Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim Region
2016 Escapement Goal Review
and Recommendations

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Summary Report to the 2016 AYK Meeting
of the Alaska Board of Fisheries
Written report: RC 3 Tab 1 (color)
Presentation copy: RC 3 Tab 1 (black)
What was reviewed?

• Inventory of existing goals and stocks with significant fisheries
• Updated escapement and abundance time series and analyses
• Management needs and stock assessment
  • Performance of existing goals
  • Ability to assess existing goals
  • Change indicated by updated data and analysis
  • Need for new goals
Process for Escapement Goal Recommendations

• Staff planning session, early October 2014
• Large meeting with stakeholders, February 2015
• Preliminary recommendations to stakeholders on March 31, 2015
• Final EG recommendations and Stock of Concern review to Board work session, October 21, 2015
• Approval following Board meeting by Directors of Commercial Fisheries and Sport Fish Divisions
Norton Sound-Port Clarence Area

**King salmon** - Recommended changes

- **Fish R/Boston Cr and Old Woman (Unalakleet) R**: Discontinue (poor survey conditions prevent accurate assessment of goal)

- **Kwiniuk R**: Revise SEG to lower bound > 250 (no targeted commercial fisheries on this stock)
Norton Sound-Port Clarence Area

**Chum salmon** - Recommended changes

- **Niukluk R**: Discontinue (tower no longer operated)
- **Old Woman (Unalakleet) R**: Discontinue (poor aerial survey conditions prevent accurate assessment of goal)
Norton Sound-Port Clarence Area

**Coho salmon** - Recommended changes

- **Niukluk River**: Discontinue (tower no longer operated)
- **Niukluk R/Ophir Ck**: New SEG 750 – 1,600 (aerial survey)
Norton Sound-Port Clarence Area

Pink salmon

Sockeye salmon

Kotzebue Sound

Salmon L (sockeye)

Glacial L (sockeye)

Nome R

Niukluk R

Kwiniuk R

North R

Port Clarence

Norton Sound

Unalakleet

Stebbins

Norton Sound - Port Clarence Area

Pink salmon

Sockeye salmon
Norton Sound-Port Clarence Area

**Pink salmon** - Recommended changes

- **Niukluk River**: Discontinue (tower no longer operated)

**Sockeye salmon** - No changes
Kotzebue District
Chum salmon

No changes
King salmon

No changes
Yukon Area *Summer Chum Salmon*

**Recommendation: new drainage-wide BEG**

500,000 to 1.2 million fish

- Based on run reconstruction using:
  - 7 ground-based and 6 aerial assessments
  - harvest estimates – subsistence and commercial
  - Pilot Station sonar abundance index
- Continue to assess in-season using sonar index (Pilot Station)
- Verify post-season with run reconstruction
Yukon Area
Summer chum salmon

Canada
U.S.
Yukon R
Anvik
Nulato R
Rodo R
Tozitna R
Henshaw Cr
Chena R
Yukon R
Gisasa R
E Fork Andreafsky R
Kaltag R
Salcha R
Rodo R
Anvik R

0 50 100 200 300 400 Miles

N
Yukon Area
Fall chum salmon
Coho salmon

Yukon R drainagewide
Sheenjek R
Chandalar R
Porcupine R
Fishing Branch R
Delta Clearwater R
Delta R
Tanana R

Canada
U.S.
Yukon Area

**Fall chum salmon** - Recommended changes

- **Sheenjek River**: Discontinue (sonar assessment no longer operated)
- **Upper Yukon Tributaries\(^1\)**: Discontinue

\(^1\)Includes Chandalar, Sheenjek, Fishing Branch Rivers

**Coho salmon** - No change
Kuskokwim Area – **King salmon**

- Kuskokwim R drainage
- Aniak R
- Kisaralik R
- Kwethluk R
- Holitna R
- Kogrukluk R
- Kanektok R
- Salmon (Aniak) R
- Salmon R (Pitka Fork)
- Cheeneetnuk R
- Gagarayah R

North Fk (Main) Goodnews R
Middle Fk Goodnews R
Kuskokwim Area

King salmon - Recommended changes

- Kanektok River: Revise goal (based on updated information)
  - Old SEG: 3,500 – 8,000 fish
  - New SEG: 3,900 – 12,000 fish
Kuskokwim Area – Chum salmon

Kuskokwim R
Aniak R
Kogruklu R
Middle Fk Goodnews R
Kuskokwim Bay

23 Miles
Kuskokwim Area

**Chum salmon** - Recommended change

- **Aniak River**: Discontinue  (sonar no longer operated)
Kuskokwim Area

Sockeye salmon - Recommended changes

- **Kanektok River**: Revise\(^1\)
  - Old SEG: 14,000 – 34,000 fish
  - **New SEG**: 15,300 – 41,000 fish

- **North (Main) Fork Goodnews River**: Revise\(^1\)
  - Old SEG: 5,500 – 19,500 fish
  - **New SEG**: 9,600 – 18,000 fish

\(^1\) based on updated information
No changes
Escapement Goal Evaluation is Ongoing

Stock Status – Biology/Ecology

Escapement Goal

Fishery

Stock Assessment - Information

Re-evaluate Goal

Update data series

Management – Desired Outcomes

New projects-methods

New analyses