



Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Escapement Summary (2017)

King Salmon (aerial index counts unless otherwise noted)

Knik Arm

- Little Susitna River (weir) 2,514 prelim SEG: 2,100-4,300
- Little Susitna River 1,192 SEG: 900-1,800

Eastside Susitna

- Chulitna River NC SEG: 1,800-5,100
- Clear Creek 780 SEG: 950-3,400
- Goose Creek 148 SEG: 250-650
- Little Willow Creek 840 SEG: 450-1800
- Montana Creek 603 SEG: 1,100-3,100
- Prairie Creek 1,930 SEG: 3,100-9,200
- Sheep Creek NC SEG: 600-1,200
- Willow Creek 1,329 SEG: 1,600-2,800

Westside Susitna

- Alexander Creek 170 SEG: 2,100-6,000
- Deshka River (weir) 11,271 prelim SEG: 13,000-28,000
- Lake Creek 1,601 SEG: 2,500-7,100
- Peters Creek 307 SEG: 1,000-2,600
- Talachulitna River 1,087 SEG: 2,200-5,000

West Cook Inlet

- Chuitna River 235 SEG: 1,200-2,900
- Lewis River 0 SEG: 250-800
- Theodore River 21 SEG: 500-1,700

Sockeye Salmon

- Kenai late-run sonar 1.31 million Inriver goal: 1.0-1.3 million
- Kasilof sonar 358,700 SEG: 160,000-340,000
- Judd Lake weir 35,731 SEG: 15,000-40,000
- Larson Lake weir 31,866 SEG: 15,000-35,000
- Chelatna Lake weir 26,986 SEG: 20,000-45,000

Coho Salmon

• Deshka River weir	36,869	SEG: 10,200-24,100
• Little Susitna River weir	17,781	SEG: 10,100-17,700
• Fish Creek weir	8,794	SEG: 1,200-4,400
• Jim Creek weir	5,646	Foot survey of McRobert's Creek

Commercial Harvest Summary (2017)

Drift Gillnet Fishery

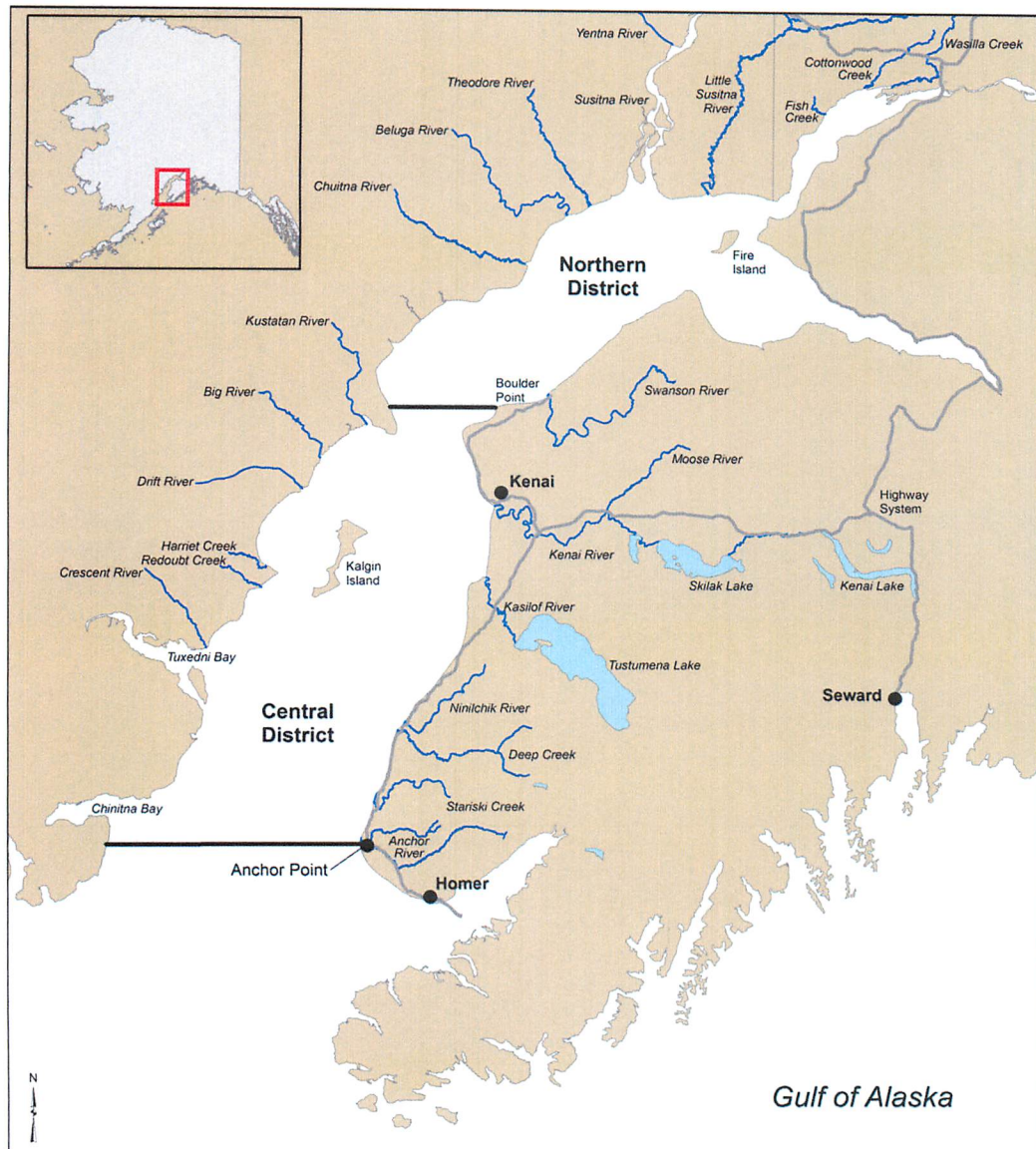
King Salmon:	264 (2007-2016 avg: 581)
Sockeye Salmon:	881,000 (2007-2016 avg: 1,693,000)
Coho Salmon:	191,500 (2007-20016 avg: 99,000)

ESSN Fishery

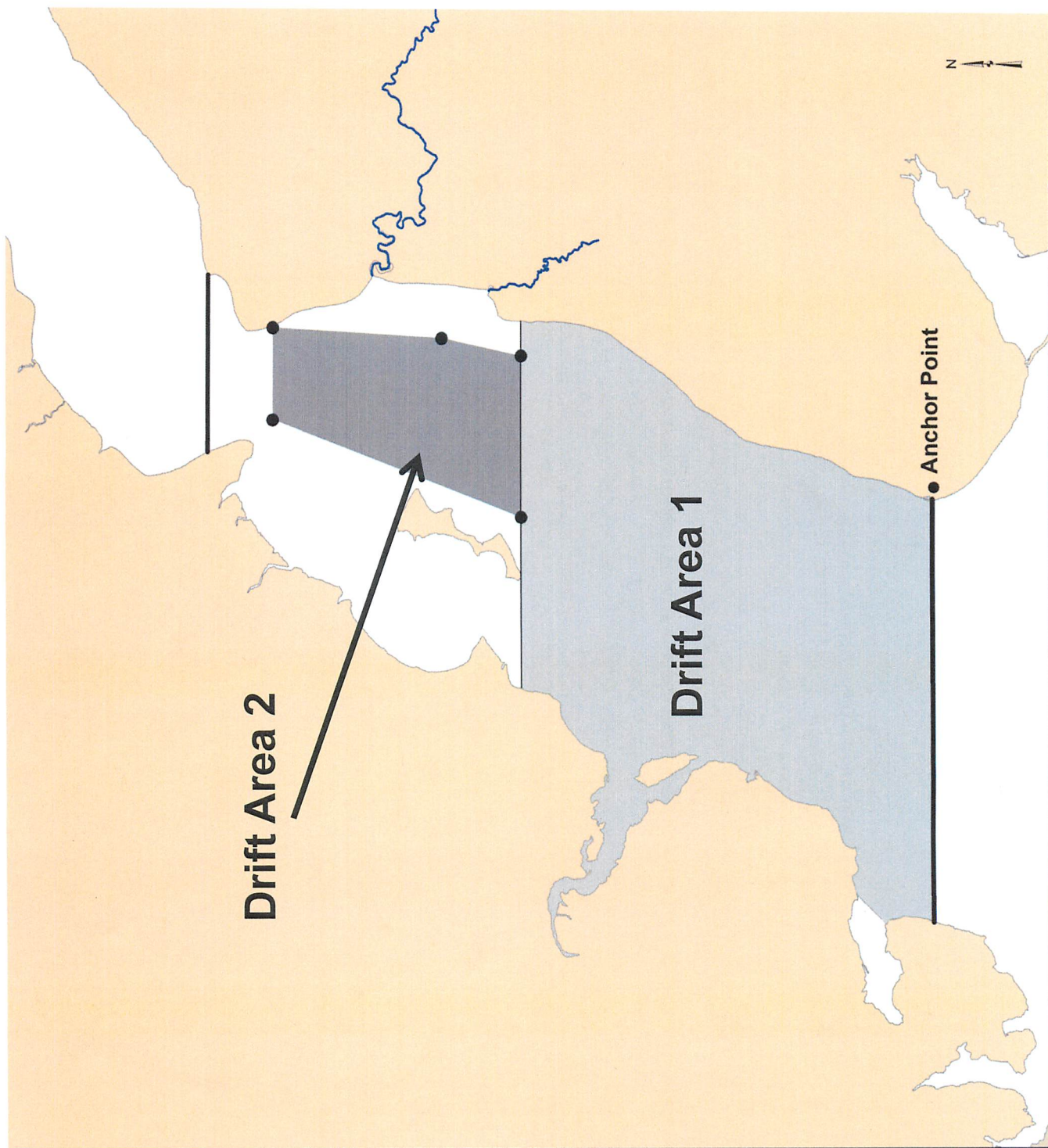
King Salmon:	4,780 (2007-2016 avg: 6,100)
Sockeye Salmon:	832,000 (2007-2016 avg: 1,100,000)
Coho Salmon:	30,000 (2007-2016 avg: 15,000)

Northern District Setnet Fishery (All Year)

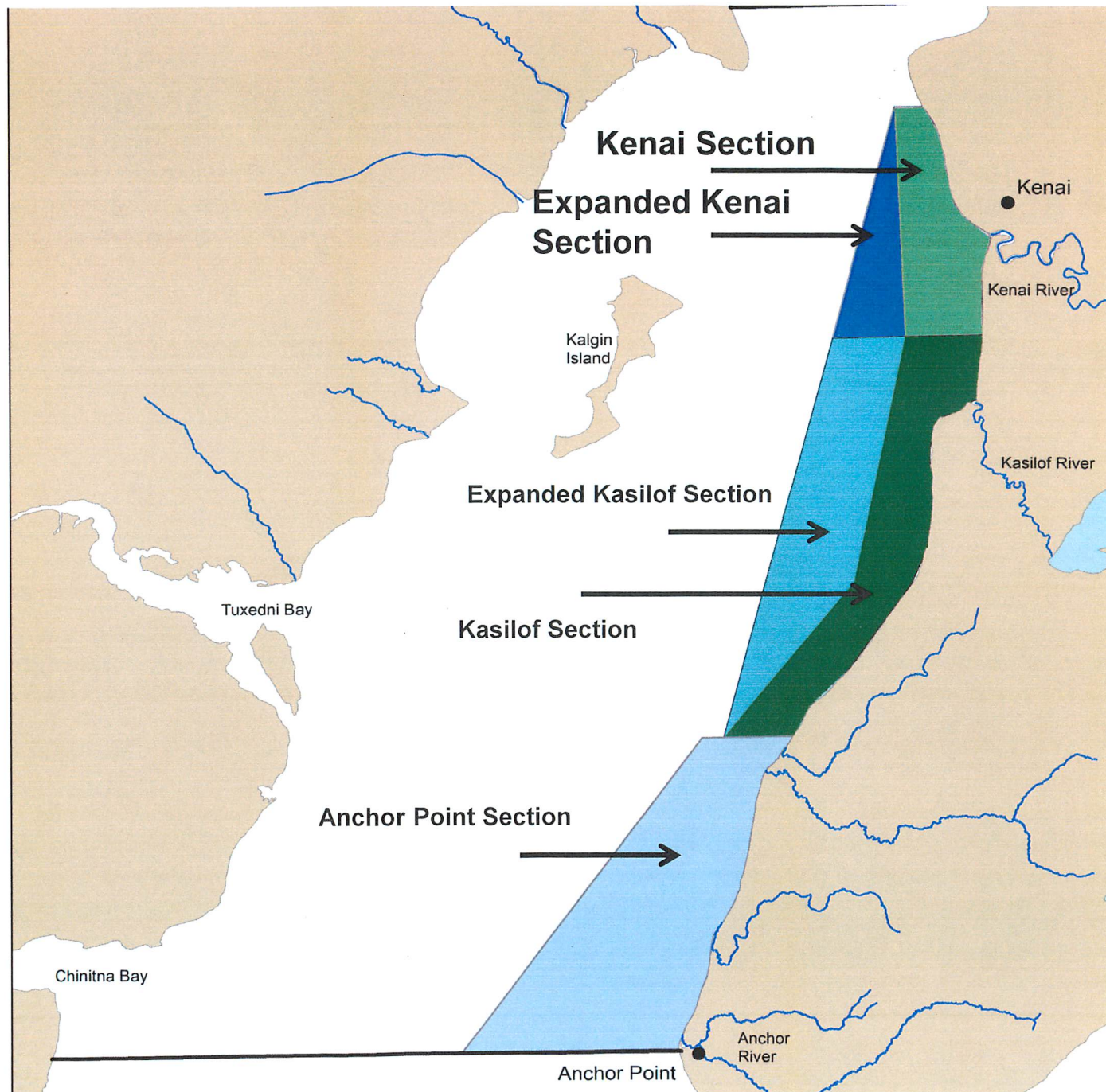
King Salmon:	2,230 (1,930 in directed fishery; 2007-2016 avg: 2,145)
Sockeye Salmon:	57,000 (2007-2016 avg: 35,000)
Coho Salmon:	53,000 (2007-2016 avg: 33,000)

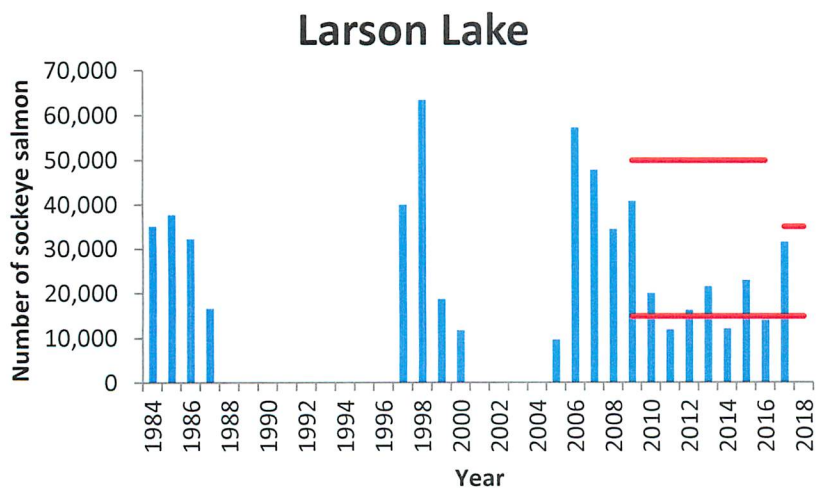
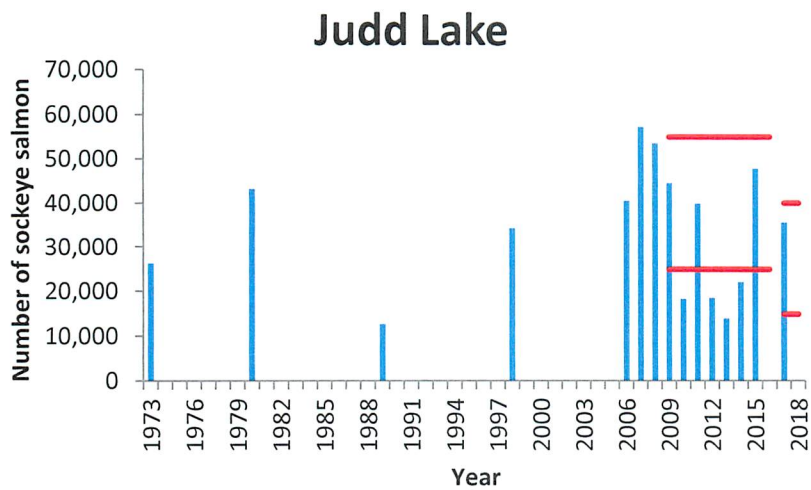
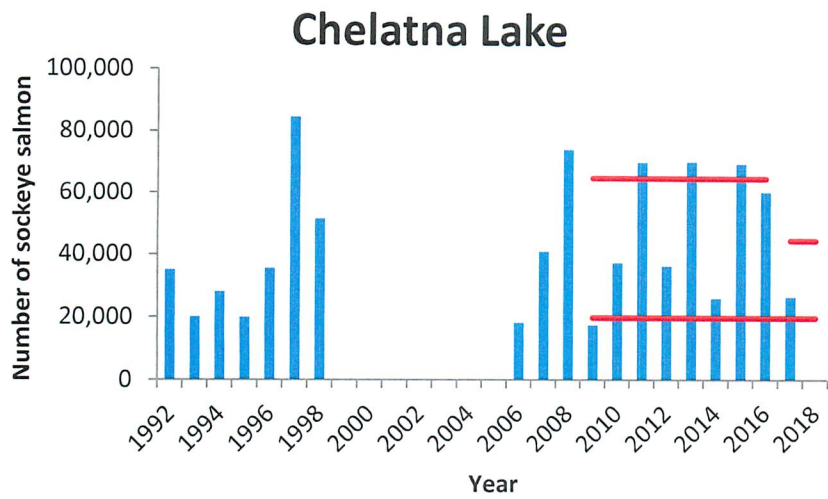


DRIFT GILLNET AREAS 1 AND 2



DRIFT GILLNET CORRIDORS





CENTRAL DISTRICT DRIFT GILLNET MANAGEMENT PLAN

States that the department shall manage the drift gillnet fishery to minimize the harvest of Northern District and Kenai River coho salmon to provide sport and guided sport fishermen a reasonable opportunity to harvest these stocks.

Drift gillnetting is allowed only in the Central District and is governed primarily by the Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan.

Within this plan are the various restrictions in July that must be implemented in the drift fishery to conserve northern bound sockeye and coho salmon.

- Season opens third Monday in June or June 19, whichever is later.
- **From July 9-15:**
- Both regular periods restricted to Drift Area 1 & Expanded Corridors.
- On Kenai sockeye salmon runs > 2.3 million, option for a 3rd period.
- **From July 16-31:** Restrictions based on the size of the Kenai sockeye run.
- < 2.3 million: all fishing time restricted to Expanded Corridors & AP Section.
- 2.3 – 4.6 million: one period/week restricted to one or all of the following: Drift Area 1; Expanded Corridors; AP Section; of which, one regular period during this time may be fished Districtwide. All other fishing time is restricted to Expanded Corridors/AP Section.
- 4.6 million: one period/week may be fished district-wide. All other fishing time is restricted to Expanded Corridors/AP Section.
- **From August 1-15:** No mandatory area restrictions to regular periods.

Notes: From **July 9–15** fishing during both regular period is restricted to Drift Area 1 and the Expanded Kenai and Kasilof Sections; on Kenai sockeye runs > 2.3 million fish, there is an option of fishing a 3rd period during this time in Drift Area 1 and the Expanded Corridors. All additional time allowed to drifters may only be fished in the Expanded Corridors.

Restrictions from **July 16-31** are dependent upon the run-size to the Kenai River. On runs less than 2.3 million fish, all fishing time must be restricted to the Expanded corridors and AP sections. On runs between 2.3 & 4.6 million, one period per week must be restricted to one or all of the following: Drift Area 1, Expanded corridors, and AP Section. On runs greater than 4.6 million to the Kenai River, one period per week may be fished district wide. All additional fishing time is restricted to one or more of the following, Expanded Corridors and AP Section.

From **August 1-15**, there are not mandatory area restrictions to regular periods.

Beginning August 16 drifting is restricted to Drift Areas 3 & 4 on the west side of Cook Inlet.

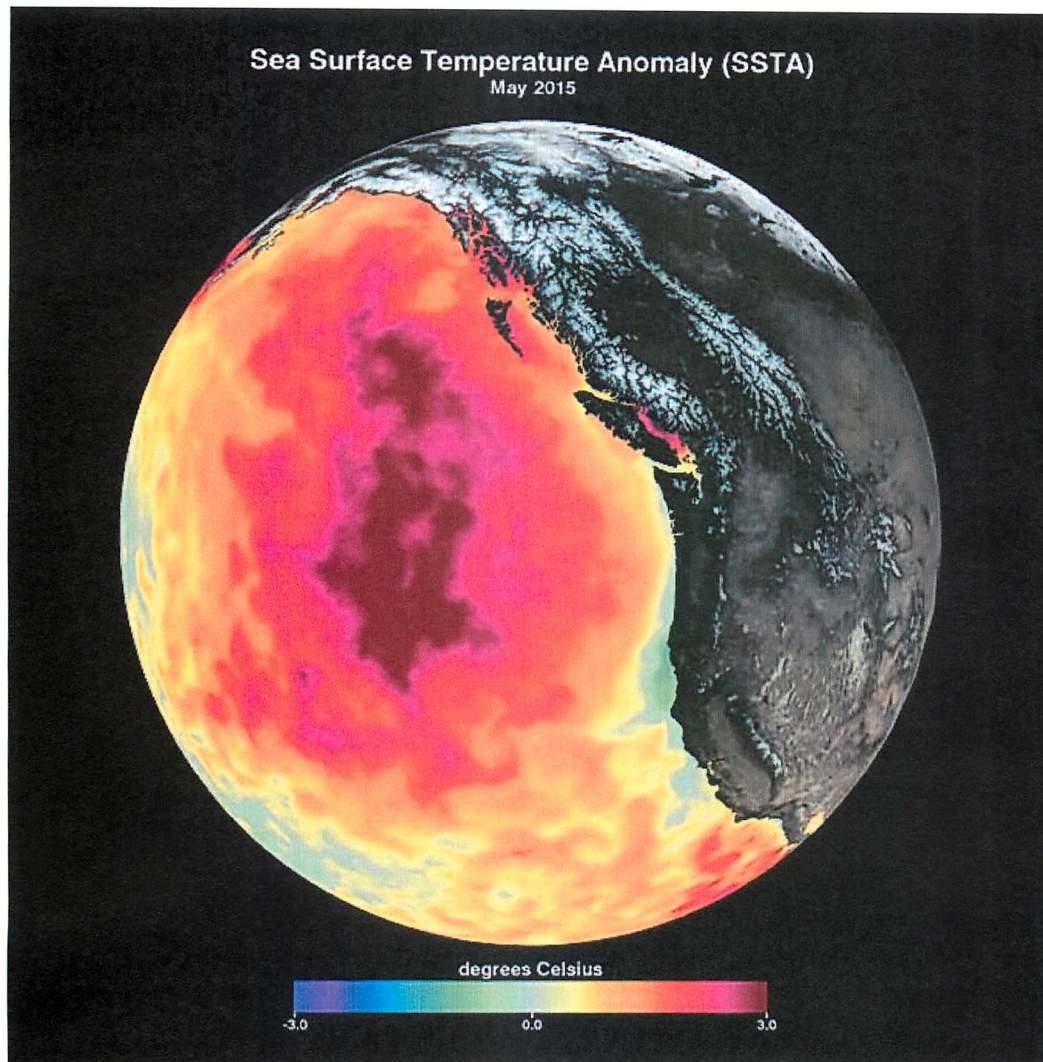
JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 Kasilof Section
2	3 District Wide	4	5 Kasilof Section	6 District Wide	7	8 Kasilof Section
9	10 Drift Area 1/ Expanded Corridor	11	12 Expanded Corridors	13 Drift Area 1/ Expanded Corridor	14	15 Expanded Corridor
16	17 Expanded Corridor	18	19	20 Expanded Corridor	21	22
23	24 CLOSED	25	26	27 CLOSED	28	29 Expanded Corridors
30	31 District Wide					

Notes: The area open to commercial drift gillnet fishing was restricted for most of July: prior to the period on July 31 drift gillnet fishing was last opened in the entire district on July 6; drift gillnet fishing was opened in drift area 1 on July 10 and 13; drift gillnet fishing was limited to the Expanded Corridor from July 15–20; and drift gillnet fishing was closed from July 21–28. Since July 20 (past 13 days) the drift fishery was open two days; one district-wide period and one expanded corridor period. This is a time period that coho salmon typically migrate through the Central District.

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3 District Wide	4	5
6	7 Drift Area 1/ Expanded Corridor	8	9 Expanded Corridors	10 Drift Area 1/ Expanded Corridor	11	12 Expanded Corridors
13	14 Drift Areas 1 & 3/ Expanded Corridor	15	16	17 Drift Areas 3 and 4	18 Chinitna Bay	19
20	21 Drift Areas 3 and 4	22 Chinitna Bay	23	24 Drift Areas 3 and 4	25 Chinitna Bay	26
27	28 Drift Areas 3 and 4	29 Chinitna Bay	30	31 Drift Areas 3 and 4	Chinitna Bay	



From: A Striking New View of the Pacific “Blob”, National Geographic, Betsy Mason, February 8, 2017