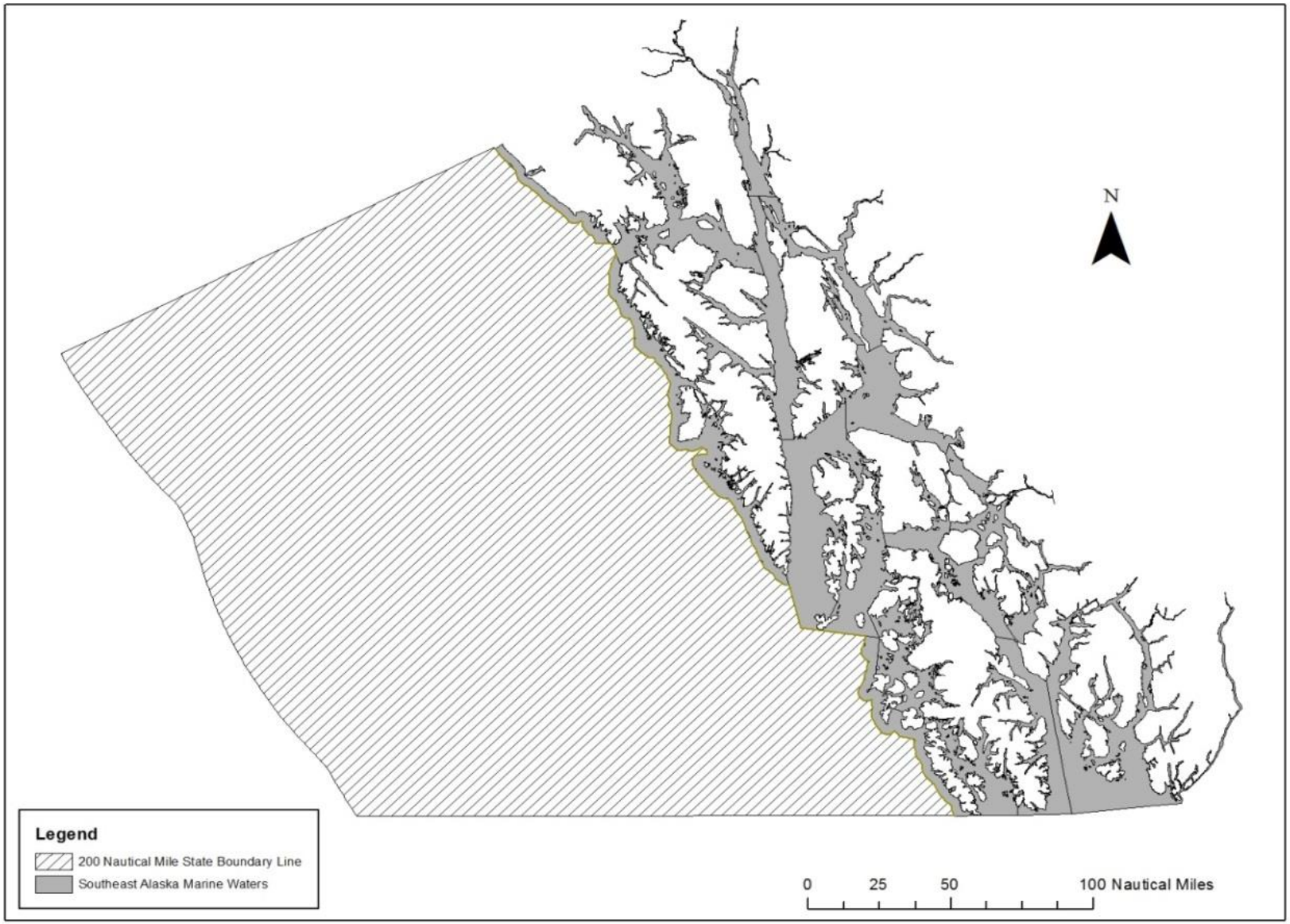
December 2017 KTTF meeting

Review of BOF proposals

PROPOSAL 61

5 AAC 34.100 and 35.100. Description of Registration Area A.

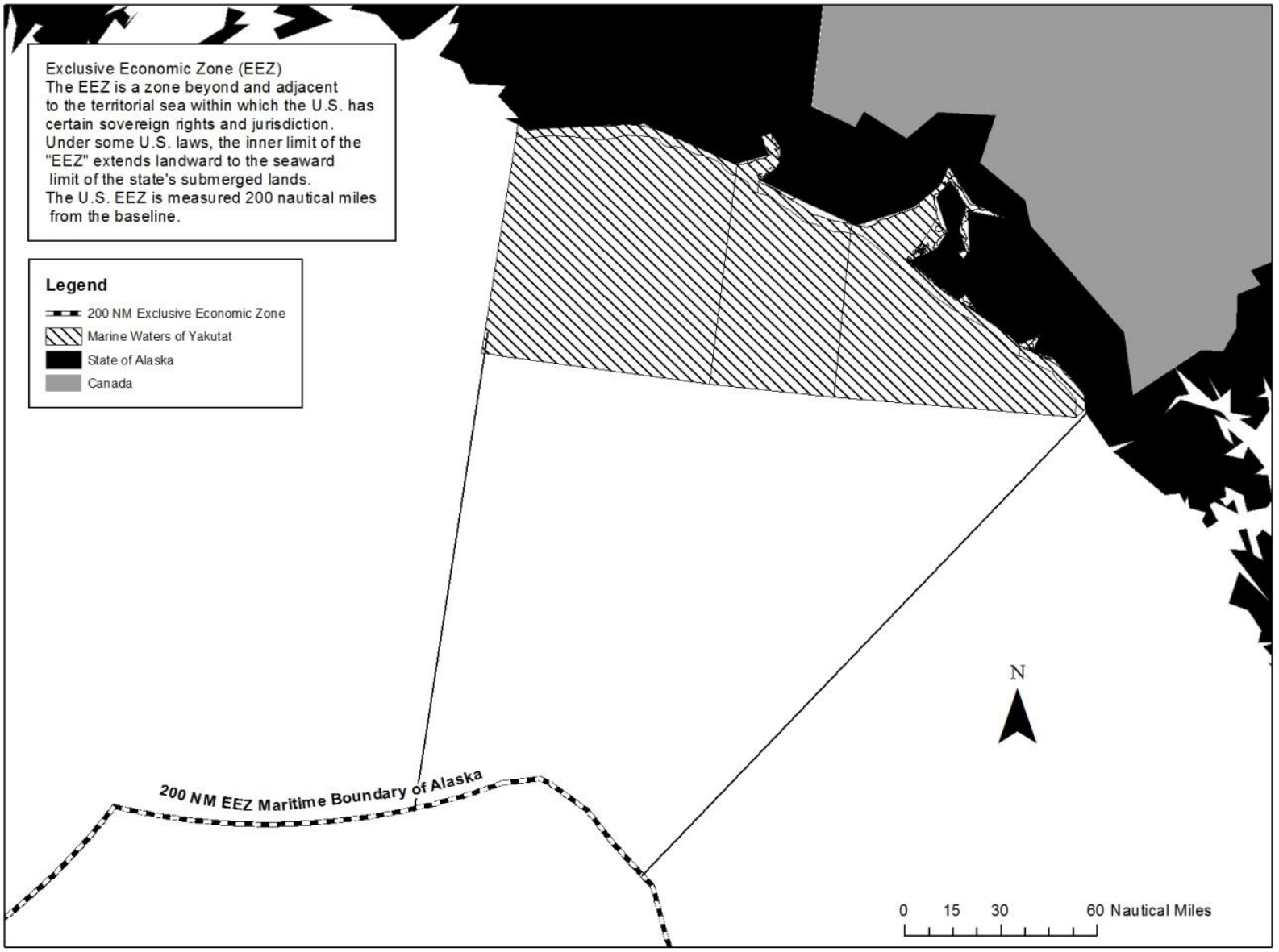
Expand waters of king and Tanner crab Registration Area A to include all waters from zero to 200 miles offshore.



PROPOSAL 62

5 AAC 34.160 and 35.160. Description of Registration Area D.

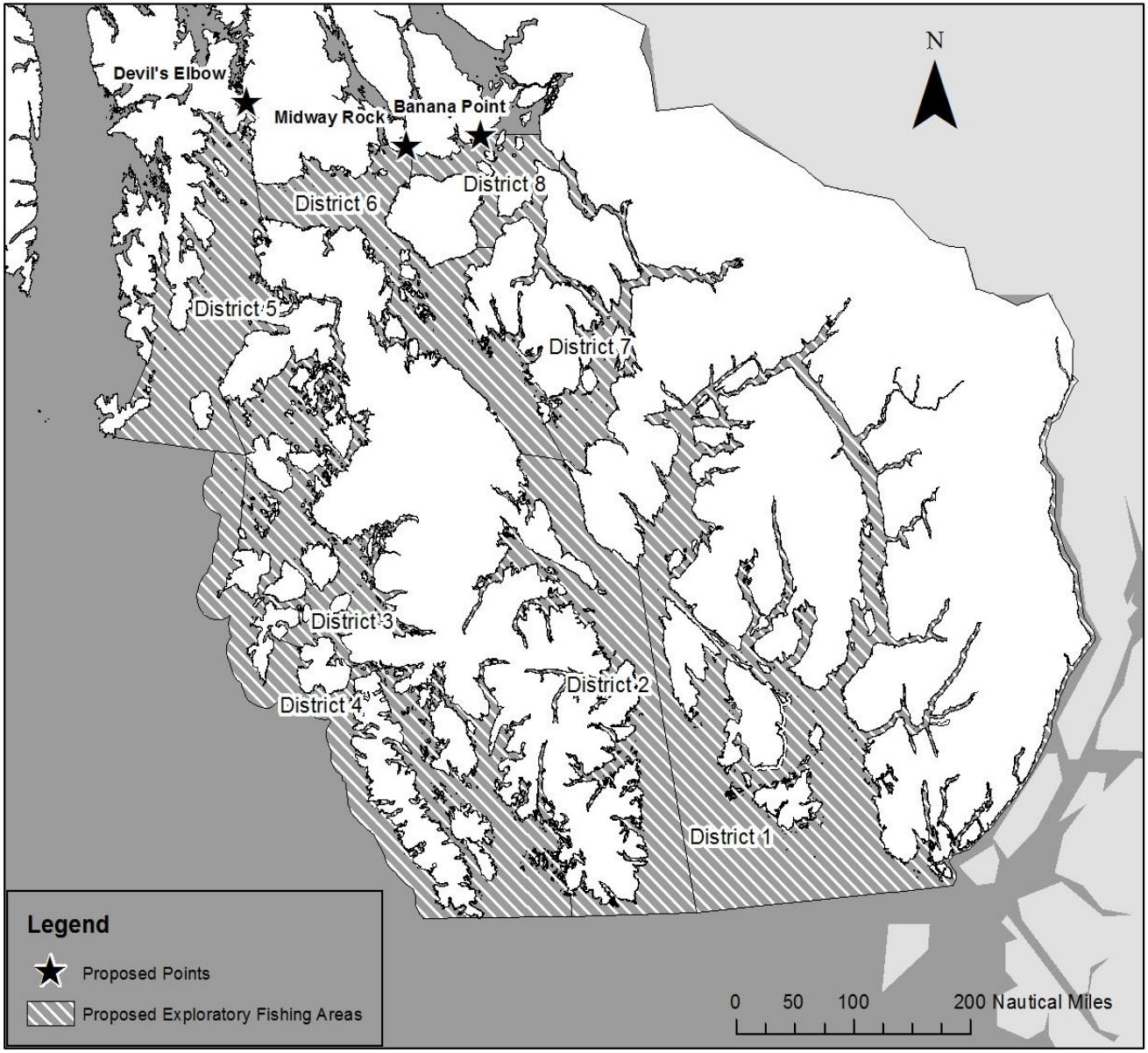
Expand waters of king and Tanner crab Registration Area D to include all waters from zero to 200 miles offshore.



PROPOSAL 63

5 AAC 34.113. Southeast Alaska Red King Crab Management Plan.

Open an exploratory commercial red king crab fishery in specific areas during years of low estimated abundance.



Total historical commercial red king crab harvest (1969/70 through 2011/12) in districts proposed as exploratory areas.

Districts	Total Harvest (lb)	Number of Landed Permits
1	5,898	6
2	--	--
3	2,771	6
4	*	*
5	36,989	16
6	64,348	13
7	21,442	5
8	188,306	33
All areas combined	11,315,191	97**

*Confidential data; less than three permit holders participated in the fishery in this area.
**Maximum number of permits fished (1983/84 season).

PROPOSAL 64

5 AAC 34.113. Southeast Alaska Red King Crab Management Plan and 5 AAC 34.125. Lawful gear for Registration Area A.

Manage the Southeastern Alaska Area commercial red king crab fishery under an equal quota share when harvestable surplus is less than 200,000 pounds.

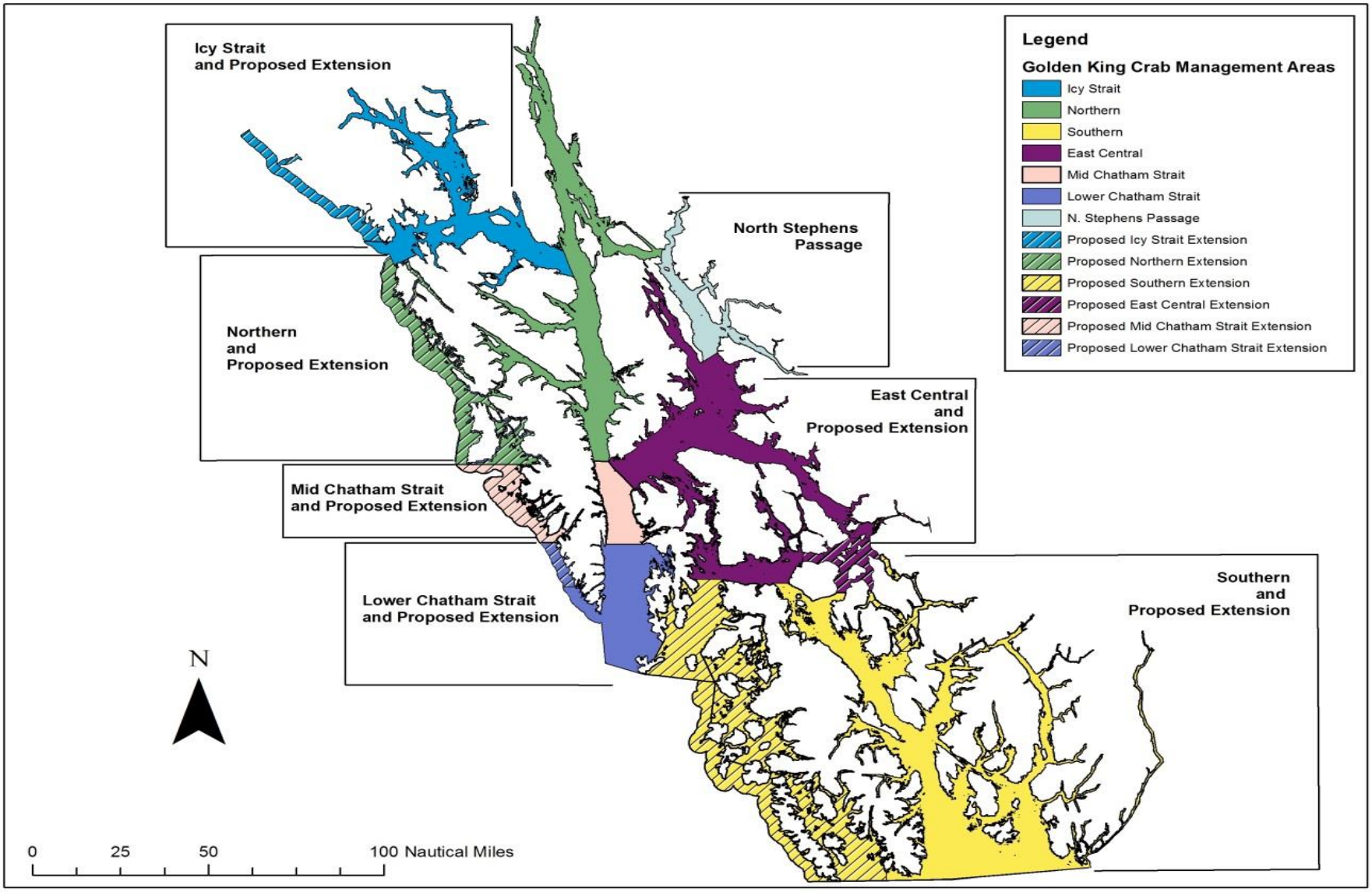
5 AAC 34.113. Southeast Alaska Red King Crab Management Plan (c) **Until January 24, 2021**, the department shall **open the fishery as an equal quota share if the department's estimate of the available harvestable surplus is greater than 50,000 pounds of legal male red king crab and less than the minimum threshold of 200,000 pounds of legal male red king crab. When the minimum threshold of 200,000 pounds is met or exceeded, the traditional fishery shall be prosecuted**.

5 AAC 34.125. Lawful gear for Registration Area A (b) The following king crab pot limits are in effect in Registration Area A: (1) During the commercial red king crab season, the maximum number of king crab pots that may be operated from a vessel registered to fish for king crab is as follows: (A) No more than 20 king crab pots when the guideline harvest level is at least **50,000** [200,000] but not more than 399,999 pounds;

PROPOSAL 65

5 AAC 34.107. Description of golden king crab fishing areas within Registration Area A.

Expand fishing area for the Southeastern Alaska Area commercial golden king crab fishery.



PROPOSAL 66

5 AAC 34.110. Fishing seasons for Registration Area A.

Implement weather-related fishery closure delays for the Southeastern Alaska Area commercial golden king crab fishery.

PROPOSAL 67

Establish a regulatory closure date of November 15 for the Southeastern Alaska Area commercial golden king crab fishery.

	Golden king crab fishery management area						
Year	East Central	Northern	Icy Strait	N. Stephens Passage	Southern	Mid-Chatham	Lower Chatham
2006	4/8	4/8	4/10	10/26	12/31	10/16	12/31
2007	4/8	3/15	3/2	5/19	12/5	9/25	12/5
2008	3/6	3/3	3/2	3/21	9/28	5/2	9/10
2009	2/26	3/4	3/12	5/15	11/5	4/17	8/10
2010	2/24	3/13	3/15	5/4	10/17	4/12	6/22
2011	3/9	4/1	3/16	6/12	6/10	4/13	9/23
2012	2/22	5/27	10/28	10/28	5/11	4/15	5/21
2013	4/23	5/3	5/6	6/15	11/26	11/26	11/26
2014	4/25	4/25	5/12	5/24	7/9	7/9	7/10
2015	3/17	3/17	4/3	4/3	6/5	6/29	11/24
2016	3/21	3/21	4/21	4/21	6/29	6/29	11/11
2017	3/25	4/7	4/7	3/8	6/6	7/6	7/6

PROPOSAL 68

5 AAC 34.114. Southeast Alaska Golden King Crab Management Plan.

Define methods used to set guideline harvest levels in the Southeastern Alaska Area commercial golden king crab fishery.

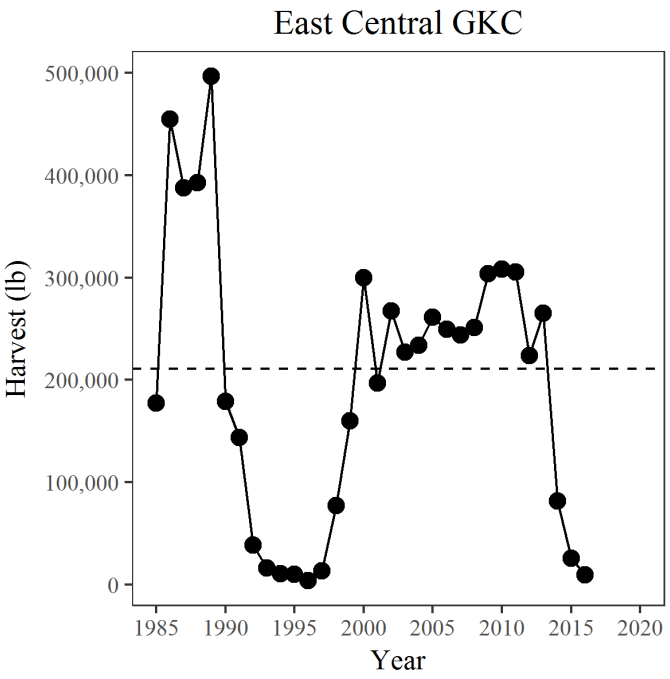
(d) The Policy on King and Tanner Crab Resource Management (90-04-FB, March 23,1990) states that a Guideline Harvest Level is a preseason estimate of the level of allowable king and Tanner crab harvest. In those fisheries with accurate population estimates the appropriate harvest rate is applied to the best point estimate to determine the GHL. For those fisheries without surveys or historical catch information adequate for estimating the population size, the GHL will be set based on historical fishery performance, catch, and population trend. Due to the lack of formal assessments and only data being available from the fishery, each Golden King crab area shall open for a set of tides to a pre-season guideline harvest level that is a minimum of 10% of the upper range of the guideline harvest range set for the area. After one set of tides, the GHL can be re-assessed and the fishery will be managed in-season accordingly. (e) In-season adjustments may be made to the guideline harvest level and length of the fishing season. Information upon which such adjustments are based may include: 1.) overall fishing effort; 2.) catch per unit of effort and rate of harvest; 3.) relative abundance of Golden King crab; 4.) achievement of guideline harvest level (GHL); 5.) proportion of soft-shelled crabs and rate of dead loss; 6.) general information on stock condition including adequacy of reproductive stock; 7.) timeliness and accuracy of catch reporting; 8.) adequacy of subsistence harvests; 9.) the impact of severe or unexpected environmental conditions on the handling and trapping morality of crab; and 10.) other factors that affect ability to meet objectives of the policy. When this information shows that continued fishing effort would jeopardize the reproductive viability of king crab stocks within a registration area, or continued fishing would be counter to the goal and policies established by the Board, the registration area or a portion of the registration area will be closed by Emergency Order.

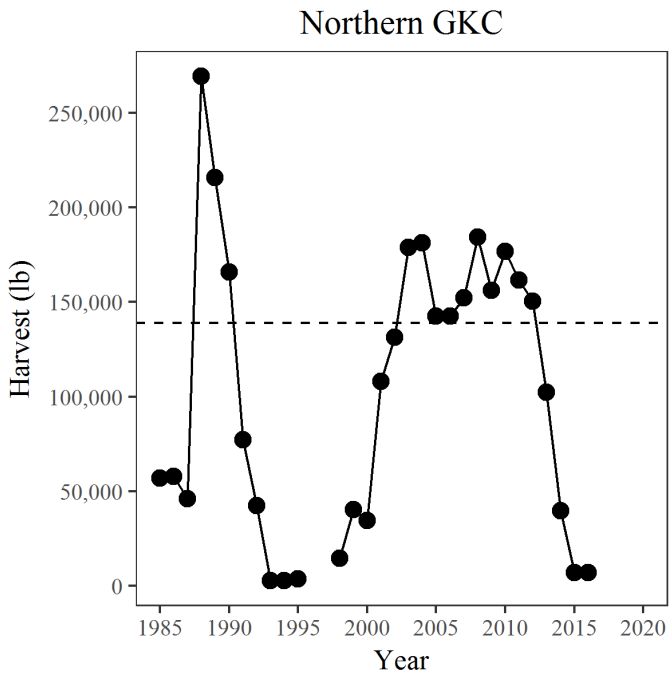
PROPOSAL 69

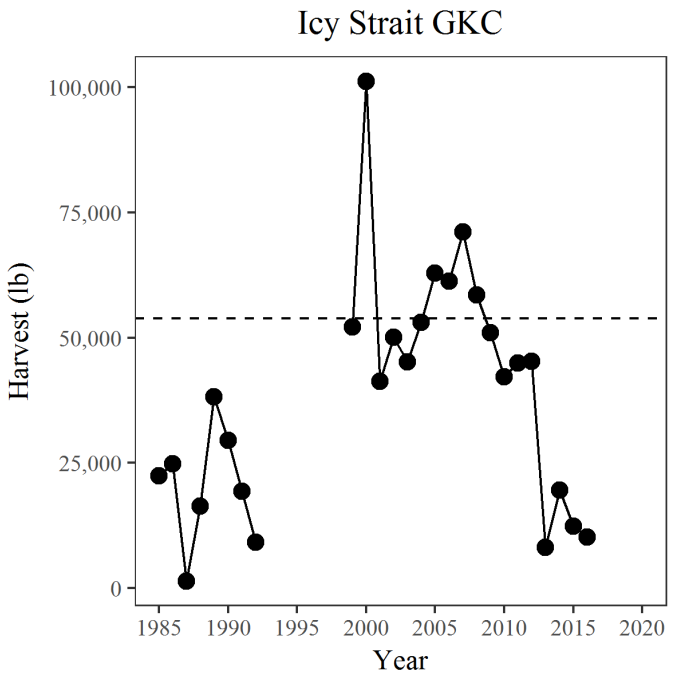
5 AAC 34.115. Guideline harvest ranges for Registration Area A.

Reduce Southeastern Alaska Area commercial golden king crab fishery guideline harvest ranges.

Area	Upper GHR (lb)	2017 GHL (lb)	2017 Harvest (lb)	Avg. harvest (2000-2017)	MSY (lb)	80% Lower Interval	80% Upper Interval	Proposed Upper GHR
East Central	300,000	15,000	972	208,469	211,000	197,800	222,000	**225,000**
Northern	175,000	10,000	5,610	114,575	138,800	120,100	149,600	**145,000**
Icy Strait	75,000	10,000	7,007	43,604	53,800*			**55,000**
NSP	25,000	8,000	16,558	16,386	22,800	18,500	39,200	
Mid-Chatham	150,000	20,000	**	79,810	90,600	72,900	104,600	
Lower Chatham	50,000	23,000	**	15,518	21,700	17,410	30,840	
Southern	25,000	19,000	16,722	15,078	22,800*			







PROPOSAL 70

5 AAC 34.125. Lawful gear for Registration Area A.

Reduce the Southeastern Alaska Area commercial golden king crab fishery pot limit from 100 pots per vessel to 80 pots per vessel

Fishery Area	Season	GHL	Harvest	% of GHL
Mid-Chatham Strait	2005/06	80,000	81,463	102
	2006/07	80,000	78,416	98
	2007/08	80,000	89,873	112
	2008/09	100,000	123,626	124
	2009/10	110,000	141,558	129
	2010/11	110,000	114,966	105
	2011/12	110,000	106,620	97
	2012/13	110,000	99,101	**90
	2013/14	110,000	43,475	**40
	2014/15	80,000	30,910	**39
	2015/16	40,000	9,228	**23
	2016/17	20,000	*	*
East Central	2005/06	225,000	249,330	111
	2006/07	225,000	243,675	108
	2007/08	225,000	251,004	112
	2008/09	225,000	303,811	135
	2009/10	260,000	308,013	118
	2010/11	260,000	305,659	118
	2011/12	260,000	223,616	86
	2012/13	285,000	265,049	93
	2013/14	200,000	81,375	**41
	2014/15	115,000	25,259	**22
	2015/16	30,000	9,052	**30
	2016/17	15,000	972	**6

Fishery Area	Season	GHL	Harvest	% of GHL
Northern	2005/06	120,000	142,455	119
	2006/07	120,000	152,145	127
	2007/08	120,000	184,227	154
	2008/09	145,000	156,261	108
	2009/10	145,000	176,782	122
	2010/11	145,000	161,522	111
	2011/12	145,000	150,453	104
	2012/13	105,000	102,351	97
	2013/14	105,000	39,802	**38
	2014/15	65,000	7,226	**11
	2015/16	15,000	6,939	**46
	2016/17	10,000	5,610	**56
Icy Strait	2005/06	55,000	61,290	111
	2006/07	55,000	71,058	129
	2007/08	55,000	58,453	106
	2008/09	55,000	51,026	93
	2009/10	45,000	42,136	94
	2010/11	45,000	44,882	100
	2011/12	45,000	45,244	101
	2012/13	30,000	8,185	**27
	2013/14	20,000	19,583	98
	2014/15	18,000	12,359	**69
	2015/16	12,000	10,255	**85
	2016/17	10,000	7,007	**70

PROPOSAL 71

5 AAC 35.128. Operation of other gear in Registration Area A.

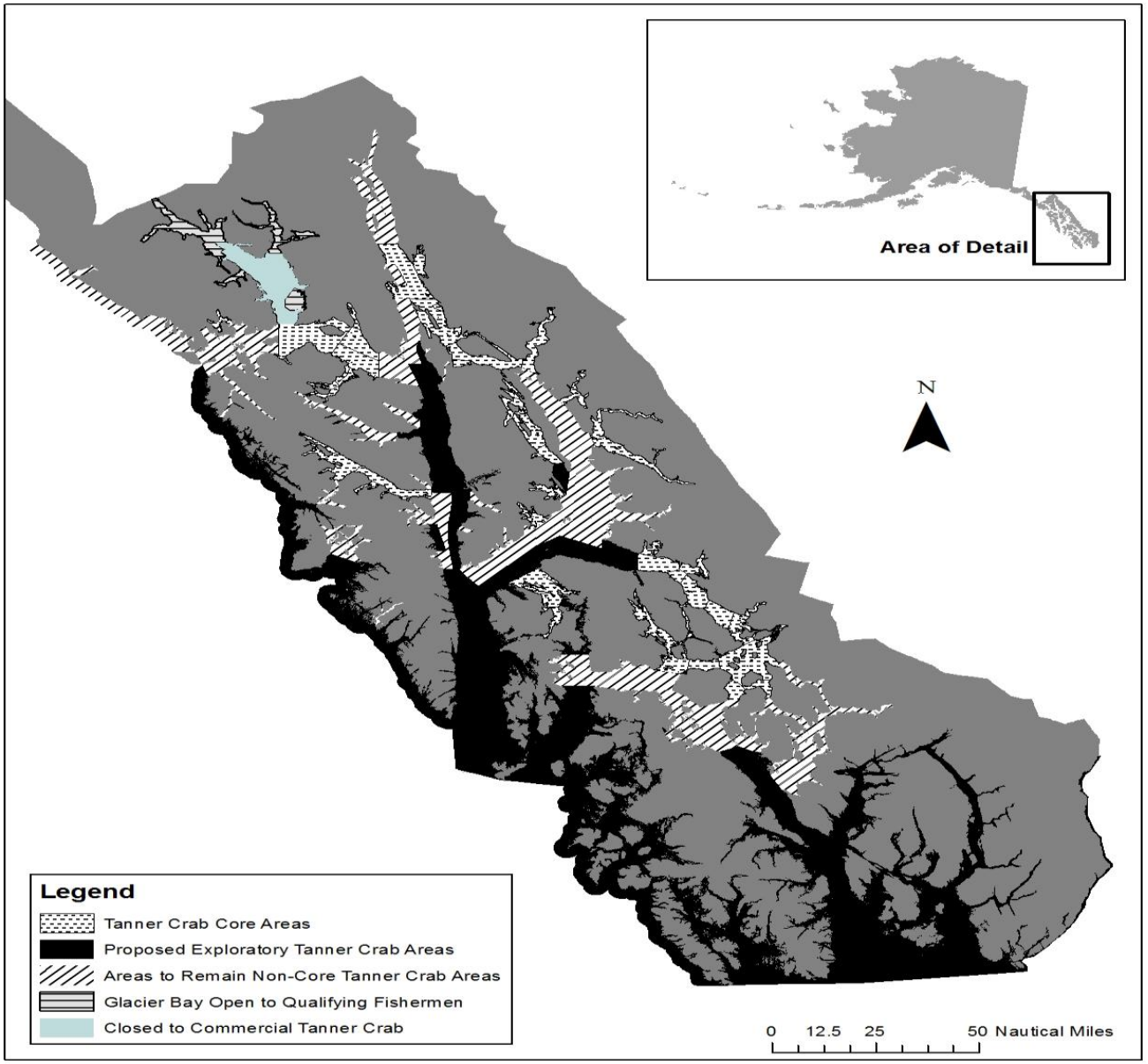
Allow operation of commercial, subsistence, sport, or personal use pots in the 14 days after closure of the Southeastern Alaska Area commercial Tanner crab fishery

5 AAC 35.128(c) is added: **(c) Notwithstanding 5 AAC 35.053(1), during the 14 days after the close of the commercial Tanner crab season in Registration Area A; a vessel or person that participated in a commercial Tanner crab fishery may operate commercial, subsistence, sport, or personal use pots in Tanner crab Registration Area A after putting Tanner crab pots in storage, as specified in 5 AAC 35.052, and, unless the registration is already invalidated under 5 AAC 35.020(k), after invalidating the vessel's Tanner crab registration by contacting, in person, a local representative of the department.**

PROPOSAL 72

5 AAC 35.113. Registration Area A Tanner crab harvest strategy.

Re-define ‘non-core’ areas and define ‘exploratory’ areas in the Southeastern Alaska Area commercial Tanner crab fishery



PROPOSAL 73

5 AAC 35.113. Registration Area A Tanner crab harvest strategy.

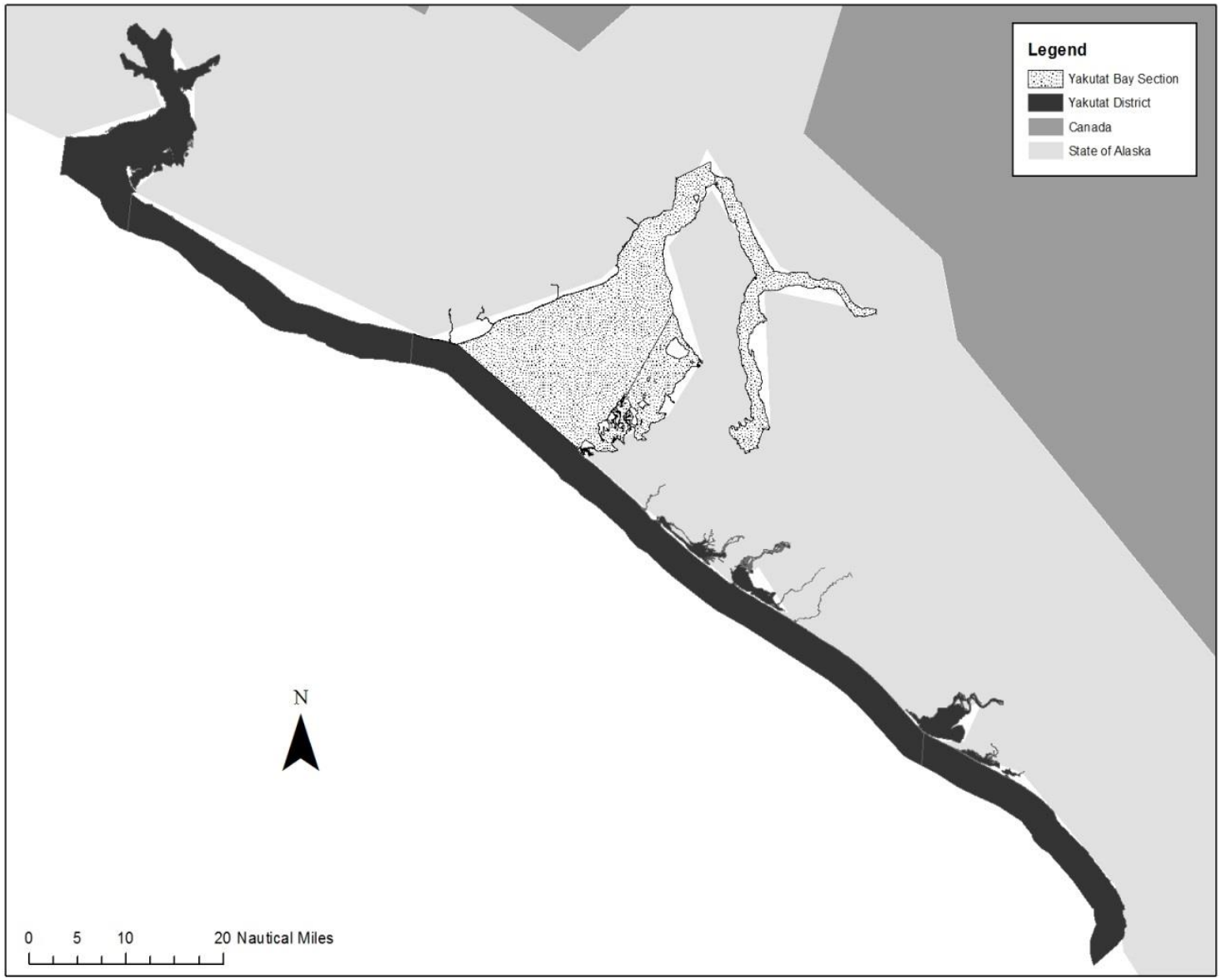
Manage the Southeastern Alaska Area commercial Tanner crab fishery using an equal quota share.

Permit Type	Species Privileges	Active Permanent and Interim Permits
T10A (open access)	Tanner Ring	N/A
T19A (limited entry)	Tanner Only	24
K49A (limited entry)	Red/Blue/Tanner	16
K59A (limited entry)	Brown/Tanner	6
K69A (limited entry)	Red/Blue/Brown/Tanner	30
Total Permits:		76

PROPOSAL 74

5 AAC 35.165. Description of Registration Area D districts.

Establish a tanner crab fishery in a section of the Yakutat District



PROPOSAL 234

5 AAC 77.664. Personal use king crab fishery.

Require a personal use fishing permit for the taking of king crab in all areas of Southeast Alaska and reduce the daily bag and possession limit.

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	10-year average
Southeast Total	4,432	36	850	1,727	2,143	691	1,161	396	385	549	1,237