Kodiak Salmon Overview & Westside Kodiak Salmon Management Plan

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Division of Commercial Fisheries

Oral Report: RC 3; Tab 2
Staff Comments: RC 2; Tab 11

Ayakulik River; Brad Fuerst
KMA Overview Topics

1. Description of Kodiak Salmon Fishery
2. Average Run Timing by Species
3. Catch and Escapement by Species

Westside Management Topics

1. Karluk Early Run
2. Ayakulik Early Run
3. Pink Salmon Management
4. Spiridon Bay
5. Karluk Late Run
KMA Salmon Management Plans
Average Weekly Salmon Harvest for the KMA, 1997-2016

- **EARLY-RUN SOCKEYE**: Karluk, Ayakulik, Alitak, Igvak
- **LATE-RUN SOCKEYE**: Karluk, Upper Station
- **WILD PINK**: Ayakulik, Alitak, Igvak, Spiridon
- **WILD CHUM**: Karluk, Upper Station
- **HATCHERY PINK**: Karluk, Ayakulik, Alitak, Igvak
- **HATCHERY CHUM**: Karluk, Ayakulik, Alitak, Igvak, Spiridon

**Graph Details**
- **Axes**: Y-axis: Number of salmon, X-axis: Week
- **Colors**:
  - Red: Sockeye
  - Green: Chum
  - Gray: Wild Pink
  - Pink: Hatchery Pink
  - Blue: Coho

**Legend**:
- **Sockeye**
- **Hatchery Pink**
- **Wild Pink**
- **Chum**
- **Coho**
Seine & Set Gillnet Areas of KMA

Seine – Only Areas

Set Gillnet – Only Areas

Seine & Set Gillnet Areas
Number of KMA Commercial Salmon Permits Fished

- **Number of active permits**:
  - 500
  - 450
  - 400
  - 350
  - 300
  - 250
  - 200
  - 150
  - 100
  - 50
  - 0

- Seine 5-year avg. 175
- Set gillnet 5-year avg. 150
Kodiak Sockeye Salmon Escapement

- Moderate Karluk & Ayakulik recovery began in 2012
- 2007–2016 avg. escapement of 1,250,000
- 2007–2016 avg. 85% of KMA (or 1,050,000) escapement from Karluk, Ayakulik, Upper Station, and Frazer

Kodiak Sockeye Salmon Harvest

- Above average harvest two of the past three years
- 2007–2016 avg. harvest of 2,250,000
- 2007–2016 avg. 70% (or 1,800,000) of KMA sockeye salmon harvest from Westside, Igyvak, and Alitak
Kodiak Pink Salmon Escapement

- Since 2007, odd-year dominance
- 2007–2016 avg. escapement of 4,200,000 fish
- 2016 KMA pink salmon escapement was 75% minimum escapement

Kodiak Pink Salmon Harvest

- Variable relative abundance
- Harvest of 33 million (2015) to 3.2 million (2016)
- 2007–2016 avg. 70% of KMA pink salmon harvested in non-hatchery areas
- 2007–2016 avg. harvest of 18,000,000 fish
Kodiak Chum Salmon Escapement

- 2007–2016 avg. escapement of 317,000 fish
- Part of recent low escapement numbers reflect less aerial surveys

Kodiak Chum Salmon Harvest

- 2017 – 2016 avg. 80% KMA chum are harvested in non-hatchery areas
- 2007–2016 avg. harvest of 732,000 fish
- Low harvest in 2014 and 2016 partially due to weak pink run
Kodiak Coho Salmon Escapement

- 2007–2016 avg. 80,000
- Part of recent low escapement numbers reflect less aerial surveys

Kodiak Coho Salmon Harvest

- 2007–2016 avg. 295,000
- 2007–2016 avg. 68% of KMA coho salmon harvested in non-hatchery areas
Kodiak King Salmon Escapement

- Major systems are Karluk and Ayakulik Rivers
- 2007–2016 avg. of 6,100 fish

Kodiak King Salmon Harvest

- 2007–2016 avg. 15,000 fish
- Decline in harvest the past three seasons
Westside Kodiak Salmon Management Plan
In June, the majority of the Westside is managed based on the Karluk early run sockeye salmon.
• June 1–July 5 the majority of the Westside commercial salmon fishery is managed based on Karluk early run sockeye salmon BEG of 110,000 – 250,000 fish

Karluk Early Run Escapement Goal 110,000 – 250,000

- 2014 Escapement – 236,144
- 2015 Escapement – 233,036
- 2016 Escapement – 164,760
Karluk Early Run

- Achieved goal for the past 5 years; 5 – year avg. escapement of 201,000 fish
Karluk Early Run

- Variable harvest the past 5 years; 5 – year avg. of approximately 330,000 sockeye salmon
Ayakulik Early Run

- From June 1 – July 15, the commercial salmon fishery centered around the Ayakulik sections and Halibut Bay Section (Halibut Bay Section closed until June 22)
Ayakulik Early Run

- June 1 – July 15 commercial fishery managed based on Ayakulik early-run sockeye salmon (SEG) of 140,000-280,000 fish

![Graph showing sockeye salmon escapement from 2014 to 2016](image-url)
Ayakulik Early Run
• Achieved goal for the past 8 years, 5-year avg. escapement of 208,000 fish
Ayakulik Early Run

- Variable harvest the past 5 years. 5 – year avg. harvest approximately 190,000 sockeye salmon
Kodiak Pink Salmon Harvest Strategy

- Area-wide July 6\textsuperscript{th} fixed opening date
- Coordinate as many fisheries as possible to allow for dispersion of the seine fleet
Kodiak Pink Salmon Fishery

- Majority of the KMA begins pink salmon management on July 6th
Kodiak Pink Salmon Harvest Strategy

• Area-wide July 6th fixed opening date

• Coordinate as many fisheries as possible to allow for dispersion of the seine fleet

• Area wide weekly fishing periods based on wild pink salmon forecast:  
  weak        2 ½ days  
  moderate    3 ½ days  
  strong      4 ½ days

• Start flying escapement surveys at the end of 2nd weekly opening to evaluate pink salmon buildup in KMA’s inner bays

• During the peak of the wild pink salmon run (late-July to mid August) fishing time is adjusted based on local pink salmon run strength
Kodiak Wild Area Pink Salmon Daily Harvest & Westside Component

- 20-year avg. Kodiak wild area daily pink salmon harvest = 13,000,000 fish
- 20-year avg. Westside daily pink salmon harvest = 6,900,000 fish
Westside Commercial Pink Salmon Harvest

- Variable harvest the past 5 years. 5 – year avg. = 5,000,000 pink salmon

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of pink salmon harvested</th>
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Southwest Kodiak District
Northwest Kodiak District

2012–2016 avg.
Spiridon Bay SHA

SBSHA
Telrod Cove

Spiridon Bay
Spiridon Lake Sockeye Salmon Harvest

• 5 – year avg. harvest approximately 240,000 sockeye salmon
10-Year Avg. SBSHA (Telrod Cove) Daily Sockeye Salmon Harvest

Number of sockeye salmon

Date

Karluk Early Run Mgt.

Pink Salmon Mgt.

2007 – 2016 Avg. Daily SBSHA Sockeye Salmon Harvest
Karluk Late Run

- In late August, the commercial fishery management is again centered around the Northwest Kodiak District & Karluk sections
Karluk Late Run

- August 16 – end of the season fishery managed based on Karluk late run sockeye salmon BEG of 170,000 – 380,000 fish

Number of sockeye salmon

- Current Upper Escapement Range - 380,000
- Current Lower Escapement Range - 170,000
- 2016 Escapement – 318,638
- 2015 Escapement – 396,618
- 2014 Escapement – 559,422
Karluk Late Run

- Achieved goal for the past 8 years
- Exceeded the goal 2 of the past 3 years; 5 year avg. escapement of 385,000 fish
Karluk Late Run

- Variable harvest the past 5 years; 5-year avg. harvest of approximately 533,000 sockeye salmon
Westside Kodiak Proposals

- **Proposal 59:** mandatory minimum closures for the Westside of Kodiak and the Alitak District

- **Proposal 60:** create a SHA within the Inner Karluk Section of the Southwest Kodiak District

- **Proposal 61:** put into regulation, language allowing the department to restrict fishing in SBSHA to meet KRAA cost recovery needs

- **Proposal 62 & 63:** amend the closed waters description for the Ayakulik River in the Inner Ayakulik Section
Questions?