

Agenda Item: B-3



**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
REPORT TO THE NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT
COUNCIL
JUNE, 2002**

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

Salmon Troll Fishery

(FIGURES 1a-1e) Trollers in Southeast are currently involved in their spring season. Spring troll fisheries target Alaska hatchery produced Chinook salmon; hatchery produced coho salmon in the Snow Passage area, and pink and chum salmon in Cross Sound. Fishing areas and opening dates for chinook salmon fishing areas are determined after early spring public meetings around the region. Weekly fishing time during the spring chinook fisheries is based on Alaskan hatchery contribution to catch. Projections call for about 119,000 Alaskan hatchery fish to return. Catches to date total about 5,000 chinook

salmon from 560 landings. The regular summer chinook salmon season begins July 1.

Bering Sea opilio (Snow) crab

(FIGURE 2) The 2002 Community Development Quota (CDQ) allocation is 7.5 percent of the total harvest of snow crab. The total harvest is defined as the general fishery harvest plus the CDQ harvest. The CDQ allocation based on the estimated total harvest amount is approximately 2,454,000 pounds. By regulation, the fishery for snow crab was to close May 15. However, the Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation requested an extension in order to more fully harvest their allocation. The department extended the NSEDC permit to May 31. Final harvest for Community Development Quota allocation of snow crab should be about 2.3 million pounds.

Central Region Pacific Cod

Cook Inlet

(FIGURE 3) The state managed Pacific cod fishery in the waters of Cook Inlet opened on March 9, 2002, twenty-four hours after the close of the Federal fishery. The 1.57 million pound Guideline Harvest Level (GHL) is allocated 50% to pot gear and 50% to jig gear. The GHL is calculated as 2.25% of the Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) for the federal Central Gulf of Alaska Area. The area closed by regulation at noon on May 1st and will reopen June 15th. To date, eleven vessels have landed about 660,000 pounds of Pacific cod.

Prince William Sound

The 2002 Prince William Sound (PWS) state managed Pacific cod season opened March 16th with a 1.9 million pound GHL allocated 60% to pot gear and

40% to jig gear. The GHL is calculated as 25% of the federal Eastern Gulf ABC. To date, there has been no participation in the fishery.

Westward Region Pacific Cod (FIGURE 4)

Kodiak (FIGURE 5)

The 2002 Kodiak Area GHL for the state-waters Pacific cod season is 8.7 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 1st. The fishery opened on March 16th, seven days after the closure of the Central GOA to cod fishing. Fishing with pot gear closed May 4th, while jig gear remains open. The 2002 fishery has taken 4.8 million pounds through May 25th, with 4.0 million pounds coming from pot gear and 800,000 pounds coming from jig gear. The fishery will reopen to pot gear September 1. Seventy-six (76) vessels are registered to fish.

Chignik (FIGURE 6)

The 2002 Chignik area GHL is 4.9 million pounds for the state-waters Pacific cod season. 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 opened on March 1st. The 2002 fishery started slowly because there were no buyers in the area with markets. Through the end of March about 750,000 pounds had been landed. After April 1st outside processors began tendering product from the area and participation increased. Through May 25th landings totaled 4.0 million pounds with 3.7 million from pot gear and 300,000 from jig gear. Fishing with both gears remains open, however pot gear is likely to close soon. Twenty-seven (27) vessels are registered to fish.

South Alaska Peninsula (FIGURE 7)

The 2002 South Alaska Peninsula Area GHL is 12.4 million pounds for the state-waters Pacific cod season. 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 opened March 5th, seven days after the closure of the Western GOA to cod fishing. Fishing with pot gear closed March 24th and the harvest tallied 10.7 million pounds. Fishing with jig gear began in early March and effort steadily increased after that time. The fishery closed April 26th. The harvest from jig gear totaled 2.1 million pounds. The final catch was 12.8 million pounds from both gear types. There were 105 vessels registered to fish in the South Alaska Peninsula Area.

State Pacific Cod Enforcement

The Alaska Department of Public Safety's Division of Fish and Wildlife Protection conducts targeted patrols during the Pacific cod fisheries. In the northern Gulf of Alaska area, six patrols on the grounds and a check of shorebased processors was conducted. Forty-six vessels were boarded. There were seven warnings and three citations issued, but these were all in connection with the sablefish fishery. In the Westward region, personnel are currently in the field, and no report is available at this time.

Southeast Groundfish

The Southern Southeast Inside (SSEI) (i.e., Clarence Strait) sablefish quota will be 696,000 round pounds for 2002. The quota share for each of the 29 permit holders will be 24,000 round pounds. The SSEI sablefish longline fishery opened at 8:00 a.m., Saturday June 1 and will close at 12:00 noon August 15, 2002. The SSEI sablefish pot gear fishery will open at 8:00 am September 1 and close at 12:00 noon November 15, 2002.

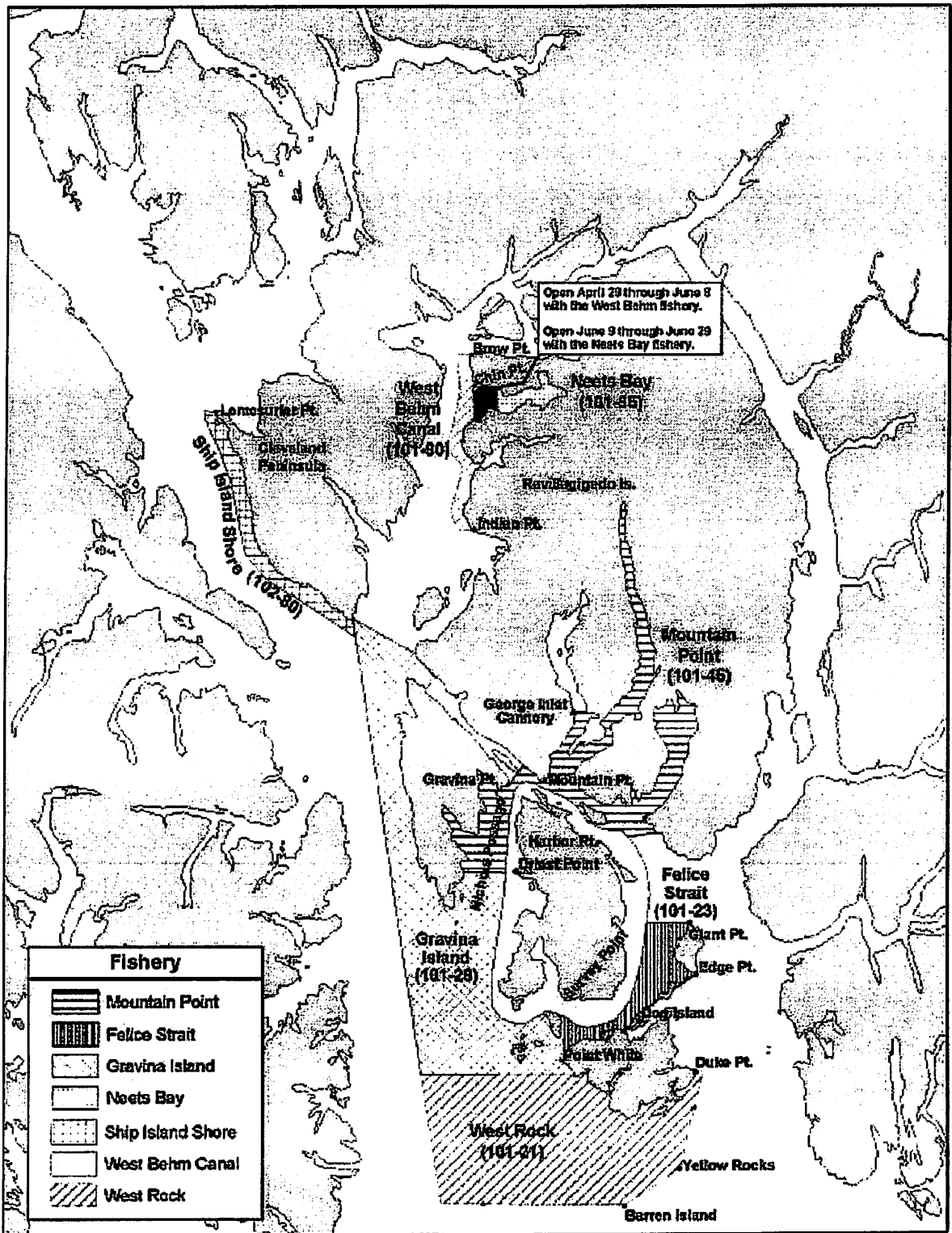


Figure 1a. Ketchikan area spring trolling areas, 2002.

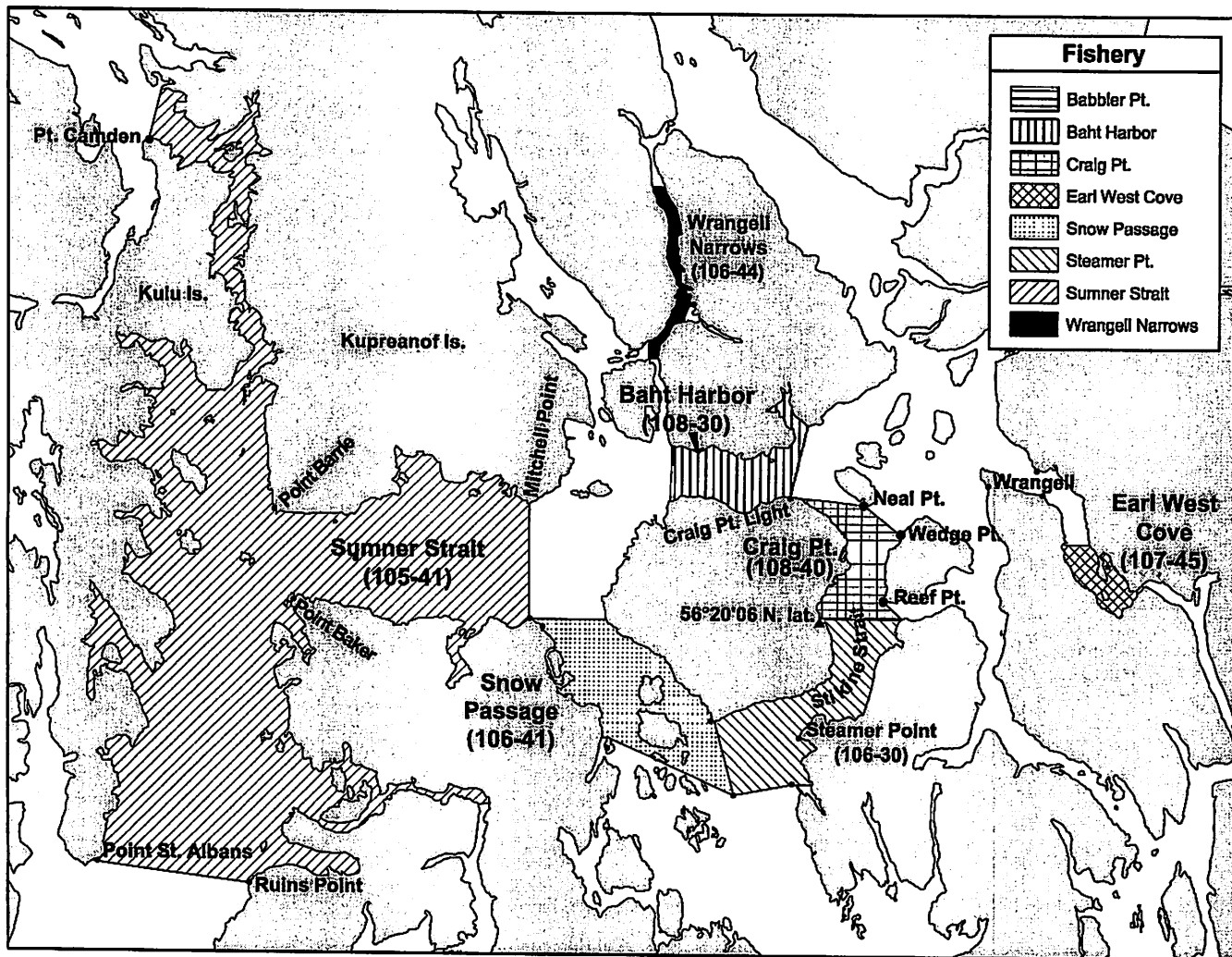


Figure 1b. Wrangell and Prince of Wales spring trolling areas, 2002.

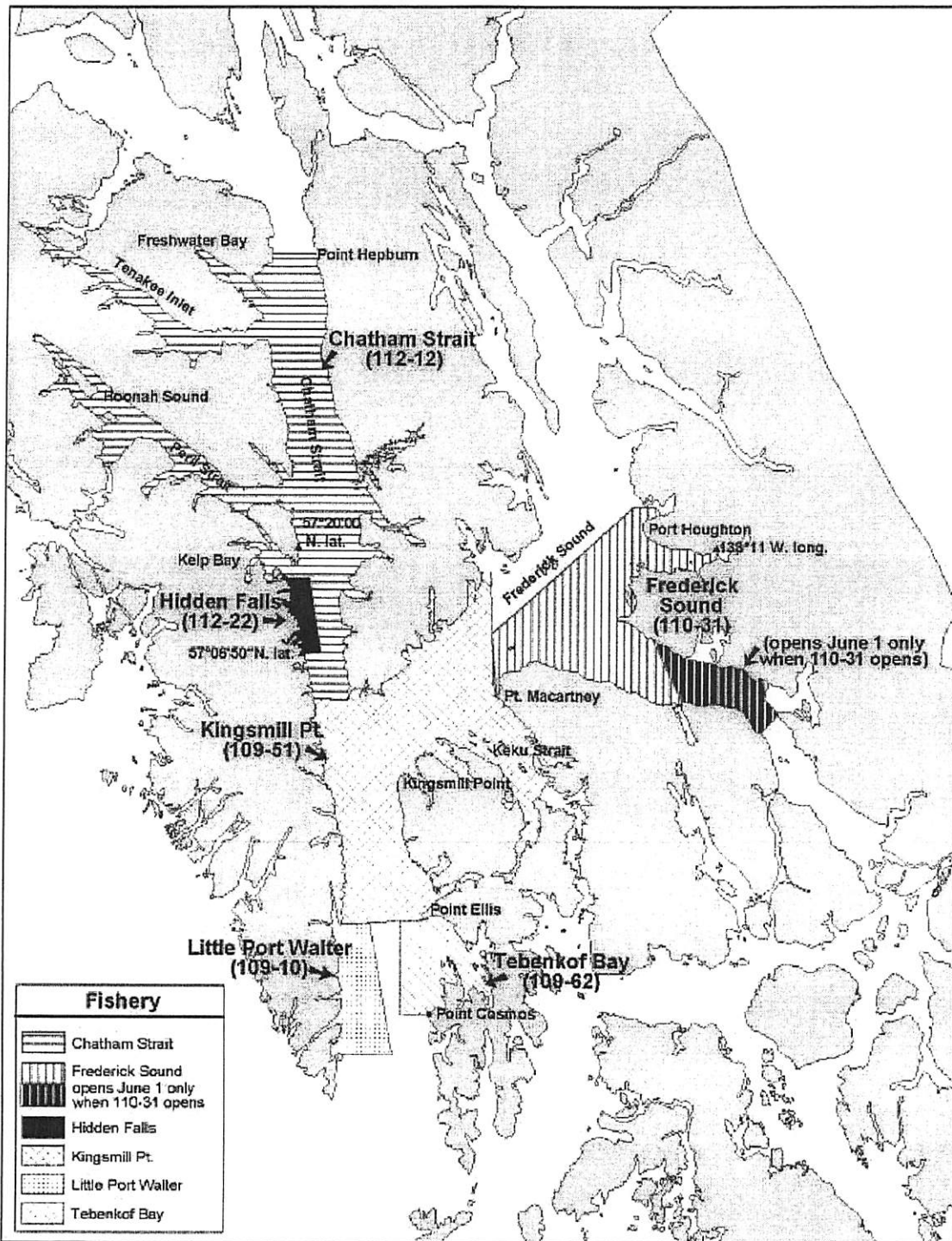


Figure 1c. Chatham Strait and Frederick Sound spring trolling areas, 2002.

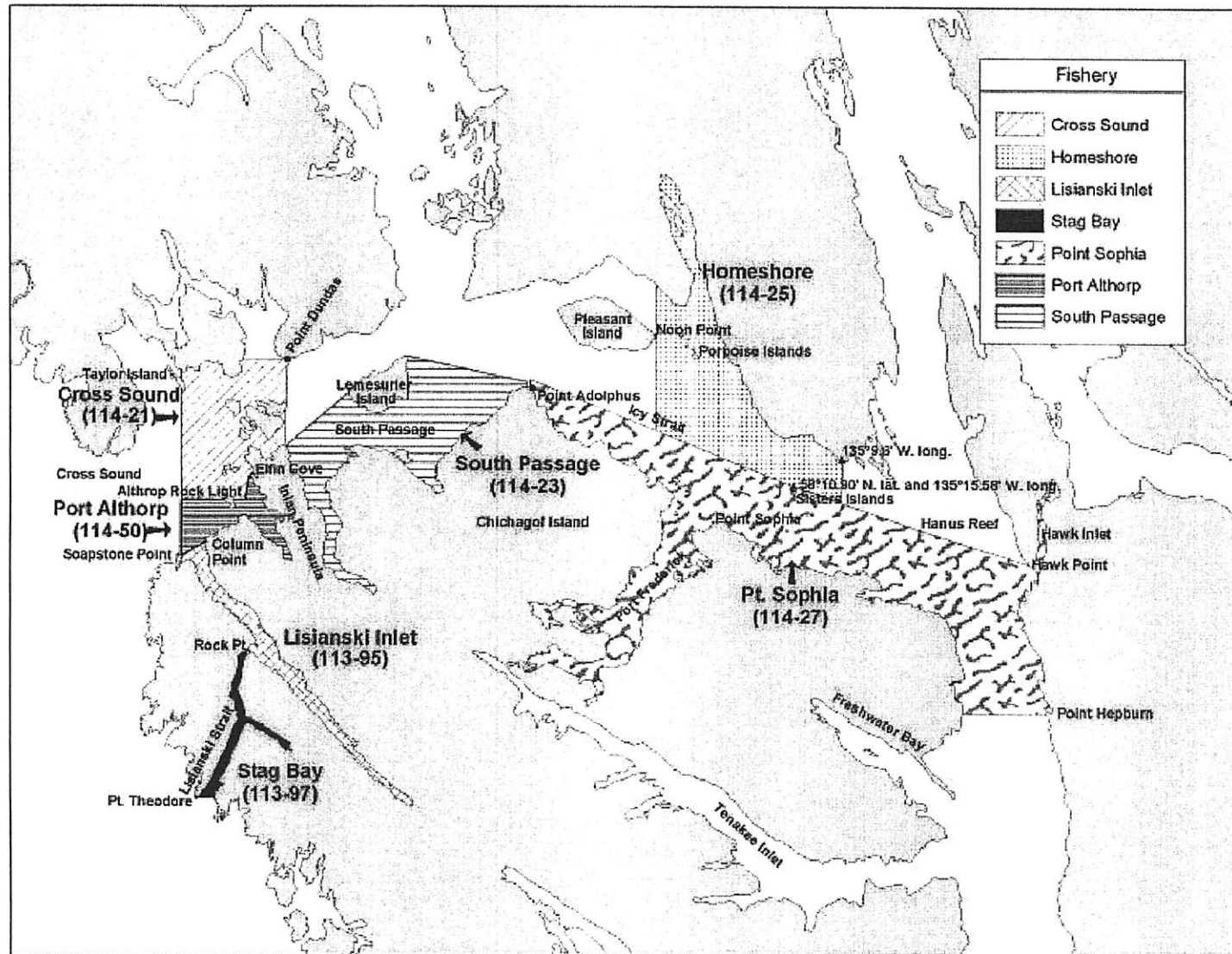


Figure 1d. North Chatham and Icy Strait spring trolling areas, 2002.

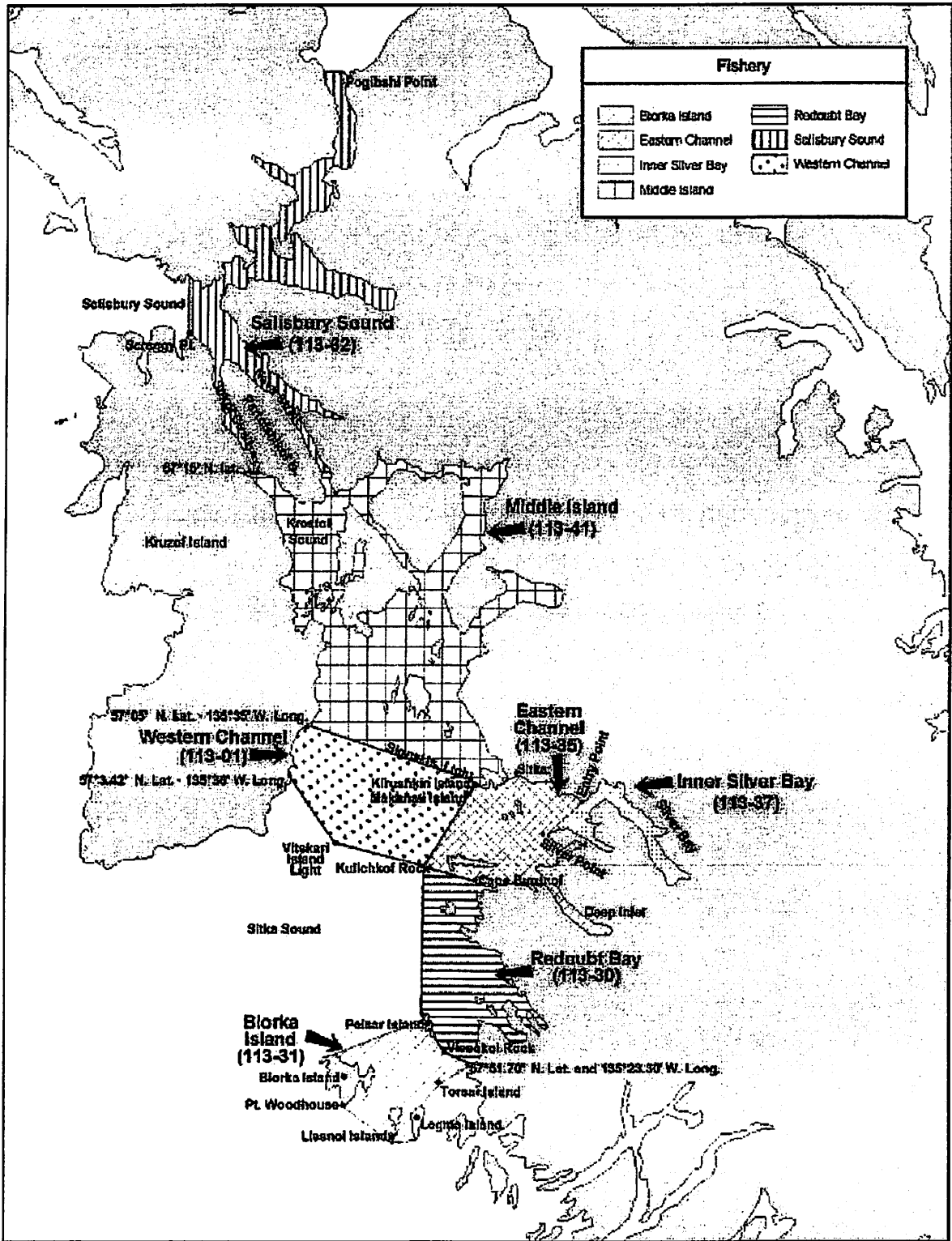


Figure 1e. Sitka area spring trolling areas, 2002.

FIGURE 2

ALASKA C. OPILIO CDQ CATCHES, 1998-2002

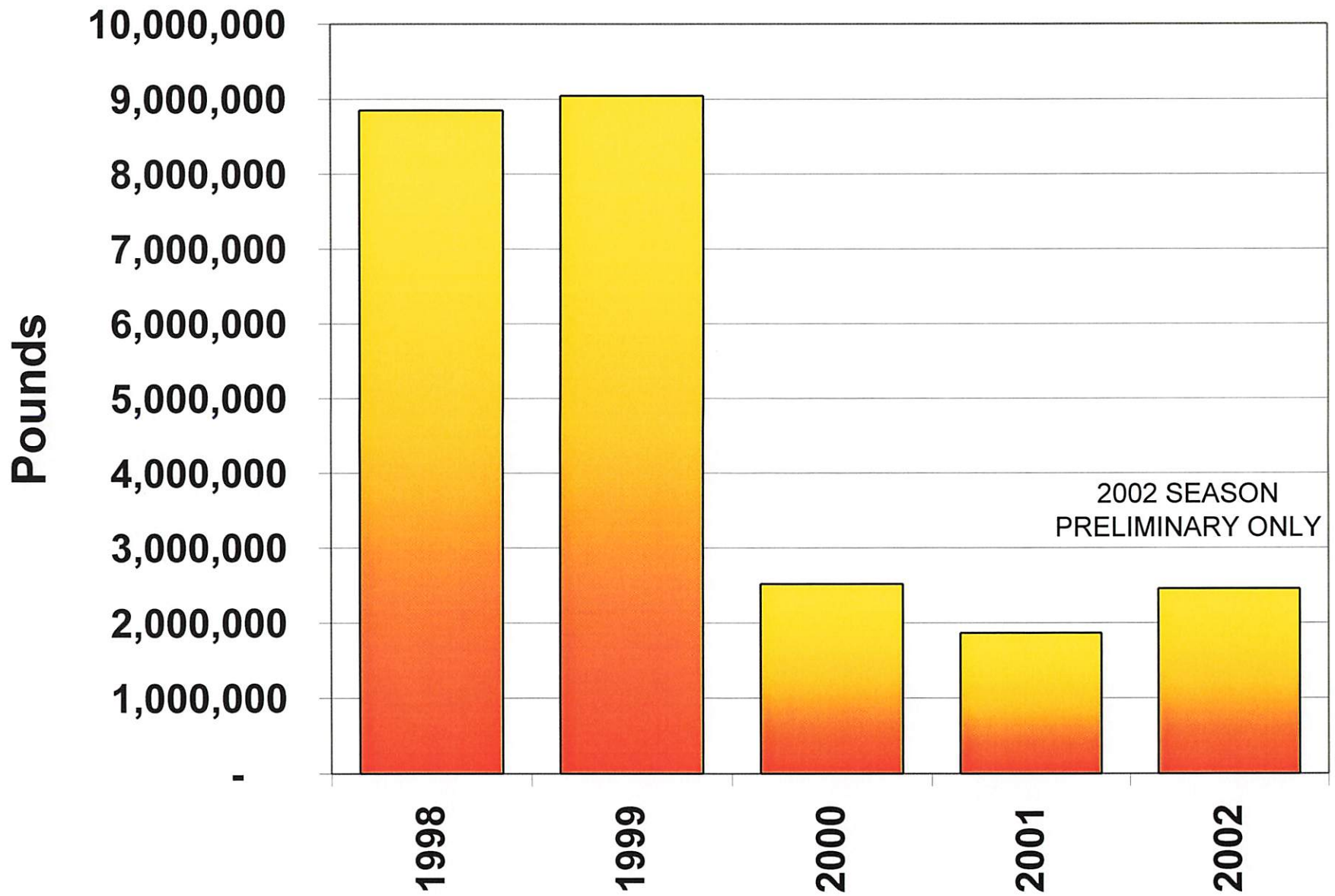


FIGURE 3. 2002 harvest guideline, effort, and catch reported for Central Region state water fisheries through 15 May 2002.

This summary has been censored for confidential reports or records.

Pacific Cod

PARALLEL SEASON* - STATE WATERS

Gear	Cook Inlet Management Area			Prince William Sound		
	Vessels	Landings	Pounds	Vessels	Landings	Pounds
Hand troll (05)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jigs (26)	1	1	confidential	0	0	0
Trawl (47)	0	0	0	2	7	confidential
Longline (61)	23	62	557,613	8	13	6,840
Pots (91)	7	107	307,937	0	0	0
Totals	31	170	865,550	10	20	6,840
Status	Bycatch			Bycatch		
Federal seasons: Central Gulf	Opened - Closed Jan 1 - noon Mar 9			Opened - Closed Jan 1 - noon Mar 9		

*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
		1.57 mil.			1.9 mil.	
Hand troll (05)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jigs (26)	3	4	confidential	0	0	0
Pots (91)	8	149	660,642	0	0	0
Totals	11	153	660,642	0	0	0
State seasons: Jigs (26) Status	Opened - Closed noon 3/10 - Open			Opened - Closed noon 3/16 - Open		
State seasons: Pots (91) Status	Opened - Closed noon Mar 10 - noon 5/1 June 15 - Closed			Opened - Closed noon 3/16 - 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.

In [redacted], only directed fishery harvest.



FIGURE 4.

2002 STATE MANAGED GROUND FISH PRELIMINARY PACIFIC COD HARVEST BY FISHERY WEEK

UPDATED: 5/28/02



KODIAK					CHIGNIK				SOUTH ALASKA PENINSULA			
VESSEL REGISTRATIONS		Total	Pot	Jig	Total		Pot	Jig	Total		Pot	Jig
REGISTRATIONS		78	25	54	27		13	14	105		49	64
2002 GHL:		8.7 million pounds			4.9 million pounds				12.4 million pounds			
ALLOCATIONS:		50% Jigs, 50% Pots Pots >58" restricted to 25% of total GHL before Sept. 1. Jigs = 4.35 million, Pots = 4.35 million, >58" pots 2.17 before Sept. 1.			85% Pots, 15% Jigs Pots = 4.2 million Jigs = 630,000				85% Pots Pots limited to 10.5 million pounds			
DATES:	Pots		Jigs		Pots		Jigs		Pots		Jigs	
	Landings	Catch	Landings	Catch	Landings	Catch	Landings	Catch	Landings	Catch	Landings	Catch
3/3 to 3/9	not open	not open	not open	not open	Confidential	Confidential	0	0	46	1,084,237	Confidential	Confidential
3/10 to 3/16	opened 3/16	opened 3/16	opened 3/16	opened 3/16	Confidential	Confidential	0	0	76	2,552,722	5	13,047
3/17 to 3/23	19	309,586	7	8,882	8	486,382	0	0	148	7,030,163	3	7,926
3/24 to 3/30	20	501,690	6	2,127	5	278,233	0	0	fishery closed	fishery closed	18	97,096
3/31 to 4/6	15	613,718	11	19,460	Confidential	Confidential	0	0	fishery closed	fishery closed	16	46,528
4/7 to 4/13	18	737,769	14	46,400	9	356,335	0	0	fishery closed	fishery closed	76	482,977
4/14 to 4/20	15	693,777	8	26,548	18	299,710	Confidential	Confidential	fishery closed	fishery closed	69	442,712
4/21 to 4/27	24	670,045	23	69,343	15	398,392	Confidential	Confidential	fishery closed	fishery closed	139	1,006,496
4/28 to 5/4	21	453,630	25	98,700	17	400,375	18	90,141	fishery closed	fishery closed	fishery closed	fishery closed
5/5 to 5/11	fishery closed	fishery closed	34	225,771	19	476,307	17	101,983	fishery closed	fishery closed	fishery closed	fishery closed
5/12 to 5/18	fishery closed	fishery closed	31	166,946	21	615,310	15	87,515	fishery closed	fishery closed	fishery closed	fishery closed
5/19 to 5/25	fishery closed	fishery closed	35	150,378	18	415,108	5	29,922	fishery closed	fishery closed	fishery closed	fishery closed
ACCUMULATIVE	132	3,980,215	194	814,555	130	3,726,152	55	309,561	270	10,667,122	326	2,096,782
CATCH	(Total combined)		4,794,770		(Total combined)		4,035,713		(Total combined)		12,763,904	

FIGURE 5

KODIAK STATE WATERS PACIFIC COD HARVESTS, 2002

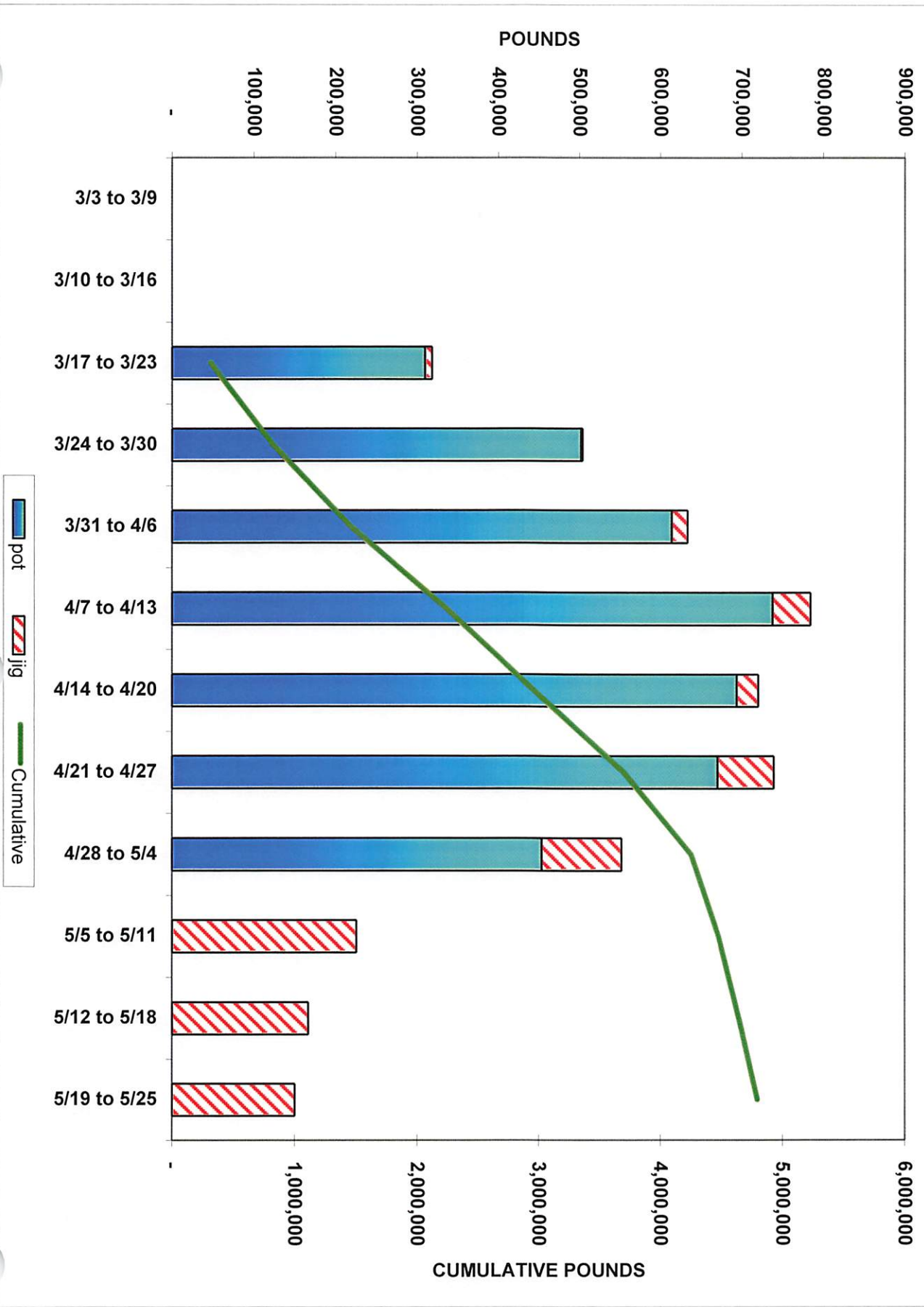


FIGURE 6

CHIGNIK STATE WATERS PACIFIC COD HARVESTS, 2002

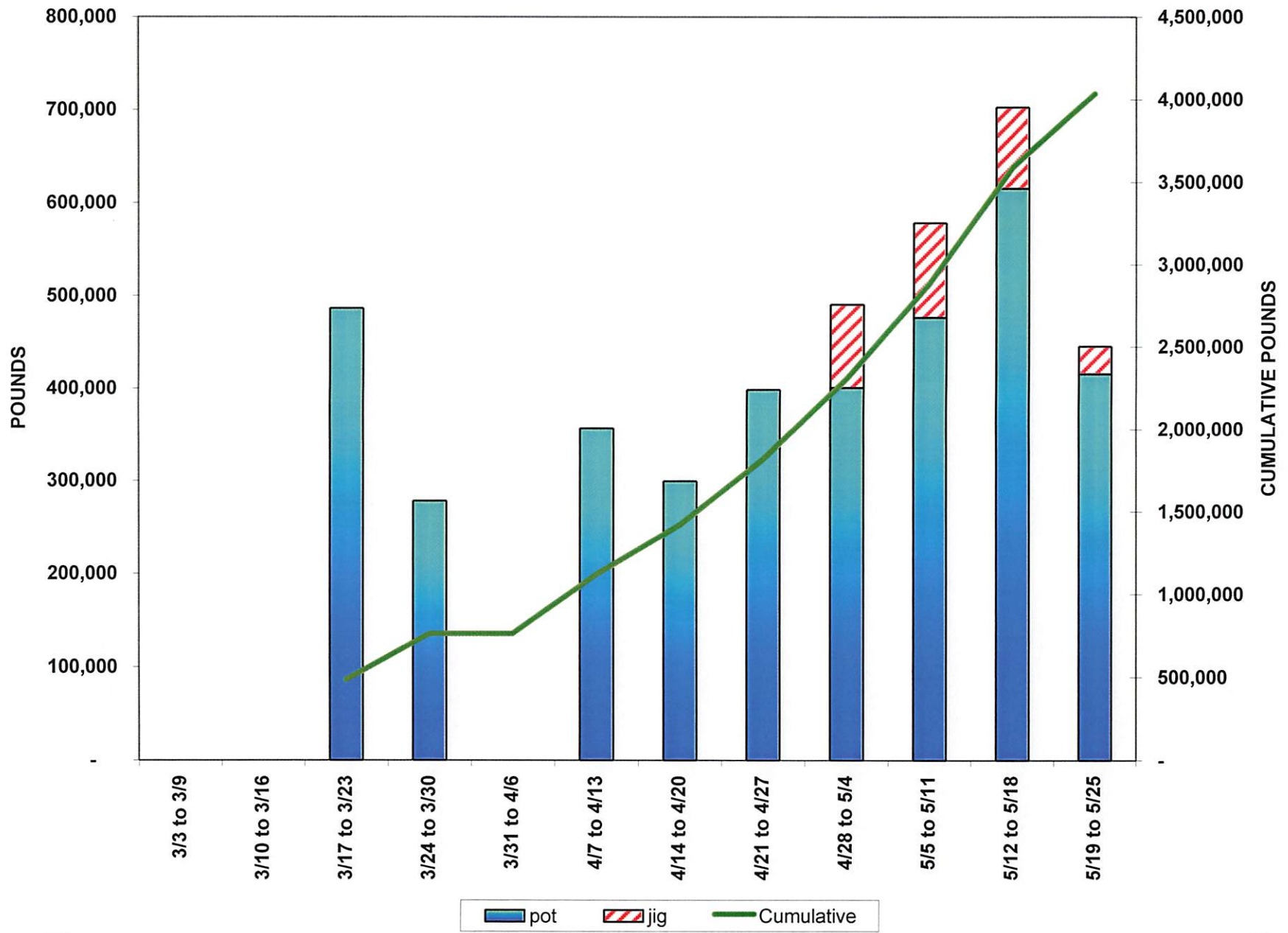


FIGURE 7

SOUTH ALASKA PENINSULA STATE WATERS PACIFIC COD HARVESTS, 2002

