
Bulletin Is Now on the Internet

Marla Trollan and Kurt Savikko

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EDITORIAL

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Readers of the *Alaska Fishery Research Bulletin* may be interested to know that the journal's abstracts are now available on the Internet, and the entire journal may be online in 1997 or 1998, at which time paper production may be gradually phased out. The journal's abstracts are found in the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) web site, along with the guide to authors and editorial policy. The department's general/statewide information page provides a link to listings of publication titles organized by issue and by species group, and to which the abstracts are linked.

The ADF&G web site also provides other useful scientific and general information about Alaska's wildlife and fisheries. The site is about a year old but is really just beginning to evolve; considerable expansion is planned over the coming year. Commercial fisheries information has led the way with scientific report and publication listings, current and historical statistical data, and program descriptions. Similar information is being developed for sport fisheries and wildlife.

The web site structure blends the organization of the agency with subject categories. For example, the Commercial Fisheries Management and Development Division was primarily divided by management region. Beneath this level, the following subject areas were defined: species & fisheries, programs, publications, regulations, general divisional information & frequently asked questions, staff listings & contacts, and permits, licenses and forms. The other divisions are expected to develop similar structures. Statewide and general information include a departmental overview, photo gallery, drawings of Alaska's fish, and links to other relevant sites.

At this time, specific commercial fisheries information now available includes salmon and herring forecasts with prior-year fishery overviews; fishery regulations and policies; current (inseason) and historical salmon catch statistics; descriptions of tagotolith, pathology, and limnology programs; overview of herring fisheries in Alaska; species descriptions; and commercial fisheries system codes (used in fish tickets, Intent to Operate Reports, and Commercial Fisheries Operator Annual Reports). Department reports are also listed by series: Informational Leaflets, Technical Data Reports, Technical Fishery Reports, Regional Information Reports, Fishery Research

Bulletins, and Special Publications. Future additions to the site will include such things as Intent to Operate and Catcher/Seller forms, a variety of fishery-related maps, permit information, inseason shellfish catch statistics, salmon enhancement and mariculture production information, and fishery news releases and management plans.

The site is accessed as follows: <http://www.state.ak.us/local/akpages/FISH.GAME/adfghome.htm>. Individuals wishing to find salmon catch statistics, for example, would first access ADF&G's home page, select the *Commercial Fisheries Management and Development* link, next select the *Statewide & General Information* link (regional links could also be selected for area-specific information), and finally select the *Salmon* link under the *Finfish Species and Fisheries* heading.

Marla Trollan
Information Officer, Public Communications Section,
the Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Kurt Savikko
Publications Specialist, Commercial Fisheries Management and Development Division, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

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