

Substitute Language for proposal 281:

Submitted by Yakutat AC, Casey Mapes at the request of Board Member John Jensen

5 AAC 01.670 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(e) A gillnet used to take salmon in Yakutat Bay may be 75 fathoms only during June July and August.

Pls print for me.
Thanks
Mike

Begin forwarded message:

From: greg indreland <
Date: March 1, 2012 9:42:34 AM AKST
To: Mike Smith <.....>
Subject: information talked about last night

Hi Mike,

Once again thank you for taking the time to talk to us last night. We greatly appreciate you taking time out of your evening. The people in attendance at the teleconference last night were:

Victoria Demmert YTT President

Martha Indreland YTT Secretary/Treasurer

Jonathon Pavlik Tsiu river set net fisherman

Jermiah Pavlik Tsiu river set net fisherman

Jessee Pavlik Yakutat Fishermans Alliance

Gary Johnson long time Tsiu buyer(1979 to present day)

Greg Indreland Managing Owner Yakutat Seafoods

A quick overview of our discussion last night.

1. The new ADFG marker as approved by BOF Proposal 301 would shorten the commercial fishable area from 2.7 miles in 2011 to 1.5 miles under the new regulation. In 2011 50% of the commercial catch came from the newly closed area. We are going to try and send a print out of Google Earth in a later email to try and show the detail of the lost area which is comprised of the best holes for commercial fishing on the Tsiu River.
2. Yakutat Seafoods purchases and sell both blush and redskin tsiu river coho into the frozen h/g market. There is a strong demand for these fish from both hot smokers and steakers. It is also illegal for any seafood company to discard commercial caught fish, this action would lead to a Wanton Waste ticket. Yakutat Seafoods and the commercial setnet permit holders prove this by flying to Yakutat spawned out Pink Salmon that are caught at the Tsiu river even though there is no commercial value to the fish to stay within the covenants of the law and the permit holder is charged for the cost of flying the pinks to Yakutat.
3. Yakutat Seafoods is the only seafood company in Yakutat, last year the tsiu accounted for 10% of the total fish purchased by Yakutat Seafoods. In 2010 which was a very strong run the Tsiu accounted for 15% of the total fish purchased by Yakutat Seafoods. Total fish purchased by Yakutat Seafoods from 2005 to present has ranged from 3.5 million to 6 million pounds. With the cuts in the halibut quota over the same period of over 50% in the Gulf of Alaska already reducing the purchases of Yakutat Seafoods, reducing the commercial catch at the Tsiu River may lead to closure of the plant in Yakutat due to not enough fish to overcome overhead cost.
4. The reduced commercial catch area would lead to at least half of the commercial permits leaving the Tsiu River and returning to the Situk River in Yakutat to fish gillnet coho. Currently the Situk has over 60 permits fishing the coho run on it, it is comprised of the older generation because of the ease of fishing there and the easy access to Yakutat because there is a road that

connects the Situk and Yakutat. Introducing the younger more aggressive permit holders that currently fish the Tsiu that would be displaced by the new proposal would add to a already congested commercial fishery at the Situk River. Adding additional permits to the Situk would also lead to lower earnings per permit at the Situk because even though you are adding additional permits the catch would not increase. Adding additional permits would also lead to a more dangerous situation for the new permits because the only additional setnet sites would be in the breakers or other

extremely dangerous areas. The uprooting of permits from the Tsiu which would lead to lower earnings per permit at the Situk would put additional pressure on the Sockeye fishery because permit holders would know that their earnings are going to be lower Coho fishing because of additional competition.

5. The 2010 average earnings for Yakutat Setnetters per CFEC was \$16,989. 2010 was the highest total catch of salmon in the last 10 years and was 143% of the 10 year average.

6. I think that it is important to point out that the relationship between all lodge clients and commercial gillnet permit holders is not strained. Most Lodges on the Tsiu River work with the commercial fleet with no animosity. Several sport clients find the commercial fishery a "Deadliest Catch" experience and enjoy their interaction between themselves and the commercial fleet.

7. The average number of days fished on the Tsiu River by the commercial fleet over the last 7 years has been 12 24 hour openings. Several of these openings have been curtailed due to weather or catching all of the coho that can be moved by airplane in a shorter period than 24 hours. The sport fishery averages 50 days per year. The sport lodges have unlimited access to the Tsiu River and its tributaries regardless if the commercial fishery is open or not. The sport lodges also have access to the Kaliakh river which is less than two miles from the Tsiu and is known as holding the largest coho's in the state.

Once again thank you for your time and consideration on this issue. We will be attempting to send a Google Earth map of the Tsiu River showing the visual effect of the new proposal.

Greg

TSIU RIVER: FISHERIES AND LAND MANAGEMENT REPORT

Prepared for

City and Borough of Yakutat



Prepared by

Sheinberg Associates

with assistance from

Alaska Map Company

MARCH 2009

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Acknowledgements

City and Borough of Yakutat Assembly

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Karl Marx, Alaska Licensing Examiner
Sgt. Robin Morrisett, Alaska State Trooper
Gordie Woods, Yakutat Area Fisheries Biologist, ADF&G, Division of Commercial Fisheries

Partial List of Those Interviewed for this Report *(14 others names were not recorded)*

Sean Brownell, commercial fisher	Tom Kruzich, sport fisher
AJ Carsunki, guide	Tony Lertola, sport fisher
Greg Davis, guide	James Mancuso, sport fisher
Greg Dierek, lodge owner	Hans and Tanya Munich, Yakutat Coastal Airlines
Dan Ernhart, guide	Jeremiah Pavlik, commercial fisher
Les and Debbie Hartley, Alsek Air	Larry Powell, Yakutat Salmon Board
Allen Humphries, sport fisher	Tom Prijatel, lodge owner
Greg Indreland, Yakutat Seafoods, LLC Manager	Jeff Thomas, sport fisher
Jimmy Jensen, commercial fisher	John Vale, commercial fisher
Gary Johnson, Yakutat Seafoods LLC buyer	Gerald A. Watler, sport fisher

Sheinberg Associates, Consultant Team

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GIS Analysis, Mapping and Imagery Acquisition - Alaska Map Company, Gary Greenberg, GISP
Fisheries Research - Lindsey Bloom

Photographs in report courtesy of Alaska Map Company

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In the early 2000s the City and Borough of Yakutat (CBY) acquired approximately 21,500 acres of land west of Icy Bay area from the State of Alaska as part of its municipal entitlement. This included the mouth and first mile or so of several salmon bearing streams and rivers including the Tsiu River with its productive coho salmon run. Subsistence, commercial and sport fishers all utilize Tsiu River coho.

State leases (lodges, airstrips, cabins) on this new CBY land were transferred from the State to the borough in about 2005. Recent activity in the area includes five-six sport fishing and hunting lodges (one lodge did not operate in 2008) that together have about a 100-bed capacity and hosted approximately 875 anglers (2007), up to six air carriers bringing in day-fishers, a commercially used airstrip and fish buying station supporting 10-12 set gillnetters fishing commercially and staying in personal cabins.

Most of the activity occurs during the 6-8 week coho fishing season in August to early October. The fishable portion of the Tsiu River is quite small. It is, depending on weather and sea conditions, about 3-3.5 miles long, 20 to 60 feet wide (though it can be as wide as 150 feet depending on conditions) and 2 to 3 feet deep. Above the fishable part of the river is a "lake system" that is a braided swampy area approximately 5 to 7 miles wide with no clear channel to funnel fish in a concentrated way (so not good for fishing). Both commercial and sport fishers target the deeper (3-4 feet) holes in the Tsiu River where fish congregate.

There is almost 50 years of run data for the Tsiu as it has been commercially fished and managed by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) since the 1960s. Over that time period the coho run has averaged 56,000 fish. In 2008, the Tsiu River coho run was just under 75,000 fish and 49,300 were harvested commercially. The 2008 sport fisher harvest number is not available yet but it was probably similar to 2007 when 2,750 coho were harvested by sport fishers.

In 2007 tension among user groups escalated due to a combination of factors: a below average run size (36,300 fish); more anglers than average; sport fishers got used to "having the river to themselves" in 2002-2004 when low salmon prices prevented a commercial fishery; high rainfall the last few years has enlarged the lake and shortened the already small river; and the lack of regular enforcement in the area causing allegations of illegal commercial fishing acts.

In the last few years there have been several requests to lease CBY land in this area for additional sport fish lodges. At the same time sport and commercial fisherman and lodge owners are complaining that conditions are already overcrowded and that there is conflict among user groups.

In December 2007 the CBY Assembly declared a moratorium on issuing any borough land use or business permits in this area until the situation could be reviewed. The CBY contracted this Tsiu River Fisheries and Land Management report to analyze the situation and provide information so the Yakutat planning commissioners and Assembly could be better positioned to make decisions on land lease and use issues and requests.

Both sport and commercial fishing at the Tsiu generate borough revenue, creates jobs, and brings money that circulates through Yakutat that would not otherwise be there.

In 2007, tax revenue generated from sport fishing related activity in the Tsiu area was just over \$65,500, just under 4% of all CBY tax revenue. Sport fishing lodge leases also brought in \$36,000 in revenue to the borough in 2007. In addition, two Yakutat-based air carriers generate sales from Tsiu-bound sport fishing customers, and one local resident is a lodge owner.

Commercially harvested Tsiu cohos generate both local 1% salmon tax revenue to the borough and also state raw fish tax revenue to the borough. The relative amount of fish tax that can be attributed to Tsiu River cohos varies year to year based on the relative strength of this run versus other Yakutat area salmon fisheries and the price. Yakutat Seafoods LLC estimates that approximately 5-8% of Yakutat's 1% local fish tax can be attributed to Tsiu cohos. In FY 2008 the 1% Yakutat salmon sales and use tax generated just under \$33,700, thus Tsiu cohos would account for approximately \$2,000-\$3,000 in local tax revenue. Half of the State raw fish tax collected from Yakutat Seafoods is shared by the State with the CBY. In FY 2008 this was just over \$200,000. If the same ratio of value is true for State fish tax as the Yakutat 1% fish tax this would attribute \$10-\$16,000 to Tsiu cohos. In addition, Yakutat Seafoods employs approximately 60 during the height of the season at its Yakutat processing plant (7 were reported to be local residents in 2008) as well as generating local sales at grocery and other stores. Also, one Yakutat-based air carrier generates significant revenue transporting fish for Yakutat Seafoods.

Conflict at the Tsiu River centers on competition for the river's relatively few fishing spots; the manner in which commercial fishing is occurring; certain sport fish guides fostering antagonist behavior to commercial fisherman who then retaliate causing ever-escalating tension; and the lack of an enforcement presence in the area during the short but intense harvest.

Sport clients are looking for a remote experience and do not want to be fishing in the middle of a commercial fishery. Commercial fishermen want to protect their access to the fish and it is difficult to accommodate fast paced commercial operations around individual sport fishermen. There is little enforcement of regulations in either fishery since there is no Alaska State Trooper, police, or Village Public Safety Officer presence and only one Alaska Department of Fish and Game employee on the ground, whose purpose is to monitor the run and escapement not enforce regulations or mediate user group conflicts.

This investigation shows that conflicts on the Tsiu are not biological or sustainability issues; they are fishery, land and behavior management issues. ADF&G area biologists believe there are adequate numbers of coho to support both fisheries. Much of the spawning and rearing habitat is protected in the Yakataga State Game Refuge, helping to ensure the run's long term sustainability.

Several individuals interviewed for this report noted that sport, commercial and subsistence users did not have a problem sharing harvest of the Tsiu River coho resource in the past. Tension and conflict heightened in 2007 and 2008 and virtually everyone interviewed expressed an interest in finding ways to de-escalate tension.

Recommendation One

Assemble a group of Tsiu River users and a skilled facilitator to discuss concerns and help users reach agreement on a package of solutions to reduce tension and conflict. About 20 different solutions to reduce conflict were suggested during research and interviews conducted as part of this project. Possible solutions look at land management (CBY purview), permitting and tax policy (CBY purview), behavior management (all users responsible), fishery management (ADF&G and Alaska Board of Fisheries purview) and other. Solution options are listed on pages 21 and 22 in this report, and there are likely others not yet identified.

The Alaska Board of Game, Federal Subsistence Board, Yukon River Panel and other regulatory boards have used facilitated groups such as this to address conflict among user groups. When parties impacted help craft solutions the likelihood of a successful outcome is much higher. In this case the City and Borough of Yakutat, the Alaska Board of Fisheries, Yakutat Seafoods, lodges owners, sport and commercial fishers and guides, air transporters, and ADF&G fishery managers all have a stake in resolving conflict in the Tsiu River.

If this effort fails, or parties do not participate in good faith, the CBY could initiate a Special Area Management Plan under the Alaska Coastal Management Program for the Tsiu River area to establish enforceable policies to better manage this recreation area.

Recommendation Two

The CBY should not issue new sport fish lodge leases for Tsiu River area; practically/geographically defined as area between Seal River and Kaliakh River. (Leases for other uses may be permissible and better marketing of lodges in other parts of the western borough could help relieve pressure in the area).

Introduction and Project Purpose

The City and Borough of Yakutat is located on the northern coast of the Gulf of Alaska between Cape Suckling (144⁰ latitude) and Cape Fairweather to the south (Location Map, page 5). It is the only community of significant size in the nearly 400 miles between Cordova and the northern southeast panhandle. The western boundary of the borough, located in the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park east of Icy Bay, bisects the Malaspina Glacier, the largest in the region. Mount Saint Elias is one of the tallest mountains in North America.

In the early 2000s the City and Borough of Yakutat (CBY) acquired approximately 21,500 acres of land west of Icy Bay area from the State of Alaska as part of its municipal entitlement. City and Borough of Yakutat land is colored light pink on the Land Status Map (page 7) and accounts for approximately 1.3% of the total land base from Icy Bay west to Cape Suckling.

TABLE 1- WESTERN YAKUTAT BOROUGH LAND STATUS		
Land Owner	% total land base in CBY west of Icy Bay	Acres
Federal (NPS, BLM, FAA)	66.0%	1,123,402
State or State selected (including UA, AMHT)	31.6%	537,168
City and Borough of Yakutat	1.3%	21,681
Private (Chugach Alaska, Chugach selections, native allotments, other)	1.1%	19,159
	100.0%	1,701,410

Yakutat’s municipal entitlement includes the mouth and first mile or so of several salmon bearing streams and rivers including the (from east to west) Kiklukh, Tashlich, Seal, Tsiu, Tsvat, Chiuki, Kaliakh and Duktoth Rivers. The Tsiu River has the most productive coho salmon run in the area, but most of these rivers have coho, chum, sockeye and pink salmon runs as well as cutthroat and rainbow trout, steelhead and dolly varden.

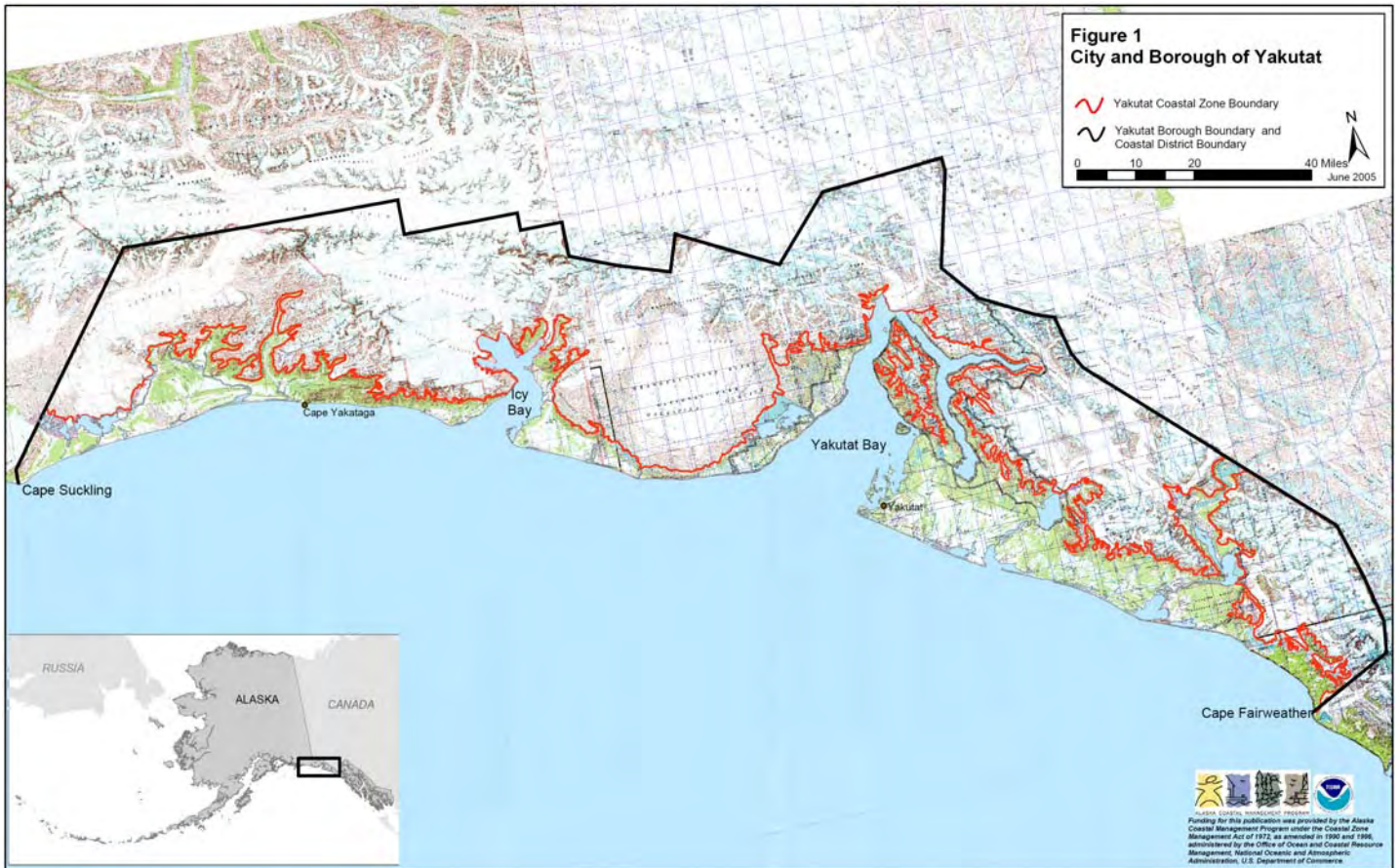
State leases on this new CBY land were transferred from the State to the borough in about 2005, including leases for four sport fishing lodges in the Tsiu area, a commercially used airstrip and fish buying station, and some personal use (setnet) cabin leases. There are now six sport fishing or hunting lodges in the Tsiu River area. Lodges, cabins, airstrips and other features in the area can be seen on the Infrastructure Map on page 8.

In the last few years there have been several requests to lease CBY land in this area for sport fish lodges. At the same time sport and commercial fisherman and lodge owners are complaining that conditions are already overcrowded and that there is conflict among user groups.

The fishable portion of the popular Tsiu River is quite small. It is, depending on weather and sea conditions, only about 3-3.5 miles long, 20 to 60 feet wide (though it can be as wide as 150

feet depending on conditions), and 2 to 3 feet deep. Above the fishable part of the river is a “lake system” that is a braided swampy area approximately 5 to 7 miles wide with no clear channel to funnel fish in a concentrated way (so not good for fishing).

Both commercial and sport fishers target the deeper (3-4 feet) holes in the Tsiu River where fish congregate. Tension between these user groups has been escalating during the 6-8 week coho fishing season in August to early October with reports of deliberate acts of mischief and antagonistic actions between users. Lack of regular enforcement in the area has also resulted in allegations of illegal fishing acts.



In December 2007 the CBY Assembly declared a moratorium on issuing any borough land use or business permits in this area until the situation could be reviewed. The CBY hired Sheinberg Associates, a Juneau-based community planning firm, to assist them in defining the land use and fishery situation in the area so that the borough planning commission and Assembly could be better positioned to make decisions on land lease and use issues and requests.

To accomplish this work Sheinberg Associates, with team member Alaska Map Company:

1. Researched and gathered fishery data;
2. Researched and gathered plat, survey and lease ownership data from the State Recorders Office to construct lodge and infrastructure as-builts;
3. Acquired high resolution imagery compatible with the Borough Geographic Information System (GIS);
4. Travelled to the Tsiu River in September 2008 to observe the situation, conduct interviews and accurately document and map infrastructure the area for entry into borough GIS with precision GPS equipment¹; and
5. Conducted over 30 interviews with commercial setnetters; sports anglers; Yakutat Seafoods LLC managers; sport fishing guides, employees and lodge owners; Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) sport and commercial fishery biologists; Alaska State Troopers; air carriers that provide fly-in fish services, etc).

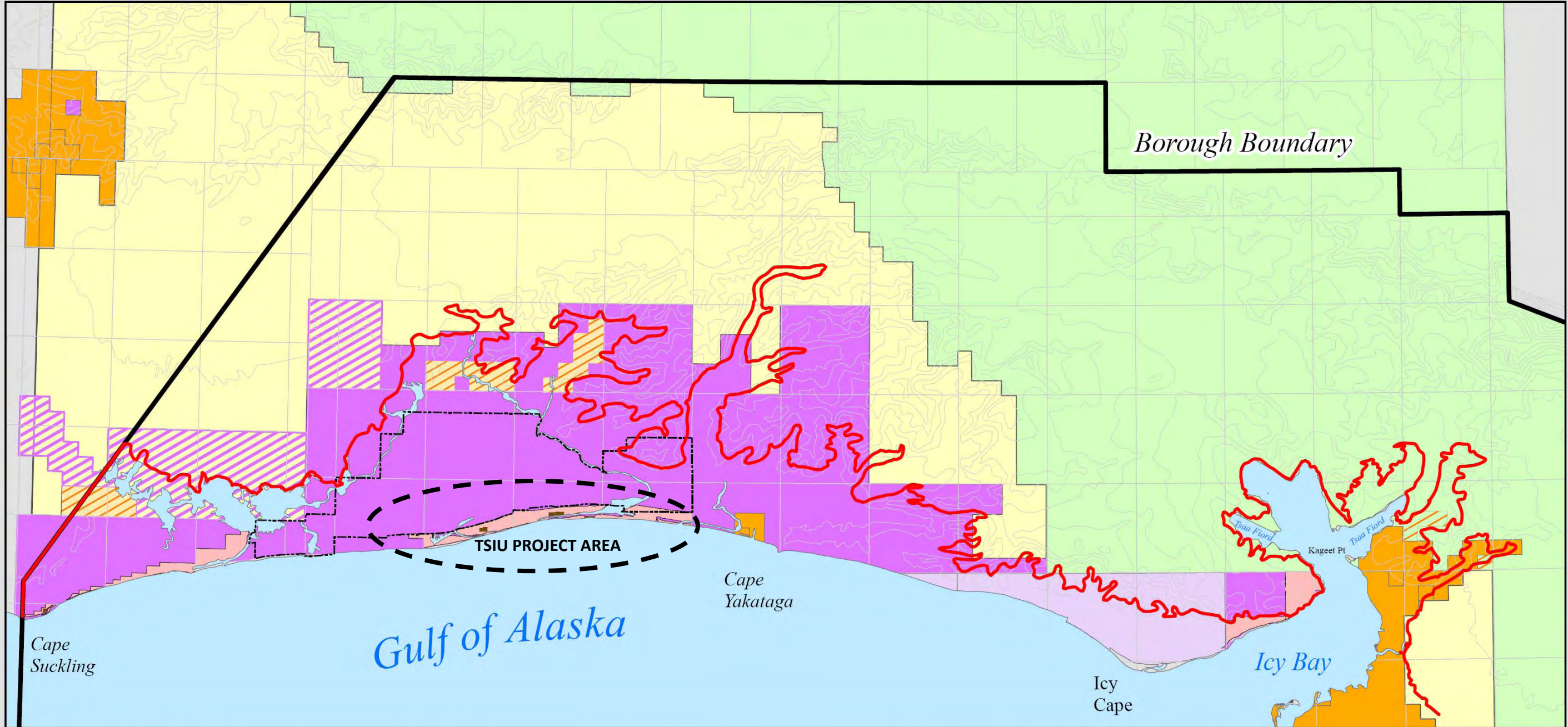
Subsistence, commercial and sport fishers all utilize Tsiu River Coho. ADF&G area biologists believe there are adequate numbers of Coho to support both fisheries. This investigation shows that conflicts on the Tsiu are not biological or sustainability issues; they are fishery, land and behavior management issues.



Leaving the Upland Trail and Heading into Lake on way to Tsiu River

¹ Thanks are due to ADF&G for use of its cabin and ATV, Greg Dierick for logistical support to enable this trip, and Bill Lucey for logistical support and participating in the field trip.

Tsiu River Area - Land/Fisheries Uses and Management



Borough Boundary

TSIU PROJECT AREA

Cape Yakataga

Gulf of Alaska

Cape Suckling

Icy Cape

Icy Bay

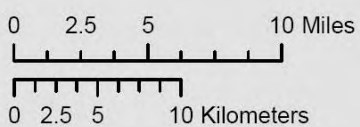
Kageet Pt

Tsua Fiord

Tsua Fiord

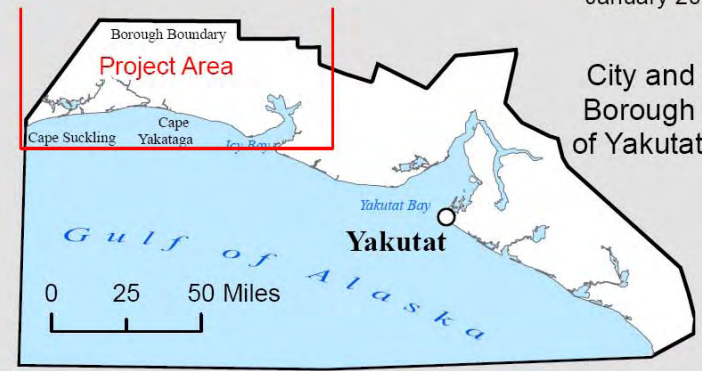
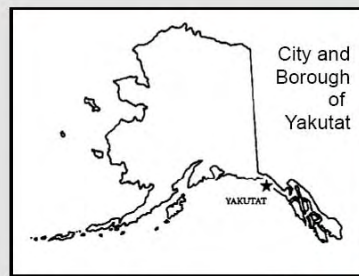
Land Status Map

Source Data: State of Alaska Land Information System
 Drawn By: GAG
 Datum: Nad 83
 Projection: Alaska State Plane Zone 2



Disclaimer: This map was compiled for the City and Borough of Yakutat by Sheinberg Associates and Alaska Map Company LLC using the best available sources. This map is for illustration purposes only, data may have errors and discrepancies.

Land Status	
City and Borough of Yakutat	Federal National Park Service
State	Bureau of Land Management
State Selected	Yakataga State Game Refuge Boundary
Alaska Mental Health Trust	Yakutat Coastal Zone Boundary
University of Alaska	
Private	
Native Allotment	
Native Allotment Selections	
Chugach Alaska Corporation	
Chugach Alaska Corp Selections	
Other	

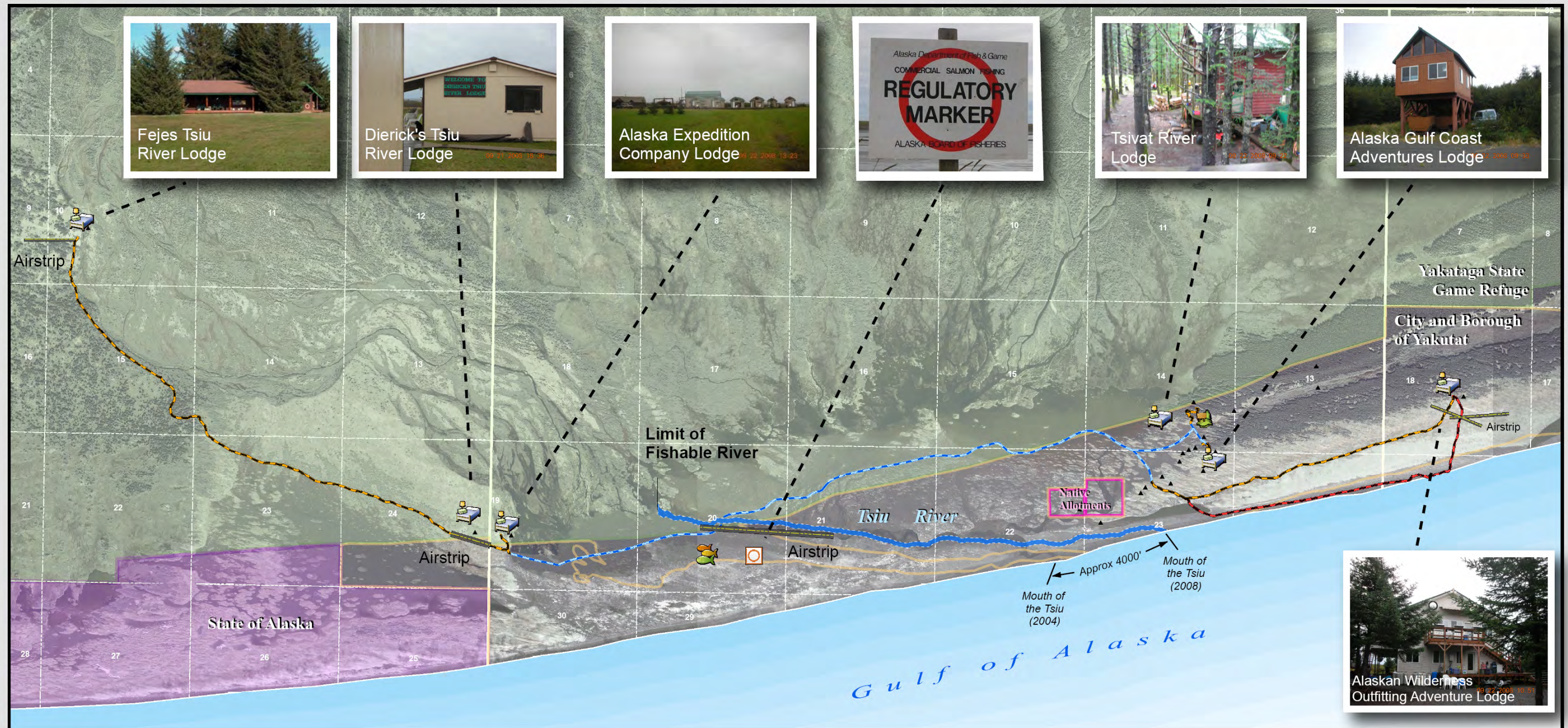


January 2009

City and Borough of Yakutat



Tsiu River Area - Land/Fisheries Uses and Management



Infrastructure Map

Source Data: Digital Globe Quickbird Imagery August 2004
 Locations of trails, structures and river meander were collected using mapping grade trimble GPS equipment September 2008
 Drawn By: GAG
 Datum: Nad 83
 Projection: Alaska State Plane Zone 2

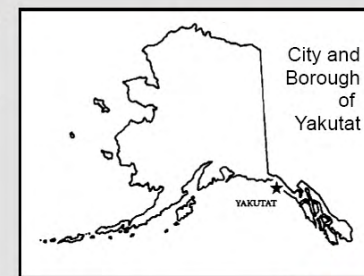
Disclaimer: This map was compiled for the City and Borough of Yakutat by Sheinberg Associates and Alaska Map Company LLC using the best available sources. This map is for illustration purposes only, data may have errors and discrepancies.

0 1,750 3,500 7,000 Feet

0 500 1,000 2,000 Meters

Legend

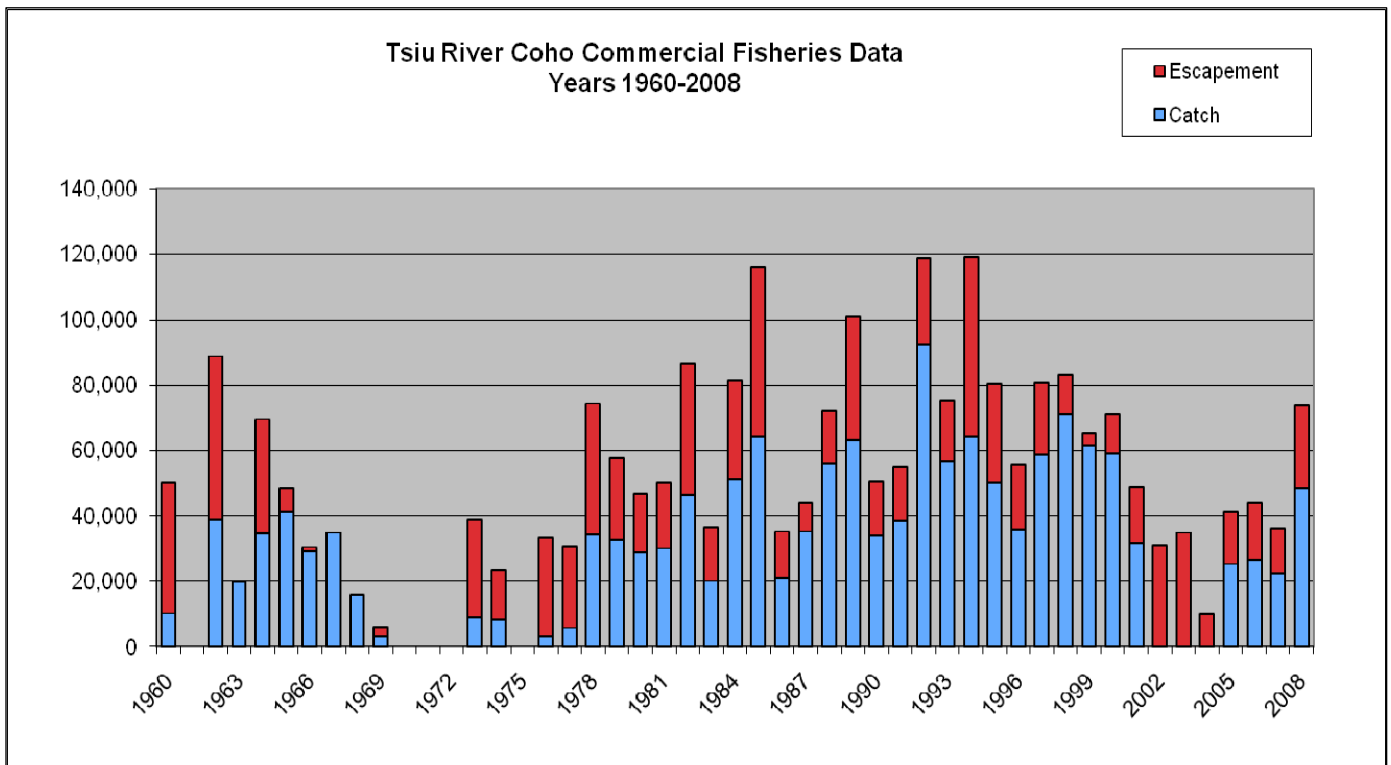
- ADF&G Cabin
- Buying Shack
- ADF&G Regulatory Marker
- Fishing Lodge
- Personal Use Cabins
- Beach Trail
- Inundated Trail
- Upland Trail



Tsiu River Commercial Setnet Fishery

Commercial Catch and Run Size

The Tsiu River is home to a productive Coho run during a 6-8 week window in August to early October. The Coho run has averaged 56,000 fish annually between 1960 and 2008, varying from a low of 6,157 fish in 1969 to a high of 119,160 fish in 1994. In 2008 the run size was above average with 74,492 fish.



Tsiu River Set Gillnet Fishery

The only type of commercial fishing allowed in the Yakataga district is set gillnetting. Commercial setnet fishery openings are based on observed escapement of spawning fish above an ADF&G regulatory marker. Generally, one

TABLE 2- RECENT TSIU RIVER COHO RUN & COMMERCIAL EFFORT

Year	Catch	# of Permits Fished	Escapement	Total Run
2000	59,075	22	12,000	71,097
2001	31,734	10	17,000	48,744
2002	0	0	31,000	31,000
2003	0	0	35,000	35,000
2004	0	0	9,800	9,800
2005	25,429	8	16,000	41,437
2006	26,438	12	17,500	43,950
2007	22,318	12	14,000	36,330
2008	49,292	10	25,200	74,492

Source: ADF&G Commercial Fisheries, Yakutat

ADF&G staff is stationed in the field on the Tsiu to count escapement above the regulatory marker and biologists fly over the Tsiu a few times a season to observe escapement higher up river. Once the biologists see a minimum number of fish by a certain date they will allow commercial fishing openings that occur generally every other 24 hours. The lower end for Coho escapement is 10,000 fish; ADF&G biologists believe this level is virtually always achieved - even years when fewer fish were documented (when there is no commercial fishery ADF&G does not send an airplane the area to count).

ADF&G regulations governing the commercial setnet fishery in the Yakutat district's Tsiu River are at 5 AAC 30 and include:

- Fishing Season. Opening and closing dates will be made by emergency order.
- Fishing Periods. Salmon may be taken by set gillnets only, during openings, from 9:00 a.m. Sunday to 9:00 a.m. Monday, and from 9:00 a.m. Tuesday to 9:00 a.m. Wednesday.
- Gillnet Specifications and Operations.
 - The individual and aggregate lengths of any and all set gillnets aboard a vessel or in use by a person may not be more than one of the following in hung measure: one net not to exceed 15 fathoms.
 - Set gillnets may not obstruct more than one-half of the waterway. In the intertidal zone this applies at all stages of the tide.
- Minimum Distances Between Units of Gear. No part of a set gillnet may be set or operated within 75 yards of any part of another gillnet.
- Closed Areas. Salmon may not be taken upstream of regulatory marker.

The number of commercial set gillnetters fishing the Tsiu has decreased over time (Tables 2 and 3). The heyday of the commercial effort was from 1978 through 2001. The fishery was not utilized commercially in 2002-2004 due to low salmon prices. Since 2005 there have been fewer commercial fishers on the river, who collectively are harvesting an average of two-thirds the number of fish caught in the big years prior to 2002. Almost all the commercial setnetters are Yakutat residents or those with family in Yakutat. This activity is considered traditional; commercial and subsistence catch of Tsiu River fish has been occurring for generations. At one time there were about 40 setnet camps and cabins in the area used by local families. About half are now dilapidated and no longer usable; most are on borough land with a few on a Native Allotment.

TABLE 3 COMMERCIAL FISHING PERMITS & CATCH, TSIU RIVER		
YEARS	Average No. Permits	Average Commercial Catch (No. Fish)
1960-1977	9	14,090
1978-2001	24	47,354
2002-2004	0	0
2005-2008	11	30,671
<i>Source: ADF&G Commercial Fisheries Division</i>		

Coho salmon from the Tsiu have a reputation for quality including their excellent roe byproduct. Fish are transported by airplane to market; Yakutat Seafoods (YS) out of Yakutat is currently the sole commercial buyer. YS flies DC-3s two-four times/day during the season, weather permitting, to a small buying station near the Tsiu River lagoon to transport these set

gillnet caught fish to Yakutat. In a good year there are generally about 10-12, 24-hour openings during the season, each lasting approximately 24 hours. When this schedule is followed relations between sport and commercial fishers are less stressful; when weather interferes and openings become less predictable tension rises.

Commercially harvested Tsiu cohos generate both local 1% salmon tax revenue to the borough and also state raw fish tax revenue to the borough. The relative amount of fish tax that can be attributed to Tsiu River cohos varies year to year based on the relative strength of this run versus other Yakutat area salmon fisheries and the price. Yakutat Seafoods LLC estimates that recently approximately 5-8% of Yakutat's 1% local fish tax can be attributed to Tsiu cohos. In FY 2008 the 1% Yakutat salmon sales and use tax generated just under \$33,700, thus Tsiu cohos would account for approximately \$2,000-\$3,000 in local tax revenue. Half of the State raw fish tax collected from Yakutat Seafoods is shared by the State with the CBY. In FY 2008 this was just over \$200,000. If the same ratio of value is true for State fish tax as the Yakutat 1% fish tax this would attribute \$10-\$16,000 to Tsiu cohos. In addition, Yakutat Seafoods employs approximately 60 during the height of the season at its Yakutat processing plant (7 were reported to be local residents in 2008) as well as generating local sales at grocery and other stores. In addition one Yakutat-based air carrier generates significant revenue transporting fish for Yakutat Seafoods.



Tsiu River Set Gillnet Fishery



Waiting for plane to land to pick-up setnet fishery Coho to fly into Yakutat



ADF&G Regulatory Marker



Tsiu River Set Gillnet Fishery



Tsiu River Sport Fishing

Sport fishing at the Tsiu has been occurring since the early 1980s. Alaska Wilderness Outfitting was an early outfitter and started as a tent camp on Duck Camp Island at the northwest end of the lake. Data from ADF&G sport fish license surveys shows that since 1996 the number of anglers sport fishing the Tsiu River has ranged from a low of 187 in 1998 to a high of 910 in 2003 (Table 4). The second highest number of sport fishers was in 2007, with 877 anglers who fished an average of 3.5 days on the river, catching 12,000 coho and harvesting 2,750 fish. In 2007 there were 5 businesses with 17 registered guides on the river who reported 1,503 clients.

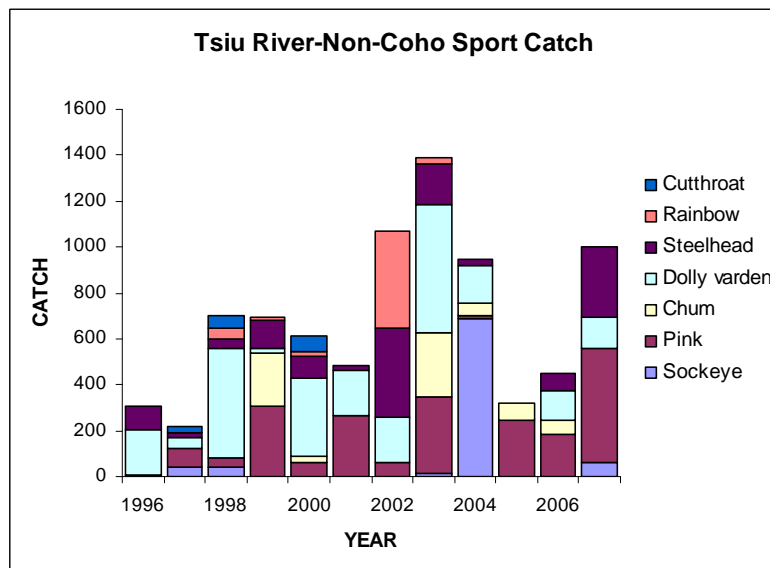
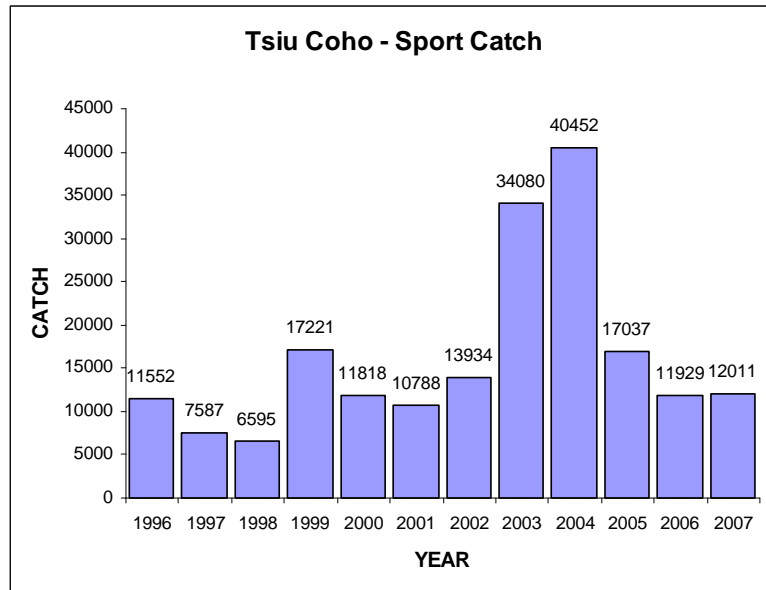
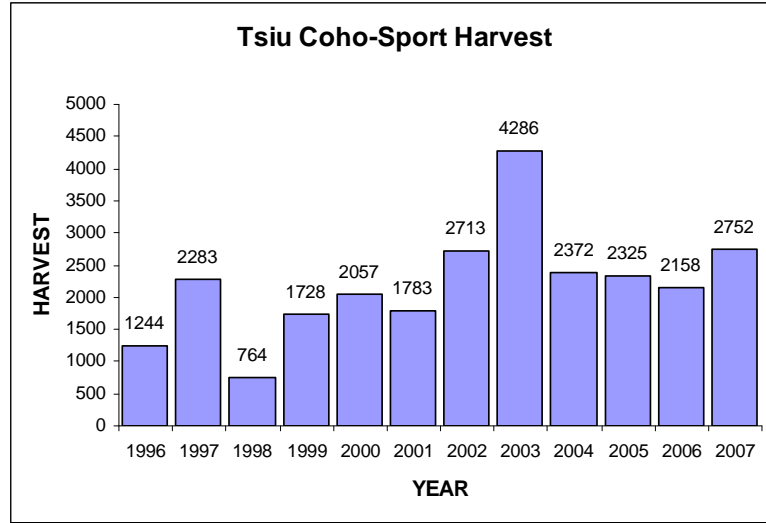
The sport harvest of Coho has averaged about 4% of the Coho run when both fisheries going. In addition to Coho, there is sport catch and harvest of cutthroat trout, rainbow trout, steelhead, dolly varden, and chum, pink and sockeye salmon on the Tsiu River, though numbers are much smaller than Coho salmon.

TABLE 4 SPORT FISHING EFFORT, TSIU RIVER		
Year	No. Anglers	No. Days Fished
1996	328	773
1997	506	1366
1998	187	788
1999	494	1418
2000	529	1576
2001	397	1307
2002	519	1883
2003	910	2891
2004	683	2060
2005	610	1771
2006	514	1904
2007	877	3090
12 year average	546	1736

Source: ADF&G Sport Fish Division



Tsiu River Sport Fishermen



Lodges

Sport fishers either stay at one of six lodges in the Tsiu River area when they fish the area or fly-in and out on the same day with small air carriers out of Cordova, Yakutat or Anchorage. At its peak there can be 100-120 sport fisherman/day along this generally 20-60 foot wide, 2-3 mile long stretch of river. Several individuals estimated that when the weather is good about 15% of those fishing the river are fly-in day-fishers.

The six lodges (from east to west) are:

1. Sam Fejes Tsiu River Lodge
2. Greg Dierick's Tsiu River Lodge
3. Charles Allen, Alaska Expedition Company Driftwood Lodge on the Tsiu River
4. Harold Perantie, Tsvat River Lodge
5. Dennis Meyer, Alaska Gulf Coast Adventures (this used to be George Davis's Three Rivers Camp in the Kiklukh and Tsiu areas, but now George Davis is in Icy Bay only)
6. Tom Prijatel, Alaska Wilderness Outfitting Company's Adventure Lodge.

Aerial photos with surveys for all lodges can be found at Appendix A; the Infrastructure Map on pg 5 shows the location of area lodges.

The six lodges have about a 100-bed capacity. In 2007, all lodges reported operating revenue subject to borough tax. In 2008, five lodges were open (Tsvat River apparently operated the first half of the year only, Alaska Gulf Coast Adventures did not operate).

In 2007, tax revenue generated from sport fishing related activity in the Tsiu area was just over \$65,500, just under 4% of all CBY tax revenue. Sport fishing lodge leases also brought in \$36,000 in revenue to the borough in 2007. In addition, two Yakutat-based air carriers generate sales from Tsiu-bound sport fishing customers, and one local resident is a lodge owner.





Sport fishers crossing the lake to get to Tsiu River fishing area



Typical 4-wheeler transport to fishing area

Conflicts

ADF&G area biologists believe there are adequate numbers of Coho to support both fisheries. Further, much of the spawning and rearing habitat is protected in the Yakataga State Game Refuge, helping to ensure the run's long term sustainability. Conflicts on the Tsiu are not biological or sustainability issues; they are fishery, land and behavior management issues.

In 2007 tension among user groups escalated due to a combination of factors: a below average run size (36,300 fish); more anglers than average; sport fishers got used to "having the river to themselves" in 2002-2004 when low salmon prices prevented a commercial fishery; high rainfall the last few years has enlarged the lake and shortened the already small river; and the lack of regular enforcement in the area causing allegations of illegal commercial fishing acts.

Taken together, 'attitude' is brewing unchecked and tension is rising resulting in deliberate acts of antagonism occurring in 2008.

Interviews with 29 individuals who either sport or commercial fish or guide along the Tsiu River were conducted in September- December 2008; most interviews occurred at the Tsiu. Of the 24 who offered a rating of their experience, over half (58 percent) call it good, 9 say poor (33 percent) and 2 rate it as excellent. However, 22 (91 percent) say the experience has changed and there is now more conflict. Differences and perceived conflicts are described as follows:

- "More aggressive commercial fisherman"
- "Too many commercial fishermen now"
- "There are a lot more sport fisherman now"
- "Fishing area has shrunk by 70 percent due to river and mouth changes and rain"
- "River is much shorter now"
- "River is more crowded with commercial fisherman"
- "More nets in the river"
- "More sport fisherman now"
- "Too many sport fisherman"
- "Commercial and sport fishers are antagonizing each other"
- "Don't like the fish herding"
- "Don't like clearing the whole river of fish at once as is done now"
- "Too many motors and noise, spent a lot of money to get here to get away from this"
- "Some guides have poor attitude"
- "Guide is telling us to get out"

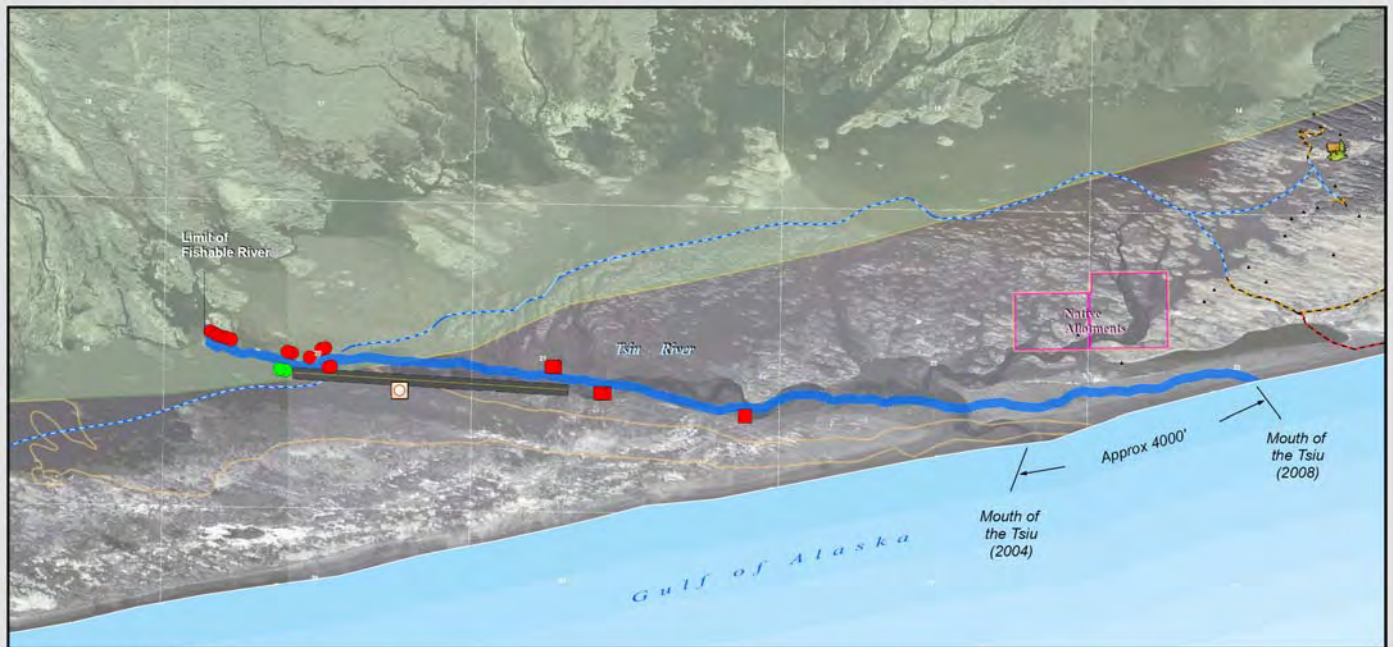
Lodge owners say that business has been declining since 2005; that they are now running at 60-80% capacity. The high number of anglers fishing the river in 2007 likely reflects increased fly-in fisher numbers. Some suggest that 50-60 sport fishers on the river feels acceptable but when there are 100 anglers it feels like combat.

Problems center on competition for the river's relatively few fishing spots; the manner in which commercial fishing is occurring; certain sport fish guides fostering antagonist behavior to

commercial fisherman who then retaliate causing ever-escalating tension; and the lack of an enforcement presence in the area during the short but intense harvest.

Sport clients are looking for a remote experience and do not want to be fishing in the middle of a commercial fishery. Commercial fishermen want to protect their access to the fish and it is difficult to accommodate fast paced commercial operations around individual sport fishermen. There is little enforcement of regulations in either fishery since there is no Alaska State Trooper, police, or Village Public Safety Officer presence and only one ADF&G employee on the ground, whose purpose is to monitor the run and escapement not enforce regulations or mediate user group conflicts.

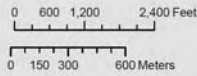
Tsiu River Area - Land/Fisheries Uses and Management



Fishermen Interviews - Conflict Recognition (Sept 21-22, 2008)

Source Data: Digital Globe Quickbird Imagery August 2004
 Locations of trails, structures and river meander were collected using mapping grade trimble GPS equipment September 2008
 Drawn By: GAD
 Datum: NAD 83
 Projection: Alaska State Plane Zone 2

Disclaimer: This map was compiled for the City and Borough of Yakutat by Sheinberg Associates and Alaska Map Company LLC using the best available sources. This map is for illustration purposes only, does not have terms and disclaimers.



Recommendations and Solution Options

Several individuals interviewed for this report noted that sport, commercial and subsistence users did not have a problem sharing harvest of the Tsiu River coho resource in the past. Tension and conflict heightened in 2007 and 2008 and virtually everyone interviewed expressed an interest in finding ways to de-escalate tension. Close to 20 different solutions to reduce conflict were offered during research and interviews conducted as part of this project.

Several individuals interviewed for this report noted that sport, commercial and subsistence users did not have a problem sharing harvest of the Tsiu River coho resource in the past. Tension and conflict heightened in 2007 and 2008 and virtually everyone interviewed expressed an interest in finding ways to de-escalate tension.

Recommendation One

Assemble a group of Tsiu River users and a skilled facilitator to discuss concerns and help users reach agreement on a package of solutions to reduce tension and conflict. About 20 different solutions to reduce conflict were suggested during research and interviews conducted as part of this project. Possible solutions look at land management, permitting and tax policy (CBY purview), behavior management (all users responsible), fishery management (ADF&G and Alaska Board of Fisheries purview) and other (solution options are listed below, and there are likely others not yet identified).

The Alaska Board of Game, Federal Subsistence Board, Yukon River Panel and other regulatory boards have used facilitated groups such as this to address conflict among user groups. When parties impacted help craft solutions the likelihood of a successful outcome is much higher. In this case the City and Borough of Yakutat, the Alaska Board of Fisheries, Yakutat Seafoods, lodges owners, sport and commercial fishers and guides, air transporters, and ADF&G fishery managers all have a stake in resolving conflict in the Tsiu River.

If this effort fails, or parties do not participate in good faith, the CBY could initiate a Special Area Management Plan under the Alaska Coastal Management Program for the Tsiu River area to establish enforceable policies to better manage this recreation area.

Recommendation Two

The CBY should not issue new sport fish lodge leases for Tsiu River area; practically/geographically defined as area between Seal River and Kaliakh River. (Leases for other uses may be permissible; better marketing of lodges in other parts of the western borough could help relieve pressure in the area).

Suggested solutions take many different forms; they are presented below organized in four categories: land management, permitting and tax policy (CBY purview), behavior management (all users responsible), fishery management (ADF&G and Alaska Board of Fisheries purview) and other.

Land Management, Permitting and Tax Policy Options

1. Establish a special area management plan for the Tsiu River area.
2. When there are over 70 or so anglers the river is too congested and feels like combat. Protect the experience that sport fishers are paying top dollar for and protect the investment that current lodge owners have made by prohibiting issuance of leases or sale of land for new lodges in the Tsiu River area.
3. Encourage sport fishing and related lodges to spread-out and use the area from Cape Suckling to the Seal River, and from the east side of the Kaliakh River to Icy Bay by making land available to lease in these areas and approving development permits. (Others have suggested not leasing land anywhere in the western borough until a land use, mapping and management intent has been updated.)
4. Tax policy, permitting and enforcement should be equitable among types of landowners and users. Sport fish lodges are paying property taxes whereas many commercial fishing cabin owners are not (it appears that four are on the CBY property tax roll).
5. Enforce CBY Code Title 11 provisions regarding nuisances and litter in order to clean up the appearance of the area, reduce erosion and decay of material into fish bearing waters.
6. Levy financial penalties for rule violations.

Behavior Management Options

7. Provide either a CBY police or VPSO officer or a State Trooper on site for periodic inspections and visits, or for the 6-8 week season. An enforcement presence would curtail illegal fishing activity and defuse bad behavior. Levy financial penalties for rule violations.
8. Create a behavior/ etiquette guide that lodge owners, guides, all fishers, and air transporters must read and sign. Managing people's expectations about what they will encounter on the fishing grounds will go a long way to reduce conflict. For example, one fishing lodge owner and his guides tells clients that they will encounter commercial fisherman out on the river and asks them to understand that this is how these 10 individuals make their living, and that it may interfere with sport fishing for a few hours but to be respectful and find ways to share the river. Another example is one commercial fisher interviewed always makes a point of talking to the sport fishers in the area before he begins his operation to let them know what he will be doing and that it will be noisy and he'll be running his boat for the next hour and herding fish, but to please understand that he too is trying to feed his family and make a living. Both the sport fishing lodge owner and guides

and the commercial fisherman say that just talking to each other has by and large eliminated their conflicts.

9. Promote a day of bird and wildlife photography, trout fishing in clear water streams feeding the Chiuki, and other activities to diversify and spread out fishing trips to Tsiu.
10. Manage expectations through marketing. Market a premier fishing, but not a complete wilderness, experience. Let clients know commercial fishing may occur during part of their visit.

Fisheries Management Options

Different users favor and oppose various fishery management options. All options listed here were suggested by various parties interviewed; there are surely others as well. Inclusion of any of these options in a solution package would depend upon consensus of all user groups and must be within the management authority given to local ADF&G managers by the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

11. Move the ADF&G Regulatory Marker (above which no commercial fishing is allowed) a $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile farther downstream to give sport fishers more room and allow access to fishing holes.
12. Prohibit sport fishing below the marker when commercial fishing is going on.
13. When weather changes the 24 on/off openings, allow sport fishing only from 5-10am, both to fish from 10 am to 5:00 pm, then commercial fishing only from 5 pm to 5 am.
14. Divide fishing times to make sport only and commercial only fishing periods.
15. Allow sport fishing only from the mouth to a $\frac{1}{4}$ mile up river, from 7am to 7 pm.
16. Eliminate use of motors for commercial fishing; make it a net-only fishery. The same amount of fish (and dollar value) would still be caught it would just take a longer.
17. Allow fishing boats to herd fish only 500 feet from net rather than $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from net as they sometimes do now.

Other Options

18. Limit the number of fly-in fishers that can fish the Tsiu River per day. (Implementing this would involve work with transporter licensing and regulations.)

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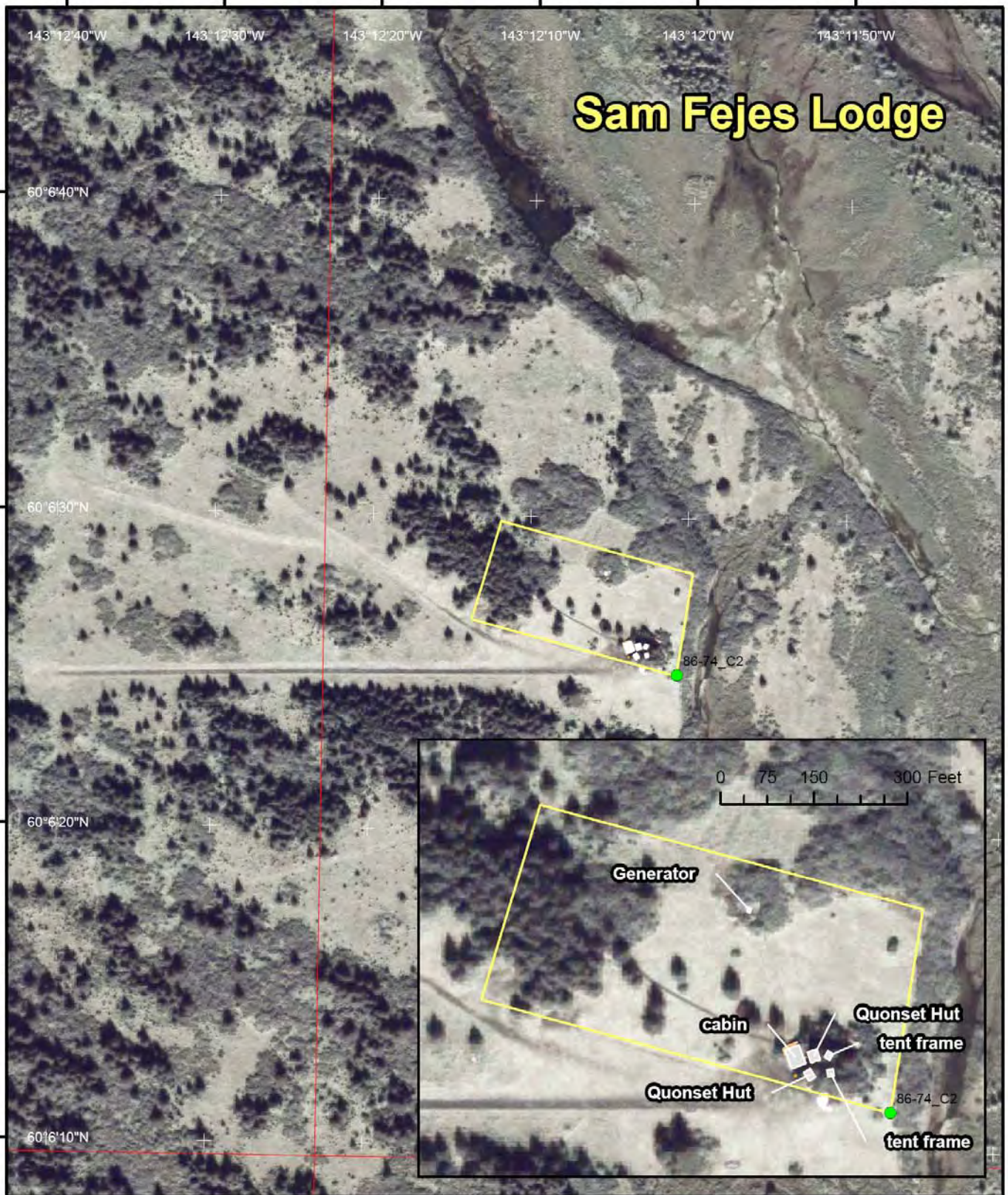
Yakutat Comprehensive Plan, 2006 Update

Yakutat Municipal Code

APPENDIX A - EXISTING LODGE INFRASTRUCTURE

(part of City and Borough of Yakutat GIS database)

Sam Fejes Tsiu River Lodge	25
Greg Dierick's Tsiu River Lodge	26
Charles Allen, Alaska Expedition Company Driftwood Lodge on the Tsiu River	27
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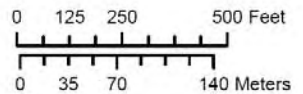
City and Borough of Yakutat
Field Map



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Datum and Projection:
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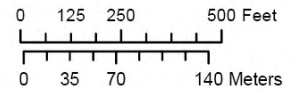


**City and Borough of Yakutat
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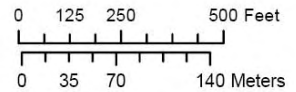


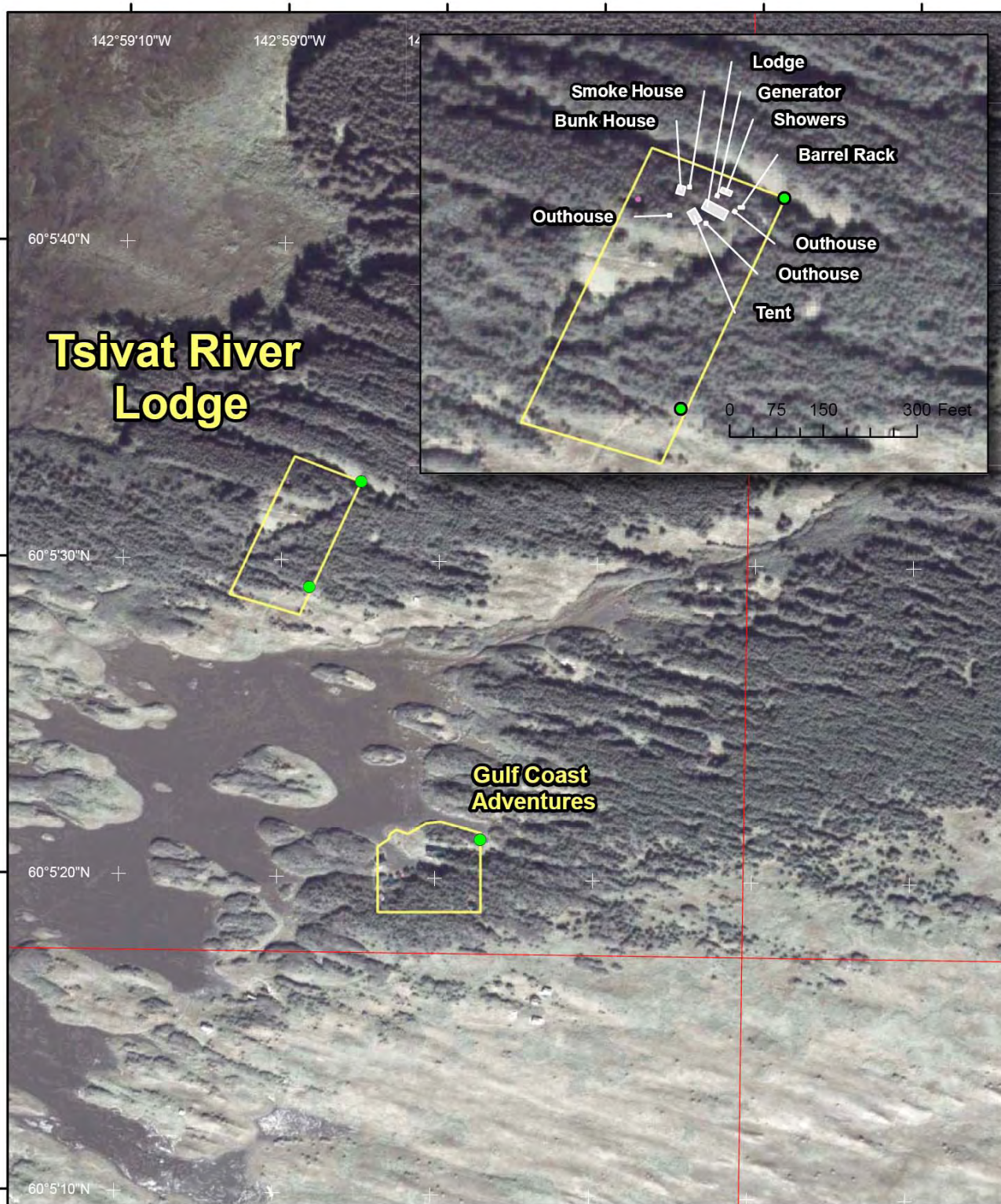
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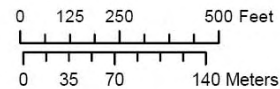


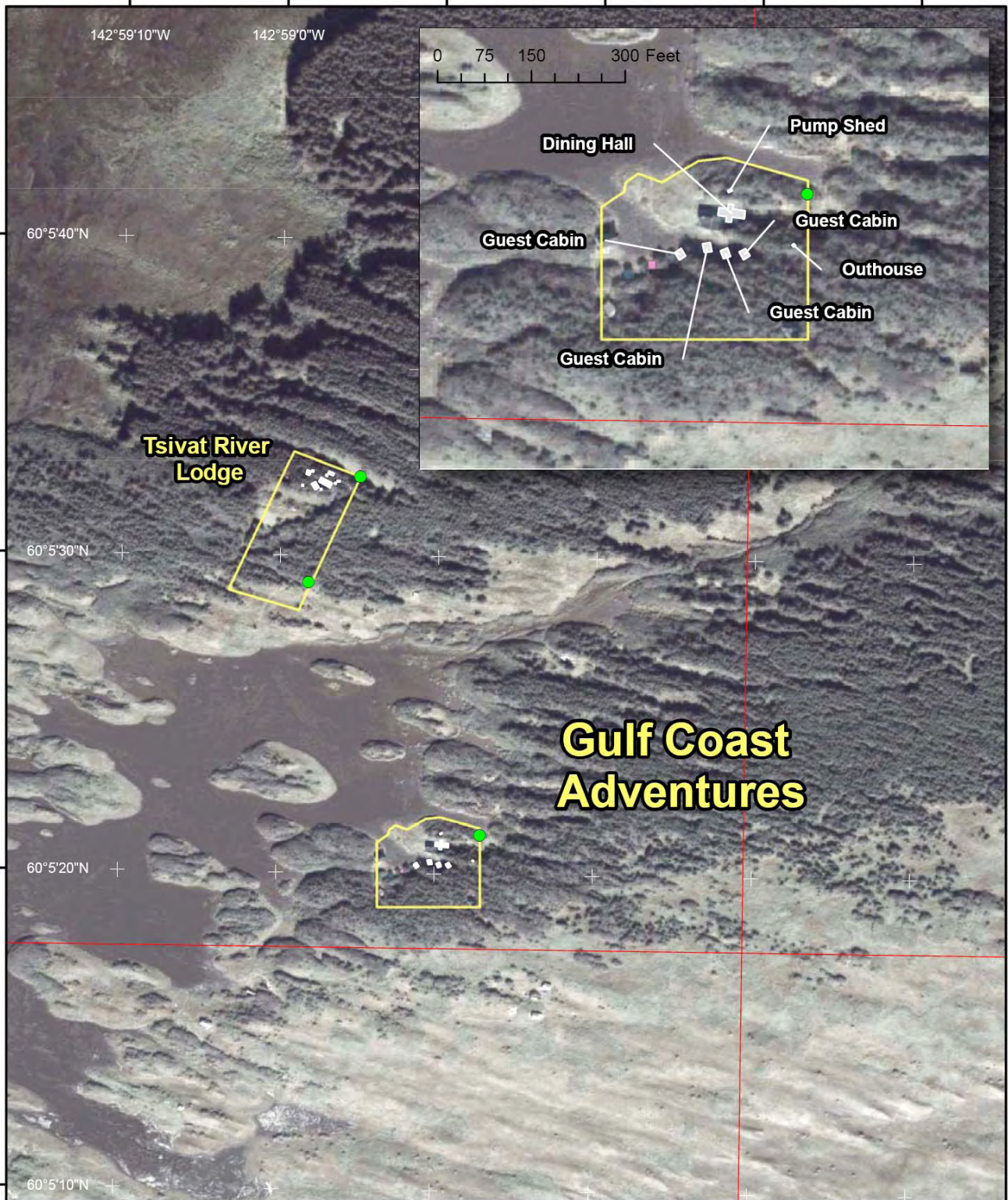


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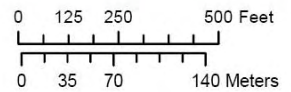




**City and Borough of Yakutat
Field Map**



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Alaska State Plane Zone 2 Feet



20144
Mike Smith will bring this up - J.M.

Comments on Proposal 320-District 11 King Salmon Management Plan

I'm offering this compromise language in the form of a Sunset clause as a way to allow the trollers access to Taku river King salmon when there is harvestable surplus.

As shown on page 406 Staff comments even on years trolling was allowed the catch was very low. This relates to area and time allowed to harvest a share of the harvestable surplus.

During the committee meeting concerns were brought up by the sport representative Larry Edfelt: conflict between trollers and sport fisherman and the possible over harvest of returning Fritz Cove enhanced king salmon by trollers if Proposal passed.

I offer this Sunset as a way for trollers to get access to some possible productive area and allow for a Sunset if perceived negative impacts take place.

Language: If after 3 seasons when there is a harvestable surplus on Taku King Salmon that allows trollers a fishery in District 11-A. If the perceived negative aspects do take place, trollers would revert back to 2011 boundaries for District 11-A. By EO or BOF action.

This would allow troll access and a way to gauge the benefits be it negative or positive.

Sincerely John Murray 224 Observatory St.. Sitka

John Z Murray

P.S. This fishery is for District 11A & 11B DIRECTED KING SALMON. IT IS NOT AN AVENUE FOR Chum trolling in area.

John Murray

Substitute Language for Proposal 309

Submitted by ADF&G at the request of board member Mike Smith

5 AAC 29.120. GEAR SPECIFICATIONS AND OPERATIONS.

(b) The maximum number of trolling lines that may be operated from a salmon troll vessel is as follows:

(2) from a hand troll vessel:

(A) from each hand troll gurdy: only one line to which multiple leaders and hooks may be attached;

(B) from each fishing rod: only one line with no more than one leader and one lure or two baited hooks per leader; a downrigger may not be used in conjunction with a fishing rod;

(C) an aggregate of no more than four fishing rods or an aggregate of no more than two hand troll gurdies may be operated from [OR ON BOARD] a hand troll vessel, except that following the closure of the initial summer fishery king salmon retention period and before the opening of the winter troll fishery under 5 AAC 29.070 (b),

(i) an aggregate of no more than [FOUR FISHING RODS OR AN AGGREGATE OF NO MORE THAN] four hand troll gurdies may be on board a hand troll vessel; and

(ii) in the waters of the exclusive economic zone north of the latitude of the southernmost tip of Cape Spencer, no more than four hand troll gurdies may be operated from a hand troll vessel.

Substitute Language for Proposal 314

Submitted by ADF&G at the request of board member Mike Smith

5 AAC 29.110. MANAGEMENT OF THE COHO SALMON TROLL FISHERY.

- (a) Coho salmon may be taken from June 15 through September 20. However, the commissioner, in years [OF HIGH COHO SALMON ABUNDANCE,] **when wild coho salmon abundance is expected to meet escapement needs after considering harvest and effort,** may extend, by emergency order, the coho salmon fishery in any portions of Districts 1-16 for up to 10 days after September 20.

Substitute Language for Proposal 293

Substituted by ADFG at the request of board member Mike Smith

5AAC 33.331. Gillnet Specifications and Operation.

(d) In Districts 11, [AND] or 15, through the fourth Saturday in June, **the Commissioner may, by emergency order, establish a** [THE] maximum gillnet mesh size [IS] of six inches.

(e) In Districts 1, 6, 8, 11, [AND] 15, [DURING PERIODS ESTABLISHED BY EMERGENCY ORDER,] **the Commissioner may, by emergency order, establish a** [THE] minimum gillnet mesh size [IS] of six inches, except that

(1) in District 8, from the first Monday in May through the second Sunday in June, during periods established by emergency order, the minimum mesh size is 7 inches;

(2) in District 11, from the first Monday in May through the third Saturday in June, during periods established by emergency order, the minimum mesh size is 7 inches.

Substitute language for Proposal 246

Submitted by ADF&G at the request of Board Member John Jensen

5 AAC 47.055. Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan. (a) The commissioner shall establish, by emergency order, the king salmon sport fish bag and possession limits and all other necessary management measures based on the preseason king salmon abundance index determined by the Chinook Technical Committee of the Pacific Salmon Commission. The bag and possession limits and other management measures established by the commissioner will remain in effect until December 31. For the following year, until that year's preseason abundance index becomes available, the bag and possession limits and other management measures will be based on the prior year's preseason abundance index. If the new preseason king salmon abundance index is not available by May 1, the bag and possession limits and other management measures for the remainder of the year will be based on the prior year's preseason abundance index, unless superseded by emergency order.

(b) The objectives of the management plan under this section are to

(1) manage the sport fishery to attain an average harvest of 20 percent of the annual harvest ceiling specified by the Pacific Salmon Commission, after the subtraction of the commercial net allocation specified in 5 AAC 29.060 from the harvest ceiling;

(2) allow uninterrupted sport fishing in salt waters for king salmon, while not exceeding the sport fishery harvest ceiling;

(3) minimize regulatory restrictions on resident anglers; and

(4) provide stability to the sport fishery by eliminating inseason regulatory changes, except those necessary for conservation purposes.

(c) When the king salmon abundance index is greater than 2.0, the commissioner may, by emergency order, implement the following management measures:

(1) a sport fish angler may use two rods from October through March when fishing for king salmon. A person using two rods under this section may not retain any species except king salmon;

(2) a resident bag limit of three king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;

(3) a nonresident bag limit of two king salmon in May and June and one king salmon for the remainder of the year; a nonresident annual limit of six king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length.

(d) When the king salmon abundance index is 1.76 to 2.0, the commissioner may, by emergency order, implement the following management measures:

(1) a sport fish angler may use two rods from October through March **when fishing for king salmon. A person using two rods under this section may not retain any species except king salmon;**

(2) a resident bag limit of three king salmon;

(3) a nonresident bag limit of two king salmon in May and one king salmon for the remainder of the year; a nonresident annual limit of five to six king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length, established by emergency order.

(e) When the king salmon abundance index is 1.51 to 1.75, the commissioner may, by emergency order, implement the following management measures:

(1) a sport fish angler may use two rods from October through March **when fishing for king salmon. A person using two rods under this section may not retain any species except king salmon;**

(2) a resident bag limit of three king salmon;

(3) a nonresident bag limit of two king salmon in May and one king salmon for the remainder of the year; a nonresident annual limit of four to five king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length, established by emergency order.

(f) When the king salmon abundance index is greater than 1.2 and less than or equal to 1.5, the commissioner shall, by emergency order, implement the following management measures:

(1) a resident bag limit of two king salmon;

(2) a nonresident bag limit of one king salmon;

(3) a nonresident annual limit of three king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;

(4) from October 1 through March 31, a resident sport fish angler may use two rods when fishing for king salmon. **A person using two rods under this section may not retain any species except king salmon;**

(g) When the king salmon abundance index is less than or equal to 1.2, the commissioner shall, by emergency order, implement the following management measures:

(1) a bag limit of one king salmon;

(2) from January 1 through June 30, a nonresident's harvest limit is three king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;

(3) from July 1 through July 15, a nonresident's harvest limit is two king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length, and any king salmon 28 inches or greater in length harvested by the nonresident from January 1 through June 30 will apply toward the two fish harvest limit;

(4) from July 16 through December 31, a nonresident's harvest limit is one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length, and any king salmon 28 inches or greater in length harvested by the nonresident from January 1 through July 15 will apply toward the one fish harvest limit;

(5) from October 1 through March 31, a resident sport fish angler may use two rods when fishing for king salmon. **A person using two rods under this section may not retain any species except king salmon;**

(h) In addition to the provisions of (g) of this section, when the king salmon abundance index is less than or equal to 1.1, the commissioner shall, by emergency order, implement the following management measures:

(1) a resident bag and possession limit of one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;

(2) from May 1 through June 30, a nonresident annual harvest limit is three king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length, and any king salmon 28 inches or greater in length harvested by a nonresident from January 1 through June 30 will apply towards the three fish annual limit;

(3) from July 1 through December 31, a nonresident annual harvest limit is one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length, and any king salmon 28 inches or greater in length harvested by a nonresident from January 1 through June 30 will apply towards the one fish annual limit;

(4) from October 1 through March 31, a resident sport fish angler may use two rods when fishing for king salmon. **A person using two rods under this section may not retain any species except king salmon;**

(i) In addition the provisions specified in (g) and (h) of this section, when the king salmon abundance index is less than 1.0, the commissioner may, by emergency order, specify fishing times during which the retention of king salmon less than 48 inches in length is prohibited by nonresident anglers. The commissioner may also independently, by emergency order, implement non-retention periods or other restrictions for resident anglers to obtain 20 percent of the harvest reduction from resident anglers and 80 percent from nonresident anglers. Fishing times of non-retention will be established on a regular basis between July 16 and July 31, as needed, and will be established on non-consecutive days when possible. If the entire period of July 16 through July 31 is established as a fishing time of non-retention and additional closures

are necessary, additional fishing times of non-retention will be similarly established between July 1 and July 15.

(j) The commissioner may adopt regulations that establish reporting requirements necessary to obtain the information required to implement the management plan under this section.

(k) The commissioner may, by emergency order, establish that the nonresident harvest and annual limits for king salmon under this section do not apply in a hatchery terminal harvest area.

Substitute language for Proposal 253 (also referenced in RC-104)

Submitted by ADF&G at the request of Board Member John Jensen

5 AAC 47.041. Sport fishing from commercially licensed vessels; charter vessel registration.

(a) A person may sport fish from a registered commercial salmon hand troll or power troll vessel.

(b) Repealed 5/13/95.

(c) A person who sport fishes from a vessel licensed for commercial salmon fishing, other than a charter vessel when paying clients are on board, in waters closed to commercial salmon fishing shall, immediately upon bringing a salmon on board, mark the salmon by removing its dorsal (large back) fin.

(d) Sport fishing from a commercially licensed vessel while commercially caught salmon are in possession is illegal in waters closed to commercial salmon fishing.

(e) A commercially licensed vessel registered to fish commercially for shrimp, Dungeness crab, or Tanner crab may not be used to take that species for sport fishing purposes during the period starting 14 days before an opening and ending 14 days following the closure of an open commercial season for that species in the district, area, or areas for which the vessel is registered.

(f) A person may not sport fish and commercial fish for salmon from the same vessel on the same day.

(g) A person may not possess unpreserved sport caught salmon on any commercial salmon vessel while engaged in commercial salmon fishing.

Substitute language for Proposal 264**Submitted by ADF&G at the request of Board Member John Jensen****5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of Southeast Alaska.**

(5) in the Klawock River drainage,

(A) only unbaited, artificial lures may be used except:

(i) In the waters of Klawock River 300 feet or greater downstream of the Klawock Hatchery weir the use of bait is allowed from September 15-October 15;

(B) sport fishing for all species from the Klawock River Bridge is closed;

(C) rainbow and cutthroat trout, in combination, must be no less than 14 inches and no greater than 22 inches in length;

(D) the bag and possession limit for steelhead is two fish if one of the fish has a clipped adipose fin, as evidenced by a healed scar;

(E) upstream from the Klawock River Bridge, sport fishing for sockeye salmon is closed;

ADF&G

March 1, 2012

RC 151

Substitute Language for proposal 275

Submitted by ADF&G at the request of Board Member John Jensen

5AAC 01.750. Vessel Specifications and Operations. In the waters of Klawock Inlet enclosed by a line from Klawock Light to the Klawock Oil Dock, [NO] a person may subsistence salmon fish from a vessel that is powered [ONLY] by [A] hand or an outboard motor [OF GREATER THAN 35 HORSEPOWER].

March 1, 2012

Mr. Karl Johnstone
Chair, Alaska Board of Fisheries

Dear Mr. Johnstone and members of the Board

Re: Proposals 243 and 244

After reviewing the summary of Committee A. I feel that there several points that need to be highlighted. In 1975 when sac-roe fisheries were put into regulation for set gillnet and purse seine gear, a number of smaller areas were allocated to set gillnet. This was to provide fair sharing with the purse seine fleet.

Fishery management Report 11-74
2002 Report: Southeast Alaska - Yakutat Herring Fisheries, contains Table 5. Herring sac-roe harvests by area from 1971-2011. It shows in 1975 a number of areas in regulation for set-gillnet fishing, were fished. These included West Behm Canal (Helm Bay) Chalk Bay, Pybus Bay, Gambier Bay and Kasaaan Bay.

Over time these and several other areas were removed from regulation. If the gillnet fishermen who were involved in creating SAC-Roe fisheries in 1975 had known they were going to lose all of these areas in the future; I don't believe they would have agreed to give up a portion of Sitka.

When the West Behm Canal fishery was reestablished in 2003, it allowed purse seine fishing in the area. I believe this was a reallocation away from the original set gillnet fishery.

Thank you for allowing me to express my thoughts on these proposals. I hope you will take these concerns into consideration during your deliberations.

Respectfully

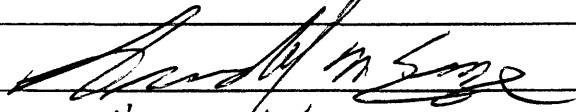

Arnold M. Enge

Table 5.—Annual Southeast Alaska sac roe herring harvest by area, in tons, 1971 through 2011.

Season	Sitka Sound	Lynn Canal	Seymour Canal	Revillagigedo Channel	Other Areas	All Areas
1970/71	748	688	35	0	220 ^a	1,691
1971/72	602	524	495	0	201 ^b	1,822
1972/73	597	798	506	0	452 ^c	2,353
1973/74	681	396	904	0	0	1,981
1974/75	1,517	558	0	0	0	2,075
1975/76	800	630	195	426	203 ^d	2,254
1976/77	0	926	485	820	0	2,231
1977/78	175	954	729	171	0	2,029
1978/79	2,250	0	269	528	0	3,047
1979/80	4,385	975	0	1,140	0	6,500
1980/81	3,506	761	615	1,840	0	6,722
1981/82	4,363	551	0	2,279	0	7,193
1982/83	5,450	0	0	3,250	0	8,713
1983/84	5,830	0	518	2,182	0	8,411
1984/85	7,475	0	0	2,161	0	9,636
1985/86	5,443	0	339	1,537	0	7,319
1986/87	4,216	0	302	1,439	0	5,957
1987/88	9,575	0	586	1,087	0	11,246
1988/89	12,135	0	547	592	0	12,970
1989/90	3,804	0	359	0	0	4,163
1990/91	1,908	0	0	660	0	2,514
1991/92	5,368	0	0	1,246	0	6,614
1992/93	10,186	0	0	737	0	10,953
1993/94	4,758	0	382	749	0	5,884
1994/95	2,908	0	319	626	0	3,853
1995/96	8,144	0	0	605	0	8,749
1996/97	11,147	0	0	1,137	442 ^e	12,726
1997/98	6,705	0	586	616	351 ^e	8,233
1998/99	9,136	0	706	0	506 ^e	10,348
1999/00	4,813	0	389	0	0	4,966
2000/01	11,972	0	620	0	0	12,654
2001/02	9,789	0	1,066	0	0	10,854
2002/03	7,051	0	1,519	0	0	8,570
2003/04	10,492	0	804	0	0	11,296
2004/05	11,366	0	945	0	204 ^e	12,515
2005/06	9,967	0	1,187	0	0	11,155
2006/07	11,571	0	1,219	0	0	12,790
2007/08	14,386	0	1,208	0	306 ^e	15,900
2008/09	14,755	0	867	0	341 ^e	15,962
2009/10	17,602	0	710	0	302 ^e	18,615
2010/11	19,419	0	*	0	* ^f	*

^a Washington Bay (76 tons), Lisianski Inlet (100 tons).

^b Lisianski Inlet.

^c Yakutat Bay (158 tons), Helm Bay (194 tons), and Lisianski Inlet (100 tons).

^d Helm Bay (26 tons), Chaik Bay (40 tons), Pybus Bay (22 tons), Gambier Bay (8 tons), and Kasaan Bay (107 tons).

^e Hobart Bay/Port Houghton commercial sac roe gillnet fishery harvest, not including test fishery harvest.