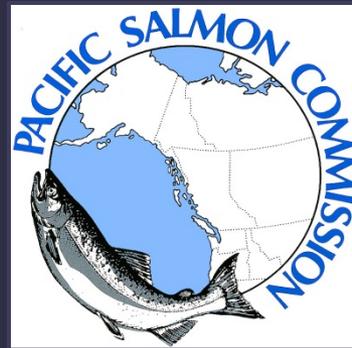


Pacific Salmon Treaty Transparency



May 2018

Outline

1. Pacific Salmon Treaty background:
1985, 1999, 2009, 2019
2. Alaska & the Pacific Salmon Treaty
3. Status of renegotiation
4. 2018 fisheries planning

Why do we have a Treaty?

- U.S. and Canada entered into the Pacific Salmon Treaty in 1985 to **conserve and allocate** salmon harvests of inter-jurisdictional fish

Chinook Migratory Patterns



Issues in the 1985 Negotiations

- ~ 85% of Southeast Alaska Chinook harvest is fish originating in Canada and the Pacific Northwest
- Canadian Chinook and coho fisheries catch high levels of Pacific Northwest Chinook
- Washington fisheries catch Fraser River stocks of Chinook salmon
- Boldt decision recognizing treaty fishing rights for Pacific Northwest Stevens-Palmer treaty tribes

Scope of the Pacific Salmon Treaty



Stocks and fisheries from
Cape Falcon, OR
to
Cape Suckling, AK
= 1,276 linear miles

Scope of the Agreement

- Fishing arrangements for relevant fisheries
- A no jeopardy biological opinion under the Endangered Species Act
 - 28 Chinook salmon and steelhead stocks
 - Southern resident killer whales
- Stipulations preventing the extension of Washington treaty Indian fishing rights into Alaska

Pacific Salmon Treaty Principles

- Prevent overfishing
- Provide for optimum production
- Fair sharing (the equity principle)
- Avoid undue disruption of existing fisheries
- Reduce interceptions

2009 Pacific Salmon Treaty Agreement

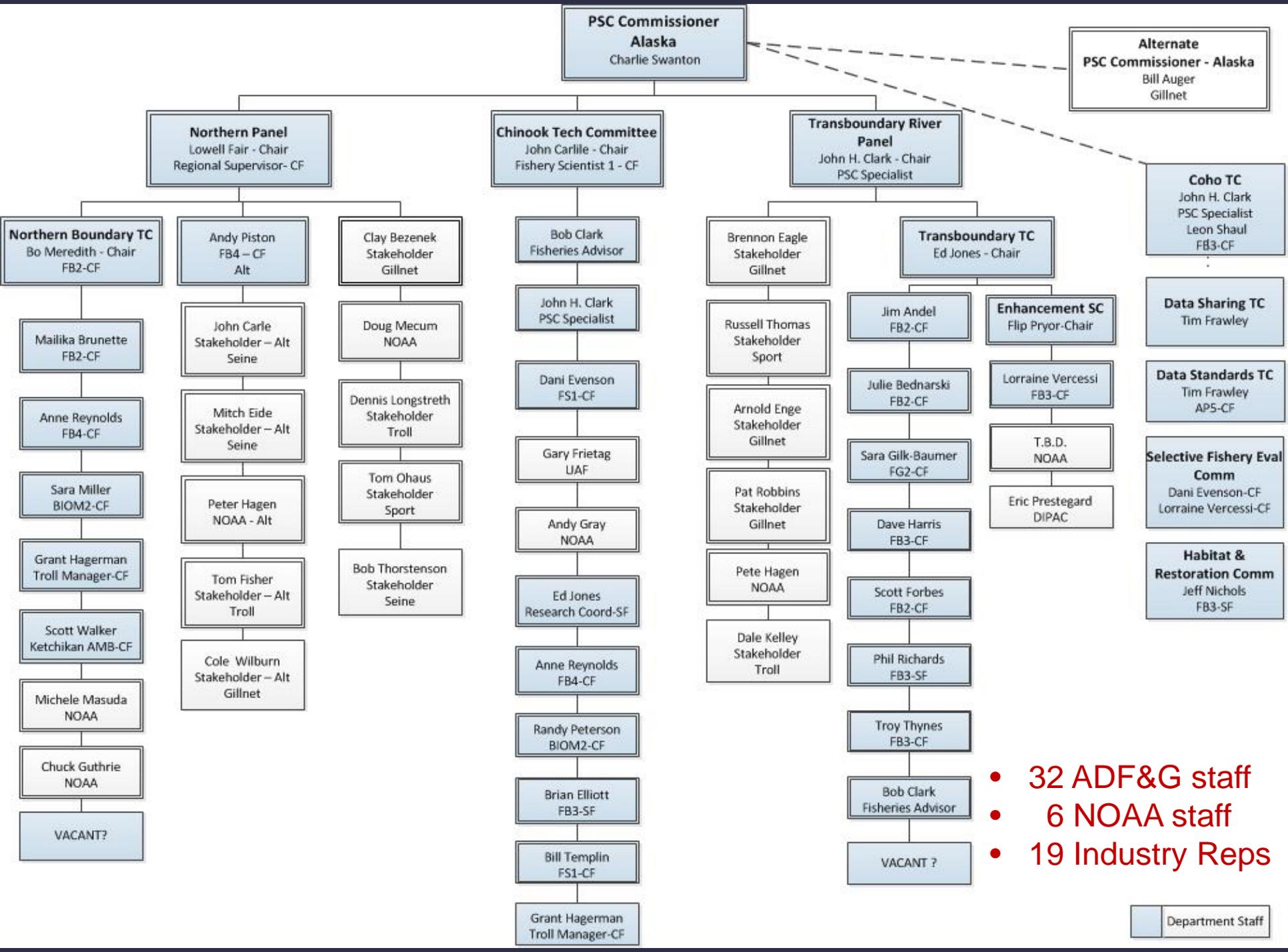
Annex I: Panels

Annex II: Fraser Panel Area

Annex III: Technical Dispute Settlement Board

Annex IV :

- Chp 1. Transboundary Rivers
- Chp 2. Northern BC and Southeast Alaska Boundary Area
- Chp 3. Chinook Salmon
- Chp 5. Coho Salmon
- Chp 6. Southern BC and Washington State Chum Salmon
- Chp 7. General Obligations
- Chp 8. Yukon River



- 32 ADF&G staff
- 6 NOAA staff
- 19 Industry Reps

Department Staff

Southeast Alaska Fisheries under the Pacific Salmon Treaty

- Stikine River Subsistence
- Drift Gillnet
 - Taku / Snettisham
 - Stikine
 - Tree Point
- Troll and Sport
 - Chinook harvest limit
 - Dixon Entrance Coho trigger
- Set Gillnet
 - Alsek River
- Purse Seine
 - District 104

2015 SEAK salmon fisheries value = \$720 M

Chapter 1: Transboundary Rivers



- Alsek River
- Taku River
- Stikine River

Chapter 1: Chronology

- 1979: Canadian commercial fishery commenced on Taku River
- 1985: Impasse over deeming of Transboundary River stocks
- Enhancement of sockeye provides basis for bilateral cooperation
- 1999: Transboundary Rivers Panel created
- 2004: U.S. subsistence fishery initiated on Stikine
- 2005: Agreement with Canada on abundance-based Chinook fisheries for Taku and Stikine
- 2009 & 2019: Adjust national allocations and management implementation

Chapter 1: Scope

- 1985 defines Transboundary River salmon subject to the Pacific Salmon Treaty as “*salmon that originate in the Canadian portion of a Transboundary river*”
- 1999 Transboundary River Panel established for “*salmon originating in the Alsek, Stikine and Taku River systems*”
- Confined fisheries under consideration to Canadian and U.S. in-river fisheries and U.S. fisheries in Districts 106, 108, and 111 of SEAK
- Provides important incentives for the Parties to work cooperatively in the management of salmon returning to the Alsek, Taku and Stikine rivers

Transboundary River Chinook Agreement in the Taku and Stikine

- Recognized escapement goals
- Allocates run in excess of escapement goal
 - Protected base level fisheries
 - Sliding scale with Canada receiving larger percentage of smaller runs
 - Allowable catch based on preseason forecasts that shift to inseason projections of terminal run when available
 - In effect through the 2018 season

Chapter 3: Chinook



Chapter 3: Historical Chronology

- 1985 Agreement:
 - Catch ceilings for major mixed stock fisheries
 - Alaska hatchery fish “free”
- Mid- to late-90s:
 - No agreement reached
 - Ferry blockade
- 1999 Agreement:
 - Implementation of abundance-based management (Abundance Index) regime
 - Endowment funds to support research & management

Chapter 3: Historical Chronology

- 2009 Agreement:
 - 15% reduction to SEAK harvest limit
 - 30% reduction to WCVI harvest limit
 - Mitigation money
 - Funding programs to improve CWT and escapement data for southern U.S. and Canada stocks

Chapter 3: Unique Attributes

- Shared resource coastwide
- Negotiated directly by Commissioners (no panel)
- Most complicated chapter of Pacific Salmon Treaty
- Subject to Endangered Species Act consultation
- Scientifically data intensive
- North/south sharing – Baldrige stipulation
- Highly politicized
- Only salmon fishery in Alaska managed to a harvest limit and escapement goals

Abundance Index (AI)

Preseason AI

- Metric by which harvest limit is determined preseason
- Influenced by terminal run forecasts of driver stocks, recent average survival, projected maturation rates

Postseason AI

- Metric by which harvest limit is determined postseason
- Used to evaluate compliance under Pacific Salmon Treaty
- More accurate incorporating actual terminal runs, observed survival, observed maturation rates

2016 Example

Preseason

- $AI = 2.06$ which equates to a harvest limit of 355,000

Postseason

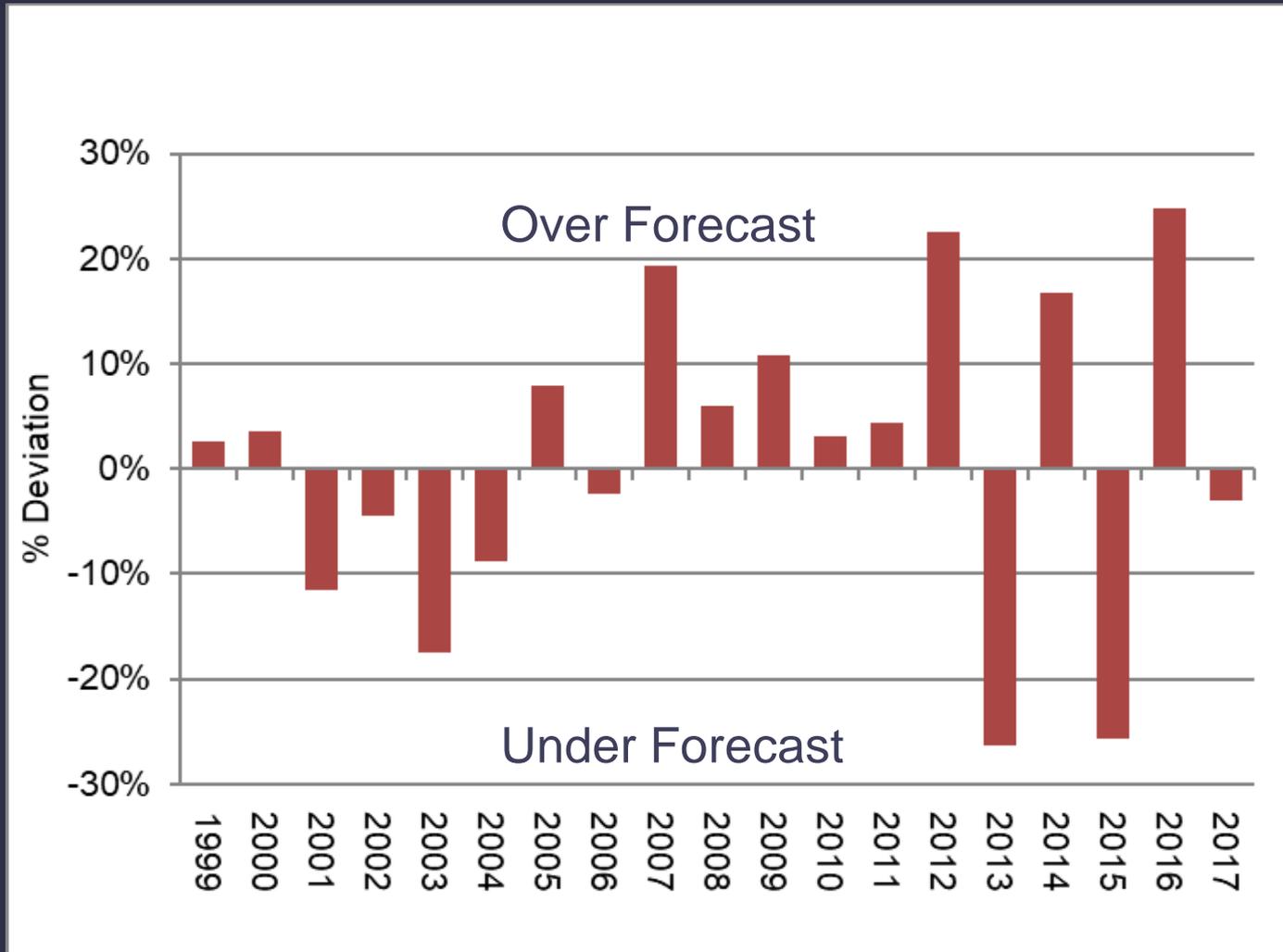
- $AI = 1.65$ which equates to a harvest limit of 288,000
- Observed Catch = 353,000

Overage of 65,000 due to model error

Southeast Alaska Fishery Performance Under the 2009 Agreement

Year	Preseason Allowable Catch	Observed Catch	Post Season Allowable Catch	Overage/ Underage
2009	218,800	228,033	176,000	52,033
2010	221,800	230,611	215,800	14,811
2011	294,800	291,161	283,300	7,861
2012	266,800	242,821	205,100	37,721
2013	176,000	191,388	284,900	-93,512
2014	439,400	435,195	378,600	56,595
2015	237,000	335,026	337,500	-2,474
2016	355,600	350,939	288,200	62,739
2017	209,700	178,348	215,800	-37,452
Cumulative				98,323

Performance of Preseason AIs



Difference between pre- and postseason AIs for the Southeast Alaska AABM fishery: % Deviation

Pacific Salmon Treaty Renegotiation



Status of Renegotiation

- Chapter 1: Transboundary Rivers – complete
- Chapter 2: Northern Boundary Area – on-going
 - On-going discussion on improved stock assessment and sockeye conservation
- Chapter 3: Chinook – on-going
- Chapter 8: Yukon River – not in active negotiation

ACRs likely needed after negotiation completed

Chapter 3: Unresolved Issues

1. Harvest shares
2. Puget Sound
 - current Agreement is not enough to meet Endangered Species Act requirements
3. Incidental mortality
4. Mark selective fisheries
5. Accountability

Chapter 3: Unfulfilled Promises

1999 Agreement

- Rebuilt runs
- Total mortality management

2009 Agreement

- 5-year review of Southeast Alaska 2009 reductions
- Improved escapement programs
- Improved coded wire tagging program



Seattle salmon are hopped up on cocaine and pills

By KIM MALCOLM & ANDY HURST • APR 6, 2018

PROGRAM
All Things
Considered

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A wild Pacific salmon, left, next to an escaped farm-raised Atlantic salmon, right, on Aug. 22 at Home Port Seafoods in Bellingham.

Stormwater pollution in Puget Sound killing coho before they can spawn

Originally published October 18, 2017 at 7:00 am | Updated October 18, 2017 at 12:27 pm



Chapter 3: What Alaska Wanted

- No loss of harvest share
- Divorce from the Chinook Model
- Increased flexibility to manage our own fisheries
- Accountability provisions across all fisheries and jurisdictions that are measurable
- Rebuilding of stocks in Puget Sound
- Commitment to improve data quality and availability
- Fiscal commitment from U.S. government

And A New Treaty Should Not...

- Include requirements that exceed technical capacities to provide information, evaluate, and report on implementation
- Establish unrealistic timelines and obligations that the Parties will not likely be able to meet
- Include levels of complexity that are beyond the capacity available to support implementation
- Include ambiguities and terminology that foster potentials for confusion, misunderstanding, and controversy

Chapter 3: What Alaska Got

- Harvest reductions taken by all Parties
- Divorce from the Chinook Model
- Increased flexibility to manage our own fisheries
- Accountability provisions across all fisheries and jurisdictions that are measurable
- Rebuilding of stocks in Puget Sound
- Commitment to improve data quality and availability
- Fiscal commitment from U.S. government

2018 Fisheries Planning



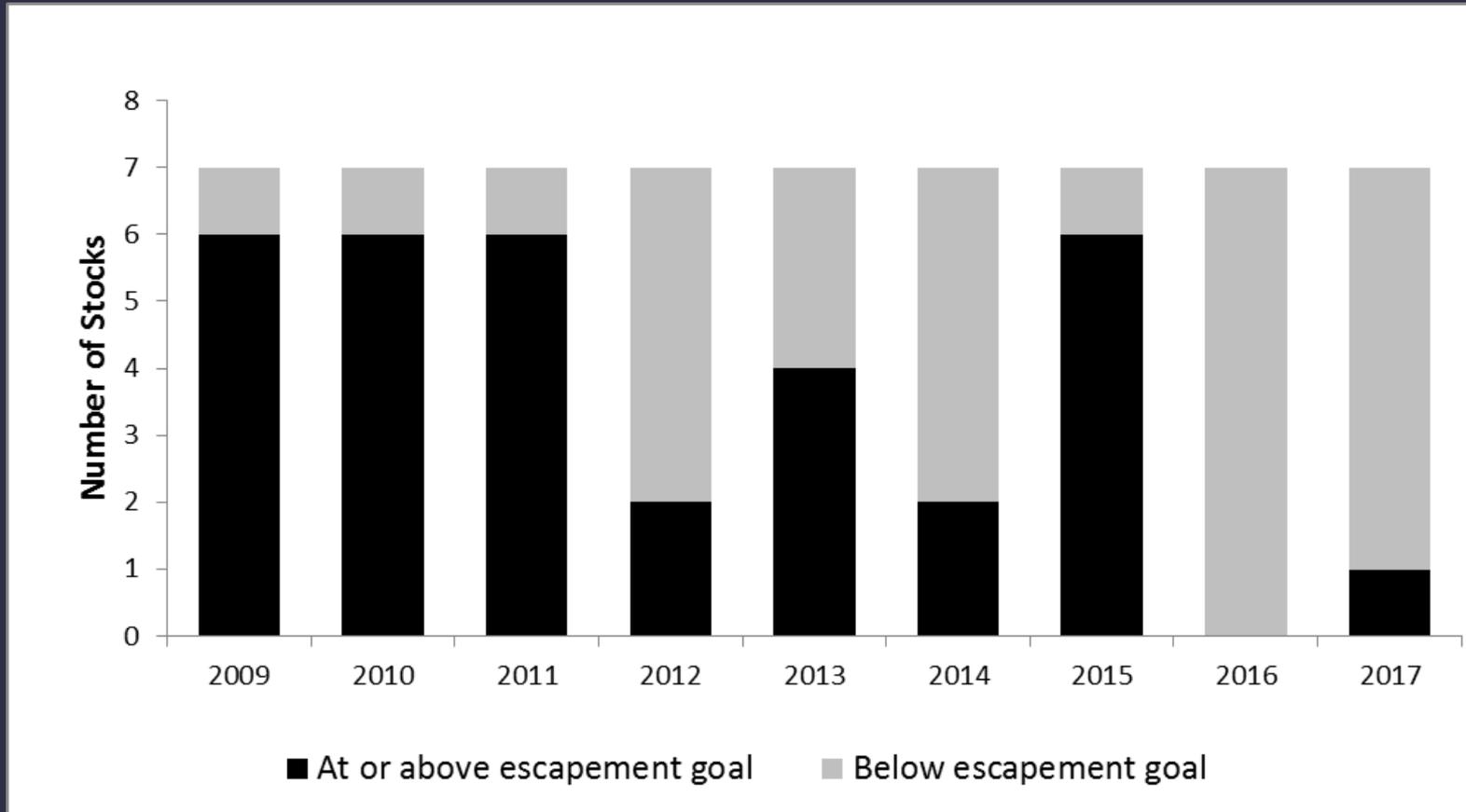
2018 MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- Chronic failures to attain escapement goals
- 2018 forecasts for record low runs
- Sustainable Salmon Fishery Policy and Pacific Salmon Treaty obligations
- BOF King Salmon Action Plans
- Bilateral Collaborative Management

Pacific Salmon Treaty Obligations

1. Achieve escapement goals for Southeast Alaska and Transboundary River stocks
2. Manage to preseason harvest limit
3. Do not exceed the 1st postseason harvest limit
4. Manage to standardized fishing regime

Southeast Alaska Chinook Escapements



7 Indicator stocks: Situk, Alsek, Chilkat, Taku, Stikine, Unuk, Chickamin

2018 Preseason AI

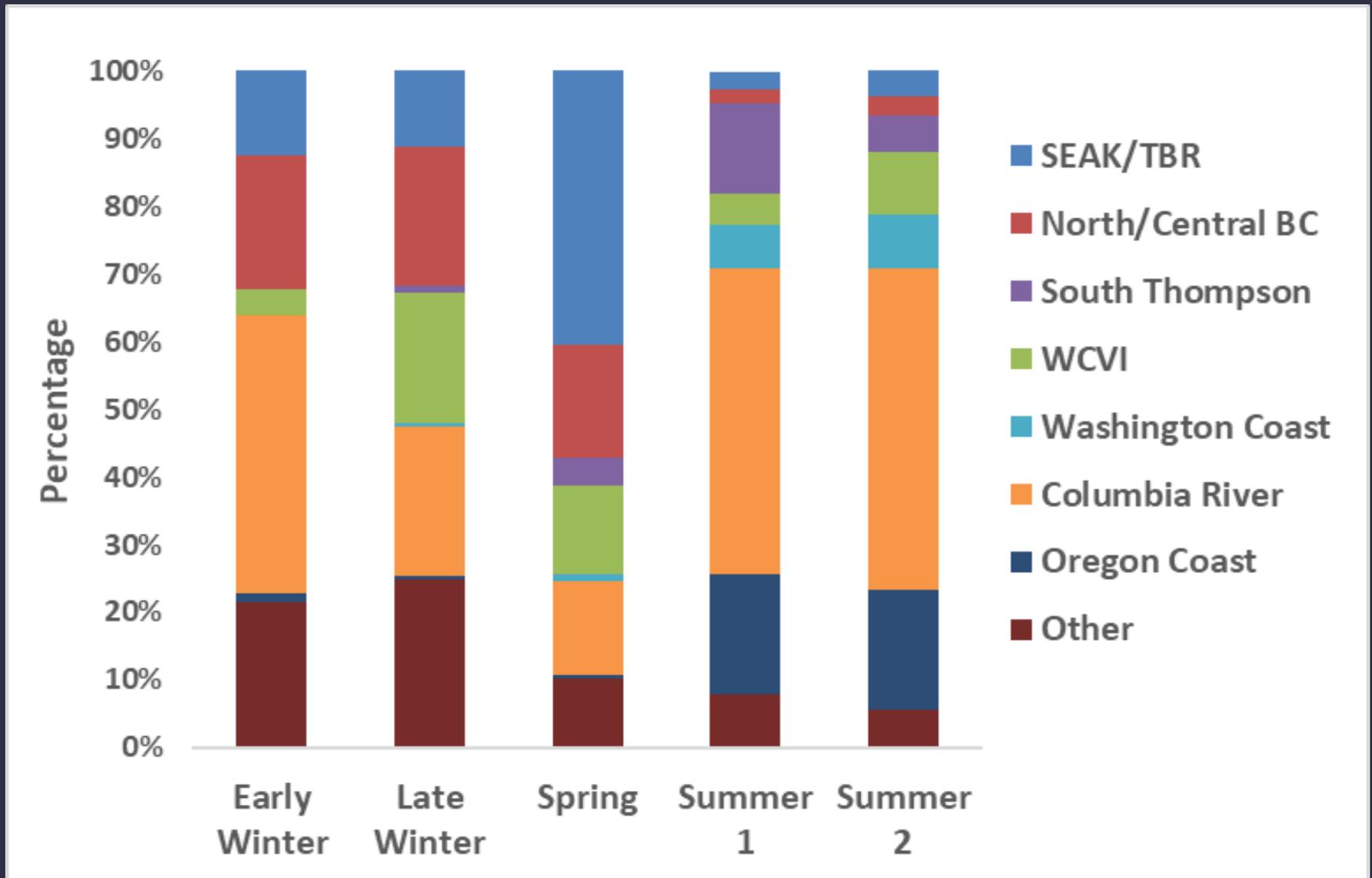
Preseason

- AI = 1.07 which equates to a harvest limit of 144,500
- 10% reduction reduces to a harvest limit of 130,000

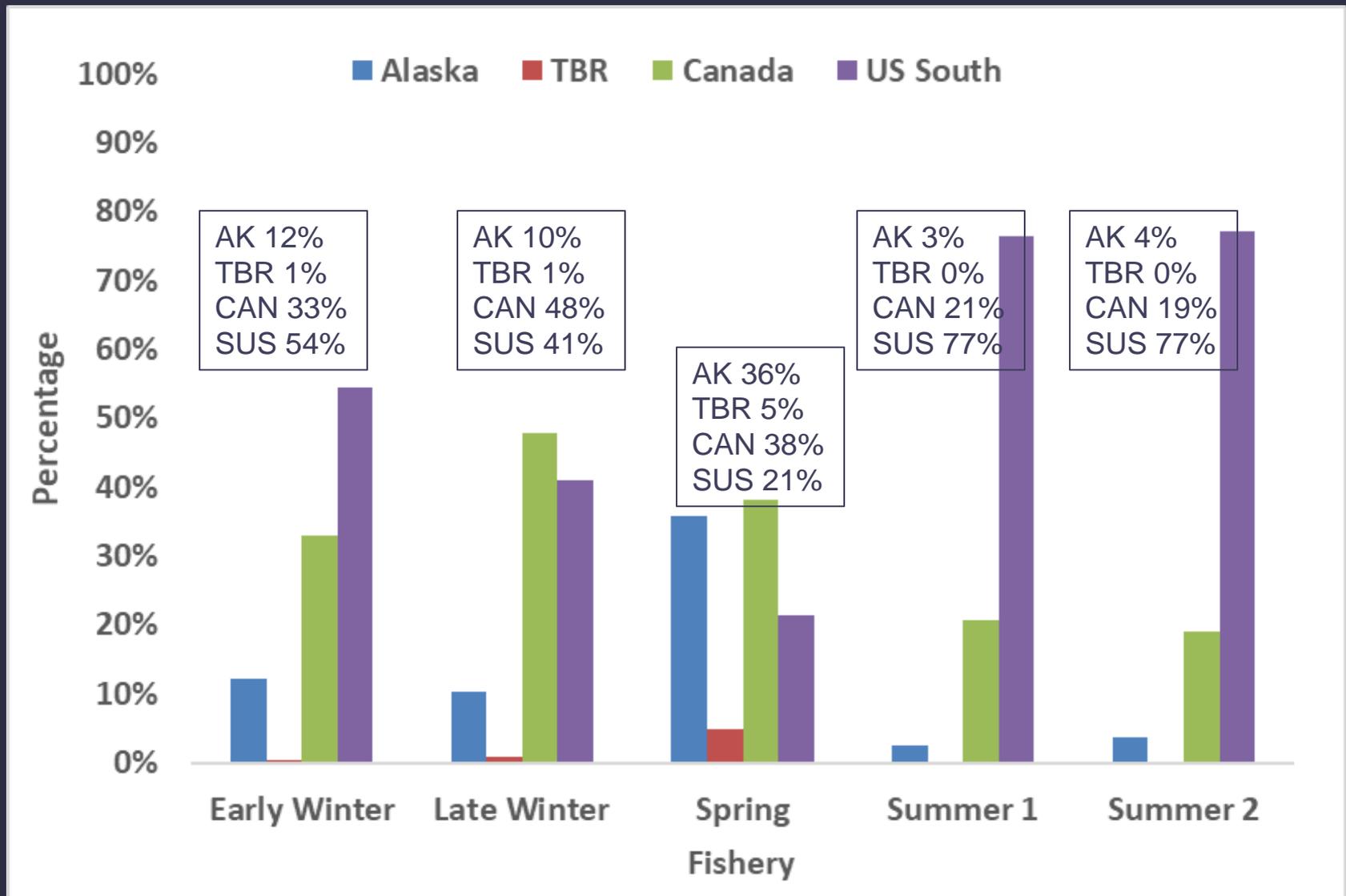
Low AI due to poor forecasts for 6 of 7 “Driver Stocks”

- Southeast Alaska
- Northern British Columbia
- Fraser River
- Columbia River
- Oregon Coast
- West Coast Vancouver Island

Stock Composition: 2016 Troll Fishery



Stock Composition: 2016 Troll Fishery



2018 Gear Allocation

Set gillnet	1,000
Purse seine	5,600
Drift gillnet	3,800
Troll	95,700
Sport	23,900
Total	130,000

