

Regarding Cod Removals from within 3 miles — There is no conservation concern identified at this time with moving cod from federal to state management, and into the pot sector. If there were to be a conservation concern with near shore harvest, and with volume taken there, the board should first recognize the value of expanding the statewater

fishing area in the Bering Sea. And 2) perhaps rather than preventing itself from incrementally and responsibly developing its groundfish resources, the State should carefully consider the effort and removals by the trawl sector in nearshore waters. The pot cod fleet is able to efficiently harvest cod in times when they are aggregated with very low bycatch and bycatch mortality. So if we are concerned about conservation issues and about volume taken from within three miles, the Board has a viable option on the table in Proposal 9. Red shows trawl harvest greater than 1000 metric tons.

