# BERING SEA AND ALEUTIAN ISLANDS KING AND TANNER CRAB MANAGEMENT;

# HISTORIC OVERVIEW AND PRELIMINARY SUMMARY OF 1995/96 FISHERIES

Prepared for the joint meeting of the
Alaska Board of Fisheries and
The North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Anchorage Hilton Hotel
January 9, 1996

Prepared by

Rance Morrison and
Shellfish Management Staff

Dutch Harbor Office of the Alaska
Department of Fish and Game
P.O. Box 920587
Dutch Harbor, AK 99692-0587

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

# DUTCH HARBOR BROWN KING CRAB

## *Introduction*

Dutch Harbor Statistical Area O has as its northern boundary the latitude of Cape Sarichef (54° 36' North latitude), as its eastern boundary the longitude of Scotch Cap Light (164°44' West longitude), and as its western boundary 171° West longitude (Figure 1).

## *Historic Background*

Historically, Dutch Harbor brown king crab have been taken incidental to the red king crab fishery. Incidental catches of brown king crab were small and landings of red king crab included some brown king crab prior to the 1981/82 season. The poundage was not recorded separately.

During the 1981/82 season, six vessels landed over 115,000 pounds during the red king crab season. Only one landing occurred during January 1982 (Table 1). The season closed along with the area red king crab season on January 15 (Table 2).

Interest in the fishery grew and during the 1982/83 season 49 vessels landed over 1.1 million pounds in the area's first directed brown king crab fishery. As red king crab stocks declined, effort and interest in brown king crab continued into the 1983/84 season, when 1.8 million pounds were landed by 47 vessels (Table 1).

In 1984 the Board of Fisheries adopted staff proposals to lower the brown king crab size limit from 6.5 inches to 6.0 inches, and established the area as a permit fishery to allow the fishery to expand into other areas outside the historical fishing grounds. During the 1984 permit season, prices and effort dropped. Thirteen (13) vessels landed 1.5 million pounds of brown king crab. Since implementation of the permit system the catch has averaged over 1.6 million pounds per year. All landings were taken from historical grounds developed during the 1982/83 season. During the 1988 Spring shellfish meetings the Board of Fisheries adopted a staff proposal removing the permit fishery designation and set a season opening date of September 1.

While the number of vessels participating in this fishery has remained somewhat consistent, the total number of pot pulls increased dramatically in 1994. During the 1993/94 fishery a total of 22,490 pots were pulled compared to 67,537 in the 1994 fishery (Table 1). As a result, the season length went from 212 days in 1993/94 to 57 days in a season which opened on September 1 and closed on October 28, 1994 (Table 2).

Intensification of effort in this fishery, and the lack of survey data or abundance estimates for this area, resulted in the Board of Fisheries implementing regulations requiring 100% observer coverage on all vessels in the Dutch Harbor brown king crab fishery beginning with the September 1 opening of the 1995 season. Observer coverage was considered necessary to begin collecting information which could be used to estimate population abundance. Survey information is not available, and brown king crab and other deep water species do not lend themselves to standard trawl survey techniques. Also, catcher processors, which have been required to carry observers since 1988 in all Bering Sea king and Tanner crab fisheries, seldom participate in this fishery.

## *1995 Fishery*

The 1995 Dutch Harbor brown king crab fishery opened by regulation on September 1. A total of 17 vessels obtained observers and participated. This is comparable to the 14 vessels which participated during the 1994 season.

A total of 1,993,980 pounds were landed in 42 deliveries during the 1995 season which closed by emergency order on October 9, 1995. At 38 days, the 1995 season was the shortest on record. Fleet-wide performance for the 1995 fishery was six crab per pot, identical to the prior season but lower than any other year on record (Tables 1 and 2).

Average weight for this season was once again 4.6 pounds, the same as last year's fishery, which was higher than the average for the last five years but below the historic high of 5.5 pounds recorded for the 1983/84 fishery (Table 1). A total of 65,000 pots were pulled during the 1995 fishery, down slightly from the 67,537 pot pulls recorded in 1994 (Table 2). The majority of the 1995 catch was harvested during September from the western half of the Management Area (Tables 3 and 4).

Ex-vessel value for the 1995 season was $2.60 per pound, a dramatic decline from the $4.00 paid in 1994, which was the highest on record. Total value of the 1995 Dutch Harbor brown crab fishery was $5.0 million, down from the $6.9 million estimated value of last season's fishery. Reductions in ex-vessel prices paid for Dutch Harbor brown king crab are likely a result of a surplus of Russian king crab currently on the market.

During the course of the 1995 fishery onboard observers sampled the contents of 2,436 pots on catcher-only vessels and 76 pots on the one catcher processor which participated in this year's fishery.

## *Stock Status*

The brown or golden king crab, *Lithodes aequispinus*, fishery in the Aleutian Islands is the fourth largest shellfish fishery in Alaska. The federal Fishery Management Plan for the Aleutian golden king crab fishery requires that recruitment over-fishing not occur and that fishing mortality not exceed 0.3 (a 25% exploitation rate) annually. However, prior to 1991, no systematic survey of brown king crabs had been conducted in Alaska. The results from a study of a brown king crab survey initiated in 1991 was published in October 1994; Regional Information Report No. 4K94-35, FINDINGS FROM THE 1991 GOLDEN KING CRAB SURVEY IN THE DUTCH HARBOR AND ADAK MANAGEMENT AREAS INCLUDING ANALYSIS OF RECOVERED TAGGED CRABS. This report is available to the public from the Commercial Fisheries Management and Development Division, 211 Mission Road, Kodiak, AK 99615.

With implementation of 100% observer coverage, area specific information is now being collected on size, number and distribution of all crab and fish species captured.

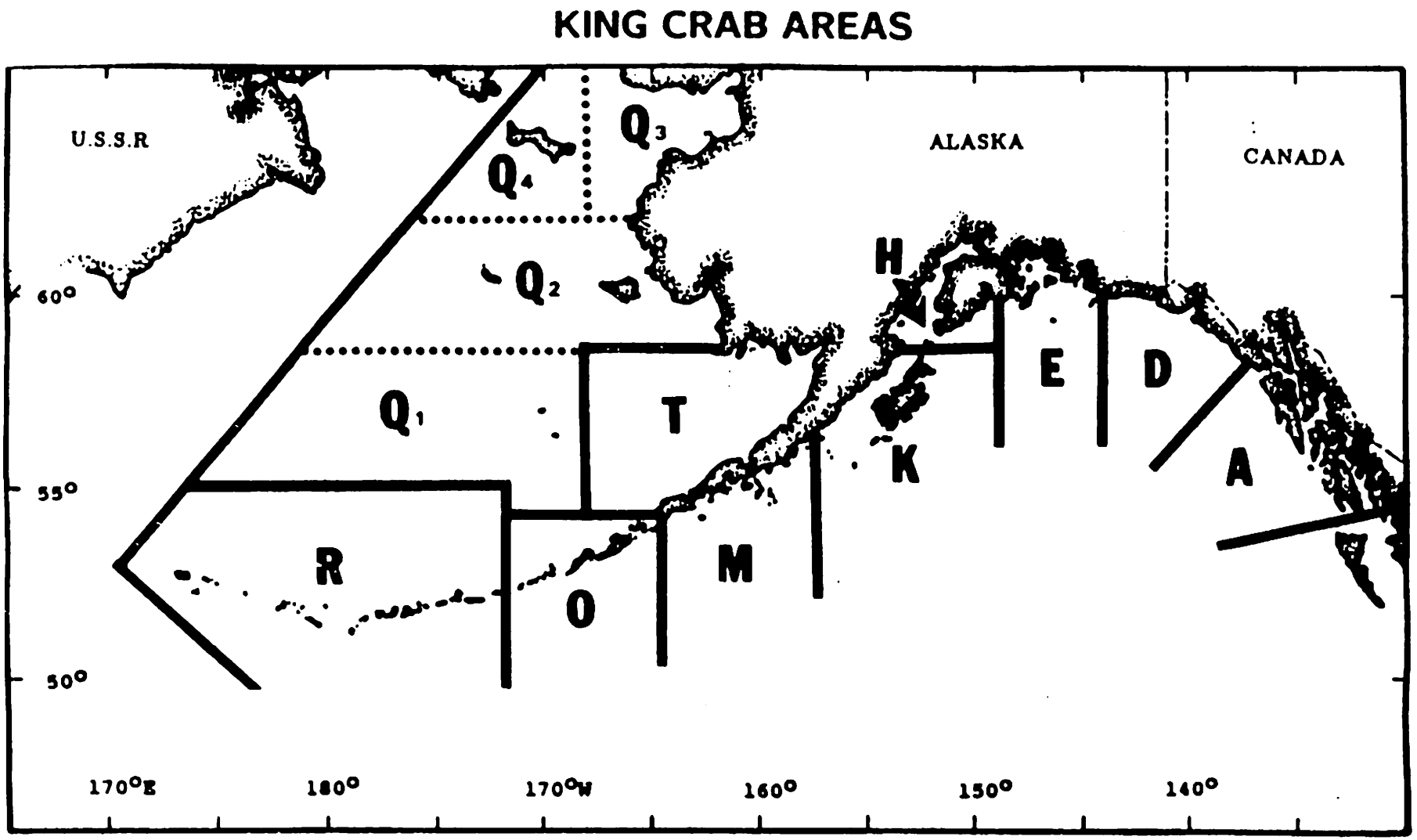



**Figure 1. Dutch Harbor, Area O, king crab area.**

Table 1. Historic Dutch Harbor, Area O, brown king crab catch, 1981/82-1995.

| Season | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Number of Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | CPUE[c] | Percent Oldshell | Average Weight[b] | Average Length[d] | Deadloss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1981/82 | 6 | 16 | 22,666 | 115,715 | 2,906 | 8 | 3.8 | 5.1 | 158.1 | 8,752 |
| 1982/83 | 49 | 136 | 227,471 | 1,184,971 | 29,369 | 8 | 3.9 | 5.21 | 58.1 | 47,479 |
| 1983/84 | 47 | 132 | 328,353 | 1,810,973 | 29,595 | 11 | NA | 5.5 | NA | 45,268 |
| 1984[e] | 13 | 67 | 327,440 | 1,521,142 | 24,044 | 14 | NA | 4.6 | 161.2 | 70,362 |
| 1985 | 13 | 67 | 410,977 | 1,968,213 | 34,287 | 12 | 16.0 | 4.7 | 155.7 | 38,663 |
| 1986 | 17 | 71 | 400,389 | 1,869,180 | 37,585 | 11 | - | 4.7 | NA | 9,510 |
| 1987 | 22 | 77 | 299,734 | 1,383,198 | 43,017 | 7 | 25.0 | 4.6 | 149.6 | 24,210 |
| 1988[f] | 21 | 57 | 323,695 | 1,545,113 | 40,869 | 8 | 23.0 | 4.8 | 154.3 | 22,960 |
| 1989/90 | 13 | 70 | 424,067 | 1,852,249 | 43,345 | 10 | 30.0 | 4.4 | 150.9 | 17,421 |
| 1990/91 | 16 | 68 | 395,502 | 1,718,848 | 54,618 | 7 | 3.0 | 4.3 | 147.5 | 42,800 |
| 1991/92 | 11 | 50 | 335,647 | 1,447,732 | 40,604 | 8 | 4.0 | 4.3 | 147.9 | 45,100 |
| 1992/93 | 10 | 44 | 330,159 | 1,357,048 | 37,718 | 9 | 4.0 | 4.3 | 147.8 | 37,200 |
| 1993/94 | 4 | 14 | 217,788 | 915,460 | 22,490 | 10 | NA | 4.2 | NA | 7,324 |
| 1994 | 14 | 45 | 384,353 | 1,750,267 | 67,537 | 6 | NA | 4.6 | NA | 29,908 |
| 1995 | 17 | 42 | 431,867 | 1,993,980 | 65,030 | 6 | NA | 4.6 | NA | 14,676 |

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d]In millimeters.
[e]Six inch permit season opened July 1.
[f]September 1 established as season opening date.

Table 2. Historic Dutch Harbor brown king crab economic performance, 1981/82-1995.

| Year | GHL[a] | Season Total[b] | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Number of Pots Registered | Number of Pots Pulled | Value Exvessel | Value Total[c] | Season Length (Days) | Season Length Dates |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1981/82 | N/A | 0.1 | 6 | 16 | -0-[d] | 2,906 | $ 2.05 | $ 0.2 | (75) | 11/01-1/15 |
| 1982/83 | N/A | 1.1 | 49 | 136 | -0-[d] | 29,369 | $ 3.00 | $ 3.3 | (105) | 11/1-2/15 |
| 1983/84 | N/A | 1.8 | 47 | 132 | 4,514 | 29,595 | $ 3.05 | $ 5.5 | (105) | 11/01-2/15 |
| 1984/85 | N/A | 1.5 | 13 | 67 | 1,394 | 24,044 | $ 1.35 | $ 2.0 | (229) | 07/01-2/15 |
| 1985 | N/A | 1.9 | 13 | 67 | 1,479 | 34,287 | $ 2.00 | $ 3.8 | (121) | 07/1-10/31 |
| 1986 | N/A | 1.8 | 17 | 71 | 1,575 | 37,585 | $ 2.85 | $ 5.1 | (182) | 07/1-12/31 |
| 1987 | N/A | 1.4 | 22 | 77 | 3,591 | 43,017 | $ 2.85 | $ 4.0 | (62) | 07/01-9/02 |
| 1988 | N/A | 1.5 | 21 | 57 | 4,215 | 40,869 | $ 3.00 | $ 4.5 | (93) | 09/01-12/4 |
| 1989 | N/A | 1.8 | 13 | 70 | 5,635 | 43,345 | $ 3.50 | $ 6.3 | (104) | 09/1-12/15 |
| 1990 | N/A | 1.7 | 16 | 68 | 5,225 | 54,618 | $ 3.00 | $ 5.1 | (68) | 9/01-11/09 |
| 1991 | N/A | 1.4 | 11 | 50 | 3,760 | 40,604 | $ 2.00 | $ 2.8 | (74) | 9/01-11/15 |
| 1992 | N/A | 1.3 | 10 | 44 | 4,222 | 37,718 | $ 2.50 | $ 3.3 | (76) | 9/01-11/17 |
| 1993/94 | N/A | .9 | 5 | 14 | 2,334 | 22,490 | $ 2.15 | $ 1.9 | (212) | 09/1-03/31 |
| 1994 | N/A | 1.8 | 14 | 45 | 7,378 | 67,537 | $ 4.00 | $ 6.9 | (57) | 9/1-10/28 |
| 1995 | N/A | 1.9 | 17 | 42 | 10,325 | 65,030 | $ 2.60 | $ 5.0 | (38) | 9/1-10/9 |

[a]Guideline Harvest Levels based on historic catches.
[b]Millions of pounds, deadloss not included.
[c]Millions of dollars.
[d]Incidental catches to red king crab fishery.

Table 3. 1995 Dutch Harbor brown king crab catch by month.

| Month | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Number of Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Lifted | Average Weight[b] | CPUE[c] | Deadloss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sept. | 16 | 28 | 380,079 | 1,607,730 | 49,858 | 4.6 | 7 | 51,246 |
| Oct. | 10 | 14 | 81,788 | 386,250 | 15,172 | 4.7 | 5 | 15,781 |
| Season Total | 17 | 42 | 431,867 | 1,993,980 | 65,030 | 4.6 | 6 | 67,027 |

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per unit effort.

Table 4. 1995 Dutch Harbor Brown King Crab by Statistical Area.

| Stat. Area | Number of Landings | Number of Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | Average Weight[b] | CPUE[c] | Dead-loss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 685303 | 5 | 2,390 | 12,024 | 772 | 5.0 | 3 | 54 |
| 685304 | 10 | 9,366 | 45,346 | 4,884 | 4.8 | 2 | 164 |
| 695232 | 8 | 28,010 | 128,272 | 4,502 | 4.6 | 6 | 2,089 |
| 695301 | 17 | 43,708 | 197,920 | 7,191 | 4.5 | 6 | 5,037 |
| 695302 | 6 | 10,722 | 49,747 | 1,714 | 4.6 | 6 | 847 |
| 705200 | 13 | 80,995 | 366,676 | 13,647 | 4.5 | 6 | 15,733 |
| 705232 | 25 | 177,837 | 825,660 | 19,394 | 4.6 | 9 | 29,330 |
| 705233 | 6 | 10,092 | 45,821 | 1,083 | 4.5 | 9 | 1,300 |
| 705300 | 13 | 53,267 | 245,633 | 8,026 | 4.6 | 7 | 6,790 |
| Others | 12 | 15,480 | 76,208 | 3,817 | 4.9 | 4 | 5,659 |
| TOTAL | 42 | 431,867 | 1,993,980 | 65,030 | 4.6 | 7 | 67,027 |

[a]Deadloss included.

[b]In Pounds.

[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.

## KING CRAB STATISTICAL AREA Q
## BERING SEA

### *Description*

The Bering Sea king crab registration area, Statistical Area Q, includes all waters north of Cape Sarichef, south of Point Hope, and east of the U.S.-Russian Convention Line of 1867; it excludes those waters of Bristol Bay, and south of 55°30' North Latitude and west of 171° West Longitude. Area Q is separated into the Pribilof and Northern Districts. The Pribilof District includes the waters south of Cape Newenham. The Northern District incorporates all of the waters north of Cape Newenham, and is further divided into three sections. The Saint Matthew Island Section includes the waters north of Cape Newenham and south of Cape Romanzof. Norton Sound Section includes all waters north of Cape Romanzof, south of Cape Prince of Wales, and east of 168° West Longitude. The Saint Lawrence Island Section encompasses all remaining waters of the district (Figure 1).

### *Historic Background*

The king crab fishery in the Pribilof Islands started in 1973 when vessels targeted blue king crab in the vicinity of St. George and St. Paul Islands. The first reported catch was 1.2 million pounds taken by eight vessels between July and October. Crab averaged 7.3 pounds, and catch per unit effort (CPUE) was 26 crabs per pot. Average weight remained relatively constant through to the 1987/88 season. The CPUE of 26 crabs per pot has never again been attained by the fleet; an average of 17 crabs per pot for the following three seasons dropped to less than eight crabs per pot for the 1977/78 through 1982/83 seasons. Three crabs or less per pot were observed for the 1983/84 season and the five subsequent seasons. Due to low population estimates in this district, the blue king crab fishery was closed beginning with the 1988/89 season (Table 1). The 1993 National Marine Fisheries summer trawl survey indicated a marked increase in the abundance of red king crab, normally rare relative to blue king crab. While no threshold level was established for Pribilof red king crab, survey results indicated a harvestable surplus did exist. For the first time a red king crab fishery was opened in the Pribilof district in September of 1993 with a guideline harvest level of 3.4 million pounds.

At their Spring 1993 meeting, the Alaska Board of Fisheries adopted regulations which changed the opening date of the St. Matthew king crab fishery from September 1 to September 15, concurrent to the king crab fishery in the Pribilof District. This action was taken to improve fleet distribution between the Pribilof and St. Matthew fisheries, thereby reducing the number of vessels participating in each fishery. Also at this meeting the Board of Fisheries passed regulations which set pot limits on all vessels fishing king crab in the Bering Sea based on overall vessel length. In the Northern district, which includes the St. Matthew Island section, vessels over 125 feet were limited to 75 pots while those equal to or less than 125 feet were allowed a maximum of 60 pots. In the Pribilof district pot limits were established at 50 and 40 for vessels greater than 125 feet and less than 125 feet in length overall respectively.

## *1995 Fishery - Pribilof District*

For the first time since 1987 the Pribilof District was open to blue king crab harvest during the 1995 season. Results from the National Marine Fisheries Service trawl survey of the Bering Sea conducted in June and July of this year indicated a harvestable surplus of 5.0 million pounds of red king crab and 3.64 million pounds of blue king crab in the Pribilof area. A high degree of variance in the survey estimate for the Pribilof area prompted the department to reduce the harvestable surplus for both the red and blue king crab to a level more reflective of prior year's surveys and fishery performance. As a result a harvest guideline of 2.5 million pounds for red and blue king crab combined was established.

A total of 129 catcher vessels and one catcher-processor purchased buoy tags from ADF&G offices in Dutch Harbor and Kodiak for the 1995 Pribilof red and blue king crab season. Three of these vessels failed to obtain a tank inspection and did not participate. Tank inspections were conducted, beginning at 12:00 noon on September 14 by ADF&G personnel stationed in Akutan, Dutch Harbor and St. Paul. Due to favorable weather in the Pribilof Islands, a total of 102 vessels elected to obtain tank inspections in the St. Paul Island harbor. Only one vessel was inspected at Akutan. As in past years, no shellfish staff were assigned to the port of King Cove, however, salmon management staff stationed in Cold Bay agreed to stand by to conduct inspections at King Cove or Cold Bay on an as-needed basis. No vessels requested a tank inspection in either of those locations. The number of vessels in this year's Pribilof fishery increased from 104in 1994. The majority of this increase in effort was comprised of salmon limit seine vessels, 58 feet in length, from the Sand Point and King Cove area. This year a total of 5,400 pots were registered for the Pribilof area compared to 4,675 pots in 1994 (Table 2).

The 1995 Pribilof red and blue king crab fishery opened concurrent to the St. Matthew blue king crab fishery on September 15 at 12:00 noon. Unlike the 1994 season, which was managed on prior year's fishery performance, management of the 1995 fishery was based on daily in-season vessel catch reports. As a result of the large number of vessels registered, a total of 61 vessels signed up to report via single side band radio (SSB) and marine satellite communications (MCI). Projections, based on in-season reports, indicated a total of 2.5 million pounds of red and blue king crab combined would be harvested by 12:00 noon on September 22. These projections showed a split between the catch of red and blue king crab to be somewhat even, 1.3 and 1.2 million pounds respectively. Based on these projections, the fishery was closed after 7 days of fishing at 12:00 noon on September 22. The actual harvest of 0.9 million pounds of red king crab and 1.2 million pounds of blue king crab, a combined harvest of 2.1 million pounds, was below the 2.5 million pound harvest guideline (Tables1 and 2).

This year's catch, from approximately 35,000 pot lifts (both red and blue king crab combined), came predominately from the seven statistical areas directly surrounding the Pribilof Islands, similar to the 1993 and 1994 seasons (Tables 3 and 4).

A total of eight shore based processors, and 2 floating processors purchased crab during the 1995 Pribilof area king crab fishery. One independent buyer purchased Pribilof red king crab exclusively. The 1995 ex-vessel price of $3.37 for red king crab and $2.92 for blue king crab was the lowest paid in 10 years. The total value of the 1995 Pribilof red king crab fishery came to $3 million compared to $8 million in 1994 and $13 million in 1993 (Table 2).

A total of 151 landings made up the 0.9 million pound harvest of red king crab. Average weight of red king crab harvested in 1995 was 8.1 pounds, similar to last year's average of 8.0 pounds. The CPUE for red king crab was down from 6 in 1994 to 3.2 in 1995.

A total of 152 landings made up the 1.3 million pound harvest of blue king crab. Average weight of blue king crab was 7.3 pounds, similar to the 7.4 average caught during the last Pribilof blue king crab fishery in 1988 and 2.5 pounds larger, on average, than blue king crab harvested from the 1995 St. Matthew fishery (Tables 1 and 5).. A catch per unit effort (CPUE) of 4.8 was a marked improvement over the 1988 season CPUE of 2.0, when this species was last targeted in the Pribilof area. The 1995 ex-vessel price of Pribilof blue king crab was $2.92 per pound, $.60 higher than the price paid for St. Matthew blue king crab, likely due to the larger average size of the Pribilof species (Tables 2 and 7). The total value of the 1995 Pribilof blue king crab fishery was $3.6 million.

Weather conditions during the 1995 fishery were unseasonably mild. Despite favorable weather, a number of vessels bound for King Cove failed to reach their delivery location in the 24 hours following the fishery closure as allowed by regulation. These vessels were met at the dock in King Cove by officers of the Division of Fish and Wildlife Protection and cited for late delivery.

### *Stock Status*

Blue king crab stocks in the Pribilof District appear to be above the established threshold and stable. Red king crab stocks currently have no established threshold in the Pribilof District. Confidence in the population estimate derived from the NMFS summer trawl survey of the area around the Pribilof Islands is low due to the apparent clumped distribution of crab in that area as evidenced by a large number of the legal crabs caught at a single sampling station. Both red and blue king crab in this area should be managed conservatively.

### *1995 Fishery - St. Matthew Island District*

Based on the 1995 NMFS summer trawl survey of the Bering Sea a guideline harvest level (GHL) for St. Matthew blue king crab was set at 2.4 million pounds (Table 7). A total of 90 vessels, including one catcher-processor, purchased buoy tags from ADF&G offices in Dutch Harbor and Kodiak. All 90 vessels received tank inspections by ADF&G personnel stationed in Akutan, Dutch Harbor and St. Paul. This compares to a total of 87 vessels which registered and received tank inspections for the 1994 fishery. The number of vessels registered for the last three seasons has remained well below the 174 vessels which registered for the 1992 fishery. A total of 5,970 pots were registered for the 1995 St. Matthew fishery compared to 5,685 pots in 1994 and 5,895 pots in 1993 (Table 7).

The 1995 fishery opened at 12:00 noon on September 15, concurrent to the Pribilof district king crab fishery. Unlike the 1994 season, which was managed on prior year's fishery performance, the 1995 fishery was managed on daily in-season vessel catch reports. A total of 54 vessels signed up to report via single side band radio (SSB) and marine satellite communications (MCI). Catch projections, based on radio report data, indicated the harvest would reach 3.4 million pounds by 12:00 noon on

September 20. As a result, the fishery was closed after 5 days of fishing at 12:00 noon on September 20. The 1995 harvest of 3.2 million pounds, from 111 landings, exceeded the 2.4 million pound pre-season harvest guideline (Table 10).

This year's catch, which resulted from approximately 48,500 pot lifts, came predominately from two statistical areas south of St. Matthew Island, similar to the location of the 1992, 1993, and 1994 harvests (Table 8). All information regarding the 1995 catcher-processor effort is confidential since less than three catcher processors participated in the 1995 St. Matthew fishery (Table 9).

Average weight of St. Matthew blue king crab for the 1995 season was 4.8 pounds. This is the same average weight recorded in 1993, up from the 1994 average of 4.6 pounds. The 1995 catch per unit of effort (CPUE) was in excess of 13 crabs per pot compared to 13,11, 10 and 20 crab per pot averages for the prior four seasons (Tables 5 and 8).

A total of six shore based processors, and four floating processors purchased crab during the 1995 St. Matthew fishery. The 1995 ex-vessel price for St. Matthew blue king crab was $2.32 per pound, the lowest price paid since 1985 when the fishermen were given $1.60 per pound (Tables 6 and 7). The value of the 1995 St. Matthew blue king crab fishery was $7.1 million. This is less than half the $15 million value of the 1994 fishery (Table 7).

### *Stock Status*

Blue king crab stocks in the St. Matthew Island area appear to be above established thresholds. Based on the 1995 National Marine fishery summer survey, legal male abundance decreased from 2.5 million in 1994 to 2.4 million in 1995. This stock remains below historic levels and continues to be managed as a depressed fishery.

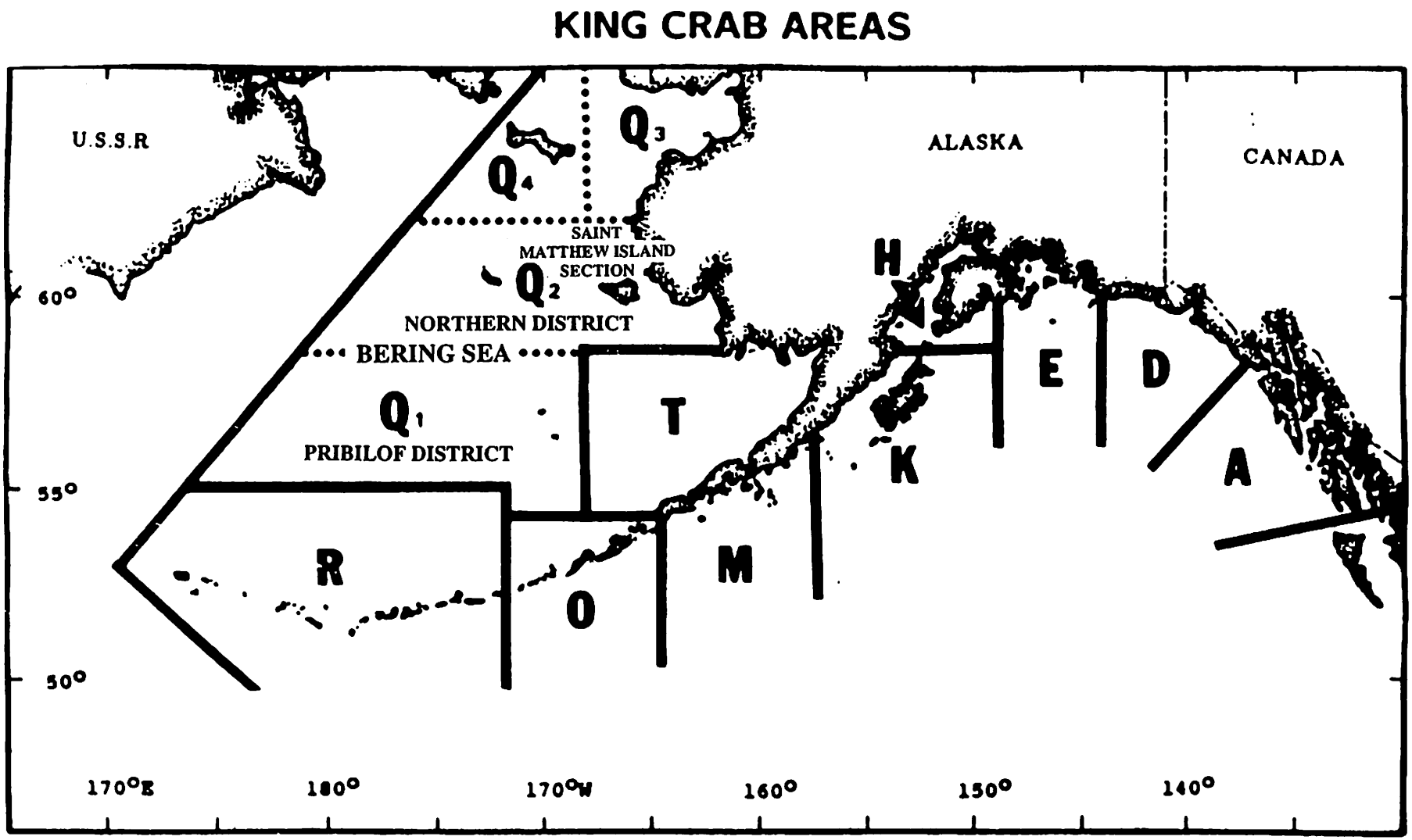



**Figure 1. Bering Sea, Area Q, king crab registration area, with districts and sections.**

Table 1. Bering Sea, Area Q, Pribilof District historic king crab catch statistics, 1973/74-1995.

| Year[a] | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Crab[b] | Harvest[b,c] | Pots Pulled | CPUE[d] | Average Weight[c] | Average Length[e] | Deadloss[c] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1973/74 | 8 | 13 | 174,420 | 1,276,533 | 6,814 | 26 | 7.3 | N/A | 0 |
| 1974/75 | 70 | 101 | 908,072 | 7,107,294 | 45,518 | 20 | 7.8 | 157.8 | 0 |
| 1975/76 | 20 | 54 | 314,931 | 2,433,714 | 16,297 | 19 | 7.7 | 159.1 | 0 |
| 1976/77 | 47 | 113 | 855,505 | 6,611,084 | 71,738 | 12 | 7.7 | 158.1 | 0 |
| 1977/78 | 34 | 104 | 807,092 | 6,456,738 | 106,983 | 8 | 7.9 | 158.9 | 159,269 |
| 1978/79 | 58 | 154 | 797,364 | 6,395,512 | 101,117 | 8 | 8.1 | 159.3 | 63,140 |
| 1979/80 | 46 | 115 | 815,557 | 5,995,231 | 83,527 | 9 | 7.7 | 155.9 | 284,555 |
| 1980/81 | 110 | 258 | 1,497,101 | 10,970,346 | 167,684 | 9 | 7.3 | 155.7 | 287,285 |
| 1981/82 | 99 | 312 | 1,202,499 | 9,080,729 | 176,168 | 7 | 7.6 | 158.2 | 250,699 |
| 1982/83 | 122 | 281 | 587,908 | 4,405,353 | 127,728 | 5 | 7.5 | 159.8 | 51,703 |
| 1983/84 | 126 | 221 | 276,364 | 2,193,395 | 86,428 | 3 | 7.9 | 159.9 | 4,562 |
| 1984/85 | 16 | 25 | 40,427 | 306,699 | 15,147 | 3 | 7.6 | 155.5 | 0 |
| 1985/86 | 26 | 49 | 77,607 | 532,735 | 23,483 | 3 | 6.9 | 146.5 | 7,500 |
| 1986/87 | 16 | 25 | 36,988 | 258,939 | 15,800 | 2 | 7.0 | N/A | 5,450 |
| 1987/88 | 38 | 68 | 95,131 | 701,337 | 40,507 | 2 | 7.4 | 152.7 | 9,910 |
| 1988/89 | | | | SEASON CLOSED | | | | | |
| 1989/90 | | | | SEASON CLOSED | | | | | |
| 1990/91 | | | | SEASON CLOSED | | | | | |
| 1991/92[f] | | | | SEASON CLOSED | | | | | |
| 1992/93 | | | | SEASON CLOSED | | | | | |
| 1993[g] | 112 | 135 | 380,217 | 2,607,634 | 35,942 | 11 | 6.9 | 154.4 | 0 |
| 1994[g] | 104 | 121 | 167,520 | 1,338,953 | 28,976 | 6 | 8.0 | 162.1 | 2,929 |
| 1995[g] | 117 | 151 | 107,521 | 871,173 | 33,531 | 3.2 | 8.1 | 162.5 | 15,316 |
| 1995[h] | 119 | 152 | 172,987 | 1,267,454 | 34,721 | 4.8 | 7.3 | | 46,263 |

[a]Blue king crab, 1973 - 1988.
[b]Deadloss included.
[c]In pounds.
[d]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[e]In millimeters.
[f]10,869 pounds illegal red king crab.
[g]Red king crab.
[h]Blue king crab.

Table 2. Historic Bering Sea, Pribilof District king crab economic performance, 1980/81-1995.

| Year[a] | GHL[b] | Season Total[c] | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Number of Pots Registered | Number of Pots Pulled | Value Exvessel | Value Total[d] | Season Length (Days) | Season Length Dates |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1980/81 | 5.0-8.0 | 10.7 | 110 | 258 | 31,636 | 167,684 | $ .90 | $ 9.6 | (60) | 9/15-11/15 |
| 1981/82 | 5.0-8.0 | 9.1 | 99 | 312 | 25,408 | 176,168 | $ 1.50 | $13.6 | (47) | 9/10-10/28 |
| 1982/83 | 5.0-8.0 | 4.4 | 122 | 281 | 34,429 | 127,728 | $ 3.05 | $13.4 | (15) | 9/10-9/25 |
| 1983/84 | 4.0[e] | 2.2 | 126 | 221 | 36,439 | 86,428 | $ 3.00 | $ 6.6 | (10) | 9/01-09/11 |
| 1984/85 | 0.5-1.0 | 0.3 | 16 | 25 | 3,122 | 15,147 | $ 2.50 | $ 0.1 | (15) | 9/01-09/16 |
| 19985/86 | 0.3-0.8 | 0.5 | 26 | 49 | 6,038 | 23,483 | $ 2.90 | $ 1.4 | (26) | 9/25-10/21 |
| 1986/87 | 0.3-0.8 | 0.3 | 16 | 25 | 4,376 | 15,800 | $ 4.05 | $ 1.2 | (55) | 9/25-11/20 |
| 1987/88 | 0.3-1.7 | 0.7 | 38 | 68 | 9,594 | 40,507 | $ 4.00 | $ 2.8 | (86) | 9/25-12/20 |
| 1988/89 | N O C O M M E R C I A L F I S H E R Y | | | | | | | | | |
| 1989/90 | N O C O M M E R C I A L F I S H E R Y | | | | | | | | | |
| 1990/91 | N O C O M M E R C I A L F I S H E R Y | | | | | | | | | |
| 1991/92 | N O C O M M E R C I A L F I S H E R Y | | | | | | | | | |
| 1992/93 | N O C O M M E R C I A L F I S H E R Y | | | | | | | | | |
| 1993[f] | 3.4 | 2.6 | 112 | 135 | 4,860 | 35,942 | $ 4.98 | $13.0 | (6) | 9/15-09/21 |
| 1994[f] | 2.0[e] | 1.3 | 104 | 121 | 4,675 | 28,976 | $ 6.00 | $ 8.0 | (6) | 9/15-09/21 |
| 1995[f] | 2.5[g] | 0.9 | 117 | 151 | 5,400[g] | 33,531 | $ 3.37 | $ 2.9 | (7) | 9/15-09/22 |
| 1995[h] | 2.5[g] | 1.2 | 119 | 152 | 5,400[g] | 34,721 | $ 2.92 | $ 3.6 | (7) | 9/15-09/22 |

[a]Blue king crab, 1980 - 1988.
[b]Guideline Harvest Level.
[c]Millions of pounds, deadloss not included.
[d]Millions of dollars.
[e]Set not to exceed.
[f]Red king crab.
[g]Red and blue king crab combined.
[h]Blue king crab.

Table 3. 1995 Pribilof District red king crab catch by statistical area.

| Stat Area | Number of Landings | Number of Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | Average Weight[b] | CPUE[c] | Dead-loss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 685700 | 13 | 3,244 | 25,393 | 1,737 | 7.8 | 1.9 | 604 |
| 685730 | 3 | 216 | 2,026 | 605 | 9.4 | .4 | 84 |
| 695631 | 30 | 20,775 | 164,595 | 4,562 | 7.9 | 4.6 | 983 |
| 695700 | 69 | 37,366 | 303,108 | 14,326 | 8.1 | 2.6 | 11,315 |
| 695730 | 4 | 1,754 | 15,517 | 1,230 | 8.8 | 1.4 | 146 |
| 705630 | 21 | 10,776 | 89,438 | 2,085 | 8.3 | 5.2 | 555 |
| 705701 | 29 | 12,105 | 102,667 | 4,156 | 8.5 | 2.9 | 851 |
| 705702 | 25 | 14,847 | 119,721 | 2,956 | 8.1 | 5.0 | 467 |
| Other[d] | 5 | 6,438 | 48,708 | 1,874 | 7.6 | 3.4 | 311 |
| TOTALS | 151 | 107,521 | 871,173 | 33,531 | 8.1 | 3.2 | 15,316 |

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d]Includes 5 statistical areas.

Table 4. 1995 Pribilof District blue king crab catch by statistical area.

| Stat Area | Number of Landings | Number of Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | Average Weight[b] | CPUE[c] | Dead-loss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 685700 | 19 | 27,223 | 203,702 | 3,783 | 7.5 | 7.2 | 5,134 |
| 685730 | 4 | 8,118 | 59,051 | 960 | 7.3 | 8.5 | 5,180 |
| 695631 | 27 | 25,262 | 189,496 | 4,854 | 7.5 | 5.2 | 7,169 |
| 695700 | 68 | 75,032 | 539,700 | 14,536 | 7.2 | 5.2 | 23,270 |
| 695730 | 5 | 5,782 | 42,451 | 1,396 | 7.3 | 4.1 | 843 |
| 705630 | 17 | 3,206 | 22,407 | 1,789 | 7.0 | 1.8 | 233 |
| 705701 | 25 | 11,754 | 88,536 | 3,387 | 7.5 | 3.5 | 3,254 |
| 705702 | 26 | 10,469 | 76,126 | 2,335 | 7.3 | 4.5 | 723 |
| Other[d] | 5 | 6,141 | 45,985 | 1,679 | 7.5 | 3.7 | 457 |
| TOTALS | 1,152 | 172,987 | 1,267,454 | 34,721 | 7.3 | 5.0 | 46,263 |

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d]Includes 4 statistical areas.

Table 5. Historic blue king crab catch in the St. Matthew portion of statistical Area Q, 1977-1995.

| Season | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Number of Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | CPUE[c] | Percent Recruits | Average Weight[b] | Average Length[d] | Deadloss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1977 | 10 | 24 | 281,665 | 1,202,066 | 17,370 | 16 | 7.0 | 4.3 | 130.4 | 129,148 |
| 1978 | 22 | 70 | 436,126 | 1,984,251 | 43,754 | 9 | N/A | 4.5 | 132.2 | 116,037 |
| 1979 | 18 | 25 | 52,966 | 210,819 | 9,877 | 5 | 80.8 | 4.0 | 128.8 | 128.8 |
| 1980 | | | | | Confidential | | | | | |
| 1981 | 31 | 119 | 1,045,619 | 4,627,761 | 58,550 | 18 | N/A | 4.4 | N/A | 53,355 |
| 1982 | 96 | 269 | 1,935,886 | 8,844,789 | 165,618 | 12 | 19.6 | 4.6 | 135.1 | 142,973 |
| 1983 | 164 | 235 | 1,931,990 | 9,454,323 | 133,944 | 14 | 26.7 | 4.8 | 137.2 | 828,994 |
| 1984 | 90 | 169 | 841,017 | 3,764,592 | 73,320 | 11 | 34.0 | 4.5 | 135.5 | 31,983 |
| 1985 | 79 | 103 | 484,836 | 2,427,110 | 51,606 | 9 | 9.0 | 5.0 | 139.0 | 2,613 |
| 1986 | 38 | 43 | 219,548 | 1,003,162 | 22,093 | 10 | 10.0 | 4.6 | 134.3 | 32,560 |
| 1987 | 61 | 62 | 234,521 | 1,075,179 | 28,440 | 8 | 5.0 | 4.6 | 134.13 | 400 |
| 1988 | 46 | 46 | 302,053 | 1,325,185 | 10,160 | 13 | 65.0 | 4.4 | 133.29 | 22,358 |
| 1989 | 69 | 69 | 247,641 | 1,166,258 | 30,853 | 8 | 9.0 | 4.7 | 134.55 | 3,754 |
| 1990 | 31 | 38 | 391,405 | 1,725,349 | 26,264 | 15 | 4.0 | 4.4 | 134.28 | 17,416 |
| 1991 | 68 | 69 | 726,519 | 3,372,066 | 37,104 | 20 | 12.0 | 4.6 | 134.1 | 216,459 |
| 1992 | 174 | 179 | 544,956 | 2,474,080 | 56,630 | 10 | 9.0 | 4.6 | 134.1 | 0 |
| 1993 | 92 | 136 | 629,874 | 2,999,921 | 58,647 | 11 | 6.0 | 4.8 | 135.4 | 0 |
| 1994 | 87 | 133 | 827,015 | 3,764,262 | 60,860 | 13 | 60.0 | 4.6 | 133.3 | 46,699 |
| 1995 | 90 | 111 | 666,905 | 3,166,093 | 48,560 | 13 | | 4.8 | 135.0 | 90,191 |

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d]In millimeters.

Table 6. Northern District, Area Q, king crab harvest composition by fishing season, 1977-1995.

| Season | Date Opened | Date Closed | Species | Harvest[a] | Minimum Size[b] | Price per Pound |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1977 | June 7 | Aug. 16 | Blue | 1,202,066 | 5 1/2 | $ 1.00 |
| | | | Red | 543,041 | 5 | |
| 1978 | July 15 | Sept. 3 | Blue | 1,984,251 | 5 1/2 | $ 0.95 |
| | July 15 | Aug. 16 | Red | 2,007,910 | 4 3/4 | |
| 1979 | July 15 | Aug. 24 | Blue | 210,819 | 5 1/2 | $ 0.70 |
| | July 15 | Aug. 16 | Red | 3,024,228 | 4 3/4 | |
| 1980 | July 15 | Sept. 3 | Blue | | | $ 0.75 |
| | July 15 | July 31 | Red[c] | 353,683 | 4 3/4 | |
| 1981 | July 15 | Aug. 21 | Blue | 4,627,761 | 5 1/2 | $ 0.90 |
| | July 15 | Sept. 3 | Red[c] | 63,983 | 4 3/4 | |
| 1982 | Aug. 1 | Aug. 16 | Blue | 8,844,789 | 5 1/2 | $ 2.00 |
| | Aug. 1 | Aug. 16 | Red[c] | 3,690 | 4 3/4 | $ 2.00 |
| | May 1 | Aug. 1 | Brown | 193,507 | 5 1/2 | $ 2.00 |
| 1983[d] | Aug. 20 | Sept. 6 | Blue | 9,506,880[e] | 5 1/2 | $ 3.00 |
| | Aug. 20 | Sept. 6 | Red | 1,635 | 4 3/4 | $ 2.50 |
| | May 1 | Aug. 1 | Brown | | 5 1/2 | - |
| 1984 | Aug. 1 | Sept. 8 | Blue | 3,764,592 | 5 1/2 | $ 1.75 |
| | Aug. 1 | Sept. 8 | Red[c] | - | 4 3/4 | - |
| | May 1 | Dec. 31 | Brown[d] | - | 5 1/2 | - |
| 1985 | Sept. 1 | Sept. 6 | Blue | 2,427,110 | 5 1/2 | $ 1.60 |
| | Aug. 1 | Sept. 6 | NO CATCH REPORTED | | 4 3/4 | - |
| | Jan. 1 | Dec. 31 | NO CATCH REPORTED | | 5 1/2 | - |
| 1986 | Sept. 1 | Sept. 6 | Blue | 1,003,162 | 5 1/2 | $ 3.20 |
| | Aug. 1 | Sept. 6 | NO CATCH REPORTED | | 4 3/4 | - |
| | Jan. 1 | Dec. 31 | NO CATCH REPORTED | | 5 1/2 | - |
| 1987 | Sept. 1 | Sept. 5 | Blue | 1,075,179 | 5 1/2 | $ 2.85 |
| | Aug. 1 | Sept. 5 | NO CATCH REPORTED | | 4 3/4 | - |
| | Jan. 1 | Dec. 31 | Brown | 424,394 | 5 1/2 | $ 2.60 |

- Continued -

Table 6. (page 2 of 2)

| Season | Date Opened | Date Closed | Species | Harvest[a] | Minimum Size[b] | Price per Pound |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1988 | Sept. 1 | Sept. 5 | Blue | 1,325,185 | 5 1/2 | $ 3.10 |
| | Aug. 1 | Sept. 5 | NO CATCH REPORTED | | 4 3/4 | |
| | Jan. 1 | Dec. 31 | Brown | 160,441 | 5 1/2 | $ 3.10 |
| 1989 | Sept. 1 | Sept. 4 | Blue | 1,166,258 | 5 1/2 | $ 2.90 |
| | | | Blue | 0[f] | 5 1/2 | NA |
| | Aug. 1 | Sept. 4 | Red[c] | 4,518 | 4 3/4 | NA |
| | Jan. 1 | Dec. 31 | Brown | 4,407 | 5 1/2 | NA |
| 1990 | Sept. 1 | Sept. 7 | Blue | 1,725,349 | 5 1/2 | $ 3.35 |
| 1991 | Sept. 16 | Sept. 20 | Blue | 3,372,066 | 5 1/2 | $ 2.80 |
| 1992 | Sept. 4 | Sept. 7 | Blue | 2,474,080 | 5 1/2 | $ 3.00 |
| 1993 | Sept. 15 | Sept. 21 | Blue | 2,999,921 | 5 1/2 | $ 3.23 |
| 1994 | Sept. 15 | Sept. 22 | Blue | 3,764,262 | 5 1/2 | $ 4.00 |
| 1995 | Sept. 15 | Sept. 22 | Blue | 3,166,093 | 5 1/2 | $ 2.32 |

[a]In pounds, deadloss included.
[b]Carapace width in inches.
[c]Does not include Norton Sound.
[d]Some of Northern District open until September 20.
[e]St. Lawrence Island harvest included, 1977 - 1983.
[f]Combined with red king crab to total 4,518 pounds.

Table 7. Economic performance of the blue king crab fishery in the St. Matthew Island section of the Northern district of the Bering Sea, 1981- 1995.

| Year | GHL[a,b] | Season Total | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Number of Pots Registered | Number of Pots Pulled | Value Exvessel | Value Total | Season Length (Days) | Season Length Dates |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1981 | 1.5-3.0 | 4.6 | 31 | 119 | 2,960 | 58,550 | $ 0.90 | $ 4.1 | (38) | 7/15-8/21 |
| 1982 | 5.6 | 8.7 | 96 | 269 | 21,894 | 165,618 | $ 2.00 | $ 17.4 | (15) | 8/01-8/16 |
| 1983 | 8.0 | 8.6 | 164 | 235 | 38,000 | 133,944 | $ 3.00 | $ 25.8 | (17) | 8/20-9/06 |
| 1984 | 2.0-4.0 | 3.7 | 90 | 169 | 14,800 | 73,320 | $ 1.75 | $ 6.5 | (7) | 9/01-9/08 |
| 1985 | 0.9-1.9 | 2.4 | 79 | 103 | 13,000 | 51,606 | $ 1.60 | $ 3.8 | (5) | 9/01-9/06 |
| 1986 | 0.2-0.5 | 1.0 | 38 | 43 | 5,600 | 22,093 | $ 3.20 | $ 3.2 | (5) | 9/01-9/06 |
| 1987 | 0.6-1.3 | 1.1 | 61 | 62 | 9,370 | 28,440 | $ 2.85 | $ 3.1 | (4) | 9/01-9/05 |
| 1988 | 0.7-1.5 | 1.3 | 46 | 46 | 7,780 | 10,160 | $ 3.10 | $ 4.0 | (4) | 9/01-9/05 |
| 1989 | 1.7 | 1.2 | 69 | 69 | 11,983 | 30,853 | $ 2.90 | $ 3.5 | (3)[d] | 9/01-9/04 |
| 1990 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 31 | 38 | 6,000 | 26,264 | $ 3.35 | $ 5.7 | (6) | 9/01-9/07 |
| 1991 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 68 | 69 | 13,100 | 37,104 | $ 2.80 | $ 9.0 | (4) | 9/16-9/20 |
| 1992 | 3.1 | 2.5 | 174 | 179 | 17,400 | 56,630 | $ 3.00 | $ 7.4 | (3)[d] | 9/04-9/07 |
| 1993 | 4.4 | 3.0 | 92 | 136 | 5,895 | 58,647 | $ 3.23 | $ 9.7 | (6) | 9/15-9/21 |
| 1994 | 3.0 | 3.7 | 87 | 133 | 5,685 | 60,860 | $ 4.00 | $ 15.0 | (7) | 9/15-9/22 |
| 1995 | 2.4 | 3.1 | 90 | 111 | 5,970 | 48,560 | $ 2.32 | $ 7.1 | (5) | 9/15-9/20 |

[a]Guideline Harvest Level.
[b]Millions of pounds, deadloss not included.
[c]Millions of dollars.
[d]Actual length - 60 hours.

Table 8. Blue king crab catch by statistical area for the St. Matthew Island section of the Northern district of the Bering Sea, 1995

| Stat Area | Number of Landings | Number of Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | Average Weight[b] | CPUE[c] | Dead-loss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 726001 | 80 | 422,860 | 2,025,814 | 30,926 | 4.8 | 14 | 57,673 |
| 726002 | 12 | 61,962 | 293,773 | 5,359 | 4.7 | 12 | 8,998 |
| 736001 | 35 | 160,463 | 741,395 | 11,109 | 4.6 | 14 | 22,103 |
| Other[d] | 5 | 21,620 | 105,111 | 1,166 | 4.8 | 18 | 1,417 |
| Total | 111 | 666,905 | 3,166,093 | 48,560 | 4.8 | 13 | 90,191 |

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In Pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d]Includes 3 statistical areas.

Table 9. St. Matthew Blue King crab comparative average catches of catcher-processor vs. catcher-only vessels, 1990-1995.

| | SEASON | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1995 | 1994 | 1993 | 1992 | 1991 | 1990 |
| Number of Catcher-Processor Vessels | Confidential | 6 | 3 | 8 | 9 | 7 |
| Number of Catcher-only Vessels | 89 | 87 | 89 | 166 | 59 | 24 |
| Pounds of Catcher-Processor Harvest, | Confidential | 352,069 | 165,625 | 191,801 | 740,687 | 447,320 |
| Percent of Catcher-Processor Harvest | Confidential | 10.7 | 5.5 | 7.7 | 22.0 | 25.9 |
| Average Catcher-Processor Harvest | Confidential | 58,678 | 55,208 | 23,975 | 82,298 | 63,903 |
| Average Catcher-Only Harvest | 34,964 | 39,221 | 31,846 | 13,749 | 44,600 | 53,251 |
| Catcher-Processor Average CPUE | Confidential | 14 | 14 | 16 | 26 | 15 |
| Catcher-Only Average CPUE | 14 | 14 | 11 | 9 | 18 | 15 |
| Total Harvest | 3,166,093 | 3,764,262 | 2,999,921 | 2,474,080 | 3,372,066 | 1,725,349 |
| Average # Pots Pulled Catcher-Processor | Confidential | 926 | 811 | 327 | 682 | 983 |
| Average # Pots Pulled Catcher-Only | 541 | 636 | 632 | 325 | 525 | 807 |
| Catcher-Processor Harvest Range | Confidential | 37,947-104,451 | 45,060-63,914 | 5,573-51,943 | 41,812-129,038 | 27,403-111,507 |

Table 9B. St. Matthew Blue King crab comparative average catches of catcher-processor vs. catcher-only vessels, 1990-1995.
**The 1995 catcher-processor information in this table is CONFIDENTIAL**

| | SEASON | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1995 | 1994 | 1993 | 1992 | 1991 | 1990 |
| Number of Catcher-Processor Vessels | 1 | 6 | 3 | 8 | 9 | 7 |
| Number of Catcher-only Vessels | 89 | 87 | 89 | 166 | 59 | 24 |
| Pounds of Catcher-Processor Harvest | 54,270 | 352,069 | 165,625 | 191,801 | 740,687 | 447,320 |
| Percent of Catcher-Processor Harvest | 2.0 | 10.7 | 5.5 | 7.7 | 22.0 | 25.9 |
| Average Catcher-Processor Harvest | 54,270 | 58,678 | 55,208 | 23,975 | 82,298 | 63,903 |
| Average Catcher-Only Harvest | 34,964 | 39,221 | 31,846 | 13,749 | 44,600 | 53,251 |
| Catcher-Processor Average CPUE | 27 | 14 | 14 | 16 | 26 | 15 |
| Catcher-Only Average CPUE | 14 | 14 | 11 | 9 | 18 | 15 |
| Total Harvest | 3,166,093 | 3,764,262 | 2,999,921 | 2,474,080 | 3,372,066 | 1,725,349 |
| Average # Pots Pulled Catcher-Processor | 411 | 926 | 811 | 327 | 682 | 983 |
| Average # Pots Pulled Catcher-Only | 541 | 636 | 632 | 325 | 525 | 807 |
| Catcher-Processor Harvest Range | 54,270 | 37,947-104,451 | 45,060-63,914 | 5,573-51,943 | 41,812-129,038 | 27,403-111,507 |

Table 10. Comparitive mid-point estimates, emergecy order projections and actual harvests for the St. Matthew blue king crab fishery, 1983-1995.

| Year | Guideline Harvest Levels[a] | GHL Mid-Point[a] | Actual Harvest | Projected Harvest |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1983 | 8.0 | - | 9.5 | 8.0 |
| 1984 | 2.0 - 4.0 | 3.00 | 3.8 | 4.0 |
| 1985 | 0.9 - 1.9 | 1.40 | 2.4 | 2.0 |
| 1986 | 0.2 - 0.5 | 0.30 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| 1987 | 0.6 - 1.3 | .95 | 1.1 | 1.3 |
| 1988 | 0.7 - 1.5 | - | 1.3 | 1.5 |
| 1989 | 1.7 | - | 1.2 | 1.7 |
| 1990 | 1.9 | - | 1.7 | 1.9 |
| 1991 | 3.2 | - | 3.4 | 3.2 |
| 1992 | 3.1 | - | 2.5 | 3.1 |
| 1993 | 4.4 | - | 3.0 | 4.4 |
| 1994 | 3.0 | - | 3.8 | 3.0 |
| 1995 | 2.4 | - | 3.2 | 2.4 |

[a]Millions of pounds.
[b]Deadloss included.

## ADAK RED KING CRAB

### *Introduction*

Adak, Area R, is comprised of all continental shelf waters west of 171° West longitude, south of 55° 30' North latitude and east of the U.S. - Russian Convention Line of 1867 (Figure 1).

### *Historic Background*

The Adak red king crab fishery began in 1961 when four vessels harvested two million pounds. As the fleet exploited previously un-fished areas, catches increased rapidly to a peak of 21 million pounds by the 1964/65 season (Table 1). For a short time the expanding Dutch Harbor king crab fishery diverted effort, and Area R catches dropped to 6 million pounds by the 1966/67 season.

From 1967/68 to the 1972/73 seasons, catches were relatively stable at 14 million to 19 million pounds (Table 1). The large catches were maintained by several years of strong recruitment and by the exploitation of populations discovered east of Adak Island. In addition to the eastward exploration, some vessels moved into the waters of the Petrel Banks, Amchitka Islands and other westward islands creating the separate Western Aleutians, Area S, fishery in 1967/68. The catch in Area S was not large, and in 1978 management was simplified by eliminating Area S to form the Petrel Bank and Western Aleutian Districts of Area R (Figure 2).

The harvest declined sharply after the 1972/73 season (Table 1). At the Alaska Board of Fisheries recommendation the department closed the fishery prior to the 1976/77 season. Since that time indications of recovery have been slight. ADF&G surveys conducted in 1975, 1976, and 1977 concluded that several years of poor recruitment to legal size was the cause of the decline. A shell disease and an unusually high natural mortality in the North Amlia District was also blamed for the decreased populations.

The harvest guideline for this fishery was set after the 1976/77 season at 1.0 to 1.5 million pounds. By regulation the season extends to February 15 unless closed earlier by emergency order. Three of the past 10 seasons have been closed prior to the February 15 regulatory closure (Table 2).

Historically the character of this fishery has been one of intermittent participation of low intensity. The majority of participants move into this fishery for short periods, normally prior to or following other major fisheries such as Bristol Bay red king crab or Bering Sea Tanner crab.

Onboard fisheries observers are currently only required on processing vessels (catcher processors and floating processors). Since imposition of these requirements in 1988 the number of processing vessels participating in this fishery have dropped from 11 vessels in 1988/89 to one vessel in the 1993/94

fishery (Table 2). As a result, very little information is available on fishery bycatch or in-season catch reports from the fishing grounds.

### *1994/95 Fishery*

The Adak Area R red king crab fishery opened on November 1. The Adak brown king crab, Western Aleutians *C. bairdi* Tanner crab and the Bering Sea *C. bairdi* Tanner crab fisheries opened on November 1 also. The red king crab fishery in Bristol Bay, which normally opens on November 1, remained closed for the 1994 season due to insufficient female crab abundance. In the absence of a red king crab fishery in Bristol Bay and reductions in the amount of *C. bairdi* Tanner crab available for harvest in the Bering Sea, effort in the Adak king crab fisheries was expected to increase dramatically for the 1994/95 season.

As a result of this anticipated increase in effort, vessels intending to fish in the Adak king crab fishery (red or brown) were required to pre-register with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game no later than 4:30 p.m. October 14, 1994.

A total 93 vessels pre-registered to participate in the Adak red king crab fishery. Of these, 70 also pre-registered for the Adak brown king crab fishery. Pre-registration was required for all vessels intending to participate at anytime throughout the course of either the red or brown king crab fishery. Consequently, many vessels which did not intend to fish for king crab in the Adak area until after the Bering Sea *C. bairdi* fishery, also pre-registered.

A total of 29 vessels, including two catcher processors, received tank inspections for the red king crab fishery beginning 72 hours prior to the November 1 start of the fishery. Of these, 22 were also registered to harvest brown king crab. As in past years, tank inspections were available in Dutch Harbor only.

The department solicited volunteers for daily catch reporting in order to track in season harvest. This season's fishery was expected to progress quickly due to the relatively large number of participants. A total of 20 catcher vessels volunteered to report via single sideband radio or marine satellite (MARSAT) telex on a daily basis. In addition, the observers on board the two catcher processors were required to report daily.

Fishery performance for the first two weeks of the 1994/95 season averaged less than 1 crab per pot. This compares to an average catch in excess of 16 crab per pot for the first two weeks of the 1992/93 and 1993/94 seasons. Based on continued poor fishery performance, the fishery was closed after less than four weeks on November 28. At 27 days the 1994/95 season was the shortest on record (Table 2).

Total harvest for the 1994/95 season was 196,967 pounds, a dramatic decrease from the 698,077 pounds harvested during the 1993/94 season and well below the 1.5 million pound harvest guideline. A total of 20 vessels made 31 landings during the 1994/95 fishery, an increase over the 21 landings made by the 12 vessels which participated in the 1993/94 fishery (Table 1).

Daily observer radio reports indicated performance of the 1994/95 fishery at critically low levels. However, due to limited and inconsistent daily catch reporting on the part of volunteer catcher vessels (less than 25% of volunteer vessels reported daily), information sufficient to fully assess the performance of the fishery was not available until the third week of the season. This information was obtained from onboard observers, who reported daily, and processor's weekly catch reports.

The ex-vessel price of the 1994/95 fishery was $5.50 per pound, up from the prior season value of $3.87 per pound and the highest ex-vessel price on record for Adak red king crab. Total ex-vessel value for the 1994/95 fishery was 1.1 million dollars, approximately 41% of the value of the 1993/94 fishery (Table 2). The high ex-vessel price for the 1994/95 fishery is largely attributed to the absence of a red king crab fishery in Bristol Bay for the 1994/95 season.

Catches once again came exclusively from the Petrel Bank District around Semisopochnoi Island (Figure 2). Average weight of crab harvested during the 1994/95 fishery was 6.5 pounds; considerable higher than the prior season average of 5.8 pounds. The 1994/95 season average weight is the highest average weight since the 1984/85 season and may reflect a relative decline in recruit crab abundance (Table 1).

### *1995/96 Fishery*

The 1995/96 Adak red king crab fishery opened on November 1. A total of 10 vessels obtained observers and received tank inspections. This fishery, which has a regulatory closure date of February 15, is on-going at this time. To date a total of 36,344 pounds have been landed in 11 deliveries. Catches have averaged approximately 2 crab per pot, similar to the low catches observed in the 1994/95 season (Table 1).

Weekly observer reports indicate very little effort is being directed at red king crab. At this time all vessels registered for this fishery are also registered for, and targeting on, Adak brown king crab. To date observers have collected pot samples on 62 pots directed at red king crab and approximately 4,000 directed at brown king crab.

To provide observers an opportunity to collect additional information on red king crab in the Adak area, the season may remain open until the regulatory closure on February 15, 1996.

### *Stock Status*

Adak king crab stocks have not been surveyed since 1977. Observer coverage on all processing vessels on the fishing grounds since 1988 has provided some biological information on these stocks. However, the number of observers onboard catcher processors has declined since 1988 (Table 2). Consequently, in recent years little biological information has been available on Adak red king crab. With implementation of observer coverage on all vessels, beginning with the 1995/96 season, information necessary to properly assess and manage Adak red king crab can be collected.

Compared to historic levels, the population appears to be severely depressed. For the past several years the catch has come almost exclusively from the area around Semisopochnoi Island in the Petrel Banks District (Figure 2 and Table 3).

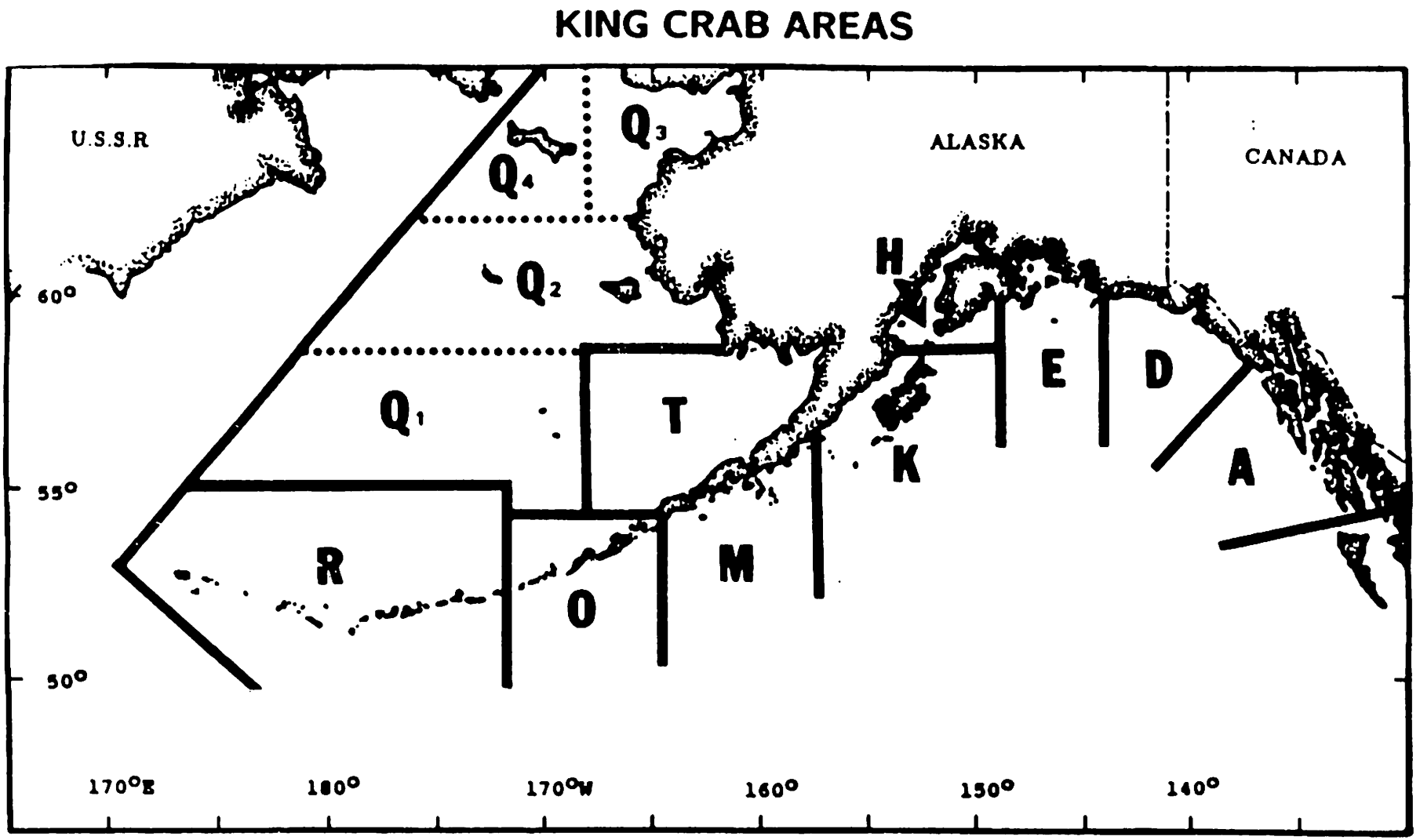



**Figure 1. Adak, Area R, king crab area.**

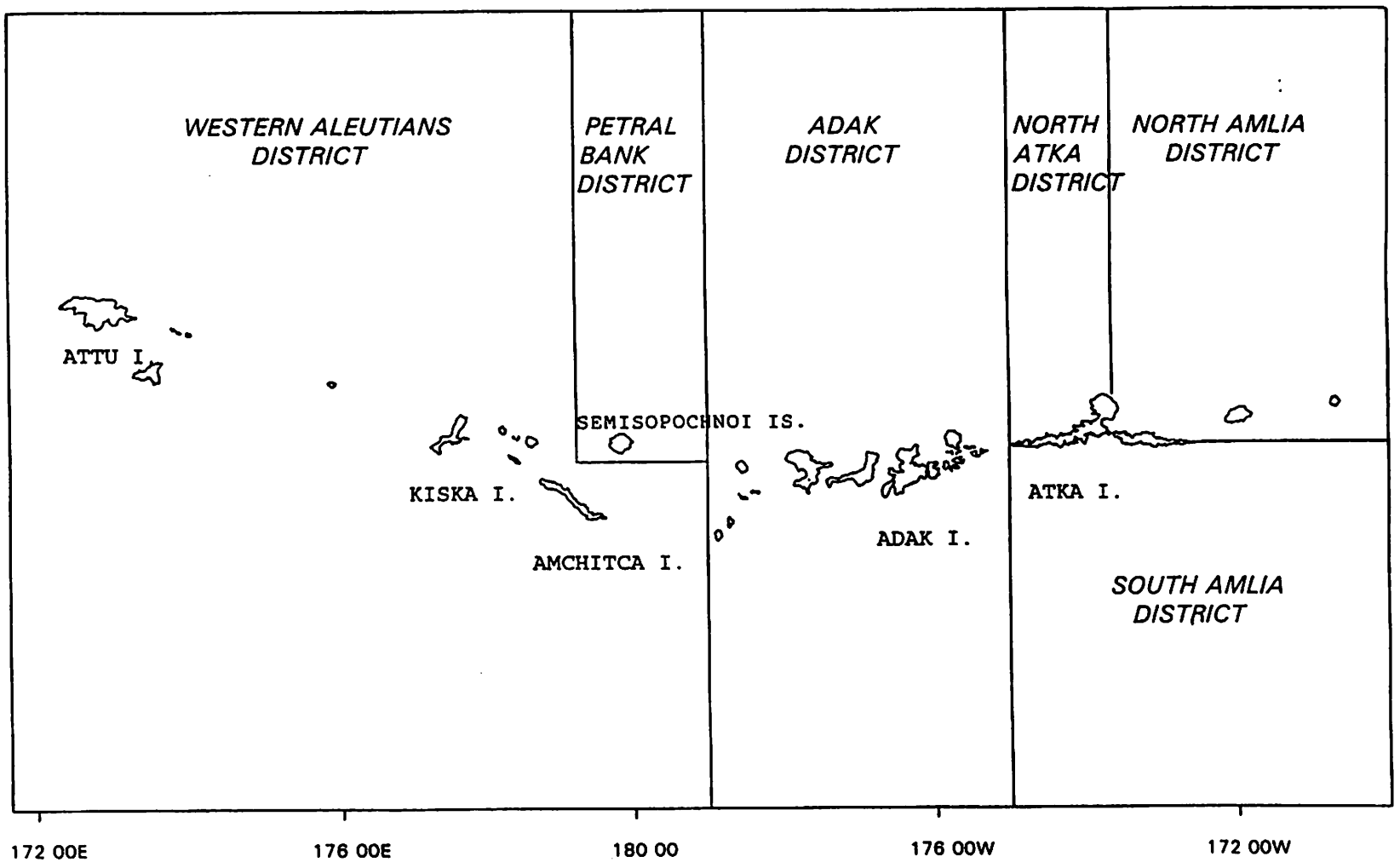



**Figure 2. Adak, Area R, king crab districts.**

Table 1. Adak, Area R, historic red king crab catch statistics, 1960/61-1995/96.

| Season | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Number of Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | CPUE[c] | Percent Recruits | Average Weight[b] | Average Length[d] | Deadloss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1960/61 | 4 | 41 | NA | 2,074,000 | NA | 9 | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| 1961/62 | 8 | 218 | NA | 6,114,000 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| 1962/63 | 9 | 248 | NA | 8,006,000 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| 1963/64 | 11 | 527 | NA | 17,904,000 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| 1964/65 | 18 | 442 | NA | 21,193,000 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| 1965/66 | 10 | 431 | NA | 12,915,000 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| 1966/67 | 10 | 90 | NA | 5,883,000 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| 1967/68 | 22 | 505 | NA | 14,131,000 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| 1968/69 | 30 | | NA | 16,100,000 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| 1969/70 | 33 | 435 | NA | 18,016,000 | 115,929 | NA | NA | 6.5 | NA | NA |
| 1970/71 | 35 | 378 | NA | 16,057,000 | 124,235 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| 1971/72 | 40 | 166 | NA | 15,475,924 | 46,011 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| 1972/73 | 43 | 313 | 3,461,025 | 18,724,144 | 81,133 | 43 | 50.9 | 5.4 | NA | NA |
| 1973/74 | 41 | 239 | 1,844,974 | 9,741,464 | 70,059 | 26 | 48.5 | 5.3 | 148.6 | NA |
| 1974/75 | 36 | 97 | 532,298 | 2,774,963 | 32,620 | 16 | 48.6 | 5.2 | 148.6 | NA |
| 1975/76 | 20 | 25 | 79,977 | 411,583 | 8,331 | 10 | 67.5 | 5.2 | 147.2 | NA |
| 1976/77 | | | | C l o s e d | | | | | | |
| 1977/78 | 12 | 18 | 160,343 | 905,527 | 7,269 | 22 | 43.9 | 5.7 | 152.2 | NA |
| 1978/79 | 13 | 27 | 149,491 | 807,195 | 13,948 | 11 | 56.7 | 5.4 | NA | 1,170 |
| 1979/80 | 18 | 23 | 82,250 | 467,229 | 9,757 | 8 | 42.8 | 5.7 | 152.0 | 24,850 |
| 1980/81 | 17 | 52 | 254,390 | 1,419,513 | 20,914 | 12 | 65.2 | 5.6 | 149.0 | 54,360 |
| 1981/82 | 46 | 106 | 291,311 | 1,648,926 | 40,697 | 7 | 55.5 | 5.7 | 148.3 | 8,759 |

-Continued-

Table 1. (page 2 of 2)

| Season | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Number of Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | CPUE[c] | Percent Recruits | Average Weight[b] | Average Length[d] | Deadloss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1982/83 | 72 | 191 | 284,787 | 1,701,818 | 66,893 | 4 | 49.9 | 6.0 | 150.8 | 7,855 |
| 1983/84 | 106 | 248 | 298,948 | 1,981,579 | 60,840 | 5 | 30.4 | 6.6 | 157.3 | 3,833 |
| 1984/85 | 64 | 113 | 206,751 | 1,367,672 | 50,685 | 4 | 31.4 | 6.6 | 155.1 | 0 |
| 1985/86 | 35 | 89 | 162,271 | 906,293 | 32,478 | 5 | 40.0 | 5.6 | 152.2 | 6,120 |
| 1986/87 | 33 | 69 | 126,146 | 712,243 | 29,189 | 4 | NA | 5.6 | NA | 500 |
| 1987/88 | 71 | 109 | 211,712 | 1,213,933 | 43,433 | 5 | 65.3 | 5.7 | 148.5 | 6,900 |
| 1988/89 | 73 | 156 | 266,053 | 1,567,314 | 64,374 | 4 | 39.0 | 5.9 | 153.1 | 557 |
| 1989/90 | 56 | 123 | 196,070 | 1,118,566 | 54,513 | 4 | NA | 5.7 | NA | 759 |
| 1990/91 | 7 | 34 | 146,903 | 828,105 | 10,674 | 14 | NA | 5.6 | NA | 0 |
| 1991/92 | 10 | 35 | 165,356 | 951,278 | 16,636 | 10 | NA | 5.7 | NA | 0 |
| 1992/93 | 12 | 30 | 218,049 | 1,286,424 | 16,129 | 13 | NA | 6.0 | NA | 5,000 |
| 1993/94 | 12 | 21 | 119,330 | 698,077 | 13,575 | 9 | NA | 5.8 | NA | 7,402 |
| 1994/95 | 20 | 31 | 30,337 | 196,967 | 18,146 | 2 | NA | 6.5 | NA | 1,430 |
| 1995/96[e] | 10 | 11 | NA | 36,344 | NA | 2 | NA | 7.1 | NA | 213 |

[a]Includes deadloss.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d]In millimeters.
[e]Preliminary data, fishery ongoing.

Table 2. Historic Adak red king crab economic performance, 1980/81-1995/96

| Year | Season Total[a] | Number of Vessels[b] | Number of CP'S | Landings | Number of Pots Registered | Number of Pots Pulled | Value Exvessel | Value Total[c] | Season Length (Days) | Season Length Dates |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1980/81 | 1.4 | 17 | N/A | 52 | 2,471 | 20,914 | $ 0.92 | $ 1.3 | (72) | 01/15-03/28 |
| 1981/82 | 1.6 | 46 | N/A | 106 | 8,698 | 40,697 | $ 2.01 | $ 3.2 | (107) | 11/01-02/15 |
| 1982/83 | 1.7 | 72 | N/A | 191 | 13,111 | 66,893 | $ 3.44 | $ 5.9 | (76) | 11/01-01/15 |
| 1983/84 | 2.0 | 106 | N/A | 248 | 19,407 | 60,840 | $ 3.43 | $ 6.9 | (340) | 01/10-12/16 |
| 1984/85 | 1.4 | 64 | N/A | 113 | 8,876 | 50,685 | $ 2.10 | $ 2.9 | (97) | 11/10-02/15 |
| 1985/86 | .9 | 35 | N/A | 89 | 8,274 | 32,478 | $ 2.15 | $ 1.9 | (107) | 11/01-02/15 |
| 1986/87 | .7 | 33 | N/A | 69 | 12,958 | 29,189 | $ 3.85 | $ 2.7 | (107) | 11/01-02/15 |
| 1987/88 | 1.2 | 71 | N/A | 109 | 17,720 | 43,433 | $ 4.00 | $ 4.8 | (107) | 11/01-02/15 |
| 1988/89 | 1.6 | 73 | 11 | 156 | 23,927 | 64,374 | $ 5.00 | $ 8.0 | (34) | 11/01-12/04 |
| 1989/90 | 1.1 | 56 | 10 | 123 | 19,363 | 54,513 | $ 4.20 | $ 4.6 | (107) | 11/01-02/15 |
| 1990/91 | .7 | 7 | 4 | 34 | 8,500 | 10,674 | $ 4.00 | $ 2.8 | (107) | 11/01-02/15 |
| 1991/92 | .9 | 10 | 3 | 35 | 2,305 | 16,636 | $ 3.00 | $ 2.9 | (107) | 11/01-02/15 |
| 1992/93 | 1.3 | 12 | 2 | 30 | 2,716[d] | 16,129 | $ 5.05 | $ 6.5 | (76) | 11/01-01/15 |
| 1993/94 | .7 | 12 | 1 | 21 | 3,948 | 13,575 | $ 3.87 | $ 2.7 | (107) | 11/01-02/15 |
| 1994/95 | .2 | 20 | 2 | 31 | 4,065 | 18,146 | $ 5.50 | $ 1.1 | ( 27) | 11/01-11/28 |
| 1995/96[e] | [f] | 10 | 1 | 11 | NA | NA | $ 2.70 | $ 0.1 | | 11/01- |

[a]Millions of pounds.
[b]Includes catcher-processors.
[c]Millions of dollars.
[d]Includes gear of vessels landing both red and brown king crab.
[e]Preliminary data,fishery ongoing.
[f]36,344 pounds.

Table 3. 1994/95 Adak red king crab catch by statistical area.

| Stat Area | Number of Landings | Number of Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | Average Weight[b] | CPUE[c] | Dead-loss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 795200 | 19 | 11,985 | 79,831 | 6,489 | 6.7 | 2 | 442 |
| 805131 | 6 | 4,257 | 28,042 | 1,067 | 6.6 | 4 | 121 |
| 805132 | 4 | 1,727 | 11,288 | 330 | 6.5 | 5 | 71 |
| 805201 | 24 | 10,133 | 63,571 | 7,711 | 6.3 | 1 | 727 |
| 815131 | 3 | 607 | 4,158 | 232 | 6.9 | 3 | 6 |
| 815202 | 3 | 168 | 1,138 | 200 | 6.8 | 1 | 6 |
| Other | 14 | 1,460 | 8,939 | 2,117 | 6.1 | 1 | 57 |
| Total | 31 | 30,337 | 196,967 | 18,146 | 6.5 | 2 | 1,430 |

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.

Table 4. 1994/95 Adak red king crab catch statistics by month.

| Month | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Number of Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | Average Weight[b] | CPUE[c] | Dead-loss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nov | 20 | 31 | 30,337 | 196,967 | 18,146 | 6.5 | 2 | 1,430 |
| Total | 20 | 31 | 30,337 | 196,967 | 18,146 | 6.5 | 2 | 1,430 |

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.

Table 5.Adak Area `R' red king crab harvest composition by fishing season, 1960/61-1995/96.[a]

| Season | Season Opened | Season Closed | Harvest In Pounds[b] | Size Limit[c] | Price Per Lb. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1960/61 | 01/01 | 12/31 | 2,074,000 | - | N/A |
| 1961/62 | 01/01 | 12/31 | 6,114,000 | - | N/A |
| 1962/63 | 01/01 | 12/31 | 8,006,000 | - | N/A |
| 1963/64 | 01/01 | 12/31 | 17,904,000 | - | N/A |
| 1964/65 | 01/01 | 12/31 | 21,193,000 | - | N/A |
| 1965/66 | 01/01 | 12/31 | 12,915,000 | 6.5" | N/A |
| 1966/67 | 01/01 | 12/31 | 5,883,000 | 6.5" | N/A |
| 1967/68[d] | 01/01 | 12/31 | 14,131,000 | 6.5" | N/A |
| 1968/69 | | 03/15 | 16,100,000 | 7.0" | N/A |
| 1969/70 | 09/15 | 01/15 | 18,016,000 | 7.0" | N/A |
| 1970/71 | 11/01 | 03/31 | 6,057,000 | 7.0" | N/A |
| 1971/72 | 11/01 | 12/16 | 15,475,924 | 6.5" | N/A |
| 1972/73[e] | 11/01 | 02/17 | 18,724,144 | 6.5" | N/A |
| 1973/74 | 11/01 | 02/26 | 9,741,464 | 6.5" | N/A |
| 1974/75 | 01/10 | 03/05 | 2,774,963 | 6.5" | .35 |
| 1975/76 | 11/01 | 12/18 | 411,583 | 6.5" | .38 |
| 1976/77 | ----------CLOSED------ | | | | |
| 1977/78 | 02/20 | 03/20 | 905,527 | 6.5" | 1.36 |
| 1978/79[f] | 02/21 | 03/29 | 807,195 | 6.5" | 1.23 |
| 1979/80 | 01/15 | 04/01 | 467,229 | 6.5" | .68 |
| 1980/81 | 01/15 | 03/28 | 1,419,513 | 6.5" | .92 |
| 1981/82 | 11/01 | 02/15 | 1,648,926 | 6.5" | 2.01 |
| 1982/83 | 11/01 | 01/15 | 1,701,818 | 6.5" | 3.44 |
| 1983/84 | 11/10 | 12/16 | 1,981,579 | 6.5" | 3.43 |
| 1984/85 | 11/10 | 02/15 | 1,367,672 | 6.5" | 2.10 |
| 1985/86 | 11/01 | 02/15 | 906,293 | 6.5" | 2.15 |
| 1986/87 | 11/01 | 02/15 | 712,243 | 6.5" | 3.85 |
| 1987/88 | 11/01 | 02/15 | 1,213,933 | 6.5" | 4.00 |
| 1988/89 | 11/01 | 12/04 | 1,567,314 | 6.5" | 5.00 |
| 1989/90 | 11/01 | 02/15 | 1,118,566 | 6.5" | 4.20 |
| 1990/91 | 11/01 | 02/15 | 828,105 | 6.5" | 4.00 |
| 1991/92 | 11/01 | 02/15 | 951,278 | 6.5" | 3.00 |
| 1992/93 | 11/01 | 01/15 | 1,286,424 | 6.5" | 5.05 |
| 1993/94 | 11/01 | 02/15 | 698,077 | 6.5" | NA |
| 1994/95 | 11/01 | 11/28 | 196,965 | 6.5" | 5.50 |
| 1995/96[g] | 11/01 | NA | 36,344 | 6.5" | 2.70 |

[a]Includes catch from former Area 'S' now Western Aleutian District Area 'R'.
[b]Includes deadloss.
[c]Carapace width in inches.
[d]Area 'S' fishery began.
[e]Area 'S' continued until June.
[f]Area 'S' eliminated - added to Area 'R'.
[g]Preliminary data, fishery ongoing.

## ADAK BROWN KING CRAB

### *Introduction*

Adak, Area R, has as its eastern boundary 171° West longitude, as its western boundary the U.S./Russian Convention Line of 1867, and as its northern boundary 55°30' North latitude (Figure 1).

### *Historic Background*

The Adak brown king crab fishery began during the 1975/76 season when one vessel made one delivery containing this species. Occurring incidentally to the red king crab fishery, catches of brown crab were low during the 1975/76 to 1980/81 seasons (Table 1).

Fishermen began to target on brown king crab for the first time during the 1981/82 season when 14 vessels made 76 landings totaling 1.2 million pounds (Table 1). When this fishery began, most of the catch came from the North Amlia and Petrel Bank Districts. Recently the Western Aleutian District has become a significant producer as well (Figure 2). The other three districts in Area R produce much lower catches. This is due to the lack of large inter-island passes where brown king crab are most numerous. In July 1985, the minimum legal size was reduced from 6.5 to 6.0 inches across the carapace (Table 2).

### *1994/95 Fishery*

The 1994/95 Adak brown king crab fishery opened on November 1, concurrent with red king and Tanner crab fisheries in that area. As outlined in the section on Adak red king crab, pre-season registration for the Area R brown king crab fishery was required for the 1994/95 season due to anticipated high levels of participation.

A total of 88 vessels pre-registered to fish for Adak brown king crab. Of those, 27 catcher and 2 catcher processor vessels received tank inspections and entered the fishery on November 1. Of the 29 vessels receiving tank inspections for Adak brown crab, 22 were also registered to participate in the Adak red king crab fishery. One floating processor registered and processed both red and brown crab on the grounds during the season.

A total of 34 vessels registered to fish Adak brown king crab during the 1994/95 season, similar to the 21 vessels registered for the prior year's fishery. A total of 247 landings were made in 1994/95 for a total harvest of 6.4 million pounds. This compares to 147 landings and a harvest of 4.6 million pounds recorded during the 1993/94 fishery (Table 1).

Average weight of crab harvested during the 1994/95 season was 4.1 pounds. This is similar to the 4.2 pound average seen in the 1993/94 fishery. For the second consecutive year there was a significant

increase in the number of pots pulled; 165,503 in 1992/93, 212,164 in 1993/94, and 319,006 in 1994/95. Catch per pot during the 1994/95 season was at a record low of 5 crabs per pot (Table 1).

Average price paid for Adak brown king crab for the 1994/95 season was $3.33 per pound. This is higher than the $2.50 average price paid during the 1993/94 season. Total fishery value for the 1994/95 season was 20.3 million, approximately $10 million greater than the prior year (Table 3).

Although effort occurred throughout the entire registration area during the 1994/95 fishery (Table 4), the majority of the catch came from the Amukta and Seguam Pass areas in the eastern portion of the registration area. Additional harvest was reported from the western portion of the registration area in the Petrel Bank, around Semisopochnoi Island, in waters between Kiska and Attu Islands, and as far west as the Stalemate Bank northwest of Attu (Figure 2). The majority of effort for the 1994/95 season took place during April through August 15 (Table 5). Unlike previous years, a greater effort was seen throughout November to January than in previous years due to the closure of the Bristol Bay red king crab fishery that usually opens November 1.

### *1995/96 Fishery*

The 1995/96 Adak brown king crab fishery opened on November 1. A total of 11 vessels obtained observers and received tank inspections. This fishery, which has a regulatory closure date of August 15, is on-going at this time. To date a total of 928,848 pounds have been landed in 28 deliveries. Catches have averaged approximately 4 crab per pot, slightly lower than the 5 crab per pot average observed in the 1994/95 fishery (Table 1).

Weekly observer reports indicate most vessels ceased operation for the holiday season. A significant portion of the effort in this fishery is expected to shift into the snow crab fishery in the Bering Sea, which opens on January 15. A major shift of effort back to the Adak brown king crab fishery is expected at the close of the snow crab fishery in late February or early March. To date observers, assigned to all vessels participating in this fishery, have examined the contents of approximately 4,000 pots directed at brown king crab.

### *Status of Stocks*

The Adak brown king crab stocks were surveyed in a small portion of this area in 1991. No population estimates are available for this area as a result of stock assessment surveys. The fishery is managed based on size, sex and season. No harvest guideline is in effect for this fishery at this time.

Limited additional information has being collected through onboard fisheries observers, required on all processing vessels in this area since 1988. However, the number of catcher processors participating in this fishery has steadily declined (Table 3). As a result of this reduction in the number of vessels carrying observers in recent years, and the corresponding lack of biological information being collected from this area which is not regularly surveyed, the Board of Fisheries implemented regulation requiring observers on all vessels beginning with the November 1 start up of the 1995/96 Adak brown king crab fishery. Information on the size, sex and species composition of both the retained and non-retained

catch will yield area-specific information which can be used to estimate population abundance and development management measures necessary to maintain the long term health of this stock.

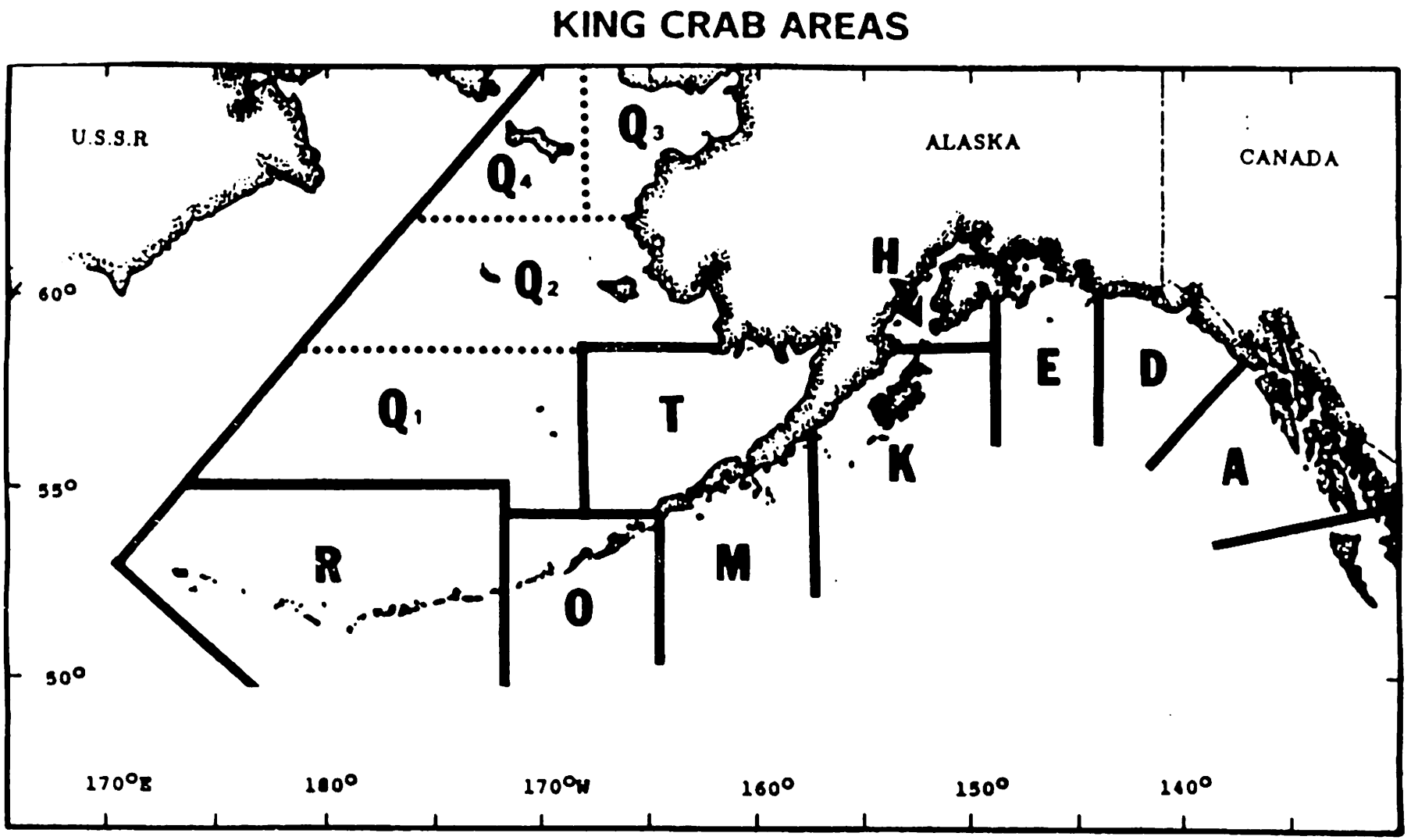



**Figure 1. Adak, Area R, king crab area.**

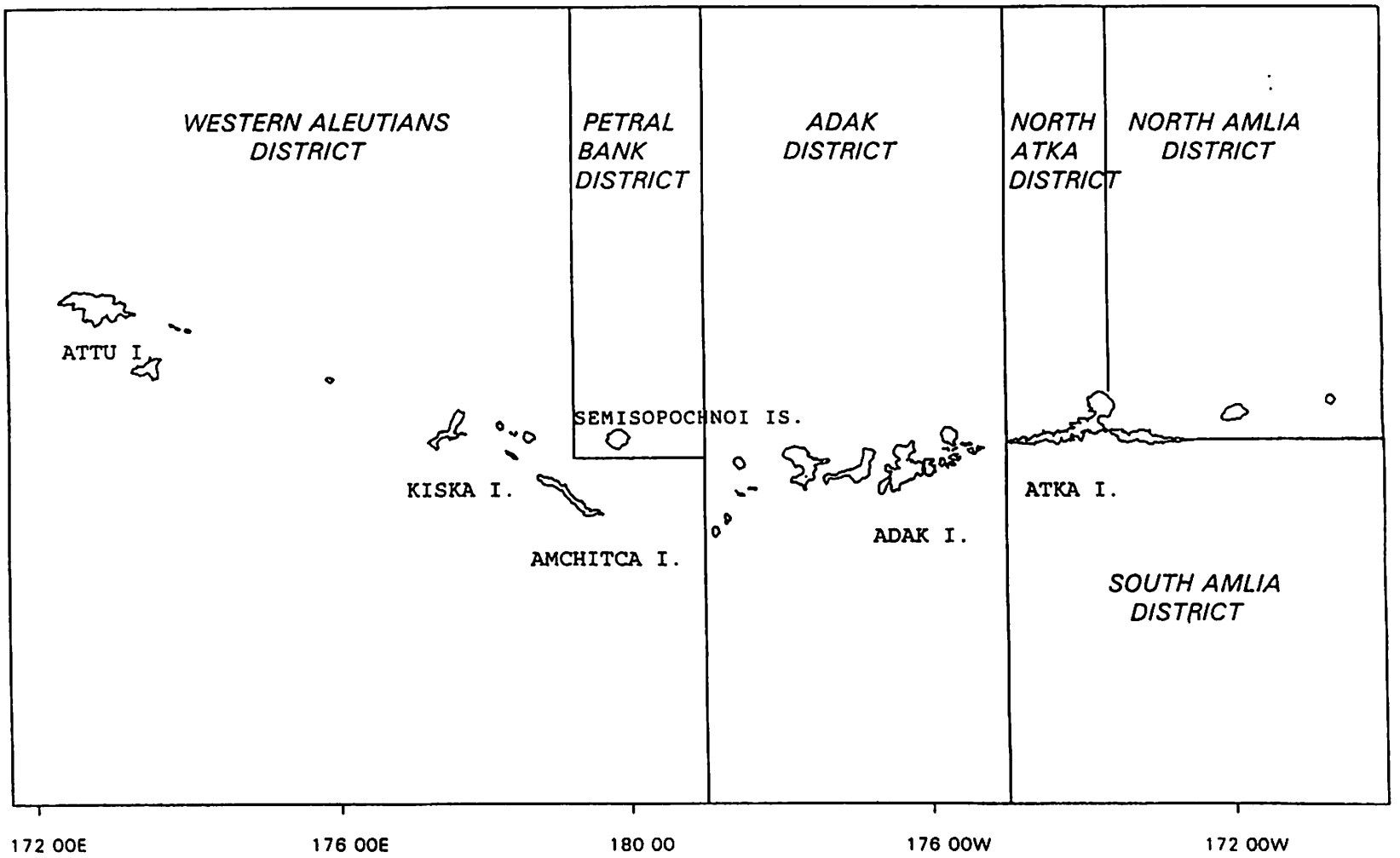



**Figure 2. Adak, Area R, king crab districts.**

Table 1. Adak, Area R, historic brown king crab catch statistics, 1975/76-1995/96.

| Season | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Number of Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | Average Weight[b] | CPUE[c] | Deadloss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1975/76 | | | CONFIDENTIAL | | | | | |
| 1976/77 | | | CONFIDENTIAL | | | | | |
| 1977/78 | | | CONFIDENTIAL | | | | | |
| 1978/79 | | | NO REPORTED CATCH | | | | | |
| 1979/80 | | | CONFIDENTIAL | | | | | |
| 1980/81 | 4 | 4 | 11,523 | 58,914 | 700 | 5.1 | 17 | 5,000 |
| 1981/82 | 14 | 76 | 217,700 | 1,194,046 | 24,627 | 5.5 | 9 | 22,064 |
| 1982/83 | 99 | 501 | 1,509,001 | 8,006,274 | 150,103 | 5.3 | 10 | 220,743 |
| 1983/84 | 157 | 1,002 | 1,534,909 | 8,128,029 | 226,798 | 5.3 | 7 | 171,021 |
| 1984/85 | 38 | 85 | 643,597 | 3,180,095 | 64,777 | 4.9 | 10 | 125,073 |
| 1985/86[d] | 49 | 386 | 2,052,048 | 11,124,759 | 202,401 | 4.5 | 12 | 5,304 |
| 1986/87 | 62 | 525 | 2,923,947 | 12,798,004 | 392,185 | 4.4 | 7 | 276,736 |
| 1987/88 | 46 | 386 | 1,908,989 | 8,001,177 | 267,705 | 4.2 | 7 | 165,415 |
| 1988/89 | 74 | 455 | 2,165,508 | 9,080,196 | 280,732 | 4.2 | 8 | 122,251 |
| 1989/90 | 64 | 505 | 2,520,786 | 10,162,400 | 324,153 | 4.0 | 8 | 100,724 |
| 1990/91[e] | 13 | 167 | 1,312,116 | 5,250,687 | 160,960 | 4.0 | 8 | 176,583 |
| 1991/92 | 16 | 206 | 1,511,751 | 6,254,409 | 192,949 | 4.1 | 8 | 96,848 |
| 1992/93 | 18 | 130 | 1,198,169 | 4,916,149 | 165,503 | 4.1 | 7 | 104,215 |
| 1993/94 | 21 | 147 | 1,393,742 | 4,635,683 | 212,164 | 4.2 | 6 | 165,358 |
| 1994/95 | 34 | 247 | 1,539,866 | 6,378,030 | 319,006 | 4.1 | 5 | 242,065 |
| 1995/96[f] | 11 | 28 | | 928,848 | | 4.4 | 4 | |

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d]Size limit reduced from 6.5 to 6 inches.
[e]Partial closure August 7.
[f]Preliminary data, fishery ongoing.

Table 2. Adak brown king crab harvest composition by fishing seasons, 1975/76-1994/95.

| Season | Season Opened | Season Closed | Harvest[a,b] | Percent New Shell | Average Length[c] | Minimum Size[d] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1975/76 | 11/01 | 12/18 | 25,490 | NA | NA | 6.5 |
| 1976/77 | 01/07 | 04/15 | 2,285 | NA | NA | 6.5 |
| 1977/78 | 02/20 | 03/20 | 47,445 | NA | NA | 6.5 |
| 1978/79 | 02/21 | 10/01 | 0 | NA | NA | 6.5 |
| 1979/80 | 01/15 | 04/01 | 23,485 | NA | NA | 6.5 |
| 1980/81 | 01/15 | 03/28 | 58,914 | 97.6 | 158.4 | 6.5 |
| 1981/82 | 11/01 | 06/15 | 1,194,046 | 90.5 | 159.6 | 6.5 |
| 1982/83 | 11/01 | 04/15 | 8,006,274 | 92.4 | 158.2 | 6.5 |
| 1983/84 | 11/10 | 04/15 | 8,128,029 | 87.8 | NA | 6.5 |
| 1984/85 | 11/10 | 07/08 | 3,180,095 | 87.5 | 156.7 | 6.5 |
| 1985/86 | 11/01 | 08/15 | 11,124,759 | 86.3 | 151.3 | 6.0 |
| 1986/87 | 11/01 | 08/15 | 12,798,004 | 69.1 | 149.5 | 6.0 |
| 1987/88 | 11/01 | 08/15 | 8,001,177 | 91.7 | 146.9 | 6.0 |
| 1988/89 | 11/01 | 08/15 | 9,080,196 | 91.2 | 149.1 | 6.0 |
| 1989/90 | 11/01 | 08/15 | 10,162,400 | 95.3 | 148.5 | 6.0 |
| 1990/91[e] | 11/01 | 08/15 | 5,250,687 | 91.5 | 144.5 | 6.0 |
| 1991/92 | 11/01 | 08/15 | 6,254,409 | 94.4 | 144.7 | 6.0 |
| 1992/93 | 11/01 | 08/15 | 4,916,149 | 93.5 | 147.0 | 6.0 |
| 1993/94 | 11/01 | 08/15 | 4,635,683 | 95.4 | 147.8 | 6.0 |
| 1994/95 | 11/01 | 08/15 | 6,378,030 | 92.9 | 149.5 | 6.0 |

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]In millimeters.
[d]Carapace width in inches.
[e]Partial closure August 7.

Table 3. Historic Adak brown king crab economic performance, 1980/81-1995/96

| Year | Season Total[a] | Number of Vessels[b] | CP's | Landings | Number of Pots Registered | Pulled | Value Exvessel | Total[d] | Season Length (Days) | Dates |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1980/81 | 0.05 | 4 | N/A | 4 | 581 | 700 | $ 0.90 | $ 0.05 | (72) | 01/15-3/28 |
| 1981/82 | 1.2 | 14 | N/A | 76 | 2,647 | 24,627 | $ 2.06 | $ 2.5 | (227) | 11/01-6/15 |
| 1982/83 | 7.8 | 99 | N/A | 501 | 13,111 | 150,103 | $ 3.01 | $23.5 | (166) | 11/01-4/15 |
| 1983/84 | 8.0 | 157 | N/A | 1,002 | 17,406 | 226,798 | $ 2.92 | $23.4 | (157) | 11/10-4/15 |
| 1984/85 | 3.1 | 38 | N/A | 85 | 5,270 | 64,777 | $ 2.00 | $ 6.2 | (240) | 11/10-7/08 |
| 1985/86 | 11.1 | 49 | N/A | 386 | 7,057 | 202,401 | $ 2.50 | $27.8 | (288) | 11/01-8/15 |
| 1986/87 | 12.5 | 62 | N/A | 325 | 12,958 | 392,185 | $ 3.00 | $37.5 | (288) | 11/01-8/15 |
| 1987/88 | 7.8 | 46 | N/A | 386 | 10,687 | 267,705 | $ 3.00 | $23.4 | (289) | 11/01-8/15 |
| 1988/89 | 9.0 | 74 | 13 | 455 | 23,627 | 280,732 | $ 3.20 | $28.8 | (288) | 11/01-8/15 |
| 1989/90 | 10.1 | 64 | 15 | 505 | 14,724 | 324,153 | $ 3.00 | $30.3 | (288) | 11/01-8/15 |
| 1990/91 | 5.3 | 13 | 6 | 167 | 7,380 | 160,960 | $ 3.00 | $15.9 | (288) | 11/01-8/15 |
| 1991/92 | 6.1 | 16 | 7 | 206 | 7,635[e] | 192,949 | $ 2.50 | $15.2 | (289) | 11/01-8/15 |
| 1992/93 | 4.9 | 18 | 4 | 130 | 8,236[e] | 165,503 | $ 2.05 | $10.1 | (288) | 11/01-8/15 |
| 1993/94 | 4.6 | 21 | 1 | 147 | 11,970 | 212,164 | $ 2.50 | $11.2 | (288) | 11/01-8/15 |
| 1994/95 | 6.1 | 34 | 2 | 247 | 15,604 | 319,006 | $ 3.33 | $20.3 | (288) | 11/01-8/15 |
| 1995/96[f] | .9 | 11 | 2 | 28 | | NA | $ 1.98 | $ 1.8 | | 11/01-Present |

[a]Millions of pounds, deadloss not included.
[b]Includes catcher-processors.
[c]No separate registration from red king crab.
[d]Millions of dollars.
[e]Gear directed fishing on brown king crab.
[f]Preliminary data, fishery ongoing.

Table 4. 1994/95 Adak brown king crab catch by statistical area.

| Stat. Area | Number of Landings | Number of Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | Average Weight | CPUE[c] | Dead-loss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 715130 | 4 | 25,363 | 97,712 | 2,328 | 3.8 | 11 | 3,347 |
| 715201 | 3 | 7,148 | 27,139 | 940 | 3.8 | 8 | 950 |
| 715202 | 30 | 143,269 | 573,124 | 17,192 | 4.0 | 8 | 32,162 |
| 715231 | 34 | 182,894 | 724,930 | 23,341 | 4.0 | 8 | 24,754 |
| 715232 | 8 | 27,522 | 111,462 | 5,240 | 4.0 | 5 | 11,381 |
| 725130 | 4 | 13,331 | 62,848 | 2,256 | 4.7 | 6 | 971 |
| 725201 | 27 | 123,022 | 507,346 | 20,046 | 4.1 | 6 | 19,871 |
| 725203 | 6 | 24,435 | 106,477 | 7,700 | 4.4 | 3 | 206 |
| 725230 | 19 | 115,912 | 454,620 | 21,324 | 4.0 | 5 | 14,554 |
| 735201 | 9 | 19,569 | 79,416 | 4,962 | 4.0 | 4 | 4,717 |
| 735230 | 15 | 39,224 | 155,391 | 11,459 | 4.0 | 3 | 5,902 |
| 745131 | 8 | 16,072 | 77,186 | 5,531 | 4.8 | 3 | 2,739 |
| 745206 | 3 | 3,751 | 16,282 | 588 | 4.3 | 6 | 517 |
| 765100 | 3 | 13,143 | 57,672 | 2,898 | 4.4 | 5 | 440 |
| 765203 | 3 | 1,160 | 5,184 | 273 | 4.5 | 4 | 27 |
| 775131 | 4 | 1,335 | 5,406 | 1,566 | 4.1 | 1 | 355 |
| 775133 | 5 | 6,961 | 30,754 | 1,507 | 4.4 | 5 | 1,155 |
| 775134 | 3 | 3,106 | 13,581 | 622 | 4.4 | 5 | 849 |
| 775135 | 6 | 5,223 | 22,164 | 1,477 | 4.2 | 4 | 1,012 |
| 775136 | 4 | 3,591 | 15,117 | 637 | 4.2 | 6 | 914 |
| 785101 | 3 | 3,046 | 12,542 | 545 | 4.1 | 6 | 156 |
| 785102 | 16 | 17,179 | 70,633 | 5,165 | 4.0 | 3 | 760 |
| 785103 | 7 | 7,549 | 33,083 | 1,465 | 4.4 | 5 | 1,064 |
| 785131 | 24 | 44,089 | 192,724 | 19,587 | 4.4 | 2 | 14,616 |
| 785135 | 13 | 15,110 | 64,275 | 2,999 | 4.3 | 5 | 1,727 |
| 795101 | 3 | 3,108 | 12`827 | 502 | 4.1 | 6 | 728 |
| 795102 | 9 | 7,797 | 31,167 | 2,492 | 4.0 | 3 | 2,786 |
| 795131 | 8 | 7,959 | 33,776 | 1,925 | 4.0 | 4 | 728 |
| 795132 | 16 | 57,792 | 234,078 | 8,933 | 4.0 | 7 | 11,327 |
| 795200 | 28 | 17,395 | 76,216 | 4,106 | 4.0 | 4 | 380 |
| 795230 | 15 | 9,967 | 43,428 | 2,019 | 4.3 | 5 | 212 |
| 805103 | 25 | 18,111 | 76,099 | 2,080 | 4.2 | 9 | 938 |
| 805131 | 8 | 5,069 | 20,701 | 377 | 4.1 | 13 | 133 |
| 805132 | 29 | 74,930 | 313,901 | 8,363 | 4.0 | 9 | 721 |

(Continued)

Table 4. (Page 2 of 2)

| Stat. Area | Number of Landings | Number of Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | Average Weight | CPUE[c] | Dead-loss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 805201 | 32 | 30,312 | 126,562 | 4,664 | 4.0 | 7 | 6,152 |
| 805400 | 6 | 18,918 | 72,747 | 6,906 | 4.0 | 3 | 4,930 |
| 815100 | 11 | 4,631 | 19,566 | 621 | 4.0 | 8 | 29 |
| 815131 | 20 | 19,133 | 78,710 | 2,270 | 4.1 | 8 | 41 |
| 825132 | 10 | 5,149 | 24,925 | 2,525 | 4.8 | 2 | 667 |
| 825201 | 15 | 24,634 | 114,405 | 6,389 | 4.6 | 4 | 2,291 |
| 825202 | 4 | 5,873 | 26,107 | 1,381 | 4.5 | 4 | 1,600 |
| 835130 | 15 | 16,101 | 74,377 | 5,655 | 4.6 | 3 | 1,911 |
| 835200 | 28 | 64,385 | 299,460 | 19,699 | 4.7 | 3 | 13,842 |
| 845130 | 13 | 21,331 | 93,320 | 7,531 | 4.4 | 3 | 13,788 |
| 845202 | 25 | 65,083 | 271,780 | 19,410 | 4.2 | 3 | 11,248 |
| 855200 | 13 | 40,578 | 162,503 | 11,484 | 4.0 | 4 | 5,954 |
| 855231 | 4 | 18,938 | 68,709 | 3,376 | 4.0 | 6 | 3,452 |
| 865203 | 7 | 16,099 | 62,434 | 2,560 | 3.9 | 6 | 2,513 |
| 865231 | 3 | 8,568 | 33,928 | 1,114 | 4.0 | 8 | 804 |
| 875232 | 5 | 23,964 | 109,518 | 8,102 | 5.0 | 3 | 2,781 |
| Others[d] | 39 | 65,752 | 280,059 | 15,302 | 4.3 | 4 | 9,499 |
| TOTAL | 247 | 1,539,866 | 6,378,030 | 319,006 | 4.1 | 5 | 242,065 |

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In Pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d] 28 statistical areas.

Table 5. 1994/95 Adak brown king crab catch statistics by month.

| Month | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Crab | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | Average Weight[b] | CPUE[c] | Dead-loss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nov | 19 | 24 | 101,434 | 440,611 | 21,811 | 4.3 | 4.5 | 16,575 |
| Dec | 17 | 28 | 170,463 | 719,877 | 28,692 | 4.2 | 5.5 | 48,329 |
| Jan | 9 | 15 | 105,248 | 424,267 | 15,077 | 4.0 | 7.0 | 4,330 |
| Feb | 5 | 8 | 67,158 | 291,542 | 11,378 | 4.3 | 5.5 | 48,329 |
| Mar | 9 | 11 | 83,571 | 339,387 | 13,555 | 4.0 | 6.0 | 13,267 |
| Apr | 18 | 31 | 170,332 | 709,260 | 49,298 | 4.2 | 3.5 | 17,979 |
| May | 23 | 41 | 261,873 | 1,066,258 | 51,270 | 4.1 | 4.9 | 43,197 |
| Jun | 20 | 31 | 214,877 | 878,772 | 44,342 | 4.1 | 4.8 | 30,290 |
| Jul | 18 | 37 | 242,615 | 997,643 | 54,066 | 4.1 | 4.4 | 33,607 |
| Aug | 15 | 21 | 122,359 | 510,413 | 29,717 | 4.2 | 4.0 | 15,791 |
| TOTAL | 34 | 247 | 1,539,866 | 6,378,038 | 319,006 | 4.1 | 4.7 | 242,065 |

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.

# BERING SEA DISTRICT TANNER CRAB

## *Introduction*

The Bering Sea District of Statistical Area J includes all waters of the Bering Sea north of the latitude of Cape Sarichef and east of the U.S.-Russian Convention Line of 1867. This district is divided into the Eastern and Western Subdistricts, east and west of 173° West Longitude, respectively (Figure 1). The Eastern Subdistrict is further divided into the Norton Sound and General Sections. Two Tanner crab species, *Chionoecetes bairdi* and *C. opilio*, are commercially harvested in the Bering Sea District.

## *C. bairdi Tanner crab*

### *Historic Background*

The first reported Tanner crab catches were made in 1968 incidental to the king crab fishery. In 1974 a directed *C. bairdi* crab fishery began. During the fall Board of Fisheries meeting in 1978, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) estimated as much as a 50% decline in *C. bairdi* stocks could be expected during the 1978/79 fishing season, and that the stock would continue to decline for several years. As predicted, the *C. bairdi* stocks showed a sharp decline. Catches decreased from 29.7 million pounds 1981, to 5.3 million pounds in 1983, to a total closure of the *C. bairdi* fishery in 1986 (Table 1).

Although prices have remained high for *C. bairdi*, fishing effort has decreased as the stock abundance decreased. The harvest of *C. bairdi* has been primarily from the Southeastern Subdistrict (now the Eastern Subdistrict). The historic catch of *C. bairdi*, by subdistrict and season, is summarized in Table 4.

During their Spring 1992 meeting, the Alaska Board of Fisheries passed regulations which set a 250 pot limit on all vessels fishing king and Tanner crab in the Bering Sea. The pot limits, which were to be applied through a buoy sticker program, were implemented to assist in-season management of the fisheries and to reduce the potential for pot loss.

On November 10, 1992 buoy sticker requirements were suspended due to a high failure rate of the stickers adhering properly to buoys. Despite suspension of the buoy sticker requirement, the 250 pot limit remained in effect until repealed by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on November 30. This action by NMFS was due to perceived inconsistencies with provisions of the Bering Sea/Aleutian Island king and Tanner crab Federal Management Plan (FMP) which mandated application of pot limits in a nondiscriminatory manner.

During the Spring 1993 Board of Fisheries meeting regulations were adopted which opened and closed that portion of the Bering Sea east of 168° West longitude to fishing for *C. bairdi* Tanner crab concurrent to the regulatory opening and emergency order closure of Area T red king crab. The Board of Fisheries also mandated a reopening of the Bering Sea between 163° and 173° West longitude for

the *C. Bairdi* fishery 10 days following the closure of Area T king crab. This action by the Board of Fisheries was based on observer bycatch data and historic harvest patterns which indicated the majority of female king crab bycatch in the Bering Sea king and Tanner crab fisheries came from waters east of 163° West longitude.

In an attempt to reduce the number of pots, thereby slowing the harvest rate to allow sufficient time for in-season management, the board also passed regulations which set pot limits on all vessels fishing king and Tanner crab in the Bering Sea based on vessel overall length. Vessels in excess of 125 feet are limited to 250 pots and vessels 125 feet or less are limited to 200 pots.

The Bristol Bay red king crab fishery failed to open for the 1994 season, the first such closure since 1983. As a result, *C. bairdi* fishermen were limited to a harvest guideline of 7.5 million pounds in that portion of the Eastern Bering Sea west of 163° West Longitude.

### *1995 Fishery*

The 1995 Bering Sea *C. Bairdi* Tanner crab fishery opened by regulation at 12:00 noon, November 1. For the second consecutive year the red king crab fishery in the Bristol Bay portion of the Bering Sea failed to open. As a result, only that portion of the Eastern Subdistrict west of 163° West longitude was open fishing for *C. bairdi* Tanner crab. The guideline harvest level (GHL) for the area open to fishing was 5.5 million pounds.

Tank inspections began on October 31, in Dutch Harbor, Akutan, King Cove, and St. Paul. A total of 196 vessels, including 11 catcher-processors, registered for the fishery. One floating processor also registered for on-the-grounds processing. This compares to a total of 183 vessels (including 9 catcher processors) which registered and participated in last year's fishery, which was also limited to that portion of the Eastern Subdistrict west of 163° West longitude.

Despite ideal weather conditions throughout the course of the 1995 fishery, fishermen managed to harvest only 4.2 million pounds of the 5.5 million pound GHL in a 16 day season which was closed by emergency order at 12:00 noon on November 16. A total of 256 landings were made to processors in the Pribilof Islands, Akutan, Dutch Harbor , King Cove and to the one floating processor operating in Akutan Bay. Included in the total landings were 25 vessels which checked out of the Bering Sea and delivered to processors in Kodiak at the close of the season.

Daily in-season catch reports received from 61 volunteer catcher vessels and all 11 catcher processors indicated the fleet-wide catch declined from 10 crab per pot in the opening days of the fishery to less than 6 crabs per pot on November 13, when the fishery closure was announced. Overall fleet-wide performance for the 1995 fishery was 8 crab per pot. This compares to a 13 crab per pot average for the prior 3 seasons (Table 1).

Average weight of *C. bairdi* Tanner crab harvested during the 1995 season was 2.3 pounds, identical to the prior three seasons (Table 2). The ex-vessel price paid for *C.* bairdi in 1995 was $2.80 per pound for a total fishery value of $11.7 million. This compares to an ex-vessel value of $3.75 per pound and a total fishery value of $28.5 million for the 1994 season (Table 3).

The majority of the 1995 harvest of *C. bairdi* came from the southwest portion of the Eastern Subdistrict immediately west of 163° West Longitude. A less significant portion of the catch came from waters southwest of the Pribilof Islands (Table 6).

### *Stock Status*

The 1995 NMFS survey indicated the estimated total abundance of large *C. bairdi* crabs has continued to decline. According to NMFS this decrease is expected to continue and is a result of senescence of the crabs which constituted strong year classes hatched in 1983 and 1984. At this time there is no evidence that significant recruitment to this stock will take place in the near future.

## *C. opilio Tanner crab*

### *Historic Background*

The first reported landings of *C. opilio* Tanner crab were made during the 1977/78 season incidental to *C. bairdi*. A reduction in *C. bairdi* stocks resulted in declines in the commercial harvests from 29.7 million pounds 1981, to 5.3 million pounds in 1983, to a total closure of the *C. bairdi* fishery in 1986 (Table 1). As a result the harvest of *C. opilio* increased from 52.7 million pounds in 1981 to 97.9 million pounds in 1986 to a high of 328.6 million pounds in 1991 (Table 7).

### *1995 Fishery*

The 1995 Bering Sea *C. opilio* fishery opened by regulation at 12:00 noon on January 15. A total of 253 vessels made 869 deliveries for a season harvest of 75.3 million pounds. A total of 506,802 pots were reported pulled throughout the course of the fishery (Table 7 and 8).

The pre-season guideline harvest level (GHL) for the 1995 season was 55.7 million pounds, based on male crab 4 inches and larger (carapace width). This was a 47% decrease from last season. This year's GHL was divided between the Eastern and Western Subdistricts; 25.0 and 30.7 million pounds, respectively. The 1994 GHL mid-point of 105.8 million pounds was divided between the Eastern and Western Subdistricts; 51.6 and 54.2 million pounds respectively.

For the 1995 season tank inspections were conducted by ADF&G staff at St. Paul, King Cove, Akutan, and Dutch Harbor beginning at 12:00 noon on January 14. The majority of vessels received inspections in St. Paul (148 vessels), followed by Dutch Harbor (80 vessels), Akutan (18 vessels) and King Cove (9 vessels). A total 255 vessels, including 19 catcher processors, registered and given tank inspections. An additional 15 floating processor vessels were also registered for on-the-grounds processing. In 1994 273 vessels registered and received tank inspections for the *C. opilio* fishery in the Bering Sea.

The large number of vessels receiving inspections at St. Paul and high winds, which forced a closure of the harbor for approximately ten hours, caused the inspection process in that location to be protracted over several days. Also contributing to this delay was a large number of vessels which were not in compliance with pot buoy tag and 3" tunnel restriction regulations at the time of the tank inspection.

These delays prompted some vessels to set gear prior to receiving a tank inspection. Several of these vessels were cited by Fish and Wildlife Protection. While last year's tank inspections in St. Paul took approximately the same length of time as this year, due to south west winds which closed the harbor for several days, a fisherman's strike eliminated pressure on the fleet to be on the fishing grounds at the season opening.

The fishery officially opened at noon on January 15, however much of the fleet did not begin setting gear until the following day due to strong northerly winds and extreme sea spray icing. These conditions claimed one vessel and all six members of the crew shortly after the noon opening. Strong sub-freezing winds from the north continued through the first week of February, pushing the ice pack approximately 15 south of St. Paul Island by the February 3rd. This was the most southerly progression of ice, for this time period, in the last 39 years according to the NOAH weather station in Anchorage.

As sea ice moved steadily south and west across the Bering Sea, vessels fishing in the Western Subdistrict and, to a lessor extent, the northern portions of the Eastern Subdistrict were forced to continually move their gear south. This effectively reduced available fishing area, concentrating vessels in the southern portion of both the Eastern and Western Subdistricts. In the Eastern Subdistrict catch per unit of effort (number of crab per pot) fell from 206 during the first week of the fishery to 77 by the end of the third week. Similarly, in the west catch per unit of effort (CPUE) dropped from 152 to 61. Fishery performance in the Eastern subdistrict peaked during the second week of the fishery at 149 crab per pot. In the Western Subdistrict fishery performance peaked in the third week of the fishery at 203 crab per pot.

By the end of the third week of the fishery catch in the Eastern Subdistrict totaled 25.5 million pounds from 338 landings. In the Western Subdistrict the catch from 194 landings totaled 22.7 million pounds for a total harvest of 48.2 million pounds. On February 7 a harvest projection, based on fishery performance up to that time, indicated the harvest guideline midpoint of 55.7 million pounds would be met or exceeded with 10 additional days of fishing. At this time the long term weather forecast predicted winds to shift from north to southwest and push sea ice north. This was expected to open up additional fishing area in both subdistricts. As a result, a closure of the entire Bering Sea District was announced for noon February 17.

At 33 days, the 1995 fishery was the shortest on record. This years harvest of 75.2 million pounds exceeded the pre-season GHL midpoint of 55.7 million by 35% (Table 9). Total harvest from the Eastern and Western Subdistricts was 39.7 and 35.5 million pounds respectively (Tables 10 and 11). Catches in the Eastern Subdistrict came predominantly from the southwest portion of the subdistrict in areas immediately west of the Pribilof Islands. Catches from the Western Subdistrict were distributed throughout the southern portion of the area between the ice edge and the 100 fathom contour (Table 13). This years closure occurred approximately 2 weeks earlier than the 1994 season closure on March 1, and almost a month earlier than the March 15 closure of the 1993 season.

Overall CPUE (in crabs per pot pull) in the 1995 fishery averaged 102 in the Eastern Subdistrict and 142 in the Western Subdistrict. This is a reduction from the 149 and 173 observed for these same two areas respectively during the 1994 fishery (Tables 10 and 11). Fishery CPUE for the entire Bering Sea District for the 1995 fishery was 117. This compares to a district average of 160 in 1994 and 175 in 1993 (Tables 7 and 8). Reductions in performance of the 1995 fishery are believed to be a result of

reduced stock abundance and a reduction in fishing area available due to the progressively southward encroachment of sea ice.

Crabs averaged 1.2 pounds in this year's fishery compared to 1.3 pounds in 1994 and 1.4 pounds in 1993 (Table 12). Reduced average weights are thought to be caused by a larger percentage of sub 4" crab retained during the 1995 fishery. Based on length frequency data collected dockside, 17% of legal *C. opilio* crab landed were under 4" in carapace width. In 1994 sub 4" crab made up approximately 12% of the harvest.

Despite a smaller harvest in 1995, approximately one half that landed in 1994, the exvessel value of the 1995 fishery was $186.1 million, only a 3.3% decrease from the 1994 fishery value of $192.4 million. This was due to an exvessel value of $2.43 per pound in 1995, the highest on record. The exvessel valued paid to fishermen in 1994 was $1.30 per pound compared to $0.75 per pound in 1993 (Table 9).

### *C. opilio Stock Status*

Data from the 1994 NMFS Bering Sea trawl survey, presented in the NMFS Alaska Fisheries Science Center Processed Report 94-07, indicated total abundance of large males (over 4 inches CW) was 71.6 million crabs, a 47% decrease from the 1993 assessment survey. According to survey results 45% of large males were located in the Eastern Subdistrict and sublegal males decreased by 24% since 1993. However, abundance of juvenile males was similar to 1993 estimates. No significant change in abundance of large and small females was apparent. While the number of small male crab showed a 24% decrease, total abundance in this size category is still relatively high. It is unknown at this time if these small male crab, located mostly in the northern part of the district, will migrate south and continue to grow. Based on the uncertainty of these crab recruiting into the fishery NMFS forecasts a continued decline in the fishable stock in the near future.

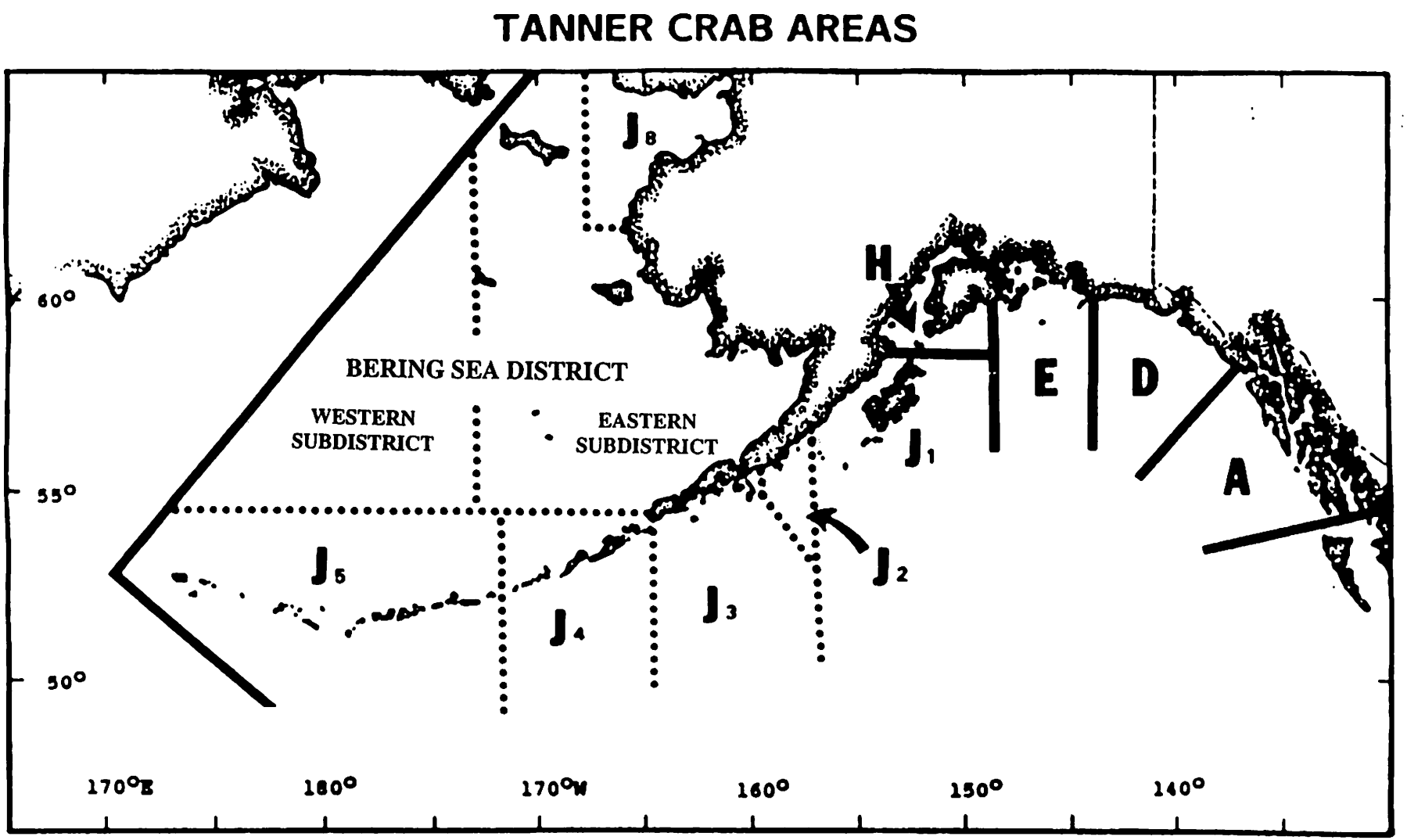



Figure 1. Bering Sea Tanner crab district and subdistricts.

Table 1. Historic Bering Sea *C. bairdi* catch statistics by season, 1968-1995.

| Year | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Number of Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | CPUE[c] | Average Weight[b] | Average Width[d] | % New Shell | Deadloss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1968 | NA | 7 | 6,400 | 17,900 | 1,400 | 5 | 2.8 | - | - | NA |
| 1969 | NA | 131 | 353,300 | 1,008,900 | 29,800 | 12 | 2.9 | - | - | NA |
| 1970 | NA | 66 | 482,300 | 1,014,700 | 16,400 | 29 | 2.1 | - | - | NA |
| 1971 | NA | 22 | 61,300 | 166,100 | 7,300 | 8 | 2.7 | - | - | NA |
| 1972 | NA | 14 | 42,061 | 107,761 | 4,260 | 10 | 2.6 | - | - | NA |
| 1973 | NA | 44 | 93,595 | 231,668 | 15,730 | 6 | 2.5 | - | - | NA |
| 1974 | NA | 69 | 2,531,825 | 5,044,197 | 22,014 | 115 | 2.0 | - | - | NA |
| 1974/75 | 28 | 80 | 2,773,770 | 7,028,378 | 38,462 | 72 | 2.5 | - | - | NA |
| 1975/76 | 66 | 304 | 8,956,036 | 22,358,107 | 141,206 | 63 | 2.5 | - | - | NA |
| 1976/77 | 83 | 541 | 20,251,508 | 51,455,221 | 297,471 | 68 | 2.5 | - | - | NA |
| 1977/78 | 120 | 861 | 26,350,688 | 66,648,954 | 516,350 | 51 | 2.5 | 152.8 | 88.0 | 218,099 |
| 1978/79 | 144 | 817 | 16,726,518 | 42,547,174 | 402,697 | 42 | 2.5 | 152.7 | 95.0 | 76,000 |
| 1979/80 | 152 | 804 | 14,685,611 | 36,614,315 | 488,434 | 30 | 2.5 | 151.4 | 90.0 | 56,446 |
| 1981 | 165 | 761 | 11,845,958 | 29,630,492 | 559,626 | 21 | 2.5 | 149.4 | 86.6 | 101,594 |
| 1982 | 125 | 791 | 4,830,980 | 11,008,779 | 490,099 | 10 | 2.3 | 148.8 | 85.4 | 138,159 |
| 1983 | 108 | 448 | 2,286,756 | 5,273,881 | 282,006 | 8 | 2.3 | 148.8 | 70.5 | 60,029 |
| 1984 | 41 | 134 | 516,877 | 1,208,223 | 61,357 | 8 | 2.3 | 146.5 | 40.0 | 5,025 |
| 1985 | 44 | 166 | 1,283,474 | 3,151,498 | 104,707 | 12 | 2.4 | 150.0 | 65.0 | 14,096 |
| 1986 | SEASON CLOSED | | | | | | | | | |
| 1987 | SEASON CLOSED | | | | | | | | | |
| 1988 | 98 | 248 | 897,059 | 2,210,394 | 112,334 | 8 | 2.5 | 143.5 | 70.2 | 10,724 |
| 1989 | 109 | 359 | 2,907,021 | 7,012,965 | 184,892 | 16 | 2.4 | 149.4 | 80.8 | 34,664 |
| 1990 | 179 | 1,032 | 10,717,924 | 24,549,299 | 711,137 | 15 | 2.3 | 148.1 | 96.5 | 87,475 |
| 1990/91 | 255 | 1,756 | 16,608,625 | 40,081,555 | 883,391 | 19 | 2.4 | 149.7 | 95.3 | 210,769 |
| 1991/92 | 285 | 2,339 | 12,924,034 | 31,796,381 | 1,244,633 | 10 | 2.5 | 150.4 | 93.2 | 279,741 |
| 1992/93 | 294 | 2,084 | 15,265,880 | 35,130,866 | 1,200,885 | 13 | 2.3 | 148.0 | 90.5 | 343,955 |
| 1993/94 | 296 | 862 | 7,235,498 | 16,891,320 | 576,464 | 13 | 2.3 | 150.7 | 93.9 | 258,389 |
| 1994 | 183 | 349 | 3,351,639 | 7,766,886 | 249,536 | 13 | 2.3 | 150.0 | 92.5 | 132,780 |
| 1995 | 196 | 256 | 1,877,303 | 4,233,061 | 247,853 | 8 | 2.3 | | | 44,508 |

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In Pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d]Carapace width in millimeters.

Table 2. Historic Bering Sea *C. bairdi* Tanner crab seasons, 1968-1995.

| Season | Date Opened | Date Closed | Number of Vessels | Harvest[a,b] | Average Weight[b] | CPUE[c] | Price/ Pound |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1968[d] | | | NA | 17.9 | 2.8 | 5 | NA |
| 1969[d] | | | NA | 1,008.9 | 2.9 | 12 | NA |
| 1970[d] | | | NA | 1,014.7 | 2.1 | 29 | NA |
| 1971[d] | | | NA | 166.1 | 2.7 | 8 | NA |
| 1972[d] | | | NA | 108.8 | 2.6 | 10 | NA |
| 1973[d] | | | NA | 231.7 | 2.5 | 6 | NA |
| 1974[d] | | | NA | 5,044.2 | 2.0 | 115 | NA |
| 1974/75 | 07-29 | 06-15 | 28 | 7,027.4 | 2.5 | 72 | $ 0.20 |
| 1975/76 | 08-01 | 07-15 | 66 | 22,358.1 | 2.5 | 63 | $ 0.19 |
| 1976/77 | 08-01 | 07-07 | 83 | 51,455.2 | 2.5 | 68 | $ 0.30 |
| 1977/78 | 09-15 | 06-15 | 120 | 66,649.0 | 2.5 | 51 | $ 0.38 |
| 1978/79 | 11-10 | 05-24 | 144 | 42,547.2 | 2.5 | 42 | $ 0.52 |
| 1979/80 | 11-10 | 05-11 | 152 | 36,614.3 | 2.5 | 30 | $ 0.52 |
| 1981 | 01-15 | 04-15 | 165 | 29,630.5 | 2.5 | 21 | $ 0.58 |
| 1982 | 02-15 | 06-15 | 125 | 11,008.8 | 2.3 | 10 | $ 1.06 |
| 1983[e] | 02-15 | 05-22 | 108 | 5,273.9 | 2.3 | 8 | $ 1.20 |
| | | 06-15 | | | | | |
| 1984 | 02-15 | 06-15 | 41 | 1,208.2 | 2.3 | 8 | $ 0.95 |
| 1985 | 01-15 | 06-15 | 44 | 3,151.5 | 2.4 | 12 | $ 1.40 |
| 1986 | | S E A S O N | C L O S E D | | | | |
| 1987 | | S E A S O N | C L O S E D | | | | |
| 1988 | 01-15 | 04-20 | 98 | 2,210.4 | 2.5 | 8 | $ 2.17 |
| 1989 | 01-15 | 05-07 | 109 | 7,013.0 | 2.4 | 16 | $ 2.90 |
| 1990 | 01-15 | 04-09[f] | | | | | |
| | | 04-24[g] | 179 | 24,549.3 | 2.3 | 15 | $ 1.85 |
| 1990/91 | 11-20 | 03-25 | 255 | 40,081.6 | 2.4 | 19 | $ 1.12 |
| 1991/92 | 11-15 | 03-31 | 285 | 31,796.4 | 2.5 | 10 | $ 1.50 |
| 1992/93 | 11-15 | 03-31 | 294 | 35,130.9 | 2.3 | 13 | $ 1.69 |
| 1993/94 | 11-01 | 11-10[h] | 283 | 4,114.9 | 2.4 | 7 | $ 1.90 |
| | 11-20 | 01-01[i] | 261 | 12,776.4 | 2.3 | 17 | $ 1.90 |
| 1994 | 11-01 | 11-21[i] | 183 | 7,766.9 | 2.3 | 13 | $ 3.75 |
| 1995 | 11-01 | 11-16[i] | 196 | 4,233.1 | 2.3 | 8 | $ 2.80 |

[a]Figures given in thousands - deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d]Incidental to the king crab fishery.
[e]Partial Bering Sea closure.
[f]East of 165° West longitude.
[g]West of 165° West longitude.
[h]East of 168° West longitude.
[i]163° -173° West longitude.

Table 3. Historic Bering Sea *C. bairdi* Tanner crab economic performance, 1979/80-1995.

| Year | GHL[a,b] | Season Total[b] | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Number of Pots Registered | Number of Pots Pulled | Value Exvessel | Value Total[c] | Season Length (Days) | Season Length Dates |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1979/80 | 28-36 | 36.5 | 152 | 804 | 40,273 | 488,434 | $ 0.52 | $ 19.0 | (189) | 11/01-05/14 |
| 1981 | 28-36 | 29.6 | 165 | 761 | 42,910 | 559,626 | $ 0.58 | $ 17.2 | (88) | 01/15-04/18 |
| 1982 | 12-16 | 10.9 | 125 | 791 | 36,396 | 490,099 | $ 1.06 | $ 11.5 | (118) | 02/15-06/15 |
| 1983 | 5.6 | 5.2 | 108 | 448 | 15,255 | 282,006 | $ 1.20 | $ 6.2 | (118) | 02/15-06/15 |
| 1984 | 7.1 | 1.2 | 41 | 134 | 9,851 | 61,357 | $ 0.95 | $ 1.1 | (118) | 02/15-06/15 |
| 1985 | 3.0 | 3.1 | 44 | 166 | 15,325 | 104,707 | $ 1.40 | $ 4.3 | (149) | 01/15-06/15 |
| 1986 | | | | NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY | | | | | | |
| 1987 | | | | NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY | | | | | | |
| 1988 | 5.6 | 2.2 | 98 | 248 | 38,765 | 112,334 | $ 2.17 | $ 4.8 | (93) | 01/15-04/20 |
| 1989 | 13.5 | 7.0 | 109 | 359 | 43,607 | 184,892 | $ 2.90 | $ 20.3 | (110) | 01/15-05/07 |
| 1990[d] | 29.5 | 24.5 | 179 | 1,032 | 46,440 | 711,137 | $ 1.85 | $ 45.3 | (89) | 01/15-04/24 |
| 1990/91 | 42.8 | 39.7 | 255 | 1,756 | 75,356 | 883,391 | $ 1.12 | $ 44.5 | (126) | 11/20-03/25 |
| 1991/92 | 32.8 | 31.5 | 285 | 2,339 | 85,401 | 1,244,633 | $ 1.50 | $ 47.3 | (137) | 11/15-03/31 |
| 1992/93 | 39.2 | 35.1 | 294 | 2,084 | 71,481 | 1,200,885 | $ 1.69 | $ 58.8 | (137) | 11/15-03/31 |
| 1993[e] | 10.7 | 4.1 | 283 | 347 | 62,302 | 250,501 | $ 1.90 | $ 7.6 | (10) | 11/01-11/10 |
| 1993/94[f] | 9.1 | 12.8 | 261 | 515 | 53,737 | 325,963 | $ 1.90 | $ 24.0 | (42) | 11/20-01/01 |
| 1994[f] | 7.5 | 7.6 | 183 | 349 | 38,670 | 249,536 | $ 3.75 | $ 28.5 | (20) | 11/01-11/21 |
| 1995 | 5.5 | 4.2 | 196 | 256 | 40,827 | 247,853 | $ 2.80 | $ 11.7 | (15) | 11/01-11/16 |

[a]Guideline Harvest Level
[b]Millions of pounds, deadloss not included.
[c]Millions of dollars.
[d]Winter fishery.
[e]East of 168° West longitude.
[f]163° -173° West longitude.

Table 4. Historic Bering Sea *C. bairdi* catch by subdistrict, 1974/75-1995

| Season | Subdistrict | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | Average Weight[b] | CPUE[c] | Deadloss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1974/75 | Southeastern | | 72 | 2,526,687 | 6,504,984 | 32,275 | 2.6 | 78 | 0 |
| | Pribilofs | | 8 | 247,083 | 523,394 | 3,923 | 2.1 | 63 | 0 |
| | TOTAL | 28 | 80 | 2,773,770 | 7,028,378 | 38,462 | 2.5 | 72 | 0 |
| 1975/76 | Southeastern | | 230 | 6,682,232 | 16,643,194 | 106,445 | 2.5 | 63 | 0 |
| | Pribilofs | | 74 | 2,273,804 | 5,714,913 | 34,761 | 2.5 | 65 | 0 |
| | TOTAL | 66 | 304 | 8,956,036 | 22,358,107 | 141,206 | 2.5 | 63 | 0 |
| 1976/77 | Southeastern | | 437 | 16,089,057 | 41,007,736 | 233,667 | 2.6 | 69 | 0 |
| | Pribilofs | | 104 | 4,162,451 | 10,447,485 | 63,804 | 2.5 | 65 | 0 |
| | TOTAL | 83 | 541 | 20,251,508 | 51,455,221 | 297,471 | 2.5 | 68 | 0 |
| 1977/78 | Southeastern | | 706 | 21,055,527 | 53,278,012 | 408,437 | 2.5 | 52 | 0 |
| | Pribilofs | | 155 | 5,210,170 | 13,152,843 | 107,913 | 2.5 | 48 | 0 |
| | TOTAL | 120 | 861 | 26,350,688 | 66,648,954 | 516,350 | 2.5 | 51 | 218,099 |
| 1978/79 | Southeastern | | 758 | 15,601,891 | 39,694,205 | 356,594 | 2.5 | 44 | 75,400 |
| | Pribilofs | | 59 | 1,124,627 | 2,852,969 | 46,103 | 2.5 | 24 | 600 |
| | TOTAL | 144 | 817 | 16,726,518 | 42,547,174 | 402,697 | 2.5 | 42 | 76,000 |

-Continued-

Table 4. (page 2 of 4)

| Season | Subdistrict | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Number of Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | Average Weight[b] | CPUE[c] | Deadloss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1979/80 | Southeastern | | 789 | 14,329,889 | 35,724,003 | 476,410 | 2.5 | 30 | 56,446 |
| | Pribilofs | | 15 | 355,722 | 890,312 | 12,024 | 2.5 | 30 | 0 |
| | TOTAL | 152 | 804 | 14,685,611 | 36,614,315 | 488,434 | 2.5 | 30 | 56,446 |
| 1981 | Southeastern | | 674 | 10,532,007 | 26,684,956 | 496,751 | 2.5 | 21 | 97,398 |
| | Pribilofs | | 87 | 1,313,951 | 2,945,536 | 62,875 | 2.5 | 21 | 4,196 |
| | TOTAL | 165 | 761 | 11,845,958 | 29,630,492 | 559,626 | 2.5 | 21 | 101,594 |
| 1982 | Southeastern | | 539 | 3,825,433 | 8,812,302 | 322,634 | 2.3 | 12 | 69,829 |
| | Pribilofs | | 252 | 1,005,547 | 2,196,477 | 167,465 | 2.2 | 6 | |
| | 68,330 | | | | | | | | |
| | TOTAL | 125 | 791 | 4,830,980 | 11,008,779 | 490,099 | 2.3 | 10 | 138,159 |
| 1983 | Northern | | 10 | 29,478 | 48,454 | 5,950 | 1.7 | 5 | 167 |
| | Southeastern | | 287 | 1,984,673 | 4,633,354 | 192,538 | 2.3 | 10 | 52,879 |
| | Pribilofs | | 151 | 272,505 | 592,073 | 83,528 | 2.2 | 3 | 6,983 |
| | TOTAL | 108 | 448 | 2,286,756 | 5,273,881 | 282,006 | 2.3 | 8 | 60,029 |
| 1984 | Southeastern | | 91 | 470,181 | 1,099,142 | 44,546 | 2.3 | 11 | 4,688 |
| | Pribilofs | | 43 | 46,759 | 109,081 | 16,811 | 2.3 | 3 | 337 |
| | TOTAL | 41 | 134 | 516,877 | 1,208,223 | 61,357 | 2.3 | 8 | 5,025 |

-Continued-

Table 4. (page 3 of 4)

| Season | Subdistrict | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | Average Weight[b] | CPUE[c] | Deadloss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1985 | Southeastern | 38 | 143 | 1,278,109 | 3,139,041 | 96,976 | 2.4 | 13 | 14,096 |
| | Pribilofs | 15 | 23 | 5,365 | 12,457 | 7,731 | 2.3 | 1 | 0 |
| | TOTAL | 44 | 166 | 1,283,474 | 3,151,498 | 104,707 | 2.4 | 12 | 14,096 |
| 1986 | SEASON CLOSED | | | | | | | | |
| 1987 | SEASON CLOSED | | | | | | | | |
| 1988 | Eastern | 98 | 248 | 897,059 | 2,210,394 | 112,334 | 2.5 | 8 | 10,724 |
| | Western | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | TOTAL | 98 | 248 | 897,059 | 2,210,394 | 112,334 | 2.5 | 8 | 10,724 |
| 1989 | Eastern | 109 | 359 | 2,907,021 | 7,012,965 | 184,892 | 2.4 | 16 | 34,664 |
| | Western | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | TOTAL | 109 | 359 | 2,907,021 | 7,012,965 | 184,892 | 2.4 | 16 | 34,664 |
| 1990 | Eastern | | 1,105 | 10,708,996 | 24,529,165 | 701,924 | 2.3 | 15 | 87,475 |
| | Western | | 17 | 8,928 | 20,134 | 9,213 | 2.3 | <1 | 0 |
| | TOTAL | 179 | 1,032 | 10,717,924 | 24,549,299 | 711,137 | 2.3 | 15 | 87,475 |

-Continued-

Table 4. (page 4 of 4)

| Season | Subdistrict | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Number of Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | Average Weight[b] | CPUE[c] | Deadloss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1990/91 | Eastern | 255 | 1,756 | 16,608,625 | 40,081,555 | 883,391 | 2.4 | 19 | 210,769 |
| | Western | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | TOTAL | 255 | 1,756 | 16,608,625 | 40,081,555 | 883,391 | 2.4 | 19 | 210,769 |
| 1991/92 | Eastern | 285 | 2,339 | 12,924,034 | 31,796,381 | 1,244,633 | 2.5 | 10 | 279,741 |
| 1992/93 | Eastern | 293 | 2,011 | 15,074,084 | 34,821,043 | 1,150,834 | 2.3 | 13 | 340,955 |
| | Western | 70 | 96 | 191,796 | 309,823 | 50,051 | 1.6 | 4 | 3,000 |
| | TOTAL | 294 | 2,084 | 15,265,880 | 35,130,866 | 1,200,885 | 2.3 | 13 | 343,955 |
| 1993/94 | East of 168°[d] | 283 | 347 | 1,696,430 | 4,114,949 | 250,501 | 2.4 | 7 | 103,715 |
| | 163° to 173°[e] | 261 | 515 | 5,539,068 | 12,776,371 | 325,963 | 2.3 | 17 | 154,674 |
| | TOTAL | 296 | 862 | 7,235,498 | 16,891,320 | 576,464 | 2.3 | 13 | 258,389 |
| 1994 | 163° to 173° | 183 | 349 | 3,351,639 | 7,766,886 | 249,536 | 2.3 | 13 | 132,780 |
| 1995 | 163° to 173° | 196 | 256 | 1,877,303 | 4,233,061 | 247,853 | 2.3 | 8 | 44,508 |

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d]November 1 - November 10, 1993.
[e]November 20, 1993 - January 1, 1994.

Table 5. 1995 Bering Sea *C. bairdi* catch statistics by month.

| Month | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | Average Weight[b] | CPUE[c] | Dead-loss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nov | 196 | 256 | 1,877,303 | 4,233,061 | 247,853 | 2.3 | 8 | 44,508 |
| TOTAL | 296 | 862 | 7,235,498 | 16,891,320 | 576,464 | 2.3 | 13 | 258,389 |

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.

Table 6. 1995 Bering Sea *C. bairdi* Tanner crab catch by statistical area.

| Area | Number of Landings | Number of Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | Average Weight[b] | CPUE[c] | Deadloss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 635504 | 17 | 76,795 | 133,014 | 4,345 | 1.7 | 18 | 905 |
| 635530 | 39 | 164,798 | 384,092 | 20,487 | 2.3 | 8 | 3,554 |
| 635600 | 63 | 311661 | 722,888 | 38,017 | 2.3 | 8 | 7,493 |
| 635700 | 5 | 25,333 | 56,839 | 3,007 | 2.2 | 8 | 712 |
| 645530 | 40 | 165,520 | 383,239 | 24,799 | 2.3 | 7 | 4,833 |
| 645600 | 35 | 158,488 | 361,674 | 21,026 | 2.3 | 8 | 5,156 |
| 645630 | 22 | 102,868 | 235,070 | 12,959 | 2.3 | 8 | 2,964 |
| 655500 | 11 | 33,819 | 78,262 | 5,904 | 2.3 | 6 | 1,451 |
| 655530 | 6 | 11,571 | 26,738 | 1,484 | 2.3 | 8 | 242 |
| 655600 | 20 | 50,800 | 117,170 | 7,357 | 2.3 | 7 | 990 |
| 655630 | 4 | 9,016 | 19,675 | 1,656 | 2.2 | 5 | 102 |
| 665600 | 7 | 19,253 | 43,267 | 3664 | 2.3 | 5 | 473 |
| 665630 | 3 | 13,608 | 28,464 | 2,350 | 2.0 | 6 | 61 |
| 675600 | 10 | 73,179 | 162,732 | 9,021 | 2.2 | 8 | 1,963 |
| 695600 | 4 | 1,037 | 2,293 | 630 | 2.2 | 2 | 37 |
| 695631 | 6 | 9,358 | 21,152 | 2,640 | 2.3 | 4 | 237 |
| 705600 | 7 | 11,896 | 25,927 | 2,502 | 2.2 | 5 | 270 |
| 705630 | 31 | 92,637 | 206,350 | 17,620 | 2.2 | 5 | 2,062 |
| 705701 | 4 | 7,007 | 15,310 | 926 | 2.2 | 8 | 42 |
| Other[d] | 13 | 59,630 | 132,014 | 7,801 | 2.2 | 8 | 635 |
| TOTAL | 256 | 1,877,303 | 4,233,061 | 247,853 | 2.3 | 8 | 44,508 |

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d]Includes 9 statistical areas.

Table 7. Historic Bering Sea *C. opilio* catch statistics by season, 1977/78-1995.

| Year | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Number of Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | CPUE[c] | % New Shell | Average Weight[c] | Average Width[d] | Deadloss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1977/78 | 15 | 38 | 1,267,546 | 1,716,124 | 13,247 | 96 | NA | 1.4 | NA | 0 |
| 1978/79 | 102 | 490 | 22,118,498 | 32,187,039 | 190,746 | 116 | 83.0 | 1.5 | 113.1 | 759,137 |
| 1979/80 | 134 | 597 | 25,286,777 | 39,572,668 | 255,102 | 99 | 90.0 | 1.6 | 118.1 | 228,345 |
| 1981 | 153 | 867 | 34,415,322 | 52,750,034 | 435,742 | 79 | 79.2 | 1.5 | 117.0 | 2,269,979 |
| 1982 | 122 | 803 | 24,089,562 | 29,355,374 | 469,091 | 51 | 78.0 | 1.2 | 109.4 | 1,092,655 |
| 1983 | 109 | 461 | 23,853,647 | 26,128,410 | 287,127 | 83 | NA | 1.1 | NA | 1,324,466 |
| 1984[e] | 52 | 367 | 24,009,935 | 26,813,074 | 173,591 | 138 | 78.0 | 1.1 | 105.4 | 798,795 |
| 1985[f] | 75 | 718 | 52,903,246 | 65,998,875 | 372,045 | 142 | 80.0 | 1.3 | 108.0 | 1,064,184 |
| 1986[g] | 88 | 992 | 76,499,123 | 97,984,539 | 543,744 | 141 | 73.7 | 1.3 | 109.5 | 1,378,533 |
| 1987 | 103 | 1,038 | 81,307,659 | 101,903,388 | 616,113 | 132 | 84.0 | 1.2 | 108.9 | 978,449 |
| 1988 | 171 | 1,285 | 105,716,337 | 134,030,185 | 776,907 | 136 | 71.2[h] | 1.3 | 109.5 | 3,260,020 |
| 1989 | 168 | 1,341 | 112,618,881 | 149,455,848 | 663,442 | 170 | 85.2[h] | 1.3 | 111.2 | 1,844,682 |
| 1990 | 189 | 1,565 | 128,977,638 | 161,821,350 | 911,613 | 141 | 97.4[h] | 1.3 | 109.1 | 1,796,664 |
| 1991 | 220 | 2,788 | 265,123,960 | 328,647,269 | 1,391,583 | 191 | 95.1 | 1.2 | 110.2 | 3,464,036 |
| 1992 | 250 | 2,763 | 227,376,582 | 315,302,034 | 1,281,796 | 177 | 97.6 | 1.4 | 111.7 | 2,325,852 |
| 1993 | 254 | 1,836 | 169,558,842 | 230,787,000 | 971,046 | 175 | 92.5 | 1.4 | 111.6 | 1,573,952 |
| 1994 | 273 | 1,293 | 114,779,014 | 149,775,765 | 716,524 | 160 | 92.5 | 1.3 | 111.6 | 1,799,323 |
| 1995 | 253 | 869 | 60,611,411 | 75,252,677 | 506,802 | 117 | NA | 1.2 | NA | 1,287,169 |

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d]Carapace width in millimeters.
[e]North of 58° reopened until 12/31.
[f]West of 164° opened through 12/31.
[g]Open only west of 164° West longitude.
[h]Eastern and Western Districts combined.

Table 8. Historic Bering Sea *C. opilio* Tanner crab seasons, 1977/78-1995.

| Season | Date Opened | Date Closed | Number of Vessels | Harvest[a,b] | Average Weight[b] | CPUE[c] | Price/ Pound |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1977/78 | 09-15-77 | 09-23-78 | 15 | 1,716,124 | 1.4 | 96 | $ 0.38 |
| 1978/79 | 11-01-78 | 09-03-79 | 102 | 32,187,039 | 1.5 | 116 | $ 0.30 |
| 1979/80 | 11-01-79 | 08-15-80 | 134 | 39,572,668 | 1.6 | 99 | $ 0.21 |
| | | 09-03-80[d] | | | | | |
| 1981 | 01-15-81 | 08-01-81 | 153 | 52,750,034 | 1.5 | 79 | $ 0.26 |
| | | 09-01-81[d] | | | | | |
| 1982 | 02-15-82 | 08-01-82 | 122 | 29,355,374 | 1.2 | 51 | $ 0.73 |
| 1983 | 02-15-83 | 05-22-83 | 109 | 26,128,410 | 1.1 | 83 | $ 0.35 |
| | | 06-15-83[e] | | | | | |
| 1984 | 02-15-84 | 08-01-84 | 52 | 23,940,984 | 1.1 | 147 | $ 0.30 |
| | 08-01-84 | 12-31-84[f] | | 2,872,090 | 1.1 | 125 | |
| 1985 | 01-15-85 | 09-22-85 | 75 | 57,446,554 | 1.3 | 142 | $ 0.30 |
| | 10-09-85 | 12-31-85[g] | | 8,552,321 | | | |
| 1986 | 01-15-86 | 09-24-86[h] | 88 | 97,984,539 | 1.3 | 141 | $ 0.60 |
| 1987 | 01-15-87 | 06-22-87 | 103 | 101,903,388 | 1.2 | 132 | $ 0.75 |
| 1988 | 01-15-88 | 03-29-88 | 162 | 75,781,258 | 1.3 | 139 | $ 0.75 |
| | 05-15-88 | 06-30-88 | 151 | 58,278,927 | 1.3 | 137 | $ 0.80 |
| | | | 171 | 134,060,185 | 1.3 | 136 | $ 0.77 |
| 1989 | 01-15-89 | 03-26-89 | 168 | 149,455,848 | 1.3 | 170 | $ 0.75 |
| | | 05-07-89 | | | | | |
| 1990 | 01-15-90 | 04-24-90[h] | 177 | 94,831,897 | 1.2 | 148 | |
| | | 06-12-90 | 152 | 66,989,453 | 1.3 | 130 | |
| | | | 189 | 161,821,350 | 1.3 | 141 | $ 0.64 |
| 1991 | 01-15-91 | 05-05-91 | 218 | 240,090,666 | 1.3 | 206 | |
| | | 06-23-91 | 186 | 88,556,603 | 1.2 | 153 | |
| | | | 220 | 328,647,269 | 1.2 | 191 | $ 0.50 |
| 1992 | 01-15-92 | 04-22-92 | 250 | 315,302,034 | 1.4 | 177 | $ 0.50 |
| 1993 | 01-15-93 | 03-15-93 | 254 | 230,787,000 | 1.4 | 175 | $ 0.75 |
| 1994 | 01-15-94 | 03-01-94 | 273 | 149,775,765 | 1.3 | 160 | $ 1.30 |
| 1995 | 01-15-95 | 02-17-95 | 253 | 75,252,677 | 1.3 | 117 | $ 2.43 |

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d]Varied according to size.
[e]Partial Bering Sea closure.
[f]North of 58° only.
[g]West of 164° opened through 12-31-85.
[h]Open only west of 164° West longitude.

Table 9. Historic Bering Sea *C. opilio* Tanner crab economic performance, 1979/80-1995.

| Year | GHL[a] | Season Total[a] | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Number of Pots Registered[b] | Number of Pots Pulled | Value Exvessel | Value Total[c] | Season Length[d] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1979/80 | N/A | 39.3 | 134 | 597 | 35,503 | 255,022 | $ 0.21 | $ 83.0 | 307 |
| 1981 | [e] | 50.5 | 153 | 867 | 39,789 | 435,742 | $ 0.26 | $ 13.1 | 229 |
| 1982 | [f] | 28.3 | 112 | 803 | 35,522 | 469,091 | $ 0.73 | $ 20.7 | 167 |
| 1983 | 15.8 | 24.8 | 109 | 462 | 15,39 | 287,127 | $ 0.35 | $ 8.7 | 120 |
| 1984[g] | 49.0 | 26.0 | 52 | 367 | 12,493 | 173,591 | $ 0.30 | $ 7.8 | 320 |
| 1985[g] | 98.0 | 64.9 | 75 | 718 | 15,325 | 372,045 | $ 0.30 | $ 19.5 | 333 |
| 1986[g] | 57.0 | 96.6 | 88 | 992 | 13,750 | 543,744 | $ 0.60 | $ 60.0 | 252 |
| 1987 | 56.4 | 100.9 | 103 | 1,038 | 19,386 | 616,113 | $ 0.75 | $ 75.7 | 158 |
| 1988 | 110.7 | 130.8 | 171 | 1,285 | 38,765 | 776,907 | $ 0.77 | $100.7 | 120 |
| 1989 | 132.0 | 147.6 | 168 | 1,341 | 43,607 | 663,442 | $ 0.75 | $110.7 | 112 |
| 1990 | 139.8 | 160.0 | 189 | 1,565 | 46,440 | 911,613 | $ 0.64 | $102.3 | 148 |
| 1991 | 315.0 | 325.2 | 220 | 2,788 | 76,056 | 1,391,583 | $ 0.50 | $162.6 | 159 |
| 1992 | 333.0 | 313.0 | 250 | 2,763 | 77,858[h] | 1,281,796 | $ 0.50 | $156.5 | 97 |
| 1993 | 207.2 | 229.2 | 254 | 1,836 | 65,081[h] | 971,046 | $ 0.75 | $171.9 | 59 |
| 1994 | 105.8 | 148.0 | 273 | 1,293 | 54,837[h] | 716,524 | $ 1.30 | $192.4 | 45 |
| 1995 | 55.7 | 74.0 | 253 | 869 | 53,707[h] | 506,802 | $ 2.43 | $180.0 | 33 |

[a]Millions of pounds, deadloss not included.
[b]Same gear as *C. bairdi* fishery.
[c]Millions of dollars.
[d]In days.
[e]Published range 39.5-91.0.
[f]Published range 16.0-22.0
[g]Partial closures only.
[h]Gear of *C. opilio* vessels only.

Table 10 Historic Bering Sea *C. opilio* catch by season and subdistrict, 1977/78-1995.

| Season | Subdistrict | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | Average Weight[b] | CPUE[c] | | Deadloss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1977/78 | Southeastern | | 33 | 1,063,872 | 1,439,959 | 11,560 | 1.4 | 0 | | 0 |
| | Pribilof | | 5 | 203,674 | 276,165 | 1,687 | 1.4 | 121 | | |
| | TOTAL | 15 | 38 | 1,267,546 | 1,716,124 | 13,247 | 1.4 | 96 | | 0 |
| 1978/79 | Southeastern | 101 | 476 | 21,279,794 | 31,102,832 | 184,491 | 1.5 | 115 | | 659,137 |
| | Pribilof | 10 | 14 | 838,704 | 1,084,039 | 6,225 | 1.5 | 135 | | 100,000 |
| | TOTAL | 102 | 490 | 22,118,498 | 32,187,039 | 190,746 | 1.5 | 116 | | 759,137 |
| 1979/80 | Southeastern | 133 | 561 | 23,199,446 | 36,406,391 | 237,375 | 1.6 | 98 | | 187,945 |
| | Pribilof | 19 | 36 | 2,087,331 | 3,166,777 | 17,727 | 1.5 | 118 | | 40,400 |
| | TOTAL | 134 | 597 | 25,286,777 | 39,572,668 | 255,102 | 1.6 | 99 | | 228,345 |
| 1981 | Southeastern | | 624 | 24,498,642 | 37,866,229 | 309,304 | 1.6 | 79 | | 1,475,078 |
| | Pribilof | | 243 | 9,916,617 | 14,886,705 | 126,438 | 1.5 | 78 | | 794,901 |
| | TOTAL | 153 | 867 | 34,415,322 | 52,750,034 | 435,742 | 1.5 | 79 | | 2,269,979 |
| 1982 | Southeastern | | 468 | 10,207,174 | 13,079,583 | 257,193 | 1.3 | 40 | | 422,979 |
| | Pribilof | | 335 | 13,882,388 | 16,276,421 | 211,898 | 1.2 | 66 | | 669,676 |
| | TOTAL | 122 | 803 | 24,089,562 | 29,355,374 | 469,091 | 1.2 | 51 | | 1,092,655 |

-Continued-

Table 10 (page 2 of 4)

| Season | Subdistrict | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | Average Weight[b] | CPUE[c] | Deadloss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1983 | Southeastern | | 153 | 3,553,281 | 4,197,304 | 94,470 | 1.2 | 38 | 165,298 |
| | Pribilof | | 239 | 19,076,553 | 20,514,000 | 153,458 | 1.0 | 124 | 1,078,643 |
| | Northern | 69 | 1,223,813 | 1,417,106 | 39,199 | 1.1 | 31 | 80,525 | |
| | TOTAL | 109 | 461 | 23,853,647 | 26,128,410 | 287,127 | 1.1 | 83 | 1,324,466 |
| 1984 | Southeastern | | 76 | 3,534,370 | 3,990,621 | 33,091 | 1.1 | 107 | 54,678 |
| | Pribilof | | 230 | 17,909,096 | 19,727,493 | 112,078 | 1.1 | 160 | 708,706 |
| | Northern | | 61 | 2,566,469 | 3,094,960 | 28,422 | 1.2 | 90 | 35,411 |
| | TOTAL | 52 | 367 | 24,009,935 | 26,813,074 | 173,591 | 1.1 | 138 | 798,795 |
| 1985 | Southeastern | 55 | 301 | 21,963,882 | 27,373,232 | 158,819 | 1.4 | 138 | 461,001 |
| | Pribilof | 60 | 301 | 24,089,526 | 29,804,093 | 142,937 | 1.2 | 168 | 505,146 |
| | Northern | 24 | 116 | 6,849,838 | 8,821,550 | 70,289 | 1.3 | 97 | 98,037 |
| | TOTAL | 75 | 718 | 52,903,246 | 65,998,875 | 372,045 | 1.3 | 142 | 1,064,184 |
| 1986 | Southeastern | 47 | 112 | 8,491,694 | 10,957,578 | 63,889 | 1.3 | 133 | 44,755 |
| | Pribilof | 80 | 508 | 39,851,767 | 50,525,150 | 281,337 | 1.3 | 142 | 472,342 |
| | Northern | 67 | 372 | 28,155,662 | 36,501,811 | 198,518 | 1.3 | 142 | 861,436 |
| | TOTAL | 88 | 992 | 76,499,123 | 97,984,539 | 543,744 | 1.3 | 141 | 1,378,533 |
| 1987 | Southeastern | 28 | 64 | 4,116,778 | 5,106,473 | 24,619 | 1.2 | 167 | 24,619 |
| | Pribilof | 94 | 458 | 38,604,802 | 47,676,734 | 261,337 | 1.2 | 148 | 261,337 |
| | Northern | 99 | 516 | 38,586,079 | 49,120,181 | 330,157 | 1.2 | 117 | 330,157 |
| | TOTAL | 103 | 1,038 | 81,307,659 | 101,903,388 | 616,113 | 1.2 | 132 | 978,449 |

-Continued-

Table 10 (page 3 of 4)

| Season | Subdistrict | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | Average Weight[b] | CPUE[c] | Deadloss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1988 | Eastern | 162 | 770 | 59,811,702 | 75,781,258 | 431,310 | 1.3 | 139 | 775,104 |
| | Western | 151 | 515 | 45,904,635 | 58,278,927 | 335,597 | 1.3 | 137 | 2,484,916 |
| | TOTAL | 171 | 1,285 | 105,716,337 | 134,060,185 | 776,907 | 1.3 | 136 | 3,260,020 |
| 1989 | Eastern | 163 | 871 | 77,698,698 | 104,399,693 | 391,451 | 1.3 | 198 | 1,128,971 |
| | Western | 127 | 470 | 34,920,183 | 45,056,155 | 271,991 | 1.3 | 128 | 715,711 |
| | TOTAL | 168 | 1,341 | 112,618,881 | 149,455,848 | 663,442 | 1.3 | 170 | 1,844,682 |
| 1990 | Eastern | 177 | 956 | 76,331,829 | 94,831,897 | 512,259 | 1.2 | 149 | 1,010,755 |
| | Western | 152 | 659 | 52,645,809 | 66,989,453 | 399,354 | 1.3 | 132 | 785,909 |
| | TOTAL | 189 | 1,565 | 128,977,638 | 161,821,350 | 911,613 | 1.3 | 141 | 1,796,664 |
| 1991 | Eastern | 218 | 2,013 | 190,139,612 | 240,090,666 | 912,751 | 1.3 | 208 | 1,593,021 |
| | Western | 186 | 867 | 74,984,348 | 88,556,603 | 478,832 | 1.2 | 157 | 1,871,015 |
| | TOTAL | 220 | 2,788 | 265,123,960 | 328,647,269 | 1,391,583 | | 1.2 | |
| | 191 | 3,464,036 | | | | | | | |
| 1992 | Eastern | 250 | N/A | 217,375,564 | 302,363,005 | 1,228,280 | | 1.4 | |
| | 177 | 2,268,467 | | | | | | | |
| | Western | 55 | N/A | 10,001,018 | 12,939,029 | 53,516 | 1.3 | 187 | 57,385 |
| | TOTAL | 250 | 2,763 | 227,376,582 | 315,302,034 | 1,281,796 | | 1.4 | |
| | 177 | 2,325,852 | | | | | | | |

-Continued-

Table 10. (page 4 of 4)

| Season | Subdistrict | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | Average Weight[b] | CPUE[c] | Deadloss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1993 | Eastern | 251 | 1,384 | 110,760,099 | 151,328,721 | 675,996 | 1.4 | 164 | 1,108,520 |
| | Western | 185 | 633 | 58,798,743 | 79,458,279 | 295,050 | 1.4 | 197 | 465,432 |
| | TOTAL | 254 | 1,836 | 169,558,842 | 230,787,000 | 971,046 | 1.4 | 175 | 1,573,952 |
| 1994 | Eastern | 220 | 820 | 56,012,017 | 72,008,424 | 375,928 | 1.3 | 149 | 901,674 |
| | Western | 171 | 586 | 58,766,997 | 77,767,341 | 340,596 | 1.3 | 173 | 897,649 |
| | TOTAL | 273 | 1,293 | 114,779,014 | 149,775,765 | 716,524 | 1.3 | 160 | 1,799,323 |
| 1995 | Eastern | 217 | 627 | 32,630,348 | 39,736,986 | 313,910 | 1.2 | 102 | 657,051 |
| | Western | 153 | 357 | 27,981,063 | 35,515,691 | 192,892 | 1.3 | 142 | 630,118 |
| | TOTAL | 253 | 869 | 60,611,411 | 75,252,677 | 506,802 | 1.2 | 117 | 1,287,169 |

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.

Table 11. Bering Sea *C. opilio* catch by subdistrict and month, 1995.

| Subdistrict | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | Average Weight[b] | CPUE[c] | Deadloss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| January | | | | | | | | |
| Eastern | 181 | 287 | 18,838,182 | 23,028,021 | 148,657 | 1.2 | 125 | 312,984 |
| Western | 104 | 164 | 15,372,627 | 19,484,798 | 89,094 | 1.3 | 170 | 313,317 |
| Total | 239 | 410 | 34,210,809 | 42,512,819 | 237,751 | 1.2 | 142 | 626,301 |
| February | | | | | | | | |
| Eastern | 191 | 340 | 13,792,166 | 16,708,965 | 165,253 | 1.2 | 82 | 344,067 |
| Western | 129 | 193 | 12,608,436 | 16,030,892 | 103,798 | 1.3 | 119 | 316,801 |
| Total | 237 | 459 | 26,400,602 | 32,739,858 | 269,051 | 1.2 | 96 | 660,868 |
| Subdistrict Total | | | | | | | | |
| Eastern | 217 | 627 | 32,630,348 | 39,736,986 | 313,910 | 1.2 | 102 | 657,051 |
| Western | 153 | 357 | 27,981,063 | 35,515,691 | 192,892 | 1.3 | 142 | 630,118 |
| Season Total | 253 | 869 | 60,611,411 | 75,252,677 | 506,802 | 1.2 | 117 | 1,287,169 |

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.

Table 12. 1995 Bering Sea *C. opilio* catch statistics by month.

| Month | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | Average Weight[b] | CPUE[c] | Dead-loss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jan | 239 | 410 | 34,210,809 | 42,512,819 | 237,751 | 1.2 | 142 | 626,301 |
| Feb | 237 | 459 | 26,400,602 | 32,739,858 | 269,051 | 1.2 | 96 | 660,868 |
| TOTAL | 253 | 869 | 60,611,411 | 75,252,677 | 506,802 | 1.2 | 1171 | 1,287,169 |

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.

Table 13. Bering Sea *C. opilio* catch by statistical area, 1995.

| Area | Number of Landings | Number of Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Pulled | Average Weight[b] | CPUE[c] | Dead-loss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 665500 | 4 | 106,524 | 158,380 | 1,195 | 1.5 | 89 | 3,450 |
| 665530 | 3 | 78,933 | 103,914 | 495 | 1.3 | 162 | 250 |
| 675530 | 24 | 986,281 | 1,184,003 | 15,011 | 1.2 | 66 | 17,361 |
| 675600 | 27 | 991,895 | 1,241,753 | 12,148 | 1.3 | 82 | 38,365 |
| 675630 | 10 | 301,348 | 338,956 | 2,873 | 1.1 | 105 | 11,617 |
| 685530 | 6 | 193,206 | 235,225 | 2,042 | 1.2 | 95 | 11,526 |
| 685600 | 39 | 1,609,246 | 1,972,990 | 15,631 | 1.2 | 103 | 14,645 |
| 685630 | 23 | 835,360 | 1,028,883 | 9,819 | 1.2 | 85 | 14,014 |
| 695600 | 7 | 268,530 | 338,790 | 1,987 | 1.3 | 135 | 1,461 |
| 705600 | 17 | 493,088 | 610,887 | 4,940 | 1.2 | 100 | 9,470 |
| 705630 | 11 | 169,621 | 212,000 | 2,307 | 1.3 | 74 | 1,950 |
| 705701 | 5 | 15,045 | 20,346 | 341 | 1.4 | 44 | 50 |
| 715600 | 20 | 427,813 | 525,221 | 5,298 | 1.2 | 81 | 7,300 |
| 715630 | 168 | 6,350,716 | 7,755,436 | 65,750 | 1.2 | 97 | 139,046 |
| 715700 | 111 | 4,078,175 | 5,022,810 | 39,319 | 1.2 | 104 | 70,516 |
| 715730 | 17 | 530,598 | 616,550 | 5,055 | 1.2 | 105 | 6,578 |
| 725600 | 3 | 113,788 | 140,648 | 1,030 | 1.2 | 111 | 156 |
| 725630 | 105 | 4,465,269 | 5,527,438 | 42,601 | 1.2 | 105 | 62,727 |
| 725700 | 131 | 5,579,504 | 6,602,329 | 49,514 | 1.2 | 113 | 112,532 |
| 725730 | 76 | 3,816,550 | 4,573,954 | 26,069 | 1.2 | 146 | 130,496 |
| 725800 | 19 | 720,419 | 929,891 | 5,566 | 1.3 | 129 | 7,578 |
| 735630 | 14 | 326,937 | 408,305 | 2,707 | 1.3 | 121 | 5,534 |
| 735700 | 56 | 1,975,204 | 2,458,383 | 18,123 | 1.3 | 109 | 34,909 |
| 735730 | 127 | 7,019,426 | 8,828,540 | 50,330 | 1.3 | 140 | 167,900 |
| 735800 | 94 | 50,001,270 | 6,523,529 | 35,778 | 1.3 | 140 | 88,929 |
| 735830 | 30 | 839,930 | 1,311,069 | 5,942 | 1.6 | 141 | 18,731 |
| 745800 | 57 | 2,770,774 | 3,724,682 | 19,287 | 1.3 | 144 | 72,208 |
| 745830 | 79 | 5,760,383 | 6,544,541 | 30,406 | 1.1 | 189 | 121,733 |
| 755800 | 3 | 53,408 | 77,392 | 531 | 1.5 | 101 | 537 |
| 755830 | 53 | 3,203,677 | 4,249,947 | 22,032 | 1.3 | 145 | 56,610 |
| 765830 | 10 | 280,384 | 378,304 | 2,588 | 1.4 | 108 | 4,364 |
| 765900 | 3 | 121,076 | 167,233 | 497 | 1.4 | 244 | 40,850 |
| 775930 | 3 | 75,912 | 113,004 | 825 | 1.5 | 92 | 29 |
| Other | 29 | 1,050,121 | 1,327,344 | 14,765 | 1.3 | 71 | 22,747 |
| Total | 869 | 60,611,411 | 75,252,677 | 506,802 | 1.3 | 117 | 1,287,169 |

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per pot pull.

## BERING SEA *CHIONOECETES TANNERI*

### *Historic Background*

First reported landings of *Chionoecetes tanneri* Tanner crab from the Bering Sea occurred in 1988 after the Alaska Board of Fisheries established a special permit season for deep water Tanner crab during their spring meeting. Two vessels, both catcher processors, fished at depths of 400 to 700 fathoms in the Eastern Subdistrict. Prior to this no market existed for *C. tanneri* and few, if any, were sold commercially. No commercial landings were reported from 1989 through 1992.

Starting in May of 1993, one vessel targeted on *C. tanneri* in the Bering Sea, and as commercial interest increased, five additional vessels entered the fishery. Differential pot limits based on vessel size, enacted by the Board of Fisheries in the Spring of 1993, were not applied to vessels fishing for deep water Tanner crab in the Bering Sea until 1994. Also in 1993, the Department of Fish and Game restricted the harvest to males *C. tanneri* 5 inches or greater in carapace width.

To obtain biological information on *C. tanneri* crab the department implemented 100% observer coverage in 1994, as allowed by the permit provisions provided in 5 AAC 35.082. Vessel participation and landings decreased during 1994 when Tanner crab pot limits for the Bering Sea were applied to vessels fishing for deep water Tanner crab.

### *1995 Fishery*

A total of eight vessels made 47 landings for a harvest of 966,846 pounds of C. *tanneri* through December 24. The average weight of crab retained in 1995 was 2.1 pounds per crab with an overall catch per unit of effort (CPUE) of 8 crabs per pot. This compares to 1994 when four vessels made 12 landings for a total of 332,454 pounds. In 1994 average weight of *C. tanner* landed was of 2.0 pounds the CPUE was 11 crabs per pot (Table 1).

Preliminary information indicates vessels fished an average of 368 pots and made 55,901 pot pulls during 1995 season. The 1995 exvessel price for *C. tanneri* was $1.40 per pound for a total value in excess of $1.26 million (Table 2).

During the March 1995 Board of Fisheries meeting, the board determined pot limits established for the Bering Sea Tanner crab fisheries (*C. bairdi* and *C. opilio*) were not intended to apply to deep water Tanner crab species (*C. tanneri* and *C. angulatus*) in the Westward Region. A news release issued April 28, announced the removal of pot limits effective as of May 12, 1995. All vessels which fished during 1995 were again required to obtain shellfish observers as 100% coverage was mandatory.

Limited effort for the 1995 season began in July and remained low throughout the season. The maximum number of vessels which fished in this area at the same time during 1995 was three. Fishing effort was spread between 15 statistical areas in the Bering Sea. The majority of the crab retained came from the area below the Pribilof Islands.

## *Status of Stocks*

No stock assessment surveys are conducted for *C. tanneri* Tanner crab. Consequently no population estimates are available. Onboard observers have been required on all vessels targeting *C. tanneri*, beginning in 1994. This program has provided information on the size, sex and species composition of the non-retained catch, necessary to manage these stocks in the absence of traditional abundance index surveys.

Table 1. Bering Sea *C. tanneri* Tanner crab catch, effort and performance, 1993-1995.

| Year | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Lifted | Average Weight[b] | CPUE[c] | Deadloss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1993 | 6 | 18 | 342,095 | 658,796 | 35,650 | 1.9 | 9 | 71,000 |
| 1994 | 4 | 12 | 165,365 | 332,454 | 13,739 | 2.0 | 11 | 30,585 |
| 1995 | 8 | 47 | 456,857 | 966,846 | 55,901 | 2.1 | 8 | 66,829 |

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per unit effort.

Table 2. Bering Sea *C. tanneri* Tanner crab economic performance, 1993-1995.

| Year | Season Total[a] | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Number of Pots Registered | Number of Pots Pulled | Value Exvessel | Value Total[b] | Season Length (Days) | Season Length Dates |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1993 | 587,796 | 6 | 18 | 2700 | 35,650 | $0.94 | $0.6 | 365 | 01/1-12/31 |
| 1994 | 301,869 | 4 | 12 | 732 | 13,739 | $1.20 | $0.4 | 365 | 01/1-12/31 |
| 1995 | 900,017 | 8 | 47 | NA | 55,901 | $1.40 | $1.3 | 365 | 01/1-12/31 |

[a]Deadloss not included.
[b]Millions of dollars.

## EASTERN ALEUTIAN *CHIONOECETES TANNERI*

### *Historic Background*

In the early 1980s *Chionoecetes tanneri* Tanner crab were occasionally landed in the Eastern Aleutian Tanner crab management area incidental to the developing brown king crab fishery around the Dutch Harbor area. Until 1993 however, no steady market existed for *C. tanneri* and few, if any, were sold commercially.

During 1993, interest in *C. tanneri* increased and commercial landings were made from the Eastern Aleutian District. Fishing effort in this district was from July through December, and only one vessel participated during the entire season. In 1993, the department restricted the harvest to males five inches or greater in carapace width.

To collect biological information on *C. tanneri* crab the department implemented 100% observer coverage in 1994, as allowed by the permit provisions provided in 5 AAC 35.082. Effort in the fishery increased from one to three vessels in 1994. Vessels started fishing for *C. tanneri* in March after the closure of the *C. opilio* fishery and continued through December.

### *1995 Fishery*

A total of seven vessels obtained observers and participated in a directed *C. tanneri* fishery in the Eastern Aleutian district in 1995. Landings totalled 850,427 pounds from 51 deliveries. Catch per pot pull (CPUE) for the *C. tanneri* fishery in this area was 6 crab per pot with an average weight of 1.7 pounds per crab (Table 1). Average exvessel price was $1.57 per pound for a fishery value of approximately $1.3 million. This compares to 1994 when 27 landings were made for a harvest of 759,239 pounds. During the 1994 season, CPUE was 11 crab per pot and the average weight of crab harvested was 1.8 pounds (Table 1).

Deliveries in 1995 averaged 16,675 pounds. In 1994 the average delivery was 28,120 pounds. Several deliveries of *C. tanneri* in 1995 occurred as bycatch in the Dutch Harbor brown king crab fishery and by vessels targeting on *C. angulatus.*

In 1995 vessels fished an average of 598 pots and made 75,259 pot pulls. Effort began in May and continued throughout the year. Vessels fished in nineteen statistical areas both north and south of Umnak and Unalaska Islands.

### *Status of Stocks*

No stock assessment surveys are conducted for *C. tanneri* Tanner crab, and consequently no population estimates are available. Onboard observers have been required on all vessels targeting *C. tanneri*, beginning in 1994. This program has yielded information on size, sex and species composition of the non-retained catch necessary to manage these stocks.

Table 1. Eastern Aleutian *Chionoecetes tanneri* Tanner crab catch, effort and performance, 1993-1995.

| Year | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Lifted | Average Weight[b] | CPUE[c] | Deadloss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1993 | | | C O N F I D E N T I A L | | | | | |
| 1994 | 3 | 27 | 426,230 | 759,239 | 38,106 | 1.8 | 11 | 19,474 |
| 1995 | 7 | 51 | 494,522 | 850,427 | 75,259 | 1.7 | 6 | 28,338 |

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per unit effort.

Table 2. Eastern Aleutian *C. tanneri* Tanner crab economic performance, 1993-1995.

| Year | Season Total[a] | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Number of Pots Registered | Number of Pots Pulled | Value Exvessel | Value Total[b] | Season Length (Days) | Season Length Dates |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1993 | | | | N O R E P O R T E D C A T C H | | | | | |
| 1994 | 739,765 | 3 | 27 | 1770 | 38,106 | $1.20 | $.9 | 365 | 01/1-12/31 |
| 1995 | 822,089 | 7 | 51 | NA | 75,259 | $1.57 | $1.3 | 365 | 01/1-12/31 |

[a]Deadloss not included.
[b]Millions of dollars.

## WESTERN ALEUTIAN *CHIONOECETES TANNERI*

### *Historic Background*

The first reported landings of *Chionoecetes tanneri* Tanner crab from the Western Aleutian Islands Tanner crab Management Area occurred in the late 1970s incidental to the developing brown king crab fishery in the Adak king crab Management Area. Until 1993 no market existed for *C. tanneri* and few, if any, were sold commercially. No effort was recorded from the Western Aleutian District in 1993. Also in 1993, the department restricted the harvest to males five inches or greater in carapace width.

To collect biological information on *C. tanneri* crab the department implemented 100% observer coverage in 1994, as allowed by the permit provisions provided in 5 AAC 35.082. During that year six vessels registered to fish, however only two made deliveries. One vessel obtained an observer and made one trip with directed effort for *C. tanneri* crab, the other made deliveries incidental to the Adak brown king crab fishery.

### *1995 Fishery*

Preliminary catch records indicate a total of six vessels made 16 landings for a harvest of 144,721 pounds of *C. tanneri* in 1995. The average weight of crab retained in 1995 was 1.9 pounds per crab with an overall catch per unit effort (CPUE) of 4 crab per pot

Directed fishing effort for *C. tanneri* crab, by a total of three vessels, occurred from April through June. The remaining effort was as bycatch in the Adak brown king crab fishery. Fishing effort in the directed fishery for *C. tanneri* was spread out over the Western Aleutian District from Amukta Pass to the Petrel Banks. Crab were harvested from 26 statistical areas. Vessels fished an average of 498 pots and made 16,699 pot pulls during 1995. The average exvessel price for *C. tanneri* in 1995 was $1.52 per pound for a total fishery value in excess of $194,000.

### *Status of Stocks*

No stock assessment surveys are conducted for *C. tanneri* Tanner crab, consequently no population estimates are available. Onboard observers have been required on all vessels targeting *C. tanneri*, beginning in 1994. This program has yielded information on size, sex and species composition of the non-retained catch necessary to manage these stocks.

Table 1. Western Aleutian *C. tanneri* Tanner crab catch, effort and performance, 1993-1995.

| Year | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Number of Crab[a] | Harvest[a,b] | Pots Lifted | Average Weight[b] | CPUE[c] | Deadloss[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1993 | NO REPORTED CATCH | | | | | | | |
| 1994 | CONFIDENTIAL | | | | | | | |
| 1995 | 6 | 16 | 76,339 | 144,721 | 16,699 | 1.9 | 4 | 16,964 |

[a]Deadloss included.
[b]In pounds.
[c]Defined as catch per unit effort.

Table 2. Western Aleutian *C. tanneri* Tanner crab economic performance, 1993-1995.

| Year | Season Total[a] | Number of Vessels | Number of Landings | Number of Pots Registered | Number of Pots Pulled | Value Exvessel | Value Total[b] | Season Length (Days) | Season Length Dates |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1993 | | | | N O R E P O R T E D C A T C H | | | | | |
| 1994 | | | | C O N F I D E N T I A L | | | | | |
| 1995 | 127,757 | 6 | 16 | NA | 16,699 | $1.52 | $0.2 | 365 | 01/1-12/31 |

[a]Deadloss not included.
[b]Millions of dollars.

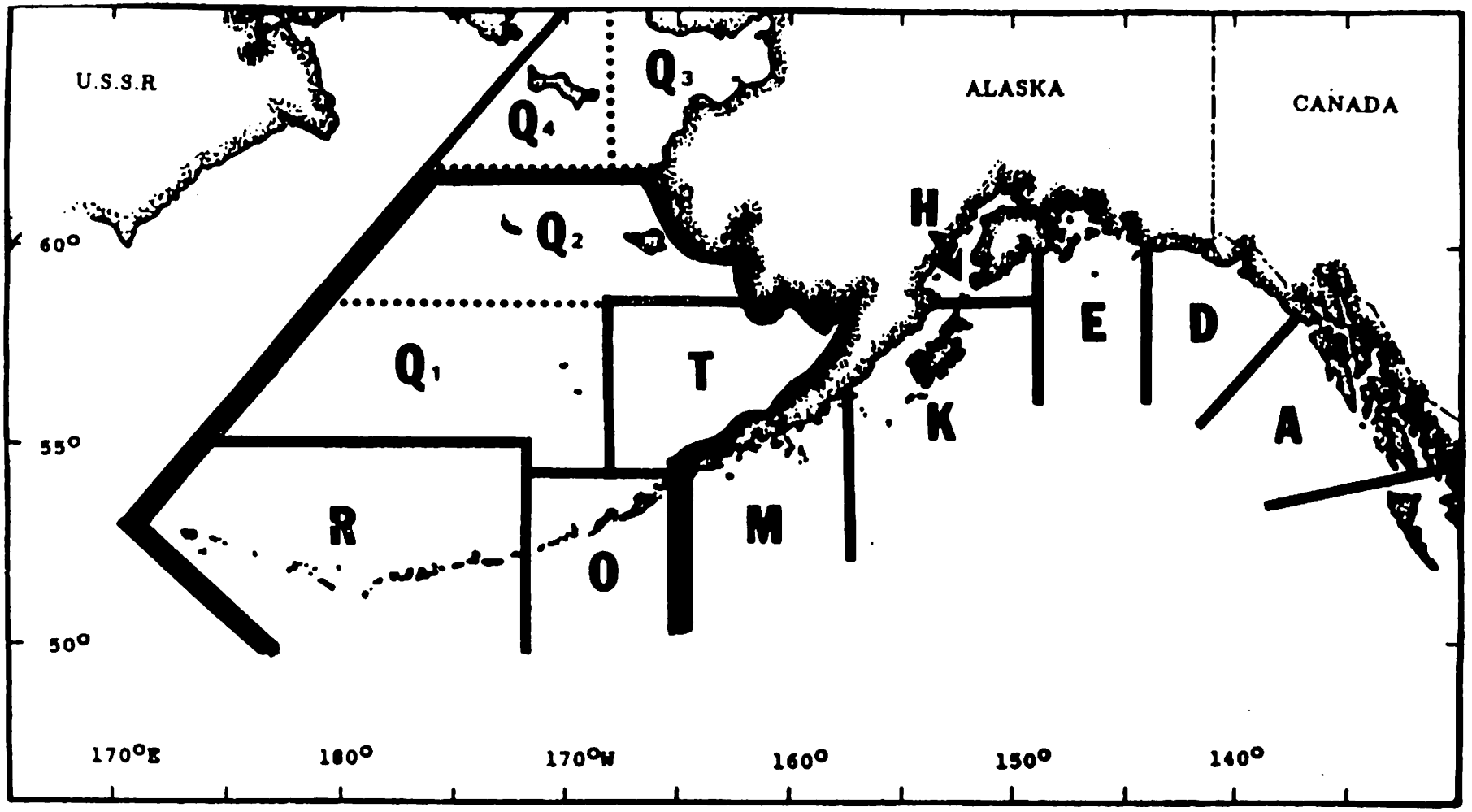
## LIST OF ORAL PRESENTATION OVERHEAD FIGURES



-Continued-

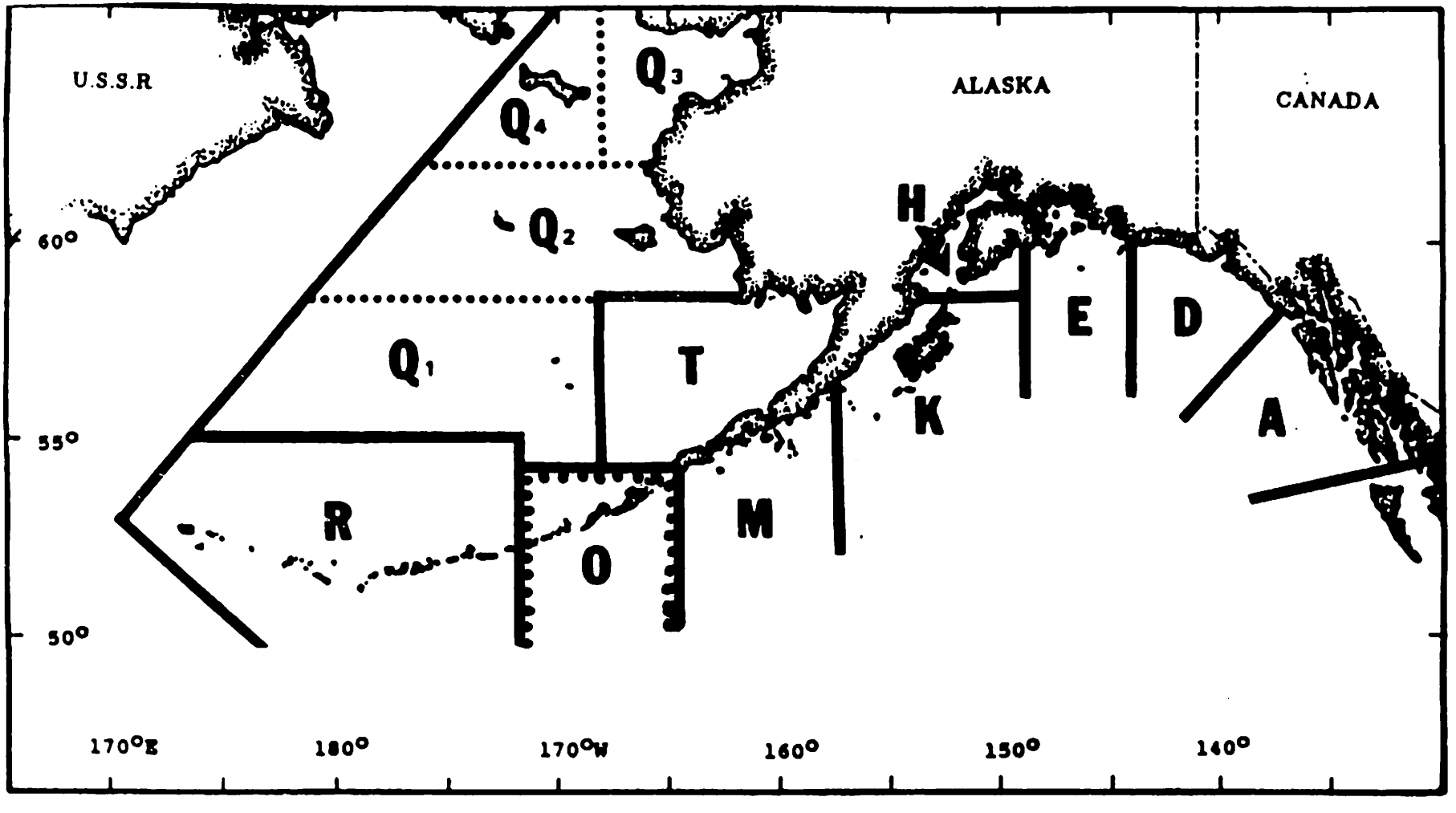
**LIST OF ORAL PRESENTATION OVERHEAD FIGURES** (Cont'd)

# Bering Sea Aleutian Islands Crab Management Areas



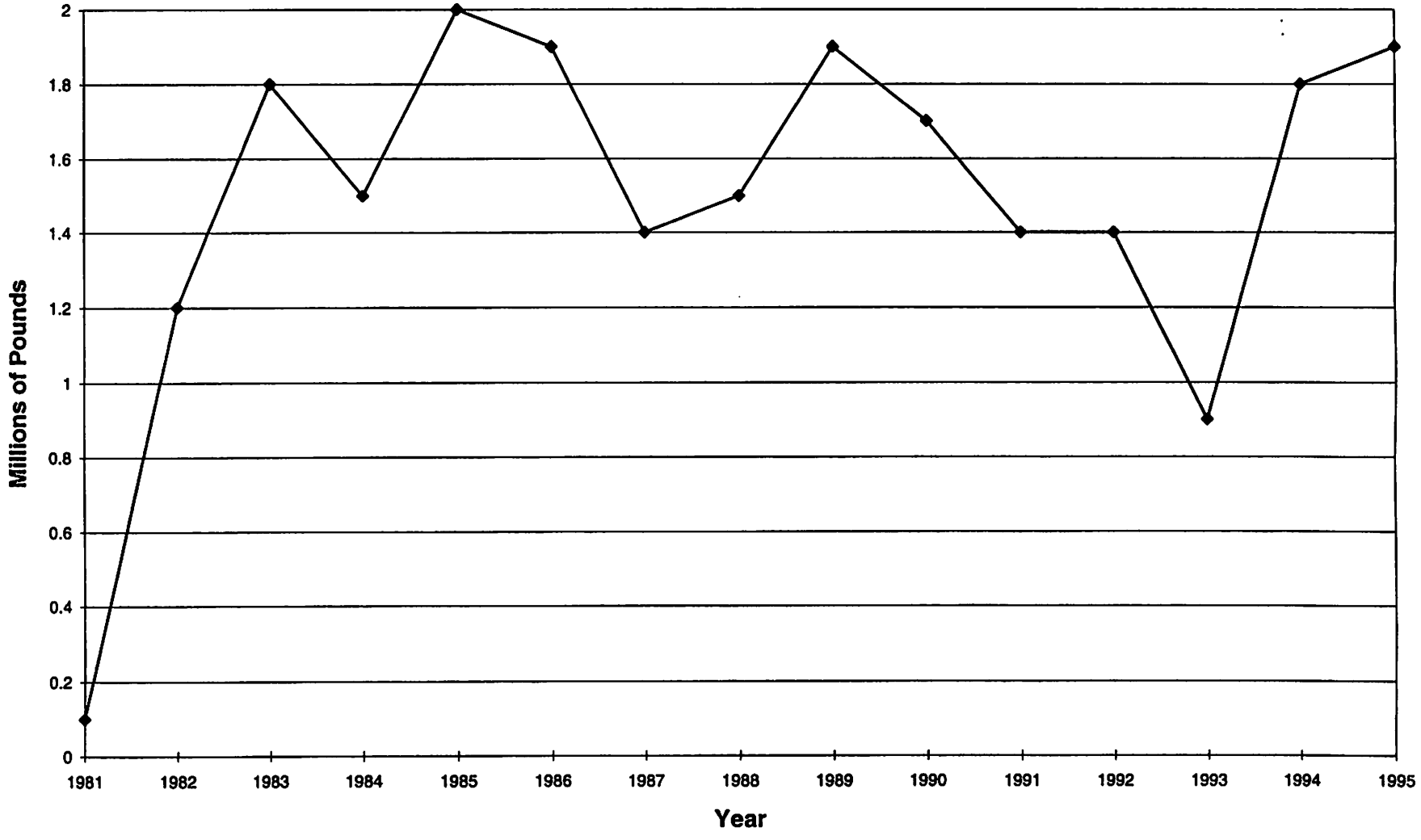

Overhead # 1

# KING CRAB AREAS




Dutch Harbor Management Area "O"

## Dutch Harbor Brown King Crab Catch 1981/82 - 1995/96



Dutch Harbor brown king crab catch and effort 1981/82 - 1995/96.

| YEAR | HARVEST[a] | NUMBER VESSELS | NUMBER LANDINGS | NUMBER OF POTS REGISTERED | NUMBER OF POTS PULLED | CPUE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1981/82 | .1 | 6 | 16 | -0- | 2,906 | 8 |
| 1982/83 | 1.2 | 49 | 136 | -0- | 29,369 | 8 |
| 1983/84 | 1.8 | 47 | 132 | 4,514 | 29,595 | 11 |
| 1984 | 1.5 | 13 | 67 | 1,394 | 24,044 | 14 |
| 1985 | 2.0 | 13 | 67 | 1,479 | 34,287 | 12 |
| 1986 | 1.9 | 17 | 71 | 1,575 | 37,585 | 11 |
| 1987 | 1.4 | 22 | 77 | 3,591 | 43,017 | 7 |
| 1988[b] | 1.5 | 21 | 57 | 4,215 | 40,869 | 8 |
| 1989/90 | 1.9 | 13 | 70 | 5,635 | 43,345 | 10 |
| 1990/91 | 1.7 | 16 | 68 | 5,225 | 54,618 | 7 |
| 1991/92 | 1.4 | 11 | 50 | 3,760 | 40,604 | 8 |
| 1992/93 | 1.4 | 10 | 44 | 4,222 | 37,718 | 9 |
| 1993/94 | .9 | 4 | 14 | 2,334 | 22,490 | 10 |
| 1994/95 | 1.8 | 14 | 45 | 7,378 | 67,537 | 6 |
| 1995/96[d] | 1.9 | 14 | 40 | 10,330 | 65,030 | 6 |

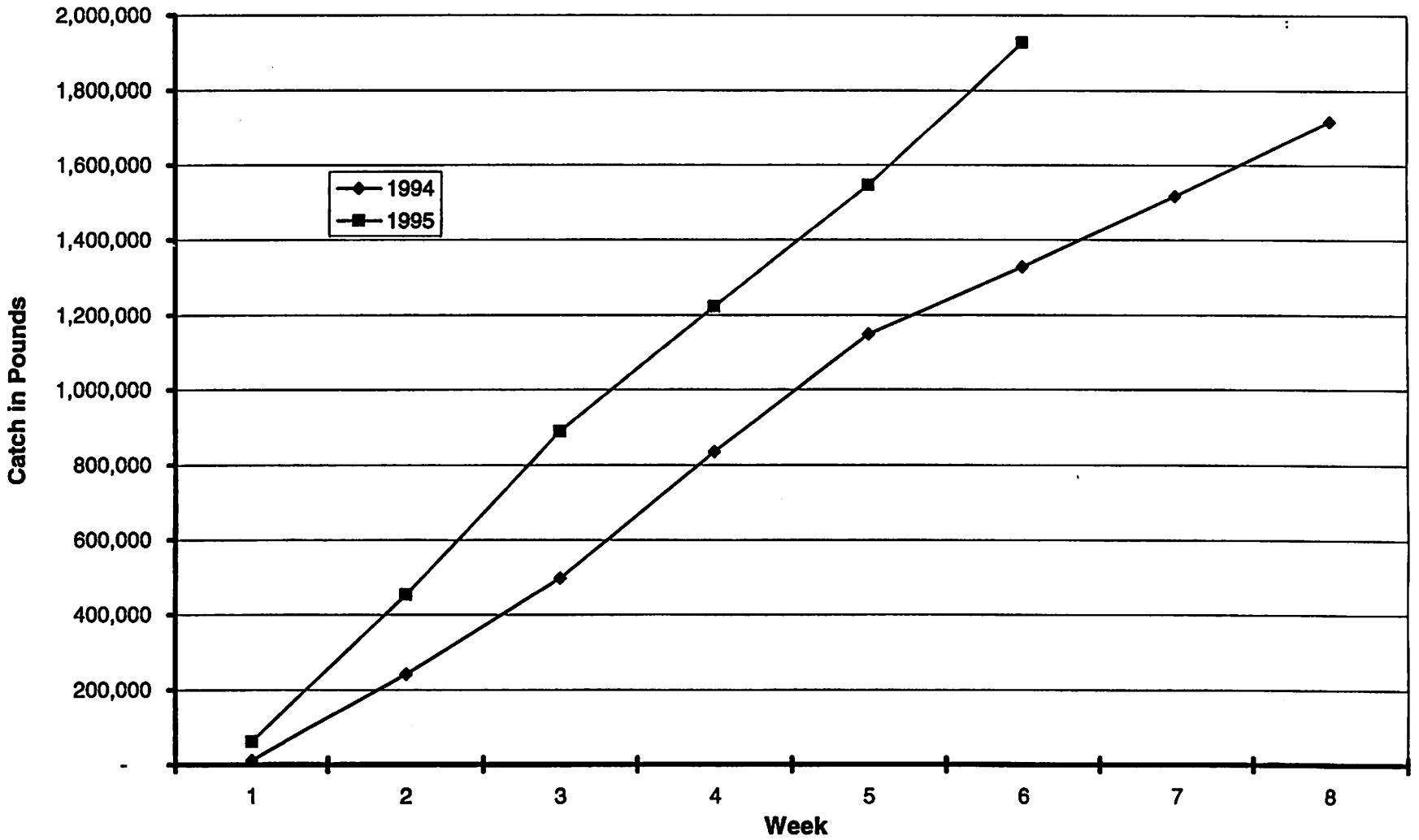
[a] Millions of pounds, deadloss included.

[b] September 1 established as season opening date.

[c] Preliminary information.

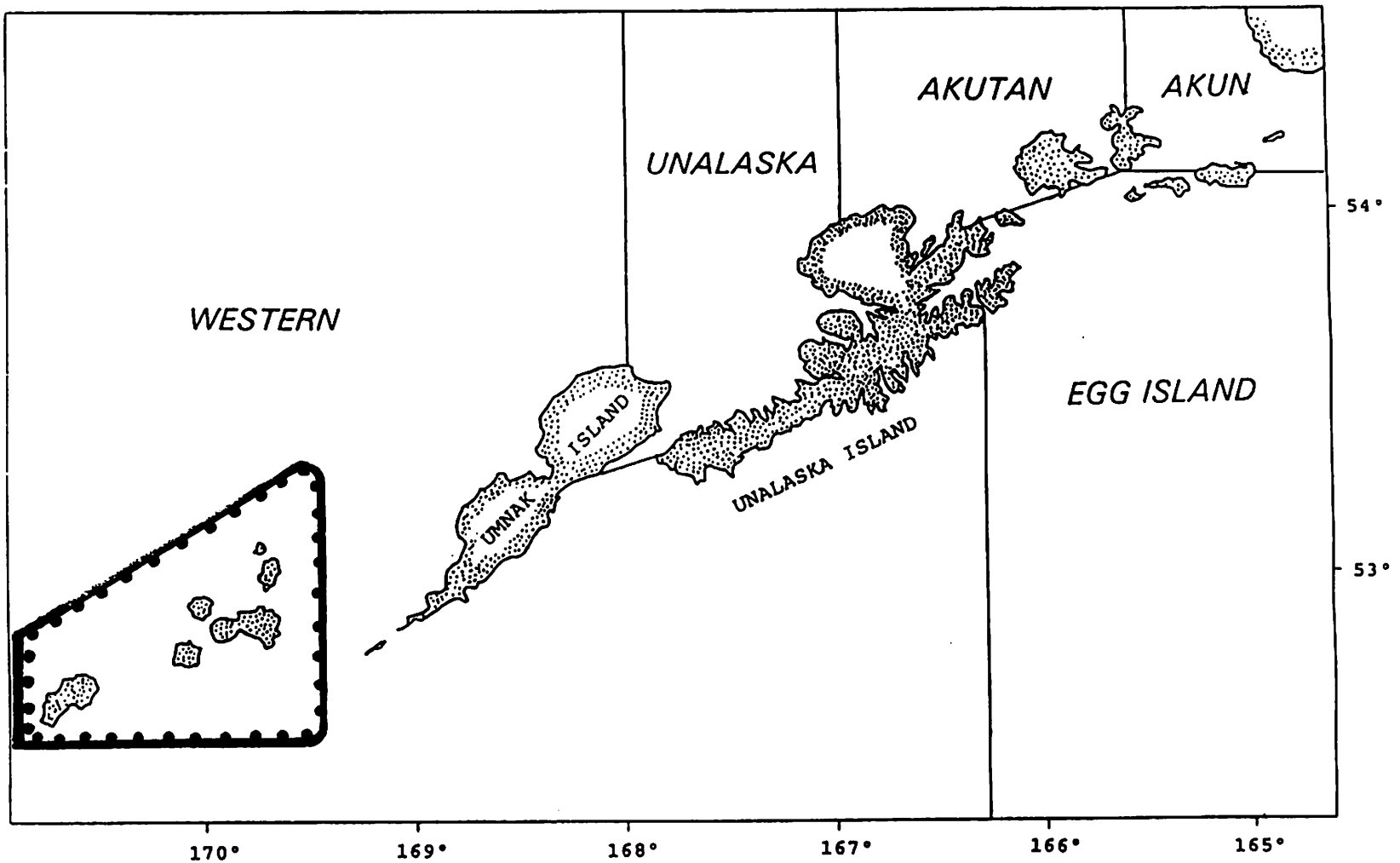
Overhead # 3B

## 1994 & 1995 Dutch Harbor Brown King Crab Accumulative Harvest By Week




Overhead # 4

# Dutch Harbor King Crab Management Districts



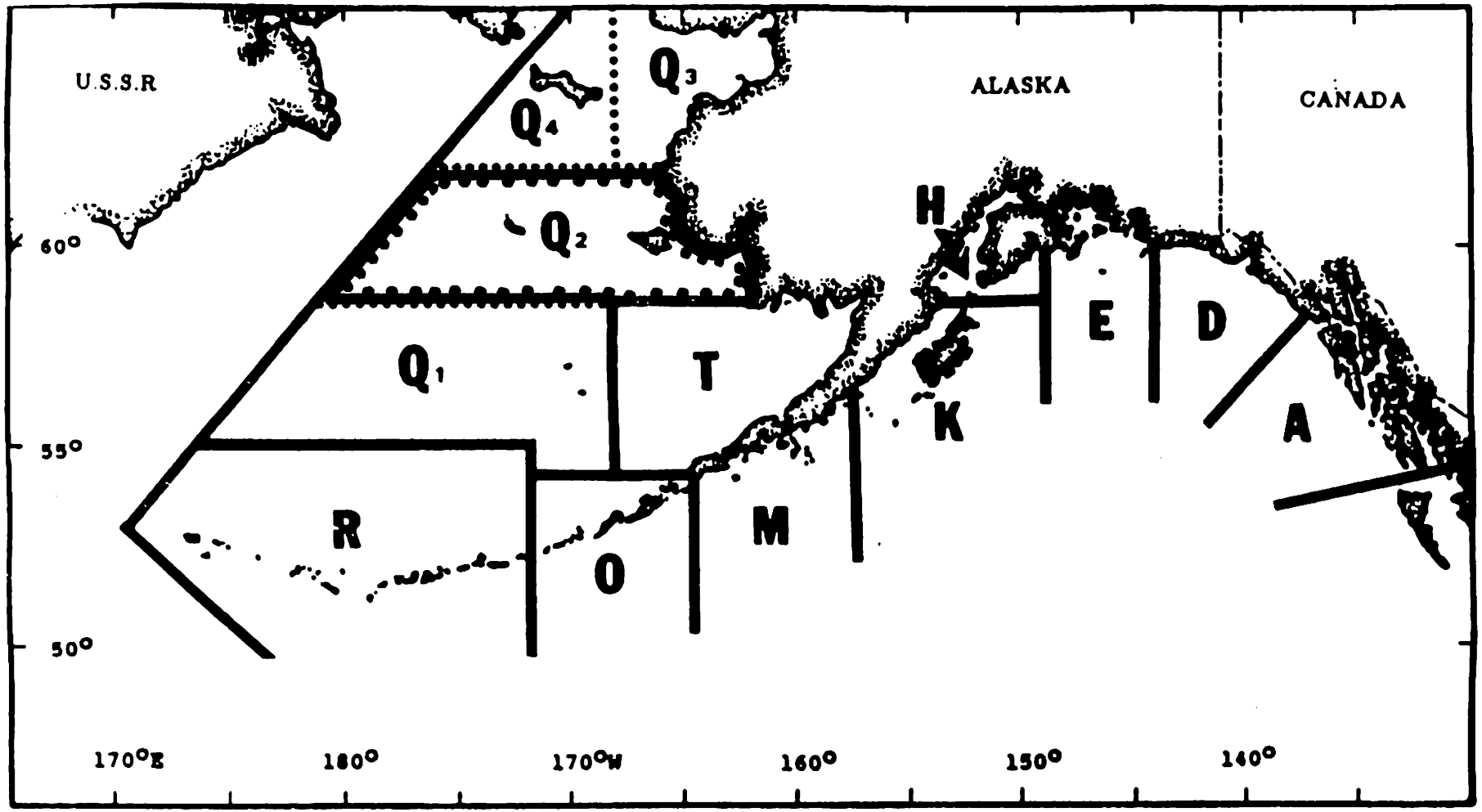

Overhead # 5

Dutch Harbor brown king crab catch and value, by season, 1986 - 1995.

| YEAR | SEASON TOTAL[a] | NUMBER VESSELS | NUMBER LANDINGS | VALUE EXVESSEL | VALUE TOTAL[b] | SEASON LENGTH DAYS | SEASON LENGTH DATES |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1986 | 1.8 | 17 | 71 | $2.85 | $5.1 | 182 | 07/01-12/31 |
| 1987 | 1.4 | 22 | 77 | $2.85 | $4.0 | 62 | 07/01-09/02 |
| 1988 | 1.5 | 21 | 57 | $3.00 | $4.5 | 93 | 09/01-12/04 |
| 1989 | 1.8 | 13 | 70 | $3.50 | $6.3 | 104 | 09/01-12/15 |
| 1990 | 1.7 | 16 | 68 | $3.00 | $5.1 | 68 | 09/01-11/09 |
| 1991 | 1.4 | 11 | 50 | $2.00 | $2.8 | 74 | 09/01-11/15 |
| 1992 | 1.3 | 10 | 44 | $2.50 | $3.3 | 76 | 09/01-11/17 |
| 1993/94 | .9 | 5 | 14 | $2.15 | $1.9 | 212 | 09/01-03/31 |
| 1994 | 1.8 | 14 | 45 | $4.00 | $6.9 | 57 | 09/01-10/28 |
| 1995[c] | 1.9 | 14 | 40 | $2.55 | $4.9 | 39 | 09/01-10/09 |

[a]Millions of pounds, deadloss not included.
[b]Millions of dollars.
[c]Preliminary information.

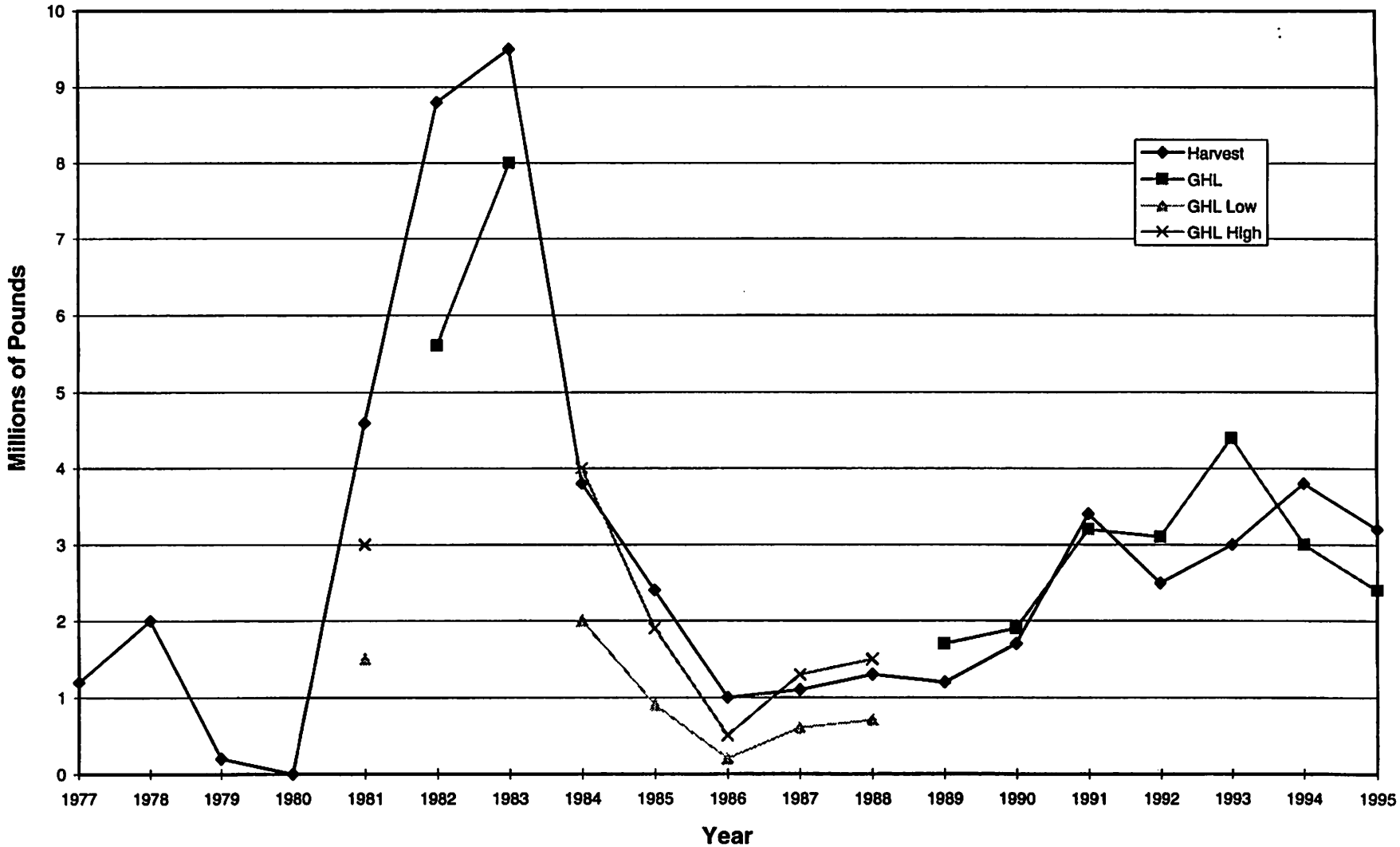
# KING CRAB AREAS




St. Matthew Island Section of the Northern District of the Bering Sea King Crab Management Area.

Overhead #

## St. Matthew Blue King Crab Catch 1977 - 1995



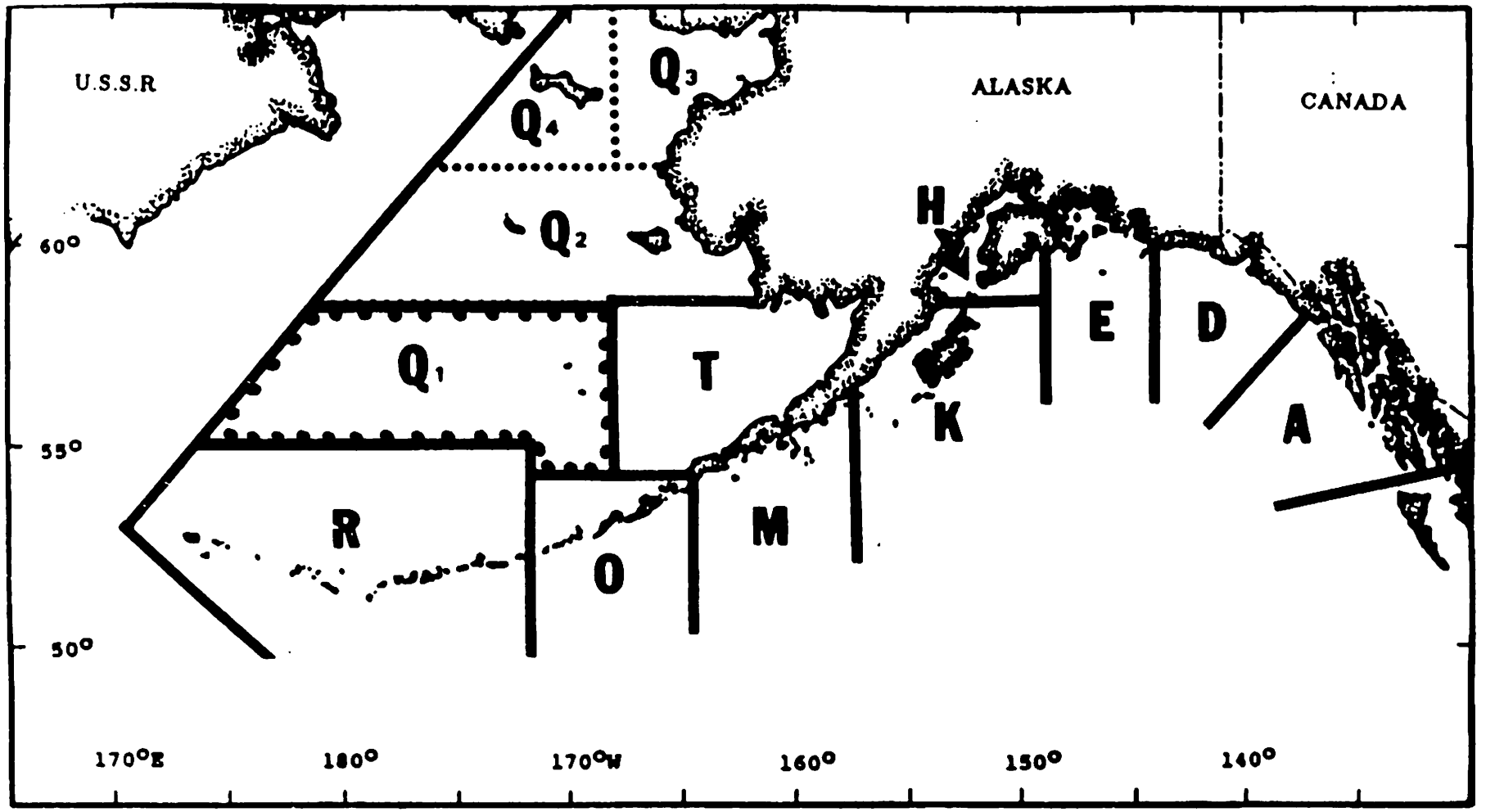

Overhead # 8

Blue king crab catch and value, for the ST. Matthew Section of the Northern District of the Bering Sea, 1986 - 1995.

| YEAR | GHL[a] | SEASON TOTAL[b] | NUMBER VESSELS | POTS REGISTERED | VALUE EXVESSEL | VALUE TOTAL[c] | SEASON DAYS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1986 | 0.2-0.5 | 1.0 | 38 | 5,600 | $3.20 | $3.2 | 5 |
| 1987 | 0.6-1.3 | 1.1 | 61 | 9,370 | $2.85 | $3.1 | 4 |
| 1988 | 0.7-1.5 | 1.3 | 46 | 7,780 | $3.10 | $4.0 | 4 |
| 1989 | 1.7 | 1.2 | 69 | 11,983 | $2.90 | $3.5 | 3[d] |
| 1990 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 31 | 6,000 | $3.35 | $5.7 | 6 |
| 1991 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 68 | 13,100 | $2.80 | $9.0 | 4 |
| 1992 | 3.1 | 2.5 | 174 | 17,400 | $3.00 | $7.4 | 3[d] |
| 1993 | 4.4 | 3.0 | 92 | 5,895 | $3.23 | $9.7 | 6 |
| 1994 | 3.0 | 3.7 | 87 | 5,685 | $4.00 | $15.0 | 7 |
| 1995 | 2.4 | 3.1 | 90 | 5,970 | $2.32 | $7.1 | 5 |

[a]Guideline Harvest Level.
[b]Millions of pounds, deadloss not included.
[c]Millions of dollars.
[d]Actual length - 60 hours.

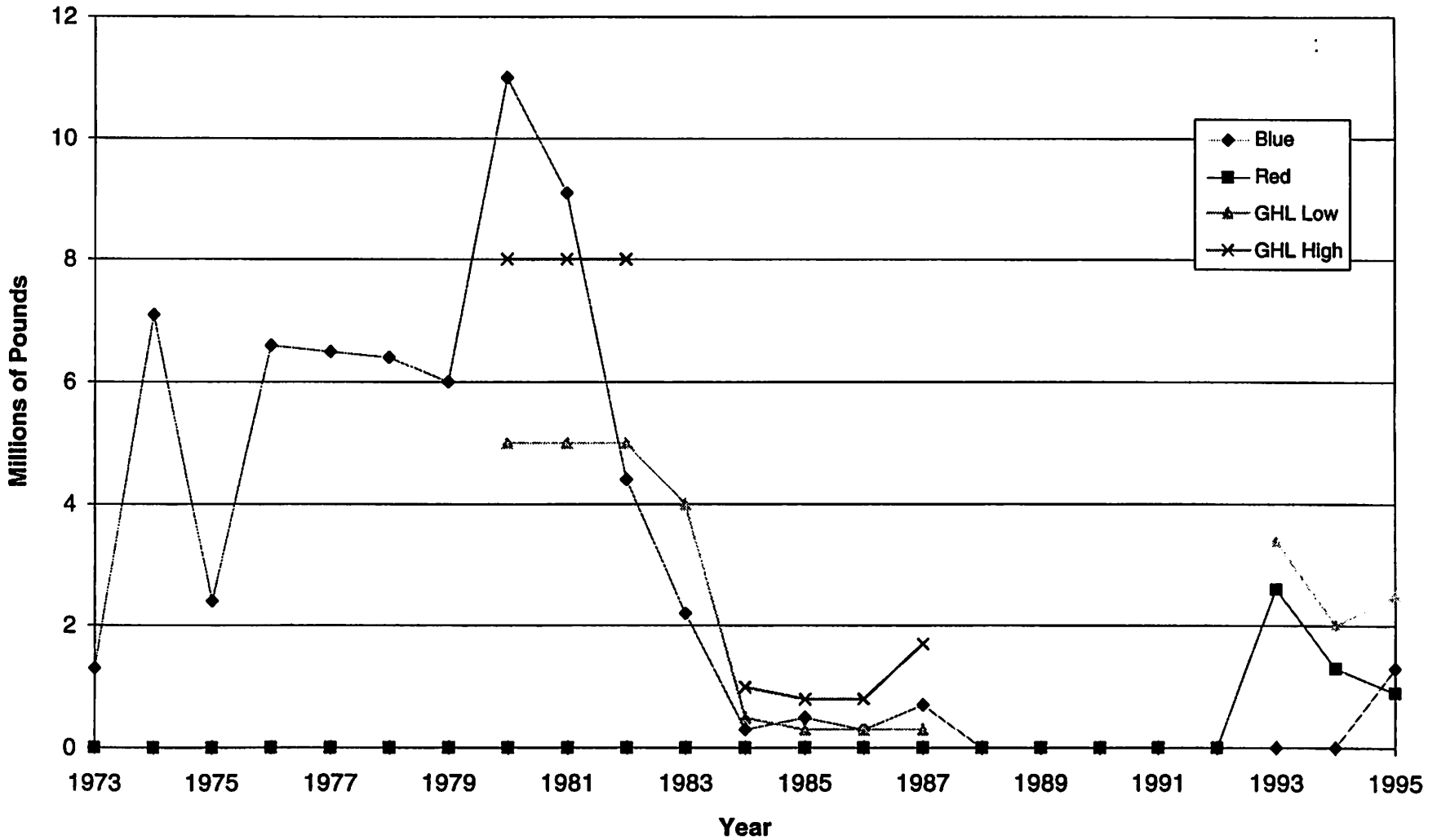
# KING CRAB AREAS




Pribilof District of the Bering Sea King Crab Management Area.

Overhead # 10

## Pribilof District King Crab Catch 1973/74 - 1995




Overhead # 11

King crab catch and effort, by season, for the Pribilof District of the Bering Sea, 1973/74 - 1995.

| YEAR | GHL[b,c] | HARVEST[c] | NUMBER VESSELS | POTS REGISTERED | CPUE[d] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1973/74[a] | | 1.3 | 8 | NA | 26 |
| 1974/75[a] | | 7.1 | 70 | NA | 20 |
| 1975/76[a] | | 2.4 | 20 | NA | 19 |
| 1976/77[a] | | 6.6 | 47 | NA | 12 |
| 1977/78[a] | | 6.5 | 34 | NA | 8 |
| 1978/79[a] | | 6.4 | 58 | NA | 8 |
| 1979/80[a] | | 6.0 | 46 | NA | 9 |
| 1980/81[a] | 5.0-8.0 | 11.0 | 110 | 31,636 | 9 |
| 1981/82[a] | 5.0-8.0 | 9.1 | 99 | 25,408 | 7 |
| 1982/83[a] | 5.0-8.0 | 4.4 | 122 | 34,429 | 5 |
| 1983/84[a] | 4.0 | 2.2 | 126 | 36,439 | 3 |
| 1984/85[a] | 0.5-1.0 | 0.3 | 16 | 3,122 | 3 |
| 1985/86[a] | 0.3-0.8 | 0.5 | 26 | 6,038 | 3 |
| 1986/87[a] | 0.3-0.8 | 0.3 | 16 | 4,376 | 2 |
| 1987/88[a] | 0.3-1.7 | 0.7 | 38 | 9,594 | 2 |
| 1988/89 | NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY | | | | |
| 1989/90 | NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY | | | | |
| 1990/91 | NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY | | | | |
| 1991/92 | NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY | | | | |
| 1992/93 | NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY | | | | |
| 1993[e] | 3.4 | 2.6 | 112 | 4,860 | 11 |
| 1994[e] | 2.0 | 1.3 | 104 | 4,675 | 6 |
| 1995[e] | 2.5[a,e] | .9 | 117 | 5,400 | 3 |
| 1995[a] | 2.5[a,e] | 1.3 | 119 | 5,400 | 5 |

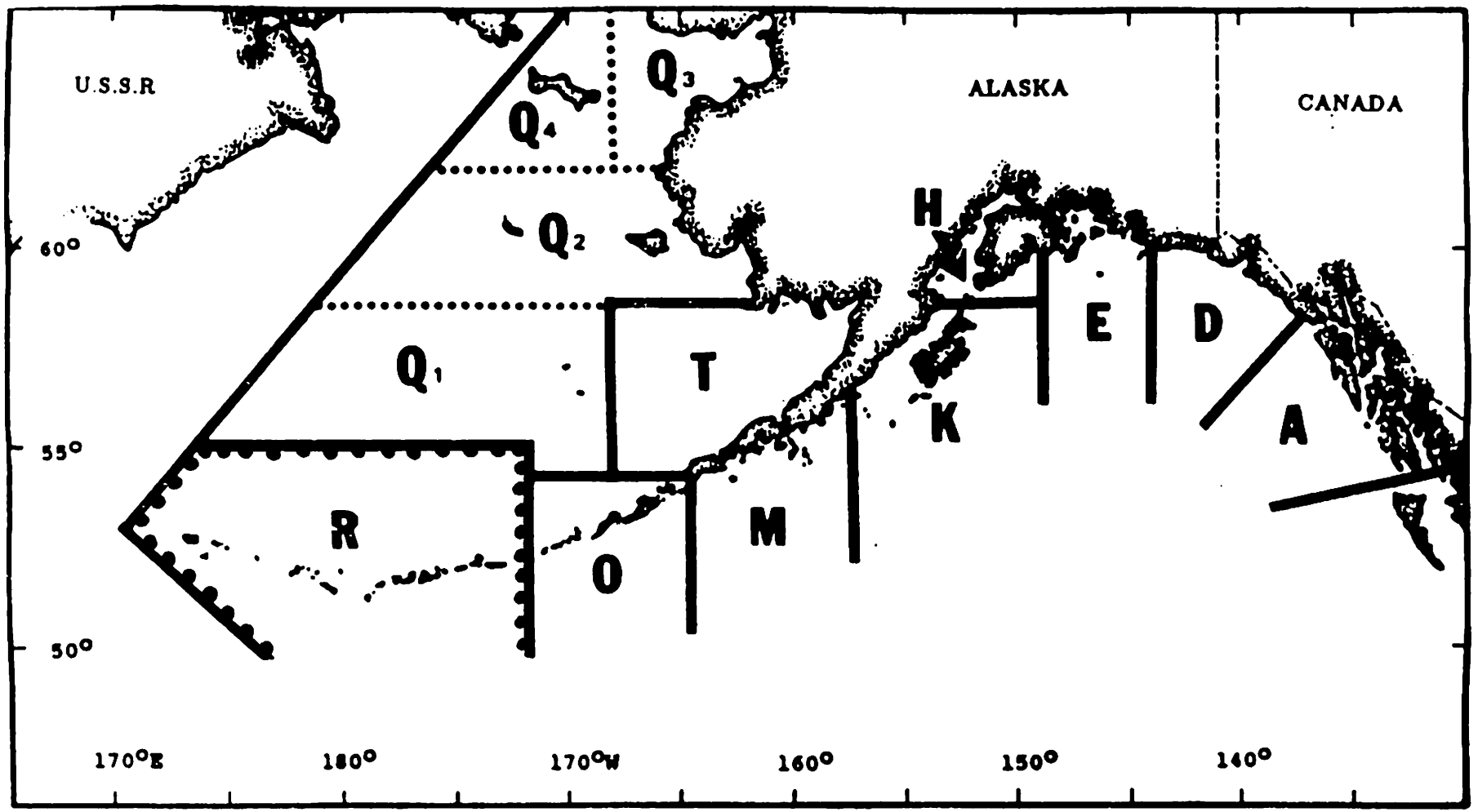
[a] Blue king crab.
[b] Guideline Harvest Level.
[c] Millions of pounds, deadloss included.
[d] Defined as catch per pot pull.
[e] Red king crab.

King crab catch and value, by season, for the Pribilof District of the Bering Sea, 1986/87 - 1995.

| YEAR | SEASON TOTAL[b] | NUMBER VESSELS | NUMBER LANDINGS | VALUE EXVESSEL | VALUE TOTAL[c] | SEASON LENGTH DAYS | SEASON LENGTH DATES |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1986/87[a] | 0.3 | 16 | 25 | $4.05 | $1.2 | 55 | 9/25-11/20 |
| 1987/88[a] | 0.7 | 38 | 68 | $4.00 | $2.8 | 86 | 9/25-12/20 |
| 1988/89 | NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY | | | | | | |
| 1989/90 | NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY | | | | | | |
| 1990/91 | NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY | | | | | | |
| 1991/92 | NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY | | | | | | |
| 1992/93 | NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY | | | | | | |
| 1993[d] | 2.6 | 112 | 135 | $4.98 | $13.0 | 6 | 9/16-09/21 |
| 1994[d] | 1.3 | 104 | 121 | $6.00 | $8.0 | 6 | 9/15-09/21 |
| 1995[d] | .9 | 117 | 151 | $3.37 | $3.0 | 7 | 9/15-09/22 |
| 1995[a] | 1.2 | 119 | 152 | $2.92 | $3.6 | 7 | 9/15-09/22 |

[a]Blue king crab.
[b]Millions of pounds, deadloss not included.
[c]Millions of dollars.
[d]Red king crab.

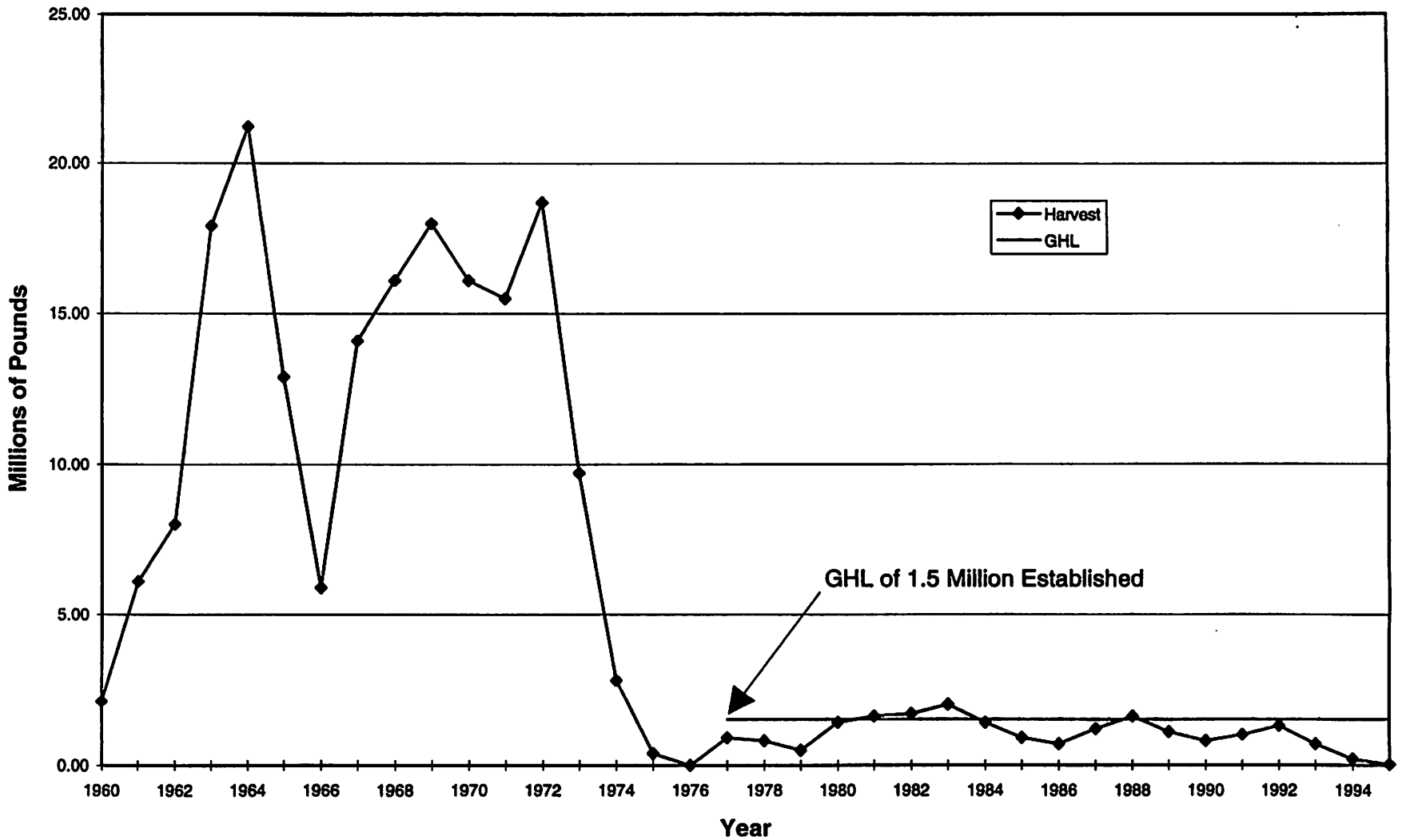
# KING CRAB AREAS




Adak King Crab Management Area "R".

Overhead # 13

## Adak Red King Crab Harvest 1960 - 1995



Adak red king crab catch and effort 1986/87 - 1995/96.

| YEAR | HARVEST[a] | NUMBER VESSELS | NUMBER LANDINGS | NUMBER OF POTS REGISTERED | NUMBER OF POTS PULLED | CPUE[b] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1986/87 | .7 | 33 | 69 | 12,958 | 29,189 | 4 |
| 1987/88 | 1.2 | 71 | 109 | 17,720 | 43,433 | 5 |
| 1988/89 | 1.6 | 73 | 156 | 23,927 | 64,374 | 4 |
| 1989/90 | 1.1 | 56 | 123 | 19,363 | 54,513 | 4 |
| 1990/91 | .8 | 7 | 34 | 8,500 | 10,674 | 14 |
| 1991/92 | 1.0 | 10 | 35 | 2,305 | 16,636 | 10 |
| 1992/93 | 1.3 | 12 | 30 | 2,716[c] | 16,129 | 13 |
| 1993/94 | .7 | 12 | 21 | 3,948 | 13,575 | 9 |
| 1994/95 | .2 | 20 | 31 | 4,065 | 18,146 | 2 |
| 1995/96[d] | .03 | 11 | 7 | 3741 | | 2 |

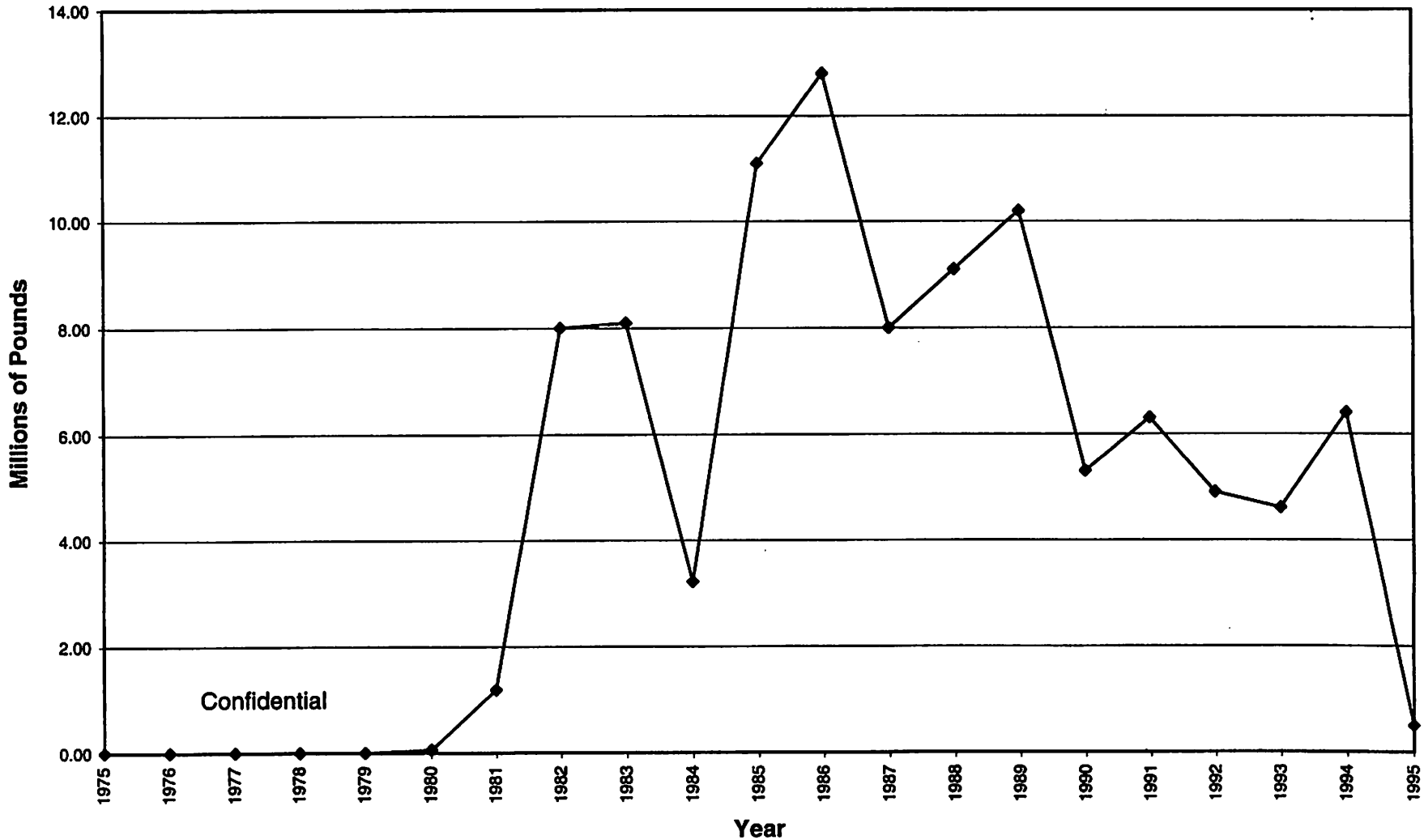
[a] Millions of pounds, deadloss included.
[b] Defined as catch per pot pull.
[c] Includes gear of vessels landing both red and brown king crab.
[d] Fishery is on going. Preliminary information through December 10, 1995.

Adak red king crab catch and value, by season, 1986/87 - 1995/96.

| YEAR | SEASON TOTAL[a] | NUMBER VESSELS[b] | NUMBER CP'S | NUMBER LANDINGS | VALUE EXVESSEL | VALUE TOTAL[c] | SEASON LENGTH DAYS | SEASON LENGTH DATES |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1986/87 | .7 | 33 | N/A | 69 | $3.85 | $2.7 | 107 | 11/01-02/15 |
| 1987/88 | 1.2 | 71 | N/A | 109 | $4.00 | $4.8 | 107 | 11/01-02/15 |
| 1988/89 | 1.6 | 73 | 11 | 156 | $5.00 | $8.0 | 34 | 11/01-12/04 |
| 1989/90 | 1.1 | 56 | 10 | 123 | $4.20 | $4.6 | 107 | 11/01-02/15 |
| 1990/91 | .7 | 7 | 4 | 34 | $4.00 | $2.8 | 107 | 11/01-02/15 |
| 1991/92 | .9 | 10 | 3 | 35 | $3.00 | $2.9 | 107 | 11/01-02/15 |
| 1992/93 | 1.3 | 12 | 2 | 30 | $5.05 | $6.5 | 76 | 11/01-01/15 |
| 1993/94 | .7 | 12 | 1 | 21 | $3.87 | $2.7 | 107 | 11/01-02/15 |
| 1994/95 | .2 | 20 | 3 | 31 | $5.50 | $1.1 | 27 | 11/01-11/28 |
| 1995/96[d] | .03 | 11 | 1 | 7 | $2.70 | $.09 | | 11/1-Present |

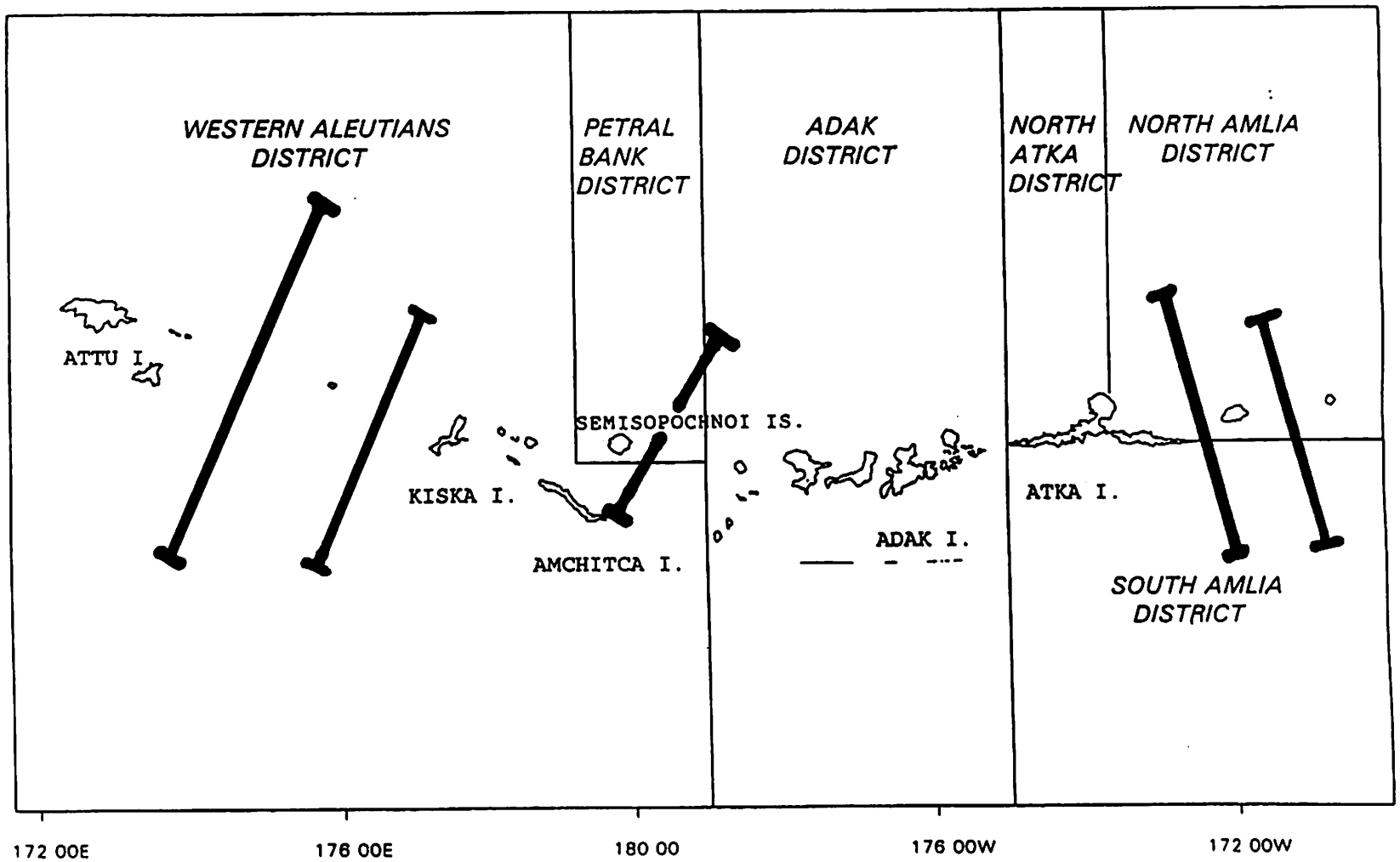
[a]Millions of pounds, deadloss not included.
[b]Includes catcher-processors.
[c]Millions of dollars.
[d]Fishery is on going. Preliminary information through December 10, 1995.

## Adak Brown King Crab Harvest 1975 - 1995




Overhead # 17

# Adak King Crab Management Districts




Overhead # 18

Adak brown king crab catch and effort 1985/86 - 1995/96.

| YEAR | HARVEST[a] | NUMBER VESSELS | NUMBER LANDINGS | NUMBER OF POTS REGISTERED[b] | NUMBER OF POTS PULLED | CPUE[c] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1985/86 | 11.1 | 49 | 386 | 7,057 | 202,401 | 12 |
| 1986/87 | 12.8 | 62 | 525 | 12,958 | 392,185 | 7 |
| 1987/88 | 8.0 | 46 | 386 | 10,687 | 267,705 | 7 |
| 1988/89 | 9.1 | 74 | 455 | 23,627 | 280,732 | 8 |
| 1989/90 | 10.2 | 64 | 505 | 14,724 | 324,153 | 8 |
| 1990/91 | 5.3 | 13 | 167 | 7,380 | 160,960 | 8 |
| 1991/92 | 6.3 | 16 | 206 | 7,635[d] | 192,949 | 8 |
| 1992/93 | 4.9 | 18 | 130 | 8,236[d] | 165,503 | 7 |
| 1993/94 | 4.6 | 21 | 147 | 11,970[d] | 212,164 | 6 |
| 1994/95 | 6.4 | 34 | 247 | 15,604[d] | 319,006 | 5 |
| 1995/96[e] | .5 | 14 | 13 | 8,060[d] | | 6 |

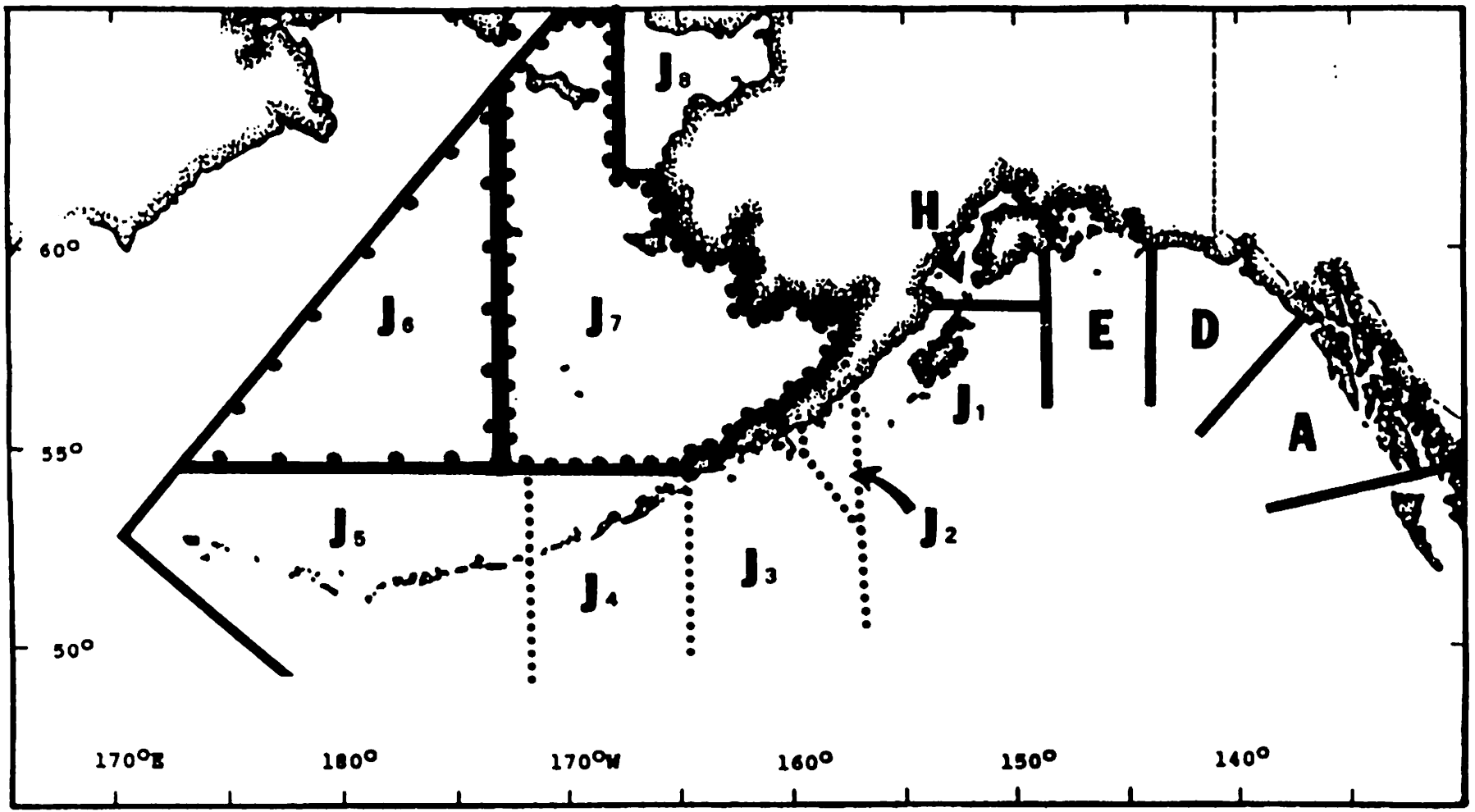
[a] Millions of pounds, deadloss included.
[b] No separate registration from red king crab.
[c] Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d] Gear directed fishing on brown king crab.
[e] Fishery is on going. Preliminary data through December 10, 1995.

Adak brown king crab catch and value, by season, 1985/86 - 1995/96.

| YEAR | SEASON TOTAL[a] | NUMBER VESSELS[b] | NUMBER CP'S | NUMBER LANDINGS | VALUE EXVESSEL | VALUE TOTAL[c] | SEASON LENGTH DAYS | SEASON LENGTH DATES |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1985/86 | 11.1 | 49 | N/A | 386 | $2.50 | $27.8 | 288 | 11/01-8/15 |
| 1986/87 | 12.5 | 62 | N/A | 325 | $3.00 | $37.5 | 288 | 11/01-8/15 |
| 1987/88 | 7.8 | 46 | N/A | 386 | $3.00 | $23.4 | 289 | 11/01-8/15 |
| 1988/89 | 9.0 | 74 | 13 | 455 | $3.20 | $28.8 | 288 | 11/01-8/15 |
| 1989/90 | 10.1 | 64 | 15 | 505 | $3.00 | $30.3 | 288 | 11/01-8/15 |
| 1990/91 | 5.3 | 13 | 6 | 167 | $3.00 | $15.9 | 288 | 11/01-8/15 |
| 1991/92 | 6.1 | 16 | 7 | 206 | $2.50 | $15.2 | 289 | 11/01-8/15 |
| 1992/93 | 4.9 | 18 | 4 | 130 | $2.05 | $10.1 | 288 | 11/01-8/15 |
| 1993/94 | 4.6 | 21 | 1 | 147 | $2.50 | $11.2 | 288 | 11/01-8/15 |
| 1994/95 | 6.1 | 34 | 2 | 247 | $3.33 | $20.4 | 288 | 11/01-8/15 |
| 1995/96[d] | .5 | 14 | 1 | 13 | $2.17 | $1.0 | | 11/1-Present |

[a]Millions of pounds, deadloss not included.
[b]Includes catcher-processors.
[c]Millions of dollars.
[d]Fishery is on going. Preliminary information through December 31, 1995.

# TANNER CRAB AREAS

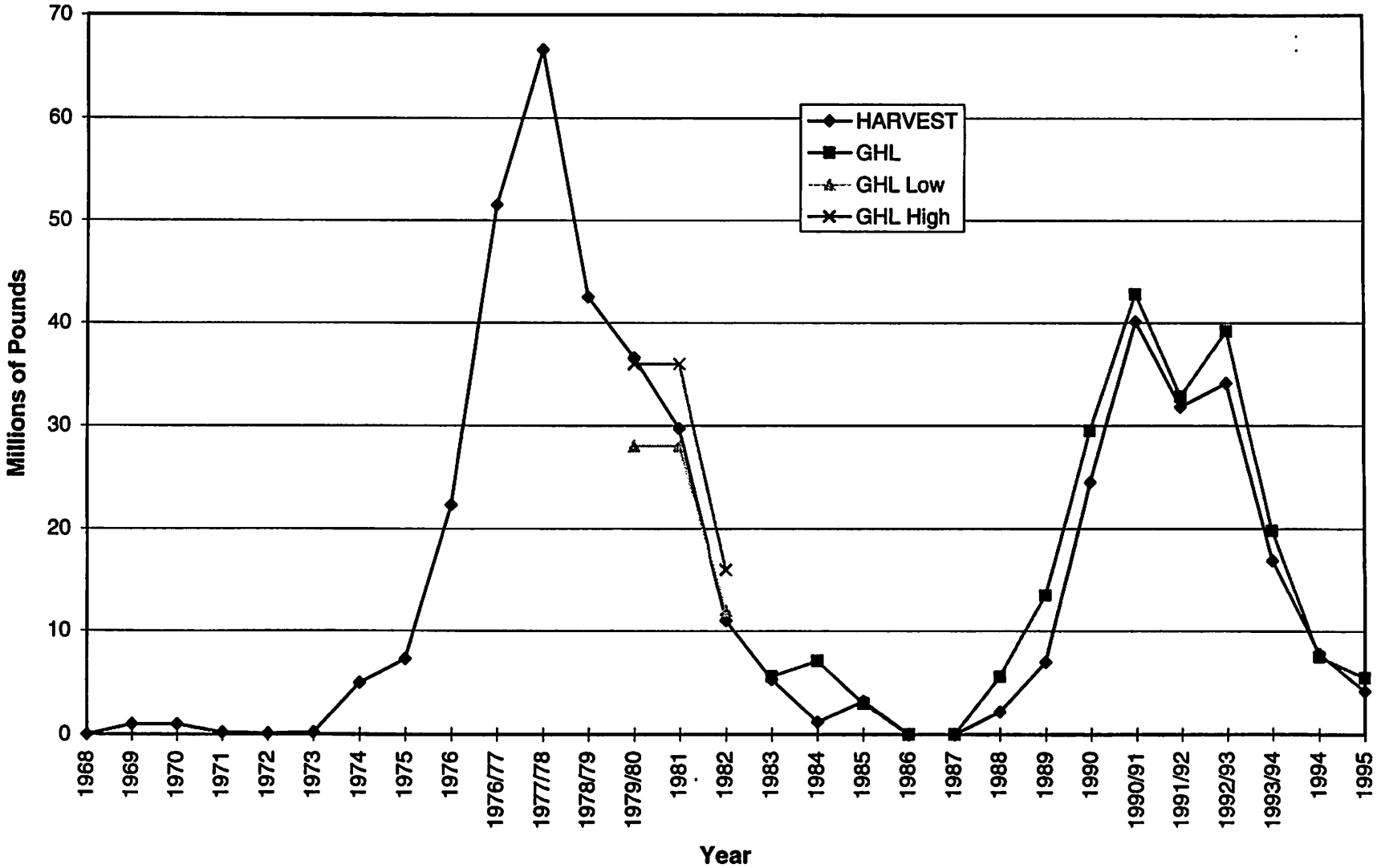



Western Subdistrict of the Bering Sea Tanner Crab Management Area "Q".

Eastern Subdistrict of the Bering Sea Tanner Crab Management Area "Q".

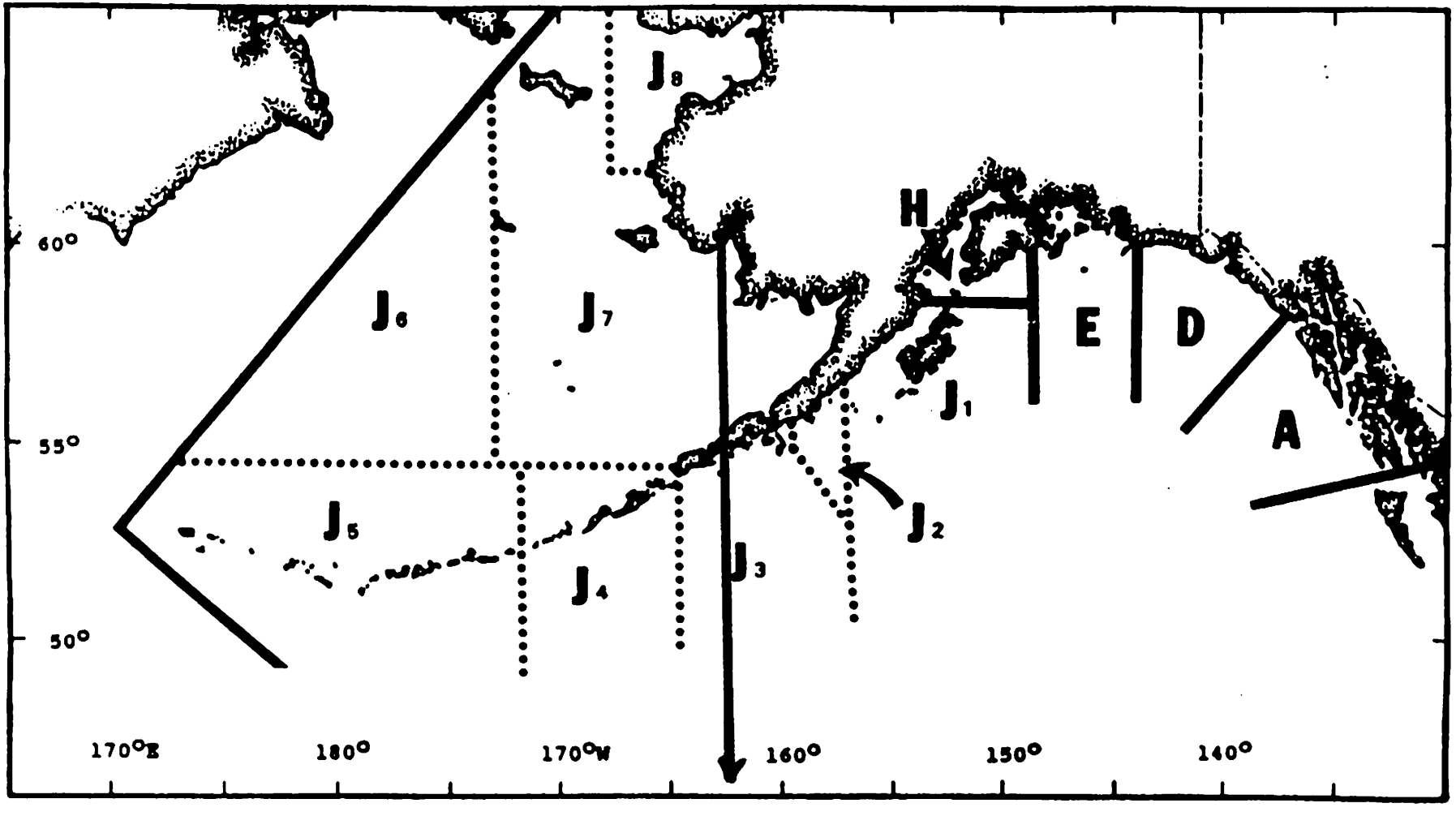
Overhead #21

## Bering Sea Chionoecetes bairdi Tanner Crab Catch 1960 - 1995




Overhead # 22

# TANNER CRAB AREAS




Eastern Subdistrict of the Bering Sea Tanner Crab Management Area "Q".

That Portion of the Eastern Subdistrict West of 163° West Longitude.

Overhead # 23

Bering Sea *C. bairdi* Tanner crab catch and effort 1986 - 1995.

| YEAR | GHL[a,b] | HARVEST[b] | NUMBER VESSELS | NUMBER LANDINGS | NUMBER OF POTS REGISTERED | NUMBER OF POTS PULLED | CPUE[c] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1986 | | | NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY | | | | |
| 1987 | | | NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY | | | | |
| 1988 | 5.6 | 2.2 | 98 | 248 | 38,765 | 112,334 | 8 |
| 1989 | 13.5 | 7.0 | 109 | 359 | 43,607 | 184,892 | 16 |
| 1990 | 29.5 | 24.5 | 179 | 1,032 | 46,440 | 711,137 | 15 |
| 1990/91 | 42.8 | 40.1 | 255 | 1,756 | 75,356 | 883,391 | 19 |
| 1991/92 | 32.8 | 31.8 | 285 | 2,339 | 85,401 | 1,244,633 | 10 |
| 1992/93 | 39.2 | 35.1 | 294 | 2,084 | 71,481 | 1,200,885 | 13 |
| 1993/94 | 19.8 | 16.9 | 296 | 862 | 69,900 | 576,464 | 13 |
| 1994 | 7.5 | 7.8 | 183 | 349 | 38,670 | 249,536 | 13 |
| 1995[d] | 5.5 | 4.2 | 195 | 254 | 41,000 | | 7 |

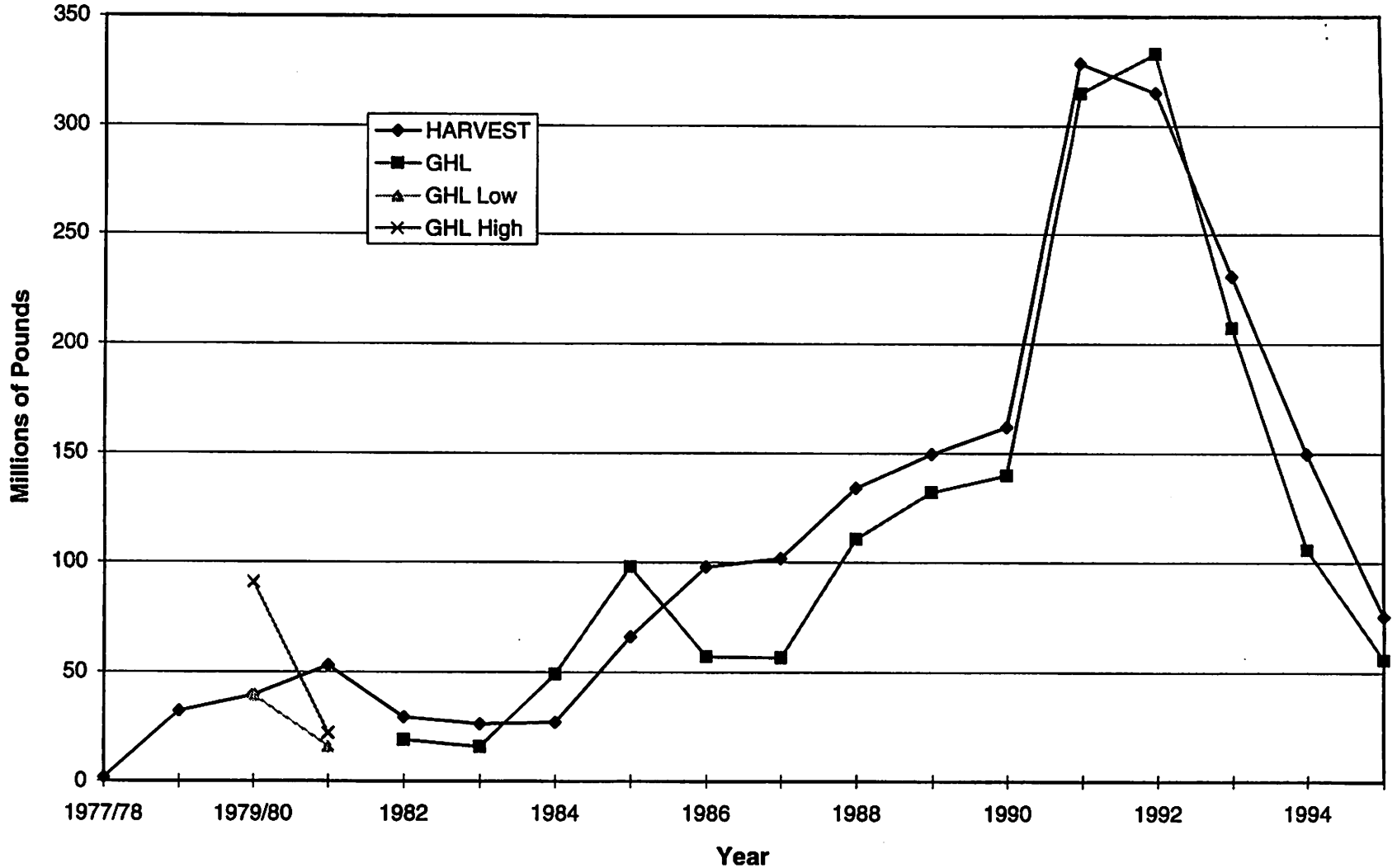
[a] Guideline Harvest Level.
[b] Millions of pounds, deadloss included.
[c] Defined as catch per pot pull.
[d] Preliminary Data.

Bering sea *C. bairdi* catch and value, by season, 1986 - 1995.

| YEAR | SEASON TOTAL[a] | NUMBER VESSELS | NUMBER LANDINGS | VALUE EXVESSEL | VALUE TOTAL[b] | SEASON LENGTH DAYS | SEASON LENGTH DATES |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1986 | | NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY | | | | | |
| 1987 | | NO COMMERCIAL FISHERY | | | | | |
| 1988 | 2.2 | 98 | 248 | $2.17 | $4.8 | 93 | 1/15-04/20 |
| 1989 | 7.0 | 109 | 359 | $2.90 | $20.3 | 110 | 1/15-05/07 |
| 1990[c] | 24.5 | 179 | 1,032 | $1.85 | $45.3 | 89 | 1/15-04/24 |
| 1990/91 | 39.7 | 255 | 1,756 | $1.12 | $44.5 | 126 | 11/20-3/25 |
| 1991/92 | 31.5 | 285 | 2,339 | $1.50 | $47.3 | 137 | 11/15-3/31 |
| 1992/93 | 35.1 | 294 | 2,084 | $1.69 | $58.8 | 137 | 11/15-3/31 |
| 1993[d] | 4.1 | 283 | 347 | $1.90 | $7.6 | 10 | 11/1-11/10 |
| 1993/94[e] | 12.8 | 261 | 515 | $1.90 | $24.0 | 42 | 11/20-01/1 |
| 1994[e] | 7.6 | 183 | 349 | $3.75 | $28.5 | 20 | 11/1-11/21 |
| 1995[e,f] | 4.2 | 195 | 254 | $2.80 | $11.7 | 15 | 11/1-11/16 |

[a] Millions of pounds, deadloss not included.
[b] Millions of dollars.
[c] Winter fishery.
[d] East of 168° West longitude.
[e] 163°-173° West longitude.
[f] Preliminary information.

## Bering Sea Chionoecetes opilio Tanner Crab Catch 1977/78 - 1995




Overhead # 26

Bering Sea *C.opilio* Tanner crab catch and effort 1986 - 1995.

| YEAR | GHL[a,b] | HARVEST[b] | NUMBER VESSELS | NUMBER LANDINGS | NUMBER OF POTS REGISTERED[c] | NUMBER OF POTS PULLED | CPUE[d] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1986[e] | 57.0 | 98.0 | 88 | 992 | 13,750 | 543,744 | 141 |
| 1987 | 56.4 | 101.9 | 103 | 1,038 | 19,386 | 616,113 | 132 |
| 1988 | 110.7 | 134.0 | 171 | 1,285 | 38,765 | 776,907 | 136 |
| 1989 | 132.0 | 149.5 | 168 | 1,341 | 43,607 | 663,442 | 170 |
| 1990 | 139.8 | 161.8 | 189 | 1,565 | 46,440 | 911,613 | 141 |
| 1991 | 315.0 | 328.6 | 220 | 2,788 | 76,056 | 1,391,583 | 191 |
| 1992 | 333.0 | 315.3 | 250 | 2,763 | 77,858[f] | 1,281,796 | 177 |
| 1993 | 207.2 | 230.8 | 254 | 1,836 | 65,081 | 971,046 | 175 |
| 1994 | 105.8 | 149.8 | 273 | 1,293 | 54,837[f] | 716,524 | 160 |
| 1995 | 55.7 | 75.3 | 253 | 869 | 53,707[f] | 506,802 | 117 |

[a] Guideline Harvest Level.
[b] Millions of pounds, deadloss included.
[c] Same gear as *C. bairdi* fishery.
[d] Defined as catch per pot pull.
[e] Open only west of 164° West longitude.
[f] Gear for *C. opilio* vessels only.

Bering sea *C.opilio* catch and value, by season, 1986 - 1995.

| YEAR | SEASON TOTAL[a] | NUMBER | | VALUE | | SEASON LENGTH[c] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | VESSELS | LANDINGS | EXVESSEL | TOTAL[b] | |
| 1986[d] | 96.6 | 88 | 992 | $0.60 | $60.0 | 252 |
| 1987 | 100.9 | 103 | 1,038 | $0.75 | $75.7 | 158 |
| 1988 | 130.8 | 171 | 1,285 | $0.77 | $100.7 | 120 |
| 1989 | 147.6 | 168 | 1,341 | $0.75 | $110.7 | 112 |
| 1990 | 160.0 | 189 | 1,565 | $0.64 | $102.3 | 148 |
| 1991 | 325.2 | 220 | 2,788 | $0.50 | $162.6 | 159 |
| 1992 | 313.0 | 250 | 2,763 | $0.50 | $156.5 | 97 |
| 1993 | 229.2 | 254 | 1,836 | $0.75 | $171.9 | 59 |
| 1994 | 148.0 | 273 | 1,293 | $1.30 | $192.4 | 45 |
| 1995 | 74.0 | 253 | 869 | $2.43 | $179.7 | 33 |

[a] Millions of pounds, deadloss not included.
[b] Millions of dollars.
[c] In days.
[d] Partial closures only.

*C. tanneri* catch and value, by season, 1991 - 1995.

| YEAR | AREA | SEASON TOTAL[a] | NUMBER VESSELS | NUMBER LANDINGS | VALUE EXVESSEL | VALUE TOTAL[b] | SEASON LENGTH[c] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1993 | Bering Sea | 587,796 | 6 | 18 | $0.94 | $0.6 | 365 |
| 1994 | Bering Sea | 301,869 | 4 | 12 | $1.20 | $0.4 | 365 |
| 1995 | Bering Sea | 900,017 | 8 | 47 | $1.40 | $1.3 | 365 |
| 1993 | E. Aleutians | | CONFIDENTIAL | | | | 365 |
| 1994 | E. Aleutians | 739,765 | 3 | 27 | $1.20 | $0.9 | 365 |
| 1995 | E. Aleutians | 822,089 | 7 | 51 | $1.57 | $1.3 | 365 |
| 1993 | W. Aleutians | | NO REPORTED CATCH | | | | 365 |
| 1994 | W. Aleutians | | CONFIDENTIAL | | | | 365 |
| 1995 | W. Aleutians | 127,757 | 6 | 16 | $1.52 | $0.2 | 365 |

[a] In pounds, deadloss not included.
[b] Millions of dollars.
[c] In days.