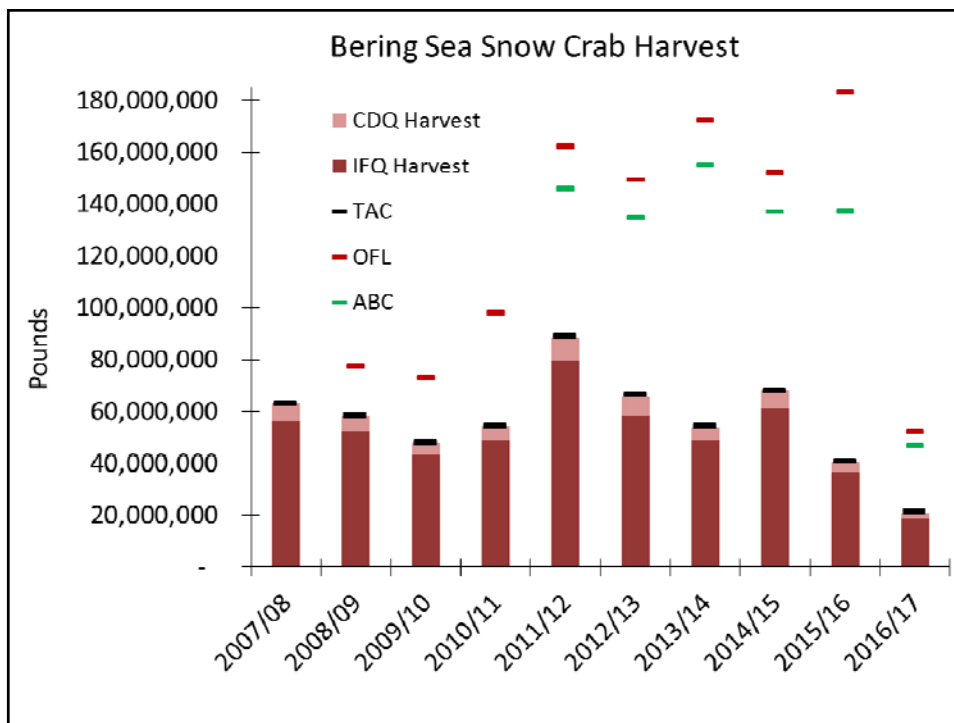
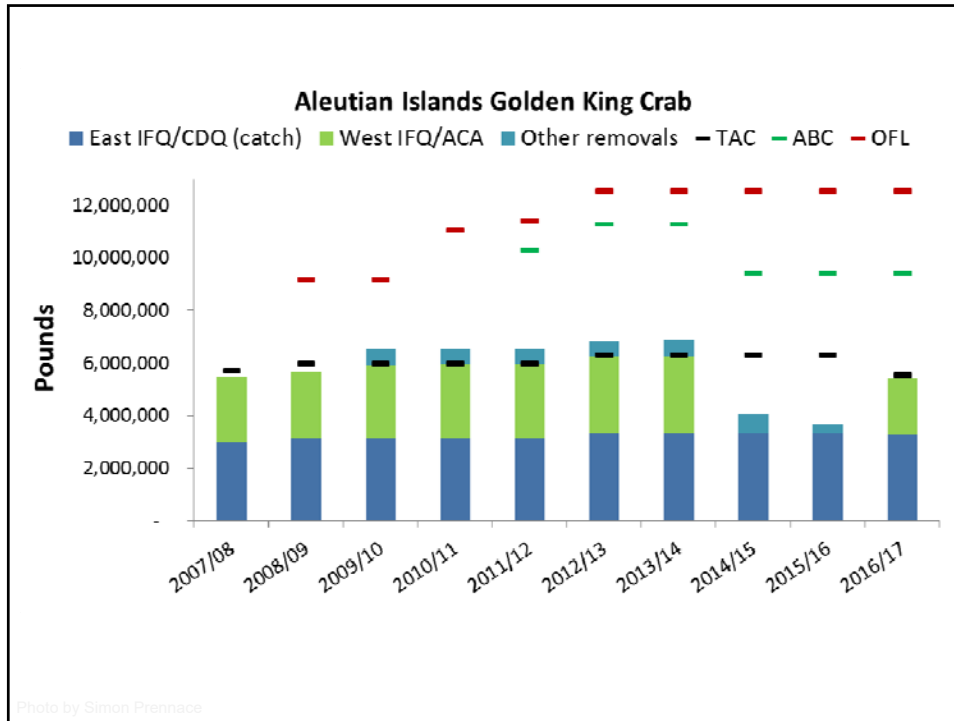


ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME Report to the NPFMC Agenda Item B-3



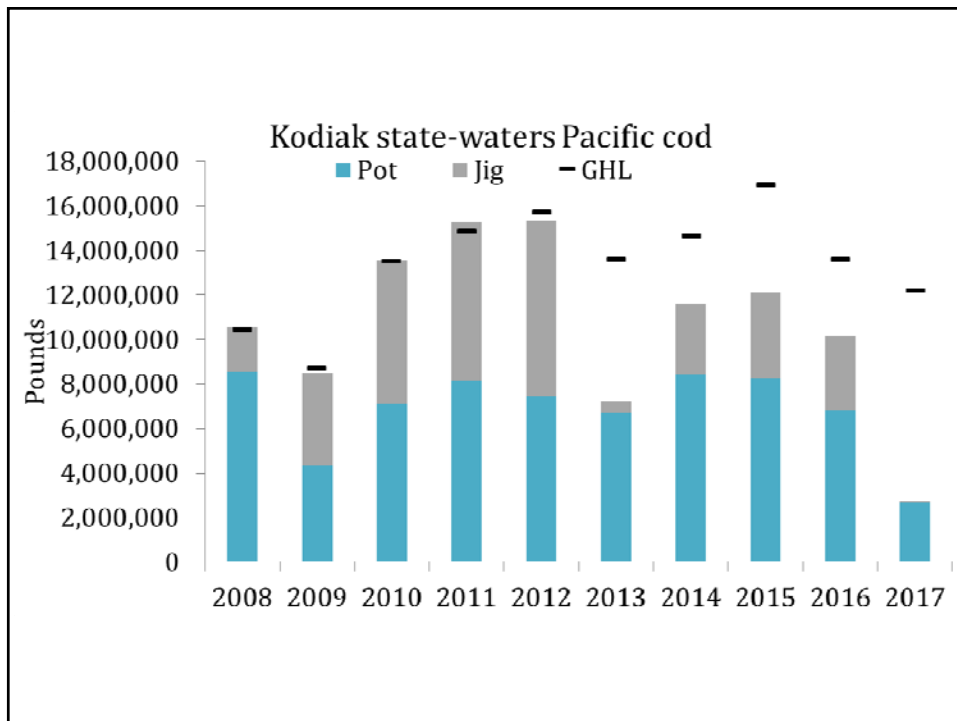
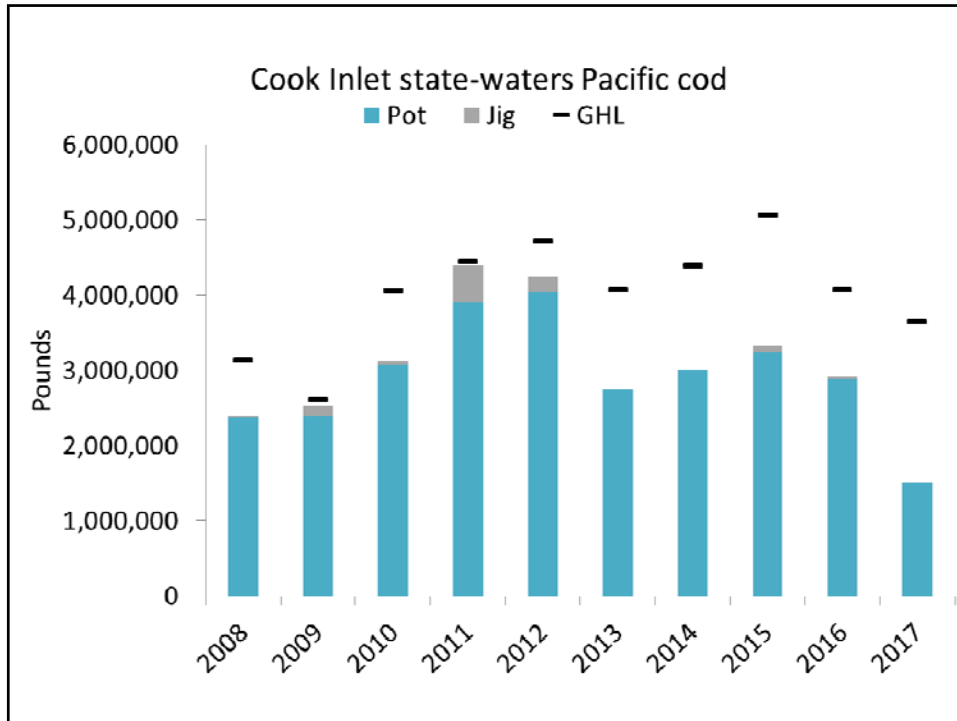
April 2017

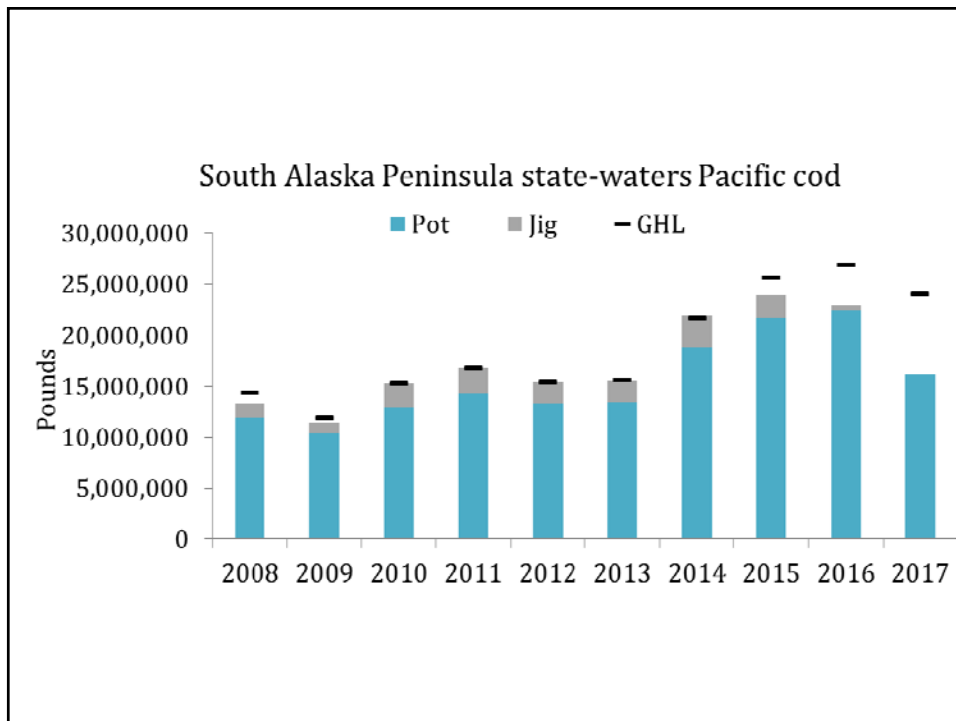
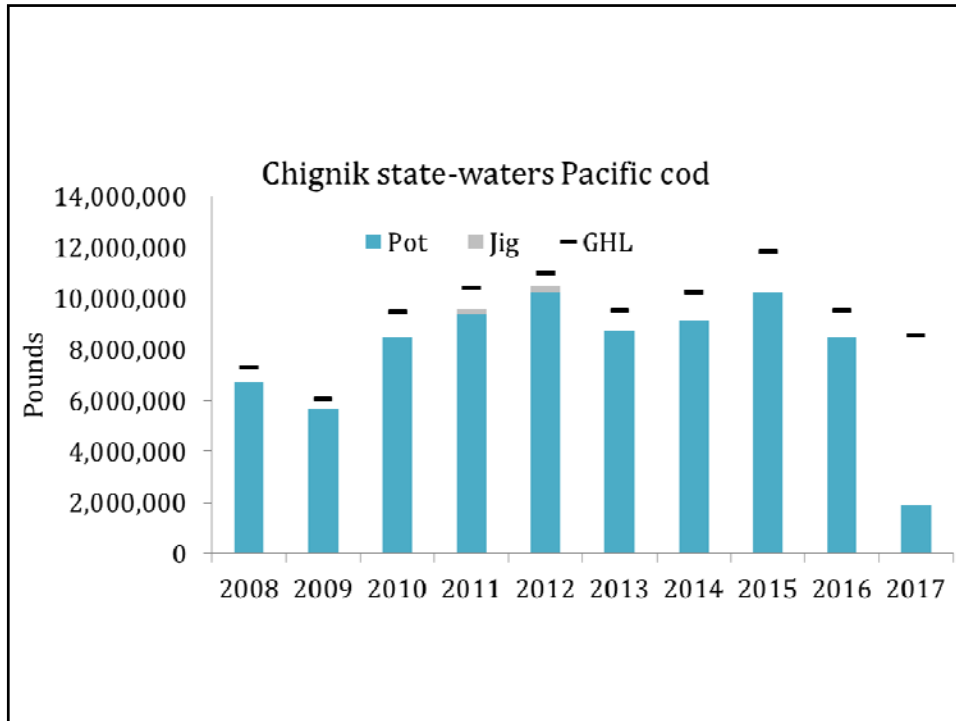


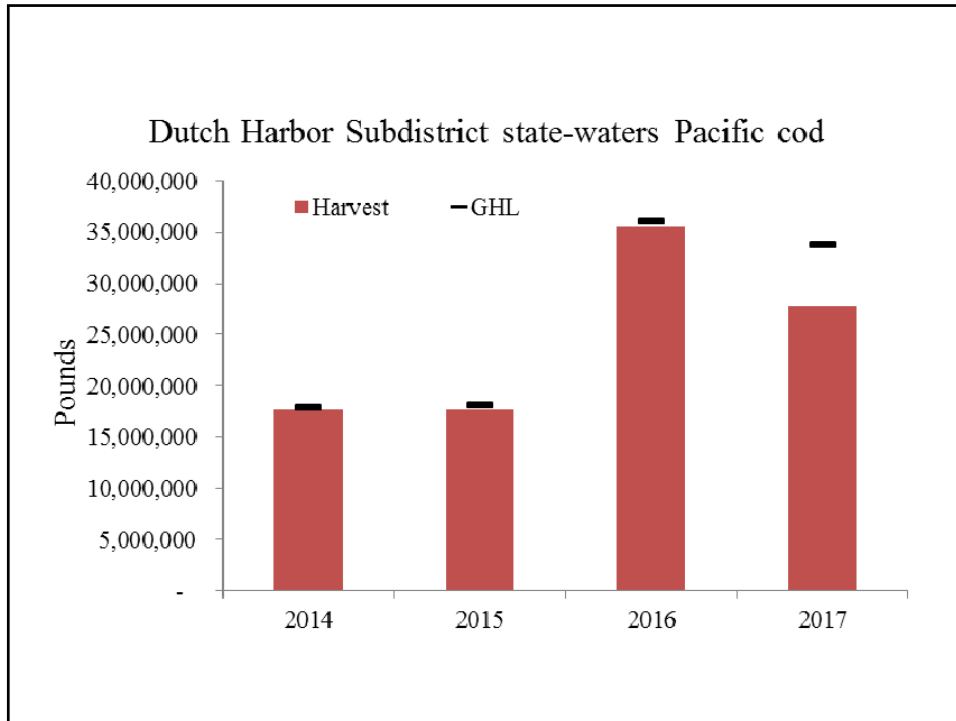


2017 Pacific cod Guideline Harvest Levels

State Management Area	Pacific cod ABC	GHL as % of ABC	2017 GHL (mt)
Prince William Sound	EGOA	25%	1,968
Chignik	CGOA	8.75%	3,866
Kodiak		25%	5,523
Cook Inlet		3.75%	1,657
South Alaska Peninsula	WGOA	30%	10,887
Dutch Harbor Subdistrict	BS	6.4%	15,296
Aleutian Islands District	AI	27%	5,805







STATEWIDE KING AND TANNER CRAB AND SUPPLEMENTAL ISSUES
March 20–24, 2017

Photo by Simon Prensace

Proposal Number	Proposal Description	FMP Category
242	Passed 7-0 - Correct an error in regulation to accurately specify the percentage of mature male blue king crab used in setting total allowable catch.	2 - TAC/GHL
250	Passed 7-0 - (As amended by language in RC 39 limiting retention to 35%) Allow full retention of legal male <i>C. opilio</i> crab incidentally harvested by vessels targeting <i>C. bairdi</i> crab in the Bering Sea District west of 166° W. long.	3 - Bycatch Limits
252	Passed 7-0 - (As amended by language in RC 26) Allow a vessel carrying an onboard observer to rig, bait, and set gear for a new crab fishery before fully exiting the crab fishery for which the observer was briefed.	3 - Observers
253	Passed 7-0 - (See language in RC 27) Allow a vessel participating in a rationalized crab fishery to rig, bait, and set pot gear for a new crab fishery prior to fully exiting the crab fishery for which the vessel is validly registered.	3 - Gear Placement and Removal
257	Passed 7-0 - (As amended by language in RC 40) Extend the Bering Sea District eastern boundary for retention of <i>C. opilio</i> crab from 166° W. long. to 165° W. long.	2 - Districts, Subdistricts, and Section Boundaries
259	Passed 7-0 - Specify that escape rings and mesh are placed on a vertical plane or side of the pot in the Saint Matthew Island Section blue king crab fishery.	3 - Gear Modifications
260	Passed 7-0 - Adopt by reference the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Chionoecetes Crab Quick Reference Guide for <i>C. bairdi</i> and <i>C. opilio</i> Tanner crab.	3 - Other
264	Passed 7-0 - Repeal provisions allowing concurrent harvest of red and golden king crab in Registration Area O.	3 - Other
274	Passed 7-0 - Reduce waters closed for the protection of Steller sea lions during the parallel Pacific cod fishery in the Chignik Area.	

Board Generated Proposal

Review the Bering Sea Tanner crab harvest strategy with respect to the following elements:

- (a) Criteria used to determine mature female Tanner crab;
- (b) Area used to estimate biomass expanded to include west of 173° W. long. and other surveyed areas where biomass estimates are consistently available;
- (c) Years used to estimate long-term average mature female Tanner crab biomass to match years used to estimate R_{MSY} in the federal Tanner crab assessment model;
- (d) Provision that TAC is reduced 50% in any year succeeding a year in which the mature female Tanner crab biomass falls below 40% of its long-term average.

This proposal will be taken up May 17-18 in Anchorage (location to be determined).

Questions?

Photo by Megan Peterson