

ADF&G STAFF ORAL PRESENTATION ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

SOUTHEAST ALASKA AND YAKUTAT AREAS
SHELLFISH REGULATORY PROPOSALS
January 21–27, 2015; Wrangell



Dungeness Commercial Crab Fishery

Kellii Wood Shellfish Fishery Biologist
Division of Commercial Fisheries, Southeast Region

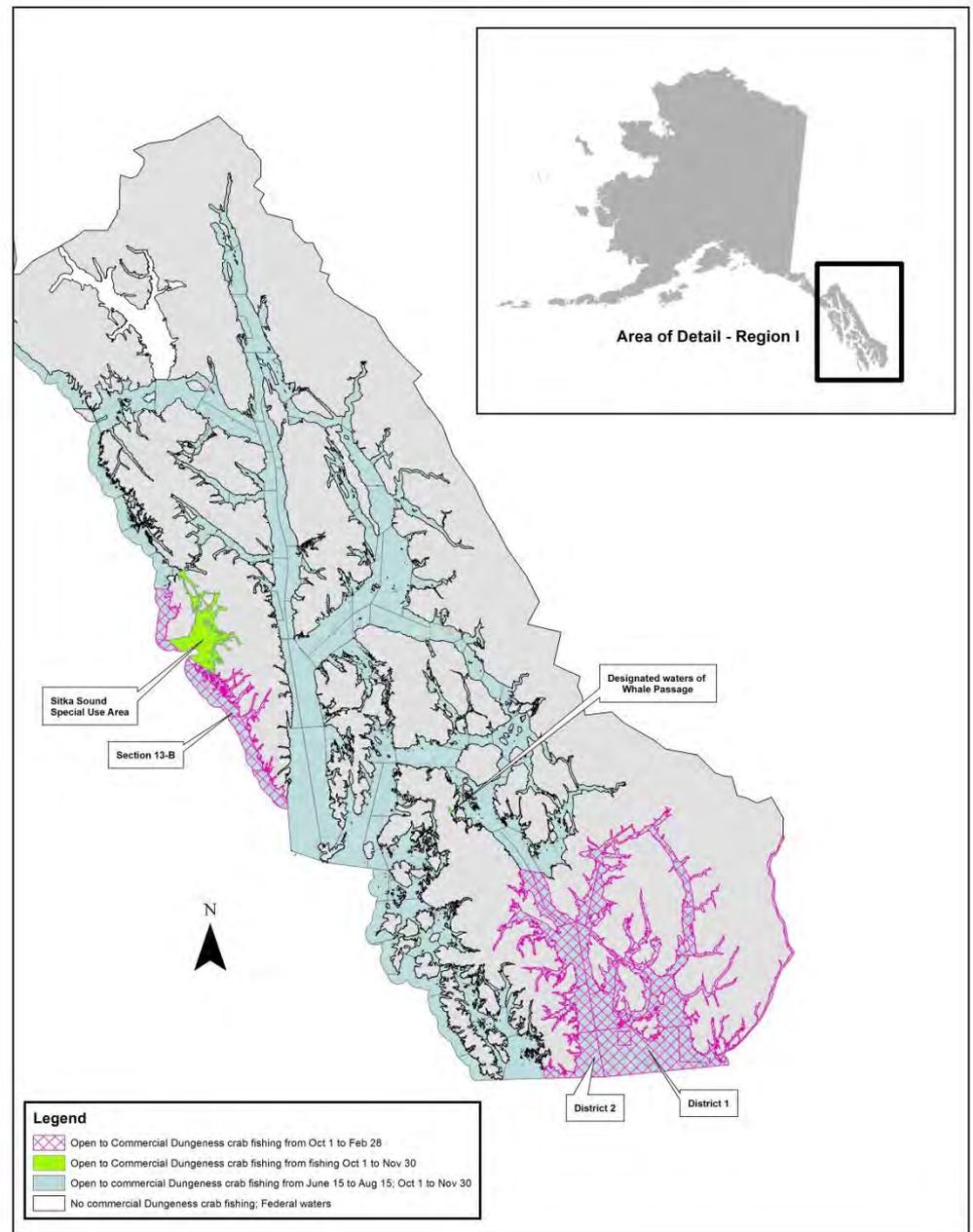
Southeast Alaska Commercial Dungeness Crab Management

- **Size, sex and season**
 - Males only
 - 6 1/2-inch minimum carapace width
- **Limited entry - 279 permits**
- **Tiered pot limits: 75, 150, 225, or 300**
- **Management plan – Harvest projection threshold**

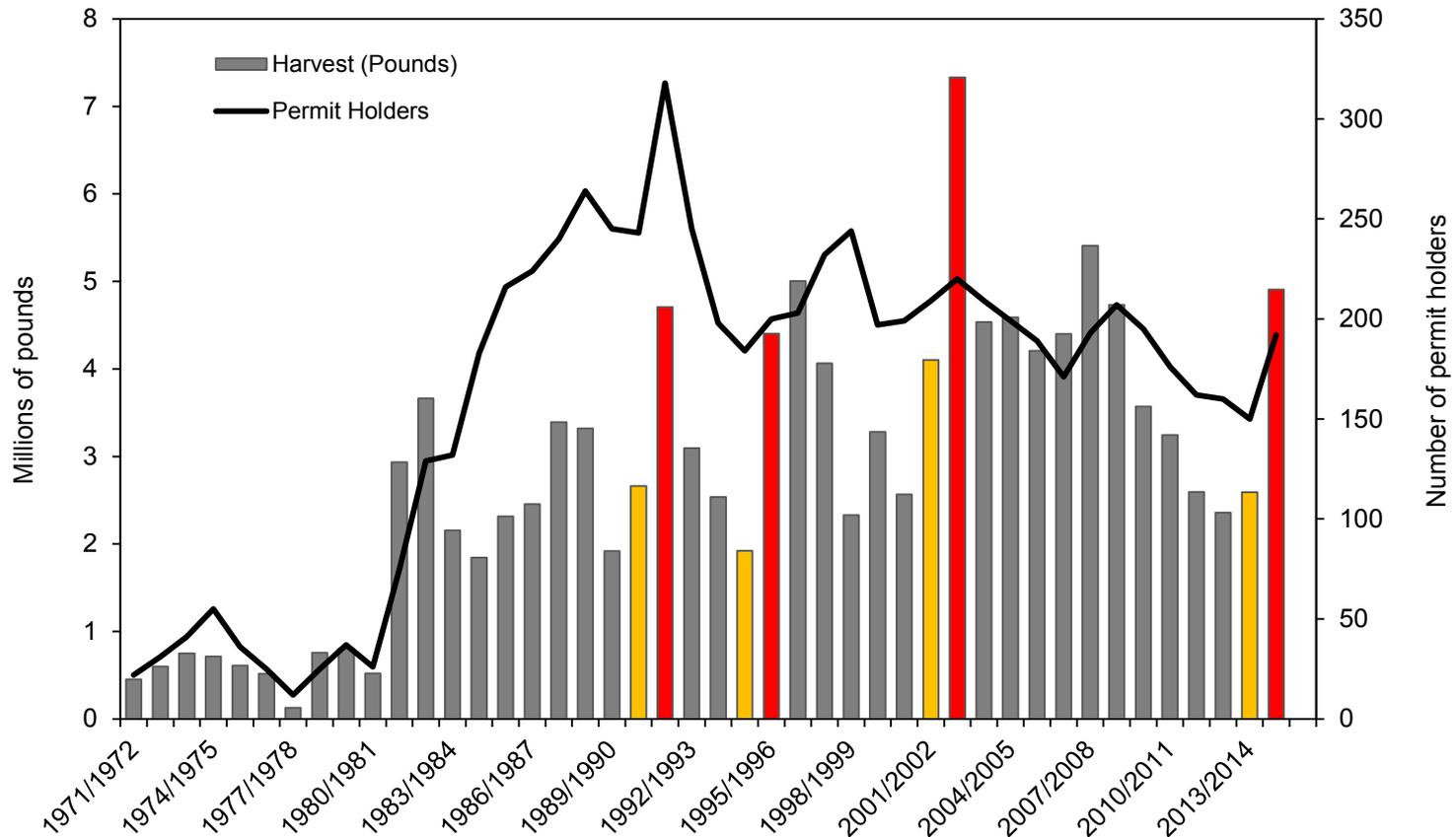
Southeast Alaska

Commercial Dungeness crab seasons.

- **Split season**
 - **Summer:**
June 15–Aug. 15
 - **Fall/Winter:**
Oct. 1–Nov. 30 or
Oct. 1–Feb. 28

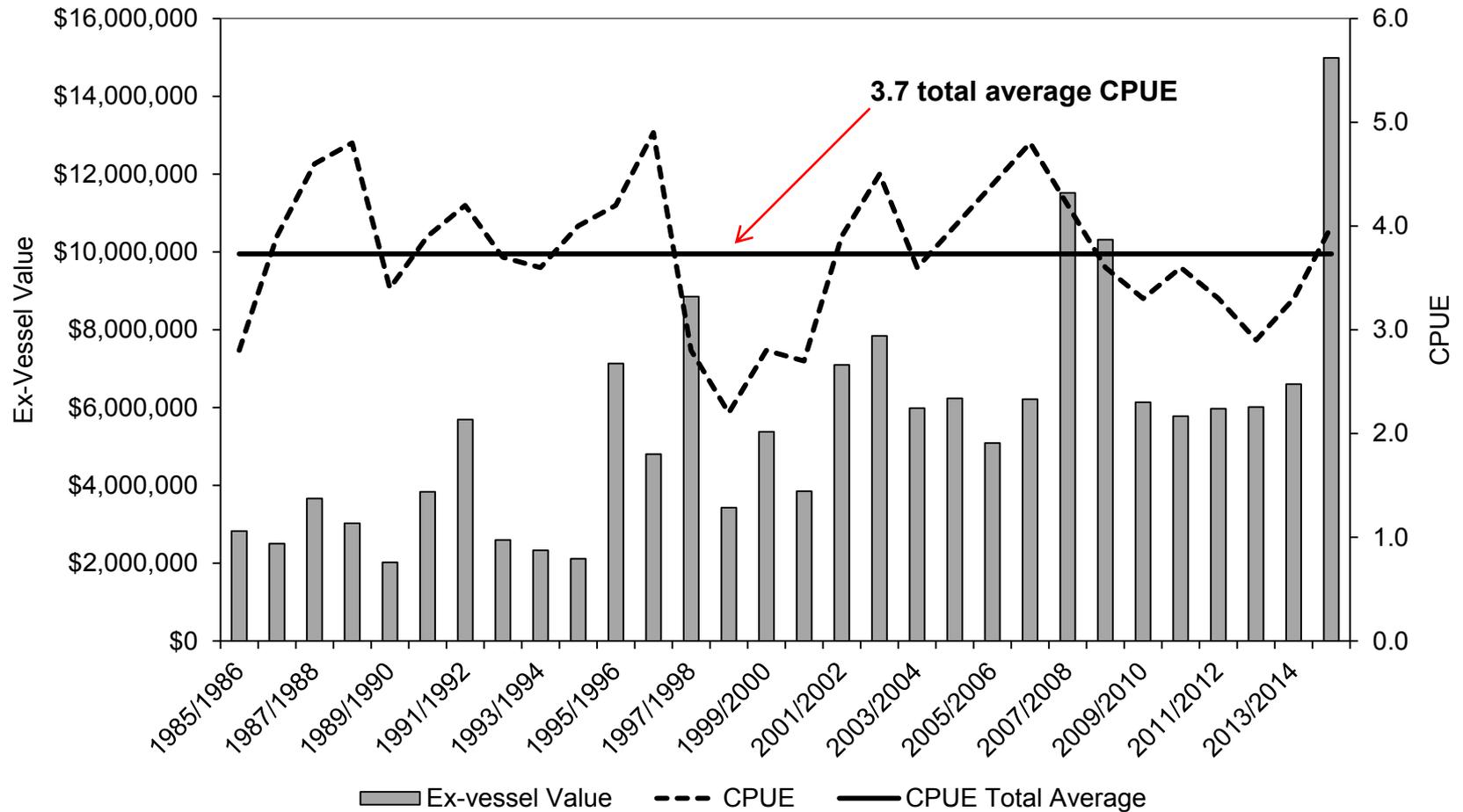


Southeast Commercial Dungeness Crab Harvest / Effort



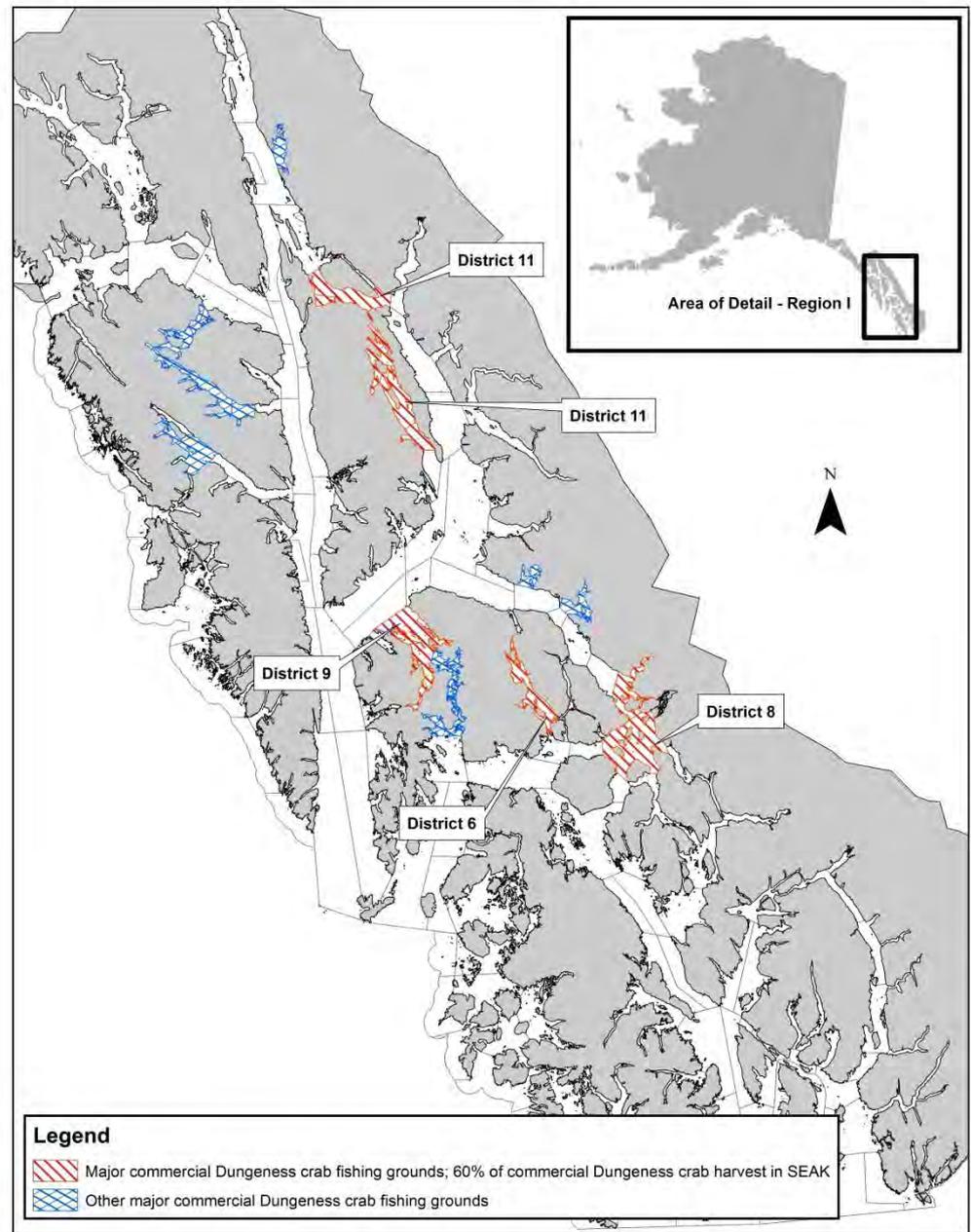
Southeast Alaska Dungeness crab harvest and effort, 1971/1972 through 2014/2015 (harvest through November 30, 2014) commercial seasons.

Southeast Commercial Dungeness Crab Ex-vessel Value / CPUE (1985/1986 – 2014/2015 Seasons)



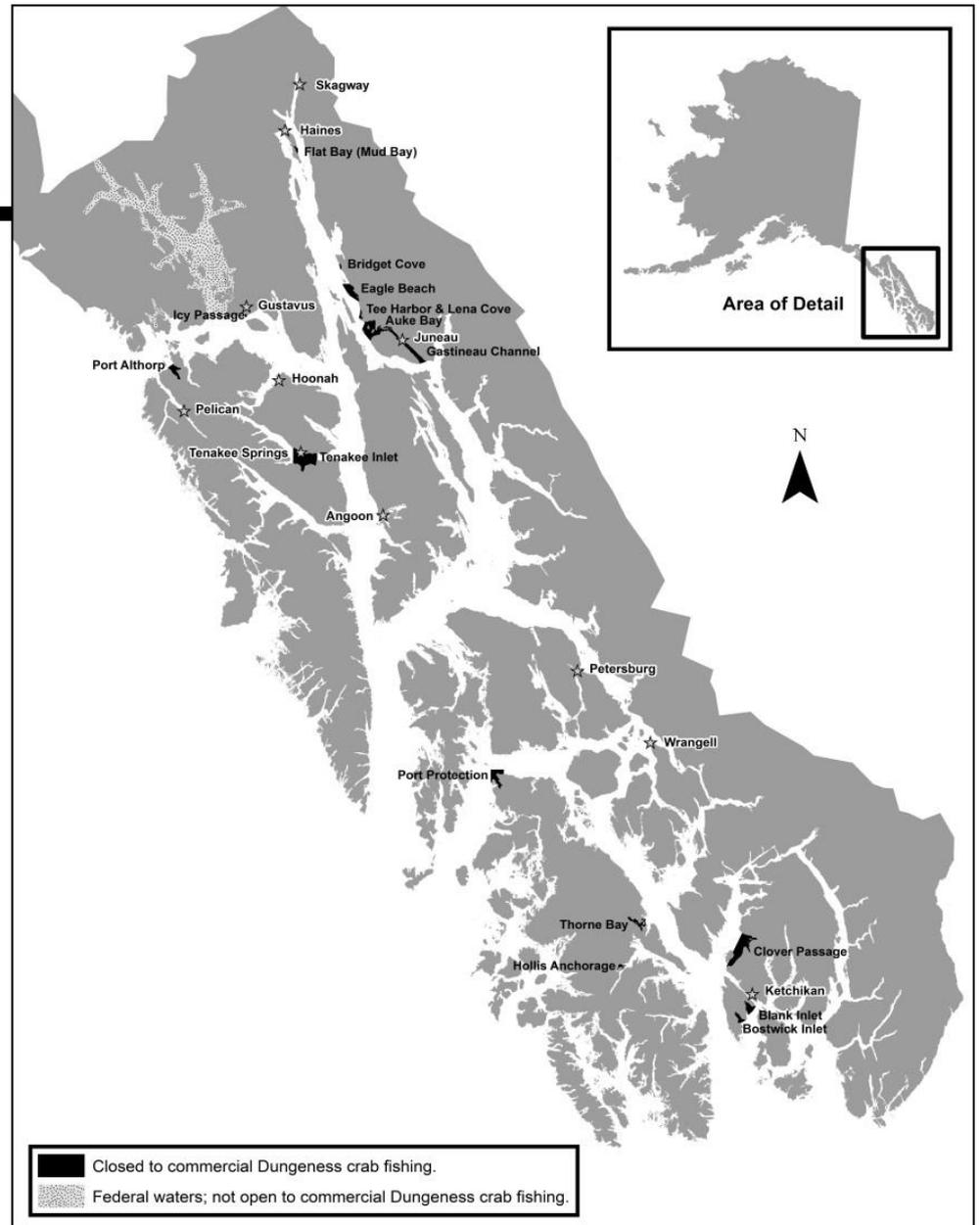
Southeast Alaska

**Major commercial
Dungeness crab
fishing grounds.**



Southeast Alaska

**Areas closed to
commercial
Dungeness crab
fishing.**



Proposals

- **Commercial**

- Proposals 58-60, 62-64, 66: Dungeness management plan (harvest projection threshold).
- Proposal 61: Dungeness season and management plan (harvest projection threshold).
- Proposal 65: Dungeness season and areas.
- Proposals 69-79: Dungeness closed waters.

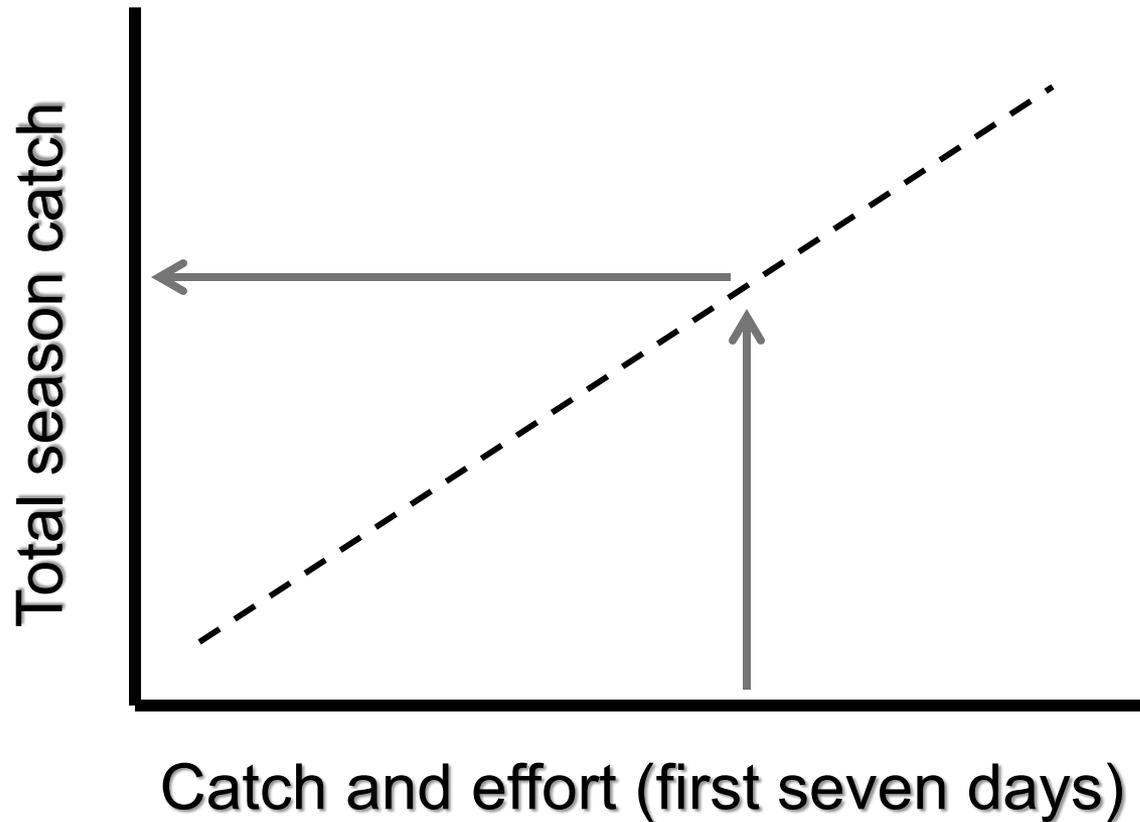
Southeast Alaska Management Plan

Harvest Projection Threshold

- **Simple regression to predict the current season's catch**
 - **Based on catch and effort in first seven days**
- **Based on three variables:**
 - 1. First seven days landed poundage.**
 - 2. Number of permits that made landings in the first seven days.**
 - 3. Relationship between catch for the first seven days of the previous season to total catch for the previous season expressed as a decimal fraction.**

$$\frac{\text{7 day catch (lbs)}}{\text{season catch (lbs)}} = \text{ratio of 7 day catch to total season catch (lbs)}$$

Harvest projection



Southeast Alaska Management Plan

- **Season lengths based on projection**

| Season | <1.50 million lb | Between 1.50 and 2.25 million lb | >2.25 million lb |
|--------|--|--|------------------|
| Summer | Closes <u>no sooner</u> than 21 days after season opening. | Closes <u>no sooner</u> than 28 days after season opening. | Complete season. |
| Fall | No fall season. | 30 day fall season. | Complete season. |

- **5 AAC 32.146 (3) states that if the department determines that harvest projections fail to meet threshold due to soft-shelled crabs early in the commercial Dungeness crab summer fishing season, the department may open the commercial Dungeness crab fall fishing season for the standard duration.**