

Southeast Alaska/Yakutat Commercial Salmon Troll Fishery

Alaska Board of Fisheries

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Sitka

RC 3 – Tab 17

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Overview

- Abundance-based management
- King salmon harvest limit
- Southeast Alaska troll fishery
 - Winter
 - Spring
 - Summer

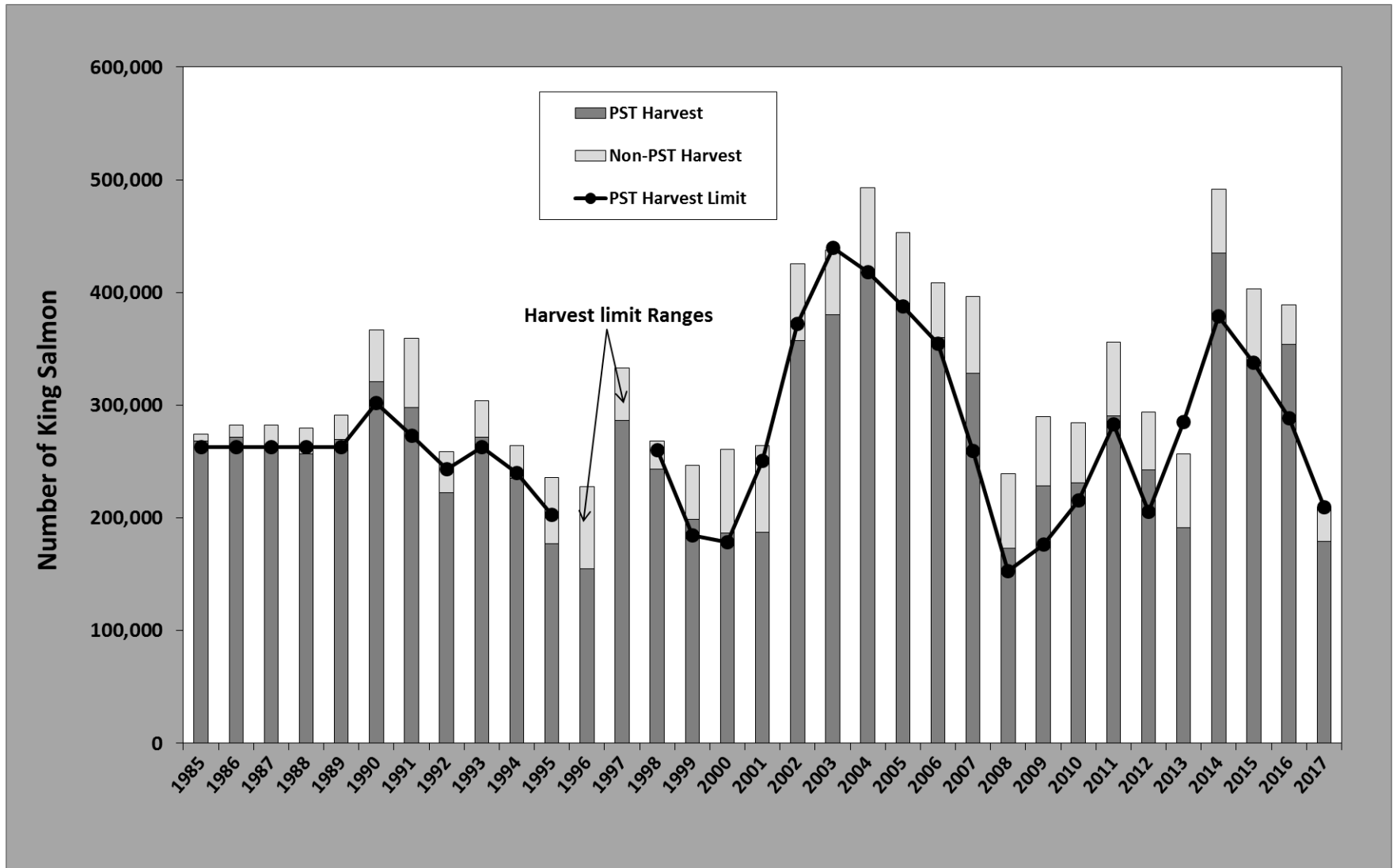
King Salmon Abundance Index

- Abundance-based management
- Chinook Technical Committee of the Pacific Salmon Commission determines the annual preseason abundance index (AI)
- AI equates to annual all-gear treaty harvest limit for Southeast Alaska/Yakutat (SEAK)
- Treaty harvest limit is allocated among gear groups with accounting year October-September

King Salmon Allocation

- Purse Seine = 4.3% of all-gear treaty harvest limit
- Drift Gillnet = 2.9% of all-gear treaty harvest limit
- Set Gillnet = 1,000 fish (historical average)
- Net gear total subtracted from all-gear harvest limit
- Remainder split between troll and sport fisheries:
 - 80% to troll
 - 20% to sport

All-Gear King Salmon Harvest

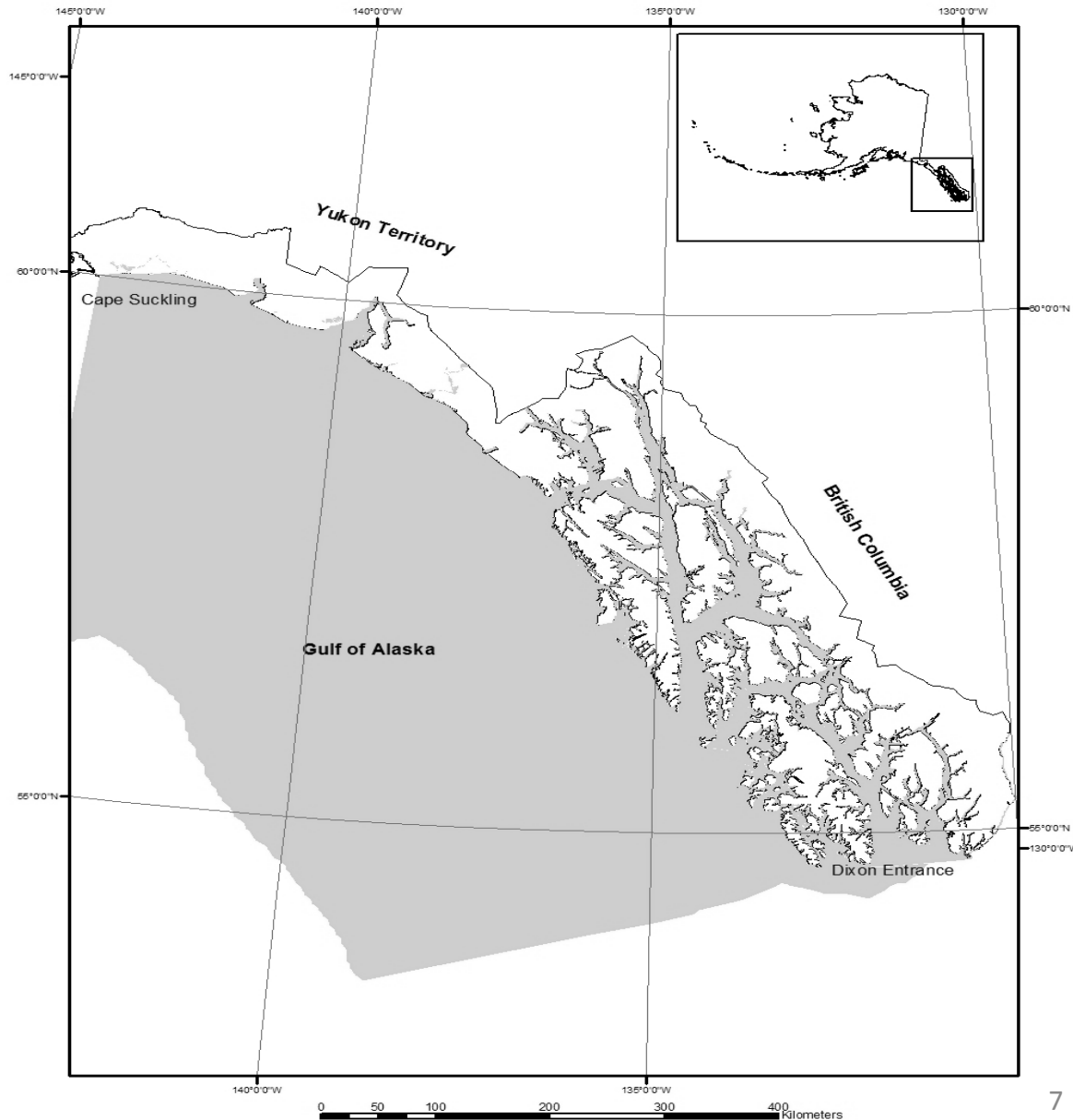


Southeast Alaska Troll Fishery

- Primarily targets king and coho salmon
- Chum salmon also targeted in recent years
- Average of 1,100 troll permits fished annually
- Troll fishery open almost year-round
 - Winter fishery
 - Spring Fishery
 - Summer Fishery

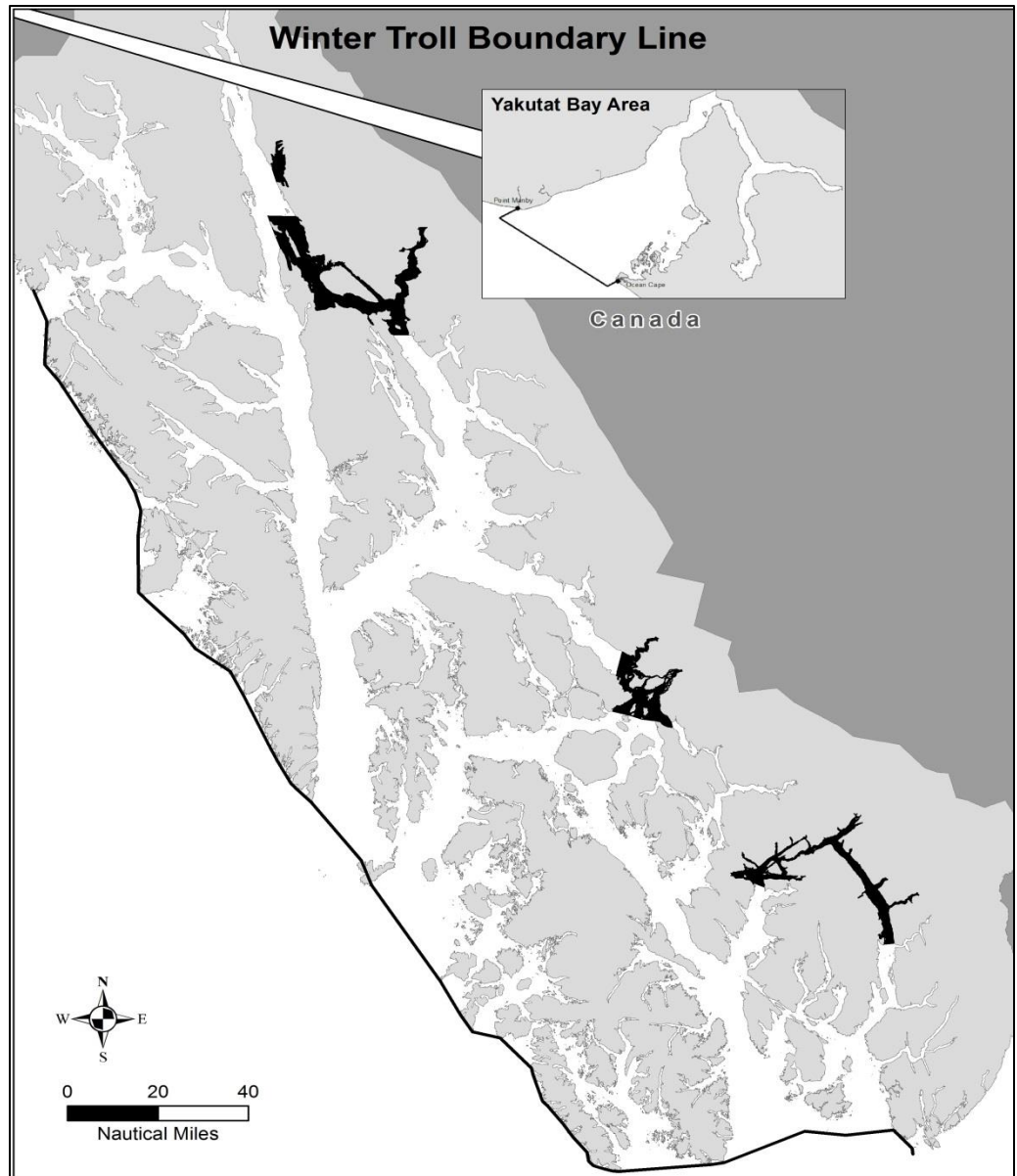
Waters of Southeast Alaska/Yakutat

- State waters (within 3-miles of outer coast)
- Exclusive Economic Zone (outside 3-miles)
- Open waters vary by season

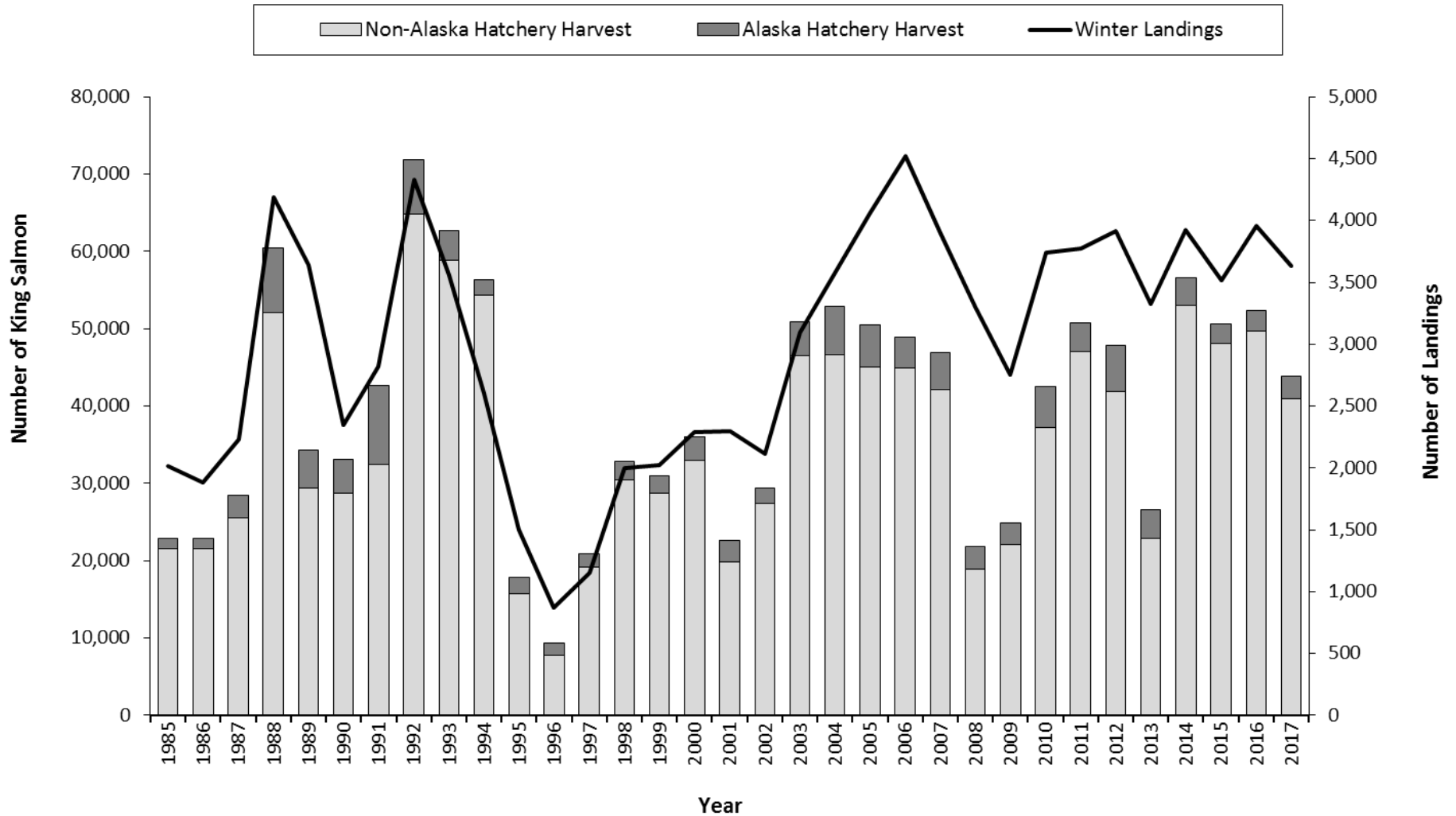


Winter King Salmon Fishery

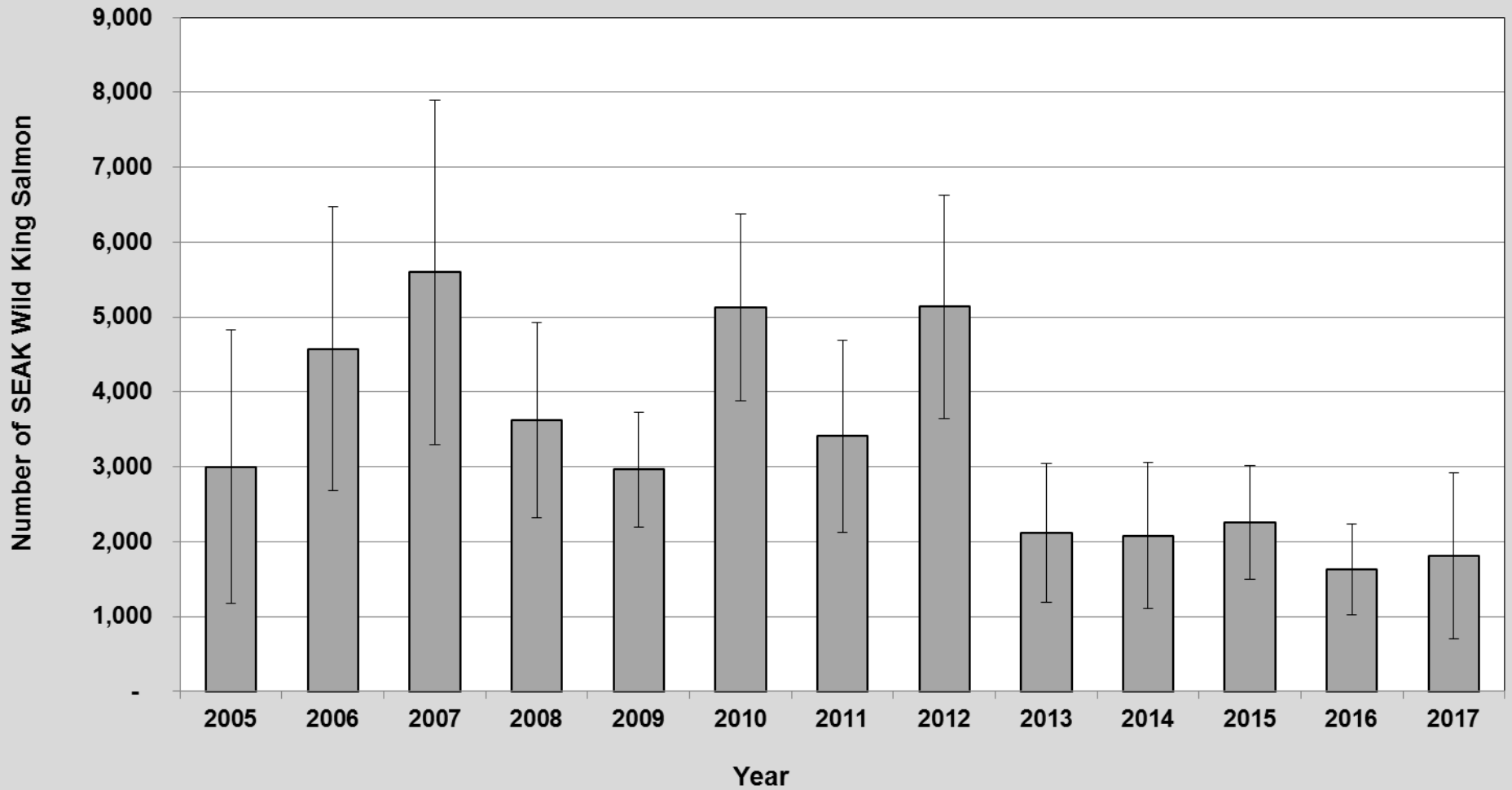
- Open October 11-April 30, or until Guideline Harvest Level is reached
- Target king salmon, restricted to inside winter boundary line, or “surflines”
- Proposals:
 - 178 and 179 to modify winter boundary lines



Winter King Salmon Fishery



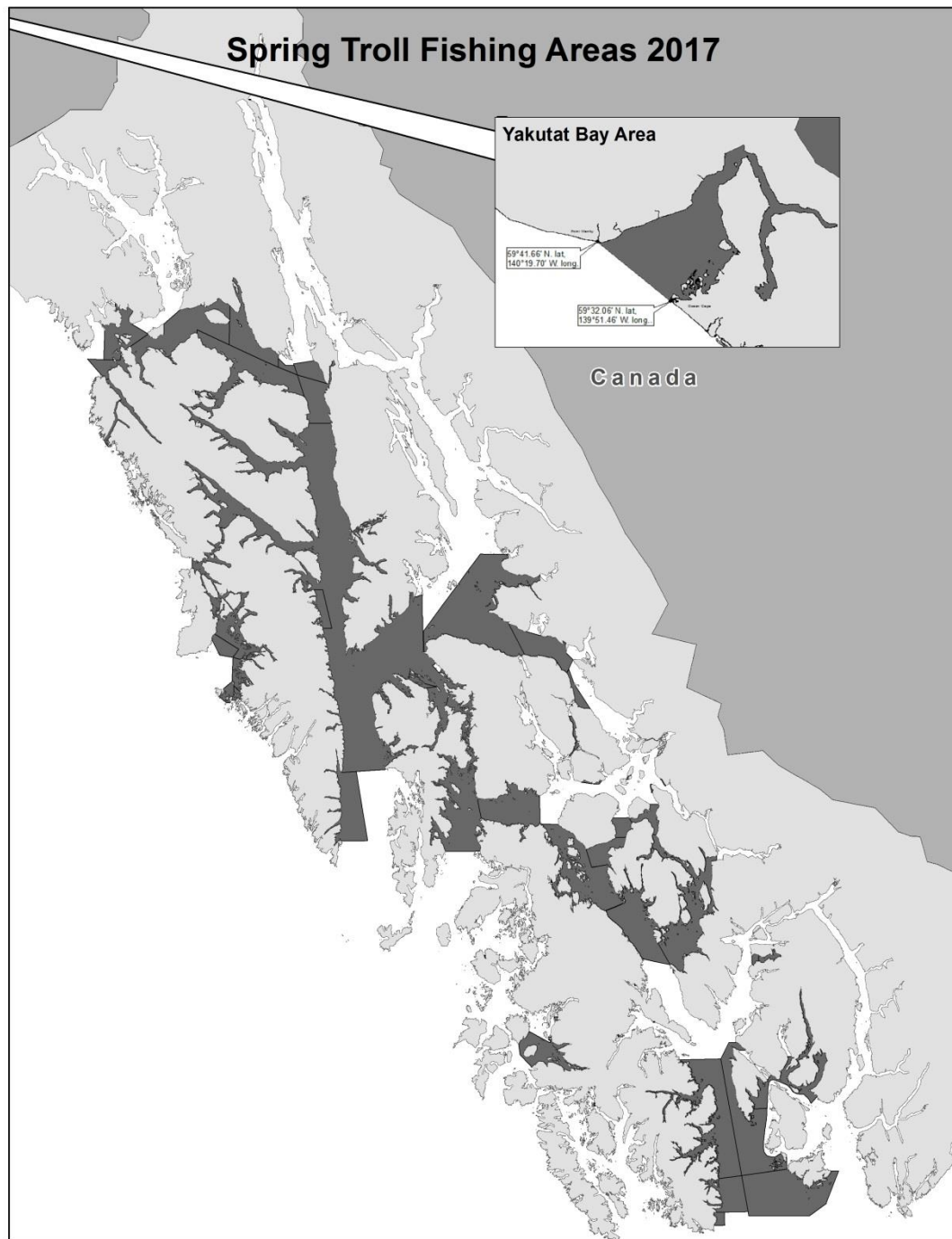
Harvest of Wild SEAK King Salmon- Late Winter Troll Genetic MSA and CWT based estimates



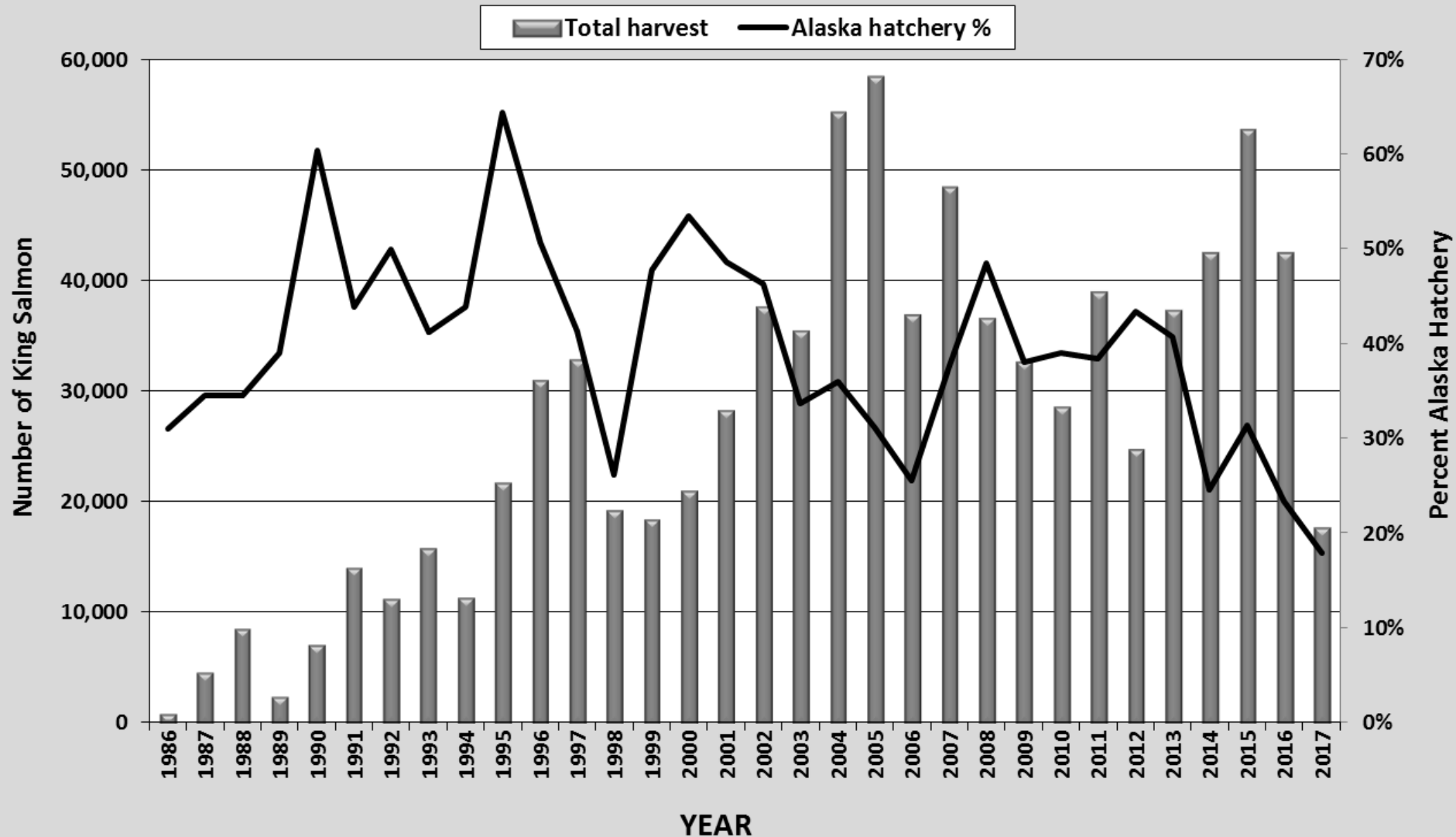
Spring Troll Fisheries

- Open May 1 – June 30, or earlier
- Located along migration routes or near hatchery and release sites; target Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon
- Harvest of treaty king salmon is limited according to the percentage of the Alaska hatchery fish taken in each fishery
- Spring fisheries are managed individually on a weekly basis by emergency order
- Hatchery-produced chum salmon also targeted
- Proposals:
 - 133 and 134 limit or close spring fisheries for conservation
 - 172 and 180 reduce harvest limit restrictions
 - 173, 174, and 175 relate to chum salmon fisheries

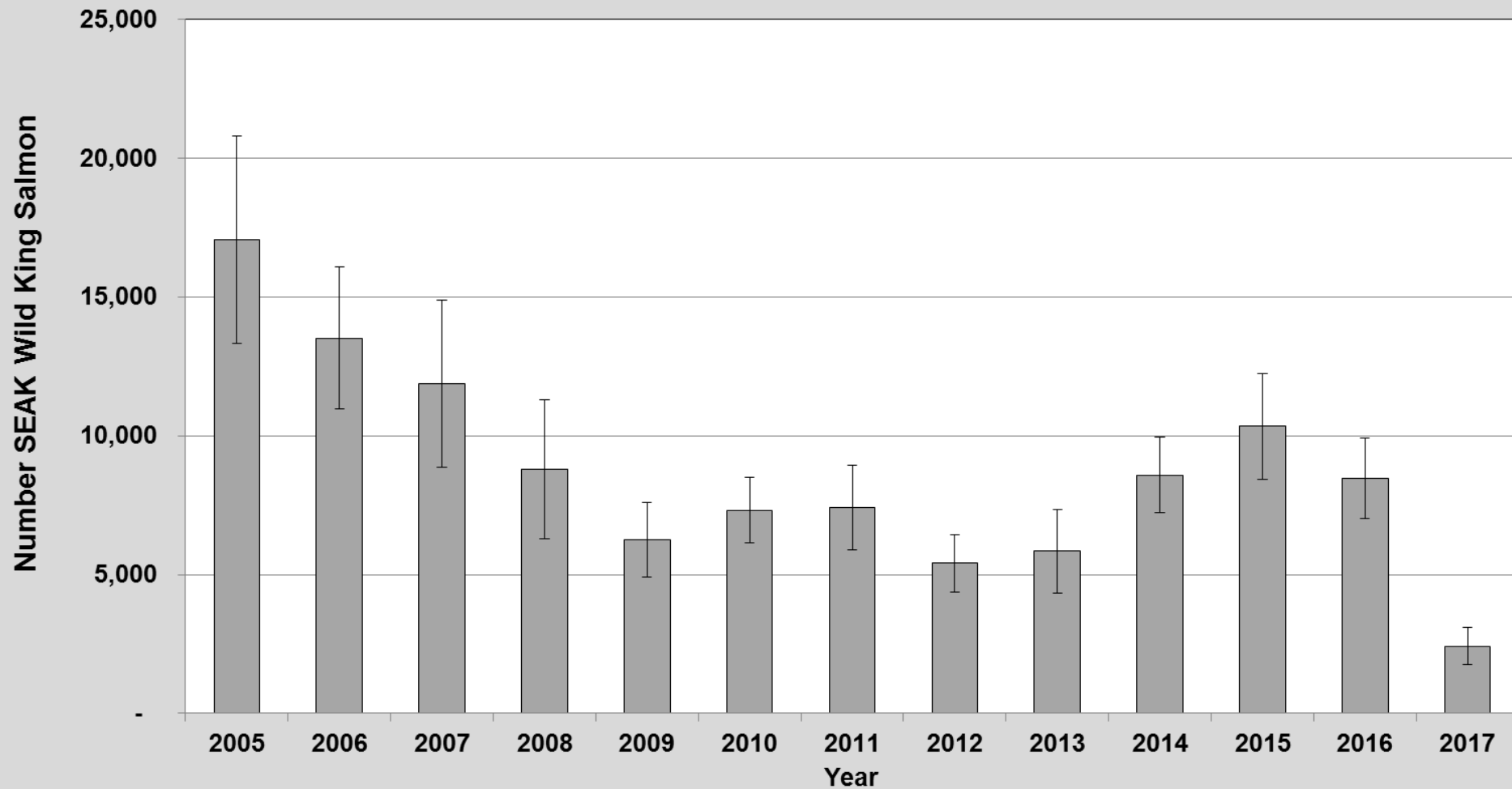
Spring Troll Fishing Areas 2017



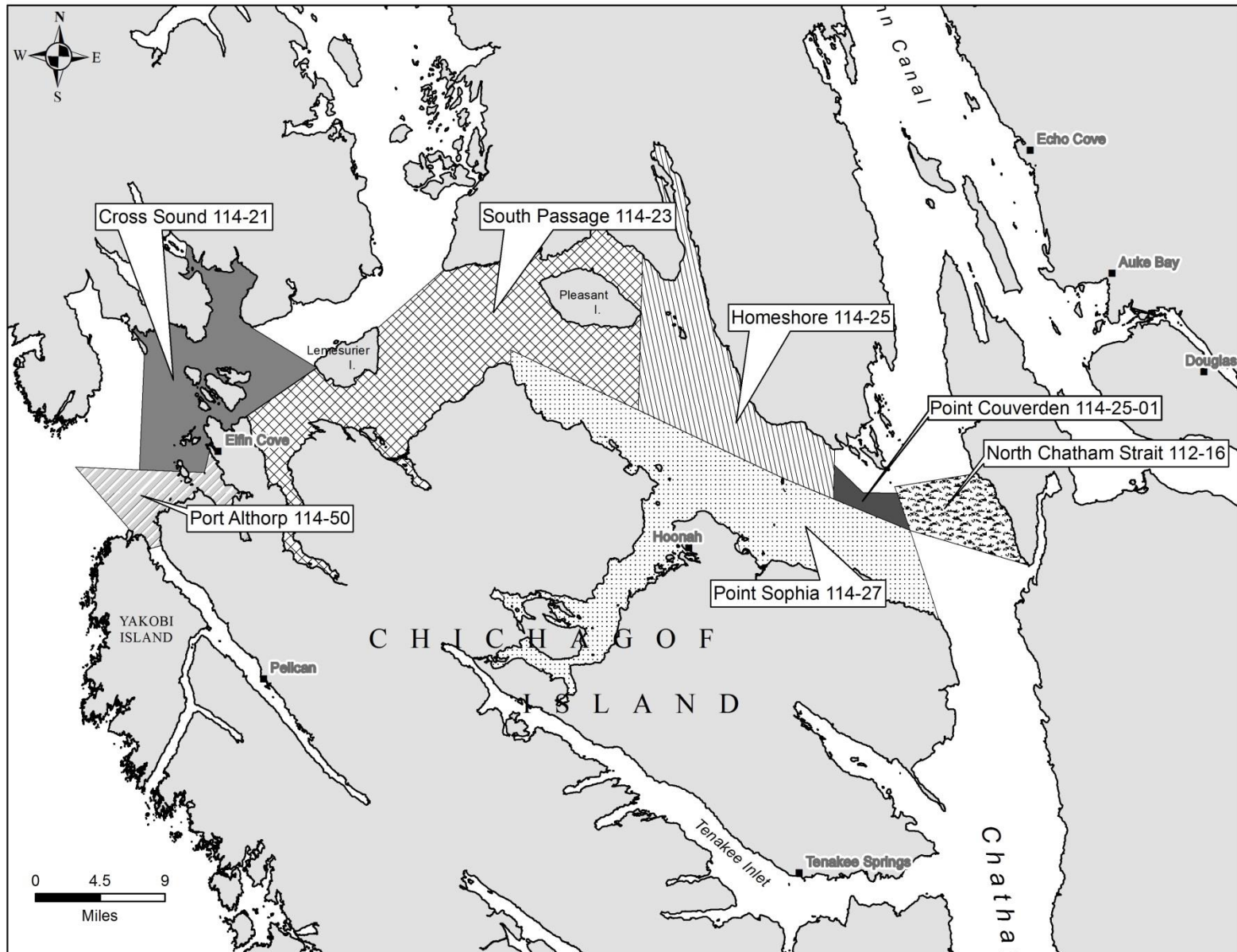
Spring Troll King Salmon Harvests: 1986–2017



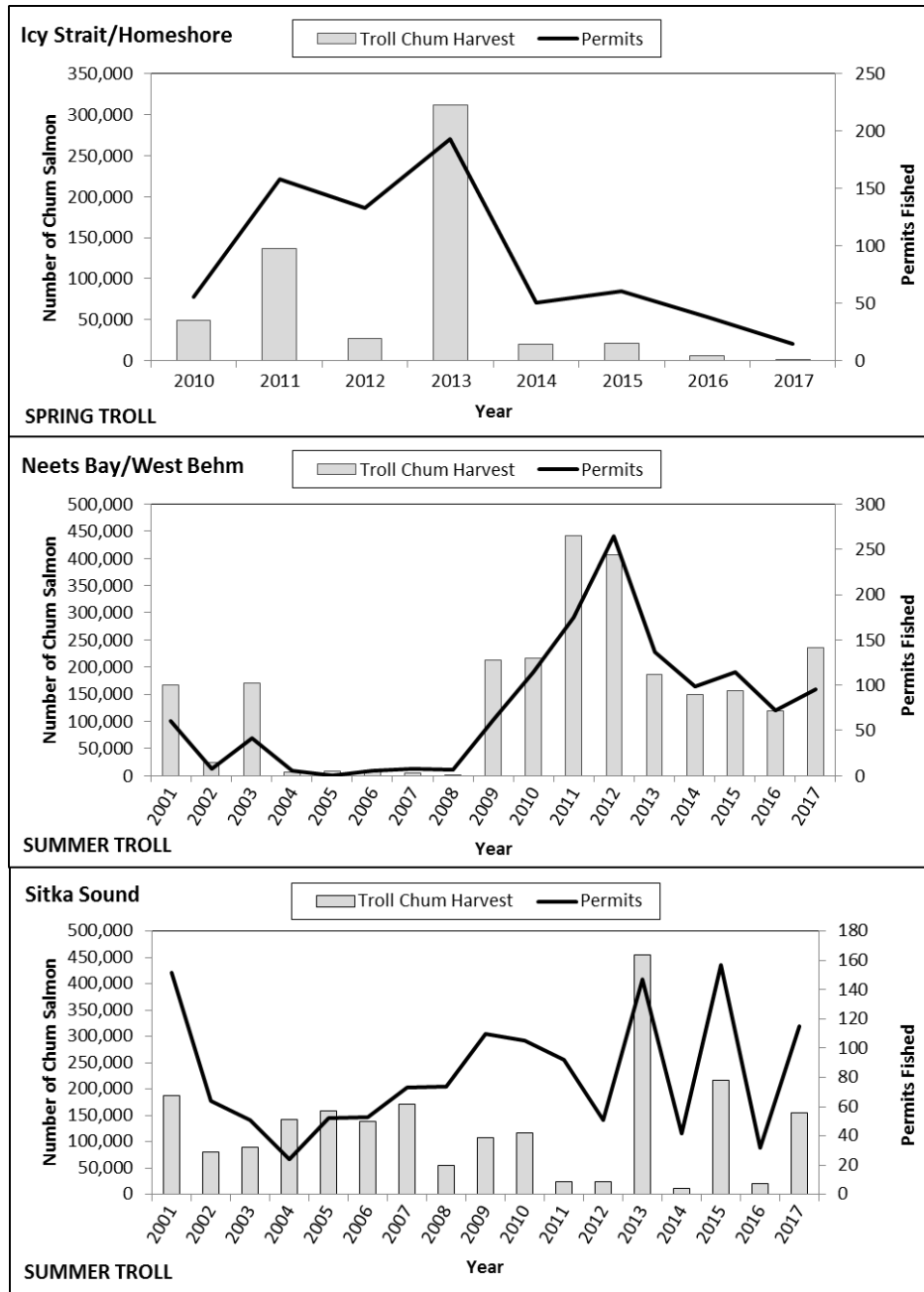
Harvest of Wild SEAK King Salmon- Spring Troll Genetic MSA and CWT based estimates



Spring Fisheries in Districts 12 and 14



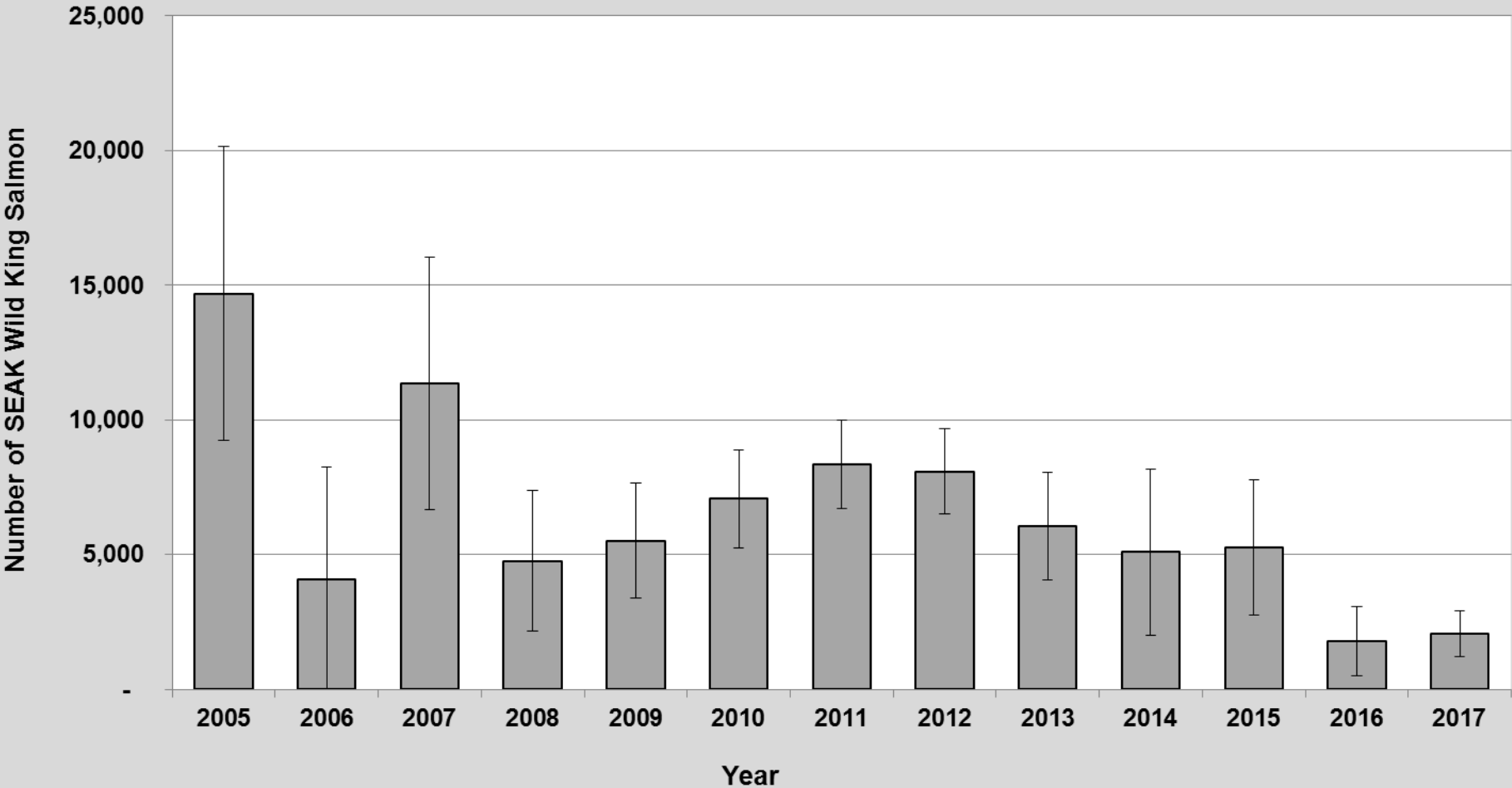
Directed Chum Troll Fisheries- 2001–2017



Summer Troll Fishery

- Summer fishery begins on July 1, harvest and effort are at peak levels with most waters of the region open to troll gear
- 1st king opening: 70% of the king salmon remaining on the troll allocation after winter and spring fisheries end
- 2nd king opening: remaining 30% of the troll allocation
- Also target coho and chum during summer
- Proposals:
 - 177 allow opportunity for hatchery-produced coho salmon during coho conservation closures
 - 181 modify summer king opening harvest targets
 - 182 establish start date for second summer troll king opening
 - 183 adjust boundary of area closed to troll gear near Situk River

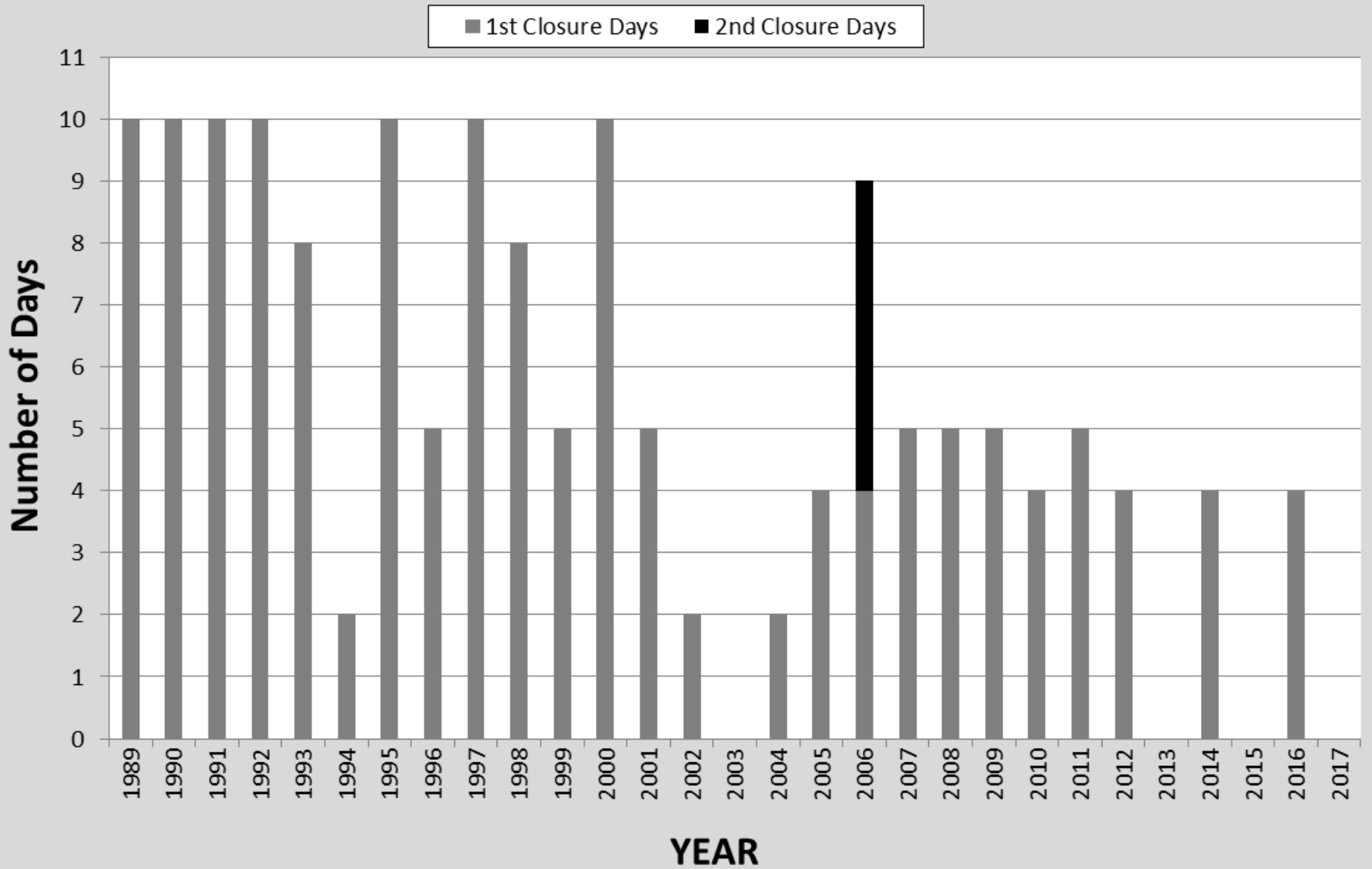
Harvest of Wild SEAK King Salmon- Summer R1 Troll Genetic MSA and CWT based estimates



Coho Salmon Fishery

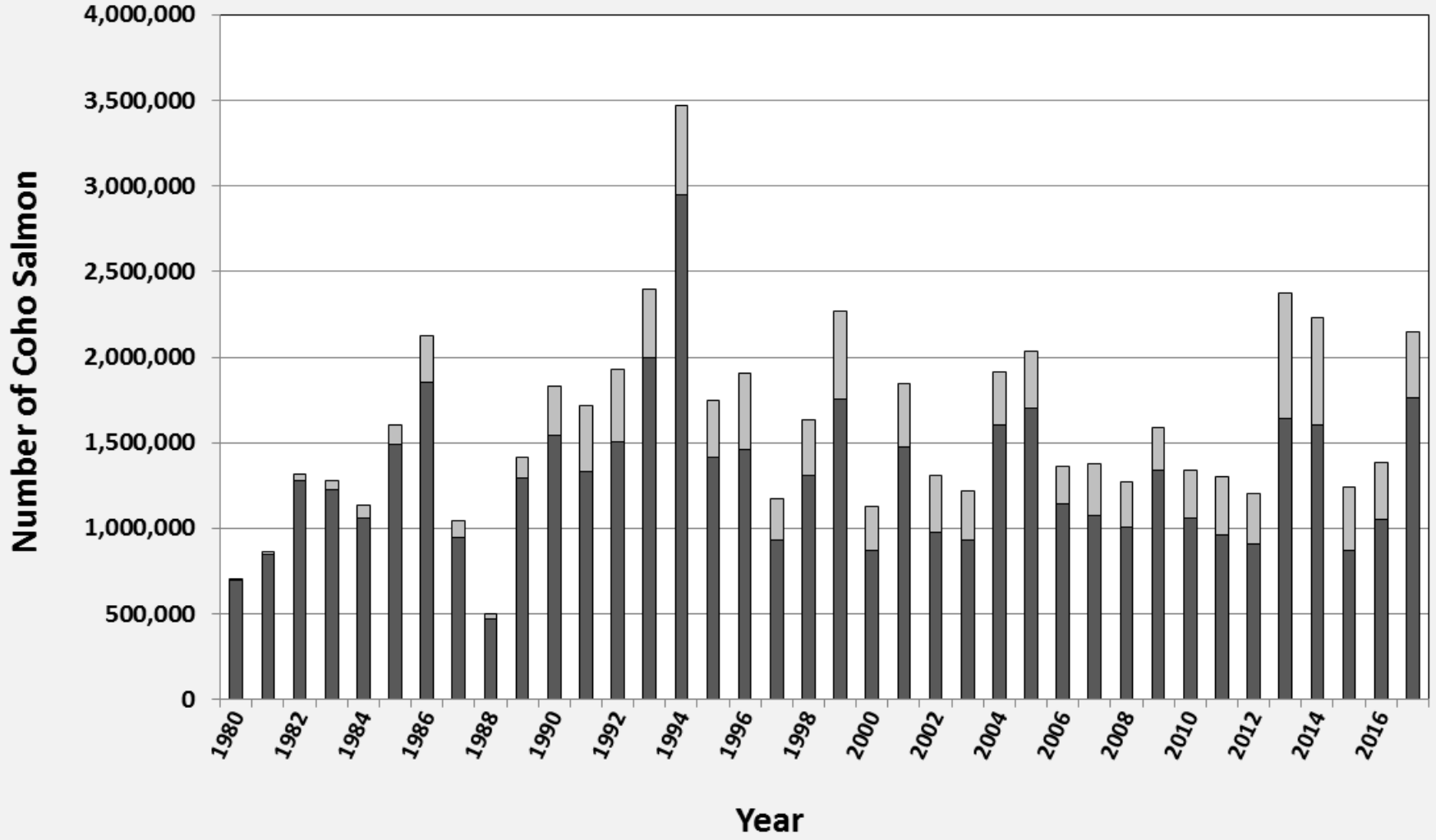
- Troll coho retention begins June 1 and continues until late September
- Coho present in over 2,500 systems
- Fishery managed to ensure escapement goals are met and to achieve board allocation guidelines between gear groups over time
- Area near U.S./Canada border is managed in cooperation with Canada under terms of the Pacific Salmon Treaty
- Run strength assessed in season

Troll Coho Salmon Closure Days



Troll Coho Salmon Harvest, 1980–2017

■ Wild Harvest □ Hatchery Harvest



Questions?

