

DRAFT SPECIAL AGENDA

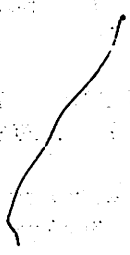
for

JOINT MEETING BETWEEN THE BOARD OF FISHERIES
AND THE NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

February 6, 1985
Centennial Building, Sitka, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER - 8:30 AM

1. Selection of Chairman for Joint Meeting
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Results of IPHC Annual Meeting
4. Southeastern Yakutat Troll Salmon Fisheries Management
 - a. Overview of U.S.- Canada Salmon Treaty
 - b. Fisheries Overview
 - ADF&G staff reports
 - Salmon Plan Team reports
 - Scientific and Statistical Committee Report
 - Advisory Panel Report - *ADV. Comm REPORTS*
 - Other Reports - *Tim Wopato* *GORDY PETERSON* *GARY SLAVEN*
 - c. Summary of Issues
 - d. Public Hearing
 - e. Joint Board/Council Proposal Consideration
(568-571, 580-591, 593, 594, Alaska Trollers Assn. Petition - #636)
570? 84-
5. Southeastern Groundfish Management
 - a. Fisheries overview
 - ADF&G staff report
 - NPFMC staff report
 - Scientific and Statistical Committee Report
 - Advisory Panel Report
 - Other reports
 - b. Summary of Issues
 - c. Public Hearing
 - d. Joint Board/Council Proposal Discussion of rockfish proposals (606).
6. Set date for Seattle Public Hearing on King Crab
7. Chairman's Closing Comments



NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
SALMON PLAN TEAM REPORT
February 6, 1985

I. Introduction

The Salmon Plan Team has reviewed five documents in preparation for the 1985 North Pacific Fisheries Management Council-Alaska Board of Fisheries salmon regulatory deliberations. The five documents were (1) the packet of regulatory proposals distributed by the Alaska Board of Fisheries in early December, 1984; (2) a petition by the Alaska Trollers Association regarding trolling west of Cape Suckling; (3) the Report of the U.S.-Canada Chinook Salmon Technical Committee; (4) the draft Chinook Annex of the proposed treaty, which was initialed by the negotiators on January 16, 1985; and (5) the ADF&G staff report to the Board of Fisheries on the 1984 troll fishery.

The Salmon Plan Team supports the analyses and conclusions of the U.S.- Canada Chinook Technical Committee as expressed in its December 3, 1984, report. That report states that although spawning escapements improved in many rivers in 1984, many natural stocks remain depressed relative to established escapement goals. The Team supports the concept of a coastwide chinook salmon management program, which is consistent with Objective 6 of the FMP that states the Council's desire to "work toward the development of a coastwide management plan for chinook salmon." The Team reviewed the proposals submitted to the Board for their consistency with the current federal regulations, the FMP, and the proposed salmon treaty.

In the past the Council has not addressed sportfish proposals, although the FMP and regulations do address sport (i.e. recreational) fishing. The proposed treaty Chinook Annex includes the marine recreational catch in the overall harvest ceiling, and some current proposals would require FMP or regulatory amendment. At present virtually no sport chinook catch occurs in the FCZ.

Also, this is the first time the Team has reviewed specific proposals for harvest of hatchery surplus. The Team has done so at this time because both the proposed treaty Chinook Annex and the FMP address the utilization of hatchery surpluses

The Team would like to note that the FMP needs a general revision not only to incorporate recent status of stocks and harvest information, but also to bring it into consistency with the proposed salmon treaty and recent MFCMA amendments. This would have to be done outside of the Council's annual salmon cycle and might be ready for the 1986 season. The team will develop a schedule for preparing the revision and will issue a statement at the Council's March meeting.

The Team has no recommendations for specific fishing periods for the 1985 salmon fishery, but we have some points for the Council and Board to consider in establishing fishing periods. The Team will be

available to help the Council evaluate the impacts of proposed fishing periods.

II. Points to Consider

The Team has estimated the approximate number of summer season fishing days necessary to attain the catch ceiling in 1985. The summer troll season is dependent on the troll harvest guideline and the predicted catch rate. A ceiling of 263,000 would yield a harvest guideline for the 1985 summer troll season of approximately 180,000, based on the following calculation:

| | |
|---------|---------------------------------|
| 263,000 | total all-gear catch ceiling |
| -22,000 | sport catch (1980-1983 average) |
| -28,000 | net catch (1980-1984 average) |
| -33,000 | predicted winter troll catch |
| <hr/> | |
| 180,000 | summer troll harvest guideline |

This catch distribution outlines the performance of these fisheries in recent years but cannot anticipate increases in catch and/or shifts of catch among users and between seasons as a result of weather, oceanographic conditions, fish availability, or increased effort in non-limited fisheries (e.g. ocean sport).

The team expects that the troll fleet will harvest the 180,000 chinook in about 42 days. We base that estimate on two assumptions: (1) that the trollers will be allowed a short (10-day) early fishing period somewhere during May and June and a longer (32-day) fishing period between early July and mid-August; (2) that harvest rates in 1985 will parallel those observed in 1984. In 1984, the troll fleet harvested about 5,000 chinook per day in the early summer fishing period (June 5-30) and about 4,100 per day during the late period (July 11-25). Thus, at these rates, a 10-day early fishery would be expected to harvest about 50,000 chinook, and a 32-day late fishery would be expected to harvest about 131,200, for a total of about 181,200.

A 42-day summer chinook season, if structured similar to 1984, would be expected to result in a chinook-only closure by late July or early August. Therefore, distribution of the allowable 42 days of chinook fishing will in part determine the extent of chinook-only closures. A longer fishing period in spring and early summer, in combination with other factors, could lead to a longer chinook closure at a later date. The Team recommends that measures such as time and area closures be implemented in 1984, if necessary, to slow the chinook catch rate during the summer troll season.

The Team feels that distribution of fishing days through the summer season should be determined based on (1) conservation requirements for depressed natural chinook stocks, (2) maximization of the social and economic benefits to the region and nation, (3) minimization of chinook-only closures during the main part of the coho season, and (4) optimum utilization of Alaskan hatchery stocks. In addition, it is important to ensure that changing fishing patterns do not disproportionately impact any particular natural stock or group of stocks requiring conservation.

Finally the Team would like to note that beginning in 1985 the United States, under the proposed treaty, will be required to (a) evaluate all sources of induced fishing mortality, (b) assess unreported catches of chinook salmon, (c) minimize the impacts of these factors, and (d) demonstrate that any catch in excess of the ceiling was contributed by new enhancement activities.

III. Team Review of Proposals

Following are the Team's responses to proposals submitted for review to the Alaska Board of Fisheries and issues of concern with respect to the proposed treaty.

SOUTHEAST SALMON-TROLL (Harvest Guideline/OY)

Proposals #569,581-583

These proposals are intended to modify the chinook harvest ceiling for Southeast Alaska. The Team supports the base harvest ceiling of 263,000 proposed in the treaty and notes that the harvest ceiling proposals are inconsistent with the Chinook Annex of the proposed treaty. This harvest ceiling of 263,000 chinooks for the 1985 fishing year which began October 1, 1984 includes the sport catch which averaged approximately 22,000 chinooks during the 1980-1983 period. The proposed treaty also allows for add-on of Southeast Alaska hatchery production above the 1984 level.

SOUTHEAST SALMON-TROLL (Seasons/Fishing Periods)

Proposals #568,569,571

These proposals are intended to modify the summer troll season. The team has addressed these proposals in the opening remarks.

Proposal #570 , (Public)

This proposal would allow trolling during chinook-only closures as currently allowed under both state and federal regulations. Troll fishing for species other than chinook is currently allowed during chinook-only closures, which are implemented during the main part of the coho season (i.e. July through September 20). Prior to approximately July 10, the troll fishery has generally been closed to all species whenever chinook closures have been required because other salmon species are in relatively low abundance at that time. In the case of coho, the rapid growth rate which occurs during early summer combined with continued availability of the majority of these fish after July 10 probably results in increased total yield when harvest is delayed. The Team concludes that increased incidental chinook mortality resulting from troll fishing during chinook closures prior to early July is therefore not warranted. For the period after early July, the Team encourages structuring the season to reduce the duration of chinook-only closures.

Proposals #584 (ADFG), 585-591 (Public)

These proposals are intended to modify the late-season coho closure. The FMP allows a 10-day closure in late July but the implementing regulation has not been approved. This closure was established in 1980 to increase movement of coho to inside fisheries and terminal areas for both biological and allocative purposes. It is difficult to accurately determine the strength of coho runs and individual stock components based on troll harvest in outside waters. Therefore, it is necessary to ensure that enough coho be allowed to move into areas where traditional inseason abundance estimation procedures can be used. Also, FMP Objective 4 states the Council and Board's desire to "control and reverse recent trends of expanding effort and catch in outer coastal and offshore Southeast Alaskan waters to accomplish conservation goals." In 1984, the outside proportion of the troll coho catch was the highest ever observed apparently due to a combination of ocean conditions and fish abundance. However, because of strong returns in 1984, escapements were generally above average except for northern inside areas near Juneau and Lynn Canal. The inseason coho closure was intended to prevent expansion of the offshore catch if the Council wishes to ensure compliance with this objective additional measures may be required if similar circumstances reoccur. The Team feels that inseason management flexibility should be retained.

HAND TROLL-LINE LIMITS

Proposal #594 (Public)

This proposal would reinstate the four-line limit for hand troll vessels. Under Amendment 2 to the FMP, the hand troll vessel line limit was reduced from four to two (or four sport poles). The purpose of the reduction was to distribute more equitably the chinook salmon conservation burden and to help control the rapidly expanding hand troll fleet. Since that time, hand troll vessels have come under the State's limited entry program, which effectively prevented further expansion of that gear type. Because the overall catch is limited by the catch ceiling, this is primarily an allocation question. The Team would like to point out that increasing the efficiency of any fishing group will lead to increased competition among gear types, increased catch rates, and shifts in the current harvest sharing. To the extent that fishing power is increased, some shortening of seasons would probably be required.

WESTWARD TROLL

ATA Petition #636

This proposal is intended to reopen the former trolling areas west of Cape Suckling to trolling. This area was closed to trolling by the Board of Fisheries prior to 1976 when the Council was established, and the Council incorporated the existing state regulations into the FMP. The Alaska Trollers Association has petitioned the Board to reconsider this closure based on the historical utilization of certain fishing grounds in that region; the area around Middleton Island is their immediate target. The Team is not aware of any underutilized chinook stocks in the westward area at this time and thus the proposal would be primarily allocative in nature. There is also considerable

evidence that many of the same stocks found in Southeast waters migrate as far west as the western Aleutians. Additional harvest of stocks addressed in the proposed treaty would have to be deducted from the Southeast Alaska harvest ceiling. The Team emphasizes that if fishing were allowed west of Cape Suckling, extensive catch monitoring and biological sampling would be required to assess impacts on stocks to ensure compliance with the proposed treaty.

SPORTFISH PROPOSALS

Proposals #467, 621, 622 (Public), 624 (ADFG)

These proposals address hook-and-release mortality of sublegal ("shaker") chinook salmon by reducing or eliminating the minimum size limit or requiring retention of all legal-sized fish which have been removed from the water. Objective 3 of the FMP established the Council's intent to "decrease directed and incidental harvest of smaller, immature fish and reduce sublegal chinook hook-and-release mortalities where possible, consistent with allocation decisions and with the objective of maximizing benefits to user groups." Although this originally was applied to commercial fisheries it could be applicable to sport fisheries as well. Measures which would reduce total fishing mortality would benefit the chinook stocks and contribute to rebuilding schedules. However, the Team is unable to quantify the costs and benefits of any of these proposals. For example, requiring the retention of small chinooks would increase the total number counted as "harvested" each year because (1) there is currently no ceiling on the sport catch, and (2) CPUE would increase. The degree of reduction in incidental mortality would be dependent on compliance with the regulation, fishing effort, and chinook availability. Also, a portion of these fish would die anyway due to natural mortality. Unless some additional adjustments were made (such as a sport catch ceiling or reduced bag limits) this proposal would substantially increase the total reported sport catch, thereby reducing the commercial harvest guideline. If overall fishing mortality is reduced chinook stocks would benefit. Additional research would be required to assess total impacts.

Proposal #516 , (ADFG)

The intent of this proposal is to establish biologically sound individual sport catch limits rather than the current aggregate limits. The proposal would set the Yakutat area sport daily and possession limit at two chinook and an additional limit of 6 fish per day and 12 in possession for each other species of salmon. This would require an amendment to the FMP. The Team feels that limits for individual species are more biologically sound than aggregate bag limits. However, the team is concerned about continuing to allow a harvest of chinook in the freshwater rivers in the Yakutat area of S.E. Alaska. This policy conflicts with the policy of rebuilding those depressed runs under the proposed US/CAN Salmon Treaty. Currently, no sport chinook harvest is allowed in other S.E. Alaska streams.

Proposal #634 (Public)

This proposal would (1) define sport fish guides and charter boat operators as a commercial troll user group; (2) ban the use of "down riggers" by this group; (3) establish seasons and in-season management

regimes for such operators identical to those for other commercial troll groups; and (4) establish a limited entry system for such operators. The Team feels that since the total chinook harvest ceiling would be limited under the U.S./Canada Salmon Treaty and the sport catch is controlled by bag and possession limits, the question of limiting the sport fishery is primarily one of allocation.

STATEWIDE-HATCHERIES

Proposals #506-507 (Public), 508 (ADFG)

These proposals are intended to improve utilization of surplus spawners returning to Southeast Alaska hatcheries. Objective 5 of the FMP states the Council's desire to "develop fishery management techniques which will allow full utilization of salmon returning to supplemental production systems while providing necessary protection for intermingling natural runs which must be harvested at lower rates." All chinook salmon harvested in mixed-stock fisheries fall under the terms of the proposed U. S./Canada Salmon Treaty. The Team finds the concept of harvesting hatchery surpluses in terminal (discrete stock) areas both desirable and consistent with the intent of the draft treaty and the FMP. Other methods to utilize new surpluses from Southeast Alaska hatcheries may also be acceptable if they do not increase fishing mortality on depressed natural stocks.

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Council Members
FROM: Jim H. Branson
Executive Director
DATE: January 30, 1985
SUBJECT: Salmon Fishery Management Plan

ACTION REQUIRED

- (a) Review U.S.-Canada Salmon Treaty.
- (b) Approve 1985 management measures.
- (c) Consider general FMP revision/update.

BACKGROUND

A special agenda has been prepared for the joint meeting of the Council and Alaska Board of Fisheries. The Board has received proposals for harvest guideline, seasons, gear regulations, inseason management and area restrictions for the 1985 Southeast salmon fisheries. The Council and Board will jointly review proposals of mutual concern and hold a public hearing on those proposals prior to making their management decisions. A major consideration will be the proposed U.S.-Canada Salmon Treaty which was approved by the two delegations in December 1984 and initialed by the negotiators on January 16, 1985. A presentation on the proposed treaty will be made at the beginning of the salmon management discussions. The Council and Board should first express their intent to manage the Southeast fishery in accordance with the proposed treaty and its fishery annexes. This will help the public focus their comments on ways to maximize the benefits to the salmon industry within the constraints of the proposed treaty. Also, more attention can then be given to proposals which would not be affected by treaty obligations. The proposals of mutual concern are included under this agenda item along with a brief summary of each. Those which would require FMP amendment are marked with an asterisk (*) on the summary.

The FMP is seriously outdated and should be amended to address current stock conditions, the recent MFCMA amendment (which delegates jurisdiction in the FCZ culls-de-sac to the state) and the proposed salmon treaty. Although most of this is "housekeeping," major concepts such as MSY and OY should be discussed along with the Council's future management role and objectives. This type of amendment cannot be squeezed into the annual management cycle. The Salmon Plan Team will develop a revision schedule and issues statement for the March meeting.

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

- I. Harvest Guideline/OY FMP: 243,000-272,000 chinook commercial OY
Proposed Treaty: 263,000 all gear ceiling, plus
new enhancement
- Proposals addressing this topic: #569, 581-583
- *#569: set quota at 320,000 chinook plus enhancement
 - *#581: set all gear harvest range at 268,000-320,000 chinooks
 - *#582: eliminate OY
 - *#583: reduce OY; include hooking mortality in OY; do not add enhancement to catch ceiling
- II. Seasons FMP: Oct 1 - Apr 14 winter chinook
May 15 - Sep 20 summer chinook, sockeye, pink, chum
Jun 15 - Sep 20 coho
Proposed Treaty: does not address seasons
- *#568: Oct 1 - Apr 14 (winter season); Apr 15 - Sep 30 (summer season)
 - *#569: May 15 - June 5, June 15 till quota reached
 - #570: Allow trolling for other salmon during chinook closures between May 15 and Oct 1.
 - *#571: Close fishery daily at 6:00 p.m.
 - *#580: Change accounting year or season allocation methods.
- III. Coho Closure/Inseason Management^{1/} FMP: allows inseason closures
Proposed Treaty: does not address
- ~~#584~~: Modify coho closures to ensure adequate escapements of all components of the run to inside areas.
 - ~~#585~~: Cumulative 10 days of closure in July, 10 days in August.
 - ~~#586~~: 10 day closure of corridors (state waters) only.
 - ~~#587~~: 10 day closure during last 2 weeks of July.
 - ~~#588,589~~: Eliminate coho closure.
 - ~~#590~~: Eliminate allocation criteria of closure.
 - ~~#591~~: Ensure return to pre 1978 inside/outside harvest sharing.
- IV. Gear FMP: 2 lines for hand troll vessels
Proposed Treaty: does not address gear
- #593: Allow power troll vessel to utilize hand troll gear in lieu of power troll gear if operator has both permits.
 - *#594: Allow 4 lines on hand troll vessels.
- V. Westward Troll FMP: troll east of Cape Suckling only
Proposed Treaty: harvest of "treaty stocks" of chinook
must be deducted from S.E. ceiling
- *#636: Allow trolling west of Cape Suckling.

*Requires FMP amendment

^{1/} The Council could establish goals and criteria for the coho closure; currently based on conservation only.

SOUTHEAST - SALMON (TROLL)

PROPOSAL #568 - 5 AAC 33.310(b). Define winter and summer seasons by providing that salmon may be taken by hand and power troll gear from October 1 through April 14 (winter season) and from April 15 through September 30 (summer season) except as provided in 5 AAC 33.350 and as follows:"; provided that all in-season modification to the foregoing shall be stated only in further subheadings (i.e., (b)(1), (b)(2), etc., as needed), and not by alteration of the above stated principal language of subsection 310(b).

JUSTIFICATION: The basic troll seasons should be firmly stated and not subject to annual regulatory modification. Entrenching the definition of the seasons in permanent regulatory language is important to the continued integrity of the fishery, and to assure fishermen of the board's intent to protect them from wholesale dismantling of their fishery as occurred in Washington State. Required in season time and/or area closures can be most properly dealt with under subheadings or by emergency order, thereby making a clear distinction between annual adjustments and the basic seasonal structure of the troll fishery. This completes formal recognition of the process accepted by the board at its February 1984 meeting.

Proposed by: Alaska Trollers Association (45)
Petersburg Advisory Committee (20)

PROPOSAL #569 - 5 AAC 33.310(b). Provide that in 1985 king salmon may be taken May 15 to June 5 and June 20 until the quota of 320,000 chinooks, plus enhancement fish, has been caught; coho salmon may be taken only from June 15 to September 20.

JUSTIFICATION: This proposal is justified because of the observed exceptionally high availability of chinook salmon for the third consecutive year. Such availability is not limited to Alaska waters, but has been observed coastwide with respect to north migrating chinook stocks harvested in Alaska. This contention is borne out by excellent CPUE data in the Alaska fisheries, catches well in excess of target figures in the Canadian fisheries (410,000 fish off Vancouver Island., 30,000 above the target, and fully 100,000 above the acceptable conservation level of 310,000), and the fact that 120,000 returning upriver brite spawners have already passed the Bonneville Dam. Such observations are in direct contravention of the contention by Washington State that chinook stocks are universally severely depressed.

Proposed by: Alaska Trollers Association (52)

PROPOSAL #570 - 5 AAC 33.310. Allow a non-chinook troll fishery during any chinook conservation troll closure occurring between May 15 through October 1.

JUSTIFICATION: Trollers have demonstrated the ability to fish species specific, primarily for coho by using species specific gear and adhering to predetermined area restrictions. Natural native stocks of pinks, chums, and sockeye supplemented by aquaculture fish are of sufficient strength to receive troll effort without receiving allocative shortage to any other gear group.

Proposed by: Jim Wild (54)

PROPOSAL #571 - 5 AAC 30.310(b). Close the troll fishery daily at 6:00 p.m.

JUSTIFICATION: Reduce effort. Delay achievement of chinook quota. Reduce time it would be necessary to release chinook following achievement of quota.

Proposed by: Theo Grutter (80)

PROPOSAL #580 - Limit the amount of single-species fishing time during a major portion of the troll coho season by changing the chinook accounting period or season allocation methods.

JUSTIFICATION: The intent of this proposal is to generate discussion by the board, council, public, and management agencies on the best method of shifting more of the allowable troll chinook harvest into July and August when the major troll coho fishing occurs. This would allow trollers to fish simultaneously for coho and chinook (as well as other species) thereby reducing or eliminating the incidental hooking and release of chinook which occurred during the last several seasons when the chinook guideline harvest was reached by early August and the troll fishery was closed to chinook for the rest of the summer season.

Proposed by: Department of Fish and Game

PROPOSAL #581 - 5 AAC 33.365(b)(8). Increase the total commercial harvest of adult king salmon by all gear types in the southeastern Alaska and Yakutat areas to a range of 268,000 to 320,000 fish.

JUSTIFICATION: To restore an equitable balance between the major harvesters of chinook salmon on the Pacific Coast. This harvest figure represents the historic average for troll gear over the last 40 years. The closures in April and May and the ten-day closure later in the season provide adequate protection for southeastern and transient stocks. On a coastwide basis, the restrictive quotas of 1981 through 1984 discriminate against Alaska fishermen in favor of Canadian and southside interests.

Proposed by: Petersburg Advisory Committee (19)

PROPOSAL #582 - 5 AAC 33.365. Remove all reference to quotas on chinook salmon in regard to southeast troll fishery management, or U.S./Canadian treaty negotiations.

JUSTIFICATION: Quota theories were developed to be used as a manipulative tool to impact respective fisheries not protect resource. Such tools can and are dangerous to the socio-economic and resource stability coastwide, and should not be allowed to be used or manipulated by any political process; state, national, or international.

Proposed by: North Pacific Fishermen's Federation (109)

PROPOSAL #583 - 5 AAC 33.365. (1) Lower the present OY range from 243,000 chinook salmon to a level which will allow rebuilding of depressed naturally produced chinook by 1992, consistent with recent years' negotiations with Canada. The lower end of the OY range should be in the neighborhood of 150,000 fish, although we are not proposing a specific catch ceiling for 1985 at this time.

(2) The estimated non-catch mortality of non-target salmon species during single-species fisheries (e.g., chinook during coho only fisheries) should be counted toward harvest ceilings.

(3) Hatchery produced fish should not be added to catch ceilings for naturally produced salmon as there is no way to harvest hatchery fish selectively in troll fisheries.

(4) There has been a recent pattern of chinook catch exceeding adopted catch ceilings. To reduce the chance of this occurring in the future, we recommend that troll regulations be set initially assuming the net and sport fisheries will harvest chinook at the highest (rather than an average) level observed during the last cycle (five years)

(5) The Troll Fishery Management Plan should be amended as needed to provide the flexibility necessary to comply with future joint U.S./Canada recommendations for conservation of naturally produced chinook salmon.

JUSTIFICATION: We believe these changes are a necessary and positive response toward meeting the acknowledged conservation needs of naturally produced chinook salmon on a coastwide basis.

Proposed by: S. Timothy Wapato, Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission (108)

PROPOSAL #584 - 5 AAC 33.365. Modify the in-season coho salmon troll closures to ensure adequate escapements of all components of the run to inside areas.

JUSTIFICATION: The purpose is to more evenly distribute the effects of fishing effort across coho stocks with different migration timing patterns. The timing and length of the closures needs to be discussed by the board, public, and staff so that they provide proper protection of the stocks

*superseded
by Treaty*

while not negatively impacting the fishing industry to a great degree.

Proposed by: Department of Fish and Game

PROPOSAL #585 - 5 AAC 33.365. Provide more cohos for escapement, for the sport fisheries and genetic diversification of the stocks, by providing as follows:

During the commercial coho season, the department shall evaluate the size and distribution of the coho salmon run and shall close the southeastern and Yakutat areas salmon troll fishery for an accumulative ten-day closure in July and accumulative ten-day closure in August, unless the department determines that the coho salmon run is larger than the last ten-year average and that acceptable numbers of coho salmon are moving into the inshore salmon fishing areas.

JUSTIFICATION: It is imperative that more cohos be allowed to pass through the fisheries for escapement purposes.

Proposed by: Territorial Sportsmen Regulatory Committee
(34)

PROPOSAL #586 - 5 AAC 33.365. Change the ten-day closure from total closure to closure of actual corridors affecting fish movement to inside waters, for the southeast Alaska and Yakutat areas. Suggested wording:

During the commercial coho fishing season, the department shall evaluate the size and distribution of the coho salmon run and shall close the entry corridors and adjacent milling areas to salmon trolling for approximately ten days, unless _____ e.g., the Icy Straits corridor adjacent milling area could be waters of Cross Sound extended to include the area between the latitude of Yakobi Rock and the latitude of Graves Harbor westward a distance of ten miles.

JUSTIFICATION: Allows desired fish migration to inside fisheries while harvest of non-inside stocks (Sitka area aquaculture - westward - non-Alaska origin) continues. Normal peak troll time is maintained while fish movement is not hindered benefiting all user groups.

Proposed by: Don Bierce (112)

PROPOSAL #587 - 5 AAC 33.365. Change southeast Alaska chinook and coho salmon troll fishing management plans to specify a time for the ten-day, mid-season coho closure during the last two weeks of July.

JUSTIFICATION: By allowing fishing on the cohos later in the year (August) an extra 2,000 to 3,000 pounds of coho could be produced.

Proposed by: Theo Grutter (82)

PROPOSAL #588 - Eliminate the ten-day troll coho closure.

JUSTIFICATION: This proposal is being advanced by Angoon to bring before the board the fact that coho catches by inside fishermen in our area continued to decline despite strong overall harvests. We ask the board to instruct ADF&G to look at other management schemes for the provision of an equitable share of fish to inside user groups.

Proposed by: Angoon Advisory Committee (109)

PROPOSAL #589 - 5 AAC 33.365. Eliminate in-season troll closure on coho salmon. Repeal 5 AAC 33.365.

JUSTIFICATION: An accurate average is not possible being that we are already five years into a ten-year plan.

Proposed by: Pelican Advisory Committee (67)

PROPOSAL #590 - 5 AAC 33.365. Delete the criterion that requires the ten-day troll closure for allocative purposes.

JUSTIFICATION: ATA is not asking that any closure for conservation not be invoked. However, we are asking that the ten-day closure not be used for allocative purposes. The coho run strength can be determined by CPUE figures for the troll fleet such that the need for a conservation closure can be assessed even in years when fish hold offshore for extended periods, as occurred in 1984. Good fishing for trollers indicates a strong run which will show up "Inside" even without recourse to a closure. Not using the closure for allocation purposes precludes the possibility of a premature shut down of the troll fishery. It should further be noted that the troll fleet's economic dependence has increased due to politically motivated reductions in the chinook salmon harvest. Further, the

troll fleet's percentage allocation should be increasing in accordance with relative takes envisaged in the "Comprehensive Salmon Plan," and the increasing contribution of hatchery cohos to the overall catch.

Proposed by: Alaska Trollers Association (50)

PROPOSAL #591 - 5 AAC 33.365. Restore the proportional share of coho taken by drift gillnetting to pre-1978 levels by amending the troll management plan to read:

(7) recognizing that the recent trend of higher percentages of coho salmon taken in outer coastal areas troll fisheries reduces the manageability of the fishery and intensifies allocation problems, the Board of Fisheries has established the objective of returning the proportional share of the coho salmon harvest in the drift gill net fisheries to pre-1978 levels by 1985.

JUSTIFICATION: The drift gill net share of coho salmon has been reduced by half since 1978, largely due to greatly increased troll catches in outside waters. Reduced availability of coho in inside waters has resulted in major loss of area to an already overcrowded fall gill net fishery and at times to a loss of fall chum harvests in order to protect coho needed for spawning.

Proposed by: Jack Pasquan, Dick Greg, Jim Becker, and Jev Shelton (103)

PROPOSAL #593 - 5 AAC 39.270. Allow a power troller holding a valid hand troll permit, to hand troll if he wants to.

JUSTIFICATION: The present reg is discriminatory in that it applies to power troll only. Also, the reg does not serve any biological or conservation purpose. On the contrary, it forces one to use 20 plus hooks instead of four, and eventually if the reg is not repealed, the permit will be sold and in all probability, to a full time user.

Proposed by: Chuck Porter (6)

PROPOSAL #594 - 5 AAC 39.270. Allow hand troll vessels to operate four hand gurdies aboard each vessel.

JUSTIFICATION: With shorter and shorter fishing seasons we can afford no longer to suffer silently or be expected to hock ten to 15 years of our lives to the state for loans to buy permits so we can fish four lines. Now many hand trollers will not bother to add the extra two lines, or some may add just a third line to cut down excessive cranking, it's a lot of damn work cranking all that gear, so I foresee only the professional hand trollers will expand their effort while the weekenders and tourist hand trollers will find two lines plenty. So it's not going to kill any fish runs to let us make the most of our time we spend fishing. In fact with one seine boat catching 30,000 pounds of fish in one set, I don't see how the board can continue to keep hand trollers locked in poverty due to unfair and unnecessary laws and restrictions. We only ask equal rights we once had with power trollers. Don't drive us to extinction.

Proposed by: Joseph D. Sebastian (114)

PROPOSAL #636 - 5 AAC 09.330 (Alaska Peninsula), 15.330 (Chignik), 18.330 (Kodiak), 21.330 (Cook Inlet, Barren Is., Outer and Eastern Districts [5 AAC 21.200(f), (g) and (h)] and 24.330 (Prince William Sound) to again permit troll fishing for salmon west of Cape Suckling in areas where trolling has historically occurred. These areas shall include Middleton Island, Wessel's Reef, Cape Cleare, Cape St. Elias, Kayak Island, and Portlock Banks.

JUSTIFICATION: Trollers have traditionally fished areas to the west of Cape Suckling; only since 1974 have they found their fishing areas restricted to Southeastern because of conservation reasons. Pending litigation concerning Indian treaty rights and potential federal management plans may significantly reduce the harvest of salmon in the area to which the troll fleet is currently limited. The troll closure west of Cape Suckling was imposed for conservation purposes. Depleted stocks have been rebuilt through the sacrifices of both net and troll fishermen. The benefits achieved through these sacrifices should likewise be shared by all traditional users of the resource.

In addition, other small boat operators in areas such as Kodiak have expressed interest in obtaining troll permits to diversify and supplement their present fisheries. Many potential markets exist for fresh and frozen troll caught fish. Troll caught fish produce the greatest value per unit of resource harvested. It is in the State of Alaska's interest to keep troll permits within the State to benefit Alaskan fishermen and the Alaskan fish industry.

Proposed by: Alaska Trollers Association

ORGANIZATION PURSUANT TO THE PROPOSED U.S.-CANADA SALMON TREATY AND U.S. ENABLING LEGISLATION

| <u>Body</u> | <u>Members</u> | <u>Appointed by</u> | <u>Specifications</u> | <u>Functions</u> |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| U.S. Section of Commission 4 members | 1 U.S. Gov't Official and 1 Alternate 1 Alaska resident and 1 Alternate 1 Wash. or Ore. resident and 1 Alternate 1 Tribal representative and 1 Alternate | (1) (1) (1) (1) | Non-voting member From Alaska Gov.'s list of 6 From Wash.-Ore. Gov.s' list of 6 From Treaty Tribes' list of 6 | } Carry out terms of Treaty |
| Southern Panel 6 members | 1 U.S. Gov't Official 1 Oregon Official 1 Washington State Official 2 Tribal representatives 1 From Commercial or sport sector | (2) (2) (2) (2) (2)(3)(4) | Sec'y of Com. } Oregon Gov. } Wash. Gov. } Sec'y of Int. } Sec'y of Com. } | |
| Northern Panel 6 members | 1 U.S. Gov't Official 1 Alaska Official 4 With Alaska salmon knowledge | (2) (2) (2)(4) | Sec'y of Com. } Alaska Gov. } Sec'y of Com. } | Make recommendations to Commission. |
| Fraser Panel 4 members | 1 U.S. Gov't Official 1 Wash. State Official 1 Tribal Official 1 Commercial fishery member | (2) (2) (2) (2)(4) | Sec'y of Com. } Wash. Gov. } Sec'y of Int. } Sec'y of Com. } | Have salmon management responsibility or industry knowledge Make recommendations to Commission and order changes in fishing areas and seasons |
| Advisory Committee 12 to 20 members | Half of number from Alaska 1 from Idaho with balance unstated | U.S. Section " " | } Should have knowledge of fisheries subject to Treaty | Be heard on non-administrative treaty matters |
| Conciliation Board 3 members | 3 qualified members | U.S. Section | | |

(1) Section member to be appointed by President, Alternate by Secretary of State from submitted lists other than for Federal Commissioner.

(2) Appointing authorities may designate alternates for Panel members.

(3) Commercial and sport members and alternates to be rotated annually.

(4) From nominees designated by Governors of applicable states.

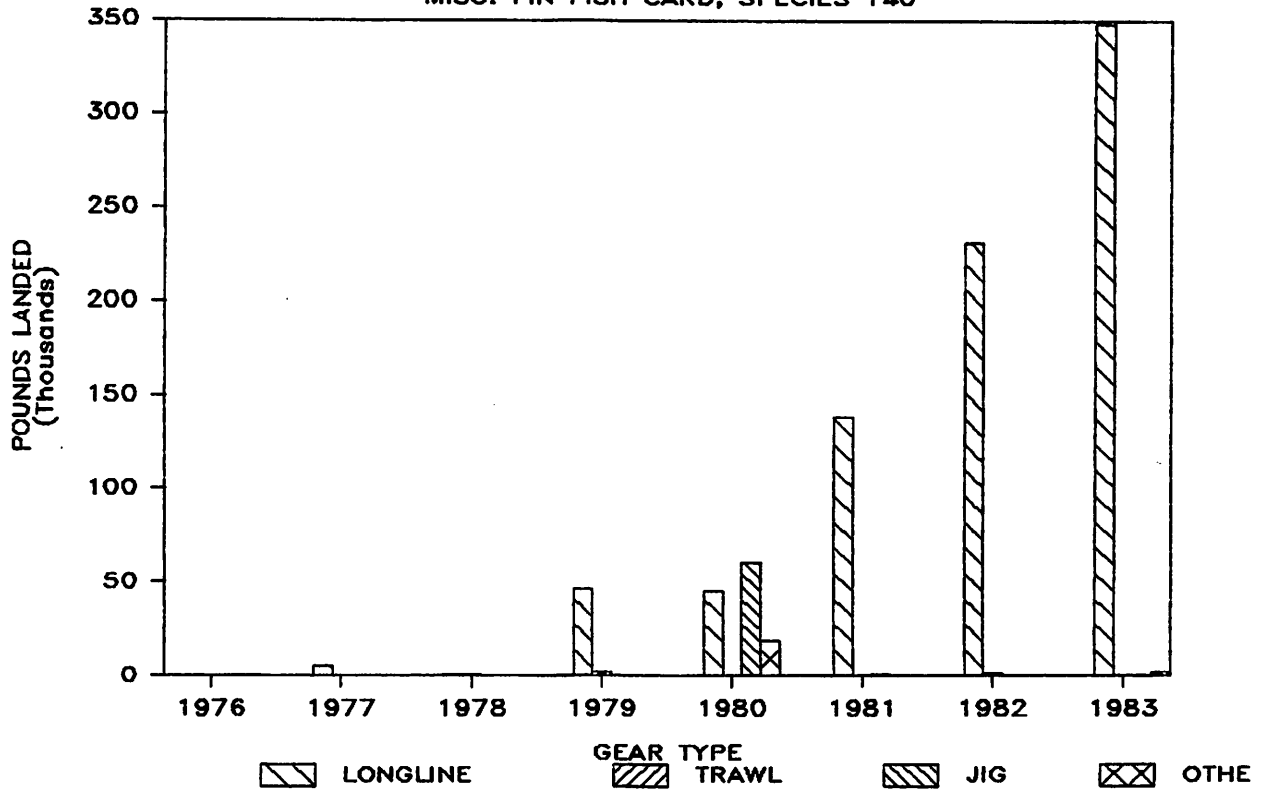
Note

Treaty and enabling legislation should be consulted for exact detail

January 18, 1985

113 ROCKFISH LANDINGS BY GEAR TYPE

MISC. FIN FISH CARD, SPECIES 140



SPECIES COMPOSITION

Shelf Longline vs Slope Trawl

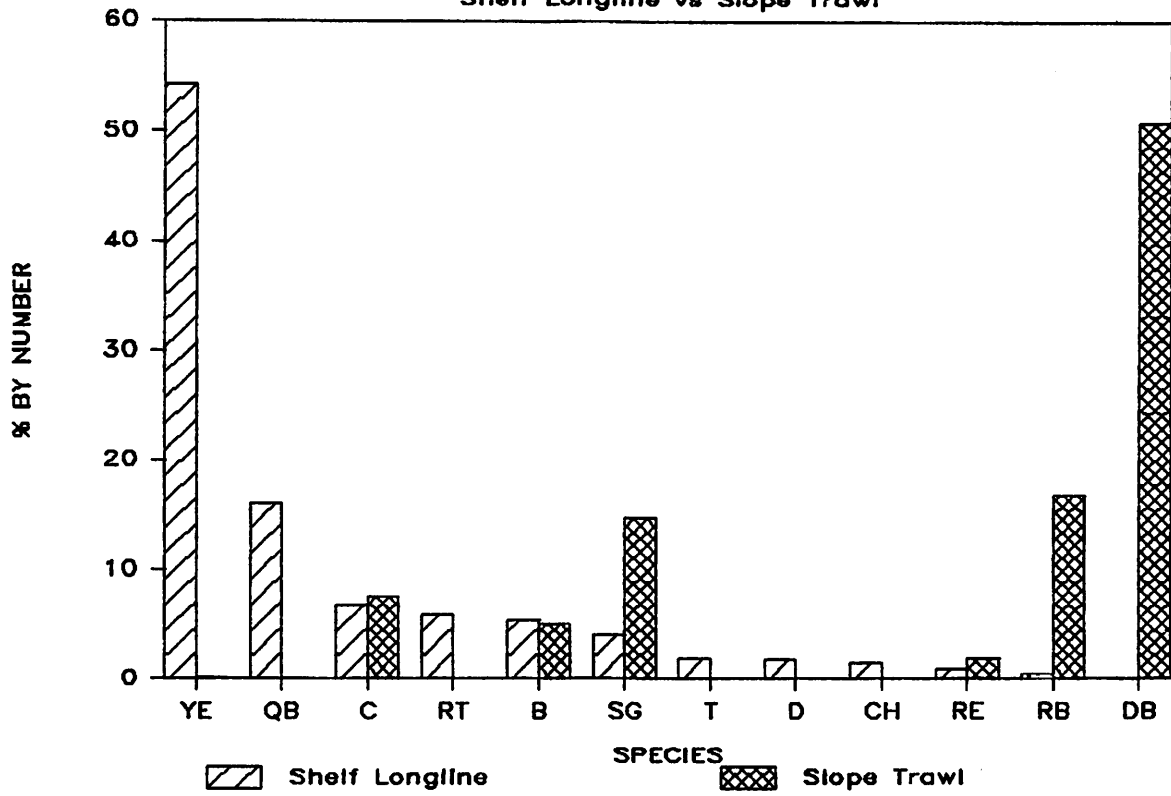


Table 1.--Categories of rockfish present in the Gulf of Alaska by habitat area.

Slope Category

POP

Northern rockfish

Rougheye rockfish

Shortraker rockfish

Sharpchin rockfish

Red banded rockfish

Rosethorn rockfish

Darkblotch rockfish

Redstripe rockfish

Splitnose rockfish

Harlequin rockfish

Aurora rockfish

Yelloweye rockfish

Nearshore Demersal Category

Yelloweye rockfish

Quillback rockfish

Canary rockfish

China rockfish

Tiger rockfish

Rosethorn rockfish

Silvergray rockfish

Copper rockfish

Nearshore Pelagic Category

Black rockfish

Dusky rockfish

Yellowtail rockfish

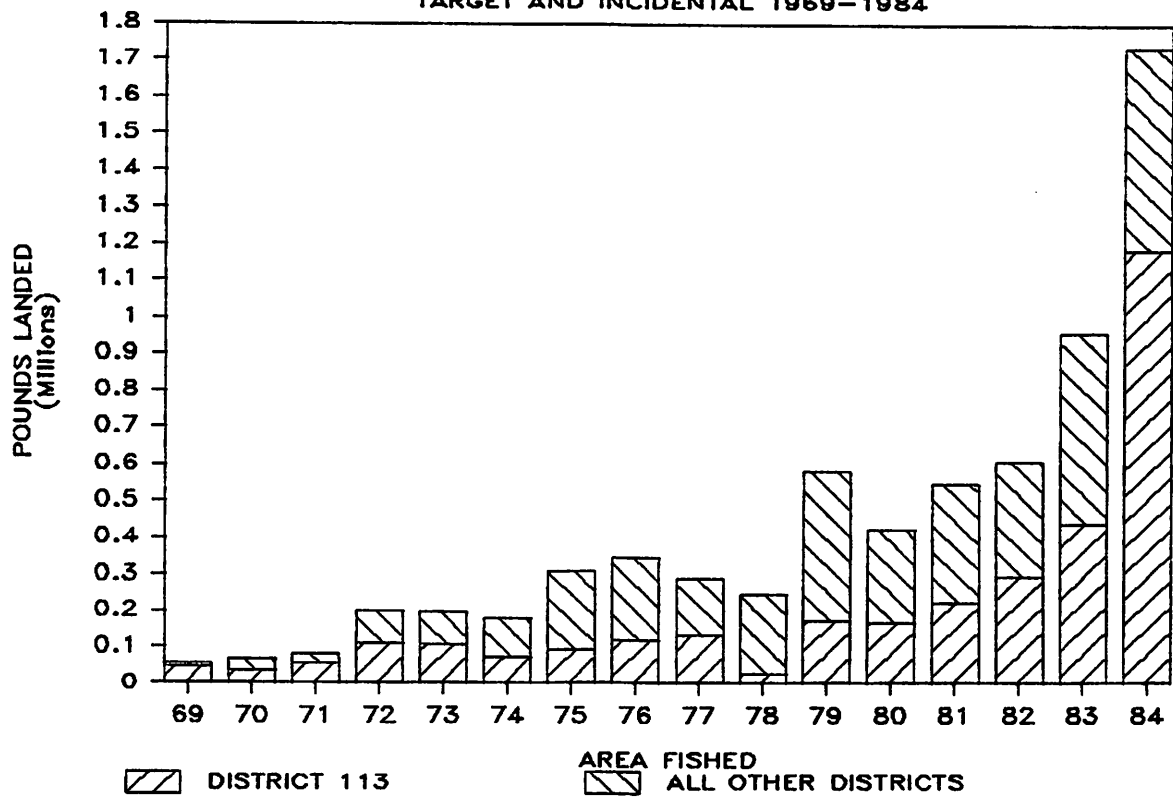
Widow rockfish

Boccacio

Blue rockfish

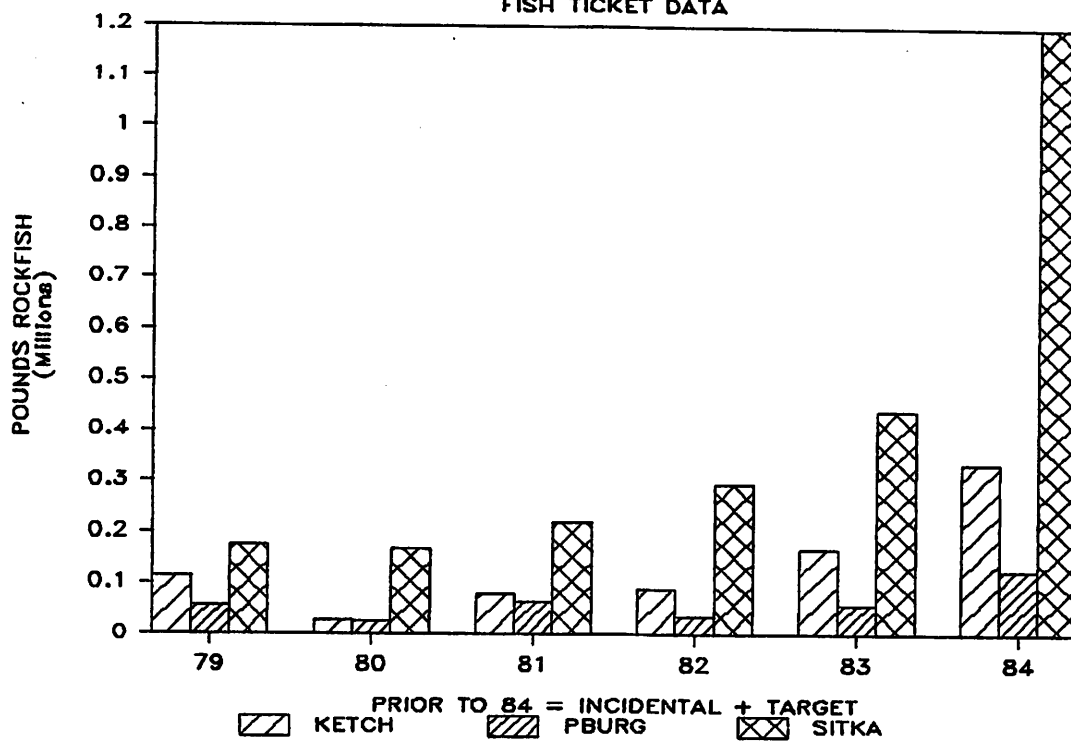
REGION 1 ROCKFISH LANDINGS

TARGET AND INCIDENTAL 1969-1984



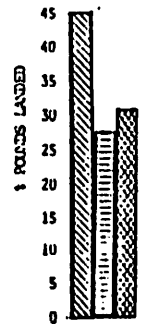
ROCKFISH LANDINGS BY NEAREST PORT

FISH TICKET DATA

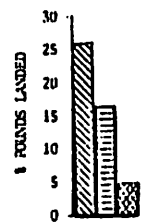




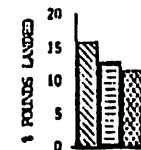
KHAZ BAY



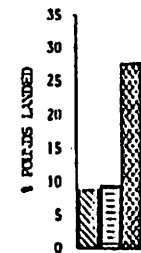
KRUZOF I.



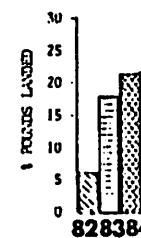
C. EDGECUMBE/
SITKA SOUND



BIORKA I./
CRAWFISH INLET



WHALE BAY



REDFISH BAY

828384

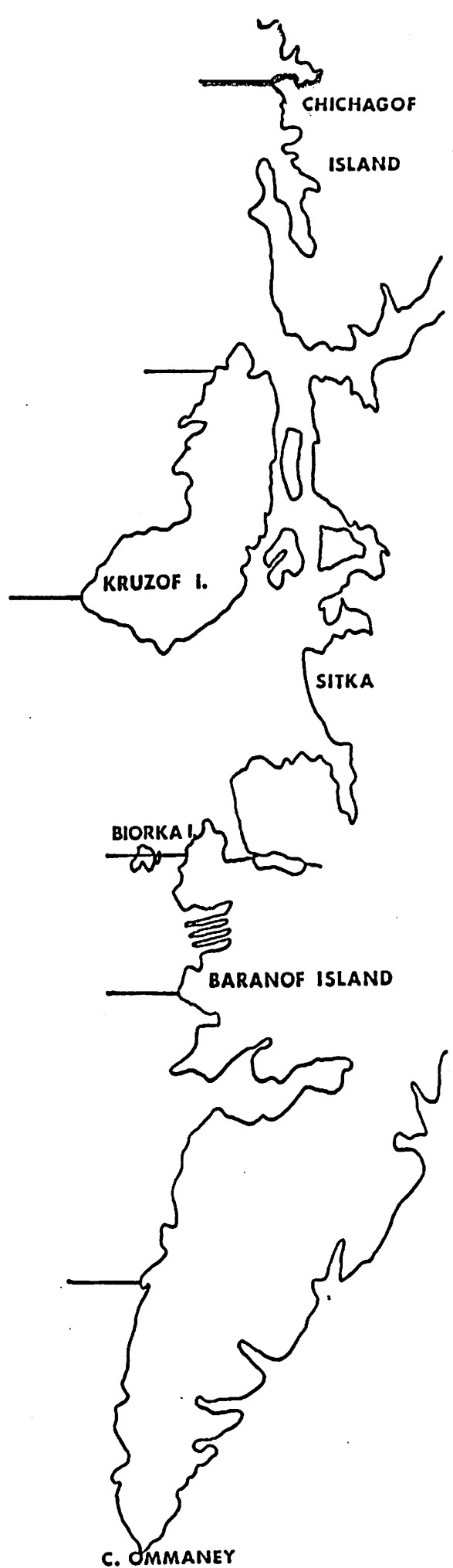
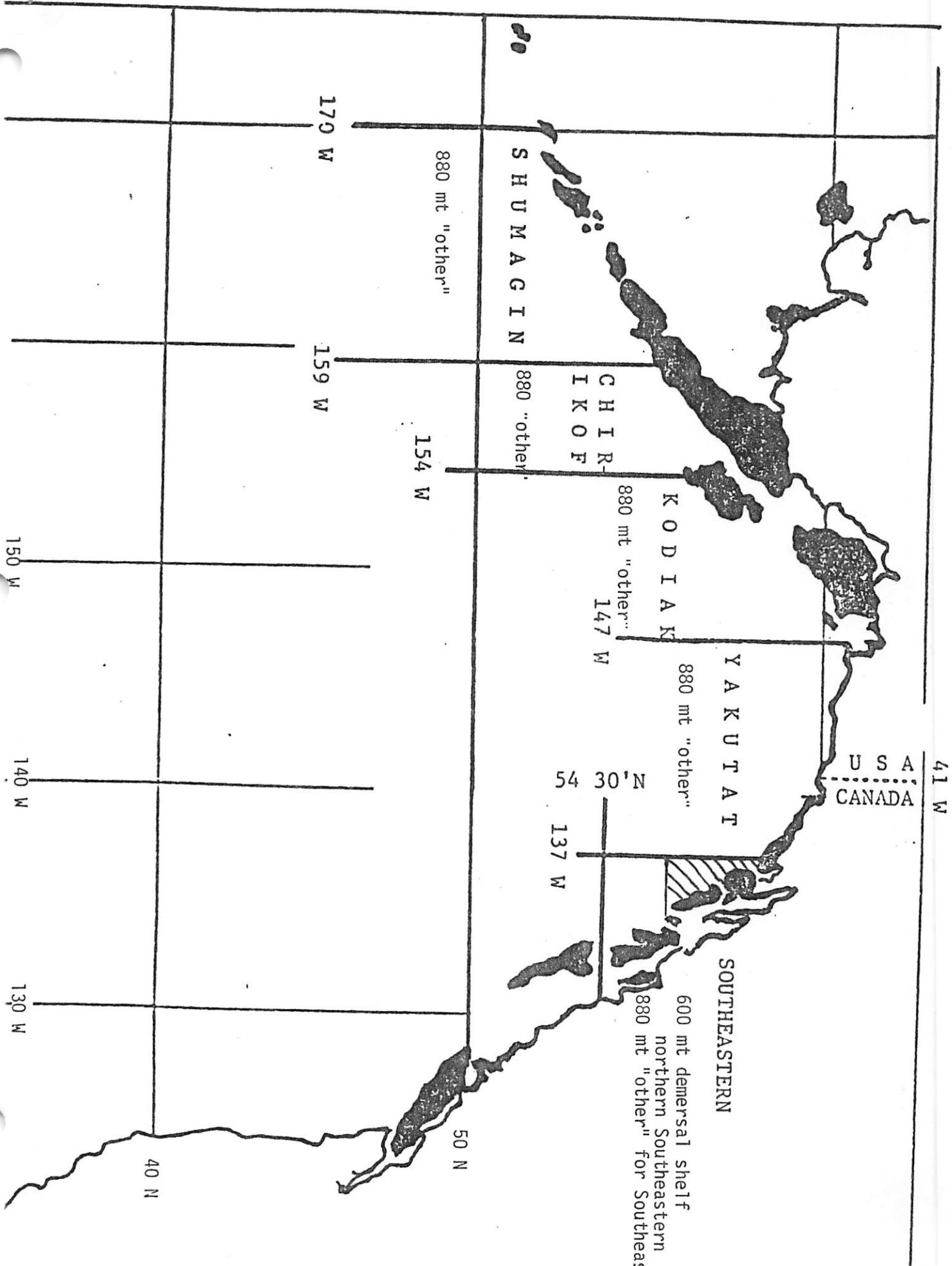


Figure 1. Percent of rockfish landings by area in the Southeastern Rockfish fishery, 1992-94

PROPOSED DISTRIBUTION OF 5000 MT "OTHER" ROCKFISH OY (BY INPFC AREAS)



SALMON POWER TROLL

| Year | Permits Issued* | | | Permits Fished | Not Fished | Total Gross | Average Gross |
|------|-----------------|---------|-------|----------------|------------|--------------|---------------|
| | Permanent | Interim | Total | | | | |
| 1975 | 849 | 230 | 1079 | 738 | 341 | \$ 3,996,776 | \$ 5,415 |
| 1976 | 915 | 83 | 998 | 736 | 262 | 8,447,049 | 11,476 |
| 1977 | 929 | 41 | 970 | 740 | 230 | 11,954,524 | 16,154 |
| 1978 | 934 | 42 | 976 | 803 | 173 | 17,251,547 | 21,483 |
| 1979 | 939 | 40 | 979 | 807 | 171 | 20,989,328 | 26,009 |
| 1980 | 939 | 35 | 974 | 834 | 140 | 13,125,024 | 15,737 |
| 1981 | 939 | 31 | 970 | 790 | 180 | 16,110,489 | 20,393 |
| 1982 | 940 | 28 | 968 | 808 | 160 | 20,333,936 | 25,166 |
| 1983 | 939 | 29 | 968 | 808 | 160 | 13,457,290 | 16,655 |
| 1984 | 940 | 23 | 963 | 788 | 175 | 20,256,883 | 25,707 |

SALMON HAND TROLL

| Year | Permits Issued* | | | Permits Fished | Not Fished | Total Gross | Average Gross |
|------|-----------------|---------|-------|----------------|------------|-------------|---------------|
| | Permanent | Interim | Total | | | | |
| 1975 | - | - | 2087 | 964 | 1123 | \$ 554,134 | \$ 574 |
| 1976 | - | - | 2082 | 1185 | 897 | 1,481,621 | 1,250 |
| 1977 | - | - | 2951 | 1781 | 1170 | 3,267,463 | 1,834 |
| 1978 | - | - | 3922 | 2549 | 1373 | 5,609,528 | 2,200 |
| 1979 | - | - | 3700 | 2151 | 1549 | 6,285,056 | 2,921 |
| 1980 | - | - | 2436 | 1615 | 821 | 3,149,520 | 1,950 |
| 1981 | - | - | 2048 | 1129 | 919 | 3,400,658 | 3,012 |
| 1982 | 696 | 1209 | 1905 | 1054 | 851 | 4,037,725 | 3,831 |
| 1983 | 2121 | 29 | 2150 | 921 | 1229 | 2,483,900 | 2,697 |
| 1984 | 2120 | 27 | 2141 | 837 | 1304 | 3,503,953 | 4,186 |

* Includes paid and unpaid permanent permits and paid interim-use permits.

| Average Permit Prices | 1983 | Hand Troll | Power Troll |
|-----------------------|------|------------|-------------|
| | 1984 | \$4,948 | \$20,878 |
| | | 4,732 | 19,624 |