

ADF&G STAFF PRESENTATION ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

SOUTHEAST ALASKA AND YAKUTAT AREAS
SHELLFISH REGULATORY PROPOSALS
January 15–21, 2012 Petersburg, Alaska



Red, Blue and Golden King, Tanner, and Dungeness Crab Fisheries

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Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Southeast Region

Proposals

- **Committee of the Whole**

- Proposal **139**: Personal use clarification - **SUPPORT**
- Proposal **148**: Section 11-A red king crab personal use allocation - **NEUTRAL**
- Proposals **152, 153**: Eliminate threshold in Commercial RKC Management Plan - **NEUTRAL**

- **Committee A**

- Proposal **150**: Size limits for Yakutat personal use and subsistence king and Tanner crab fisheries - **SUPPORT**
- Proposal **151**: Amend live holding provisions for personal use and subsistence crab fisheries – **SUPPORT**
- Proposal **154**: Prohibit square pots for GKC - **NEUTRAL**
- Proposal **155**: Reduce GKC and Tanner crab pot limit - **NEUTRAL**
- Proposal **156**: GKC size limit clarification - **SUPPORT**
- Proposals **157, 158**: Season for golden king and Tanner crab - **SUPPORT**
- Proposal **159, 160**: Pot stacking for Tanner crab - **NEUTRAL**



Proposals

● Committee B

- Proposal **140**: Harvest record - **OPPOSED**
- Proposals **141**: Closed waters - **OPPOSED**
- Proposals **142 - 144, 146**: Closed waters - **NEUTRAL**
- Proposal **145**: Sport shrimp pot limit – **NEUTRAL**
- Proposal **147**: Ecotourism - **NEUTRAL**
- Proposal **149**: Ring net limits for subsistence crab fisheries - **SUPPORT**
- Proposals **161, 162, 163, 164**: Dungeness closed waters - **NEUTRAL**
- Proposal **165**: Dungeness buoy markings - **OPPOSED**
- Proposal **166**: Dungeness season timing - **OPPOSED**
- Proposal **167**: Pot limit reduction for Yakutat Dungeness - **NEUTRAL**



RKC Assessment / Management

- **Assessment**

- Nine areas surveyed with ~560 pot lifts
- Biomass estimated using C-S model

- **Management plan**

- Appropriate harvest rate
- Regional GHL set using survey biomass
- Pot limits based on GHL
- Minimum GHL threshold 200,000 pounds legal

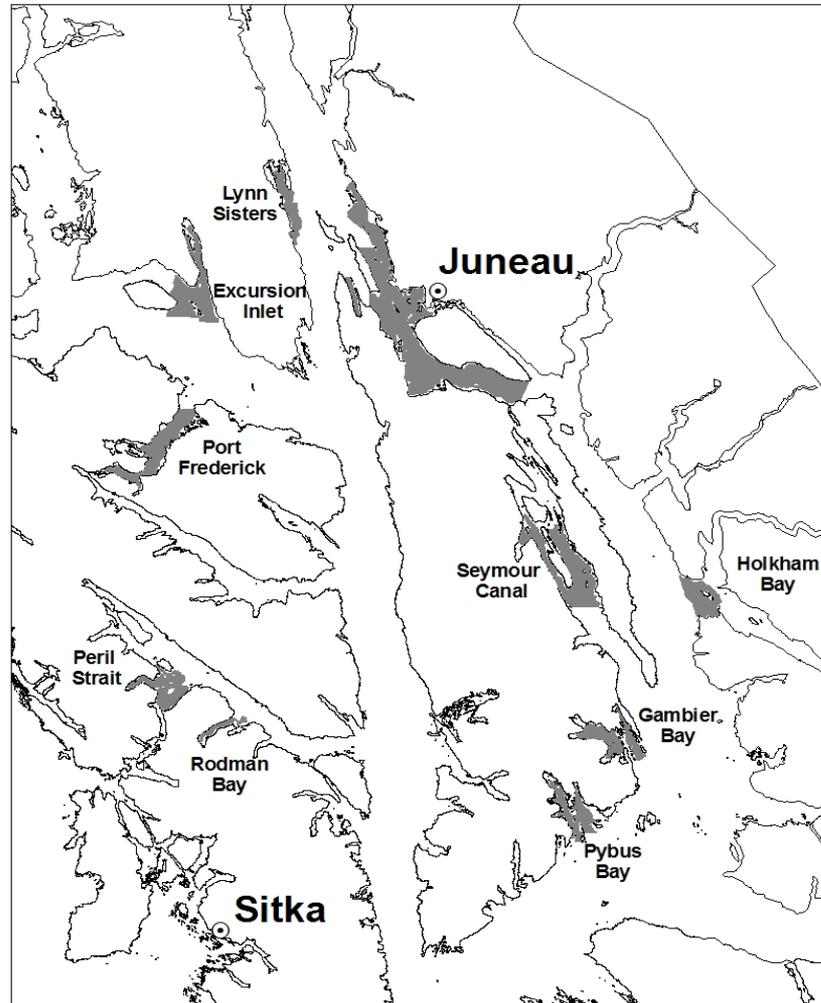
- **Regulations**

- Males only, 7-inch minimum CW, November 1 season start



Southeast Alaska

Major Commercial Red King Crab Fishing Grounds



RKC Personal Use Management

- **Section 11-A Allocation Plan**

- **Personal use fishery: 60% of GHL**
 - **Summer (July 1–September 30): 50% of GHL**
 - **Winter (October 1–March 31): 10% of GHL**
- **Commercial fishery: 40% of GHL**

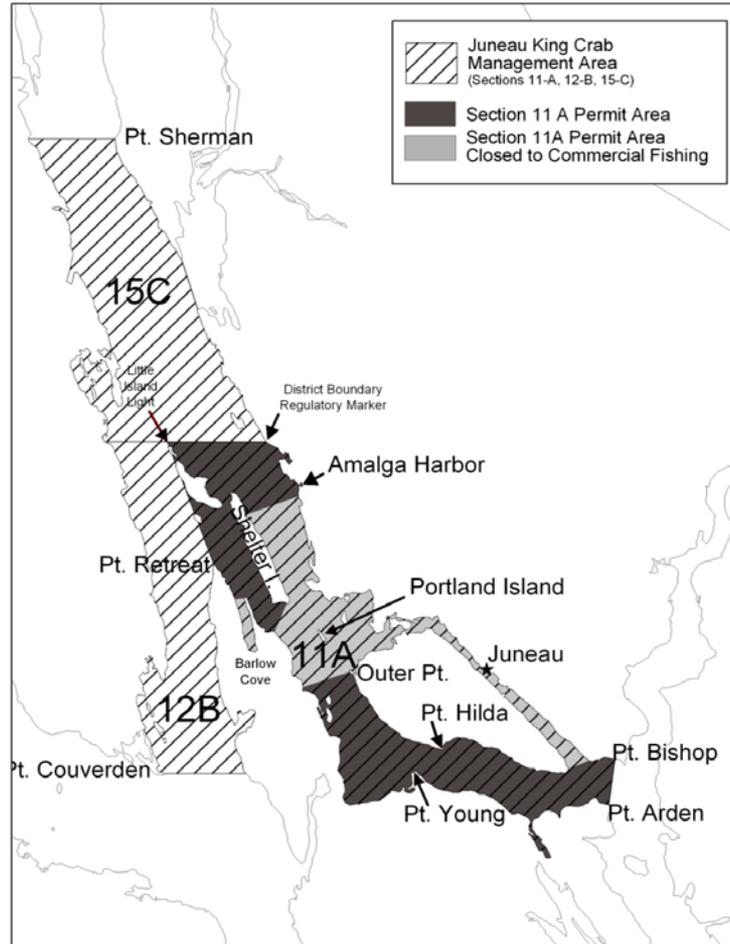
- **Management guidelines**

- **Extend personal use fishery as long as possible, using**
 - **daily bag limits**
 - **number of pots/vessel**
 - **seasonal bag limit**

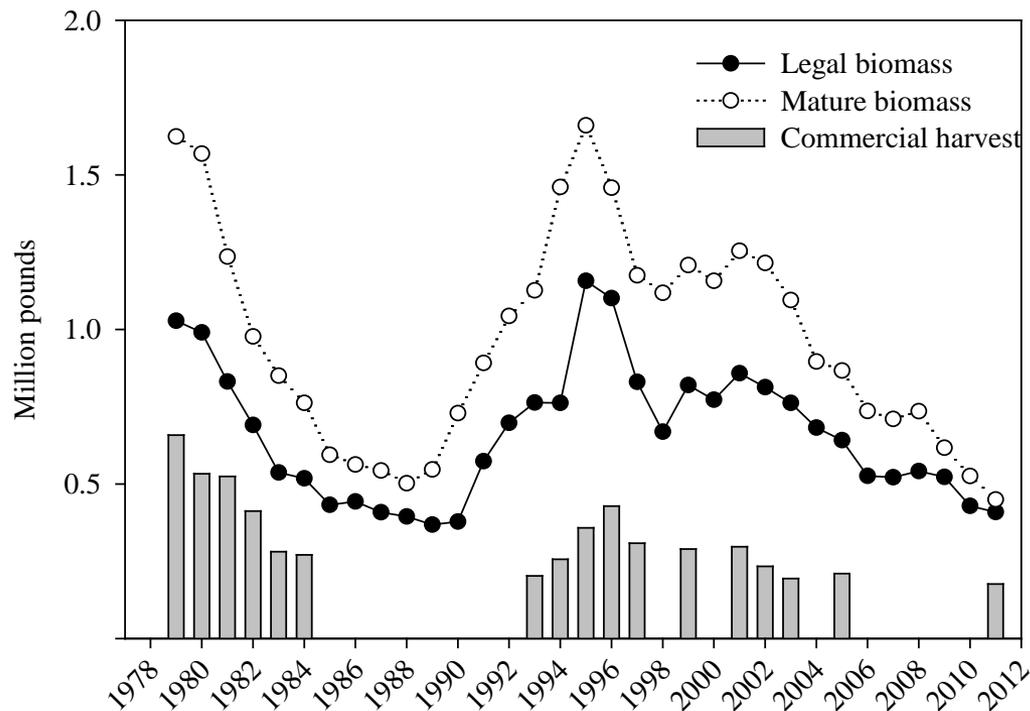


Southeast Alaska

Section 11-A Red King Crab Allocation Plan Areas



RKC Biomass / Harvest



Estimated legal and mature biomass, from surveyed areas only, and commercial harvest of red king crab in Southeast Alaska, 1979 through 2011.



GKC Assessment / Management

- **Assessment**

- Observer program
- Triennial review of fishery-dependent data

- **Management plan**

- Guideline harvest ranges for each of 7 fishing areas
- 100-pot per vessel limit

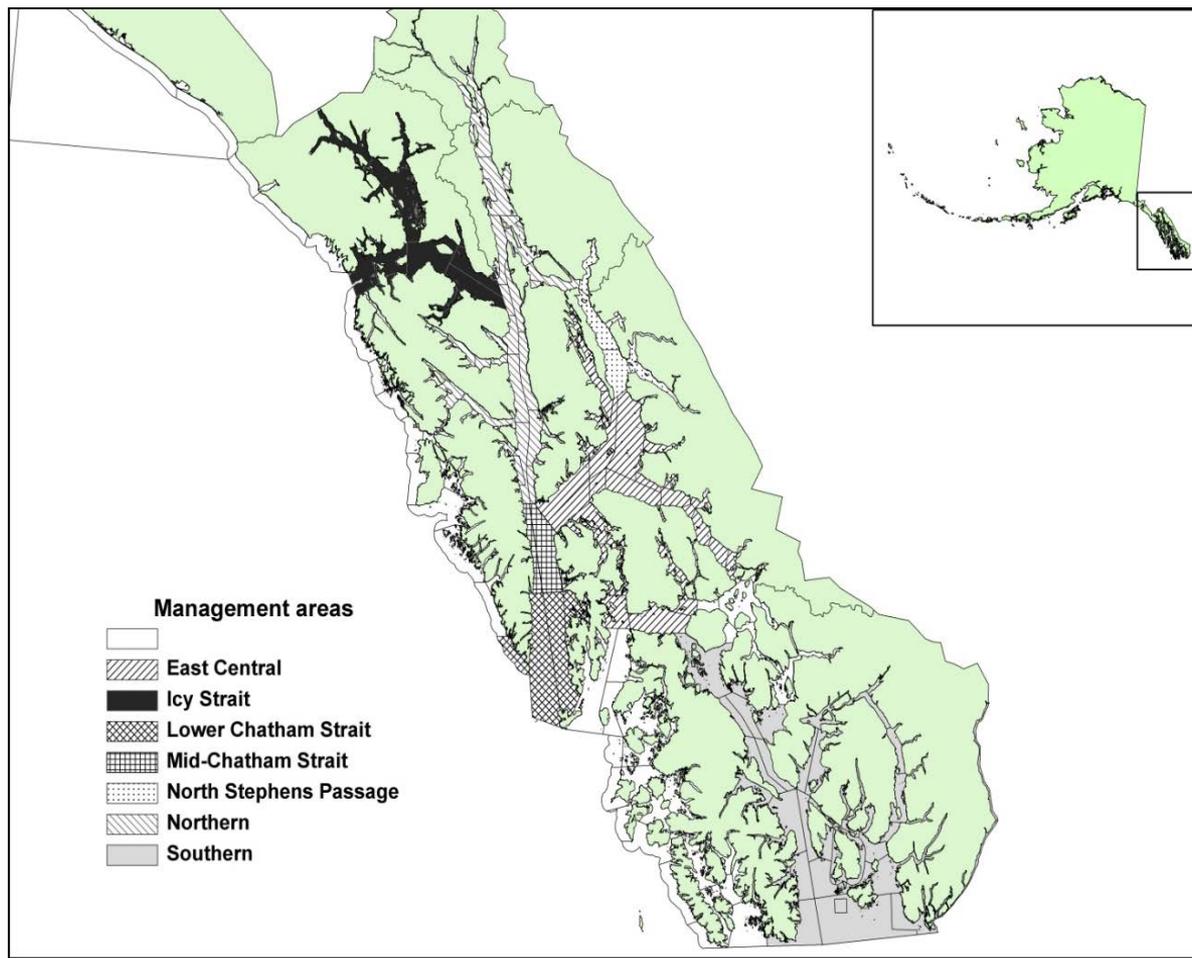
- **Regulations**

- Limited entry
- Males only
- Size limits
- Season start , February 10–17; concurrent w/ Tanner

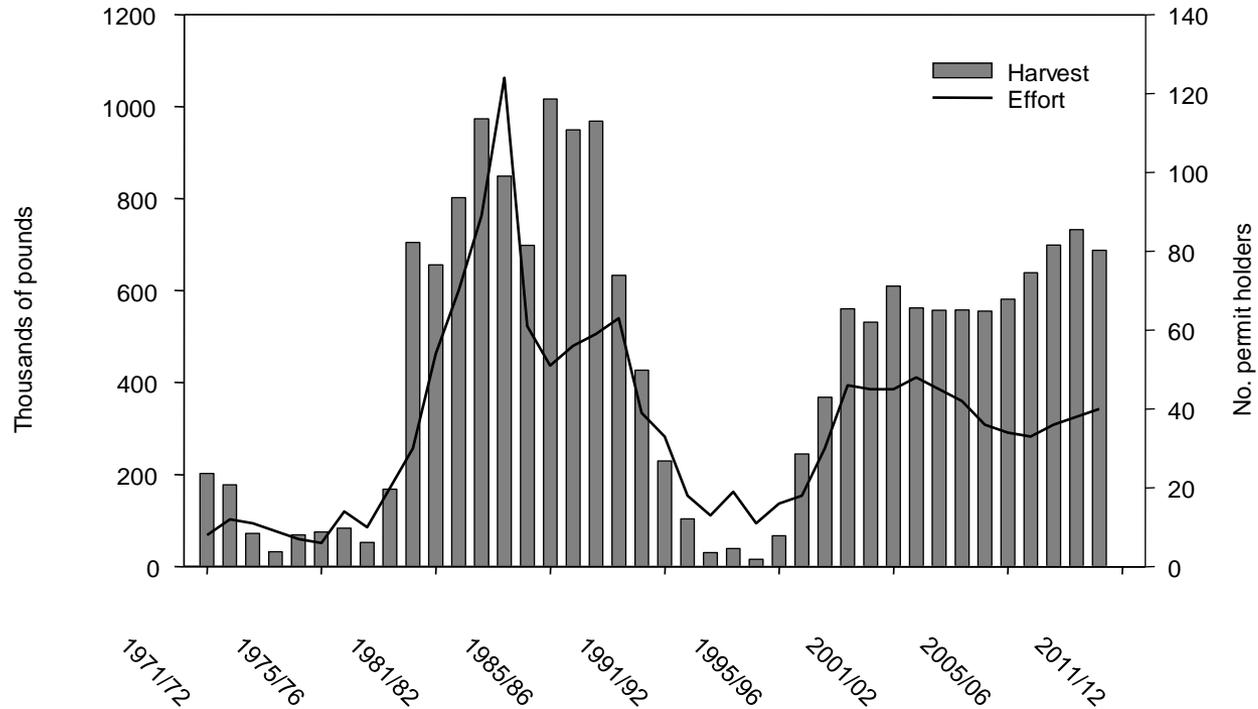


Southeast Alaska

Golden King Crab Management Areas



GKC Harvest / Effort



Golden king crab harvest and effort, 1971/72 through 2010/11 commercial seasons, Southeast Alaska.



Tanner Assessment / Management

- **Assessment**

- Six areas surveyed with ~293 pot lifts
- Biomass estimated using C-S model

- **Management plan**

- Biomass-based threshold
- Season length determined by biomass and effort
- 80-pot vessel limit

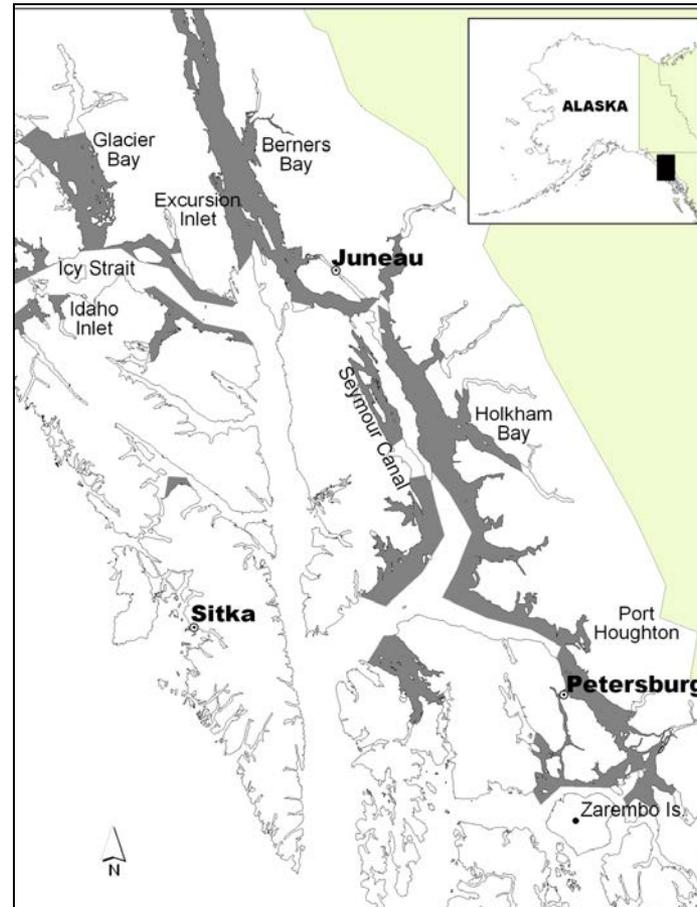
- **Regulations**

- Limited entry
- Males only
- Size limits
- Season start , February 10–17; concurrent w/ GKC

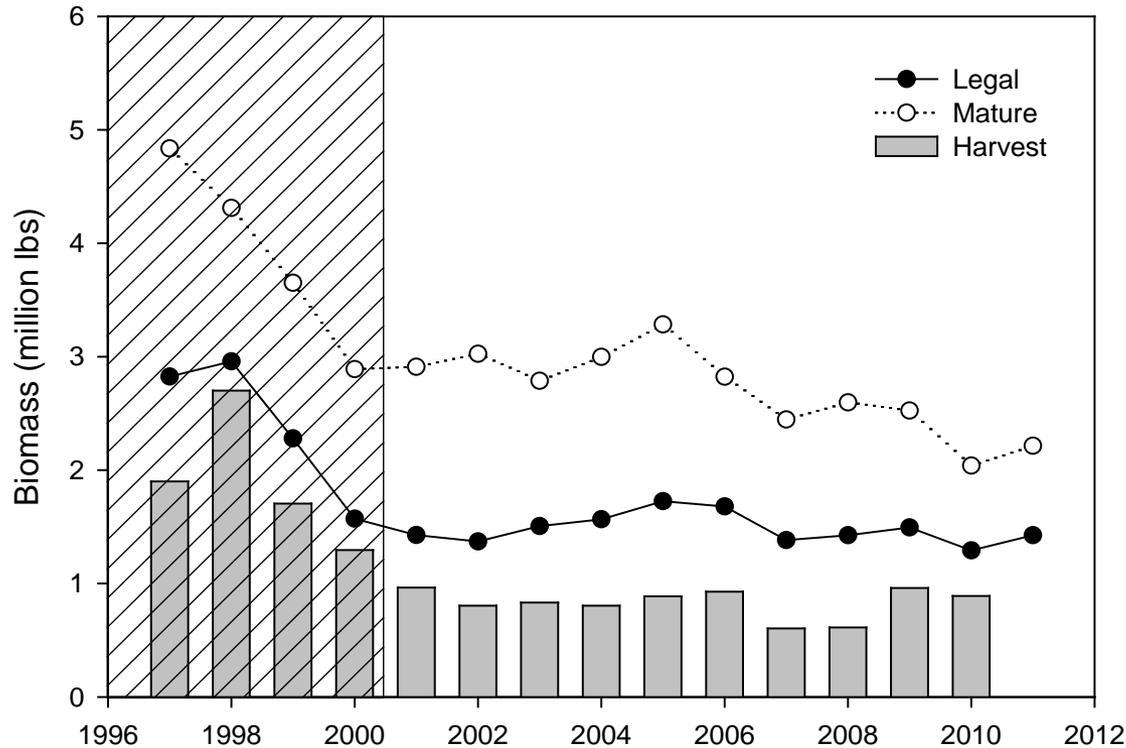


Southeast Alaska

Major Commercial Tanner Crab Fishing Grounds



Tanner Crab Biomass / Harvest



Estimated Tanner crab legal and mature biomass for surveyed areas only and commercial harvest in Southeast Alaska, 1997 through 2011. Hatched area is where biomass of areas not surveyed are estimated by their average biomass of all subsequent years. Estimates do not include expansion factor.



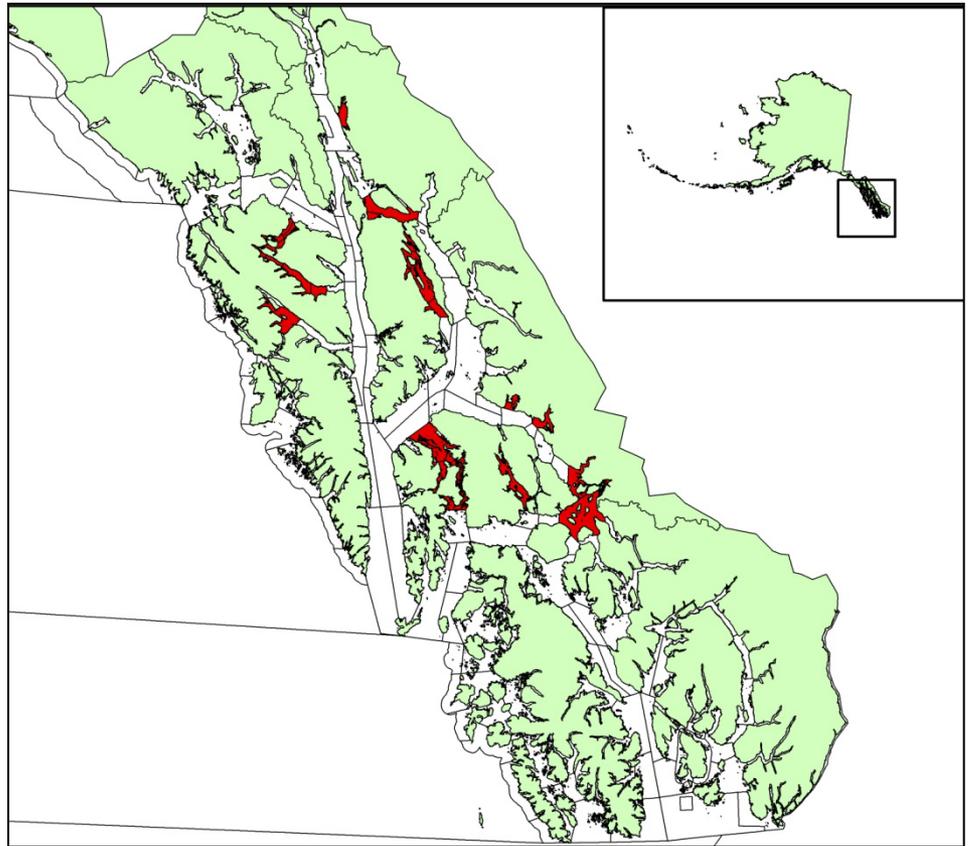
Dungeness Crab Management

- Males only
- 6 1/2-inch minimum carapace width
- **Southeast Alaska**
 - Limited entry
 - Split season
 - Summer/Fall: June 15 – Aug. 15, and Oct. 1 – Nov. 30, or
 - Fall/Winter: Oct. 1 – Feb. 28
 - Tiered pot limits: 75, 150, 225, or 300
 - Thresholds
- **Yakutat**
 - Open access
 - Split season: Spring/Fall: May 15– uly 14, and Nov. 1–Feb. 28
 - 400-pot vessel limit

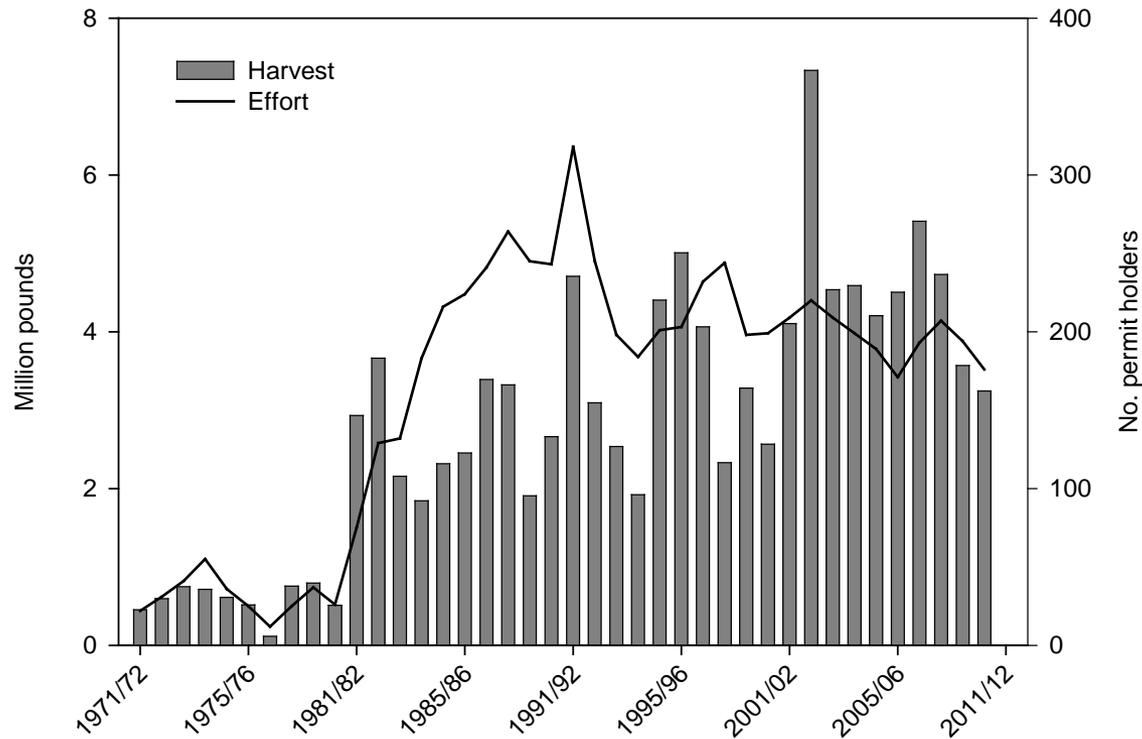


Southeast Alaska

Major Commercial Dungeness Crab Fishing Grounds



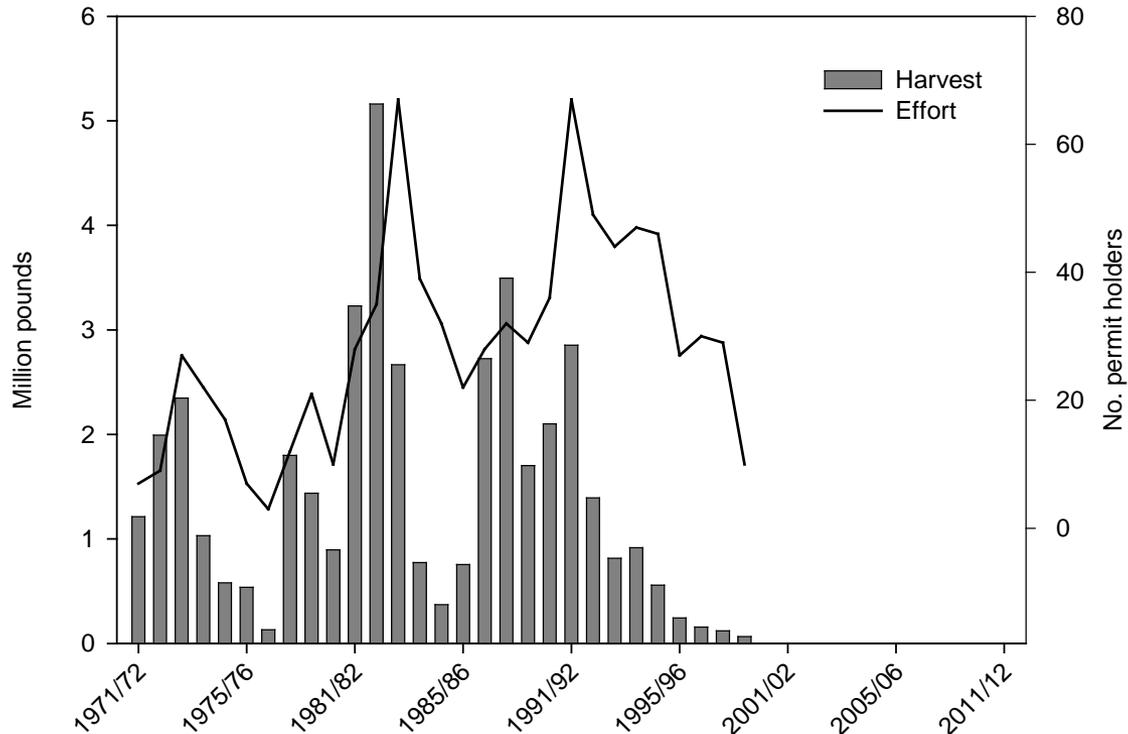
SE Dungeness Harvest / Effort



Southeast Alaska Dungeness crab harvest and effort, 1971/1972 through 2010/2011 commercial seasons.



Yakutat Dungeness Harvest / Effort



Yakutat Dungeness crab harvest and effort, 1971/1972 through 1999/2000 commercial seasons. The fishery was closed beginning with the 2000/2001 season.

