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Management of the very abundant and productive Kenai sockeye has historically occurred with little regard for achieving appropriate harvest levels for other salmon populations. This practice has, in turn, resulted in poor escapements and reduced inriver fishing opportunities throughout Northern Cook Inlet.

Susitna sockeye are the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest sockeye stock in Upper Cook Inlet, and in 2008, Susitna River sockeye were designated a Stock of Concern. The influence of Kenai sockeye management on this decline was very evident. At that time, Susitna sockeye were being managed for an OEG that was 15,000 fish less than the stocks SEG whenever the Kenai sockeye forecast exceeded 4 million. IN OTHER WORDS, IN ORDER TO MAXIMIZE KENAI SOCKEYE HARVESTS, IT WAS OK TO ACCEPT LOWER PRODUCTION FROM OTHER STOCKS, AND THAT WAS REGULARLY HAPPENING.

Coho returns to Northern Cook Inlet reached record lows in 2011-2012. Attaining escapement goals, the bedrock of fisheries management, had become a chronic failure for both coho and sockeye while at the same time the drift fishery was receiving Emergency Order openings to harvest additional Kenai sockeye.

In 2011, the BOF modified the Central District Drift Plan to include the Conservation Corridor and Terminal Harvest Zone concepts. Benefits from these changes were realized immediately, and by 2020 Susitna sockeye were delisted as a Stock of Concern.

The Conservation Corridor concept has been modified and revised almost every Cook Inlet board meeting since inception.

The Conservation Corridor allows more salmon to migrate north. From 2011-2019, for example, drifters harvested an average 53 coho per delivery in the mixed stock conservation corridor vs. 10 coho per delivery in the inshore terminal harvest zones during the period July 16-31.

The drift gillnet fleet has proven it can effectively harvest from the terminal zones. Since the conservation corridor and terminal harvest zones were first utilized in 2011, the drift harvest in the terminal zones has averaged 391,062 sockeye per year, which is 33% of the total drift harvest, and the terminal harvest of sockeye has been as high as 938,927.