

Overview of the Division of Commercial Fisheries



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Acting Director

Division of Commercial Fisheries

Mission

Manage, protect, rehabilitate, enhance, and develop the fisheries and aquatic plant resources in the interest of the economy and general well being of the state, consistent with the sustained yield principle and subject to allocations established through public regulatory processes.

Division of Commercial Fisheries

Primary Responsibilities

- **Manage commercial, personal use, and subsistence fisheries within state waters.**
- **Manage shellfish species and some groundfish out to 200 miles.**
- **Conduct applied research on Alaska's aquatic resources.**
- **Plan and permit salmon hatcheries and mariculture operations.**
- **Negotiate fishing agreements subject to the Pacific Salmon Treaty and Alaska-Yukon Treaty.**
- **Coordinate with federal and international fisheries management agencies.**

Division of Commercial Fisheries

Core Services

- **Harvest Management**
- **Stock Assessment and Applied Research**
- **Aquaculture Permitting**
- **Information Services and Public Participation**

Harvest Management

- Supporting the Board of Fisheries in establishing regulations and management plans.
- Opening and closing fishing areas and setting fishing times.
- Collecting harvest and biological data.
- Writing annual management reports to synthesize information.



Harvest Management Components

➤ Inseason Management

- Employ a cadre of fisheries managers proximate to the fisheries.
- Managers have broad authority to open and close fisheries.

➤ Applied Science

- To ensure that management of Alaska's fisheries is conducted consistent with the sustained yield principle.

Kuskokwim Bay Salmon Fishermen Delivering in Quinhagak



Crab Boat Setting Pots in the Bering Sea



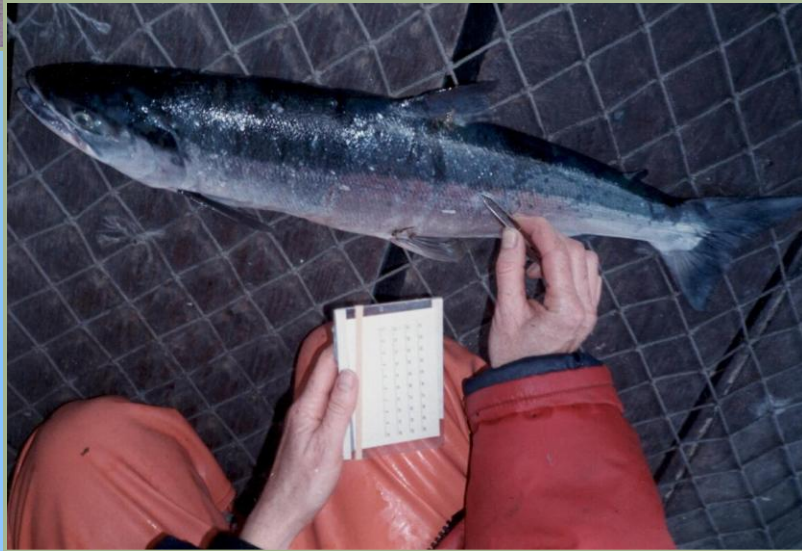
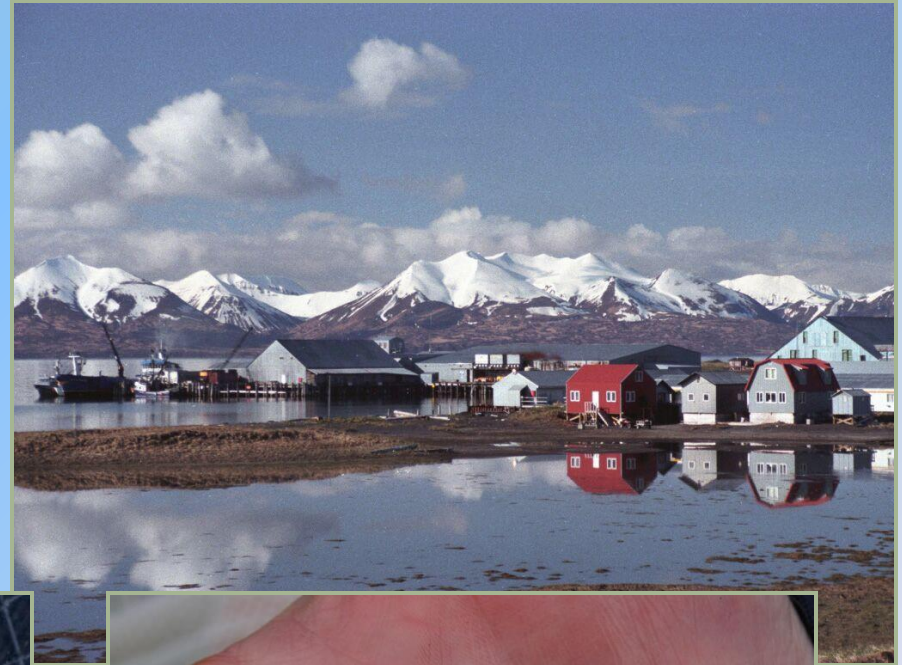
Stock Assessment and Applied Research

- **Salmon Escapement Enumeration:**
 - **Weirs, Towers, Sonar, Foot/Aerial Surveys**
- **Juvenile Salmon Estimation**
- **Groundfish and Shellfish Surveys**
- **Herring Spawn Deposition and Hydroacoustic Surveys**
- **Aerial Herring Surveys**
- **Dive Surveys**
- **Biological, Genetic, Coded-Wire Tag Sampling**

Salmon Enumeration and Sampling



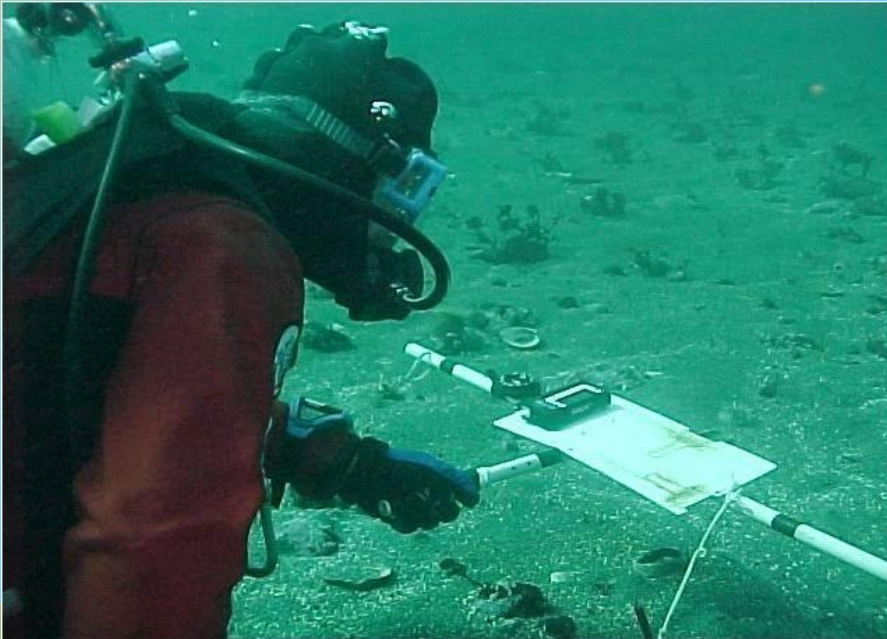
Salmon Enumeration and Sampling



And more...



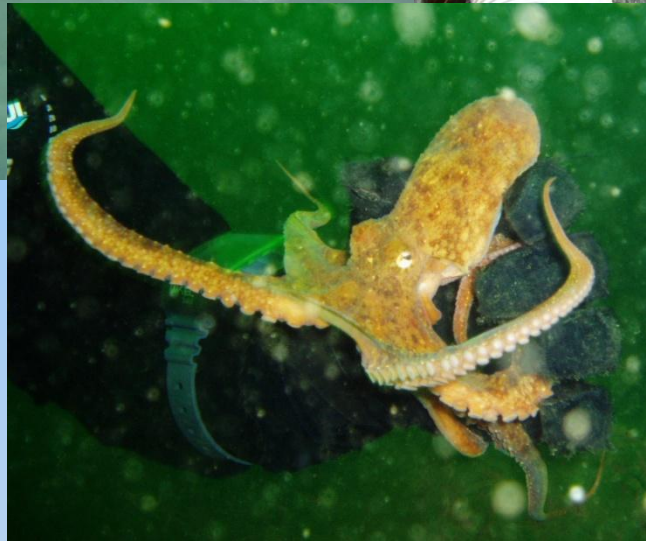
Other examples of stock assessments...



Intertidal littleneck clam surveys in Prince William Sound.



And yet more...



Aquaculture Permitting



- **Private Nonprofit Salmon Hatcheries**
- **Aquatic Shellfish Hatchery**
- **Aquatic Shellfish Farms**

Information Services and Public Information

- **Design and maintain division website**
- **Publish brochures and other informational materials on divisional programs**
- **Produce, upon request, custom reports from fish ticket and COAR databases**
- **Administer divisional confidentiality policies**
- **Develop and administer divisional publication policies and procedures**

Laboratory Services

- Pathology Laboratory
- Coded Wire Tag and Otolith Aging Laboratory
- Genetic Stock Identification Laboratory



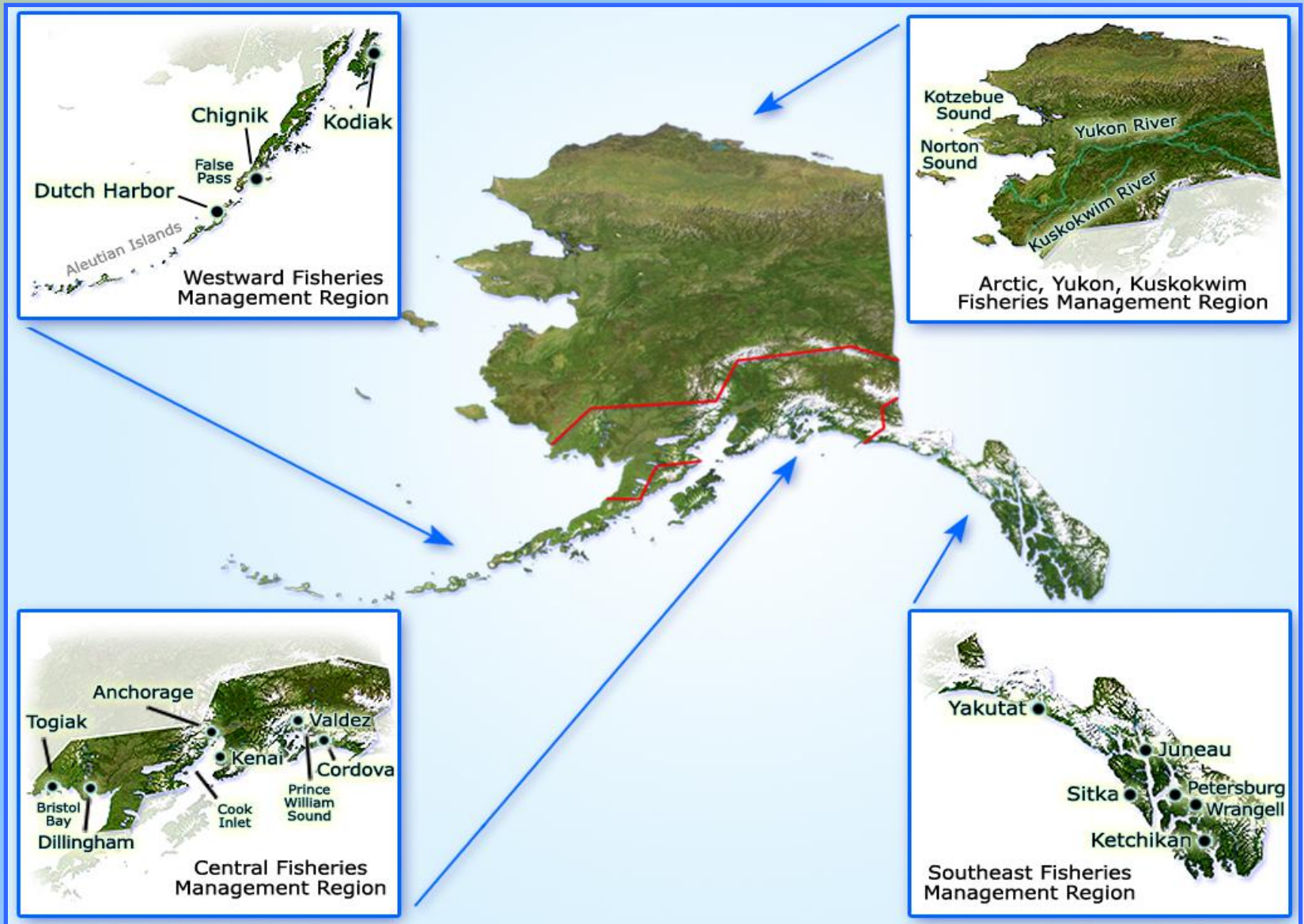
Data Processing

- **Fish tickets systems**
- **eLanding electronic catch reporting system**
- **Internet-accessible inseason catch and escapement databases**
- **Geographical Information System databases**
- **Internet-accessible news release database**
- **Seafood processor/buyer intent to operate system**
- **Commercial Operator Annual Reports (COAR)**
- **Databases for biological data**

Organization of the Division

- **Southeast Fisheries Management Region - Douglas**
- **Central Fisheries Management Region - Anchorage**
- **A-Y-K Fisheries Management Region - Anchorage**
- **Westward Fisheries Management Region - Kodiak**
- **Divisional Headquarters - Juneau**

Fisheries Management Regions



Permanent and Seasonal Staff

In FY11:



Dive crew aboard the *R/V Kestrel* in 2002.

- **314 permanent staff**
- **450 seasonal staff**
- **20 permanent offices**
- **84 seasonal offices/field camps**
- **6 large research vessels**

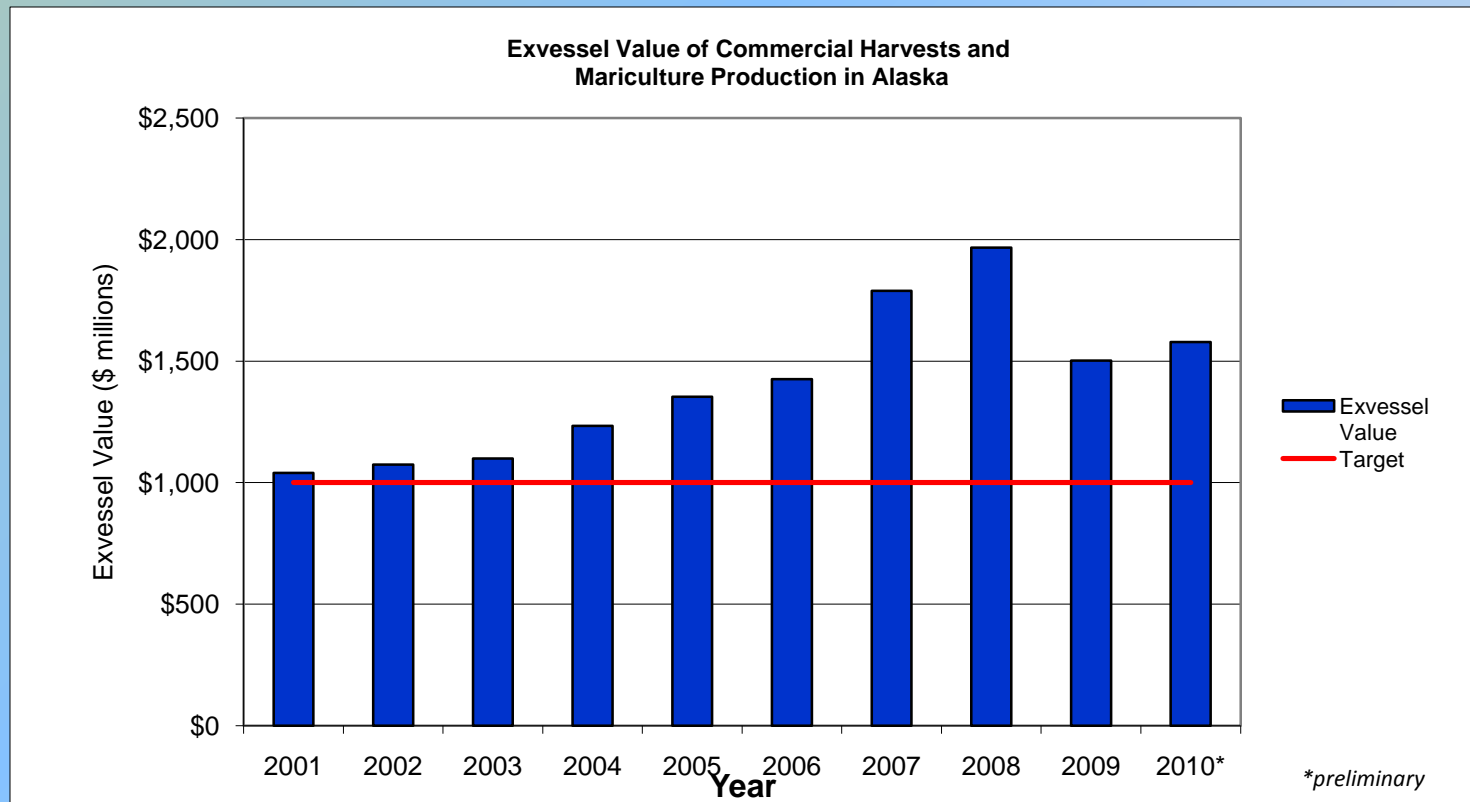
Missions and Measures

Targets

- 1. Exvessel value of commercial harvests and mariculture production above \$1 billion.**
- 2. Achieve salmon escapement goals in 80% of monitored streams.**
- 3. Develop baselines of DNA-based markers for 100 Alaska salmon stocks for sockeye, chum, and Chinook salmon.**
- 4. Ensure 100% of active aquatic farms operate under terms of current permits.**

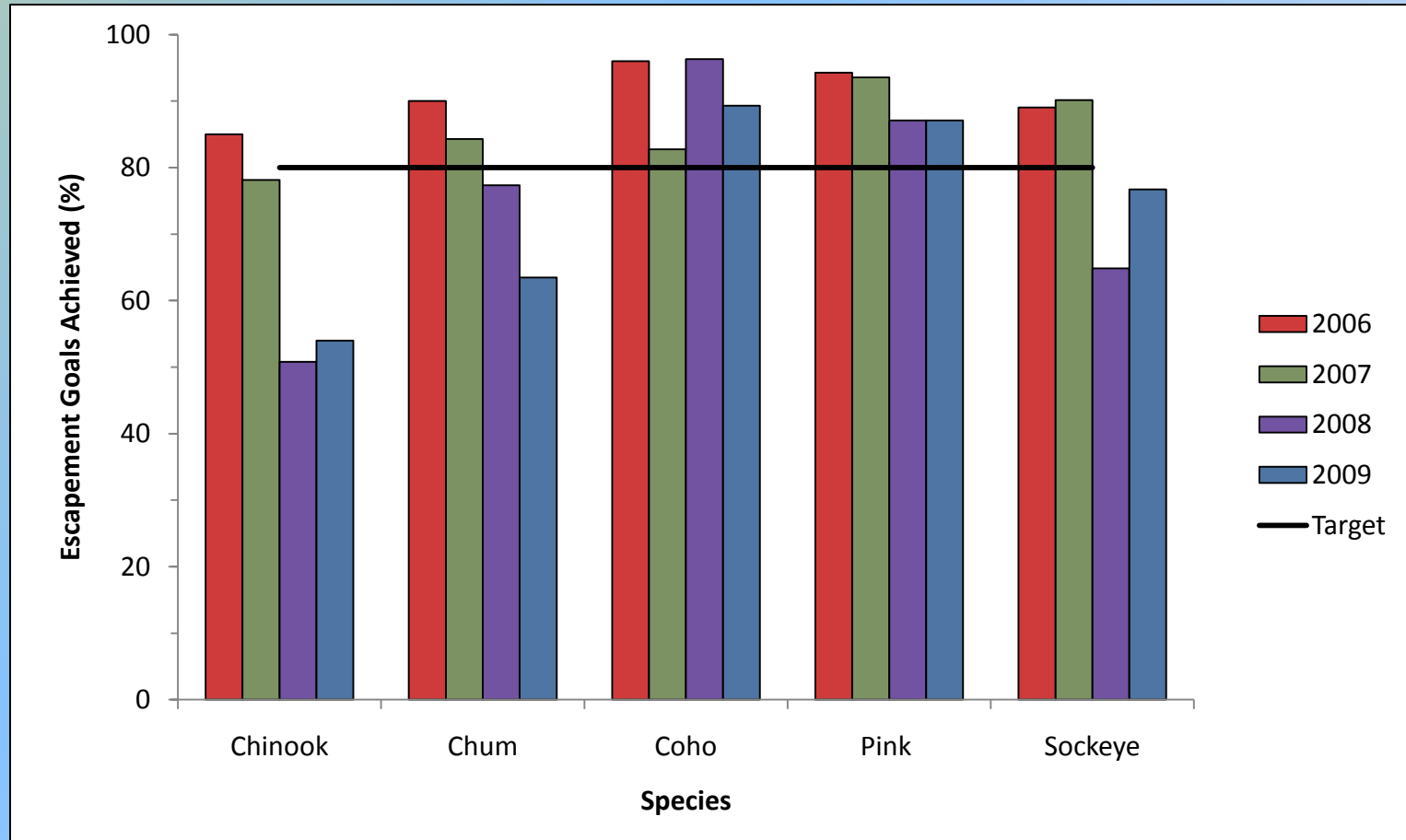
Missions and Measures

1. Exvessel value of commercial harvests and mariculture production above \$1 billion annually.



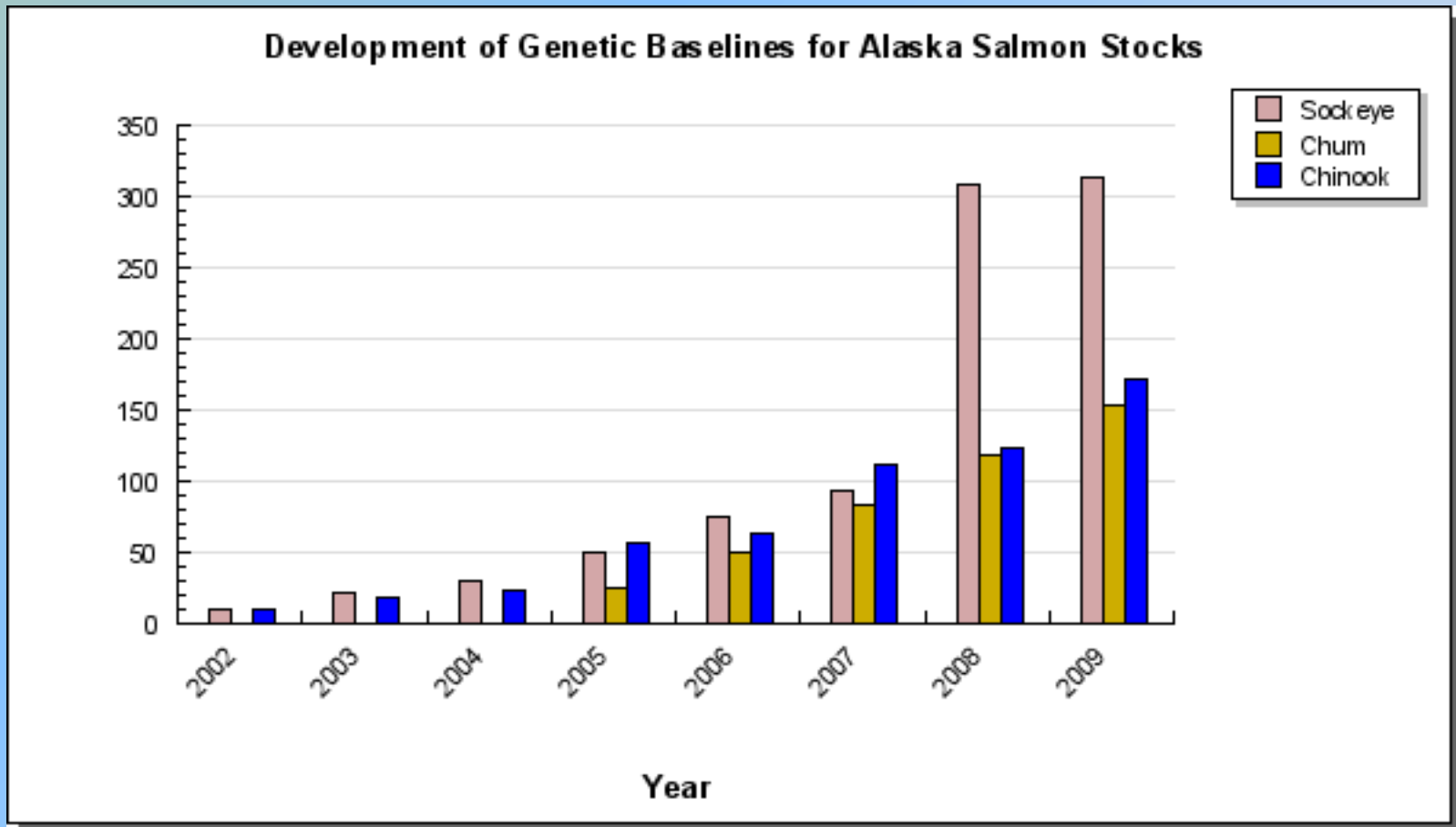
Missions and Measures

2. Achieve escapement goals for more than 80% of monitored stocks.



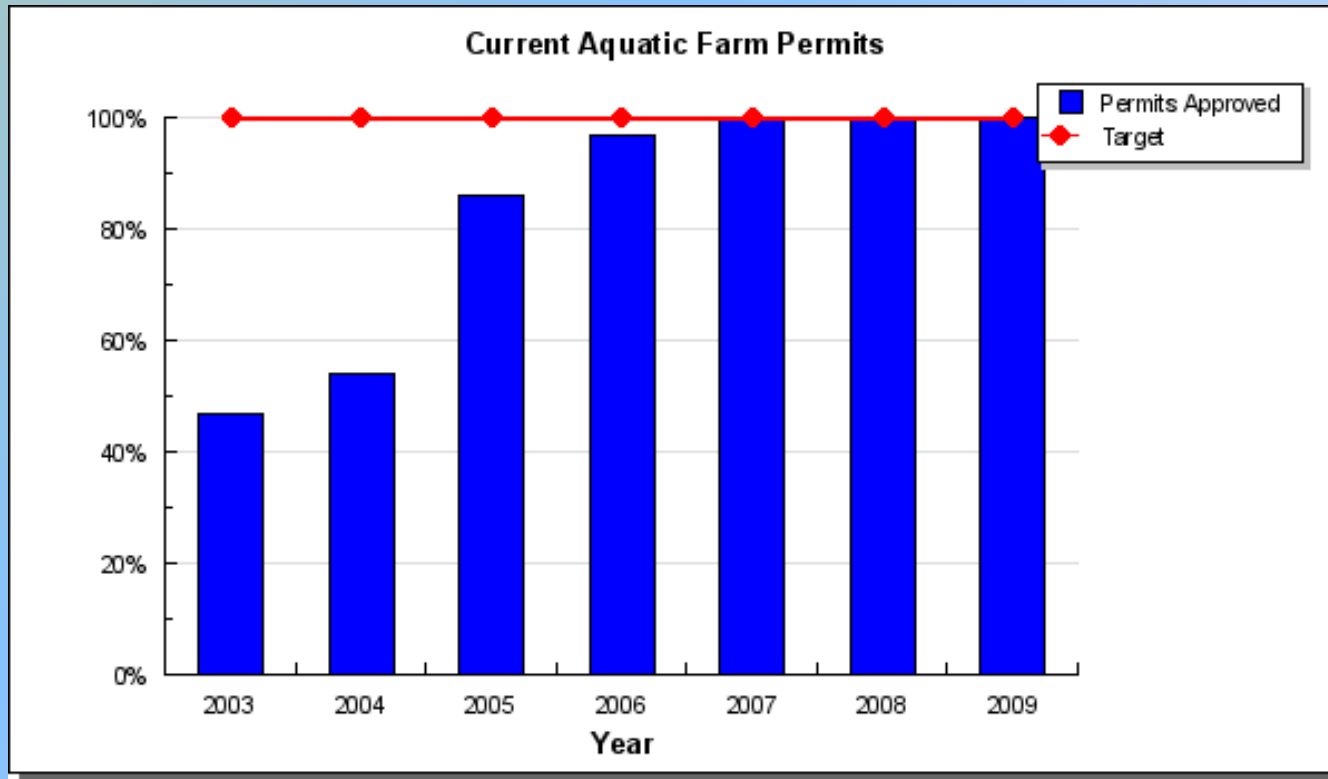
Missions and Measures

3. Develop genetic baselines for Alaskan Chinook, chum, and sockeye stocks that will include 100 stocks in each baseline.



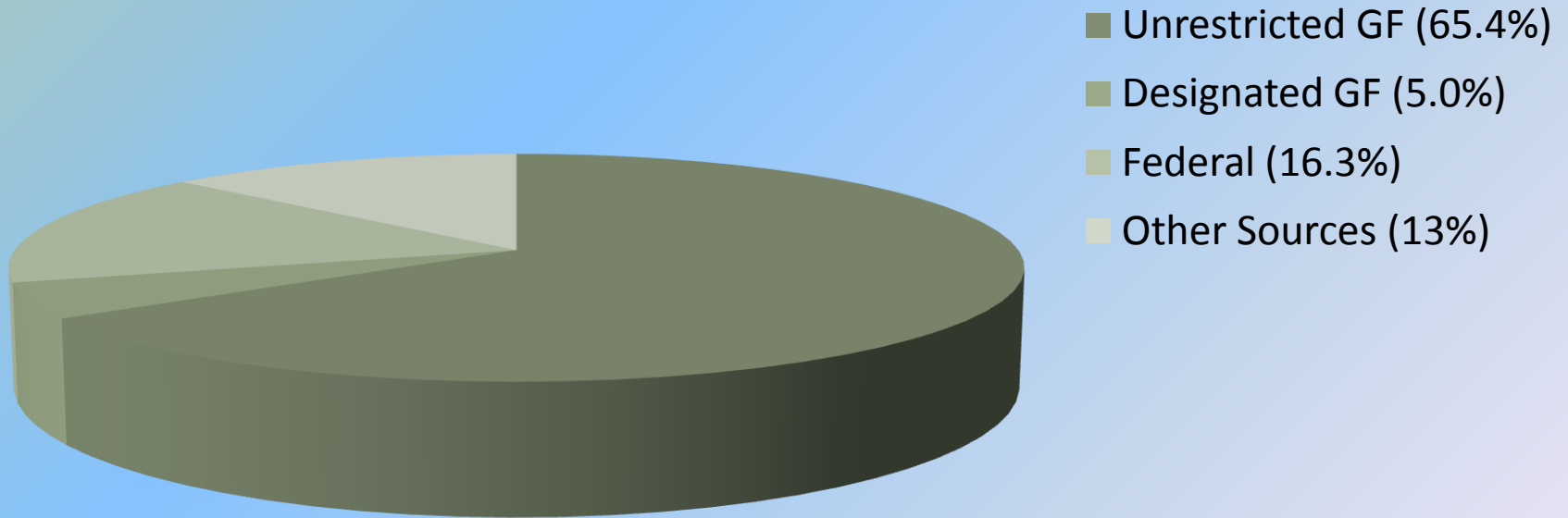
Missions and Measures

4. All aquatic farms operating with current permits.



FY12 Budget Request

Total Request = \$66,159.7
(in thousands)



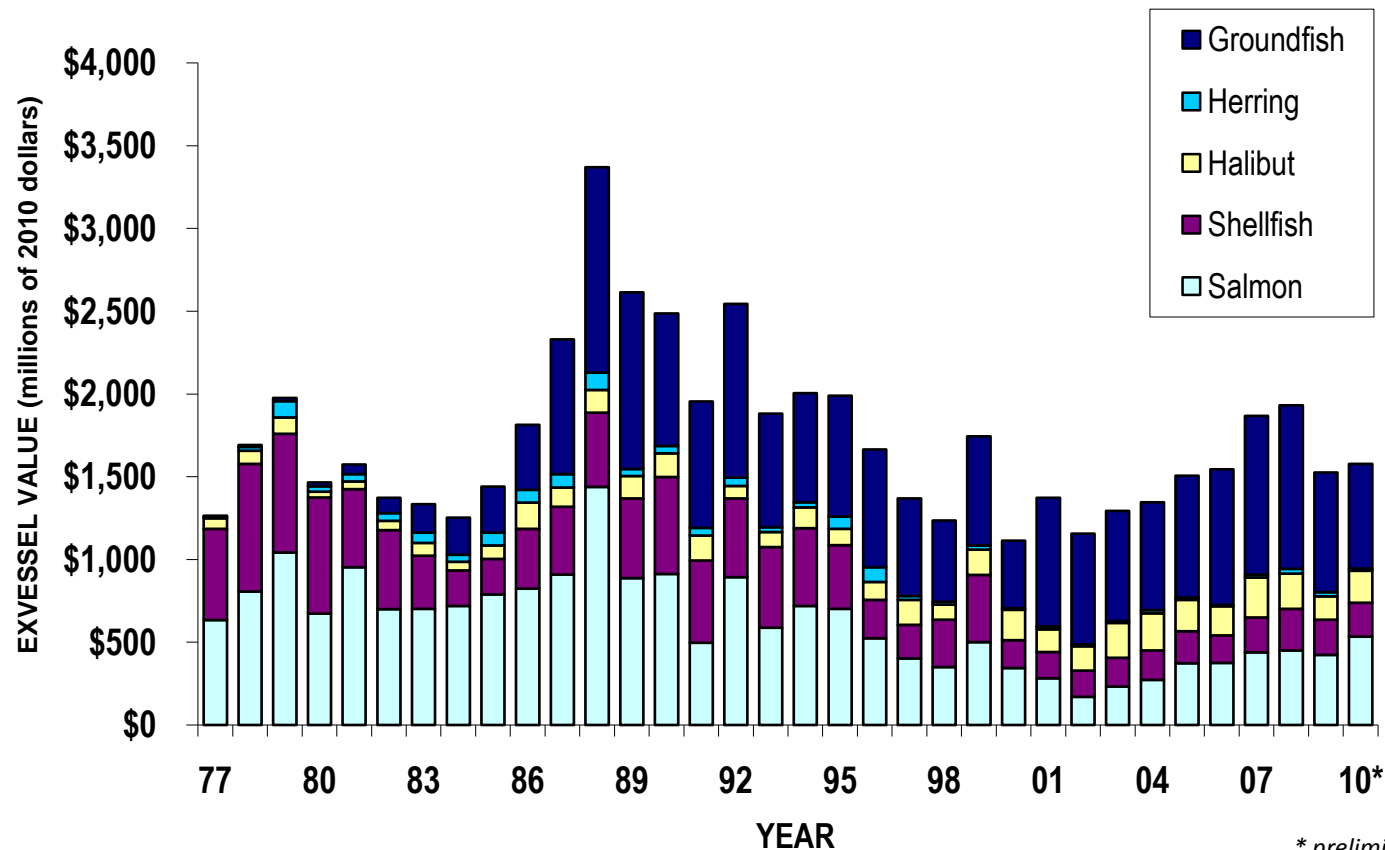
Economic Impact of Seafood Industry on Alaska's Economy in 2007

(Source: Northern Economics, Inc. 2009)

- **Generated 78,519 jobs employed in seafood harvesting, processing sectors, and support industries.**
- **Approximately 48,467 of these jobs were held by Alaskans.**
- **Generated \$774.7 million in direct payments to labor with \$237 million going to Alaska residents.**
- **Generated total sales of \$3.6 billion within Alaska.**
- **Paid more in taxes to state general fund than any other industry except oil and gas.**

Exvessel Value of Alaska's Commercial Fisheries

(Adjusted to 2010 Dollars)



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Thank you!
Questions?