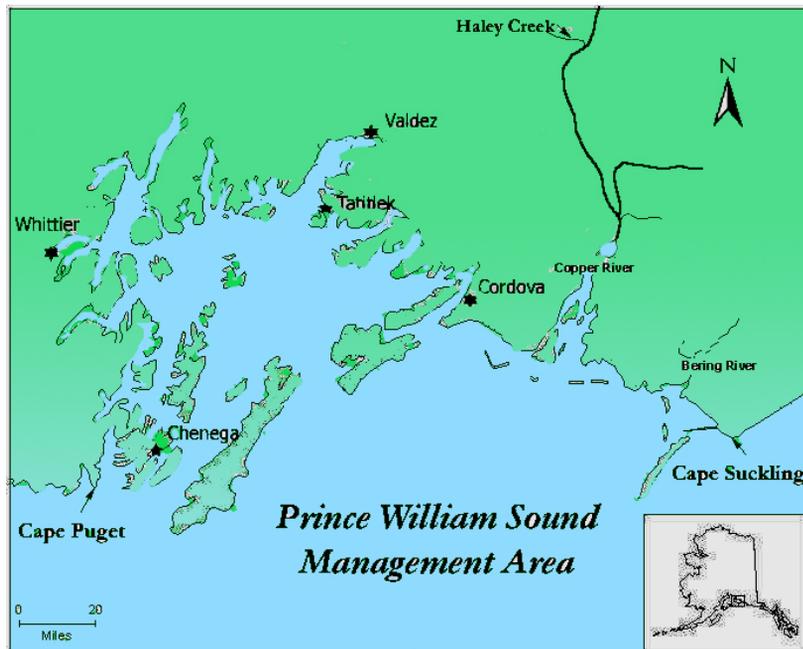


Recreational Fisheries of the Prince William Sound Management Area

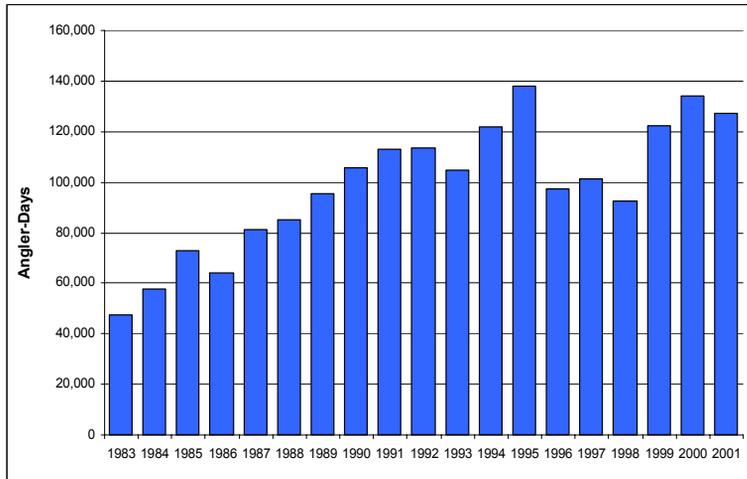
A Presentation to the Alaska Board of Fisheries, 2003



Matt G. Miller
Division of Sport Fish
Area Management Biologist
Anch/Res Bay/PWS



Angler Effort in the PWSMA



Diversity of Opportunity



Chinook Salmon

✦ West of the Copper River fisheries primarily targeting hatchery stocked chinook

- ◆ ADF&G releases from Valdez, Cordova, Whittier

✦ Harvest



- ◆ 1983-1992

(pre-hatchery)

- 600 king salmon

- ◆ 1993-2000

- 1,900 king salmon

Chinook Salmon Limits

✦ Freshwater (statewide jack king reg. adopted in 2000)

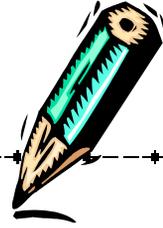
- ◆ King salmon 20" or more
 - 2/day and 4/possession
- ◆ King salmon less than 20"
 - 10/day and 10/possession

✦ Saltwater

- ◆ King salmon 16" or more
 - 2/day and 4/possession
- ◆ King salmon less than 16"
 - 6/day and 12/possession



Chinook Proposals



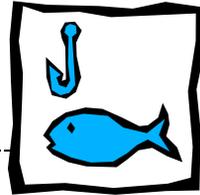
✦ Proposal 75

- ◆ Change king salmon limits as follows:

Saltwater

- 2/day and 4/possession

Other Salmon



✦ Coho Salmon

- ◆ Ten-year (1991-2000) average harvest of 70,000 coho annually
- ◆ PWSAC and VFDA enhanced released from 6 locations in PWS

✦ Sockeye Salmon

- ◆ Ten-year (1991-2000) average harvest of 7,000 sockeye annually
- ◆ Coghill River, Eshamy, Cordova road system, Main Bay Hatchery salmon

✦ Pink Salmon

- ◆ Ten-year (1991-2000) average harvest of 39,000 pink salmon annually
- ◆ Over 200 streams support wild runs, VFDA returns

✦ Chum Salmon

- ◆ Ten-year (1991-2000) average harvest of 2,000 chum salmon annually
- ◆ Wild stocks in eastern PWS and hatchery returns to Wally Noerenberg Hatchery

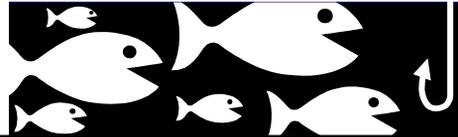
Other Salmon Limits

✧ Freshwater

- ◆ 6/day and 12/possession, only 3/day and 3/possession may be coho salmon

✧ Saltwater

- ◆ 6/day and 12/possession, only 3/day and 3/possession may be coho salmon



Other Salmon Proposals

✧ Coho Salmon

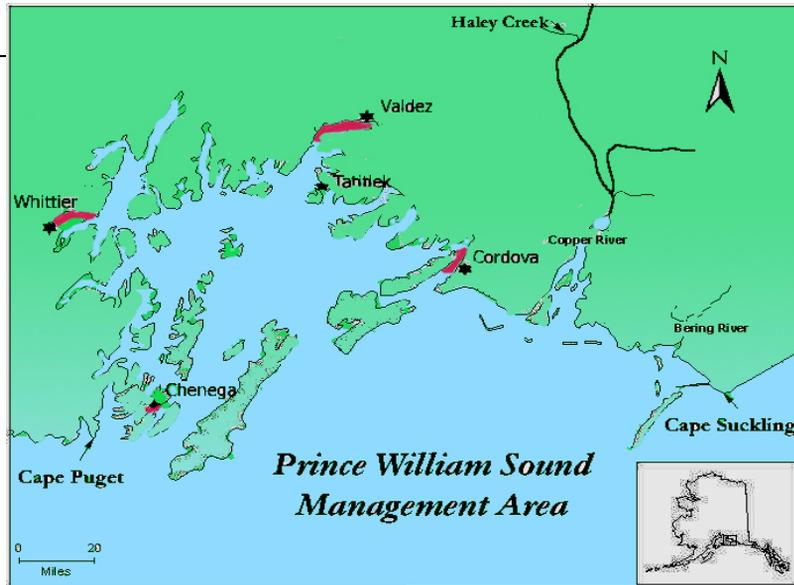
- ◆ Proposal 67
 - Raise the freshwater limit for coho salmon from 3/day and 3/possession to 6/day and 6/possession.
- ◆ Proposal 68
 - Raise the saltwater limit for coho salmon from 3/day and 3/possession to 6/day and 12/possession
- ◆ Proposal 71
 - Prohibit catch and release coho salmon fishing along the Copper River Highway when using roe

✧ Sockeye Salmon

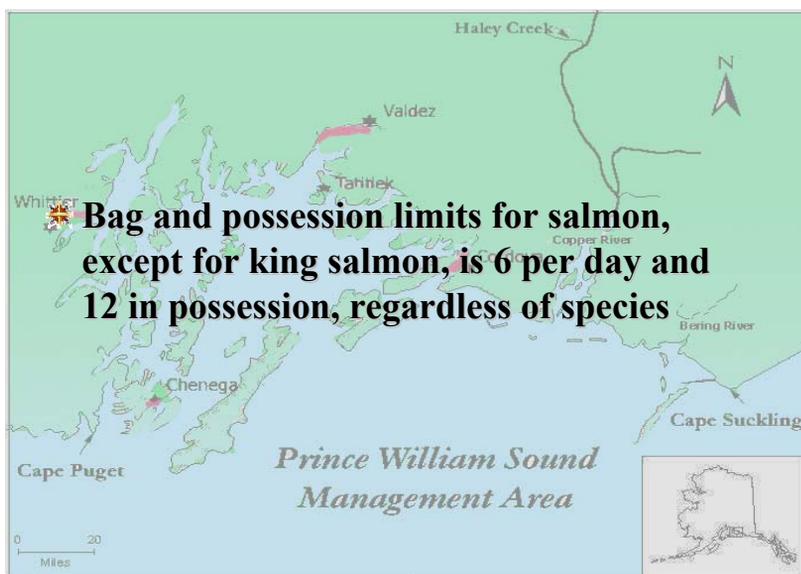
- ◆ Proposal 74
 - Prohibit the snagging of sockeye in the marine waters of PWS from June 1-July 31 except in the designated marine waters of Main Bay



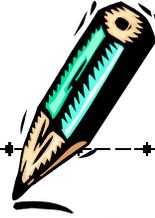
Terminal Harvest Areas



Terminal Harvest Areas



THA Proposals



✦ Proposal 69

- ◆ Raise limits for coho salmon in Terminal Harvest Areas from 6/day and 12/possession to 12/day and 12/possession

✦ Proposal 70

- ◆ Clarify the fresh/saltwater status of Fleming Spit Lagoon

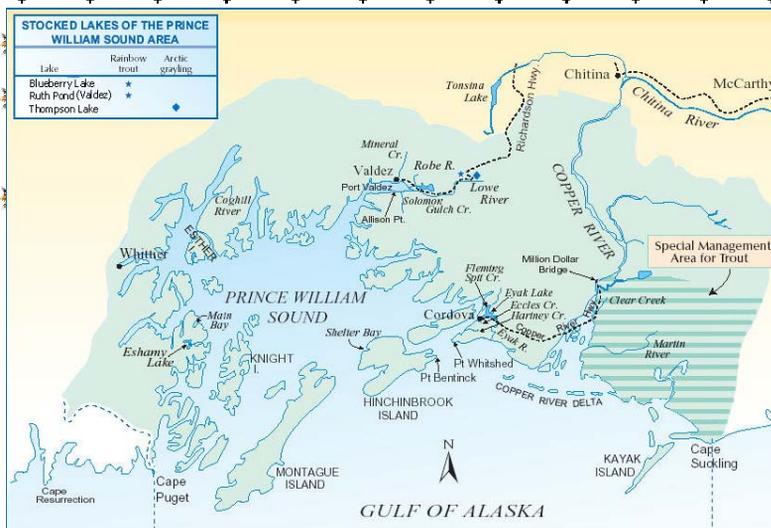
✦ Proposal 72

- ◆ Extend the boundary of the Valdez THA to a line from Point Freemantle to Rocky Point, excluding Jack, Sawmill and Galena Bays

✦ Proposal 73

- ◆ Extend the boundary of the Valdez THA to a line from Point Freemantle to Rocky Point, and make the salmon bag limit 6/day and 12/possession regardless of species

Trout



Trout Limits

☼ Freshwater

◆ Rainbow/steelhead

- 5/day and 10/possession, only 1/day and 2/possession may be 20" or longer

◆ Cutthroat

- June 15-April 14; 2 /day and 2/possession
- Except along Copper River Highway- 5/day and 5/possession, only 1/day and 1/possession may be over 10" length

☼ Saltwater

◆ Cutthroat

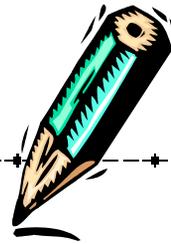
- June 15-April 14; 2/per day and 2/possession



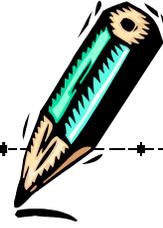
Trout Proposals

☼ Proposal 92

- ◆ Offers two options to combine wild rainbow/steelhead/cutthroat bag, possession and size limits
 - Stocked lakes will remain at 5/day and 10/possession; and seasonal closures will remain in effect



Other Proposals



✦ Proposal 18

- ✦ Establish a bow-fishery for sharks in PWS

✦ Proposal 456 (formally Petition #4)

- ✦ Close the waters of Whittier Small Boat Harbor to snagging

Prince William Sound Management Area

