

2013 Statistical Area Break Down for Upper Cook Inlet East Side Set Net Fishery

District Name	Stat Area Name	Deliveries	Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total
244 - UCI Central	24421 - Niniichik	769	270	225060	236	3498	120	229184
	24422 - Coho	677	659	139423	160	5120	3	145365
	24425 - Kasilof Terminal Set	515	322	61228	543	2299	1	64393
	24431 - Kailfonsky South	411	270	111490	53	1014	2	112829
	24432 - Kalifonsky North	199	423	93384	73	363	2	94245
	24441 - Salamantof South	509	786	242107	602	1171	63	244729
	24442 - Salamantof North	108	54	29594	607	1113	21	31389

Statistical Area	244-21	244-22	244-25	244-31	244-32	244-41	244-42
Sockeye:Chinook	834:1	212:1	190:1	413:1	221:1	308:1	548:1

It is fairly apparent that there is a large amount of variance between stat areas as to the efficiency of sockeye to king harvest, as well as sockeye harvest per hour fished in general. The point being that different parts of the beach need to be fished differently, and a rigid plan that works for one specific beach will not allow all beaches to prosecute a fishery. Certain sections of the beach that are slower fisheries need more time in the water in order to have equal opportunity to the beaches near the river, fortunately it is precisely these beaches that have the best sockeye to chinook catch rates and can be afforded the time in the water. It is extremely important to allow the department to keep the flexibility they have, and in fact encourage them to use all of the flexibility allotted to them in regards to time and area that is already within their power. I realize that 6 statistical areas might be a bit much for the department to manage independently, and expect that what may actually happen is a middle ground of 3 pairs of statistical areas managed independently from each other. This self-evident geographic break down makes much more sense in many ways than the current two section system with its somewhat arbitrary line of demarcation. I support combining this flexible approach with a restriction to shallow nets during low king salmon abundance. Of all the things mentioned, shallow gear is the one step-down method that allows a reasonable expectation of improving that all important sockeye to chinook ratio.

RC 148
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Person