

# ADF&G STAFF ORAL PRESENTATION ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES



## Subsistence Salmon Fishery in Chignik Management Area (Area L)

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**Division of Subsistence**



Oral Report: RC 3 - Tab 7  
Staff Comments: RC 2  
Additional Report: TP-390

# Positive customary and traditional use findings by the Board of Fisheries:

- The Board has made positive C&T and ANS findings for the following fish stocks:
  - Aleutian Islands Area Salmon
  - Aleutian Islands Other Finfish
  - Alaska Peninsula Area All Finfish
  - Chignik Area Salmon and Other Finfish
- Salmon and other finfish are the largest portion of wild resource harvests in all communities in these areas.



Unalaska – subsistence fishing

Photo by Kate Reedy

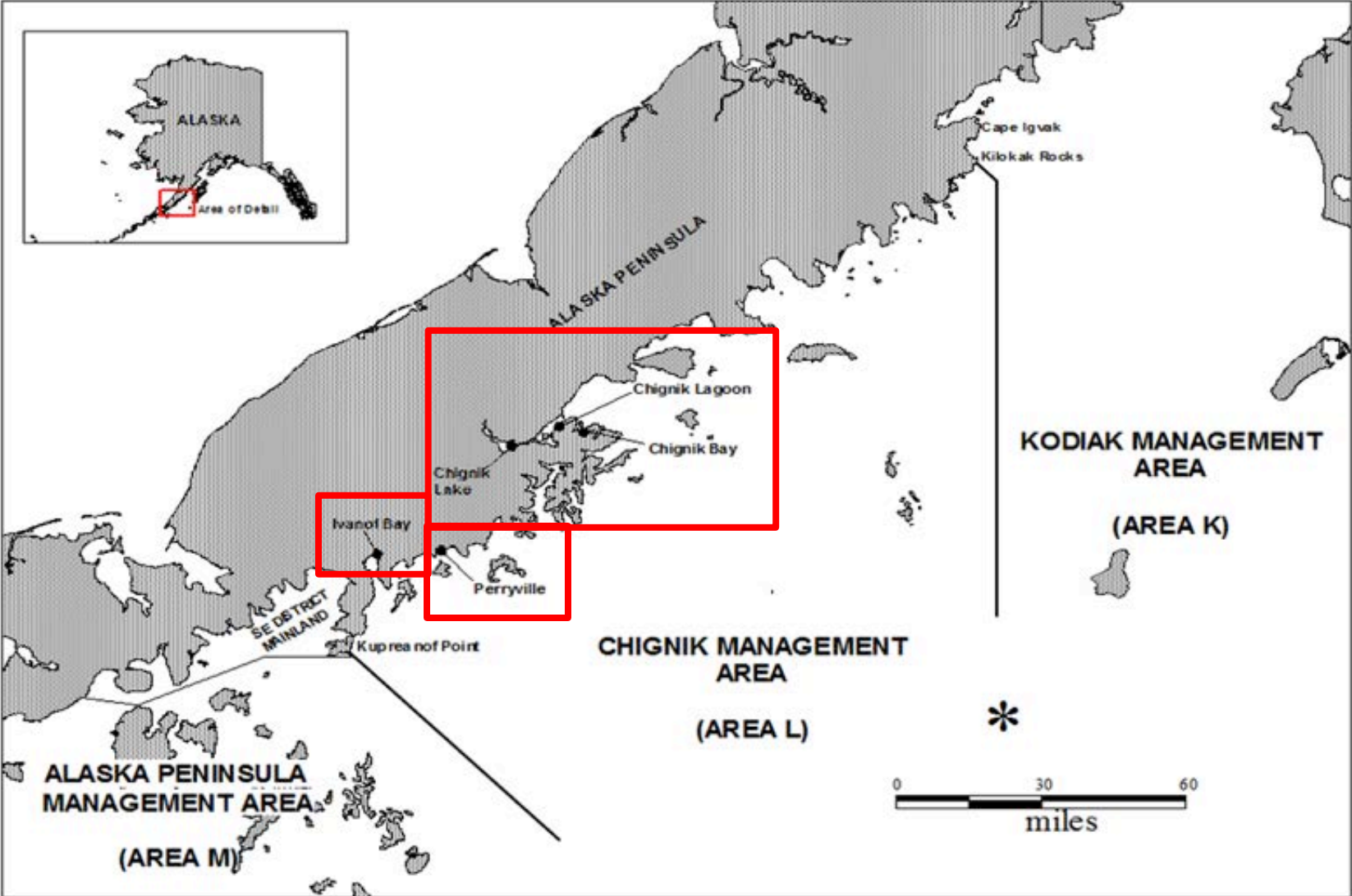


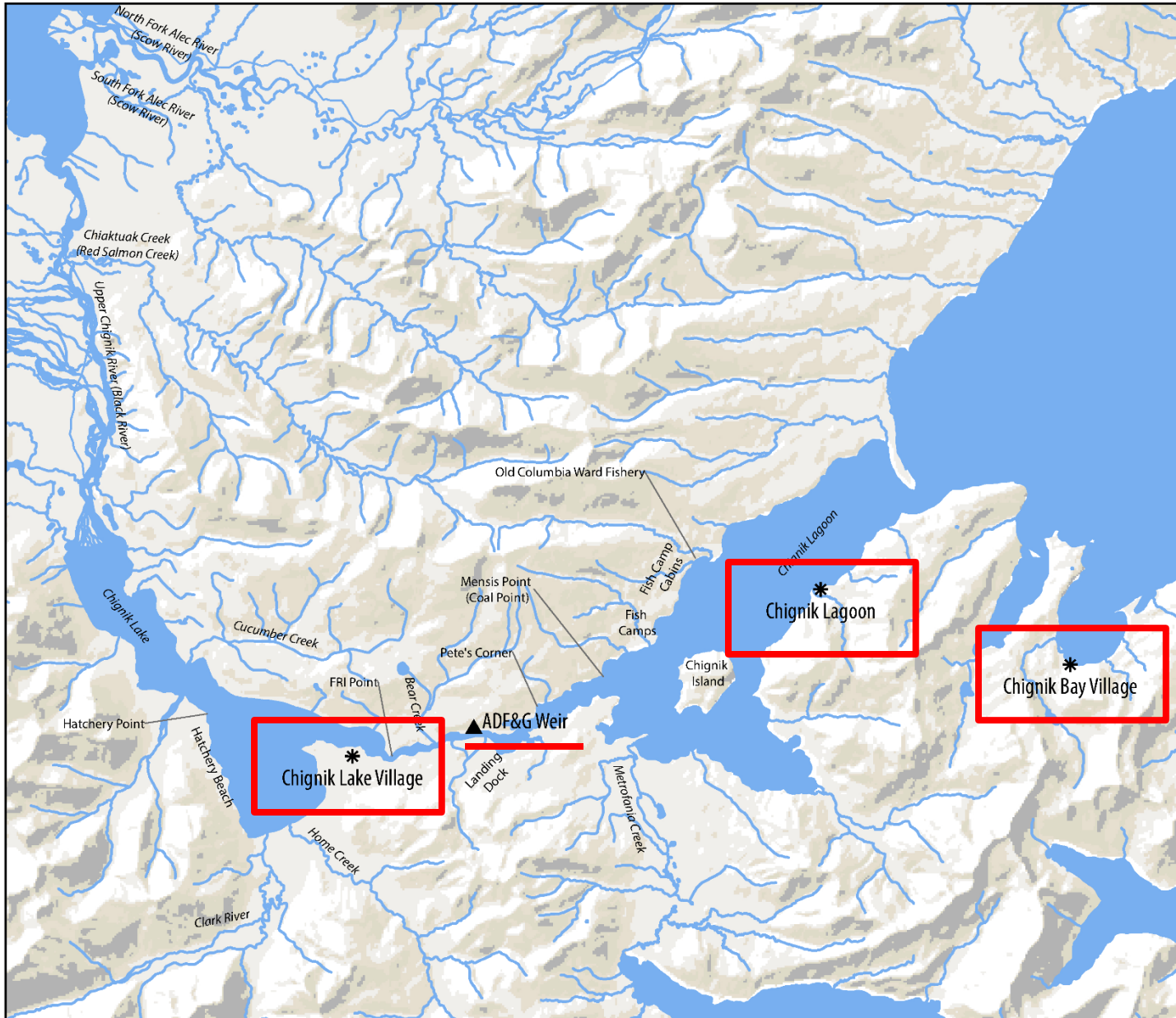
Sand Point – smoked and kippered salmon



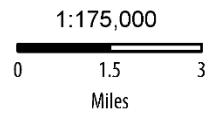
Port Heiden - subsistence net

# Chignik Management Area (Area L)





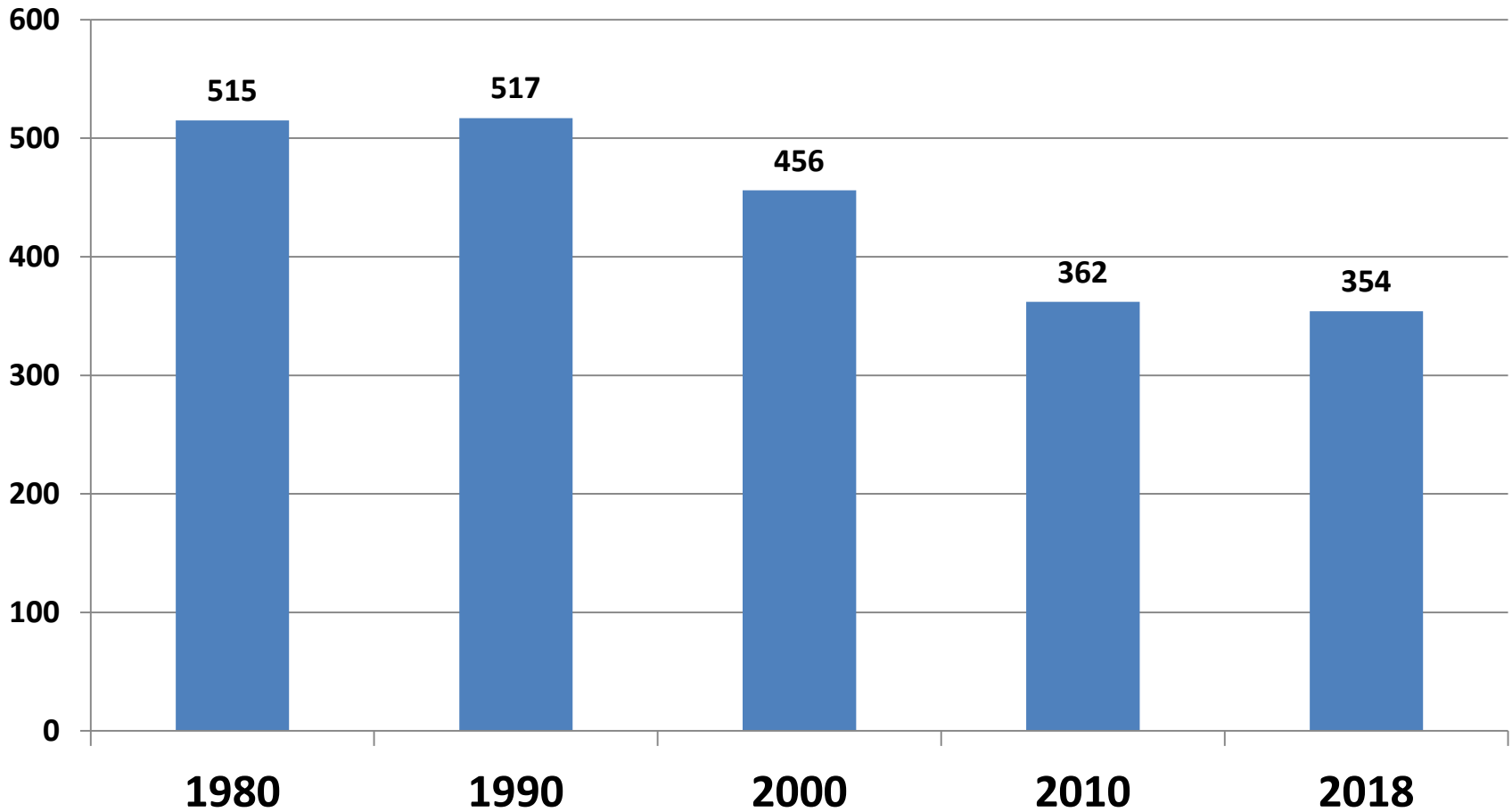
### Chignik Bay Salmon Management Area



This map represents the Chignik Bay Salmon Management Area.

North American Datum 1927.  
Alaska Albers Projection.

# Population of communities of the Chignik Management Area, 1980–2018



Perryville



Chignik Lake



Chignik Bay



Chignik Lagoon




# **Subsistence salmon harvest and use assessment, customary and traditional use research methods in Chignik Management Area**

- Annual subsistence permits
- Periodic post-season household harvest surveys in CMA communities
- Other subsistence research projects

# CMA Subsistence Salmon Permit

- Individual permits required to subsistence fish.
- Issued by local community vendors and at ADF&G weir.
- Limit = 250 salmon per permit. Another permit may be issued if needed.
- Harvest report returned to ADFG by December 31.
- Local residents may also obtain a federal subsistence permit.

**2018 CHIGNIK AREA SUBSISTENCE SALMON FISHING PERMIT**  
Permit expires December 31, 2018



This permit is valid in the Chignik Management Area Only.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that I am an Alaska resident, and any fish taken will be used for subsistence purposes only.

Permittee signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Additional members of same household to be included on permit (Residents Only):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Renew permit for next year:

The catch report table below must be filled out (even if the permit was not used) and returned to a local Alaska Department of Fish and Game office prior to December 31, 2018. Failure to return the permit could result in future permits being denied (5 AAC 01.015 (C)).

**SUBSISTENCE SALMON HARVEST REPORT**  
Number of salmon by species:

DATE	SPECIFIC LOCATION	KING	SOCKEYE	COHO	PINK	CHUM

- ALL PERSONS MUST HAVE A VALID SUBSISTENCE PERMIT IN POSSESSION WHILE TAKING OR ATTEMPTING TO TAKE SUBSISTENCE SALMON.
- COMPLETE THE SUBSISTENCE HARVEST REPORTS IMMEDIATELY UPON LANDING SALMON. UNSUCCESSFUL TRIPS SHOULD ALSO BE RECORDED.
- THE LIMIT IS 250 SALMON PER PERMIT. ADDITIONAL PERMITS MAY BE ISSUED IF ADDITIONAL SALMON ARE NEEDED FOR SUBSISTENCE.

**REFER TO THE CURRENT SUBSISTENCE REGULATION BOOK FOR COMPLETE REGULATIONS**

Return permit to: Chignik Salmon Management, ADF&G, 351 Research Court, Kodiak, AK 99615 by December 31, 2018.

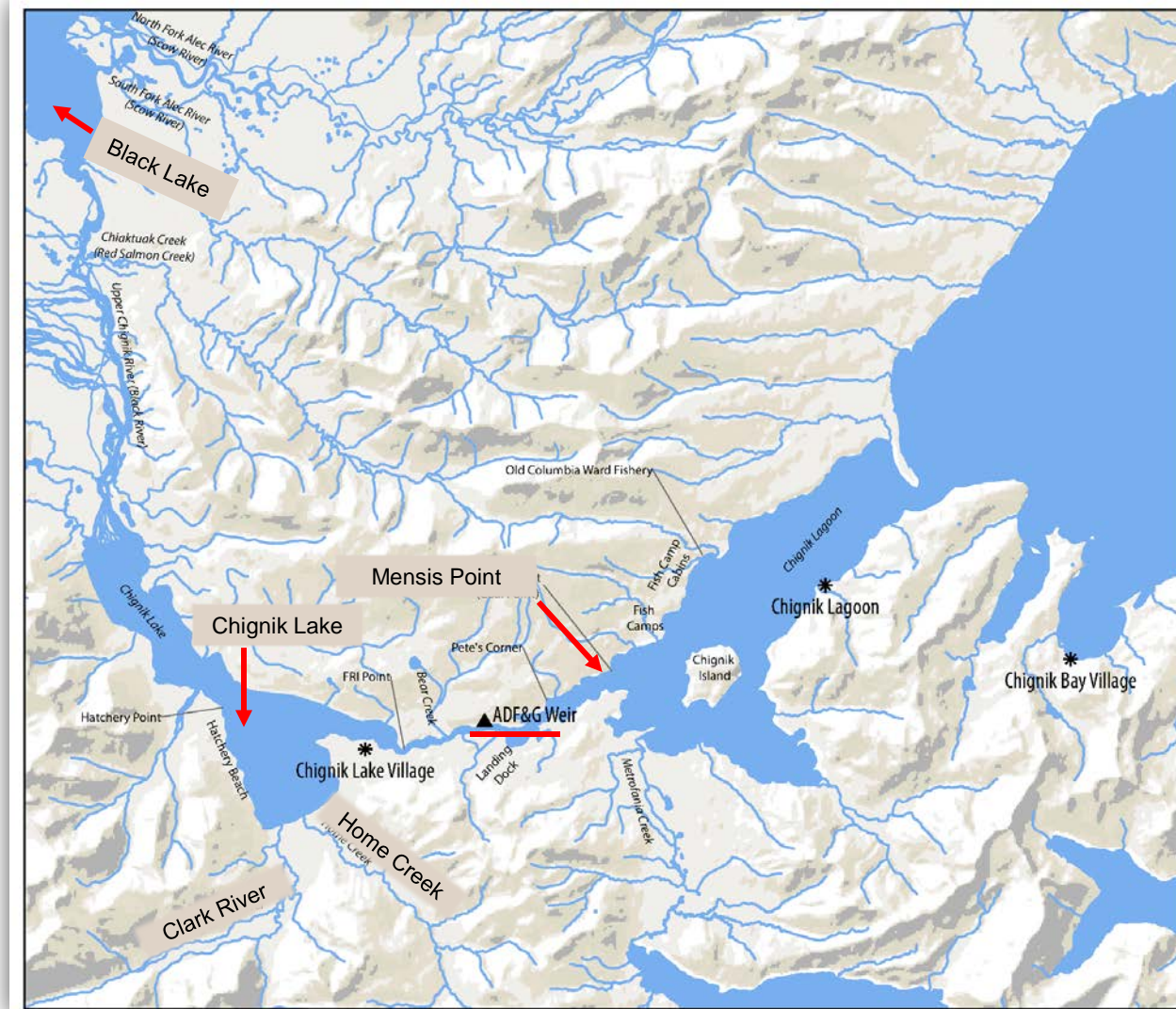
Department representative \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

(SEE OPPOSITE SIDE FOR SUBSISTENCE REGULATIONS)



# Waters closed to subsistence fishing in the CMA (State Regulation 5 AAC 01.475)

- Black Lake or any tributary to Black Lake\*
  - All tributaries to Chignik Lake, except allowed in the lower 1 mile reaches of Clark River and Home Creek
  - Chignik River: Closed only from July 1–August 31, 300 feet above the Chignik weir to Chignik Lake.
- \* Federal permit holders may fish in any waters within or adjacent to any federally controlled waters that includes Chignik Lake, Black Lake, and their tributaries.



# Subsistence salmon harvest assessment methods in Chignik Management Area

- Postseason household surveys
- Other subsistence research projects



# CMA subsistence salmon fishery and harvest estimates



# Harvest Patterns for Early-Run Sockeye Chignik Watershed

- Harvests of early-run sockeye occur primarily in early June in Chignik Lagoon and Chignik Lake using seines and gillnets.
- Families often harvest early-run sockeye before the first commercial opening, and smoke and can fish before weather gets too warm and flies arrive.
- Salmon are processed by smoking, freezing, salting or canning, and drying.



# Harvest Patterns for Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Chignik Watershed

- Late-run sockeye are harvested in Chignik Lagoon, Chignik River, Chignik Lake, Clark River, and Home Creek (July through January).
- Occasionally harvested in other tributaries in Chignik Lake.
- When starting to spawn, locally referred to as “redfish” or “spawned-outs.”
- Drying best during cool dry weather, no flies but sometimes improvising is necessary.



Seining for redfish, near mouth of Clark's River, Chignik Lake in November month.



# Harvest Patterns for Coho, Pink and Chum Salmon in Perryville Area



Perryville family fishing for chum, and silvers in Humpback Bay in fall time.



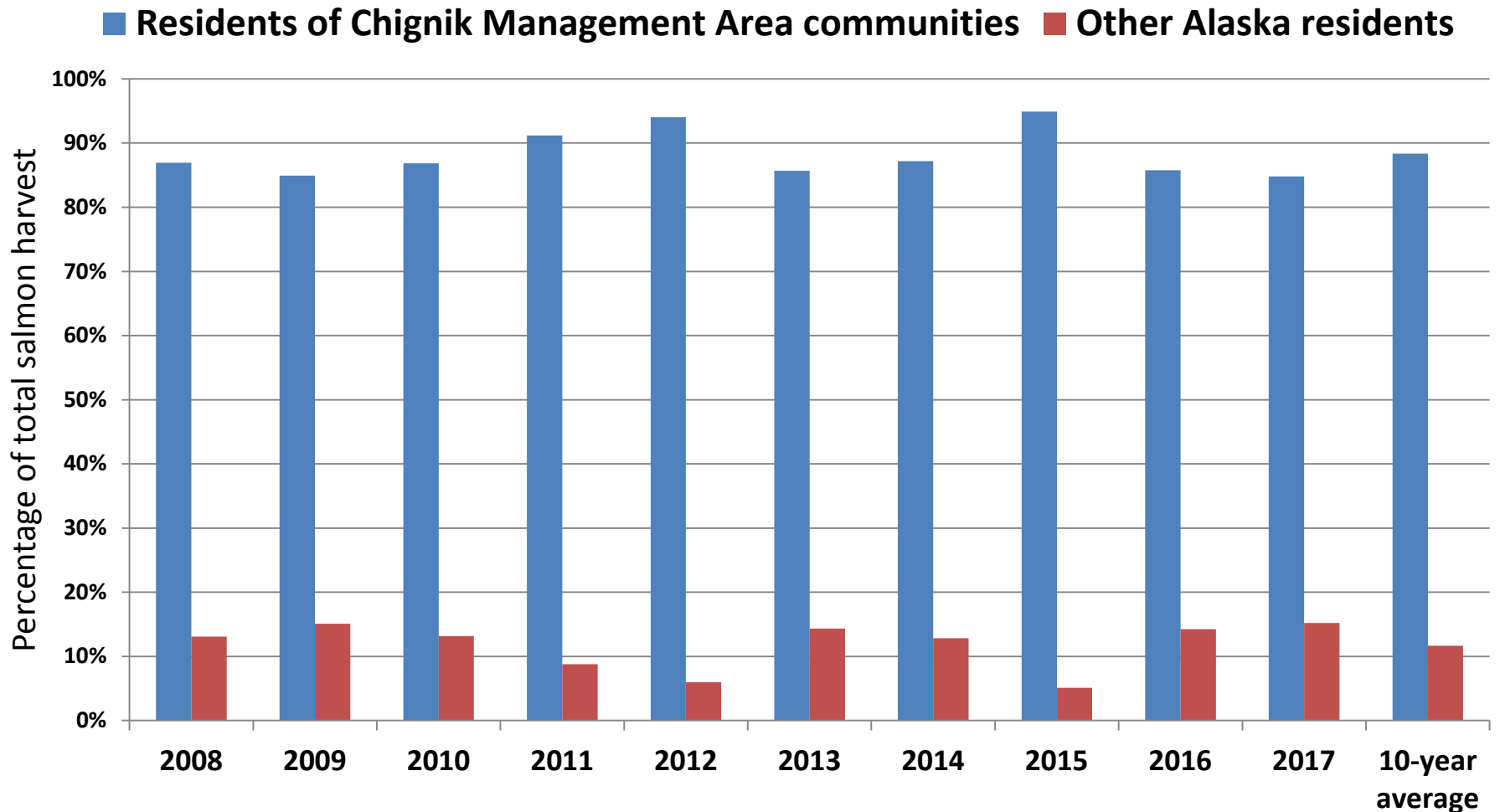
Drying coho salmon in Perryville

# Harvest Patterns - King Salmon

- Obtained more from home pack than subsistence.
- Harvested with gillnet or seine but primarily with rod and reel in Chignik River, Perryville off beach.
- Processed by smoking, kippering, and canning.



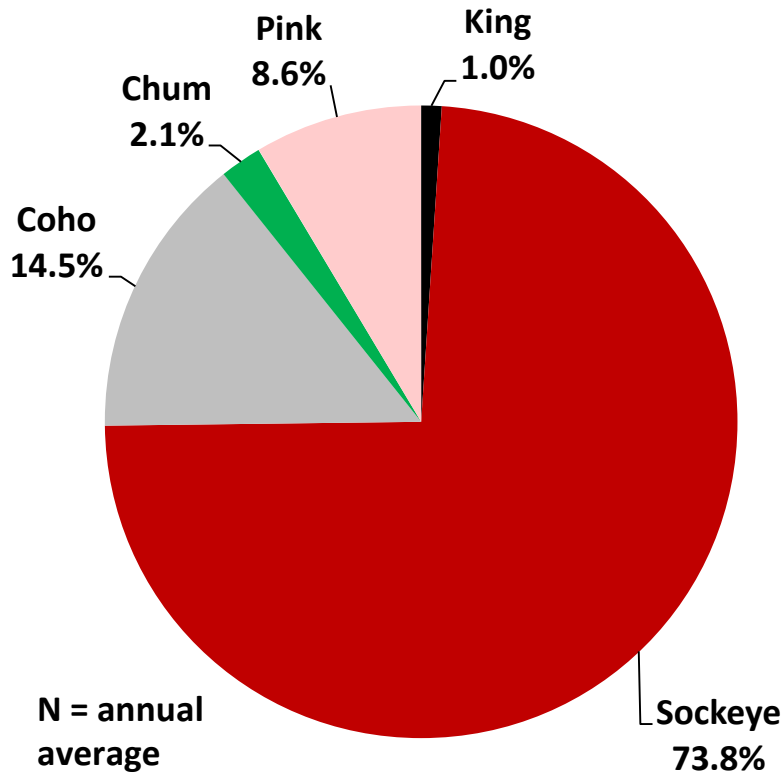
# Percentage of subsistence salmon harvest, Chignik Management Area, by residence of permit holder



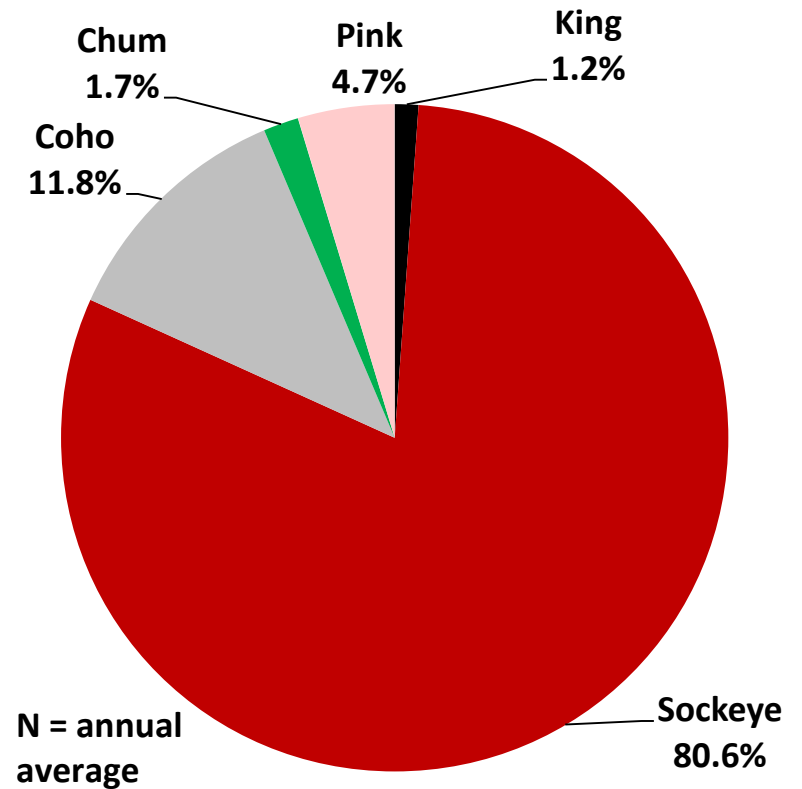


# Composition of subsistence harvest of salmon by species, Chignik Management Area

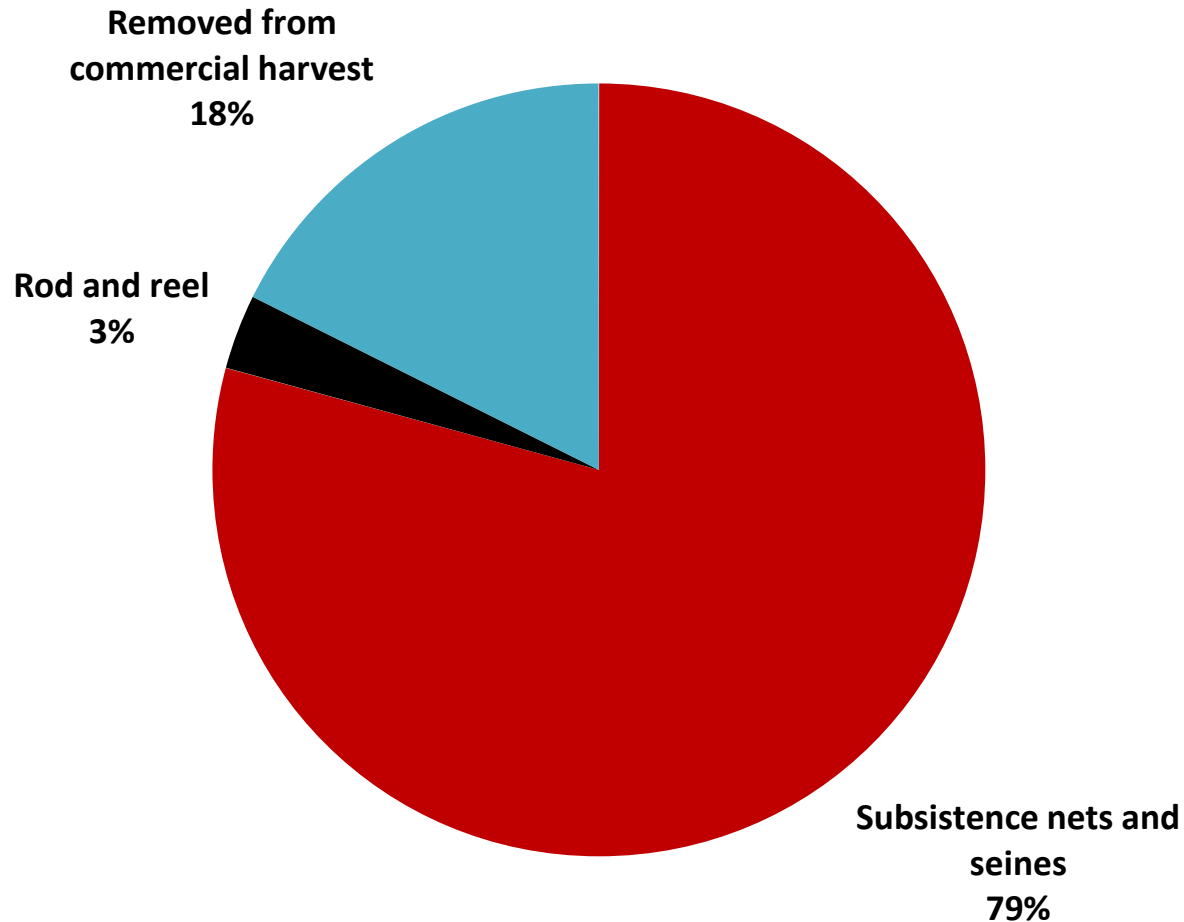
1993–2017



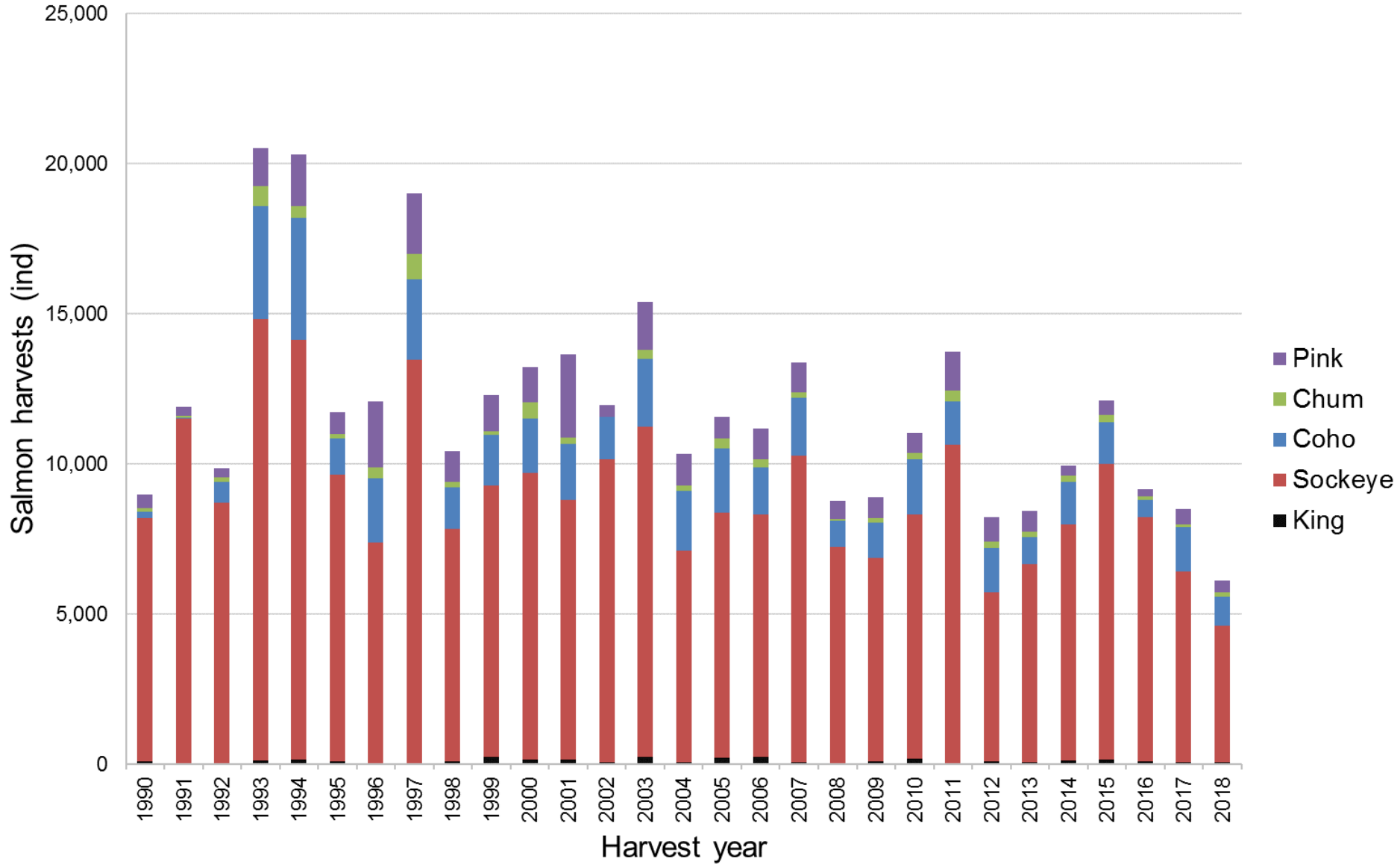
2014–2017



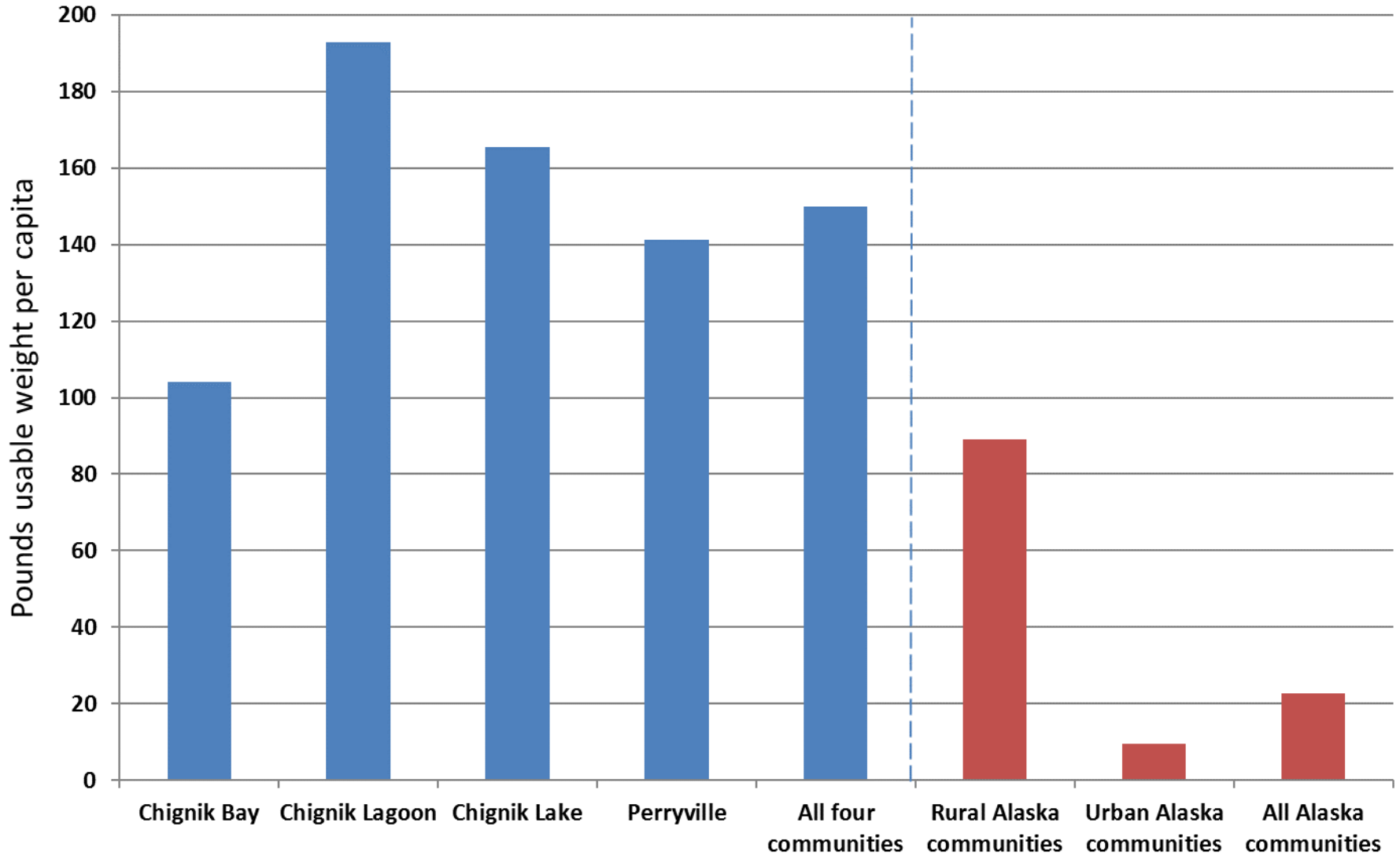
# Percentage of salmon harvested for home use by fishery and gear type, CMA communities, 3-year average, 2014–2016



# Chignik Management Area Subsistence Salmon



# Salmon harvests, pounds usable weight per person, communities of the Chignik Management Area (2014–2016), compared to estimated statewide averages (2017)

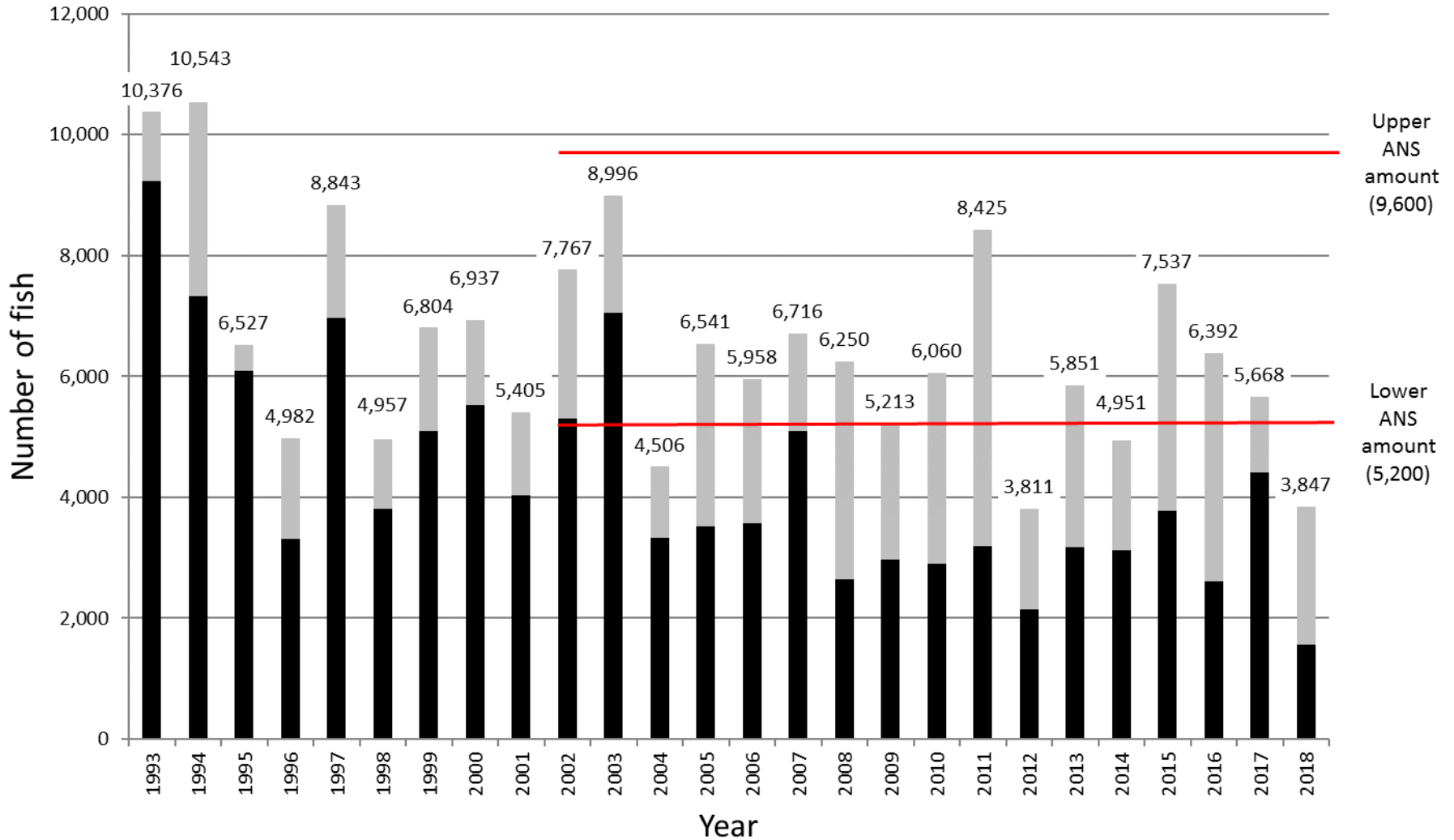


## Customary and Traditional Uses (C&T) and Amounts Necessary for Subsistence (ANS) for communities in the Chignik Management Area

- **1993:** Positive C&T finding, establishment of ANS for salmon [5 AAC 01.466(a),(b)].
  
- **2002:** The Board modified the original ANS as follows:
  - **Chignik Bay, Central, and Eastern districts combined:**
    - 5,200–9,600 early-run sockeye salmon (harvests through 9/15)
    - 2,000–3,800 late-run sockeye salmon (harvests after 9/15)
    - 100–150 king salmon
    - 400–700 salmon other than sockeye or king salmon
  
  - **Perryville and Western Districts combined:**
    - 1,400–2,600 coho salmon
    - 1,400–2,600 salmon other than coho

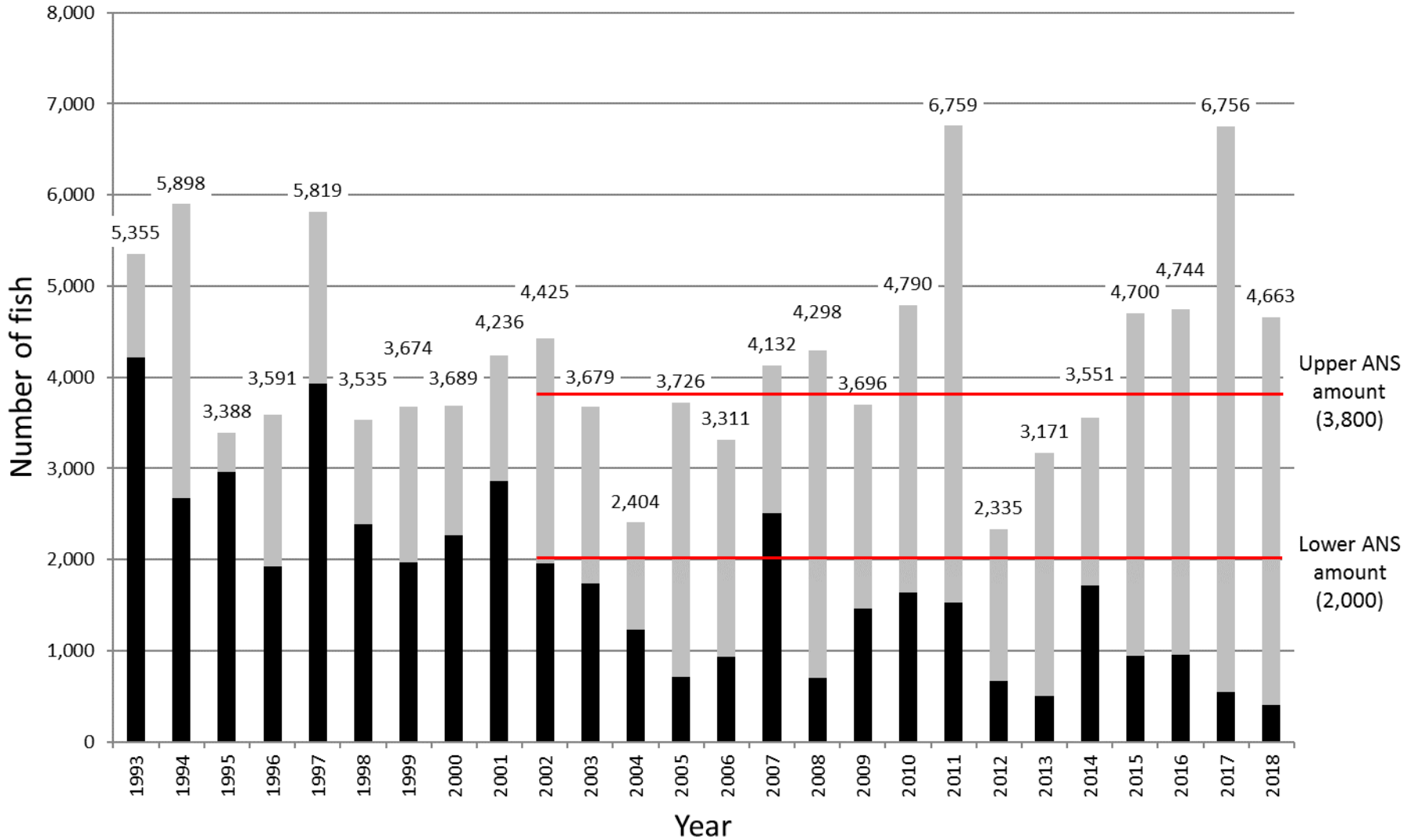
# Estimated subsistence harvests of early-run sockeye salmon, Chignik Bay, Central, and Eastern districts combined, compared to ANS range

■ Harvest before July 5    ■ Harvest July 5 through September 15

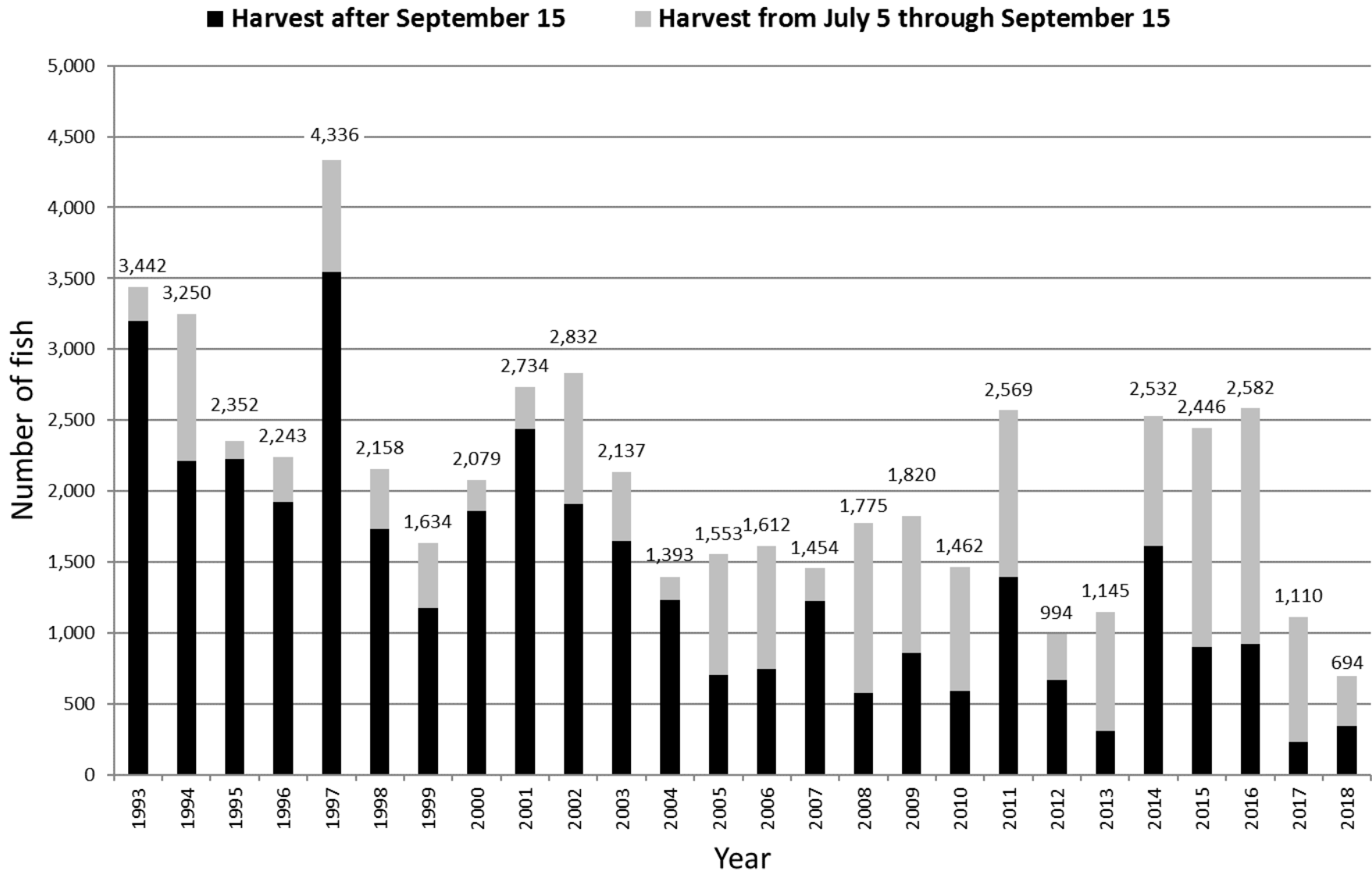


# Estimated subsistence harvests of late-run sockeye salmon, Chignik Bay, Central, and Eastern districts combined, compared to ANS range

Harvest after September 15
  Harvest July 5 through September 15

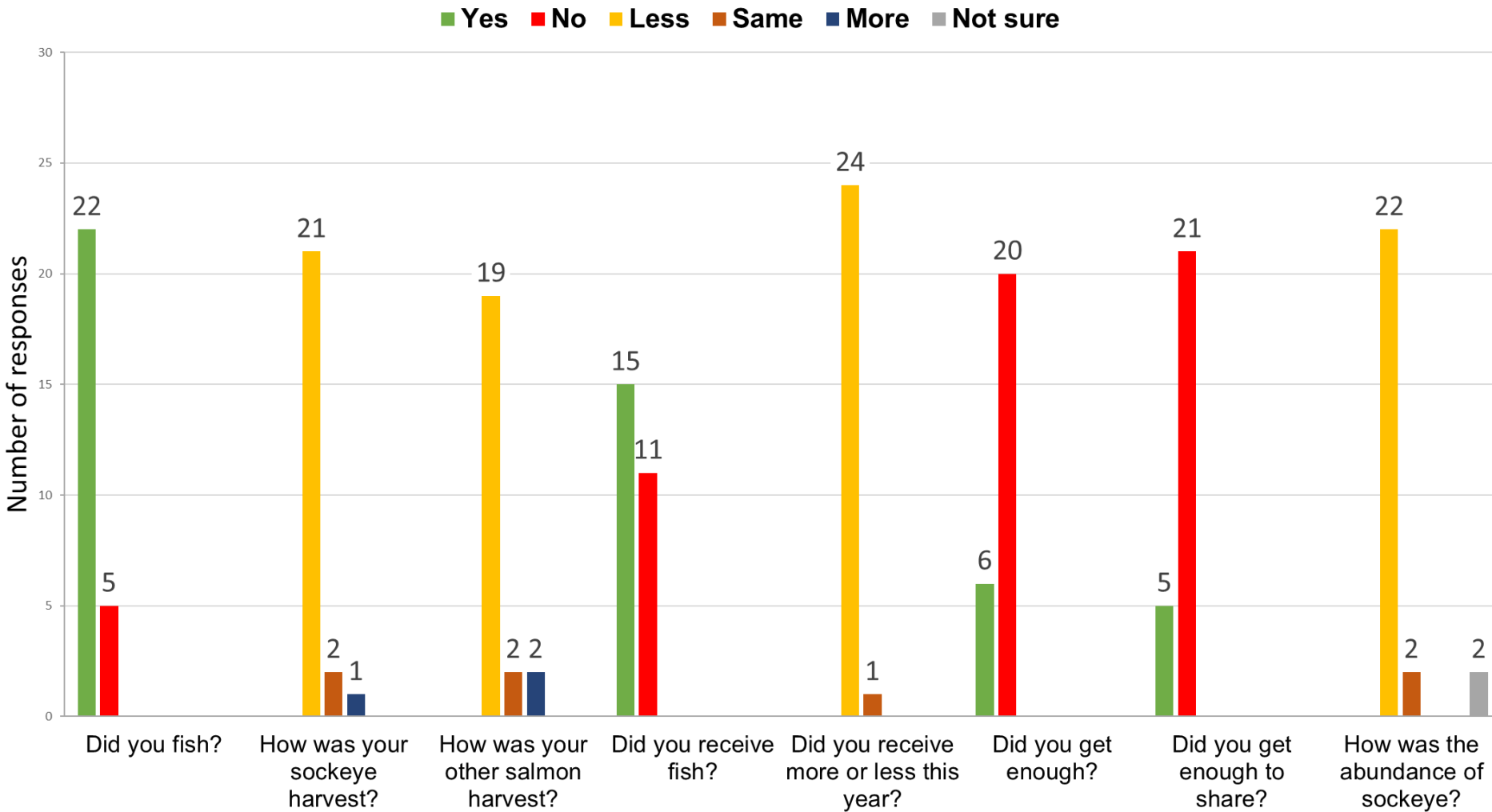


## Subsistence harvests of late-run sockeye salmon, Chignik Lake subarea (upstream of Mensis Point)





# 2018 Chignik communities subsistence salmon responses (n=27)



**Proposal 147:** which if adopted would reduce the inriver goal for sockeye salmon above the Chignik River weir for August and September.

The department's position is **NEUTRAL** on this proposal; consider revising ANS findings



# Summary

- Salmon and other finfish are the largest portion of wild resource harvests in all CMA communities.
- The Board has made positive C&T and ANS findings for Chignik Area Salmon and Other Finfish in 1994 and revised in 2002.
- There are two distinctive use patterns for early and late run sockeye
- Subsistence harvests of **early-run sockeye were below the ANS** in the Chignik Bay District in **2004, 2012, 2014, and 2018**
- Subsistence harvests of **late-run sockeye were below the ANS** in the Chignik Bay District and has **only been met one year (2007) since 2002**, the year the ANS finding was modified.



Photo by Kathleen Anderson

# Summary—continued

- 2018 – subsistence harvest data are preliminary but total salmon and sockeye estimated harvests are lowest on record since 1983.
- All species harvested in 2018 are lower than recent and historic averages.
- Some residents have reported they had difficulty obtaining enough salmon in 2018.



# Acknowledgements

- Residents, Tribal Councils, of:
  - Chignik Bay, Chignik Lagoon, Chignik Lake, and Perryville
- Bristol Bay Native Association, Cody Larson
- USFWS, Office of Subsistence Management
- ADF&G
  - Division of Commercial Fisheries
  - Division of Subsistence
  - Alaska Sustainable Salmon Fund



Chignik Lake boy offers to share a piece of dried "spawned-out" or redfish



## Questions?

