

2022 Summary

KODIAK SPORT FISH MANAGEMENT AREA



Ayakulik River

The king salmon run fell below the biological escapement goal (BEG) of 4,800 - 8,400 fish with a weir count of 2,845 king salmon. The mid-point of the run occurred on June 20, which is similar to historical run timing. The Ayakulik River king salmon run has seen declines since 2006 and was designated as a stock of concern by the Board of Fisheries in 2020. The escapement objectives have been met some years; however, in the most recent years the escapement objectives have not been met. In some years, a significant portion of the estimated daily fish passage numbers occurs during the king salmon run when the weir is flooding.

Management Actions

- A pre-season emergency order effective June 1, 2022, closed king salmon fishing on the Ayakulik River drainage and only one unbaited, single-hook artificial lure was allowed.

Table 1. Summary of preliminary harvest and escapement, Ayakulik River king salmon fishery, 2022.

Escapement Goal Range	BEG = 4,800-8,400
Total Harvest	0
Weir Count	2,845
Preliminary Escapement	2,845

Karluk River

The king salmon run was below the BEG of 3,000 - 6,000 fish with a weir count of 2,629 king salmon. The Karluk River king salmon run has been below the BEG most of the last 20 years, though the goal was achieved from 2018-2020. The mid-point of the run occurred on June 18, which is similar to historical run-timing. The Karluk River has not been open to the harvest of king salmon since 2007 and sport fishing for king salmon has been entirely closed since 2008.

Management Actions

- A pre-season emergency order effective June 1, 2022, closed the Karluk River drainage to sport fishing for king salmon and only one unbaited, single-hook artificial lure was allowed.



Table 2. Summary of preliminary harvest and escapement, Karluk River king salmon fishery, 2022.

Escapement Goal Range	BEG = 3,000-6,000
Total Harvest	0
Weir Count	2,629
Preliminary Escapement	2,629

Chignik River

The king salmon run fell below the BEG of 1,300 - 2,700 fish with a weir count of 761 king salmon and was the lowest weir count in recent history. The mid-point of the run occurred on July 16, which is similar to historical run timing.

Management Actions

- On July 11, 2022, the Chignik River was closed to king salmon fishing and only one unbaited, single-hook artificial lure was allowed.

Table 3. Summary of preliminary harvest and escapement, Chignik River king salmon fishery, 2022.

Escapement Goal Range	BEG = 1,300-2,700
Estimated Total Harvest	100
Weir Count	761
Preliminary Escapement	661

Nelson River

The 2022 weir count for king salmon was 3,785 fish. This was within the BEG of 2,400 - 5,000 salmon. There is no retention in this fishery throughout the season based on regulations enacted in 2011. The mid-point of the run occurred on July 16, 2022, which is similar to historical run timing.

Management Actions

- No management actions were implemented during the 2022 sport fishery season.

Table 4. Summary of preliminary harvest and escapement, Nelson River king salmon fishery, 2022.

Escapement Goal Range	BEG = 2,400-5,000
Total Harvest	0
Weir Count	3,785
Preliminary Escapement	3,785

Stocked Kodiak Road System Streams

Each year the Olds River, American River, and/or Salonie Creek are stocked with up to 80,000 king salmon smolt. The stocked Kodiak road system streams had very low returns in the 2022 season and there was little harvest in this fishery. Very few fish were observed at the Olds and American River or at Salonie Creek. Egg take goals were not met this year with only 2 spawning pairs collected. To compensate for this shortfall, coho salmon will be stocked to supplement king salmon production.



The 2022 king salmon egg take should produce about 10,000 smolt, though this is far short of the goal to release 200,000 king salmon smolt. Coho salmon will be taken again from Pillar Creek in early November to supplement this shortfall.

Management Actions

- No management actions were implemented during the 2022 sport fishery season.



Karluk River

The early sockeye salmon run fell within the BEG of 150,000 - 250,000 fish with a weir count of 175,336 sockeye salmon. Little harvest occurs upstream of the weir and escapement is likely equal to the weir count. Harvest of sockeye salmon by anglers on the Karluk River is minimal compared to the size of the run but it remains one of the larger sockeye salmon sport fisheries on Kodiak.

Management Actions

- No management actions were implemented during the 2022 sport fishery season.

Ayakulik River

The early sockeye salmon run fell within the BEG of 140,000 - 280,000 fish with a weir count of 251,690 sockeye salmon. Harvest of sockeye salmon by anglers on the Ayakulik River is minimal compared to the size of the run but it is also one of the larger sockeye salmon sport fisheries on Kodiak.

Management Actions

- No management actions were implemented during the 2022 sport fishery season.

Dog Salmon (Frazer) River

The sockeye salmon run was within the BEG of 75,000 - 170,000 fish with a count of 118,509 sockeye salmon at the Frazer Lake fish pass where escapement estimates are derived. Harvest of sockeye salmon by anglers on the Dog Salmon River downstream of the fish pass is minimal compared to the size of the run but it is also one of the larger sockeye salmon sport fisheries on Kodiak.

Management Actions

- No management actions were implemented during the 2022 sport fishery season.

Buskin River

The sockeye salmon run was above the BEG of 5,000 - 8,000 fish with a weir count of 8,121 sockeye salmon. No harvest occurs upstream of the weir which is located just downstream from Buskin Lake and escapement is equal to the weir count. The mid-point of the run occurred on June 28, which is much later than historical run timing though similar to several recent years.

Management Actions

- On June 9, 2022, fishing for sockeye salmon in the Buskin River was closed.
- On June 30, 2022, fishing for sockeye salmon in the Buskin River was reopened.



Saltery Cove

The sockeye salmon run was within the BEG of 15,000 - 35,000 fish with a weir count of 25,615 sockeye salmon. No harvest occurs upstream of the weir and escapement is equal to the weir count. The mid-point of the run occurred on July 16, which is similar to historical run timing. This is the largest freshwater sport fishery on Kodiak by harvest for a single stock. The 2022 run was ongoing at the time the weir was pulled in early August.

Management Actions

- On July 21, 2022, the sockeye salmon bag and possession limits were increased to 10 fish in the Saltery River.

Pasagshak River

The sockeye salmon run was above the lower bound sustainable escapement goal (SEG) of 3,000 fish with a weir count of 4,377 sockeye salmon. No harvest occurs upstream of the weir and escapement is equal to the weir count. The mid-point of the run occurred on July 26, 2022, which is later than historical run timing.

Management Actions

- No management actions were implemented during the 2022 sport fishery season.

Afognak (Litnik) River

The sockeye salmon run was within the BEG of 20,000 - 50,000 fish with a weir count of 29,509 sockeye salmon. The mid-point of the run occurred on July 2, 2022 and was later than historical run timing.

Management Actions

- No management actions were implemented during the 2022 sport fishery season.



Buskin River - Preliminary Summary

The SEG for Buskin River coho salmon is 4,700 - 9,600 fish and the 2022 run is ongoing. The mid-point of the run typically occurs in the third week of September and the current weir count as of September 27th, is 2,526 fish.

Management Actions

- The Buskin River was closed to fishing for coho salmon effective September 22, 2022.

Olds River - Preliminary Summary

The lower bound SEG for Olds River coho salmon is 500 fish and the 2022 run is ongoing. The 2022 run appears to be below average so far, though no surveys have been conducted to date. The Olds River coho salmon run is assessed via in season drone surveys, though conditions have been poor to get reliable survey estimates to date. Final escapement estimates will be documented via post season foot surveys in late October or November.



Management Actions

- No management actions have been implemented during the 2022 sport fishery season so far.

American River - Preliminary Summary

The lower bound SEG for American River coho salmon is 400 fish and the 2022 run is ongoing. The 2022 run appears to be below average so far, though no surveys have been conducted to date. The American River coho salmon run is assessed via in season drone surveys, though conditions have been poor to get reliable survey estimates to date. Final escapement estimates will be documented via post season foot surveys in late October or November.

Management Actions

- No management actions have been implemented during the 2022 sport fishery season so far.

Pasagshak River - Preliminary Summary

The lower bound SEG for Pasagshak River coho salmon is 1,200 fish and the 2022 run is ongoing. The 2022 run appears to be average or slightly below average. The latest drone survey counted 1,457 coho salmon in Lake Rose Teed. The Pasagshak River coho salmon run is assessed via in season drone surveys. Final escapement estimates will be documented via post season foot surveys in November.

Management Actions

- No management actions have been implemented during the 2022 sport fishery season so far.



Table 1 – Select Southcentral Region Salmon Escapement Goals and Escapements for king salmon, 2013 to 2022 (preliminary).

System	2022 Goal Range		Type	Initial Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Preliminary	
	Lower	Upper											2021	2022
KING SALMON														
<i>Bristol Bay</i>														
Nushagak River	55,000	120,000	SEG	2013	107,602	70,482	98,019	125,368	56,961	97,239	47,882	43,032	55,222	44,434
Alagnak River	2,700		LB SEG	2007	NC	NC	917	1,283	435	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC
<i>Kodiak/Alaska Peninsula</i>														
Karluk River	3,000	6,000	BEG	2011	1,824	1,182	2,777	3,434	2,600	3,155	3,898	3,344	2,796	2,629
Ayakulik River	4,800	8,400	BEG	2017	2,304	789	2,392	4,594	3,712	2,149	1,948	2,402	2,961	2,845
Chignik River	1,300	2,700	BEG	2002	1,185	2,895	2,041	1,843	1,137	825	1,517	1,278	1,072	661
Nelson River	2,400	5,000	BEG	2019	1,421	3,801	2,440	4,618	1,502	5,022	11,653	2,298	4,539	3,785
<i>Upper Cook Inlet</i>														
Alexander Creek	1,900	3,700	SEG	2020	588	911	1,117	754	170	296	1,297	596	288	NC
Campbell Creek	380		LB SEG	2011	NS	274	654	544	475	287	393	154	339	423
Chuitna River	1,000	1,500	SEG	2002	1,690	1,398	1,965	1,372	235	939	2,115	869	806	NC
Chulitna River	1,200	2,900	SEG	2020	1,262	1,011	3,137	1,151	NC	1125	2,765	845	1,535	NC
Clear (Chunilna) Creek	eliminated (see Talkeetna Stock)			2020	1,471	1,390	1,205	NS	780	940	1,511			
Crooked Creek	700	1,400	SEG	2002	1,103	1,411	1,456	1,747	911	714	1,444	830	594	735
Deshka River	eliminated (see Deshka Stock)			2020	18,531	16,335	24,316	22,874	11,383	8,544	9,711			
Deshka Stock	9,000	18,000	BEG	2020								10,638	18,674	5,437
Eastside Susitna Stock	13,000	25,000	SEG	2020								14,995	15,208	Pending
Goose Creek	eliminated (see Eastside Susitna Stock)			2020	62	232	NC	NC	148	90	NC			
Kenai River - Early Run (all fish)	eliminated ^a			2017	2,148	5,311	6,190	9,177						
Kenai River - Early Run (large fish)	2,800	5,600	SEG	2017										
	3,900	6,600	OEG	2017					6,726	2,910	4,128	2,439	4,045	2,047
Kenai River - Late Run (all fish)	eliminated ^a			2017	19,342	17,451	22,642	18,790						
Kenai River - Late Run (large fish)	13,500	27,000	SEG	2017					20,615	17,289	11,638			
	15,000	30,000	OEG	2020								11,909	12,176	13,952
Lake Creek	eliminated (see Yetna Stock)			2020	3,655	3,506	4,686	3,588	1,601	1,767	2,692			
Lewis River	eliminated			2020	61	61	5 ^b	0	0 ^b	0	0 ^b			
Little Susitna River (Aerial) ^c	700	1,500	SEG	2020	1,651	1,759	1,507	1,622	1,192	530	NC	NC	889	NC
Little Susitna River (weir)	2,100	4,300	SEG	2017					2,531	549 ^c	3,666	2,445 ^d	3,121	2,288
Little Willow Creek	eliminated (see Eastside Susitna Stock)			2020	858	684	788	675	840	280	631			
Montana Creek	eliminated (see Eastside Susitna Stock)			2020	1,304	953	1,416	692	603	473	789			
Peters Creek	eliminated (see Yetna Stock)			2020	1,643	1,443	1,514	1,122	307	1,674	1,209			
Prairie Creek	eliminated (see Talkeetna Stock)			2020	3,304	2,812	3,290	1,853	1,930	1,194	2,371			
Sheep Creek	eliminated (see Eastside Susitna Stock)			2020	NC	262	NC	NC	NC	334	NC			
Talachulitna River	eliminated (see Yetna Stock)			2020	2,285	2,256	2,582	4,295	1,087	1,483	3,225			
Talkeetna Stock	9,000	17,500	SEG	2020								7,283	9,107	Pending
Theodore River	500	1,000	SEG	2020	476	312	426	68	21	18	201	111	38	NC
Willow Creek	eliminated (see Eastside Susitna Stock)			2020	1,752	1,335	2,046	1,814	1,329	411	897			
Yetna Stock	16,000	22,000	OEG	2020								14,709	18,890	Pending
<i>Lower Cook Inlet</i>														
Anchor River	3,800	7,600	SEG	2017	4,388	2,497	10,241	7,146	5,796	3,162	5,691	3,558	4,300	3,147
Deep Creek	350		LB SEG	2017	475	601	535	NS	753	182	751	327	NC	NC
Ninilchik River	750	1,300	SEG	2017	571	891	874	572	855	979	1,185	833	772	687

Note : NA = data not available; NC = no count; LB SEG = lower-bound SEG.

^a Kenai River Chinook salmon all fish SEG's were eliminated and large fish goals were instituted

^b Lewis River mouth naturally obstructed.

^c Little Susitna River Chinook salmon aerial survey goal is only used to assess escapement if weir count is not available.

Table 2 – Select Southcentral Region Salmon Escapement Goals and Escapements for sockeye and coho salmon, 2013 to 2022 (preliminary).

System	2022 Goal Range		Type	Initial Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Preliminary		
	Lower	Upper										2020	2021	2022
	COHO SALMON													
<i>Kodiak/Alaska Peninsula</i>														
Buskin River	4,700	9,600	BEG	2014	4,401	7,345	3,363	2,513	5,559	1,066	5,537	630 ^d	7,919	2,526
Olds River	500		LB SEG	2019	2,145	1,320	1,357	1,634	10,54	1,000	NS	794	923	NA
American River	400		LB SEG	2011	841	1,595	530	500	410	300	NS	279	297	NA
Pasagshak River	1,200		LB SEG	2011	1,648	4,934	1,790	667	701	1,200	488	2,031	4,721	NA
<i>Upper Cook Inlet</i>														
Fish Creek (Knik)	1,200	6,000	SEG	2020	7,593 ^d	10,283	7,912	2,484	8,966	5,022	3,025	4,555 ^d	0 ^{dk}	0 ^d
Jim Creek	250	700	SEG	2020	663	122	571	106	5,646	758	162	735	1,499	1,899
Little Susitna River	9,200	17,700	SEG	2020	13,583	24,211	12,756	10,049	17,781	7,583	4,229	9,931 ^c	10,123 ^{dc}	3,162 ^d
Deshka River	10,200	24,100	SEG	2017					36,869	12,962	10,445	5,368 ^d	3,431 ^d	3,137 ^d
SOCKEYE SALMON														
<i>Bristol Bay</i>														
Kvichak River ^f	2,000,000	10,000,000	SEG	2010	2,088,576	4,458,540	7,341,612	4,462,728	3,163,404	4,398,708	2,371,242	4,030,968	4,703,520	4,224,882
Alagnak River (Tower) ^g	210,000		LB SEG	2018	1,095,950	200,524	5,770,650	NA	2,041,825	1,581,426	820,458	2,386,518	3,236,904	1,668,222
Alagnak River (Aerial) ^h	125,000		LB SEG	2016				696,400	629,200					
Naknek River	800,000	2,000,000	SEG ⁱ	2015	938,160	1,474,428	1,920,954	1,691,910	1,899,972	2,221,152	2,911,470	4,112,160	2,796,534	1,921,296
Egegik River	800,000	2,000,000	SEG	2015	1,113,630	1,382,466	2,160,792	1,837,260	2,600,982	1,608,354	2,340,210	2,389,728	1,832,196	1,786,152
Ugashik River	500,000	1,400,000	SEG	2015	898,110	640,158	1,564,638	1,635,270	1,186,446	1,167,792	1,547,748	1,745,940	2,859,930	1,436,784
Wood River	700,000	1,800,000	SEG	2015	1,183,348	2,764,614	1,941,474	1,309,707	4,274,224	7,507,254	2,073,276	2,243,886	4,410,156	3,747,612
Igushik River	150,000	400,000	SEG	2015	387,036	340,590	651,172	469,230	578,700	1,581,426	256,074	323,814	878,952	378,768
Nushagak River	370,000	900,000	SEG	2015	894,172	618,477	796,684	680,513	2,852,308	1,164,701	709,349	1,228,059	4,697,299	3,455,272
<i>Kodiak/Alaska Peninsula</i>														
Buskin River	5,000	8,000	SEG	2011	16,189	13,976	8,719	11,584	7,214	4,281	12,297	7,739	2,230	8,117
Afognak River	20,000	50,000	BEG	2005	42,153	36,345	38,151	33,167	22,151	17,601	26,817	24,284	31,997	29,509
Saltery River	15,000	35,000	BEG	2011	35,939	29,047	42,468	57,867	39,315	22,845	22,183	24,987	64,602	25,615
Pasagshak River	3,000		LB SEG	2011	9,750	1,582	2,077	7,053	11,021	2,019	4,537	3,522	8,551	4,377
Karluk River Early Run	150,000	250,000	BEG	2014	234,880	252,097	260,097	164,760	242,599	205,054	186,510	157,441	128,373	175,336
Ayakulik River Early Run	140,000	280,000	SEG	2011	214,969	210,040	218,178	182,589	204,497	266,333	279,639	220,935	265,756	251,690
Fraser River	75,000	170,000	BEG	2008	136,059	200,296	219,093	122,585	129,227	201,161	169,627	137,570	186,632	118,509
<i>Upper Cook Inlet</i>														
Fish Creek (Knik)	15,000	45,000	SEG	2017	18,912	43,915	102,309	46,202	61,469	71,556	76,031	64,234	70,000 ^k	58,333 ^o
Kasilof River	140,000	370,000	OEG	2020	490	439,977	470,679	239,981	358,724	394,309	378,416	545,654	521,859	971,604
Kenai River ^l	140,000	320,000	BEG	2020										
	OEG eliminated			2017	980,208	1,218,342	1,400,047	1,119,988						
	750,000	1,300,000	SEG	2017					1,071,064	886,761	1,457,031	1,505,940	2,148,955	1,263,170
	varies based on tier		Inriver						1,308,498	1,035,761	1,849,054	1,714,565	2,441,825	1,567,750
Russian River - Early Run	22,000	42,000	BEG	2011	35,776	44,920	50,226	38,739	37,123	44,110	125,942	27,103	46,976	61,098
Russian River - Late Run	44,000	85,000	SEG	2020	31,573	52,277	46,223	37,837	45,012	71,052	64,585 ^d	78,832	123,950	124,561
Chelatna Lake	20,000	45,000	SEG	2017	70,555	26,212	69,750	60,792	26,986	20,438	26,303 ^l	NC	NC	NC
Judd Lake	15,000	40,000	SEG	2017	14,088	22,416	47,684	NA	35,731	30,844	44,145	31,220	49,250	38,442
Larson Lake	15,000	35,000	SEG	2017	21,821	12,040	23,214	14,333	31,866	23,444	9,699	12,018	21,987	17,436
<i>Lower Cook Inlet</i>														
English Bay	6,000	13,500	SEG	2002	10,891	7,832	6,290	7,673	20,751	18,083	24,044	31,486	6,328	11,425
Delight Lake	5,100	10,600	SEG	2017	5,961	22,289	3,220	5,110	5,380	13,428	17,410	12,299	7,525	22,717
Desire Lake	4,800	11,900	SEG	2017	8,400	11,480	2,830	6,740	9,450	9,840	9,040	2,260	3,323	20,460
Bear Lake	700	8,300	SEG	2002	8,999	9,090	9,560	9,011	9,207	10,568	9,185	8,212	11,318	9,962

Note : NA = data not available; NC = no count; LB SEG = lower-bound SEG.

^d Incomplete count because weir was pulled before end of run due to flood/fire evacuation, etc

^c Preliminary escapement estimate uses weir count minus five year average harvest above the weir.

^f Prior to 2010 Kvichak River had a pre-peak/peak-cycle escapement goal of 6-10 million sockeye and an off-peak escapement goal of 2-10 million fish.

^g 2009 to 2015 Alagnak River sockeye salmon escapements for Alagnak River (Tower) escapement goal are expanded aerial surveys.

^h Alagnak River sockeye salmon aerial survey-based escapement goal will be used in years that the Alagnak River tower is not operated.

ⁱ Naknek River has an OEG of 800,000-2,000,000 sockeye salmon when the Naknek River Special Harvest Area is open to fishing.

^l Kenai River sockeye salmon uses the best estimate of sport harvest upstream of sonar.

^k Incomplete count, video review still in progress

^o Weir not operational