

FISHERY INFORMATION PACKET FOR THE ALEUTIAN ISLANDS
GOLDEN KING CRAB FISHERY, 2003



By

Karla L. Granath

Regional Information Report¹ No. 4K03-36

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Commercial Fisheries
211 Mission Road
Kodiak, Alaska 99615

June 2003

¹ The Regional Information Report Series was established in 1987 to provide an information access system for all unpublished division reports. These reports frequently serve diverse ad hoc informational purposes or archive basic uninterpreted data. To accommodate timely reporting of recently collected information, reports in this series undergo only limited internal review and may contain preliminary data; this information may be subsequently finalized and published in the formal literature. Consequently, these reports should not be cited without prior approval of the author or the Division of Commercial Fisheries.

AUTHOR

Karla L. Granath is the Assistant Area Shellfish Management Biologist for the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries, P.O. Box 920587, Dutch Harbor, Alaska, 99692.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF TABLES	i
LIST OF FIGURES	i
LIST OF APPENDICIES	i
ABSTRACT.....	1
INTRODUCTION	2
Description of Registration Area O and Statistical Areas	2
Historical Fishery Perspective	2
REGULATIONS	4
Fishing Season and Legal Gear.....	4
Registration and Tank Inspection.....	5
Landing and Pot Storage Requirements.....	5
Legal Size Limit.....	6
Onboard Observer Program.....	6
GUIDELINE HARVEST LEVEL AND OUTLOOK FOR THE 2003 FISHERY.....	6
DEPARTMENT CONTACTS.....	7
LITERATURE CITED.....	9
TABLES	10
FIGURES	13
APPENDIX.....	15

LIST OF TABLES

Table

1. King crab Registration Area O commercial golden king crab catch statistics,
1981/82-2002/03 10

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure

1. King crab Registration Area O 13
2. Statistical area map of king crab Registration Area O..... 14

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix

A. Contact persons, by agency and location..... 16

ABSTRACT

This fishery information packet is intended to provide a brief overview of the golden king crab *Lithodes aequispinus* fishery occurring in Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) King Crab Registration Area O (Aleutian Islands). An area description, brief historic fishery review, summary of current management practices, regulations and policies are included and should provide fishers and members of industry a better understanding of how the department manages the golden king crab fishery in this area.

INTRODUCTION

Golden king crabs (also known as brown king crabs) inhabit depths greater than where other commercially exploited king crabs are typically found (Blau et al. 1996). In the Aleutian Islands, the depths and steep bottom topography in the inter-island passes inhabited by golden king crabs necessitates the use of longlined rather than single pot gear. No other major king crab fishery in Alaska utilizes longlined pot gear as a legal gear type.

Formerly, the Aleutian Islands king crab populations had been managed using the Adak and Dutch Harbor Registration Areas that were established for red king crab fisheries. With the decline of red king crab fisheries in the Aleutian Islands during the 1970s and 1980s and increasing importance of the golden king crab fishery, the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) determined that king crab management areas in the Aleutian Islands should be re-designated to more accurately reflect current golden king crab stock distribution and patterns in fishing effort. Golden king crabs are currently managed throughout the Aleutian Islands in one registration area, Aleutian Islands Registration Area O. However, for management purposes, the department manages stocks east of 174° W longitude and west of 174° W longitude as two distinct stocks (Figure 1).

Description of Registration Area O and Statistical Areas

The Aleutian Islands king crab Registration Area O has as its eastern boundary the longitude of Scotch Cap Light (164°44' W long.), its western boundary the United States-Russia Maritime Boundary of 1991, and its northern boundary a line from Cape Sarichef (54°36' N lat.) to 171° W long., north to 55°30' N lat., and west to the United States-Russia Maritime Boundary of 1991 (Figure 1). Area O encompasses both waters of the territorial sea (0-3 nautical miles) and waters of the exclusive economic zone (3-200 nautical miles).

For catch reporting purposes, the area is divided into ADF&G statistical areas, each encompassing one degree of longitude by one half degree of latitude, except for the territorial (state) waters bordering land (Figure 2). All commercial removals of golden king crabs, including deadloss, are reported to ADF&G in reference to these statistical areas.

Historical Fishery Perspective

The golden king crab fishery in the Aleutian Islands is unique among Westward Region king crab fisheries in that it has never failed to open due to low stock abundance. Historically, golden king crabs were taken as incidental harvest in the Adak (west of 171° W longitude) and Dutch Harbor (east of 171° W longitude) Registration Areas red king crab fisheries. One landing of golden king crabs was reported from the Adak Area during the 1975/76 season, but directed fishing for golden king crabs did not occur in either management area until the 1981/82 season (ADF&G 1984).

In the Adak Area between 1981 and 1995, an average of 49 vessels participated in the fishery, harvesting an average of 6.9 million pounds annually (Table 1). Peak harvest in the Adak fishery occurred during the 1986/87 season when 12.8 million pounds of golden king crabs were harvested for an exvessel value of \$37.6 million. The majority of golden king crabs harvested in the Adak Area were taken around North Amlia and the Petrel Bank; however, significant harvest also occurred in the western Aleutians.

Initial catches of golden king crabs in the Dutch Harbor Area were similar to those observed in the Adak Area fishery (ADF&G 1984). Between 1981 and 1995, an average of 18 vessels harvested approximately 1.5 million pounds of golden king crabs annually. Peak golden king crab harvest in the Dutch Harbor Area occurred during the 1995/96 season when 2.0 million pounds were harvested for an exvessel value of \$5.2 million. The Dutch Harbor harvest was primarily from the Islands of Four Mountains and Yunaska Island areas.

In 1996 the BOF elected to eliminate the Adak and Dutch Harbor Areas entirely since they were originally established for red king crab fisheries that no longer sustained significant harvest and were not based on current golden king crab stock distribution in the Aleutian Islands. Under the two registration areas regime, golden king crabs in the Seguam area were harvested during both the east and west fisheries and consequently harvested at a higher rate than those crabs in the adjacent Yunaska Island and Island of the Four Mountains areas. The BOF directed the department to manage those golden king crabs in the Seguam area at a lower exploitation rate. To implement these goals, the BOF stipulated that a conservative management plan be initiated, and that all vessels registered for the fishery continue to carry an onboard observer for all of their fishing activities.

The initial golden king crab fishery in the new Area O king crab Registration Area occurred in 1996/97. Guideline harvest levels (GHL) of 3.2 million pounds and 2.7 million pounds were established for the areas east and west of 174° W longitude, respectively. The eastern portion of Area O closed by emergency order on December 25, 1996, with a harvest of 3.3 million pounds, while the western portion was open for the entire registration year with a harvest of 2.6 million pounds. Since the 1996/97 season, effort and harvest have increased slightly in the Aleutian Islands east of 174° W longitude (Table 1).

Prior to the 1998/99 season, the Aleutian Islands golden king crab GHL was reduced from 5.9 million pounds to 5.7 million pounds. The GHL was split east and west of 174° W longitude; 3.0 million pounds were allocated for harvest east of 174° W longitude and the remaining 2.7 million pounds were allocated to the western portion of the management area. Fishery performance trends and data on tag recoveries indicated that a 200,000 pound GHL reduction for the area east of 174° W longitude was necessary in order to comply with the overfishing definition specified in the Fishery Management Plan for the king and Tanner crab fisheries of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (NPFMC 1998).

During the 2001/02 season east of 174° W longitude, 19 vessels harvested 3.16 million pounds in a 26-day season. Catch per unit effort (CPUE) averaged 12 legal crabs per pot lift and harvested crab averaged 4.4 pounds each. Ten vessels participated in the fishery west of 174° W longitude and harvested 2.7 million pounds. The GHL in the western portion was reached prior to the

season closure for the second year in a row and was closed by emergency order on March 30, 2002. The fleet averaged seven legal crabs per pot lift with landed crabs averaging 4.0 pounds.

The 2002/03 Aleutian Islands (Area O) golden king crab fishery opened by regulation at 12:00 noon August 15. Nineteen vessels participated in the eastern fishery and deployed 11,834 pots, an average of 623 pots per vessel. The fishery closed on September 7, 2002 after 2.82 million pounds had been taken (Table 1). The western fishery had a total of five vessels participating and closed on March 8, 2003 with a total harvest of 2.64 million pounds.

In the Aleutian Islands golden king crab fishery the long-term trend in fishing effort is a decline in the number of vessels registered per season with increasing number of pots registered per vessel. With the legalization of longline gear in 1986, vessels became more specialized in fishing for golden king crabs and were able to more efficiently operate gear.

REGULATIONS

Area O is a nonexclusive registration area for all king crabs. Specific regulations governing commercial king crab fishing in Area O begin with 5 AAC 34.600 DESCRIPTION OF REGISTRATION AREA O, in the Commercial Shellfish Fishing Regulation booklet. Some of the regulations are summarized below. This section does not include all regulations pertaining to the Aleutian Islands golden king crab registration area. Fishers are urged to obtain the latest commercial shellfish regulation booklet from an ADF&G office. For additional information on regulations pertaining to this fishery, contact the ADF&G office in Dutch Harbor or Kodiak. ADF&G contacts are listed under the *Department Contacts* section of this document.

Fishing Season and Legal Gear

The Aleutian Island golden king crab fishery opens annually at NOON on August 15, 5 AAC 34.610 (b) FISHING SEASON FOR REGISTRATION AREA O. The area is closed by emergency order when the GHL is achieved or when indicators of stock condition, such as poor fishery performance or excessive bycatch of small or female crabs, indicate a closure is necessary to protect the long-term health of the stock.

Legal gear for the commercial golden king crab fishery in Area O is limited to king crab pots that are no more than 10 feet long by 10 feet wide by 42 inches high with rigid tunnel eye openings that individually are no less than five inches in any one dimension with perimeters that are individually greater than 36 inches, or pots that are no more than 10 feet long by 10 feet wide by 42 inches high which taper inward from their base to a top consisting of one horizontal opening of any size. A complete description of legal king crab gear is listed in 5 AAC 34.050 LAWFUL GEAR FOR KING CRAB. All gear must be marked and tagged according to 5 AAC 34.051 (a) KING CRAB GEAR MARKING REQUIREMENTS. In addition to these gear requirements, all pots fished for king crabs in Area O must have at least four circular escape rings of 5 ½ inches minimum inside diameter installed on the vertical plane or have at least one third of one vertical surface of the pot composed of not less than nine-inch stretched mesh webbing; and may be operated only from a

shellfish longline; a buoy is not required for each pot, but each end of the longline must be marked by a cluster of four buoys one buoy in the cluster must be marked in accordance with 5 AAC 34.625 (b)(2) LAWFUL GEAR FOR REGISTRATION AREA O and have the initials “SL” to identify it as a shellfish longline. Additionally, vessels may be registered to fish in the commercial golden king crab and red king crab fisheries at the same time; however, only single line pots may be operated in areas open to red king crab fishing and only longline pots may be operated in areas open to golden king crab fishing. All pots must also be equipped with a biodegradable escape mechanism as described in 5 AAC 39.145 ESCAPE MECHANISM FOR SHELLFISH AND BOTTOM FISH POTS.

Registration and Tank Inspection

In addition to vessel registration requirements with the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission listed under 5 AAC 39.120 REGISTRATION OF COMMERCIAL FISHING VESSELS, a vessel used to take king crabs in Area O must first obtain a shellfish registration certificate from ADF&G according to provisions of 5 AAC 34.020 KING CRAB AREA REGISTRATION. Vessel registration will begin at NOON on Tuesday, August 12 in Dutch Harbor.

In order for the shellfish vessel registration to be valid, a catcher vessel must have all live tanks inspected by a department representative as specified in 5 AAC 34.030 INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS. In addition, catcher processor vessels must have all freezers and live tanks inspected. Dry tanked vessels do not require a tank inspection. Tank inspections are required to insure that vessels are not in possession of crabs prior to the start of a fishery. Vessels intending to participate in the Aleutian Islands golden king crab fishery are required to register and have their holds inspected in Dutch Harbor within 72 hours before taking or processing king crab according to 5 AAC 34.640 REGISTRATION AREA O INSPECTION AND INSPECTION POINTS. Vessel tank inspections prior to gear loading will be available beginning at 9:00 AM, Thursday, August 7 in Dutch Harbor.

Landing and Pot Storage Requirements

As outlined in 5 AAC 34.641 LANDING REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTRATION AREA Q vessels having fished for golden king crabs in Registration Area O may not have that species of king crab on board after 72 hours following the closure if delivery is made to processors in Dutch Harbor, Akutan, or King Cove. Vessels delivering to King Cove or a port east thereof may request additional running time to transit directly to the processing location by contacting ADF&G in Dutch Harbor within 72 hours following the closure.

During a closed season, king crab pots must be removed from the water. However, according to 5 AAC 34.627 KING CRAB GEAR STORAGE REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTRATION AREA O, longline king crab pots may be stored with doors secured fully open and bait containers removed in waters 75 fathoms or less in depth and single line king crab pots may be stored in waters 25 fathoms or less in depth. King crab pots may not be stored in the following waters: east of 169° W long. from June 1 through August 15; in Hot Springs Bay, inside of a line from the tip of

Ridge Point to 54° 12' 40" N lat., 165° 52' W long.; and in Kalekta Bay, inside of a line from the tip of Erskine Point to the tip of Cape Kalekta.

Legal Size Limit

The legal size of golden king crabs that may be harvested in Registration Area O is six inches or greater in shell width as outlined in 5 AAC 34.620 SIZE LIMITS FOR REGISTRATION AREA O Only male crabs can be legally harvested. All other animals taken incidentally must be immediately returned, unharmed, to the sea. Incidental harvest of scarlet king crab *Lithodes couesi* may be retained under the conditions outlined in 5 AAC 34.082 PERMITS FOR *LITHODES COUESI* KING CRAB.

Onboard Observer Program

Observers are required on all vessels participating in the Aleutian Islands golden king crab fishery. All observer costs are the responsibility of the vessel. For additional information on the observer program, contact Mary Schwenzfeier (Appendix A).

GUIDELINE HARVEST LEVEL AND OUTLOOK FOR THE 2003 FISHERY

The Aleutian Islands golden king crab fishery is managed using two sources of inseason fishery data. Processors report landed catch to ADF&G weekly or more frequently as requested. Observers stationed on each vessel participating in the fishery report average weight and catch rate information that is used in conjunction with landed catch to develop inseason projections of fishery length.

During the summer of 1997, the department surveyed a small portion of the golden king crab habitat in the Aleutian Islands. Prior to that, the department performed the only survey of this area in 1991 (Blau and Pengilly 1994). Only a small portion of the area in which golden king crabs are commercially important is currently surveyed. Mark-recapture data from the 1997 survey suggested that the commercial fishery was annually removing a minimum of 20% of the legal male crabs present in the area surveyed. The Fishery Management Plan for king and Tanner crabs in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands specifies that the golden king crab stock in the Aleutian Islands is considered overfished when F exceeds 0.2 (NPFMC 1998). A fishing rate of $F=0.2$ corresponds to a mature male removal rate of approximately 18%. During the 1997/98 season, the GHL of 3.2 million pounds in the area east of 174° W longitude was exceeded by approximately 300,000 pounds, so to maintain a long-term average harvest at 3.2 million pounds, the 1998/99 GHL in this area was reduced to 3.0 million pounds.

The stations surveyed in 1997 were again surveyed in 2000. Tag recovery rates changed only slightly even though approximately one-third fewer crabs were tagged in 2000 than in 1997. Harvest rates as indicated by tag returns in the 2000/2001 season were similar to those in

1997/98. Shell-age composition data indicated the stock is healthy, while size composition of the retained catch has changed very little (Watson and Gish 2002).

Even though the harvest rates are at or near the allowable maximum in some areas, the Aleutian Islands golden king crab population is believed to be healthy since ample recruitment occurs at depths greater than those fished. Additionally, the area surveyed receives more fishing pressure than many other areas in the entire Aleutian Islands, so golden king crabs in other less heavily fished locales are likely being harvested at lower rates. In order to operate their gear more efficiently, fishers tend to utilize the shallowest waters in which crabs may be found in abundance. Distribution of legal males extends to depths greater than those fished, so the entire population of legal males is probably not fully exploited. Recent fishery data also indicates that the stock is healthy. Average size of crabs harvested has remained nearly constant for the last six seasons. Average weight has been between 4.3 and 4.6 pounds per crab for the last nine years. Catch per unit of effort has also been stable and has been at or above the 10-year average during the last three seasons. All this information suggests that the 3.0 million-pound GHL has provided a stable fishery and protects against overfishing as defined in the Fisheries Management Plan (FMP). Currently, the department intends to survey the area around Amukta and Yunaska Islands every three years, with the next survey scheduled for this summer (July, 2003).

In the Aleutian Islands east of 174°W longitude the legal male population appears to be stable, or may have increased slightly since 1997/98. Tagging data indicate that harvest rates remain similar to those observed in 1997/98. There is also information to suggest that the fleet is becoming more efficient in harvesting. The 3.0 million pound GHL has provided a stable fishery and protects against overfishing as defined in the FMP. Observer catch reporting in the area east of 174°W longitude will be scheduled for three times a week and the department will attempt to provide five days of advance notice of the fishery closure.

In the Aleutian Islands west of 174°W longitude, fishery and observer data do not demonstrate a compelling reason to change the GHL from 2.7 million pounds. Fishery statistics have not markedly changed since the GHL was developed in 1996/97. Recent fishery data implies that the stock in the area is stable. Observer catch reporting in the area west of 174°W longitude will be scheduled for once a week until the last few weeks of the fishery when observers will report three times a week. The department will attempt to provide one week of advance notice of the fishery closure.

DEPARTMENT CONTACTS

Contacts for ADF&G in Dutch Harbor are Forrest R. Bowers, Area Management Biologist; Karla Granath, Assistant Area Shellfish Management Biologist; Barbi Failor-Rounds CDQ/Groundfish Management Biologist; Mary Schwenzfeier, Shellfish Observer Program Coordinator; and Shari Coleman, Assistant Observer Coordinator. The ADF&G phone number in Dutch Harbor is (907) 581-1239, and the fax number is (907) 581-1572.

Department contacts in Kodiak are Wayne Donaldson, Regional Shellfish/Groundfish Management Biologist; Mike Ruccio, Kodiak Island/Alaska Peninsula Area Shellfish/

Groundfish Management Biologist; and Mike Cavin, Assistant Area Shellfish/Groundfish Biologist. The ADF&G phone number in Kodiak is (907) 486-1840, and the fax number is (907) 486-1824.

A complete listing of contact persons by agency and location is listed in Appendix A.

LITERATURE CITED

- Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G). 1984. Westward Region Shellfish Report to the BOF. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries, Kodiak.
- Blau, S.F. and D. Pengilly. 1994. Findings from the 1991 golden king crab survey in the Dutch Harbor and Adak management areas including analysis of recovered tagged crabs. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Commercial Fisheries Management and Development Division, Regional Information Report 4K94-35, Kodiak.
- Blau, S.F., D. Pengilly, and D.T. Tracy. 1996. Distribution of golden king crabs by sex, size, and depth zones in the eastern Aleutian Islands, Alaska. Pages 167-185 *in* High Latitude Crabs: Biology, Management, and Economics. Alaska Sea Grant College Program Report no. 96-02, University of Alaska Fairbanks.
- NPFMC. 1998. Fisheries Management Plan for the King and Tanner Crab Fisheries of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands.
- Watson, L. J. and R. K. Gish. 2002. The 2000 Aleutian Islands golden king crab survey and recoveries of tagged crabs in the 1997-1999 and 2000-2002 fishing seasons. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries, Regional Information Report 4K02-06, Kodiak.

Table 1. King crab Registration Area O commercial golden king crab catch statistics, 1981/82-2002/03.

Season	Locale	Number of			Harvest ^{b,c}	Number of Pots		CPUE ^d	Average		
		Vessels ^a	Landings	Crabs ^b		Registered	Lifted		Weight ^c	Length ^e	Deadloss ^c
1981/82	East of 172° W.	6	16	22,666	115,715	0	2,906	8	5.1	158	8,752
	West of 172° W.	14	76	217,700	1,194,046	2,647	24,627	9	5.5	160	22,064
	TOTAL		92	240,458	1,319,761	2,647	27,533	9	5.4		30,816
1982/83	East of 172° W.	49	136	227,471	1,184,971	NA	29,369	8	5.2	158	47,479
	West of 172° W.	99	501	1,509,001	8,006,274	13,111	150,103	10	5.3	158	220,743
	TOTAL		637	1,737,109	9,191,245	13,111	179,472	10	5.3		268,222
1983/84	East of 172° W.	47	132	238,353	1,810,973	4,514	29,595	8	7.6	NA	45,268
	West of 172° W.	157	1,002	1,534,909	8,128,029	17,406	226,798	7	5.3	NA	171,021
	TOTAL		1,134	1,773,262	9,939,002	21,920	256,393	7	5.6		186,289
1984/85	East of 171° W.	13	67	327,440	1,521,142	1,394	24,044	14	4.6	161	70,362
	West of 171° W.	38	85	643,597	3,180,095	5,270	64,777	10	4.9	157	125,073
	TOTAL		152	971,274	4,701,237	6,664	88,821	11	4.8		195,435
1985/86	East of 171° W.	13	67	410,977	1,968,213	1,479	34,287	12	4.7	156	38,663
	West of 171° W.	49	386	2,052,048	11,124,759	7,057	202,401	10	5.4	151	5,304
	TOTAL		453	2,463,025	13,092,972	8,536	236,688	10	5.3		43,967
1986/87	East of 171° W.	17	71	400,389	1,869,180	1,575	37,585	11	4.7	NA	9,510
	West of 171° W.	62	525	2,923,947	12,798,004	12,958	392,185	7	4.4	150	276,736
	TOTAL		596	3,324,336	14,667,184	14,533	429,770	8	4.4		286,246
1987/88	East of 171° W.	22	77	299,734	1,383,198	3,591	43,017	7	4.6	150	24,210
	West of 171° W.	46	386	1,908,989	8,001,177	10,687	267,705	7	4.2	147	165,415
	TOTAL		463	2,208,723	9,324,375	14,278	310,722	7	4.2		189,625
1988/89	East of 171° W.	21	57	323,695	1,545,113	4,215	40,869	8	4.8	154	22,960
	West of 171° W.	74	455	2,165,508	9,080,196	23,627	280,732	8	4.2	149	122,251
	TOTAL		512	2,489,203	10,625,309	27,842	321,604	8	4.3		145,211

-Continued-

Table 1. (Page 2 of 3)

Season	Locale	Number of			Harvest ^{b,c}	Number of Pots		CPUE ^d	Average		
		Vessels ^a	Landings	Crabs ^b		Registered	Lifted		Weight ^c	Length ^e	Deadloss ^c
1989/90	East of 171° W.	13	70	424,067	1,852,249	5,635	43,345	10	4.4	151	17,421
	West of 171° W.	64	505	2,520,786	10,162,400	14,724	324,153	8	4.0	149	100,724
	TOTAL		575	2,944,853	12,014,649	20,359	367,498	8	4.1		118,145
1990/91	East of 171° W.	16	58	384,885	1,718,848	5,225	54,618	7	4.3	148	42,800
	West of 171° W.	13	167	1,312,116	5,250,687	7,380	160,960	8	4.0	145	176,583
	TOTAL	24	235	1,697,001	6,969,535	12,605	214,578	8	4.1		219,383
1991/92	East of 171° W.	11	50	335,647	1,447,732	3,760	40,604	8	4.3	148	45,100
	West of 171° W.	16	206	1,511,751	6,254,409	7,635	192,949	8	4.1	145	96,848
	TOTAL	20	256	1,847,398	7,702,141	11,395	233,553	8	4.2		141,948
1992/93	East of 171° W.	10	44	330,159	1,375,048	4,222	37,718	9	4.1	148	37,200
	West of 171° W.	18	130	1,198,169	4,916,149	8,236	165,503	7	4.1	147	104,215
	TOTAL	22	174	1,528,328	6,291,197	12,458	203,221	8	4.1		141,415
1993/94	East of 171° W.	4	14	217,788	915,460	2,334	22,490	10	4.2	149	7,324
	West of 171° W.	21	147	1,102,541	4,635,683	11,970	212,164	5	4.2	148	165,358
	TOTAL	21	161	1,320,329	5,551,143	14,304	234,654	6	4.2		172,682
1994/95	East of 171° W.	14	45	384,353	1,750,267	7,378	67,537	6	4.6	148	29,908
	West of 171° W.	34	247	1,539,866	6,378,030	15,604	319,006	5	4.1	150	242,065
	TOTAL	35	292	1,924,219	8,128,297	22,982	386,543	5	4.2		271,973
1995/96	East of 171° W.	17	42	431,867	1,993,980	10,325	65,030	7	4.6	150	14,676
	West of 171° W.	25	139	1,134,274	4,896,926	14,213	226,463	5	4.2	147	338,223
	TOTAL	28	181	1,566,141	6,890,906	24,538	291,493	5	4.4		352,899
1996/97	East of 174° W.	14	70	725,452	3,262,516	NA	113,460	6	4.5		156,857
	West of 174° W.	13	100	618,498	2,591,720	NA	100,340	6	4.2		78,973
	TOTAL	18	170	1,343,950	5,854,236	11,080	213,800	6	4.4	147	235,830

-Continued-

Table 1. (Page 3 of 3)

Season	Locale	Number of			Harvest ^{b,c}	Number of Pots		CPUE ^d	Average		
		Vessels ^a	Landings	Crabs ^b		Registered	Lifted		Weight ^c	Length ^e	Deadloss ^c
1997/98	East of 174° W.	13	74	780,609	3,501,054	10,100	106,403	7	4.5	147	131,480
	West of 174° W.	8	160	569,550	2,444,628	4,690	86,811	7	4.3	148	79,525
	TOTAL	15	234	1,350,159	5,945,682	10,100	193,214	7	4.4	147	211,005
1998/99	East of 174° W.	14	55	740,011	3,247,863	8,365	83,378	9	4.4	148	82,113
	West of 174° W.	3	44	409,531	1,691,385	1,930	35,920	12	4.1	146	21,218
	TOTAL	16	99	1,149,542	4,939,248	10,295	119,298	10	4.3	147	103,331
1999/00	East of 174° W.	16	60	709,332	3,069,886	9,514	79,129	9	4.3	147	67,574
	West of 174° W.	15	113	676,558	2,768,902	10,564	101,040	7	4.1	147	104,675
	TOTAL	17	173	1,385,890	5,838,788	20,078	180,169	8	4.2	147	172,249
2000/01	East of 174° W.	15	50	704,702	3,134,079	9,703	71,551	10	4.5	147	55,999
	West of 174° W.	12	100	705,613	2,884,682	8,910	101,239	7	4.1	145	53,158
	TOTAL	17	150	1,410,315	6,018,761	18,613	172,790	8	4.3	146	109,157
2001/02	East of 174° W.	19	45	725,297	3,158,179	12,927	62,325	12	4.4	147	49,523
	West of 174° W.	10	90	684,631	2,730,249	8,491	105,219	7	4.0	145	43,505
	TOTAL	21	134	1,409,928	5,888,428	15,307	167,544	8	4.2	146	93,028
2002/03	East of 174° W.	19	43	644,236	2,821,851	11,834	52,037	12	4.4	N/A	55,425
	West of 174° W.	5	72	664,915	2,640,951	5,495	95,581	7	4.0	N/A	32,467
	TOTAL	21	115	1,309,151	5,462,802	17,329	147,618	9	4.2		87,892

^aMany vessels fished both east and west of 174 W, thus total number of vessels reflects registrations for entire Aleutian Islands.

^bDeadloss included.

^cIn pounds.

^dNumber of legal crabs per pot lift.

^eCarapace length in millimeters.

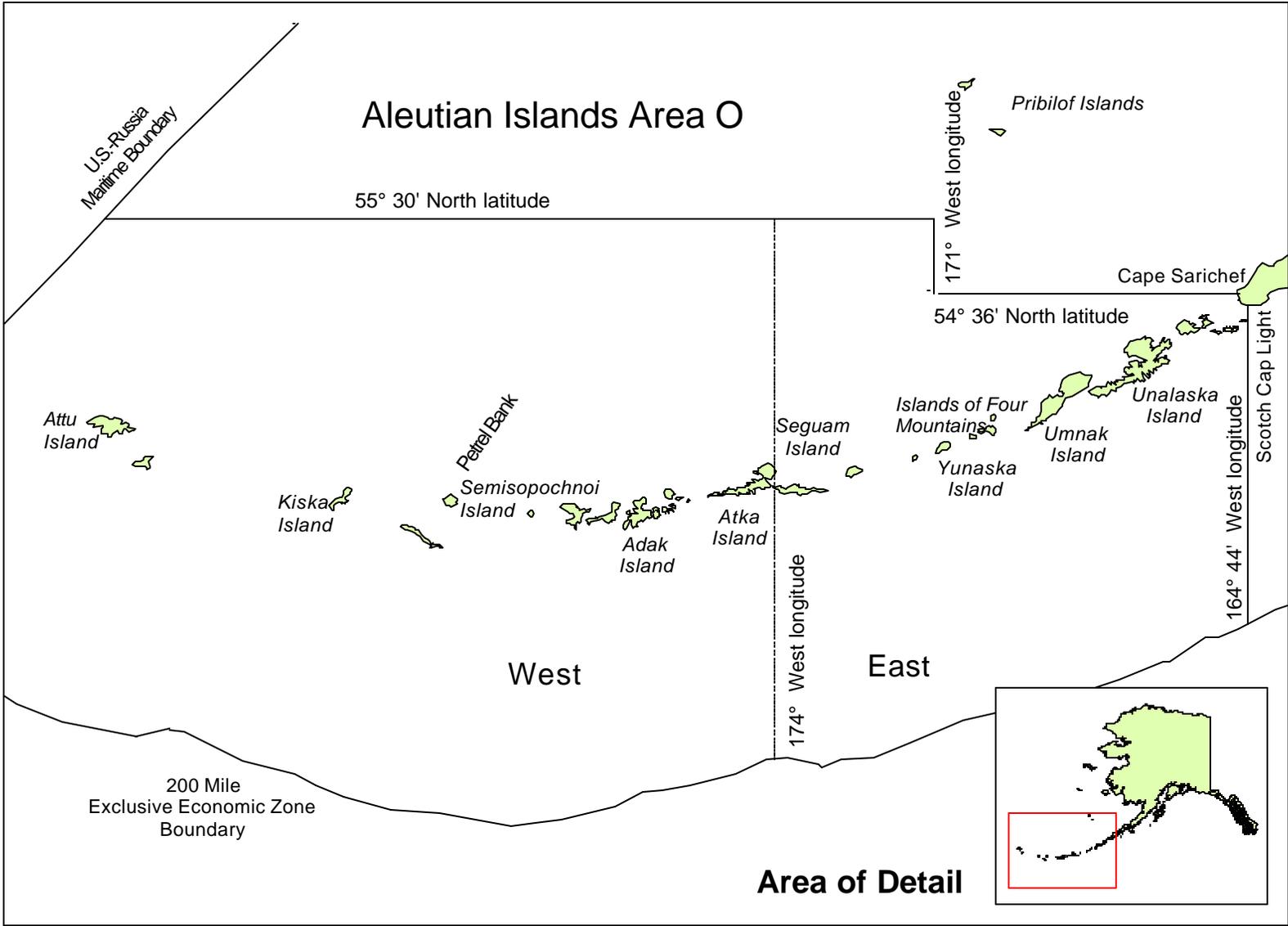


Figure 1. King Crab Registration Area O.

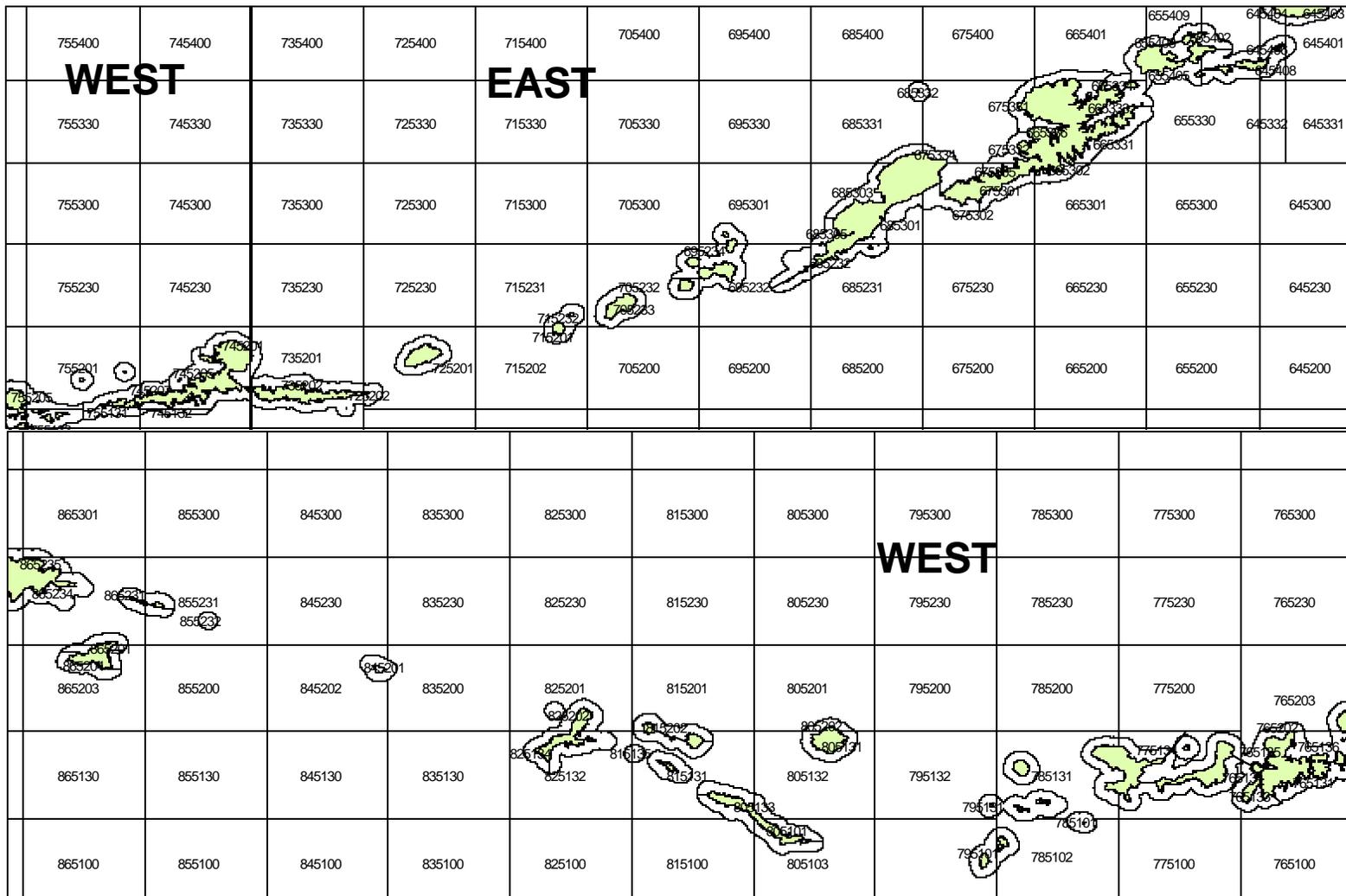


Figure 2. Statistical area map of king crab Registration Area O.

APPENDIX

Appendix A. Contact persons, by agency and location.

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Web site: <http://www.cf.adfg.state.ak.us/region4/finfish/grndfish/grndhom4.htm>

Dutch Harbor office

Mail address: PO Box 920587 *Physical address:* 2315 Airport Beach Rd. Suite 207 Phone: (907) 581-1239
Dutch Harbor, Alaska 99692 Dutch Harbor, Alaska 99692 FAX: (907) 581-1572

Forrest R. Bowers	Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Area Biologist	forrest_bowers@fishgame.state.ak.us
Karla Granath	Assistant Area Shellfish Biologist	karla_granath@fishgame.state.ak.us
Barbi Failor-Rounds	Assistant Area CDQ/Groundfish Biologist	barbi_failor@fishgame.state.ak.us
Mary Schwenzfeier	Shellfish Observer Program Coordinator	mary_schwenzfeier@fishgame.state.ak.us
Shari Coleman	Assistant Observer Program Coordinator	shari_coleman@fishgame.state.ak.us

Kodiak office

Mail address: 211 Mission Rd. *Physical address:* 211 Mission Rd Phone: (907) 486-1840
Kodiak, Alaska 99615 Kodiak, Alaska 99615 FAX: (907) 486-1824

Wayne Donaldson	Westward Region Shellfish/Groundfish Biologist	wayne_donaldson@fishgame.state.ak.us
Mike Ruccio	Kodiak, Chignik, Alaska Peninsula Area Shellfish/Groundfish Biologist	mike_ruccio@fishgame.state.ak.us
Mike Cavin	Kodiak, Chignik, AK Pen. Assistant Area Shellfish/Groundfish Biologist	michael_cavin@fishgame.state.ak.us

Alaska State Troopers Division of Fish and Wildlife Protection

Web site: <http://www.dps.state.ak.us>

Dutch Harbor Post

Mail address: PO Box 920848 *Physical address:* 2315 Airport Rd. Suite 106 Phone: (907) 581-1432
Dutch Harbor, Alaska 99692 Dutch Harbor, Alaska 99692 FAX: (907) 581-1407

Todd Sharp	Sargent	todd_sharp@dps.state.ak.us
------------	---------	----------------------------

Kodiak Post

Mail address: 2921 A Mill Bay Road *Physical address:* 2921 A Mill Bay Road Phone: (907) 486-4761
Kodiak, Alaska 99615 Kodiak, Alaska 99615 FAX : (907)486-1707

Joanna Roop	Post Lieutenant	joanna_roop@dps.state.ak.us
-------------	-----------------	-----------------------------

-Continued-

National Marine Fisheries Service

Web site: <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/>

Dutch Harbor enforcement office

Mail address: PO Box 920368
Dutch Harbor, Alaska 99692

Physical address: 2315 Airport Beach Rd Suite 103
Dutch Harbor, Alaska 99692

Phone: (907) 581-2061
FAX : (907) 581-2064

Michael Mahaffey Assistant Special Agent in Charge mike.mahaffey@noaa.gov

Dutch Harbor management office

Mail address: P. O. Box 920225
Dutch Harbor, Alaska 99692

Physical address: 2315 Airport Beach Rd. Suite 103
Dutch Harbor, Alaska 99692

Phone: (907) 581-2062
FAX : (907) 581-3356

Rance Morrison Fisheries Biologist rance.morrison@noaa.gov

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game administers all programs and activities free from discrimination based on race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, or disability. The department administers all programs and activities in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.

If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility, or if you desire further information please write to ADF&G, P.O. Box 25526, Juneau, AK 99802-5526; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4040 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 300 Webb, Arlington, VA 22203 or O.E.O., U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington DC 20240.

For information on alternative formats for this and other department publications, please contact the department ADA Coordinator at (voice) 907-465-6077, (TDD) 907-465-3646, or (FAX) 907-465-6078.