

# **Southeast Alaska/Yakutat Commercial Salmon Troll Fishery**

Alaska Board of Fisheries

Feb. 23–March 3, 2015

Sitka

RC 3 – Tab 9

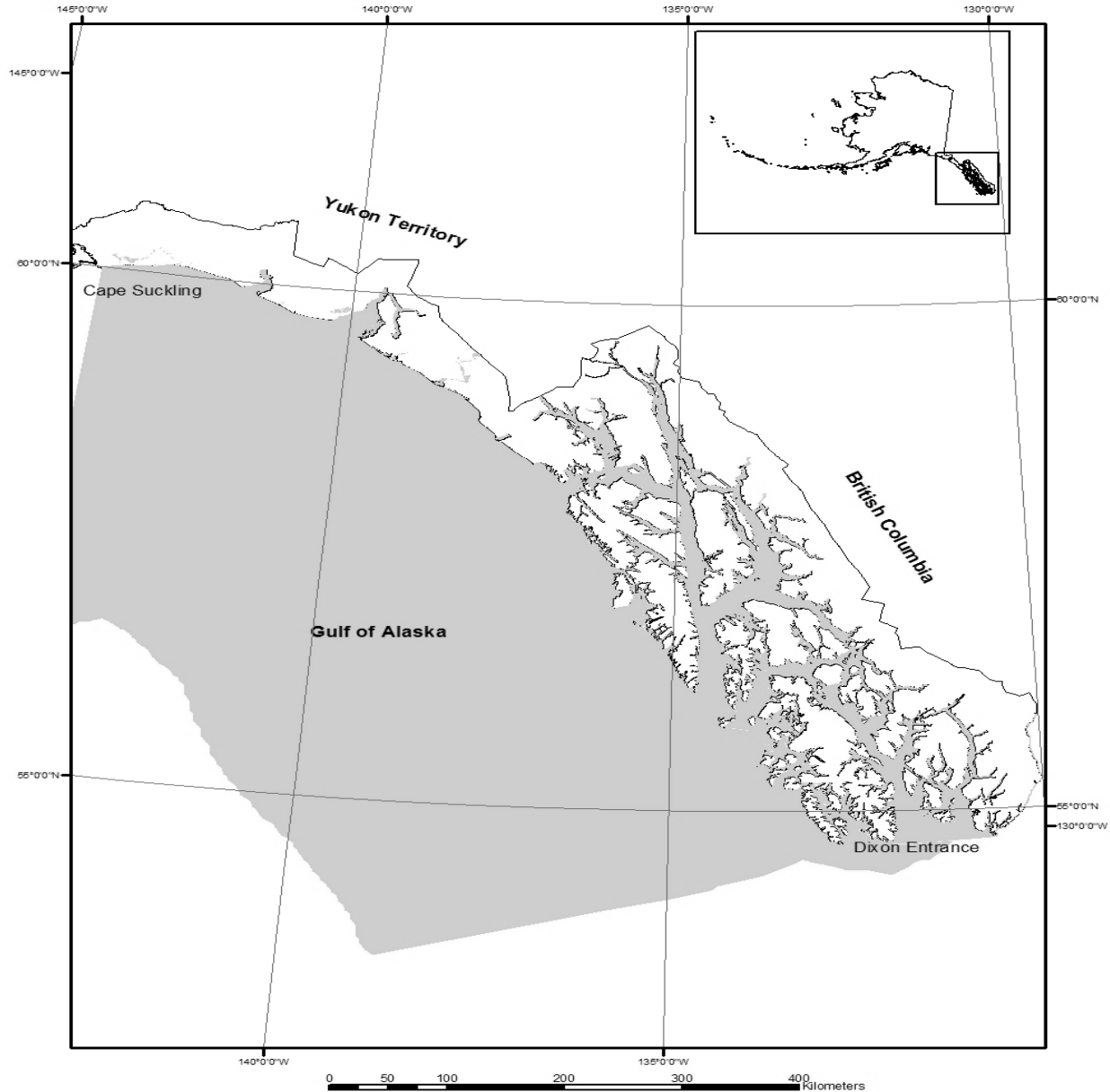
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# Waters of Southeast Alaska/Yakutat



# Salmon Troll Fishery

- Portions of the region that are open to salmon troll gear vary by season
- King and coho salmon are the primary target species, though chum salmon have become an important part of troll harvest in recent years
- An average of 1,100 troll permits are actively fished each year, 2/3 of which are power troll, 1/3 are hand troll and 89% are held by Alaska residents

# Troll Seasons and Fisheries

- Troll fishery open almost year-round
- Winter fishery: October 11–April 30 or until the king salmon Guideline Harvest Level is reached
- Spring Fishery: May 1–June 30; can begin earlier if winter fishery closes prior to April 30
- Summer Fishery: July 1–Sept.20; may be extended through Sept.30 if wild coho abundance is projected to meet escapement needs

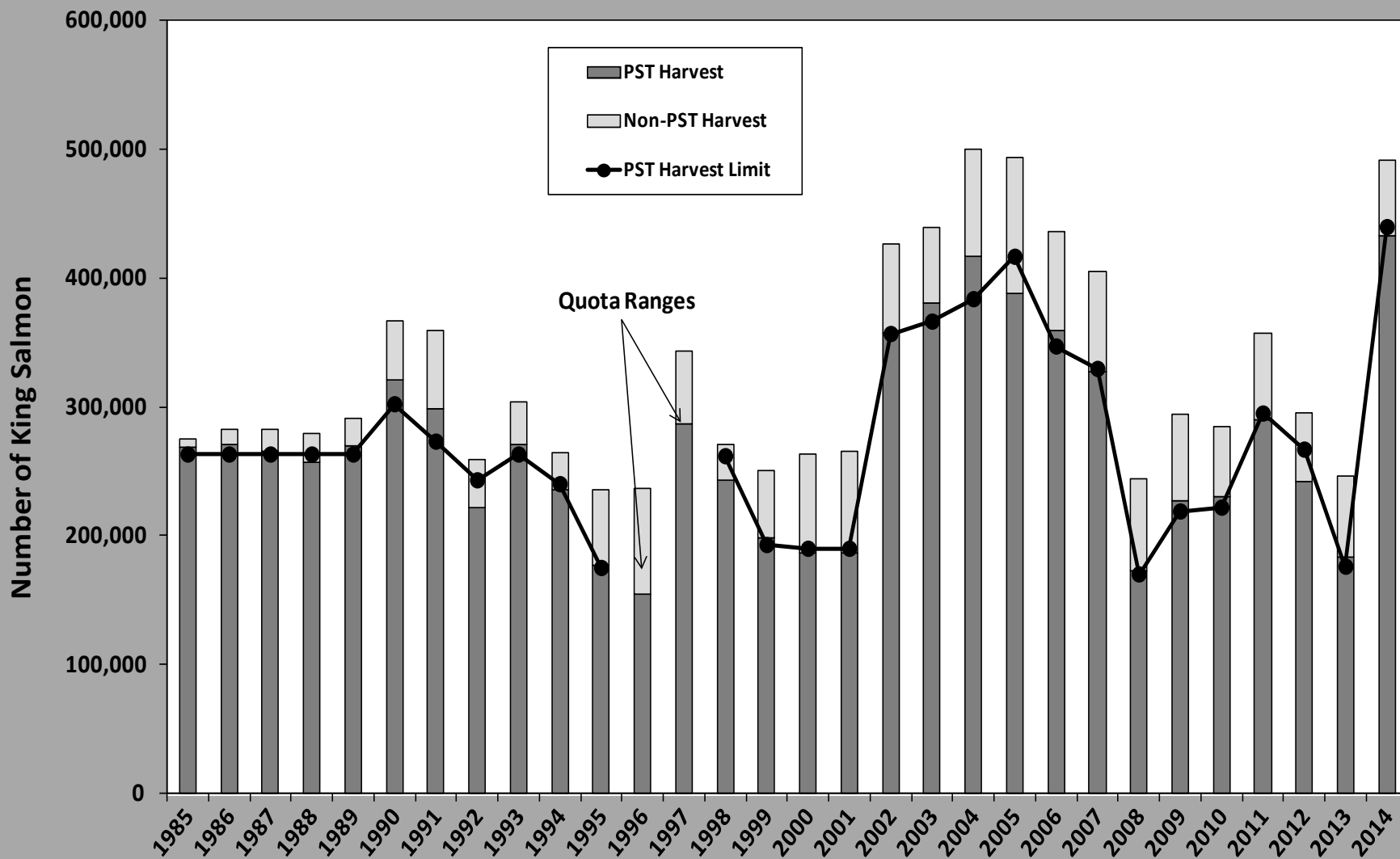
# King Salmon Quota

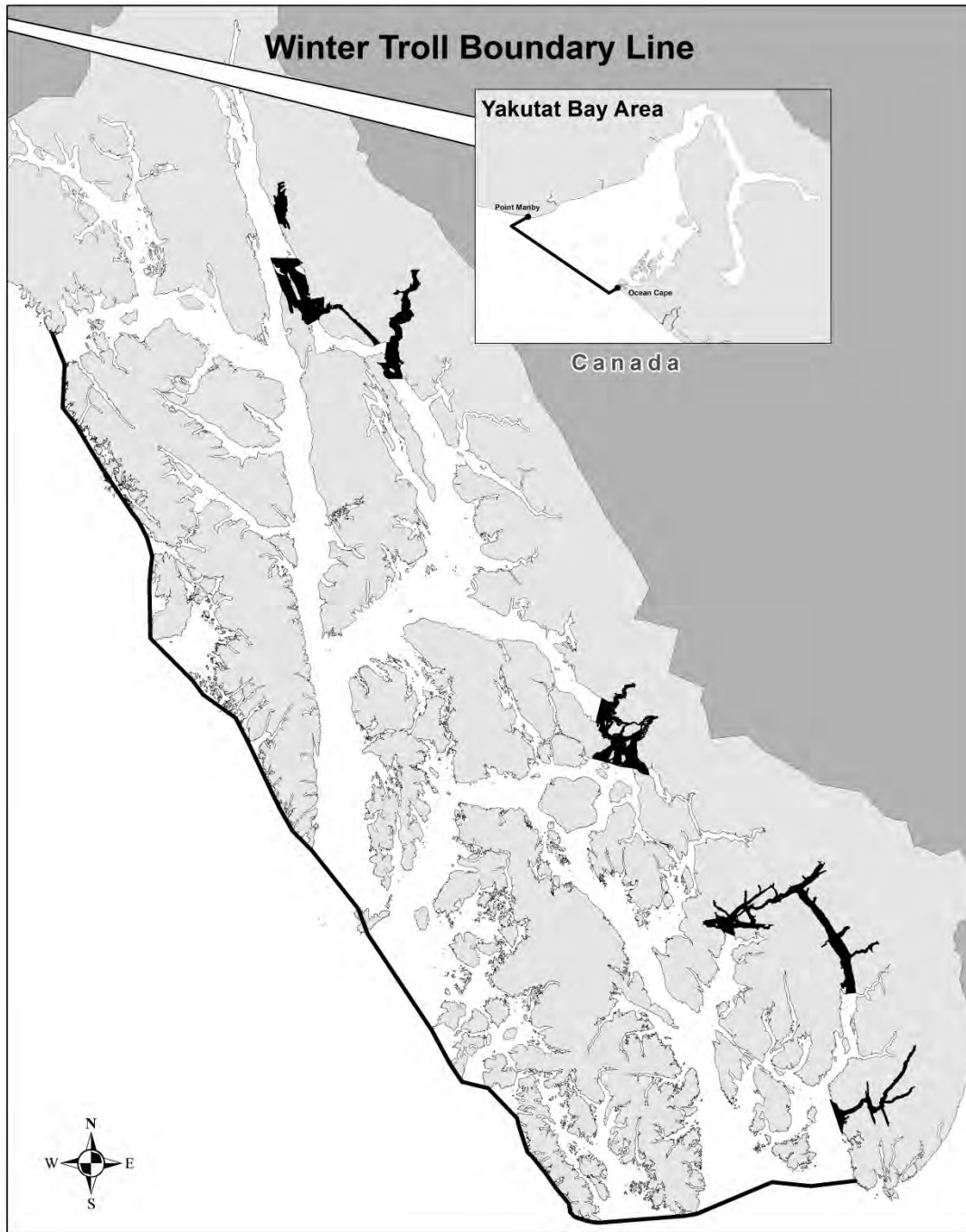
- Treaty calls for abundance-based management of Southeast Alaska's king salmon fisheries
- Chinook Technical Committee of the Pacific Salmon Commission determines the annual preseason abundance index (AI) using a statistical model
- AI equates to annual all-gear treaty quota for SEAK
- King salmon quota is allocated among gear groups according to board regulations
- King salmon accounting year is October–September

# King Salmon Allocation between Gear Groups

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

# All-Gear King Salmon Harvest





Winter Troll Boundary Line

Yakutat Bay Area

Point Marby

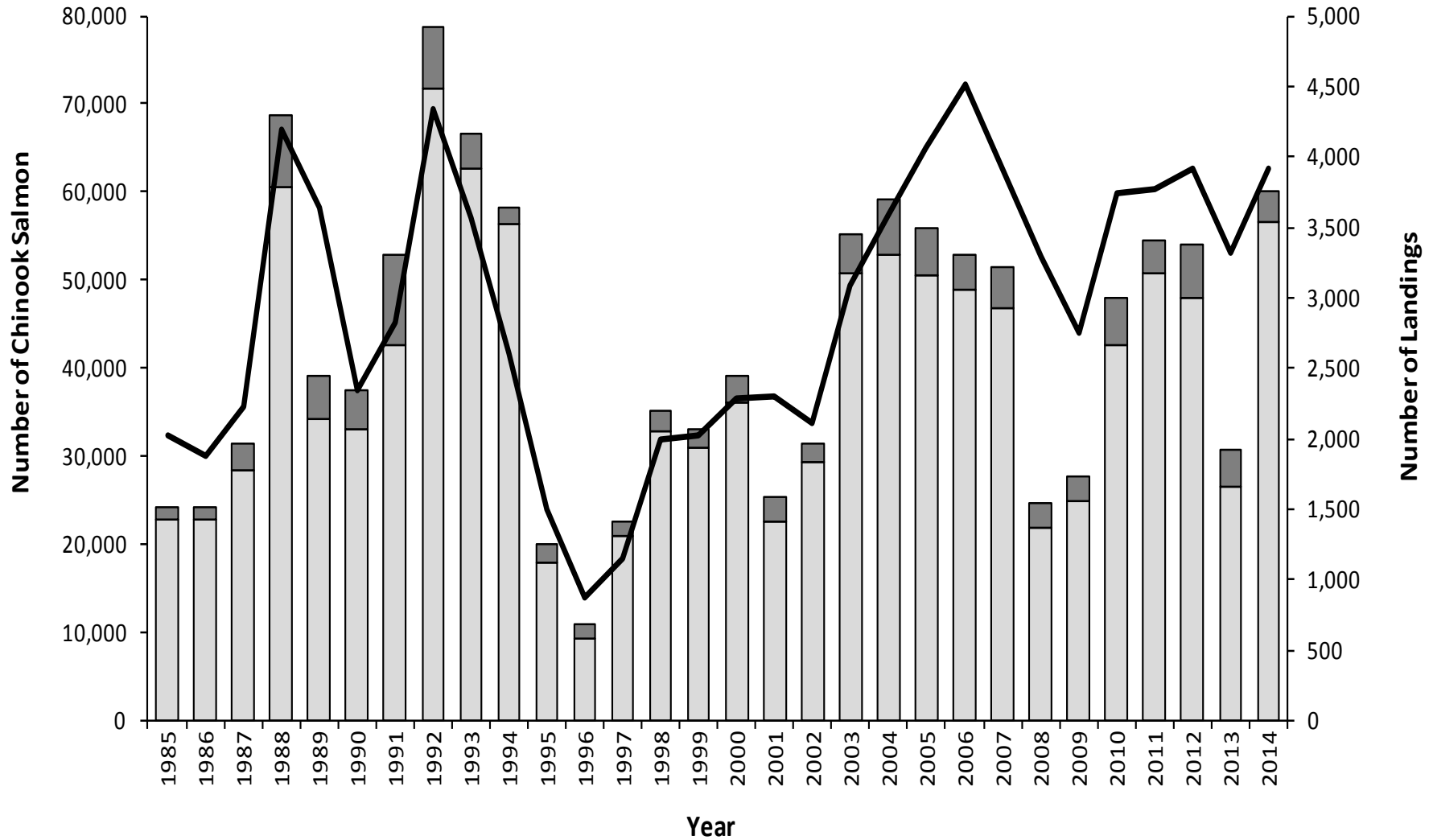
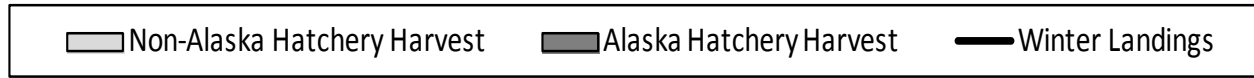
Ocean Cape

Canada

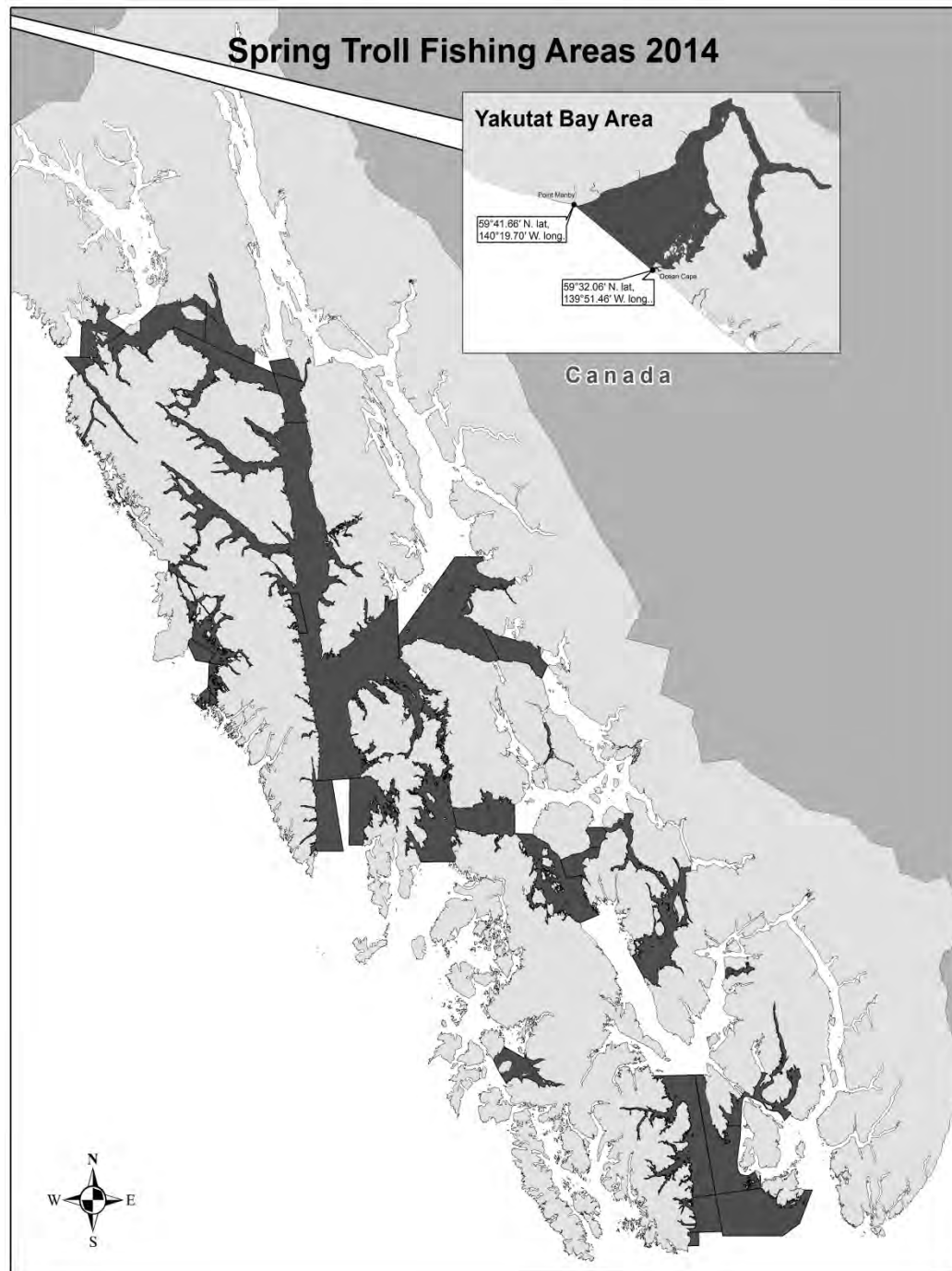




# Winter King Salmon Fishery



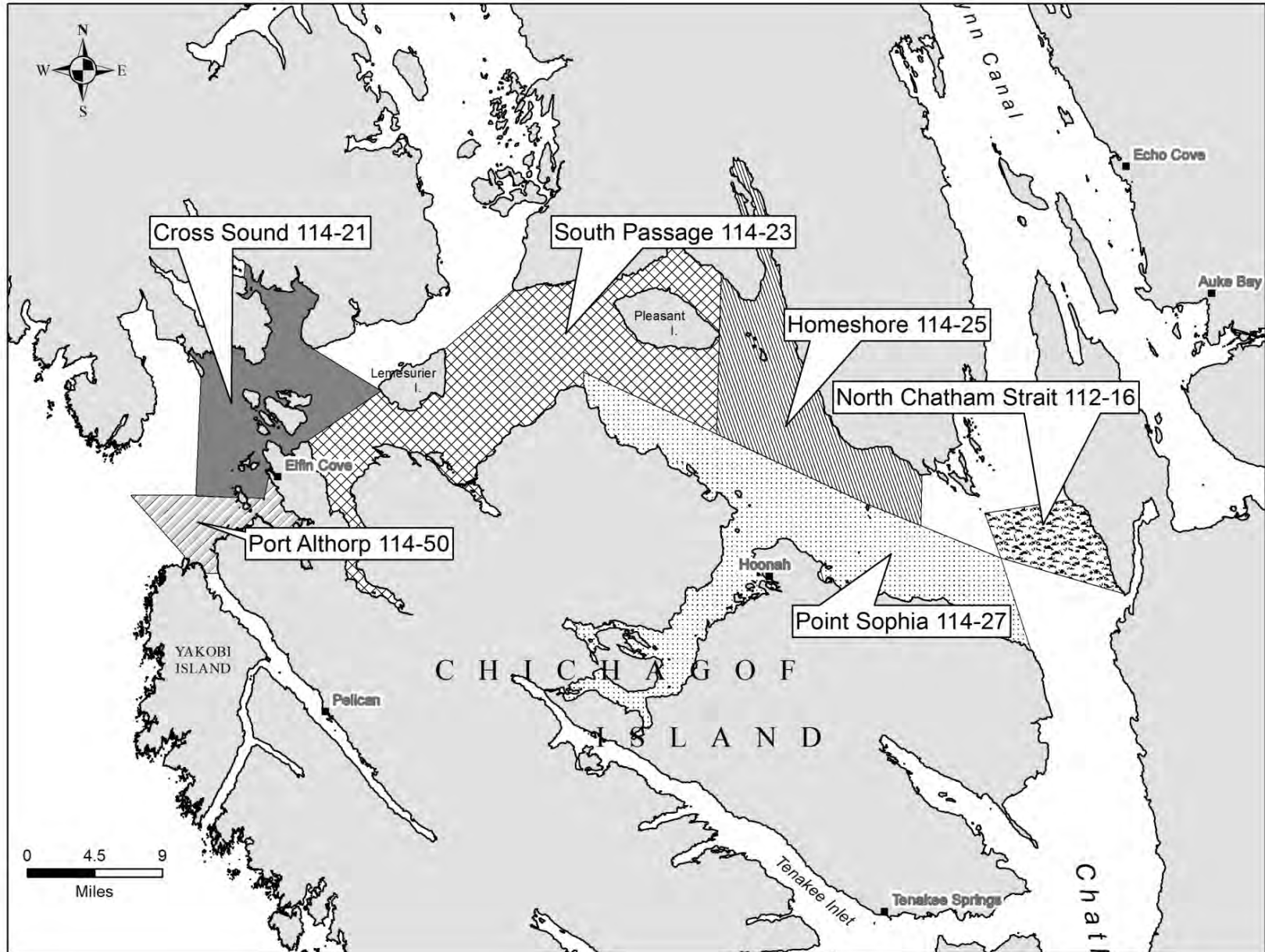
# Spring Troll Fishing Areas 2014



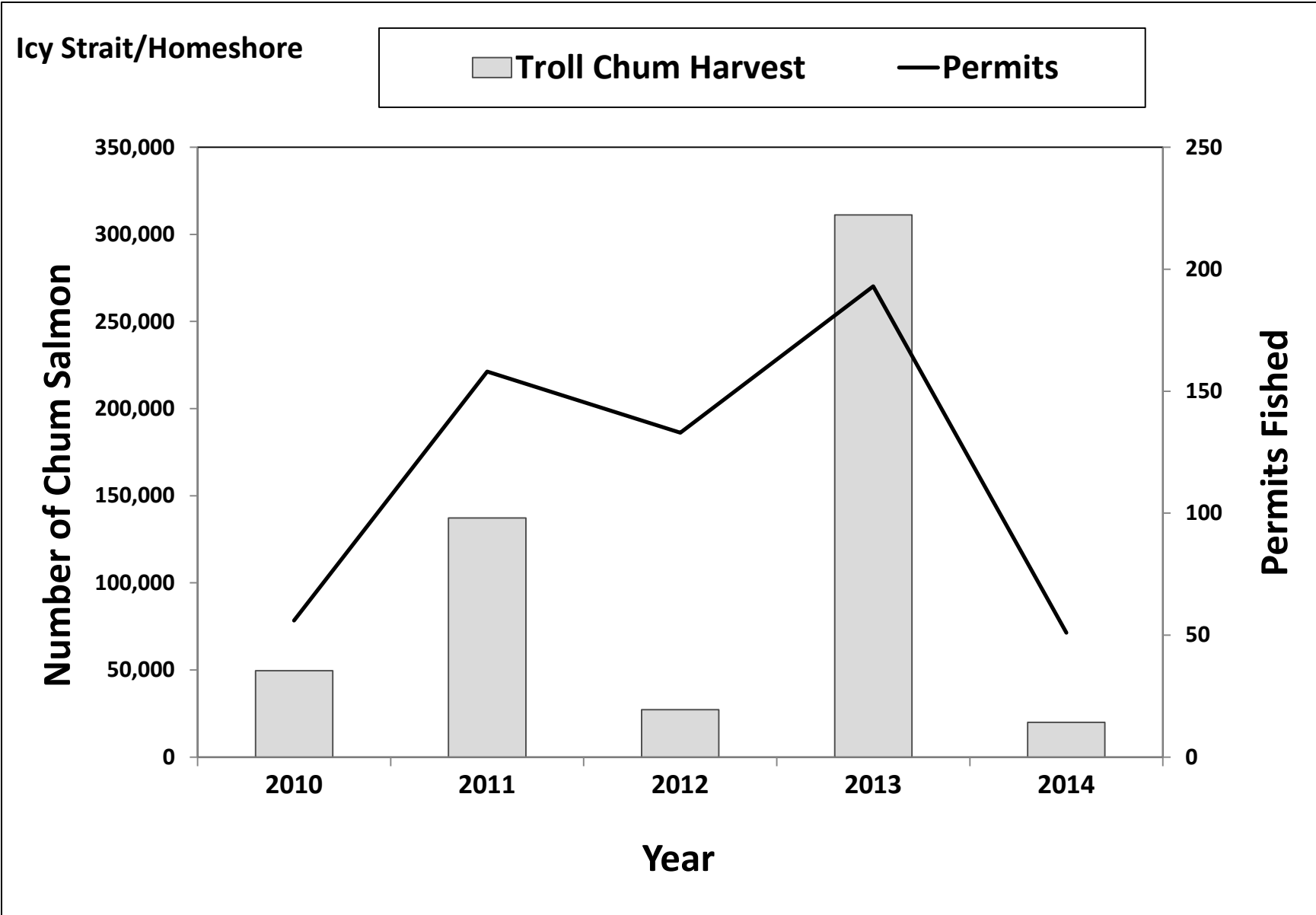
# Spring Troll Fisheries

- Most spring fisheries target Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon, though some treaty kings are also harvested
- Harvest of treaty king salmon is limited according to the percentage of the Alaska hatchery fish taken in each fishery
- Areas are located along migration routes or near hatchery and release sites
- Spring fisheries are managed individually on a weekly basis by emergency order

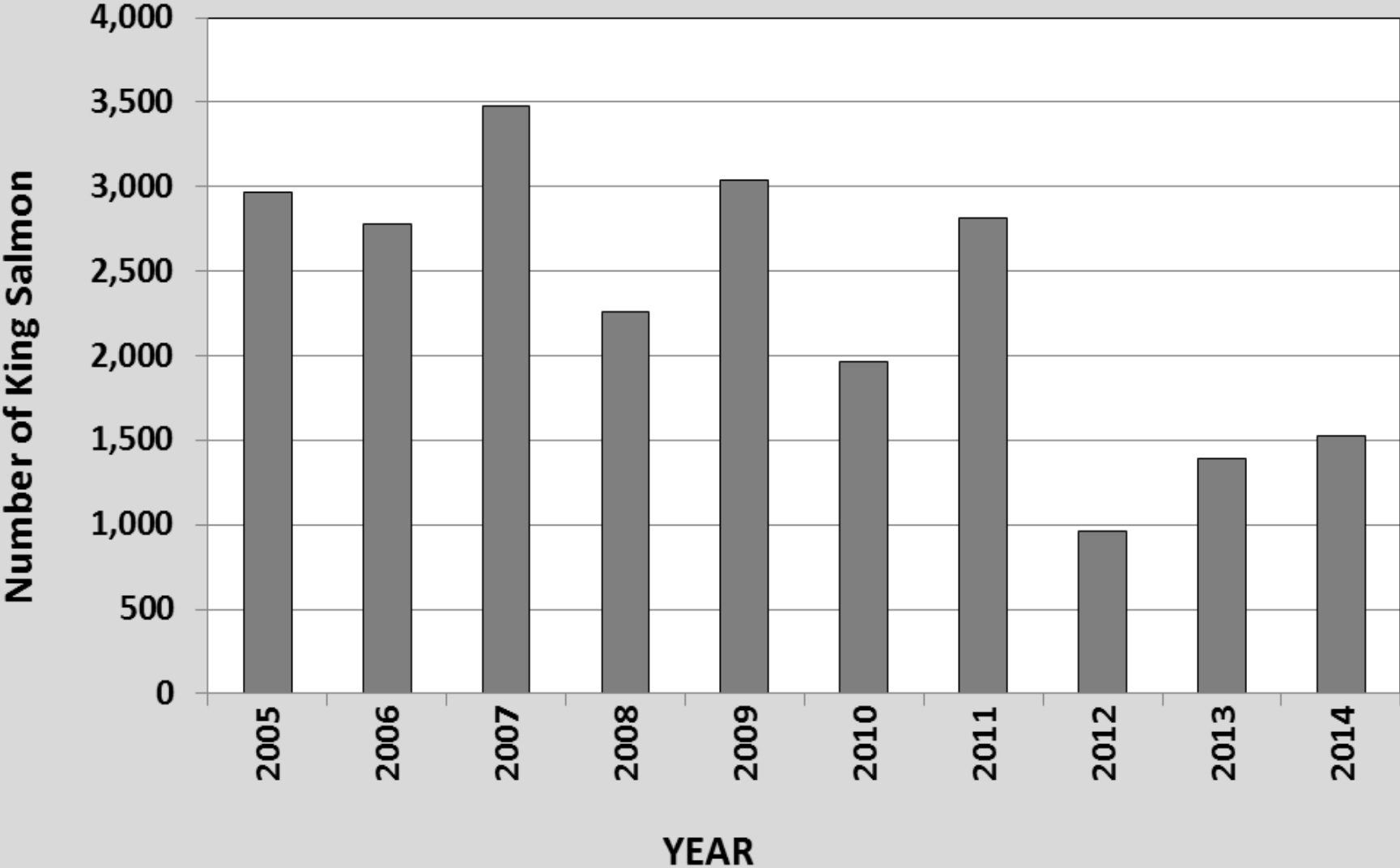
# Spring Fisheries in Districts 12 and 14



# Icy Strait (District 14) Chum Troll Fishery



# Icy Strait (D14) Spring Troll King Salmon Harvest



# Summer Troll Fishery

- When the summer fishery begins on July 1, harvest and effort are at peak levels
- Most waters of the region open to troll gear
- First king salmon opening targets 70% of the king salmon remaining on the troll allocation after winter and spring fisheries end
- Second king salmon opening targets remaining 30% of the troll allocation
- Trollers also target coho and chum salmon during the summer

# Coho Salmon Fishery

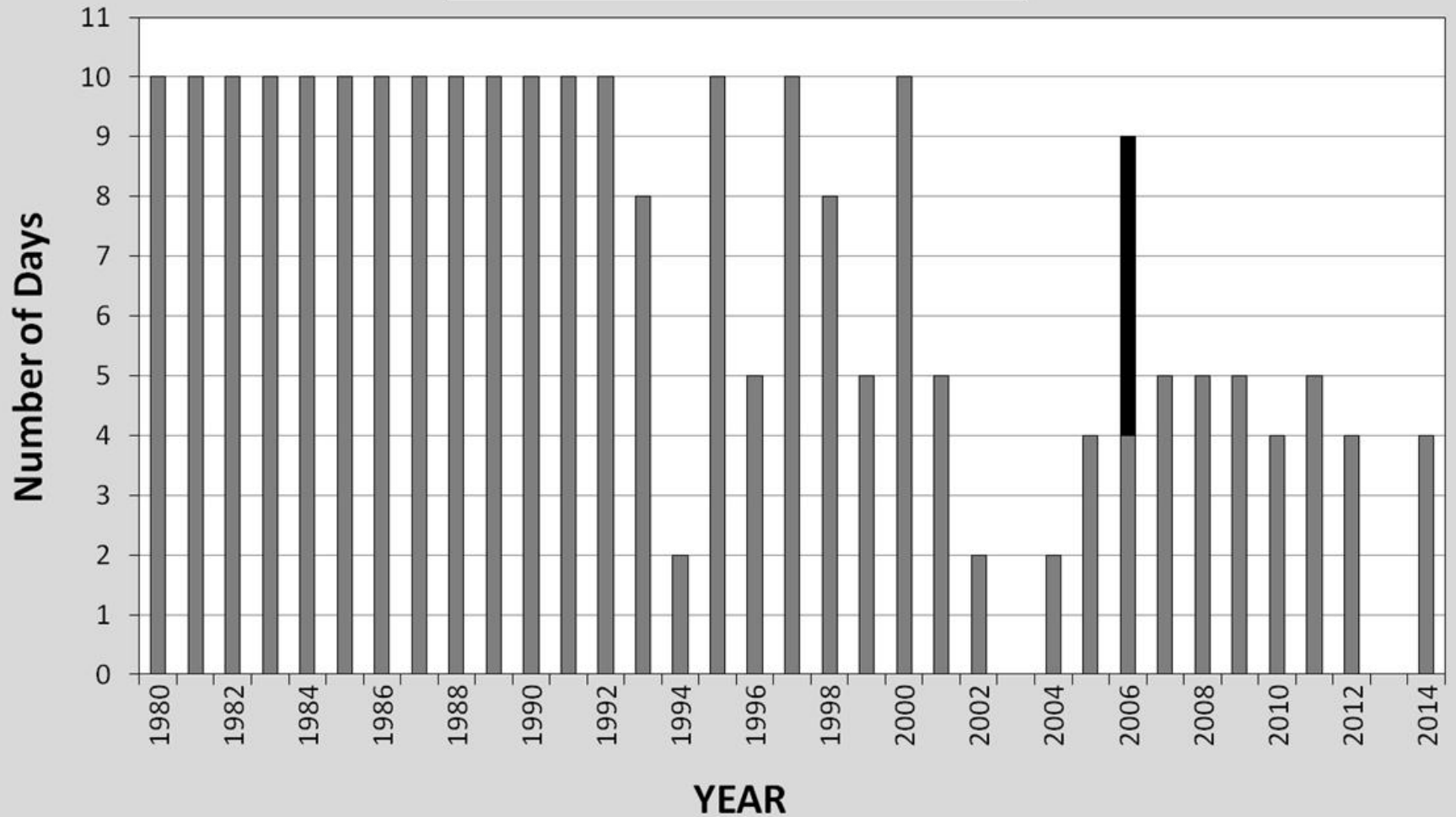
- Coho present in over 2,500 systems
- Fishery managed to ensure escapement goals are met and to achieve board allocation guidelines between gear groups over time
- Area near U.S./Canada border is managed in cooperation with Canada under terms of the Pacific Salmon Treaty
- Troll coho retention begins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



# Coho closure history

## Troll Coho Salmon Closure Days

■ 1st Closure Days ■ 2nd Closure Days



# Troll Coho Salmon Harvest

## Troll Coho Salmon Harvest, 1980–2014

