Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Crab Rationalization Report

Fishing Year 2010/11
July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011

SEPT • 2011

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) • Alaska Region
Restricted Access Management (RAM)

alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/sustainablefisheries/crab/crfaq.htm

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September 2011

Purpose and Acknowledgments

This Crab Rationalization Program Report for Fishing Year 2010/11 provides a summary of the sixth year of Alaska's Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Crab Rationalization Program (Program). The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) requested this report on program activities, which includes a program overview and information about quota issuance and distribution, arbitration, harvesting, processing, quota transfers, cost recovery fees, reporting, compliance monitoring, safety, community protection measures, and other Program features.

Staff of the NOAA Fisheries (NMFS), Restricted Access Management (RAM) Program, also a significant data provider, developed the report. Other major contributors and data sources include (in alphabetic order) the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) staff and reports; NOAA Fisheries (Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Office of Administrative Appeals [OAA], Office of Law Enforcement [OLE], and Sustainable Fisheries Division); the Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation Report (Crab SAFE) for the King and Tanner Crab Fisheries of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Regions, March 2011 (Draft); and the United States Coast Guard (USCG).

Although RAM staff compiled this report with the help of many contributors, data in this report primarily reflect RAM Program data and may differ slightly from other published materials.

Agency staff acknowledges industry's continued outstanding support and cooperation in implementing and administering the Program.

Photography Credits

Cover photography courtesy of photojournalist Klas Stolpe; noncover photography courtesy of Jake Jacobsen, Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute (ASMI), NOAA Fisheries, and the USCG.

Special Notes

Confidentiality

Under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act (P.L. 109-479), fishery information required to be submitted under Fishery Management Plans, including landings data, is confidential. NOAA Administrative Order (NAO) 216-100 is the principal guidance for NOAA Fisheries employees on protocols for handling confidential data. To assure confidentiality, data must be structured or aggregated so that the identity of the submitter cannot be determined from the present release of the data or in combination with other releases. "Submitter" is applied in context for the specific data presented. Data provided by the State of Alaska may have another standard applied, as required by State statute and policy.

Transiting Canadian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)

Canadian Coastal Fisheries Regulations make it mandatory for all foreign commercial fishing vessels that do not have a Canadian Fishing Licence to notify their intent to transit Canada's EEZ to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO). This requirement includes United States fishing vessels traveling between Washington State and Alaska.

This fishing year Canadian officials noted a decrease in compliance with U.S. fishing vessels calling the Marine Traffic Control Centers (MCTS) in Tofino or Prince Rupert as they transit through Canadian waters on their way to or from Alaska.

Vessel masters may call the MCTS in Tofino and Prince Rupert on the following radio frequencies:

- VHF Channel 22A (within 60 mile range);
- MF Channel 2054 (within a 200 mile range);
- HF channel 4125 (within a 400 mile range): or by
- phone to Tofino 250-726-7716, or to Prince Rupert 250-627-3074

Upon Contact with MCTS, you will be asked for the following information and provided with a Verification File Number (VFN). The VFN must be provided to any DFO patrol vessel of Fishery officer that may request it.

a. Name of Vessel and Flag;
b. Vessel Registration Number;
c. Type of Fishing Vessel;
d. Length Over All (LOA);
e. Port of Registry;
f. Present Position (include date & time of position);
g. Route and Destination;
h. Purpose of entry into Canadian Waters; (i.e., transit to Alaska)
i. Are you aware of, and in compliance with, the requirement for gear stowage under the *Coastal Fisheries Protection Regulations*? (Yes or No)

The Canadian Coastal Fishery Protection Act and the Coastal fishery Protection regulations are available at http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/index.html.

F/V North Sea coming into St Paul Harbor

Contents

List of Illustrations v
List of Tables vii
List of Abbreviations ix
Chapter 1 The 2010/11 Crab Rationalization Program 1
Changes to the Program 1
Chapter 2 CDQ and Adak Fisheries 2
Chapter 3 Quota Fisheries (IFQ and IPQ) 6
The Initial QS/PQS Application Process 6
2010/11 Seasons, Caps, TACs, Pools, and Permits 7
Crab Seasons 7
Use and Vessel Caps 7
QS/PQS Pools and TACs 8
Annual Permits 10
Arbitration System 15
Chapter 4 Transfers 17
QS and PQS Transfers and Consolidation 17
Quota and Allocation Transfers 27
Average Price per Crab QS Unit for QS Transfers 33
Chapter 5 Vessel Effort and Landings 35
Vessel Effort 35
Season Use 39
Allocations, Harvests, and Landings 44
Deadloss 48
Ports 51
Cooperatives 54
Hired Skipper Summary 55
Chapter 6 Community Protection Measures 57
Chapter 7 Fishery Summaries 60
Bristol Bay Red King Crab (BBR) 60
Bering Sea Snow Crab (BSS) 65
Eastern Aleutian Islands Golden King Crab (EAG) 70
St. Matthew blue king crab (SMB) 74

Western Aleutian Islands Golden King Crab (WAG) 78
Closed Fisheries in the 2010/11 Fishing Year 82
Pribilof Islands red and blue king crab (PIK) 82
Western Aleutian Islands Red King Crab (WAI) 82
Eastern Bering Sea Tanner Crab (EBT) 83
Western Bering Sea Tanner Crab (WBT) 83
Chapter 8 Safety, Compliance, and Catch Monitoring 84
U.S. Coast Guard Vessel Safety and Compliance Monitoring 84
NOAA Fisheries and Alaska State Coordination 85
NOAA Fisheries Compliance and Catch Monitoring 87
Chapter 9 Reporting 88
eLandings 88
Economic Data Collection Program 90
Chapter 10 Loan Program • Crab Capacity Reduction Program Updates 93
Loan Program and Fees Loan Program 93
Fees Collected under the BSAI King and Tanner Crab Fishing Capacity Reduction Program 96
Appendix: Program Overview 98
Program and Agency Contacts ..... Back Cover

Illustrations

Figures

Chapter 2

Figure 2.1 Percent of IFQ QS/PQS Held by CDQ Groups or Their Entities 4

Chapter 3

Figure 3.1 Numbers of FCVPs Issued and with Landings by Type, 2005/06–2010/11 13

Figure 3.2 Numbers of FCVPs with Landings by fishery, 2005/06–2010/11 13

Figure 3.3 Numbers of Harvesting Vessels with Landings by CR fishery port, 2010/11 14

Chapter 4

Figure 4.1 Numbers of Initial Issuees Holding QS/PQS at Year-end, 2005/06–2010/11 25

Figure 4.2 Numbers of Initial Issuees Holding No QS/PQS at Year-end, 2005/06–2010/11....25

Figure 4.3 Comparison of BBR Initial Issuees with all BBR QS/PQS Holders at Year-end, 2005/06–2010/11 ..26

Figure 4.4 Comparison of BSS Initial Issuees with all BSS QS/PQS Holders at Year-end, 2005/06–2010/11....26

Figure 4.5 Numbers and Types of Harvester Quota Transfers, 2005/06–2010/11 31

Figure 4.6 Numbers and Types of Processor Quota Transfers, 2005/06–2010/11 32

Figure 4.7 Numbers and Types of Transfers, Online and Internal, 2005/06–2010/11 32

Chapter 5

Figure 5.1 Vessel Participation in Pre-Program and Program Fisheries, 2000–2010/11 35

Figure 5.2 Vessel Participation in Program Fisheries, 2005/06–2010/11 37

Figure 5.3 Comparison of Season Length with the Numbers of Days Fished and Percent Season Used....40

Figure 5.4 Numbers of Days Between First and Last Landing and Percent Season Use, 2010/11 41

Figure 5.5 Vessel Landings and Percent of TAC Landed, 2010/11 43

Figure 5.6 Program Deadloss Over Time....48

Figure 5.7 Comparative Port Harvests by Total IFQ Harvest Pounds, 2010/11....52

Figure 5.8 Numbers of Hirers and Their Hired Skippers, 2005/06–2010/11....55

Chapter 6

Figure 6.1 Total PQS Assignments by Units and IFQ Fishery, 2010/2011 58

Figure 6.2 Distribution of PQS Assignments (%) with and without ROFR in the BBR Fisheries, 2005/06–2010/11 58

Figure 6.3 Distribution of PQS Assignments (%) with and without ROFR in the BSS Fisheries, 2005/06–2010/11 59

Chapter 9

Figure 9.1 Program-Year Comparisons of IFQ Reporting Methods 89

Maps

Chapter 7

Bristol Bay Red King Crab Fishery (BBR) 60
Bering Sea Snow Crab Fishery (BSS) 65
Eastern Aleutian Islands Golden King Crab Fishery (EAG) 70
St. Matthew Blue King Crab Fishery (SMB) 74
Western Aleutian Islands Golden King Crab Fishery (WAG) 78
Pribilof Islands Red and Blue King Crab Fishery (PIK) 82
Western Aleutian Islands Red King Crab Fishery (WAI) 82
East Bering Tanner Fishery (EBT) 83
West Bering Tannner Fishery (WBT) 83

Crab Basket, courtesy of Klas Stolpe

Tables

Chapter 2

Table 2.1 Crab CDQ allocations and harvests, pre- and postrationalization 3

Table 2.2 Numbers of vessels participating in CDQ and ACA crab fisheries, pre- and postrationalization 4

Chapter 3

Table 3.1 OAA CR Appeal Decisions by QS type, 2010/11 6

Table 3.2 Crab-fishing seasons, 2010/11 7

Table 3.3 Crab-year vessel IFQ caps, 2010/11 8

Table 3.4 QS pools and ratios, 2010/11 9

Table 3.5 PQS pools and ratios, 2010/11 10

Table 3.6 Annual IFQ and IPQ permits issued and used over time as of year-end 11

Table 3.7 Participating Registered Crab Receivers, 2010/11 (and 2009/10) 12

Table 3.8 Arbitration proceedings, 2005/06–2010/11 16

Chapter 4

Table 4.1 Numbers of initial issuees holding QS/PQS initially and at end of each crab-fishing year 17

Table 4.2 Numbers of all persons (initial issuees and new entrants) holding QS/PQS initially and at end of each crab-fishing year 21

Table 4.3 New quotaholders entering the Program and initial issuees holding no QS/PQS over time 24

Table 4.4 Transfers of harvesting QS and IFQ by fishery and transfer type, 2010/11 28

Table 4.5 Transfers of processing PQS and IPQ by fishery and transfer type, 2010/11 30

Table 4.6 Numbers of transfers for all fisheries by year and type, 2005/06–2010/11 31

Table 4.7 Estimated weighted average price per crab QS unit for priced QS transfers, 2005/06–2010/11 33

Chapter 5

Table 5.1 Consolidation in vessel participation in the Program fisheries over time 36

Table 5.2a IFQ fishery effort by number of pots, 2005/06 (year one)–2010/11 (year six) 38

Table 5.2b IFQ fishery effort by days fished per vessel and season length, 2005/06 (yr one)–2010/11 (yr six) 39

Table 5.3 Recent Dates of Peak landings by IFQ fishery in raw pounds, 2005/06–2010/11 42

Table 5.4 Landings by IFQ fishery 44

Table 5.5 Landings by fishery and region 45

Table 5.6 IFQ Landings by fishery and IFQ sector 46

Table 5.7 Landings by fishery and IFQ class 47

Table 5.8 Deadloss reported for all fisheries by IFQ permit class, 2010/11 49

Table 5.9 Deadloss by fishery and IFQ permit class, 2009/10 50

Table 5.10 Port rank by IFQ pounds landed for all Program species, 2010/11 51

Table 5.11 Port rank over time, 2005/06–2010/11 51

Table 5.12 IFQ landings in pounds and percent by port and IFQ class, 2010/11. 53
Table 5.13 IFQ pounds assigned to cooperatives and landing performance over time 54
Table 5.14 IFQ pounds held by persons outside cooperatives and landing performance over time 54
Table 5.15 Hired Master harvests (pounds landed, percent IFQ pounds, and percent TAC) by Program year, 2005/06–2010/11 56
Table 5.16 Hired Master harvests in the largest fisheries, 2005/06–2010/11 56

Chapter 6

Table 6.1 Distribution of PQS/IPQ with and without ROFR Privileges 57

Chapter 7

Table 7.1 Ports used for BBR IFQ crab landings over time 61
Table 7.2 BBR crab fishery allocation and harvest, 2000–2010/11 62
Table 7.3 Pounds and percent of BBR IFQ assigned to cooperatives 63
Table 7.4 Percent of Total IFQ Crew QS Held in BBR Fishery by Holder Residence 64
Table 7.5 Ports used for BSS IFQ crab landings over time 66
Table 7.6 BSS crab fishery allocations and harvest, 2000–2010/11 67
Table 7.7 Pounds and percent of BSS IFQ assigned to cooperatives 68
Table 7.8 Percent of Total IFQ Crew QS Held in BSS Fishery by Holder Residence 69
Table 7.9 Ports used for EAG IFQ crab landings over time 71
Table 7.10 EAG crab fishery allocations and harvest, 2000–2010/11 72
Table 7.11 Pounds and percent of EAG IFQ assigned to cooperatives 73
Table 7.12 Percent of Total IFQ Crew QS Held in EAG Fishery by Holder Residence 73
Table 7.13 Ports used for SMB IFQ crab landings over time 75
Table 7.14 SMB crab fishery allocations and harvest, 2000–2010/11 76
Table 7.15 Pounds and percent of SMB IFQ assigned to cooperatives 77
Table 7.16 Percent of Total IFQ Crew QS Held in SMB Fishery by Holder Residence 77
Table 7.17 Ports used for WAG IFQ crab landings over time 79
Table 7.18 WAG crab fishery allocations and harvest, 2000–2010/11 80
Table 7.19 Pounds and percent of WAG IFQ assigned to cooperatives 81
Table 7.20 Percent of Total IFQ Crew QS Held in WAG Fishery by Holder Residence 81

Chapter 8

Table 8.1 IFQ Overage Violations in the CR Fisheries, 2005/06–2010/11 86

Chapter 9

Table 9.1 Economic data report summary for EDRs due through 2010 91
Table 9.2 Numbers of EDRs by type, year, and number and percent sampled for validation review 92

Chapter 10

Table 10.1 Costs associated with Program management and enforcement, April 12, 2010–April 10, 2011 95
Table 10.2 Program cost recovery over time 96
Table 10.3 Fishery loan status of the BSAI King and Tanner Crab Fishing Capacity Reduction Program, August 30, 2011 97

Appendix: Table A.1 Revised Sideboards Under the Program 103

Abbreviations

ACDC	Adak Community Development Corporation
ADF&G	Alaska Department of Fish and Game
BSAI	Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands
CDQ	Community Development Quota
CFVS	USCG Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety Program
CMP	Catch Monitoring Plan
CPC	Catcher/Processor Crew (Sector)
CPO	Catcher/Processor Owner (Sector)
CR	Crab Rationalization
CVC	Catcher Vessel Crew (Sector)
CVO	Catcher Vessel Owner (Sector)
EDR	Economic Data Report
ECC	Eligible Crab Community
ECCO	Eligible Crab Community Organization
FCVP	Federal Crab Vessel Permit
FMP	Fishery Management Plan
IFQ	Individual Fishing Quota
IPQ	Individual Processing Quota
LLP	License Limitation Program
MSA	Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act
NA	Not applicable (in tables)
NAO	National Appeals Office; formerly Office of Administrative Appeals (OAA)
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service, also known as NOAA Fisheries Service
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NOAA Fisheries Service	Also known as NMFS
OLE	Office of Law Enforcement (NOAA)
OR	Official Record
PSMFC	Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
PQS	Processor Quota Share
QS	Quota Share (Harvesting)
RCR	Registered Crab Receiver
ROFR	Right of First Refusal
SAR	Search and Rescue
SCC	Safety Compliance Check
SFP	Stationary Floating Processor
TAC	Total Allowable Catch
USCG	United States Coast Guard
VMS	Vessel Monitoring System

CR Fisheries

BBR	Bristol Bay red king crab (*Paralithodes camtschaticus)*
BSS	Bering Sea snow crab (*Chionoecetes opilio)*
BST	Bering Sea Tanner crab (*C. bairdi)*
EAG	Eastern Aleutian Islands golden king crab (*Lithodes aequispinus*)
EBT	Eastern Bering Sea Tanner crab (*C. bairdi)*
PIK	Pribilof Islands red/blue king crab (*P. camtschaticus/P. platypus*)
SMB	St. Matthew Island blue king crab (*P. platypus*)
WAG	Western Aleutian Islands golden king crab (*L. aequispinus*)
WBT	Western Bering Sea Tanner crab (*C. bairdi)*
WAI	Western Aleutian Islands red king crab (*P. camtschaticus*)

1 Program Changes

In January 2004 the U.S. Congress amended §313(j) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA) through the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2004 (Public Law 108–199, section 801) to mandate the Secretary of Commerce implement by regulation the Program as recommended by the Council. NOAA Fisheries published a final rule to implement the Program on March 2, 2005 (70 FR 10174). Crab fishing under the Program began when the first rationalized fisheries opened on August 15, 2005. The Program has been amended numerous times.

The Crab Rationalization Program comprises three types of allocations and fisheries: CDQ, Adak, and IFQ (Quota) fisheries. The Appendix contains an overview of the Program as originally implemented with additional information on CDQ transfers and a summary of significant changes. Following is a list of changes effective during the 2010/11 fishing year.

Significant Events and Program Changes, Crab Year 2010/11

Federal regulations require that half of the crab taken in the Western Aleutian Islands golden king crab fishery be delivered west of 174˚W. longitude; however, for the last two crab-fishing years, no processing facility was open in the West Region.

NMFS Emergency Rules for WAG Fishermen and Processors with West-Designated IFQ/IPQ

With no functioning crab processing facility in the West region during 2010/11 (see Significant Events above), two emergency rules (75 7205, February 18, 2010 and 75 50716, August 17, 2010) relieved a regional delivery and processing restriction to prevent disruption to the Aleutian Islands golden king crab fishery. These emergency actions allowed fishermen to deliver crab harvested with West-designated IFQ to processors outside the West region and processors with West-designated IPQ to process that crab outside the West region during the 2009/10 and 2010/11 crab-fishing years.

Besides the August emergency rule effective during this fishing year, NMFS changed the following regulations implementing the Crab Rationalization Program:

> 75 FR 56485, September 16, 2010. In order to reduce unnecessary paperwork burdens on the fishing industry, this final rule removed the Crab Rationalization Program requirements for catcher/processors to weigh all offloaded crab on a state-approved scale (which produces a printed record) and to submit a catcher/processor offload report. This rule was effective early in the season on September 16, 2010.

For more information about the Crab Rationalization Program and its changes, visit the NOAA/NMFS website:

alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/sustainablefisheries/crab/crfaq.htm

2 CDQ and Adak Fisheries

The CDQ Program was created by the Council in 1992 to provide western Alaska communities an opportunity to participate in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) fisheries that had been foreclosed to them because of the high capital investment needed to enter the fisheries. Allocations of crab to the CDQ Program started in 1998 and included all pre-existing CDQ crab allocations except for Norton Sound. Among the benefits of crab rationalization were increased CDQ crab allocations from 7.5% to 10% of the TAC in all crab fisheries covered by the Program and new CDQ allocations for the Eastern Aleutian Islands golden king crab and the Western Aleutian Islands red king crab fisheries. CDQ fisheries are managed as commercial fisheries by the State under authority deferred to it under the FMP. The State has the following varied duties:

- ✓ establishes observer coverage and permitting requirements;
- ✓ establishes transfer provisions among the CDQ groups;
- ✓ monitors catch to determine when CDQ allocations have been reached; and
- ✓ enforces penalties associated with CDQ overages.

Fishery Facts

Oversight: State-managed commercial fishery (under FMP)

Allocation: All BSAI CDQ Fisheries (excluding Norton Sound)

Allocation in millions of pounds: 7.7 (all fisheries)

Harvest in millions of pounds: 7 (all reportable fisheries)

Number of vessels used: 19

Under the Program, compliance monitoring is shared among the State, NOAA Fisheries, OLE, and the USCG. The USCG also provides critical search and rescue services.

Crab harvested under CDQ allocations (other than Norton Sound king crab) are subject to most Federal requirements that apply to all Program fisheries, including permitting, recordkeeping and reporting, a vessel monitoring system (VMS), and cost recovery fees.

Quota Share (QS) or Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) are not needed. CDQ crab fishing is under an authorized CDQ Group's CDQ crab allocation, and all crab must be delivered to a Registered Crab Receiver (RCR). An RCR does not need Individual Processing Quota (IPQ) to receive CDQ crab.

CDQ groups also may participate in the Program's IFQ/IPQ fisheries as holders of both QS and PQS. First, some CDQ groups were initial recipients of QS through LLP license holdings. In addition, CDQ groups may receive QS or Processor Quota Share (PQS) by transfer, subject to use caps. It is interesting to note that in 2010/11 as in past years (except 2008/09) all vessels that made CDQ and Adak landings also made IFQ landings and were counted therein.

CDQ Legislation and Program Changes

No crab CDQ legislation occurred this fishing year. However, proposed rule 75 FR 39892, July 13, 2010 would implement some CDQ Program changes. For information about this rule, visit our website at alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/prules/75fr39892.pdf.

Crab CDQ changes that have occurred over time are listed in the *Program Overview* (*Appendix*) at the end of this report in the CDQ section.

Tables 2.1 and 2.2 show CDQ harvests and vessel participation over time.

Table 2.1 Crab CDQ allocations and harvests, pre- and postrationalization*

Years[a]	Allocation harvest[a]	BBR	BSS[a]	BST	EAG[b]	EBT[c]	WBT[c]	SMB
2003	Allocation	1,167,040	2,120,637	Fishery Closed[d]	NA[e]	NA[e]	NA[e]	Fishery Closed
	Harvest	1,166,662	2,118,899					
2004	Allocation	1,135,326	1,782,081	Fishery Closed[d]				
	Harvest	1,133,013	1,772,222					
2005	Allocation	NA[e]	1,856,337	Fishery Closed[d]				
	Harvest		1,855,841					
Rationalized Fisheries								
2005/06	Allocation	1,832,900	3,718,400	162,000	300,000	Fishery Closed	BST Fishery	Fishery Closed
	Harvest	1,830,881	3,717,744	161,572	*			
2006/07	Allocation	1,552,700	3,656,600	NA[e]	300,000	187,500	109,400	
	Harvest	1,552,135	3,655,780		*	135,458	86,952	
2007/08	Allocation	2,038,300	6,303,400	NA[e]	300,000	344,500	217,600	
	Harvest	2,038,285	6,303,306		*	*	56,520	
2008/09	Allocation	2,036,400	5,855,000	NA[e]	315,000	276,300	153,700	
	Harvest	2,026,390	5,854,682		*	*	441[f]	
2009/10	Allocation	1,600,900	4,801,700	NA[e]	315,000	135,000	Fishery Closed[d]	116,700
	Harvest	1,600,851	4,801,506		*	135,004		0
2010/11	Allocation	1,483,900	5,428,100	NA[e]	315,000	Fishery Closed[d]	Fishery Closed[d]	160,000
	Harvest	1,478,114	5,406,179		*			156,314

(Source: ADF&G and NOAA Fisheries)

Notes: PIK and WAI fisheries are excluded from this table because they were closed during these years. During the 2009/10 fishing year, no vessels participated in the St Matthew Island blue king crab fishery although it opened that crab-fishing year. WAG is excluded because it is an Adak Community Allocation (ACA) fishery. Asterisks (*) represent confidential data; State data are confidential if fewer than four entities participated.

[a] The 2005 BSS fishery began before the program took effect, so there are two separate harvest and allocation data rows for BSS 2005 and BSS 2005/06 fisheries (first 2005 BSS fishery = Jan 27, 2005–March 23, 2005; second 2005/06 BSS fishery = Oct 15, 2005– May 31, 2006).

[b] EAG and Adak were added to the CDQ Program fisheries in the 2005/06 rationalized fishing year.

[c] Beginning with the 2006/07 crab-fishing year, IFQ was issued for two Bering Sea (bairdi) Tanner (BST) fisheries: eastern and western Bering Sea bairdi Tanner (EBT and WBT, respectively).

[d] "Fishery Closed" = no GHL or TAC assigned to fishery.

[e] "NA" = not applicable. See table note c.

[f] This was deadloss harvested incidentally to the snow crab fishery.

Table 2.2 Numbers of vessels participating in CDQ and ACA[c] crab fisheries, pre- and post-rationalization

Years[a]	BBR	BSS[a]	EAG	BST[b]	EBT[b]	WAG[C]	WBT[b.f,g]	SMB
2003	13	10	0	Closed	Formerly BST Fishery	No WAG ACA[c] fishery before 2005/06	Formerly BST Fishery	Fishery Closed
2004	12	10	0	Closed				
2005[a]	NA[d]	9	NA[d]	NA[d]				
2005/06	13	15	3	6[e]		1		
2006/07[c]	13	12	3	NA[b,d]	4	2	8	
2007/08	10	15	3	NA[b,d]	3	1	6	
2008/09	15	15	3	NA[b,d]	3	1	4	
2009/10	11	11	3	NA[b,d]	5	1	3[g]/Fishery Closed	0
2010/11	10	14	3	NA[b,d]	Fishery Closed	1	5[g]/Fishery Closed	3

(Source: ADF&G and NOAA Fisheries)

Notes: PIK and WAI fisheries are excluded from this table because they were closed during this period. During 2009/10 fishing year, the St Matthew Island fishery opened but no vessels participated in the fishery. Asterisks (*) represent confidential data; State data are confidential if fewer than four entities participated.

[a] Because the 2005 BSS fishery began before the program took effect, there are two separate harvest and allocation data rows for BSS 2005 and BSS 2005/06 fisheries (first 2005 BSS fishery = Jan 27, 2005–March 23, 2005; second 2005/06 BSS fishery = Oct 15, 2005– May 31, 2006).

[b] Beginning with the 2006/07 crab-fishing year, IFQ was issued for two Bering Sea (bairdi) Tanner (BST) fisheries: eastern and western Bering Sea bairdi Tanner (EBT and WBT, respectively).

[c] WAG is an Adak Community Allocation (ACA) fishery; 10% of WAG golden king crab TAC is allocated to Adak.

[d] NA = not applicable. Bering Sea bairdi Tanner fisheries are managed as EBT and WBT (see table note b). BBR and EAG became CR fisheries in the 2005/06 fishing year.

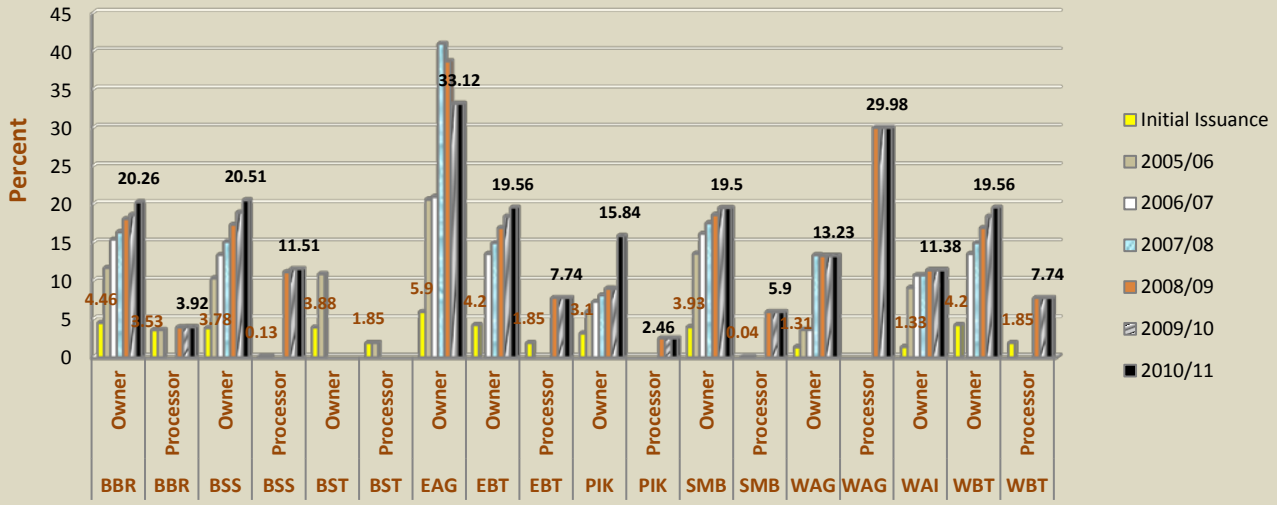
[e] During 2005/06, the Western district of the BST fishery was open; the Eastern district was closed to fishing.

[f] During 2009/10, the Tanner crab fishery west of 166˚ W longitude (WBT) was closed because of projected bycatch and associated mortality in the snow crab and directed Tanner crab fisheries in the area. In 2010/11 the State closed EBT and WBT due to low stock abundance.

[g] Vessel data in a closed fishery reflect vessels with bycatch.

CDQ QS/PQS Initial Issuance (2005/06) and year-end Quota Percentages, 2005/06–2010/11

Fig 2.1 Percent of IFQ Program QS/PQS Held by CDQ Groups and Their Owned Entities (To First Level Ownership)



Notes: For this table, CVO and CPO QS is combined as "owner" QS.

Adak Community Allocation (ACA)

Under the Program, the community of Adak receives an annual allocation of 10 percent of the TAC of Western Aleutian Islands golden king crab (WAG). The WAG fishery allocation is in an amount almost equal to the unused resource (12%) during the qualifying period.

Adak Fishery Facts, 2010/11

Oversight: State-managed commercial fishery (under FMP)
Allocation: 10% of WAG golden king crab TAC
Allocation in pounds: 283,500
Harvest: Confidential
Number of vessels used: 1
Nonprofit representation: ACDC
Protections: "Cooling Off" ended after the 2nd Program year.

As the nonprofit entity representing the community, the Adak Community Development Corporation (ACDC) receives the allocation. ACDC expects to use proceeds from the Adak crab allocation to contribute to the community boat harbor and fishery-related facilities. The State manages the fishery and provides an implementation review to the Council to ensure benefits derived from the allocation accrue to the community and achieve goals of the fisheries development plan.

The State has similar authority for this fishery as for the CDQ fisheries. For Adak crab, IFQ and IPQ are not required to harvest or receive Adak crab (respectively). Adak crab must be delivered to an RCR. Crab harvested under the Adak allocation is subject to State, OLE, and USCG compliance monitoring, including VMS and cost recovery fees.

Because of population size and number of individuals fishing and receiving crab, participation and harvest data for Adak remain confidential. From 2005/06 through 2008/09, crab harvested under this allocation was processed in Adak and Unalaska/Dutch Harbor. Due to unforeseen circumstances, no processor was available in the community of Adak during the 2009/10 and 2010/11 crab-fishing years, and emergency rules relieved the geographic delivery restriction.

Juvenile Red King Crab
Courtesy of ADF&G

3 Quota Fisheries • IFQ and IPQ

Under the Quota fisheries, applicants had a one-time closed period in which to apply for harvesting and processing QS. Holders of QS or PQS apply each year by August 1 for an annual allocation of IFQ and/or IPQ; as part of that application, IFQ holders can assign their allocation for each fishery to a cooperative. Only persons who were eligible and who applied in a timely manner were issued QS or PQS initially.

The Initial QS/PQS Application Process

Application Process

NOAA Fisheries required participants in the crab fisheries to submit applications to receive QS and PQS initially. The application period lasted 60 days and ended June 3, 2005.

To support QS and PQS eligibility determinations, RAM assembled an Official Record (OR), comprised of the best available State and Federal licensing, landing, processing, vessel ownership, and LLP permit information.

Application Processing

RAM received and processed applications from 544 distinct applicants for one or more types of quota in the eight original crab quota fisheries.

Applicants were free to dispute RAM's initial findings but had the burden of proof of their claims. RAM provided applicants written notice and a 30-day period in which to submit supporting evidence. At the end of the evidentiary period, claims that remained unsubstantiated were denied in an Initial Administrative Determination (IAD), and applicants received one 60-day opportunity to appeal unapproved claims to the Office of Administrative Appeals (OAA).

No disputed QS/PQS is issued until an applicant's due process rights are completely satisfied and Final Agency Action is taken on the claim.

Results of the Application Process

Of 544 initial applicants, 511 distinct persons have been issued some type of QS or PQS. Numbers of initial issuees of QS/PQS change as appeals are adjudicated.

Twenty-eight applications denied by RAM for initial issuance of quota or for annual allocation of IFQ or IPQ have been appealed to the OAA; to date, eighteen cases related to eligibility for initial QS or PQS and ten related to other issues. During the 2010/11 fishing year, one case was vacated and one case remained at the end of the year. Table 3.1 shows results of the Decision during the 2010/11 fishing year.

Table 3.1 National Appeals Office (NAO) CR Appeal Decisions by QS type, 2010/11

	Appeal Decisions				
Case Status	**Total Decisions**	**Processor (PQS)**	**Owner QS**	**Captain/Crew QS**	**Late Annual IFQ/IPQ or QS/PQS Application**
Affirmed	***1***				1
Vacated	***0***				
Dismissed	***0***				
Pending	***1***		1		
Total Decisions in 2010/11 fishing year	***1***				

(Source: Office of Administrative Appeals)

2010/11 Seasons, Caps, TACs, Pools, and Permits

Table 3.2 shows the 2010/11 crab-fishing season dates for each open fishery.

Table 3.2 Crab-fishing seasons, 2010/11

BSAI crab fishery	Opening	Closing	Program fishery and allocation types
BBR	Oct 15, 2010	January 15, 2011	IFQ/CDQ
BSS[a,c]	Oct 15, 2010	May 15, 2011 East Sub District May 31, 2011 West Sub District	IFQ/CDQ
EAG	Aug 15, 2010	May 15, 2011	IFQ/CDQ)
EBT[b,c]		Closed	IFQ/CDQ
PIK		Closed	IFQ/CDQ
SMB	Oct 15, 2010	February 1, 2011	IFQ/CDQ
WAG	Aug 15, 2010	May 15, 2011	IFQ/Adak (ACA)
WAI		Closed	IFQ/CDQ
WBT[b,c]		Closed	IFQ/CDQ

[a] The snow crab fishery did not open in four ADF&G statistical areas (685700, 685730, 695700, and 695730) to protect the Pribilof blue king crab stock. Most of the blue king crabs captured during the 2010 survey were in these statistical areas.

[b] Beginning with the 2006/07 crab-fishing year, IFQ was issued for two Bering Sea (bairdi) Tanner (BST) fisheries: eastern and western Bering Sea bairdi Tanner (EBT and WBT, respectively).

[c] During the 2009/10 crab-fishing year, the Tanner crab fishery west of 166° W longitude was closed because of projected bycatch and associated mortality from the snow and directed Tanner crab fisheries in the area. The 2010 survey of the eastern Bering Sea Tanner crab stock found low abundance of mature female crab; subsequently, the Bering Sea District Tanner crab fishery was closed for the 2010/11 fishing year.

Use and Vessel Caps

To prevent excessive share consolidation or control, use caps limit the amount of QS/IFQ and PQS/IPQ a person may hold and use. The type of use cap that applies depends on the type of person that holds the quota. Most use caps are evaluated "individually and collectively," which means that a portion of the quota held by that person as a shareholder, partner, or other owner of a nonindividual quota-holding entity, in addition to quota held in the name of the person, also is counted for that owner in proportion to his or her ownership in the entity. In the case of Processor Quota, "affiliation" with other quotaholders is considered; 100 percent of all PQS holdings of affiliated persons are counted for the cap of each affiliated person. Vessel caps are meant to prevent overconsolidation of vessels; an exemption encourages use of cooperatives.

Table 3.3 shows the number of pounds that could be harvested on a vessel, unless that vessel was used to harvest only crew or cooperative IFQ.

Table 3.3 Crab-year vessel IFQ caps, 2010/11

Crab QS fishery	Vessel use cap percent of harvesting IFQ TAC	Vessel use cap in raw crab pounds	Harvesting IFQ TAC in raw crab pounds	Actual Harvest	Percent of Harvested TAC
BBR	2%	267,102	13,355,100	13,349,929	99.96
BSS	2%	977,058	48,852,900	48,773,537	99.84
EBT[a]	2%	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
WBT[a,b]	2%	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
PIK[b]	4%	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
SMB[c]	4%	57,600	1,440,000	*	*
EAG[c]	20%	567,000	2,835,000	*	*
WAG[c]	20%	510,300	2,551,500	*	*
WAI[b]	20%	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed

[a] Beginning with the 2006/07 crab-fishing year, IFQ was issued for two Bering Sea (bairdi) Tanner (BST) fisheries: eastern and western Bering Sea bairdi Tanner (EBT and WBT, respectively).

[b] The State of Alaska closed these fisheries; therefore, the cap could not be computed.

[c] Asterisks represent confidential data.

More information about annual use and vessel caps is available at the NOAA/NMFS website:

alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/sustainablefisheries/crab/crfaq.htm#pools

QS/PQS Pools and TACs

The QS and PQS pools are the sums of all QS and PQS units issued for a fishery by sector (crew and owner harvester, or processor). To determine the annual awards of IFQ and IPQ to QS/PQS holders and to cooperatives, NOAA Fisheries first "fixes" the "computation" pools for the year to be the sum of quota units that may result in annual allocation that year. The computations require (a) the annual QS and PQS computation pools, (b) each person's QS and PQS holdings and affiliation information, and (c) the TACs for the IFQ fisheries as established by the State. The basic IFQ computation formula for a fishery and IFQ type, unadjusted for affiliation or other limitations is:

[QS units / QS computation Pool] x TAC = Annual IFQ pounds

The computation for IPQ is similar except only part of the TAC is used. Once used in IFQ/IPQ computations, an official computation of the ratios between QS (or PQS) and IFQ (or IPQ) do not change for that fishing year.

Please note that while any data challenges and appeals remain unresolved, initial issuance of quota cannot be completed. Additional initial issuance of QS/PQS that is delayed until after the date of annual computations will only affect future year QS/PQS pools and IFQ/IPQ issuance.

Tables 3.4 and 3.5, respectively, show units of QS and PQS pools and ratios by fishery in the sixth Program year. Fisheries with low crab stock abundances were closed.

Table 3.4 QS pools and ratios, 2010/11

Fishery	Owners (QS units)	Crew (QS units)	Ratios (QS units: IFQ pounds)
BBR	389,753,683	12,000,335	30.0824
BSS	977,013,650	30,207,732	20.6174
EAG	9,700,156	299,583	3.5272
EBT[a,b]	Closed		Closed
PIK[b]	Closed		Closed
SMB	29,402,475	910,327	21.0506
WAG	38,800,000	1,200,058	15.6771
WAI[b]	Closed		Closed
WBT[a,b]	Closed		Closed

[a] Beginning with the 2006/07 crab-fishing year, IFQ was issued for two Bering Sea (bairdi) Tanner (BST) fisheries: eastern and western Bering Sea bairdi Tanner (EBT and WBT, respectively).

[b] The State of Alaska closed these fisheries; therefore, ratios could not be computed.

Table 3.5 PQS pools and ratios, 2010/11

Fishery	PQS units	Ratios (PQS units: IPQ pounds)
BBR[a,b] North	10,277,851	36.3654
BBR[a,b] South	388,814,333	35.8406
BSS[a,b] North	470,734,143	25.9394
BSS[a,b] South	531,436,117	25.7599
EAG[c]	10,122,984	4.2979
EBT[d,e]	Closed	Closed
PIK[e]	Closed	Closed
SMB North	22,679,704	23.5169
SMB South	6,266,017	23.3881
WAG U[b]	20,010,992	33.4438
WAG West[b]	20,010,124	33.3793
WAI[e]	Closed	Closed
WBT[d,e]	Closed	Closed

[a] By direction of Congress, in 2006 NOAA Fisheries issued to one program participant "conditional" PQS units for BBR and BSS fisheries. This PQS will only be part of a pool and result in annual IPQ in years when the TACs exceed specific amounts.

[b] For BBR and BSS fisheries, computing accurate, matching amounts of Class A CVO IFQ and IPQ within each region required using separately computed regional ratios of PQS:IPQ. These changes occurred too late for the WAG fishery, also regionalized as W/undesignated.

[c] While EAG is a regionalized fishery, all quota was issued for use in the South region.

[d] Beginning with the 2006/07 crab-fishing year, IFQ was issued for two Bering Sea (bairdi)Tanner (BST) fisheries: eastern and western Bering Sea bairdi Tanner (EBT and WBT, respectively).

[e] The State of Alaska closed these fisheries; therefore, ratios could not be computed.

Annual Permits

NOAA Fisheries may issue annual permits for the Program only if a person has applied timely, paid any fees owed (including Capacity Reduction [Buyback] and Cost Recovery fees), fulfilled EDR requirements, if any, and if there are no other impediments to issuing the permits.

Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) and Individual Processing Quota (IPQ) Permits

IFQ and IPQ permits are generated annually, using the formula above (see QS pools and TACs) and adjusted for affiliations and other program requirements and restrictions. Examples of restrictions include persons who may not fish under the Program and persons who, by operation of law, received more QS or PQS than a cap would allow and for whom the additional quota is restricted and will not yield annual IFQ or IPQ. QS and PQS held by persons who "opt out" of a fishery will not be part of the computation pool or result in annual IFQ or IPQ.

A person who joins a crab-harvesting cooperative assigns his or her IFQ to the cooperative at the beginning of the crab-fishing year. In this case, all IFQ pounds appear on the annual IFQ permit issued to the cooperative. The cooperative member may receive IFQ by transfer during the year but must hold those pounds on his/her own IFQ permit.

IFQ permits are issued for a combination of fishery harvesting sector, region, and class and may bear multiple fisheries. IPQ permits are issued for combinations of fishery, region, and right-of-first-refusal community. The cooling-off (mandatory delivery) boundary area became irrelevant when that provision expired after the second Program year. Therefore, the number of persons holding quota or annual IFQ/IPQ rather than the number of permits issued is a better indicator of potential participation in a fishery.

Table 3.6 displays the numbers of persons who were issued and the numbers who used IFQ/IPQ permits in each Program year.

Table 3.6 Annual IFQ and IPQ permits issued and used over time as of year-end

Type annual permit	Number of persons issued one or more IFQ/IPQ permits[a]						Number of IFQ/IPQ permitholders with IFQ landings						Percent of permitholders who used their permits					
Sector	Yr 6	Yr 5	Yr 4	Yr 3	Yr 2	Yr 1	Yr 6	Yr 5	Yr 4	Yr 3	Yr 2	Yr 1	Yr 6	Yr 5	Yr 4	Yr 3	Yr 2	Yr 1
IFQ Crew	13	26	32	35	59	101	10	14	26	25	39	67	77	54	81	71	66	66
IFQ Owner	10	10	20	24	31	64	9	10	20	23	26	50	90	100	100	96	84	78
IPQ Processor	18	20	21	24	21	18	15	14	17	15	17	12	83	70	81	63	81	67

[a]A cooperative receives an annual IFQ permit in lieu of the members who assigned their pounds to the cooperative. Therefore, a cooperative is counted as one person holding IFQ; members who assigned all their IFQ to cooperatives are not counted as IFQ permitholders.

Hired Master Permits. Cooperatives and nonindividual IFQ permitholders must hire a master to fish their IFQ. Individual persons may hire a master for owner permits but must fish crew permits themselves. Both Hired Masters and IFQ permitholders use a vessel on a given trip, and both may participate in the same landing. Hiring a master requires that the IFQ permitholder maintains at least a 10 percent interest in the vessel to be fished by the Hired Master; in the case of a cooperative, that requirement may be satisfied by any member. Hired Master permits are issued for each IFQ permit-vessel combination the Master will fish. For 2010/11, a total of 131 Hired Masters were authorized to fish, and 96 (73.3 percent) actually did so. Hired Masters participated in 828 (99.5 percent) of 832 total IFQ landings. Two IFQ permitholders of a total of 33 (6.1 percent) participated in four landings. By the end of the year, Hired Masters were responsible for 99.9 percent of all IFQ crab landed, most of which was used by cooperatives.

Registered Crab Receiver (RCR) Permits. NOAA Fisheries requires an annual RCR permit for any person receiving unprocessed crab from the harvester, the owner/operator of a vessel that processes crab at sea, any person holding IPQ, and any person required to submit a departure report. An RCR permit is required for each shore facility, or stationary floating processor vessel at which a person receives crab.

RCR Fishery Facts, 2010/11

59 RCR Permits issued to 27 persons

31 (52.5%) RCR permits used by 20 (74%) persons

RCRs must report crab landings electronically using the eLandings system. (See a detailed description of eLandings in the Reporting Section.) For unprocessed crab delivered by catcher vessels, the landing must be reported within 6 hours of the end of the offload. For crab processed at sea, weekly reports are due by noon on Tuesday following the end of each reporting period.

During the first Program fishing year in 2005/06, 55 RCR permits were issued to 22 persons, and 17 persons (77 percent of RCR permitholders) used 29 permits (53 percent). During the 2010/11fishing year, 20 persons (74%) used 31 permits (52.5%). Over time, permit use has remained fairly constant; in this fishing year, four more permits were issued to five more persons than during the first program year.

Table 3.7 displays by fishery RCR permitholders with IFQ landings, the numbers of landings, and pounds landed. For comparison, the table includes 2009/10 fishing year data.

Table 3.7 Participating Registered Crab Receivers, 2009/10–2010/11

Registered Crab Receivers								
	Number of RCR permitholders with IFQ landings[a]		Number of landings[b]		IFQ Pounds landed[c]		Average pounds per RCR permitholder	
Fishing Yr/ Fishery	2010/11	2009/10	2010/11	2009/10	2010/11	2009/10	2010/11	2009/10
BBR	14	14	223	215	13,349,636	14,218,281	953,945	1,015,592
BSS	14	11	466	324	48,840,175	42,710,712	3,488,584	3,882,792
EAG	7	6	30	32	*	*	*	*
SMB	8	6	63	30	*	*	*	*
WAG	7	5	37	39	*	*	*	*

Note: Asterisks (*) represent confidential data. Although bycatch was landed in the 2009/10 St Matthew Island (SMB) fishery, no vessels participated in the open SMB fishery during the 2009/10 fishing year. The WBT fishery was closed during 2009/10–2010/11; EBT was closed during the 2010/11 fishing year.

[a] A "landing" is a vessel offload.
[b] Counts of RCRs and numbers of landings are not additive across fisheries.
[c] Pounds are in raw crab pounds, excluding overages.

Federal Crab Vessel Permit (FCVP). NOAA Fisheries requires an annual FCVP for owners of catcher vessels (CV), vessels that harvest and process catch at sea (catcher/processor vessels), and stationary floating processor (SFP) vessels used in the Program. A FCVP is issued for a vessel with endorsements for operation type(s). Operation Type endorsements are SFP, CP, and CV. This permit has requirements for VMS and logbook reporting. In IFQ fisheries, 77 of 112 FCVPs issued for harvesting vessels had landings (69 percent), 74 of 107 CV-endorsed permits had landings (69 percent), and 3 of 5 CP-endorsed permits had landings (60 percent). One SFP-endorsed permit (12 percent) received crab.

FCVP Fishery Facts, 2010/11

120 FCVPs issued:

8 endorsed for SFP vessels

112 endorsed for harvesting vessels:

- 107 catcher vessels and 5 catcher/processors
- Fishermen used 77 (69 percent) of harvesting vessels

Figure 3.1 illustrates that the steady decline in harvesting vessel participation during the first few years of the Program generally continued but was modest in the 2010/11 fishing year.

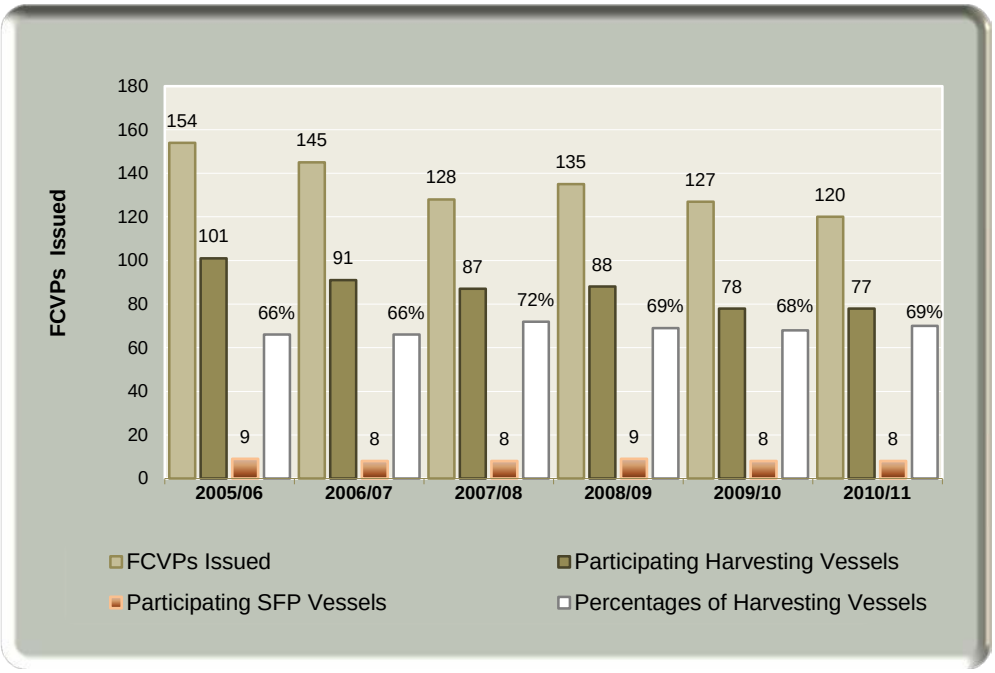


Figure 3.1 Numbers of FCVPs Issued and with Landings by Type, 2005/06–2010/11

Figure 3.2 illustrates the number of FCVPs used by CR fisheries over time, showing a steady decrease of the number of FCVPs with landings within the BBR, BST, and EAG fisheries. Beginning with the 2006/07 crab-fishing year, IFQ was issued for two Bering Sea (bairdi) Tanner (BST) fisheries: eastern and western Bering Sea bairdi Tanner (EBT and WBT, respectively). During the 2010/11 fishing year, the number of FCVPs decreased except in the recently opened SMB fishery. The EBT and WBT fisheries were closed, although vessels with bycatch are represented.

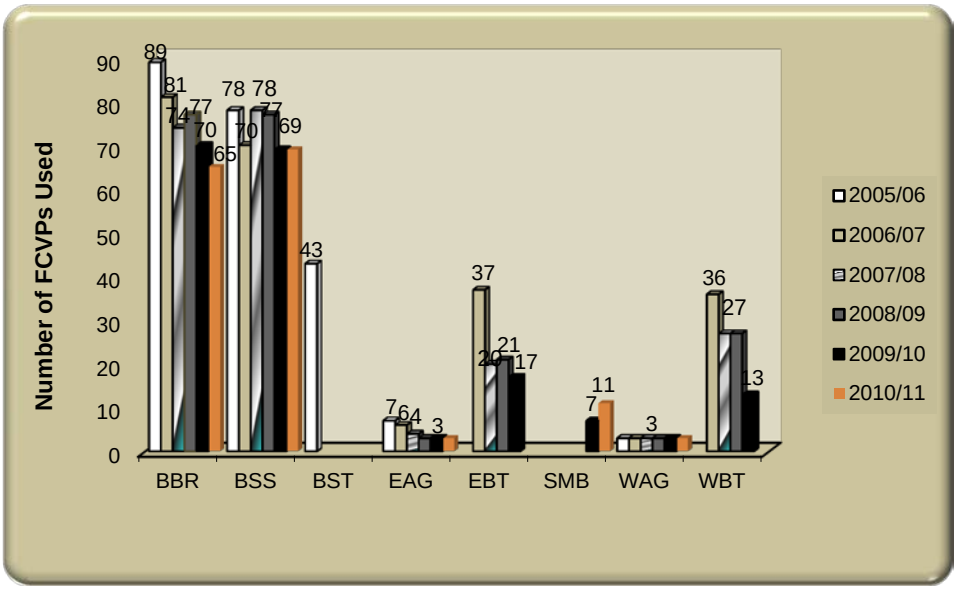


Figure 3.2 Numbers of FCVPs with Landings by Fishery, 2005/06–2010/11

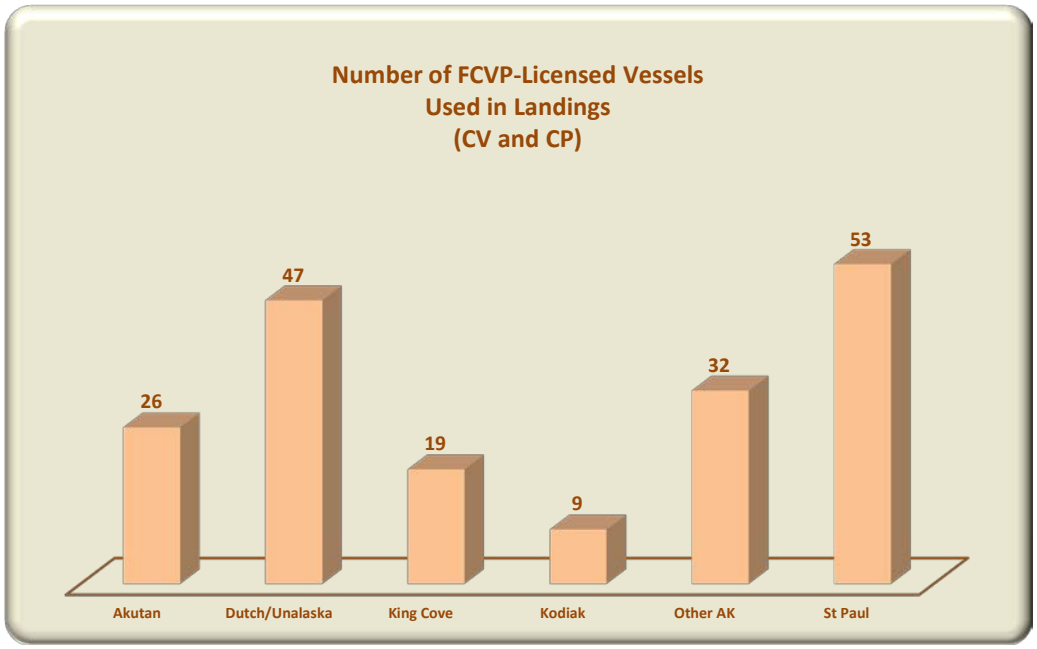


Figure 3.3 Numbers of Harvesting Vessels with Landings by CR fishery port, 2010/11

Figure 3.3 is a comparison of harvesting vessels with landings by port. "Other AK" includes At Sea landings on catcher/processors and stationary floating processors. Over time, harvesting vessels have generally decreased in the CR fishery ports, except Akutan, where the number of vessels with landings this fishing year is the same as five years ago. Since fishing year 2006/07, harvesting vessels in Kodiak have decreased 3 (from 12 to 9), in King Cove 5 (24 to 19), in Dutch Harbor/Unalaska 14 (61 to 47), and in "Other AK" ports 15 (47 to 32). However, during these five fishing years, harvesting vessels in St Paul have increased sixfold (from 8 to 53) due to poor weather and a lack of processing facilities in other ports.

Tanner Crab

Arbitration System

Arbitration Facts, 2010/11

Participants: QS/PQS and IFQ/IPQ holders

3 experts selected; 1 third-party data provider

3 Arbitration Organizations formed:

- 1 representing harvesters unaffiliated with processors;
- 1 for harvesters affiliated with processors; and
- 1 for processors

One Arbitration Proceeding: WAG crab price and terms of delivery–two disputes.

Results: The arbitrator settled the dispute in favor of the processor. A second WAG crab price/delivery dispute was resolved outside arbitration.

NOTE: Post-season 2009/10 Disputes. Two price and terms of delivery disputes in the WAG fishery were pending mid-October – one was settled outside arbitration; in the other, the arbitrator settled in favor of the harvester.

The Arbitration System (System) is a series of steps that harvesters and processors can use to negotiate delivery and price contracts. Most of the System is regulated through private contracts among QS/IFQ holders and PQS/IPQ holders through mandatory Arbitration Organizations (AOs). The System is designed to minimize antitrust risks for crab harvesters and processors.

Participants

Each year three groups of experts are hired: one to produce an annual market report (Market Analyst), one to determine a nonbinding price formula for negotiations (Formula Arbitrator), and one or more experts to assist in mediation and contract negotiations (Contract Arbitrator). In addition, a third-party data provider offered information on matching Class A IFQ and IPQ shares.

Once these experts were selected, some IFQ and IPQ holders could use a series of negotiation approaches to resolve delivery and price conflicts. The negotiation approaches are limited to IFQ holders who do not also hold PQS/IPQ and who are not affiliated with PQS/IPQ holders (Arbitration IFQ holders). These IFQ holders can negotiate with a single IPQ holder. Contracts with the experts must limit the sharing of information.

2010/11 Crab-Fishing Year

As required by regulations (50 CFR Parts 679 and 680), most IFQ and IPQ holders joined AOs. The AOs mutually selected the Market Analyst, Formula Arbitrator, and Contract Arbitrator. In addition, the AOs selected a third-party data provider to disseminate information among IFQ and IPQ holders—one for the golden king crab fisheries and one for other crab fisheries. The market analyst and arbitrators, as well as the third-party provider, were the same for all fisheries including golden king crab.

During 2010/11 in two arbitration proceedings, experts sought to resolve two price/terms of delivery disputes. An arbitration standard directs an arbitrator to identify a price that preserves the historic division of first wholesale revenues between fishermen and processors. One dispute was settled outside of arbitration. The contract arbitrator resolved a second issue (price/terms of delivery) in the golden king crab fishery in favor of the processor.

Arbitration Approach

During the 2010/11 year, harvesters and processors agreed to use the lengthy season approach (*see* §680.20(h)) to initiate binding arbitration proceedings. Most harvesters (those affiliated with the exchange) coordinated their negotiating approach through the Inter-Cooperatives Exchange (ICE), a cooperative formed under the guidelines of the Fishermen's Collective Marketing Act. Processors are required to negotiate with harvesters individually and cannot form cooperative-negotiating bodies.

Fishery Year Comparisons, 2005/06–2010/11

Table 3.8 shows by crab-fishing year the number of arbitration proceedings, affected fisheries, and arbitration issues and outcomes during the Program. During the 2009/10 crab-fishing year, although the types of arbitration issues were similar to previous years, harvesters were unsuccessful in their arbitration proceedings to establish an earlier arbitration filing date in the golden king crab fishery and to secure much higher delivery prices in the Opilio fishery. In 2009/10 two WAG fishery price/delivery disputes were pending post-season: In mid-October arbitrators resolved the crab price/terms of delivery dispute in favor of the harvesters; the other postseason WAG price/delivery dispute was settled outside arbitration. In 2010/11 the arbitrator selected the processor's offer in another WAG fishery dispute over prices and terms of delivery, and a similar golden king crab dispute was settled outside arbitration.

Table 3.8 Arbitration proceedings, 2005/06–2010/11

Fishing Year	Number of Proceedings	Fishery	Issue	Outcome
2005/06	2	BSS, BST	Crab costs/delivery terms	Contract arbitrators selected harvesters' offers.
2006/07	5	BBR, BSS, EBT, WBT	Crab costs/delivery terms	Contract arbitrators selected harvesters' offers.
2007/08	2	Procedural: all fisheries	Clarify specific timing of price dispute resolutions	Lengthy season approach selected; no further arbitration to resolve price, quality, or other disputes
2008/09	1	Procedural: BBR fishery	Crab costs/delivery terms	An issue of a processor's use of a two-tier price structure was settled and a price issue was resolved in favor of the harvester.
2009/10	2	golden king Opilio	Procedural (golden king); Crab costs/delivery terms (Opilio)	For the golden king crab fishery, arbitrators selected a later lengthy season arbitration filing date. For the Opilio fishery, contract arbitrators selected the processor's offer.
		golden king	Crab costs/delivery terms	Two post-season crab costs and terms of delivery disputes: one settled outside of arbitration, and arbitrators resolved issues in favor of the harvester.
2010/11	1 (2 disputes)	golden king	Crab costs/delivery terms	Arbitrators selected the processor's offer for WAG crab.
		golden king	Crab costs/delivery terms	WAG price and terms of delivery dispute settled outside of arbitration.

4 Transfers

QS and PQS Transfers and Consolidation

Quota share and PQS were initially issued to qualifying U.S. individuals and companies or other nonindividual business entities. Tables 4.1–4.3 show persons entering and leaving the fisheries. QS/PQS recipients of initial quota shares at the beginning of the Program or later through appeals are referred to as *initial issuees*; the broader term *quotaholders* denotes persons who obtained their quota holdings by any means—as initial issuees or by transfer. Over time, attrition of initial QS/PQS recipients and consolidation in total numbers of quotaholders is anticipated as quotaholders retire, rearrange business affairs for economic efficiency, move into other occupations, etc. Tables 4.1–4.2 show the beginning of consolidation in the number of harvesting and processing quotaholders. Table 4.1 illustrates attrition of initial issuees from each fishery and sector over time. First year changes were small, in large part due to liberal IFQ/IPQ leasing privileges. Table 4.2 shows changes in the number of quotaholders in fishery sectors over time. As initial issuees divest, new persons acquire QS/PQS. Overall, the number of distinct harvesting quotaholders decreased by fishery. Within fisheries, generally the number of CVC and CVO holders decreased, but holders of other types of QS remained essentially the same. By the end of six Program years, initial issuees holding QS or PQS decreased from 511 to 413, while the number of all quotaholders increased from 511 to 522.

Table 4.1 Numbers of initial issuees holding QS/PQS initially and at end of each crab-fishing year[a]

			Initial Issuees Holding QS/PQS Year-end					
Fishery	Sector	Number of initial issuees[a]	Year-end 2005/06	Year-end 2006/07	Year-end 2007/08	Year-end 2008/09	Year-end 2009/10	Year-end 2010/11
BBR	CPC	8	8	8	8	8	7	7
	CPO	13	12	11	10	9	9	9
	CVC	178	159	141	134	127	122	120
	CVO	241	235	223	214	203	197	196
	Total number of unique persons holding harvesting QS	***424***	***397***	***365***	***347***	***329***	***319***	***315***
	Processor	***17***	***15***	***15***	***14***	***11***	***11***	***11***

Continued

Table 4.1 Continued

Initial Issuees Holding QS/PQS Year-end													
Fishery	Sector	Number of initial issuees[a]	Year-end 2005/06	Year-end 2006/07		Year-end 2007/08		Year-end 2008/09		Year-end 2009/10		Year-end 2010/11	
BSS	CPC	8	8	7		7		7		7		7	
	CPO	14	13	12		11		12		11		12	
	CVC	152	138	124		119		114		108		106	
	CVO	231	219	207		204		198		190		188	
	Total number of unique persons holding harvesting QS	***388***	***361***	***331***		***321***		***311***		***296***		***289***	
	Processor	***20***	***18***	***17***		***16***		***16***		***14***		***14***	
				EBT[a]	WBT[a]	EBT[a]	WBT[a]	EBT[a]	WBT[a]	EBT[a]	WBT[a]	EBT[a]	WBT[a]
BST	CPC	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
	CPO	14	13	12	12	11	11	11	11	10	10	10	10
	CVC	170	156	137	137	134	134	129	129	129	129	127	127
	CVO	248	235	220	220	212	213	203	204	196	197	191	192
	Total number of unique persons holding harvesting QS	***425***	***397***	***361***	***361***	***348***	***349***	***334***	***335***	***327***	***328***	***320***	***321***
	Processor	***23***	***22***	***20***	***20***	***19***	***19***	***17***	***17***	***17***	***17***	***17***	***17***
EAG	CPO	2	2	2		1		1		1		1	
	CVC	13	11	11		10		9		10		9	
	CVO	13	13	12		10		9		12		12	
	Total number of unique persons holding harvesting QS	***28***	***26***	***25***		***21***		***19***		***23***		***22***	
	Processor	***9***	***7***	***7***		***7***		***7***		***7***		***7***	

Continued

Table 4.1 Continued

Initial Issuees Holding QS/PQS Year-end								
Fishery	Sector	Number of initial issuees[a]	Year-end 2005/06	Year-end 2006/07	Year-end 2007/08	Year-end 2008/09	Year-end 2009/10	Year-end 2010/11
PIK	CPO	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	CVC	40	40	39	39	39	39	39
	CVO	111	109	107	103	101	101	98
	Total number of unique persons holding harvesting QS	***147***	***144***	***141***	***137***	***135***	***135***	***132***
	Processor	***14***	***13***	***13***	***12***	***11***	***11***	***11***
SMB	CPO	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
	CVC	73	69	65	62	62	62	61
	CVO	131	130	121	116	114	110	107
	Total number of unique persons holding harvesting QS	***207***	***203***	***189***	***180***	***178***	***174***	***170***
	Processor	***12***	***11***	***10***	***9***	***7***	***7***	***7***
WAG	CPC	2	2	2	2	1	1	1
	CPO	2	2	2	1	1	1	1
	CVC	8	8	8	7	6	6	6
	CVO	13	12	12	10	10	10	10
	Total number of unique persons holding harvesting QS	***24***	***23***	***23***	***19***	***18***	***18***	***18***
	Processor	***9***	***9***	***9***	***7***	***6***	***6***	***6***

Continued

Table 4.1 Continued

Initial Issuees Holding QS/PQS Year-end								
Fishery	Sector	Number of initial issuees[a]	Year-end 2005/06	Year-end 2006/07	Year-end 2007/08	Year-end 2008/09	Year-end 2009/10	Year-end 2010/11
WAI	CPC	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	CPO	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
	CVC	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
	CVO	29	29	30	28	28	28	28
	Total number of unique persons holding harvesting QS	***34***	***34***	***35***	***33***	***33***	***33***	***33***
	Processor	***9***	***8***	***8***	***6***	***5***	***5***	***5***
Total unique initial issuees holding QS/PQS		***511***	***487***	***457***	***442***	***431***	***422***	***413***

[a] Initial issuees were issued BST QS/PQS. Beginning with the 2006/07 crab-fishing year, IFQ was issued for two Bering Sea (bairdi) Tanner (BST) fisheries: eastern and western Bering Sea bairdi Tanner (EBT and WBT, respectively). Quota for EBT and WBT are separately transferable. BST initial issue data are used for initial issuees and year-end 2005; however, EBT and WBT data are used for all other year-end data. "Year-end" represents a crab-fishing year, not a single calendar year. For example, "Year-end 2010" represents the 2010/11 crab-fishing year, extending from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011.

Table 4.2 Numbers of persons (initial issuees and new entrants) holding QS/PQS initially and at end of each crab-fishing year

Fishery	Sector	Number of initial issuees[a]	Number of quotaholders year-end 2005	Number of quotaholders year-end 2006		Number of quotaholders year-end 2007		Number of quotaholders year-end 2008		Number of quotaholders year-end 2009		Number of quotaholders year-end 2010	
BBR	CPC	8	8	8		8		8		8		9	
	CPO	13	12	12		13		12		12		11	
	CVC	178	165	153		148		141		138		137	
	CVO	241	243	236		242		242		248		250	
	Total number of unique persons holding harvesting QS	***424***	***411***	***391***		***389***		***382***		***386***		***385***	
	Processor	***17***	***16***	***17***		***17***		***16***		***16***		***16***	
BSS	CPC	8	8	7		7		7		7		7	
	CPO	14	13	13		14		15		14		19	
	CVC	152	143	134		132		129		129		123	
	CVO	231	228	221		232		233		236		246	
	Total number of unique persons holding harvesting QS	***388***	***375***	***356***		***362***		***361***		***361***		***369***	
	Processor	***20***	***19***	***20***		***20***		***20***		***19***		***19***	
				EBT	WBT	EBT	WBT	EBT	WBT	EBT	WBT	EBT	WBT
BST	CPC	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
	CPO	14	13	13	13	14	14	14	14	13	13	13	13
	CVC	170	161	150	150	148	148	143	143	143	143	143	143
	CVO	248	245	234	234	238	239	231	232	234	235	235	236
	Total number of unique persons holding harvesting QS	***425***	***412***	***389***	***389***	***388***	***389***	***376***	***377***	***383***	***384***	***380***	***381***
	Processor	***23***	***23***	***23***	***23***	***22***	***22***	***21***	***21***	***21***	***21***	***21***	***21***

Continued

Table 4.2 Continued

Fishery	Sector	Number of initial issuees[a]	Number of quotaholders year-end 2005	Number of quotaholders year-end 2006	Number of quotaholders year-end 2007	Number of quotaholders year-end 2008	Number of quotaholders year-end 2009	Number of quotaholders year-end 2010
EAG	CPO	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
	CVC	13	11	11	11	10	10	10
	CVO	13	14	13	13	12	15	15
	Total number of unique persons holding harvesting QS	***28***	***27***	***26***	***26***	***24***	***28***	***27***
	Processor	***9***	***8***	***8***	***9***	***10***	***10***	***10***
PIK	CPO	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	CVC	40	40	39	39	39	39	39
	CVO	111	113	112	117	118	118	116
	Total number of unique persons holding harvesting QS	***147***	***148***	***146***	***151***	***152***	***152***	***150***
	Processor	***14***	***14***	***14***	***13***	***13***	***13***	***13***
SMB	CPO	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
	CVC	72	70	69	68	68	68	68
	CVO	131	136	132	138	137	142	142
	Total number of unique persons holding harvesting QS	***207***	***210***	***204***	***208***	***207***	***213***	***212***
	Processor	***12***	***12***	***12***	***11***	***10***	***10***	***10***

Continued

Table 4.2 Continued

Fishery	Sector	Number of initial issuees[a]	Number of quotaholders year-end 2005	Number of quotaholders year-end 2006	Number of quotaholders year-end 2007	Number of quotaholders year-end 2008	Number of quotaholders year-end 2009	Number of quotaholders year-end 2010
WAG	CPC	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
	CPO	2	2	3	3	3	3	3
	CVC	8	8	8	8	7	7	7
	CVO	13	13	13	12	12	12	12
	Total number of unique persons holding harvesting QS	***24***	***24***	***25***	***24***	***23***	***23***	***23***
	Processor	9	***9***	***9***	***9***	***10***	***10***	***10***
WAI	CPC	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	CPO	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
	CVC	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
	CVO	29	29	32	32	32	32	32
	Total number of unique persons holding harvesting QS	***34***	***34***	***37***	***37***	***37***	***37***	***37***
	Processor	***9***	***9***	***9***	***8***	***8***	***8***	***8***
Total unique persons holding QS/PQS		***511***	***509***	***494***	***503***	***505***	***513***[b]	***522***

[a] Initial issuees were issued BST QS/PQS. Beginning with the 2006/07 crab-fishing year, IFQ was issued for two Bering Sea (bairdi) Tanner (BST) fisheries: eastern and western Bering Sea bairdi Tanner (EBT and WBT, respectively). Quota for EBT and WBT are separately transferable. BST initial issue data are used for initial issuees and year-end 2005; however, EBT and WBT data are used for all other year-end data. "Year-end" represents a crab-fishing year, not a single calendar year. For example, "Year-end 2009" represents the 2009/10 crab-fishing year, extending from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010.

If qualified, new quotaholders can enter the Program by receiving quota in transfers. As a complement to Tables 4.1 and 4.2, Table 4.3 shows that almost an equal number of new persons entered as left each fishery and sector during most Program years. This was true even for fisheries that remained closed due to low stock abundance. In fishing year 2010/11 in the larger fisheries, more QS and PQS holders left than entered the BBR fishery, but more QS holders entered than left the BSS fishery. This fishing year, more initial issuees (92) than any previous Program year left the fisheries, and even more fishermen (101) entered the Program. Table 4.3 displays year-end data and therefore does not include persons who bought and sold QS/PQS of the same fishery/sector within the same year. It also uses subheadings of quota share (QS) and processor quota share (PQS), respectively representing harvesters (persons catching and retaining crab) and processors, those preparing crab for human consumption, industrial uses, or long-term storage.

Table 4.3 New quotaholders entering the Program and initial issuees[a] holding no QS/PQS over time

	Number of new persons entering Program[a] who were not initial issuees of any QS/PQS												Number of initial issuees[b] holding no quota at year-end											
	Year 1 (2005/06)		Year 2 (2006/07)		Year 3 (2007/08)		Year 4 (2008/09)		Year 5 (2009/10)		Year 6 (2010/11)		Year 1 (2005/06)		Year 2 (2006/07)		Year 3 (2007/08)		Year 4 (2008/09)		Year 5 (2009/10)		Year 6 (2010/11)	
Fishery	QS	PQS	QS	PQS	QS	PQS	QS	PQS	QS	PQS	QS	PQS	QS	PQS	QS	PQS	QS	PQS	QS	PQS	QS	PQS	QS	PQS
BBR	14	1	26	2	42	3	53	5	67	5	70	5	19	0	47	1	58	2	65	4	74	6	83	6
BSS	14	1	25	3	41	4	50	4	65	5	80	5	14	0	38	1	47	2	54	4	63	5	71	5
BST	15	1	NA[c]		NA[c]		NA[c]		NA[c]		NA[c]		19	0	46	1	56	2	63	4	71	6	79	6
EAG	1	1	1	1	5	2	5	3	5	3	5	3	0	1	1	1	3	1	3	1	5	2	6	2
EBT[c]	NA[c]		28	3	40	3	42	4	56	4	60	4	NA[c]		NA[c]		NA[c]		NA[c]		NA[c]		NA[c]	
PIK	4	1	5	1	14	1	17	2	17	2	18	2	3	0	8	0	14	1	16	2	17	2	21	2
SMB	7	1	15	2	28	2	29	3	39	3	42	3	7	0	21	1	28	2	28	4	34	5	36	5
WAG	1	0	2	0	5	2	5	4	5	4	5	4	0	0	1	0	3	2	4	3	5	3	4	3
WAI	0	1	2	1	4	2	4	3	4	3	4	3	0	0	1	0	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	3
WBT[c]	NA[c]		28	3	40	3	42	4	56	4	60	4	NA[c]		NA[c]		NA[c]		NA[c]		NA[c]		NA[c]	
Total unique persons	***19***	***3***	***32***	***5***	***55***	***6***	***66***	***8***	83	9	***101***	***9***	***22***	***1***	***51***	***2***	***65***	***3***	***74***	***5***	83	7	92	7

[a] "New persons entering Program" represent those entrants holding QS or PQS of a fishery at year-end who were not issued any type of QS or PQS initially.

[b] For purposes of this table, "initial issuee" represents the number of initial recipients of QS or PQS in each fishery at the beginning of the Program who no longer held QS or PQS of that fishery by the end of e year of the Program.

[c] Beginning with the 2006/07 crab-fishing year, IFQ was issued for two Bering Sea (bairdi) Tanner (BST) fisheries: eastern and western Bering Sea bairdi Tanner (EBT and WBT, respectively). "NA" denotes no IFQ was issued for fishery. Note that initial issuees were issued QS/PQS in BST fishery, not the EBT and WBT fisheries.

Initial Quotaholder Summary

Figure 4.1 illustrates loss of initial issuees from the Program as they divest quota over time. By the end of the 2010/11 fishing year, 413 initial issuees retained QS of some kind, though not necessarily the same type or amount they were initially issued. During the 2009/10 crab-fishing year, the number of initial issuees increased to 511 from 510 as a result of an appeal. Figure 4.2 demonstrates the increasing numbers of initial issuees no longer holding any type of QS/PQS at year-end of each year of the Program. RAM expects these changes to continue as initial issuees leave the fishery.

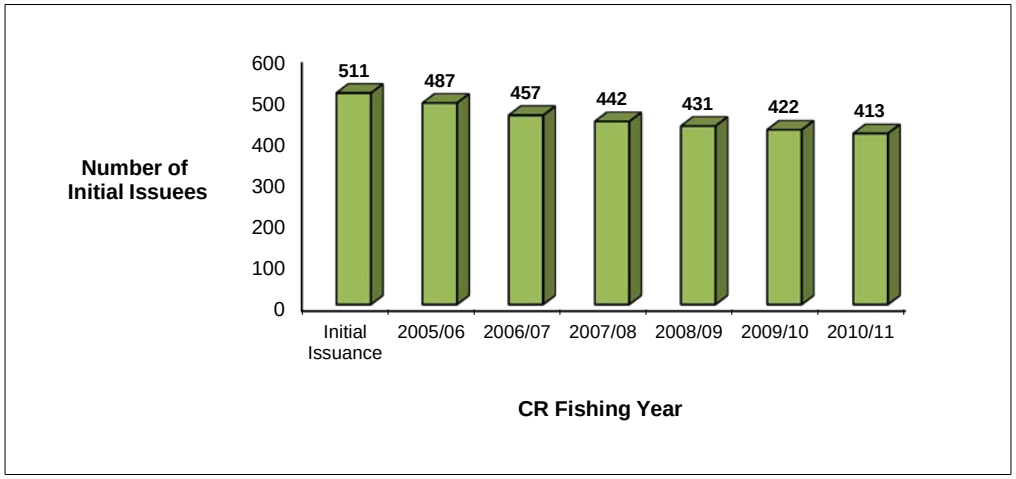


Figure 4.1 Numbers of Initial Issuees Holding QS/PQS at Year-end, 2005/06–2010/11

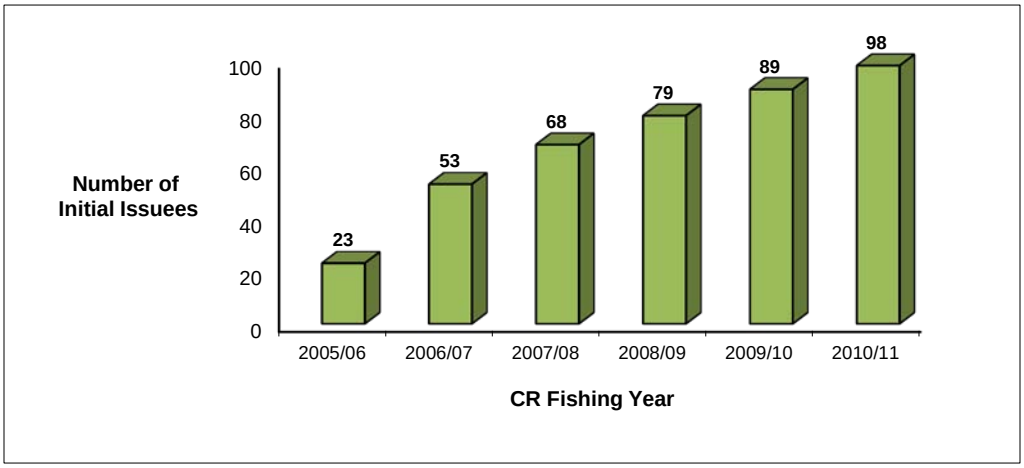


Figure 4.2 Numbers of Initial Issuees Holding No QS/PQS at Year-end, 2005/06–2010/11

A Comparison: Initial Quotaholders with all QS/PQS Holders (Initial Issuees and later entrants)

Figures 4.3 and 4.4 illustrate the stability of numbers of quotaholders during the Program in the two major fisheries. At the end of the first six years of the Program, numbers of all BBR quotaholders, whether initial issuees or later entrants, comprised 94 percent of the number of quotaholders at initial issuance (424); the number of initial issuees was 76 percent of their original number in the fishery. In the BSS fishery, all quotaholders comprised nearly 99 percent, and initial issuees made up 77 percent of their original number in the fishery. Both fisheries exhibited comparable, gradual attrition in numbers of quotaholders at year-end in each Program year.

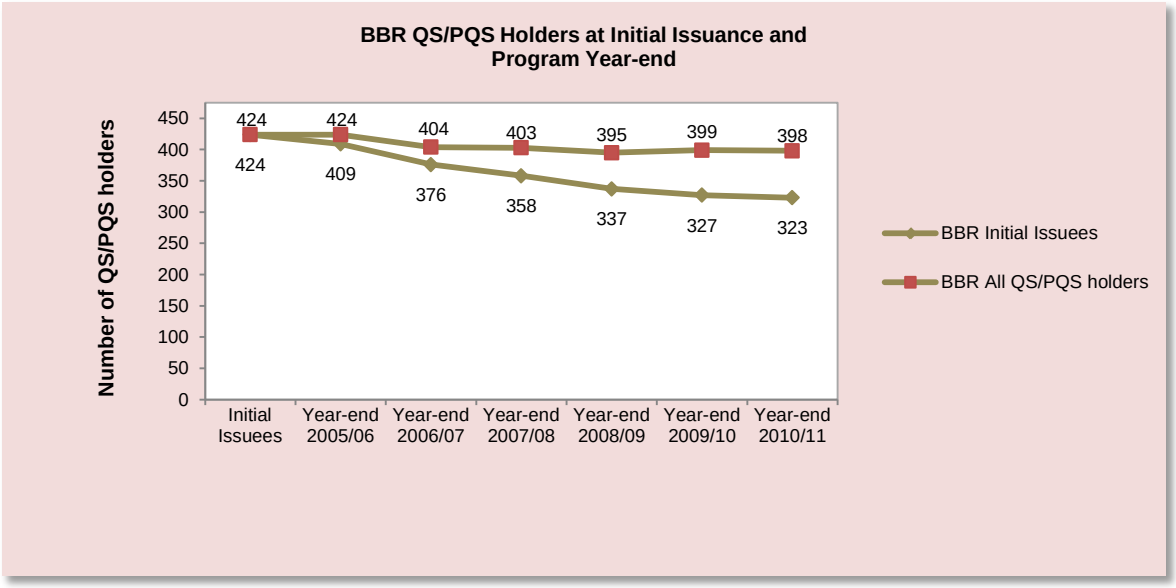


Figure 4.3 Comparison of BBR Initial Issuees with all BBR QS/PQS Holders at Year-end, 2005/06–2010/11

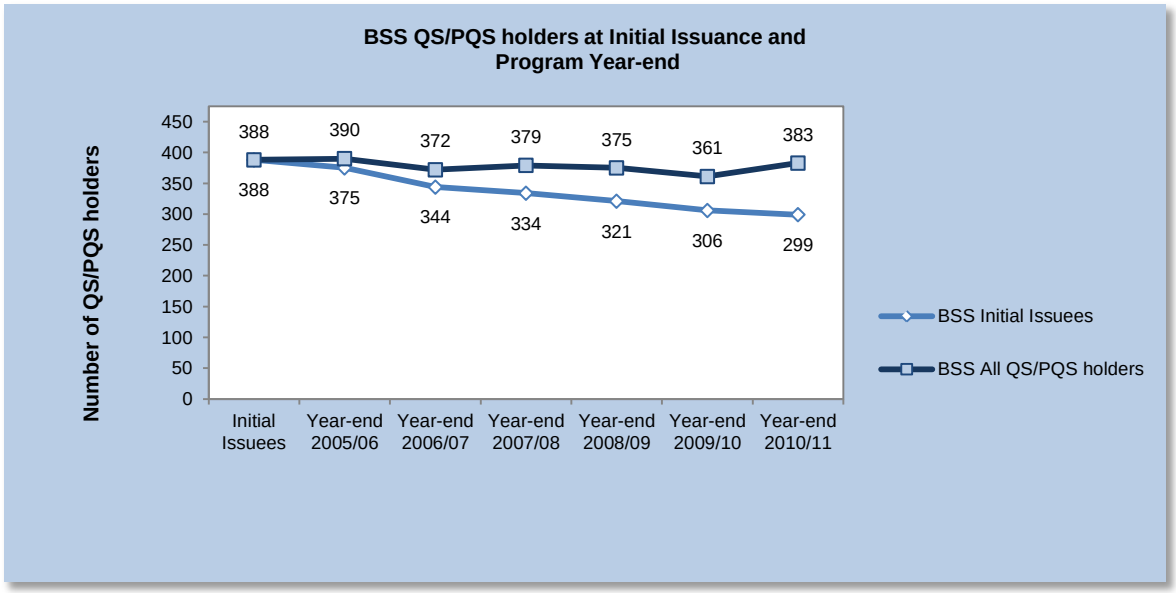


Figure 4.4 Comparison of BSS Initial Issuees with all BSS QS/PQS Holders at Year-end, 2005/06–2010/11

Quota and Allocation Transfers

Transfers may take the form of either permanent quota transfers (with or without annual IFQ/IPQ) or annual IFQ/IPQ leases. Annual assignment of IFQ to a cooperative is not a transfer. Eligibility to receive harvester QS/IFQ by transfer depends in part on the type of quota. In general, to be eligible to receive QS or IFQ, a person must be a U.S. citizen, or a U.S. company or other nonindividual business entity. Owner QS may be received by initial QS recipients, by others who meet sea time requirements, by CDQ groups and eligible crab community entities. In addition, Crew type QS/IFQ may be received by transfer only by individuals who can demonstrate "recent participation" in the crab fisheries before each transfer. Leasing of crew IFQ was only authorized until the beginning of the 2008/09 fishing year, July 1, 2008; owner IFQ until July 1, 2010. Transfer recipients of PQS and IPQ may be any person, whether or not a U.S. citizen.

Transfers can occur anytime of the fishing year, except from August 1 until the IFQ is issued for a fishery. NOAA Fisheries must approve all transfers, and approval is subject to the following additional criteria:

- Proposed receiver's eligibility to receive quota;
- Use caps (including quota assigned to members of a receiving cooperative in intercooperative transfers);
- Community protection measure requirements (for PQS/IPQ);
- Whether or not the parties to the transfer are cooperatives (cooperatives may only hold IFQ and may only engage in intercooperative transfers); and
- Date (Leasing of crew IFQ was only authorized until July 1, 2008; Owner IFQ until July 1, 2010).

Other Types of Transfers

The Program also includes several transfer provisions for special circumstances. In the event of a hardship, a holder of CVC or CPC QS may lease the IFQ, even if not otherwise leasable. However, the holder of such QS may not lease the IFQ for more than two crab-fishing years total in any 10 crab-fishing year period. Such transfers are valid only during the crab-fishing year for which the IFQ permit is issued, and the QS holder must reapply for any subsequent hardship transfers. NMFS will not approve transfers of IFQ unless the QS holder can demonstrate a hardship of a medical condition of the QS holder, a medical condition involving an individual who requires the QS holder's care, or the total loss of a vessel.

Transfer privileges are also available for some surviving heirs. On the death of an individual who holds QS or PQS, the surviving spouse or, in the absence of a surviving spouse, a beneficiary receives all QS, PQS and IFQ or IPQ held by the decedent by right of survivorship, unless otherwise specified in the decedent's will. NMFS will approve for three calendar years after the date of the death of an individual an application for transfer of crab IFQ or IPQ, even if not otherwise leasable.

An eligible crab community (ECC) may form a nonprofit entity to receive QS, IFQ, PQS and IPQ transfers on behalf of that community. Crab may be transferred to or from an eligible crab community organization (ECCO). The ECCO may then lease IFQ to community residents.

For those fisheries with transfer activities, Tables 4.4 and 4.5 display numbers and types of transfers during 2010/11. Leases continued to be the dominant transfer type due to both liberal leasing provisions for processors and custom processing arrangements plus a requirement that an RCR can only debit its own IPQ accounts. Most leases were between cooperatives because member QS holders almost always joined one cooperative for all crab species and cooperatives used intercooperative transfers for market flexibility. Note that the same QS units and IFQ pounds may have transferred multiple times within the

crab year but are counted for each transfer.

Table 4.4 Transfers of harvesting QS and IFQ by fishery and transfer type, 20010/11

Fishery	Sector	QS/IFQ transfer types	Number of transfers	Number of unique transferors[a]	Number of unique transferees[a]	QS units transferred[b]	IFQ pounds transferred[b,c]
BBR	Crew	Cooperative lease	7	5	3	0	34,766
	Crew	QS	7	6	6	344,470	0
	Owner	Cooperative lease	49	9	7	0	878,868
	Owner	QS	41	19	29	20,284,870	0
	Fishery Total		***104***	***34***	***42***	***20,629,340***	***913,634***
BSS	Crew	Cooperative lease	5	2	1	0	207,379
	Crew	QS	11	6	6	851,943	0
	Owner	Cooperative lease	77	8	6	0	5,409,532
	Owner	QS	76	26	36	55,309,080	0
	Fishery Total		***169***	***40***	***48***	***56,161,023***	***5,616,911***
EAG	Crew	QS	3	2	3	22,751	0
	Owner	Cooperative lease	10	4	2	0	751,191
	Fishery Total		***13***	***6***	***5***	***22,751***	***751,191***
EBT	Crew	QS	4	4	4	111,462	0
	Owner	QS	11	9	7	6,473,096	0
	Fishery Total		***15***	***13***	***11***	***6,584,558***	***0***
PIK	Crew	QS	2	2	2	47,000	0
	Owner	QS	10	4	3	2,351,068	0
	Fishery Total		***12***	***6***	***5***	***2,398,068***	***0***

Continued

Table 4.4 Continued

Fishery	Sector	QS/IFQ transfer types	Number of transfers	Number of unique transferors[a]	Number of unique transferees[a]	QS units transferred[b]	IFQ pounds transferred[b,c]
SMB	Crew	Cooperative lease	11	6	2	0	8,046
	Crew	QS	3	2	2	23,174	0
	Owner	Cooperative lease	97	9	2	0	857,959
	Owner	QS	7	4	4	669,765	0
	Fishery Total		***118***	***15***	***8***	***692,939***	***866,005***
WAG	Owner	Cooperative lease	12	4	2	0	219,668
	Owner	QS	2	1	1	865,238	0
	Fishery Total		***14***	***5***	***3***	***865,238***	***219,668***
WBT	Crew	QS	4	4	4	111,462	0
	Owner	QS	11	9	7	6,473,096	0
	Fishery Total		***15***	***13***	***11***	***6,584,558***	***0***
All QS/IFQ totals		**Cooperative leases**	***268***	***9***	***7***	***0***	***8,367,409***
		QS	***192***	***44***	***68***	***93,938,475***	***0***
		All transfers and unique persons	***460***	***53***	***75***	***93,938,475***	***8,367,409***

[a] Total number of transferors and transferees are not additive across fisheries; the same unique person could be involved in multiple transfers. QS units and IFQ pounds could have transferred multiple times within the year.
[b] QS may be transferred with or without annual IFQ.
[c] Pounds are raw crab pounds.
[d] Data will not be shown if confidential.

Table 4.5 Transfers of processing PQS and IPQ by fishery and transfer type, 2010/11

Fishery	PQS/IPQ transfer type	Number transfers	Number unique transferors[a]	Number unique transferees[a]	PQS units	IPQ pounds[b,c]
BBR	Lease	5	4	2	0	3,060,190
	PQS	0	0	0	0	0
	Fishery Total	5	4	2	0	3,060,190
BSS	Lease	8	6	3	0	7,647,273
	PQS	0	0	0	0	0
	Fishery Total	8	6	3	0	7,647,273
EAG	Lease	3	3	3	0	74,217
	PQS	0	0	0	0	0
	Fishery Total	3	3	3	0	74,217
SMB	Lease	4	3	2	0	233,955
	PQS	0	0	0	0	0
	Fishery Total	4	3	2	0	233,955
WAG	Lease	5	4	3	0	96,425
	PQS	0	0	0	0	0
	Fishery Total	5	4	3	0	96,425
All PQS/IPQ totals	***Total Leases***	***25***	***10***	***8***	***0***	***11,112,060***
	Total PQS transfers	***0***	***0***	***0***	***0***	***0***
	All transfers and unique persons	***25***	***10***	***8***	***0***	***11,112,060***

[a] Total number of transferors and transferees are not additive across fisheries; the same unique person could be involved in multiple transfers. PQS units and IPQ pounds could have transferred multiple times within the year.
[b] QS may be transferred with or without annual IPQ.
[c] Pounds are raw crab pounds.
[d] Data will not be shown if confidential.

Transfer Summary

Table 4.6 summarizes the numbers and types of transfers during Program years for processors and harvesters. Over the past six years, the numbers of permanent PQS transfers, although low, increased sixfold since 2005/06, then decreased to new lows. PQS leases have fluctuated, averaging about 35 transfers each Program year. The number of permanent harvesting QS transfers decreased, fluctuating with a marked increase of 130 transfers in the second year of the Program, ebbing back down to slightly more transfers (23) than in the first Program year. During the 2010/11 Program year, harvesting QS transfers (192) were lower than in any other program years. During the first three Program years, intercooperative leases increased, reaching more than twice the number of first year transfers by the third and fourth Program years. The number of noncooperative leases declined to zero because harvesting IFQ was fully assigned to cooperatives by 2008/09.

Table 4.6 Numbers of transfers for all fisheries by year and type, 2005/06–2010/11

Type	Program Year One 2005/06	Program Year Two 2006/07	Program Year Three 2007/08	Program Year Four 2008/09	Program Year Five 2009/10	Program Year Six 2010/11
Harvesters						
Cooperative Lease	144	269	302	301	226	268
Noncooperative Lease	113	39	16	0	0	0
QS	199	329	292	209	222	192
Processors						
PQS Lease	40	39	32	45	31	25
PQS	7	7	12	42	4	0

Figures 4.5 and 4.6 represent Table 4.6 harvester and processor transfer numbers and types in each Program year for all CR fisheries.

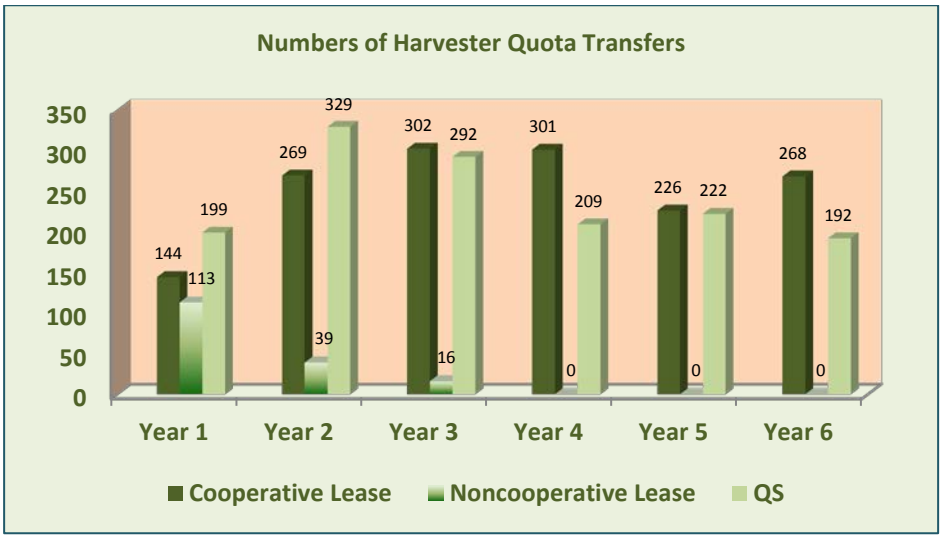


Figure 4.5 Numbers and Types of Harvester Quota Transfers, 2005/06–2010/11

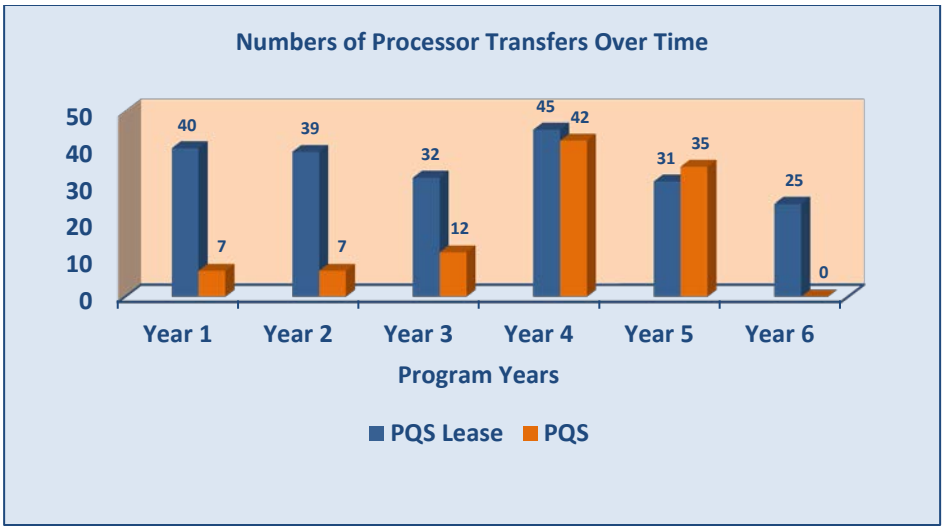


Figure 4.6 Numbers and Types of Processor Quota Transfers, 2005/06–2010/11

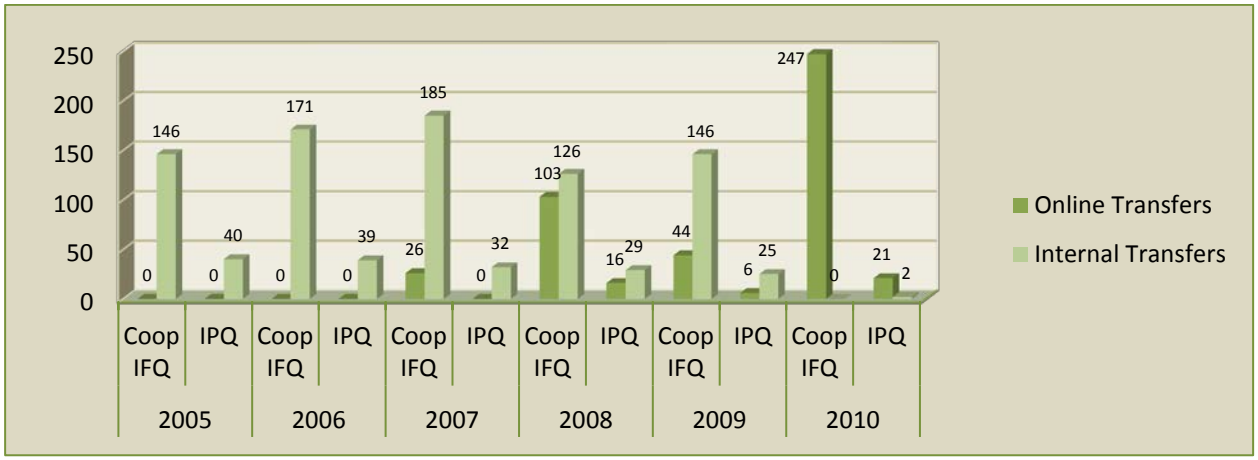


Figure 4.7 Numbers and Types of Transfers, 2005/06–2010/11

Figure 4.7 illustrates the change between internal (by NMFS staff) and online transfers between 2005/06 and 2010/11. Cooperative IFQ online transfers have increased over ninefold since 2007. In November of 2009, final rule 74 FR 51515, October 7, 2009 provided harvesting cooperatives, crab processing quota share holders, and Western Alaska Community Development Quota (CDQ) groups with the option to make intercooperative transfers, crab individual processing quota (IPQ) transfers, and intergroup transfers through an automated, web-based process. In 2007 all IPQ transfers were completed by NMFS staff, but during fishing year 2010/11 almost all transfers were completed online.

Bering Sea Crab Crew Workshop

On May 3, 2011 crab Industry officials introduced crewmembers to the new federal loan program for Bering Sea crab fisheries. In a Seattle workshop, spokespersons provided information to crab vessel crewmembers on federal and private financing options for purchasing quota share in the crab fisheries. RAM staff attended the workshop, offering crewmembers an overview of the transfer process for crab quota share.

Average Price per Crab QS Unit for QS Transfers

Table 4.7 shows the estimated weighted average price per crab QS unit for priced QS transfers by year, fishery, and sector for the first six Program years. Data are based on reported total transaction prices (including fees), divided by the number of units—not on reported dollars per unit. This table omits confidential data; processor QS prices are generally confidential due to the small number of quotaholders and transactions for that sector. Table 4.7 is continued.

Table 4.7 Estimated weighted average price per crab QS unit for priced QS transfers, 2005/06–2010/11

Fishery by program year[a]	Sector	Total paid ($ amount)	Total QS units transferred	Total pounds transferred	Number of transfers	Number of distinct transferors	Number of distinct transferees	Weighted average price per QS unit	Fishery by Program year[a]
BBR 1	CVC	873,724	1,221,051	17,402	21	19	14	0.72	**BBR** 1
2		774,159	1,130,330	1,744	24	20	17	0.68	2
3		343,034	525,490	0	10	8	5	0.65	3
4		388,326	482,465	4,134	9	7	7	0.80	4
5		322,908	427,846	1,788	9	6	7	0.75	5
6		181,945	292,573	0	5	5	5	0.62	6
BBR 1	CVO	3,991,160	7,139,909	94,298	14	6	10	0.56	**BBR** 1
2		29,292,901	24,420,200	0	27	17	11	1.20	2
3		8,383,337	7,144,784	0	21	11	13	1.17	3
4		16,239,943	13,988,271	0	25	16	19	1.16	4
5		4,076,942	4,525,837	0	12	10	11	0.90	5
6		9,105,971	14,596,184	0	33	15	22	0.62	6
BBR 4	Pro	3,747,743	31,159,177	25,150	4	4	3	0.12	**BBR** 4
BSS 1	CVC	683,516	2,793,091	38,489	25	14	12	0.24	**BSS** 1
2		543,372	2,864,463	2,536	35	17	15	0.19	2
3		213,042	821,969	0	12	5	5	0.26	3
4		315,891	757,824	18,608	10	5	6	0.42	4
5		312,054	1,121,203	0	15	6	8	0.28	5
6		300,416	851,943	0	11	6	6	0.35	6
BSS 1	CVO	9,653,848	24,619,413	164,664	22	9	12	0.39	**BSS** 1
2		12,618,035	48,984,237	81,136	36	17	8	0.26	2
3		11,594,328	24,751,778	0	26	10	13	0.47	3
4		6,727,749	12,649,179	0	15	9	11	0.53	4
5		2,171,857	6,452,415	0	14	8	10	0.34	5
6		15,170,520	34,571,824	0	56	17	24	0.44	6

Table 4.7 Continued

Fishery by program year[a]	Sector	Total paid ($ amount)	Total QS units transferred	Total pounds transferred	Number of transfers	Number of distinct transferors	Number of distinct transferees	Weighted average price per QS unit	Fishery by program year[a]
BST 1	CVC	77,627	400,790	1,007	14	13	11	0.19	**BST** 1
2		15,472	138,404	0	3	3	3	0.11	2
BST 1	CVO	1,523,445	5,203,128	6,588	10	8	9	0.29	**BST** 1
EAG 4	CVC	156,968	59,908	3,420	4	4	3	2.62	**EAG** 4
EBT 2	CVC	18,987	394,012	188	17	14	14	0.05	**EBT** 2
3		13,308	178,143	0	5	4	3	0.07	3
4		17,115	165,745	644	4	4	4	0.10	4
6		1,468	83,846	0	3	3	3	0.02	6
EBT 2	CVO	432,038	6,577,526	4,160	17	13	8	0.07	**EBT** 2
3		779,409	3,030,918	0	9	7	8	0.26	3
4		903,366	6,246,184	0	14	8	9	0.14	4
5		49,441	832,229	0	5	4	5	0.06	5
EBT 4	PRO	124,400	12,152,783	85,185	5	5	4	0.01	**EBT** 4
SMB 2	CVC	7,019	40,323	0	4	3	3	0.17	**SMB** 2
SMB 3	CVO	306,914	876,903	0	10	3	4	0.35	**SMB** 3
WAG 4	PRO	1,373,366	18,921,690	195,249	8	4	3	0.07	**WAG** 4
WBT 2	CVC	13,028	372,387	110	16	13	13	0.03	**WBT** 2
3		7,924	178,143	0	5	4	3	0.04	3
4		11,495	165,745	358	4	4	4	0.07	4
6		1,768	83,846	0	3	3	3	0.02	6
WBT 2	CVO	699,338	8,511,781	2,427	22	18	9	0.08	**WBT** 2
3		250,353	2,948,045	0	8	6	7	0.08	3
4		603,875	6,246,184	0	14	8	9	0.10	4
5		29,043	832,229	0	5	4	5	0.03	5
WBT 4	PRO	76,480	12,152,783	47,386	5	5	4	0.01	**WBT** 4

[a] BST changed to EBT and WBT within year two of the Program but before issuance of annual IFQ for that year.

5 Vessel Effort and Landings

Vessel Effort

In 2004, before crab rationalization began, the Crab Capacity Reduction Program (Buyback Program) removed 25 vessels from the fleet. Rationalization further reduced participation in IFQ fisheries. Except during the 2008/09 fishing year, all vessels used in the CDQ and Adak fisheries also participated in IFQ fisheries. During each year of the Program, two fisheries have remained closed, WAI and PIK. In the fifth Program year, the WBT fishery was closed as the SMB fishery reopened although no CDQ vessels participated (only IFQ vessels). In 2010/11 both EBT and WBT fisheries remained closed. It is important to note, too, that the 2005 winter BSS fishery was open in January 2005 before implementation of the Program in August 2005. Although the BSS fishery has opened October 15, most vessel effort occurs in January when the fishery is largely prosecuted.

Figure 5.1 and Table 5.1 show historical vessel participation in the Program fisheries. In Figure 5.1 an asterisk denotes the number of the BSS pre-Program fishery vessels (169) and the vertical line denotes implementation of the BSAI Crab Capacity Reduction Buyback Program. The "bairdi split" represents the State's change in managing the BST fishery as two distinct stocks. Beginning with the 2006/07 crab-fishing year, IFQ was issued for two Bering Sea (bairdi) Tanner (BST) fisheries, the eastern and western Bering Sea bairdi Tanner, EBT and WBT, respectively. Note that Figures 5.1 and 5.2 show vessels with bycatch/deadloss for the closed WBT fishery in 2009/10 (YR 5) and closed 2010/11(YR 6) EBT and WBT fisheries. Figure 5.2 displays vessel participation values during the 2010/11 year compared with those in previous Program years. The precipitous decrease in vessels used in the crab fisheries reflects a number of factors, including removal of vessels for economic efficiency and extensive use of harvesting cooperatives. During the 2010/11 fishing year, vessel participation in most fisheries remained the same, with five fewer vessels participating in the BBR fishery and four more participating in the SMB fishery.

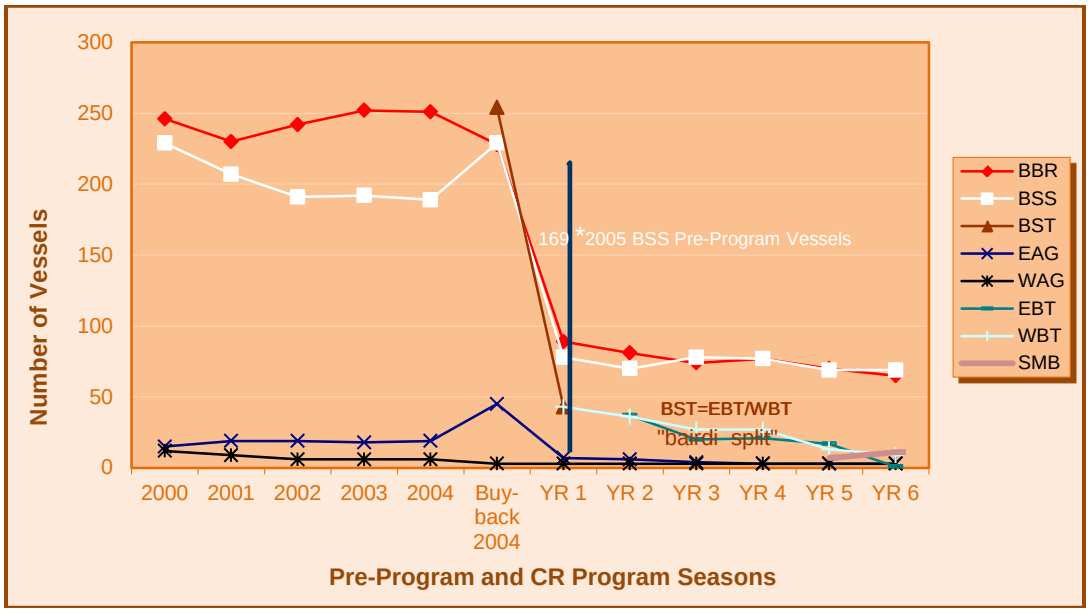


Figure 5.1 Vessel Participation in Pre-Program and Program Fisheries, 2000–2010/11

Table 5.1 Consolidation in vessel participation in the Program fisheries over time

Fishery[a]	Year 2000	Year 2001	Year 2002	Year 2003	Year 2004[b]	Year 2005[c]	IFQ crab fisheries 2005/06[d]	IFQ crab fisheries 2006/07[e]	IFQ crab fisheries 2007/08	IFQ crab fisheries 2008/09	IFQ crab fisheries 2009/10	IFQ crab fisheries 2010/11
BBR	246	230	242	252	251		89	81	74	77	70	65
BSS	229	207	191	192	189	169[b]	78	70	78	77	69	69
BST	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed		43	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
EAG	15	19	19	18	19		7	6	4	3	3	3
EBT[e]	formerly part of BST						Closed	37	20	21	17	1[e] Closed
SMB	50	30	58	91	48	0	0	0	0	0	7	11
WAG	12	9	6	6	6		3	3	3	3	3	3
WBT[e]	formerly part of BST						43[f]	36	27	27	13[e] Closed	9[e] Closed
Distinct number of harvesting vessels fishing under the Program							***101***	***91***	***87***	***88***	***78***	***78***

(Source: Pre-Program data, ADF&G; Program data, RAM/NOAA Fisheries)

[a] WAI and PIK fisheries were closed throughout this period. However, from 2001 through 2004, the Petrel Bank area was open for surveys only. Fish sold from surveys support ADF&G survey cost recovery.

[b] In 2004, before crab rationalization began, NMFS implemented the Crab Capacity Reduction Program (Buyback Program) that removed 25 vessels from the fleet.

[c] The 2005 calendar year BSS fishery occurred before the 2005/06 Program began.

[d] Generally all Adak and CDQ vessels participated in IFQ fisheries during the Program, except in the 2008/09 fishing year.

[e] Beginning with the 2006/07 crab-fishing year, IFQ was issued for two Bering Sea (bairdi) Tanner (BST) fisheries: eastern and western Bering Sea bairdi Tanner (EBT and WBT, respectively). Table 5.1 shows numbers of vessels with bycatch/deadloss during recent closures for EBT/WBT.

[f] In the 2005/06 fishing year, the BST fishery was open only in the western area. In 2009/10 the WBT fishery was closed; in 2010/11 EBT and WBT fisheries were closed.

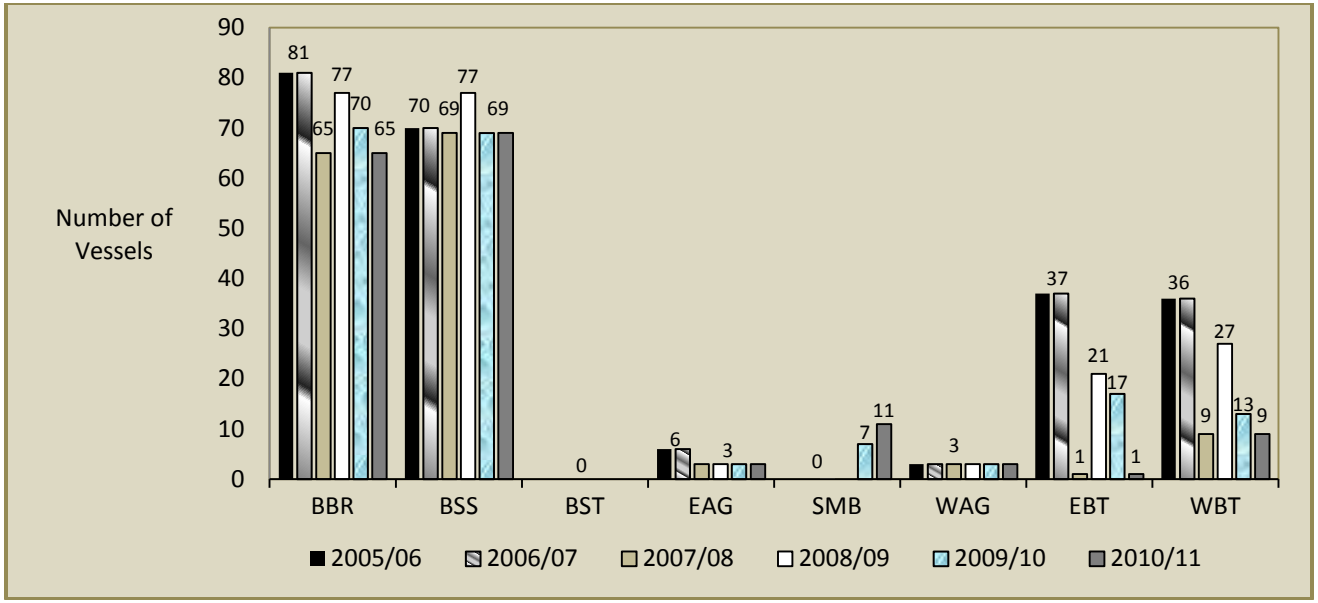


Figure 5.2 Vessel Participation in Program Fisheries, 2005/06–2010/11

Tables 5.2a and 5.2b show the amount of gear and average season-days used per vessel during all Program years. Except in the WAG fishery, during the first six Program years, the average number of pots pulled per vessel in the CR fisheries increased, particularly in the BBR and EAG fisheries. In fact, EAG more than doubled pot pull effort since year one (2005/06). Table 5.2b shows that season length changed minimally. Despite relative consistency in lengths of seasons since the first year of the Program, average days fished per vessel decreased, except in the recently opened SMB fishery in which average days fished per vessel increased 4 days. Compared with the previous fishing year, in 2010/11 BSAI crab fishermen registered about the same amount of gear per vessel; however, WAG fishermen averaged 125 fewer pots per vessel than in the previous year. Over fewer days and with similar amounts of gear as last fishing year, BSAI fishermen expended more pot pull effort per vessel, with EAG and WAG fisheries increasing their pot pull effort fivefold over last season.

Table 5.2a IFQ fishery effort by number of pots, 2005/06 (year one) – 2010/11 (year six)

IFQ Fishery	Number of pots registered (fleet)						Average number of pots registered (per vessel)					
	Year one	Year two	Year three	Year four	Year five	Year six	Year one	Year two	Year three	Year four	Year five	Year six
BBR	15,713	14,685	11,885	15,098	14,977	13,769	177	181	161	196	214	212
BSS	13,734	10,851	13,647	12,549	11,804	11,604	176	162	173	163	169	171
EAG	8,833	6,600	4,200	4,200	4,600	4,600	1,262	1,100	1,050	1,400	1,533	1,533
BST/EBT[b,c]	545	3,320	3,102	3,561	1,771	Closed	136	175	107	193	177	Closed
SMB	Closed				1,022	1,615	Closed				146	147
WAG	4,900	4,500	4,800	4,900	5,050	4,675	1,633	1,500	1,600	1,633	1,683	1,558
BST/ WBT[b,c]	545	820	3,102	3,561	Closed	Closed	136	205	107	178	Closed	Closed

Table 5.2a Continued

IFQ Fishery	Total number of pots pulled[a] (fleet)						Average number of pots pulled (per vessel)					
	Year one	Year two	Year three	Year four	Year five	Year six	Year one	Year two	Year three	Year four	Year five	Year six
BBR	99,573	64,325	101,734	124,739	107,058	131,627	1,119	794	1,375	1,620	1,529	2,025
BSS	108,397	79,869	129,625	148,220	124,661	133,899	1,389	1,192	1,641	1,925	1,807	1,969
EAG	21,898	22,694	20,496	21,855	23,442	23,737	3,128	3,782	6,832	7,285	1,533	7,912
BST/EBT[b,c]	29,693	26,487	30,691	33,827	38,126	Closed	691	646	1,535	867	381	Closed
SMB	Closed				10,697	29,346	Closed				1,528	2,668
WAG	27,503	23,839	25,287	22,351	22,746	26,587	9,168	7,946	8,129	7,450	1,683	8,862
BST/ WBT[b,c]	29,693	22,841	19,210	26,531	Closed		691	586	620	1,263	Closed	

(Source: ADF&G)

[a] Pot pull data are for both incidental and directed fisheries.
[b] Beginning with the 2006/07 crab-fishing year, IFQ was issued for two Bering Sea (bairdi) Tanner (BST) fisheries: eastern and western Bering Sea bairdi Tanner (EBT and WBT, respectively). Year-one data are for the BST fishery.
[c] EBT and WBT crab pot registration data reflect directed fishery only. Pots for Tanner fishery are not split E/W.

Table 5.2b IFQ fishery effort by days fished per vessel and season length, 2005/06 (Program year one) – 2010/11 (Program year six)

IFQ Fishery	Average days fished (per vessel)						Season length (days)					
	Year one[a]	Year two	Year three	Year four	Year five	Year six	Year one	Year two	Year three	Year four	Year five	Year six
BBR	26	21	26	21	18	21	93	93	93	93	93	93
BSS	42	36	48	49	25	25	229	229	230	229	229	229
EAG	174	88	147	59	61	59	274	274	275	274	274	274
BST/EBT[a]	Closed	20	69	21	9	Closed	Closed	168	169	168	168	Closed
SMB	Closed				16	28	Closed				110	110
WAG	174	88	87	97	87	76	274	274	275	274	274	274
BST/ WBT[a]	24	19	69	7	Closed	Closed	168	168	169	168	Closed	Closed

(Source: ADF&G and NOAA Fisheries)

[a] Beginning with the 2006/07 crab-fishing year, IFQ was issued for two Bering Sea (bairdi) Tanner (BST) fisheries: eastern and western Bering Sea bairdi Tanner (EBT and WBT, respectively). Year-one data reflect BST.

Season Use

One objective of the Program is to improve safety and market conditions by providing an extended fishing year during which dedicated allocations can be harvested. As shown in Figure 5.3, harvesters in all 5 open fisheries used this opportunity to varying degrees. The WAG fishery used the most harvest days (76 days or 28% of available days) to set and pull gear, while the BBR fishery used the fewest harvest days fishing (21 days or 23%).

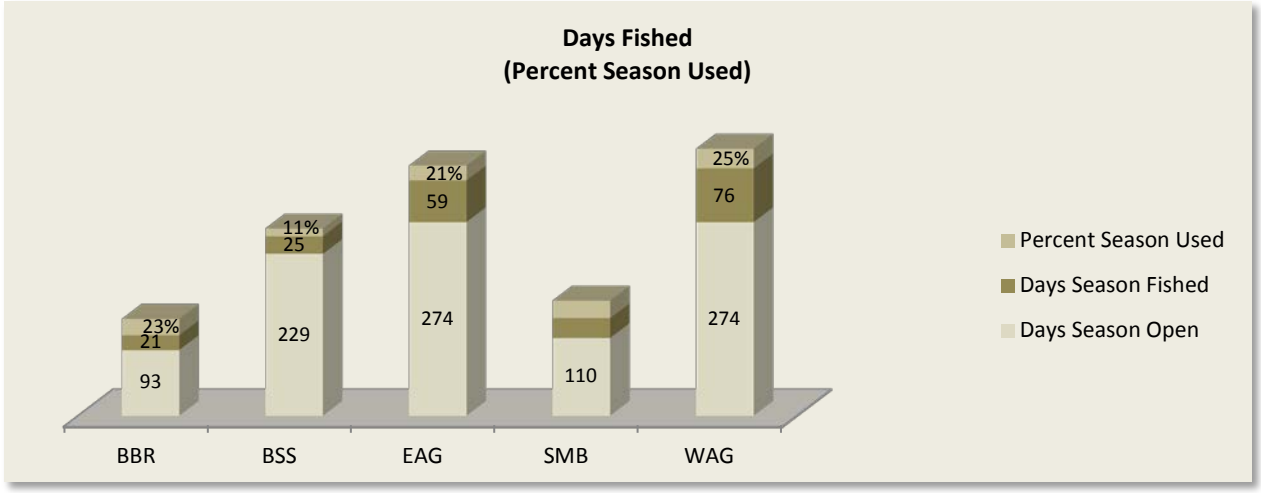


Figure 5.3 Comparison of Season Length with the Number of Days fished and percent Season Used, 2010/11

Landing Effort

As Figure 5.3 illustrated actual fishing time in each fishery, Figure 5.4 shows the number of calendar days that lapsed between first and last landing in each IFQ crab fishery and the percentage of the fishing season used during those landing periods.

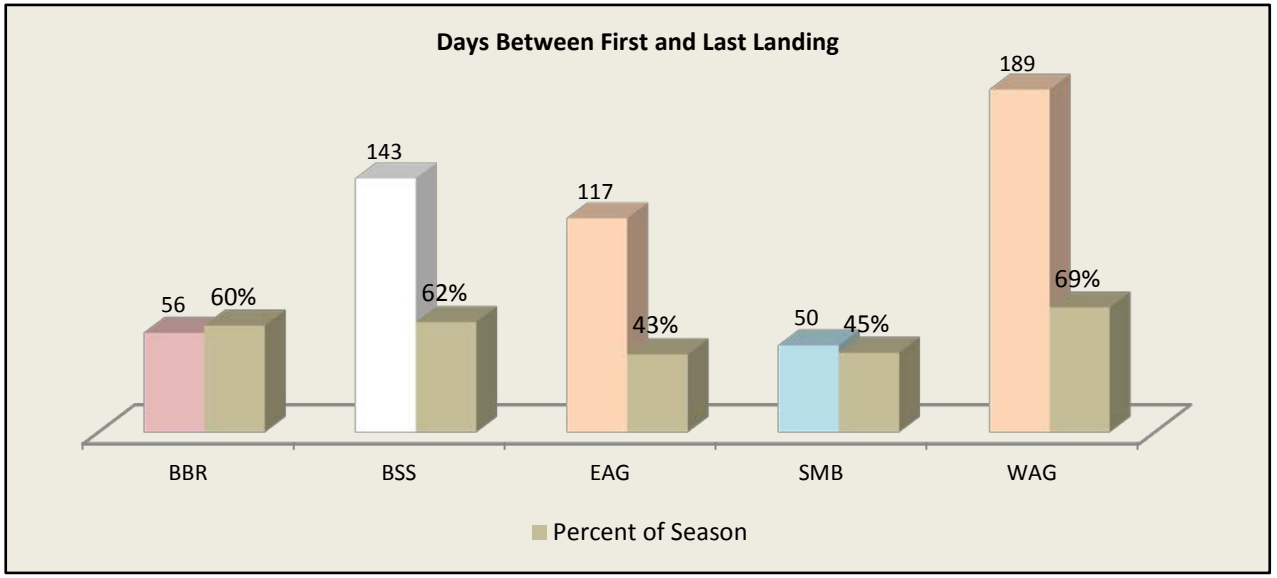


Figure 5.4 Numbers of Days between First and Last Landing and Percent Season Use, 2010/11

Weeks with Peak Landings, 2005/06–2010/11

Amid higher market demands and fuel prices, lower catch rates, climate change, and other complex variables, during the Program BBR and BSS fishermen have remained fairly consistent in the timings of their peak landings (in raw crab pounds landed). Table 5.3 displays the highest landing dates by fishery for each Program year. Confidential data cannot be shown and are indicated with an asterisk (*).

Table 5.3 Recent dates of Peak landings by IFQ fishery in raw crab pounds, 2005/06–2010/11

Fishery	Peak Landings 2010/11	Peak Landings 2009/10	Peak Landings 2008/09	Peak Landings 2007/08	Peak Landings 2006/07	Peak Landings 2005/06
BBR	October 29, 2010	Oct 29, 2009	Oct 28, 2008	Oct 29, 2008	Oct 29, 2006	Oct 29, 2005
BSS	February 12, 2011	Feb 5, 2010	Jan 22, 2009	Feb 5, 2008	Feb 19, 2007	*
EAG	*	Oct 8, 2009	Sep 30, 2008	Sep 24, 2007	Sep 24, 2006	Sep 10, 2005
EBT	Closed	*	*	Apr 1, 2008	*	Apr 2, 2006 (BST)
SMB	*	*	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
WAG	*	*	*	*	*	Sep 15, 2005
WBT	Closed	Closed	*	Feb 26, 2008	Mar 5, 2007	*

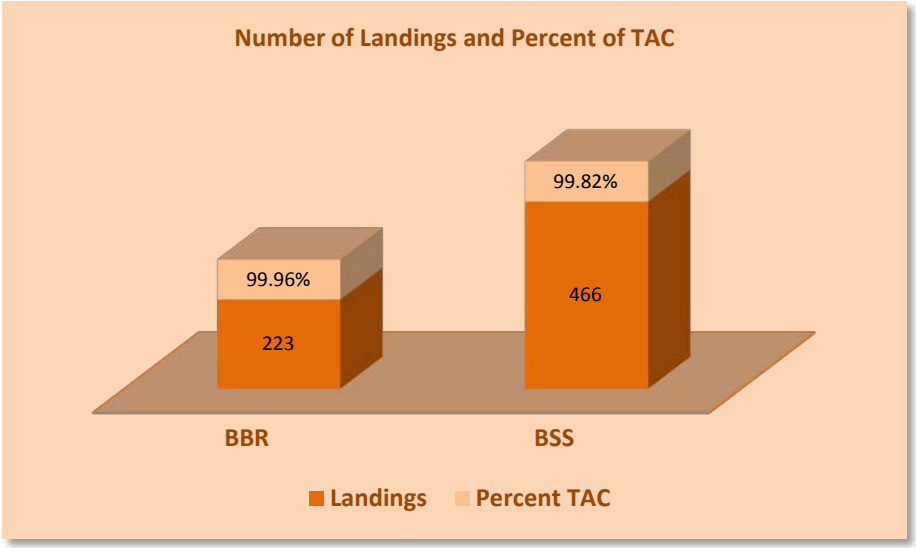


Figure 5.5 Vessel Landings and Percent of TAC Landed, 2010/11

Use of Available IFQ TAC

Figure 5.5 shows the number of reportable vessel landings and percent of TAC landed. Landing data were confidential in the EAG, SMB, and WAG fisheries; EBT and WBT, PIK, and WAI fisheries were closed. Percentages may vary slightly from other published data due to rounding. Figure 5.6 illustrates that during the 2010/11 fishing year, participants in the BBR and BSS fisheries harvested almost the entire TAC. Both fisheries (combined) left 17,000 pounds of TAC behind. Unlike the previous two fishing years, in 2010/11 the BBR harvested more of its TAC than the other CR fisheries. In fact, throughout the Program the BBR fishery has consistently harvested more of its TAC compared with the other CR fisheries.

Allocations, Harvests, and Landings

When the last quota fishery (BSS West Sub District) closed on May 31, 2010, IFQ permitholders and their participating Hired Masters had reported a total of 832 vessel landings (offloads) for the crab-fishing year. IFQ permitholders and their 96 participating Hired Masters (73.3 percent of the 131 Hired Masters permitted) landed 99.99 percent of the TAC for all IFQ crab fisheries. Tables 5.4–5.7 show harvest by combinations of fishery, region, sector, and IFQ class. In Table 5.4 EAG, SMB, WAG fishery data are confidential. For a brief discussion of confidentiality, please see "Special Notes" before the Table of Contents. The EBT and WBT fisheries were closed; small amounts of bycatch are not shown. PIK and WAI fisheries have been closed all six Program years.

Table 5.4 Landings by IFQ fishery[a,b]

Fishery	Number of IFQ permit-holders[c]	Number of RCR permit-holders	Number of Landings[b]	Landed Pounds[b,c]	Sold pounds	Percent sold	Personal use pounds	Percent personal use	Deadloss pounds	Percent deadloss	IFQ pounds[d] available in fishery	Percent fishable pounds landed	Overage pounds[e]	Percent overage of total landed pounds[e]
BBR	10	14	223	13,349,636	13,224,526	99.06	25,865	0.19	99,538	0.75	13,355,104	99.96	293	0.00
BSS	10	14	466	48,763,248	48,456,154	99.35	3,334	0.01	314,049	0.64	48,852,885	99.82	10,289	0.02
EAG*	*	*	30	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	2,834,998	*	*	*
SMB*	*	*	63	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1,440,003	*	*	*
WAG*	*	*	37	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	2,551,500	*	*	*

* EAG, SMB, and WAG fishery data are confidential.

[a] Number of permitholders represents persons whose IFQ permits were fished.
[b] Landing = vessel offload.
[c] Landed pounds are raw crab pounds, excluding overages, unless noted.
[d] "IFQ pounds" is slightly different from TAC; some pounds were not issuable or amounts were rounded.
[e] Overages are the amounts landed in excess of amounts authorized on IFQ permits; starting in 2009/10, overages do not become violations unless remaining on June 30.

Table 5.5 Landings by fishery and region[a,b]

Fishery	Region[c]	Number of IFQ permit-holders[d]	Number of RCR permit-holders	Number of landings	Landed pounds	Sold pounds	Percent sold[e]	Personal use pounds	Percent personal use	Deadloss pounds	Percent deadloss	IFQ pounds available in region[e]	Percent fishable pounds landed	Overage Pounds[f]	Percent overage of total landed pounds[f]
BBR	N	4	8	14	314,032	313,151	99.72	0	0.00	881	0.28	314,032	100.00	0	0.00
	S	7	13	205	12,048,352	11,944,207	99.13	9,193	0.08	95,244	0.79	12,053,814	99.95	292	0.00
	U	9	10	59	987,252	967,168	97.97	16,672	1.69	3,413	0.35	987,258	100.00	1	0.00
BSS	N	7	9	186	20,084,864	19,969,832	99.43	15	0.00	115,017	0.57	20,163,847	99.61	0	0.00
	S	7	11	196	22,912,227	22,750,806	99.25	1,922	0.01	169,788	0.74	22,922,646	99.95	10,289	0.04
	U	9	12	95	5,766,157	5,735,516	99.47	1,397	0.02	29,244	0.51	5,766,392	100.00	0	0.00
EAG*	S/U	*	*	30	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	2,834,998	*	*	*
SMB*	N/S/U	*	*	63	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1,440,003	*	*	*
WAG*	U/W	*	*	37	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	2,551,500	*	*	*

*EAG, SMB, and WAG regional data are confidential (*); therefore, regional data are combined.

[a] Landed pounds are raw crab pounds, excluding overages, unless noted.
[b] Landing = vessel offload.
[c] IFQ regions are "N" = North, "S" = South, and "W" = West; "U" = no region designated. EBT and WBT are not designated regionally.
[d] Number of permitholders represents persons whose IFQ permits were fished.
[e] "IFQ pounds in region" is not the overall fishery TAC; it includes only the TAC available to each region.
[f] Overages are the amounts landed in excess of amounts authorized on IFQ permits; starting in 2009/10, overages do not become violations unless remaining on June 30.

Table 5.6 IFQ landings by fishery and IFQ sector[a,b]

Fishery	Sector	Number of IFQ permit-holders[c]	Number of RCR permit-holders	Number of landings	Landed pounds	Sold pounds	Percent sold	Personal use pounds	Percent personal use	Deadloss pounds	Percent deadloss	IFQ pounds available in sector[d]	Percent fishable pounds landed	Overage pounds[e]	Percent overage[e] of total landed pounds
BBR	CPC	4	5	9	14,016	13,945	99.49	0	0.00	71	0.51	14,019	99.98	0	0.00
	CPO	5	4	14	588,335	585,817	99.57	0	0.00	2,518	0.43	588,338	100.00	0	0.00
	CVC	8	9	44	384,901	367,406	95.45	16,672	4.33	824	0.21	384,901	100.00	1	0.00
	CVO	7	13	209	12,362,384	12,257,358	99.15	9,193	0.07	96,125	0.78	12,367,846	99.96	292	0.00
BSS	CPC	5	4	9	86,045	85,592	99.47	0	0.00	453	0.53	86,047	100.00	0	0.00
	CPO	6	8	40	4,301,112	4,276,478	99.43	0	0.00	24,634	0.57	4,301,238	100.00	0	0.00
	CVC	8	10	47	1,379,000	1,373,446	99.60	1,397	0.10	4,157	0.30	1,379,107	99.99	0	0.00
	CVO	7	12	377	42,997,091	42,720,638	99.33	1,937	0.00	284,805	0.66	43,086,493	99.79	10,289	0.02
EAG*	All Sectors*	*	*	30	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	2,834,998	*	*	*
SMB*		*	*	63	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1,412,492	*	*	*
WAG*		*	*	37	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	2,551,500	*	*	*

*EAG, SMB, and WAG data are confidential (*) in all sectors; therefore, data are combined as "All Sectors."

[a] Landing pounds are raw crab pounds, excluding overages, unless noted.
[b] Landing = vessel offload.
[c] Number of permitholders represents persons whose IFQ permits were fished.
[d] "IFQ pounds available in sector" is not the overall fishery TAC; it includes only the TAC available to each sector.
[e] Overages are the amounts landed in excess of amounts authorized on IFQ permits; starting in 2009/10, overages do not become violations unless remaining on June 30.

Table 5.7 Landings[a] by fishery and IFQ class

Fishery	IFQ Class	Number of IFQ permit-holders[b]	Number of RCR permit-holders	Number of landings[c]	Landed pounds	Sold pounds	Percent sold	Personal use pounds	Percent personal use	Deadloss pounds	Percent deadloss	IFQ pounds available in class[d]	Percent fishable pounds landed	Overage pounds[e]	Percent overage of total landed pounds[e]
BBR	A	7	10	189	11,125,629	11,030,918	99.15	1,445	0.01	93,558	0.84	11,131,056	99.95	292	0.00
	B	6	12	76	1,236,755	1,226,440	99.17	7,748	0.63	2,567	0.21	1,236,790	100.00	0	0.00
	U[f]	9	10	59	987,252	967,168	97.97	16,672	1.69	3,413	0.35	987,258	100.00	1	0.00
BSS	A	7	10	288	38,694,724	38,423,497	99.29	32	0.00	275,248	0.71	38,777,847	99.79	4,053	0.01
	B	7	11	103	4,302,367	4,297,141	99.73	1,905	0.04	9,557	0.22	4,308,646	99.85	6,236	0.14
	U[f]	9	12	95	5,766,157	5,735,516	99.47	1,397	0.02	29,244	0.51	5,766,392	100.00	0	0.00
EAG*	All Classes	*	*	30	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	2,834,998	*	*	*
SMB*	All Classes	*	*	63	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1,440,003	*	*	*
WAG*	All Classes	*	*	37	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	2,551,500	*	*	*

* EAG, SMB, and WAG data are confidential by class; therefore, data for each fishery are combined as "All Classes."

[a] Landed pounds are raw crab pounds, excluding overages, unless noted.
[b] Number of permitholders represents persons whose IFQ permits were fished.
[c] Landing = vessel offload.
[d] "IFQ pounds available in class" is not the overall fishery TAC; it includes only the TAC available to a class.
[e] Overages are the amounts landed in excess of amounts authorized on IFQ permits; starting in 2009/10, overages do not become violations unless remaining on June 30.
[f] IFQ class "U" = IFQ in CVC, CPC, and CPO sectors. Class "A" CVO IFQ must be delivered to RCRs with IPQ; class "B" CVO IFQ (like "U" IFQ) may be delivered to any RCR.

Deadloss

Deadloss is crab, other than personal use crab, that was delivered dead or in otherwise unprocessable condition. Deadloss occurs for a number of reasons, including cold weather during deck sorting, failure of sea water systems in holds, and lengthy waits to offload crab. Under the Program most deadloss (86%) has been reported on Class A IFQ permits; however, Class A permits account for most TAC assigned to quota fisheries.

Major Fisheries– Deadloss Overview (1990–2010/11)

The BSS fishery has accounted for nearly five million pounds of reported deadloss since 1990. The 1990 BSS fishery reported the highest pre-Program deadloss (almost 1.8 million pounds), despite partial district and subdistrict closures. By 1995 BSS deadloss had declined sharply and remained relatively low, although with a slight rise (from 322,600 pounds to approximately 379,000 pounds of deadloss) during the first and second years under the Program, yet still far below the 1990 deadloss. Over time, crab fishery deadloss has sharply declined. In 2008/09, with much fewer fishable pounds than are available in the BSS fishery, the BBR fishery reported a higher percentage of deadloss (0.88) than the BSS fishery (0.77). During 2009/10 the recently reopened SMB fishery held the highest percentage of deadloss (confidential). In 2010/11 Program fisheries reported 525,644 pounds of deadloss, a 100,000–170,000 pound decrease in deadloss compared with the previous four fishing years. The BBR IFQ Class A held the highest percentage of deadloss in the larger open fisheries (0.84), while EAG held the highest total percentages of deadloss (confidential) in the smaller open fisheries. Deadloss numbers may vary slightly from other published data due to rounding.

Figure 5.6 shows IFQ-related crab deadloss in the BBR and BSS fisheries in Program fishing years 2005/06 through 2010/11. The figure illustrates deadloss in raw crab pounds. Although substantially lower than in pre-Program fishing years, deadloss has generally increased in the BBR and BSS fisheries since the first year of the Program due to larger TACs.

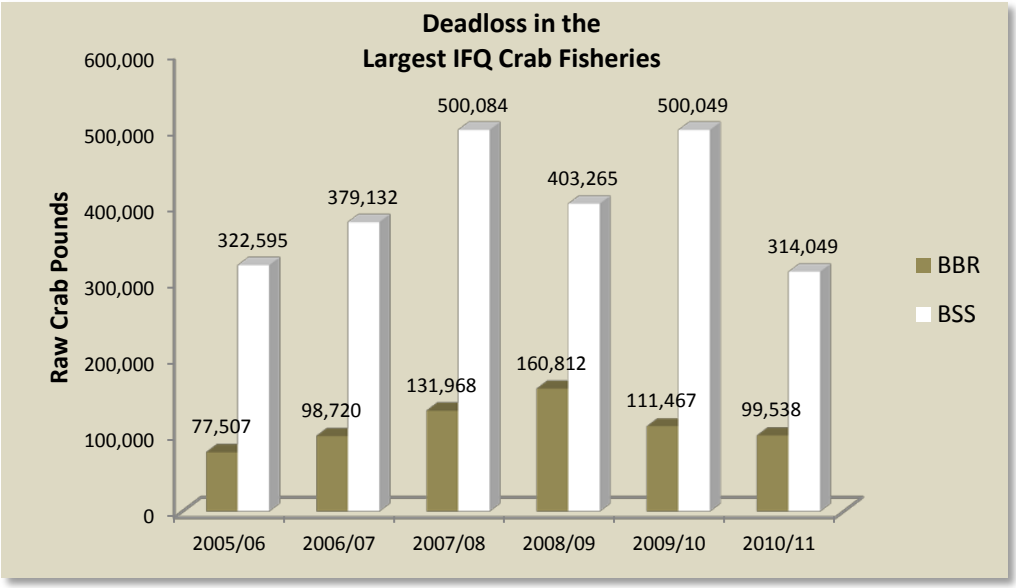


Figure 5.6 Program Deadloss over Time

Tables 5.8 and 5.9 display the class of IFQ permit on which deadloss was reported. Table 5.8 displays deadloss data for the CR fisheries. The tables show that the little deadloss reported was primarily reported on Class A IFQ permits. Compared with last year's deadloss reported percentages, IFQ Class A reported deadloss decreased 0.22 percent, reported deadloss in Class B decreased 1.71 percent, and in "Unclassed" IFQ (U) increased 0.13 percent.

Table 5.8 Deadloss reported for all fisheries[a] by IFQ permit class, 2010/11

IFQ Class[a]	Landing count	Percent landed[b] as deadloss	Deadloss pounds	Total landed pounds[c] (excluding overages)	Percent of total deadloss reported on IFQ class permits[a,b,c]
A	574	0.84	454,283	54,361,168	86.42
B	215	0.29	17,505	6,011,823	3.33
U	191	0.66	53,856	8,217,910	10.25

[a] Only CVO sector IFQ is divided into Class A and B IFQ. IFQ class "U" = IFQ in CVC, CPC, and CPO sectors. Class "A" CVO IFQ must be delivered to RCRs with IPQ; class "B" CVO IFQ crab (like "U" IFQ) may be delivered to any RCR.
[b] Percentages may vary slightly from published data due to rounding.
[c] Landed pounds are in raw crab pounds, excluding overages, unless noted.

Deadloss

Table 5.9 Deadloss by fishery[a] and IFQ permit class, 2010/11

Fishery	IFQ Class[a]	Landing count	Percent of fishery class landed[b] as deadloss	Deadloss pounds[c]	Total landed pounds[d] (excluding overages)	Percent of total deadloss in each fishery's IFQ [b]
BBR	A[a]	189	0.84	93,558	11,125,629	93.99
	B[a]	76	0.21	2,567	1,236,755	2.58
	U[a]	59	0.35	3,413	987,252	3.43
BSS	A[a]	288	0.71	275,710	38,694,724	87.64
	B[a]	103	0.22	9,557	4,302,367	3.04
	U[a]	95	0.51	29,244	5,766,157	9.31
SMB*	***All Classes***	63	*	*	*	*
W/EAG*	***All Classes***	67	*	*	*	*

* EAG, WAG, (combined in this table), and SMB, fishery deadloss data are confidential (*) by class; therefore, data for each fishery are combined as "All Classes" and percentages of fishery class landed as deadloss are not shown.

[a] Only CVO sector IFQ is divided into Class A and B IFQ. IFQ class "U" = IFQ in CVC, CPC, and CPO sectors. Class "A" CVO IFQ must be delivered to RCRs with IPQ; class "B" CVO IFQ crab (like "U" IFQ) may be delivered to any RCR.
[b] Percentages may vary slightly from published data due to rounding.
[c] Deadloss pounds are in raw crab pounds. Some bycatch deadloss occurred in closed fisheries not shown.
[d] Landed pounds are in raw crab pounds, excluding overages, unless noted.

"Red Bag" Bycatch

Ports

Table 5.10 shows ports ranked by landings and pounds delivered in 2010/11 for all crab IFQ fisheries (except Adak, which had no processor facility) and presents port rank by Program year. No changes in port rank occurred this crab-fishing year. Table 5.11 shows port rank for all Program years. Figure 5.6 illustrates port landings volume for crab quota fisheries. Due to confidentiality, some data cannot be published by port.

Table 5.10 Port rank by IFQ pounds landed for all Program species[a], 2010/11

Rank	Port	Number Landings[b]	Number IFQ permit-holders	Number RCR permit-holders	Distinct number of vessels	Pounds Landed[c]	Percent of total pounds landed[d]
1	Dutch/Unalaska	288	4	9	47	23,743,361	35
2	St Paul	211	6	7	53	17,688,311	26
3	At Sea[e]	140	5	5	32	12,693,284	18
4	Akutan	104	*	*	26	*	*
5	King Cove	69	*	*	19	*	*
6	Kodiak	20	*	*	9	*	*
	Adak						

[a] Ports are ranked by pounds landed; however, because of confidentiality (*), some data are not shown.
[b] Landing = offload.
[c] Landed pounds are in raw crab pounds, excluding overages. Starting in 2009/10, overages were violations if remaining on June 30.
[d] Percentages may vary slightly from published data due to rounding.
[e] "At Sea" means "landings" on catcher/processors and stationary floating processors.

During Program years Dutch/Unalaska has consistently been Alaska's top port. However, St Paul has gone through significant changes in port rank, fluctuating between second, third, and sixth ranked port, largely because processors did not use shore facilities in St Paul during the second year of the Program. "At Sea" ("landings" on catcher/processors and stationary floating processors) has also changed significantly between second, third, and fifth port. Akutan and King Cove switched port rank, both regaining the same port rank as in the first Program year. Except for year two of the Program, Kodiak has held the same rank (sixth). During 2010/11, like last crab-fishing year, no processor facility was available in Adak.

Table 5.11 Port rank over time, 2005/06–2010/11

Port	Rank in Program year six 2010/11	Rank in Program year five 2009/10	Rank in Program year four 2008/09	Rank in Program year three 2007/08	Rank in Program year two 2006/07	Rank in Program year one 2005/06
Dutch/Unalaska	1	1	1	1	1	1
St Paul	2	2	2	2	6	3
At Sea	3	3	3	5	2	2
Akutan	4	4	5	3	3	4
King Cove	5	5	4	4	4	5
Kodiak	6	6	6	6	5	6
Adak[1]			7	7	7	7

[1] No processors were available in Adak during the 2009/10 and 2010/11 crab-fishing years.

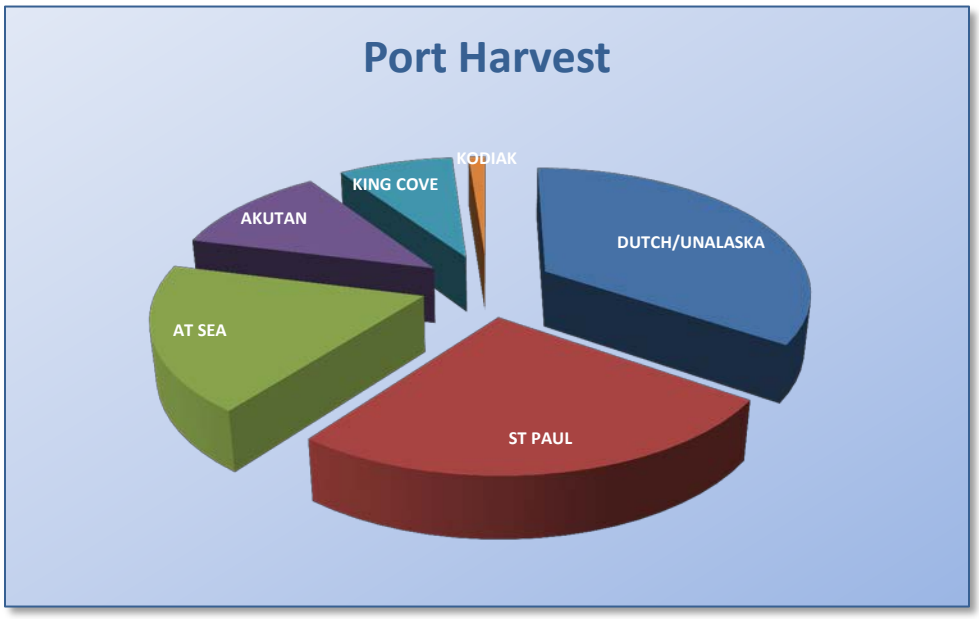


Figure 5.7 Comparative Port Harvests by Total IFQ Harvest Pounds, 2010/11

Figure 5.7 illustrates landings volume among six of the seven major crab ports, which include "At Sea" landings on catcher/processors and stationary floating processors. Because of confidentiality, harvest values are not displayed. No processors were available in Adak during the 2009/10 and 2010/11 fishing years.

Table 5.12 shows IFQ landings in pounds and percent by port and IFQ class, but due to confidentiality requirements, several ports are not included in the table.

Table 5.12 IFQ landings in pounds[a] and percent by port* and IFQ class, 2010/11

Port*	Class A[b]	Percent of each port's IFQ landings as Class A	Class B[b]	Percent of each port's IFQ landings as Class B	Class U[b]	Percent of each port's IFQ landings as Class U	Class B/U	Percent of each port's IFQ landings as Class B/U
St Paul	15,341,316	86.73	1,511,527	8.55	835,468	4.72	2,346,995	13.27
Dutch/Unalaska	19,035,785	80.17	3,105,629	13.08	1,601,947	6.75	4,707,576	19.83
At Sea	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

[*] IFQ landings data for Akutan, King Cove, and Kodiak are confidential (*) and excluded from the table. No processing facility was available in Adak.
[a] Pounds are in raw crab pounds, excluding overages.
[b] Only CVO sector IFQ is divided into Class A and B IFQ. IFQ class "U" = IFQ in CVC, CPC, and CPO sectors. Class "A" CVO IFQ must be delivered to RCRs with IPQ; Class "B" CVO IFQ crab (like "U" IFQ) may be delivered to any RCR.

Cooperatives

The Fishermen's Collective Marketing Act of 1934 allows fishermen to jointly harvest, market, and price their product without being in violation of antitrust laws. Using cooperatives allows harvesting with fewer vessels and cost and revenue sharing.

A minimum of four or more distinct QS holders (not affiliated with the other members in that cooperative) are required to form a crab-harvesting cooperative. Crab-harvesting cooperatives do not hold QS; they hold and use only the IFQ assigned to the cooperative by members. To receive a cooperative IFQ permit, crab-harvesting cooperatives must annually apply by August 1 to NOAA Fisheries.

Cooperatives must use Hired Masters to harvest cooperative IFQ, and vessels used must be owned in specific part by a cooperative member who is a U.S. citizen or business entity. Vessels used exclusively to harvest crab cooperative IFQ are exempt from vessel use caps. Crab harvesting cooperatives are free to associate with one or more processors to the extent allowed by antitrust law.

Most crab TAC has been assigned to cooperatives. The 9 cooperatives that formed for the 2010/11 crab-fishing year accounted for more than 99 percent of the TAC. The following tables display the percent IFQ assigned to cooperatives compared to that held outside cooperatives over time. Due to confidentiality (*) requirements, Tables 5.13 and 5.14 contrast cooperative and noncooperative IFQ allocations and landing performance for all fisheries combined. Even so, so few persons held IFQ outside cooperatives that cooperative/noncooperative harvesting performance cannot be shown. Cooperatives harvested a greater percentage of their collective pounds than did persons holding IFQ outside cooperatives. "IFQ type" refers to crew and owner sectors.

Table 5.13 IFQ pounds assigned to cooperatives and landing performance over time

Fishery	Cooperative members	Number of co-ops	IFQ pounds available by fishery/ IFQ type	IFQ pounds assigned to co-ops	IFQ percent of pounds assigned to co-ops	Cooperative pounds landed (excluding overages)	Percent co-op pounds landed 2010/11	Percent co-op pounds landed 2009/10	Percent co-op pounds landed 2008/09	Percent co-op pounds landed 2007/08	Percent co-op pounds landed 2006/07	Percent co-op pounds landed 2005/06
All fisheries	***437***	***9***	***69,024,604***	***68,992,553***	***100.00***	*	*	***98.8***	***96.8***	***96.3***	***98.2***	***98.9***

Table 5.14 IFQ pounds held by persons outside cooperatives and landing performance over time

Fishery	Number of persons holding IFQ outside cooperatives	IFQ pounds available by fishery/ IFQ type	IFQ pounds held outside cooperatives	Percent IFQ pounds held outside cooperatives	Noncoop pounds landed (excluding Overages)	Percent nonco-op pounds landed 2010/11	Percent nonco-op pounds landed 2009/10	Percent nonco-op pounds landed 2008/09	Percent nonco-op pounds landed 2007/08	Percent nonco-op pounds landed 2006/07	Percent Nonco-op pounds landed 2005/06
All fisheries	***6***	***69,024,604***	***32,051***	***0.05***	*	*	***91.1***	***84.8***	***90.0***	***90.1***	***96.2***

Hired Master Summary

Cooperatives and nonindividual IFQ permitholders must hire a master to fish their IFQ. Individual persons may hire a master for owner permits but must fish crew permits themselves. Both Hired Masters and IFQ permitholders use a vessel on a given trip, and both may participate in the same landing. Hiring a master requires that the IFQ permitholder maintains at least a 10 percent interest in the vessel to be fished by the Hired Master; in the case of a cooperative, that requirement may be satisfied by any member. Hired Masters are licensed by year and authorized to fish by IFQ permit, not fishery. During the 2010/11 fishing year, 9 hirers hired 131 Hired Masters. Figure 5.8 shows the number of hirers and Hired Skippers during Program fishing years. The number of hirers may not represent all IFQ holders. Tables 5.15 and 5.16, respectively, show Skipper harvest by Program year and in the larger (BBR and BSS) fisheries.

Table 5.15 Hired Master harvests (pounds landed, percent IFQ pounds, and percent TAC) by Program year, 2005/06–2010/11

Fishing year	Number of hirers	Number of RCR holders	Number of Skippers hired	Total Skipper pounds Landed	Total IFQ pounds Landed	Percent Skipper landings of total IFQ	Total IFQ TAC (all fisheries)	Percent Skipper pounds of TAC
2005	45	17	127	54,259,935	55,483,102	97.80	56,549,700	95.95
2006	23	22	108	52,763,714	53,182,653	99.21	54,685,800	96.49
2007	23	20	113	81,795,402	81,905,165	99.87	85,254,200	95.94
2008	20	22	112	77,340,612	77,730,519	99.50	80,279,100	96.34
2009	10	18	100	64,470,420	64,528,248	99.91	65,275,200	98.77
2010	9	20	96	68,579,052	68,602,330	99.97	69,034,500	99.34

Table 5.16 Hired Master harvests in the largest fisheries, 2005/06–2010/11

Fishing year	Fishery	Number of hirers	Number of RCR holders	Number of Skippers hired	Total Skipper pounds landed	Total IFQ pounds landed	Percent Skipper landings of total IFQ	Fishery IFQ TAC	Percent Skipper landings total TAC
2005	BBR	42	13	92	15,786,659	16,483,312	95.77	16,496,100	95.70
2006	BBR	19	13	82	13,647,053	13,887,531	98.27	13,974,300	97.66
2007	BBR	20	17	75	18,300,175	18,327,901	99.85	18,334,700	99.81
2008	BBR	19	16	82	18,270,343	18,293,840	99.87	18,327,600	99.69
2009	BBR	9	14	74	14,334,075	14,350,517	99.89	14,408,100	99.49
2010	BBR	8	14	68	13,344,126	13,349,929	99.96	13,355,100	99.92
2005	BSS	40	13	87	32,813,175	33,256,303	98.67	33,465,600	98.05
2006	BSS	17	16	78	32,528,287	32,699,911	99.48	32,909,400	98.84
2007	BSS	19	17	93	56,649,683	56,731,720	99.86	56,730,600	99.86
2008	BSS	18	15	88	52,326,889	52,693,001	99.31	52,695,000	99.30
2009	BSS	9	11	77	43,171,390	43,212,592	99.90	43,215,300	99.90
2010	BSS	8	14	74	48,756,062	48,773,537	99.96	48,852,900	99.80

6 Community Protection Measures

Community Protection Program

The Program includes several measures to protect revenues and employment in fishery-dependent coastal communities with a history of participation in these fisheries. These measures take the form of geographic landing use and transfer restrictions on IFQ, PQS, and IPQ in five of the nine Program fisheries.

The nine Eligible Crab Communities (ECCs) include Adak, Akutan, Unalaska/Dutch Harbor, False Pass, King Cove, Kodiak, Port Moller, Saint George, and Saint Paul. Of these, all but Adak have the "Right of First Refusal" on proposed sales of PQS. The "Cooling-off" provision ended prior to the 2007/08 year. This provision was a temporary prohibition against use of IPQ outside the community or borough boundary from which the PQS was derived. Regions assigned to QS/IFQ and PQS/IPQ for most fisheries protect the Pribilof Islands in the BSAI and Kodiak Island in the GOA. The QS Community purchase measure allows small communities to purchase QS for use by community residents.

Six-year Historic Overview

During the first two years of the Program, NOAA Fisheries approved three instances of the "Unavoidable Circumstance" exemption to the "Cooling Off" requirements for two processors. Two were due to significant logistic and safety concerns caused by storm damage to the St. George harbor and one was due to severe icing conditions at St. Paul. The "Unavoidable Circumstance" provision does not exempt IPQ use from regional landing use requirements. During the 2007/08 fishing year, RAM approved no exemptions. Two-year "Cooling Off" provisions terminated at the end of the second crab fishing year. During the 2008/09 fishing year, one vessel was cited for delivering out of region. Ice prevented the boat from delivering to St Paul, and the vessel was given a written warning. During the 2009/10 and 2010/11 fishing years, the Office of Law Enforcement (NMFS) issued no warnings or violations. Table 6.1 shows the percentages of processing "power" vested in the ECCs versus PQS/IPQ without the ROFR ("None") in 2010/11. Figure 6.2 illustrates these percentages.

Table 6.1 Distribution of PQS/IPQ with and without ROFR Privileges[a]

Protection Measure and Community	Fishery								
ROFR/Former ROFR	BBR	BSS	EAG	EBT	PIK	SMB	WAG	WAI	WBT
Akutan	19.7	9.7	1.0	0.0	1.2	2.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
False Pass	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
King Cove	7.4	6.3	0.0	0.0	3.8	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Kodiak	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	2.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Port Moller	3.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
St George	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
St Paul	2.5	30.9	0.0	0.0	64.8	13.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Unalaska	50.7	35.0	91.2	0.0	24.6	17.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Former ROFR-King Cove	5.3	0.0							
Former ROFR-Kodiak	3.5	0.1				0.04			
Former ROFR-St George	0.0	9.7			2.5				
Former ROFR-St Paul	0.0	5.4							
Former ROFR-Unalaska	0.0	0.0	6.9						
None	3.5	2.8	0.9	100.0	0.3	64.6	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total [a]	***100.0***	***100.0***	***100.0***	***100.0***	***100.1***	***100.0***	***100.0***	***100.0***	***100.0***

[a] Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

PQS Assignments in the IFQ Fisheries

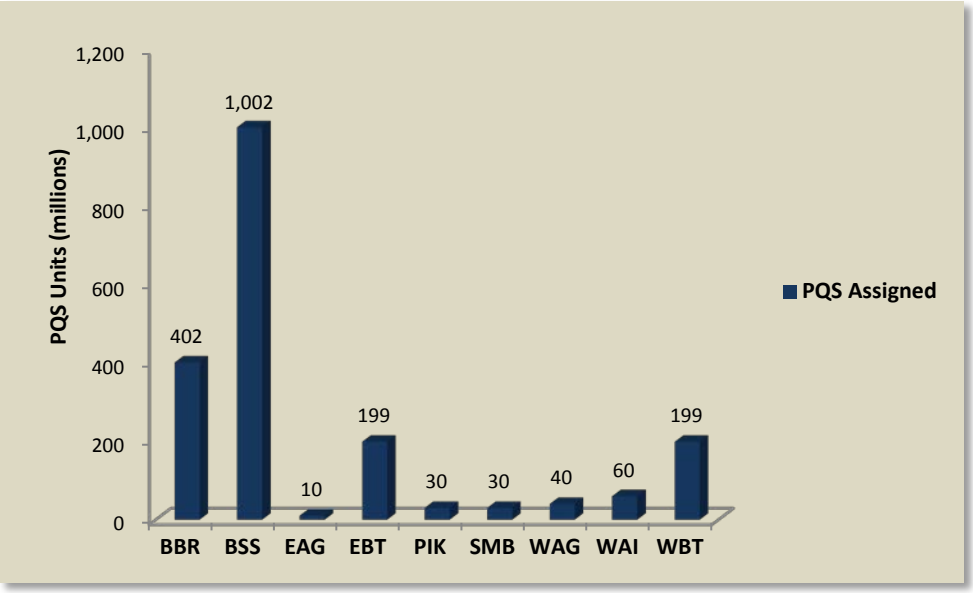


Figure 6.1 Total PQS Assignments by Units and IFQ Fishery, 2010/11

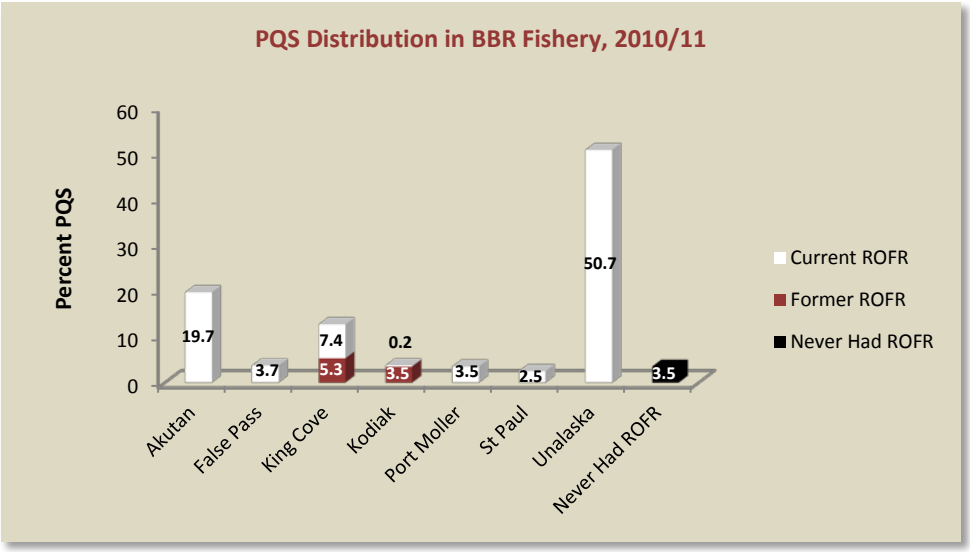


Figure 6.2 Distributions of PQS Assignments (Percent) with and without ROFR in the BBR Fisheries, 2005/06–2010/11

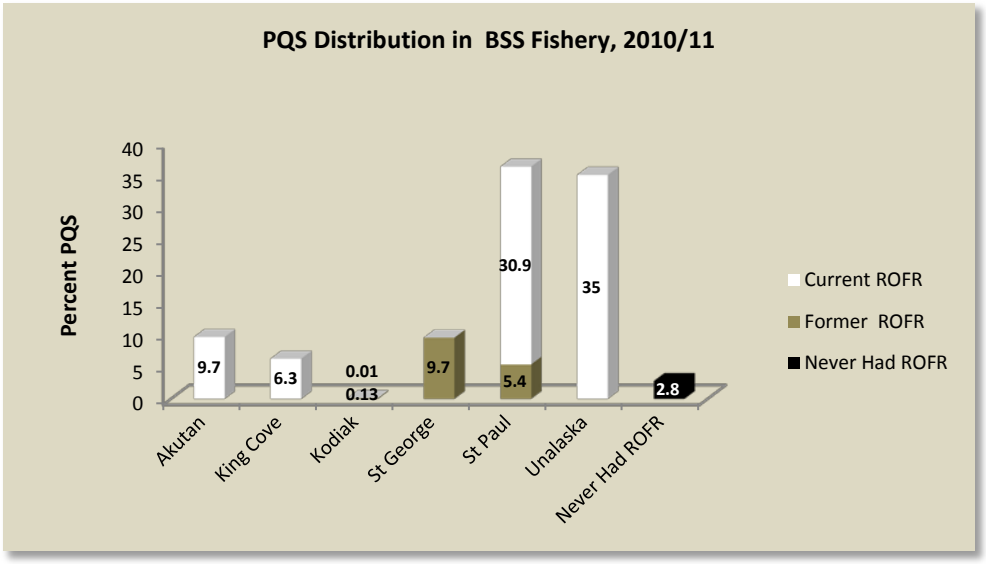


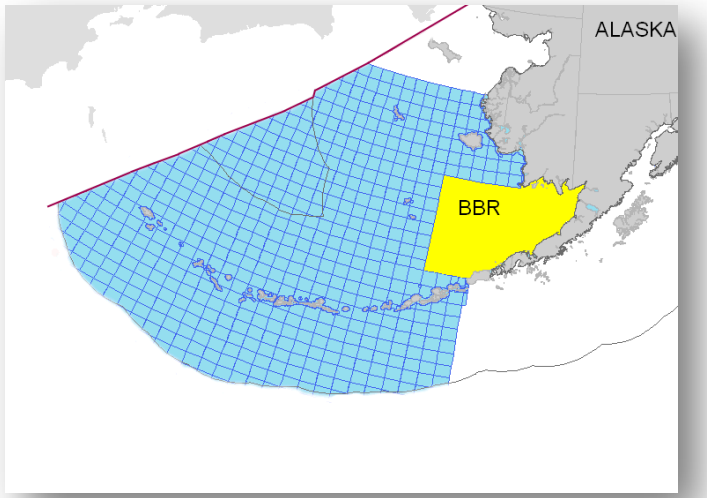
Figure 6.3 Distributions of PQS Assignments (Percent) with and without ROFR in the BSS Fisheries, 2005/06–2009/10

7 Fishery Summaries

Bristol Bay Red King Crab (BBR), 2010/11

The Bristol Bay red king crab fishery area is defined by a northern boundary of 58° 30′ N., along the east side of continental Alaska, a southern boundary of 54° 36′ N., and a western boundary of 168° W., and including all waters of Bristol Bay.

The IFQ fishery was open with a TAC of 13,355,100 pounds. The fishery opened Oct 15, 2010 and closed Jan 15, 2011.



Fishery Facts

Number of pots (average): 212 per vessel
Number of pots pulled (average): 2,025 per vessel
Harvest: 13,349,636 raw crab lbs (excluding overages)
Number of vessels used: 65
Port Count: 6 (including "At Sea")
Landing count: 223
Percentage of TAC landed: 100 percent
Active RCR holders: 14
Active IFQ permitholders: 10
Active IPQ holders: 10
Distinct individuals making landings (IFQ holder or Master)**:** 68

(Source: ADF&G and NOAA Fisheries)

Table 7.1 displays the ports in which BBR crab were landed in 2010/11 and includes comparisons of pounds landed, port rank, vessel landings, and percent harvest during Program years.

Table 7.1 Ports used for BBR IFQ crab landings[a] over time

	Pounds landed[b]						Port rank						Vessel landings[a]					
Port	Yr 6	Yr 5	Yr 4	Yr 3	Yr 2	Yr 1	Yr 6	Yr 5	Yr 4	Yr 3	Yr 2	Yr 1	Yr 6	Yr 5	Yr 4	Yr 3	Yr 2	Yr 1
DUTCH/ UNALASKA	5,898,681	6,500,414	10,428,327	10,566,930	7,028,859	8,459,532	1	1	1	1	1	1	83	92	140	149	81	120
AKUTAN*	*	*	*	*	*	*	2	2	2	2	2	3	44	35	40	38	33	43
KING COVE*	*	*	*	*	2,470,991	*	3	3	3	3	3	2	41	33	38	25	37	50
AT SEA[d,*]	1,702,889	1,835,370	*	*	660,617	914,933	4	4	5	6	5	4	34	33	11	9	12	19
KODIAK	*	*	789,291	921,243	809,640	774,045	5	5	4	4	4	5	15	11	16	15	13	12
ST PAUL*	*	*	*	*	*	*	6	6	6	5	6	6	6	8	7	10	7	10
Total	***13,349,636***	***14,337,728***	***18,288,881***	***18,324,046***	***13,877,870***	***16,472,400***							***223***	***212***	***252***	***246***	***183***	***255***

Table 7.1 Continued

	Percent total harvest by port[b,c]					
Port	Yr 6	Yr 5	Yr 4	Yr 3	Yr 2	Yr 1
DUTCH/ UNALASKA	44.19	45.34	57.0	57.7	50.7	51.4
AKUTAN*	*	*	*	*	*	*
KING COVE*	*	*	*	*	17.8	*
AT SEA[d,*]	12.76	12.80	*	*	4.8	5.6
KODIAK	*	*	4.3	5.0	5.8	4.7
ST PAUL*	*	*	*	*	*	*

* Data are confidential.

[a] A vessel landing is an offload. For 2005/06, year one, totals include one BBR landing in Sitka (confidential), the seventh-ranked port that year.
[b] Percent harvest is the total landed pounds, excluding overages, unless noted.
[c] Harvest is raw crab pounds.
[d] "At-sea" means "landings" on catcher /processors and stationary floating processors.

When the fishing year ended, 68 BBR IFQ holders or their Hired Masters had reported 223 vessel landings (offloads) of BBR crab for a total harvest of virtually 100 percent (99.96) of the available TAC. Table 7.2 displays the allocations and harvests starting five years prior to the Program and in the first six Program years.

Table 7.2 BBR crab fishery allocation and harvest, 2000–2010/11

Fishery year	TAC/GHL[a]	Harvest[b]	Percent TAC or GHL landed[a,c]
2000	7.7	7.6	98.7
2001	6.6	7.8	118.2
2002	8.6	8.9	103.5
2003	14.5	14.8	102.1
2004	14.3	14.3	100.0
2005/06	16.5	16.5	100.0
2006/07	13.9	13.9	99.3
2007/08	18.3	18.3	100.0
2008/09	18.3	18.3	99.8
2009/10	14.4	14.3	99.6
2010/11	13.3	13.3	99.9

(Source: ADF&G and NOAA Fisheries)

[a] GHL = guideline harvest level (ADF&G set GHLs for crab fisheries before Program implementation); the Program uses TAC (total allowable catch).
[b] IFQ landings are in millions of raw crab pounds, excluding overages.
[c] Percentages may vary slightly from other published data due to rounding.

Cooperatives

In the 2010/11 BBR fishery, 13.3 million of 13.3 million fishable pounds (100 percent) of total available IFQ were assigned to 9 cooperatives, a decrease in cooperatives (from 11 to 9) over the previous Program year with an increase in percent of pounds assigned to cooperatives. Table 7.3 displays pounds and percent of BBR IFQ assigned to cooperatives, including percentages for past Program years.

Table 7.3 Pounds and percent of BBR IFQ assigned to cooperatives

Sector	Pounds available (year six)	Pounds assigned to cooperatives (year six)	Percent assigned to cooperatives					
			Year six	Year five	Year four	Year three	Year two	Year one
CVC	384,901	379,098	98.5	96.1	94.8	94.2	89.4	71.3
CPC	14,019	14,019	100.00	100.0	100.0	100.0	85.4	61.5
CVO	12,367,846	12,367,846	100.00	100.0	99.8	98.8	98.4	84.5
CPO	588,338	588,338	100.00	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	68.0

Crewmembers

Crewmember QS (CVC, CPC) amounts change as a result of sales to different persons and/or because of QS holder demographic shifts. Table 7.4 shows changes in the percentages of BBR crew QS during Program years. Washington, Alaska, and Oregon QS holders, respectively, hold the highest percentages of Crew QS in the fishery. Percentages may differ from other data due to rounding.

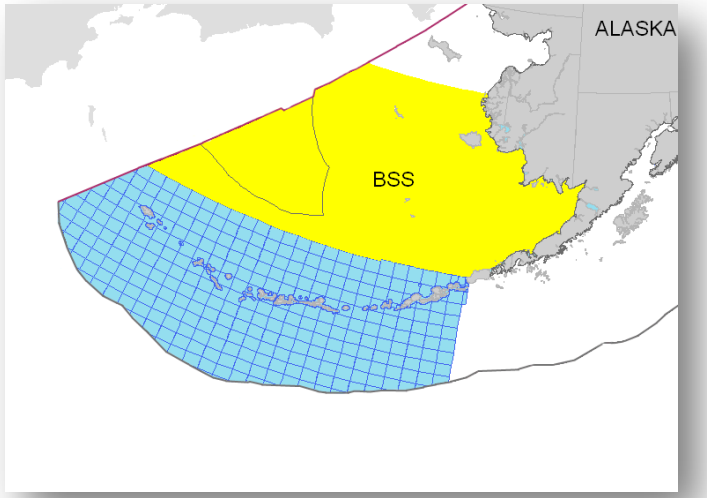
Table 7.4 Percent of Total IFQ Crew QS held (CVC, CPC) in BBR fishery by holder residence (state)

BBR Fishery	Initial Issuance	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
AK	20.13	20.55	21.85	21.53	21.85	22.48	21.88
AZ	1.72				0.95		1.22
CA	0.39	0.39	0.39	0.39	0.39	0.39	0.39
CO	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40
FL	0.54	0.54	0.54		0.54	0.54	0.54
HI	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.23
ID	1.06	1.06	1.06	1.06	1.06	1.06	1.06
ME	0.76	0.76	0.76	0.76	0.76	0.76	0.76
MN	0.37	0.37	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
MS	0.86		0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86
MT	0.39		0.15	0.15	0.15	0.59	0.59
NM	0.50						
NV	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48
OH	0.92	0.92					
OR	7.56	7.90	9.57	10.32	10.01	9.00	8.21
TX			0.56	0.56	0.56		
WA	62.67	64.65	60.16	60.24	58.77	60.22	60.39
Residence Unknown		0.75					
Total BBR IFQ Crew QS (%)	***99.98***	***100.00***	***100.01***	***99.98***	***100.01***	***100.01***	***100.01***

Bering Sea Snow Crab (BSS), 2010/11

The Bering Sea snow crab fishery is open in all waters of the Bering Sea District west of 166° W., including all waters of Bristol Bay. The BSS area was defined by a northern and western boundary of the Maritime Boundary Agreement Line (U.S. and USSR 1991) southern boundary 54° 30′ N., to 171°W., south to 54° 36′ N.

The IFQ fishery was open with a TAC of 48,852,900 pounds. The fishery opened Oct 15, 2010 and closed May 15, 2011 for the East Subdistrict and May 31, 2011 for the West Subdistrict.



Fishery Facts

Number of pots (average): 171 per vessel
Number of pots pulled (average): 1,969 per vessel
Harvest: 48,763,248 raw crab lbs (excluding overages)
Number of vessels used: 69
Port Count: 6 (including "At Sea")
Landings count: 466
Percentage of TAC landed: 100 percent
Active RCR holders: 14
Active IFQ permitholders: 10
Active IPQ holders: 10
Distinct individuals making landings (IFQ holder or Master)**:** 74

(Source: ADF&G and NOAA Fisheries)

Table 7.5 displays the ports in which BSS crab were landed in 2010/11 and includes comparisons of port rank, vessel landings, and percent harvest during Program years.

Table 7.5 Ports used for BSS IFQ crab landings[a] over time

	Pounds landed[b]						Port rank						Vessel landings[a]					
	Yr 6	Yr 5	Yr 4	Yr 3	Yr 2	Yr 1	Yr 6	Yr 5	Yr 4	Yr 3	Yr 2	Yr 1	Yr 6	Yr 5	Yr 4	Yr 3	Yr 2	Yr 1
ST PAUL	16,388,453	13,385,753	19,610,519	21,418,687	*	7,774,571	1	2	1	1	6	3	153	103	176	179	3	77
DUTCH/ UNALASKA	13,620,494	14,146,590	17,252,078	20,164,028	12,315,298	12,451,729	2	1	2	2	2	1	135	103	132	161	107	101
AT-SEA[d]	9,809,631	9,304,456	9,741,300	4,479,319	14,971,764	7,893,342	3	3	3	4	1	2	87	75	72	34	121	76
AKUTAN*	*	*	*	*	*	*	4	5	5	3	3	4	58	16	18	47	21	28
KING COVE*	*	*	*	*	*	*	5	4	4	5	4	5	28	22	26	29	16	17
KODIAK	*	*	*	476,280	*	*	6	6	6	6	5	6	5	2	4	9	4	2
Total	***48,763,248***	***43,212,592***	***52,687,374***	***56,722,400***	***32,659,148***	***33,248,009***							***466***	***321***	***428***	***459***	***272***	***301***

Table 7.5 Continued

	Percent total harvest by port[b,c]					
	Yr 6	Yr 5	Yr 4	Yr 3	Yr 2	Yr 1
ST PAUL	33.6	31.0	37.2	37.8	*	23.4
DUTCH/ UNALASKA	27.9	32.7	32.7	35.6	37.7	37.4
AT-SEA[d]	20.1	21.5	18.5	7.9	45.8	23.7
AKUTAN*	*	*	*	*	*	*
KING COVE*	*	*	*	*	*	*
KODIAK	*	*	*	0.8	*	*

*Data are confidential.

[a] A vessel landing is an offload.
[b] Percent harvest is the total landed pounds, excluding overages unless noted.
[c] Harvest is raw crab pounds.
[d] "At-sea" means "landings" on catcher/processors and stationary floating processors.

When the fishing year ended, 74 BSS IFQ holders or their Hired Masters had reported 466 vessel landings (offloads) of BSS crab for a total harvest of virtually 100 percent (99.82) of the available TAC. Table 7.6 displays the allocations and harvests starting six years prior to the Program and in the first six Program years.

Table 7.6 BSS crab fishery allocations and harvest, 2000–2010/11

Fishery year	TAC/GHL[a]	Harvest[b]	Percent TAC or GHL landed[a,c]
2000	26.4	30.8	116.7
2001	25.3	23.4	92.5
2002	28.5	30.2	106.0
2003	23.7	26.3	111.0
2004	19.3	22.1	114.5
2005[d]	19.4	23.0	118.5
2005/06	33.5	33.2	99.3
2006/07	32.9	32.7	99.2
2007/08	56.7	56.7	99.9
2008/09	52.7	52.7	99.9
2009/10	43.2	43.2	99.9
2010/11	48.8	48.8	100.0

(Source: ADF&G and NOAA Fisheries)

[a] GHL = guideline harvest level (ADF&G); the Program uses TAC (total allowable catch).
[b] IFQ landings are in millions of raw crab pounds, excluding overages.
[c] Percents may not total 100% due to rounding.
[d] The 2005 BSS crab year was concluded before the Program was implemented; data include pre-program harvest under the Program during 2005/06.
[e] Percentages may vary slightly from other published data due to rounding.

Cooperatives

In the 2010/11 BSS fishery, 48.8 million of 48.8 million pounds (100 percent) of total available IFQ were assigned to 9 cooperatives. This represents a large increase (5.6-million lbs) over the previous Program year with only a slight percentage increase. Table 7.7 displays pounds and percent of BSS IFQ assigned to cooperatives, including percentages for past Program years.

Table 7.7 Pounds and percent of BSS IFQ assigned to cooperatives

Sector	Pounds available (year six)	Pounds assigned to cooperatives (year six)	Percent assigned to cooperatives					
			Year six	Year five	Year four	Year three	Year two	Year one
CVC	1,379,107	1,361,632	98.7	96.6	94.9	94.9	90.2	71.1
CPC	86,047	86,047	100.00	100.0	100.0	100.0	74.3	47.2
CVO	43,086,493	43,086,493	100.00	100.0	100.0	99.5	98.7	86.0
CPO	4,301,238	4,301,238	100.00	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	63.9

Crewmembers

Crewmember QS (CVC, CPC) amounts change as a result of sales to different persons and/or because of QS holder demographic shifts. Table 7.8 shows changes in the percentages of BSS crew QS during Program years. Washington, Alaska, and Oregon QS holders, respectively, hold the highest percentages of Crew QS in the fishery. Percentages may differ from other data due to rounding.

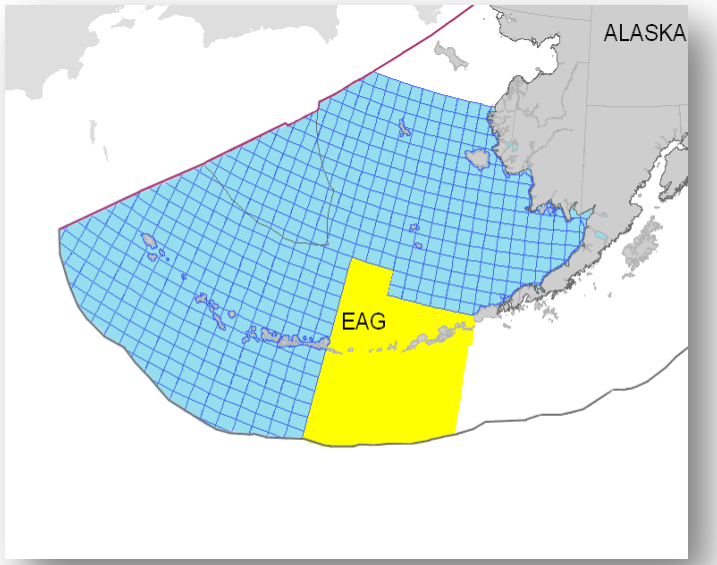
Table 7.8 Percent of Total IFQ Crew QS held (CVC, CPC) in BSS fishery by holder residence (state)

BSS Fishery	Initial Issuance	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
AK	20.73	18.75	18.66	18.66	19.34	21.14	20.22
AZ	0.71				0.71		1.28
CA	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32
CO	0.30	0.29	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30
FL	0.39	0.38	0.39		0.39	0.39	0.39
ID	2.37	3.15	3.17	2.14	2.14	2.14	1.34
ME	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44
MN	0.49	0.49	1.99	1.99	1.99	1.99	1.99
MS	1.04		1.04	1.04	1.04	1.04	1.04
MT	1.40	0.47	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.92	0.92
NV	0.42	0.41	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.42
OH	1.00	1.00					
OR	6.92	6.41	10.42	10.81	10.03	9.49	8.48
TX			0.48	0.48	0.48		
WA	63.49	67.54	61.78	62.79	61.78	61.46	62.90
Residence Unknown		0.36			0.03		
Total BSS IFQ Crew QS (%)	***100.02***	***100.01***	***100.06***	***100.04***	***100.06***	***100.05***	***100.04***

Eastern Aleutian Islands Golden King Crab (EAG), 2010/11

The fishery area is defined by an eastern boundary of 164° 44′ W., a western boundary of 174° W., and a northern boundary of 54° 36′ N. west to 171° W, then north to 55° 30′ N., then west to 174° W.

The IFQ fishery was open with a TAC of 2,835,000 pounds. The fishery opened August 15, 2010 and closed May 15, 2011.



Fishery Facts

Number of pots (average): 1,533 per vessel
Number of pots pulled (average): 7,912 per vessel
Harvest: Confidential
Number of vessels used: 3
Port Count: 2 (including “At Sea”)
Landing count: 30
Percentage of TAC landed: Confidential
Active RCR holders: 7
Active IFQ permitholders: Confidential
Active IPQ holders: 7
Distinct individuals making landings (IFQ holder or master)**:** 4

(Source: ADF&G and NOAA Fisheries)

Table 7.9 displays the Alaska ports in which EAG crab were landed in 2010/11 and includes comparisons of pounds landed, port rank, vessel landings, and percent harvest during Program years.

Table 7.9 Ports used for EAG IFQ crab landings[a] over time

Port	Pounds landed[b]						Port rank						Vessel landings[a]					
	Yr 6	Yr 5	Yr 4	Yr 3	Yr 2	Yr 1	Yr 6	Yr 5	Yr 4	Yr 3	Yr 2	Yr 1	Yr 6	Yr 5	Yr 4	Yr 3	Yr 2	Yr 1
DUTCH/UNALASKA	*	*	2,635,513	*	*	*	1	1	1	1	1	1	29	32	27	29	28	25
AT SEA[d]	*	0	0	*	*	*	2	0	0	2	3	2	1	0	0	7	3	7
AKUTAN	0	*	*	*	*	*	0	2	2	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	1	0
Total	*****	*****	*****	***2,690,377***	***2,690,662***	***2,569,209***							***30***	***32***	***29***	***36***	***32***	***32***

Table 7.9 Continued

Port	Percent total harvest by port[b,c]					
	Yr 6	Yr 5	Yr 4	Yr 3	Yr 2	Yr 1
DUTCH/UNALASKA	*	*	93.3	*	*	*
AT SEA[d]	*	0.0	0.0	*	*	*
AKUTAN	0.0	0.0	*	0.0	*	0.0
Total						

* Data are confidential.

[a] A vessel landing is an offload. For 2006/07 and 2008/09 total landings include one EAG landing at Akutan*, the second-ranked port for both fishing years.

[b] Harvest is in raw crab pounds, excluding overages.

[c] Percent harvest is the total landed pounds, excluding overages.

[d] "At-sea" means "landings" on catcher/processors and stationary floating processors.

The 2010/11 harvest data for the EAG fishery are confidential (*) and cannot be shown. Table 7.10 displays the allocations and harvests starting five years before the Program and in the first six Program years.

Table 7.10 EAG crab fishery allocations and harvest, 2000–2008/09

Fishery year	TAC/GHL[a]	Harvest[b]	Percent TAC or GHL landed[a,c]
2000	3	3.1	104.5
2001	3	3.2	105.7
2002	3	2.8	94.0
2003	3	3.0	99.0
2004	3	2.9	96.0
2005/06	2.7	2.6	95.2
2006/07	2.7	2.7	99.6
2007/08	2.7	2.7	99.6
2008/09	2.8	2.8	99.6
2009/10	2.8	*	*
2010/11	2.8	*	*

(Source: ADF&G; NOAA Fisheries)

[a] GHL = guideline harvest level (ADF&G); the Program uses TAC (total allowable catch).
[b] IFQ landings are in millions of raw crab pounds, excluding overages.
[c] Percentages may vary slightly from other published data due to rounding.

Cooperatives

In the 2010/11 EAG fishery, 100 percent of available IFQ was assigned to five cooperatives. This represents no change in IFQ percentages assigned to cooperatives. Table 7.11 displays pounds and percent of EAG IFQ assigned to cooperatives, including percentages for past Program years.

Table 7.11 Pounds and percent of EAG IFQ assigned to cooperatives

Sector	Pounds available (year six)	Pounds assigned to cooperatives (year six)	Percent assigned to cooperatives					
			Year six	Year five	Year four	Year three	Year two	Year one
CVC	84,933	84,933	100.00	100.0	96.0	96.0	95.6	86.1
CVO	2,617,062	2,617,062	100.00	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	90.9
CPO	133,003	133,003	100.00	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Crewmembers

Crewmember QS (CVC, CPC) amounts change as a result of sales to different persons and/or because of QS holder demographic shifts. Table 7.12 shows changes in the percentages of EAG crew QS during Program years. Washington, Oregon, and Minnesota QS holders, respectively, hold the highest percentages of Crew QS in the fishery. Percentages may differ from other data due to rounding.

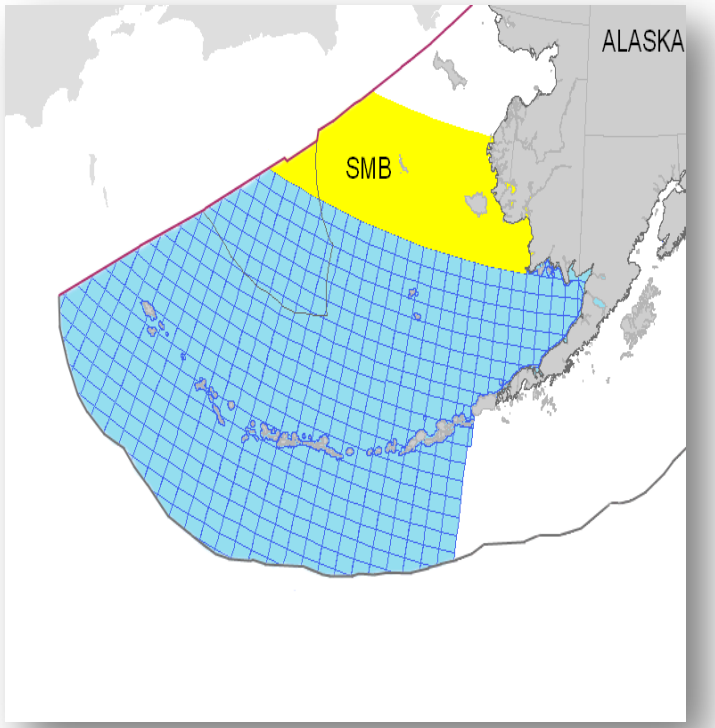
Table 7.12 Percent of Total IFQ Crew QS held (CVC, CPC) in EAG fishery by holder residence (state)

EAG Fishery	Initial Issuance	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
AK	2.32	2.32	2.32	2.32	2.32	2.32	
MN	4.02	4.02	4.02	4.02			
OR	25.37	12.79	12.79	20.00	32.58	32.58	35.21
UT				2.26			
WA	68.29	80.87	80.87	71.40	65.10	65.09	64.79
Total EAG IFQ Crew QS (%)	***100.00***	***100.00***	***100.00***	***100.00***	***100.00***	***99.99***	***100.00***

St. Matthew Island Blue King Crab (SMB), 2010/11

This fishery area is defined by a northern boundary of 61° 49' N., along the east side of continental Alaska, a southern boundary of 58° 30' N., and a western boundary of the Maritime Boundary Agreement (U.S. and USSR 1991).

The IFQ fishery opened with a TAC of 1,440,000. The fishery opened Oct 15, 2010 and closed February 1, 2011.



Fishery Facts

Number of pots (average): 147 per vessel
Number of pots pulled (average): 2,668 per vessel
Harvest: Confidential
Number of vessels used: 11
Port Count: 3
Landing count: 63
Percentage of TAC landed: Confidential
Active RCR holders: 8
Active IFQ permitholders: Confidential
Active IPQ holders: 8
Distinct individuals making landings (IFQ holder or master)**:** 11

(Source: ADF&G and NOAA Fisheries)

Table 7.13 displays the ports in which SMB crab were landed in 2010/11 and includes comparisons of pounds landed, port rank, vessel landings, and percent harvest during Program years.

Table 7.13 Ports used for SMB IFQ crab landings[a] over time

	Pounds landed[b]						Port rank						Vessel landings[a]						Percent total harvest by port[b,c]					
Port	Yr 6	Yr 5	Yr 4	Yr 3	Yr 2	Yr 1	Yr 6	Yr 5	Yr 4	Yr 3	Yr 2	Yr 1	Yr 6	Yr 5	Yr 4	Yr 3	Yr 2	Yr 1	Yr 6	Yr 5	Yr 4	Yr 3	Yr 2	Yr 1
ST PAUL	*	*	Fishery Closed				1	1	Fishery Closed				52	28	Fishery Closed				*	*	Fishery Closed			
DUTCH/ UNALASKA	*	*					2	2					9	2					*	*				
AKUTAN	*	0					3	0					2	0					*	0.0				
Total	*	*	***NA****										***63***	***30***	***NA****									

* Data are confidential.
NA* Data are not applicable; the fishery was closed during these Program years.

[a] A vessel landing is an offload.
[b] Harvest is in raw crab pounds, excluding overages.
[c] Percent harvest is the total landed pounds, excluding overages, unless noted.

The 2010/11 harvest data for the SMB fishery are confidential (*) and cannot be shown. Table 7.14 displays the allocations and harvests starting five years prior to the Program and in the first six Program years.

Table 7.14 SMB crab fishery allocations and harvest, 2000–2009/10

Fishery year and fishery	TAC[a]	Harvest[b]	Percent of TAC or GHL landed[a,c]
2000–2004	Closed[d]		
2005/06	Closed[d]		
2006/07			
2007/08			
2008/09			
2009/10	1,050,300	*	*
2010/11	1,440,000	*	*

(Source: ADF&G and NOAA Fisheries)

[a] GHL = guideline harvest level (ADF&G); the Program uses TAC (total allowable catch).
[b] IFQ landings are in millions of crab pounds, excluding overages.
[c] Percents may not total 100% due to rounding.
[d] During these years ADF&G closed the fishery due to low stock abundance.

Cooperatives

In the 2010/11 SMB fishery, 1.4 million of a total of more than 1.4 million pounds (99.4 percent of available IFQ) were assigned to 9 cooperatives. Table 7.15 displays pounds and percent of SMB IFQ assigned to cooperatives, including percentages for past Program years.

Table 7.15 Pounds and percent of SMB IFQ assigned to cooperatives

Sector	Pounds available (year five)	Pounds assigned to cooperatives (year five)	Percent assigned to cooperatives[a,b]					
			Year six	Year five	Year four	Year three	Year two	Year one[b]
CPO	27,511	27,511	100.00	100.0	Closed[b]			
CVC	38,639	35,805	92.7	89.4				
CVO	1,363,967	1,358,028	99.6	100.0				

[a] Percents may not total 100% due to rounding.
[b] During these years ADF&G closed the fishery due to low stock abundance.

Crewmembers

Crewmember QS (CVC, CPC) amounts change as a result of sales to different persons and/or because of QS holder demographic shifts. Table 7.16 shows changes in the percentages of SMB crew QS during Program years. Washington, Alaska, and Oregon QS holders, respectively, hold the highest percentages of Crew QS in the fishery. Percentages may differ from other data due to rounding.

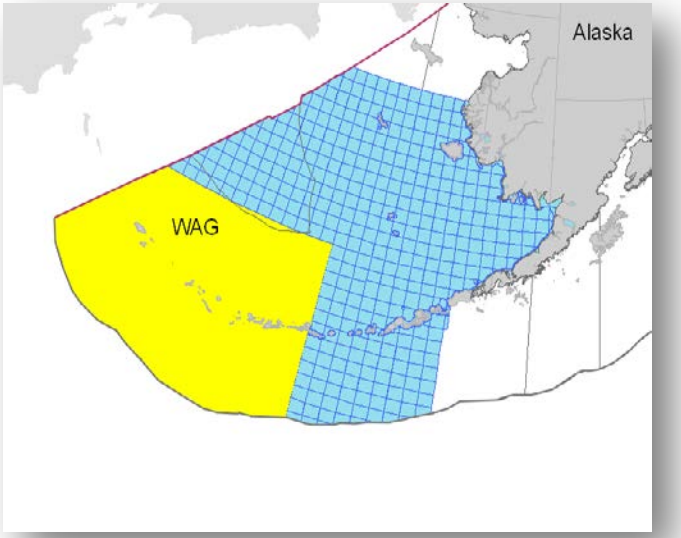
Table 7.16 Percent of Total IFQ Crew QS held (CVC, CPC) in SMB fishery by holder residence (state)

SMB Fishery	Initial Issuance	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
AK	24.75	22.71	25.74	24.04	23.91	25.34	25.34
AZ	1.63				1.65	1.63	2.98
CA	1.64	1.65	1.65	1.65	1.65	1.64	1.64
ID	1.31	1.32	1.32	1.32	1.32	1.31	1.31
MT	1.42	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.42	1.42
OR	5.84	6.77	8.23	9.11	8.42	8.34	8.34
TX	1.13					1.13	1.13
WA	62.29	64.02	61.61	62.42	61.60	59.18	57.83
Residence Unknown		2.07					
Total SMB IFQ Crew QS (%)	***100.01***	***99.98***	***99.99***	***99.98***	***99.99***	***99.99***	***99.99***

Western Aleutian Islands Golden King Crab (WAG), 2010/11

The fishery area is defined by eastern boundary of 174° W., along the east side of continental Alaska, a northern boundary of 55° 30′ N., and a western boundary of the Maritime Boundary Line (U.S. and USSR 1991).

The IFQ fishery was open with a TAC of 2,551,500 pounds. The fishery opened August 15, 2010 and closed May 15, 2011.



Fishery Facts

Number of pots (average): 1,558 per vessel
Number of pots pulled (average): 8,862 per vessel
Harvest: Confidential
Number of vessels used: 3
Port Count: 2 (including "At Sea")
Landing count: 37
Percentage of TAC landed: Confidential
Active RCR holders: 7
Active IFQ permitholders: Confidential
Active IPQ holders: 5
Distinct individuals making landings (IFQ holder or Master)**:** 5

(Source: ADF&G and NOAA Fisheries)

Table 7.17 displays the ports in which WAG crab were landed in 2010/11 and includes comparisons of pounds landed, port rank, vessel landings, and percent harvest during Program years.

Table 7.17 Ports used for WAG IFQ crab landings[a] over time

	Pounds landed[b]						Port rank						Vessel landings[a]					
Port	Yr 6	Yr 5	Yr 4	Yr 3	Yr 2	Yr 1	Yr 6	Yr 5	Yr 4	Yr 3	Yr 2	Yr 1	Yr 6	Yr 5	Yr 4	Yr 3	Yr 2	Yr 1
DUTCH/UNALASKA	*	*	*	*	*	*	1	1	2	2	2	1	19	20	13	12	8	10
AT SEA[d]	*	*	*	*	*	1,366,736	2	2	1	1	1	2	18	18	20	17	20	26
ADAK[e]	0	0[e]	*	*	*	*	0	0	3	3	3	3	0	0	4	5	3	6
Total	*	*	***2,252,111***	***2,246,040***	***2,000,276***	***2,382,468***							***37***	***38***	***37***	***34***	***31***	***42***

Table 7.17 Continued

	Percent total harvest by port[b,c]					
Port	Yr 6	Yr 5	Yr 4	Yr 3	Yr 2	Yr 1
DUTCH/UNALASKA	*	*	*	*	*	*
AT SEA[d]	*	*	*	*	*	57.4
ADAK[e]	0.0	0.0	*	*	*	*
Total						

*Data are confidential.

[a] A vessel landing is an offload.
[b] Harvest is in raw crab pounds, excluding overages.
[c] Percent harvest is the total landed pounds, excluding overages, unless noted.
[d] "At Sea" means "landings" on catcher/processors and stationary floating processors.
[e] No processors were available in Adak during the 2009/10 and 2010/11 fishing years.

The 2010/11 harvest data for the WAG fishery are confidential (*) and cannot be shown. Table 7.18 displays the allocations and harvests starting five years before the Program and in the first six Program years.

Table 7.18 WAG crab fishery allocations and harvest, 2000/01–2010/11

Fishery year	TAC/GHL[a]	Harvest[b]	Percent of TAC or GHL[a,c]
2000/01	2.7	2.8	103.7
2001/02	2.7	2.7	101.5
2002/03	2.7	2.6	97.8
2003/04	2.7	2.7	99.3
2004/05	2.7	2.7	99.3
2005/06	2.4	2.4	98.0
2006/07	2.4	2.0	82.3
2007/08	2.4	2.2	92.4
2008/09	2.5	2.2	88.3
2009/10	2.5	2.4	97.1
2010/11	2.5	*	*

(Source: ADF&G and NOAA Fisheries)

[a] GHL = guideline harvest level (ADF&G); the Program uses TAC (total allowable catch).
[b] IFQ landings are in millions of pounds, excluding overages.
[c] Percents may not total 100% due to rounding.

Cooperatives

In the 2010/11 WAG fishery, all available pounds (100.0 percent of available IFQ) were assigned to four cooperatives. Table 7.19 displays pounds and percent of WAG IFQ assigned to cooperatives, including percentages for past Program years.

Table 7.19 Pounds and percent of WAG IFQ assigned to cooperatives

Sector	Total pounds available (year six)	Pounds assigned to cooperatives (year six)	Percent assigned to cooperatives					
			Year six	Year five	Year four	Year three	Year two	Year one
CVC	44,009	44,009	100.00	100.0	91.4	90.3	90.3	100.0
CPC	32,538	32,538	100.00	100.0	98.2	98.2	98.2	100.0
CVO	1,330,915	1,330,915	100.00	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
CPO	1,144,038	1,144,038	100.00	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Crewmembers

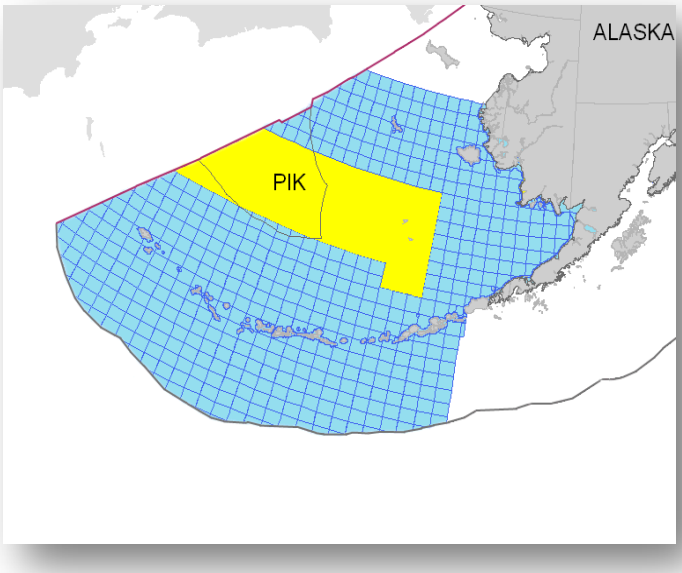
Crewmember QS (CVC, CPC) amounts change as a result of sales to different persons and/or because of QS holder demographic shifts. Table 7.20 shows changes in the percentages of SMB crew QS during Program years. Washington, Alaska, and Oregon QS holders, respectively, hold the highest percentages of Crew QS in the fishery. Percentages may differ from other data due to rounding.

Table 7.20 Percent of Total IFQ Crew QS held (CVC, CPC) in WAG fishery by holder residence (state)

WAG Fishery	Initial Issuance	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
ID	5.72	5.72	5.72	5.72			
NV	6.17	6.17					
OR	32.55	30.30	30.30	36.47	44.44	44.44	44.44
WA	55.56	57.81	63.97	57.81	55.56	55.56	55.56
Total WAG IFQ Crew QS (%)	***100.00***	***100.00***	***99.99***	***100.00***	***100.00***	***100.00***	***100.00***

Closed Fisheries in 2010/2011

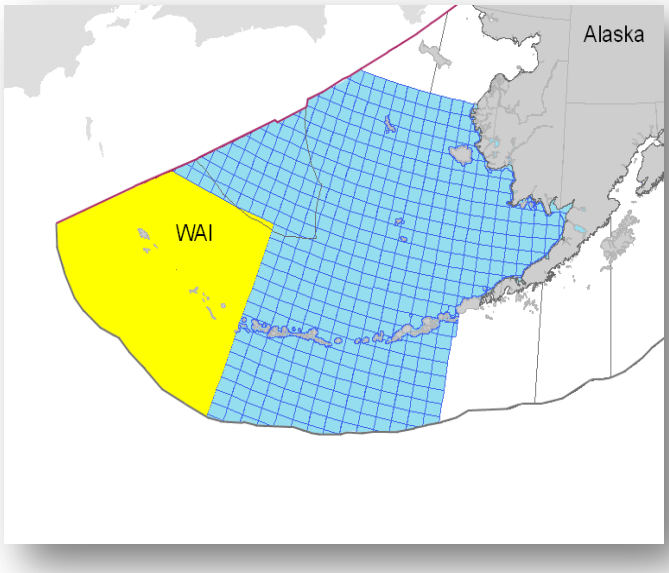
Pribilof Islands red and blue king crab (PIK)



The fishery area is defined by a northern boundary of 58° 39' N., an eastern boundary of 168° W. south to 54° 36' N., then westward to 54° 36' N., 171° W., then north to 55° 30' N., 171° W., then westward to the Maritime Boundary Agreement Line (U.S. and USSR 1991).

The PIK was closed for the year due to low stock abundance (Source: SAFE).

Western Aleutian Islands Red King Crab (WAI)

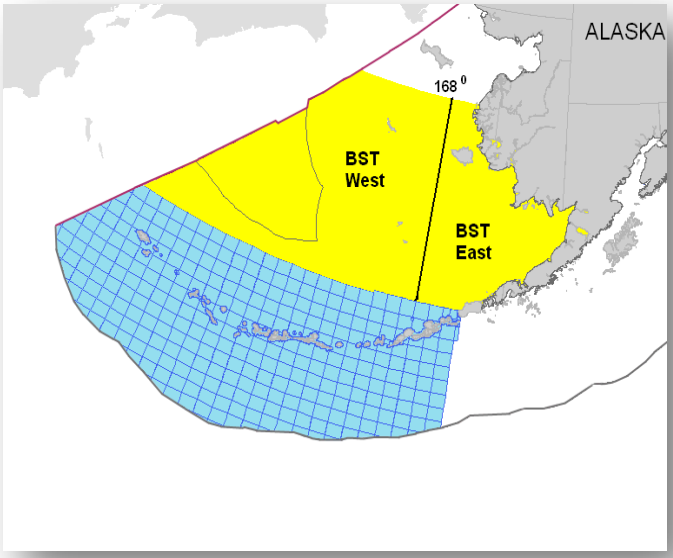


The fishery area is defined by an eastern boundary of 179° W., a western boundary of the Maritime Boundary Agreement Line (U.S. and USSR 1991), and a northern boundary of 55° 30′ N., then west to the Maritime Boundary Agreement Line.

The WAI fishery was closed for the year due to low stock abundance (Source: SAFE).

East Bering Tanner (EBT)

Beginning with the 2006/07 fishing year, the Bering Sea Tanner crab QS was divided into eastern and western Bering Sea stocks and fisheries ("bairdi split"). NOAA Fisheries reissued Tanner crab *(c. bairdi)* QS and PQS and the resulting IFQ and IPQ as two separate fisheries, one east of 166° W. longitude (EBT) and one west of 166° W. longitude (WBT). Tanner crab QS and PQS holders received one unit of East Bering Tanner QS or PQS and one unit of West Bering Tanner QS or PQS for each unit of Bering Sea Tanner QS or PQS held.



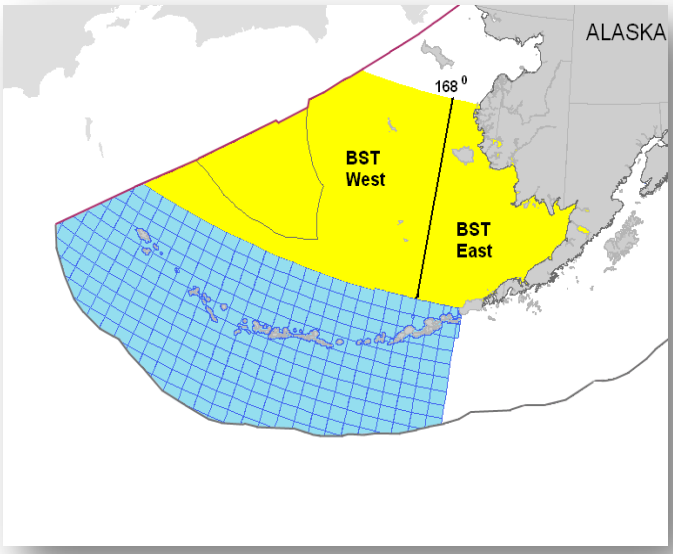
This change was necessary for the coordination of QS and PQS with State of Alaska management of the two distinct Tanner crab fisheries.

The EBT fishery was closed for the year due to low mature female crab stock in the Bering Sea District.

(Source: ADF&G)

West Bering Sea Tanner crab (WBT)

The fishing area is defined by waters of the Bering Sea north of Cape Sarichef at 54° 36' N lat. and east of the U.S.-Russia Maritime Boundary Line of 1991. The Bering Sea Tanner District is divided into the Eastern and Western subdistricts at 173° W long. The Eastern subdistrict is further divided at the Norton Sound Section north of the latitude of Cape Romanzof and east of 168° W long. and south and west of the Norton Sound Section. The Norton Sound Section extends north along 168˚ W Long., parallel to the mainland, with its southern boundary at 61˚49' N Latitude near Cape Romanzof.



The WBT fishery was closed for the year due to low mature female crab stock in the Bering Sea District.

(Source: ADF&G)

8 Safety, Compliance, and Catch Monitoring

U.S. Coast Guard Vessel Safety and Compliance Monitoring

During the 2010/11 fishing year, USCG efforts to enforce crab regulations and other federal laws included prevention and response with preseason shoreside Safety Compliance Checks (SCCs), training opportunities, and at-sea boardings. District Seventeen used cutters for patrol, sightings, and the at-sea boardings. Aircraft provided names of vessels and QS holders, position, and activity.

Search and Rescue (SAR)

Preseason inspections promoted thorough checks of safety gear, and most were completed a month before fishing began. During the 2010/11 fishing year, no fatalities occurred in the crab fisheries.

USCG

Effort

- ✓ Responded to 0 crab-related SAR cases
- ✓ Zero sinkings and zero deaths in the CR fisheries this year
- ✓ Observed zero significant violations
- ✓ Sailed 3,197 cutter hours (133 underway cutter days)
- ✓ Deployed aircraft 132 days
- ✓ Flew 298 aircraft hours
- ✓ Conducted 20 at-sea boardings (14 BBR, 4 BSS, 2 SMB/EBT)
- ✓ 63 vessel safety checks BBR (66% of preseason registered vessels); 65 BSS checks (76% of preseason registered vessels)

Fishery Effects

The USCG noted safer and more efficient crab fisheries trends, promoted by the following changes:

- ✓ Significant USCG presence
- ✓ Continued incremental fleet size reduction
- ✓ Required vessel safety compliance checks
- ✓ Required preseason Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety Program Decal (ADF&G)
- ✓ Continued vigilance against "any-weather" fishing
- ✓ Improved partner-agency coordination
- ✓ Fewer dual inspections (due to VMS requirements)
- ✓ Reduced aerial response time

▼ A Coast Guard HH-60J helicopter flies over a Bering Sea Crabber

Bristol Bay Red King Crab

An Air Station Kodiak HH-60J helicopter was deployed to Cold Bay for 55 days beginning October 2010 (before the BBR fishery opened) to provide SAR coverage of 86 aircraft flight hours. Aircraft operations were maintained until well over 90 percent of the IFQ had been landed. Coast Guard cutters patrolled the Bering Sea near the main concentration of crab vessels in Bristol Bay as both a SAR presence and law enforcement platform beginning October 2010.

Near-continuous cutter presence in the Bristol Bay area continued until early December, when fishermen had landed almost all the quota.

A high percentage of the fleet (66 percent) was boarded during shoreside SCCs. The shoreside SCCs limited need for at-sea safety boardings and allowed for targeted fisheries compliance boardings (20), which included 14 BBR boardings. No significant fisheries violations were observed or issued.

Bering Sea Snow Crab

This fishing year produced a significant USCG investment related to Bering Sea snow crab: aircraft and crew were deployed to St Paul for 154 days (2 aircraft concurrently deployed for 77 days; 212 aircraft flight hours). The USCG maintained a near-continuous cutter presence near the Pribilof Islands, the area with most of the snow crab fishing activity.

Safety Checks

Consistent with previous years, USCG prevention and response staffs coordinated extensive preseason safety efforts to ensure a well-prepared fleet. For two weeks before the opening of the BBR fishery in mid-October, the USCG coordinated with Sector Anchorage and Marine Safety Detachment Unalaska to conduct SCCs and USCG Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety Program (CFVS) examinations at Dutch Harbor, Akutan, King Cove, and Kodiak. The USCG conducted 67 preseason SCCs, including 66 percent of the preseason registered BBR fleet and 76 percent of the preseason registered BSS fleet. Safety compliance was very good; all of those who participated in the fishery had a current decal as mandated by state law. Throughout the fleet, USCG inspectors observed excellent crew compliance. Although the USCG continues to offer in-water and in-pool preseason training in the use of life rafts and immersion suits, participation among the crab vessel crews has been light. This is in part due to the fact that many of the crewmembers are steady employees and have been trained in the past.

Coast Guard presence for Bering Sea crab vessels

Interagency Cooperation

Throughout the 2010/11 rationalized crab-fishing year, the Coast Guard coordinated enforcement planning with NOAA enforcement, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Wildlife Troopers through weekly conference calls and a shared database of fishing vessels boarded at-sea or with monitored offloads.

Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)

The NOAA Fisheries VMS database was an invaluable tool for the USCG this crab-fishing year. Although the BBR fleet is relatively contained within the "RKC Savings Area," positional information allowed USCG cutters and aircraft effective preparation for SAR. VMS was even more important during the BSS fishery due to fleet use of a much greater geographic area than for BBR. The trend toward fewer vessels distributed over a larger area necessitates future VMS use for SAR planning and response. During 2010/11 the USCG issued no violations for inoperative VMS units.

NOAA Fisheries and Alaska State Trooper Compliance Monitoring

Partners

The NOAA Office for Law Enforcement (OLE) and the U.S. Coast Guard enforce the regulations that govern allocation of the Program. The State of Alaska's Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) manages the biological aspects of the Crab Rationalization Program, and many of the regulations are enforced by the State of Alaska Department of Public Safety Troopers and Public Safety Technicians. OLE has created a partnership with the Department of Public Safety through Joint Enforcement Agreements (JEAs). These JEAs provide a mechanism for state enforcement personnel to assist OLE in enforcing Program requirements and other federal fishing regulations. These three agencies coordinated activities throughout the year.

Inseason Enforcement

Once the year started, the Alaska State Troopers and Public Safety Technicians assisted OLE by conducting dockside boardings and inspections and at-sea patrols. The State conducts these duties under the authority of a Cooperative Enforcement Agreement. Funding and direction for these duties come through the JEAs.

2010/11 Crab Season

There were no significant federal violations and no IFQ or IPQ overage violations during the 2010/11 crab season. The "supercooperative" and post-delivery transfer provision (74 FR 41092, August 14, 2009) allow participants to address unanticipated overages within industry before there is a violation. Table 8.1 shows that before these provisions, IFQ overages ranged between 12 and 24 occurrences.

Table 8.1 IFQ Overage Violations in the CR fisheries, 2005/06–2010/11

	IFQ Overages Over Time					
	2005/06	2006/07[a]	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
BBR	7	9	4	7	0	0
BSS	6	8	7	5	0	0
EBT[a]	1	4	0	1	0	0
WBT[a]		0	0	0	0	0
WAG	1	2	1	1	0	0
EAG	0	1	0	1	0	0
Total	***15***	***24***	***12***	***15***	***0***	***0***

[a] Beginning with the 2006/07 fishing year, IFQ was issued for two Bering Sea (bairdi) Tanner (BST) fisheries: eastern and western Bering Sea bairdi Tanner (EBT and WBT, respectively).

NOAA Fisheries Compliance and Catch Monitoring

Catch Monitoring Objectives for the Program

To effectively manage IFQ fisheries, NOAA Fisheries must have data that provide reliable independent estimates of the total catch for all crab harvested.

Because fishery participants operate under their own IFQ allocations, incentives exist to underreport harvests. Based on experience gained under other quota-based programs, NOAA Fisheries anticipates catch accounting will be questioned by industry. For these reasons, NOAA Fisheries has implemented new monitoring and catch-weighing requirements for shoreside or floating processors taking deliveries of crab, for catcher vessels harvesting crab, and for vessels catching and processing crab.

Requirements for Crab Processing Facilities

Catch Monitoring Plans (CMPs). RCRs receiving unprocessed crab must operate under a CMP, which details how and where crab are sorted and weighed. All crab, including parts and dead or otherwise unmarketable crab, delivered to an RCR must be sorted and weighed by quota category on a scale certified by the State of Alaska and equipped with a printer to record the vessel name, the weight of each load in the weighing cycle, the time and date the information was printed, the total weight for the delivery, and the total cumulative weight of all species weighed on the scale. CMPs that meet all of the standards are approved for one year, unless during the year there were dramatic changes to plant operations that affected their CMP. NOAA Fisheries reviews a CMP with plant management annually to ensure the CMP standards continue to be met.

During the 2010/11 fishing year, 14 CMPs were submitted to NOAA Fisheries for inspection and approval, the same number of CMPs as in the previous three fishing years. Seventeen (17) RCRs informed NOAA Fisheries in writing they would follow a CMP already authorized for a shore facility or floating processor.

Requirements for Catcher/Processor Vessels (CPs)

Daily Automatic Hopper Scales. Vessel operators that harvest and process their catch at sea must weigh crab on NOAA Fisheries-certified, motion-compensated scales prior to processing. NOAA Fisheries staff inspected and approved 3 motion-compensated hopper scales in the Puget Sound area of Washington and in Dutch Harbor, Alaska for all participating crab CPs. No major problems were reported with the hopper scales during the 2010/11 fishery.

Onshore Offload. All CPs must offload at a shoreside location accessible by road or commercial air flights. All product offloaded must be weighed on scales certified by the state in which the offload occurs. Each scale must be equipped with a printer that records the weight of each load in the weighing cycle, the total weight in the offload, and the date and time of the offload. Catcher/Processors must submit an offload report, including the gross and net weights of the crab product offload and an attached scale printout.

Requirements for Catcher Vessels

Deliver to an RCR. Catcher vessels must deliver all retained crab to an RCR with an approved CMP and remain at the offload site until required reporting is completed. There are no exceptions for activities such as dockside sales or tendering. If holders of CVO or CVC IFQ want to sell their own catch to the public, each IFQ permitholder is required to deliver the offload of crab to an RCR in accordance with the requirements described above for an RCR.

9 Reporting

The Interagency Electronic Reporting System (IERS) and its reporting component, eLandings, is a joint system developed under the partnership of NOAA Fisheries Alaska Region, ADF&G, and the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC). The system was designed, developed, tested, and implemented jointly by a contractor and agency staff. Regulations for the Program require the use of the IERS by any RCR receiving shellfish from the crab fishery. The working system was introduced for the beginning of the first crab fishery openings on August 15, 2005. The system has been in use as of that date and was extended in 2006 to allow reporting of non-Program crab, groundfish, and halibut. Future enhancements will accommodate additional fisheries.

This web-based data entry system allows entry of crab landings and provides a printed fish ticket as a landing receipt, plus receipts for IFQ and IPQ account debits. Data are received into a central repository database, versioned, and used to populate separate agency management and enforcement databases. In addition, stand-alone client software allows submission of landing reports as email attachments for clients disconnected from the web (such as catcher/ processors).

To further support reporting timeliness requirements and in the event that eLandings system is temporarily unavailable, a backup system of paper reporting via FAX directly to NOAA Fisheries' Data Clerks is available for IFQ/IPQ fisheries. For CDQ and Adak fisheries, a temporary paper Fish Ticket completed for ADF&G serves a similar purpose.

eLanding Facts, 2010/11

Program landings:

- 71 landings for Adak and CDQ
- 832 IFQ landings:
  - ✓ 815 IFQ reports via eLandings
  - ✓ 29 IFQ "manual" reports

Note: Some landings are entered both manually and through eLandings with manual amendments to original eLandings data.

- 20 IFQ account overages
- zero violations

Benefits

The IERS benefits both partner agencies and processors and has helped establish better communication with industry, ensuring improvements to the system and quick resolution to issues. Feedback this fishing year has been positive; some IERS benefits are listed below.

- ✓ The IERS minimizes duplicate reporting of similar information required by the partner agencies,
- ✓ allows processors to enter, edit, and summarize landings data on a web-based system,
- ✓ provides timely and accurate data entry,
- ✓ produces a Portable Document Format (PDF) for printing a fish ticket of the landing,
- ✓ allows data to be incorporated into processor data systems through import and export of Extensible Markup Language (XML) documents, and
- ✓ affords a flexible way to create common information formats and share the format and data on the Web.

Figure 9.1 illustrates the number of crab eLandings reports over time. Compared with the previous two fishing years, the number of reports submitted through eLandings decreased, while the reporting percentage (97.7) through eLandings rose one percent over each of the previous two years.

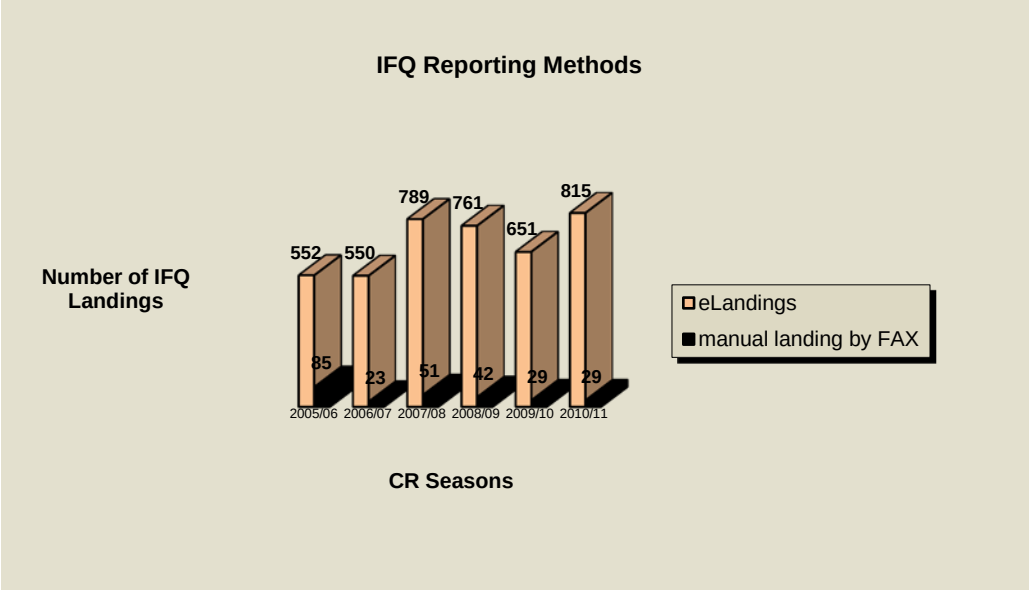


Figure 9.1 Program-Year Comparisons of IFQ Reporting Methods

Summary

Of 903 Program landings and 832 IFQ landings, Figure 9.1 shows 815 IFQ landing reports submitted through eLandings and 29 submitted or amended manually for the 2010/11 fishing year. CDQ and Adak had 71 landings, five more than in 2009/10, though much lower than the 108 landings in the 2008/09 fishing year due to a processing facility closure in Adak. The sharp increase in the number of eLanding report submissions during recent fishing years derived from higher TACs than in previous Program years.

EDR Facts, 2010

Number of EDRs required: 91

Number of EDRs submitted: 91

Number of persons with EDR requirements: 90

Number of persons with EDR requirements who have not submitted: none

Percentage of submissions needing correction: 19%

Economic Data Collection (EDR) Program

The EDR program is focused on collecting production, cost, earnings, and employment information from harvesting and processing sectors of crab fisheries to evaluate effects of the Program over time. EDR administration is carried out by a third party, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC), through a contract with the Alaska Fisheries Science Center (AFSC), Economics and Social Science Research Program.

Implementation

Beginning in calendar year 2005, the Economic Data Collection program is based on calendar-year data. The first phase of implementation collected pre-Program historical (baseline) information for 1998, 2001, and 2004. With the first year of the rationalized fishery beginning in 2005, the first year of data collection from the rationalized fishery was submitted for calendar year 2005, due in June 2006. (See Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Crab Rationalization Report, Fishing Year 2006/2007 for EDR program details. Also see Table 9.1 for historic EDR report summary.)

Database Documentation

Metadata documentation for the EDR database is maintained on an ongoing basis and is available for download from the NMFS Alaska Region Crab EDR webpage:

http://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/sustainablefisheries/crab/rat/edr/default.htm

2010 Data Collection

Before the 2007 data collection, EDR forms underwent minor revisions to improve clarity of directions and disaggregate vessel landings information by harvest quota type. In 2010 an online web application version of the catcher-vessel survey continued to be used as an additional alternative to paper and fillable-PDF form versions used in previous years. The online version reduced the time required for data processing by PSMFC by allowing data providers to enter data directly into an online database. The online form included additional directions and built-in error checking, which reduced the number of follow-up calls from PSMFC for error-correction purposes. New in 2010, an Excel version of the processor EDRs was created that allows easy copy and pasting of values from the submitters' workbooks directly into the EDR format for submission.

EDRs for the 2010 calendar year were due by June 28, 2011. Table 9.1 displays the sector totals for numbers of vessels and plants identified by RAM and PSMFC as subject to the reporting requirement, numbers of completed EDRs submitted, numbers of certification-only submissions, numbers of noncompliant vessels/plants, and numbers of distinct persons (including corporate entities) associated with reporting vessels/plants.

Included as part of the EDR form is a certification section on which the data submitter provides a signed certification statement indicating the data is complete and accurate. Individuals who receive notice from PSMFC that they are required to submit an EDR for the year can claim exemption from the full EDR completion by submitting a signed certification stating that they did not operate the vessel or plant in the rationalized crab fishery during the calendar year. As indicated in Table 9.1, previously (2005 data) the total number of certification-only and full EDR submissions was greater than the number of vessels or plants for which owners received notices from PSMFC, with the exception of the catcher/processor sector. With the online database error checks, this did not occur with subsequent collections. It should also be noted, as indicated in the last row of the table, that the number of distinct persons submitting certification pages (including those providing completed

EDRs) is fewer than the number of vessels or plant-reporting entities; this is due to the fact that some individuals own or operate multiple vessels or plants and have multiple reporting requirements.

Season compliance among vessel/processor and persons was very good; the percentage of submissions needing corrections was also much lower (19% in 2010 vs 75% in 2005). Table 9.1 shows complete vessel/processor compliance for active participants across all sectors of the fishery. This represents an improvement over the 2005 EDR, for which owners of eleven vessels or plants did not submit required EDRs. In 2006, the nine persons who did not satisfy the EDR requirement were inactive in the fishery. One inactive person each year did not satisfy the EDR or certification requirements in 2008 and 2009. Such high compliance indicates the EDR requirement is becoming routine for active participants.

For Program EDR comparisons in Table 9.1, previous economic data are shown within parentheses by most recent year first (2010, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005, and the combined historic years).

Table 9.1 Economic data report summary for EDRs due through 2010*

Activity	Catcher vessel EDRs	Shoreside processor EDRs	Catcher processor EDRs	Floating processor EDRs
Number of distinct vessels/processors for which one or more historic reports was required[a]	81 (89,95,98,108,217,378)	15 (15,16,15,16,18,30)	3 (5,5,6,7,10,19)	3 (1,4,4,6,6,7)
Number of full EDRs received	76 (84,91,82,96,166,673)	14 (16,13,11,11,13,44)	3 (5,5,5,5,8,25)	4 (2,2,3,2,4,24)
Number of certifications received with claimed exemption	5 (6,7,19,16,60,512)	11 (13,5,4,16,6,46)	0 (0,0,1,2,2,26)	2 (6,3,1,8,5,18)
Number of vessels/processors for which no EDR or certification was received	0 (0,0,0,1,0,157)	0 (1,1,1,1,0,5)	0 (0,0,0,0,0,5)	0 (0,0,0,0,0,0)
Number of distinct persons tied to submitted EDRs and certifications[b]	72 (78,90,79,111,186,418)	11 (13,15,13,14,14,21)	3 (5,5,6,7,8,9)	4 (5,5,4,6,9,13)

Note: As a result of a 2010 PSMFC review (Test Plan) of EDR data, the numbers for previous years were updated to better reflect submissions. Some processors had provided voluntary data that changed counts of EDRs submitted. Such submissions were classified as a certification page submission.

* EDRs are submitted for calendar year fishery participation. Year order is current (2010, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005, and historic).
[a] Historic years = 1998, 2001, and 2004; each column represents vessel/processor EDR *totals* from these three years.
[b] Counts include full EDRs, Certifications only, and some empty EDRs (not filled out); several owners who had not been notified of a reporting requirement by PSMFC submitted certified claims of exemption.

Data Verification Audit

As required under the EDR regulations, a data verification audit process was initiated in 2006 to ascertain the accuracy of data recording in the EDR forms. The validation audit was performed by the accounting firm Aldrich Kilbride & Tatone (AKT) of Portland, Oregon. In May of 2007 PSMFC released the report of their findings and audit methods employed to conduct the study.

The general findings of the audit review were that the information submitted in the EDR forms for 1998, 2001, 2004, and 2005 was supported by documentation and records. Where errors were identified, there was generally not a directional bias in the submission of the data; that is, auditors found no strategic misreporting of the information requested. Despite the specific definitions included in the EDRs, there was variability in how information was reported for a number of variables, based on the ability to break down information in the manner

requested and sophistication of accounting systems. In addition, there was significant variability in the quality of supporting documentation submitted in the EDRs, particularly for the 1998 reporting year and to a lesser degree for 2001. Information provided by the audit review and ongoing interaction with data submitters were used to improve directions and definitions in the EDR forms used with reports submitted for 2006.

The number of audits of EDR records is presented in Table 9.2. A statistical sample was based on a total submitted population for a year, comprised of all unique submitters of information. Auditors determined the sample based on achieving 95 percent confidence with 15 percent precision in terms of assessing the accuracy of the submitted data. EDRs selected as outliers are included in the values in Table 9.2.

Table 9.2 Numbers of EDRs by type, year, and number and percent sampled for validation review

	Number EDRs Submitted for Year									Number EDRs Sampled						Percent Sampled					
Sector	1998	2001	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Catcher Vessel	225	220	237	166	96	82	91	84	76	33	28	27	28	23	22	19.8	29.2	32.9	30.7	27.4	28.9
Catcher/ Processor	8	7	9	8	5	5	5	5	3	3	2	2	2	2	1	37.5	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	33.3
Stationary Floating/ Shoreside Processors	24	23	20	17	12	14	15	18	18	5	5	4	4	6	8	29.4	41.6	28.6	26.6	33.3	44.4

Visit the NOAA Fisheries website for more information about the EDR requirement, including the online version of the 2010 Catcher Vessel Economic Data Report.

http://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/sustainablefisheries/crab/rat/edr/default.htm

10 Loan Program • Crab Capacity Reduction Program Updates

Loan Update

A federal loan program to assist captains and crew in the purchase of QS was implemented for the CR Program. On May 5, 2010, NMFS published a proposed rule (75 FR 24549) for the Fisheries Finance Program[1] (FFP) that would allow NMFS to implement a loan program for the BSAI crab fisheries. Effective January 18, 2011, a final rule (75 FR 78619, December 16, 2010) granted captains and crew the opportunity to purchase crab QS for the 2011/12 fishing year. Although the FFP received FY11 loan authority sufficient to begin lending for BSAI crab QS, OMB approval to use that authority was not forthcoming until 3/29/11, too late for a complete loan process that fiscal year. July 5, 2011 was the first date for which an approval letter for crab QS was issued at the start of the 2011/12 crab-fishing year.

Fee Collection/Cost Recovery

Under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA), costs for management and enforcement of IFQ and other Limited Access permit programs are recoverable from participants, up to a maximum of 3 percent of the ex-vessel value of the crab. MSA Sections 304(d)(2)(A) and Section 313(j) prescribe the cost recovery framework, including the requirement for fee sharing with the State. Actual costs recovered are only those "incremental costs" associated with management and enforcement of the Program. "Incremental costs" are costs directly due to rationalization.

By statute, CR fees must be shared equally by the harvesting and processing sectors; by regulation, the RCRs assume the fee liability and must remit the fees to the Government. NOAA Fisheries computes the annual fee percentage that applies each crab-fishing year. Fees are owed based on total value of crab landings in money, goods, or services. NOAA Fisheries sends fee statements to RCRs based on their own reported landings for all "rationalized" crab and value as computed for fee collection purposes. For crab delivered raw for processing, each RCR's fee liability is estimated by multiplying the annual fee percentage needed to recover costs (up to 3 percent) by the ex-vessel value of Program crab. Because catcher/processors participate in both the harvesting and processing sectors, vessel owners or operators must be RCRs and are responsible for paying the entire fee liability, based on standard prices derived from information reported for raw crab deliveries.

Fees are due annually by July 31 for the prior crab-fishing year. Fees may be paid by check, money order, or by credit card. Penalties, interest, and administrative charges are added if an RCR becomes delinquent in payments. NOAA Fisheries cannot issue any annual crab permits to a person who owes unpaid fees. During the 2009/10 year, no billing occurred because fee revenues remained to cover projected actual costs for the crab-fishing year.

The estimated recent value of the combined CR fishery is $261,747,837, nearly $115 million higher than the previous fishing year's value. This value derives from price information submitted by the RCRs. Regardless of the fee liability computations, each RCR was responsible for and paid fees based on actual value given for all crab received under the Program in dollars, goods, and services.

[1]The FFP assists participants in CDQ programs and in purchases of QS, IFQ permits, fishing vessels, and fish processing facilities.

Funds collected under the Program vary yearly because annual ex-vessel value and costs fluctuate. Due to the complexity of the program and the MSA three percent cap, funds collected may not cover all expenses. This was in fact the case during 2005/06 when first year start-up costs exceeded the fee amount collected. (Administrative regulations for fees and cost recovery are at 50 CFR § 680.44.) The fee percentage for the 2008/09 crab-fishing year was 1.05 percent, partially due to a third-year overcollection discussed later in this chapter. The 2009/10 fishing year fee percentage was set at zero (FR Doc. Vol. 74 No. 135, July 16, 2009) due to the revenue surplus, which exceeded actual management, data collection, and enforcement costs for the 2008/09 crab-fishing year. The 2010/11 fishing year fee percentage was 2.67 percent.

Bringing in the Crab Pots

As shown in Table 10.1, the 2010/11 management and enforcement costs for the crab fisheries totaled $3,210,189. Personnel and Contracts/training (including more Joint Enforcement Agreements [JEAs] with the State of Alaska) were among the higher Program costs.

Table 10.1 Costs associated with management and enforcement of the Program, April 12, 2009–April 10, 2010*

Cost Category	RAM	SF	OMD	ISD	GC	RA/ Appeals	OLE	ADF&G	AFSC	FSD	Total
Personnel[a]/ Overhead	178,196	127,744	45,506	52,364	8,296	38,430	907,167	300,968	98,000	10,625	1,840,519
Travel[b]	2,395	10,276	5,042	6,638	880	6,352	54,174	30,380	9,507	–	131,582
Transportation[c]	–	–	–	–	–	–	241	–	–	–	241
Printing	–	–	1,255	–	–	–	–	166	–	–	1,421
Contracts/ Training	825	22,750	763	83,849	–	–	206,550	443,858	95,000	–	940,671
Supplies	3,570	–	1,539	5,752	–	–	23,688	16,619	–	–	61,064
Equipment	12,683	–	–	–	–	–	1,368	–	–	–	14,051
Rent/Utilities[d]	16,709	9,583	3,668	4,017	618	2,528	66,073	–	–	–	103,195
Other	–	197,900	–	–	–	–	–	95,676	–	–	117,445
Percentage of costs	6.68%	11.47%	1.80%	4.75%	0.31%	1.47%	39.23%	27.65%	6.31%	0.33%	100.00%
Total Costs [f]	***214,378***	***170,353***	***57,773***	***152,620***	***9,794***	***47,310***	***1,259,261***	***887,668***	***202,508***	***10,625***	***3,210,189***

*These dates represent the NMFS time frame for collection.

[a] Personnel Costs include cost of living allowances (COLA) and all benefits.
[b] Travel includes per diem payments.
[c] Transportation includes shipment of items.
[d] Rent/Utilities/Overhead includes actual cost of space and utilities and an appropriate share of common space and services.
[e] PSMFC costs are included in the SF "Other" category as a grant.
[f] Values may vary slightly from other published data due to rounding.

Table 10.2 shows cost recovery data for the first six crab Program years. The projected percentage of ex-vessel value necessary to recover costs was limited by statute and, therefore, not all costs were recoverable. However, during the third year of the Program, this was not the case.

A surplus occurred from third-year collections. The third-year fee percentage, which had to be announced early in the third year, was of necessity based on the prior year's Program costs, fishing value, and landings. This time-offset can result in over- or undercollection in years for which costs or fishery value vary substantially from the prior year. The third-year surplus was caused by compounded factors: three percent was levied against ex-vessel values in billings in the third Program year, but lower agency labor and contractual costs combined with substantially higher fishing TACs and subsequent fishery value resulted in an overcollection.

NMFS determined the fee percentage at 1.23 percent for the 2011/12 fishing year. To date (2006/07–2010/11), 97.61 percent of persons billed have paid their fee liability, while 2.39 percent remains unpaid due to bankruptcy (181,705.73). For all Program years, collected CR funds total $20 million.

Table 10.2 Program cost recovery[a] over time

Program Cost Category	Year Six	Year five	Year four	Year three	Year two	Year one
Fishery value[b]	261,747,837	147,188,073	212,412,973	202,719,417	119,652,929	138,888,840
Total Program costs	3,210,189	3,927,062	3,195,760	2,133,758	3,939,841	4,270,881
Amount collected[c]	7,434,979	0	2,028,589	6,511,395	4,060,458[d]	4,166,665
Annual percentage of value billed[c]	2.67	0	1.05	3.0[e]	3.0[e]	3.0[e]
RCR permitholders with billable landings	21	18	22	20	22	17
IFQ permitholders with billable landings[f]	11	14	27	31	47	100

[a] Fee liability is calculated two ways: RCRs multiply fee percentage by CR crab ex-vessel value. CPs pay a fee percentage multiplied by the calculated standard price. Standard prices are calculated during the last quarter of each crab-fishing year; prices reflect, as closely as possible, the current crab-fishing year's average shoreside processor price by fishery and species, and any variations in reported shoreside ex-vessel values of CR crab. This value is expressed in U.S. dollars and in raw CR crab pounds. Fee liability is calculated from the CR crab value reported for crab delivered raw.

[b] "Fishery value" is the projected ex-vessel value of the catch subject to the crab cost recovery fee liability for the current year. For this chart, the value amount is rounded.

[c] For each fiscal year, the amount collected is rounded. Due to a revenue surplus, no billing/collection occurred in the 2009/10 fishing year.

[d] Previously reported fee collection data for FY07 have been updated.

[e] These percentages billed were limited by the MSA statutory 3 percent cap of the ex-vessel value of the fishery in any Program year.

[f] RCR permitholders collect fees on behalf of IFQ permitholders; no IFQ permitholders are billed directly.

Fees Collected under the BSAI King and Tanner Crab Fishing Capacity Reduction Program

Under section 312(b) of the MSA (http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/magact/mag3a.html), the NMFS has the authority to conduct a fishing capacity reduction program if funds are provided and such a program is necessary to prevent or end overfishing, rebuild stocks of fish, or achieve measurable or significant improvements in the conservation and management of a fishery. A capacity reduction program must be consistent with any State and Federal fishery management plans in place for a fishery. Funding for such programs is authorized under Section 312(c) of the MSA and allows NMFS to obtain funding through specific appropriations from industry fee systems and public, private, or nonprofit sources. Under the authority of Section 312(c), on January 12, 2004 regulations (68 FR 69331) were effective and by January 19, 2005 funding was appropriated for the BSAI King and Tanner Crab Fishing Capacity Reduction Program. Under administration of the Financial Services Division (FSD), NMFS bought back twenty-five BSAI crab-fishing vessels, associated fishery histories, and sixty-two licenses to achieve the maximum sustained reduction in BSAI crab-fishing capacity at the least cost and in minimum time. In the crab buyback program, the FSD administers an industry-funded, thirty-year loan of $97,399,357.00 at a fixed rate of 6.54 percent. NOAA Fisheries may withhold annual crab permits if buyback fees are outstanding.

Table 10.3 shows amounts paid back in "subloans" allocated to each fishery by the BSAI King and Tanner Crab Fishing Capacity Reduction Program. "Initial Loan Amount" and "Current Loan Amount" reflect the principal balance of the note. Current loan balances are as of August 30, 2011. The St. Matthew Island Blue King Crab fishery opened for the first time since the inception of the Capacity Reduction Program on October 15, 2009; WAI and PIK have remained closed since the start of the loans. EBT and WBT fisheries were closed this fishing year. The "Percent Owing" and "Percent Paid" data may be different from the original data due to rounding.

Table 10.3 Fishery Loan status of the BSAI King and Tanner Crab Fishing Capacity Reduction Program, August 30, 2011

Crab Fishery	Initial Loan Amount	Current Loan Amount	Percent Paid	Percent Owing	First Payment
BBR	$17,129,957	12,784,231	25.0	75.0	November 1, 2005
BSS	66,410,767	66,410,767	0.0	100.0	November 8, 2005
EAG and Tanner	6,380,837	5,263,002	18.0	82.0	November 2, 2005
WAI	237,588	237,588	0.0	100.0	No payment
PIK	1,571,216	1,571,216	0.0	100.0	No payment
SMB	5,668,991	5,668,991	0.0	100.0	October 27, 2009
Total	***$97,399,356***	***$91,935,795***	***6***	***94.0***	***November 1 2005***

Appendix: Program Overview

The Crab Rationalization Program (Program) is a limited access privilege program that allocates BSAI crab resources among harvesters, processors, and coastal communities. The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) developed the Program over a 6-year period to accommodate the specific dynamics and needs of the BSAI crab fisheries. The Program addresses previous conservation and management issues associated with the derby fishery, bycatch and associated discard mortality, safety, and the economics of the fishery, including product quality and fishing years. Its purpose is to increase efficiencies, provide economic stability, and facilitate compensated reduction of excess capacity in the harvesting and processing sectors. Community interests are protected by Community Development Quota (CDQ and Adak) allocations, by regional landing and processing requirements, and by several community protection measures.

In January 2004 the U.S. Congress amended §313(j) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA) through the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2004 (Public Law 108–199, section 801) to mandate the Secretary of Commerce implement by regulation the Program as recommended by the Council. NOAA Fisheries published a final rule to implement the Program on March 2, 2005 (70 FR 10174). Crab fishing under the Program began when the first rationalized fisheries opened on August 15, 2005.

Fisheries

The Program governs nine BSAI King and Tanner crab fisheries (originally eight, although the original Bering Sea Tanner crab fishery was divided after the first Program year into Eastern and Western Bering Sea Tanner fisheries).

Under the Federal BSAI King and Tanner crab FMP, the State of Alaska manages the Adak and CDQ fisheries and has certain responsibilities for quota (IFQ/IPQ) fisheries, including penalty enforcement and establishing transfer provisions, inseason monitoring, and observer coverage and permitting requirements. The Program governs three types of crab fisheries—the CDQ fisheries, an allocation of Western Aleutian Islands (WAG) golden king crab to the community of Adak, and the large individual fishing and processing quota fisheries. The Program includes nine crab fisheries. A License Limitation Program (LLP) license is no longer required for these fisheries, although one is still required for the FMP crab fisheries excluded from the Program.

Sectors

Qualified harvesters and processors were allocated quota shares (QS or PQS) in each IFQ/IPQ crab fishery based on historic and recent participation. Quota share represents an exclusive but revocable privilege that provides the holder with an annual allocation to harvest, receive, or process a specific percentage of the total allowable catch (TAC) from a fishery. The annual allocation is called IFQ for harvesters and IPQ for processors. Harvesting QS was issued based on "captain/crew" activity ("Crew QS") or on the histories of LLP licenses held ("Owner QS") and is either designated catcher vessel (CV) or catcher/processor (CP) shares, depending on the nature of qualifying landings. Qualifying processors were allocated processor quota share (PQS).

<u>Owner QS/IFQ</u>

Most harvesting QS (97 percent of the initial QS "pool") was issued to qualified LLP holders as catcher vessel "owner" (CVO) or catcher/processor "owner" (CPO) QS. Crab harvested under catcher vessel IFQ permits must be delivered raw. Catcher/processor IFQ represents both a harvest and an onboard processing privilege and has no regional designation or delivery requirement. Catcher Vessel "owner" (CVO) IFQ is issued annually in two classes, Class A and Class B. Crabs harvested with Class A IFQ must be delivered to a processor holding unused

individual processing quota (IPO). Class A IFQ landings also are subject to a regional delivery requirement. Crabs harvested with Class B IFQ can be delivered to any processor and are not regionally designated. Class B IFQ provides ex-vessel price negotiating leverage to harvesters and some operational flexibility. New harvesters can enter the fishery by purchasing or leasing CVO or CPO QS/IFQ from current holders. A person not initially issued QS may obtain Owner QS by transfer: if an individual, by demonstrating 150 days of harvesting experience; if a nonindividual person (corporation, partnership, or other entity), by being at least a 20 percent shareholder.

Crew QS/IFQ

To protect their interests in the fisheries and provide long-term benefits, captains and crew with historic and recent participation were allocated three percent of the initial QS pool. Catcher Vessel Crew (CVC) IFQ must be delivered raw to any shore-based processor. CPC QS and IFQ include a harvesting and onboard processing privilege. Crew QS and IFQ can be transferred only to eligible individuals who must demonstrate recent crab fishery participation. Leasing of Crew IFQ was permitted before July 1, 2008. Since that date, leasing is allowed only in the case of a documented medical hardship or loss of fishing vessel. Crew IFQ also is not subject to regional delivery requirements or Class A/B designation. New individuals can enter the fishery by purchasing or leasing CVC and CPC QS/IFQ from current holders.

Processor PQS/IPQ

Qualified processors were allocated processor quota share (PQS) in each Program crab fishery. PQS represents an exclusive but revocable privilege to receive deliveries of a specific portion of the annual TAC from a fishery. Individual Processing Quota (IPQ), the annual allocation of pounds of crab based on the PQS, is issued for 90 percent of the CVO IFQ and is regionally designated for use in receiving/processing crab. A regulatory cap on IPQ in some fisheries means in years in which these TACs exceed the caps, CVO IFQ that would have been issued as Class A will be issued as a new type of regionalized IFQ that does not require matching IPQ. As a result, the ratio of CVO Class A:B will not equal 90:10 over the entire fishery.

PQS allocations are based on processing history and are transferable, including the leasing of IPQ and the sale of PQS, subject to caps and community protection measures. New processors can enter the fishery in any of five ways: by purchasing or leasing PQS or IPQ, purchasing crab harvested with Class B IFQ, as CDQ groups, or as the Adak community entity. Custom processing is allowed, but a person can receive Class A IFQ crab only under IPQ permits that person holds.

Transfers

The Program allows for transfer of QS/IFQ and PQS/IPO, either by sale or lease, subject to recipient eligibility, use caps, and limits on leasing provisions. Transfers may occur anytime except from August 1 until IFQ is issued for a fishery. Cooperatives may transfer IFQ to or from other cooperatives.

Use and Vessel Caps

Use caps limit the amount of quota a person may hold or use. Separate caps limit the amount of IFQ that vessels may annually harvest. These caps prevent negative effects from an excessive consolidation of shares.

Crab Harvesting Cooperatives

A group of four or more distinct QS holders (not affiliated with the other members in that cooperative) may voluntarily form a crab-harvesting cooperative. Crab harvesting cooperatives do not hold QS; they hold and use only the IFQ assigned to the cooperative by members. To receive a cooperative IFQ permit, crab harvest cooperatives must annually apply by August 1 to NOAA Fisheries. Cooperatives must use Hired Masters to harvest cooperative IFQ, and vessels used must be owned in part by a cooperative member. To encourage cooperative formation, vessels used exclusively to harvest crab cooperative IFQ are not subject to use caps and crew “owner onboard” requirements. Crab harvesting cooperatives are free to associate with one or more processors to the extent allowed by antitrust law.

Regionalization

The regional delivery requirements for QS and PQS preserve historic geographic distribution of landings and resultant fishery revenues in fishery-dependent economies. Communities in the Pribilof Islands are the prime beneficiaries of this provision. Two regional designations were created in most Program fisheries. The North region comprises all areas in the Bering Sea north of 56°20′ N.

Community Protection Measures

The Program includes several provisions to protect specific eligible communities from adverse effects of the Program. Those communities designated as "eligible" were those with three percent or more of the qualified historic landings in any Program crab fishery. The nine eligible crab communities (ECCs) enjoy community protection measures, such as the two-year "Cooling Off" provision, the "Right of First Refusal (ROFR), sea time waivers, and other community provisions. Under "Cooling Off," until July 1, 2007, only 10% of the IPQ based on processing history from the ECCs (with limited exceptions) could be used outside those communities, except for approved hardships. After July 1, an IPQ holder can use its own IPQ anywhere within the region for which it is designated after the 2006/07 fishing year.

ECCs, except for Adak, have a ROFR on the transfer of PQS and IPQ originating from processing history in the community if the transfer will result in relocation or use of shares outside the community. Adak is not eligible for the ROFR provision because it receives a direct allocation of Western Aleutian Islands golden king crab.

Community Development Quota (CDQ), Adak, and Community Purchase Allocations

Fishing is conducted under an authorized allocation, and QS and IFQ is not required to harvest under these provisions. All crab must be delivered to a registered crab receiver (RCR). An RCR does not need IPQ to receive CDQ, Adak, and Community Purchase crab.

CDQ

The CDQ Program provides the means for starting or supporting commercial fisheries business activities that will result in an ongoing, regionally based, fisheries-related economy in Western Alaska. The CDQ program was extended to include the Eastern Aleutian Islands golden king crab fishery and the Western Aleutian Islands red king crab fishery. In addition, the CDQ allocations in all crab fisheries covered by the Program increased from 7.5 to 10 percent of the TAC.

During 2006 and 2007 Congress substantially modified many aspects of the CDQ Program. Section 305 (i)(1) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act was amended on July 11, 2006 by the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act (Coast Guard Act) (Public Law 109-241) and again on January 12, 2007, by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-479). These changes included elements associated with CDQ allocations, program oversight, community eligibility, investment limitations, and fisheries management. This last element is associated with ensuring that the CDQ fisheries are not managed more restrictively than comparable IFQ fisheries or other fisheries managed with cooperatives. NMFS has not identified any Federal regulations governing the crab CDQ fishery that are more restrictive than those in effect for the crab IFQ fishery. Therefore, no changes were proposed to Federal regulations governing the crab CDQ fisheries as a result of the legislation.

CDQ Transfers. One significant program change identified in the 2006/07 Congressional legislation on the CDQ Program is the option for voluntary transfer of BSAI crab after landing and processing. For BSAI crab managed under the Crab Rationalization Program, all transfer of CDQ crab must be completed prior to a landing. Since Federal regulation does not govern the transfer of CDQ crab, the State of Alaska Board of Fish proposed changes to regulations to allow for postseason transfers of CDQ crab at 5 AAC 39.690(d)(6)(D). The regulations propose that any CDQ group that retains crab taken in excess of its allocation may have quota voluntarily transferred to them from another CDQ group with available crab CDQ no later than June 30 of the current allocation year. This allows CDQ groups to avoid enforcement actions associated with inseason crab CDQ overages but still constrains the CDQ Program to its annual crab CDQ allocations.

On October 7, 2009, NMFS issued regulations to provide harvesting cooperatives, crab processing QS holders, and Western Alaska Community Development Quota (CDQ) groups with the option to make intercooperative transfers, crab individual processing quota transfers, and intergroup transfers through an automated web-based process. This action allows cooperatives, processors, and CDQ groups to shorten response time to management, market, weather, and other fishery and operational conditions and to increase harvesting and processing efficiency. This action also removes detailed description of information required on application forms from regulatory text and revises text on applications along with other textual corrections.

Adak Community Allocation

The community of Adak receives an annual allocation of 10 percent of the TAC of Western Aleutian Islands golden king crab. There is no CDQ allocation for this fishery.

Community Purchase

Any non-CDQ community in which 3 percent or more of any crab fishery was historically processed can form a nonprofit entity to receive QS, IFQ, PQS and IPQ transfers on behalf of the community. The nonprofit entity is called an "eligible crab community organization (ECCO)."

Protections for Participants in Other Fisheries ("Sideboard Limits")

The Program greatly increases the flexibility for crab fishermen to choose when to fish their IFQ; with this increased flexibility comes increased opportunity to participate in other fisheries. "Sideboard Limits" restrict the group of affected vessels to their historical collective landings in all GOA groundfish fisheries (except the fixed-gear sablefish fishery) and prevent spillover effects of the Program.

Sideboards apply both to specific vessels and to groundfish LLP licenses derived from the history of those vessels. Any sideboarded vessel or vessel fishing under an LLP with sideboards is subject to annual GOA groundfish sideboard limits. NOAA Fisheries manages sideboards through fleetwide sideboard-directed fishing closures in Federal waters and for the parallel fishery in State waters.

Monitoring and Enforcement

NOAA Fisheries and the State coordinate crab fishery monitoring and enforcement. Measures include use of certified scales, monitoring of landed catch weight and species composition, bycatch, and deadloss to estimate total fishery removals. The USCG also participates in at-sea compliance monitoring, playing a crucial role in safety compliance and Search and Rescue (SAR) operations. Harvesters and processors may not exceed amounts authorized by permits. Landings in excess of available IFQ/IPQ will be forfeited, and additional penalties may apply.

Landings Reporting

Mandatory electronic landings reporting for all Program fisheries (CDQ, Adak, and Quota) supports real-time account management and compliance monitoring. The eLandings system offers both internet and e-mail options for data submittal.

Economic Data Collection

The Program includes a comprehensive economic data collection-reporting requirement to aid the Council and NOAA Fisheries in assessing the success of the Program and in developing amendments necessary to mitigate unintended consequences. The data will be used to study economic effects of the Program on harvesters, processors, and communities.

Cost Recovery and Fee Collection

NOAA Fisheries established a cost recovery fee system, required by §304(d)(2) of the MSA, to recover actual costs directly related to the management and enforcement of the Program and to fund a loan program should one by requested by the Council and implemented by NOAA Fisheries. The harvesting and processing sectors pay equal shares of the crab cost recovery fees; these fees are based on the ex-vessel value of all crab harvested under

the Program, including Quota, CDQ and Adak crab. The fee may not exceed 3 percent of the annual ex-vessel value. Within this limit, the collection of up to 133 percent of the actual costs of management and enforcement under the Program is authorized. Twenty-five percent of cost recovery fees may be directed to a planned crew loan program.

Crew Loan Program

To aid captains and crew in purchasing QS, the Council approved a low-interest loan program (similar to the loan program under the halibut and sablefish IFQ program) to be implemented beginning crab-fishing year 2011/12. Loan money is accessible only to active participants to purchase harvesting (Owner and Crew) QS. Under the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 (FCRA), Federal loans require a subsidy cost and loan ceiling. Consequently, NOAA Fisheries made no BSAI crab QS loans until Congress took further action and until NOAA implemented regulations for the loan program.

On May 5, 2010, NMFS published a proposed rule (75 FR 24549) for the Fisheries Finance Program[1] (FFP) that would allow NMFS to implement a loan program for the BSAI crab fisheries. Effective January 18, 2011, a final rule (75 FR 78619, December 16, 2010) granted captains and crew the opportunity to purchase crab QS for the 2011/12 fishing year. Although the FFP received FY11 loan authority sufficient to begin lending for BSAI crab QS, OMB approval to use that authority was not forthcoming until 3/29/11, too late for a complete loan process that fiscal year. July 5, 2011 was the first date for which an approval letter for crab QS was issued at the start of the 2011/12 crab-fishing year.

Arbitration System

BSAI crab fisheries have a history of contentious price negotiations. The Arbitration System was developed to resolve failed price negotiations arising from the creation of QS/IFQ and PQS/IPQ. To ensure fair price negotiations, the Arbitration System includes a provision for open negotiations among IPO and IFQ holders and various negotiation approaches, including a share-matching approach, a lengthy season approach, and a binding arbitration procedure. The arbitration process begins preseason with a market report for each fishery, prepared by an independent market analyst selected by the PQS and QS holders and an arbitrator's establishing a nonbinding fleetwide benchmark price formula. The nonbinding price guides negotiations, and Arbitration System participants select Contract Arbitrators who assist in binding arbitration.

The binding arbitration procedure is a last best (or final) offer format. For each IFQ holder or cooperative, the arbitrator selects between the IFQ holder's offer and the IPQ holder's offer. After the arbitrator provides a decision, an eligible IFQ holder with uncommitted IFQ could opt-in to the completed contract by accepting all terms of the arbitration decision as long as the IPQ holder holds sufficient uncommitted IPQ.

All CVO QS/IFQ and PQS/IPQ holders must participate by joining an Arbitration Organization by May 1 of each year.

Program Review

In April 2007 the Council initially reviewed the PQS, binding arbitration, and crew share components of the Program and continues to consider changes to these program elements. In October 2008, the Council conducted a preliminary 3-year review of the Program. A full 5-year review of the Program is scheduled for December 2010. Additional reviews will be ongoing every 5 years. These reviews are intended to objectively measure the success of the Program in achieving the goals and objectives specified in the Council's Problem Statement and the MSA. Reviewers will examine effects of the Program on vessel owners, captains, crew, processors, and communities, and include an assessment of options to mitigate negative effects.

Gulf of Alaska Sideboards

The purpose of the sideboard limits is to prevent vessels that traditionally participated in the Bering Sea snow crab fishery from using the flexibility of the Program to increase their or others' participation in the GOA groundfish fisheries, primarily the GOA Pacific cod fishery. On July 6, 2006, NMFS published a final rule (71 FR 38298) to correct two aspects of the sideboard limits in the regulations implementing the Program. One change removed the sideboard limits from vessels with landings that did not yield Bering Sea snow crab QS. The second change clarified that sideboard limits apply to federally permitted vessels while fishing in the State parallel groundfish fisheries.

Table A.1 provides the types of sideboards under the Program and the numbers of sideboarded vessels and LLP groundfish licenses to which sideboards apply.

Table A.1 Revised sideboards under the Program

Type of sideboard	Number sideboarded fishing vessels as a result of their Bering Sea snow crab (BSS) history	Number of LLP groundfish licenses to which sideboards apply
Subject to all GOA sideboards except GOA Pacific cod and exempt from GOA Pacific cod sideboard	5	5
Subject to all GOA sideboards including Pacific cod	85	40
Subject to all GOA sideboards except Pacific cod and may not directed fish for GOA Pacific cod	137	11
Total number of sideboarded vessels and LLP licenses	***227***	***56***[a]

[a] Initially the number of LLP groundfish licenses to which sideboards applied was 57; however, one license was revoked.

Substantive Program Changes, 2005/06–2010/11

Tanner crab QS and PQS

In October 2005, the Council adopted Amendment 20 to the Fishery Management Plan (FMP), which modified the allocation of QS and PQS for Bering Sea Tanner crab to accommodate management of geographically separate Tanner crab stocks. NMFS published a final rule implementing Amendment 20 on June 7, 2006 (71 FR 32862). NOAA Fisheries reissued Tanner crab QS and PQS as two separate pools, one for a fishery (EBT) east of 166E W. longitude, and one for a fishery (WBT) west of 166E W. longitude. Tanner crab QS and PQS holders received one unit of East Bering Tanner crab QS or PQS and one unit of West Bering Tanner QS or PQS for each unit of existing Bering Sea Tanner QS or PQS held. This change was necessary to coordinate QS and PQS with State of Alaska management of the two distinct Tanner crab fisheries.

Arbitration Deadlines

In February 2006, the Council adopted Amendment 21 to the FMP to provide a mechanism ensuring that a binding arbitration proceeding could occur early in the fishing year and in accordance with the Program. NOAA Fisheries published a final rule implementing Amendment 21 on July 14, 2006 (71 FR 40030). This final rule accommodates the existing stock assessment and TAC announcement processes by linking the timing for initiating share matching and a binding arbitration proceeding to the issuance of IFQ and IPQ, including a five-day assessment period for negotiated commitments. These new deadlines provide harvesters and processors with effective methods for resolving price disputes under the arbitration system, consistent with the intent of the Program.

Two substantive changes to the regulations implementing the Crab Rationalization Program for the 2008/09 crab-fishing year included exemptions and reporting:

Exemptions from Delivery, Regionalization, and Arbitration Requirement

Effective July 21, 2008, a final rule (73 FR 35084, June 20, 2008) permanently extended the three-season exemption of CVC QS/IFQ holders from delivery, regionalization, and arbitration system requirements. This change provided higher flexibility in crab deliveries with very little loss of benefits to processors and communities than would applying the restrictions.

Reporting Changes

A final rule (73 FR 76136, December 15, 2008, effective January 14, 2009, revised a number of Federal groundfish, crab, and halibut requirements, most of which are pertinent to the Crab Rationalization Program, allowing these changes: RCRs must submit an annual CR Program ex-vessel Volume and Value Report, detailing the amount and total value (whether in dollars, goods and services, and including "retro" and bonus payments) of CR crab purchased–by month, port, fishery, species, and CR Program type (Adak, CDQ, or IFQ). This report replaced use of prices reported at time of landing as the basis for cost recovery fee liability estimates.

Another change is a new annual report and submittal date (May 15, 2009 and prior to the close of business on that day for future fishing years) for the 2008/09 crab-fishing year. This report must be completed online using a form accessible on the RAM website (http://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov) after logging in with the NMFS ID and password.

During the 2010/11 crab fishing year, some reporting requirements for catcher/processors were removed by final rule 75 FR 56485, September 16, 2010. In order to reduce unnecessary paperwork burdens on the fishing industry, this rule removed the Crab Rationalization Program requirements for catcher/processors to weigh all offloaded crab on a state-approved scale (which produces a printed record) and to submit a catcher/processor offload report. This rule was effective September 16, 2010.

Crew Loan Program

To aid captains and crew in purchasing QS, the Council approved a low-interest loan program (similar to the loan program under the halibut and sablefish IFQ program) to be implemented beginning crab-fishing year 2011/12. NOAA implemented regulations for the loan program.

On May 5, 2010, NMFS published a proposed rule (75 FR 24549) for the Fisheries Finance Program[1] (FFP) that would allow NMFS to implement a loan program for the BSAI crab fisheries. Effective January 18, 2011, a final rule (75 FR 78619, December 16, 2010) granted captains and crew the opportunity to purchase crab QS for the 2011/12 fishing year. Although the FFP received FY11 loan authority sufficient to begin lending for BSAI crab QS, OMB approval to use that authority was not forthcoming until 3/29/11, too late for a complete loan process that fiscal year. July 5, 2011 was the first date for which an approval letter for crab QS was issued at the start of the 2011/12 crab-fishing year.

Post-Delivery Transfers

Effective September 14, 2009, final rule 74 FR 41092, August 14, 2009 implemented Amendment 28 to the FMP for BSAI King and Tanner Crabs to allow postdelivery transfers of all types of individual fishing quota (IFQ) and individual processing quota (IPQ) to cover overages. This rule reduced the number of reported overages by delaying evaluation of potential inseason overage violations to year-end.

Program Information

Detailed information about all aspects of the Crab Rationalization Program is available on our website at alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/sustainablefisheries/crab/crfaq.htm .

A Program Contacts section is at the back of this document.

Program/Agency Contacts

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