

The Southeastern District Mainland Salmon Fishery

by

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Report to the Alaska Board of Fisheries

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Written Report: Supplemental Materials

Staff Comments: RC 2

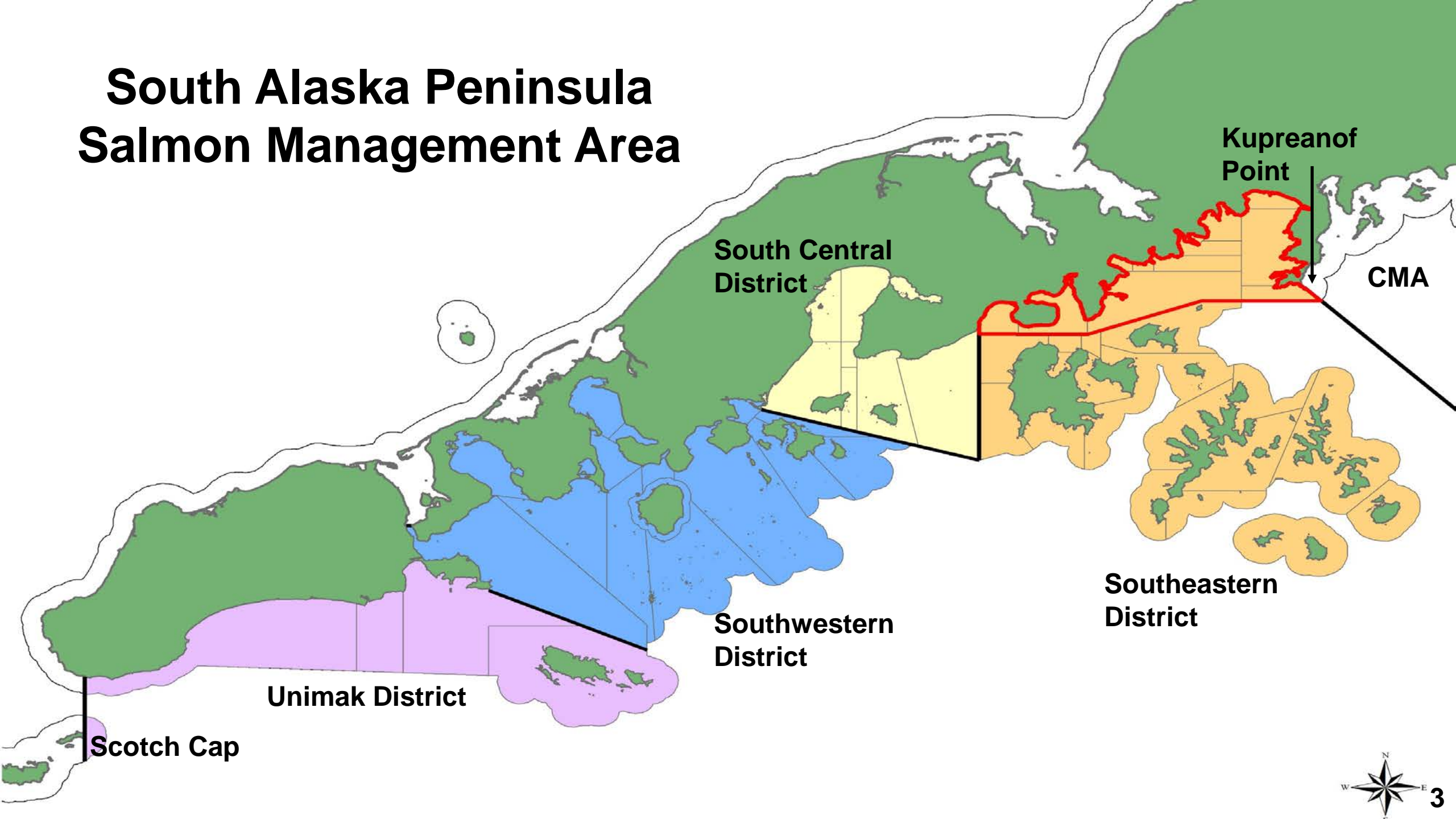
Oral Report: RC 3 Tab 4

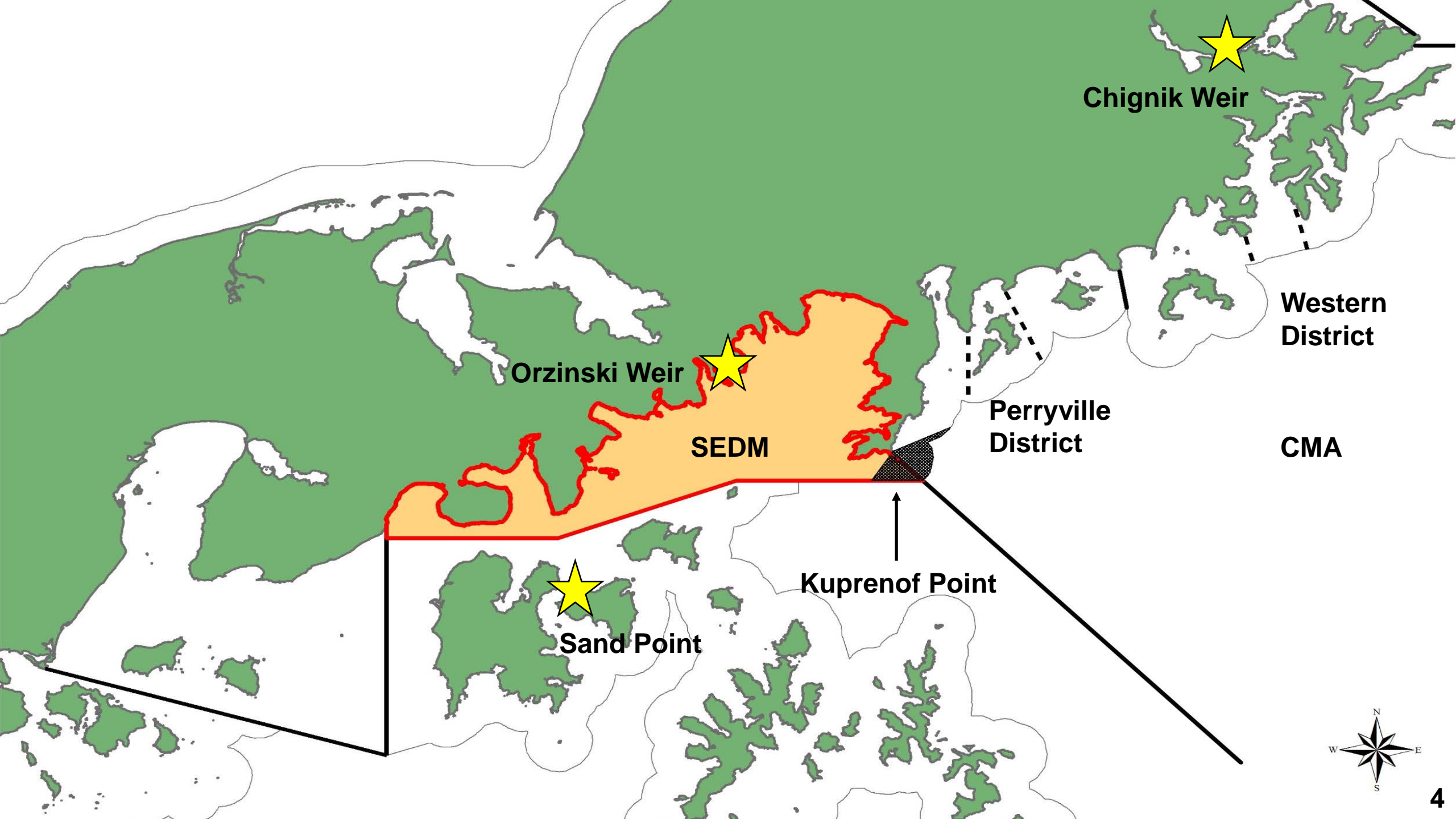
Southeastern District Mainland (SEDM) Fishery

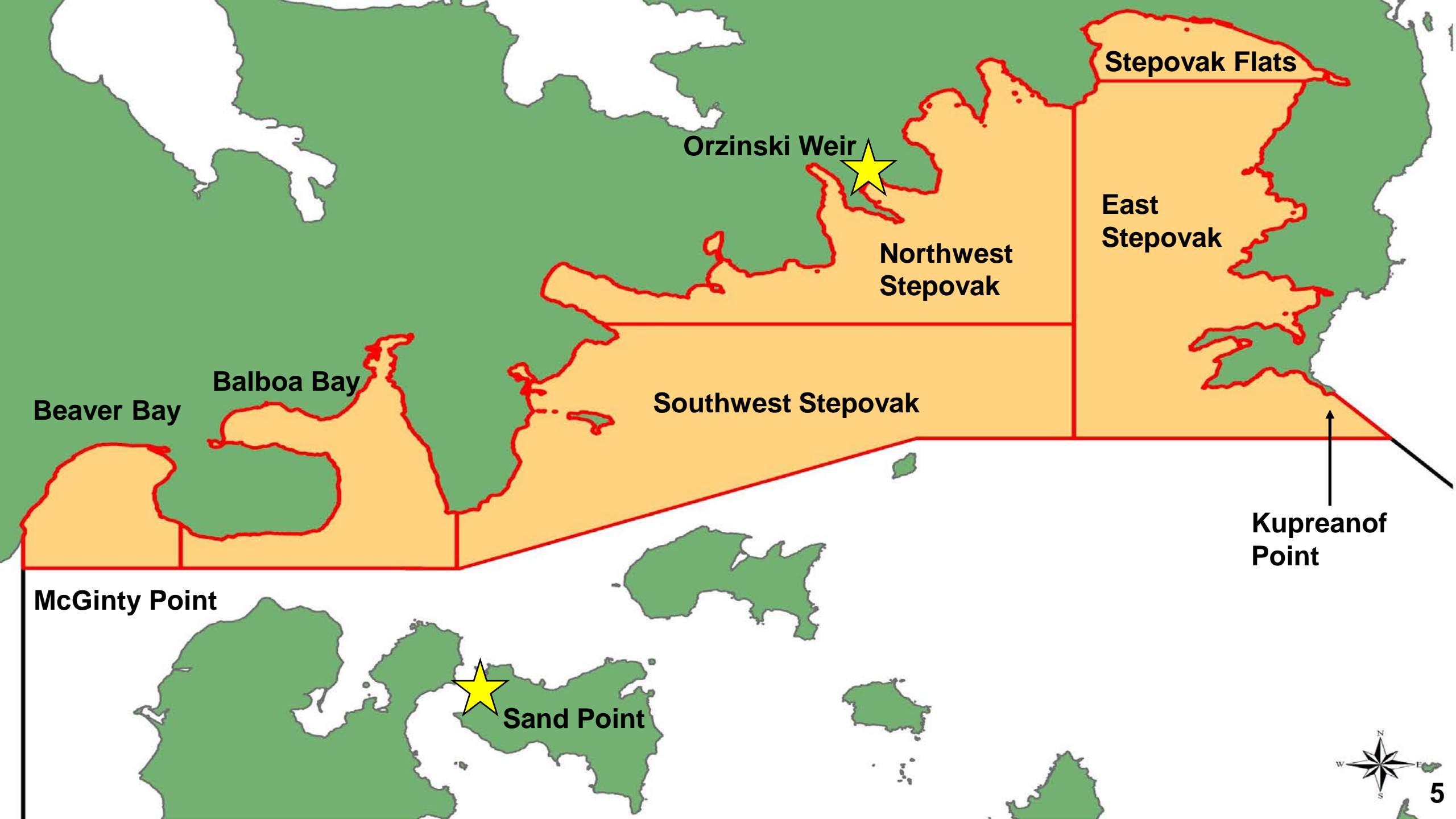
Topics to be covered:

- Fishery location
- Economic importance
- Historical perspective
- Current regulations
- 2016–2018 SEDM season summaries
- Post allocation period harvest
- 2019 SEDM fishery proposals

South Alaska Peninsula Salmon Management Area







Stepovak Flats

Orzinski Weir

Northwest Stepovak

East Stepovak

Balboa Bay

Beaver Bay

Southwest Stepovak

Kupreanof Point

McGinty Point

Sand Point



SEDM Fishery Economic Importance

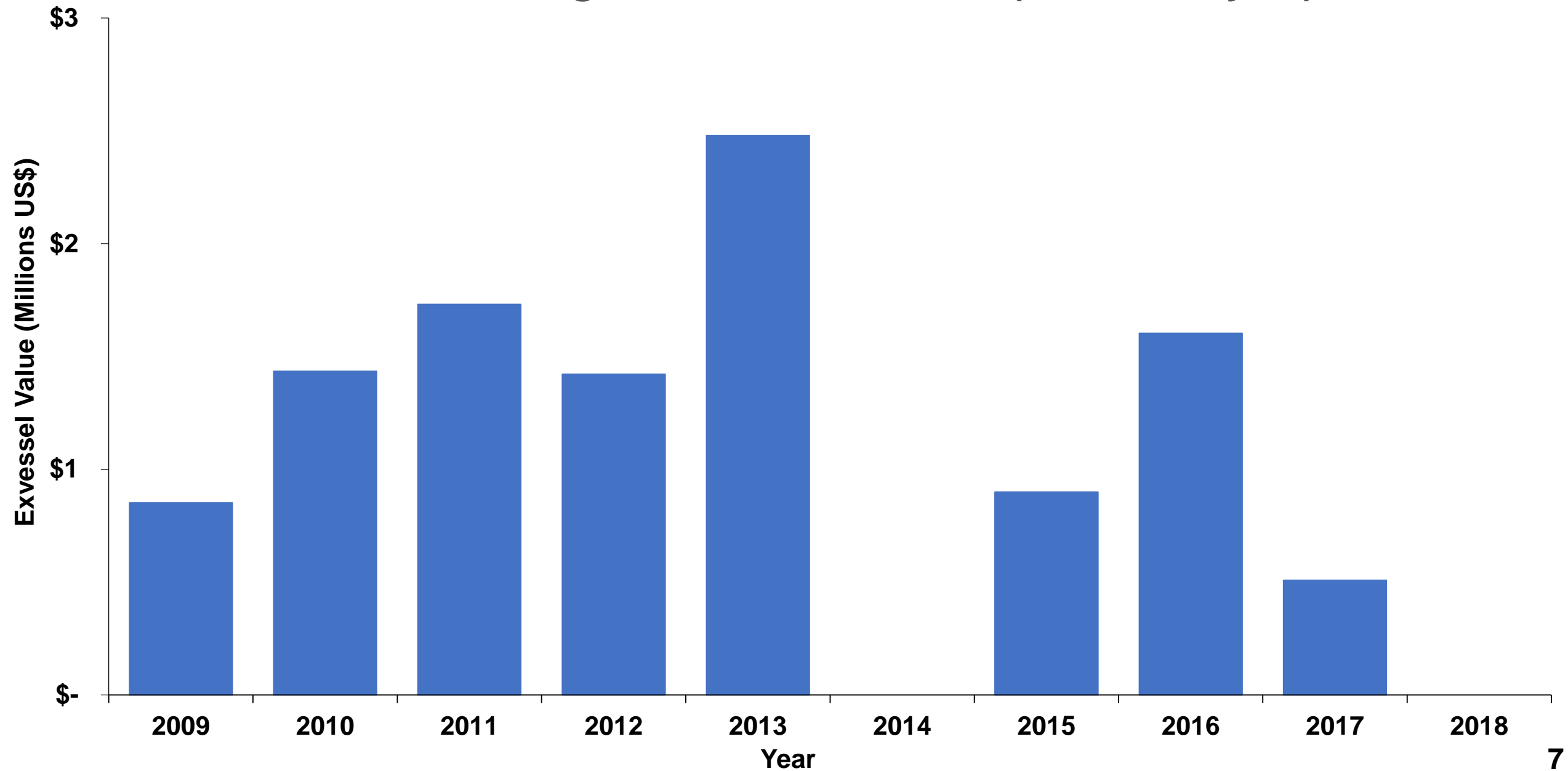
Allocation Period (June 1–July 25)

- Set gillnet June 1–July 25
- Purse seine July 11–July 25

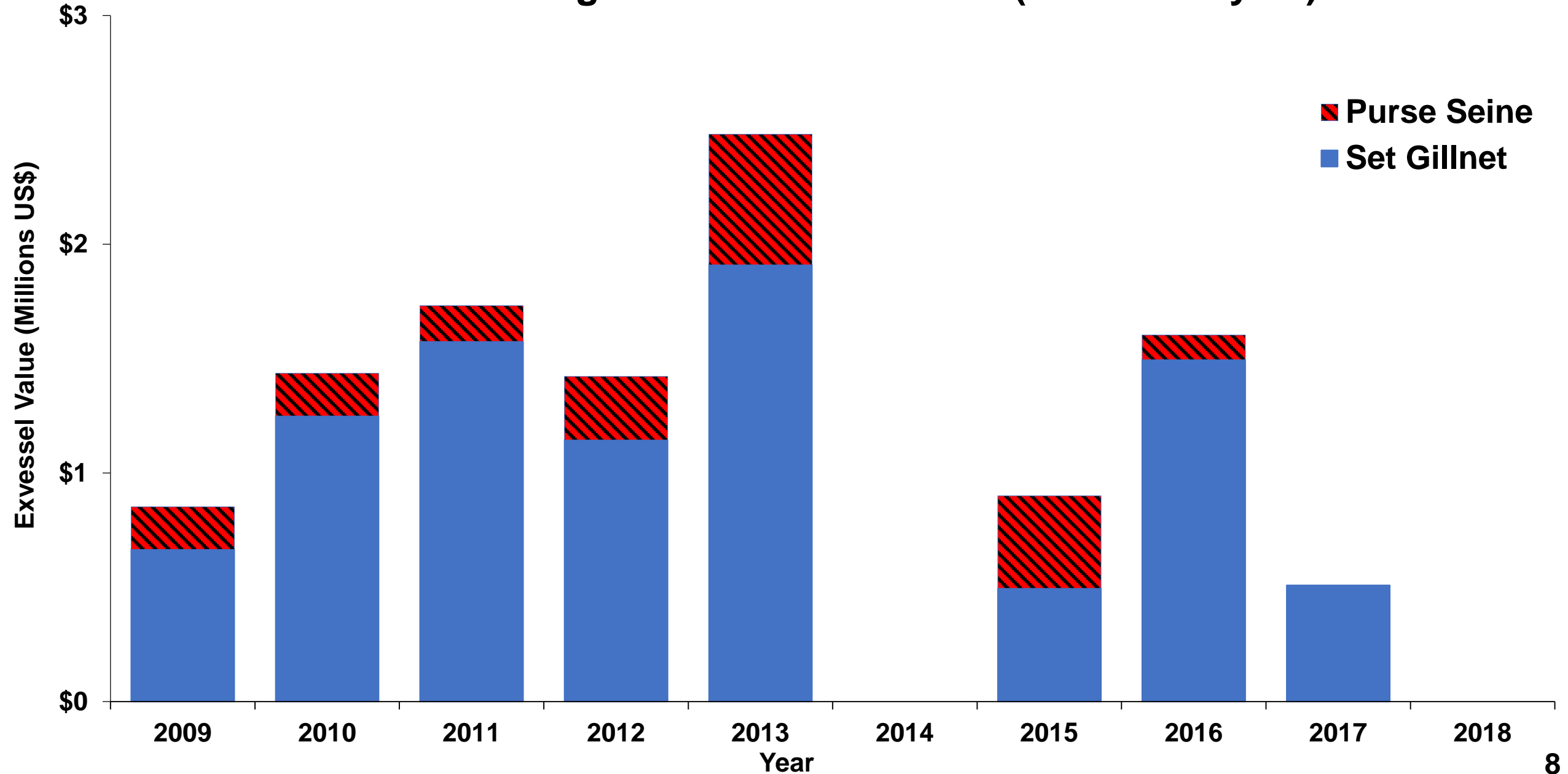
The SEDM Fishery 10-Year Averages

- \$1.4 million total exvessel SEDM value
 - Set gillnet gear \$1.1 million or 81%
 - Purse seine gear \$270 thousand or 19%
- 7% of South Alaska Peninsula fishery value
- 30% of total exvessel value for set gillnet gear in the South Alaska Peninsula
- 2% of total exvessel value for purse seine gear in the South Alaska Peninsula

**SEDM Exvessel Value for all Salmon Species
2009–2018 During the Allocation Period (June 1–July 25)**



SEDM Exvessel Value for all Salmon Species by gear type 2009–2018 During the Allocation Period (June 1–July 25)



Historical Perspective

- Predominantly a sockeye salmon fishery
- Orzinski weir has been operated annually by the Department since 1990
 - Weir in place mid-June through mid-August
 - Sockeye salmon run begins early July
 - BEG: 15,000–20,000 sockeye salmon
- Set gillnet gear from June 1–July 25
- Purse seine gear from July 11–July 25

Historical Perspective Board of Fisheries

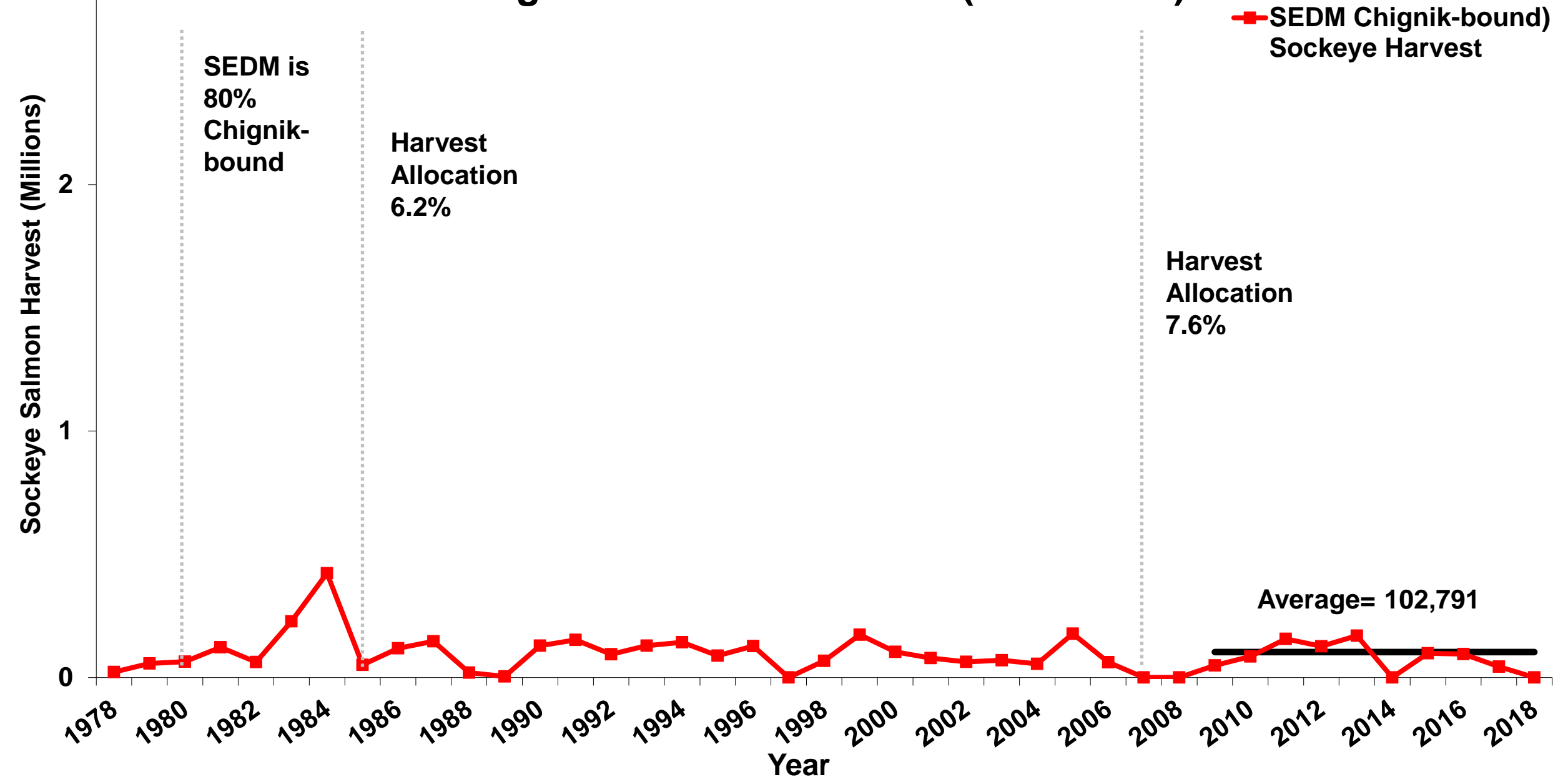
The Management Plan for SEDM has undergone significant change since its inception in 1974

- Prior to 1974, set weekly fishing periods, generally 5 day a week
- 1974–1984 SEDM managed on a day per day basis with the CMA or open 3 to 5 days per week
- SEDM Management Plan for adopted in 1980, and 80% of the sockeye salmon harvest in SEDM are considered Chignik-bound
- The SEDM management plan was modified in 1985, based on the Cape Igvak Management Plan, with an allocation of 6.2%

Historical Perspective Board of Fisheries -Continued-

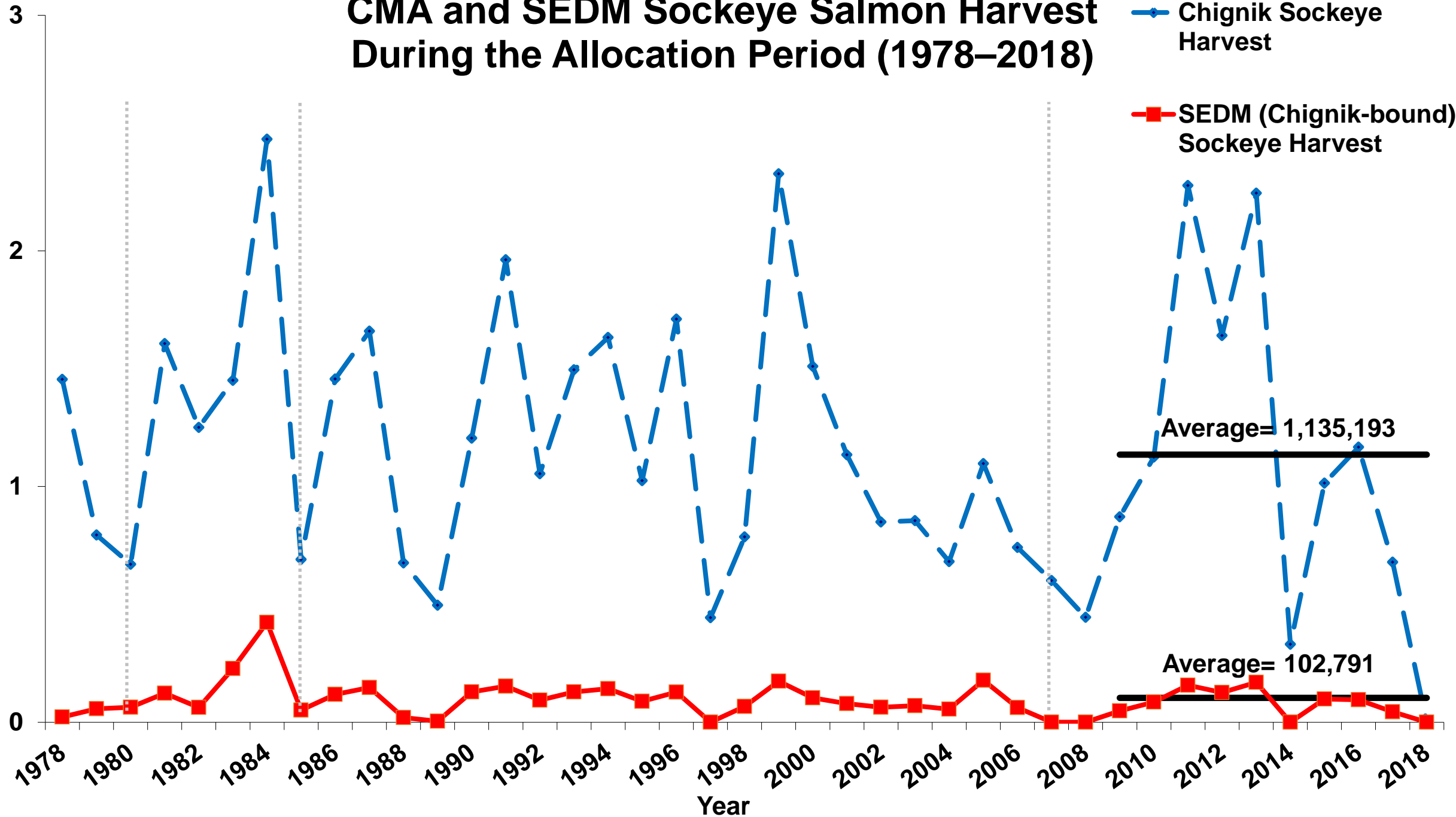
- 1988 SEDM added harvest and escapement criteria for CMA
- 1996 SEDM managed the Northwest Stepovak Section on local stocks, beginning July 1
- During 2007 SEDM allocation was changed to 7.6% of the CMA harvest

SEDM Sockeye Salmon Harvest During the Allocation Period (1978–2018)



CMA and SEDM Sockeye Salmon Harvest During the Allocation Period (1978–2018)

Sockeye Salmon Harvest (Millions)



Current SEDM Regulation

- The allocation period is June 1–July 25
- CMA harvest expected to be less than 600,000
 - No SEDM fishery until projected harvest of 300,000 sockeye salmon in CMA
 - After July 8, if at least 300,000 harvested in CMA,
 - the department shall manage the fishery so that at least 600,000 sockeye salmon will be harvested in CMA
- CMA harvest is expected to be 600,000 but the first run fails to develop
 - SEDM fishery curtailed until projected a harvest of at least 300,000 sockeye salmon in the CMA through July 8
 - After July 8, if at least 300,000 harvested in CMA, escapement goals are being met,
 - the department shall manage the fishery so that the number of sockeye salmon harvested in CMA will be at least 600,000 fish

Current SEDM Regulation

-Continued-

- SEDM allocation is 7.6% of those sockeye salmon harvested within the CMA
- June 1–July 25, 80% of the sockeye salmon caught in the SEDM are considered to be Chignik-bound (excluding the Northwest Stepovak Section after July 1)
- Beginning July 1, the Northwest Stepovak Section is managed on sockeye salmon escapement at the Orzinski weir

Current SEDM Regulation

-Continued-

- Set gillnet gear is the only gear type allowed until July 11 when purse seine gear is allowed
- If Orzinski escapement meets or exceeds 25,000 sockeye salmon, the Northwest Stepovak Section and Orzinski Bay may be opened concurrently as follows:
 - Set gillnet gear may be operated continuously until midnight July 25
 - Purse Seine gear can be operated no more than 96-hours, during a seven-day period
- From July 26–October 31, the fishery is managed for local pink, chum and coho salmon stocks
- From July 26–October 31, the fishery will be closed for at least one 36-hour period within a seven-day period

SEDM Season Summaries 2016–2018

(June 1–July 25)

Harvest

Year	King	(Chignik-bound) Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total
2016	532	94,790	6,550	21,391	14,311	137,574
2017	39	43,730	154	5,477	5,073	54,473
2018	0	0	0	0	0	0

Effort

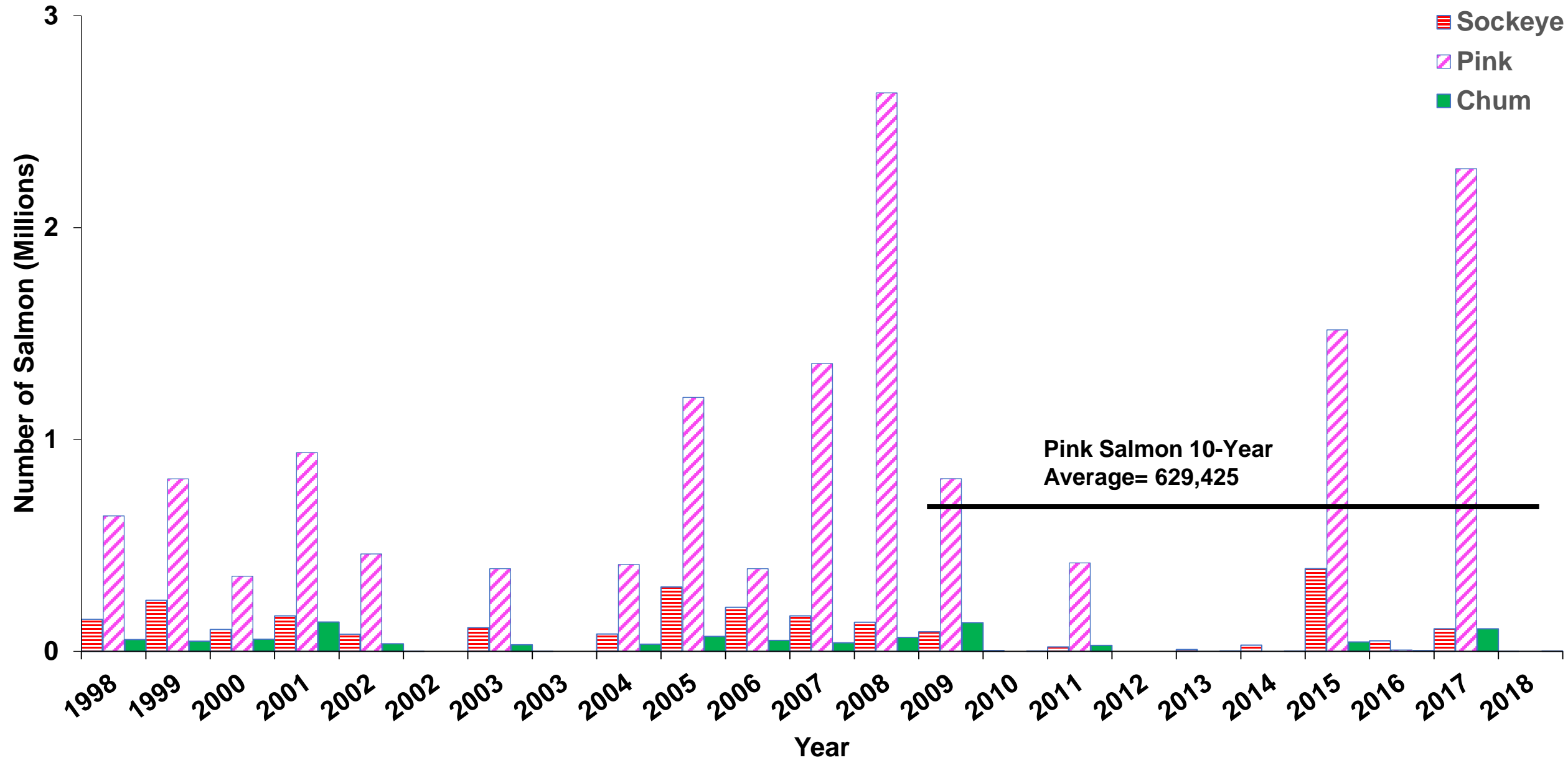
Year	Set Gillnet Permits	Purse Seine Permits	Total
2016	44	11	55
2017	39	0	39
2018	0	0	0

Allocation

Year	Harvested Allocation	10-Year Average
2016	8.1%	7.4%
2017	6.4%	
2018	0%	

Salmon Harvest in SEDM After the Allocation Period

July 26–October 31



2019 SEDM Fishery Proposals

Proposal 128

Increase the threshold of the CMA harvest and escapement to warrant a SEDM fishery

Proposal 129 and 130

Change the percentage of Chignik-bound fish harvested in SEDM

Proposal 131

Increase the total harvest allocation of SEDM

Proposal 132

Allow set gillnet gear to operate in SEDM when the CMA is open

Proposal 133

Allow fishing opportunity in SEDM when the Perryville and Western districts of the CMA are open

An aerial photograph of a mountainous landscape. In the foreground, a dark, winding river flows through a lush green valley. Several small, interconnected lakes are scattered throughout the valley floor. In the middle ground, a small weir structure is visible where the river flows into a larger lake. The background features rugged mountains with patches of snow and a clear blue sky.

Any Questions?