

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

*Fishing Communities of Alaska
Engaged in Federally
Managed Fisheries*

May 2016



Contributors

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Front Cover: Dutch Harbor, Juneau, Kodiak, and Sitka. Back cover: Kodiak harbor. Photo credits, Maria Shawback and Peggy Kircher, NPFMC.

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Introduction

This booklet is meant to provide a summary of the large number of Alaska communities directly involved in the federally managed commercial fisheries off of Alaska, including groundfish, crab, halibut, and scallops. Included are communities considered relatively large by Alaskan standards, such as Kodiak and Homer, as well as a diverse collection of smaller communities from the southeast, around the Gulf of Alaska, on the islands and shores of the eastern Bering Sea, and along the Aleutian Islands. Vessels in these communities that participate in the commercial fisheries range from large trawl and longline vessels (90' to 124') to small skiffs.

The communities briefly profiled in this booklet are those most engaged in the federally managed fisheries off of Alaska and, arguably, are the communities with the most potential to be affected by changes to those fisheries. Understanding how Alaskan fishing communities may be affected by changes in the federally managed fisheries begins with understanding how these communities are currently engaged in and dependent upon those fisheries, as well as the overall socioeconomic context of those communities. Impacts to Alaskan communities involved in these fisheries can occur as a result of changes to fishery management plans, fish stocks, the location of productive fishing grounds, or a combination of all of these factors.

Many of the Alaskan communities directly involved in the federally managed fisheries off Alaska are heavily dependent on these fisheries as a key component of a relatively small and undiversified local economy. Additionally, many of the communities heavily dependent on these fisheries are traditional villages with high proportions of Alaska Native residents, while others feature populations with relatively high proportions of non-Native minority residents drawn to the communities by opportunities in the commercial fishing sector. Understanding how Alaskan communities reliant upon federally managed fisheries may be affected by changes in conservation and fishery management programs is prescribed by National Standard 8 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) and Executive Order (EO) 12898 on Environmental Justice. National Standard 8 states that conservation and management measures shall take into account the importance of fishery to fishing communities and, to the extent practicable minimize adverse economic impacts on such communities. EO 12898 states that federal agencies must identify and address disproportionately high and adverse environmental effects of their actions on minority populations and low-income populations.

For the purposes of this booklet, the communities most engaged in the federally managed fisheries off of Alaska were classified into five main geographic regions: Southeast, Central Gulf, Western Gulf, Bering Sea, and the Aleutian Islands. The document includes communities with access to an engaged fishing port on the coastal waters of Alaska with one of three factors for the year 2014: (1) a resident had to have an active Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) permit; (2) a resident had to be an owner of a vessel that participated in a federally managed fishery; or (3) local processing of fish caught as part of the federally managed fishery had to have occurred. Seattle and Newport are notable communities that fall outside the scope of this document. Both communities have a strong presence in the federal fishery of Alaska. The metropolitan areas of Anchorage and Girdwood were excluded due to the distance from an engaged port. The following main geographic regions include discussions for the 83 communities that met the criteria in 2014:

- Southeast. Auke Bay, Cordova, Craig, Douglas, Edna Bay, Elfin Cove, Gustavus, Haines, Hoonah, Hydaburg, Hyder, Juneau, Kake, Ketchikan, Klawock, Metlakatla, Meyers Chuck, Pelican, Petersburg, Point Baker, Port Alexander, Sitka, Skagway, Tenakee, Thorne Bay, Ward Cove, Wrangell, and Yakutat.
- Central Gulf. Akhiok, Anchor Point, Chiniak, Clam Gulch, Fritz Creek, Halibut Cove, Homer, Kasilof, Kenai, Kodiak, Nikiski, Nikolaevsk, Ninilchik, Old Harbor, Ouzinkie, Port Graham, Port Lions, Seldovia, Seward, Soldotna, Valdez, and Whittier.

- Western Gulf. Akutan, False Pass, King Cove, Perryville, and Sand Point.
- Bering Sea. Cheforak, Chevak, Chignik, Chignik Lagoon, Clarks Point, Dillingham, Dutch Harbor/Unalaska, Gambell, Goodnews Bay, Hooper Bay, Kipnuk, Kongiganak, Kwigillingok, Mekoryuk, Naknek, Newtok, Nightmute, Nome, Quinhagak, Saint George, Saint Paul, Savoonga, Togiak, Toksook Bay, Tuntutuliak, and Tununak.
- Aleutian Islands. Adak and Atka.

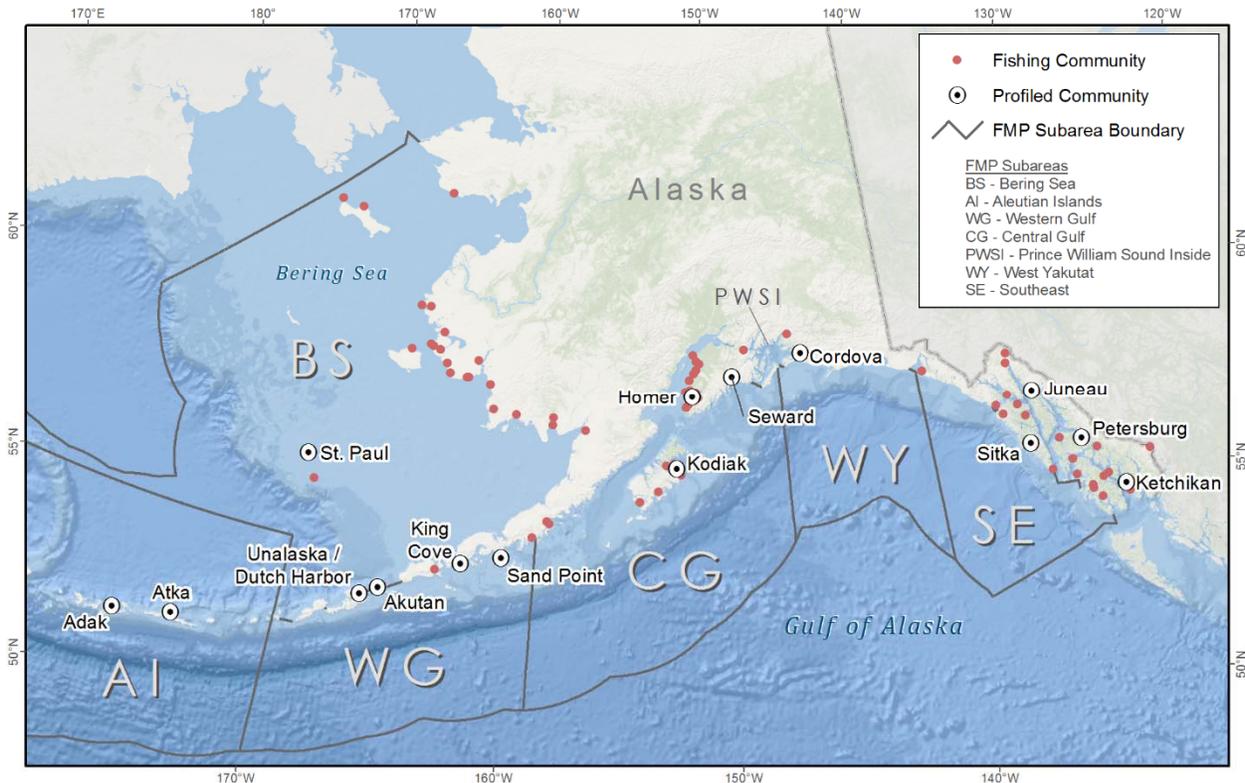


Figure 1. Alaska overview map showing federal fish communities and profiled communities.

In 2014, there was a total of 3,683 commercial fishing vessels across the 83 communities based on resident ownership information, including vessels that participated in state managed fisheries, such as the salmon, herring, and shellfish fisheries, in addition to federally managed fisheries. Among all vessels, 1,066 (28.9 percent) were involved exclusively in federally managed fisheries. The region with the most vessels was Southeast, with 574 vessels, or 53.8 percent of the total number of Alaska vessels participating in the federally managed fisheries off of Alaska. The Central Gulf region also had a large number of vessels participating in the federally managed fisheries (320 vessels, or 30.0 percent of all Alaska vessels participating in those fisheries). The Aleutian Islands had the fewest vessels (5). In many places, the number of vessels participating in all fisheries (i.e., state and federally managed fisheries combined) is substantially more than the number of vessels participating in the federally managed fisheries. For example, in Southeast, only 26.4 percent of all vessels are involved in federally managed fisheries. However, in the Western Gulf and Aleutian Islands regions, the percentage of vessels that were involved in federally managed fisheries was 53.0 and 100.0 percent, respectively.

The kinds of gear employed (e.g., trawl, longline) and the sizes of vessels present in the various communities varied widely across the various regions. In general, vessels with trawl gear accounted for few vessels in Alaskan communities (2.7 percent of all vessels). Trawl vessels were more prevalent in Central and Western Gulf communities and were absent from the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands communities. Most vessels across all

regions were less than 60' in length, with 74.4 percent of all vessels ranging between 30' and 59'; 19.7 percent of all vessels were 30' and under. The Western Gulf had the highest percentage of vessels between 30' and 59' (92.9 percent). In the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands regions, however, most vessels were 30' and under (59.8 and 100.0 percent of all vessels, respectively).

In 2014, for state and federally managed fisheries combined, total gross ex-vessel value for all Alaska regions was in excess of \$529 million. Of that total, gross ex-vessel value for federally managed fisheries was nearly \$200 million (or 37.4 percent of the combined total). The region with the largest share of the total gross ex-vessel value for federally managed fisheries was Central Gulf, with approximately \$120.7 million (or 61.0 percent of the federally managed fisheries total across all regions), which represented about 52.2 percent of all gross ex-vessel value across all state and federally managed fisheries for that region. The Southeast region had the highest gross ex-vessel value for all state and federally managed fisheries combined (\$246.3 million), although only 26.2 percent (\$64.6 million) was attributable to the federally managed fisheries. Communities in the Western Gulf and the Bering Sea regions each earned a total gross ex-vessel value of over \$6 million from the federally managed fisheries, which represented 30.4 and 19.8 percent of all gross ex-vessel value in those regions, respectively. The communities of the Aleutian Islands region earned approximately \$134,000 of gross ex-vessel value from the federally managed fisheries. This total represented less than 0.1 percent of the total gross ex-vessel value for all federally managed fisheries across all Alaska regions but 100.0 percent of total gross ex-vessel value for the state and federally managed fisheries within the Aleutian Islands region combined.

The number of fishing permits in a community is another way to measure the level of engagement in commercial fishing, including federally managed fisheries off of Alaska. Community residents can and often do hold more than one permit, and some species can be caught with different permits depending on location, gear, vessel size, or other factor. Across all fisheries—state and federally managed—a total of 13,089 permits were held by residents in the 83 communities discussed in this booklet. Of these permits, 2,952 (22.6 percent) were in federally managed fisheries. The Southeast and Central Gulf regions had the highest number of federal fishery permits, with 1,334 and 1,095, respectively, representing 45.2 and 37.1 percent of all federal fishery permits held by residents of all of the Alaska regions. The fewest number of federal fishery permits were in the Aleutian Islands region (10); however, that total represented 90.9 percent of all permits held in the region, which was the highest percentage of federal fishery permits compared to all permits among the five regions.

Crew licenses are not tallied by their participation in state and federally managed fisheries; however, the number of crew in each community can be an indication as to the number of people directly employed in commercial fishing in general. In 2014, 7,436 crew licenses were issued to Alaska residents in the 83 communities presented in this booklet. The region with the highest number of crew licenses was Southeast, with 3,179 (42.3 percent of the Alaska total). The Central Gulf region also had a relatively high number of crew licenses, with 2,649. The number of crew licenses issued in the Western Gulf and the Aleutian Islands regions were relatively low, with 315 and 19 licenses issued in 2014, respectively.

Southeastern Fishing Communities

As mentioned above, Southeast includes the communities of Auke Bay, Cordova, Craig, Douglas, Edna Bay, Elfin Cove, Gustavus, Haines, Hoonah, Hydaburg, Hyder, Juneau, Kake, Ketchikan, Klawock, Metlakatla, Meyers Chuck, Pelican, Petersburg, Point Baker, Port Alexander, Sitka, Skagway, Tenakee Springs, Thorne Bay, Ward Cove, Wrangell, and Yakutat. Of these communities, Cordova, Juneau, Ketchikan, Petersburg, and Sitka are described in this booklet in detail. Due to a lack of a harbor, non-confidential processing information, or non-confidential federally active vessel ownership information, a complete profile was not developed for the other communities.

Most of the listed Southeast fishing communities are located within traditionally Tlingit areas, although traditional Haida areas are found in the extreme southeast and traditional Eyak areas are near Cordova. Most Southeast fishing communities are not road connected, with Haines, Hyder, and Skagway being exceptions.

In 2014, a total of 2,172 vessels within the region participated in commercial fisheries in Alaska. Of those, 574 vessels (26.4 percent of all regional vessels) participated in the federally managed fisheries off of Alaska. Sitka and Petersburg had the largest number of vessels participating in the federally managed fisheries with 196 and 104, respectively. Of the listed fishing communities in the region, an average of 77.6 participated in either or both the state and federally managed fisheries, while the average number of vessels participating in the federally managed fisheries per community was 22.1.

Fixed gear was the most prevalent gear type in the region for vessels participating in federally managed fisheries, with only 2 vessels in Petersburg counted as employing trawl gear. Of the 574 vessels active in federally managed fisheries, 559 (97.4 percent) of the vessels were under 60' in length. The largest vessels in the region were located in Petersburg, which had 5 vessels between 90' and 200'. The communities of Cordova, Craig, Petersburg, and Sitka had a combined 10 vessels 60' to 89' in length.

The total amount of gross ex-vessel value for all commercial fisheries in the region was \$246.3 million, of which \$64.6 million was attributable to the federally managed fisheries (26.2 percent). Overall, the average gross ex-vessel value of federally managed fishing across all Southeastern communities was almost \$2.5 million. The communities with the largest federally managed fisheries gross ex-vessel values included Petersburg (\$23.6 million), Sitka (\$16.5 million), and Juneau (\$6.9 million). For these communities, the percentage of federally managed fishery gross ex-vessel value of all commercial fishing gross ex-vessel value was 37.1, 35.9, and 30.8 percent, respectively. The communities in the region for which gross ex-vessel value from federally managed fisheries comprised most of their total gross ex-vessel value (by percentage) included Tenakee (62.5 percent) and Pelican (53.1 percent).

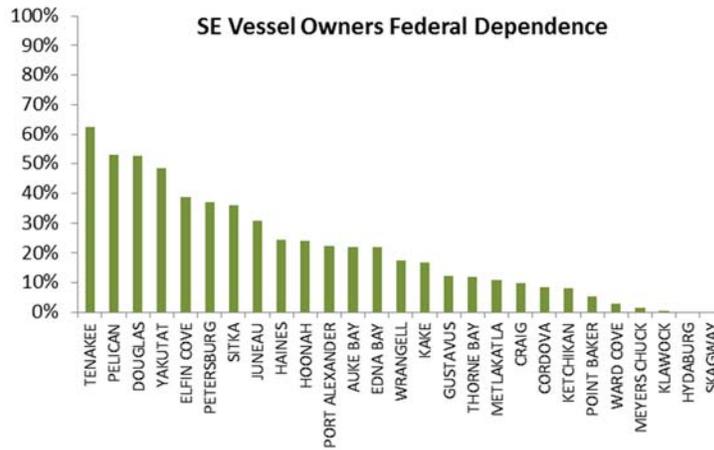


Figure 1. Vessel Owners percent of revenue from federal fishery.

The total number of commercial fishing permits in the region was 7,092, of which 1,334 permits were in the federally managed fisheries (18.8 percent). The average number of federal fishery permits across all listed fishing communities in the region was 53.4. The communities with the highest number of federal fishery permits were Sitka (362), Petersburg (305), and Juneau (173). For these communities, the percentage of federal fishery permits represented 27.7, 25.9, and 17.6 percent, respectively, of all permits in those communities. The communities for which federal fishery permits comprised the largest percentage of all permits in the community included the aforementioned Sitka and Petersburg, as well as Haines (26.4 percent).

Alaska-resident crew licenses for the region totaled 3,179. The communities with the highest number of crew licenses registered included Sitka (600), Petersburg (441), Juneau (408), Ketchikan (374), and Cordova (330). Overall, the average number of crew licenses in each community was 113.5.

Cordova Community Profile

Overview

Cordova is located on the eastern shore of Prince William Sound and is about 125 nautical miles east of Anchorage by air. Cordova encompasses 61.4 square miles of land and 14.3 square miles of water with an estimated resident population of 2,316 in 2012. The city was settled in 1906 on the area that was historically home to the Eyak, an Alaska indigenous group, and was founded in part to develop the copper mines in the Wrangell-St. Elias Mountains. In 1910s to 1920s, new fishing canneries were constructed, which helped bolster fishing and the town's economy. The town's economy continues to rely on commercial fishing and the seafood processing industry. Adjacent to the town center is Cordova harbor with a capacity of 727 vessels and with slips ranging in size from 24 to 70 feet.

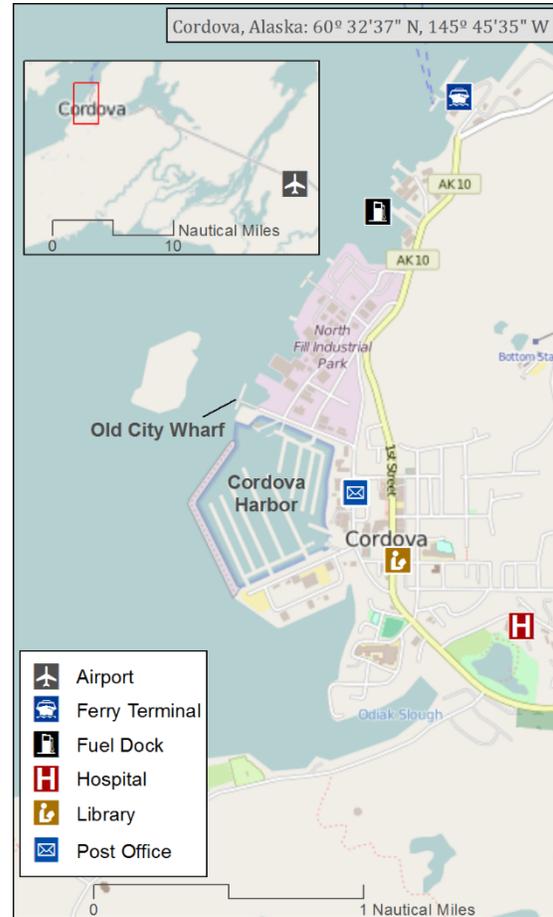


Figure 1. Cordova city map with vessel harbors and other supporting infrastructure.

In 2014, 610 commercial fishing permits were issued to Cordova residents and 431 were actively fished, with salmon permits representing the largest number at 341, followed by 46 halibut permits fished. Cordova residents attained 350 crewmember licenses, 20 of those were not permanent Alaskan residents. Cordova residents hold 3 halibut charter permits. Charters logged 113 trips out of Cordova. Of these trips 108 were bottom fishing trips and 25 targeted salmon. Cordova is an active fishing community with a majority of activity in salmon, the state fishery. The federal fisheries do contribute at 7% and 8% for processing and vessel owner activity respectively.

Federal Fishing Vessels Owned by Cordova Residents

Cordova residents own 19 active federal fishing vessels. All 19 vessels utilize fixed gear, 16 vessels are under 60 feet in length while 3 vessels over 60 feet. These commercial fishing vessels operate almost exclusively as hook and line catcher vessels. Halibut and Sablefish ex vessel value account for 92% of the total federal value (\$3.4M). Halibut is the largest driver of value at approximately 57%. West Yakutat and the Central Gulf made up the majority of halibut and sablefish landings. Salmon fishing represents the overwhelming majority of vessel owner activity in Cordova with 91% of total value.

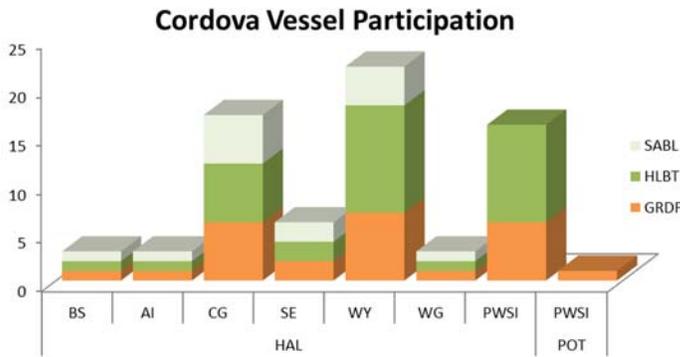


Figure 2. Number of vessels with landings by FMP Gear, FMP Subarea and species grouping.

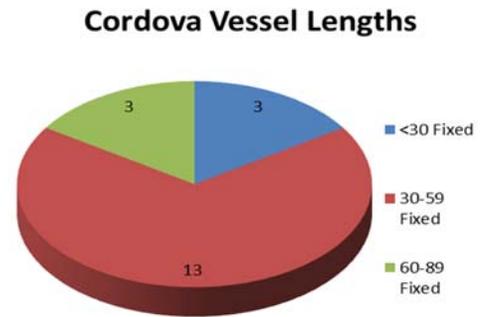


Figure 3. Federal Fishing Vessels by length and gear grouping.

Shore Based Processors

Salmon is the main revenue generator for Cordova processors with over 93% of the total ex-vessel value. Only 3 of the 8 shore-based processors participate in the federal fisheries. The federal fisheries contribute \$4.7 Million in ex-vessel value to the \$65 Million that is processed. The federal fisheries processed are mainly Central Gulf, West Yakutat and Prince William Sound halibut and sablefish (90%).

Juneau Community Profile

Overview

Juneau is located in southeast Alaska and is about 490 nautical miles southeast of Anchorage by air. Juneau became the capital city of Alaska in 1906, and merged with the city of Douglas and surrounding Greater Juneau Borough in 1970. The City and Borough of Juneau covers 2,717 square miles of land and 538 square miles of water with an estimated resident population of 32,832 in 2012. The city lies along the Gastineau Channel and at the foot of Mount Roberts and Mount Juneau. The city's initial growth was centered on industry mining for gold, but now tourism is the largest private employer. The commercial and recreational fishing industries have and continue to be important contributors to the local economy, but unlike other Alaska communities they have not been the primary economic driver. Notwithstanding, the City and Borough of Juneau has continued to support fisheries development through infrastructure development. Such as, the newly completed Auke Bay Loading Facility and proposed recapitalization of the Aurora Harbor.



Figure 1. Juneau city map with vessel harbor and other supporting infrastructure.

In 2014, 971 commercial fishing permits were issued to Juneau residents and 456 were actively fished, with salmon permits representing the majority of active permits at 247, followed by 99 halibut permits. Juneau residents attained 439 crewmember licenses, 31 of those were not permanent Alaskan residents. Juneau residents also hold 24 Halibut Charter permits and logged 717 charter trips, 388 were bottom fishing trips and 434 targeted salmon. The commercial fishing sector of Juneau is substantial in permits, processing, vessel ownership and crew. The vessel ownership is mainly in smaller hook and line vessels targeting halibut that also operate in state fisheries.

Federal Fishing Vessels Owned by Juneau Residents

Juneau residents own 57 active federal fishing vessels. All 57 vessels are less than 60 feet in length and operate fixed gear. The catcher vessels deploy hook and line gear typically operating inside southeastern state waters.

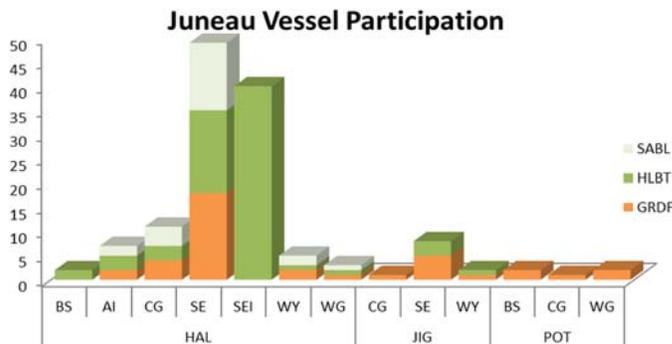


Figure 2. Number of vessels with landings by FMP Gear, FMP Subarea and species grouping.

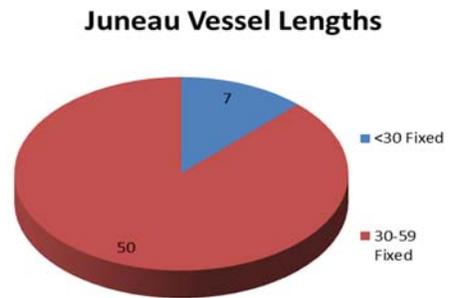


Figure 3. Federal Fishing Vessels by length and gear grouping.

Halibut brought in the greatest federal fishery value at \$4.7M followed by Sablefish at \$1.8M. The state fisheries of salmon, herring and shellfish represent the majority of revenue for vessel owners residing in Juneau at 54%.

Shore Based Processors

In 2014 Juneau had 10 shore based processors active. The federal fishery landings accounted for 49% of the ex-vessel value received by Juneau processors. The shore-based processors were diversified in different species however due to confidentiality concerns information on the types of fisheries is withheld.

Ketchikan Community Profile

Overview

Ketchikan is located on Revillagigedo Island in southeast Alaska and is about 700 nautical miles southeast of Anchorage by air. Ketchikan encompasses 4.4 square miles of land and 1.5 square miles of water and is the fifth most populated city in Alaska with an estimated resident population of 8,291 in 2012. The city was originally settled as a fishing camp and become incorporated in 1900. The fishing industry has been an important part to the community's growth currently and historically. The economic mainstay is from recreational and commercial fishing along with tourism. Ketchikan maintains four cruise ship berths as well as six public harbors, which are Bar Harbor North and South, Thomas Basin, Casey Moran, Hole-In-The-Wall, and Knudson Cove. These harbors support the local fishing fleet, charter boat fleet, as well as recreational vessels.

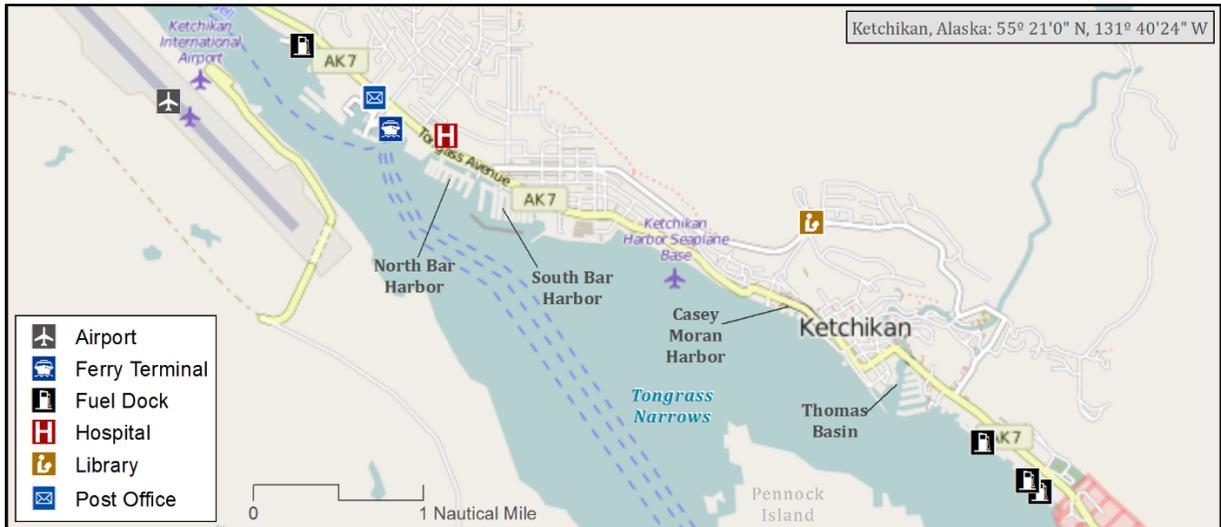


Figure 1. Ketchikan city map with vessel harbors and other supporting infrastructure.

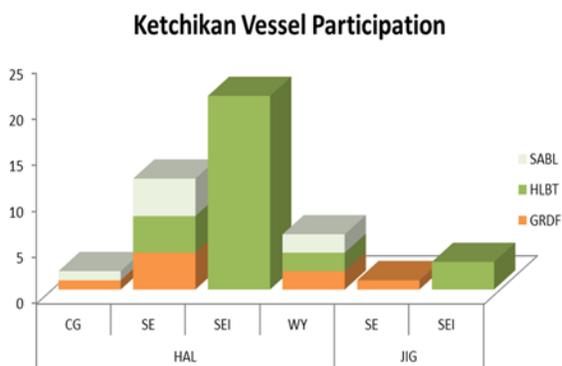


Figure 2. Number of vessels with landings by FMP Gear, FMP Subarea and species grouping.

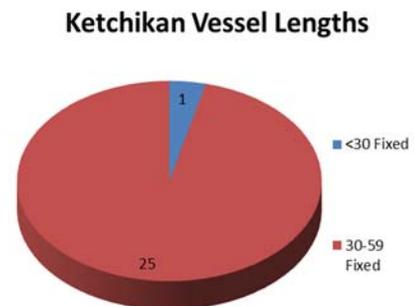


Figure 3. Federal Fishing Vessels by length and gear grouping.

Ketchikan residents obtained 863 commercial fishing permits in 2014, of those 370 were actively fished with salmon permits representing the largest number at 177, followed by 112 shellfish permits and 40 halibut permits. Ketchikan residents attained 398 crewmember licenses, 24 of those were not permanent Alaskan residents. Ketchikan residents hold 122 halibut charter permits ranking it 2nd to Sitka amongst all Alaskan Communities. Charters also logged 5,399 trips out of Ketchikan. Of these trips 2,646 were bottom fishing trips and 3,950 targeted salmon.

Federal Fishing Vessels Owned by Ketchikan Residents

Ketchikan residents owned 26 active federal fishing vessels. Of these vessels 26 targeted mainly Halibut with approximately \$1M in ex-vessel value. The state fisheries of salmon, herring and shellfish represent the majority of revenue for federal vessel owners residing in Ketchikan at 77%.

Shore-based processors

In 2014 Ketchikan had 5 shore based processors active. Only 2 processors were active in the federal fishery. Due to confidentiality concerns processing information is withheld.

Petersburg Community Profile

Overview

Petersburg is located on Mitkof Island in southeast Alaska and is about 584 nautical miles southeast of Anchorage by air. Petersburg Borough was incorporated in 2013 and now encompasses Petersburg and Kupreanof along with uninhabited areas between the Canadian border and Borough of Juneau. The city of Petersburg currently does not exist as a separate entity, but in 2012 had an estimated resident population of 2,972. The city was settled in late 1890s by a Norwegian fishermen and the population has grown largely by people of Scandinavian origin. Unlike other southeast communities, Petersburg is located off the main sea routes of the large cruise ships. Commercial fishing has been and continues to be the main economic driver of the local economy. The main harbors are adjacent to the town and are comprised of South, Middle, and North Harbors. There are a total of 527 slips and the largest slips can accommodate vessels up to 120 feet.

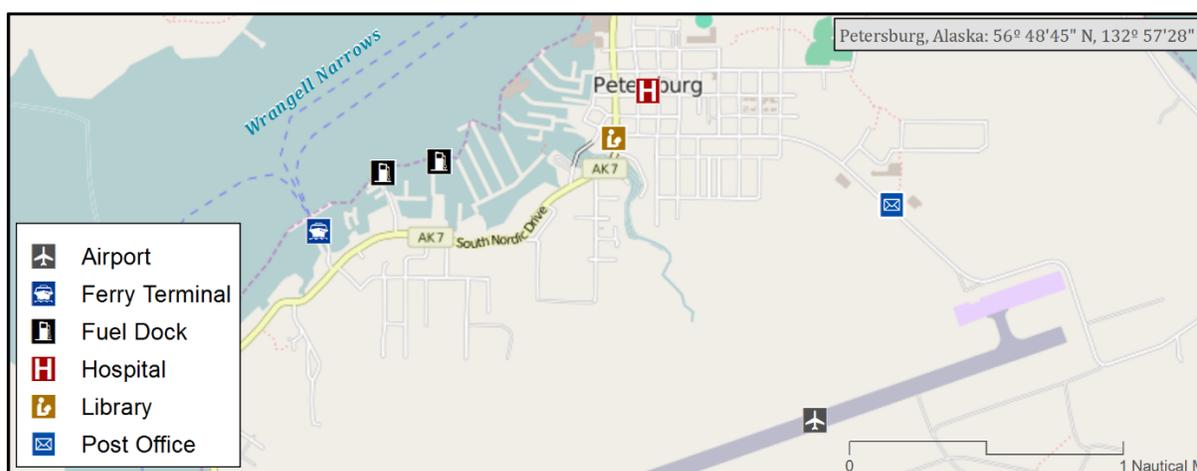


Figure 1. Petersburg city map with vessel harbors and other supporting infrastructure.

Considering the population of Petersburg and the ownership in vessels, permits and licenses it is hard to imagine residents that are not directly or indirectly involved in the commercial fisheries of Alaska. In 2014, 1,177 commercial fishing permits were issued to Petersburg residents and 726 were actively fished, with salmon permits representing the largest number at 261, followed by 172 halibut permits, 103 shellfish permits and 83 herring permits. Petersburg residents attained 448 crewmember licenses, 7 of those were not permanent Alaskan residents. Petersburg residents also hold 17 Halibut Charter permits. Charters logged 662 trips from Petersburg, 525 were bottom fishing trips and 420 targeted salmon. Petersburg holds a large number of federally active vessels (3rd), crew licenses (5th), and permits (3rd) considering the population. Although processing is mainly dominated by state fisheries yet diversified, the vessel owners are diversified amongst various gear types and species.

Federal Fishing Vessels Owned by Petersburg Residents

Petersburg residents owned 102 active federal fishing vessels. Of those vessels 5 acted as catcher processors. The largest portion of the vessels were hook and line operating in the Southeast however the hook and line vessels did operate in other areas and there was a diversification of gear types amongst the vessels (Figure 2). Petersburg vessel owner deployed vessels of many different sizes.

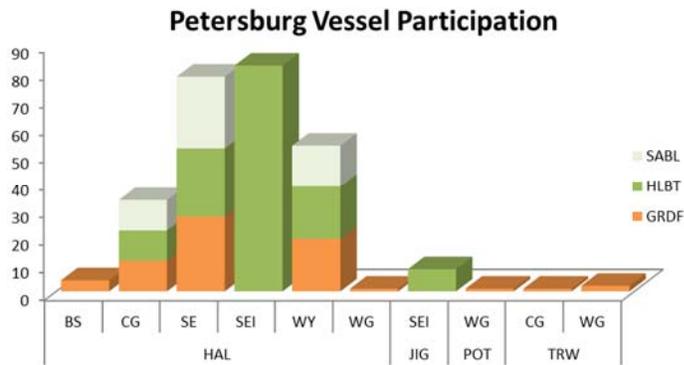


Figure 2. Number of vessels with landings by FMP Gear, FMP Subarea and species grouping.

Petersburg Vessel Lengths

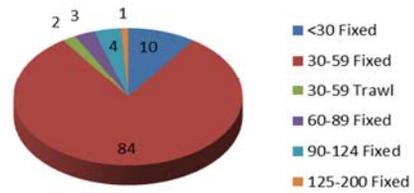


Figure 3. Federal Fishing Vessels by length and gear grouping.

Salmon and herring made up 44% of the total ex-vessel value landed by Petersburg vessel owners. The other 56% of value was attained by diversified group of areas and species. Halibut brought in the greatest amount at \$10.2M followed closely by sablefish, Pacific cod and shellfish.

Shore Based Processors

In 2014 Petersburg had 8 shore-based processors operating. The federal fishery landings accounted for 21% of the ex-vessel value received by Petersburg processors. The most valuable federal species was halibut which accounted for \$7.6M in ex-vessel value with all four processors participating. The shore-based processors were diversified in different species however due to confidentiality concerns information on the types of fisheries is withheld.

Sitka Community Profile

Overview

The city of Sitka is located on the west side of Baranof Island in southeast Alaska and is about 510 nautical miles southeast of Anchorage by air. Sitka faces the Pacific Ocean and is surrounded by the largest temperate rain forest in the world, the Tongass National Forest. The community was founded in 1799 by Alexander Baranov, the governor of Russian America, and it became Alaska’s first capital when Alaska was purchased from Russia in 1867. Sitka city and borough is the second largest incorporated area in the U.S. and encompasses 2,870 square miles of land and 1,938 square miles of water with an estimated population of 9,084 in 2012. Commercial and recreational fishing has been and continues to be an important economic industry for the local economy. The City and Borough of Sitka Harbor Department operates and maintains five boat harbors, four of which are adjacent to the city. These harbors are for recreational, charter, and commercial vessels and can handle vessels up to 300 feet.



Figure 1. Sitka city map with vessel harbors and other supporting infrastructure.

In 2014, 1,307 commercial fishing permits were issued to Sitka residents and 771 were actively fished, with salmon permits representing the largest number at 339, followed by 172 halibut permits, and 127 sablefish permits. Sitka residents attained 645 crewmember licenses, 45 of those were not permanent Alaskan residents. Sitka residents also hold 139 Halibut Charter permits. Charters logged 7,264 trips from Sitka, 5,811 were bottom fishing trips and 7,000 targeted salmon. Sitka tops the list in many categories when it comes to the federal fishery of Alaska. Sitka is the most active community in charter activity and CFEC permits, it also boasts the most active vessels in the federal fishery. The processing of federal species ranks Sitka 9th.

Federal Fishing Vessels Owned by Sitka Residents

Sitka residents owned 196 active federal fishing vessels. Four vessels had minor activity as catcher processors, the remainder of the fleet operated in the fixed gear catcher vessel sector deploying hook and line and jig gears. The fleet operated almost entirely in southeastern Alaska. The typical vessel was between 30 and 60 feet in length however there is a high number of small vessels less than 30 feet in length active.

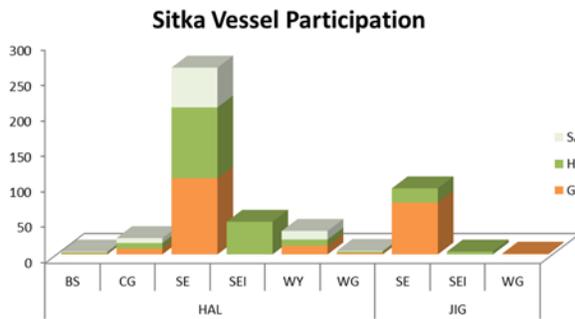


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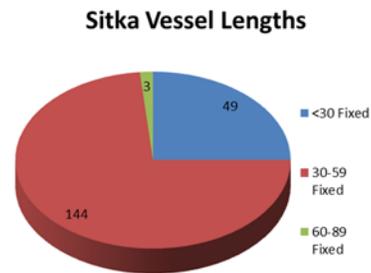


Figure 3. Federal Fishing Vessels by length and gear grouping.

Salmon and herring made up 55% of the total ex-vessel value landed by Sitka vessel owners. The remainder of value was centered mainly Sablefish at \$10M in value. Halibut also brought in a significant amount of revenue at \$6.9M. The other species did not contribute a significant value to the overall vessel owner group.

Shore Based Processors

In 2014 Sitka had 8 shore-based processors operating. Only 2 processors were active in the federal fishery. Due to confidentiality concerns processing information is withheld.

Central Gulf Fishing Communities

The Central Gulf region includes the communities of Akhiok, Anchor Point, Chiniak, Clam Gulch, Fritz Creek, Halibut Cove, Homer, Kasilof, Kenai, Kodiak, Nikiski, Nikolaevsk, Ninilchik, Old Harbor, Ouzinkie, Port Graham, Port Lions, Seldovia, Seward, Soldotna, Valdez, and Whittier. Of these communities, Kodiak, Homer, and Seward are described in this booklet in detail.

Most of the communities in the Central Gulf region are considered within the traditional territory of the Alutiiq (Sugpiaq), although areas along the Cook Inlet are in Dena'ina (Tanaina) traditional areas. Multiple Central Gulf of Alaska communities are located on the road system and therefore vessel owners, permit owners, or crew members may live in a non-fishing community and commute into a port. Homer, Seward, and Whittier are the main ports along the road system. These communities are notably diverse, ranging from the large metropolitan city of Anchorage (which is not described here, but is within the region) to villages with fewer than 100 people.

In 2014, a total of 1,018 vessels within the region participated in commercial fisheries in Alaska. Of those, 320 vessels (31.4 percent of all vessels in the region) participated in the federally managed fisheries off of Alaska. Kodiak and Homer had the largest number of vessels participating in the federally managed fisheries, by far, with 154 and 102, respectively. Aside from these two communities, the communities with the largest number of vessels participating in the federally managed fisheries were Seward (10), Soldotna (10), and Anchor Point (6). Of the communities in the region (aside from Kodiak and Homer), the average number of total vessels per community participating in all commercial fisheries was 17.9, while an average of 3.8 vessels participated in the federally managed fisheries.

Fixed gear was the most prevalent gear type in the region for vessels participating in federally managed fisheries, with 17 vessels in Kodiak counted as employing trawl gear. Of the 320 vessels active in the federally managed fishery, 273 (85.3 percent) of the vessels were under 60' in length. The largest vessels in the region (90' to 124') were located in Homer (3), Kenai (1), and Kodiak (8). Kodiak had the largest number of vessels (117) under 60'.

The total amount of gross ex-vessel value for all commercial fisheries in the region was \$231.1 million, of which \$120.7 million (52.2 percent of the total) was attributable to the federally managed fisheries. Overall, the average gross ex-vessel value of federally managed fishing across all Western Gulf communities was \$6.4 million, although without Kodiak and Homer the average lowers to approximately \$638,000. The communities with the largest federally managed fisheries gross ex-vessel values included Kodiak (\$79.1 million), Homer (\$30.7 million), and Seward (\$5.5 million). For these communities, the percentage of federally managed fishery gross ex-vessel value of all commercial fishing gross ex-vessel value was 68.8, 39.2, and 52.5 percent, respectively. The communities in the region for which gross ex-vessel value from federally managed fisheries comprised most of their total gross ex-vessel value (by percentage) was the aforementioned Kodiak, Seldovia (66.1 percent), and Seward (52.5 percent).

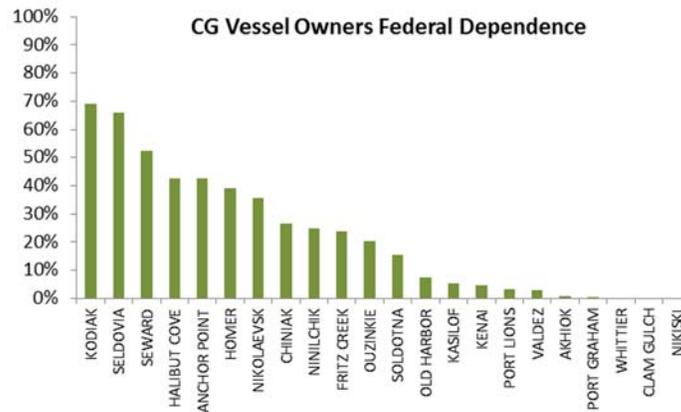


Figure 1. Vessel Owners percent of revenue from federal fishery.

The total number of commercial fishing permits held in the region was 3,696, of which 1,095 permits (29.6 percent of the total) were in federally managed fisheries. The average number of federal fishery permits across all communities in the region was 52.1, although that number decreases to 13.7 when Homer and Kodiak are removed from the calculation. The communities with the highest number of federal fishery permits were Kodiak (510), Homer (324), and Seward (50). For these communities, the percentage of federal fishery permits represented 43.3, 29.2, and 39.7 percent, respectively, of all state and federal fishery permits combined in those communities. The communities for which federal fishery permits comprised the largest percentage of all permits in the community included Nikolaevsk (47.6 percent), the aforementioned Kodiak, and Fritz Creek (40.6 percent).

Crew licenses for the region totaled 2,768. The communities with the most crew licenses included Kodiak (845), Homer (703), Kenai (276), Soldotna (232), and Kasilof (123). Overall, the average number of crew licenses in each listed fishing community was 125.8, although the number drops to 61 when Homer and Kodiak are removed from the calculation.

Kodiak Community Profile

Overview

The largest island in the Gulf of Alaska is Kodiak Island, encompassing 6,559 square miles. The city of Kodiak is the largest community on the island, situated on the eastern tip about 219 nautical miles south of Anchorage. Kodiak has a long history, and was originally inhabited by the Alutiiq for over 7,000 years. In the 18th century the large number of Russian settlers resulted in Kodiak being known as the capital of Russian Alaska. In the late 1800s, after the United States purchased of Alaska from Russia, large-scale fish processing plants were developed, establishing Kodiak as a cornerstone in American fisheries. In 2011, the estimated population of Kodiak Island was 13,873, and 45 percent, or 6,267 of these residents lived in the city of Kodiak.

The city of Kodiak is largely dependent upon commercial fishing and the seafood processing industry. Kodiak is home to most of the island’s commercial fishing vessels and to the majority of the seafood processing plants. The economic value is evident in the large number of residents who own their own commercial fishing vessels, the size and number of seafood processing plants, as well as the size of the infrastructure that directly supports the fishing industry (Figure 1). There are two main harbors in Kodiak, St. Paul Harbor and St. Herman Harbor, and together

they possess 575 slips for commercial and recreational vessels. St. Herman Harbor is the larger of the two harbors and can accommodate vessels up to 150 feet in length.



Figure 1 Kodiak city map with processing facilities, vessel harbors and other supporting infrastructure

Kodiak's dependence on the fishing industry is apparent in the large number of commercial fishing permits and crewmember licenses issued to its residents in 2014. In this year, 1,179 commercial fishing permits were issued to Kodiak residents and 584 were actively fished, with salmon permits representing the largest number at 236, 123 halibut permits, and 76 shellfish permits. In 2014 845 Kodiak residents attained crewmember licenses, 31 of those were not permanent Alaskan residents. Kodiak residents hold 69 halibut charter permits. Charters logged 844 trips from the port of Kodiak. Of these trips 809 were bottom fishing trips and 418 targeted salmon.

Federal Fishing Vessels Owned by Kodiak Residents

In 2014, Kodiak residents owned 155 active federal fishing vessels. Two vessels had activity as catcher processors. Most of the vessels participated in multiple fisheries, switching their gear to adapt to different fisheries and seasons. The highest number of vessels participated in the Central Gulf halibut fishery (81). Of the vessels 17 carried trawl gear and 138 carried fixed gear.

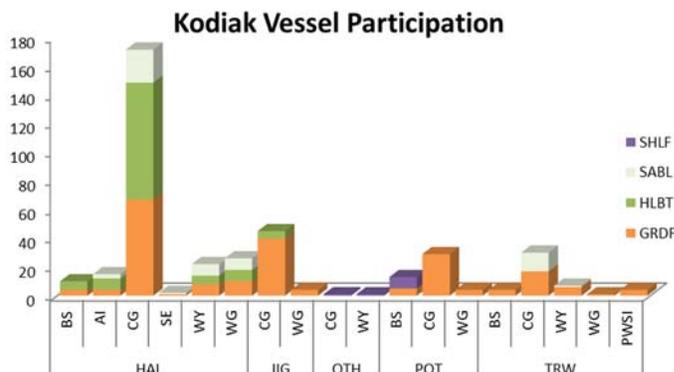


Figure 2. Number of vessels with landings by FMP Gear, FMP Subarea and species grouping.

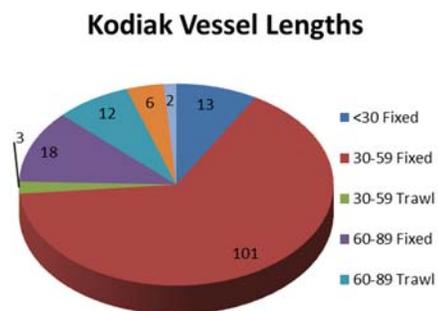


Figure 3. Federal Fishing Vessels by length and gear grouping.

Groundfish made up the largest portion of all ex-vessel value at (\$41M) followed by shellfish at \$21M and halibut at \$15M. On a species basis Pacific cod and pollock were the two most valuable. Pacific cod is harvested by a variety of groups with the pot vessels as the largest user while pollock is mainly utilized by the trawl vessels.

Shore Based Processors

In 2014 Kodiak had 10 active processors. Landings from the federal fishery accounted for 69% of the ex-vessel value received by Kodiak processors. The Central Gulf trawl fishery comprised 58% of the federal value with pollock accounting for \$34M or 36% of the federal ex vessel value. Halibut and Sablefish deliveries followed Pollock at \$17M and \$14M respectively.

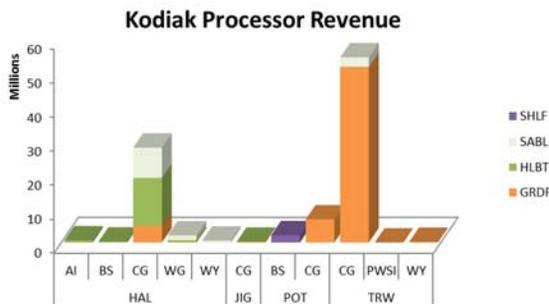


Figure 4. Federal processor revenue in ex-vessel value.

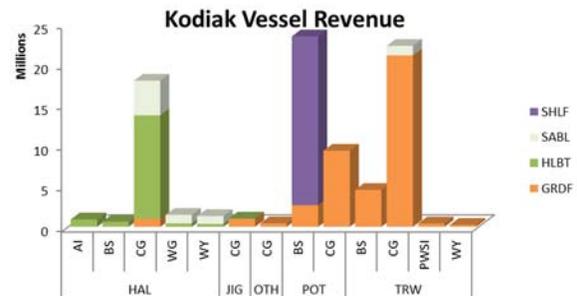


Figure 5. Vessel owner federal revenue in ex-vessel value.

Homer Community Profile

Overview

Homer is located on the southwestern edge of the Kenai Peninsula, on the shore of Kachemak Bay, and is about 107 nautical miles from Anchorage by air. The city of Homer covers 15 square miles of land and 10.5 square miles of water and has an estimated resident population of 5,104 in 2012. Homer has a rich fishing history, both recreational and commercial and has been nicknamed the “Halibut Fishing Capital of the World.” The most distinguishing feature is the 4.5 mile long and narrow “Homer Spit”, which extends into Kachemak Bay. At the end of the spit are seafood processing facilities along with Homer’s Harbor, which has 920 slips for commercial and recreational vessels, 6,000 feet of transient moorage, a deep water dock with a dock face of 345 feet, and a ferry terminal.



Figure 1. Homer city map with vessel harbors and other supporting infrastructure.

Homer residents have a strong ownership in vessels, permits and licenses. In 2014, 1,109 commercial fishing permits were issued to Homer residents and 704 were actively fished, with salmon permits representing the largest number at 427, followed by 129 halibut permits, 62 miscellaneous saltwater finfish permits and 49 sablefish permit. Homer residents attained 703 crewmember licenses, 39 of those were not permanent Alaskan residents. The number of crew licenses ranks Homer third behind Anchorage and Kodiak. Homer residents also hold 73 Halibut Charter permits. Charters logged 4,767 trips from Homer. Of these trips 4,545 were bottom fishing trips and 1,471 targeted salmon. Homer had the third highest number of logbook trips and permits of all communities.

Federal Fishing Vessels Owned by Homer Residents

In 2014, Homer residents owned 102 active federal fishing vessels. All of these commercial fishing vessels operated exclusively as catcher vessels delivering to shore-side processors or motherships. Most of the vessels participated in multiple fisheries, switching their gear to adapt to different fisheries and seasons. The highest number of vessels participated in the Central Gulf groundfish hook and line fishery (74) with Central Gulf halibut hook and line participation at 69 vessels (Figure 2). These fixed gear vessels are typically less than 60 feet in length. The crab fishing vessels make up a very small portion of the fleet.

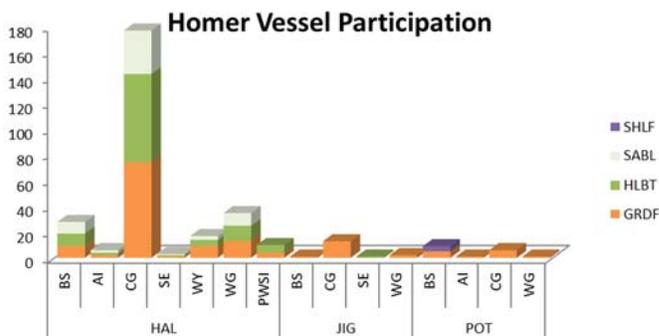


Figure 2. Number of vessels with landings by FMP Gear, FMP Subarea and species grouping.

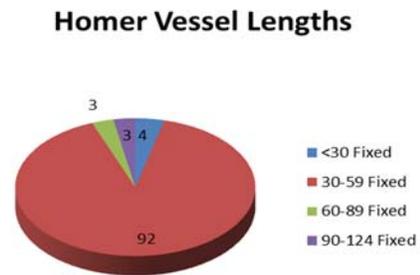


Figure 3. Federal Fishing Vessels by length and gear grouping.

Federal landings make up 41% of the total ex-vessel value landed by Homer residents. Halibut makes up 37% of the federal revenue at \$11M followed by crab(\$9M), groundfish(\$6M) and sablefish(\$5M). Although the crab vessels owned by Homer residents do not make a large portion of the vessel count, these vessels do attain a large portion

of ex-vessel revenue. Bering Sea Tanner crab therefore is the second most valuable fishery for Homer vessel owners.

Shore Based Processors

In 2014 Homer had 4 shore-based processors operating. All processors processed halibut for a total of \$11M in ex-vessel Value. Halibut accounted for 94% of the processing revenue in Homer. The total processed ex-vessel value including salmon for Homer was \$12M. Not all processors operated species other than halibut, due to confidentiality concerns information on the other fisheries is withheld.

Seward Community Profile

Overview

Seward is located on southeast coast of the Kenai Peninsula and about 65 nautical miles south of Anchorage by air. The city was established in 1903 on the shores of Resurrection Bay and it covers 14.4 square miles of land and 7.1 square miles of water with an estimated resident population of 2,754 in 2012. The community lies at the foot of Mount Marathon, and is the gateway to Kenai Fjords National Park and the Gulf of Alaska. Similar to other cities on the Kenai Peninsula, Seward has a rich fishing history and has a number of seafood processing plants as well as a sizeable boat harbor, which supports both recreational and commercial vessels. The harbor was developed in 1964 and has grown to 608 vessel slips and can accommodate large vessels with a maximum overall length of 105 feet.

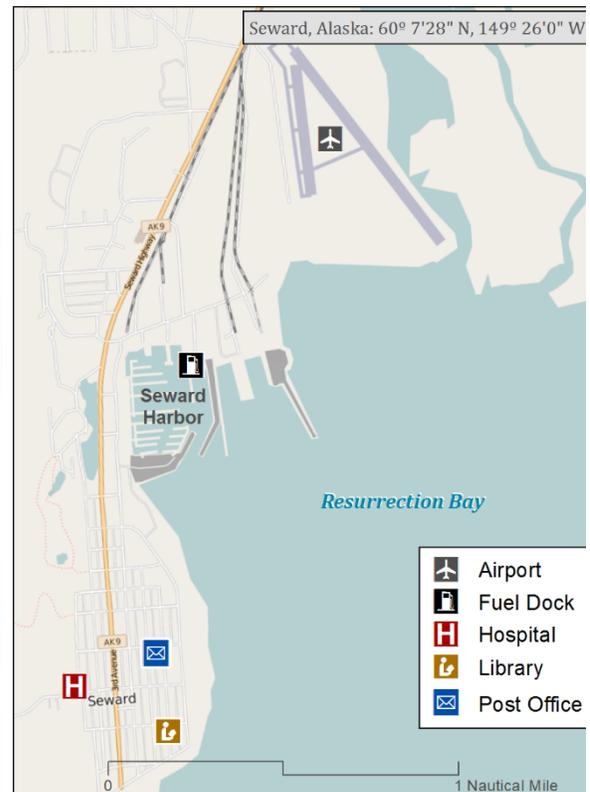


Figure 1. Seward city map with vessel harbor and other supporting infrastructure.

Seward residents maintain a small number of permits, crew licenses and charter permits compared to the port size and activity possibly due to an influx of Anchorage or other residents within the road system. In 2014 126 commercial fishing permits were issued to Seward residents and 73 were actively fished, with salmon permits representing the largest number at 31, followed by 18 halibut permits and 17 sablefish permits. Seward residents attained 121 crewmember licenses, 5 of those were not permanent Alaskan residents. Seward residents also hold 48 halibut charter permits. Charters logged 4,430 trips from Seward. Of these trips 3,476 were bottom fishing trips and 3,076 targeted salmon. The fishing community of Seward has the largest impact from federal fisheries in processing and port activity ranking it fourth amongst all ports. The main driver for processing is sablefish. The vessel owners and permit holders are a relatively small group when compared to other fishing communities.

Federal Fishing Vessels Owned by Seward Residents

In 2014, Seward residents owned 10 active federal fishing vessels. All of these commercial fishing vessels operated exclusively as catcher vessels delivering to shore-side processors or motherships. The highest number of vessels participated in the Central Gulf halibut hook and line fishery(7) with Central Gulf groundfish hook and line participation at 6 and Central Gulf sablefish hook and line at 5 vessels (Figure 2). These fixed gear vessels are typically less than 60 feet in length and represent the majority of federal fishing vessels. The pot fishing vessels make up a very small portion of the fleet.

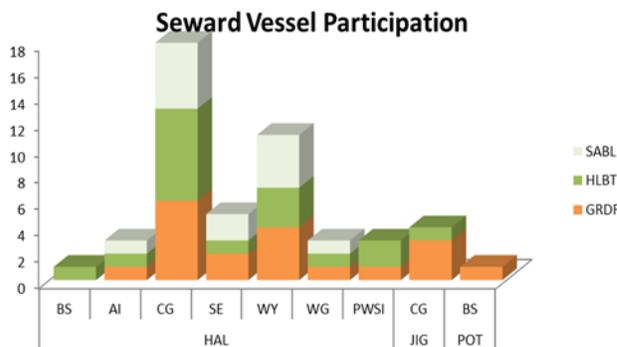


Figure 2. Number of vessels with landings by FMP Gear, FMP Subarea and species grouping.

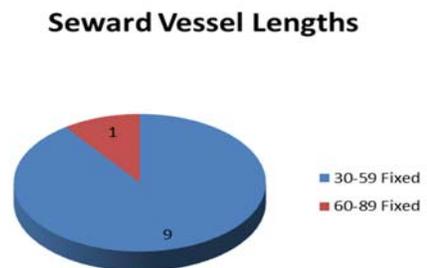


Figure 3. Federal Vessels by length and gear grouping.

Sablefish landings comprised 47% of Seward vessel owner’s ex-vessel federal activity. The majority of fishing activity occurred in the Central Gulf.

Shore Based Processors

In 2014 Seward had 5 shore-based processors operating. The processors were diversified between halibut, sablefish, salmon and groundfish. Sablefish was the most valuable species at \$17M followed by salmon (\$15M) and halibut (\$14M). Over \$38M in federal fishery ex-vessel value was processed in 2014.

Western Gulf Fishing Communities

Western Gulf region includes the communities of Akutan, False Pass, King Cove, Perryville, and Sand Point. Of these communities, Akutan, King Cove, and Sand Point are described in this booklet in detail. Western Gulf communities are located in the traditional territory of the Aleut people. These communities are relatively small in size, are not on the main road system, and have a high proportion of minority residents.

In 2014, a total of 132 regional vessels participated in commercial fisheries in Alaska. Of those, 70 vessels (or 53.0 percent of all regional vessels) participated in the federally managed fisheries off of Alaska. Sand Point and King Cove had the largest number of vessels participating in the federally managed fisheries with 46 and 17, respectively. Of the communities in the region, the average number of total vessels per community participating in all commercial fisheries was 26.4, while the average number of vessel participating in the federally managed fisheries per community was 14.0.

Fixed gear was the most prevalent gear type in the region for vessels participating in federally managed fisheries, although a total of 10 vessels were counted as employing trawl gear: 3 in King Cove and 7 in Sand Point. Of the 70 vessels active in the federally managed fisheries, 65 (92.9 percent) of the vessels were 30' to 59' in length. All vessels in King Cove were between 30' to 59', while 2 of the 4 vessels in Akutan were under 30' in length.

The total amount of gross ex-vessel value for all commercial fisheries in the region was \$21.4 million, of which \$6.5 million (or 30.4 percent of the total) was attributable to the federally managed fisheries. Overall, the average gross ex-vessel value of federally managed fishing across all Western Gulf communities was \$1.3 million, although the totals in King Cove and Sand Point outweigh the relatively small totals in Akutan, False Pass, and Perryville. The communities with the largest federally managed fisheries gross ex-vessel values included Sand Point (\$4.0 million) and King Cove (\$2.2 million). For these communities, the percentage of federally managed fishery gross ex-vessel value of all commercial fishing gross ex-vessel value was 31.4 and 30.1 percent, respectively. However, the community in the region for which gross ex-vessel value from federally managed fisheries comprised most of their total gross ex-vessel value (by percentage) was Akutan, at 100.0 percent.

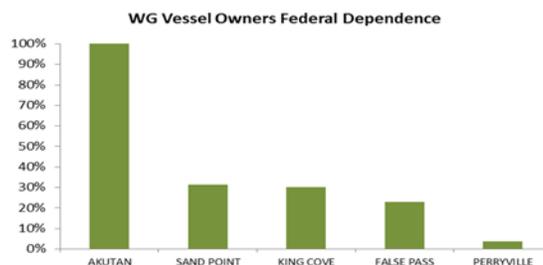


Figure 1. Vessel Owners percent of revenue from federal fishery.

The total number of commercial fishing permits in the region was 392, of which 145 permits (37.0 percent of the total) were in federally managed fisheries. The average number of federal fishery permits across all communities in the region was 29. The communities with the highest number of federal fishery permits were Sand Point (97) and King Cove (31). For these communities, the percentage of federal fishery permits represented 38.3 and 30.4 percent, respectively, of all permits in those communities. The community for which federal fishery permits comprised the largest percentage of all permits in the community, however, was Akutan (64.3 percent).

Alaska-resident crew licenses for the region totaled 315. The order of the communities with the highest number of crew licenses was Sand Point (162), King Cove (112), Perryville (19), False Pass (14), and Akutan (8). Overall, the average number of crew licenses in each community was 63.

Akutan Community Profile

Overview

Akutan is located in a sheltered harbor on the eastern side of Akutan Island, approximately 736 miles southwest of Anchorage. Akutan Island is part of the Fox Islands group of the eastern Aleutian Islands. The city of Akutan covers 14.0 square miles of land and 4.9 square miles of water. In 2012, the population of Akutan was estimated to be 1,106. The broader area was historically occupied by the Unanga (Aleuts), and Akutan was used as a fur storage and trading facility starting in 1878. During World War II residents of the area were evacuated, and many former residents did not return after the reestablishment of the village in 1944. Akutan is home of one of the largest seafood processing plants in North America, and the plant operates year round. During peak processing months the population of Akutan can more than quadruple. Akutan is located approximately 35 nautical miles closer to fishing grounds than Dutch Harbor, offering fishing vessels a savings in time and fuel costs.



Figure 1. Akutan city map with vessel harbors and other supporting infrastructure.

Akutan residents own 4 federal fishing vessels that were active in 2014. All of these commercial fishing vessels operated exclusively as catcher vessels delivering to shore-side processors or mother-ships, were less than 60 feet in length and utilized fixed gear. These vessels targeted halibut exclusively. Due to confidentiality the shore-side processing activity is withheld. There were a small amount of crew permits (8) and commercial fishing permits issued (14). The main driver in the community is the large processing facility.

King Cove Community Profile

Overview

King Cove is located on the south side of the Alaska Peninsula and is about 605 miles southwest of Anchorage. The city was established in 1911 when Pacific American Fisheries constructed a salmon cannery. The city was incorporated in 1949, and encompasses 25.3 square miles of land and 4.5 square miles of water. In 2012, resident population was estimated at 963. The community lies on a sand spit, separated by King Cove Lagoon and King Cove, and is surrounded by rugged mountains. The city's economy is solely dependent on commercial fishing and the seafood processing industry. There are two harbors that have moorage for 96 vessels with a maximum length 165 as well as a deep water pier for the state ferry, cruise ships and cargo vessels.



Figure 1. King Cove city map with vessel harbor and other supporting infrastructure.



In 2014, King Cove residents owned 17 active federal fishing vessels. All of these commercial fishing vessels operated exclusively as catcher vessels delivering to shore-side processors or mother-ships. These catcher vessels were less than 60 feet in length and deployed fixed gear and trawl gear. The pot fleet of King Cove has 11 vessels followed by halibut (5) and trawl (3). Due to confidentiality the activity of shore-side processing is withheld. King Cove had 114 crewmember licenses issued with 112 to permanent Alaska residents. In 2014 102 commercial fishing permits were issued to King Cove residents and 68 were actively fished, with salmon permits representing the largest number at 39, followed by 18 miscellaneous saltwater finfish permits. The fishing community of King Cove is supported by a large processing facility. The processing of King Cove ranks in the top 5 communities for the federal fishery of Alaska. Vessel owners within the community deliver to this single processor therefore both the processing and vessel owner value is confidential.

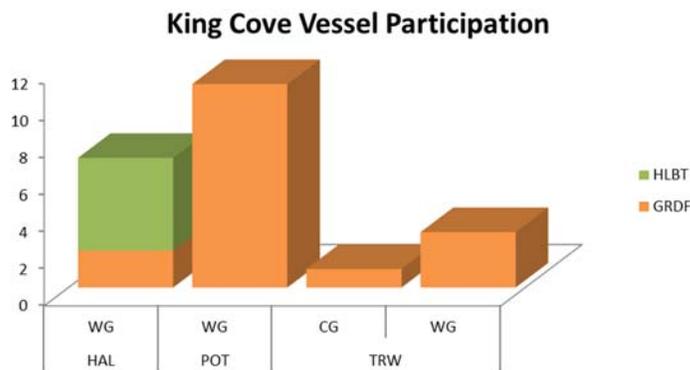


Figure 2. Number of vessels with landings by FMP Gear, FMP Subarea and species grouping.

King Cove Vessel Lengths

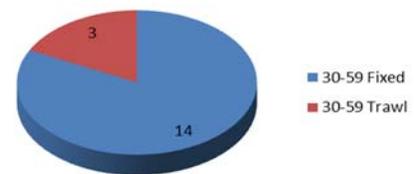


Figure 3. Federal Fishing Vessels by length and gear grouping.

Sand Point Community Profile

Overview

Sand Point, also known as Qagun Tayagungin, is located on Popof Island, off the Alaska Peninsula in the Shumagin Islands group. It lies about 549 miles southwest of Anchorage and the city area encompasses 7.8 square miles of land and 21.1 square miles of water. In 2012, the resident population was estimated at 983. The community is a mix of Alaskan natives and non-natives, and was founded in 1898 by a fishing company from San Francisco to process Pacific cod. The fishing industry has continued to be the primary economic driver with almost half the residents working in the commercial fishing or seafood processing industry or in both. The community supports a sizable boat harbor that supports both commercial and recreational vessels and has moorage for about 148 vessels.

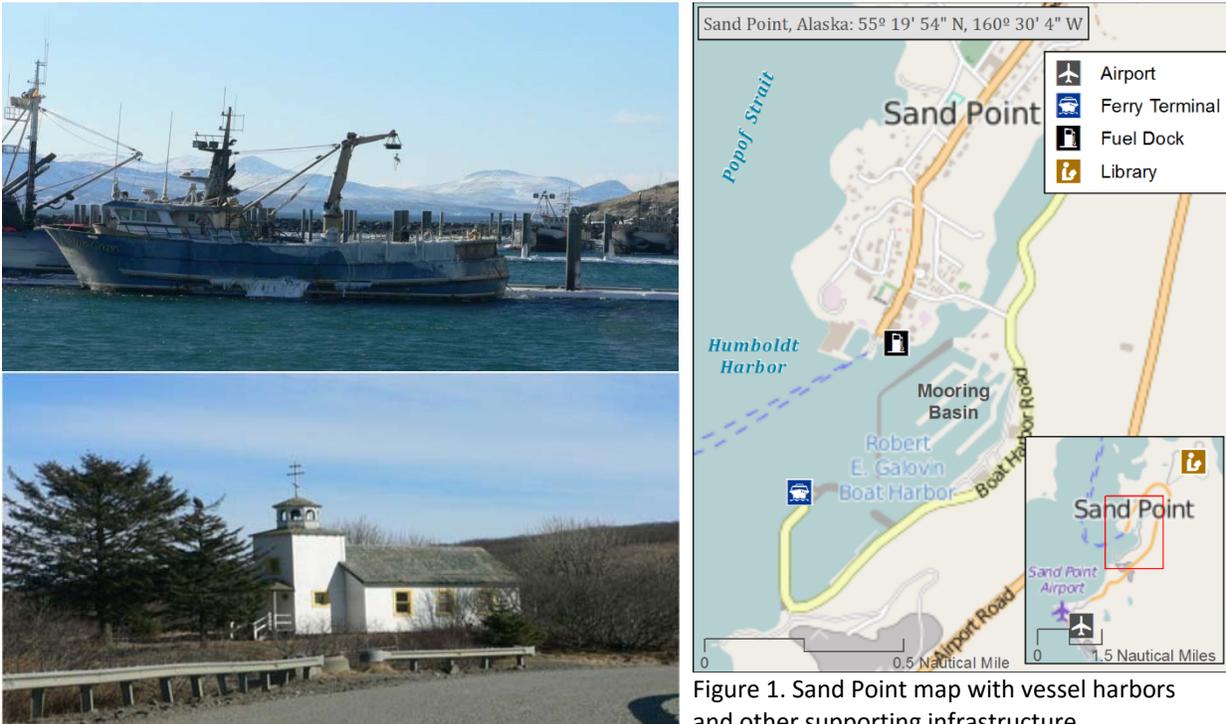


Figure 1. Sand Point map with vessel harbors and other supporting infrastructure.

In 2014 252 commercial fishing permits were issued to Sand Point residents and 156 were actively fished, with salmon permits representing the largest number of active permits at 80, followed by 43 miscellaneous saltwater finfish permits. Residents attained 170 crewmember licenses, 8 of those were not permanent Alaskan residents. Sand Point did not have Halibut Charter activity by residents in 2014. Sand Point has a large processing community and ranked 6th for the number of active vessel owners in the federal fishery. In the other categories Sand Point falls outside of the top ten however considering the small population (983) it is an extremely active federal fishing community.

Federal Fishing Vessels Owned by Sand Point Residents

In 2014, Sand Point residents owned 46 active federal fishing vessels. All of these commercial fishing vessels operated as catcher vessels delivering to shore-side processors or mother-ships. The highest number of vessels participated in the halibut fishery (20) followed by Western Gulf groundfish jig fishery (17) and pot fishery. The

vessels were diversified amongst gear types however concentrated in the Gulf of Alaska with the fixed gear vessels only operating in the Western Gulf. These vessels were all less than 60 feet in length.

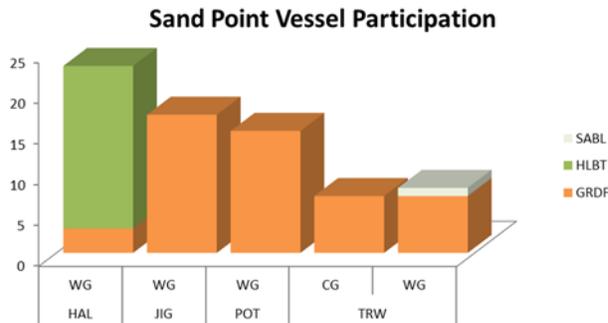


Figure 2. Number of vessels with landings by FMP Gear, FMP Subarea and species grouping.

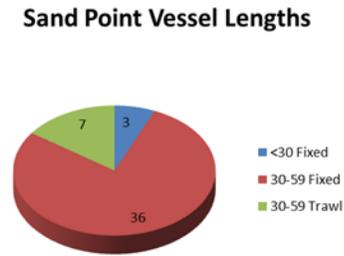


Figure 3. Federal Vessels by length and gear grouping.

Salmon was the largest revenue generator for vessel owners in Sand Point making up approximately 48% of the total followed closely by Groundfish at 44%. Alongside a diversified use of gears the vessel owners had diversified revenue streams coming from Pacific cod, pollock and halibut. Shore Based Processors

In 2012 Sand Point had 2 shore-based processors operating therefore processing information is confidential.

Bering Sea Fishing Communities

The Bering Sea region includes the communities of Cheforak, Chevak, Chignik, Chignik Lagoon, Clarks Point, Dillingham, Dutch Harbor/Unalaska, Gambell, Goodnews Bay, Hooper Bay, Kipnuk, Kongiganak, Kwigillingok, Mekoryuk, Naknek, Newtok, Nightmute, Nome, Quinagak, Saint George, Saint Paul, Savoonga, Togiak, Toksook Bay, Tuntutuliak, and Tununak. Of these communities, Dutch Harbor/Unalaska and St. Paul are described in this booklet in detail. Along the Aleutians, Bering Sea communities are located within the traditional territory of the Aleut people, while communities along Bristol Bay and south of Norton Sound are within traditional Yupik lands. These communities are generally small in size and are off of the main road system with many only accessible by plane.

In 2014, a total of 356 vessels within the region participated in commercial fisheries in Alaska. Of those, 97 vessels (27.2 percent of all regional vessels) participated in the federally managed fisheries off of Alaska. Saint Paul, Savoonga, and Togiak had the largest number of vessels participating in the federally managed fisheries with 14, 13, and 13, respectively. Of the listed fishing communities in the region, an average of 13.2 participated in either or both the state and federally managed fisheries, while the average number of vessels participating in the federally managed fisheries per community was 5.7.

No trawl vessels were present in the region in 2014; all vessels were registered as having fixed gear. Of the 97 vessels active in federally managed fisheries, only 1 vessel (1.0 percent) was longer than 60'; this was a vessel in Unalaska between 90' and 124'. Approximately 39.2 percent of vessels active in the federally managed fisheries were between 30' and 59', while 59.8 percent of these vessels were under 30' in length.

The total amount of gross ex-vessel value for all commercial fisheries in the region was \$30.6 million, of which \$6.0 million was attributable to the federally managed fisheries (19.8 percent). Overall, the average gross ex-vessel value of federally managed fishing across all Bering Sea communities was \$356,000. The communities with the largest federally managed fisheries gross ex-vessel values included Dutch Harbor (combined with Unalaska) (\$3.4 million), Saint Paul (\$1.6 million), and Saint George (\$224,000). For these communities, the percentage of federally managed fishery gross ex-vessel value of all commercial fishing gross ex-vessel value was 68.7, 100.0, and 100.0 percent, respectively. A number of communities in the region are completely dependent on the federally managed fisheries, and gross ex-vessel value from these fisheries comprises 100.0 percent of the community's total. These communities are Gambell, Mekoryuk, Saint George, Saint Paul, Savoonga, Toksook Bay and Tununak (communities with less than 3 vessel owners are withheld).

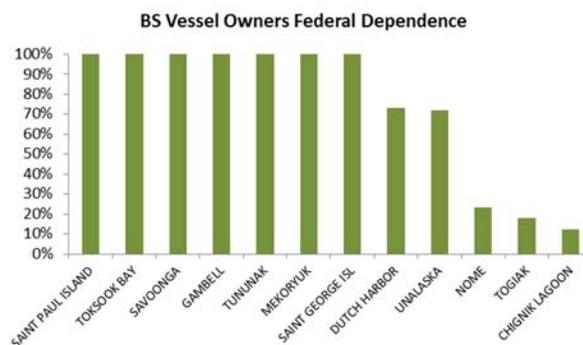


Figure 1. Vessel Owners percent of revenue from federal fishery.

The total number of commercial fishing permits in the region was 1,898, of which 368 permits were in federally managed fisheries (19.4 percent). The average number of federal fishery permits across all listed fishing communities in the region was 14.7. The communities with the highest number of federal fishery permits were Dutch Harbor (combined with Unalaska) (45), Mekoryuk (33), and Tununak (30). The percentage of federal fishery permits represented 73.8, 33.7, and 41.1 percent, respectively, of all permits in those communities. The communities for which federal fishery permits comprised the largest percentage of all permits in the community included Gambell (100.0 percent), Savoonga (100.0 percent), and Saint Paul (92.0 percent).

Crew licenses for the region totaled 1,347. The communities with the highest number of crew licenses registered included Dillingham (315), Togiak (186), Dutch Harbor/Unalaska (160), Naknek (113), and Quinhagak (75). Overall, the average number of crew licenses in each community was 51.8. Every community included in this analysis had at least 11 crew licenses registered, aside from the small community of Gambell (3 licenses).

Saint Paul Community Profile

Overview

Saint Paul is the major settlement on Saint Paul Island, and is approximately 755 miles southwest of Anchorage. Saint Paul Island is part of the Pribilof Islands, a chain located in the Bering Sea. Saint Paul covers 40.3 square miles of land, and 255.2 square miles of water. In 2012, the population of Saint Paul was estimated to be 491 individuals. Prior to discovery by Russian fur traders in 1786 the island is believed to have been uninhabited. Throughout this period, native Aleuts from surrounding areas were enslaved to capture fur seals for trade. During World War II, the locals were evacuated, and later allowed to return to Saint Paul. Two major fish processor serve the central Bering Sea fisheries, and tourism for birding and the seal rookeries drive to local economy. Subsistence harvesting of fish, seals, and other local wildlife also plays an important role in the community.



Figure 1. St. Paul Island city map with vessel harbors and other supporting infrastructure.

Saint Paul residents own 14 federal fishing vessels that were active in 2014. Of those 13 were active in the halibut fishery in the Bering Sea and one vessel operated in the jig fishery in the Bering Sea. Halibut was the main stream of revenue. All of these commercial fishing vessels operated exclusively as catcher vessels delivering to shore-side processors or mother-ships, were less than 60 feet in length and utilized fixed gear. Due to confidentiality the activity of the fleet is withheld as is shore-side processing. There were a small amount of crew permits (42) and commercial fishing permits issued (25). The main driver in the community is the large processing facility.

Unalaska/Dutch Harbor Community Profile

Overview

The city of Unalaska and the port of Dutch Harbor are about 766 miles southwest of Anchorage and are located on the Islands of Unalaska and Amaknak. The communities are connected by a bridge and are handled as a single community for this profile because of their socioeconomic interdependences. The city of Unalaska became incorporated in 1942 and it encompasses 111.0 square miles of land and 101.3 square miles of water, and had an estimated resident population of 4,768 in 2012. After World War II, the community evolved into the busy and prosperous commercial fishing and seafood processing port, and today it yields the nation’s largest volume of landings. The city owns six marine facilities, but fishing vessels are mainly moored at the Robert Storrs, Carl E. Moses boat Harbor, or at Spit Dock. The Carl E. Moses and Robert Storrs Facility consists of 52 and 71 slips, whereas the Spit dock has 2,400 linear feet of dock along with multiple berths for long and short term moorage.



Residents own 11 federal fishing vessels that were active in 2014. All of these commercial fishing vessels operated exclusively as catcher vessels delivering to shore-side processors or mother-ships, 10 vessels were less than 60 feet in length while all vessels utilized fixed gear. Pacific cod followed by Halibut were the main revenue drivers for the fleet. Due to confidentiality the specific activity of the Dutch Harbor/Unalaska fleet is withheld as is shore-side processing. There were a substantial number of crew permits (160) and commercial fishing permits issued (60). The main driver in the community is the large processing facility.

Aleutian Islands Fishing Communities

The Aleutian Islands region includes the communities of Adak and Atka. Adak and Atka are described in slightly more detail in this booklet. Aleutian Islands communities are considered very remote, even by Alaskan standards. These communities are located within the traditional territory of the Aleut people. Each of these communities is very small and only reachable by plane with air service sometimes unreliable.

In 2014, a total of 5 vessels within the region participated in commercial fisheries in Alaska. These vessels were limited to Atka. Of those, all of them participated in the federally managed fisheries off of Alaska. No trawl vessels were registered as participating in federally managed fisheries in the region; all 5 vessels are listed as having employed fixed gear. All 5 vessels were under 30'.

The total amount of gross ex-vessel value for all commercial fisheries in the region was \$134,000, with all of it attributable to the federally managed fisheries.

The total number of commercial fishing permits in the region was 11, of which 10 permits were in federally managed fisheries (90.9 percent). The order of the communities in the region by the total number of federal fishery permits was Atka (8) and Adak (2). For these communities, the percentage of federal fishery permits represented 100.0 and 66.7 percent, respectively, of all permits in those communities.

Alaska-resident crew licenses for the region totaled 19. The communities with the highest number of crew licenses registered, in order, were Adak (11) and Atka (8).

Adak Community Profile

Overview

The City of Adak is located on Kuluk Bay on the northeastern side of Adak Island, approximately 1,126 miles southwest of Anchorage. Adak Island is part of the Andreanof Islands group of the Aleutian Islands, and Adak is both the southernmost town in Alaska and the westernmost town in the United States. Adak covers 122 square miles of land and 4.9 square miles of water. In 2012 there were 321 residents in Adak. Historically, the island was inhabited by the Unanga (Aleuts), but was abandoned in the early 1800s due to the eastward shifting fur trade and famine. During World War II, Adak was used as an army installation, and was later converted to a naval air station. The naval station officially closed in 1997. Adak has one fish processing facility, serves as a refueling point for boats, and provides access to an airport, ship repair and a grocery store. There is also one vessel owner that operates out of Adak.

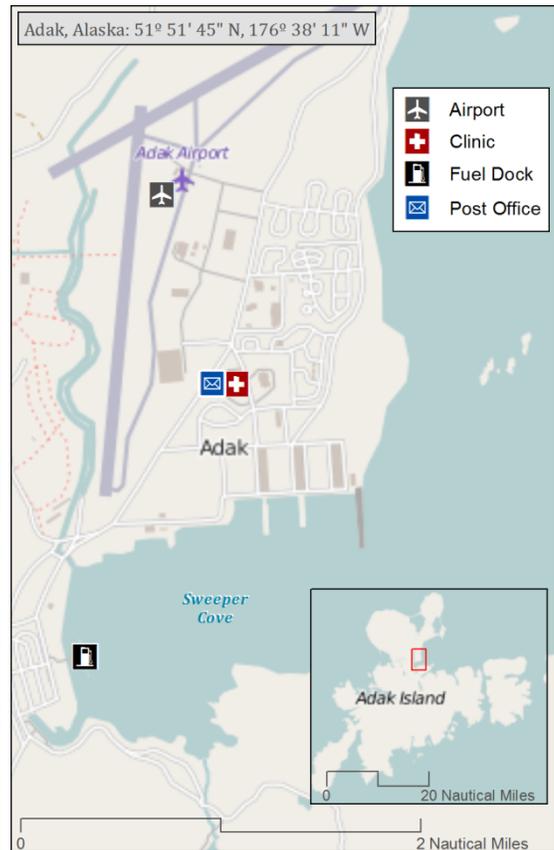


Figure 1. Adak city map with vessel harbors and other supporting infrastructure.

Atka Community Profile

Overview

Atka is a community located on the eastern shore of Atka Island, approximately 1,045 miles southwest of Anchorage. Atka Island is situated near the eastern end of the Aleutian Islands. The community of Atka covers 8.7 square miles of land and 27.4 square miles of water. In 2012, the population of Atka was estimated to be 59 individuals, which are of primarily Unanga (Aleut) descent. The hamlet was historically occupied by the Unanga (Aleuts). During World War II residents of the area were evacuated, and structures were destroyed to avoid Japanese use of the facilities. After 1945 structures were rebuilt and residents were allowed to return. Currently a small fish processing plant exists to seasonally process local commercial halibut and black cod catches, though much of the local economy is based on subsistence living.

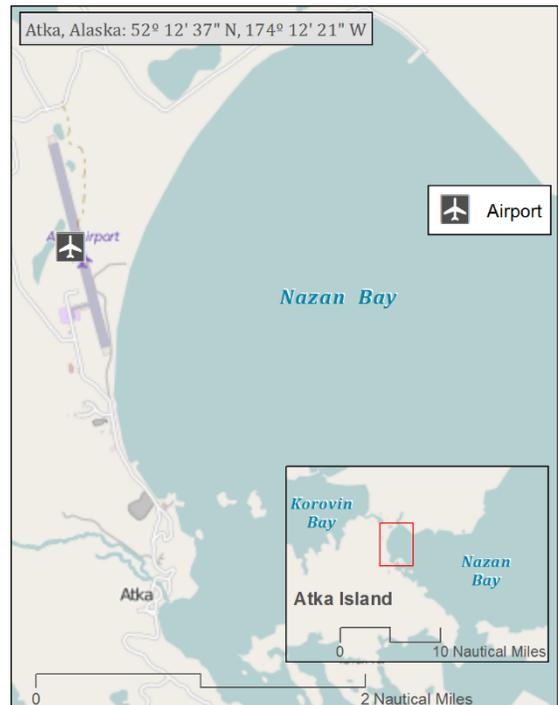


Figure 1. Atka city map with vessel harbors and other supporting infrastructure.



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