Salmon Fishery Enhancement in Alaska

A Presentation to the Alaska Board of Fisheries
10/16/2018

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Sam Rabung, Bill Templin, Jeff Milton
Part 1

Introduction
Legal Guidance
Enhanced Production of Salmon
Previous Hatchery Program Reviews

Result

Part 2

Sport Fish Statewide Stocking

Part 3

Research
Alaska’s contemporary salmon fishery enhancement program has operated since the mid-1970s, and through 2017 has provided about 1.8 billion salmon to the fisheries of the State, resulting in substantial economic value without any obvious negative effects on natural salmon production.
INTRODUCTION

The Need for Salmon Fishery Enhancement

How AK approached Enhancement

Types of Propagation Programs in AK
The Need for a Fishery Enhancement Program

- By statehood in 1959, Alaska's salmon fishery had fallen to its lowest level in 60 years and remained low through the next 15 years.

- Salmon abundance was well below both historical levels and the production potential of the habitat, many stocks were depleted and some extirpated.

- Economic losses to individual fishermen, coastal communities and the State were considered a disaster.

- Effective fishery management alone was not increasing abundance quickly enough.
Alaska Commercial Salmon Harvest from 1900-1974

Wild Stock Harvest

Statehood 1959
An Integrated Approach to Recovering Alaska’s Salmon Fisheries

- In-season escapement based management of salmon fisheries was adopted with state control of fish and game in 1960
- Fisheries Rehabilitation, Enhancement and Development (FRED) Division was created by legislature in 1971
- Following a constitutional amendment in 1972, limited entry commercial salmon fishery program was enacted in 1973
- The 1972 constitutional amendment also allowed for “the efficient development of aquaculture” in Alaska
CHAPTER 11

AN ACT Authorizing the Operation of Private Nonprofit Salmon Hatcheries

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Alaska:

Section 1. INTENT. It is the intent of this Act to authorize the private ownership of salmon hatcheries by qualified nonprofit corporations for the purpose of contributing by artificial means to the rehabilitation of the state’s depleted and depressed salmon fishery...
The **Purpose** of Alaska’s PNP Salmon Fishery Enhancement Program

Recovery and support of Alaska’s salmon fisheries and fishing economy

Provide an economic engine to support and grow coastal communities
Hatchery Program Development Timeline

- **1959**: Statehood
- **1971**: FRED Division
- **1972**: Constitutional Amendment
- **1974**: PNP Hatchery Program
- **1976**: RAAs formed
- **1988**: PNP contract state hatcheries
- **1992**: FRED merged with CF
Current Propagative Program Types

1. **Private Nonprofit - PNP** (CF focus).
   Production hatcheries operated by PNP corporations to fulfill regional harvest objectives to **benefit all common property fisheries** and primarily to benefit commercial fisheries.

2. **State** (SF focus).
   ADF&G Division of Sport Fish operates 2 hatcheries, and contracts additional production to PNPs, to fulfill the statewide sport fish stocking plan objectives for the **primary benefit of sport fishers**. Harvest of these fish by other user groups is incidental.

   Projects with a **scientific or educational objective**.
LEGAL GUIDANCE

Constitution, Statutes, Regulations, Policies

Permitting

Public Involvement

Funding
ADFWG Mission Statement

To protect, maintain, and improve the fish, game, and aquatic plant resources of the state, and manage their use and development in the best interest of the economy and the well-being of the people of the state, consistent with the sustained yield principle.
Guidance in the State Constitution

Article 8 Natural Resources

- **Section 15** – No Exclusive Right of Fishery. Amended in 1972 to provide an exemption to allow for limited entry into any fishery and “to promote the efficient development of aquaculture in the State.”
Guidance in Statutes

Title 16 – Fish and Game

- AS 16.05.050. Powers and Duties of Commissioner
- **AS 16.05.092. Fisheries rehabilitation, enhancement and development**
- AS 16.05.221. Boards of fisheries and game
- AS 16.05.730. Management of wild and enhanced stocks of fish
- AS 16.05.851. Hatchery required
- **AS 16.10.375-480. Salmon Hatcheries**
- AS 16.10.500-560. Fisheries Enhancement Loan Program
- AS 16.43.400-440. Special Harvest Area Entry Permits
Sec. 16.05.092. Fisheries rehabilitation, enhancement, and development.

“The department shall”

“through rehabilitation, enhancement, and development programs do all things necessary to ensure perpetual and increasing production and use of the food resources of state waters and continental shelf areas;”
Chapter 10, Article 9 - Salmon Hatcheries.

Section

- 375. Regional salmon plans
- 380. Regional associations
- 400. Permits for salmon hatcheries
- 410. Hearings before permit issuance
- 420. Conditions of a permit
- 430. Alteration, suspension, or revocation of permit
- 440. Regulations relating to released fish
- 443. Department assistance and cooperation
- 445. Egg sources
- 450. Sale of salmon and salmon eggs: use of proceeds; quality and price
- 455. Cost recovery fisheries
- 460. Inspection of hatchery
- 470. Annual report
- 480. Contracts for the operation of state hatcheries
Guidance in Regulations

Title 5 – Fish and Game

- 5 AAC 39.220. Policy for the management of mixed stock salmon fisheries
- 5 AAC 39.222. Policy for the management of sustainable salmon fisheries
- 5 AAC 40.005-990 - Private Nonprofit Salmon Hatcheries
- 5 AAC 41.001-100 Transportation, Possession and Release of Live Fish
Chapter 40. Private Nonprofit Salmon Hatcheries.

Article
1. General (5 AAC 40.005 — 5 AAC 40.015)
2. Special Harvest Areas (5 AAC 40.030 — 5 AAC 40.085)
3. Applicability of Regulations (5 AAC 40.100)
4. Permit Application Procedures (5 AAC 40.110 — 5 AAC 40.240)
5. Regional Comprehensive Planning (5 AAC 40.300 — 5 AAC 40.370)
6 and 7. (Reserved)
8. General Provisions (5 AAC 40.800 — 5 AAC 40.990)
Guidance in Policy

- **Genetic Policy** (1985) and Background to the Genetic Policy (1989)

All other policies have been adopted into regulation
PNP Hatchery Permitting
Private Nonprofit Hatchery Permitting in Alaska

1. ADF&G prepares Management Feasibility Analysis based on proposed hatchery site.

2. Application accepted for ADF&G review; Hatchery, Genetics, and Pathology Sections; Fisheries Management and Regional staff review.

3. Review at Regional Planning Team meeting for compatibility with Regional Salmon Plan.

4. ADF&G and applicant draft Basic Management Plan for public review.

5. Public Hearing.

6. Review and determination by ADF&G Commissioner or delegate.

Hatchery Permit with Basic Management Plan
AS 16.10.400, AS 16.10.420, 5 AAC 40.820

- Hatchery permit can be altered, suspended, or revoked by ADF&G Commissioner.
  AS 16.10.430, 5 AAC 40.240, 5 AAC 40.860

- Board of Fisheries may amend permit terms for source and numbers of eggs, and harvest by hatchery operators.
  AS 16.10.440

Permit and Basic Management Plan Alteration Requests
5 AAC 40.850

Annual Reports
AS 16.10.470

- 1. Review by ADF&G Hatchery, Genetics, Pathology, and Fisheries Management Sections.
- 2. Review at Regional Planning Team public meeting.
- 3. Review and determination by ADF&G Commissioner or delegate.

Annual Management Plans
5 AAC 40.840

- Prepared by hatchery permit holder, ADF&G Hatchery Program, and Fisheries Management Sections.

Fish Transport Permits
5 AAC 41.065 - 41.060

- ADF&G Commissioner may alter or amend permit terms and conditions.
  5 AAC 41.040

May be reviewed at Regional Planning Team public meeting.

Review by ADF&G Hatchery Program, Genetics, Pathology and Fisheries Management Sections.

Broodstock and pre-release pathology inspection.
5 AAC 41.020, 5 AAC 41.080

Release at approved release sites.
PNP Hatchery Permitting

PNP Hatchery Permit and Basic Management Plan

AS 16.10.400; 5 AAC 40.110-240; 5 AAC 40.820
Private Nonprofit Hatchery Permit Process

Management Feasibility Analysis Request → ADF&G prepares Management Feasibility Analysis → PNP Hatchery Permit Application with detailed statements of operational goals, objectives, and plans.

ADF&G Divisions of Habitat, Wildlife, Commercial Fisheries, and Sport Fisheries Review:
Includes review by Genetics and Pathology Sections, and Fisheries Management Regional and local area staff.

Review at Regional Planning Team public meeting for compatibility with Regional Salmon Plan.

ADF&G Review (Genetics, Pathology, and Fisheries Management).
Review at Regional Planning Team public meeting.

ADF&G Commissioner Review of Hatchery Permit Basic Management Plan and Review Comments for Determination.

Basic Management Plan Draft → Public Hearing and comment period.

Permit and Basic Management Plan Alteration Request → Approved Hatchery Permit and Basic Management Plan

Permit and Basic Management Plan Alteration Request

Annual Report submitted to ADF&G (deadline December 15)

Denied permit can be reconsidered if additional information is provided.

Hatchery permit can be altered, suspended, or revoked by ADF&G Commissioner.

Board of Fisheries may amend permit terms for source and numbers of eggs, and harvest by hatchery operators.
PNP Hatchery Permitting

Fish Transport Permit (FTP)

5 AAC 41.005-100
PNP Hatchery Permitting

Annual Management Plan (AMP)

5 AAC 40.840
Management of Returns

Basic Management Plan (long term) → marking → Release

ADF&G Management Review → Return

Annual Management Plan (yearly) → Common Property Contribution → Special Harvest Area

Cost Recovery → Broodstock

Board of Fish (Commercial Fisheries Management)
PNP Hatchery Permitting

Annual Report

AS 16.10.470

Alaska Salmon Fisheries Enhancement Annual Report 2017

by

Mark Stephe

On 4/9/2018, Table 10 was revised. The total projected return by facility and species, however, remained essentially the same as the original table.

On 5/31/2018, Table 32 was revised to correct the permitted pink salmon egg capacity for AFK and Solomon Gulch hatcheries for the 2017 season.

March 2018

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Commercial Fisheries
Public Involvement

Regional Planning Team

AS 16.10.375; 5 AAC 40.300-370

5 AAC 40.340. Regional planning team responsibility.

“ensure that the public has opportunity to participate“
Alaska’s Program is Stakeholder Driven

The **users of the resource** determine what fishery enhancement is desirable and the ADF&G determines what is appropriate within their mandate to sustain natural production.

The mechanism for this cooperative effort is the Regional Aquaculture Association (RAA) working with ADF&G within the Regional Planning Team (RPT) process to develop the **regional salmon plan**.
The primary responsibility of the RPT is regional **comprehensive salmon planning**.

The RPT is **advisory to the ADF&G Commissioner** on salmon fishery enhancement planning and permitting within their region.
Regional Planning Team Process

RAA
- Sport
- Commercial
- Subsistence
- Processors
- Tribal
- Local community

RPT

ADF&G Commissioner

ADF&G Staff

Public
Regional Aquaculture Associations

- AS 16.10.380 - The commissioner shall assist in and encourage the formation of qualified regional aquaculture associations for the purpose of enhancing salmon production.
Regional Aquaculture Associations

The ADF&G Commissioner determines an RAA is qualified if it

1. is comprised of associations representative of commercial fishermen in the region;

2. includes representatives of other user groups interested in fisheries within the region who wish to belong; and

3. possesses a board of directors that includes no less than one representative of each user group that belongs to the association.
Public Involvement

Regional Salmon Plan
AS 16.10.375; 5 AAC 40.340-370

5 AAC 40.360. Public involvement.
“shall encourage public participation”

5 AAC 40.370. Plan approval
“must be distributed for public review.”
Regional Planning Team Process

RPT

| Historic harvests, production/harvest goals by species, area, and time. |

CSP

| Project opportunities to fill plan goals and objectives |

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Public Involvement

PNP Hatchery Permit Application

Sec. 16.10.410. Hearings before permit issuance.

“a public hearing shall be held “


“will conduct a public hearing “
Public Involvement

Statewide Sport Fish Stocking Plan

Funding – PNP Hatcheries

- Fisheries Enhancement Revolving Loan Fund (FERLF)
- Salmon Enhancement Tax (SET) – RAAs only
- Cost Recovery Harvest
- Contractual Production
- Legislative Grants
Created by the State Legislature in 1976. The goal of the program is to promote the enhancement of the state’s fisheries.

The FERLF is totally self-sufficient and has received no General Fund support since FY94.

Loaned over $55 million in the past 10 years alone, most for major infrastructure, replacing 30+ year old facilities, main waterlines, dams, etc.

As of August 31, 2018: 122 Outstanding Loans; $89.7 million outstanding; Current Delinquency Rate of 0.0%; Average Loan is $527,900; Loan Rate is 5% to 9.5%

Source: Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development
Salmon Enhancement Tax

Historical Overview

AS 43.76

DESCRIPTION
The salmon enhancement tax is an elective tax levied on salmon sold in or exported from established aquaculture regions in Alaska. Fishermen pay salmon enhancement taxes to licensed buyers at the time of sale, or to the Division for salmon sold to unlicensed buyers or exported from the region. Buyers remit taxes collected from fishermen to the Division.

RATE
Commercial fishermen elected tax rates for the following regional aquaculture associations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REGION</th>
<th>RATE</th>
<th>EFFECTIVE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Southern Southeast</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Southeast</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cook Inlet</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prince William Sound</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kodiak</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chignik</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yakutat</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RETURNS
Buyers file returns and pay the tax monthly. The due date is the last day of the month following the month of purchase. Buyers file returns for bonus payments made to fishermen after the close of the fishing season. Returns for these payments are due with additional taxes by the last day of the month following the bonus payment.

Fishermen selling to unlicensed buyers or exporting from the region file returns and pay taxes annually. The due date is March 31 following the year of sale or export.

EXEMPTIONS
Salmon harvested under a special harvest area permit (typically, salmon harvested on behalf of salmon hatcheries) are exempt from the salmon enhancement tax.

DISPOSITION OF REVENUE
The Division deposits all salmon enhancement tax revenue into the General Fund. Under AS 43.76.025(c), the legislature may appropriate salmon enhancement tax revenue to provide financing for qualified regional aquaculture associations.

HISTORY
The legislature adopted the Salmon Enhancement Act in 1980. The Act authorized a 2% or 3% tax, upon election by commercial fishermen within established aquaculture regions, on salmon transferred to buyers in Alaska. Commercial fishermen in Southern and Northern Southeast aquaculture regions elected a 3% tax and Cook Inlet region elected a 2% tax.

1981 - The legislature amended the Act to subject salmon exported from Alaska to the tax.
1985 - Commercial fishermen in the Prince William Sound aquaculture region elected a 2% tax.
1988 - Commercial fishermen in the Kodiak aquaculture region elected a 2% tax.
1989 - The legislature amended statutes to allow for a 1% tax.
1991 - Commercial fishermen in the Chignik aquaculture region elected a 2% tax.
2004 - The legislature authorized additional salmon enhancement tax rates, subject to permit holder elections held by qualified regional associations. In addition to the current 1%, 2%, or 3% options, 10 additional options were made available ranging from 4% to 30%. This legislation clarified who must pay the Salmon Enhancement Tax. When a buyer does not withhold the tax, fishermen must pay the tax with an annual return. The legislation took effect January 1, 2005.
Funding – PNP Hatcheries

Cost recovery harvest of hatchery returns in designated special harvest areas is the largest fund source for PNP hatcheries.

Other sources of financial support includes contractual production (for sport fish projects) and legislative grants (for maintenance of state facilities).
PNP Hatchery Production and Funding

- Revolving Loan Fund
- Personal Use
- Grants
- Sport Fish
- Contractual Sport Fish Projects
- Salmon Enhancement Tax
- Common Property
- Cost Recovery
- Harvest Revenue
- Commercial
Funding – State Hatcheries

Federal Aid (DJ)
License and Tag Sales (SF Revenue)
General Fund
ENHANCED PRODUCTION OF SALMON

North Pacific Production

Statewide Production

Harvest Allocation

Harvest Value
Enhanced Production of Salmon

North Pacific Production

https://npafc.org/statistics/
Hatchery releases (number)

Hatchery releases (number)

Millions of fish

Enhanced Production of Salmon

Alaska Production

Locations of Alaska Hatcheries

Cook Inlet and Prince William Sound

Southeast

- Hidden Falls
- Sheldon Jackson
- Sawmill Creek
- Medvejie Creek
- Little Port Walter
- Port Armstrong
- Klawock
- Port Saint Nicholas
- Neets Bay
- Burnett Inlet
- Crystal Lake
- Whitman Lake
- Snettisham
- Petersburg
- Ketchikan
- Neets Bay
Alaska Enhanced Releases by Species 1975 - 2017
Enhanced Production of Salmon
Alaska Harvest Allocation
Common Property/Cost Recovery
10 Year Average, 2008-2017

AK Hatchery Percent of the Statewide Harvest by Species

- Chum
- Pink
- Coho
- Chinook
- Sockeye

10 Year Average, 2008-2017
% Hatchery-Produced Salmon in Statewide Commercial Common Property Harvest

![Graph showing percentage of hatchery-produced fish in CCPH from 2008 to 2017. The graph indicates that the percentage varies each year, with a 10-year average percent marked by a horizontal line. The highest percentage was in 2010, and the lowest was in 2017.](image)
Average Harvest Distribution of Alaska Hatchery Produced Salmon 2008-2017

- Common Property Commercial Harvest: 78%
- Cost Recovery: 17%
- Other (broodstock, etc.): 5%
- Sport/Personal Use/Subsistence: <1%
Enhanced Production of Salmon

Alaska Commercial Harvest Allocation

Allocation Plans

5 AAC 24.370 - Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Allocation Plan

5 AAC 33.364 - Southeastern Alaska Area Enhanced Salmon Allocation Management Plan
Enhanced Production of Salmon

Alaska Harvest Value

Commercial Ex-vessel/first wholesale
Alaska Commercial Salmon Harvest and Value

- **Hatchery Stock Harvest**
- **Wild Stock Harvest**
- **Hatchery Exvessel Value (summed by region)**
- **Hatchery First Wholesale Value (Statewide)**

### Graph Details:
- **Commercial Harvest in Numbers of Fish**
- **Hatchery Harvest Value**
- **Years**: 2003 to 2017

### Values:
- **2003**: Hatchery Harvest: $50,000,000, Wild Harvest: $100,000,000
- **2004**: Hatchery Harvest: $60,000,000, Wild Harvest: $140,000,000
- **2005**: Hatchery Harvest: $70,000,000, Wild Harvest: $180,000,000
- **2006**: Hatchery Harvest: $80,000,000, Wild Harvest: $220,000,000
- **2007**: Hatchery Harvest: $90,000,000, Wild Harvest: $260,000,000
- **2008**: Hatchery Harvest: $100,000,000, Wild Harvest: $300,000,000
- **2009**: Hatchery Harvest: $110,000,000, Wild Harvest: $340,000,000
- **2010**: Hatchery Harvest: $120,000,000, Wild Harvest: $380,000,000
- **2011**: Hatchery Harvest: $130,000,000, Wild Harvest: $420,000,000
- **2012**: Hatchery Harvest: $140,000,000, Wild Harvest: $460,000,000
- **2013**: Hatchery Harvest: $150,000,000, Wild Harvest: $500,000,000
- **2014**: Hatchery Harvest: $160,000,000, Wild Harvest: $540,000,000
- **2015**: Hatchery Harvest: $170,000,000, Wild Harvest: $580,000,000
- **2016**: Hatchery Harvest: $180,000,000, Wild Harvest: $620,000,000
- **2017**: Hatchery Harvest: $190,000,000, Wild Harvest: $660,000,000
2017 Total Exvessel Hatchery Harvest
Value: $162,000,000

- Chinook: $3,600,000 (2%)
- Sockeye: $16,000,000 (10%)
- Coho: $5,000,000 (3%)
- Pink: $45,000,000 (28%)
- Chum: $92,000,000 (57%)

2017 Total Exvessel Hatchery Harvest Value: $162,000,000
2017 First Wholesale Hatchery Harvest Value: $412,000,000

- **Chum**: $212,000,000 (52%)
- **Pink**: $158,000,000 (38%)
- **Coho**: $13,000,000 (3%)
- **Sockeye**: $25,000,000 (6%)
- **Chinook**: $5,000,000 (1%)
Enhanced Production of Salmon

Alaska Harvest Value

Commercial Fisheries Taxes

Fisheries Business Tax
Fishery Resource Landing Tax
Seafood Marketing Assessment
Salmon Enhancement Tax
Regional Seafood Development Tax
Enhanced Production of Salmon

Alaska Harvest Value

Sport/Personal Use/Subsistence
# Average Estimated Annual Sport, Personal Use and Subsistence Harvest by region from Alaska hatcheries 2008-2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>King</th>
<th>Sockeye</th>
<th>Coho</th>
<th>Pink</th>
<th>Chum</th>
<th>Arctic Char</th>
<th>Grayling</th>
<th>Landlocked Salmon</th>
<th>RBT</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
<td>7,078</td>
<td>3,920</td>
<td>49,781</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>3,519</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>64,334</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prince William Sound</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>112,395</td>
<td>50,370</td>
<td>21,283</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>185,052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cook Inlet</td>
<td>3,572</td>
<td>26,923</td>
<td>20,378</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td></td>
<td>695</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>2,373</td>
<td>11,021</td>
<td>66,669</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kodiak</td>
<td>1,661</td>
<td>3,953</td>
<td>4,601</td>
<td>37</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10,252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Interior</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2,645</td>
<td>1,006</td>
<td>6,353</td>
<td>21,893</td>
<td>31,897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>12,316</strong></td>
<td><strong>147,191</strong></td>
<td><strong>125,129</strong></td>
<td><strong>22,856</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,519</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,340</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,211</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,726</strong></td>
<td><strong>32,915</strong></td>
<td><strong>358,204</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
PREVIOUS AK HATCHERY PROGRAM REVIEWS

Legislative Review 1991-92

Salmon Industry Response Cabinet 1997

Board of Fisheries 1997-2002
Previous AK Hatchery Program Reviews

Legislative Review 1991-92
Previous AK Hatchery Program Reviews

Salmon Industry Response Cabinet 1997

THE HATCHERY POLICY GROUP

Bob Clausby, Director, Commercial Fisheries Management Division
Jim McMillan, Deputy Director of Credit, AIDEA
Martin Richard, Director, Division of Investments

REPORT TO

THE SALMON INDUSTRY RESPONSE CABINET

William Hensley, Commissioner of Commerce and Economic Development
Mike Irwin, Commissioner of Community and Regional Affairs
Frank Rue, Commissioner of Fish and Game

JANUARY 16, 1997

COMMISSIONER RUE

VOLUME I
Previous AK Hatchery Program Reviews
Board of Fisheries Hatchery Committee 1997
Joint Protocol on Salmon Enhancement 2002

Alaska Board of Fisheries
and
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Joint Protocol on Salmon Enhancement
#2002-FB-215

Background: In actions taken in January 2001 and June 2002 the Alaska Board of Fisheries stated its intent to institutionalize a public forum to bring a statewide perspective to issues associated with hatchery production of salmon. Accordingly, the department and board agreed to enter into this joint protocol to coordinate department and board interaction on certain aspects of salmon hatchery policy and regulation.

Authorities: The commissioner of the Department of Fish and Game has exclusive authority to issue permits for the construction and operation of salmon hatcheries. The Board of Fisheries has clear authority to regulate access to returning hatchery salmon and to amend, by regulation, the terms of the hatchery permit relating to the source and number of salmon eggs. The Board of Fisheries’ authorities also include the harvest of fish by hatchery operators and the specific locations designated by the department for harvest (see AS 16.10.446(b) and Department of Law memorandum to the board dated November 6, 1997).

Statement of Intent: It is the intention of the commissioner of the Department of Fish and Game and the chairman of the Board of Fisheries that meetings be held on a regular basis wherein the department will update the board and the public on management, production, and research relating to Alaska’s salmon enhancement program.

Protocol: The joint department-board meeting on hatchery described here will take place at a mutually agreeable time and place during regularly scheduled meetings of the board. The meetings will provide a forum for open discussion on a mutually agreed upon agenda of hatchery topics. The agenda may include site-specific as well as regional or statewide hatchery issues. These salmon enhancement meeting agendas will not be open for regulatory actions and no hatchery-related petitions or agenda change requests (ACRs) will be considered as action items. These meetings are open to the public. At its discretion and upon appropriate notice, the board may open the meeting to public comment.

The hatchery meetings will provide an opportunity for the board and the public to receive reports from the department on hatchery issues including: production trends, management issues, updates on hatchery planning efforts, wild and hatchery stock interactions, biological considerations, and research. Requests for report from the department may be made during the board’s work session during meeting years when there is a hatchery forum scheduled.

As appropriate, the board and department may agree to invite other state and federal agencies, professional societies, scientists, or industry spokespersons to attend and to contribute information on particular topics, or sponsor other discussions, such as marketing or interstate effects.

Dated: June 28, 2002

Ed Deichmann, Chairman
Alaska Board of Fisheries

Frank Rice, Commissioner
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
RESULTS

Wild Salmon Harvest 1900-1974

Wild Salmon Harvest 1900-2017

Wild and Enhanced Salmon Harvest 1900-2017
Alaska Commercial Salmon Harvest from 1900-1974

Wild Stock Harvest

Statehood 1959
Alaska Commercial Salmon Harvest from 1900-2017

Wild Stock Harvest

Statehood 1959

PNP Hatchery Program 1974
Alaska Commercial Salmon Harvest from 1900-2017

- Hatchery Harvest
- Wild Stock Harvest

- Statehood 1959
- PNP Hatchery Program 1974