

FISHERIES

Leadership & Sustainability

FORUM

Examples from the Pacific

*Management context, perspectives and lessons learned**

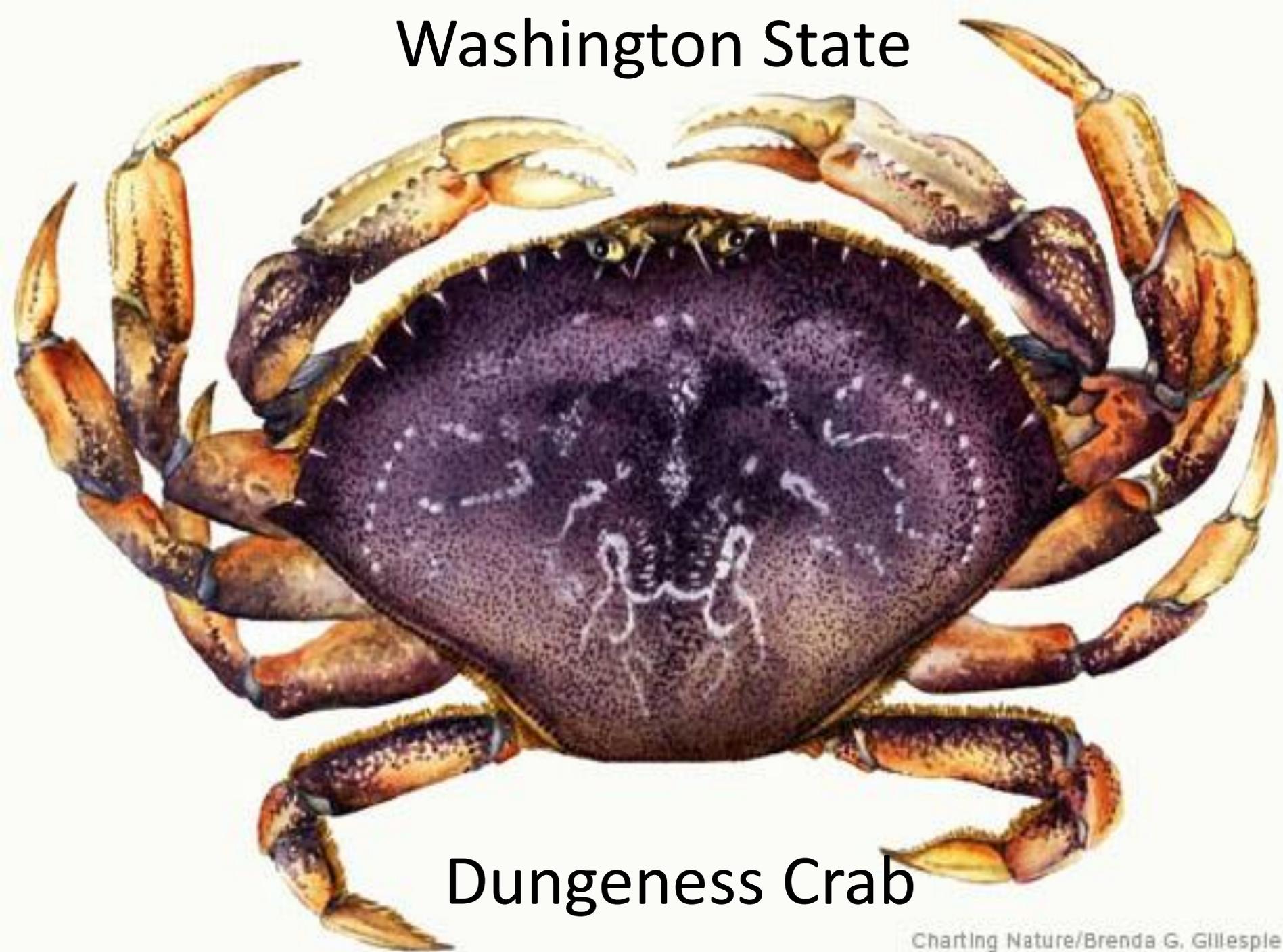
NEFMC Inshore Scallop Fishing Workshop
February 23, 2016

Kim Gordon

Co-Director, Fisheries Leadership & Sustainability Forum

**This presentation shares ideas, perspectives and lessons learned from individuals involved in the development and implementation of the management program for two Pacific fisheries. The content of this presentation is not intended to be comprehensive; the purpose is to share insights from other regions to support workshop discussions.*

Washington State



Dungeness Crab



A

597-617

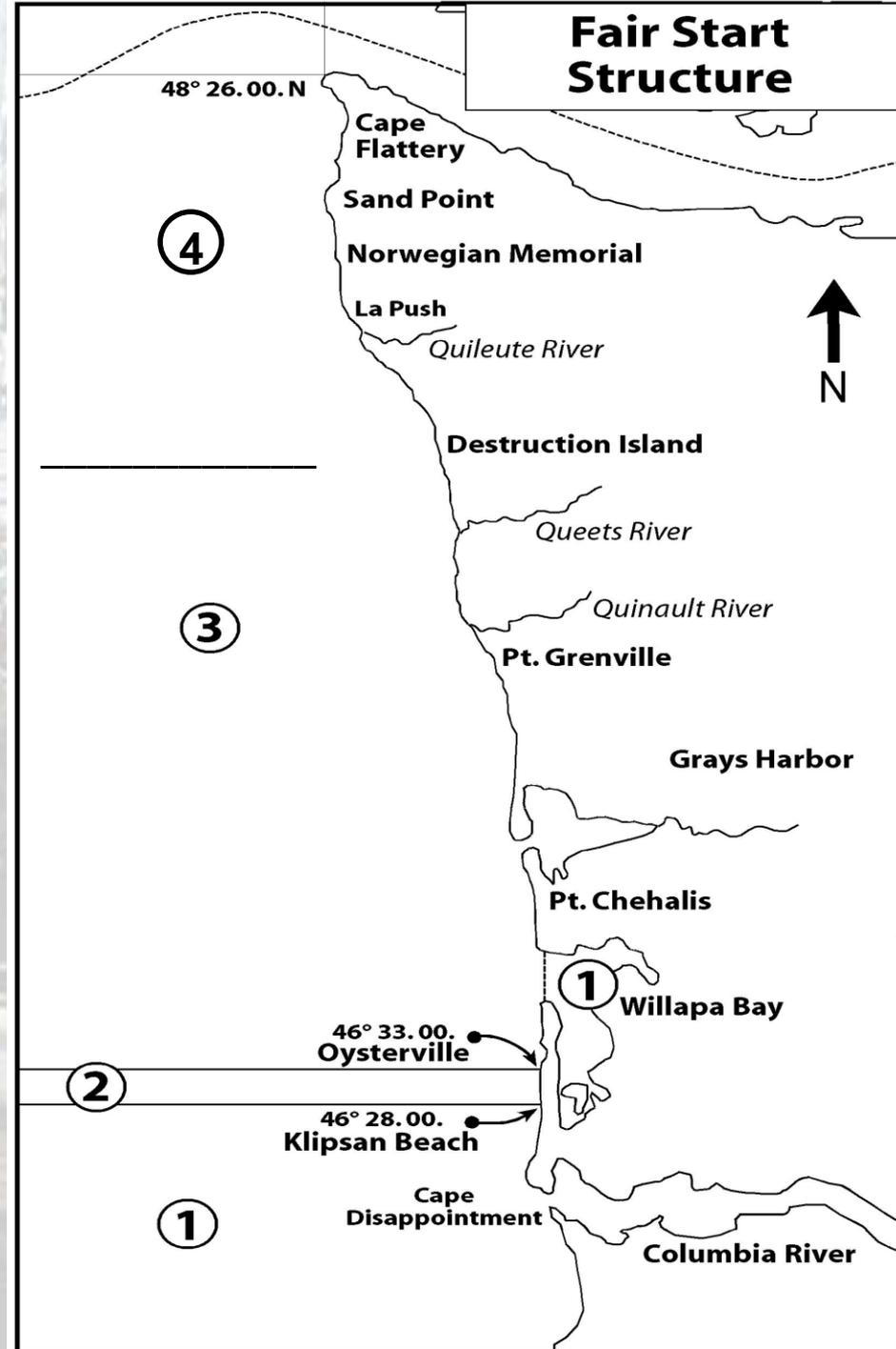
FG 3252

“Fair Start” Structure Principles

- Fairly **distribute the burden** among Washington license holders to meet the State’s obligation to share the harvest with the treaty Indian tribes
- Seek to **maintain the historical balance** of harvest opportunity between vessel classes and consider the relative impacts on small to mid-sized vessels that typically fish closer to ports
- Promote orderly fisheries that **minimize effort transfers** and crowding associated with seasonal differences between geographic areas
- Provide each license holder with an **equal opportunity** for a fair start and equal fishing opportunity.
- Consider the annual geographic **changes in crab abundance** on the Washington coast
- Consider the **need of processors** to have access to the resource

“Fair Start” Management Framework

- Region is divided into 4 areas, with a delayed start structure
- Those that fish in the areas that open first have a delay in accessing northern areas
- Treaty tribes get exclusive access to area 4 when the fishery first opens
- Season opening depends on shell conditions
 - Southern resource is usually ready first



“Fair Start” Management Framework

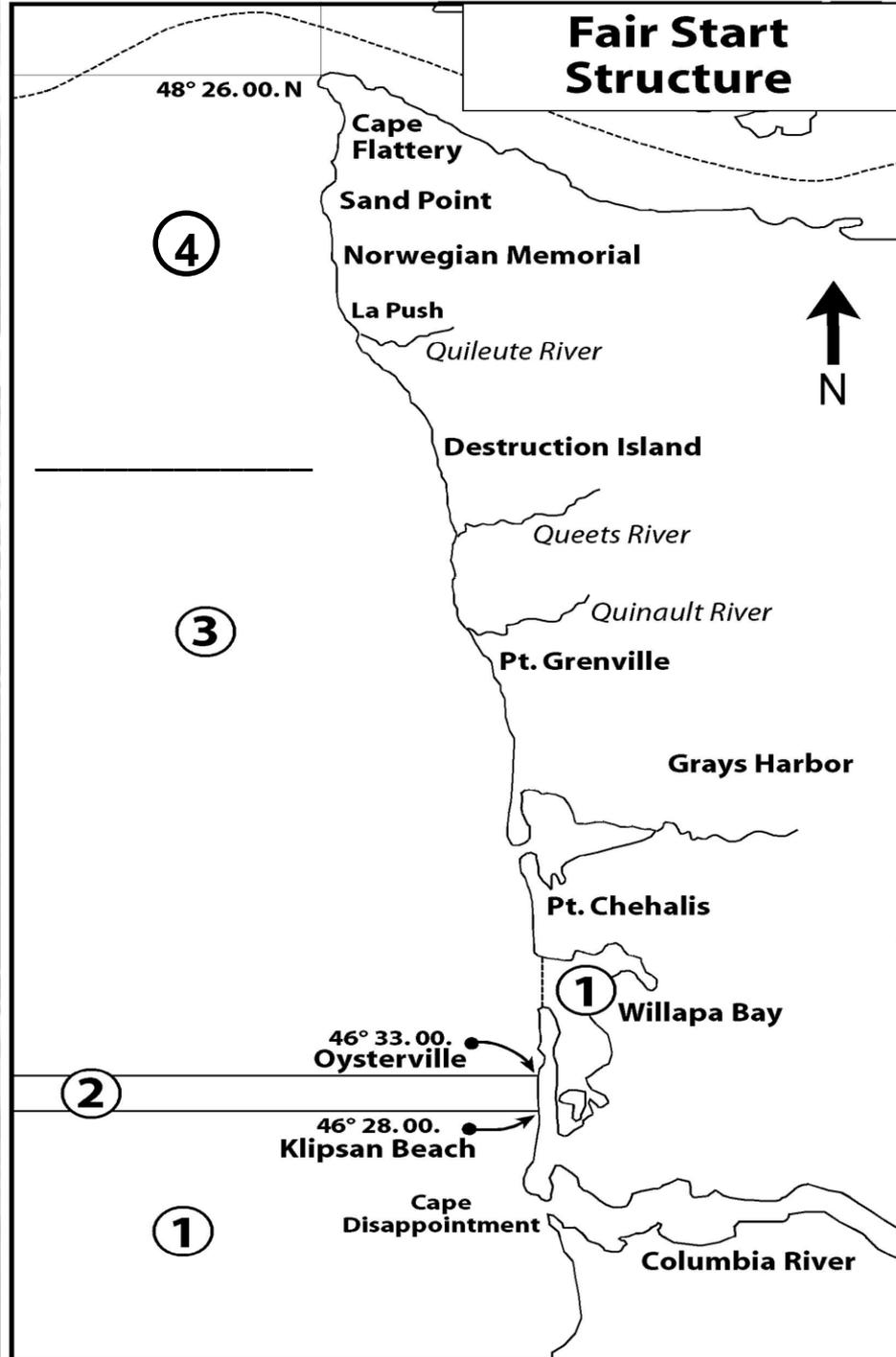
Area 1 opens first

- Any WA vessel can fish once the area opens

Area 2 and 3 open later

- Immediate access for vessels who did not fish in area 1
- Delayed access for vessels who did fish in area 1

Area 4 opens to Treaty Tribe access before commercial access



*Map courtesy of WA Department of Fish and Wildlife staff

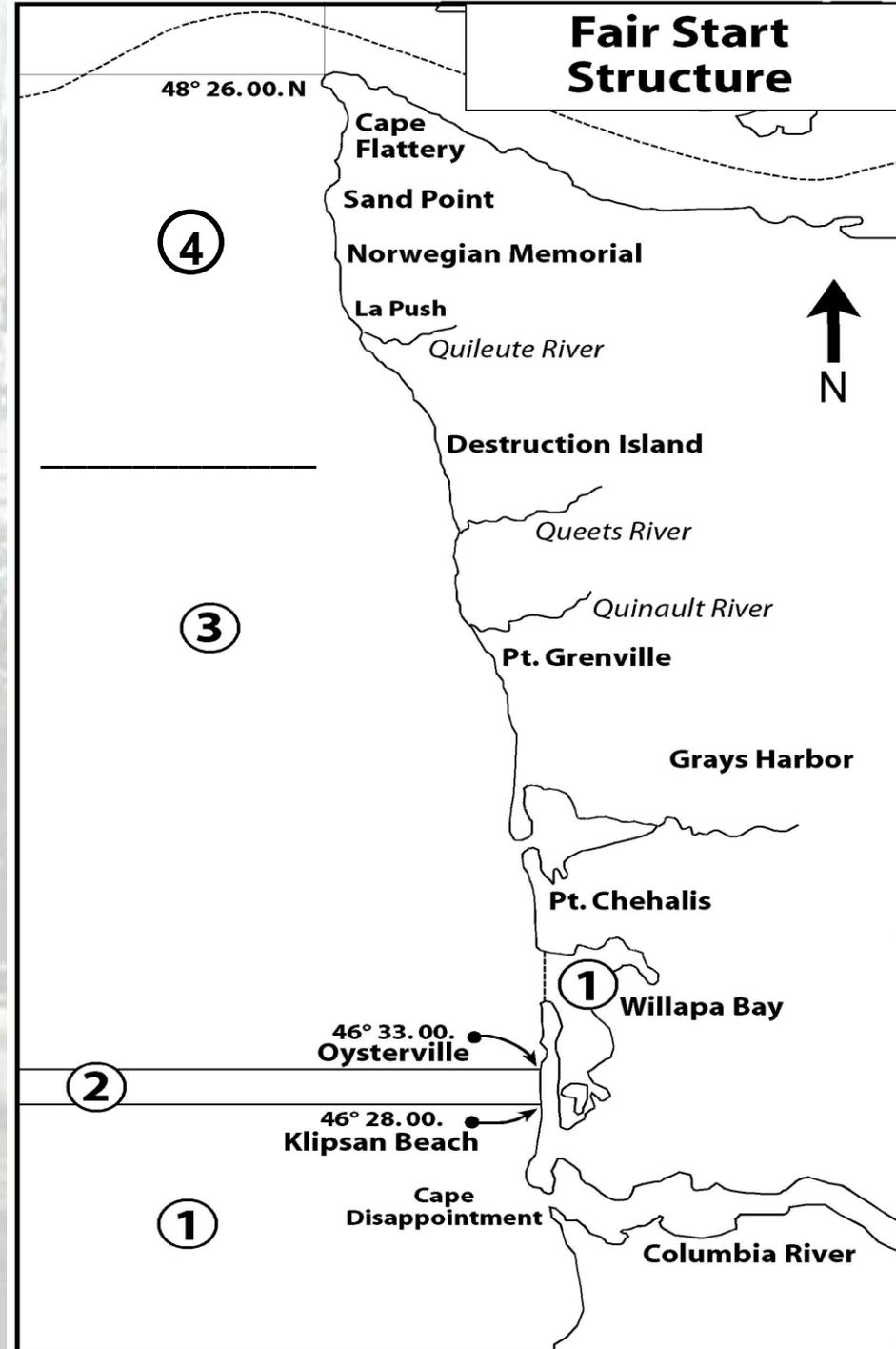
For fishers who start early:

Area 1 (Klipsan Beach to WA/OR border) opens with Oregon

Area 2 (Klipsan to Oysterville) opens 10 days after the area north of Klipsan opens to fishers who did not start early.

Area 3 (Oysterville to Destruction Island) opens 35 days after the area north of Klipsan opens to fishers who did not start early.

Area 4 (Destruction Island to US.Canada border) opens in conjunction with area 3 when possible; in consideration of state/tribal agreements, and weather criteria.



Fair Start Structure

48° 26.00. N

Cape Flattery

Sand Point

Norwegian Memorial

La Push

Quileute River

Destruction Island

Queets River

Quinault River

Pt. Grenville

Grays Harbor

Pt. Chehalis

Willapa Bay

46° 33.00.
Oysterville

46° 28.00.
Klipsan Beach

Cape Disappointment

Columbia River



4

3

2

1

1

Summary / Lessons Learned

- An example of **time/are management** and a **choice/tradeoff framework**
- Set up to provide fair and equitable access among the commercial fleet **given the constraints** (tribal access, variability in resource conditions)
- Allows fishermen to make **individual tradeoff decisions** based on their needs and business model (markets, participation in other fisheries, etc.)
- Was developed with a lot of **back and forth with the industry** and an industry advisory board
- Lessons Learned:
 - Allowing for choice has worked well
 - Still evolving: the management framework will need to evolve as the resource and needs of the fleet change.

Sitka Sound Local Area Management Plan (LAMP)



Concerns and Task Force

The concerns:

- Completion between commercial, recreational, sport and tribal fishermen for halibut
- Localized resource depletion in Sitka Sound

Sitka Fish & Game Advisory Committee appointed the Sitka Halibut Task Force

- Composed of 7 members from all different user groups
- Charged with developing a consensus plan to address the specific problems with appropriate management prescriptions

Task Force Process

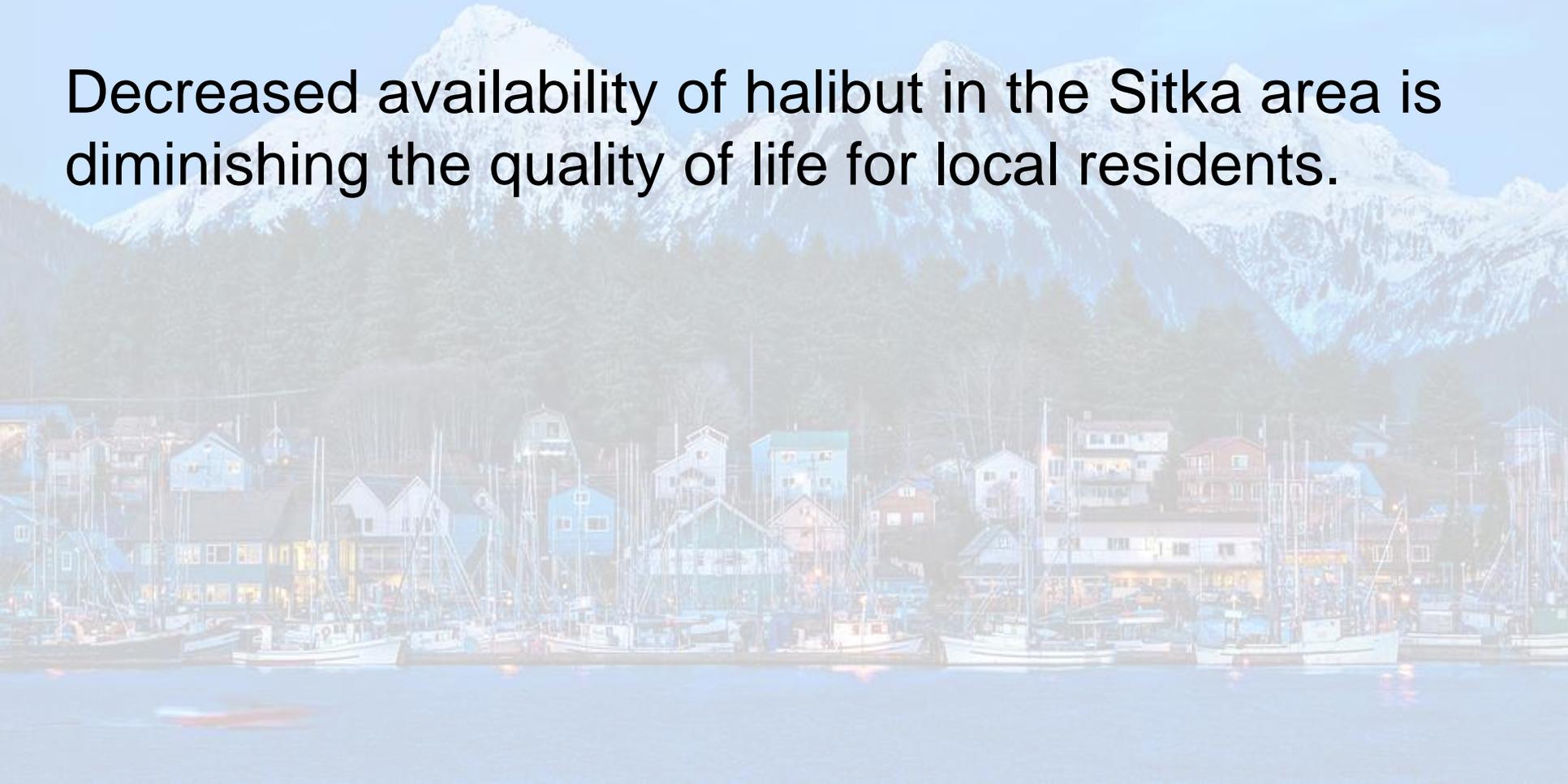
An industry facilitator led the group through the following consensus based process:

- 1) Develop a problem statement and goal;
- 2) Review information;
- 3) Identify the scope and scale of the issue; and
- 4) Develop a consensus plan.

Task Force Process

Problem Statement

Decreased availability of halibut in the Sitka area is diminishing the quality of life for local residents.



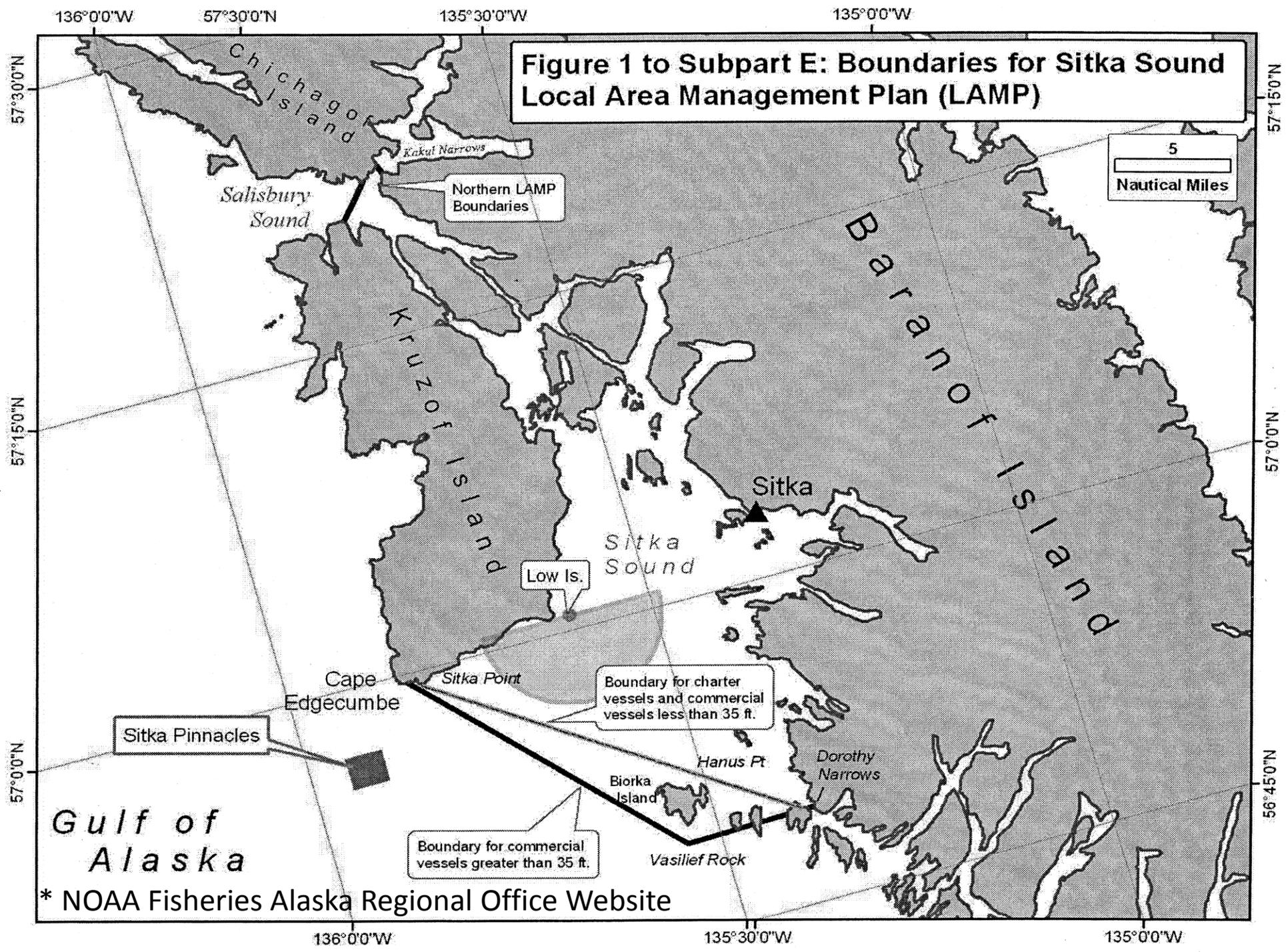


Figure 1 to Subpart E: Boundaries for Sitka Sound Local Area Management Plan (LAMP)

5
Nautical Miles

Northern LAMP Boundaries

Low Is.

Boundary for charter vessels and commercial vessels less than 35 ft.

Boundary for commercial vessels greater than 35 ft.

Gulf of Alaska

* NOAA Fisheries Alaska Regional Office Website

Reflections on Process

Perspectives from conversations

- Process is important.
 - Developing a tailored process for a specific problem allows you to address the unique aspects of a particular issue (politics, expectations, culture, etc.)
 - Constructing an inclusive and collaborative process develops trust among the group.
- Agree on the problem.
 - It is important to understand the problem (and process) before you begin discussing solutions. At the outset, develop a common problem statement that all parties agree on; and clearly determine the scope and the scale of the problem.
 - It is important to have good information, and to agree on the information that will be used to frame the problem and develop workable solutions.
- Keep the focus on the future.
 - Ground discussions in hopes and visions. Contrast visions for a desired future with status quo to determine what is at stake; vision should guide the establishment of goals and the consideration of alternatives.
- Leverage local leaders.
 - It is essential for the task force to be comprised of key industry and community leaders, who can represent their constituents effectively and build buy-in for outcomes.
 - A neutral facilitator is valuable to lead the group and support an effective process.

Reflections on Outcomes

Perspectives from conversations

- While the process was contentious and lengthy, the outcome was worth the effort and could not have been achieved another way.
- It was valuable for managers to give responsibility to local resource users for defining the problem and identifying solutions.
- The LAMP process has had considerable and lasting benefits to the Sitka fishing community in terms of trust and cooperation among resource users.
- The geographic definition to the issue and the clearly defined community of resource users supported a local, community approach.

What do these examples tell us?

