

Overview of the Bristol Bay Commercial Salmon and Herring Fisheries








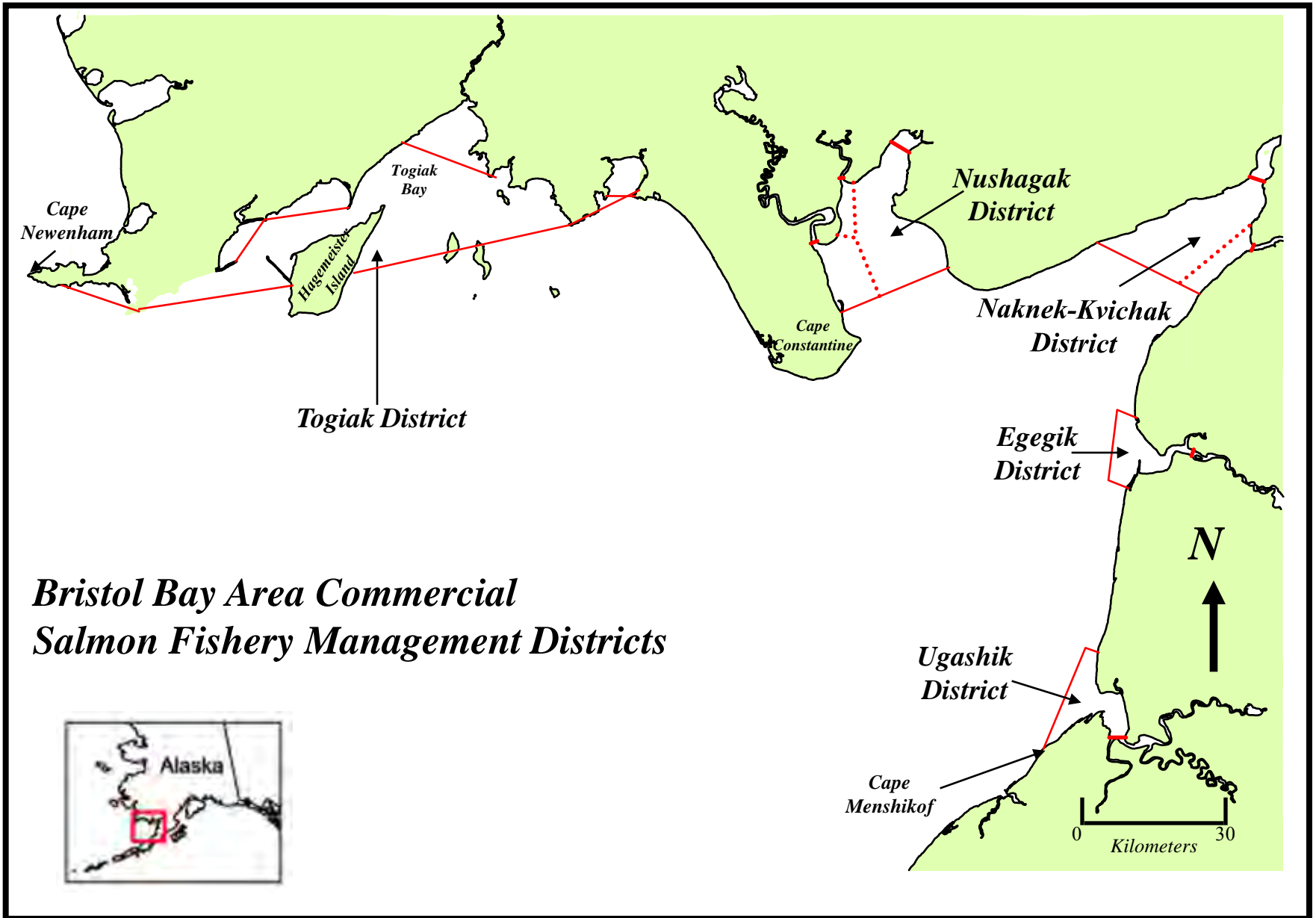
Report to the Alaska Board of Fisheries

Oral: RC 3 tab 6

Written: RC 3 tab 2









Synopsis

-  **General information**
-  **Management tools**
-  **Salmon Trends**
-  **Allocation**
-  **Preview Commercial Fish Proposals**
-  **Togiak Herring**



Bristol Bay Salmon Fishery

5 Commercial Fishing Districts

-  Drift and set gillnet gear types.
 -  Drift 150 fathoms 1,863 permits.
 -  Dual drift permits allowed 200 fathoms.
 -  Set 50 fathoms 977 permits.
-  Drift gillnet registration required in Nushagak and Togiak prior to fishing.
-  Registration not required until June 25 in other districts.
-  Set gillnet registration required in Nushagak District.
-  Permit holders may transfer to new area with 48 hr. wait

Management Tools

- **Preseason Forecasts**
- **Port Moller Test Fishery**
- **District Test Fishery**
- **Commercial Catch**
- **Inriver Test Fishery**
- **Aerial Surveys**
- **Tower Count Data**



Bristol Bay Sockeye Salmon Trends

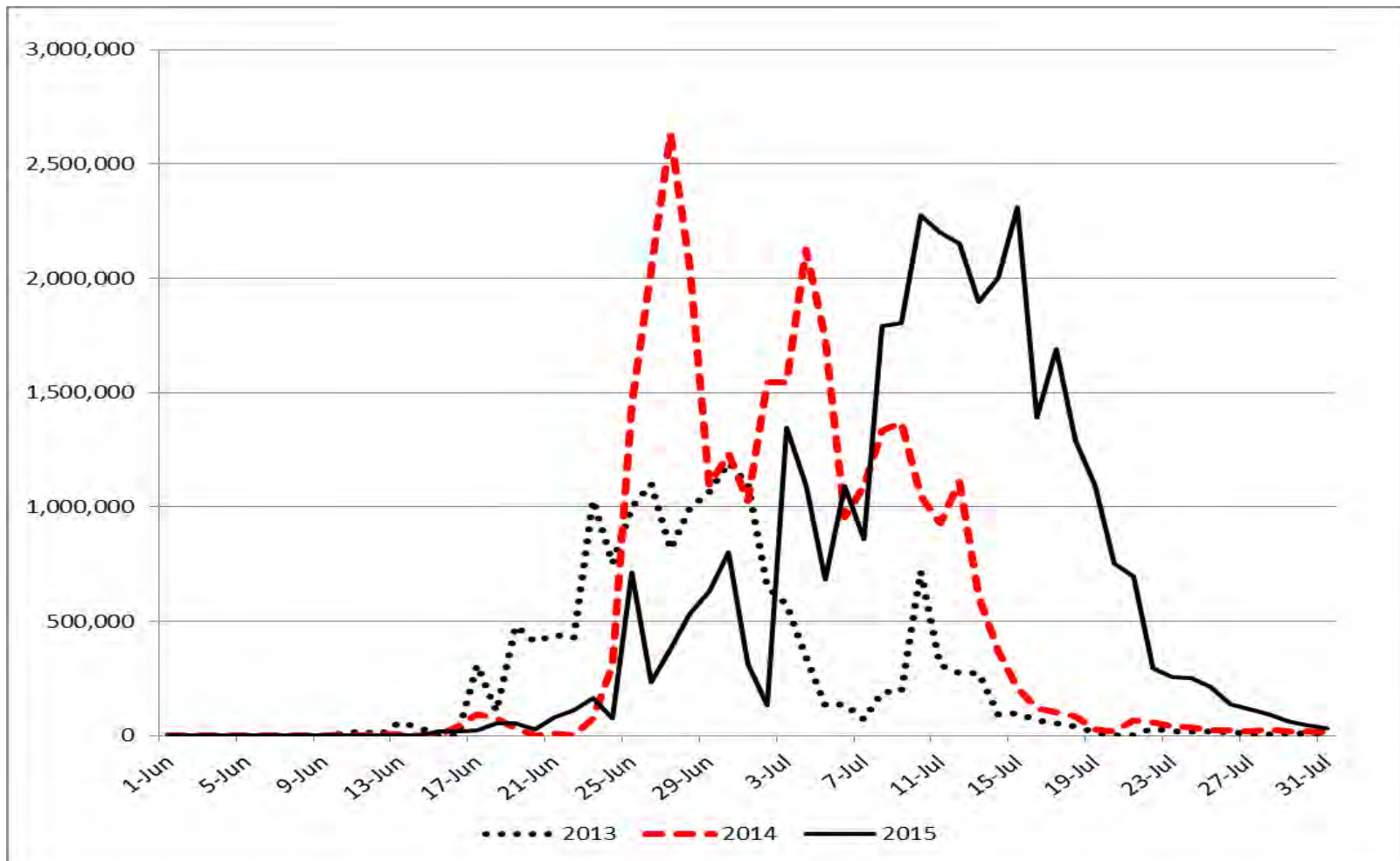
Year	\$/lb.	Harvest (millions)	Value (millions)	Registered drift permits
2011-2015	\$1.07	25	\$131	1,735
2001-2010	\$0.65	24	\$92	1,684
1991-2000	\$0.79	28	\$122	1,875
1981-1991	\$1.04	24	\$134	1,821

Bristol Bay Escapements by River System

	<u>Ugashik</u>	<u>Egegik</u>	<u>Naknek</u>	<u>Kvichak</u>	<u>Alagnak</u>
2013	898,110	1,113,630	938,160	2,088,576	1,095,950
2014	640,158	1,382,466	1,474,428	4,458,540	200,500
2015	1,564,638	2,160,792	1,920,954	7,341,612	5,770,650
Esc Goal	500,000–1.4 million	800,000–2 million	800,000–2 million	2–10 million	>320,000

	<u>Nushagak</u>	<u>Wood</u>	<u>Igushik</u>	<u>Togiak</u>
2013	894,172	1,183,368	387,744	128,118
2014	618,477	2,764,614	340,590	151,534
2015	796,684	1,941,474	651,172	218,700
Esc. Goal	370,000–900,000	700,000–1.8 million	150,000–400,000	120,000–270,000

2013–2015 Bristol Bay Daily Sockeye Salmon Harvest



Number of Permits by Gear Group

Year	Drift Permits				Set Permits			Total Permits
	Total	Fished	Dual	%Fished	Total	Fished	%Fished	
2005	1,862	1,526		82%	988	829	84%	2,850
2006	1,859	1,567		84%	985	844	86%	2,844
2007	1,862	1,621		87%	983	836	85%	2,845
2008	1,863	1,636		88%	980	850	87%	2,843
2009	1,863	1,642		88%	981	855	87%	2,844
2010	1,863	1,731	360	93%	983	861	88%	2,846
2011	1,862	1,747	339	94%	981	878	90%	2,846
2012	1,862	1,740	326	93%	979	883	90%	2,841
2013	1,862	1,709	313	92%	978	854	87%	2,840
2014	1,863	1,751	312	93%	977	883	90%	2,840
2015	1,863	1,744	309	94%	NA	NA	NA	NA

Harvest Percentages vs. Allocation (2008–2015)

Year	Naknek-Kvichak Set Sections			Egegik		Ugashik		Nushagak Set Sections		
	Drift	Naknek	Kvichak	Drift	Set	Drift	Set	Drift	Nushagak	Igushik
	2008	81	12	7	85	15	92	8	79	16
2009	80	12	9	85	15	87	13	77	20	4
2010	80	10	9	84	16	90	10	77	17	6
2011	83	10	7	84	16	88	12	77	16	7
2012	85	7	8	83	17	89	11	63	27	6
2013	84	9	7	85	15	90	10	78	17	5
2014	83	9	8	89	11	83	17	74	16	7
2015	84	8	8	81	19	91	9	69	22	9
2008-2015 Avg.	83	10	8	85	16	89	11	74	19	6
Regulatory Allocation	84	8	8	86	14	90	10	74	20	6

Registration Reregistration

- 14 proposals seeking to modify start dates for district drift registration in east side districts.
- Compromise intended to avoid use of general district.
- Intended to induce fishermen to start fishing earlier and to provide fish to processors earlier in the season in hopes of avoiding limit scenarios.

Nushagak District Set Gillnet Registration

- 🐟 6 stat areas in Nushagak District
- 🐟 Registration required before fishing
- 🐟 Remained at request of Stakeholders
- 🐟 Viewed as protection for fixed gear
- 🐟 Proposals 42 and 43

Togiak District Registration

- Permit registered can't transfer
- Vessel registered can transfer
- Togiak run is later than rest of Bay
- Togiak run much smaller
- Proposal 44

Permit Stacking

- 🐟 6 proposals (45-50) seeking to allow permit stacking for set gillnets.
 - 🐟 Permit stacking is currently not allowed with set gillnets. Was allowed 2009-2012.
- 🐟 3 proposals (51-53) seeking to modify regulations for dual drift gillnet operations.
 - 🐟 Two permit holders fishing from the same vessel may fish an additional 50 fathoms.



Proposals 68 -71

Wood River SHA

- 🐟 Different allocation rules depending on reason for opening.
- 🐟 3 drift to 1 set when protecting Nushagak sockeye.
- 🐟 Combined with district allocation when harvesting surplus Wood River fish.

Togiak Herring

- 🐟 Population is healthy and sustainable.
- 🐟 Price was \$50 per ton in 2015.
- 🐟 Gillnet effort was record low of 6 in 2015.
- 🐟 Purse seine effort was 16 in 2015.
- 🐟 Allocation is 30% gillnet 70% seine.
- 🐟 Proposals 88 – 91.

