	23
	<i>Unique number of persons all IFQ types</i>	443
EAG	Crew <sup>b</sup>	13
	Owner <sup>c</sup>	15
	Processor	8
	<i>Unique number of persons all IFQ types</i>	35
PIK	Crew <sup>b</sup>	40
	Owner <sup>c</sup>	112
	Processor	14
	<i>Unique number of persons all IFQ types</i>	159
SMB	Crew <sup>b</sup>	72
	Owner <sup>c</sup>	135
	Processor	12
	<i>Unique number of persons all IFQ types</i>	216
WAG	Crew <sup>b</sup>	12
	Owner <sup>c</sup>	9
	Processor	15
	<i>Unique number of persons all IFQ types</i>	33
WAI	Crew <sup>b</sup>	4
	Owner <sup>c</sup>	30
	Processor	9
	<i>Unique number of persons all IFQ types</i>	43

<sup>a</sup> Within fisheries, numbers of persons are not additive because some persons were issued more than one type of quota.

<sup>b</sup> "Crew" quota type includes catcher vessel (CVC) and catcher processor crew (CPC) sectors.

<sup>c</sup> "Owner" quota type includes catcher vessel (CVO) and catcher processor owner (CPO) sectors.

## Appeals

The OAA adjudicates appeals of IADs, sometimes denying part or all of a claim.

Once an appeal Decision is issued, an appellant has a limited time in which to request reconsideration. A final Decision, unless stayed, takes effect 30 days after the date the Decision is issued. As of November 2006, 14 crab eligibility-related appeals were filed with OAA, as summarized in Table 3.3. As of this date, no decisions have been finalized.

Additional IADs issued, appeals filed, and Final Agency Actions taken on appeals effective in succeeding crab fishing years will be reflected in future reports.

**Table 3.3 RAM determinations issued through June 30, 2006 for QS/PQS eligibility and appeals filed**

Determination/appeal reason	Nr IADs issued (by 6/30/06) <sup>a</sup>	Nr appeals filed (through November 2006) <sup>b</sup>
Program eligibility	42	6
Application untimely	1	1
Claim for additional fishery	23	3
Claim for additional pounds for existing fishery or another sector for a fishery	20	2
IAD issued due to conflicting claims	0	0
Claim for different regional percentages of quota	0	0
Multiple claims	5	2
<i>Total IADs issued by 6/30/06 and appeals on those determinations</i>	<i>91</i>	<i>14</i>

<sup>a</sup> IADs issued after June 30, 2006 will be reported in future reports.

<sup>b</sup> Appeals filed after November 2006 will be reported in future reports.

## Annual Seasons, Caps, Permits, and Arbitration

### CRAB SEASONS

The crab fishing year began July 1, 2005 and ended on June 30, 2006. The State of Alaska sets specific crab fishing seasons for each crab fishery. Table 3.4 displays dates and closures for Program fisheries.

**Table 3.4 2005/06 Crab fishing seasons**

<b>BSAI crab fishery</b>	<b>Opening</b>	<b>Closing</b>	<b>IFQ type and allocation</b>
BBR	Oct 15, 2005	January 15, 2006	IFQ/CDQ
BSS	Oct 15, 2005	May 15, 2006 East Sub District May 31, 2006 West Sub District	IFQ/CDQ
BST	Oct 15, 2005	March 31, 2006	IFQ/CDQ
EAG	Aug 15, 2005	May 15, 2006	IFQ/CDQ
PIK			
Closed			
SMB			
Closed			
WAG	Aug 15, 2005	May 15, 2006	IFQ /Adak
WAI			
Closed			

### USE AND VESSEL CAPS

Use caps limit the amount of QS/IFQ and PQS/IPQ a person may hold to prevent excessive share consolidation or control. The type of use cap that applies depends on the type of person that holds the quota. Most use caps are typically evaluated "individually and collectively," which means that a portion of the quota held by a shareholder, partner, or other owner of a nonindividual quotaholder is counted for that owner, in proportion to his or her ownership in the quota-holding entity. In some cases, "affiliation" with other quotaholders is considered.

Vessel use caps limit the amount of IFQ that can be fished on a vessel in any crab fishing year. Vessels used solely to harvest IFQ held by crab cooperatives, or to harvest Crew IFQ, are exempt from these caps.

More information and annual use and vessel caps are listed at the following website:  
<http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/sustainablefisheries/crab/rat/ram/0506quotacaps.pdf>

### QS/PQS POOLS AND TACs

A Quota Share pool is the sum of all quota units issued for a fishery and IFQ type (crew and owner harvester, or processor types). To determine the annual awards of IFQ and IPQ to QS/PQS holders and to cooperatives, on the day of computation NOAA Fisheries "fixes" the pool for the year. The computations require (a) the annual quota pools, (b) each person's quota holdings and affiliation information, and (c) the TACs for the IFQ fisheries as established by the State. The basic IFQ/IPQ computation formula for a fishery and IFQ type, unadjusted for affiliation or other limitations is:

$$[\text{QS or PQS units} / \text{QS or PQS Pool}] \times \text{TAC} = \text{Annual IFQ or IPQ pounds.}$$

Once it is used in IFQ/IPQ computations, a QS or PQS pool does not change for that crab fishing year. (Note that for a variety of reasons, the quota pools differ (by a small percentage) from the Initial QS and PQS pools NOAA Fisheries used to determine initial quota awards. These reasons include, for example: splitting QS awards for joint LLP licenseholders, changes to the Official Record, quota award reductions due to regulatory cap limits, and rounding errors.

Please note that while any data challenges and appeals remain unresolved, initial issuance of quota cannot be entirely completed. Initial issuance of QS/PQS that is delayed until after the date of annual computations will only affect future year pools and IFQ/IPQ issuance. Additional information on quota share pools is available at the following NMFS web address:

<http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/sustainablefisheries/crab/rat/ram/0506crabpools.pdf>

**Table 3.5 QS pools and ratios, 2005/06**

Fishery	Owners (QS units)	QS Crew	Ratios (QS units:IFQ pounds)
BBR	390,215,245	12,000,335	24.27
BSS	976,437,427	30,249,267	29.89
BST	194,475,250	6,004,198	136.75
EAG	9,700,156	299,989	3.70
PIK	29,149,017	899,993	Closed
SMB	29,384,190	900,007	Closed
WAG	38,800,000	1,200,058	16.46
WAI	58,201,414	1,800,045	Closed

**Table 3.6 PQS/IPQ pools and ratios, 2005/06**

Fishery	PQS units	Ratios (QS units:IPQ pounds)
BBR	399,015,296	29.03
BSS	994,650,758	37.48
BST	199,218,901	167.84
EAG	9,999,859	4.46
PIK	30,000,002	Closed
SMB	29,999,998	Closed
WAG	39,999,387	35.06
WAI	59,999,081	Closed

#### **ANNUAL PERMITS**

NOAA Fisheries may issue annual permits for the Program only if a person has satisfied his or her cost recovery fee and EDR requirements, if any, and if there are no other impediments to issuing the permits.

#### *Individual Fishing quota (IFQ) and Individual Processing Quota (IPQ) Permits*

IFQ and IPQ permits are generated annually, using the formula above (see QS pools and TACs) and adjusted for affiliation and other program requirements.

Examples of restrictions include persons who may not fish under the Program and persons who, by operation of law, received more QS than a cap would allow and for whom the additional QS is restricted and will not yield annual IFQ.

A person who joins a crab harvesting cooperative assigns his or her IFQ to the cooperative for the crab fishing year and does not receive an annual IFQ permit. In this case, all IFQ pounds appear on the annual IFQ permit issued to the cooperative. The cooperative member may receive IFQ by transfer during the year, but must hold those pounds on his/her own IFQ permit.

IFQ permits are issued for a combination of harvesting sector, region, class, and fishery. IPQ permits are numbered for combinations of region, right of first refusal community, and cooling-off boundary area. Therefore, the number of permits issued is an artifact not itself indicative of potential participation in a fishery.

Table 3.7 displays the number of persons who were issued and those who used IFQ/IPQ permits in 2005/06.

**Table 3.7 Annual IFQ and IPQ permits issued and used in 2005/06**

Type Annual Permit	Nr persons issued one or more IFQ/IPQ permits <sup>a</sup>	Percent of permit holders who used their permits
IFQ Crew	101	66.3
IFQ Owner	64	79.7
IPQ Processor	19	63.2

<sup>a</sup> A cooperative receives an annual IFQ permit in lieu of the members who assigned their pounds to the cooperative. Therefore, a cooperative is counted as one person holding IFQ; members who assigned all IFQ to cooperatives are not counted as IFQ permit holders.

*Hired Master Permits*

Cooperatives and nonindividual IFQ permit holders must hire a master to fish their IFQ. Individual persons may hire a master for owner permits but must fish crew permits themselves. Hiring a master requires that the IFQ permit holder maintain at least a 10% interest in the vessel to be fished; in the case of a cooperative, that requirement may be satisfied by any member. Hired Master permits are issued for each IFQ permit and vessel combination the Master will fish. For 2005/06, a total of 176 Hired Masters were authorized to fish. Only Hired Masters reported 617 (95.6%) of 645 total IFQ landings. Only IFQ permit holders reported 12 (1.9%) of the 645 landings, and both IFQ permit holders and Hired Masters reported 16 (2.5%) of the total landings.

*Registered Crab Receiver Permits*

NOAA Fisheries requires an annual RCR permit for the rationalized crab fisheries. The RCR permit is required for any person receiving unprocessed crab from the harvester, the owner/operator of a vessel that processes crab at sea, any person holding IPQ, and any person required to submit a departure report. For shoreside operations, an RCR permit is required for each shore facility. During offloads RCRs attach a scale printout showing gross product weight with their report.

<b>RCR Fishery Facts</b>
55 RCR Permits issued
29 (53%) RCRs participated

RCRs must report crab landings under the Program using the eLanding system. For unprocessed crab delivered by catcher vessels, the landing must be reported within 6 hours of the end of the offload. For crab processed at sea, weekly reports are due by noon on Tuesday following the end of each reporting period.

RCRs also are required to submit cost recovery fee payments to NOAA Fisheries and EDRs to the Pacific States Marine Fish Commission. By fishery, Table 3.8 displays RCRs with IFQ landings, the number of landings, and pounds landed.

**Table 3.8 Participating Registered Crab Receivers**

Registered Crab Receivers			
Fishery	Nr RCRs with IFQ landings <sup>a</sup>	Nr landings <sup>b</sup>	Pounds landed <sup>c</sup>
BBR	16	259	16,472,400
BSS	21	304	33,248,009
BST	14	74	791,025
EAG	5	33	2,569,209
WAI	8	42	2,382,468

<sup>a</sup> A "landing" is a vessel offload.

<sup>b</sup> RCR landings are not additive across fisheries.

<sup>c</sup> Pounds exclude overages.

**Federal Crab Vessel Permit (FCVP)**

NOAA Fisheries requires an annual FCVP for vessels used in the crab fisheries. This permit is required for owners of catcher vessels, vessels that harvest and process catch at sea (catcher processor vessel), and Stationary Floating Processor vessels.

Operation Type endorsements are SFP (Stationary Floating Processor), CPR (catcher processor), and CAT (catcher vessel). This permit has requirements for VMS and logbook reporting.

<b>FCVP Fishery Facts</b>
154 FCVP Permits issued
101 (66%) Harvesting Vessels used
22 SFP vessels permitted
9 (41%) SFPs participated

**ARBITRATION SYSTEM**

<b>Arbitration Facts</b>
<b>Participants:</b> QS/PQS and IFQ/IPQ holders
4 experts selected; 2 third-party data providers
4 Arbitration Organizations formed:
2 representing harvesters unaffiliated with processors;
1 for harvesters affiliated with processors; and
1 for processors
<b>Reasons for Arbitration:</b> Crab costs and delivery terms in snow and Tanner crab fisheries
<b>Results:</b> 2 arbitration proceedings, contract arbitrator selected harvesters' offers

The Arbitration System (System) is a series of steps that harvesters and processors can use to negotiate delivery and price contracts. Most of the System is regulated through private contracts among QS/IFQ holders and PQS/IPQ holders through mandatory Arbitration Organizations (AOs). The System is designed to minimize antitrust risks for crab harvesters and processors.

*Participants*

Each year three groups of experts are hired: one to produce an annual market report (Market Analyst), one to

determine a nonbinding price formula for negotiations (Formula Arbitrator), and one or more experts to assist in mediation and contract negotiations (Contract Arbitrator). During the 2005/06 season, in addition, two third-party data providers offered information on matching Class A IFQ and IPQ shares.

Once these experts are selected, some IFQ and IPQ holders can use a series of negotiation approaches to resolve delivery and price conflicts. The negotiation approaches are limited to IFQ holders who don't also hold PQS/IPQ and who aren't affiliated with PQS/IPQ holders (Arbitration IFQ holders). These IFQ holders can negotiate with a single IPQ holder. Contracts with the experts must limit the sharing of information.

### *2005/06 Crab Fishing Year*

As required by regulations (50 CFR Parts 679 and 680), most IFQ and IPQ holders joined AOs. The AOs mutually selected the Market Analyst, Formula Arbitrator, and Contract Arbitrator. The Market Analyst and Formula Arbitrator role was filled by the same person for the Bristol Bay red king crab and snow and Tanner crab fisheries. A different person served the role as the Market Analyst/Formula Arbitrator for the Eastern and Western Aleutian Islands golden king crab fisheries.

In addition, the AOs selected two third-party data providers to disseminate information between IFQ and IPQ holders, one for the golden king crab fisheries, and one for other crab fisheries.

### *Arbitration Approach and Outcomes*

During the 2005/06 year, harvesters and processors agreed to use the lengthy season approach (*see* §680.20(h)) to initiate binding arbitration proceedings. Negotiations failed between harvesters and processors in 2 cases, and harvesters initiated binding arbitration proceedings against 2 processors to address price and other delivery terms in the snow crab fishery and the Tanner crab fishery. Although specific details concerning these proceedings are confidential, the harvesters in both arbitration proceedings negotiated as a single FCMA cooperative<sup>1</sup> comprising numerous crab harvesting cooperatives. In both arbitration proceedings, the contract arbitrator selected the harvester's offer.

### *Issues and Concerns*

As anticipated, harvesters and processors had numerous questions regarding the structure of the Arbitration System, the contractual arrangements among the AOs, and the timing of binding arbitration proceedings. While the specific comments and questions varied, some of the key comments from the AOs and participants in the System are summarized below. This list is not exhaustive but addresses the suite of issues that industry participants are likely to address during the Council's 18-month review of the Program, scheduled for April 2007.

### *Key Comments*

- Contract arbitrators should have the authority to issue orders on the limits of their jurisdiction.
- Contract arbitrators must issue reasoned opinions to accompany their choice of last best offer.
- Arbitrations, materials submitted in arbitrations, and arbitration decisions should be public, not

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<sup>1</sup> The Fishermen's Collective Marketing Act of 1934 (FCMA) allows fishermen to jointly harvest, market, and price their product without being in violation of antitrust laws.



confidential. If arbitration information remains confidential, then the regulations should be revised to indicate what if any information can become public due to the passage of time, and how much time has to pass before the information becomes public. In addition, regulations should be revised to allow arbitration decisions to be provided to the market analyst.

- The market analyst should be able to issue draft reports for comment, and supplemental reports.
- IFQ and IPQ holders should be able to communicate to the market analyst their market expectations.
- Over time, the contract arbitrators will issue numerous procedural orders and arbitration decisions. There is about considerable uncertainty regarding the precedential value, if any, of these orders between arbitrations.
- Whether the market analyst and formula arbitrator can testify during an arbitration should be clarified.
- The contract arbitrator presiding over an arbitration proceeding should be chosen by the parties to the arbitration proceeding and not solely by the IFQ holder.
- A market report and nonbinding pricing formula should be required only for fisheries expected to occur.
- NOAA Fisheries should provide updated IFQ/IPQ information directly to the third-party data provider and identify changes.
- NOAA Fisheries should clarify procedures for adjusting share matches in the event of agency errors in issuing IFQ/IPQ.

## QS and PQS Transfers

### INITIAL ISSUANCE OF QUOTA SHARE

Quota share and processor quota share were initially issued to qualifying U.S. individuals and companies or other nonindividual business entities. Over time, attrition of initial QS/PQS recipients is anticipated as quota holders retire, rearrange business affairs for economic efficiency, move into other occupations, etc. New quotaholders can enter the Program if qualified to receive the quota by transfer. The following tables show the beginning of consolidation in the number of harvesting QS holders. First year changes were small, in large part due to liberal IFQ/IPQ leasing privileges.

**Table 3.9 Numbers of harvesting quotaholders at start and end of 2005/06 fishing year**

Fishery	Sector	Nr of Initial Issues	Nr of QS holders as of end of 2005
BBR	CPC	8	8
	CVC	178	165
	CPO	13	12
	CVO	242	243
	Unique Nr of persons	437	424
BSS	CPC	8	8
	CVC	151	143
	CPO	14	13
	CVO	231	228
	Unique Nr of persons	402	390
BST	CPC	15	15
	CVC	170	161
	CPO	14	13
	CVO	248	245
	Unique Nr of persons	443	430
EAG	CPO	2	2
	CVC	13	11
	CVO	13	14
	Unique Nr of persons	35	34
PIK	CPO	1	1
	CVC	40	40
	CVO	111	113
<b>Table 3.9 Continued</b>			
	Unique Nr of persons	159	160

SMB	CPO	5	5
	CVC	72	70
	CVO	133	136
	Unique Nr of persons	218	219
WAG	CPC	2	2
	CVC	8	8
	CPO	2	2
	CVO	13	13
	Unique Nr of persons	33	33
WAI	CPC	1	1
	CVC	4	4
	CPO	2	2
	CVO	29	29
	Unique Nr of persons	43	43
<i>Total unique persons holding QS</i>		<i>507</i>	<i>486</i>

**Table 3.10 Comparison of new QS issues entering and leaving the Program by end of 2005/06**

Fishery	Nr new persons not initial issues entering Program <sup>a</sup>		Nr initial issues not holding quota at end of 2005/06	
	Harvest QS	Processor PQS	Harvest QS <sup>b</sup>	Processor PQS <sup>a</sup>
BBR	17	1	29	1
BSS	15	1	27	1
BST	20	1	32	1
EAG	1	1	2	1
PIK	6	1	4	1
SMB	11	1	8	1
WAG	2	0	2	0
WAI	0	1	0	1

<sup>a</sup> Persons who bought and sold in same year are not included in this table.

## **SUMMARY OF TRANSFER ACTIVITIES**

Transfers may take the form of either permanent quota transfers (with or without annual IFQ/IPQ) or annual IFQ/IPQ leases. Transfers can occur any time of the fishing year, except from August 1 until the IFQ is issued for a fishery. Eligibility to receive quota by transfer depends in part on the type of quota. To be eligible to receive QS or IFQ, a person must be a U.S. citizen, or a U.S. company or other nonindividual business entity. For other than through intercooperative transfers, only individuals may receive crew QS/IFQ by transfer. If an individual is not an initial quota recipient, they must meet sea time requirements; and all recipients of Crew QS/IFQ must demonstrate "recent participation" in the crab fisheries. Owner QS may be received by initial QS recipients, or by others who meet the sea time requirements; and by CDQ groups and eligible crab community entities. For PQS and IPQ, transfer recipients may be any person, whether or not a U.S. citizen.

NMFS must approve all transfers, and approval is subject to the following additional criteria:

- Proposed receiver's eligibility to receive quota;
- Use caps (including quota assigned to members of a receiving cooperative in inter-cooperative transfers);
- Community protection measures (for PQS/IPQ);
- Whether or not the parties to the transfer are cooperatives (cooperatives may only hold IFQ and may only engage in intercooperative transfers); and
- Date (Leasing of Crew IFQ is only authorized until July 1, 2008; Owner IFQ until July 1, 2010).

## **HARDSHIP TRANSFERS**

The Program also includes a hardship transfer provision. In the event of a hardship, a holder of CVC or CPC QS may lease the IFQ from this QS for the term of the hardship. However, the holder of such QS may not lease the IFQ for more than 2 crab fishing years total in any 10 crab fishing year period. Such transfers are valid only during the crab fishing year for which the IFQ permit is issued. The QS holder must reapply for any subsequent hardship transfers.

Although the regulatory provision does not allow use of IPQ outside the required cooling off boundaries, during the 2005/2006 crab fishery, NOAA Fisheries approved 2 uses of IPQ outside the required cooling off boundaries, due to significant logistic and safety concerns caused by storm damage to the St George harbor and to severe icing conditions at St Paul.

Tables 3.11 and 3.12 summarize first-year transfer activity.

**Table 3.11 Transfers of harvesting QS/IFQ by fishery in the 2005/06 fishing year**

Fishery	Sector	Transfer Type	Region	Nr transfers	Nr unique transferors	Nr unique transferees <sup>a</sup>	QS units	Class A pounds	Class B pounds	
BBR	CVC	QS	N	1	1	1	32,600	0	0	
	CVC	QS	S	23	21	16	1,401,687	21,256	0	
	CPO	QS	U	1	1	1	1,569,702	64,688	0	
	CVO	QS	N	5	3	5	175,134	0	0	
	CVO	QS	S	19	12	16	15,162,054	254,194	0	
		Subtotal QS transfers			49	38	39	18,341,177	340,138	0
	CVC	Lease	N	4	4	4	0	11,312	0	
	CVC	Lease	S	18	18	11	0	41,425	0	
	CVC	Lease	U	2	2	2	0	5,468	0	
	CVO	Lease	S	19	10	10	0	357,495	1,999	
		Subtotal noncooperative leases			43	34	27	0	415,700	1,999
	CVC	Cooperative lease	S	4	3	2	0	23,054	0	
	CVO	Cooperative lease	N	22	5	5	0	1,007,895	0	
		Subtotal cooperative leases			26	8	7	0	1,030,949	0
		Total nr unique leases					80	67		
BSS	CVC	QS	N	13	13	11	1,471,544	28,607	0	
	CVC	QS	S	15	15	13	1,408,418	12,427	0	
	CVC	QS	U	2	1	2	202,793	0	0	
	CPO	QS	U	1	1	1	11,997,148	401,451	0	
	CVO	QS	N	22	15	18	15,736,489	198,222	1,656	
	CVO	QS	S	22	15	18	25,232,587	169,591	0	
		Subtotal QS transfers			75	60	63	56,048,979	810,298	1,656
	CVC	Lease	N	14	14	13	0	83,337	0	
	CVC	Lease	S	4	4	4	0	20,142	0	
	CVC	Lease	U	1	1	1	0	8,944	0	
	CVO	Lease	N	13	8	7	0	351,229	19,020	
	CVO	Lease	S	10	8	7	0	283,568	32,682	
		Subtotal noncooperative leases			42	35	32	0	747,220	51,702
	CVC	Cooperative lease			9	6	5	0	58,554	0
	CVO	Cooperative lease			48	11	10	0	3,166,758	32,017
		Subtotal cooperative leases			57	17	15	0	3,225,312	32,017
		Total nr unique transfers					76	71		

Table 3.11 Continued

Fishery	Sector	Transfer Type	Region	Nr transfers	Nr unique transferors	Nr unique Transferees <sup>a</sup>	QS units	Class A pounds	Class B pounds	
BST	CVC	QS	U	18	17	12	563,706	1,784	431	
	CVO	QS	U	20	16	17	11,870,491	38,451	0	
	CPC	QS	U	2	2	2	19,854	0	0	
	CPO	QS	U	1	1	1	1,570,469	11,484	0	
		Subtotal QS transfers			41	36	32	14,024,520	51,719	431
	CVC	Noncooperative lease	U	10	6	6	0	22,855	1,830	
	CVO	Noncooperative lease	U	16	15	14	0	4,108	0	
		Subtotal noncooperative leases			26	21	20	0	26,963	1,830
	CVC	Cooperative lease	U	34	8	7	0	255,238	0	
	CVO		U	10	7	5	0	5,522	0	
		Subtotal cooperative leases			44	15	12	0	260,760	0
		Total nr unique transfers				63	72			
EAG	CVC	QS	S	2	1	1	1,021,237	0	0	
	CVO		S	2	2	1	43,372	0	0	
		Subtotal QS transfers			4	3	2	1,064,609	0	0
	CVC	Noncooperative	S	2	2	2	0	6,953	0	
		Subtotal noncooperative leases			2	2	2	0	6,953	0
	CVO	Cooperative lease		5	3	2	0	125,605	0	
		Subtotal cooperative leases			5	3	2	0	125,605	0
		Total nr unique transfers				13	7			
PIK	CVC	QS	N	5	3	5	284,024	0	0	
	CVO	QS	S	3	2	3	103,912	0	0	
		Subtotal QS transfers			8	5	8	387,936	0	0
		Total nr unique leases				5	8			

Table 3.11 Continued

Fishery	Sector	Transfer Type	Region	Nr transfers	Nr unique transferors	Nr unique Transferees <sup>a</sup>	QS units	Class A pounds	Class B pounds	
SMB	CVC	QS	N	4	4	4	42,342	0	0	
	CVC	QS	S	4	4	4	15,101	0	0	
	CVO	QS	N	7	4	5	758,981	0	0	
	CVO	QS	S	4	2	4	7,663	0	0	
		Subtotal QS transfers			19	14	17	824,087	0	0
		Total nr unique transfers				10	11			
WAG	CVC	QS Transfers	U	1	1	1	41,922	0	0	
	CVC	QS	W	1	1	1	33,721	0	0	
	CVO	QS	U	1	1	1	878,114	0	0	
		Subtotal QS transfers			3	3	3	953,757	0	0
		Total nr unique leases				10	6			
	CVC	Cooperative lease		2	1	1	0	9,156	0	
	CVO	Cooperative lease		10	3	2	0	183,051	0	
		Subtotal cooperative leases			12	4	3	0	192,207	
		Total number unique transfers				10	6			

<sup>a</sup> Number of persons is not additive across sectors within a fishery or across fisheries because a person can hold more than one type of QS.

**Table 3.15 Harvest landings by fishery<sup>a,b</sup>**

Fishery	Nr IFQ Permit-holders <sup>c</sup>	Nr Landings	Landed Pounds <sup>a,b</sup>	Sum sold pounds	Percent sold	Personal use pounds	Percent Personal use	Sum deadloss pounds	Percent deadloss	IFQ TAC <sup>d</sup>	Percent TAC landed	Sum of Overage <sup>e</sup>	Percent overage of total landed <sup>e</sup>
BBR	160	259	16,472,400	16,387,412	99.5	18,394	0.1	77,506	0.5	16,496,103	99.8	10,912	.07
BSS	178	304	33,248,009	32,933,029	99.1	700	0.0	322,574	1.0	33,472,454	99.3	8,294	.02
BST	54	74	791,025	773,881	97.8	2,871	0.4	14,563	1.8	1,457,995	54.3	290	04
EAG	12	33	2,569,209	2,545,348	99.1	80	0.0	23,781	0.9	2,699,970	95.2	0	.00
WAG	16	42	2,382,468	2,353,155	98.8	3,502	0.1	26,306	1.1	2,430,006	98.1	495	.02

<sup>a</sup> landing pounds are raw crab pounds, excluding overages.

<sup>b</sup> Landing = vessel offloads

<sup>c</sup> Number of permit-holders represents persons whose IFQ permits were fished.

<sup>d</sup> IFQ TAC = TAC available; some pounds were not issuable, or amounts were rounded.

<sup>e</sup>Overages are the amount landed in excess of amount authorized on IFQ permits.



**Table 3.16 Harvest by fishery and region<sup>a,b</sup>**

Fishery	Region	Nr IFQ permit-holders <sup>c</sup>	Landed Pounds <sup>a,b</sup>	Sum sold pounds	Percent sold	Personal use pounds	Percent Personal use	Sum deadloss pounds	Percent deadloss	IFQ TAC <sup>d</sup>	Percent IFQ TAC	Sum of Overage <sup>e</sup>	Percent overage <sup>e</sup>
BBR	N	21	385,725	384,715	99.7	16	0	994	0.3	386,343	2.0	0	0.0
	S	74	14,880,820	14,800,968	99.5	8,211	0	73,018	0.5	14,885,849	90.0	1,377	0.0
	U <sup>f</sup>	65	1,205,855	1,201,729	99.7	10,167	0	3,494	0.3	1,223,911	7.0	9,535	0.8
	TOTAL	160	16,472,400	16,387,412	99.5	18,394	0	77,506	0.5	16,496,103	100	10,912	0.1
BSS	N	62	13,707,927	13,577,858	99.1	68	0	130,057	0.9	13,809,066	41.0	56	0.0
	S	59	15,619,741	15,448,915	98.9	270	0	178,794	1.1	15,685,132	47.0	8,238	0.1
	U	57	3,920,341	3,906,256	99.6	362	0	13,723	0.4	3,978,256	12.0	0	0.0
	TOTAL	178	33,248,009	32,933,029	99.1	700	0	322,574	1.0	33,472,454	99.0	8,294	0.0
BST	U	54	791,025	773,881	97.8	2,871	0	14,563	1.8	1,457,995	54.0	290	0.0
	TOTAL	54	791,025	773,881	97.8	2,871	0	14,563	1.8	1,457,995	54.0	290	0.0
EAG	*S/U	12	2,569,209	2,545,348	99.1	80	0	23,781	0.9	2,699,970	95.0	0	0.0
WAG	**U/W	16	2,382,468	2,353,155	98.8	3,502	0	26,306	1.1	2,430,006	98.0	495	0.0

Note: EAG and WAG data are confidential; confidential data =

\* Fewer than three RCRs were used.

\*\* Fewer than three IFQ permit-holders fished.

<sup>a</sup> Landing pounds are raw crab pounds, excluding overages.

<sup>b</sup> Landing = vessel offloads

<sup>c</sup> Number of permit-holders represents persons whose IFQ permits were fished.

<sup>d</sup> IFQ TAC = TAC available; some pounds were not issuable, or amounts were rounded.

<sup>e</sup> Overages are the amount landed in excess of amount authorized on IFQ permits.

<sup>f</sup> "U" = IFQ with no regional designation.

**Table 3.17 IFQ landings<sup>a</sup> by fishery and IFQ sector<sup>a,b</sup>**

Fishery	Sector	Nr IFQ permit-holders <sup>c</sup>	Landed Pounds <sup>a,b</sup>	Sum sold pounds	Percent sold	Personal use pounds	Percent Personal use	Sum deadloss pounds	Percent deadloss	IFQ TAC <sup>d</sup>	Percent IFQ TAC	Sum of overage pounds <sup>e</sup>	Percent overage <sup>e</sup>
BBR	CVC	51	459,178	454,266	98.9	5,239	1.1	872	0.2	477,165	3.0	1,199	0.0
	CPC	6	17,338	17,242	99.4	0	0.0	96	0.6	17,380	0	0	0.8
	CVO	95	15,266,545	15,185,683	99.5	8,227	0.1	74,012	0.5	15,272,192	93.0	42	0.0
	CPO	8	729,339	730,221	100.1	4,928	0.7	2,526	0.3	729,366			
	TOTAL	160	16,472,400	16,387,412	99.5	18,394	0.1	77,506	0.5	16,496,103			
BSS	CVC	42	905,388	896,434	99.0	12	0.0	8,942	1.0	951,449	3.0	0	0.0
	CPC	7	51,859	51,794	99.9	-	0.0	65	0.1	59,366	0	0	0.0
	CVO	121	29,327,668	29,026,773	99.0	338	0.0	308,851	1.1	29,494,198	88.0	8,294	0.1
	CPO	8	2,963,094	2,958,028	99.8	350	0.0	4,716	0.2	2,967,441	9.0	0	
	TOTAL	178	33,248,009	32,933,029		700		322,574		33,472,454		8,294	0.0
BST	CVC	12	11,156	11,060	99.1	-	0.0	96	0.9	39,956	1.0	0	
	CPC	2	399	103	25.8	296	74.2	-	0.0	3,608	0	0	0.0
	CVO	36	747,917	733,260	98.0	480	0.1	14,467	1.9	1,318,803	51.0	290	
	CPO	4	31,553	29,458	93.4	2,095	6.6	-	0.0	95,628	2.0	0	
	TOTAL	54	791,025	773,881		2,871		14,563		1,457,995		290	0.0
EAG	CVC	4	77,709	76,909	99.0	12	0.0	788	1.0	80,996	3.0	0	
	CVO	6	2,364,841	2,343,142	99.1	32	0.0	21,667	0.9	2,492,311	88.0		0.0
	CPO	2	126,659	125,297	98.9	36	0.0	1,326	1.0	126,663	5.0	0	
	TOTAL	12	2,569,209	2,545,348		80		23,781		2,699,970			0.0

Continued

Table 3.17 Continued

Fishery	Sector	Nr IFQ permit-holders <sup>c</sup>	Landed Pounds <sup>a,b</sup>	Sum sold pounds	Percent sold	Personal use pounds	Percent Personal use	Sum deadloss pounds	Percent deadloss	IFQ TAC <sup>d</sup>	Percent IFQ TAC	Sum of overage pounds <sup>e</sup>	Percent overage <sup>e</sup>
WAG	CVC	4	40,667	40,903	100	34	0.1	225	0.6	41,915	2.0	495	0.0
	CPC	2	30,989	30,983	100	0	0.0	6	0.0	30,989	1.0	0	0.0
	CVO	8	1,225,500	1,199,641	97.9	11	0.0	25,848	2.1	1,267,539	50.0	0	
	CPO	2	1,085,312	1,081,628	99.7	3,457	0.3	227	0.0	1,089,563	45.0	0	0.1
	TOTAL	16	2,382,468	2,353,155		3,502		26,306		2,430,006			0.0

<sup>a</sup> Landing pounds are raw crab pounds, excluding overages.

<sup>b</sup> Landing = vessel offloads

<sup>c</sup> Number of permit-holders represents persons whose IFQ permits were fished.

<sup>d</sup> IFQ TAC = TAC available; some pounds were not issuable, or amounts were rounded.

<sup>e</sup> Overages are the amount landed in excess of amount authorized on IFQ permits.

Table 3.18 Landings<sup>a</sup> by Fishery and IFQ class

Fishery	IFQ Class	Nr IFQ permit holders <sup>b</sup>	Landed Pounds <sup>a,c</sup>	Sum sold pounds	Percent sold	Personal use pounds	Percent Personal use	Deadloss pounds	Percent deadloss	IFQ TAC <sup>d</sup>	Percent IFQ TAC	Sum of overage pounds <sup>e</sup>	Percent overage
BBR	A	56	13,757,569	13,689,235	99.5	3,347	0.0	65,944	0.5	13,760,740	83.4	957	0.01
	B	39	1,508,976	1,496,448	99.2	4,880	0.3	8,068	0.5	1,511,452	9.1	420	0.03
	U <sup>f</sup>	65	1,205,855	1,201,729	99.7	10,167	0.8	3,494	0.3	1,223,911	7.3	9,535	0.79
	total	160	16,472,400	16,387,412	99.5	18,394	0.1	77,506	0.5	16,496,103	99.8	10,912	0.07
BSS	A	70	26,402,706	26,131,999	99.0	199	0.0	278,746	1.1	26,545,558	78.9	8,238	0.03
	B	51	2,924,962	2,894,774	99.0	139	0.0	30,105	1.0	2,948,640	8.7	56	0.00
	U	57	3,920,341	3,906,256	99.6	362	0.0	13,723	0.4	3,978,256	11.7	0	0.00
	total	178	33,248,009	32,933,029	99.1	700	0.0	322,574	1.0	33,472,454	99.3	8,294	0.02

Table 3.18 Continued

Fishery	IFQ Class	Nr IFQ permit holders <sup>b</sup>	Landed Pounds <sup>a,c</sup>	Sum sold pounds	Percent sold	Personal use pounds	Percent Personal use	Deadloss pounds	Percent deadloss	IFQ TAC <sup>d</sup>	Percent IFQ TAC	Sum of overage pounds <sup>e</sup>	Percent overage
BST	A	22	693,212	689,390	99.4	35	0.0	3,887	0.6	1,186,924	47.6	100	0.01
	B	14	54,705	43,870	80.2	445	0.8	10,580	19.3	131,879	3.8	190	0.35
	U <sup>f</sup>	18	43,108	40,621	94.2	2,391	5.5	96	0.2	139,192	3.0	0	0.00
	total	54	791,025	773,881	97.8	2,871	0.4	14,563	1.8	1,457,995	54.3	290	0.04
EAG	A	3	2,134,076	2,113,978	99.1	-	0.0	20,098	0.9	2,243,081	79.0	0	0.00
	*B/U	9	435,133	431,370	99.1	80	0.0	3,683	1.7	456,889	16.1	0	0.00
	total	12	2,569,209	2,545,348	99.1	80	0	23,781	.9	2,699,970	95.2	0	0.00
WAG	A	4	1,102,941	1,084,179	98.3	8	0.0	18,754	1.7	1,140,787	45.4	0	0.00
	**B/U	12	1,279,527	1,268,976	99.2	3,494	.3	7,552	5.8	1,289,219	52.7	495	0.04
	total	16	2,382,468	2,353,155	98.8	3,502	0.1	26,306	1.1	2,430,006	98.1	495	0.02

Notes: EAG and WAG data are confidential; confidential data =

\* Fewer than three RCR were used.

\*\* Fewer than three IFQ Permitholders fished.

<sup>a</sup> Landing pounds are raw crab pounds, excluding overages.

<sup>b</sup> Landing = vessel offloads

<sup>c</sup> Number of permitholders represents persons whose IFQ permits were fished.

<sup>d</sup> IFQ TAC = TAC available; some pounds were not issuable, or amounts were rounded.

<sup>e</sup> Overages are the amount landed in excess of amount authorized on IFQ permits.

<sup>f</sup> IFQ class "U" = CVC, CPC, and CPO sectors.

## DEADLOSS

Deadloss is crab that was delivered dead or in otherwise unprocessable condition, other than personal use crab. Most deadloss (>80%) was reported on Class A IFQ permits. Table 3.19 summarizes deadloss landings by pounds and percent.

**Table 3.19 Deadloss reported for all fisheries by IFQ permit class**

IFQ Class	Landing Count	Total Landed <sup>a</sup>	Sum Deadloss pounds	Total landed pounds (excluding overages) as deadloss	Percent of total deadloss as reported on Class A, B, U IFQ permits
A <sup>b</sup>	512	43,699,486	387,429	0.9	83.4
B <sup>b</sup>	221	4,779,052	57,416	1.2	12.4
U <sup>b</sup>	246	6,494,296	19,885	0.3	4.3

<sup>a</sup> Pounds are in raw crab pounds, excluding overages.

<sup>b</sup> Only CVO sector IFQ is divided into Class A and B IFQ. IFQ class "U" = CVC, CPC, and CPO sectors. Class A IFQ must be delivered to an RCR with available IPQ.

## PORTS

From the landings reports submitted by RCRs, RAM receives data by port when a port is reported or "At Sea" for catcher processors and stationary floating processors that receive landings outside of community boundaries. Table 3.21 shows ports ranked by landings and pounds delivered in 2005/06 for all crab IFQ fisheries. Due to confidentiality, some data cannot be published.

**Table 3.20 Port rank by numbers of landings and pounds landed**

Rank	Port	Nr landings	Pounds landed <sup>a</sup>
1	DUTCH HARBOR	255	24,226,871
2	AT SEA <sup>b</sup>	137	10,531,484
3	ST PAUL	90	8,279,913
4	AKUTAN	73	**
5	KING COVE	68	**
6	KODIAK	15	916,474
7	ADAK	6	*
8	SITKA	1	**
<i>Total landings</i>		645	55,463,111

Table notes:

\*\* Data are confidential because they are derived from the activities of fewer than four permit holders or RCRs.

\* Data cannot be displayed because simple subtraction would allow confidential data to be computed.

<sup>a</sup> Pounds are in raw crab pounds, excluding overages.

<sup>b</sup> "At Sea" means landings by catcher processors and stationary floating processors.

**Table 3.21 Number of IFQ landings in pounds<sup>a</sup> and percent by port and IFQ class**

Port <sup>b</sup>	Class A	Percent total port IFQ landings as Class A	Class B	Percent total port IFQ landings as Class B	Class U <sup>c</sup>	Percent total port IFQ landings as Class U
ADAK	Confidential					
AKUTAN	Confidential					
KODIAK	621,056	68	220,559	24	74,859	8
ST PAUL	7,712,323	93	376,461	5	191,129	2
AT SEA <sup>d</sup>	5,921,879	56	258,437	2	4,351,168	41
KING COVE	Confidential					
DUTCH HARBOR	19,458,233	80	3,182,196	13	1,586,442	7
SITKA	Confidential					

<sup>a</sup> Pounds are in raw crab pounds, excluding overages.

<sup>b</sup> Adak, Akutan, King Cove and Sitka data are confidential and cannot be displayed.

<sup>c</sup> Only CVO sector IFQ is divided into Class A and B IFQ. IFQ class "U" = CVC, CPC, and CPO sectors. Class A IFQ must be delivered to an RCR with available IPQ.

<sup>d</sup> "At sea" means landings by catcher processors and stationary floating processors.

## COOPERATIVES

The Fishermen's Collective Marketing Act of 1934 (FCMA) allows fishermen to jointly harvest, market, and price their product without being in violation of antitrust laws. Under this Act, a cooperative is limited to harvesters, not processors, but processing may occur once entities form a cooperative. Using cooperatives allows harvesting with fewer vessels and cost- and revenue-sharing.

A group of four or more distinct QS holders (not affiliated with the other members in that cooperative) may voluntarily form a crab harvesting cooperative for the purpose of applying for and fishing under a crab harvesting cooperative IFQ permit, and must annually apply by August 1 to NOAA Fisheries to receive a permit. Crab harvesting cooperatives do not hold QS; they hold and use only the IFQ assigned to the cooperative by members.

Cooperatives must use Hired Masters to harvest cooperative IFQ, and vessels used must be owned in part by a cooperative member. Vessels used exclusively to harvest crab cooperative IFQ are not subject to use caps. Crab harvesting cooperatives are free to associate with one or more processors to the extent allowed by antitrust law.

### *Distributed Effort*

The 15 cooperatives that formed for the 2005/06 crab fishing year accounted for more than 80% of the harvest in every fishery. The following tables display the percent IFQ assigned to cooperatives compared with that held outside cooperatives. Tables 3.22 and 3.23 contrast cooperative and noncooperative IFQ allocations and landing performance.

**Table 3.22 IFQ pounds assigned to cooperatives and landing performance.**

Fishery	IFQ type	Cooperative members	Nr cooperatives	Available IFQ pounds	IFQ Pounds assigned to cooperatives	Percent of IFQ pounds assigned to cooperatives	Pounds landed by cooperatives excluding overages	Percent cooperative pounds landed
BBR	crew	123	15	494,545	350,682	70.9	347,874	99.2
	owner	215	15	16,001,558	13,406,870	83.8	13,402,739	100
BSS	crew	206	15	1,010,815	706,557	69.9	700,811	99.2
	owner	207	15	32,461,639	27,272,857	84.0	27,238,064	99.9
BST	crew	105	15	43,564	27,236	62.5	9,658	35.5
	owner	214	15	14,414,431	1,175,737	83.1	656,340	55.8
EAG	crew	10	2	80,996	70,786	87.4	70,756	100
	owner	14	5	2,618,974	2,391,849	91.3	2,265,692	94.7
WAG	crew	9	4	72,904	72,904	100	71,656	98.3
	owner	15	5	2,357,102	2,357,102	100	2,310,812	98.0

**Table 3.23 IFQ pounds held by persons outside cooperatives and landing performance**

Fishery	IFQ type	Nr persons holding IFQ outside of cooperatives	IFQ pounds excluding overages	IFQ pounds held outside cooperatives	Percent IFQ pounds held outside cooperative	Pounds landed outside cooperatives (excluding overages)	Percent pounds landed outside cooperative
BBR	crew	44	494,545	143,863	29.1	128,642	89.4
	owner	36	16,001,558	2,612,584	16.2	2,593,145	99.2
BSS	crew	41	1,010,815	319,701	30.1	256,436	80.2
	owner	31	32,461,639	5,188,782	16.0	5,052,698	97.4
BST	crew	62	43,564	16,328	37.5	1,897	11.6
	owner	39	14,414,431	238,694	16.9	123,130	51.6
EAG	crew	3	80,996	10,210	12.6	Confidential	
	owner	1	2,618,974	227,125	8.7		
WAG	crew	0	72,904	0	0	0	0
	owner	0	5,357,102	0	0	0	0

## Community Protection Measures

The Program included several measures to protect revenues and employment in fishery dependent coastal communities with a history of participation in these fisheries. These measures take the form of geographic landing and/or transfer restrictions on IFQ, PQS, and IPQ. There are nine Eligible Crab Communities (ECCs): Adak, Akutan, Unalaska/Dutch Harbor, False Pass, King Cove, Kodiak, Port Moller, Saint George, and Saint Paul. Of these, all but Adak have the "Right of First Refusal" on proposed sales of PQS. All nine are protected by "Cooling-off," a temporary prohibition against use of IPQ outside of the community or borough boundary in which the IPQ was derived. Regions assigned to QS/IFQ and PQS/IPQ for most fisheries protect the Pribilof Islands in the BSAI and Kodiak Island in the GOA. The QS Community purchase measure allows new small communities to purchase QS for the use of community residents.

Tables 3.24 and 3.25 show the percentages of processing "power" vested in the ECCs versus PQS/IPQ without Community Protection Measures ("None").

**Table 3.24 Percent PQS/IPQ assigned to ROFR eligible communities<sup>a</sup>**

Fishery								
ROFR Community	BBR	BSS	BST	EAG	PIK	SMB	WAG	WAI
Akutan	19.9	9.8		1.0	1.2	2.7		
False Pass	3.7							
King Cove	12.8	6.3			3.8	1.3		
Kodiak	3.8	0.1			2.9	0.0		
None	2.7	2.1	100	0.9	0.3	64.6	100	100
Port Moller	3.5							
St George		9.7						
St Paul	2.6	36.6			67.3	13.8		
Unalaska	51.1	35.3		98.1	24.6	17.6		
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

<sup>a</sup>Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

**Table 3.25 Percent PQS/IPQ assigned with cooling off<sup>a</sup> boundaries or "None."**

Fishery								
Cooling-Off Community	BBR	BSS	BST	EAG	PIK	SMB	WAG	WAI
Aleutians East Borough	39.9	16.1		1.0	5.0	4.0		
Kodiak Island Borough	3.8	0.1			2.0	0.0		
None	2.7	2.1	100	0.9	1.2	64.6	100	100
St George		9.7						
St Paul	2.6	36.6			67.3	13.8		
Unalaska	51.1	35.3		98.1	24.6	17.6		
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

<sup>a</sup>Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.



## Sideboards

Sideboard restrictions prevent vessel effort excess to crab fisheries as a result of the Program from increasing over historic levels in GOA groundfish fisheries. Vessels whose historic activity resulted in Bering Sea snow crab QS and any other vessels fishing under LLP groundfish licenses derived from those vessels, are collectively restricted to sideboard limits of each allocated GOA groundfish species. A total of 227 vessels are affected by sideboards because of their own snow crab participation history; in addition, 57 LLP licenses derived from these vessels also had sideboard restrictions added. LLP licenses are transferable for use on other vessels; therefore, between 227 and 284 vessels will be subject to these GOA groundfish sideboards at any given time.

There are three types of sideboard restrictions; one of the following sideboards applies to each affected vessel or LLP license:

- a. subject to GOA sideboard limits except for the limit on Pacific cod;
- b. subject to all GOA sideboard limits, including Pacific cod; or
- c. subject to all GOA sideboards, except that the vessel may not be used for any directed fishing for Pacific cod.

Persons who owned a vessel or who held an LLP license that RAM determined was affected by sideboards were afforded the opportunity to provide evidence to dispute that determination, and to appeal the determination of their claim. As of the date of this publication, only one person has a sideboard appeal pending. Table 3.26 summarizes sideboards imposed under the Program.

**Table 3.26 Summary of sideboards under the Program**

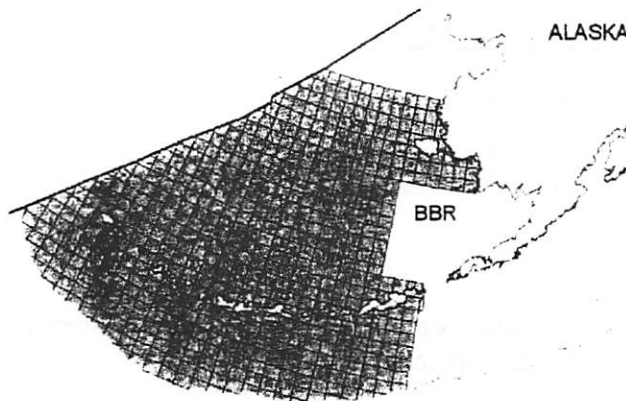
Type of Sideboard	Nr sideboarded fishing vessels as a result of their Bering Sea snow crab history	Number of LLP groundfish licenses to which sideboards apply
Subject to all GOA sideboards, except Pacific cod	5	5
Subject to all GOA sideboards (including Pacific cod)	85	40
Subject to all GOA sideboards, and may not directed fish for Pacific cod	137	12
<i>Total number of sideboarded vessels and LLP licenses</i>	227	57

## Fishery Summaries

### **BRISTOL BAY RED KING CRAB (BBR)**

The Bristol Bay red king crab fishery area is defined by a northern boundary of 58° E 39° N. lat., along the east side of continental Alaska, a southern boundary of 54° E 36° N. lat., and a western boundary of 168° W. long. and including all waters of Bristol Bay.

The fishery was open and the TAC was set at 16,496,100. The season opened Oct 15, 2005 and closed Jan 15, 2006.



#### ALASKA Fishery Facts

**Number of pots average:** 177 per vessel  
**Number of pots pulled average:** 1,119 per vessel  
**Harvest:** 16,472,400 raw crab lbs (excluding overages)  
**Number of vessels used:** 89  
**Port Count:** 7 (including "at sea")  
**Landing count:** 259  
**Percentage of TAC caught:** 99.9%  
**RCRs participating:** 16  
**Active IFQ permit holders:** 84  
**Distinct persons making landings (IFQ holder or Master):** 104  
**Active IPQ holders:** 9

The following table displays the ports in which BBR crab were landed in 2005/06.

**Table 3.27 Ports used for BBR crab landings<sup>a</sup>**

Port	Rank	Vessel landings	Total landings (pounds)	Percent harvest <sup>b,c,d</sup>
DUTCH HARBOR	1	120	8,459,532	51.4
KING COVE	2	50	**	**
AKUTAN	3	43	**	**
AT SEA <sup>d</sup>	4	23	914,933	6.0
KODIAK	5	12	774,045	4.7
ST PAUL	6	10	**	**
SITKA **	7	1	**	**
<b>Total</b>		<b>259</b>	<b>16,472,400</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: ADF&G and NOAA Fisheries

\*\* Indicates data are confidential because they are derived from the activities of fewer than four individuals.

<sup>a</sup> A vessel landing is an offload.

<sup>b</sup> Percent harvest is the total landed pounds, excluding overages; percents may not total 100% due to rounding.

<sup>c</sup> Harvest is raw crab pounds.

<sup>d</sup> "At-sea" means landings by catcher processors and stationary floating processors.

When the season ended Jan 15, 2006, BBR IFQ holders or their Hired Masters had reported 89 vessel landings (offloads) of BBR crab for a total harvest of 99.9% of the available TAC. The table below displays the allocations and harvests starting 5 years prior to the Program and in the first Program year.

**Table 3.28 BBR crab fishery allocation and harvest 2000–2005/06**

Fishery year	TAC/GHL <sup>a</sup>	Harvest <sup>b</sup>	Percent TAC landed
2000	7.7	7.6	98.7
2001	6.6	7.8	118.2
2002	8.6	8.9	103.5
2003	14.5	14.8	102.1
2004	14.3	14.3	100
2005/06	16.5	16.5	100

Source: ADF&G and NOAA Fisheries

<sup>a</sup> GHL = guideline harvest level (ADF&G); the Program uses TAC (total allowable catch).

<sup>b</sup> Landings are in millions of raw crab pounds, excluding overages.

#### *Cooperatives*

In the 2005/06 BBR fishery, more than 13.7 million pounds of a total of almost 16.5 million fishable pounds, (83% of total available IFQ) were assigned to 15 cooperatives.

**Table 3.29 Pounds and percent of BBR IFQ assigned to cooperatives**

Sector	Total pounds available	Pounds assigned to cooperatives	Percent assigned To cooperatives <sup>a</sup>
CVC	477,165	339,985	71.3
CPC	17,380	10,697	61.5
CVO	15,272,192	12,910,722	84.5
CPO	729,366	496,148	68.0

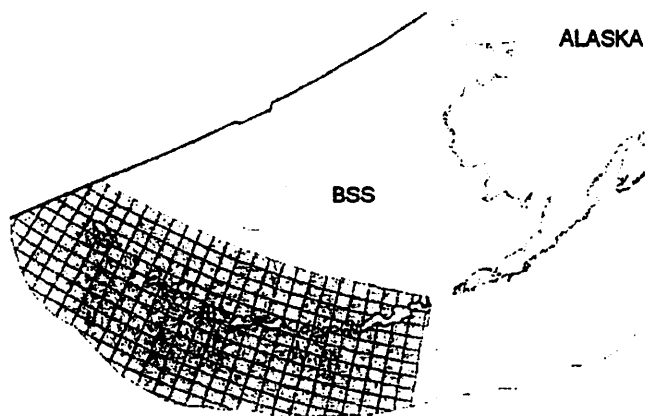
(Source: ADF&G and NOAA Fisheries)

<sup>a</sup> Percents may not total 100% due to rounding.

## BERING SEA SNOW CRAB (BSS)

The Bering Sea snow crab fishery is open in all waters of the Bering Sea District west of 166° W, and including all waters of Bristol Bay.

The fishery was open and the TAC was set at 33,465,600. The season opened Oct 15, 2005 and closed May 15 for the East Sub District and May 31 for the West Sub District.



### Fishery Facts

**Number of pots average:** 176 per vessel  
**Number of pots pulled average:** 1,389 per vessel  
**Harvest:** 33,248,009 raw crab lbs (excluding overages)  
**Number of vessels used:** 78  
**Port Count:** 6 (including "at sea")  
**Landings count:** 304  
**Percentage of TAC caught:** 99.4%  
**RCRs participating:** 21  
**Active IFQ permitholders:** 70  
**Distinct persons making landings (IFQ holder or Master):** 90  
**Active IPQ holders:** 9

The following table displays the ports in which BSS crab were landed in 2005/06.

**Table 3.30 Ports used for BSS crab landings<sup>a</sup>**

Port	Rank	Vessel landings <sup>a</sup>	Total landing in pounds	Percent harvest <sup>b,c</sup>
DUTCH HARBOR	1	101	12,451,729	37.5%
AT-SEA <sup>d</sup>	2	76	7,893,342	23.7
ST PAUL	3	78	7,774,571	23.4
AKUTAN	4	29	**	**
KING COVE	5	18	**	**
KODIAK	6	6	*	*
<b>Total</b>		<b>304</b>	<b>33,248,009</b>	<b>99.4</b>

Source: ADF&G and NOAA Fisheries

Notes:

- \*\* Indicates data are confidential because they are derived from the activities of fewer than four individuals.
- \* Indicates data may not be displayed because simple subtraction would allow confidential data to be computed.
- <sup>a</sup> A vessel landing is an offload.
- <sup>b</sup> Percent harvest is the total landed pounds, excluding overages; percents may not total 100% due to rounding.
- <sup>c</sup> Harvest is raw crab pounds.
- <sup>d</sup> "At-sea" means landings by catcher processors and stationary floating processors.

When the seasons ended on May 31, 2006, BSS IFQ holders or their Hired Masters had reported 304 vessel landings (offloads) of BSS crab for a total harvest of 99.4% of the available TAC. Table 3.31 displays the allocations and harvests starting 5 years prior to the Program and in the first Program year.

**Table 3.31 BSS Crab fishery allocations and harvest 2000–2005/06**

Fishery year	TAC/GHL <sup>a</sup>	Harvest <sup>b</sup>	Percent of TAC landed <sup>b,d</sup>
2000	26.4	30.8	116.7
2001	25.3	23.4	92.5
2002	28.5	30.2	106.0
2003	23.7	26.3	111.0
2004	19.3	22.1	114.5
2005 <sup>c</sup>	19.4	23.0	118.5
2005/06	33.3	33.2	100.0

(Source: ADF&G and NOAA Fisheries)

<sup>a</sup> GHL = guideline harvest level (ADF&G); the Program uses TAC (total allowable catch).

<sup>b</sup> Landings are in millions of raw crab pounds, excluding overages.

<sup>c</sup> The BSS crab season began before the Program and data is included in 2005 and under the Program during 2005/06.

<sup>d</sup> Percents may not total 100% due to rounding.

### Cooperatives

In 2005/06 The BSS fishery had 34 million pounds of nearly 28 million, (83.6 % of total available IFQ) were assigned to 15 cooperatives.

**Table 3.32 Pounds and percent of BSS IFQ assigned to cooperatives**

Sector	Total pounds available	Pounds assigned to cooperatives <sup>a</sup>	Percent assigned to cooperatives <sup>a</sup>
CVC	951,449	678,557	71.3
CPC	59,366	28,000	47.2
CVO	29,494,198	25,377,293	86.0
CPO	2,967,441	1,895,564	63.9

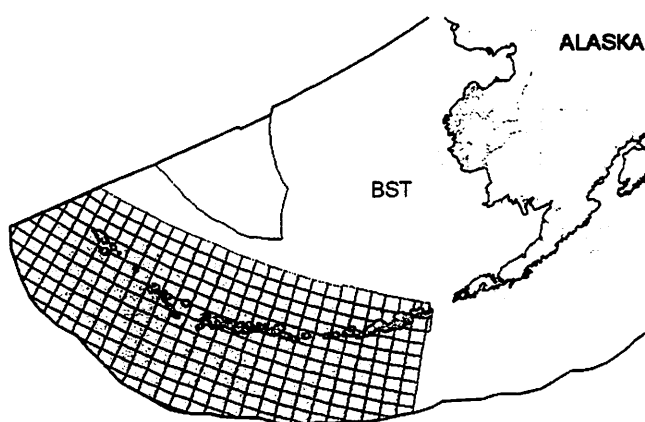
(Source: ADF&G and NOAA Fisheries)

<sup>a</sup> Percents may not total 100% due to rounding.

## BERING SEA TANNER CRAB (BST)

For 2005/06 Bering Sea Tanner crabs were managed as a single fishery and divided for management of 2 stocks and fisheries for future years. The BST area was defined by a northern and western boundary of the Maritime Boundary Agreement Line (U.S. and USSR 1991) southern boundary 54° 36' N to 171°W., south to 54° 36' N.

The fishery was open and the TAC was set at 1,458,000. The season opened Oct 15, 2005 and closed March 31, 2006.



### Fishery Facts

**Number of pots average:** 136 per vessel  
**Number of pots pulled average:** 691 per vessel  
**Harvest:** 791,315 raw crab lbs, (excluding overages)  
**Number of vessels used:** 43  
**Port Count:** 6 (including "At Sea")  
**Landing count:** 74  
**Percentage of TAC caught:** 54.3%  
**RCR Participating:** 14  
**Active IFQ permit holders:** 34  
**Distinct persons making landings (IFQ holder or master):** 45  
**Active IPQ holders:** 6

The following table displays the ports in which BST crab were landed in 2005/06.

**Table 3.33 Ports used for BST crab landings<sup>a</sup>**

Port	Rank	Vessel landings <sup>a</sup>	Total harvest <sup>b,c</sup>	Percent Allocations
DUTCH HARBOR	1	28	370,826	46.9
AKUTAN	2	7	**	**
ST PAUL	3	21	122,628	28.9
AT SEA	4	13	48,261	6.1
KING COVE	5	4	*	*
KODIAK	6	1	**	**
<b>Total</b>		<b>74</b>	<b>791,025</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: ADF&G and NOAA Fisheries

\*\* Indicates data are confidential because they are derived from the activities of fewer than four individuals.

\* Indicates data may not be displayed because simple subtraction would allow confidential data to be computed.

<sup>a</sup> A vessel landing is an offload.

<sup>b</sup> Harvest is in raw crab pounds, excluding overages.

<sup>c</sup> Percents may not total 100% due to rounding.

When the seasons ended March 31, 2006, BST IFQ holders or their Hired Masters had reported 74 vessel landings (offloads) of BST crab for a total harvest of 54.3% of the available TAC. Table 3.34 displays the allocations and harvests starting 5 years prior to the Program and in the first Program year.

**Table 3.34 BST Crab fishery allocations and harvest 2000–2005/06**

Fishery year	TAC/GHL <sup>a</sup>	Harvest <sup>b</sup>	Percent of TAC landed <sup>b,c</sup>
2000–2004	Closed		
2005/06	1,458,000	791,025	54.3

(Source: ADF&G and NOAA Fisheries)

<sup>a</sup> GHL = guideline harvest level (ADF&G); the Program uses TAC (total allowable catch).

<sup>b</sup> Landings are in millions of raw crab pounds, excluding overages.

<sup>c</sup> Percents may not total 100% due to rounding.

### Cooperatives

In the 2005/06 BST fishery, more than 1.2 million pounds of a total of almost 1.4 million pounds (82.5% of available IFQ) were assigned to 15 cooperatives.

**Table 3.35 Pounds and percent of BST IFQ assigned to cooperatives**

Sector	Total pounds available	Pounds assigned to cooperatives	Percent assigned to cooperatives <sup>a</sup>
CVC	39,956	25,646	64.2
CPC	3,608	1,590	44.1
CVO	1,318,803	1,105,870	83.9
CPO	95,628	69,867	73.1

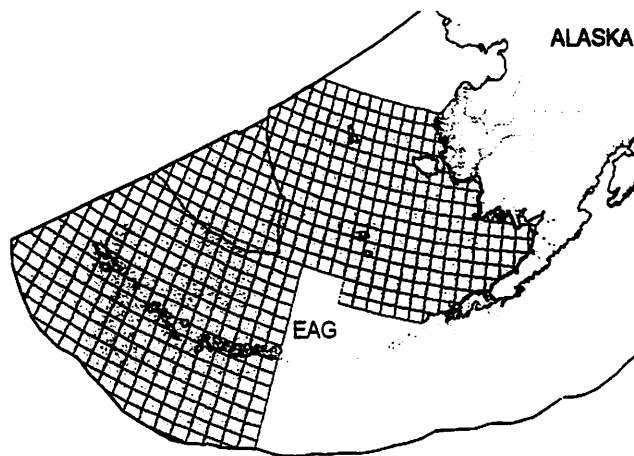
(Source: ADF&G and NOAA Fisheries)

<sup>a</sup> Percents may not total 100% due to rounding.

## EASTERN ALEUTIAN ISLANDS GOLDEN KING CRAB (EAG)

The fishery area is defined by an eastern boundary of 164° 44' W, a western boundary of 174° W., and a northern boundary of 54° 36' N. west to 171° W, then north to 55° 30' N., then west to 174° W.

The fishery was open and the TAC was set at 2,700,000. The season opened August 15, 2005 and closed May 15, 2006.



### Fishery Facts

Number of pots average: 1,262 per vessel  
 Number of pots pulled average: 3,128 per vessel

Harvest 2,569,209 raw crab lbs (excluding overages)

Number of vessels used: 7

Port Count: 2 (including "At-Sea")

Landing count: 33

Percentage of TAC caught: 95.2%

RCR participating: 5

Active IFQ permit holders: 6

Distinct persons making landings (IFQ holder or master): 8

Active IPQ holders: 4

The following table displays the Alaska ports in which EAG crab were landed in 2005/06.

**Table 3.36 Ports used for EAG crab landings<sup>a</sup>**

Port	Rank	Vessel Landings	Allocations	Percent harvest <sup>b,c</sup>
DUTCH HARBOR	1	25	*	*
AT SEA <sup>d</sup>	2	8	**	**
Total		33	2,569,209	100%

(Source: ADF&G and NOAA Fisheries)

\* Indicates data may not be displayed because simple subtraction would allow confidential data to be computed.

\*\* Indicates data are confidential because they are derived from the activities of fewer than four individuals.

<sup>a</sup> A vessel landing is an offload.

<sup>b</sup> Percent harvest is the total landed pounds, excluding overages.

<sup>c</sup> Harvest is in raw crab pounds.

<sup>d</sup> "At Sea" means landings by catcher processors and stationary floating processors.



When the season ended May 15, 2006, EAG IFQ holders or their Hired Masters had reported 33 vessel landings (offloads) of EAG crab for a total harvest of 95.2% of the available TAC. Table 3.37 displays the allocations and harvests starting 5 years prior to the Program and in the first Program year.

**Table 3.37 EAG fishery allocations and harvest 2000–2005/06**

Fishery year	TAC/GHL <sup>a</sup>	Harvest	Percent TAC <sup>b</sup>
2000	3	3.1	104.5
2001	3	3.2	105.7
2002	3	2.8	94.0
2003	3	3.0	99.0
2004	3	2.9	96.0
2005/06	2.7	2.6	96.3

(Source: ADF&G and NOAA Fisheries)

<sup>a</sup> GHL = guideline harvest level (ADF&G); the Program uses TAC (total allowable catch).

<sup>b</sup> Landings are in millions of raw crab pounds, excluding overages.

### *Cooperatives*

In the 2005/06 EAG fishery, almost 2.5 million pounds of the total 2.7 million pounds (91% of available IFQ) was assigned to 5 cooperatives.

**Table 3.38 Pounds and percent of EAG IFQ assigned to cooperatives**

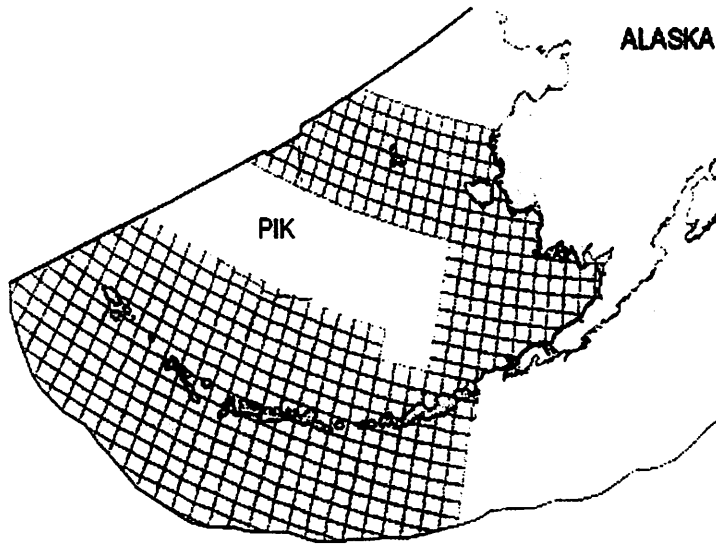
Sector	Total pounds available	Pounds to assigned Cooperatives	Percent to assigned cooperatives <sup>a</sup>
CVC	80,996	70,786	87.4
CVO	2,492,311	2,265,186	90.9
CPO	126,663	126,663	100

(Source: ADF&G and NOAA Fisheries)

<sup>a</sup> Percents may not total 100% due to rounding.

### **PRIBILOF ISLANDS RED AND BLUE KING CRAB (PIK)**

The fishery area is defined by a northern boundary of  $58^{\circ} 39' N.$ , an eastern boundary of  $168^{\circ} W.$  south to  $54^{\circ} 36' N.$ , then westward to  $(54^{\circ} 36' N., 171^{\circ} W.)$ , then north to  $(55^{\circ} 30' N., 171^{\circ} W.)$ , then westward to the Maritime Boundary Agreement Line (U.S.-USSR 1991).

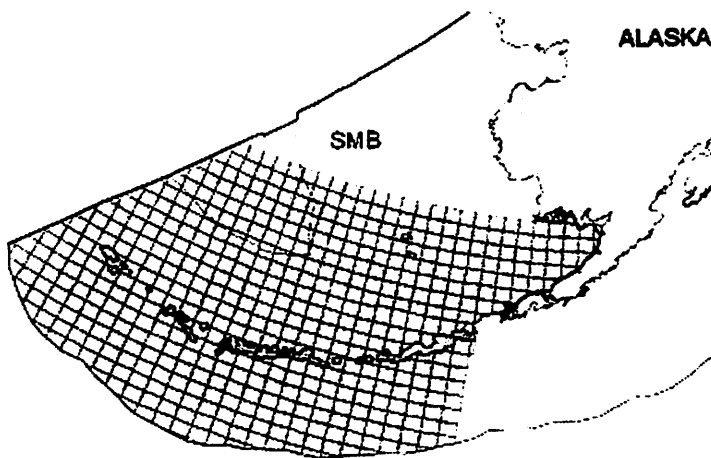


**ALASKA** The PIK fishery was closed for the season due to low stock abundance.

(Source: SAFE)

### **ST. MATTHEW BLUE KING CRAB (SMB)**

This fishery area is defined by a northern boundary of  $61^{\circ} 49' N.$ , along the east side of continental Alaska, a southern boundary of  $58^{\circ} 39' N.$ , and a western boundary of the Maritime Boundary Agreement (U.S.-USSR 1991).

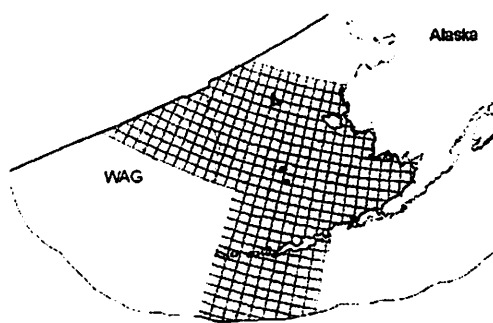


**ALASKA** The SMB fishery was closed for the season due to low stock abundance. (Source: SAFE)

## WESTERN ALEUTIAN ISLANDS GOLDEN KING CRAB (WAG)

The fishery area is defined by eastern boundary of 174° W along the east side of continental Alaska, a northern boundary of 55° 30' N, and a western boundary of the Maritime Boundary Line (U.S.-USSR 1991).

The fishery was open and the TAC was set at 2,430,000. The season opened August 15, 2005 and closed May 15, 2006.



### Fishery Facts

**Number of pots average:** 1,633 per vessel  
**Number of pots average pulled:** 9,168 per vessel  
**Harvest:** 2,382,468 raw crab lbs (excluding overages)  
**Number of vessels used:** 3  
**Port Count:** 3 (including "At Sea")  
**Landing count:** 42  
**Percentage of TAC caught:** 98%  
**RCR Participating:** 8  
**Active IFQ permitholders:** 3  
**Distinct persons making landings (IFQ holder or**

**Master):** 6

**Active IPQ holders:** 4

The following table displays the ports in which WAG crab were landed in 2005/06.

**Table 3.39 Ports used for WAG crab landings<sup>a</sup>**

Port	Rank	Vessel Landings <sup>a</sup>	Total Harvest <sup>b</sup>	Percent Harvest <sup>c</sup>
AT SEA <sup>d</sup>	1	26	1,366,736	57.4
DUTCH HARBOR	2	10	**	**
ADAK	3	6	**	**
Total		42	2,382,468	100%

Source: ADF&G and NOAA Fisheries

\*\* Indicates data are confidential because they are derived from the activities of fewer than four individuals.

<sup>a</sup> A vessel landing is an offload.

<sup>b</sup> Harvest is in raw crab pounds, excluding overages.

<sup>c</sup> Percent harvest is the total landed pounds, excluding overages.

<sup>d</sup> "At Sea" means landings by catcher processors and stationary floating processors.

When the season ended May 15, 2006, WAG IFQ holders or their Hired Masters had reported 42 vessel landings of WAG crab for a total harvest of 98% of the available TAC. Table 3.40 displays the allocations and harvests starting 5 years prior to the Program and in the first Program year.

**Table 3.40 WAG fishery allocations and harvest 2000/01–2005/06**

Fishery year	TAC/GHL <sup>a</sup>	Harvest <sup>b</sup>	Percent of TAC <sup>c</sup>
2000/01	2.7	2.8	103.7
2001/02	2.7	2.7	101.5
2002/03	2.7	2.6	97.8
2003/04	2.7	2.7	99.3
2004/05	2.7	2.7	99.3
2005/06	2.4	2.4	98.0

(Source: SAFE)

<sup>a</sup> GHL = guideline harvest level (ADF&G); the Program uses TAC (total allowable catch).

<sup>b</sup> Harvest is in millions of pounds, excluding overages.

<sup>c</sup> Percents may not total 100% due to rounding.

### Cooperatives

In the 2005/06 WAG fishery, all available pounds (100% of available IFQ) were assigned to 5 cooperatives.

**Table 3.41 Pounds and percent of WAG IFQ assigned to cooperatives**

Sector	Total pounds available	Pounds assigned to cooperatives	Percent assigned to cooperatives <sup>a</sup>
CVC	41,915	41,915	100
CPC	30,989	30,989	100
CVO	1,267,539	1,267,539	100
CPO	1,089,563	1,089,563	100

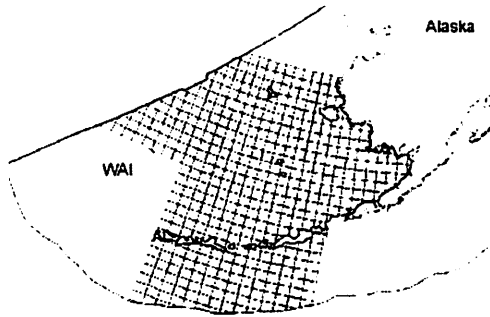
(Source: ADF&G and NOAA Fisheries)

<sup>a</sup> Percents may not total 100% due to rounding.

## WESTERN ALEUTIAN ISLANDS RED KING CRAB (WAI)

The fishery area is defined by an eastern boundary of 179° W., a western boundary of the Maritime Boundary Agreement Line (U.S.-USSR 1991), and a northern boundary of 55° 30' N, then west to the Maritime Boundary Agreement Line.

This fishery was closed for the season due to low stock abundance (Source: SAFE).



## Safety, Compliance, and Catch Monitoring

### U.S. COAST GUARD VESSEL SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE MONITORING

#### USCG Effort

- Sailed 2,184 cutter hours (91 underway cutter days), compared with last year's 360 hours
- Deployed aircraft 110 days, compared with last year's 48 days, costing \$100,000, compared with last year's \$45,000
- Flew 275 aircraft hours, compared with last year's 94 hours
- Responded to ZERO Program-related SAR cases
- Conducted 103 dockside boardings
- Conducted 20 at-sea boardings

During the 2005/06 fishing year, USCG efforts to enforce crab regulations and other federal laws stressed at-sea boardings and excluded after-hours surveillance of ports or shoreside monitoring of offloads. Cutters were used for patrol sightings and at-sea boardings, and aircraft provided names of vessels and QS holders, position, and activity.

#### *Search And Rescue (SAR)*

None of the USCG's 16 SAR cases was directly related to the crab fisheries. Preseason inspections promoted thorough checks of safety gear, and most were completed a month before fishing began. Cessation of "derby" fishing conditions helped lower SAR cases in the crab fisheries from 2 cases (6 deaths) in 2004 to zero SAR cases during the 2005/06 fishing year.

#### *Fishery Changes*

With the Program, the USCG noted the following changes that promoted a safer and more efficient crab fisheries in 2005/06:

- ✓ Increased USCG presence (including cutter time increase from 10 days to 135 days)
- ✓ Smaller fleet
- ✓ Required vessel safety compliance checks
- ✓ Required preseason Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety Program Decal (ADF&G)
- ✓ Reduced "any-weather" fishing
- ✓ Improved partner-agency coordination
- ✓ No dual inspections (due to VMS requirements)
- ✓ Reduced aerial response time (from 4 or more hours to 1 hour in most cases)

#### *Bristol Bay Red King Crab*

An Air Station Kodiak aircraft was deployed before the BBR fishery opened October 15, 2005 to provide SAR coverage. The aircraft readiness status was maintained until November 15 when the status was reduced to one crew. Aircraft operations were maintained until November 30, 2005, when 90% of the IFQ was reached and when 84% of the BBR crab fishing vessels had finished fishing.

A cutter was positioned near the main concentration of crab vessels in Bristol Bay as both a SAR presence and law enforcement tool beginning October 14, 2005. Near continuous cutter presence in the Bristol Bay area (most BBR fishery activity) continued until mid-December, by which time 98% of the

quota had been landed. Duration of required cutter time increased under the Program from 5 days to 60 days. With the introduction of at-sea boardings, the 2005/06 BBR season marked a sharp departure from the traditional operations in past BBR fisheries: Bering Sea cutters conducted a total of 13 at-sea boardings of vessels engaged in the fishery.

### *Bering Sea Snow Crab*

An Air Station Kodiak helicopter (with two crews) deployed to St Paul Island from January 9, 2006 through February 15, 2006 and again from mid-March through early April 2006, providing search and rescue support for the BSS fleet and other vessels in the area. This fishing year produced a significant increase in USCG activity related to crab: aircraft and crew were deployed for 62 days in the Program fishery versus 18 days the prior year, and crew flew 138 flight hours in 2006, compared with 32 flight hours in 2005.

Bering Sea cutters boarded 7 vessels engaged in the BSS fishery. The USCG maintained a near-continuous cutter presence near St. Paul and Zhemchug Canyon, the area with most of the snow crab fishing activity. Duration of required cutter time increased with the Program from 10 days to 135 days.

### *Safety Checks*

USCG prevention and response staffs coordinated extensive preseason safety efforts to ensure the fleet was well prepared. Senior staff met 9 months before the opening to identify questions and issues surrounding the Program. The USCG hosted several additional coordination and preparatory meetings in the months leading up to the opening and successfully petitioned the State of Alaska to institute 2 new safety regulations: a 24-hour pre-departure notification and a CFVS decal requirement prior to State fishery registration.

For two weeks prior to the opening of the BBR fishery in mid October, 2005, the USCG coordinated with Anchorage and Unalaska to conduct Safety Compliance Checks (SCC) and CFVS examinations at Dutch Harbor, Akutan, King Cove, and Kodiak. The USCG conducted 79 SCCs of 108 registered vessels, or 73% of the fleet, identifying 10 discrepancies that were repaired or corrected before departure to fish. Of the 89 vessels that fished, the SCC completion rate was 88%. Safety compliance was very good; all of those that participated in the fishery had a current decal as mandated by state law.

The BSS season was a continuation of October efforts for the BBR fishery. Personnel performed 25 SCCs (in addition to the 78 in October 2005 for a total of 103). Personnel effort increased with 6 additional staff in October 2005 and 2 Anchorage staff members assisting Unalaska staff for the first week of January 2006. Two vessels were delayed from sailing until stability or equipment issues were corrected.

CG personnel issued 23 CFVS Decals to BBR vessels. Adding to regular fishing year training, 11 Discovery Channel personnel who were deployed on crab vessels to film operations were trained in cold water survival techniques. During the 2005/06 fishing years, 20 personnel were trained in cold water survival. Alaska Marine Safety Education Association (AMSEA) provided training with assistance from USCG personnel. Nine fishermen received Drill Conductor training. Although the first Program fishing year was costly to patrol, during the 123 boardings, USCG inspectors met with excellent crew compliance.

### *Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)*

The NOAA Fisheries VMS database was an invaluable tool for the USCG this crab fishing year. Although the BBR fleet is relatively contained within the "RKC Savings Area," positional information allowed USCG cutters and aircraft more effective preparation for SAR. VMS was even more important

during the BSS fishery due to fleet use of a much greater geographic area than for BBR. The trend toward fewer vessels distributed over a larger area will mandate future VMS use for SAR planning and response. During 2005/06 only a few vessels had technical difficulties with their VMS equipment. The Council plans to examine VMS-related issues and consider authorizing improved VMS technologies, including two-way communication capability.

### NOAA FISHERIES/ALASKA STATE TROOPER COMPLIANCE MONITORING

<p><b>Compliance Facts</b></p> <p><b>Goal:</b> All crab weighed and reported</p> <p>13 Overages observed:</p> <p>7 BBR</p> <p>6 BSS</p> <p>15 NOAA Fisheries Boardings</p> <p>97 State Boardings</p>
--

Partners. The USCG and NOAA Fisheries Office for Law Enforcement (OLE) enforce the regulations that govern allocation of the Program. The ADF&G manages the biological aspects of the Program, and many of these regulations are enforced by the State of Alaska Department of Troopers and Public Safety Technicians. OLE has created a partnership with the Department of Public Safety through Joint Enforcement Agreements (JEAs). These JEAs provide a mechanism for state enforcement personnel to assist OLE in enforcing Program requirements and other federal fishing regulations. All parties coordinated activities

throughout the season.

Preseason Work. Prior to the start of the season, OLE personnel met with industry to explain regulations and answer questions. OLE staff distributed requirements checklists and reviewed preseason information to forestall compliance problems. OLE contacted some vessel owners and captains to make sure vessels had required VMS and FCVP. OLE also worked with crab cooperative managers and vessel representatives to resolve problems within and postseason.

Inseason Enforcement. Once the season started, the main goal of OLE was to ensure that all crab catch was weighed and reported. For many encountered violations, such as logbook errors, consideration was given to the fact this was the first year of the program. State Enforcement personnel assisted OLE by conducting dockside boardings and inspections and at-sea patrols. Boardings typically focused on permits and logbooks. Audits focused on accounting for the entire catch (including deadloss and personal use crab). The State conducts these duties under the authority of a Cooperative Enforcement Agreement. Funding and direction for these duties come through the JEAs. Table 4.1 shows the number of vessel inspections by OLE and the State.

COPPS. Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving visits were typically in response to constituent questions or for brief compliance spot checks.

VMS. VMS is required on all catcher vessels and catcher processors that participate in the Program, including IFQ, CDQ, and Adak fisheries. VMS is used to determine vessel position and activity.



**Table 4.1 NOAA Fisheries/State Enforcement Activities**

Activities	BBR		BSS & BST		WAG & EAG	
	NMFS	State	NMFS	State	NMFS	State
Boardings	6	38	0	3	9	56
Audits	5	1	0	0	2	4
COPPS	7	0	0	0	3	10

Violations. There were 13 observed overages: 7 instances for BBR and 6 for BSS in which annual IFQ permit accounts were exceeded. OLE opened investigations on 1 case of deadloss crab discarded without being reported and 1 landing for which the IFQ permit holder was not onboard as required. All cases were forwarded to NOAA General Counsel for resolution.

**NOAA FISHERIES CATCH MONITORING**

*Catch Monitoring Objectives for the Program*

<b>Catch Monitoring Facts</b>	
<b>Offload Reports Submitted for Catcher Vessels</b>	
<b>Number of Offload Reports</b>	
23 Offloads:	
5 in Puget Sound	
3 in St Paul	
15 in Dutch Harbor/Akutan	
<b>Pounds Reported</b>	
Puget Sound: 1,058,300	
St Paul: 227,318	
Dutch Harbor/Akutan: 2,507,276	
Total Alaska Pounds: 2,734,594	
<b>Pounds Monitored</b>	
Puget Sound: 1,058,300	
St Paul: 227,318	
Dutch Harbor/Akutan: 2,507,276	
Total Alaska Monitored Pounds: 2,734,594	

To effectively manage IFQ fisheries, NOAA Fisheries must have data that provide reliable independent estimates of the total catch for all crab harvested. Because fishery participants are operating under their own IFQ allocations, they have some incentive to underreport harvests. Based on experience gained under other quota-based programs, NOAA Fisheries anticipates estimates of catch may be questioned frequently by industry.

For these reasons, NOAA Fisheries used a catch weighing system for Program fisheries that is more rigorous than that required in other crab fisheries. NOAA Fisheries also implemented new monitoring and catch weighing requirements for RCRs taking deliveries of crab, for catcher vessels harvesting crab, and for CPs catching and/or processing crab.

*Requirements for Crab Processing Facilities*

Catch Monitoring Plans (CMPs). RCRs receiving unprocessed crab must operate under a CMP, which details how and where crab are sorted and weighed. All crab, including parts and dead or otherwise unmarketable crab, delivered to an RCR must be sorted and weighed by quota category on a scale certified by the State of Alaska. CMPs that met all of the standards were approved for 1 year, unless during the year there were changes in plant operation. NOAA Fisheries will review a CMP with plant management annually to ensure the CMP has been implemented and standards continue to be met.

During the first Program fishing year, 18 individual CMPs were submitted to NOAA Fisheries for inspection and approval. Seventeen RCRs informed NOAA Fisheries in writing that they would follow a CMP already authorized at a shore facility or on a processing vessel.

### *Requirements for Catcher Processor Vessels*

Daily Automatic Hopper Scales. Operators of vessels that harvest and process their catch at sea must weigh crab on NOAA Fisheries-certified motion-compensated scales prior to processing. Between August 15, 2005 and November 11, 2006, NOAA Fisheries staff inspected and approved 5 motion-compensated hopper scales in the Puget Sound area of Washington and in Dutch Harbor, Alaska, for all crab CPs participating in the fisheries.

Few problems were reported with the hopper scales during the crab fishery. One vessel reported icing of the hopper scale due to the exposed location of the scale and extreme temperatures during the season. The vessel was able to correct the problem by increasing the shelter surrounding the scale and clearing any ice that formed on the scale. During the first few weeks of the fishery, the addition of a hopper scale prior to the entry of crab into the factory slowed down throughput. Vessels were able to adjust the workload in different areas of the factory to accommodate the bottleneck at the hopper scale, and vessel operators report that production resumed at an acceptable pace.

Requirements for Onshore Offload. All CPs must offload at a shoreside location accessible by road or commercial air flights. All product offloaded must be weighed on scales certified by the state in which the offload occurs. Each scale must be equipped with a printer that records the weight of each load in the weighing cycle, the total weight in the offload, and the date and time of the offload. CPs must submit an offload report including the gross and net weight of the crab product offload, and must attach the scale printout.

### *Requirements for Catcher Vessels*

Deliver to an RCR. Catcher vessels must deliver all retained crab to an RCR with an approved CMP and remain at the offload site until required reporting is completed. There are no exceptions for activities such as dockside sales or tendering. If a holder of CVO or CVC IFQ wanted to sell their own catch to the public, the QS holder would be required to conduct the offload of crab from the vessel in accordance with the requirements described above for an RCR.

## Reporting

### E LANDINGS

#### **eLanding Facts**

736 Program landings:

- 91 landings for Adak and CDQ
- 645 IFQ landing reports:
  - 558 IFQ reports via eLandings
  - 87 IFQ “manual” reports

21 IFQ account overages in 16 offloads

The Interagency Electronic Reporting System (IERS) and its reporting component, eLandings, is a joint system developed under the partnership of NOAA Fisheries Alaska Region, ADF&G, and the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC). The system was designed, developed, tested, and implemented jointly by a contractor and agency staff. Regulations for the Program require the use of the IERS by any RCR receiving shellfish from the crab fishery. The working system was introduced for the beginning of the first crab fishery openings on August 15, 2005. The system has been in use as of that date and was extended in 2006 to allow reporting

of non-Program crab, groundfish, and halibut. Future enhancements will accommodate additional fisheries.

This web-based data entry system allows entry of crab landings and provides a printed fish ticket as a landing receipt, plus receipts for IFQ and IPQ account debits. Data are received into a central repository database, versioned, and used to populate separate agency management and enforcement databases. In addition, stand-alone client software allows submission of landing reports as email attachments for clients disconnected from the web (such as catcher processors).

To further support reporting timeliness requirements, in the event that eLandings system is temporarily unavailable a backup system of paper reporting via FAX directly to NOAA Fisheries’ quota management database is available for IFQ/IPQ fisheries. For CDQ and Adak fisheries, a temporary paper Fish Ticket completed for ADF&G serves a similar purpose.

#### *Benefits*

The IERS has minimized duplicate reporting of similar information required by the partner agencies and allows processors to enter, edit and summarize landings data on a web-based system. Among the benefits to processors, the system allows for timely and accurate data entry, produces a Portable Document Format (PDF) for printing a fish ticket of the landing, and allows data to be incorporated into processor data systems through export of XML (extensible markup language) documents, which provide a flexible way to create common information formats and share both the format and the data on the Web.

#### *Summary*

In total, 736 landing reports were submitted during the first crab fishing year. Of 645 landing reports with an IFQ component, 558 (86.5%) were submitted via eLandings and the remainder by FAX. Support for the system was provided by ADF&G and NOAA Fisheries field and technical staff, and the contractor. Close contact and communication with the fishing industry allowed for quick resolution of issues and implementation of improvements, and feedback has been positive. Multiple components of a complicated set of business rules, a new electronic system and database, and integration with an IFQ system

complicated implementation and user support. However, with excellent constituent cooperation, staff effort from all agencies achieved a successful delivery and product.

## ECONOMIC DATA COLLECTION

### *EDR Facts*

*Number of persons submitting EDRs: 482*

*Number of submitted reports: 1,365*

*With full data: 766*

*Certification only: 599*

The EDR program is focused on collecting production, cost, earnings, and employment information from harvesting and processing sectors of crab fisheries to evaluate effects of the Program over time. EDR administration is carried out by a third party, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC), through a contract with the Alaska Fisheries Science Center (AFSC), Economics and Social Science Research Program.

### *Implementation*

The Economic Data Collection program began in calendar year 2005. The first phase of implementation focused on collection of pre-Program historical information for 1998, 2001, and 2004. Because vessel and business ownership information was not the highest quality, PSMFC mailed EDR forms to approximately 485 persons who had State permits to participate in crab fisheries in historic years, or were later identified as vessel or processor leaseholders. On intensive staff follow-up it was subsequently learned that some recipients actually had no ownership, lease or other participation during a time period that would have triggered the reporting requirement. Data entry was outsourced to CIC Research Inc., which performed double entry and error-checking in the data entry phase. Auditors were selected in April 2006 to 1) audit submitted EDRs and 2) develop protocols for identifying EDRs to undergo either random audits or for-cause audits, based on irregularly reported data. To help ensure compliance with EDR requirements, by regulation NOAA Fisheries may not issue any annual Program permits (IFQ, IPQ, RCR, FCVP, Hired Master) until outstanding EDR requirements are met. Through intensive follow-up with constituents, all QS and PQS holders received their annual IFQ and IPQ permits in a timely manner; and for only a few persons was issuance of an RCR or FCVP permit briefly delayed until EDRs were submitted. Names of nonrespondents were forwarded to OLE, and unsatisfied EDR requirements may result in enforcement actions.

### *Follow-Up Survey*

In September 2005 a follow-up survey was sent to 140 EDR submitters to solicit feedback on the administration of the reporting process and identify problems with completing the reports. PSMFC received 24 responses and maintained detailed notes on calls from and to filers. Based on a review of comments from filers, NOAA Fisheries staff, and an Alaska accountant, regulatory revisions were made for subsequent reporting years, foremost in the EDR due date.

### *EDR Revision*

Following the Historical EDR data collection, a revision of the EDR form was undertaken to correct problems identified in the follow up survey and elsewhere. Many of the issues raised in comments from filers were associated with the difficulty in obtaining information for 1998 and 2001. Issues addressed in the redesign included the following:

- ✓ clarification of terminology and directions in the EDR forms.
- ✓ elimination of some data items, and
- ✓ reorganization of the questions regarding costs and revenues from lease and sales of harvest and processor quota shares.

Economic information related to transfers was particularly problematic, given structures within the harvest sector, cooperatives, and because of regulatory constraints.

In addition to changes in the EDR forms, the submission deadline was changed from May 15 to June 28 to better accommodate the federal tax filing schedule of most individuals and businesses in the fishery.

### *Economic Data Collection Results*

As of the July 11, 2005 deadline, 482 persons submitted 1 or more of the 1,365 total historic reports received, and thereby completely satisfied their EDR requirement. NMFS expected EDRs for approximately 440 vessels and processors; PSMFC received reports for all but 157 catcher vessels, 5 catcher processors, and 5 shoreside processors. The pool of individuals identified for receipt of EDR forms was drawn from all crab licenses in Alaska and was not limited to BSAI licenses. As such, most or all of the nonrespondents are expected to have been nonparticipants in BSAI crab fisheries. All applicants for BSAI Crab IFQ and IPQ satisfied the EDR requirement. Issuance of some RCRs and FCVPs was temporarily delayed.

In addition to historic EDRs, during 2005/06, PSMFC mailed the EDR forms for calendar year 2005 reporting. Forms have been compiled and analysis of both historic and calendar year 2005 EDR data is underway. Table 5.1 summarizes compliance with initial, historic EDR requirement.

**Table 5.1 Historic economic data report summary**

Activity	Catcher vessel EDRs	Shoreside processor EDRs	Catcher processor EDRs	Floating processor EDRs
Number of distinct vessels/processors for which one or more historic reports was required <sup>a</sup>	378	29	18	13
Number of full EDRs received	673	44	25	24
Number of Certifications received with claimed exemption	512	43	26	18
Number of vessels/processors for which no EDR or certification was received	157	5	5	0
Number of distinct persons tied to submitted EDRs <sup>b</sup>	418	29	22	13

<sup>a</sup> Historic years = 1998, 2001, and 2004; each column represents vessel/processor EDR *totals* from these three years.

<sup>b</sup> Counts include full EDRs, Certifications only, and several "empty" EDR reports (reports with no data).

## Loans and Fees

### LOANS

A federal loan program has not yet been implemented for the Program. As of this writing, Congress has not taken action under the Federal Credit Reform Act to appropriate a subsidy cost or to authorize a loan ceiling for a crab loan program. Additionally, the legislation authorizing the loan program requires implementing regulations, which involve a lengthy development and approval process. For these reasons, the loan program is delayed until all of these requirements are in place.

### FEE COLLECTION/COST RECOVERY

Under the MSA, costs for management and enforcement of IFQ programs are recoverable from participants, up to a maximum of 3% of the ex-vessel value of the crab. MSA Sections 304(d)(2)(A) and Section 313(j) prescribe the cost recovery framework, including the §313(j) requirement for fee-sharing with the State. Actual costs recovered are only those "incremental costs" associated with management and enforcement of the program. "Incremental costs" are costs directly associated with the Program.

By statute, fees must be shared equally by the harvesting and processing sectors; by regulation, the RCRs assume the fee liability and must remit the fees to the Government. NOAA Fisheries computes the annual fee percentage that applies each crab fishing year. Fees are owed based on total value of crab landings in money, goods, or services. RAM sent fee statements to RCRs based on their own reported landings, and value *as computed for fee collection purposes*. For crab delivered raw for processing, each RCR's fee liability is estimated by multiplying the annual fee percentage needed to recover costs (up to 3%) by the ex-vessel value of Program crab at the time of purchase.

As an example, if an RCR received 1 pound of crab from a harvester with an ex-vessel value of \$1 per pound. Using the maximum allowable fee percentage of 3%, each sector would owe half the fee (or 1.5%); or, in this case, \$0.015. Therefore, the RCR would pay the harvester \$0.985 for that pound of crab and would additionally self-collect an additional \$0.015 per pound. The total fee payment made to NOAA Fisheries for that pound of crab by the RCR would be 3% or \$0.03. Fees for crab processed at sea are based on standard ex-vessel prices derived from all raw crab deliveries. Because catcher/processors participate in both the harvesting and processing sectors, vessel owners or operators must be RCRs and are responsible for paying the entire fee liability.

Fees are due annually, by July 31 for the prior crab fishing year. Fees may be paid by check, money order, or by credit card, the latter by telephone or through a secure Internet connection. If an RCR becomes delinquent in payments, penalties, interest, and administrative charges are added. And, NOAA Fisheries cannot issue any annual crab permits to a person who owes unpaid fees.

Fees collected under the Program vary yearly because annual ex-vessel value and costs fluctuate. Due to the complexity of the program and the MSA 3% cap, funds collected may not cover all expenses. The table below details first year management and enforcement costs (including some one-time program start-up costs), for a total of \$4,166,665. The costs exceeded the amount collectible by 1.9%. Administrative regulations for fees and cost recovery are at 50 CFR §680.

**Table 6.1 Costs associated with management and enforcement in the Program, 2005/06**

Cost Category <sup>a,b,c,d</sup>	RAM	SF	OMI	CG	Appeals	OLE	OLE-JEA	ADF&G	AFSC	PSMFC	Total
Personnel <sup>2</sup> / Overhead	741,880	782,945	7,609	68,653	6,800	130,690	371,682	279,143	71,960	226,587	2,687,948
Travel <sup>b</sup>	19,077	37,253	-	2,167	-	61,589	144,837	7,086	11,744	1,802	285,556
Transportation <sup>c</sup>	-	-	-	10,987	-	26,071	-	-	-	-	37,058
Printing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,384	7,384
Contracts/ Training	57,583	35,091	-	1,968	-	139,535	-	467,132	-	176,473	877,782
Supplies	15,180	800	-	-	-	27,295	-	2,674	-	5,444	51,393
Equipment	2,540	-	-	3,722	-	12,768	-	8,000	-	-	27,030
Rent/Utilities <sup>d</sup>	109,709	56,527	971	1,580	-	554	-	-	-	9,679	179,019
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100,580	-	17,130	117,710
<b>Total</b>	<b>945,969</b>	<b>912,615</b>	<b>8,580</b>	<b>89,077</b>	<b>6,800</b>	<b>388,502</b>	<b>516,519</b>	<b>864,614</b>	<b>83,703</b>	<b>444,500</b>	<b>4,270,881</b>
Shortfall <sup>e</sup> (1.9%)	23,083	22,269	209	2,174	166	9,724	12,604	21,098	2,043	10,846	93,369
FY07 Recovery Cost <sup>e</sup>	922,886	890,346	8,371	86,903	6,634	388,778	503,915	843,517	81,661	433,654	4,166,665

<sup>a</sup> Personnel Costs include cost of living allowances (COLA) and all benefits.

<sup>b</sup> Travel includes per diem payments.

<sup>c</sup> Transportation includes shipment of items.

<sup>d</sup> Rent/Utilities/Overhead includes actual cost of space and utilities and an appropriate share of common space and services.

<sup>e</sup> Values are rounded to the nearest dollar.

Status of FMP Amendments  
December 1, 2006

<b>FMP Amendment Status:</b> <u>Actions Since October 2006 Council Meeting</u>	<b>Date of Council Action</b>	<b>Start Regional Review</b>	<b>Transmittal Date of Action to NMFS HQ for Review</b>	<b>Proposed FMP Amendment Notice of Availability Published</b>	<b>Proposed Rule Published in Federal Register</b>	<b>Final Rule Published in Federal Register</b>
Amendments 62/62: Single Geographic Location and AFA housekeeping	Oct 2002	PR: 10/15/04				
Amendment 67 (GOA) – IFQ omnibus IV <u>Secretarial Approval date: January 3, 2007</u>	December 2004	PR: 2/21/06	PR: September 25, 2006	<b>October 3, 2006</b> <b>71 FR 58372</b> <u>Comment period ends December 4, 2006</u>	<b>November 1, 2006</b> <b>71 FR 64218</b> <u>Comment period ends December 18, 2006</u>	
Amendment 68 (GOA) – Rockfish Demonstration Project <b>Approved: August 10, 2006</b>	June 2005	PR: 3/7/06  FR: 9/21/06	PR: May 8, 2006  <b>FR: October 16, 2006</b>	May 15, 2006 71 FR 27984 <u>Comment period ended July 14, 2006</u>	June 7, 2006 71 FR 33040 <u>Comment period ended July 24, 2006</u>	<b>November 20, 2006</b> <b>71 FR 67210</b> <u>Effective December 20, 2006</u>
Amendment 72 (GOA): Remove flatfish IR/IU provisions	April 2003					
Amendment 79 (BSAI): Groundfish Retention Standard <u>Approved: August 31, 2005</u> <b>In litigation</b>	June 2003	PR: 3/30/05  FR: 11/18/05	PR: May 26, 2005  FR: February 7, 2006	June 2, 2005 70 FR 32287 <u>Comment period ended August 1, 2005</u>	June 16, 2005 70 FR 35054 <u>Comment period ended August 1, 2005</u>	April 7, 2006 71 FR 17362  Effective January 20, 2008
Amendment 80 (BSAI) – IR/IU and fishing cooperative	June 2006					
Amendment 84 (BSAI) – Salmon Bycatch ICA	October 2005	PR: 2/1/06				
Amendment 85 (BSAI) – Pacific cod allocations	April 2006	PR: 9/21/06	<b>PR: November 29, 2006</b>	12/07/06		
Amendment 87 (BSAI) 22 (KTC) – CDQ Community Eligibility	April 2006					



Status of Regulatory Amendments  
December 1, 2006

Regulatory Amendment Status: <u>Actions Since October 2006 Council Meeting</u>	Date of Council Action	Start Regional Review of Rule	Transmittal Date of Rule to NMFS Headquarters	Proposed Rule in <i>Federal Register</i>	Final Rule Published in <i>Federal Register</i>
<b>Groundfish Regulations</b>					
2007 & 2008 BSAI groundfish harvest specifications	NMFS	<b>PR: October 10, 2006</b>	<b>PR: November 28, 2006</b>		
2007 & 2008 GOA groundfish harvest specifications	NMFS	<b>PR: October, 10, 2006</b>	<b>PR: November 27, 2006</b>		
CDQ Cost Recovery Program	NMFS	<b>On hold pending review of consistency with CG Act</b>			
CDQ reserve management measures	December 2005	<b>On hold pending review of consistency with CG Act</b>			
EFH definition correction	NMFS				
GOA harvest specifications for "other species"	NMFS	PR: April 2, 2006 FR: September 29, 2006	PR: May 31, 2006	July 12, 2006 71 FR 39046 <u>Comment period ends August 10, 2006</u>	<b>October 31, 2006</b> <b>71 FR 63704</b> <b><u>Effective November 2006 through December 31, 2007</u></b>
Interagency Electronic Reporting System	NMFS				
Observer Program sunset date removal	June 2006	PR: July 14, 2006			

Status of Regulatory Amendments  
December 1, 2006

Regulatory Amendment Status: <u>Actions Since October 2006 Council Meeting</u>	Date of Council Action	Start Regional Review of Rule	Transmittal Date of Rule to NMFS Headquarters	Proposed Rule in <i>Federal Register</i>	Final Rule Published in <i>Federal Register</i>
<b>Halibut Regulations</b>					
Halibut/Sablefish IFQ – Omnibus V	December 2005				
Subsistence Halibut III	December 2004				
<b>Crab Regulations</b>					
<b>Other Actions</b>					
Experimental Fishing Permit application from the Aleut Enterprise Corporation				<b>November 17, 2006 71 FR 66915</b>	
Experimental Fishing Permit application from the AFA Catcher Vessel Intercooperative and the Pollock Conservation Cooperative				<b>November 20, 2006 71 FR 67103</b>	

**Bering Sea Aleutian Islands Catch Report**  
 (includes CDQ)  
 Through: 18-NOV-06

**National Marine Fisheries Service**  
 Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries  
 Catch Accounting



**Bering Sea**

Sea- sons	Account	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken	Last Wk Catch
	Other Rockfish	145	426	281	34%	0
	Other Rockfish CDQ	11	35	24	32%	3
	Pacific Ocean Perch	1,003	1,190	187	84%	0
	Pacific Ocean Perch CDQ	34	105	71	32%	0
	Sablefish (Hook-and-Line and Pot)	788	1,128	340	70%	0
	Sablefish CDQ (Hook-and-Line and Pot)	189	282	93	67%	0
	Sablefish (Trawl)	52	1,199	1,147	4%	0
	Sablefish CDQ (Trawl)	32	106	74	30%	5
	Greenland Turbot	1,416	1,607	191	88%	0
	Greenland Turbot CDQ	20	142	122	14%	2
X	Pollock, AFA Inshore	645,091	660,318	15,227	98%	0
X	Pollock, AFA Catcher Processor	527,244	528,254	1,010	100%	0
X	Pollock, AFA Mothership	131,404	132,063	659	100%	0
X	Pollock CDQ	150,322	150,400	78	100%	0
	Pollock, Incidental Catch, non-Bogoslof (includes CDQ)	31,895	30,967	-928	103%	43
	Pollock, Incidental Catch, Bogoslof (includes CDQ)	1	10	9	7%	0

**Note:** All weights are in metric tons.

**Bering Sea Aleutian Islands Catch Report**  
**(includes CDQ)**  
**Through: 18-NOV-06**

**National Marine Fisheries Service**  
**Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries**  
**Catch Accounting**



**Aleutian Islands**

Sea- sons	Account	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken	Last Wk Catch
	Other Rockfish	411	502	91	82%	0
	Other Rockfish CDQ	11	44	33	24%	0
	Pacific Ocean Perch, Eastern	2,858	2,849	-9	100%	0
	Pacific Ocean Perch CDQ, Eastern	211	231	20	91%	0
	Pacific Ocean Perch, Central	3,047	2,808	-239	108%	0
	Pacific Ocean Perch CDQ, Central	194	228	34	85%	0
	Pacific Ocean Perch, Western	5,149	4,703	-446	109%	0
	Pacific Ocean Perch CDQ, Western	356	381	25	93%	0
X	Atka Mackerel, Eastern (Other Gear)	6,860	6,868	8	100%	4
	Atka Mackerel, Eastern (Jig)	0	69	69	0%	0
	Atka Mackerel CDQ, Eastern	517	563	46	92%	17
X	Atka Mackerel, Central	37,020	37,000	-20	100%	0
	Atka Mackerel CDQ, Central	2,792	3,000	208	93%	0
X	Atka Mackerel, Western	13,541	14,338	797	94%	0
	Atka Mackerel CDQ, Western	1,084	1,163	79	93%	0
	Sablefish (Hook-and-Line and Pot)	816	1,800	984	45%	0
	Sablefish CDQ (Hook-and-Line and Pot)	208	450	242	46%	0
	Sablefish (Trawl)	57	638	581	9%	0
	Sablefish CDQ (Trawl)	3	56	53	5%	0
	Greenland Turbot	498	723	225	69%	0
	Greenland Turbot CDQ	22	64	42	34%	0
X	Pollock	897	897	0	100%	0
X	Pollock CDQ	0	0	0	0%	0
X	Pollock, Incidental Catch (includes CDQ)	849	1,100	251	77%	0

**Bering Sea Aleutian Islands Catch Report  
(includes CDQ)**

Through: 18-NOV-06

**National Marine Fisheries Service  
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries  
Catch Accounting**



**Bering Sea Aleutian Islands**

Sea- sons	Account	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken	Last Wk Catch
	Alaska Plaice	17,069	13,800	-3,269	124%	0
	Alaska Plaice CDQ	226	600	374	38%	22
	Arrowtooth Flounder	12,287	11,050	-1,237	111%	0
	Arrowtooth Flounder CDQ	644	975	331	66%	73
	Flathead Sole	17,546	16,575	-971	106%	0
	Flathead Sole CDQ	356	1,463	1,107	24%	31
	Northern Rockfish	3,424	4,163	739	82%	0
	Northern Rockfish CDQ	401	338	-63	119%	2
	Other Flatfish	3,322	2,975	-347	112%	0
	Other Flatfish CDQ	168	263	95	64%	6
	Other Species	24,468	24,650	182	99%	2
	Other Species CDQ	2,111	2,175	64	97%	74
X	Pacific Cod, Catcher Processor (Trawl)	35,320	35,845	525	99%	0
X	Pacific Cod, Catcher Vessel (Trawl)	33,637	33,824	187	99%	0
X	Pacific Cod, Catcher Processor (Hook-and-Line)	85,119	84,709	-410	100%	0
X	Pacific Cod, Catcher Vessel (Hook-and-Line)	193	267	74	72%	0
X	Pacific Cod, Catcher Processor (Pot)	3,133	3,053	-80	103%	0
X	Pacific Cod, Catcher Vessel (Pot)	12,791	13,880	1,089	92%	21
X	Pacific Cod (Jig)	86	214	128	40%	0
	Pacific Cod (Hook-and-Line and Pot < 60 ft)	3,200	3,242	42	99%	0
	Pacific Cod, Incidental Catch (Hook-and-Line and Pot)	351	500	149	70%	0
X	Pacific Cod CDQ	13,614	14,233	619	96%	218
	Rock Sole	34,282	35,275	993	97%	0
	Rock Sole CDQ	2,162	3,113	951	69%	10
	Rougeye Rockfish	202	207	5	98%	0
	Rougeye Rockfish CDQ	3	17	14	15%	0
	Shortraker Rockfish	200	537	337	37%	0
	Shortraker Rockfish CDQ	13	44	31	29%	0
	Squid (includes CDQ)	1,416	1,084	-332	131%	1
	Yellowfin Sole	92,742	88,846	-3,896	104%	0
	Yellowfin Sole CDQ	5,763	7,178	1,415	80%	550
<b>Total:</b>		<b>1,973,290</b>	<b>1,993,802</b>	<b>20,512</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>1,085</b>

Other gear in the Atka mackerel fishery includes all authorized gear types except jig.

Other flatfish: all flatfish species, except for Pacific halibut, flathead sole, Greenland turbot, rock sole, yellowfin sole, arrowtooth flounder, and Alaska plaice.

**Bering Sea Aleutian Islands Prohibited Species Report  
(includes CDQ fisheries)**

Through: 18-NOV-06

**National Marine Fisheries Service  
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries  
Catch Accounting**



**Chinook Salmon**

**Trawl Gear**

Sea- sons	Account	Units	Total Catch	Limit	Remaining	% Taken	Last Wk Catch
	BS Pollock (Pelagic)	Count	81,243	26,825	-54,418	303%	0
	BS Chinook Salmon PSQ	Count	1,738	2,175	437	80%	0
	AI Pollock (Pelagic)	Count	70	647	577	11%	0
	AI Chinook Salmon PSQ	Count	0	53	53	0%	0
<b>Total:</b>			<b>83,051</b>	<b>29,700</b>	<b>-53,351</b>	<b>280%</b>	<b>0</b>

**Halibut Mortality**

**Non-Trawl Gear**

Sea- sons	Account	Units	Total Catch	Limit	Remaining	% Taken	Last Wk Catch
X	Pacific Cod (Hook-and-Line)	MT	398	775	377	51%	0
	Non-Pacific Cod (Hook-and-Line)	MT	18	58	40	30%	0
<b>Total:</b>			<b>415</b>	<b>833</b>	<b>418</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>0</b>

**Trawl Gear**

Sea- sons	Account	Units	Total Catch	Limit	Remaining	% Taken	Last Wk Catch
	Pacific Cod	MT	1,494	1,434	-60	104%	0
	Rockfish	MT	29	69	40	42%	0
X	Rock Sole, Flathead Sole, Other Flatfish (Trawl)	MT	1,002	779	-223	129%	0
	Pollock, Atka Mackerel, Other Species	MT	231	232	1	100%	0
X	Yellowfin Sole (Trawl)	MT	551	886	335	62%	0
	Turbot/Sablefish/Arrowtooth Flounder	MT	118	0	-118	0%	0
<b>Total:</b>			<b>3,426</b>	<b>3,400</b>	<b>-26</b>	<b>101%</b>	<b>0</b>

**Trawl and Hook-and-Line Gear**

Sea- sons	Account	Units	Total Catch	Limit	Remaining	% Taken	Last Wk Catch
	Halibut Mortality PSQ	MT	136	342	206	40%	13
<b>Total:</b>			<b>136</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>13</b>

**Bering Sea Aleutian Islands Prohibited Species Report  
(includes CDQ fisheries)**

Through: 18-NOV-06

**National Marine Fisheries Service  
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries  
Catch Accounting**



**Herring (includes CDQ fisheries)**

**Trawl Gear**

Sea- sons	Account	Units	Total Catch	Limit	Remaining	% Taken	Last Wk Catch
	Pacific Cod	MT	36	27	-9	132%	0
	Rockfish	MT	0	10	10	0%	0
	Rock Sole, Flathead Sole, Other Flatfish	MT	5	27	22	18%	0
	Pollock, Atka Mackerel, Other Species	MT	223	192	-31	116%	0
	Pollock Pelagic	MT	224	1,350	1,126	17%	0
	Yellowfin Sole	MT	14	152	138	-9%	0
	Greenland Turbot, Arrowtooth, Sablefish	MT	0	12	12	1%	0
<b>Total:</b>			<b>501</b>	<b>1,770</b>	<b>1,269</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>0</b>

**Opilio (Tanner) Crab - COBLZ**

**Trawl Gear**

Sea- sons	Account	Units	Total Catch	Limit	Remaining	% Taken	Last Wk Catch
	Pacific Cod	Count	75,920	184,402	108,482	41%	0
	Rockfish	Count	0	62,356	62,356	0%	0
	Rock Sole, Flathead Sole, Other Flatfish	Count	118,638	810,091	691,453	15%	0
	Pollock, Atka Mackerel, Other Species	Count	2,246	106,591	104,345	2%	0
	Yellowfin Sole	Count	752,758	4,103,752	3,350,995	18%	0
	Greenland Turbot, Arrowtooth, Sablefish	Count	3,872	62,356	58,484	6%	0
	Opilio Crab PSQ	Count	2,746	432,126	429,380	1%	665
<b>Total:</b>			<b>956,180</b>	<b>5,761,674</b>	<b>4,805,494</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>665</b>

**Bairdi Crab, Zone 1**

**Trawl Gear**

Sea- sons	Account	Units	Total Catch	Limit	Remaining	% Taken	Last Wk Catch
	Pacific Cod	Count	100,648	183,112	82,464	55%	0
	Rock Sole, Flathead Sole, Other Flatfish	Count	71,523	365,320	293,797	20%	0
	Pollock, Atka Mackerel, Other Species	Count	833	17,224	16,391	5%	0
	Yellowfin Sole	Count	36,194	340,844	304,650	11%	0
	Bairdi Crab PSQ	Count	505	73,500	72,995	1%	0
<b>Total:</b>			<b>209,703</b>	<b>980,000</b>	<b>770,297</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>0</b>

**Bering Sea Aleutian Islands Prohibited Species Report  
(includes CDQ fisheries)**

Through: 18-NOV-06

**National Marine Fisheries Service  
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries  
Catch Accounting**



**Bairdi Crab, Zone 2**

**Trawl Gear**

Sea- sons	Account	Units	Total Catch	Limit	Remaining	% Taken	Last Wk Catch
	Pacific Cod	Count	92,169	324,176	232,007	28%	0
	Rockfish	Count	0	10,988	10,988	0%	0
	Rock Sole, Flathead Sole, Other Flatfish	Count	228,910	596,154	367,244	38%	0
	Pollock, Atka Mackerel, Other Species	Count	704	27,473	26,769	3%	0
	Yellowfin Sole	Count	315,411	1,788,459	1,473,048	18%	0
	Bairdi Crab PSQ	Count	3,302	222,750	219,448	1%	324
<b>Total:</b>			<b>640,497</b>	<b>2,970,000</b>	<b>2,329,503</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>324</b>

**Red King Crab, Zone 1**

**Trawl Gear**

Sea- sons	Account	Units	Total Catch	Limit	Remaining	% Taken	Last Wk Catch
	Pacific Cod	Count	6,232	26,563	20,331	23%	0
	Rock Sole, Flathead Sole, Other Flatfish	Count	51,003	121,413	70,410	42%	0
	Pollock, Atka Mackerel, Other Species	Count	202	406	204	50%	0
	Yellowfin Sole	Count	12,337	33,843	21,506	36%	0
	Red King Crab PSQ	Count	3,883	14,775	10,892	26%	383
<b>Total:</b>			<b>73,657</b>	<b>197,000</b>	<b>123,343</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>383</b>

"Other flatfish" for PSC monitoring: all flatfish species, except for Pacific halibut (a prohibited species), flathead sole, Greenland turbot, rock sole, yellowfin sole, arrowtooth flounder.

COBLZ: C. Opilio Crab Bycatch Limitation Zone. 50 CFR 679.21(e) and Figure 13.

Zone 1: Federal Reporting Areas 508, 509, 512, 516.

Zone 2: Federal Reporting Areas 513, 517, 521.

Data is based on observer reports extrapolated to total groundfish harvest. Estimates for all weeks may change due to incorporation of late or corrected data.



**Bering Sea Aleutian Islands Seasonal Prohibited  
Species Report (includes CDQ fisheries)**

**Through:** 18-NOV-06

**Account:** ALL

**National Marine Fisheries Service  
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries  
Catch Accounting**



**Non-Chinook Salmon, CVOA**

**Trawl Gear**

Season	Begin	End	Units	Total Catch	Limit	Remaining	% Taken
Non-Chinook Salmon CVOA	15-AUG-06	14-OCT-06	Count	26,432	38,850	12,418	68%
Non-Chinook Salmon PSQ CVOA	15-AUG-06	14-OCT-06	Count	0	3,150	3,150	0%
<b>Total:</b>				<b>26,432</b>	<b>42,000</b>	<b>15,568</b>	<b>63%</b>

**Halibut Mortality**

**Pacific Cod (Hook-and-Line)**

Season	Begin	End	Units	Total Catch	Limit	Remaining	% Taken
1st Season	01-JAN-06	10-JUN-06	MT	168	320	152	52%
2nd Season	10-JUN-06	15-AUG-06	MT	1	0	-1	0%
3rd Season	15-AUG-06	31-DEC-06	MT	229	455	226	50%
<b>Total:</b>				<b>398</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>51%</b>

**Rock Sole, Flathead Sole, Other Flatfish (Trawl)**

Season	Begin	End	Units	Total Catch	Limit	Remaining	% Taken
1st Season	20-JAN-06	01-APR-06	MT	470	448	-22	105%
2nd Season	01-APR-06	01-JUL-06	MT	133	164	31	81%
3rd Season	01-JUL-06	31-DEC-06	MT	399	167	-232	239%
<b>Total:</b>				<b>1,002</b>	<b>779</b>	<b>-223</b>	<b>129%</b>

**Yellowfin Sole (Trawl)**

Season	Begin	End	Units	Total Catch	Limit	Remaining	% Taken
1st Season	20-JAN-06	01-APR-06	MT	166	262	96	64%
2nd Season	01-APR-06	21-MAY-06	MT	261	195	-66	134%
3rd Season	21-MAY-06	01-JUL-06	MT	75	49	-26	154%
4th Season	01-JUL-06	31-DEC-06	MT	48	380	332	13%
<b>Total:</b>				<b>551</b>	<b>886</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>62%</b>

CVOA: Catcher Vessel Operational Area. 50 CFR 679.22(a)(5) and Figure 2.

Other flatfish for PSC monitoring: all flatfish species, except for Pacific halibut (a prohibited species), flathead sole, Greenland turbot, rock sole, yellowfin sole, arrowtooth flounder.

Data is based on observer reports extrapolated to total groundfish harvest. Estimates for all weeks may change due to incorporation of late or corrected data.

**Bering Sea Aleutian Islands**  
**Seasonal Non-Sideboard Prohibited Species Report**  
**(excludes CDQ fisheries)**

**Through:** 18-NOV-06  
**Account:** ALL

**National Marine Fisheries Service**  
**Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries**  
**Catch Accounting**



**Red King Crab, RKCSS**

**Trawl Gear**

Season	Begin	End	Units	Total Catch	Limit	Remaining	% Taken
Rock Sole, Flathead Sole, Other Flatfish (Non Pelagic)	20-JAN-06	31-DEC-06	Count	70,525	42,495	-28,030	166%
<b>Total:</b>				<b>70,525</b>	<b>42,495</b>	<b>-28,030</b>	<b>166%</b>

RKCSS: Red king crab savings subarea. 50 CFR 679.22(a)(3) and Figure 11.

## Gulf of Alaska Catch Report

Through: 18-NOV-06

## National Marine Fisheries Service Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries Catch Accounting



### Western, Central Pollock

Sea- sons	Account	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken	Last Wk Catch
X	Pollock, 610 Shumagin	24,987	28,918	3,931	86%	1
X	Pollock, 620 Chirikof	27,156	30,492	3,336	89%	0
X	Pollock, 630 Kodiak	17,036	18,448	1,412	92%	0

### Western Gulf

Sea- sons	Account	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken	Last Wk Catch
	Arrowtooth Flounder	2,040	8,000	5,960	25%	7
	Deep Water Flatfish	8	420	412	2%	0
	Shallow Water Flatfish	239	4,500	4,261	5%	0
	Flathead Sole	463	2,000	1,537	23%	0
	Rex Sole	352	1,159	807	30%	0
	Pacific Ocean Perch	4,051	4,155	104	97%	0
	Rougheye Rockfish	58	136	78	42%	0
	Shortraker Rockfish	90	153	63	59%	0
	Thornyhead Rockfish	195	513	318	38%	0
	Pelagic Shelf Rockfish	557	1,438	881	39%	0
	Northern Rockfish	972	1,483	511	66%	0
	Other Rockfish	241	577	336	42%	1
X	Pacific Cod, Inshore	13,574	18,127	4,553	75%	115
X	Pacific Cod, Offshore	1,089	2,014	925	54%	0
	Sablefish (Hook-and-Line)	1,955	2,136	181	92%	1
	Sablefish (Trawl)	132	534	402	25%	0
	Big Skate	69	695	626	10%	0
	Longnose Skate	41	65	24	63%	2

**Gulf of Alaska Catch Report**

Through: 18-NOV-06

**National Marine Fisheries Service  
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries  
Catch Accounting**



**Central Gulf**

Sea- sons	Account	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken	Last Wk Catch
	Arrowtooth Flounder	25,444	25,000	-444	102%	2
	Deep Water Flatfish	364	4,139	3,775	9%	0
	Shallow Water Flatfish	7,392	13,000	5,608	57%	0
	Flathead Sole	2,651	5,000	2,349	53%	0
	Rex Sole	2,937	5,506	2,569	53%	0
	Pacific Ocean Perch	8,288	7,418	-870	112%	0
	Rougheye Rockfish	130	608	478	21%	0
	Shortraker Rockfish	291	353	62	83%	0
	Pelagic Shelf Rockfish	1,772	3,262	1,490	54%	0
	Northern Rockfish	4,034	3,608	-426	112%	0
	Thornyhead Rockfish	385	989	604	39%	0
	Other Rockfish	510	386	-124	132%	0
X	Pacific Cod, Inshore	20,149	25,565	5,416	79%	32
X	Pacific Cod, Offshore	1,398	2,840	1,442	49%	155
	Sablefish (Hook-and-Line)	4,678	5,096	418	92%	8
	Sablefish (Trawl)	844	1,274	430	66%	0
	Big Skate	1,155	2,250	1,095	51%	0
	Longnose Skate	689	1,969	1,280	35%	6

**Eastern Gulf**

Sea- sons	Account	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken	Last Wk Catch
	Rougheye Rockfish	145	239	94	61%	0
	Shortraker Rockfish	250	337	87	74%	1
	Thornyhead Rockfish	169	707	538	24%	0
	Pacific Cod, Inshore	21	3,346	3,325	1%	0
	Pacific Cod, Offshore	0	372	372	0%	0
	Big Skate	246	599	353	41%	0
	Longnose Skate	140	861	721	16%	0

**Note:** All weights are in metric tons.

Report run on: November 24, 2006 6:15 AM

Gulf of Alaska Catch Report

Through: 18-NOV-06

National Marine Fisheries Service  
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries  
Catch Accounting



**West Yakutat**

Sea- sons	Account	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken	Last Wk Catch
	Arrowtooth Flounder	25	2,500	2,475	1%	0
	Deep Water Flatfish	12	2,661	2,649	0%	0
	Shallow Water Flatfish	0	628	628	0%	0
	Flathead Sole	1	2,022	2,021	0%	0
	Rex Sole	0	1,049	1,049	0%	0
	Pacific Ocean Perch	1,258	1,101	-157	114%	0
	Pelagic Shelf Rockfish	173	301	128	57%	0
	Other Rockfish	96	317	221	30%	0
	Pollock	1,572	1,792	220	88%	0
	Sablefish (Hook-and-Line)	1,535	1,990	455	77%	0
	Sablefish (Trawl)	119	290	171	41%	0

**Southeast**

Sea- sons	Account	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken	Last Wk Catch
	Arrowtooth Flounder	87	2,500	2,413	3%	2
	Deep Water Flatfish	11	1,445	1,434	1%	0
	Shallow Water Flatfish	1	1,844	1,843	0%	0
	Flathead Sole	0	55	55	0%	0
	Rex Sole	0	1,486	1,486	0%	0
	Pacific Ocean Perch	0	1,587	1,587	0%	0
	Pelagic Shelf Rockfish	1	435	434	0%	0
	Other Rockfish	18	200	182	9%	0
	Pollock	0	6,157	6,157	0%	0
	Demersal Shelf Rockfish	143	410	267	35%	1
	Sablefish (Hook-and-Line)	3,110	3,520	410	88%	8

**Entire Gulf**

Sea- sons	Account	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken	Last Wk Catch
	Atka Mackerel	876	1,500	624	58%	0
	Other Skates	964	1,617	653	60%	19
	Other Species	3,607	13,856	10,249	26%	3
<b>Total:</b>		<b>192,995</b>	<b>291,950</b>	<b>98,955</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>367</b>

Deep water flatfish: Dover sole, Greenland turbot, and deepsea sole.

Shallow water flatfish: flatfish not including deep water flatfish, flathead sole, rex sole, or arrowtooth flounder.

**Gulf of Alaska Seasonal Catch Report**

Through: 18-NOV-06  
Account: ALL

**National Marine Fisheries Service  
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries  
Catch Accounting**



**Western, Central Pollock**

**Pollock, 610 Shumagin**

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-06	10-MAR-06	4,226	4,210	-16	100%
B	10-MAR-06	01-JUN-06	7,866	4,210	-3,656	187%
Between B and C	01-JUN-06	25-AUG-06	176	0	-176	0%
C	25-AUG-06	01-OCT-06	6,417	10,249	3,832	63%
D	01-OCT-06	01-NOV-06	6,298	10,249	3,951	61%
After D	01-NOV-06	31-DEC-06	5	0	-5	0%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>24,987</b>			

**Pollock, 620 Chirikof**

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-06	10-MAR-06	10,030	11,192	1,162	90%
B	10-MAR-06	01-JUN-06	14,006	13,394	-612	105%
Between B and C	01-JUN-06	25-AUG-06	35	0	-35	0%
C	25-AUG-06	01-OCT-06	1,115	2,953	1,838	38%
D	01-OCT-06	01-NOV-06	1,967	2,953	986	67%
After D	01-NOV-06	31-DEC-06	1	0	-1	0%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>27,154</b>			

**Pollock, 630 Kodiak**

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-06	10-MAR-06	4,841	4,062	-779	119%
B	10-MAR-06	01-JUN-06	198	1,861	1,663	11%
Between B and C	01-JUN-06	25-AUG-06	413	0	-413	0%
C	25-AUG-06	01-OCT-06	7,099	6,263	-836	113%
D	01-OCT-06	01-NOV-06	4,469	6,262	1,793	71%
After D	01-NOV-06	31-DEC-06	3	0	-3	0%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>17,023</b>			

Note: All weights are in metric tons

**Gulf of Alaska Seasonal Catch Report**

Through: 18-NOV-06  
Account: ALL

**National Marine Fisheries Service**  
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries  
Catch Accounting



**Western Gulf**

**Pacific Cod, Inshore**

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	01-JAN-06	10-JUN-06	12,299	10,876	-1,423	113%
Between A and B	10-JUN-06	01-SEP-06	26	0	-26	0%
B	01-SEP-06	31-DEC-06	1,249	7,251	6,002	17%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>13,574</b>	<b>18,127</b>	<b>4,553</b>	<b>75%</b>

**Pacific Cod, Offshore**

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	01-JAN-06	10-JUN-06	666	1,208	542	55%
Between A and B	10-JUN-06	01-SEP-06	66	0	-66	0%
B	01-SEP-06	31-DEC-06	357	806	449	44%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>1,089</b>	<b>2,014</b>	<b>925</b>	<b>54%</b>

**Central Gulf**

**Pacific Cod, Inshore**

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	01-JAN-06	10-JUN-06	15,523	15,339	-184	101%
Between A and B	10-JUN-06	01-SEP-06	1,351	0	-1,351	0%
B	01-SEP-06	31-DEC-06	3,275	10,226	6,951	32%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>20,149</b>	<b>25,565</b>	<b>5,416</b>	<b>79%</b>

**Pacific Cod, Offshore**

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	01-JAN-06	10-JUN-06	25	1,704	1,679	1%
Between A and B	10-JUN-06	01-SEP-06	253	0	-253	0%
B	01-SEP-06	31-DEC-06	1,120	1,136	16	99%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>1,398</b>	<b>2,840</b>	<b>1,442</b>	<b>49%</b>

**Gulf of Alaska Prohibited Species Report**

Through: 18-NOV-06

**National Marine Fisheries Service  
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries  
Catch Accounting**



**Non-Chinook Salmon**

**Trawl Gear**

Sea- sons	Account	Units	Total Catch	Limit	Remaining	% Taken	Last Wk Catch
	Non Chinook Salmon	Count	4,561	0			0
<b>Total:</b>			<b>4,561</b>	<b>0</b>			<b>0</b>

**Chinook Salmon**

**Trawl Gear**

Sea- sons	Account	Units	Total Catch	Limit	Remaining	% Taken	Last Wk Catch
	Chinook Salmon	Count	24,543	0			0
<b>Total:</b>			<b>24,543</b>	<b>0</b>			<b>0</b>

**Halibut Mortality**

**Non-Trawl Gear**

Sea- sons	Account	Units	Total Catch	Limit	Remaining	% Taken	Last Wk Catch
X	Other Hook-and-Line Fisheries	MT	369	290	-79	127%	9
<b>Total:</b>			<b>369</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>-79</b>	<b>127%</b>	<b>9</b>

**Trawl Gear**

Sea- sons	Account	Units	Total Catch	Limit	Remaining	% Taken	Last Wk Catch
	Trawl Fishery	MT	2,005	2,000	-5	100%	0
<b>Total:</b>			<b>2,005</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>-5</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0</b>

No PSC Limits apply to salmon in the GOA.

Other hook-and-line fisheries means all hook-and-line fisheries except sablefish and demersal shelf rockfish in the Southeast District. The hook-and-line sablefish fishery is exempt from halibut bycatch limits.

Halibut mortality for the demersal shelf rockfish fishery. Southeast District is not listed due to insufficient observer coverage.

Data is based on observer reports extrapolated to total groundfish harvest. Estimates for all weeks may change due to incorporation of late or corrected data.



# Gulf of Alaska Halibut Mortality Report

Through: 18-NOV-06

National Marine Fisheries Service  
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries  
Catch Accounting



## Trawl Fisheries

### Deep Water Species Complex

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Limit	Limit Remaining	% Taken
1st Season	20-JAN-06	01-APR-06	125	100	-25	125%
2nd Season	01-APR-06	01-JUL-06	245	300	55	82%
3rd Season	01-JUL-06	01-SEP-06	348	400	52	87%
4th Season	01-SEP-06	30-SEP-06	69	0	-69	0%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>787</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>98%</b>

### Shallow Water Species Complex

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Limit	Limit Remaining	% Taken
1st Season	20-JAN-06	01-APR-06	356	450	94	79%
2nd Season	01-APR-06	01-JUL-06	245	100	-145	245%
3rd Season	01-JUL-06	01-SEP-06	136	200	64	68%
4th Season	01-SEP-06	30-SEP-06	64	150	86	42%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>800</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>89%</b>

### Year-To-Date

Account	Total Catch	Limit	Limit Remaining	% Taken	Last Wk Catch
Trawl Fishery	2,005	2,000	-5	100%	0

## Other Hook-and-Line Fisheries

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Limit	Limit Remaining	% Taken
1st Season	01-JAN-06	10-JUN-06	210	250	40	84%
2nd Season	10-JUN-06	01-SEP-06	1	5	4	23%
3rd Season	01-SEP-06	31-DEC-06	157	35	-122	450%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>369</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>-79</b>	<b>127%</b>

Deep-water species complex: sablefish, rockfish, deep-water flatfish, rex sole and arrowtooth flounder. Shallow-water species complex: pollock, Pacific cod, shallow-water flatfish, flathead sole, Atka mackerel, and 'other species'.

No apportionment between shallow-water and deep-water fishery complexes during October 1 to December 31 (300 mt allocated).

Other hook-and-line fisheries means all hook-and-line fisheries except sablefish and demersal shelf rockfish in the Southeast District.

Halibut mortality for the demersal shelf rockfish fishery. Southeast District is not listed due to insufficient observer coverage.

**Note:** All weights are in metric tons.

Report run on November 24, 2006 6:17 AM

**Gulf of Alaska Seasonal Prohibited Species Report****Through:** 18-NOV-06**Account:** ALL**National Marine Fisheries Service  
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries  
Catch Accounting****Halibut Mortality****Other Hook-and-Line Fisheries**

Season	Begin	End	Units	Total Catch	Limit	Remaining	% Taken
1st Season	01-JAN-06	10-JUN-06	MT	210	250	40	84%
2nd Season	10-JUN-06	01-SEP-06	MT	1	5	4	23%
3rd Season	01-SEP-06	31-DEC-06	MT	157	35	-122	450%
<b>Total:</b>				<b>369</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>-79</b>	<b>127%</b>

# Alaska Region

## National Marine Fisheries Service

### Inseason Management Report

#### December 2006



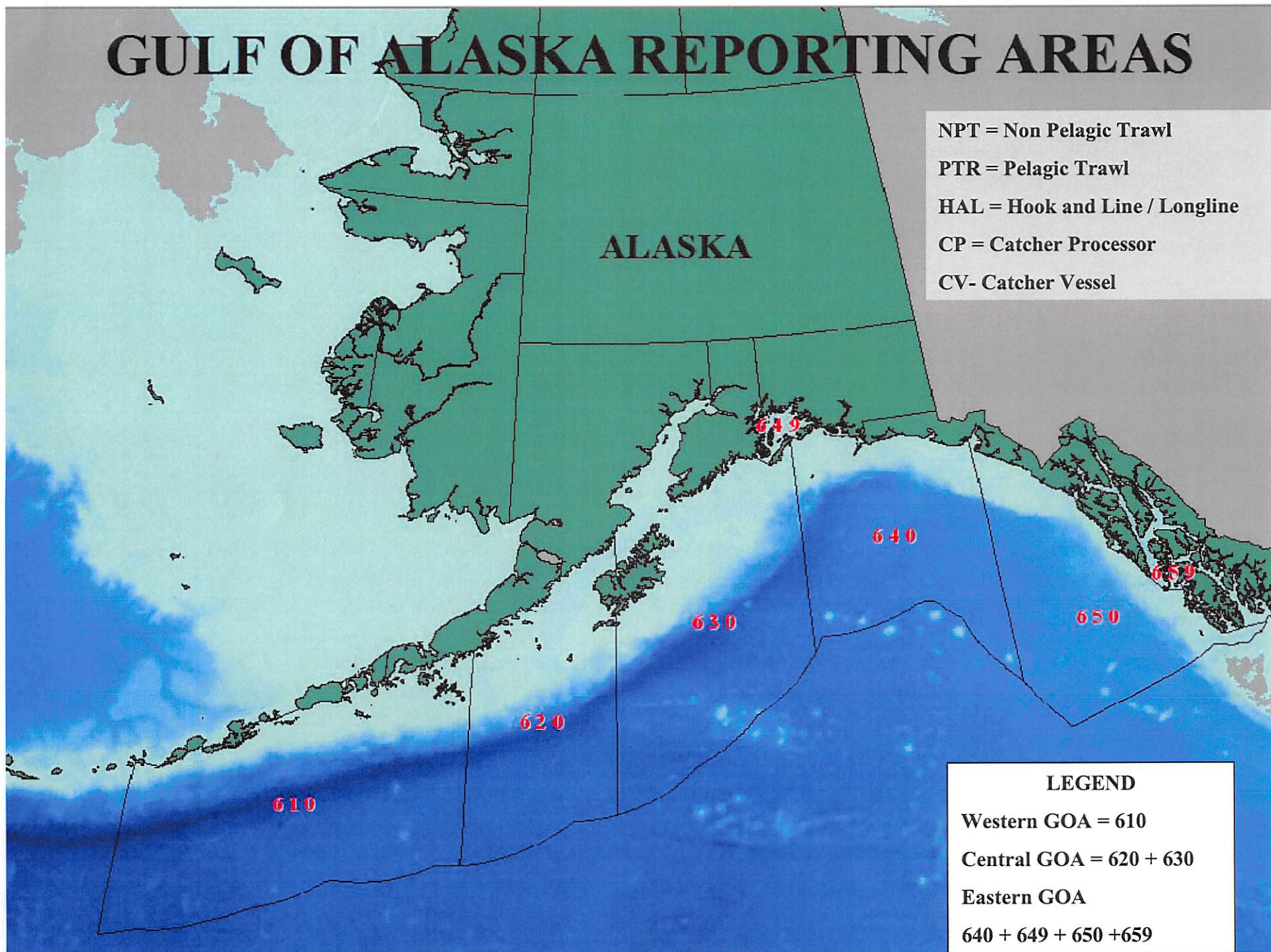
Catch data are through November 18, 2006

*Management reports can be found at:*  
<http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/sustainablefisheries/inseason/default.htm>

# GULF OF ALASKA REPORTING AREAS

NPT = Non Pelagic Trawl  
PTR = Pelagic Trawl  
HAL = Hook and Line / Longline  
CP = Catcher Processor  
CV- Catcher Vessel

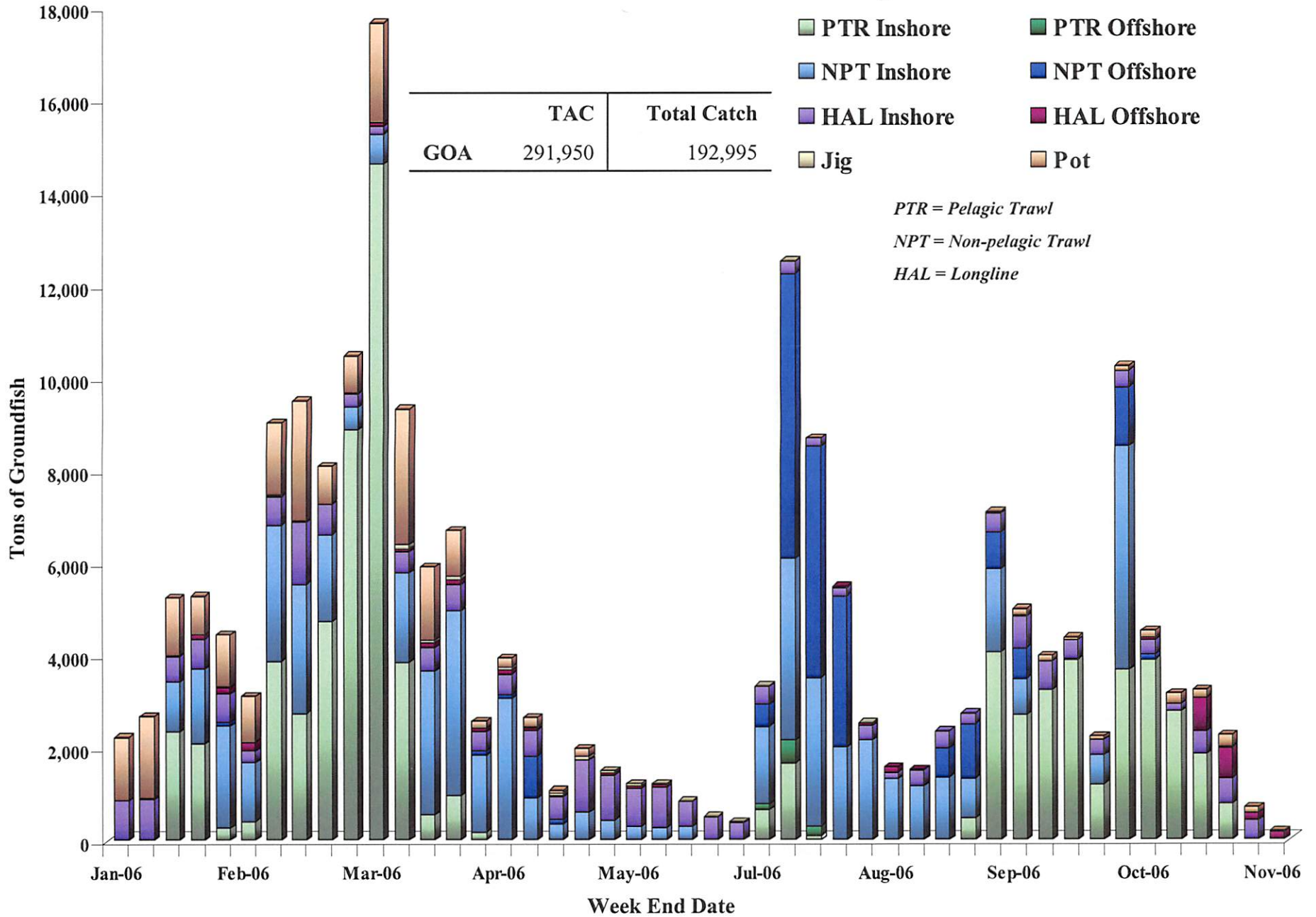
ALASKA



## LEGEND

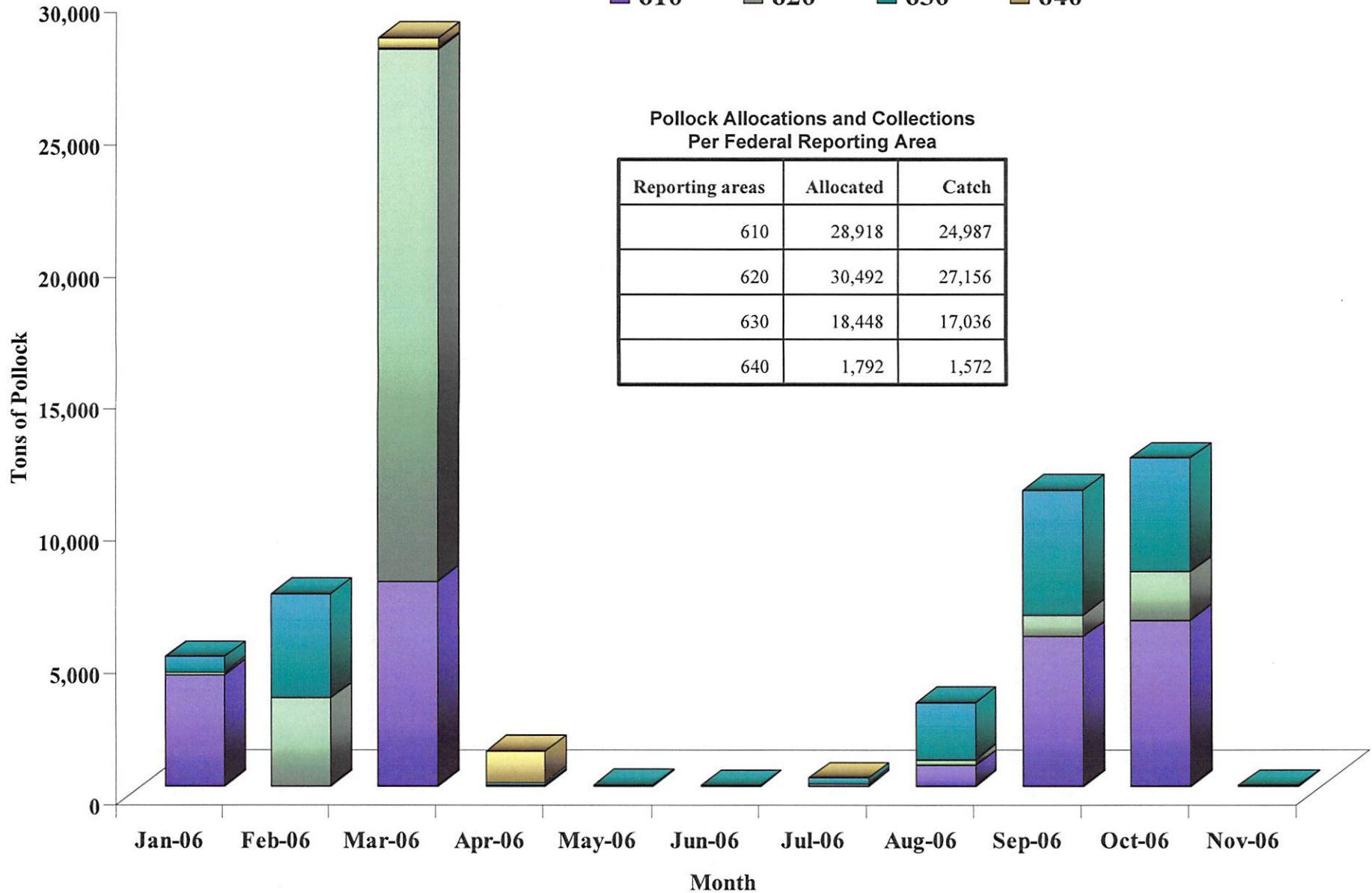
Western GOA = 610  
Central GOA = 620 + 630  
Eastern GOA  
640 + 649 + 650 + 659

# 2006 GOA Total Groundfish Catch by Gear & Sector



# 2006 Pollock Catch in GOA

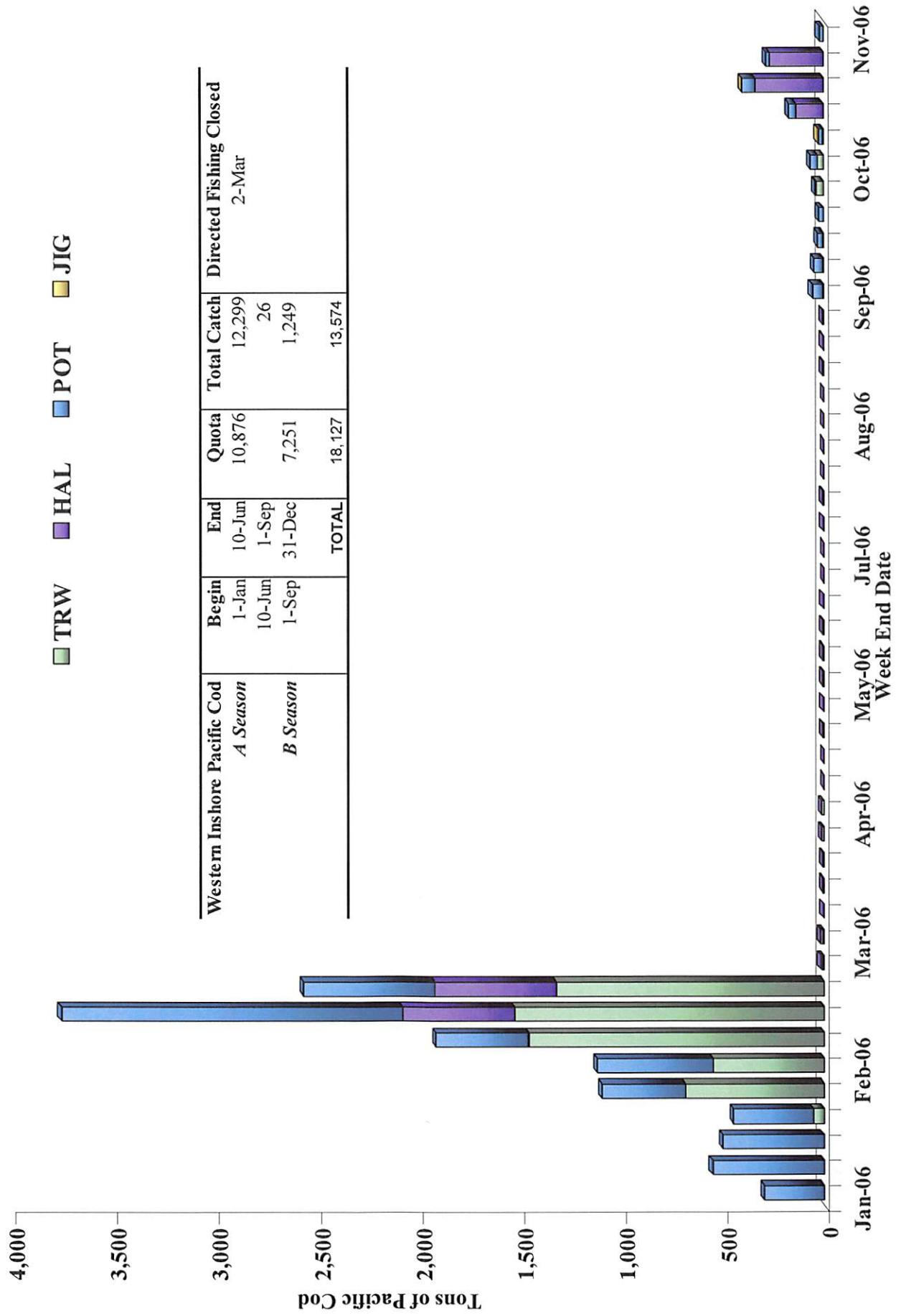
610 620 630 640



## 2006 Pollock Closures

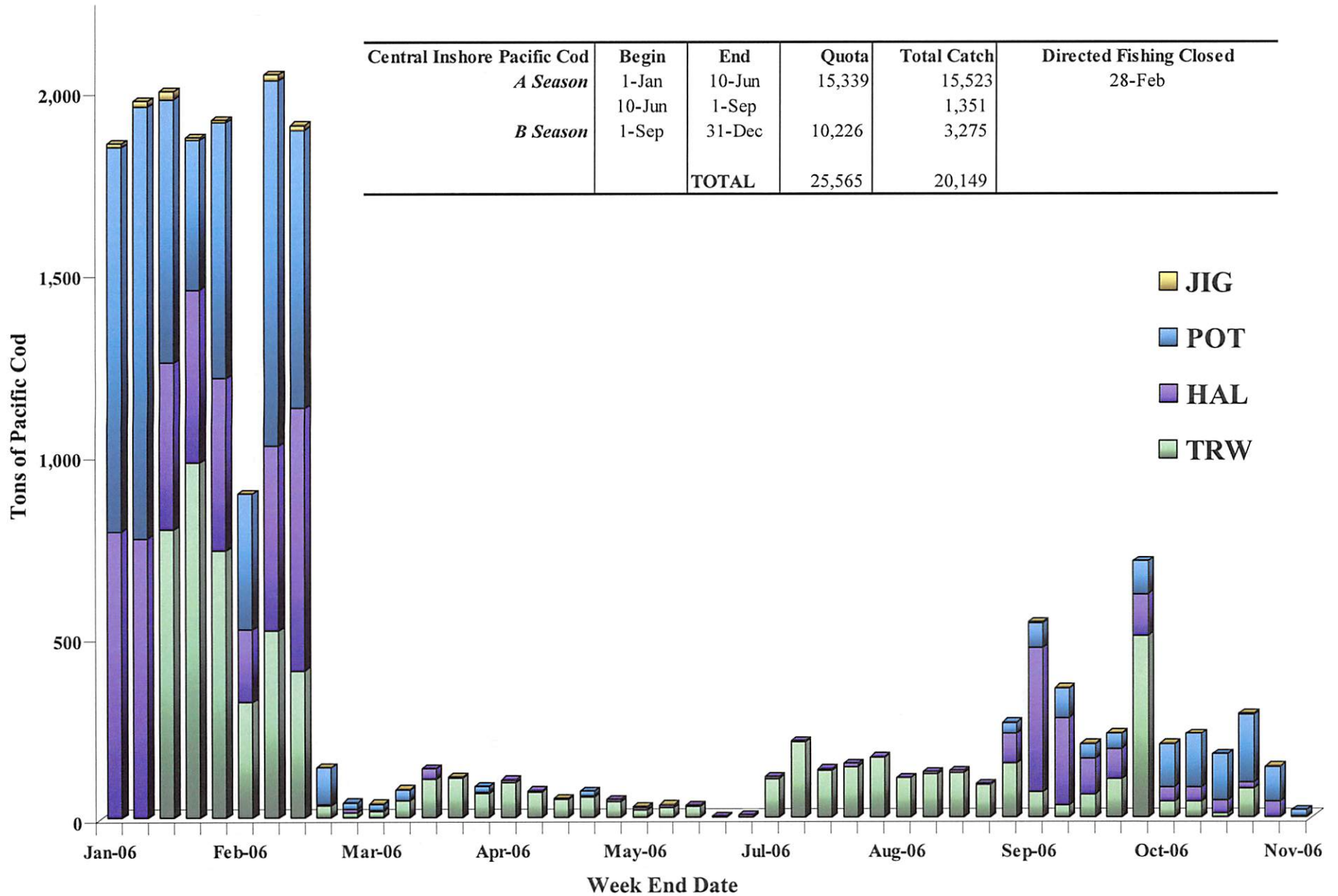
		Open	Closed	Reason
<b>610 Pollock</b>	<b>A Season</b>	20-Jan	22-Jan	TAC
		26-Jan	27-Jan	TAC
	<b>B Season</b>	10-Mar	14-Mar	TAC
	<b>C Season</b>	25-Aug	28-Aug	TAC
		31-Aug	3-Sep	TAC
		6-Sep	27-Sep	TAC
	<b>D Season</b>	1-Oct	1-Nov	Reg
<b>620 Pollock</b>	<b>A Season</b>	20-Jan		Reg
	<b>B Season</b>	10-Mar	21-Mar	TAC
	<b>C Season</b>	25-Aug	28-Aug	TAC
		31-Aug	3-Sep	TAC
		6-Sep	1-Oct	TAC
	<b>D Season</b>	1-Oct	1-Nov	Reg
<b>630 Pollock</b>	<b>A Season</b>	20-Jan	15-Feb	TAC
	<b>B Season</b>	10-Mar	10-Mar	TAC
	<b>C Season</b>	25-Aug	27-Sep	TAC
	<b>D Season</b>	1-Oct	1-Nov	Reg

# 2006 Western Gulf Inshore Pacific Cod Catch by Week and Gear

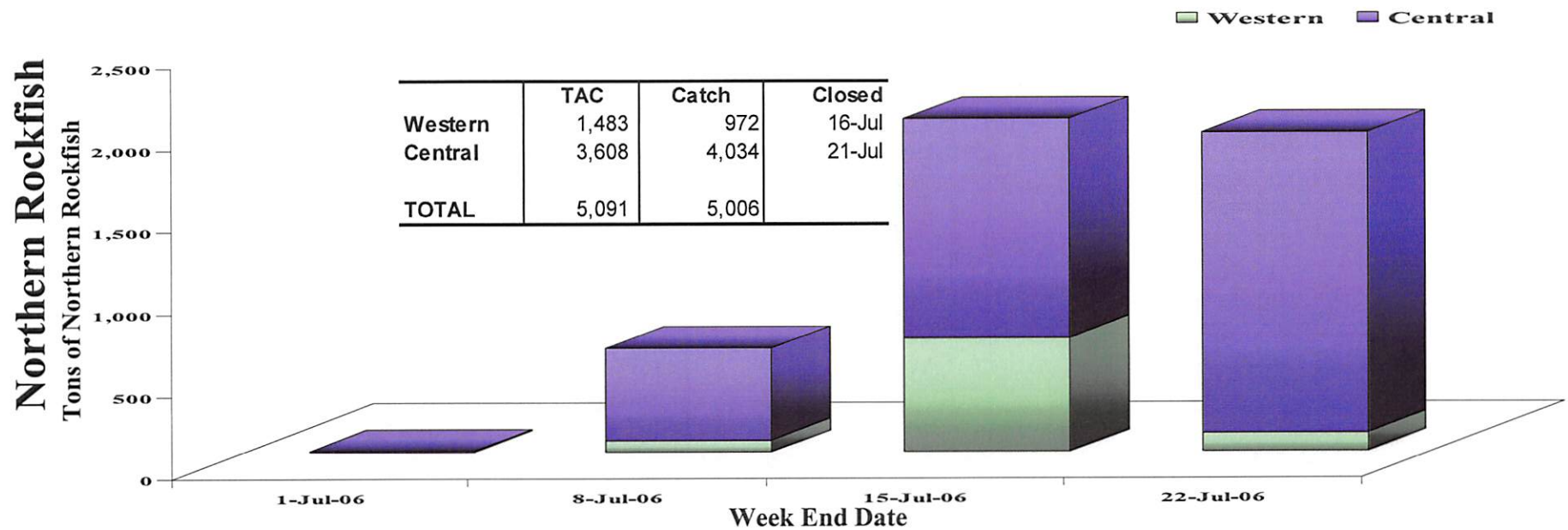
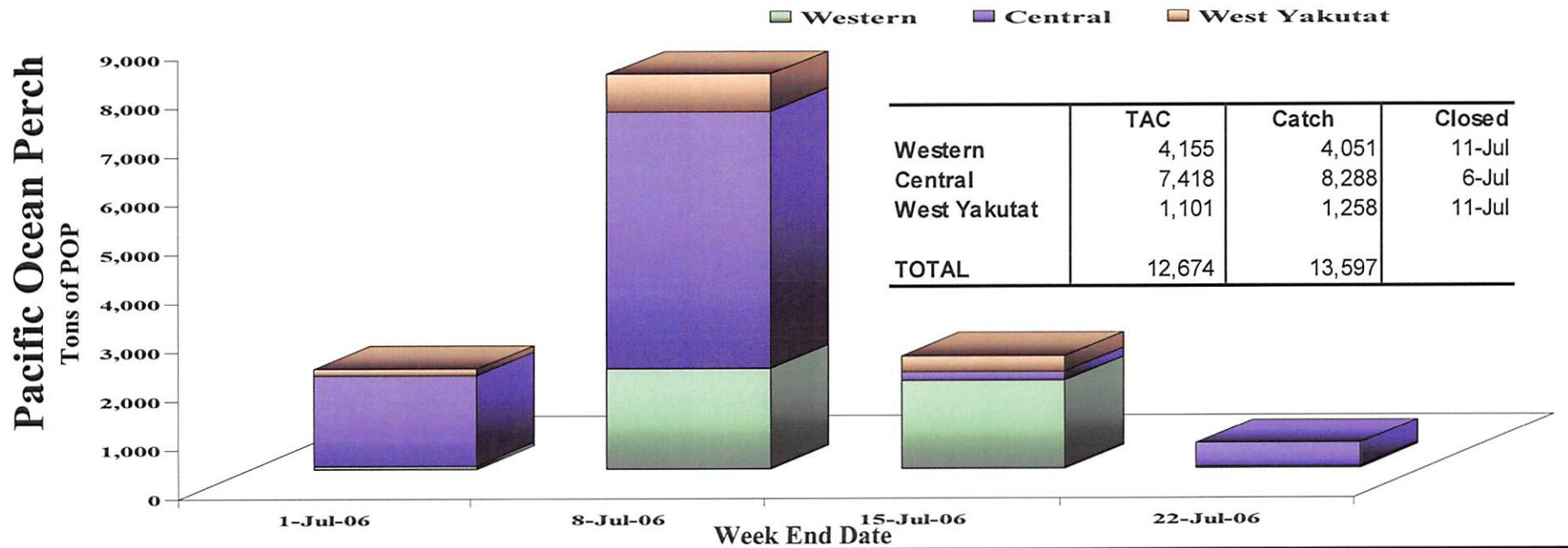




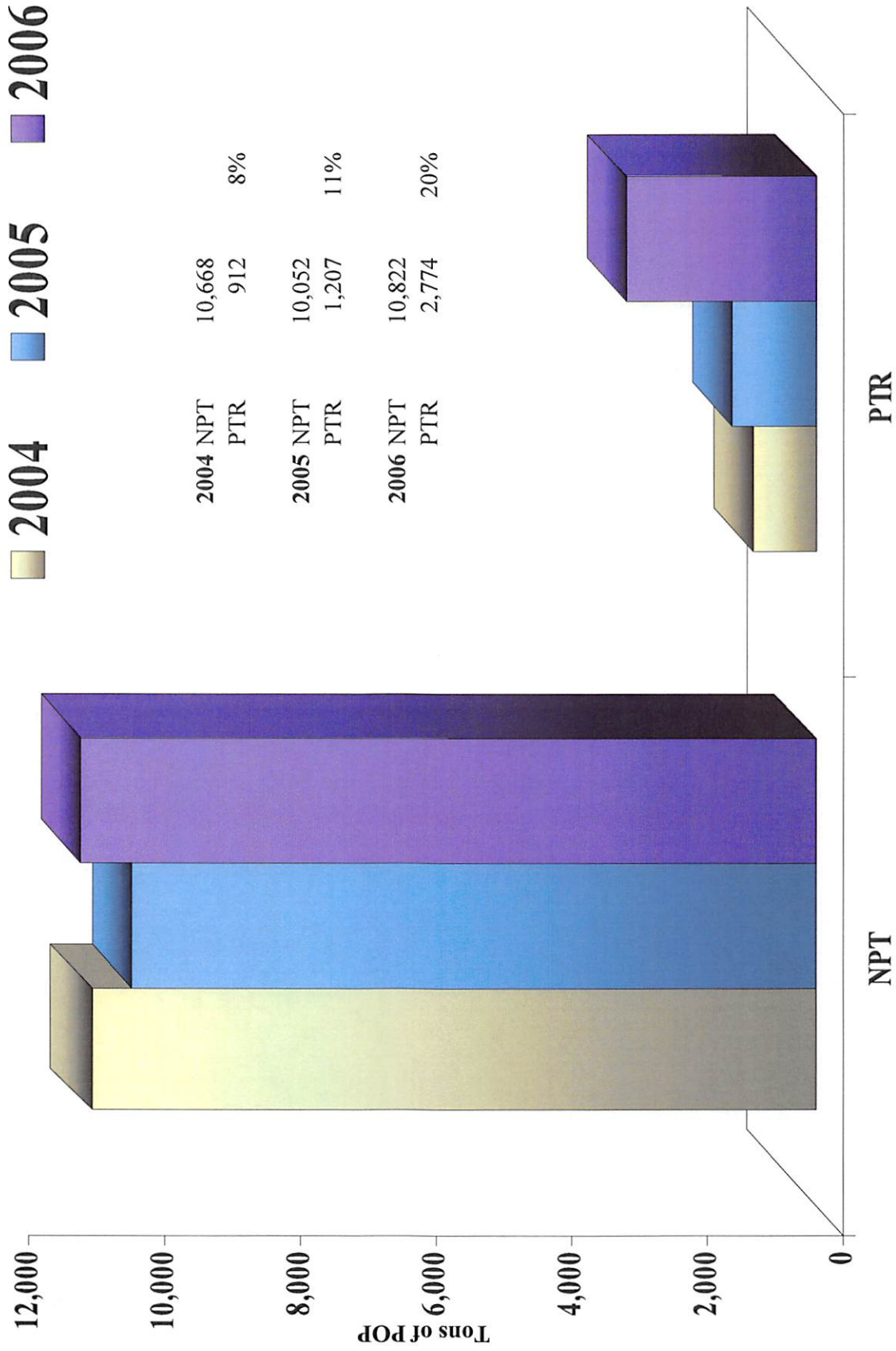
# 2006 Central Gulf Inshore Pacific Cod Catch By Week and Gear



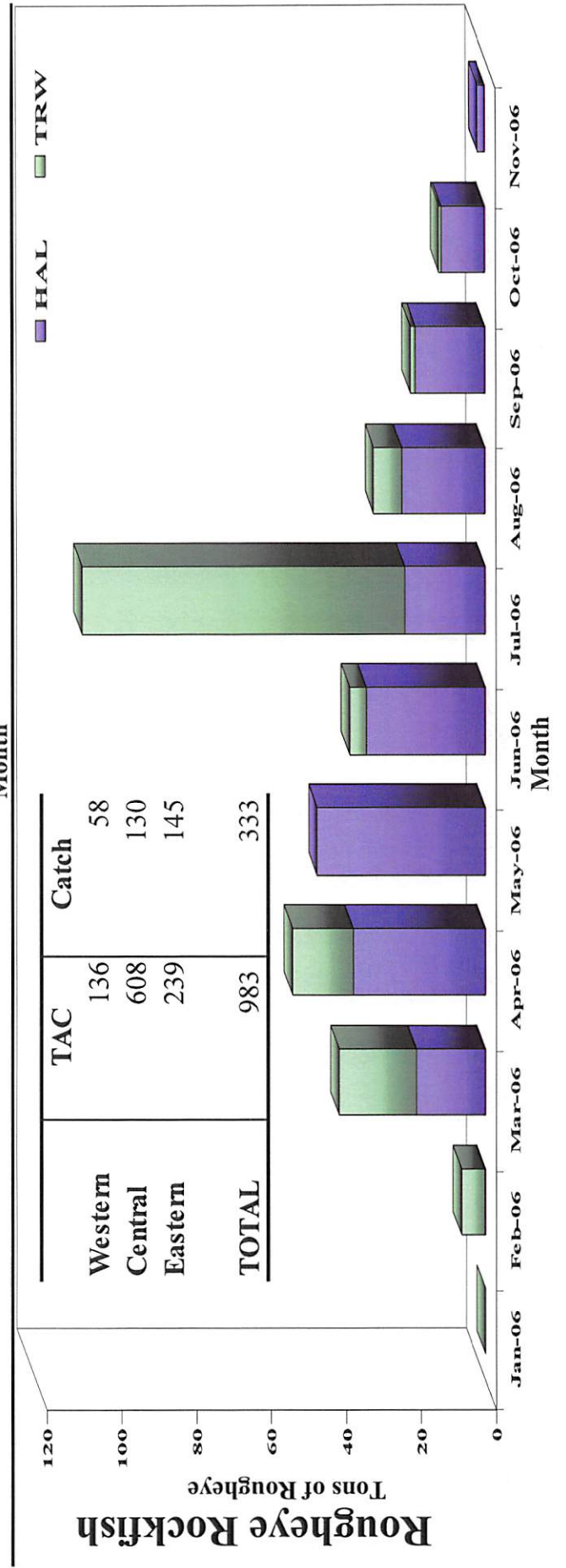
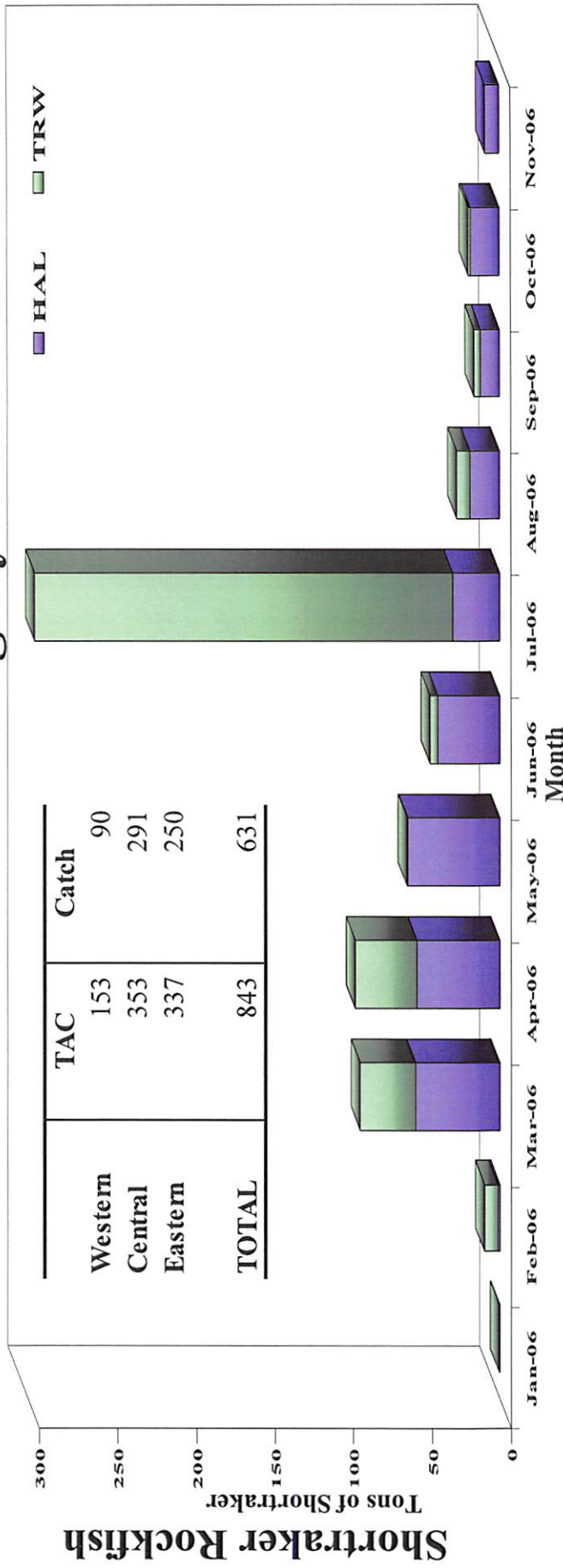
# 2006 GOA POP and Northern Rockfish Catch



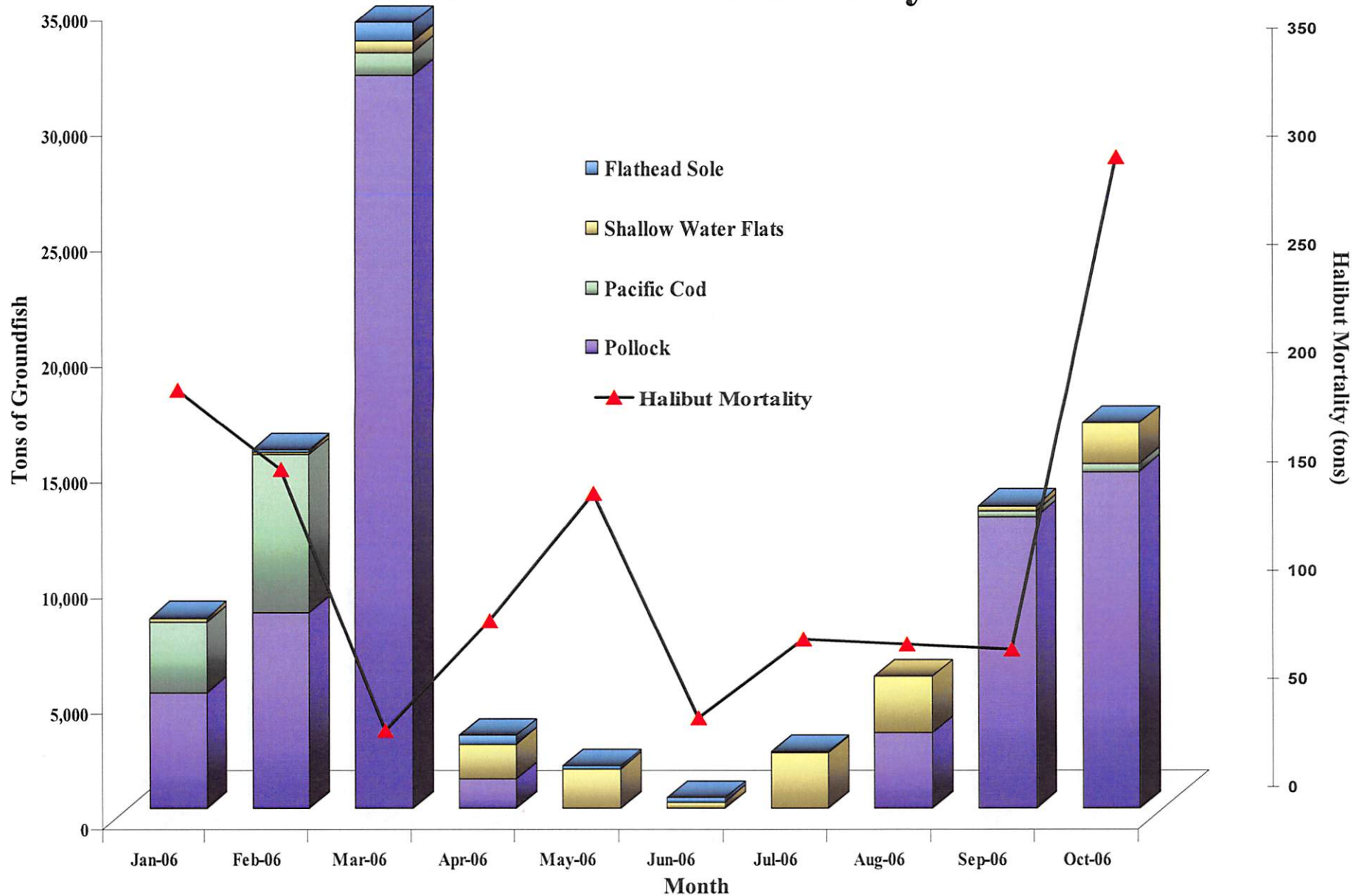
# 2006 GOA Pacific Ocean Perch Catch by Gear Type



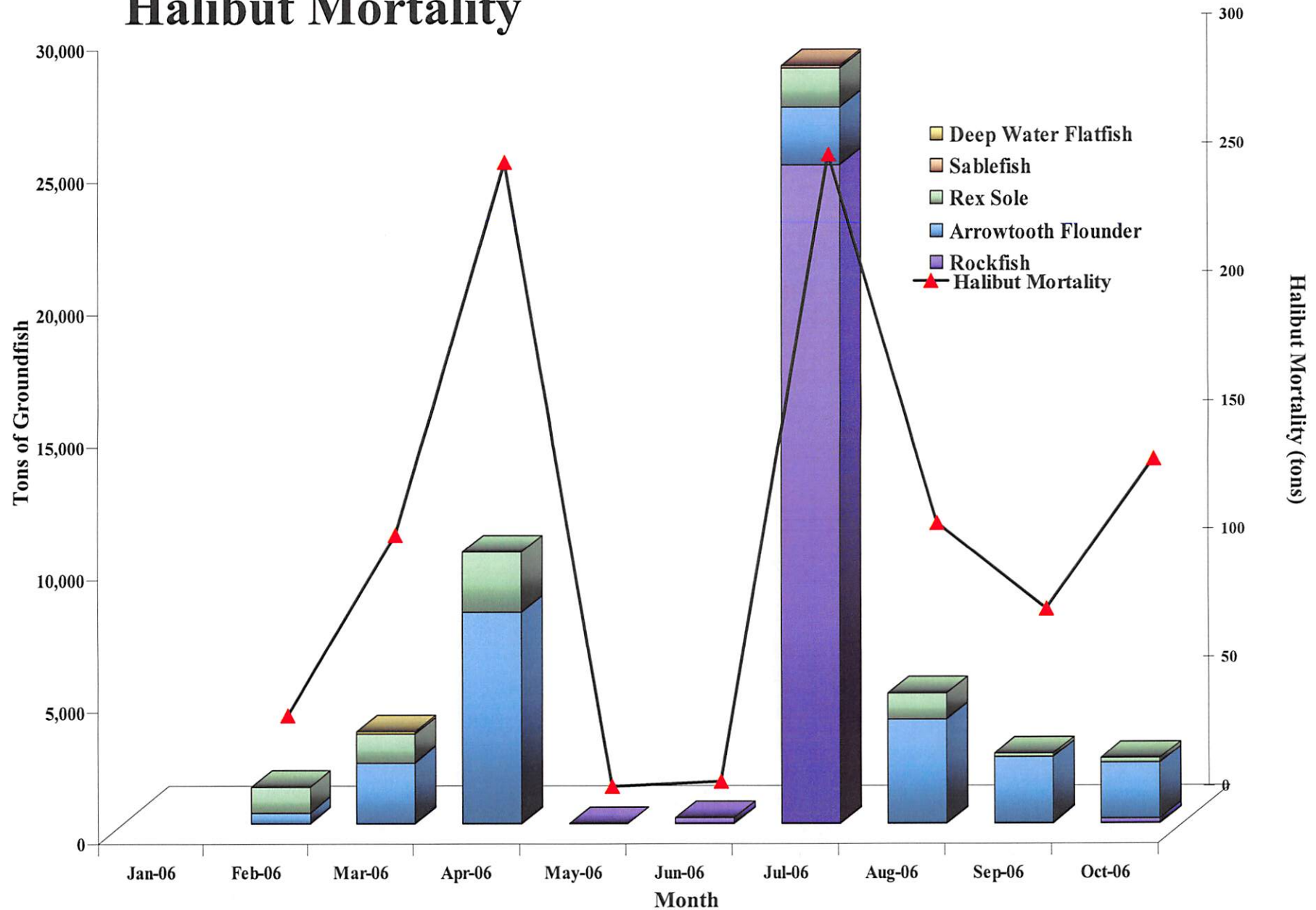
# 2006 GOA Shortraker and Rougheye Rockfish Catch



# 2006 Trawl Shallow Water Groundfish Catch and Halibut Mortality



# 2006 Trawl Deep Water Groundfish Catch and Halibut Mortality

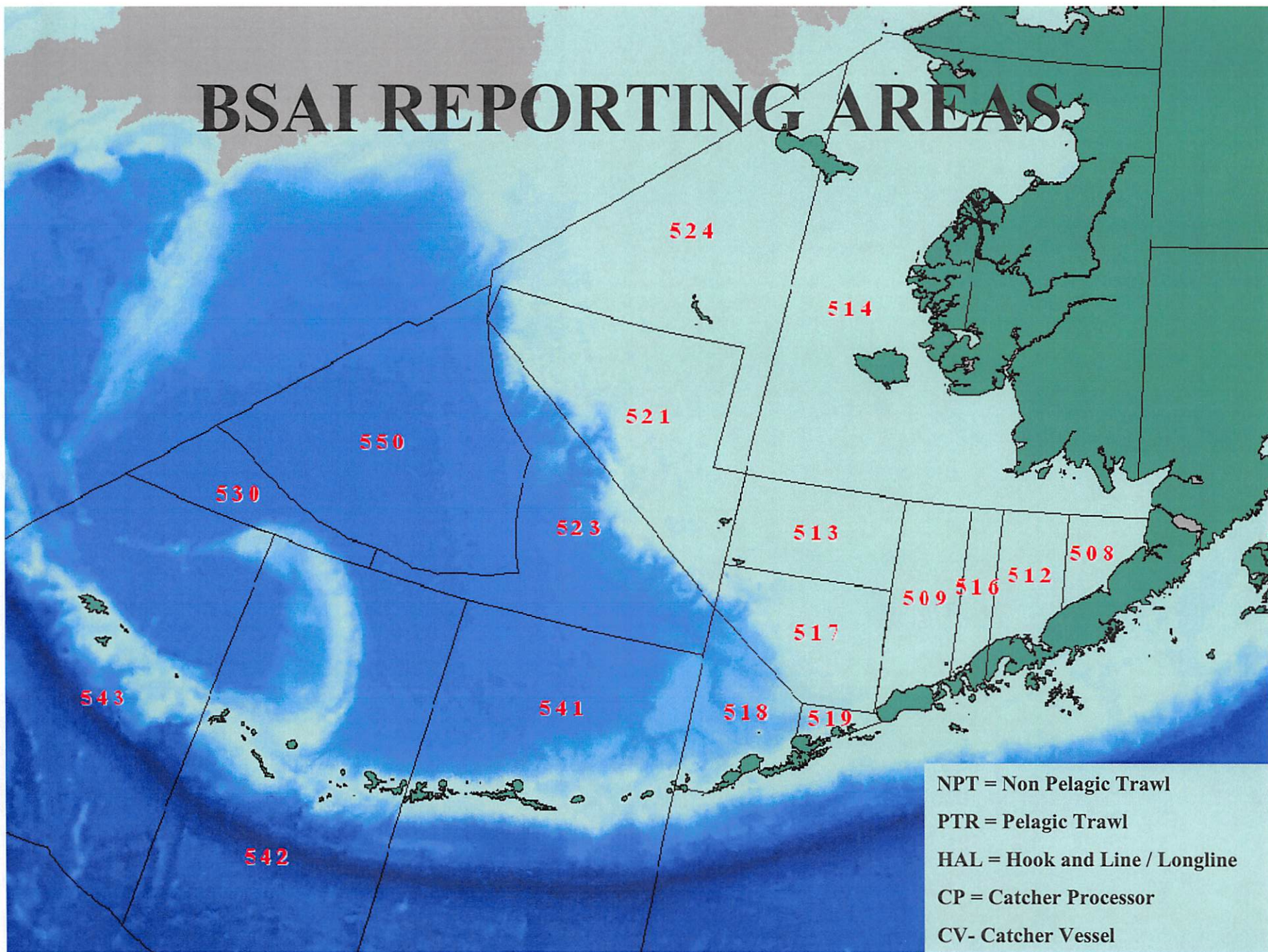


# 2006 Trawl Halibut Mortality and Closures in GOA

Shallow Water Complex	Season	Start Date	End Date	Limit	Total Mortality
	1	20-Jan	1-Apr	450	356
	2	1-Apr	1-Jul	100	245
	3	1-Jul	1-Sep	200	136
	4	1-Sep	30-Sep	150	64
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>800</b>
Deep Water Complex	Season	Start Date	End Date	Limit	Total Mortality
	1	20-Jan	1-Apr	100	125
	2	1-Apr	1-Jul	300	245
	3	1-Jul	1-Sep	400	348
	4	1-Sep	30-Sep	0	69
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>787</b>
<b>Fall Halibut Allocation</b>		1-Oct	1-Nov	300	418
<b>Total Halibut Mortality</b>				<b>2,000</b>	<b>2,005</b>

	Open	Closed	Note
<b>Deep Water Flatfish</b>	20-Jan	27-Apr	
	1-Jul	5-Sep	
	1-Oct	8-Oct	
<b>Shallow Water Flatfish</b>	20-Jan	23-Feb	
	27-Feb	10-Jun	
	1-Jul	1-Sep	Closes at midnight
	6-Sep	6-Sep	Closes at midnight
	20-Sep	20-Sep	0700-1900
	25-Sep	25-Sep	0700-1900
	1-Oct	8-Oct	

# BSAI REPORTING AREAS





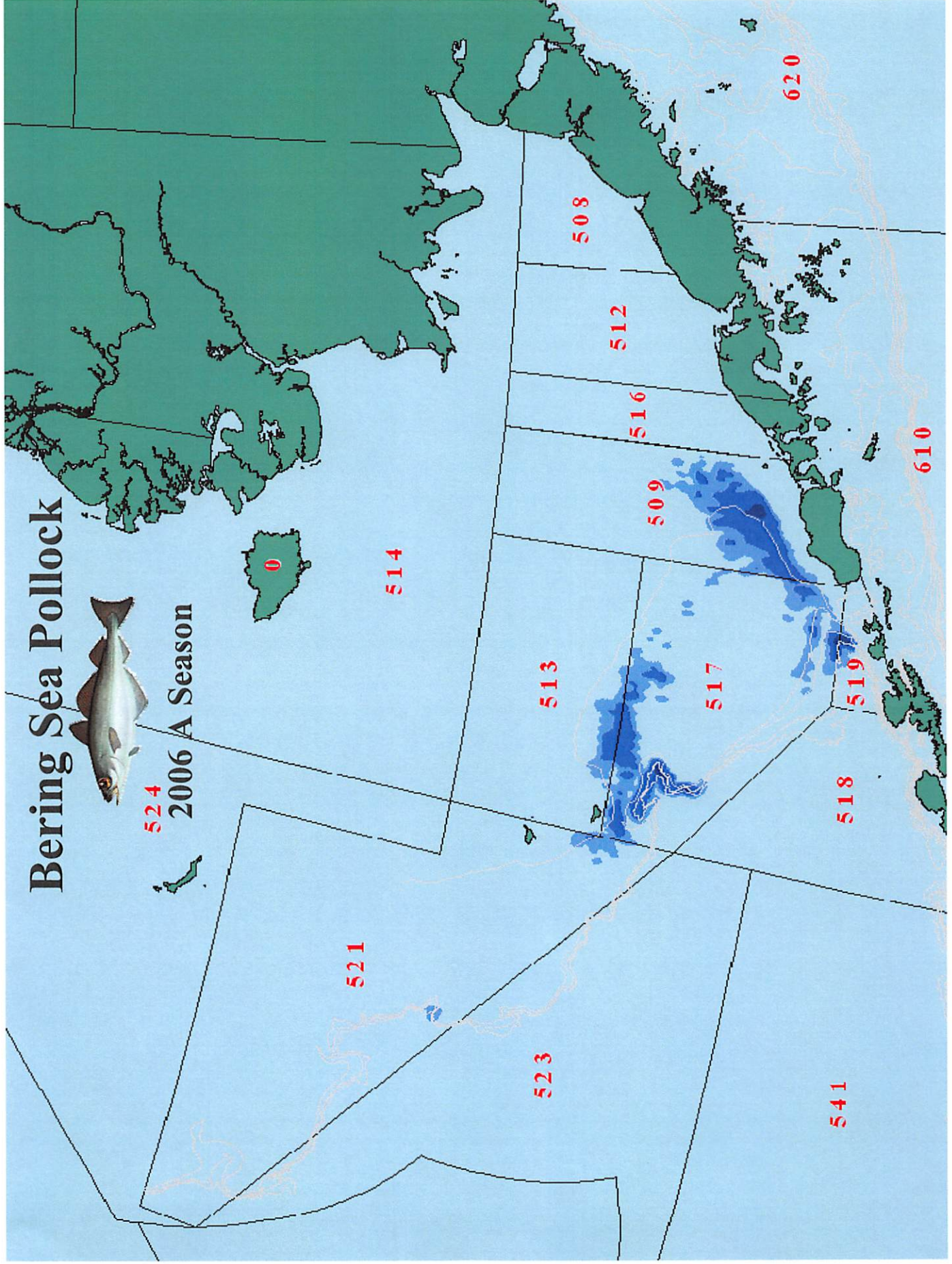




# Bering Sea Pollock



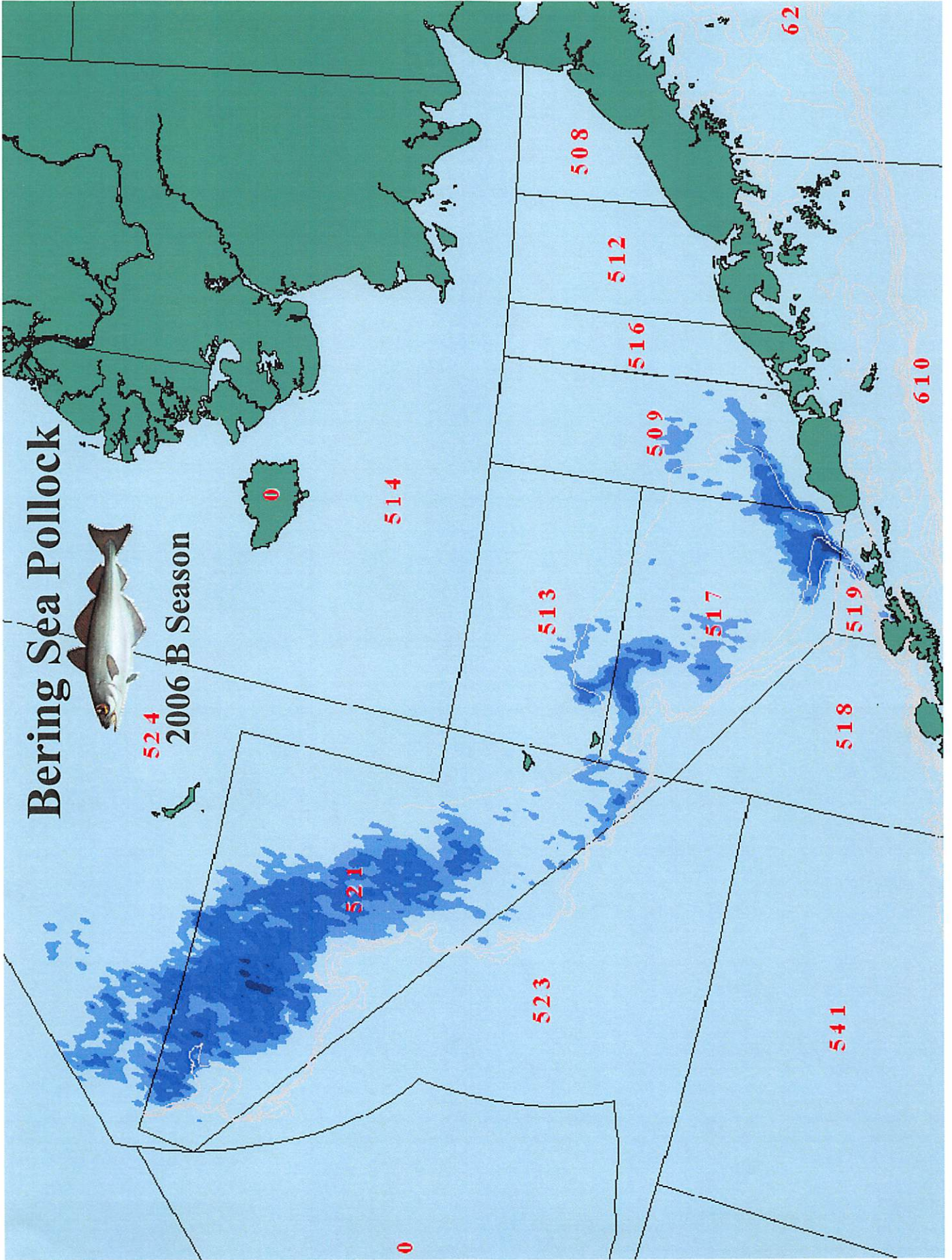
524  
2006 A Season



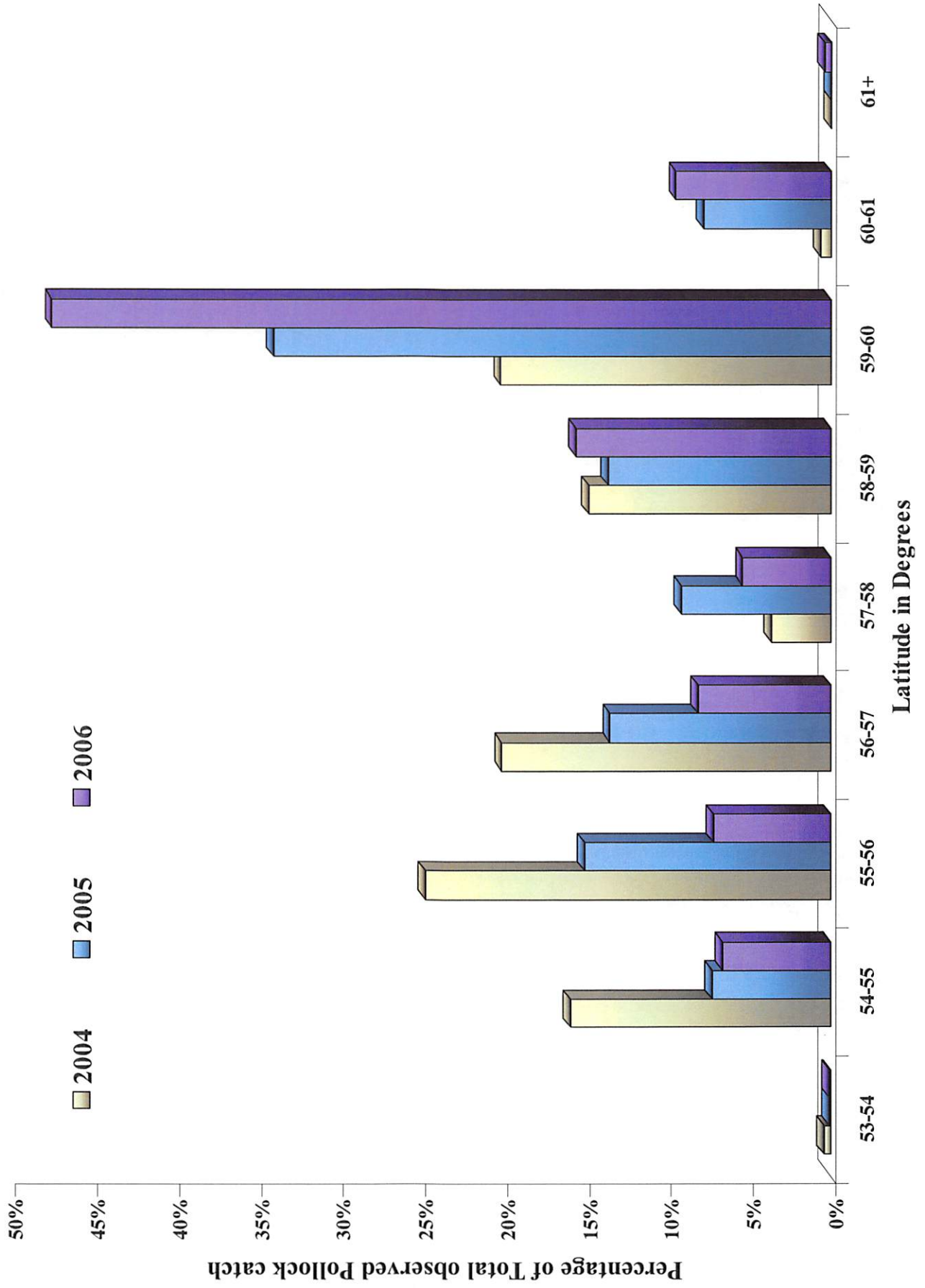
# Bering Sea Pollock



524  
2006 B Season



# Bering Sea B Season Pollock Catch by Year and Latitude







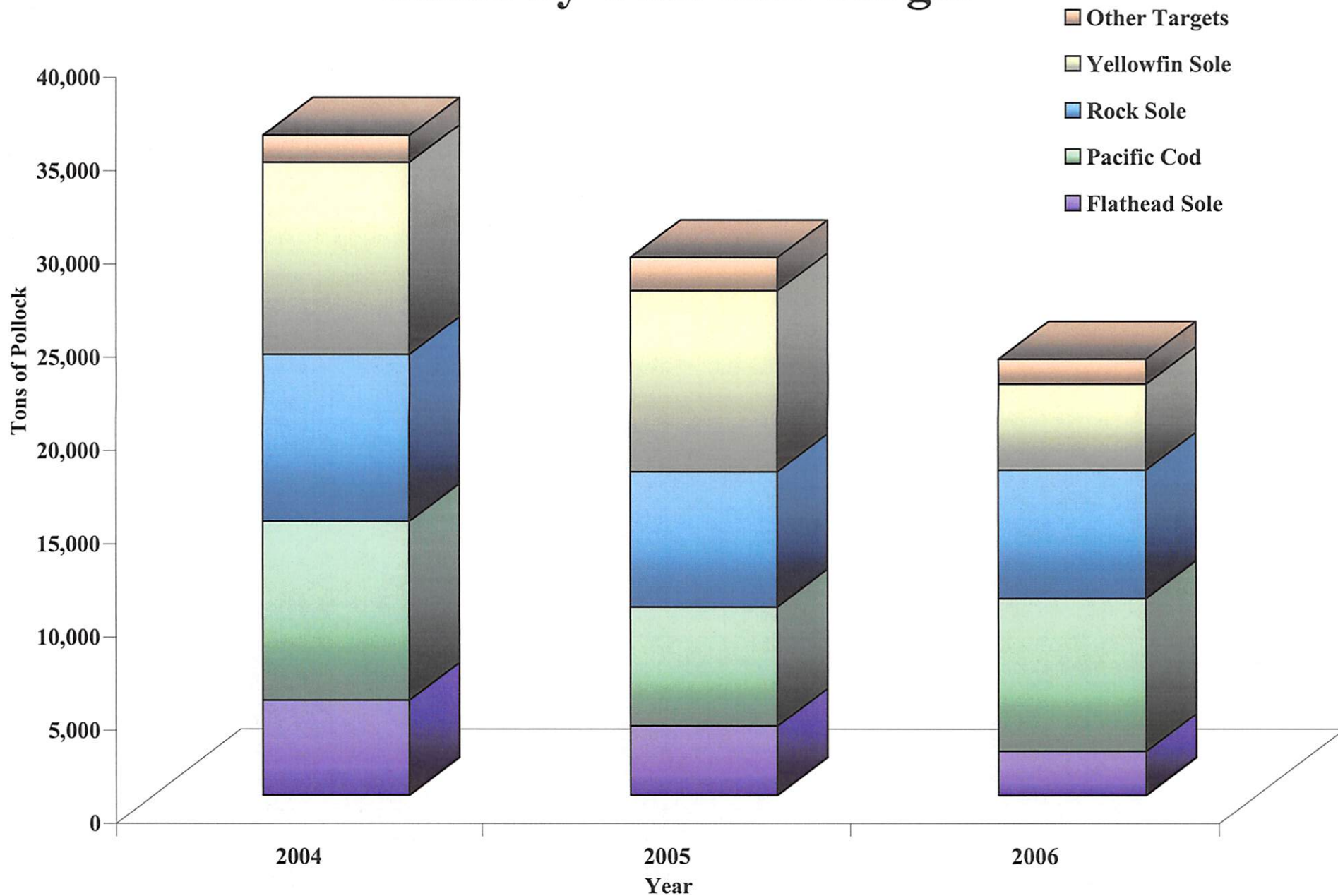
## 2006 Bering Sea Pollock Catch by Sector

<b>Fishery Sector</b>	<b>TAC</b>	<b>Catch</b>
<b>Inshore</b>	660,318	645,091
<b>Catcher Processor</b>	528,254	527,244
<b>Mothership</b>	132,063	132,063
<b>Incidental Catch</b>	30,967	31,895
<b>CDQ</b>	150,400	150,322
<b>TOTAL</b>	1,502,002	1,486,615

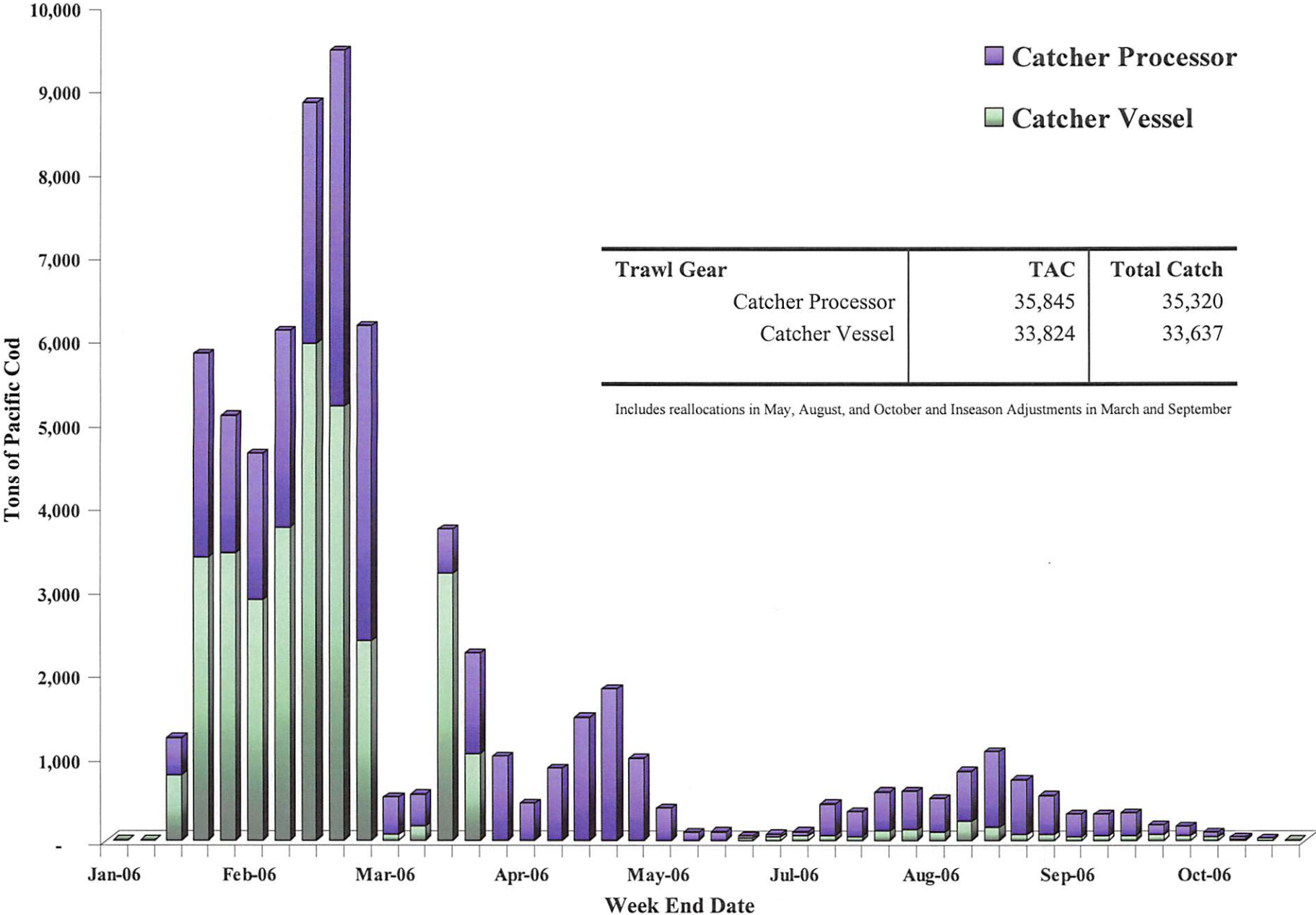
*Include reallocations from the Bering Sea ICA in October and Aleutian Islands fishery in February, March, August and October*



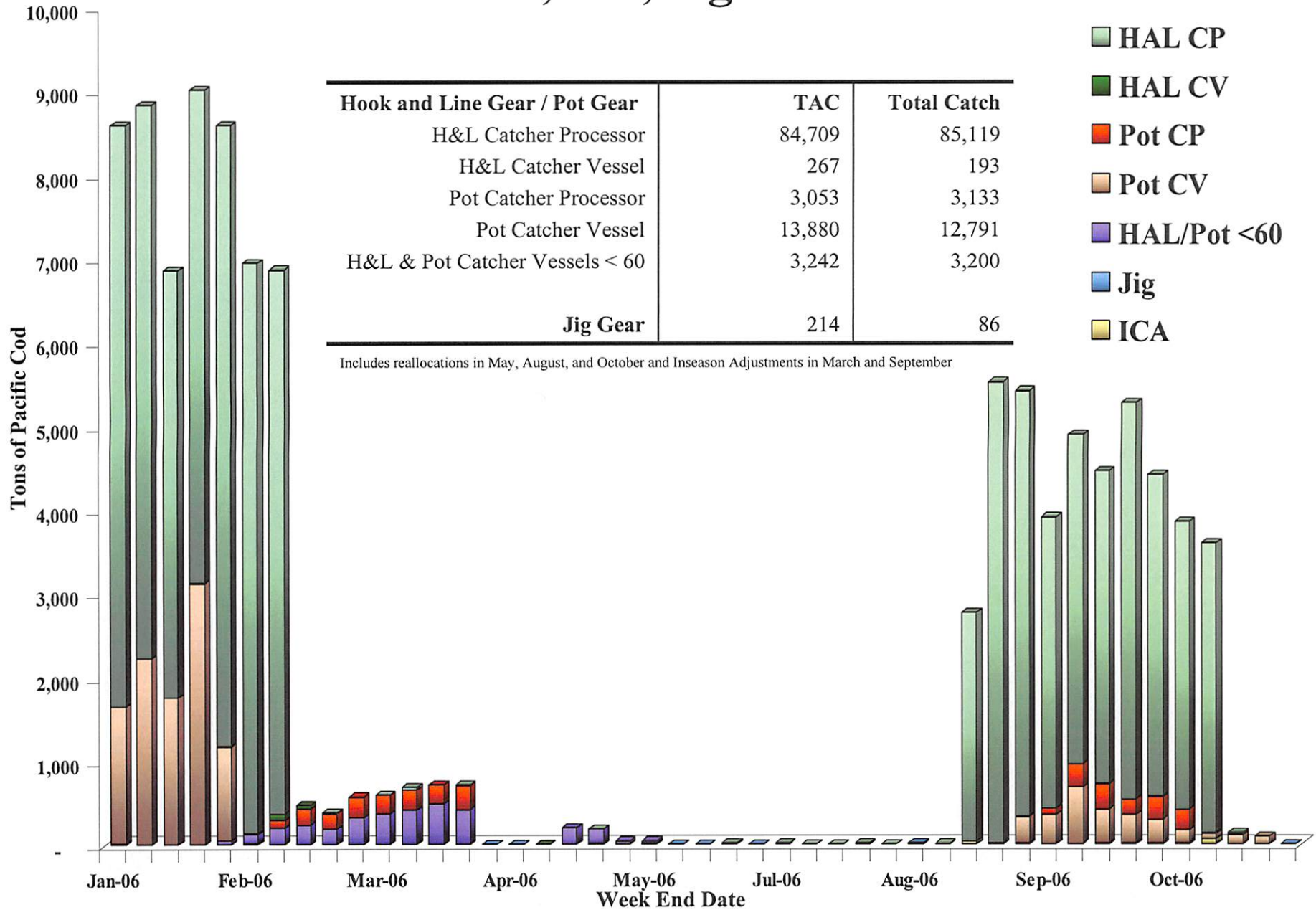
# 2004 - 2006 Non-AFA Trawl CP Pollock Incidental Catch by Year and Target



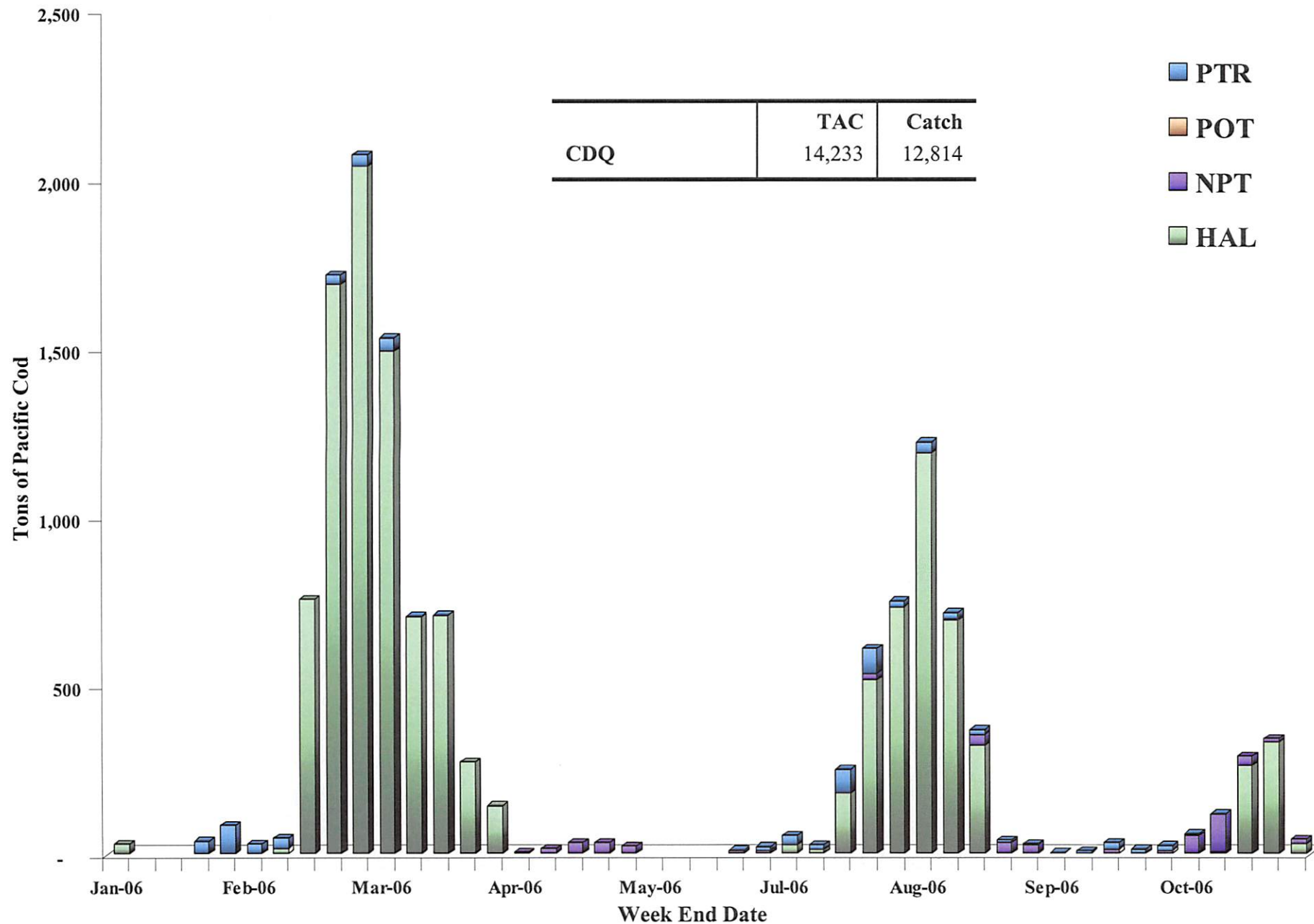
# 2006 BSAI Trawl Pacific Cod Catch



# 2006 BSAI H&L, Pot, Jig Pacific Cod Catch



# 2006 BSAI CDQ Pacific Cod Catch

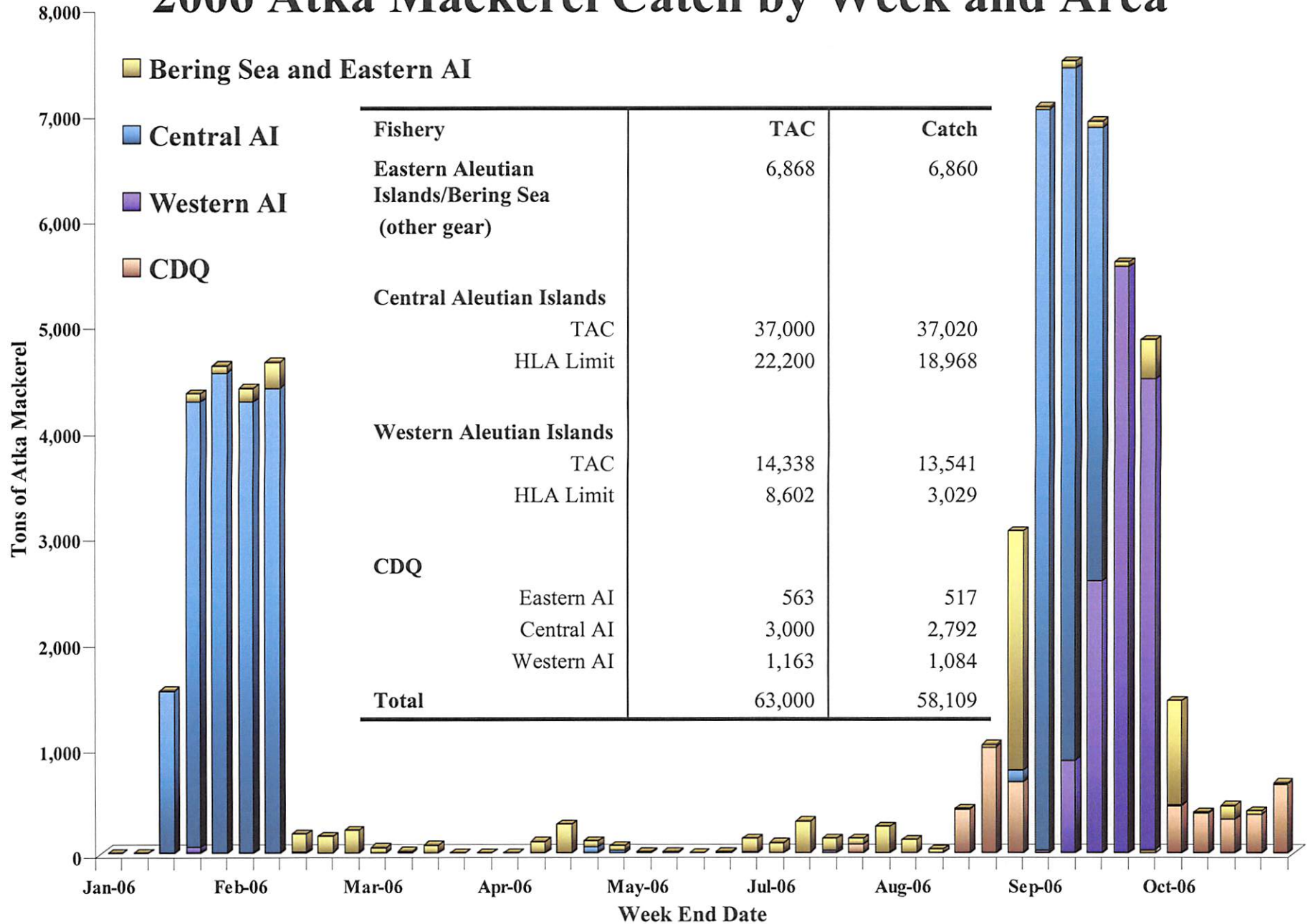


## 2006 Pacific Cod Apportionments & Catch in the BSAI

Fishery Component	TAC	Catch
<b>Hook and Line Gear</b>		
Catcher Processor	84,709	85,119
Catcher Vessel	267	193
<b>Pot Gear</b>		
Catcher Processor	3,053	3,133
Catcher Vessel	13,880	12,791
<b>Hook and Line and Pot Gear</b>		
Catcher Vessels < 60	3,242	3,200
<b>Trawl Gear</b>		
Catcher Processor	35,845	35,320
Catcher Vessel	33,824	33,637
<b>Jig Gear</b>		
	214	86
<b>CDQ</b>		
	14,233	13,614
<b>TOTAL</b>	189,267	187,093

Includes reallocations in May, August, and October and Inseason Adjustments in March and September

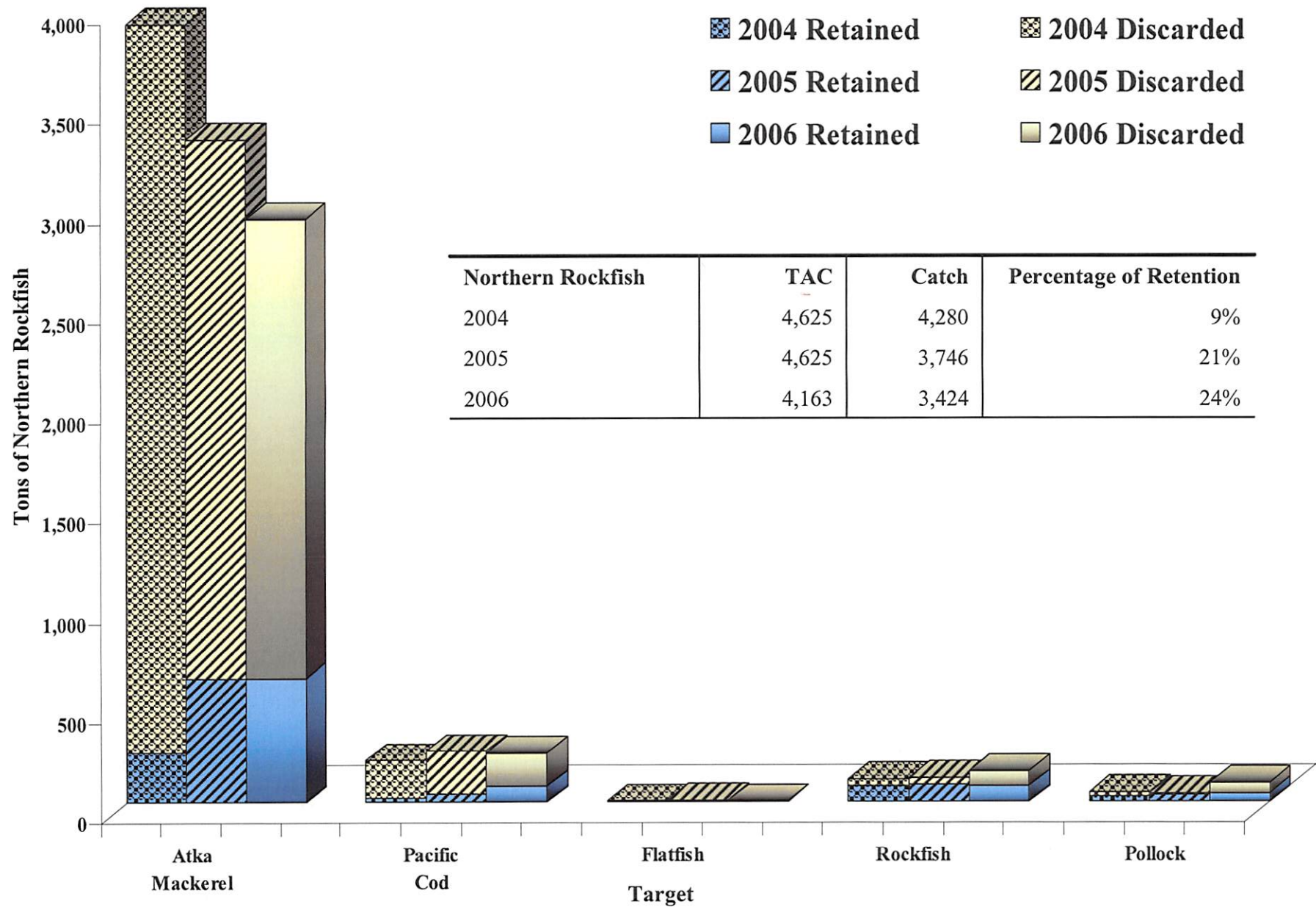
# 2006 Atka Mackerel Catch by Week and Area



# 2006 Area 542 & 543 Harvest Limitation Area Fishery

	Vessels		Fishery Dates	
	Area 542	Area 543	Open	Close
HLA 1	Alaska Juris	Alaska Warrior	22-Jan	5-Feb
	Alaska Ranger	Seafisher		
	Alaska Victory	Alaska Spirit		
HLA 2	Alaska Warrior	Alaska Juris	7-Feb	21-Feb
	Seafisher	Alaska Ranger		
	Alaska Spirit	Alaska Victory		
HLA 1	Alaska Ranger	Alaska Juris	4-Sep	11-Sep
	Alaska Spirit	Ocean Peace		
	Alaska Victory	Seafisher		
	Alaska Warrior	Seafreeze Alaska		
	Constellation			
	US Intrepid			
HLA 2	Alaska Juris	Alaska Ranger	13-Sep	20-Sep
	American No.1	Alaska Spirit		
	Ocean Peace	Alaska Victory		
	Seafisher	Alaska Warrior		
	Seafreeze Alaska	Constellation		

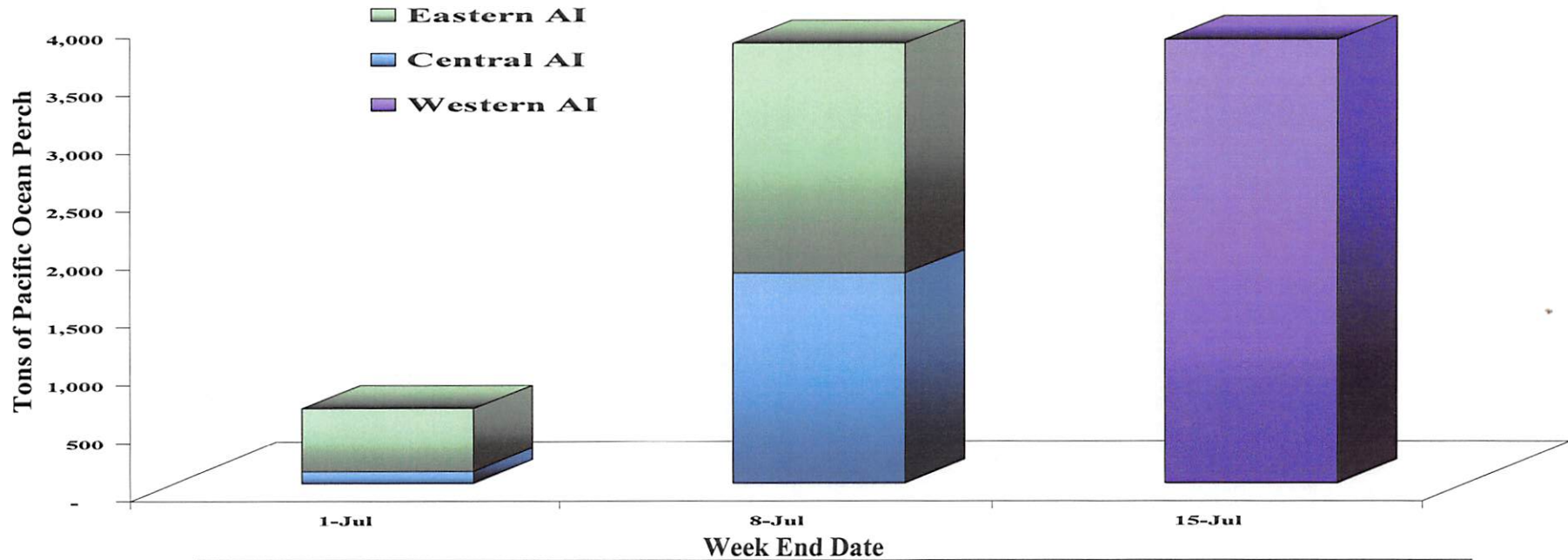
# 2004 – 2006 BSAI Northern Rockfish Retention by Target



Northern Rockfish	TAC	Catch	Percentage of Retention
2004	4,625	4,280	9%
2005	4,625	3,746	21%
2006	4,163	3,424	24%



# 2006 BSAI Pacific Ocean Perch Directed Fishery

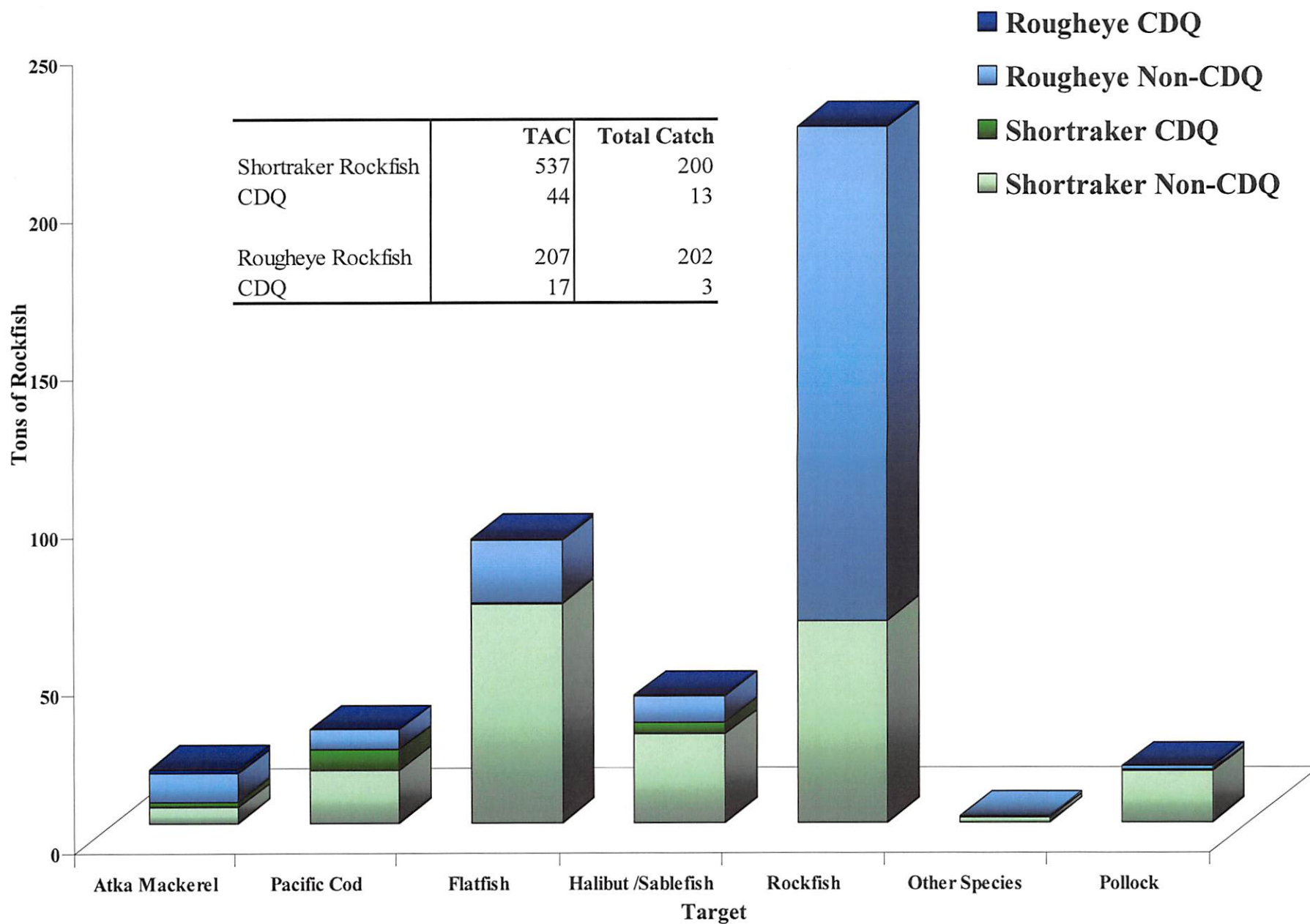


Fishery		TAC	Catch	Open	Close
Eastern		2,849	2,858	July 1	July 5
	CDQ	231	211		
Central		2,808	3,047	July 1	July 10
	CDQ	228	194		
Western		4,703	5,149	July 1	July 15
	CDQ	381	356		

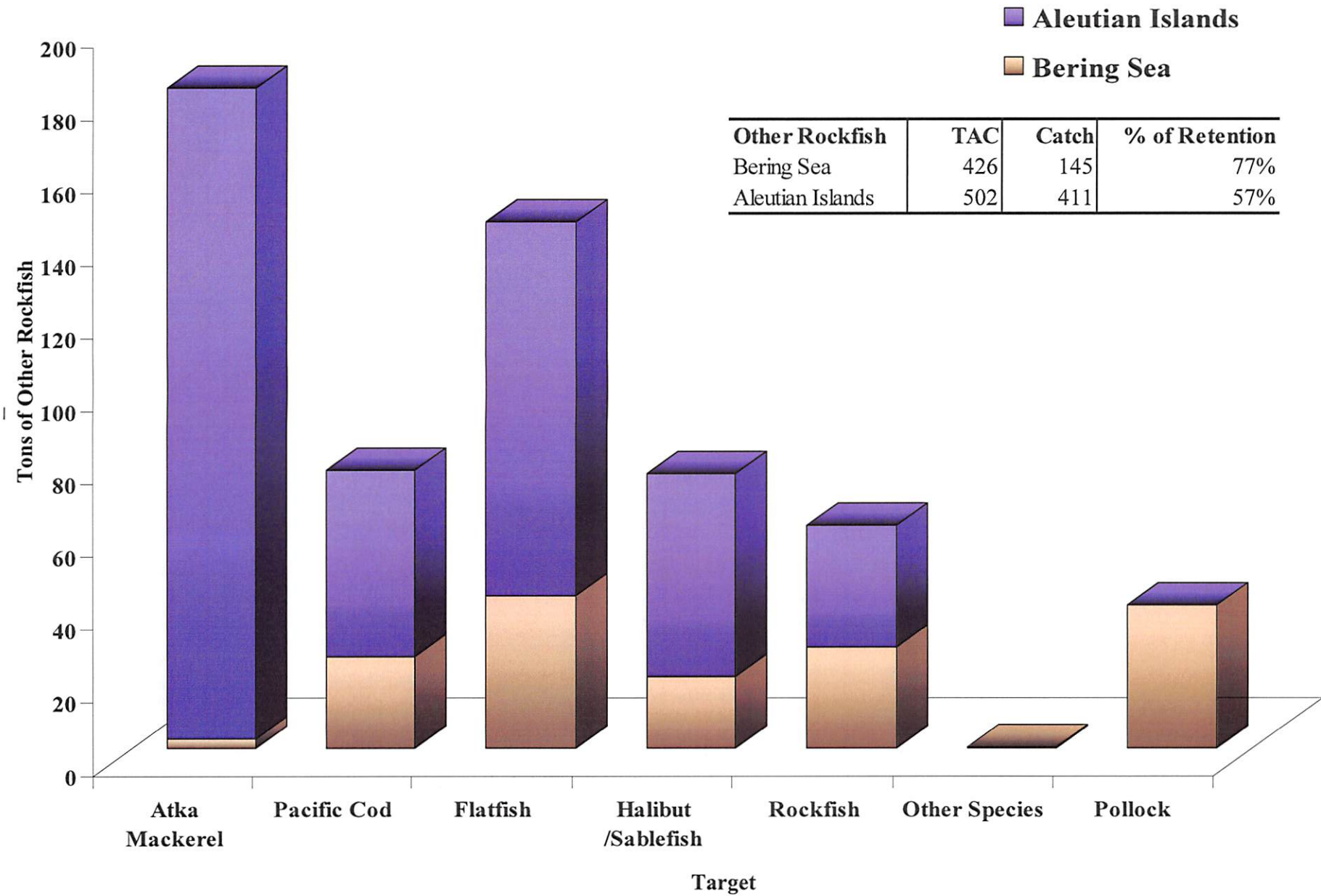
CDQ catch occurs throughout the year.

Non CDQ catch includes incidental catch of POP in other targets.

# 2006 BSAI Shortraker & Rougheye Catch



# 2006 BSAI Other Rockfish Catch



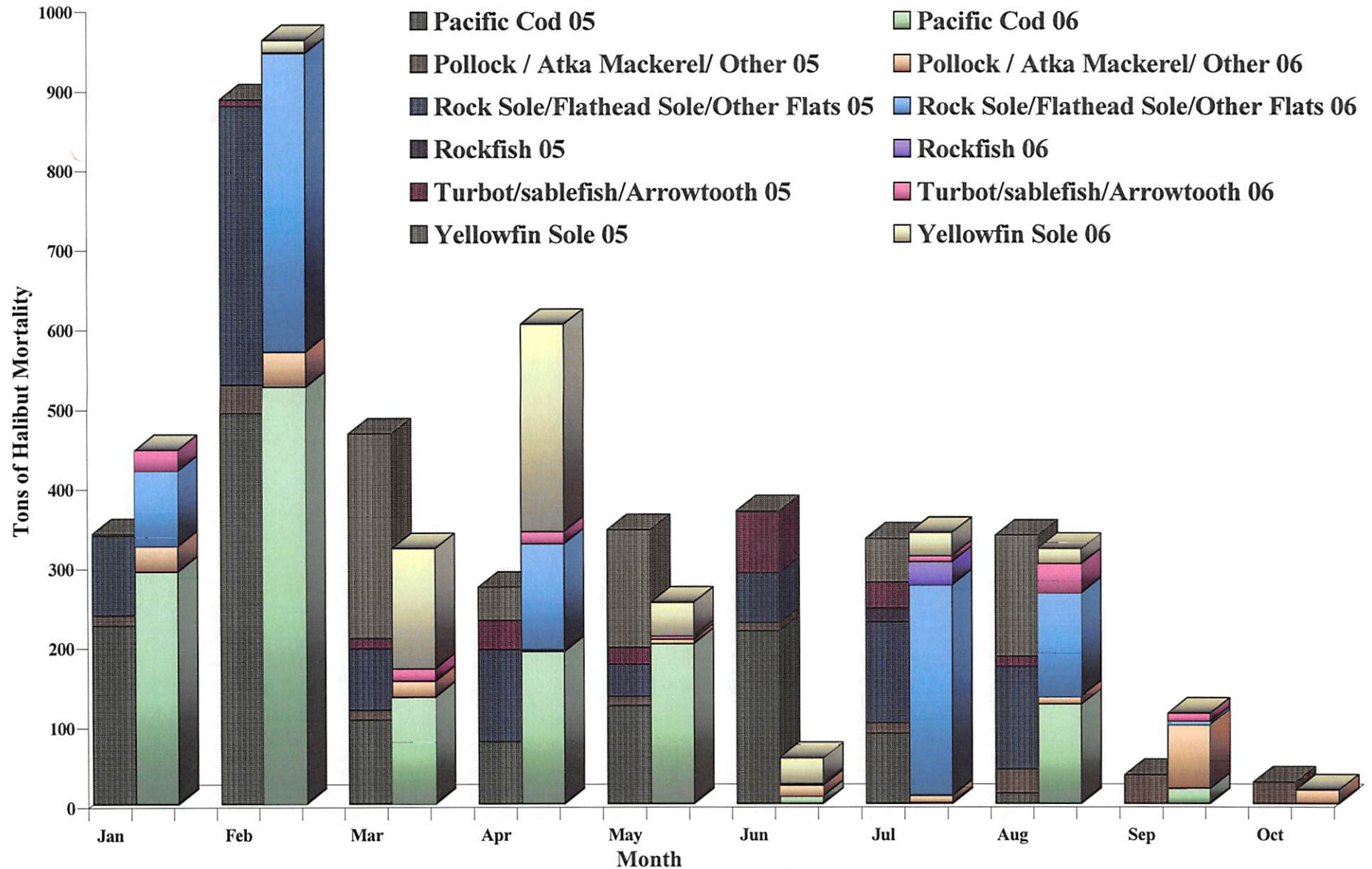


## 2006 Flatfish TACs and Closures in BSAI

	TAC	Total Catch	Closure Date	Reason
<b>Arrowtooth Flounder</b>	11,050	12,287	1-Jan	Reg
<b>CDQ</b>	975	644		
<b>Flathead Sole</b>	16,575	17,546	21-Feb	HBT PSC
<b>CDQ</b>	1,463	356	13-Apr	HBT PSC
			8-Aug	HBT PSC
<b>"Other Flatfish"</b>	2,975	3,322	21-Feb	HBT PSC
<b>CDQ</b>	263	168	13-Apr	HBT PSC
			8-Aug	HBT PSC
<b>Rock Sole</b>	35,275	34,282	21-Feb	HBT PSC
<b>CDQ</b>	3,113	2,162	13-Apr	HBT PSC
			8-Aug	HBT PSC
<b>Alaska Plaice</b>	13,800	17,069	21-Feb	HBT PSC
<b>CDQ</b>	600	226	13-Apr	HBT PSC
			8-Aug	HBT PSC
<b>Yellowfin Sole</b>	88,846	92,742	20-Apr	HBT PSC
<b>CDQ</b>	7,178	5,763	8-Jun	HBT PSC
			19-Jun	TAC
			8-Aug	TAC

TACs include reserve apportionments

# 2005/2006 BSAI Trawl Halibut Mortality by Target and Month



# 2006 Trawl Halibut Mortality in the BSAI

	<b>Limit</b>	<b>Total Mortality</b>
Pacific Cod	1,434	1,494
Rockfish	69	29
Pollock/Atka Mackerel/Other	232	231
Turbot/Sablefish/Arrowtooth flounder	0	118
<b>Total Halibut Mortality (yellowfin sole and rock sole/flathead/other flatfish categories)</b>	<b>1,665</b>	<b>1,553</b>
<b>Total Halibut Mortality</b>	<b>3,400</b>	<b>3,426</b>

## Yellowfin Sole

<b>Season</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>	<b>Limit</b>	<b>Total Catch</b>
1	20-Jan	1-Apr	262	166
2	1-Apr	21-May	195	261
3	21-May	1-Jul	49	75
4	1-Jul	31-Dec	380	48
<b>Total</b>			<b>886</b>	<b>551</b>

## Rock Sole, Flathead Sole, Other Flatfish

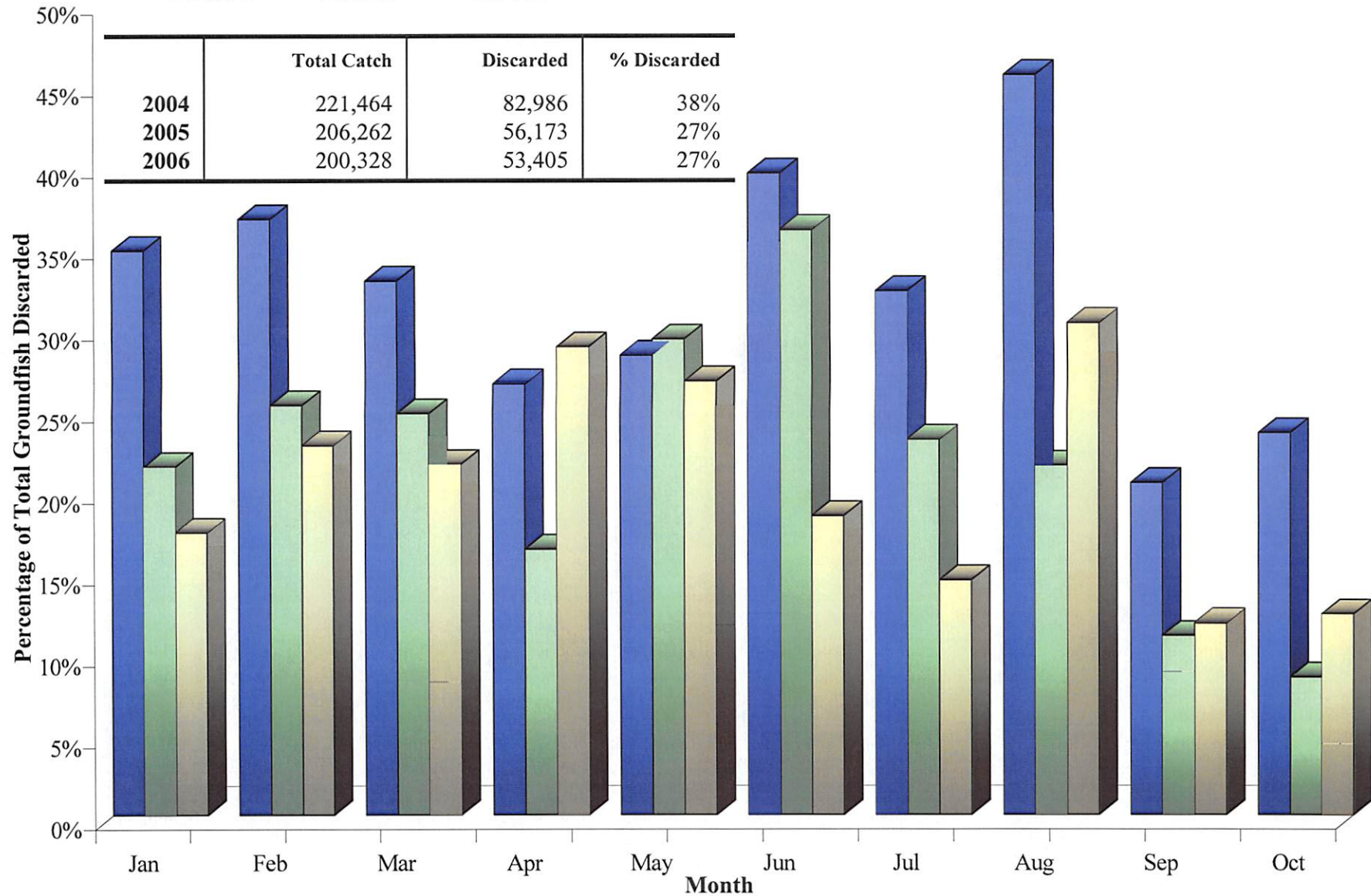
<b>Season</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>	<b>Limit</b>	<b>Total Catch</b>
1	20-Jan	1-Apr	448	470
2	1-Apr	1-Jul	164	133
3	1-Jul	31-Dec	167	399
<b>Total</b>			<b>779</b>	<b>1,002</b>



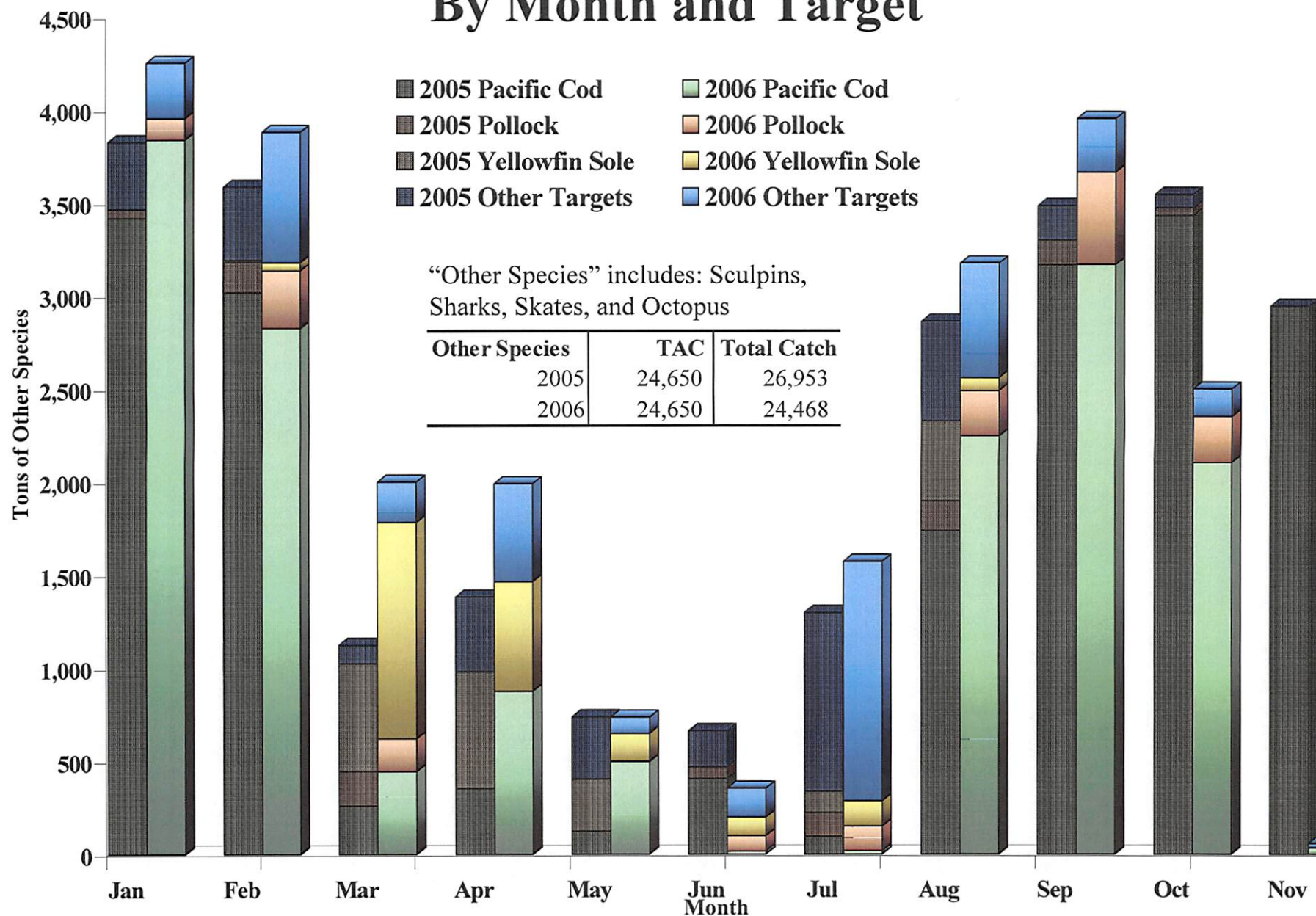


# BSAI Percent of Total Groundfish Discarded By the Non-AFA Trawl CP Fleet

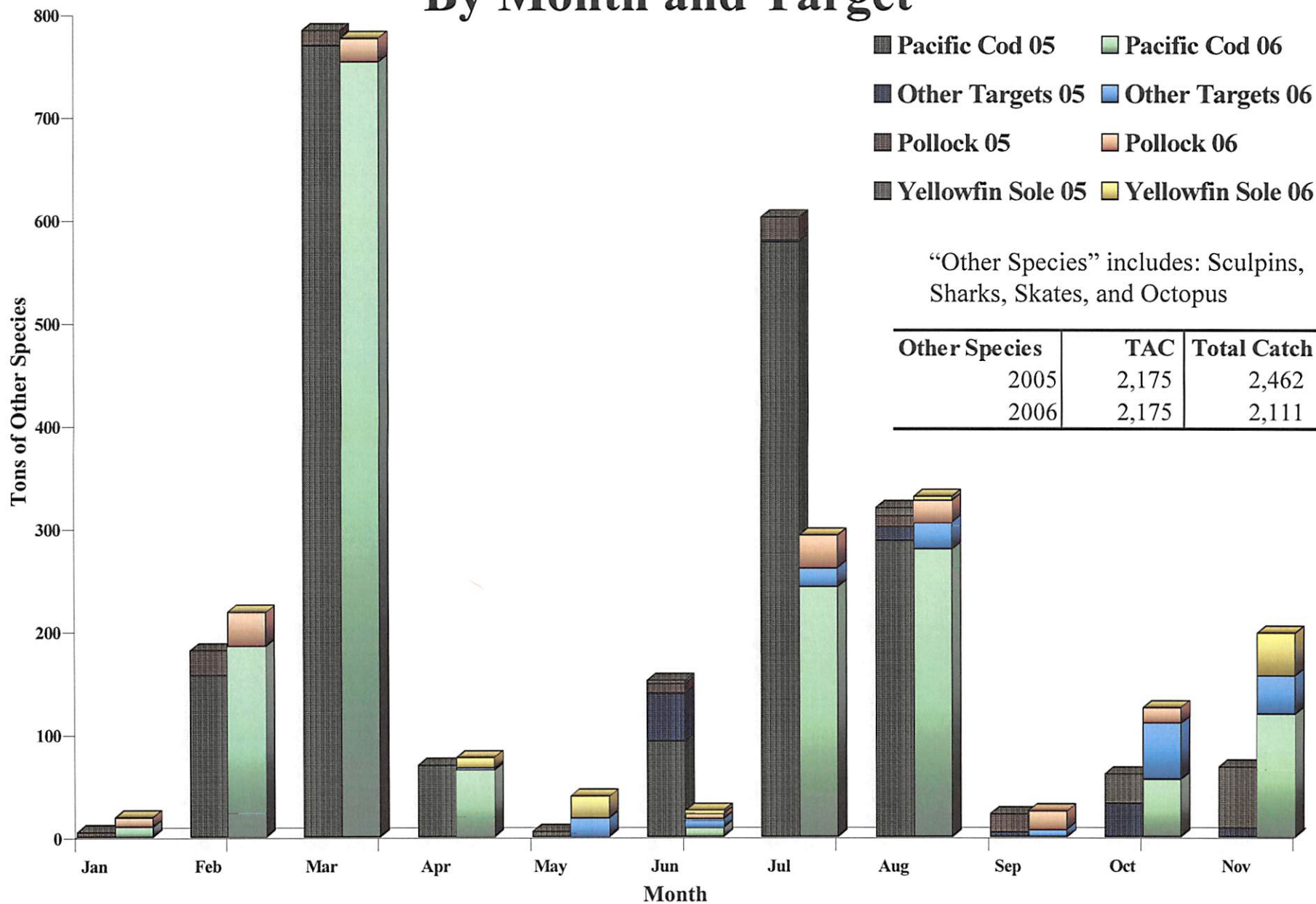
■ 2004 ■ 2005 ■ 2006



# 2005/2006 Non-CDQ Other Species Catch By Month and Target



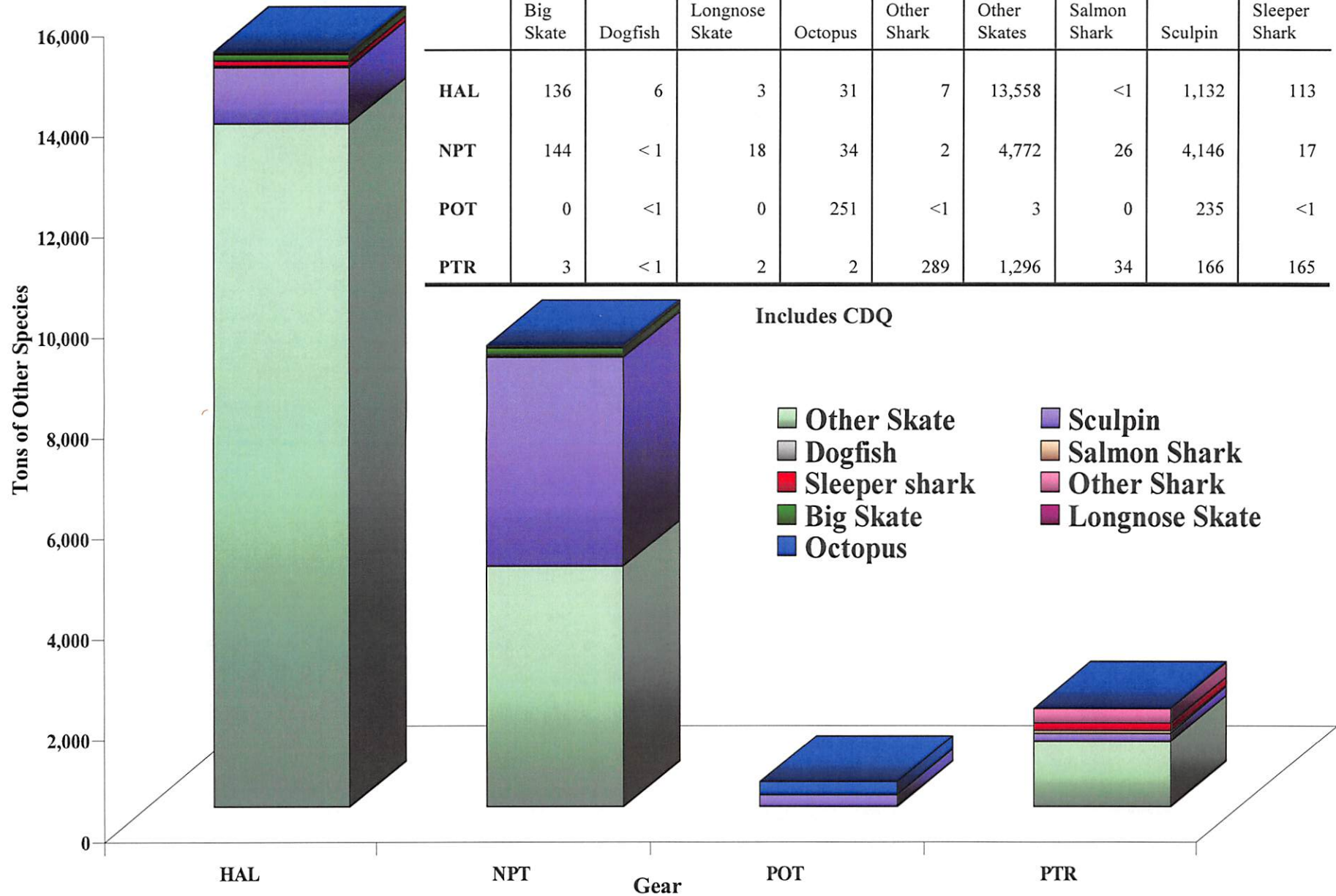
# 2005/2006 CDQ Other Species Catch By Month and Target



# 2006 BSAI Other Species by Gear

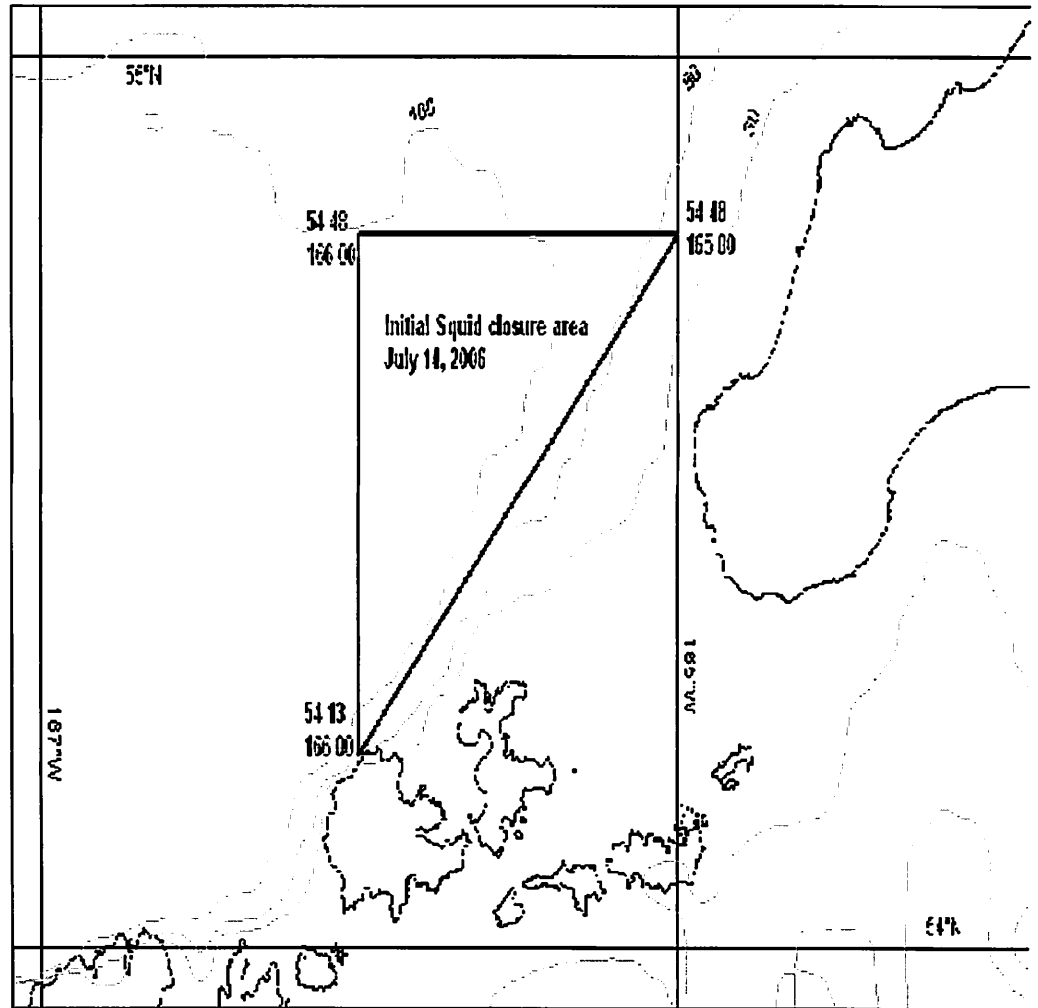
*Catch in tons*

	Big Skate	Dogfish	Longnose Skate	Octopus	Other Shark	Other Skates	Salmon Shark	Sculpin	Sleeper Shark
HAL	136	6	3	31	7	13,558	<1	1,132	113
NPT	144	<1	18	34	2	4,772	26	4,146	17
POT	0	<1	0	251	<1	3	0	235	<1
PTR	3	<1	2	2	289	1,296	34	166	165



# BSAI Squid Catch

BSAI Squid	OFL 2620	ABC 1970	
<b>Avg catch 03-05</b>		<b>2006</b>	<b>% Increase</b>
Jan	0	0	
Feb	165	376	128%
Mar	96	121	26%
Apr	4	1	-86%
May	1	2	86%
Jun	6	242	3938%
Jul	102	633	520%
Aug	359	1	-100%
Sep	316	17	-95%
Oct	111	21	-81%
Nov	1	2	80%
Dec	0		
	<b>1,160</b>	<b>1,416</b>	<b>22%</b>

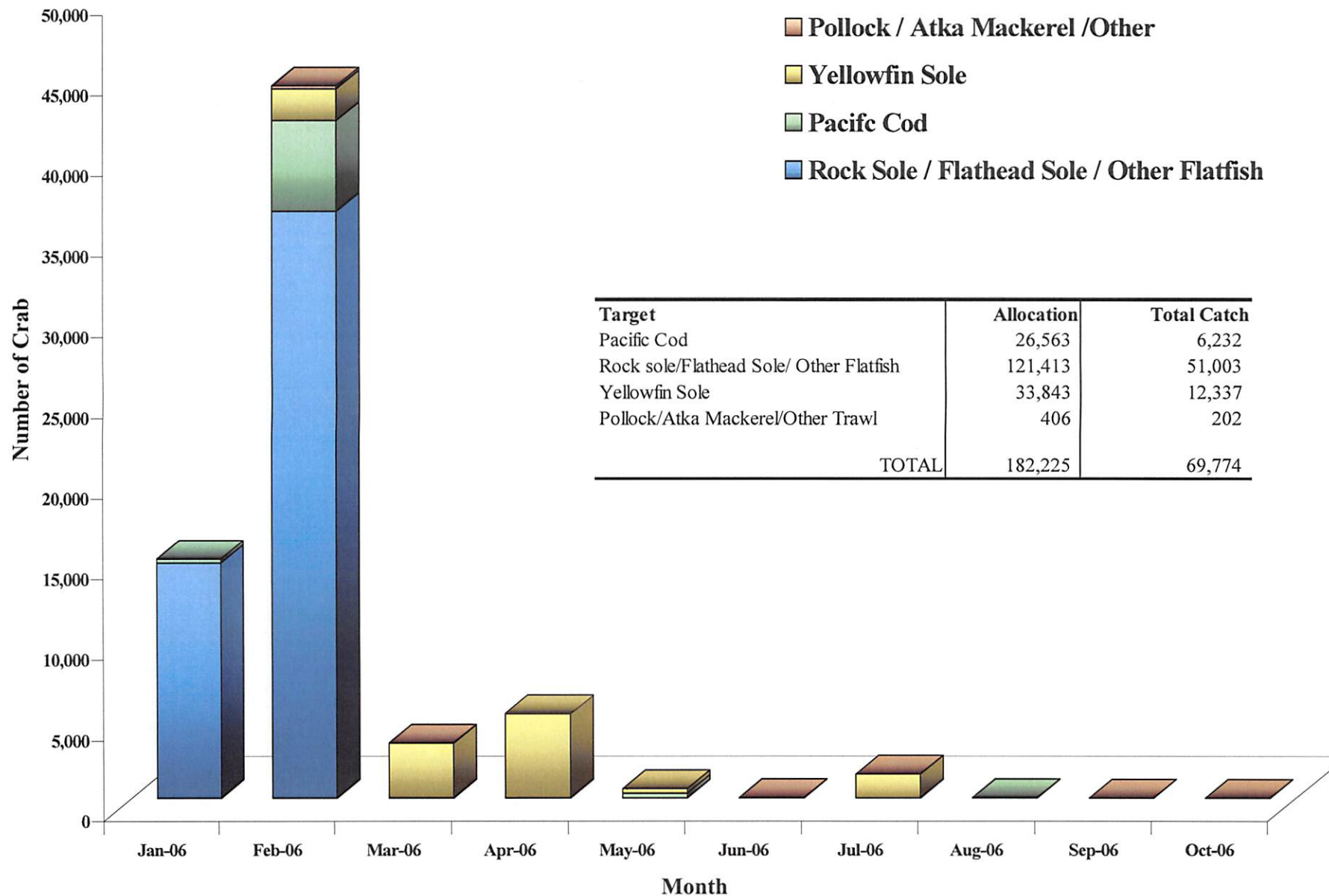




# 2006 Non-Trawl Pacific Cod Fishery Closures in the BSAI

Hook-and-Line	Open	Closed	Reason
Pacific Cod			
Catcher processors	1/1	2/18	TAC
	8/15	10/21	TAC
Catcher vessels < 60 ft	1/1	4/7	TAC
	5/1	5/23	TAC
	8/15		TAC
Catcher vessels >= 60 ft	1/1	2/24	TAC
	8/15		Spec
Greenland Turbot	5/1		Reg
Pot	Open	Closed	Reason
Pacific Cod			
Catcher processor	1-Jan	8-Apr	TAC
	1-Sep	15-Oct	TAC
Catcher vessel < 60	1-Jan	7-Apr	TAC
	1-May	23-May	TAC
	15-Aug		TAC
Catcher vessel >= 60	1-Jan	3-Feb	TAC
	1-Sep		Reg

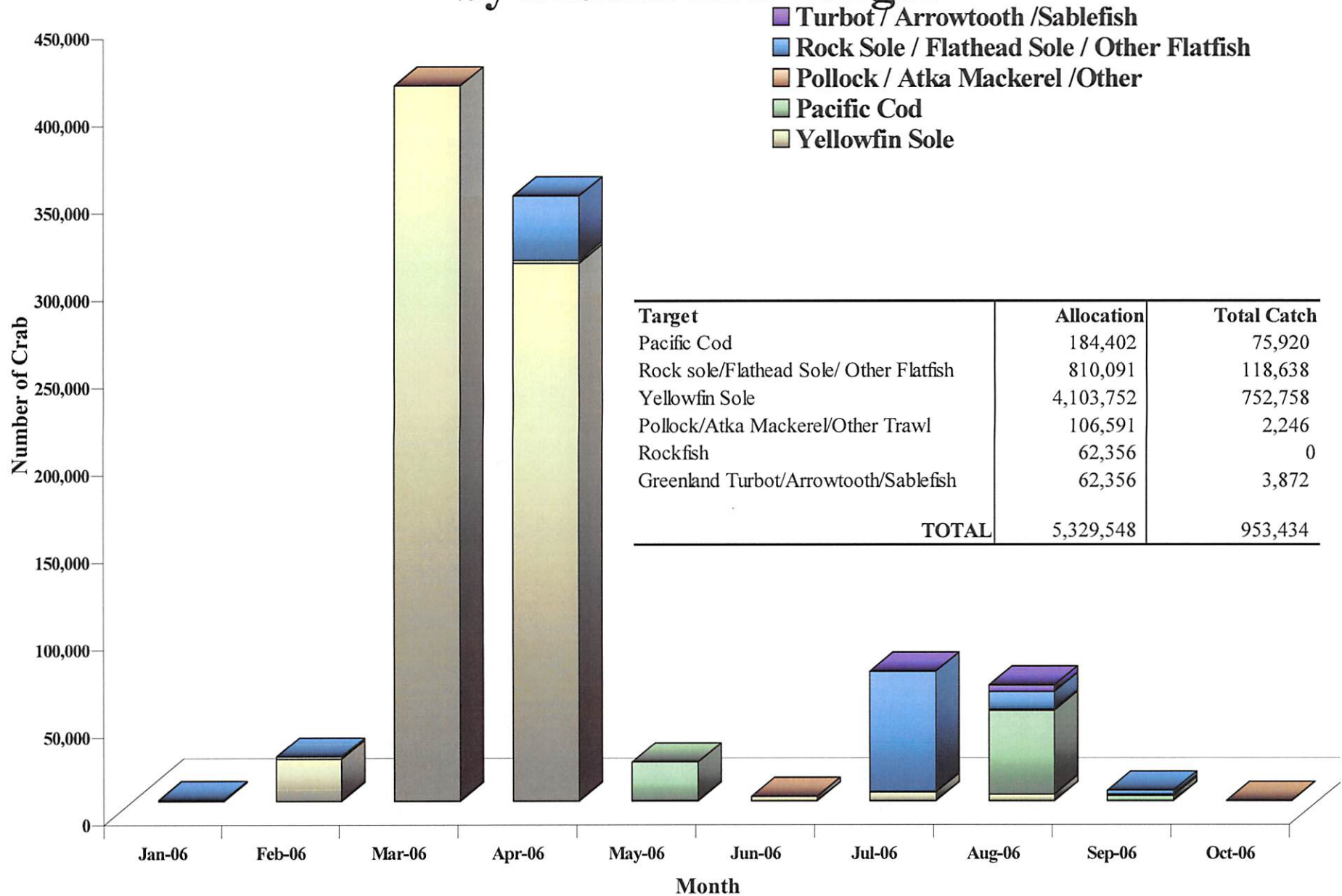
# 2006 Zone 1 Trawl Red King Crab Incidental Catch by Month and Target



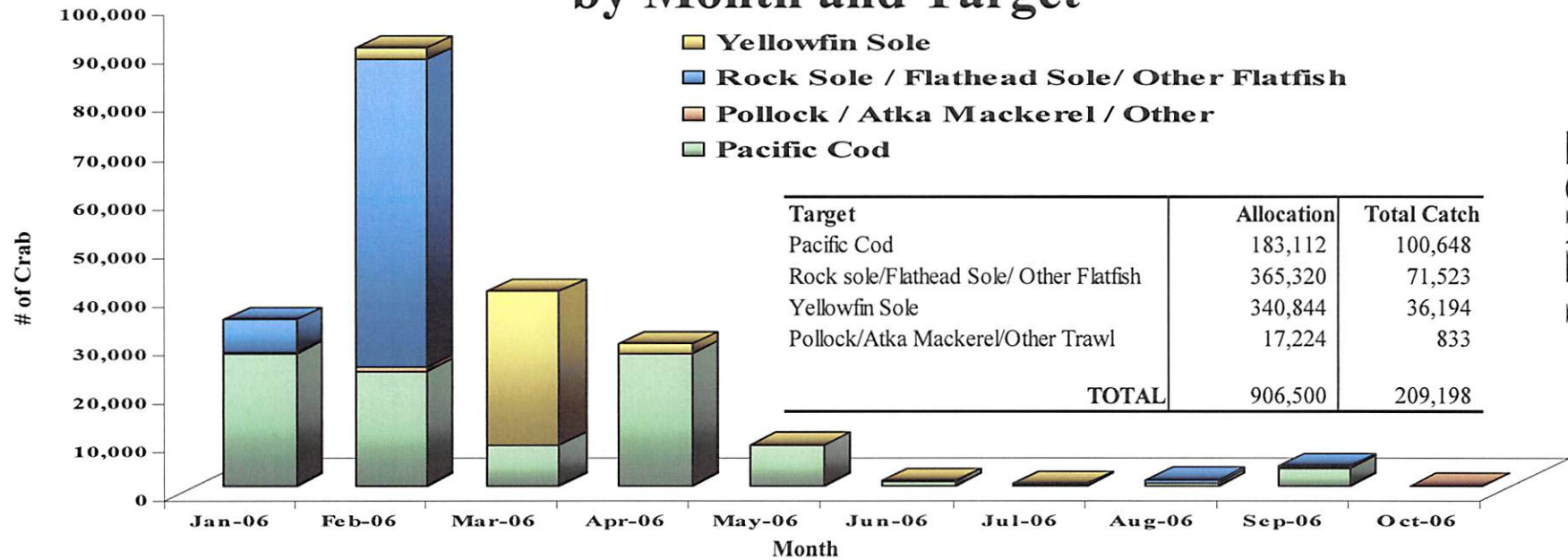
Target	Allocation	Total Catch
Pacific Cod	26,563	6,232
Rock sole/Flathead Sole/ Other Flatfish	121,413	51,003
Yellowfin Sole	33,843	12,337
Pollock/Atka Mackerel/Other Trawl	406	202
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>182,225</b>	<b>69,774</b>



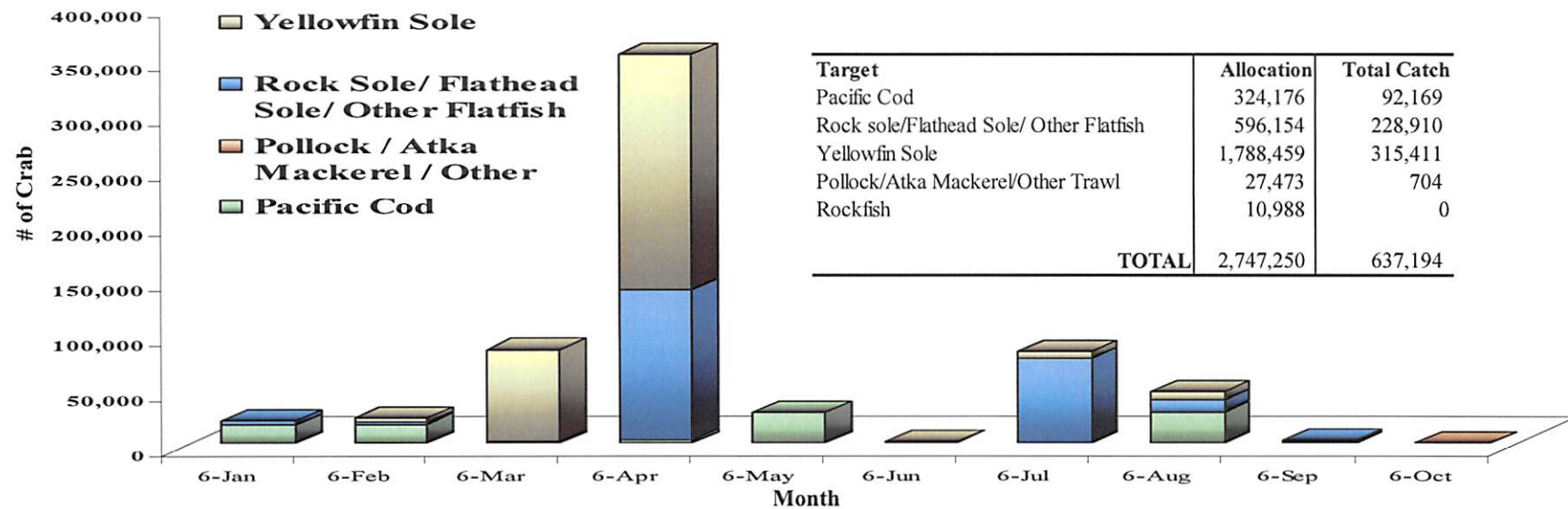
# 2006 COBLZ Trawl Opilio Crab Incidental Catch by Month and Target



# Zone 1 & 2 Trawl *C. bairdi* Crab Incidental Catch by Month and Target

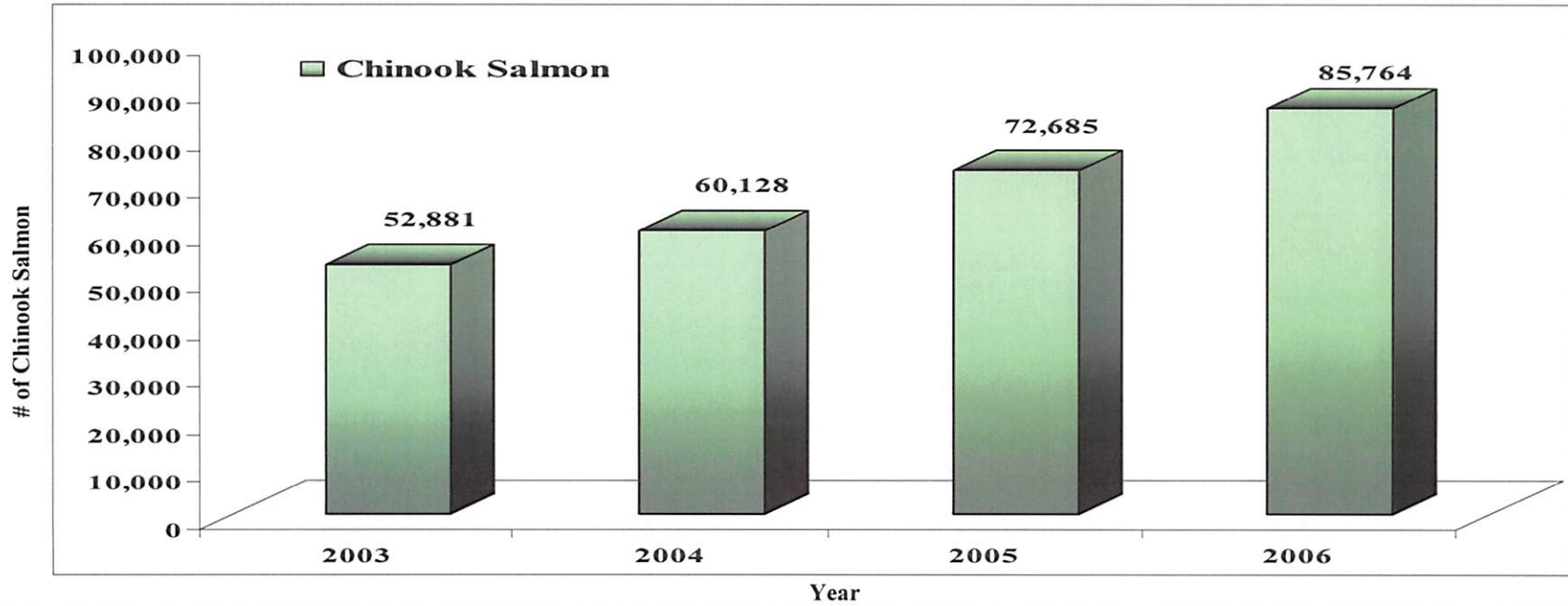


**ZONE 1**

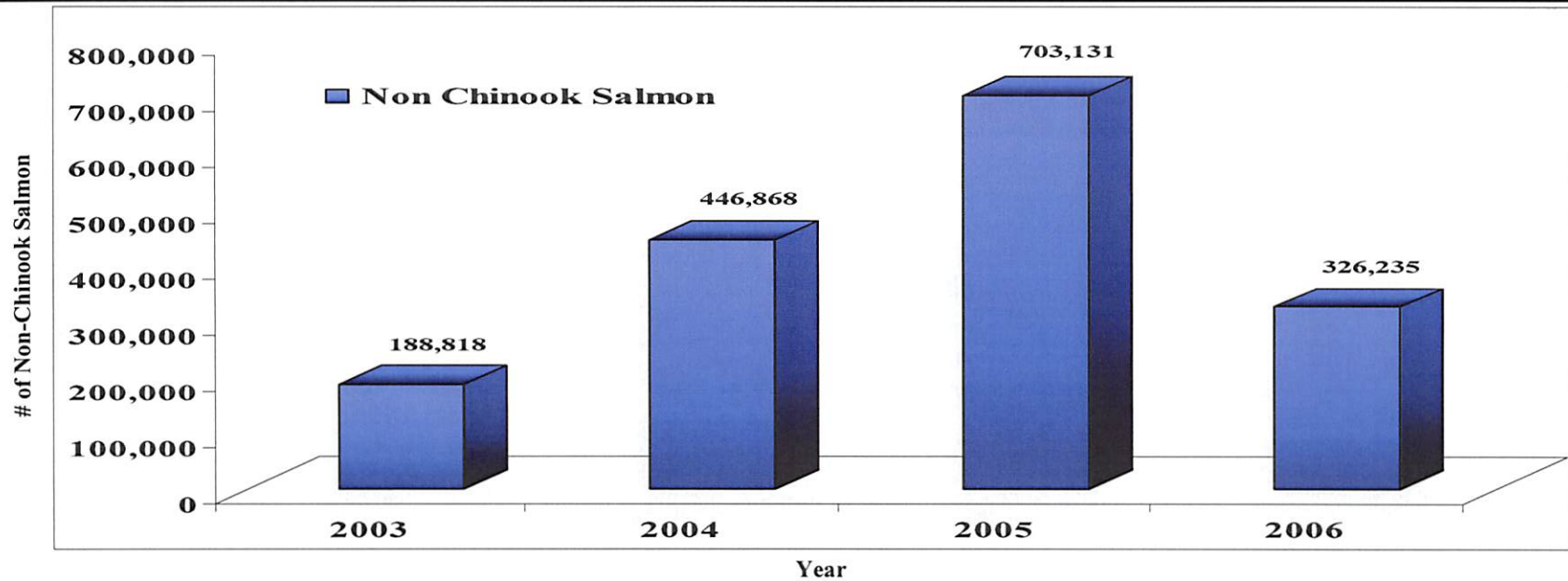


**ZONE 2**

# 2003 – 2006 Trawl BSAI Salmon Incidental Catch



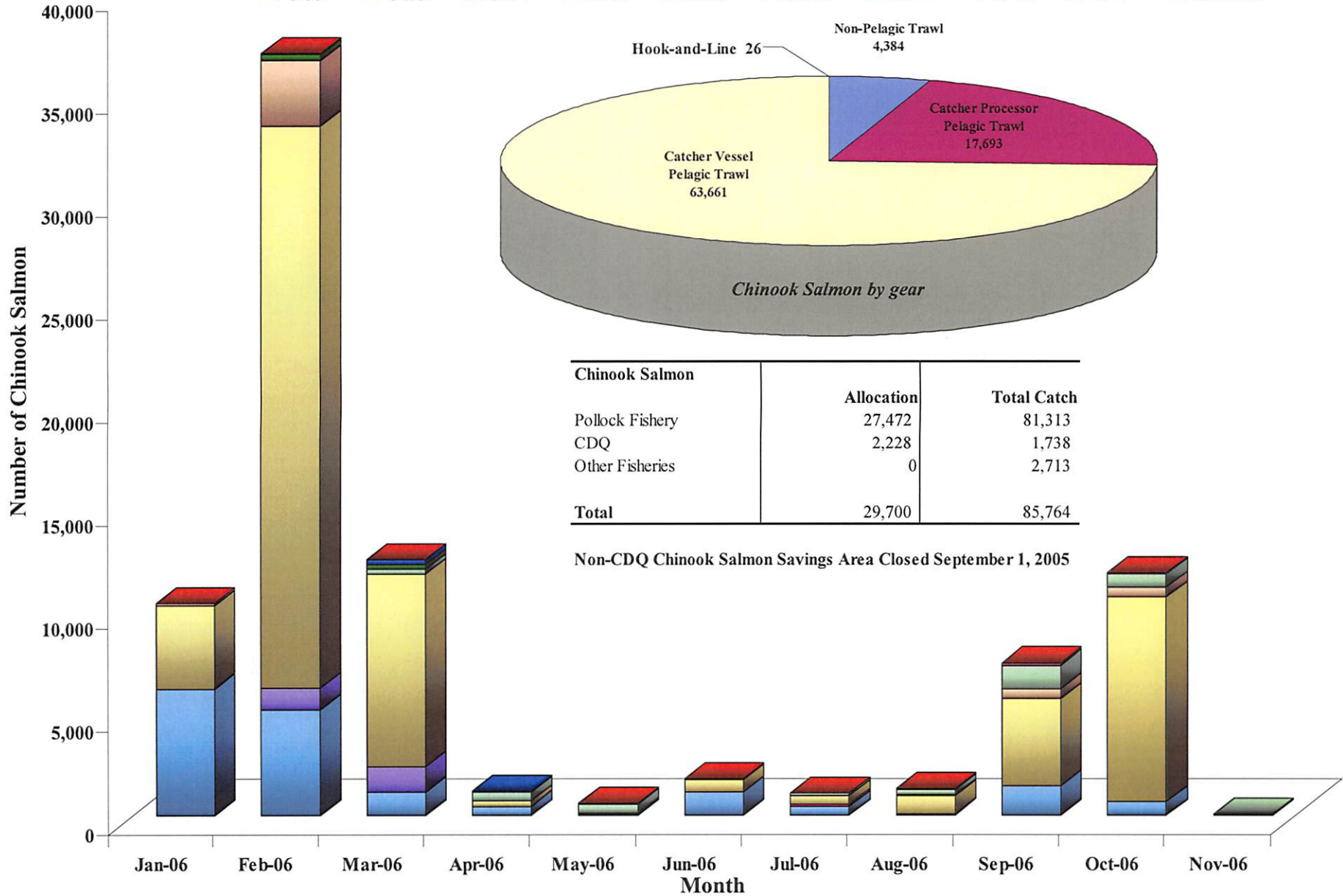
Chinook



Non-Chinook

# 2006 Trawl Chinook Salmon Incidental Catch

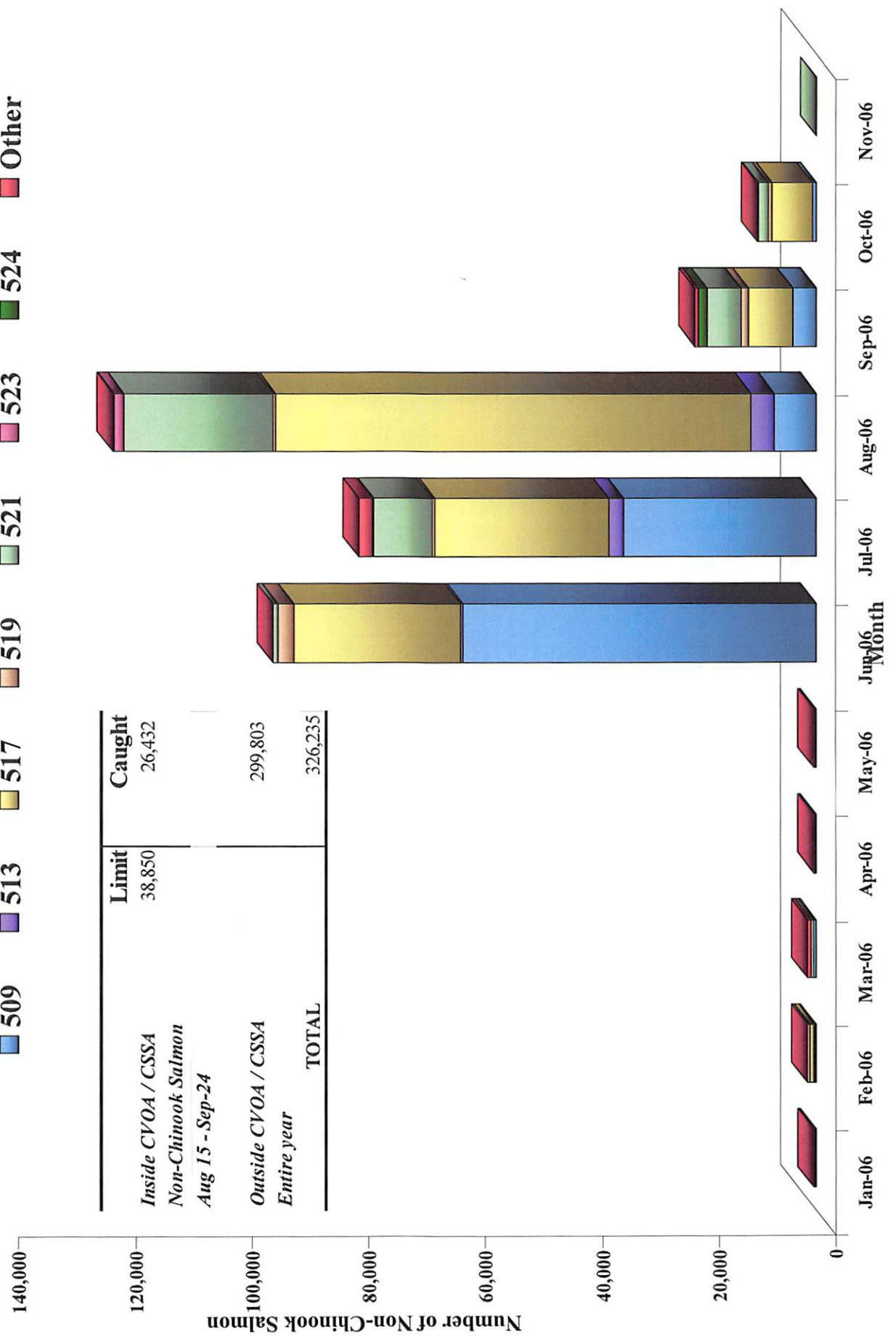
■ 509 ■ 513 ■ 514 ■ 517 ■ 519 ■ 521 ■ 524 ■ 541 ■ 542 ■ Other



# 2006 Trawl Non-Chinook Salmon Incidental Catch

- 509
- 513
- 517
- 519
- 521
- 523
- 524
- Other

	Limit	Caught
<i>Inside CVOA / CSSA Non-Chinook Salmon Aug 15 - Sep-24</i>	38,850	26,432
<i>Outside CVOA / CSSA Entire year</i>		299,803
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>326,235</b>



## **BSAI Crab Rationalization Annual Report 2005/06 Crab Fishing Year**

**Restricted Access Management**  
Alaska Region, NOAA Fisheries (NMFS)  
[www.fakr.noaa.gov](http://www.fakr.noaa.gov)

November 2006



### **Program and Report Authority**

- The Crab Rationalization Program: authorized under MSA as amended by Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-199, section 801)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Year Program governed 8 BSAI king and Tanner crab fisheries including:
  - CDQ, Adak, QS/PQS Fisheries
- An annual Report provides data on Program activities and performance

### **Report Organization**

- Program Overview
- CDQ and Adak Fisheries
- QS/PQS Fisheries
  - Applications - Eligibility
  - Seasons, Caps, Permits, Arbitration
  - Transfers
  - Vessel Effort, Landings
  - Community Protection Measures
  - Sideboards
  - Fishery Summaries

### **Report Organization (cont.)**

- Safety, Compliance, Catch Monitoring
- Reporting
  - eLandings
  - Economic Data Reports (EDRs)
- Loans and Fees

*Jessie Sharnett  
NMFS*

## Fishery Highlights

## CDQ and Adak Fisheries

- Managed by ADF&G under FMP authority
- CDQ:
  - 10% of Program crab other than WAG
  - 3-15 vessels participated (by fishery)
  - ~100% harvested
- Adak:
  - 10% of WAG allocation to ACDC
  - Confidential data

## QS/PQS Fishery - Applications

- Application period closed June 3, 2005
- Applicants could challenge Official Record
- 543 unique "persons" applied (joint LLP =1)
- 509 unique "persons" issued QS and/or PQS
- 91 IADs issued by RAM on eligibility claims
- 14 appeals (15% of denied, 3% of all applicants)

## QS/PQS Fishery - Seasons

- Five fisheries open in 2005/06:
  - BBR 94 days, 10/15/05 - 1/15/06
  - BSS 229 days, 10/15 - 5/15/06 (E): 5/31/06 (W)
  - BST 168 days, 10/15/05 - 3/31/06
  - EAG 274 days, 8/15/05 - 5/15/06
  - WAG 274 days, 8/15/05 - 5/15/06
- Three fisheries closed:
  - PIK
  - SMB
  - WAI

## QS/PQS Fishery - Permits

- Annual permits issued if all EDRs submitted
- IFQ and IPQ permits (shares/pool size \* TAC = pounds):
  - 101 persons got crew IFQ
  - 64 persons got owner IFQ
  - 19 persons got IPQ
- Hired Master permits: 176
- RCR permits (one per facility): 55
- Federal Crab Vessel permits: 154

## QS/PQS Fishery - Arbitration

- QS/PQS and IFQ/IPQ holders participate
- 4 Experts selected
- 2 third party data providers
- 4 Arbitration Organizations formed
  - 2 for unaffiliated, 1 for affiliated harvesters
  - 1 for processors
- Results:
  - 2 arbitration proceedings
  - Contract Arbitrator selected harvester's offers

## QS/PQS Fishery - Transfers

- Total transfer transactions: 353
  - 43% leases
- QS/IFQ transfers: 306
  - 37% leases
- PQS/IPQ transfers: 47
  - 85% leases

## QS/PQS Fishery - Consolidation

- Changes in Numbers of Quotaholders:
  - 489 initial QS holders decreased to 486
  - 26 initial PQS holders increased to 28
- Entrance and Attrition During First Year:
  - 5 new QS/PQS holders
  - 25 initial issues divested of all QS/PQS



## QS/PQS Fishery - Consolidation

- Vessel Consolidation (pre- vs post-Program)

	Number of vessels used in last pre-Program season	Number of vessels used in first Program season
BBR	251	89
BSS (2005)	169	78
BST	Closed	43
EAG	19	7
WAG	6	3

## QS/PQS Fishery - Effort

- Participants used Extended Seasons
  - In BBR, BSS, BST, harvesters reported landings > 93% of the season length
  - In EAG, WAG, harvesters reported landings over 62% and 77% of the season length, respectively

## QS/PQS Fishery - Landings

	% IFQ TAC Landed	% Sold	% Personal Use	% Deadloss
BBR	100	>99	0.1	0.5
BSS	99	>99	0.0	1.0
BST	54	>98	0.4	1.8
EAG	95	>99	0.0	0.9
WAG	98	>98	0.1	1.1

## QS/PQS Fishery - Ports

\*\* = confidential

	Rank	Number of IFQ Landings	% of Total IFQ Pounds (millions)
Dutch Hbr	1	255	24.2
At Sea (SFPs, CPs)	2	137	10.5
St Paul	3	90	8.3
Akutan	4	73	**
King Cove	5	68	**
Kodiak	6	15	0.9

## QS/PQS Fishery - Cooperatives

	Number of Members	Number of Co-ops	% of IFQ TAC assigned to Co-ops
BBR	334	15	84
BSS	312	15	84
BST	319	15	83
EAG	30	5	91
WAG	29	5	100

## QS/PQS Fishery - Sideboards

- Sideboard Restrictions on GOA Groundfish
  - 227 vessels "directly" sideboarded
  - 57 LLP licenses sideboarded
- LLP licenses are transferable between vessels, so:
  - between 227 and 284 affected vessels, but
  - Not all fish GOA groundfish

## Safety and Compliance

- USCG effort and costs increased
  - cutter hours 6x pre-Program hours
  - aircraft hours 2x pre-Program hours
  - numerous pre-season safety inspections
  - 103 dockside and 20 at-sea boardings
  - Results: ZERO crab SAR cases, deaths
- OLE, ADF&G collaborated under JEAs
  - pre-season program education sessions
  - VMS used to locate vessels
  - COPPS helped with questions and compliance
  - 112 vessel boardings
  - inseason focus: weighing, reporting (CMPs, certified scales)
  - Results: few (21) IFQ overages, scale issues

## Reporting - eLandings

- Ambitious, Precedential, Successful!
- 736 total Program landing reports:
  - 91 for Adak, CDQ (100% via eLandings)
  - 645 for IFQ (86% via eLandings)
- eLandings features and use improved through industry and agency feedback
- Better user support, more conveniences underway (and planned)

## Reporting - EDRs

- **First, historic EDRs (1998, 2001, 2004)**
  - Forms sent to State permit holders
  - 482 persons submitted EDRs for one or more years
  - 1,365 EDRs received: 766 "full data"; 599 Certification
- **No annual crab permits issued if EDRs owed**
  - A few vessel, RCR permits were delayed, but
  - No one was denied a permit for non-compliance
- **Support and follow-up: cost, labor intensive**
  - EDR requirements and deadline were revised
- **Next, 2005 EDRs solicited/collected**
- **Now, data analysis**

## Loans and Fees

- **A future federal loan program requires:**
  - Congressional action for a "subsidy cost" and a loan ceiling
  - Regulatory development (NOAA Financial Services Division)
- **Cost Recovery Fees (for mgmt, enforcement)**
  - RCRs "billed" for fees owed by all sectors
  - 3% of ex-vessel value did not cover all costs
    - Costs \$4.37 million, 1.9% more than was collectable
    - Some one time start-up costs included
  - Highest costs: personnel, contracts & training, travel for enforcement and public outreach
- **No annual permits issued if fees owed**
  - No one was denied a permit for nonpayment

## Credits

This Report was compiled by NOAA Fisheries, with contributions from:

- ADF&G, Dutch Harbor staff
- NOAA Fisheries, Alaska Region (including AFSC)
- NOAA Office of Law Enforcement
- Crab SAFE (September, 2005)
- USCG

## Future Annual Reports

- **Comments?**
- **Suggestions?**
- **Please contact us...**

## NOAA/Council Contacts

### **NMFS, Restricted Access Management**

1-800-304-4846 (press "2"), or (Juneau) 907-586-7344

E-mail: [RAM.Alaska@noaa.gov](mailto:RAM.Alaska@noaa.gov)

Web Site: [www.fakr.noaa.gov](http://www.fakr.noaa.gov)

### **NMFS, Sustainable Fisheries Division**

1-800-304-4846 (press "3"), or  
(Juneau local number) 907-586-7228

Web Site: [www.fakr.noaa.gov](http://www.fakr.noaa.gov)

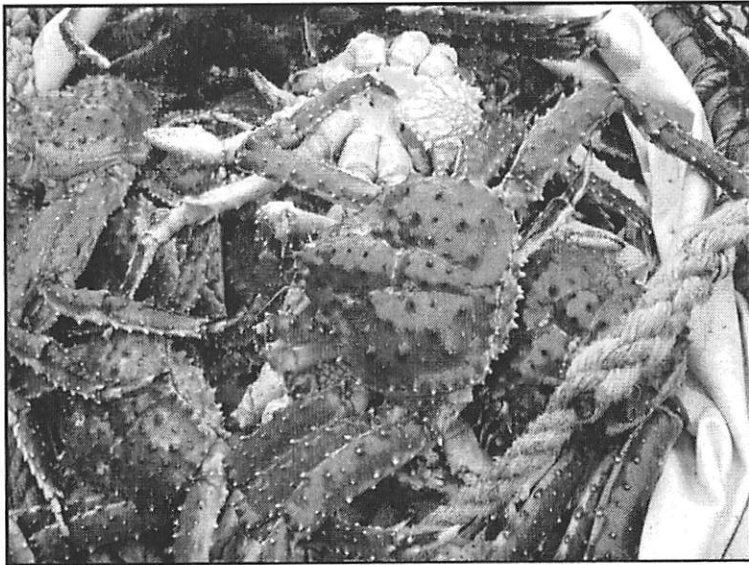
### **North Pacific Fishery Management Council**

907-271-2809

Web Site: [www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc](http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc)

## Acknowledgment

We wish to acknowledge industry's  
outstanding support and cooperation  
during initial Program phases -  
A true collaboration



**FISHING VESSEL OWNERS' ASSOCIATION  
INCORPORATED**

ROOM 232, WEST WALL BUILDING • 4005 20TH AVE. W.  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98199-1290  
PHONE (206) 284-4720 • FAX (206) 283-3341

SINCE 1914  
November 7, 2006

Ms. Sue Salveson  
Assistant Regional Administrator  
Sustainable Fisheries Division  
NOAA Fisheries  
P. O. Box 21668  
Juneau, AK 99802

Dear Ms. Salveson:

The following comments are on behalf of the members of the Fishing Vessel Owners' Association (FVOA) in Seattle. The FVOA represents 95 small family-owned longline vessels that harvest halibut and sablefish IFQs off of Alaska. Ninety-two of the vessels are ice boats that range in length from 48 to 85 feet in length and hire three to six crew each. The Association also has three freezer longline vessels that participate in the IFQ fisheries. The vessels operate from Fort Bragg, California to the Russian border in the waters of the Bering Sea.

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has proposed nine changes to modify the Individual Fishing Quotas (IFQ) program for fixed-gear commercial Pacific Halibut and sablefish fisheries. These changes are found in 50 CFR, Part 679.

The members of the FVOA support seven of the proposed changes as presented by the NMFS that would modify the IFQ program. These changes that are supported without additional comment are: (1) Bled Sablefish PRR; (2) Halibut block Program Amendments; (3) Block Limit Increase; (4) Block Exception for area 3B and 4A; (5) Sweep-Up Levels; (6) Halibut QS vessel Category Amendments; and (7) Proposed Administrative Changes. The FVOA has the following comments with regards to the new proposed changes for Owner on Board and Sablefish Vessel Clearance requirements.

**Observer on Board Requirement Amendment**

The proposed rule states, **"The required documentation must establish that the QS holder maintained 20% ownership of the vessel for 12 months prior to application for IFQs to be used by a hired master."**

Our members' concerns with this proposed wording is that when this regulation becomes final, does that mean all those operations, which lawfully took 20% ownership of a vessel during the 12 months preceding enactment of this regulation, are retrospectively in violation of the law? We do not think that is the intent but it would appear that would be the case. In order for this regulation to function as it was intended, we suggest that the implementation of the regulation be delayed 12 months until March of the 2008 IFQ season. This would provide for the next 12 months to be used as lead time before the

regulation becomes law. The reason for March is this is when the season typically begins for the IFQ fishery.

**The proposed rule states relative to an exemption to this rule that "vessel owners who qualify for the owner-on-board exemption to continue to fish under the exemptions if they experience an actual or constructive loss of their vessel."**

It is our understanding that an actual loss means the vessel is gone, such as, sank. The term "constructive loss" implies that there may be something less than a total loss but this is not explicit. Our members are concerned that should they experience a grounding, the vessel may not be a total loss but could easily require 4 to 6 months in a shipyard to be fixed. This situation could easily push the fishable time into the late fall when weather conditions can make fishing very difficult or to a time when the season is over. The fall equinox occurs, about the middle of September. Most of our vessels want to be finished fishing by October due to weather patterns in the Gulf of Alaska and the Bering Sea.

Our members request that the exemption should be available for total losses as well as vessel loss that results from collisions, sinkings, groundings, or fire, that result in repair work extending beyond 30 days. It would be incumbent on the vessel owner to petition the NMFS with proper documentation, such as from a marine surveyor as to the damage and time needed for repair. It is unclear what documentation will be required for an actual loss (or constructive loss) by the NMFS. The NMFS needs to address the situation where a vessel is not a total loss but has damage such that it needs repair.

### **Sablefish Vessel Clearance Requirements**

The NMFS requested public comment relative to the use of VMS conducted in the Sablefish fishery in the Aleutians and Bering Sea. Our members do not support a vessel length cut-off as the rationale for the use of VMS. If the issue is economics, then the trigger should be how much fish is being extracted. Length of vessel discrimination has been used in Alaska for the use of observers and log books resulting in lack of enforcement and much needed management information. Vessels have been intentionally shortened in order to get out of responsibilities. Please see the attached picture of a vessel that no longer takes an observer or log book by cutting off the tip of its bow. We suggest that if a vessel harvests 30,000 pounds of sablefish a year, it would require a VMS. If a vessel lands 30,000 pounds of sablefish in a year, it would be about \$120,000 ex-vessel value for that dressed sablefish.

The NMFS has made the opposite argument in the Pacific Council management areas for the need for VMS and observers and hence, there is no vessel length exemptions provided in the Pacific Council area of authority. Any exemption should be based on the value of fish and amount of fish taken from the sea, which is also a reflection of resource and habitat impact.

Sincerely,

  
Robert D. Alverson  
Manager

