

next 2 or 3 years. It is questionable how effective curtailment of the South Peninsula interceptions will be in solving problems caused by in river fisheries. Tagging and scale analysis indicate the South Peninsula June fisheries intercept chums are originally from a wide variety of areas. This situation has become quite emotional. The South Unimak- Shumagins totaled. 1,862,000 sockeye and 479,000 chums. The average price paid for sockeye was \$.90.9.

115,659 coho were taken in the Shumagin Islands section and 40,101 in the Southwestern district, no escapement data available except for stream surveys which showed very little coho escapement.

The North Peninsula again set a new catch record for sockeye at 2.6 million. There were reports of illegal fishing offshore and in the area above STROGONOF Point. Consequently at least a small amount of the North Peninsula sockeye catch were not destined for local streams. It is felt that most, if not all of the Three Hills-Ilnik sections legal catch is produced by local streams, mainly Bear River. The North Peninsula sockeye catch per river system is as follows: Nelson Lagoon section - 706,346, Bear River - 567,377, Sandy River - 88,673, Three Hills section - 469,267, and Ilnik - 508,887. Vessels participating in Nelson Lagoon fishery were up to 31 vessels.

E.O.s issued: E.O. 4-18 extends commercial salmon fishing time June 16-22 in the Nelson Lagoon section. E.O. 21- allows continuous commercial salmon fishing in the Nelson Lagoon section June 17-27. E.O. 24 - extends commercial salmon fishing in the Three Hills, Bear River, and Nelson Lagoon. E.O. 28 - extends fishing time in Bear River, Three Hills and Ilnik sections until July 6. E.O. 31- extends commercial fishing time in the Bear River, Three Hills, Ilnik and Moller Bay sections.

The North Peninsula herring fishery in Port Moller/Herendeen Bay harvested 716 tons. Thirteen seiners and two gillnet vessels participated. The price per ton was \$ 500.00 for 10 % recovery. The Dutch harbor food and bait herring fishery harvested 3,200 m.t. with a harvest ceiling set by the Board of fish. These herring are taken by purse seine using large 250 fathoms long and approximately 25-35 fathoms deep seines.

The ex-vessel value for herring were as follows: North Peninsula sac roe - \$370,000.00, Dutch Harbor food and bait - \$563,000.00.

1986 - The Shumagins and South Unimak sockeye catches were 474,000 sockeye and 351,000 chums. The 1986 season was the first year that a chum salmon limit had been placed on the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands fisheries. It proved that it's not feasible to catch the target species (sockeye) quota if there is also a substantially low quota on a numerous incidental species (chums).

Coho catch in the Shumagin Islands section was 201,519 and 28,027 in the Southwestern district. No escapement data available except for stream surveys which showed very little coho escapement.

The North Peninsula sockeye salmon catch was the second highest on record. The catch of 2,464,000 sockeye was second to the 1985 catch of 2,601,000. Nelson Lagoon sockeye run was a disappointment. At Uria Bay, fishing effort for sockeye has greatly increased after the record 1984 run. During 1986, effort was intense in the small terminal fishing area, consisting of hand purse seine, drift gillnet, and set gillnet gear. Due to an excellent enforcement program by the Alaska Department of Public Safety in the Port Moller-Port Heiden vicinity, it was feasible to keep the Ilnik section closed during the weekends, while extending fishing time in Three Hills and Bear River sections to harvest Bear River sockeye. There is no doubt that Ilnik sockeye significantly contribute to the fishery in the Ilnik section. THERE HAS BEEN A TENDENCY FOR THE FLEET TO CONCENTRATE MORE IN THE

THREE HILLS AND ILNIK SECTIONS THAN IN THE BEAR RIVER SECTION, DURING RECENT YEARS. FISHING WELL TO THE EAST OF BEAR RIVER, BASICALLY NEAR THE CLOSURE LINE (WHICH IS EITHER CAPE SENIAVIN, THREE HILLS OR STROGONOF POINT), ENABLES FISHERMEN TO CATCH THE FISH AS THEY ARRIVE IN THE OPEN AREA. CONSEQUENTLY FISHING IS OFTEN POOR CLOSE TO THE TERMINAL AREA. During 1973 through 1983, an average of 19% of the Port Moller to STROGONOF Point sockeye catch was caught east of Cape Seniavin. During 1984 through 1986, an annual average of 54% of the Port Moller to Strogonof Point catch was taken east of Cape Seniavin.

DURING 1985, THERE ALLEGEDLY WAS A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF ILLEGAL FISHING BOTH OFFSHORE (FEDERAL LAW PROHIBITS FISHING SALMON WITH NETS BEYOND THREE MILES) AND EAST OF STROGONOF POINT. This caused a considerable outcry from both Alaska Peninsula area and Bristol Bay area fisherman for more enforcement. In 1986, the vessel "Wolstad" (a Department of Public Safety vessel) patrolled this area and the fishery was better managed. HOWEVER, SOME BRISTOL BAY FISHERMEN CHARGE THAT AREA M FISHERMEN INTERCEPTING BRISTOL BAY DESTINED SOCKEYE ARE LEGALLY CAUGHT IN THE THREE HILLS AND ILNIK SECTIONS. The salmon gear on the South side of Alaska Peninsula area during June 1986 was: purse seine - 102, drift gill net - 153, and set gill net - 50. The sockeye catch was as follows: Bear River section - 938,177, Three Hills - 588,501, and Ilnik - 560,339. Average price paid per pound for sockeye \$ 1.40.

E.O.s issued: E.O. 16 - continuous fishing in the Nelson Lagoon until June 26. E.O. 20 - more fishing time in Bear River section. The E.O. extends fishing time in Three Hills, Bear and Moller River sections until June 28. E.O. 24 - extends fishing time in Three Hills, Bear and Moller Bay sections until June 28. The E.O. allows continuous fishing until June 30 in Three Hills, Bear River, and Moller Bay, this also includes Ilnik. E.O. extend fishing time in the Bear River, Three Hills and Moller Bay sections until July 10. The ex-vessel estimated value of the herring fisheries were as follows: North Peninsula sac-roe - \$489,000.00, Eastern Aleutians (Dutch Harbor) food and bait - \$634,000.00. The North Peninsula/Moller herring fishery had sixty-

one purse seine vessels participating.

1987 - In the June South Unimak and Shumagin Island fisheries in 1986, the fishery had a 400,000 chum cap was in place. Also in the fall of 1986, three Board of Fish members resigned at the Board of Fish meeting. A tagging program was carried out during 1987 indicating that chums go to a variety of places after passing the South Peninsula in June. The Yukon River fall contributions was small during this year. Details of the study will be printed in a later Alaska Department of Fish and Game publication. The sockeye catch in the South Unimak-Shumagin Island June fishery was 1,107,000 sockeye and 470,000 chums.

South Peninsula coho harvest was 224,000. Most of the catch was taken during July and August when pink and chum salmon were the target species. The September coho catch was 23,000. Escapement information was very incomplete.

1988 The North Peninsula sockeye salmon catch was 1.2 million (lowest since 1978). During the fall season, 17 Area T vessels in addition to the local Port Heiden fleet fished the overlap area off Port Heiden down to Three Hills. The Bear River section west of Sandy River was closed effective July 3 until July 13. The reason was to protect fish that gathered in the terminal area during the weekend closures until adequate escapement counts were achieved, but still allowed the fleet to work on fish coming into the area. The Ilnik action was not extended because of poor sockeye escapement estimated at 17,400. **The Ilnik section is receiving more fishing pressure. The set gillnet fishery in the lagoon is expanding with effort mainly targeted on Unangashak River stocks. THE NUMBER OF DRIFTNETTERS FISHING OUTSIDE THE SEAL ISLANDS IS INCREASING AND MAY DRASTICALLY INCREASE DURING THE FALL IF LARGE NUMBERS OF AREA T FISHERMAN MOVE INTO THE ILNIK SECTION.** The price paid per pound of sockeye salmon was \$1.64.7.

The Dutch Harbor food and bait herring fishery has an harvest of 3,200 m.t., and a limited harvest which has been in effect since 1983. The ex-vessel estimated value was as follows: North Peninsula sac-roe - \$ 350,000.00 and Eastern Aleutians (Dutch Harbor food and bait) - \$750,000.00. The North Peninsula/Moller herring fishery had 40 purse seine vessels participate in 1987.

1988 - During the spring Board of Fish meeting, a 500,000 chum cap was placed on the June South Unimak- Shumagin Island fisheries. In 1988, the South Unimak sockeye harvest was reduced by approximately 669,000 fish by the 500,000 chum cap.

This reduction is in addition to the estimated reduction of 117,000 sockeye that would have been caused by other restrictions (hours fished). The Shumagin fishery harvested its 1988 sockeye allocation.

Shumagin Island coho catch was 351,362 and the Southwestern catch was 84,980 an all time record of 506,000. Coho escapement information is very incomplete, but based on available information was probably in the 50,000 to 100,000 range. In streams where coho counts are not available, estimates are based on streams where data exists. The factors

contributing to the high incidental catches of sockeye and coho during July were: 1. A very high abundance of both sockeye and coho along the South Peninsula. 2. Prior to 1986 very little fishing effort was evident on the west side of Unga Island.

The North Peninsula catch for 1988 was 1,528,000 sockeye. The Ilnik section at Strogonof Point harvested 487,014 sockeye. Sandy and Bear Rivers had a catch of 444,016, and Three Hills section's catch was 258,983. The Strogonof Point fishery is becoming a source of controversy as Area T fishermen feel many of the fish are destined for Bristol Bay area spawning grounds. A stock separation study (using scale pattern analysis) is being done for the first time, however the 1988 results won't be available for at least several months. The average price paid for sockeye salmon was \$ 2.37 a pound.

E.O.s issued: 4-f-m-12 extends fishing in the Ilnik section June 12-18. E.O. 23 closed the commercial salmon fishing season in that portion of Bear River section located between a point 2,000 yards northeast of Sandy River and a point 1,000 yards southwest of King Salmon River.

Justification: The Bear River sockeye escapement is only 8,000. Closing the area from Sandy River to King Salmon River will protect the fish in the terminal area until an adequate number enter the river while allowing the fleet to harvest incoming fish. E.O. 24 June 28, reopens commercial salmon season between King Salmon and Sandy River, extends commercial salmon fishing until June 30 in the Ilnik lagoon section. E.O. extends commercial fishing time in the Bear River, Three Hills and Moller Bay until July 1. E.O. 26 July 1 extends commercial salmon fishing time in Three Hills, Bear River, and Moller Bay until July 7. E.O. July 6 extends fishing time in the Ilnik section 24 hours during July and also allows continuous fishing until July 14 in the Bear River, Three Hills, and Moller Bay sections. E.O. July 13 closed the commercial salmon season in the Bear River section after July 12. Justification: Bear River is lagging in escapement, daily escapements have been under 2,500 fish. This closure protects fish in the terminal area while allowing fishermen to harvest fish entering the area through the Three Hills and Ilnik sections.

In 1988, the Alaska Board of Fish implemented a Bering Sea Herring Fisheries Management Plan which established a criteria for calculating the Dutch Harbor food and bait quota. The 1988, Dutch Harbor food and bait fisher quota was 3,100 tons. Seven seine and one gillnet vessel participated. The ex-vessel value for this fishery was \$505,000.00 or \$252.00 per ton. The North Peninsula sac roe fishery was worth \$235,000.00 to nine seiners. Average price was \$1,000 a ton for 10% roe recovery.

1989 In the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands fishermen harvested their June sockeye allocations. In 1989, the sockeye allocations were exceeded due to a very high sockeye abundance. Also in 1989, large numbers of immature sockeye salmon were reported in the Shumagins during late June. However, monitoring by a Department of Public Safety vessel indicated that the number of immature salmon was low (25-20 per set) during the July 6-7 fishery. During July 12 however, large numbers (200 per set) of immature sockeye were observed by ADF&G, resulting in the closure of the Shumagin Islands seine fishery. On July 25, approximately 15 immature salmon were observed per set and it was decided to allow the fishery to continue. This was the first time since 1979 that

immature salmon being gilled in seines was a problem in the Shumagin Islands. In years previous to 1979, when immature salmon plagues the Shumagin purse seine fishery were: 1963, 1968, 1969 and 1974.

July-August coho catch was the second highest on record. Major coho harvest areas were the Shumagins 243,000, South Unimak 168,000 and Balboa-Stepovak 70,000. The Shumagin coho catch likely would have gone another 60,000 had seining not been closed due to presence of immature salmon during July 13-14. Approximately 266,000 (64%) of the South Peninsula July-August coho catch was taken during July 25-August 5. Coho escapement information is very incomplete, however based on what information that was collected, the total South Peninsula 1989 escapement was probably in the 25,000 to 75,000 range.

The North Peninsula sockeye catch was 1,719,000. Approximately 1.3 million sockeye were harvested between Port Moller and Strogonof Point. The Nelson Lagoon catch was 325,000. In 1989, the Alaska Board of Fish limited locations in the Alaska Peninsula Area that Area T permit holders could operate in Ilnik Lagoon, Inner Port Heiden section, and Cinder River section. The average price paid for sockeye was \$ 1.59.8 a pound.

E.O.s issued: 14 - June 14 extends commercial fishing an additional 6 hours in the Ilnik section. E.O. June 21, extends fishing period 48 hours in Ilnik section. E.O. June 26-18- Extends commercial fishing June 25-July 1 in the Ilnik , Nelson Lagoon sections. E.O. July 3 closed fishing period in Bear River, Three Hills and Moller Bay. E.O. 27 July 9 closes the commercial salmon fishing season in the Ilnik section after July 9.

Regulation changes by the Alaska Board of Fish in the January 1990 meeting: Maximum depth of seines is 375 meshes and mesh size may not exceed 3-1/2 inches. Lead may not be less than 50 fathoms and no more than 150 fathoms in length. Drift nets may not exceed 90 meshes in depth in Unimak and Southwestern districts. In the Northwestern and Northern districts drift gillnets may not exceed 70 meshes in depth, except in the Nelson Lagoon section where drift gillnets may not exceed 29 meshes through August 15, or more than 38 meshes in depth after August 15. In the Unimak , Southwestern, South Central and Southeastern Districts, the maximum depth of set gillnets shall not be over 90 meshes. The chum cap was raised to 600,000 from 500,000. The fishing periods during June in the Bear River and Three Hills sections was reduced 24 hours to 6:00 A.M. Monday until 6:00 P.M. Wednesday. The season in that portion of the Ilnik section located between Loran C line 990-Y-33265 and Strogonof Point will not open Until July 15. There is no open season in the Outer Port Heiden section. Area T Permits are no longer valid in the Outer Port Heiden section and that portion of the Ilnik section not enclosed by the Seal Islands. The Dutch Harbor food and bait herring fishery produced a catch of 3,100 tons by seven seine and one gillnet vessel. The ex-vessel value was \$873,100. The North Peninsula sac roe fishery ex-vessel value was \$113,000.

1989 1990, sockeye were not available in large numbers (this may have been partly due to the

reduction in gear depth) at either the Shumagins or South Unimak, despite the Bristol Bay fishery experiencing one of its largest runs on record. The Shumagin Islands sockeye harvest was 256,000 compared to a guideline harvest level of 240,000. At South Unimak, the harvest was 1,091,000. A total of 64,000 chums were caught in the Shumagin Islands and 455,000 were caught at South Unimak for a combined total of 519,000.

248,000 coho were caught in the South Peninsula Post-June fishery. Coho escapement information is incomplete but a substantial number of systems were surveyed. Over 50,000 coho were documented in South Peninsula streams as escapement.

Editors note: The chum cap is working. Chum reduction is occurring and Peninsula fishermen are within the range. The North Peninsula sockeye harvest of 2,415,900 was the third highest on record. Sandy River was not reaching escapement goal of 20-30,000. The catch break-down is as follows: Bear and Sandy River - 756,561, Three Hills section - 189,248 and Ilnik - 753,000 sockeye. Average price per pound for sockeye \$ 1.53.4.

E.O.s issued: 23 - June 24- closes Bear River between the South regulatory marker at King Salmon River and the North regulatory marker at Sandy River. Justification: Bear River escapement at 4,000. E.O. June 28 - extends fishing time 24 hours in Nelson Lagoon. E.O. July 2 - closes salmon fishing until further notice in the Bear River, Three Hills and Moller Bay until further notice. E.O. July 4 - extends salmon fishing time until July 7 in Ilnik Lagoon. E.O. 33 July 5 - extends fishing time 24 hours in Nelson Lagoon. E.O. 34 - July 6- continuous commercial salmon fishing until July 12 in Nelson Lagoon section. E.O.36 - July 8- allows continuous fishing until July 11 in Moller Bay up to cape Seniavin. E.O.37 - July 12 allows continuous fishing until July 26 in Nelson Lagoon section. E.O. 38 July 11- allows continuous fishing in the Moller Bay, Ilnik, Three Hills sections. In 1990, the Dutch Harbor food and bait herring fishery harvested 820 tons of herring at \$350.00 a ton for an ex-vessel value of \$287,000.00.

1990 - The Shumagin Islands June sockeye salmon fishery harvest was 333,000, slightly under the allocation of 347,000. A total of 102,000 chum salmon were harvested in the Shumagins. The South Unimak June sockeye salmon catch was 1,216,000, which was well under the guideline harvest level of 1,573,000. The reason for the guideline harvest level not being reached was the chum salmon cap being exceeded. The South Unimak chum harvest was 669,000.

320,000 coho were caught along the South Peninsula in July through late August. Most coho salmon are caught incidental to fishing periods targeting pink and chum salmon during July and early August. Due to high numbers of coho present in shumagin test net sets, and a high drift gill net harvest at South Unimak it appeared that summer coho salmon abundance was high. Had the seine fishery not been curtailed by the presence of immature salmon, a record coho salmon harvest may have occurred. This year the BOF changed the management plan for the post June fisheries. No data on escapement.

The North Peninsula sockeye catch was 2,392,100 sockeye. Approximately 44 percent of the total North Peninsula sockeye salmon harvest was taken in the Bear River section. The combined Three Hills and Ilnik sections harvest accounted for 36 percent of the total harvest. Ilnik and Strogonof Point catch was 610,975, Three Hills catch was 253,880, and Bear and Sandy Rivers catch was 1,044,665. Average price paid per pound of sockeye was \$1.13.6. The Alaska Board of fish in its regulation change process and 1991 November and March 1992 meeting made the following changes: Increased the chum cap from 600,000 to 700,000. Increased the maximum gill net depth to 90 meshes in the Northwestern District. Eliminated gill net mesh size restriction in the Bear River after July 20.

E.O.s issued: E.O. 08-June 19- extends commercial fishing time in the Ilnik section, E.O. June 26-14- extends commercial fishing 54 hours in Ilnik section and 24 hours in Nelson Lagoon section. E.O. 15 June 28-allows continuous fishing in Ilnik Lagoon June 28 to July 31. E.O. 16 July 1- closes Bear River section between the south regulatory marker at King Salmon River and the North regulatory marker of Sandy River. Justification: The Bear River sockeye escapement will be slightly less than the goal of 60,000 through June 30. Increasing the closure in the terminal area will allow fish to escape into the river while letting the fleet to harvest incoming fish. E.O. 19 July 6- allows continuous fishing in Moller Bay, Bear River and Three Hills sections and continuous fishing until July 31 in the Ilnik system.

The Dutch Harbor food and bait herring fishery was allocated 931 tons of herring. However, 1,325 tons were taken by eight seiners. The ex-vessel value was \$397,500.00 and fishermen were paid \$300.00 a ton.

1992 - The North Peninsula sockeye catch was 3,575,000, again setting a new record. The majority of the harvest (87%) occurred within the Port Moller to Strogonof Point fisheries (3,098,472 salmon). Bear River's catch was 1,398,257, and approximately 39% of the total 1992 North Peninsula harvest occurred in the Bear River section. 52% of the Bear River section harvest occurred post July 15. **The 1992 catch in the Three Hills section was 959,223 sockeye with the peak catch occurring during the week of June 28-July 4 when 487,00 sockeye were harvested. Sockeye harvest in the Three Hills section accounted for 27% of the total North Peninsula catch. Prior to July 16, the Ilnik section is managed on the basis of Ilnik River sockeye through the weir. Post July 15, the section is managed using Bear River stocks. However, if a conservation concern is found in either the Bear River or Ugashik River (Bristol Bay Management Area) prior to July 15, then time and area closures may be considered.** The portion of the Ilnik section from Three Hills to Unangashak Bluffs was scheduled to open to commercial salmon fishing on July 5. However, inside Ilnik Lagoon, which is predominantly a small set gillnet fishery, was open to commercial salmon fishing prior to July 5. The first commercial opening outside Ilnik Lagoon occurred from July 6 through July 8 in which about 510,000 sockeye were harvested in 2.5 days. At this time Ilnik River escapement began to lag slightly and Ugashik River escapement appeared to be considerably later than usual. Based on these two circumstances, the Ilnik section was closed in order to achieve escapement objectives. The next opening was July 15 for the entire Ilnik section. The season catch in the Ilnik section was 740,992

sockeye, which represents 21% of the North Peninsula catch. Nelson Lagoon harvest was 378,707 sockeye.

The South Unimak-Shumagin Islands chum cap was raised by the Alaska Board of Fish from 600,000 fish to 40 percent of the sockeye salmon allocation and the cap was not to exceed 900,000 chums. An error in the 1987 tagging study was discovered and the chum cap was reduced back to a 700,000 chum cap in March 1992.

Although coho salmon are harvested through September, most South Peninsula coho salmon are harvested incidentally while fisheries are targeting pink and chum salmon during mid-July to mid-late August. This year the department took a new approach in discussing and presenting post June fisheries from prior annual management reports. 386,000 coho was caught during the post June South Peninsula fisheries. Catch statistics indicate an increasing catch of coho salmon by set gillnet fishers. Escapement data is not collected annually. Using expansion factors for sockeye and coho salmon the area-under-the-curve method is used to determine pink and chum salmon escapements, the South Peninsula estimated total escapement was 41,690 coho. The Shumagin Island fishery was closed July 15-28 due to the presence of immature salmon (mostly sockeye). The catch from the July 5-20 harvest in locations outside of the Southeastern District Mainland and the terminal location where the BOF allowed fishing prior to July 20 was approximately 44,000 coho, this is the area between Kupreanof and McGinty Point.

The harvest allocation was South Unimak - 1,959,000 sockeye and the Shumagin Islands - 432,000 sockeye. The 1992 Shumagin Island allocation was exceeded by 44,000 sockeye and the fishery could not open until June 26. The South Unimak fishery was open eight days for a total of 139 hours and produced a catch of 2,046,022 sockeye and 323,891 chum salmon. The combined South Unimak- Shumagin Islands June harvest was 2,457,856 sockeye and 426,203 chum salmon, well below the 700,000 chum salmon cap, but exceeding the sockeye allocation by 66,856 salmon. 1992 was the year of immature salmon of three species: sockeye, king salmon and chum's. Large numbers were caught in the commercial fisheries (100-176 per set) during some opening. On July 10, immature average 58 per set, on July 11, the average was 70. By July 15, the average of immature salmon became a real problem in the Shumagin Islands section averaging 301 per set, and during subsequent fishing periods from July 17-28 only set net gear was allowed. On July 27, test fishing resulted in 92 immature salmon per set then purse seine gear was allowed commercial fish in the South Peninsula. On July 28, during the commercial opening an average of 100 immature salmon per set was observed and purse seining was again closed in the Shumagin Islands. July 29, the catch of immature salmon had decreased to an acceptable level and purse seining was again allowed. Average price per pound \$1.62.9 for sockeye.

1993 - The South Peninsula salmon harvest was 14,899,999 salmon and comprised of 14,413 chinook, 3,689,074 sockeye, 220,000 coho, 9,928,107 pink and 1,048,277 chums. The 1993, the combined catch was the third largest catch since 1908. The sockeye catch was a record breaker. The coho catch was the lowest in the past 10-years. The pink harvest was the third largest and the

chum harvest was the second lowest since 1980. Few coho are harvested during June (most are caught incidentally from mid-July through mid-August while fisheries are targeting pink and chum salmon). These coho are migrant salmon bound for area's unknown.

The coho catch 220,000 was the lowest in the past 10-years. The pink harvest was the third largest and the chum harvest was the second lowest since 1980. Few coho are harvested during June (most are caught incidentally from mid-July through mid-August while fisheries are targeting pink and chum salmon). These coho are migrant salmon bound for area's unknown. Using the expansion factors for coho, the South Peninsula total estimated escapement was 16,608.

The North Peninsula sockeye salmon harvest of 3,868,000 fish set a new harvest record. The previous record was 3,576,000 sockeye salmon in 1992. The area between Port Moller and Strogonof Point accounted for 3,340,000 sockeye harvested. The Nelson Lagoon sockeye harvest was 453,000 fish. Sockeye prices ranged from \$. 80 - 1.05 a pound and then dropped to \$.70-.90 a pound for sockeye.

1994 - The South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Fisheries were 8.3% of the inshore Bristol Bay forecast. This total was 3,586,000 salmon (2,938,000 fish for the South Unimak fishery and 648,000 for the Shumagin Islands fishery). The chum harvest ceiling was 700,000. During the Alaska Board of Fish March meeting, the time period guideline harvest level periods were eliminated and the board allowed fishing prior to June 13 (ADF&G later issued a news release stating the fishery would not open prior to June 13, 1994).

The combined sockeye harvest was only about 41% of the allocation. According to fishers, the reasons for the low harvest were cold inshore water temperatures, unusual currents, and constant NW winds. The combined chum harvest was 118,074 salmon, below the 700,000 cap.

South Peninsula Post June Fisheries remained closed until July 20. Test fishing in the Shumagin Islands section prior to the July 20 general fishing period indicated that although immature salmon were present, they were not abundant enough to warrant closure of South Peninsula fisheries to purse seine gear. A general South Peninsula period was announced for July 20 but a price dispute delayed purse seine effort until July 24. On July 24, ADF&G observers noted excessive incidental catches of immature salmon and the Shumagin Islands section was closed to commercial salmon fishing with purse seine gear until July 29. The coho catch in the South Peninsula fisheries was 255,905.

The coho catch in the South Peninsula fisheries was 255,905. South Peninsula escapement of coho, zero. July 20 through August 1 177,290 coho were caught, most of these were migrating coho based on run timing.

The North Peninsula salmon harvest was: 2,751,158 sockeye, 241,303 coho's, and 18,646 chinook. The chinook salmon harvest was above the 1984-93 average harvest of 15,800. Almost half of the 1994 harvest occurred in the Port Heiden section (8,100), followed by Nelson Lagoon (3,700), the Port Moller/Strogonof Point (3,400) and Cinder River (2,400).

2.35 million and was the third largest on record. The bulk of the 1994 sockeye harvest

occurred in the Port Moller to Strogonof Point (2.38 million) and Nelson Lagoon (325,000) areas.

The North Peninsula sockeye harvest of 2.75 million exceeded the 1984-93 average harvest of The 1984-93 average sockeye harvest in the Port Moller to Strogonof Point was 1,890,550 and 316,000 in Nelson Lagoon. The coho salmon harvest of 241,000 fish was above the 1984-93 harvest of 186,000 fish and was the largest on record. The harvests were: Nelson Lagoon fishers harvested 62,000 fish, Port Moller to Strogonof Point was 49,000 and Port Heiden fishers harvested 33,000 coho. Cinder River fishermen harvested 90,000 coho (these fishers are Bristol Bay Area T fishermen). Coho catch and escapement into the Nushagak and Togiak River systems is so weak that closures of sport, subsistence and commercial fishing prevailed.

1995 Editors Note - In the Nushagak River total closures of commercial, subsistence and sport fishing for coho was again implemented. The total run was 46,340 coho. This has cost the Nushagak River fishermen roughly 945,000 sockeye in the last two years to over escapement into the Wood River system.

The post June coho harvest was 254,686. Coho salmon due to their late run timing are not generally surveyed for escapement data.

The North Peninsula sockeye harvest of 3.27 million was the third largest on record. The projected preseason harvest was 2.7 million sockeye. The bulk of the harvest occurred in the Port Moller to Strogonof Point (which includes the Bear River, Three Hills and Ilnik sections and Nelson Lagoon. The sockeye harvest in the Bear River section was 1.54 million sockeye, Three Hills 0.93 million and the Ilnik section 0.32. Escapement into the Ilnik River was 39,000 sockeye. The coho harvest was 135,000 and because of limited funding no escapement monitoring was done.

1996-South Peninsula Post June Fisheries again harvested a lot of coho prior to August 15. In 1996 this harvest 237,000 coho. **The North Peninsula fisheries harvested 1.9 million sockeye. Ilnik caught 479,637 sockeye, Strogonof Point 121,897, Three Hills section 188,556.** North Peninsula river systems either have weired systems or indexed totals for escapement. **The Department allowed continuous fishing in 1996.**

July 20 to August 17, 234,381 coho were caught in the South Peninsula Post June fisheries. Remember based on run timing the department feels that these coho stocks that are being caught during this time period are migrating coho.

1997- 12 MILLION SOCKEYE SALMON FAIL TO RETURN TO BRISTOL BAY. The South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June fisheries harvest roughly 11.7% of Bristol Bay sockeye, catch was based on a 24 million sockeye catch to Bristol Bay when only 12 million returned to be caught. From July 26 to August 13 fishermen were on strike. Migrant Coho catches were down 65 coho