The logo of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game is a circular emblem. It features a brown caribou standing on a blue wavy line representing water. Below the caribou is a blue fish. The words "ALASKA" and "DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME" are written in yellow around the perimeter of the circle.

Introduction to Groundfish Trawl Proposals 43, 44, and 45

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Oral Report RC 3, Tab 3

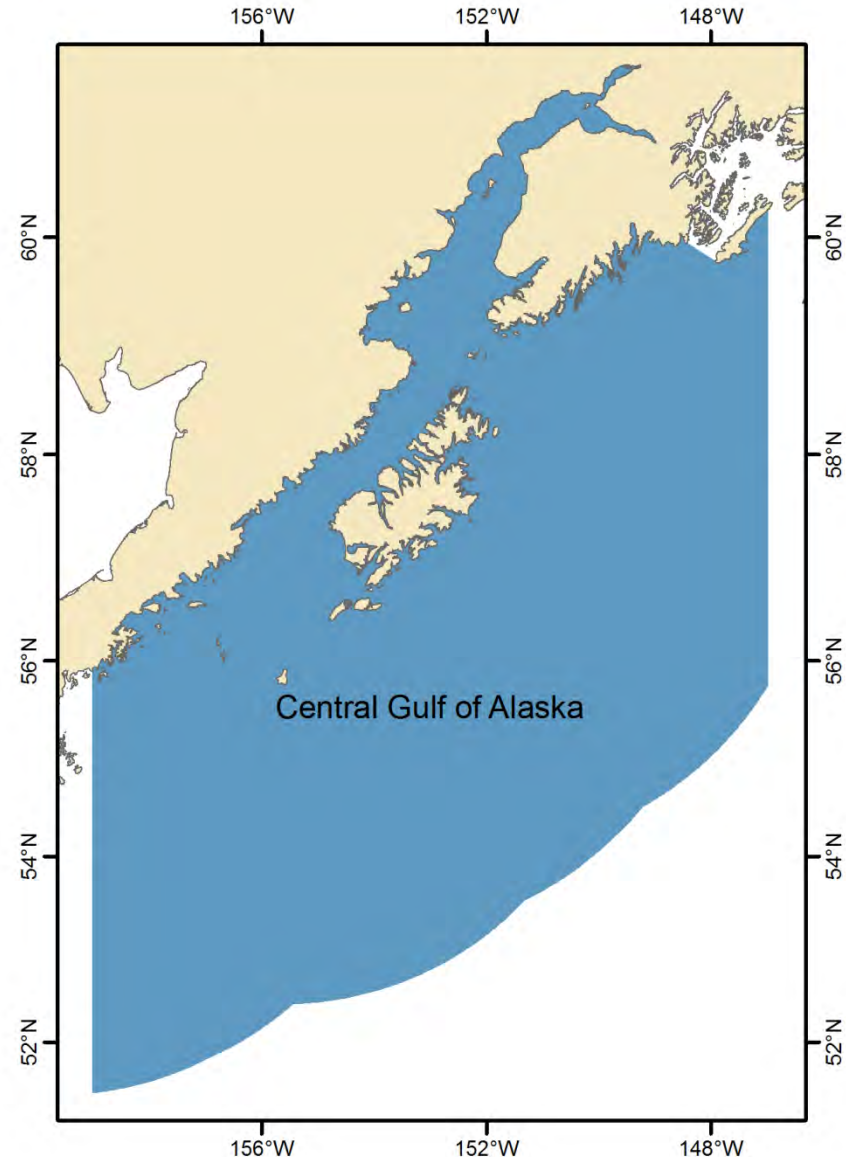
Staff Comments RC 2, Tab 6

Groundfish Fishery Management:

- **Federal:** Federal waters (EEZ; 3–200 nmi) guided by NPFMC process
- **Parallel:** State waters (0–3 nmi) concurrent with adjacent federal fishery and generally adopt federal regulations and management measures as guided by BOF process
- **State-Waters (GHL):** State waters (0–3 nmi) guided by BOF process

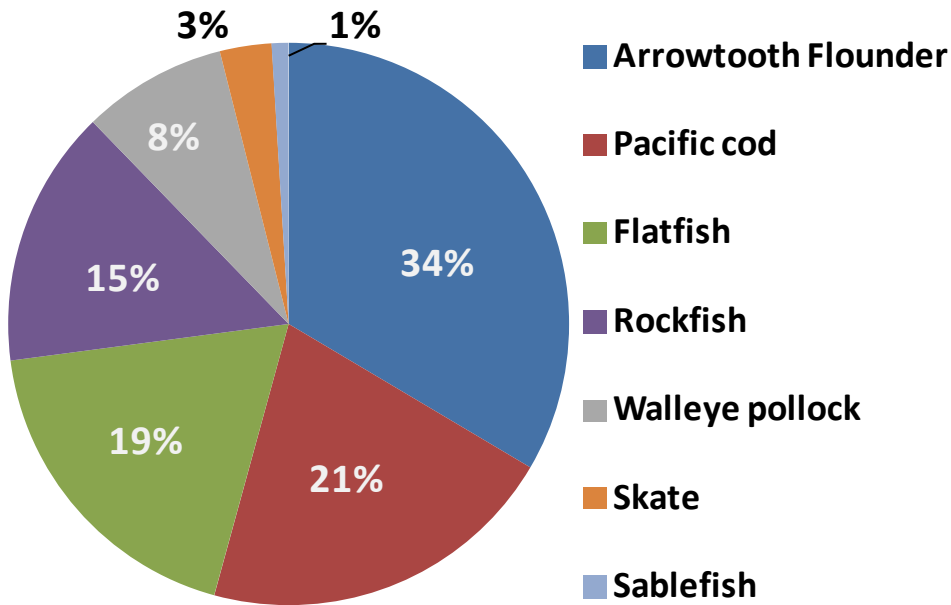
Central Gulf of Alaska Trawl Fisheries

- **Management:** Federal/parallel
- **Participation:** 50 to 60 vessels (CV/CP)
- **Catcher-vessel size:** 58-125 feet in length
- **Total retained groundfish catch (2012):** 268 million pounds
- **Exvessel value (2012):** \$52 million
- **Delivery location:** 97% of trawl catcher-vessel harvest delivered to Kodiak



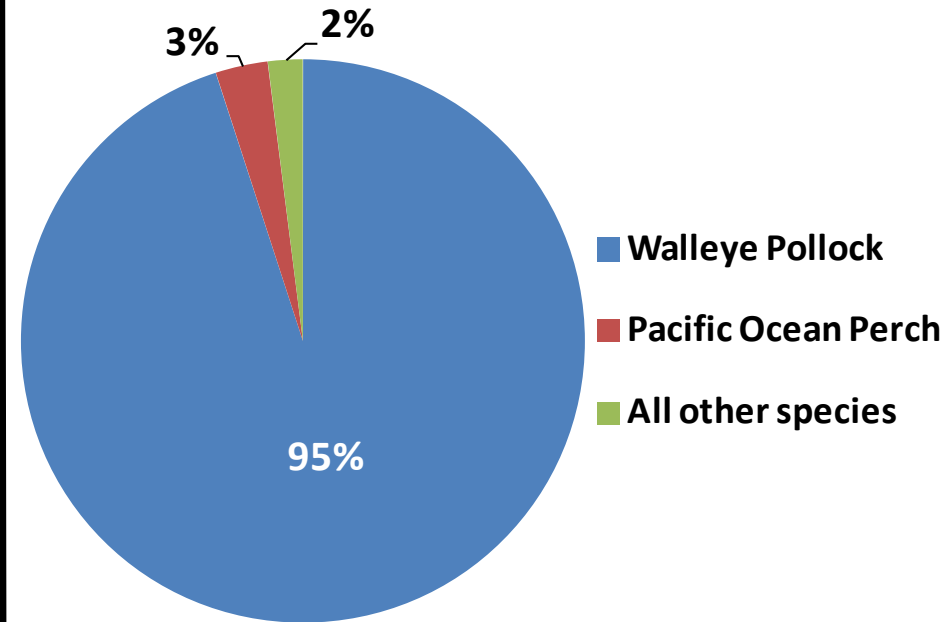
Nonpelagic Trawl Gear

Target Species:



Pelagic Trawl Gear

Target Species:



2012 Catch: 116 million pounds

Prohibited Species Catch Concerns:

Halibut, King salmon, Crab

2012 Catch: 151 million pounds

Prohibited Species Catch Concerns:

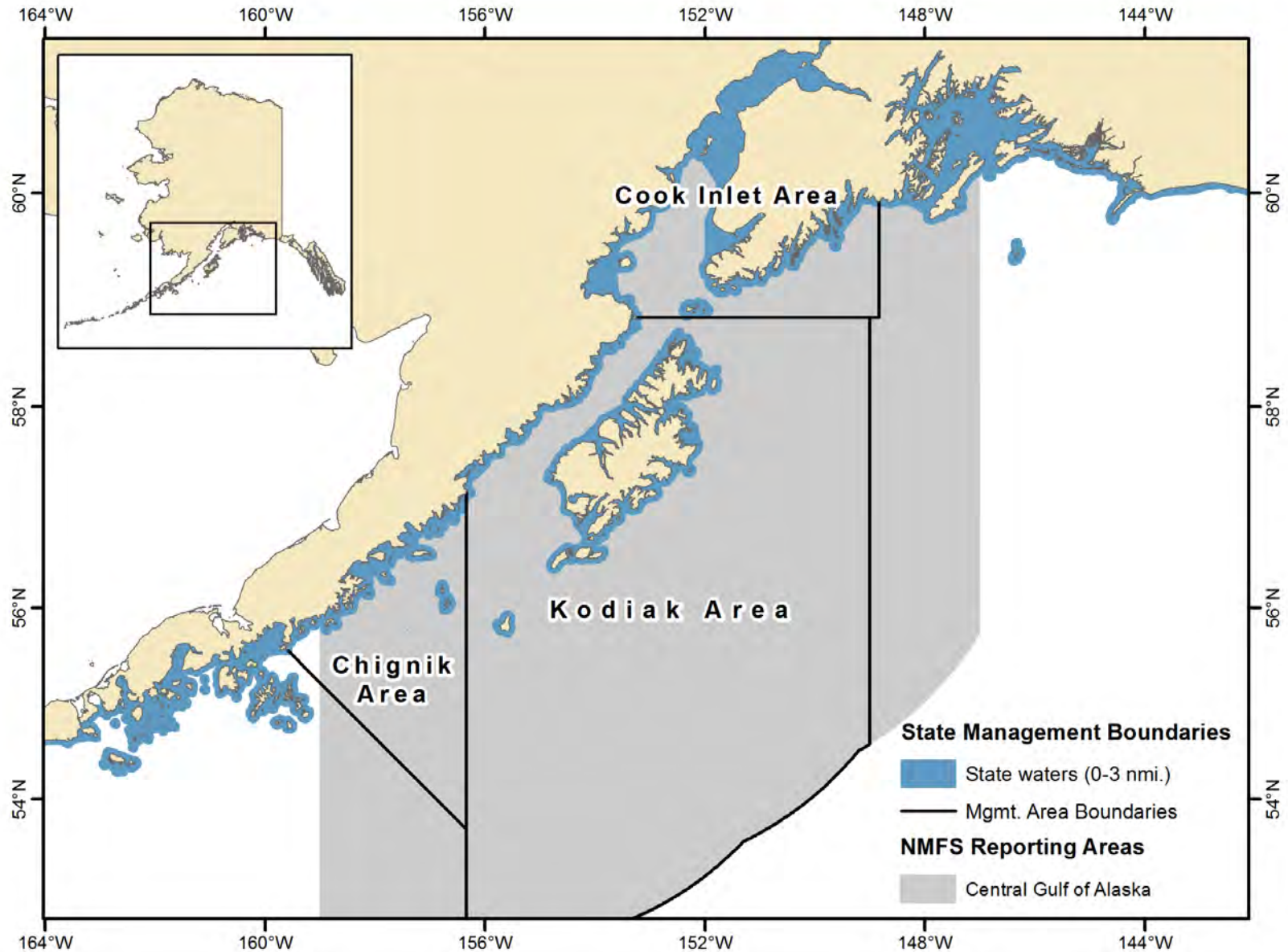
King salmon

Cook Inlet, Kodiak, and Chignik Groundfish Proposals

- **Proposal 43**: Create state-waters nonpelagic trawl fisheries for all groundfish species
- **Proposal 44**: Create state-waters walleye pollock fisheries
- **Proposal 45**: Require 100% observer coverage for all trawl vessels fishing inside state waters



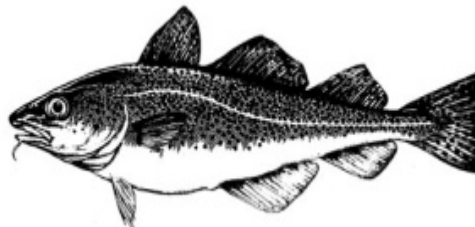
Proposal 43 – Create state-waters nonpelagic trawl fisheries in the Cook Inlet, Kodiak, and Chignik management areas



Proposal 43 - Nonpelagic Trawl

Proposal Elements

- GHUs based on CGOA groundfish ABCs
- Establish prohibited species catch (PSC) limits
- Require 100% observer coverage
- Limit vessels to maximum of 58 feet in length
- Establish season dates and landing limits



Proposal 43 – Groundfish GHLs

- Proposed GHL based on 25% of **ALL** CGOA groundfish ABCs (17 CGOA ABCs)
- ABCs include offshore/deepwater species
 - sablefish, deepwater flatfish, rockfish
- ADF&G nearshore trawl survey (7 species)
 - Arrowtooth flounder, Pacific cod, flathead sole, yellowfin sole, rock sole, longnose skate, and big skate
 - 2013 ABCs = 532 million pounds
 - 25% GHL = 133 million pounds
- Increase groundfish harvest inside state waters
 - Reduce federal groundfish quotas
 - SSL critical habitat

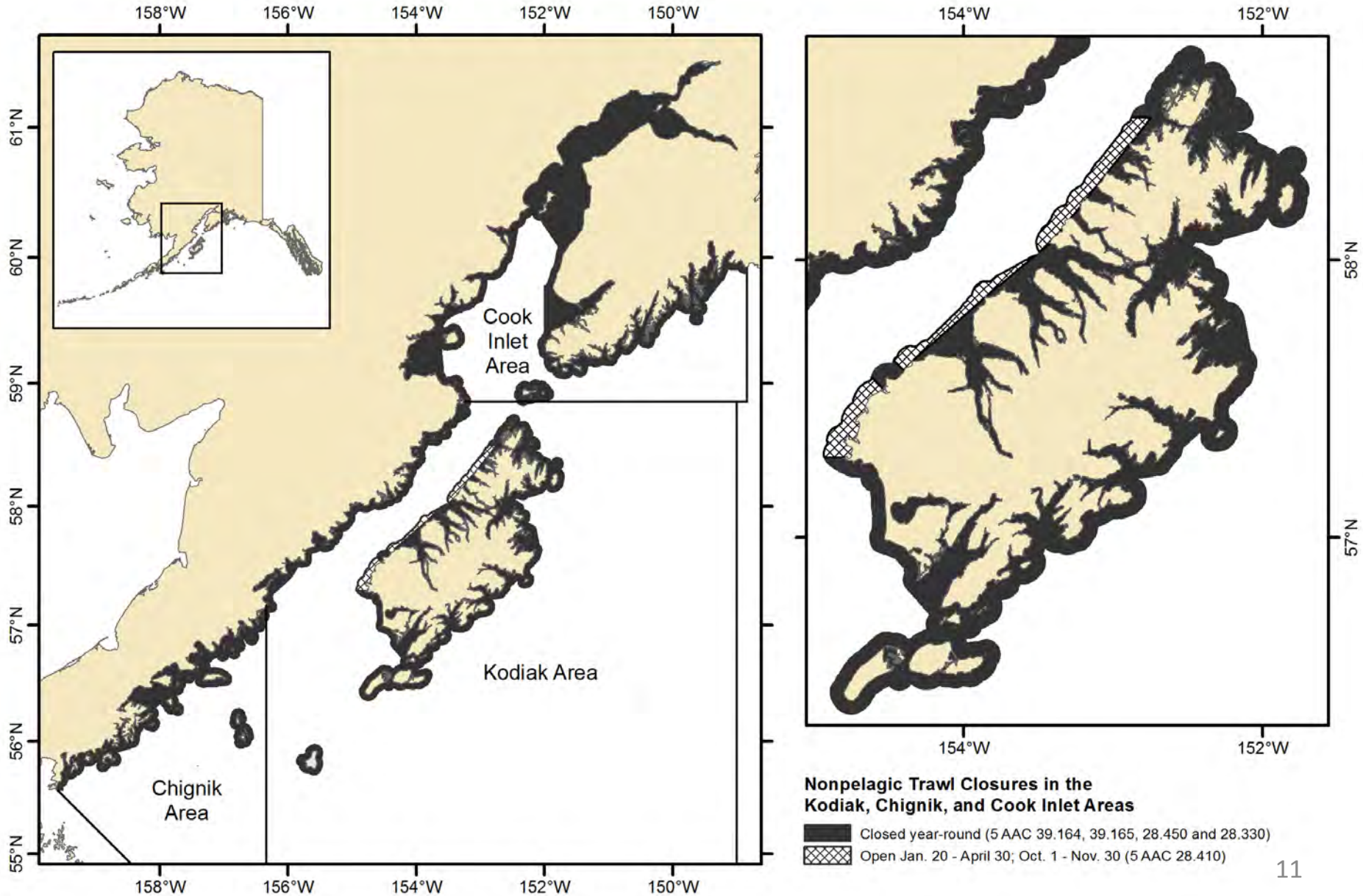
Proposal 43 - PSC Limits

- Establish prohibited species catch (PSC) limits:
 - King and Tanner Crab
 - King Salmon
 - Halibut
- PSC limits undefined in proposal
- Federal/parallel groundfish fisheries
 - King and Tanner Crab: Total PSC not capped
 - King Salmon: Total PSC capped and apportioned by area and target fishery
 - Halibut: Total PSC capped and apportioned by area/gear type/target fishery/season

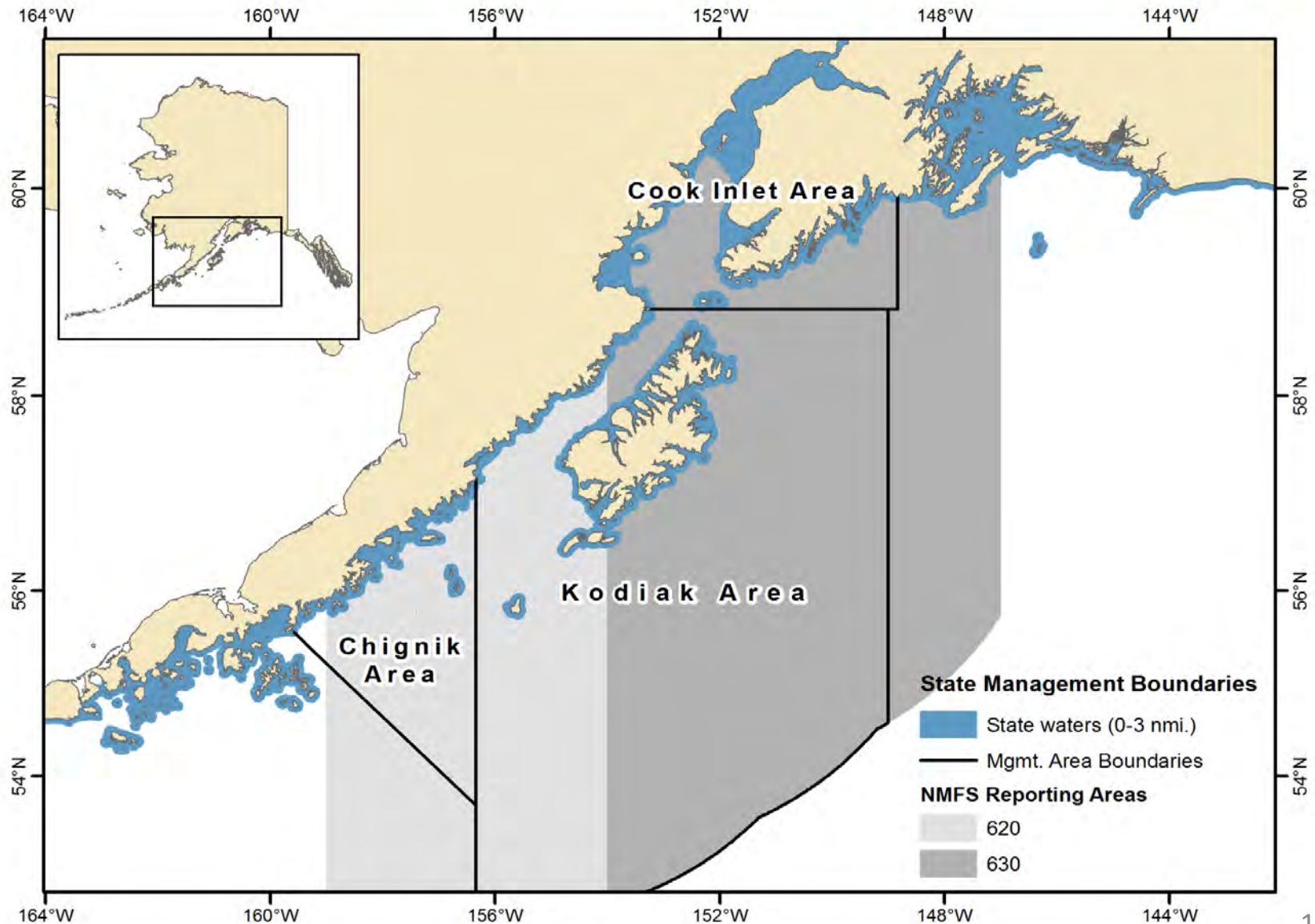
Proposal 43 - Observer Coverage

- 100% onboard observer coverage funded by vessel
- No State of Alaska groundfish observer program
 - Significant program development, funding, and coordination
- Federally permitted vessels subject to federal observer requirements during existing federal/parallel fisheries
 - **Full coverage (100%)**: Most catcher-processors
 - **Partial coverage (less than 100%)**: Most trawl and fixed gear catcher-vessels
 - Funded through fees on retained catch

Proposal 43 - Closed Waters



Proposal 44 – Create state-waters walleye pollock fisheries in the Cook Inlet, Kodiak, and Chignik management areas



Proposal 44 – State-waters pollock

Proposal Elements

- GHUs based on Area 620 and 630 pollock ABCs
- Require 100% observer coverage
- Limit vessels to maximum of 58 feet in length
- Legal gear: pelagic trawl, nonpelagic trawl, seine, and jig
- Establish season dates and landing limits



Proposal 44 – Pollock GHLs

- Proposed GHL based on 25% of federal areas 620 and 630 pollock ABCs

Pollock ABCs (2008-2012)

Area 620: 31-101 million pounds

Area 630: 24-58 million pounds

Proposed GHLs (25%)

Area 620: 8-25 million pounds

Area 630: 6-15 million pounds

- State-waters GHLs: 14-40 million pounds (avg. 25 million)
- Increase pollock harvest inside state-waters
 - Reduce federal pollock quotas
 - SSL critical habitat

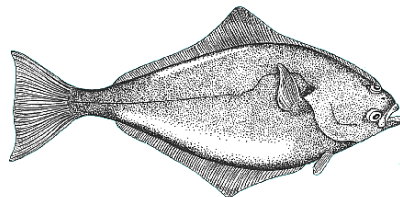
Proposal 44 - Observer Coverage

- 100% onboard observer coverage funded by vessel
- No State of Alaska groundfish observer program
- Federally permitted trawl vessels subject to federal observer requirements for existing federal/parallel fisheries
- No proposed PSC caps (king salmon)
 - Observer program objectives



Proposal 45 - Require 100% observer coverage for all trawl vessels targeting groundfish inside state waters

- Improve halibut, salmon, and Tanner crab bycatch estimation
- Parallel trawl fisheries in the Kodiak, Chignik, and Cook Inlet areas
 - Most state waters closed to nonpelagic trawl gear
 - Most state waters open to pelagic trawl gear (pollock)
- No State of Alaska groundfish observer program
 - Significant program development, funding, and coordination
- No State of Alaska prohibited species catch (PSC) caps for trawl gear



Proposal Considerations

- Gulf of Alaska groundfish trawl fisheries complex
 - ABC allocation
 - Prohibited species catch
 - Observer programs
 - Endangered species considerations (SSL)
 - Closed waters
- Require development and coordination
- Staff available to provide additional information