

RC: Fujioka Public Testimony/Presentation on Uneven Distribution of Unuk & Chilkat Chinook

Slide 1:

- The following slides will show that the distribution of Unuk & Chilkat Chinook in late winter and spring troll fisheries varies considerably in not only time, *but also geographically*.
- Hence a temporal *and spatial* surgical approach is a more efficient tool than region-wide closures proposed under Action Plan options B & C since the latter approach prevents the troll fleet from harvesting non-SOC Chinook during the time of year that *most benefits local resident trollers*.
- In comparing different fisheries, it is important to compare the % of the total catch that is from the SOC, rather than just the number of SOC fish caught, since the raw number can easily be gerrymandered by adding or separating districts or time periods. The percentage of the catch that is SOC remains consistent if similar fisheries are combined.
- An extreme example of an inefficient closure that doesn't even need a map, is Chilkat Action Plans options B & C which would close the late winter fishery in mid March, even though only 1 Chilkat-tagged fish has been recovered since 2004 in all of SE during the proposed Mid-March to end of April closed period. (It doesn't even show up in RC 3, tab 20, slide 35).

Slide 2:

- Even in the spring season when most of the troll catch of Chilkat Chinook occurs, the fish are concentrated in Icy Strait (District 14) and immediately adjacent sub-districts.
- In the great majority of the region, Chilkat Chinook make up a very low percentage of the catch

Slide 3:

- For the first 11 weeks of the late winter fishery (Jan 1- Mid March) all Action Plan options agree that the troll fishery should remain open.
- This level of risk to the SOCs is considered acceptable.
- Note that about half of the total region-wide harvest in this time frame comes from District 113.
- The dark shaded districts (indicating that >0.75% of the harvest are Unuk fish) are in that category based on the recover of only 1 (Districts 104 & 110) or 2 (District 106) Unuk CWTs.

Slide 4:

- Unuk Action Plan options B & C would close the entire region-wide troll fishery during this Mid March- Mid April time period
- District 113 is now accounting for 2/3 of the total catch and has a lower Unuk percentage than in the earlier period
- Unuk catch/ wk is same as earlier (See RC 3, tab 20 slide 46) , but non SOC-catch much high than earlier period
- District 101 is shaded dark due to a single CWT recovery

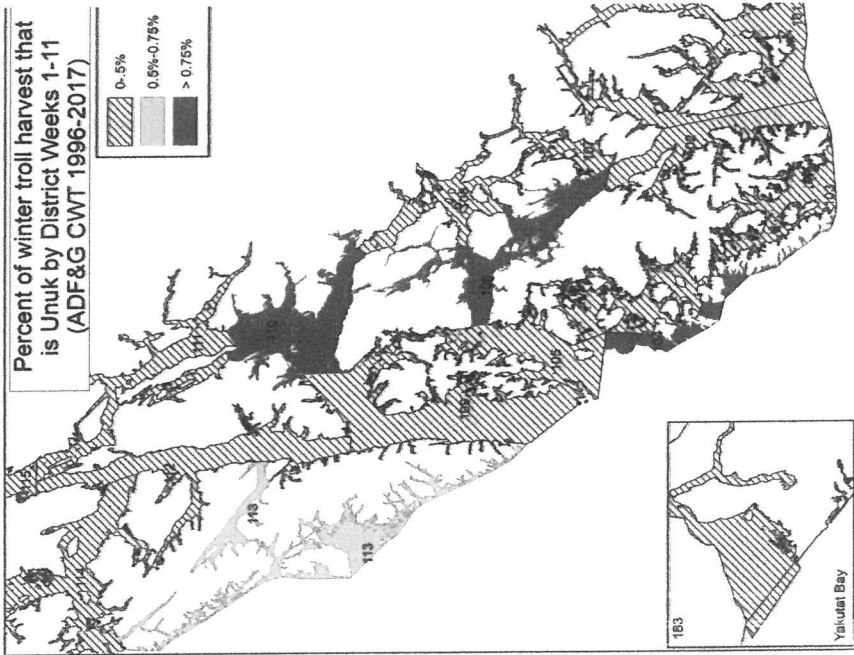
Slide 5:

- By the last 2 week of April, District 113 accounts for ¾ of the regional catch and the % of the catch that is Unuk is elevated
- Under an extremely conservative approach, the closure of the fishery over Unuk stock Chinook is potentially justified in this time period

Slide 6:

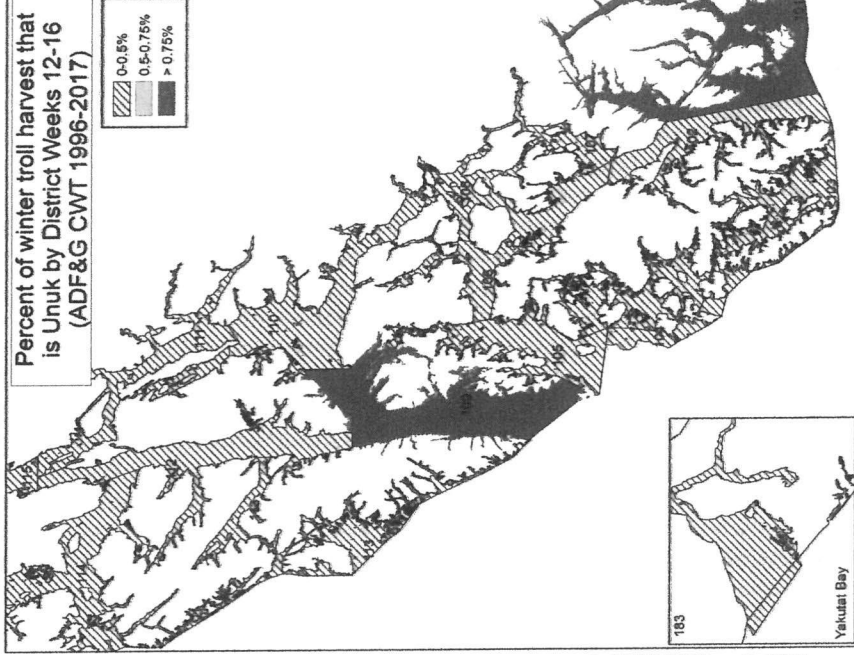
- Even in spring season, Unuk fish remain rare in much of region.

Percent of winter troll harvest that is Unuk by District Weeks 1-11 (ADF&G CWT 1996-2017)



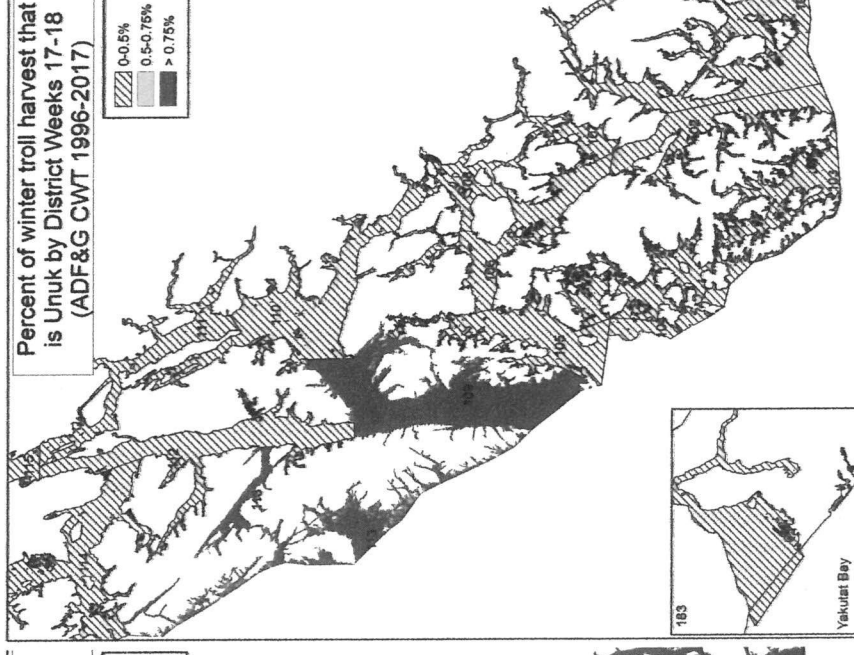
Slide 2

Percent of winter troll harvest that is Unuk by District Weeks 12-16 (ADF&G CWT 1996-2017)



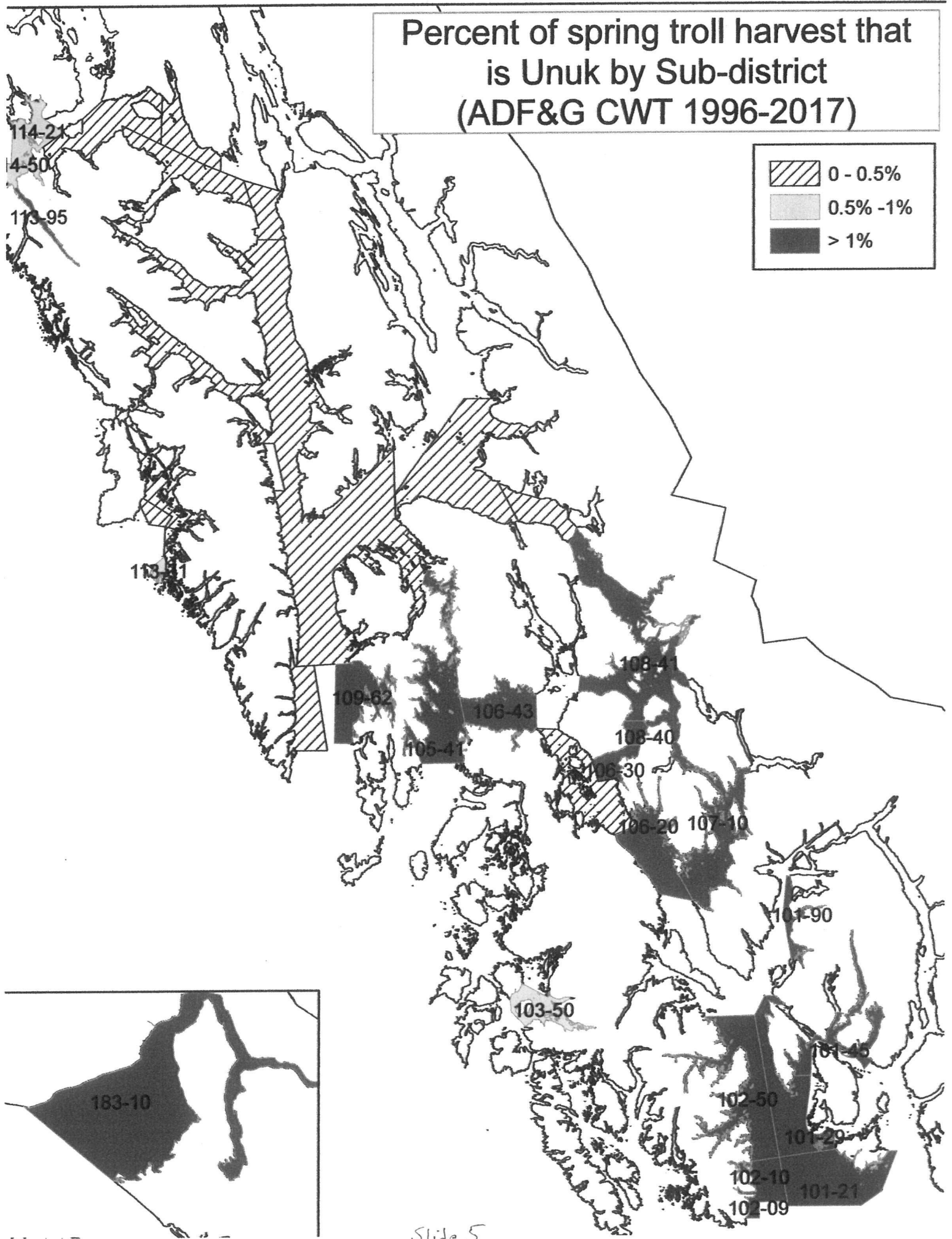
Slide 3

Percent of winter troll harvest that is Unuk by District Weeks 17-18 (ADF&G CWT 1996-2017)



Slide 4

Percent of spring troll harvest that is Unuk by Sub-district (ADF&G CWT 1996-2017)



Percent of Spring troll harvest that is Chikat by Sub-district (ADF&G CWT 2004-2017)

