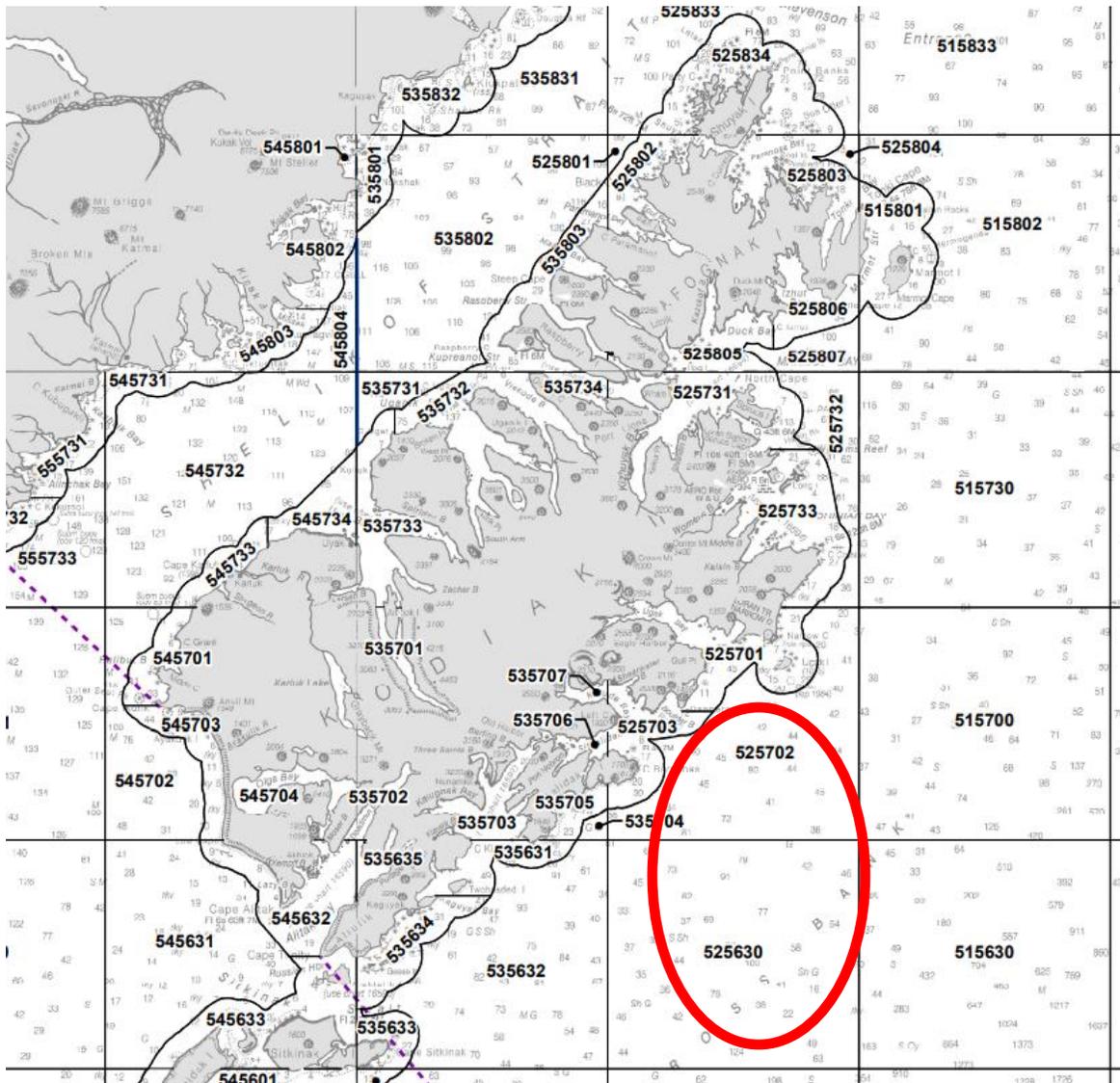


Alaska Bycatch Review Task Force – Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska crab committee

Information on Tanner crab bycatch and groundfish catch in Central GOA groundfish fisheries and in statistical areas 525630 & 525702. Groundfish catch and Tanner crab bycatch are provided by NMFS AK region, Catch Accounting System (CAS). The system uses several sources of data including landing reports and observer data to derive groundfish retained catch and discard estimates, prohibited species catch (PSC or 'bycatch'), and non-target species catch.



Groundfish catch in CGOA

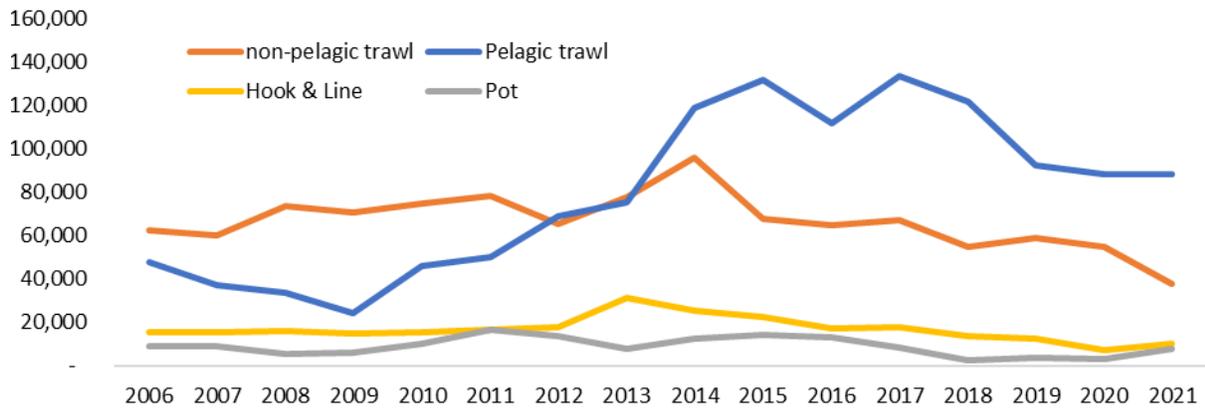


Figure 1. Groundfish harvest in the Central GOA groundfish fisheries by gear, 2006-2021.

Groundfish catch in 525630/525702

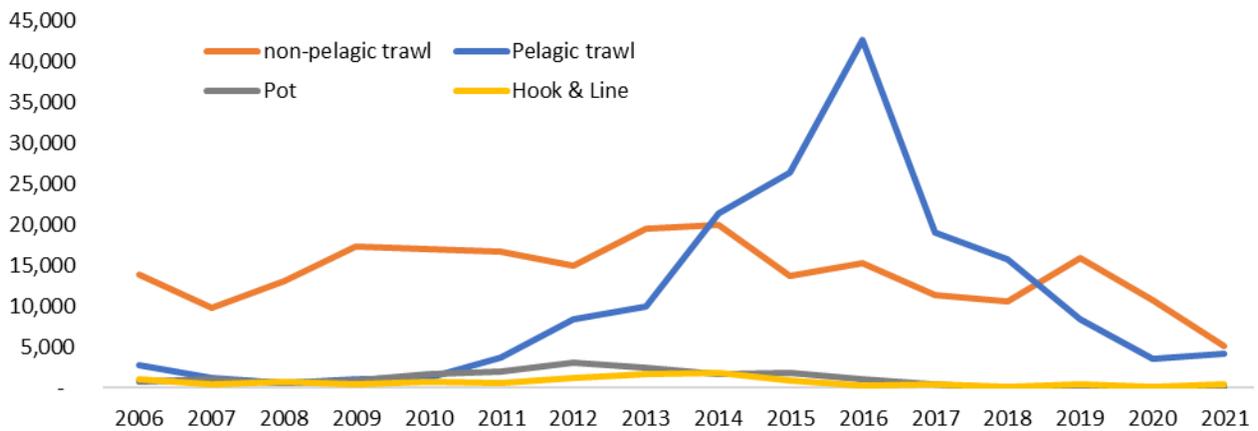


Figure 2. Groundfish harvest in statistical areas 525630 & 525702 by gear, 2006-2021

Proportion of catch in 525630/525702

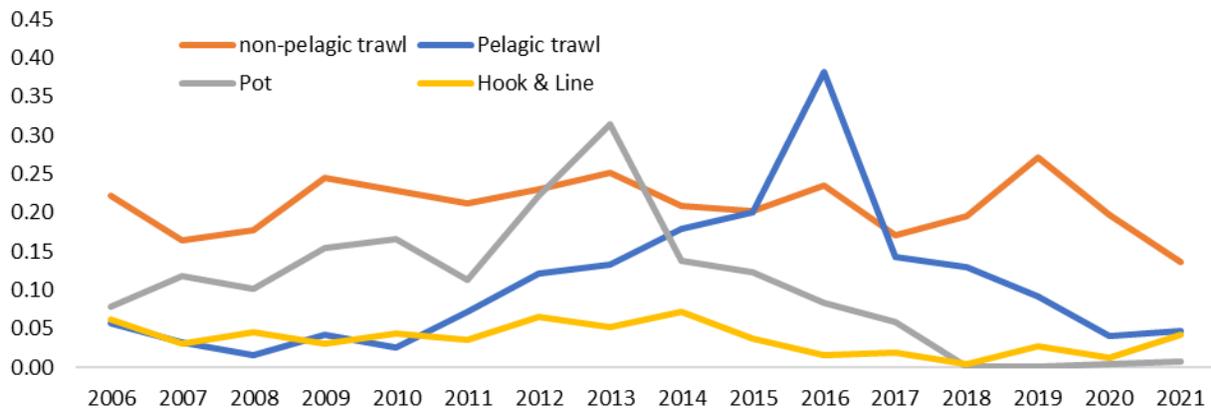


Figure 3. Proportion of Central GOA groundfish catch occurring in statistical areas 525630 and 525702 by gear, 2006 – 2021.

Table 1. A comparison of Tanner crab PSC estimates (number of crab) for non-pelagic and pot cod in the Central GOA with Kodiak District Tanner crab abundance estimates (all sizes).

Year	Non-pelagic trawl PSC		Pot Cod PSC (federal season)		Kodiak District Abundance Estimate (all sizes)
	# Crab	% of Crab	# Crab	% of Crab	#crab
2006	147,381	0.1%	8,378	0.0%	164,024,398
2007	196,315	0.1%	81,129	0.0%	184,277,122
2008	127,110	0.1%	78,729	0.1%	118,606,446
2009	220,223	0.3%	10,838	0.0%	81,030,321
2010	87,317	0.1%	74,294	0.1%	75,370,166
2011	95,751	0.2%	5,002	0.0%	54,718,301
2012	85,195	0.2%	72,088	0.2%	44,047,441
2013	240,052	0.1%	72,887	0.0%	201,030,568
2014	63,937	0.1%	9,188	0.0%	110,886,271
2015	74,245	0.2%	20,578	0.1%	39,486,582
2016	90,356	0.2%	31,935	0.1%	57,749,768
2017	121,315	0.2%	2,032	0.0%	69,205,830
2018	221,596	0.1%	9,097	0.0%	271,702,393
2019	239,745	0.1%	4,322	0.0%	223,363,696
2020	620,467	0.6%	16	0.0%	108,279,423
2021	13,347		4,001		

Tanner crab bycatch represents a very small proportion of Tanner crab abundance, less than 0.1% to 0.6% since 2006.

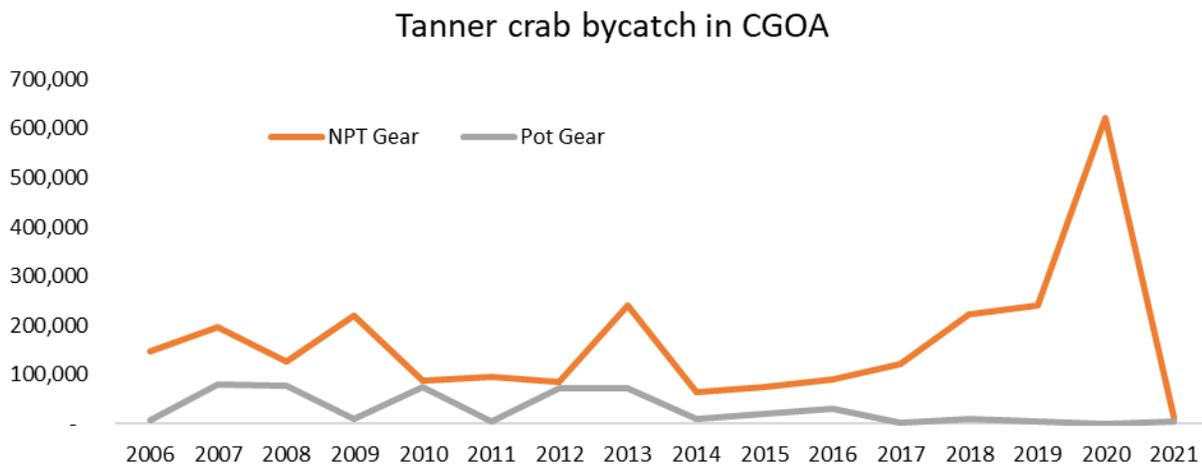


Figure 4. Tanner crab bycatch in Central GOA non-pelagic trawl and pot groundfish fisheries.

Tanner crab bycatch in 525630/525702

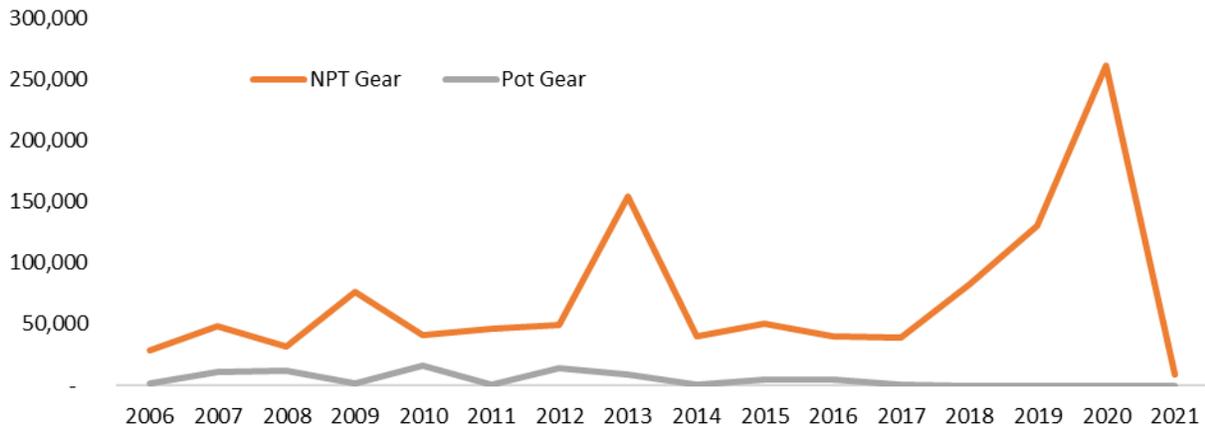


Figure 5. Tanner crab bycatch in statistical areas 525630 & 525702 non-pelagic trawl and pot groundfish fisheries.

Proportion of Tanner crab bycatch in 525630/525702

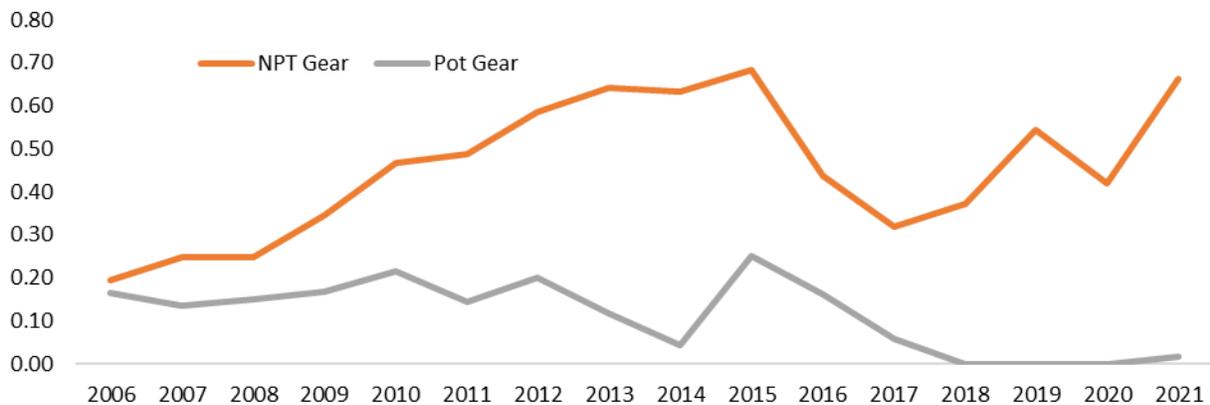


Figure 6. Proportion of non-pelagic trawl and pot Tanner crab bycatch occurring in statistical areas 525630 & 525702.

Recent North Pacific Fishery Management Council discussion papers on GOA Tanner crab:

June 2017 – [Central GOA crab protection measures](#). Includes information on Federal red king crab protections, Steller Sea Lion closures, GOA slope Habitat Conservation Areas, and Alaska Seamount Habitat Protection Areas.

Council recommended another discussion paper to review the Arrowtooth / Shallow water flatfish / rex sole / flathead sole non-pelagic trawl target fisheries and Pacific cod pot fishing efforts in statistical areas 525630 & 525702 and in the Chiniak gully. The Council also requested observer coverage rates in these areas.

June 2018 – [Groundfish fishery effort and observer coverage relative to statistical areas of interest for Tanner crab in the Central GOA](#)

Council recommended no further action from this discussion paper.

Amendment 89 to the GOA Groundfish Fishery Management Plan established a habitat protection area in Marmot Bay near Kodiak and closed the area to most trawl fishing to reduce Tanner crab PSC in the Central GOA groundfish fisheries and required the use of trawl sweeps when directed fishing for flatfish in the Central GOA.

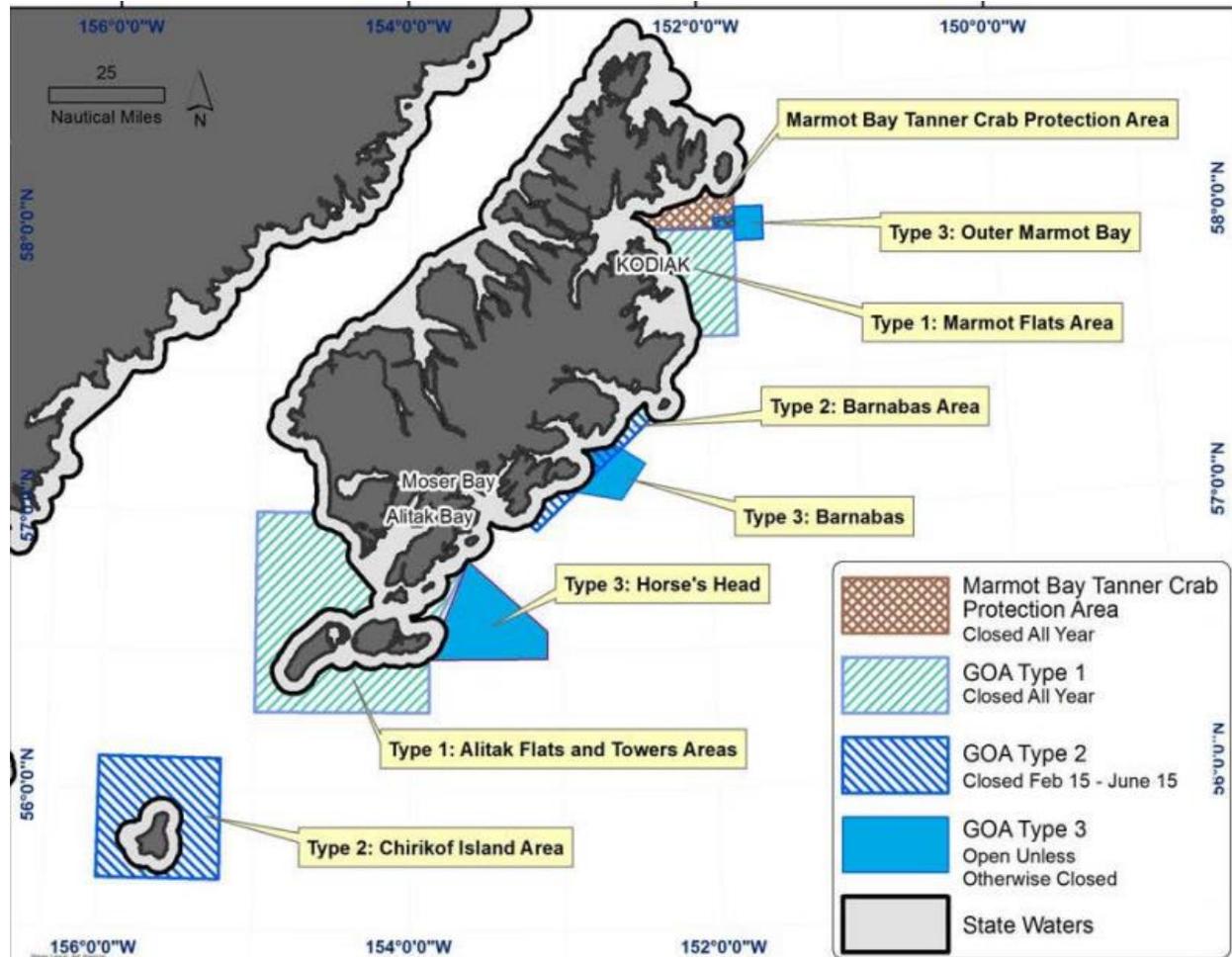


Figure 7. The Marmot Bay Tanner crab Protection Area and GOA type 1, 2, and 3 closures to protect red king crab around Kodiak. All state waters in this area are closed to non-pelagic trawling.