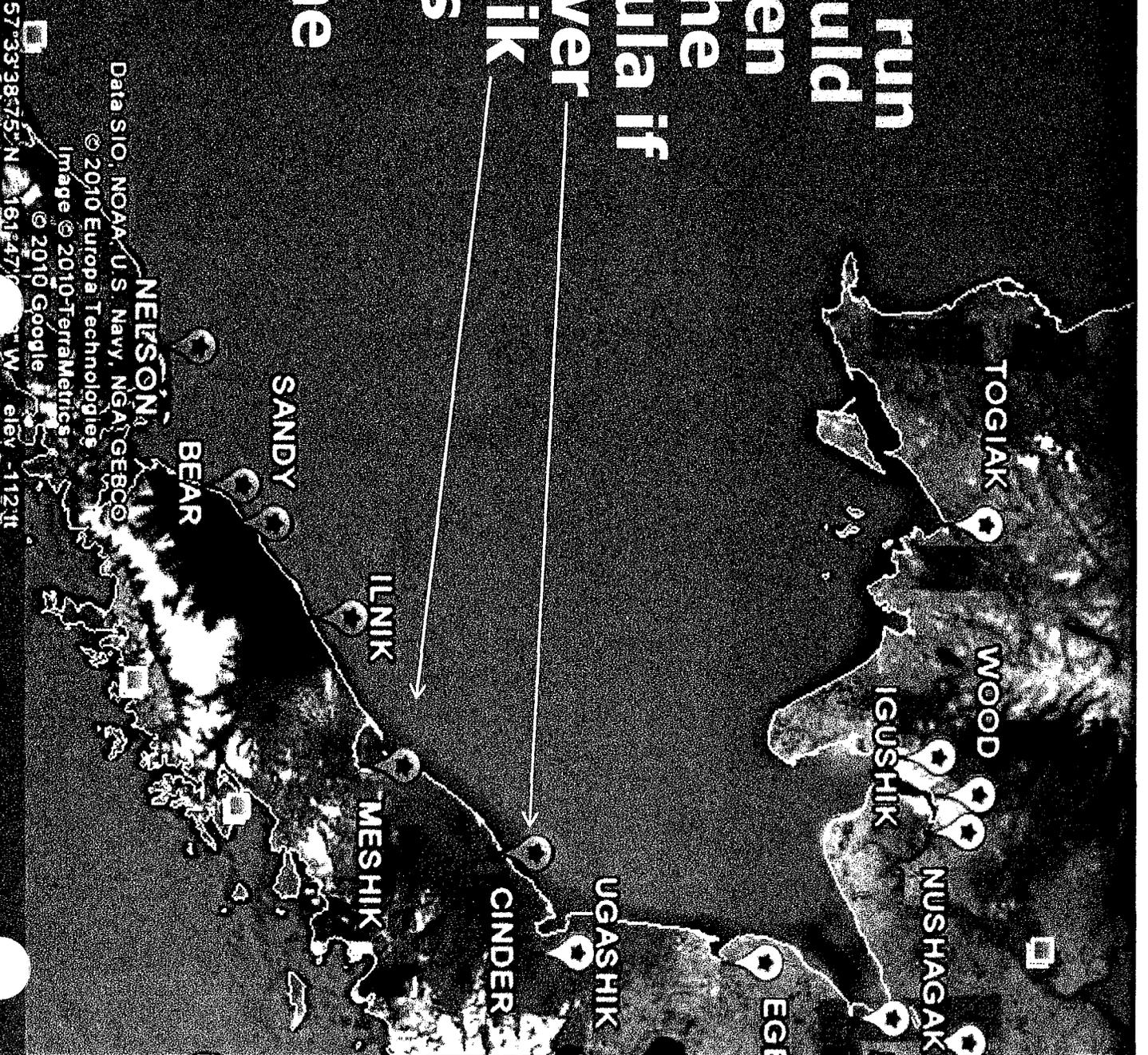
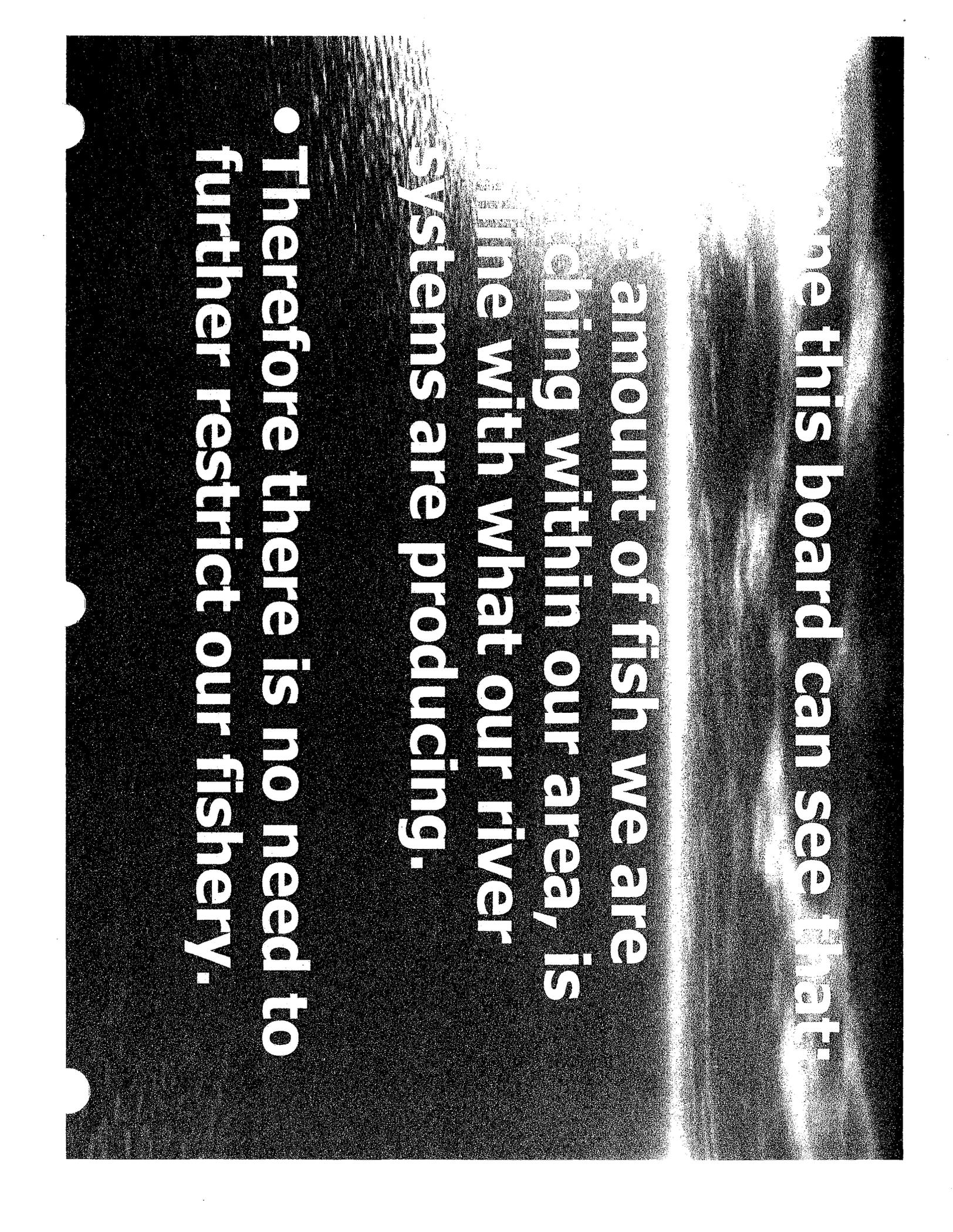


The potential run estimates would have been even **LARGER** for the North Peninsula if the Cinder River and the Meshik River systems had been included in the estimates.





...home this board can see that:

...amount of fish we are catching within our area, is in line with what our river systems are producing.

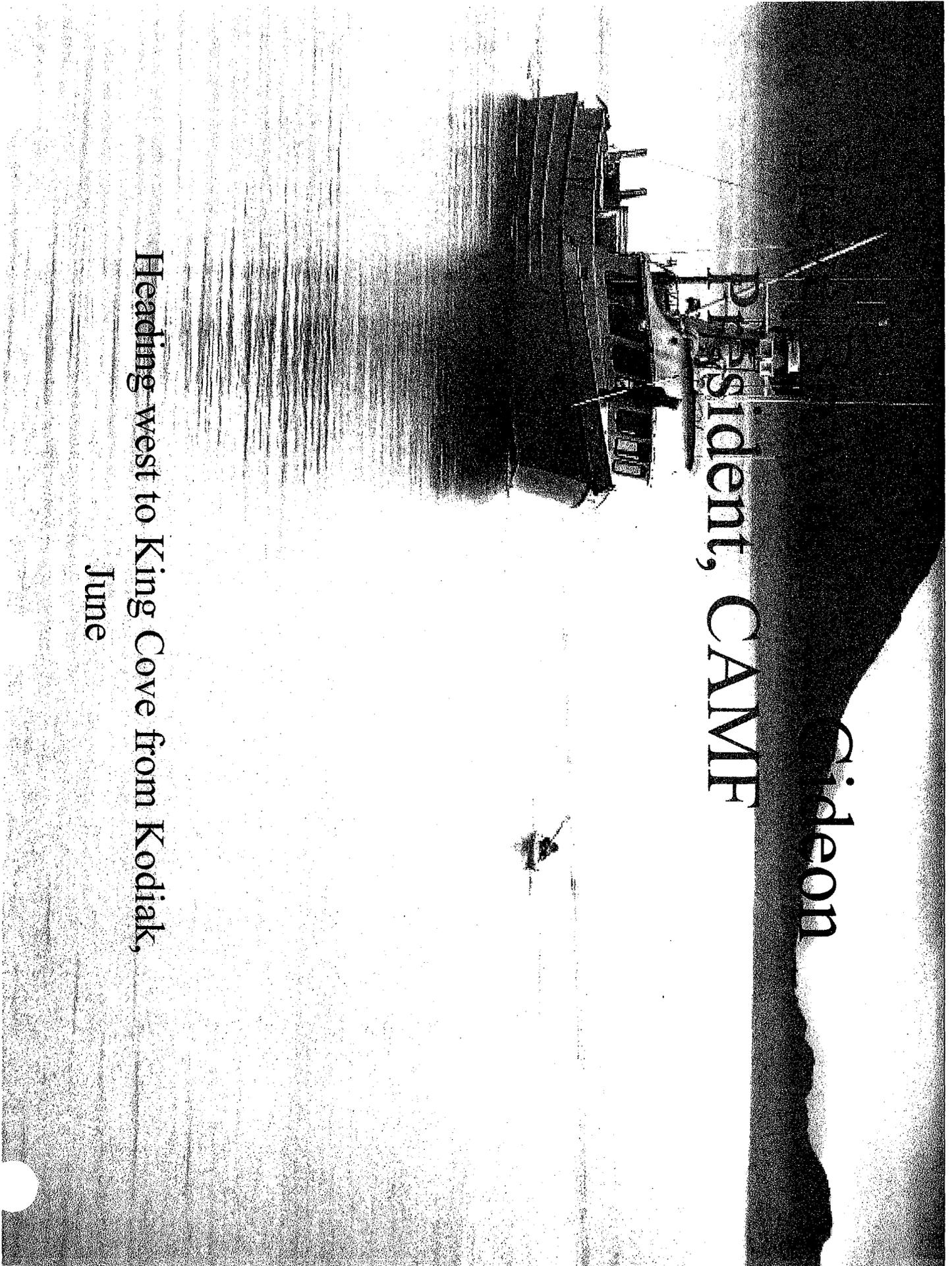
- Therefore there is no need to further restrict our fishery.**

RC 57

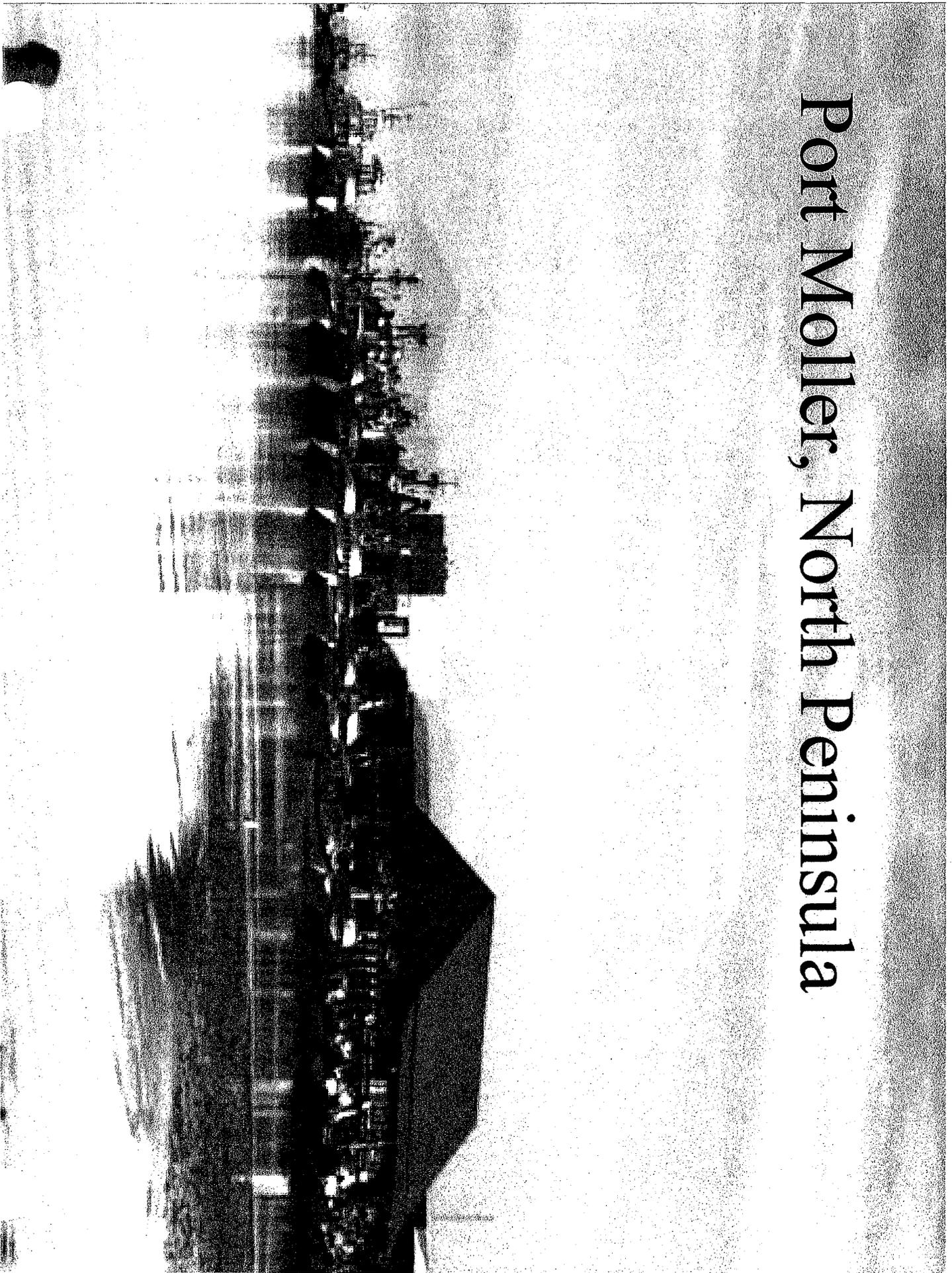
Guideon

President, CAMIF

Heading west to King Cove from Kodiak,
June



Port Moller, North Peninsula



My Background

- Commercial fishermen since 1988
- Fish Area M since 1996
- Worked for ADF&G in Kodiak for 8 years
- Fisheries degree from Oregon State



Fish Board ruling ignites Area M fervor

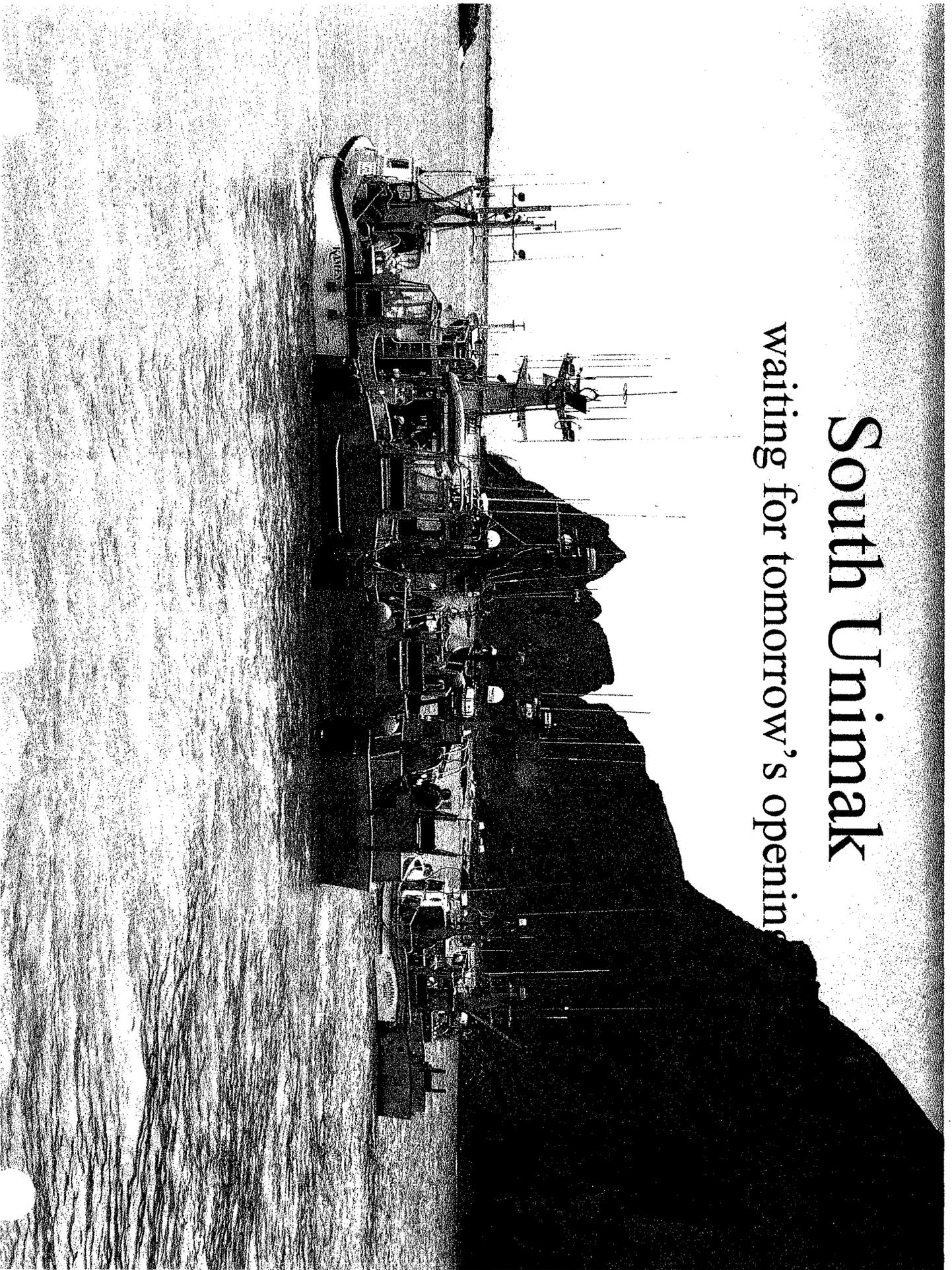
- Fishermen protest ruling during Governor's visit to Bethel
- Petitions filed to ask Federal government to take authority for Area M away from the State of Alaska
- Advocates discuss seeking Endangered Species protection for chum salmon

Various predictions were made:

- Area M catches will increase 300%
- Impacts on western Alaska salmon stocks will be devastating
- “They’re annihilating a number of river stocks” quote in Anchorage Daily News, referring to BOF Area M decisions 3/2/04

South Unimak

waiting for tomorrow's opening

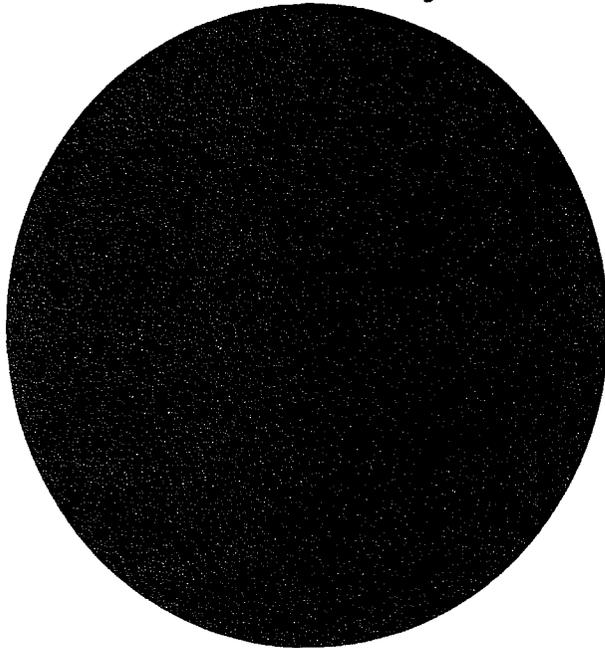


Does the North Peninsula Fishery threaten Bristol Bay?

- Is there a problem that needs fixing?

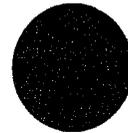
Relative size of Bristol Bay harvest versus North Peninsula,
before July 30, 2007-2009

Bristol Bay



Ave harvest=29.5 million

North Peninsula



Ave harvest =1.7 million

Does the North Peninsula Fishery threaten Bristol Bay?

- Is there a problem that needs fixing?
- **I believe the answer is NO**
- **Please reject proposals which restrict
North Peninsula management.**

TOM BERTMAN

RC 58

The Ocean has a limited Carrying Capacity for Salmon

Source

NPAFC Bulletin No 5 "Trends in Run Size and Carry Capacity of Pacific Salmon in the North Pacific Ocean." (Kaeriyama et al) 2009

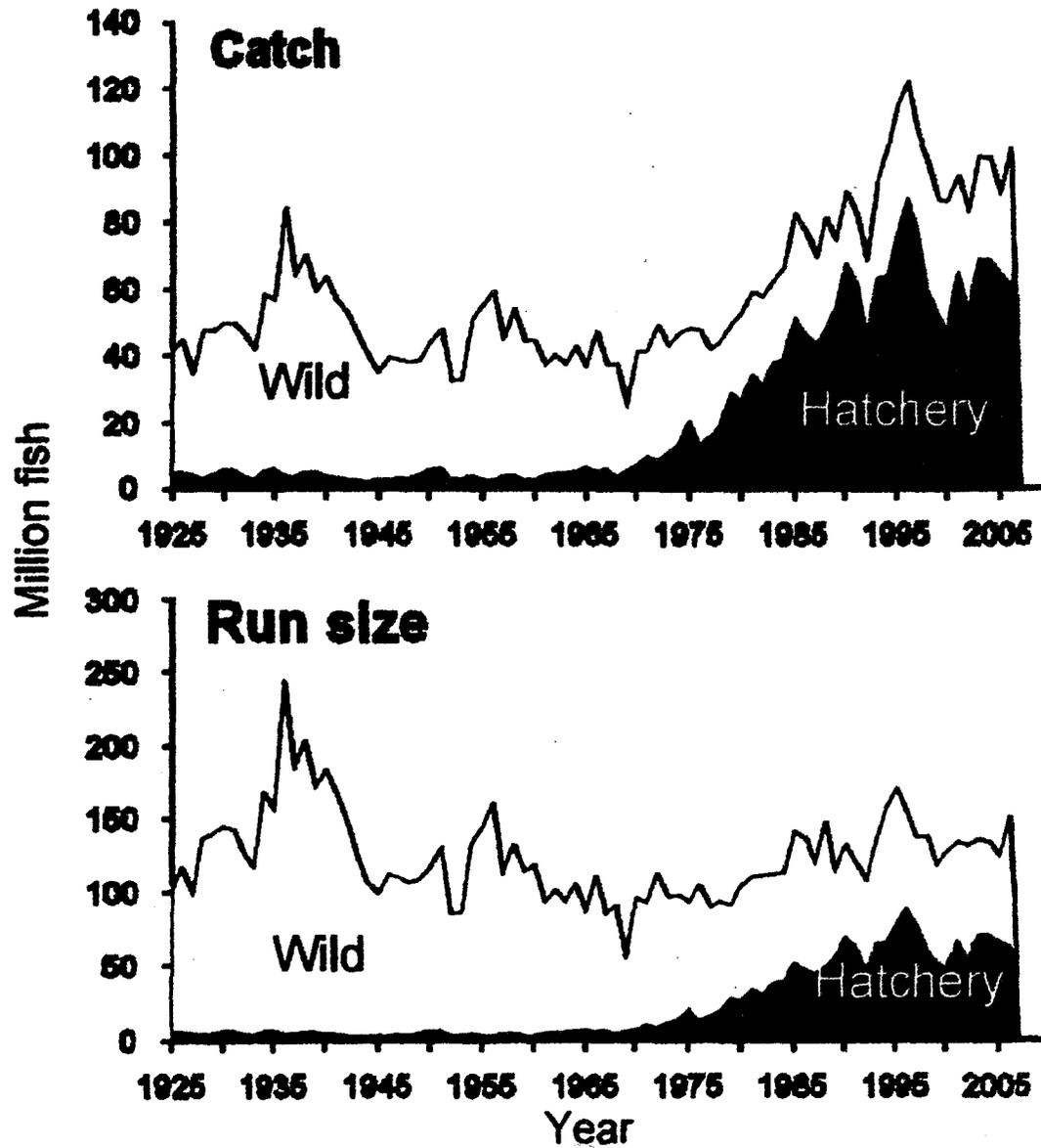


Fig. 7. Annual changes in catch and run size of wild and hatchery

PC59

**Bering Sea Aleutian Islands Seasonal Catch Report
(includes CDQ)**

Through: 31-DEC-09
Account: ALL

**National Marine Fisheries Service
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries
Catch Accounting**



Bering Sea

Pollock, AFA Inshore

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-09	10-JUN-09	140,674	140,832	158	100%
B	10-JUN-09	01-NOV-09	209,034	211,248	2,214	99%
Total:			349,708	352,080	2,372	99%

Pollock, AFA Catcher Processor

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-09	10-JUN-09	112,526	112,666	140	100%
B	10-JUN-09	01-NOV-09	169,077	168,998	-79	100%
Total:			281,603	281,664	61	100%

Pollock, AFA Mothership

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-09	10-JUN-09	28,162	28,166	4	100%
B	10-JUN-09	01-NOV-09	42,146	42,250	104	100%
Total:			70,308	70,416	108	100%

Pollock CDQ

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-09	10-JUN-09	32,523	32,600	77	100%
B	10-JUN-09	01-NOV-09	48,956	48,900	-56	100%
Total:			81,478	81,500	22	100%

Note: All weights are in metric tons.

**Bering Sea Aleutian Islands Seasonal Catch Report
(includes CDQ)**

Through: 31-DEC-08
Account: ALL

**National Marine Fisheries Service
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries
Catch Accounting**



Bering Sea

Pollock, AFA Inshore

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-08	10-JUN-08	173,553	173,700	147	100%
B	10-JUN-08	01-NOV-08	254,188	260,550	6,362	98%
Total:			427,741	434,250	6,509	99%

Pollock, AFA Catcher Processor

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-08	10-JUN-08	138,843	138,960	117	100%
B	10-JUN-08	01-NOV-08	208,156	208,440	284	100%
Total:			346,998	347,400	402	100%

Pollock, AFA Mothership

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-08	10-JUN-08	34,712	34,740	28	100%
B	10-JUN-08	01-NOV-08	50,652	52,110	1,458	97%
Total:			85,364	86,850	1,486	98%

Pollock CDQ

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-08	10-JUN-08	39,949	40,000	51	100%
B	10-JUN-08	01-NOV-08	60,015	60,000	-15	100%
Total:			99,964	100,000	36	100%

Bering Sea Aleutian Islands Seasonal Catch Report
(includes CDQ)

Through: 31-DEC-07

Account: ALL

National Marine Fisheries Service
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries
Catch Accounting



Bering Sea

Pollock, AFA Inshore

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-07	10-JUN-07	244,112	243,894	-218	100%
B	10-JUN-07	01-NOV-07	328,511	366,841	38,330	90%
Total:			572,623	610,735	38,112	94%

Pollock, AFA Catcher Processor

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-07	10-JUN-07	195,024	195,115	91	100%
B	10-JUN-07	01-NOV-07	293,518	293,473	-45	100%
Total:			488,543	488,588	45	100%

Pollock, AFA Mothership

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-07	10-JUN-07	48,739	48,779	40	100%
B	10-JUN-07	01-NOV-07	72,775	73,368	593	99%
Total:			121,514	122,147	633	99%

Pollock CDQ

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-07	10-JUN-07	55,728	55,760	32	100%
B	10-JUN-07	01-NOV-07	83,608	83,640	32	100%
Total:			139,336	139,400	64	100%

**Bering Sea Aleutian Islands Seasonal Catch Report
(includes CDQ)**

Through: 31-DEC-06
Account: ALL

**National Marine Fisheries Service
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries
Catch Accounting**



Bering Sea

Pollock, AFA Inshore

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-06	10-JUN-06	260,739	261,148	409	100%
B	10-JUN-06	01-NOV-06	384,874	399,170	14,296	96%
Total:			645,613	660,318	14,705	98%

Pollock, AFA Catcher Processor

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-06	10-JUN-06	208,722	208,918	196	100%
B	10-JUN-06	01-NOV-06	318,411	319,335	924	100%
Total:			527,134	528,253	1,119	100%

Pollock, AFA Mothership

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-06	10-JUN-06	51,669	52,230	561	99%
B	10-JUN-06	01-NOV-06	79,735	79,834	99	100%
Total:			131,404	132,064	660	100%

Pollock CDQ

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-06	10-JUN-06	60,170	60,160	-10	100%
B	10-JUN-06	01-NOV-06	90,204	90,240	36	100%
Total:			150,374	150,400	26	100%

**Bering Sea Aleutian Islands Seasonal Catch Report
(includes CDQ)**

Through: 31-DEC-05
Account: ALL

**National Marine Fisheries Service
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries
Catch Accounting**



Bering Sea

Pollock, AFA Inshore

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-05	10-JUN-05	257,420	257,215	-205	100%
B	10-JUN-05	01-NOV-05	390,697	396,572	5,875	99%
Total:			648,116	653,787	5,671	99%

Pollock, AFA Catcher Processor

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-05	10-JUN-05	205,636	205,772	136	100%
B	10-JUN-05	01-NOV-05	312,062	317,258	5,196	98%
Total:			517,699	523,030	5,331	99%

Pollock, AFA Mothership

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-05	10-JUN-05	51,398	51,443	45	100%
B	10-JUN-05	01-NOV-05	79,270	79,314	44	100%
Total:			130,669	130,757	88	100%

Pollock CDQ

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-05	10-JUN-05	59,070	59,140	70	100%
B	10-JUN-05	01-NOV-05	90,646	90,610	-36	100%
Total:			149,715	149,750	35	100%

**Bering Sea Aleutian Islands Seasonal Catch Report
(includes CDQ)**

Through: 31-DEC-04
Account: ALL

**National Marine Fisheries Service
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries
Catch Accounting**



Bering Sea

Pollock, AFA Inshore

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-04	10-JUN-04	259,676	259,832	156	100%
B	10-JUN-04	01-NOV-04	378,295	389,748	11,453	97%
Total:			637,971	649,580	11,609	98%

Pollock, AFA Catcher Processor

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-04	10-JUN-04	207,573	207,865	292	100%
B	10-JUN-04	01-NOV-04	311,997	311,798	-199	100%
Total:			519,570	519,663	93	100%

Pollock, AFA Mothership

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-04	10-JUN-04	51,889	51,966	77	100%
B	10-JUN-04	01-NOV-04	77,333	77,950	617	99%
Total:			129,222	129,916	694	99%

Pollock CDQ

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-04	10-JUN-04	59,739	59,680	-59	100%
B	10-JUN-04	01-NOV-04	89,434	89,520	86	100%
Total:			149,173	149,200	27	100%

**Bering Sea Aleutian Islands Seasonal Catch Report
(excludes CDQ)**

Through: 31-DEC-03

Account: ALL

**National Marine Fisheries Service
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries
Catch Accounting**



Bering Sea

Pollock, AFA Inshore

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-03	10-JUN-03	258,310	259,119	809	100%
B	10-JUN-03	01-NOV-03	393,943	393,928	-15	100%
Total:			652,254	653,047	793	100%

Pollock, AFA Catcher Processor

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-03	10-JUN-03	207,164	207,295	131	100%
B	10-JUN-03	01-NOV-03	315,264	315,142	-122	100%
Total:			522,428	522,437	9	100%

Pollock, AFA Mothership

Season	Begin	End	Total Catch	Quota	Remaining Quota	% Taken
A	20-JAN-03	10-JUN-03	51,778	51,824	46	100%
B	10-JUN-03	01-NOV-03	78,786	78,786	0	100%
Total:			130,564	130,610	46	100%

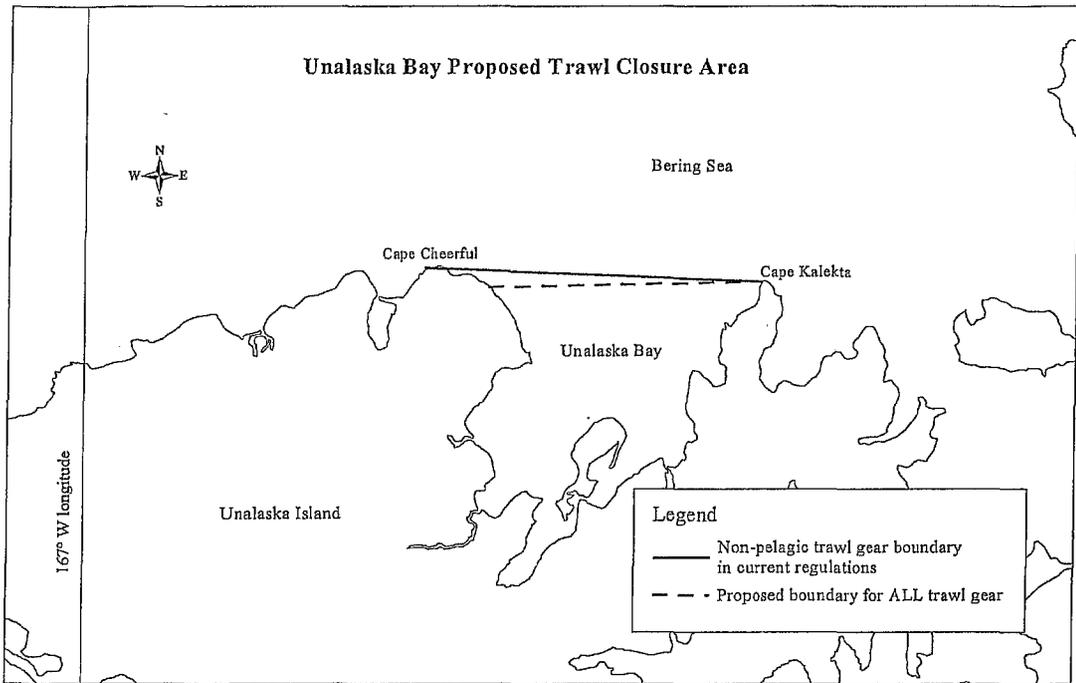


Figure 111-1.—Map depicting Unalaska Bay with existing non-pelagic trawl gear boundary and proposed boundary for all trawl gear.

WHAT WOULD BE THE EFFECT IF THE PROPOSAL WERE ADOPTED? If this proposal were adopted Unalaska Bay would be closed to groundfish fishing with trawl gear.

Since 2004, a maximum of 19 vessels have fished in Unalaska Bay with pelagic trawl gear during a single season (Table 111-1). From 2004 to 2008 walleye pollock harvest in Unalaska Bay has ranged from 405 tons in 2006 (0.03% of BSAI total) to 5,705 tons in 2004 (0.44% of BSAI total) (Table 111-1). If this proposal is adopted, these vessels would be displaced to other fishing areas. The effect of that displaced fishing effort is unknown.

Table 111-1.—Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands walleye pollock harvest with Unalaska Bay component separated, 2004-2008.

Year	Unalaska Bay		Bering Sea / Aleutian Islands		Percent of Unalaska Bay to BSAI Harvest
	Harvest	Vessels	Harvest	Vessels	
2004	5,705	19	1,286,763	114	0.44%
2005	1,017	11	1,296,679	111	0.08%
2006	405	8	1,305,048	109	0.03%
2007	1,877	12	1,184,231	110	0.16%
2008	CF	6	860,738	108	CF

Note: CF = confidential. Harvest shown in metric tons.

only two bays

RC- 60

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

**Summary of Studies Addressing Stock Composition in the
South Unimak and Shumagin Islands Fishery**



ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES MEETING

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

FEBRUARY 2-6, 2010

Summary of Studies Addressing Stock Composition in the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands Fishery

The origin of sockeye and chum salmon stocks harvested in the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June fishery has been a source of concern among fishermen throughout Western Alaska for several decades. Many studies have been conducted to ascertain origins of harvested stocks and their relative proportions in fisheries during the past 88 years with the most recent study currently undergoing analysis (Western Alaska Salmon Stock Identification Project; WASSIP). The two most current completed analyses of stock composition in the June fishery are known as the "1987 Tagging Study" (Eggers et al. 1988; Eggers et al. 1991; ADF&G BOF Report 1992) and "Genetic analysis of chum salmon harvested in the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Fisheries, 1993-1996" (Seeb et al. 1997). Another genetic study called "Genetic analysis of chum salmon harvested in the South Peninsula Post June Fishery, 1996-1997" (Crane and Seeb 2000) was conducted along the South Peninsula during July and August of 1996 and 1997.

1987 Tagging Study

In June 1987, 6,987 sockeye salmon and 6,323 chum salmon were tagged in the Shumagin Islands and South Unimak areas. The original intent of this one year tagging study was to qualitatively describe the range of stocks present in the South Peninsula June fishery through collections of tagged fish in terminal harvest areas or escapements. Additional data analysis attempted to provide estimates of proportional representation of stock aggregates in the fishery and exploitation rates for those groups. Tagged fish were recaptured in Western Alaska, Central Alaska, Southeast Alaska, British Columbia, Russia, and Japan. Several documents detail original results from the study (Eggers et al. 1988) as well as updated interpretations of the data (Eggers et al. 1991; ADF&G BOF Report 1992). Only chum salmon results will be discussed in this document.

While this single year study provided valuable information on the presence or absence of specific stocks harvested in the June fishery, the study recognized several important shortcomings that limit the use of raw tag data to quantitatively estimate stock proportions from sampled tags. Primary among these included unequal exploitation rates among tagged stocks, unequal reporting of tag recoveries in terminal areas, and unequal mortality of tagged stocks (ADF&G, 1992). Although this second data analysis attempted to deal with these limitations through expansions of reported tags to estimate tags in the total run and two different mortality models, a host of untested assumptions make conclusions tenuous. There were widely divergent opinions among user groups and scientists concerning methodology for tag expansion, how to treat individual tags from small reporting regions, methodology for two-stage mortality (immediate/delayed), time stratification, tag recovery in commercial fisheries, differential tag recovery effort, estimation of stock run sizes, and several other factors. Because some assumptions associated

with estimating stock proportions with these tag data are impossible to objectively test, it is inappropriate to generate estimates of specific stock group proportions in limited geographic areas. However, the most recent analysis of data from the 1987 tagging study (ADF&G BOF Report 1992) attempted to model the possible range of stock compositions in the fishery. All modeled cases showed an overwhelming representation (83%-90%) of Western Alaska summer chum complex (Kotzebue, Norton Sound, Yukon, Kuskokwim, Bristol Bay) and Asian stocks, with stocks from North Peninsula, South Peninsula, and Central Alaska present in much smaller proportions. Early tag releases tended to be from Norton Sound, Yukon and Kuskokwim stocks while later releases were mainly from Bristol Bay, North or South Alaska Peninsula, and Central Alaska stocks. This study provided insight into the broad composition of stocks in the June fishery, which was valuable in determining appropriate baseline representation for subsequent genetic analyses.

Genetic Analysis of the June Fishery

During 1993 through 1996 at South Unimak and 1994 through 1996 in the Shumagin Islands chum salmon were sampled for genetic (allozyme) analysis during the June Fishery to estimate stock proportions in samples (Seeb et al. 1997). Over 14,000 chum salmon were sampled during this study and divided into different time strata for each fishery location in each year. The Pacific Rim baseline of 109 stock groupings available at the time provided reliable contribution estimates for ten reporting regions including 1) Japan, 2) China/Southern Russia, 3) Northern Russia, 4) Northwest Alaska Summer, 5) Fall Yukon, 6) Alaska Peninsula/Kodiak, 7) Susitna River, 8) Prince William Sound, 9) Southeast Alaska/Northern British Columbia, and 10) Southern British Columbia/Washington. As a result, some of the fine-scale stock identification that user groups were interested in was not possible. For instance, the analysis could not discern specific AYK stocks which were pooled together as a "NW Alaska Summer Chum" group including stocks as far north as Noatak River and as far south as Meshik River on the North Alaska Peninsula (Figure 1; from Seeb et al. 1997).

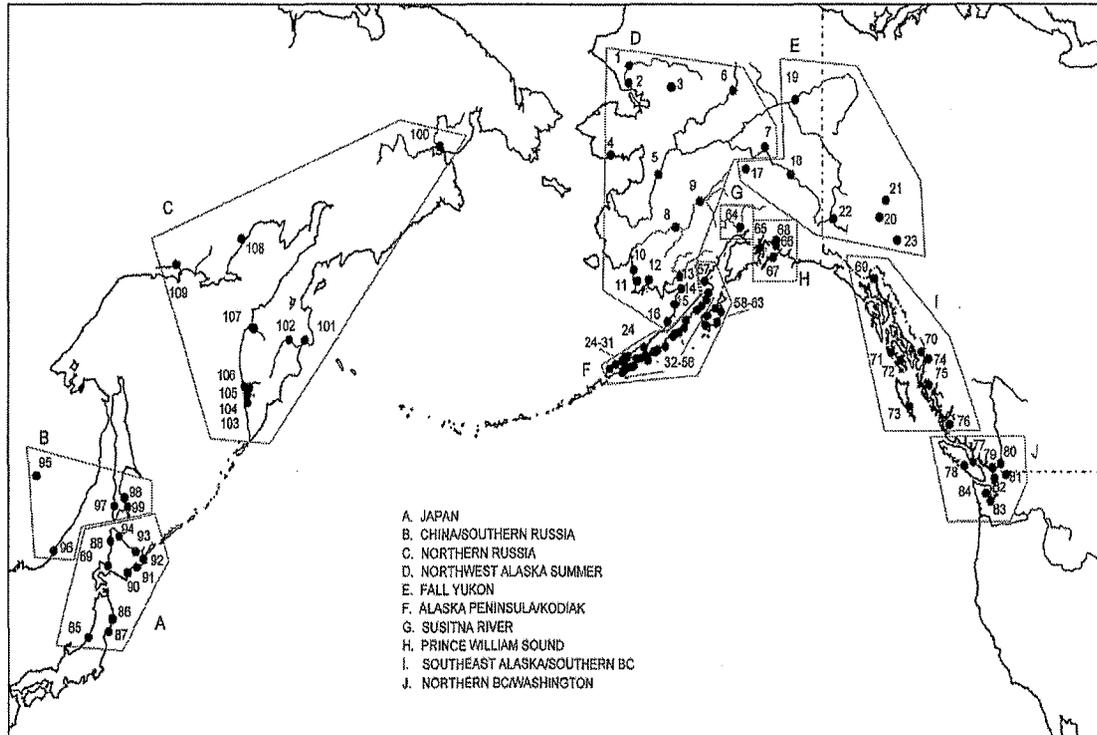


Figure 1. Approximate sampling locations of pooled population groups of chum salmon in the baseline used in the analysis of the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June fisheries, 1993-1996. Numbers correspond to location names in Table 3a. Reporting regions are delineated.

Results of this study were broadly similar to those of the 1987 tagging study, in that NW Alaska summer and Asian chum stocks represented the majority of stock groups present. Northwest Alaska summer chum was the largest component of the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June fishery in every year sampled and was a larger component of the South Unimak fishery than the Shumagin Islands fishery in two of the three years. The annual results of both fisheries combined are summarized below and full results can be found in Seeb et al. (1997).

Point Estimates of chum salmon stock contributions to the South Unimak June chum salmon fishery				
Region	Year			
	1993	1994	1995	1996
JAPAN	0.15	0.12	0.16	0.15
CHINA/S RUSSIA	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
N RUSSIA	0.06	0.14	0.09	0.07
NW AK SUMMER	0.59	0.57	0.65	0.40
FALL YUKON	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.05
AK PEN./KODIAK	0.07	0.09	0.03	0.17
SUSITNA RIVER	0.05	0.01	0.01	0.01
PWS	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01
SE AK/N BC	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.09
S BC/WASH	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.03
Point Estimates of chum salmon stock contributions to the Shumagin Islands June chum salmon fishery				
Region	Year			
	1994	1995	1996	
JAPAN	0.16	0.20	0.24	
CHINA/S RUSSIA	0.02	0.00	0.01	
N RUSSIA	0.17	0.05	0.09	
NW AK SUMMER	0.44	0.52	0.36	
FALL YUKON	0.03	0.01	0.02	
AK PEN./KODIAK	0.08	0.08	0.19	
SUSITNA RIVER	0.00	0.01	0.00	
PWS	0.00	0.01	0.01	
SE AK/N BC	0.07	0.10	0.05	
S BC/WASH	0.02	0.00	0.04	

Genetic Analysis of the Post June Fishery

During July and early August of 1996 and 1997, chum salmon were sampled for genetic stock identification on the South Alaska Peninsula (Crane and Seeb 2000). Fish were sampled from the department test fishery as well as from commercial harvests. The commercial fishery was divided into two geographical areas (the Shumagin Islands area consisting of the Shumagin Island Section of the Southeastern District and the Mainland Area consisting of the Southeastern District Mainland and the Unimak, Southwestern, and South Central districts) and into three time periods. Stock group proportions were estimated using allozymes and chum salmon were assigned to the same ten reporting groups as identified in the June genetics study. Over the time period analyzed in this study, little change in stock composition was observed. The majority of stocks came from the Alaska Peninsula/Kodiak group. In contrast to the pattern of stock contributions in the June fishery, proportions of NW Alaska summer and Fall Yukon in the post-June fishery were very low. An annual summary by geographical area is provided below:

**Point Estimates of "Mainland" and "Shumagin" areas Post
June Fishery annual stock contribution, 1996 and 1997**

Region	Mainland 1996	Shumagin 1996	Mainland 1997	Shumagin 1997
ASIA	0.04	0.06	0.07	0.13
JAPAN	0.01	0.03	0.00	0.06
CHINA/S RUSSIA	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
N RUSSIA	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.07
NW AK SUMMER	0.00	0.05	0.01	0.00
FALL YUKON	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
AK PEN./KODIAK	0.83	0.60	0.85	0.68
GULF OF AK/PAC NW	0.12	0.29	0.15	0.19
SUSITNA RIVER	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.05
PWS	0.02	0.04	0.00	0.06
SE AK/N BC	0.05	0.09	0.06	0.03
S BC/WASH	0.05	0.15	0.03	0.05

Western Alaska Salmon Stock Identification Project

The Western Alaska Salmon Stock Identification Project (WASSIP) was initiated in 2006 and has comprehensively sampled commercial and subsistence fisheries for chum and sockeye salmon throughout Western Alaska, from Chignik to Kotzebue over a four year period. Mixed stock analyses to estimate relative stock contributions to catches will be accomplished using the single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) baseline for chum salmon. The chum salmon baseline has been greatly expanded in recent years, and consists of greater than 30,000 individuals from 167 populations throughout the Pacific Rim. Analyses will be conducted using 96 SNP markers, many of which are being developed to differentiate among chum salmon populations spawning within western Alaska and Alaska Peninsula drainages. With addition of more baseline populations, development of additional genetic markers and incorporation of methods designed to more precisely estimate small stock proportions in samples, WASSIP will be the most comprehensive stock identification project to date, including more than 75,000 individuals from harvest samples. We anticipate that when the analysis is released in 2012 it will provide significantly more detailed and accurate information than all preceding stock identification projects.

Citations

- Alaska Department of Fish and Game, 1992, 1987 South Peninsula Tagging Study (review and revisions). Report to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. March 3, 1992. 35 pp.
- Crane, P. A. and Seeb, L. W. 2000. Genetic analysis of chum salmon harvested in the South Peninsula, post June fishery, 1996-1997. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Anchorage, Alaska. Regional Information Report No. 5J00-05.

- Eggers, D. M., K. Rowell and B. Barrett. 1988. The stock composition of the catches of sockeye and chum salmon in the 1987 South Peninsula and June fishery based on tagging, Volume 1 - Text. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries, Regional Information Report 5J88-03, Juneau.
- Eggers, D. M., K. Rowell and B. Barrett. 1988. The stock composition of the catches of sockeye and chum salmon in the 1987 South Peninsula and June fishery based on tagging, Volume 2 - Appendices. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries, Regional Information Report 5J88-03, Juneau.
- Eggers, D. M., K. Rowell, and B. Barrett. 1991. Stock composition of sockeye and chum salmon catches in southern Alaska Peninsula fisheries in June. Fishery Research Bulletin No. 91-01, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries, Juneau, Alaska.
- Seeb, L. W., P. A. Crane, and E. M. Debevec. 1997. Supplementary appendices: genetic analysis of chum salmon harvested in the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Fisheries, 1993-1996. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Anchorage, AK. Regional Information Report No. 5J97-18.

RC_____Regarding proposals 108 and 109

One method of increasing the GHL for the state water fishery while avoiding sea lion problems and not taking away fishing opportunities from trawlers is to establish the current "B" season as a state water fishery.

The current situation is as follows: The state takes 25% of the ABC, leaving 75% for the federal/parallel fishery. The fed/parallel fishery is split 60/40 "A" season/"B" season. The result is Fed/parallel "A" season is 45% of the TAC, the state season is 25% of the TAC and the Fed/parallel "B" season is 30%.

The state could establish the "B" season as a state water season. By having separate state season, the state could choose to respect the federal rules regarding sea lion haul outs in the fall season and keep the early state season as is.

The trawlers, who have traditionally opposed increasing the state GHL would still get their allocation of the "A" season and have suggested they rarely have any success in the fall "B" season anyway. These folks could switch to pot gear and still fish. (As they may do in any case).

The current temporal dispersion would remain unchanged.

The state could also establish a date where the GHL could roll over to other gear types if it appears the pot and jig fleets were unlikely to harvest the GHL.

Submitted by Raymond Nutt, po box 122, Sand Point, Alaska 99661

RC62

SUBMITTED BY NPFM STAFF
2-4-2010, 1:30 PM

Table A-9. Retained catch of Pacific cod (mt) from the Western GOA from 1995-2009 reported by vessel length.

Year	HAL CP <125			HAL CP >=125			TRW CP <125			TRW CP >=125			TRW CV <60			TRW CV >=60		
	Vessels	Catch	Percent of total	Vessels	Catch	Percent of total	Vessels	Catch	Percent of total	Vessels	Catch	Percent of total	Vessels	Catch	Percent of total	Vessels	Catch	Percent of total
1995	12	4,974	23.2%	6	658	3.1%	3	40	0.2%	8	547	2.5%	41	5,842	27.2%	63	6,862	32.0%
1996	13	3,842	18.3%	4	526	2.5%	4	55	0.3%	15	732	3.5%	40	10,932	52.0%	22	2,990	14.2%
1997	9	3,642	15.3%	4	195	0.8%	4	156	0.7%	13	138	0.6%	41	13,045	54.9%	49	5,509	23.2%
1998	5	*	*	2	*	*	4	190	0.9%	11	86	0.4%	41	11,094	52.7%	57	3,913	18.6%
1999	10	4,021	17.1%	10	1,095	4.7%	4	558	2.4%	9	66	0.3%	42	10,549	44.9%	36	4,124	17.6%
2000	10	4,538	20.7%	4	168	0.8%	3	451	2.1%	10	300	1.4%	39	8,360	38.1%	18	2,753	12.6%
2001	11	3,904	26.9%	5	65	0.4%	3	268	1.8%	10	403	2.8%	37	4,773	32.8%	19	1,362	9.4%
2002	9	5,472	31.5%	7	939	5.4%	2	*	*	11	*	*	30	3,268	18.8%	18	1,805	10.4%
2003	7	2,671	17.0%	12	1,572	10.0%	4	262	1.7%	7	77	0.5%	24	850	5.4%	16	518	3.3%
2004	4	2,160	14.1%	8	733	4.8%	3	260	1.7%	10	279	1.8%	20	1,526	10.0%	14	191	1.2%
2005	4	484	3.9%	6	241	2.0%	3	163	1.3%	10	54	0.4%	24	3,688	30.1%	13	753	6.1%
2006	8	1,966	14.2%	6	725	5.2%	3	134	1.0%	8	84	0.6%	25	4,255	30.7%	12	662	4.8%
2007	8	2,706	20.5%	4	363	2.7%	3	365	2.8%	9	163	1.2%	25	3,928	29.7%	14	353	2.7%
2008	10	2,567	17.4%	4	505	3.4%	2	*	*	9	*	*	25	4,591	31.2%	4	10	0.1%
2009	9	3,232	23.7%	6	430	3.1%	2	*	*	12	*	*	26	2,074	15.2%	5	35	0.3%

Table A-10. Retained catch of Pacific cod (mt) from the Western GOA from 1995-2009 reported by vessel length.

Year	HAL CV <50			HAL CV 50-60			HAL CV >=60			POT CV <50			POT CV 50-60			POT CV >=60		
	Vessels	Catch	Percent of total	Vessels	Catch	Percent of total	Vessels	Catch	Percent of total	Vessels	Catch	Percent of total	Vessels	Catch	Percent of total	Vessels	Catch	Percent of total
1995	5	17	0.1%	4	5	0.0%	11	12	0.1%	14	247	1.1%	21	984	4.6%	23	1,122	5.2%
1996	4	81	0.4%	5	19	0.1%	6	93	0.4%	14	426	2.0%	20	971	4.6%	4	292	1.4%
1997	10	21	0.1%	6	5	0.0%	4	8	0.0%	10	*	*	8	390	1.6%	2	*	*
1998	11	16	0.1%	2	*	*	3	*	*	14	562	2.7%	18	1,160	5.5%	21	811	3.9%
1999	8	3	0.0%	8	46	0.2%	11	22	0.1%	10	310	1.3%	20	1,083	4.6%	4	198	0.8%
2000	6	26	0.1%	9	11	0.1%	14	17	0.1%	9	219	1.0%	28	885	4.0%	44	4,003	18.3%
2001	9	8	0.1%	11	19	0.1%	9	5	0.0%	9	342	2.4%	23	1,004	6.9%	14	1,192	8.2%
2002	5	2	0.0%	13	22	0.1%	12	14	0.1%	3	178	1.0%	30	2,831	16.3%	15	1,796	10.3%
2003	4	23	0.1%	10	17	0.1%	11	7	0.0%	3	325	2.1%	39	5,701	36.3%	18	3,523	22.4%
2004	8	3	0.0%	13	16	0.1%	11	9	0.1%	7	240	1.6%	46	4,488	29.3%	28	4,990	32.6%
2005	14	190	1.6%	24	86	0.7%	8	5	0.0%	5	262	2.1%	35	1,634	13.3%	19	4,506	36.7%
2006	13	37	0.3%	17	65	0.5%	7	4	0.0%	7	213	1.5%	26	1,614	11.6%	18	4,091	29.5%
2007	24	175	1.3%	25	208	1.6%	9	7	0.1%	5	305	2.3%	25	2,035	15.4%	18	2,306	17.4%
2008	27	109	0.7%	37	201	1.4%	10	197	1.3%	2	*	*	42	4,005	27.2%	16	*	*
2009	22	378	2.8%	36	788	5.8%	16	475	3.5%	4	133	1.0%	31	4,846	35.5%	3	552	4.0%

Source: ADFG Fish Tickets (CVs) and NMFS Blend (1995-2002) and Catch Accounting (2003-2009) databases.

RC 63

RC

Substitute Language for Proposal #151

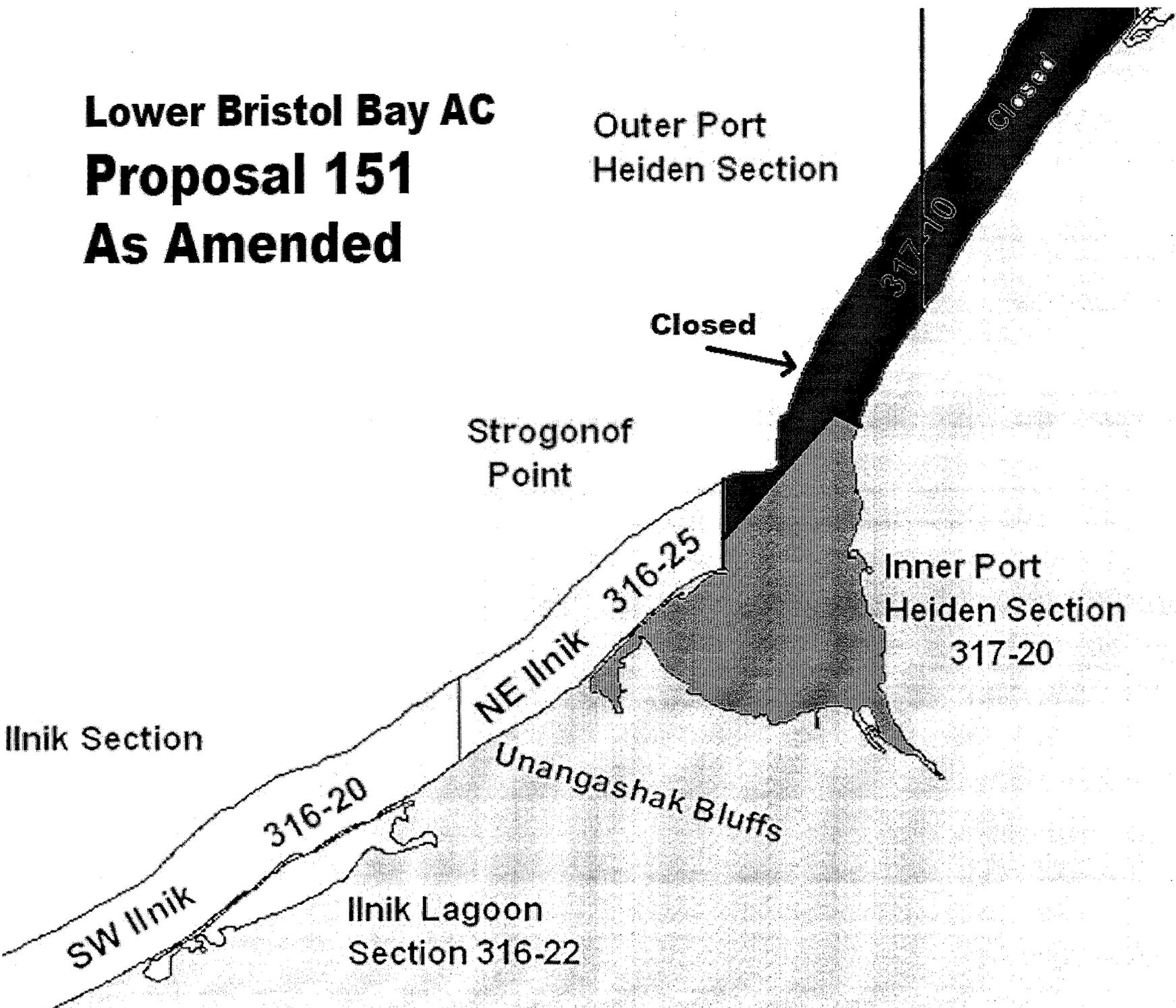
Close Outer Port Heiden section.

Amend the Inter Port Heiden Section to include the area of the Inner Port Heiden Section plus the area starting from the Strogonof Point line 1 mile offshore and extending northeast approximately 8 miles to a point 1 mile off the beach near the mouth of Reindeer Creek then intersect the beach at 90 degrees. This section will be open to both area T and area M permit holders from Jan 1 to Dec 31

Open Cinder River Lagoon to both area T and area M permit holders form Jan 1 to Dec 31.

Roland Briggs
Kurt Johnson
Emil Christensen

Lower Bristol Bay AC Proposal 151 As Amended



RC 64

RATIO-BASED HOT SPOT CLOSURES

In Committee B discussions this morning, I suggested a concept that could help conserve chum salmon in the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June fishery, while still allowing continued opportunity to harvest sockeye salmon. The concept involves using sockeye-to-chum ratio triggers that would close fishing districts that have an unacceptable ratio for a "cooling off period" of 48 hours. The ratios would be calculated and applied to each gear type individually (seine, set gillnet, or drift gillnet), in each fishing district. If a gear type is closed in a district, they can still continue to fish in other open districts.

I am also working on supplemental and supporting information for this concept and will submit it as a subsequent RC as soon as possible.

5 AAC 09.365 South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan

Add a new section:

On any calendar day and within any fishing district, if the sockeye to chum ratio is less than 2 to 1 for any gear type, that district will close for 48-hours to that gear type. The affected gear type can still fish in other districts that are open to fishing.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Art Nelson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Art Nelson

Bering Sea Fishermen's Association

RC65



Alaska Board of Fisheries
 P.O. Box 115526
 Juneau, Alaska 99811

February 4, 2010

RE: RC Submittal: Bycatch Information Regarding Proposal 111, Closure of Unalaska Bay

Dear Board of Fisheries Members,

We wish to provide the Board of Fisheries some additional data regarding bycatch experienced in fishing for Pollock in the proposed closure area of Unalaska Bay.

Table 1 shows the amount of Pollock harvested in metric tons, number of vessels that fished in the proposed closure zone, number of deliveries made, and the number of Chinook and Chum salmon taken as bycatch in the Unalaska Bay area over the past few years. The source of this data is from Karl Haflinger, SeaState Inc., the company the AFA co-ops use to help manage their harvest. SeaState received this data directly from the NMFS and the NMFS Observer Program.

Table 1. Pollock Harvest (mt) and Salmon Bycatch (numbers), Unalaska Bay

Year	Vessels	N deliveries	Pollock (MT)	Chinook	Chum
2009	na	22	1,487.11	287	530
2008	6	10	811.32	27	53
2007	12	33	1,682.17	1,264	434
2006	8	9	273.38	14	55
2005	11	61	1,016.13	39	550
2004	19	127	5,759.07	1,743	2,340
2003	na	61	3,640.60	222	3,982
2002	na	39	1,761.66	156	96

In addition, the Eastern Bering Sea Pollock Co-op members have all agreed to participate in the Rolling Hot Spot Closure Program as required by current NMFS salmon bycatch regulations. This federal regulation allows the Pollock co-op managers to close, on a weekly basis, discrete areas of known high bycatch rates ("hotspots"). In the 2009 Pollock fishery, the co-op managers

2009

closed the area inside Unalaska Bay to Pollock fishing for 6 weeks during the month of August and September to the co-ops with vessels that had above-average bycatch rates.

Salmon Stock-of-Origin genetics research from NMFS and ADF&G indicate that up to 50% of the Chum salmon taken as bycatch in the Bering Sea Pollock fishery are from Russia and Japan river systems. See attached table from Dr. Jeff Guyon's report to the NPFMC for their February 2010 meeting next week that summarizes chum bycatch samples taken from the 2005 Bering Sea Pollock fishery using microsatellite DNA analysis.

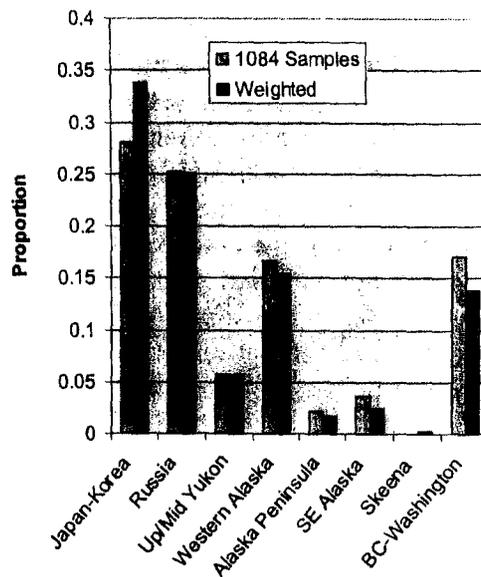
Thank you very much for considering this additional information and we hope it helps in your decision making process on this proposal.

Sincerely,



Brent Paine
Executive Director

Figure 8. Comparison of the aggregated stock composition estimate produced from the available 1,084 genetic samples with a weighted estimate based on the temporal stock compositions weighted by the proportion of bycatch caught in each time interval.



Stock Composition Summary

The unweighted stock composition results from the AYKSSI chum bycatch sample set indicate that the major contributing regions were: Upper/Middle Yukon (5-6%), western Alaska (16%), BC/Washington (16-17%), Japan/S. Russia (28-29%) and Russia (25-29%). There was little contribution from southeast Alaska/Northern British Columbia, Alaska Peninsula, or Skeena. SPAM simulation studies described above indicate some potential to misallocate SE Alaska fish/N. BC to BC/Washington (Table 2), but because stock composition estimates for the SE Alaska/N. BC stocks were low, they were combined in Figure 9 with the BC/Washington region to allow comparison with previous estimates (Patton et al., 1998; Seeb et al., 2004; Wilmot et al., 1998). Although the AYKSSI genetic sample distribution is different than the overall non-Chinook bycatch distribution (Figure 2), the results derived from our study are similar to those from the 1994 bycatch (Figure 9). The 1994-1996 chum bycatch estimates were produced with allozyme data and the 2005 chum bycatch estimates were derived for the first time from DNA based microsatellite markers.

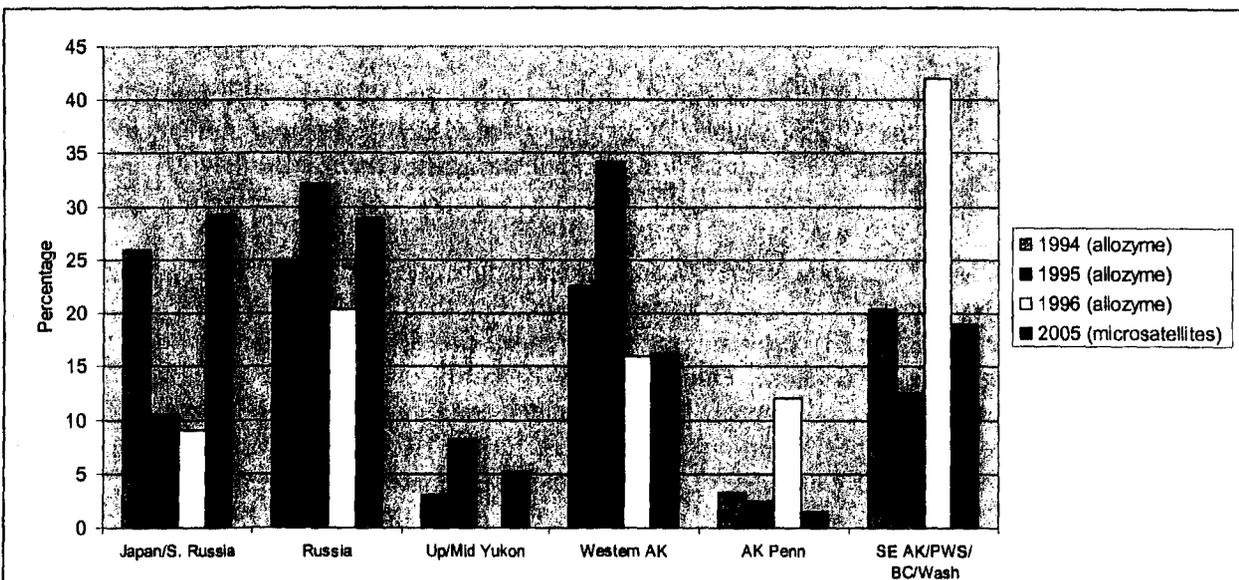


Figure 9. Comparison of 2005 stock composition estimates with those from the 1994-1996 years. The 1994-1996 estimates were derived using allozyme markers while the 2005 estimates were produced for the first time using DNA based markers. For estimates across different years, not all areas may contain the same populations as different baselines were used in producing these estimates.

RC66

Mr. Chairman

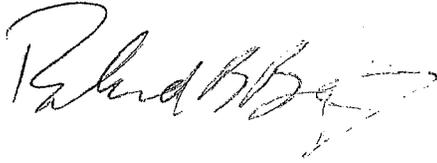
On Proposal 29 I pull all reference to Ilnik and Port Heiden.

On Proposal 30 I pull in consideration of 29

On Proposal 155 I pull in consideration of amended proposal 151

On Proposal 156 I strike all reference all reference to Ilnik and Port Heiden

Roland Briggs

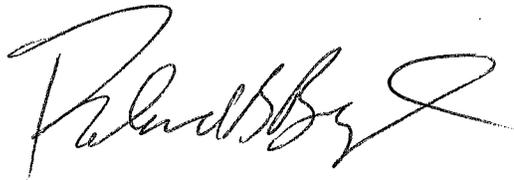
A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Roland Briggs". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the printed name.

RC67

Substitute Language for Proposal for 152 option # 2

Since the outer northern sections of the North Peninsula (Three Hills, Ilnik, and Outer Port Heiden) are recognized as a mix stock area and therefore will be managed to maximize the passage of non northern district stocks. The department will use time and area restrictions as needed to target northern district stocks and minimize catch of non district stocks.

Roland Briggs

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Roland Briggs". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the printed name.



RC 68

Alaska Board of Fisheries
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, Alaska 99811

February 5, 2010

RE: RC Submittal: UCB Substitute Proposal for Proposal 111, Closure of Unalaska Bay

Dear Board of Fisheries Members,

We wish to provide the Board of Fisheries a modified, or compromise proposal to Proposal 111 as follows.

From the start of the Bering Sea Pollock 'B' season (June 10) to August 1, close the following area to pelagic trawl fishing within Unalaska Bay south of the following line:

Starting at Priest Rock (55 degrees 00 minutes 50 seconds N Lat, 166 degrees 22 minutes 50 sec West Long) go 8.68 miles in a southwesterly direction to the Hog Island IALA navigation buoy (53 deg 55 min 25 sec N, 166 deg 34 sec 15 min W), and then go 2.75 miles due west to landfall in Broad Bay (53 degrees 55 min 25 sec North Lat, 166 deg 38 min 80 sec West Long).

This proposal will allow the Pollock fleet to fish during the period August 1 to October 31 in an area that does not overlap with areas in Unalaska Bay traditionally used for personal use and subsistence activities and also prohibits Pollock fishing during the summer months when personal use and subsistence activities are most active.

Thank you very much for considering this compromise proposal and we hope it helps in your decision making process.

Sincerely,

Brent Paine
Executive Director

RC 69 re: proposal 104

The King Cove AC supports the 58' limit for cod AND pollock. The committee "A" report suggested there was no AC support for the pollock limit. This RC is intended to clarify the King Cove AC position in regard to the pollock limit.

Submitted by Grant Newton, chair King Cove AC

In RC 64, I proposed ratio-based closures, to be calculated and applied to each gear group individually. It has been suggested that since the problem we're trying to address is the result of the seine catches in the Shumagin Islands in 2009, that the new concept be applied only to the seine fleet. It was further suggested that this new approach be given a sunset at the next Board cycle to be re-evaluated for its effectiveness. I offer the following intent language for your consideration:

5 AAC 09.365 South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan

Add a new section:

*On any calendar day and within any fishing district, if the **seine** sockeye to chum ratio is less than 2 to 1 , that district will close for 48-hours to **seining**. The **seine fleet** can still fish in other districts that are open to fishing. The provision in this paragraph will sunset on December 31, 2012.*

Respectfully,

Art Nelson
Bering Sea Fishermen's Association

RC 71Alaska Board of Fisheries
Committee Report**COMMITTEE A****South Alaska Peninsula Groundfish**

February 4, 2010

Board Committee Members:

1. Bill Brown, *Chair
2. Mel Morris
3. Howard Delo

Alaska Department of Fish and Game Staff Members:

1. Wayne Donaldson – Westward Region Groundfish Management Biologist, CF
2. Forrest Bowers – BSAI Area Management Biologist, CF
3. Nick Sagalkin – South Alaska Peninsula, Chignik, and Kodiak Area Management Biologist, CF
4. Mark Stichert – South Alaska Peninsula, Chignik, and Kodiak Assistant Area Management Biologist, CF
5. Heather Barnhart – BSAI Assistant Area Management Biologist, CF (Note Taker)
6. Stefanie Moreland – Extended Jurisdiction Program Coordinator
7. Mike Mitchell – Department of Law
8. Al Cain – Department Enforcement Specialist
9. Matt Miller – Sport Fish Division
10. Sue Aspelund – Deputy Director, CF

Advisory Committee Members:

1. Frank Kelty – Unalaska/Dutch Harbor AC
2. Grant Newton – King Cove AC

Public Panel Members:

1. Kenny Down – Freezer Longline Co.
2. Patrick Burns – Blue North Fisheries
3. David Polushkin – K-Bay Fisheries Assoc.
4. Kris Norosz – Icicle Seafoods
5. Dan Gunn – Self
6. Lloyd Johannessen – Self
7. Melanie Rotter – Self
8. Dan Martin – Northern Victor Co-op

9. Carol Foster – Self
10. Bert Ashley – F/V Goldrush
11. Dick Jacobson – Sand Point / Aleut Corp
12. Brent Paine – UCBA
13. Eric Weber – Self
14. Mike Sharrah – Adak Community Development Corporation
15. Jeannie Heltzel – NPFMC Protected Resources Specialist
16. Chris Oliver – NPFMC Executive Director

The Committee met February 4, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. and adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

PROPOSALS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE WERE: (14 total) (101-114).

PROPOSAL 101 – 5 AAC 28.550. Description of South Alaska Peninsula Area; and 5 AAC 28.600. Description of Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands Area. Clarify groundfish management areas.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 1, Written Tab 10, 11.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 3.

Timely Public Comment: None.

Record Comments: RC 17.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Housekeeping proposal.
- Language in original proposal did not match federal coordinates; substitute language in RC 17 provides corrected coordinates for amended proposal.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support: None.

Opposition: None.

General: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Support.

AC Positions: Support: None.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support as amended in RC 17.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: RC 17 as follows:

5 AAC 28.550 Description of South Alaska Peninsula Area would be amended to:

The South Alaska Peninsula Area consists of all waters of Alaska in the Pacific Ocean between a line extending 135° southeast from Kupreanof Point (55° 33.98' N. lat., 159° 35.88' W. long.) and 170° W.

long., including those waters south of the latitude of Nichols Point (54° 51.5' N. lat.) near False Pass, and south from lines extending from Unimak Island (54° 23.74' N. lat., 164° 44.73' W long.) to Akun Island (54° 11.71' N. lat., 165° 23.09' W. long.), and from Akun Island (54° 08.40' N. lat., 165° 38.29' W. long.) to Akutan Island (54° 07.69' N. lat., 165° 39.74' W. long.), and from Akutan Island (54° 02.69' N. lat., 166° 02.93' W. long.) to Unalaska Island (53° 58.97' N. lat., 166° 16.50' W. long.), and from Unalaska Island (53° 18.95' N. lat., 167° 51.06' W. long.) to Unmak Island (53° 23.13' N. lat., 167° 50.50' W. long.), and from Umnak Island (52° 49.24' N. lat., 169° 07.10' W. long.) to Chuginakak Island (52° 49.18' N. lat., 169° 40.47' W. long.).

5 AAC 28.600 Description of Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands Area would be amended to: The Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands Area consists of all territorial waters of Alaska in the Bering Sea, and in that portion of the North Pacific Ocean adjacent to the Aleutian Islands and west of 170° W. long., including those waters north of the latitude of Nichols Point (54° 51.5' N. lat) near False Pass, and north from lines extending from Unimak Island (54° 23.74' N. lat., 164° 44.73' W long.) to Akun Island (54° 11.71' N. lat., 165° 23.09' W. long.), and from Akun Island (54° 08.40' N. lat., 165° 38.29' W. long.) to Akutan Island (54° 07.69' N. lat., 165° 39.74' W. long.), and from Akutan Island (54° 02.69' N. lat., 166° 02.93' W. long.) to Unalaska Island (53° 58.97' N. lat., 166° 16.50' W. long.), and from Unalaska Island (53° 18.95' N. lat., 167° 51.06' W. long.) to Unmak Island (53° 23.13' N. lat., 167° 50.50' W. long.), and from Umnak Island (52° 49.24' N. lat., 169° 07.10' W. long.) to Chuginakak Island (52° 49.18' N. lat., 169° 40.47' W. long.).

PROPOSAL 102 – 5 AAC 28.560. Fishing Seasons for South Alaska Peninsula Area; 5 AAC 28.610. Fishing Seasons for Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands Area; and 5 AAC 28.710. Fishing Seasons for Chukchi-Beaufort Area. Repeal fishing season regulations that allow groundfish to be taken at any time.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 1, Written Tab 10, 11.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 3.

Timely Public Comment: None.

Record Comments: None.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Housekeeping proposal. Removes redundant and conflicting language.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Clarifies regulation.

Opposition:

- No conflict with bycatch rules.

General: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Support.

AC Positions: Support: None.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 103 – 5 AAC 28.577. South Alaska Peninsula Area Pacific Cod Management Plan.
Limit vessel size to 58 feet in the South Alaska Peninsula Area parallel groundfish fishery.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 1, Written Tab 10.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 3.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 27.

Record Comments: RC 34.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This proposal only applies to parallel Pacific cod fishery.
- Does not anticipate conflict with NPFMC sector split actions.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Protect local communities against influx of large vessels.
- Support if only applies to parallel Pacific cod season.
- Complements sector splits and closes a potential loophole for some non-federally licensed vessels. Mirrors action in BSAI for longline gear.
- Large vessels have a high potential even if few vessels participate in the fishery. Bering Sea boats could still take 62% of the TAC.
- An LLP is not needed.
- Excludes large vessels from participating in fisheries with small quotas.
- Larger boats can still fish outside 3 miles.

Opposition:

- Doesn't account for traditional (historical) fishing activity.
- Recent council actions exclude most longline vessels; only 7 LLPs remain eligible.
- Excludes vessels based in Unalaska/Dutch Harbor.

General:

- Board should consider limiting only longline vessels; more of the catch is being taken by vessels belonging to longline co-ops, some longline vessels may be sold to non-LLP holders that could come into the parallel fishery without permits.
- General support for limiting only longline vessels; however Sand Point does see potential issues with not limiting all vessel types.

- King Cove AC intended for Pacific cod.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: King Cove.
Oppose: Unalaska/Dutch Harbor.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language:

5 AAC 28.577 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(xx) In the South Alaska Peninsula Area, a vessel participating in a parallel season for Pacific cod may not be more than 58 feet in overall length. In this section overall length means the straight line length between extremities of the vessel, excluding anchor rollers.

PROPOSAL 104 – 5 AAC 28.570. Lawful gear for South Alaska Peninsula. Limit vessel size to 58 feet in the South Alaska Peninsula parallel groundfish fishery.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 1, Written Tab 10.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 3.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 27.

Record Comments: RC 16, 34, 43.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This proposal applies to all parallel groundfish fisheries in the South Alaska Peninsula, not just Pacific cod.
- Refer to RC 34 for pollock harvest data; shown below (Table 1 and 2).

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Economic benefit for local communities.
- Slows down pace of the fishery.
- Larger vessels are capable of fishing in Bering Sea.

Opposition:

- Not supported if walleye pollock is included.
- Trip limit of 300,000 pounds helps neutralize large vessel competition.
- Some large vessels only have history in the WGOA.
- Federal sideboards slow fishery down.
- Stand-down provision between WGOA and BSAI.
- Walleye pollock biomass is distributed across the state waters boundary.
- Some pollock boats have not been able to participate in past years due to crab rationalization; if they had been able to participate they would have a larger recent catch history.

General:

- Sand Point AC said that the intent was for cod only.
- Interest in creating a state-waters pollock fishery.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: None.

Oppose: Unalaska/Dutch Harbor oppose if pollock is included.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 105 – 5 AAC 28.570. Lawful gear for South Alaska Peninsula. Exclude longline gear from the South Alaska Peninsula Area parallel groundfish fishery.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 1, Written Tab 10.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 3.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 27.

Record Comments: RC 16, 28, 29.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Applies to all parallel groundfish fisheries in the South Alaska Peninsula Area.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Halibut stocks are declining in Area 3B.
- Excluding longline gear during the parallel Pacific cod season would reduce halibut bycatch.

Opposition:

- Halibut is not a concern because there is an existing halibut cap on longline vessels.
- Under recent NPFMC action longline fleet is limited to 7 LLPs.
- Harsher weather fishing outside of 3 miles for smaller vessels.
- Many vessels based in Unalaska/Dutch Harbor are longline vessels.
- Adopting a 58 foot vessel size limit would address this issue; excluding all longline vessels would be too aggressive.

General: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: None.

Oppose: Unalaska/Dutch Harbor.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 106 – 5 AAC 28.570. Lawful gear for South Alaska Peninsula Area. Implement a 60 pot or 5 jig machine limit in the parallel Pacific cod fishery in the Western Gulf of Alaska.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 1, Written Tab 10.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 3.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 27.

Record Comments: RC 28, 29.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Applies to all parallel groundfish fisheries.
- Would implement state-waters gear limits into parallel fishery.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support: None.

Opposition:

- Sector split percentage for longline catcher vessels is only 1.4% of the entire WGOA federal TAC.
- Since 2001 when Steller sea lion (SSL) measures were put into place, the B season quota has only been fully harvested twice.
- Trawlers would be negatively impacted.
- NPFMC already addressed SSL issues.

General: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: None.

Oppose: Unalaska/Dutch Harbor.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 107 – 5 AAC 28.577(b)(e)(g). South Alaska Peninsula Area Pacific Cod Management Plan. Modify allowable gear and vessel size for the parallel Pacific cod fishery in the South Alaska Peninsula Area.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 1, Written Tab 10.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 3.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 27.

Record Comments: RC 28, 29.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This complex proposal would implement most state-waters regulations to the parallel fishery.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support: None.

Opposition:

- Excludes longline gear; see comment on previous proposals.
- Would eliminate roll-overs.

General: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral on allocative aspects; opposed to aspects that seek to limit inseason management flexibility.

AC Positions: Support: None.

Oppose: Unalaska/Dutch Harbor.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 108 – 5 AAC 28.577. South Alaska Peninsula Area Pacific Cod Management Plan. Increase the guideline harvest level in the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters Pacific cod management plan.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 1, Written Tab 10.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 3.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 9, 27.

Record Comments: RC 28, 29.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Jig quota is not always fully harvested at current GHIL allocation percentage.
- State-waters fishery has strong catch rates and the pot quota is always fully utilized.
- Gulf of Alaska Pacific cod stock is modeled as one stock; no inshore / offshore differentiation. Large management units are used (Western, Central, and Eastern Gulf of Alaska).

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Economic benefit to Aleutians East Borough.
- More cod harvest available for local communities.
- Having local participants is better for the local communities.
- Local communities are losing schools due to decreasing populations.

Opposition:

- Loss for vessels that cannot fish state waters.
- Jig quota would be too high for jig fleet to fully harvest.
- Biological concern for localized depletion.
- Council stated concern about SSL effects based on seasons and proximity to shore.
- Could swing much of the harvest into state waters that do not have the same sea lion protections; if the state waters GHIL increased it might trigger a Section 7 consultation to review federal fisheries.
- A number of longline vessels have historical fishery benefits in the area that they would lose.
- Federal TAC could be lowered in response to SSL concerns.

General:

- Council did not take a position but commented that NMFS stock assessment authors are considering the issue of localized stock depletion on current and future removals.
- Council adopted sector splits; this could affect those splits. Up for review by the Secretary of Commerce; the issue may need to come back to council if proposal is adopted.
- Since 2003 over 50% of the harvest from the parallel fishery came from inside state waters.
- Many vessels switch between federal and state fisheries and change their gear type.
- Council should consult with local tribes.
- Seasonal apportionment might not be favored by King Cove AC.
- The 25% increase is not the only option that should be considered; other incremental increases would be supported.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: None.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 109 – 5 AAC 28.577(e). South Alaska Peninsula Area Pacific Cod Management Plan. Increase the guideline harvest level in the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters Pacific cod management plan.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 1, Written Tab 10.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 3.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 9, 27.

Record Comments: None.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department: None.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- See comments for proposal 108.

Opposition:

- See comments for proposal 108.

General:

- See comments for proposal 108.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: None.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 110 – 5 AAC 28.577. South Alaska Peninsula Area Pacific Cod Management Plan.
Implement a 7-day stand down period.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 1, Written Tab 10.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 3.

Timely Public Comment: None.

Record Comments:

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- BSAI and South Alaska Peninsula state-waters jig quotas are underutilized and jig vessels commonly switch between these 2 areas; suggest amending proposal to exclude jig vessels from stand-down provision.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- King Cove and Sand Point communities only fish in the WGOA / South Alaska Peninsula area.
- Very few people in Sand Point fish in the Bering Sea.

Opposition: None.

General:

- Intent of proposal was a 7-day stand down prior to a vessel switching from BSAI to state-waters fishery, not a stand down period that begins after the BSAI fishery closes.
- Only 58' vessels in state-waters fishery.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: King Cove.

Oppose: Unalaska/Dutch Harbor; had interpreted as 7 days from the end of the BSAI season.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 111 – 5 AAC 28.650. Closed Waters in the Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands Area. Close the waters of Unalaska Bay to groundfish fishing with trawl gear.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 2, Written Tab 11.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 3.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 1, 3, 5, 6, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17, 28.

Record Comments: RC 6, 13, 14, 22, 59.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Salmon bycatch is approximately 55% chum and 45% Chinook. Based on average weight and species present they are likely immature non-local fish.
- There are no Chinook runs in Unalaska Bay or the rest of the Aleutian Islands.
- A high average bycatch rate of Chinook salmon in the BSAI walleye pollock fishery is 0.1 Chinook per metric ton of pollock (2007), the average rate in Unalaska Bay varies between 0.03 and 0.69 Chinook per metric ton. A high average bycatch rate of Chum in the BSAI walleye pollock fishery is 0.5 chum per metric ton of walleye pollock, Unalaska Bay varies 0.07 to 0.36 chum per metric ton of walleye pollock. Bycatch rates are highly variable from year to year.
- Map of area trawled in Unalaska Bay was provided.
- 80% of the walleye pollock harvest occurs between August and October.
- Map presented by department during committee meeting included below.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative:

Support:

- Unalaska Bay harvest is minimal compared to Bering Sea pollock harvest, RC 59.
- Unalaska processing plants are now doing more pollock fillets than surimi.
- Local Unangan people have fished there for thousands of years.
- Native and non-native sport and subsistence fisherman use small open vessels.
- Much subsistence activity on west side of bay.
- Unalaska city council motion overrides any previous agreements city officials made with the walleye pollock industry (PC 28).

Opposition:

- Walleye pollock fisherman have already lost much of their traditional fishing grounds.
- Unalaska is a good place to fish in bad weather.
- If fishing is poor in Unalaska Bay, walleye pollock vessels fish elsewhere.

- Room for about 4 boats to fish in Unalaska Bay. Usually only 1 or 2 at most.
- Previously an agreement between the mayor of Unalaska and one walleye pollock cooperative had been made to not fish south of Hog Island; this has not been violated and trawlers would be open to making this agreement more formal.
- Issue is more perception-based than reality; for example vessels conducting non-fishing activities may be viewed as fishing activities, such as washing nets or transiting the area.
- Microsatellite DNA shows that over 50% of the chum in the BSAI is salmon of Asian origin.
- Trawl fleet under co-op structure self-regulates their vessels very effectively; their co-op has successfully kept vessels out of Unalaska Bay in 2009 due to high salmon bycatch.
- Subsistence crab fishermen are not fishing in 40 fathoms, which is where the trawling occurs.
- Walleye pollock fishing only occurs over 5 months and vessels are not typically in there that much.
- Co-ops can deal with this i.e. rolling hot-spots; it doesn't need to be addressed in regulation.

General: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral on allocative aspects; support management measures reducing bycatch and gear conflicts.

AC Positions: Support: Unalaska/Dutch Harbor.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 112 – 5 AAC 28.632. Groundfish Pot Storage Requirements for Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands Area. Modify groundfish pot storage requirements.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 2, Written Tab 11.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 3.

Timely Public Comment: None.

Record Comments: None.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Housekeeping proposal brings BSAI regulations into alignment with other area regulations.
- More orderly conclusion of fishery.
- Clarify policy for enforcement and public.
- Fleet has not had difficulty complying in other areas.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support: None.

Opposition: None.

General: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Support.

AC Positions: Support: None.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to approve.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 113 – 5 AAC 28.632. Aleutian Islands District Pacific Cod Management Plan. Specify that pot gear may be fished on a longline.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 2, Written Tab 11.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 3.

Timely Public Comment: None.

Record Comments: RC 17.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Substitute language in RC 17 clarifying the gear as legal.
- Important gear type because of fishing conditions in Aleutians.
- Reduces gear loss.
- A groundfish longline definition of 10 pots is used in this regulation because that is how a similar regulation for Aleutian Islands golden king crab is written.
- If less than 10 pots are used, existing regulations would require individual buoys on each pot.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support: None.

Opposition: None

General:

- It is possible to use less than 10 pots on a groundfish longline, but not opposed to a 10 pot minimum.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Support.

AC Positions: Support: None.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: RC 17

5 AAC28.647 Aleutian Islands District Pacific Cod Management Plan.

(d)(2) would be amended to:

Pacific cod may be taken only with groundfish pots, mechanical jigging machines, longline, non-pelagic trawl, and hand troll gear. **Pot gear may be longlined. For the purposes of this subsection longlined pot gear is a stationary, buoyed, and anchored line with more than one pot attached. Each end of a groundfish pot longline must be marked with a buoy bearing the ADF&G number of the vessel operating that groundfish longline pot gear as well as the letters "GFL" to designate the gear as a groundfish pot longline;**

PROPOSAL 114 – 5 AAC 28.647. Aleutian Islands District Pacific Cod Management Plan. Allow pot vessels 100 feet or less to participate in the B season.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 2, Written Tab 11.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 3.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 8, 18, 22, 23, 24, 25.

Record Comments: None.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- During 3 out of 4 years that this fishery has occurred, larger vessels would have been permitted to enter the fishery on August 1. 2008 is the only year the B season GHL was achieved.
- 2 or 3 boats that traditionally participate were excluded by the 60 foot limit.
- A large vessel harvest cap, like in Kodiak Pacific cod, could be used instead of vessel size restrictions or season dates.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- 6 million pounds of foregone harvest in 2009 because of vessel size restrictions and because of a lack of processing capacity in Adak; processor not likely to operate this year.
- Big boats spend a lot in Adak facilities.
- Lots of opportunity because B season starts September 1.
- Vessels displaced that traditionally participated in this fishery.

Opposition:

- 58 foot vessels could develop a fleet to harvest entire quota.
- One year is not enough time to determine if size restrictions will work.
- Season went too fast for small boats. Smaller boats need to fish summer months when weather conditions are better.
- Economic development for small boat fleet.
- Economic benefit to city of Adak.
- Working to create processing opportunities.

General:

- Suggestions to use 125' limit instead of 100' limit.
- Small vessels consider the possibility of a cap reasonable.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: None.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language:

5 AAC 28.647(d)(3)(B) is amended to read:

(d)(3)(B) state waters 'B' season,

(i) **from June 10 through July 31**, a vessel may not be more than 60 feet in over all length for any gear type;

(ii) **beginning August 1, 2010, a pot vessel may be no more than 125 feet in overall length;**

RC 17 – 5 AAC 28.640. Aleutian Islands District and Western District of the South Alaska Peninsula Area Sablefish Management Plan. Clarify logbook submission requirements.

Staff Reports: None.

Staff Comments: None.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: None.

Timely Public Comment: None.

Record Comments: RC 17.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This proposed regulatory language was brought up by the department in RC 17 to clarify language in sablefish logbook requirements.
- Processors were unsure of logbook requirements and the issue came to the department's attention after the proposal deadline for this meeting passed.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support: None.

Opposition: None.

General: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Support.

AC Positions: Support: None.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Proposed board-generated proposal language:

5 AAC 28.640 (g) would be amended to:

Each vessel operator shall obtain and complete a logbook provided by the department for all fishing activity in the waters of Alaska under this section. **The logbook must be on board the vessel at all times and copies of each logbook page corresponding with and ADF&G fish ticket for sablefish must be submitted to the department within seven days of landing.**

RC 72

Alaska Board of Fisheries
Committee Report

COMMITTEE B

Salmon: Gear Requirements, June, and Post-June Fishery
February 4, 2010

Board Committee Members:

1. John Jenson, *Chair
2. Karl Johnstone

Alaska Department of Fish and Game Staff Members:

1. Aaron Poetter – South Alaska Peninsula Area Management Biologist, CF
2. Matt Keyse – South Alaska Peninsula (Cold Bay) Assistant Area Management Biologist
CF
3. Jeff Wadle – Region IV Finfish Management Supervisor, CF
4. James Jackson – Kodiak Area Management Biologist, CF
5. Todd Anderson – Chignik Area Management Biologist, CF
6. Steve Honnold – Region Four Regional Supervisor, CF
7. John Hilsinger – Director, CF
8. Eric Volk – Chief Fisheries Scientist, CF
9. Mark Witteveen – Regional IV Research Fisheries Biologist, CF
10. Marybeth Loewen – Region IV Research Fisheries Biologist, CF
11. Matt Nemeth – Region IV Research Supervisor, CF

Advisory Committee Members: (only those representing committees in committee)

1. Grant Newton – King Cove AC
2. David Osterback – Sand Point AC
3. Don Bumpus – Chignik AC
4. Rolland Briggs – Lower Bristol Bay AC
5. Virgil Umphenour – Fairbanks AC
6. Dan Dunaway – Nushagak AC
7. Abe Williams – Naknek AC
8. Jack Fagerstrom – Northern Norton Sound AC

Public Panel Members:

1. Melvin Larsen – Area M Seine
2. Tom Wooding – AK Pen Co-op
3. Gene Sandone – Lower Yukon

4. Art Nelson – Bering Sea Fishermen’s Association
5. Mike Kurtz – Area M Seine
6. Tim Andrew – Kuskokwim
7. Mike Smith – Upper Yukon/Interior
8. Mike Sloan – Norton Sound
9. Dale Schwartzmiller – Area M Processor
10. Robert Heyano – Bristol Bay Native Association
11. Pat Martin – Area M Drift Gillnet
12. Ben Mobek – Area M Set Gillnet
13. John Foster – Area M Set Gillnet
14. Johathan Forsling – Togiak Seafoods.
15. Rachel Allen – Chignik Seine
16. Chuck McCallum – Lake and Peninsula Borough
17. Rick Eastlick – Area M Set Gillnet

Federal Subsistence Representative:

1. Rod Campbell – USFWS

The Committee met February 4, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. and adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

PROPOSALS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE WERE: (20 total) 160-162 and 115-131.

PROPOSAL 162 – 5 AAC 09.331(b)(5). Gillnet specifications and operation. Modify the length of seine webbing used as a lead for set gillnet gear from 10 fathoms to 25 fathoms as follows: 25 fathom seine leads will be allowed for each set gillnet.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 4, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 3, 4.

Timely Public Comments: None.

Record Comments: RC 10.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Staff cites RC 2 and no conservation concerns.
- Current regulations stipulate that set gillnet gear with seine leads must be attached to the beach above low tide.
- Board should consider language concerning attachment, mesh size, depth, and length of lead.

Department of Law:

- None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Weather can cause safety concerns when picking fish during high surf near shore.
- Increase webbing lead would only be used by a few fisherman in a few locations.
- Use is more important in areas where sockeye salmon run close to shore and is not intended to fish deeper waters.

Opposition:

- Fishing deeper water would increase likelihood of encountering mixed stocks.
- Seiner states that even just a 5 fathom increase to seine gear greatly increases catching ability.

General:

- Current regulations do not state a maximum depth in which set gillnet gear can be used, but if a lead is utilized the gear must be attached above low tide.
- In areas of western Unimak, set gillnet gear must be fished within ½ mile of shore, but the area has not been fished much since 2001.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions:

Support: Sandpoint

Oppose: Naknek/Kvichak
Chignik.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support

Substitute Language: As follows:

5 AAC 09.331 Gillnet specifications and operations.

(b)(5) in the Unimak, Southwestern, South Central, and Southeastern Districts, 25 [10] fathoms of seine webbing may be used on the shoreward end of a set gillnet; the shoreward end of the seine webbing must be attached to the beach above low tide;

PROPOSAL 160 – 5 AAC 09.331(b)(5). Gillnet specifications and operation. Modify the length of seine webbing used as a lead for set gillnet gear from 10 fathoms to 50 fathoms as follows: 50 fathoms in length of 3.5 inch mesh with a maximum depth of 125 meshes. The shoreward end must be attached to the beach, unsubmerged rock, pinnacle, or kelp patch shallower than 5 fathoms.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 4, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 3, 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab PC 10.

Record Comments: RC 10, 18.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Reference comments from proposal 162.

Department of Law:

- Reference comments from proposal 162.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None

Support:

- Reference comments from proposal 162.

Opposition:

- Reference comments from proposal 162.

General:

- Reference comments from proposal 162.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions:

Support: None.

Oppose: Naknek/Kvichak
Sandpoint
Chignik.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 162.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 161 – 5 AAC 09.331. Gillnet specifications and operation. Modify the length of seine webbing used as a lead for set gillnet gear from 10 fathoms to 50 fathoms as follows: setnet lead will be no greater than 50 fathoms.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 4, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 3, 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, None.

Record Comments: RC 10, 18.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Reference comments from proposal 162.

Department of Law:

- Reference comments from proposal 162.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None

Support:

- Reference comments from proposal 162.

Opposition:

- Reference comments from proposal 162.

General:

- Reference comments from proposal 162.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions:

Support: None.

Oppose: Naknek/Kvichak,
Sandpoint
Chignik.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 162.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 115 – 5 AAC 09.355. Salmon processor and buyer requirements. Require participation in a chum salmon pool.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 3, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 12.

Record Comments: RC 11, 15, 25, 26, 31, 32, 35, 36, 44, 45.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This proposal seeks to require establishment of a chum salmon pool by any salmon processor and buyer who intends to operate in the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June salmon fishery.

Department of Law:

- Court rulings upheld that the board does not currently have authority to enact and implement a regulation concerning this proposal.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- General support for the voluntary chum salmon cooperative that is currently in use.

Opposition: None.

General:

- An Area M processor that currently operates under chum salmon pools commented that they would like to see all processors would do so voluntarily in the future.
- A notification process should be undertaken so that new processors in Area M could be informed about cooperative chum salmon pools.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions:

Support: Sandpoint.

Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 116 – 5 AAC 09.365. South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan; and 5 AAC 09.369. Northern District Salmon Fisheries Management Plan.

Reinstate the 8.3 percent allocation of the pre-season Bristol Bay sockeye salmon forecast in the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June fisheries and the Northern District prior to July 25.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 3, 6, Written Tab 12, 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 4, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC, 11, 19, 20, 21, 26.

Record Comments: RC 4, 5, 18, 25, 27, 31, 35, 36, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 44, 45, 49, 50, 52, 53.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This proposal seeks to reinstate the 8.3% Bristol Bay forecasted inshore sockeye salmon harvest allocation to the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June fishery.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Togiak area processor supports the proposal with a chum salmon cap of 375,000 and commented that it paid Togiak fisherman incentives for having a low chum salmon ratio.
- Nushagak AC supportive of the 8.3% allocation because it could provide protection in low Bristol Bay abundance years.
- Chignik AC supports the proposal if amended to allocate 1.5% of the total 8.3% to the Shumagins and 6.8% to the Unimak area.
- Support with hot spot s closures based on 2 to 1 sockeye salmon to chum salmon ratio.

Opposition:

- Setnetter stated that if the proposal was enacted it would devastate the setnet fishery.
- After the 8.3% allocation is achieved, many smaller boats would have a difficult time traveling and fishing in more exposed western waters near Unimak.
- Fairbanks AC is against the proposal unless a lower chum salmon cap is proposed to account for underreporting of chum salmon harvest.

General:

- Enforcement staff noted that imposing chum salmon harvest limits can cause a high incidence of discards. For this reason, time and area regulations have been easier to enforce than regulations citing sockeye salmon to chum salmon ratio.
- Processors denied that there has been any underreporting of chum salmon.

- Seiner stated that the last six years chum salmon harvest has been lower except for last year's large chum salmon harvest.
- Drifter stated that it would be inappropriate to impose harvest caps when impacts in terminal areas will not be detected.
- Seiner stated that in many areas have fisherman lined up to fish one spot because of higher sockeye salmon ratios and that there is always a great potential for stand downs if ratios become too high.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral to the allocative aspects, but opposed to aspects of the proposal that would severely restrict the department's ability to control Northern District salmon escapements.

AC Positions:

Support: Nushagak
N. Norton Sound
Fairbanks
Lower Bristol Bay

Oppose: King Cove
Sandpoint
Chignik

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No consensus

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 117 – 5 AAC 09.331(a)(b). Gillnet specifications and operations. Modify the depth of drift and set gillnet gear.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 3, 4, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 4, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20, 21, 26.

Record Comments: RC 15, 18, 25, 26, 31, 32, 55.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Adoption of this proposal would modify depth of drift gillnets in Unimak and Southwestern districts and for set gillnets in Unimak, Southwestern, Southcentral, and Southeastern districts from 90 meshes to 120 meshes.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- This is an attempt to help South Unimak fisherman that are having trouble catching sockeye salmon.
- Adds roughly 10 to 12 feet to nets and will not greatly increase harvest.
- King Cove AC stated that cape fisherman can harvest more sockeye salmon when chum salmon are not present.
- Seiner stated that he doesn't believe different salmon species swim any lower in the water column.

Opposition:

- Public panel member stated that graduate studies during the Port Moller Test Fishery indicated chum salmon swim lower in the water column and that Japanese fleets used shallow nets for sockeye salmon before EEZ enactment.
- There would be a dramatic increase in gear that would increase harvest on mixed stock coho and chum salmon.
- Foregone economic opportunity is no reason to change gear restrictions.
- No underutilized stocks in Area M so this proposal will only affect mixed stocks.

General: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions:

Support: King Cove.

Oppose: Lower Yukon
Lower Bristol Bay
Nushagak
Naknek/Kvichak
Sandpoint
Chignik.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No consensus.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 118 – 5 AAC 09.366(d). Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula. Modify the Post-June Salmon Management Plan fishing schedule as follows: three 24-hour fishing periods interspersed by 48-hour closures from July 6 through July 14, and 48-hour fishing periods interspersed by 24-hour closures from July 15 through July 31.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 4, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials:

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 15, 18, 26, 31, 32.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This proposal seeks to modify the current Post – June Salmon Management Plan fishing schedule to three 24 – hour fishing periods interspaced by 48 – hour closures from July 6 through July 14, and 48 – hour fishing periods interspaced by 24 – hour closures from July 15 through July 31..

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Intent is to provide more fishing on the capes.
- Longer fishing periods would help because it takes so long to put gear in the water.
- Weather during short openings does not always cooperate and fuel costs to get to setnet sites can be high.
- Set gillnet fishermen need more time to fish to make a decent income.

Opposition:

- No expansion necessary in non-terminal areas.
- There are mixed stocks transiting during this time with significant coho passage.
- Chignik sockeye salmon would be vulnerable to increased effort in these areas.
- Togiak and Bristol Bay coho runs are susceptible to harvest in July.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions:

Support: King Cove
Sand Point

Oppose: Fairbanks
Lower Bristol Bay
Nushagak
Chignik

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 119 – 5 AAC 09.366(d). Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula. Modify the Post-June Salmon Management Plan fishing schedule as follows: two 12-hour fishing periods interspersed by a 12-hour closure, during a 36-hour time frame and then a 36-hour closure, and set gillnet gear would be allowed to continue to fish during the 12-hour closure for other gear types from July 6 through July 20. Beginning July 21, the proposed fishing schedule would be 36-hour fishing periods interspersed by 48-hour closures.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 4, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 9, 15, 18, 24, 26, 31, 32.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This proposal seeks to modify the current management plan's fishing schedule to one that allows a commercial salmon fishing period for seine and drift gillnet gear for 12 hours from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; a closure for 12 hours from 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m., and open for another 12 – hour fishing period from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Reference comments from proposal 118.

Opposition:

- Reference comments from proposal 118.

General Comments:

- Departments interpretation of the proposal was incorrect. RC 9 was submitted by the author of the proposal to clarify.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions:

Support: King Cove

Oppose: Fairbanks
Lower Bristol Bay
Nushagak
Chignik

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 120 – 5 AAC 09.366(d). Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula. Modify the Post-June Salmon Management Plan fishing schedule as follows: 48-hour openings interspersed by 24-hour closures for the entire month of July.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 4, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 15, 18, 26, 31, 32.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This proposal seeks to modify the current management plan's fishing schedule to 48-hour openings interspersed by 24-hour closures for the entire month of July.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Reference comments from proposal 118.

Opposition:

- Reference comments from proposal 118.
- This proposal would significantly increase fishing time.

General Comments:

- Reference comments from proposal 118.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions:

Support: King Cove

Oppose: Fairbanks
Lower Bristol Bay
Nushagak
Chignik

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 121 – 5 AAC 09.366(d). Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula. Modify the Post-June Salmon Management Plan fishing schedule as follows: three day openings interspersed with two day closures beginning July 6.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 4, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 9, 15, 18, 24, 26, 31, 32.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This proposal would modify the fishing schedule for the Post June Salmon Management Plan.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Reference comments from proposal 118.

Opposition:

- Reference comments from proposal 118.

General Comments:

- Reference comments from proposal 118.
- A member of the public stated that July coho are considered migrating fish and not terminal.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions:

Support: King Cove

Oppose: Fairbanks
 Lower Bristol Bay
 Nushagak
 Chignik

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 122 – 5 AAC 09.366(d). Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula. Modify the Post-June Salmon Management Plan fishing schedule as follows: allow set gillnet fisherman an additional 14 hours of fishing time prior to each opening during the month of July.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 4, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials:

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 15, 18, 24, 26, 31, 32.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This proposal would allow set gillnet fishermen an additional 14 hours of fishing time prior to each opening during the month of July.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- During this time setnetters are targeting local stocks.
- There is limited effort by set gillnet fisherman in the Shumagin Islands area.
- Setnetter stated that very few coho are harvested and he does not make a dent in such a large number of fish coming through the area.

Opposition:

- Terminal stock harvest would be fine, but opposition was noted if migratory stocks were harvested.

General: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions:

Support: None

Oppose: Lower Bristol Bay
Nushagak

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 123 – 5 AAC 09.366(d). Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula. Modify the Post-June Salmon Management Plan fishing schedule as follows: seine and drift gillnet gear would fish during current July fishing schedule and set gillnet gear would fish during the current July 48-hour closures.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 4, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 9, 15, 18, 24, 26, 31, 32.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Subsistence -caught fish could not be distinguished from commercially-caught fish.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Reference comments from proposal 118.

Opposition:

- Reference comments from proposal 118.

General: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions:

Support: King Cove

Oppose: Fairbanks
Lower Bristol Bay
Nushagak
Chignik

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 124 – 5AAC 09.366. Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula. Expand the opportunity to harvest local chum salmon and pink salmon stocks during July.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 4, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 42.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Department stated that this proposal was unclear.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- If local stocks move in earlier than normal this proposal would help to harvest them at a higher quality.

Opposition: None.

General: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral, but because the proposal calls for no specific actions, the department would look to the board for guidance.

AC Positions:

Support: Sand Point

Oppose: Fairbanks
 Lower Bristol Bay
 Nushagak
 Chignik
 Naknek/Kvichak

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 125 - 5 AAC 09.366(f). Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula. Allow commercial salmon fishing in all terminal areas as follows: add 09.366(g) to the areas listed in 5 AAC 09.366(f) so that all these terminal areas could possibly be opened on July 6, if fish are present.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 4, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 42.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Can control escapement with the current management plan.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- There are different terminal harvest areas on the South Alaska Peninsula at different times in July.

Opposition:

- Current terminal harvest areas are too large and concern for harvest of mixed-mixed stocks.

General:

- Would support if amended to include language that no Bristol Bay or Chignik stocks are harvested.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions:

Support: Sand Point
King Cove

Oppose: Fairbanks
Lower Bristol Bay

Nushagak
Chignik
Naknek/Kvichak

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support.

Substitute Language:

5 AAC 09.366. Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula.

(f) The commissioner may open, by emergency order, the following terminal harvest areas to salmon fishing from July 6 through July **31** [21]:

- (1) the Shumagin Islands Section of the Southeastern District, waters of Zachary Bay south of the latitude of 55° 22.60' N. lat.; fishing periods shall be based on the abundance of pink and chum salmon stocks;
- (2) the East and West Pavlof Bay Sections of the South Central District, waters north of the latitude of Black Point (55° 24.48' N. lat.); fishing periods shall be established based on the abundance of pink and chum salmon stocks;
- (3) the Canoe Bay Section of the South Central District; fishing periods shall be established based on the abundance of pink and chum salmon stocks;
- (4) in the Cold Bay, Thin Point, and Morzhovoi Bay Sections of the Southwestern District as follows:
 - (A) fishing periods in the Cold Bay Section shall be established based on the abundance sockeye and chum salmon stocks;
 - (B) fishing periods in Thin Point Cove and Morzhovoi Bay Sections shall be established based on the abundance of sockeye salmon stocks.

[(g) IN ADDITION TO THE TERMINAL HARVEST AREAS SPECIFIED IN (F) OF THIS SECTION, THE COMMISSIONER MAY OPEN, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, THE FOLLOWING TERMINAL HARVEST AREAS TO SALMON FISHING FROM JULY 22 THROUGH JULY 31:]

(5)[(1)] in the Northwest Stepovak Section of the Southeastern District Mainland (near Suzy Creek), after July 25, the waters east of 160° 19.00' W. Long. (in Dorenoi Bay), west of the cape separating Chichagof Bay and West Cove (160° 14.57' W. long.) and north of 55° 37.33' N. lat.; fishing periods shall be established based on the abundance of local pink salmon stocks;

(6)[(2)] the Stepovak Flats Section of the Southeastern District Mainland, from July 26 through July 28; fishing periods shall be established based on the abundance of local chum salmon stocks;

(7)[(3)] the Mino Creek-Little Coal Bay and East Pavlof Bay Sections of the South Central District; fishing periods shall be established based on the abundance of local pink and chum salmon stocks;

(8)[(4)] the Belkofski Bay Section of the Southwestern District; fishing periods shall be established based on the abundance of local pink and chum salmon stocks;

(9)[(5)] the Deer Island Section of the southwestern District; fishing periods shall be established based on the abundance of local pink salmon stocks.

PROPOSAL 126 - 5 AAC 09.366(f). Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula. Extend existing terminal areas as follows: extend existing terminal areas to include the South Central District, Southwestern District, and parts of Southeastern District.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 4, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC1, Public Comment Tab PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 9, 12, 18, 42.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This proposal seeks to extend the definition of terminal harvest areas in the South Alaska Peninsula Post-June fishery to all waters of the Southwestern District, South Central District, and portions of the Southeastern District.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Terminal harvest areas should be larger.

Opposition:

- If the entire district was opened it would no longer be a terminal harvest area.

General: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal. The department is opposed to the biological aspects of this proposal.

AC Positions:

Support: Sand Point
King Cove

Oppose: Fairbanks
Lower Bristol Bay
Nushagak
Chignik

Naknek/Kvichak

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 127 - 5 AAC 09.366. Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula. Repeal the immature salmon test fishery or increase the threshold.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 4, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 42.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This proposal seeks to repeal the test fishery language in the Post-June Salmon Management Plan or increase the immature threshold to 700-800 per set.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support: None.

Opposition:

- It would be irresponsible to change the current management plan.

General: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: The department is neutral to the allocative aspects of this proposal, but opposed to the conservation aspects of it.

AC Positions:

Support: None.

Oppose: Fairbanks
Chignik

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 128 - 5 AAC 09.366(I). Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula. Allow the seine fishery based on a ratio of the number of immature salmon caught.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 4, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 9, 12, 18, 42.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- To enforce this regulation as written, the department would have to be present at the processor facilities at all times.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- The cap of 100 immature salmon per seine set needs to be changed.

Opposition:

- Seiners would not deliver their immature salmon because they would all be gilled in their webbing and the department would not get an accurate count.

General: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: The department is neutral to the allocative aspects of this proposal, but opposed to the conservation aspects of it.

AC Positions:

Support: Sand Point
King Cove

Oppose: Fairbanks
Lower Bristol Bay
Nushagak
Chignik

Naknek/Kvichak

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 129 - 5 AAC 09.366(C). Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula. Extend the commercial salmon fishing season as follows: The commissioner shall establish, to the extent practicable, concurrent fishing periods in Southeastern, South Central, Southwestern, and Unimak districts for October, from 9:00 am to 8:00 pm.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 4, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 42.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- September fishing in the Southeastern District Mainland is managed based on coho CPUE.
- There has been no harvest in October since 2004.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- There are fish still around in October in the Southeastern District Mainland.

Opposition:

- Concern over late season Chignik subsistence harvest.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions:

Support: Sand Point

Oppose: Chignik

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support with substitute language.

Substitute Language:

It is the board's intent to amend the following regulations to incorporate a date change from September 30 to October 31 with management based on coho salmon abundance. The following regulations would be amended: 5 AAC 09.310. Fishing Seasons; 5 AAC 09.360 Southeastern District Mainland Plan; and 5 AAC 09.366 Post – June Salmon Management for the South Alaska Peninsula.

PROPOSAL 130 - 5 AAC 09.331(a)(b). Gillnet specifications and operations. Modify the depth of drift and set gillnet gear.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 4, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 42.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This proposal would modify depth of drift gillnets in Unimak and Southwestern districts and for set gillnets in Unimak, Southwestern, South Central, and Southeastern districts.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- This is a companion proposal for 118.

Opposition: None.

General: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions:

Support: King Cove.

Oppose: Fairbanks
 Lower Bristol Bay
 Nushagak
 Chignik
 Naknek/Kvichak
 Lower Yukon

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 131 - 5 AAC 09.331(b)(3). Gillnet specifications and operations. Allow for the use of gillnets with mesh size less than five and one quarter inches.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 4, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials:

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 13, 42.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This proposal would reduce the minimum mesh size restrictions for set gillnets in SEDM after July 25.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Reducing the mesh size will make it easier to catch pink salmon.
- Would support if the department could give assurance they will not catch immature salmon.
- Would support 4½ to 4¾.

Opposition: None.

General: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions:

Support: None.

Oppose: Lower Bristol Bay
Nushagak

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support and change the minimum mesh size to between 4½ and 4 7/8 nets.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support.

Substitute Language:

5 AAC 09.331 Gillnet specifications and operations.

(b)(3)(c) in the Southeastern District Mainland beginning July 26 and in the Shumagin Islands beginning August 1, the mesh size of a set gillnet may not be less than four and one half inches.

RC 73

Alaska Board of Fisheries
Committee Report

COMMITTEE C

Salmon: Herring and Salmon

February 4, 2010

Board Committee Members:

1. Howard Delo, *Chair
2. John Jensen

Alaska Department of Fish and Game Staff Members:

1. Aaron Poetter- South Peninsula Area M (Sand Point), Management Biologist, CF
2. Alex Bernard- South Peninsula Area M (Sand Point), Assistant Area Management Biologist, CF
3. Jeff Wadle- Region 4 Finfish Management Supervisor, CF
4. Matt Keyse- South Peninsula Area M (Cold Bay), Assistant Management Biologist, CF
5. Todd Anderson- Chignik Assistant Area Management Biologist, CF
6. Mary Beth Loewen- Region 4, Finfish Research, CF
7. Mark Witteveen- Region 4, Finfish Research, CF
8. Matt Nemeth- Region 4, Finfish Research, CF
9. Steve Honnold- Region 4, Regional Supervisor, CF
10. John Hilsinger- Director, CF
11. Al Cain- Department Enforcement Specialist, SF

Advisory Committee Members:

1. Frank Kelty - Unalaska/Dutch Harbor AC
2. Chuck McCallum - Chignik AC
3. Virgil Umphenour - Fairbanks AC
4. John Foster - Sand Point AC

Public Panel Members:

1. Dean Anderson – Chignik purse seiner
2. Mark Wagner – Area M setnetter
3. Wally Hinderer – Chignik
4. Rachel Allen – Chignik
5. Ben Allen – Chignik
6. Dan Veerhusen – Self

7. Paul Gronhold – Sand Point
8. Melvin Larsen – Sand Point seiner
9. Duane Kapp – Area M setnetter
10. Drew Sparlin – Sand Point setnetter
11. David Osterback – Sand Point seiner

Federal Subsistence Representative:

1. None

The Committee met February 4, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. and adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

PROPOSALS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE WERE: (15 total) 158, 159, and 132-144.

PROPOSAL 158 – 5 AAC 27.655(a)(3). Dutch Harbor Food and Bait Herring Fishery Allocation Plan. Allow purse seine gear to harvest remaining set gillnet allocation.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 7, Written Tab 14.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, AC 3.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 13.

Record Comments: None.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- If adopted, the department would look to the board for clarification of the date to transition from setnet allocation to quota available to the purse seiners.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Intent of proposal is to let purse seiners harvest leftover setnet allocation; approximately 6 years ago purse seiners weren't harvesting the entire allocation, and there was interest from setnetters, as well as a viable market.
- Market eventually decreased and there are currently few active setnetters in the fishery, so overall there is quota leftover.
- Proposal would allow purse seine fleet to harvest fish that would otherwise not be harvested due to setnet fleet not harvesting its full allocation.

Opposition:

- The purse seine fishery may take all the allocation before setnetters can meet their allocation, if dates were not specified for when the purse seine fleet can absorb the quota.

General:

- Market-driven fishery; interest may vary from year to year.
- Purse seine harvest is a co-op harvest that takes place over approximately two weeks from July 15 to beginning of August, during which time it was suggested the market and managers would know if the setnetters would meet their allocated harvest.
- Setnet fishery can open as early as June 24, while purse seine fishery opens July 15.
- If setnetters were allowed to pursue their allocation through July 25 and then purse seiners allowed to take the remaining setnet allocation, committee consensus would then be to support.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: None.

Oppose: Unalaska.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support with a July 25 end date for the setnet fleet.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support substitute language.

Substitute Language: 5 AAC 27.655 is amended to read:

(xx) after July 25, if the gillnet fishery has not harvested its allocation, the remaining allocation may be taken by either gear group; if the seine group exceeds its allocation before July 25, then that amount shall be deducted from any remaining quota for that year after July 25; if the seine group exceeds the total allocation after July 25, then the seine group overage shall be deducted from the next years' seine allocation as stated in (b) of this section.

PROPOSAL 159 – 5 AAC 27.657. Alaska Peninsula-Aleutian Islands Herring Management Plan.
Allow purse seine gear in the Adak herring fishery.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 7, Written Tab 14.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 3.

Timely Public Comment: None.

Record Comments: None.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- 500 tons is allocated every year, but there has never been a fishery on this stock.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- 500 ton allocation has never been taken.
- A fishery would provide samples for biological information on the fish in the area.
- Would open up opportunity for purse seine harvest if there were interest.

Opposition: None.

General:

- Purse seiner mentioned he has fished area when younger (1960s), and could jig herring in the area.
- Committee member commented that in the 1980s, two purse seiners went to the area; weather was rough and harvest unsuccessful.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: None.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support substitute language.

Substitute Language: 5 AAC 27.657 is amended to read:

In the Adak District, the department may manage the commercial herring fishery to allow a harvest of up to 500 tons, using either seine or gillnet gear, in the waters of the state between 175° 30' W. long. and 177° W. long., from June 24 through February 28. The fishery will be conducted in compliance with the terms of a permit issued by the commissioner or the commissioner's designee.

PROPOSAL 133 – 5 AAC 09.360 Southeastern District Mainland Salmon Management Plan. Establishes a fishing schedule for SEDM consisting of 72-hour openings interspersed with 48 hour closures from June 6-July 20.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 5, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 2.

Record Comments: RC 11, 12, 16, 42.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- If adopted, the department would seek guidance from Board of Fisheries on an appropriate management plan for July 1-25.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Proposer stated that the intent is to allow fishing in SEDM earlier in June and draw attention to fact that SEDM setnetters haven't fished in June in three years.
- A setnetter in SEDM stated that fishing in July catches "spawned-out" sockeye and suggested these fish might be from local stocks in Stepovak Bay.
- Panel member commented that the "guaranteed harvest" concept isn't in place anywhere else in state and is unprecedented that a guaranteed catch exists in Chignik while others cannot fish.
- Panel member stated that outside Chignik Lagoon, the fishery is a mixed-stock fishery and that SEDM is not a direct intercept fishery.

Opposition:

- Chignik is unusually vulnerable to interception.
- Chignik has the largest directed allocation to other areas.
- Igvak allocation was put in place because of large harvests of Chignik salmon.
- Chignik communities need the guaranteed harvest number for economic stability.
- "Window openings" make management difficult with the lag in travel time from harvest areas to the Chignik weir.

General:

- Reference comments to proposal 132 as well as 134-138.

- Panel member stated fishermen are in a 'catch-22' situation with the lack of WASSIP genetic samples; no fishery has occurred to obtain the samples that would allow for more information on the makeup of the fishery.

SSFP: Not discussed.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Sand Point.
Oppose: Chignik.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support substitute language.

Substitute Language: As follows:

Under 5 AAC 09.360(c)

It is the intent of the Board to provide for increased fishing opportunity for set gillnet fishermen in the Southeastern District Mainland (SEDM) fishery from June 1 through July 10. During years when a harvestable surplus for the first (Black Lake) and second (Chignik Lake) runs of the Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be more than 600,000, but the first run fails to develop as predicted and it is determined that a total sockeye salmon harvest in the Chignik Management Area of 600,000 or more fish may not be achieved, and escapement objectives through the Chignik Weir are being met, the commercial salmon fishery in the East Stepovak, Stepovak Flats, Southwest Stepovak, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay sections, and in the Northwest Stepovak Section excluding Orzinski Bay prior to July 1, the commissioner may, by emergency order, open a fishery up to 24 hours every seven day period providing that the harvest approaches as near as possible to 7.6% of the sockeye salmon harvest in the Chignik Salmon Management Area by July 10. The provisions of this subsection will no longer apply after December 31, 2012.

PROPOSAL 132 – 5 AAC 09.360(b)(c)(d). Southeastern District Mainland Salmon Management Plan. Removal of the 300,000 and 600,000 sockeye salmon harvest thresholds and allow fishing opportunity in SEDM from June 1- July 25 as long as Chignik River escapement goals are being met. The department will manage SEDM in order to achieve 7.6% allocation.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 5, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 2.

Record Comments: RC 11, 12, 16, 42.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Clarified that WASSIP genetics study would not provide information on SEDM proportions in June due to the lack of commercial fisheries in June and subsequent inability to obtain genetic samples during this time frame.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- When harvest guarantees were set, Chignik had 101 boats fishing; now approximately 50 boats in fleet.
- With a reduced fleet, the harvest rate of Chignik sockeye is reduced, so taking longer to reach 300,000 fish harvest required before SEDM can open.
- SEDM has not had openings in June for three years.
- Openings in SEDM in late July allow for purse seine fleet to also fish in the area, making management control more difficult.

Opposition:

- Chignik sockeye salmon runs in recent years have been weak compared to historic runs, so this proposal would allow increased interception on weaker runs.
- Chignik sockeye salmon runs have declined in recent years, so this proposal would essentially equate to increasing the harvest pressure on a declining run.
- Harvest thresholds allow processors to know what they are gearing up for in a 'worst case scenario' and provide a minimum harvest for Chignik fishermen.
- Chignik fish are allocated to both Igvak and SEDM fishermen already.
- Black Lake is silting in, resulting in reduced capacity to support salmon runs.
- The Chignik community is not doing well economically and fishing is the mainstay of the Chignik economy.

- Fewer boats in Chignik fleet because the fishery is less lucrative than it was previously, decrease in number of boats shows there isn't enough fish for those that were in the fleet previously.

General:

- Reference comments from proposals 133-138.
- Committee chair suggested groups get together and form a workgroup to see if there was a way to come to agreement on a solution offering commercial fishing time for SEDM setnetters in June that would be agreeable to both Chignik and SEDM fishermen. Groups were unable to come to an agreement to form a workgroup.
- A question arose about whether the co-op years in Chignik had resulted in overescapement in Chignik due to lack of effort; Chignik fishermen responded that overescapement happened previously to the co-op, not during the co-op years.

SSFP: Not discussed.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Sand Point.
Oppose: Chignik.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 133.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 134 – 5 AAC 09.360(f)(g). Southeastern District Mainland Salmon Management Plan. Modify the percentage of sockeye salmon caught in the SEDM by eliminating the 80% or lowering to 40%.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 5, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 2.

Record Comments: RC 11, 12, 16, 42.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- If the proposal were adopted, the department would seek guidance from the Board of Fisheries in implementation of a new management plan for SEDM.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- The intent of this proposal is to highlight problems that SEDM setnetters are facing in recent years with a lack of June openings.
- In 2005, SEDM was opened late in July, while every other area was closed. This resulted in a large effort by both setnet and purse seine fishermen, with a harvest of 125,000 sockeye salmon. Openings in June, when only the setnet fleet is present, allows for more management control.
- In the most recent Chignik board cycle, Chignik fishermen were given two 48-hour openings in the Western District, which was suggested to be a reasonable option for SEDM setnetters.

Opposition:

- Chignik fishermen stated the 1961 tagging study “may not be great information,” but that no new decisions should be made without better, additional information.
- Chignik fishermen stated that while the 80% Chignik-bound proportion of the SEDM harvest undoubtedly fluctuates with time, the proportion of local stocks (~20%) is likely accurate, so the 80% proportion protects Kodiak and Cook Inlet fisheries, as well.
- It was suggested that since the 7.6% allocation was designed based on the historical catches, with decreased Chignik harvests; perhaps the allocation percentage should also be dropped.

General:

- Reference comments from proposal 132 and 133, as well as 135-138.
- Area M fishermen suggested that concerned Chignik fishermen should take actions to improve the condition of Black Lake.

- The Army Corp of Engineers has allocated \$500,000 for studies of Black Lake.
- It was suggested the Board of Fisheries could take action on regulations which prevented opening of SEDM during WASSIP collection years.
- The two 48-hour openings in the Western District in the Chignik Management Area, which were suggested as a reasonable option for SEDM openings, were established as an exploratory fishery in the Chignik Management Area and will sunset in 2011.
- Because WASSIP genetic samples are not available from SEDM in June, an Area M committee member suggested a multi-year test fishery to obtain genetic samples from the area.
- It was suggested that concerned users seek outside funding and pursue genetic sampling of fish in the SEDM area during June.
- A lengthy discussion on the merits of genetic sampling occurred, including:
 - WASSIP samples were collected under commercial fishing situations and sampling under conditions which would not normally merit a commercial fishery would not match WASSIP protocols.
 - Sand Point fishermen expressed a necessity for “some information”.
 - Chignik fishermen didn’t object to the idea of sampling, but were concerned about the time and volume involved in collecting the samples.
 - Department staff indicated funds for collection and analysis of the samples would need to be obtained.
 - Department staff indicated that the study would need to encompass multiple years.
 - Department staff also indicated that if samples were taken under conditions that would not normally permit a commercial fishery, variations in run strength would need to be taken into account, and that further discussions with a geneticist were necessary.
 - Department staff also indicated that other management plans, such as Igvak, would need to be taken into account since SEDM would be deviating from the established management plan if a commercial fishery were opened to obtain genetic samples.
 - Obtaining department approval for management of a commercial fishery that wouldn’t normally occur under the current management plan.

SSFP: Not discussed.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Sand Point.
Oppose: Chignik.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 133.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 135 – 5 AAC 09.360(b)(c)(d). Southeastern District Mainland Salmon Management Plan. Links the harvest thresholds of 300,000 and 600,000 sockeye salmon to a set amount per active and participating Chignik salmon permits.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 5, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 2.

Record Comments: RC 11, 12, 16, 42.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Unclear when the number of “active and participating” permits would be established for the season.
- If adopted, would seek guidance from the board regarding adjustments to thresholds based on participating permits.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- This proposal, decreasing the 300,000 harvest threshold, was suggested as the only option to get a commercial fishery in June.
- In 2009, the setnet fleet did not make its 7.6% allocation, even with a late opening.
- The fishery is prosecuted at a slower rate now, so Area M fishermen would like to amend that harvest threshold so they can get fishing time sooner.

Opposition:

- Permit losses in Chignik are due to market conditions.

General:

- Reference comments from proposals 131-134 and 136-138.
- An Area M setnetter asked staff whether two 48-hour openings in June would likely exceed the 7.6% allocation. Staff responded that it is difficult to speculate on harvest rates and would need to look at harvest by day by gear type in order to respond.
- Area M fishermen commented that a workgroup on this area of contention would serve to educate Area M fishermen on the Chignik fishery and Chignik fishermen’s concerns.

SSFP: Not discussed.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Sand Point.
Oppose: Chignik.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 133.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 136 – 5 AAC 09.355(B). Salmon processor and buyer reporting requirements. Modify the level of sockeye salmon harvest ensured to the Chignik Management Area, dependent upon the number of Chignik permits in the fishery.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 5, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 2, 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 2, 19, 102, 112, 113.

Record Comments: RC 11, 12, 16, 42.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Unclear when the number of “active and participating” permits would be established for the season.
- If adopted, department would seek guidance from the board regarding adjustments to thresholds based on participating permits.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- The intent of this proposal is to link the number of permits fishing in Chignik Management Area to the Chignik harvest threshold.

Opposition:

- Reference comments from proposals 132-135 and 137-138.

General:

- Reference comments from proposals 132-135 and 137-138.

SSFP: Not discussed.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Sand Point.
Oppose: Chignik.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 133.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 137– 5 AAC 09.355. Salmon processor and buyer reporting requirements. Modify the allocation to allow incremental fishing time in the SEDM.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 5, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 2, 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 2, 19, 102, 112, 113.

Record Comments: RC 11, 12, 16, 42.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Proposal was submitted under 5 AAC 09.355, but the department assumes the proposer meant 5 AAC 09.360.
- Proposal is unclear because it does not speak to what happens if harvest exceeds 400,000 sockeye salmon.
- Unclear if the proposal seeks to remove allocation language and does not provide a mechanism for modifying fishing time in order to achieve an allocation.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Would allow incremental fishing in SEDM.
- This would still keep the 80% and 7.6% allocation but lower the harvest threshold in order to get the fishermen fishing earlier in June.

Opposition:

- Reference comments from proposals 132-136 and proposal 138.

General:

- Reference comments from proposals 132-136 and proposal 138.

SSFP: Not discussed.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Sand Point.
Oppose: Chignik.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 133.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 138 – 5 AAC 09.355. Salmon processor and buyer reporting requirements. Allow concurrent fishing periods in the SEDM and Chignik areas.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 5, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 2, 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 2, 19, 102, 112, 113.

Record Comments: RC 11, 12, 16, 42.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department: None.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- This proposal would eliminate harvest thresholds and allow concurrent time periods between SEDM and Chignik in order to get more fishing time earlier in the season.
- This is another option to get the SEDM setnetters out earlier in the season.

Opposition:

- Reference comments from proposals 132-137.

General:

- Reference comments from proposals 132-137.

SSFP: Not discussed.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Sand Point.
Oppose: Chignik.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 133.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 139 – 5 AAC 09.350(35). Closed Waters. Modify the description of closed waters Grub Gulch.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 5, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 19.

Record Comments: None.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This proposal is housekeeping in nature, to clarify closed waters boundary of Grub Gulch.
- This would provide approximately one-quarter mile of additional shoreline available for fishing opportunity.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Area M fisherman commented that this was a “good proposal” to clarify the markers and that he fished there in 1964 and fish only come out past the markers when there are large amounts of fish in the head of the bay.

Opposition: None.

General: None.

SSFP: Not discussed.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Supports.

AC Positions: Support: Sand Point.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to approve.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 140 – 5 AAC 09.350. Closed Waters; and 5 AAC 15.350. Closed Waters. Rep closed waters near Kupreanof Point.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 5, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 19, 112, 113.

Record Comments: RC 11, 12, 18, 25.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This area was closed because Area M and Area L fishermen could not resolve a continuing complaint brought several times before the board concerning salmon interception issues on both sides of the area boundaries.
- Department enforcement specialist stated gear conflicts occurred when area was opened previously to both areas simultaneously.
- Department enforcement specialist stated that management might be needed to ensure that the area was not open to Area L and Area M simultaneously.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Chignik fisherman stated he fished there previously; would like to have the opportunity to do so again.
- Sand Point fishermen were concerned about the management plan but might support if could be managed well to avoid conflict and provide equal fishing time.
- Some Sand Point fishermen might support the proposal if SE Stepovak could be opened concurrently with Mitrofanina (in the Chignik Management Area) openings.
- Opening this area might provide management a tool to control escapements.

Opposition:

- In the past when the area was open, gear and area conflicts happened between user groups.
- This area is a challenging line to fish and all fish are headed west, so are more available to Chignik fishermen; Chignik fishermen would “cork off” the Area M fishermen.
- Between one and three miles on the Area M side, there is a sliver of land that is part of the Shumagins that might have management implications.
- Sand Point fishermen were concerned that Chignik fishermen would intercept Stepovak-bound fish.

- Originally supported by Chignik fishermen, but support has waned in intervening years.

General:

- Previously, a coho cap existed in both Chignik and Area M, but was rescinded in 2004 for Area M and in 2008 for Chignik.
- It was stated by a committee member that the area was closed due to coho concerns in Bristol Bay.
- A suggestion to establish a new, less complicated line and to prevent fishing by both groups at the same time from occurring was put forth.

SSFP: Not discussed.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: None.
Oppose: Chignik.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 141 – 5 AAC 09.350. Closed Waters. Open Kupreanof Area to fishing for both Area and Chignik fishermen on alternating schedules.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 5, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 19, 113.

Record Comments: RC 11, 12, 18, 25.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This area was closed because Area M and Area L fishermen could not resolve a continuing complaint brought several times before the board concerning salmon interception issues on both sides of the area boundaries.
- If adopted, the Department would seek guidance on how to structure the openings between Area M and Area L.
- If adopted, the SEDM management plan would need restructuring to allow for equal fishing tin. in the Perryville Area.
- During June 1-July 25, openings in SEDM are allocatively tied to Chignik, based on the performance of sockeye salmon runs to Chignik and harvest in the Chignik Management Area.
- Department enforcement specialist stated gear conflicts occurred when area was opened previously to both areas simultaneously.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support: None.

Opposition: None.

General:

- Chignik fisherman suggested that in lieu of proposal approval, perhaps this area could be opening August 1st, instead of September 1st as is currently in effect.
- Reference comments for proposal 140.

SSFP: Not discussed.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: None.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on proposal 140.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 142 – 5 AAC 09.350(32). Closed Waters. Open the waters of Dorenoi Bay to commercial salmon fishing from June 1 through July 25.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 5, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 2, 19.

Record Comments: RC 11, 12, 16.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- No conservation concern stemming from adoption of this proposal is anticipated since the department would maintain its ability to regulate fishing opportunity in this area.
- Since statehood, no directed fishery has occurred in this area from June 1 through July 25. Additionally, pink and chum salmon returning to rivers in Dorenoi Bay peak after July 25.
- If adopted, the department would seek guidance from the board regarding whether to manage the area as part of the allocation area or with local stocks of NW Stepovak from July 1-25.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Sand Point fishermen state that they have fished there after July 25 and the fishing is tough because of weather, but would still like to fish there.
- 90% of this area is part of the NW Stepovak and on July 1 moves from the allocation plan to be managed under the NW Stepovak plan, and opening this bay could help control escapements.
- Sand Point fishermen commented that he had caught water-marked sockeye, indicating sockeye stocks may be local to the area as well as pinks and chums and that 15 miles to Orzinski Lake should not be thought of as a “considerable distance”.

Opposition:

- Chignik fishermen were uncertain about whether this area was to be managed under the NW Stepovak or SEDM management plans. If it were to be managed under the SEDM plan, Chignik AC could support.

General:

- A question was raised about the ability to enforce a part of the district and staff clarified under which management plan that area was managed.
- A question was raised about why the area had been closed since statehood. Staff indicated that in the federal management days, funds were not available to monitor terminal areas.

- A question was raised about whether the fish in the bay were local stocks or migrating fish. Staff indicated that fish may mill in this bay before moving elsewhere, but there are salmon streams at the head of the bay, with primarily pinks and chums belonging to the area.

SSFP: Not discussed.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Sand Point.
Oppose: Chignik.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to support.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 143 – 5 AAC 09.350(32)(A). Closed Waters. Open the waters of Dorenoi Bay commercial salmon fishing before July 25.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 5, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 2, 19.

Record Comments: RC 11, 12, 16.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Reference comments from proposal 142.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Reference comments from proposal 142.

Opposition:

- Reference comments from proposal 142.

General:

- Reference comments from proposal 142.

SSFP: Not discussed

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: Sand Point.
Oppose: Chignik.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: No action based on action taken on proposal 142.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 144 – 5 AAC 09.350(35)(A). Closed Waters. Modify the description of all closed water in Stepovak Bay.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 5, Written Tab 12.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None

AC Reports: RC 1, Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 4.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 19.

Record Comments: RC 11, 12, 16.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- The department has, under perfect survey conditions, observed large numbers of salmon schooling in Stepovak Bay, with little escapement into Stepovak Bay streams, well after salmon escapements in adjoining areas have peaked. However, this area is usually difficult to survey due to glacial run-off and therefore, conservation concerns for Stepovak Bay pink and chum salmon exist.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- There are streams that are clear enough for aerial surveys despite what the department says.
- Fishermen suggested that the department could add some distance to stream mouth closures if concerned about escapement or add area to markers to allow some fishing time in the bay.
- Fishermen commented that there are no sockeye present in this area.

Opposition: None.

General:

- Sand Point fishermen suggested that the time of the area being opened could be discussed with department staff.

SSFP: Not discussed.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Opposed.

AC Positions: Support: Sand Point.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

Board Committee Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

Substitute Language: None.

RC 74

Alaska Board of Fisheries Committee Report

COMMITTEE D

Salmon: Sportfish and North Peninsula Management

February 3, 2010

Board Committee Members:

1. Mel Morris, *Chair
2. Karl Johnstone
3. Bill Brown

Alaska Department of Fish and Game Staff Members:

1. Bob Murphy, North Peninsula Area Management Biologist, CF
2. Trent Hartill, North Peninsula Assistant Area Management Biologist, CF
3. James Jackson, Kodiak Area Management Biologist, CF
4. Jeff Wadle, Region 4 Regional Finfish Management Supervisor, CF
5. Matt Miller, Region 2 Management Coordinator, Sport Fish

Advisory Committee Members: (only those representing committees in committee)

1. Abe Williams, Naknek/Kvichak AC
2. Brian Hartman, Nelson Lagoon AC
3. Dan Dunaway, Nushagak AC
4. Roland Briggs, Lower Bristol Bay AC

Public Panel Members:

1. Ralph Zimin, Bristol Bay Drift Gill Netter (BBDGN)
2. Roland Briggs, Ugashik
3. Johnathon Forsling, Village of Togiak
4. Art Woinowsky, Ugashik
5. Fred Marinkovich, Alaska Independent Fishermen's Marketing Association
6. Brian Hartman, Nelson Lagoon
7. Mark Briski, Peter Pan/Port Moller
8. Kurt Johnson, BBDGN
9. Victoria Briggs, Ugashik processor
10. Theo Chesley, Nelson Lagoon
11. Brad Barr, Concerned Area M Fishermen (CAMF)
12. Emil Christianson, Port Heiden
13. Robin Samuelson, Bristol Bay Economic Development Council/Bristol Bay

14. Frank Woods, Port Heiden
15. Pat Martin, CAMF
16. Tom Wooding, Alaska Peninsula Fisherman's Co-operative
17. Abe Williams, NAK/KVI AC

Federal Subsistence Representative:

1. None

The Committee met February 4, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. and adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

PROPOSALS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE WERE: (16 total) 163, 29, 30 and 145-157.

PROPOSAL 163 – 5 AAC 65.020(a)(1). Bag limits, possession limits, and size limits for Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands Area. Simplify bag and possession limits for king salmon in Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands Area.

Staff Reports: None.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: None.

Timely Public Comment: None.

Record Comments: None.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Would change freshwater Chinook salmon bag limit from 3 per day, 3 in possession of which only 2 may be 28 inches or greater in length; to 20 inches or greater in length, bag and possession limit of 2 fish.
- The department submitted this proposal and considers it housekeeping in nature.
- The department supports this proposal; it is intended to clarify regulations.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support: None.

Opposition: None.

General: None.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Support.

AC Positions: Support: Fairbanks.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 29 – 5 AAC 39.120(d). Registration of Commercial Fishing Vessels. Allow Area T permit holders in Alaska Peninsula Area, specifically, the Inner Cinder River Section and Inner Port Heiden from May through September, as well as the entire Ilnik Section beginning August 1, and the Outer Port Heiden Section from June 20-July 31.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 51, 52, 56, 57, 66.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This proposal would allow Area T permit holders to fish in Inner Cinder River all year. Currently they are allowed to fish in the Inner Cinder River in all months except July.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Residents of Port Heiden who are also Area T permit holders support the proposal and wish to have a fishery close to home in Inner Port Heiden.
- Local Area T permit holders want to fish for kings close to home.

Opposition:

- Area M drift gillnetter was willing to allow Area T permit holders to fish Inner Cinder River, but not in the areas and times originally specified in the proposal.
- CFEC may have complications with this proposal.

General:

- Proposer would support amended language excluding any mention of Ilnik and Outer Port Heiden Sections. The amended proposal would allow Area T permit holders to fish in Inner Port Heiden and Inner Cinder River all year (RC 66) and is the same as proposal 30.
- Area M fishermen were willing to support proposal if proposer withdrew proposal 151 which seeks to close the Outer Port Heiden Section.
- Proposer was not willing to withdraw proposal 151.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal. However, the department opposes the parts of this proposal that dramatically increases the number of boats fishing in some locations of Area M.

AC Positions: Support: Lower Bristol Bay.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 30 – 5 AAC 39.120(d). Registration of Commercial Fishing Vessels. Allow Area T permit holders to fish in the Cinder River and Inner Port Heiden sections of the Alaska Peninsula Area, from January 1 to December 31.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, 12; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 51, 52, 56, 57, 66.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

- The amended language in proposal 29 duplicated proposal 30.

Department:

- This proposal would allow Area T permit holders to fish in Inner Cinder River all year. Currently they are allowed to fish in the Inner Cinder River in all months except July.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Residents of Port Heiden who are also Area T permit holders support the proposal and wish to have a fishery close to home in Inner Port Heiden.
- Local Area T permit holders want to fish for kings close to home.

Opposition:

- Area M drift gillnetter was willing to allow Area T permit holders to fish Inner Cinder River, but not in the areas and times originally specified in the proposal.
- CFEC may have complications with this proposal.

General:

- Proposer would support amended language excluding any mention of Ilnik and Outer Port Heiden Sections. The amended proposal would allow Area T permit holders to fish in Inner Port Heiden and Inner Cinder River all year (RC 66).
- Area M fishermen were willing to support proposal if proposer withdrew proposal 151 which seeks to close the Outer Port Heiden Section.
- Proposer was not willing to withdraw proposal 151.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal, but supports the opportunity to harvest salmon bound for Cinder River.

AC Positions: Support: None.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: None.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 145 – 5 AAC 09.320 (a)(3). Fishing Periods. Amend the weekly opening and closing times in Inner Port Heiden and Ilnik sections.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, 12; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 25, 51, 52, 56, 57.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This proposal would reduce management options or eliminate fishing periods established in regulations for fisheries in Outer Port Heiden, Inner Port Heiden and Ilnik sections.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Area T permit holders do not want continuous fishing in front on Cinder River, nor do they want to see the fishing fleet moving back and forth between Ugashik and Cinder rivers.
- Changing the weekly fishing period to Thursday to Saturday will accommodate a fresh fly out market. The change is intended to avoid flying fish out on the weekends.
- Intent is to allow fish to move through the district.

Opposition: None.

General:

- Proposer supports amended language of the proposal to remove any mention of Ilnik, Inner Port Heiden, and Outer Port Heiden sections.
- The resulting proposal only changes the weekly fishing period in Cinder River Section during June and after August 1. The current openings are 6:00 a.m. Monday until 6:00 p.m. Wednesday and would be changed to 6:00 a.m. Thursday until 6:00 p.m. Saturday.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal which would close the Outer Port Heiden Section to commercial salmon fishing, but opposes aspects of this proposal which reduce management options or eliminates fishing periods established in regulation for fisheries in Outer Port Heiden, Inner Port Heiden, and Ilnik sections.

- The department is neutral on proposed amended language.

AC Positions: Support: Lower Bristol Bay.

Nushagak.

Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 146 – 5 AAC 09.320 (a)(3). Fishing Periods. Amend weekly opening and closing times in the Cinder River Section.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, 12; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 25, 51, 52, 56.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department: None.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Area T permit holders do not want continuous fishing in front on Cinder River, nor do they want to see the fishing fleet moving back and forth between Ugashik and Cinder rivers.
- Changing the weekly fishing period to Thursday to Saturday will accommodate a fresh fly out market. The change is intended to avoid flying fish out on the weekends.
- Intent is to allow fish to move through the district.

Opposition: None.

General:

- There was no discussion on this proposal as the amended language in proposal 145 resulted in it being a duplicate of proposal 146.
- Proposer supports amended language of the proposal to remove any mention of Ilnik, Inner Port Heiden, and Outer Port Heiden sections.
- The resulting proposal only changes the weekly fishing period in Cinder River Section during June and after August 1. The current openings are 6:00 a.m. Monday until 6:00 p.m. Wednesday and would be changed to 6:00 a.m. Thursday until 6:00 p.m. Saturday.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: None.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus for no action.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 147 – 5 AAC 09.320. Fishing Periods. Restrict openings in Northern District unless escapement goals are met.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 37, 51, 52, 56, 57.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Nelson Lagoon sockeye salmon escapement has recently been meeting or exceeding the escapement goal.
- Nelson Lagoon would not be allowed to fish until the first interim escapement objective is met, which is on June 25.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Proposer cited lack of fish/not enough fish returning to Nelson Lagoon.
- Continuous fishing outside of Nelson Lagoon and management of North Peninsula fisheries is not allowing fish to move through the district and reach Nelson Lagoon.

Opposition:

- Department's management is based on escapement and this proposal would hurt management.
- Proposal restricts dispersed management.
- Current management works as evidenced by the local escapement goals being met.
- Fisherman stated in 2008, no nets were set on the outside beach during the month of June and Nelson Lagoon's harvest averaged over 10,000 sockeye salmon per day. When fishing began in July on the outside beach, harvest in Nelson Lagoon still averaged 10,000 sockeye salmon per day.

General:

- None.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal, but is opposed to aspects of this proposal that limit harvest opportunity without biological justification.

AC Positions: Support: Nelson Lagoon.
Oppose: Lower Bristol Bay.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 148 – 5 AAC 09.320. Fishing Periods. Institute windows in Northern District.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 37, 51, 52, 56, 57.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- According to this proposal fishing time in Northern District would not be based on strength of local river systems. Current management in Northern District is based on abundance of local stocks and in some locations Ugashik River is considered.
- No time duration specified for suggested windows.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- A new processor may be coming to Nelson Lagoon; however, there are concerns that there would not be enough fish for the processor to survive.
- Nelson Lagoon does not have a surplus of fish.
- A lot of the fish caught in the Nelson Lagoon Section are net-marked.
- Harvest in the Nelson Lagoon Section as a percentage of Northern District has recently decreased.
- Ilnik, Outer Port Heiden, Bear River, and Three Hills sections were cited as catching Nelson Lagoon fish prior to those fish reaching Nelson Lagoon.

Opposition:

- Department's management is based on escapement and this proposal would hurt management.
- Proposal restricts dispersed management.
- Current management works as evidenced by local escapement goals being met.

General:

- The Nelson Lagoon community is barely surviving and is in need of an economic boost.
- Nelson River has a female salmon escapement objective and has recently been meeting that objective.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal, but opposes mandatory windows in the existing abundance based management plan since lost harvest opportunity and surplus escapement would likely occur.

AC Positions: Support: Lower Bristol Bay.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 149 – 5 AAC 09.369. Northern District Salmon Fisheries Management Plan. Modify management of the Ilnik Section to link it to Kvichak River escapement.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 51, 52, 56, 57.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- If adopted, that portion of Ilnik Section northeast of Unangashak Bluffs to Strogonof Point would not be managed on the basis of local salmon stocks but rather on Kvichak River sockeye salmon bound for a system approximately 155 miles from Strogonof Point.
- Bristol Bay already has a system in place that could trigger restriction of North Peninsula fisheries based on Ugashik River stocks.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- The burden of conservation should be shared.
- Scale sampling showed high interception of Bristol Bay stocks in Northern District fisheries.
- There are no windows to allow Bristol Bay fish to move through Area M.
- A poor Kvichak return causes the Bristol Bay fleet to go into special harvest areas, which is difficult to manage.
- There was discussion of terminalizing Area M fisheries to protect walrus at Cape Seniavin.

Opposition:

- The Outer Port Heiden harvest was about 762,000 sockeye salmon, whereas the Ugashik harvest was about 5 million.
- Port Moller test fish results indicate that Kvichak River sockeye salmon do not migrate close to shore, and therefore, their interception in Northern District fisheries is likely to be very small.
- Stock separation studies show Kvichak stocks are not very prevalent off the North Peninsula.

General:

- The Northern District needs genetic work to differentiate stocks.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal, but is opposed to reducing fishing area or time which may result in surplus escapement and lost harvest opportunity.

AC Positions: Support: Lower Bristol Bay.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 150 – 5 AAC 09.310. Fishing Seasons. Close Outer Port Heiden Section to gillnet fishing from June 20 to July 15.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 23, 51, 52, 56, 57.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Not opening Outer Port Heiden Section until July 16 would not allow the fleet adequate time to harvest Meshik River sockeye salmon since the run begins in early June and is done by late July.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Bristol Bay genetic studies showed very little North Peninsula sockeye salmon harvested in Bristol Bay.
- Last year about 760,000 sockeye salmon were harvested in the Outer Port Heiden Section. Meshik River should have a run of only about 200,000 sockeye salmon. Very few of the sockeye harvested in the Outer Port Heiden Section are bound for Meshik River.
- Closing the Outer Port Heiden Section will help mitigate interception of mixed stocks heading for Bristol Bay.

Opposition:

- The higher harvest in the Outer Port Heiden Section in recent years is due to a redistribution of the Area M fleet from other sections of the Northern District to the Outer Port Heiden Section.

General:

- None

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal, but opposes reducing harvest opportunity on local sockeye salmon stocks and allowing surplus escapement into Meshik River.

AC Positions: Support: Lower Bristol Bay.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 151 – 5 AAC 09.310. Fishing Seasons. Close Outer Port Heiden Section.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 19, 47, 51, 52, 56, 57, 63, 66.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- If this proposal were adopted it is likely there would be surplus escapement into Meshik River.
- Department's enforcement specialist had concerns regarding enforcement issues in a new area.
- CFEC may have complications with this proposal.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- The amended proposal is intended to allow local Port Heiden residents to target Meshik River stocks that are 'in their own backyard'.
- Moving the Outer Port Heiden line is intended to mitigate interception of Bristol Bay stocks.
- Targeting the Meshik River stock should be done in a terminal harvest area, which the amended proposal attempts to accomplish.
- Historically, both Area M and T permit holders have little history of participating in the overlap area.
- Area T permit holders did not think there would be an influx of other Area T permit holders participating in the fishery.
- Good opportunity for the struggling village of Port Heiden.

Opposition:

- Area M fishermen are against creating a new sockeye fishery in Area M for Area T permit holders.
- Due to the general differences between Area M and T fishing vessels, Area T permit holders are better equipped to operate in the proposed area.
- The higher harvest in Outer Port Heiden Section in recent years is due to a redistribution of the Area M fleet from other sections of Northern District to the Outer Port Heiden Section.
- New proposed area extends current Inner Port Heiden Section one mile, which is not enough to harvest Meshik River sockeye.

General:

- This proposal's language was amended to allow both Area M and T permit holders in a portion Outer Port Heiden and all of Inner Port Heiden (RC 63). The intent of the amended language is to create a terminal area in Inner Port Heiden.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal, but opposes reducing harvest opportunity on local salmon stocks.

AC Positions: Support: Lower Bristol Bay.
Nushagak.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 152 – 5 AAC 09.369. Northern District Salmon Fisheries Management Plan. Modify the Northern District Fisheries Management Plan to link Outer Port Heiden and Ilnik sections management to Ugashik River escapement.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1; Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 20, 46, 51, 52, 56, 57, 67.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This proposal would link management of outer Ilnik and Outer Port Heiden sections only to strength of Ugashik River run on a daily basis.
- Under this proposal, when Ilnik or Meshik River sockeye salmon runs are weak, there could actually be additional fishing in Ilnik and Outer Port Heiden sections since management would be based on Ugashik River sockeye salmon and not local stocks.
- The Northern District Management Plan has triggers to restrict the Ilnik and Outer Port Heiden sections fisheries if Ugashik River has conservation concerns.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- There are times when Ugashik District has very little fishing time and Ilnik Section, which is geographically close to Ugashik, is open continuously.
- The Northern District management plan does not consider impacts to non-sector fish.
- Bristol Bay has a windows systems similar to the one proposed. When a river is not meeting its escapement goals, fleets in nearby districts will have to move to their respective special harvest areas.
- Windows are the best way to allow fish to pass through a district.
- Ugashik District, which neighbors the Northern District, has windows based on escapement.

Opposition:

- If Ugashik has a weak run when Ilnik has a strong run, opportunity in Ilnik Section would be limited, resulting in overescapement and lost harvest opportunity.
- Northern District is managed based on escapement. This proposal would hamper the department's ability to effectively manage the fishery.

General: None.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal, but is opposed to managing the outer portion of Ilnik and Outer Port Heiden sections on the basis of Ugashik River salmon stocks, which may result in surplus escapement and lost harvest opportunity.

AC Positions: Support: Nushagak .
Lower Bristol Bay.
Nelson Lagoon.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 153 – 5 AAC 09.330. Gear. Allow purse seine gear inside Ilnik Lagoon.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 51, 52, 56, 57, 75.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This proposal would allow purse seine gear in Ilnik Lagoon. Currently purse seine gear is not allowed in Ilnik Lagoon.
- Gear conflicts may occur.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Nushagak Advisory Committee supports terminal stock fishing.
- Seine gear in Ilnik Lagoon would help control escapement.

Opposition:

- Ilnik River does not flow into Ilnik Lagoon.
- It is very difficult to fish inside Ilnik Lagoon.

General:

- The proposer withdrew support for this proposal.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal.

AC Positions: Support: Nushagak.
Sand Point.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 154 – 5 AAC 09.331. Gillnet Specifications and Operations. Change the gear mesh depth to 45 meshes in the Northern District.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 37, 51, 52, 56, 57.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This proposal would result in a decrease mesh depth size in much of the Northern District from 70 meshes to 45 meshes, except in Nelson Lagoon Section in would increase depth of drift gillnets from 29 meshes to 38 meshes.
- Could result in surplus escapement.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Increase of meshes to 70 effectively doubled the fleet size.
- Reducing the number of meshes would allow more fish to move through the Northern District fishery.
- Bristol Bay coho salmon fishing suffers in the fall.
- Chum salmon tend to run deeper than sockeye salmon, which are typically shallower.
- The North Peninsula is a mixed stock fishery. Reducing the number of meshes would reduce the amount of fish intercepted.

Opposition:

- Distribution of fish in fishing areas and in the water column is highly variable.

General:

- None

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal, but is opposed to aspects of this proposal that reduce drift gillnet mesh depth, and therefore, harvesting power, and increase set gillnet depth in some locations.

AC Positions: Support: Nelson Lagoon.
Lower Bristol Bay.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 155 – 5 AAC 09.330. Gear. Allow setnet gear in the Outer Port Heiden Section.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 51, 52, 56, 57, 66.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Allowing setnet gear in Outer Port Heiden Section would likely result in more effort and harvest in the section.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- None.

Opposition:

- None.

General:

- The proposer withdrew support for this proposal.
- Support was withdrawn in favor of language submitted in proposal 151.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: None.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 156 – 5 AAC 09.331. Gillnet Specifications and Operations. Change seaward gillnet distance in the Cinder River, Port Heiden, and Ilnik sections.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 51, 52, 56, 57, 66.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department: None.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Proposal was intended to be specific to fishing in Cinder River.
- The Cinder River beach is very long and leaves nets dry at low tide.
- This proposal mirrors Bristol Bay's regulations.

Opposition:

- Area M fishermen would consider supporting if the proposal omitted Ilnik and Outer Port Heiden.
- There may be substantial shoals off the Cinder River which would make extending a set net further offshore even more difficult.

General:

- Proposer agreed to remove any mention of Port Heiden and Ilnik sections from original proposal, resulting in only changing the seaward gillnet distance in the Cinder River Section (RC 66).
- There was no opposition to the amended proposal.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal.

AC Positions: Support: None.

Oppose: Lower Bristol Bay.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language:

5 AAC 09.331(b)(8) is amended to read:

(8) in the [CINDER RIVER AND] Ilnik Section of the Northern District, a person may not place the seaward end of a set gillnet further than one-half mile from the permanent vegetation line of the beach, except that in the **Cinder River and** Seal Islands a person may not place the seaward end of a set gillnet further than one-half mile from the mean high tide mark;

PROPOSAL 157 – 5 AAC 09.350 (3). Closed Waters. Change the angle of the boundary line in Outer Port Heiden Section.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 20, 51, 52, 54, 56, 57.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Changing the angle of the line does not change the size of the fishing area; therefore there are no anticipated conservation concerns.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Due the steep angle of the line to the beach and the prevailing currents, current line results in fishermen ‘corking’ each other when they drift off the line. They also get very close to the three mile line.
- Moving the line would promote a more orderly fishery.
- The line change would result in no net gain in fishing area.

Opposition:

- Which way fish migrate and where they are going is unknown.
- The proposal would not create an orderly fishery.

General:

- Considered housekeeping by the fleet.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: None.

Oppose: Naknek/Kvichak.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

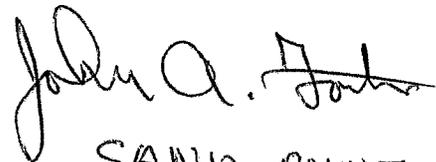
Substitute Language: None.

RC7E

Proposal 153 – 5aac 09.330(3). Gear. Allow purse seine gear inside Ilnik Lagoon as follows:

William Dushkin submitted this proposal to Sand Point committee before the April, 2009 deadline. The committee considered and decided to support Mr. Dushkin's proposal.

Mr. Dushkin has withdrawn his support for this proposal. The members of the Sand Point committee who are attending this meeting have no objection to Mr. Dushkin's withdrawal.


SAND POINT A.C.

RC76

Alaska Board of Fisheries

RC for on Committee A report

Proposal # 103

South Alaska Peninsula Groundfish

February 5, 2010

Chairman Webster,

Board Members:

Thank you for the time and hard work in the meetings this week and for the great work on committee A. In the spirit of compromise encompassed and encouraged by the committee process we are bringing forth one approach to proposal #103 that will work for the small boat longliners and the large vessel longliners, and to notify you that the representatives of the two fleets have reached an agreement to support proposal # 103 for Pacific cod only and for Longline only. While we are not opposed to adding addition gear types, or all gear types, there was not consensus on this approach but was consensus on longline only.

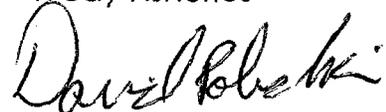
The benefits of such action have been testified to in public comment (PC #27), oral public comments before the board, and in the committee process. The support for this approach in Committee is well covered in the Committee A report (RC 71).

We wanted to notify the board via this RC that our groups, representing the small vessel longline fleet and the large vessel longline fleet, have reached and agreement and are asking the BOF to support, at a minimum, the 58 ft limit for longliners operating in the South Alaska Peninsula Area Parallel fishery.

Kenny Down
Freezer Longline Coalition
Association



David Polushkin
K-Bay Fisheries



RC 74Alaska Board of Fisheries
Committee Report**COMMITTEE D****Salmon: Sportfish and North Peninsula Management**
February 3, 2010

Board Committee Members:

1. Mel Morris, *Chair
2. Karl Johnstone
3. Bill Brown

Alaska Department of Fish and Game Staff Members:

1. Bob Murphy, North Peninsula Area Management Biologist, CF
2. Trent Hartill, North Peninsula Assistant Area Management Biologist, CF
3. James Jackson, Kodiak Area Management Biologist, CF
4. Jeff Wadle, Region 4 Regional Finfish Management Supervisor, CF
5. Matt Miller, Region 2 Management Coordinator, Sport Fish

Advisory Committee Members: (only those representing committees in committee)

1. Abe Williams, Naknek/Kvichak AC
2. Brian Hartman, Nelson Lagoon AC
3. Dan Dunaway, Nushagak AC
4. Roland Briggs, Lower Bristol Bay AC

Public Panel Members:

1. Ralph Zimin, Bristol Bay Drift Gill Netter (BBDGN)
2. Roland Briggs, Ugashik
3. Johnathon Forsling, Village of Togiak
4. Art Woinowsky, Ugashik
5. Fred Marinkovich, Alaska Independent Fishermen's Marketing Association
6. Brian Hartman, Nelson Lagoon
7. Mark Briski, Peter Pan/Port Moller
8. Kurt Johnson, BBDGN
9. Victoria Briggs, Ugashik processor
10. Theo Chesley, Nelson Lagoon
11. Brad Barr, Concerned Area M Fishermen (CAMF)
12. Emil Christianson, Port Heiden
13. Robin Samuelson, Bristol Bay Economic Development Council/Bristol Bay

14. Frank Woods, Port Heiden
15. Pat Martin, CAMF
16. Tom Wooding, Alaska Peninsula Fisherman's Co-operative
17. Abe Williams, NAK/KVI AC

Federal Subsistence Representative:

1. None

The Committee met February 4, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. and adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

PROPOSALS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE WERE: (16 total) 163, 29, 30 and 145-157.

PROPOSAL 163 – 5 AAC 65.020(a)(1). Bag limits, possession limits, and size limits for Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands Area. Simplify bag and possession limits for king salmon in Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands Area.

Staff Reports: None.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: None.

Timely Public Comment: None.

Record Comments: None.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Would change freshwater Chinook salmon bag limit from 3 per day, 3 in possession of which only 2 may be 28 inches or greater in length; to 20 inches or greater in length, bag and possession limit of 2 fish.
- The department submitted this proposal and considers it housekeeping in nature.
- The department supports this proposal; it is intended to clarify regulations.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support: None.

Opposition: None.

General: None.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Support.

AC Positions: Support: Fairbanks.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 29 – 5 AAC 39.120(d). Registration of Commercial Fishing Vessels. Allow Area T permit holders in Alaska Peninsula Area, specifically, the Inner Cinder River Section and Inner Port Heiden from May through September, as well as the entire Ilnik Section beginning August 1, and the Outer Port Heiden Section from June 20-July 31.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 51, 52, 56, 57, 66.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This proposal would allow Area T permit holders to fish in Inner Cinder River all year. Currently they are allowed to fish in the Inner Cinder River in all months except July.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Residents of Port Heiden who are also Area T permit holders support the proposal and wish to have a fishery close to home in Inner Port Heiden.
- Local Area T permit holders want to fish for kings close to home.

Opposition:

- Area M drift gillnetter was willing to allow Area T permit holders to fish Inner Cinder River, but not in the areas and times originally specified in the proposal.
- CFEC may have complications with this proposal.

General:

- Proposer would support amended language excluding any mention of Ilnik and Outer Port Heiden Sections. The amended proposal would allow Area T permit holders to fish in Inner Port Heiden and Inner Cinder River all year (RC 66) and is the same as proposal 30.
- Area M fishermen were willing to support proposal if proposer withdrew proposal 151 which seeks to close the Outer Port Heiden Section.
- Proposer was not willing to withdraw proposal 151.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal. However, the department opposes the parts of this proposal that dramatically increases the number of boats fishing in some locations of Area M.

AC Positions: Support: Lower Bristol Bay.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 30 – 5 AAC 39.120(d). Registration of Commercial Fishing Vessels. Allow Area T permit holders to fish in the Cinder River and Inner Port Heiden sections of the Alaska Peninsula Area, from January 1 to December 31.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, 12; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 51, 52, 56, 57, 66.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

- The amended language in proposal 29 duplicated proposal 30.

Department:

- This proposal would allow Area T permit holders to fish in Inner Cinder River all year. Currently they are allowed to fish in the Inner Cinder River in all months except July.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Residents of Port Heiden who are also Area T permit holders support the proposal and wish to have a fishery close to home in Inner Port Heiden.
- Local Area T permit holders want to fish for kings close to home.

Opposition:

- Area M drift gillnetter was willing to allow Area T permit holders to fish Inner Cinder River, but not in the areas and times originally specified in the proposal.
- CFEC may have complications with this proposal.

General:

- Proposer would support amended language excluding any mention of Ilnik and Outer Port Heiden Sections. The amended proposal would allow Area T permit holders to fish in Inner Port Heiden and Inner Cinder River all year (RC 66).
- Area M fishermen were willing to support proposal if proposer withdrew proposal 151 which seeks to close the Outer Port Heiden Section.
- Proposer was not willing to withdraw proposal 151.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal, but supports the opportunity to harvest salmon bound for Cinder River.

AC Positions: Support: None.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: None.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 145 – 5 AAC 09.320 (a)(3). Fishing Periods. Amend the weekly opening and closing times in Inner Port Heiden and Ilnik sections.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, 12; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 25, 51, 52, 56, 57.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This proposal would reduce management options or eliminate fishing periods established in regulations for fisheries in Outer Port Heiden, Inner Port Heiden and Ilnik sections.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Area T permit holders do not want continuous fishing in front on Cinder River, nor do they want to see the fishing fleet moving back and forth between Ugashik and Cinder rivers.
- Changing the weekly fishing period to Thursday to Saturday will accommodate a fresh fly out market. The change is intended to avoid flying fish out on the weekends.
- Intent is to allow fish to move through the district.

Opposition: None.

General:

- Proposer supports amended language of the proposal to remove any mention of Ilnik, Inner Port Heiden, and Outer Port Heiden sections.
- The resulting proposal only changes the weekly fishing period in Cinder River Section during June and after August 1. The current openings are 6:00 a.m. Monday until 6:00 p.m. Wednesday and would be changed to 6:00 a.m. Thursday until 6:00 p.m. Saturday.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal which would close the Outer Port Heiden Section to commercial salmon fishing, but opposes aspects of this proposal which reduce management options or eliminates fishing periods established in regulation for fisheries in Outer Port Heiden, Inner Port Heiden, and Ilnik sections.

- The department is neutral on proposed amended language.

AC Positions: Support: Lower Bristol Bay.

Nushagak.

Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 146 – 5 AAC 09.320 (a)(3). Fishing Periods. Amend weekly opening and closing times in the Cinder River Section.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1, 12; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 25, 51, 52, 56.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department: None.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Area T permit holders do not want continuous fishing in front on Cinder River, nor do they want to see the fishing fleet moving back and forth between Ugashik and Cinder rivers.
- Changing the weekly fishing period to Thursday to Saturday will accommodate a fresh fly out market. The change is intended to avoid flying fish out on the weekends.
- Intent is to allow fish to move through the district.

Opposition: None.

General:

- There was no discussion on this proposal as the amended language in proposal 145 resulted in it being a duplicate of proposal 146.
- Proposer supports amended language of the proposal to remove any mention of Ilnik, Inner Port Heiden, and Outer Port Heiden sections.
- The resulting proposal only changes the weekly fishing period in Cinder River Section during June and after August 1. The current openings are 6:00 a.m. Monday until 6:00 p.m. Wednesday and would be changed to 6:00 a.m. Thursday until 6:00 p.m. Saturday.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: None.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus for no action.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 147 – 5 AAC 09.320. Fishing Periods. Restrict openings in Northern District unless escapement goals are met.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 37, 51, 52, 56, 57.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Nelson Lagoon sockeye salmon escapement has recently been meeting or exceeding the escapement goal.
- Nelson Lagoon would not be allowed to fish until the first interim escapement objective is met, which is on June 25.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Proposer cited lack of fish/not enough fish returning to Nelson Lagoon.
- Continuous fishing outside of Nelson Lagoon and management of North Peninsula fisheries is not allowing fish to move through the district and reach Nelson Lagoon.

Opposition:

- Department's management is based on escapement and this proposal would hurt management.
- Proposal restricts dispersed management.
- Current management works as evidenced by the local escapement goals being met.
- Fisherman stated in 2008, no nets were set on the outside beach during the month of June and Nelson Lagoon's harvest averaged over 10,000 sockeye salmon per day. When fishing began in July on the outside beach, harvest in Nelson Lagoon still averaged 10,000 sockeye salmon per day.

General:

- None.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal, but is opposed to aspects of this proposal that limit harvest opportunity without biological justification.

AC Positions: Support: Nelson Lagoon.
Oppose: Lower Bristol Bay.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 148 – 5 AAC 09.320. Fishing Periods. Institute windows in Northern District.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 37, 51, 52, 56, 57.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- According to this proposal fishing time in Northern District would not be based on strength of local river systems. Current management in Northern District is based on abundance of local stocks and in some locations Ugashik River is considered.
- No time duration specified for suggested windows.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- A new processor may be coming to Nelson Lagoon; however, there are concerns that there would not be enough fish for the processor to survive.
- Nelson Lagoon does not have a surplus of fish.
- A lot of the fish caught in the Nelson Lagoon Section are net-marked.
- Harvest in the Nelson Lagoon Section as a percentage of Northern District has recently decreased.
- Inik, Outer Port Heiden, Bear River, and Three Hills sections were cited as catching Nelson Lagoon fish prior to those fish reaching Nelson Lagoon.

Opposition:

- Department's management is based on escapement and this proposal would hurt management.
- Proposal restricts dispersed management.
- Current management works as evidenced by local escapement goals being met.

General:

- The Nelson Lagoon community is barely surviving and is in need of an economic boost.
- Nelson River has a female salmon escapement objective and has recently been meeting that objective.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal, but opposes mandatory windows in the existing abundance based management plan since lost harvest opportunity and surplus escapement would likely occur.

AC Positions: Support: Lower Bristol Bay.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 149 – 5 AAC 09.369. Northern District Salmon Fisheries Management Plan. Modify management of the Ilnik Section to link it to Kvichak River escapement.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 51, 52, 56, 57.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- If adopted, that portion of Ilnik Section northeast of Unangashak Bluffs to Strogonof Point would not be managed on the basis of local salmon stocks but rather on Kvichak River sockeye salmon bound for a system approximately 155 miles from Strogonof Point.
- Bristol Bay already has a system in place that could trigger restriction of North Peninsula fisheries based on Ugashik River stocks.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- The burden of conservation should be shared.
- Scale sampling showed high interception of Bristol Bay stocks in Northern District fisheries.
- There are no windows to allow Bristol Bay fish to move through Area M.
- A poor Kvichak return causes the Bristol Bay fleet to go into special harvest areas, which is difficult to manage.
- There was discussion of terminalizing Area M fisheries to protect walrus at Cape Seniavin.

Opposition:

- The Outer Port Heiden harvest was about 762,000 sockeye salmon, whereas the Ugashik harvest was about 5 million.
- Port Moller test fish results indicate that Kvichak River sockeye salmon do not migrate close to shore, and therefore, their interception in Northern District fisheries is likely to be very small.
- Stock separation studies show Kvichak stocks are not very prevalent off the North Peninsula.

General:

- The Northern District needs genetic work to differentiate stocks.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal, but is opposed to reducing fishing area or time which may result in surplus escapement and lost harvest opportunity.

AC Positions: Support: Lower Bristol Bay.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 150 – 5 AAC 09.310. Fishing Seasons. Close Outer Port Heiden Section to gillnet fishing from June 20 to July 15.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 23, 51, 52, 56, 57.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Not opening Outer Port Heiden Section until July 16 would not allow the fleet adequate time to harvest Meshik River sockeye salmon since the run begins in early June and is done by late July.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Bristol Bay genetic studies showed very little North Peninsula sockeye salmon harvested in Bristol Bay.
- Last year about 760,000 sockeye salmon were harvested in the Outer Port Heiden Section. Meshik River should have a run of only about 200,000 sockeye salmon. Very few of the sockeye harvested in the Outer Port Heiden Section are bound for Meshik River.
- Closing the Outer Port Heiden Section will help mitigate interception of mixed stocks heading for Bristol Bay.

Opposition:

- The higher harvest in the Outer Port Heiden Section in recent years is due to a redistribution of the Area M fleet from other sections of the Northern District to the Outer Port Heiden Section.

General:

- None

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal, but opposes reducing harvest opportunity on local sockeye salmon stocks and allowing surplus escapement into Meshik River.

AC Positions: Support: Lower Bristol Bay.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 151 – 5 AAC 09.310. Fishing Seasons. Close Outer Port Heiden Section.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 19, 47, 51, 52, 56, 57, 63, 66.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- If this proposal were adopted it is likely there would be surplus escapement into Meshik River.
- Department's enforcement specialist had concerns regarding enforcement issues in a new area.
- CFEC may have complications with this proposal.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- The amended proposal is intended to allow local Port Heiden residents to target Meshik River stocks that are 'in their own backyard'.
- Moving the Outer Port Heiden line is intended to mitigate interception of Bristol Bay stocks.
- Targeting the Meshik River stock should be done in a terminal harvest area, which the amended proposal attempts to accomplish.
- Historically, both Area M and T permit holders have little history of participating in the overlap area.
- Area T permit holders did not think there would be an influx of other Area T permit holders participating in the fishery.
- Good opportunity for the struggling village of Port Heiden.

Opposition:

- Area M fishermen are against creating a new sockeye fishery in Area M for Area T permit holders.
- Due to the general differences between Area M and T fishing vessels, Area T permit holders are better equipped to operate in the proposed area.
- The higher harvest in Outer Port Heiden Section in recent years is due to a redistribution of the Area M fleet from other sections of Northern District to the Outer Port Heiden Section.
- New proposed area extends current Inner Port Heiden Section one mile, which is not enough to harvest Meshik River sockeye.

General:

- This proposal's language was amended to allow both Area M and T permit holders in a portion Outer Port Heiden and all of Inner Port Heiden (RC 63). The intent of the amended language is to create a terminal area in Inner Port Heiden.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal, but opposes reducing harvest opportunity on local salmon stocks.

AC Positions: Support: Lower Bristol Bay.
Nushagak.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 152 – 5 AAC 09.369. Northern District Salmon Fisheries Management Plan. Modify the Northern District Fisheries Management Plan to link Outer Port Heiden and Ilnik sections management to Ugashik River escapement.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 20, 46, 51, 52, 56, 57, 67.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This proposal would link management of outer Ilnik and Outer Port Heiden sections only to strength of Ugashik River run on a daily basis.
- Under this proposal, when Ilnik or Meshik River sockeye salmon runs are weak, there could actually be additional fishing in Ilnik and Outer Port Heiden sections since management would be based on Ugashik River sockeye salmon and not local stocks.
- The Northern District Management Plan has triggers to restrict the Ilnik and Outer Port Heiden sections fisheries if Ugashik River has conservation concerns.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- There are times when Ugashik District has very little fishing time and Ilnik Section, which is geographically close to Ugashik, is open continuously.
- The Northern District management plan does not consider impacts to non-sector fish.
- Bristol Bay has a windows systems similar to the one proposed. When a river is not meeting its escapement goals, fleets in nearby districts will have to move to their respective special harvest areas.
- Windows are the best way to allow fish to pass through a district.
- Ugashik District, which neighbors the Northern District, has windows based on escapement.

Opposition:

- If Ugashik has a weak run when Ilnik has a strong run, opportunity in Ilnik Section would be limited, resulting in overescapement and lost harvest opportunity.
- Northern District is managed based on escapement. This proposal would hamper the department's ability to effectively manage the fishery.

General: None.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal, but is opposed to managing the outer portion of Ilnik and Outer Port Heiden sections on the basis of Ugashik River salmon stocks, which may result in surplus escapement and lost harvest opportunity.

AC Positions: Support: Nushagak .
Lower Bristol Bay.
Nelson Lagoon.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 153 – 5 AAC 09.330. Gear. Allow purse seine gear inside Ilnik Lagoon.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 51, 52, 56, 57, 75.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This proposal would allow purse seine gear in Ilnik Lagoon. Currently purse seine gear is not allowed in Ilnik Lagoon.
- Gear conflicts may occur.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Nushagak Advisory Committee supports terminal stock fishing.
- Seine gear in Ilnik Lagoon would help control escapement.

Opposition:

- Ilnik River does not flow into Ilnik Lagoon.
- It is very difficult to fish inside Ilnik Lagoon.

General:

- The proposer withdrew support for this proposal.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal.

AC Positions: Support: Nushagak.
Sand Point.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 154 – 5 AAC 09.331. Gillnet Specifications and Operations. Change the gear mesh depth to 45 meshes in the Northern District.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 37, 51, 52, 56, 57.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- This proposal would result in a decrease mesh depth size in much of the Northern District from 70 meshes to 45 meshes, except in Nelson Lagoon Section in would increase depth of drift gillnets from 29 meshes to 38 meshes.
- Could result in surplus escapement.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Increase of meshes to 70 effectively doubled the fleet size.
- Reducing the number of meshes would allow more fish to move through the Northern District fishery.
- Bristol Bay coho salmon fishing suffers in the fall.
- Chum salmon tend to run deeper than sockeye salmon, which are typically shallower.
- The North Peninsula is a mixed stock fishery. Reducing the number of meshes would reduce the amount of fish intercepted.

Opposition:

- Distribution of fish in fishing areas and in the water column is highly variable.

General:

- None

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal, but is opposed to aspects of this proposal that reduce drift gillnet mesh depth, and therefore, harvesting power, and increase set gillnet depth in some locations.

AC Positions: Support: Nelson Lagoon.
Lower Bristol Bay.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 155 – 5 AAC 09.330. Gear. Allow setnet gear in the Outer Port Heiden Section.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 51, 52, 56, 57, 66.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Allowing setnet gear in Outer Port Heiden Section would likely result in more effort and harvest in the section.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- None.

Opposition:

- None.

General:

- The proposer withdrew support for this proposal.
- Support was withdrawn in favor of language submitted in proposal 151.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: None.
Oppose: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language: None.

PROPOSAL 156 – 5 AAC 09.331. Gillnet Specifications and Operations. Change seaward gillnet distance in the Cinder River, Port Heiden, and Ilnik sections.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 51, 52, 56, 57, 66.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department: None.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Proposal was intended to be specific to fishing in Cinder River.
- The Cinder River beach is very long and leaves nets dry at low tide.
- This proposal mirrors Bristol Bay's regulations.

Opposition:

- Area M fishermen would consider supporting if the proposal omitted Ilnik and Outer Port Heiden.
- There may be substantial shoals off the Cinder River which would make extending a set net further offshore even more difficult.

General:

- Proposer agreed to remove any mention of Port Heiden and Ilnik sections from original proposal, resulting in only changing the seaward gillnet distance in the Cinder River Section (RC 66).
- There was no opposition to the amended proposal.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: The department is neutral on the allocative aspects of this proposal.

AC Positions: Support: None.

Oppose: Lower Bristol Bay.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

Substitute Language:

5 AAC 09.331(b)(8) is amended to read:

(8) in the [CINDER RIVER AND] Ilnik Section of the Northern District, a person may not place the seaward end of a set gillnet further than one-half mile from the permanent vegetation line of the beach, except that in the **Cinder River and** Seal Islands a person may not place the seaward end of a set gillnet further than one-half mile from the mean high tide mark;

PROPOSAL 157 – 5 AAC 09.350 (3). Closed Waters. Change the angle of the boundary line in Outer Port Heiden Section.

Staff Reports: RC 3, Oral Tab 6, Written Tab 13.

Staff Comments: RC 2.

Deliberation Materials: None.

AC Reports: RC 1; Advisory Committee Comment Tab, AC 1, 2, 5.

Timely Public Comment: RC 1, Public Comment Tab, PC 11, 19, 20.

Record Comments: RC 12, 18, 20, 51, 52, 54, 56, 57.

Narrative of Support and Opposition:

Department:

- Changing the angle of the line does not change the size of the fishing area; therefore there are no anticipated conservation concerns.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Support:

- Due the steep angle of the line to the beach and the prevailing currents, current line results in fishermen 'corking' each other when they drift off the line. They also get very close to the three mile line.
- Moving the line would promote a more orderly fishery.
- The line change would result in no net gain in fishing area.

Opposition:

- Which way fish migrate and where they are going is unknown.
- The proposal would not create an orderly fishery.

General:

- Considered housekeeping by the fleet.

SSFP: None.

POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADF&G Position: Neutral.

AC Positions: Support: None.
Oppose: Naknek/Kvichak.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

Board Committee Recommendation: None.

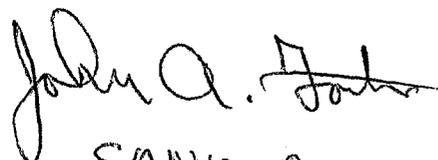
Substitute Language: None.

RC75

Proposal 153 – 5aac 09.330(3). Gear. Allow purse seine gear inside Ilnik Lagoon as follows:

William Dushkin submitted this proposal to Sand Point committee before the April, 2009 deadline. The committee considered and decided to support Mr. Dushkin's proposal.

Mr. Dushkin has withdrawn his support for this proposal. The members of the Sand Point committee who are attending this meeting have no objection to Mr. Dushkin's withdrawal.


SAND POINT A.C.

RC76

Alaska Board of Fisheries
RC for on Committee A report
Proposal # 103
South Alaska Peninsula Groundfish
February 5, 2010

Chairman Webster,

Board Members:

Thank you for the time and hard work in the meetings this week and for the great work on committee A. In the spirit of compromise encompassed and encouraged by the committee process we are bringing forth one approach to proposal #103 that will work for the small boat longliners and the large vessel longliners, and to notify you that the representatives of the two fleets have reached an agreement to support proposal # 103 for Pacific cod only and for Longline only. While we are not opposed to adding addition gear types, or all gear types, there was not consensus on this approach but was consensus on longline only.

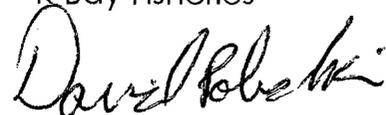
The benefits of such action have been testified to in public comment (PC #27), oral public comments before the board, and in the committee process. The support for this approach in Committee is well covered in the Committee A report (RC 71).

We wanted to notify the board via this RC that our groups, representing the small vessel longline fleet and the large vessel longline fleet, have reached and agreement and are asking the BOF to support, at a minimum, the 58 ft limit for longliners operating in the South Alaska Peninsula Area Parallel fishery.

Kenny Down
Freezer Longline Coalition
Association



David Polushkin
K-Bay Fisheries



RC77

Alaska Board of Fisheries
RC for on Committee A report
Proposal # 114
South Alaska Peninsula Groundfish
February 5, 2010

Chairman Webster,

Board Members:

In regards to proposal #114, we agree with the substitute language used in committee A comments (RC 71) but request that the dates be changed from July 31st to July 15th and August 1, 2010 to July 16, 2010, for the following reasons.

- This would give the under 60 foot vessels a 35 day head start on the rest of the fleet, or approximately 42% of the fishing season.
- The under 60 foot fleet took less than 10% of the quota in 2009. The onshore processing situation in Adak is more dire than last year.
- Due to the federal trawl season harvest (similar to last year) it is likely the state A season will start later and therefore it is likely there will be a roll over from A season increasing the B season quota.
- This said even with the July 15th opener for larger vessels there could be a foregone harvest in the B season again. The annual mortality rate used by the fishery scientist in the yearly Pacific cod assessment is 30% compounding the loss of unharvested quota.

Pat Burns


Blue North Fisheries

Dan Gunn


F/V Sea Venture

RC 78

In 2004, when the Board authorized a significant expansion of fishing time in the June fishery, Area M fishers argued that with the extra time and area granted, they would be able to move around and find areas to catch sockeye while at the same time minimizing their chum salmon catch. The Board is authorized and required to manage these fisheries, and relying solely on fishermen's promises to make voluntary efforts has proved to be simply not enough. In fact, some have viewed this reliance on purely voluntary efforts on the part of the fishermen as an abdication of the Board's responsibility to manage the long-standing (though competing) goals of managing the June fishery; to catch sockeye while minimizing chum interception.

In 2009, there seemed to be a problem with large catches of chum salmon, particularly within the Shumagin Islands district. Purse seine harvest data and number of permits fished by day for the Shumagin Islands and South Unimak Districts are provided in Potter et. al 2009 in Appendix B14 and Appendix B10, respectively. Using those data we compared total sockeye and chum harvests from both districts along with the sockeye:chum ratio. Although the number of permits fluctuated slightly from day to day in the Shumagin Island fishery, the sockeye to chum ratios in this fishery were horrible on many days. In fact, the sockeye-to-chum ratio was less than 1:1 on 9 out of 19 fishing days. Note that the overall average ratio for all fishing days in the month of June was also less than 1:1, 0.97:1. It is unclear to us, why with such extremely low sockeye:chum ratios they did not attempt to avoid chum salmon by simply moving to another fishing district. We suspect that they did not attempt to avoid the chum salmon because their sockeye catches were relatively high. It appears that even with the large amount of fishing time in the current June fishery, Area M fishers did not try to minimize their chum salmon catch, as they argued that they would in 2004. Therefore, we strongly suggest that the Board insert a provision into the June management plan (5 AAC 09.365) to hold each gear group accountable to a minimum of at least 2 to 1 sockeye:chum ratio, or else close that district (for that gear group) for 48 hours. I refer to this as a "hot spot" concept, which I raised during the Committee B meeting, and have also submitted it as RC 64 (applying to all gear types) and RC 70 (applying only to seine).

If a district closure is triggered, this will still allow the affected gear group to fish in other districts that are open to fishing. Note that this concept targets the inefficient gear type and does not affect the other more efficient gear types. We believe that this is necessary since voluntary efforts didn't seem to be effective. In fact, in 2009, a comparison of catches of the purse seine fleet between the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands (attached to this RC as Table 1), it appears that the possibility existed for the Shumagin fleet to catch a similar number of sockeye salmon by just moving to the South Unimak District. Note that the average daily catch of sockeye salmon in June per seine permit holder fishing in the Shumagins was about 1,170; in South Unimak it was 1,015 in South Unimak. This is a difference of about 13% on average. We estimate, based on these overall averages that approximately 226,000 chum salmon could have been avoided and not harvested if this move took place.

Literature cited:

Potter, A.D., M.D. Keyes, and A. C. Bernard. 2009. South Alaska Peninsula salmon annual management report, 2009. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Management Report No. 09-57, Anchorage



Table 1 Number of permits, harvest and average harvest by species and sockeye:chum salmon ratio, South Unimak and Shumagin Islands, in the June fishery, 2009 – **SEINE ONLY**

Date	South Unimak						Shumagin Islands					
	permits	sockeye	chum	avg sockeye per permit	avg chum per permit	s:c ratio	permits	sockeye	chum	avg sockeye per permit	avg chum per permit	s:c ratio
7-Jun	c						8	2,841	2,455	355.1	306.9	1.2
8-Jun	c						16	6,987	7,864	436.7	491.5	0.9
9-Jun	3	2,612	1,896	870.7	632.0	1.4	12	9,484	5,762	790.3	480.2	1.6
10-Jun	3	734	339	244.7	113.0	2.2	20	8,037	6,218	401.9	310.9	1.3
11-Jun												
12-Jun	c						13	8,940	8,386	687.7	645.1	1.1
13-Jun	5	685	175	137.0	35.0	3.9	25	51,965	44,372	2,078.6	1,774.9	1.2
14-Jun	8	4,776	1,397	597.0	174.6	3.4	22	34,413	41,989	1,564.2	1,908.6	0.8
15-Jun	9	3,131	1,251	347.9	139.0	2.5	22	37,072	50,708	1,685.1	2,304.9	0.7
16-Jun												
17-Jun	8	3,513	2,592	439.1	324.0	1.4	16	20,709	28,275	1,294.3	1,767.2	0.7
18-Jun	13	24,654	3,117	1,896.5	239.8	7.9	23	43,977	49,810	1,912.0	2,165.7	0.9
19-Jun	14	6,553	1,615	468.1	115.4	4.1	18	29,319	27,626	1,628.8	1,534.8	1.1
20-Jun	13	5,790	1,606	445.4	123.5	3.6	25	33,240	28,398	1,329.6	1,135.9	1.2
21-Jun												
22-Jun	11	7,625	3,516	693.2	319.6	2.2	19	16,402	27,036	863.3	1,422.9	0.6
23-Jun	14	10,415	7,893	743.9	563.8	1.3	17	13,502	18,807	794.2	1,106.3	0.7
24-Jun	12	23,393	10,197	1,949.4	849.8	2.3	16	20,834	28,765	1,302.1	1,797.8	0.7
25-Jun	10	11,892	8,301	1,189.2	830.1	1.4	22	27,050	31,186	1,229.5	1,417.5	0.9
26-Jun												
27-Jun	11	33,260	18,192	3,023.6	1,653.8	1.8	6	6,218	5,010	1,036.3	835.0	1.2
28-Jun	11	17,766	10,970	1,615.1	997.3	1.6	17	33,609	21,001	1,977.0	1,235.4	1.6
29-Jun	11	17,376	12,822	1,579.6	1,165.6	1.4	22	18,824	18,152	855.6	825.1	1.0
30-Jun												
AVERAGE				1,015.0	517.3					1,169.6	1,235.1	

RC7A

Alaska Board of Fisheries
RC on the Committee A report
Proposals 105, 106, and 107
South Alaska Peninsula Groundfish

Chairman Webster,

Board Members

Thank You for the great work and effort on the meeting and the committee. The K- Bay Fisheries Association thinks that if the proposal 103 is adopted that will take care of the potential problem in the fishery. You do not need to take such drastic measures as to exclude the longline gear out of the Federal parallel p-cod fishery in state waters. Again if you look at RC 28, and RC 29 you will see that the the small boat longline fleet cannot hurt anybody.

Thank You

David Polushkin

K- bay Fisheries Association

Table 2-14 Pacific cod B season closures for all gear types in the Western and Central GOA, 2001-2009

Western Gulf					Central Gulf				
Inshore			Offshore		Inshore			Offshore	
Year	Date	Reason	Date	Reason	Date	Reason	Date	Reason	
2001	31-Dec	REG	31-Dec	TAC	31-Dec	REG	21/31	REG	
2002	23-Nov	TAC	3-Oct	TAC	26-Sep	TAC	8-Oct	TAC	
2003	25-Sep	TAC	not opened		3-Sep	TAC	14-Oct	TAC	
2004	31-Dec	REG	31-Dec	REG	17-Nov	TAC	31-Dec	REG	
2005	31-Dec	REG	31-Dec	REG	31-Dec	REG	31-Dec	REG	
2006	31-Dec	REG	31-Dec	REG	31-Dec	REG	31-Dec	REG	
2007	31-Dec	REG	31-Dec	REG	31-Dec	REG	31-Dec	REG	
2008	31-Dec	REG	31-Dec	REG	3-Oct	TAC	31-Dec	REG	
2009	***		***		1-Oct	TAC	***		

Source: NMFS Alaska region season closures summary. HAL = halibut PSC closure. TAC = TAC reached. REG = regulatory closure. ***2009 B season still open as of 11/6/2009

Table 2-15 Pacific cod B season closures* for the trawl and hook-and-line sectors in the Western and Central GOA, 2001-2009

Area	Trawl					Hook-and-line			
	Inshore		Offshore			Inshore		Offshore	
	Year	Date	Reason	Date	Reason	Date	Reason	Date	Reason
Western GOA	2001	21-Oct	HAL	21-Oct	HAL	4-Sep	HAL	4-Sep	HAL
	2002	13-Oct	HAL**	3-Oct	TAC**	23-Nov	TAC	3-Oct	TAC
	2003	12-Sep	HAL	not opened	not opened	25-Sep	TAC	not opened	not opened
	2004	10-Sep	HAL	10-Sep	HAL	2-Oct	HAL	2-Oct	HAL
	2005	4-Sep	HAL	4-Sep	HAL	31-Dec	REG	31-Dec	REG
	2006	8-Oct	HAL	8-Oct	HAL	31-Dec	REG	31-Dec	REG
	2007	1-Nov	SSL reg	1-Nov	SSL reg	31-Dec	REG	31-Dec	REG
	2008	1-Nov	SSL reg	1-Nov	SSL reg	16-Oct	HAL	16-Oct	HAL
	2009	1-Nov	SSL reg	1-Nov	SSL reg	***	***	***	***
Central GOA	2001	21-Oct	HAL	21-Oct	HAL	4-Sep	HAL	4-Sep	HAL
	2002	1-Sep	HAL**	8-Oct	TAC**	26-Sep	TAC	8-Oct	TAC
	2003	3-Sep	TAC	14-Oct	TAC	3-Sep	TAC	14-Oct	TAC
	2004	10-Sep	HAL	10-Sep	HAL	2-Oct	HAL	2-Oct	HAL
	2005	4-Sep	HAL	4-Sep	HAL	31-Dec	REG	31-Dec	REG
	2006	8-Oct	HAL	8-Oct	HAL	31-Dec	REG	31-Dec	REG
	2007	1-Nov	SSL reg	1-Nov	SSL reg	31-Dec	REG	31-Dec	REG
	2008	3-Oct	TAC	1-Nov	SSL reg	3-Oct	TAC	16-Oct	HAL
	2009	2-Sep	HAL	1-Nov	SSL reg	1-Oct	TAC	***	***

Source: NMFS Alaska region season closures summary. HAL = halibut PSC closure. TAC = TAC reached. REG = regulations.

* The table shows the final B season closure date, and does not reflect the multiple, short openings of the trawl B seasons during 2006-2008. See text for details.

** In 2002, the trawl fisheries did not open on Sept 1 because the 4th season shallow water halibut PSC limit had already been reached. The WGOA inshore and offshore trawl fisheries and the CGOA offshore trawl fishery opened Oct 1 when the next halibut PSC apportionment became available. The CGOA inshore trawl fishery did not open Oct 1 because the TAC had been reached.

*** 2009 B season still open as of 11/6/2009.

Short season lengths are another indication that the GOA Pacific cod fisheries are fully utilized. In the Western GOA, the A season has typically closed about one month after the trawl gear opening on January 20 (see Table 2-13). In the Central GOA, the A season closed in 2004, 2005, and 2009 just 11 days, 6 days, and 7 days, respectively, after the trawl season opened on January 20.

RC: _____

80

Nelson Lagoon Economic Concerns

Butch Gundersen, Village Council President

The village of Nelson Lagoon depends completely on commercial fishing. The village consists of 30 plus families. We hung on through the 80s and 90s to keep all the Area M fisheries alive. Now that the Area M fisheries are operating under reasonable regulations, Nelson Lagoon is still struggling.

We need to be sure that enough salmon get back to the Lagoon so that our families can remain in the village. The current situation is so bad that we may not be able to keep our school next year.

The local fishery must improve or our young families will continue to migrate out of our village. The cost of living in remote villages is high but preserving our culture is vital. We have set net sites that have been handed down through the generations, and those families have nowhere else to fish, and they have no other means of making a living. Our traditional way of life is on the line.

RC 81

UNALASKA/DUTCH HARBOR FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE
PO Box 162
Unalaska, AK 99685

February 5, 2010

Vince Webster, Chairman
Alaska Board of Fisheries
PO Box 115526
Anchorage, Alaska 99811-5526

Subject: RC # for Proposal 111 from Unalaska/Dutch Harbor AC.

#111- 5AAC 28.650. Closed waters, in the Bering Sea – Aleutian Islands area. This proposal would close the waters of Unalaska Bay to groundfish fishing with trawl gear.

Move the proposed line in proposal 111 to a new point from Eider Point to Capt Kalekta map attached.

Regards



Frank Kelty, Chair
Unalaska/Dutch Harbor AC

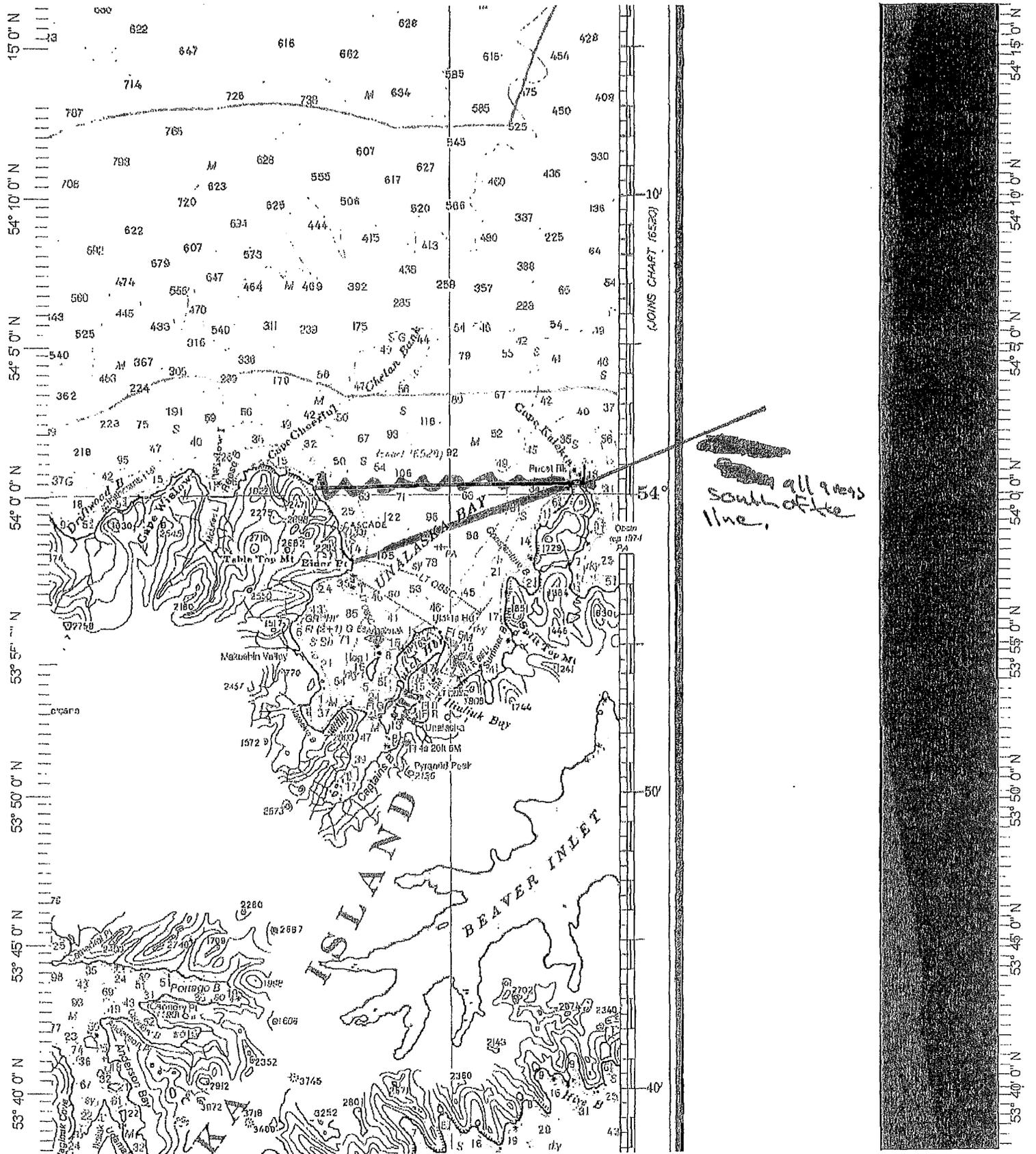


Chart Name: UNALASKA I TO AMUKTA I
 Chart ID: 16500_1
 Top Left: 54° 16' 22" N 166° 52' 52" W
 Bottom Right: 53° 37' 52" N 165° 58' 10" W

RCBZ

UNALASKA/DUTCH HARBOR FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE
PO Box 162
Unalaska, AK 99685

February 5, 2010

Vince Webster, Chairman
Alaska Board of Fisheries
PO Box 115526
Anchorage, Alaska 99811-5526

Subject: Comments on Committee A Report by Unalaska/Dutch Harbor Advisory Committee.

#111- 5AAC 28.650. Closed waters, in the Bering Sea – Aleutian Islands area. This proposal would close the waters of Unalaska Bay to groundfish fishing with trawl gear.

- Under support section of this committee A report it should mention that proposal 111 had unanimous support from the following organizations, Unalaska City Council, Ounalashka Native Village Corporation, Qawalangin Tribe, Unalaska Native Fisherman Association and many letters of support from local residents that are very concerned about trawling activities in Unalaska Bay.
- Under the support section please delete under the last bullet that the City of Unalaska had previous agreements with the Pollock industry that is not a true statement, and the City hasn't made any agreements with Pollock industry.
- It should be noted under the support section, that the majority of the shoreside catcher vessels' that fish for three major Unalaska shoreplants avoid fishing in Unalaska Bay do to the sensitivity of the local residents and that the majority of the vessels fishing Pollock in Unalaska Bay deliver there catch outside the community.

That concludes Unalaska AC comments on the Committee A report.

Regards


Frank Kelty, Chair
Unalaska/Dutch Harbor AC

RC 83

Submitted By The Sand Point Advisory Committee

Regarding earlier set net openings in the Southeast District Mainland.

During the Committee C's work on February 4, 2010, we learned that the original goals for WASSIP didn't include gathering samples to assess the origins of sockeye taken in the Southeast District Mainland. WASSIP did gather samples in late July, but due to SEDM not being opened they don't have any samples for June or early July.

It is clear that the public thought that stock i.d. data for the Southeast District Mainland was included. At any rate, no samples have been taken in June and early July due to fishery closures during the last 5 years.

We propose three 16 hour openings in June:

June 11.....6:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

June 17.....6:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

June 22.....6:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Even in years when the SEDM is opened, fishing in June has not occurred due to the Chignik Forecast being low or run timing being late.

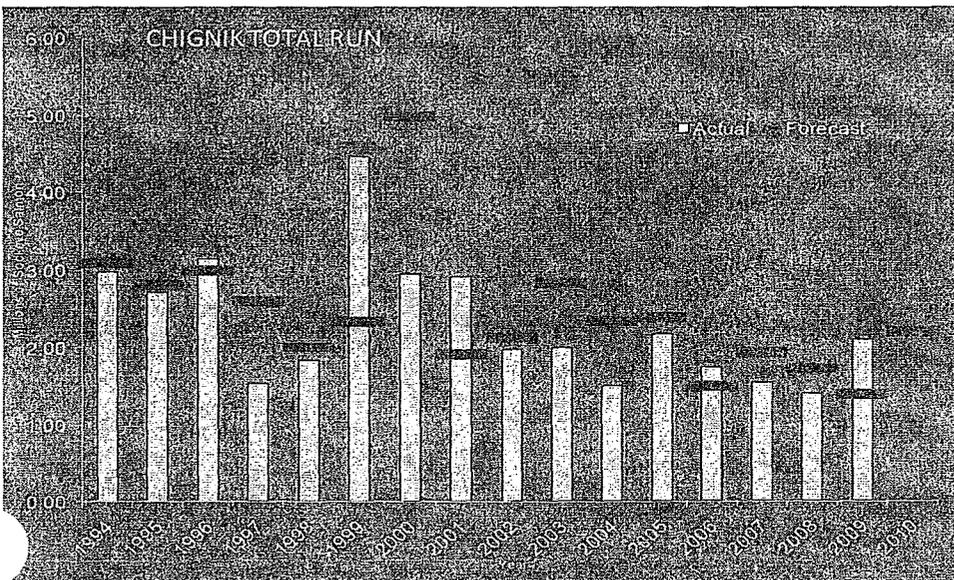
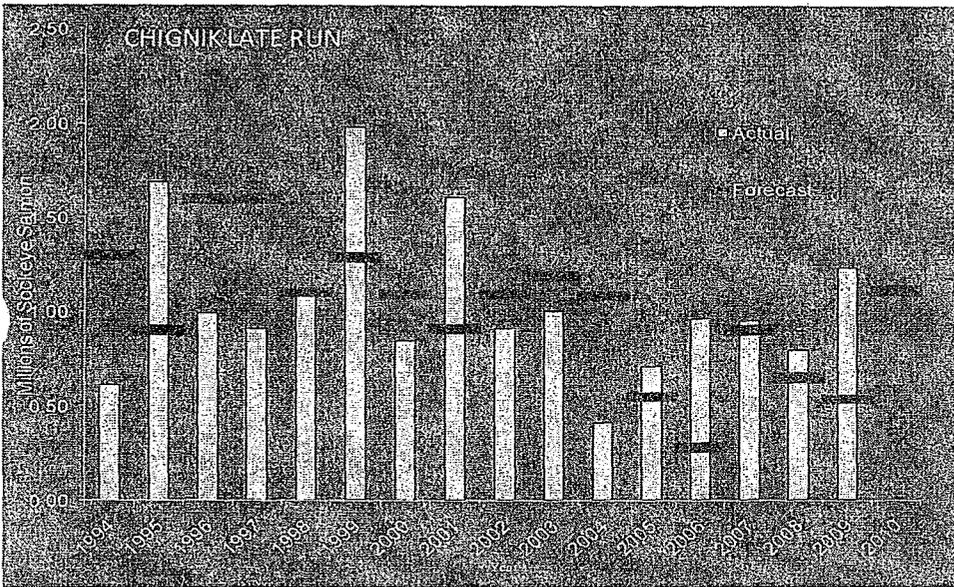
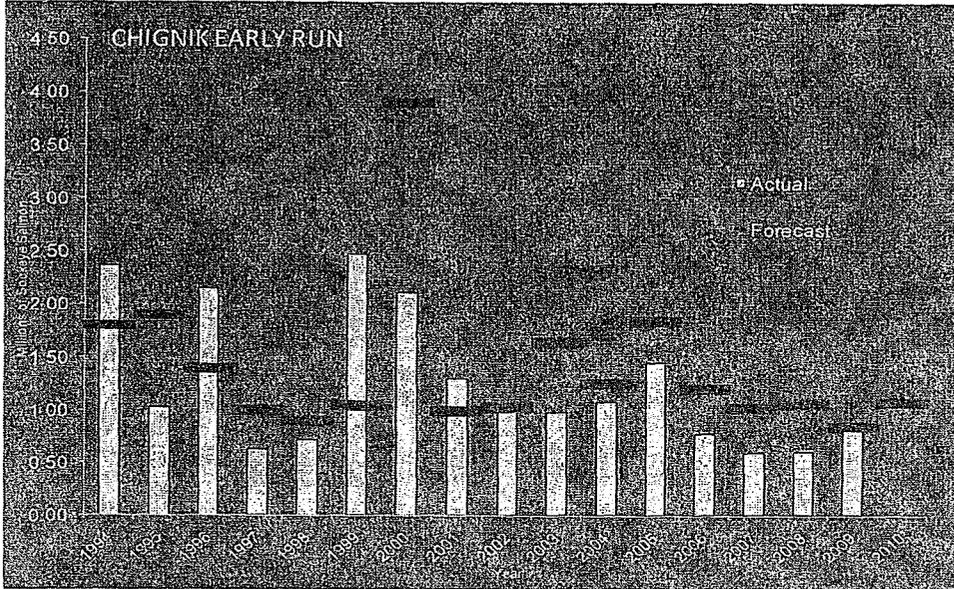
From June 26—July 8 SEDM doesn't open. Please spread out the catch throughout the fishery instead of piling it up at one end.

- No WASSIP samples were taken in June or early July due to no openings in the SEDM
- The SEDM setnet fleet has not fished in June for 5 years
- From June 10 – July 10 only setnetting is allowed. From July 11 – July 25 seine and setnet gear is allowed in the SEDM
- If the ADF&G Chignik salmon forecast predicts a run with a Chignik catch of 600,000 or less. Then the 600,000 sockeye guarantee comes into play.
- Even if Chignik has good runs the SEDM may not open in June due to Chignik salmon forecasts or late run timing.
- When Chignik's sockeye forecast turns out to be lower than the actual return, it always causes SEDM openings to be later.
- From June 26 – July 8 the SEDM cannot open because of the overlapping of Chignik's first and second runs.
- It is always better fish throughout a run than to target one section of a salmon run.
- If the majority of the sockeye caught in the SEDM, while under the SEDM Plan, have been caught in the July 20-25 time period over the last 10 years.

Chignik forecasts and actual runs, by run and year, 1994 to 2008 including the 2010 forecast.

Year	Early Run			Late Run			Total Run		
	Forecast	Actual	% Error	Forecast	Actual	% Error	Forecast	Actual	% Error
1994	1.80	2.36	-24	1.30	0.61	112	3.10	2.98	4
1995	1.90	1.03	84	0.90	1.69	-47	2.80	2.72	3
1996	1.40	2.15	-35	1.60	0.99	62	3.00	3.14	-5
1997	1.00	0.63	58	1.60	0.91	75	2.60	1.55	68
1998	0.90	0.72	24	1.10	1.11	-1	2.00	1.83	9
1999	1.05	2.48	-58	1.29	1.98	-35	2.34	4.46	-48
2000	3.90	2.11	85	1.09	0.84	29	4.99	2.96	69
2001	1.00	1.31	-23	0.91	1.61	-43	1.91	2.91	-34
2002	1.03	1.06	-3	1.09	0.91	20	2.12	1.97	7
2003	1.64	0.99	66	1.19	1.00	19	2.83	1.99	42
2004	1.26	1.09	16	1.08	0.41	163	2.34	1.50	56
2005	1.84	1.46	26	0.55	0.71	-23	2.39	2.17	10
2006	1.21	0.78	55	0.28	0.96	-71	1.49	1.74	-14
2007	1.02	0.60	71	0.90	0.95	-5	1.92	1.55	24
2008	1.07	0.60	78	0.65	0.79	-18	1.72	1.39	23
2009	0.85	0.87	-3	0.54	1.23	-56	1.38	2.10	-34
2010 forecast	1.08			1.11			2.19		
5-yr Average	1.20	0.86	45.57	0.58	0.93	-34.66	1.78	1.79	1.83
10-yr Average	1.48	1.09	36.70	0.83	0.94	1.46	2.31	2.03	14.90

Please keep in mind that how the % error is calculated depends on how it is described. The way it is set up here, it says that the forecast under- or over-estimated the run by X% of the actual return.



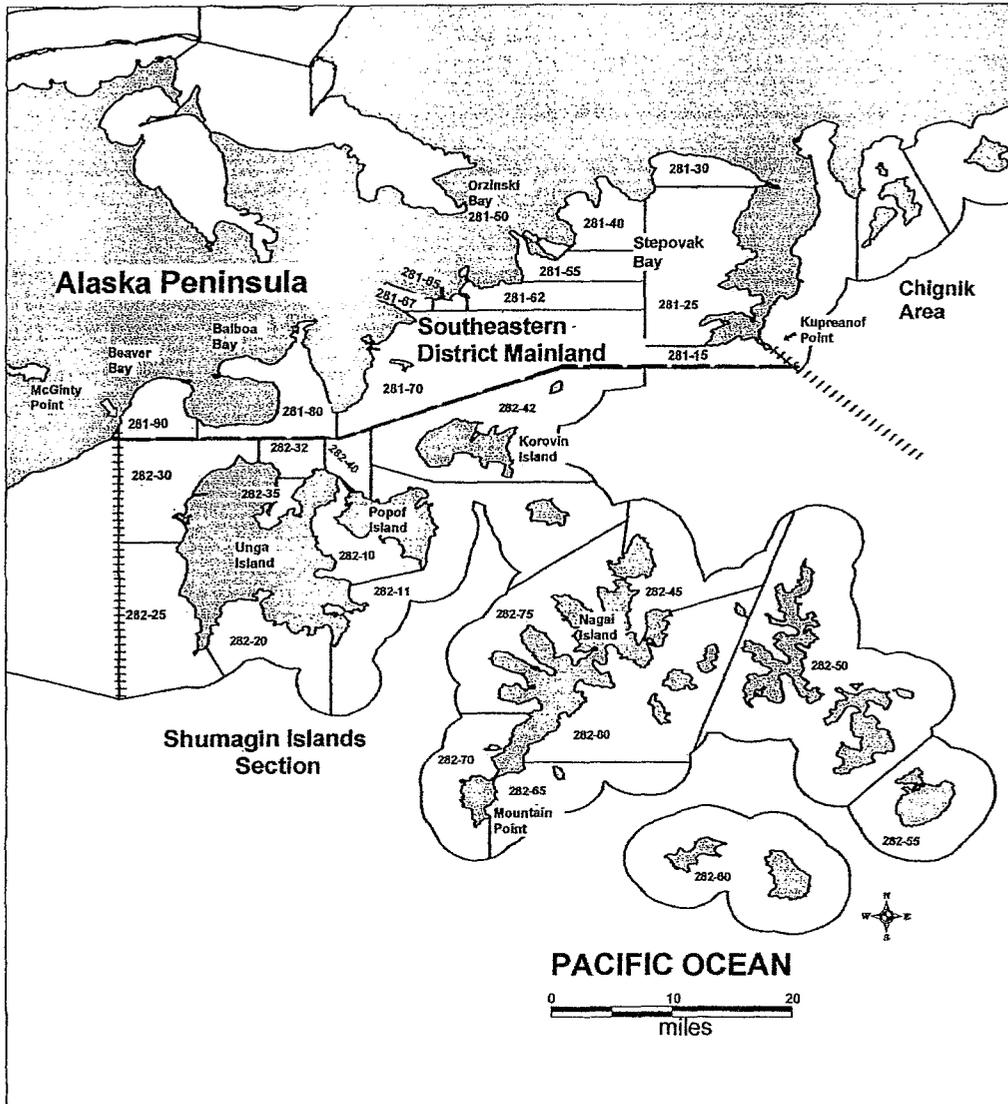


Figure 127-1.—Map of the Alaska Peninsula Area from Kupreanof Point to McGinty Point (Southeastern District) with statistical salmon fishing areas shown.

RC 84

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES
RC FOR ON COMMITTEE A REPORT
PROPOSAL # 108-109
SOUTH ALASKA PENINSULA GROUND FISH
FEBRUARY 5, 2010

Chairman Webster,

Board Members:

Thank you for the time and hard work in the meetings this week.

One comment and *I believe new information for the committee / BOF* members. While the minutes accurately reflect the disproportional catch between the federal waters and state waters already existing (Continuously more than 50% is already harvested inside state waters), it does not reflect that the TAC in the GOA federal fishery is divided by CGOA, WGOA and EGOA, with the largest TAC going to the Central GOA, the second largest going to Western GOA, and the smallest quota going to the Eastern GOA.

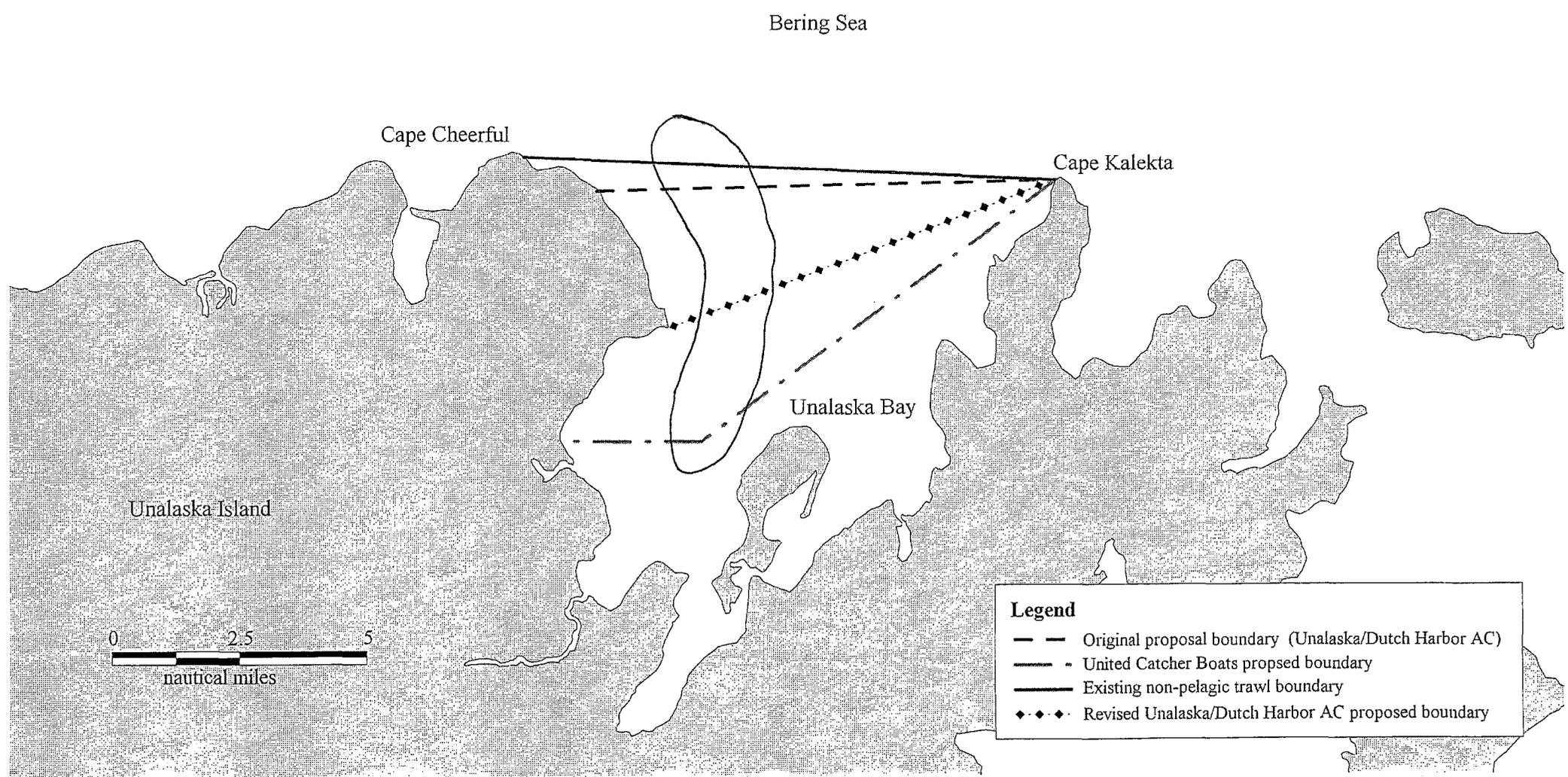
As this South Alaska Peninsula Groundfish action would increase the GHF in that area while reducing the federal TAC in all areas (The state GHF is taken from ABC, before TAC). In addition it will increase the disproportion catch in an area that already has the highest catch inside 3 miles of all of the management areas (Western GOA). According to recent council documents (P cod sector splits, initial revue December 2009) western Alaska already has the highest catch inside of three of all management areas.

For all of the reasons stated here, along with PC # 27, PC # 9, and concerns expressed in the committee meeting and minutes I urge the board to take no action, even incremental, on these two proposals until such a time that proper research can be completed on localized depletion of stocks, the release of the federal SSL Biological opinion, and the implementation of sector allocations in the federal fishery. We need stabilization for business in Alaska and these are de-stabilizing proposals that are the proverbial "rob Peter to pay Paul."

Kenny Down
Freezer Longline Coalition

~~RC 85~~
RC 85

Unalaska Bay Proposed Trawl Closure Area



Proposal language for proposal 110

RC 86

5 AAC 28.577 is amended to read:

(xx) A pot vessel participating in the BS/AI federal or parallel Pacific cod fishery may register for the South Alaska Peninsula state waters Pacific cod fishery seven days after that vessel's final landing of BS/AI Pacific cod.

RC-87

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

SEAN PARNELL, GOVERNOR

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MEMORANDUM

TO: John Hilsinger
Director

Division of Commercial Fisheries

FROM: Dani Evenson, Dan Bergstrom, Doug Molyneaux, Bonnie Borba, Jeff Estensen, and
Jim Menard – AYK Region
Tim Baker – Central Region

DATE: October 22, 2009

SUBJECT: 2009 Chum Salmon Stock Status, Western Alaska

Western Alaska Chum Salmon Stock Status 2009

Western Alaska includes Bristol Bay, Kuskokwim, Yukon, Norton Sound, and Kotzebue Sound management areas. Nushagak, Kuskokwim, Yukon, Unalakleet, and Kobuk rivers make up the chum salmon index stocks for this region along with Kuskokwim Bay, Nome Subdistrict, and Moses Point and Golovin subdistricts aggregate stocks.

In general, western Alaska chum salmon stocks declined sharply in 1998 through 2002, rebuilt rapidly beginning in 2003 with record and near record runs in 2005 and 2006, and have shown a general decline again since 2007. Chum salmon run abundance was variable among western Alaska rivers in 2009 with no clear geographic pattern. Most stocks exhibited average abundance with three notable exceptions: the strongest run occurred in the Nushagak River and the weakest runs occurred in northern Norton Sound and Yukon River fall chum salmon runs. Northern Norton Sound 2009 chum salmon runs were some of the poorest on record. More

southerly stocks in Kuskokwim Bay and Nushagak rivers showed stronger runs in 2008 and 2009, yet the most northerly stocks in Noatak and Kobuk rivers were also slightly above average.

Commercial fisheries occurred in most areas of western Alaska in 2009 with the exception of northern Norton Sound. Sport and personal use fisheries were restricted in the Yukon River (fall chum salmon run) and in northern Norton Sound rivers. More significantly, subsistence fisheries in both of these areas were restricted or closed for a portion of the season. Despite conservative management, many of the escapement goals in northern Norton Sound were not met. However, most escapement goals were met in other areas of western Alaska, but in some cases, such as with Yukon River fall chum salmon, at a cost to the people who rely on the resource for food and income.

The table below summarizes western Alaska chum salmon stock status for 2009 by area. A more detailed description of the stock assessment and discussion of recent fisheries management for each of the index stocks are presented following the summary table.

Table 1. – Overview of western Alaskan chum salmon stock performance, 2009.

Chum salmon stock	Total run size?	Escapement goals met?	Subsistence fishery?	Commercial fishery?	Sport fishery?	Stock of concern?
Bristol Bay	Above average	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Kuskokwim Bay	Average	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Kuskokwim River	Average	Yes	Yes	Limited	Yes	No
Yukon River summer run	Below Average	Some	Yes	Yes, but limited by low Chinook	Yes	No
Yukon River fall run	Poor	Most	Restrictions	Limited early season	Yes	No
Eastern Norton Sound	Average	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Northern Norton Sound	Poor	None	Restrictions and closures	No	No	Yield concern (since 2000)
Kotzebue	Average	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

The Alaska Board of Fisheries (board) designated several western Alaska stocks as a “Yield Concern” or “Management Concern” in September 2000 (Table 2). A “Yield concern” means a concern arising from a chronic inability, despite the use of specific management measures, to

maintain expected yields, or harvestable surpluses, above a stock's escapement needs. "Management concern" means a concern arising from a chronic inability, despite use of specific management measures, to maintain escapements for a salmon stock within the bounds of the sustainable escapement goal (SEG), biological escapement goal (BEG), optimal escapement goal (OEG), or other specified management objectives for the fishery, and is more severe than a "Yield concern". Subsequently in 2004 and 2007, based on improved abundance, the board lifted these designations from all but Norton Sound Subdistrict 1, 2, and 3 stocks; the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (department) has recommended that these designations for Norton Sound Subdistricts 1, 2, and 3 continue through the 2010 board cycle.

Table 2. – Western Alaska chum salmon stocks of concern designations and recommendations

Area/Stock	Salmon Species	Level of Concern			
		September 2000	January 2004	February 2007 (Current Status)	October 2009 Recommendation
Norton Sound Area					
Subdistrict 1	Chum	Management	Management	Changed to Yield	Continue
Subdistricts 2 and 3	Chum	Yield	Yield	Yield	Continue
Yukon River Area					
Yukon River	Summer Chum	Management	Management	Discontinued	
Yukon River	Fall Chum	Yield	Yield	Discontinued	
Toklat River	Fall Chum	Management	Discontinued		
Fishing Branch River	Fall Chum	Management	Discontinued		
Kuskokwim River Area					
Kuskokwim River	Chum	Yield	Yield	Discontinued	

Stock: Nushagak River chum salmon

Area: Bristol Bay

BOF Classification: none

The 2009 total run of chum salmon to Nushagak River was 1,213,821. The total run was 421,878 (53%) more than the recent 20-year (1989-2008) average of 791,943 and 28% more than the recent 10-year (1999-2008) average of 947,042 (Figure 1).

Spawning escapement in Nushagak River was 438,481 chum salmon which was above the SEG threshold of 190,000. A total of 775,340 chum salmon were harvested in the commercial fishery of Nushagak District. It is assumed that these chum salmon are bound for Nushagak River as this is the only river with a significant chum salmon population within the district. The 2009 commercial harvest of chum salmon was 61% higher than the 20-year average of 481,481 and 31% higher than the 10-year average of 591,806. The exploitation rate in 2009 was 64%, which was 5% higher than both the 10-year and 20-year averages. Commercial harvest in 2009 was one of largest harvests of chum salmon in the Nushagak District since 1966; only harvests in 2005, 2006 and 2007 have been larger.

The 2009 age composition of the total run was 2% (19,082) age-0.2, 61% (736,745) age-0.3, 37% (453,785) age-0.4, and <1% (4,208) age-0.5%.

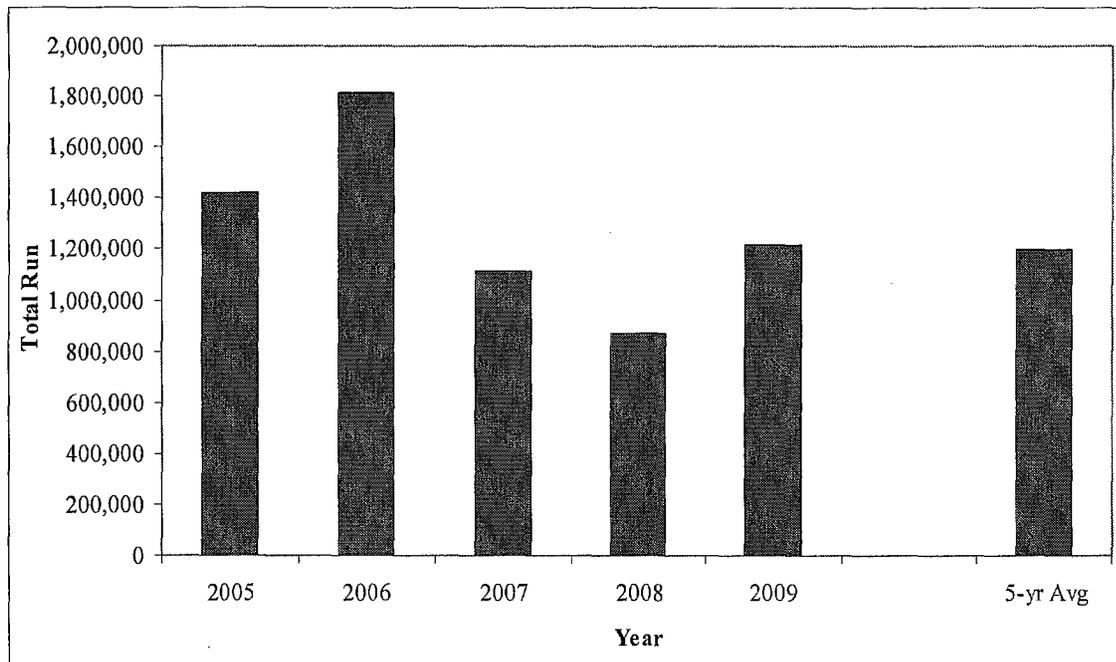


Figure 1. – Total chum salmon run, Nushagak River, 2005-2009 with 5-year average. 2009 data are preliminary.

Stock: Kuskokwim Bay chum salmon

Area: Kuskokwim

BOF Classification: none

District 5 (Goodnews Bay)

Chum salmon abundance in 2009 was expected to be below average and comparable to 2008. Although commercial catch rates and harvests were average to above average throughout the season, the run was lower than in 2008. Chum salmon run timing was characterized as normal. Preliminary chum salmon escapement at the Middle Fork Goodnews River weir of 19,713 fish was above the established SEG threshold of 12,000 fish (Figure 2), but 52% below the most recent 5-year (2004-2008) average of 41,398 fish. Subsistence harvest needs were likely met in 2009. The preliminary commercial harvest of chum salmon in District 5 of 16,985 fish is 55% above the recent 5-year (2004-2008) average of 7,703 fish and 38% above the historical average (1981-2008) of 12,324 fish (Figure 3).

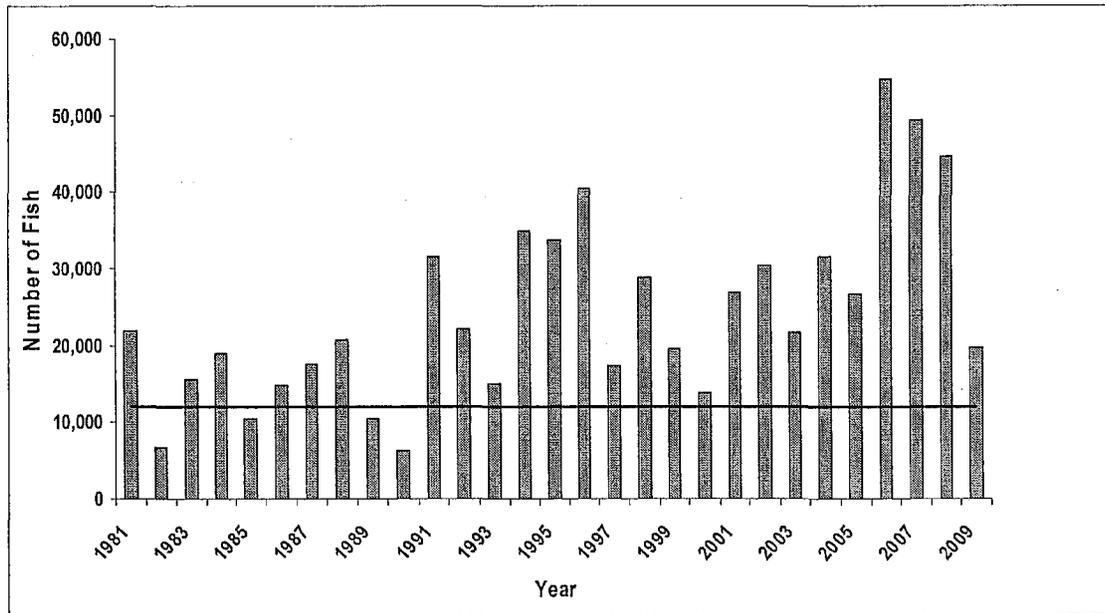


Figure 2. – Historical chum salmon escapement at the Middlefork Goodnews River weir, 1981-2009. Solid black horizontal line shows the SEG point of 12,000 fish.

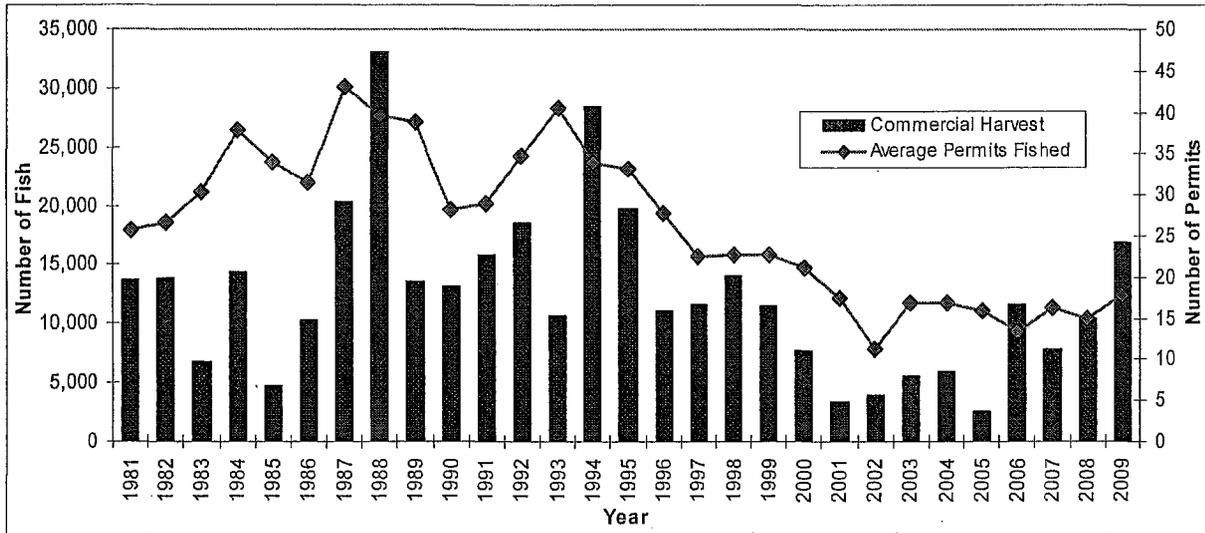


Figure 3. – Historical commercial chum salmon harvest, and average number of permits participating in each opening, District 5, 1981-2009.

District 4 (Quinhagak)

Commercial catch rates and harvests were average to above average throughout the season and the run was larger than in 2008. Preliminary chum salmon escapement at the Kanektok River weir was 51,647 fish. There is no formal escapement goal for chum salmon at the Kanektok River weir and comparison of escapement among years is problematic because of the variation in the operational starting date of the weir. A formal chum salmon threshold escapement goal for aerial survey has been established for Kanektok River (SEG point > 5,200 fish), however no surveys have been flown since 2004. Preliminary District 4 commercial harvest of chum salmon of 91,232 fish (Figure 4) was the highest on record and 39% above the historical average (1981-2008) of 55,435 fish.

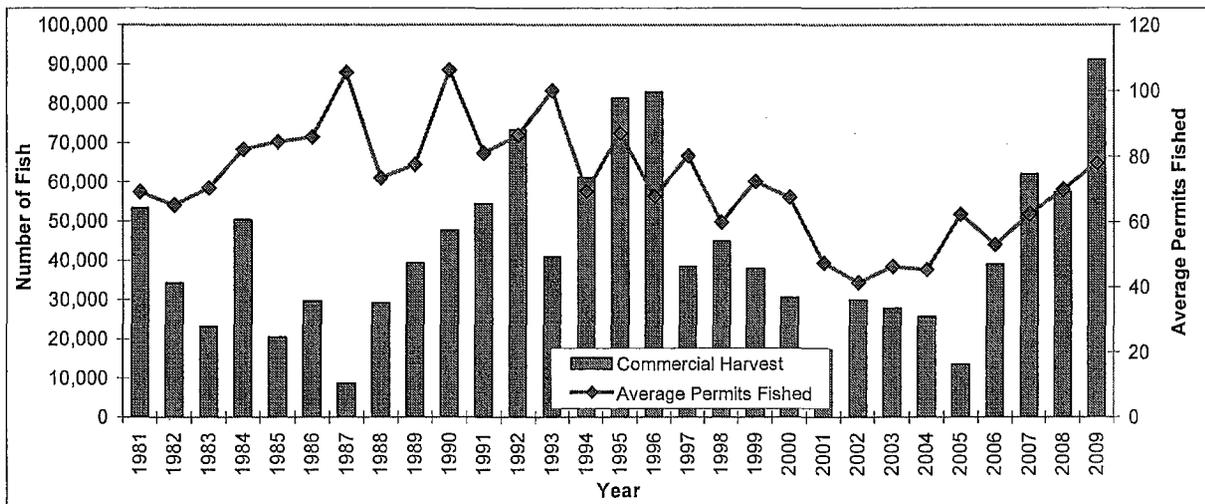


Figure 4. – Historical commercial chum salmon harvest, and average number of permits participating in each opening, District 4, 1981-2009.

Stock: Kuskokwim River chum salmon

Area: Kuskokwim

BOF Classification: none

Kuskokwim River chum salmon were listed by the board as a stock of yield concern in September 2000 based on low run abundance in 1997-2000, but markedly improved abundance led to the finding being lifted in January 2007. Near record runs occurred from 2005 through 2007. Thereafter, abundance has been near average as illustrated in Figure 3, which shows results of a retrospective run reconstruction that is a conservative approximation of historical chum salmon abundance (Bue et al. 2008). The model used in the run reconstruction is limited by the lack of years with reliable total chum salmon abundance estimates needed for scaling; still, this model is thought to better approximate actual abundance than previous models (e.g., Shotwell and Adkison 2004) that had fewer datasets available. This run reconstruction was not available at the time of deliberations related to the setting and lifting of the stock of concern finding. Subsistence harvest estimates are not yet available for 2007 through 2009, so values for those years are based on the 5-year average harvest.

Chum salmon abundance in 2009 was expected to be comparable to 2008, and that appeared to be the case (Figure 5). Preliminary assessment is that the 2009 subsistence harvest needs were met and a modest commercial harvest of 76,862 chum salmon was taken, which is the largest harvest since 1998. Commercial harvest continues to be constrained by low market interest in chum salmon. Escapements in the two largest chum salmon producing sub-basins were within the SEG range and comparable to 2008 (Aniak sub-basin), or well above the SEG range and twice the 2008 escapement (Kogrukluk River in the Holitna River sub-basin). Elsewhere escapements were variable relative to 2008 in monitored tributaries that do not have escapement goals. Overall chum salmon exploitation rate in 2009 is estimated to have been near 12%, compared to the 10-year average of 9%.

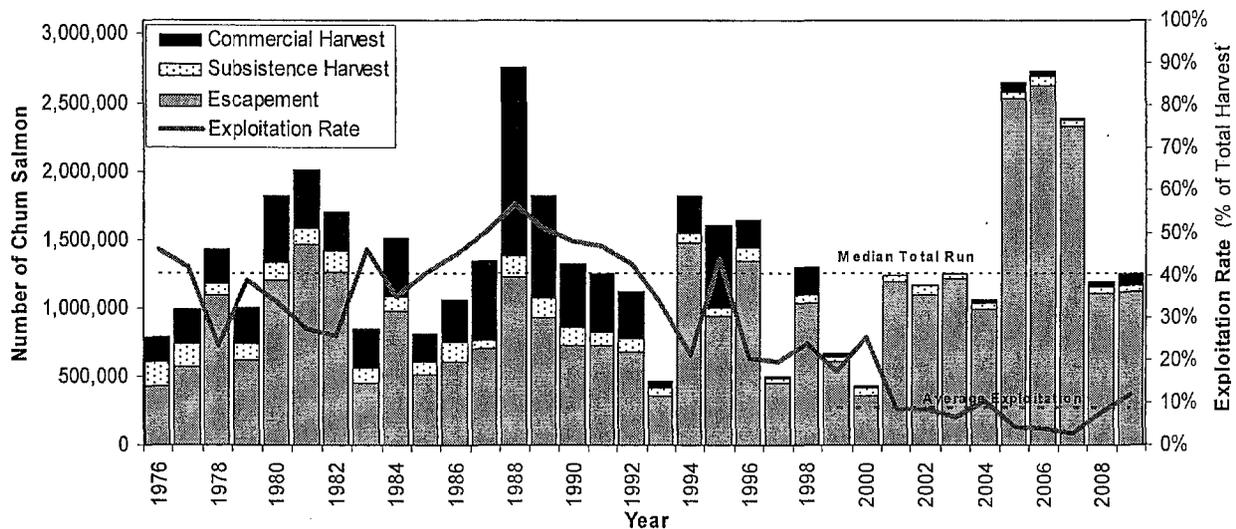


Figure 5.— Historical Kuskokwim River chum salmon run reconstruction and harvest exploitation rate.

Stock: Yukon River summer chum salmon

Area: Yukon River

BOF Classification: None

The 2009 total run of approximately 1.4 million summer chum salmon was sufficient to support directed fisheries including commercial, subsistence and personal use harvests as well as meeting most of the escapement goals. The 2009 run was approximately 43% below the recent 5-year (2004-2008) average of 2.4 million chum salmon and 24% below the 10-year (1999-2008) average of 1.8 million. Note that poor runs occurred in 1999-2002, and large runs occurred in 2005-2007 (Figure 6). The 2009 run was expected to be near average and similar to the previous years run of approximately 1.9 million. The run was anticipated to provide for escapements, support a normal subsistence harvest, as well as personal use and a commercial harvest between 500,000 and 900,000. However, due to the concerns for a poor Chinook salmon run fishing restrictions were in place most of the season with some opportunity for chum salmon harvests allowed based on timing of the two species and fisheries with gillnets restricted to 6 inch maximum mesh size. Approximately 170,000 summer chum salmon were harvested in the commercial fishery and incidental Chinook salmon were to be taken home for subsistence uses. Summer chum salmon escapements were well below average in the east Fork Andreafsky, Anvik, and Gisasa rivers but exceeded expectations in Henshaw Creek and were near average in Salcha River.

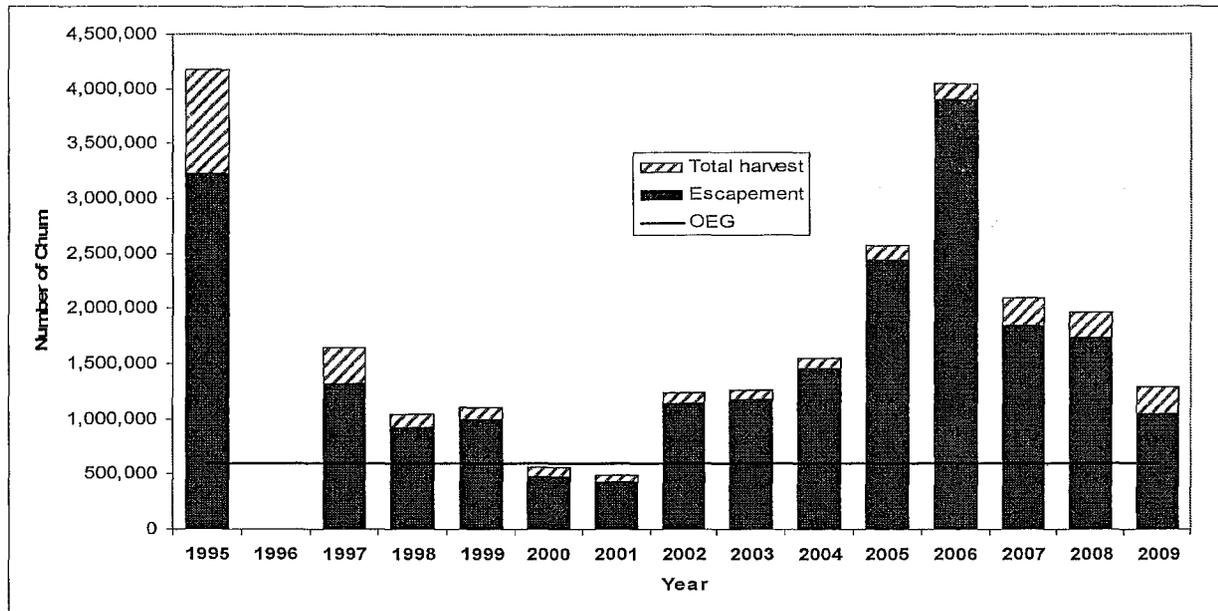


Figure 6. – Yukon River summer chum salmon escapement and harvest estimates, 1995, 1996-2009.

Table 3. – Yukon River escapement goals set for summer chum salmon in 2009.

Stream (project type)	Current Goal	Type of Goal	2009
East Fork Andreafsky River (weir)	65,000-130,000	BEG	8,800
Anvik River (sonar)	350,000-700,000	BEG	183,000

Stock: Yukon River fall chum salmon

Area: Yukon River

BOF Classification: None

The 2009 fall chum salmon run was approximately 61% below the recent 5-year (2004-2008) average of 1.2 million fall chum salmon and 45% below the 10-year (1999-2008) average of 819,000 (Figure 7). Note that both averages include the record run in 2005 and the 10-year average includes the worst run on record in 2000.

Management shifted to inseason assessment around August 8, the average midpoint of the run, with a poor showing of fall chum salmon indicating the run was possibly weaker yet than anticipated. Inseason, the fall chum run was comprised of three primary pulses, two small and one moderate sized, with a timing of two days late when compared to the average midpoint. The preliminary 2009 post season run size is estimated to be approximately 450,000 fall chum salmon. This is below the 1974-2008 average of all years and odd-numbered years of 876,000 and 687,000 fall chum salmon respectively.

A commercial fishery was conducted in districts 1 and 2 at the beginning of the run based on the preseason projection and at the end of the run in districts 1 and 6 based on availability of coho salmon. The total harvest was approximately 25,000 fall chum salmon which is 78% below the recent 5-year average of 114,000. Subsistence fishing time was reduced by approximately one third and personal use fisheries were closed for a portion of the run to assure escapement goals in the majority of the areas would be achieved. The subsistence harvest estimate is expected to be less than 75,000 fall chum salmon.

At this time, the preliminary run size estimate is 450,000 fall chum salmon with an estimated harvest of approximately 100,000 fish. This level of harvest resulted in an estimated escapement of approximately 350,000 fish, which is within the drainage-wide BEG range of 300,000 to 600,000 fall chum salmon (Table 4). It is assumed that the Chandalar and Tanana rivers escapement goals were met based on a combination of genetic mixed stock analysis (MSA) of Pilot Station sonar test fishery samples and the passage of adequate numbers to the Upper Yukon mainstem stocks and the Fishing Branch River. The minimum spawning escapement goals of 80,000 fall chum salmon for Canadian mainstem Yukon River and the interim escapement goal of 22,000 fall chum salmon for the Fishing Branch River were met. The Sheenjek River stock was once again one of the weakest stocks and did not meet the low end of the BEG.

Low water and problems with assessment of fall chum salmon at the main river sonar site in the lower river and early termination of the Chandalar River escapement project, which produces on average 29% of the fall chum salmon in the Yukon River drainage, made total run reconstruction difficult. Typically 30% of the stocks are of Canadian origin, 30% are U.S. stocks in the upper Yukon River (Chandalar and Sheenjek rivers) and 30% of the stocks are bound for the Tanana River. The U.S./Canada Yukon River Panel agreed to a Canadian Interim Management Escapement Goal (IMEG) of >80,000 fall chum salmon based on the Eagle sonar program. The preliminary estimated escapements provided by monitoring at the border minus Canadian harvests is slightly greater than 80,000 fall chum salmon and therefore above the minimum goal. Sheenjek River total passage was assessed at approximately 47,000 fall chum salmon however,

the goal is based on one bank operations which obtained 28,000 fish passage and so remains 44% below the low end of the BEG. Chandalar River was assessed based on a combination of genetics, aerial surveys, and relationship to border passage and resulted in an assessment of approximately 100,000, or exceeding the lower end of the BEG range by at least 7%. An overall Tanana River estimate of escapement was assessed based on genetics at approximately 100,000 or exceeding the lower end of the BEG range by at least 6%. Delta River cannot be assessed until the foot surveys are completed between October and December. Preliminary data indicates that the lower end of the goal would be made in Delta River as well.

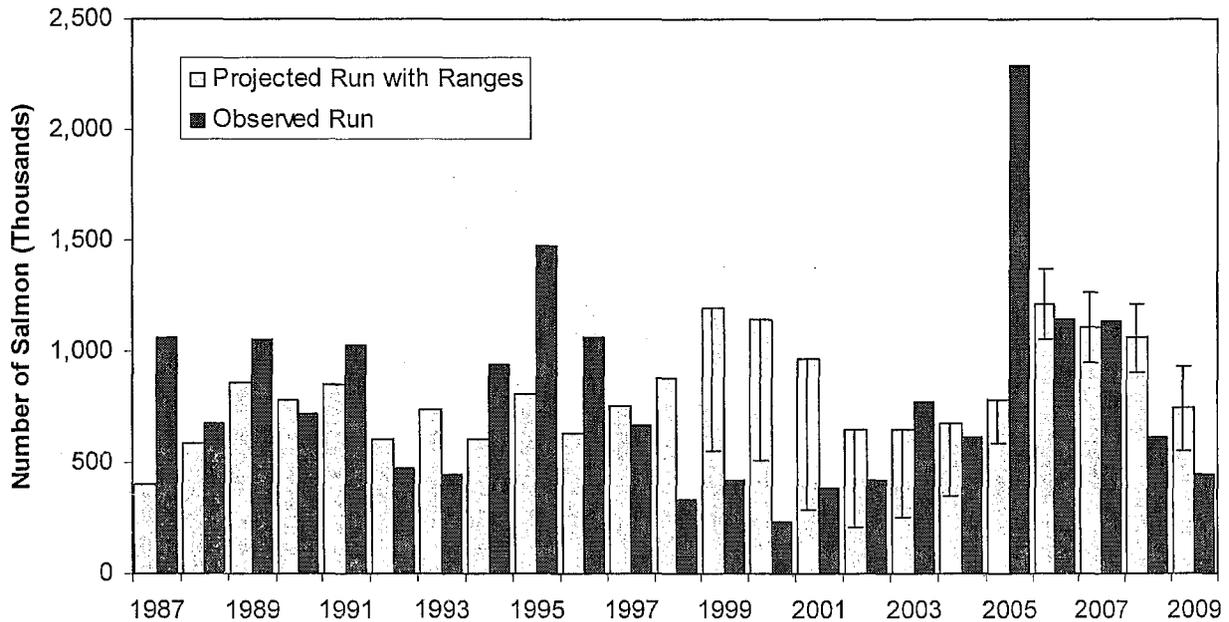


Figure 7. – Fall chum salmon observed versus expected total runs based on spawner recruit relationships, 1987-2008, Yukon Area. 2009 data are preliminary.

Table 4. – Yukon River escapement goals set for fall chum salmon compared to 2009 preliminary assessments of escapements.

Stream (project type)	Current Goal	Type of Goal	2009
Yukon Drainage (combination)	300,000–600,000	BEG	350,000
Tanana River (NA/genetics)	61,000–136,000	BEG	100,000
Delta River (replicate foot surveys)	6,000–13,000	BEG	¹
UY Tributaries (combination)	152,000–312,000	BEG	172,000
Chandalar River (sonar/genetics)	74,000–152,000	BEG	100,000
Sheenjek River (sonar)	50,000–104,000	BEG	47,000
Canadian Upper Yukon River (sonar)	>80,000 (Yukon Salmon Agreement)		80,000
Canadian Fishing Branch River (weir)	22,000-49,000	IMEG ²	25,000

¹Goal cannot be evaluated at this time, preliminary data suggests the low end will be achieved.

²The US/Canada Yukon River Panel agreed to a three year (2008-2010) Canadian Interim Management Escapement Goal (IMEG) of 22,000-49,000 fall chum salmon based on the Bue and Hasbrouck (Unpublished) method applied to those years the weir was fully operational.

Stock: Norton Sound Subdistrict 1 (Nome) chum salmon

Area: Norton Sound

BOF Classification: Stock of Yield Concern

Chum salmon runs occur mainly in the Bonanza, Eldorado, Flambeau, Nome, Snake, Solomon and Sinuk rivers of the Subdistrict 1 (Nome). Nome Subdistrict has an aggregate BEG range from 23,000 to 35,000 chum salmon (Table 5). The 2009 chum salmon escapement for Nome Subdistrict was 21,300, below the lower range of the BEG and the third lowest on record since 1993 (Figure 8). Chum salmon escapements are monitored using aerial surveys on Bonanza, Flambeau, Sinuk, and Solomon rivers using an expansion method and escapement project counts on Eldorado, Nome, and Snake Rivers.

Chum salmon escapements are monitored using weirs on Eldorado, Nome, and Snake rivers. In 2009, none of the rivers monitored with weirs met escapement goals (Table 5). The 2009 Eldorado River chum salmon escapement was 4,943, about 80% of the lower end of the SEG (6,000 to 9,200), and was the fourth lowest on record. The 2009 Nome River chum salmon escapement was 1,565, about 46% of the lower end of the SEG (2,900 to 4,300) and the lowest on record besides 1999. The 2009 Snake River chum salmon escapement was 891, about 44% of the lower end of the SEG (1,600 to 2,500) and the lowest on record with the exception of 1999.

The 2009 chum salmon harvestable surplus was projected to exceed the amounts necessary for subsistence (ANS), but a near-record low early chum salmon run led to a closure of the subsistence fishery in mid July. Even though there was a late surge of chum salmon into the subdistrict, the escapement was still 7% below the lower end of the BEG.

Table 5 – Nome Subdistrict chum salmon escapement goals and escapement estimates, 2009.

Stream (project type)	Current Goal	Type of Goal	2009
Nome Subdistrict	23,000 - 35,000	BEG	21,300
Eldorado River (weir)	6,000 - 9,200	SEG	4,943
Nome River (weir)	2,900 - 4,300	SEG	1,565
Snake River (weir)	1,600 - 2,500	SEG	891

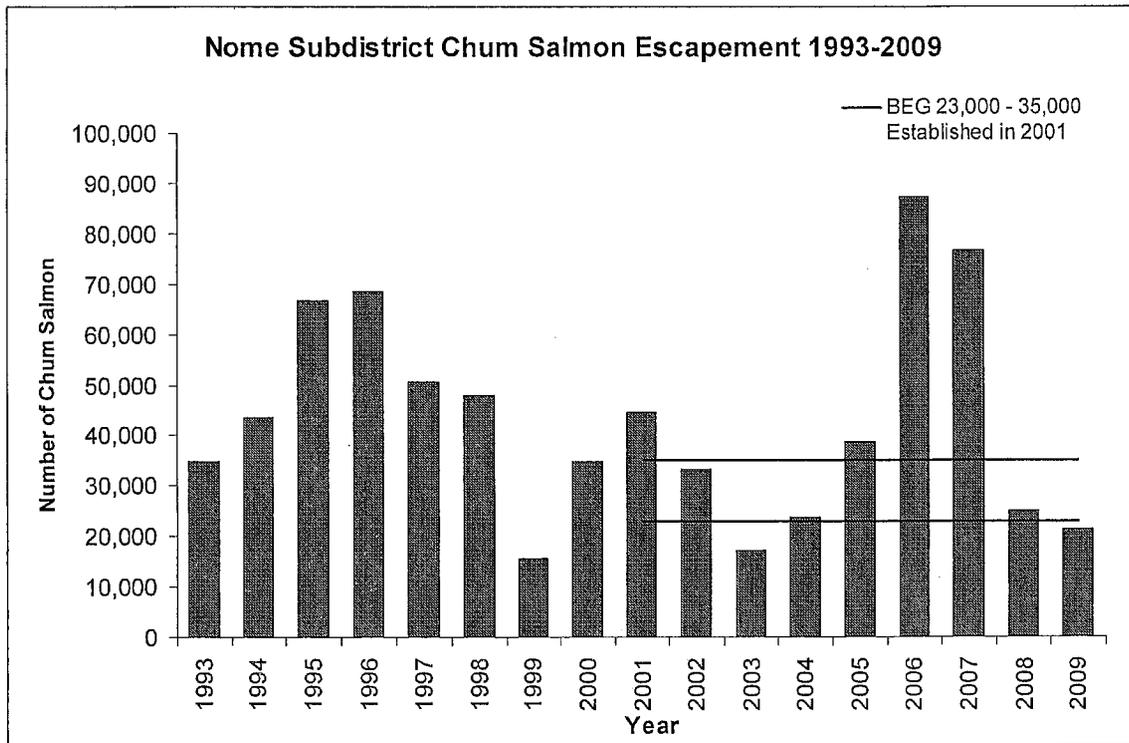


Figure 8 – Nome Subdistrict chum salmon escapement and BEG, 1993 to 2009.

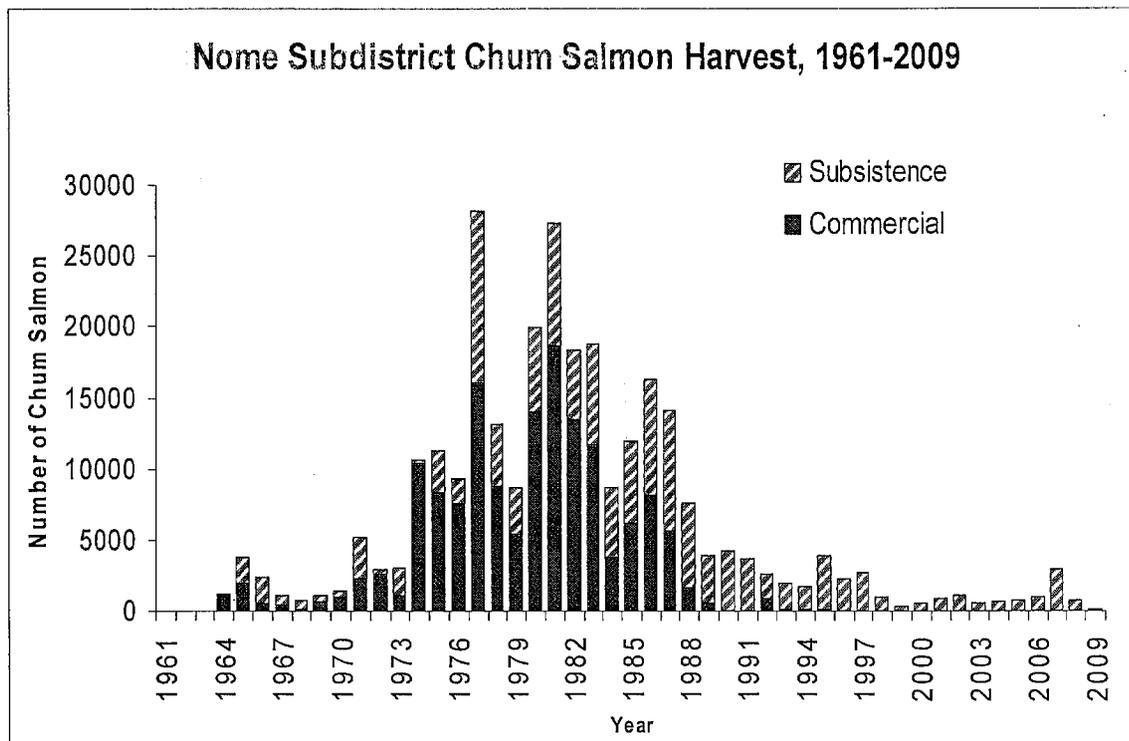


Figure 9. – Nome Subdistrict chum salmon commercial and subsistence harvest (1961-2009). Subsistence harvest data are unavailable for 2009.

Stock: Norton Sound Subdistricts 2 (Moses Point) and 3 (Golovin) chum salmon

Area: Norton Sound

BOF Classification: Stock of Yield Concern

Chum salmon runs occur mainly in the Fish River drainage in Subdistrict 2 (Golovin) and in Kwiniuk, Tubuktulik and Kwik rivers in Subdistrict 3 (Moses Point). In Subdistrict 2 (Golovin), chum salmon escapement is monitored on the Niukluk River using tower enumeration. Telemetry studies have shown that approximately one-third of the chum salmon that enter Fish River drainage spawn above the Niukluk River counting tower. In Subdistrict 3 (Moses Point) chum salmon escapement is monitored on Kwiniuk River using tower enumeration. Chum salmon escapements are not monitored on Tubuktulik or Kwik rivers.

Chum salmon escapements in 2009 were well below tower-based escapement goals in Niukluk (SEG >25,000) and Kwiniuk rivers (OEG 11,500-23,000). The 2009 Niukluk River chum salmon escapement was 15,879, about 60% of the SEG (Figure 10). The 2009 Kwiniuk River chum salmon escapement was 8,733, 75% of the lower end of the OEG range (Figure 11). As a consequence, pink and chum salmon directed commercial fishing was not allowed in accordance with the subdistricts 2 and 3 management plan. During the most recent 5-year period, subsistence fishing time has not been restricted (Figures 12 and 13). Exploitation rates on chum salmon are very low and restrictions on the subsistence fishery have shown to have little effect on achieving chum salmon escapement goals in subdistricts 2 and 3.

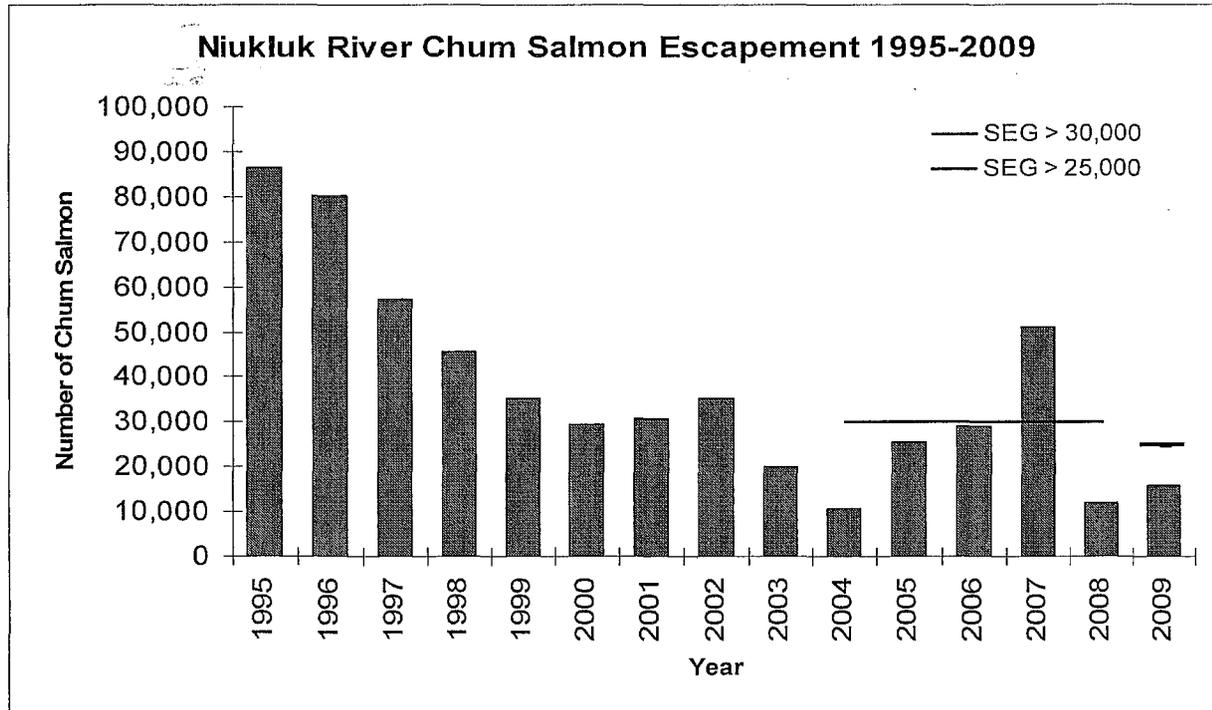


Figure 10. – Niukluk River escapement 1995-2009 and SEG 2004-2008, and 2009.

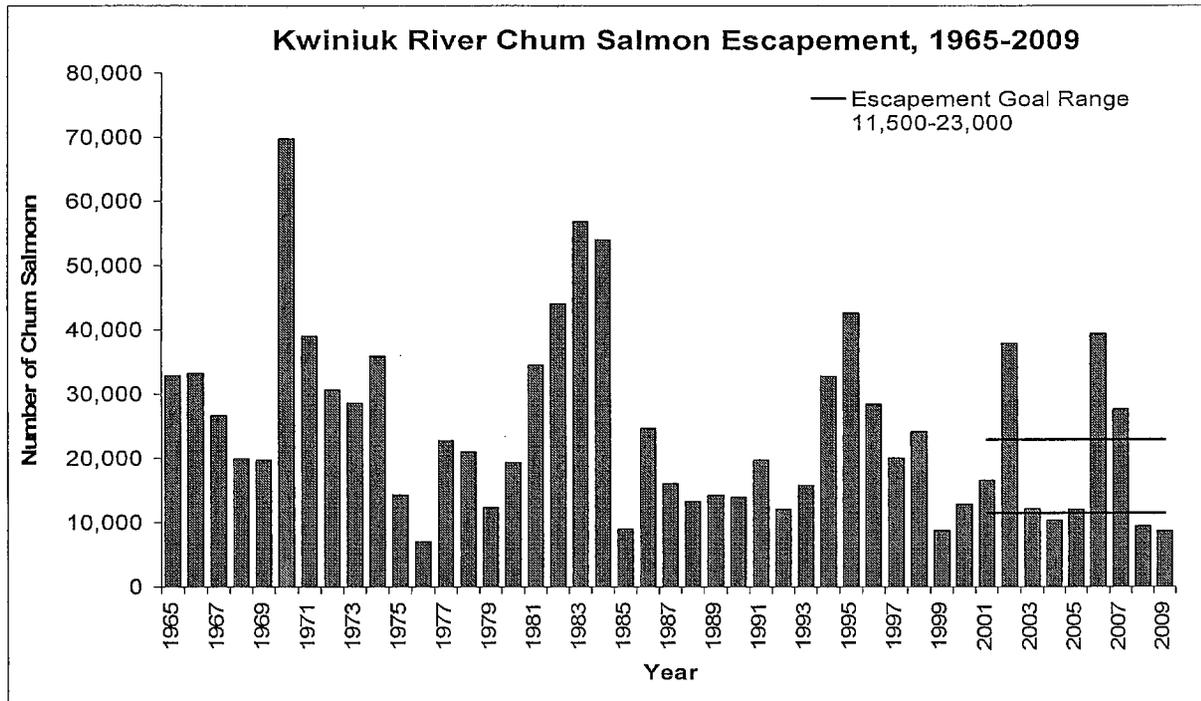


Figure 11. – Kwiniuk River chum salmon escapement, 1965-2009 and OEG range 1991-2009.

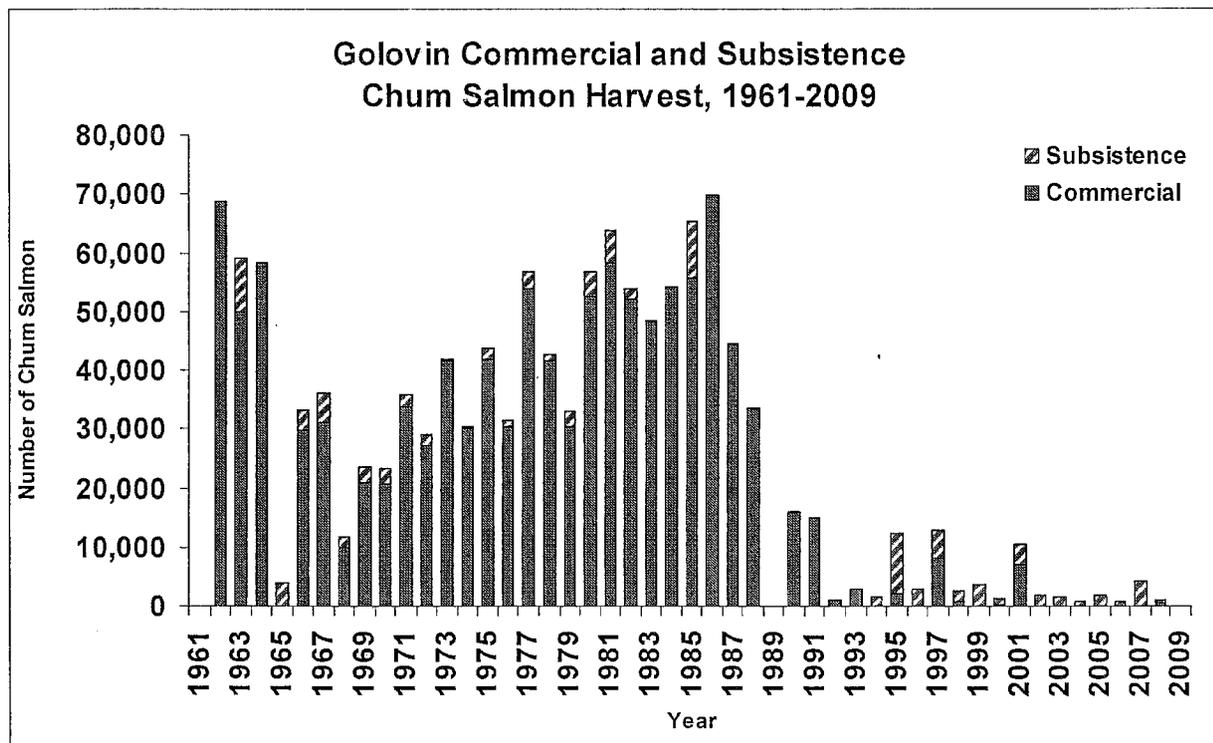


Figure 12. – Golovin Subdistrict chum salmon harvest, 1961-2009. Subsistence harvest data are unavailable for 2009.

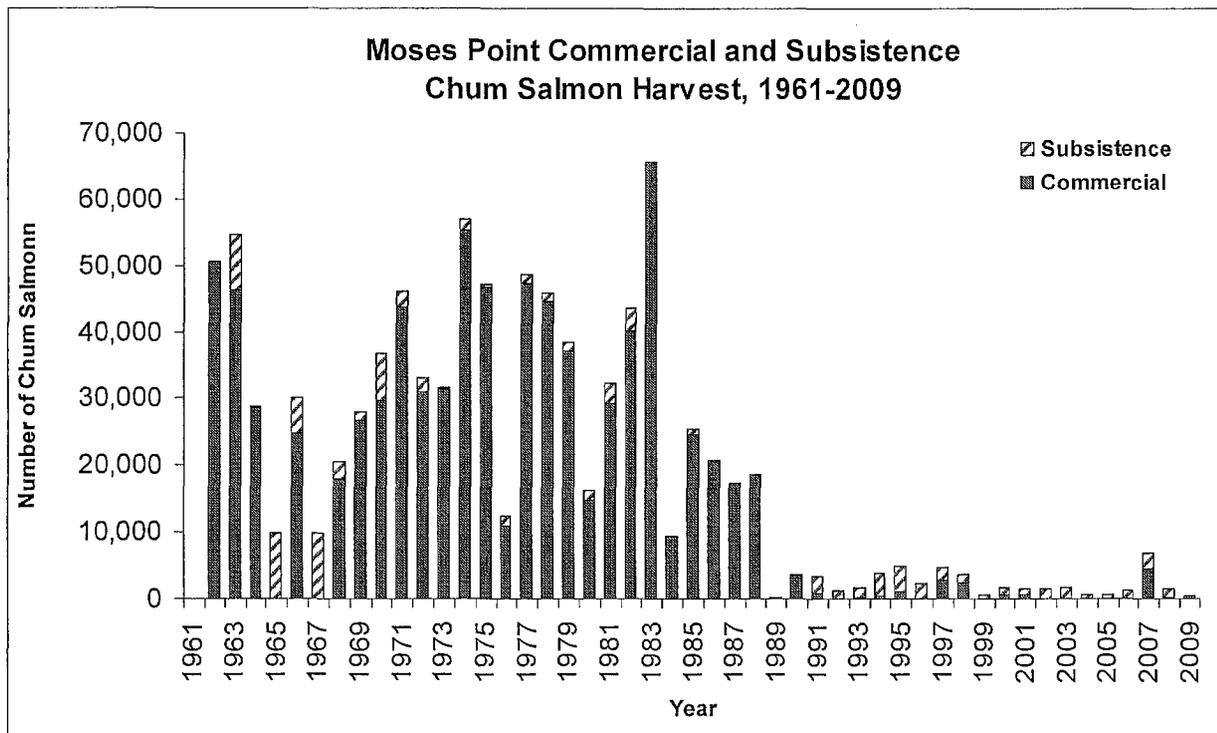


Figure 13. – Moses Point Subdistrict chum salmon harvest, 1961-2009. Subsistence harvest data are unavailable for 2009.

Stock: Norton Sound Subdistrict 5 (Shaktoolik) chum salmon

Area: Norton Sound

BOF Classification: None

Chum salmon runs occur mainly in the Shaktoolik River. Chum salmon escapement is not monitored on the Shaktoolik River; hence, there is no escapement goal developed for this stock. Historically, most of the chum salmon are harvested in the commercial fishery in Subdistrict 5 (Shaktoolik Subdistrict) in the marine waters, few are caught in the subsistence fishery. In 2009, the commercial harvest was 10,915 chum salmon which is 68% above the recent 5-year (2004-2008) average of 3,520 fish (Figure 14).

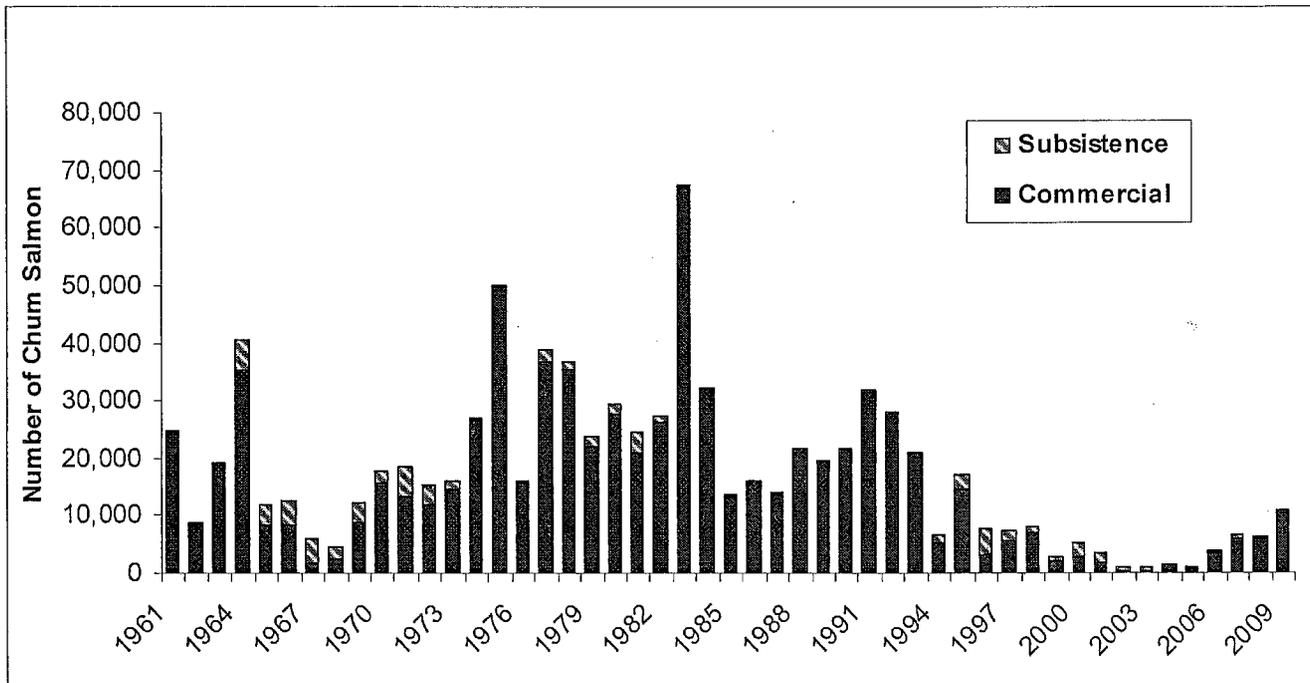


Figure 14. – Shaktoolik Subdistrict chum salmon commercial and subsistence harvest, 1961-2009. Subsistence harvest data are unavailable for 2009.

Stock: Norton Sound Subdistrict 6 (Unalakleet) chum salmon

Area: Norton Sound

BOF Classification: None

Chum salmon runs occur mainly in the Unalakleet River drainage in Subdistrict 6 (Unalakleet). Chum salmon runs in Unalakleet River are monitored using a test net in Unalakleet River and with a counting tower on North River. Telemetry studies have shown that approximately thirteen percent of the chum salmon that enter the Unalakleet River drainage spawn above the North River counting tower (Estensen et al. 2005).

The 2009 expanded test net catch was 1,670 chum salmon which is above the average of 954 (1996 to 2008). The 2009 North River counting tower escapement estimate was 9,798 chum salmon, also above

the average of 7,395 (1996 to 2008) (Figure 15). Commercial harvest in 2009 was 20,006 chum salmon which is 56% above the most recent 5-year (2004-2008) average of 8,855 and 71% greater than the 10-year (1999-2008) average (Figure 16).

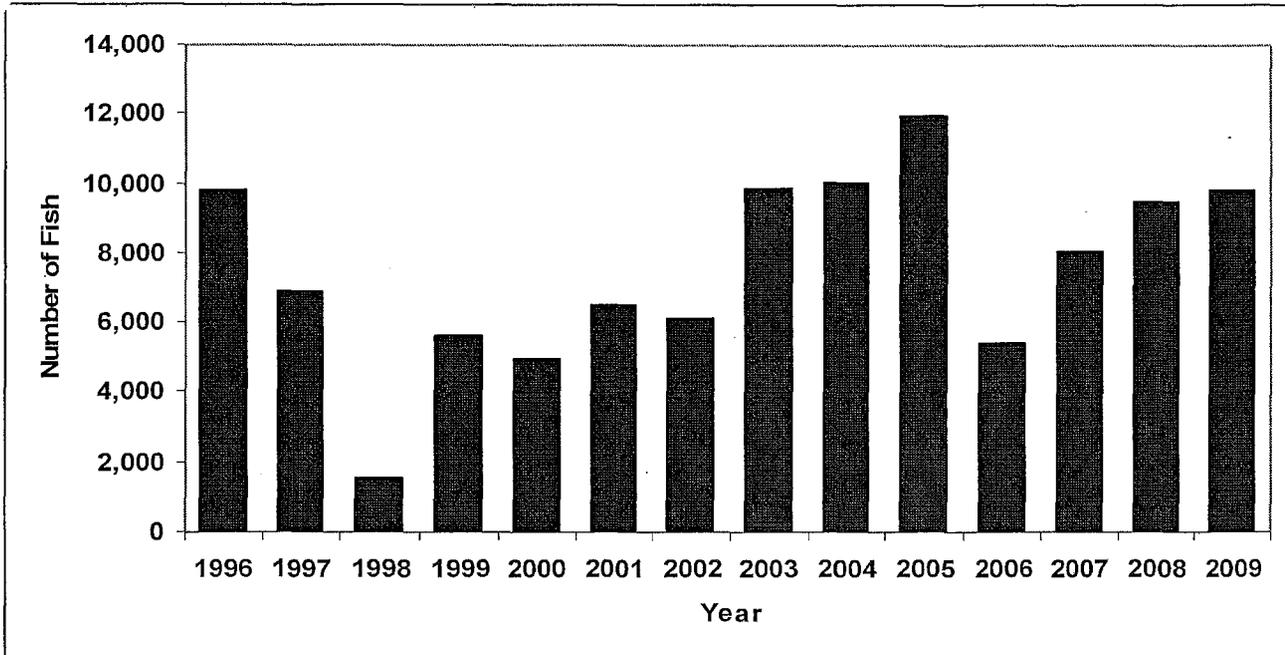


Figure 15. –North River counting tower chum salmon escapement estimates, 1996-2009.

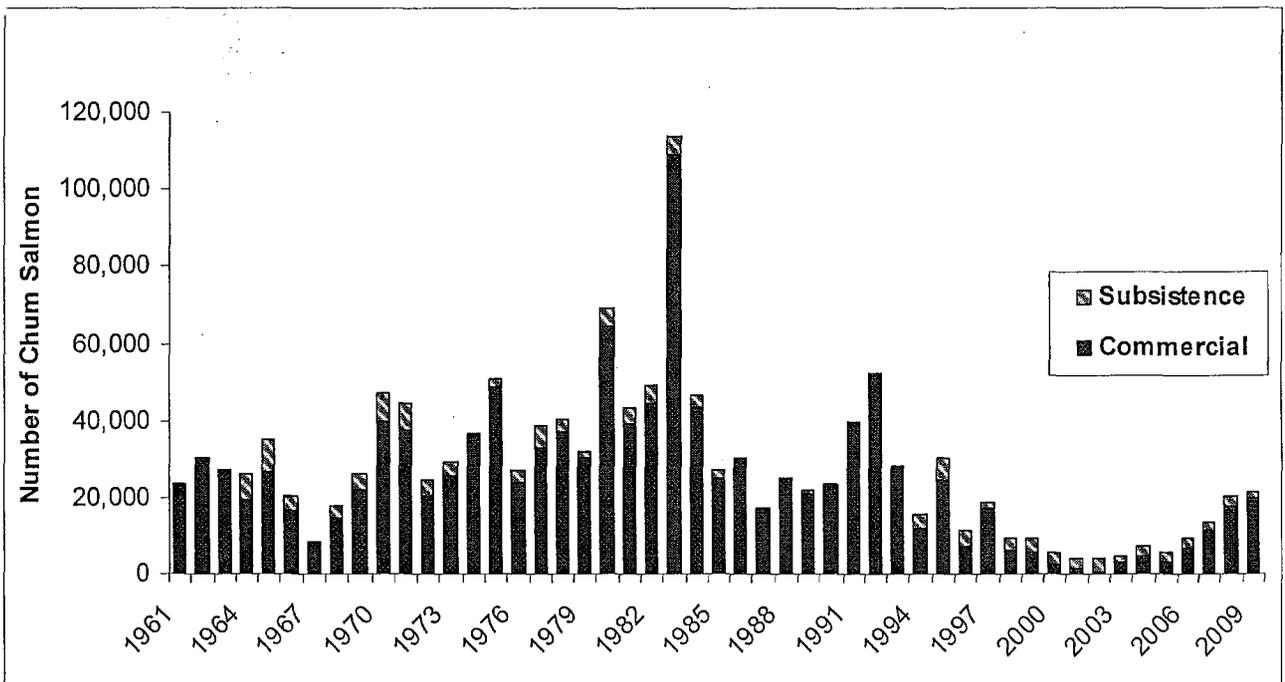


Figure 16. – Unalakleet Subdistrict chum salmon commercial and subsistence harvest, 1961-2009. Subsistence harvest data are unavailable for 2009.

Stock: Kobuk and Noatak chum salmon

Area: Kotzebue

BOF Classification: None

Two major rivers in the Kotzebue area, Kobuk River and Noatak River, have chum salmon runs that provide for a commercial and subsistence fishery in Kotzebue Sound and subsistence fisheries along their respective drainages. The department operates a test fishery project near the village of Kiana, approximately 75 miles upstream of the Kobuk River mouth. The project has been operational since 1993 and the department allows commercial fishing near Kotzebue to continue during the season if the drift test net project confirms that at least 600 index points for chum salmon catches will be reached (Figure 17). Kobuk River has the larger run of chum salmon of these two major river systems. Aerial surveys are infrequent on Kobuk and Noatak rivers and occur only every several years.

Chum salmon abundance in 2009 was average to above average based on commercial catch, test fish index, aerial surveys, and subsistence fishing reports. The department forecasted an average to above average run in 2009 with an expected commercial harvest of 150,000 to 200,000 chum salmon. The commercial harvest of 187,562 chum salmon was the third highest this decade. The Kobuk River test fishery catch index of 971 ranked tenth out of the seventeen years of project operation. Aerial surveys of the Noatak and Kobuk drainages were within or exceeded aerial survey range goals. The Noatak River index area count of 69,872 chum salmon was within the 42,000 to 91,000 aerial survey goal range. The Kobuk River index area count of 45,155 chum salmon was over double the upper end of the 9,700 to 21,000 aerial survey goal range. Subsistence fishermen on Kobuk and Noatak rivers reported good catches of chum salmon in 2009.

Beginning in 1996, the commercial buyers began limiting the harvest by having capacity limits. In 2002, the last buyer left the fishery and for two years a few permits holders fished and shipped their catch to Anchorage for processing. Since 2004 when one buyer returned, there has been a limited commercial fishery. Because of capacity limits of the buyer, the department opens the commercial fishery each year and lets the buyer determine the fishing periods. There are no time or catch limits on subsistence salmon fishing in the Kotzebue area.

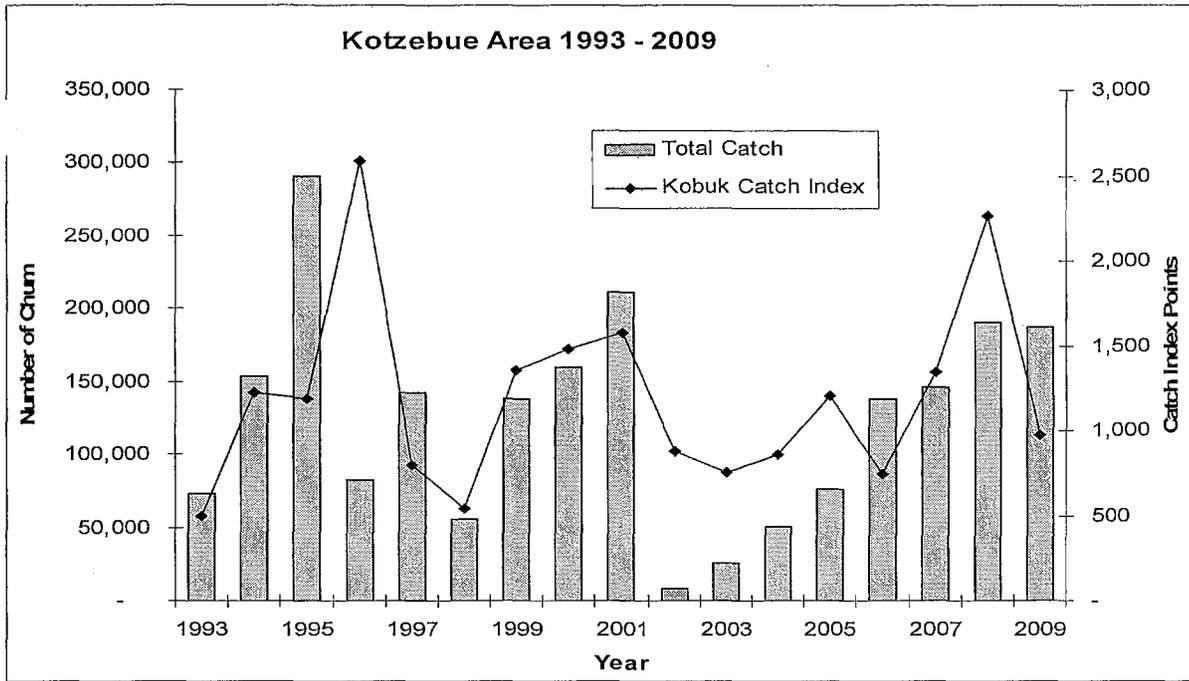


Figure 17. – Kotzebue Area commercial chum salmon harvest and Kobuk River chum salmon index, 1993 - 2009.

Revised recommended wording for Proposal #151
(replaces RC #63)

1. Close the Outer Port Heiden section.
2. Amend the Inner Port Heiden Section to include the area of the Inner Port Heiden Section plus the area using the Strogonof Point line as the southern boundary to a point 1 mile offshore and extending northeast 8 miles to a point 1 mile off the beach near the mouth of Reindeer Creek with a northern boundary line that intersects the beach at 90 degrees. This section will be open to both area T and area M permit holders from Jan 1 to Dec 31.
3. Registration
Notwithstanding 5AAC 06.370(b) an Area T CFEC permit holder registered before 9:00 a.m. June 25 to fish in
 - (a) the Inner Port Heiden Section may not take salmon in the Togiak, Nushagak, Naknek-Kvichak, Egegik, or Ugashik District from 9:00 a.m. June 25 to 9 a.m. July 31;
 - (b) Togiak, Nushagak, Naknek-Kvichak, Egegik, or Ugashik District may not take salmon in the Inner Port Heiden Section from 9:00 a.m. June 25 to 9 a.m. July 31; the department may waive the requirements of this paragraph if the department projects that the Meshik River escapement will exceed the sockeye salmon escapement goal before July 31.
4. Existing Northern Peninsula gear and vessel regulations will apply to the Inner Port Heiden Section.
5. This regulation sunsets in three years.

Justification

This Proposal is intended to create an economic opportunity for the residents of Port Heiden. There has been a long history of locals harvesting and processing inside Port Heiden.

RC

89

King Cove Advisory Committee

Positions On Proposals Discussed During BOF "D" Committee Meeting

Submitted Grant Newton, King Cove Advisory Committee Chairman

The King Cove AC was represented at the Committee D session and while we did not verbally oppose or support proposals discussed. We would like the record to show that the King Cove AC has the following positions:

Proposal 163—The King Cove AC supports this proposal

Proposal 156—The King Cove AC supports this proposal with an amendment to include the Cinder Rivers Section only.

Proposals 29, 30, 145-155—The King Cove AC opposes these proposals.

RC 90

Dear Board of Fisheries

February 6, 2010

Subject: Proposal 133- Board Committee C Recommendation

If the substitute language had asked for an additional couple of days in June without respect to whether the 300K criteria would be satisfied or not as long as at least 600K was expected to be harvested in Chignik, and providing that the harvest approaches as near as possible to 7.6% of the sockeye salmon harvest in the Chignik Salmon Management Area, and providing that the escapement goals were being met, while leaving the rest of the management plan as is during July 1 – July 25 then we could have lived with that but, with all due respect, the current substitute language, and I hope it is an inadvertent error, appears to go far beyond this and guts the protective intent of the SEDM management plan, allowing a massive increase in interception of Chignik and other non-local migrating sockeye. To explain:

If both Chignik runs fail to provide a 300k Chignik sockeye catch by 7/10 **AND** a 600k total is NOT reached by 7/25 then anything harvested in the SEDM in the June 1- July 10 period will be greater than that which would have occurred under the provisions of the old plan (c). In 2006 and 2007, the SEDM (excluding the NWSS post 6/30) did not fish. Under the proposed revision language the SEDM would have been allowed to fish up to a full 6 days through July 10 in 2006 and 2007. Therefore the proposed action, if approved, would be no less than a direct taking from Chignik and a disregard for the environmental degradation occurring in the Chignik Lakes system and its affect on the fishery. The proposed rewrite of 5AAC 09.360(c) would go much further than simply providing "increased fishing opportunity for set gillnet fishers in the SEDM. "

Please consider Chignik and leave the current plan as is or modify the language to fully address our concerns. From my discussions with several SEDM setnetters I had the understanding that they had in mind more what I described in the first paragraph. That, I repeat, we could have lived with. As I understand it, the current language recommended by Committee C is a disaster for Chignik.

Sincerely,



Chuck McCallum

RC 91

Dear Board of Fisheries

February 6, 2010

Subject: Proposal 142- Board Committee Recommendation

Proposal 142 would open Dorenoi Bay to fishing sockeye salmon through July 25th. We have no objection to the proposed committee recommendation to approve this proposal provided that the bay is regulated under the SEDM Management Plan through July 25th. In accordance, we ask that this newly added fishing area not be managed under the NWSS during the July 1-25 period. We believe Dorenoi Bay will provide expanded harvest opportunity on Chignik bound sockeye salmon and is not essential for management of the Orzinski run which has a 15-20k escapement goal and an existing terminal harvest area, substantial in size. Respectfully we ask that the harvest from Dorenoi bay be applied against the current 7.6% allocation from June through July 25th. This would be fair to all parties and provide expanded fishing area for local gill net fishers.

Sincerely,



Chuck McCallum

RC92

RC

Patrick Brown

Dear Board members,

My name is Patrick Brown, an Area M set netter, and I have a few comments to make regarding the Committee C report:

On page 8, I agree with the statement that we are in a "catch 22" situation, and that not only is a one day opening per week a fair compromise, but is also necessary to ensure that information is gathered, offering a sample that is indicative of the SEDM setnet fishery. A "test" fishery would be out of the question because it would not emulate the dynamics of the fishery. The SEDM is spread out over a 50 mile area and there are dozens of set net fishermen who have sites they have been fishing for decades. I also concur that this would be a trial offer and that when the results of this study are conclusive, they will be able to stand on their own merit in 2013.

On page 10, I would like to comment on the statement that fewer boats are in the fleet because it is less lucrative than before. In general, however, the fishery is less lucrative than before because of a decline in price, and not in fish. The co-op that was enacted was for the purposes of keeping boats on the beach, and many of the permit holders making money without getting their gear wet. Also, an overescapement that resulted pre-co-op could be indicative that their effort was not sufficient in keeping those numbers in check. There is also the general assumption that fishing in Area M could be detrimental to a weakening run, without taking into consideration how limited the data is.

I also agree with the consensus to support, concerning prop. 142.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Patrick J Brown

RC93

Board of Fish Meetings
2/10

Shumagin Islands

The 1987 Tagging study shows a smaller % of Yukon River chum salmon in the Shumagin Island fisheries than in South Unimak fisheries.

The Shumagin Islands averaged 18 boats, with an average of ten boats taking turns on the beach at Red Bluff. Each one of these boats averaged six hours of fishing time per opener, or 30 hours of fish time for the month of June. The rest of the boats were taking turns on other points and averaged 65 hours of fishing time for the month of June.

The Shumagin Island fishery has been going on for over a hundred years off the same point that we fish off of today and before statehood the fish traps were there.

Since the current management plan has been implemented (2004-2009), the average chum salmon catch is 267,201 in the Shumagin Islands. Putting this fleet on a sockeye to Chum ratio would have a devastating affect on the community of Sand Point and the local fisherman.

A small percent of the boats in the Shumagins would be able to move to South Unimak. I fished Unimak Bight from 1960- 1998. I've seen more chums out there than in the Shumagins.

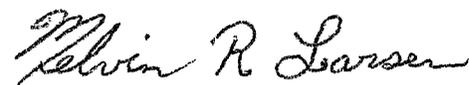
In 1998 I had to move back to the Shumagins because I could not catch any fish in Unimak Bight. I was catching 10 fish per set and unloading off my power skiff. Moving the Shumagin Island fleet back to Unimak bight would have a negative effect on chum salmon conservation. Putting all the boats in one area will make it harder to move off the hot spots and avoid chums.

Most of the fishing I have done in Unimak Bight was done at Cape Lutke. That is at a cost of \$250 one way. More than half the time the seas are rough in Unimak Bight and the quality of the fish suffers.

Half the Shumagin fleet fishes for Trident Seafoods and as a freezing operation they have not been willing to send a tender out to Unimak Bight because of the quality of the salmon when it hits the cannery.

Who knows what next year may bring? Many times there are more chums in Unimak Bight than in the Shumagins.

Submitted by
Melvin Larsen - Sand Point



South Unimak and Shumigan Islands June Sockeye and Chum Harvest

Year	Sockeye			Chums		
	South Unimak	Shumigan Islands	Total	South Unimak	Shumigan Islands	Total
2004	531,955	816,118	1,348,073	130,626	351,683	482,309
2005	437,443	566,952	1,004,395	143,799	284,031	427,830
2006	491,053	441,238	932,291	96,016	203,811	299,827
2007	737,642	852,198	1,589,840	153,334	144,205	297,539
2008	1,064,570	649,005	1,713,575	284,449	126,483	410,932
2009	595,221	572,697	1,167,918	200,783	495,992	696,775
2004-2009 Average	642,980	649,701	1,292,681	168,168	267,701	435,869

5 AAC 09.360 is amended to read:

(XX) It is the intent of the Board to provide for increased fishing opportunity for set gillnet fishermen in the Southeastern District Mainland (SEDM) fishery from June 1 through July 10. During years when a harvestable surplus for the first (Black Lake) and second (Chignik Lake) runs of the Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be more than 600,000, but the first run fails to develop as predicted and it is determined that a total sockeye salmon harvest in the Chignik Salmon Management Area of 600,000 or more fish may not be achieved, and escapement objectives through the Chignik Weir are being met, the commercial salmon fishery in the East Stepovak, Stepovak Flats, Southwest Stepovak, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay sections, and in the Northwest Stepovak Section excluding Orzinski Bay prior to July 1, the commissioner may, by emergency order, open no more than two 24 hour fishing periods providing that the harvest approaches as near as possible to 7.6% of the sockeye salmon harvest in the Chignik Salmon Management Area by July 10. The provisions of this subsection will no longer apply after December 31, 2012.

Submitted by Alaska Department of Fish and Game

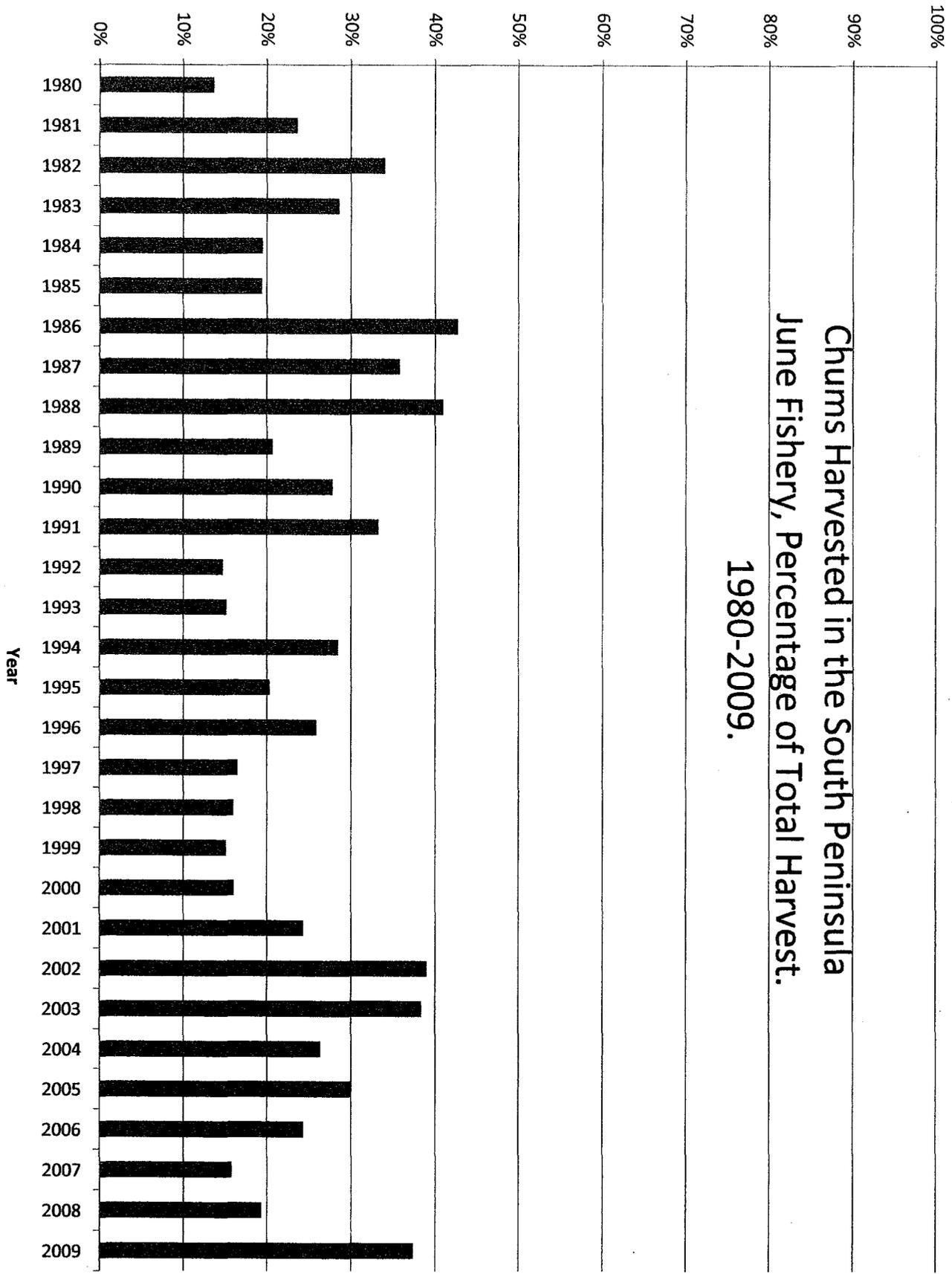
2/6/10

Year	Forecast	Current Plan - Fishing?	New Plan - Fishing in SEDM?	June 1- July 10 maximum harvest	June 1- July 10 actual harvest	June 1- July 10 actual CHIGNIK harvest	% on July 10
2009	poor	no	no			594,898	
2008	good	no	yes	26,465		348,229	7.6
2007	good	no	yes	21,269		279,861	7.6
2006	good	no	yes	36,759		483,665	7.6
2005	good	yes	yes		70,701	846,625	5.9
2004	good	yes	yes		55,123	617,021	6.6
2003	good	yes	yes		46,221	620,819	6.0
2002	good	yes	yes		38,921	595,033	5.1
2001	good	yes	yes		56,102	1,055,241	4.3
2000	good	yes	yes		63,053	1,232,618	4.2

STAVE BROWN

RC 95

Percentage of Chums in Harvest (Sockeye & Chums)



Chums Harvested in the South Peninsula
June Fishery, Percentage of Total Harvest.
1980-2009.

In my public testimony, I spoke to the lack of management direction in the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Fishery Management Plan (5 AAC 09.365) and the June management plan's inconsistency with a number of sections from the Policy for the Management of Sustainable Salmon Fisheries (5 AAC 39.222).

(a)(3) to effectively assure sustained yield and habitat protection for wild salmon stocks, fishery management plans and programs require specific guiding principles and criteria [...]

(c)(2) salmon fisheries shall be managed to allow escapements within ranges necessary to conserve and sustain potential salmon production [...]

(c)(2)(F) salmon escapement and harvest management decisions should be made in a manner that protects non-target salmon stocks or species

(c)(2)(H) salmon abundance trends should be monitored and considered in harvest management decisions

(c)(3)(B) management objectives should be established in harvest management plans, strategies, guiding principles, and policies, such as for mixed stock fishery harvests, fish disease, genetics, and hatchery production, that are subject to periodic review

(c)(3)(E)(i) controlling human-induced sources of fishing mortality should incorporate procedures to assure effective monitoring, compliance, control, and enforcement

(c)(4)(D) an understanding of the proportion of mortality inflicted on each salmon stock by each user group, should be promoted, and the burden of conservation should be allocated across user groups [...]

(c)(5) in the face of uncertainty, salmon stocks, fisheries, artificial propagation, and essential habitats shall be managed conservatively [...]

(c)(5)(A)(iv) [...] where the impact of resource use is uncertain, but likely presents a measurable risk to sustained yield, priority should be given to conserving the productive capacity of the resource

Respectfully,
Art Nelson

Date: February 6, 2010

RC 97

To: Alaska Board of Fisheries

From: Concerned Area M Fishermen

Subj: Committee B – South Peninsula June Fishery

We have reviewed the report of Committee B (RC 72) and other materials that have been provided to the Board at this meeting, and have the following additional comments regarding the South Peninsula June fishery and proposals related to that fishery. CAMF previously submitted written comments that discussed the June fishery (PC 19).

Proposal 115

The Department of Law has advised that the Board does not have the authority to implement a requirement that processors participate in chum pools in the June fishery. In committee, CAMF submitted substitute language to focus on a notice requirement, as follows:

Committee B recommends that the Board of Fisheries send a letter to the Department of Revenue and other involved agencies requesting a revision of the Notice of Intent to Operate form that fish processors annually are required to submit prior to operating in Alaska, which would require said processors to state whether they intend to operate in the South Peninsula and Shumagin Islands June salmon fishery, and if so, to state whether they intend to participate in chum pools in that fishery.

Committee members offered suggestions for alternative ways in which processors could be required to state their intention to participate in chum pools. We are open to further discussion of this issue.

Proposal 116

Proposal 116 as originally submitted sought to reinstate the 8.3 % sockeye guideline harvest level in the June fishery. Committee members from outside Area M offered various proposals to modify this proposal, including imposing chum caps, ratio management, and time and area restrictions. CAMF opposes these proposals, for the following reasons:

Fishery Performance

In adopting the current management plan for the June fishery in 2004, the Board sought to balance achievement of historical harvest levels for sockeye with minimizing the

harvest of chum salmon. *See* Findings # 2004-229-FB (2004 Findings). The plan has succeeded in meeting this goal.

	<u>Sockeye</u>	<u>Chum</u>
Average harvest 1990-2009 ¹	1,370,756	405,327
Average harvest 2004-2009 ²	1,292,682	435,869 ³

Effort in the fishery has remained stable, and has not increased by any significant amount since the current management plan took effect.⁴

Impact of the June Fishery on Migrating Stocks

Salmon stocks migrating through the June fishery are well-mixed and no single stock is susceptible to a disproportionate impact.⁵ Salmon returning to rivers in Western Alaska migrate through passes all along the Aleutian chain, and only a small proportion of the runs enter waters where the June fishery takes place.⁶

The June fishery harvest rate on migrating salmon stocks is very low: 2-5 % for sockeye salmon and 4-7 % for chum salmon.⁷ As past Boards have consistently found, the impact of the June fishery on specific AYK salmon runs is negligible, and further reducing the harvest of chum salmon in the June fishery would not be detectable or produce measurable benefits in AYK river systems.⁸ Harvest rates of this magnitude are actually less than the likely error rate in post-season estimates by the Department of total chum salmon run sizes for the larger Western Alaska river systems.⁹

Recent Board action in Norton Sound is consistent with this perspective on the impact of the June fishery. The Board authorized pink salmon fisheries in subdistricts 2 and 5/6 of Norton Sound knowing that these fisheries will likely result in a small harvest of commingled stocks that have been designated as yield concerns and which did not meet their escapement goals in 2009 (chum salmon in subdistrict 2; king salmon in subdistricts 5/6). Staff was given authority to open these pink salmon fisheries if, in their judgment,

¹ RC 3, Tab 12 -- South Alaska Peninsula Annual Management Report, 2009, FMR No. 09-57 (2009 AMR) at 75-76, App. B-1. *See also* RC 50.

² The 2009 AMR (*id.*) also provides a 10-year average and a 3-year average. The numbers here represent a 6-year average, reflecting the years the current management plan has been in effect.

³ Excluding 2009, the average chum harvest for the five year period 2004-08 was 383,687.

⁴ 2009 AMR at 107, App. B-23.

⁵ *See* RC 48.

⁶ *See* RC 48.

⁷ 2004 Findings at 2-4. *See also* RC 48, RC 49, and RC 53.

⁸ 2004 Findings at 3-4.

⁹ *See* RC 49; Testimony of Pat Martin before the Board and in committee.

they would not result in significant impacts on the stocks of concern. In subsequent discussions, staff has indicated that a harvest rate of around 5 % on these commingled stocks would not be considered significant or preclude them from opening these fisheries for pink salmon.¹⁰

2009 Chum Harvest

The harvest of chum salmon in the June fishery in 2009 was nearly 700,000 fish. Although this harvest was higher than the historical average, it was still within the harvest rate range discussed above. Previous GSI studies have demonstrated that about half of the chum harvest in the June fishery is attributable to the Northwest Alaska summer chum complex, which includes summer chum stocks returning to river systems in Bristol Bay and AYK.¹¹ This means that approximately 350,000 of the chums harvested in the June fishery in 2009 were likely from this complex. The total return of this summer chum complex was approximately 5.2 million, based on Department estimates of run sizes for three large river systems and expanding these estimates to unenumerated systems.¹² The harvest of 350,000 summer chums in the June fishery would thus represent a harvest rate of approximately 6.7 %, within the range understood by the Board in 2004 when it adopted the current June fishery management plan.¹³

Of the 700,000 chum salmon harvested in the 2009 June fishery, approximately 200,000 fish were taken in the South Unimak District and 500,000 were caught in the Shumagin Islands District.¹⁴ Fishermen in the Shumagins testified to the Board and in committee that chum were present in the fishery for a much longer time and over a broader area than usual, which made it difficult to find areas where they could harvest sockeye and avoid catching chum salmon.¹⁵ The chum harvest this year may well be a one-year phenomenon that will not be repeated. The Board should be cautious in making major adjustments to a management plan that has worked well for six years, on the basis of what happened in a single year. The Board does not make other important management decisions on the basis of a one year – *e.g.*, stock of concern designations are based on multiple years – and it should not do so now for the June fishery.

¹⁰ Testimony of Pat Martin in committee.

¹¹ 2004 Findings at 3.

¹² See RC 87. The calculation is as follows: 1.25 million (Kuskokwim) + 1.4 million (Yukon) = 2.65 million x 1.5 = 3.975 + 1.2 million (Nushagak) = 5.175 million. The expansion factor for unenumerated AYK systems was discussed by staff in response to a question by a Board member at the AYK meeting. Testimony of Pat Martin in committee.

¹³ 2004 Findings at 3-4.

¹⁴ 2009 AMR at 76, App. B-1.

¹⁵ The report's review of the discussion in committee (RC 72 at 11-12) does not provide a complete record of all the matters and information discussed. Area M fishermen explained the circumstances of the 2009 fishery and the factors that led to a higher than average chum salmon harvest. This information is not reflected in the report.

In conclusion, the Board should resist calls for imposing additional restrictions on the June fishery at this meeting. The 2004 management plan has worked well and the fishery has performed in a manner consistent with the expectations stated by the Board when it adopted that plan.

Proposal 117

In 1990, the Board imposed significant depth restrictions on the gear that Area M fleets could use in the June fishery.¹⁶ This represented a portion of the burden of conservation that the Board allocated to the June fishery. These depth restrictions remain in place today. CAMF is willing to defer reconsideration of the issue of gear depth in the June fishery until the next Board meeting on Area M (during the 2012-13 cycle), after the WASSIP report is projected to be available. We therefore withdraw proposal 117 from further consideration at this meeting.

Thank you for considering these comments.

¹⁶ See 2009 AMR at 78, App. B-2.

CAMF comments on the North Peninsula committee report (RC 74) and background information for Proposal 151 as amended along with proposals 29 & 30.

- 2009 Bristol Bay Escapement Goal Review shows Ugashik has met or exceeded their current escapement goal every year since 1979. Reference: Review of Salmon Escapement Goals in Bristol Bay, Alaska 2009, FMS No. 09-05 at p. 23, App. A-1.
- Ugashik has exceeded the high end of their escapement goal in 12 of the last 31 years or 39% of the time.
- Windows: The Outer Port Heiden (OPH) Section is closed 4 ½ days per week. We do not fish continuously. See Attachment 1.
- The total OPH catch is taken over a 5 week period. Reference: RC 3, Tab 13, The North Alaska Peninsula Salmon Report to the Alaska Board of Fisheries, 2010, FMP No. 09-53, at p. 44.
- The harvest in OPH should not be viewed as coming from a new fishery. Part of the North Peninsula effort simply moved from below Strogonof Point to the OPH section. This move enabled a portion of the fleet to continue catching local stocks while also effectively harvesting the Meshik River run which had previously had large over-escapements.
- Total North Peninsula harvest has remained relatively constant over the last six years. See Attachment 2 (graph). The OPH section is not adding several hundred thousand “new” fish to our total catch as Bristol Bay representatives have stated. Reference: RC 3, Tab 6, North Alaska Peninsula Salmon Fisheries, Oral Report by Bob Murphy, at p. 7.
- Enforcement has voiced strong concerns for allowing Area T permits to fish the proposed Inner/Outer Port Heiden section during July. The potential for a large number of Area T vessels to participate would create numerous enforcement issues.
- In the period from 2007 to 2009 the Post July 20 harvest of sockeye salmon in the area from the Bear River to Outer Port Heiden continued at substantial levels after the red run in Bristol Bay ended, indicating that this harvest is composed of local runs. Reference: RC 3, Tab 6, North Alaska Peninsula Salmon Fisheries, Oral Report by Bob Murphy, at p. 7.
- Harvests on the North Peninsula are in line with the production potential of area systems. Reference: RC 3, Tab 6, North Peninsula Salmon Fisheries, Oral Report by Bob Murphy, at p. 11; and RC 56 (attached).
- Inner Port Heiden is largely unfishable. At low tide the bay is mostly dry. At high tide there are only a few channels and most of these are rocky. The Inner Port Heiden Section as

expanded in this proposal does not change these facts. The ability for our drift fleet to effectively fish the proposed area would be very difficult any time and dangerous when westerly winds are blowing.

- Area M vessels use Inner Port Heiden to anchor on closures or during foul weather. Entry at mid-tide or higher is done with care following a GPS track over several bars to reach a channel near the old village. Twenty to thirty boats maximum have been anchored here but vessel operators had to exercise care to avoid colliding with one another when the tide changed. It is a very constricted area. The inner channels only provide room for a few set nets, and drift gillnetting would be very difficult. Breakers are a common hazard on the outer bar.
- Fisheries inside Cinder River Lagoon and Inner Port Heiden have been unable to control escapement into the Cinder River and Meshik River (and other streams of the Port Heiden drainage) (Conversation with Bob Murphy).
- There has been almost no effort by Area T permit holders in the Inner Port Heiden Section when it has been open to them.
- There has been very limited subsistence set netting in Inner Port Heiden the last several years. Vessels anchoring near the old village site have observed only one or two poorly attended nets.

From 2004 through 2009 total North Alaska Peninsula sockeye harvests from the outside beaches remained relatively constant. During this same period Nelson Lagoon sockeye harvests ranged from a high of over 500,000 to a low of just under 200,000. There appears to be no correlation between the weakness of the recent harvests in Nelson Lagoon and the effort or catch on the outer beaches of the Northern District. In 2008 the outer beaches were closed in June and open only 11 days in July. It is unlikely that this drastically reduced effort could be related to the weak return to Nelson Lagoon that year. Reference: RC 3; Tab 6, page 8.

- It is difficult to see a correlation between the last two years of relatively low harvests in Nelson Lagoon with fishing in the OPH section. Over the last 25 years Nelson Lagoon sockeye harvests have varied widely, from a high of 700,000 to a low just over 100,000.
- We submit a review of Kvichak River sockeye caught in the Egegik and Ugashik Districts based on genetic stock composition data presented in December at the Board's Bristol Bay meeting (Fishery Manuscript Series No. 09-06 (attached)). The figure presented shows very few Kvichak sockeye are harvested in Ugashik, and that it is reasonable to suppose that there would be far fewer harvested in the more distant North Peninsula fishery.
- Finally, CAMF opposes adding setnet gear to the OPH section (proposal 155) as this will create potential for conflict between the current drift fleet and new set net participants.

System: Ugashik River

Species: sockeye salmon

Data available for analysis of escapement goals (in thousands of fish).

Year	Escapement	Total Return	Return per Spawner	Year	Escapement	Total Return	Return per Spawner
1949	0 ^a	2 ^b		1989	1,713	4,573	2.67
1950	0 ^a	49 ^b		1990	749	4,611	6.16
1951	0 ^a	343 ^b		1991	2,482	6,151	2.48
1952	0 ^a	1,189		1992	2,195	2,703	1.23
1953	0 ^a	1,108		1993	1,413	1,086	0.77
1954	0 ^a	511		1994	1,095	1,660	1.52
1955	0 ^a	178		1995	1,321	4,686	3.55
1956	425	4,132	9.72	1996	692	1,388	2.01
1957	215	603	2.80	1997	657	3,061	4.66
1958	280	678	2.42	1998	925	1,349	1.46
1959	219	499	2.28	1999	1,662	3,725	2.24
1960	2,304	3,031	1.32	2000	638	4,179	6.55
1961	349	1,114	3.19	2001	866	2,106	2.43
1962	255	423	1.66	2002	892	4,875	5.47
1963	388	148	0.38	2003	790	6,244 ^b	
1964	473	322	0.68	2004	815	1,456 ^b	
1965	997	539	0.54	2005	800	2 ^b	
1966	704	2,315	3.29	2006	1,003	0 ^b	
1967	239	184	0.77	2007	2,599	0 ^b	
1968	71	39	0.55	2008	596	0 ^b	
1969	160	92	0.58				
1970	735	295	0.40	1956–2002			
1971	530	835	1.58	Average	853	2,758	4.32
1972	79	258	3.27	No. of Years	47	47	47
1973	39	92	2.36				
1974	62	725	11.69				
1975	429	4,116	9.59				
1976	356	5,309	14.91				
1977	202	2,692	13.33				
1978	82	2,065	25.18				
1979	1,707	6,006	3.52				
1980	3,335	7,781	2.33				
1981	1,328	7,468	5.62				
1982	1,186	2,508	2.11				
1983	1,001	1,965	1.96				
1984	1,270	5,464	4.30				
1985	1,006	2,695	2.68				
1986	1,016	6,696	6.59				
1987	687	6,745	9.82				
1988	654	5,650	8.64				

^a Escapement not available.^b Incomplete returns from brood year escapement.

**2007-2009 WINDOWS IN NORTH PENINSULA ILNIK AND
OUTER PORT HEIDEN SECTIONS**

It is important that the Board understand that the Outer Port Heiden Section is only open for 60 hours per week and closed for 108 hours for week.

Also included are the open and closed hours for the Ilnik Section from June 20th through July 20th and total catches for the Ilnik and Outer Port Heiden Sections prior to July 20th.

2009- ILNIK SECTION:

June 20-30 Open 84 hours, **CLOSED** 180 hours
July 1-20 Open 258 hours, **CLOSED** 246 hours

OUTER PORT HEIDEN:

June 20- July 20
OPEN 60 hours, **CLOSED** 108 hours per week

CATCHES: ILNIK-	651,624
OPH-	762,643
<hr/>	
TOTAL-	1,414,267

2008- ILNIK SECTION:

June 20-30 **CLOSED**
July 1-20 OPEN 288 hours, **CLOSED** 216 hours

OUTER PORT HEIDEN:

June 20- JUNE 30 - **CLOSED**
July 1-20 OPEN 60 hours, **CLOSED** 108 hours per week

CATCHES: ILNIK-	855,634
OPH-	320,857
<hr/>	
TOTAL-	1,206,491

2007- ILNIK SECTION:

JUNE 20-30 OPEN Continuously

JULY 1-20 **CLOSED** 24 hours, Open remainder of period.

OUTER PORT HEIDEN

JUNE 20-JULY 20

OPEN 60 hours-----CLOSED 108 hours per week

CATCHES: ILNIK-	1,776,430
OPH-	387,786
<hr/>	
TOTAL-	2,164,216

2007 Ugashik Catch & Escapement

Catch 2,473,746

Escapement 2,599,186

Source: 2009 Bristol Bay GSI report

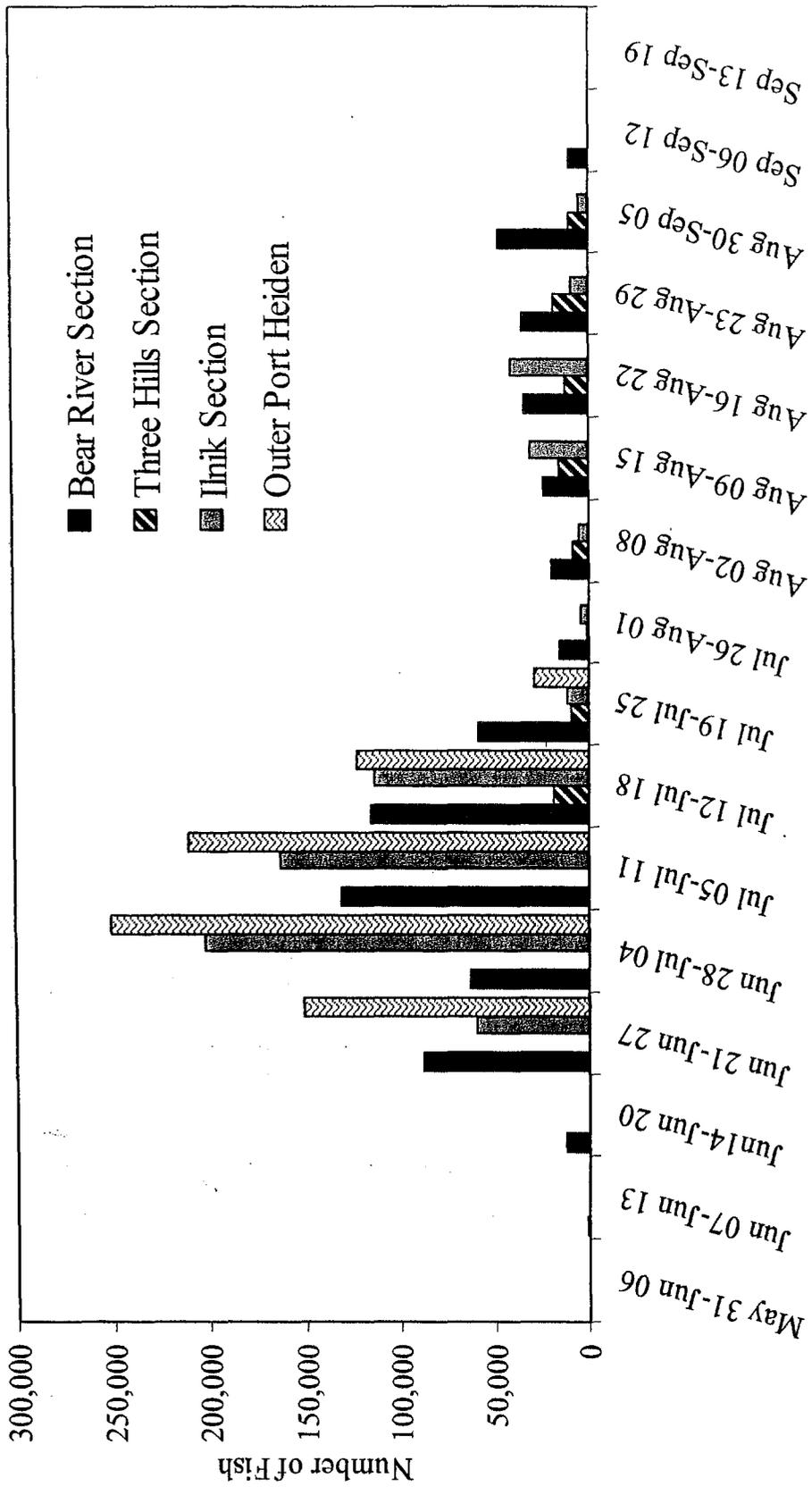
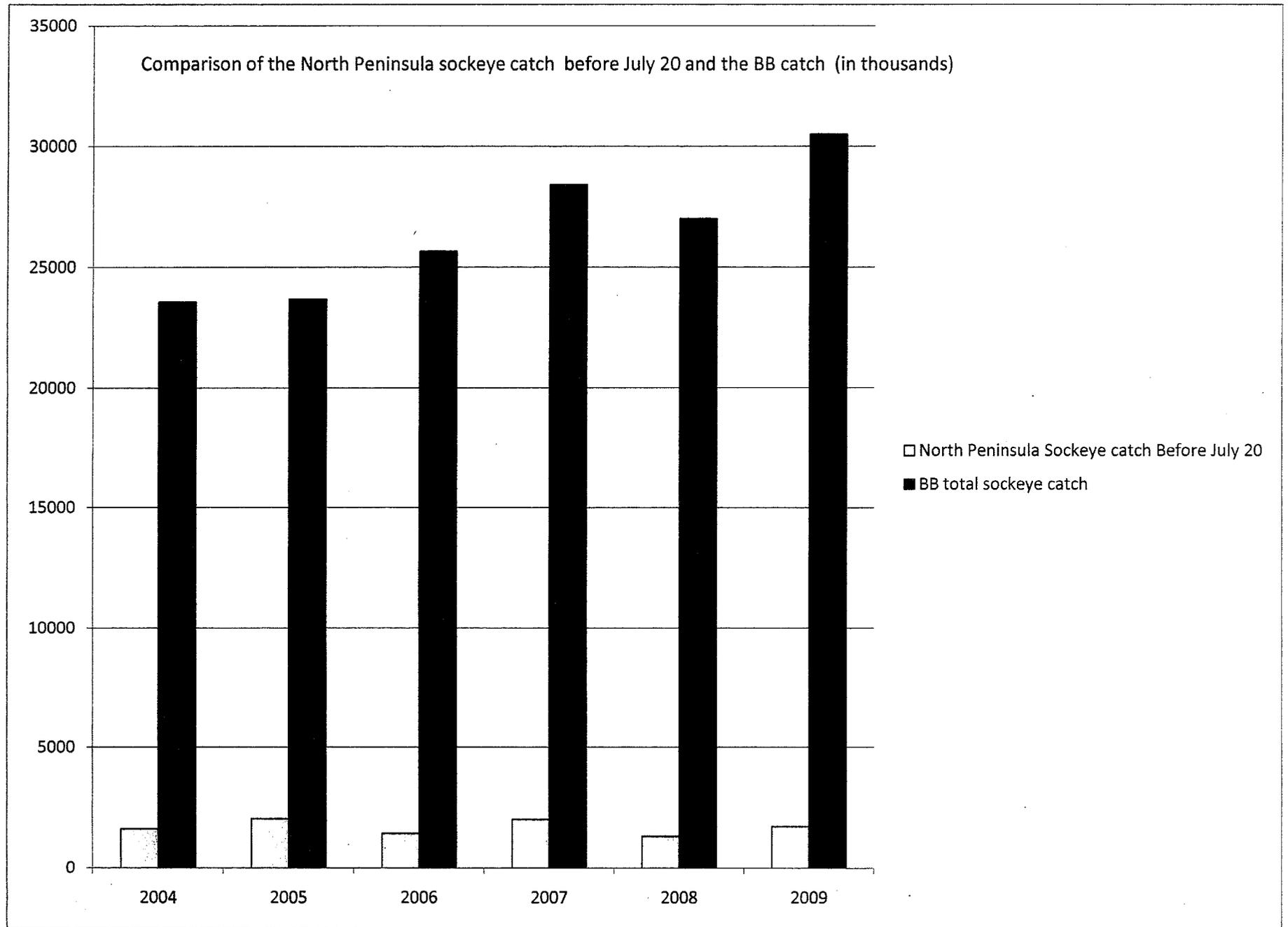
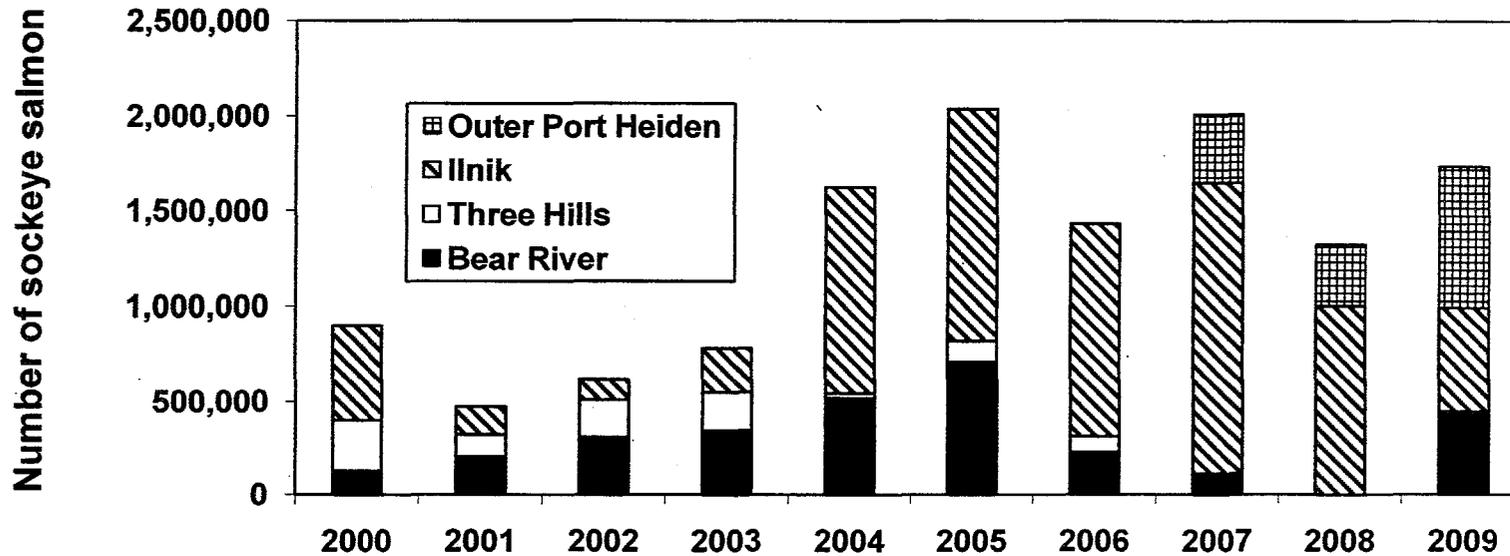


Figure 14.—Port Moller to Outer Port Heiden sockeye salmon harvest by week, 2009.

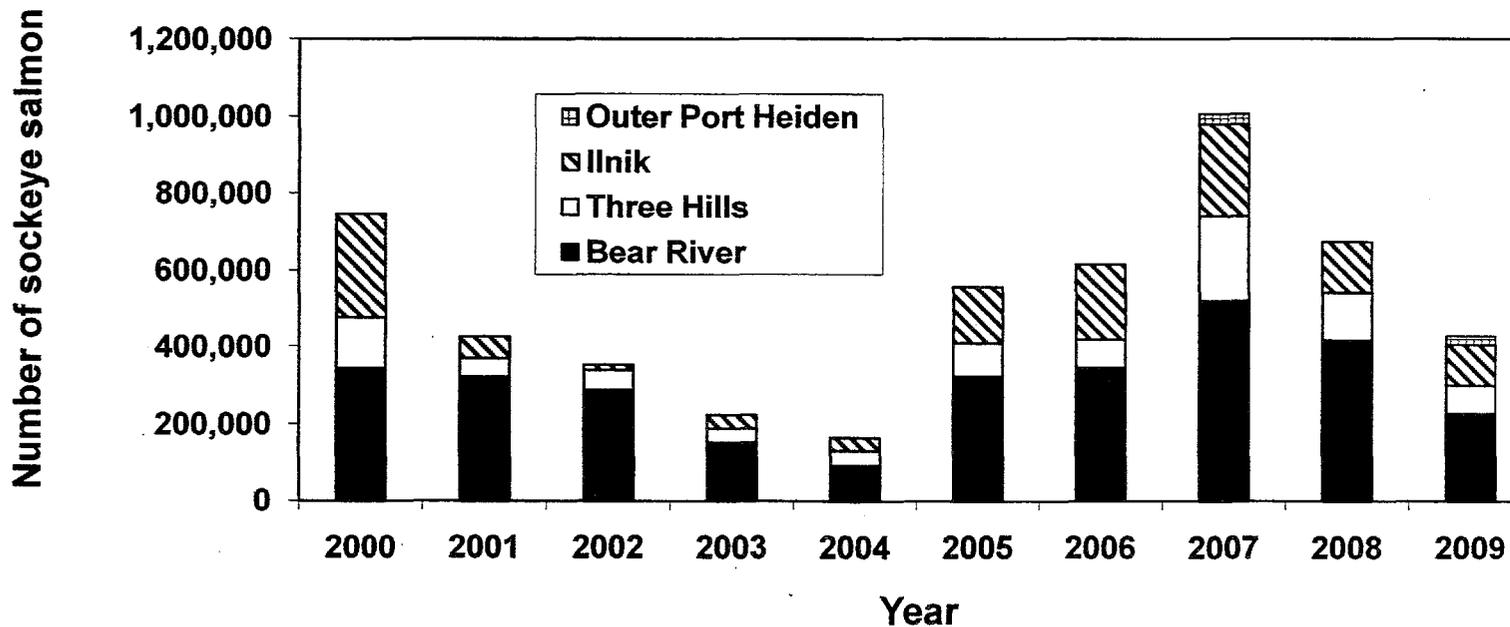


Attachment #2

Bear River, Three Hills, and Ilnik Sections Harvest, Through and Post July 20, 2000-2009

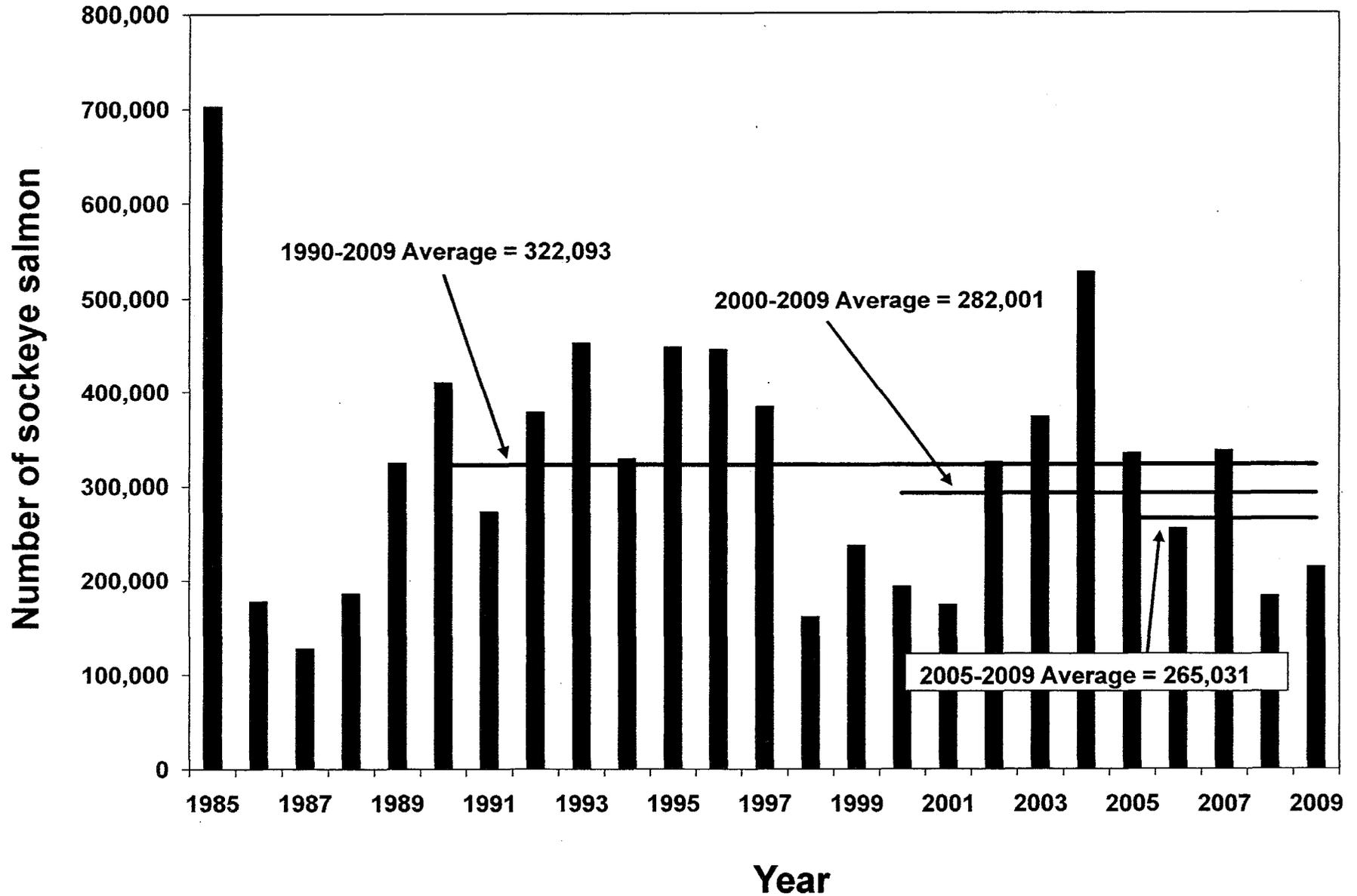


Through
July 20

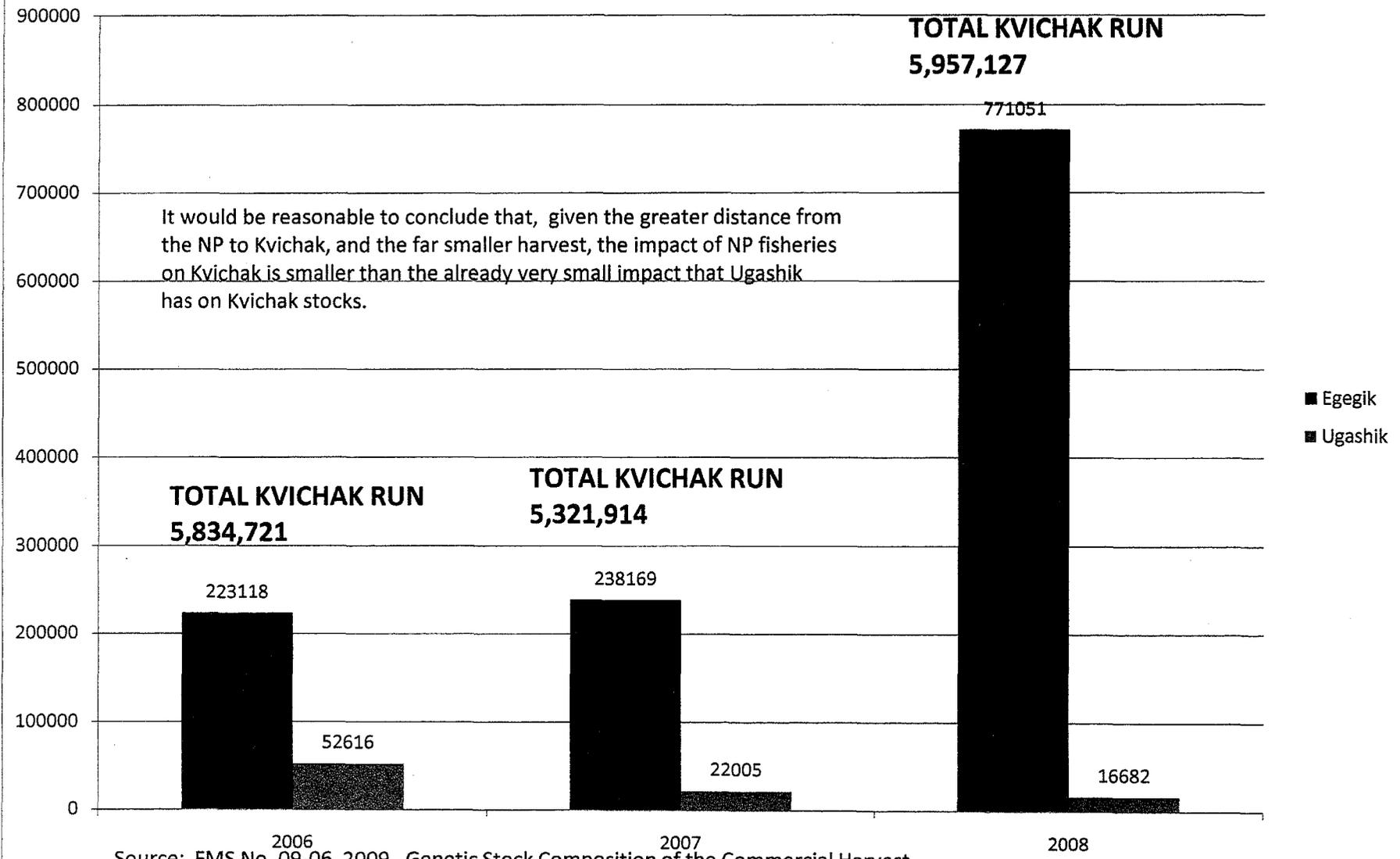


Post
July 20

Nelson Lagoon Sockeye Salmon Harvest, 1985-2009



Estimated Harvest of Kvichak Sockeye stock in Egegik and Ugashik by GSI



Source: FMS No. 09-06. 2009. Genetic Stock Composition of the Commercial Harvest of Sockeye Salmon in Bristol Bay, Alaska, 2006-2008

RC

99

Nelson Lagoon Advisory Committee

Comments on Proposals 148 and 154

The Nelson Lagoon Fish and Game Advisory Committee submits the following comments on Proposals 148 and 154 that were addressed by Committee D.

Proposal 148:

Prior to 2004, the Three Hills Section was not opened until July 4. In 2007 it was changed from June 25 to June 20. The specific opening date depends upon the Ilnik escapement (refer to RC 37).

Since the last Board meeting in 2007, the escapements have been met, but there has been no harvestable surplus for local fishermen. If this situation is not remedied the community of Nelson Lagoon is at risk. There are no other occupations available. Many of our residents are fishing sites that have been down through at least 4 generations.

The management plan is not working because of the mixed stock drift net fishery that takes place in the Northern District. This fleet operates on a continuous fishing schedule. We are asking for any changes in the current management that would put more fish into Nelson Lagoon.

Proposal 154:

Passage of Proposal 154 would move fish throughout the northern portion of the Northern District, including Bear River, by reducing catching power by 50%.

It takes salmon about 3-4 days to travel to Nelson Lagoon from the Northern District.

CORRECTION: The Nelson Lagoon Section has always had a 29 mesh restriction until August 15th when we are allowed to use up to 38 meshes for the coho season.

RC 100

P.O. Box 49026

Port Heiden, AK 99549

(907)837-2516

ADF&G Board of Fish Meeting:

Area M finfish February 2-9, 2010

Dear Chairman and Board Members,

My name is Jaclyn Christensen and I support Proposal #151

I support Emil Christensen's amendment to proposal 151 because it provides the opportunities needed for rural and bush Alaskan's the economic benefits and local long term sustainability in commercial fisheries. Another step that Port Heiden is taken toward sustainability is to operate a salmon micro-processing plant. We have a few people apt in the business program to develop this idea and I for one am progressing in higher education to provide other economic opportunities as well.

My goal through the rural development program and as a college student is to develop a comprehensive plan for rural Alaskans especially in fishing communities to participate in more science related positions at home and other research related fields that apply to our natural resources.

I am especially interested in the set net gill fisheries and their future and sustainability as you know Trident seafood's and Peter Pan limit fish intake and Trident cut off set gill net fisherman completely in the Ugashik District so I can see a future for Tribal and nonprofit collaboration for set net delivered fish for distribution toward subsistence harvest for elders, and disabled, and low income youth and families who cannot go out and harvest for themselves by way of local micro fish processing centers.

Sincerely,

Jaclyn Christensen

Jaclyn Christensen

RC 101 in Support of Proposal 151 as Amended

Chairman and Board members.

My Name is John Christensen, I am a Commercial fisherman and City Council member from Port Heiden. It has been my dream for a few years to be able to fish and process fish in my hometown of Port Heiden. Because of the regulations, our fleet was never able to do so. I believe Emil Christensen's amendment to Proposal 151 would greatly benefit all of the fisherman of area M and area T. This amendment would allow us to fish in our traditional fishing grounds during the month of July. Not having to leave during the month of July will make operating a processing plant more feasible and economical. The processing plant will create jobs for locals and produce a good quality product that will boost Port Heiden's economy and secure future jobs for the locals. The proposal 151 amendment will allow area m and area t fishermen to work with each other and not fight each other. As a terminal area it will make it easier to manage the area. The current way of managing the area with flyovers is not working. The flyover that Bob Murphy did on June 18 2009 was incorrect. His report stated that there was 900 fish in a dry net and I know for a fact that there was not 900 fish in one net. The most I seen in a net during that time was closer to 150 fish not 900.

RC #

102

February 6, 2010

To: Alaska Board of Fisheries Members
Fr: Dale Schwarzmiller, Peter Pan Seafoods, Inc.
Re: Committee B Report

Peter Pan Seafoods respectfully submits the following comments regarding the Committee B Report; specifically related to Proposal 116:

The original proposal would re-instate the 8.3% allocation of the preseason Bristol Bay sockeye forecast and there was committee discussion of amending the proposal to include a chum cap or "hot spot" closures.

The South Peninsula commercial salmon fishery is not an upstart fishery. It has been in existence for over 100 years. The current South Peninsula June management plan has been in place for six years. Throughout that time the Bristol Bay sockeye run has been well managed by the Alaska Department of Fish and game. The run has been strong and escapement has met or exceeded goals. The June South Peninsula fishery has had little overall impact on the sockeye returns to Bristol Bay.

Although we share the concerns of folks from the AYK and Bristol Bay, we're not convinced that a significant percentage of the chum caught in the South Peninsula fishery are destined for AYK or Bristol Bay terminus areas. Tagging and genetic studies to date have not provided enough scientific evidence to base decisions on the correlation of how harvest rates on the South Peninsula might affect stocks of concern in those systems.

In the six years of the current management plan the chum catch has been moderate in all but 2009. June of 2009 was an unusual season; there were more chums than the prior five years but it's also interesting to note that 2.3 million pink salmon were harvested in the 2009 June South Peninsula fishery. This was an unusually high number compared to prior years and like the June chum catch, there's no concrete information as to the ultimate destination of these fish.

Chum pools provide a strong dis-incentive to harvest chums. Our fleet has come to realize the importance of chum pools and we have worked collectively with fishermen, to ensure compliance. The Aleutians East Borough has also helped stress the importance of chum pools to area fishermen.

Hot spot closures would likely not achieve chum avoidance. Fishermen we've talked to say that closing certain areas because of a certain ratio might actually push fishing effort into areas that could result in a higher chum catch. Chum catch in a certain area might be low on one tide and high on another. It's more effective to have fishermen manage their own efforts. Through information from processors, local government and their fellow fishermen we feel the South Peninsula fleet will focus their efforts on chum avoidance.

RC103

RC _____

2-6-10

Comments to the Board of Fish Regarding Committee B

From Nushagak AC Rep. Dan Dunaway

Proposal 116 Nushagak AC **Supports** the 8.3% allocation or substitute language that would allow Hot Spot Closures based on a 2 sockeye to 1 chum catch ratio, or chum caps or 8.3% when the Bristol Bay forecast total return is 20 million or less.

Proposal 125 Committee B Recommended NEW language:

Support conditionally: The recommended new language and date appears to be consistent with the desire of the Nushagak AC to support fishing on local terminal salmon stocks by area and date.

If this language allows fishing to occur on the eastern capes of Korovin Island, the eastern portion of Popof Island from the Elephant to Popof head, and the southern portions of Unga Island or similar intercept site, then the Nushagak AC would continue to have objections on the basis of intercept concerns.

Proposal 127,128 Nushagak AC **Supports** Board Committee recommended actions.

Proposal 131 Nushagak AC **Supports** Board Committee recommended actions.

The Nushagak AC opposed the original proposal, BUT from the thorough explanation provided during the committee B process, it is clear the recommended language is not objectionable to our committee.

RC 104

RC _____ In Support of Proposal 151 as Amended by RC 88

Fritz Johnson
Regional Fisheries Coordinator
Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation

Watershed residents are sometimes criticized for being 'resistant to change' for often favoring the status quo. The critics ignore the obvious, that any sane person will resist changes they see as damaging to their interests and support those that advance them.

The debate over Proposal 151 is a classic example. The village of Port Heiden's sees community economic benefit in developing a local value-added industry built on harvesting salmon from the Meshik River. With its own resources and help from the Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation (BBEDC), Port Heiden has invested time and money in ice-making equipment, an ice delivery system and a processing facility. That kind of change is what many coastal communities are eagerly pursuing and what BBEDC enthusiastically supports.

On the other hand, locals oppose changes likely to hurt their prospects such as when, at the start of limited entry, Port Heiden residents were prohibited from fishing their home waters in July. Similarly unpopular is when the Board opened the Outer Port Heiden section, effectively adding insult to injury: now Port Heiden residents get to watch non-local boats harvest local fish in the newly opened Outer section.

Some find it ironic or even laughable that Area M persuaded the Board to open the Outer Port Heiden section to control Meshik River escapement. But its doubtful Port Heiden residents see the humor in a situation that kept them from catching a share of the 762,643 sockeye reportedly caught there in 2009, a resource that could have been used to build up their local economy. People whose ancestors were born in Meshik long before Alaska was a state ought to have the right to earn a living in their own backyard.

RC105

RC

Dear Board Members:

I would like to draw attention to Proposals 118-123. Opposition to these proposals include:

“There are mixed stocks transiting during this time with significant coho passage.”

“Chignik sockeye salmon would be vulnerable to increased effort in these areas.”

“Togiak and Bristol Bay coho runs are susceptible to harvest in July.”

“July coho are considered migrating fish and are not terminal.”

“Subsistence-caught fish could not be distinguished from commercially-caught fish.”

According to p. 53 of the South Alaska Peninsula Salmon Management report, the total catches of fish by gear type is 213,861 coho for seine, 10,549 for drift gillnet, 24,153 for set gillnet, with a grand total coho catch for the South Alaska Peninsula of 248,563.

Of the concern of prop. 123, in which the concern is of discerning commercial fish from subsistence caught, the 48 hour closures, as they stand, are not sufficient for the legal harvest of subsistence salmon.

If the major concern for the addition of time to the post-June schedule is migrating coho stocks, I would ask the Board to please look at the numbers of who is catching the most coho, and perhaps allocate more time to gillnetters. Because of these reasons, I would propose that the Board consider either Proposal 122, or 123.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Patrick J Brown

RC _____

Submitted By Ray Johnson - fishermen - setnetter - Nelson Committee Advisory Committee

Regarding regarding the fleet that comes from to the North Peninsula from False Pass in June.

On a given day, mostly likely the 19th of June, the fleet starts to make its migration to the North Peninsula because there could be an opening in the Ilnik section on those dates. When you hear that fleet coming, it's like 1700 trains coming. And the community of Nelson Lagoon just cringes. The fishing is just beginning in Nelson Lagoon at that time and you can catch 2,000 - 3,000 pounds per day because that's when the fish are coming. If they set their nets within 3 days, the fish stop coming to Nelson Lagoon. It's like the pond dried up. I mean if you set 150 nets at 200 fathoms and 70 meshes deep, it's a human barrier. And nothing can get by that group. Nelson Lagoon depends on the fish that come in June and July to make their season. And if you put too much pressure on the system, there's escapement, but there's not surplus to live on. Please recognize this fact. Why is it that every time that we come to these meetings, this particular group wins? It's not Nelson Lagoon's fault, that Peter Pan Seafoods designed their processing plant to accommodate an extra 100 boats. There are only 80 people in Nelson Lagoon year round. We live there year round. This fleet is almost three times bigger than the population of Nelson Lagoon. The system is not designed to accommodate that many people. Seventy meshes deep and 200 fathoms long makes up for 36 miles of gear in the water in one day. If you make those 29 meshes deep, that makes up over 72 miles of gear in the water in one day in one place. Back in the 80s, Peter Pan used to send 3 tenders to Nelson Lagoon and there were 3 cash buyers. And we supplied the whole group with salmon every day. Now, Peter Pan takes those 3 tenders and sends them 100 miles to the north to pick up that salmon. But only those salmon are 100 miles to the north, not in Nelson Lagoon where their destination is. I just want them to recognize the fact that this fleet is very strong. It didn't used to be. And it has definitely put a burden on our community of Nelson Lagoon. Please put a window or two in there so that my people have a chance to survive the next three years. Please.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ray Johnson - Nelson Lagoon, Alaska

RC 107

RC _____

2-6-10

Comments to the Board of Fish Regarding Committee D

From Nushagak AC Rep. Dan Dunaway

Proposals 29, 30 Nushagak AC Supports the original proposer's most recent actions regarding these proposals.

Proposal 151 Nushagak AC Fully Supports the new language as recommended by RC 88. It is the intent of the Nushagak AC to support any regulation that will improve the economic fishing opportunities for Port Heiden.

Additional Substitute language for proposal 162

5 AAC 09.331(b)(5) is amended to read:

(5)

for the purposes of this section, a lead is comprised of seine webbing 100 meshes in depth, no more than three and one half inch mesh size,

RC 109

CAMF comments on Committee D Report

Proposal 29.

- CAMF was willing to discuss the overlap issue with Area T permit holders, but not as the proposal was written. We didn't say "willing to allow" as stated in committee report. The proposal author was unwilling to withdraw Proposal 151, however, which led to no consensus on proposal.
- Enforcement stated strong concerns for enforceability of Area T boats transferring to any overlap area. This discussion was not covered in Committee report.

Proposal 149:

- Opposition: Didn't cover comments indicating that proposal would be a major change to area management, for miniscule benefit to Kvichak

Proposal 151 (amended language):

- Opposition: Discussion comments didn't cover discussion that Area T permit holders made economic decision in selecting Area T permits over Area M permits at time of limited entry. They have ability, through the market, to trade permits and obtain permits to fish Area M.

Proposal 154:

- Opposition: Discussion included the point that there is little reason to reduce the fleet's effectiveness

Additional Substitute Intent language for proposal 151, RC 88

1. Amend number 1 with the following "**The department may open the Outer Port Heiden Section from June 20 through July 31 based on the Meshik River sockeye salmon stocks if harvest levels or effort is not sufficient in the Inner Port Heiden Sections.**

3. Remove the language in the last section starting with ...[THE DEPARTMENT MAY WAIVE THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS PARAGRAPH IF THE DEPARTMENT PROJECTS THAT THE MESHNIK RIVER ESCAPEMENT WILL EXCEED THE SOCKEYE SALMON ESCAPEMENT GOAL BEFORE JULY 31.]