



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

Fisheries managed by the State of Alaska since the last Council report includes those for crab and groundfish.

Aleutian Islands Golden King Crab

The 2020/21 Aleutian Islands (AI) commercial golden king crab fishery opened August 1, 2020. The total allowable catch (TAC) for this stock is 6.61 million pounds and is apportioned east and west of 174° W longitude. For the 2020/21 fishing year the eastern TAC is 3.65 million pounds and the western TAC is 2.96 million pounds. Ten percent of the eastern Aleutian Islands golden king crab TAC is allocated to the Community Development Quota (CDQ) fishery and ten percent of the western Aleutian Islands golden king crab TAC is allocated to the Adak Community Allocation (ACA) fishery. In the eastern area, 100% of the TAC was harvested by three vessels and this area closed by regulation on April 30, 2021 (Figure 1). In the western area, 94% of the IFQ TAC, 2.50 million pounds, was harvested by three vessels and ACA harvest is confidential (Figure 1). The western area closed by Emergency Order on May 13, 2021.

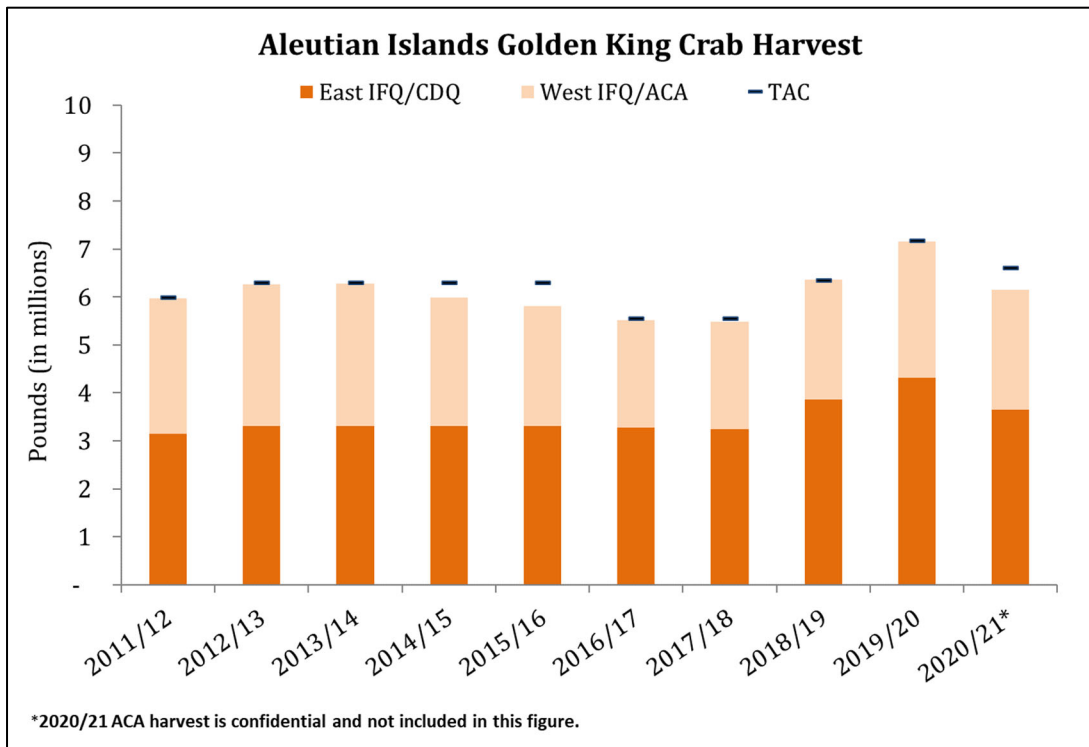


Figure 1. Aleutian Islands golden king crab harvest by area and TAC, 2011/12 – 2020/21 seasons.

Eastern Bering Sea Tanner Crab

The 2020/21 Bering Sea District Tanner crab fishery opened in the western area (West of 166° W longitude) on October 15, 2020, with a TAC of 2.35 million pounds and closed on March 31, 2021. Ten percent of this TAC, 234,800 pounds, was allocated to CDQ fisheries. The eastern area remained closed during the 2020/21 season. In the western area, 41 vessels harvested 1.45 million pounds of Tanner crab, 62% of the TAC (Figure 2).

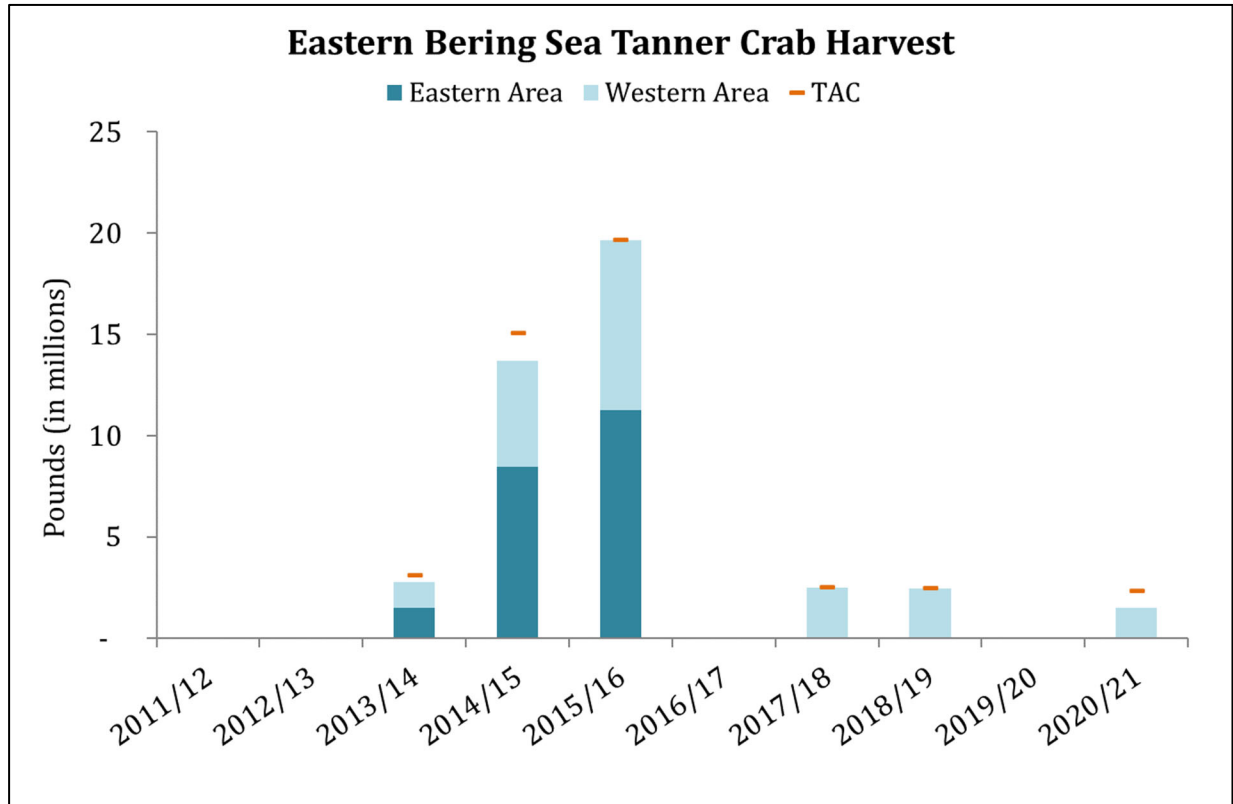


Figure 2. Eastern Bering Sea Tanner crab harvest and TAC, 2011/12 – 2020/21 seasons.

Bering Sea Snow Crab

The 2020/21 Bering Sea snow crab TAC is 45.0 million pounds and ten percent of this TAC is allocated to CDQ fisheries. The Bering Sea snow crab fishery opened on October 15, 2020 and closed in the Eastern Subdistrict (between 166° W and 173° W longitude) on May 15, 2021 and in the Western Subdistrict (west of 173° W longitude) on May 31, 2021. As of May 28, 2021, 62 vessels have harvested 40.3 million pounds in the IFQ fishery (99% of the IFQ TAC of 40.5 million pounds) and the 2020/21 TAC is expected to be fully harvested (Figure 3). In the CDQ fishery, 14 vessels harvested 4.5 million pounds, 100% of the CDQ TAC (Figure 3).

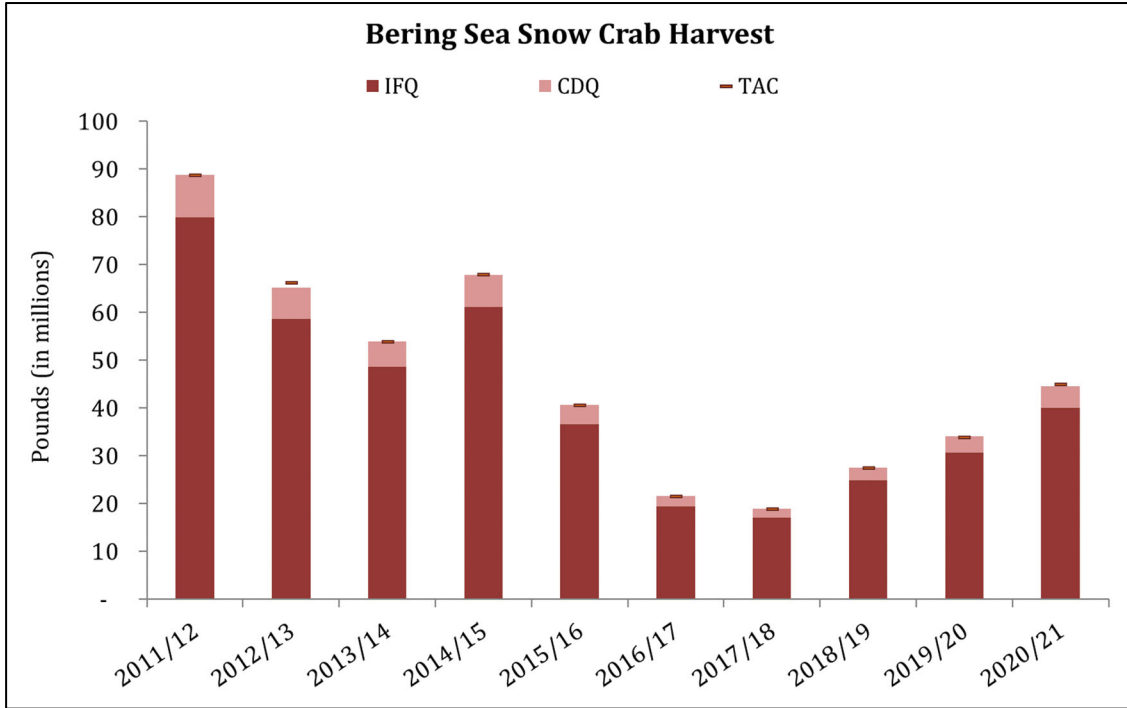


Figure 3. Eastern Bering Sea Tanner crab harvest, 2011/12 – 2020/21 seasons.

Pacific Cod

State-water Pacific cod fisheries are established in the Prince William Sound, Cook Inlet, Kodiak, Chignik, South Alaska Peninsula, and Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Management Areas. Guideline Harvest Levels (GHLs) are calculated as a percentage of area ABCs and 2021 GHLs are as follows:

State Water Pacific Cod Guideline Harvest Level					
State Management Area	ABC and GHL percentage in regulation		Gear	2021 GHL (pounds)	2021 GHL (mt)
Prince William Sound	EGOA - 25%		Jig/Pot	164,107	74
			Longline	929,937	422
Chignik	8.75%	CGOA - 25%	Jig	263,428	119
			Pot	2,370,849	1,075
Kodiak	12.50%	CGOA - 25%	Jig	1,881,626	853
			Pot	1,881,626	853
Cook Inlet	3.75%	CGOA - 25%	Jig	169,348	77
			Pot	959,639	435
South Alaska Peninsula	WGOA - 30%		Jig	792,267	359
			Pot	4,489,514	2,036
Dutch Harbor Subdistrict	Bering Sea - 10%		Jig	100,000	45
			Pot	27,292,000	12,379
Aleutian Islands Subdistrict*	Aleutian Islands - 39%		All	15,000,000	6,804

*AI Subdistrict GHL is capped at 15 million pounds (6,804 mt)

Prince William Sound: The 2021 GHL for Prince William Sound (Eastern Gulf of Alaska) is 1.09 million pounds and is allocated 85% to longline gear and 15% to pot and jig gear. The state-waters season opened to pot gear on January 23 and remains open; harvest in this fishery is confidential. The state-waters season for longline gear opened on March 6 and closed on March 20. Sixteen longline vessels harvested 877,891 pounds, 94% of the longline GHL. If there is GHL remaining after September 1, the longline fishery may reopen.

Chignik: The 2021 GHL for the Chignik Area (Central Gulf of Alaska) is 2.63 million pounds and is allocated 90% to pot gear and 10% to jig gear. State waters were open to pot gear from March 1 to April 9 and the state-waters jig gear fishery opened on March 15 and remains open. Four pot vessels have harvested 2.34 million pounds (99% of the pot GHL) and to date, there has been no effort in the jig gear fishery (Figure 4).

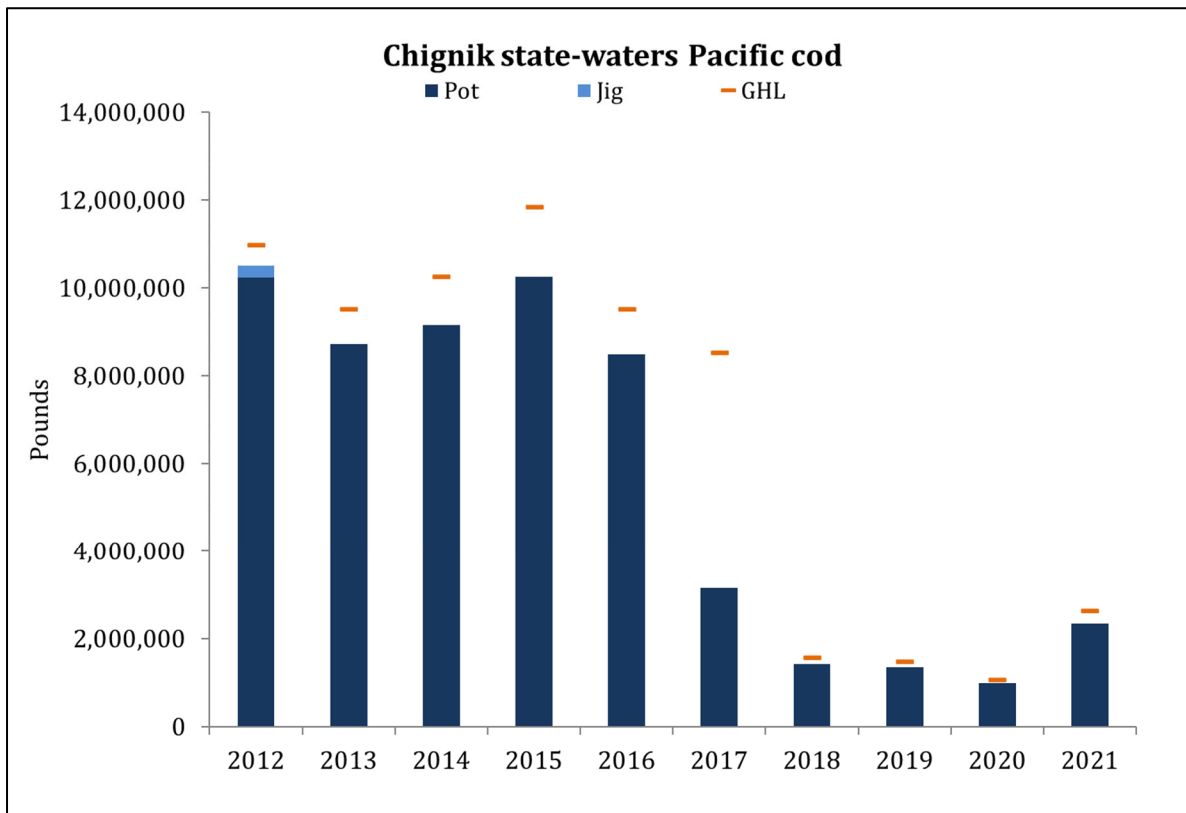


Figure 4. Chignik Pacific cod GHL and harvest by gear, 2012 – 2021.

Kodiak: The 2021 state-waters GHL for the Kodiak Area (Central Gulf of Alaska) is 3.76 million pounds and is allocated 50 percent to mechanical jig and hand troll gears and 50 percent to pot gear. Total harvest by pot gear vessels that are greater than 58 feet in length is restricted to 50 percent of the pot gear GHL (0.94 million pounds). The state-waters pot gear season opened on January 29 and closed to vessels over 58 feet on February 18 and then closed to all pot vessels on February 27. Ten vessels using pot gear harvested 1.9 million pounds, 100% of the pot GHL

(Figure 5). The jig gear fishery opened on January 1 and remains open. To date, 40 vessels using jig gear have harvested 1.4 million pounds, 41% of the jig GHL (Figure 5).

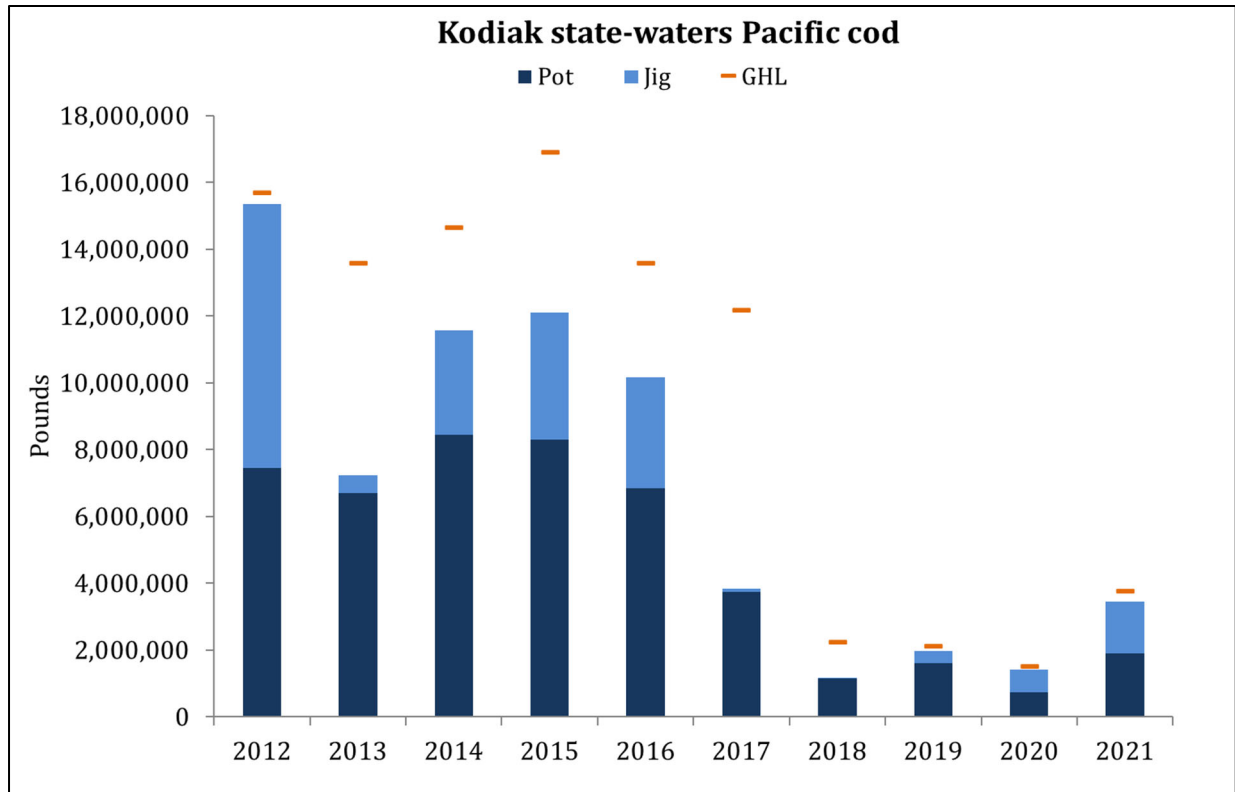


Figure 5. Kodiak Pacific cod GHL and harvest by gear, 2012 – 2021.

Cook Inlet: The 2021 GHL for Cook Inlet (Central Gulf of Alaska) is 1.13 million pounds with 0.96 million pounds allocated to pot gear and 0.17 million pounds allocated to jig gear. The state-waters pot gear season opened on January 23 and remains open with 0.94 million pounds harvested to date by five vessels. There has been no effort in the pot fishery since the April 2021 ADF&G report to Council. The state-waters jig gear fishery is currently closed and opens by regulation 24 hours following the closure of the initial federal jig gear season for Pacific cod in the Central Gulf of Alaska Area.

South Alaska Peninsula: The 2021 GHL for the South Alaska Peninsula is 5.28 million pounds and is allocated 85% to pot gear and 15% to jig gear. The state-waters pot gear season opened on March 9, following a two-day weather delay, and closed on March 15. Twenty-eight pot vessels harvested 4.05 million pounds (Figure 6). The jig gear season opened on March 15 and 16 vessels have harvested 374,000 pounds (Figure 6).

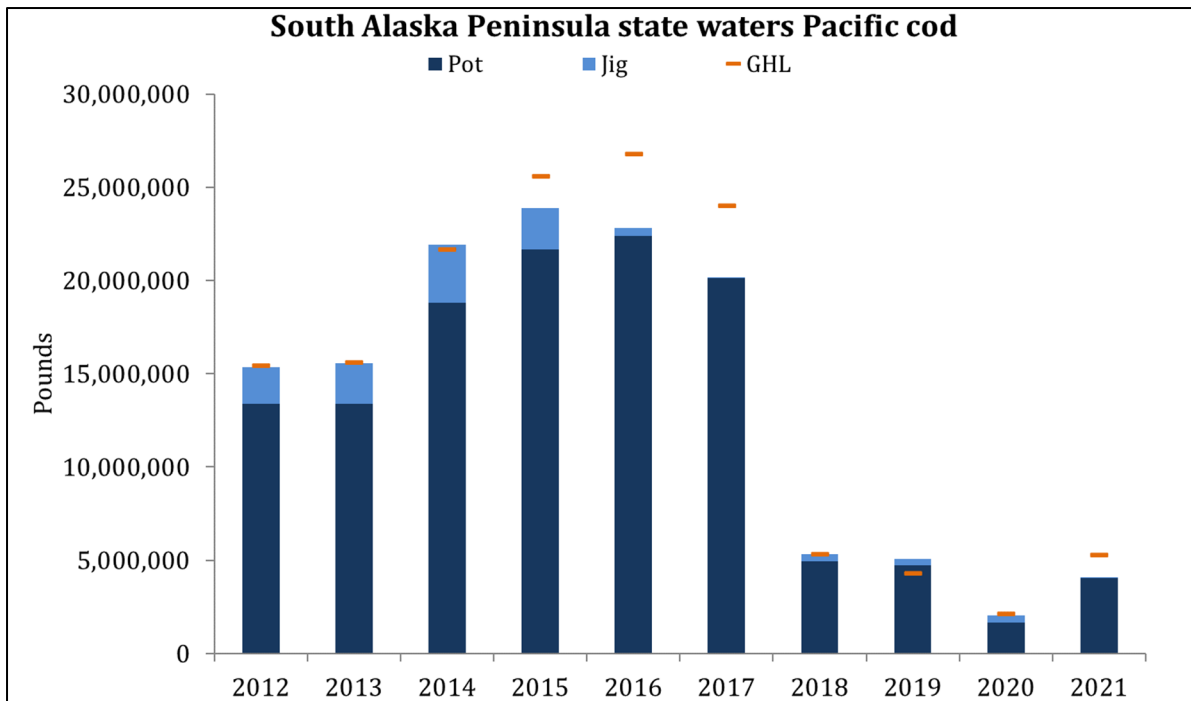


Figure 6. South Alaska Peninsula Pacific cod GHL and harvest by gear, 2012 – 2021.

Dutch Harbor: The state-waters Dutch Harbor Subdistrict pot gear fishery was open from February 2 to March 25 and 29 vessels harvested 27.59 million pounds (100% of the GHL). Since the pot GHL was achieved for 2021, the 2022 GHL will increase to 11% of the Bering Sea Pacific cod ABC. The jig gear season opened on May 1 and there has been no effort in this fishery. The jig gear GHL is 100,000 pounds.

Aleutian Islands: Because the 2020 state-waters Aleutian Islands Subdistrict GHL was achieved, the 2021 GHL was increased from 35% to 39% of the Aleutian Islands ABC; however, this GHL is capped by regulation at 15 million pounds. The 2021 state-waters season opened on January 25 to vessels 100 feet or less in overall length (OAL) using pot gear, vessels 60 feet or less OAL using nonpelagic trawl or jig gear, and vessels 58 feet or less OAL using longline gear. On March 15, the state-waters season opened to vessels 125 feet or less OAL using pot gear and vessels 100 feet or less OAL using nonpelagic trawl gear. The AI state-waters Pacific cod season closed for all gears on April 9 and 13 vessels harvested 14.8 million pounds (99% of the GHL).