

Agenda Item #3 – Current CGOA Pollock Fishery in State Waters

Parallel Pollock Fishery Management Overview

The parallel pollock fishery is prosecuted concurrent to the federal Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA) pollock fishery and occurs from 0-3nmi from shore. The parallel fishery is managed by adopting most National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) rules and management actions. The Alaska Board of Fisheries has regulatory authority to modify parallel rules from 0-3nmi.

Harvest during the parallel season is deducted from the federal Total Allowable Catch.

Similarities with Federal Management

- During the parallel fishery most federal rules and regulations are adopted in state waters including, but not limited to:
 - Bycatch limits – Maximum Retainable Amount (MRAs) and Prohibited Species Catch (PSC), including Chinook salmon and halibut hard caps
 - Area apportionment – 620/630
 - Seasons – A, B, C and D pollock seasons
 - Inseason adjustments – opening and closing of seasons
 - Gear types – Except non-pelagic trawl gear, all other legal gear during a federal season is allowed during the parallel season
 - Closures – All closure areas during a federal season are also applicable during the parallel season, including Steller Sea Lion protection areas

Differences with Federal Management

- Parallel fishery participants are not required to have an LLP/FFP (all current participants have an LLP)
- Federal sector allocations in the EEZ based on processing activity (CP/CV) are not recognized during the parallel fishery (State of Alaska Constitution)
- Non-pelagic trawl is prohibited in state waters of Kodiak, Chignik and Cook Inlet areas (Board of Fisheries adjustment)

Characteristics of the CGOA Parallel Pollock Season

- On average over 99% of all pollock harvest is taken by trawl gear
- CGOA parallel pollock harvest averages ~23% of ABC from 2003-2012 (Table 44-1)
- Jig gear is a legal gear type to harvest pollock under federal/parallel rules
- Seine gear is not a legal gear type to harvest pollock under federal/parallel rules