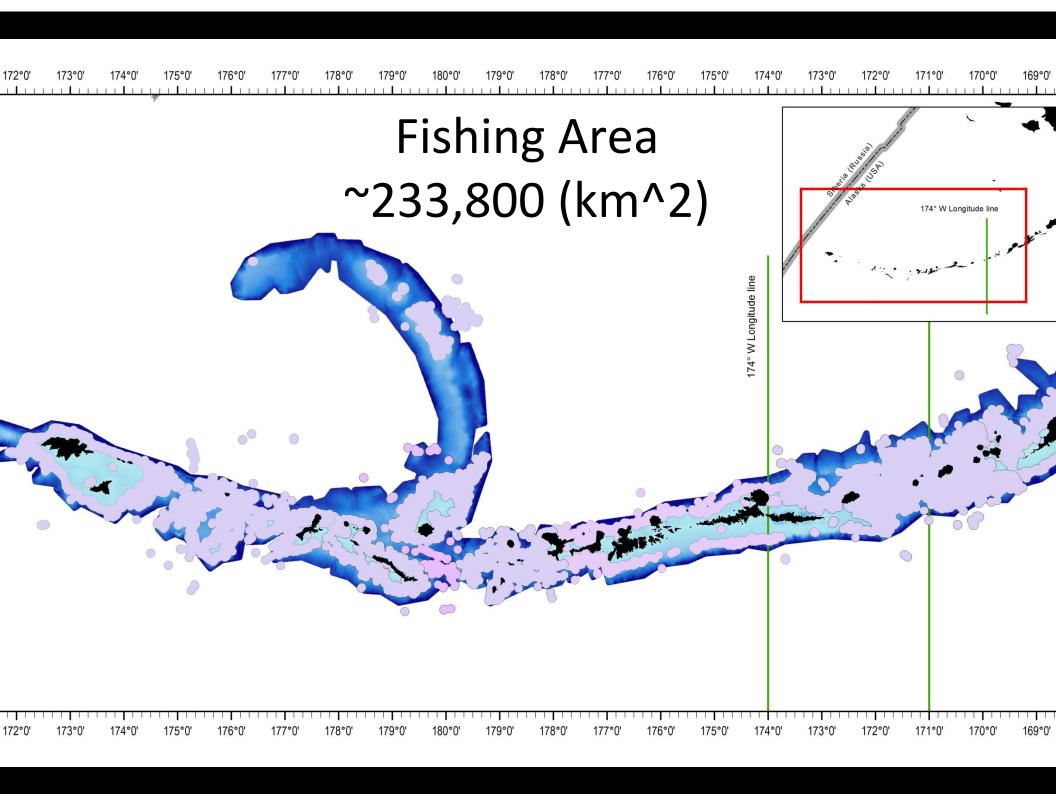


#### Aleutian Island GKC

```
"Stock Assessment" based on average historical catch
      (~6 million lbs): Tier 5 (lowest)
Triennial Survey, Fishery observer data
      Not consistent, potentially biased
Population model using observer data
      Potential bias due to observer data
Can we Design a Cooperative survey?
      (Consistent and unbiased survey)
```



## What's the problem?

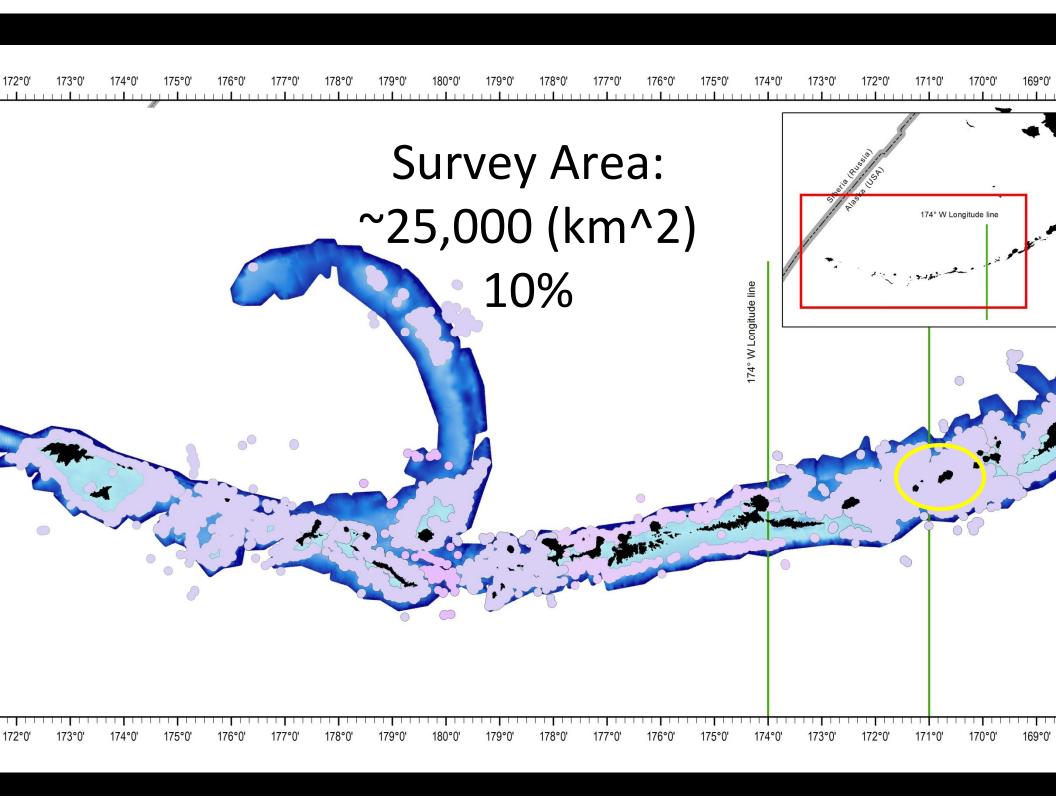
#### Area

Sampling design

Spatial extent

Accuracy/Precision

**Cost Effective** 



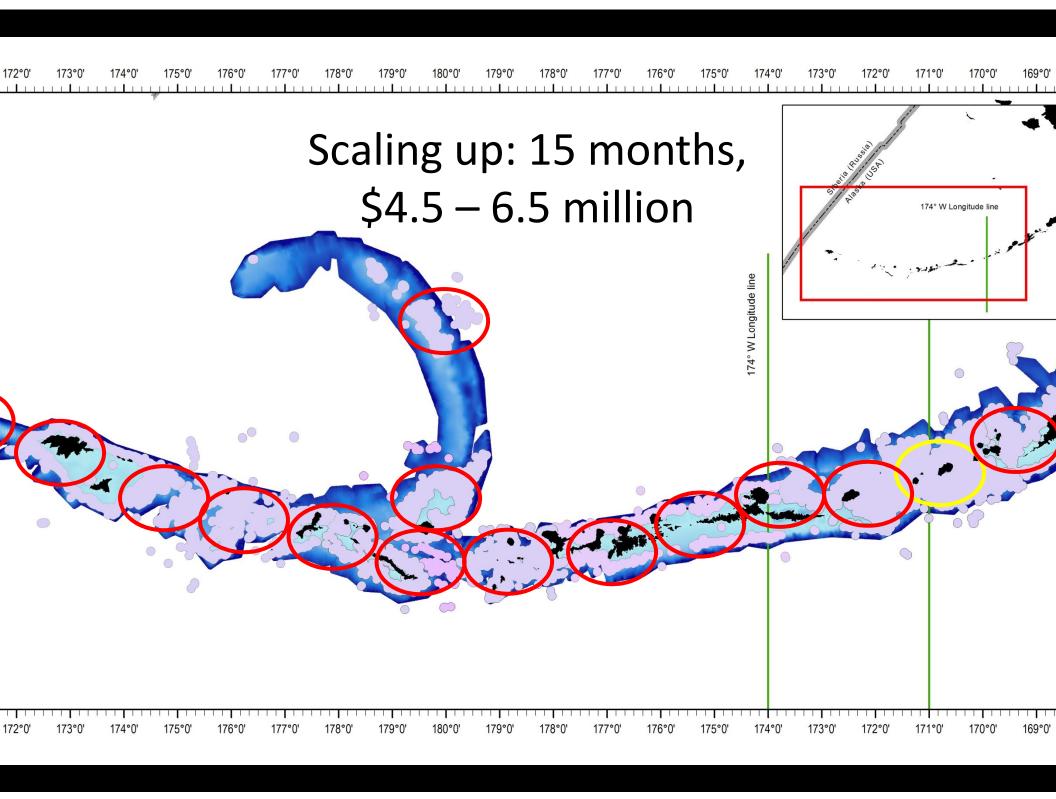
### ADF&G Triennial Survey

```
Cost:
```

```
5 FB II (salary/seaduty/benefits) for 28days
30K/person = 150K
(150 biologist days)
```

Vessel charter: wanted 10K/day = 280K

Total Cost: ~430K

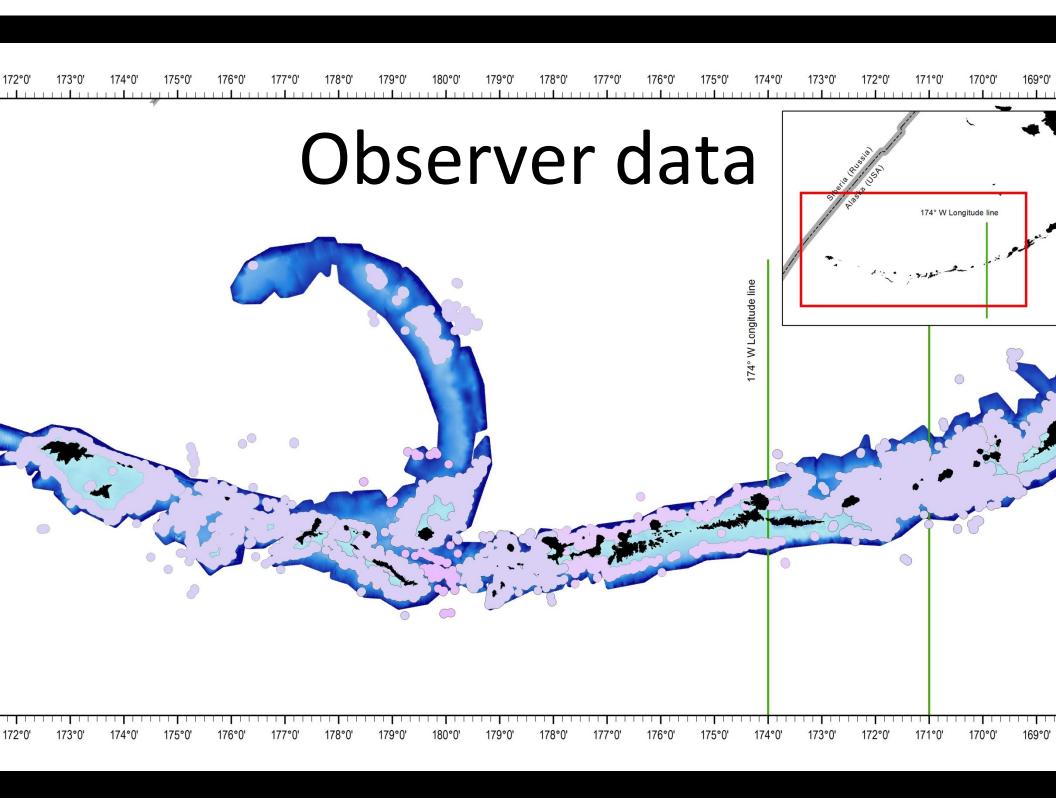


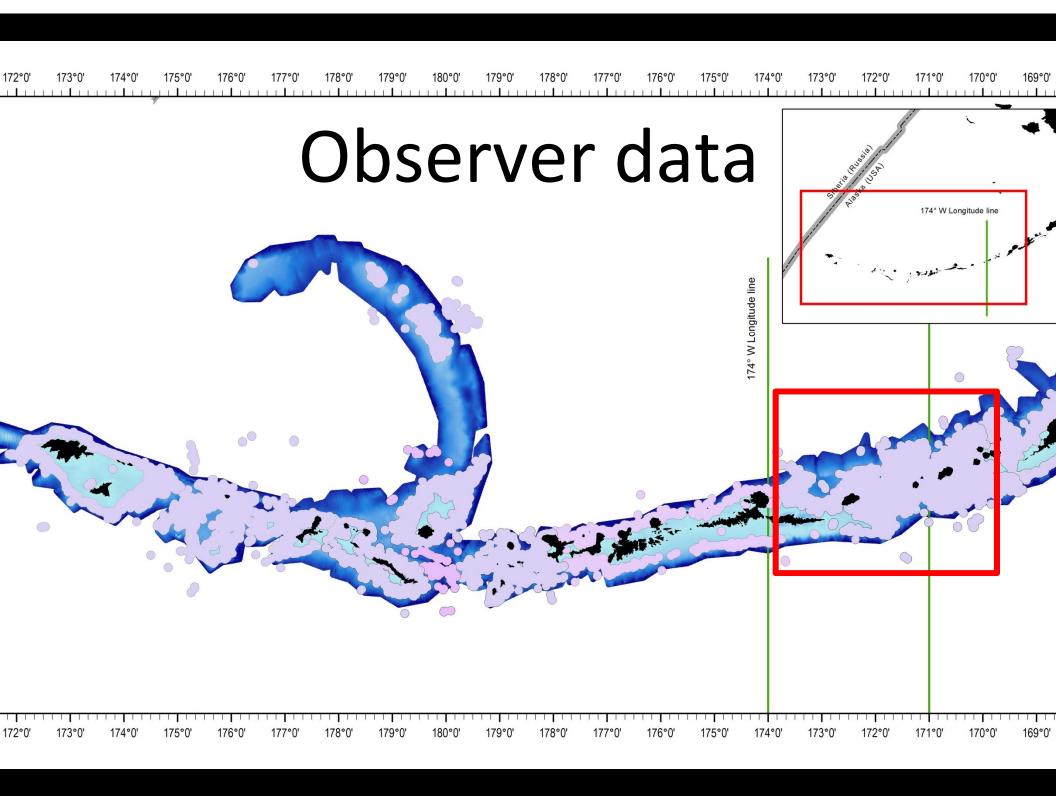
#### Cost due to area too great

So use next best (only) thing for index of abundance: Fishery observer data

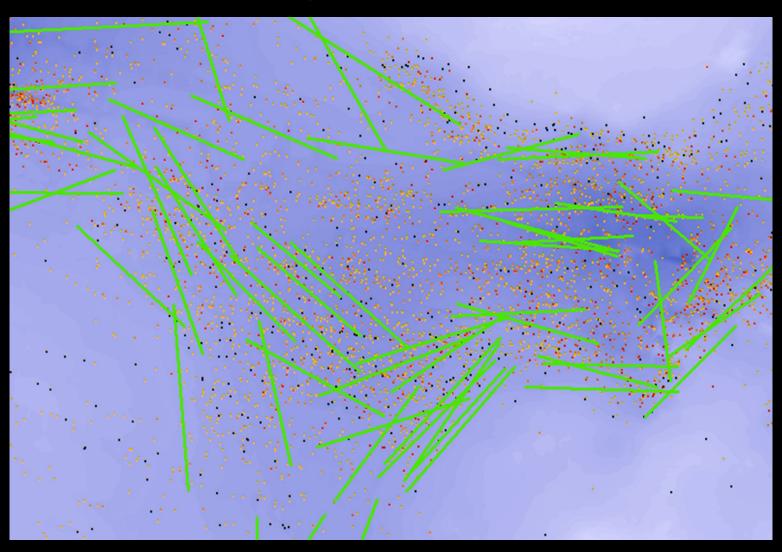
#### Observer data

Fishery Dependent
Fishing "hotspots"
hyper-stability / independence
Variable gear, skipper, bait, etc
Standardized CPUE
Best with what we have



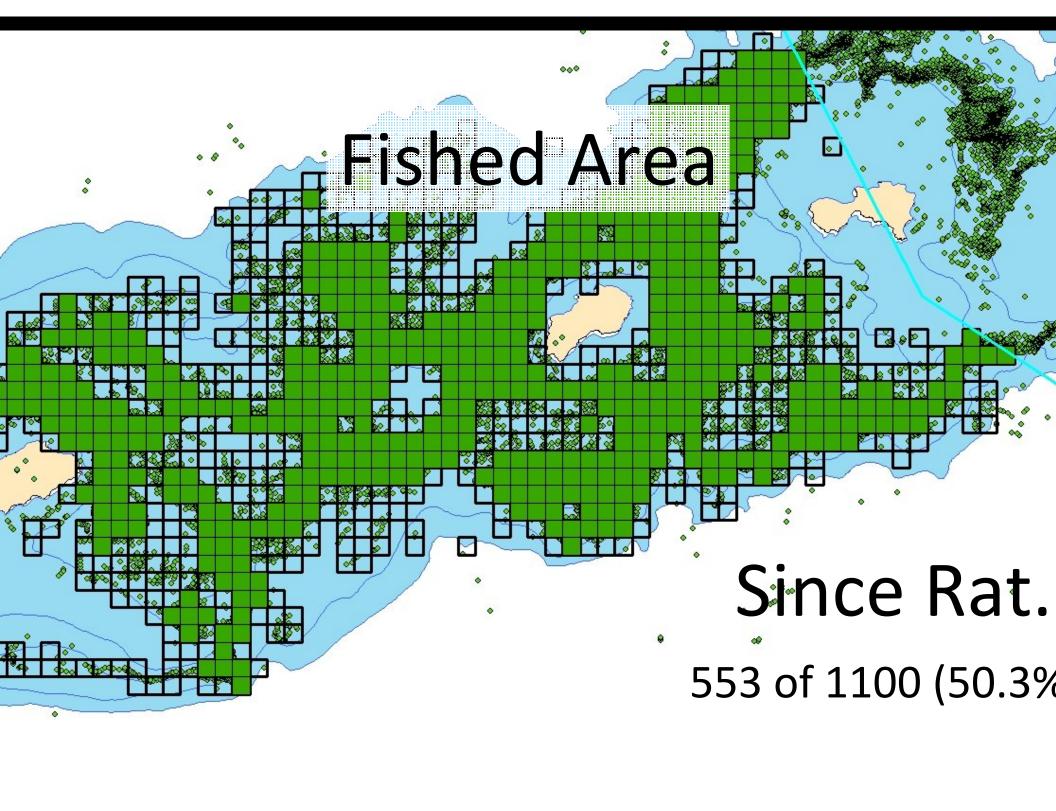


# String locations



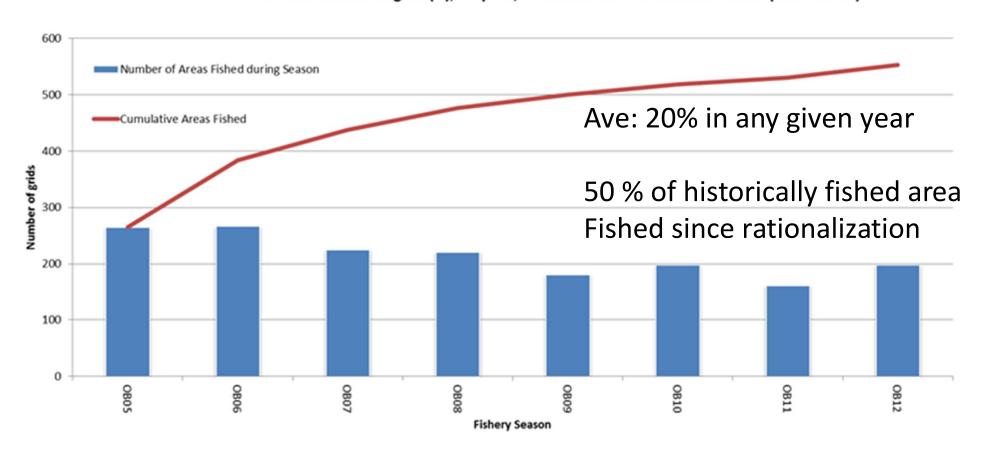
High ove Confirm Non-ind

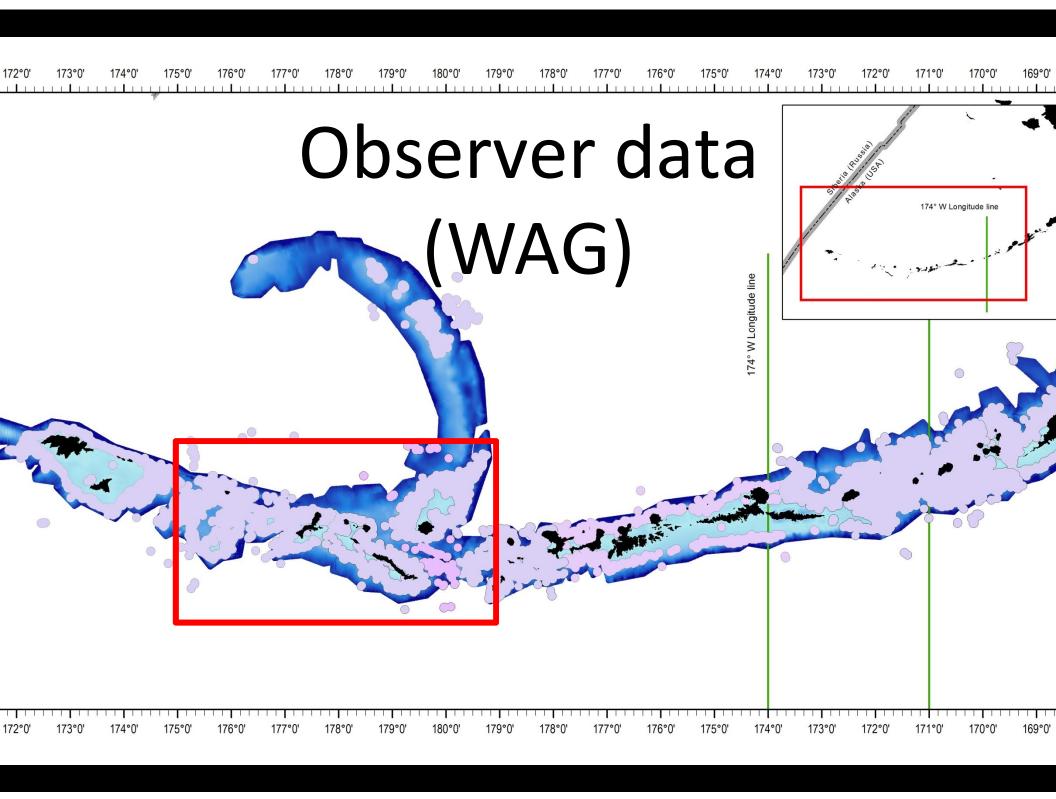
n ≠ 400 CVs bias

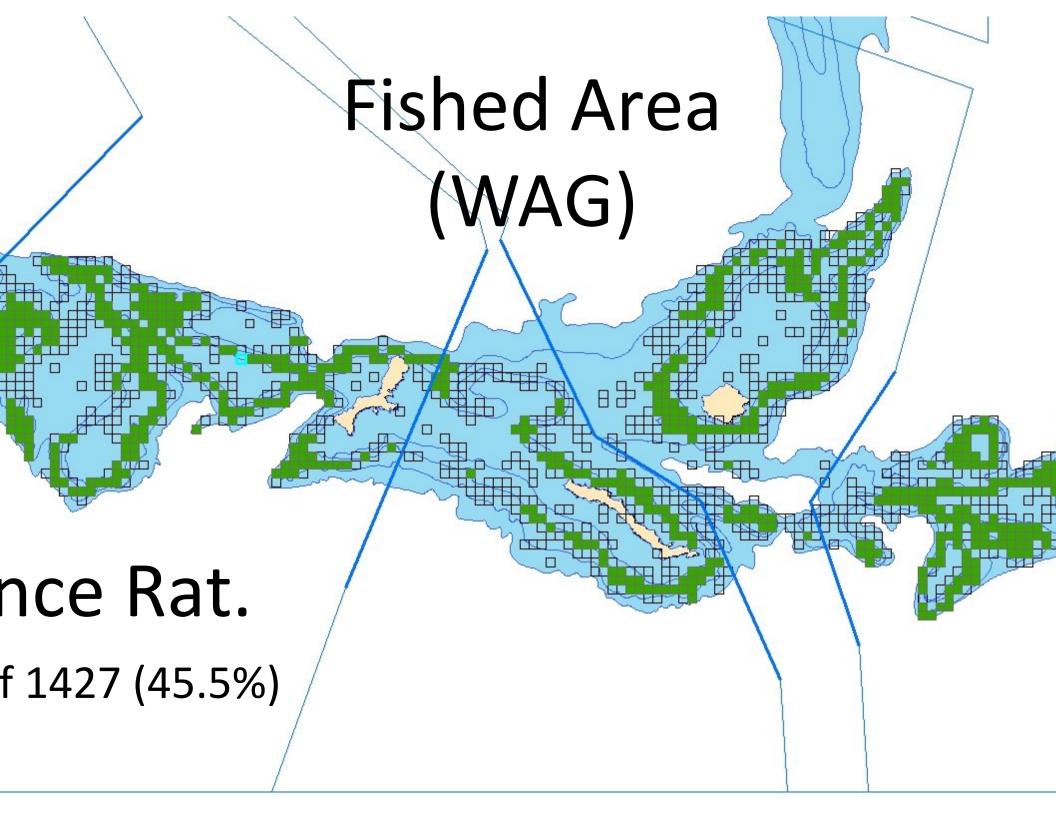


#### Fished Area

AIGKC Eastern Region (H), >0 pots, >0 crab FINAL Selection: n = 1100 (1990-2012)

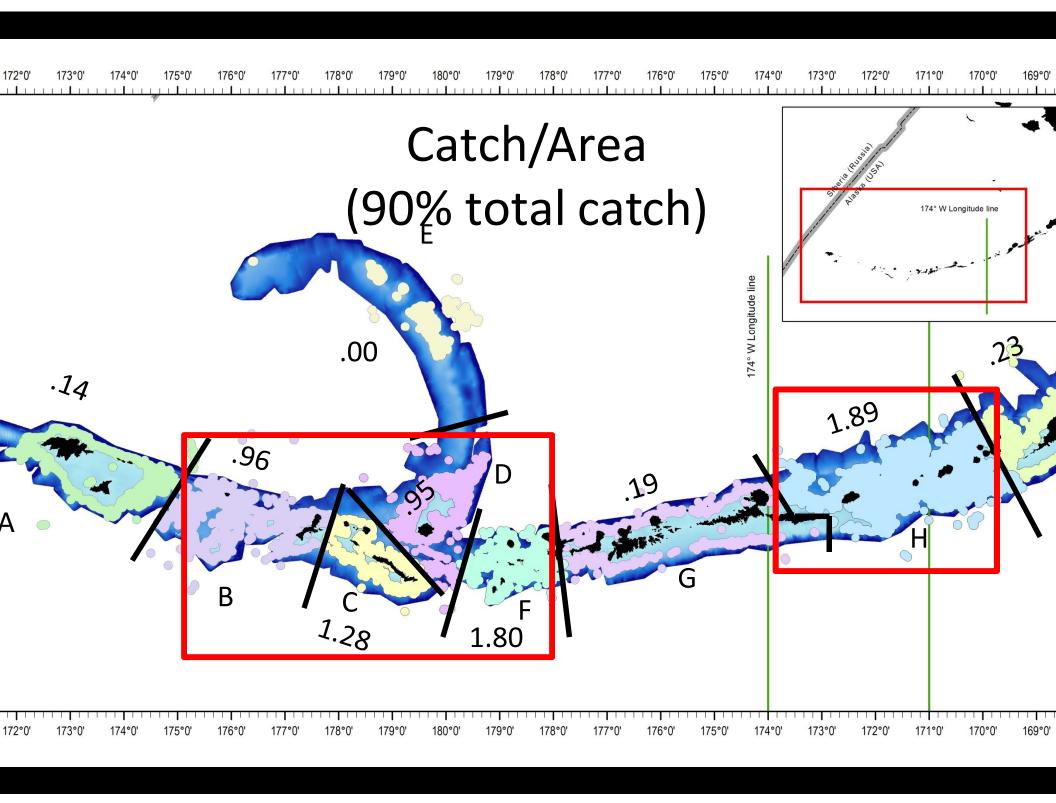


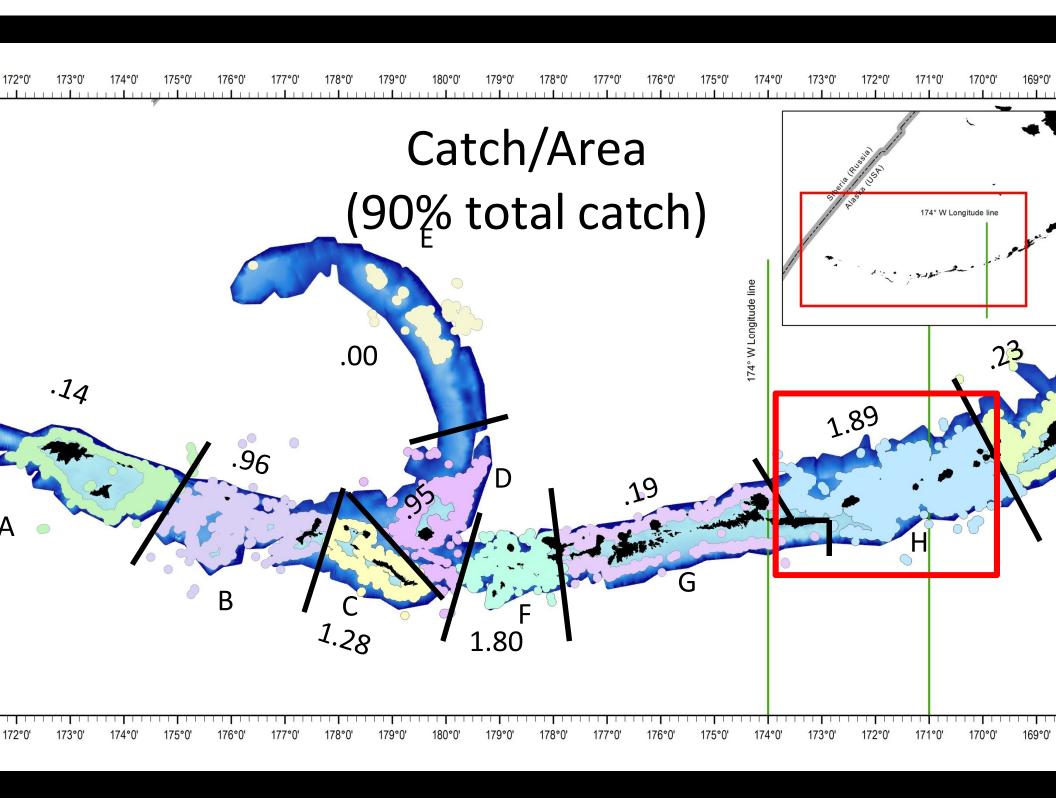


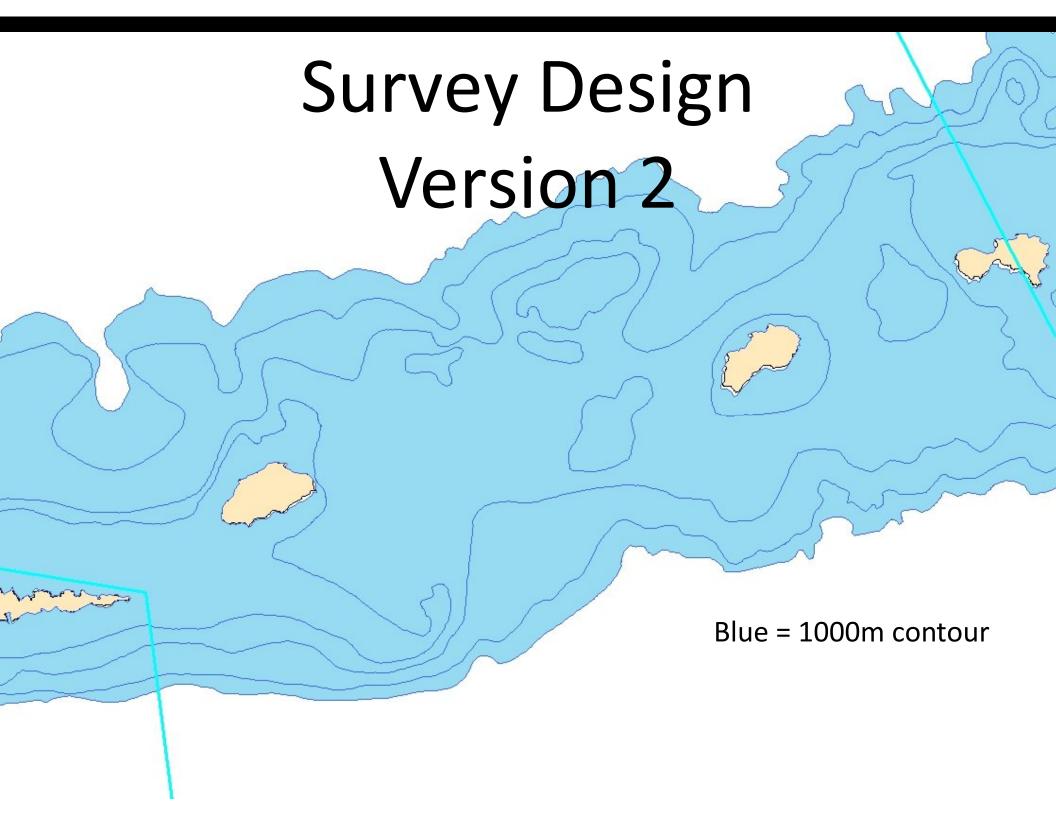


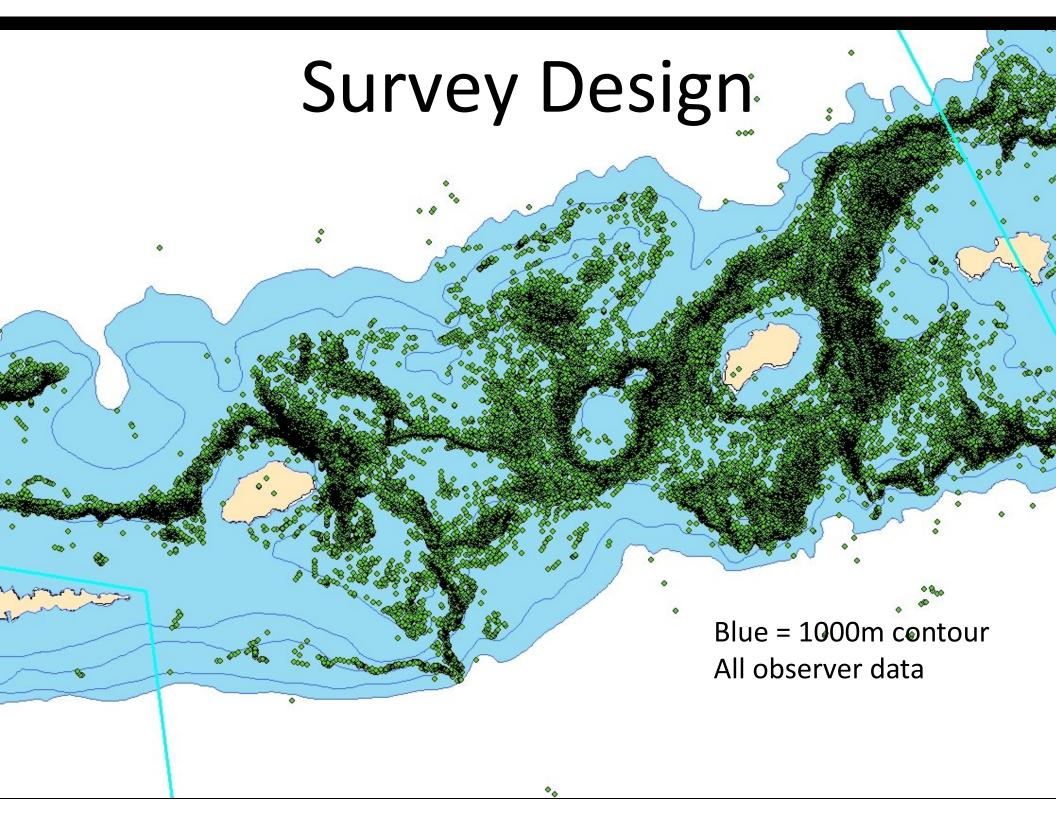
#### Cooperative Survey?

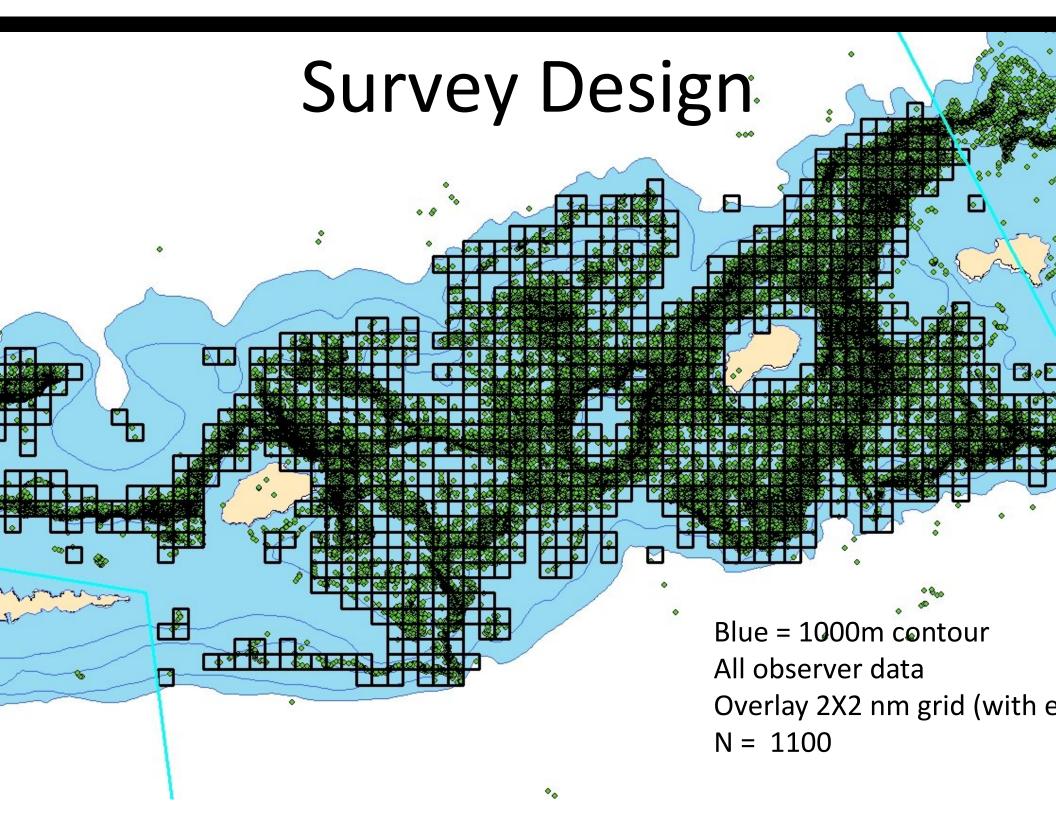
Improve spatial extent
Reduce potential for hyperstability
Provide consistent data long-term
Cost effective

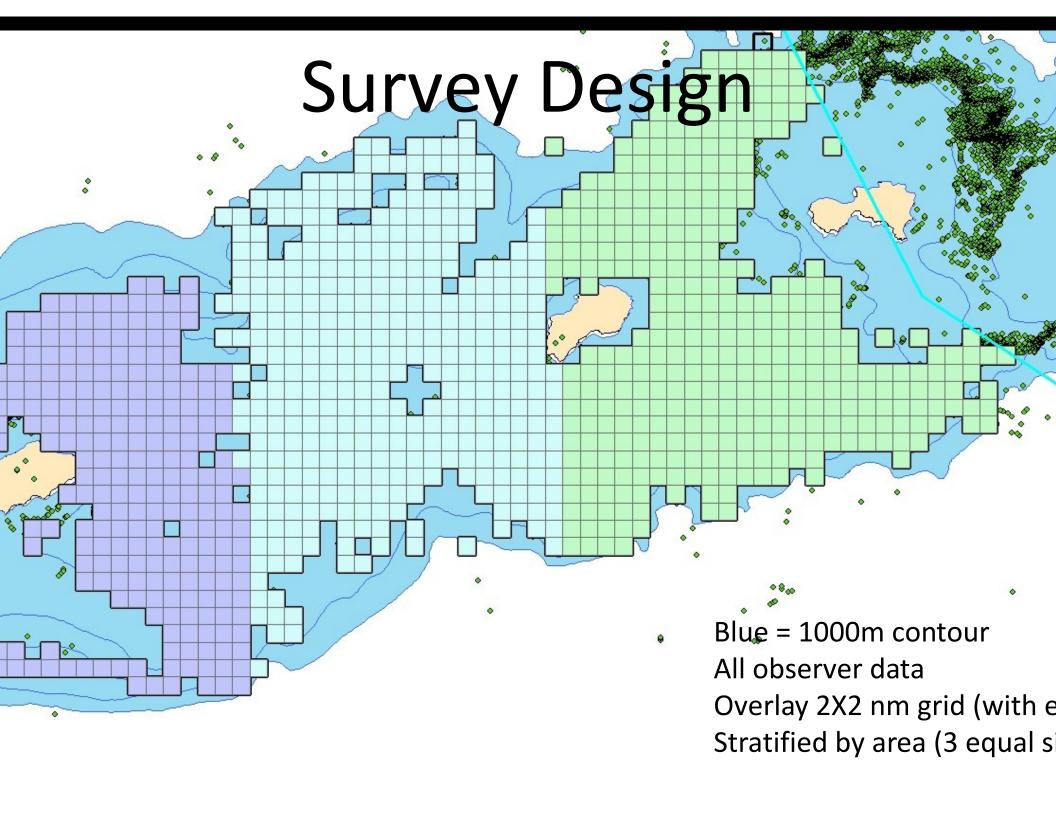


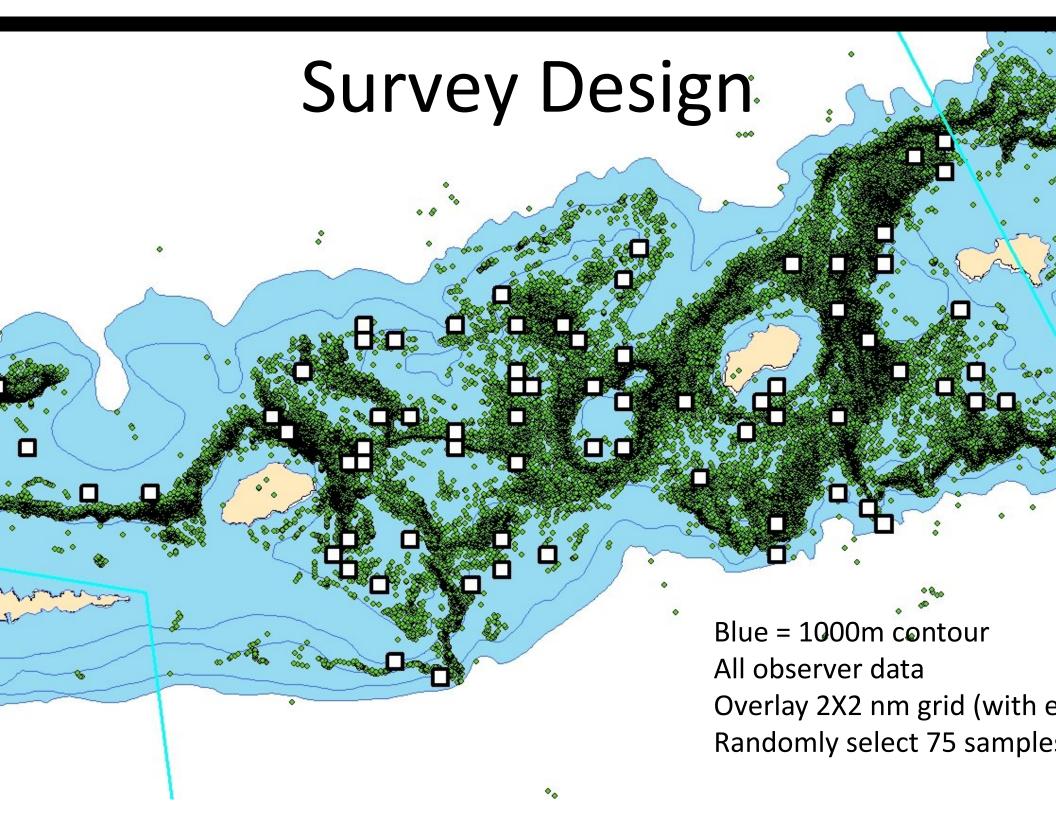










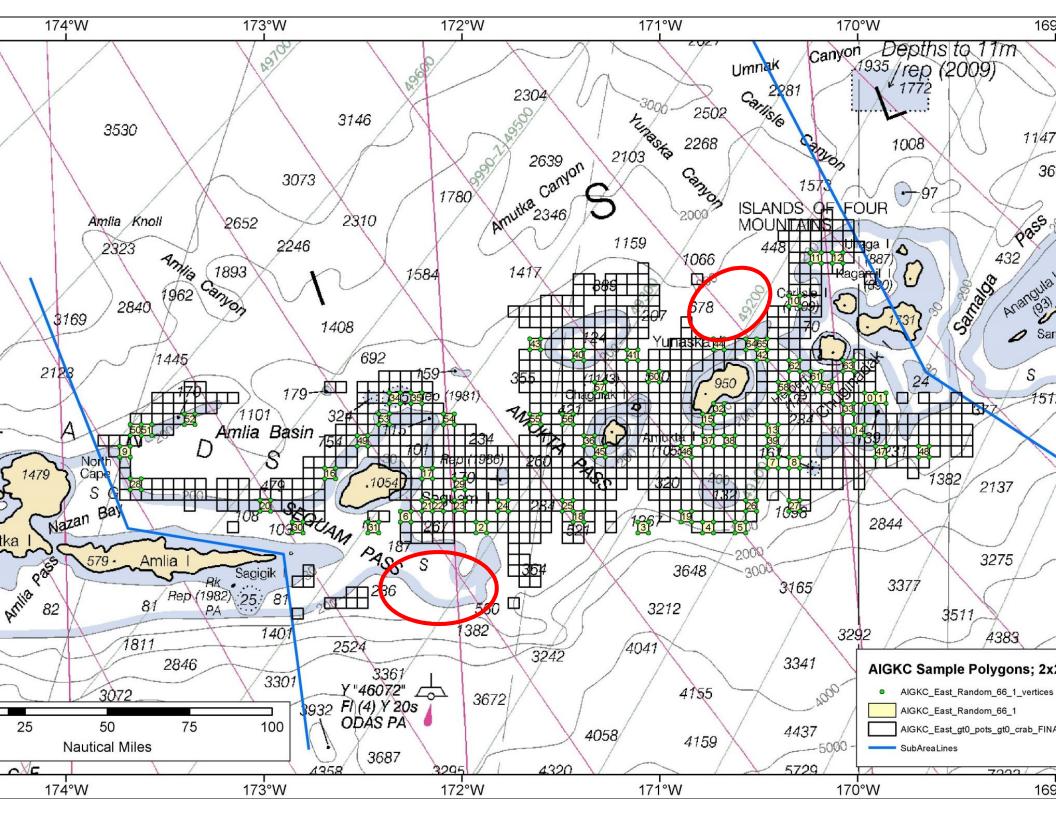


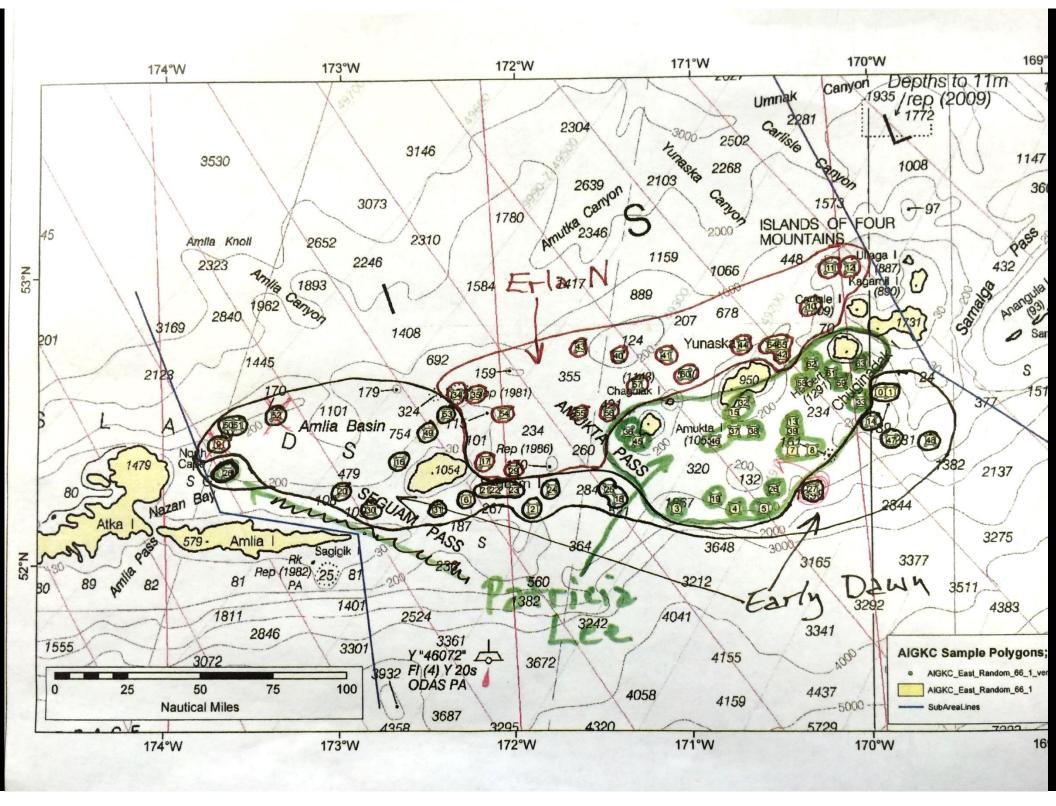
### Reality

High Trawl areas excluded

1 = 66 (22/vessel)

Erla N modified (shortened) strings in non-core areas Runs 50 pot strings.





```
y Dawn: 1 staff, 20 strings, 5 pots/string
5666 Total crab, 2077 measured
Lost one string to Trawl fleet (2 others recover
N: 2 staff, 19 strings, 5 pots/string
4352 Total crab, 1414 measured
icia Lee: 2 staff, 18 strings, 7 pots/string
5497 Total crab, 2382 measured
```

57 strings (321 pots)

#### **Spatial Extent:**

Covers 95% of EAG (high trawl areas excluded)
Stratified, 2-stage design (data are independent
Still need to examine variance and sample size
Skippers/crew impressed with staff

```
Cost:
```

```
5 ADFG(salary/seaduty/benefits/travel) for 14da
~1K/person/day = 70K
```

#### Fleet:

Increased fuel cost: TBD

Increased time/effort to catch TAC: TBD

Logistically feasible to due Coop survey Industry, NRC, ADF&G

Cost effective (150 – 200K to survey EAG + WAG)

#### Next Steps

Full debrief with skippers and staff (improve efficiencies) Examine within and among string variability (sample size estimates) Explore better stratification options (Skipper, Habitat, Effort) Initiate in WAG How/when to integrate into SA Long-term funding source Incorporate small-mesh pots

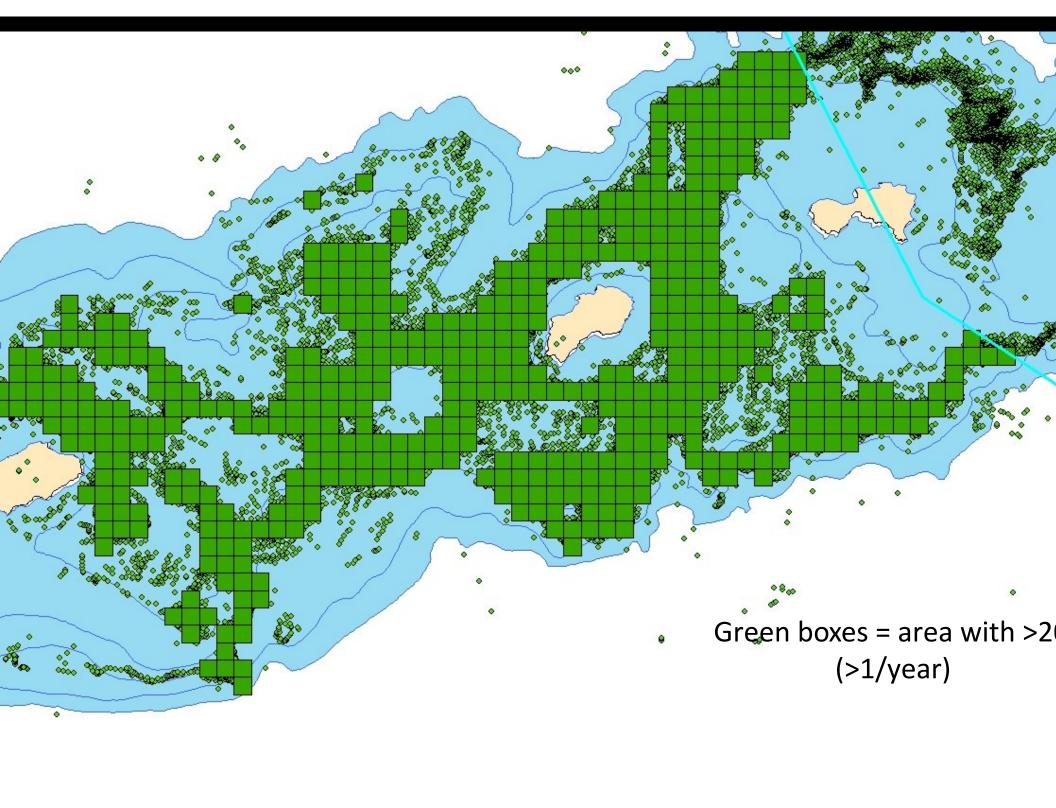


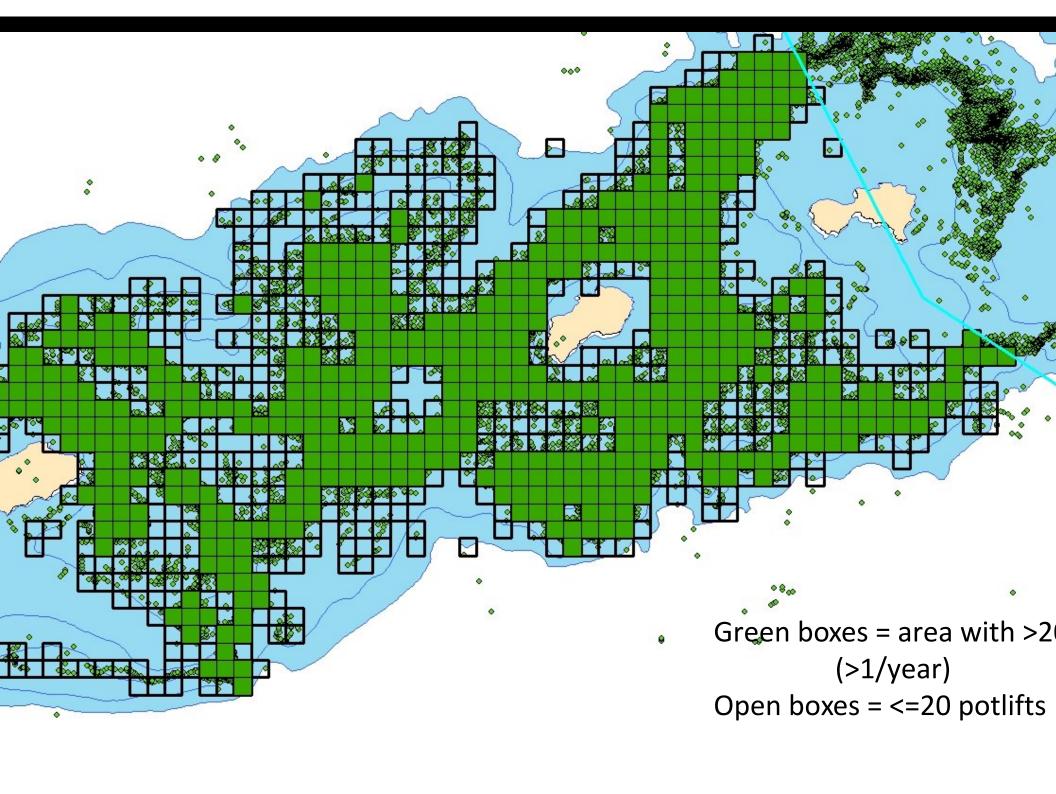

### Better Stratification?

Area: Spreads effort out, reduces clumping

Habitat: Ideal, but lots of issues (same as S. CPUE)

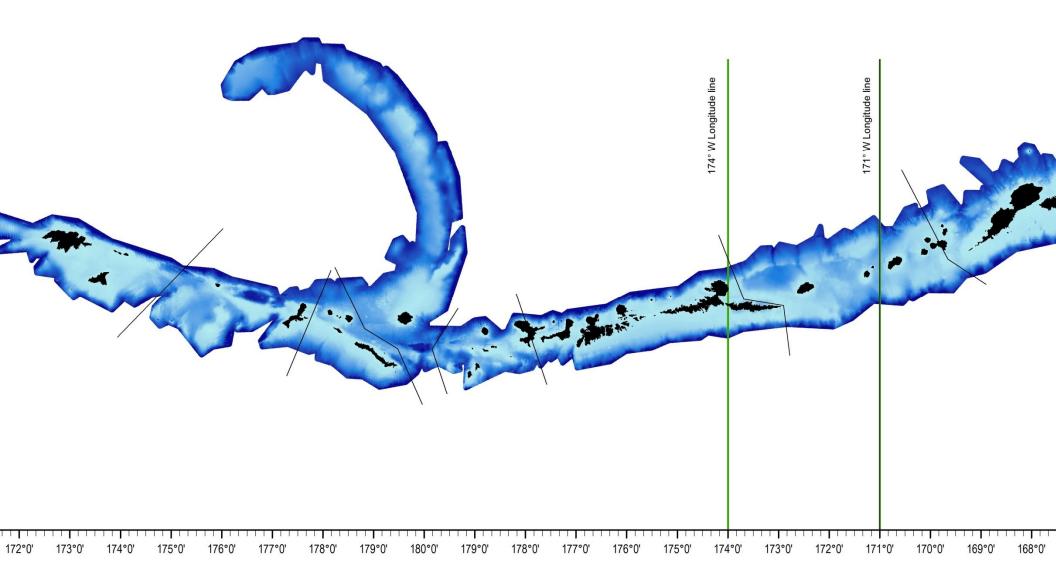
Effort: Typically not good to use (part) of response variable; proxy for habitat? But fished area reduced.



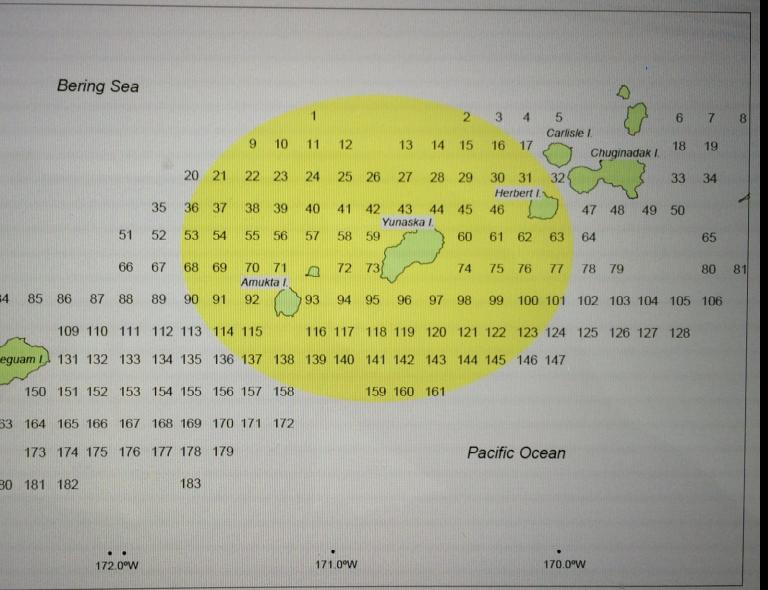


# What's the problem?

#### **AREA**



## ADF&G Triennial Survey



5nm apart
10pot strings
100fathoms apart
String ~ 0.9nm
Quantifying "all"
n = 85 (850)
Sampling area 85

Relative Index of Tagging (growth/

# 

Blue = 1000m contour All observer data

# Fished Area

2008/09

### Inventory

Industry:

Vessels/crew/gear/on the water/willingness (recognize asking them to modify behavior)

ADFG/NOAA/NRC:

Personnel/Sampling design/some gear

How do we utilize all resources most efficiently?


## Version 1 (last year)

Commercial gear
First trip during Commercial season
2 stage design (pots within strings / strings)