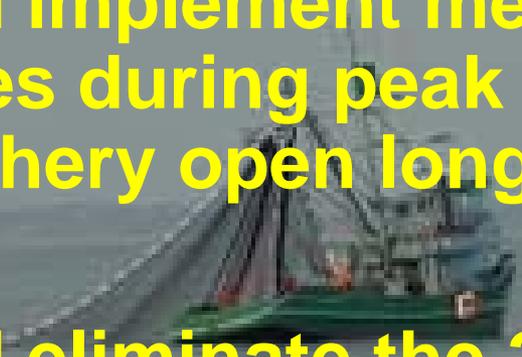


Proposed Changes to Market Squid Fishery Regulations (§149)

- Would implement mechanisms to slow catches during peak activity periods to keep the fishery open longer into the season
 - Would eliminate the 2-ton directed fishery that is taking place post-closure by modifying the regulatory language regarding incidental catch provisions
 - Would reorganize some of the existing text and make other changes for clarity
- 
- A fishing boat is visible in the background, with a large net extending from the deck into the water. The boat is positioned in the middle ground, slightly to the left of the center. The water is a dark, choppy blue-grey color, and the sky is a pale, overcast grey. In the distance, another smaller boat is visible on the right side of the frame.

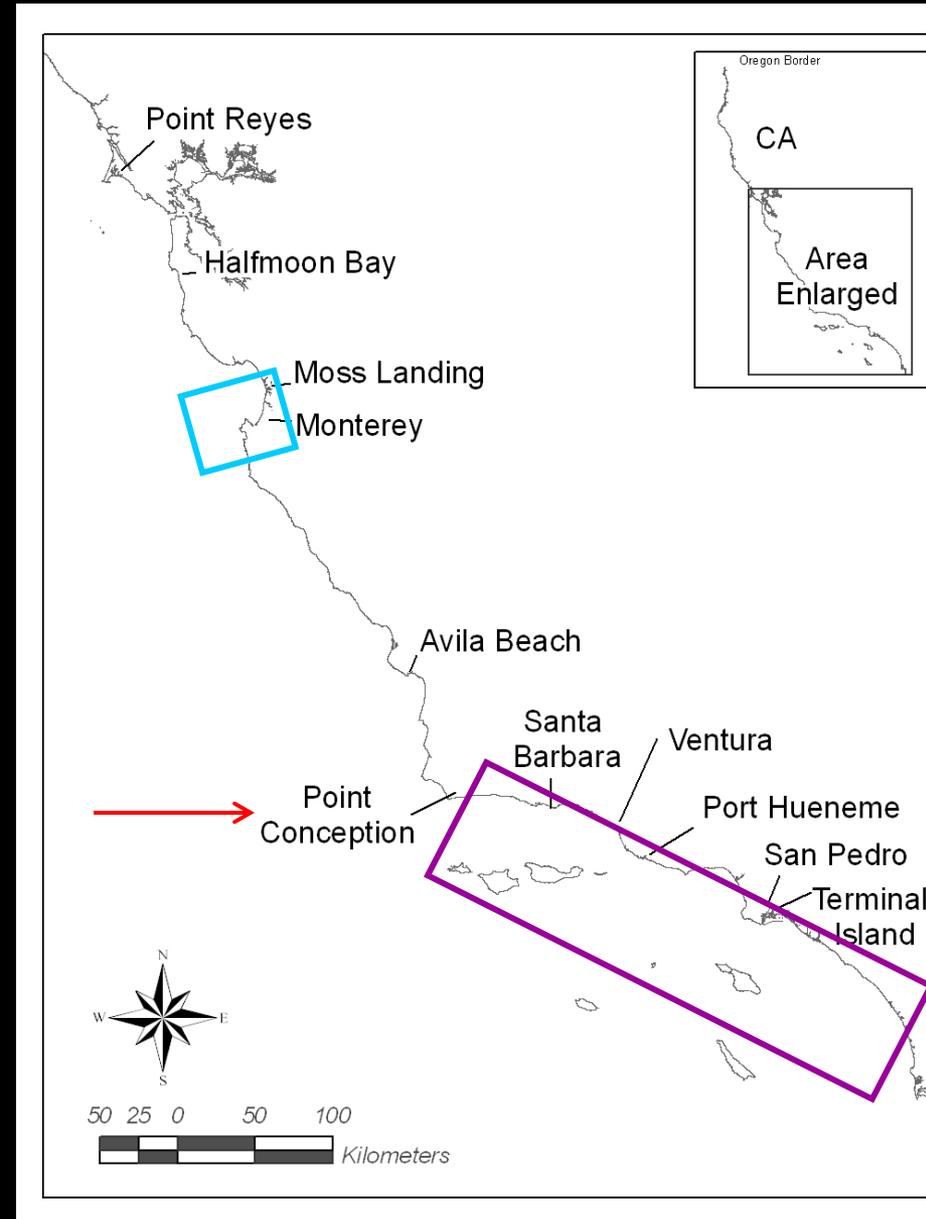
Proposed Regulation Changes (2)

- All amendments proposed in this rulemaking would be consistent with the Market Squid FMP, and fall within its scope.
- The Department and others have concerns with some of the other squid regulations (live bait, weighmaster provisions, light specifications, etc.) but they are larger issues beyond the scope of this rulemaking.

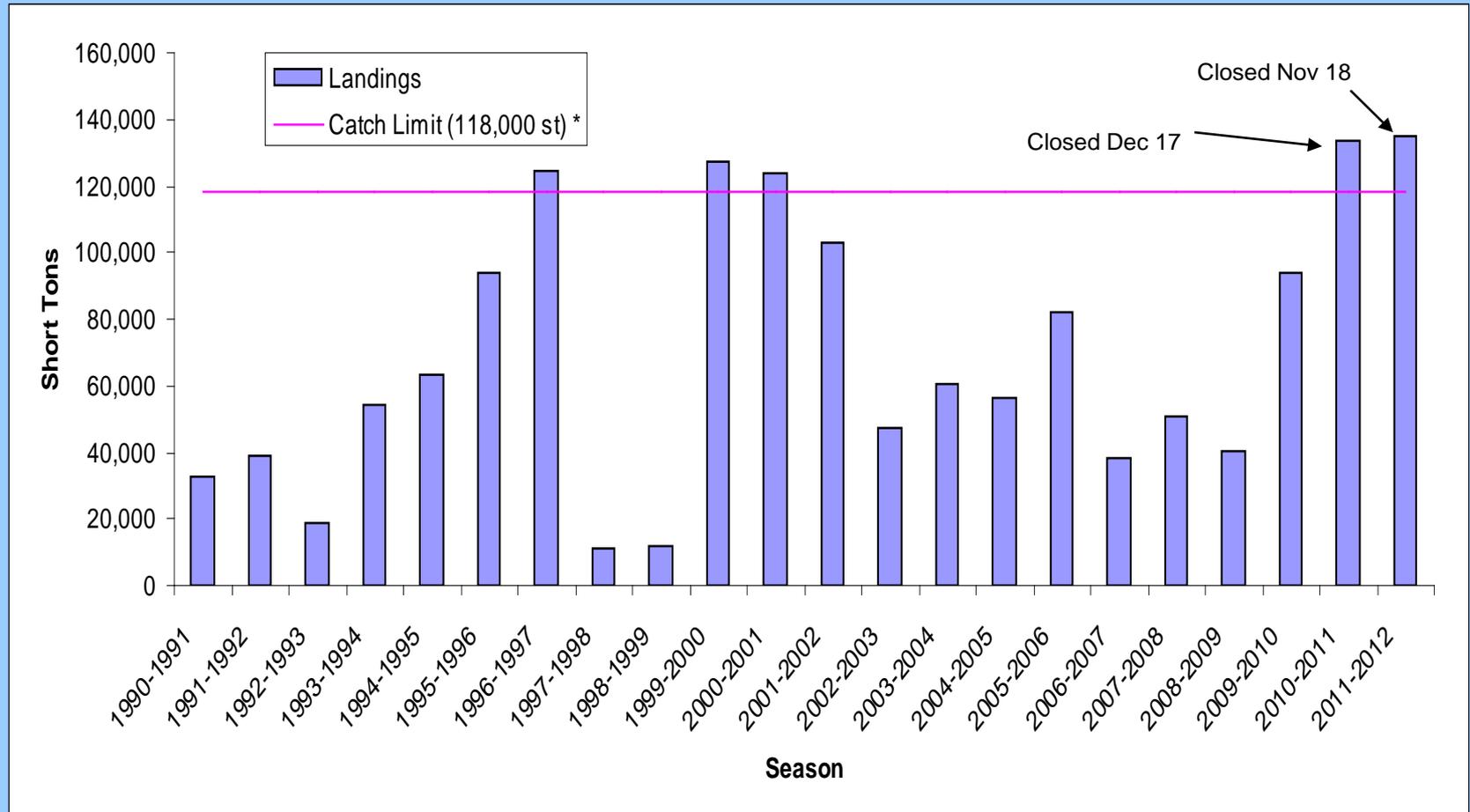
Fishery Information

Geographic Regions

- Two distinct fisheries north and south of Point Conception
- **Northern Fishery**
 - Normally occurs April-September
 - Centered around Monterey
 - Landings occur at Monterey Port Areas & Avila Beach
- **Southern Fishery**
 - Normally occurs October-February
 - Targets the Channel Islands & coastal areas from Point Conception to La Jolla
 - Landings occur at Santa Barbara & Los Angeles port areas

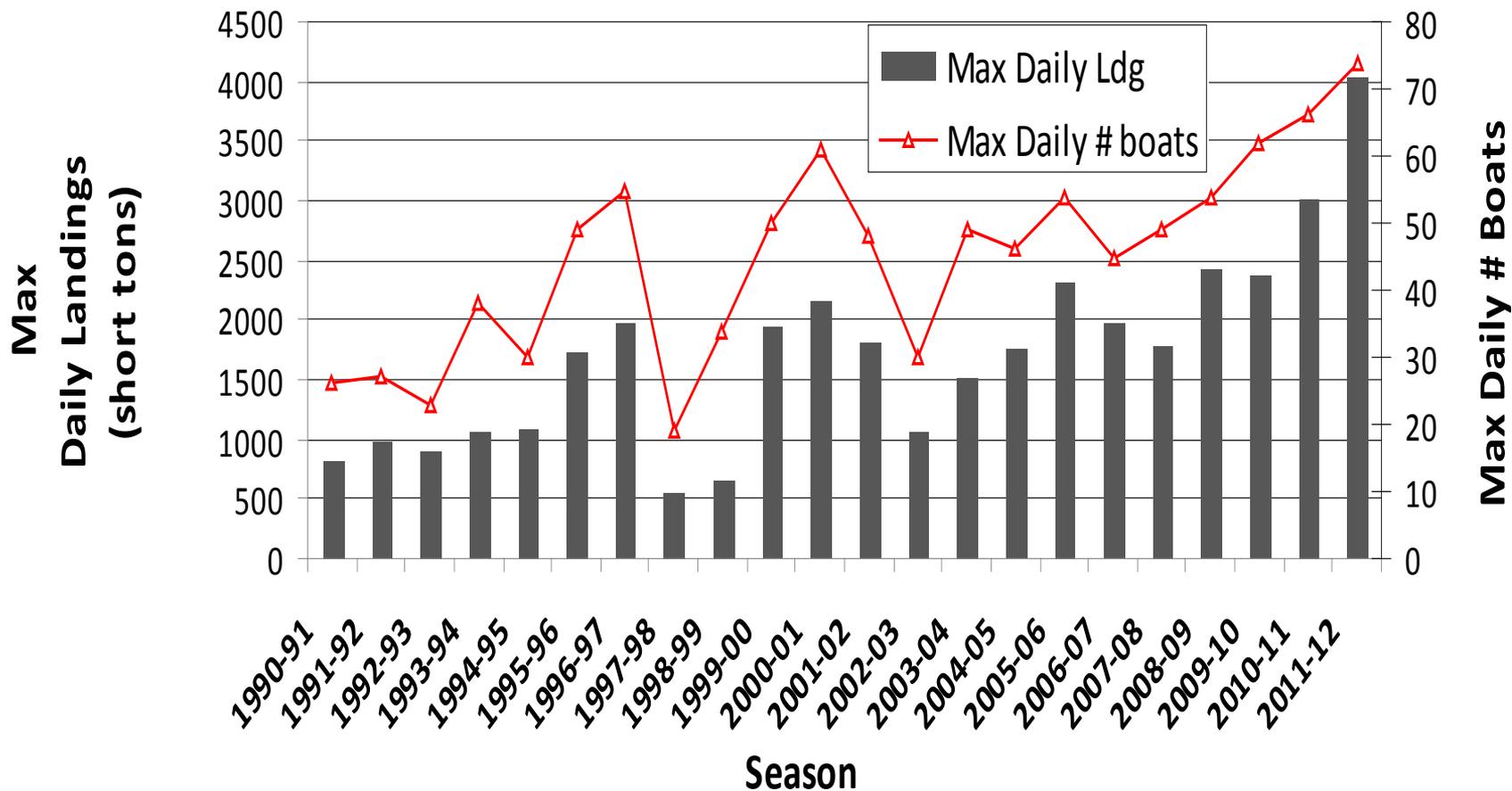


Market Squid Landings by Season

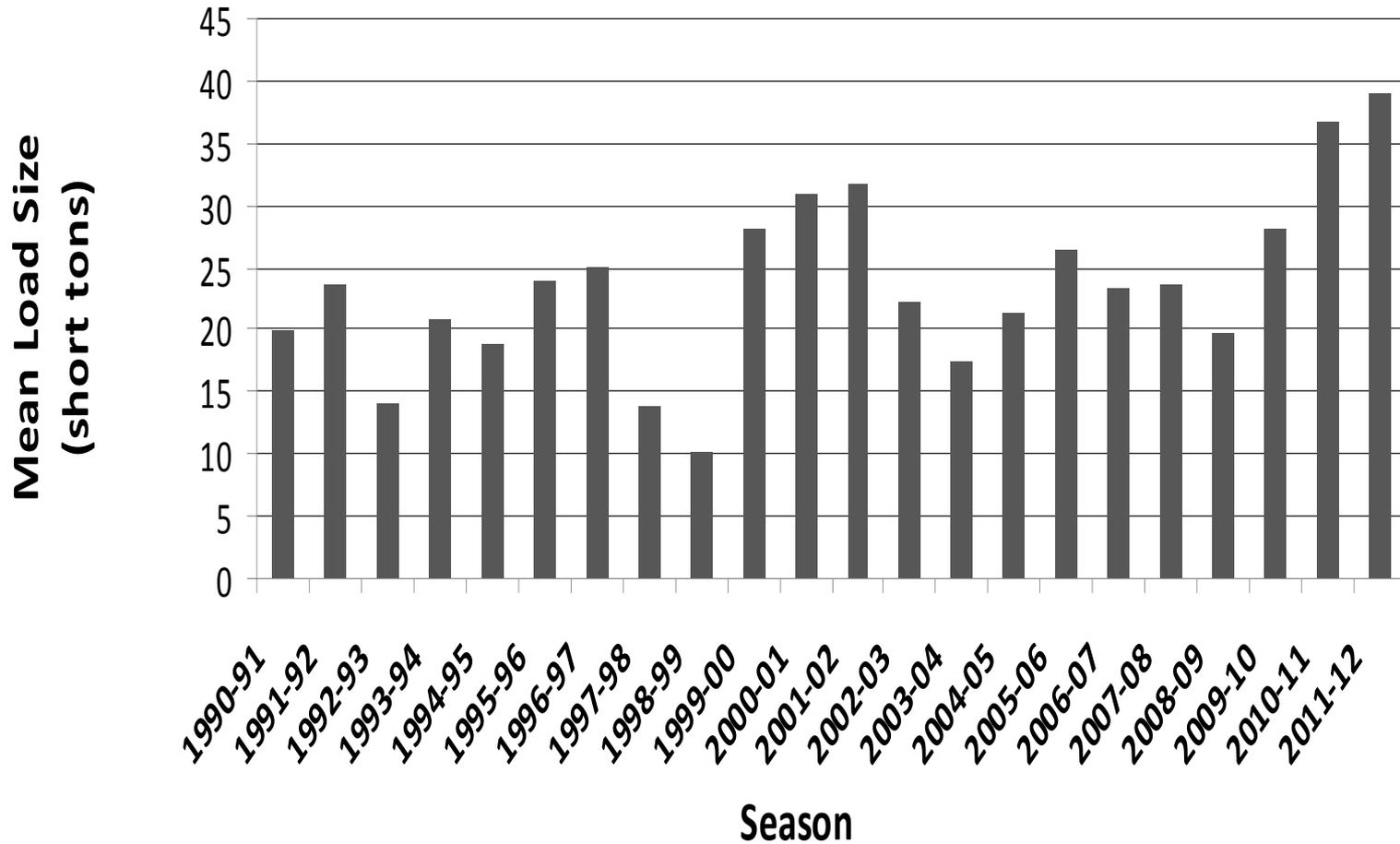


* Catch limit was put into place starting with the 2005/2006 season.

Maximum Daily Landings and Number of Boats Making Deliveries 1990-2012



Mean Load Size (Round-haul Gear) 1990-2012



Fishery Closure Process

Monitoring Landings:

- Dept staff collect landing receipts to monitor the fishery, including trends in fishing effort, weather, and market conditions.
- Where staff cannot collect receipts, processors are asked to fax in receipts. Tallying accurate totals is difficult due to the sheer volume of catch records, and in some cases, late or incomplete catch reports.
- The Dept must project the date when the quota will be attained based on the factors above.

Closure:

- On Nov 7, 2011: 93,000 short tons were tallied by staff and it was determined that the catch limit would be reached by Friday, November 18 (11 days later).
- Closure notices sent out via mail one week before.
- Radio announcements scheduled with USCG; DFG press release issued.

Post Closure:

- Nov 1-18: 52,270 short tons landed (44% of catch limit taken within 16 days).
- An additional 3,046 st were landed after the closure.
- Dealers turned in receipts totaling additional 9,700 st after the closure.
- Season ended with an estimated 134,760 st landed.

Options to Slow Catches During Peak Fishing Activity

- Limit vessels to one delivery per calendar day
- Reduce open days of the week from five to four or three
- Daily Trip Limit per vessel

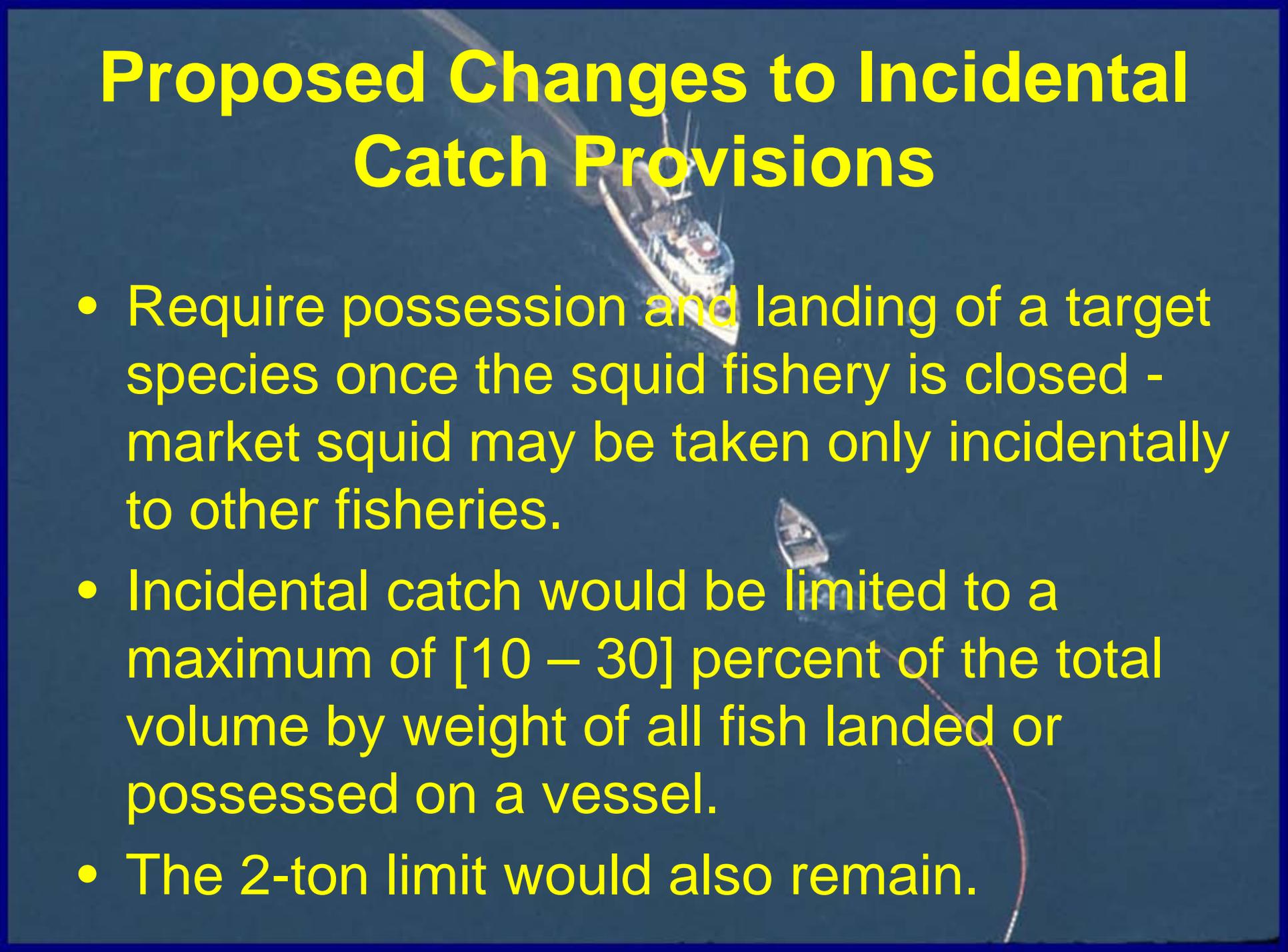
All mechanisms would be applied inseason once a percentage of the quota has been attained (40-75 percent) and only if it appears the quota will be attained early in the season. The measures would also be repealed inseason if catch rates and other factors indicate catch rates have slowed.

Anticipated Catch Rate Reductions

Restricting landings to one delivery/day per vessel and implementing a Daily Trip Limit is expected to reduce daily maximum catches as follows:

Daily trip limit (short tons)	<u>50</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>20</u>
Reduction from peak rate	7%	26%	44%	63%

Proposed Changes to Incidental Catch Provisions

An aerial photograph of a fishing vessel on the ocean. The vessel is white with a dark hull and is moving towards the bottom right. A red line is drawn on the water, curving around the vessel and extending towards the bottom right corner of the image. The background is a deep blue sea.

- Require possession and landing of a target species once the squid fishery is closed - market squid may be taken only incidentally to other fisheries.
- Incidental catch would be limited to a maximum of [10 – 30] percent of the total volume by weight of all fish landed or possessed on a vessel.
- The 2-ton limit would also remain.

