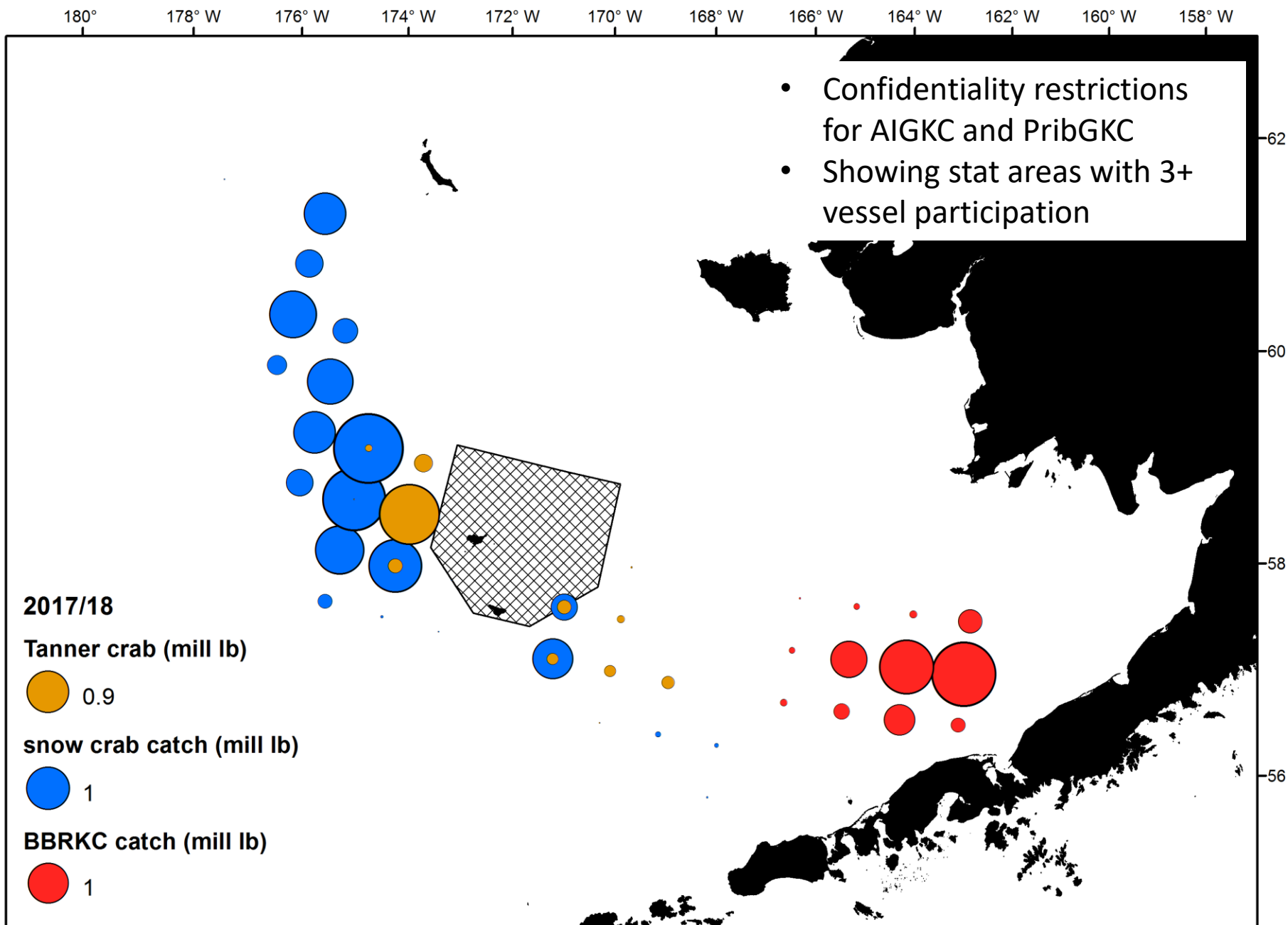
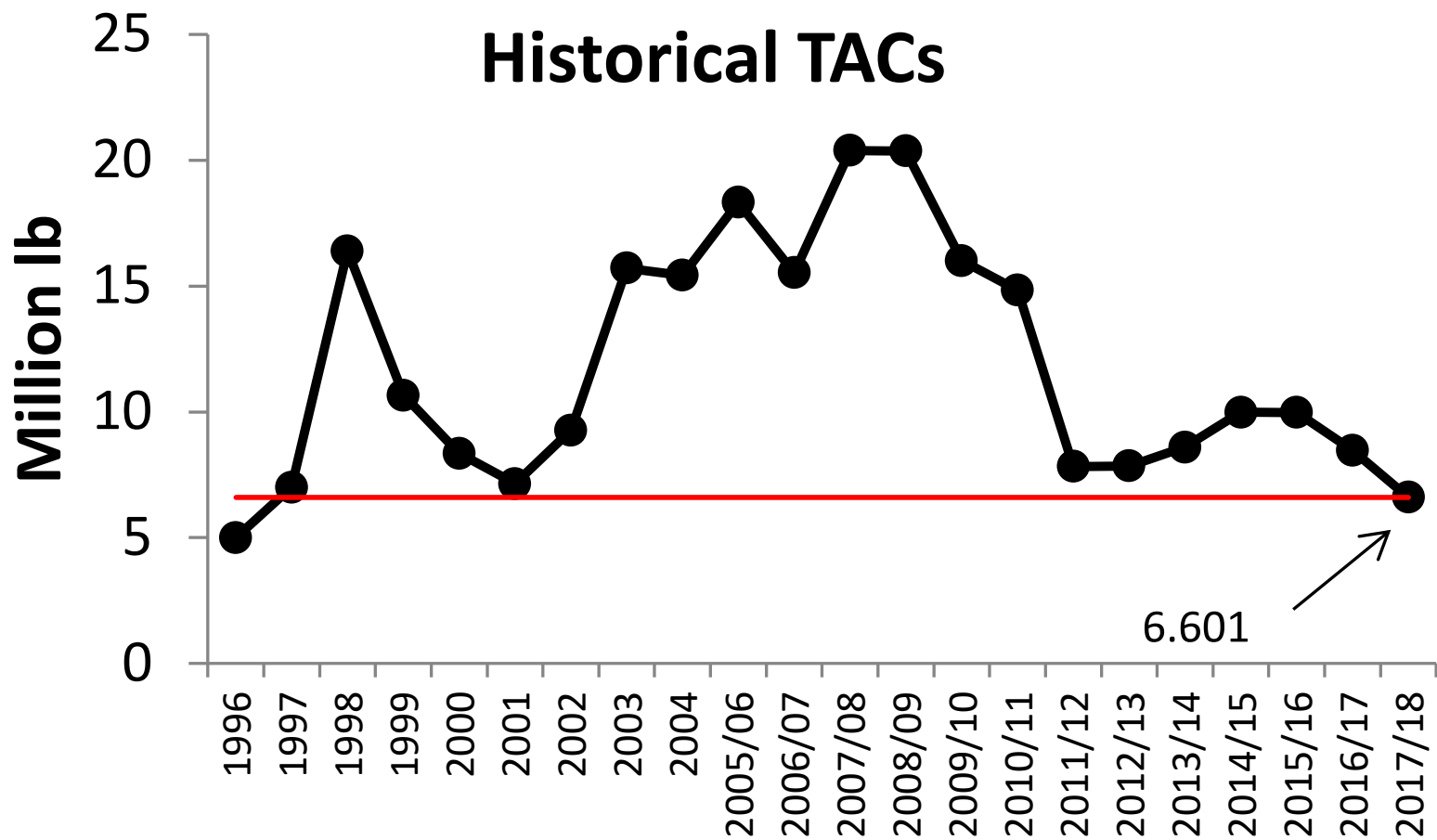


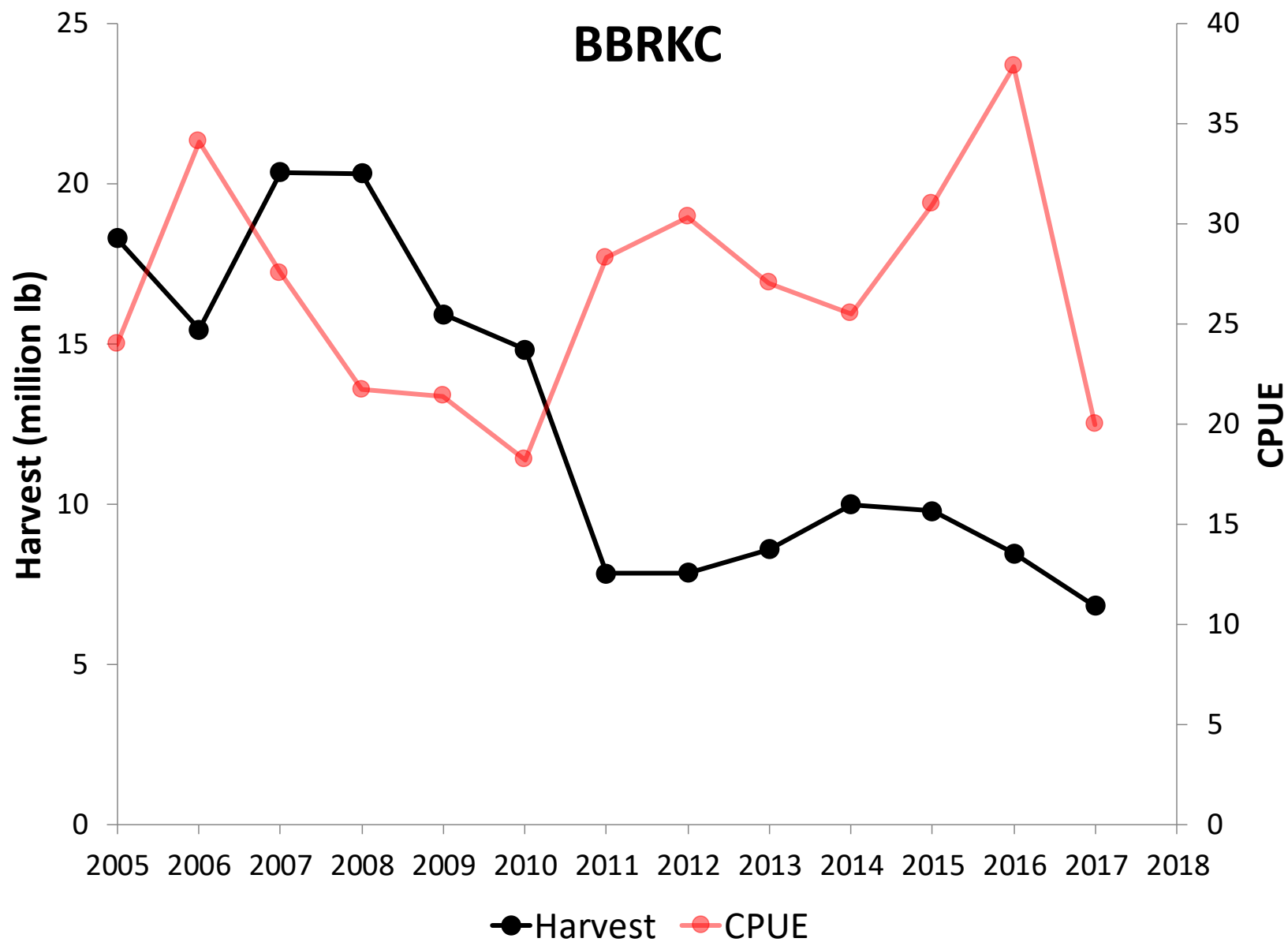
2017/18 BSAI crab catch and fishery performance

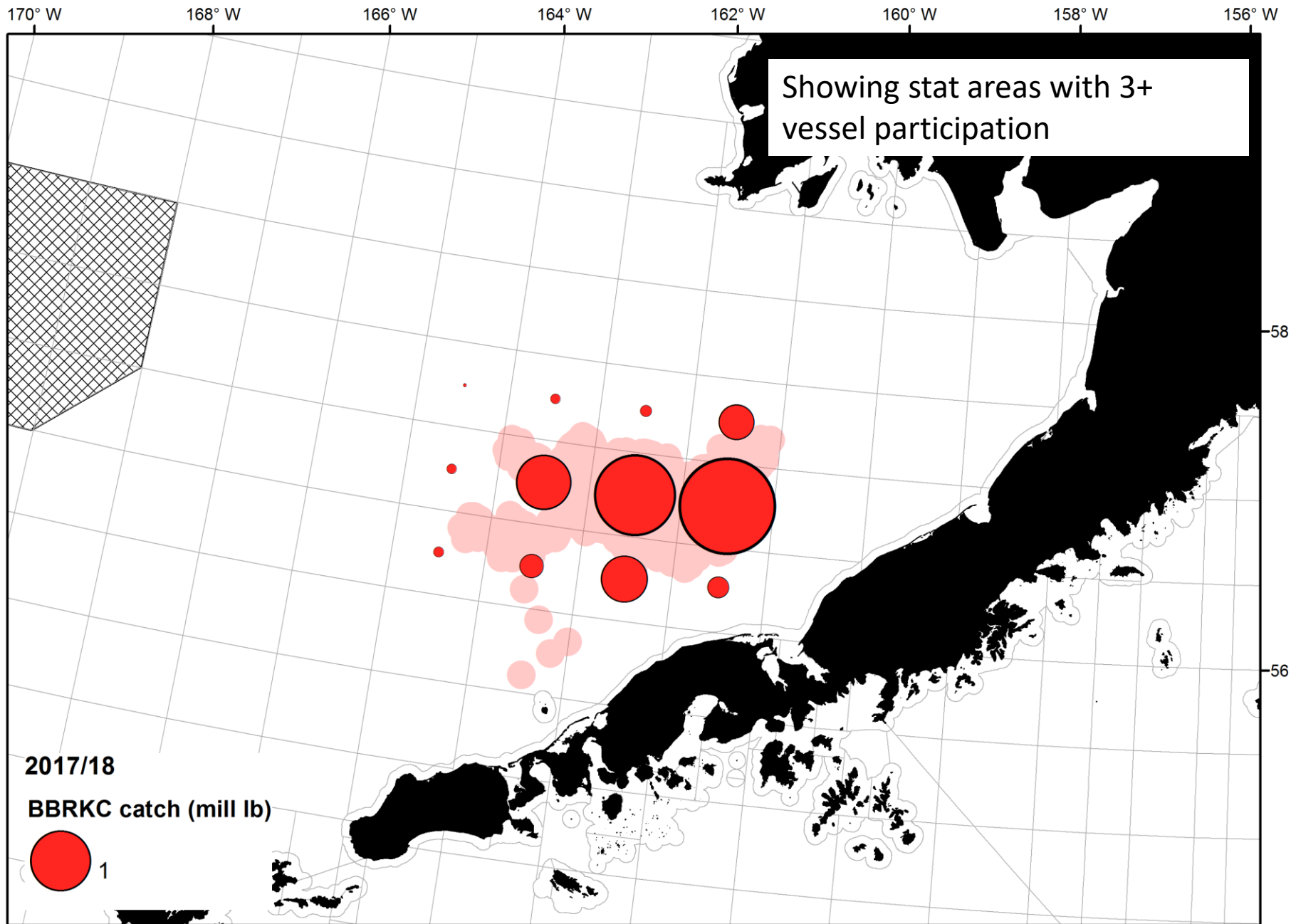
Benjamin Daly
Crab Plan Team Meeting
September 10-13, 2018
Seattle, WA



BBRKC







2017/18 BBRKC Observations

- Captains reported one “school” of fast-moving crab on the grounds.
- Vessels would stay on top of the “school” to mark it and call in other vessels to area (radio fishing).
- Majority of vessels did not locate crab in their first sets (spots that were good fishing the year before) and had to immediately move gear and prospect other areas.
- One vessel, C/P Baranof, did not fish until January, CPUE was very low
- Observer CPUE (crab/pot)

Min – 0.4

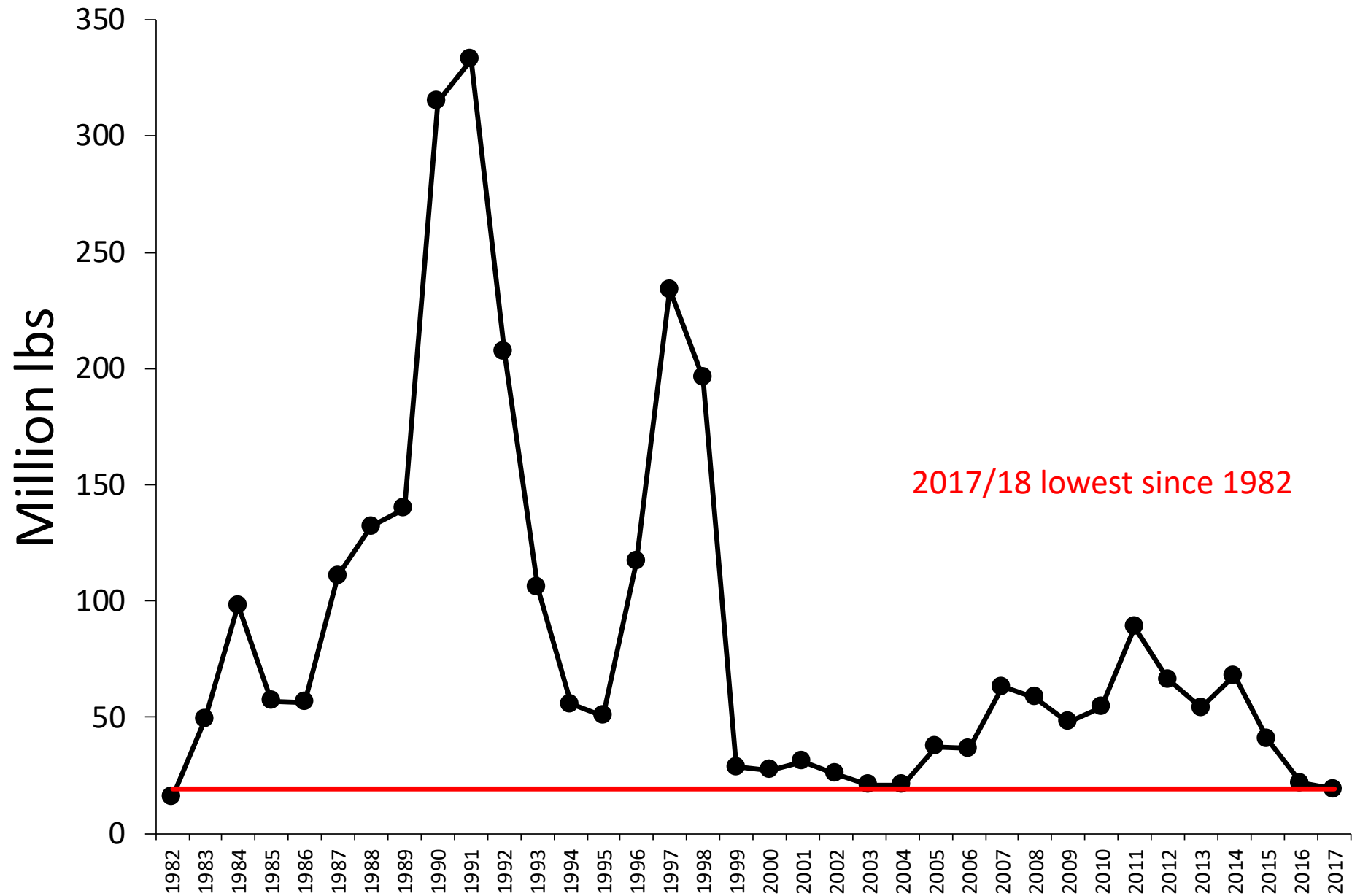
Max – 47

Avg – 17.2

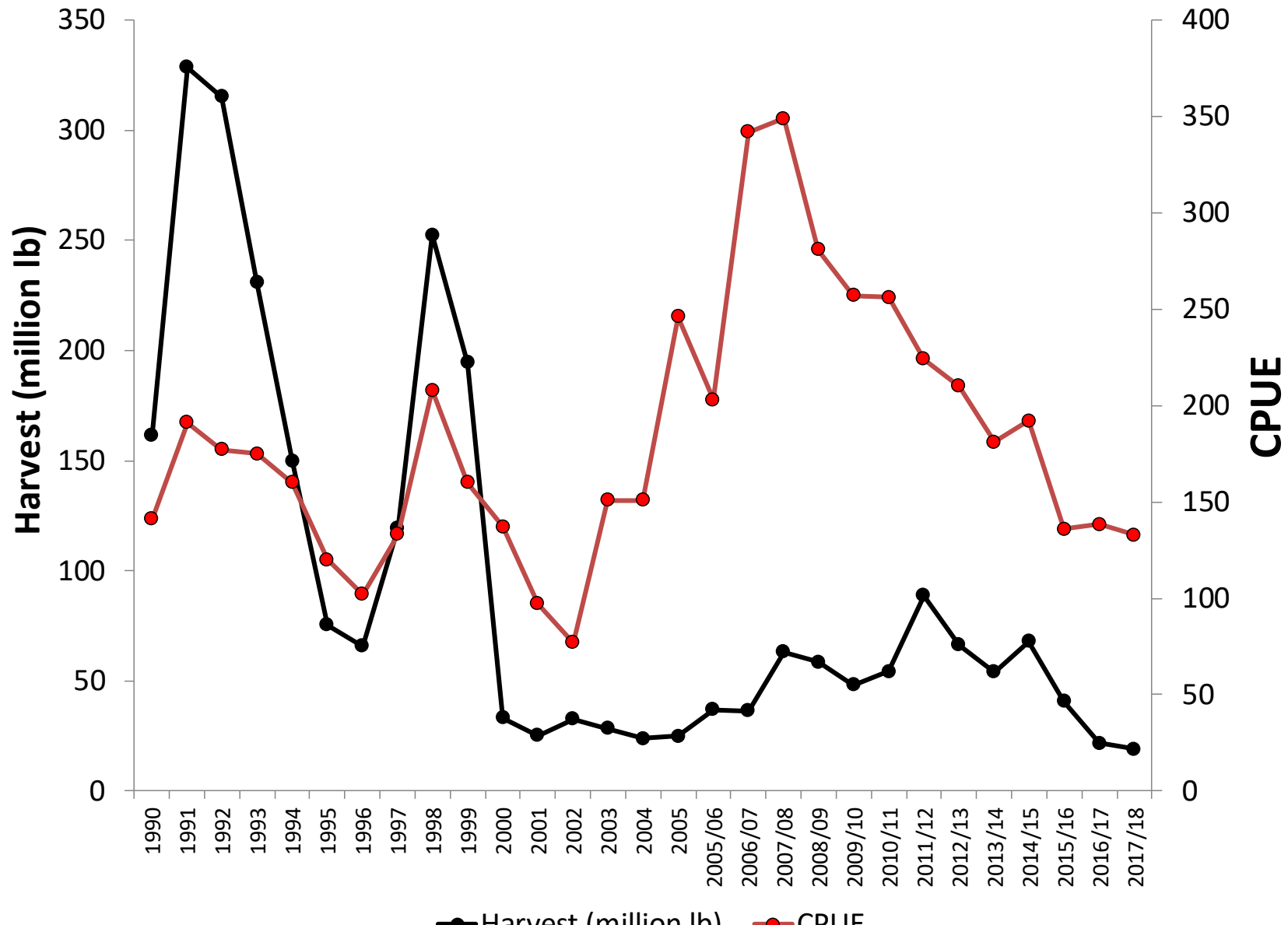
StDv – 9.9

Snow crab

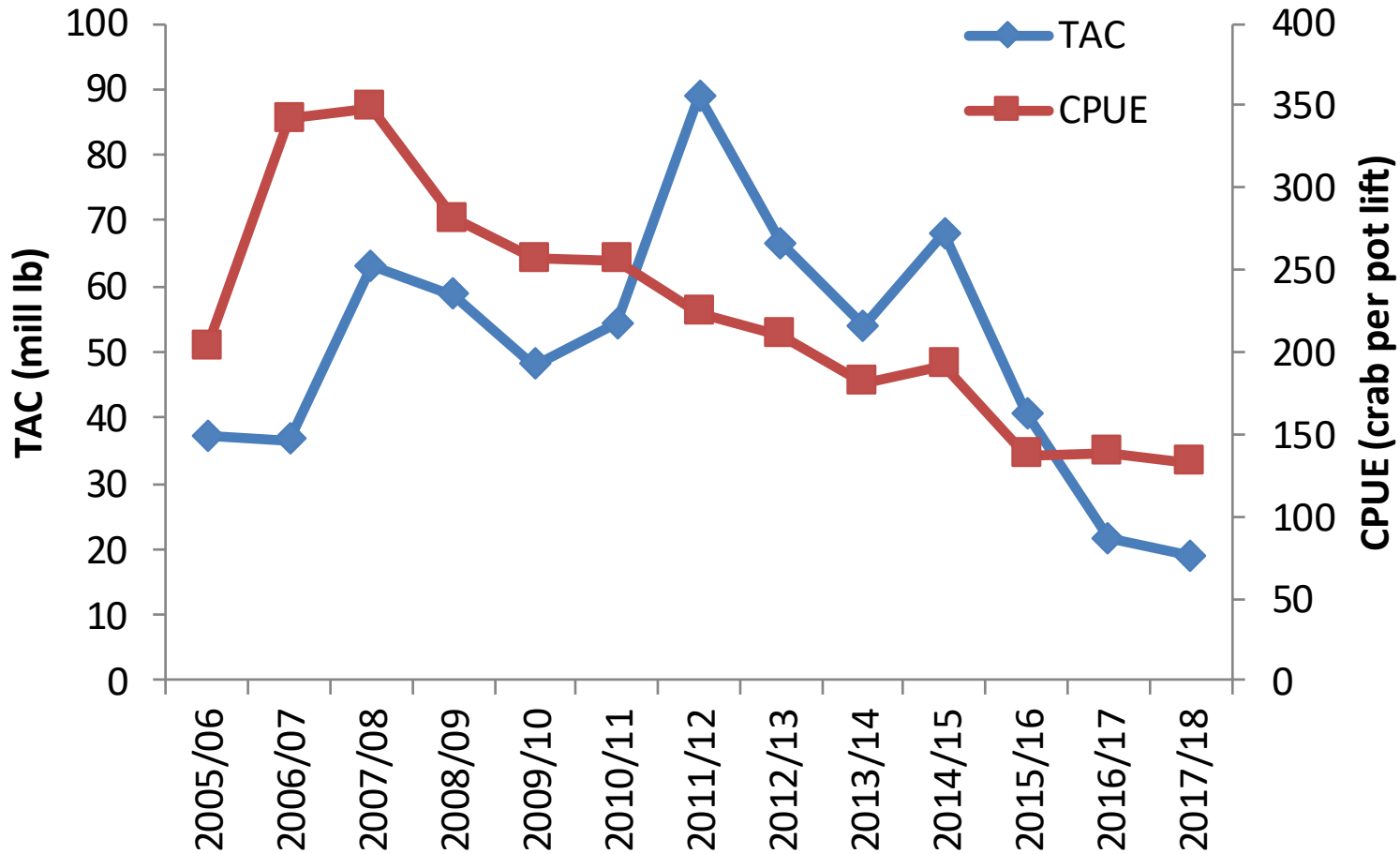
Historical TACs

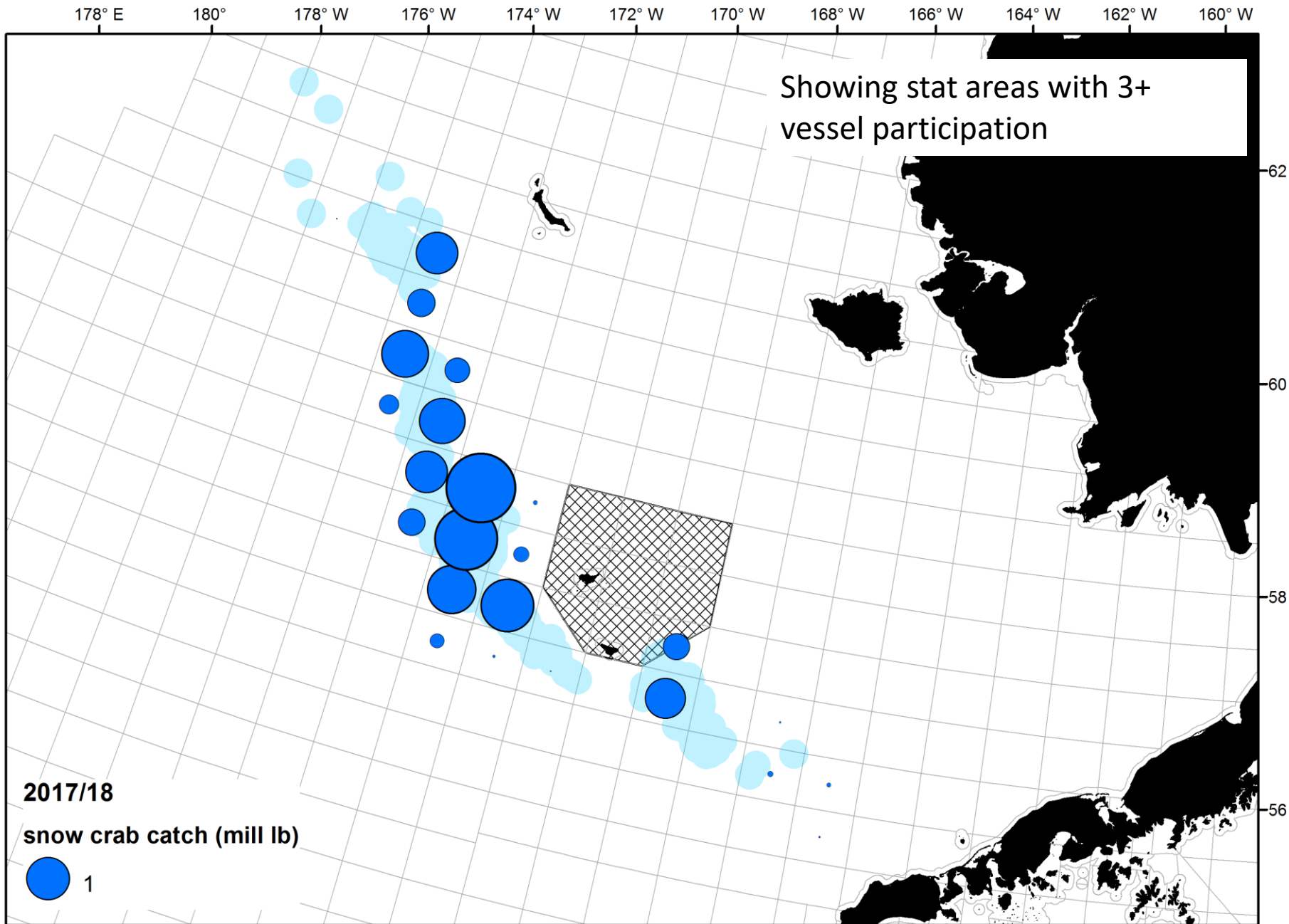


Snow crab



Snow crab





2017/18 BSS Observations

- Large disparity between individual fishing vessel performance.
- Fleet was split between traditional opilio grounds S/SW of the Pribilof's and much farther north to an area SW of Saint Matthew Island (SMI).
- Fishing SW of SMI produced strong numbers while the other opilio grounds were spotty and inconsistent.
- Sea ice was not an issue, but frequent powerful storms and the long run-time limited the number of vessels capable of fishing SW of SMI.
- Captains fishing up north reported some of the best opilio fishing in a long time, while others (S/SW of Pribilof's) reported the worst fishing they had ever seen.
- Observer CPUE (crab/pot)

Min – 0.40

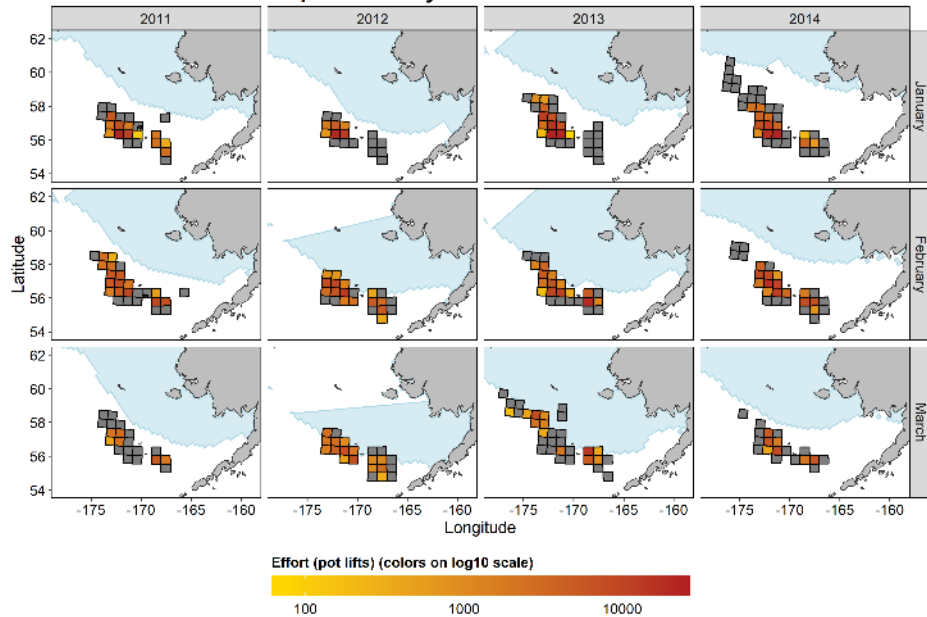
Max – 368.8

Avg – 125.6

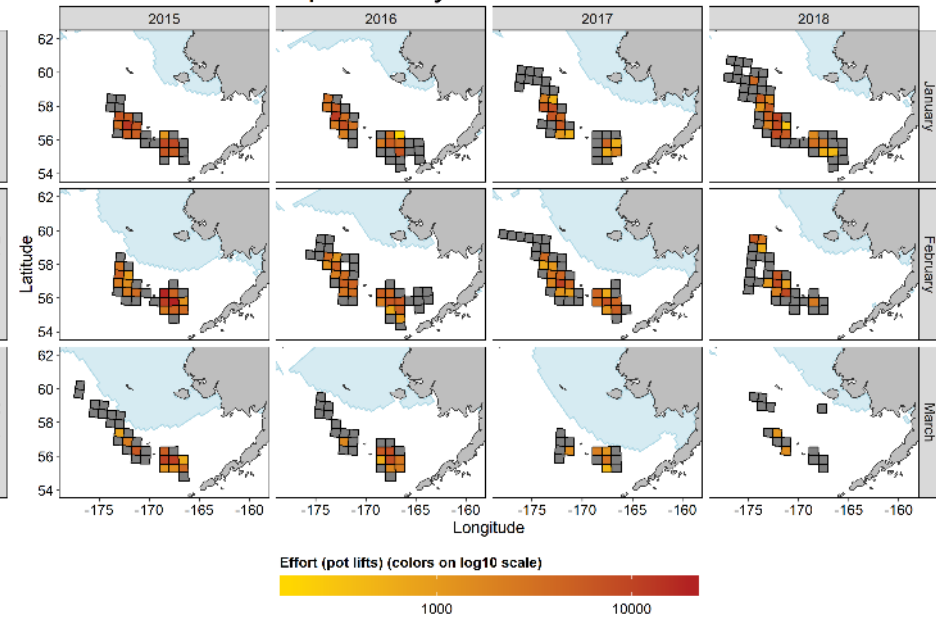
StDv – 84.3

Fishery effort and sea ice

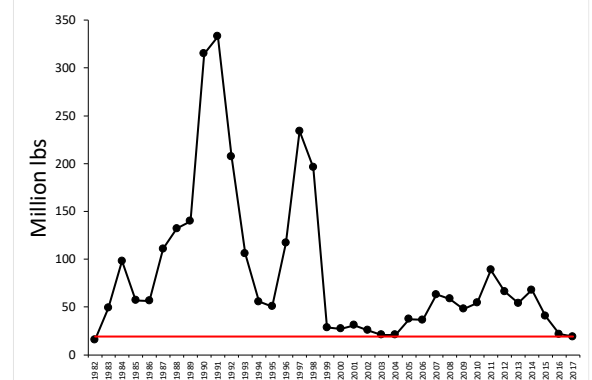
EBS *C. opilio* Fishery in Relation to Sea Ice Extent



EBS *C. opilio* Fishery in Relation to Sea Ice Extent



Historical TACs



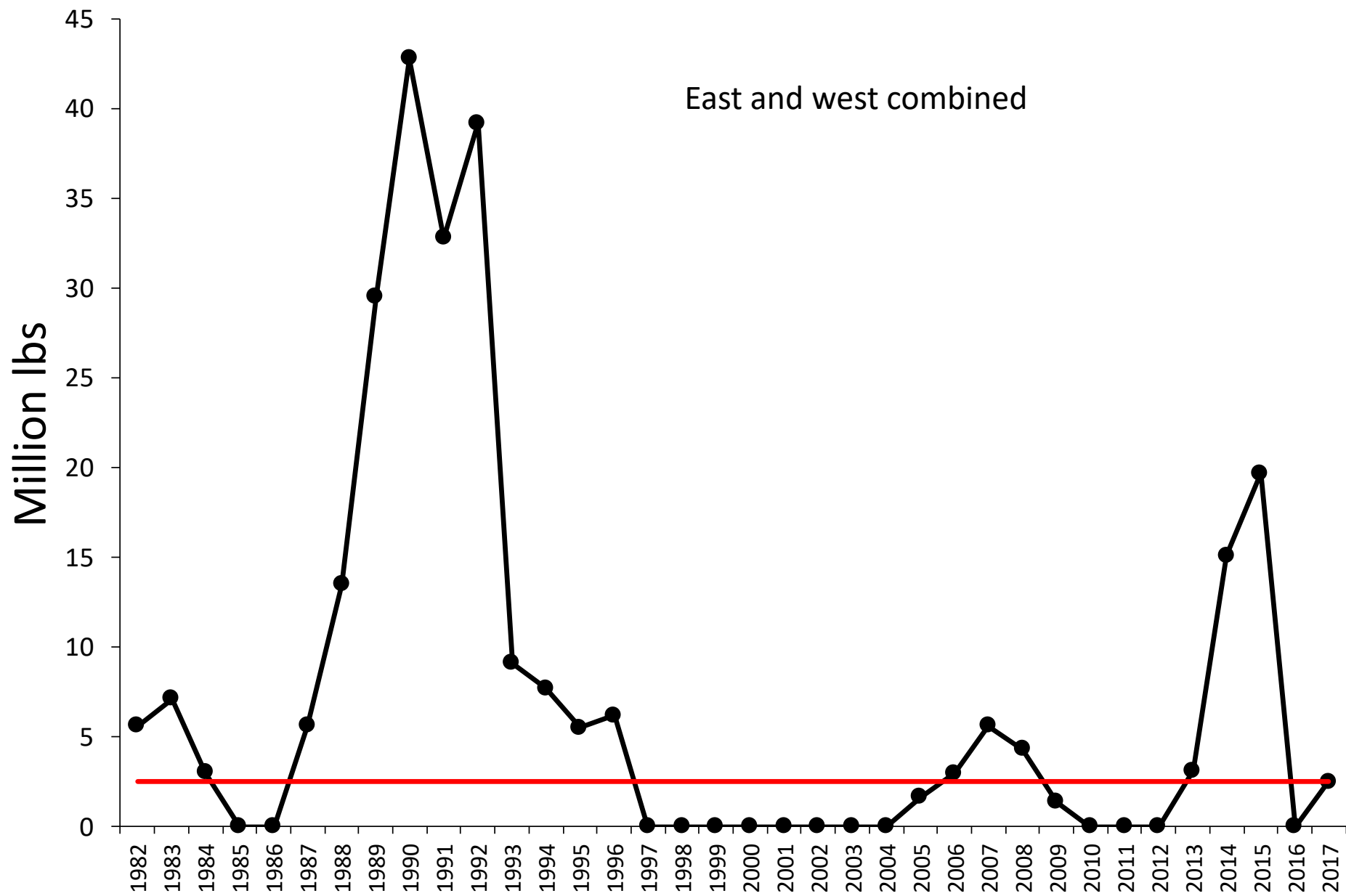
Maps prepared by Tyler Jackson, ADF&G, Kodiak

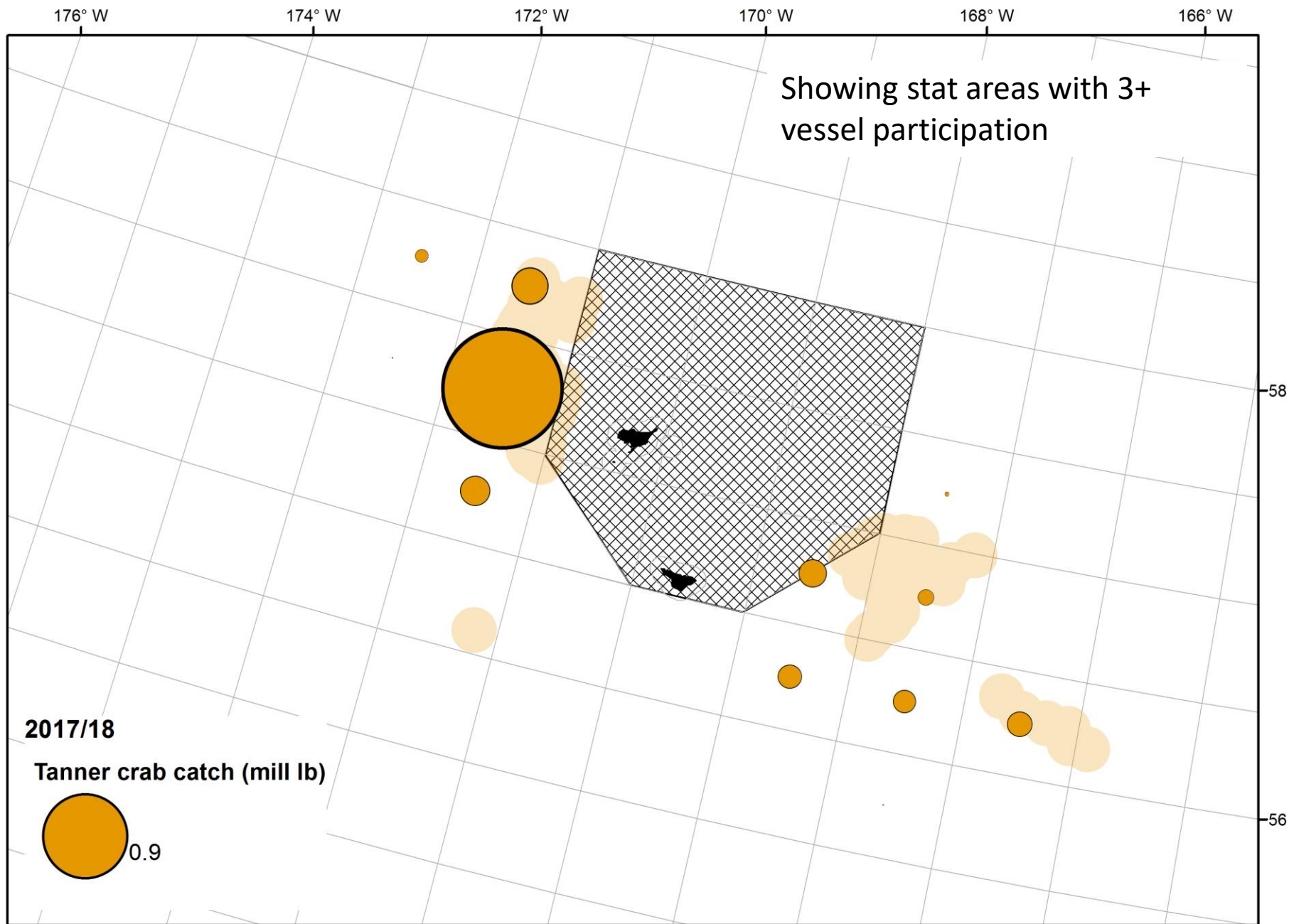
Sea ice data: NOAA/University of Colorado

<ftp://sidads.colorado.edu/DATASETS/NOAA/G02135/>

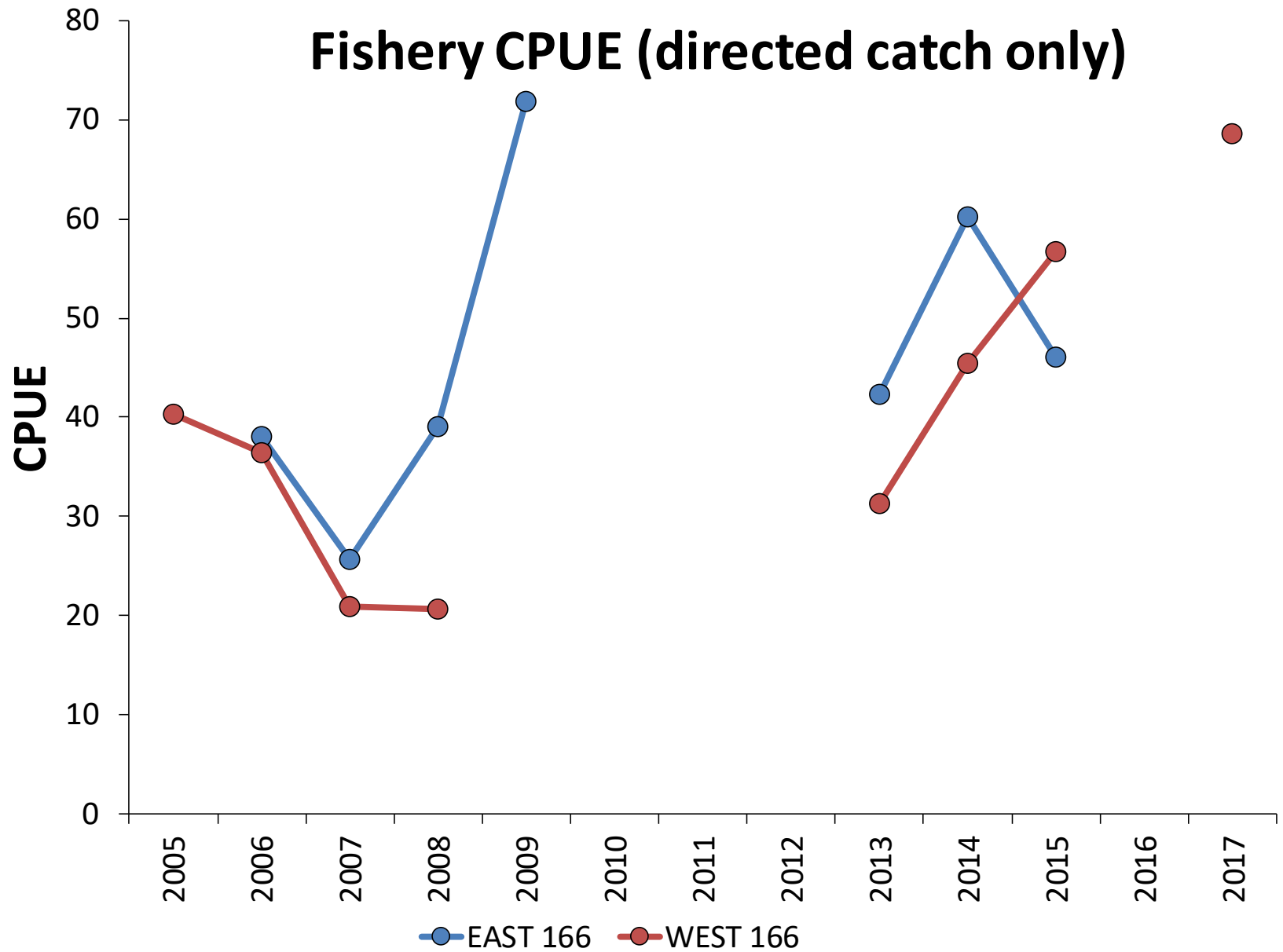
Tanner crab

Historical TACs





Fishery CPUE (directed catch only)



2017/18 WBT Observations

- Fishing was generally strong and consistent for all vessels.
- A handful of vessels started fishing WBT immediately after BBRKC and were able to quickly catch their quota and make deliveries to Trident Saint Paul.
- Observer CPUE (crab/pot)

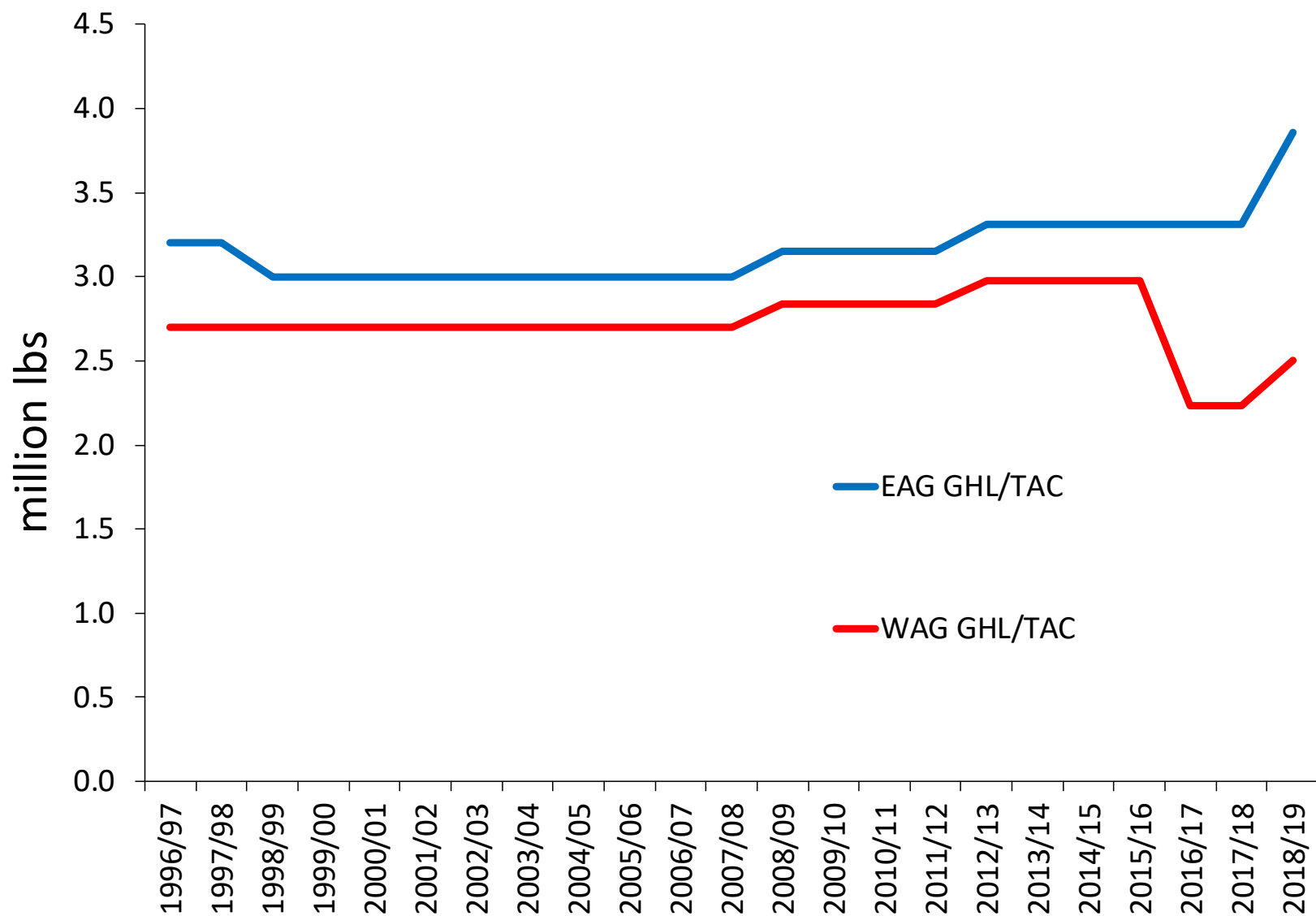
Min – 13.7

Max – 126.4

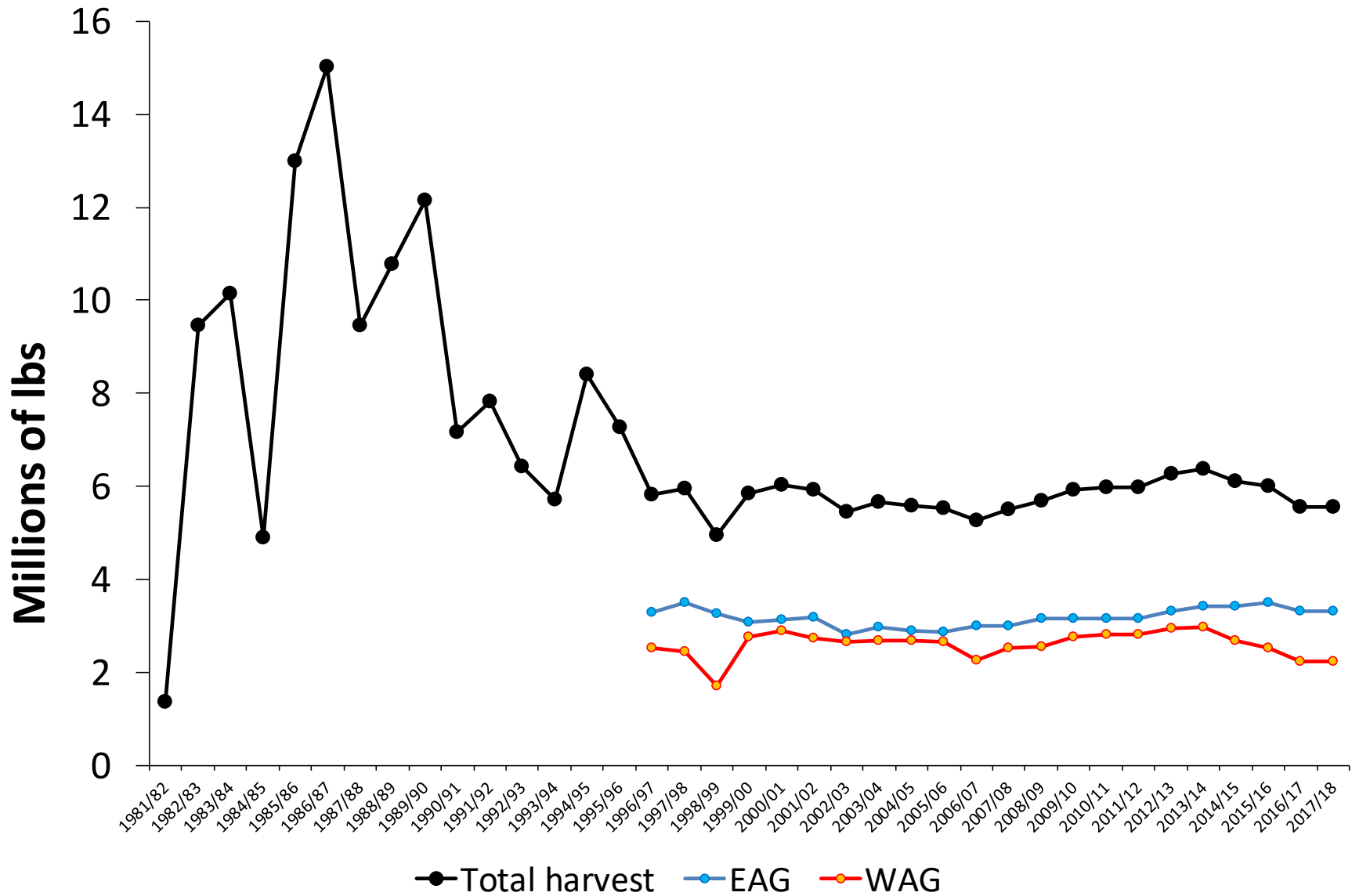
Avg – 64.3

StDv – 35

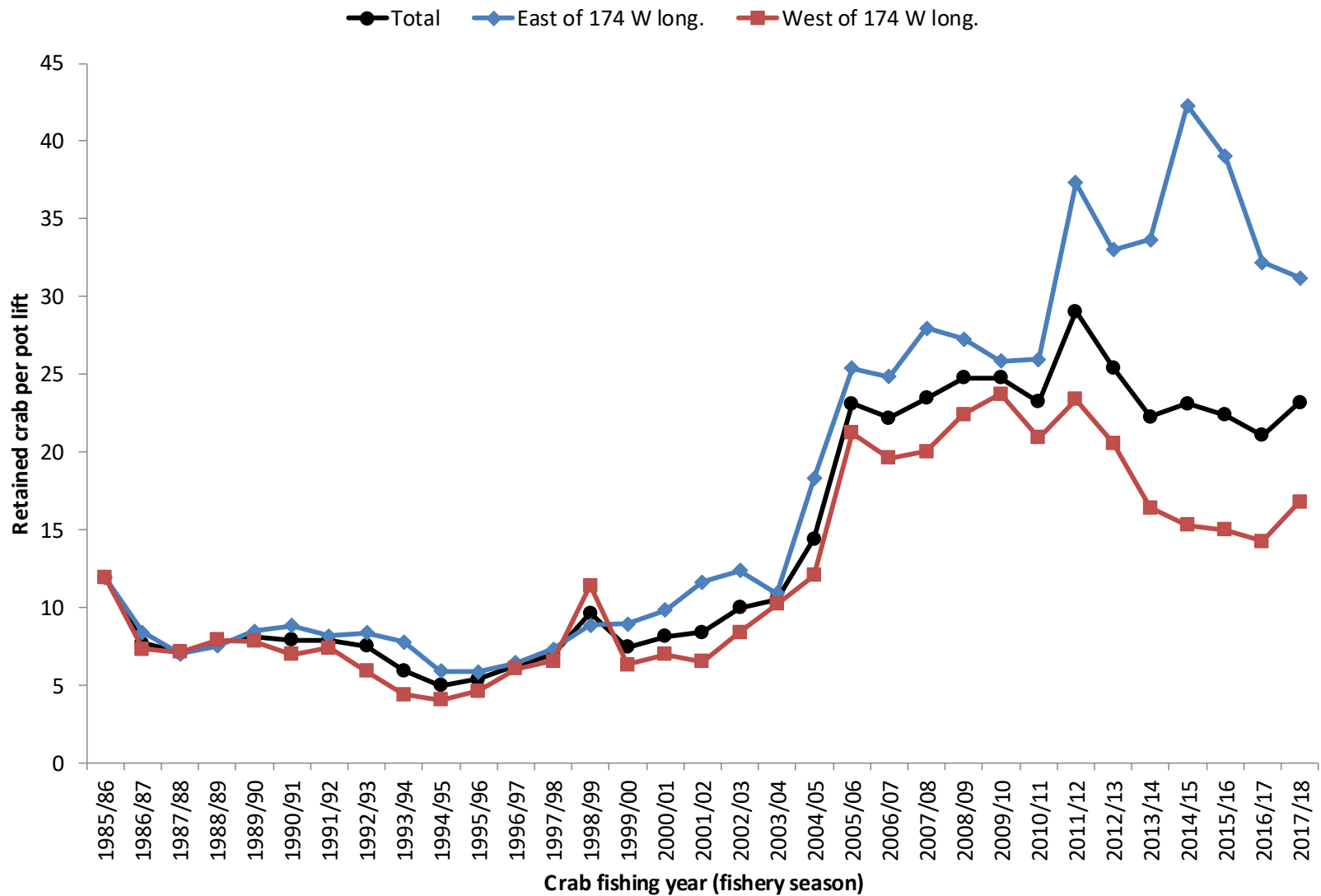
AIGKC



Total AIGKC harvest



CPUE



AIGKC: Harvest Spatial Distribution

- Many stat areas had only 1 or 2 vessels fish
 - Confidential
- Fairly consistent spatial distribution of harvest relative to past years*
 - *Some fishery effort/harvest occurred farther west than normal in WAG

Pribilof GKC

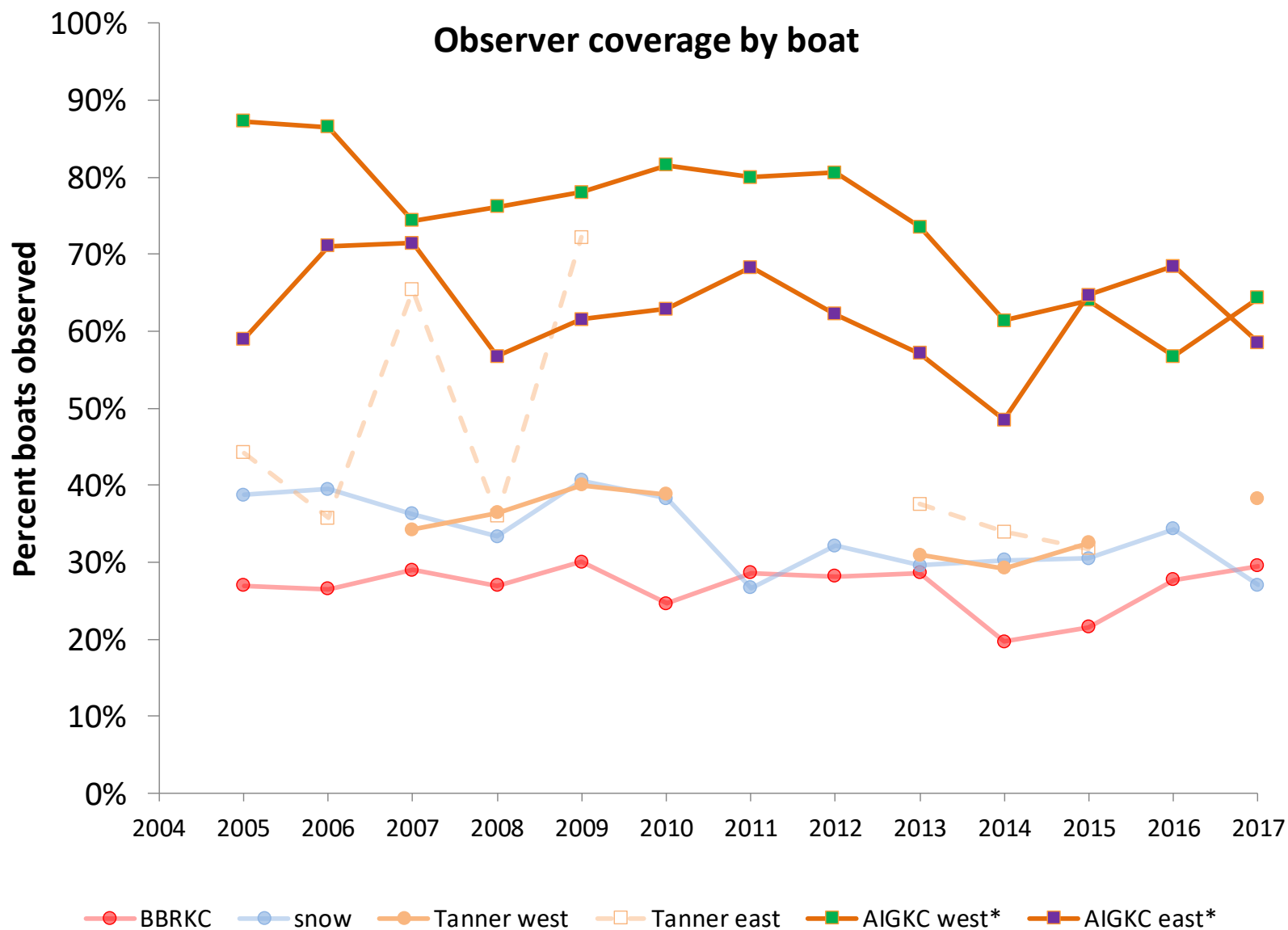
- Fishery conducted by calendar year
- 2 vessels participated in the 2017 fishery
 - Specific catch numbers + spatial data confidential
 - GHL = 130,000 lb (59 t) was achieved

Mandatory catcher-vessel coverage requirements in FMP BSAI commercial crab fisheries, per **5 AAC 39.645**. All vessels processing crab must carry observers.

Fishery	Coverage
Bering Sea snow crab	30-100% (a)
Bristol Bay red king crab	20% (a)
Bering Sea Tanner crab	30-100% (a)
Pribilof District red king crab	100%
Pribilof District blue king crab	100%
Saint Matthew Island blue king crab	100%
Norton Sound red king crab	Discretionary
Aleutian Islands golden king crab	50% (b)
Pribilof District golden king crab	100%
Adak red king crab	100%

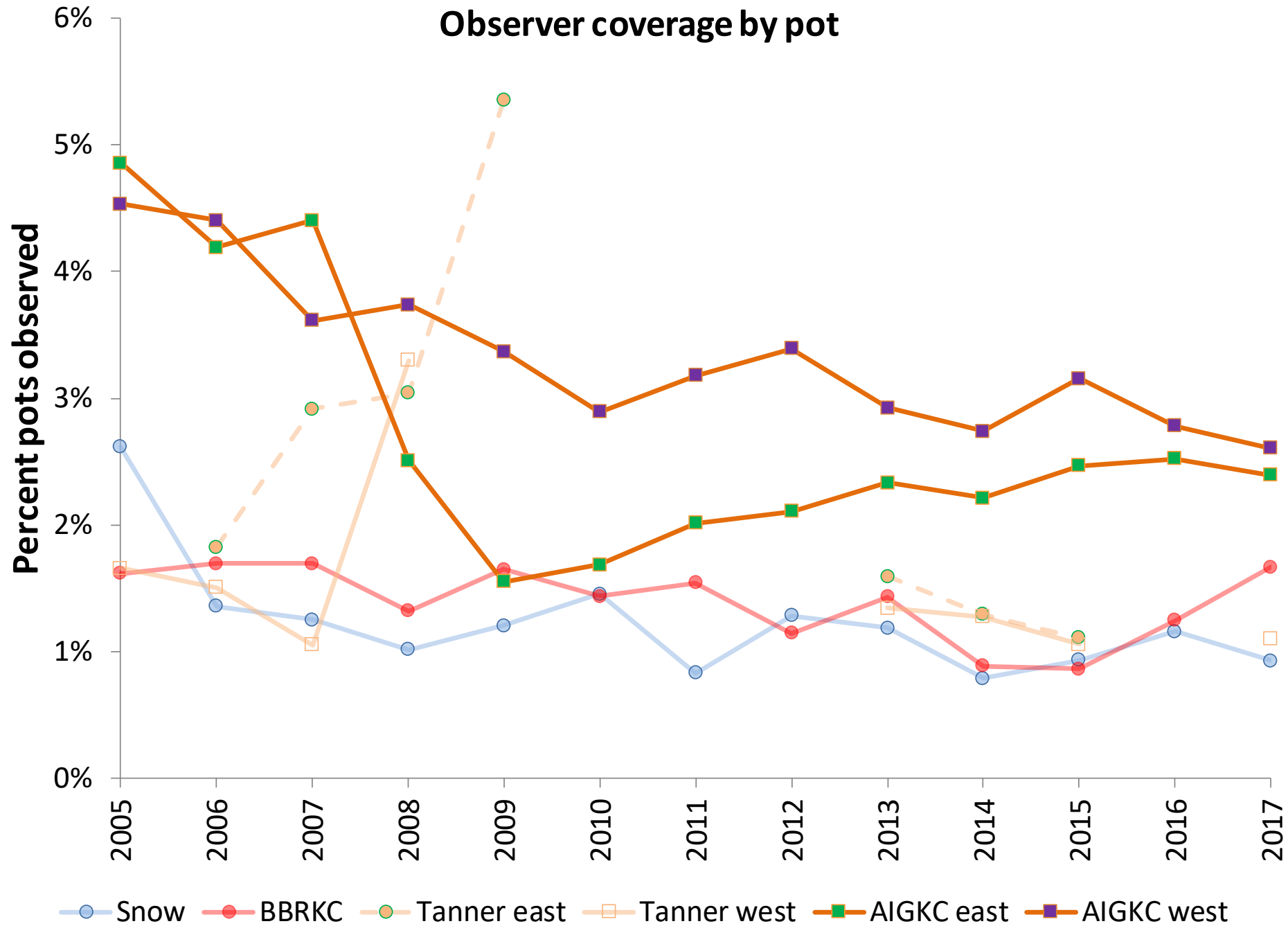
^a Vessels required to carry observers are randomly selected.

^b All catcher vessels must carry an observer during harvest of 50% of total landed catch weight in each three-month trimester of nine-month season Aug 1 – Oct 31; Nov 1 – Jan 31; Feb 1 – April 30.



*AIGKC calculated by trip because of trimester regulation

Observer coverage by pot



Crab observer coverage tracking update:

- Previous observer coverage tracking by fishery: by vessel
 - observed vessels / total vessels = coverage %
 - BBRKC example: 12 vessels with observers onboard / 60 total vessels = 20% observer coverage for BBRKC
- New observer coverage in-season tracking: by landed weight

2017/18 BBRKC Observed vs Unobserved Summary

Observers Onboard	Landed Weight (sum)	% of Weight Obs	Days at Sea	% of Days at Sea
Not Observed	4,716,873	71.46%	625	75.60%
Observed	1,884,049	28.54%	253	24.40%