

Westside Kodiak Salmon Management & Kodiak Area Pink Salmon Harvest Strategy



James Jackson

A Report to the Alaska Board
of Fisheries; January 2020
Division of Commercial
Fisheries

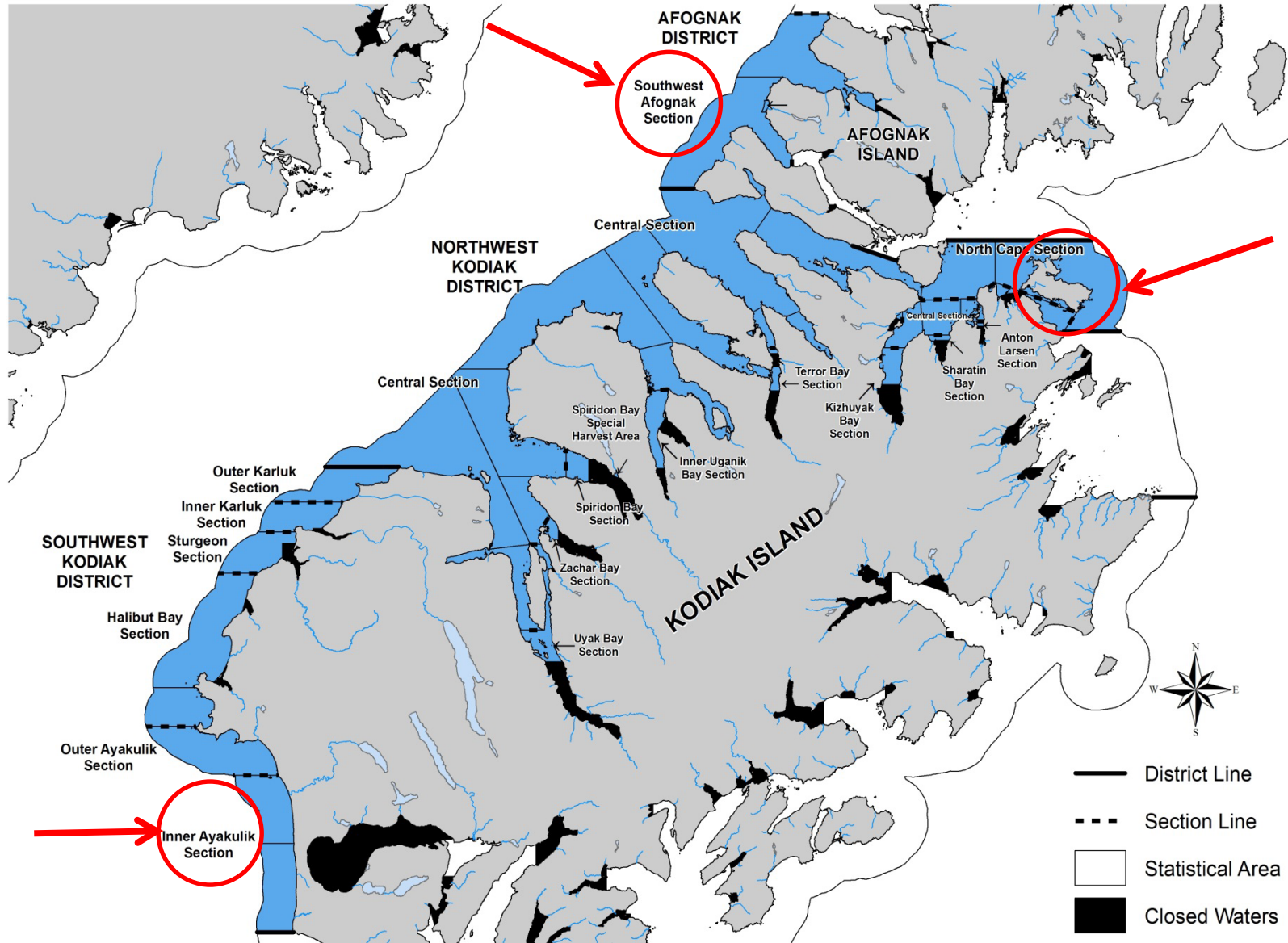
Oral Report: RC 3; Tab 3
Staff Comments: RC 2

Ayakulik River: Brad Fuerst

Topics to be covered:

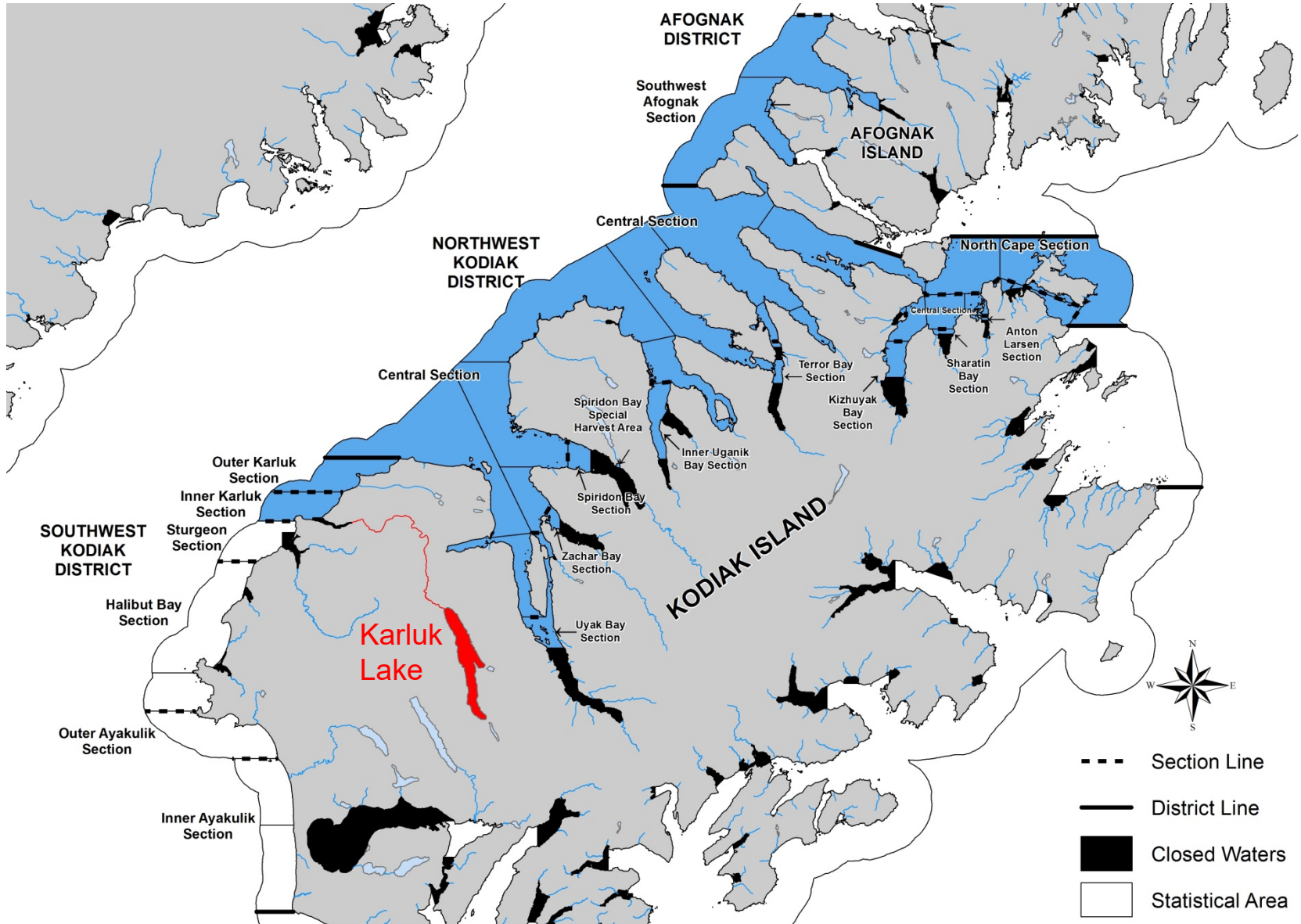
1. Description of westside Kodiak
2. Karluk early-run sockeye salmon management
3. Ayakulik sockeye salmon management
4. Spiridon Bay sockeye salmon management
5. Kodiak area pink salmon harvest strategy
6. Karluk late-run sockeye salmon management

Westside Kodiak Fishery



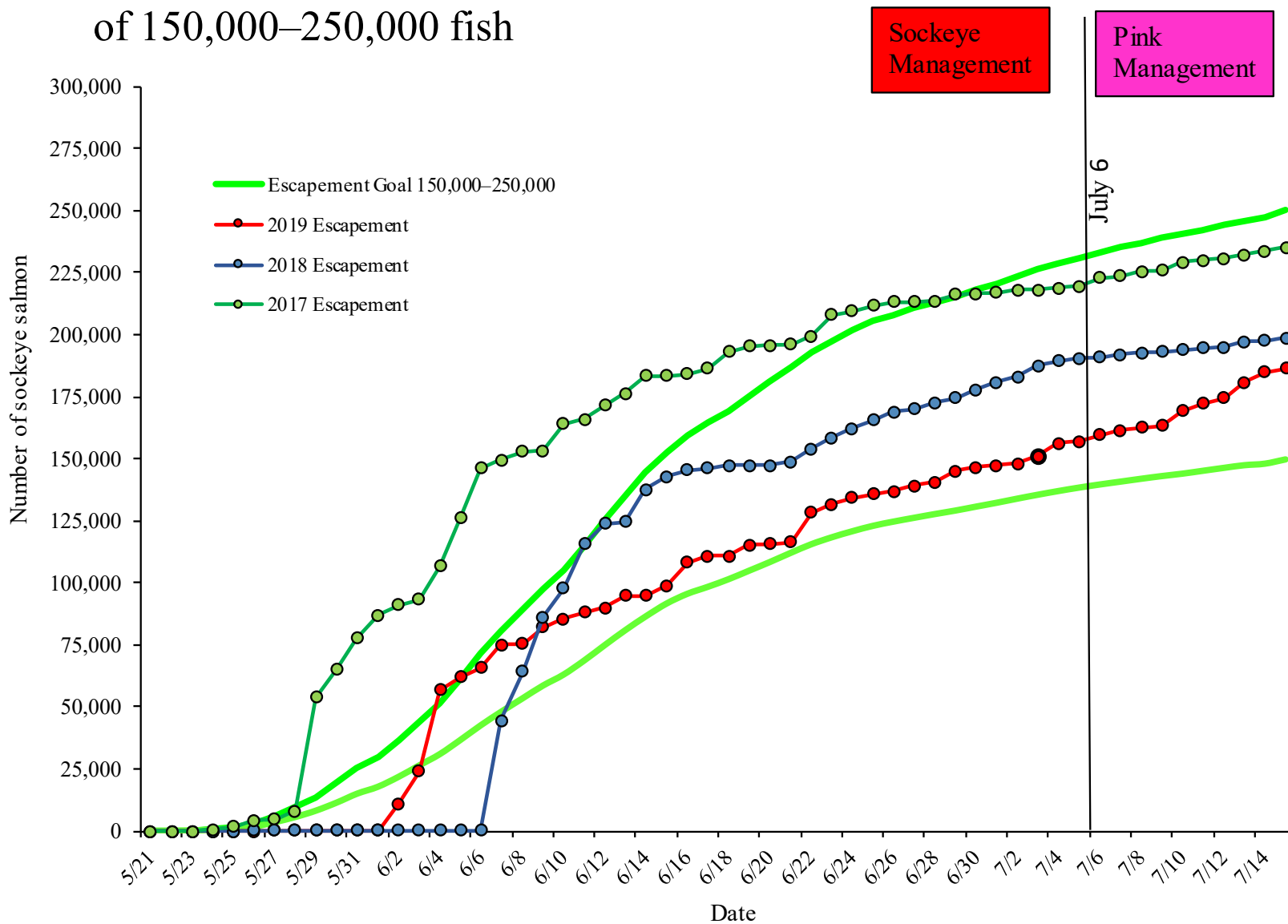
Karluk Early-Run Sockeye Salmon

In June, the majority of the Westside is managed based on Karluk early-run sockeye salmon



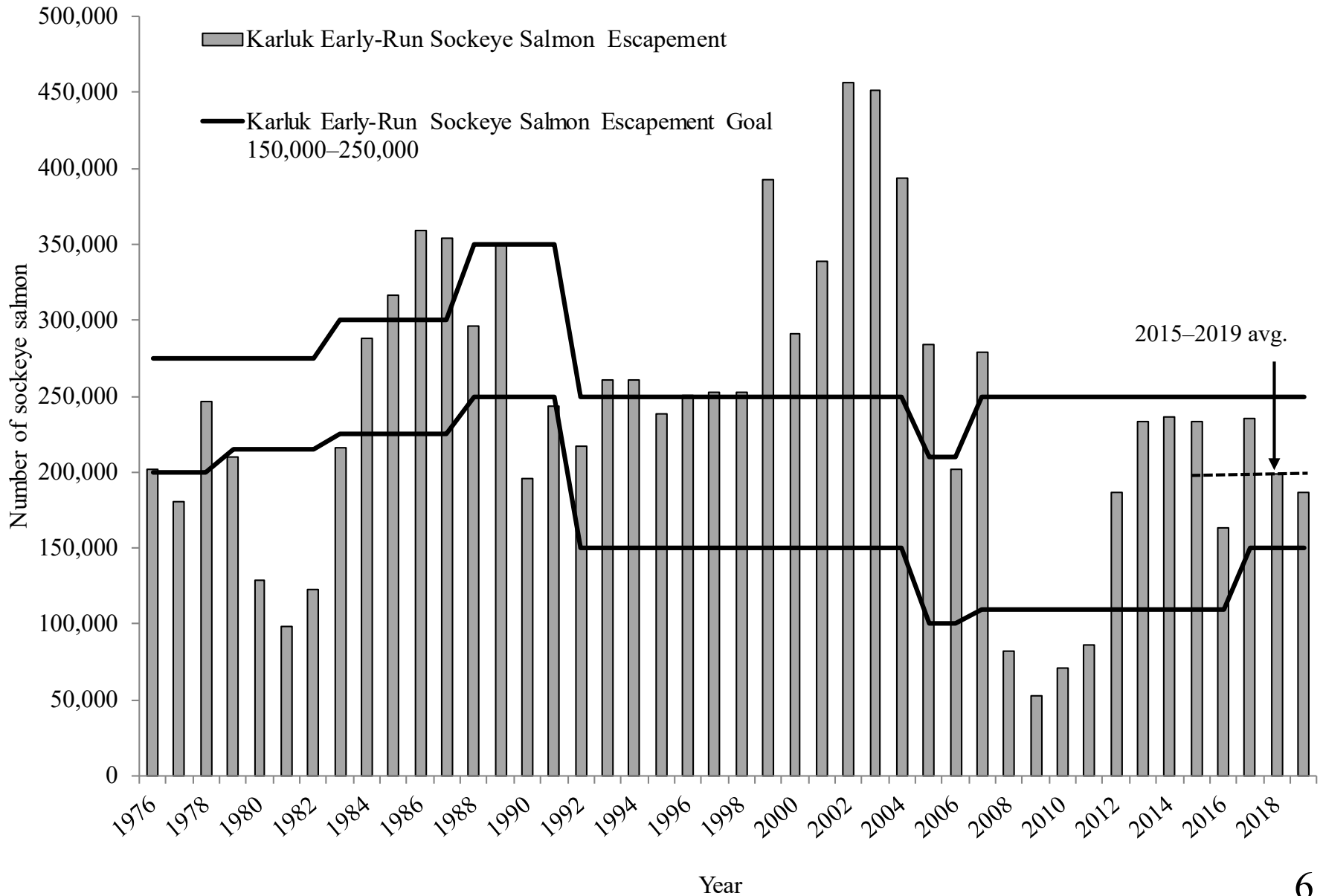
Karluk Early-Run Sockeye Salmon

June 1–July 5 the majority of the Westside commercial salmon fishery is managed based on Karluk early-run sockeye salmon BEG of 150,000–250,000 fish



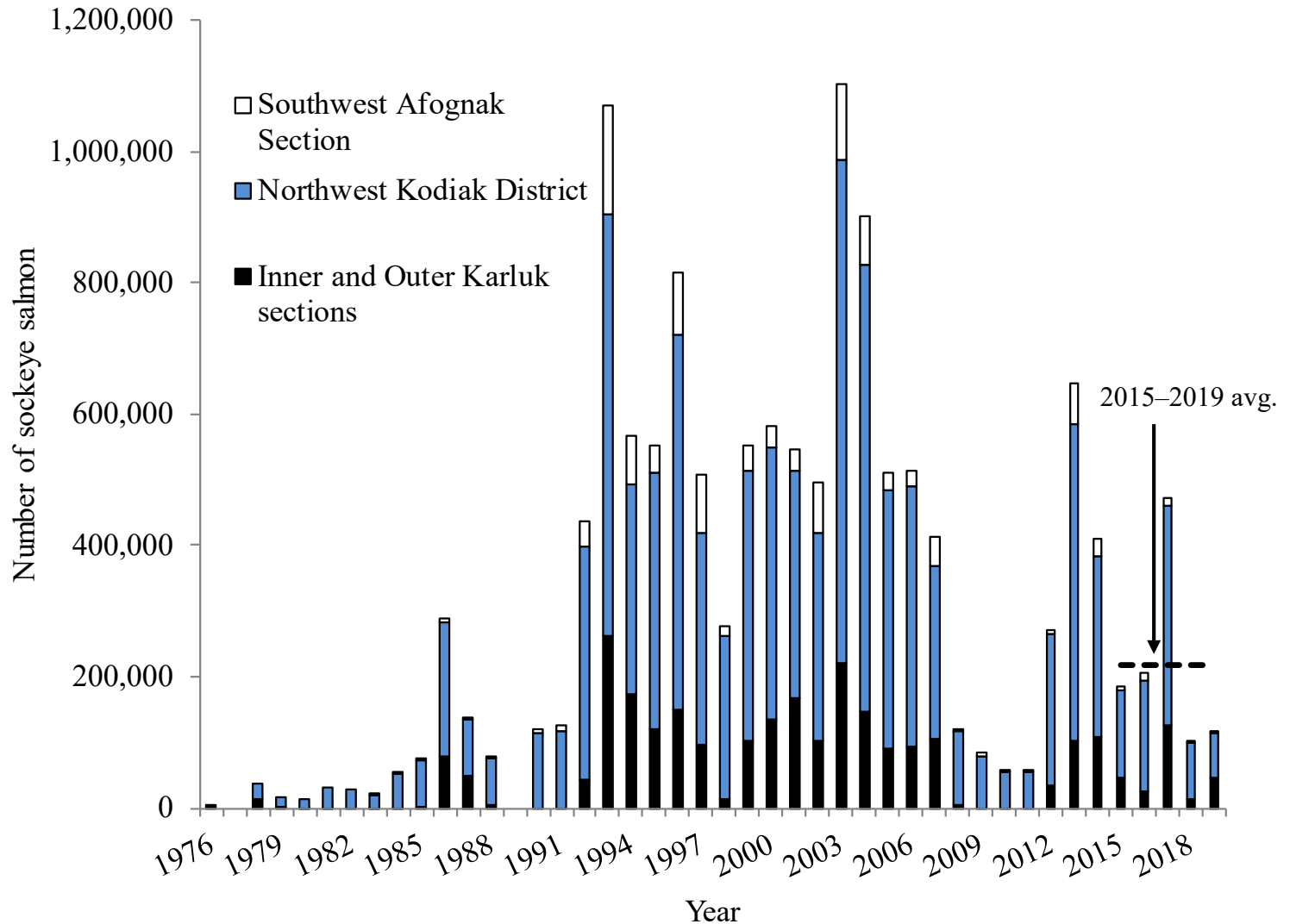
Karluk Early-Run Sockeye Salmon

Achieved goal for the past 8 years; 5-year avg. escapement of 203,000 fish



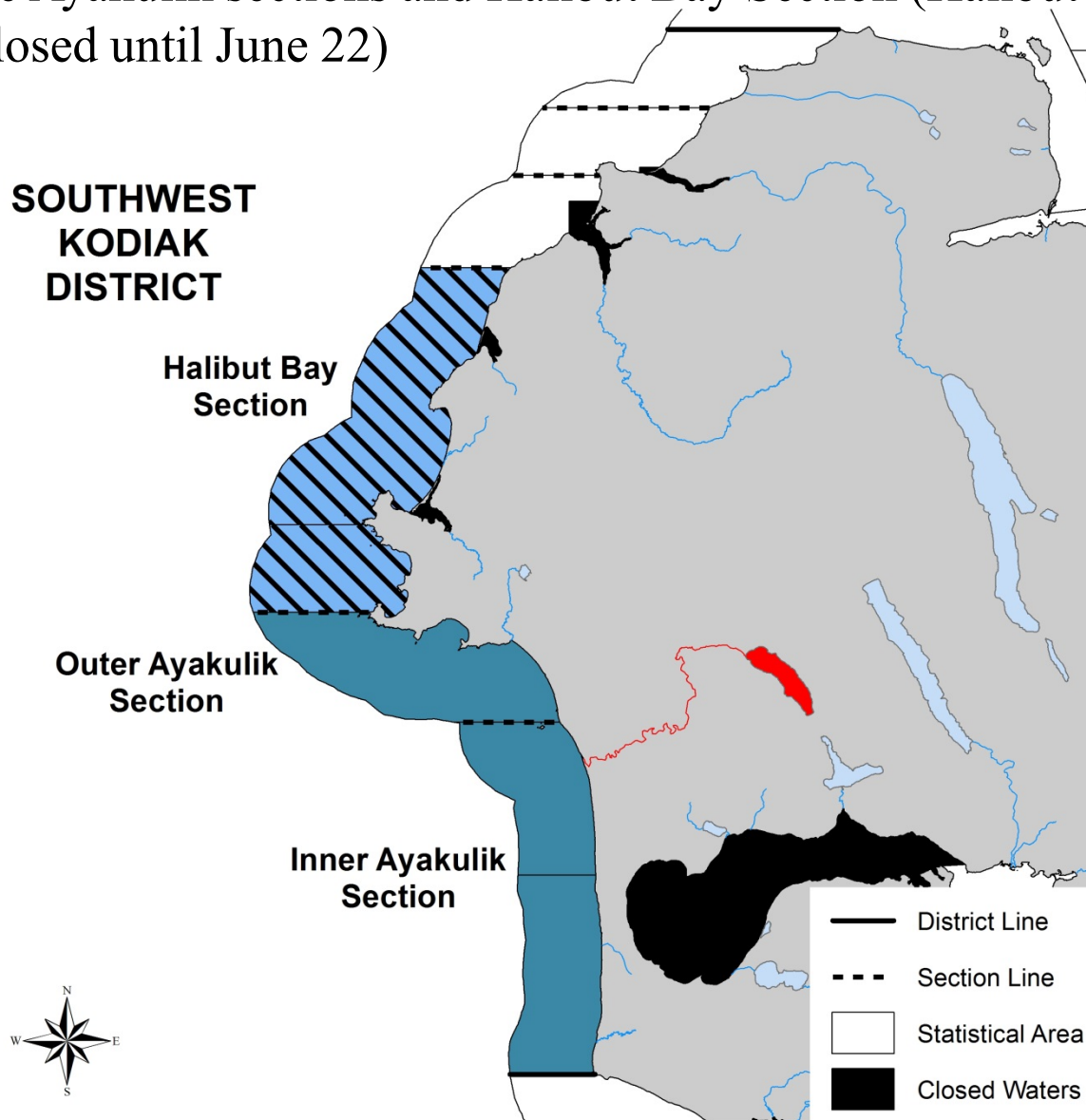
Karluk Early-Run Sockeye Salmon

Weak harvest the past 5 years; 5-year avg. of approximately 216,000 sockeye salmon



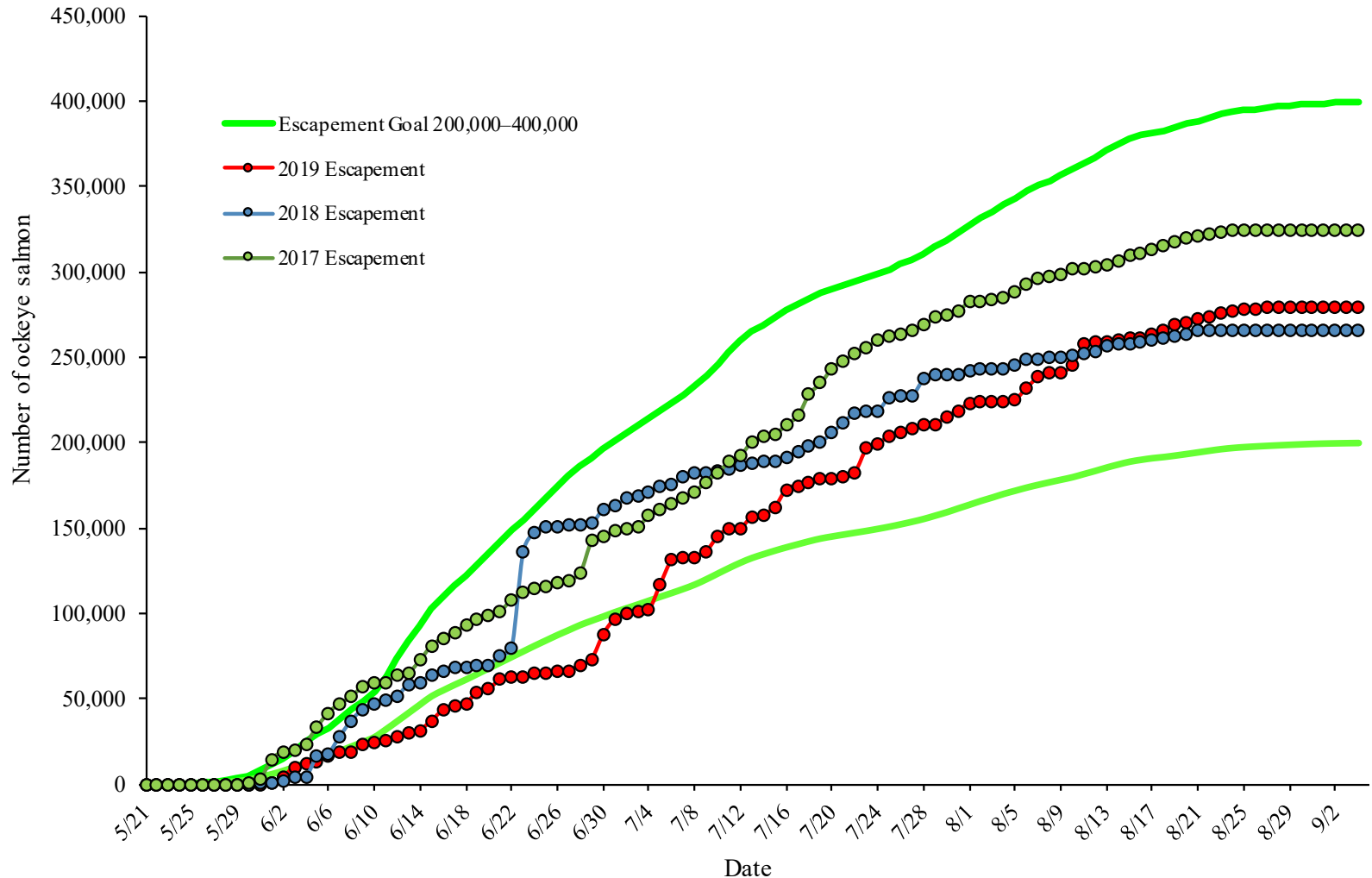
Ayakulik Sockeye Salmon

From June 1–August 24, the commercial salmon fishery centered around the Ayakulik sections and Halibut Bay Section (Halibut Bay Section closed until June 22)



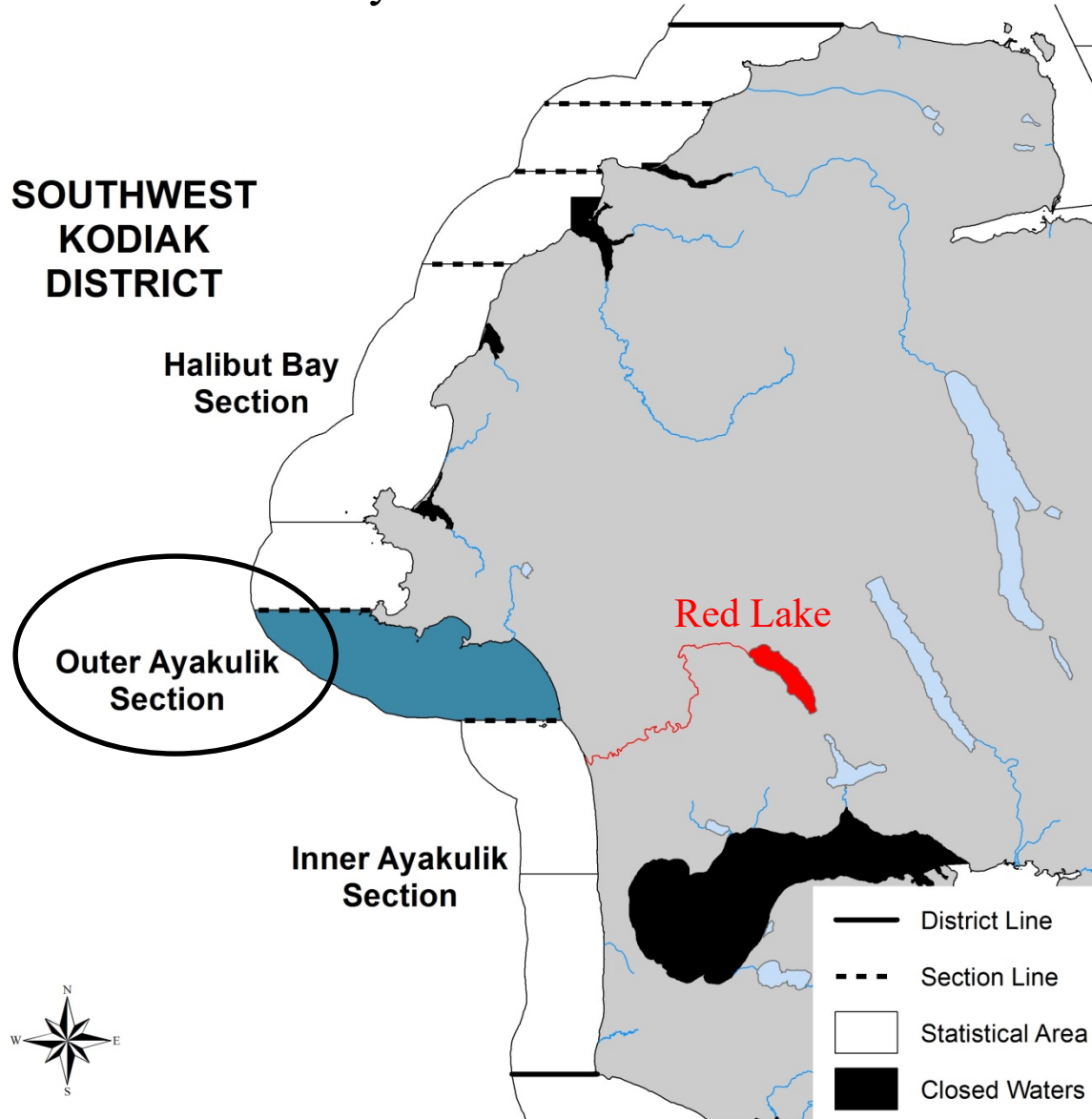
Ayakulik Sockeye Salmon

June 1–August 24 commercial fishery managed based on Ayakulik early-run & late-run sockeye salmon combined SEG of 200,000–400,000 fish



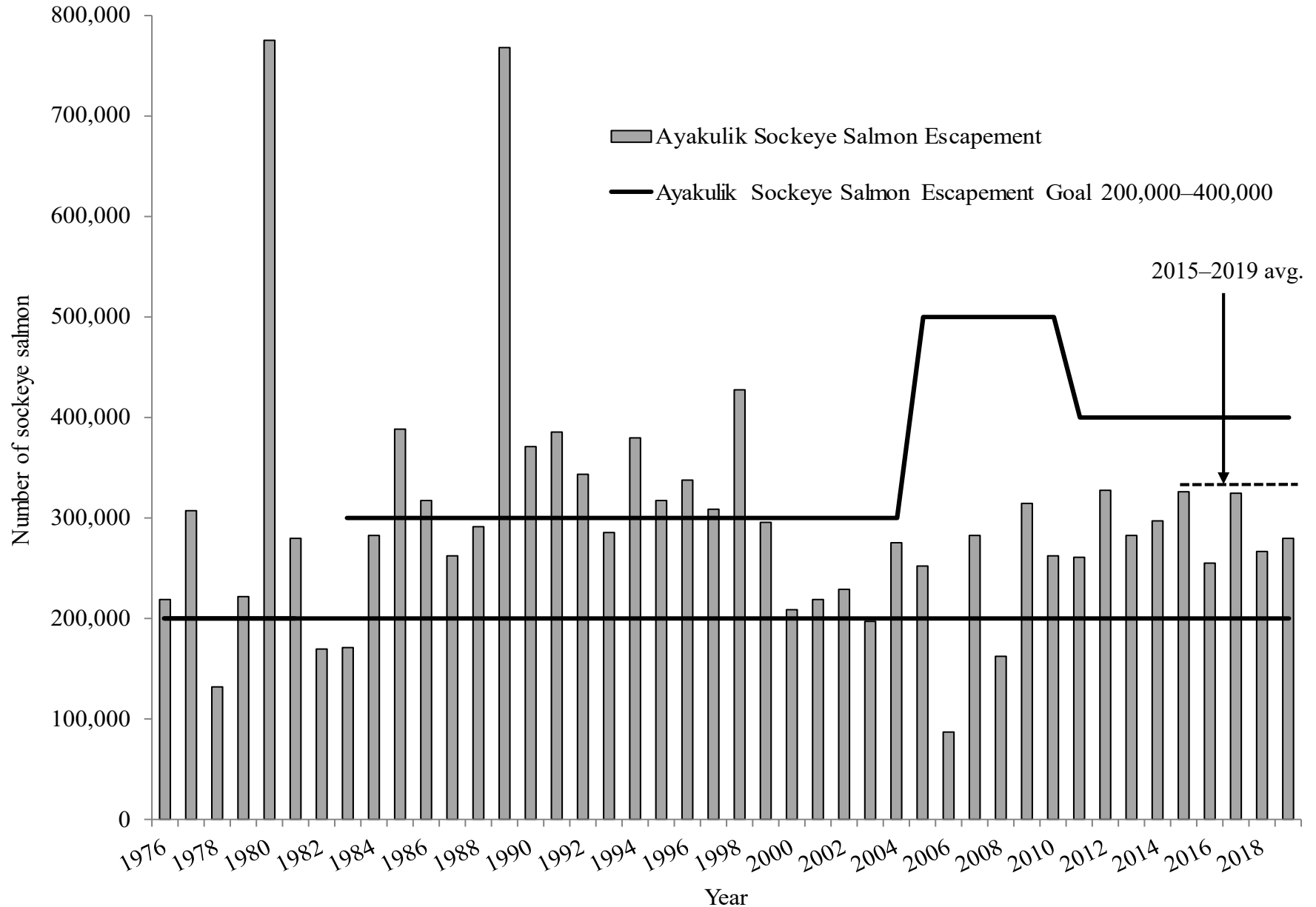
Ayakulik Early-Run Sockeye Salmon

Most commercial salmon openings are centered around the Outer Ayakulik Section



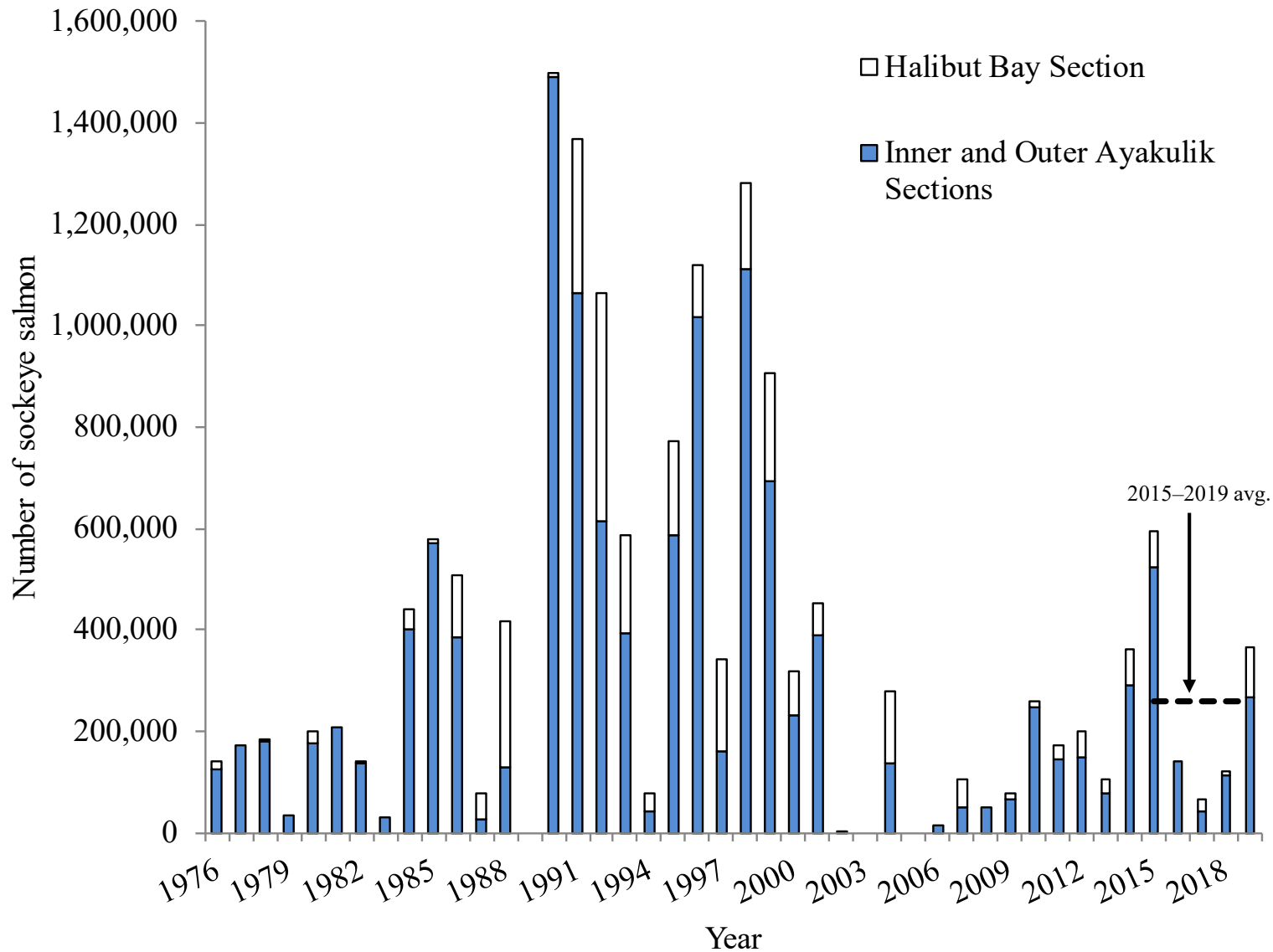
Ayakulik Sockeye Salmon

Achieved goal for the past 11 years; 5-year avg. escapement of 290,000 fish

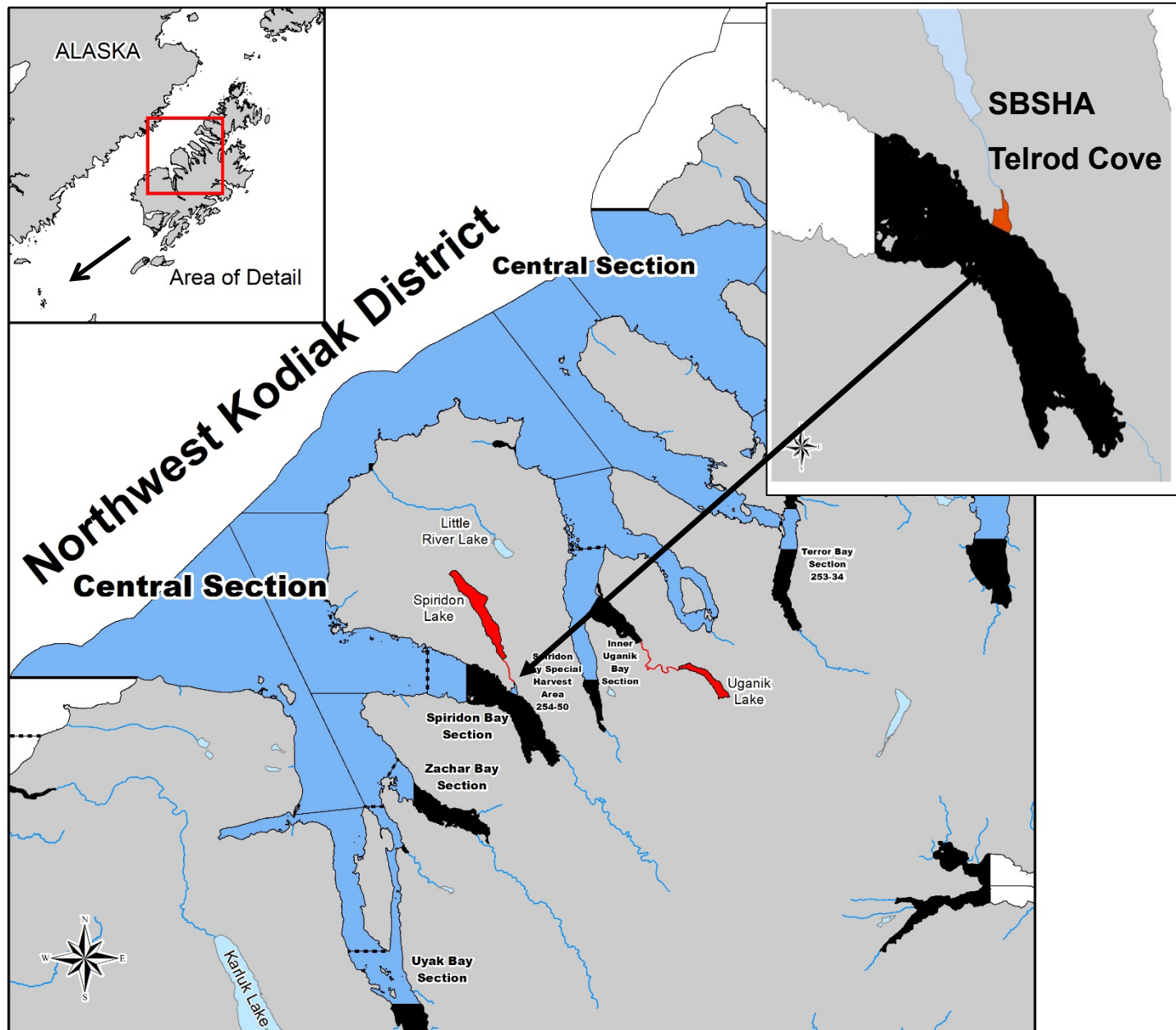


Ayakulik Sockeye Salmon

Variable harvest the past 5 years. 5-year avg. harvest approximately 257,000 sockeye salmon

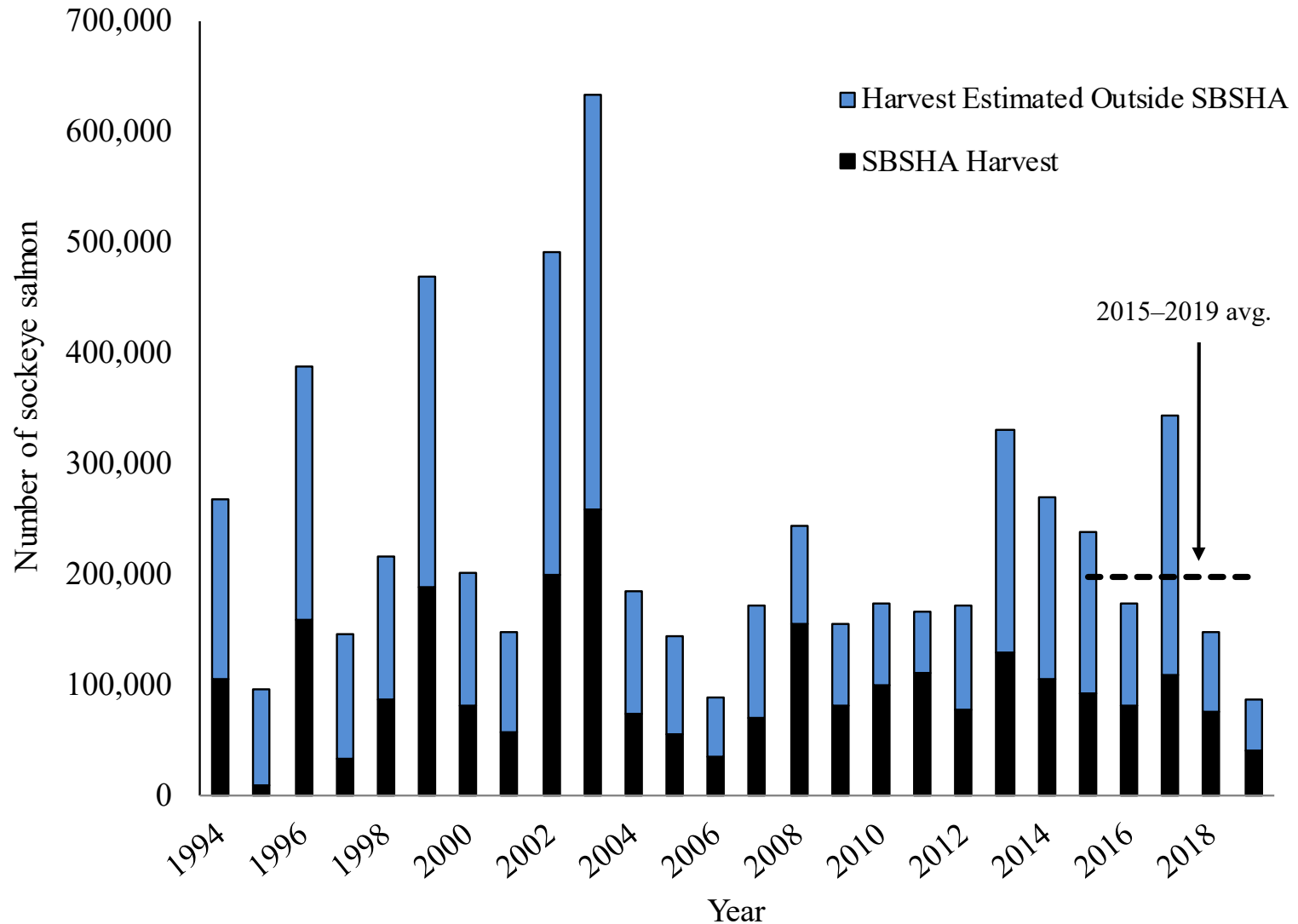


Spiridon Bay Sockeye Salmon

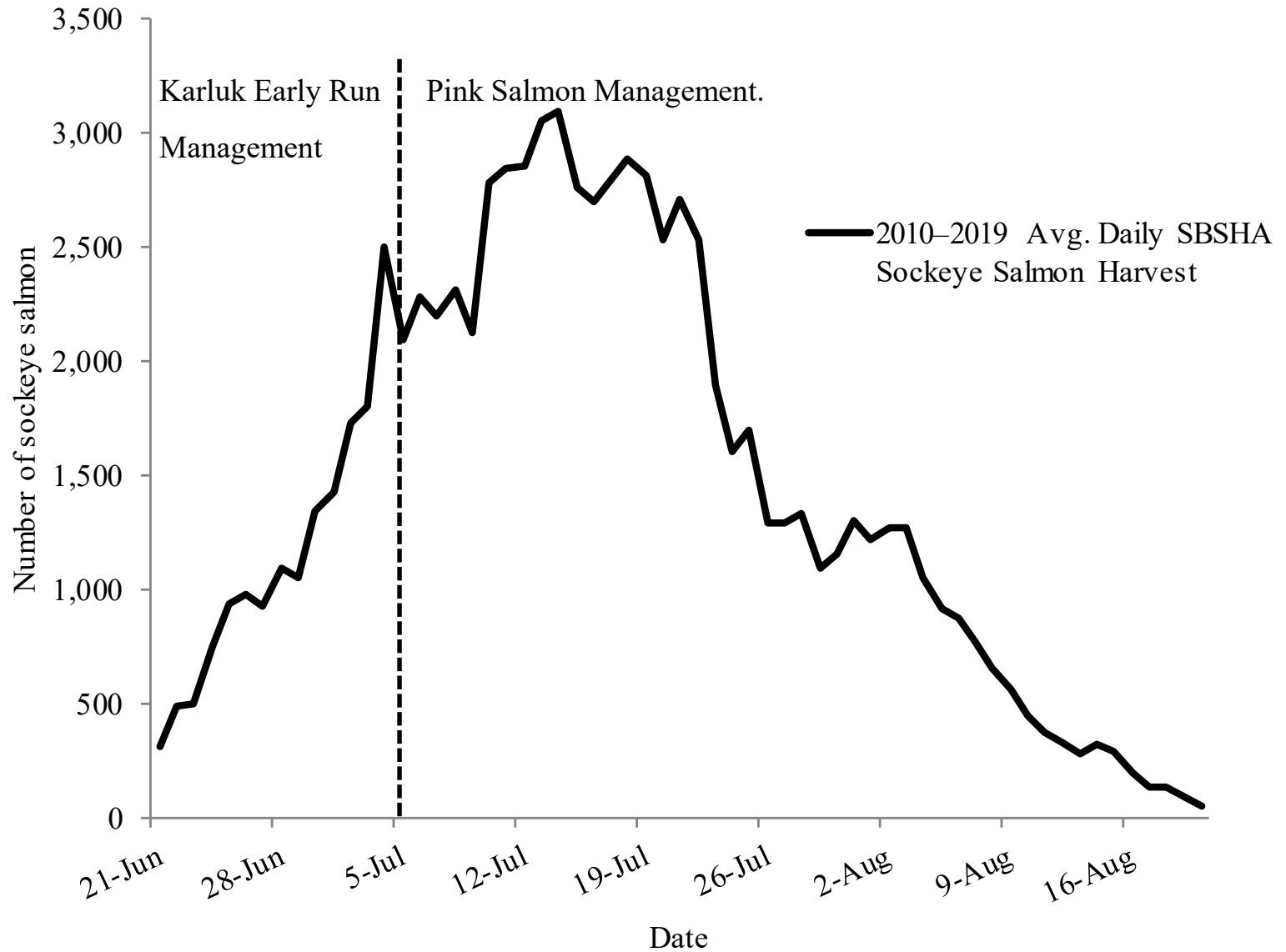


Spiridon Bay Sockeye Salmon Harvest

5-year avg. harvest approximately 198,000 sockeye salmon



10-Year Avg. SBSHA (Telrod Cove) Daily Sockeye Salmon Harvest

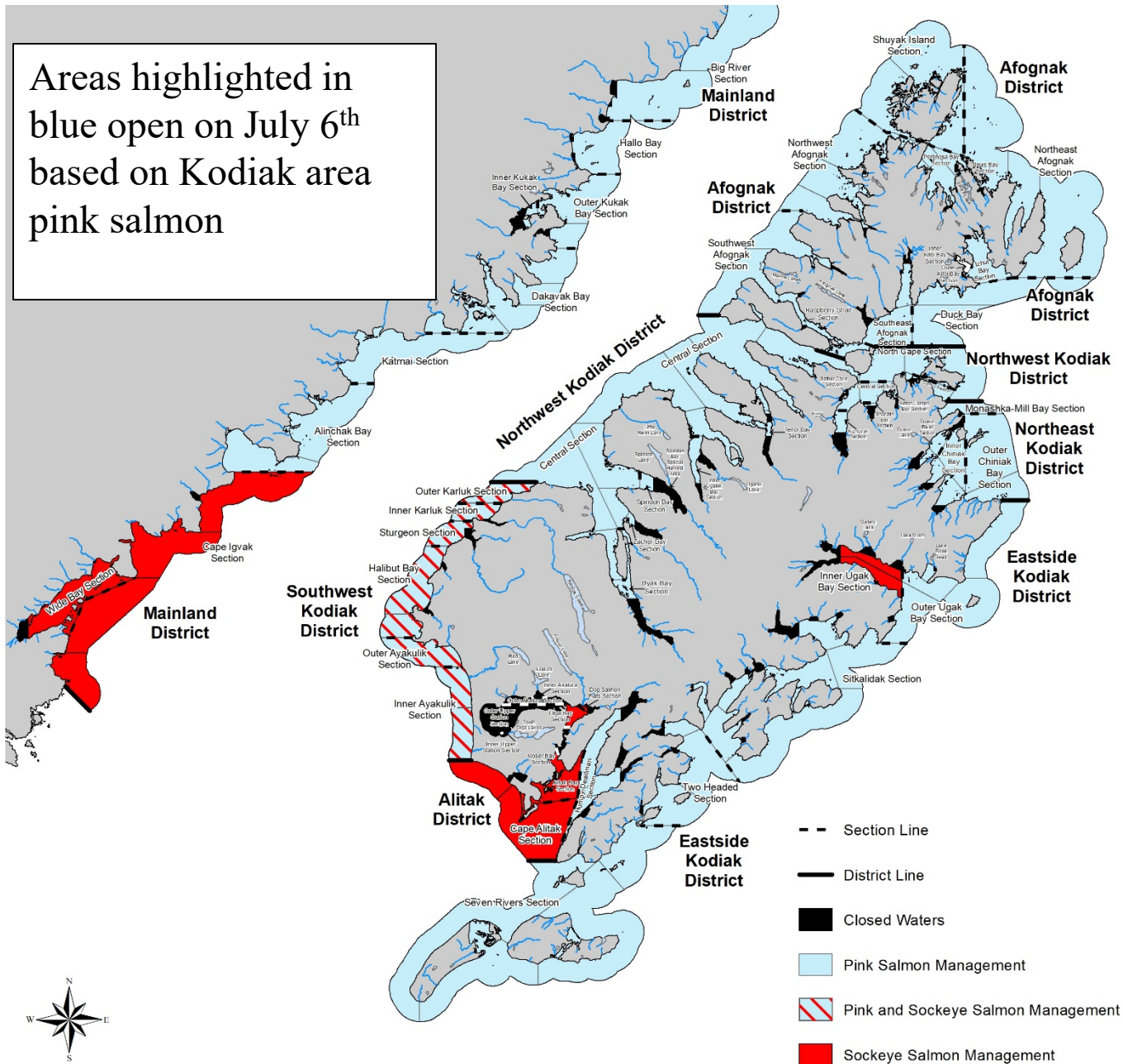


Kodiak Pink Salmon Harvest Strategy

- Area-wide July 6th fixed opening date
- Coordinate as many fisheries as possible to allow for dispersion of the seine fleet

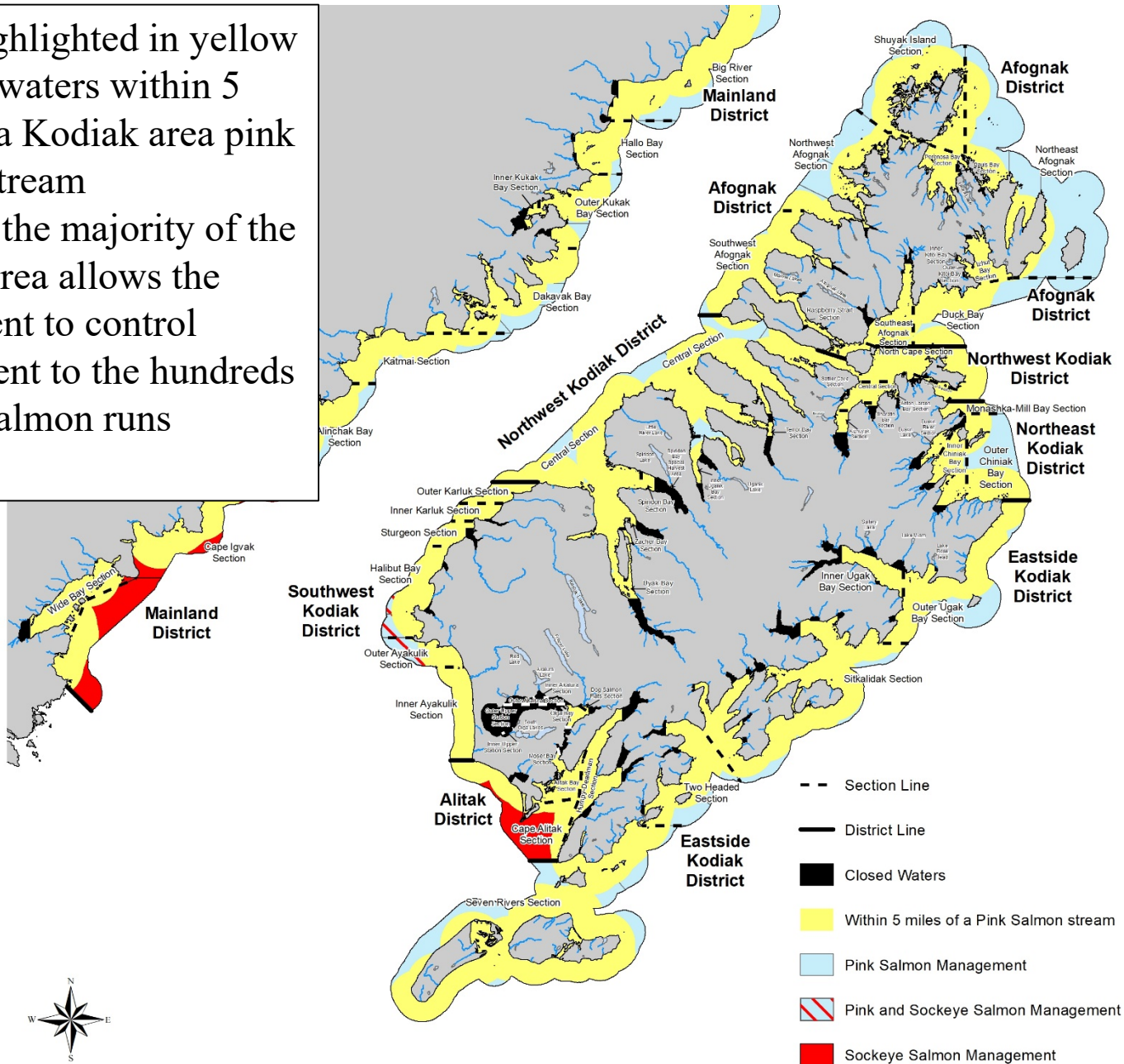
Kodiak Pink Salmon Fishery

Areas highlighted in blue open on July 6th based on Kodiak area pink salmon



Kodiak Pink Salmon Fishery

- Areas highlighted in yellow are state waters within 5 miles of a Kodiak area pink salmon stream
- Opening the majority of the Kodiak area allows the department to control escapement to the hundreds of pink salmon runs

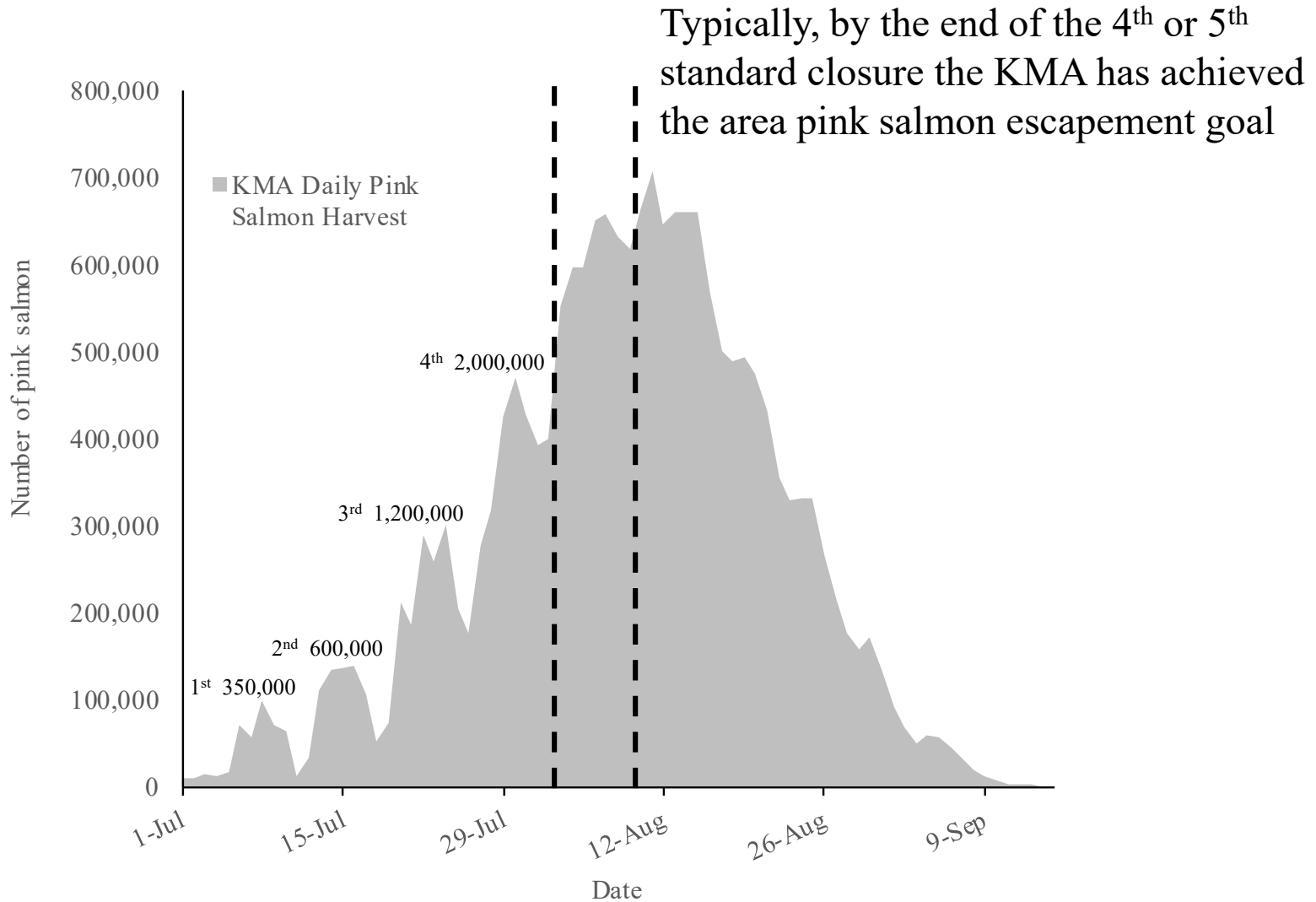


Kodiak Pink Salmon Harvest Strategy

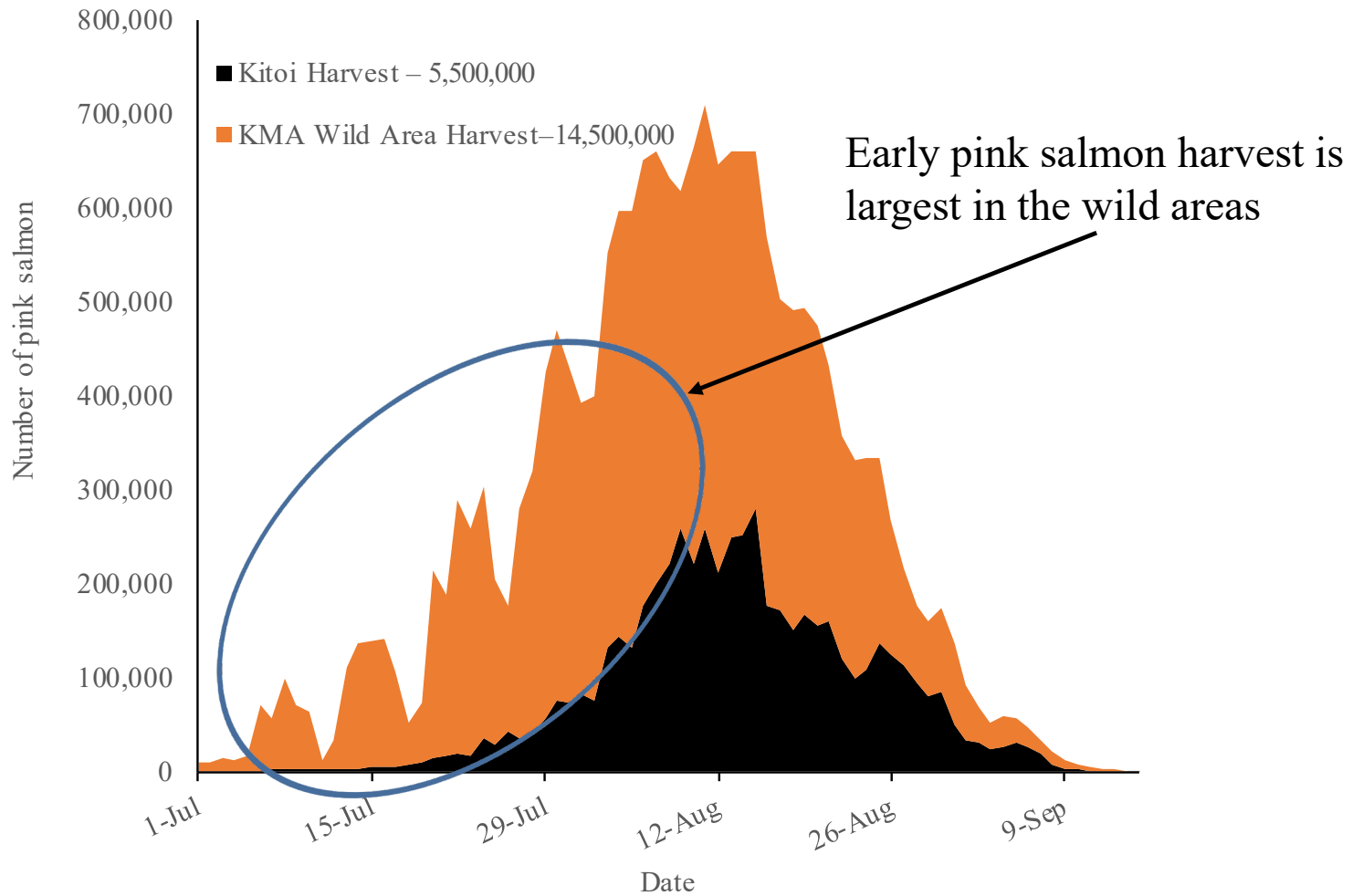
- Areawide July 6th fixed opening date (since 1979; or 40 years)
- Coordinate as many fisheries as possible to allow for dispersion of the seine fleet
- Areawide weekly fishing periods based on wild pink salmon forecast

weak	2 ½ days
average	3 ½ days
strong	4 ½ days
- Start flying escapement surveys at the end of 2nd weekly opening to evaluate pink salmon buildup in KMA's inner bays
- During the peak of the wild pink salmon run (late July to mid-August) fishing time is adjusted based on local pink salmon run strength
- Typically by the end of July, early August the KMA has achieved the lower or midpoint escapement value for pink salmon.

20-Year Average Kodiak Area Pink Salmon Daily Harvest

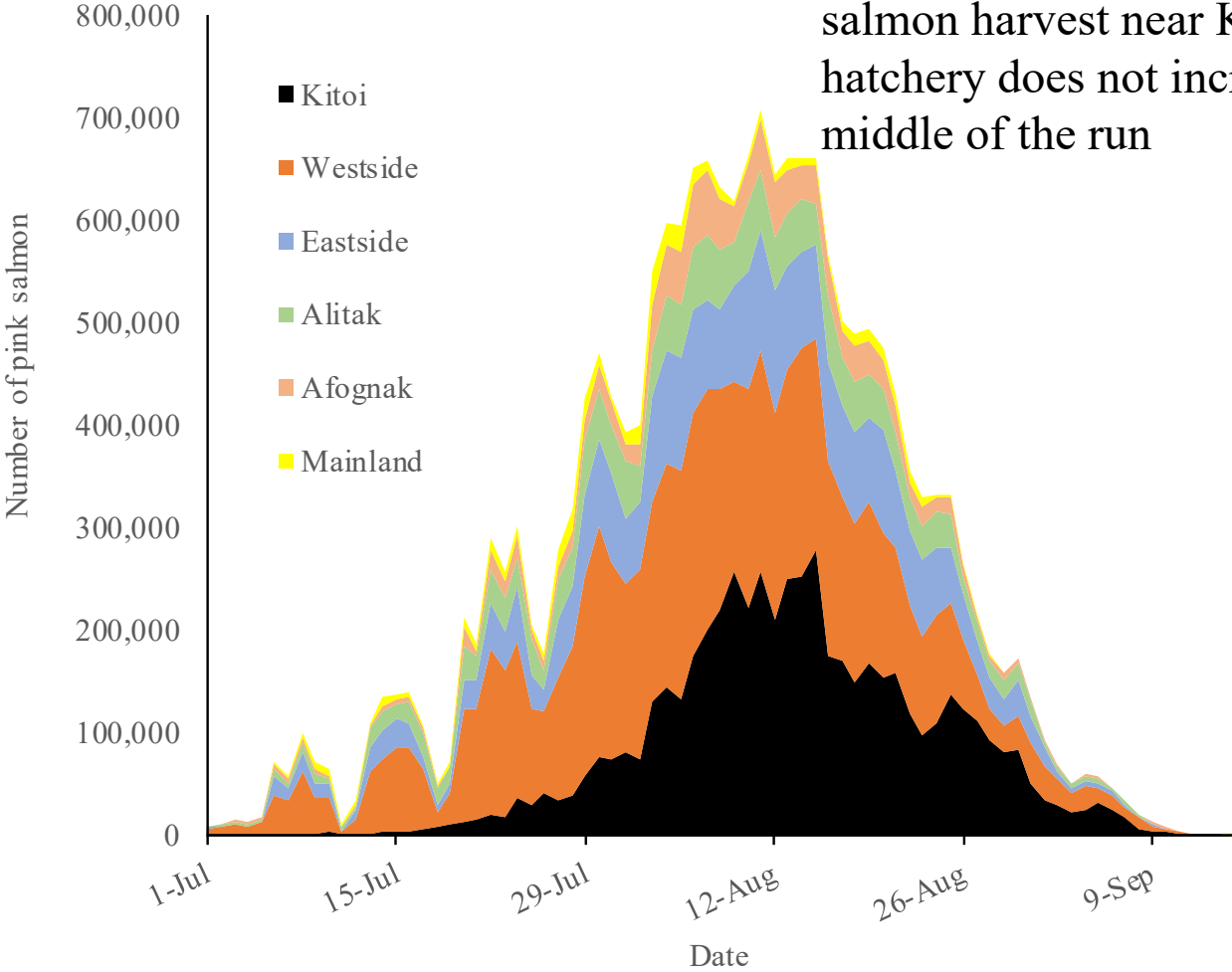


Kodiak Wild Area & Kitoi Hatchery Area Daily Pink Salmon Harvest

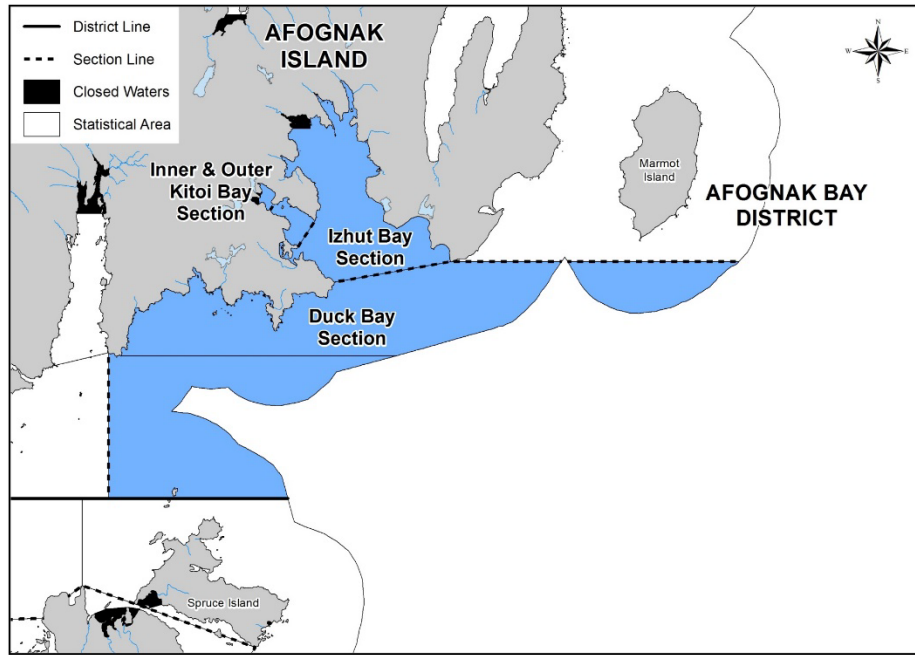


Kodiak Wild Area Pink Salmon Daily Harvest & Kitoi Hatchery Component

Early pink salmon harvest is greatest in the wild areas and pink salmon harvest near Kitoi Bay hatchery does not increase until the middle of the run



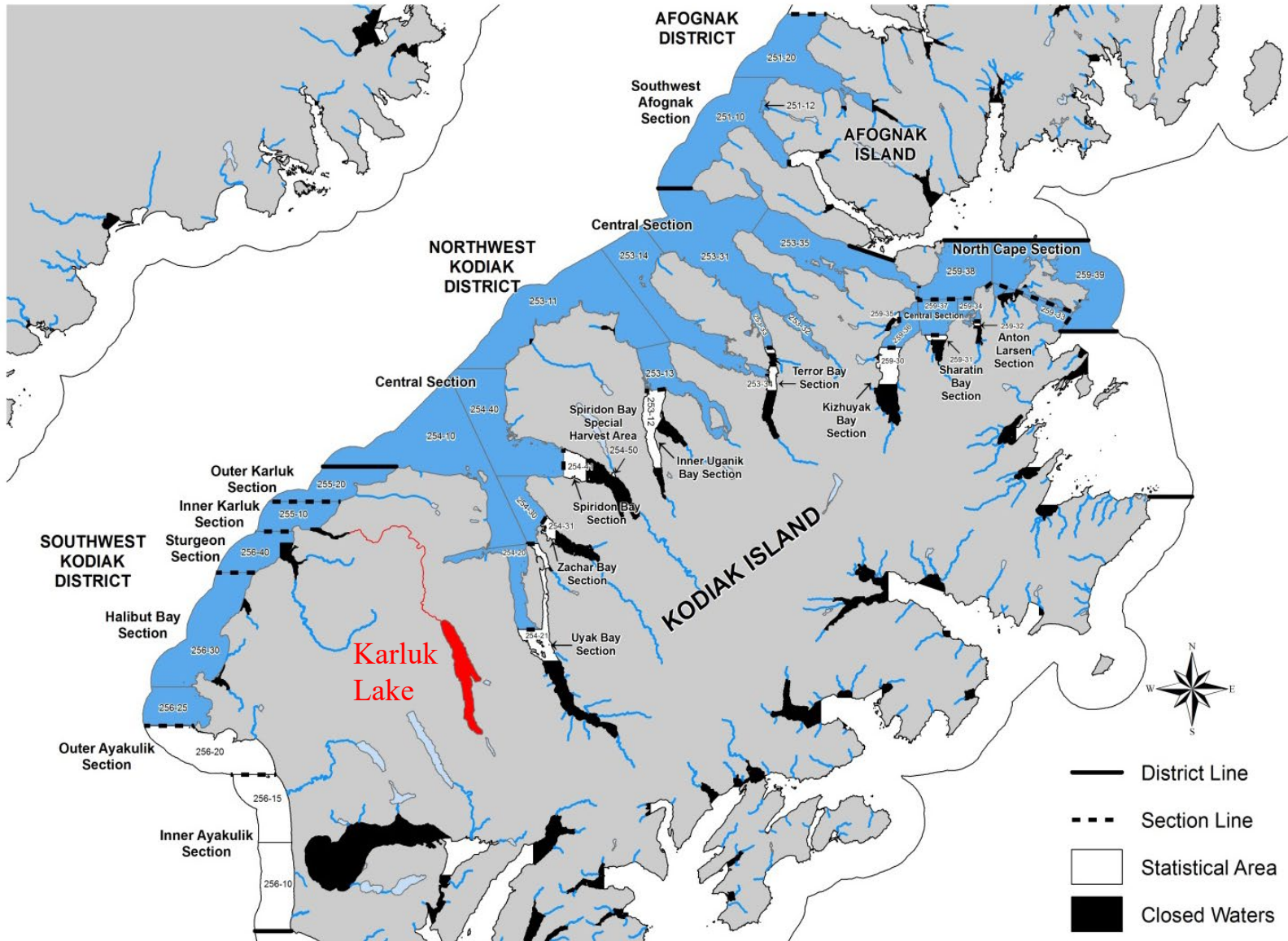
Kitoi Bay Hatchery



- Hatchery areas include Duck Bay, Izhut Bay, Inner Kitoi and Outer Kitoi Bay sections of the Afognak District
- In July the department tries to time hatchery pink salmon openings with weekly wild area pink salmon openings
- All hatchery areas usually close by August 1st
- Cost-recovery fisheries typically begin during the first week of August and take 1 to 3 weeks
- After the cost recovery all the hatchery areas are left open until broodstock is needed

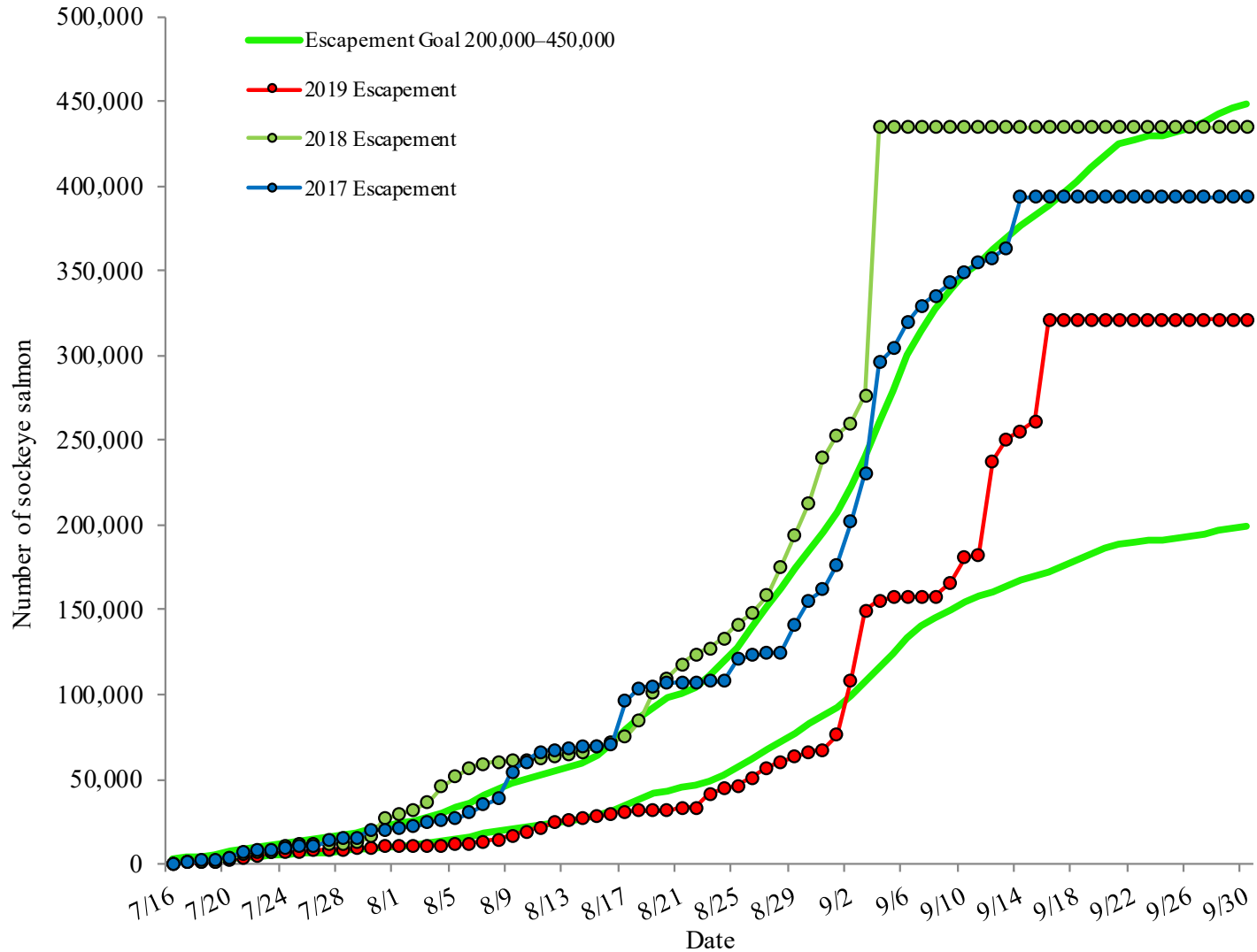
Karluk Late-Run Sockeye Salmon

In late August, the commercial fishery management is again centered around the Northwest Kodiak District & Karluk sections



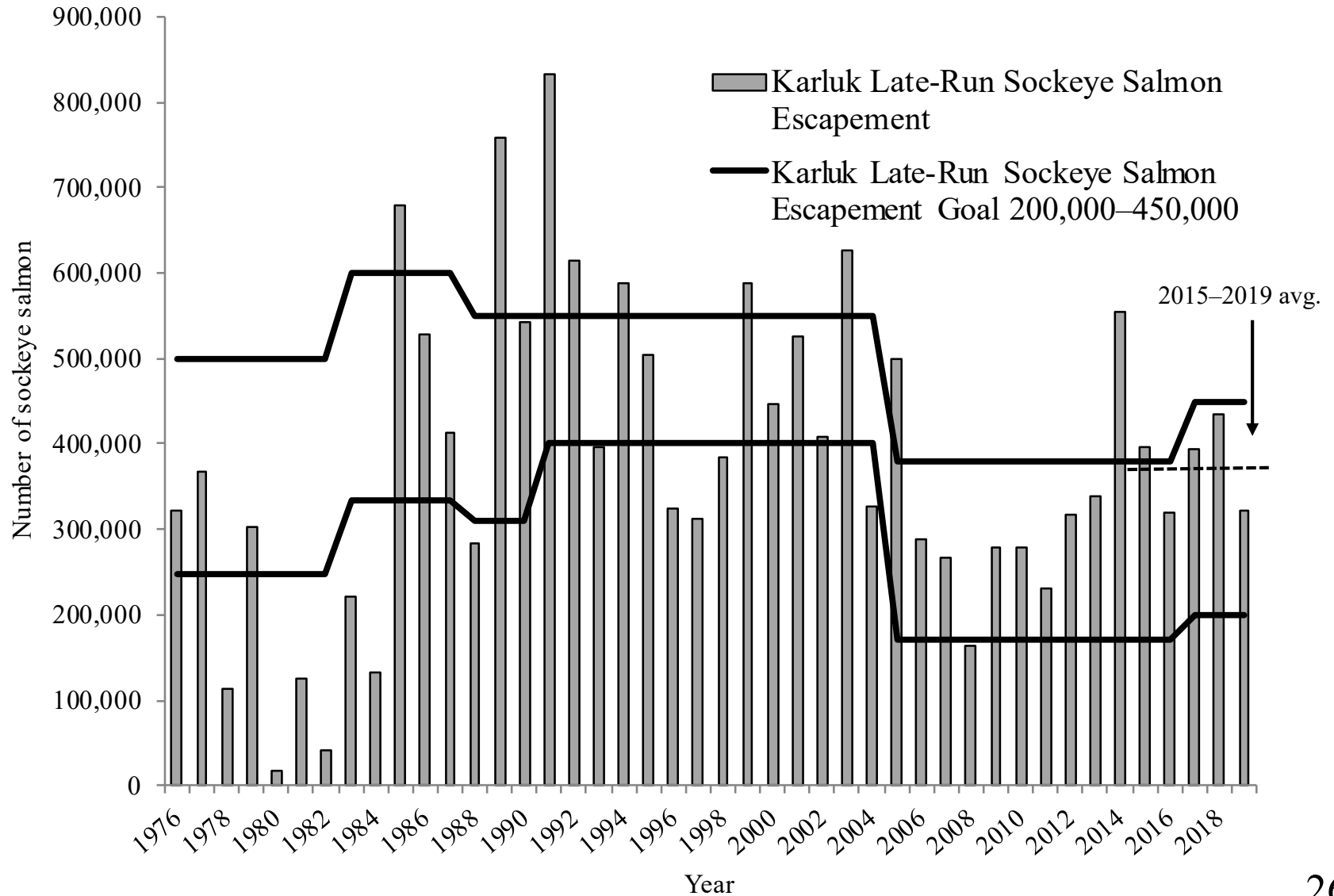
Karluk Late-Run Sockeye Salmon

August 16–Oct 31 commercial fishery managed based on Karluk



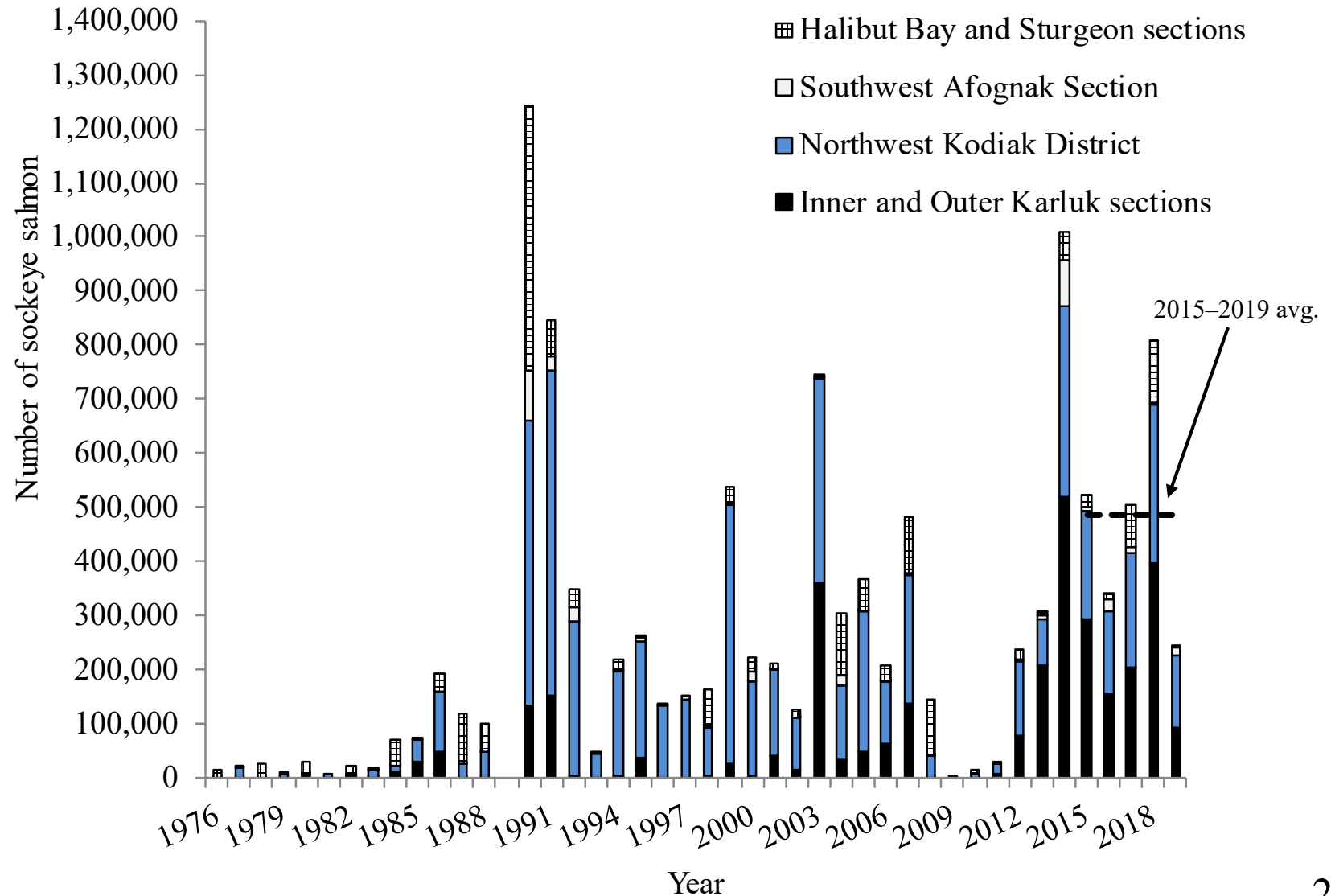
Karluk Late-Run Sockeye Salmon

Achieved goal for the past 11 years; 5-year avg. escapement of 373,000 fish



Karluk Late Run Sockeye Salmon

Variable harvest the past 5 years; 5-year avg. harvest of approximately 484,000 sockeye salmon



Westside Kodiak Proposals

- **Proposal 66:** would create a new Kodiak Area management plan instituting a series of weekly and seasonal sockeye salmon harvest catch limits during Kodiak Area seine fisheries targeting local Kodiak area sockeye, pink, and chum salmon
- **Proposal 67:** would allow monofilament web in the Kodiak commercial salmon set gillnet fishery
- **Proposal 69:** would allow the department to managed the Northwest Kodiak District during the pink salmon fishery based on Northwest Kodiak District pink salmon or on even years Karluk River pink salmon
- **Proposal 70:** would allow the department to managed the Northwest Kodiak District during the pink salmon fishery based on Northwest Kodiak District pink salmon or Karluk River pink salmon

Westside Kodiak Proposals

- **Proposal 71:** would close the inner bay sections of the Northwest Kodiak District until the individual inner bay salmon escapement objectives are met
- **Proposals 72, 74, 75, 77:** would create regulatory closed waters around the mouth of Ayakulik River
- **Proposal 73:** would establish a mandatory 24-hour closure between commercial salmon openings in the Inner Ayakulik Section
- **Proposal 76:** would open the Outer Karluk and Central sections concurrent with the Inner Karluk Section

Questions?