

RECREATIONAL FISHERIES IN THE NORTHERN KENAI PENINSULA MANAGEMENT AREA (NKPMA)

RC 3 Tab 7



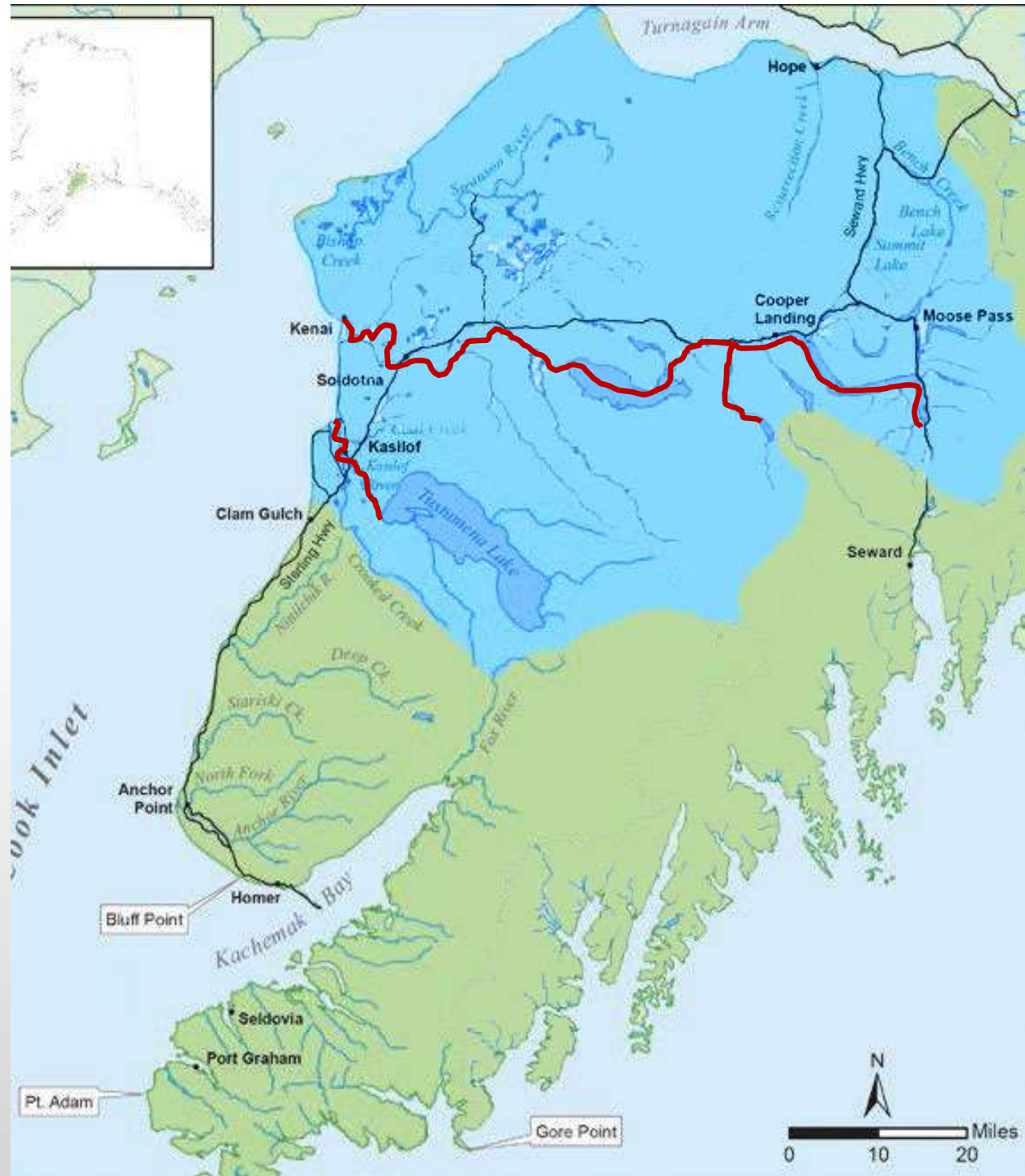
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Division of Sport Fish

ROADMAP

- Kenai River King Salmon
 - Assessment
 - Early-run, Late-run
- Kasilof River King Salmon
 - Early-run, Late-run
- Kenai River Sockeye Salmon
- Russian River Sockeye Salmon
- Kenai River Coho Salmon
- Kenai River Resident Species
- Kenai and Kasilof rivers PU fisheries
- Guides and Vessels

Regulations
2023 Performance
Data
Color map/Figures

MAP OF THE NKPMA



Angler-days of effort expended by sport anglers fishing the Northern Kenai Peninsula Management Area waters, 2003–2022.

Year	Kenai River ^a		Russian River ^b		Kasilof River ^c		Other NKPMA ^d		NKPMA total	Percent of state	Alaska total
	Effort	% NKPMA	Effort ^e	% NKPMA	Effort	% NKPMA	Effort	% NKPMA			
2003	321,044	74	50,448	12	30,840	7	33,564	8	435,896	20	2,219,398
2004	376,313	75	60,784	12	29,889	6	33,749	7	500,735	20	2,473,961
2005	389,379	76	55,801	11	30,436	6	33,386	7	509,002	21	2,463,929
2006	330,085	72	70,804	15	26,323	6	33,254	7	460,466	20	2,297,961
2007	410,381	77	57,755	11	28,246	5	38,554	7	534,936	21	2,543,674
2008	360,344	75	55,444	12	29,939	6	35,630	7	481,357	21	2,315,601
2009	337,217	73	64,518	14	24,545	5	34,949	8	461,229	21	2,216,445
2010	347,938	80	39,873	9	19,481	4	30,130	7	437,422	22	2,000,167
2011	365,863	79	47,264	10	23,422	5	24,516	5	461,065	24	1,919,313
2012	374,732	82	41,152	9	22,099	5	19,873	4	457,856	24	1,885,692
2013	411,592	78	59,682	11	27,430	5	31,942	6	530,646	24	2,202,957
2014	455,578	79	57,544	10	30,369	5	34,399	6	577,890	25	2,309,851
2015	422,792	78	55,420	10	29,766	6	31,502	6	539,480	24	2,212,331
2016	380,638	80	39,957	8	22,111	5	32,896	7	475,602	24	1,982,300
2017	376,612	78	49,455	10	24,733	5	31,007	6	481,807	24	2,006,244
2018	324,532	75	47,186	11	32,729	8	27,784	6	432,231	23	1,878,009
2019	397,414	78	53,637	11	29,034	6	29,857	6	509,942	25	2,075,431
2020	305,376	76	44,391	11	26,250	7	26,792	7	402,809	26	1,566,516
2021	418,142	81	45,119	9	30,518	6	23,206	4	516,985	26	1,978,718
2022	393,873	81	44,689	9	28,079	6	20,940	4	487,581	27	1,827,809
Average											
2003–2022	374,992	77	52,046	11	27,312	6	30,397	6	484,747	23	2,118,815

Source: Statewide Harvest Survey (SWHS) estimates from the Alaska Sport Fishing Survey database [Intranet]. 1999–present. Anchorage, AK: Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish (cited October 2023). Available from: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/sportfishingsurvey/>.

^a Does not include Skilak and Kenai lakes; mainstem only.

^b Does not include Lower and Upper Russian lakes.

^c Does not include Tustumena Lake.

^d Does not include Other Streams and Other Lakes.

MAP OF THE KENAI RIVER

GENERAL REGULATIONS - UPPER KENAI

Inclusive waters: The mainstem Kenai River, from waters of Skilak Lake within a ½ mile radius of the river inlet upstream to the Sterling Highway Bridge at the outlet of Kenai Lake, including the Russian River drainage.

Fishing is open June 11-April 30 unless otherwise noted below. Closed to all fishing May 1-June 10.

Check for emergency orders online at www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR prior to fishing waters located within the Upper Kenai River area.

KING SALMON

- Closed to king salmon fishing.

OTHER SALMON

- Coho salmon: See below for bag and possession limits.
- Season: July 1-October 31.
- A coho salmon 16 inches or longer that is removed from the water must be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person who originally hooked the fish. You must not remove a coho salmon 16 inches or longer from the water before releasing it.
- Pink, chum, and sockeye salmon:
 - Season: June 11-April 30.
 - 16 inches or longer:
 - Pink salmon: 6 per day, 6 in possession.
 - Coho, sockeye, and chum salmon:
 - June 11-August 31: 3 per day, 6 in possession, only 2 per day, 2 in possession may be coho salmon.
 - September 1-October 31: All 3 per day and 6 in possession may be coho.
 - Less than 16 inches: 10 per day, 10 in possession in combination.

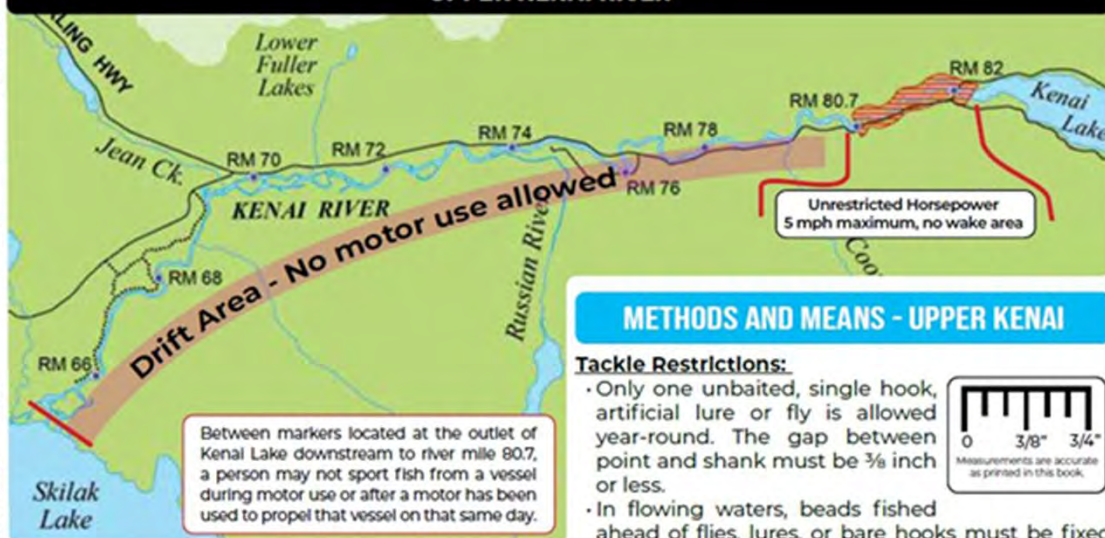
RAINBOW/STEELHEAD TROUT

- 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 16 inches long.

ARCTIC CHAR/DOLLY VARDEN

- 1 per day, 1 in possession, must be less than 16 inches long.

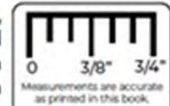
UPPER KENAI RIVER



METHODS AND MEANS - UPPER KENAI

Tackle Restrictions:

- Only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure or fly is allowed year-round. The gap between point and shank must be 3/8 inch or less.
- In flowing waters, beads fished ahead of flies, lures, or bare hooks must be fixed within 2 inches of the hook or be free to slide on the entire length of the line or leader.



Riverbank Closures:

- There are special bank access regulations on the Kenai River that apply July 1-August 15. See pages 55 to 57 for public access points and riverbank closures on the Kenai River.

Gear Restrictions:

- Salmon may be landed only with the aid of a landing net or by hand. No gaffs are allowed.
- See page 58 for boat and motor restrictions.

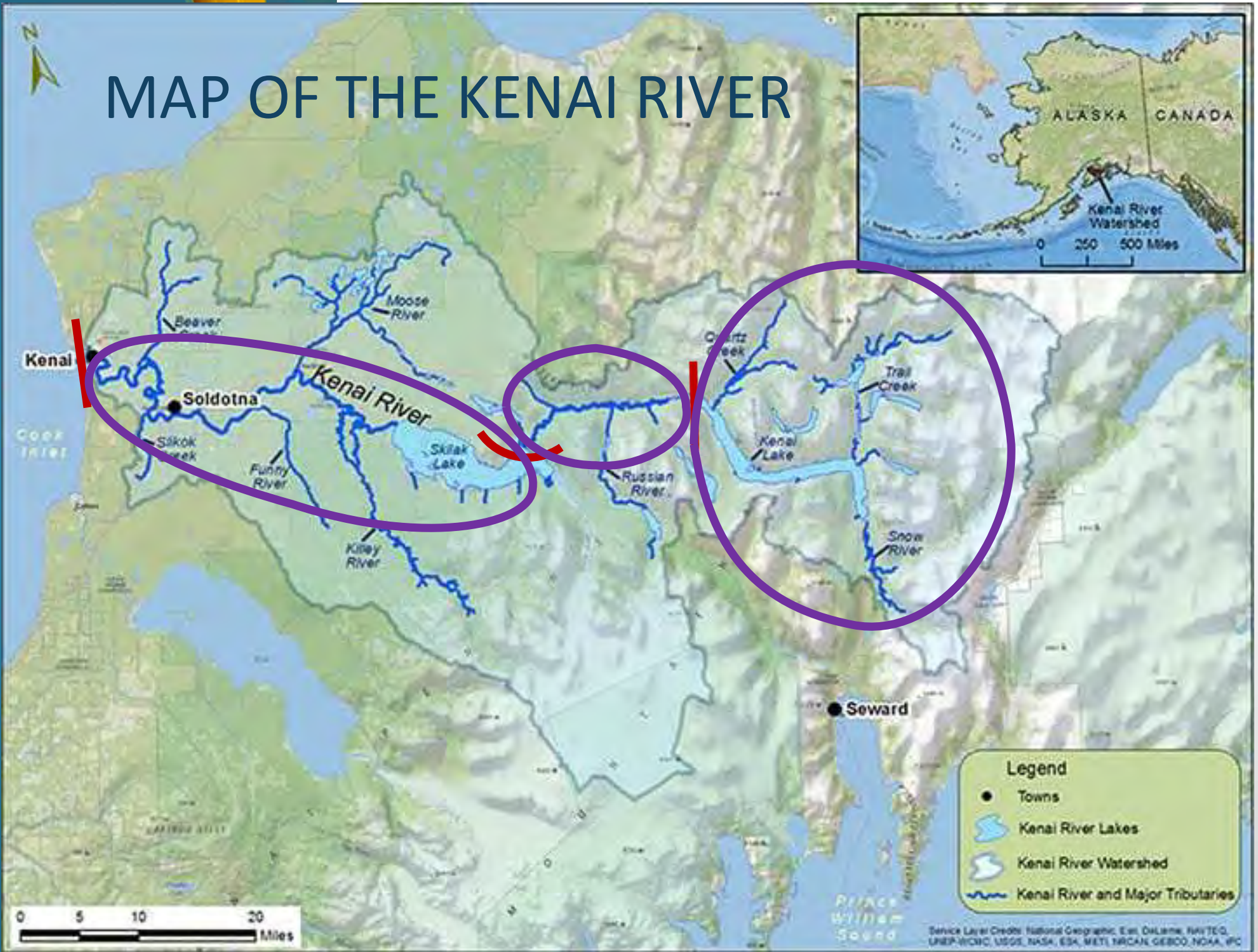
Fishing From an Anchored Vessel:

- Fishing from a vessel on the Kenai River when the anchor is dragging is prohibited. If an anchor should fail to hold the vessel in a fixed position, fishing must immediately stop until the anchor is pulled or reset to hold the vessel in a fixed position.

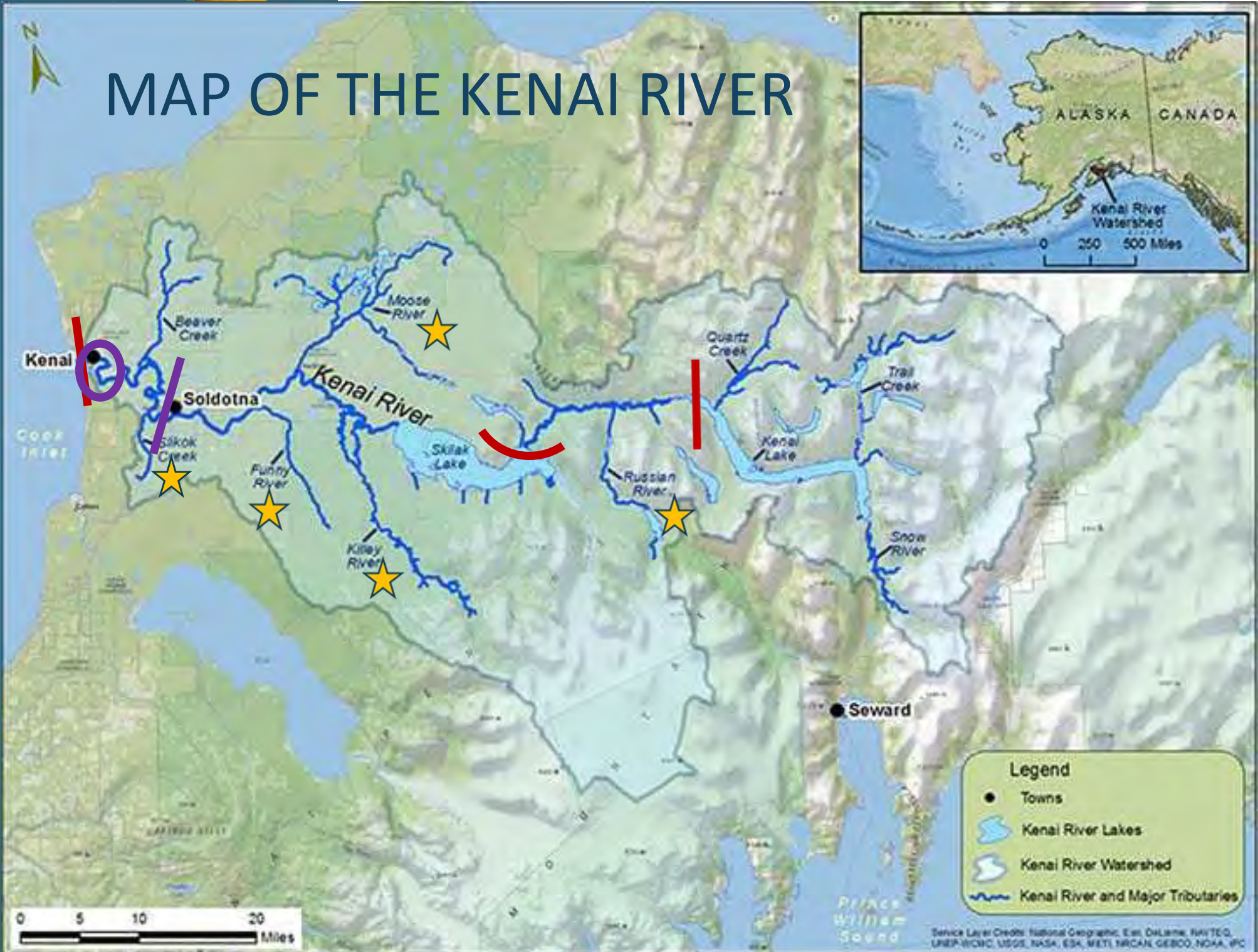
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KENAI RIVER - UPPER KENAI RIVER

MAP OF THE KENAI RIVER



MAP OF THE KENAI RIVER

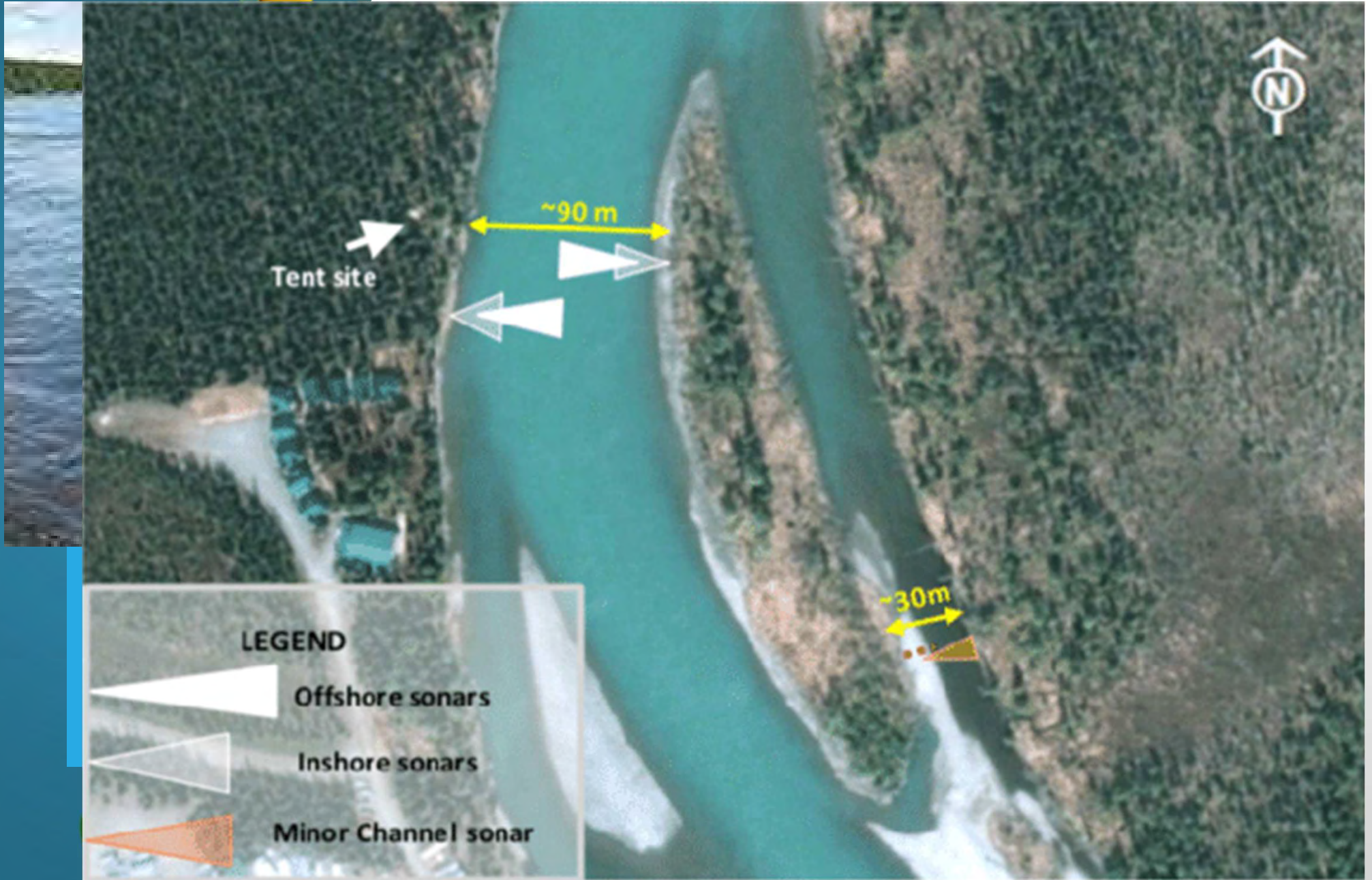




IN-SEASON KING SALMON ASSESSMENT

- Sonar passage estimates of large king salmon ($\geq 75\text{cm}$)
- Creel survey harvest
- Escapement projected:
(sonar - harvest = escapement)
- Direct estimates of large king salmon = less error and reduce uncertainty.

KING SALMON SONAR



EARLY-RUN KING SALMON

5 AAC 57.160. Kenai River and Kasilof River Early-run King Salmon Management Plan

- January 1- June 30
- Conserve unique large size of early-run
- Regulations
- SEG 2,800 – 5,600 large fish
 - No change
- OEG 3,900 – 6,600 large fish

2023 EARLY-RUN KING SALMON

- 2023 forecast = 2,914 large kings
 - SEG 2,800 – 5,600
 - OEG 3,900 – 6,600
- Preseason = closed (June 30)
- Inseason projections = closed
- Large king escapement = 1,975

2023 EARLY-RUN KING SALMON

Kenai River early-run large ≥ 75 cm Chinook salmon population data, 2014–2023.

Year	Cook Inlet marine harvest ^a	Misc. marine ^b	Kenaitze educational harvest ^c	Sport Harvest Below Sonar from creel survey	Inriver run	Sport harvest above creel survey ^d	Release mortality above creel survey ^d	Release mortality above Kenai Lake from the SWHS	Spawning escapement	Total run	Harvest rate
2014	65	10	1						2,621	2,690	0.03
2015	66	41	8		6,524				4,198	4,303	0.02
2016	23	14	2	2	6,528	4	19	23	6,478	6,567	0.01
2017	40	19	10	95	7,332	440	22	49	6,726	7,401	0.09
2018	4	16	1	29	3,029	64	11	15	2,910	3,051	0.05
2019 ^e	9	12	0	2	4,188	0	58	54	4,074	4,208	0.03
2020 ^e	7	2	3	14	2,458	2	2	21	2,418	2,469	0.02
2021	13	1	0	15	4,146	40	26	30	4,036	4,159	0.03
2022	119	1	0	1	2,108	0	4	56	2,047	2,168	0.06
2023									1,975		
Average 2014–2022	38	13	3	23	4,539	79	20	35	3,945	4,113	0.04

1996–present. Anchorage, AK: Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish (cited November 2023). Available from:

Note: NA means data not available.

^a Cook Inlet marine sport harvest; calculated as 5% of total Cook Inlet marine sport harvest.

^b 60% of commercial cost-recovery harvest and eastside setnet harvest before 25 June.

^c Prior to 1994, there was no educational fishery, this was considered a subsistence fishery.

^d Includes creel survey estimates for the area from Cook Inlet to the Soldotna Bridge and estimates from the SWHS from the Soldotna Bridge to the

^e These estimates are preliminary until biometrically reviewed and published.

LATE-RUN KING SALMON

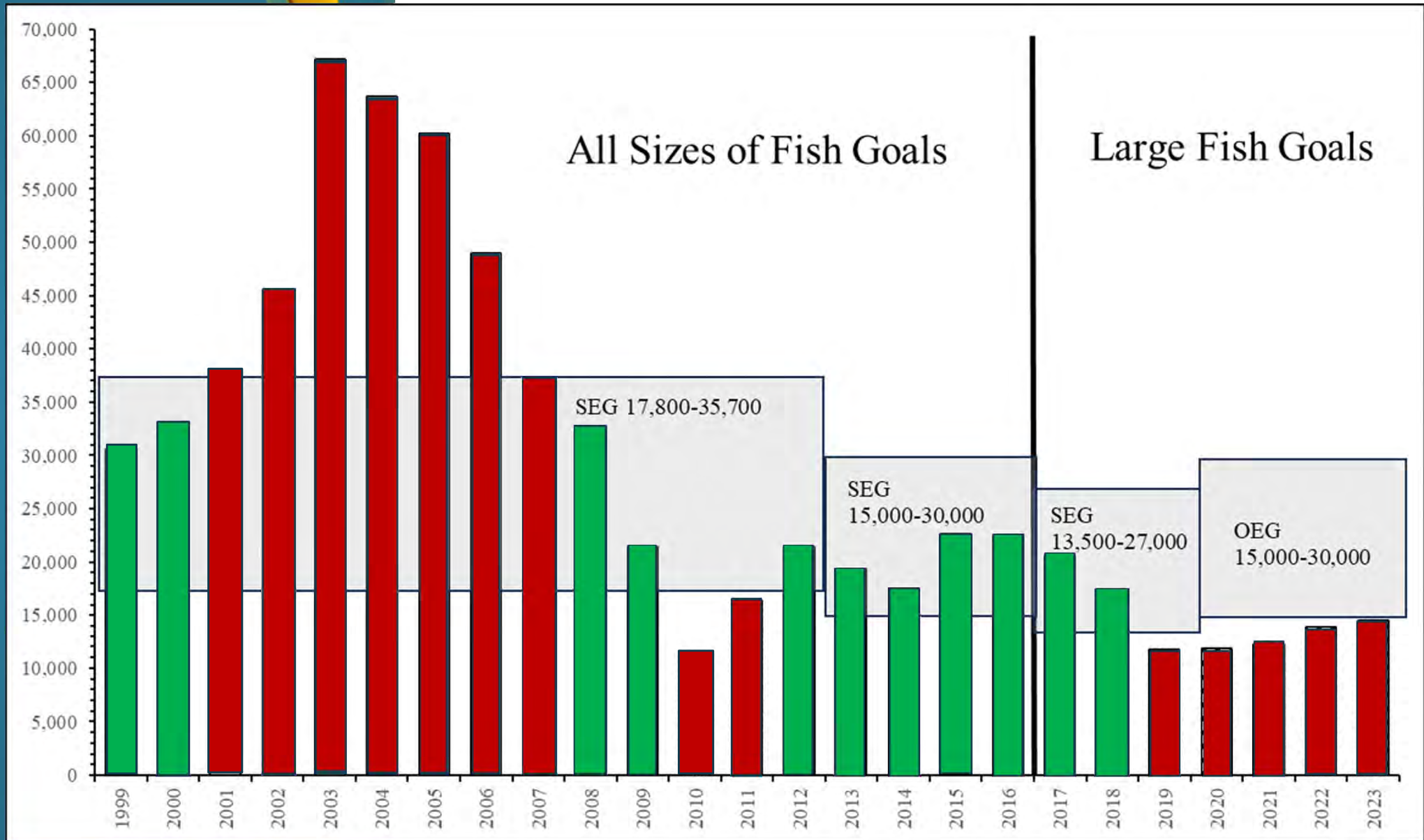
5 AAC 21.359. Kenai River Late-run King Salmon Management Plan

- June 20 – Aug 15
- Primarily for sport/guided sport
- Regulations
- Inseason projections
 - July 16 (25%), July 27 (50%)
- SEG 13,500 – 27,000 large fish
 - No change
- OEG 15,000 – 30,000 large fish
- Designated Stock Of Concern

2023 LATE-RUN KING SALMON

- 2023 forecast = 13,630 large kings
 - SEG 13,500 – 27,000
 - OEG 15,000 – 30,000
- Preseason = Closed
- Inseason projections = Closed
- Closures/Restrictions
- Large king escapement = 14,502

LATE-RUN KING SALMON



LATE-RUN KING SALMON

Year	Escapement	SEG/BEG	OEG
2004	63,683	17,800–35,700	
2005	60,246	17,800–35,700	
2006	48,950	17,800–35,700	
2007	37,010	17,800–35,700	
2008	32,342	17,800–35,700	
2009	21,410	17,800–35,700	
2010	11,375	17,800–35,700	
2011	16,340	17,800–35,700	
2012	21,417	17,800–35,700	
2013	19,342	15,000–30,000	
2014	17,451	15,000–30,000	
2015	22,642	15,000–30,000	
2016	18,790	15,000–30,000	
2017	20,583	13,500–27,000	
2018	17,405	13,500–27,000	
2019	11,709	13,500–27,000	
2020	11,854	13,500–27,000	15,000–30,000
2021	12,238	13,500–27,000	15,000–30,000
2022	13,911	13,500–27,000	15,000–30,000
2023 ^a	14,502	13,500–27,000	15,000–30,000
Average			
2004–2023	24,660		

Note: Large fish are king salmon that are 75 cm from mideye to tail fork in length or longer. Shaded areas indicate that the goal was achieved for that year. Bold font indicates the goal that was management objective.

^a These estimates are preliminary until biometrically reviewed and published. 2023 sonar was extended seven days.

LATE-RUN KING SALMON

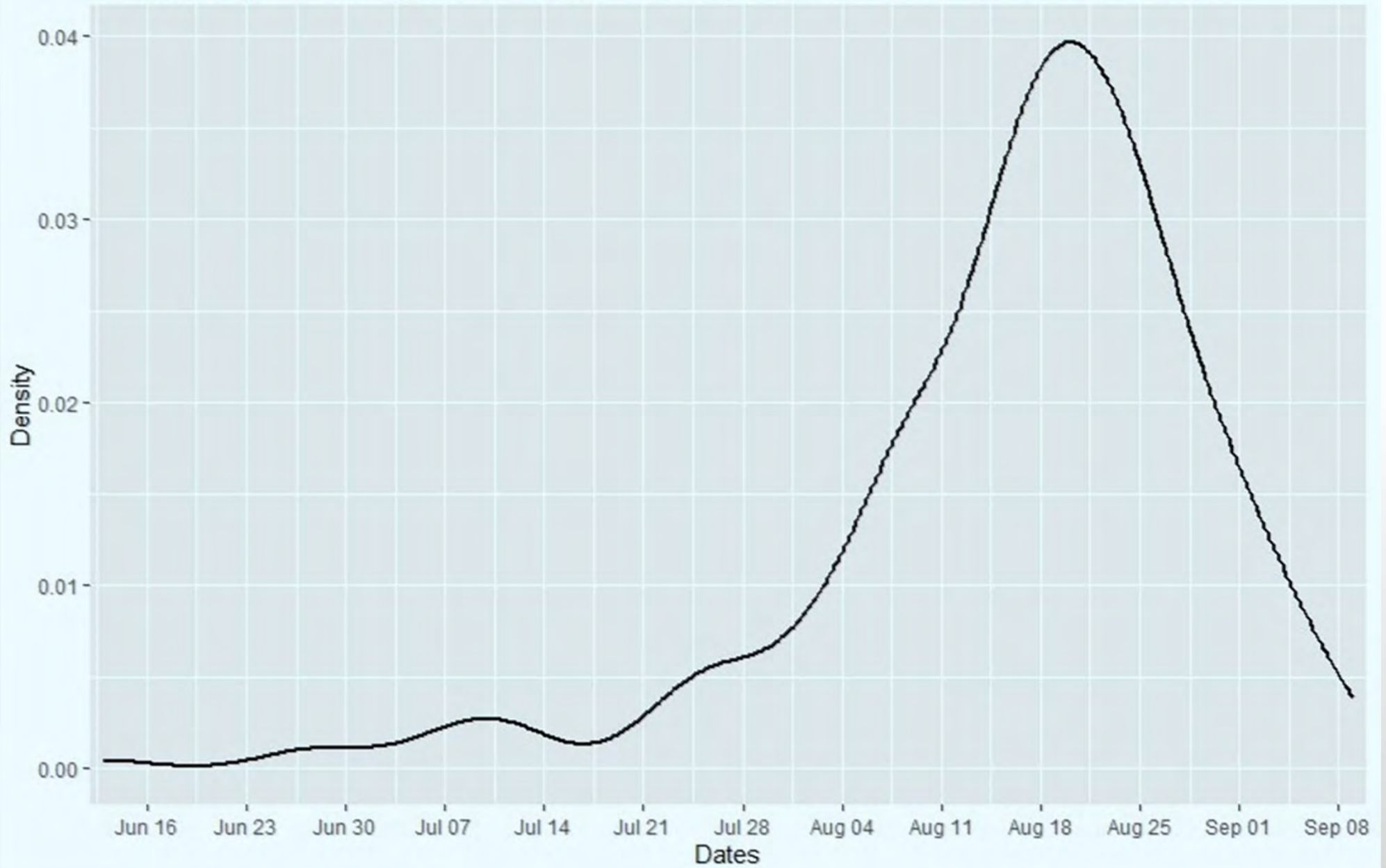
Table 82-1.—Kenai River late-run large ≥ 75 cm king salmon harvest, catch-and-release mortality, inriver run, escapement, total run and harvest rate, 2017–2023.

Year	Marine sport harvest ^a	Eastside setnet harvest ^{b,h}	Drift gillnet harvest ^c	Subsis. or Educ. harvest ^d	Personal use dipnet harvest ^e	Inriver sport harvest ^f	Inriver sport release mortality ^f	Inriver run ^g	Spawning escapement ^g	Total run ^g	Harvest rate
2017	61	2,998	144	7	928	5,857	196	26,595	20,583	30,734	0.33
2018	11	555	106	0	2	97	198	17,691	17,405	18,364	0.05
2019	34	613	58	0	14	857	92	12,637	11,709	13,360	0.12
2020	0	166	35	1	6	0	163	12,014	11,854	12,226	0.03
2021	28	217	40	0	13	141	117	12,489	12,238	12,794	0.04
2022	0	41	53	0	2	0	92	13,981	13,911	14,078	0.01
2023 ⁱ	0	0	35	0	0	0	0	14,502	14,502	14,537	0
Average											
2017–2023	19	656	67	1	138	993	123	15,701	14,600	16,585	0

LATE-RUN KING SALMON



Density of spawn timing for radiotagged Kenai Chinook mainstem spawners, 2012-2014



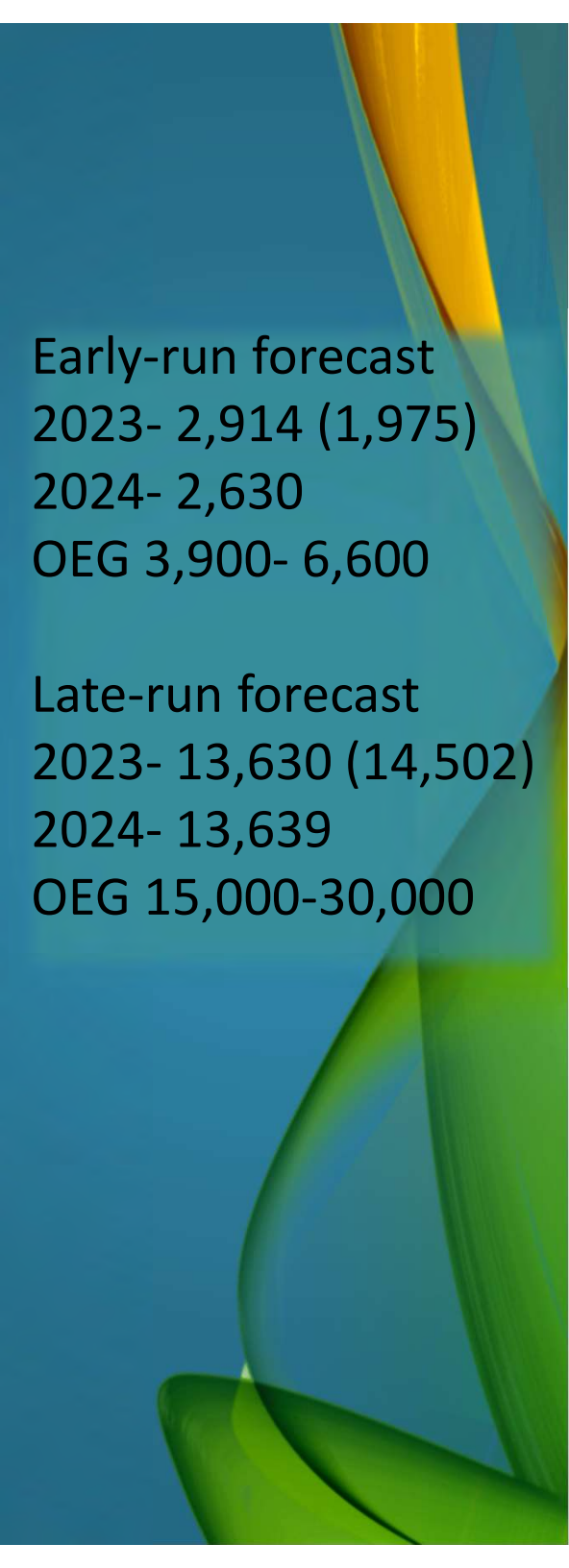


2024 KENAI RIVER KING SALMON FORECAST

- Early-run forecast
 - 2,630 large king salmon
 - OEG 3,900- 6,600
- Late-run forecast
 - 13,639 large king salmon
 - OEG 15,000-30,000

2024 KENAI RIVER

- Early-run forecast
 - 2023- 2,914 (1,975 actual)
 - 2024- 2,630
 - OEG 3,900- 6,600
- Late-run forecast
 - 2023- 13,630 (14,502 actual)
 - 2024- 13,639
 - OEG 15,000-30,000



Early-run forecast
2023- 2,914 (1,975)
2024- 2,630
OEG 3,900- 6,600

Late-run forecast
2023- 13,630 (14,502)
2024- 13,639
OEG 15,000-30,000

2023 Preseason King Salmon Closures and Restrictions

Northern Cook Inlet and Western Cook Inlet

Closed to fishing for king salmon

- Susitna River drainage (except Yentna drainage)
- All drainages in the West Cook Inlet Area

Restricted- Catch and Release, one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure

- Yentna River drainage
- Little Susitna River drainage
 - *Closed July 6*

Kenai Peninsula

Closed to fishing for king salmon

- Kenai River early-run king salmon
- Kenai River late-run king salmon
 - *Bait prohibited through August 31*
- Kasilof River Personal Use set gillnet fishery
 - *Closed June 15*

Restricted- Kasilof River- only hatchery-produced fish. only one single hook

Lower Cook Inlet

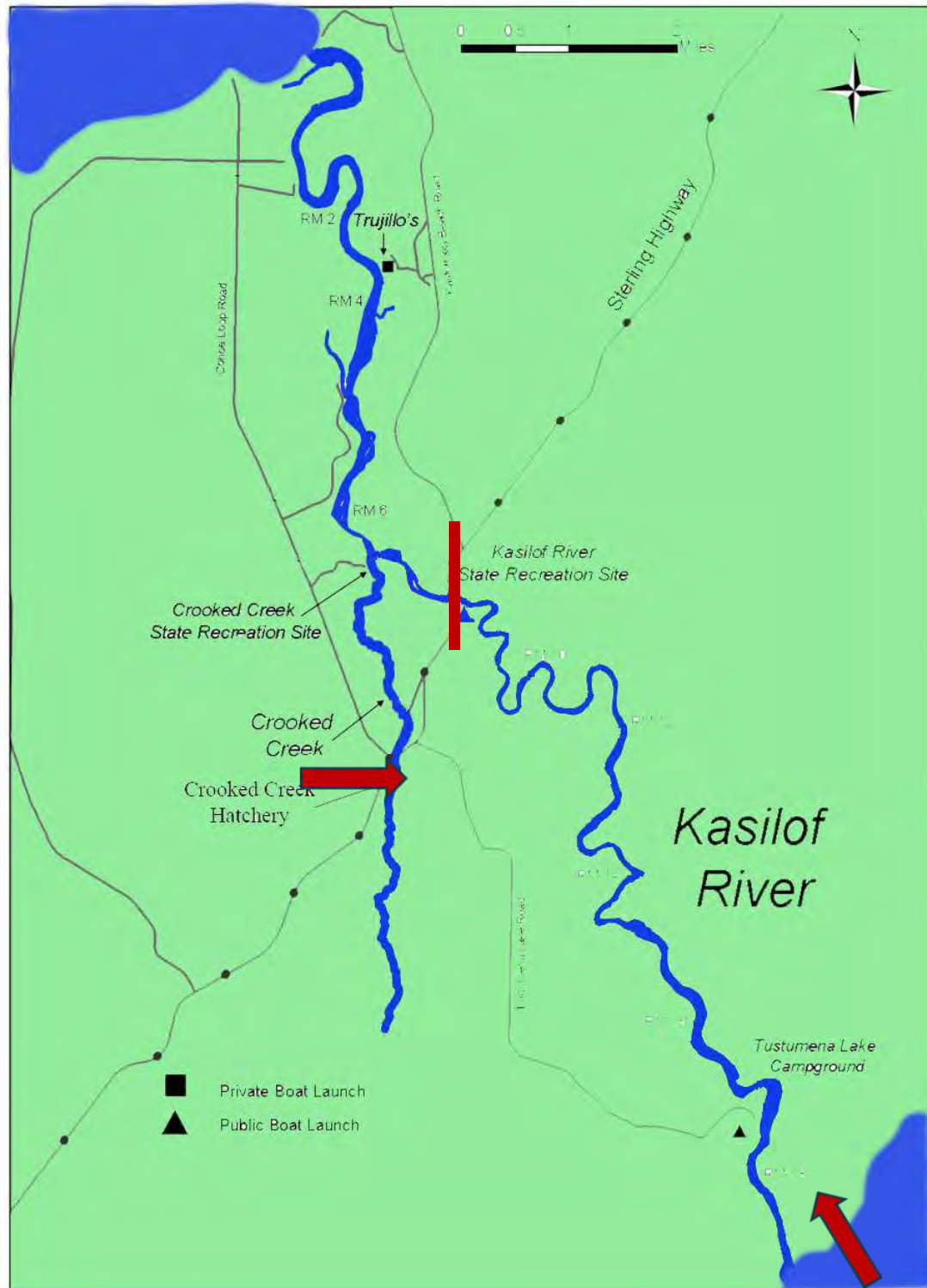
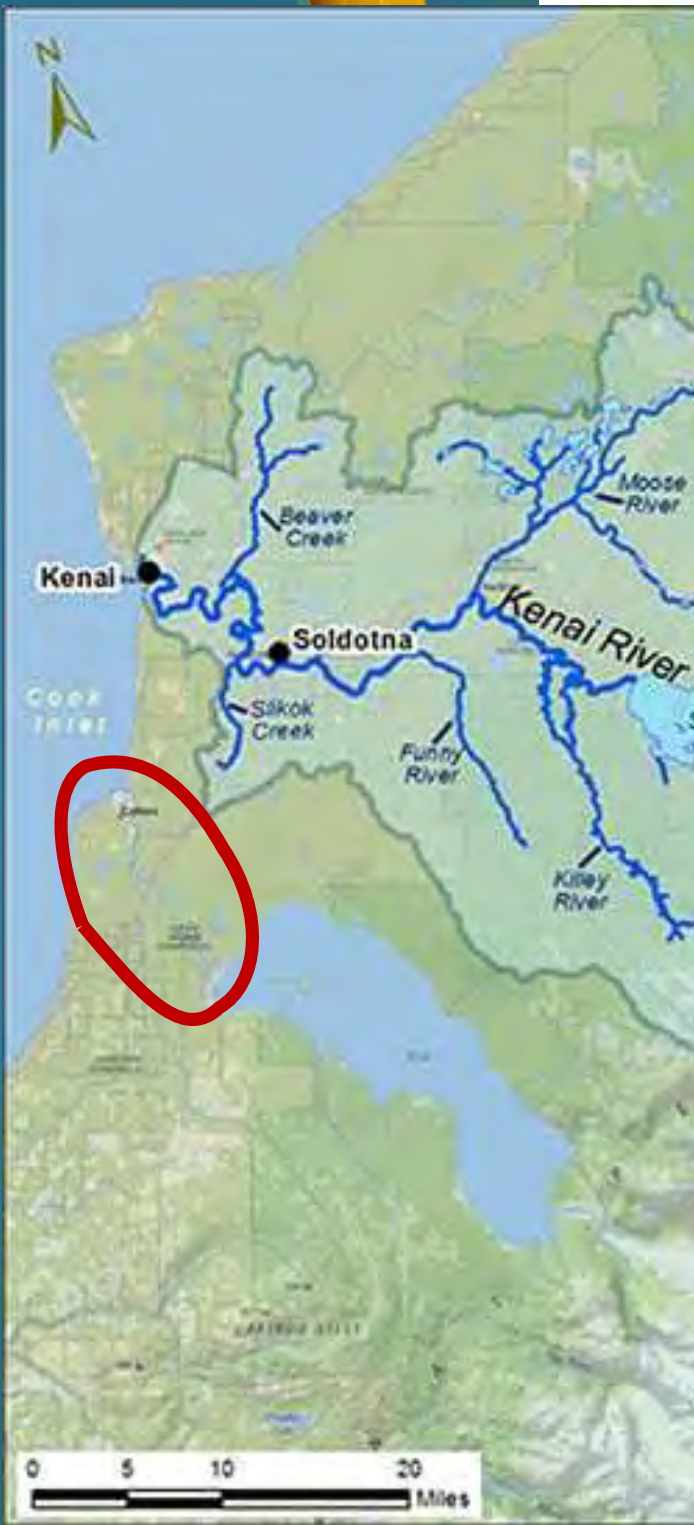
Closed to fishing for king salmon- Anchor River and Deep Creek

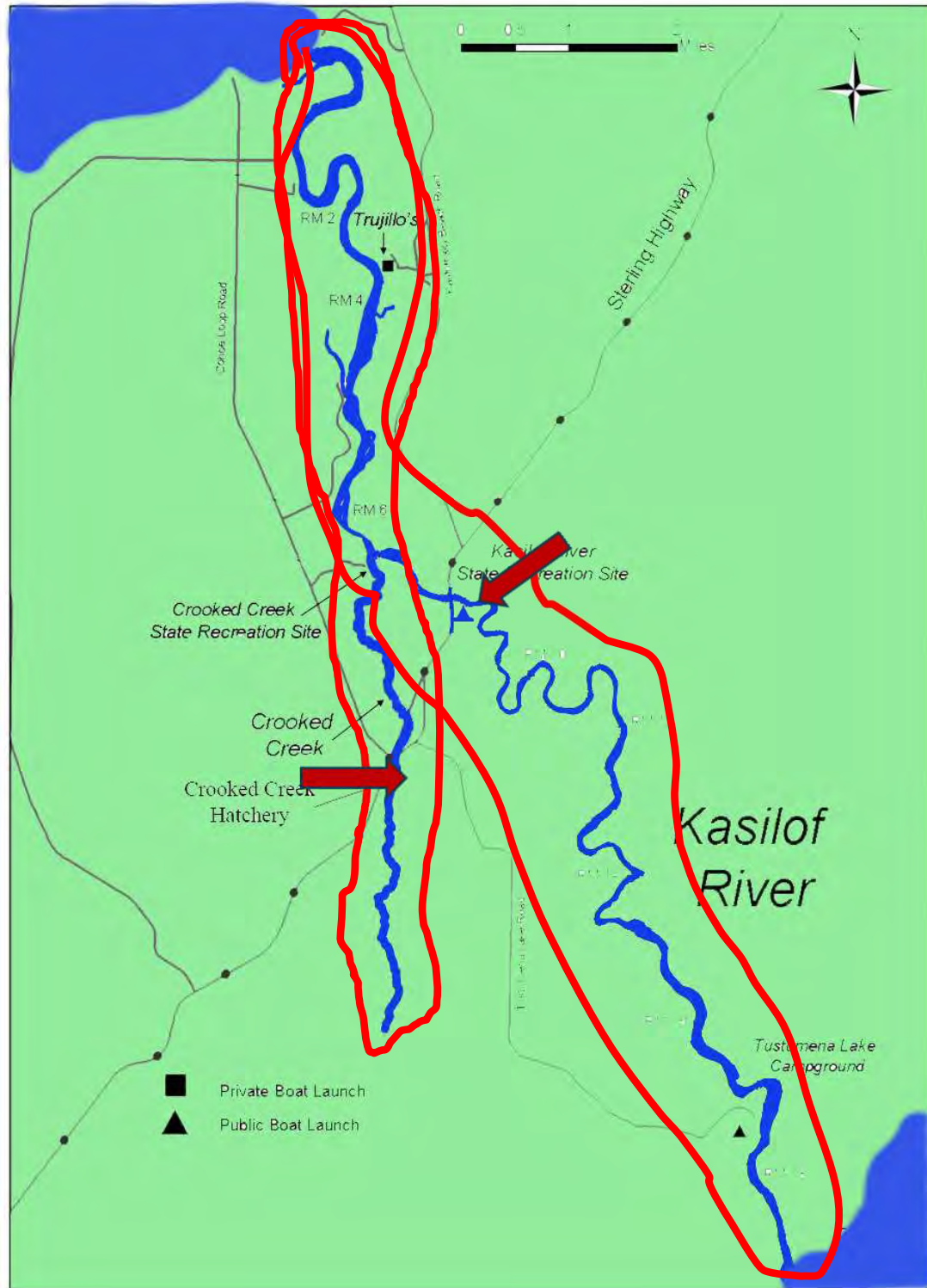
Restricted- Ninilchik River - only hatchery-produced fish. only one single hook

Cook Inlet Marine Waters

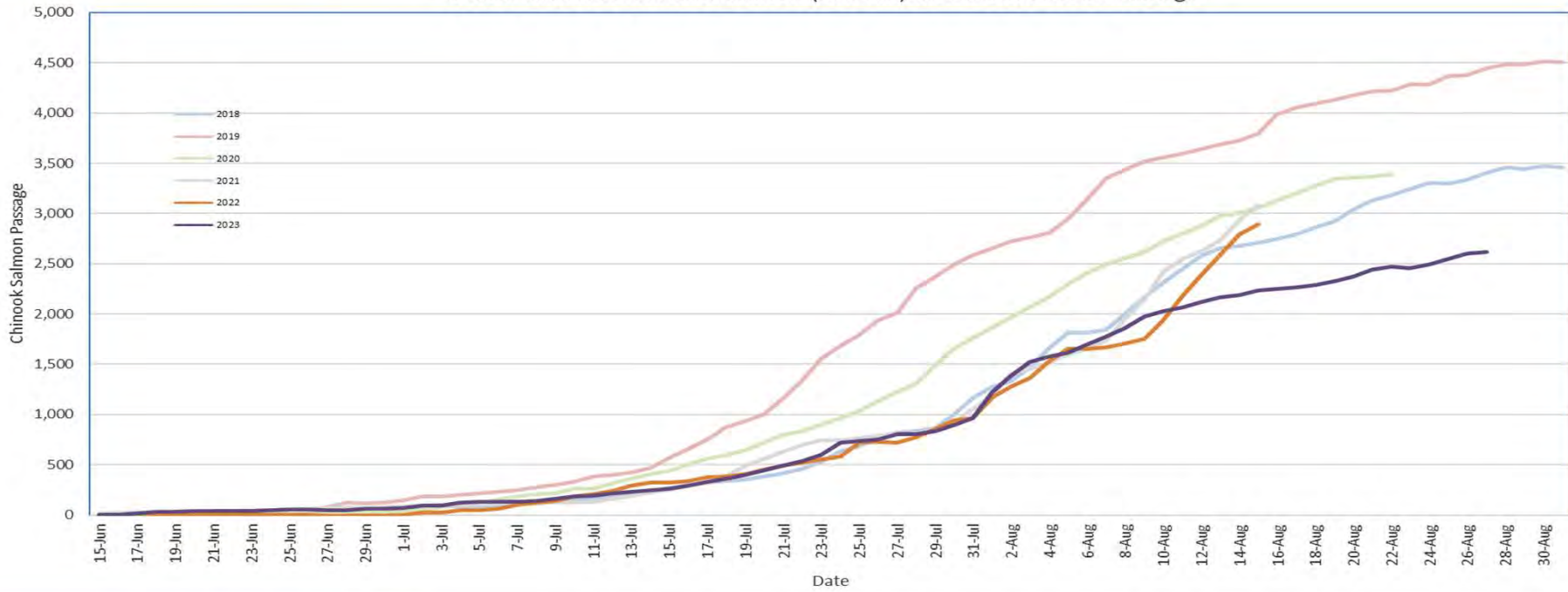
Closed to fishing for king salmon- Cook Inlet salt waters north of Bluff Point

Restricted- Reduced the limit to one king salmon south of Bluff Point

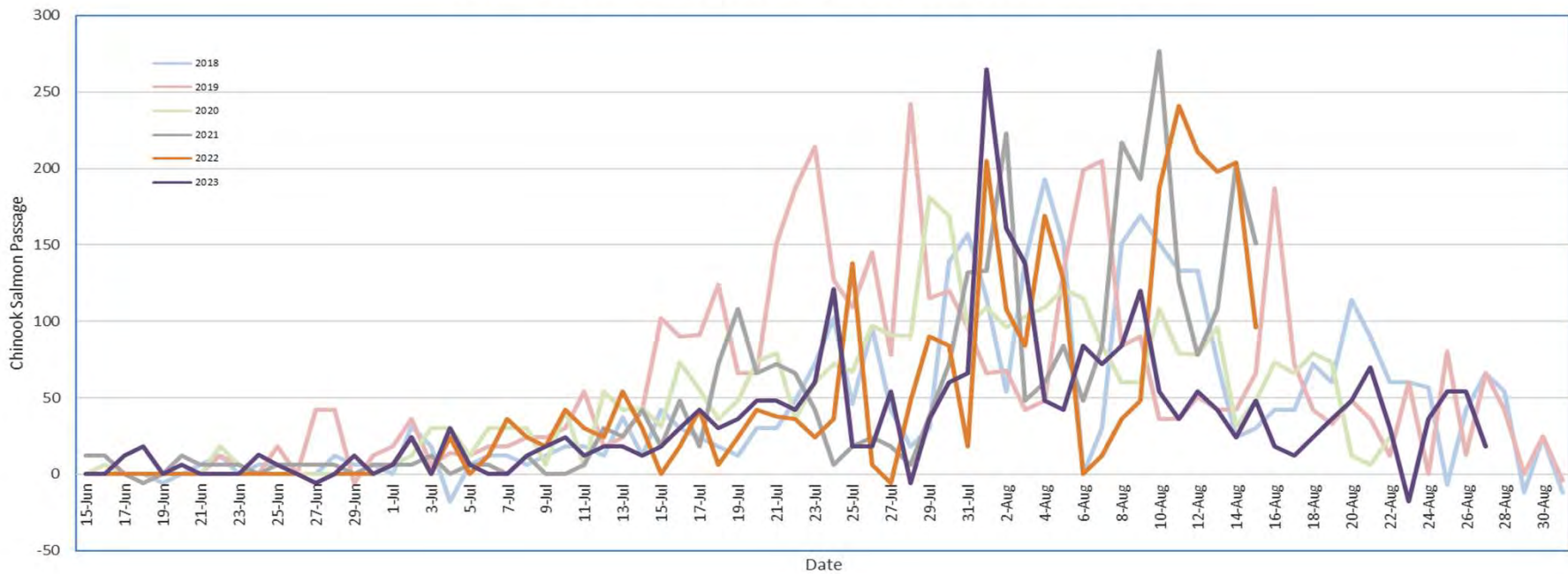




Kasilof Late Run Chinook Salmon (≥ 75 cm) Cumulative Sonar Passage



Kasilof Late Run Chinook Salmon (≥ 75 cm) Daily Sonar Passage



Drift Only

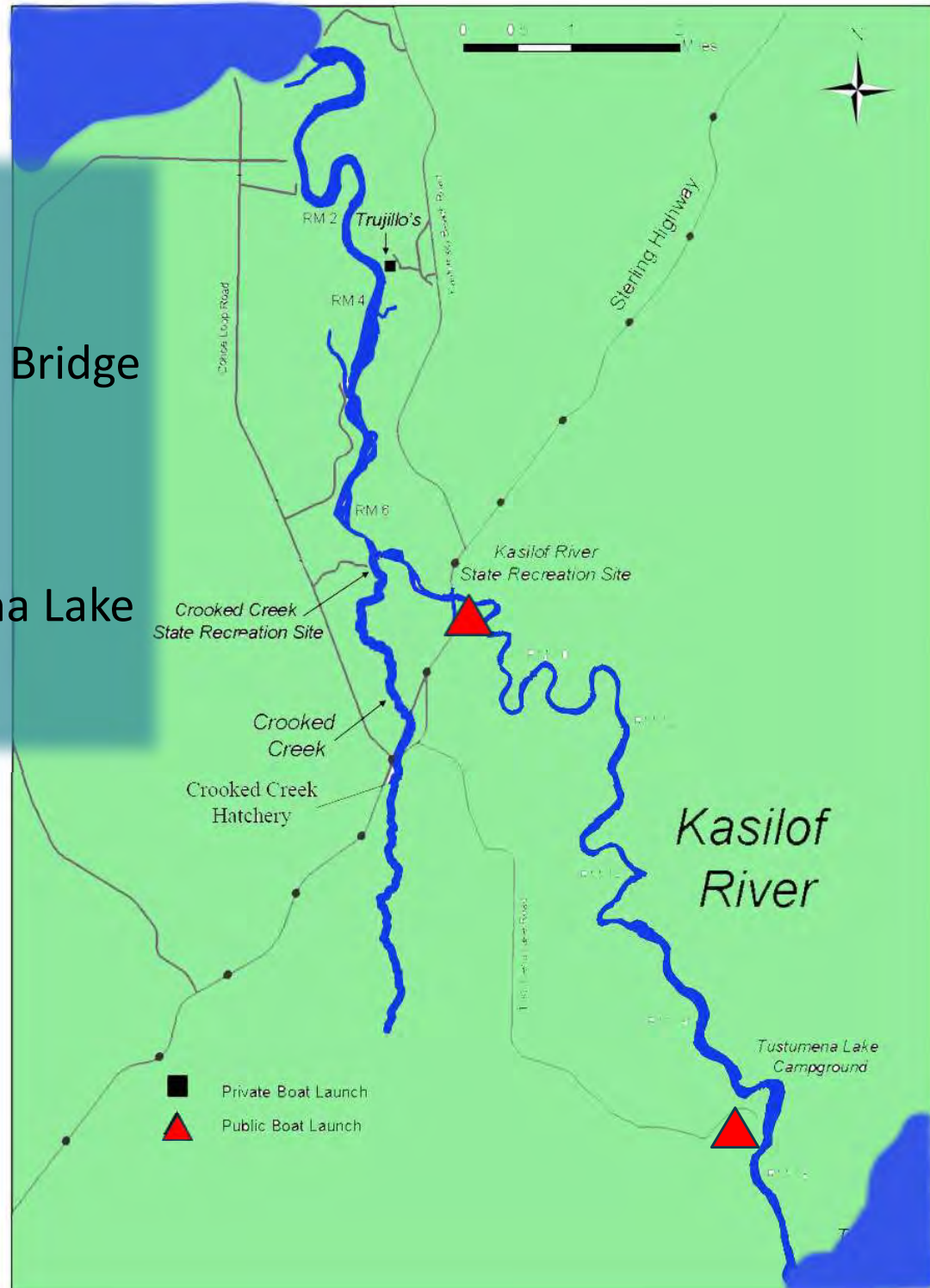
January 1- July 31

Mouth – Sterling Highway Bridge

No Fishing from Vessel

August 1- August 15

Sterling Bridge – Tustumena Lake





KASILOF RIVER KING SALMON

5 AAC 57.160. Kenai River and Kasilof River Early-run King Salmon Management Plan

- January 1- June 30
 - Two king bag limit (over 20 inches)
 - One naturally-produced (Tue, Thu, Sat only)
 - One hatchery- produced
- July 1- July 31: downstream of Sterling Highway
 - One king bag limit (over 20 inches)



2023 KASILOF KING SALMON

- Preseason = May 1
 - Hatchery retention only (two over 20 inches)
 - No bait downstream of bridge until May 16
 - Multiple hooks prohibited
- Inseason = July 1
 - Hatchery retention only (one over 20 Inches)
 - No bait downstream of bridge
 - Multiple hooks prohibited



KENAI RIVER SOCKEYE SALMON

5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan

- Late June through August
- Limit: 3 per day / 6 possession
 - Liberalized > 2.3 million fish
 - Restricted < 900,000 fish
- SEG 750,000 – 1,300,000 fish

2023 SOCKEYE SALMON

- 2023 forecast = 2,820,000 sockeye salmon
 - SEG 750,000-1,300,000
- Management action = July 21, increase bag limit to 6/day, 12/possession
- Final escapement of 2,046,439 sockeye salmon

KENAI RIVER SOCKEYE SALMON

Year	Personal use and educational harvest ^a	Sport harvest below sonar ^b	Kenai River sonar count ^c	Sport harvest above sonar	Total Sport Harvest	Inriver Harvest	Spawning escapement	Actual run size (millions)	Inriver goal (thousands)	BEG/SEG (thousands)	OEG (thousands)
1988	176,892	86,862	361,278	171,862	361,268	371,862	647,478	2.3	750,000	750,000	800,000
1989	86,371	77,878	424,278	261,862	361,278	361,278	426,777	1.4	800,000	750,000	800,000
1990	171,268	71,278	476,892	361,268	328,478	371,268	461,892	1.8	800,000	750,000	800,000
1991	181,278	86,892	477,892	218,892	278,718	461,892	744,892	3	750,000	750,000	800,000
1992	227,267	86,722	1,261,268	278,718	324,892	744,892	877,278	3.8	750,000	750,000	800,000
1993	266,892	87,892	1,261,268	274,892	327,268	744,278	1,271,268	5	870,000	750,000	800,000
1994	366,268	78,892	1,274,892	274,892	327,892	612,268	1,271,892	5.4	870,000	750,000	800,000
1995	176,892	86,892	1,466,892	171,892	369,892	324,892	1,271,892	2.3	750,000	750,000	800,000
1996	261,892	86,892	467,278	261,718	328,268	426,268	461,892	3.4	750,000	750,000	800,000
1997	226,278	86,892	614,892	261,278	274,278	466,892	466,428	2.3	470,000	750,000	800,000
1998	241,268	47,892	741,278	241,892	267,267	471,268	561,278	2.4	470,000	750,000	800,000
1999	361,278	78,892	876,892	274,424	324,278	744,268	714,892	3.2	750,000	750,000	800,000
2000	241,268	87,228	1,266,227	324,268	466,267	612,268	1,266,478	4.2	1,266,228	750,000	750,000
2001	186,228	362,278	1,261,228	366,228	471,268	1,261,228	1,221,268	4.7	1,266,228	750,000	750,000
2002	186,268	78,892	1,276,892	274,892	478,222	666,228	666,268	3.2	1,266,228	750,000	750,000
2003	264,228	78,892	1,276,268	361,892	366,228	744,278	1,221,268	3.2	1,266,228	750,000	750,000
2004	264,268	87,222	1,766,228	366,268	362,228	776,222	1,466,267	3.8	1,266,228	750,000	750,000
2005	266,268	78,892	1,261,268	261,268	361,268	666,478	1,221,892	3.2	1,266,228	750,000	750,000
2006	366,228	87,228	1,266,268	277,228	364,267	612,268	1,271,268	4.4	1,266,228	750,000	800,000
2007	171,268	47,222	1,261,268	146,268	266,222	361,278	666,268	1.4	800,000	750,000	800,000
2008	186,228	366,268	1,266,228	362,228	467,228	614,278	1,471,228	3.8	1,266,228	750,000	750,000
2009	274,268	87,892	1,264,228	266,428	271,268	744,278	1,466,427	2.2	1,266,228	750,000	750,000
2010	321,268	178,268	1,441,228	471,228	274,278	666,478	1,266,268	3.8	1,266,228	750,000	750,000
2011	266,478	186,268	1,276,268	364,268	467,268	714,467	1,266,268	2.2	1,266,228	750,000	750,000
2012	262	262	1,241,278	262	262	714,467	1,266,268	3.8	1,266,228	750,000	750,000
Total											
1988-2012	466,228	86,228	1,261,268	278,268	368,227	717,268		3.8			
2013-2017	278,268	77,268	1,476,268	266,268	278,268	714,268	1,277,268	3.8			
2018-2022	278,268	86,892	1,241,227	366,228	366,228	478,468	1,471,268	2.8			

Notes: 2012 - no data available. Bold text indicates the management goal for escapement, and shading indicates that the goal was achieved.
^a From 1988 to present, Personal use harvest is from Kenai River Sport Saltery and the educational harvest is from the Kenaitze Educational Saltery after July 1.
^b In 1994 and 1997 a creel survey was conducted to estimate harvest before the sonar. In 1994, 49.7% of the before sonar bridge harvest was taken before the sonar. In 1997, 48.4% was taken before the sonar. The average of these two percentages is applied to all other year's before bridge harvest to estimate the harvest before the sonar.
^c Sonar count starts for 1994-2012, 2020/21 count beginning in 2021.

KENAI RIVER SOCKEYE SALMON

Year	Kenai River sonar count ^c	Spawning escapement	Inriver goal (thousands)	BEG/SEG (thousands)	OEG (thousands)
1999	803,379	647,474	750-950		500-1,000
2000	624,578	420,777	600-850		500-1,000
2001	650,036	481,932	600-850		500-1,000
2002	957,924	744,858	750-950		500-1,000
2003	1,181,309	927,575	750-950		500-1,000
2004	1,385,981	1,131,145	850-1,100		500-1,000
2005	1,376,452	1,121,634	850-1,100		500-1,000
2006	1,499,692	1,327,054	750-950		500-1,000
2007	867,572	601,854	750-950		500-1,000
2008	614,946	406,420	650-850		500-1,000
2009	745,170	503,171	650-850		500-1,000
2010	970,662	714,038	750-950		500-1,000
2011	1,599,217	1,280,675	1,100-1,350		700-1,400
2012	1,581,555	1,212,835	1,100-1,350		700-1,400
2013	1,359,893	980,208	1,000-1,200		700-1,400
2014	1,520,340	1,218,342	1,000-1,200		700-1,400
2015	1,709,051	1,400,047	1,000-1,200		700-1,400
2016	1,383,692	1,119,988	1,000-1,350		700-1,400
2017	1,308,498	1,071,064	1,000-1,300	700-1,200	Repealed
2018	1,035,761	886,761	900-1,100	700-1,200	
2019	1,849,054	1,457,031	1,000-1,300	700-1,200	
2020	1,814,252	1,605,627	1,000-1,200	750-1,300	
2021	2,441,825	2,006,290	1,000-1,200	750-1,300	
2022	1,570,395	1,206,003	1,000-1,400	750-1,300	
2023	2,343,976	ND	1,000-1,400	750-1,300	
5yr avg					
2008-2012	1,102,310				
2013-2017	1,456,295	1,157,930			
2018-2022	1,742,257	1,432,342			

Note: ND = no data available. Bold font indicates the escapement goal for management, and shading indicates that the goal was achieved.

^a From 1999 to present, Personal use harvest is from Kenai River dipnet fishery and the educational harvest is from the Kenaitze Educational fishery after July 1.

^b In 1994 and 1995 a creel survey was conducted to estimate harvest below the sonar. In 1994, 49.7% of the below Soldotna Bridge harvest was taken below the sonar. In 1995, 68.6% was taken below the sonar. The average of these two percentages is applied to all other year's below-bridge harvest to estimate the harvest below the sonar.

^c Bendix sonar counts for 1999-2010; DIDSON counts beginning in 2011.

KENAI RIVER SOCKEYE SALMON

Year	Kenai River sonar count ^c	Inriver goal (thousands)	Spawning escapement	Esc Goal (thousands)
1999	803,379	750-950	647,474	500-1,000
2000	624,578	600-850	420,777	500-1,000
2001	650,036	600-850	481,932	500-1,000
2002	957,924	750-950	744,858	500-1,000
2003	1,181,309	750-950	927,575	500-1,000
2004	1,385,981	850-1,100	1,131,145	500-1,000
2005	1,376,452	850-1,100	1,121,634	500-1,000
2006	1,499,692	750-950	1,327,054	500-1,000
2007	867,572	750-950	601,854	500-1,000
2008	614,946	650-850	406,420	500-1,000
2009	745,170	650-850	503,171	500-1,000
2010	970,662	750-950	714,038	500-1,000
2011	1,599,217	1,100-1,350	1,280,675	700-1,400
2012	1,581,555	1,100-1,350	1,212,835	700-1,400
2013	1,359,893	1,000-1,200	980,208	700-1,400
2014	1,520,340	1,000-1,200	1,218,342	700-1,400
2015	1,709,051	1,000-1,200	1,400,047	700-1,400
2016	1,383,692	1,000-1,350	1,119,988	700-1,400
2017	1,308,498	1,000-1,300	1,071,064	700-1,200
2018	1,035,761	900-1,100	886,761	700-1,200
2019	1,849,054	1,000-1,300	1,457,031	700-1,200
2020	1,814,252	1,000-1,200	1,605,627	750-1,300
2021	2,441,825	1,000-1,200	2,006,290	750-1,300
2022	1,570,395	1,000-1,400	1,206,003	750-1,300
2023	2,343,976	1,000-1,400	ND	750-1,300

RUSSIAN RIVER SOCKEYE SALMON

5 AAC 57.150. Russian River Sockeye Salmon Management Plan

- Early-run = BEG 22,000-42,000
- Management actions 2023
 - June 14, Open Sanctuary
 - June 18, bag to 6/day, 12/poss
 - June 24, bag to 9/day, 18/poss
- Final escapement of 66,818

RUSSIAN RIVER SOCKEYE SALMON

5 AAC 57.150. Russian River Sockeye Salmon Management Plan

- Late-run = SEG 44,000 – 85,000
- Management actions 2023
 - June 14, Open Sanctuary
 - August 9, bag to 6/day, 12/poss
- Final escapement of 160,430

RUSSIAN RIVER SOCKEYE SALMON

ER- 22,000-42,000
 LR- 44,000- 85,000

Harvest and escapement, Russian River early-run (ER) and late-run (LR) sockeye salmon, 1999–2022.

Year	Sport harvest ^b		Subsistence harvest ^c		Spawning escapement ^d		Total run ^e	
	ER	LR	ER	LR	ER	LR	ER	LR
2003	22,986	28,085	ND	ND	23,650	157,469	46,636	185,554
2004	32,727	22,417	ND	ND	56,582	110,244	89,309	132,661
2005	37,139	18,503	ND	ND	52,903	59,473	90,042	77,976
2006	51,167	29,694	ND	ND	80,524	89,160	131,691	118,854
2007	36,805	16,863	380	316	27,298	53,068	64,483	70,247
2008	42,492	23,680	928	478	30,989	46,638	74,409	70,796
2009	59,097	33,935	605	369	52,178	80,088	111,880	114,392
2010	23,412	9,333	615	246	27,074	38,848	51,101	48,427
2011	22,697	14,412	670	315	29,129	41,529	52,496	56,256
2012	15,231	15,074	873	442	24,115	54,911	40,219	70,427
2013	27,162	20,146	769	555	35,776	31,573	63,707	52,274
2014	35,870	17,864	1,233	377	44,920	52,277	82,023	70,518
2015	29,997	13,744	906	624	50,226	46,223	81,129	60,591
2016	13,086	11,543	1,091	510	38,739	37,837	52,916	49,890
2017	27,109	10,592	1,496	182	37,123	45,012	65,728	55,786
2018	26,999	15,344	1,641	401	44,110	71,052	72,750	86,797
2019	60,339	17,717	1,427	442	125,942	64,585 ^f	187,708	82,744
2020	25,731	11,363	1,234	956	27,103	78,832	54,068	91,151
2021	29,201	15,282	1,122	482	46,976	123,950	77,299	139,714
2022	20,366	19,994	1,046	586	61,098	124,561	82,510	145,141
Average								
2003–2022	31,981	18,279	1,002	455	45,823	70,367	78,605	89,010

Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish (cited November 2022). Available from:

Note: ND means no data collected. NA means data not available.

^a Estimates for 1999–2021 are from the SWHS and include effort for the whole year and for other species.

^b Harvest from 1999–present was estimated from the annual SWHS.

^c The subsistence fishery started in 2007 and includes Russian River Falls and Upper Kenai River dipnet and rod-

^d Escapements for the early-run are the number of fish past the weir from its installation in June through July 14.

^e Total run is determined from escapement above the weir plus harvest.

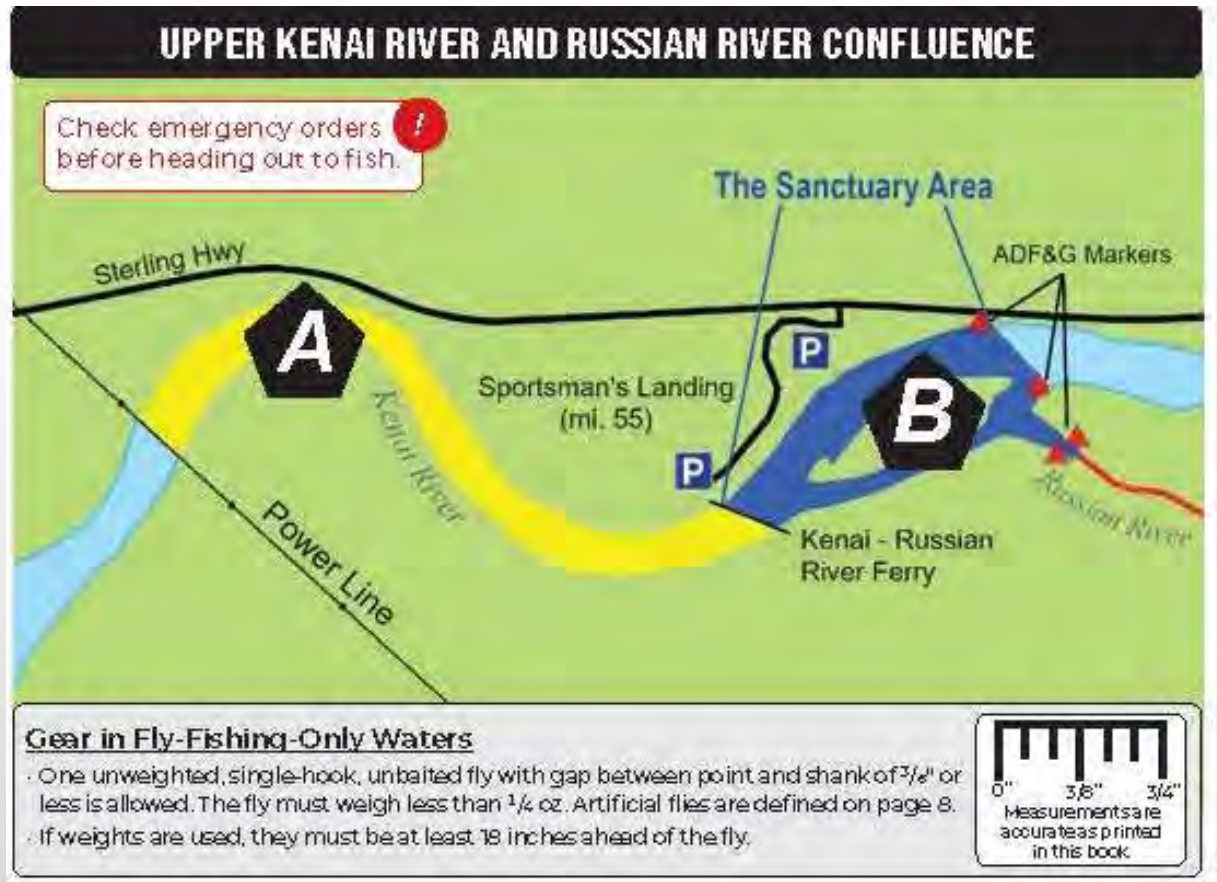
^f Incomplete count, weir evacuated 8/18/19 due to nearby wildfire danger.

RUSSIAN RIVER DRAINAGE



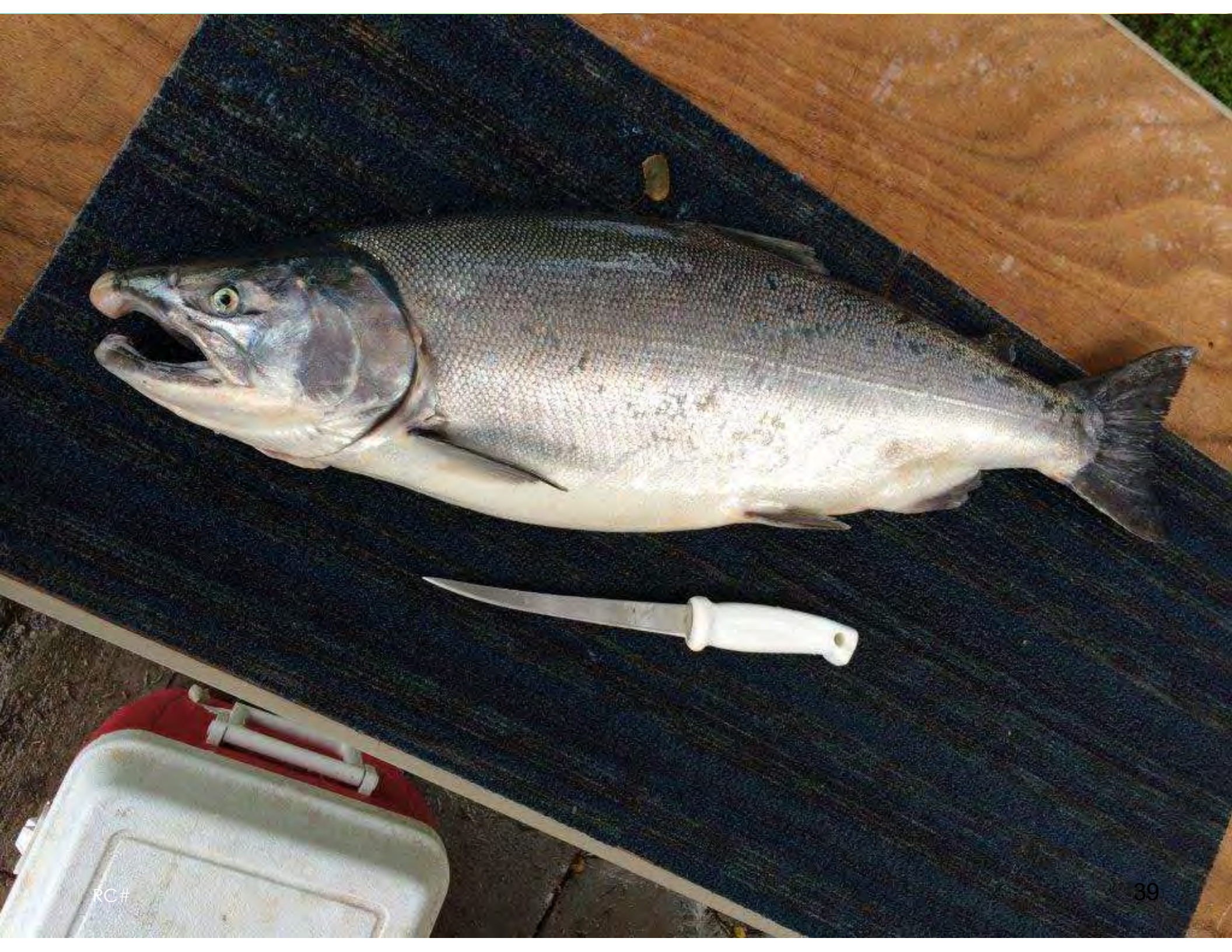
RUSSIAN RIVER

UPPER KENAI RIVER AND RUSSIAN RIVER CONFLUENCE



Gear in Fly-Fishing-Only Waters

- One unweighted, single-hook, unbaited fly with gap between point and shank of $\frac{3}{8}$ " or less is allowed. The fly must weigh less than $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. Artificial flies are defined on page 8.
- If weights are used, they must be at least 18 inches ahead of the fly.



RC#

KENAI RIVER COHO SALMON

5 AAC 57.170. Kenai River Coho Salmon Management Plan

- Guideline options to restrict
- Provide unguided and guided sport reasonable harvest opportunity
- No inseason assessment
- No escapement goal
- Regulations

KENAI RIVER COHO SALMON

Estimated sport harvest of Kenai River coho salmon by river section, 2012–2022.

Year	Cook Inlet to Soldotna			Soldotna Bridge to Kenai			Kenai River reach not specified ^a			All sections ^b		
	Bridge		Total	Lake		Total	Prior to 1 Sep	After 1 Sep	Total	Prior to 1 Sep	After 1 Sep	Total
	Prior to 1 Sep	After 1 Sep		Prior to 1 Sep	After 1 Sep							
2012	14,842	8,123	22,965	7,789	5,024	12,813	375	254	629	23,006	13,401	36,407
2013	17,414	6,417	23,831	17,408	7,421	24,829	212	82	294	35,034	13,920	48,954
2014	18,930	11,829	30,759	18,092	11,586	29,678	89	40	129	37,111	23,455	60,566
2015	20,317	13,685	34,002	12,910	10,081	22,991	45	29	74	33,272	23,795	57,067
2016	15,759	9,019	24,778	10,073	4,872	14,945	131	77	208	25,963	13,968	39,931
2017	17,810	11,815	29,625	10,611	8,046	18,657	83	62	145	28,504	19,923	48,427
2018	20,168	9,531	29,699	12,819	7,945	20,764	29	17	112	33,016	17,493	50,575
2019	13,517	7,038	20,555	13,265	7,064	20,329	93	60	287	26,875	14,162	41,171
2020	10,223	5,861	16,084	7,105	4,190	11,295	28	17	67	17,356	10,068	27,446
2021	21,930	10,844	32,774	16,766	9,413	26,197	0	0	0	38,696	20,257	58,971
2022	22,161	12,725	34,886	15,375	6,894	22,269	31	16	47	37,567	19,635	57,202
Average												
2012–2021	17,091	9,416	26,507	12,684	7,564	20,250	109	64	195	29,883	17,044	46,952

Source: Alaska Sport Fishing Survey database [Internet]. 1999–present. Anchorage, AK: Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish (cited October 2023). Available from: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/sportfishingsurvey/>.

Note: ND means no data collected

^a SWHS began reporting consistently in 2002. Total includes harvest with no early/late run breakdown.

^b Total does not sum due to early- or late-run not specified.



KENAI RIVER RESIDENT SPECIES

5 AAC 57.120. Kenai River General Provisions

Provide year-round opportunity

- Rainbow Trout/Steelhead
 - No retention over 16"
 - Spawning protections/closed areas
- Arctic Char/Dolly Varden
 - No retention over 16"
- Arctic Grayling
 - No size limit
 - bag and possession of five

Estimated Kenai River rainbow trout catch (C), harvest (H) and retention rate (% R) by river section, 2003–2022.

Year	Cook Inlet to Soldotna Bridge			Soldotna Bridge to Moose River			Moose River to Skilak Outlet			Skilak Inlet to Kenai Lake			Kenai River Reach not specified ^a			Kenai River total		
	C	H	% R	C	H	% R	C	H	% R	C	H	% R	C	H	% R	C	H	% R
2003	12,844	1,026	8.0	10,913	700	6.4	41,204	372	0.9	54,552	0	0.0	3,536	180	5	123,049	2,278	1.9
2004	15,080	1,452	9.6	13,310	978	7.3	34,026	831	2.4	91,443	0	0.0	5,651	50	1	159,510	3,311	2.1
2005	14,119	953	6.7	11,585	647	5.6	34,675	607	1.8	57,936	267	0.5	7,949	43	1	126,264	2,517	2.0
2006	13,168	588	4.5	13,683	1,109	8.1	33,222	472	1.4	67,741	289	0.4	4,005	41	1	131,819	2,499	1.9
2007	11,829	542	4.6	18,832	769	4.1	52,701	684	1.3	90,757	661	0.7	4,851	10	0	178,970	2,666	1.5
2008	26,385	696	2.6	20,943	794	3.8	47,956	772	1.6	103,095	941	0.9	4,496	11	0	202,875	3,214	1.6
2009	11,502	625	5.4	16,165	543	3.4	67,940	828	1.2	102,745	399	0.4	3,280	59	2	201,632	2,454	1.2
2010	9,397	553	5.9	16,944	786	4.6	63,655	696	1.1	79,663	237	0.3	3,642	131	4	173,301	2,403	1.4
2011	19,849	571	2.9	27,305	464	1.7	80,908	318	0.4	71,088	374	0.5	615	0	0	199,765	1,727	0.9
2012	16,119	843	5.2	23,866	878	3.7	47,253	396	0.8	81,349	386	0.5	856	37	4	169,443	2,540	1.5
2013	11,140	464	4.2	13,174	461	3.5	52,992	400	0.8	90,301	446	0.5	435	0	0	168,042	1,771	1.1
2014	12,123	616	5.1	14,216	502	3.5	43,059	273	0.6	69,629	135	0.2	166	93	56	139,193	1,619	1.2
2015	29,097	797	2.7	22,093	534	2.4	67,020	648	1.0	123,441	286	0.2	0	0	0	241,651	2,265	0.9
2016	23,241	834	3.6	25,492	860	3.4	43,042	599	1.4	78,149	169	0.2	1,011	0	0	170,935	2,462	1.4
2017	18,206	1,526	8.4	17,967	918	5.1	53,884	303	0.6	103,437	830	0.8	0	0	0	193,494	3,577	1.8
2018	10,132	323	3.2	15,302	259	1.7	27,538	219	0.8	48,373	351	0.7	79	0	0	101,424	1,152	1.1
2019	12,731	392	3.1	17,550	684	3.9	33,459	196	0.6	52,166	257	0.5	176	0	0	116,082	1,529	1.3
2020	9,230	311	3.4	11,380	229	2.0	38,189	99	0.3	64,951	174	0.3	175	48	27	123,925	861	0.7
2021	21,010	456	2.2	22,729	260	1.1	37,059	55	0.1	62,509	727	1.2	199	0	0	143,506	1,498	1.0
2022	14,332	501	3.5	14,147	614	4.3	22,095	264	1.2	68,189	180	0.3	527	0	0	119,290	1,559	1.3
Average 2003–2022	15,577	703	5	17,380	649	4	46,094	452	1	78,076	355	0	2,082	35	5	159,209	2,195	1

Source: Alaska Sport Fishing Survey database [Internet]. 1999–present. Anchorage, AK: Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish (cited October 2023). Available from: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/sportfishingsurvey/>.

Note: ND means no data collected

^a SWHS began consistently reporting in 2002.



PERSONAL USE FISHERIES

5 AAC 77.540. Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Fishery Management Plan

- Kenai River Dipnet, Kasilof River Gillnet, Kasilof River Dipnet, and Fish Creek Dipnet, Susitna River
- Average of ~ 27,000 permits
- Household permit harvest limit:
 - 25 salmon per head of household / 10 salmon per additional household member
 - 10 flounder

KENAI RIVER DIPNET FISHERY

5 AAC 77.540. Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Fishery Management Plan

- Season dates: July 10 to July 31, 6:00 am to 11:00 pm
- Liberalized > 2.3 million fish
- Annual limit of 1 king salmon
 - No retention if inriver restricted
- Restricted in order to achieve the late run sockeye salmon SEG and to conserve late-run king salmon



2023 PERSONAL USE FISHERIES

- Kenai River Dipnet: July 10-July 31
 - July 10 - no king salmon
 - July 21- open 24 hours
- Kasilof Dip Net: June 25-August 7
 - No king salmon by regulation
 - June 25 - Extended area upstream
- Kasilof gillnet: June 15-June 24
 - June 15 - Closed for Kenai River king salmon conservation



Alaska Department of Fish and Game
2022 Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Permit

Permit Number

Last Name: **ALASKAN** First Name: **RESIDENT** M.I.

Mailing Address: **MY HOME ADDRESS** Alaska Resident

City: **MY CITY** State: **AK** Zip Code: **99510** Phone Number: **555-1212** Sport Fishing License #: **ABC123**

E-Mail Address: **MYEMAIL@GOOGLE.COM** Driver's License #: **ABC123** State: **AK**

Names of other household members authorized to fish this permit:
MEMBER 1, MEMBER 2, MEMBER 3, MEMBER 4

The head of a household is allowed 25 salmon and each additional household member is allowed 10 salmon. Total Number of Household Members: **5** Household Salmon Limit: **65**

A household is allowed 10 flounders. These are your limits for the year 2022.

Did you fish for personal use in 2022? YES NO

This permit is for the Kenai, Kaslof, and Susitna rivers, and Fish Creek ONLY. You must have this permit with you while dipnetting. You must remove both tips of the tails and record your harvest, in ink, at the place where salmon were taken from the water whether fishing waters open to personal use from shore or a boat. Check the Southcentral Alaska Sport Fishing Regulations Summary for illegal waters, gear, and species restrictions.

	DATE		LOCATION FISHED (CHOOSE ONE)				HARVEST BY SPECIES					
	MM	DD	Kenai River	Fish Creek	Kaslof River	Susitna River	Red	Chum	King	Coho	Pink	Flounder
1.	07	16	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	15	0	0	0	1	2
2.	07	17	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	25	0	0	0	0	1
3.			<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>						
4.			<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>						
5.			<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>						
6.			<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>						
7.			<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>						

Report each day and location you fished and record your harvest, even if you did not catch anything.

I have read and understand the permit requirements and agree to report my participation and harvest to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game by August 15, 2022. I understand that failure to report my participation and harvest to ADF&G is a violation of 5AAC 77.015(c) which is subject to a \$200 fine and the loss of my future fishing privileges.

Permit Holder Signature: **ALASKAN RESIDENT** Date: **07/01/22**

Permit Requirements

- Permit is valid for **Alaska Residents only**.
- Only **ONE** permit per household is allowed. Household means a group of people domiciled in the same residence. The household member count must be accurate and all individual household members names must be listed on the permit.
- The permit holder and household members names listed on this permit must have a valid 2022 Alaska resident sport fishing license or hold an Alaska resident ADF&G Permanent Identification Card, Disabled Alaska Veterans Card, or be an Alaska resident under 18 years of age to participate.
- This **SIGNED** and **DATED** permit and your fishing license must be in your possession while personal use fishing.
- Both tips of the tail must be removed and salmon harvest must be recorded, in ink, before concealing the salmon from plain view or transporting the salmon from the fishing site. Fishing site means the location where the salmon is removed from the water and becomes part of the permit holders bag limit.
- Harvest information is vital to the management and conservation of the resource. Participation and harvest **MUST** be reported **ONLINE** to ADF&G by August 15, 2022, even if your household did not fish. Permits returned by mail or hand-delivered will not be accepted. Failure to report on this permit is a violation which is subject to a \$200 fine and the loss of future personal use fishing privileges.
- Check emergency orders for updates to season dates and harvest limits. Recorded hotlines: Kenai and Kaslof dipnet (907) 267-2512; Kenai and Kaslof fish counts (907) 262-9097.

Harvest report is due by August 15, 2022



Scan to report your harvest online or visit us at www.adfg.alaska.gov/Harvest



BOTH TIPS OF THE TAIL MUST BE REMOVED

NEW IN 2022: The penalty for failure to report on your Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Fishery participation and harvest online by the August 15, 2022, deadline is the loss of personal use fishery privileges in 2023. Remember you must submit a harvest report even if you did not go dipnetting. Permit holders who fail to report will be denied a permit for the fishery in the year following the failure to report.





PERSONAL USE FISHERIES

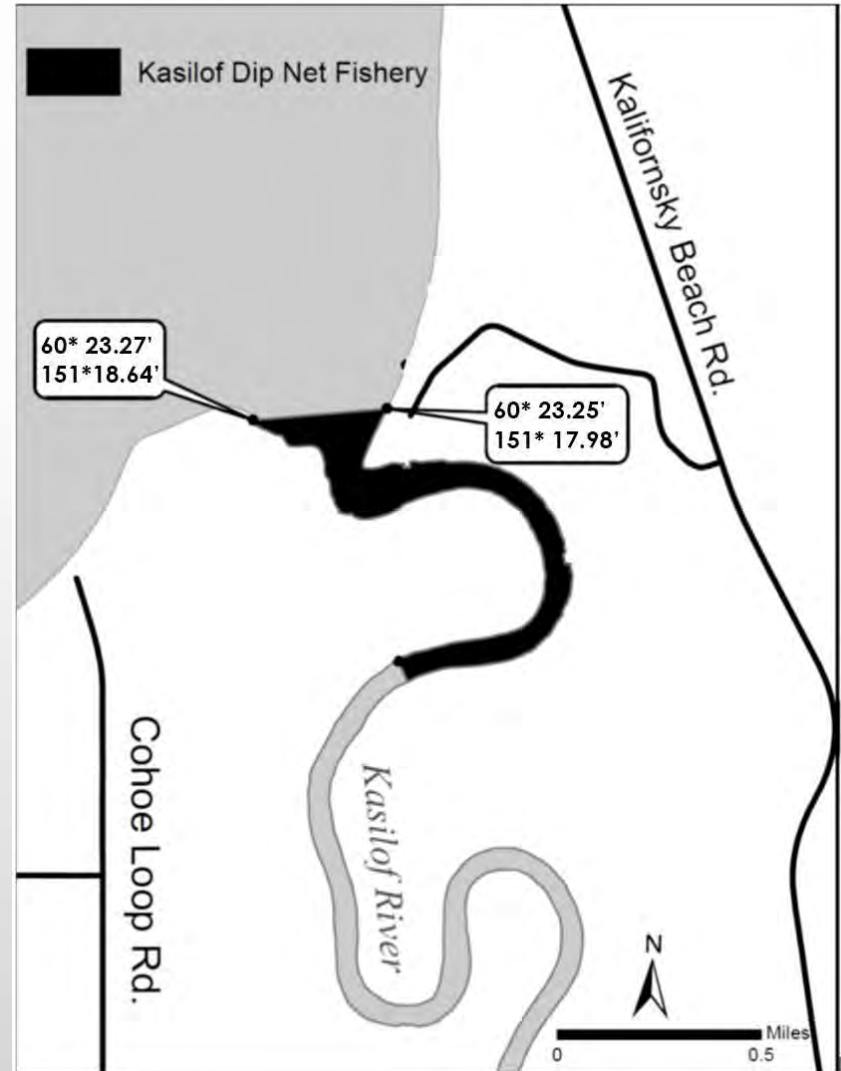
Sockeye Salmon Harvest

YEAR	Fish Creek Dip Net	Kasilof River Gillnet	Kasilof River Dip Net	Kenai River Dip Net
2022	35,656	6,329	158,734	282,085
2021	14,558	18,212	96,454	326,491
2020	28,019	14,745	94,064	257,864
2019	15,886	15,864	80,730	331,408
2018	18,659	14,390	92,034	165,028
2017	4,894	21,927	78,260	297,049
2016	0	26,539	58,273	259,057
2015	19,260	27,567	89,000	377,532
2014	5,829	22,567	88,513	379,823
2013	0	14,439	85,528	347,222



Kenai River boat and shore dipnet areas

- | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|---|---|
|  | Open to dipnetting from shore |  | 4 stroke or 2 stroke DFI motors only – no HP limitation |
|  | Closed to dipnetting |  | 4 stroke or 2 stroke DFI motors only – 50 HP limitation |





KENAI RIVER GUIDE AND VESSEL

5 AAC 57.140. Kenai River Guiding and Guided Fishing

Guides- Sport fishing from guide vessel

- May 1 – July 31, below Skilak Lake
 - Only from 6am to 6pm
 - Sundays- prohibited
- July 31 – Nov 30: Mondays
 - No fishing below Moose R.
 - No Coho fishing above Moose R.

Vessels

- May 1 – July 31
 - Drift-only Mondays

Number of Kenai River fishing guides and vessels registered with Alaska State Parks, 2014–2023.

Year	<u>Guide business type</u>		<u>Vessels registered</u>		
	Fishing	Nonfishing	Motorized	Drift	Total ^a
2014	267	69	239	97	336
2015	258	74	226	106	332
2016	267	73	241	99	340
2017	296	51	252	95	347
2018	296	40	254	42	296
2019	288	49	246	42	288
2020	224	19	273	108	381
2021	256	13	221	35	256
2022	289	8	444	47	491
2023	278	7	343	29	372
Average 2014–2022	271	44	266	75	341

Source: Guide and vessel data, Alaska DNR.

^a This column includes non-fishing guide business vessels.

KENAI
RIVER
KING
SALMON
SONAR

