

**DECEMBER 1995**

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**NMFS FISHERIES  
MANAGEMENT REPORT**

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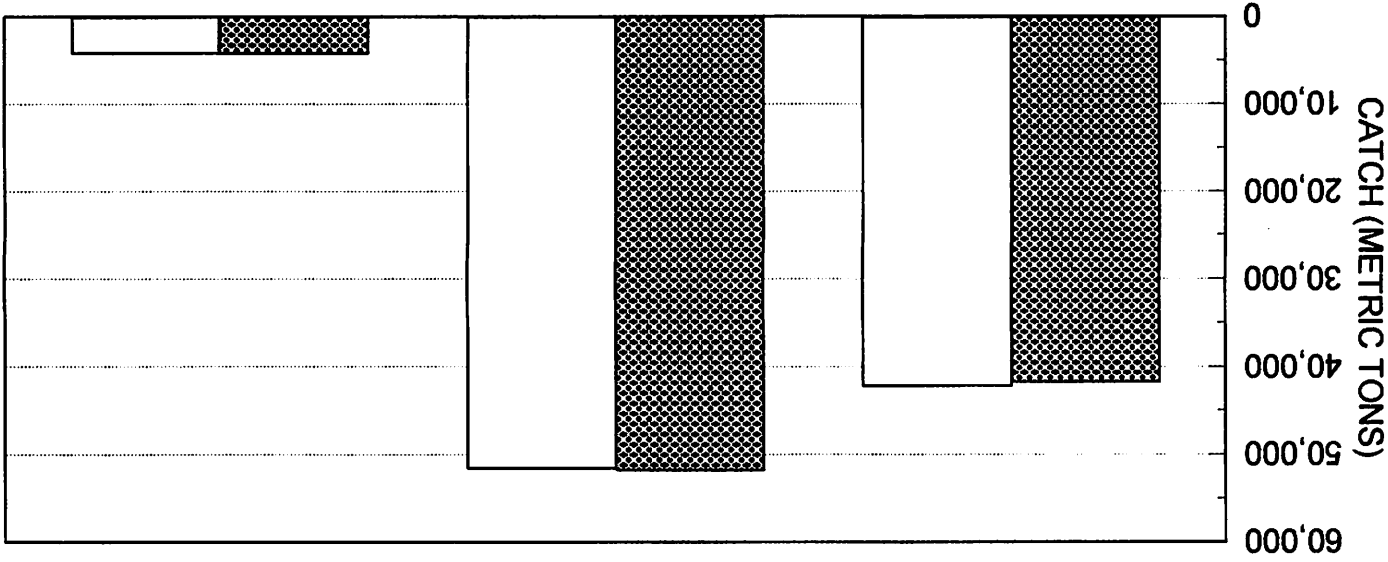


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# **BERING SEA & ALEUTIAN ISLANDS**

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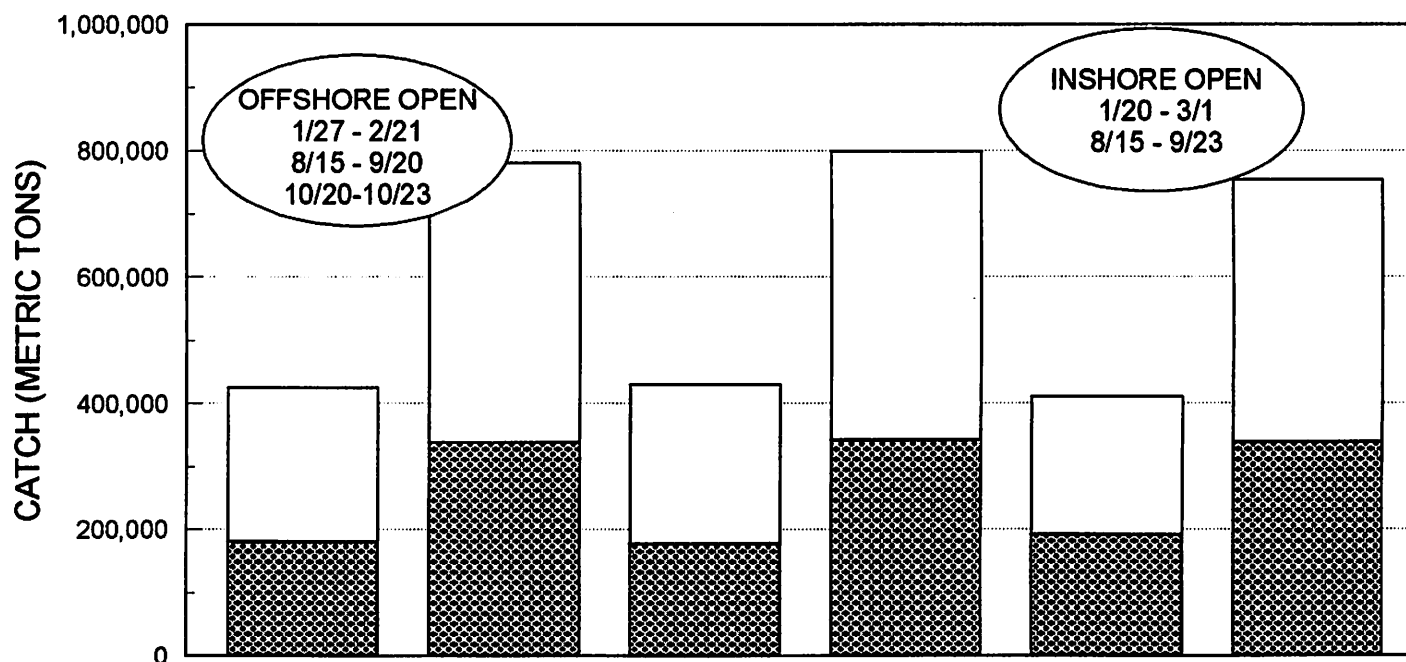
# 1995 BSAI CDQ POLLOCK





	BS 'A' SEASON	BS 'NON-A' SEASON	ALEUTIANS
QUOTA	42,187	51,563	4,245
CATCH	41,785	51,783	4,243

(through 11/18/95)

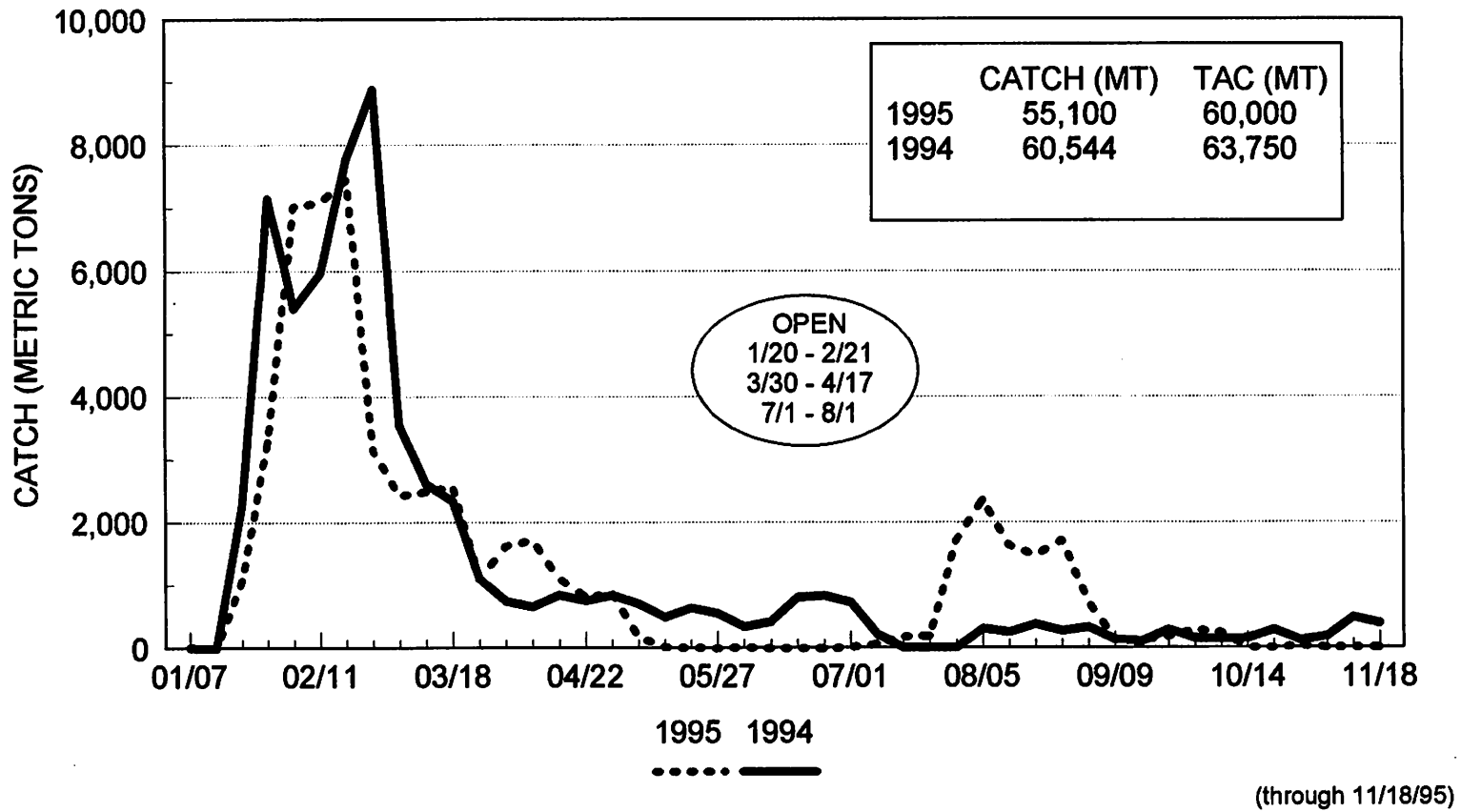
# 1993-95 INSHORE/OFFSHORE PLCK CATCH\*, BERING SEA



	93 INSHORE	93 OFFSHORE	94 INSHORE	94 OFFSHORE	95 INSHORE	95 OFFSHORE
A SEASON 	180,132	337,648	176,478	340,901	191,022	338,364
B SEASON 	244,367	442,431	253,693	457,854	219,911	416,193
TOTAL CATCH	424,499	780,079	430,171	798,755	410,933	754,557
TAC	420,875	781,625	430,588	799,662	404,687	751,563

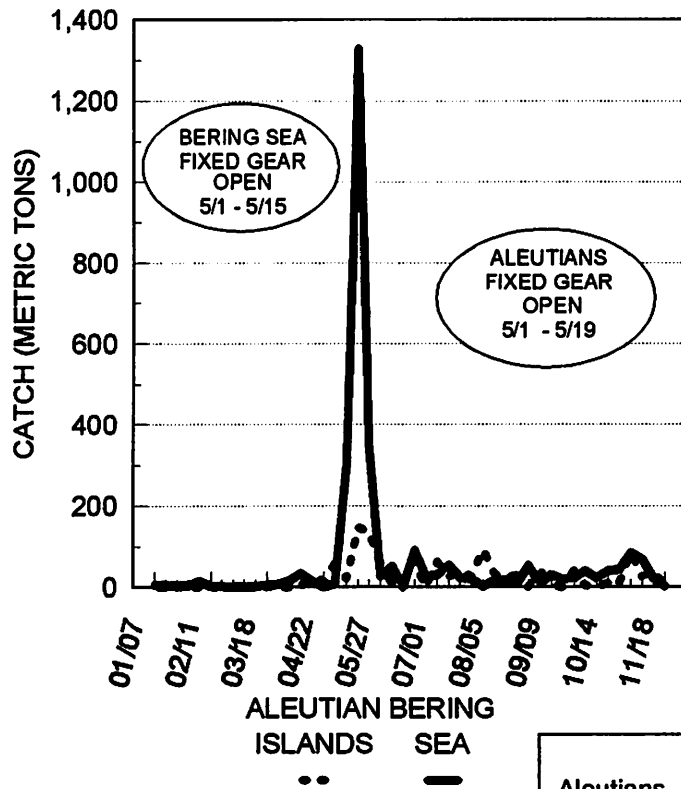
\*EXCLUDES CDQ POLLOCK  
(through 11/18/95)

# 1994 AND 1995 BSAI ROCK SOLE CATCH

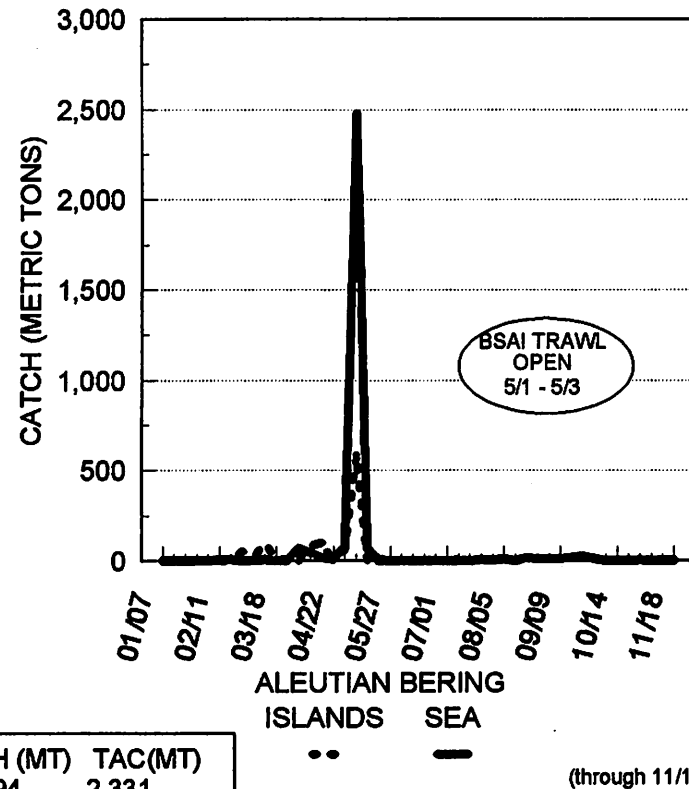


# 1995 BSAI GREENLAND TURBOT CATCH

## FIXED GEAR



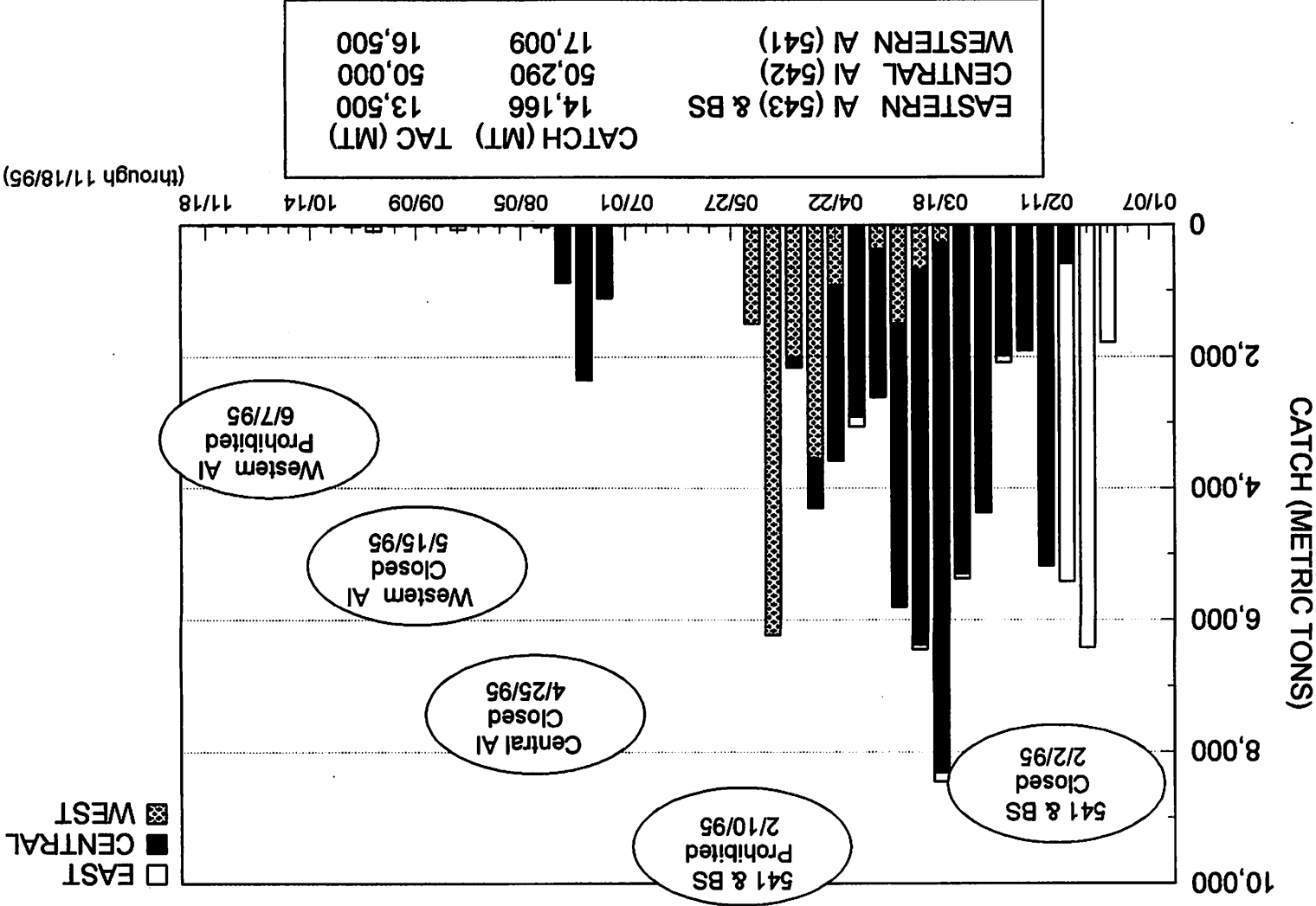
## TRAWL GEAR



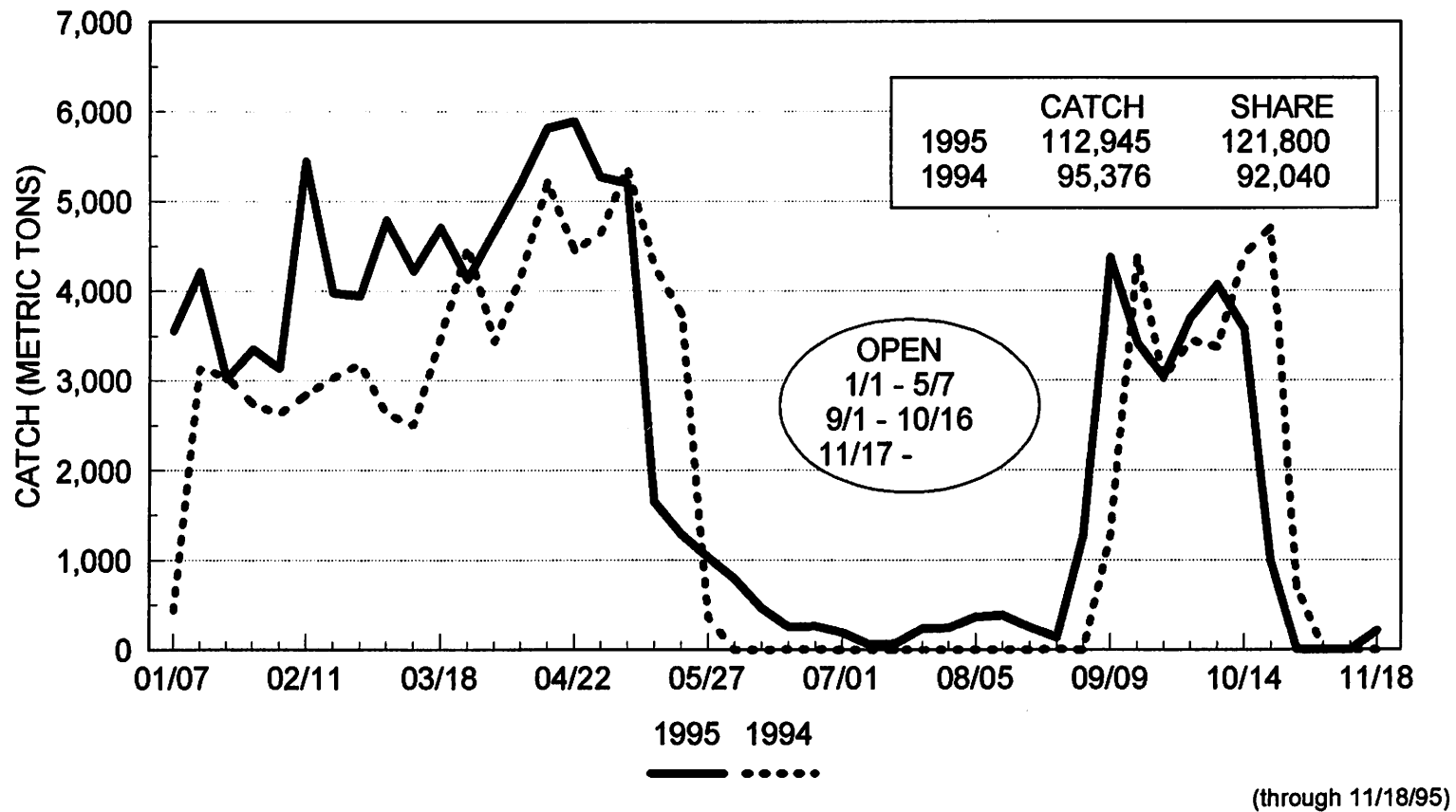
	CATCH (MT)	TAC(MT)
Aleutians	2,194	2,331
Bering Sea	5,835	4,669

(through 11/18/95)

# 1995 BSAI TRAWL ATKA MACKEREL CATCH

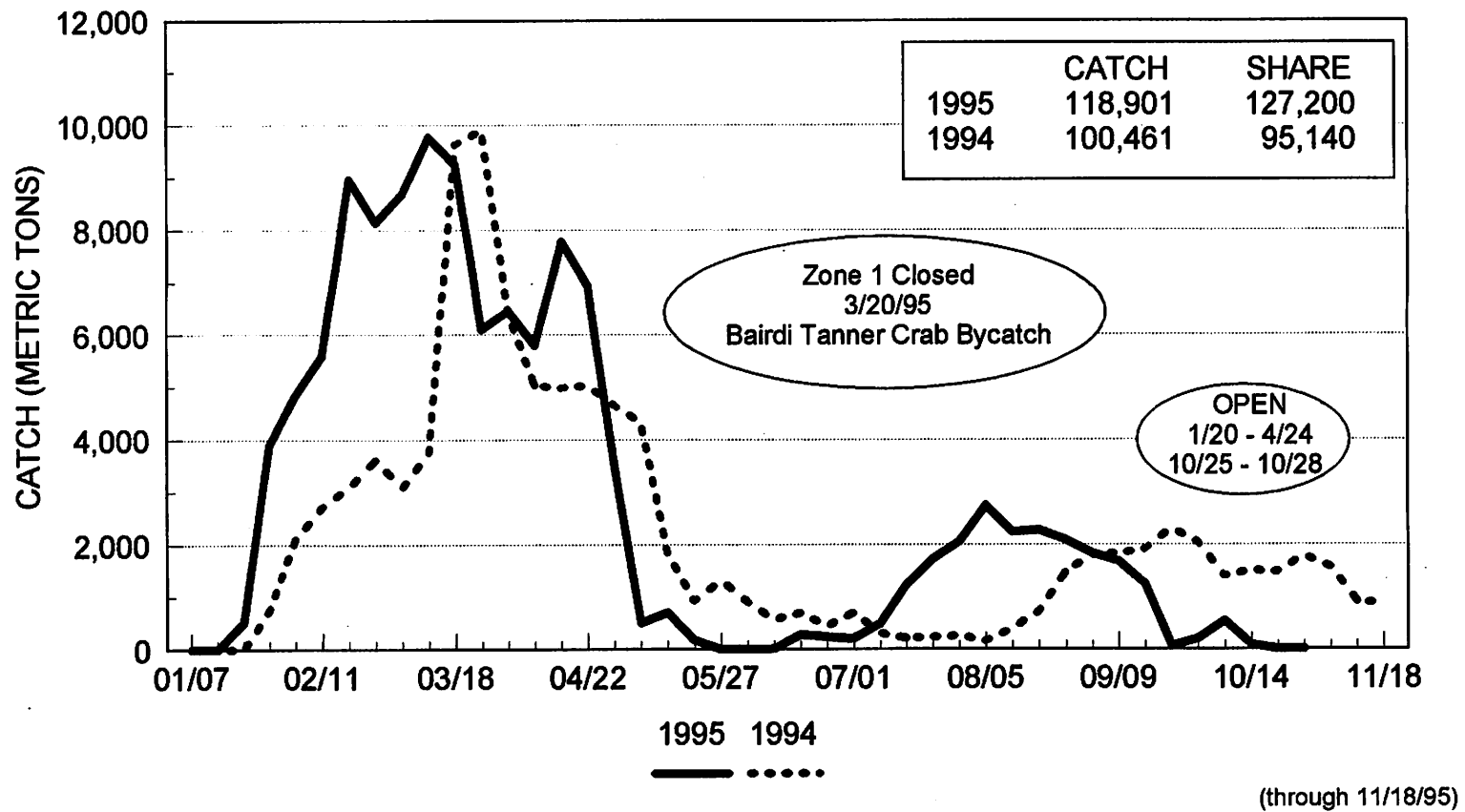


# 1994 & 1995 BSAI FIXED GEAR PACIFIC COD CATCH

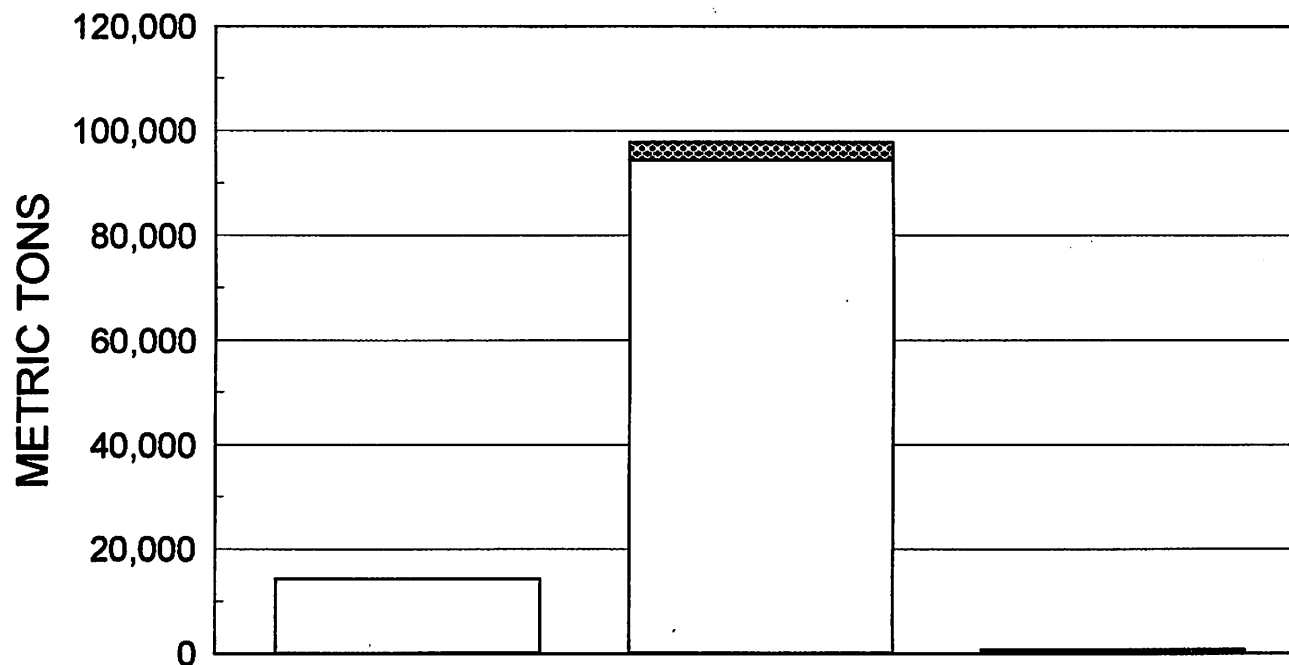




# 1994 & 1995 BSAI TRAWL PACIFIC COD CATCH



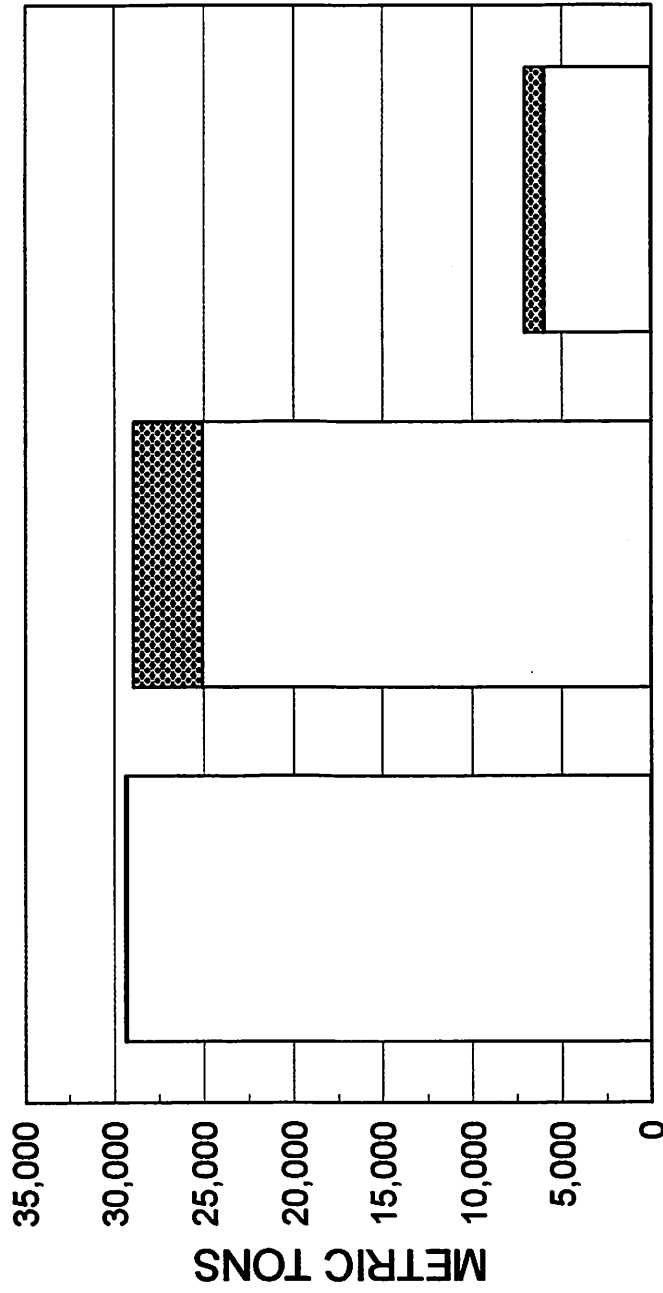
# 1995 BSAI FIXED GEAR, PCOD DISCARDS IN PCOD FISHERY



	SHORESIDE	CATCH/PROC	MOTHERSHIP
RETENTION <input type="checkbox"/>	14,390	94,344	706
DISCARD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	13	3,428	17

(THROUGH 11/18/95)

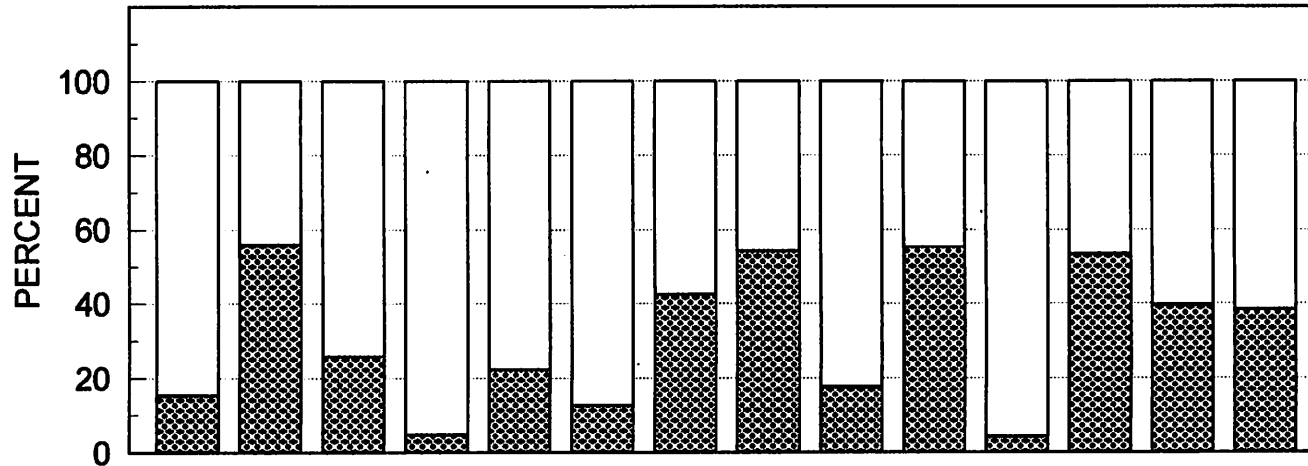
# 1995 BSAI TRAWL PACIFIC COD DISCARDS IN PCOD FISHERY





	SHORESIDE	CATCH/PROC	MOTHERSHIP
RETENTION <input type="checkbox"/>	29,301	25,060	5,991
DISCARD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	108	3,870	1,116

(THROUGH 11/18/95)

# 1995 BSAI PERCENT DISCARDS BY GEAR & TARGET FISHERY

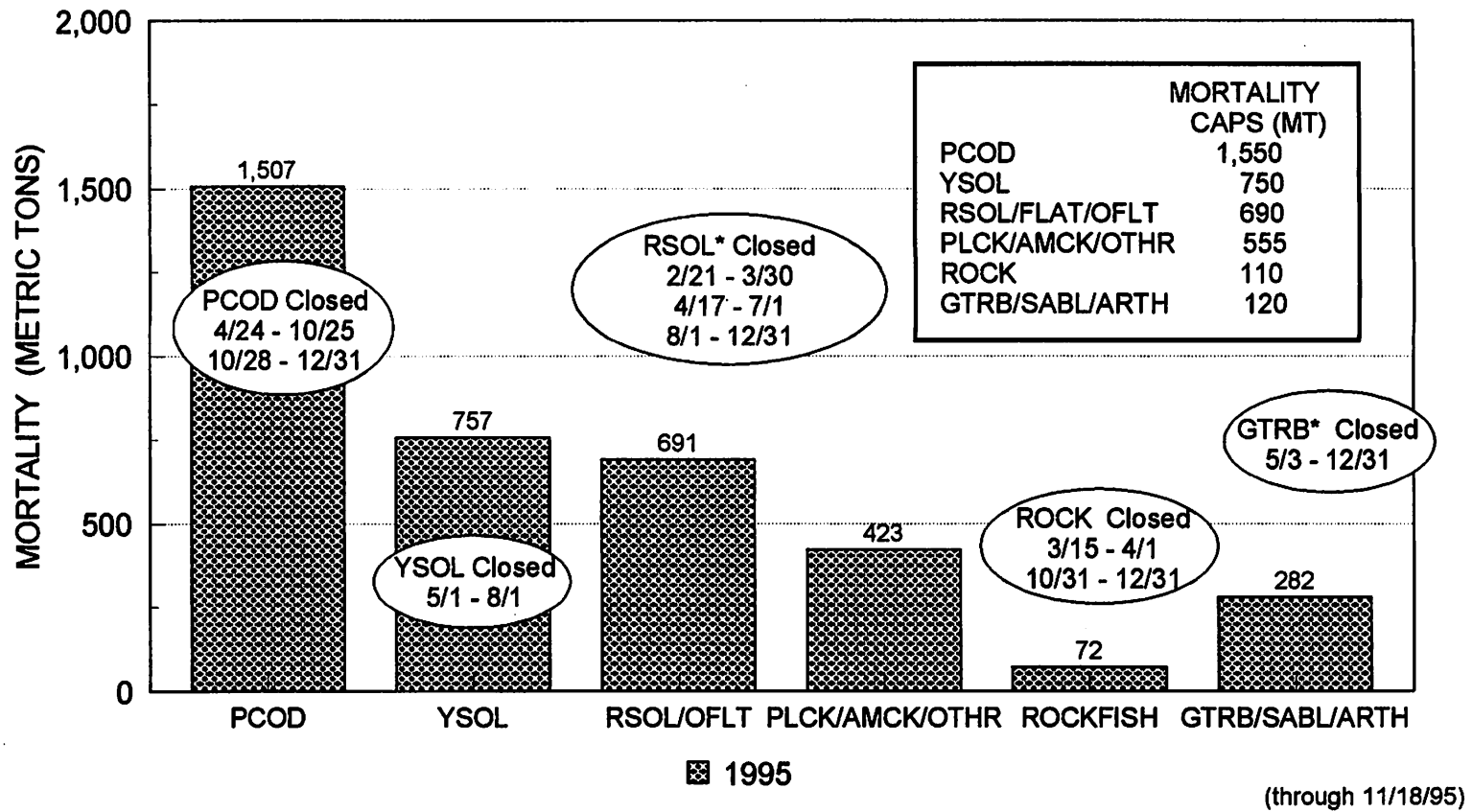


	C-HAL	S-HAL	T-HAL	C-POT	A-TRW	B-TRW	C-TRW	F-TRW	K-TRW	L-TRW	P-TRW	R-TRW	T-TRW	Y-TRW
DISCARDED 	16,579	2,075	820	895	20,082	15,345	48,530	10,250	2,296	5,842	47,795	30,890	2,316	67,426
RETAINED 	92,579	1,645	2,353	18,503	70,169	107,724	65,850	8,714	10,832	4,743	1,110,601	27,206	3,540	108,285

1,110,601 (through 11/18/95)

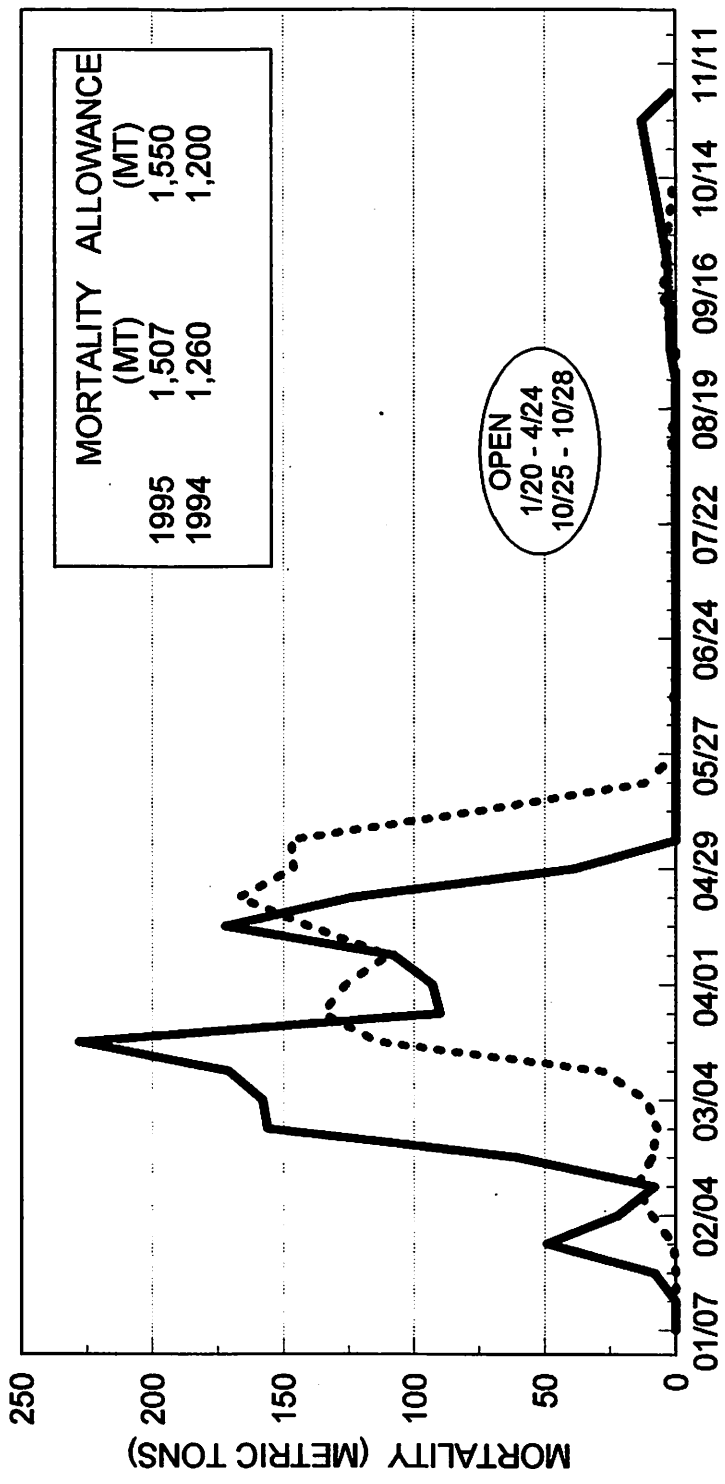
<b>TARGETS</b>	A - Atka mackerel	P - Midwater pollock
	B - Bottom pollock	R - Rock sole
	C - Pacific cod	S - Sablefish
	F - Other flatfish	T - Greenland turbot
	K - Rockfish	Y - Yellowfin sole
	L - Flathead sole	

# 1995 BSAI TRAWL HALIBUT BYCATCH MORTALITY



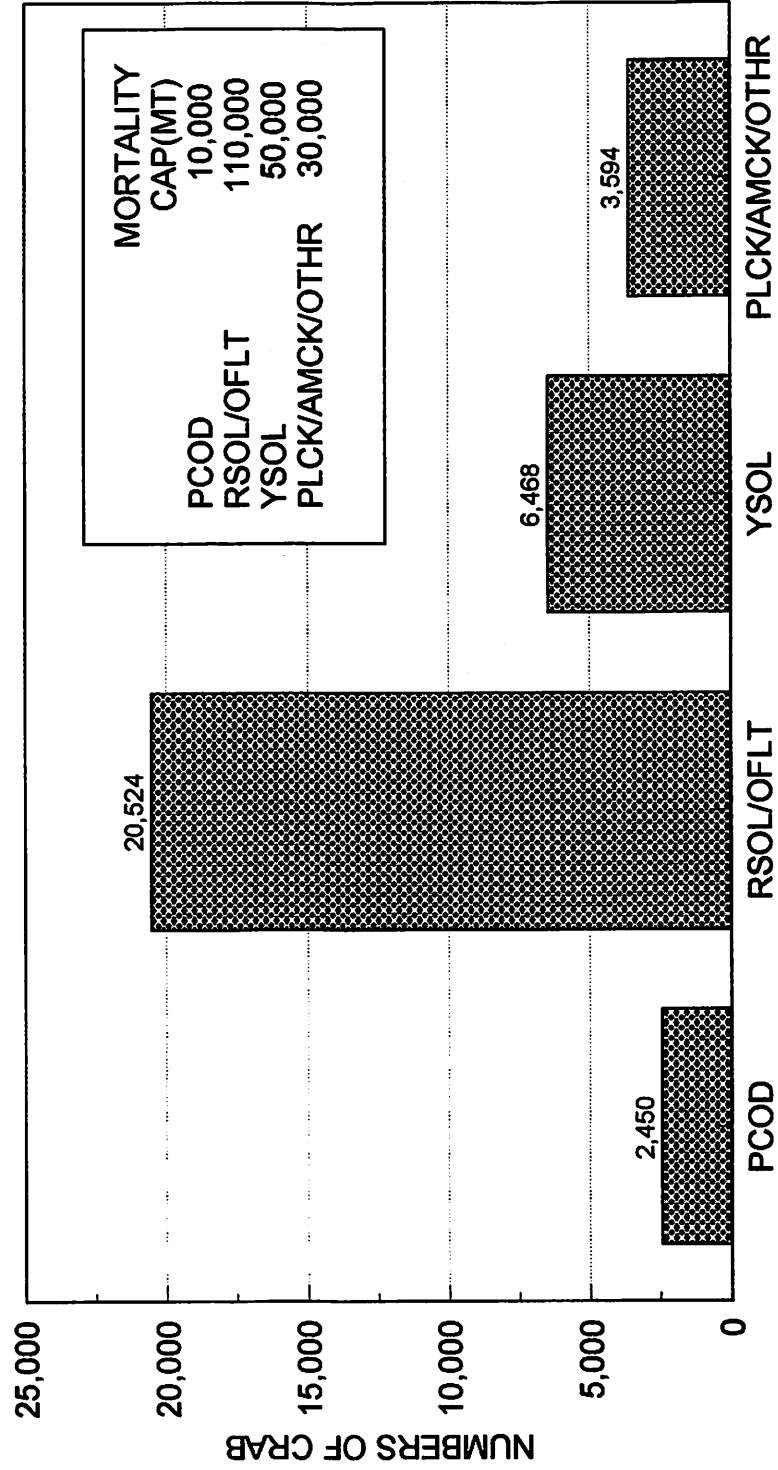
\*Closures shown are due to halibut bycatch

# 1994-95 BSAI TRAWL HALIBUT BYCATCH MORTALITY, PCOD



(through 11/18/95)

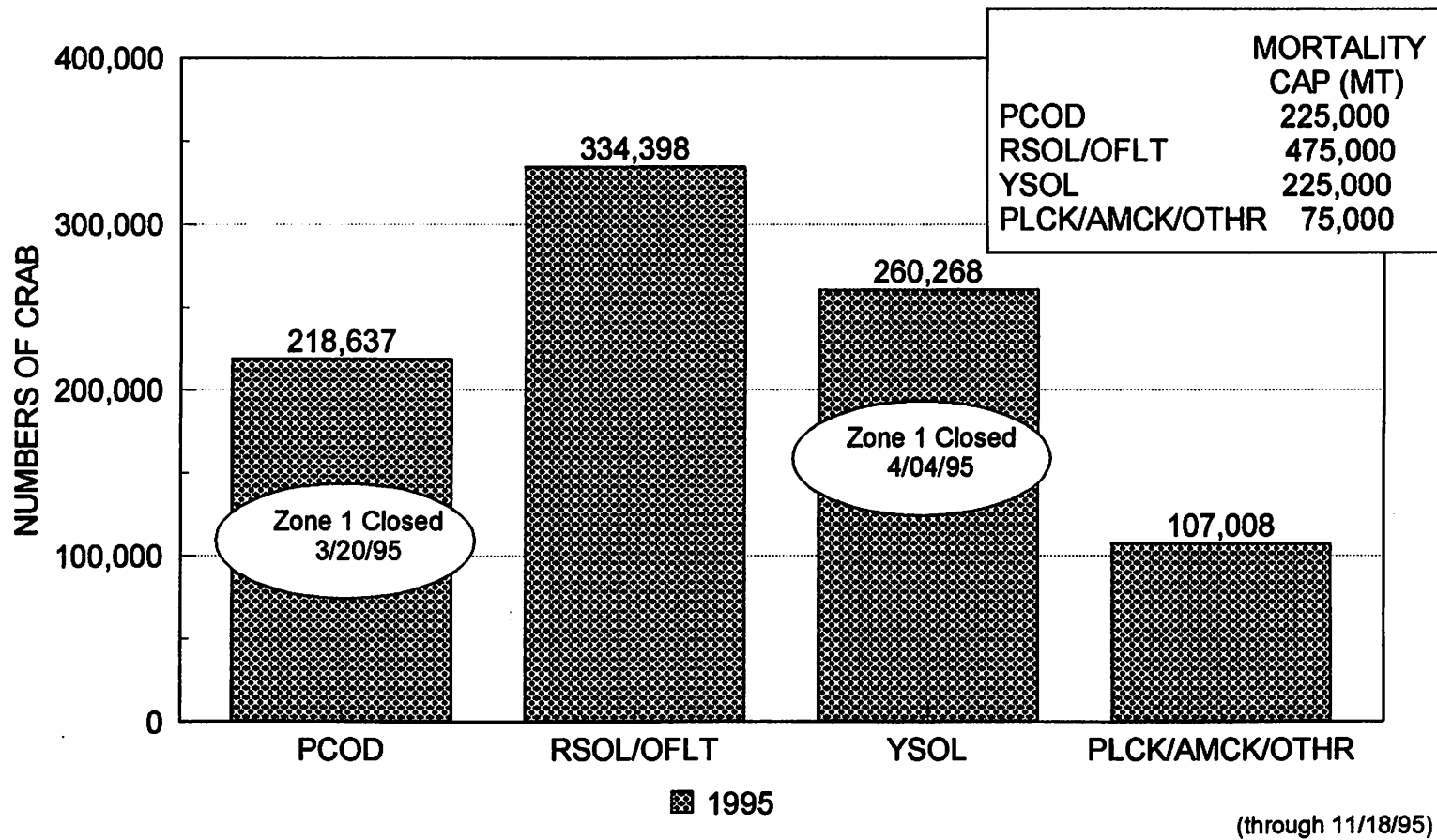
# 1995 BSAI ZONE 1 TRAWL RED KING CRAB BYCATCH



■ 1995

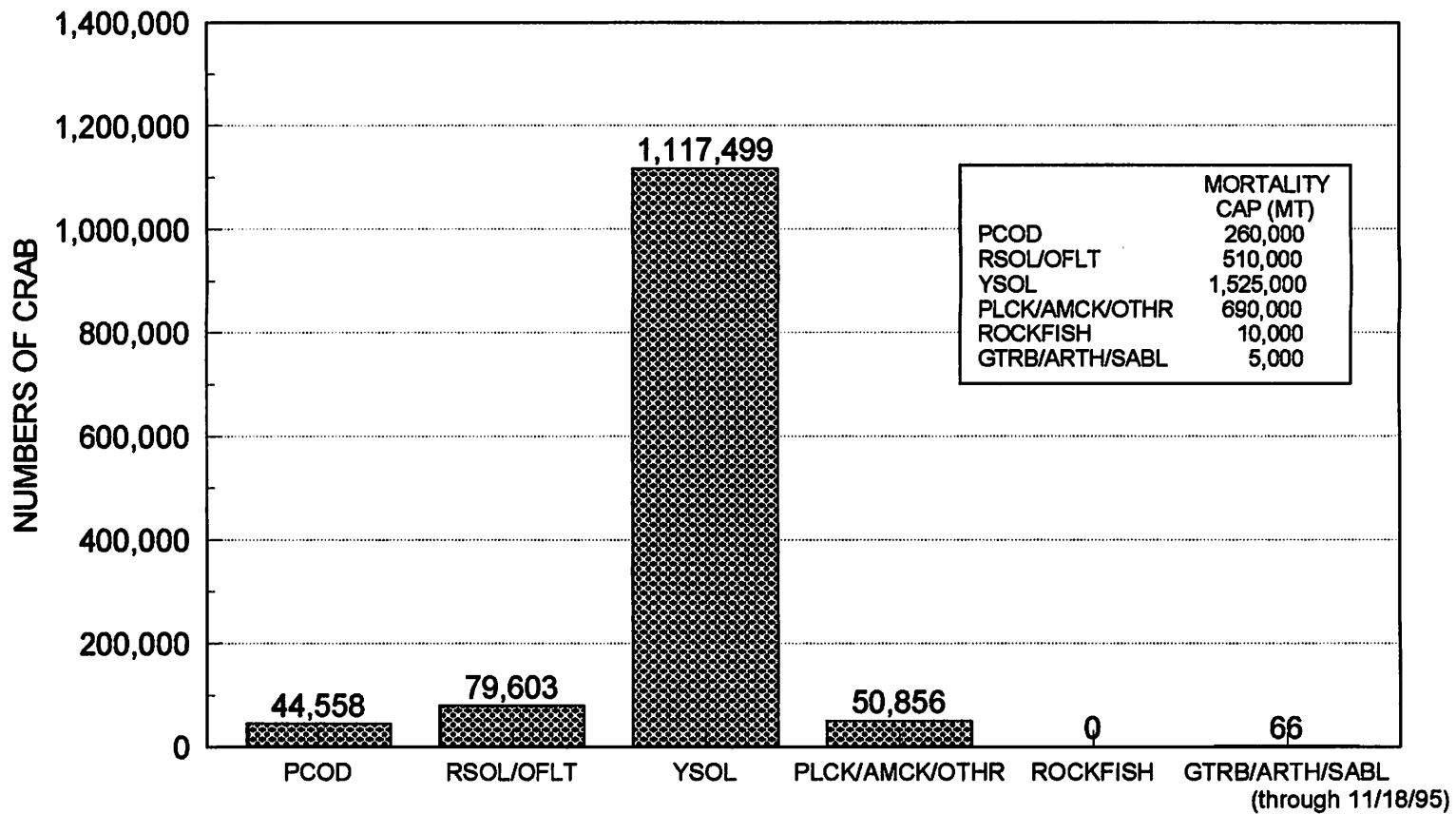
(through 11/18/95)

# 1995 BSAI ZONE 1 TRAWL, BAIRDI TANNER CRAB BYCATCH

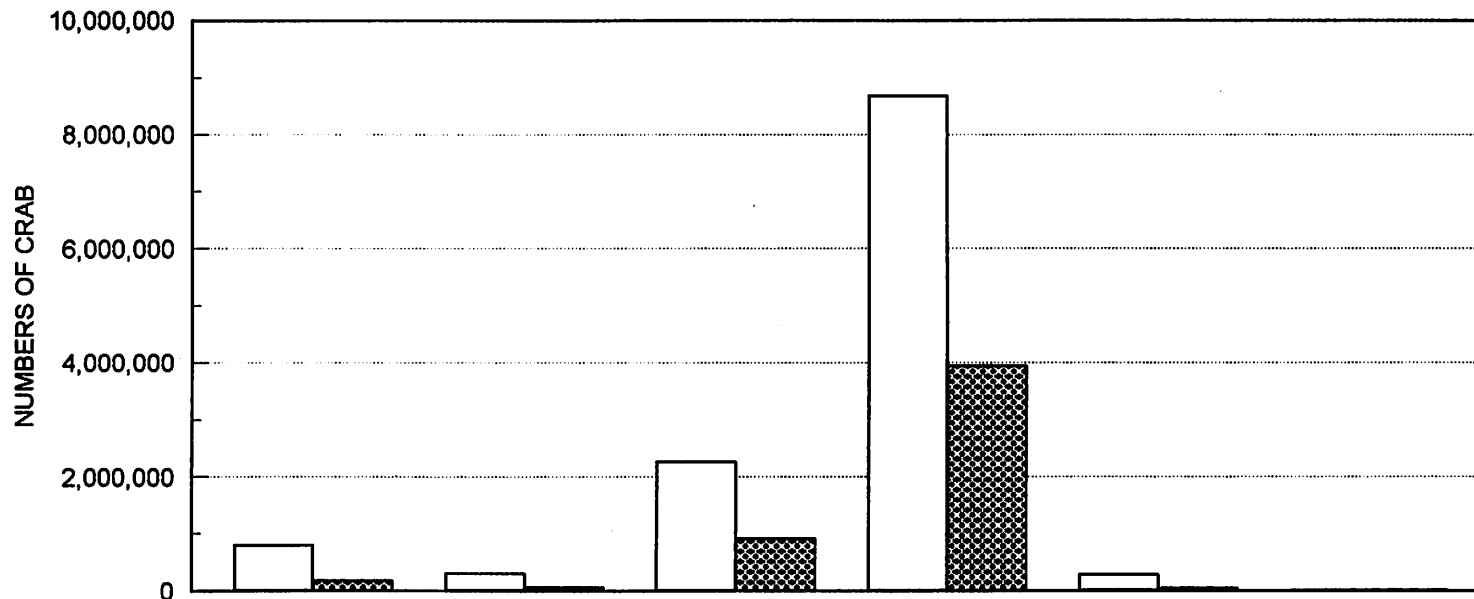




# 1995 BSAI ZONE 2 TRAWL BAIRDI TANNER CRAB BYCATCH



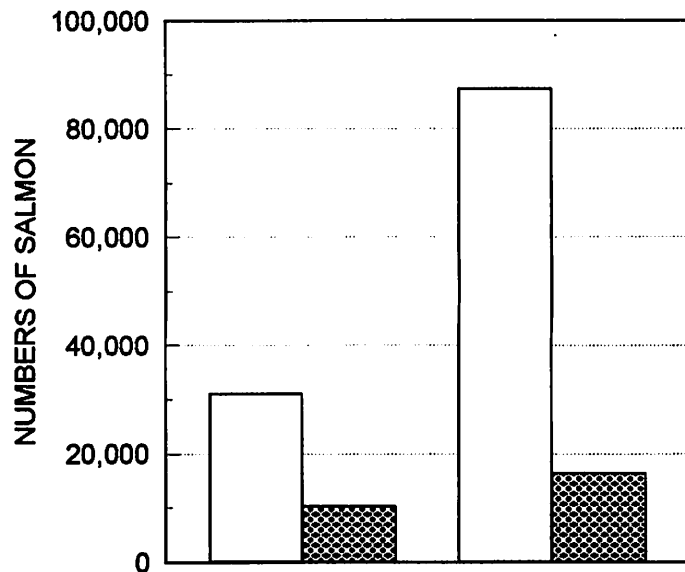
# 1994-95 BSAI TRAWL, OPILIO TANNER CRAB BYCATCH



	PLCK/AMCK/OTHER	PCOD	RSOL/FSOL/OFLT	YSOL	GTRB/ARTH/SABL	ROCKFISH
1994 □	797,310	311,442	2,269,474	8,673,322	285,009	9
1995 ▨	180,315	56,907	914,978	3,940,469	52,935	75

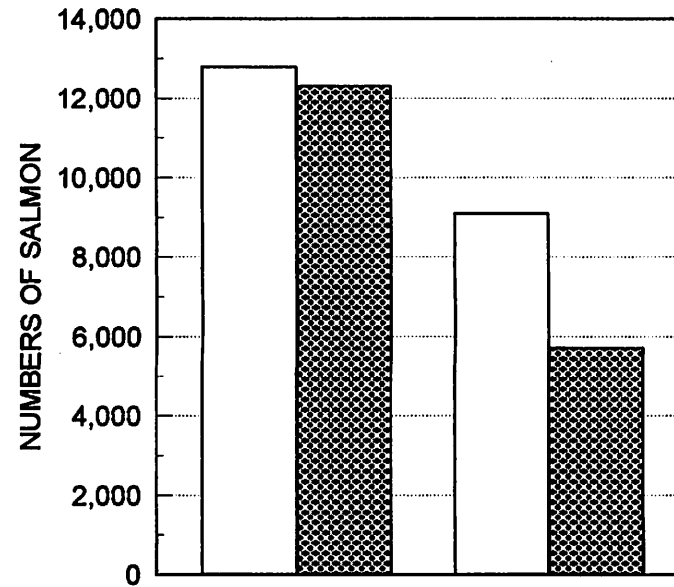
(through 11/18/95)

# 1994-95 BSAI TRAWL, CHINOOK & OTHER SALMON BYCATCH



	CHINOOK	OTHER SALMON
1994	31,063	87,338
1995	10,243	16,484

MIDWATER POLLOCK



	CHINOOK	OTHER SALMON
1994	12,796	9,095
1995	12,309	5,706

OTHER FISHERIES

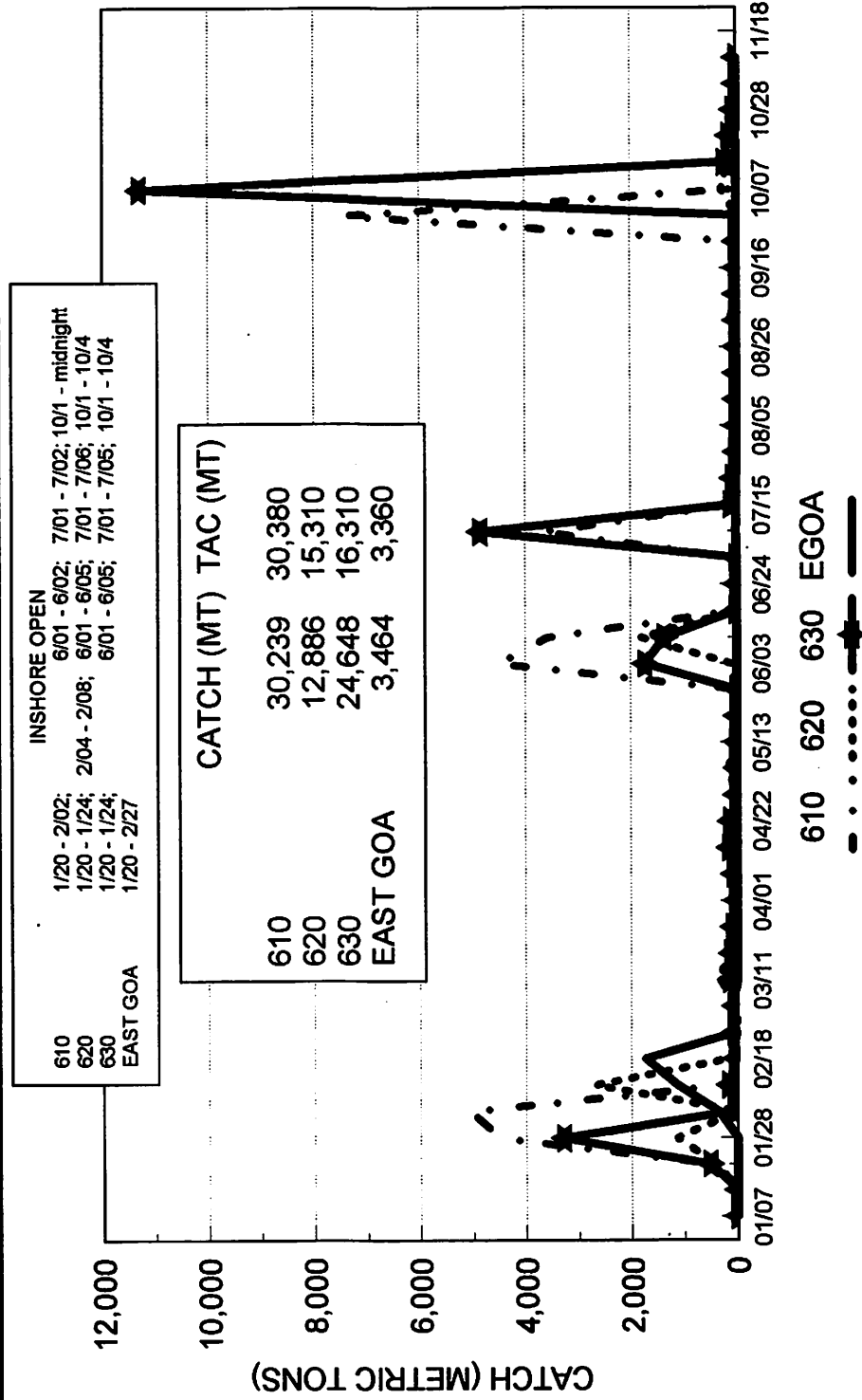
(through 11/18/94 and 11/18/95)

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# **GULF OF ALASKA**

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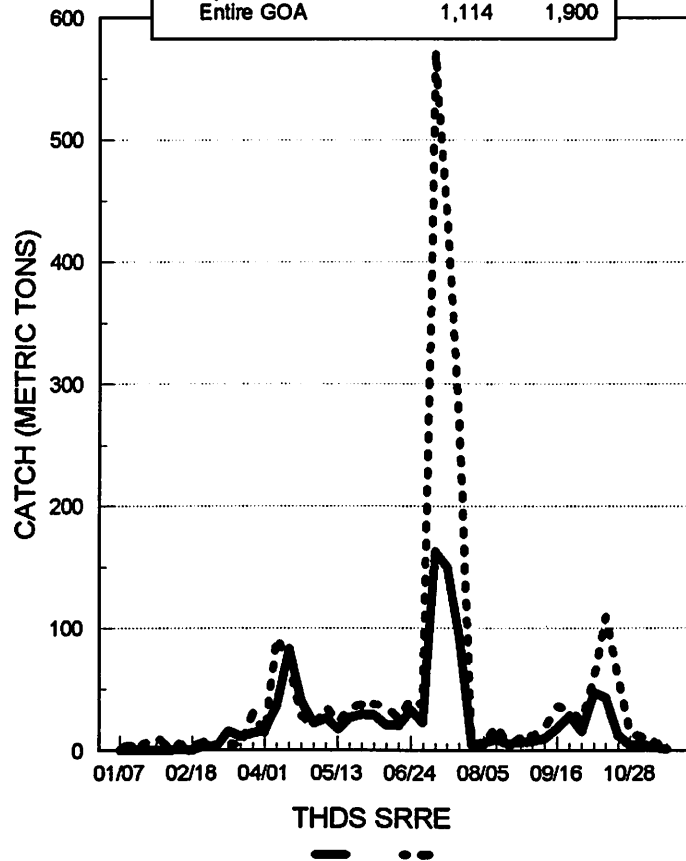
# 1995 GOA POLLOCK CATCH



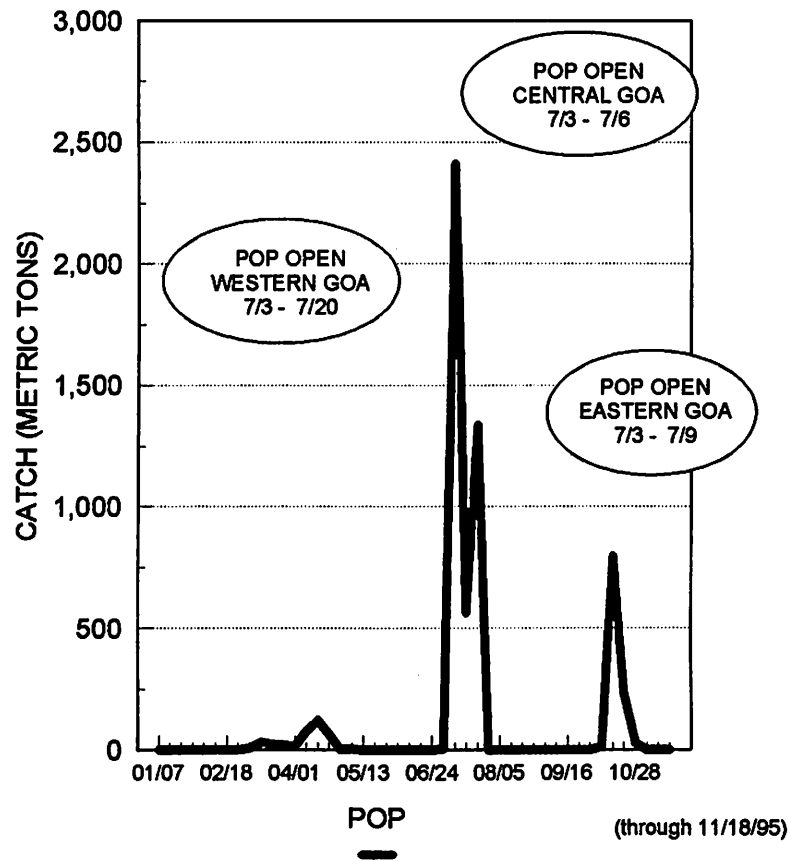
(through 11/18/95)

# 1995 GOA ROCKFISH CATCH

	CATCH	TAC
Shortraker/Rougheye		
Western GOA	216	170
Central GOA	1,254	1,210
Eastern GOA	844	530
Thornyheads		
Entire GOA	1,114	1,900



	CATCH	TAC
Pacific Ocean Perch		
Western GOA	1,423	1,014
Central GOA	2,660	2,702
Eastern GOA	1,696	1,914



## MOTION

(1) Fish harvested incidentally during the operation of a quota share/IFQ fishery shall be termed "bycatch species" for the purpose of the program. Bycatch species are defined as Pacific cod and rockfish.

(2) Any bycatch species identified under (1) above which are taken during the operation of a QS or IFQ fishery shall be retained and landed unless designated as a prohibited species.

## REGULATION

§ 676.16 (h) It is unlawful for any person to discard Pacific cod or rockfish that are taken when IFQ halibut or IFQ sablefish are onboard unless Pacific cod or rockfish are required to be discarded under §§ 672.20 or 675.20.

Note: §§ 672.20 and 675.20 implement maximum bycatch rates to limit directed fishing, and mandatory discarding when species are designated as prohibited.

National Marine Fisheries Service  
P.O. Box 21668  
Juneau, Alaska 99802-1668

Prepared: 11/30/95  
NMFS/AKR Fish Management  
(907) 586-7229

1995 GULF OF ALASKA ROCKFISH FISHERY SUMMARY  
Data are from Weekly Production and Observer Reports through 11/18/95

	TOTAL CATCH	DAP APPORT.	REMAINING FOR DAP	BYCATCH(1)	PSC
<b>WESTERN GULF</b>					
Pacific Ocean Perch (5)	1,423	1,014	-409	7/20/95	(2)
Shorthead/Rougheye	216	170	-46	1/1/95	"
Pelagic Shelf Rockfish	108	910	802		"
Northern Rockfish	113	640	527	1/1/95	"
Other Rockfish	32	55	23	1/1/95	"
<b>CENTRAL GULF</b>					
Pacific Ocean Perch	2,660	2,702	42	7/6/95	
Shorthead/Rougheye	1,254	1,210	-44	1/1/95	10/1/95
Pelagic Shelf Rockfish	2,239	3,200	961		
Northern rockfish (5)	5,469	4,610	-859	(3)	
Other Rockfish	901	370	-531	1/1/95	7/21/95
<b>EASTERN GULF</b>					
Pacific Ocean Perch	1,696	1,914	218	(4)	
Shorthead/Rougheye	844	530	-314	1/1/95	7/9/95
Other Rockfish	494	1,810	1,316		
Pelagic Shelf Rockfish	533	1,080	547		
Northern Rockfish	45	20	-25	1/1/95	7/9/95
<b>ENTIRE GULF OF ALASKA</b>					
Thornyhead	1,114	1,900	786	1/1/95	

- (1) All species of rockfish were bycatch for Trawl gear until July 3.  
(2) Trawling in Western GOA(except midwater pollock)prohibited 9/1 to prevent overfishing of POP.  
(3) Central GOA Northern rockfish closed 7/18; reopened 10/1 with 866 mt remaining; closed 10/13; final catch reports show 859 mt overage.  
(4) Eastern GOA POP closed 7/9; reopened 10/13 with 950 mt remaining; closed 10/15.  
(5) The West GOA POP fishery and Central GOA northern rockfish fishery are the only two fisheries over TAC where directed fishing was conducted. Both overages are attributable to incorrect or missing information from industry about processor vessel location and target.

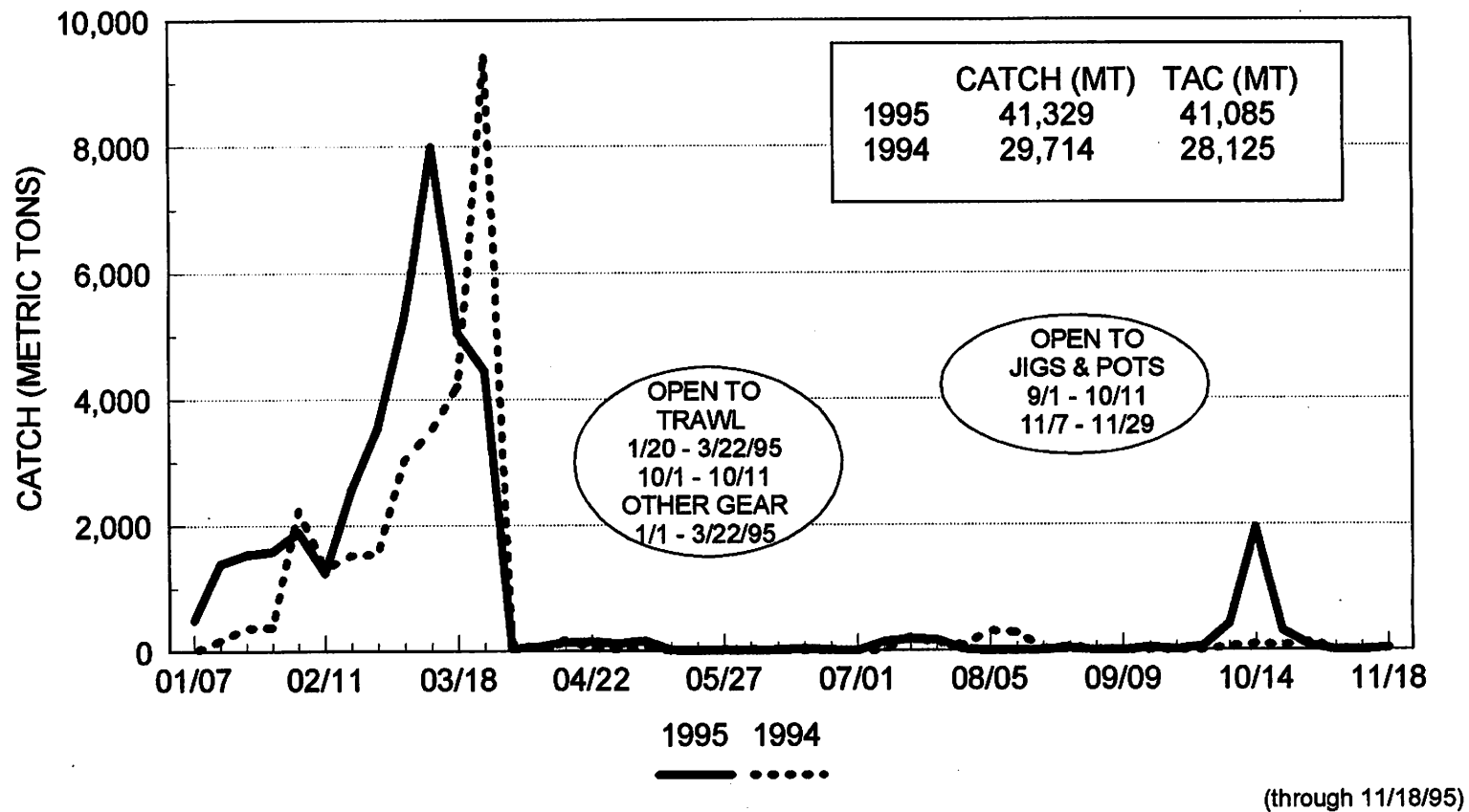
**Implications for 1996 management:**

**Central GOA 'other rockfish'.** This category includes Yelloweye rockfish, which occurs as bycatch in the halibut IFQ fishery. The 1996 ABC is 1,170 mt. Setting the TAC at or just below that level should provide sufficient amounts to support bycatch needs.

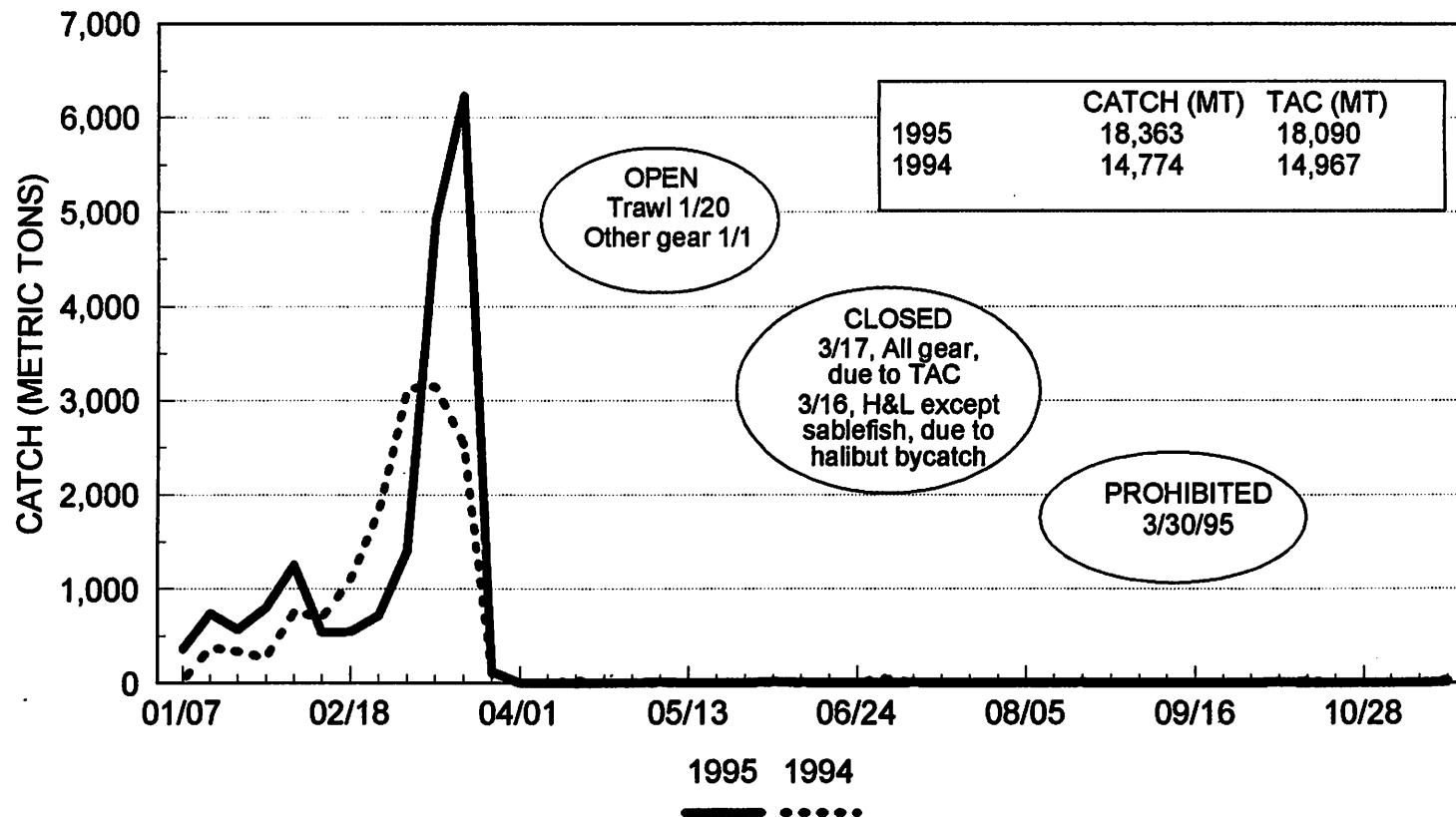
**Shorthead/Rougheye.** Bycatch needs for shorthead/rougheye exceed the TAC in all areas of the GOA. No directed fisheries for shorthead/rougheye occur in the GOA. NMFS must prohibit retention of shorthead/rougheye when the TAC is reached. Shorthead/rougheye TACs will likely be reached during the summer trawl fisheries and retention of shorthead/rougheye will be prohibited.



# 1994 & 1995 CENTRAL GOA INSHORE PACIFIC COD CATCH



# 1994 & 1995 WESTERN GOA INSHORE PCOD CATCH



NOTE: Discard of Pacific cod attributed to 610 inshore Pacific cod through 9/2/95 = 737 mt;  
Discards since 3/30/95 = 83 mt.

(through 11/18/95)

# 1995 GOA PERCENT DISCARDS BY GEAR & TARGET FISHERY

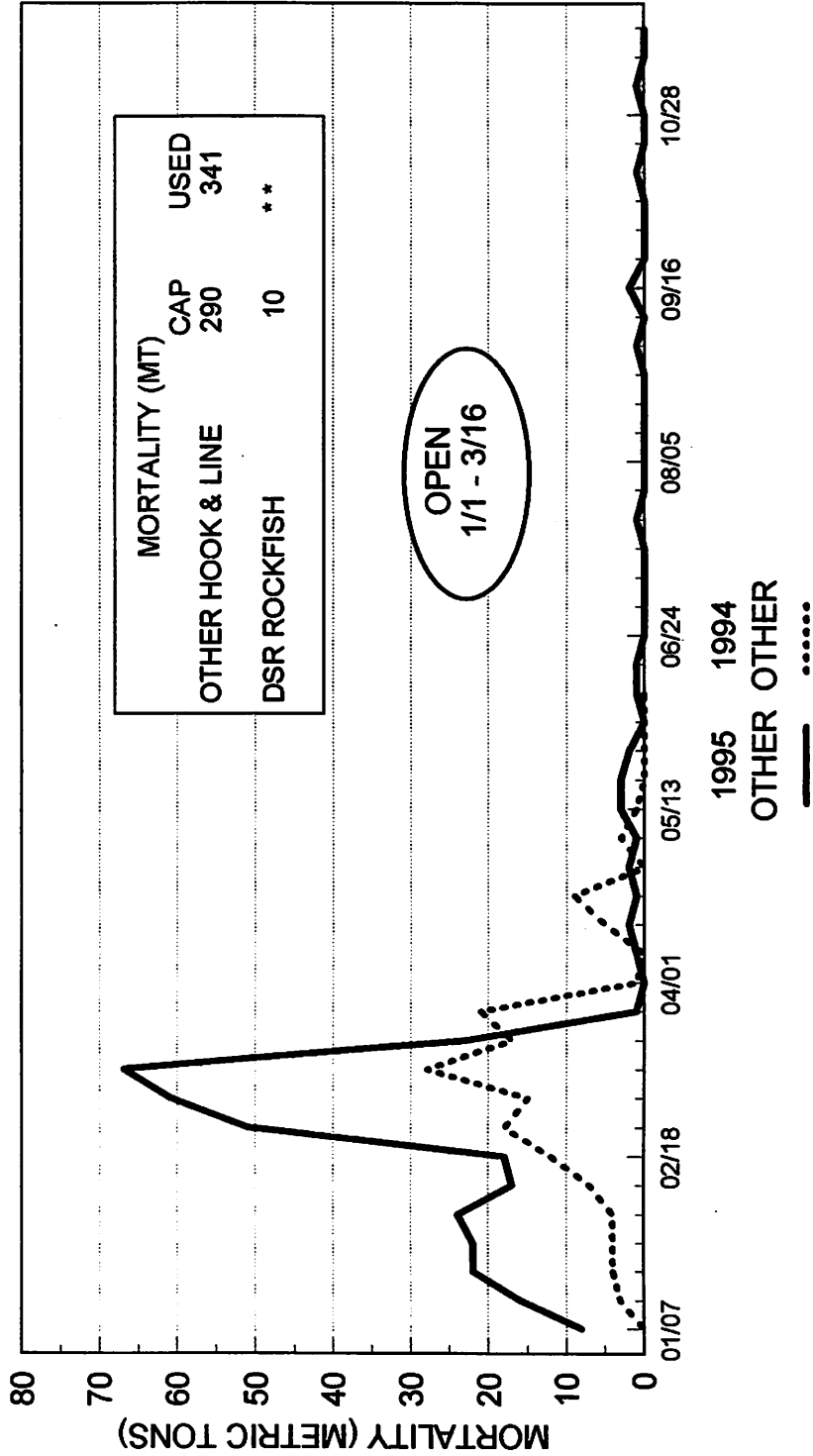


	C-HAL	S-HAL	C-POT	B-TRW	C-TRW	D-TRW	H-TRW	K-TRW	L-TRW	P-TRW	W-TRW	X-TRW
DISCARDED	1,075	2,386	239	524	6,724	1,658	3,024	5,200	1,233	2,951	1,316	9,805
RETAINED	10,648	18,950	15,522	22,210	39,609	1,558	3,471	15,246	616	43,533	2,326	3,732

(through 11/18/95)

TARGETS	B - Bottom pollock	L - Flathead sole
	C - Pacific cod	P - Midwater pollock
	D - Deep Water Flatfish	S - Sablefish
	H - Shallow Water Flatfish	W - Arrowtooth flounder
	K - Rockfish	X - Rex sole

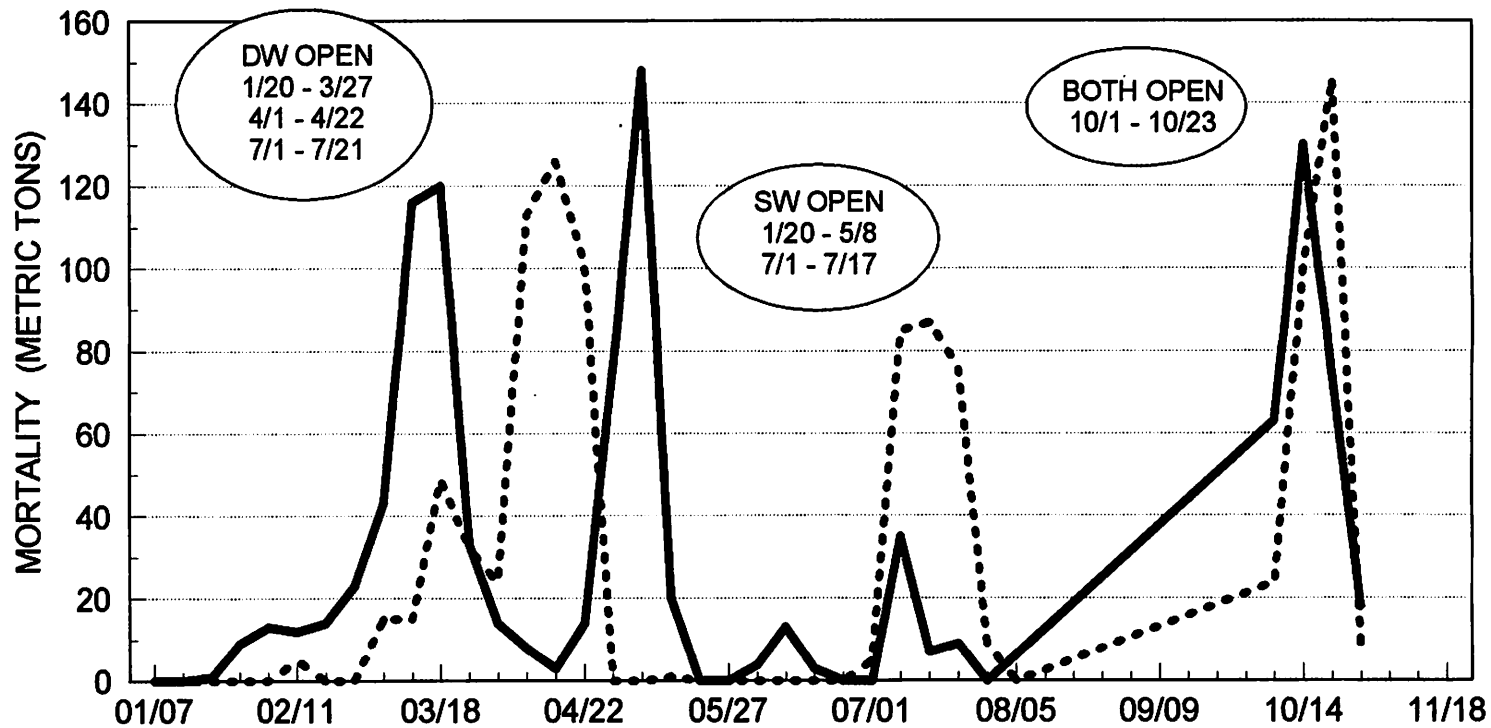
# 1994 & 1995 GOA HOOK & LINE\*, HALIBUT BYCATCH MORTALITY



(through 11/18/95)

\*Sablefish not included  
 \*\* 1995 demersal shelf rockfish fishery, Southeast District is not listed due to insufficient observer coverage.

# 1995 GOA SW & DW TRAWL HALIBUT BYCATCH MORTALITY



## MORTALITY CAPS (MT)

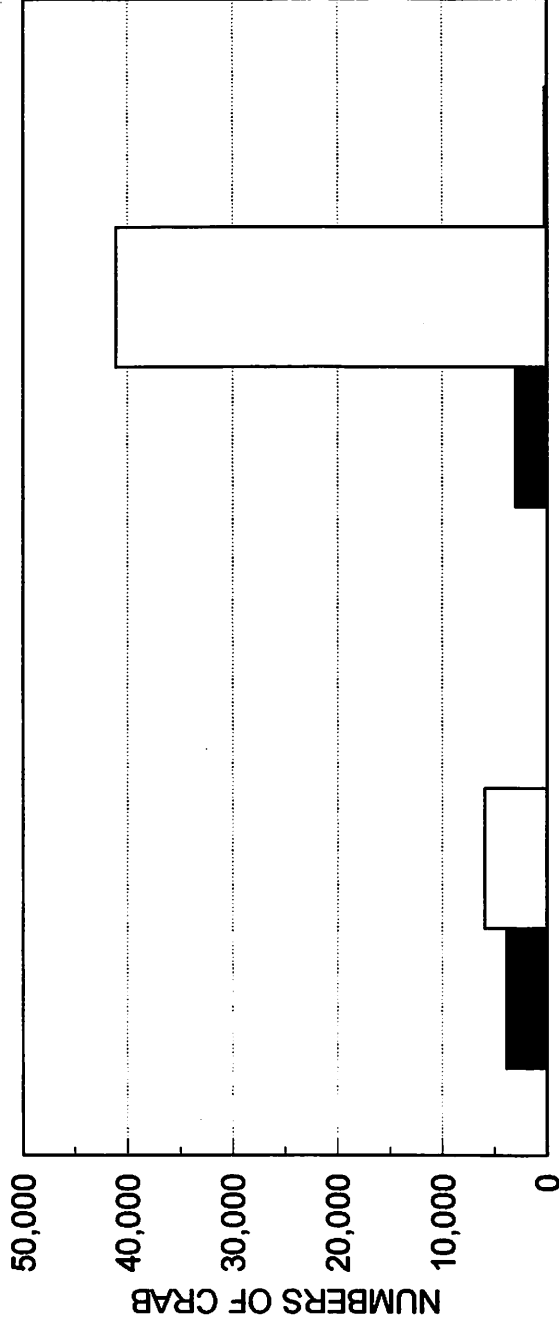
	SW Fishery ACUMULATIVE CAP USED		DW Fishery ACUMULATIVE CAP USED	
Jan 01 - Mar 31	500	383	100	115
Apr 01 - Jun 30	600	685	400	481
Jul 01 - Sep 30	800	736	800	743
Oct 01 - Dec 31		1,021 (400)		1,022

TOTAL CAP: 2,000 MT

SW DW  
— ·····

(through 11/18/95)

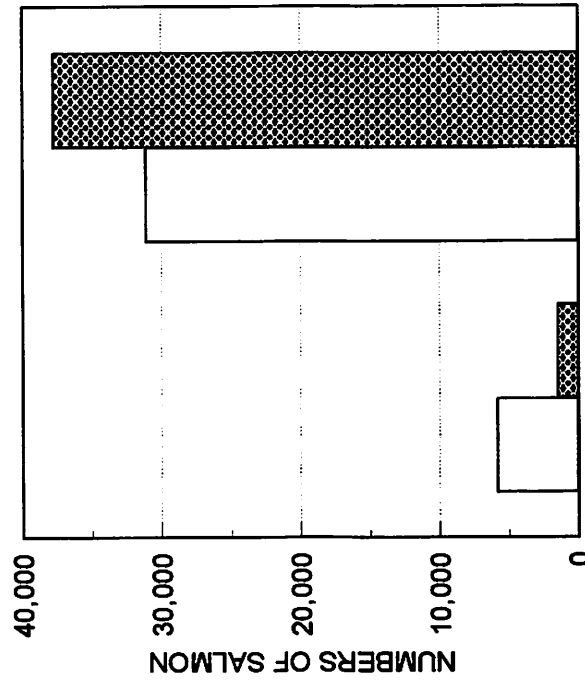
# 1995 GOA TRAWL, TANNER & RED KING CRAB BYCATCH



	DW FISHERY	SW FISHERY
OTANNER	3,830	2,998
BAIRDI	5,925	41,130
RED KING	0	234

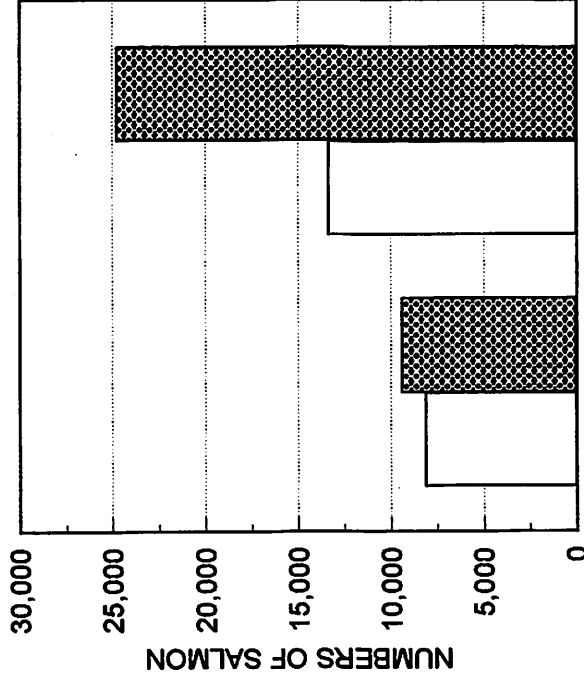
(through 11/18/95)

# 1994-95 GOA TRAWL, CHINOOK & OTHER SALMON BYCATCH



	CHINOOK	OTHER SALMON
1994	5,843	31,099
1995	1,500	37,797

## MIDWATER POLLOCK



	CHINOOK	OTHER SALMON
1994	8,129	13,365
1995	9,414	24,778

## OTHER FISHERIES

## **IFQ PROGRAM SUMMARY as of 11/29/95**

### **LANDINGS**

	<b>Landings (lbs)</b>	<b>Allocation (lbs)</b>	<b>Remaining(lbs/%)</b>
<b>IFQ Halibut</b>	32,640,382	37,422,000	4,781,618 (13%)
<b>IFQ Sablefish</b>	41,068,131	45,658,049	4,589,918 (10%)
<b>CDQ Halibut</b>	1,077,206	1,198,000	120,794 (10%)
<b>CDQ Sablefish</b>	559,210	1,080,449	521,239 (48%)

### **TOP 5 IFQ PORTS**

<b>Halibut (%)</b>	<b>Sablefish (%)</b>
Kodiak (23%)	Seward (22%)
Homer (9.5%)	Sitka (15%)
Sitka (9%)	Dutch/Unalaska (13%)
Dutch/Unalaska (9%)	Kodiak (11%)
Seward (8.5%)	Yakutat (6%)

### **TRANSFERS OF QUOTA SHARE**

	<b>Halibut (QS/#)</b>	<b>Sablefish (QS/#)</b>
<b>Ordinary transfers:</b>	45,720,843 (1167)	18,608,074 (337)
<b>Sweep-ups:</b>	67,580 ( 31)	31,640 ( 14)
<b>Leases:</b>	2,516,123 ( 31)	17,221,961 ( 77)
<b>Net Permanent Change for Alaska: (excludes leases)</b>	<b>+ 1,484,616</b>	<b>+ 1,099,255</b>

### **IFQ CREW MEMBERS**

<b>Number of persons granted IFQ Crewmember status:</b>	785
<b>New IFQ Crewmembers receiving QS by transfer:</b>	294 (37%)

### **APPEALS**

<b>Number of denials:</b>	1,596
<b>Number of appeals:</b>	151 (9.5%)
<b>Number of final decisions and settlements:</b>	19, 6



National Marine Fisheries Service  
Alaska Region  
Juneau, Alaska  
12/06/95

## Status of Regulatory Actions Through December 6, 1995

Groundfish/crab vessel moratorium	Approved and will be in effect January 1, 1996
Prohibit trawling in part of the BSAI to protect chinook salmon once 48,000 fish are caught in the BSAI trawl fisheries (Amd 21b)	Approved November and will be in effect January 1, 1996
Inshore/Offshore amendments will (38 & 40)	Approved November 28, 1995, and be in effect January 1, 1996
Delay full implementation of the Research Plan until 1997	Final rule being reviewed in WDC offices
Bycatch Rate Standards for the 1st half of 1996	Will be in effect January 1, 1996
Proposed and interim "Specs"	Filed for comment with the Office of the Federal Register
Recordkeeping/reporting revisions	Final rule being prepared by the Regional Office
Require computer and satellite/modem capability by processors for use by NMFS-certified observers	Final rule being prepared by the Regional Office
Allow 1-time trade of sablefish halibut quota shares between GOA and BSAI management areas (Amds 32/36)	Action to approve or disapprove is scheduled for December 29, 1995

## Status of Regulatory Actions (continued)

Amd 1 to the Commercial Scallop  
Fishery Off Alaska

Proposed regulations being  
prepared by Regional Office

Authorize voluntary  
retention of salmon for  
foodbank program (Amds 26/29)

Proposed regulations being  
prepared by Regional Office

Allow processing of non-IFQ  
species on vessels & disallowed  
catcher vessel halibut IFQ on  
freezer vessels (Amds 33/37)

Proposed regulations being  
prepared by Regional Office

Require processors to use scales  
to weigh pollock caught in  
pollock fisheries

ANPR; Proposed regulations being  
prepared by Regional Office

Cod end mesh size restrictions

Proposed regulations being  
prepared by Regional Office

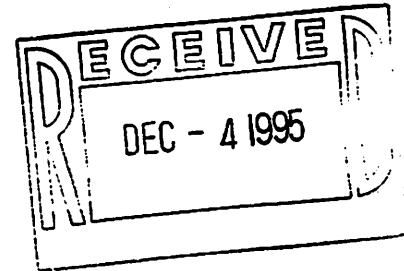
Limit vessels participating  
in sablefish & halibut fishing  
on the seamounts

Proposed regulations being  
prepared by the Regional Office



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
*National Marine Fisheries Service*  
P.O. Box 21668  
Juneau, Alaska 99802-1668  
December 1, 1995

AGENDA B-3  
DECEMBER 1995  
SUPPLEMENTAL



Mr. Clarence G. Pautzke  
Executive Director  
North Pacific Fishery  
Management Council  
605 W 4th Ave Suite 306  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2252.

Dear Clarence,

At its September 1995 meeting the Council adopted Amendment 37 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area (FMP). This amendment would authorize a non-pelagic trawl closure of a specified area of Bristol Bay to protect declining populations of red king crab. The Council intended to have this trawl closure effective by the beginning of the 1996 trawl season. Sufficient time does not exist to implement an amendment to the FMP by the opening of the trawl season on January 20, 1996. Therefore, NMFS intends to implement the trawl closure in 1996 under authority for inseason adjustments ("hot spot" closures). We further intend to follow up this action with proposed Amendment 37 that would authorize the trawl closure as adopted by the Council for 1997 and beyond.

Authority for inseason adjustments is limited to closure of the specified area and does not include authority to include other components of the Council's recommendation, such as changes in observer coverage requirements. As a result NMFS is implementing a modification of the Council's action for 1996.

The modified action will close to all trawling the portion of the Bering Sea specified in the Council action. The Council had recommended closing the specified area to bottom trawling only. However, allowing vessels with pelagic trawl gear to operate in this area would require the presence of observers onboard all vessels to monitor the crab performance standard. NMFS is prohibiting all trawling in the closure area for 1996 because the authority for the inseason action does not include provisions for



increasing observer coverage. NMFS intends to initiate implementation of Amendment 37 early in 1996.

Sincerely,



Steven Pennoyer  
Director, Alaska Region