



**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
REPORT TO THE NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT
COUNCIL
October 2009**

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

Salmon Troll Fishery (FIGURE 1)

The Southeast Alaska summer troll Chinook salmon season opened July 1, 2009. The commercial troll Chinook quota for the 2008-2009 accounting year (October 11, 2008 through September 30, 2009) was approximately 161,629 treaty fish (not including Alaska hatchery add-on). After subtracting the winter (22,137 fish) and spring (19,988) catches, the summer balance was approximately 118,000 fish. The initial summer opening in July was managed to harvest 70 percent of that amount, with the remainder to be harvested in a second opening in August. The preliminary total summer Chinook harvest is approximately 117,500 fish, taken during the 10-day July opening and the 9-day August opening. The general summer troll season was extended in most portions of the region through September 30, though the second Chinook retention period ended on August 25. Average price for the season was approximately \$2.40 per pound. The winter season opens October 11, 2009.

Statewide Scallops (FIGURE 2)

Weathervane scallop fisheries in Yakutat, Prince William Sound, Kodiak, Dutch Harbor, and the Bering Sea registration areas opened on July 1, 2009. The Kamishak District of Cook Inlet opened on August 15, 2009. Guideline harvest levels (GHLs) for the 2009/2010 scallop season, and the king and Tanner crab bycatch limits are listed below:

Figure 2.

Registration Area	Guideline Harvest Level (pounds of shucked meat)	Bycatch Limits (number of crab)	
		Tanner Crab	King Crab
YAKUTAT			N/A
Area D	160,000	N/A	N/A
District 16	25,000	N/A	N/A
PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND	20,000		11,400
COOK INLET	14,000		
KODIAK			
Northeast District	75,000	217,000	7
Shelikof District	170,000	25,000	96
Southwest District ¹	25,000	12,000	50
Semidi District	<i>Exploratory Area (Commissioner's Permit)</i>		
ALASKA PENINSULA	<i>Closed for the 2009/2010 season</i>		
DUTCH HARBOR	10,000	10,000	10
BERING SEA	50,000	260,000 <i>C.bairdi</i> 300,000 <i>C.opilio</i> and hybrids	500

¹ Commissioner's Permit required to harvest scallops in the SW District

The southern portion of the Shelikof District closed to commercial fishing on August 10, 2009 when the GHL was attained. The fishing season for weathervane scallops in that portion of Registration Area E (Prince William Sound) located between 147° 00' W long. and the longitude of the Cape Saint Elias lighthouse 144° 35.9' W long., and north of Kayak Island closed to commercial scallop fishing at 12:00 noon September 26, 2009 when it was anticipated that the GHL would be realized.

Norton Sound Red King Crab (FIGURE 3)

The Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game opened the Norton Sound red king crab summer commercial fishery on Monday June 15, at 12:00 noon. The CDQ fishery opened at the same time as the open-access portion. The department estimated a

legal male red king crab biomass of 3.75 million pounds in Norton Sound. By Alaska Board of Fisheries regulation an exploitation rate of up to 10 percent is allowed when the legal male biomass exceeds 2.5 million pounds; therefore, the summer commercial fishery red king crab quota was 375,000 pounds. Of this amount, 7.5 percent (28,125 pounds) was allocated for the CDQ fishery, with 346,875 pounds set for the open-access portion of the fishery. The CDQ fishery closed on July 28, 2009, when the CDQ quota of 28,125 pounds of crab was caught. The commercial open access king crab fishery in Norton Sound closed at 12:00 noon Sunday, September 20, 2009 when it was anticipated that the GHM would be realized.

Aleutian Islands Golden King Crab (FIGURE 4)

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 for Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ), Community Development Quota (CDQ), and Adak Community Allocation (ACA) fisheries. The TAC is apportioned east and west of 174° W longitude.

The eastern TAC of 3.15 million pounds is apportioned as follows:

IFQ = 2,835,000 pounds CDQ = 315,000 pounds
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The western TAC of 2.835 is apportioned as follows:

IFQ = 2,551,500 pounds ACA = 283,500 pounds
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Five vessels are fishing for golden king crab at this time. In the western section, two vessels are participating, and in the eastern section there are three vessels. By regulation, fishermen cannot fish concurrently in both the east and west. The golden king crab fishery in the Aleutian Islands remains open through May 15, 2010.

Bristol Bay Red King Crab (FIGURE 5)

The Crab Plan Team estimated B_{msy} at 68.498 million pounds mature male biomass (MMB) at the time of mating. The stock was estimated to be 139 percent of the B_{msy} estimate and greater than the critical biomass threshold for allowing a directed fishery in 2009/10. The TAC would be approximately 16 million pounds. This represents 80 percent of the estimated retained-catch portion of the total-catch Overfishing Level (OFL) and 71 percent of the total-catch OFL for 2009.10. The TAC will be allocated 90 percent to the IFQ fishery and 10 percent to the CDQ fishery. The fishery opens October 15 and closes by regulation on January 15, 2010.

Pribilof Red and Blue King Crab (FIGURE 6)

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the National Marine Fisheries Service have completed analysis of 2009 NMFS trawl survey results for the Pribilof District of king crab registration Area Q. The Council's Crab Plan Team (CPT) met in September to review survey data and recommend overfishing definitions. Pribilof Islands blue king crab remains overfished. The current rebuilding plan has not achieved adequate progress to rebuild the stock by 2014. The Pribilof Islands blue king crab fishery has remained closed since 1999 and bycatch in 2008/09 was below the overfishing level. Because the total mature biomass for this stock was estimated to be less than 13.2 million pounds in both 2008 and 2009, under the State's harvest strategy the blue king crab fishery cannot open for the 2009/10 season. Additionally, because the estimated mature male biomass at the time of mating (February 15, 2010) is below the federal "critical biomass threshold", the directed fishery cannot open under Amendment 24 of the FMP. Due to the continued decline in the blue king crab stock, the high degree of uncertainty surrounding the estimates of red king crab abundance, and concern for blue king crab bycatch, the red king crab fishery in the Pribilof District will also remain closed for the 2009/2010 season.

St. Matthew Blue King Crab (FIGURE 7)

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the National Marine Fisheries Service have completed analysis of 2009 NMFS trawl survey results for the St.

Matthew District of king crab registration Area Q. This stock was declared overfished by the NMFS in 1999, and a rebuilding plan was developed in 2000. The NMFS has now declared this fishery rebuilt. Although the mature male biomass is estimated to be above the threshold for considering a fishery opening, both the overfishing level (OFL = 1.72 million pounds of retained catch) and computed TAC are below the minimum TAC of 2.5 million for a fishery specified in regulation (5 AAC 34.917 (a) (2)). On September 22, 2009, the department submitted a request for adoption of emergency regulations to amend the Saint Matthew Island Section blue king crab harvest strategy, removing that minimum total allowable catch. The minimum TAC was implemented to promote stock rebuilding. This fishery is now rationalized. The board held a teleconference on Monday, September 28, 2009 during which they voted to adopt an ER removing that language. An Emergency Regulation is valid for 120 days. The Alaska Board of Fisheries will revisit this issue at their statewide meeting in March 2010. With this action, the TAC was set at 1.167 million pounds after careful consideration of bycatch concerns. The TAC will be allocated between IFQ and CDQ participants. The fishery opens October 15 and closes February 1, 2010.

Bering Sea Snow Crab (FIGURE 8)

The model-based survey estimate of total mature biomass (TMB) for 2009 is 553.1 million pounds, and the area-swept survey estimate of TMB is 629.6 million pounds. Both are above the state harvest strategy's stock biomass threshold for considering a fishery opening (230.4 million pounds). The snow crab fishery was declared overfished in 1999. A rebuilding plan that specified a 10-year timeframe in which to rebuild the stock was adopted by the Council in June 2000 as FMP amendment 14. With the implementation of amendment 24, the stock's mature male biomass must be estimated to be above B_{msy} on February 15 for two consecutive years by February 15, 2010. Because mature male biomass was estimated to be below that level, the stock was not rebuilt with the specified 10-year timeframe. Acting under direction from NMFS on National Standard 1 guidelines for overfishing, the total mortality for the 2009/10 fishery, including bycatch, should be no greater than the default limit of 75 percent of the overfishing level. Adopting a similar approach to estimating bycatch mortality as was done with the St. Matthew king crab fishery, the

department established the snow crab TAC at approximately 48 million pounds. This will be split into IFQ and CDQ allocations. The fishery opens by regulation on October 15. The 2009/10 Bering Sea snow crab fishery will remain open through May 15, 2010 in the Eastern Subdistrict and through May 31, 2010 in the Western Subdistrict.

Bering Sea Tanner Crab (FIGURE 9)

In 2009, Tanner crab mature male biomass (MMB) at the time of the survey declined substantially and was projected to the time of mating in 2009/10 to be below the minimum stock size threshold (MSST). The status of the Eastern Bering Sea Tanner crab stock in 2009/10 is approaching an overfished condition. Overfishing did not occur during the 2008/09 fishing year. The total-catch OFL was estimated to be 5.57 million pounds for males and females combined. A significant component of the MMB losses is attributed to non-target losses under current fishing practices. Factoring in recent bycatch rates, a TAC of 1.35 million pounds was developed. Allocation will be divided between IFQ and CDQ fisheries (90 percent and 10 percent, respectively). The fishery opens October 15, and closes March 31, 2010. Because of sublegal male bycatch concerns, the fishery will not open west of 166° W longitude.

Central Region Pacific Cod (FIGURE 10)

Prince William Sound

The parallel Pacific cod season in the Prince William Sound Registration Area closed on January 27, 2009. This coincides with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) closure of the federal Central Gulf of Alaska area.

The state managed Pacific cod fishery (5 AAC 28.267) in the Prince William Sound Registration Area opened at 12:00 noon, February 3, 2009. The guideline harvest level for the Prince William Sound Area was 488,000 pounds. New regulations adopted by the Alaska Board of Fisheries allows the use of longline gear after March 14, 2009. Nineteen longline vessels participated, harvesting about 705,000 pounds in 37 landings. Thirty-five percent of the total pounds landed were made the

last day by twelve boats. Therefore, the fishery closed on March 27, 2009. There was no jig effort. The state waters fishery closed, and immediately reopened under parallel rules on September 1. That fishery closed on October 1.

Cook Inlet

The parallel Pacific cod season in the Cook Inlet Management Area closed on January 27, 2009. This coincides with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) closure of the federal Central Gulf of Alaska area. The Cook Inlet state waters Pacific cod season (5 AAC 28.367) opened on January 28, 2009 with a guideline harvest level (GHL) of 2,606,393 pounds. This is allocated 75 percent (1.95 million pounds) to pot gear and 25 percent (651,600 pounds) to jig gear. Additionally, the state waters season Pacific cod harvest prior to September 1, by vessels fishing pot gear and greater than 58 feet in length, is limited to 25 percent of the total guideline harvest level.

The season closed for all pot boats on March 18, 2009. Total harvest at that time was approximately 2.0 million pounds. The jig fleet harvested approximately 139 thousand pounds. The state waters fishery closed, and immediately reopened under parallel rules on September 1. With the closure of the federal Central Gulf of Alaska area on October 1, the state closed the parallel fishery and reopened under state waters management. There are about 461,000 pounds remaining to be taken by both pot and jig gears.

Westward Region GOA Pacific cod (FIGURE 11)

Kodiak Pacific cod (FIGURE 12)

The Kodiak state waters Pacific cod fishery opened on February 3, which was 7 days after NMFS closed inshore, directed Central GOA Pacific cod fishing. The GHL is 8.69 million pounds for this fishery. In the Kodiak Area, the guideline harvest level (GHL) will be equally divided between pot gear and jig gear. Pot vessels larger than 58 feet will be limited to 25 percent of the GHL until September 1. The Kodiak Area is designated exclusive registration for the state-waters Pacific cod season. The fishery closed to pot gear use on February 18, 2009 when it was anticipated that the GHL would be taken. Final catch for pot gear was approximately 4.14

million pounds taken in 138 landings. The parallel Pacific cod season in the Kodiak area will close effective 12:00 noon October 1, 2009. The state-waters Pacific cod season in the Kodiak Management area will reopen to jig gear at 12:01 p.m. October 3, 2009. The remaining portion of the 2009 state-waters guideline harvest level (GHL) in the Kodiak Management Area is 200,217 pounds. This GHL is insufficient to allow an orderly fishery for vessels using pot gear. Therefore, the remaining GHL is available for jig gear only.

Chignik Pacific cod (FIGURE 13)

The Chignik state waters Pacific cod fishery opened by regulation on March 1, 2009. The GHL for the 2009 season is 6.08 million pounds. In the Chignik Area, a 58-foot vessel length limit is in effect. The GHL will be split to reserve 10 percent for jig gear and 90 percent for pot gear. The area is designated superexclusive registration for the state-waters Pacific cod season. The fishery closed to pot gear on April 8, 2009. Final catch was about 5.7 million pounds. There has been no jig effort to date. The state-waters season will reopen 48-hours after the parallel/federal Central Gulf of Alaska Pacific cod season closes. NMFS announced the closure of the federal Central Gulf of Alaska Pacific cod fishery effective noon October 1, 2009. When it reopens, it will be to pot and jig gear. By regulation, the department may remove gear limits and vessel size limits after October 30. Until October 30, the 58-foot vessel size limit and the 60-pot limit and 5 mechanical jigging machine limit will be in effect. The remaining portion of the 2009 state-waters guideline harvest level (GHL) in the Chignik Management Area is 399,302 pounds.

South Alaska Peninsula Pacific cod (FIGURE 14)

The GHL for the South Alaska Peninsula state waters Pacific cod fishery is 11.89 million pounds. The season opened on March 4, 2009. Pot gear was managed to 85 percent of the GHL or 10.10 million pounds.

In the South Alaska Peninsula Area, a 58-foot vessel length limit is in effect. The South Alaska Peninsula is designated exclusive registration for the state-waters Pacific cod fishery. Daily reporting is mandatory for vessel operators using pot gear (5 AAC 28.577 (j)).

The fishery closed to pot fishermen on April 4, 2009. Harvest by the pot fleet was about 10.4 million pounds by 49 boats in 332 landings. Twenty seven vessels registered to use jig gear. The jig fleet had landed about 1.1 million pounds in 180 landings by the end of August. The state waters season closed on September 1 and immediately reopened under parallel fishing regulations.

Aleutian Islands Pacific cod (FIGURE 15)

The state-waters Pacific cod A-season in the Aleutian Islands District west of 170° W longitude opened to commercial fishing at noon on (Wednesday) March 25. In state-waters west of 170° W long., the Pacific cod parallel fishery is closed when the state-waters fishery is open. The 2009 state-waters season guideline harvest level (GHL), based on 3 percent of the final BSAI Pacific cod ABC of 176,000 mt., is 12,037,116 pounds. The state-waters fishery was managed so that a maximum of 70 percent of the GHL (8,425,981 pounds) was available for harvest prior to June 10. The remaining 30 percent of the GHL (3,611,135 pounds) plus any rollover from the A-season was available beginning June 10. The B-season opened on June 10 (it was immediately opened after the A-season closure) and closed on September 1. Nearly half of the 6,267,267 pound B-season GHL was from A-season rollover. B-season information is confidential as only one processor participated. The one processor was a floating processor that had between 5 and 7 vessels delivering to them. All vessels were longline, except for one, who did jig and longline. Most vessels dropped out of the fishery before it was closed. The fleet attributed low effort in the fishery to low prices, somewhat poor fishing, and lack of delivery options. Vessels were restricted to 60 feet or less, which also limited effort. If the federal >60 C/V pot fishery closes we will re-open the fishery, however NMFS does not expect much participation in the >60 C/V pot fishery. It is no longer in regulation that the state will relinquish part of the unused GHL back to the federal fishery.

Southeast Groundfish (FIGURE 16)

On May 31, 2009, new groundfish regulations approved at the BOF went into effect. Regulations were passed that enabled the department to increase lingcod bycatch

in the halibut longline fishery above 5 percent when appropriate to allow the longline fleet to harvest their lingcod allocation.

Another new regulation allowed the Department to set the demersal shelf rockfish (DSR) bycatch percentage above 10 percent when appropriate to achieve the commercial allocation of DSR. Shortly after increasing the DSR bycatch to 15 percent it was brought to the Department's attention that due to the federal regulation process and the inability to adjust bycatch allowances without a lengthy series of steps, the DSR bycatch in federal waters could not be increased. On June 18, the Department issued another EO and NR rescinding the increase in bycatch and set it back to 10 percent to keep in line with federal allowances.

The Southern Southeast Inside (SSEI or Clarence Strait) longline sablefish fishery closed by regulation on August 15, 2009. Twenty-five permit holders harvested approximately 555,400 pounds. The SSEI pot fishery opened on September 1, 2009 for three permit holders and remains open until November 15. The overall SSEI quota was 634,000 pounds, a 9 percent decrease from 2008. Equal quota share for this fishery was 22,650 pounds.

The Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI or Chatham Strait) longline fishery opened August 15, 2009 for 88 permit holders. The annual harvest objective was 1,071,000 pounds, a 29 percent drop from 2008. Equal quota share was 12,170 pounds. To date, 657,000 pounds have been harvested. The fishery closes November 15, 2009.

Alaska Board of Fisheries (FIGURE 17)

Alaska Board of Fisheries proposals of possible interest to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council:

- On August 26, 2009 a commercial crab fishermen submitted an emergency petition requesting a delay in setting the snow crab TAC to December 15, as well as requesting a four-month delay in opening the snow crab fishery. In early September, the board found that the petition did not meet the emergency petition criteria found in regulation at 5 AAC 96.625. The board

Proposal 102 – (Proposed by ADF&G) 5 AAC 28.560. Fishing Seasons for South Alaska Peninsula Area; 5 AAC 28.610 Fishing Seasons for Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands Area; and 5 AAC 28.710. Fishing Seasons for Chukchi-Beaufort Area.

- Makes it clear and consistent in regulation that fishing may only occur when parallel or state seasons are open

Proposal 103 – (Proposed by King Cove AC) 5 AAC 28.577. South Alaska Peninsula Area Pacific Cod Management Plan.

- Limit vessel size to 58 feet in the SAP parallel groundfish fishery.

Proposal 104 – (Proposed by Sand Point AC) 5 AAC 28.570. Lawful gear for South Alaska Peninsula

- Limit vessel size to 58 feet in the SAP parallel groundfish fishery.

Proposal 105 – (Proposed by Sand Point AC) 5 AAC 28.570. Lawful gear for South Alaska Peninsula

- Exclude longline gear from the South Alaska Peninsula parallel groundfish fishery

Proposal 106 – (Proposed by the public) 5 AAC 28.570 Lawful gear for South Alaska Peninsula Area.

- Gear limitation (60 pot or 5 jig machine) in parallel waters of the SAP

Proposal 107 – (Proposed by APCFA) 5 AAC 28.577 (b) (e) (g). South Alaska Peninsula Area Pacific Cod Management Plan.

- Restrict gear in parallel season to established limits for the state managed fishery, and limit provisions to expand fishery (eliminate vessel size restrictions, gear limits, and changes exclusive registration area requirements for the state waters season after October 30 if the Commissioner determines that the GHL will not be reached by December 31.

Proposal 108 – (Proposed by Sand Point AC) 5 AAC 28.577(e) (1). South Alaska Peninsula Area Pacific Cod Management Plan.

determined that there was no unforeseen or unexpected situation that either threatens a resource, or an unforeseen or unexpected resource situation where a biologically allowed harvest would be precluded.

The board will be considering several Agenda Change Requests during their October 13-14, 2009 work session in Anchorage.

These include:

ACR 1 – (proposed by public) 5 AAC 35.506 (i) (3) Area J Registration.

- Move the boundary in the directed fishery easterly from 163° W longitude to 159° W longitude in order to reduce gear conflicts with the trawl fleet.

ACR 7 – (proposed by ADF&G) 5 AAC 35.517 (a) (2) Bering Sea *C. Opilio* Tanner Crab Harvest Strategy.

- Delete the minimum TAC language in regulation since it is no longer necessary under a rationalized fishery.

ACR 9 – (proposed by the Alaska Crab Coalition) 5 AAC 35.520 Size Limits for Registration Area J; and 5 AAC 35.508 Bering Sea District *C. bairdi* Tanner Crab Harvest Strategy.

- Change the minimum size for male Tanner crab to a size that would be determined based upon an ongoing analysis by the University of Alaska. If this ACR were approved, it would place this issue before the board during the upcoming regulatory cycle. Since the analysis by the University is not complete, it is unknown what the alternative size limit would be.

Additionally, the following proposals will be taken up by the board: Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Islands Finfish – February 2-6, 2010, Anchorage Egan Center

Proposal 101 – (Proposed by ADF&G) 5 AAC 28.550 Description of South Alaska Peninsula Area; and 5 AAC 28.600. Description of Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands.

- Clarify groundfish management area descriptions for the South Alaska Peninsula Area and the Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands Area. This would completely define the demarcation line separating the SAP area and the BSAI area – important in State and Parallel waters fisheries.

Proposal 102 – (Proposed by ADF&G) 5 AAC 28.560. Fishing Seasons for South Alaska Peninsula Area; 5 AAC 28.610 Fishing Seasons for Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands Area; and 5 AAC 28.710. Fishing Seasons for Chukchi-Beaufort Area.

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- Restrict gear in parallel season to established limits for the state managed fishery, and limit provisions to expand fishery (eliminate vessel size restrictions, gear limits, and changes exclusive registration area requirements for the state waters season after October 30 if the Commissioner determines that the GHF will not be reached by December 31.

Proposal 108 – (Proposed by Sand Point AC) 5 AAC 28.577(e) (1). South Alaska Peninsula Area Pacific Cod Management Plan.

- Increase the GHL in the state waters for the South Alaska Peninsula fishery from 15 percent to 50 percent of the estimated total allowable harvest of Pacific cod for the federal Western Gulf of Alaska Area.

Proposal 109 – (Proposed by King Cove AC) 5 AAC 28.577(e). South Alaska Peninsula Area Pacific Cod Management Plan.

- Increase the GHL in the state waters for the South Alaska Peninsula fishery from 15 percent to 50 percent of the estimated total allowable harvest of Pacific cod for the federal Western Gulf of Alaska Area.

Proposal 110 – (Proposed by King Cove AC) 5 AAC 28.577. South Alaska Peninsula Area Pacific Cod Management Plan.

- Implement a 7-day stand down period for vessels that have participated in a federal BSAI Pacific cod fishery prior to participating in the SAP state-waters Pacific cod season. (By regulation in GOA – except Cook Inlet – the state waters Pcod fishery opens 7-days after the close of the federal A-season).

Proposal 111- (Proposed by Unalaska/Dutch Harbor AC) 5 AAC 28.650. Closed waters in the Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands area.

- Close defined waters of Unalaska Bay to commercial groundfish trawl gear in order to reduce impacts to local residents who are engaged in subsistence, sport, and non-pollock commercial fishing activities in those waters.

Proposal 113 – (Proposed by ADF&G) 5 AAC 28.647. Aleutian Islands District Pacific Cod Management Plan.

- Will clearly state in regulation that pot gear may be longlined, a practice that has been allowed since the fishery began in 2006.

Proposal 114 – (Proposed by the public) 5 AAC 28.647. Aleutian Islands District Pacific Cod Management Plan.

- Would allow pot vessels 100 feet or less LOA to participate in the B-season west of 170° W longitude if more than 50 percent of the available GHL remains to be taken after August 1.

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. This is essential for ensuring the integrity of the financial statements and for providing a clear audit trail.

2. The second part of the document outlines the various methods used to collect and analyze data. These methods include direct observation, interviews, and the use of specialized software tools.

3. The third part of the document describes the results of the data collection and analysis. It shows that there are significant differences in the way that different departments handle their data, which can lead to inconsistencies and errors.

4. The fourth part of the document discusses the implications of these findings. It suggests that a more standardized approach to data collection and analysis is needed to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the financial statements.

5. The fifth part of the document provides a detailed description of the proposed solution. This solution involves the implementation of a new software system that will allow for the collection and analysis of data in a more consistent and efficient manner.

6. The sixth part of the document discusses the implementation of the proposed solution. It outlines the steps that will be taken to ensure that the new system is successfully integrated into the existing workflow.

7. The seventh part of the document discusses the evaluation of the proposed solution. It describes the methods that will be used to measure the effectiveness of the new system and to identify any areas for improvement.

8. The eighth part of the document provides a conclusion and a list of recommendations. It emphasizes the importance of ongoing monitoring and evaluation to ensure that the new system continues to meet the needs of the organization.

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



October 2009

Figure 1.

SE AK Summer Troll Chinook Salmon Catches

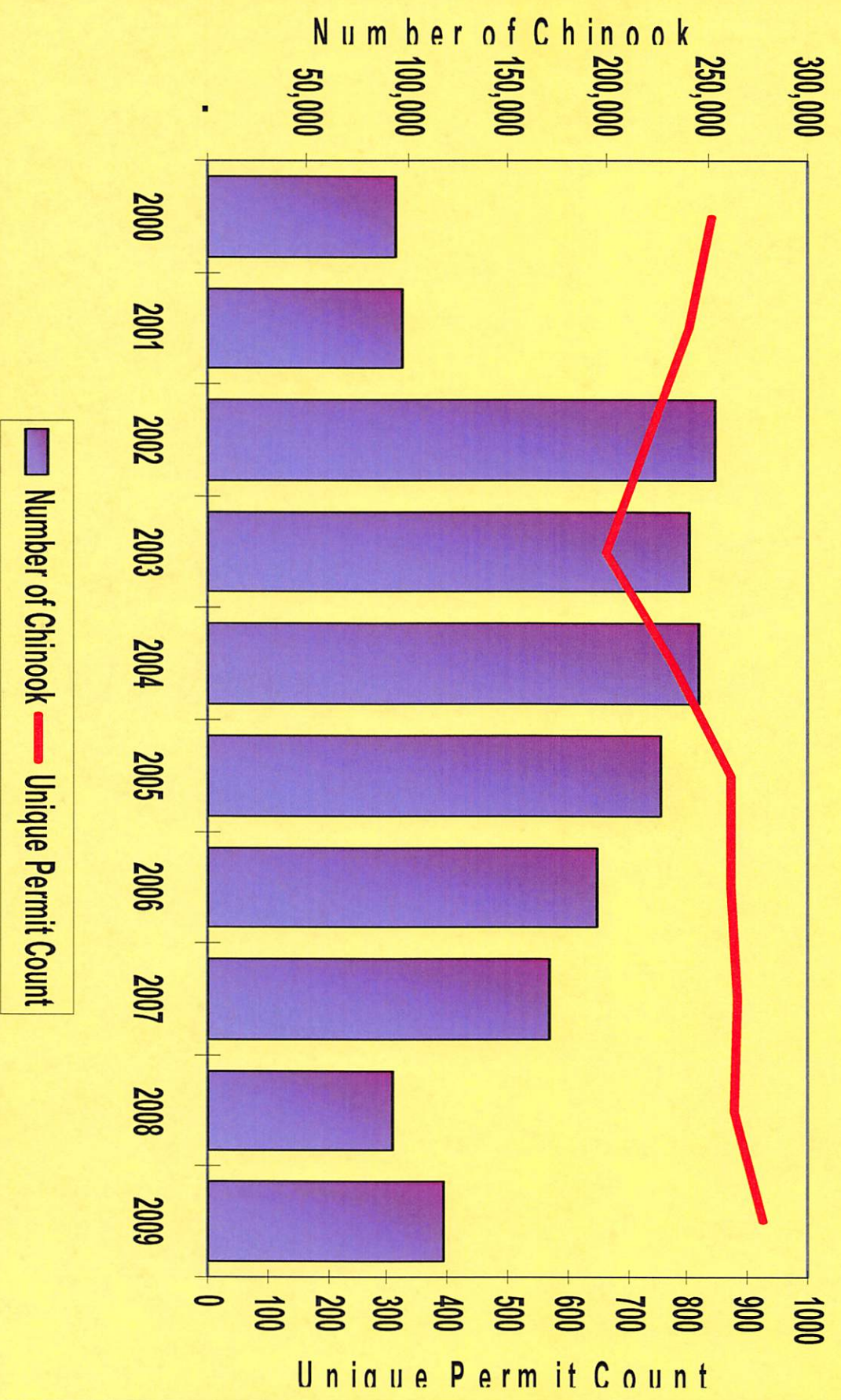


Figure 2.

Registration Area	Guideline Harvest Level (pounds of shucked meat)	Bycatch Limits (number of crab)	
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ALASKA PENINSULA	<i>Closed for the 2009/2010 season</i>		
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BERING SEA	50,000	260,000 C.bairdi	500
		300,000 C.opilio and hybrids	

¹ Commissioner's Permit required to harvest scallops in the SW District

Figure 3.

Norton Sound Red King Crab Harvests



Figure 4.

Al Golden King Crab

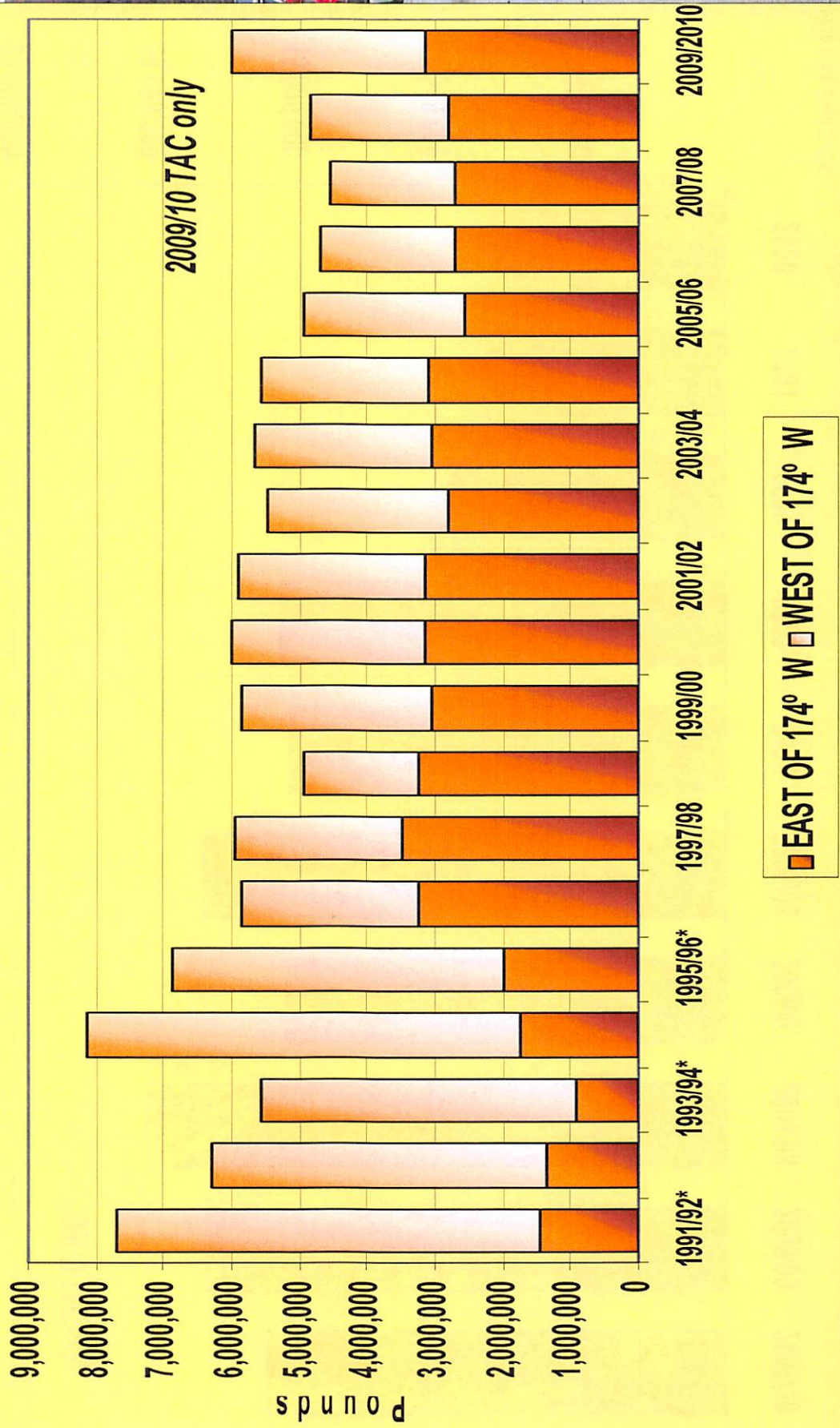
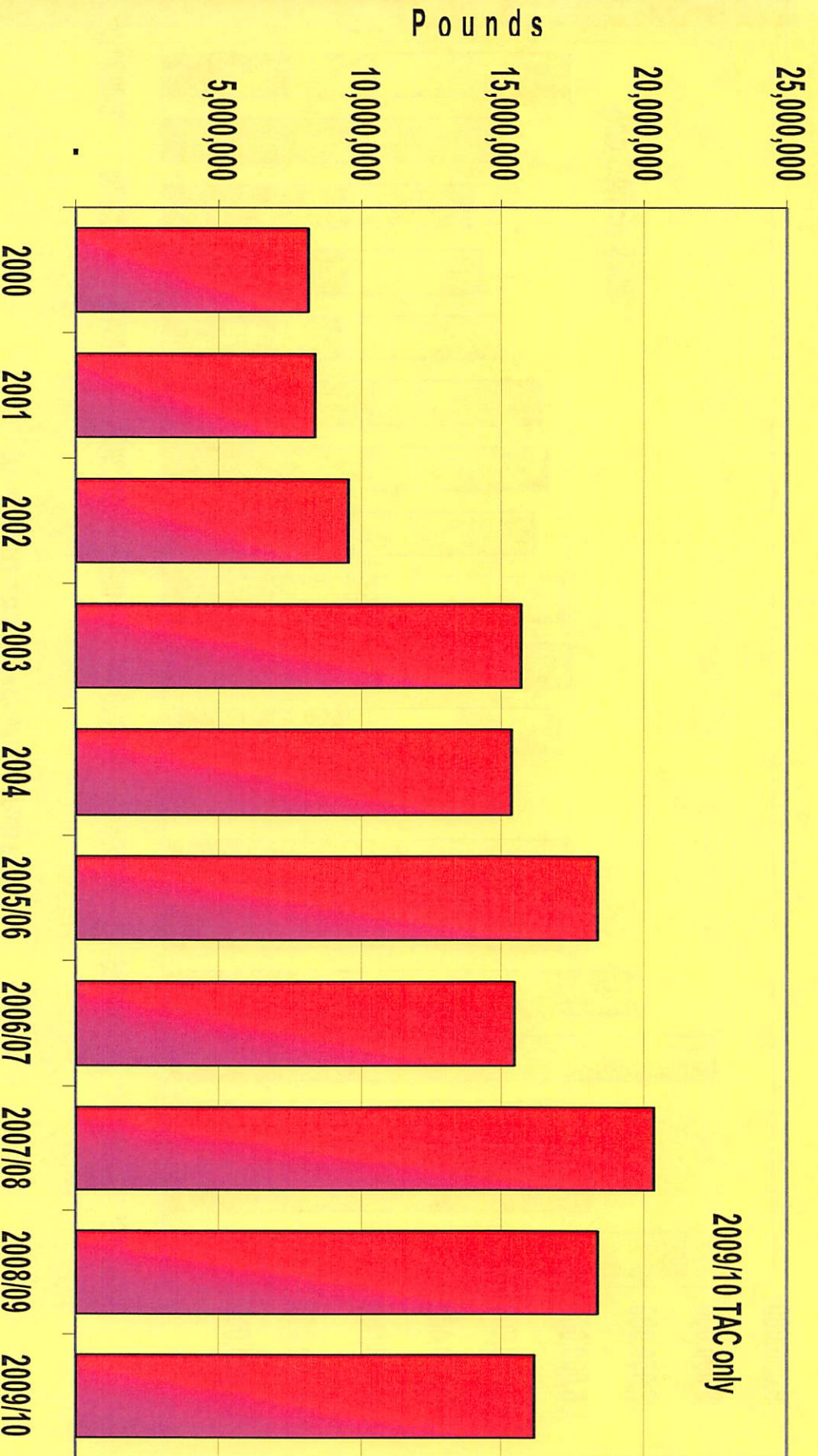


Figure 5.

Bristol Bay Red King Crab Harvests



data from 2008 SAFE

Pribilof Islands king crab (red and blue)

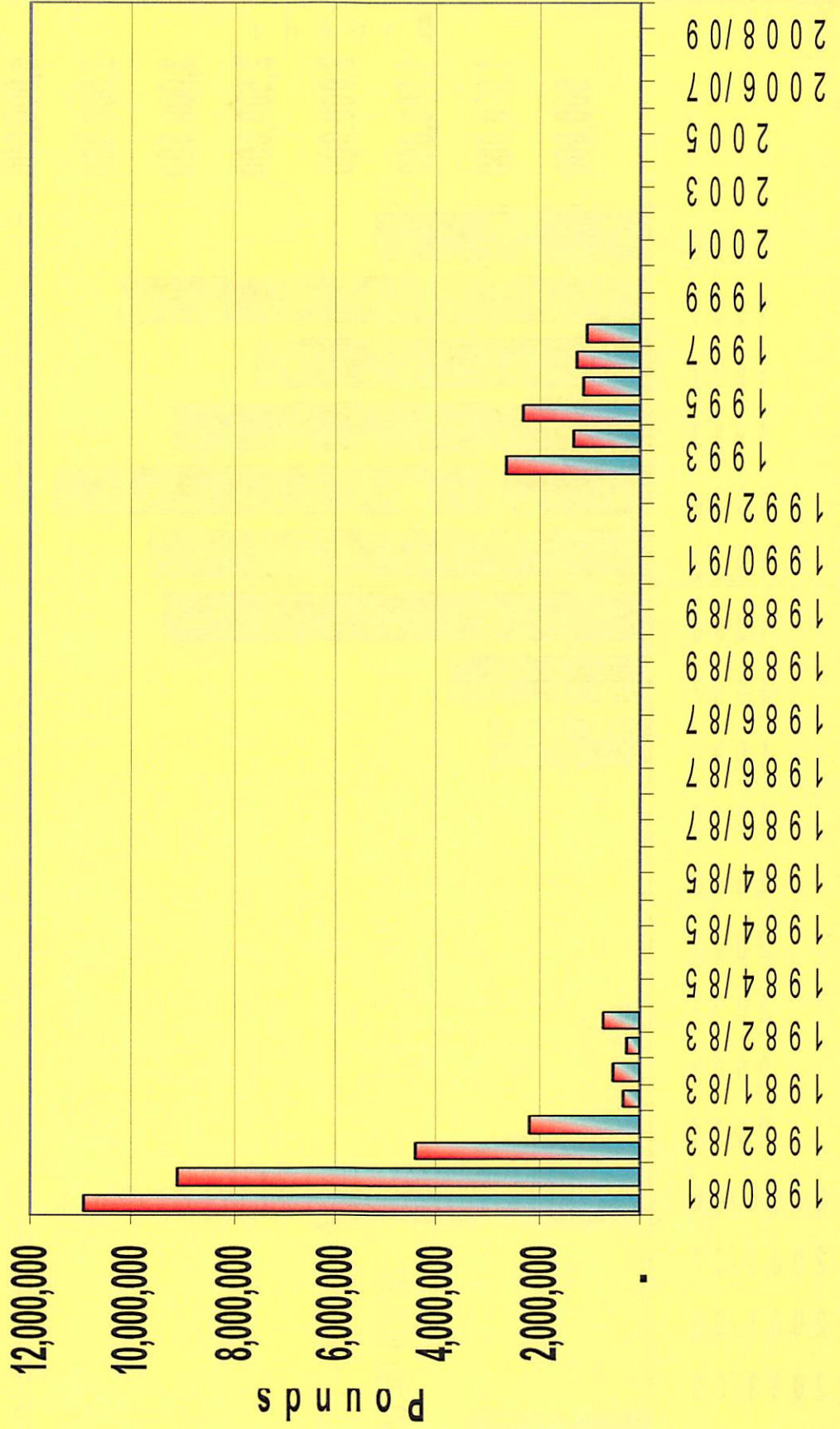


Figure 6.

Figure 7.

St. Matthew Island King Crab Harvests

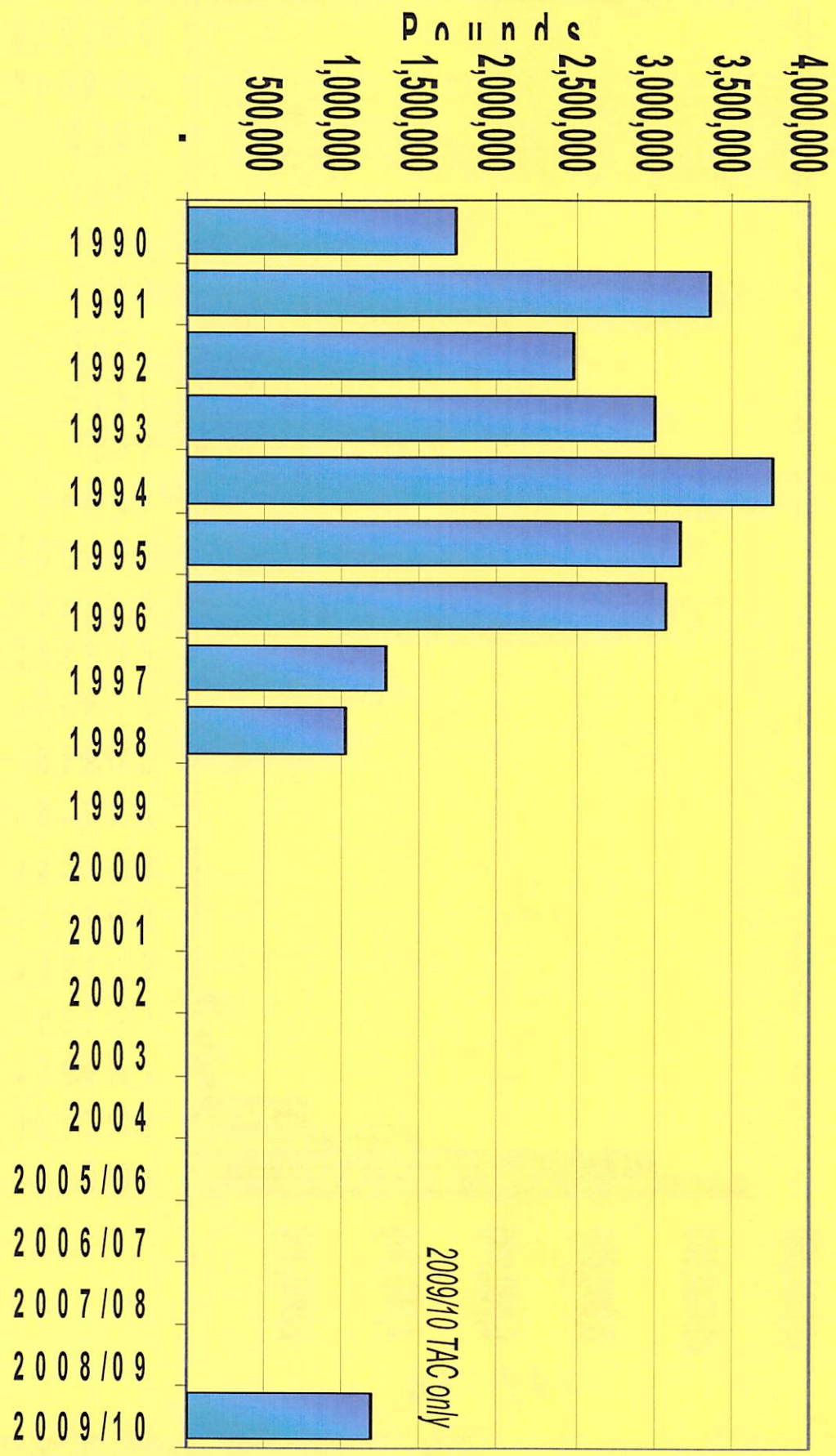


Figure 8.

Bering Sea Snow Crab Harvests

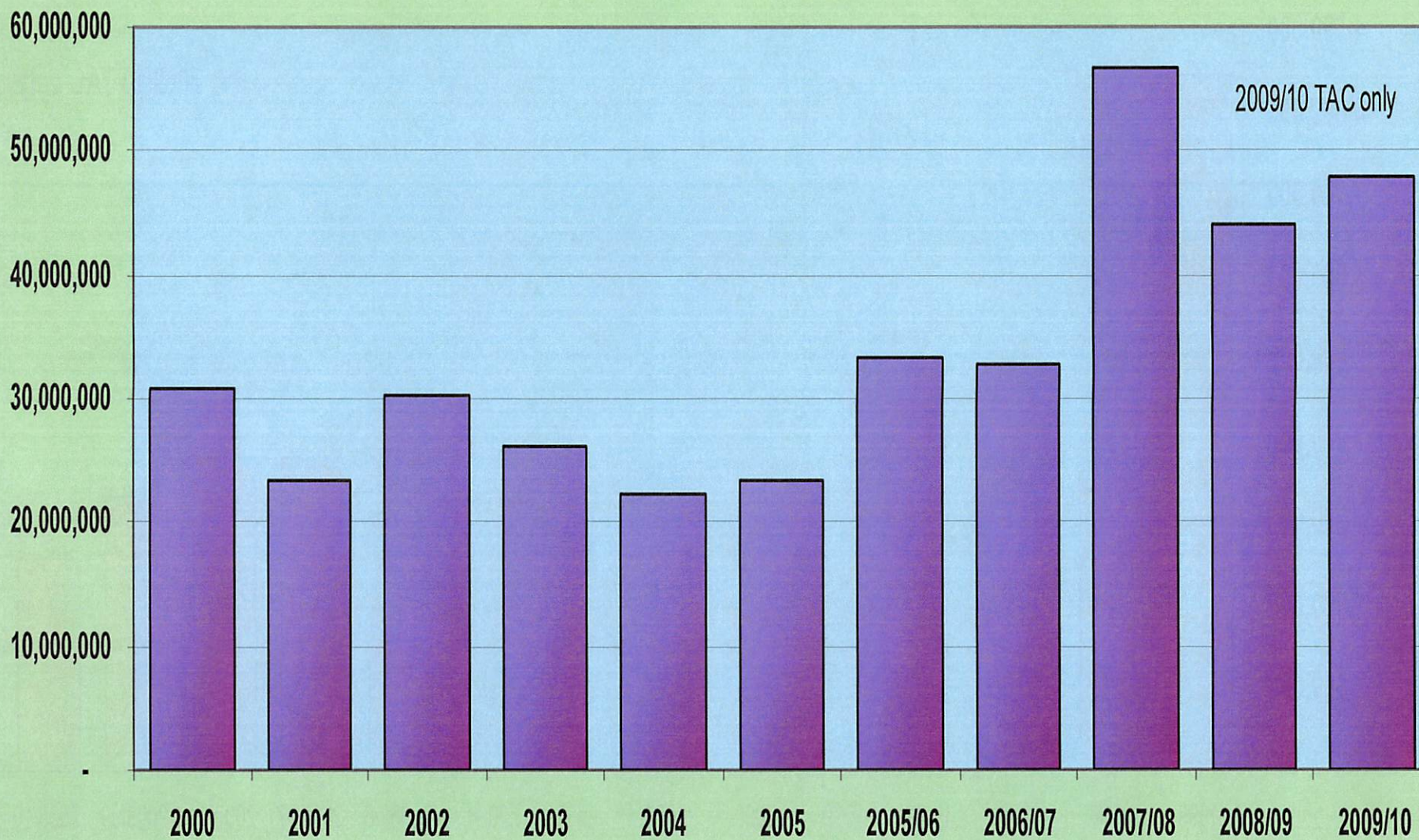


Figure 9.

Bering Sea *C. bairdi* Crab Harvests

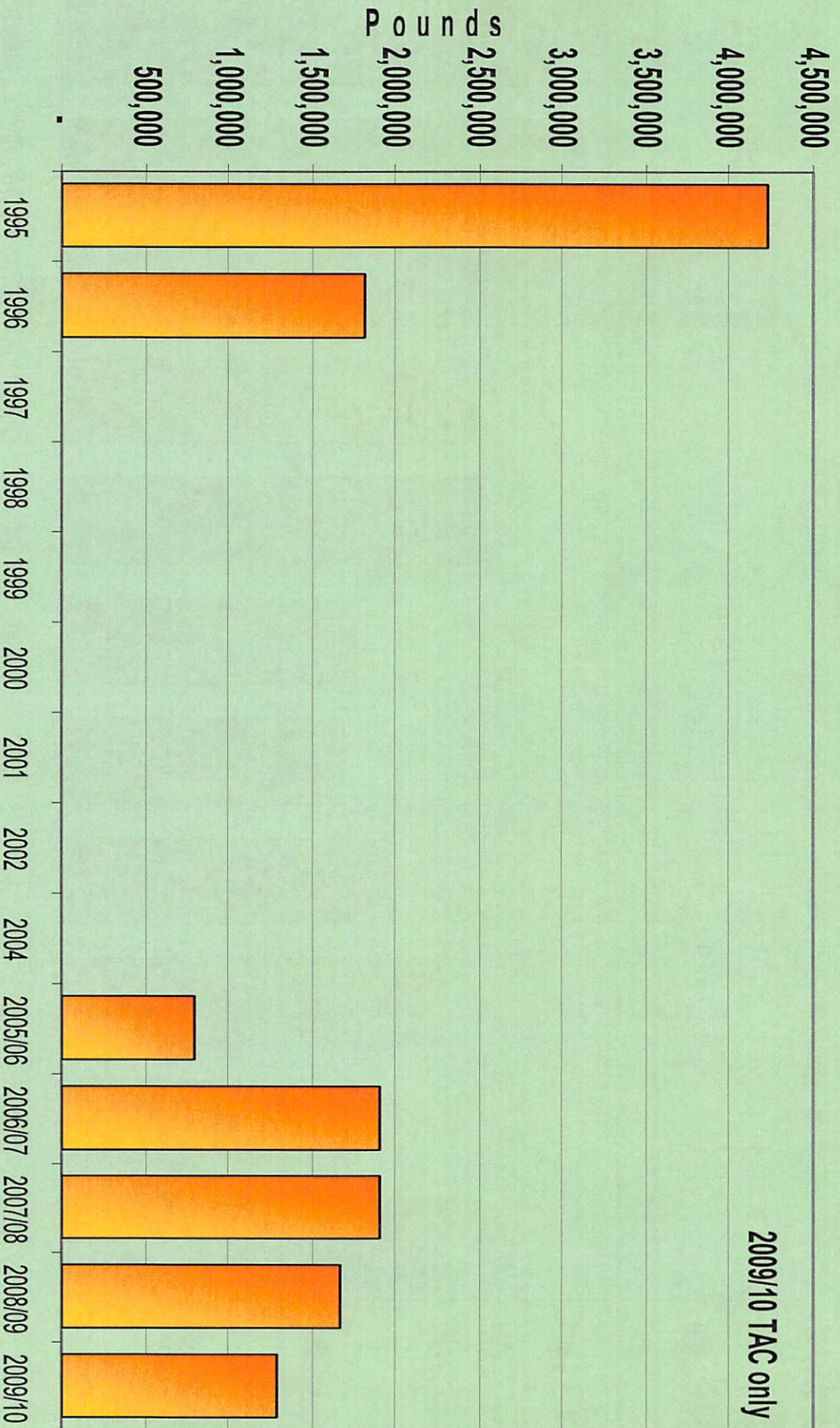




Figure 11.

**2009 STATE MANAGED GROUND FISH
PRELIMINARY PACIFIC COD HARVEST BY FISHERY WEEK**

UPDATED:

9/1/2009



Vessels Registered	KODIAK			CHIGNIK			SOUTH ALASKA PENINSULA											
	Total	Pot	Jig	Total	Pot	Jig	Total	Pot	Jig									
	146	39	107	13	13	0	76	49	27									
2009 GHJ	8.69 Million Pounds			6.08 Million Pounds			11.89 Million Pounds											
ALLOCATIONS:	50% Jigs, 50% Pots Pots >58' restricted to 25% of total GHJ before Sept. 1. Jigs = 4.345 million, Pots = 4.345 million, >58' pots 2.172 before Sept. 1			90% Pots, 10% Jigs Pots = 5.47 million Jigs = .61 million			85% Pots, 15% Jigs Pots = 10.11 million Jigs = 1.78 million											
DATES:	Pots		Jigs		Pots		Jigs		Pots		Jigs							
	Landings	Catch	Landings	Catch	Landings	Catch	Landings	Catch	Landings	Catch	Landings	Catch						
	Fishery opens 2/03/09				Fishery Opens 3/1/09				Fishery Opens 3/4/09									
2/3-7/09	25	687,872	15	31,265	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-						
2/8-14/09	67	2,135,668	27	45,804	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-						
2/15-21/09	46	1,317,513	29	55,050	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-						
2/22-28/09	<i>Closed 2/18/09</i>	<i>Closed 2/18/09</i>	35	102,472	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-						
3/1-3/7/09	-	-	50	127,050	17	926,008	-	-	25	607,248	-	-						
3/8-14/09	-	-	38	159,931	15	804,873	-	-	71	2,119,561	-	-						
3/15-21/09	-	-	20	59,242	9	232,954	-	-	38	1,310,969	-	-						
3/22-28/09	-	-	19	52,963	33	1,372,700	-	-	94	3,035,852	-	-						
3/29-4/4/09	-	-	29	149,782	20	1,150,064	-	-	98	3,171,292	-	-						
4/5-11/09	-	-	47	319,879	30	1,193,079	-	-	6	200,044	-	-						
4/12-18/09	-	-	28	140,085	<i>Closed 4/8/09</i>	<i>Closed 4/8/09</i>	-	-	<i>Closed 4/4/09</i>	<i>Closed 4/4/09</i>	-	-						
4/19-25/09	-	-	61	442,960	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	24,053						
4/26-5/2/09	-	-	35	150,149	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	9,764						
5/3-9/09	-	-	72	579,058	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	110,508						
5/10-16/09	-	-	77	537,104	-	-	-	-	-	-	26	195,057						
5/17-23/09	-	-	63	390,260	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	127,930						
5/24-30/09	-	-	35	221,440	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	91,603						
5/31-6/6/09	-	-	17	74,885	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	21,516						
6/7-13/09	-	-	30	224,278	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	21,516						
6/14-20/09	-	-	25	204,504	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	79,519						
6/21-27/09	-	-	30	162,781	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	76,340						
6/28-7/4/09	-	-	17	42,507	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	58,128						
7/5-11/09	-	-	7	30,541	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	28,580						
7/12-18/09	-	-	4	20,173	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	29,850						
7/19-25/09	-	-	-	Confidential	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Confidential						
7/26-8/1/09	-	-	-	Confidential	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	8,881						
8/2-8/09	-	-	3	12,333	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	35,427						
8/9-15/09	-	-	-	Confidential	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	17,882						
8/16-22/09	-	-	-	Confidential	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	35,488						
8/23-29/09	-	-	-	Confidential	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	28,228						
8/30-9/1/09	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	94,737						
ACCUMULATIVE	138	4,141,053	813	4,345,205	124	5,679,678	0	0	332	10,444,966	180	1,090,263						
CATCH	(Total combined)			8,486,258			(Total combined)			5,679,678			(Total combined)			11,535,229		

Totals include confidential data

Figure 12.

Kodiak State Waters Pacific Cod Harvests

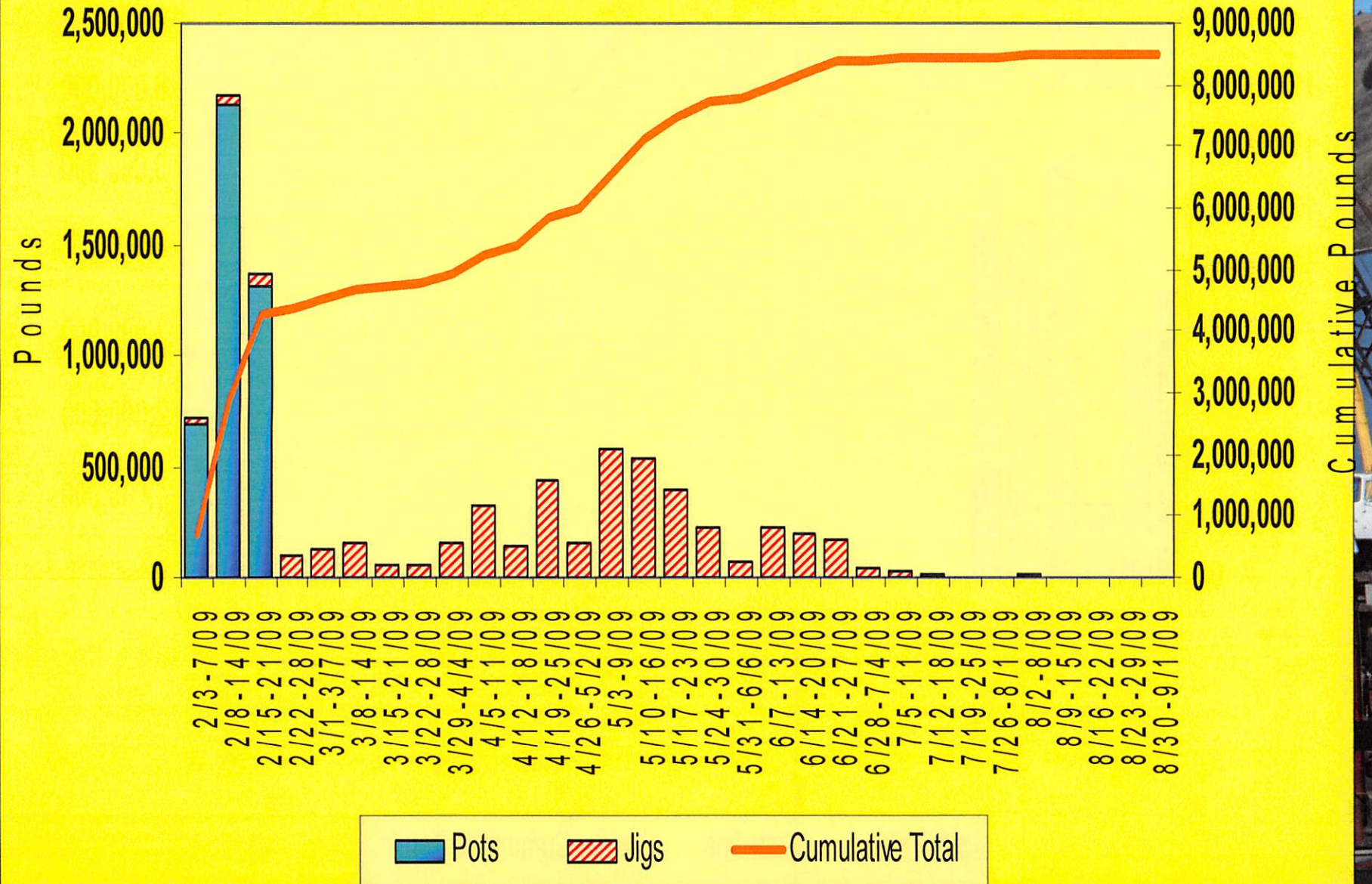
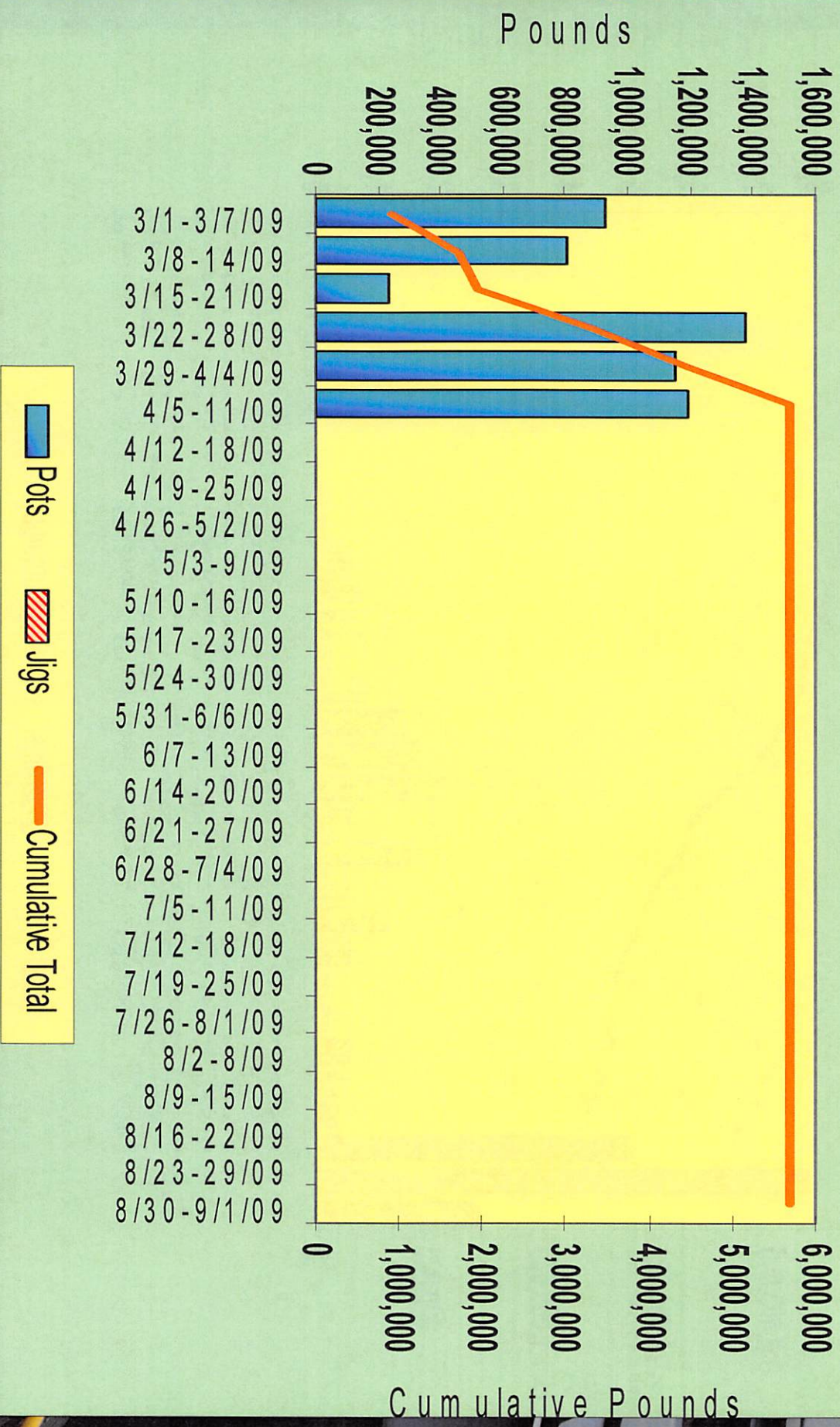


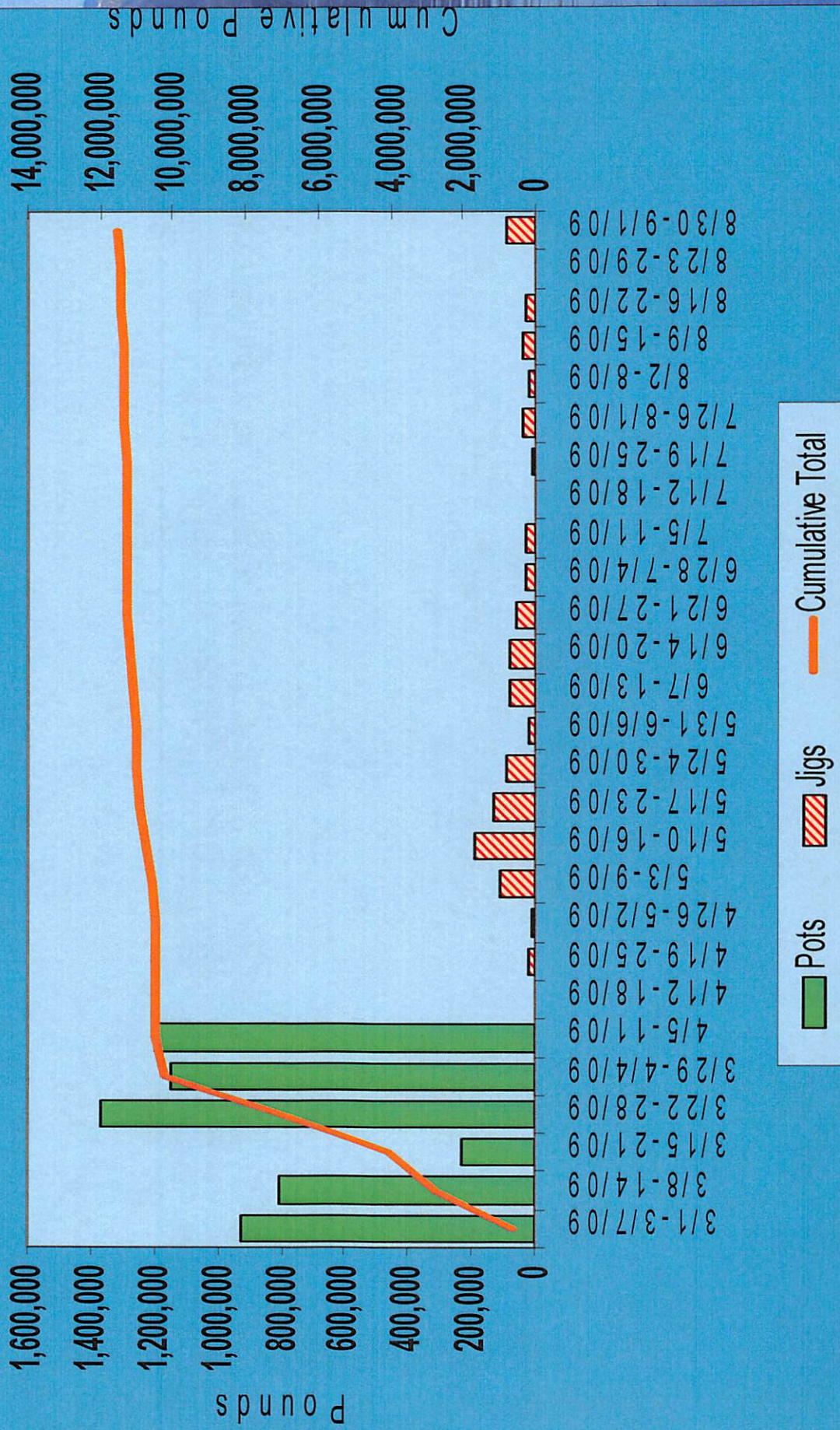
Figure 13.

Chignik State Waters Pacific Cod Harvests



S. AK Pen State Waters Pacific Cod Harvests

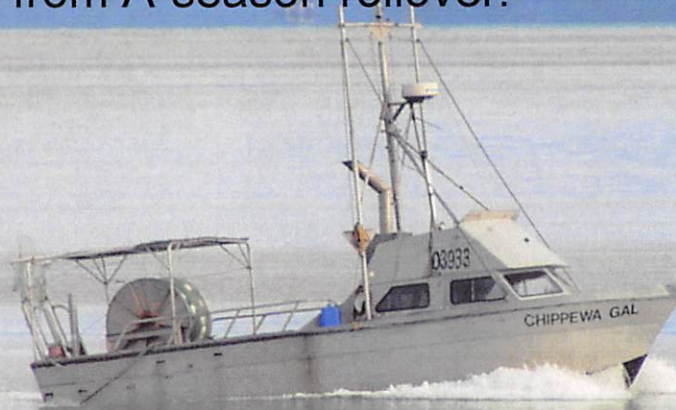
Figure 14.



Aleutian Islands State Waters Pacific Cod Fishery

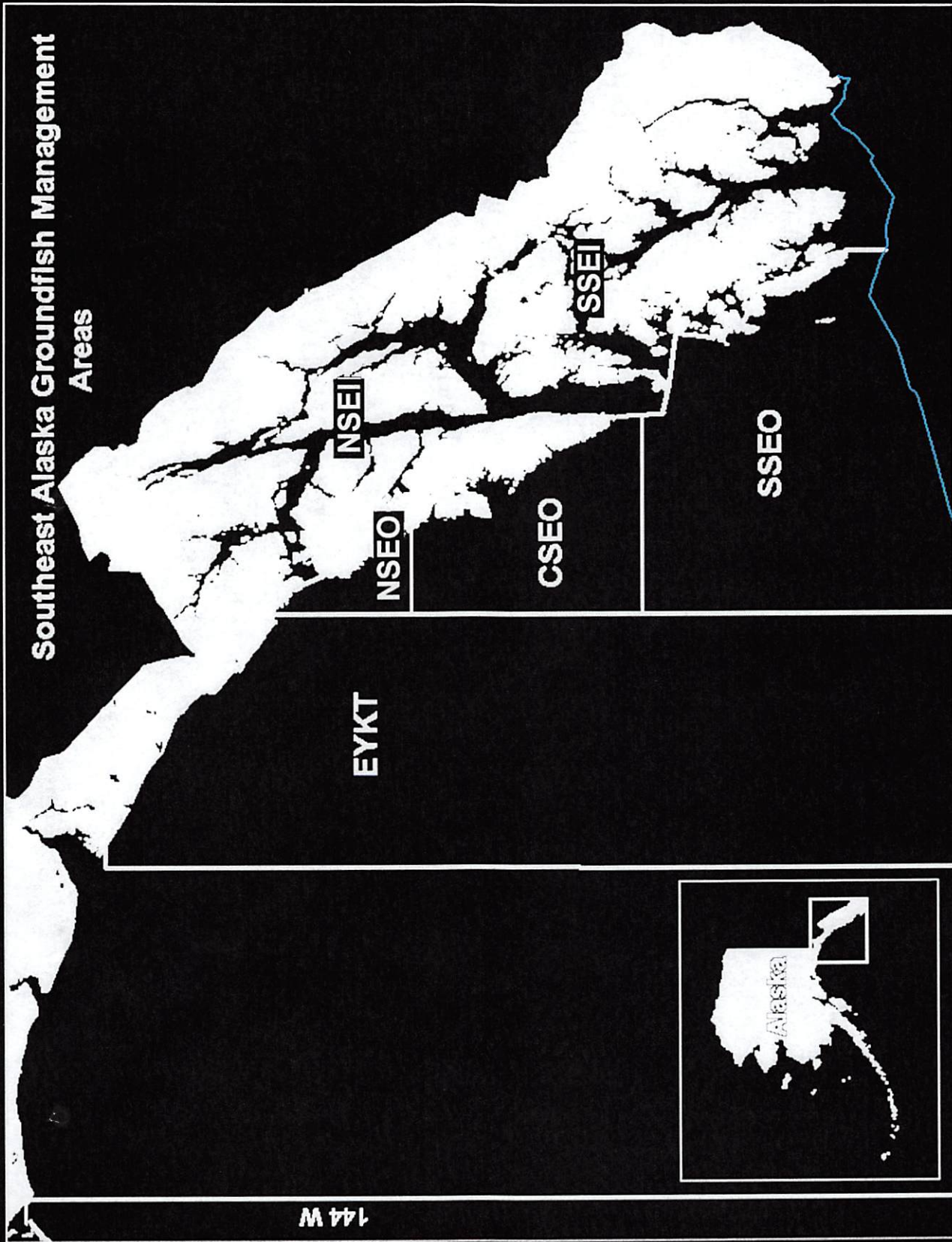
The state-waters fishery was managed so that a maximum of 70 percent of the GHL (8,425,981 pounds) was available for harvest prior to June 10. The remaining 30 percent of the GHL (3,611,135 pounds) plus any rollover from the A-season was available beginning June 10.

The B-season opened on June 10 (it was immediately opened after the A-season closure) and closed on September 1. Nearly half of the 6,267,267 pound B-season GHL was from A-season rollover.



Catch is confidential given the number of buyers

Southeast Alaska Groundfish Management Areas



The board will be considering several Agenda Change Requests during their October 13-14, 2009 work session in Anchorage.

ACR 1 – (proposed by public) 5 AAC 35.506 (i) (3) Area J Registration.

- Move the boundary in the directed fishery easterly from 163° W longitude to 159° W longitude in order to reduce gear conflicts with the trawl fleet.

ACR 7 – (proposed by ADF&G) 5 AAC 35.517 (a) (2) Bering Sea *C. Opilio* Tanner Crab Harvest Strategy.

- Delete the minimum TAC language in regulation since it is no longer necessary under a rationalized fishery.

ACR 9 – (proposed by the Alaska Crab Coalition) 5 AAC 35.520 Size Limits for Registration Area J; and 5 AAC 35.508 Bering Sea District *C. bairdi* Tanner Crab Harvest Strategy.

- Change the minimum size for male Tanner crab to a size that would be determined based upon an ongoing analysis by the University of Alaska. If this ACR were approved, it would place this issue before the board during the upcoming regulatory cycle. Since the analysis by the University is not complete, it is unknown what the alternative size limit would be.



**Additionally, the following proposals will be taken up by the board:
Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Islands Finfish – February 2-6, 2010,
Anchorage Egan Center**

Proposal 101 – (Proposed by ADF&G) 5 AAC 28.550. Description of South Alaska Peninsula Area; and 5 AAC 28.600. Description of Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands.

- Clarify groundfish management area descriptions for the South Alaska Peninsula Area and the Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands Area. This would completely define the demarcation line separating the SAP area and the BSAI area – important in State and Parallel waters fisheries.

Proposal 102 – (Proposed by ADF&G) 5 AAC 28.560. Fishing Seasons for South Alaska Peninsula Area; 5 AAC 28.610 Fishing Seasons for Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands Area; and 5 AAC 28.710. Fishing Seasons for Chukchi-Beaufort Area.

- Makes it clear and consistent in regulation that fishing may only occur when parallel or state seasons are open.

Proposal 103 – (Proposed by King Cove AC) 5 AAC 28.577. South Alaska Peninsula Area Pacific Cod Management Plan.

- Limit vessel size to 58 feet in the SAP parallel groundfish fishery.

Proposal 104 – (Proposed by Sand Point AC) 5 AAC 28.570. Lawful gear for South Alaska Peninsula

- Limit vessel size to 58 feet in the SAP parallel groundfish fishery.

Proposal 105 – (Proposed by Sand Point AC) 5 AAC 28.570. Lawful gear for South Alaska Peninsula

- Exclude longline gear from the South Alaska Peninsula parallel groundfish fishery

Proposal 106 – (Proposed by the public) 5 AAC28.570 Lawful gear for South Alaska Peninsula Area.

- Gear limitation (60 pot or 5 jig machine) in parallel waters of the SAP

Proposal 107 – (Proposed by APCFA) 5 AAC 28.577 (b) (e) (g). South Alaska Peninsula Area Pacific Cod Management Plan.

- Restrict gear in parallel season to established limits for the state managed fishery, and limit provisions to expand fishery (eliminate vessel size restrictions, gear limits, and changes exclusive registration area requirements for the state waters season after October 30 if the Commissioner determines that the GHL will not be reached by December 31.

Proposal 108 – (Proposed by Sand Point AC) 5 AAC 28.577(e) (1). South Alaska Peninsula Area Pacific Cod Management Plan.

- Increase the GHL in the state waters for the South Alaska Peninsula fishery from 15 percent to 50 percent of the estimated total allowable harvest of Pacific cod for the federal Western Gulf of Alaska Area.

Proposal 109 – (Proposed by King Cove AC) 5 AAC 28.577(e). South Alaska Peninsula Area Pacific Cod Management Plan.

- Increase the GHL in the state waters for the South Alaska Peninsula fishery from 15 percent to 50 percent of the estimated total allowable harvest of Pacific cod for the federal Western Gulf of Alaska Area.



Proposal 110 – (Proposed by King Cove AC) 5 AAC28.577. South Alaska Peninsula Area Pacific Cod Management Plan.

- Implement a 7-day stand down period for vessels that have participated in a federal BSAI Pacific cod fishery prior to participating in the SAP state-waters Pacific cod season. (By regulation in GOA – except Cook Inlet – the state waters Pcod fishery opens 7-days after the close of the federal A-season).

Proposal 111- (Proposed by Unalaska/Dutch Harbor AC) 5 AAC 28.650. Closed waters in the Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands area.

- Close defined waters of Unalaska Bay to commercial groundfish trawl gear in order to reduce impacts to local residents who are engaged in subsistence, sport, and non-pollock commercial fishing activities in those waters.

Proposal 113 – (Proposed by ADF&G) 5 AAC 28.647. Aleutian Islands District Pacific Cod Management Plan.

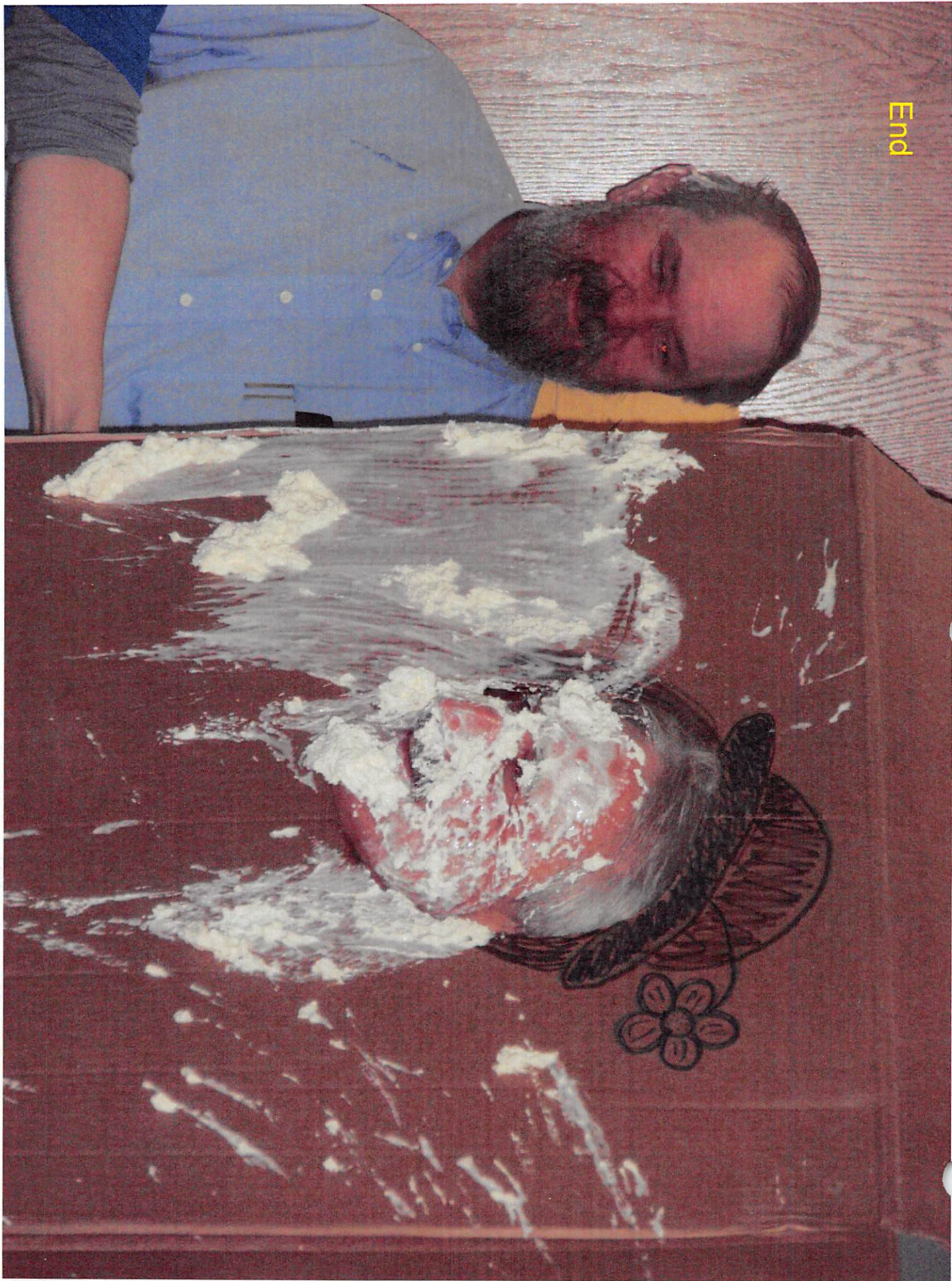
- Will clearly state in regulation that pot gear may be longlined, a practice that has been allowed since the fishery began in 2006.

Proposal 114 – (Proposed by the public) 5 AAC 28.647. Aleutian Islands District Pacific Cod Management Plan.

- Would allow pot vessels 100 feet or less LOA to participate in the B-season west of 170° W longitude if more than 50 percent of the available GHL remains to be taken after August 1.



End



Area 2C Final 2008 Harvest Estimates Based on the Statewide Harvest Survey

User	Port	MeanWt	No. Fish	Yield (lb)
CHARTER	Ketchikan	18.9	8,309	156,970
	POW Island	9.2	29,412	269,407
	PBG/WRG	22.5	7,232	162,755
	Sitka	16.1	31,641	510,708
	Juneau	11.6	8,517	98,690
	Haines/SKG	11.6	242	2,804
Glacier Bay	45.3	17,612	797,801	
Area 2C	19.4	102,965	1,999,135	

Approximate 95% Confidence Intervals for Harvest Estimates (M lb):

User	PointEst	StdErr	Lower	Upper
Charter	1.999	0.099	1.805	2.193
Private	1.265	0.082	1.104	1.426
Overall	3.264	0.119	3.030	3.498

PRIVATE	Ketchikan	14.9	11,251	167,235
	POW Island	11.6	11,520	134,182
	PBG/WRG	21.9	12,047	263,871
	Sitka	17.2	6,118	105,384
	Juneau	15.2	12,148	184,340
	Haines/SKG	15.2	209	3,171
Glacier Bay	31.3	13,003	406,621	
Area 2C	19.1	66,296	1,264,804	

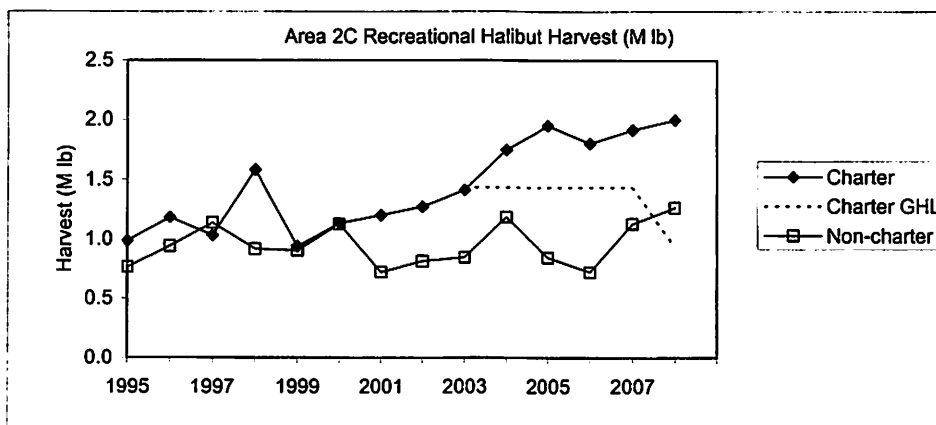
Comparison of final estimates to October 2008

projections (M lb):			
User	Projected	Final	Error(%)
Charter	1.914	1.999	-4.3%
Private	1.169	1.265	-7.6%
Overall	3.083	3.264	-5.5%

OVERALL Area 2C 19.3 169,261 3,263,939

Area 2C Harvest 1995-2008

Year	Charter				Non-charter			Total Sport Harvest		
	No. Fish	Avg. Wt.	Yield (M lb)	GHL (M lb)	No. Fish	Avg. Wt.	Yield (M lb)	No. Fish	Avg. Wt.	Yield (M lb)
1995	49,615	19.9	0.986	No GHL	39,707	19.3	0.765	89,322	19.6	1.751
1996	53,590	22.1	1.187		41,307	22.8	0.943	94,897	22.4	2.129
1997	51,181	20.2	1.034		53,205	21.4	1.139	104,386	20.8	2.172
1998	54,364	29.1	1.584		42,580	21.5	0.917	96,944	25.8	2.501
1999	52,735	17.8	0.939		44,301	20.4	0.904	97,036	19.0	1.843
2000	57,208	19.8	1.132		54,432	20.7	1.126	111,640	20.2	2.258
2001	66,435	18.1	1.202		43,519	16.6	0.723	109,954	17.5	1.925
2002	64,614	19.7	1.275		40,199	20.3	0.814	104,813	19.9	2.090
2003	73,784	19.1	1.412		45,697	18.5	0.846	119,481	18.9	2.258
2004	84,327	20.7	1.750		62,989	18.8	1.187	147,316	19.9	2.937
2005	102,206	19.1	1.952	1.432	60,364	14.0	0.845	162,570	17.2	2.798
2006	90,471	19.9	1.804	1.432	50,520	14.3	0.723	140,991	17.9	2.526
2007	109,835	17.5	1.918	1.432	68,498	19.1	1.131	178,333	17.1	3.049
2008	102,965	19.4	1.999	0.931	66,296	19.1	1.265	169,261	19.3	3.049



Recent charter regulations:

Year	Regulations in Place
1995-2005	Two-fish bag limit (no size restrictions), no limit on crew retention
2006	Two-fish bag limit (no size limit), state EO prohibiting crew harvest 5/26-12/31.
2007	Two-fish bag limit (1 under 32" eff. 6/1), no crew retention 5/1-12/31 (State EO and Federal Rule)
2008	Two-fish bag limit (1 under 32"), except one-fish bag limit Jun 1-10 (halted by injunction)

Area 3A Final 2008 Harvest Estimates Based on the Statewide Harvest Survey

User	Port	MeanWt	No. Fish	Yield (lb)
CHARTER	CCI	15.6	53,197	830,941
	Homer	15.4	70,670	1,088,318
	Kodiak	20.2	18,120	366,719
	Seward	15.3	35,352	539,491
	Valdez	24.7	8,826	217,980
	Whittier	21.5	7,501	161,252
	Yakutat	38.9	4,442	172,991
Area 3A		17.0	198,108	3,377,693
PRIVATE	CCI	13.8	31,393	434,039
	Homer	13.2	53,822	708,627
	Kodiak	14.0	15,879	222,385
	Seward	10.2	25,542	259,931
	Valdez	14.4	8,578	123,319
	Whittier	19.1	9,548	182,805
	Yakutat	20.9	524	10,973
Area 3A		13.4	145,286	1,942,079
OVERALL	Area 3A	15.5	343,394	5,319,772

Approximate 95% Confidence Intervals for Harvest Estimates (M lb):

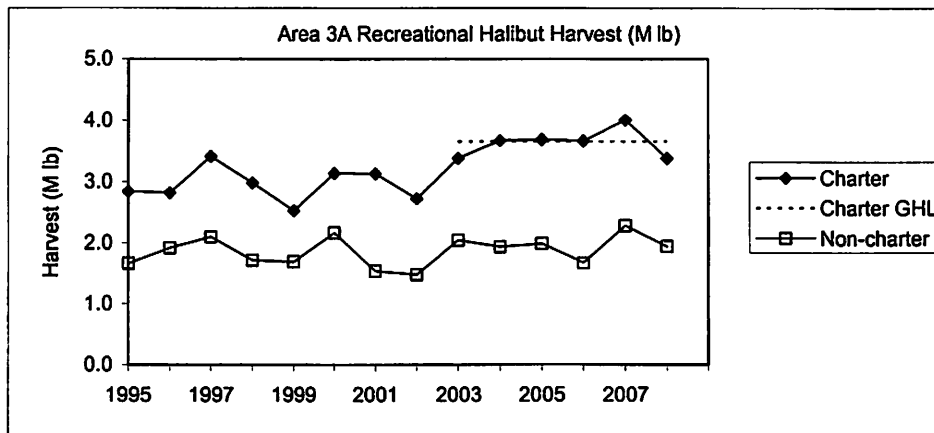
User	PointEst	StdErr	Lower	Upper
Charter	3.378	0.142	3.099	3.657
Private	1.942	0.089	1.768	2.116
Overall	5.320	0.167	4.992	5.647

Comparison of final estimates to October 2008 projections (M lb):

User	Projected	Final	Error(%)
Charter	3.603	3.378	6.7%
Private	2.026	1.942	4.3%
Overall	5.629	5.320	5.8%

Area 3A Harvest 1995-2008

Year	Charter				Non-charter			Total Sport Harvest		
	No. Fish	Avg. Wt.	Yield (M lb)	GHL (M lb)	No. Fish	Avg. Wt.	Yield (M lb)	No. Fish	Avg. Wt.	Yield (M lb)
1995	137,843	20.6	2.845		95,206	17.5	1.666	233,049	19.4	4.511
1996	142,957	19.7	2.822		108,812	17.6	1.918	251,769	18.8	4.740
1997	152,856	22.3	3.413		119,510	17.6	2.100	272,366	20.2	5.514
1998	143,368	20.8	2.985		105,876	16.2	1.717	249,244	18.9	4.702
1999	131,726	19.2	2.533	No GHL	99,498	17.0	1.695	231,224	18.3	4.228
2000	159,609	19.7	3.140		128,427	16.9	2.165	288,036	18.4	5.305
2001	163,349	19.2	3.132		90,249	17.1	1.543	253,598	18.4	4.675
2002	149,608	18.2	2.724		93,240	15.9	1.478	242,848	17.3	4.202
2003	163,629	20.7	3.382	3.65	118,004	17.3	2.046	281,633	19.3	5.427
2004	197,208	18.6	3.668	3.65	134,960	14.4	1.937	332,168	16.9	5.606
2005	208,902	17.8	3.689	3.65	127,088	15.6	1.984	333,988	17.0	5.672
2006	204,115	17.9	3.664	3.65	114,887	14.6	1.674	319,002	16.7	5.337
2007	236,133	16.9	4.002	3.65	166,338	13.7	2.281	402,471	15.6	6.283
2008	198,108	17.0	3.378	3.65	145,286	13.4	1.942	343,394	15.5	5.320



Recent charter regulations:

Year	Regulations in Place
1995-2006	Two-fish bag limit (no size restrictions), no limit on crew retention
2007	Two-fish bag limit (no size restrictions), state EO prohibiting crew harvest 5/1-12/31.
2008	Two-fish bag limit (no size restrictions), state EO prohibiting crew harvest 5/24-9/2.

2008 Estimated Charter Halibut Harvest Using Logbook Numbers^a
 (based on logbook data as of July 20, 2009)

Area	Port	Mean Wt (lb) ^b	No. Fish ^b	Yield (lb)
Area 2C	Ketchikan	18.9	8,580	162,089
	POW Island	9.2	38,060	348,621
	PBG/WRG	22.5	5,456	122,786
	Sitka	16.1	29,458	475,473
	Jun/Hai/Skgv	11.6	7,997	92,665
	Glacier Bay	45.3	17,472	791,459
	Total	18.6	107,023	1,993,093
Area 3A	CCI	15.6	63,738	995,592
	Homer	15.4	83,168	1,280,787
	Kodiak-AKPe	20.2	17,756	359,352
	Seward	15.3	50,470	770,200
	Valdez	24.7	7,012	173,179
	Whittier	21.5	4,529	97,362
	Yakutat	38.9	3,404	132,567
	Total	16.6	230,077	3,809,040

^a - Estimate includes harvest by crew but excludes harvest by "comped" (non-paying) anglers.

^b - Average weights are rounded to the nearest 0.1 lb.

