

Kodiak Area Weathervane Scallop and Kodiak District Red Sea Cucumber Fishery Review

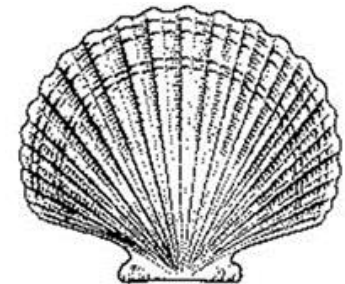
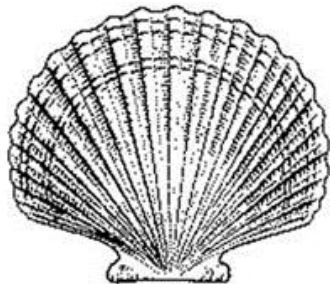
Report to the Alaska Board of Fisheries
March 6–9, 2018
Anchorage, Alaska

Nathaniel Nichols
Area Management Biologist
Commercial Groundfish and Shellfish Fisheries
Kodiak, Chignik, and South Alaska Peninsula Areas
Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Westward Region



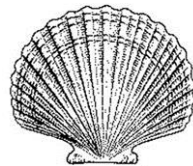
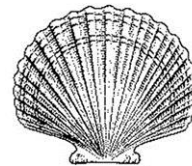
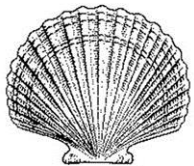
Kodiak Area Scallop Fishery

- State and federal co-management
- 9 federal LLPs
 - No other state limited entry
- FMP delegates management authority to State
- Board adopted management plan in 1993 (5 AAC 38.076)
- 3 vessels participate annually (2008/09–2017/18 average)
- GHs based on fishery performance and survey data
- 2017/18 Kodiak Area GH = 105,000 pounds

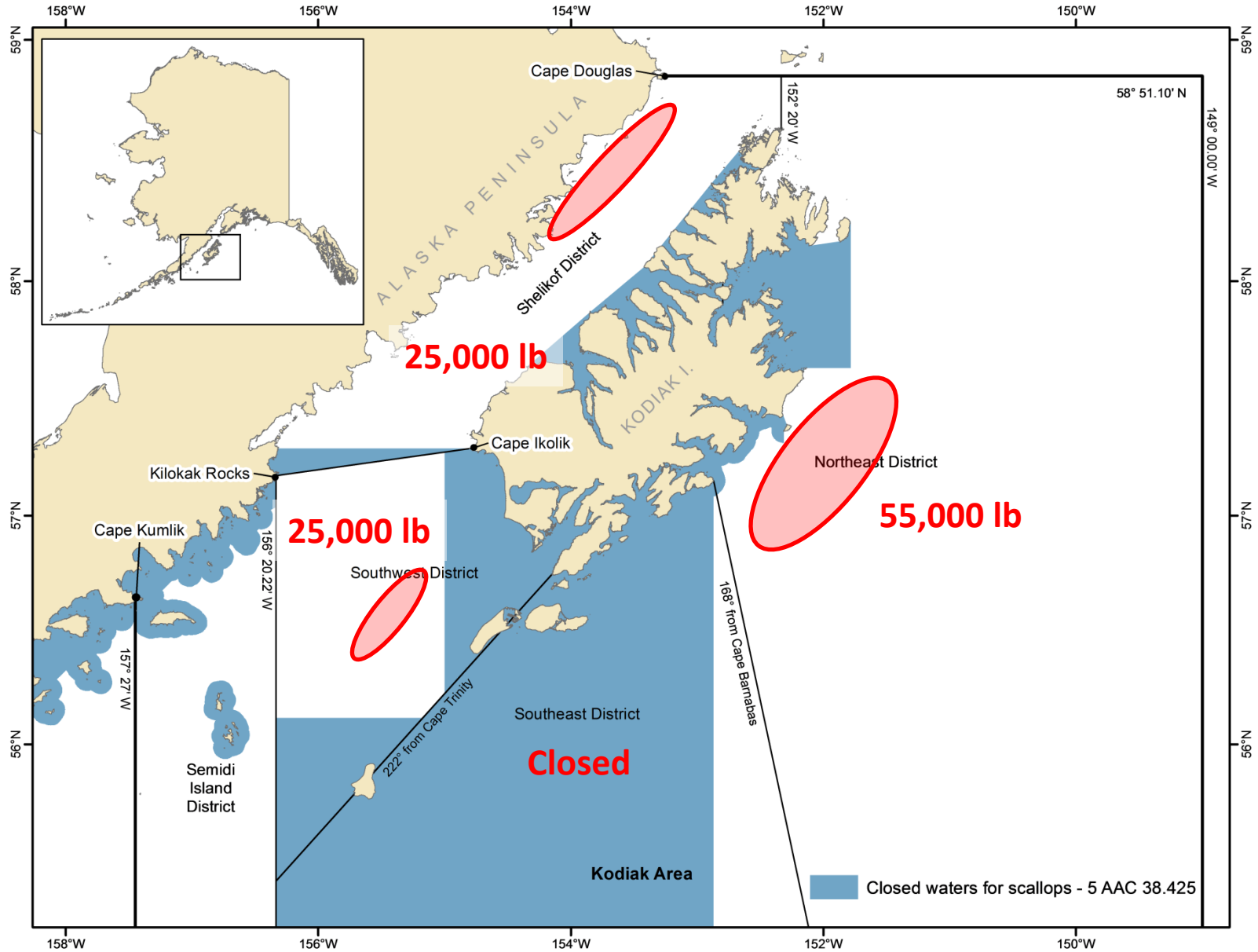


Kodiak Area Scallop Fishery Management

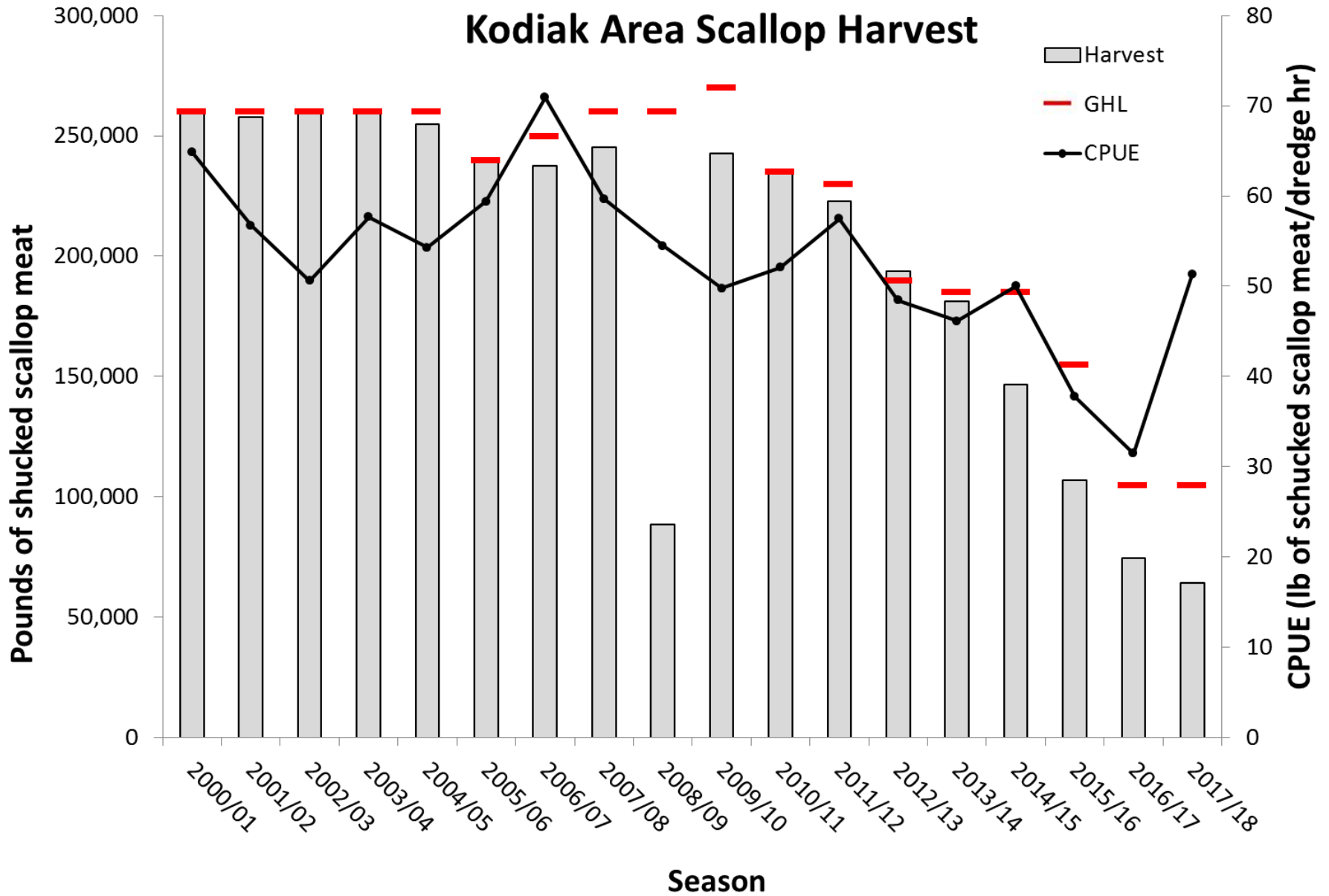
- July 1–February 15
- Scallop dredges (2 dredges, $\leq 15'$ feet wide, 4" rings)
- Reporting Requirements
 - 100% observer coverage
 - Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)
 - Logbooks
- District level management
 - Northeast District = 55,000 pounds
 - Shelikof District = 25,000 pounds
 - Southwest District = 25,000 pounds



Kodiak Area Scallop Management Districts

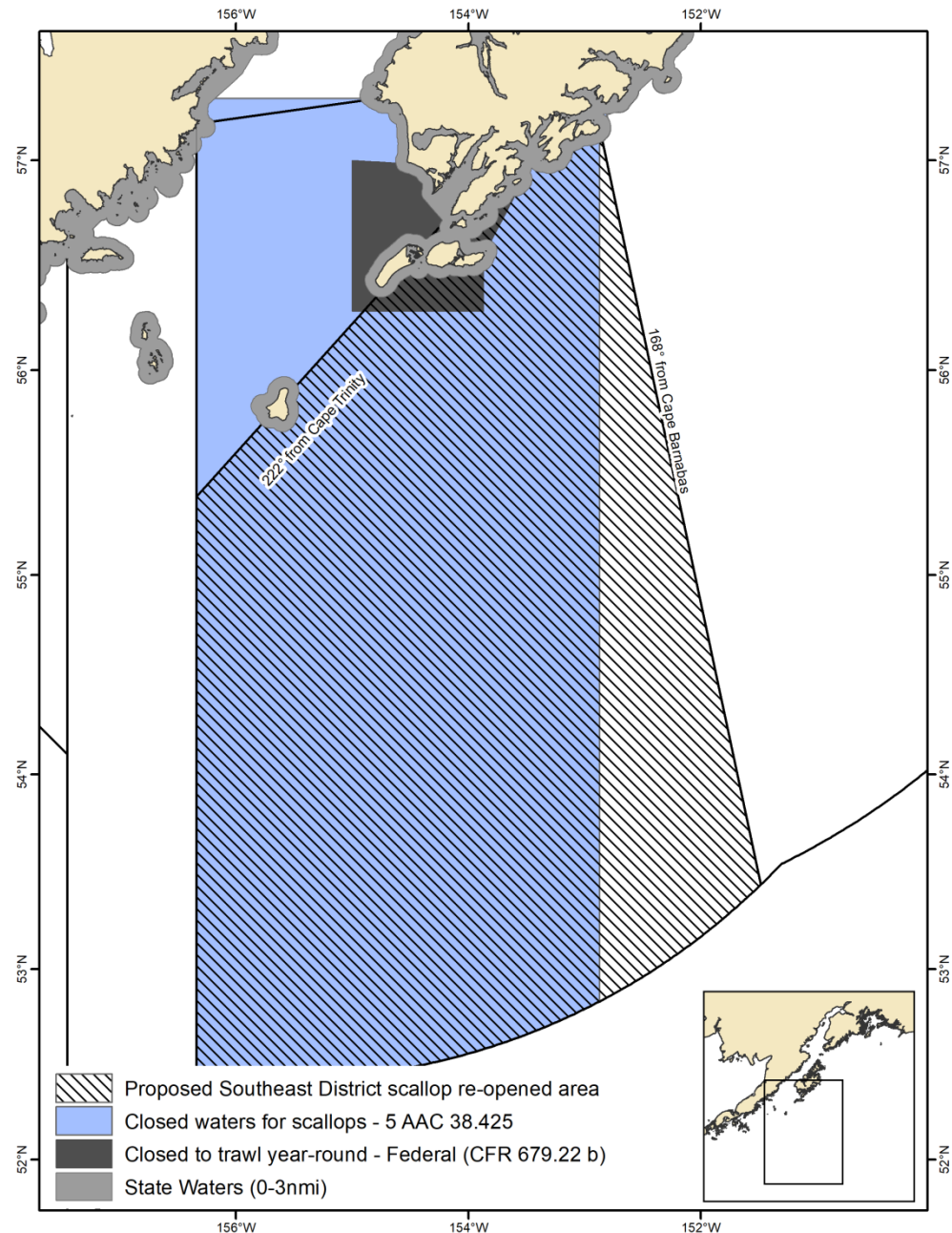


Kodiak Area Scallop Harvest



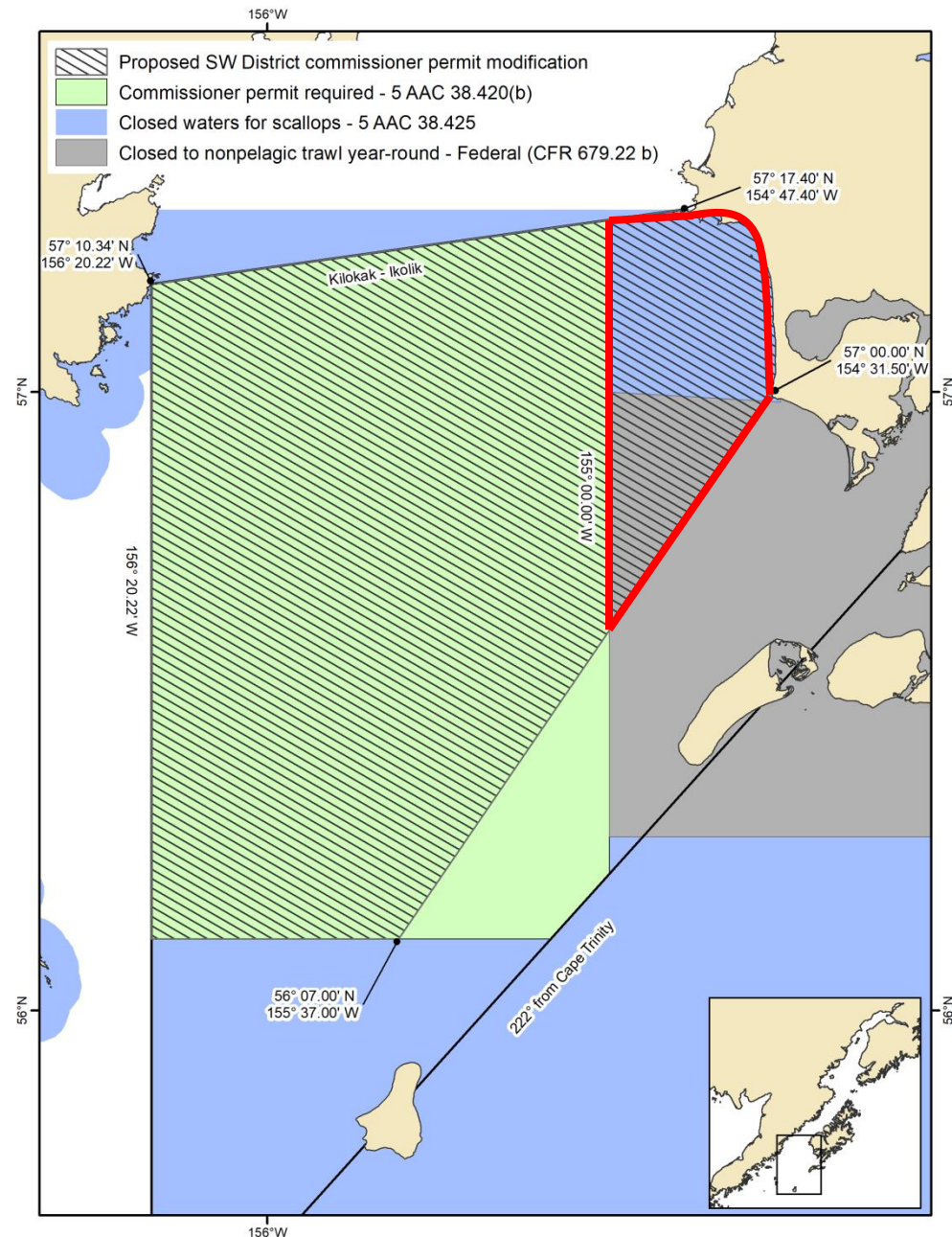
Proposal 210

- Open Southeast District
- Closed since 1969
- No survey or fishery data
- No estimate of harvest or crab bycatch
- Trinity Islands/Alitak Flats crab protection area
- Coordinate crab protection area with federal closures

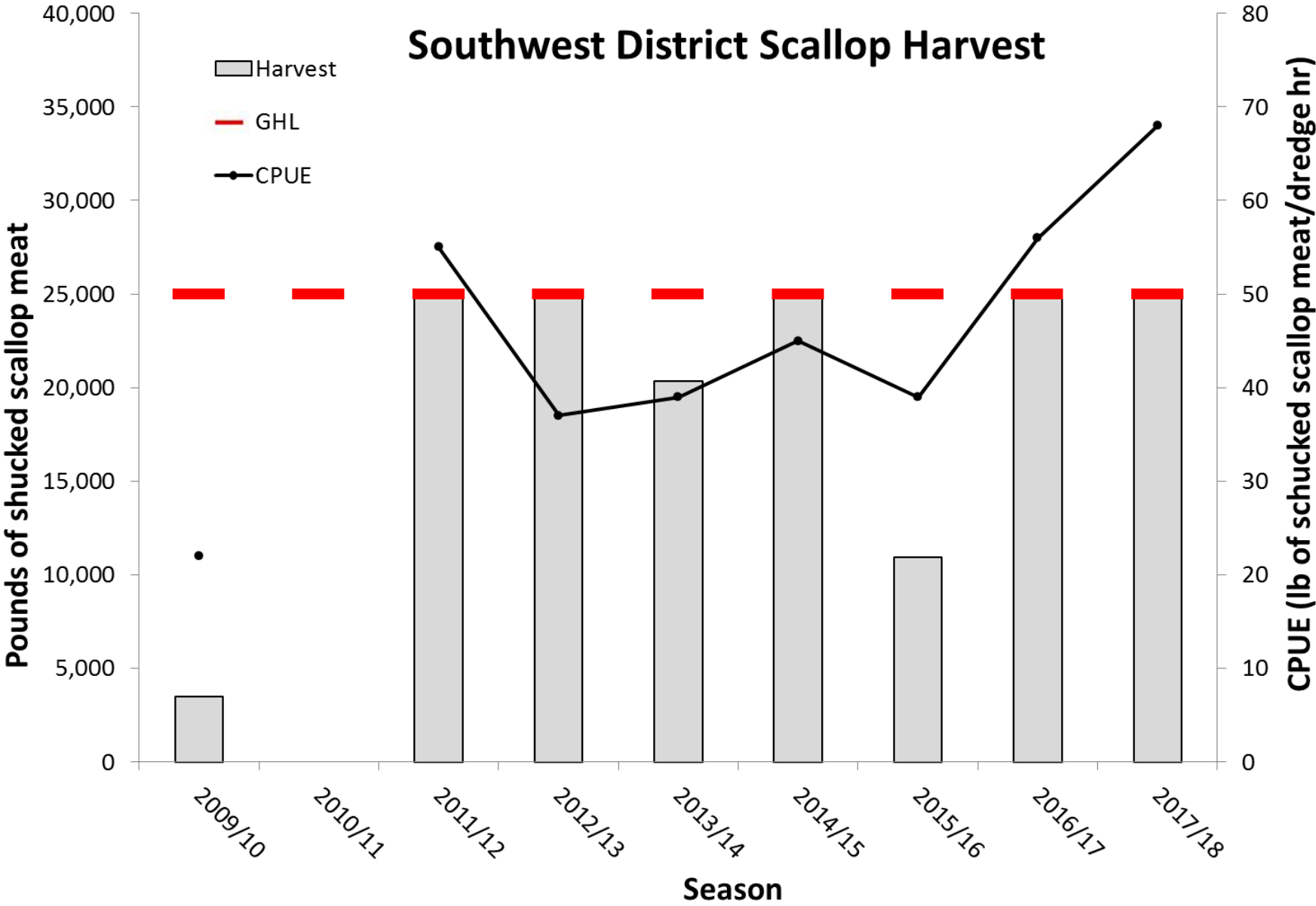


Proposal 211

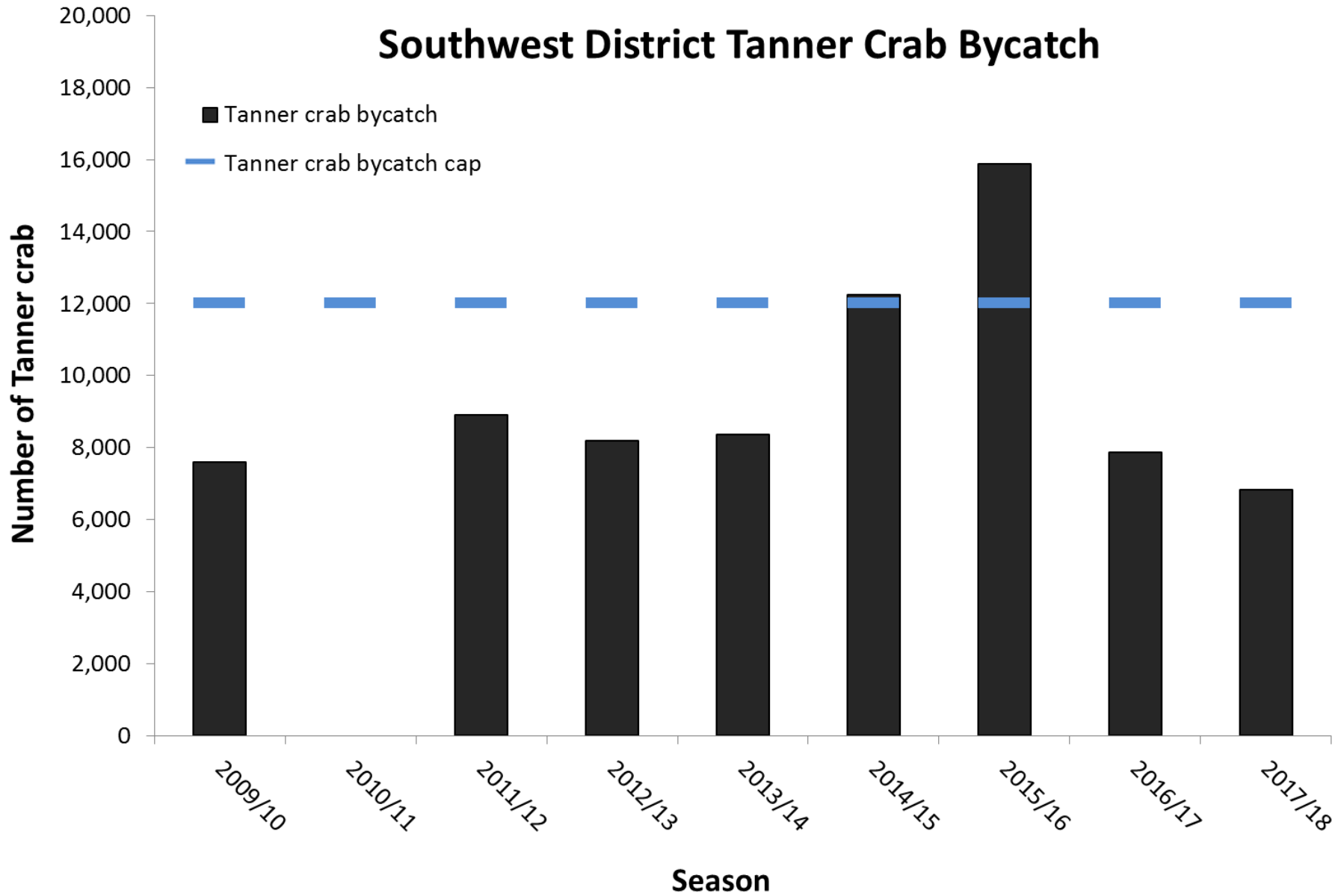
- Expand Southwest District
- Closed since 1969
- District partially opened in 2009
- Trinity Islands/Alitak Flats crab protection area
- Coordinate crab protection area with federal closures
- GHL = 25,000 pounds
- Tanner crab cap = 12,000 crab



Southwest District Scallop Harvest



Southwest District Tanner Crab Bycatch



Kodiak District Sea Cucumber Fishery Overview

- First commercial harvest in 1994/95
- 21 divers participate annually (2008/09–2017/18 average)
- 8 vessels participate annually (2008/09–2017/18 average)
- No survey, constant catch harvest strategy
- GHs based on fishery performance trends
- 2017/18 GH = 140,000 pounds
- 8 management sections

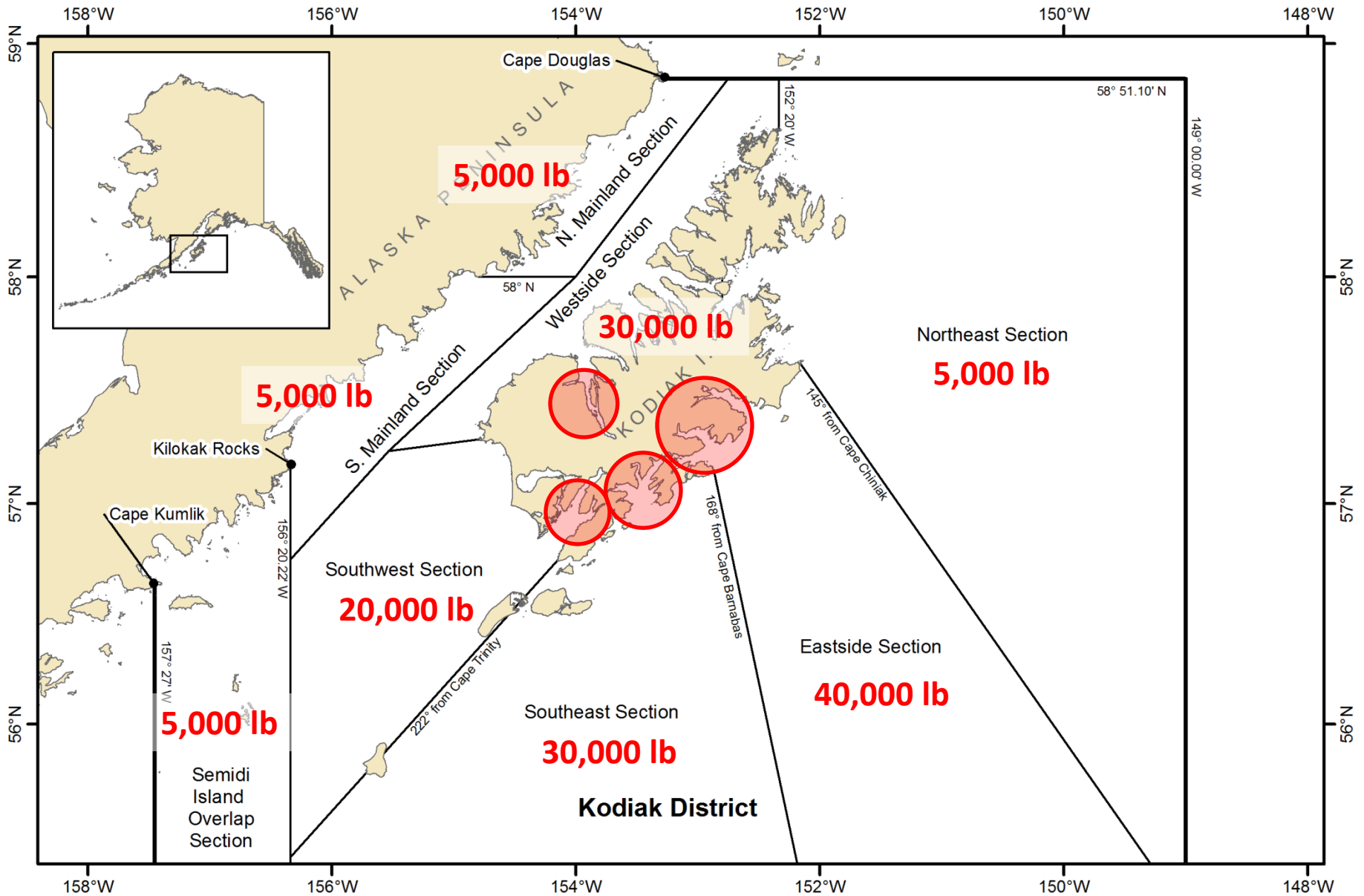


Kodiak District Sea Cucumber Fishery Overview (continued)

- October 1–April 30 (most fishing October to mid-November)
- Weekly fishing periods (~5 periods/year; ~12–48 hours/period)
- Dive gear only (hookah or SCUBA)
- Logbooks required
- Commissioner permit
- Open access

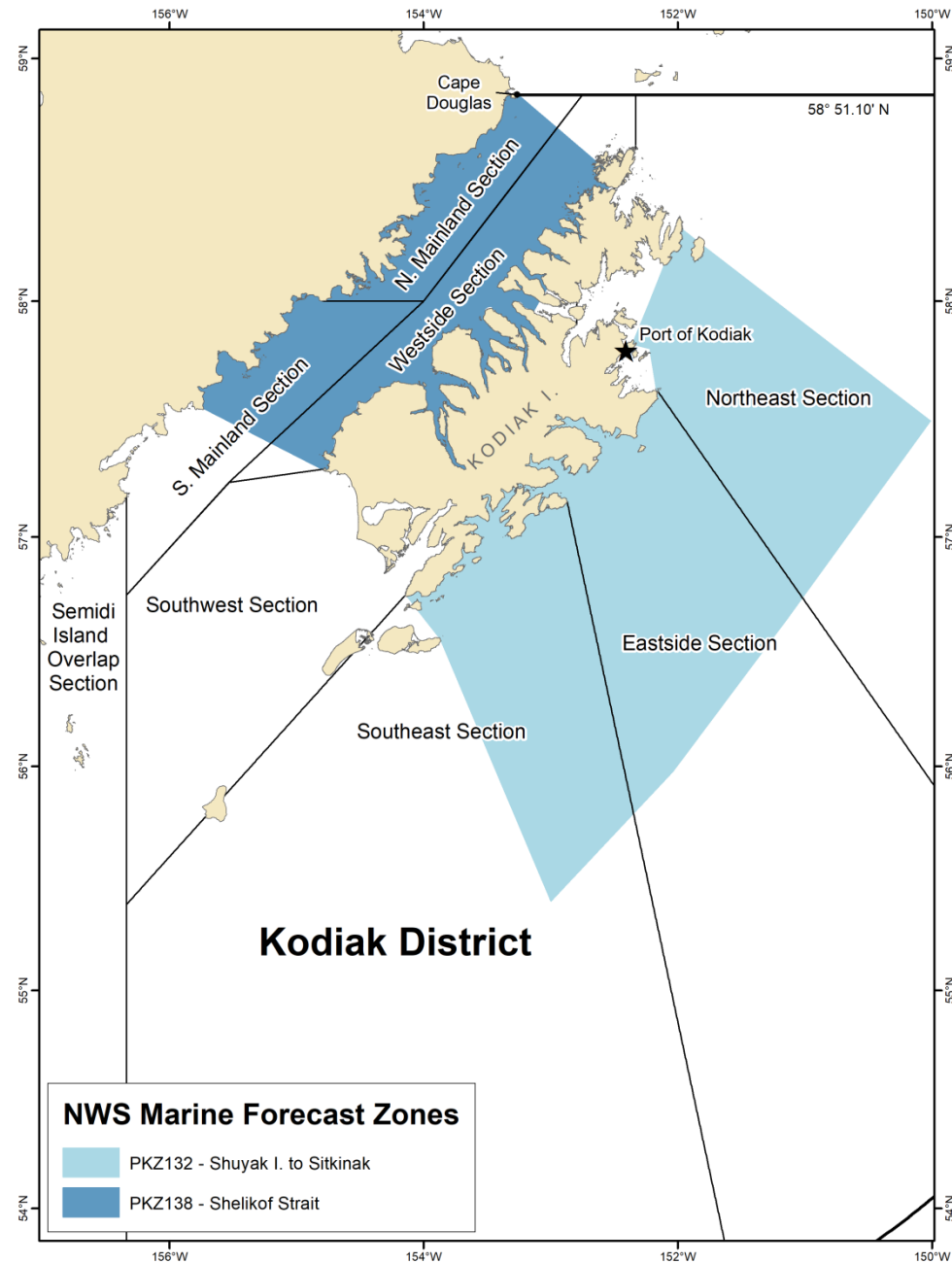


Kodiak District Sea Cucumber Management Sections



Proposal 212

- Create sea cucumber management plan
- Currently commissioner's permit
 - CFEC permit card
 - Registration
 - Season
 - Legal gear
 - Logbook
- Allow stakeholders to address Kodiak specific management
- Commissioner's permit for rest of Area J
- **Weather delay (new)**



Proposal 212 (continued)

Weather delay

- 4:00 a.m. NWS marine weather forecast
- Day before scheduled opening date (travel day)
- Gale warning (34–47 knots)
- No expiration (indefinite delay possible)
- All sections delay (no staggering)

