

I.4 SUPPLEMENTAL HMSMT REPORTS ON DSBG AUTHORIZATION: FPA

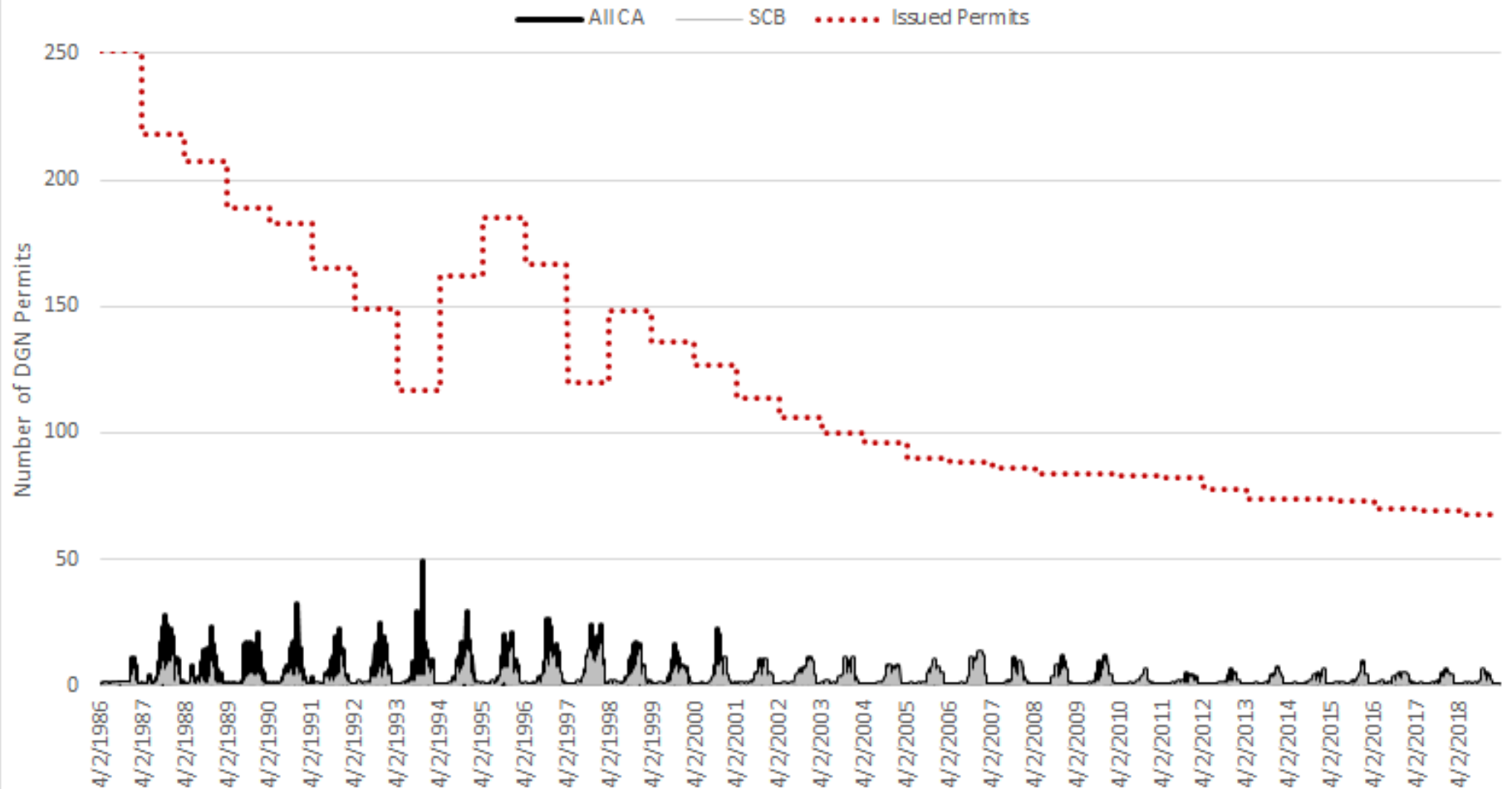
September 2019 Council Meeting

PREVIOUS SPATIAL ANALYSES

- ▶ “It is reasonable to suggest that spatial constraints, at least within a DSBG fleet, would not be a limiting factor”
- ▶ Areas of high rec effort (private and CPFV) are concentrated near coast and Channel Islands, most likely in state waters
- ▶ Data too sparse to determine if interactions between DSBG and rec fisheries will be a concern
- ▶ The HMSMT feels that these previous statements are still accurate representations of the situation

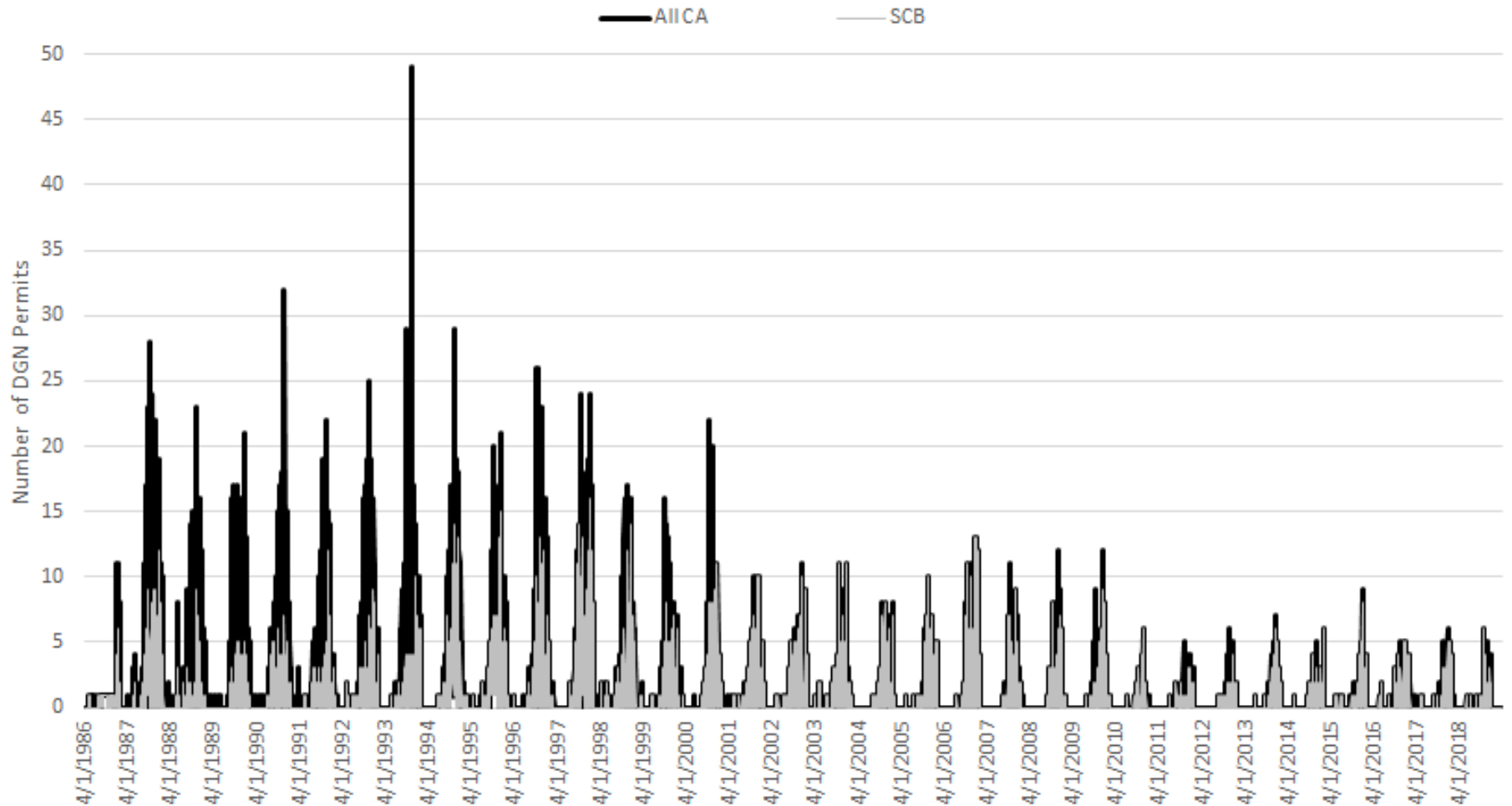
HISTORIC DGN PERMITS AND ACTIVITY

Number of DGN Permits Making Landings Per Day

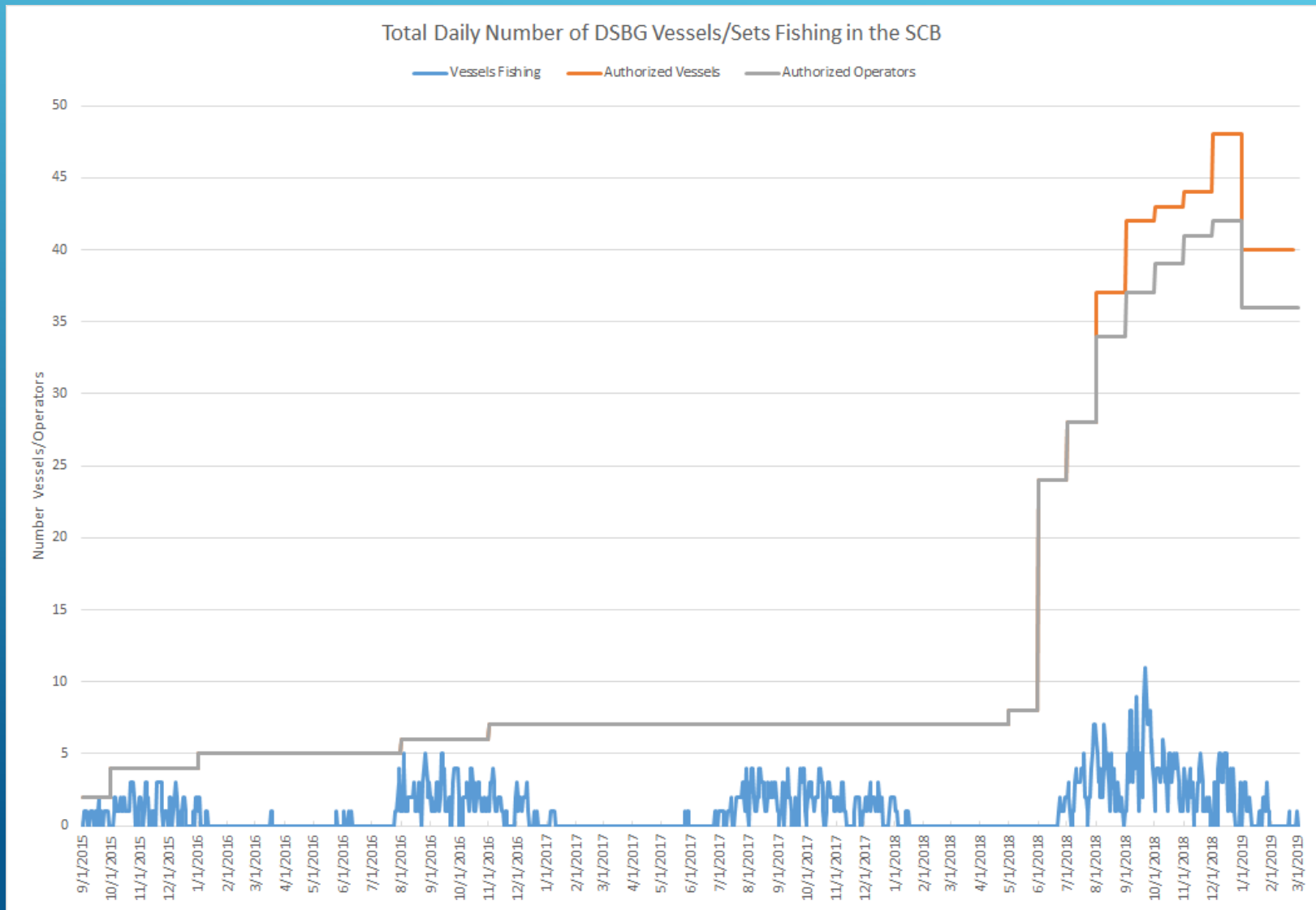


HISTORIC DGN PERMITS AND ACTIVITY LANDINGS DETAIL

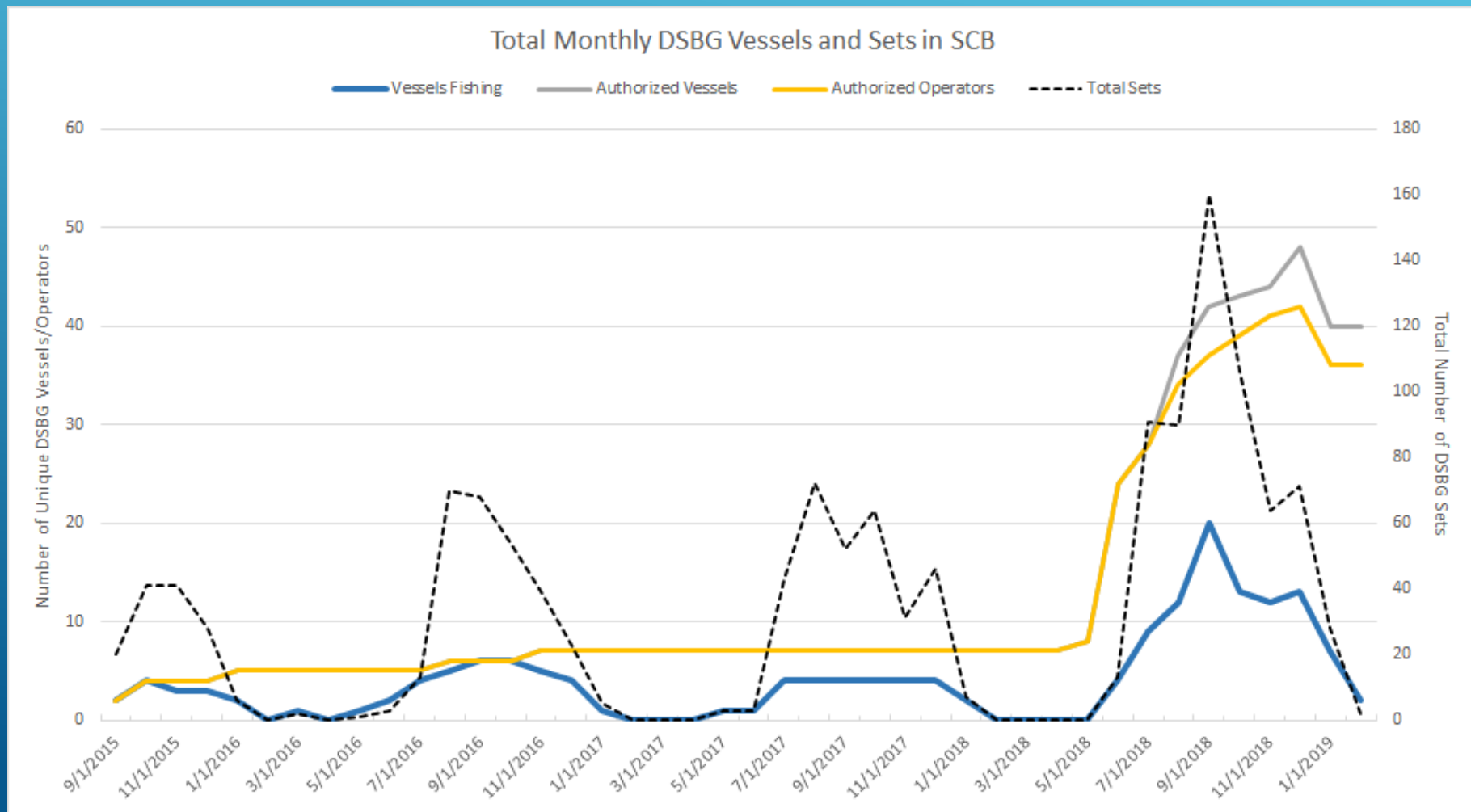
Number of DGN Permits Making Landings Per Day



DSBG EFP PERMITS AND FISHING ACTIVITY



DSBG EFP PERMITS AND FISHING ACTIVITY



DSBG EFP FISHING PROXIMITY

Distance between sets ranged from 0.44nm to 1.7nm.

Number of Vessels/Block	Number of Instances	Percent of Sets
5	2	0.2
4	3	0.2
3	15	1.2
2	90	7.4
1	1113	91

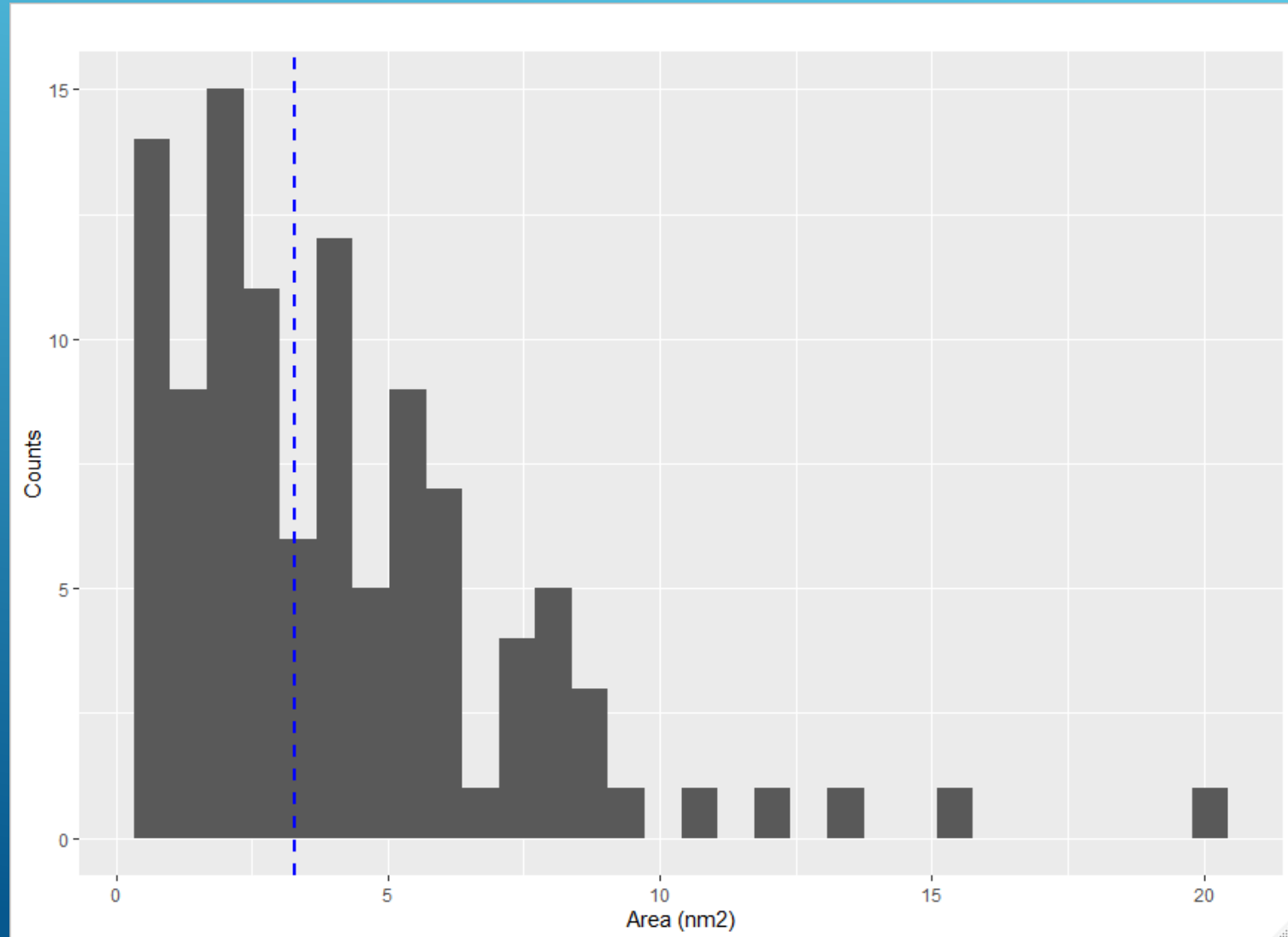
Three of the five instances had four vessels in one block, closest sets:

- 0.76 nm apart
- 1.3 nm apart
- 1.6 nm apart

Two of the five instances had five vessels in one block, closest sets:

- 1.7 nm apart.
- 0.44 nm apart

DSBG SET FOOTPRINTS



Set footprint ranged from 0.53 to 19.99 nm², with an average area of 4.18 nm² and median of 3.29 nm².

DSBG SET AND RECREATIONAL FISHING EFFORT MAPS

Three sets of maps:

- 1) DSBG Effort and CPFV Logbook Effort
- 2) DSBG Effort and Private Recreational Intercepts
- 3) DSBG Effort and Combined CPFV and Private

Three maps per set:

- 1) All DSBG EFP sets and the maximum daily number of vessels fishing by CDFW block
- 2) DSBG EFP sets and the total number of recreational vessels for month of highest DSBG effort
- 3) DSBG EFP sets and the total number of recreational vessels for day of highest DSBG effort

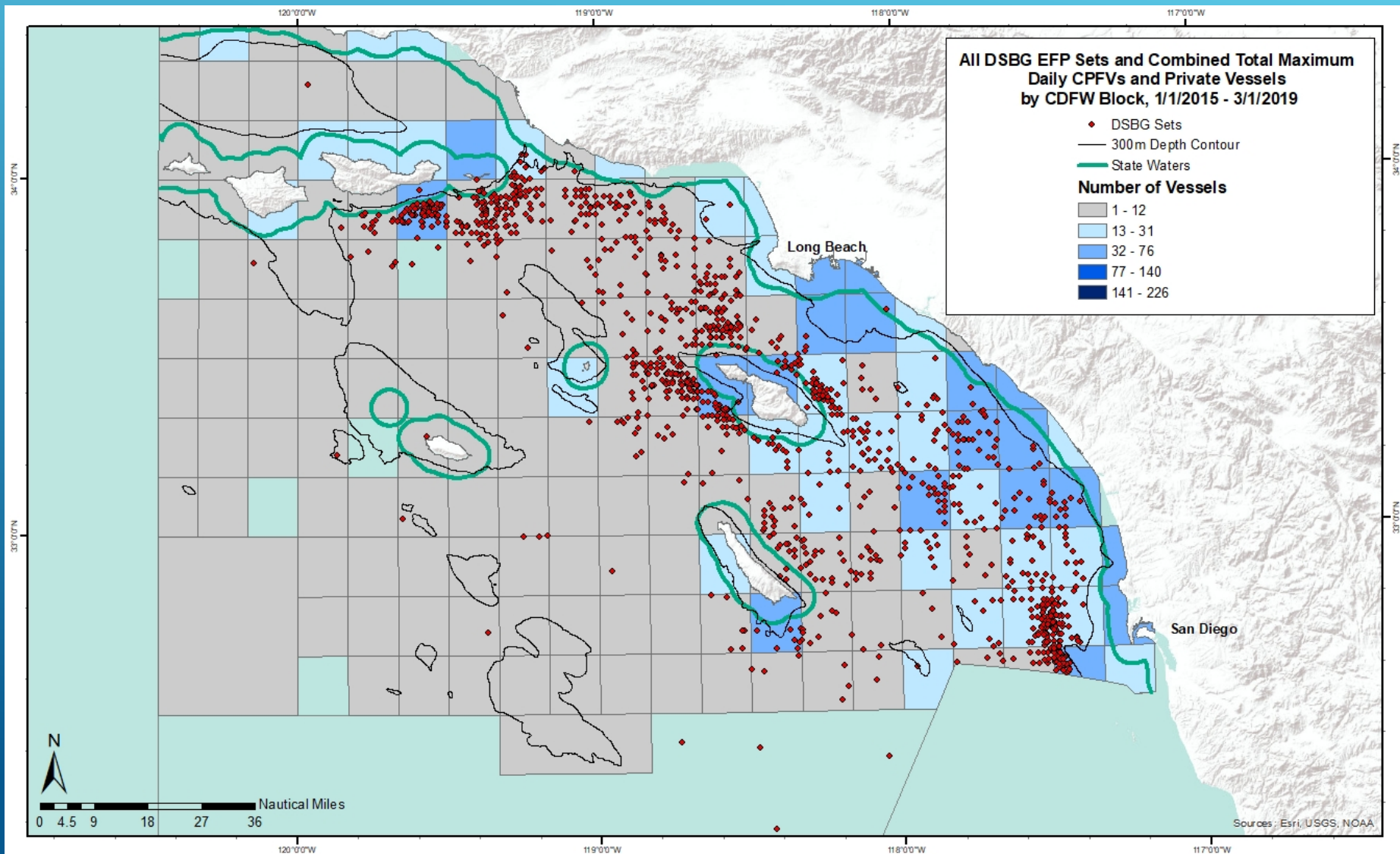
DSBG SET AND RECREATIONAL FISHING EFFORT MAPS

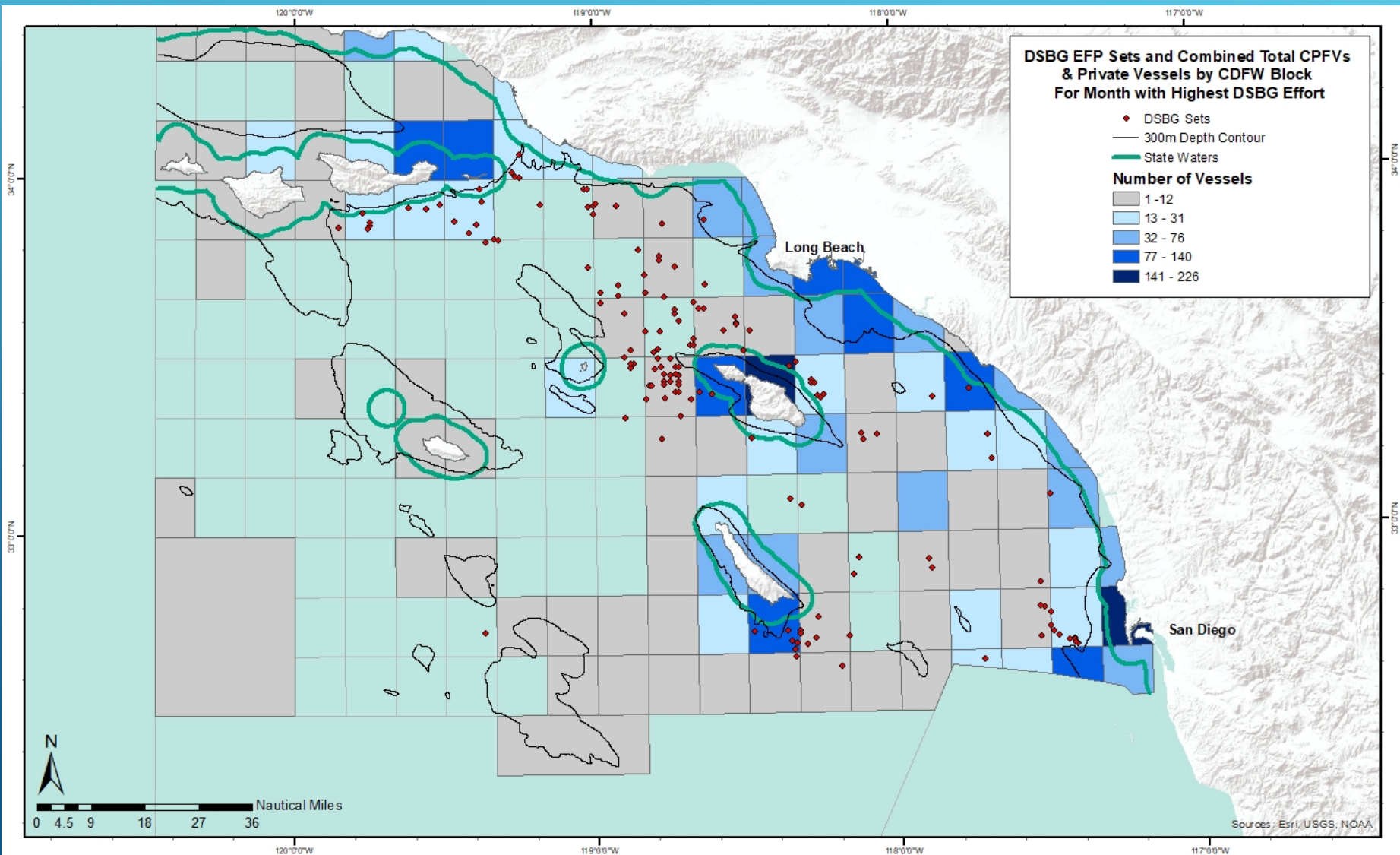
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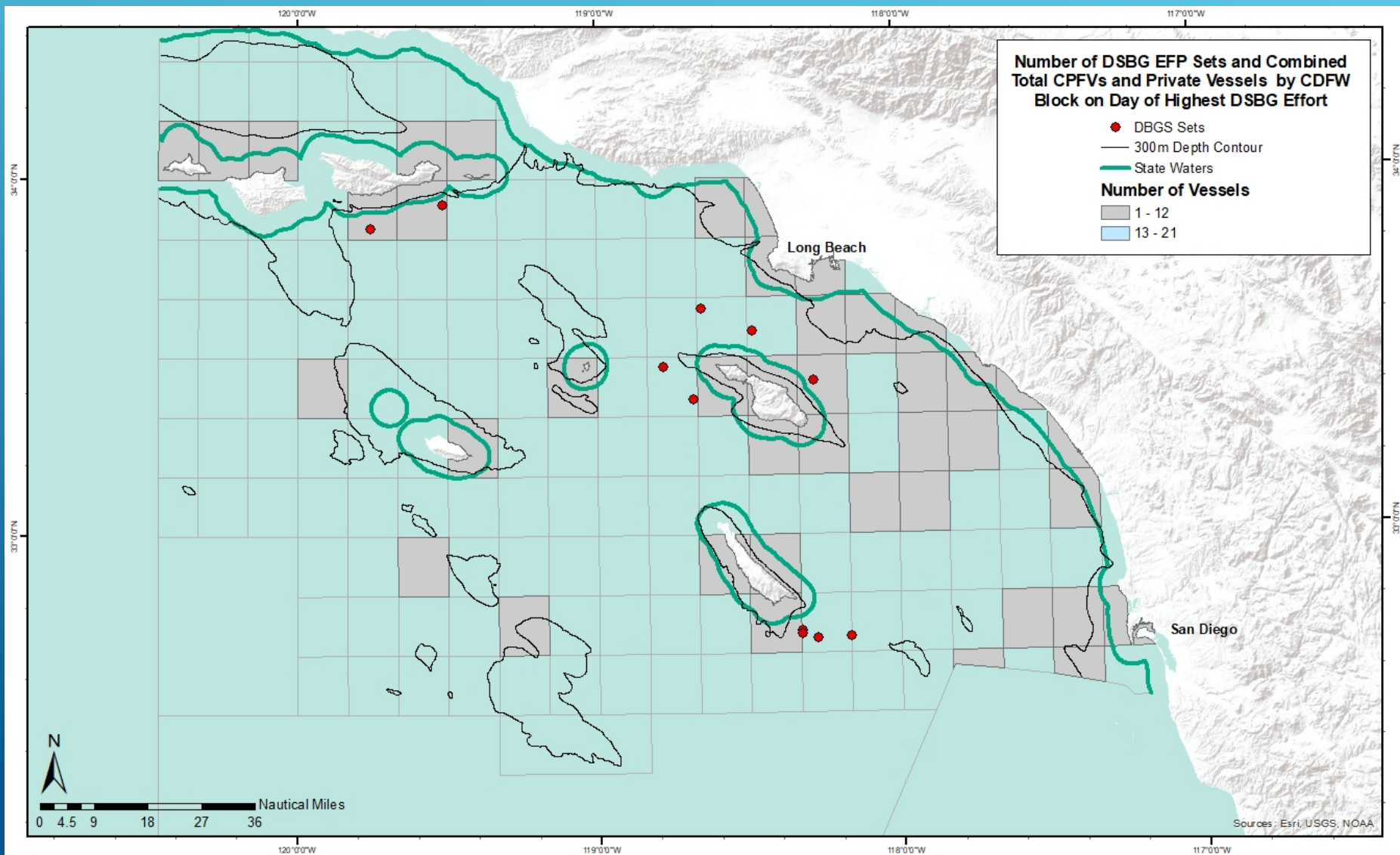
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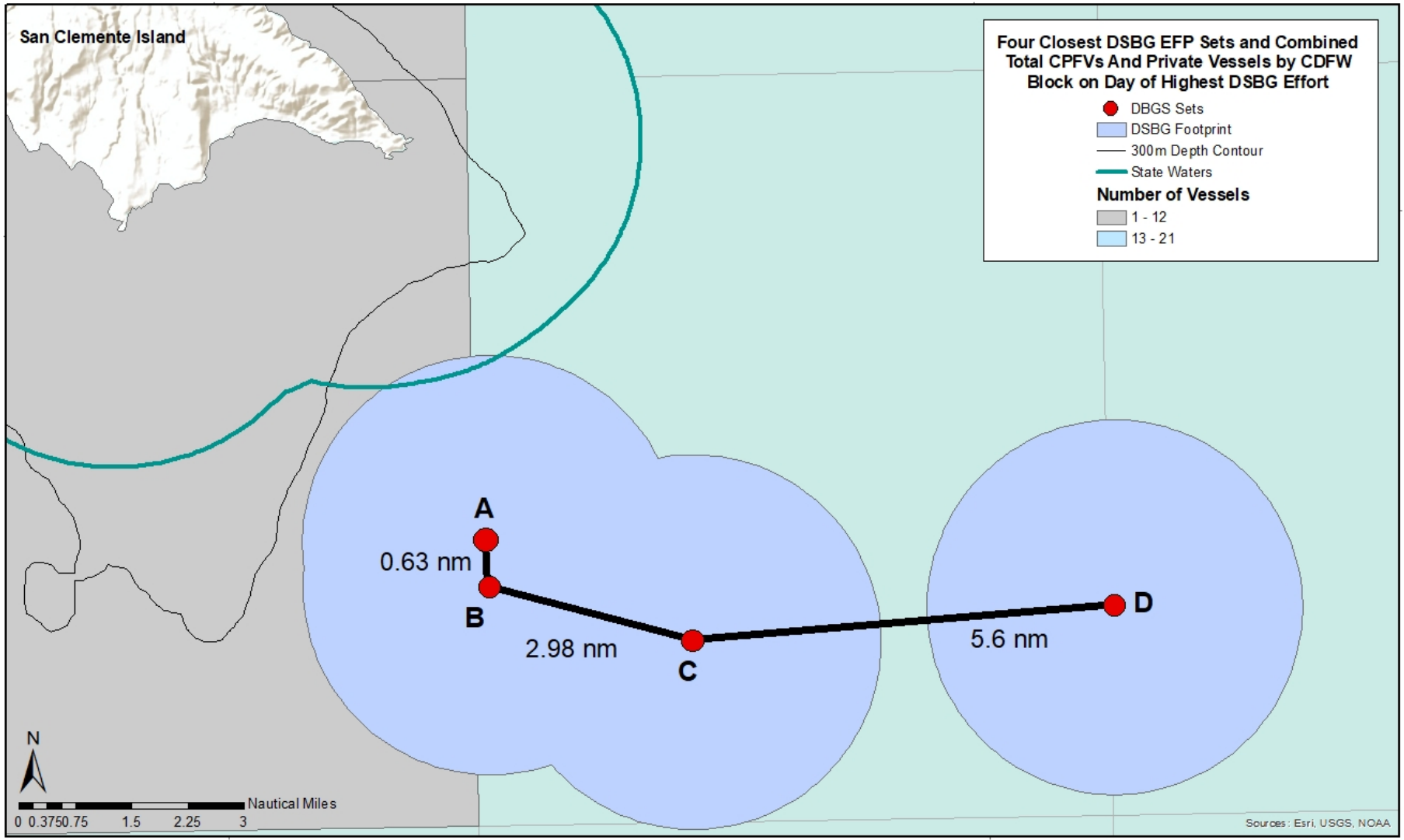
Three maps per set:

- 1) All DSBG EFP sets and the maximum daily number of vessels fishing by CDFW block
- 2) DSBG EFP sets and the total number of recreational vessels for month of highest DSBG effort
- 3) DSBG EFP sets and the total number of recreational vessels for day of highest DSBG effort









OVERVIEW

- ▶ MSA §303(b)(6) enumerates seven factors for the Council and NMFS to consider when establishing a limited entry (LE) program
- ▶ This supplemental HMSMT report evaluates how the Council's alternatives for establishing a LE program for the DSBG fishery take the seven factors into consideration

SEVEN FACTORS TO CONSIDER

1. Present participation
2. Historical fishing practices and dependence on the fishery
3. The economics of the fishery
4. The capability to engage in other fisheries
5. Cultural and social framework relevant to the fishery and any affected fishing communities
6. Fair and equitable distribution of access privileges
7. Other relevant considerations

1. Present participation

- Sub-Options 1-5 rank applicants based on fishery participation, permit possession and swordfish landings
- Included criteria:
 1. Permit possession and swordfish landings
 2. DSBG activity through EFPs
 3. Recent DGN activity
 4. Willingness to surrender DGN permit under a state or federal buyout program
 5. Harpoon fishery participation
 6. Other recent swordfish fishing activity
 7. Crew service

2. Historical fishing practices and dependence

- Preference for permit issuance to individuals who have a history of west coast swordfish landings, including harpoon, DGN, DSBG, and other gear types (e.g., longline).
- Tables 1-2 and Figures 1-3 document historical dependence on the swordfish fishery
- Correction to Figure 3 caption:

Percentage of total inflation-adjusted ex-vessel revenue derived from any HMS gear for vessels making landings with DSBG gear (2009-2018).

3. Economics of the fishery

- ▶ Industry concern over economic viability of DSBG fishing is considered by phased-in permit issuance.
- ▶ Economics is further considered by prioritizing LE permit issuance to individuals with current and historical swordfish fishing activity and landings.

4. Capability to engage in other fisheries

- ▶ No limit on other fishery participation for DSBG permit holders
- ▶ No proposed minimum landings requirement for continued permit possession
- ▶ DSBG use is likely to be seasonal
- ▶ DSBG participants are likely to participate in other fisheries

5. Relevant cultural and social framework

- ▶ West coast swordfish landings and communities are concentrated in SoCal coastal counties
- ▶ DSBG EFP participants already prosecute other HMS fisheries
- ▶ Council's PPA proposal gives preference to individuals with historic participation in swordfish fishing

6. Fair and equitable distribution of access privileges

- ▶ The Council developed its ROA over the course of eight Council meetings since scoping was initiated in March 2016
- ▶ The ROA addresses fairness and equity in relation to the biological, social, and economic objectives
- ▶ There are no other measures beyond permit issuance that would differentiate fishing opportunity

7. Other relevant considerations

- ▶ The Council took into account the potential for gear conflicts among DSBG users
- ▶ The Council also considered potential conflict between DSBG and other ocean users, such as shipping vessels, military vessels, and recreational fishermen

PERMIT ISSUANCE CLARIFICATION

“up to 25 permits a year” is intended as “25 additional permits” issued each year

Year	Cumulative Number of Permits Issued
1	50
2	75
3	100
4	125
5	150
6	175
7	200
8	225
9	250
10	275
11	300

PERMIT ISSUANCE CLARIFICATION

Under the Council's PPA, NMFS could issue up to 25 additional permits annually without the Council recommending to NMFS a new number each year.

Therefore, the HMSMT does not anticipate that the Council will discuss and determine the number of permits to be issued each year.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Allow a temporary stop in permit issuance (e.g., for a single year), and resume issuing permits later

- criteria would need to be developed to determine that issuance should pause/stop before 300 issued, as strong basis for recommendation to NMFS

Open access fishery in SCB unlikely to result in a large DSBG fleet

- (a) the gear is artisanal in nature and
- (b) open access would discourage speculative permit possession. Likely Council's consideration of LE is driving speculative interest in the gear, similar to DSBG EFPs

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Many aspects related to the authorization and permitting of a DSBG fleet remain uncertain or unknown at this time.

Concern has been expressed over:

- spatial and temporal aggregation of swordfish and fishing effort following suit
- Interactions with the recreational HMS/billfish fishery, for which no reliable data are available and therefore not captured in HMSMT analyses

PROPOSED PPA REVISION

Revise PPA for Qualifying Criteria tiers by removing the DGN trade-in designation amongst DGN permit holders

Sub-Option 6: Modified Preliminary Preferred Alternative			One Permit Issued Per Individual
Ranking Category	Potential Permits		Cumulative Total
1. "Active" EFP Recipients <i>(10 obs. Sets by 12/31/2018)</i>	20		20
2. "Active" DGN Permit <i>(1 DGN landing, 2013/14-2017/18 seasons)</i>	29		43
3. "Active" EFP Recipients <i>(10 obs. Sets by Final Rule. Up to 77 additional EFPs already approved, plus EFPs approved in the future may qualify)</i>	TBD		TBD
4. "Active" Swordfish (harpoon) Permit <i>(Possess 2018/19 permit, 1 HPN landing, 2013/14-2017/18 seasons)</i>	17		TBD
5. "Inactive" DGN Permit <i>(No DGN landings since 03/31/2013)</i>	37		TBD
6. Demonstrated Swordfish Experience <i>(04/01/2013 - Final Rule)</i>	TBD		TBD
7. Other Applicants <i>(First-come, first-serve)</i>	300 minus Cumulative Total		300

HMSMT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Provide clarification on the following permit issuance components:
2. Additional permit issuance adds 25 potential permits per year after year 1, without regard to permits that are not renewed (i.e., 50 total the first year, 75 total the second year, 100 total the third year, etc.)
3. The potential number of additional permits issued by NMFS each year will automatically be up to 25 and the Council will not reconsider/decide on a number each year
4. If the Council selects an FPA that allows for LE permit issuance to stop before 300 permits are issued, allow for a pause in issuance of new permits should concerns arise as an alternative to a permanent halt in issuing LE permits
5. Revise the PPA for LE permit qualifying criteria by removing the DGN trade-in component from the tiers
6. Authorize DSBG as a legal gear-type under the HMS FMP
7. Adopt the PPA for LE permit issuance, with the revised qualifying criteria tiers (sub-option 6, above), as the Council's FPA for LE permit qualifying criteria



QUESTIONS?