



Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: 12/12/2025

CONTACT:

Michelle Wattum
Finfish Research Biologist
907-486-1857

2026 Kodiak Management Area Salmon Forecasts

The 2026 Kodiak Management Area (KMA) predicted pink salmon harvest is expected to be in the **Weak** category with a point estimate of 12.3 million fish combining the wild stock and Kitoi Bay Hatchery harvest estimates (Table 1).

Table 1.—Point estimate and ranges (80% prediction intervals) of the 2026 Kodiak pink salmon forecast.

Stock	Escapement goal (millions)	2026 run	Point estimate (millions)	Range (millions)
Kodiak Management Area	SEG: 3.25–8.0	Wild stock total run	12.6	7.1–18.1
	Even-year, Mainland and Kodiak Archipelago combined	Wild stock escapement	5.0	
		Wild stock harvest	7.6	2.1–13.1
		Kitoi Bay hatchery harvest	4.7	3.4–6.0
		Total KMA harvest	12.3	5.5–19.0
		Harvest category	Weak	

Harvest categories were delimited from the 20th, 40th, 60th, and 80th percentiles of historical commercial harvest in the KMA from 1988 to 2025 (Table 2).

Table 2.—Categorical ranges of total KMA pink salmon harvest and this year's forecast in bold.

Harvest Category	Range (millions)	Percentile
<i>Poor</i>	Less than 8.2	Less than 20 th
Weak	8.2 to 14.2	21st to 40th
<i>Average</i>	14.2 to 21.5	41 st to 60 th
<i>Strong</i>	21.5 to 28.0	61 st to 80 th
<i>Excellent</i>	Greater than 28.0	81 st to 100 th

The KMA wild stock pink salmon harvest forecast is derived from a total run forecast minus the estimated KMA escapement (5.0 million). The total run estimates were derived from a combination of weir counts, aerial survey index, and harvest estimates. The 2026 KMA wild stock pink salmon forecast was based on a generalized Ricker model using environmental, escapement, and sea surface temperature indices as well as previous year (lag-1) Gulf of Alaska pink salmon landings to the even-year KMA returns from 1988 to 2024. The hatchery pink salmon forecast is developed examining the average survival rates of hatchery releases and for this forecast was calculated using the last 10 even-year returns (parent class 2004 to 2022). The mean absolute percent error since 2018 is 29% for the wild stock and 22% for the hatchery pink salmon forecast to actual.

The 2026 Kodiak Management Area (KMA) predicted sockeye salmon harvest is expected to be in the *Weak* category with a point estimate of 2,054 thousand fish combining the formal and non-formal harvest estimates (Table 3).

Table 3.—Point estimate and ranges (80% prediction intervals) of the 2026 Kodiak sockeye salmon forecasts.

Table 37. Point estimate and ranges (66% prediction intervals) of the 2026 Kodiak sockeye salmon forecasts.				
Stock	Escapement goal (thousands)	2026 run	Point estimate (thousands)	Range (thousands)
Spiridon Lake/ Telrod Cove	NA	Spiridon Run	63	0–145
		Telrod Run	79	24–135
		Harvest	143	24–279
Ayakulik	SEG (early and late runs combined): 200–400	Total run	1,021	658–1,433
		Escapement	400	200–400
		Harvest	621	
Early-run Karluk	BEG: 150–250	Early run	115	0–323
		Early-run escapement	115	150–250
		Early-run harvest	0	
Late-run Karluk	BEG: 200–450	Late run	596	131–1,117
		Late-run escapement	325	200–450
		Late-run harvest	271	
Total Karluk		Total run	712	131–1,441
		Total escapement	440	350–700
		Total Karluk harvest	271	
Early-run Upper Station	BEG: 43–93	Early run	216	144–308
		Early-run escapement	93	43–93
		Early-run harvest	123	
Late-run Upper Station	BEG: 120–265	Late run	322	175–581
		Late-run escapement	186	120–265
		Late-run harvest	136	
Frazer Lake	BEG: 75–170	Total run	203	34–412
		Escapement (Dog Salmon Crk)	146	98–193
		Harvest	57	
Total Alitak District		Alitak run	741	353–1,301
		Alitak escapement	425	261–551
		Alitak harvest estimate	316	
Total Kodiak Harvest Forecast		Formal forecast ^a	1,358	
		Non-formal forecast ^b	696	
		Total Kodiak	2,054	
		Harvest category	Weak	

^a The formal forecast includes summed forecasts for Karluk, Ayakulik, Upper Station, Frazer, and Spiridon runs anticipated to be harvested in the Northwest Kodiak, Southwest Kodiak, and Alitak Districts of the Kodiak Management Area. In addition, anticipated harvest of Chignik-bound sockeye salmon in the Cape Igvak section based on the Chignik forecast is included but is projected to be 8,000 during the regulatory timeframe in 2026.

^b Non-formal forecasts include KRAA hatchery enhancement (Little Kitoi, Ruth/Jennifer, Crescent, Ouzinkie, and Hidden), harvest of formally forecasted runs outside the traditional run reconstruction areas, minor Kodiak local stocks (e.g., Uganik, Little River, Ocean Beach, Portage, Malina, Thorsheim, Pasagshak, Sallery, Pauls Bay, Kafliia, and Discoverer), and non-local stocks transiting Kodiak Management Area borders.

Harvest categories were delimited from the 20th, 40th, 60th, and 80th percentiles of historical commercial harvest in the KMA from 1988 to 2025 (Table 4).

Table 4.—Categorical ranges of total KMA sockeye salmon harvest and this year’s forecast in bold.

Harvest Category	Range (thousands)	Percentile
<i>Poor</i>	Less than 1,822	Less than 20 th
<i>Weak</i>	1,822 to 2,447	21st to 40th
<i>Average</i>	2,447 to 2,883	41 st to 60 th
<i>Strong</i>	2,883 to 4,116	61 st to 80 th
<i>Excellent</i>	Greater than 4,116	81 st to 100 th

The KMA sockeye salmon harvest forecast is derived from a combination of the formal forecasts for the major sockeye salmon systems and the non-formal forecasts. The formal forecast harvest estimates are calculated from the total run forecast minus the estimated escapement. The formal forecasts are primarily made by investigating simple linear regression models utilizing recent outmigration year age-class relationships and median returns. The non-formal forecast is calculated by applying the average proportion (2021–2025) of sockeye salmon harvested falling outside the traditional formal forecasted method and areas (0.34). The mean absolute percent error since 2007 is 27% for the KMA sockeye salmon forecast.

The Kodiak Management Area salmon forecasts are authored by Alaska Department of Fish and Game Finfish Research Biologists: Heather Finkle, M. Birch Foster, and Michelle Wattum; and Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association.