

Agenda Item: B-3



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

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

Salmon Troll Fishery

(FIGURE 1) The 2001 winter troll season for chinook salmon opened October 11, 2001 and will close April 15, 2002, or when 45,000 treaty chinook salmon are harvested, whichever occurs first. There are 179 fishermen participating, and they have made 833 landings to date. The total winter catch is now at 17,755 chinook salmon. The recent 5-yr average is 14,540 fish. Alaska hatchery contribution is running about 4%. The average weight for these chinook salmon is approximately 3 pounds below recent averages. Average price is about \$3.10 per pound, and has even been over \$4.50, but few fish are being delivered.

Bering Sea opilio (Snow) crab

The 2002 snow crab fishery opened as scheduled on January 15th. The Guideline Harvest Level (GHL) was 28.51 million pounds. The post-season Community Development Quota (CDQ) is 2.31 million pounds. ADF&G, in conjunction with the United States Coast Guard and National Weather Service assessed weather conditions prior to the fishery and announced that no postponement was necessary. ADF&G is managing the 2002 Bering Sea snow crab fishery based on inseason reports from fishermen. There are 190 vessels registered to participate in the open access fishery. Very preliminary projections indicate the GHL will be reached. Fishing appears a little slower than last year because of crab distribution, increased encounters with old shell animals, lower effort (pots and boats), as well as poor weather and some problems with ice. The season will open for the CDQ allocation in the near future.

Aleutian Islands golden king crab

(FIGURE 3) The Aleutian Islands (Area O) opened to commercial fishing for golden king crab on August 15, 2001 with guideline harvest levels (GHL) of 3.0 million pounds east and 2.7 million pounds west of 174° W. longitude. That portion of Area O east of 174° W. longitude closed to commercial fishing on September 10th, when the GHL was reached. Fishing remains open West of 174° W. longitude, with about 5 vessels participating. Total catch now stands at just less than 5 million pounds for the entire fishery.

Central Region Pacific Cod

Cook Inlet

(FIGURE 4) Reviewing the 2001 State managed Pacific cod fishery in the Cook Inlet Management Area, that fishery opened on March 5 (24 hours after the close of the Federal fishery). The 1.92 million pound GHL was 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. Pot gear closed by regulation on May 1 and reopened June 15, while jig gear remained open throughout the season. By regulation, the exclusive area registration and gear limits were lifted October 30. Final harvest was 895,352 pounds by 14 vessels.

Prince William Sound

The 2001 Prince William Sound (PWS) state managed Pacific cod season opened March 11 with a 2.62 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. Harvest data from the fishery is confidential due to the low level of participation. By regulation the exclusive area registration and gear limits were lifted October 30 and the fishery remained open through the end of the year.

Westward Region Pacific Cod (FIGURE 5)

Kodiak (FIGURE 6)

The 2001 Kodiak Area GHL for state-managed Pacific cod was 10.6 million pounds. This was 12.5% of the Central Gulf of Alaska Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) for cod. The guideline was split equally between pot and jig gear. Prior to September 1, vessels over 58 feet can take no more than 25% of the guideline. The fishery opened on March 11, seven days after the closure of the Central GOA to cod fishing. The 2001 fishery resulted in a harvest of about 5 million pounds, of which 75% was from pot gear landings.

Chignik (FIGURE 7)

The 2001 Chignik area GHL for state-managed Pacific cod was 6.0 million pounds. This was 7% of the Central Gulf of Alaska ABC for cod. The guideline was allocated 85% to pot gear and 15% to jig gear. The 2001 season total harvest was about 2.5 million pounds.

South Alaska Peninsula (FIGURE 8)

The 2001 South Alaska Peninsula Area GHL for state-managed Pacific cod was 13.4 million pounds. This was 25% of the Western Gulf of Alaska ABC for cod. The guideline was allocated 85% to pot gear and 15% to jig gear. The fishery opened March 6, seven days after the closure of the Western GOA to cod fishing. The fishery closed to pot gear on April 13, and to jig gear in early June. The pot harvest was 10.4 million pounds; the jig harvest was 3.0 million pounds..

State Pacific Cod Enforcement

The Alaska Department of Public Safety's Division of Fish and Wildlife Protection conducted targeted patrols during the Pacific cod fisheries.

In the Prince William Sound area for 2001, the Protection Vessels (*PV*) *Safeguard*, and *Bering*, conducted sea patrols. No violations were reported. Shorebased patrols were conducted in Cordova by state troopers, which included plant inspections and boarding of vessels that were offloading. There were no violations.

During the 2001 Westward Pacific cod state fisheries, the Alaska Department of Public Safety's Division of Fish and Wildlife Protection conducted patrols from the *PV Stimson* and *PV Woldstad*. The patrol schedule was as follows:

March 5-20	<i>PV Stimson</i>	Western Aleutians/Adak
March 22- April 3	<i>PV Woldstad</i>	Kodiak Island/South AK Peninsula
April 2-16	<i>PV Stimson</i>	Eastern Aleutians/Dutch Harbor
September 22- October 2	<i>PV Stimson</i>	Eastern Aleutians/Dutch Harbor

Patrols primarily concentrated on ensuring compliance with gear requirements, pot limits if applicable, registration and permits, vessel and crew licensing, seasons, closed waters, and landing requirements. The detachment's patrol vessels reported the following actions:

March 5 – March 20, 2001 PV Stimson Western Aleutians/Adak:

1 citation for groundfish pots with tunnel eye openings greater than 36"

66 inspected pots - 1 seized pot

3/22 - 4/3/01 PV Woldstad Kodiak Island/South AK Peninsula:

1 pot without ADF & G identification tags

1 pot with gear without ADF & G numbers on buoy

1 Illegal gear

100 inspected pots - 10 seized pots

5/7 - 5/11/01 PV Woldstad East & South of Kodiak Island:

Citations:

1 No Biodegradable cotton in commercial pot

1 pot without excluders

1 no fishery registration on vessel

1 no ID

15 inspected pots - 3 seized pots

9/14 - 9/22 PV Stimson Adak/Dutch Harbor:

10 inspected pots

9/22 - 10/2 PV Stimson Eastern Aleutians/Dutch Harbor

2 pots had no excluders

1 pot with tunnel eye opening greater than 36"

56 inspected pots - 6 seized

Southeast Groundfish

To date 87 mt of Demersal Shelf Rockfish (DSR) has been delivered, and the Central Southeast Outside (CSEO) and Southern Southeast Outside (SSEO) areas are now closed to directed fishing. The Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) and Southern Southeast Inside (SSEI) areas are still open. The department did not open the East Yakutat (EYKT) and Northern Southeast Outside (NSEO) areas to directed fishing.

FIGURE 1.

2002 COMMERCIAL WINTER TROLL CHINOOK SALMON FISHERY

TROLL YEAR	STATISTICS FOR JANUARY 13-19 (WEEK 3)						
	TOTAL CATCH TO DATE	TOTAL CATCH	PERMITS FISHED	LANDINGS	CATCH PER LANDING	AVERAGE WEIGHT (LBS)	AVERAGE PRICE PER POUND (FROM FISH TICKETS)
2002	17,755	191	29	33	5.8	14.6	\$ 4.31
2001	11,656	76	14	22	3.5	15.5	\$ 4.02
2000	18,129	316	21	43	7.3	16.4	\$ 4.06
5-YR AVG 1997-2001	14,540	237	21	31	8.3	15.6	\$ 3.42

NOTE: Data for troll year 2002 is preliminary. Total catch-to-date includes week 2.

FIGURE 2.

ALASKA SNOW CRAB HARVESTS (OPEN ACCESS)

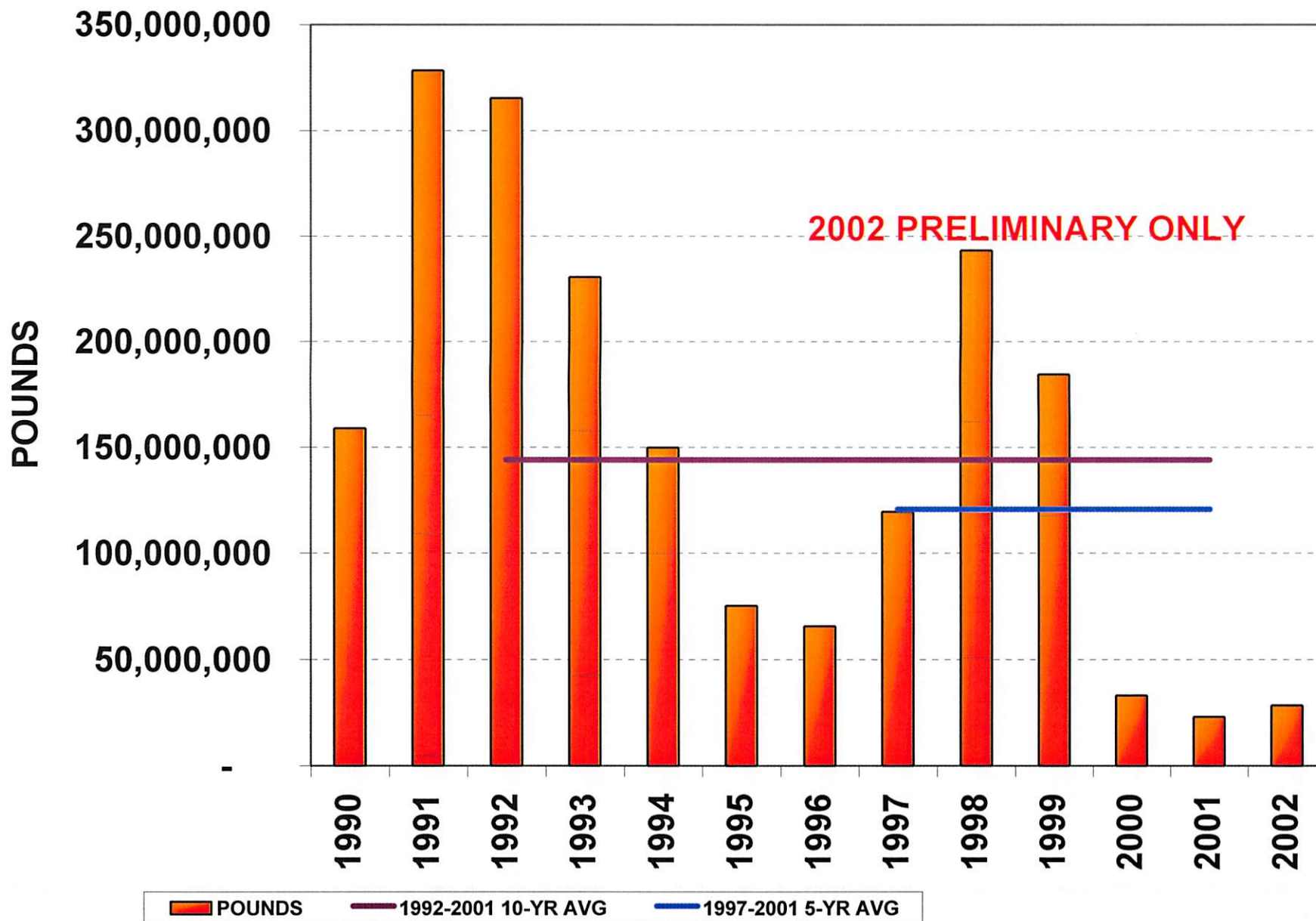
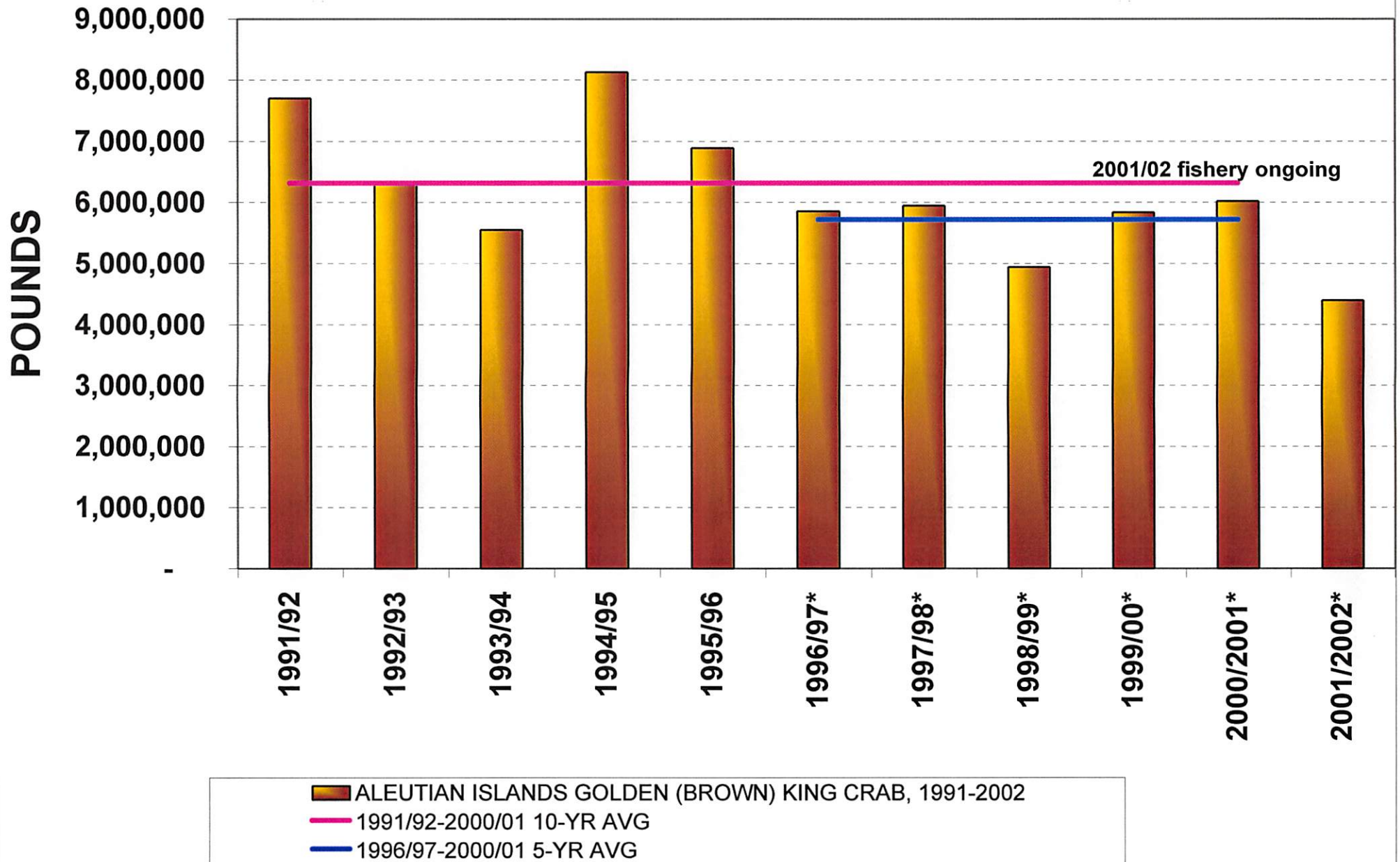


FIGURE 3

ALEUTIAN ISLANDS GOLDEN KING CRAB HARVEST



*NOTE: FISHING AREA DESIGNATION MODIFIED IN 1996 @ 174W

FIGURE 4. 2001 Harvest Guideline, Effort, and Catch Reported for State Water Pacific Cod Fisheries through 31 Dec. 2001.
This summary censored for confidential reports or records.
Year End Summary

Pacific Cod	Cook Inlet Management Area			Prince William Sound		
	Gear	Vessels	Landings	Pounds	Vessels	Landings
Hand troll (05)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jigs (26)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trawl (47)	0	0	0	2	7	CENSORED
Longline (61)	89	159	297,233	22	63	143,641
Pots (91)	6	98	314,098	3	6	CENSORED
Totals	95	257	611,331	27	76	170,445
Status	Closed			Closed		
Federal seasons: Central Gulf	Opened - Closed Jan 1 - noon Mar 4			Opened - Closed Jan 1 - noon Mar 4		

*Longline closed noon 2/26

*Remaining gear closed noon 3/4/01

*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*					
	Cook Inlet Management Area			Prince William Sound		
GHL (lb)		1.92 mil.			2.62 mil.	
Gear	Vessels	Landings	Pounds	Vessels	Landings	Pounds
Hand troll (05)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jigs (26)	5	13	19,428	3	3	CENSORED
Pots (91)	9	229	875,924	0	0	0
Totals	14	242	895,352	3	3	CENSORED
State seasons: Jigs (26) Status	Opened - Closed noon 3/5- Open			Opened - Closed noon 3/11- Open		
State seasons: Pots (91) Status	Opened - Closed noon 3/5-noon 5/1 June 15 - Closed Dec 31			Opened - Closed noon 3/11- Closed Dec 31		

*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.

Effective 10/31 limits and exclusive area registrations are lifted in CI and PWS.



FIGURE 5.

2001 STATE-WATERS GROUND FISH PRELIMINARY PACIFIC COD CATCH BY WEEK, WESTWARD REGION

UPDATED: 01/03/02

KODIAK			
VESSEL REGISTRATIONS	Total	Pot	Jig
	141	40	101

CHIGNIK		
Total	Pot	Jig
27	14	13

SOUTH ALASKA PENINSULA		
Total	Pot	Jig
139	61	78

2001 GHJ: 10.6 Million

6.0 Million

13.4 Million

ALLOCATIONS: 50% Jig, 50% Pot
Pots >58' restricted to 25% of total GHJ before Sept. 1.

85% Pot, 15% Jig

85% Pot

DATES:	Pot		Jig	
	Landings	Catch	Landings	Catch
3/11 to 3/17	21	342,468	9	4,488
3/18 to 3/24	36	419,983	9	3,887
3/25 to 3/31	38	437,592	21	23,045
4/1 to 4/7	13	271,244	15	25,498
4/8 to 4/14	14	298,573	17	24,792
4/15 to 4/21	23	536,592	40	93,436
4/22 to 4/28	18	443,094	46	123,714
4/29 to 5/5	19	279,492	32	89,506
5/6 to 5/12	15	189,980	46	158,391
5/13 to 5/19	16	174,644	40	126,267
5/20 to 5/26	7	27,555	46	168,375
5/27 to 6/2	0	0	38	154,591
6/3 to 6/9	Confidential	Confidential	25	104,760
6/10 to 6/16	0	0	21	51,190
6/17 to 6/23	0	0	13	27,151
6/24 to 6/30	0	0	7	11,161
7/1 to 7/7	0	0	Confidential	Confidential
7/8 to 7/14	0	0	Confidential	Confidential
7/15 to 7/21	0	0	9	19,548
7/22 to 7/28	0	0	4	6,303
7/29 to 8/4	0	0	Confidential	Confidential
8/5 to 8/11	0	0	Confidential	Confidential
8/12 to 8/18	0	0	Confidential	Confidential
8/19 to 8/25	0	0	0	0
8/26 to 9/1	0	0	Confidential	Confidential
9/2 to 9/8	Confidential	Confidential	5	12,691
9/9 to 9/15	0	0	0	0
9/16 to 9/22	0	0	0	0
9/23 to 9/29	0	0	0	0
9/30 to 10/6	0	0	0	0
10/7 to 10/13	0	0	0	0
10/14 to 10/20	0	0	0	0
10/21 to 10/27	4	34,242	0	0
10/28 to 11/3	Confidential	Confidential	0	0
11/4 to 11/10	Confidential	Confidential	0	0
11/11 to 11/17	9	94,022	Confidential	Confidential
11/18 to 11/24	Confidential	Confidential	0	0
11/25 to 12/1	Confidential	Confidential	0	0
12/2 to 12/8	8	62,768	Confidential	Confidential
12/9 to 12/15	Confidential	Confidential	Confidential	Confidential
12/16 to 12/22	Confidential	Confidential	0	0
12/23 to 12/31	9	149,919	7	8,757
ACCUMULATIVE CATCH	250	3,762,168	450	1,237,551
	(Total combined)		4,999,719	

DATES:	Pot		Jig	
	Landings	Catch	Landings	Catch
3/11 to 3/17	Confidential	Confidential	0	0
3/18 to 3/24	Confidential	Confidential	0	0
3/25 to 3/31	Confidential	Confidential	0	0
4/1 to 4/7	Confidential	Confidential	0	0
4/8 to 4/14	13	552,093	0	0
4/15 to 4/21	23	300,241	Confidential	Confidential
4/22 to 4/28	31	503,394	6	12,836
4/29 to 5/5	6	150,820	Confidential	Confidential
5/6 to 5/12	6	137,258	6	43,836
5/13 to 5/19	8	181,535	5	31,659
5/20 to 5/26	14	221,130	3	50,568
5/27 to 6/2	11	122,140	6	53,146
6/3 to 6/9	5	53,863	Confidential	Confidential
6/10 to 6/16	Confidential	Confidential	12	37,197
6/17 to 6/23	0	0	8	24,359
6/24 to 6/30	0	0	7	24,374
7/1 to 7/7	0	0	0	0
7/8 to 7/14	0	0	0	0
7/15 to 7/21	0	0	0	0
7/22 to 7/28	0	0	3	9,188
7/29 to 8/4	0	0	0	0
8/5 to 8/11	0	0	0	0
8/12 to 8/18	0	0	0	0
8/19 to 8/25	0	0	0	0
8/26 to 9/1	0	0	0	0
9/2 to 9/8	0	0	0	0
9/9 to 9/15	0	0	0	0
9/16 to 9/22	0	0	0	0
9/23 to 9/29	0	0	0	0
9/30 to 10/6	0	0	0	0
10/7 to 10/13	0	0	0	0
10/14 to 10/20	0	0	0	0
10/21 to 10/27	0	0	0	0
10/28 to 11/3	0	0	0	0
11/4 to 11/10	0	0	0	0
11/11 to 11/17	0	0	0	0
11/18 to 11/24	0	0	0	0
11/25 to 12/1	0	0	0	0
12/2 to 12/8	0	0	0	0
12/9 to 12/15	0	0	0	0
12/16 to 12/22	0	0	0	0
12/23 to 12/31	0	0	0	0
ACCUMULATIVE CATCH	117	2,222,474	56	287,163
	(Total combined)		2,509,637	

DATES:	Pot		Jig	
	Landings	Catch	Landings	Catch
3/11 to 3/17	Confidential	Confidential	0	0
3/18 to 3/24	14	468,861	0	0
3/25 to 3/31	70	2,872,319	0	0
4/1 to 4/7	97	3,381,478	0	0
4/8 to 4/14	126	3,718,216	6	23,676
4/15 to 4/21	Closed	Closed	13	69,382
4/22 to 4/28	Closed	Closed	37	232,454
4/29 to 5/5	Closed	Closed	36	189,696
5/6 to 5/12	Closed	Closed	61	421,340
5/13 to 5/19	Closed	Closed	49	402,296
5/20 to 5/26	Closed	Closed	68	599,578
5/27 to 6/2	Closed	Closed	49	443,142
6/3 to 6/9	Closed	Closed	56	416,207
6/10 to 6/16	Closed	Closed	34	230,371
6/17 to 6/23	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
6/24 to 6/30	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
7/1 to 7/7	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
7/8 to 7/14	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
7/15 to 7/21	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
7/22 to 7/28	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
7/29 to 8/4	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
8/5 to 8/11	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
8/12 to 8/18	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
8/19 to 8/25	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
8/26 to 9/1	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
9/2 to 9/8	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
9/9 to 9/15	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
9/16 to 9/22	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
9/23 to 9/29	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
9/30 to 10/6	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
10/7 to 10/13	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
10/14 to 10/20	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
10/21 to 10/27	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
10/28 to 11/3	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
11/4 to 11/10	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
11/11 to 11/17	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
11/18 to 11/24	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
11/25 to 12/1	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
12/2 to 12/8	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
12/9 to 12/15	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
12/16 to 12/22	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
12/23 to 12/31	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
ACCUMULATIVE CATCH	307	10,440,874	409	3,028,142
	(Total combined)		13,469,016	

CONFIDENTIAL DATA (catch combined with following week)

ALL AREAS CLOSED TO DIRECTED BLACK ROCKFISH FISHING

FIGURE 6.

2001 Kodiak State Managed Pcod Catches

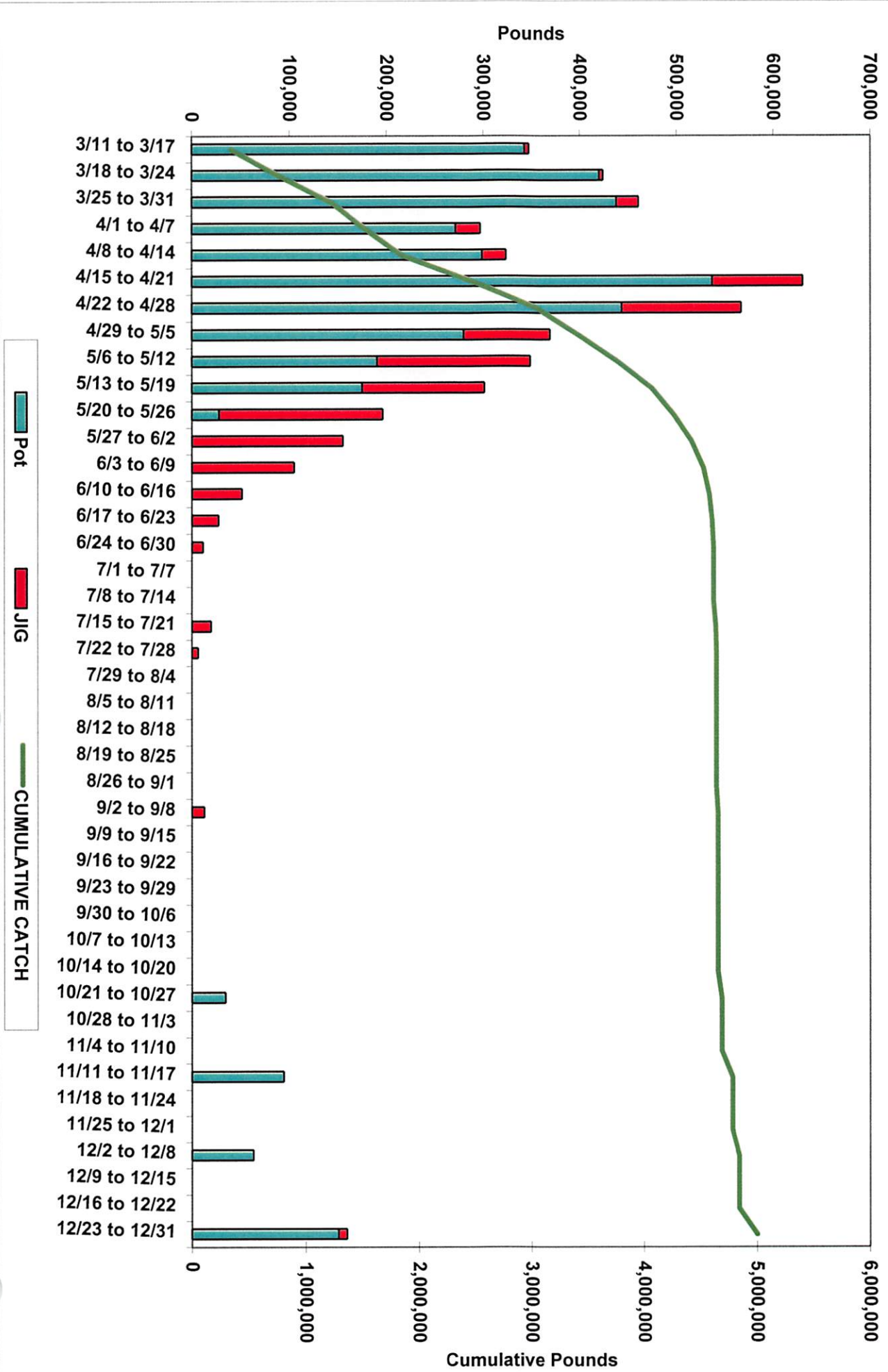


FIGURE 7.

2001 Chignik State Managed Pcod Catches

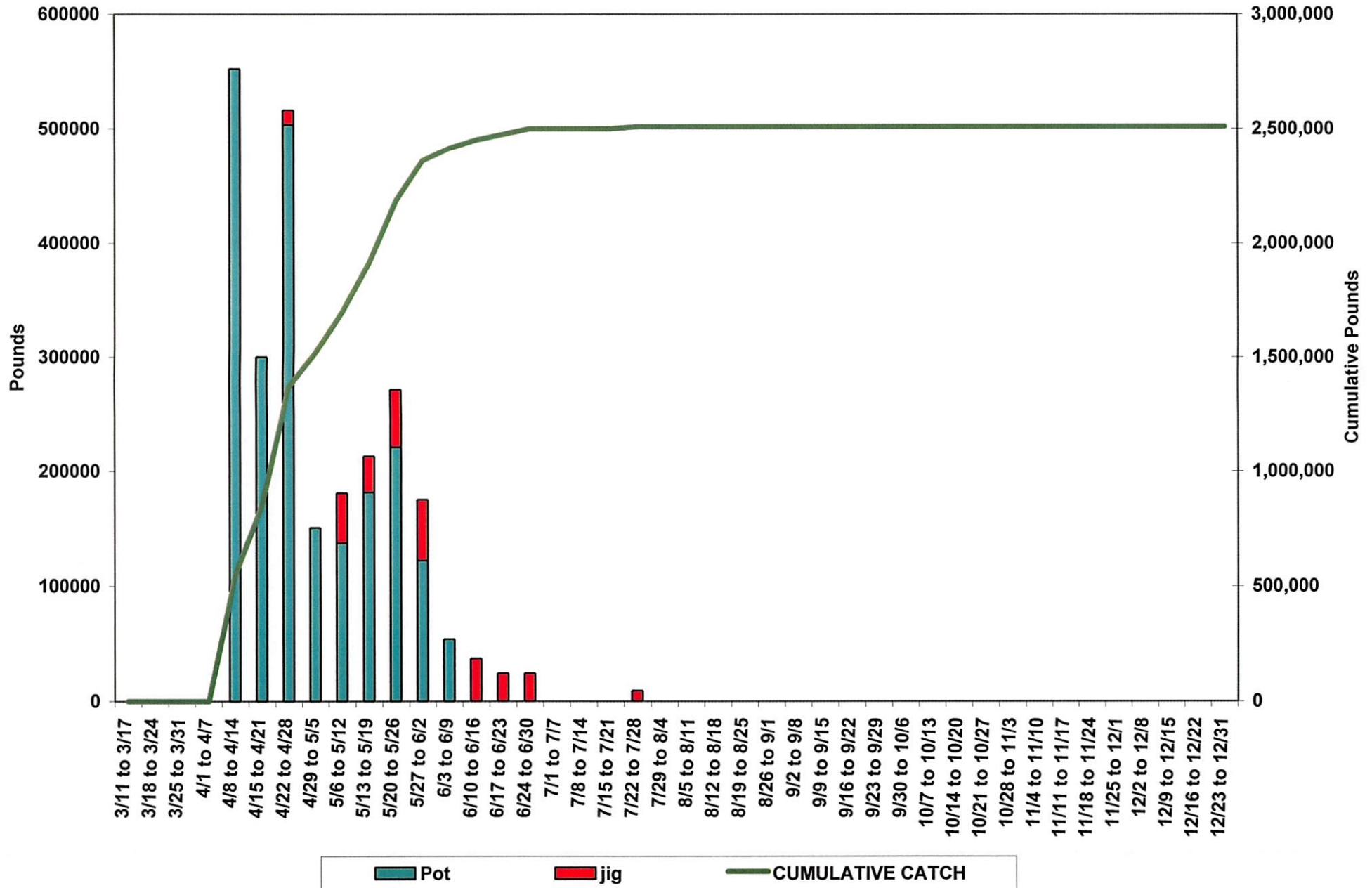


FIGURE 8.

2001 South AK. Peninsula State Managed Pcod Catches

