

2022-2023 Crab Season

August 31, 2022





Season Opening Management

Topics

- Klipsan Beach vs. Point Chehalis?
 - Pros and Cons
 - Fair Start?
- Something else?



Open south of Chehalis with Oregon; reduced pot limits; delay to move north

- ✓ *Reduced pot limits until area north of Chehalis open; 300 pots to 250 and 500 pots to 400.*
- ✓ *35-day delay after end of head start, for vessels who start south before they move north.*
 - *Or a more significant (60 day?) delay before moving north after QIN head-start ends*

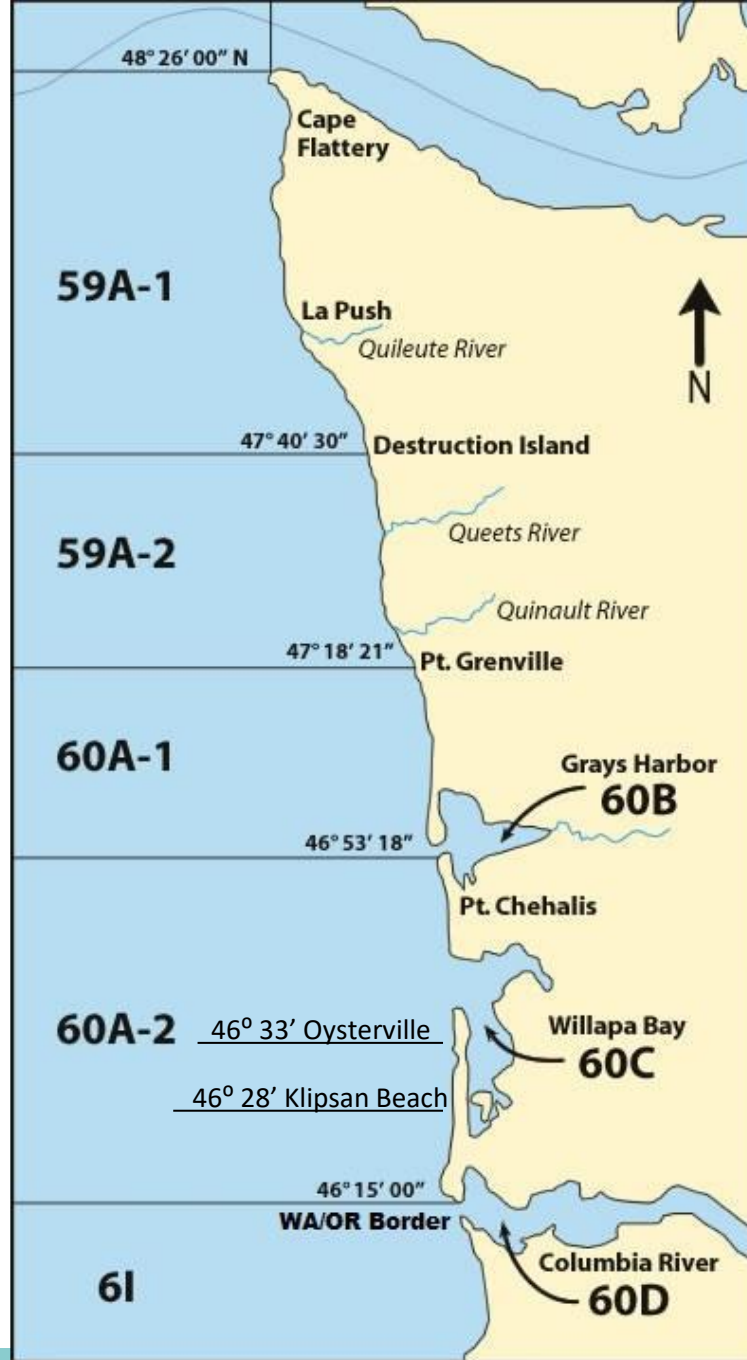
❖ PROS

- Opens an additional 25 miles of area.
 - Reduce crowding in the area south of Klipsan.
 - Reduce fuel costs for boats that start south and deliver catch into Westport.
 - Lines more spread out to reduce entanglement.
- Align management with Catch Area (60A2)
 - Reduce number of boats fishing in both areas north and south of Chehalis after end of head start.
- Allows for more efficient enforcement of the early start line.
 - WDFW Enforcement can quickly run from Westport out to monitor line.

❖ CONS

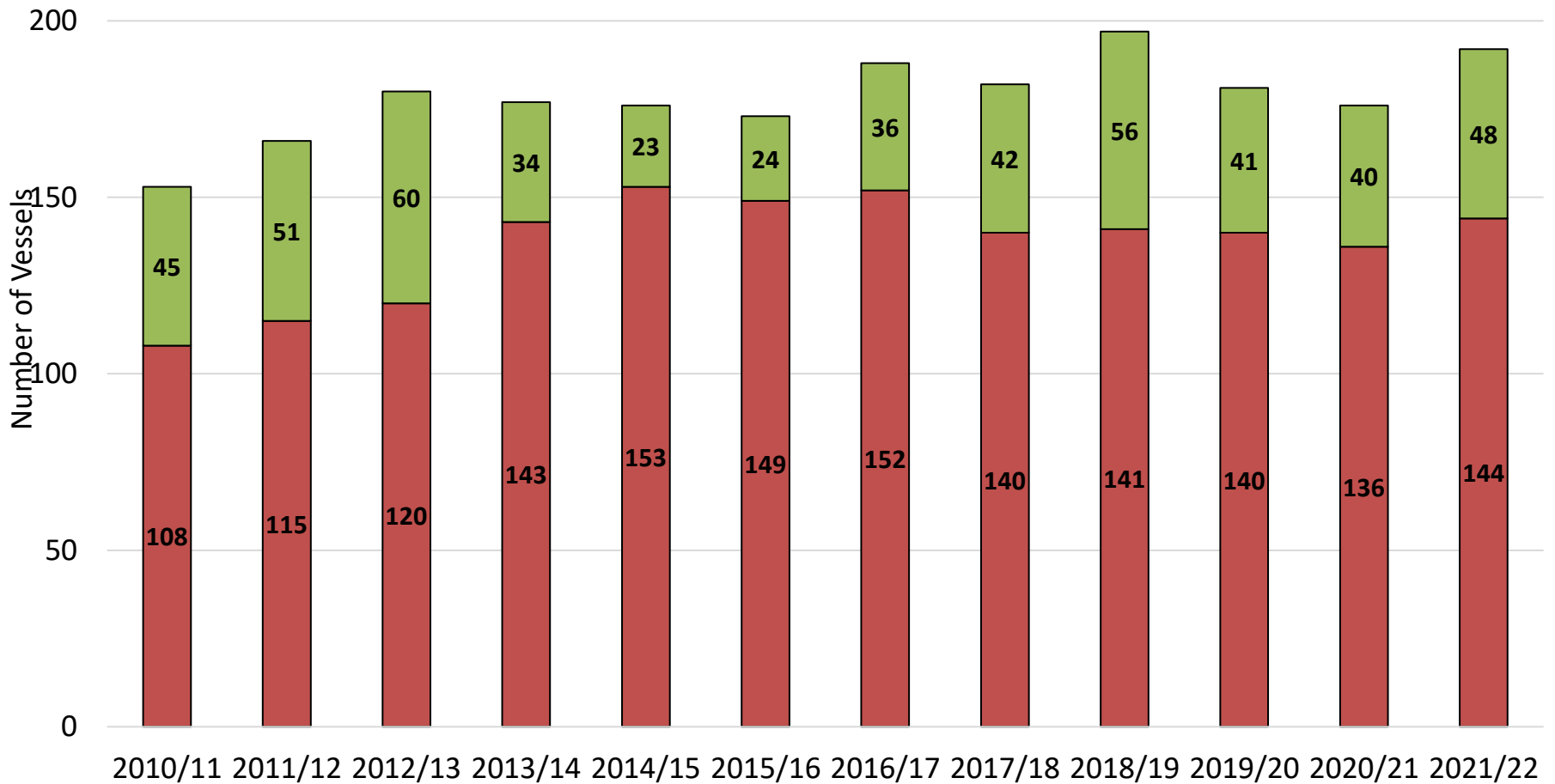
- Possible fewer boat starting north of Chehalis
 - Potential reduction in state catch making it harder to catch up to QIN.
- Divides traditional fishing grounds for some fishers.
- Possible lower price at start for more boats that start early



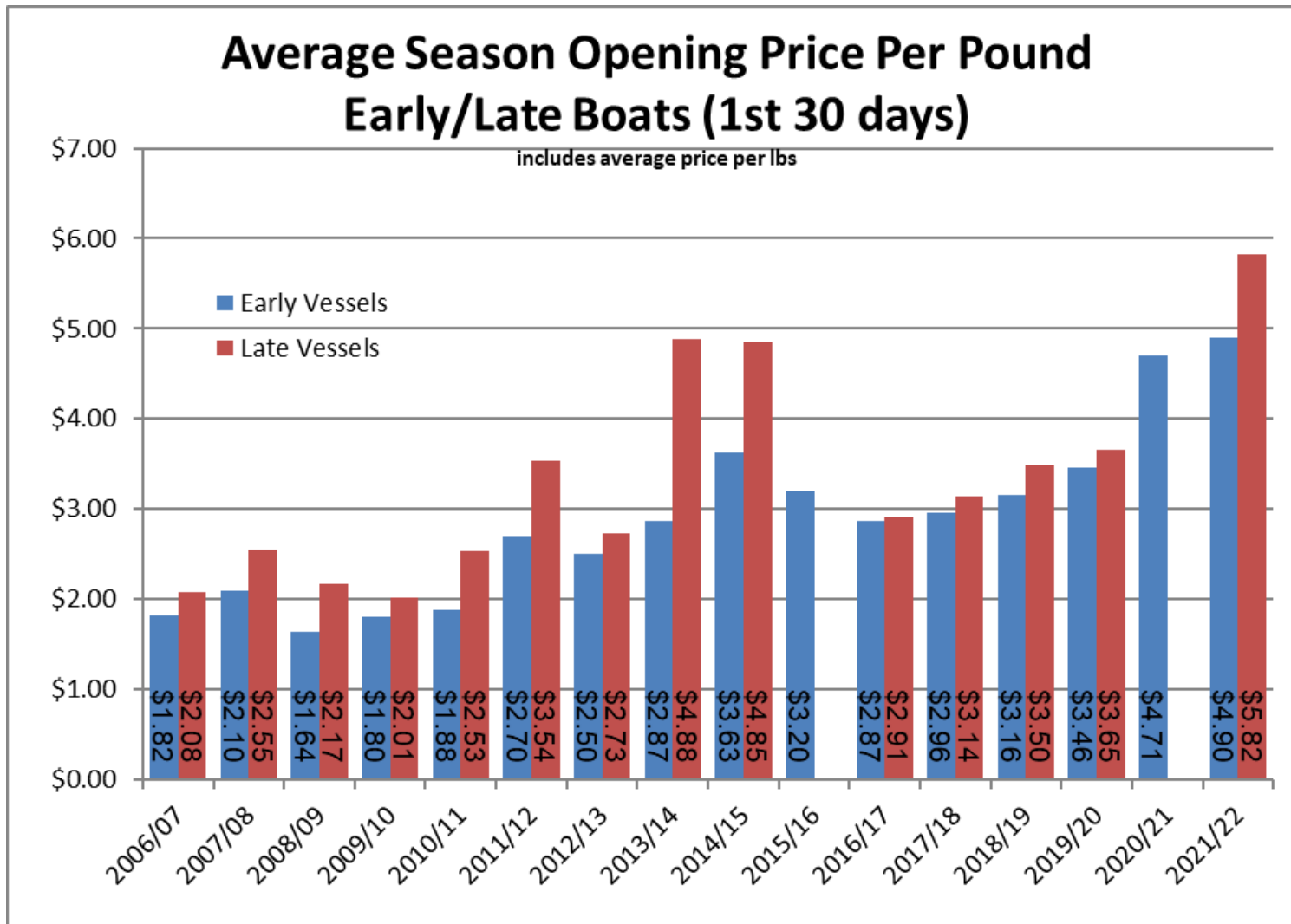


Vessels Making *Majority of Landings* North or South of Point Chehalis During 1st 30 Days

■ South of Pt. Chehalis ■ North of Pt. Chehalis



Early – Late Vessels



Summary

- A move of the season opening line from Klipsan to Point Chehalis has been discussed many times over the years.
- WDFW has always been open to continuing to discuss that idea.
- Has anything changed to re-initiate that discussion?



Discussion

