



ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
REPORT TO THE NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
February 2010

Fisheries managed by the State of Alaska since the last council report include those for salmon, scallops, crab and groundfish.

Salmon Troll Fishery (FIGURE 1a & 1b)

The winter Chinook salmon troll fishery in Southeast Alaska is managed in accordance with the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) winter troll management plan [5 AAC 29.080] and the Pacific Salmon Treaty (PST). The winter troll Chinook salmon season opened October 11, 2009 and will remain open through April 30, 2010, or until 45,000 treaty Chinook salmon are harvested. Any Treaty Chinook salmon not harvested during the winter fishery will be available for harvest in the spring and summer fisheries. The fishery is confined to the waters east of the winter boundary line (surf line) and includes the waters of Yakutat Bay. Latest catch estimates put the harvest at approximately 9,500 fish.

Scallops (FIGURE 2)

The state has delegated authority over the management of scallops under the existing Fishery Management Plan (FMP). The season for weathervane scallop fisheries runs from July 1 to February 15 in all registration areas except in Cook Inlet, where the season is August 15 to October 31 in the Kamishak District. Seasons may close earlier by Emergency Order. Currently, no vessels are fishing for scallops. Total harvest for the 2009/10 season was 491,205 pounds of shucked meats, which is just above the recent 5-year average of 450,500 pounds.

Aleutian Islands Golden King Crab (FIGURE 3a, 3b, & 3c)

The 2009/10 Area O (Aleutian Islands) commercial golden king crab fishery opened August 15, 2009. The total allowable catch (TAC) is 5.985 million pounds. The TAC is apportioned east and west of 174° W longitude. The Eastern IFQ TAC of 2.835 million pounds was fully harvested by three vessels.

The Eastern Aleutian Islands CDQ fishery was allocated 315,000 pounds, which was fully harvested by three vessels.

The Western TAC is 2.835 million pounds, with the IFQ harvest set at 2.55 million pounds. The fishery is ongoing and so far this season, two vessels have participated, so harvest information remains confidential. None of the Adak Community Allocation has been harvested this season. The golden king crab fishery in the Aleutian Islands remains open through May 15, 2010.

Bristol Bay Red King Crab (FIGURE 4a & 4b)

The 2009/10 Bristol Bay red king crab fishery opened on October 15, 2009 and closed on January 15, 2010. One hundred percent of the 14.4 million pound IFQ TAC was harvested. Eleven vessels participated in the CDQ fishery this season and the 1.6 million CDQ TAC was fully harvested.

St. Matthew Island Blue King Crab (FIGURE 5)

The St. Matthew Island blue king crab fishery re-opened on October 15, 2009 for the first time in over 10 years with an IFQ TAC of 1,050,300 pounds. Seven vessels and two processors participated in the fishery. A total of 460,859 pounds (44% of the TAC) was harvested.

None of the 116,700 pounds of CDQ TAC was harvested and the season closed on February 1, 2010.

Bering Sea Snow Crab (FIGURE 6a & 6b)

The 2009/10 snow crab IFQ TAC is approximately 43.2 million pounds. The 2009/10 Bering Sea snow crab fishery opened on October 15, 2009 and will remain open through May 15, 2010 in the Eastern Subdistrict and through May 31, 2010 in the Western Subdistrict. A total of 15 million pounds or 35% of the TAC have been harvested through February 4, 2010.

The CDQ TAC is 4.8 million pounds. Through February 4, 2010, only two vessels have participated in the snow crab CDQ fishery, so that information remains confidential.

Bering Sea Tanner Crab (FIGURE 7a & 7b)

The season for *C. bairdi* open on October 15, 2009 and will close on March 31, 2010. The Bering Sea District Tanner crab stock is managed east and west of 166° W longitude, with a separate TAC for each area. The Eastern IFQ TAC is 1.215 million pounds. The Tanner crab fishery west of 166° was closed due to concerns over high bycatch of sublegal males and associated mortality in the snow crab fishery. To date, there have been about 952,216 pounds (78 percent) taken in the Eastern District.

Four vessels have participated in the CDQ fishery, which was allocated 135,000 pounds. To date, 121,504 pounds of Bering Sea CDQ Tanner crab have been harvested.

Central Region Pacific Cod (FIGURE 8)

Prince William Sound

The Prince William Sound state managed Pacific cod season will open on February 7, 2010, seven days after the close of the federal fishery. The GHL is 784,000 pounds, which is 15 percent of the federal Eastern Gulf ABC, a 5% increase from last year. The fishery is open to pot, jig, and longline gear and has an exclusive registration designation. There are ~25 longline vessels and one pot vessel registered to fish.

Cook Inlet

The Cook Inlet state managed Pacific cod season opened on February 1, 2010, 24 hours after the close of the federal fishery with a GHL of 4.0 million pounds. The GHL is calculated as 3.75 percent of the ABC for the federal Central Gulf of Alaska Area and is allocated 75% to pot gear and 25% to jig gear. Pot vessels larger than 58 feet are limited to 25% of the total GHL prior to September 1. In addition to the directed fishery, Pacific cod may be retained in state waters as bycatch to other directed groundfish and halibut fisheries at a maximum of 20%. Cook Inlet is designated as an exclusive registration area for Pacific cod.

Westward Region Pacific Cod (FIGURE 9)

Kodiak Pacific Cod

The Kodiak Area state-waters Pacific cod season will open on February 7, 2010, seven days after the close of the federal fishery. The 2010 state-waters guideline harvest level (GHL) is 13.51 million pounds. The GHL is allocated 50 percent to mechanical jig and hand troll gears and 50 percent to pot gear, or 6.755 million pounds each. Vessel operators fishing with pot gear on vessels longer

than 58 feet overall length are restricted to 25% of the GHL (3.377 million pounds) before September 1. The Kodiak Area is designated exclusive registration for the state-waters Pacific cod season.

Chignik Pacific Cod

The state waters Pacific cod fishery in Chignik opened by regulation on March 1. The GHL is 9.46 million pounds, with pot vessels targeting 90 percent of that amount (8.51 million pounds). The Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod fishery management plan allows Pacific cod remaining on the 2010 jig-gear guideline harvest level (GHL) to be taken on or after August 15 by either pot or jig gear. The area is designated superexclusive registration for the state-waters Pacific cod season and is closed to vessels greater than 58 feet.

South Alaska Peninsula Pacific Cod

The Pacific cod fishery for the South Alaska Peninsula will open seven days after the closure of the inshore-directed Western GOA Pacific cod fishery unless the state-waters season opening is delayed by weather. The GHL is 15.25 million pounds, with 85 percent targeted by pot gear (12.2 million pounds). A 58-foot vessel length limit is in effect in the South Alaska Peninsula Area and the area has an exclusive registration designation.

Southeast Groundfish (FIGURE 10)

Demersal Shelf Rockfish

The 2010 winter directed demersal shelf rockfish (DSR) fishery opened on Jan. 5, 2010 in the Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) Subdistrict and the Southern Southeast Inside (SSEI) Subdistrict. These areas will remain open until 4:00pm on the day prior to the start of the commercial halibut fishery unless closed by Emergency Order. Harvest Guidelines for the directed winter fishery are 17 mt (37,485 pounds) in each area.

The directed fishery in the Southern Southeast Outside (SSEO) Section opened on February 3, 2010 with a harvest quota of 30.3 mt (66,812 round pounds). The directed fishery remains closed in the East Yakutat (EYKT), Central Southeast Outside (CSEO), and Northern Southeast Outside (NSEO) Sections.

Alaska Board of Fisheries

The Alaska Board of Fisheries meet in Anchorage from February 2-6, 2010 with the next meeting scheduled for March 16-20, 2010.

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
REPORT TO THE NPFMC
Agenda Item B-3**



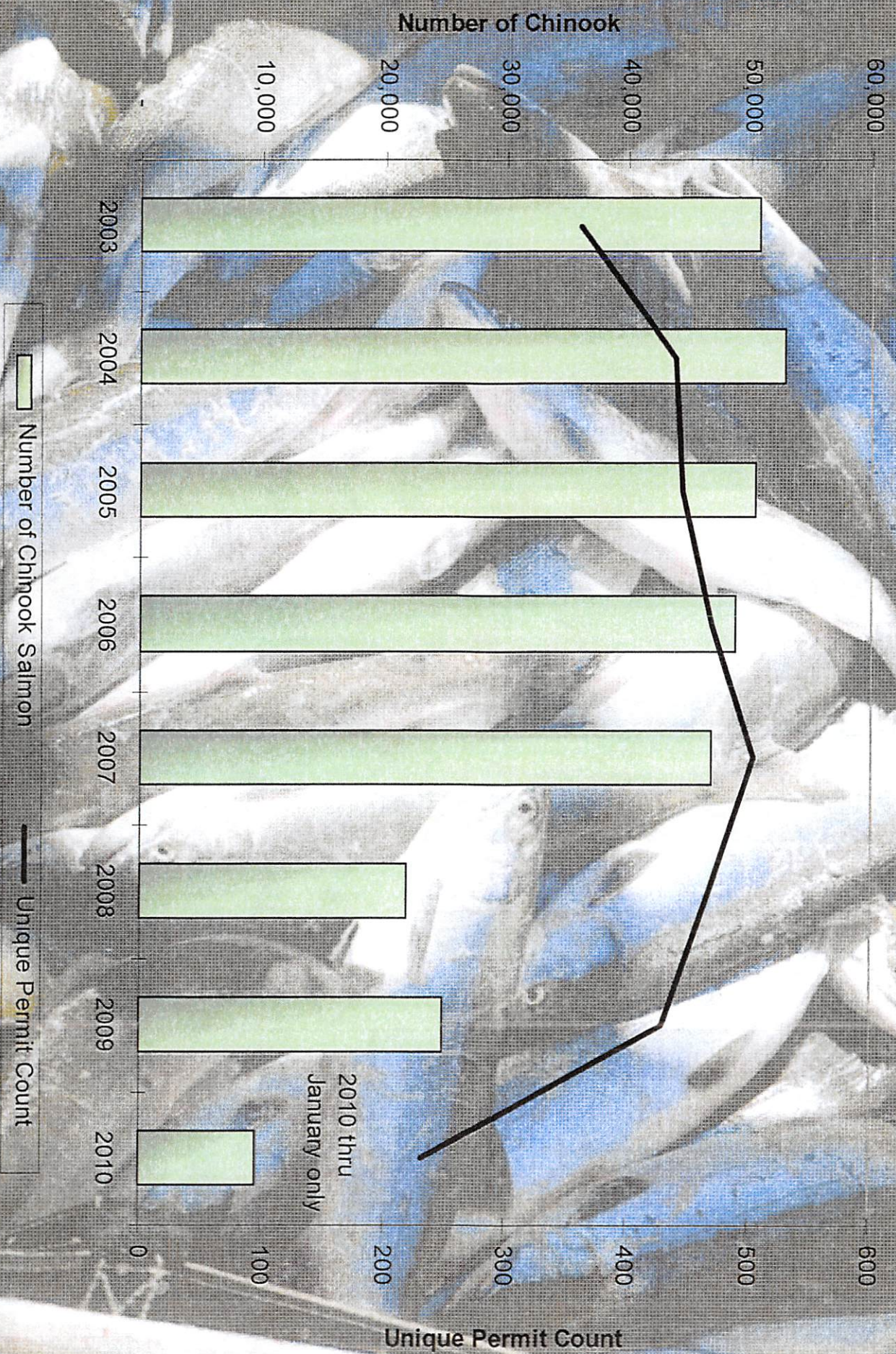
February 2010

Figure 1a Data for January 17-23 (week 4)							Catch through Week 4
Troll Year	Permits Fished	Landings	Number of Kings	Catch/Landing	Average Price	Average Weight (lbs.)	
2010	60	100	316	3.2	\$7.75	13.8	9,423
2009	38	53	256	4.8	\$7.63	13.3	5,913
5-year ave	62	92	420	4.6	\$8.07	13.4	10,697
2010	Week	Permits	Landings	Number	Pounds	Ave Price	Ave Wt.
	42	105	129	1,807	23,319	\$5.65	13.0
	43	105	132	1,600	20,942	\$5.60	13.2
	44	54	67	572	7,498	\$5.64	13.2
	45	66	79	778	10,109	\$5.79	13.1
	46	71	94	775	9,788	\$6.25	12.7
	47	61	85	601	7,202	\$6.62	12.0
	48	40	50	357	4,268	\$6.61	12.1
	49	47	69	336	4,273	\$6.83	12.7
	50	82	136	757	9,915	\$7.03	13.1
	51	44	60	335	4,328	\$7.11	12.9
	52	38	52	215	2,820	\$7.01	13.1
	53	71	108	582	7,704	\$6.98	13.2
	01	6	6	16	212	\$7.84	13.3
	02	26	39	197	2,888	\$7.25	14.7
	03	29	42	179	2,500	\$7.43	14.0
	04	60	100	316	4,334	\$7.75	13.8
	05	27	27	101	1,425	\$7.59	14.1
	06	4	4	27	372	\$7.95	13.8
Regional Totals:		232	1,279	9,551	123,896	\$6.29	13.0

Note: Data is preliminary and based on fish tickets received.

Figure 1b.

Historical Oct-Apr Winter Troll Chinook Harvest



2010 thru
January only

Alaska Weather Vane Scallop Catch



Figure 2

Figure 3a.

Eastern AI Golden King Crab Harvest IFQ Fishery

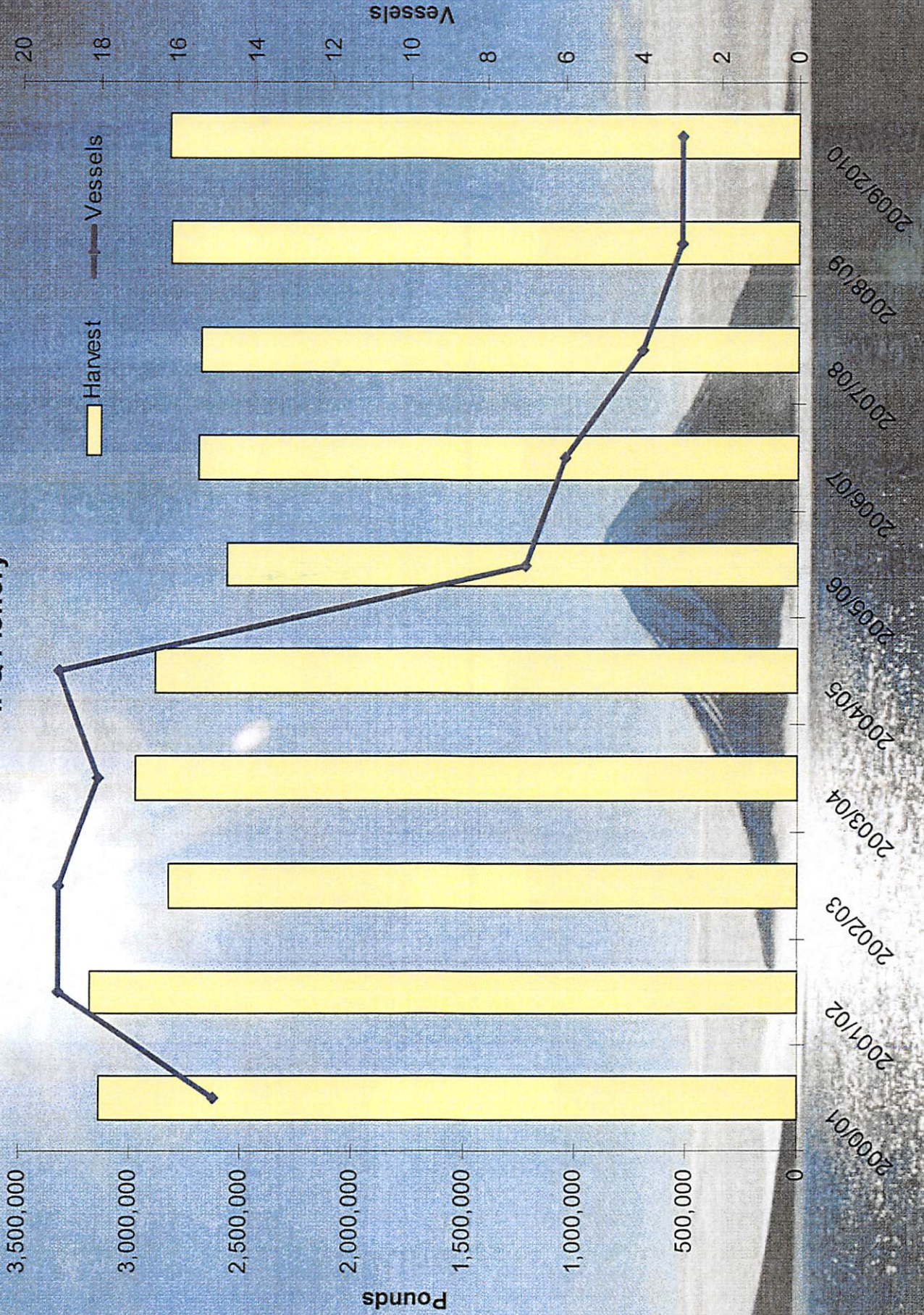


Figure 3b.

Eastern AI Golden King Crab Harvest CDQ Fishery

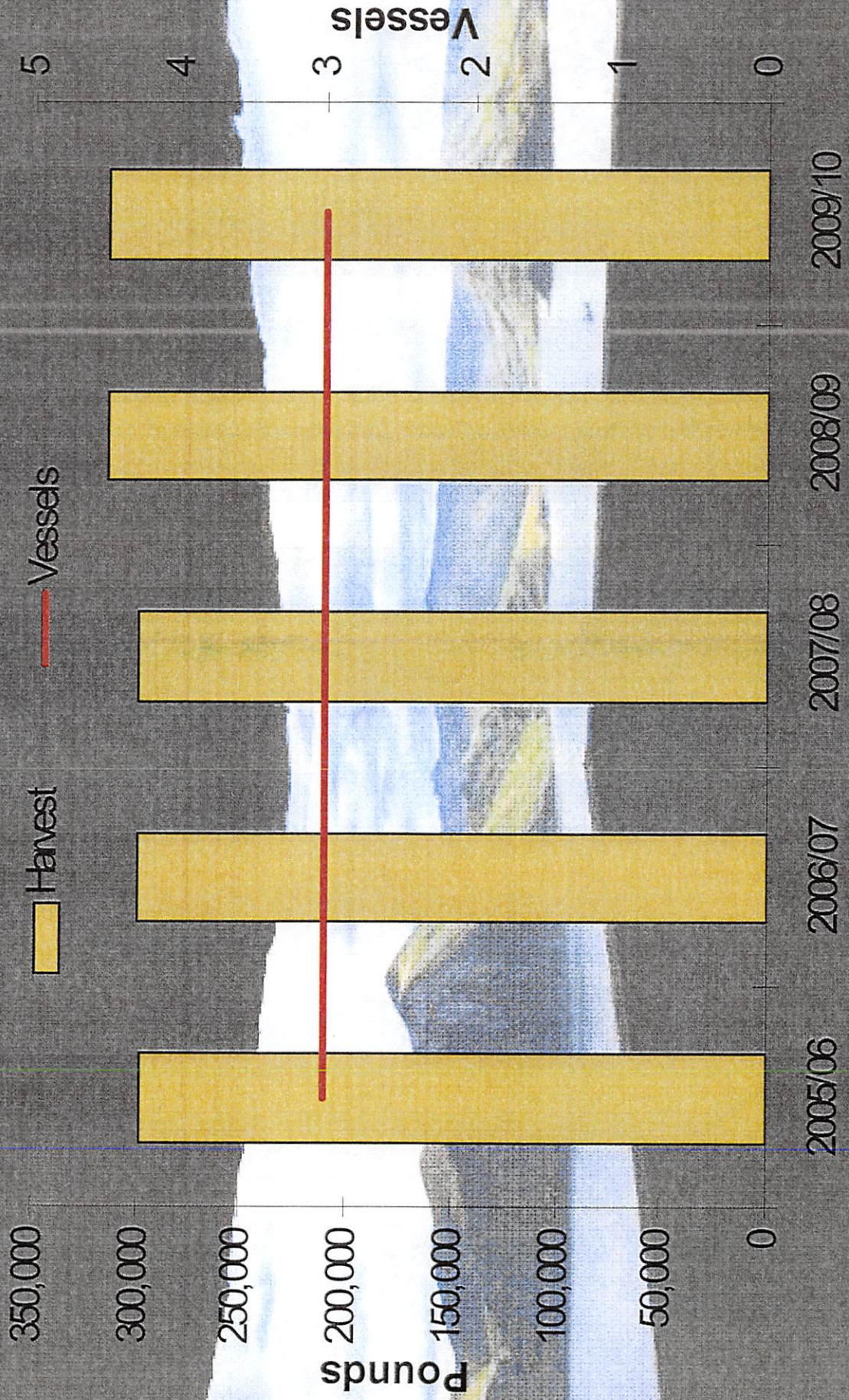
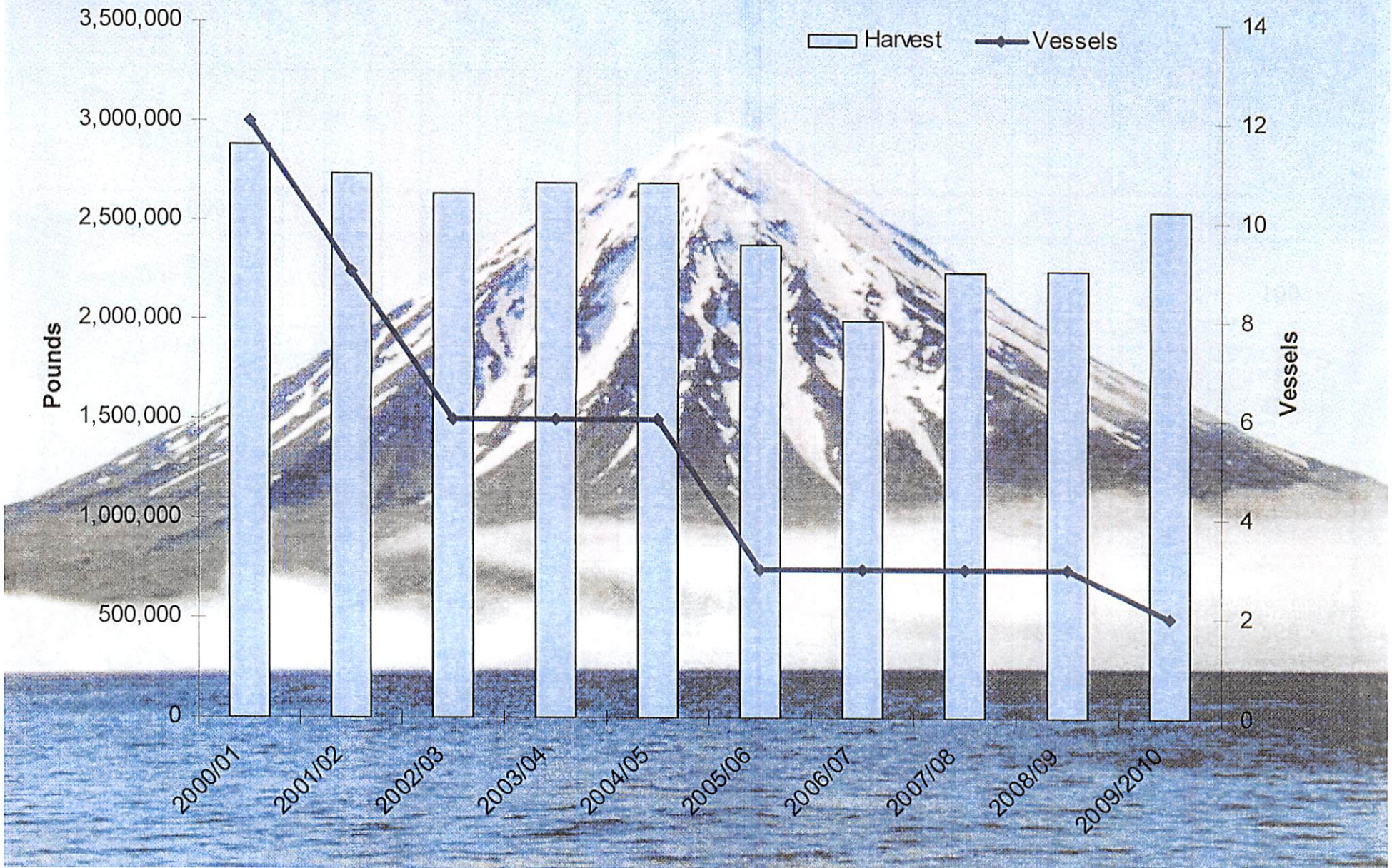


Figure 3c.

Western AI Golden King Crab Harvest IFQ Fishery



Bristol Bay Red King Crab IFQ Fishery

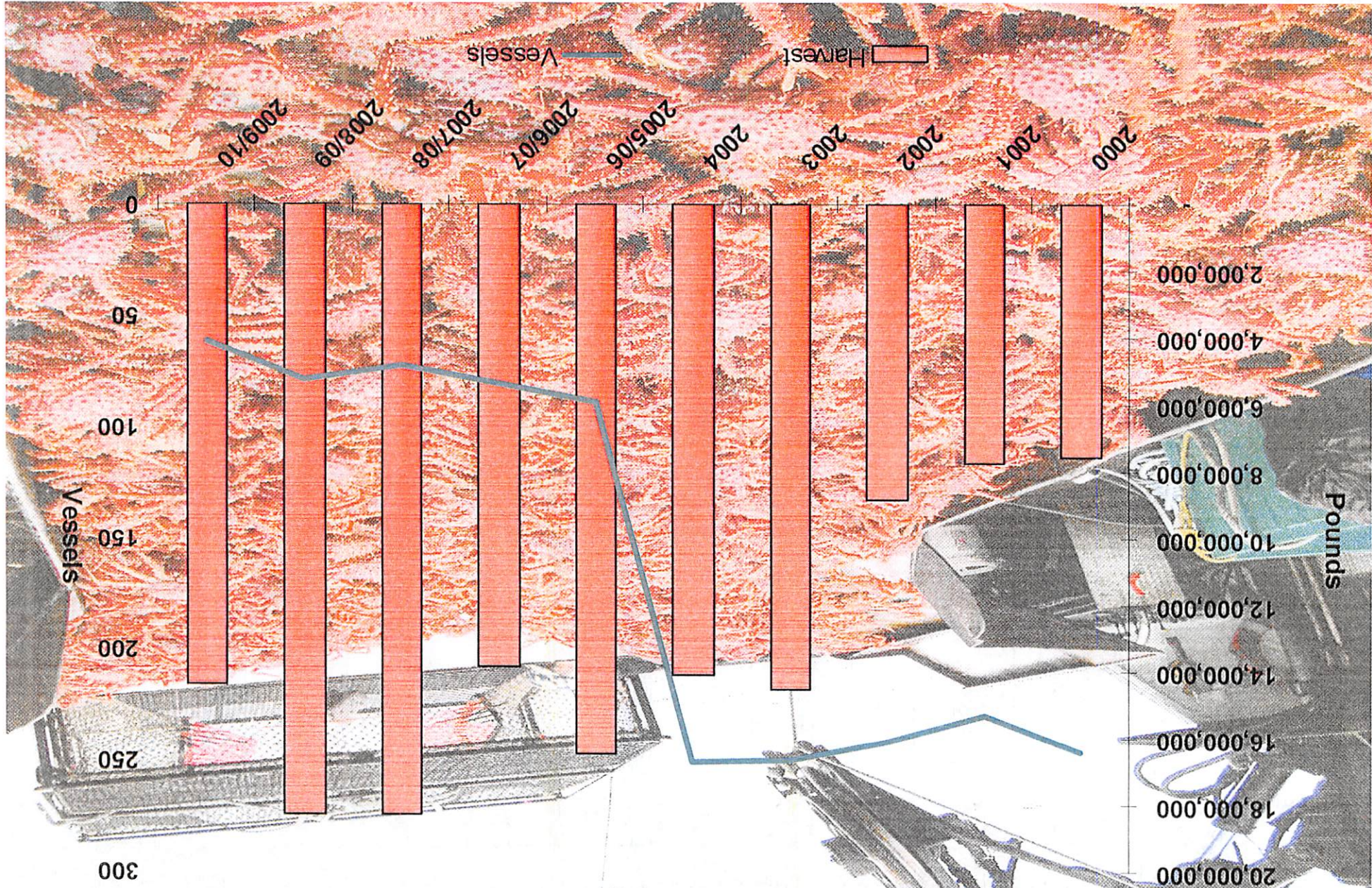


Figure 4a.

Figure 4b.

Bristol Bay Red King Crab CDQ Fishery

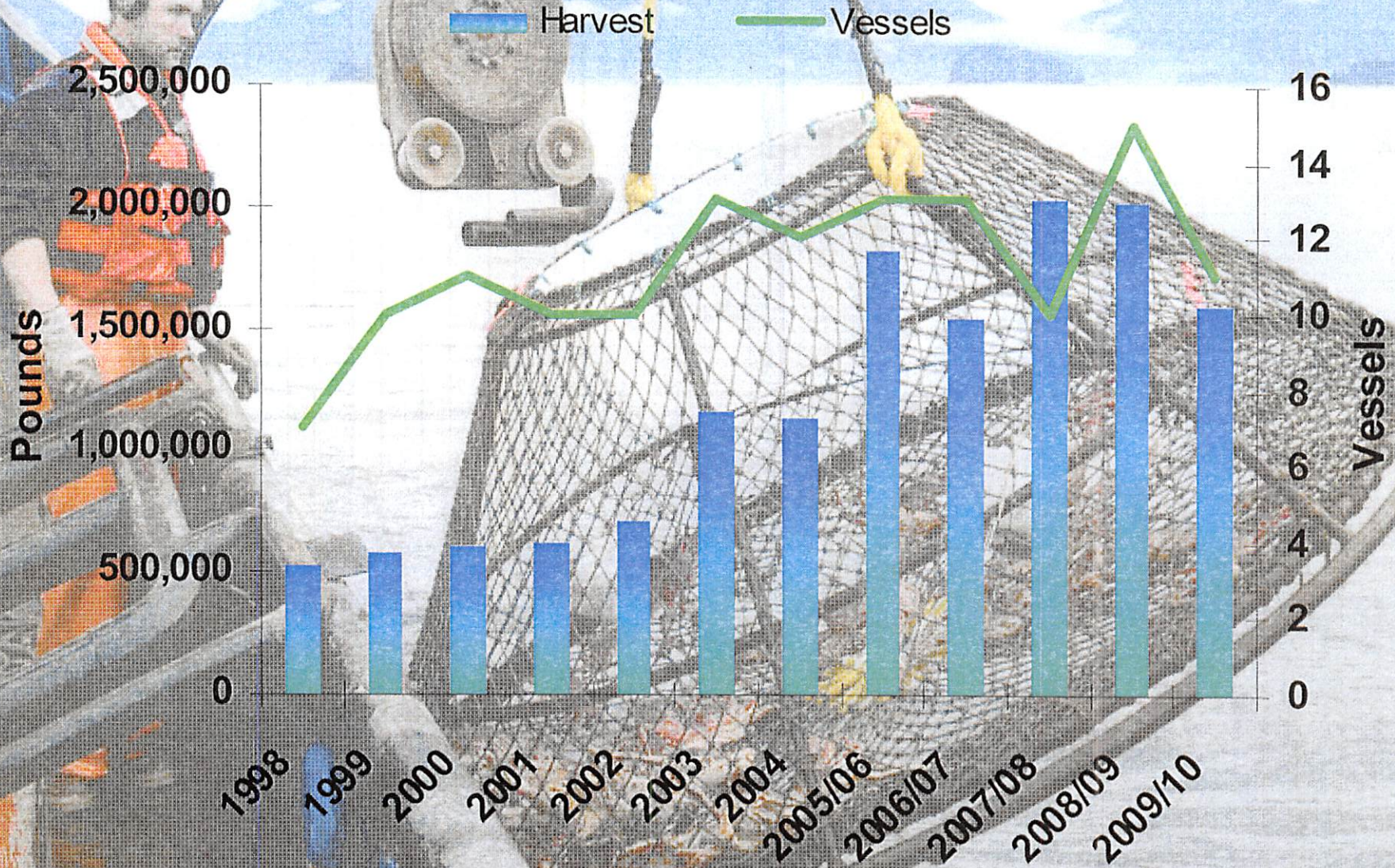


Figure 5

St. Matthew Blue King Crab

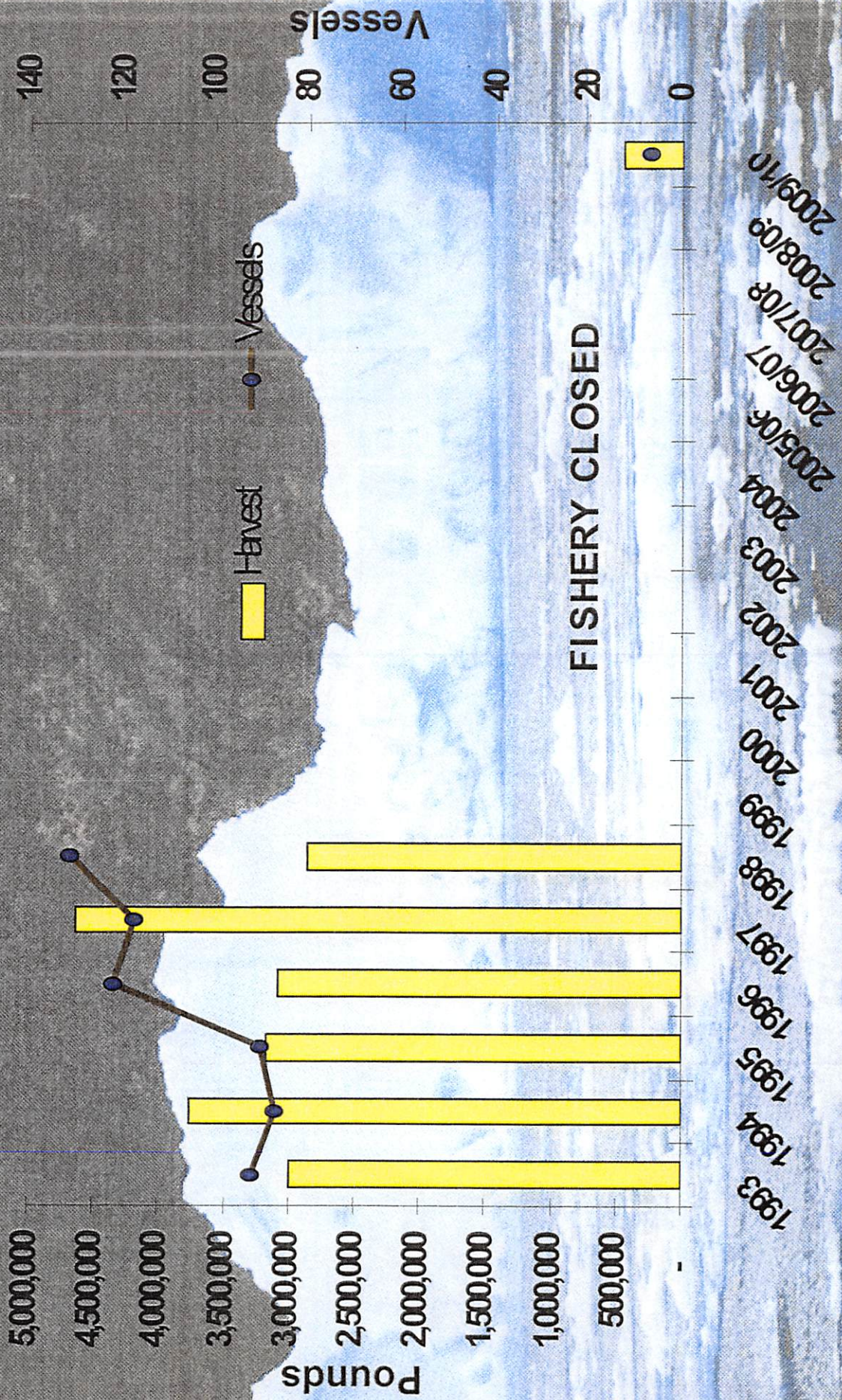


Figure 6a.

Bering Sea Snow Crab Harvest IFQ Fishery

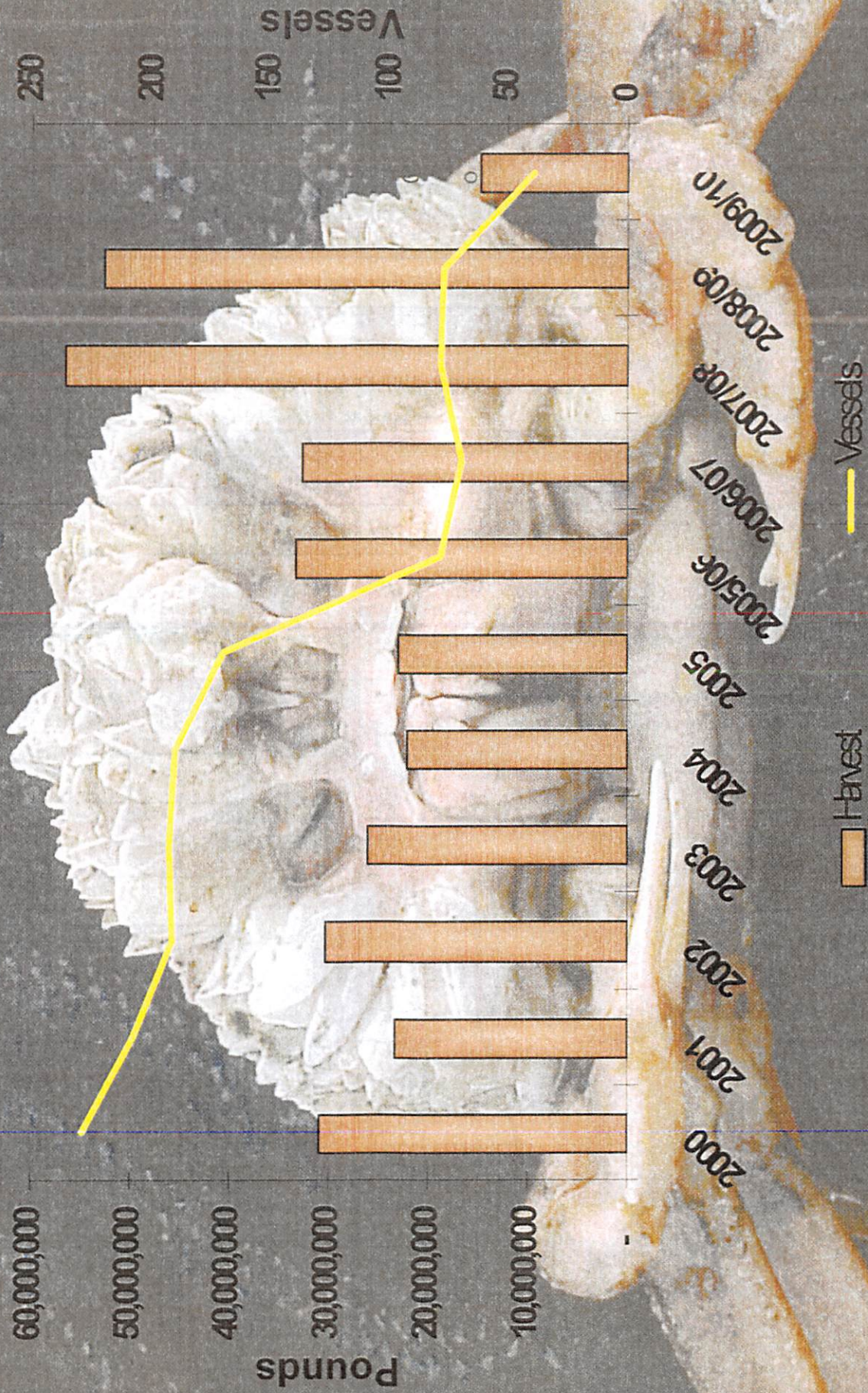


Figure 6b.

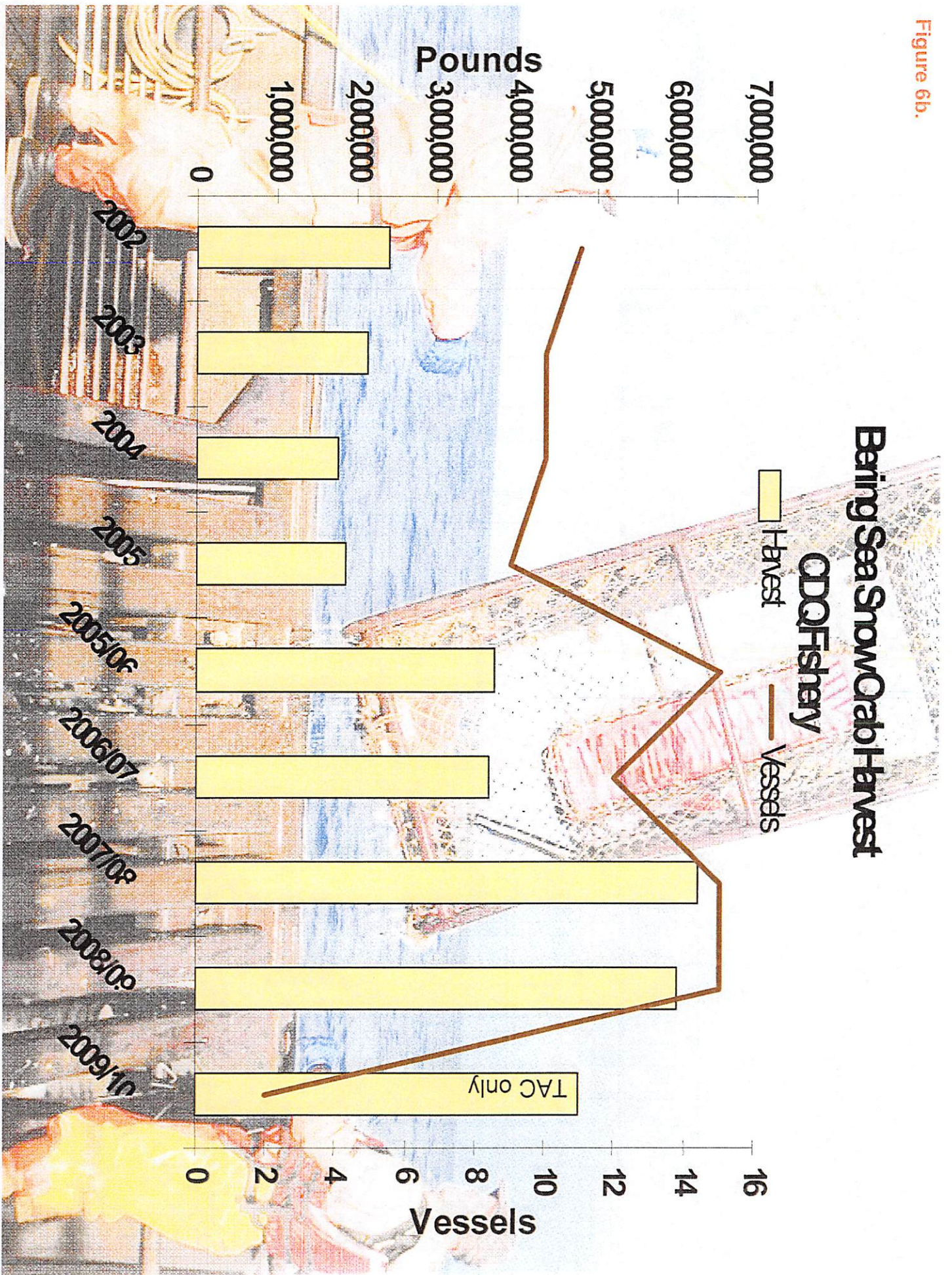


Figure 7a.

Bering Sea Tanner Crab Harvest

IFQ Fishery

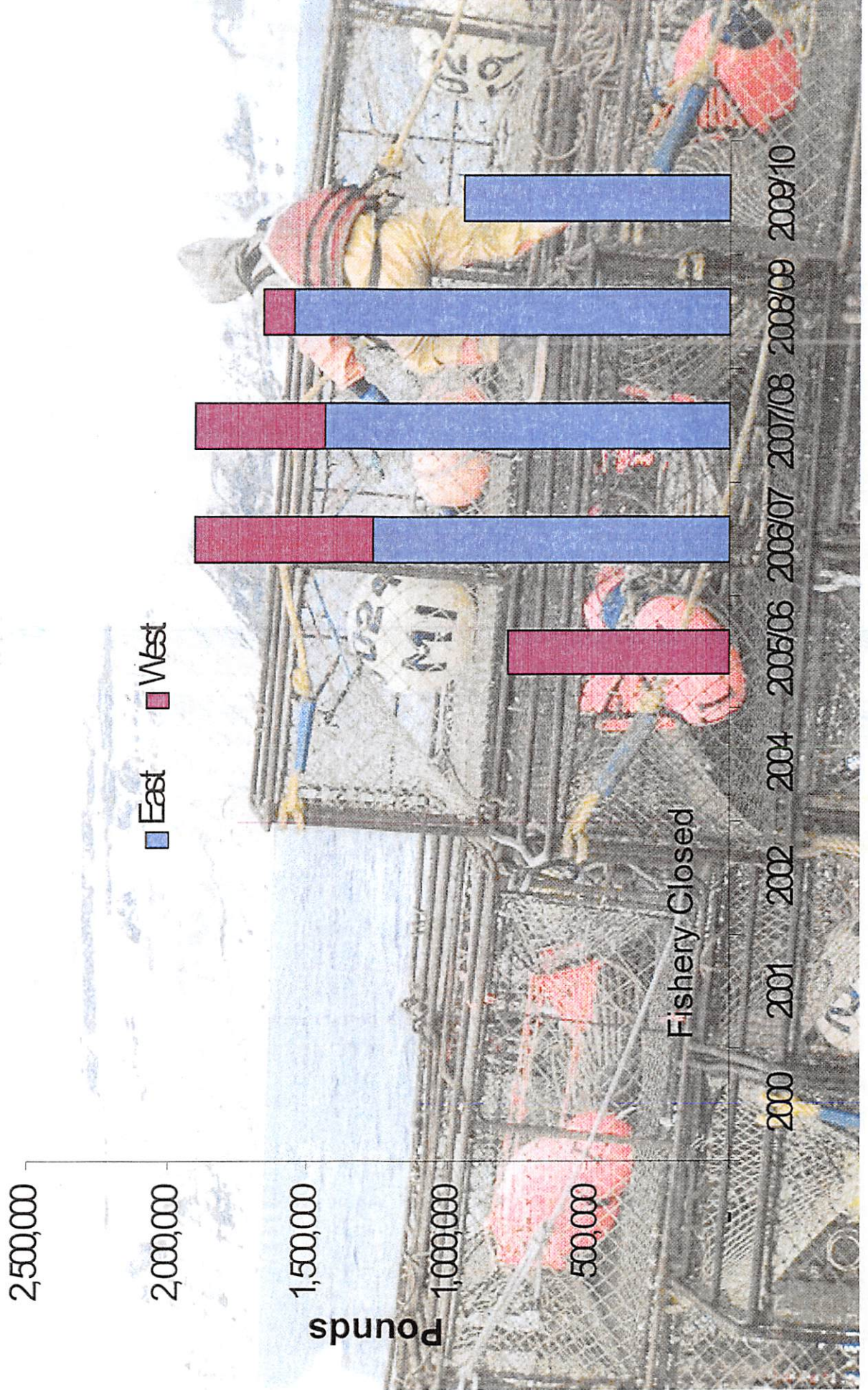


Figure 7b.

Bering Sea Tanner Crab Harvest CDQ Fishery



Figure 8.

Prince William Sound

Open to jig, hand troll, pots, and longline Feb. 7

By regulation the GHL increased to 15% of the estimated total allowable harvest of Pacific cod for the federal Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area.

2010 GHL is ~784,000 pounds

Cook Inlet

Open to jig, hand troll, and pots Feb. 1

GHL is calculated as 3.75% of the ABC for the Central Gulf of Alaska Area.

2010 GHL is ~4.0 million pounds



Figure 9.

Kodiak

Open to jig, hand troll, and pots Feb. 7.

GHL is calculated as 12.5% of the ABC for the Central Gulf of Alaska Area.

2010 GHL is 13.51 million pounds.

Allocated 50% to jig and 50% to pots.

Chignik

Open to jig, hand troll, and pots March 1.

GHL is calculated as 8.75% of the ABC for the Central Gulf of Alaska Area.

2010 GHL is 9.46 million pounds.

Allocated 90% to pot gear and 10% to jig.

A 58-foot vessel length limit is in effect.

South Alaska Peninsula

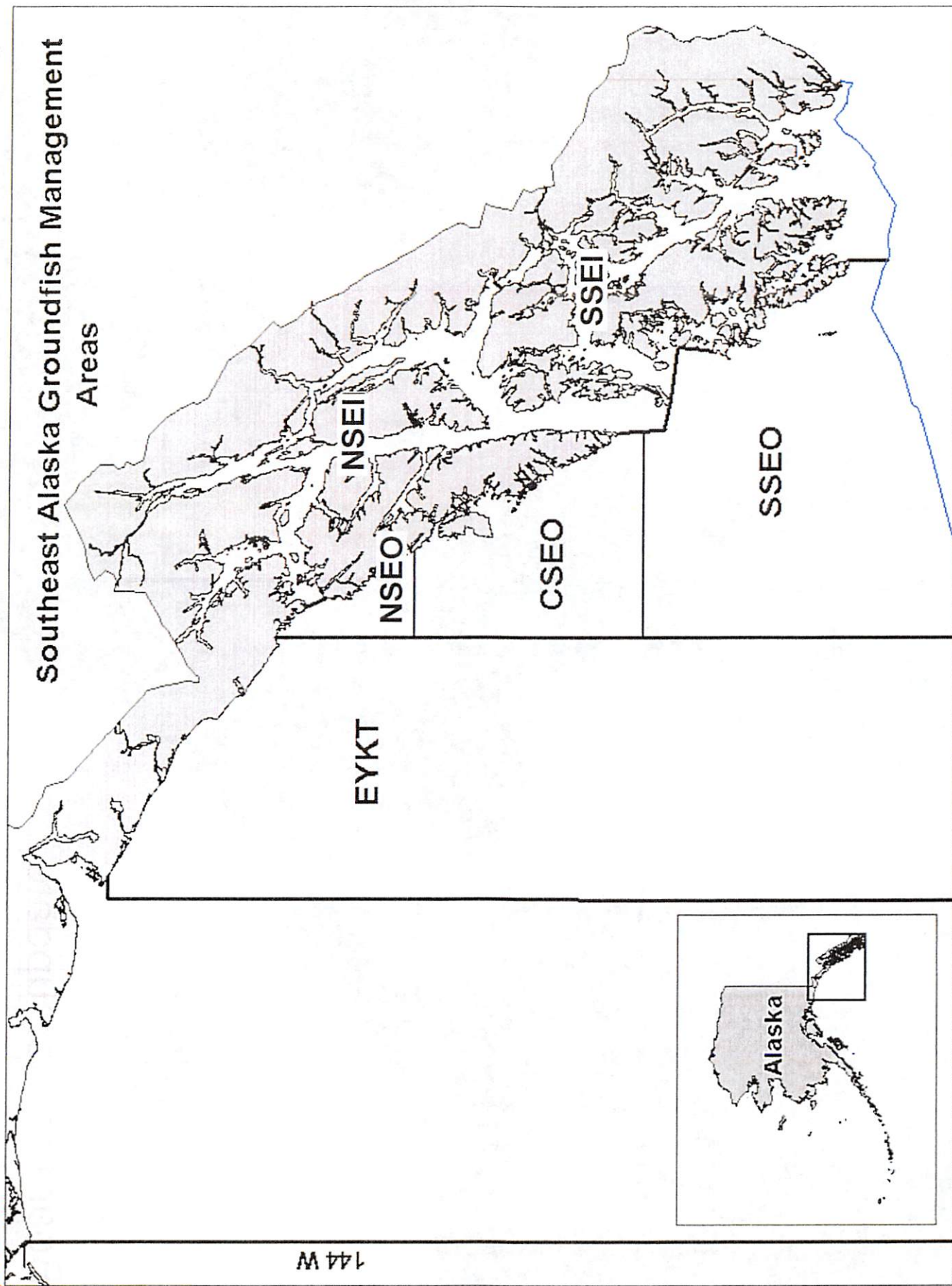
Open to jig, hand troll, and pots seven days after the close of the WGOA inshore fishery.

GHL is calculated as 25% of the ABC for the Western Gulf of Alaska Area.

2010 GHL is 15.25 million pounds with 85% targeted by pot gear. A 58-foot vessel length limit is in effect.



Figure 10.





Board of Fish update

end

