



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

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

Salmon

The Southeast Alaska summer troll fishery opened on July 1, 2021. The summer fishery targets the annual Pacific Salmon Treaty Chinook salmon quota during multiple open periods during the July 1 to September 30 timeframe. During the summer season, most waters of the Southeast Alaska/Yakutat area are open to commercial trolling, including outer coastal waters in the EEZ and excluding those waters described in 5 AAC 29.150. Chinook harvest during the summer troll fishery was 131,470 fish and 128,356 of those fish are estimated to be Treaty Chinook salmon (Figure 1).

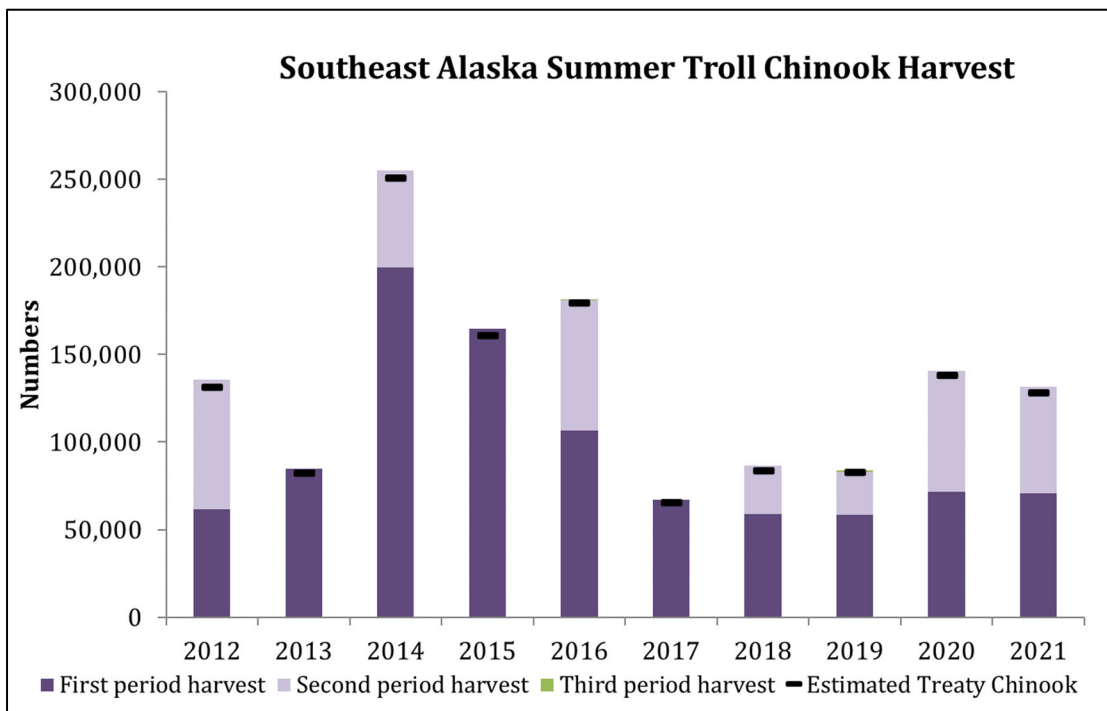


Figure 1. Southeast Alaska Chinook harvest and estimated treaty Chinook harvest during the summer season by harvest period, 2012-2021.

Aleutian Islands Golden King Crab

The 2021/22 Aleutian Islands (AI) commercial golden king crab fishery opened August 1, 2021. The total allowable catch (TAC) for this stock is 5.93 million pounds and is apportioned east and

west of 174° W longitude. For the 2021/22 fishing year the eastern TAC is 3.61 million pounds and the western TAC is 2.32 million pounds. Ten percent of the eastern Aleutian Islands golden king crab TAC is allocated to the Community Development Quota (CDQ) fishery and ten percent of the western Aleutian Islands golden king crab TAC is allocated to the Adak Community Allocation (ACA) fishery. In the eastern area, 50% of the TAC has been harvested by three vessels and CDQ harvest is confidential (Figure 2). In the western area, all harvest to date is confidential. Both areas close by regulation on April 30, 2022.

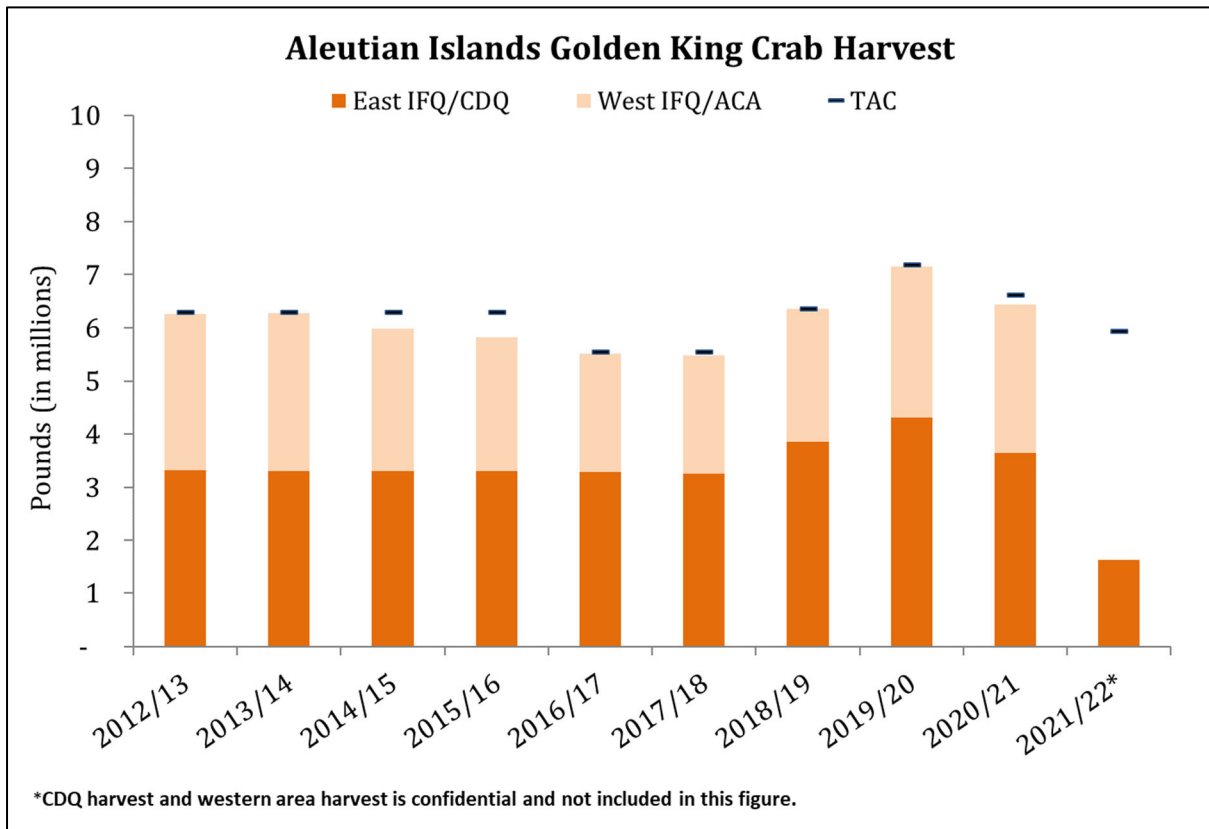


Figure 2. Aleutian Islands golden king crab harvest by area and TAC, 2012/13 – 2021/22 seasons.

Scallop

Weathervane scallop fisheries in the Yakutat, Kodiak, Alaska Peninsula, Dutch Harbor, and the Bering Sea registration areas opened on July 1, 2021. The cumulative guideline harvest level (GHL) for the 2021/22 season is 345,500 pounds of shucked meats, a 68,000 pound increase from the 2020/21 cumulative GHL. To date 220,755 pounds of shucked meats have been harvested (Figure 3).

2021/22 Alaska Weathervane Scallop Guideline Harvest and Crab Bycatch Levels				
Registration Area	District/Management Unit	GHL (pounds of shucked meat)	Bycatch Limits (number of crab)	
			Tanner Crab	King Crab
Yakutat		145,000	N/A	N/A
Prince William Sound	East Kayak Subsection	<i>Closed for the 2021/22 season</i>		
	West Kayak Subsection	8,000	N/A	N/A
Cook Inlet	Kamishak Bay District	<i>Closed for the 2021/22 season</i>		
Kodiak	Northeast District	30,000	18,000	25
	Shelikof District	80,000	40,000	25
	Southwest District	35,000	21,000	25
	Southeast District	15,000	9,000	25
	Semidi Islands District ¹	<i>Exploratory Area (Commissioner's Permit)</i>		
Alaska Peninsula	160° to 161° W. long	7,500	3,750	25
	Unimak Bight ¹	7,500	4,500	25
Dutch Harbor	Bering Sea waters	5,000	3,750	10
	Pacific Ocean waters	5,000	3,750	10
Bering Sea		7,500	18,750	100
			<i>C. opilio & hybrids</i>	
			11,250	

¹ Commissioner's Permit required to harvest scallops in these areas.

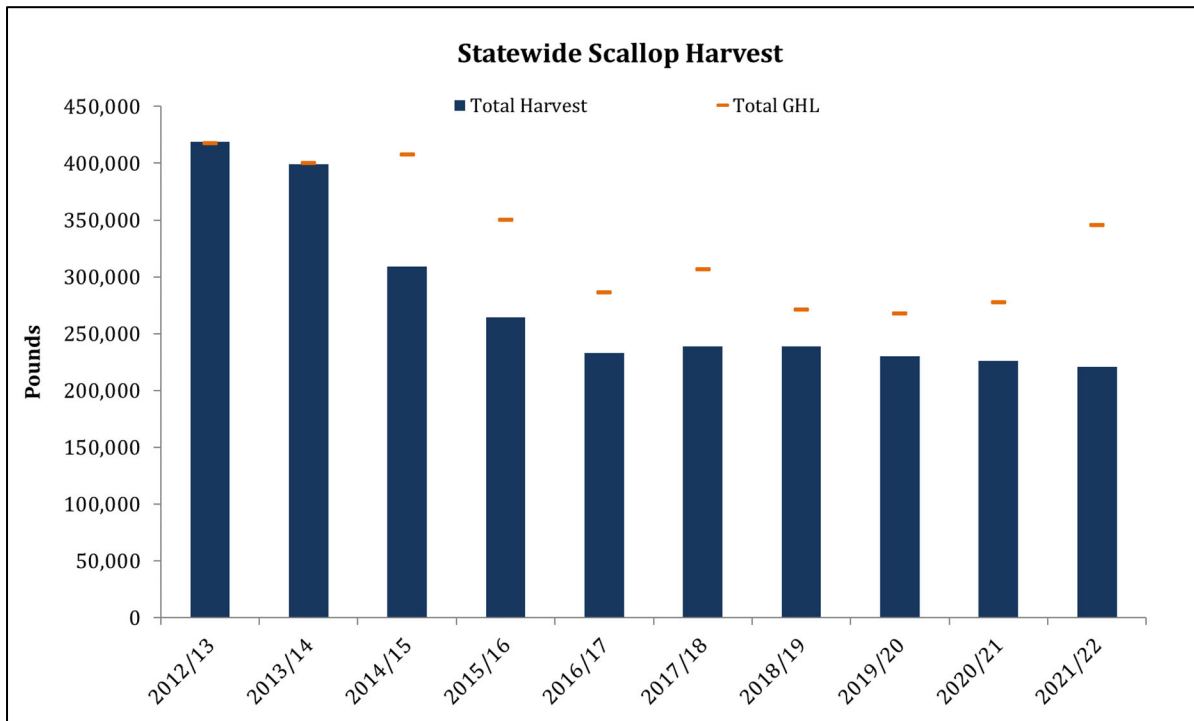


Figure 3. Statewide scallop harvest and GHL, 2012/13-2021/22 seasons.

Pacific Cod

State-water Pacific cod fisheries are established in the Prince William Sound, Cook Inlet, Kodiak, Chignik, South Alaska Peninsula, and Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Management Areas.

Guideline Harvest Levels (GHLs) are calculated as a percentage of area ABCs and 2021 GHLs are as follows:

State Water Pacific Cod Guideline Harvest Level					
State Management Area	ABC and GHL percentage in regulation		Gear	2021 GHL (pounds)	2021 GHL (mt)
Prince William Sound	EGOA - 25%		Jig/Pot	164,107	74
			Longline	929,937	422
Chignik	8.75%		Jig	263,428	119
			Pot	2,370,849	1,075
Kodiak	CGOA - 25%	12.50%	Jig	1,881,626	853
			Pot	1,881,626	853
Cook Inlet	3.75%		Jig	169,348	77
			Pot	959,639	435
South Alaska Peninsula	WGOA - 30%		Jig	792,267	359
			Pot	4,489,514	2,036
Dutch Harbor Subdistrict	Bering Sea - 10%		Jig	100,000	45
			Pot	27,292,000	12,379
Aleutian Islands Subdistrict*	Aleutian Islands - 39%		All	15,000,000	6,804

*AI Subdistrict GHL is capped at 15 million pounds (6,804 mt)

Since the last state report to the Council, limited amounts of state-waters Pacific cod harvest has occurred in the Kodiak, Chignik, South Alaska Peninsula, and Dutch Harbor jig gear fisheries but harvest is confidential. There has been no participation in the Chignik area state-waters pot gear fishery that re-opened on August 15, 2021.

Alaska Board of Fisheries

Upcoming meetings:

- Work Session, October 20-21, 2021, via web conference. No regulatory action is taken at this meeting. Agenda change requests (ACRs) that may be of interest to the Council include:

ACR 1. (ADF&G) Add pot gear as a legal gear in the commercial halibut fishery to be consistent with federal and IPHC regulations.

- Prince William Sound/Upper Copper and Upper Susitna Rivers Finfish and Shellfish, November 30-December 6, 2021, Cordova. Comments are due November 15, 2021. Proposals that may be of interest to the Council include:

Proposal 1. Establish a longline skate fishery in Prince William Sound based on 25% of the Longnose Skate and Big Skate ABCs in the EGOA. *Proposal 1 requests 25% of the EGOA TAC for each of these skate species but functionally these allocations would be deducted from the ABC before the federal TACs are established.*

Proposal 3. (ADF&G) Clarify possession and landing requirements for the parallel Pacific cod fishery in the Prince William Sound Area as follows: “an operator of a vessel

participating in a parallel Pacific cod season in the Prince William Sound Area may not operate gear in any other registration area during the same trip.”

Proposal 4. (ADF&G) Clarify possession and landing requirements for the state-managed sablefish fishery in the Prince William Sound Area as follows: “an operator of a vessel retaining sablefish in federal waters may not operate gear in state waters of the Prince William Sound Area during the same trip.”