

B-5 Handout  
Dec. 8, 2004  
Sam

Agenda Item: "B-5"



**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME  
REPORT TO THE NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT  
COUNCIL  
DECEMBER 2004**

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

**Salmon Troll Fishery** (FIGURE 1)

The Winter Troll fishery for chinook salmon in Southeast Alaska opened by regulation on October 11, 2004. The fishery closes when the cap of 45,000 treaty fish is reached, or on April 15, 2005, which ever occurs first. While early catches were above average, recent weather conditions have contributed to lower effort levels, and catches to date have fallen below the recent 5-year average. Catch is now at approximately 9,000 fish. As effort and landings have decreased, prices have increased accordingly. Fish tickets now indicate that chinook salmon are bringing in as much as \$5.75 per pound.

### **Western Aleutian Islands Golden king crab (FIGURE 2)**

The Eastern Aleutian Islands golden king crab fishery opened on August 15, 2004 and closed on August 29, 2004. Harvest is estimated at 2.9 million pounds from a Guideline Harvest Level (GHL) of 3.0 million pounds. Nineteen vessels participated, and catch rates were high. The fishery value is approximately \$9.1 million. The golden king crab fishery west of 174° W continues at this time. There are four vessels participating in the fishery. Currently, landings total about 2.2 million pounds on a GHL of 2.7 million pounds.

### **Bristol Bay Red King Crab (FIGURE 3)**

The Bristol Bay red king crab fishery opened at 4:00 PM October 15, 2004. There were 251 vessels registered for the general fishery. That GHL was set at 14.267 million pounds. Managers relied on voluntary catch reports for inseason management. Based upon that data, a closure was announced for 11:59 PM, Monday, October 18, 2004. Preliminary data indicates a total catch of approximately 14.12 million pounds, worth more than \$63 million. The Community Development Quota fishery continues at this time. Five vessels are pursuing the 1.135 million pound GHL.

### **Bering Sea C. opilio crab (FIGURE 4)**

The 2005 snow crab GHL is 20.932 million pounds. Of this total, 1.57 million pounds are available to the Community Development Quota fishery with the remaining 19.362 million pounds available to the general fishery.

The 2005 Bering Sea snow crab pot limit will be 70 pots for vessels less than or equal to 125 feet in overall length and 90 pots for vessels greater than 125 feet in overall length. The regulatory opening date for this fishery is noon on January 15, 2005 in all waters of the Bering Sea District west of 166° W longitude. The preseason vessel registration deadline to participate in the 2005 Bering Sea snow crab fishery is 5:00 pm December 24, 2004.

## **Central Region Pacific Cod (FIGURE 5)**

### **Cook Inlet**

In Cook Inlet, the state waters fishery opened twenty-four hours after the close of the federal fishery. The GHL for the 2004 state waters season has been set at 2.37 million pounds. The GHL is calculated as 3.0% of the Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) for the federal Central Gulf of Alaska area. The GHL is split 50% to pot and 50% to jig gear.

This fishery opened February 1, 2004, which was 24 hours after the closure of the federal fishery. Eleven pot vessels participating in the fishery harvested their portion of the GHL by the third week in February, and the fishery closed to pot gear at 5 pm on February 23, 2004. Their catch was just less than 1.5 million pounds. Twenty-five jig vessels have landings that stand at about 326,000 pounds to date. As this was less than 50% of the GHL by the September 1, 2004 roller over date, the fishery reopened to pot gear, by regulation, at that time. Also by regulation, gear and area registrations were removed effective November 9, 2004. Currently total catch now stands at approximately 1.9 million pounds.

### **Prince William Sound**

The 2004 Prince William Sound state managed Pacific cod season opened on February 7, 2004, which was seven days after the close of the federal fishery. The GHL has been set at 970,000 pounds, which is calculated as 10% of the federal Eastern Gulf ABC. To date only two pot vessels have participated in the fishery and catch remains confidential.

## **Westward Region Pacific Cod (FIGURE 6)**

The 2004 State waters Pacific cod fisheries in both Kodiak and the South Alaska Peninsula harvested their GHLs and closed in mid-April.

The Pacific cod fishery in Chignik remains open at this time. The Chignik state waters Pacific cod GHL is 6.9 million pounds. Thirty one permits registered for the fishery, which opened by regulation on March 1, 2004. Initial effort by

seventeen pot gear fishermen produced a harvest of approximately 5.6 million pounds and the fishery closed to the use of pot gear on May 13, 2004. Jig fishermen began their participation in late April, but effort dwindled during the salmon season. The Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod fishery management plan allows Pacific cod remaining on the 2004 jig-gear GHL to be taken on or after August 15, 2004 by either pot or jig gear. Harvest allocations between gear types will not be in effect for the remainder of the 2004 Pacific cod season. There are approximately 1.1 million pounds remaining to be taken by both pot and jig gear types, however there has been no effort by either gear group since late last summer.

### **Southeast Groundfish** (FIGURE 7)

In the Southeast District, from September 1, 2004 through late November, there was activity in the directed lingcod fishery, the directed black rockfish fishery, the Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) and Southern Southeast Inside (SSEI) sablefish fisheries, the directed Pacific cod fishery and the directed demersal shelf rockfish (DSR) fishery. The directed lingcod fishery opened on May 16, 2004 with 28 CFEC permit holders participating. Those participants landed a total of 164,639 round pounds of lingcod from the Central Southeast Outside (CSEO), Southern Southeast Outer Coast (SSEOC), Northern Southeast Outside (NSEO) and East Yakutat (EYKT) management areas. All areas are now closed. The directed black rockfish fishery opened on January 1, 2004 with 6 permit holders participating in the fishery. Landings total 37,812 round pounds of black rockfish from the CSEO, SSEOC and NSEO management areas. Three statistical areas (345602, 365733, 365732) closed in the NSEO and CSEO management areas in early August in order to distribute black rockfish effort throughout the management areas. The NSEI sablefish fishery opened on August 15, 2004 and closed on November 15, 2004 with a quota of 2,245,000 round pounds. There were 108 permit holders who landed a total of 2,205,957 round pounds of sablefish. The SSEI sablefish pot gear fishery opened on September 1, 2004 and closed on November 15, 2004 with a quota of 99,440 round pounds. Four permit holders landed a total of 99,373 round pounds of

sablefish. The Pacific cod fishery opened January 1, 2004 with an annual quota of 1,000,000 round pounds, and to date the directed fishery has landed approximately 345,588 round pounds. It is anticipated that this fishery will remain open for the remainder of the year. The demersal shelf rockfish (DSR) fall fishery opened on November 16, 2004 in EYKT (GHL of 66,359 round pounds), NSEI (GHL of 23,971 round pounds) and SSEI (GHL of 47,747 round pounds). Due to small allocations and the anticipated high participation level, area openings are expected to be brief.

Figure 1.

SE AK Winter Troll Catch

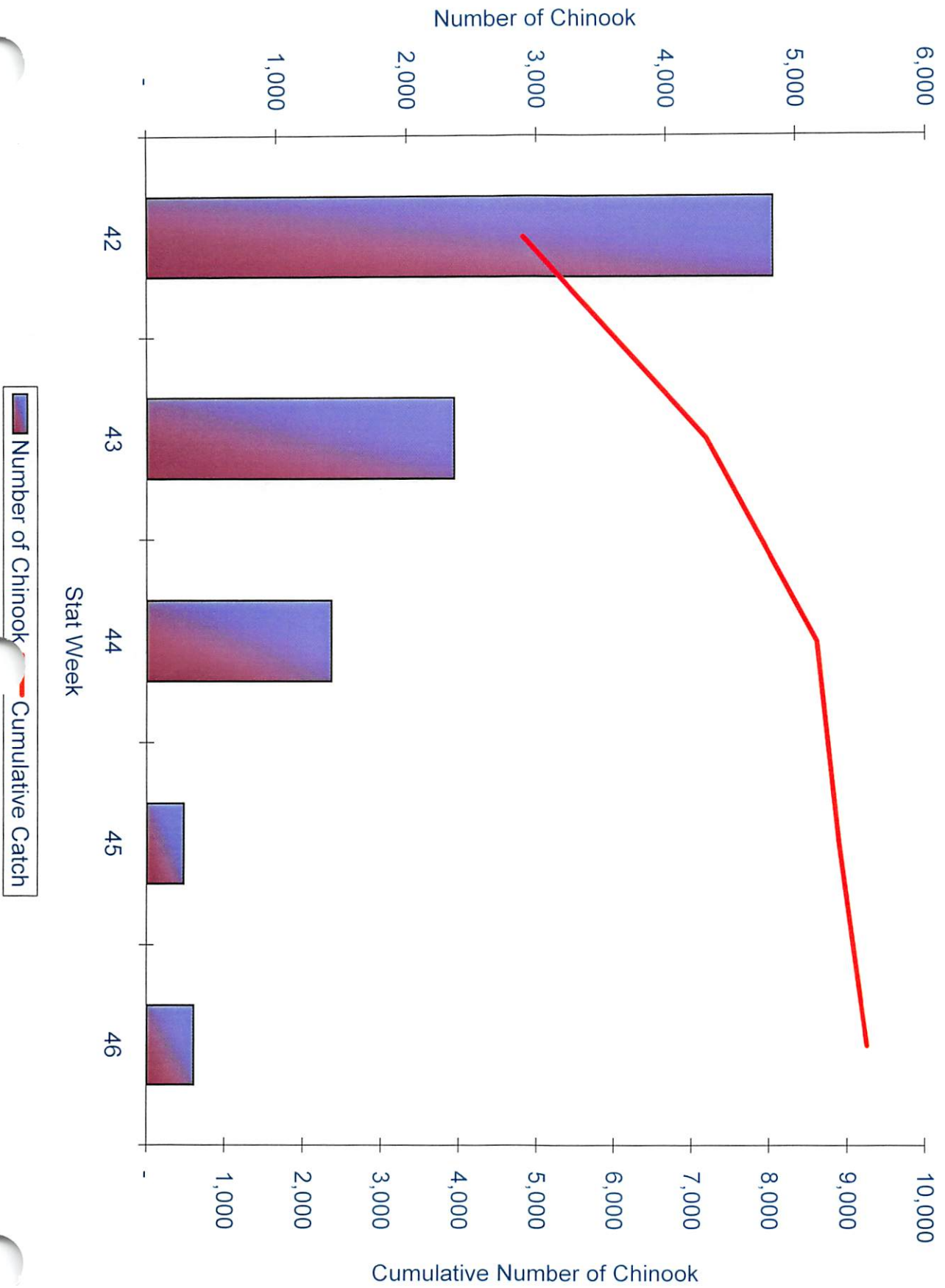


Figure 2.

### Aleutian Islands Golden King Crab Harvests

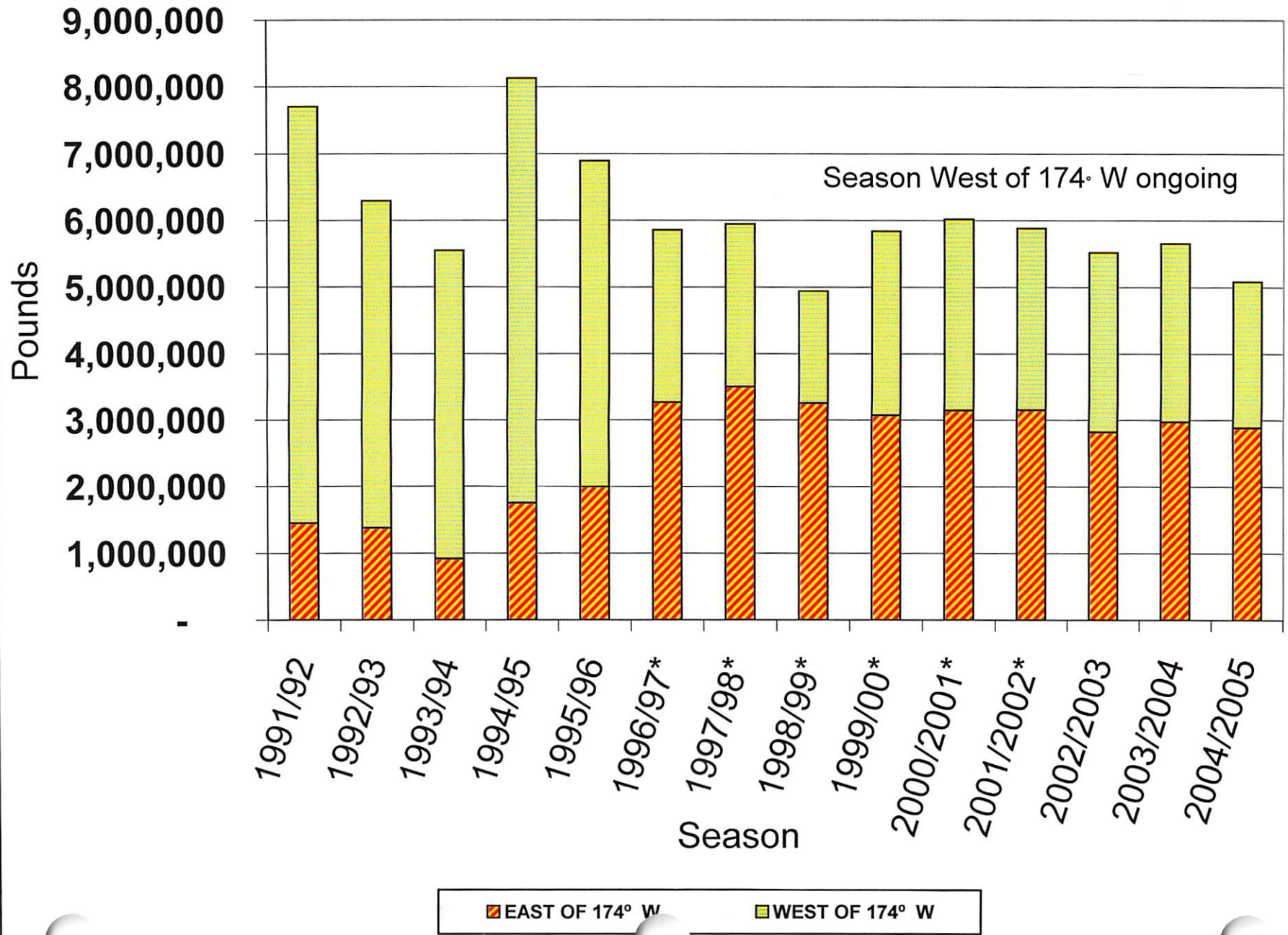


Figure 3.

### Bristol Bay Red King Crab Catches (General Fishery Only)

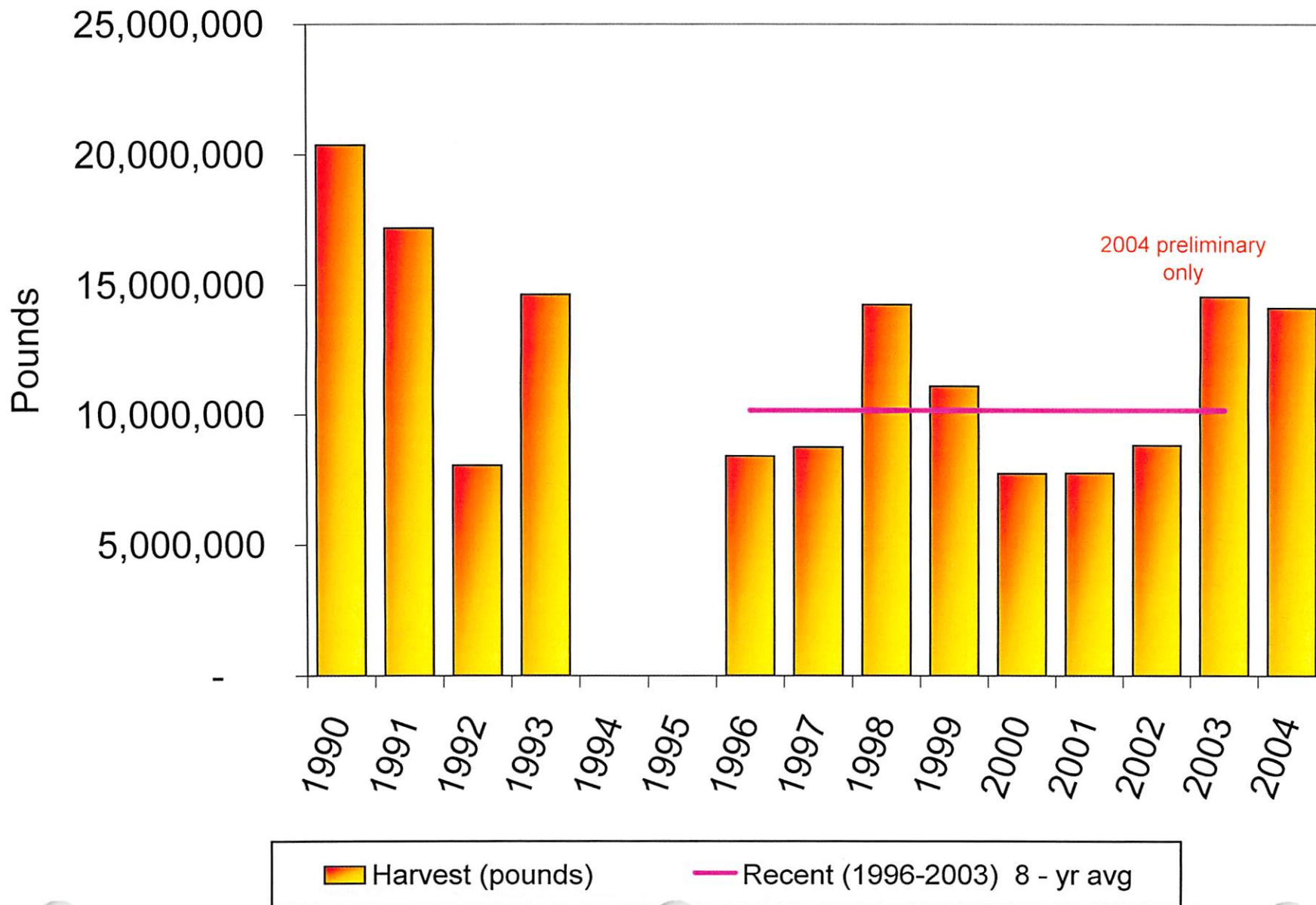




Figure 4.

### Bering Sea *C. opilio* Harvests

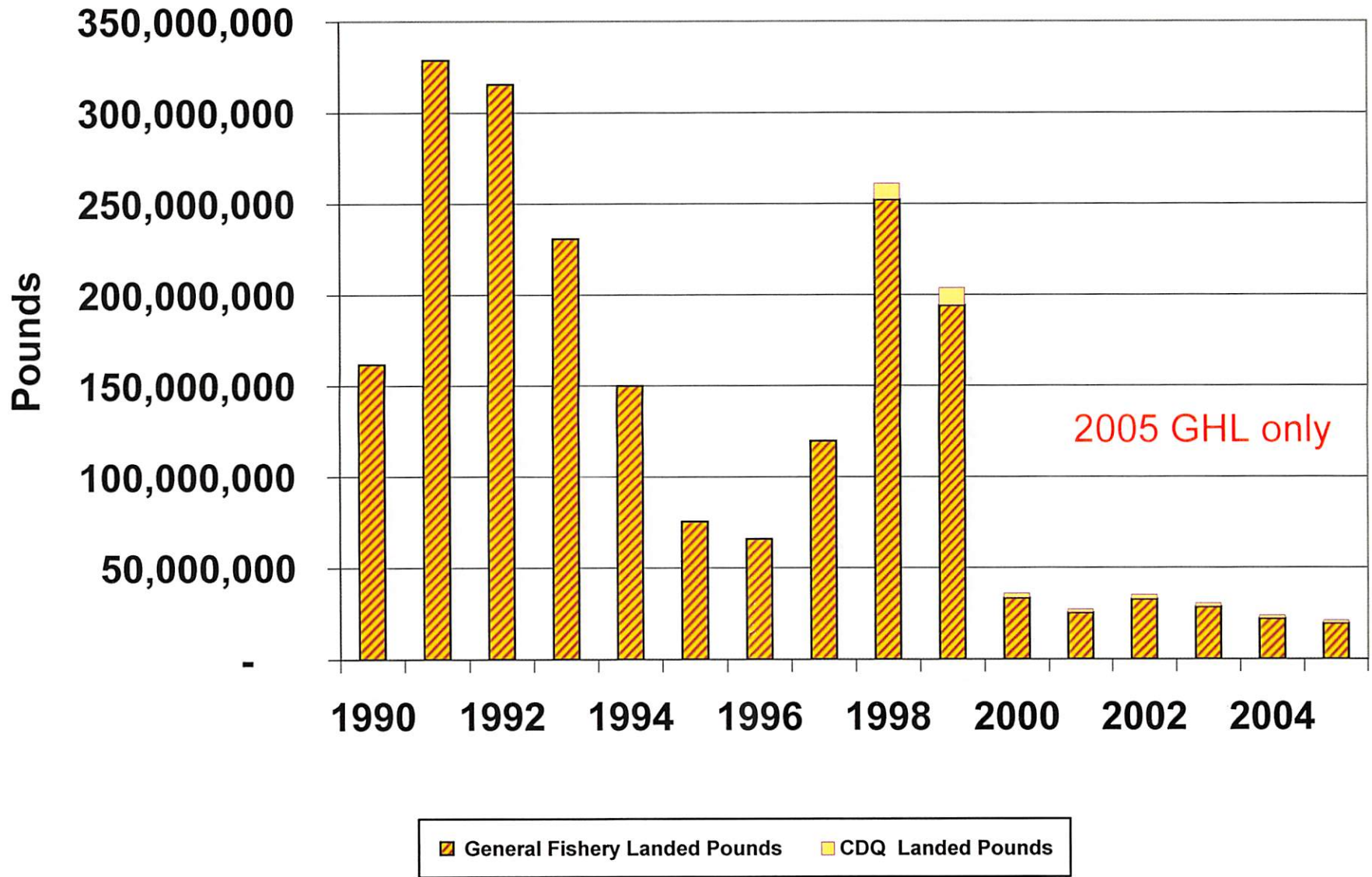


Figure 5. Central Region Pacific Cod Catches through November 30, 2004

This summary censored for CONFIDENTIAL reports or records.

Pacific Cod

PARALLEL SEASON - STATE WATERS

Gear	Cook Inlet Management Area			Prince William Sound		
	Vessels	Landings	Pounds	Vessels	Landings	Pounds
Hand troll (05)	1	1	<i>confidential</i>	0	0	0
Jigs (26)	1	1	<i>confidential</i>	0	0	0
Trawl (47)	0	0	0	1	3	<i>confidential</i>
Longline (61)	60	85	26,685	19	44	13,235
Pots (91)	7	43	360,637	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>387,322</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>13,235</b>
Status		Bycatch			Bycatch	
Federal seasons: Central Gulf	Directed Opened - Closed Jan 1 - noon Jan 31			Directed Opened - Closed Jan 1 - noon Jan 31		

Parallel season concurrent with federal waters of the Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA).  
Totals include Pacific Cod bycatch to other directed fisheries e.g. halibut & sablefish.

Pacific Cod

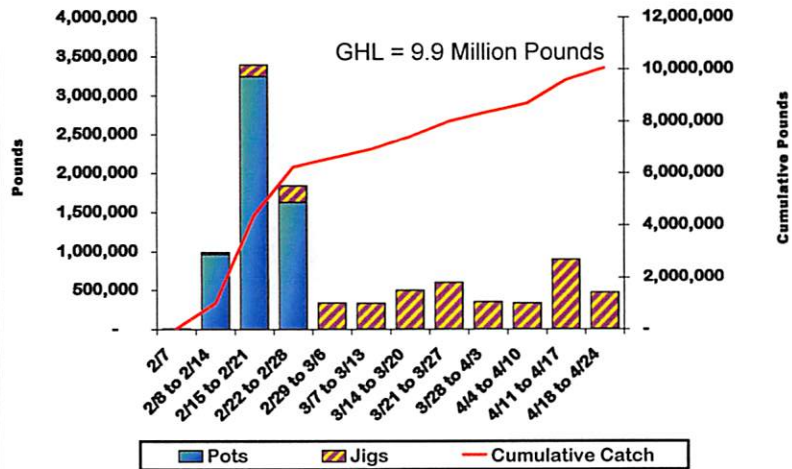
STATE MANAGED - STATE WATERS\*

GHL (lb)	Cook Inlet Management Area			Prince William Sound		
	Vessels	Landings	Pounds	Vessels	Landings	Pounds
		2.37mil.			970,000	
Gear	Vessels	Landings	Pounds	Vessels	Landings	Pounds
Hand troll (05)	2	13	<i>confidential</i>	0	0	0
Jigs (26)	25	108	325,845	0	0	0
Pots (91)	12	124	1,571,259	2	6	<i>confidential</i>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>1,897,104</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<i>confidential</i>
State seasons: Jigs (26)	Opened - Closed noon Feb 1 -			Opened - Closed noon Feb 7 -		
Status	Open			Open		
State seasons: Pots (91)	Opened - Closed noon Feb 1 - 5 PM Feb 23; Sept 1 - Gear and exclusive area registrations removed effective November 9.			Opened - Closed noon Feb 7 - Gear and exclusive area registrations removed effective October 31.		
Status	Open			Open		

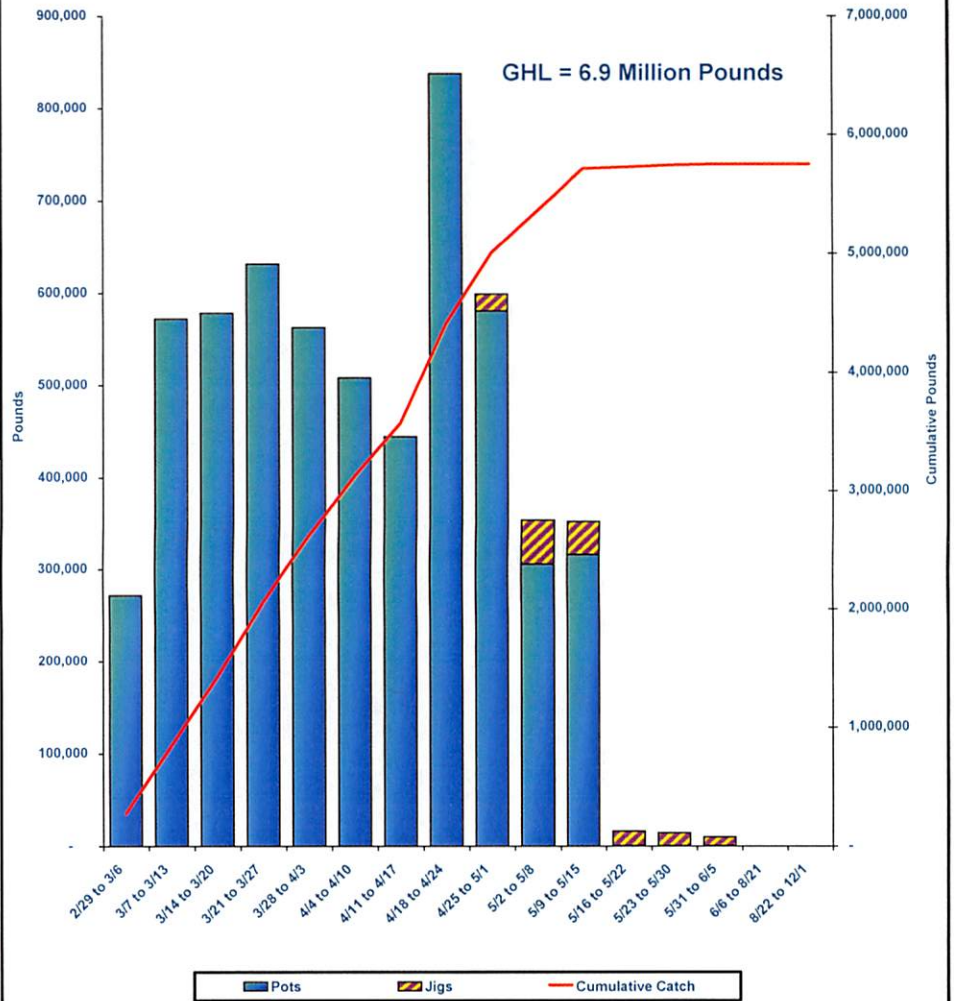
\*The state managed fishery for Pacific cod opens by emergency order to pot and jig gear under exclusive area registration 24 hours after the Federal closure in Cook Inlet and 7 days in PWS. Includes only directed fishery harvest.

Figure 6.

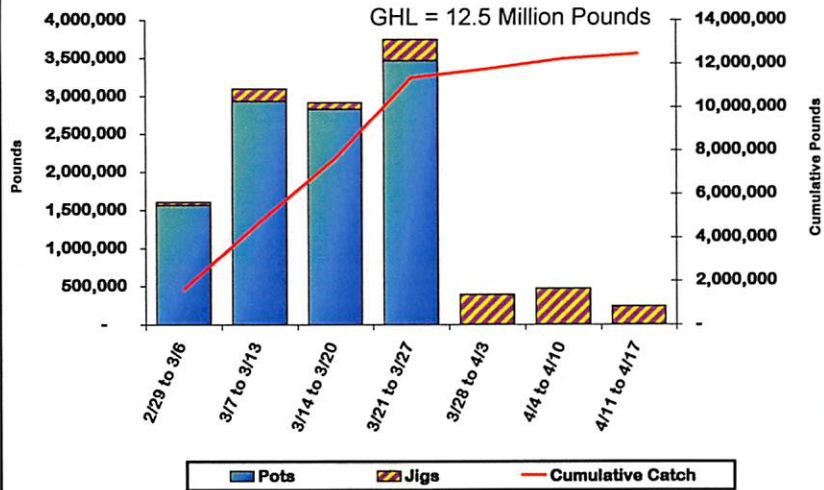
### 2004 Kodiak Pacific Cod Catches



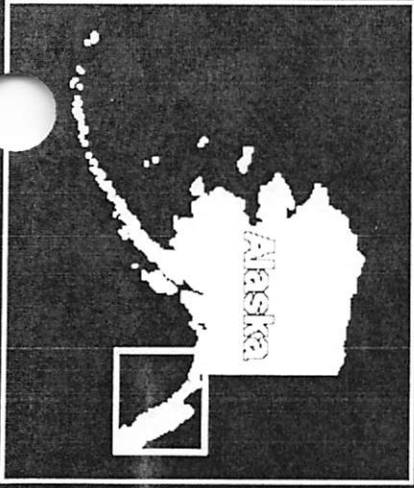
### 2004 Chignik Pacific Cod Catches



### 2004 S.A.K. Pen Pacific Cod Catches



144 W



# Southwest Alaska Groundfish Management Areas

EYKT

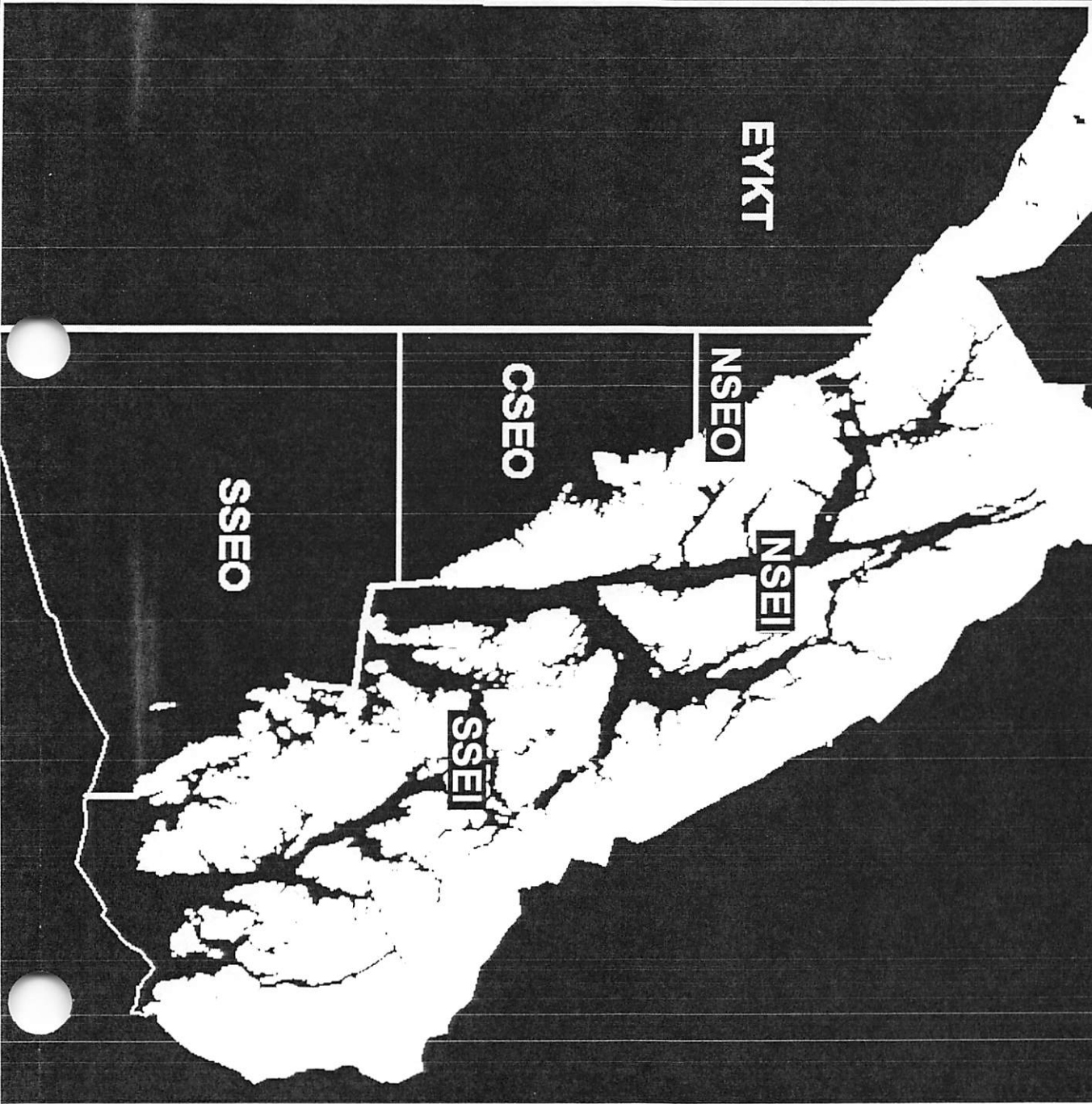
NSEO

NSEI

CSEO

SSEI

SSEO



# STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

BOARD of FISHERIES

AGENDA B-5  
Supplemental  
FRANK H. MURK DECEMBER 2004

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November 9, 2004

RECEIVED  
NOV 12 2004  
N.P.F.M.C.

Mr. Chris Oliver, Executive Director  
North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
605 W. Fourth Ave., #306  
Anchorage, AK 99501-2252

Dear Chris:

The Board of Fisheries will address a number of groundfish proposals during its 2004/2005 meeting cycle. I have enclosed those proposals that may be of interest to the council. The board will discuss these proposals with staff and its public at various meetings from November 2004 through January 2005. Final action will be delayed on the enclosed proposals until March 2005, in order to receive any comment the council may have. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Diana Cote, Executive Director  
Alaska Board of Fisheries

Enclosures

cc: Earl Krygier, ADF&G

**PROPOSAL 1 - 5 AAC 28.367. Cook Inlet Pacific Cod Management Plan. Amend this regulation as follows:**

Cook Inlet waters are shallower than the other three areas and kind of "behind" Kodiak. The fish come to inshore Cook Inlet later (or last)—so that about the time fishing begins to pick up in Cook Inlet the other areas catch the quota. When GHLS for state waters were set it seemed that Cook Inlet had fewer fish, thus a small GHL. This was a mistake. I propose Cook Inlet should have at least as large a GHL as Chignik: 5 to 6 percent. Perhaps some of the unused GHL of Price William Sound could apply. They appear to be the same fish.

**PROBLEM:** Small state waters quota percent for Cook Inlet.

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE?** We wind up with the smallest percent of the Central Gulf cod area quota--with the latest fish to spawn. We do not get a fair share of the Gulf cod at 2 ½ percent.

**WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?** Because of the road system, a significant percentage of Cook Inlet fish are of fresh value.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT?** Cook Inlet state waters boats.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER?** Federal gulf boats lose bycatch source.

**OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?**

**PROPOSED BY:** Glen Carroll

(SC-04-F-075)

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**PROPOSAL 2 - 5 AAC 28.367. Cook Inlet Pacific Cod Management Plan.** Amend this regulation as follows:

Limit vessel size to 58 feet or less.

**PROBLEM:** There is no 58-foot limit in state waters in Cook Inlet. The result is that Cook Inlet is the only area where larger Bering Sea boats can go to fish.

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE?** This year increased effort in Cook Inlet shortened the season by two months for pots--with Cook Inlet the only place without a small boat protection, they can only fish here.

**WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?** It helps extend the season which is what the fresh market needs.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT?** Smaller boats.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER?** Boats over 58 feet.

**OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?** This will probably only be a factor for a couple more years until Gulf rationalization occurs, then size will be irrelevant.

**PROPOSED BY:** Glen Carroll

(SC-04-F-010)

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**PROPOSAL 5 - 5 AAC 28.3XX. Cook Inlet shark fishery management plan; and 5 AAC 58.022(a)(8). Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet—Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area. Amend these regulations as follows:**

Directed hook-and-line shark fisheries, with sale of sharks as bycatch allowable in other commercial fisheries as well as liberalize bag limits in sport fisheries.

**PROBLEM:** Closed seasons on sharks (salmon and spring dogfish).

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE?** The shark resource is caught as bycatch and many other are not being utilized and sharks will continue to prey on salmon marine fish species.

**WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?**

**WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT?** Prey species, commercial and sport fishermen, as well as marine mammals.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER?**

**OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?**

**PROPOSED BY:** Dyer VanDevere

(SC-04-F-104)

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**PROPOSAL: 7 5 AAC 28.310. Fishing seasons for Cook Inlet Area; 5 AAC 28.365. Cook Inlet Rockfish Management Plan.** Limit the directed rockfish jig fishery to black rockfish and implement a logbook requirement as follows:

5 AAC 28.310. Fishing Seasons for Cook Inlet Area.

(d) **Black** rockfish *Sebastes melanops*, may be taken in a directed fishery from July 1 until closed by emergency order, except that...

5 AAC 28.365. Cook Inlet Rockfish Management Plan.

**(e) a vessel participating in the Cook Inlet rockfish fishery shall maintain an accurate logbook, as supplied by the department, of all rockfish fishing operations.**

**PROBLEM:** Although black rockfish have dominated recent commercial rockfish fishery harvests in Cook Inlet, the harvest and the number of landings composed entirely of yelloweye rockfish have steadily increased. The increased yelloweye harvest is cause for concern because: (1) existing management strategies were developed based on historical harvest primarily of black rockfish, and (2) yelloweye rockfish would require a much longer rebuilding period than black rockfish if overfished. The jig-only gear requirement and July 1 opening date for the Cook Inlet rockfish fishery are intended to provide for a fishery that targets on black rockfish and coincides with the lingcod fishery.

Rockfish harvest location is documented on department fish tickets at the statistical area level. Because black rockfish exhibit a low level of migratory behavior, specific harvest location is important, particularly to avoid localized depletion. Harvest reporting at the statistical area level is too coarse a resolution for black rockfish and logbook data with greater resolution is needed.

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE?** Yelloweye rockfish will make up an increasing proportion of the directed rockfish harvest. Risk of yelloweye overharvest and the potential for black rockfish localized depletion will increase.

**WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BY IMPROVED?**

**WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT?** Rockfish resource users benefit from both directing the fishery on black rockfish and greater resolution of rockfish harvest location data.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER?** Individuals targeting yelloweye rockfish during the directed fishery will suffer.

**OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?** Manage the directed rockfish fishery for the pelagic assemblage and allow bycatch of other rockfish assemblages. Because state management authority extends from shoreline to 200 miles only for black rockfish and not other pelagic species, managing for an assemblage such as pelagics would not work.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-04-F-220)

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**PROPOSAL: 8 5 AAC 28.310(d). Fishing seasons for Cook Inlet Area.** Require full retention of all rockfish bycatch to directed groundfish and halibut fisheries as follows:

(d) rockfish may be taken in a directed fishery from July 1 until closed by emergency order, except that when fishing in a directed fishery, other than for rockfish, a CFEC permit holder must retain all rockfish and unless otherwise specified in this section or under 5 AAC 28.365, all rockfish in excess of 10 percent, round weight, of all directed species on board the vessel must be weighed and reported as bycatch overage on an department fish ticket; any proceeds from the sale of excess rockfish shall be surrendered to the state;

**PROBLEM:** Rockfish captured in longline fisheries are often discarded due to confusion over allowable bycatch retention rates. These discards result in undocumented rockfish mortality. Requiring full retention of rockfish will improve estimates of total rockfish removals and the department's ability to characterize harvested populations.

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE?** Undocumented discards of rockfish bycatch in other directed fisheries will continue.

**WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BY IMPROVED?**

**WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT?** Rockfish resource users benefit from requiring full retention of rockfish bycatch.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER?** No one.

**OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?** None.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-04-F-221)

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**PROPOSAL: 9 5 AAC 28.306. Cook Inlet Area Registration; 5 AAC 28.3XX. Cook Inlet Area Sablefish Management Plan.** Adopt a management plan a July 1 registration deadline, logbook requirement, and GHL divided equally among registered participants as follows:

5 AAC 28.306. Cook Inlet Area Registration.

(b) The registration deadline for the Cook Inlet sablefish fishery is 10:00 July 1. A vessel that is not registered for the Cook Inlet sablefish fishery by this time may not participate in the fishery.

5 AAC 28.3XX. Cook Inlet Area Sablefish Management Plan. (a) Sablefish may be retained in the Cook Inlet Area only during the open directed sablefish fishery, only by vessels registered to participate in the Cook Inlet sablefish fishery and under the following conditions:

(1) a vessel participating in the Cook Inlet sablefish fishery must have aboard a completed sablefish logbook supplied by the department and

(2) submit the completed logbook pages with each sablefish fish ticket.

(b) The annual sablefish GHL will be allocated equally among sablefish permitholders that have met the requirements outlined in 5 AAC 28.306(b).

**PROBLEM:** Despite a reduced season of 48 hours, the Cook Inlet Management Area sablefish fishery has exceeded the guideline harvest level (GHL) annually since 1999. This resulted from a combination of increased effort, a relatively small GHL, and increased catch rates in the fishery since the season opening date was moved to July 15.

**WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BY IMPROVED?**

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE?** The sablefish season length will continue to decrease resulting in increases in discards and gear conflicts. The GHL will likely continue to be exceeded.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT?** Some fishermen will benefit through reduced competition for the resource.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER?** Fishermen with superior ability to compete for the sablefish resource in a derby style fishery, may have reduced catches under a fixed allocation system.

**OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?** Status quo, including continued reduction in season length was considered unworkable because it will be more difficult to manage the fishery for lower GHLS.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-04-F-222)

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**PROPOSAL 11 - 5 AAC 28.3XX. Cook Inlet Spiny Dogfish Management Plan.** Create a new regulation to provide the following:

Open a directed longline fishery in Cook Inlet with a harvest guideline.

**PROBLEM:** No directed fishery for Spiny dogfish in Cook Inlet waters.

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE?** Underutilized resource will not be harvested. Commercial fisheries will not be able to diversify. New markets will not be developed. High concentrations of *Squalus Acanthias* will continue to take large amounts of food and forage fish from the ecosystem causing a reduction in yields in many other fisheries.

**WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?** Yes, new product for international market.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT?** All resource users.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER?** The dogfish.

**OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?** Increase the bycatch allowance for Cook Inlet.

**PROPOSED BY:** Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association (HQ-04-F-338)

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**PROPOSAL 65 5 AAC 01.520. Lawful gear and gear specifications.** Allow retention of lingcod and rockfish when subsistence fishing as follows:

(g) Lingcod and rockfish harvested in other subsistence fisheries are lawfully taken and may be retained for subsistence purposes up to the daily bag limit.

**PROBLEM:** Rockfish and lingcod are caught on subsistence gear that may not be defined for those species. This proposal would allow subsistence caught rockfish and lingcod to be retained up to the daily bag limit in the Kodiak Area when taken from gear not specifically defined for the directed harvest of those species.

Subsistence regulations for the Kodiak Area specify that rockfish and lingcod may only be taken by hand lines or longlines with no more than five hooks. Current federal halibut subsistence regulations allow for the use of 30 hooks per person in a longline configuration. State subsistence regulations for halibut allow only two hooks on a single handline. The lack of parity between state and federal subsistence language has led to confusion among the public and enforcement difficulties when rockfish or lingcod are caught while participating in other subsistence fisheries where hook limits are different from directed subsistence rockfish and lingcod fisheries. This proposal would allow subsistence users to retain incidentally caught rockfish and lingcod.

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE?** Subsistence users would not be able to legally retain rockfish and lingcod caught while fishing with inappropriate gear.

**WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?** No.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT?** The public will benefit by parity in the federal and state subsistence language.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER?** No one.

**OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?** None.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-04-F-245)

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**PROPOSAL 67 - 5 AAC 28.4XX. Kodiak Area Groundfish Management Plan.** Create a new regulation to provide the following:

The department shall manage all groundfish species in state waters for pot and jig.

**PROBLEM:** Problem is lack of access to various species in the three-mile zone.

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE?** Niche markets cannot be filled, prices will remain flat (rockfish .05 cents per pound).

**WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?** Careful handling of individual fish.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT?** Shoreside communities.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER?** All species in question are currently harvested by the drag fleet. The draw on their quotas would be insignificant.

**OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?**

**PROPOSED BY:** John L. Finley

(HQ-04-F-176)

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**PROPOSAL 72 - 5 AAC 28.406. Kodiak Area registration. Amend this regulation as follows:**

Change the jig fishery to a superexclusive registration. Only boats who have not fished in any other cod fishery may participate.

**PROBLEM:** The Kodiak jig fishery is already becoming overcrowded and the season is shortened, forcing small local boats to fish in ever-worsening conditions.

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE?** Boats in the state pot fishery and the parallel longline fishery will continue to crowd the existing fleet, continually lessening an already meager profit margin. Also, cod stocks close to town will be hit harder, while some in other areas will not be touched.

**WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?** Yes, the increased pace of the fishery may saturate the fresh file market.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT?** Existing jig fishermen.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER?** Those boats that fish in other cod fisheries.

**OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?**

**PROPOSED BY:** Dana Reid

(HQ-04-F-162)

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**PROPOSAL 73 -5 AAC 28.406. Kodiak Area registration. Amend this regulation as follows:**

In order to participate in the Kodiak jig cod fishery a person cannot have fished in the Kodiak state water pot cod fishery or the parallel cod longline fishery.

**PROBLEM:** There are too many participants in the Kodiak state water cod jig fishery. To take the pressure off we need to make cod fishing in Kodiak state waters superexclusive by gear type.

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE?** An accident will happen. A boat will sink as small boat fishermen try to get a jump on each other by fishing tougher weather in January/February.

**WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?** No.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT?** Small boat fishermen/entry level fishermen.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER?** Pot cod fishermen/longline fishermen.

**OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?**

**PROPOSED BY:** Tim Gossett

(HQ-04-F-305)

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**PROPOSAL 81 - 5 AAC 28.467. Kodiak Area Pacific Cod Management Plan.** Amend this regulation to provide the following:

Pot Pacific cod fisheries will close after 75 percent of their pot vessel quota is reached and reopen in the fall of the same year.

**PROBLEM:** The overharvest of Pacific cod by pot vessels.

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE?** The jig fisheries will continue to be cut short of their quotas.

**WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?** No.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT?** Jig fishers and department management.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER?** No one.

**OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?**

**PROPOSED BY:** Dan McFarland

(HQ-04-F-077)

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**PROPOSAL 82 - 5 AAC 28.467. Kodiak Area Pacific Cod Management Plan.** Amend this regulation to provide the following:

Early season Kodiak pot cod will be managed to attain a 75 to 80 percent harvest range. On September 1 the season will reopen to pot vessels to finish the remainder of their allocation and whatever is left on the jig quota as per normal late season management. (This is similar to federal Pollack and cod management.)

**PROBLEM:** Department staff are unable to control harvest levels by pot vessels in the Kodiak Area state waters Pacific cod fishery. Due to stock abundance and pot gear efficiency the cod pot fleet has grossly exceeded their allocated quota for two years in a row.

Quota overharvest by pot gear currently is subtracted from the regulatory allocation designated for jig fishing vessels. It has the direct and immediate effect of decreasing the jig allocation and takes harvest opportunity away from the jig fleet and hundreds of thousands of dollars out of jig fishermen's pockets.

Since the pot fishery is generally prosecuted earlier in the year than the jig fishery there is no reason to believe that the current inequitable situation will not continue into the future.

Department staff currently have no regulatory framework to mitigate this problem either through better harvest controls or reallocation of denied opportunity. Something needs to be done now to change this situation.

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE?** Kodiak jig fishermen will likely continue to suffer decreased harvest opportunity and increased financial hardship.

**WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?** This proposal is not intended to address quality issues although the slower jig fishery may enhance fresh market opportunities for the processing sector.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT?** Jig vessels will be able to harvest their allocations in full as designated by the board.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER?** Pot cod harvesters will not get the opportunity to rob quota from jig vessels, thereby possibly decreasing their income.

**OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?** I have not rejected any solutions. I am submitting two other proposals regarding this subject. Solution of this is imperative.

**PROPOSED BY:** Peter Allan

(HQ-04-F-060)

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**PROPOSAL 83 - 5 AAC 28.467(c). Kodiak Area Pacific Cod Management Plan. Amend this regulation as follows:**

The pot cod fishery will be shut down when 100,000 to 500,000 pounds are left on their quota and all the tickets from processors will be tallied. And the time left to fish will be calculated, or left to the fall. Any overage will be taken off the next years cod fishermen's quota and not the jiggers' for the current year.

**PROBLEM:** The pot cod fishermen for two years have gone over the quota by almost a million pounds, and the jig fishermen have had it taken off their share of the quota.

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE?** The jig fishermen will be really upset.

**WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?** Hard to say; perhaps if the quality of jig fish is better than pot cod.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT?** Jig fishermen; will get their fair share.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER?** Pot fishermen; will be stopped from encroaching on the jig quota.

**OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?** I have heard some other solutions about moving the fishing to the fall. The important thing is for the pot cod fishery to become responsible for their overages, not the jig fishery.

**PROPOSED BY:** Charles E. Falconer

(HQ-04-F-083)

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