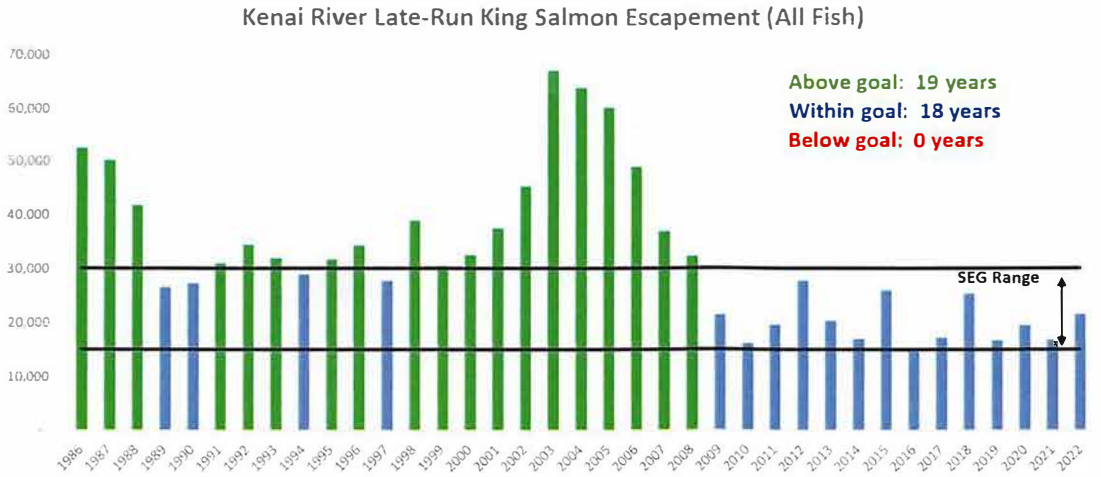
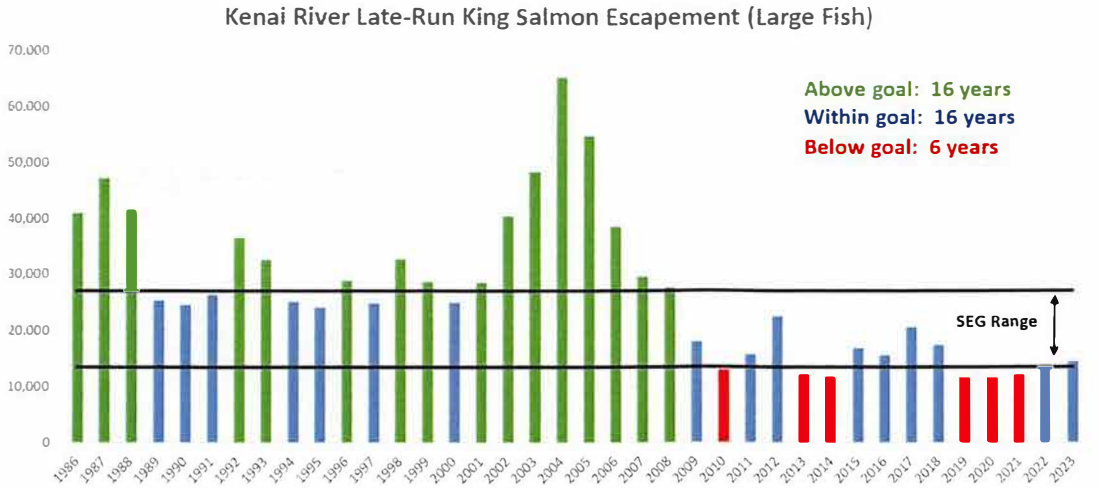
Historical Late-Run Kenai King Numbers

Prior to 2017 we had an all-fish goal of 15,000-30,000, and even in the current times of low production we have successfully distributed all fish returns throughout the range of this goal.



Previous to the adoption of this goal in 2013 there was an older BEG/SEG of 17,800 to 35,700 all fish, and while this goal would have been missed 6 times in the last 13 years it would not qualify for stock of concern status.

In 2017 we changed to a large fish goal for the purpose of more accurate enumeration, but in effect the current SEG range of 13,500-27,000 large fish represents a goal that is significantly harder to achieve due to changes in the size composition of returning Kenai Kings. This goal absolutely represents a "raising of the goal" from the old 15,000 fish goal, and seems very comparable to the 17,800 fish goal. The current SEG is already a quite conservative goal and is very difficult to produce in current productivity conditions even with heavily restricted harvests.



As has been much discussed even with the new large fish SEG we would not be in this stock of concern situation. The stock of concern status is entirely manufactured by the board generated OEG put in place in 2021. In fact Kenai Late run chinook have performed better on average then almost all other chinook stocks in Cook Inlet during this period of low chinook production area wide.

Joseph Person Historical Late-Run Kenai King Numbers RC068

Brood Year	Escapement	Age 5	Age 6	Age 7	Total Return	Return/Spawner
1986	49,197	10,505	42,345	4,096	59,946	1.2
1987	48,096	7,883	52,445	3,075	63,403	1.3
1988	42,003	7,970	49,284	3,585	60,839	1.4
1989	26,852	6,355	35,163	503	42,021	1.6
1990	24,496	10,879	28,968	934	40,781	1.7
1991	29,076	15,406	34,630	1,644	51,680	1.8
1992	37,788	8,582	34,244	2,565	45,391	1.2
1993	38,346	6,907	33,714	1,270	41,891	1.1
1994	31,400	9,641	29,152	1,465	40,258	1.3
1995	31,022	12,269	34,241	2,542	49,052	1.6
1996	30,453	9,281	44,847	598	54,726	1.8
1997	24,734	11,468	54,445	1,643	67,556	2.7
1998	33,381	17,253	71,804	4,058	93,115	2.8
1999	28,769	23,730	67,470	6,140	97,340	3.4
2000	26,331	14,154	43,687	5,372	63,213	2.4
2001	27,895	9,983	27,832	3,937	41,752	1.5
2002	42,940	13,685	31,914	1,885	47,484	1.1
2003	51,862	9,305	23,848	1,743	34,896	0.7
2004	70,617	5,012	11,689	883	17,584	0.2
2005	55,764	9,006	18,544	1,099	28,649	0.5
2006	40,911	6,944	12,985	846	20,775	0.5
2007	31,276	9,914	10,097	390	20,401	0.7
2008	30,001	3,556	7,574	1,381	12,511	0.4
2009	20,807	4,799	15,924	1,241	21,964	1.1
2010	13,425	5,789	12,562	1,271	19,622	1.5
2011	16,541	11,202	14,961	146	26,309	1.6
2012	23,427	14,483	10,572	711	25,766	1.1
2013	12,719	7,597	7,174	401	15,172	1.2
2014	11,584	5,435	9,066	504	15,005	1.3
2015	16,857	2,716	8,333	0	11,049	0.7
2016	15,652	3,930	6,952	0	10,882	0.7
2017	20,583	7,126	9,322	n/a	16,448	0.8
2018	17,405	5,214	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2019	11,709	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2020	11,854	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2021	12,238	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2022	13,911	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2023	14,502	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

This table demonstrates the production of Large King escapements in the Kenai River Late-Run. We can see that the last three years that we met the current OEG, 2016-2018, these escapements did not replace themselves. If the overall productivity of the system is not capable of replacing OEG level escapements, then rebuilding of the run is not possible until productivity improves and the OEG serves no purpose except to remove opportunity from multiple fisheries.

Finally, there is a lot of discussion about "so-called Over Escapement", reduced yields due to grossly exceeding goals, and whether this happens or what it would look like. Well, I offer that it could potentially look something like the following, which is Late Run Kenai River Chinook.