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Eastern Aleutian Fisheries Coalition
Key Facts Area M

1. **Number of Seiners Fishing:** Number of seiners fishing in recent years - 2020 was 64, 2021 was 69, 2022 was 62
2. **Number of seiners in last few years versus WASSIP years** - Average 65 seiners in recent years vs 46, 55, & 53 in 2007, 2008, & 2009 respectively. In the fifteen-year period 1981 - 1996 the average number of seine permits fished was 117
3. **Total Permits Actively Fishing:** Number of aggregated permits (seine, drift, setnet) fished in Area M ten-year average, 2011 - 2020 was 246, whereas 1981 - 1996 average was 335. This is 89 more permits than in current era
4. **Open vs Closed Periods:** June fishery in 2022 as in past years has 32-hour closure periods after each opening. Under current management plans June fishery is closed over half the month of June. Open **352 hr.** vs **closed 368 hr.** In 2022 there were also many voluntary closure periods within the normal ADF&G directed openings
5. **Continuous Fishing:** There is not continuous fishing in the Shumagin Islands or South Unimak June fishery (see point 4 above). Drift and Seine fleet scheduled openings are aligned.
6. **Dolgoi Section** was closed to seine fishing in the month of June in 2019 based on Area M seine fleet recommendation to conserve Chignik sockeye.
7. **Average landings** for seasons 2001 - 2010 was 4,655 for 218 permits or 21.4 landings/permit. Average landings for seasons 2011 - 2020 was 5,011 for 246 permits or 20.4 landings/permit. These most recent decade to decade comparisons are quite similar.
8. **Chum Catch per Unit Effort (CPUE):** Chum CPUE for June during the past 3 decades has varied from a low of 48 in 2015 to a high of 319 in 2021. The past ten-year average CPUE is 140.1. Last year, 2022 the CPUE was 145.
9. **Resident seine permits vs nonresident permits:** Total seine permits 115; Alaska residents possess 71% vs 29% non-resident.
10. **Seine Boat Size:** Few newly built seiners have entered into the Area M fishery. Large seiners have been used in Area M since the 1990s largely due to the increased safety inherent in larger vessels. These vessels typically fish salmon but also groundfish, crab, and/or halibut and blackcod in fall, winter/spring in the Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea.
11. **Seine nets are shallower than in some Alaska seine fisheries:** Alaska Peninsula and Chignik maximum seine net depth is 375 meshes, whereas Southeast Alaska maximum depth is 450 meshes.