

# ADF&G STAFF ORAL PRESENTATION ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

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SOUTHEAST ALASKA AREA  
SPORT FISHERY REGULATORY PROPOSALS  
November 28-December 1, 2023



## Southeast Alaska King Salmon Sport Fishery RC 3 - Tab 9

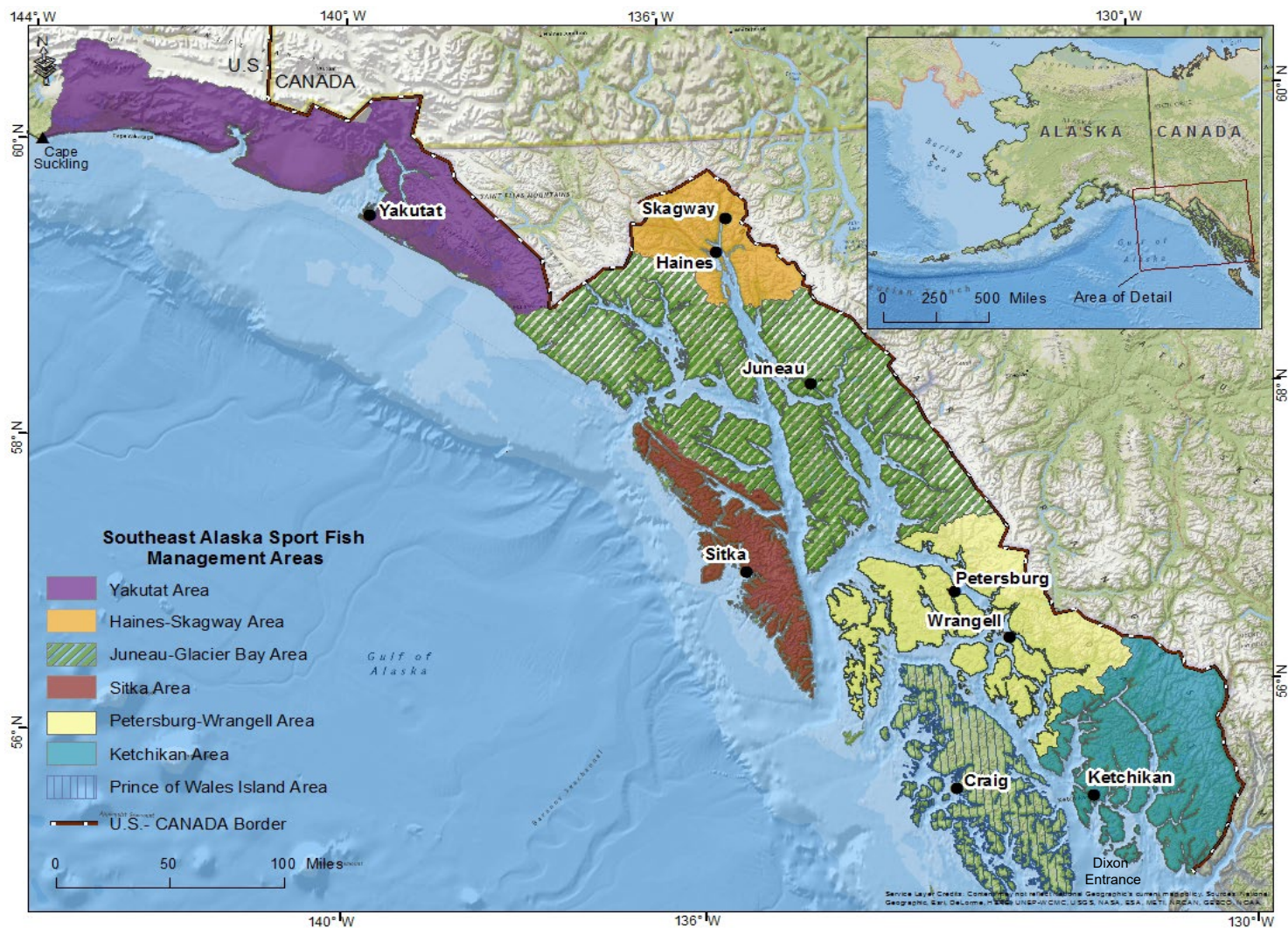
Patrick Fowler  
Southeast Alaska Management Coordinator  
Division of Sport Fish, Southeast Region

# Presentation Outline

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- Overview of Southeast Alaska king salmon sport fishery management;
- Current harvest and effort trends;
- History of the management plan;
- Topics on the agenda for this meeting.

# Southeast Alaska



# Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management

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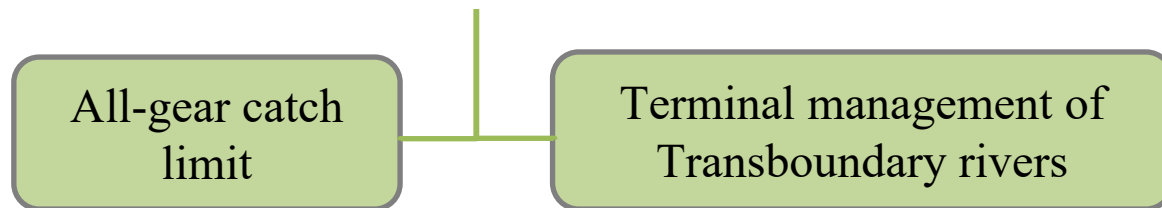
Sustainable  
Wild Stock



Comply with  
Pacific Salmon  
Treaty



Hatchery  
Opportunity

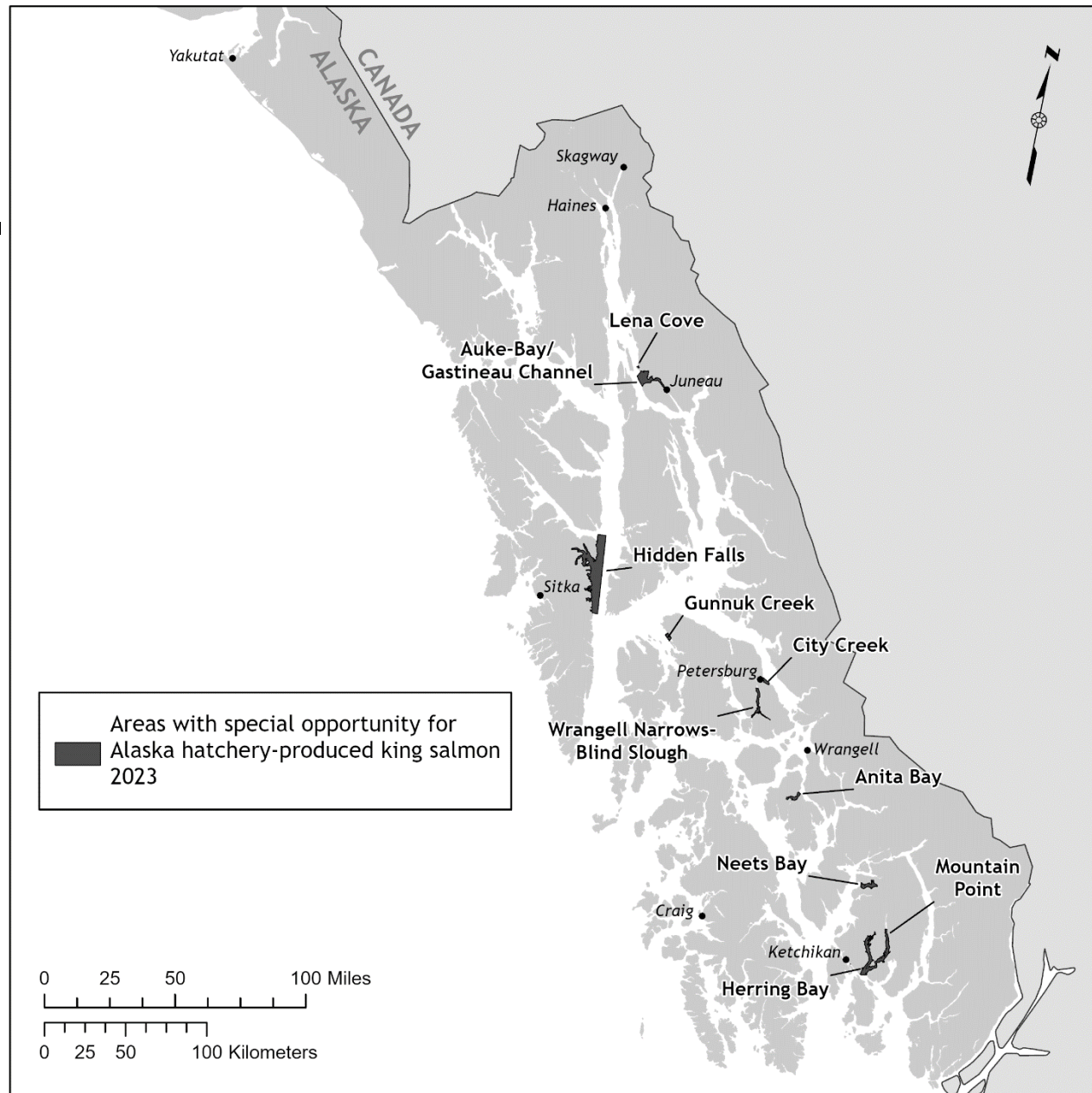






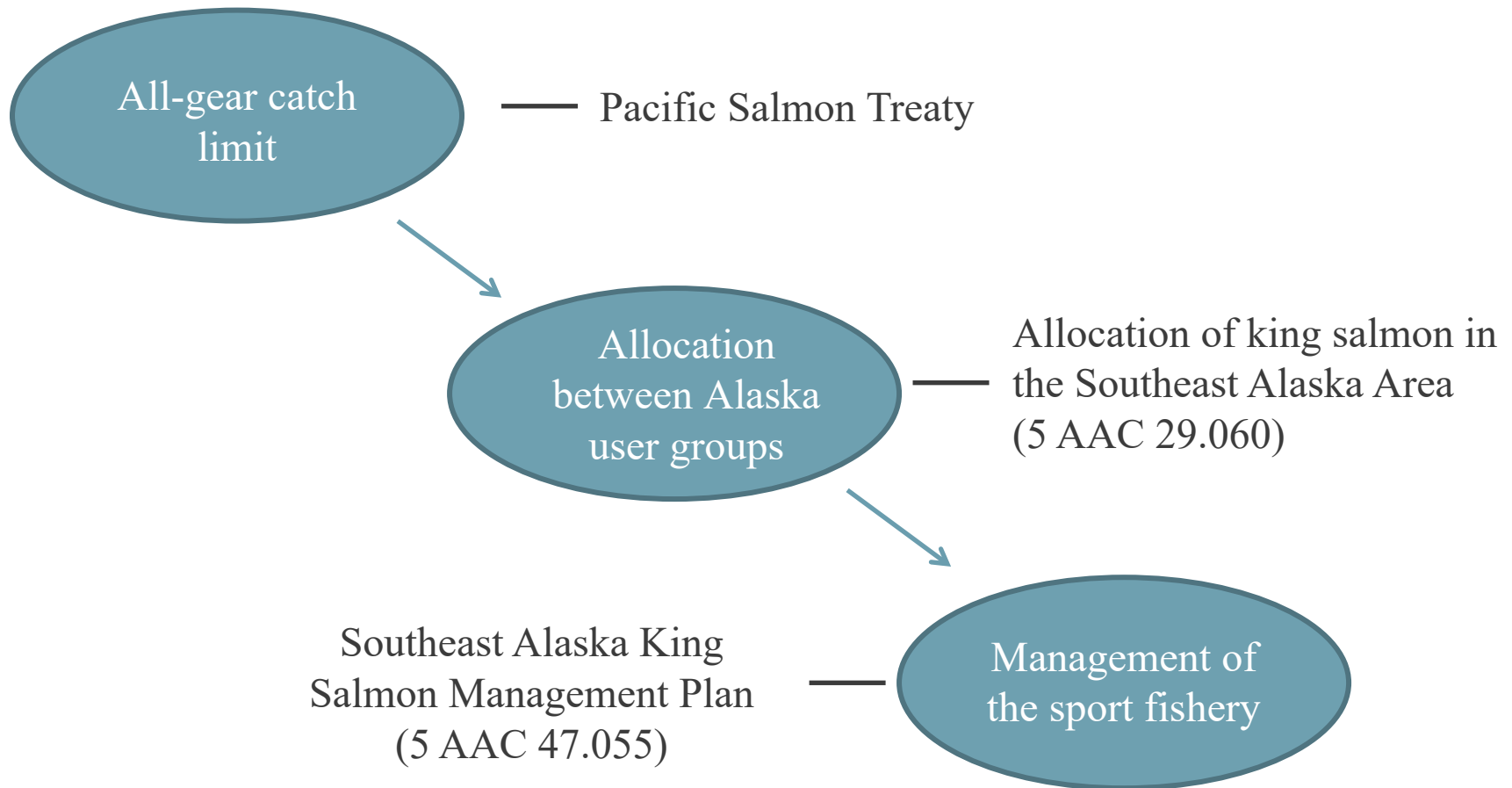
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# King Salmon Sport Regulations: Hatchery Opportunity



# King Salmon Management – Sport allocation

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# Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan – Regulations by Tier

## Nonresident Regulations (Bag Limit/Annual Limit)

<u>Management tier</u>	<u>Resident Bag Limit*</u>	<u>Jan 1 - June 30</u>	<u>July 1-7</u>	<u>July 8-15</u>	<u>July 16 - Dec 31</u>
Tier 7	3	1/3	1/2		1/1
Tier 6	3	1/3	1/2		1/1
Tier 5	2	1/3	1/2		1/1
Tier 4	2	1/3	1/2		1/1
Tier 3	1	1/3	1/2		1/1
Tier 2	1	1/3		1/1	
Tier 1	TBD		TBD		

\*Residents do not have an annual limit.



# Additional regulations for Southeast Alaska – King salmon

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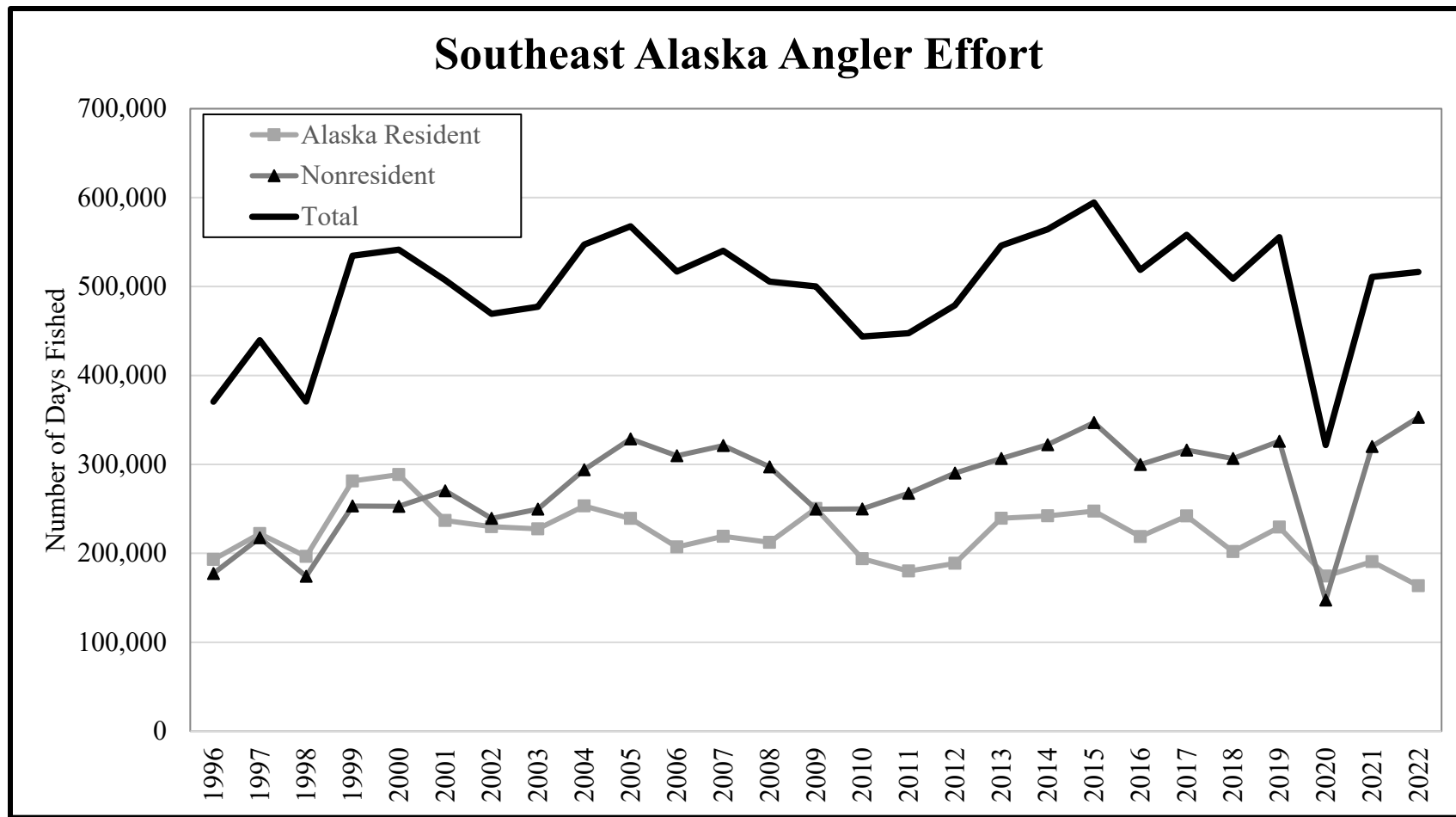
- King salmon fishing is closed in fresh waters of Southeast Alaska (except the Yakutat Area).
- Sport fishing may be conducted only by the use of a single line per angler, and not more than six lines may be fished from a vessel.
- The maximum number of fishing lines that may be fished from a vessel engaged in sport fishing charter activities is equal to the number of paying clients on board the vessel (not more than six).

# Tools for Estimating Sport Fish Harvest

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- **Statewide Harvest Survey-** mailed survey
  - Comprehensive and includes responses from a large number of respondents. However, data is not available until one year after the season.
- **Southeast Marine Harvest Creel-** onsite survey
  - Provides inseason information and collects biological samples (including CWT's and genetic samples).
- **Charter Logbook-** census
  - Very detailed information recorded for every charter trip.
  - Electronic reporting became mandatory as of 2021.

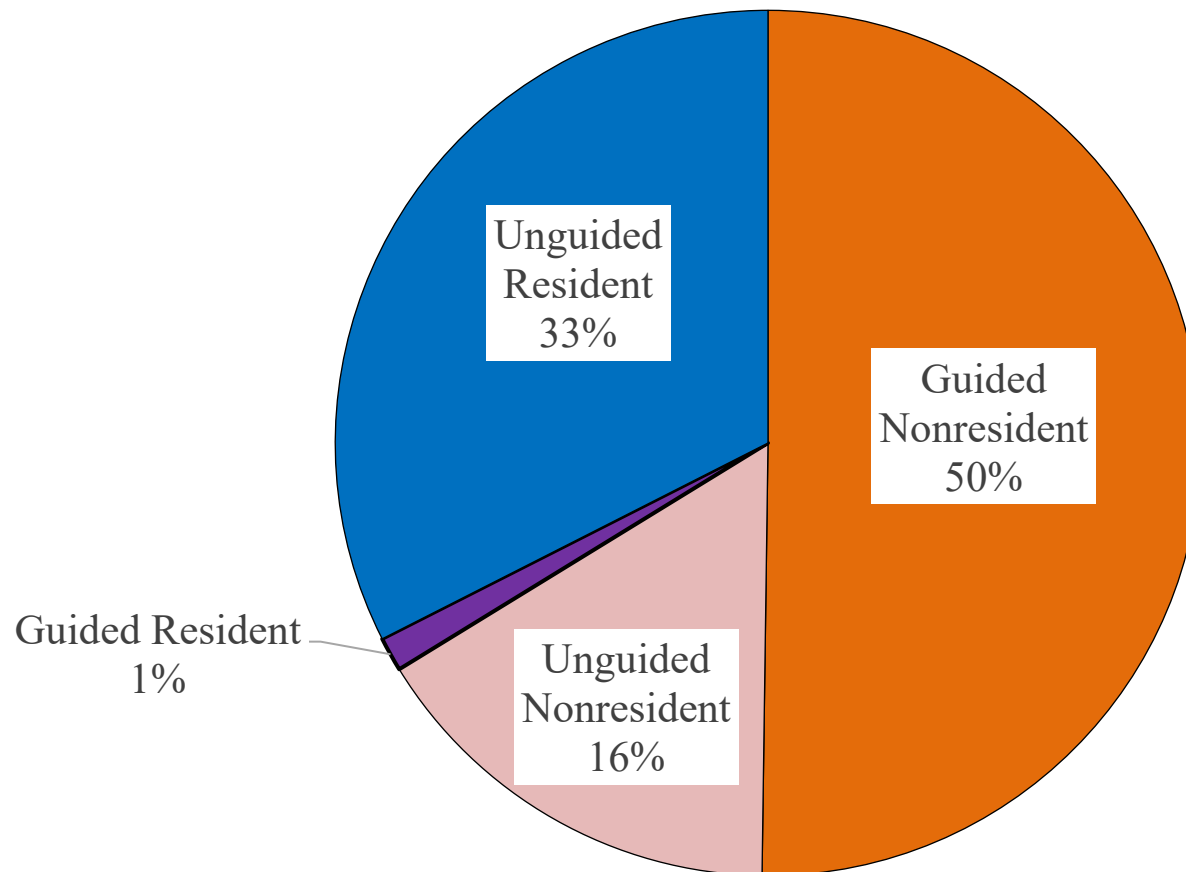
# Southeast Alaska Sport Fishery Effort by Residency – Days Fished 1996-2022



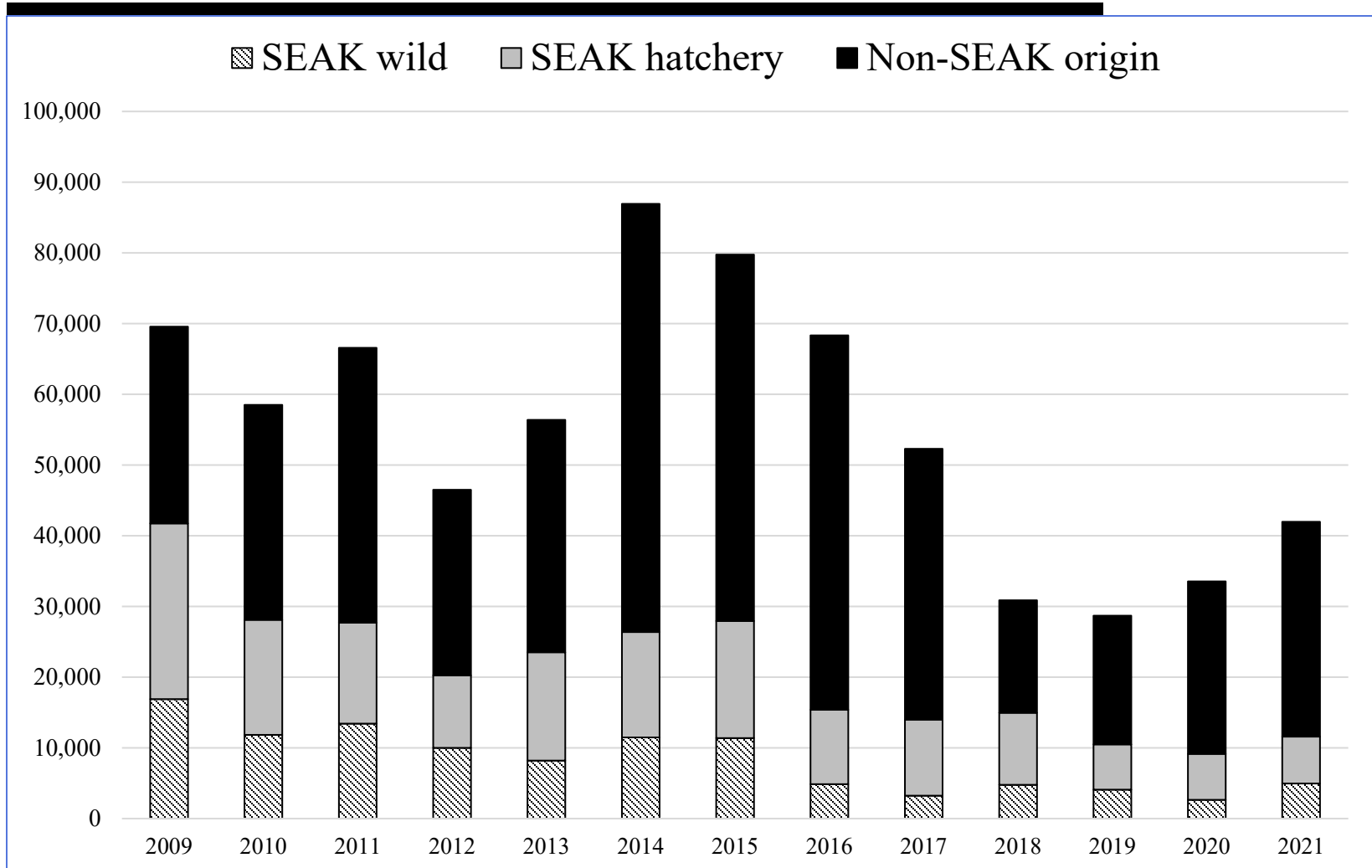
# King Salmon Harvest by Sport Angler Type – Statewide Harvest Survey

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**10 year average harvest by angler type (2013-2022)**



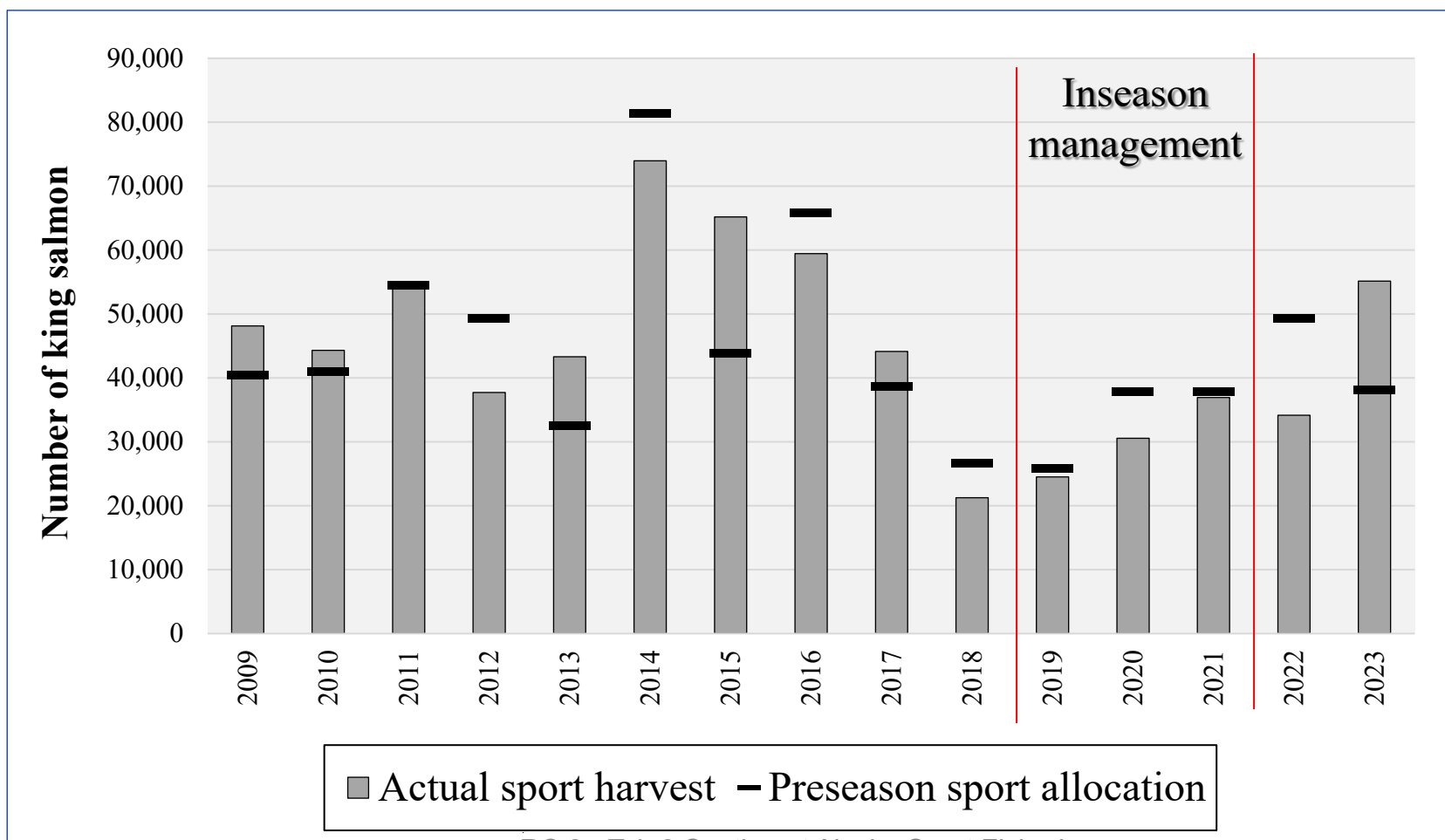
# King Salmon Harvest by Stock Origin





# King Salmon Management Performance

## Southeast Alaska PST king salmon allocation and harvest



# King Salmon Management Performance

Year	Preseason catch limit	Troll + sport allocation	Preseason sport allocation	Actual sport harvest	Sport deviation from allocation	Average sport (%) of the combined sport/troll allocation
2009	218,800	202,046	40,409	48,120	7,711	<b>20.7%</b>
2010	221,800	204,830	40,966	44,315	3,349	
2011	294,800	272,574	54,515	53,964	-551	
2012	266,800	246,590	49,318	37,722	-11,596	
2013	176,000	162,328	32,466	43,304	10,838	
2014	439,400	406,763	81,353	73,951	-7,402	
2015	237,000	218,936	43,787	65,174	21,387	
2016	355,600	328,997	65,799	59,442	-6,357	
2017	209,700	193,602	38,720	44,125	5,405	
2018	144,500	133,096	26,619	21,243	-5,376	
2019	140,323	129,220	25,844	24,496	-1,396	<b>18.1%</b> (inseason management)
2020	205,165	189,393	37,879	30,561	-7,318	
2021	205,165	189,393	37,879	36,935	-944	
2022	266,585	246,391	49,278	34,166	-15,112	<b>20.5%</b>
2023	206,027	190,193	38,039	55,146	17,107	

# Changes to the Pacific Salmon Treaty and the King Salmon Management Plan

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- Renegotiated Pacific Salmon Treaty for 2019-2028
  - Included payback provision
  - Use of Winter Troll CPUE
- Out of cycle action taken by the board in 2019
  - Modified management tiers to account for the reduction in Alaska's share of the coastwide catch limit.
  - Guidance for inseason management within 3 tiers most likely to occur before the next SEAK board meeting to satisfy payback provision.
  - Language updated to reference the winter troll CPUE rather than the outdated abundance index.
  - Additional work needed at the next Southeast board meeting.

# Changes to the Pacific Salmon Treaty and the King Salmon Management Plan

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## ● Board actions in 2022

- 12 proposals addressing the management plan.
- Department sought clarification for the use of inseason management because the language within the plan was now inconsistent after changes made in 2019. Objectives directed the department to manage for the average allocation while direction for the use of inseason management was included for 3 tiers.
- Sport fishing opportunity was decreased in the high abundance tiers and increased in the low abundance tiers. This compromise was based on the give and take of allocation between the commercial troll fishery and the sport fishery.
- Allows transfer of unused sport allocation to the commercial troll fishery
- Resident priority was established.
- Sunset clause established for the next SEAK board meeting.

# Sport King Salmon Proposals

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Proposals:

257

258

259

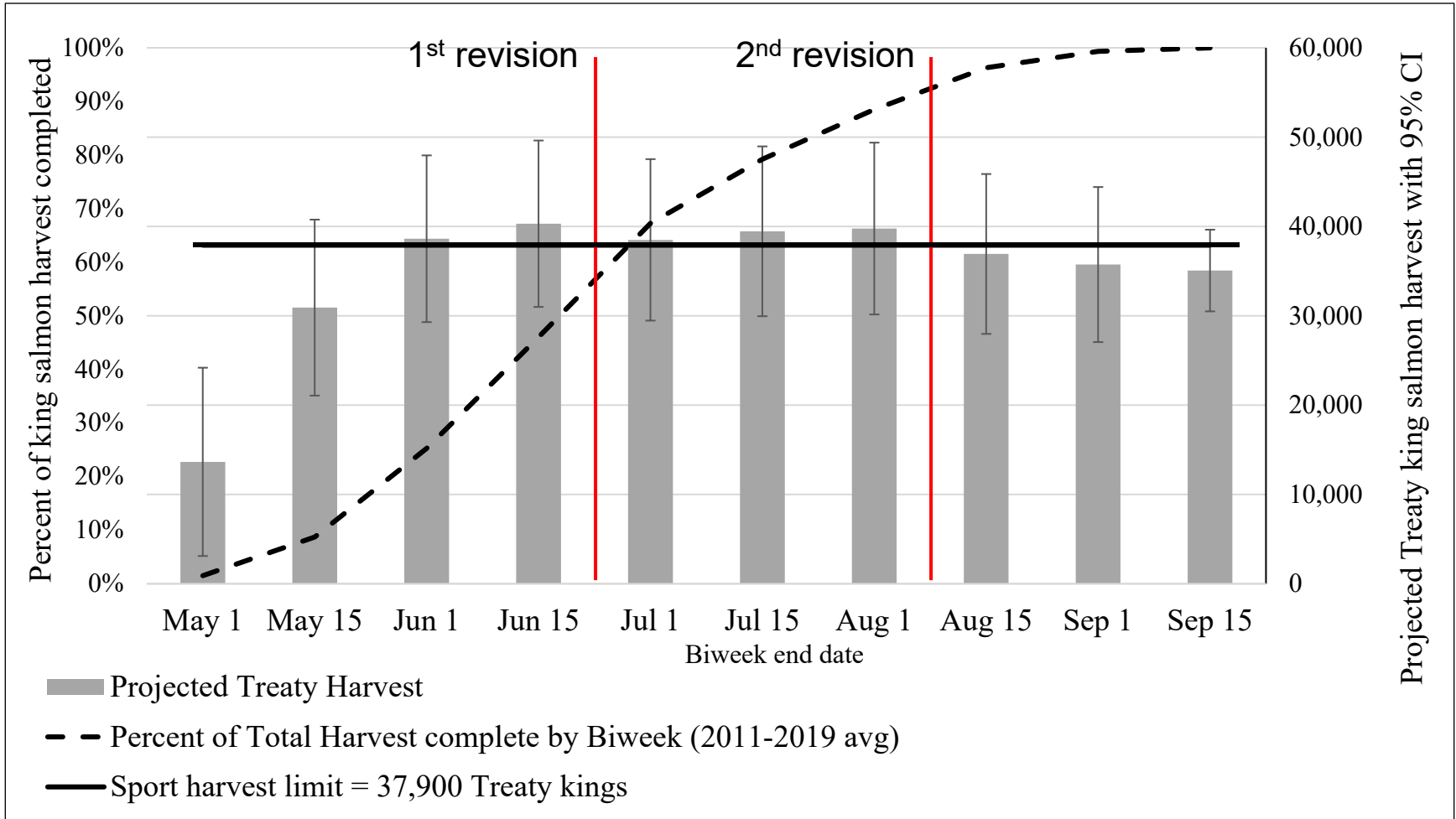
## 2 topics:

- Align the management plan with changes to the Pacific Salmon Treaty.
  - Proposal 257: replace outdated references to the Winter Troll CPUE with allocation ranges to the sport fishery.
  - Proposal 258: Restructure the 7 management tiers into 17 management tiers.
- Proposal 259: Clarify the direction to the department on the use of inseason management to achieve the annual sport allocation vs managing for an average allocation across years.



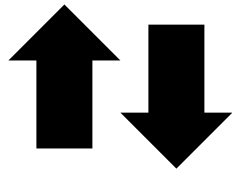
# Inseason Management Challenge

## 2021 Inseason Projections of Sport Fishery Treaty King Salmon Harvest



# Inseason Management Challenge

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- Sport fishing effort
- Catch rates
- Alaska hatchery contribution

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Inseason revisions to regulations

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Conservative management due to error  
in harvest projections

# Questions

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