

DIVISION OF HABITAT

Overview and Performance Measures



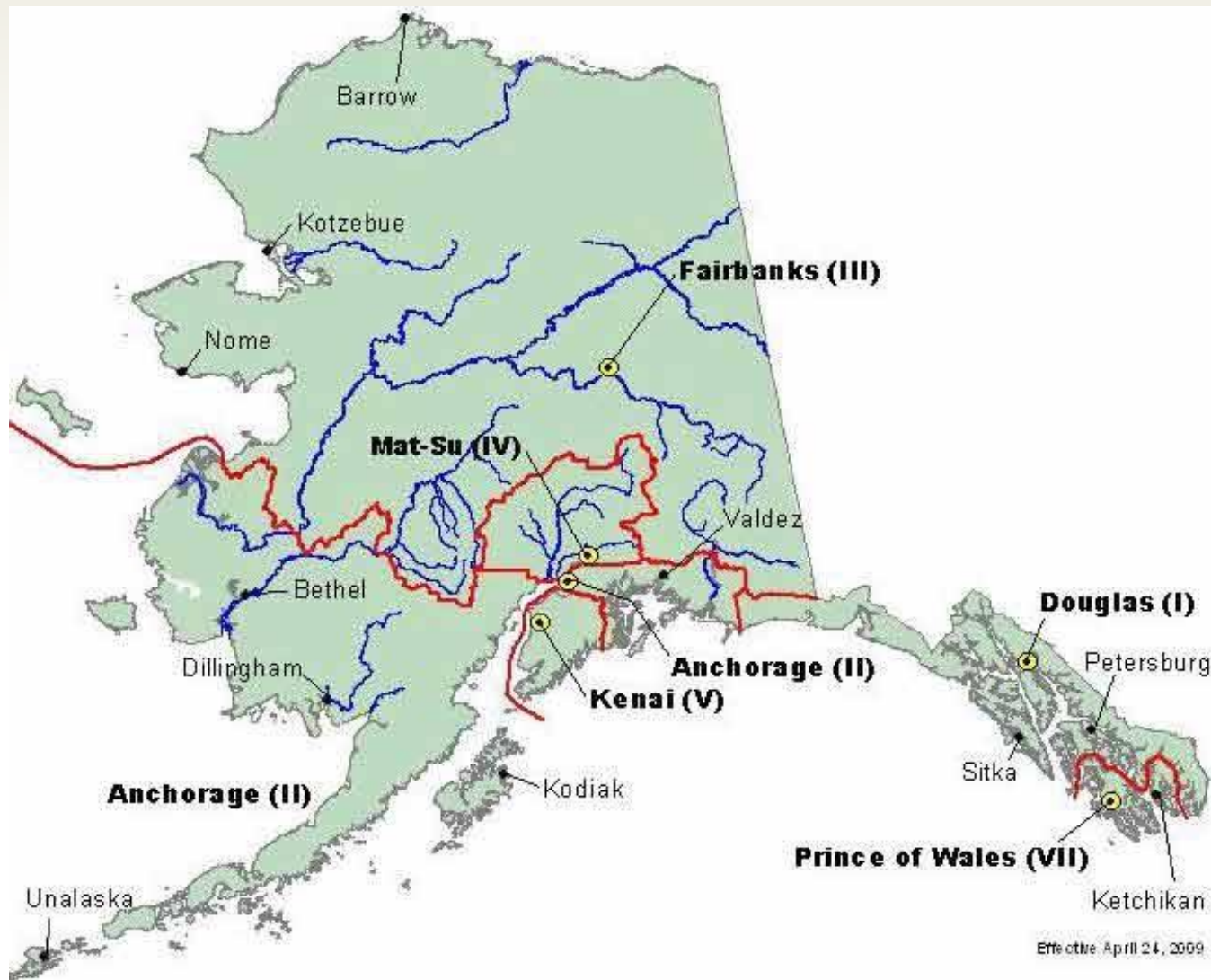
Kerry Howard, Director

Division History

- Anadromous fish habitat and fish passage responsibilities legislated shortly after statehood.
- Over the years, 32 refuges, critical habitat areas and sanctuaries were also established.
- Functions initially distributed throughout Department.
- “Sections” created in Sport Fish (Access Section), Comm. Fish (Water Rights), and Game Divisions (Lands).
- About 1969 or 1970, the above sections were consolidated into the “Habitat Section”.
- Division responsibilities expanded in late 70s-early 80s when state and federal planning efforts escalated.
- Habitat granted “Division” status in 1981.
- In 2003, Habitat was moved to DNR, and renamed the “Office of Habitat Management and Permitting.” The division also sustained an 18% reduction in staff and an 11% reduction in budget.
- In 2008, Habitat was moved back to ADF&G, and re-established as the “Habitat Division”.
- The Division currently has 49 positions, 3 Regional Offices, and 3 Area Offices.



Sockeye Salmon, Steep Creek, Juneau



- Habitat Offices in Fairbanks, Palmer, Anchorage, Soldotna, Juneau, Craig
- 47 PFT; 2 PPT

Division Mission Statement

To protect Alaska's valuable fish & wildlife resources and their habitats as Alaska's population and economy continue to expand



Roe on Kelp, Sitka Sound, Alaska

Statutory Authorities

- AS 16.05.841
Fish Passage
- AS 16.05.871
Fish Habitat
- AS 16.20
Legislatively
Designated Special
Areas



McNeil River State Game Sanctuary

Habitat's Core Services

- Review applications and issue permits for activities in anadromous waterbodies and fish-bearing waters and legislatively designated Special Areas (Title 16); provide expertise to protect important fish and wildlife habitat; monitor authorized projects and conduct compliance actions.
- Maintain and revise the Catalog of Waters Important for the Spawning, Rearing, or Migration of Anadromous Fishes.
- Manage Alaska's Special Areas in accordance with legislative guidelines; prepare and update management plans for these areas.
- Review proposed timber harvest activities; conduct field inspections; work cooperatively with timber operators and other governmental agencies.
- Review development projects (e.g., oil and gas, hard-rock mining, roads, T16 elements of hydropower projects) authorized under other agencies' authorities.
- Conduct applied research to develop methods and means to minimize impacts of development projects on fish and wildlife resources.

End Result: Protect Alaska's valuable fish and wildlife resources and their habitats during resource development activities.

Target #1: 100% of resource developers meet agency requirements for protection of fish, wildlife, and their habitats.

Status #1: In FY10, 99.6% of all developers were in compliance with issued Fish Habitat and Special Area permits, just short of the performance target.



Stream revetment and pipeline

Strategy A1 - Enhance our Fish Habitat and Special

Area review processes by reviewing projects in a timely manner, adding appropriate conditions to protect resources, and monitoring, as needed.



Culvert Installation

Target #1: 8.2-day average permit review timeframe for Fish Habitat Permits

Status #1: In FY10, Fish Habitat permits were reviewed and issued in an average of 9.1 days, statewide, almost meeting the performance target.

Strategy A1, cont.

Target #2: 100% of Fish Habitat permit applications received are reviewed and acted on by either: 1) approving as proposed; 2) approving after modification with appropriate conditions to protect resources; or 3) denying if resources could not be protected.

Status #2: In FY10, 100% of Fish Habitat permits were reviewed and completed, meeting the target.



Kizuchia Creek

Strategy A1, cont.



McNeil River Falls

Target #3: 15-day average permit review time for Special Area permits.

Status #3: In FY10 Special Area permits were reviewed and issued in an average of 12.4 days, statewide, exceeding the 15-day average permit review time performance target.

Strategy A1, cont.

Target #4: 100% of Special Area Permit applications received are reviewed and acted on by either : 1) approving as proposed; 2) approving after modification with appropriate conditions to protect resources; or 3) denying if resources could not be protected.

Status #4: In FY10, 100% of Special Area permits were reviewed and completed, meeting the performance target.



Bald Eagle, McNeil River State Game Sanctuary

Strategy A2 - Actively and timely participate in coordinated project reviews to ensure appropriate protection of important habitats.



Wetlands construction

Target #1: 11.5-day average timeframe for a coordinated project review.

Status #1: In FY 10, coordinated project reviews were completed in an average of 12.9 days, statewide, just short of the 11.5-day average timeframe for a coordinated project review performance target.

Strategy A2, cont.

Target #2: 93.2% of projects in a coordinated process are reviewed to ensure appropriate protection of important habitat.

Status #2: In FY10, 92.2% projects in a coordinated process were reviewed to ensure appropriate protection of important habitat, almost meeting the performance target to review 93.2% of projects in a coordinated process.



Stream enhancement project, Harris River, POW Island

Strategy A3: Continue to actively manage legislatively designated Special Areas by developing and updating management plans.

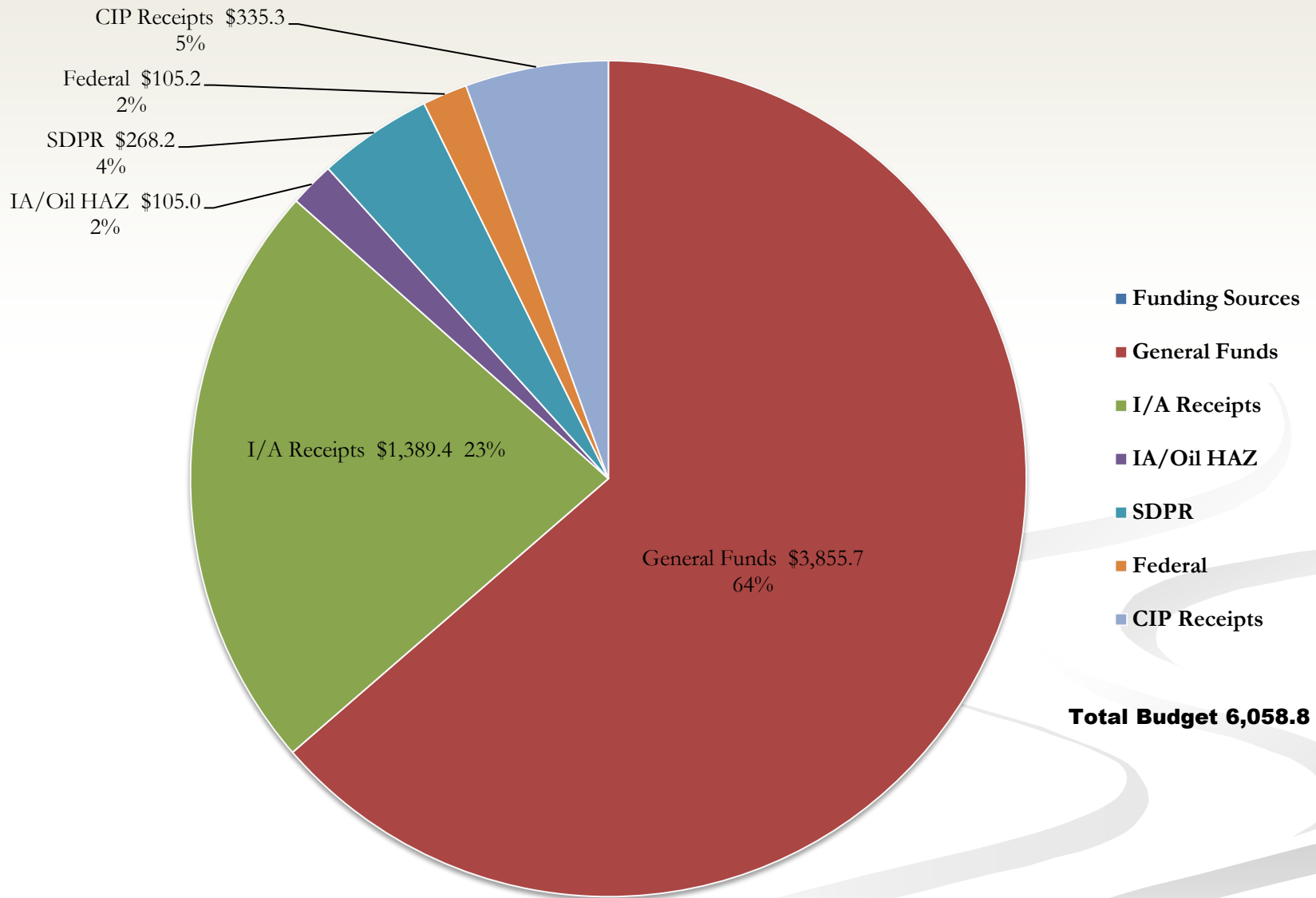


Mendenhall Wetlands State Game Refuge

Target #1: One Special Area management plan completed or revised each fiscal year.

Status #1: No new Special Area management plans were completed in FY10; target not met.

FY 12 Proposed Authority





Questions?