

ANNUAL MANAGEMENT REPORT FOR THE
GROUNDFISH FISHERIES IN THE KODIAK, CHIGNIK,
AND SOUTH ALASKA PENINSULA MANAGEMENT AREAS, 2003



By

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NOTES ON DATA REVISIONS FROM PREVIOUS PUBLICATIONS

In the year 2000, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game implemented a new fish ticket database and database structure to address “Y2K” compliance issues. In implementing this new database, several improvements were aimed at making groundfish fish ticket data more easily entered, aggregated, and retrievable. The implementation of the new database has not been without challenges and a number of staff, from programmers and analysts, to technicians and biologists, have worked diligently to make the data of the highest possible quality. Our collective efforts to fully transition to the new database, aptly named Neptune, continues through the publication date of this report.

During 2003, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council and the Alaska Board of Fisheries began discussions on implementing a comprehensive rationalization program for the groundfish fisheries in the Gulf of Alaska. As this process unfolded, staff within the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, National Marine Fisheries Service, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, and the public began to scrutinize historic groundfish data. This scrutiny resulted in some errors found in historic groundfish data.

In many instances, the cause of the data error was found to be incorrect fishery coding (i.e. as state-waters or parallel/federal), incorrect statistical area or gear types indicated on the fish ticket. The vast majority of the fish tickets and data that were easily corrected have been updated and reflect the harvest totals provided in this report. Staff are in the process of contacting permit holders, processing personnel, and other sources of verification to correct, as needed, historic fish ticket data.

The data contained within this report reflects changes to previously published data as reflected in the Neptune database. It is not anticipated that subsequent reports will significantly differ from the data published herein, however, all users of this data should be aware that minor changes may continue to occur, particularly in light of the level of scrutiny that often accompanies resource entitlement programs based on fishing history. In addition, the Neptune database allows for ongoing corrections. Therefore, when revisions are made to previously entered data, corresponding changes instantaneously occur within the database.

Unless otherwise stated within the text, tables, or figures, all harvests are reported in whole pounds and include all personal use, at-sea and dockside discards unless otherwise indicated. Discard information is included as these data represent removals from the resource, even though certain species discarded at sea may survive under certain conditions.

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ABSTRACT

This report provides a summary of the 2003 state managed, state-waters, and parallel commercial groundfish fisheries that occur in the Kodiak, Chignik, and South Alaska Peninsula Areas. In the 2003 state-waters Pacific cod *Gadus macrocephalus* fisheries in the Westward Region, 24.2 million pounds (10,931 mt) were harvested by 253 vessels for an estimated exvessel fishery value of \$6.3 million. Additional details concerning the 2003 state-waters Pacific cod fisheries are provided by management area, including season dates, effort, harvest, and value by gear type. Biological data collected from Pacific cod during the 2003 state-waters fishery is summarized.

Information from the 2003 black rockfish *Sebastes melanops* fisheries is also reported. Seventy-five vessels harvested black rockfish in the three management areas during 2003. The total harvest was 0.14 million pounds (64 mt) for an estimated exvessel value of \$0.05 million. Biological data collected during the 2003 black rockfish fishery are summarized.

During 2003, a fishery for skates of the *Raja* and *Bathyraja* genera developed in the Kodiak Area. The directed fishery occurred as a parallel fishery in state waters under the authority of a commissioner's permit. Thirty-seven permits were issued to allow directed skate fishing in state waters. A total of 1.2 million pounds (532 mt) were harvested in state waters with an exvessel value of \$0.2 million. Information is provided on the catch and value of skates harvested in federal waters. Biological data collected during the developing fishery is included for both state and federal waters.

Minor harvests of lingcod *Ophidion elongatus* and sablefish *Anoplopoma fimbria* occurred in 2003. Information on the participation and value of these fisheries is reported in summary format. Effort and harvest from the parallel Pacific cod and walleye pollock *Theragra chalcogramma* fisheries are summarized. General information is provided on other groundfish species harvested in state waters and a historic summary of non-pelagic trawl closures in the state waters of the Kodiak, Chignik, and South Alaska Peninsula Areas.

INTRODUCTION

Groundfish harvests in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA) and Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands (BSAI) are primarily managed by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) under guidelines developed by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC). The NPFMC establishes Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) specifications for each species. The ABC may be reduced due to biological, economic, and social considerations to the level available for directed fishing, the Total Allowable Catch (TAC). Appendix A contains frequently used acronyms, key words and definitions.

Authorization for federal management authority of resources in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) from three to 200 nautical miles offshore comes from the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSFCMA), now known as the Magnuson-Stevens Act, originally passed by the United States Congress in 1976 (MSFCMA 1996). Areas used for federal groundfish fisheries management are shown in Figure 1. Many of the species managed by NMFS also occur in the territorial waters, 0-3 nautical miles offshore.

The State of Alaska has management authority for groundfish resources within territorial waters. In this report territorial waters will be referred to as state waters. Commercial fishery registration areas established by the state differ from federal management areas. State designated groundfish registration areas include the Eastern Gulf of Alaska, Prince William Sound, Cook Inlet, Kodiak, Chignik, South Alaska Peninsula, Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands, and Chukchi-Beaufort Areas (Figure 2). These registration areas extend to the 200-mile boundary of the EEZ. The Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G) offices in Southeastern Alaska, primarily the office in Sitka, manage fisheries in the Eastern Gulf of Alaska. Prince William Sound and Cook Inlet Areas are managed by offices in Cordova and Homer and are part of ADF&G's Central Region. The latter five areas are part of ADF&G's Westward Region. The Kodiak office manages the Kodiak, Chignik, and South Alaska Peninsula Areas. The Dutch Harbor office manages Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands and the Chukchi-Beaufort Areas. Historically, little to no groundfish harvest has occurred in the Chukchi-Beaufort Area.

For most groundfish fisheries, ADF&G issues a region-wide emergency order (global EO) at the beginning of each year, establishing parallel fishing seasons. During parallel seasons, NMFS management, allowable gear, bycatch levels, and fishing season actions are promulgated in state-waters by authority of the global EO.

Exceptions to parallel fishing seasons occur where the state has established separate harvest quotas, seasons, or regulations for state waters. In the Westward Region, these are fisheries for sablefish *Anoplopoma fimbria*, lingcod *Ophidion elongatus*, Pacific cod *Gadus macrocephalus*, black rockfish *Sebastes melanops*, and blue rockfish *Sebastes mystinus*¹. These fisheries are actively managed by ADF&G and are referred to as state-managed fisheries for lingcod and rockfish, and state-waters seasons for Pacific cod and sablefish. For lingcod and the two rockfish species, the state has full management authority from shore to the 200 nautical mile boundary of

¹ The range of blue rockfish does not extend to the Westward Region, however management is delegated to the State of Alaska in all waters of the EEZ off Alaska's coast.

the EEZ. State-waters seasons for sablefish and Pacific cod occur within three nautical miles of shore. The fishery for skates, *Raja* and *Bathyraja* genera, in state waters is conducted under parallel rules, however additional regulatory requirements are imposed on participants via a commissioner's permit. Specific details on the structure of the state-managed, state-waters, and parallel seasons are contained in the introduction of each section of this report.

Pacific cod and walleye pollock comprise the largest volume of groundfish harvested from state waters of the Kodiak, Chignik, and South Alaska Peninsula Areas. All directed walleye pollock harvest in state waters occurs during parallel seasons while Pacific cod is harvested in state waters during parallel and state-waters seasons. Fish ticket records show 44.1 million pounds of Pacific cod and 36.7 million pounds of walleye pollock taken from state waters in 2003 (Table 1, Figure 3). Various species of flatfish, skates, rockfish and other groundfish were also harvested (Table 1, Figure 4). During 2003, eleven emergency orders were issued for inseason regulatory change to the groundfish fisheries in the Kodiak, Chignik, and South Alaska Peninsula Areas (Table 2). This report documents the 2003 groundfish fisheries in the Kodiak, Chignik and South Alaska Peninsula Areas.

STATE-WATERS FISHERIES

Pacific Cod

Historic Background

In 1996, the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) adopted state-waters Pacific cod management plans for fisheries in three groundfish areas in the Westward Region. The first state-water Pacific cod seasons occurred in 1997. Management plans are outlined in chapter 5 of the Alaska Administrative Code (AAC) section 28.081; Kodiak as described in 5 AAC 28.467; Chignik in 5 AAC 28.537, and South Alaska Peninsula in 5 AAC 28.577. In addition, the BOF defined terms to distinguish state-waters, federal, and parallel fishing seasons (Appendix A).

Eligibility for participation in state-waters seasons was not restricted to vessels qualified under the federal moratorium or license limitation programs (LLP). The management plans include specifications on fishing season, allowable gear, and harvest allocation. State-waters seasons generally occur after the parallel season, which typically close in late winter/early spring. Exclusive registration areas were established and the state-waters seasons restricted to pot, hand troll, and mechanical jig gear. Further limitations were established for the amount of gear that may be used in the state-waters seasons. A pot limit of 60 per vessel was established. No more than five jig machines may be used per vessel.

Other regulations adopted in 1996 included a vessel size limit of 58-feet overall-length for vessels participating in the Chignik and South Alaska Peninsula Areas, and harvest allocations between pot and jig gear types in the Kodiak Area. The fishery management plans also provide for removal of restrictions on exclusive area registration, vessel size, and gear limits in the fall to

afford additional harvest opportunity to the participants if the guideline harvest level (GHL) is not expected to be attained before the December 31 regulatory closure date.

GHLs for each area are set as a percentage of the estimated ABC of Pacific cod as established by the NPFMC. Initial GHLs were set at 15% of the Western Gulf ABC for the South Alaska Peninsula Area, and 15% of the Central Gulf ABC apportioned between the Kodiak, Chignik, and Cook Inlet Areas. GHLs were scheduled to increase incrementally to 25% of the Central Gulf and 25% of the Western Gulf ABC's if annual harvest was within 10% of the established state-waters GHL by management area.

Since their inception, the state-waters season management plans have undergone several revisions. In 1998, the BOF added an 85% harvest allocation to the pot fleet in the South Alaska Peninsula with no specified jig allocation. The Chignik Area was designated as a superexclusive registration area for the state-waters Pacific cod season.

In 1999, the BOF restricted pot vessels greater than 58 feet in length to 25% of the total Kodiak Area GHL before September 1. Also in 1999, the BOF allocated 15% of the Chignik GHL to jig gear and an April 15 fishery opening date to both pots and jigs with an August 15 rollover to pot gear for any unharvested portion of the jig allocation. Clarification was added to definitions of hand troll and jig gears. Jig gear was limited to no more than five lines with a maximum of 30 hooks per line or no more than 150 hooks on one line used in a continuous loop.

In 2001, uncertainty about how federal fisheries might be restructured following release of the Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultation; Biological Opinion and Incidental Take Statement (BiOp) on Steller sea lions (SSL) prompted the BOF to restructure the state-waters Pacific cod seasons. The BOF mandated that state-waters seasons once opened, would remain open until area GHLs were attained or the season closed by regulation on December 31. State waters would not reopen to a parallel season if a federal fishery opening occurred and there was state-waters GHL available. All federally-listed SSL rookeries are closed to vessel transit. The state had more liberal restrictions on two SSL haul-out locations, allowing fishing within these locations. These measures were adopted as an interim measure for 2001 and were retained for 2002 and 2003.

Beginning in 2002, the BOF also required a vessel monitoring system (VMS) onboard vessels in state waters during parallel seasons. VMS is not required during state-waters seasons. In 2002, the BOF also liberalized the pot tag and storage requirements in the first seven days of the state-waters season in Kodiak and Chignik Areas. Vessel operators are allowed to have untagged pots onboard or in shallow water storage during the first week of the fishery; a similar proposal was adopted in early 2004 for the South Alaska Peninsula Area.

2003 Westward Region State-Waters Pacific Cod Fisheries

The 2003 season was the seventh year of fishing under the state-waters Pacific cod management plans in the Westward Region. Two hundred fifty three unique vessels harvested over 24.2

million pounds (10,972 mt)² of Pacific cod (Table 3). The GHLs in all three management areas were attained in each area before the fall allocation modifications. The estimated exvessel fishery value was \$6.3 million. The largest catches came from waters adjacent to the Ikatan Peninsula and the Shumagin Islands in the South Alaska Peninsula Area, adjacent to Mitrofanina Island and Chignik Bay in the Chignik Area, and from Chiniak, Marmot, Alitak and westside locations of the Kodiak Area (Figure 5).

Kodiak Area. A GHL of 8.0 million pounds (3,629 mt) of Pacific cod for the Kodiak Area state-waters fishery was announced by news release on January 15, 2003. The state-waters fishery began February 16, 2003, seven days after the closure of the federal and parallel Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA) Pacific cod inshore processing component fishery. The opening date of the Kodiak Area fishery has varied over the course of the state-water seasons; the 2003 opening occurred a month earlier than the 2002 season (Table 4). This was the earliest opening in the seven year history of the state-water fishery in Kodiak.

Overall, the federal TAC had been reduced from previous years as had the state-waters season GHL. The combination of very strong catches and reduced allocations resulted in the quickest parallel 'A' season since the inception of the state-waters seasons.

The total 2003 harvest of Pacific cod in the Kodiak Area from the state-waters fishery was 8.16 million pounds (3,700 mt) taken with 130 unique vessels. Fourteen vessels used both gear types over the course of the season. The estimated exvessel fishery value was \$2.4 million. There were 5.0 million pounds (2,250 mt) taken with 42 pot vessels and 3.2 million pounds (1,450 mt) taken by 102 jig vessels (Table 5). Fishers harvested Pacific cod from 28 separate statistical areas during the 2003 state-waters season. The largest harvests came from Chiniak Bay, the Alitak Bay area, and the capes on the west side of Kodiak Island (Table 6, Appendix B).

The Kodiak Area attained the final GHL step-up increment in the 1999 fishery; therefore, the Kodiak Area will receive 12.5% of the 2004 CGOA Allowable Biological Catch for the 2004 fishery. This results in a GHL of 9.9 million pounds (4,491 mt) for the 2004 fishery.

Kodiak Pot Gear Season

Vessels using pot gear were allocated 50% of the total GHL or 4.0 million pounds (1,814 mt). Within that allocation, vessels longer than 58 feet in overall length were restricted to 25% of the total GHL, or 2.0 million pounds (907 mt), before September 1.

Harvest rates were expected to be strong given the strength of catches that had occurred during the CGOA parallel 'A' season preceding the state-waters season. Approximately 1.7 million pounds were landed in the first week of the state-waters season (Figure 6). This established a new record for weekly harvest in the Kodiak Area. During the 1999 season, 1.5 million pounds had been landed in one week. However, during the 1999 season the average vessel-landing was 23,800 pounds; in the 2003 season the average vessel-landing was 41,400 pounds. It was apparent from the initial week's catch rates that the 4.0 million pound cap on the pot season would quickly be attained.

² All weights refer to landed round pounds; at-sea and dockside discards are not included in harvest totals unless specified.

Another record-breaking week of harvest occurred in the second week of the fishery. Slightly more than 2.2 million pounds (998 mt) were landed in one week. Post-season fish ticket analysis shows the fleet was averaging 400,000 pounds (181 mt) per day. Individual landings ranged from a few thousand pounds to over 100,000 pounds (45 mt).

During the course of the fishery, staff tracked the harvest through processor reports on a daily basis. Processors participating in the fishery submitted daily updates for the previous day's landing information. Staff maintained close contact with processors to obtain recent landing information or what was anticipated to be landed for the next 24-hour period. Dockside sampling interviews were reviewed to obtain recent harvest rate, number of days fished, and fishing location information. This data was used to calculate daily harvest rate and to project when the pot allocation would be attained.

Based on inseason data, the fishery closure was announced for 4:00 PM on March 2, 2003. A 52 hour notice was given to the fleet of the impending closure. An additional 900,000 (408 mt) pounds would be landed between the closure announcement and in the 48 hours following the closure.

The final pot harvest was 4,959,262 pounds (2,250 mt), 24% above the pot allocation of 4.0 million pounds (1,814 mt). Very favorable weather, stronger than expected catch rates, and a low estimate of the poundage onboard the fleet at the time of the closure resulted in the pot allocation being exceeded.

Within the final pot harvest, vessels less than or equal to 58 feet in overall length harvested 3,167,147 pounds (944 mt). Vessels greater than 58 feet in overall length harvested 1,792,115 pounds (813 mt). While the season was ongoing, the small vessel to big vessel harvest stayed very close to a 1.75:1 ratio. This has been the case in each fishery since the pot vessel size allocation was implemented in 2000.

The 2003 pot season lasted slightly more than two weeks (14 days and four hours). This was the fastest state-waters pot season in the Kodiak Area.

Kodiak Jig Gear Season

The 2003 allocation for the Kodiak Area jig fishery was set as 4.0 million pounds (1,814 mt). However, when the pot season exceeded the assigned 4.0 million pounds (1,814 mt) by more than 950,000 pounds (408 mt), the amount of GHL remaining for the jig season was reduced to 3.05 million pounds (1,406 mt). This measure was necessary to constrain total harvest from the state-waters season to the 8.0 million pound (3,629 mt) total GHL.

Jig participants began fishing when the season opened on February 16. Weekly harvest averaged slightly more than 60,000 pounds (27 mt) per week while the pot fishery was ongoing (Figure 6). In 2002, very minor harvest and participation occurred concurrently to the pot season. The fishing practices in the 2003 season represented a distinct change, as 20 jig fishers were very active from the start of the fishery.

Participation and harvest would continue to increase over the course of March. Fifty-seven vessels had registered by April 1 and the cumulative harvest was slightly more than 550,000 pounds (249 mt). Weather temporarily slowed fishing, but in the last week of April, 91 vessels landed more than 550,000 pounds (249 mt) in a week. This level of weekly harvest had not previously occurred in the Kodiak Area jig season.

There were several reasons for the increase in harvest above levels previously seen; fishers were finding dense aggregations of fish, weather and tides were optimal for long periods of time, exvessel prices were strong ranging from \$ 0.30 to \$0.38 per pound, and many jig fishers had been participating in the fishery for several years and have become adept at locating and catching Pacific cod with jig gear. The downturn in salmon markets has resulted in several smaller vessel operators entering the state-waters jig season as an economic supplement to salmon revenues.

In the first week of May, nearly 750,000 pounds (340 mt) were landed. The number of registered participants climbed to 102. Daily inseason management was initiated during this week using methods similar to those used during the pot season to track harvest and project the fishery closure.

The fishery was closed on May 9 at 8:00 PM. The 2004 jig season harvest was 3,196,069 pounds (1,449 mt). This resulted in the total GHLL being exceeded by 155,331 pounds (69 mt) or approximately 2% of the total GHLL. This was the first time in the history of the Kodiak Area state-waters season that the jig allocation had been taken by jig fishers before the September 1 allocation rollover. Though the amount of GHLL available to the jig fleet had been reduced by the pot season overage, the number of participating vessels and harvest capacity was sufficient to expect that the full 4.0 million pound (1,814 mt) allocation could be taken by the jig fleet before the fall. Several jig fishers voiced displeasure that their allocation had been altered by the pot season exceeding their allocation by 24%.

Chignik Area. A GHLL of 4.5 million pounds (2,041 mt) of Pacific cod was set for the Chignik Area and announced by news release on January 15, 2003. Vessels using pot gear were allocated 85% of the GHLL or 3.8 million pounds (1,724 mt). Jig season participants were allocated 15% or 675,000 pounds (306 mt).

The fishery opened by regulation on March 1 (Table 7). Much of the state and federal waters in the Chignik Area were closed during the parallel season as a result of SSL protection measures beginning in 2001. These closures were retained for the 2002 and 2003 fisheries. In 2002, the BOF adopted a regulation that opened the state-waters season on March 1 regardless of the status of the parallel season. This allows fishing to occur in state waters on March 1 under the state-waters season management plan, regardless of federal seasons.

The total 2003 harvest of Pacific cod in the Chignik Area from the state-waters fishery was 4,467,571 million pounds (2,026 mt) taken with 29 unique vessels. Two vessels used both gear types over the course of the season. The estimated exvessel fishery value was \$1.2 million. There were 4.0 million pounds (1,814 mt) taken with 15 pot vessels and 0.4 million pounds (181 mt) taken by 16 jig vessels (Table 8). Fishers harvested Pacific cod from seven separate statistical

areas during the 2003 state-waters season. The largest harvests came from Chignik Bay and the area adjacent to Mitrofanina Island (Table 9, Appendix C).

The Chignik Area attained the final GHL step-up increment as a result of attaining the 2003 GHL; therefore, the Chignik Area will receive 8.75% of the 2004 CGOA Allowable Biological Catch in 2004 and all-future fisheries. This results in a GHL of 6.9 million pounds (3,130 mt) for the 2004 season.

Chignik Pot Gear Season

Initial harvest was higher than the previous season. In the first week, six vessels landed 600,000 pounds (272 mt) during sixteen landings (Figure 6). In the 2002 season, a month of fishing transpired before 600,000 pounds were landed.

With only one exception, landings over six weeks would average over 710,000 pounds per week (322 mt). Harvest of this magnitude had not occurred since the 1998 and 1999 fishing seasons in the Chignik Area. In those years, several tender vessels transported Pacific cod to both Kodiak and Sand Point and a larger number of participating vessels delivered to shore-based processors within the Chignik Area.

By the first week of April, the cumulative harvest was approximately 3.1 million pounds (1,406 mt). The fishery was tracked inseason from processor reports. Reports were submitted weekly until the first week of April, after which reports were sent daily or more frequently, depending on how often tenders delivered to the processor. Inseason information indicated that the 3.8 million pound (1,723 mt) pot allocation would be taken by 3:00 PM on April 11. Fifty-three hours advance notice was provided to the fleet of the closure. Harvest during those 53-hours was stronger than projected resulting in a final harvest of 4,034,504 pounds (1,830 mt). This exceeded the pot allocation by 209,504 pounds (106 mt) or 6%.

The closure marked only the second time that the Chignik Area pot season had been closed because the allocation or GHL had been met; the other closure occurred in 1998. In most years, the GHL had been of sufficient size that quota could not be attained before salmon fisheries occurred in June and the fleet switched to salmon. In many years, the lack of an available processor either early or late in the season also hampered the fleet's ability to fully attain the GHL. In the 2003 fishery, catch rates were strong, a processor was available for the duration of the pot season, and participation levels remained consistent through the season.

Chignik Jig Gear Season

After the pot fishery, 465,000 pounds (211 mt) remained on the 2003 GHL. Minor jig effort occurred in the later stages of the pot season with one vessel making several landings. The number of participants increased to 10 in the last week of April and would peak at 12 vessels in May. Sixteen vessels recorded landings during the season. Over the course of May, the jig fleet would average 80,000 pounds per week (36 mt). The cumulative harvest was approximately 397,000 pounds (180 mt). With salmon season approaching in early June, some vessels quit the fishery. The remaining fleet of eight vessels fished until the closure on June 6. The final harvest of 433,067 pounds (196 mt) was slightly less than expected and resulted in a final total harvest of 4,467,571 pounds (2,026 mt) for both gear types.

This marked the first time in the history of the Chignik Area state-waters season that the entire GHL had been attained before fall. It was also the first time since the creation of a specific jig allocation in 1999 that the allocation was attained by the jig fleet. The allocation was reduced slightly by the pot season overage.

South Alaska Peninsula Area. A GHL of 11.4 million pounds (5,171 mt) of Pacific cod was set for the South Alaska Peninsula Area and announced by news release on January 15. The state-waters Pacific cod fishery opened on February 24, seven days following the closure of the Western Gulf of Alaska (WGOA) parallel Pacific cod season (Table 10). Vessels using pot gear were allocated 85% of the GHL or 9.69 million pounds (4,397 mt). The jig season did not have a specified allocation; in recent years, the jig season has harvested the remaining portion of the GHL following the closure of the pot season.

Total harvest for both gear types for the South Alaska Peninsula Pacific cod fishery was 11,560,663 million pounds (5,244 mt) from 604 landings by 96 vessels. Ten vessels participated in both the pot and jig seasons. The approximate exvessel fishery value was \$2.6 million. Landings were reported from 25 statistical areas with major catches harvested near the Ikatan Peninsula, Sanak Island, and dispersed around the Shumagin Islands near Sand Point (Table 12, Appendix D).

The South Alaska Peninsula Area fishery achieved the final GHL step up increment in 2001, and the GHL in subsequent years will be 25% of the Western Gulf ABC for Pacific cod. The GHL for the 2004 fishery is set at 12.5 million pounds.

South Alaska Peninsula Pot Gear Season

The South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters season attained the pot allocation very quickly during 2000-2002. The 2003 pot gear season was no exception and lasted only 16 days. As the fishery occurred so quickly, weekly harvest rates are not particularly meaningful to illustrate how the harvest progressed over the course of the pot season. Individual vessel landings averaged slightly less than 40,000 pounds (18 mt) for the season. Some individual vessels had single landings greater than 120,000 pounds (54 mt). The fleet landed approximately 1.0 million pounds (454 mt) on three of the 16 days during the 2003 pot gear season.

Participating processors again utilized tender vessels over the course of the pot fishery. This gave participating vessels the ability to maximize their fishing time by not having to travel to and from port to deliver. Only periodic episodes of inclement weather significantly slowed fishing during the season.

Inseason estimates and the most recent fishery performance indicated that the 9.69 million pounds allocated to pot gear would be attained by 1:00 PM on March 11. Fifty hours notice was given to the fleet of the impending closure. Severe weather, not previously forecast, occurred within that 50-hour window. After the closure announcement, winds quickly increased to gale strength with gusts over 50 knots and heavy freezing spray occurred throughout the fishing grounds. The weather effectively stopped the fishery about 36 hours before the scheduled closure.

The final pot harvest was 7,927,656 pounds (3,596 mt). This was 1,762,344 pounds (758 mt) below the pot allocation of 9.69 million pounds (4,355 mt) or 18%. Many fishery participants voiced displeasure with the season closed short of the allocation. ADF&G projected the final harvest would have been between 9.0 and 10.0 million pounds (4,082 mt and 4,536 mt) had the weather not impacted fishing. The 2003 South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters pot fishery was the shortest season on record.

South Alaska Peninsula Jig Gear Season

The South Alaska Peninsula Area jig season opened concurrently with pot gear on February 24. Jig landings began in the first week following the opening. In previous seasons, little to no effort occurred in the jig season until the pot season was closed. Approximately 100,000 pounds (45 mt) were landed in the first full week of fishing. Harvest would remain in the 100,000 pounds (45 mt) range until the last week of March. By that week, the pot season had been closed and the number of jig participants began to increase quickly.

Landings in the first week of April set a new record mark, with 850,000 pounds (419 mt) being landed from 89 deliveries (Figure 6). Jig gear harvest of this magnitude had never occurred in a one-week period in any of the state-waters seasons. The following week, 995,000 pounds (451 mt) were landed establishing an even higher mark. The cumulative total in the jig season was 2.5 million pounds (1,134 mt). Based on the recent fishery performance, the jig season was expected to harvest the remaining pounds of the overall GHL before a fall allocation rollover.

Over the next two weeks, the fleet size decreased to 44 vessels. These boats harvested the remaining 1.0 million pounds (454 mt) and the fishery closed on April 22. Twenty hours advance notice was given of the impending closure. Final harvest was 3,633,007 pounds (1,647 mt). The total fishery GHL of 11.4 million pounds (5,215 mt) was exceeded by 160,633 pounds (28 mt) or one percent. At 57 days, the 2003 jig season was the second shortest on record for the South Alaska Peninsula Area. Had the pot fishery attained the full allocation of 9.6 million pounds (4,354 mt), the jig season would have closed during the second week of April.

Harvest Monitoring

ADF&G monitored the state-waters Pacific cod harvest in 2003 in the same manner as in previous years. Dockside sampling occurred in King Cove during the first few months of the season when fishing effort and harvest rates were highest, and in Kodiak and Sand Point during the entire season. Port samplers conducted confidential interviews with vessel operators to obtain information on catch location, catch per unit effort, bycatch, and fishing effort. Samplers recorded data on fish length, reproductive status, and average weight. Otoliths were removed for later analysis at the aging laboratory. ADF&G personnel were also opportunistically placed on commercial vessels as observers to collect biological data and bycatch information.

Length frequency data has been collected every year during the state-waters fisheries. Data collected in 2003 did not differ greatly from data collected in previous years. In the Kodiak Area, sampled Pacific cod averaged 65.6 centimeters (cm) in length (Figure 7). Fish sampled from the Chignik Area averaged 64.7 cm in length. The average length for Pacific cod sampled in the

2003 South Alaska Peninsula Area was 64.9 cm. Pacific cod sampled within all three management areas from jig gear averaged 64.9 cm in length while fish sampled from pot gear averaged 65.4 cm in length (Figure 8).

Average fish weights were calculated from data collected by dockside samplers. Sampled Pacific cod harvested with pot gear in the South Alaska Peninsula Area averaged 8.2 pounds; average weight for jig gear was 6.3 pounds. Average weights for the Kodiak Area harvest were 7.2 pounds for pot gear and 6.9 pounds for jig gear. Chignik Area fish, from mixed gear deliveries, averaged 6.2 pounds.

Otoliths were collected from 2,319 Pacific cod from the Kodiak, Chignik, and South Alaska Peninsula Areas during the 2003 state-waters Pacific cod seasons. Analysis of the 2001-2003 otolith age data has not been completed. Preliminary analysis of otolith data from the 2000 state-waters fishery shows that ages for Pacific cod ranged from 1 to 12 years with average ages of 5.5 for Kodiak and the South Alaska Peninsula, and 5.9 for Chignik. The five and six-year old age classes were predominant in the Kodiak and Chignik areas, while in the South Alaska Peninsula ages four and five were predominant. Age analysis of subsequent collections is ongoing.

Reproductive condition of Pacific cod has been assessed inseason during each state-waters fishery since 1997 by ADF&G dockside samplers. The height of the 2003 Kodiak Area spawning period was very similar to the period seen in 1998 and 2000 (Figure 9). Spawning in the Chignik Area was similar to that seen in the South Alaska Peninsula, however caution must be taken when interpreting the Chignik data, as samples are only available into mid April. Samples from all three management areas indicate that the majority of fish landed during the first week of April had spawned.

Black Rockfish

Historic Background

Black rockfish were of low market value and not generally harvested commercially in the Kodiak Area until 1990. The catch increased to 868,560 pounds (394 mt) in 1991 as operators fished previously unexploited populations (Table 13). Fishers primarily targeted black rockfish with jig gear but some bycatch occurred in longline and trawl fisheries. Effort was concentrated in areas easily accessible to the city of Kodiak. Fishery production fell sharply in the following years, presumably due to lower abundance in areas that were previously unexploited. Lower prices and alternative fisheries may have been additional factors that limited production after 1991. ADF&G was concerned that localized depletion could easily occur on this long-lived, low-fecundity species.

Stocks along the Alaska Peninsula were initially targeted in 1995. Fishers worked in areas near the port of Sand Point and east to Mitrofanina Island. The highest catch occurred in 1996 with over 360,000 pounds (157 mt) taken from the Chignik Area and the Eastern District of the South Alaska Peninsula Area (Tables 14 and 15).

Black rockfish fisheries were managed by NMFS prior to 1997 as part of the pelagic shelf rockfish group that included dusky *Sebastes ciliatus*, yellowtail *S. flavidus*, and widow rockfish *S. entomelas*. The dusky rockfish is the most abundant species in the group and predominated NMFS survey catches in the GOA. An annual ABC largely supported by dusky rockfish biomass estimates was assigned to the entire group, placing few restrictions on the take of individual species within the group. ADF&G was concerned with the harvest of black rockfish during that period; in some cases ADF&G closed state waters by emergency order, but adjacent federal waters did not close in these instances. Although the majority of the black rockfish resource is in state waters, enforcement of closures became a problem. Landings continued with federal statistical areas reported on fish tickets. Those reports were not always considered credible.

ADF&G submitted a Fisheries Management Plan amendment to the NPFMC that would relinquish black rockfish management within state waters and the EEZ of the GOA to the state. This amendment was passed and implemented effective April 5, 1998. As an interim measure, the NPFMC separated black rockfish from the pelagic shelf group in 1997. This enabled federal fishery managers to place a 573,201 pound (260 mt) ABC on black rockfish in the CGOA. The ABC was based on the Council's Tier 6 guidelines, which apply to fisheries with little stock assessment information. Harvest limits were set at 75% of average production from 1978-1995.

ADF&G fishery managers applied this limit to fisheries in Cook Inlet, Kodiak, and Chignik Areas when setting preseason guidelines in 1997. The NPFMC was in the process of delegating authority to the state, so these limits were set as an interim measure. They were, however, only enforceable in state waters. Harvest levels were set low enough to accommodate potential black rockfish bycatch³ in other fisheries and not exceed the 573,201 pound (260 mt) total. Assigning GHLS to areas within the CGOA was aimed at distributing effort and avoiding intense localized fishing that could lead to long-term harm to the stocks. In 1997, the GHL for the Kodiak Area was set at 170,000 pounds (77 mt). The GHL was further divided into four sections; three that encompassed the areas of historic harvest and one additional section for the rest of the area with a low GHL to allow for exploratory fishing. The Chignik Area GHL was set at 100,000 pounds (45 mt). The South Alaska Peninsula Area Eastern District was assigned a 100,000 pound GHL (45 mt) as well. The Dutch Harbor office of ADF&G manages the Western District of the South Alaska Peninsula Area; information regarding the history and most recent black rockfish fisheries in the Western District are available from that office.

In 1998, the Kodiak Area was further subdivided into seven sections with individual directed GHLS. The areas were loosely based on existing Tanner crab management sections with modification to divide the area into sections that equally divided the highest historic effort. The Chignik Area remained as an individual management unit. The South Alaska Peninsula Area had previously been divided into an Eastern and Western District.

In 2001, the BOF adopted several measures for the black rockfish fisheries in the Kodiak and Chignik Areas that took effect in the 2003 fisheries. In the Kodiak Area, vessel operators must register specifically for the black rockfish fishery. This precludes vessel operators from participating in a directed Pacific cod and black rockfish fishery simultaneously. In recent years, it has been difficult to assess which vessel operators might be involved in harvesting black

³ Black rockfish bycatch is allowed at 5% of the target species weight in all fisheries.

rockfish at any given time because they could target both Pacific cod and rockfish under a general groundfish registration. Also in the Kodiak Area fishery, a 5,000 pound per five day harvest and landing trip limit was implemented. This, paired with registration requirements, will allow ADF&G to more effectively manage the small GHGs for the sections in the Kodiak Area. The descriptions of the black rockfish fishing districts, previously called sections, were also formally adopted in regulation as groundfish registration districts. In the Chignik Area, superexclusive registration for black rockfish was adopted. The area was subdivided into three districts for management purposes.

2003 Black Rockfish Fisheries

The 2003 season was the sixth year of fishing under state management, including the partial year of 1998. Seventy-four unique vessels harvested 141,265 pounds (64 mt) of black rockfish from the Kodiak and Chignik Areas and the Eastern District of the South Alaska Peninsula Area. Thirty-three of these vessels directed efforts to harvest black rockfish using jig gear, the remainder of the vessels landed black rockfish as bycatch in other fisheries.

The area GHGs were not attained in the Chignik Area or Eastern District of the South Alaska Peninsula Area; only one district GHG within the Kodiak Area was attained. A lack of processors willing to purchase black rockfish or reduced price per pound from previous seasons were strong influences in the decreased harvest in 2003. There were no apparent abundance concerns. When fishers did target black rockfish, they appeared readily available in areas that have historically provided sufficient quantities. In addition, several new regulations implemented for the first time in 2003 for the Kodiak and Chignik Areas how fishers registered and participated in the black rockfish fisheries. Several vessel operators that had previously harvested a large percentage of the GHG in each of the three areas did not participate in 2003. Fishery landings were smaller, most of which were paired with Pacific cod in the Chignik and South Alaska Peninsula Areas. This is similar to fisheries prosecuted in the mid to late 1990s. Details are provided in the following area discussions.

The 2003 harvest came from 59 separate statistical areas. Twenty-nine of the statistical areas were in federal waters, 30 were in state waters. The majority of the harvest in the Kodiak Area was by vessels registered for directed black rockfish fishing (Table 16). In the Chignik Area, most of the harvest occurred as allowable bycatch during the state-waters Pacific cod season. The largest catches came from Chignik Bay in the Chignik Area and Chiniak and Marmot Bays in the Kodiak Area (Figure 10).

2003 Kodiak Area Fishery

The fishery opened on January 1, 2003. ADF&G issued a news release on December 20, 2002 specifying a directed fishing GHG of 185,000 pounds, (83 mt) divided between seven districts in the Kodiak Area (Figure 11). Registration is nonexclusive for the Kodiak Area black rockfish fishery. However, vessel operators registered for black rockfish may not simultaneously hold a registration for any other groundfish fishery. Vessel operators registered for the Kodiak Area black rockfish fishery are restricted to delivering or possessing no more than 5,000 pounds in a five-day period.

The 2003 fishery was quite different than recent years. In the 1998-2002 fisheries, several vessel operators were adept at catching large amounts of black rockfish in a short amount of time. Individual landings exceeding 10,000 pounds (5 mt) were not uncommon. As a result of the harvest proficiency, several of the district GHLS were substantially exceeded. District GHLS were attained rapidly each year.

The single-species registration and trip limit requirements paired with lower exvessel prices resulted in the second lowest total harvest since the fishery began in 1990. A total of 85,387 pounds (39 mt) were harvested from the Kodiak Area in 2003. The harvest came from 36 statistical areas throughout the area (Table 17; Figure 10).

The number of participants increased from 26 vessels in 2002 to 50 in the 2003 fishery. Forty-one of the 50 vessels that made black rockfish landings were registered for the directed fishery. The remaining nine vessels retained black rockfish as permissible incidental catch in other fisheries. Much of the increase in participation can be attributed to the large number of vessel operators that registered for black rockfish following the closure of the state-waters Pacific cod season. The department utilized the authority to require participants to register on a district level for the first time in 2003. District registration and species-specific registration allowed for more precise tracking of participation and improved ability to track the harvest.

In 2003, only five of the 108 individual deliveries exceeded 2,000 pounds (<1 mt). In the 2002 season, 38 of the 121 deliveries were greater than 2,000 pounds (<1 mt) including seven greater than 5,000 pounds (2 mt). Canneries sorted both light and dark dusky rockfish somewhat more diligently than had occurred in previous year's fisheries. As a result, many deliveries that were close to 5,000 pounds total for all rockfish species often contained 1/4 to 1/2 dusky rockfish once sorted. In addition, most vessel operators appeared to estimate their total pounds onboard very conservatively to ensure they would not exceed the established 5,000 pound trip limit for black rockfish.

Initial effort began in January with small, periodic landings. Sporadic effort and harvest would occur February through March. Participation increased and would remain high for the months of April and May. By May 16, the 20,000 pound (9 mt) GHL for the Northeast District had been attained. The district was closed to directed fishing for the remainder of the year with 5% bycatch permitted in non-directed fisheries. Periodic effort continued until early June and the opening of salmon season; minor harvest would occur again in August and September. No other district GHL would be attained during the 2003 fishery (Table 16).

2003 Chignik Area Fishery

The fishery opened on January 1, 2003. ADF&G issued a news release on December 20, 2002 specifying a directed fishing GHL of 100,000 pounds (45 mt) for the Chignik Area. The area was split into three districts for the 2003 fishery. Harvest was capped at 45,000 pounds (20 mt) per district. This was implemented to distribute harvest throughout the management area. In each of the last three years, the majority of the 100,000 pound (45 mt) area GHL had come from one of the three individual districts.

In addition, the Chignik Area was designated as superexclusive for black rockfish registration for the first time in 2003. In many of the recent year's fisheries, vessels had participated in both the Chignik and South Alaska Peninsula Areas over the course of the year. Some of the vessel operators specializing in black rockfish participated in the Kodiak, Chignik, and South Alaska Peninsula Areas often harvesting a substantial portion of the total GHLS in each area throughout the year. The superexclusive registration area designation prevented vessel operators from participating in the Chignik fishery and other areas in the same registration year. No black rockfish trip or possession limits were in effect for the 2003 Chignik Area fishery.

Fifteen vessels made landings from the Chignik Area in 2003. Most made small landings of black rockfish while delivering much larger amounts of Pacific cod during the state-waters fishery. Forty-six landings occurred. Nineteen landings exceeded 1,000 pounds (< 1 mt). The largest landing of the year was slightly more than 4,700 pounds (2 mt).

The total harvest for the 2003 fishery was 46,952 pounds (21 mt). Harvest came from seven statistical areas. The majority of the harvest came from the Chignik Bay District (Table 17, Figure 10). Nine vessels delivered 28,029 pounds (13 mt) from the district. Six vessels harvested 18,587 pounds (8 mt) from the Mitrofanina Island District; three vessels landed 336 pounds (<1 mt) from the Sutwik Island District (Table 16). Three of the registered vessels made landings from more than one district over the course of the year.

Harvest did not approach 45,000 pounds from any district, therefore no district closures occurred throughout the year. The majority of the harvest was taken in May and June while local processors were accepting deliveries for the concurrently open state-waters Pacific cod fishery. The last landing occurred in August. No effort occurred in the fall, as no processor was available to take deliveries. The fishery was open until the regulatory closure date of December 31.

2003 South Alaska Peninsula Area Eastern District Fishery

The fishery opened on January 1, 2003. ADF&G issued a news release on December 20, 2002 specifying a directed fishing GHLS of 100,000 pounds (45 mt) for the South Alaska Peninsula Area's Eastern District. Registration for the Eastern District was nonexclusive and vessel operators were permitted to simultaneously hold a registration for the black rockfish fishery and other groundfish fisheries.

Ten vessels made landings from the Eastern District in 2003. The majority of the twelve landings were small, with only two deliveries exceeding 1,000 pounds (< 1 mt). The largest landing of the year was slightly more than 4,200 pounds (2 mt). Sixteen statistical areas were fished in 2003 (Table 17). Many of these areas had very minor catches, primarily as bycatch occurring in other directed fisheries.

The total harvest for the 2003 fishery was 8,926 pounds (4 mt). This was the lowest level of harvest since the 1994 season. The majority of the harvest was taken in April and May. Some of the registered participants commented that the price per pound offered was just too low to be economically feasible. The fishery was open until the regulatory closure date of December 31.

ADF&G submitted proposals to the BOF in the 2003/04 cycle similar to those developed for the Kodiak and Chignik Areas. These proposals will become effective for the Eastern District in the 2005 fishery and will establish registration requirements, sections for distributing the GHL, and mandatory logbooks.

Harvest Monitoring

Black rockfish harvests are monitored through fish ticket records and dockside sampling of commercial catches. Information collected by dockside samplers includes fishing location and effort as well as fish length, sex, reproductive maturity, and otoliths for aging. Mean size of black rockfish sampled from landings in the region was 46.3 cm. The largest fish were harvested in the Kodiak area (Figure 12).

Miscellaneous Skate Species

Historic Background

Skates of the *Raja* and *Bathyraja* genera are ubiquitous at most depths frequented by the majority of commercial fisheries in the Gulf of Alaska. Prior to 2003, little commercial effort was directed towards skates. The majority of historic harvest has occurred in the CGOA; most of the harvest has occurred in federal waters. In 1997, the harvest of skates from the GOA was slightly more than 4.1 million pounds (1,864 mt), that included discarded skates (Table 18). Approximately 18% of the documented 1997 take occurred in state waters.

Skates have often been captured in longline and trawl fisheries occurring in the Kodiak Area. On occasion, some of these skates were retained and processed (Table 19). In many years, much of the skate catch from the Kodiak Area was discarded at sea, ground into fishmeal, or discarded onshore once delivered to shore-based processors in unsorted catches from trawl fisheries. In 1997, approximately 2.6 million pounds (118 mt) of skates were turned into products other than fishmeal in the Kodiak Area.

NMFS has managed skates under the “other species” assemblage that also includes sharks, sculpins, squid, and octopi since the inception of domestic groundfish fisheries in the late 1980s. This category is designed to monitor and protect species that have not traditionally been economically important but may have an important ecological role and have potential for economic development (Gaichas et al. 2003). The other species category has an annual TAC based on 5% of the sum of all other GOA FMP target species TACs each year.

Skates have been managed in state waters under parallel seasons. In 1998, the BOF adopted a requirement for a commissioner’s permit to target skates in state waters. The regulation gave the department the authority to restrict fishing depth, specify season dates, specify fishing areas, establish minimum sizes, specify legal gear, require logbooks, and other conditions determined to be necessary for conservation and management purposes. Skate seasons in state waters are still prosecuted under the global emergency order and are still considered parallel seasons with the

additional requirements of the commissioner's permit. The State of Alaska does not set a separate quota for state waters, nor does the state administer a separate season for skates in state waters. When the other species assemblage is closed in federal waters, that closure is also effective in state waters. Should a particular gear type, such as longline, be closed for directed fisheries because of bycatch constraints, that closure is also effective in state waters under the parallel structure of the global emergency order.

2003 Skate Fishery

In 2003, a directed skate fishery began in the CGOA. Fishers targeted big skate *Raja binoculata* and longnose skate *R. rhina* with longline and trawl gear. Some minor harvest of *Bathyraja sp.* occurred. One hundred one unique vessels harvested over 7.3 million pounds (3,311 mt) of skates from the Kodiak Area (Table 19). The majority as directed harvest. Over 6.1 million pounds (2,780 mt) were harvested in federal waters; approximately 1.2 million pounds (532 mt) were harvested from state waters. The majority of the harvest in state waters occurred with longlines and trawls in the Kodiak Area (Table 20). Trawl catches in the Kodiak Area have declined since 1997, largely due to the majority of state waters closed to non-pelagic trawls since 1999. Very little historic harvest has occurred with other gear types or in the Chignik and South Alaska Peninsula Areas. The approximate 2003 total exvessel fishery value was \$1.2 million with the state waters harvest worth approximately \$0.2 million. The largest statistical area catches came from Shelikof Strait and Ugak Bay (Figure 13).

2003 Kodiak Area Skate Fishery

Several events triggered the rapid development of a directed skate fishery in the Kodiak Area during 2003. First, and perhaps the most significant factor in the fishery development, was the establishment of markets for skate products, primarily in the Republic of Korea. The exvessel value was as high as \$0.25 per pound. At this price, skates were more valuable than some salmon species and several species of groundfish. In addition, fishers targeting skates were able to retain Pacific cod up to 20% of their retained skate weight. Pacific cod prices remained strong throughout the year, making even relatively small amounts of bycatch a lucrative proposition for participants.

Prior to 2003, local fishers and fish expeditors worked at establishing skate markets but were unable to capitalize on the market for several reasons. Often, more lucrative fisheries remained open throughout a much longer period of the spring and fall. When this occurred, vessel operators often targeted those species exclusively. Once the lucrative fisheries had been prosecuted, longline and trawl gear types often closed because the Pacific halibut prohibited species cap, or PSC, had been attained.

In 2003, many of the lucrative target fisheries closed earlier in the spring, ample amounts of halibut bycatch remained, and both longline and trawl gear remained open to target skates. The parallel Pacific cod fishery in the CGOA closed on February 9, the earliest closure on record since the implementation of an 'A' and 'B' season following the implementation of SSL recovery measures in 2001. The subsequent state-waters Pacific cod season also closed much earlier than many years, closing on March 2 for pot gear and May 9 for jig gear in the Kodiak

Area. Some of these vessels began using longline gear to target skates in the spring as there were few other fisheries in which these vessels could participate, given the short Pacific cod seasons.

Many trawl vessels participating in shallow water flatfish fisheries and longliners fishing individual fishing quota (IFQ) Pacific halibut kept skates up to the maximum retainable allowance (MRA) of 20%. The shallow water flatfish fishery did not close until June 19, affording an extended opportunity for non-pelagic trawling. In many years, the shallow water complex is closed earlier in the year because the halibut PSC is attained.

Lastly, the 'other species' TAC for the CGOA was 24.8 million pounds (11,260 mt) for 2003. Any one species in the 'other species' assemblage could be targeted and, in theory, comprise the entire harvest of the 24.8 million pound TAC. However, it is highly unlikely that 24.8 million pounds of skates could be harvested over the course of the year. The PSC for Pacific halibut would typically close both the longline and trawl gear types before the 'other species' TAC was attained. Other gear types could remain open to harvest the 'other species' category but no other gears would likely be effective for harvesting skates.

Initial interest in a directed fishery occurred by longline fishers following the CGOA Pacific cod closure. Prior to this, some harvest had occurred as bycatch in January and February (Figure 14). Most of the initial interest in a directed fishery was for participation in state-waters. Thirty-seven commissioner's permits for directed skate fishing in state waters were issued in late February and early March. Vessel operators fishing under a commissioner's permit were required to keep detailed logbooks on catch location, effort, and composition. In addition, these vessel operators were required to provide ADF&G advance notice of deliveries so landed catch could be sampled.

Over the course of April and May, many of the longline vessel operators learned that they could fish in federal waters if they possess an LLP. While fishing in federal waters, no logbook or delivery notification requirements were in place. Initial reports from the fleet indicated skate abundance outside 3 nm was as strong if not stronger than inside 3 nm. Since many of the longline vessels had the necessary federal endorsements for the CGOA, most moved the majority of their fishing operations outside of state waters.

Trawl fishers landed skates in January, February, and March. Because skates are taken primarily with non-pelagic nets, and only a small amount of state waters in the Kodiak Area are open on a seasonal basis, no state-waters commissioner permits were issued to trawl vessel operators. All the directed harvest by trawl gear occurred in federal waters. The magnitude of skates harvested with trawl gear increased substantially in April.

Harvest Monitoring

During the fishery, ADF&G dockside samplers identified skate species, determined length and sex, and collected age structures. Length measurements were taken from the snout to the base of the pectoral fin. Vertebra sections were sent to the NMFS age determination lab in Seattle, WA for examination. Confidential logbooks were also required from those fishers targeting skates in state waters.

The majority of skates sampled were big skates (839) followed by longnose skates (200). Both were taken with longline gear. The three species of *Bathyraja*, Aleutian skate *B. aleutica* (87), Bering skate *B. interrupta* (45), and Alaska skate *B. parmifera* (5) were sampled mostly from non-pelagic trawl deliveries. Out of all the skates sampled in 2003, 73% were female.

The skate species targeted during the fishery were big and longnose skates. Big skates ranged in size from 36 to 103 cm in length (Figure 15). Female big skates tended to be larger than males, with average length of 76 cm and 64 cm, respectively. Longnose skates had a similar pattern where females averaged 73 cm and males 62 cm (Figure 16).

Sablefish

Sablefish in state waters are managed separately from the federal sablefish IFQ program. Habitat for mature sablefish in state waters is extremely limited in much of the Westward Region. Sablefish are not abundant in state waters east of Unimak Pass. Most state waters are relatively shallow and contain a high percentage of juvenile sablefish. Mature fish are found in deeper waters such as those at the edge of the continental shelf. The notable exception to this is in the Aleutian Islands and South Alaska Peninsula Western District where state waters encompass some of the deep-water passes of the Aleutian Island chain. A state-waters season has been established for sablefish in those areas since 1995. The ADF&G office in Dutch Harbor manages that commercial fishery. Details of this fishery are reported in the annual management report for groundfish fisheries in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands.

In 2002, the BOF prohibited directed sablefish fisheries in state waters of the Kodiak and Chignik Areas. In 2003, the BOF closed the directed sablefish fishery in the South Alaska Peninsula Area, Eastern District. A 1% bycatch allowance, with certain restrictions on gear types, has been allowed in other fisheries; this allocation is managed by NMFS and is adopted for state waters through the global emergency order that establishes parallel seasons. The 2003 harvest of sablefish taken as bycatch from state waters in the three areas, excluding the South Alaska Peninsula Western District directed fishery, totaled 21,595 pounds (10 mt).

Lingcod

Current commercial regulations in the Kodiak and Chignik Areas restrict lingcod harvest to the period from July 1 to December 31 and require fish to be a minimum of 35 inches in total length. These regulations are designed to eliminate fishing during the nest-guarding period and to ensure harvest of only mature fish that have had at least one spawning opportunity. There are no similar regulations in the South Alaska Peninsula Area as the abundance of lingcod appears substantially lower in that area and is along the western boundary of the species range (Mecklenburg et al 2002). Currently, all commercial gear types are legal to take lingcod. Regional registration is required for vessels intending to target lingcod. Harvest primarily occurs in rocky reef areas, although large catches are periodically taken in offshore trawl fisheries. Lingcod are an important species to sport fisheries in the Kodiak Area and annual sport harvest is approximately 1,500 fish (Len Schwartz, ADF&G, Division of Sportfish, personal communication).

Lingcod have generally not been the target of directed fishing in the Westward Region. Most of the harvest occurs as bycatch in other fisheries, although directed harvest with jig gear has occurred sporadically in the past. The 2003 harvest was 9,969 pounds (4 mt) from the Kodiak and Chignik Areas. No harvest occurred in the South Alaska Peninsula Area. Lingcod catch occurs in jig, pot, longline, and trawl gear (Table 23). The highest historic lingcod harvest of 136,294 pounds (60 mt) was taken in 1988 in the Kodiak Area (Table 24).

PARALLEL PACIFIC COD FISHERIES

Introduction

State waters were opened for a parallel Pacific cod fishing season concurrent with the federal season managed by NMFS. Pot, longline, and jig gears were legal gear types beginning January 1. Trawl gear was allowed beginning January 20. Most state waters in the Westward Region are closed to non-pelagic trawling, the trawl type used to direct effort on Pacific cod. During directed fishery openings, 100% of Pacific cod and walleye pollock must be retained under state regulation 5 AAC 28.075 UTILIZATION OF POLLOCK AND PACIFIC COD TAKEN IN A COMMERCIAL FISHERY. Federal regulation, 50 CFR 679.B.27 INCREASED RETENTION/INCREASED UTILIZATION PROGRAM, contains similar language requiring full retention of these species during directed fisheries (Beardon 1999). During directed fishery closures, maximum allowable Pacific cod and walleye pollock bycatch percentages must be retained under a prohibited species designation by NMFS, typically set at 20% by target species weight.

During the parallel season, vessels that are not LLP eligible may participate inside state waters. However, to participate beyond three nautical miles, vessels must have a specific federal endorsement for species, gear, and area from NMFS.

Several actions were taken by NMFS and the NPFMC during 2001 in response to the Steller sea lion (SSL) BiOp issued in November of 2001. Actions taken to mitigate the effect of commercial fishing effort on SSL changed widely over the course of the year and are best understood by referencing the appropriate federal documents. The State of Alaska sought to minimize the impact of the SSL measures in the parallel fishery. Sea lion rookeries are closed by federal regulation, however the state did not close two haulouts. Federal fisheries were split into two seasons, designated "A" and "B" seasons. NMFS released 60% of the federal ABC for the "A" season on January 1. Incidental harvest of Pacific cod that occurs after the closure of the "A" season comes out of the remaining 40% of the annual ABC. If a sufficient amount of ABC remains for a commercial harvest to occur following these deductions through late spring and summer, that amount is made available on September 1 (B season). Both state and federal regulations for 2003 were the same as those in place during the later portion of 2001 and all of 2002.

Fishery statistics compiled by NMFS show Pacific cod landings from the GOA beginning in 1964. The highest harvests occurring during the early 1990s. Catches since 1977 have averaged approximately 97.5 million pounds (44,223 mt) per year. Harvest figures for 2003 show a

Central and Western GOA catch of approximately 103.8 million pounds (47,084 mt) with 58% coming from the CGOA and 42% from the WGOA (Table 25, Figure 17). The harvest of Pacific cod from state waters during parallel seasons within the CGOA and WGOA has ranged from 13.0 million pounds (5,897 mt) in 1989 to 49.7 million pounds (22,543 mt) in 1999. The 2003 state waters harvest was 43.1 million pounds (19,550 mt) from the Central and Western GOA areas (Table 25). The 2003 ABC for Pacific cod in the Gulf of Alaska was down 9% from the previous year (Thompson et al. 2003).

2003 Kodiak Area Fishery

The CGOA closed to directed fishing for the inshore processing component on February 9, 2003. This was the fastest that the federal “A” season had been prosecuted. The federal CGOA reopened to Pacific cod fishing on September 1, 2003. Because the state-waters season GHL was attained, state waters reopened to Pacific cod fishing under parallel season rules. The harvest of Pacific cod from state waters of the Kodiak Area in the 2003 parallel fishery totaled 6.2 million pounds (2,837 mt; Table 26). Pot gear accounted for the majority of harvest in the Kodiak fishery, with approximately 3.5 million pounds (1,588 mt). Longline gear also contributed a significant portion of the Pacific cod production, harvesting 2.7 million pounds (1,225 mt). The trawl harvest of Pacific cod was well below levels taken prior to the implementation of SSL measures. In addition to SSL restrictions, additional areas of state waters were closed by the BOF to non-pelagic trawling beginning in 1999. The majority of Pacific cod harvest with trawls occurred as bycatch during directed flatfish fisheries on the westside of Kodiak Island where there are two seasonal non-pelagic trawl areas. Some bycatch also occurred in the walleye pollock pelagic trawl fishery.

2003 Chignik Area Fishery

The majority of the productive Pacific cod fishing grounds in the Chignik Area are closed during federal fisheries. These closures include state and federal waters. The closures were implemented in 2001 as part of the SSL actions and remained in effect for the 2003 fisheries. The parallel season in the Chignik Area closed to directed fishing for the inshore processing component on February 9, 2003. As was the case in the Kodiak Area, the Chignik Area state-waters GHL had been attained before the scheduled federal reopening of the CGOA on September 1. Therefore, state waters opened in those waters not closed for SSL conservation reasons. The 2003 parallel fishery catch from state waters of the Chignik Area was 0.3 million pounds (134 mt) (Table 27). Pot gear accounted for the majority of harvest in the Chignik Area.

2003 South Alaska Peninsula Area Fishery

The inshore processing component of the “A” season directed Pacific cod fishery in the WGOA, which includes the South Alaska Peninsula Area, closed on February 17, 2003. The state-waters fishery GHL was fully attained by September 1, so state waters reopened to a parallel fishery on that date. The total 2003 harvest of Pacific cod from state waters during the parallel fishery was 13.4 million pounds (6,078 mt; Table 28). A continued reduction in Pacific cod harvest with trawl gear occurred in 2003. The 2001 harvest by trawls was 1.8 million pounds (816 mt); this dropped to 0.5 million pounds (227 mt) in 2002 and 0.1 million pounds (45 mt) in 2003. Pot gear

harvested approximately 98% of the cod taken in state waters during parallel fisheries. The majority of vessels in the South Alaska Peninsula parallel fishery were 58 feet overall length or smaller.

PARALLEL WALLEYE POLLOCK FISHERIES

State waters opened for a parallel walleye pollock season concurrent with federal seasons managed by NMFS. Harvest quotas were released in four openings during 2003 (Table 29). The catch was primarily retained with pelagic trawl gear, although other types of gear are legal. State water harvest of pollock from the CGOA declined from 43% of the total harvest in 2002 to 23% in 2003. (Table 30). Over half of the WGOA harvest of walleye pollock came from state waters. Walleye pollock harvest in the state waters of the South Alaska Peninsula Area was similar in 2003 to the level taken in 2002 (Table 31). During the 2002 parallel fisheries, 18.7 million pounds (8,482 mt) were taken from the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters. In 2003, 20.2 million pounds (9,163 mt) were harvested from the area. Harvest from the Kodiak Area state waters declined slightly from 23.1 million pounds (10,478 mt) in 2002 to 16.4 million pounds (7,439 mt) in 2003. Catches from state waters of the Chignik Area declined significantly from 7.7 million pounds (3,493 mt) to 0.1 million pounds (45 mt). Over the past 15 years, the catch level of walleye pollock from state waters has often fluctuated dramatically in the Chignik Area. Figure 18 illustrates walleye pollock harvest by statistical area for the three management areas.

MISCELLANEOUS GROUND FISH

Other species of groundfish totaled 1.0 million pounds (453 mt) in state waters of the Kodiak, Chignik, and South Alaska Peninsula Areas during 2003 parallel fisheries. Species harvested include Atka mackerel, Pacific Ocean perch, dusky rockfish, flathead sole, arrowtooth flounder, yellowfin sole, rock sole, English sole, and shark species (Table 1).

Exploitation for flatfish was limited primarily because non-pelagic trawls are prohibited in most state waters. Other harvest methods have not proven economically effective to capture flatfish.

Some incidental catch of other species occurred during pot, longline, and jig fisheries. In most instances, fish with a high market value, such as rockfish or lingcod, are retained when possible and sold along with the target species. Those that are less marketable, such as sculpins and arrowtooth flounder, are released at sea. Some prohibited species are delivered in unsorted catches then recorded as dockside discards or are processed into fishmeal. Many fish discarded at sea are not reported on fish tickets.

NON-PELAGIC TRAWL CLOSURES

There is a patchwork of time and area closures to non-pelagic trawl gear around Kodiak Island and along the Alaska Peninsula. Generally, bays have been closed year round since 1986 (Figure 19). Modifications occurred in 1993, when the BOF created a non-pelagic trawl fishery that required 100% observer coverage in Marmot Bay and South Sitkalidak Strait. Crab bycatch limits were established and vessels were required to report to ADF&G daily. Additional changes occurred in 1994 and 1995 when the BOF opened state waters near Castle Rock and Sanak Island.

Non-pelagic trawling was considered again during 1999 with public proposals to close all state waters in the Kodiak and Chignik Areas. The BOF adopted those proposals with the exception of a strip along the westside of Kodiak Island, which was left open seasonally. This seasonal opening of state waters was left in place to allow non-pelagic trawls access to flatfish resources during parallel seasons. Additional non-pelagic trawl closure areas implemented in 1999 included all state waters in the Chignik Area and the state waters of the Kodiak Area along the Alaska Peninsula from Cape Kumlik to Cape Douglas, Marmot Bay and South Sitkalidak on Kodiak Island, and areas off Sitkinak and Ugak Islands. No additional closures were implemented for the 2003 fisheries.

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Table 1. Kodiak, Chignik, and South Alaska Peninsula Areas state waters groundfish harvest, in whole pounds, as reported on fish tickets, 2003.

Species	Kodiak			Chignik			South Ak. Peninsula			Total		
	Harvest ^a	Discards		Harvest ^a	Discards		Harvest ^a	Discards		Harvest ^a	Discards	
		at-sea	shore ^b		at-sea	shore ^b		at-sea	shore ^b		at-sea	shore ^b
Pacific cod	14,403,925	4,738	556	4,759,683	5,267	0	24,982,603	7,288	285	44,146,211	17,293	841
Walleye pollock	16,422,471	16,769	74,198	100,967	0	0	20,179,316	52	2	36,702,754	16,821	74,200
Skate Unidentified	1,166,087	2,783	2,849	7,396	3,400	0	9,281	3,370	200	1,182,764	9,553	3,049
Arrowtooth Flounder	265,347	9,316	13,406	748	970	0	106,057	1,517	5	372,152	11,803	13,411
Capelin	240,549	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	240,549	0	0
Black Rockfish	85,387	0	0	46,952	0	0	8,926	0	0	141,265	0	0
Flathead Sole	48,672	90	3,665	825	0	0	79,631	440	0	129,128	530	3,665
Rock Sole	70,264	0	140	0	0	0	37,196	24	607	107,460	24	747
Octopus	55,538	38	0	979	20	0	425	16,850	59	56,942	16,908	59
Eulachon	22,677	20,000	3,066	0	0	0	0	0	0	22,677	20,000	3,066
Lingcod	21,502	42	0	969	0	0	0	0	0	22,471	42	0
Sablefish	20,938	932	6	4	1,057	0	1,404	357	0	22,346	2,346	6
Dusky Rockfish	17,910	0	53	50	0	0	7	3	0	17,967	3	53
Pacific Ocean Perch	11,606	72,139	0	0	0	0	67	0	0	11,673	72,139	0
Pacific Herring	8,508	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	93	8,508	0	93
Grenadier Unidentified	5,064	2,960	0	0	0	0	0	126	0	5,064	3,086	0
Squid Unidentified	4,259	235	45	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,259	235	45
Rex Sole	2,794	1	170	29	0	0	1,379	0	0	4,202	1	170
Yelloweye Rockfish	1,687	0	0	1,014	0	0	1,033	166	39	3,734	166	39
Starry Flounder	3,356	0	0	7	0	0	35	0	0	3,398	0	0
Butter Sole	271	0	0	0	0	0	2,895	0	0	3,166	0	0
Lumpsucker Unidentified	1,762	38	0	0	0	0	846	0	348	2,608	38	348
Chum Salmon	2,535	10	1,192	0	0	0	0	0	1,568	2,535	10	2,760
Rougheye Rockfish	2,176	70	0	152	1	0	12	24	0	2,340	95	0
Chinook Salmon	2,167	13	2,229	0	0	57	0	4	3,640	2,167	17	5,926
Shark Unidentified	1,022	3,315	51	0	0	0	54	400	2,321	1,076	3,715	2,372
Greenland Turbot	0	0	0	0	0	0	915	17	0	915	17	0
Sculpin Unidentified	128	482	0	10	1,416	0	366	9,704	113	504	11,602	113
Shorthead Rockfish	479	1	0	0	0	0	7	7	0	486	8	0
Pacific Sleeper Shark	423	54,495	0	0	62,929	0	0	19,857	0	423	137,281	0
Spiny Dogfish	369	5,335	0	0	146	0	0	91	0	369	5,572	0
Northern Rockfish	321	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	321	0	0
Yellowtail Rockfish	233	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	233	0	0
Other (13 different species)	219	0	0	8	0	0	301	6,860	17	824	20,841	23
Total	32,890,646	193,802	101,626	4,919,793	75,206	57	45,412,756	67,157	9,297	83,223,491	350,146	110,986

^a Includes prohibited species, forage fish, and other species utilized in the production of fish meal. Harvest does not include discards.

^b Discarded on shore after delivery, before processing.

Table 2. Groundfish emergency orders issued for the Kodiak, Chignik, and South Alaska Peninsula Areas, 2003.

Emergency Order	Effective Date	Explanation
4-GF-01-03	January 1, 2003	Established commercial groundfish fishing seasons and bycatch limits for species managed by the state of Alaska in the Kodiak, Chignik, South Alaska Peninsula, Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands and Chukchi-Beaufort Areas.
4-GF-02-03	February 16, 2003	Opened the Kodiak Area state-waters Pacific cod season.
4-GF-03-03	February 24, 2003	Opened the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters Pacific cod season.
4-GF-05-03	March 3, 2003	Closed the Kodiak Area state-waters Pacific cod fishery to pot gear.
4-GF-06-03	March 11, 2003	Closed the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters Pacific cod fishery to pot gear.
4-GF-07-03	April 11, 2003	Closed the Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod fishery to pot gear.
4-GF-08-03	April 22, 2003	Closed the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters Pacific cod fishery to jig gear.
4-GF-09-03	May 9, 2003	Closed the Kodiak Area state-waters Pacific cod fishery to jig gear.
4-GF-10-03	May 16, 2003	Closed the Northeast District of the Kodiak Area to directed black rockfish fishing.
4-GF-11-03	June 4, 2003	Closed the Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod fishery to jig gear.
4-GF-12-03	September 10, 2003	Prohibited the retention of Pacific cod while IFQ halibut fishing in state waters.

Note: Emergency order number 4-GF-04-03 was issued for groundfish fisheries in the Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands Area.

Table 3. Catch, effort, value and average weight from the Westward Region state-waters Pacific cod fisheries, 1997-2003.

Year	Vessels ^a	Landings	GHL ^b	Pounds harvested	Avg. Price/Pound	Fishery value	Avg. Weight (lbs.)
<u>Kodiak Area</u>							
1997	105	710	8.5	7,600,571	\$0.25	\$1,838,224	9.1
1998	129	979	8.1	8,279,269	\$0.21	\$1,827,682	8.5
1999	179	1,284	11.7	10,781,817	\$0.37	\$3,787,178	8.1
2000	216	1,824	12.0	8,635,207	\$0.39	\$3,310,348	7.5
2001	109	732	10.6	5,033,781	\$0.32	\$1,523,680	7.0
2002	86	537	8.7	8,825,851	\$0.41	\$3,618,599	7.8
2003	130	838	8.0	8,155,331	\$0.30	\$2,446,599	7.8
<u>Chignik Area</u>							
1997	12	74	5.9	1,143,261	\$0.18	\$204,114	7.5
1998	44	297	5.7	5,609,498	\$0.20	\$960,273	6.3
1999	43	450	8.2	6,454,215	\$0.32	\$1,939,442	6.4
2000	22	158	6.7	1,775,779	\$0.31	\$533,118	6.1
2001	34	192	6.0	4,467,571	\$0.26	\$678,289	7.9
2002	24	189	4.9	4,145,594	\$0.20	\$844,717	6.9
2003	29	257	4.5	4,467,571	\$0.27	\$1,206,244	7.0
<u>South Alaska Peninsula Area</u>							
1997	88	642	9.4	9,370,498	\$0.19	\$1,885,359	7.0
1998	69	421	9.0	8,639,769	\$0.17	\$1,462,810	7.3
1999	75	552	13.0	11,880,116	\$0.29	\$3,421,304	11.3
2000	94	671	15.1	15,133,686	\$0.40	\$4,935,386	6.8
2001	127	727	13.4	11,560,663	\$0.27	\$3,559,141	7.2
2002	109	578	12.4	12,713,370	\$0.23	\$2,849,600	6.7
2003	96	604	11.4	11,560,663	\$0.23	\$2,658,952	6.9
<u>Westward Region Total</u>							
1997	205	1,426	23.8	18,114,330	\$0.22	\$3,927,697	
1998	242	1,697	22.8	22,528,536	\$0.19	\$4,250,765	
1999	297	2,286	32.9	29,116,148	\$0.31	\$9,147,924	
2000	332	2,653	33.8	25,544,672	\$0.34	\$8,778,852	
2001	270	1,651	30.0	21,062,015	\$0.27	\$5,761,110	
2002	219	1,304	26.0	25,684,815	\$0.28	\$7,312,916	
2003	253	1,699	23.9	24,183,565	\$0.26	\$6,311,795	

^a Some vessels used both gear types.

^b Guideline harvest level in millions of pounds.

Table 4. Kodiak Area state-waters Pacific cod fishery openings, 1997-2003.

	Pot Gear	Jig Gear
1997	<p><i>Fishery Dates:</i> April 4 - May 4 September 1 - September 30 October 28 - December 31</p> <p><i>Management Actions:</i> September 1 - reopened to pot gear October 31 allocation rollover - gear limits, exclusive registration area lifted.</p>	<p>April 4 - December 31 October 28- December 31</p>
1998	<p><i>Fishery Dates:</i> March 17 - April 27 September 1 - December 31</p> <p><i>Management Actions:</i> September 1 - reopened to pot gear October 31 vessel size limit - gear limits, exclusive registration area lifted.</p>	<p>March 17 - December 31</p>
1999	<p><i>Fishery Dates:</i> March 21 - April 27 October 6 - December 31</p> <p><i>Management Actions:</i> October 6 - reopen to pot gear. (following CGOA opening) October 31 - gear limits lifted, exclusive registration area lifted.</p>	<p>March 21 - August 31 October 6 - December 31</p>
2000	<p><i>Fishery Dates:</i> March 11 - December 31</p> <p><i>Management Actions:</i> October 31 - limits on pots, jigs, and vessel size removed, exclusive registration area lifted.</p>	<p>March 11 - December 31</p>
2001	<p><i>Fishery Dates:</i> March 11 - December 31</p> <p><i>Management Actions:</i> September 1 - reopen to pot gear. October 31 - limits on pots, jigs, and vessel size removed, exclusive registration area lifted.</p>	<p>March 11 - December 31</p>
2002	<p><i>Fishery Dates:</i> March 16 - May 4 September 1 - December 31</p> <p><i>Management Actions:</i> September 1 - reopen to pot gear. October 31 - limits on pots, jigs, and vessel size removed, exclusive registration area lifted.</p>	<p>March 16 - December 31</p>
2003	<p><i>Fishery Dates:</i> February 16 - March 2</p> <p><i>Management Actions:</i> Fishery closed when GHJ allocations were attained.</p>	<p>February 16 - May 9</p>

Table 5. Catch and effort by gear type from the Kodiak Area state-waters Pacific cod fishery, 1997-2003.

Year	Gear	Vessels	Landings	Pounds	Price per pound
1997	Jig	73	481	1,972,638	\$0.26
	Pot	40	231	5,522,243	\$0.24
1998	Jig	91	663	2,114,833	\$0.20
	Pot	52	317	6,385,069	\$0.22
1999	Jig	119	794	2,294,870	\$0.40
	Pot	81	465	8,438,912	\$0.34
2000	Jig	146	1,227	2,814,748	\$0.40
	Pot	69	482	5,748,549	\$0.38
2001	Jig	70	433	1,254,910	\$0.34
	Pot	36	239	3,656,702	\$0.30
2002	Jig	51	340	1,389,838	\$0.38
	Pot	33	212	7,436,013	\$0.44
2003	Jig	102	689	3,196,069	\$0.27
	Pot	42	149	4,959,262	\$0.32

Table 6. Catch by statistical area from the state-waters Pacific cod fishery in the Kodiak Area, 2003.

Statistical Area	Pounds	Vessels	Landings ^a
515801	497,482	19	49
525701	115,980	20	29
525703	103,283	5	8
525731	488,755	41	114
525733	1,145,544	63	380
525802	132,818	4	5
525803	82,541	5	7
525805	8,083	5	7
525806	412,157	27	48
535631	162,497	10	23
535633	48,681	4	4
535634	389,263	6	15
535703	137,846	6	22
535732	829,806	35	58
535733	180,167	6	11
535734	122,782	7	12
535803	548,747	20	36
545632	929,169	9	23
545633	74,123	3	6
545701	359,262	3	8
545733	486,980	6	14
545734	169,506	5	7
Other ^b	729,859	11	27
Total	8,155,331		

^a Some landings involve multiple statistical areas.

^b Total of 6 statistical areas, combined due to confidentiality.

Table 7. Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod fishery openings, 1997-2003.

	Pot Gear	Jig Gear
	<i>Fishery Dates:</i>	
1997	April 15 - June 15 August 1 - September 30 October 28- December 31	April 15 - June 15 August 1 - September 30 October 28- December 31
	<i>Management Actions:</i> October 31 allocation rollover-vessel size limit, gear limits, exclusive registration area lifted.	
	<i>Fishery Dates:</i>	
1998	April 1 - April 26	April 1- April 26 May 20 - December 31
	<i>Management Actions:</i> May 20 reopened to jig gear. October 31 allocation rollover - gear limits lifted.	
	<i>Fishery Dates:</i>	
1999	April 15 - September 1 October 5 - December 31	April 21 - September 1 October 5 - December 31
	<i>Management Actions:</i> October 31 allocation rollover - limits on number of pots, jigs, and vessel size removed, exclusive area designation lifted.	
	<i>Fishery Dates:</i>	
2000	April 15 - December 31	April 15 - December 31
	<i>Management Actions:</i> October 31 - limits on number of pots, jigs, and vessel size removed.	
	<i>Fishery Dates:</i>	
2001	March 11 - December 31	March 11 - December 31
	<i>Management Actions:</i> October 31 - limits on number of pots, jigs, and vessel size removed.	
	<i>Fishery Dates:</i>	
2002	March 1 - December 31	March 1 - December 31
	<i>Management Actions:</i> October 31 - limits on number of pots, jigs, and vessel size removed.	
	<i>Fishery Dates:</i>	
2003	March 1 - April 11	March 1 - June 4
	<i>Management Actions:</i> Fishery closed when GHM allocations were attained.	

Table 8. Catch and effort by gear type from the Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod fishery, 1997-2003.

Year	Gear	Vessels	Landings	Pounds	Price per pound
1997	Jig	4	14	35,002	\$0.18
	Pot	10	60	1,098,970	\$0.18
1998	Jig	11	59	167,283	\$0.22
	Pot	33	230	5,130,396	\$0.18
1999	Jig	11	56	218,408	\$0.34
	Pot	33	397	6,217,279	\$0.30
2000	Jig	5	12	38,453	\$0.31
	Pot	19	150	1,737,326	\$0.30
2001	Jig	15	57	287,106	\$0.25
	Pot	16	123	2,332,744	\$0.26
2002	Jig	13	59	320,339	\$0.20
	Pot	12	139	3,903,246	\$0.20
2003	Jig	16	106	433,067	\$0.27
	Pot	15	151	4,034,504	\$0.27

Table 9. Catch by statistical area from the state-waters Pacific cod fishery in the Chignik Area, 2003.

Statistical Area	Pounds	Vessels	Landings ^b
575634	193,456	4	8
585531	1,494,934	7	41
585601	1,911,880	19	167
595531	853,065	11	41
Other ^a	14,236	3	4
Total	4,467,571		

^a Total of 3 statistical areas, combined due to confidentiality.

^b Some landings involve multiple statistical areas.

Table 10. South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters Pacific cod fishery openings, 1997-2003.

	Pot Gear	Jig Gear
1997	<i>Fishery Dates:</i>	
	April 4 -December 22	April 4 -December 22
	<i>Management Actions:</i> October 31 allocation rollover- vessel size limit, gear limits, exclusive registration area lifted.	
1998	<i>Fishery Dates:</i>	
	March 10 - April 14	March 10 - October 9
	<i>Management Actions:</i> October 31 allocation rollover- No action taken; federal WGOA reopened Oct. 9 - Dec 31.	
1999	<i>Fishery Dates:</i>	
	March 15 - April 11 October 31- December 31	March 15 - December 31
	<i>Management Actions:</i> October 31 allocation rollover- Reopened to pot gear. November 10- Number of pots and jig machine limits lifted.	
2000	<i>Fishery Dates:</i>	
	March 11 - April 8	March 11 - September 19
	<i>Management Actions:</i> Fishery closed when GHL allocations were attained.	
2001	<i>Fishery Dates:</i>	
	March 6 - April 13	March 6 - June 12
	<i>Management Actions:</i> Fishery closed when GHL allocations were attained.	
2002	<i>Fishery Dates:</i>	
	March 5 - March 24	March 5 - April 26
	<i>Management Actions:</i> Fishery closed when GHL allocations were attained.	
2003	<i>Fishery Dates:</i>	
	February 24 - March 11	February 24 - April 22
	<i>Management Actions:</i> Fishery closed when GHL allocations were attained.	

Table 11. Catch and effort by gear type from the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters Pacific cod fishery, 1997-2003.

Year	Gear	Vessels	Landings	Pounds	Price per pound
1997	Jig	45	179	349,119	\$0.18
	Pot	56	494	9,112,587	\$0.20
1998	Jig	28	124	437,708	\$0.16
	Pot	51	309	8,192,803	\$0.17
1999	Jig	27	166	706,951	\$0.28
	Pot	53	388	11,115,028	\$0.29
2000	Jig	28	145	757,953	\$0.48
	Pot	67	505	14,286,151	\$0.32
2001	Jig	69	416	3,034,026	\$0.28
	Pot	55	311	10,421,593	\$0.26
2002	Jig	70	324	2,065,554	\$0.24
	Pot	50	277	10,699,395	\$0.22
2003	Jig	65	413	3,633,007	\$0.24
	Pot	41	191	7,927,656	\$0.22

Table 12. Catch by statistical area from the state-waters Pacific cod fishery in the South Alaska Peninsula Area, 2003.

Statistical Area	Pounds	Vessels	Landings ^a
595432	787,882	18	43
595433	32,536	3	3
595434	1,059,241	26	104
595502	703,410	17	32
595503	746,370	12	28
605432	1,259,104	19	45
605501	582,400	21	34
605502	1,053,851	13	38
605504	1,064,568	44	140
605507	199,010	6	15
625401	1,013,302	9	24
625501	23,841	3	6
635432	198,110	8	18
635434	1,951,043	15	64
635436	31,557	3	4
Other ^b	854,438	12	28
Total	11,560,663		

^a Some landings involve multiple statistical areas.

^b Total of 10 statistical areas.

Table 13. Catch and effort, Kodiak Area black rockfish fishery, 1990-2003.

Year	Vessels	Landings	Directed GHL	Total Harvest	Price per pound
1990	12	NA	NA	66,703	\$0.22
1991	58	NA	NA	868,560	\$0.29
1992	45	NA	NA	487,251	\$0.25
1993	18	NA	NA	107,831	\$0.22
1994	19	NA	NA	128,508	\$0.25
1995	41	NA	NA	315,682	\$0.36
1996	52	NA	NA	312,035	\$0.32
1997	65	NA	NA	224,050	\$0.27
1998	74	277	190,000	200,193	\$0.32
1999	92	320	185,000	135,601	\$0.40
2000	95	346	185,000	256,267	\$0.41
2001	55	236	185,000	225,877	\$0.40
2002	26	121	185,000	204,565	\$0.43
2003	50	108	185,000	85,387	\$0.36

Table 14. Catch and effort, Chignik Area black rockfish fishery, 1990-2003.

Year	Vessels	Landings	Directed GHL	Total Harvest	Price per pound
1990	0	0	NA	0	NA
1991	0	0	NA	0	NA
1992	0	0	NA	0	NA
1993	4	NA	NA	312	\$0.26
1994	0	0	NA	0	NA
1995	12	NA	NA	28,665	NA
1996	12	NA	NA	201,825	NA
1997	10	NA	NA	80,742	NA
1998	15	30	100,000	87,774	\$0.23
1999	15	41	100,000	11,437	\$0.25
2000	13	24	100,000	95,747	\$0.41
2001	14	35	100,000	102,904	\$0.35
2002	7	13	100,000	81,043	\$0.41
2003	15	46	100,000	46,952	\$0.39

Table 15. Catch and effort, South Alaska Peninsula, Eastern District, black rockfish fishery, 1990-2003.

Year	Vessels	Landings	Directed GHL	Total Harvest	Price per pound
1990	*** ^a	NA	NA	*** ^a	NA
1991	6 ^a	NA	NA	145 ^a	NA
1992	0	0	NA	0	NA
1993	*** ^b	NA	NA	*** ^b	NA
1994	*** ^b	NA	NA	2,118 ^b	NA
1995	14	NA	NA	120,974	NA
1996	26	NA	NA	164,051	NA
1997	15	NA	NA	110,912	NA
1998	18	277	100,000	90,135	\$0.23
1999	23	320	100,000	55,441	\$0.37
2000	27	346	100,000	94,882	\$0.35
2001	32	85	100,000	101,636	\$0.35
2002	9	29	100,000	102,939	\$0.32
2003	10	12	100,000	8,926	\$0.24

^a South Alaska Peninsula data from 1990 and 1991 combined to maintain confidentiality.

^b South Alaska Peninsula data from 1993 and 1994 combined to maintain confidentiality.

NA = Not Available

Table 16. Black rockfish harvest from the Kodiak, Chignik, and South Alaska Peninsula Areas, 2003.

Area/District	Guideline Harvest Level	Total Harvest ^a	Directed Fishery Closure Date	Pounds	
				Directed Harvest ^b	Incidental Harvest
Kodiak Area					
Afognak	35,000	24,450	Dec. 31	22,894	1,556
Northeast	20,000	24,612	May 16	24,439	173
Eastside	30,000	21,369	Dec. 31	21,362	7
Southeast	30,000	14,860	Dec. 31	14,710	150
Southwest	20,000	44	Dec. 31	0	44
Westside	30,000	23	Dec. 31	13	10
Mainland	20,000	29	Dec. 31	0	29
Total (Kodiak Area)	185,000	85,387	Dec. 31	83,418	1,969
Chignik Area					
Sutwik Island	45,000 ^c	336	Dec. 31	0	336
Chignik Bay	45,000 ^c	28,029	Dec. 31	18,236	9,793
Mitrofanina	45,000 ^c	18,587	Dec. 31	1,637	16,950
Total (Chignik Area)	100,000	46,952			
South Alaska Peninsula Area^d	100,000	8,926	Dec. 31	5,526	3,405

^a Includes incidental harvest.

^b Based on vessel being registered for directed fishing, not actual pounds landed.

^c Each district in the Chignik Area is capped at \leq to 45,000 pounds; the total GHF is 100,000 pounds for the area.

^d Harvest only from Eastern District of the South Alaska Peninsula Area.

Table 17. Harvest, vessels, and landings by statistical area from the black rockfish fisheries in the Kodiak, Chignik, and South Alaska Peninsula Areas, 2003.

Stat area	Pounds	Vessels	Landings
Kodiak Area			
515801	3,551	6	7
525703	14,232	3	5
525731	13,870	7	17
525733	8,535	14	26
525805	2,587	5	7
525806	16,917	7	13
525834	38	3	3
535803	48	3	3
Other ^a	25,609	22	35
Total	85,387		
Chignik Area			
565634	251	3	4
585531	18,569	4	10
585601	28,029	9	32
Other ^b	103	4	4
Total	46,952		
South Alaska Peninsula Area			
Other ^c	8,926	10	12
Total	8,926		

^a Total of 28 statistical areas.

^b Total of 4 statistical areas.

^c Total of 16 statistical areas.

Note: Some vessels were used in multiple statistical areas, each statistical area fished is considered as a 'landing' in this table.

Table 18. Harvest of all skate species in hundred-thousand-pound increments from the Central and Western Gulf of Alaska, 1990 - 2003.

Year	NMFS Area	Vessels	Landings	Pounds	State Waters	
					Pounds ^a	%
1990	Central	41	113	3.0	<0.1	<1%
	Western	7	30	0.2	0.0	0%
1991	Central	121	262	4.9	<0.1	<1%
	Western	42	87	0.3	<0.1	<1%
1992	Central	200	493	6.0	0.7	12%
	Western	63	144	0.9	0.2	20%
1993	Central	168	507	5.9	0.5	8%
	Western	26	70	0.0	<0.1	<1%
1994	Central	190	483	5.9	0.5	8%
	Western	30	78	0.0	<0.1	<1%
1995	Central	188	857	17.2	2.4	14%
	Western	40	62	0.0	<0.1	<1%
1996	Central	166	963	31.7	5.3	17%
	Western	38	62	1.0	<0.1	<1%
1997	Central	179	1,274	40.4	7.4	18%
	Western	26	41	0.7	<0.1	<1%
1998	Central	130	677	16.2	1.7	10%
	Western	36	53	0.6	<0.1	<1%
1999	Central	94	477	9.4	0.2	2%
	Western	34	72	0.9	<0.1	<1%
2000	Central	102	852	20.3	0.9	4%
	Western	45	101	2.3	<0.1	<1%
2001	Central	133	805	17.4	1.3	7%
	Western	45	81	0.6	<0.1	<1%
2002	Central	97	611	15.9	0.7	4%
	Western	46	91	2.1	<0.1	<1%
2003	Central	167	959	74.1	11.9	16%
	Western	66	181	3.9	0.1	3%

^aTotal for all gear types.

Table 19. Skate utilization from the Kodiak Area during parallel and federal seasons, 1994-2003.

	Product ^a	Fishmeal	Discards		Total ^b
			At-Sea	Dockside	
Longline Gear					
1994	Confidential	NA	28,256	0	28,256
1995	239,277	NA	26,266	37,840	64,106
1996	124,080	NA	12,024	14,655	26,679
1997	196,574	NA	6,404	24,275	30,679
1998	4,567	0	6,004	Confidential	6,004
1999	25,110	Confidential	47,844	0	47,844
2000	47,186	7,050	131,470	7,020	145,540
2001	186,399	5,363	35,532	56,862	97,757
2002	79,357	0	55,632	15,292	70,924
2003	3,556,460	984	141,090	12,496	3,711,030
Trawl Gear					
1994	74,767	NA	363,122	6,758	444,647
1995	418,874	NA	629,595	140,330	1,188,799
1996	1,748,717	NA	646,486	247,154	2,642,357
1997	2,371,302	NA	465,915	620,335	3,457,552
1998	478,188	55,416	698,581	200,052	1,432,237
1999	111,419	51,830	442,583	6,976	612,808
2000	941,246	191,446	472,525	74,781	1,679,998
2001	571,848	49,793	690,597	92,351	1,404,589
2002	1,045,855	42,844	172,816	90,091	1,351,606
2003	3,306,177	63,183	159,544	59,908	3,588,812
Total ^c					
1994	74,767	NA	391,378	6,758	472,903
1995	658,151	NA	655,861	178,170	1,252,905
1996	1,872,797	NA	658,510	261,809	2,669,036
1997	2,567,876	NA	472,319	644,610	3,488,231
1998	482,755	55,416	704,585	200,052	1,438,241
1999	136,529	51,830	490,427	6,976	660,652
2000	988,432	198,496	603,995	81,801	1,825,538
2001	758,247	55,156	726,129	149,213	1,502,346
2002	1,125,212	42,844	228,448	105,383	1,422,530
2003	6,862,637	64,167	300,634	72,404	7,299,842

^a Includes skates landed in the round, bled, gutted, and winged.

^b Confidential information not reflected in the totals.

^c Confidential information not reflected in the totals; does not include minor jig and pot gear data.

NA = not available, fish meal and dockside discards in the same category prior to 1998.

Table 20. Skate harvest by gear type from Kodiak Area during parallel seasons 1997-2003.

Year	Gear Type				Total pounds
	Pots	Longline	Trawl	Jig	
1997	0	76,860	639,459	Confidential	716,319
1998	0	5,624	96,842	0	102,466
1999	0	6,973	10,403	0	17,376
2000	Confidential	40,685	32,749	2,555	75,989
2001	0	127,366	3,845	0	131,211
2002	0	29,577	19,759	0	49,336
2003	Confidential	1,161,939	10,331	0	1,172,270

Table 21. Skate harvest by gear type from Chignik Area during parallel seasons, 1997-2003.

Year	Gear Type				Total pounds ^a
	Pots	Longline	Trawl	Jig	
1997	0	Confidential	2,942	0	2,942
1998	0	0	3,414	0	3,414
1999	0	465	156	0	621
2000	0	9,247	0	0	9,247
2001	0	1,595	Confidential	0	1,595
2002	0	17,824	0	0	17,824
2003	0	12,035	0	0	12,035

^a Does not include confidential harvest information.

Table 22. Skate harvest by gear type from South Alaska Peninsula Area during parallel fishery seasons, 1997 - 2003.

Year	Gear Type				Total pounds ^a
	Pots	Longline	Trawl	Jig	
1997	0	Confidential	Confidential	0	Confidential
1998	0	0	1,081	0	1,081
1999	0	Confidential	1,529	0	1,529
2000	0	2,756	6,309	0	9,065
2001	0	3,224	5,477	0	8,701
2002	0	2,355	2,505	0	4,860
2003	0	12,383	12,871	0	25,254

^a Does not include confidential harvest information.

Table 23. Lingcod harvest by gear type from the Kodiak, Chignik, and South Alaska Peninsula Areas, 1988-2003.

Year	Gear type ^a				Total ^b
	Jig	Longline	Pot	Trawl	
1988	Confidential	43	0	Confidential	136,294
1989	Confidential	0	0	14,324	N/A
1990	1,418	Confidential	Confidential	8,839	11,846
1991	8,375	501	Confidential	739	N/A
1992	5,569	4,269	Confidential	10,959	N/A
1993	Confidential	Confidential	0	4,778	N/A
1994	4,820	803	0	Confidential	N/A
1995	34,573	3,567	Confidential	1,996	N/A
1996	43,403	7,898	0	10,929	62,230
1997	12,637	6,499	Confidential	5,267	N/A
1998	5,756	1,771	200	3,514	11,241
1999	1,358	4,294	11,216	5,003	21,870
2000	3,400	8,993	3,280	4,511	20,184
2001	527	6,753	Confidential	7,272	N/A
2002	6,132	7,645	2,856	7,750	18,281
2003	Confidential	10,973	0	11,269	N/A

^a Some confidential harvest occurred in 1992 with sunken gill net gear.

^b Some totals not available (N/A) due to confidentiality restrictions.

Table 24. Lingcod harvest from the Kodiak, Chignik, and South Alaska Peninsula Areas, 1988-2003.

Year	Kodiak	Chignik	South Alaska Peninsula	Total ^a Pounds
1988	136,294	0	0	136,294
1989	13,888	Confidential	Confidential	N/A
1990	11,846	0	0	11,846
1991	9,959	Confidential	0	N/A
1992	19,868	Confidential	Confidential	N/A
1993	4,739	Confidential	Confidential	N/A
1994	5,952	0	0	5,952
1995	33,826	2,813	4,640	41,279
1996	55,000	7,106	Confidential	N/A
1997	28,654	Confidential	0	N/A
1998	11,185	Confidential	Confidential	11,241
1999	21,560	Confidential	Confidential	21,870
2000	17,013	Confidential	Confidential	20,184
2001	20,328	Confidential	Confidential	N/A
2002	18,234	0	0	18,281
2003	21,502	969	0	22,471

^a Some totals not available (N/A) due to confidentiality restrictions.

Table 25. Pacific cod harvest in millions of pounds from the Central and Western Gulf of Alaska, 1989 - 2003.

Year	NMFS Area	Vessels	Landings	Pounds	State Waters	
					Pounds ^a	%
1989	Central	220	1,424	60.0	4.4	7%
	Western	141	607	32.1	8.6	27%
1990	Central	476	2,983	90.9	11.5	13%
	Western	162	989	86.0	13.1	15%
1991	Central	627	3,314	92.2	17.6	19%
	Western	280	1,379	76.5	4.2	5%
1992	Central	693	3,378	77.3	11.0	14%
	Western	288	1,448	73.6	13.2	18%
1993	Central	465	2,446	62.7	7.9	13%
	Western	166	989	39.9	1.9	5%
1994	Central	430	2,091	56.4	10.2	18%
	Western	209	1,149	32.3	7.4	23%
1995	Central	604	3,109	79.8	17.4	22%
	Western	272	1,141	44.9	9.0	20%
1996	Central	453	2,857	75.5	12.3	16%
	Western	237	1,380	48.9	12.8	26%
1997	Central	695	4,242	86.7	20.4	24%
	Western	284	1,805	67.3	19.5	29%
1998	Central	804	4,776	88.3	21.3	24%
	Western	271	1,702	58.1	17.9	31%
1999	Central	865	5,026	93.9	28.7	31%
	Western	271	1,887	60.9	21.0	34%
2000	Central	860	5,553	70.8	18.9	27%
	Western	282	2,023	61.7	27.9	45%
2001	Central	750	3,983	58.5	12.6	22%
	Western	298	1,973	43.0	19.9	46%
2002	Central	623	3,155	56.8	15.6	27%
	Western	293	1,841	46.6	21.3	46%
2003	Central	652	3,141	60.3	18.2	30%
	Western	280	1,745	43.5	24.9	57%

^aTotal for all gear types, state-managed and parallel fisheries occurring in state waters.

Table 26. Pacific cod harvest by gear type from Kodiak Area during parallel seasons, 1997-2003

Year	Gear Type				Total pounds
	Pots	Longline	Trawl	Jig	
1997	8,686,489	1,894,314	826,568	6,660	11,414,031
1998	5,161,618	2,166,479	661,217	27,246	8,016,560
1999	8,345,293	2,580,282	1,038,009	27,930	11,991,514
2000	4,470,404	3,574,901	242,707	79,365	8,367,377
2001	2,984,716	2,284,404	38,605	22,414	5,330,139
2002	2,528,109	1,312,460	91,794	5,926	3,938,289
2003	3,491,359	2,703,121	43,828	15,580	6,253,888

Table 27. Pacific cod harvest by gear type from Chignik Area during parallel seasons, 1997-2003.

Year	Gear Type				Total pounds ^a
	Pots	Longline	Trawl	Jig	
1997	645,898	3,941	Confidential	0	649,839
1998	477,135	5,197	Confidential	0	482,332
1999	847,858	3,626	Confidential	0	851,484
2000	353,474	46,807	Confidential	0	400,281
2001	163,976	4,063	Confidential	0	168,039
2002	287,238	9,631	0	0	296,869
2003	282,636	14,742	0	0	297,378

^a Does not include confidential harvest information.

Table 28. Pacific cod harvest by gear type from South Alaska Peninsula Areas during parallel seasons, 1997-2003.

Year	Gear Type				Total pounds ^a
	Pots	Longline	Trawl	Jig	
1997	2,239,130	33,360	7,582,194	8,884	9,863,568
1998	4,334,329	522,328	3,738,842	Confidential	8,595,499
1999	3,488,539	36,101	5,121,501	0	8,646,141
2000	6,149,248	242,233	6,248,703	11,499	12,651,683
2001	3,848,344	57,055	1,847,888	340,386	6,093,673
2002	6,307,594	9,225	492,888	418,696	7,228,403
2003	13,163,108	60,629	113,248	92,528	13,429,513

^a Does not include confidential harvest information.

Table 29. Central and Western Gulf of Alaska walleye pollock fishery openings, 1999-2003.

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
<u>Area 630</u>	<u>Area 630</u>	<u>Area 630</u>	<u>Area 630</u>	<u>Area 630</u>
Jan 20 - Jan 27	Jan 20 - Jan 25	Jan 20 - Feb 14	Jan 20 - Jan 21	Jan 20 - Jan 21 , A season
Jun 01 - Jun 10	Mar 15 - Mar 17	Mar 15 - Mar 17	Jan 29 - Jan 30	Feb 13 -Feb 14, A season
Sep 01 - Sep 02	Aug 20 - Aug 29	Aug 20 - Sep 10	Mar 10 - Mar 11	Mar 10 - Mar 10, B season
Sep 14 - Sep 16	Oct 01 - Nov 01	Oct 01 - Nov 01	Mar 19 - Mar 20	Mar 20 -Mar 20, B season
Sep 21 - Sep 24 (39 hours)			Aug 25 - Sep 04	Aug 25 - Aug 27, C season
			Oct 01 - Oct 02	Oct 1 - Oct 2, D season
<u>Area 620</u>	<u>Area 620</u>	<u>Area 620</u>	<u>Area 620</u>	<u>Area 620</u>
Jan 20 - Feb 17	Jan 20 - Jan 27	Jan 20 - Bycatch status only	Jan 20 - Feb 25	Jan 20 - Feb 25, A season
Jun 01 - Jun 11	Mar 15 - Mar 15	Mar 15 - Bycatch status only	Mar 10 - Mar 26	Mar 10 - Apr 3, B season
Sep 01 - Sep 02	Aug 20 - Sep 15	Aug 20 - Sep 15	Aug 25 - Sep 15	Aug 25 - Aug 30, C season
Sep 14 - Oct 01	Oct 01 - Nov 01	Oct 01 - Nov 01	Oct 01 - Nov 01	Oct 1 - Oct 3, D season
Oct 06 - Oct 12				
Oct 14 - Oct 15 (36 hour opening)				
<u>Area 610</u>	<u>Area 610</u>	<u>Area 610</u>	<u>Area 610</u>	<u>Area 610</u>
Jan 20 - Jan 31	Jan 20 - Jan 31	Jan 20 - Jan 29	Jan 20 - Jan 23	Jan 20 - Jan 23, A season
Jun 01 - Jun 07	Mar 15 - Mar 18	Mar 15 - Mar 16	Mar 10 - Mar 12	Mar 10 - Mar 11, B season
Sep 01 (6 hour opening)	Aug 20 - Sep 15	Mar 21 - Mar 21 (12 hour opening)	Aug 25 - Aug 30	Mar 18 - Mar 19, B season
Sep 14 - Sep 20	Oct 01 - Nov 01	Aug 20 - Sep 07	Oct 01 - Oct 05	Mar 26 - Mar 27, B season
Sep 23 (12 hour opening)		Oct 01 - Oct 13		Aug 25 - Aug 30, C season
				Oct 1 - Oct 4 , D season
	<u>Shelikof Strait Harvest Area</u>	<u>Shelikof Strait Harvest Area</u>		
	Jan 20 - Feb 10	Jan 20 - Mar 01		
	Mar 15 - Mar 25	Mar 15 - Mar 31		

Table 30. Walleye pollock harvest in millions of pounds, whole weight, from the Central and Western Gulf of Alaska, 1989-2003.

Year	NMFS Area	Vessels	Landings	Pounds ^a	State Waters	
					Pounds ^a	%
1989	Central	108	660	105.8	14.9	14%
	Western	30	65	30.0	2.9	10%
1990	Central	172	1,371	152.7	6.6	4%
	Western	71	227	22.4	0.9	4%
1991	Central	200	1,282	111.4	14.3	13%
	Western	102	340	70.7	1.1	2%
1992	Central	320	1,739	145.4	7.8	5%
	Western	148	523	39.4	5.9	15%
1993	Central	220	1,576	179.9	28.1	16%
	Western	89	510	45.2	11.5	25%
1994	Central	259	1,515	175.5	66.6	38%
	Western	97	451	47.8	15.0	31%
1995	Central	271	1,079	75.3	9.1	12%
	Western	152	499	66.5	22.6	34%
1996	Central	237	1,145	50.1	12.5	25%
	Western	94	420	53.0	31.3	59%
1997	Central	337	1,867	115.2	34.3	30%
	Western	125	389	63.2	20.0	32%
1998	Central	327	1,954	191.4	60.9	32%
	Western	131	398	65.8	38.4	58%
1999	Central	310	1,559	145.4	37.4	26%
	Western	124	484	53.1	28.1	53%
2000	Central	239	1,398	106.6	4.5	4%
	Western	99	496	47.5	37.4	79%
2001	Central	313	1,531	87.4	18.0	21%
	Western	89	597	64.6	49.8	74%
2002	Central	259	1,176	71.1	30.8	43%
	Western	77	346	39.3	18.7	48%
2003	Central	245	1,032	72.1	16.6	23%
	Western	73	300	37.2	20.2	54%

^aTotal weight for all gear types.

Table 31. Walleye pollock harvest in millions of pounds, whole weight, from Kodiak, Chignik, and South Alaska Peninsula Areas state waters, 1989-2003.

Year	Millions of Pounds		
	Kodiak	Chignik	South Alaska Peninsula
1989	14.9	0	2.9
1990	6.6	Confidential	0.9
1991	14.3	Confidential	1.1
1992	7.7	<0.1	5.9
1993	28.1	Confidential	11.5
1994	64.5	Confidential	15.0
1995	7.4	2.0	22.2
1996	12.0	Confidential	31.3
1997	18.6	15.7	20.0
1998	24.8	36.1	38.4
1999	31.8	5.7	28.0
2000	4.5	Confidential	37.4
2001	17.7	Confidential	49.8
2002	23.1	7.7	18.7
2003	16.4	0.1	20.2

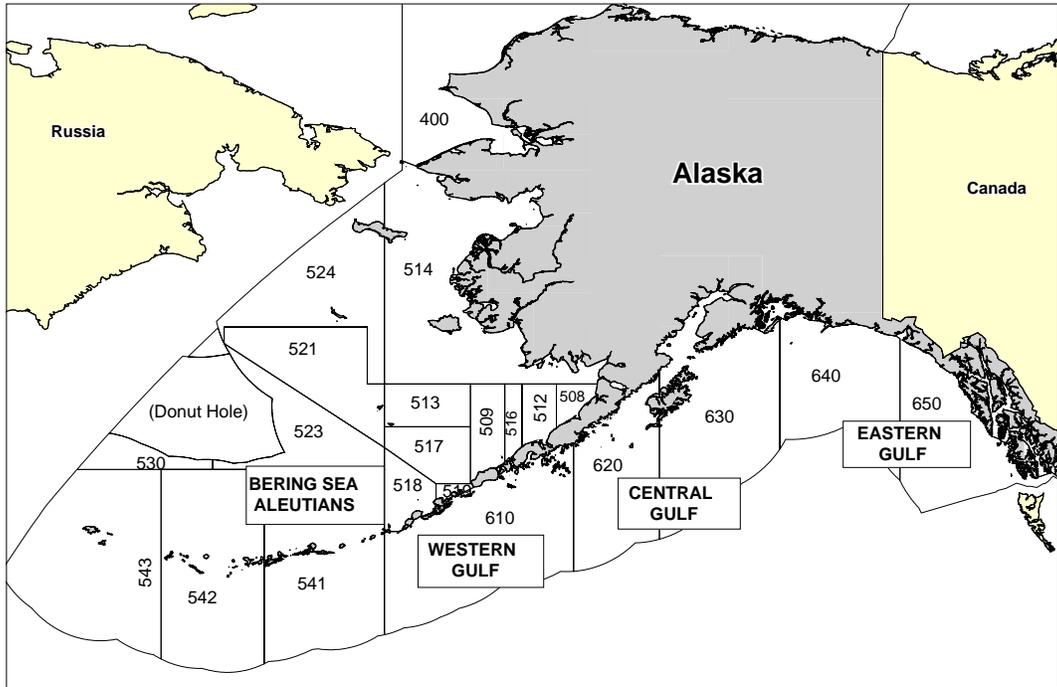


Figure 1. National Marine Fisheries Service statistical and reporting areas.

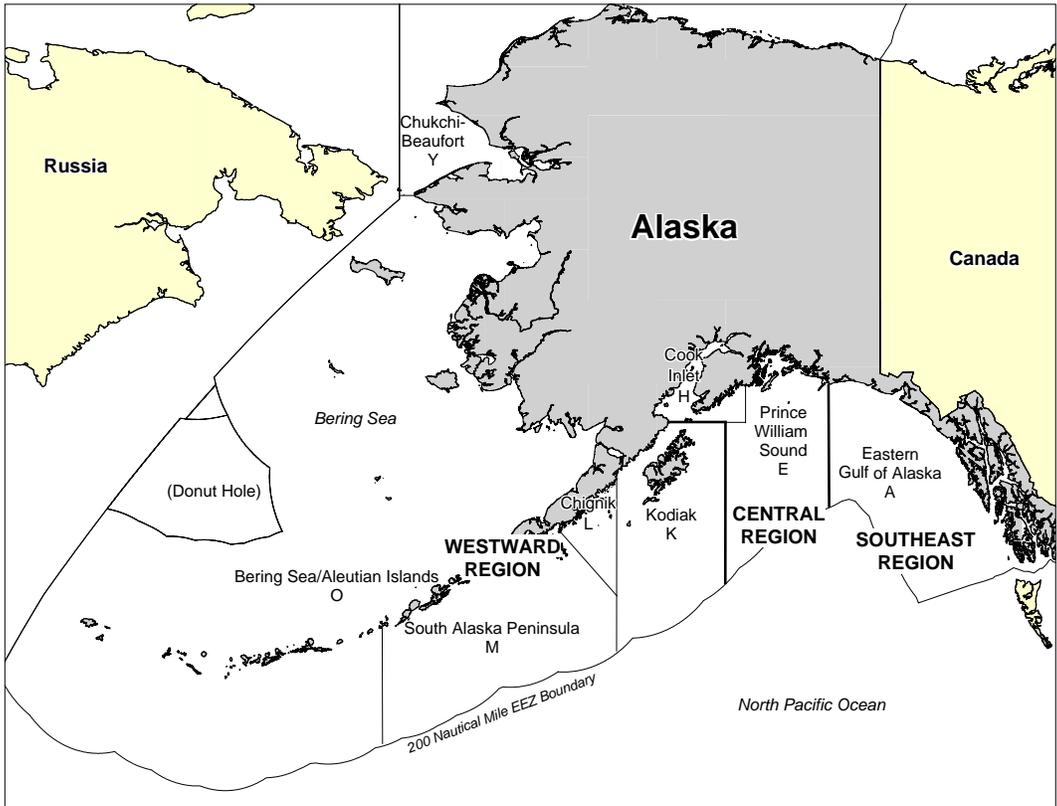


Figure 2. Alaska Department of Fish and Game groundfish registration areas and regions.

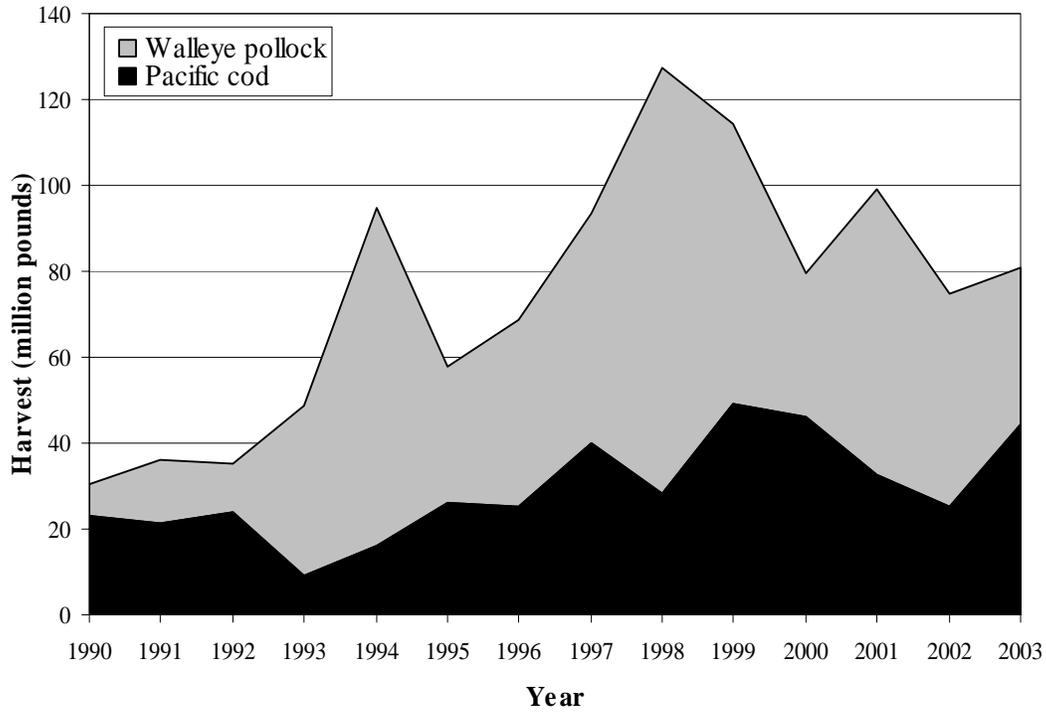


Figure 3. Kodiak, Chignik, and South Alaska Peninsula Areas harvest of Pacific Cod and walleye pollock from state waters, 1990-2003.

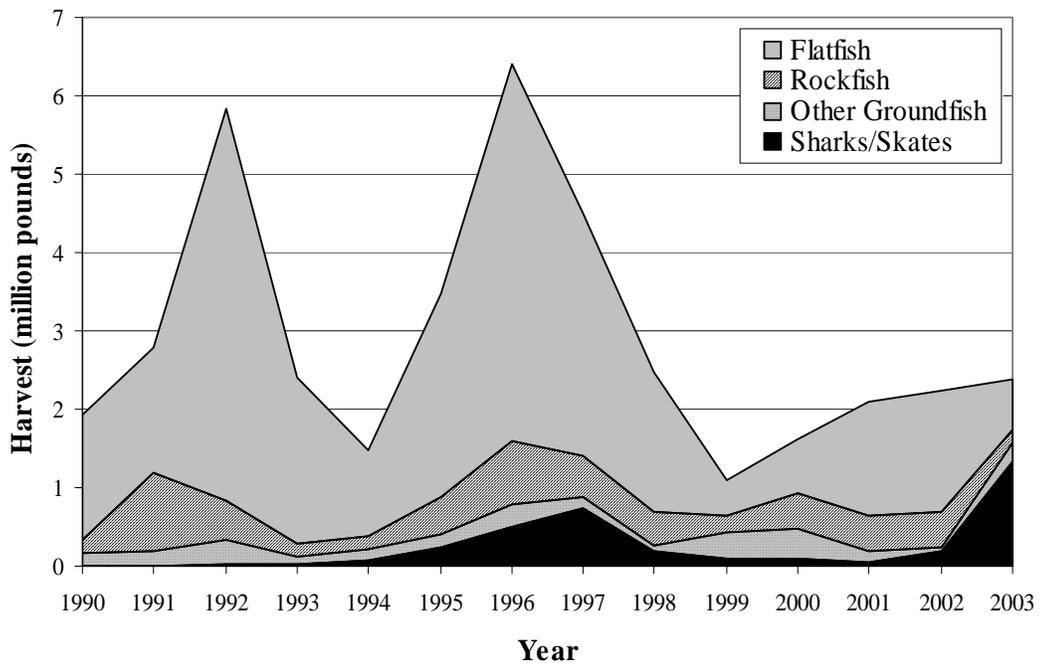


Figure 4. Kodiak, Chignik, and South Alaska Peninsula Areas harvest of flatfish, rockfish, other groundfish and sharks/skates from state waters, 1990-2003.

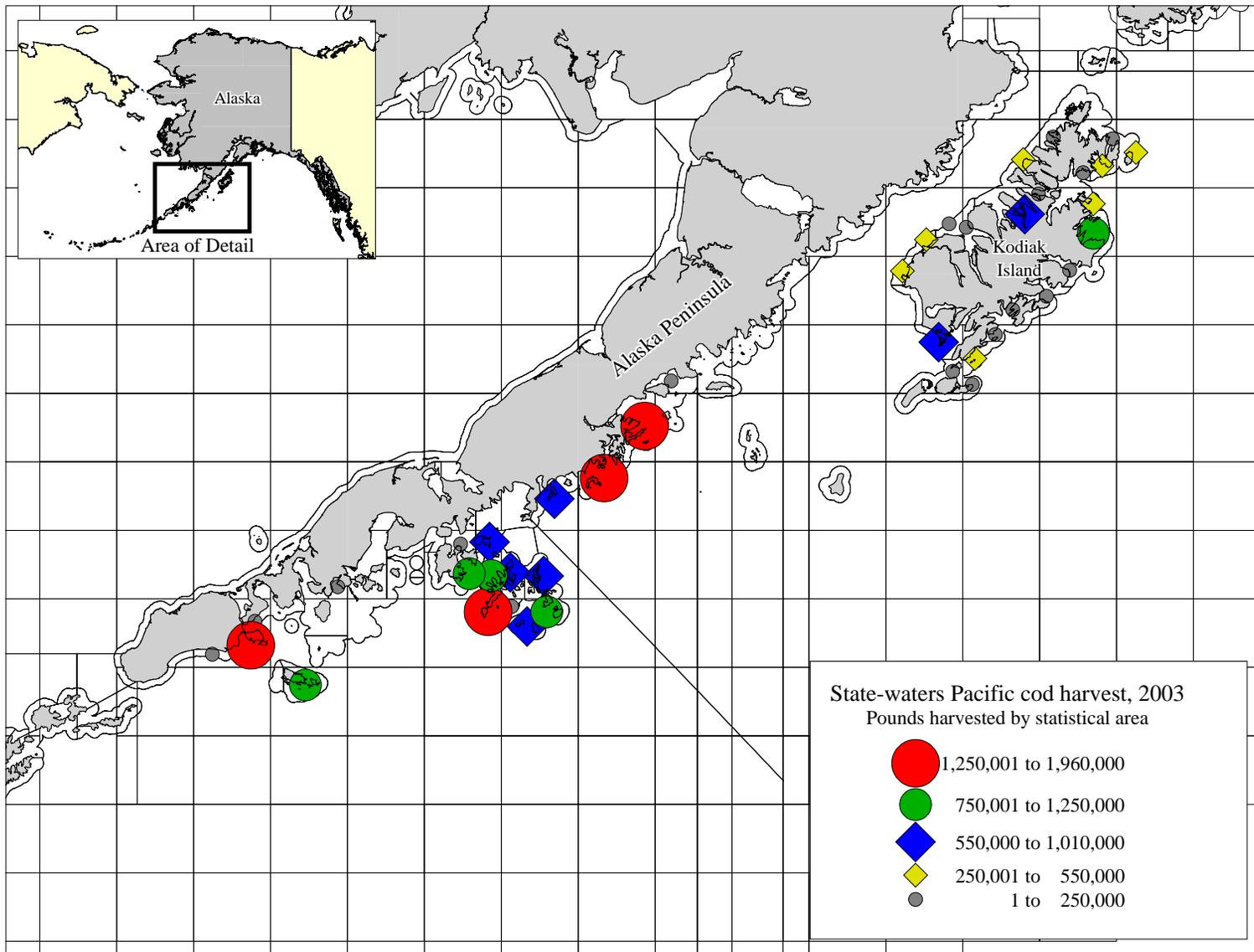


Figure 5. Pacific cod harvest by statistical area from the Kodiak, Chignik, and South Alaska Peninsula Areas state-waters fisheries, 2003.

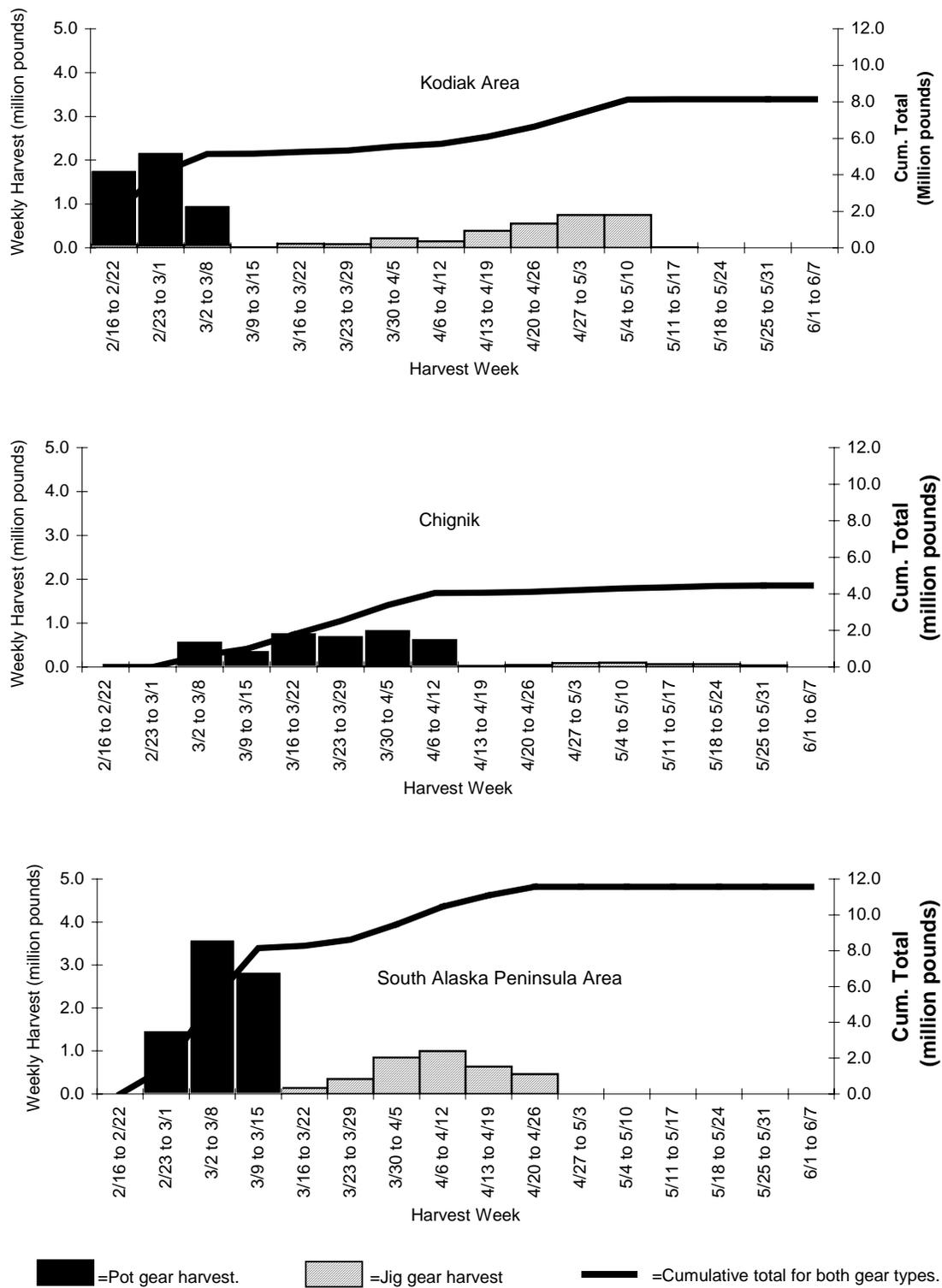


Figure 6. Pacific cod harvest by week and gear type for the Kodiak, Chignik, and South Alaska Peninsula state-waters fisheries, 2003.

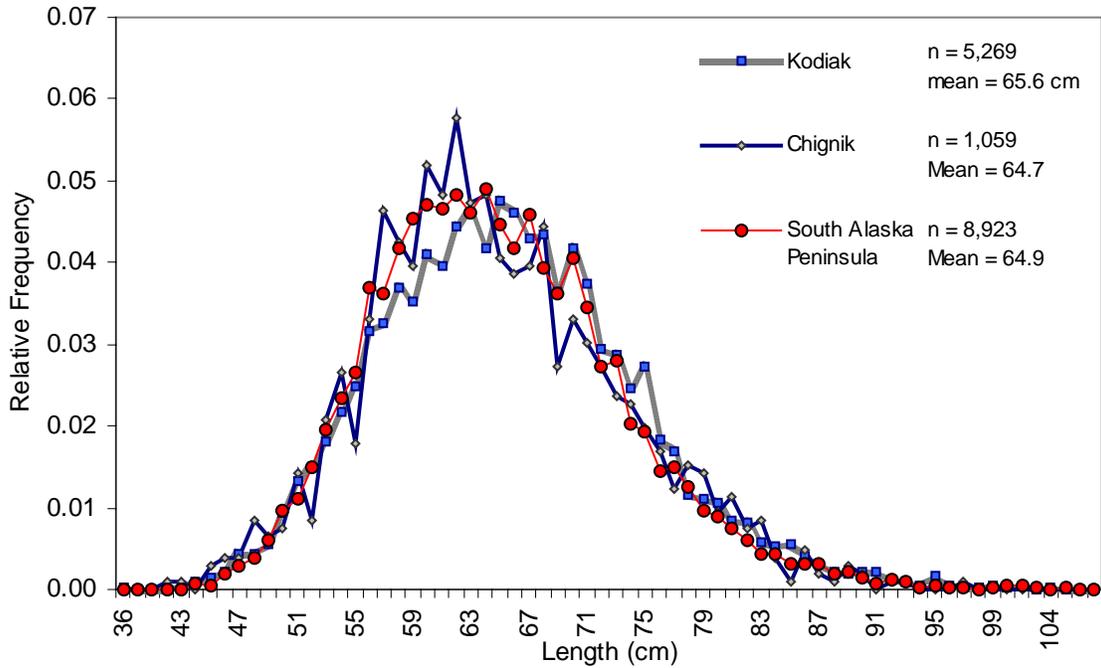


Figure 7. Pacific cod lengths by area collected from the 2003 state-waters fisheries in the Westward Region.

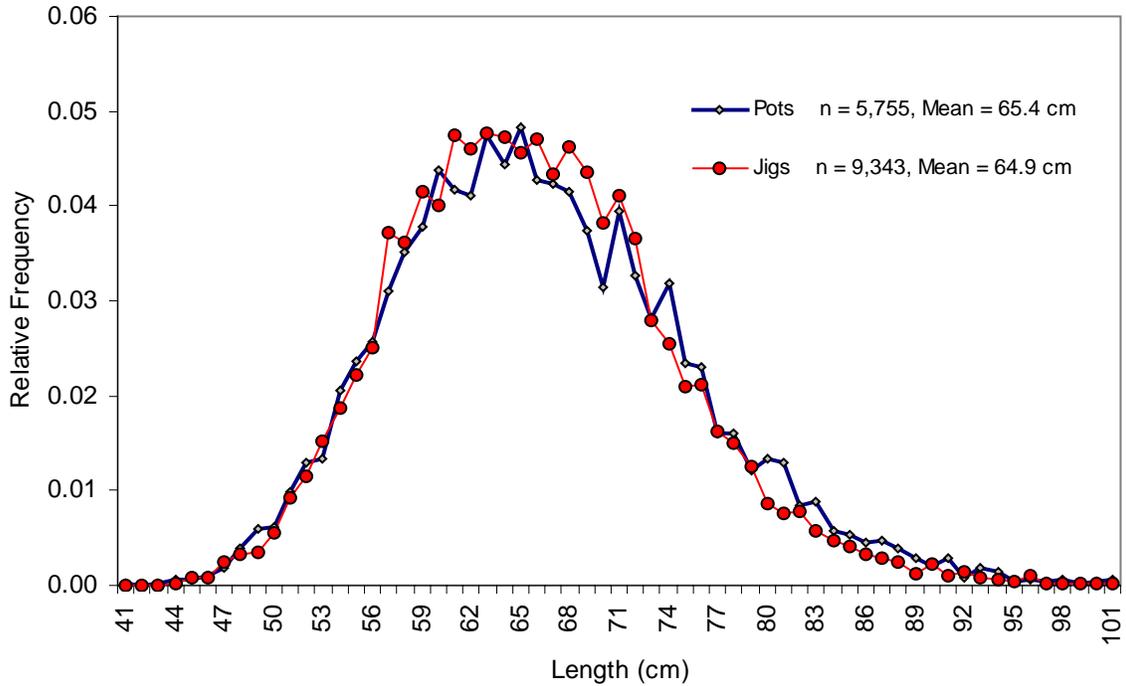


Figure 8. Pacific cod lengths by gear type collected from the 2003 state-waters fisheries in the Westward Region.

Note: Samples without a specific gear type are not included.

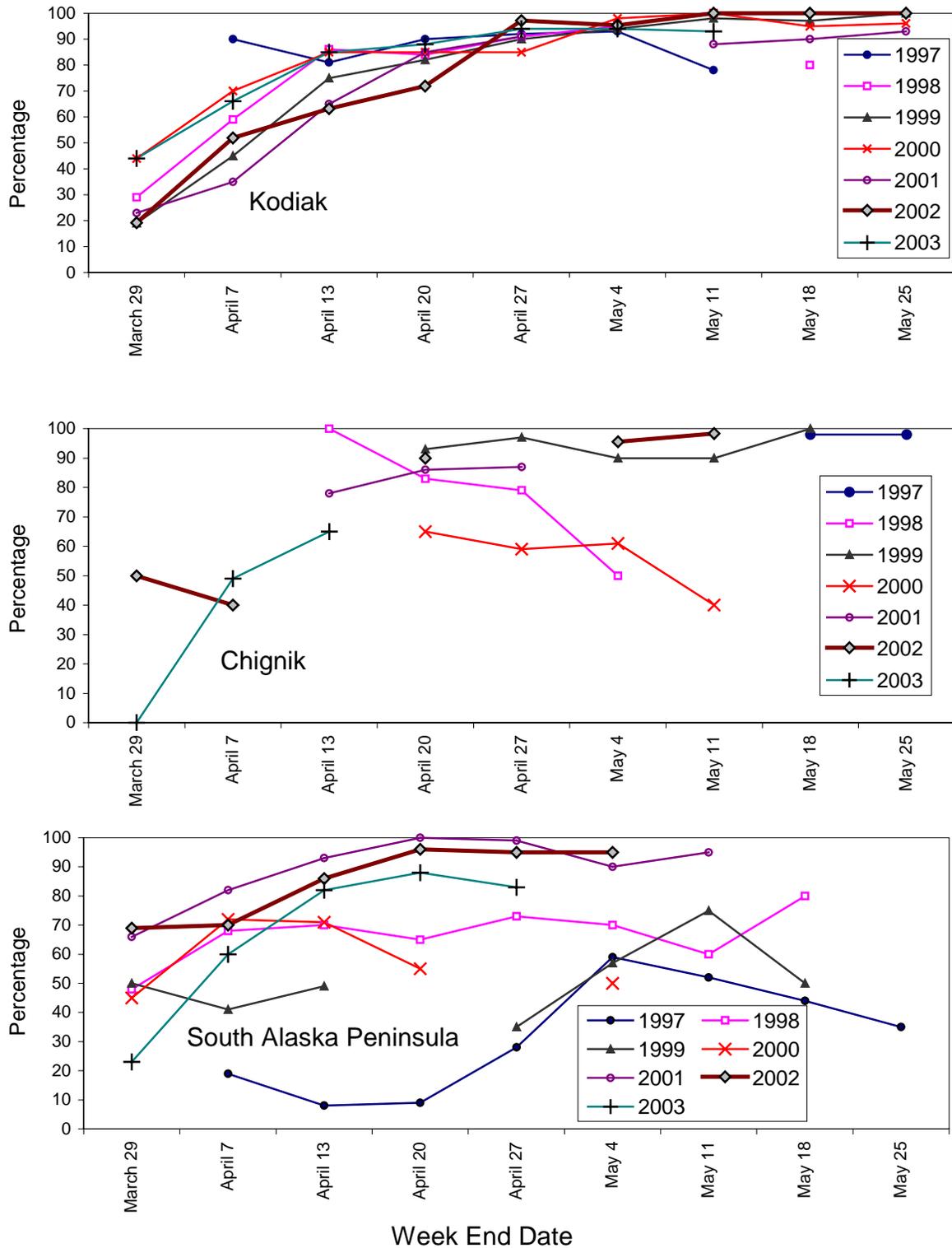


Figure 9. Estimated percentage of spawned Pacific cod by week from the Kodiak, Chignik, and South Alaska Peninsula Areas, 1997-2003.

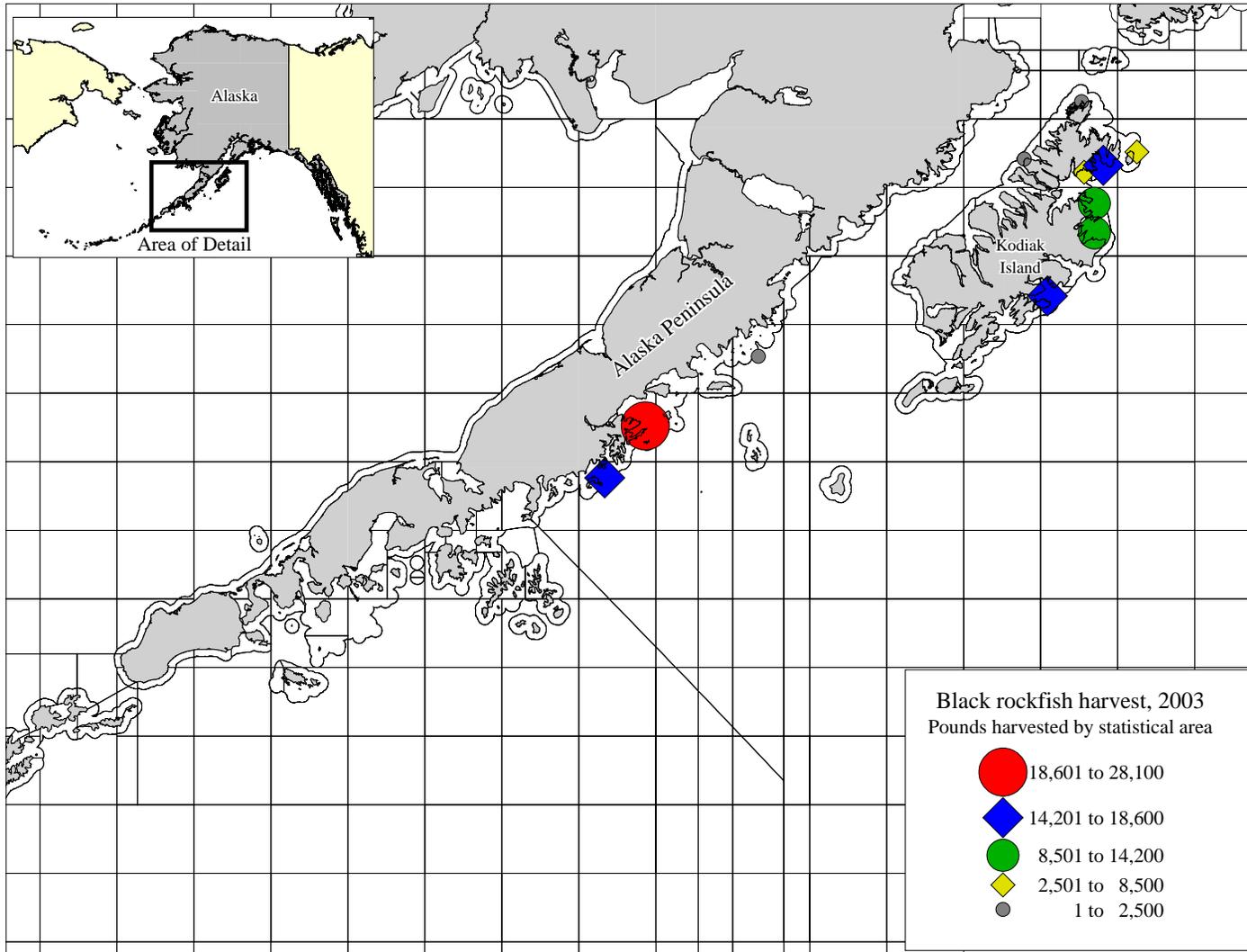


Figure 10. Black rockfish harvest by statistical area from the Kodiak, Chignik, and South Alaska Peninsula Areas, 2003.

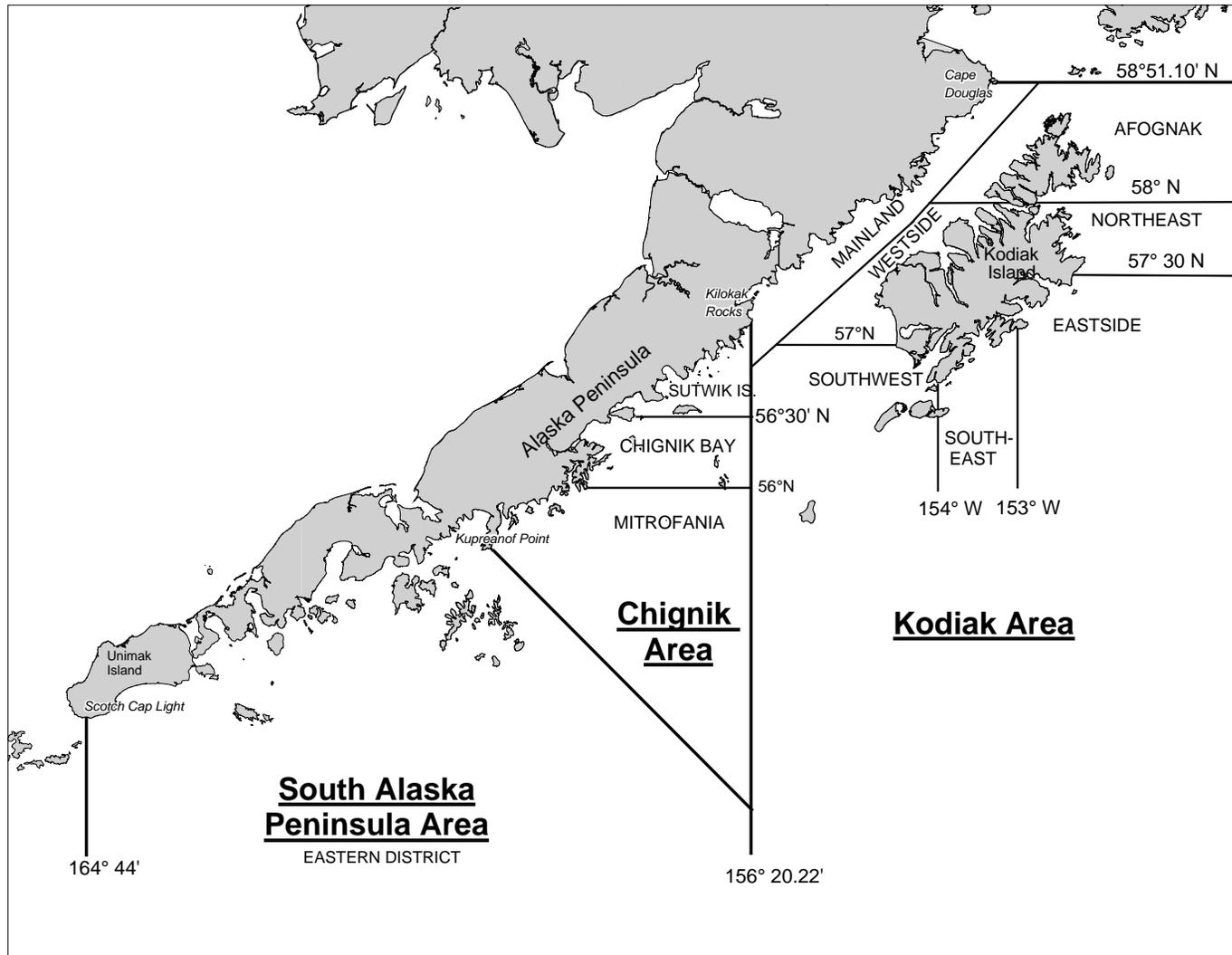


Figure 11. Kodiak, Chignik, and South Alaska Peninsula black rockfish management areas and districts, 2003.

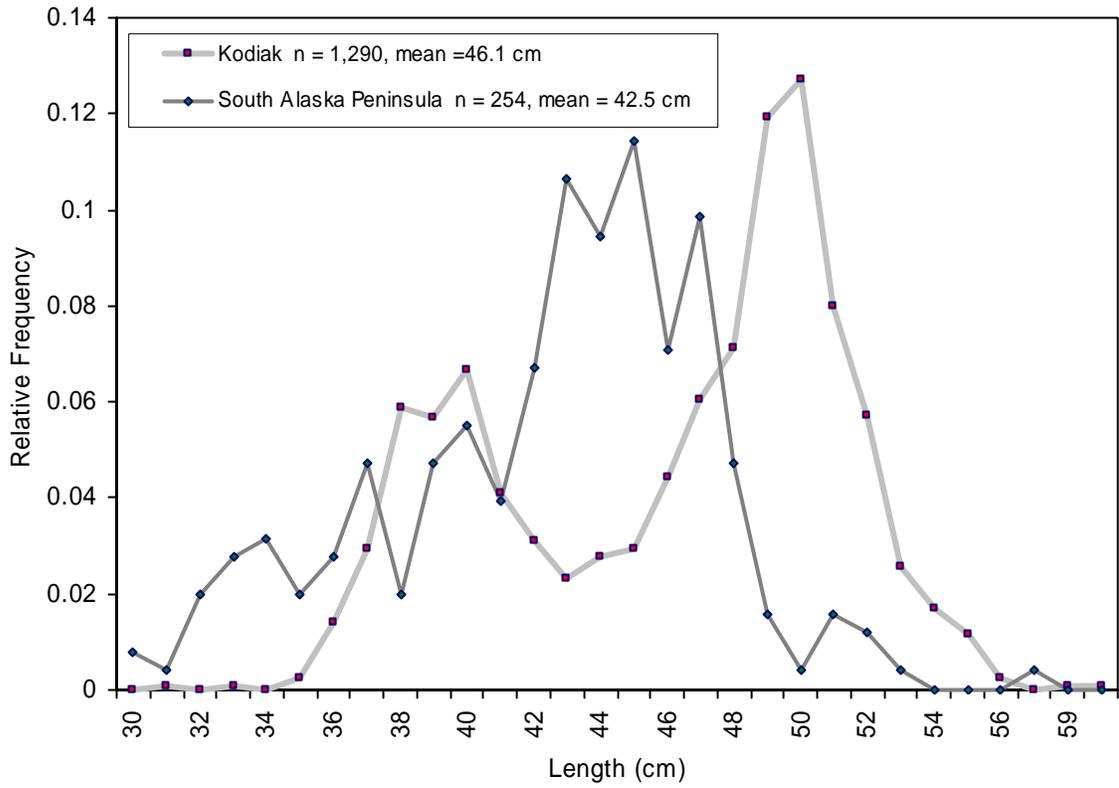


Figure 12. Size composition of black rockfish sampled from the 2003 fishery in the Kodiak and South Alaska Peninsula Areas.

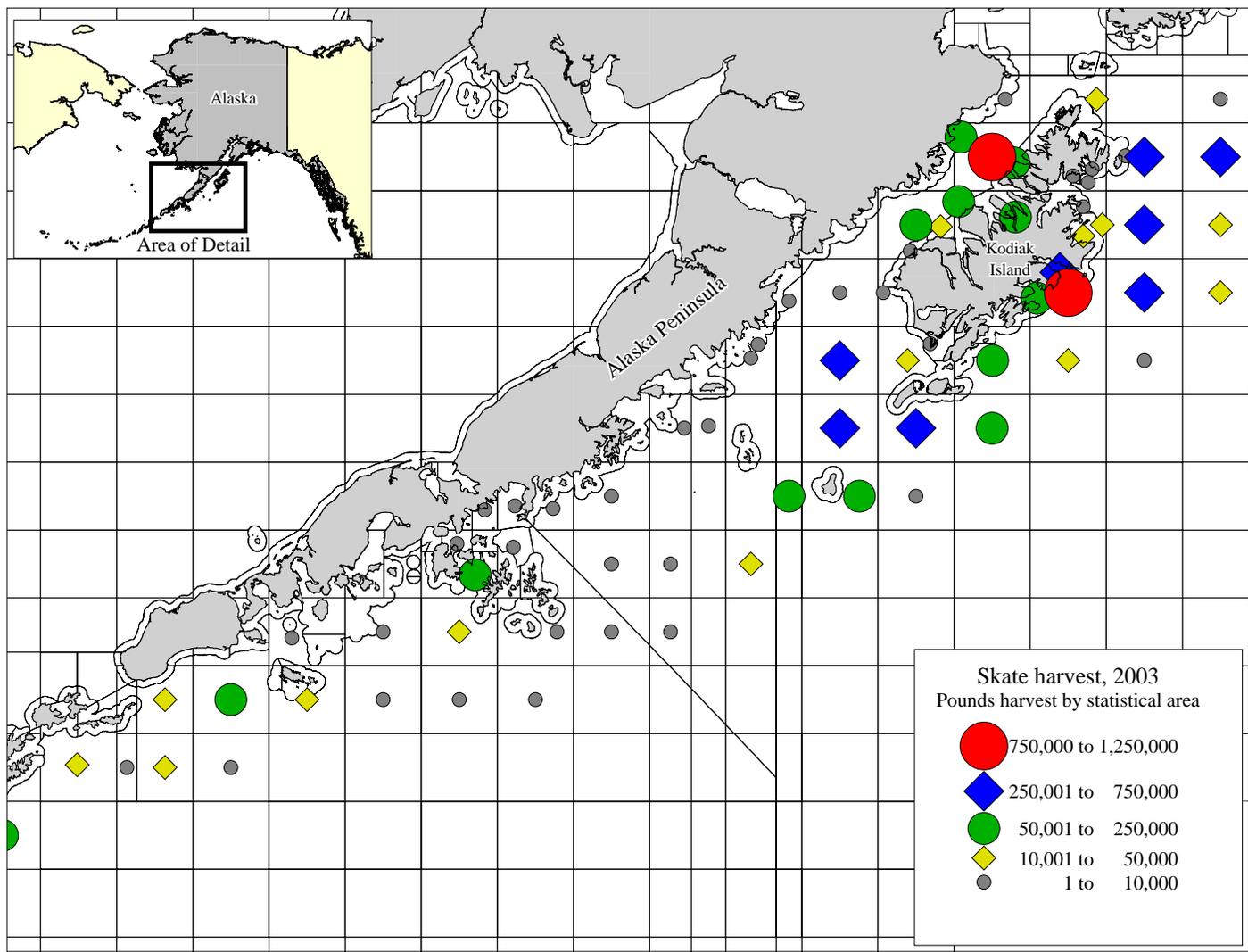
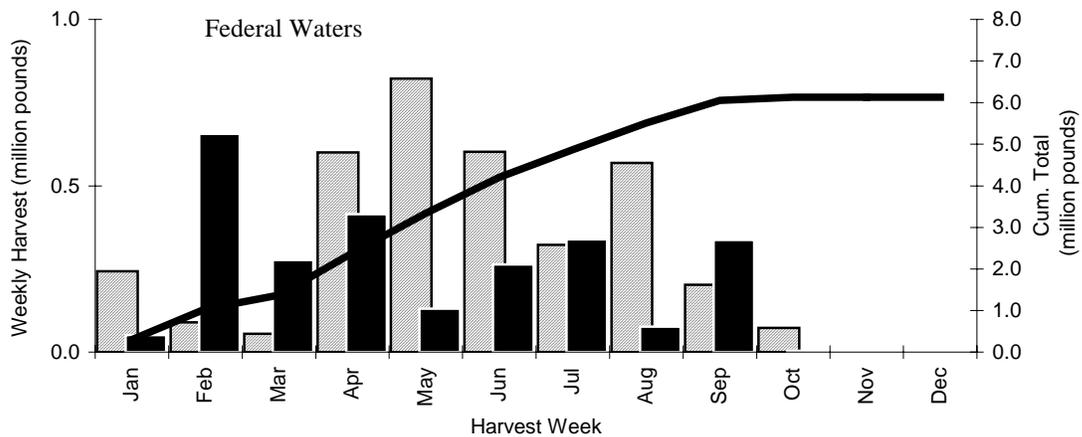
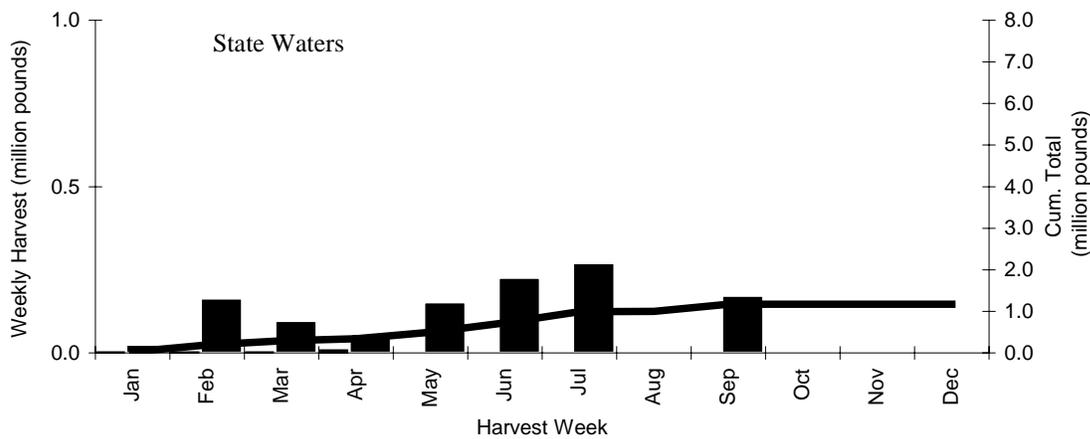
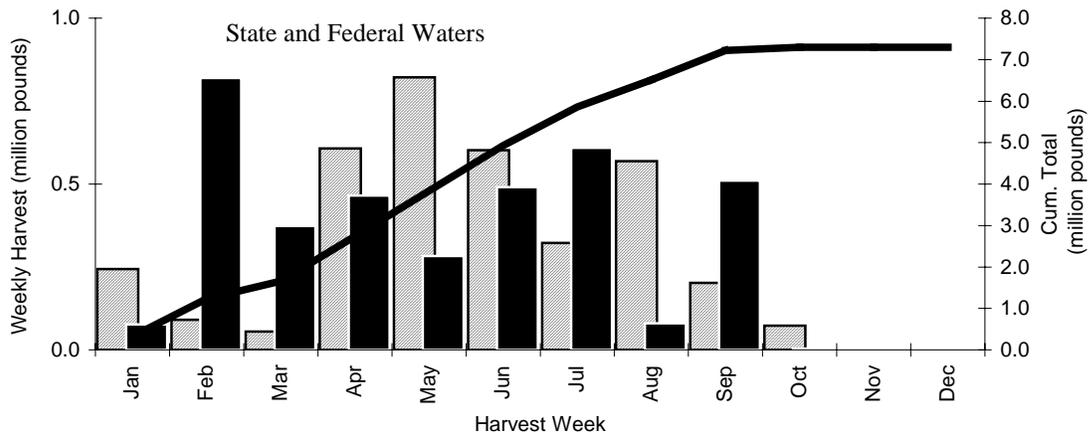


Figure 13. Miscellaneous skate species harvest from the Kodiak, Chignik, and South Alaska Peninsula Areas, 2003.



=Longline gear harvest.
 =Trawl gear harvest
 =Cumulative total for both gear types.

Figure 14. Skate harvest by month and gear type for the Kodiak Area, 2003.

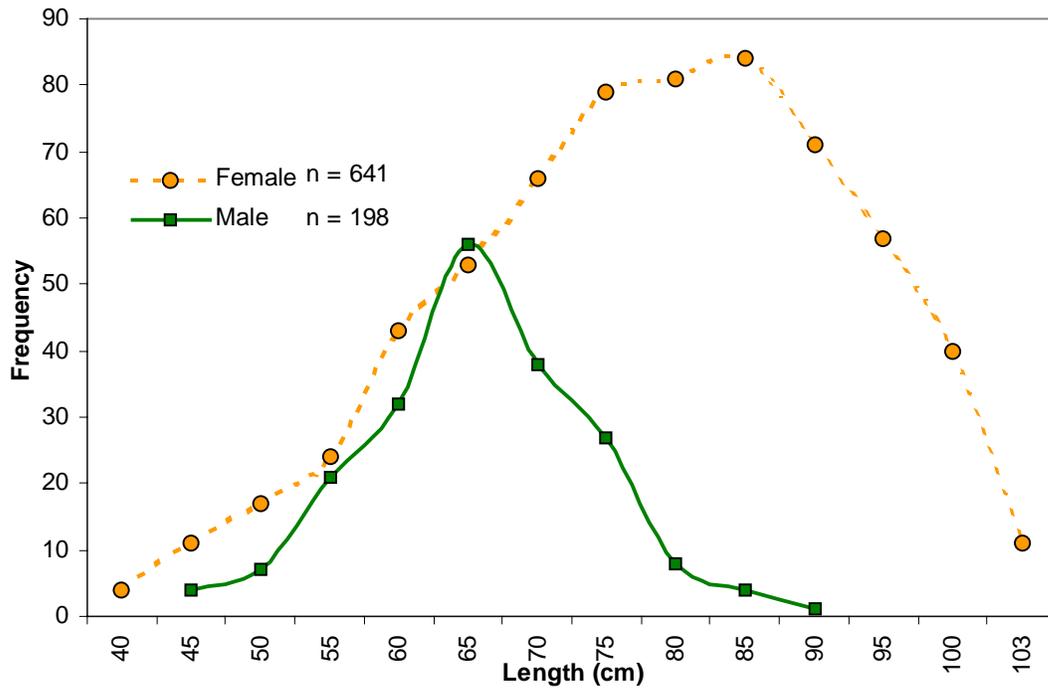


Figure 15. Big skate lengths by sex collected from the 2003 skate fishery in state and federal waters of the Kodiak Area.

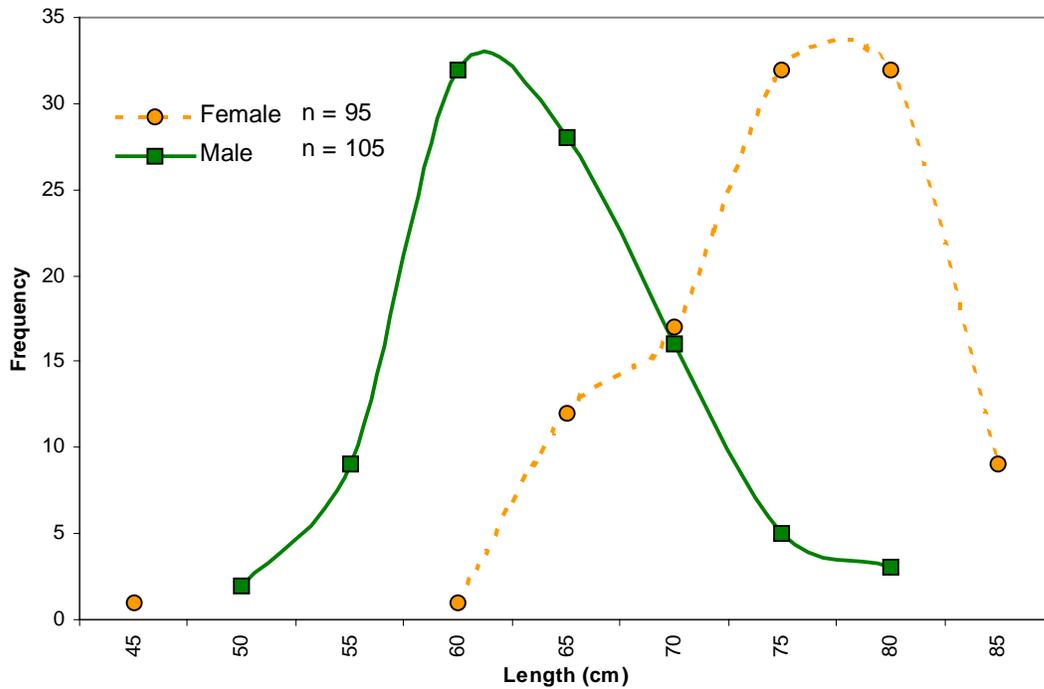


Figure 16. Longnose skate lengths by sex collected from the 2003 skate fishery in state and federal waters of the Kodiak Area.

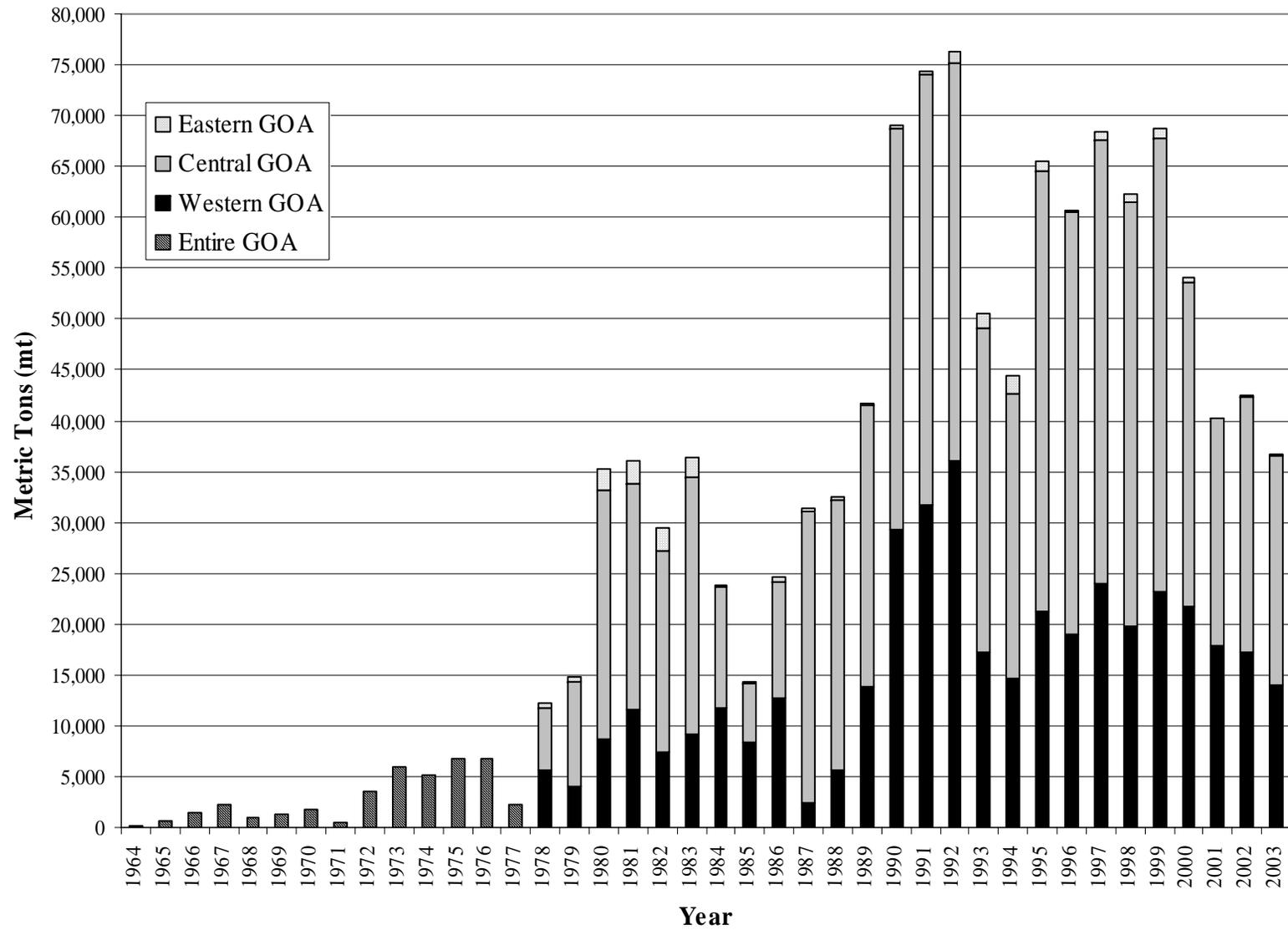


Figure 17. Pacific cod harvest from the Gulf of Alaska, 1964-2003.

Source: National Marine Fisheries Service Alaska Region home page (<http://www.fakr.noaa.gov>)

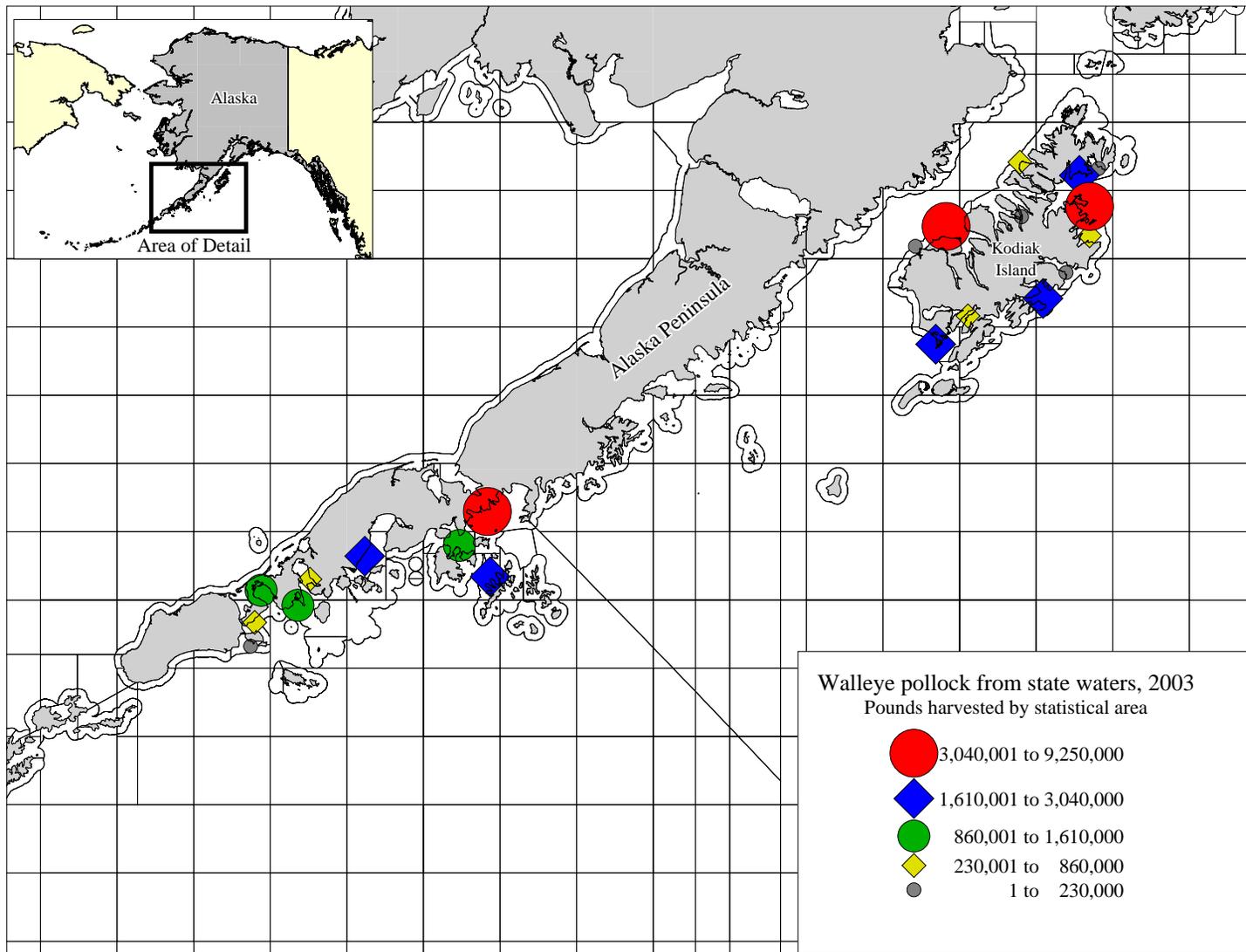


Figure 18. Walleye pollock harvest by statistical area from the Kodiak, Chignik, and South Alaska Peninsula Areas parallel fishery, 2003.

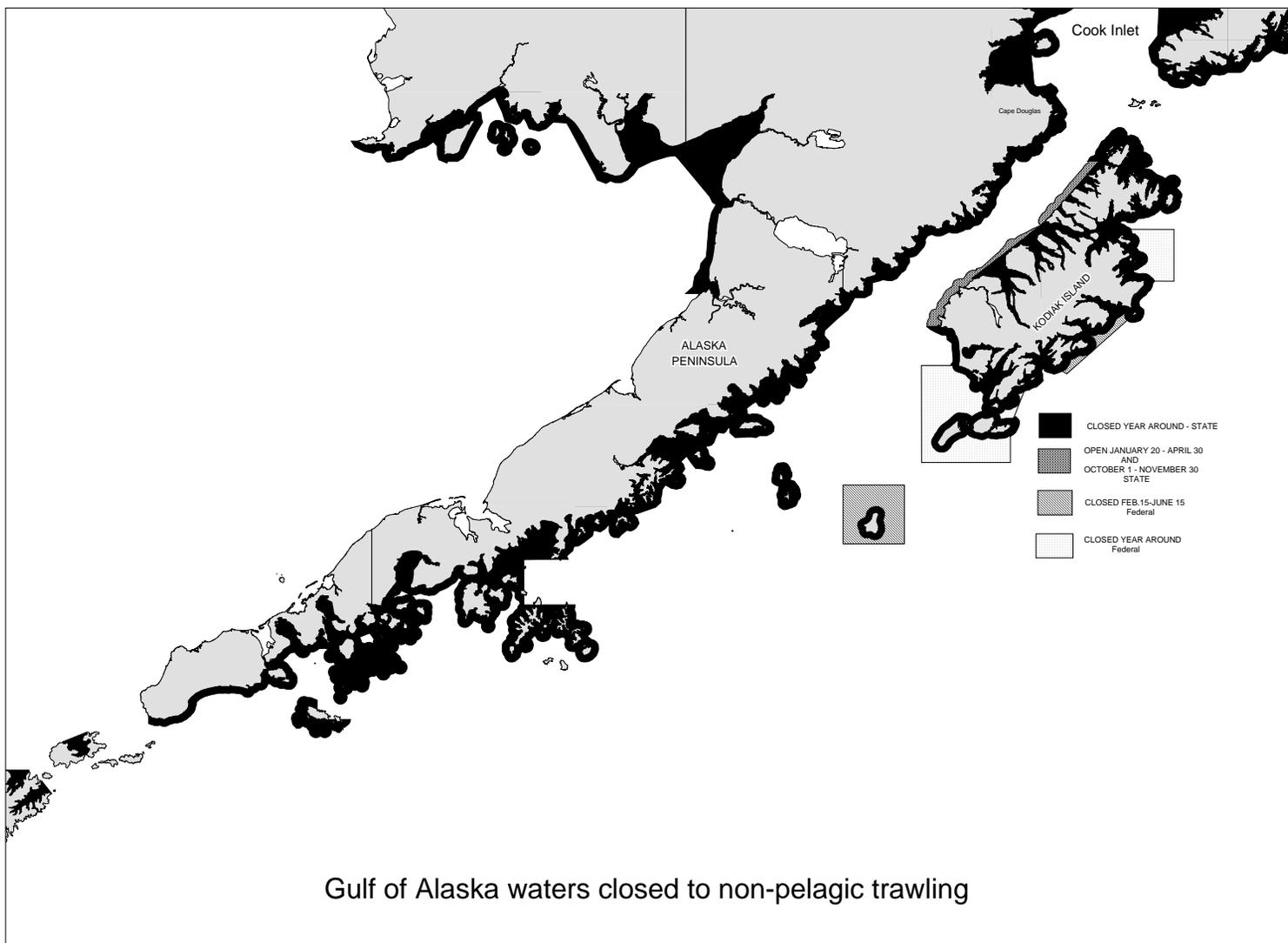


Figure 19. Selected Westward Region non-pelagic trawl gear closures, 2003.

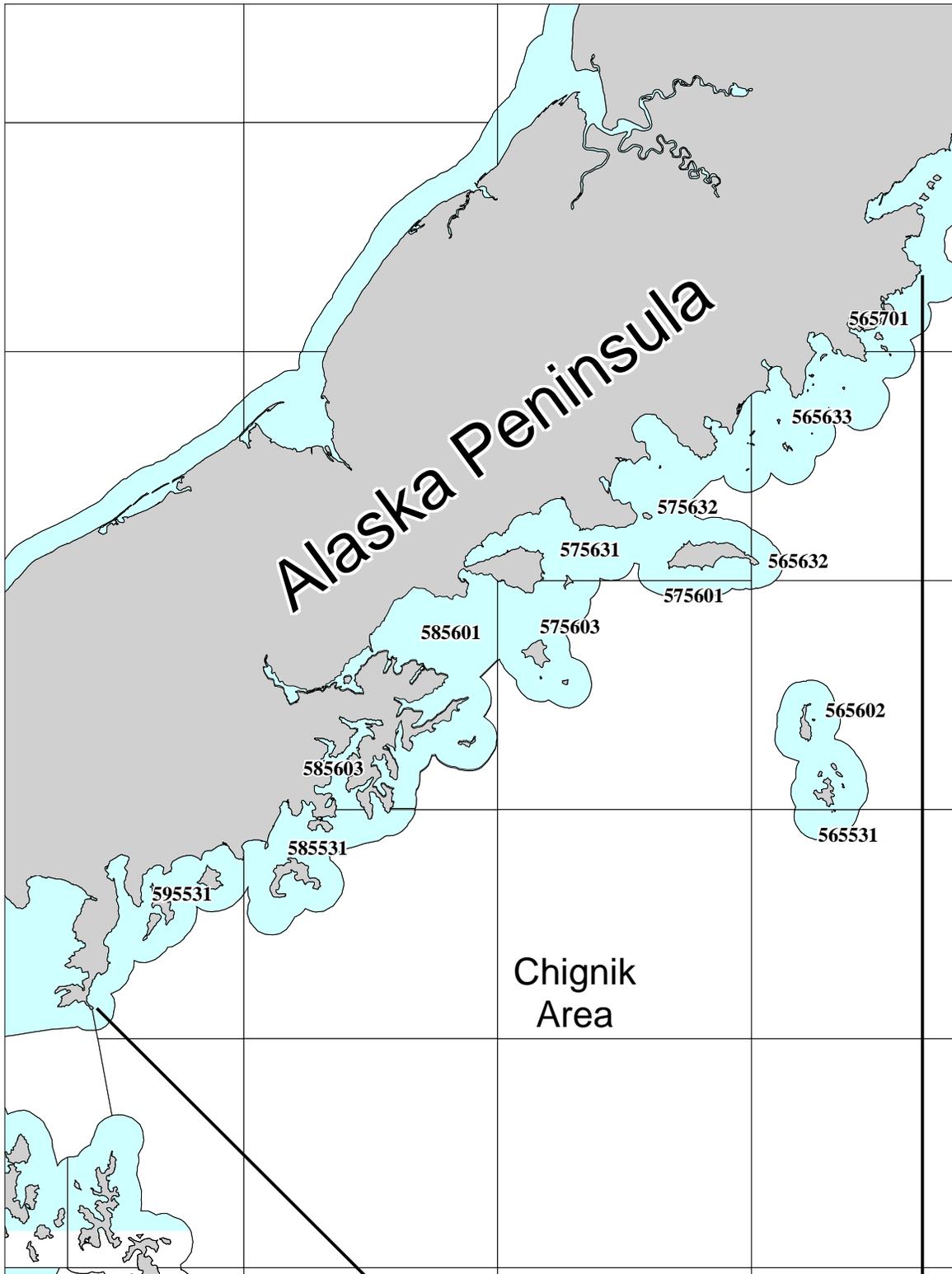
APPENDIX

Appendix A. Frequently used acronyms and key words.

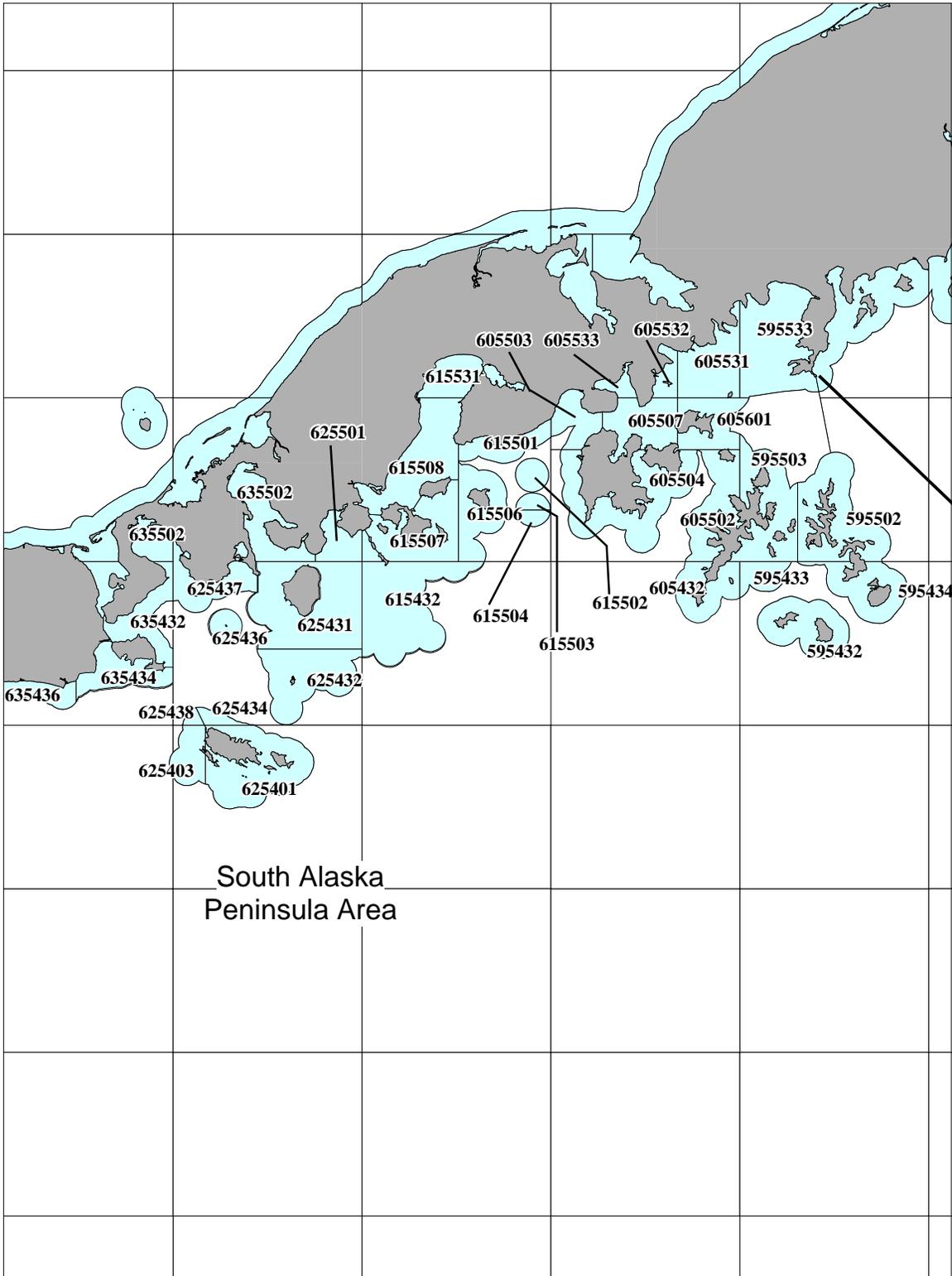
Acronym	Definition
ABC	Acceptable Biological Catch, stock specification as set by the NPFMC on an annual basis
ADF&G	Alaska Department of Fish and Game
BOF	The Alaska Board of Fisheries
BSAI	Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Areas, state management area and federal management area composed of several sub areas.
CGOA	Central Gulf of Alaska, federal management areas 620 and 630
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone, from 3 to 200 nautical miles offshore
EGOA	Eastern Gulf of Alaska, federal management areas 640 and 650
EO	Emergency order, management action taken by ADF&G to effect regulatory change
GHL	The preseason estimated level of harvest that will not jeopardize the sustained yield of the fish stocks.
GOA	Gulf of Alaska
LLP	Federal License Limitation Program
MRA	maximum retainable amount
mt	metric tons (equal to 2,204.62 pounds)
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NPFMC	North Pacific Fishery Management Council
Parallel fishery	State waters from 0 to 3 nautical miles open under federal rules while a federal fishery is ongoing from 3 to 200 nautical miles
PSC	Prohibited species catch
State waters	Territorial sea from shore to three nautical miles
State-waters fishery	Fishery occurring from shore to 3 nautical miles open under state rules and managed exclusively by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game
State managed fishery	Fishery occurring from shore to 200 nautical miles and managed exclusively by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game
TAC	Total Allowable Catch, final federal harvest specification for directed fishing as recommended by the NPFMC and set by NMFS
WGOA	Western Gulf of Alaska, federal management area 610
Kodiak Area Chignik Area South Alaska Peninsula Area	Westward Region groundfish areas with specific state-waters Pacific cod and sablefish and state managed black and blue rockfish and lingcod management plans in the Alaska Administrative Code (AAC)



Appendix B. Kodiak Management Area state water statistical areas for groundfish.



Appendix C. Chignik Management Area state water statistical areas for groundfish.



Appendix D. South Alaska Peninsula Area state water statistical areas for groundfish.

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