

## Agenda Item: B-2



### ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME REPORT TO THE NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL FEBRUARY 2001

Fisheries managed under delegated authority of the State of Alaska since the last council meeting: salmon, crab, and groundfish.

#### **Salmon Troll Fishery**

(FIGURE 1) The 2001 winter troll fisheries began October 11, 2000 and continue through April 14, 2001 or until 45,000 chinook salmon are caught. Preliminary harvest data indicates approximately 11,300 chinook have been harvested to date, with approximately 10% of those being of Alaska hatchery origin. The recent five year average harvest to date is 13,200 fish.

#### **Bering Sea *C. Opilio* Fishery**

(FIGURE 2) The 2001 Snow crab season opened as scheduled on Jan. 15. Seven Catcher/Processor vessels have been involved in the fishery to date. Five began fishing on January 15, one stayed tied up for 24 hours prior to beginning, and the last stayed tied up until Jan. 22 before heading out. To date the CPs have harvested approximately 2.1 million pounds. Their daily CPUE is comparable to that seen last year, when we had a similar GHL available. This fleet of 7 is harvesting from 95,000 to almost 210,000 pounds a day and pulling an average of 105 to 125 pots a day.

Catcher vessels initially stayed tied up over price disputes. They voted to accept an offer of \$1.55/pound at 4pm on February 1<sup>st</sup>. They also agreed to fair start provisions through a 48-hour stand-down period.

This year's open access GHL is 25.3 million pounds, very similar to last year's 26.4.

### **Central Region Pacific Cod**

**FIGURE 3.** The 2000 State managed Pacific cod fishery in the Cook Inlet Management Area opened 24 hours after the close of the Federal fishery. Pot and jig gear fishermen took approximately 1.15 million pounds, or 53% of the GHL during the season.

The fisheries in the Prince William Sound area landed about 291,000 pounds, well below the GHL of 2.95 million pounds. Fish abundance in nearshore waters is variable within, and between years, possibly related to water temperature changes and other environmental factors.

For the 2001 season, poor weather has contributed to low effort and catches thus far in Central Region Pacific cod fisheries. In Cook Inlet 4 pot vessels and 4 longline vessels have harvested a total of 81,403 pounds from 30 landings. In PWS, 6 vessels fishing longline gear have landed at total of 56,058 pounds of Pacific cod from 10 landings. In contrast to 2001, harvests during this same period in 2000 totaled 281,000 pounds in Cook Inlet and 121,945 pounds. in PWS.

### **Westward Region Pacific Cod (FIGURE 4)**

#### **Kodiak**

**(FIGURE 5)** Kodiak Pacific cod catches in 2000 totaled approximately 8.6 million pounds out of a 12.0 million pound GHL. The 2001 Kodiak Area GHL for state-managed Pacific cod is 10.6 million pounds. This is 12.5% of the Central Gulf of Alaska ABC for cod. The guideline is split equally between pot and jig gear. No more than 25% of the guideline can be taken by vessels over 58 feet with pot gear prior to September 1. The fishery is scheduled to open 7 days after the closure of the Central GOA to cod fishing.

### **Chignik**

(FIGURE 6) Chignik area Pacific cod catches in 2000 totaled approximately 1.78 million pounds out of a 6.7 million pound GHL. The 2001 Chignik area GHL is 6.0 million pounds for state-managed Pacific cod. This is 7% of the Central Gulf of Alaska ABC for cod. The guideline is allocated 85 percent to pot gear and 15 percent to jig gear. The season is scheduled to open on April 15, 2001.

### **South Alaska Peninsula**

(FIGURE 7) South Peninsula Pacific cod catches in 2000 totaled about 15.2 million pounds out of a 15.2 million pound GHL. The 2001 South Alaska Peninsula Area GHL is 13.4 million pounds for state-managed Pacific cod. This is 25% of the Western Gulf of Alaska ABC for cod. The guideline is allocated 85 percent to pot gear and 15 percent to jig gear. The fishery is scheduled to open 7 days after the closure of the Western GOA to cod fishing.

### **Aleutian Islands State-Managed Sablefish**

The 2001 Aleutian Islands state water sablefish fishery GHL is 425,000 pounds. This is approximately 5% of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands federal regulatory areas TAC. The fishery normally opens on March 15, concurrent to the federal sablefish opening. The Alaska Board of Fisheries is considering a later opening of May 15. The 2000 fishery harvested 436,000 pounds.

### **Southeast Rockfish**

The Department closed the directed fishery for Demersal Shelf Rockfish (DSR) in the SSEO area at noon, Tuesday January 30, 2001. The winter allocation for the directed DSR fishery in the SSEO was 40 mt (88,200 round lbs.). It is estimated that the winter allocation would be taken by that time.

The directed DSR fishery remains open in EYKT, NSEI, and the SSEI areas. Catches will be closely monitored and closures made as appropriate. Fishermen are advised that closures may occur on short notice.

**FIGURE 1. SOUTHEAST ALASKA WINTER TROLL FISHERY, 2001**  
 (For period October 11, 2000 through January 13, 2001)

	Total Catch to Date	Total Catch	Permits Fished	Landings	Catch/Landing	Avg. Wt. (lbs)	Avg \$/lb (from fish tickets)
<b>Troll Year</b>		<b>January 7-13</b>					
<b>2001</b>	<b>11,300</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>15.4</b>	<b>\$ 4.13</b>
<b>2000</b>	<b>18,126</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>\$ 3.67</b>
<b>5-Yr. Avg. 1996-2000</b>	<b>13,227</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>\$ 3.06</b>

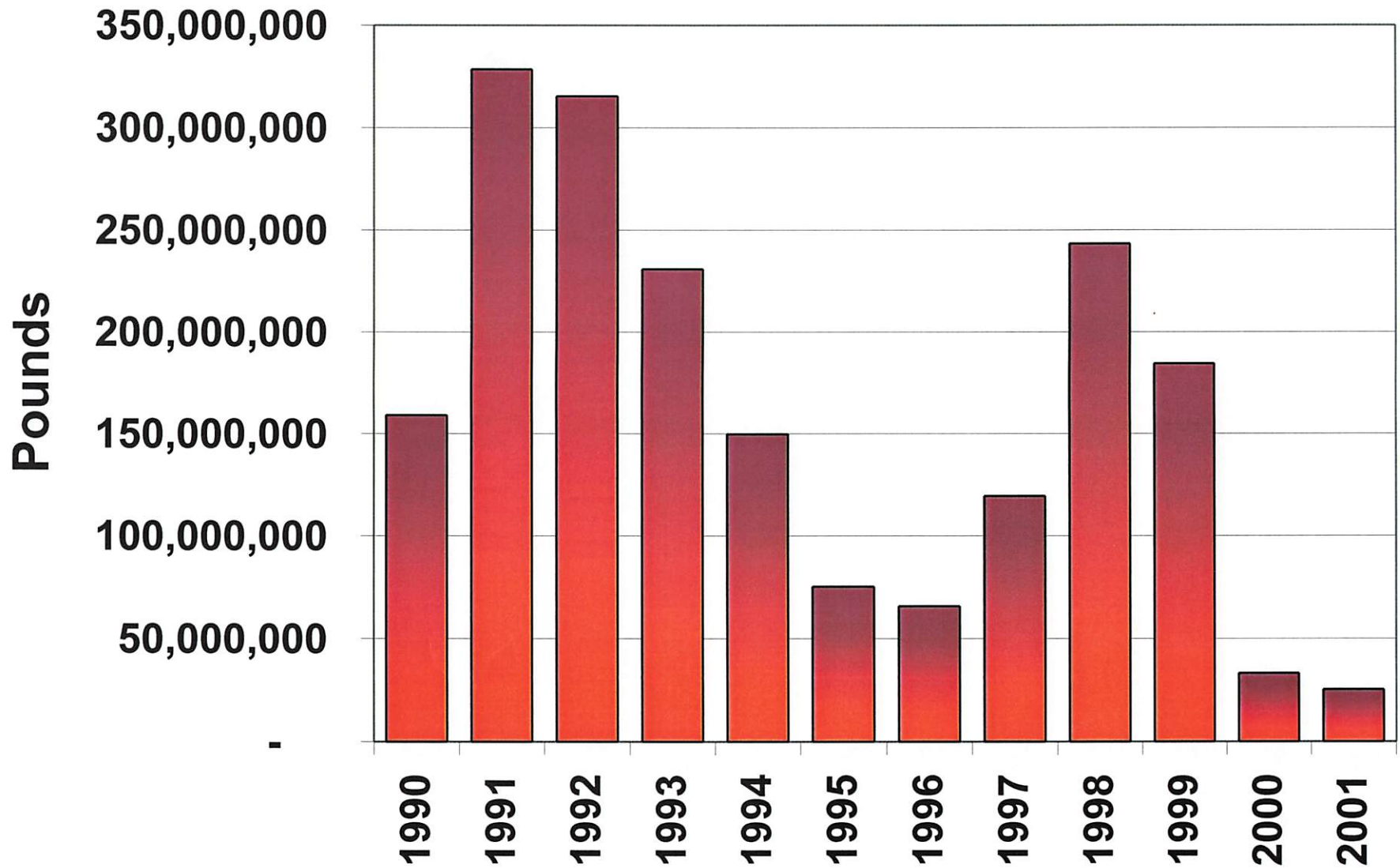
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**FIGURE 2**

## **ALASKA C. OPILIO CATCHES, 1990-2000 with 2001 GHL - Open Access Only**



**FIGURE 3. Harvest guideline, effort, and catch reported for Central Region State water Pcod and Sablefish fisheries through 31 Dec 2000.**

*This summary censored for confidential reports or records.*

<b>Pacific Cod PARALLEL SEASON* - STATE WATERS</b>						
<b>Gear</b>	<b>Cook Inlet Management Area</b>			<b>Prince William Sound</b>		
	Vessels	Landings	Pounds	Vessels	Landings	Pounds
Hand troll (05)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jigs (26)	2			0	0	0
Trawl (47)	0	0	0	3		
Longline (61)	92	229	808,722	57	139	403,231
Pots (91)	20	210	770,299	10	45	332,311
<b>Totals</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>1,579,021</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>735,542</b>
Status		Bycatch			Bycatch	
Federal seasons: Central Gulf	Opened - Closed Jan 1 - noon Mar 4			Opened - Closed Jan 1 - noon Mar 4		

\*Parallel season concurrent with federal waters of the Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA).

<b>Pacific Cod STATE MANAGED - STATE WATERS*</b>						
<b>GHL (lb)</b>	<b>Cook Inlet Management Area</b>			<b>Prince William Sound</b>		
	Vessels	Landings	Pounds	Vessels	Landings	Pounds
<b>GHL (lb)</b>		2,160,000			2,950,000	
<b>Gear</b>	Vessels	Landings	Pounds	Vessels	Landings	Pounds
Hand troll (05)	2			1		
Jigs (26)	7	10	13,674	5	12	22,174
Pots (91)	20	366	1,135,581	7	24	268,765
<b>Totals</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>1,149,255</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>290,939</b>
State seasons: Jigs (26) Status	Opened - Closed Noon Mar 5 - ongoing Open			Opened - Closed Noon Mar 11 - ongoing Open		
State seasons: Pots (91) Status	Opened - Closed Noon Mar 5 - Noon May 1 June 15 - ongoing Open			Opened - Closed Noon Mar 11 - ongoing Open		

The state managed fishery for Pacific cod opens by emergency order to pot and jig gear under exclusive area registration 24 hours after the Federal closure in Cook Inlet and 7 days in PWS.

\* Federally managed and bycatch not included in weights, vessels or landings.

Effective 10/31 gear limits and nonexclusive area registrations are lifted in CI & PWS.

<b>Sablefish STATE MANAGED - STATE WATERS</b>						
<b>GHL (lb)</b>	<b>Cook Inlet Management Area</b>			<b>Prince William Sound Inside District Only</b>		
	Vessels	Landings	Pounds	Vessels	Landings	Pounds
<b>GHL (lb)</b>		67,000			243,000	
<b>Gear</b>	Vessels	Landings	Pounds	Vessels	Landings	Pounds
Other; 26, 47	0	0	0	1		
Longline (61)	16	31	102,966	31	34	355,668
<b>Totals</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>102,966</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>355,668</b>
Status		Closed			Closed	
State seasons:	Opened - Closed Opened July 15 - noon July 2			Opened - Closed Opens noon May 1 - noon May 3		





**FIGURE 4. STATE WATER PACIFIC COD FISHERY  
PRELIMINARY CATCH RESULTS BY WEEK, 2000**

UPDATED: 12/26/00

KODIAK					CHIGNIK				SOUTH ALASKA PENINSULA					
VESSEL REGISTRATIONS	Total	Pot	Jig		Total	Pot	Jig		Total	Pot	Jig			
	206	62	144		23	19	4		95	67	28			
2000 GHL: 12.0 Million					6.7 Million				15,174,540 Million (Actual)					
ALLOCATIONS: 50% Jigs, 50% Pots					85% Pots, 15% Jigs				85% Pots, 15% Jigs					
DATES:	Pots		Jigs		Pots		Jigs		Pots		Jigs			
	Landings	Catch	Landings	Catch	Landings	Catch	Landings	Catch	Landings	Catch	Landings	Catch	Landings	Catch
3/11 to 3/18	47	395,510	31	32,519	Closed				113	1,948,659	0	0		
3/19 to 3/25	70	1,047,157	45	75,237	Closed				101	2,929,982	0	0		
3/26 to 4/1	32	450,994	38	47,014	Closed				124	3,624,017	0	0		
4/2 to 4/8	52	798,999	61	51,279	Closed				133	5,041,388	X	X		
4/9 to 4/15	52	782,818	51	80,713	opened 4/15, no reported landings				35	909,694	7	6,468		
4/16 to 4/22	61	872,684	91	168,428	43	670,401	0	0	Closed 4/8 @ NOON		6	20,132		
4/23 to 4/29	33	324,008	109	261,737	44	492,129	0	0	Closed		0	0		
4/30 to 5/6	29	231,017	105	305,449	35	362,467	0	0	Closed		X	X		
5/7 to 5/13	23	141,893	147	431,113	16	142,677	0	0	Closed		15	41,848		
5/14 to 5/20	6	31,200	161	410,994	9	78,708	0	0	Closed		12	60,672		
5/21 to 5/27	10	40,008	168	489,426	4	25,789	0	0	Closed		36	173,832		
5/28 to 6/3	X	X	91	220,077	X	X	0	0	Closed		6	29,929		
6/4 to 6/10	3	22,143	67	164,412	0	0	X	X	Closed		14	91,288		
6/11 to 6/17	X	X	25	50,363	0	0	X	X	Closed		8	59,042		
6/18 to 6/23	X	X	18	24,783	0	0	0	0	Closed		3	29,212		
6/24 to 7/1	X	X	15	23,020	0	0	X	X	Closed		6	13,805		
7/2 to 7/8	0	0	X	X	0	0	0	0	Closed		X	X		
7/9 to 7/15	0	0	X	X	0	0	0	0	Closed		X	X		
7/16 to 7/22	0	0	X	X	0	0	0	0	Closed		0	0		
7/23 to 7/29	0	0	12	9,153	0	0	0	0	Closed		X	X		
7/30 to 8/5	0	0	X	X	0	0	0	0	Closed		X	X		
8/6 to 8/12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Closed		X	X		
8/13 to 8/19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Closed		17	84,600		
8/21 to 8/26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Closed		5	27,380		
8/27 to 9/2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Closed		X	X		
9/3 to 9/9	0	0	X	X	0	0	0	0	Closed		7	32,615		
9/10 to 9/16	X	X	X	X	0	0	0	0	Closed		6	57,430		
9/17 to 9/23	X	X	0	0	0	0	0	0	Closed		4	25,463		
9/24 to 9/30	4	47,324	0	0	0	0	0	0	Closed		Closed 9/19 @ Noon			
10/1 to 10/7	X	X	0	0	0	0	0	0	Closed		Closed			
10/8 to 10/14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Closed		Closed			
10/15 to 10/21	X	X	0	0	0	0	0	0	Closed		Closed			
10/22 to 10/28	X	X	0	0	0	0	0	0	Closed		Closed			
10/29 to 11/4	8	50,190	18	10,708	0	0	0	0	Closed		Closed			
11/5 to 11/11	4	31,043	X	X	0	0	0	0	Closed		Closed			
11/12 to 11/18	6	94,776	3	2,069	0	0	0	0	Closed		Closed			
11/19 to 11/25	5	75,918	0	0	0	0	0	0	Closed		Closed			
11/26 to 12/2	7	51,071	0	0	0	0	0	0	Closed		Closed			
12/3 to 12/9	8	75,268	X	X	0	0	0	0	Closed		Closed			
12/10 to 12/17	10	87,889	5	7,345	0	0	0	0	Closed		Closed			
12/18 to 12/24	11	79,937	X	X	0	0	0	0	Closed		Closed			
<b>ACCUMULATIVE CATCH</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>5,731,848</b>	<b>1,261</b>	<b>2,865,838</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>1,772,171</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>14,453,740</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>753,715</b>		
	(Total combined)			8,597,686	(Total combined)		1,772,171		(Total combined)			15,207,455		

X = CONFIDENTIAL DATA (catch combined with following week)

**FIGURE 5**

**Kodiak State Managed Pcod Catches, 2000**

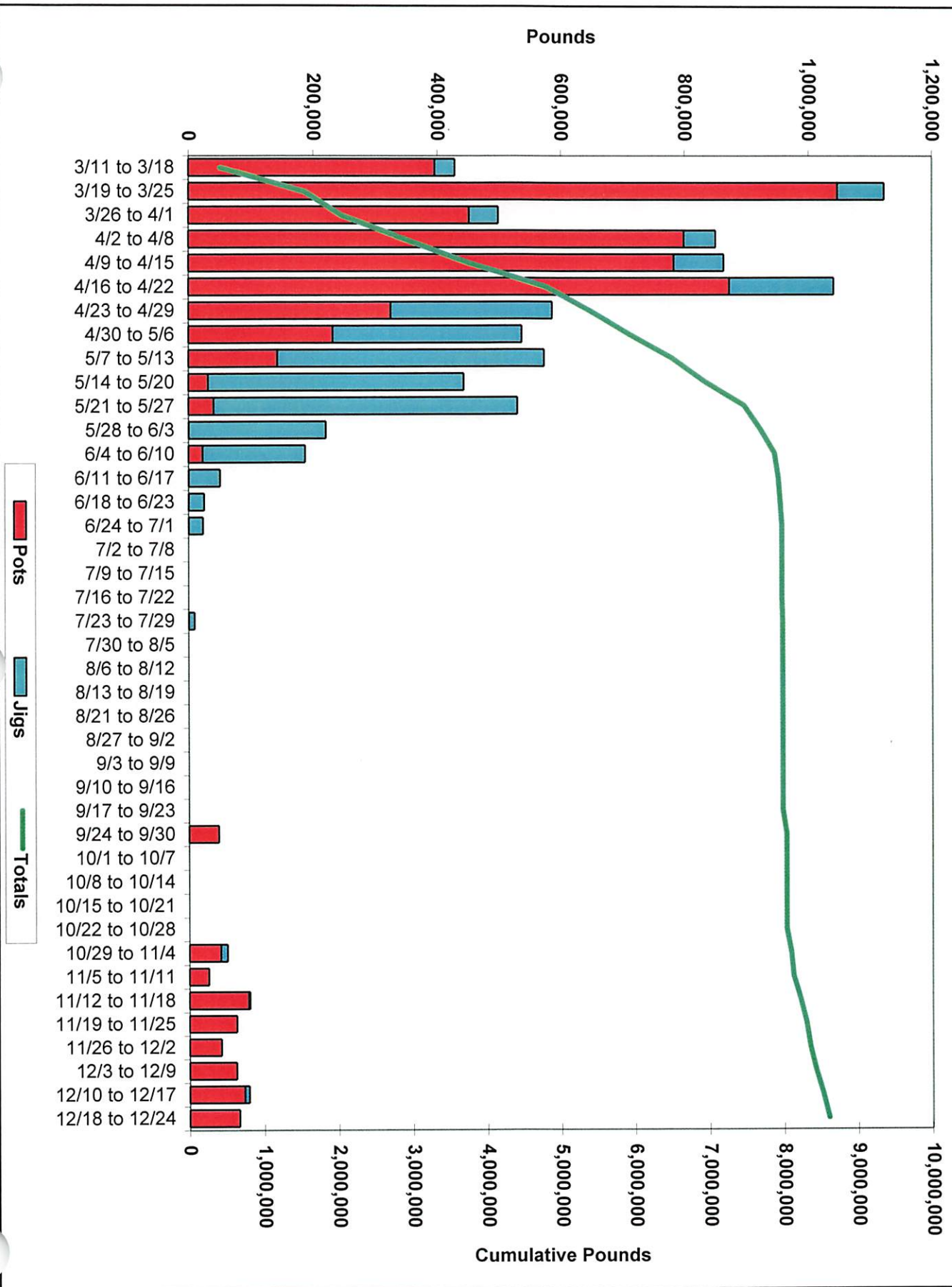
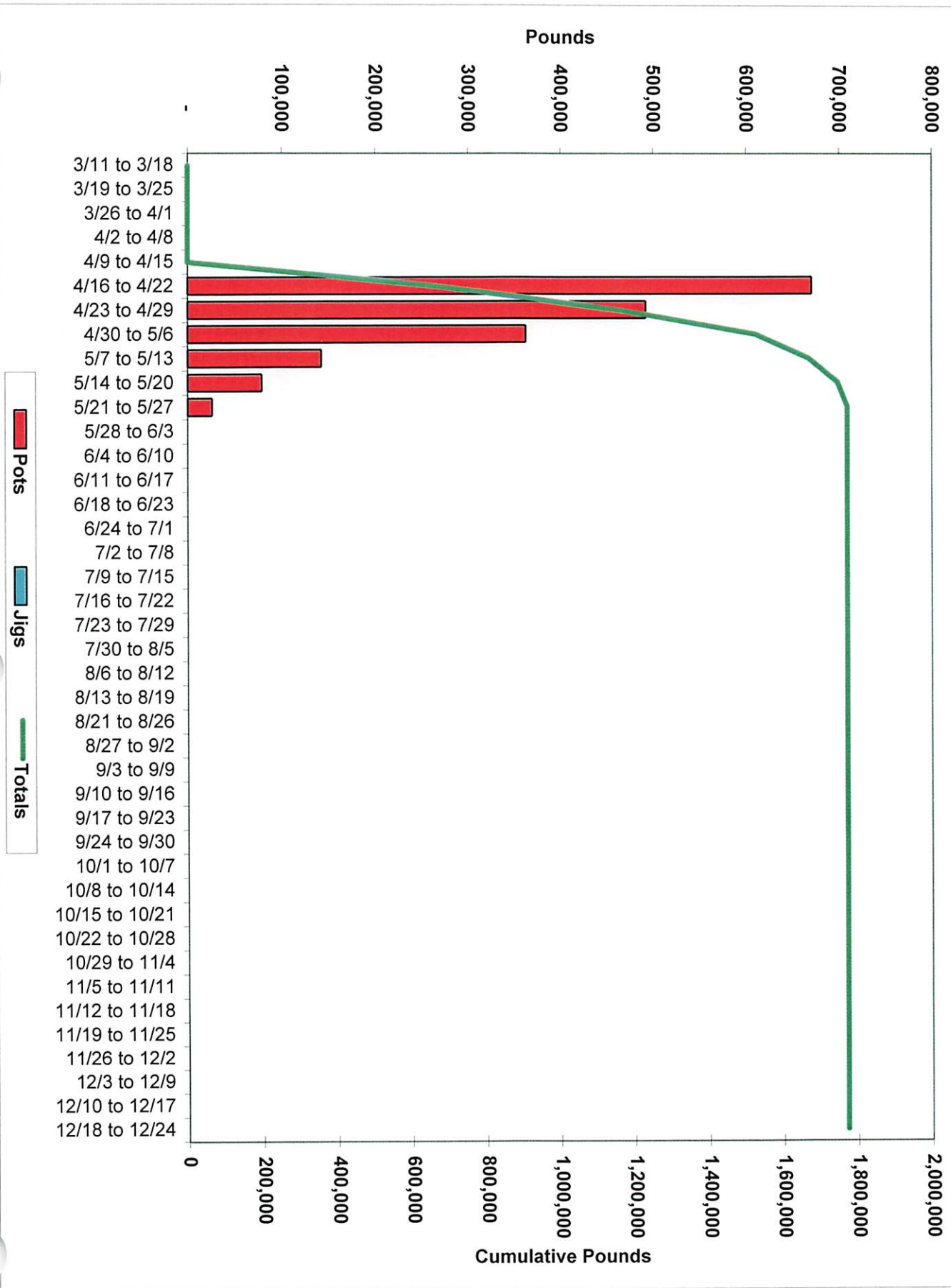




FIGURE 6

Chignik State Managed Pcod Catches, 2000



**FIGURE 7**

**South Alaska Peninsula State Managed Pcod Catches, 2000**

