

PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND (PWS) Commercial and Noncommercial Tanner and King Crab Fisheries Update 2014



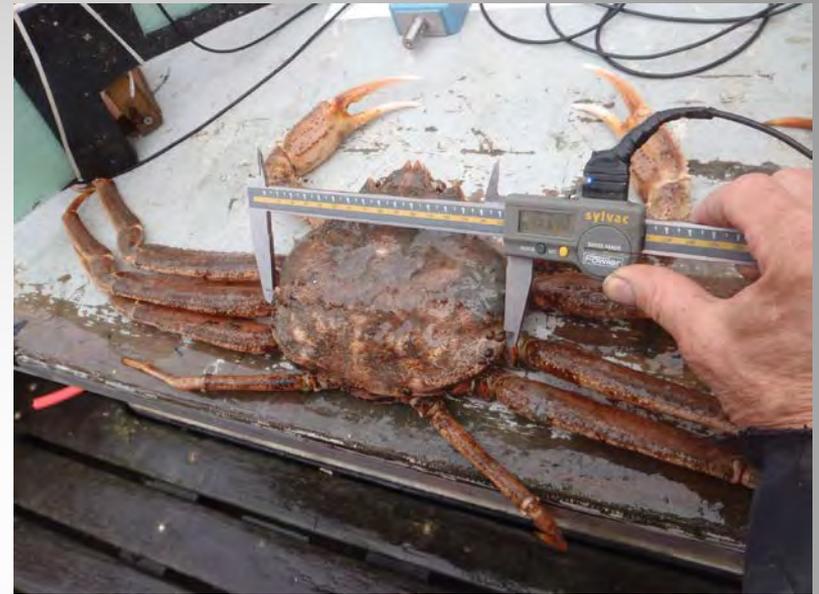
Maria Wessel

**Groundfish/Shellfish Assistant Area Biologist
Prince William Sound**

Presentation Outline

□ Tanner crab

- Commercial fishery
 - Area Description
 - Harvest and Effort
- Noncommercial fishery
 - Area Description
 - Regulations
 - Harvest and Effort



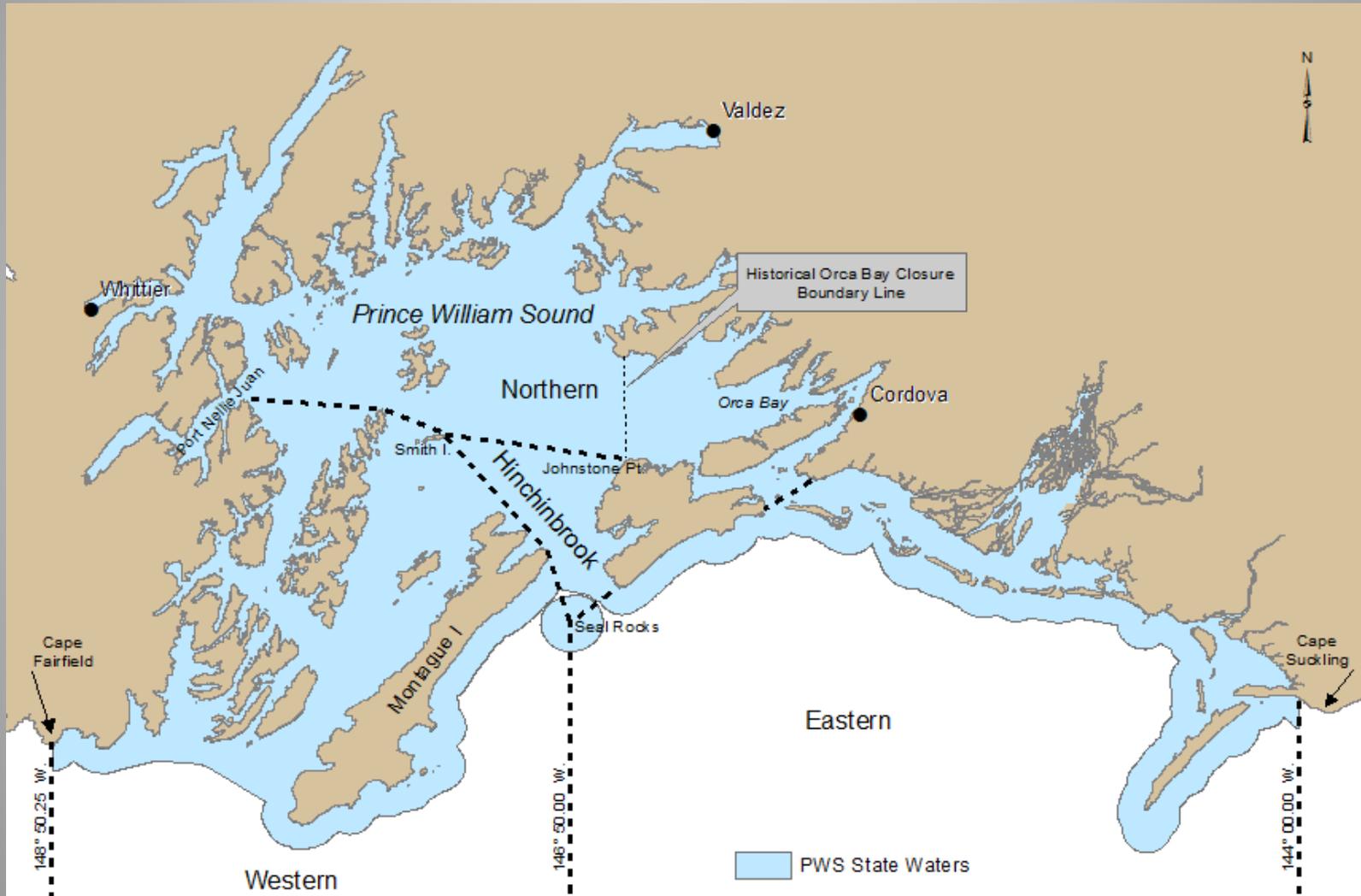
□ King crab

- Commercial fishery
- Noncommercial fishery

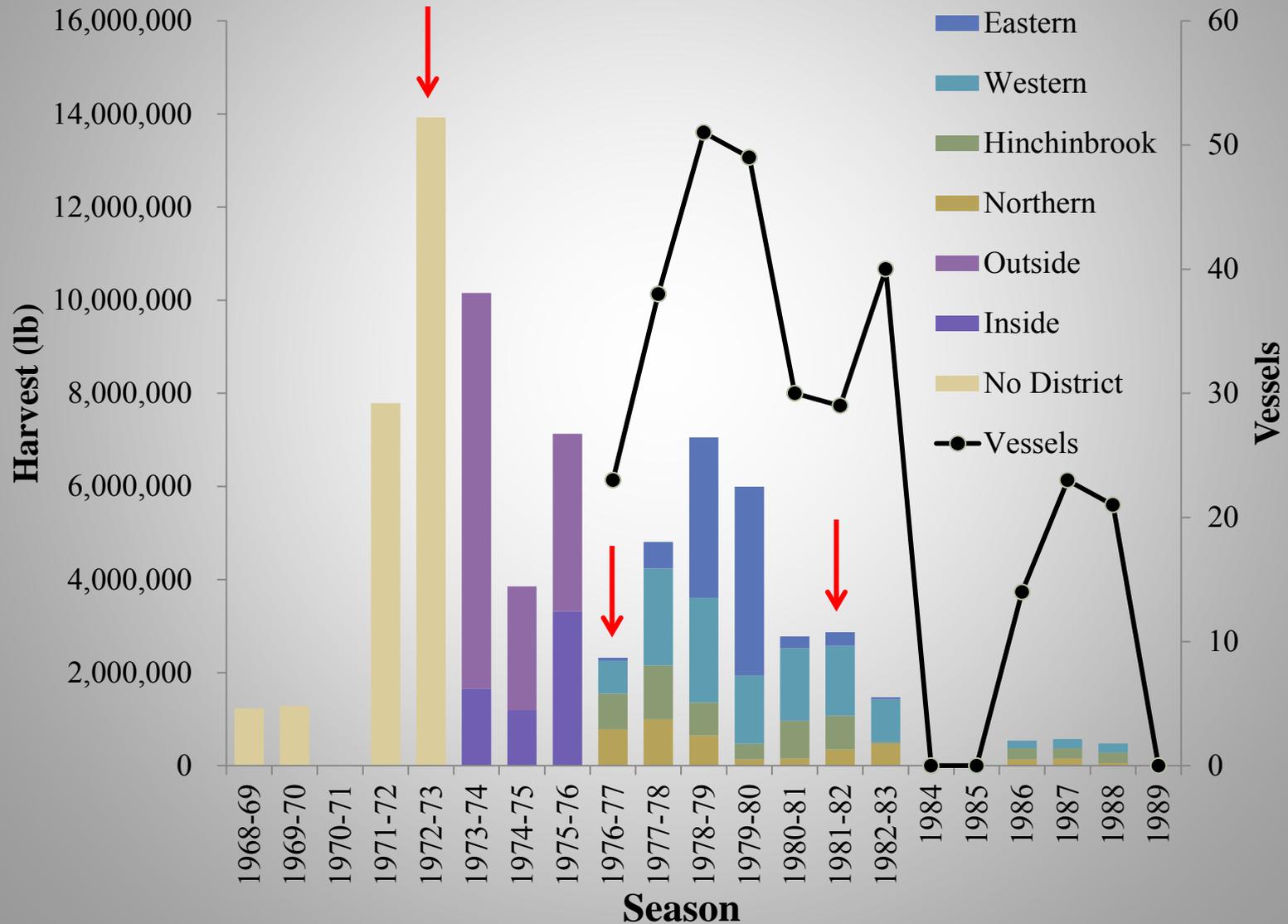


□ Proposals

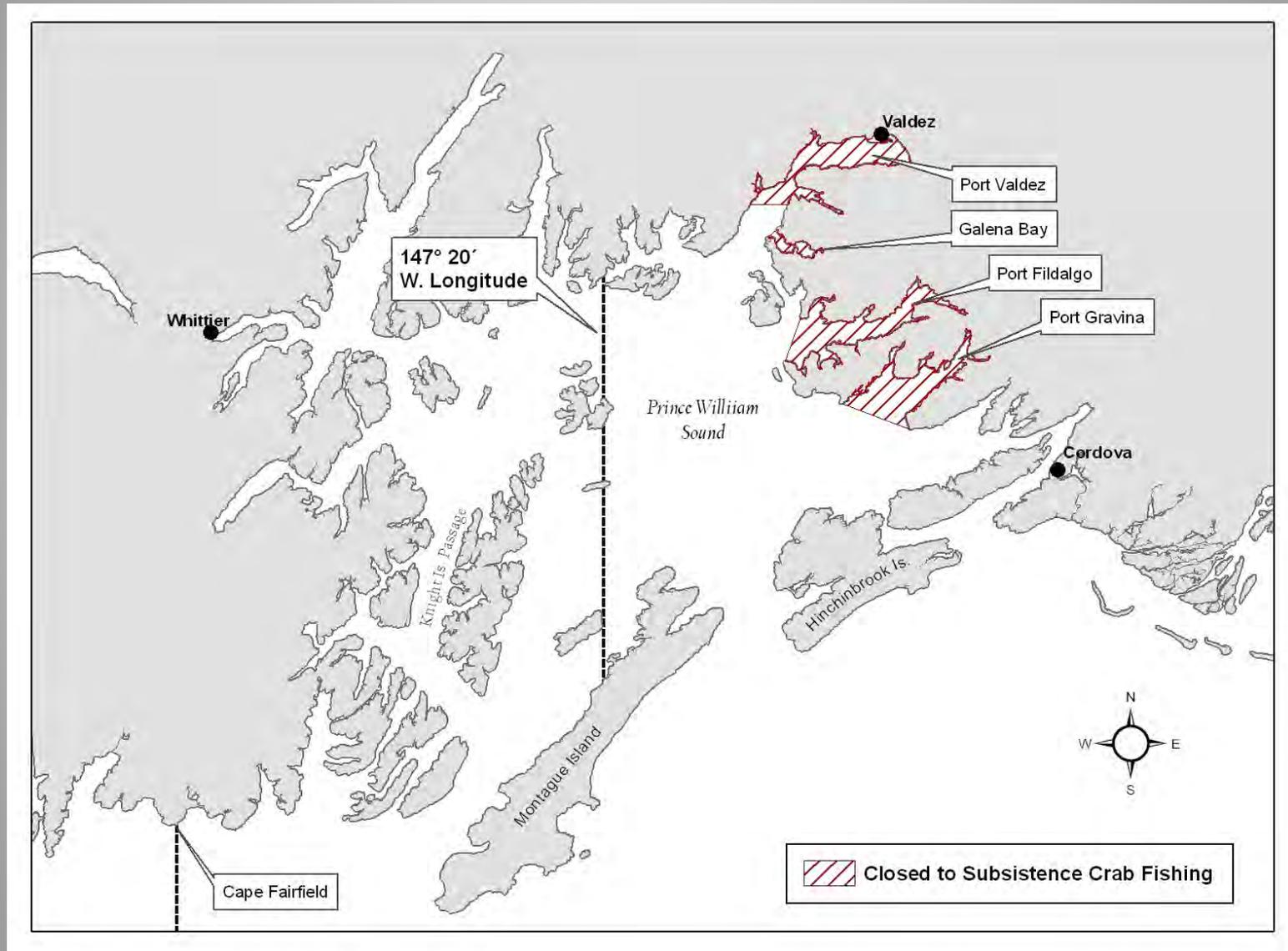
PWS Commercial Tanner Crab Fishing Districts



PWS Commercial Tanner Crab Harvest and Management



PWS Noncommercial Tanner Crab



PWS Noncommercial Tanner Crab Regulations

Prior to 1999

- Sport, Personal Use, and Subsistence
- Open year round
- 20 male crab ≥ 5.3 or 5.5 inches
- 10 pots per vessel
- No direct monitoring
- Area closures by EO

2008 to Present

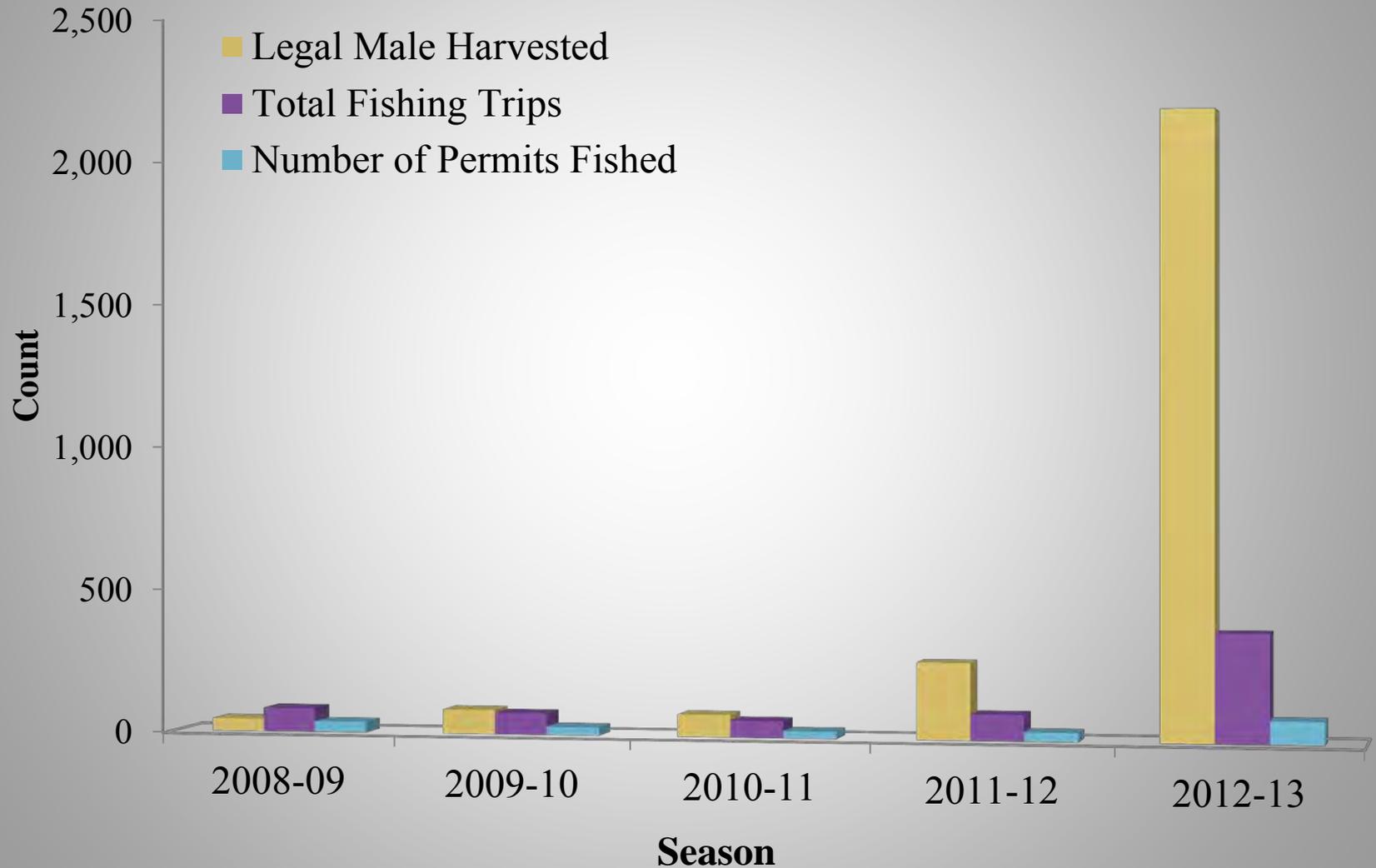
- Subsistence only
- October 1st – March 31st
- 5 male crab ≥ 5.5 inches
- 2 pots per vessel
- Permit requirement
- Key areas closed

PWS Noncommercial Tanner Crab Harvest

- Prior to 1999, no direct harvest monitoring
 - Statewide Harvest Survey 1994-1998
 - Average of 300 crab
 - Subsistence Surveys
 - < 4,900 Tanner crab in 1997

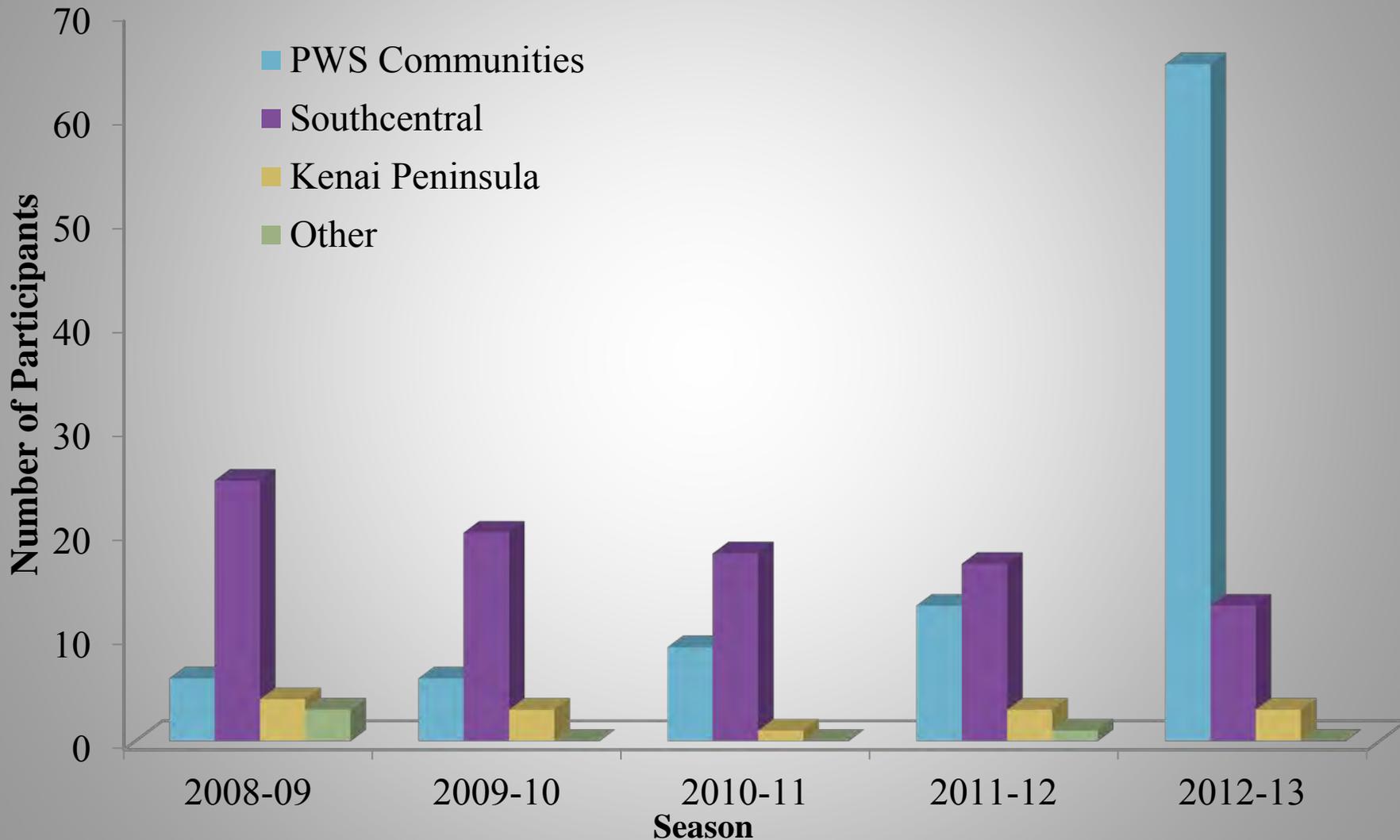
PWS Subsistence Tanner Crab

Current Fishery Harvest and Effort

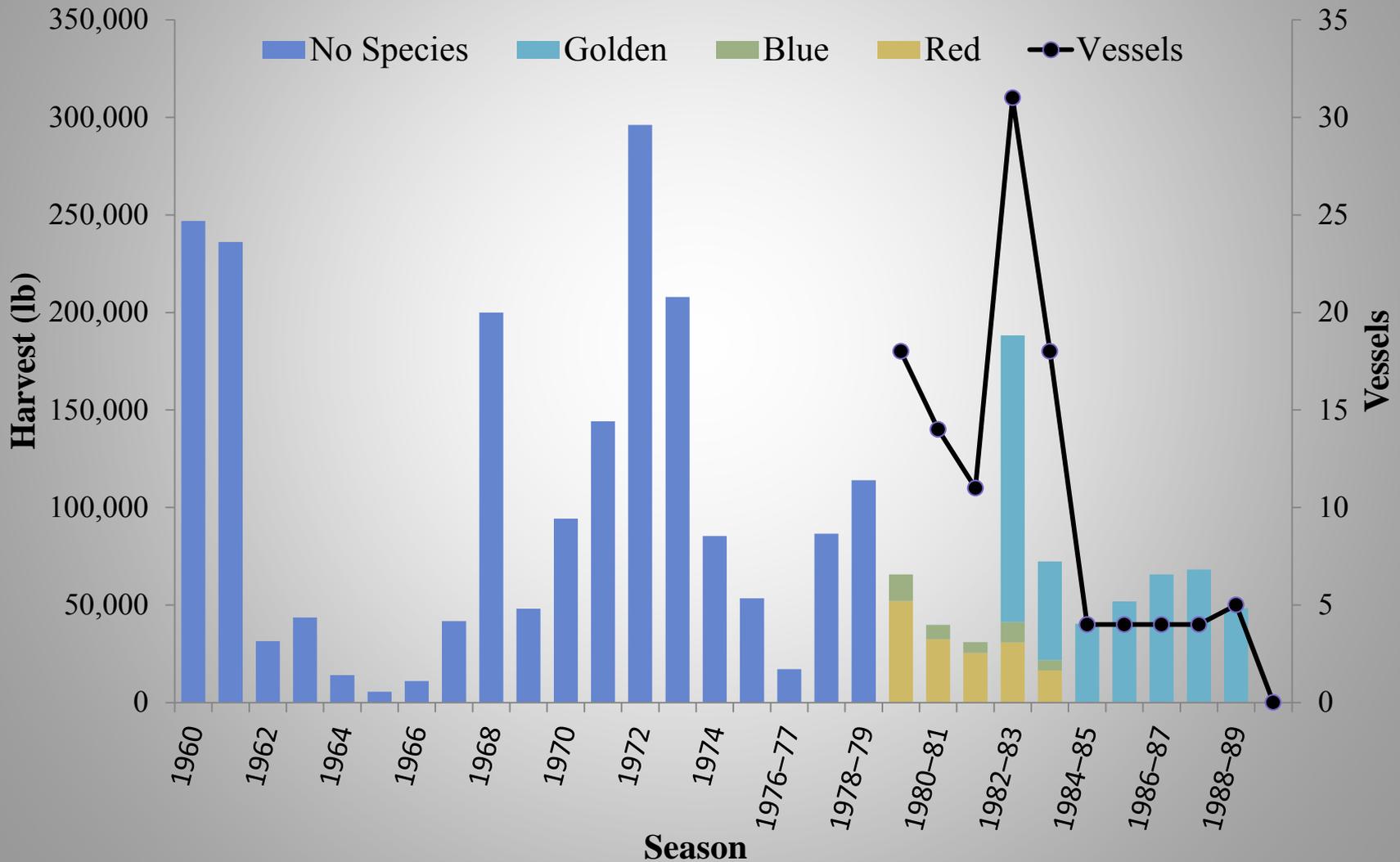


PWS Subsistence Tanner Crab

Permit Holders Residence



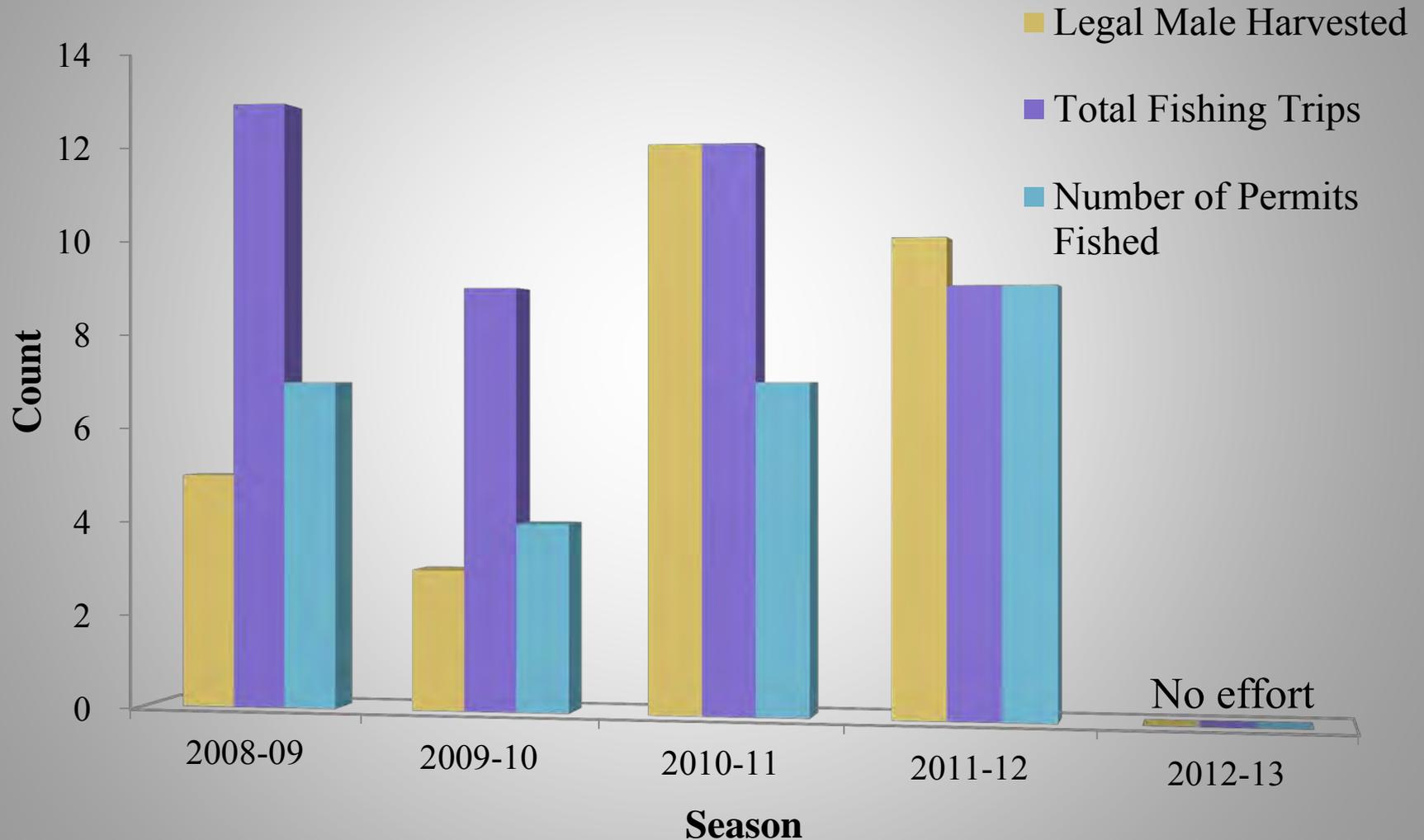
PWS Commercial King Crab Harvest and Effort



PWS Noncommercial King Crab Harvest

- Prior to 1999, no direct harvest monitoring
 - Statewide Harvest Survey 1994-1998
 - 1997: 27 king crab
 - 1998: 52 king crab
 - Subsistence Surveys
 - < 150 king crab in 1997

PWS Subsistence King Crab Harvest and Effort



PWS Tanner and King Crab Proposals

Proposal 327:

Move the king crab western boundary of the PWS area west, to standardize the boundary line across commercial fisheries and to coordinate with the Area K eastern boundary

Proposal 328:

Move the Tanner crab western boundary of the PWS area west, to standardize the boundary line across commercial fisheries and to coordinate with the Area J eastern boundary

Proposals 329, 330, 331, 332, and 333:

These 5 proposals each seek to open a commercial Tanner crab fishery within PWS, with differing seasons, vessel length restrictions, and gear limitations

Thank you for your time and attention

Any questions?

