

# Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands Pacific Cod Fisheries Overview

Report to the Alaska Board of Fisheries

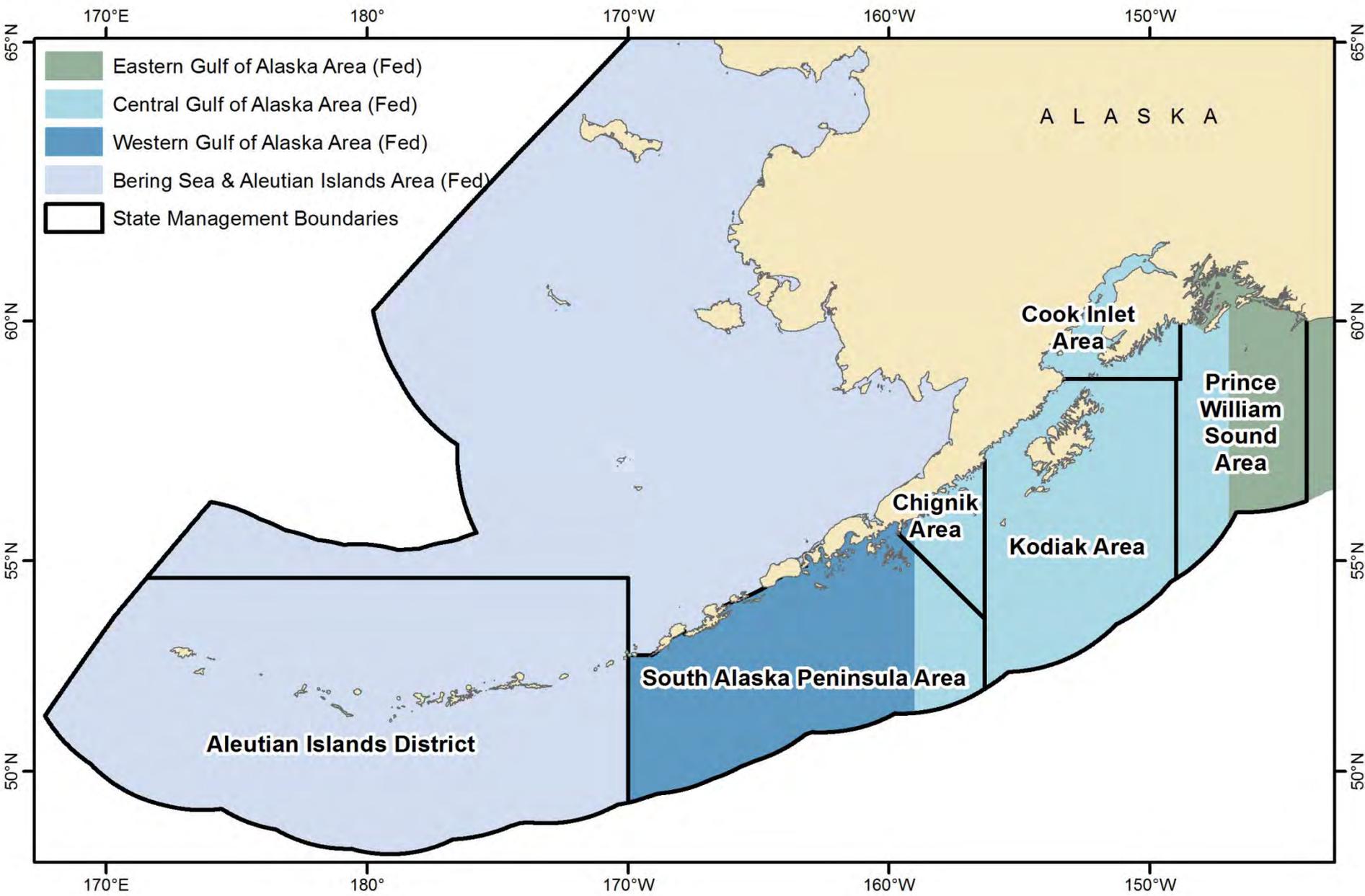
October 18-22, 2013



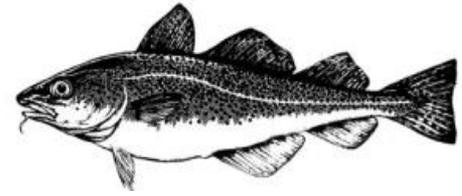
Oral Report: RC 3; Tab 1

Written Reports: RC 3; Tabs 5-8

Staff Comments: RC 2; Tab 9



# Alaska Pacific Cod Fisheries:

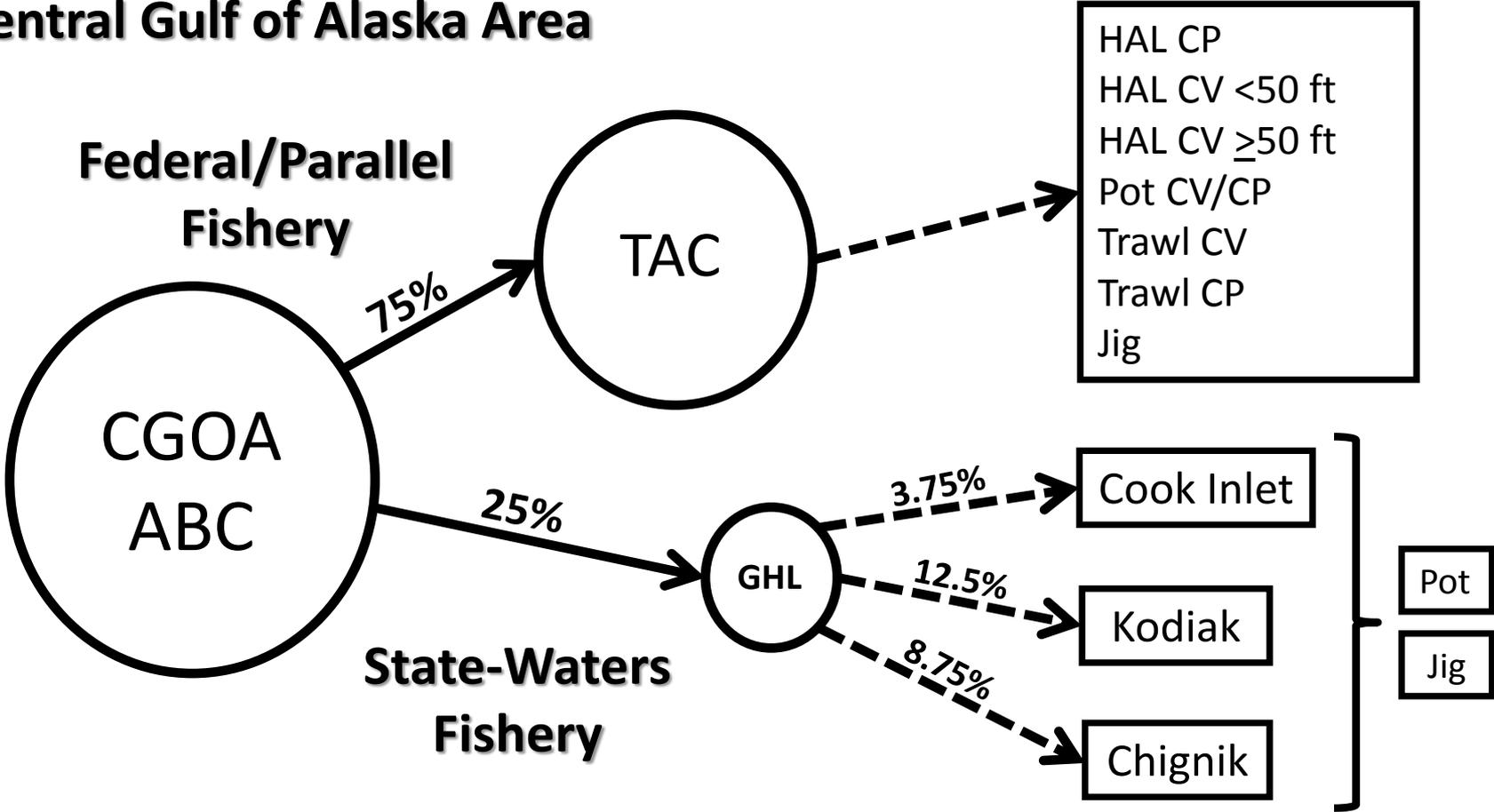


- **Federal:** Federal waters (EEZ; 3–200 nmi) guided by NPFMC process.
- **Parallel:** State waters (0–3 nmi) concurrent with adjacent federal fishery and generally adopt federal regulations and management measures as guided by BOF process.
- **State-Waters (GHL):** State waters (0–3 nmi) guided by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

# Harvest Limits

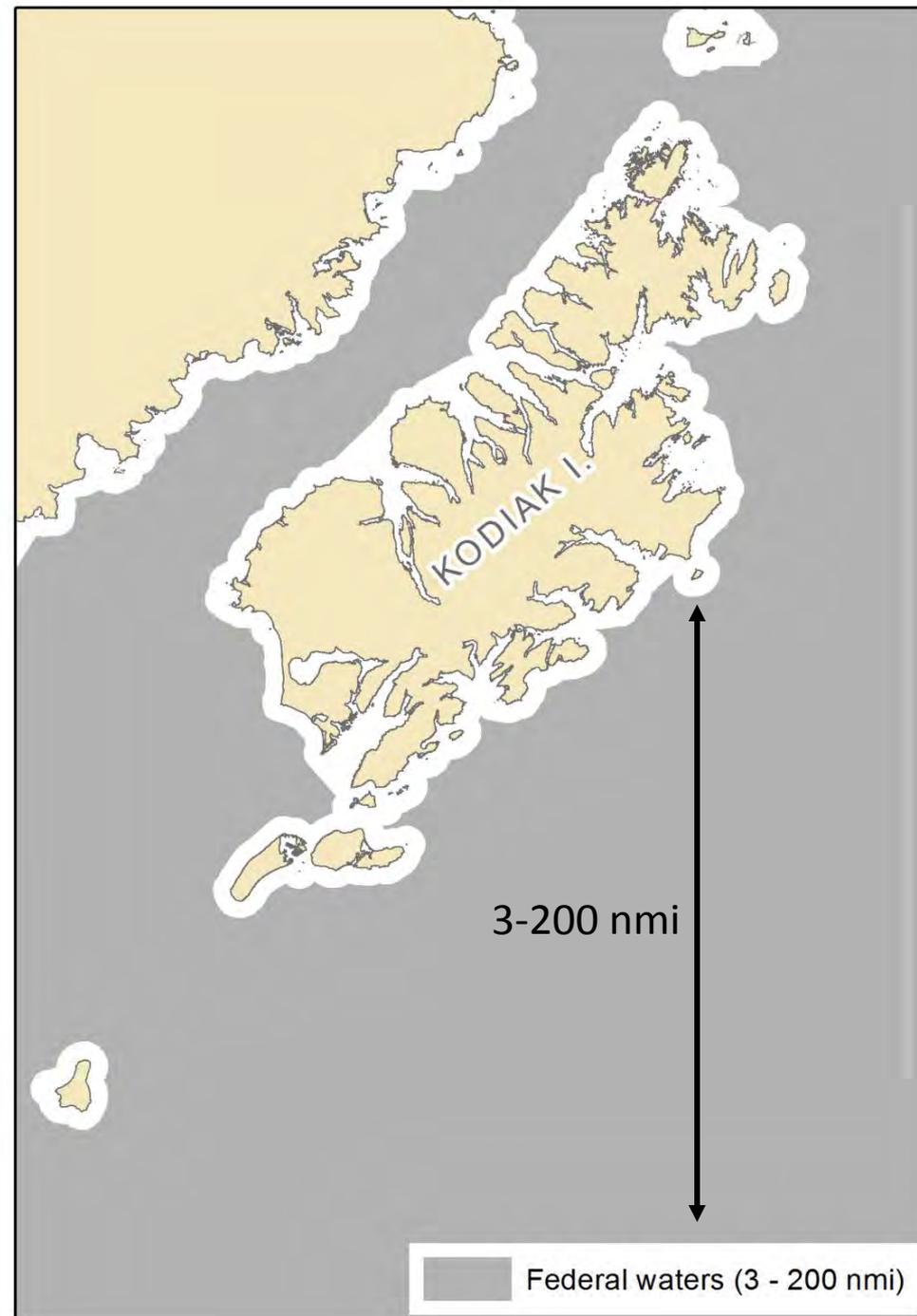
- **ABC** - Acceptable Biological Catch (NMFS: EGOA, CGOA, WGOA, BSAI)
- **TAC** - Total Allowable Catch (Federal/Parallel Fishery)
- **GHL** - Guideline Harvest Level (State-Waters Fishery)

## Central Gulf of Alaska Area



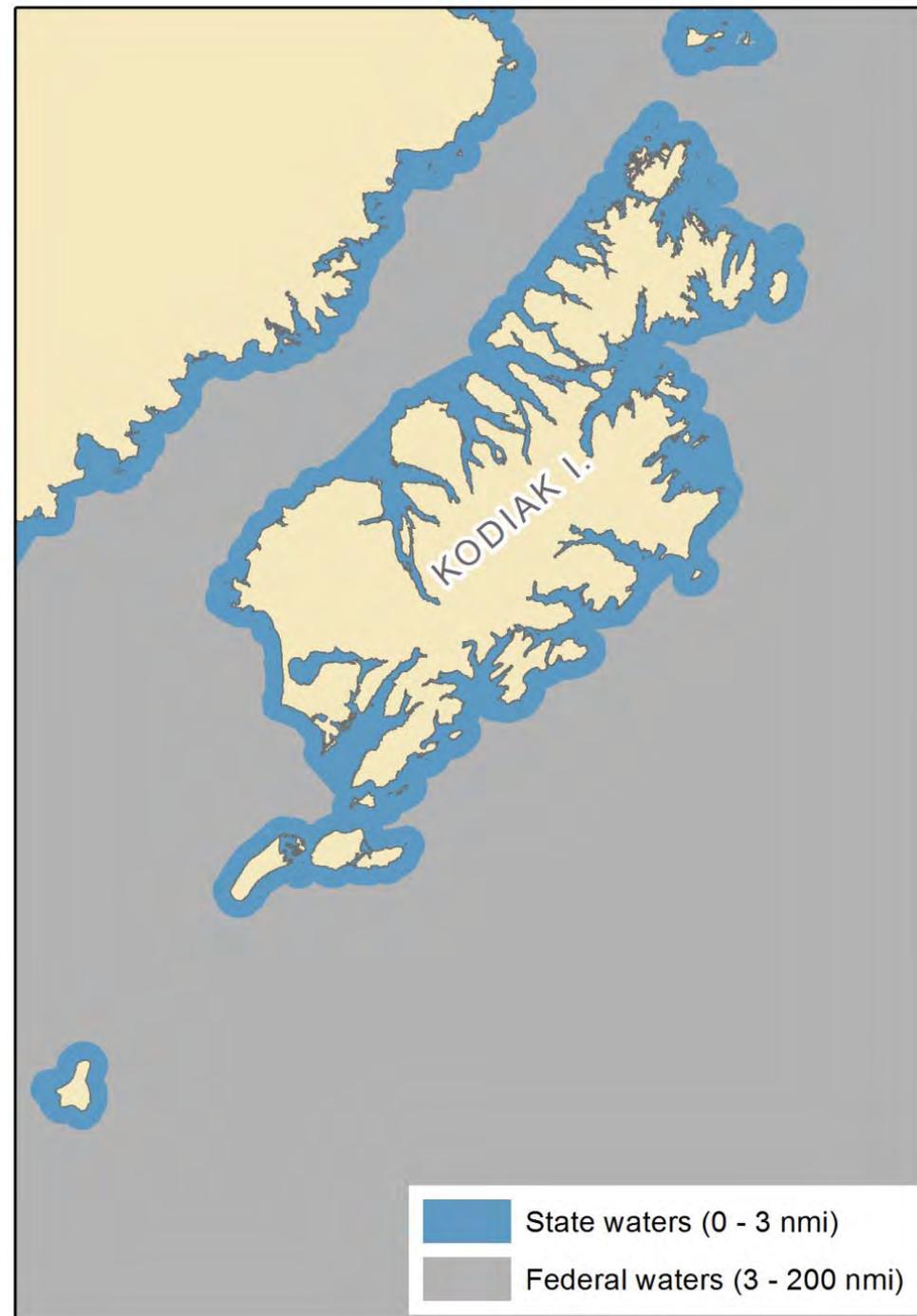
# Federal Pacific Cod Fishery

- Federal waters - 3 to 200 nmi
- Harvest limit (TAC) based on 75% of Pacific cod ABC
- Gear sectors: Trawl, longline, pot and jig gear
- A & B seasons (Jan 1 and Sept 1)
- No gear limits, vessel length limited to 125 ft (GOA)
- Limited access (FFP and LLP required)
- Observer requirements



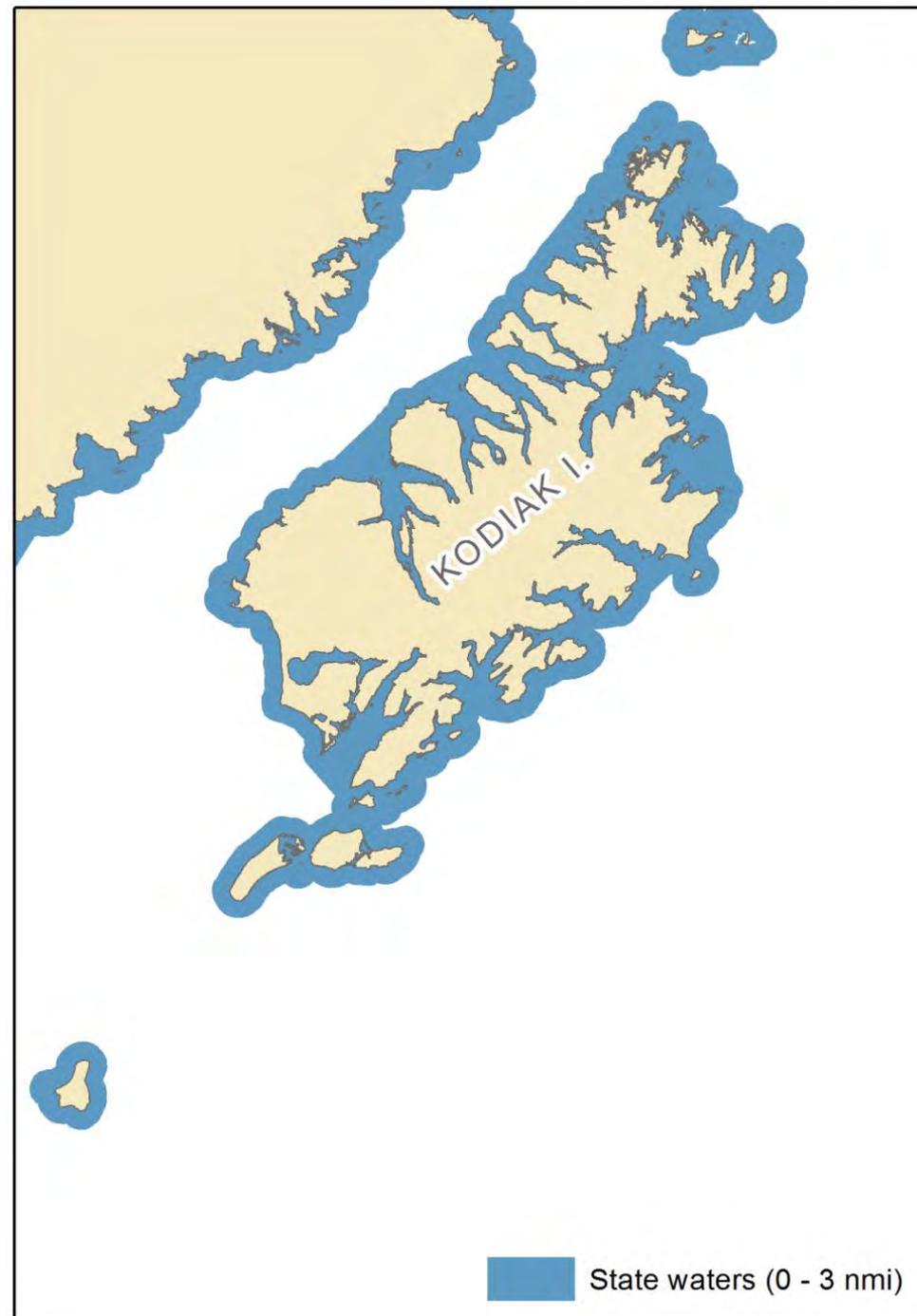
# Parallel Pacific Cod Fishery

- State waters - 0 to 3 nmi
- Opened concurrent to federal fishery by state EO
- Shared TAC with federal fishery
- Gear sectors: Trawl, longline, pot and jig gear (bottom trawl restrictions)
- A & B seasons (Jan 1 and Sept 1)
- No gear limits but some vessel length restrictions (58 ft maximum Chignik & S. Peninsula)
- Open access (FFP/LLP not required)
- Observer requirements for federally permitted vessels



## State-Waters Pacific Cod Fishery

- State waters - 0 to 3 nmi
- Harvest limit (GHL) based on 25% of Pacific cod ABC (3% Aleutian Is)
- Seasons open after federal/parallel fisheries close
- Pot and jig gear (longline - PWS ; longline and trawl - Aleutian Is)
- Gear limited to 60 pots or 5 jig machines
- Some vessel length limits (58 ft maximum Chignik & S. Peninsula)
- Open access
- Registration exclusivity
- No observer requirements



# October 2013 Statewide Pacific Cod Meeting

## 37 Proposals

### Proposal Category:

- ❖ Increase state-waters Pacific cod GHLS (9 proposals)
- ❖ Create new state-waters fisheries (4 proposals)
- ❖ Pacific cod management plans (17 proposals)
- ❖ General (7 proposals)

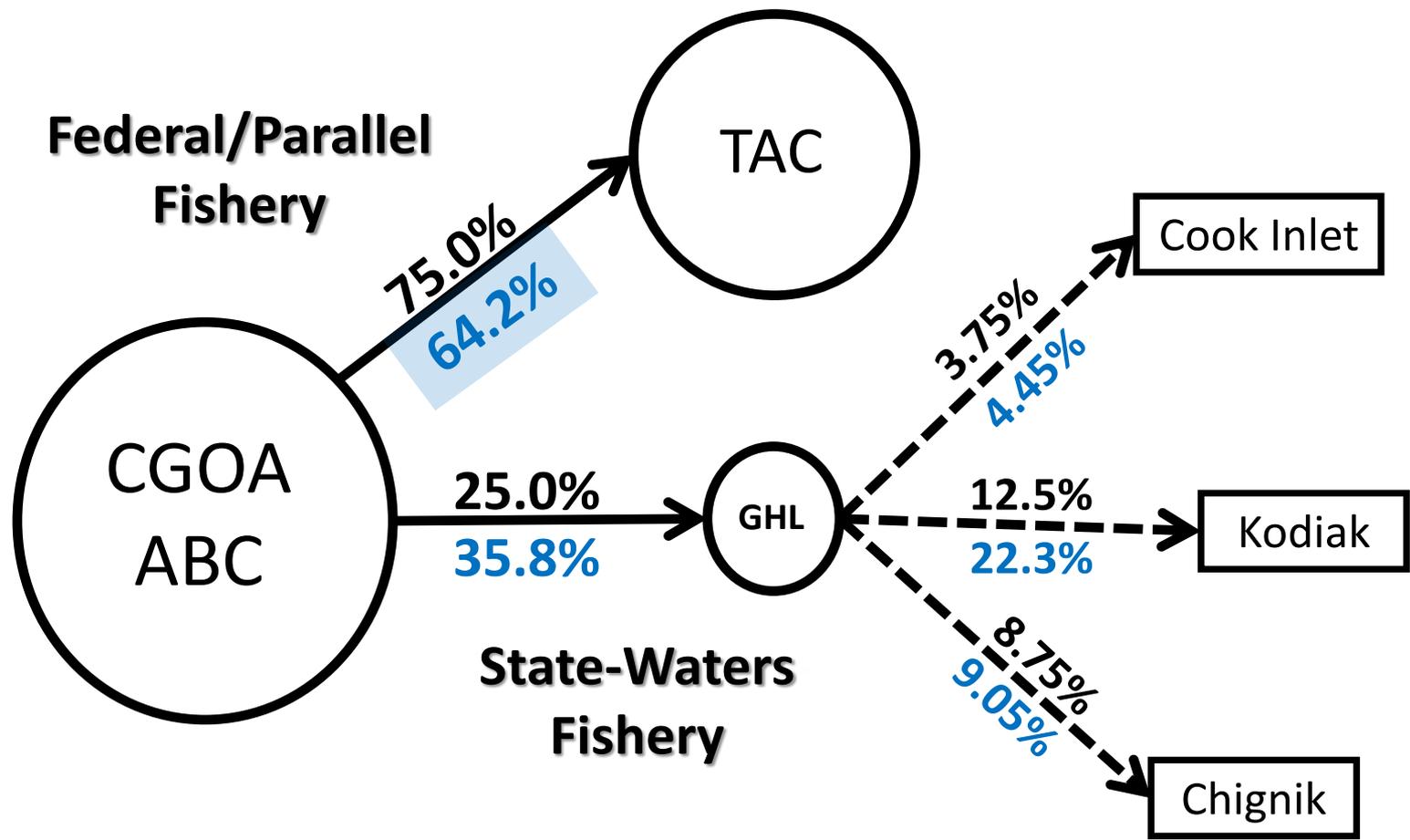
# Proposal 2: Increase Cook Inlet, Kodiak, and Chignik GHLs

Current state-waters GHL + 10-yr average catch from parallel fishery

Area	Current GHL % of ABC	Proposed % ABC Increase	Proposed GHL % of ABC
Cook Inlet	3.75	0.70	4.45
Kodiak	12.50	9.80	22.30
Chignik	8.75	0.30	9.05
GHL	25.00	10.80	35.80
TAC	75.00	-	64.20

10.8% increase = **13.6 million pounds** (2012 ABC)

# Proposal 2: Increase Cook Inlet, Kodiak, and Chignik GHLs



# Proposals 3-5: Increase Chignik Area GHL

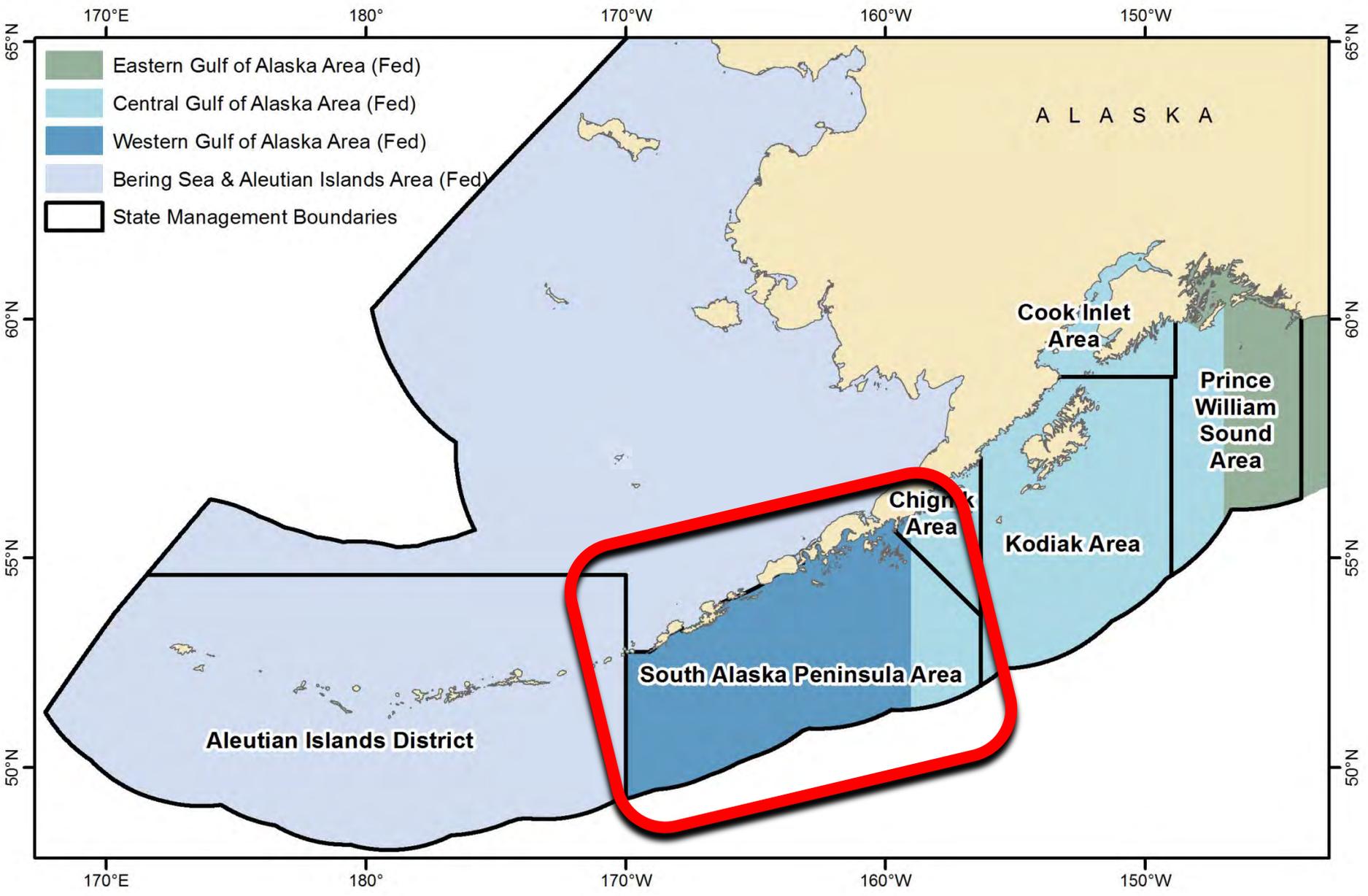
- **Proposal 3:** Increase GHL to **17.5%** of Central GOA ABC
- **Proposal 4:** Increase GHL to **17.0%** of Central GOA ABC
- **Proposal 5:** Increase GHL based on **state-waters + parallel catch**

	Current GHL % of ABC	Proposed % ABC Increase	Proposed GHL % of ABC
Chignik			
Proposal 3	8.75	8.75	17.50
Proposal 4	8.75	8.25	17.00
Proposal 5	8.75	0.30	9.05

8.75% increase = **11.0 million pounds** (2012 ABC)

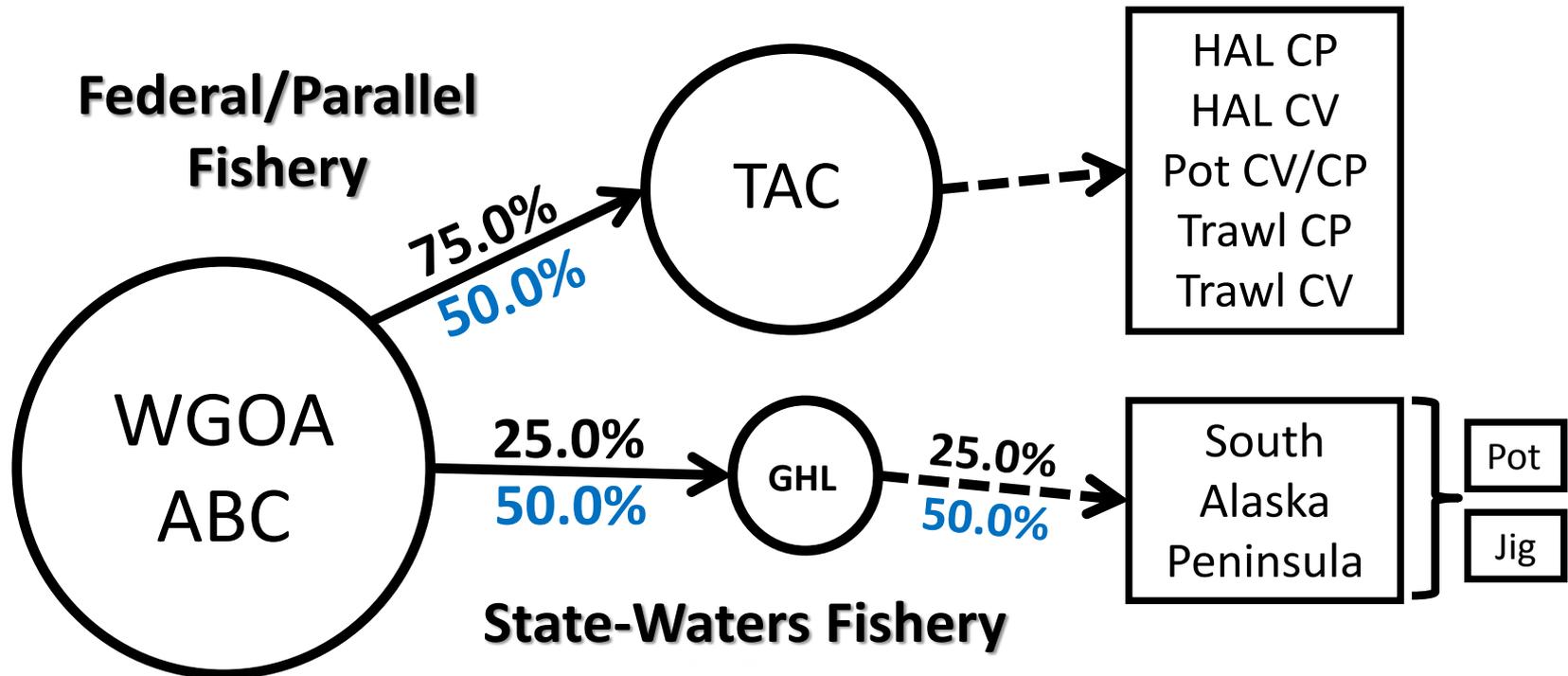
0.30% increase = **0.38 million pounds** (2012 ABC)

# Proposals 18-21: Increase South Alaska Peninsula GHL



# Proposals 18-21: Increase South Alaska Peninsula GHL

- **Proposals 18-20:** Increase GHL to **50%** of the Western GOA ABC
- **Proposal 21:** Increase GHL to **55%** of the Western GOA ABC



25% increase = **15.5 million pounds** (2012 ABC)