



RC 028

PO Box 2850, Valdez, Alaska 99686

12/3/14

Members of the Alaska Board of Fisheries,

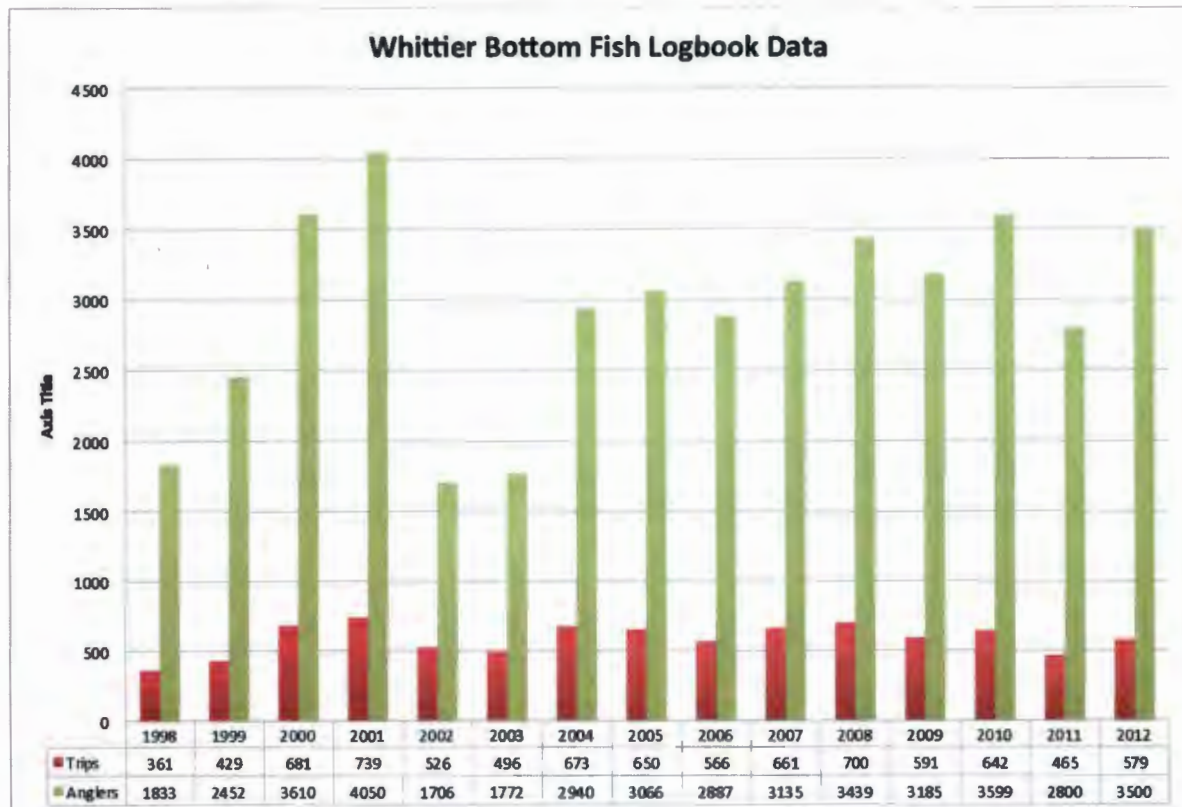
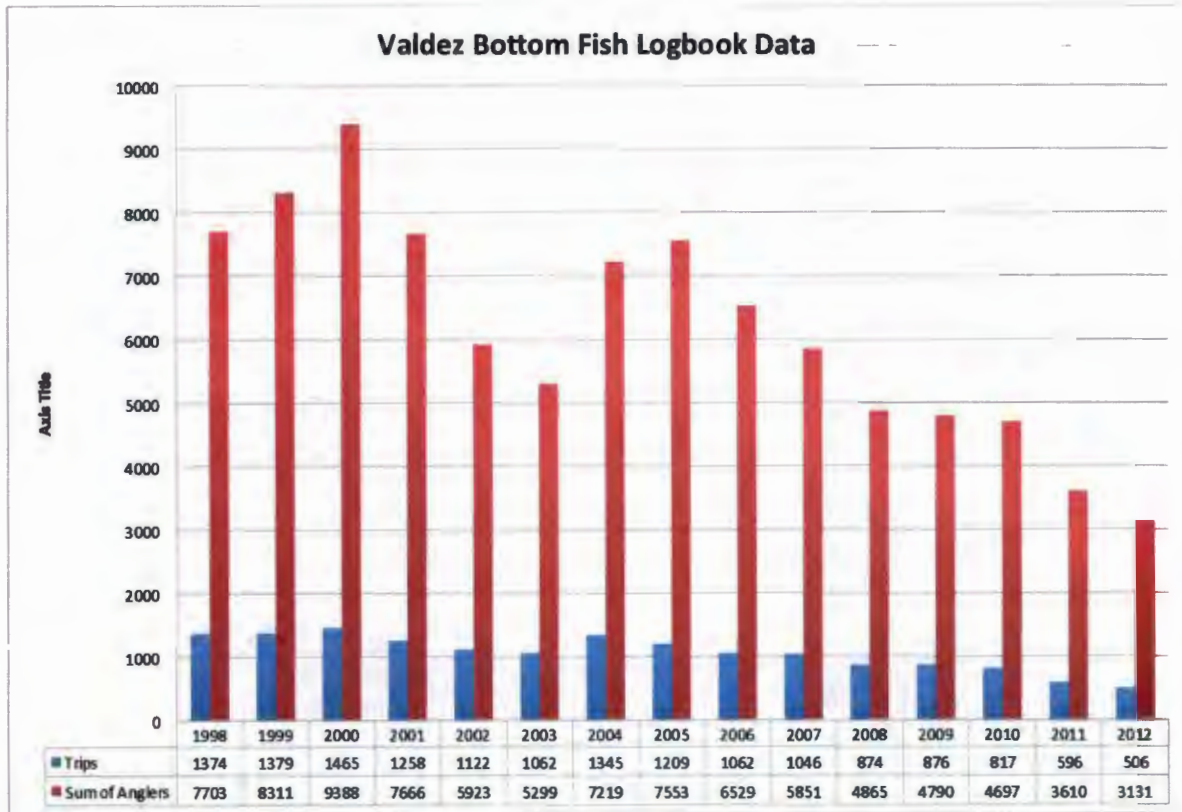
The Prince William Sound Charter Boat Association opposes Proposal #8. The proposal is allocative and would severely impact businesses that operate in Valdez. Proposal #8 encompasses a broad region supporting sport anglers other than those who fish out of Seward with its stable and growing charter fleet. Attached are five graphs for the three major ports impacted by this proposal. The first three graphs provide the charter logbook data for any bottom fish reported trip in a stat area out of each port that includes the total number of charter trips and angler days. In addition, there are two graphs that illustrate ling landings by year and port, and ling landings and releases as a total by Port. The data, current as of 2012 & 13, clearly shows the dramatic impact changes in fisheries management has had on Valdez with a steady decline of charters after the implementation of the halibut IFQ system and the major drop after the CHP. The Valdez charter fleet and local businesses would be severely impacted with this proposal by creating a further drop in angler participation. With a Seward angler effort of nearly ten times that of Valdez and growing, it is understandable that they would consider reducing their bag limit, however their demand should not be broadly applied to other ports.

Alaska Statute, AS 16.05.251 (e) mandates:

The Board of Fisheries may allocate fishery resources among personal use, sport, guided sport, and commercial fisheries. The board **shall** adopt criteria for the allocation of fishery resources and **shall** use the criteria as appropriate to particular allocation decisions. The criteria may include factors such as

- (1) the history of each personal use, sport, guided sport, and commercial fishery;**
- (2) the number of residents and nonresidents who have participated in each fishery in the past and the number of residents and nonresidents who can reasonably be expected to participate in the future;**
- (3) the importance of each fishery for providing residents the opportunity to obtain fish for personal and family consumption;
- (4) the availability of alternative fisheries resources;
- (5) the importance of each fishery to the economy of the state;

Bottom Fish Logbook Data by Port



(6) the importance of each fishery to the economy of the region and local area in which the fishery is located;

(7) the importance of each fishery in providing recreational opportunities for residents and nonresidents.

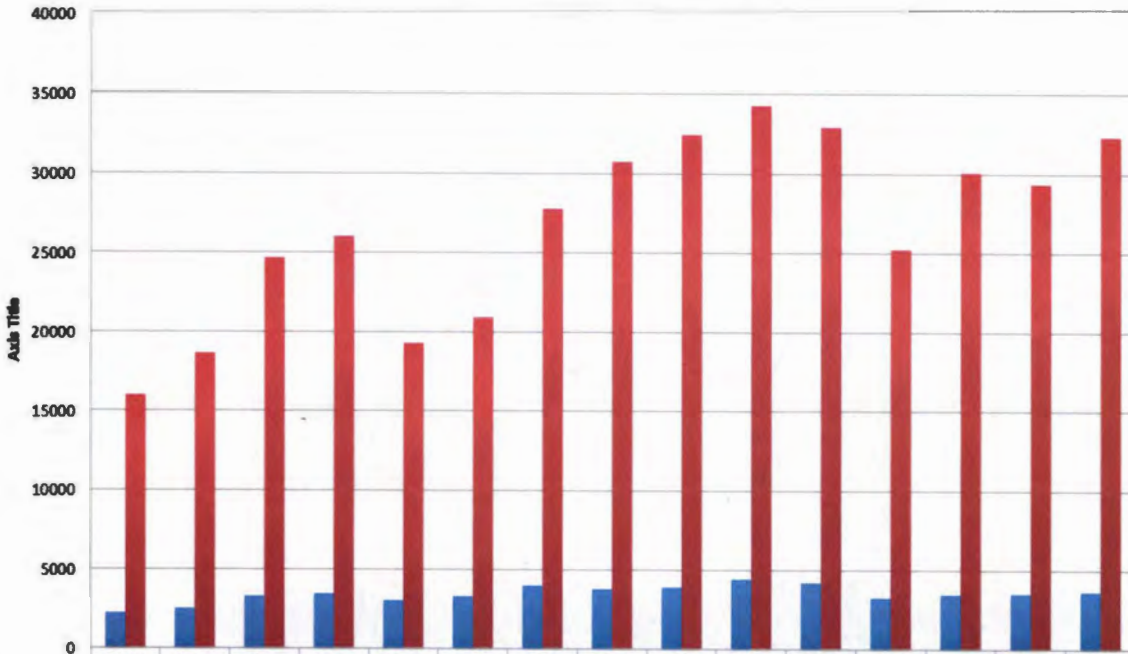
The PWSCBA recommends, should the board decide to take action on this proposal for reasons of conservation as suggested by the Seward Charter Boat Association, that the board amend the proposal to reduce the bag limit to one per day or two in possession based on the port of **landing** and reducing the bag limit for all vessels returning to Seward. 70% of the total charter logbook lingcod harvested from 2006 to 2014 have been harvest by vessels out of Seward and we understand their concern. Currently, ADF&G is recommending harvest limits remain status quo or reducing the overall harvest. Aligning the limit of lingcod allowed to be (Landed) in Seward to one/per day with the current limit of 1/day in the NGoA and fulfill the reduction of current harvest by approximately 35%.

Sincerely,

//Signed//

Mel Grove
President
Prince William Sound Charter Boat Association
PO Box 2850
Valdez, AK 99686

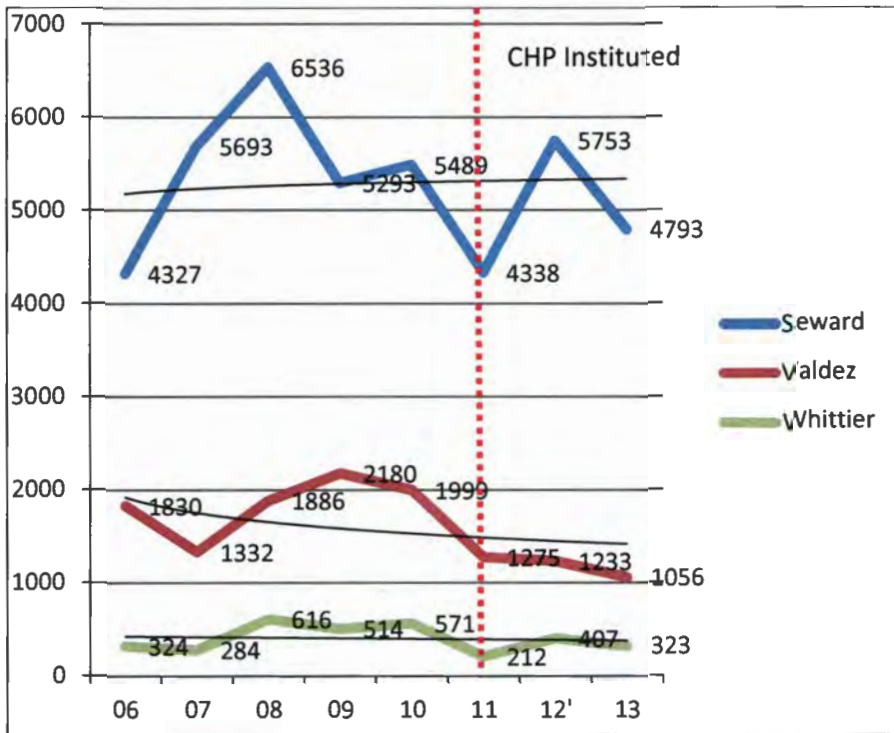
Seward Bottom Fish Logbook Data



	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Trips	2215	2507	3271	3448	3023	3298	3975	3761	3883	4401	4188	3223	3446	3303	3000
Anglers	15974	18637	24648	26013	19277	20877	27769	30715	32419	34247	32901	25237	30065	29373	32301

Lingcod Logbook Data by Port

2006 – 2013 Lingcod Landings by Port



Lingcod Totals by Port - 2006 -2013

