



**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME**  
**REPORT TO THE NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT**  
**COUNCIL**  
**June 2007**

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

**Salmon Troll Fishery** (FIGURE 1)

The Southeast Alaska/Yakutat winter troll fishery for chinook salmon began October 1, 2006 and closed on April 30, 2007. The fishery is confined to waters east of the "winter boundary line" and includes waters of Yakutat Bay. The season's catch was approximately 47,000 chinook salmon. Price was the highest on record for the season, making this the most valuable winter fishery in history at \$4 million. The spring troll fishery opened on May 1 and runs through June 30. The spring fishery targets Alaska hatchery-produced chinook salmon, except for the Cross Sound fishery, which targets pink and chum salmon. Spring fisheries occur along chinook migration paths or near hatcheries and release sites. Each spring troll area is managed individually and fishing periods are opened in season, by emergency order. Weekly fishing time will be extended or reduced based on inseason

assessment of coded-wire tag (CWT) data and historic catch timing for each individual area. The summer troll season begins July 1 by regulation.

#### **Aleutian Islands Golden King Crab** (FIGURE 2)

The 2006/07 Area O (Aleutian Islands) commercial golden king crab fishery opened Tuesday, August 15, 2006 and closed on Tuesday, May 15, 2007 for Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ), Community Development Quota (CDQ) and the Adak Community Allocation (ACA) fisheries. A total allowable catch (TAC) of 5.7 million pounds is established for the golden king crab fishery. The TAC is apportioned east (3.0 million pounds) and west (2.7 million pounds) of 174° W Longitude.

The final IFQ catch was 2.6 million pounds in the East, and just over 2 million pounds in the West.

#### **Bering Sea Snow Crab** (FIGURE 3)

The 2006/07 snow crab total allowable catch (TAC) is 32.9 million pounds for the IFQ fleet and about 3.66 million pounds for CDQ fishermen.

The 2006/07 Bering Sea snow crab fishery opened October 15, 2006 and remained open through May 15, 2007 in the Eastern Subdistrict and through May 31, 2007 in the Western Subdistrict. Approximately 32.7 million pounds (99% of total IFQ TAC) of snow crab was harvested this season.

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

##### **Prince William Sound**

The Prince William Sound state managed Pacific cod season opened on March 6, 2007, which was seven days after the close of the federal fishery. The GHL had been set at 910,730 pounds, which was calculated as 10 percent of the federal Eastern Gulf ABC. Only one pot fisherman is participating at this time and the catch is therefore confidential.

## **Cook Inlet**

The Cook Inlet state managed Pacific cod season opened on February 28, 2007, which was 24 hours after the close of the federal fishery. The GHL had been set at 3,131,088 pounds. That GHL is calculated as 3.75 percent of the Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) for the federal Central Gulf of Alaska area. To date 14 pot vessels have made 109 landings totaling 1.33 million pounds of Pacific cod. That fishery closed by regulation on May 1, and will reopen on June 15.

## **Westward Region Pacific Cod (FIGURE 5)**

### **Kodiak Pacific Cod (FIGURE 6)**

For the Kodiak area, the GHL is 10.43 million pounds, which is 12.5 percent of the Central Gulf of Alaska ABC. The GHL is allocated 50 percent to mechanical jig and hand troll gears and 50 percent to pot gear. The fishery opened on March 6, 2007, which was 7 days after the close of the federal fishery. The pot fishery closed on April 8, 2007 (we were within 1% of the GHL). The jig gear fishery started very slowly, likely due to poor weather. During the early part of the season, Kodiak had high winds and freezing conditions. Harvest has increased, and the recent harvest was higher than any single week last year and comparable to past years when the jig quota was reached. However, total jig harvest remains under 1 million pounds at this time.

### **Chignik Pacific Cod (FIGURE 7)**

The Chignik area Pacific cod season opened by regulation on March 1, 2007. The GHL is 7.3 million pounds, which is calculated as 8.75 percent of the Central Gulf of Alaska ABC. The GHL is split to allow pot fishermen 90 percent of the quota. Ten pot vessels are currently registered to participate. At this time, the harvest is about 700 thousand pounds below the GHL, and most effort has stopped because Sand Point has stopped tendering service. Jig effort was non-existent this season.

### **South Alaska Peninsula Pacific Cod** (FIGURE 8)

The GHL is 14.8 million pounds, which is 25 percent of the Western Gulf of Alaska ABC. The harvest is allocated 85 percent to pot gear and 15 percent to jig gear. This fishery opened on March 15, 2007, which was 7 days after the closure of the federal fishery in the western Gulf. The fishery closed to the use of pot gear on April 17. The new Board of Fisheries requirement for call-out reporting appears to have greatly improved the department's ability for improved management as we were within 1% of the GHL. Approximately 10 vessels fished the south side of Unalaska Island this year. In previous years, all effort was concentrated around Sanak, Pankof and the Shumagin Islands. Harvest with jig gear was slow at the start of the season, again, similar to Kodiak because of brutal weather. There has been some recent activity but effort remains low.

### **Aleutian Islands Pacific Cod** (FIGURE 9)

The state-waters B season Pacific cod fishery in the Aleutian Islands District west of 170° W long. will open at 12:00 p.m. June 10, 2007. The remaining portion of the 2007 state-waters guideline harvest level (GHL) is 3,410,357 pounds. During the March 2007 state-waters Pacific cod season, 8,229,931 pounds or 70.7% of the GHL was harvested. The GHL for A season was exceeded by 81,729 pounds and that overage will be deducted from the B season GHL.

The state-waters fishery is open to jig and longline vessels 58 feet or less in overall length (OAL) and pot vessels not greater than 125 feet OAL. Vessels using non-pelagic trawl gear may not exceed 100 feet OAL.

All vessel operators, including tender operators, must register with ADF&G prior to participating in the state-waters fishery. Vessels operators previously registered for the parallel groundfish fishery must complete a specific registration for this state-waters fishery.

Each vessel operator registered for the fishery will be required to report harvest information to the department each day.

All Steller sea lion closures that are in effect during the parallel fishery will also apply in the state-waters fishery as will the Aleutian Islands coral garden protection area and Aleutian Islands habitat conservation area closures.

Bycatch limits that apply in the parallel groundfish fishery will apply in the state-waters fishery.

**Southeast Groundfish** (FIGURE 10)

The directed lingcod fishery, as well as ling retention in the troll fishery, opened May 16. There are approximately five dinglebar boats on the Fairweather grounds. The fishery closed the week of May 21, after landing about 98,000 pounds.

There have been no closures from lingcod longline bycatch, but less than 25,000 pounds remains to be taken in the Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) and Northern Southeast Outside (NSEO) areas. Updated catch can be found on at <http://www.cf.adfg.state.ak.us/region1/finfish/grndfish/grndhom1.php>

The department completed the Southern Southeast Inside (SSEI, or Clarence Strait) sablefish longline survey in early May. Catch Per Unit of Effort (CPUE) was similar to last year. The fishery opened June 1 for longline permit holders, with 21,750 pounds available to each of the 28 permit holders.

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND  
GAME  
REPORT TO THE NPFMC  
Agenda Item B-5**



**June 2007**

Figure 1.

### 2007 SE AK Winter Troll Chinook Salmon

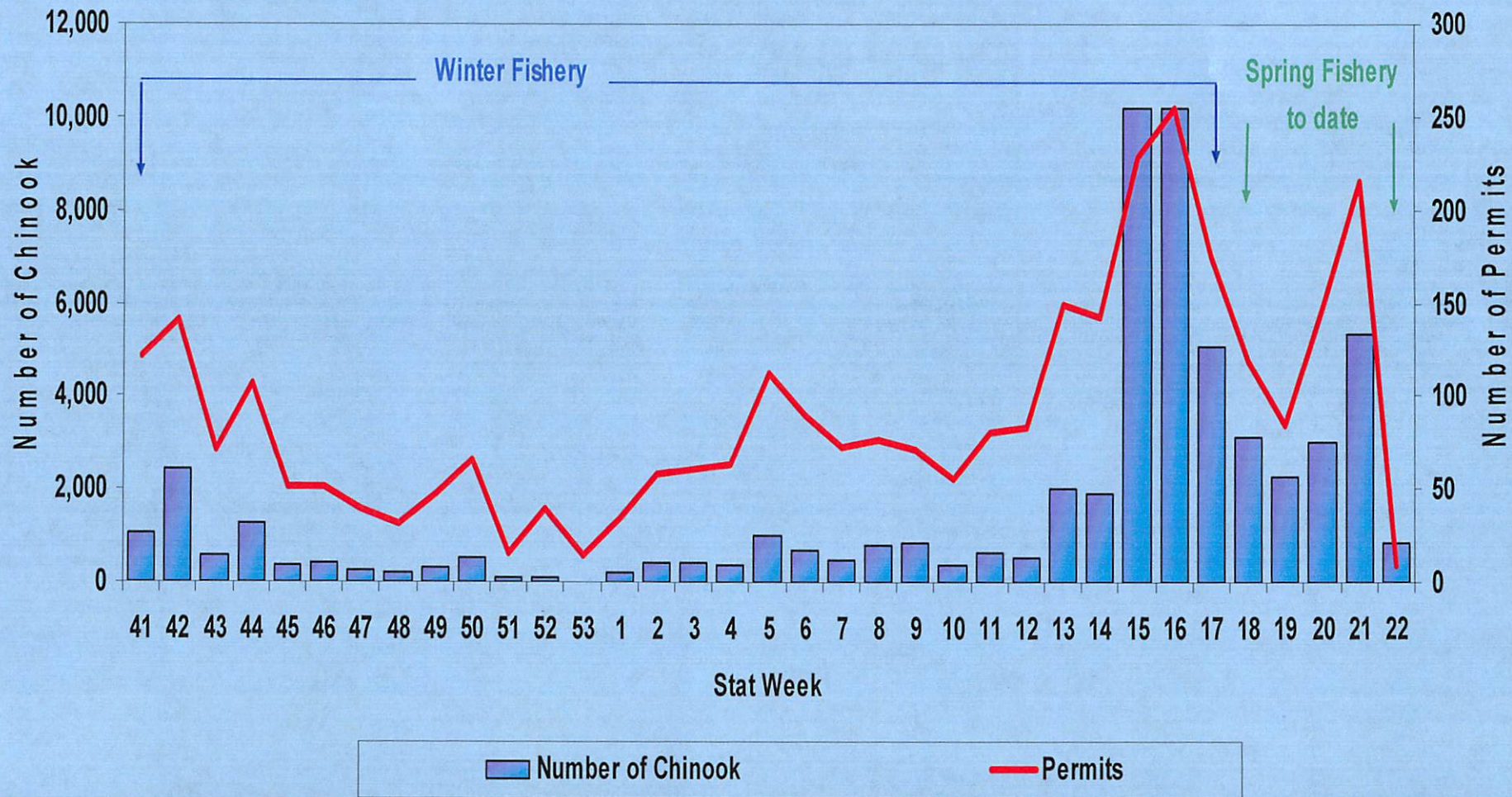


Figure 2.

# Aleutian Islands Golden King Crab

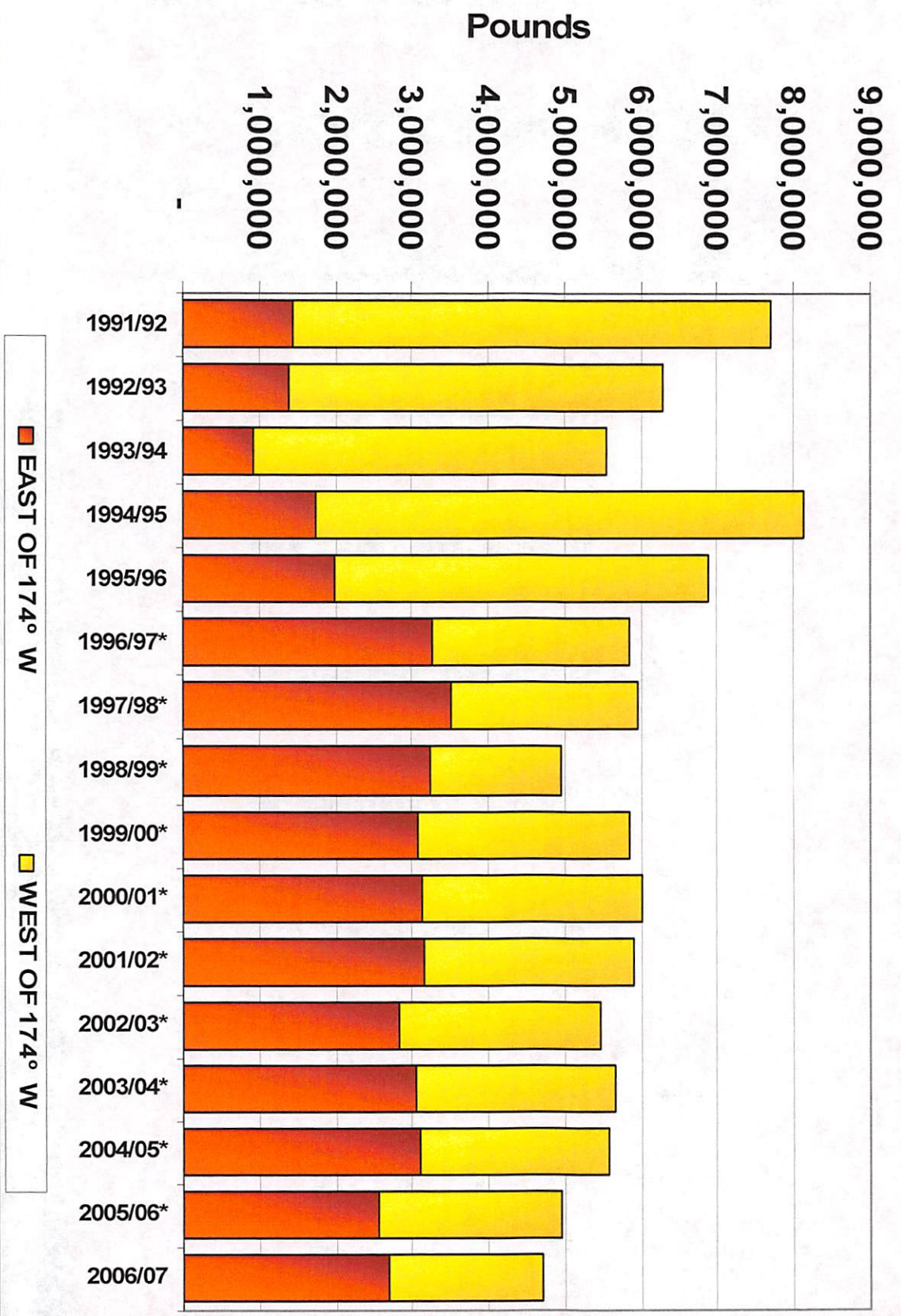
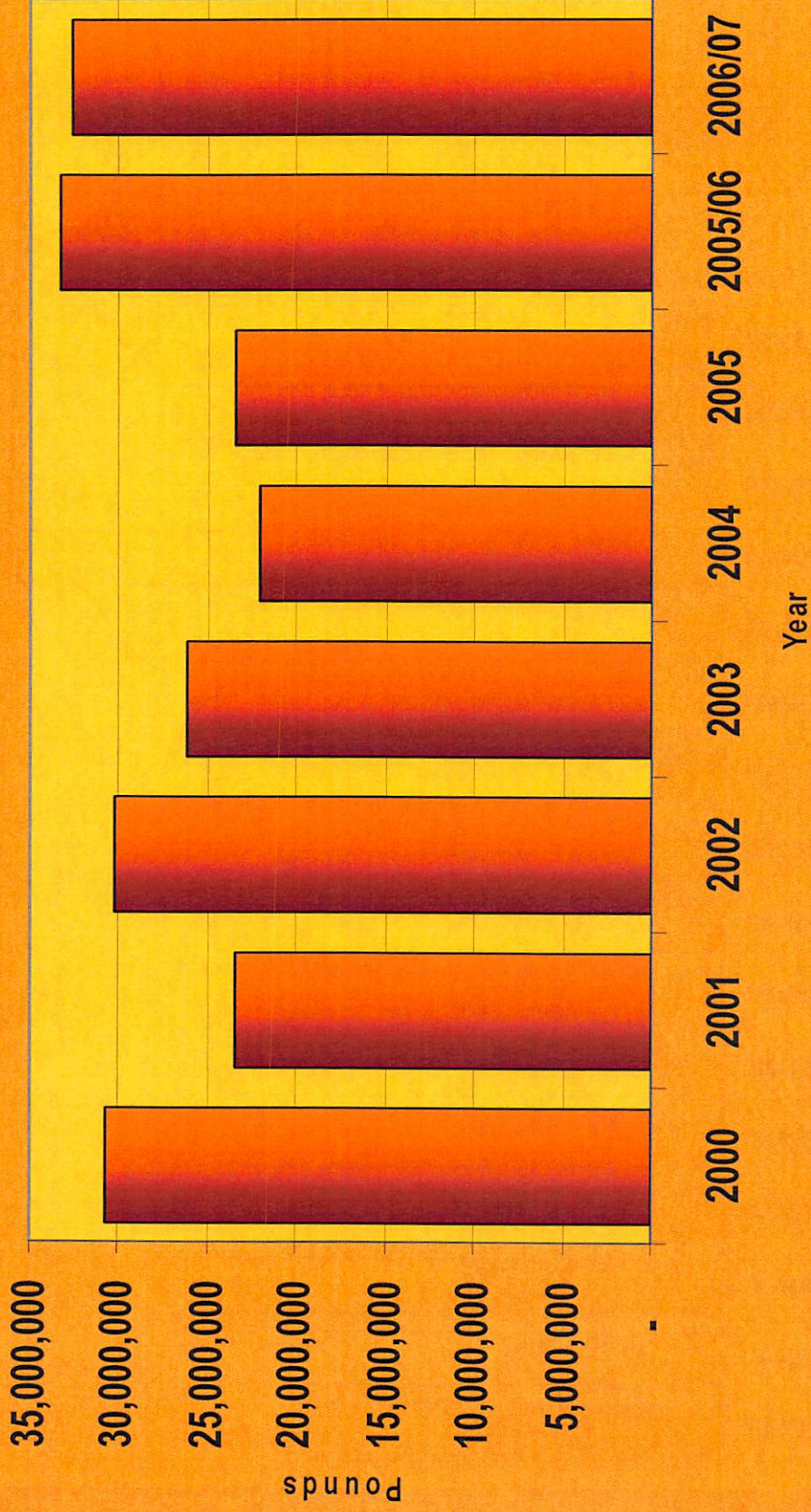




Figure 3a.

### Snow Crab Harvest, 2000-2006/07



**Figure 4. 2007 harvest guideline, effort, and catch reported for state water fisheries through May 25**

**This summary censored for CONFIDENTIAL reports or records.**

**PARALLEL SEASON - STATE WATERS**

**Pacific Cod**

Gear	Cook Inlet Management Area			Prince William Sound		
	Vessels	Landings	Pounds	Vessels	Landings	Pounds
Hand troll	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jigs	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trawl	0	0	0	1	<i>confidential</i>	<i>confidential</i>
Longline	6	40	177,283	12	19	14,779
Pots	7	72	284,972	1	<i>confidential</i>	<i>confidential</i>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>462,255</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>14,779</b>
Status	Bycatch			Bycatch		
Federal seasons: Central Gulf	Directed Opened - Closed Jan 1 - noon Feb 27			Directed Opened - Closed Jan 1 - noon Feb 27		

Parallel season concurrent with federal waters of the Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA). Totals include Pacific Cod bycatch to other directed fisheries e.g. halibut & sablefish.

**Pacific Cod**

**\*STATE MANAGED - STATE WATERS**

GHL (lb)	Cook Inlet Management Area			Prince William Sound		
	Vessels	Landings	Pounds	Vessels	Landings	Pounds
		<b>3,131,088</b>			<b>910,730</b>	
<b>Gear</b>	<b>Vessels</b>	<b>Landings</b>	<b>Pounds</b>	<b>Vessels</b>	<b>Landings</b>	<b>Pounds</b>
<b>Jigs</b> 782,772	3	<i>confidential</i>	<i>confidential</i>	0	0	0
Pots < 58'	9	90	690,000	0	0	0
Pots > 58' 782,772	5	23	711,653	2	<i>confidential</i>	<i>confidential</i>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>1,404,747</b>	<b>2</b>	<i>confidential</i>	<i>confidential</i>
State seasons:		Opened - Closed			Opened - Closed	
State seasons:		noon Feb 28 -			noon March 6 -	
<b>Jigs</b>		<b>Open</b>			<b>Open</b>	
*Status		Opened - Closed			Opened - Closed	
<b>Pots</b>		noon Feb 28 - noon May 1			noon March 6 -	
*Status		<b>Closed</b>			<b>Open</b>	

\*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. Includes only directed fishery harvest.

***Gear and vessel length restrictions are not in effect after Sept 1.***



Figure 5.

2007 STATE MANAGED GROUND FISH

UPDATED: 5/29/07

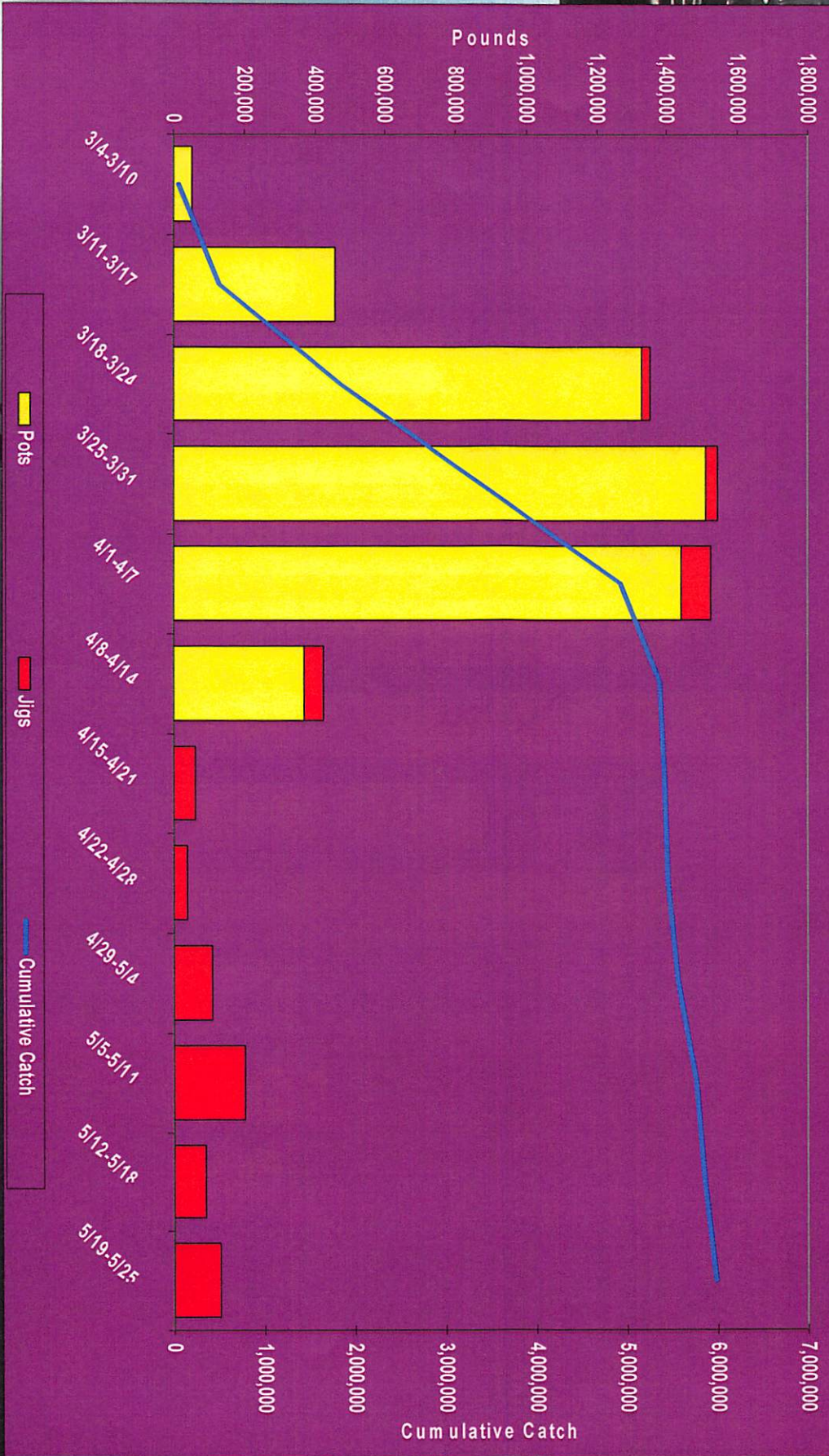
PRELIMINARY PACIFIC COD HARVEST BY FISHERY WEEK

KODIAK					CHIGNIK				SOUTH ALASKA PENINSULA					
Vessel Registration	Total	Pot	Jig		Total	Pot	Jig		Total	Pot	Jig			
Current	96	35	61		19	16	3		65	47	18			
Overall	96	35	61		19	16	3		65	47	18			
<b>2007 GHJL</b>					<b>7.30 Million Pounds</b>				<b>14.80 Million Pounds</b>					
ALLOCATIONS: 50% Jigs, 50% Pots					90% Pots, 10% Jigs				85% Pots, 15% Jigs					
Pots >58' restricted to 25% of total GHJL before Sept. 1.					Pots = 6.57 million Jigs = .73 million				Pots = 12.58 million Jigs = 2.22 million					
Jigs = 5.21 million, Pots = 5.21 million, >58' pots 2.60 before Sept.1														
DATES:	Pots		Jigs		Pots		Jigs		Pots		Jigs			
	Landings	Catch	Landings	Catch	Landings	Catch	Landings	Catch	Landings	Catch	Landings	Catch		
Fishery opens 3/6/07 at 12 Noon														
2/25-3/3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
3/4-3/10	4	51,419	0	0	7	173,076	0	0	0	0	0	0		
3/11-3/17	26	460,164	0	0	7	247,104	0	0	Confidential	Confidential	0	0		
3/18-3/24	48	1,330,088	12	20,676	12	192,763	0	0	69	2,223,157	0	0		
3/25-3/31	44	1,508,826	15	36,285	26	833,541	0	0	87	3,375,036	Confidential	Confidential		
4/1-4/7	47	1,438,412	25	84,250	14	512,627	0	0	101	3,144,383	Confidential	Confidential		
4/8-4/14	13	368,636	25	57,558	34	971,435	0	0	100	2,727,644	Confidential	Confidential		
4/15-4/21	Closed 4/8	Closed 4/8	29	58,537	28	861,135	0	0	47	876,149	Confidential	Confidential		
4/22-4/28	-	-	16	35,641	34	706,385	0	0	Closed 4/17	Closed 4/17	0	0		
4/29-5/4	-	-	34	106,531	26	473,871	0	0	-	-	Confidential	Confidential		
5/5-5/11	-	-	53	201,011	32	451,780	0	0	-	-	7	40,857		
5/12-5/18	-	-	33	89,295	16	199,022	0	0	-	-	5	16,217		
5/19-5/25	-	-	35	132,723	Confidential	Confidential	0	0	-	-	5	9,168		
ACCUMULATIVE	182	5,157,545	277	822,507	236	5,622,739	0	0	404	12,346,369	17	66,242		
CATCH	(Total combined)			5,980,052	(Total combined)				5,622,739	(Total combined)				12,412,611

Centered where fewer than 4 boats participating. Totals DO NOT INCLUDE vessel's catches.

Figure 6.

### 2007 Kodiak State Waters Pcod Harvest



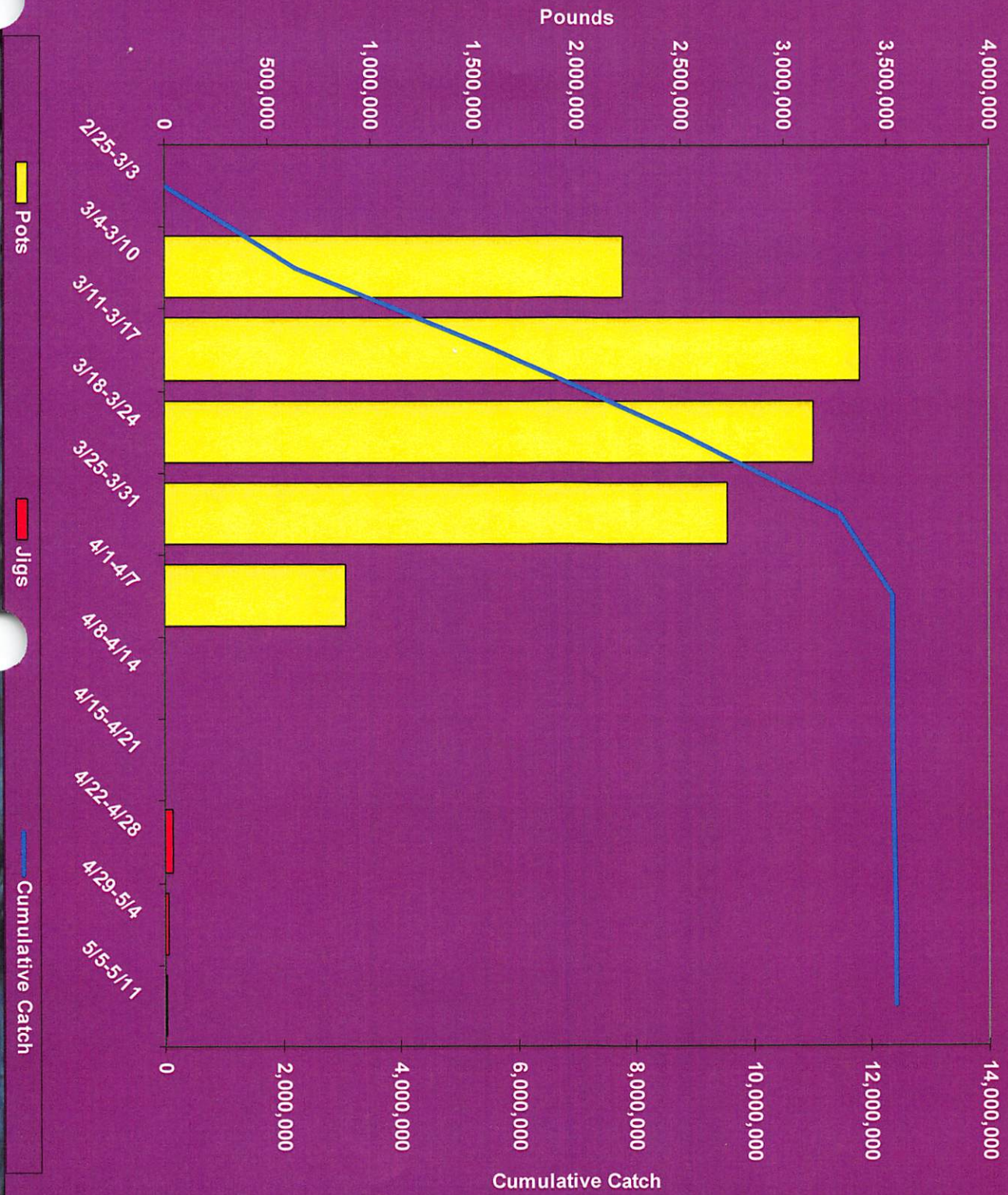
# 2007 Chignik State Waters Pcod Harvest

Figure 7.



Figure 8.

### 2007 S AK Pen State Waters Pcod Harvest



# **Aleutian Islands State Waters Pacific Cod**

**West of 170° W longitude**

**Open to jig and longline vessels 58 feet or less LOA, Pot vessels not greater than 125 feet LOA, and non-pelagic trawlers 100 feet or less, LOA.**

**“A” season (March 16-23)**

**27 vessels harvested 8.23 Million pounds**

**7% over GHL, which will be deducted from the “B” season, which opens June 10**

**3.4 Million pounds remains to be harvested**

**ALL SSL/CORAL GARDEN CLOSURES IN EFFECT DURING THE PARALLEL SEASON WILL ALSO APPLY**

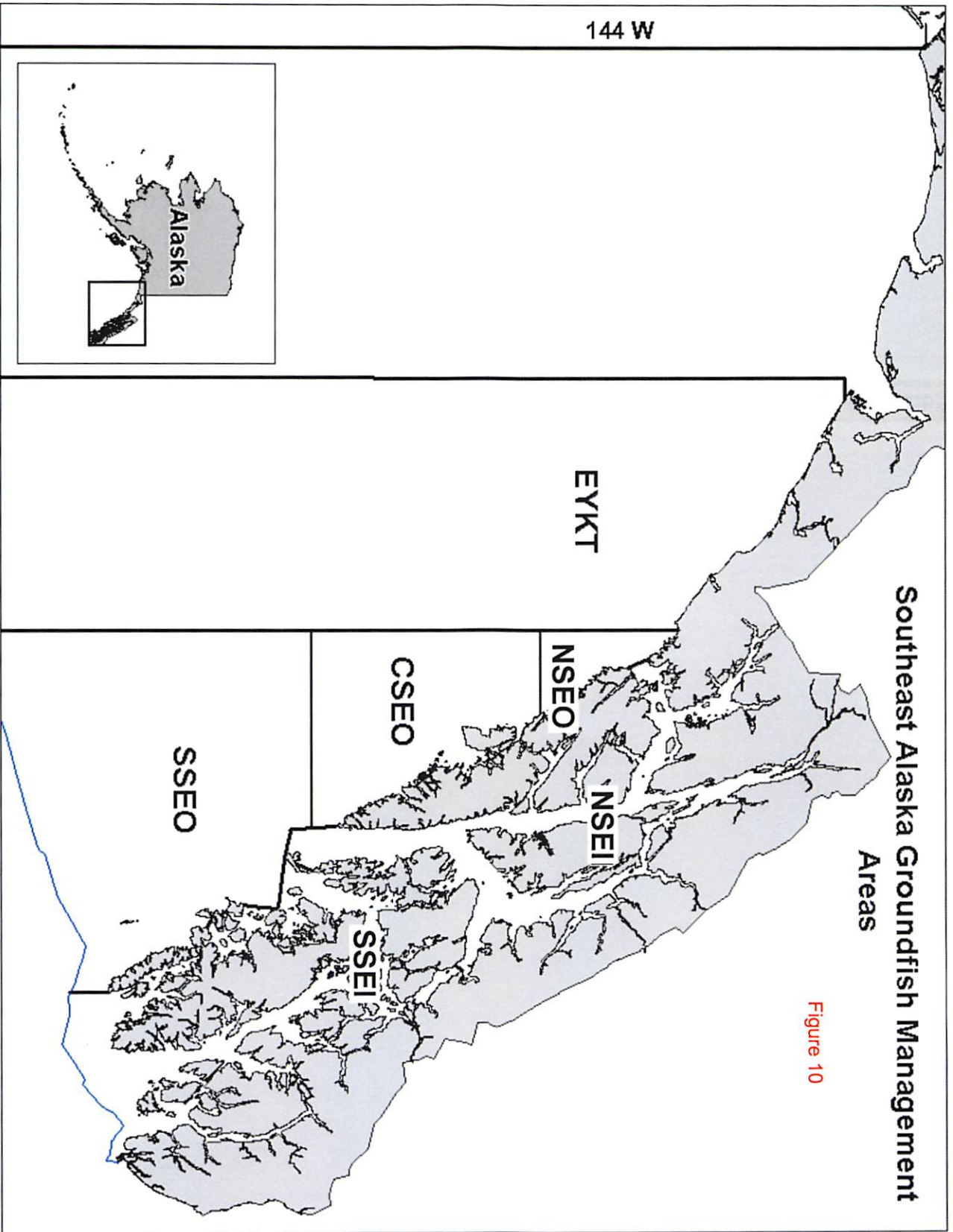


Figure 10