

Groundfish Fisheries in Prince William Sound



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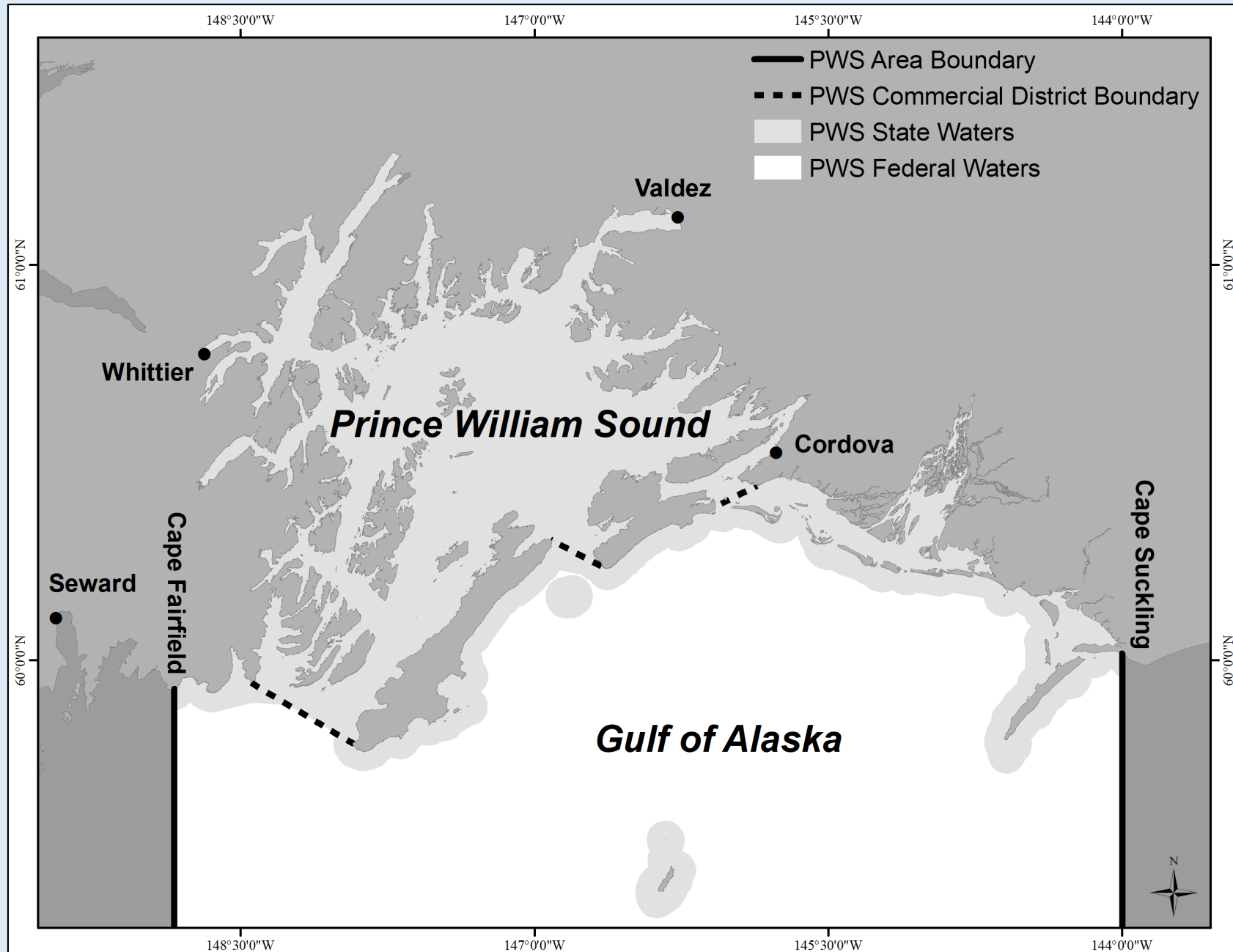
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Outline

- Proposals
- Management
 - GHL
 - Regulations and statutes
- Harvest and fishery information



Prince William Sound Management Area



PWS Sablefish Fishery

Proposals

- Changing sablefish season dates.
 - Proposals 18, 19, 20, and 24
- Allow multiple gear types in Sablefish fishery
 - Proposals 21 and 22
- Operating gear in Federal and State waters on the same trip
 - Proposal 23
- Noncommercial fisheries
 - Proposals 1, 25, and 26.



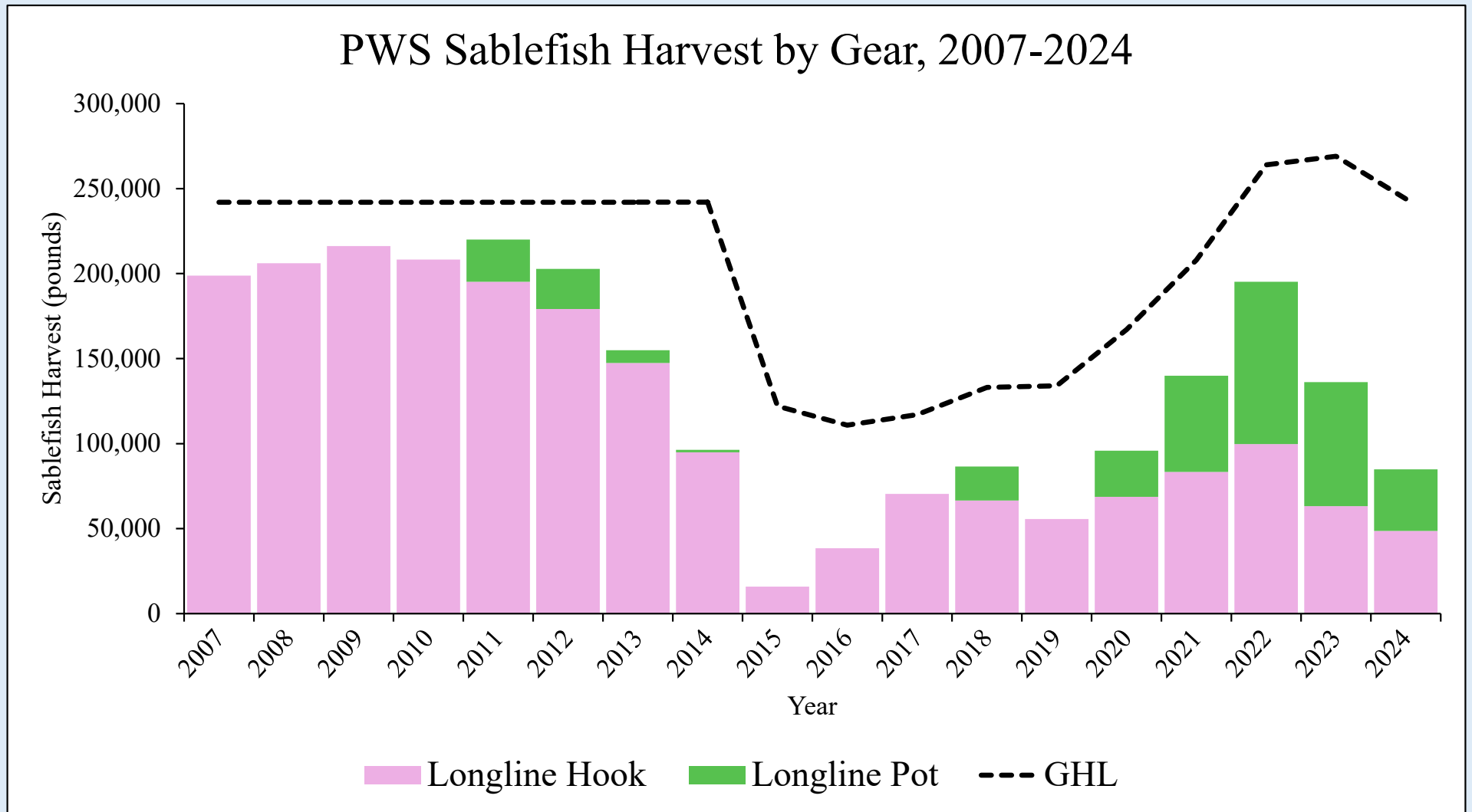
PWS Sablefish Fishery

Management

- Limited entry fishery (61 permits)
- Four permit classes (5 AAC 28.272)
- GHL tied to GOA sablefish ABC
- Effort primarily longline hook and longline pot
 - Pots must be longlined (5 AAC 28.230(i))
 - No pot limit
- Sablefish season is April 15 – August 31 (5 AAC 28.210(b))
 - Season extended 2020 – 2022
- Rockfish bycatch allowance is 20% (5 AAC 28.265(b)(2))
- May not operate groundfish gear in state waters if retaining sablefish in federal waters (5 AAC 28.272(g))
- Multiple gear types not allowed (5 AAC 28.230(j))

PWS Sablefish Fishery

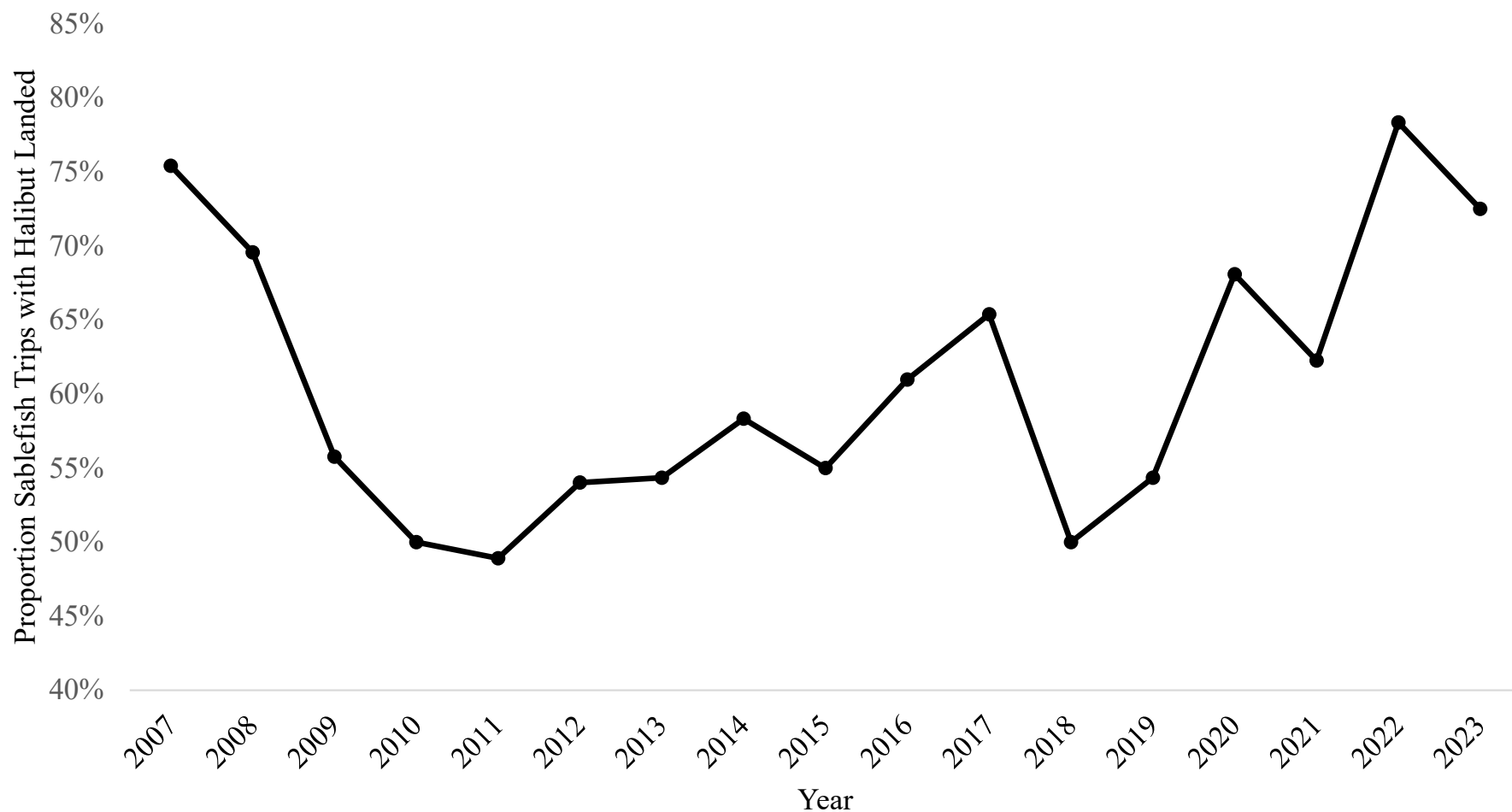
Harvest and Fishery Information



PWS Sablefish Fishery

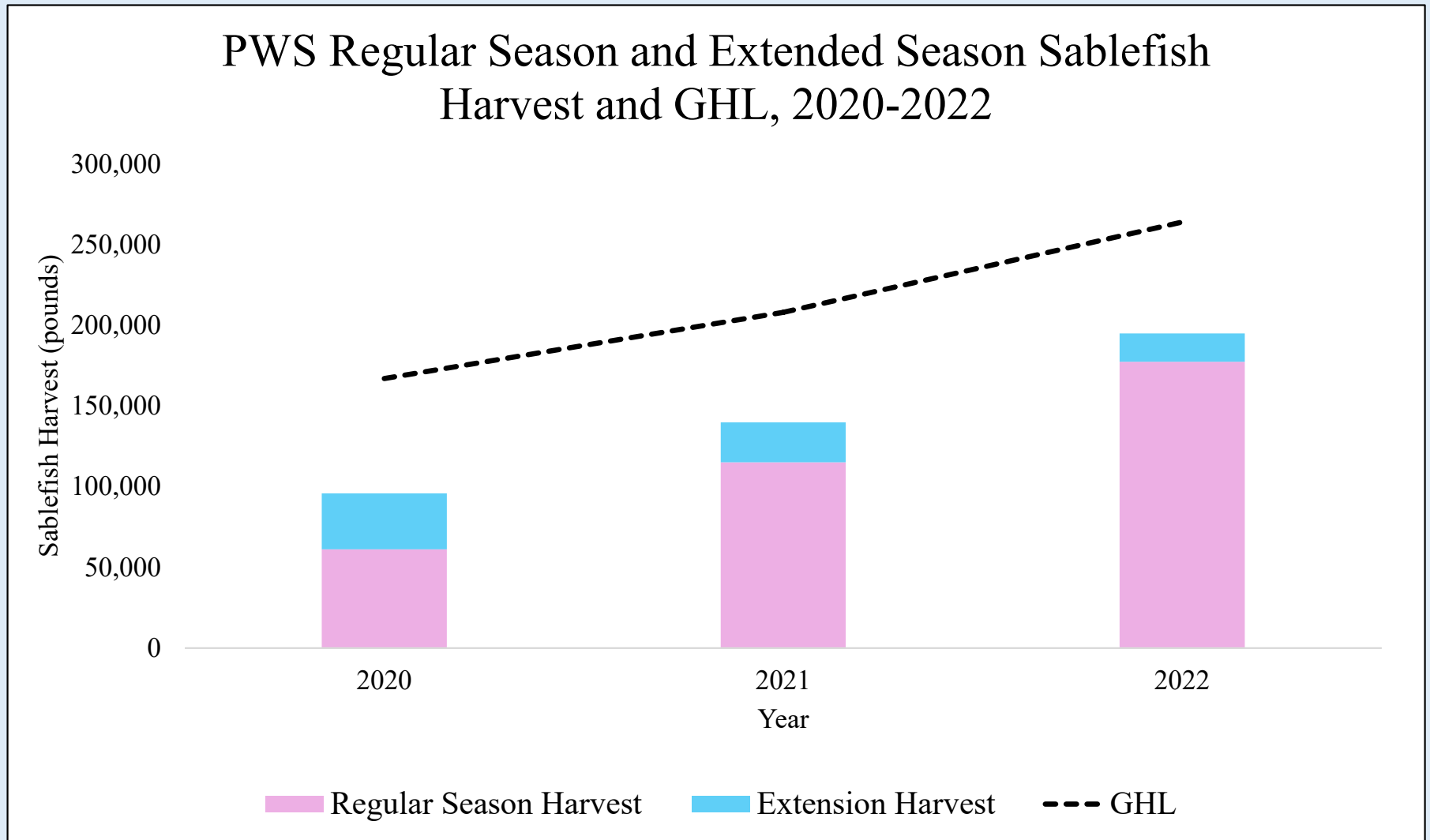
Harvest and Fishery Information

Proportion of PWS Sablefish Trips Fished Concurrently with Halibut, 2007-2023



PWS Sablefish Fishery

Harvest and Fishery Information



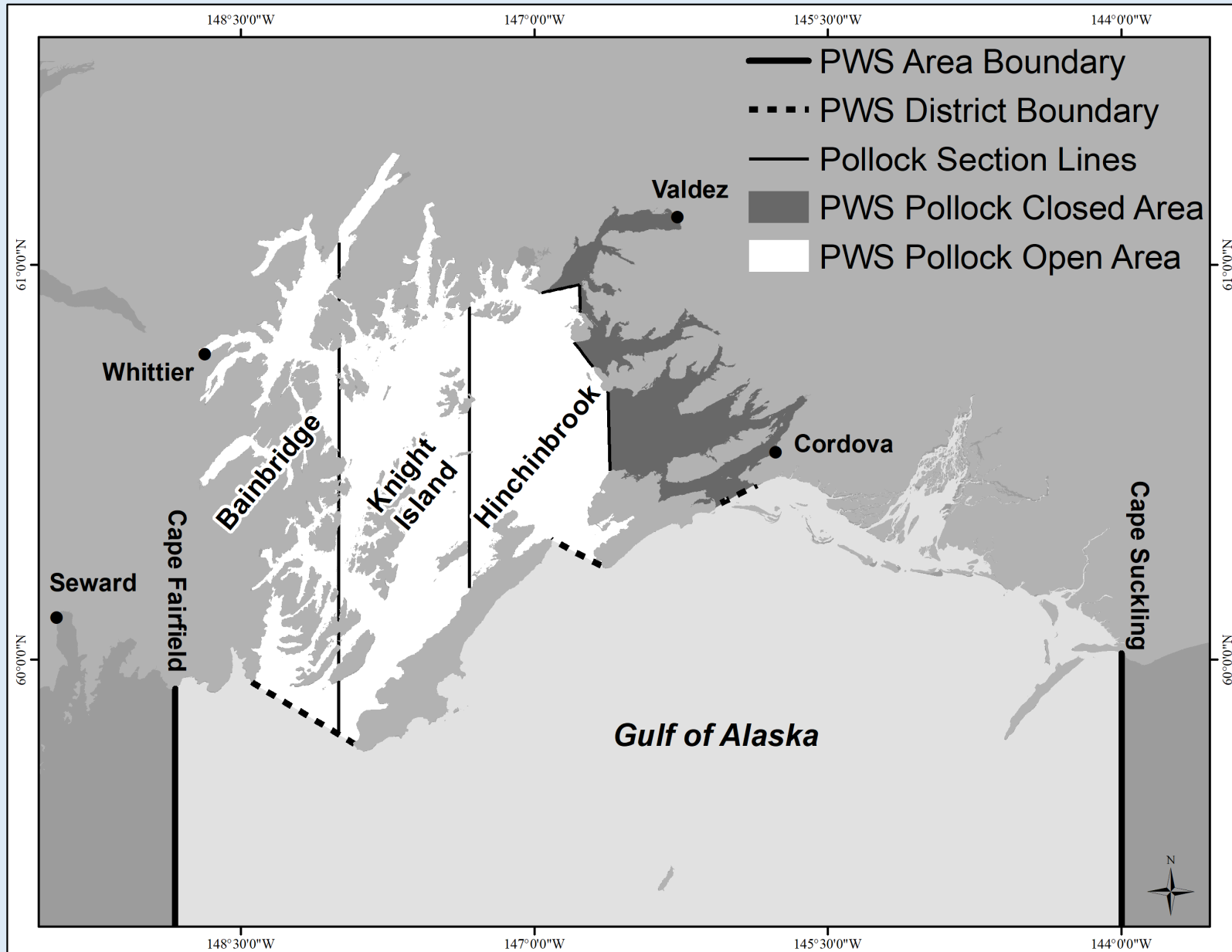
PWS Pollock Pelagic Trawl Fishery

Harvest and Fishery Information

- Trawl gear and king salmon bycatch
 - Proposal 14
- Change 5% bycatch limit to static limit in pounds
 - Proposal 15
- Close PWS pollock pelagic trawl fishery
 - Proposal 16
- Observer requirements
 - Proposal 17



PWS Pollock Pelagic Trawl Fishery Management



PWS Pollock Pelagic Trawl Fishery

Management

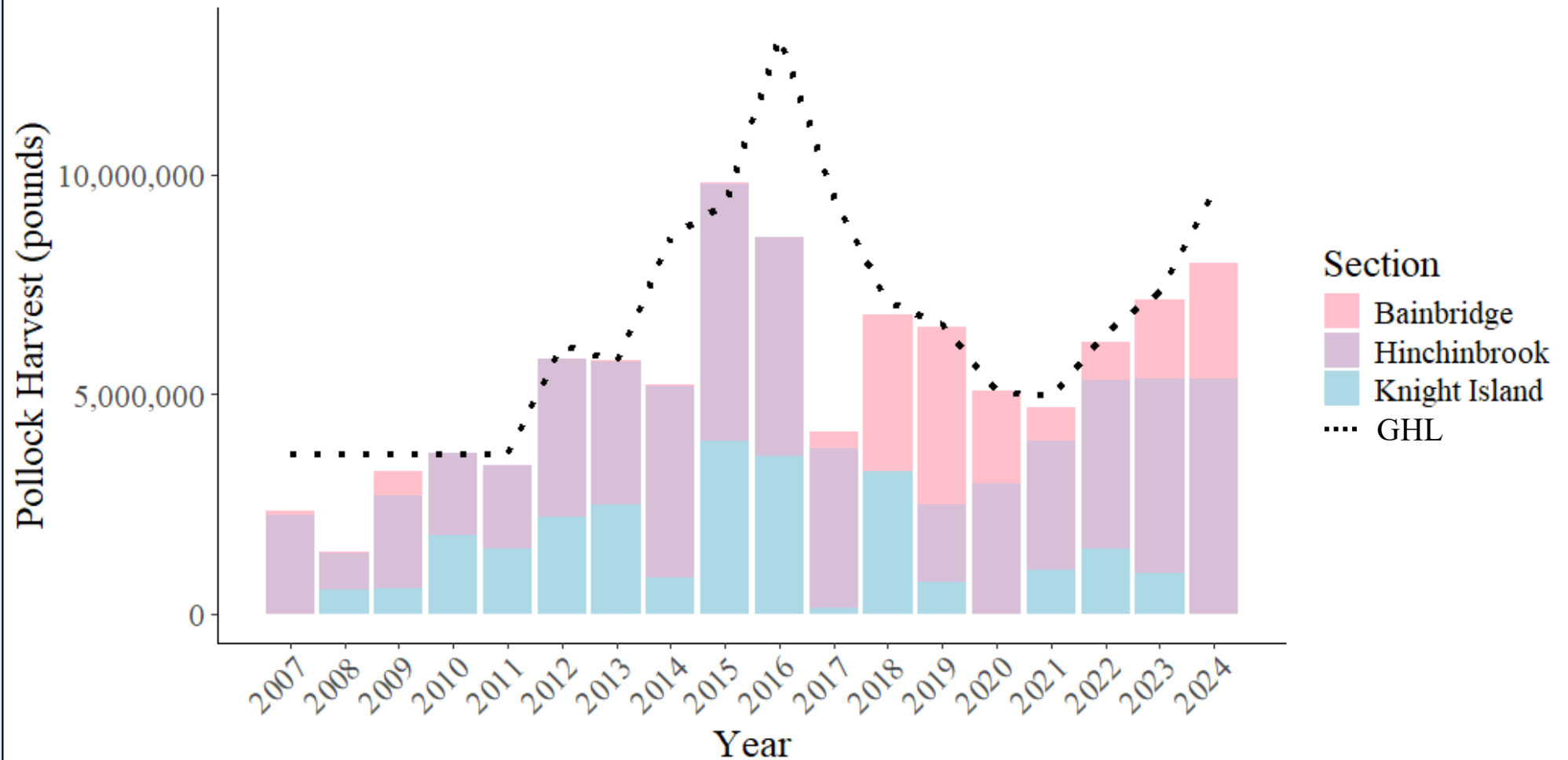
- State waters GHL is 2.5% of the W/C/WYK GOA ABC
- Open access fishery
- *PWS Walleye Pollock Pelagic Trawl Fishery Management Plan.*
 - Season is January 20 – March 31 (5 AAC 28.210(e))
 - 300,000 trip limits (5 AAC 28.073)
 - No more than 60% by weight of pollock may be taken from any one section (5 AAC 28.263(c))
 - Bycatch may not exceed 5% of the pollock GHL (5 AAC 28.263(d))

PWS Pollock Pelagic Trawl Fishery Bycatch Allowances						
	<u>Rockfish</u>	<u>Salmon</u>	<u>Shark</u>	<u>Squid</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
Bycatch Limit	0.50%	0.04%	0.96%	3.00%	0.50%	5%

PWS Pollock Pelagic Trawl Fishery

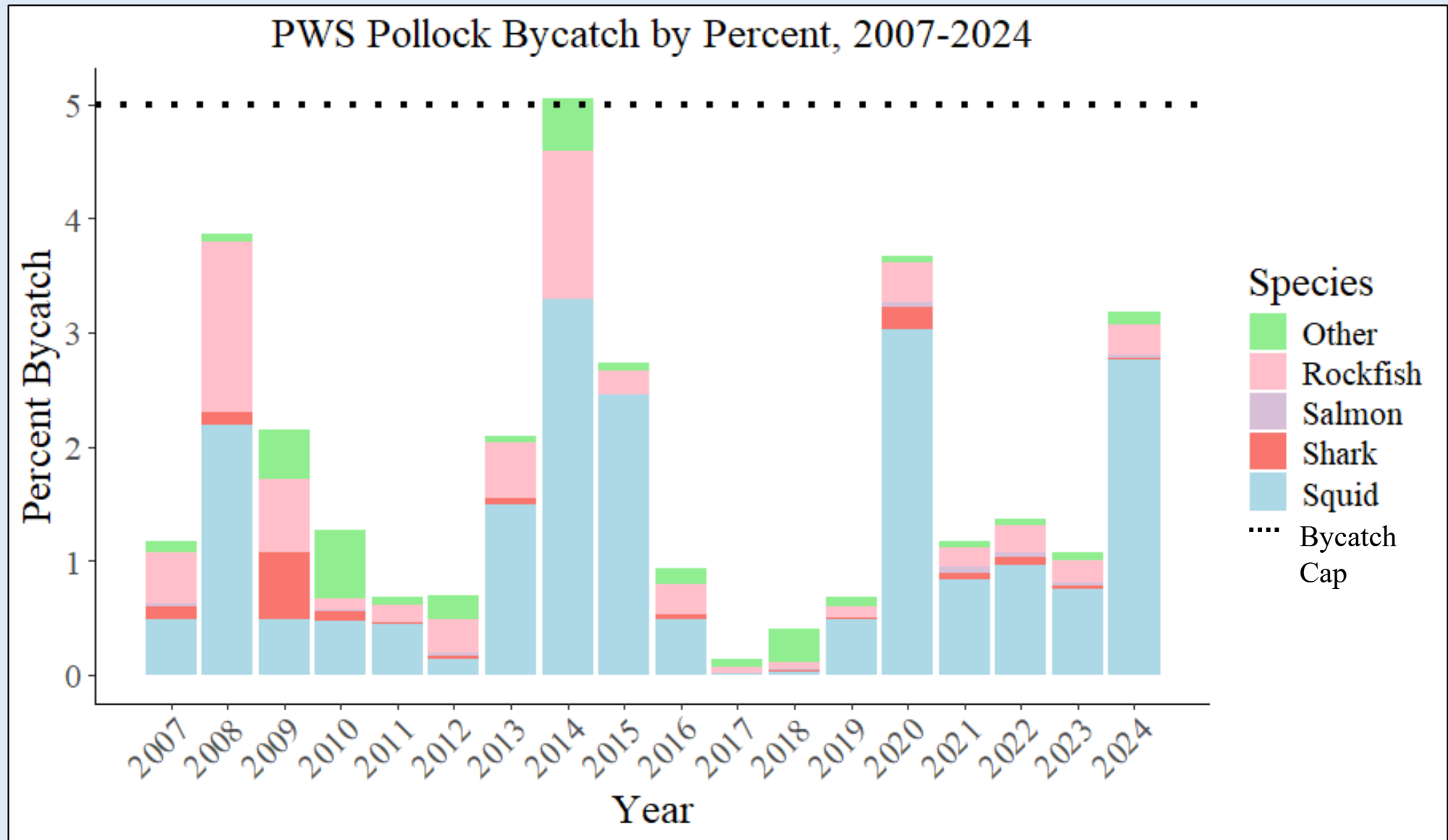
Harvest and Fishery Information

PWS Pollock Harvest by Section, 2007-2024



PWS Pollock Pelagic Trawl Fishery

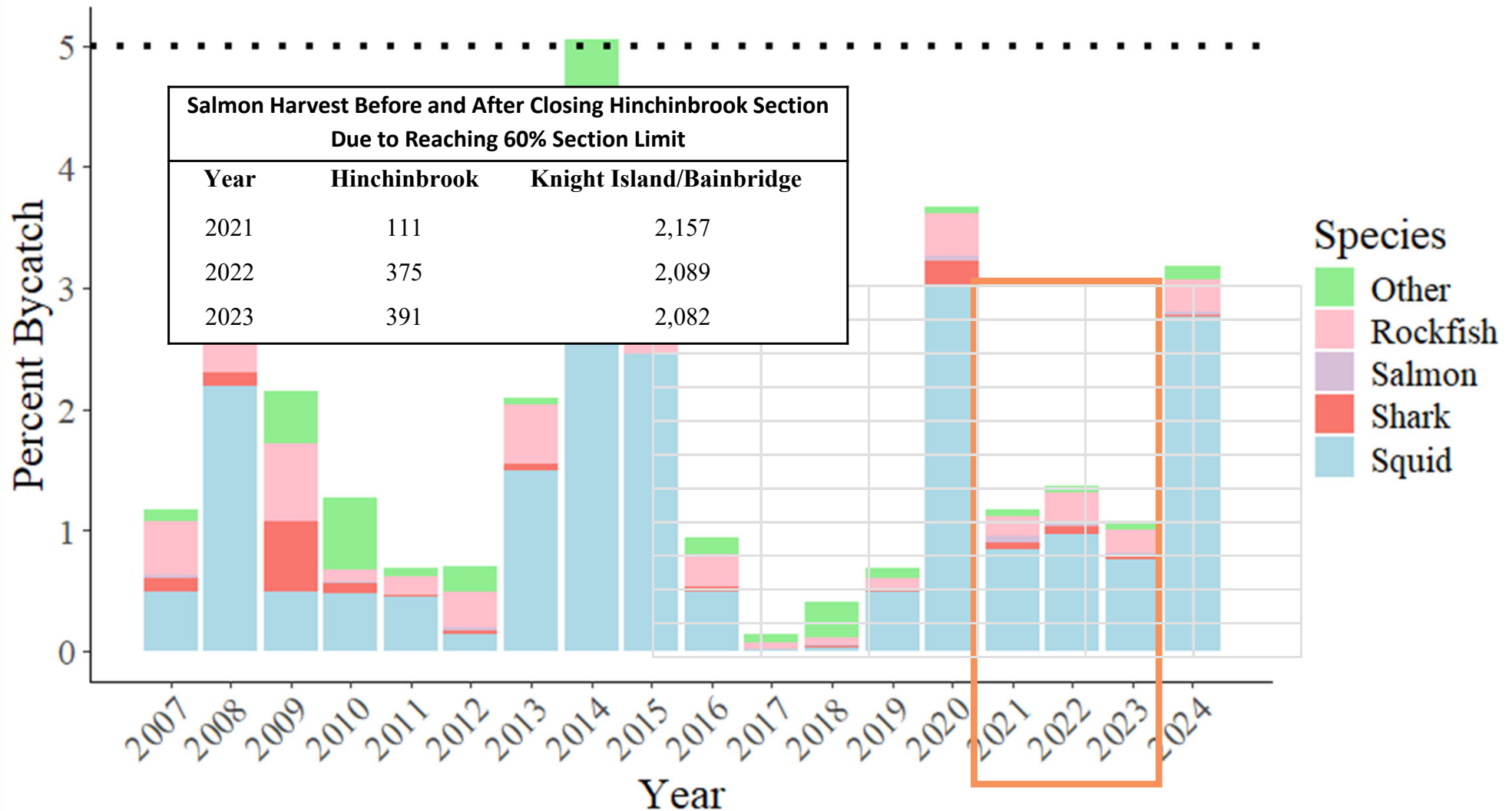
Harvest and Fishery Information



PWS Pollock Pelagic Trawl Fishery

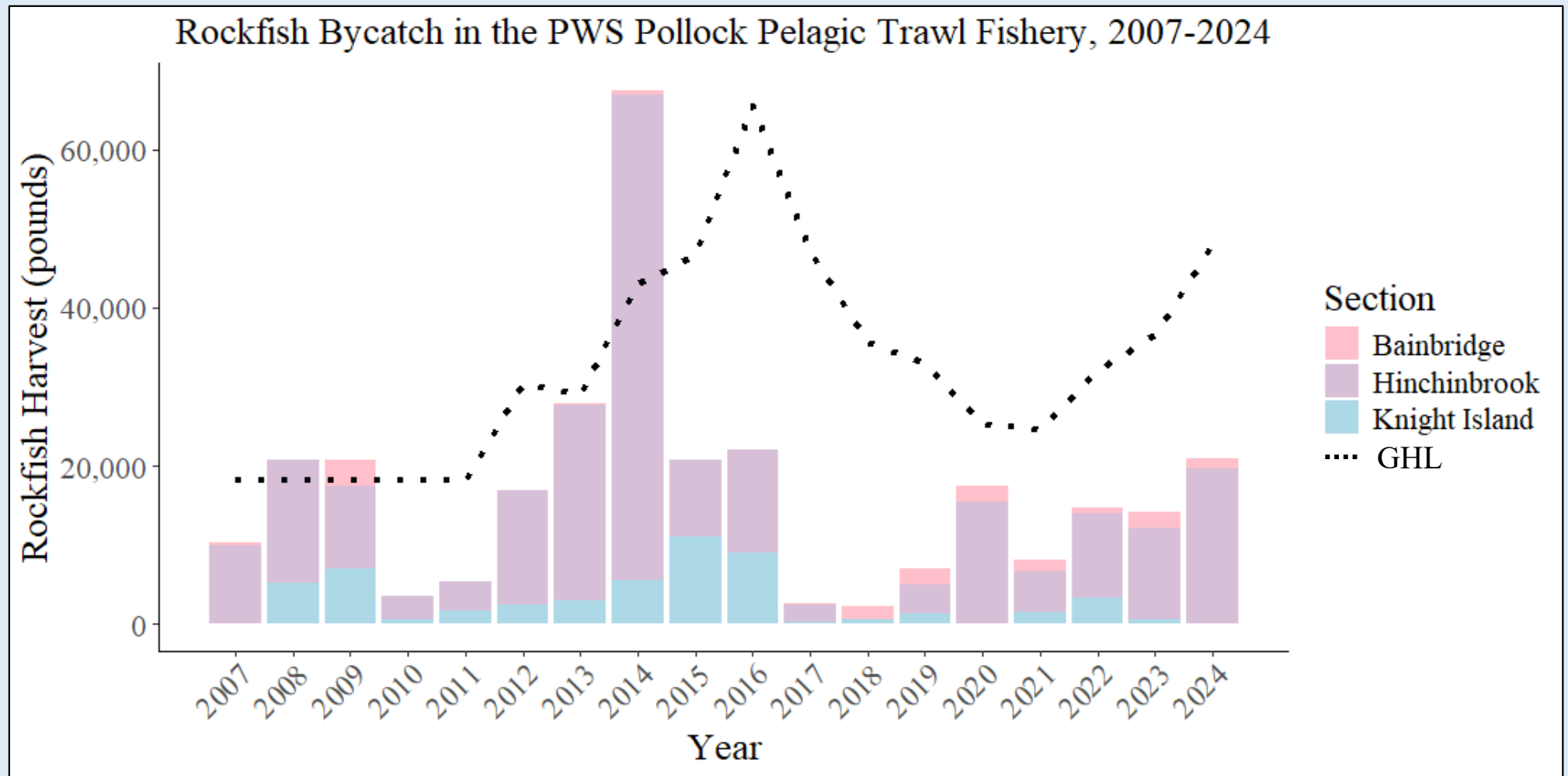
Harvest and Fishery Information

PWS Pollock Bycatch by Percent, 2007-2024



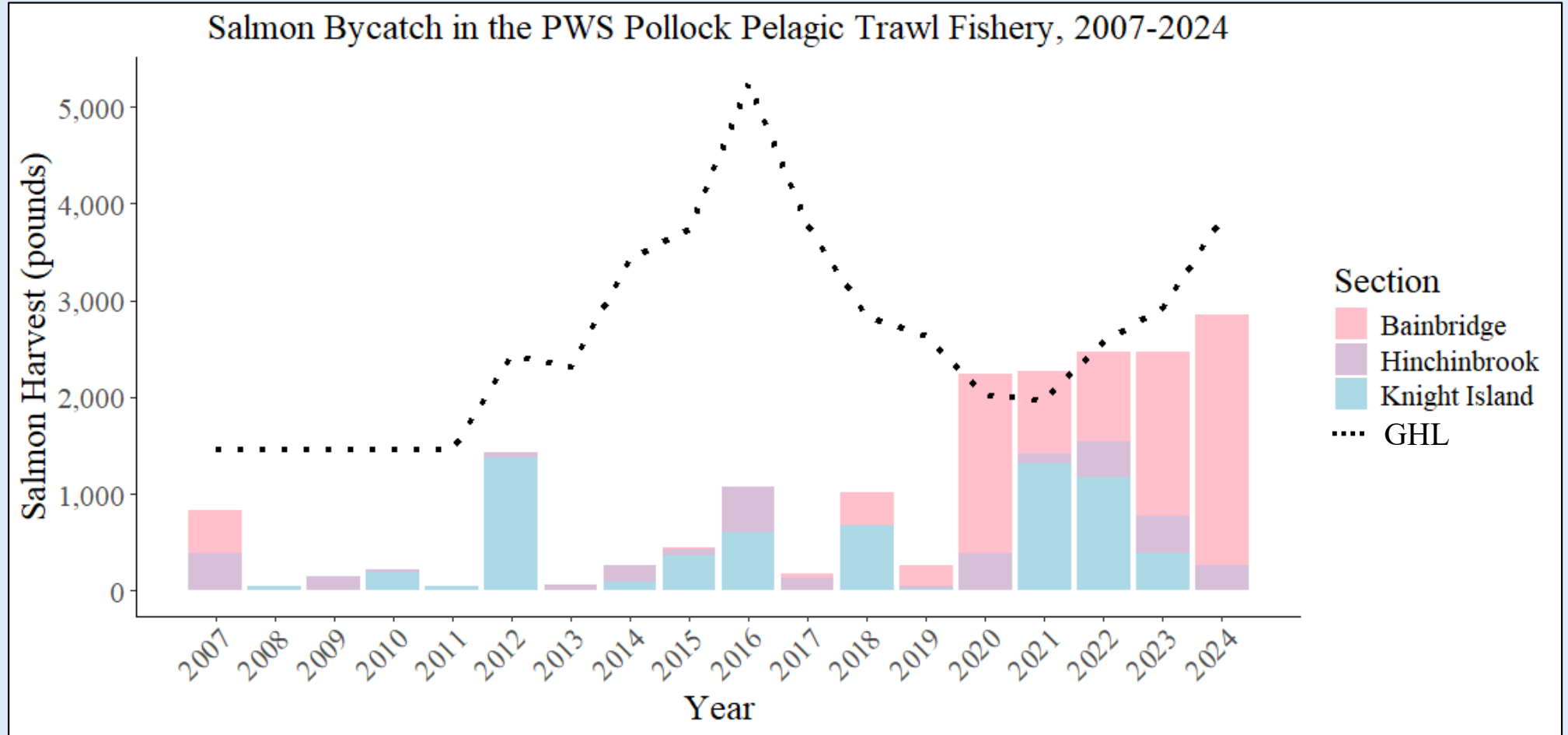
PWS Pollock Pelagic Trawl Fishery

Harvest and Fishery Information



PWS Pollock Pelagic Trawl Fishery

Harvest and Fishery Information



PWS Pacific Cod Fisheries

Proposals

- Pot and longline hook gear allocation changes
 - Proposals 9, 11, and 12
- Allowable Biological Catch allocation.
 - Proposal 8
- Increase pot limits in state waters Pacific cod fishery
 - Proposal 10



PWS Pacific Cod Fisheries

Management

Parallel groundfish fishery: “Fishery in state waters opened by EO to correspond with a federal fishery in adjacent waters”

- Parallel seasons in PWS are tied to 3 Federal seasons
 - CGOA Pacific cod jig fishery
 - CGOA Pacific cod pot fishery
 - CGOA Pacific cod longline hook (HAL)
- State waters seasons are opened after parallel seasons close

Similarities

- Registration
- Bycatch allowances
- Rockfish bycatch goes to state waters rockfish GHL

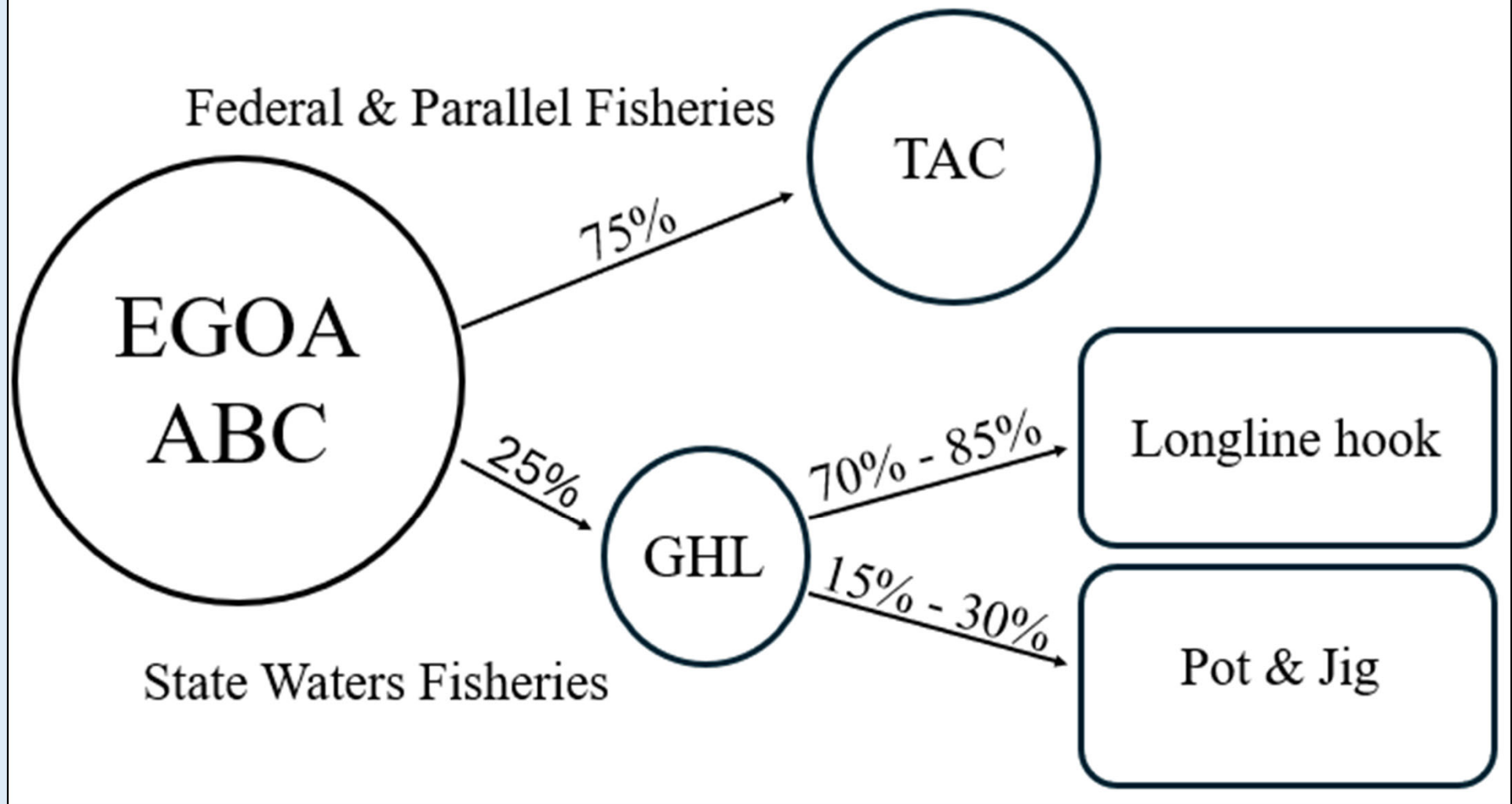
Differences

- No pot limit in parallel fishery
- No longlining of pots in parallel fishery
- Different times of year, do not overlap by gear type

PWS Pacific Cod Fisheries

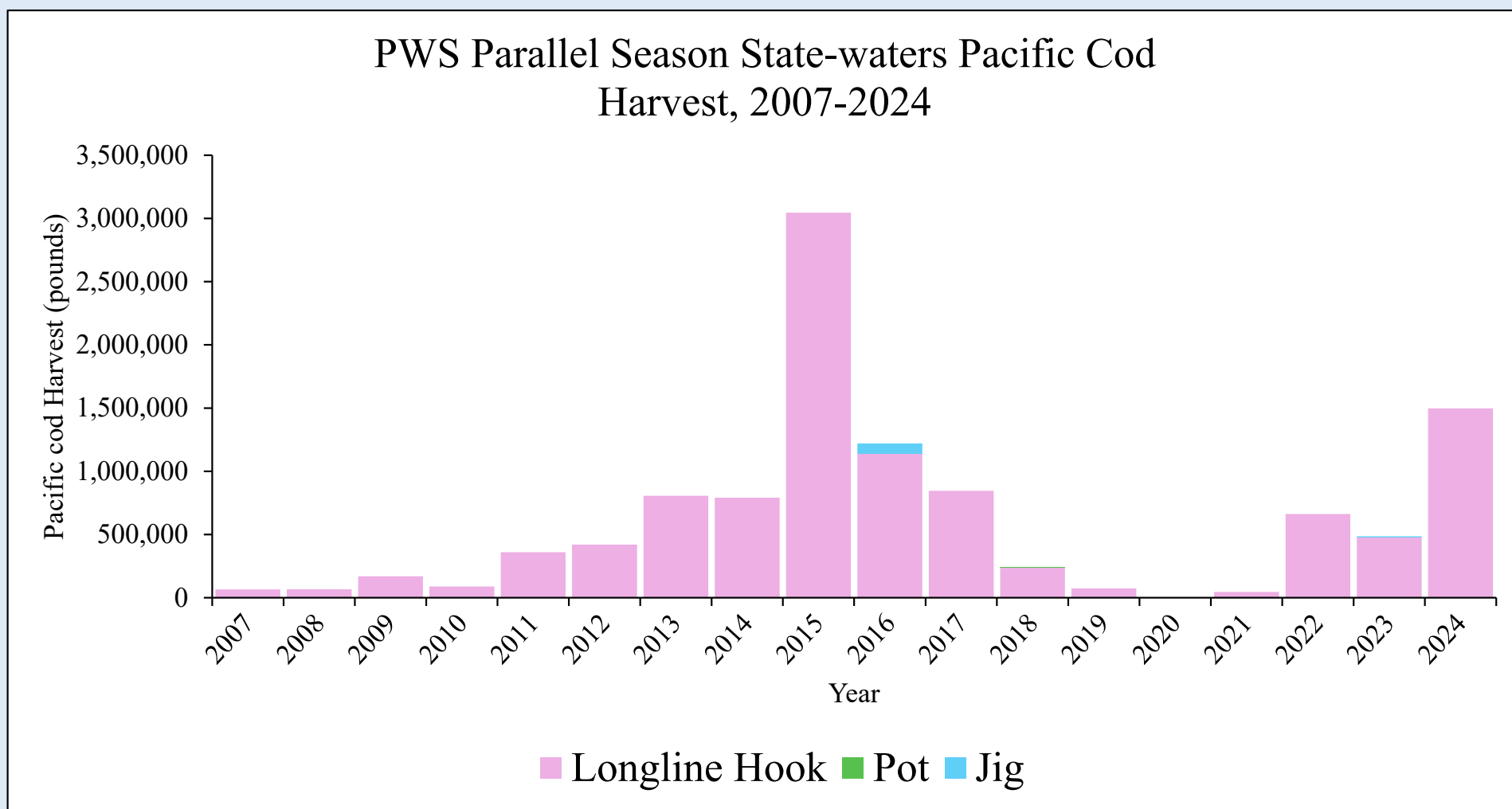
Management

PWS Pacific Cod Guideline Harvest Level and Allocation



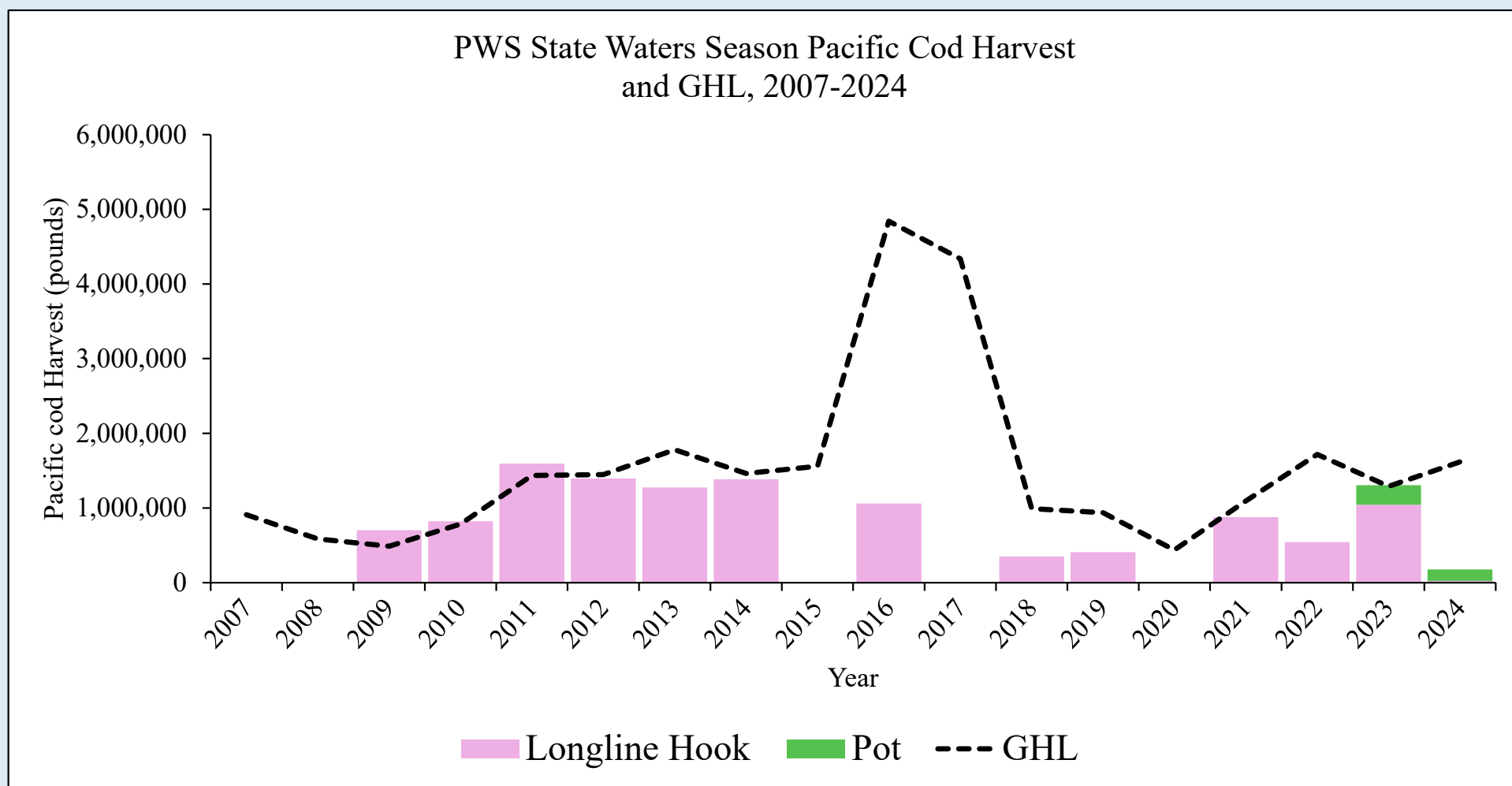
PWS Pacific Cod Fisheries

Management



PWS Pacific Cod Fisheries

Management



PWS Lingcod Fishery

Proposals

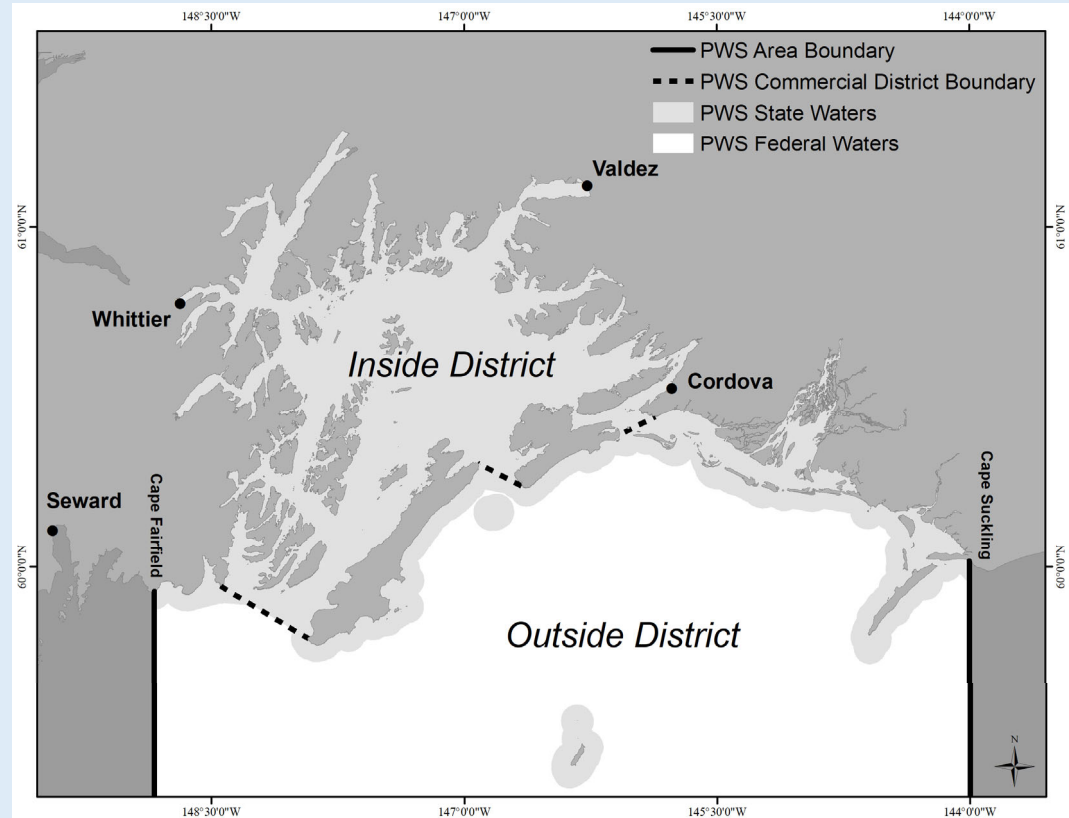
- Prohibit directed fishing for lingcod with longline hook gear
 - Proposal 7
- Allow the release of rockfish in commercial jig fisheries
 - Proposal 6



PWS Lingcod Fishery

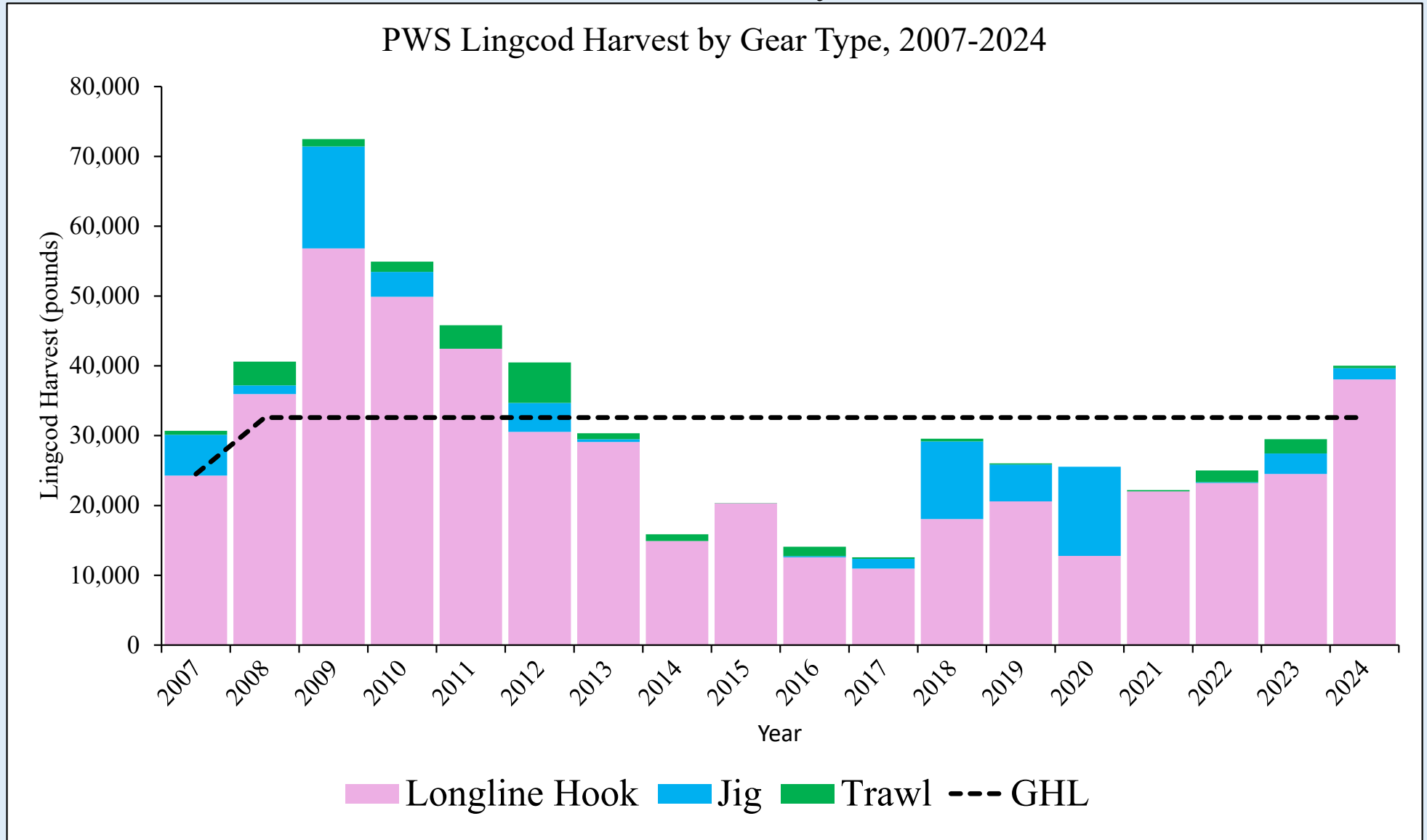
Management

- Static GHL based on historic harvest
 - 7,300 pounds PWS Inside
 - 25,300 pounds PWS Outside
- Directed fishery
 - Longline hook and mechanical jig gear
- Bycatch fishery
 - Longline hook, 20% lingcod retention
- Season is July 1 – December 31, unless closed by EO (5 AAC 28.210(c))
- Size limit of 35 inches (5 AAC 28.270(a))



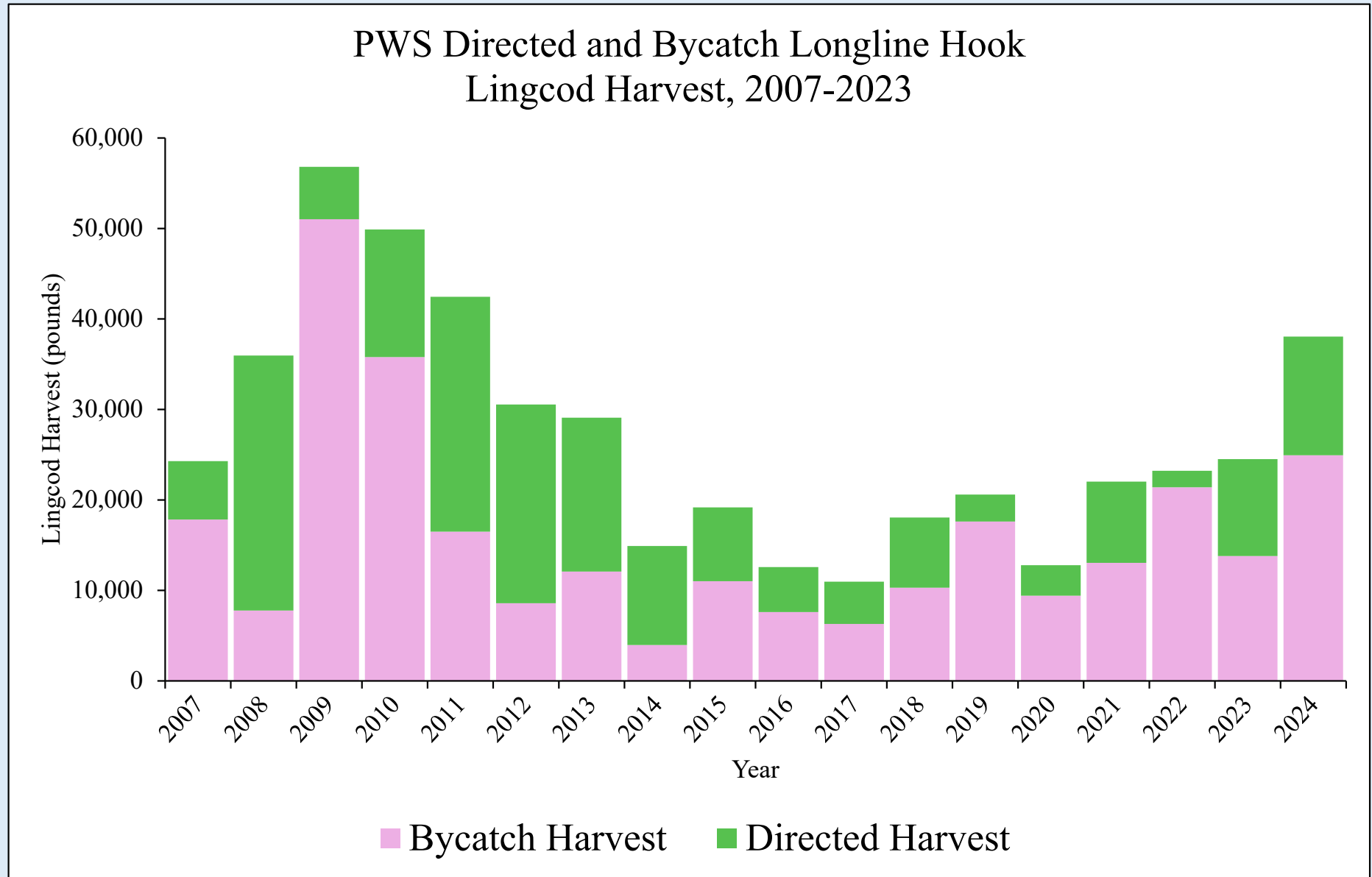
PWS Lingcod Fishery

Harvest and Fishery Information



PWS Lingcod Fishery

Harvest and Fishery Information



PWS Groundfish

Summary

- PWS groundfish fisheries are diverse
- Participants often participate in many or all fisheries
- Many of the proposals have potential to affect rockfish bycatch in PWS
- Halibut fishery harvests most rockfish
- Additional management tools needed



Questions?

