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Alaska State Legislature
House of Representatives

Special Committee on Fisheries

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October 10, 1983

MEMORANDUM

TO: Representative Herrmann &
 Melvin Monsen

FROM: Deborah L. Greenberg
 Legislative Aide

RE: U.S./Canada Salmon Treaty, Update

The following is an update of developments concerning the U.S./Canada Salmon Treaty since the end of the last legislative session. As you know, since the treaty was rejected, there have been no formal negotiations or talks between the two countries. Accordingly, this report addresses:

- . the latest schedule of talks, and efforts toward negotiations, and,
- . preliminary salmon harvest data for the Southeastern Alaska and the Canadian fisheries.

Research for this report included discussions with Steve Pennoyer of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Ed Wojeck of the Alaska Trollers Association.

TREATY TALKS

A government to government meeting will be held sometime during the week of October tenth, in Seattle. This will be the first meeting between the governments of the United States and Canada regarding the treaty since it was rejected last spring. Don Collinsworth, attended by staff biologists, will represent Alaska at the meeting. At this time, harvest and escapement data will be exchanged and reviewed. Collinsworth and representatives from the other states will meet prior to the session with the Canadian government. The government to government talk is not an official negotiating session. However, those parties favoring treaty ratification are hoping to hold formal and perhaps final negotiations in late November.

¹ Steve Pennoyer, Director, Division of Commercial Fisheries, Juneau, 465-4210.
 Ed Wojeck, Executive Director, Alaska Trollers Association, Juneau, 586-9400.

Salmon Treaty, Update

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Ted Kronmiller from the State Department resigned and has been replaced by Ed Woolf. Both Chris Dawson and Ed Woolf will be at the talks next week. Kronmiller has gone into private practice, and Wojeck thought there might still be some role for him in the negotiations. Wojeck thought he might "serve Alaska's interest well."

The greatest point of contention leading toward treaty rejection was the Alaska Troller's position. Apparently no developments have yet occurred which indicate that these problems are being resolved, and Wojeck expressed that ATA would continue to oppose any treaty which includes similar restrictions on the troll fisheries.

If formal negotiations resume, the Governor in all likelihood will appoint an Alaska delegation to attend. Names have not yet been suggested, at least not publicly, but the Department of Fish and Game will probably make some recommendations.

PRELIMINARY HARVEST LEVELS

In the table below, I have provided the latest statistics available concerning harvest and escapement data for the fisheries that would have been affected by the salmon treaty. These statistics are preliminary. The full reports are included in Attachment A.

On the left hand side of the table, I have provided those limits that would have applied had the treaty been ratified. On the right hand side I have provided the preliminary harvest levels. In late June, the Governor issued a press release outlining a management plan for the season. In most cases the plan outlined limits similar to the provisions used in the draft treaty. Where this is the case the figure under the salmon treaty column is appended with an astericks.

In addition to the information below, it is useful to note that oceanographic conditions affecting the runs were very unusual this year. The Alaska Troll fishery was opened for 60 of 190 days this year for Chinook fishing, the all time shortest season. A total catch of 1.3 million coho was reported for the Alaska troll coho fishery, the third largest recorded catch.

COMPARISON DRAFT U.S./CANADA SALMON TREATY PROVISIONS WITH
WITH 1983 PRELIMINARY HARVEST DATA

<u>FISHERY</u>	<u>DRAFT TREATY PROVISIONS</u>	<u>ACTUAL CATCH</u>
TROLL/CHINOOK		
Alaska: ¹	243,000	270,000
Canada:	868,000	
TAKU/SOCKEYE		
Alaska, ² Gillnet:	no limit	30,903
Canada:	3,000	16,015
/PINKS		
Alaska, Gillnet:	no limit	63,731
Canada: ^{2,3}	3-5,000	1,874
/COHO		
Alaska, ⁴ Gillnet:		22,830
Canada:		7,830
STIKINE/SOCKEYE ⁵		
Alaska, Gillnet:	55%	174
Canada:	45%	15,789
/COHO ⁶		
Alaska, ⁷ Gillnet:	55%	14,238
Canada:	45%	1,134
ALSEK/SOCKEYE ⁸		
Alaska, Gillnet:		19,131
Canada:		
NOYES IS/SOCKEYE		
Alaska, Purse Seine:	160,000	647,000
TREE POINT/SOCKEYE		
Alaska, Gillnet:	130,000	130,000
DIXON		

(*) indicates that the provisions of the Governor's management plan issued in June 1984 are similar to those in the draft treaty.

Source: Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries, Juneau, Alaska.

COMPARISON DRAFT U.S./CANADA SALMON TREATY PROVISIONS WITH THE 1983
PRELIMINARY HARVEST DATA, Contined

1. The draft treaty provided for a total Alaska Chinook catch of 263,000 of which 243,000 was the commercial allocation for all gears. The total commercial catch was actually 290,000 for 1983.
2. The allocation is for the Taku sockeyes and and pinks originating in the Taku River.
3. Pink runs were very poor in the Taku.
4. Poor escapement of Canadian Taku Coho.
5. disregard.
6. disregard.
7. poor runs indicated by poor catch despite absence of fishing limitations and closures.
8. The Alsek was to be managed to protect early sockeye runs and this was done. Canadian subsistence sockeye catches not yet in.

**PRELIMINARY INSEASON SUMMARY OF
1983 SOUTHEAST ALASKA SALMON TROLL FISHERY**

September 17, 1983

Southeast Region Staff

**Division of Commercial Fisheries
Alaska Department of Fish and Game**

IMPORTANT NOTE

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SALMON CATCH DATA REPORTED IN THIS DOCUMENT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED VERY PRELIMINARY AS IT IS BASED ON INITIAL INSEASON TABULATION OF FISH TICKETS AND INCLUDES SOME PROJECTIONS FOR MOST RECENT PERIODS WHEN FISH TICKETS WERE NOT AVAILABLE. REVISIONS WILL OCCUR AS LATE ARRIVING TICKETS ARE COMPILED AND THE DATA IS EDITED FOR ACCURACY AND COMPLETENESS. HOWEVER, CATCH DATA REPORTED IS BELIEVED TO BE SUFFICIENTLY ACCURATE TO INDICATE GENERAL FISHERY PERFORMANCE TO DATE.

PRELIMINARY INSEASON SUMMARY OF
1983 SOUTHEAST ALASKA SALMON TROLL FISHERY

Chinook Salmon Fishery

1. Preliminary inseason reports indicate approximately 270,000 chinook salmon were harvested by the Southeast Alaska troll fishery during the 1983 season (Table 1). Of this total, approximately 30,000 fish were taken during the winter fishery - October 1, 1982 through April 14, 1983 - and 240,000 during the summery fishery May 15 through August 4. Combined with an estimated 20,000 incidental catch by gillnet and seine fisheries, this yielded a total commercial chinook salmon harvest of approximately 290,000.

2. By comparison, the preliminary 1983 commercial harvest of 290,000 chinook salmon was approximately the same as the 1982 catch of 291,000 (Figure 1, Table 2). By gear the estimated 1983 troll catch of 270,000 exceeded the 1982 troll catch of 242,000 by 28,000 fish or 12 percent while the estimated 1983 incidental net catch of 20,000 was 29,000 fish or 59 percent below the 1982 net catch of 49,000. Compared to other recent years the 1983 commercial chinook harvest was about 9 percent or 28,000 fish below the 1970-82 average of 318,000 (Figure 2). Catches in 8 of the 13 years exceeded the 1983 catch, 3 were about the same and only two - 1981 and 1976 - were less.

3. During the 1983 summer troll fishery season (defined by regulation as May 15 through September 20), the fishery was open a total of 60 days for chinook salmon fishing. This consisted of two open periods - a 25 day open period from May 15 through June 8 and a 35 day open period from July 1 through August 4. The troll fishery was closed to chinook salmon fishing from June 9 through June 30 and August 5 through September 30 for a total of 109 days. As seen in Figure 3 and Table 3, 5 fewer open days were allowed in 1983 than the significantly restricted 1982 season and, 1983 was in fact the shortest chinook season on record for the troll fishery since it began.
4. Following a 10-day closure from August 5 through 14, the troll fishery was reopened for all species except chinook salmon. From August 15 through September 20 the troll fishery targetted primarily on coho salmon harvesting about 450,000 for an estimated total season catch of nearly 1.3 million. During the period August 15 through September 20 trollers were required to release chinook salmon hooked incidentally while fishing for other species. To help minimize the incidence of chinook hook and release during this period, The Alaska Department of Fish and Game closed four areas along the outer coast which had been identified as areas of probable high chinook abundance. The federal

Fishery Conservation Zone (FCZ), consisting primarily of that area beyond 3 miles of the outer coast line, was closed to all fishing from July 21 to the end of the season except for four FCZ enclaves in Cross Sound, Sitka Sound, Lower Chatham Straits and Summer Straits which were reopened to all species except chinook beginning August 15 to facilitate the coho harvest in those areas. Fishermen were also encouraged by ADF&G and the Alaska Trollers Association (ATA) to avoid remaining open areas where chinook abundance was highest and to utilize gear and fishing techniques most selective to coho salmon. ATA provided fishermen with a leaflet handout indicating areas to avoid and fishing techniques to use. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, in cooperation with ATA, conducted an observer program utilizing 3 ADF&G observers and approximately 10 fishermen observers to document incidental chinook hooking rates. Preliminary data from this program plus fishermen observations suggests that the rate of incidental hook and release of chinook salmon was much less in 1983 than 1982. This also tends to be substantiated by the much lower incidental chinook harvest by net fisheries in 1983.

5. Chinook salmon escapements to nine Southeast Alaska index systems were variable in 1983 (Table 4). Spawning was extremely weak in two of the major systems, the Taku and

Stikine. (Poor returns to the lake had been expected in 1983 due to landslides which occurred during the 1978-79 winter). Although 1983 escapements were about 20 percent below 1982 levels in the Unuk and King Salmon Rivers they remained well above 1975-80 averages. Escapements were above 1982 levels in the Alsek, Situk, Chickamin, Blossum and Keta rivers.

6. Sampling of troll caught chinook and coho salmon for coded wire tags remained high again in 1983 with at least 30 percent of the chinook and 25 percent of the coho being sampled. Net fishery catches were also sampled.

Coho Salmon Fishery

1. Nearly 1.3 million coho salmon were harvested during the 1983 troll coho salmon season which began July 1 (Table 1). While the coho season normally opens June 15 by regulation, in 1983 the troll fishery was closed to all fishing June 9-30 for chinook salmon management purposes. The effect of the two week delay on the coho season opening was considered minimal as less than 5 percent of the season coho harvest normally occurs during this period with most of that catch being taken in outer coastal areas. The 1983 coho season which consisted of a 35 day open period July 1 - August 4, a 10-day closed period August 5-14 and 37 day open period

August 15 through September 20 was similar ... duration to the 1980, 1981 and 1982 seasons. The 10-day mid-season closure has been implemented since 1980 to allow more coho to reach inside areas.

2. The 1983 troll coho salmon harvest of nearly 1.3 million fish will rank as the third largest on record since 1951 when catch was first reported by gear type. The 1982 catch of 1.33 million ranks second with the 2.0 million catch of 1951 ranking first (Figure 4).
3. The total commercial coho salmon catch for 1983 is expected to total approximately 1.9 million including a seine harvest of about 350,000 and a gillnet harvest of about 300,000. For commercial catch by all gear this would rank 1983 as the third largest since 1951.
4. Federal waters in the Fishery Conservation Zone were closed to the harvest of all salmon species including coho from July 21 through August 14. From August 15 through September 20 the FCZ remained closed except for the four FCZ enclaves into inside waters as previously discussed. The FCZ closure to all species was intended to prevent further chinook salmon harvest in federal waters and the hook and release of chinook expected if the FCZ were open to species other than chinook. Federal managers felt that complete closure of the

FCZ would not significantly hinder the troll harvest of coho salmon as the fleet could redistribute into state waters. Adequate coho salmon harvest rates did subsequently occur.

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FIGURES AND TABLES

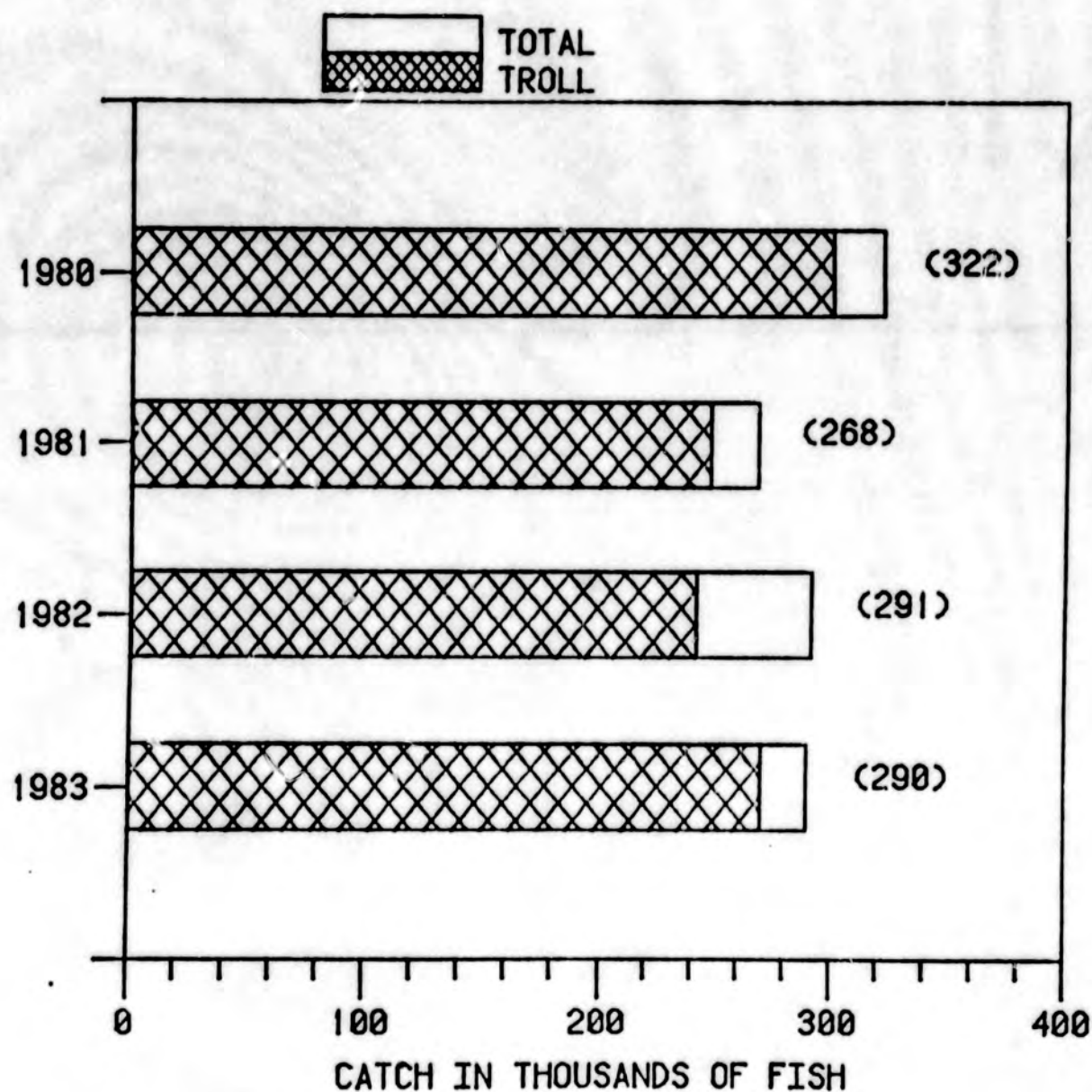


FIGURE 1. SOUTHEAST ALASKA REGION COMMERCIAL CHINOOK SALMON HARVEST
BY TROLL AND ALL COMMERCIAL GEAR, 1980-83. (ADF&G 9/17/83)

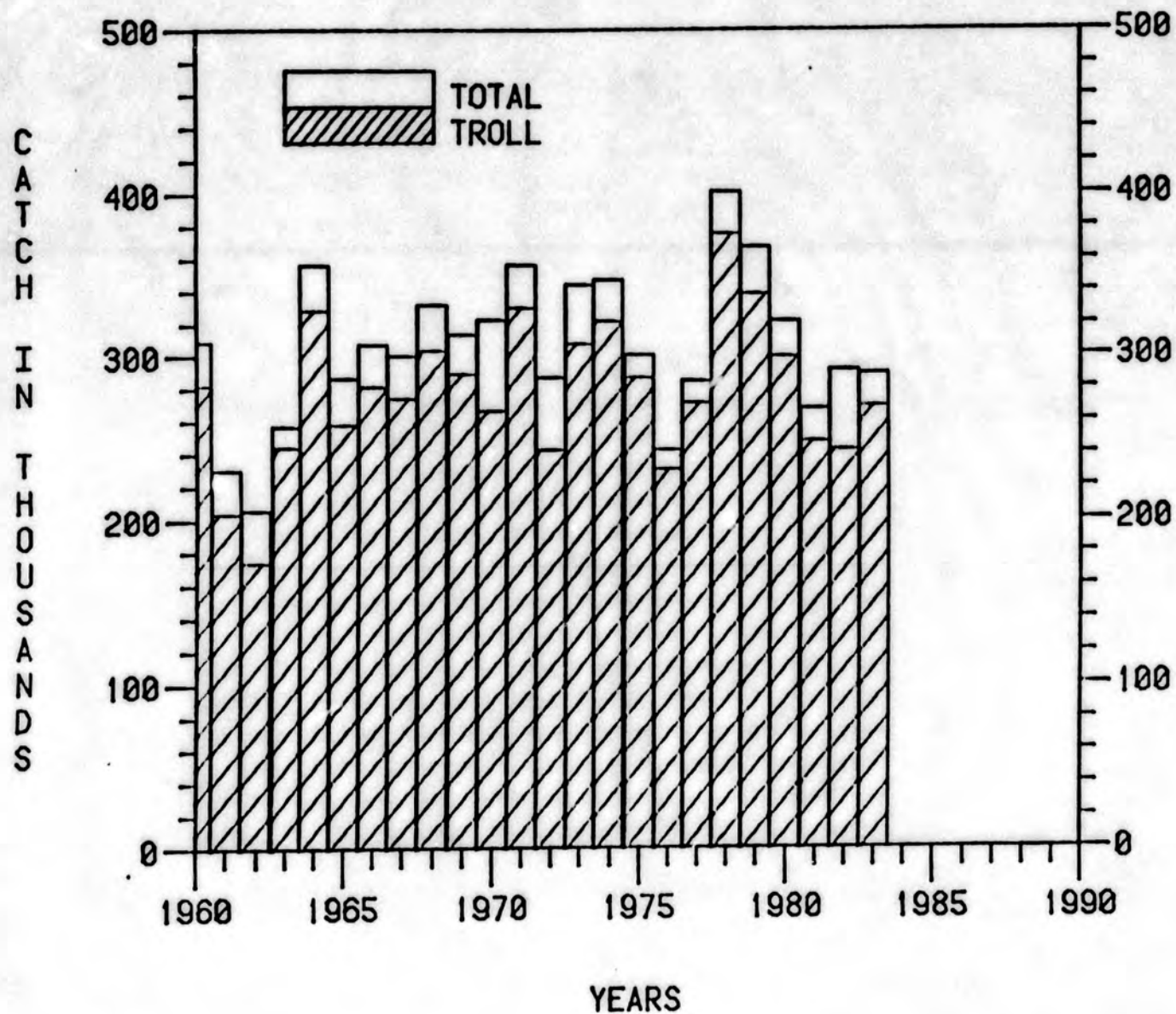


FIGURE 2. SOUTHEAST ALASKA REGION TOTAL CHINOOK SALMON CATCHES BY TROLL AND ALL COMMERCIAL FISHERIES, 1960-83. (ADF&G 9/83)

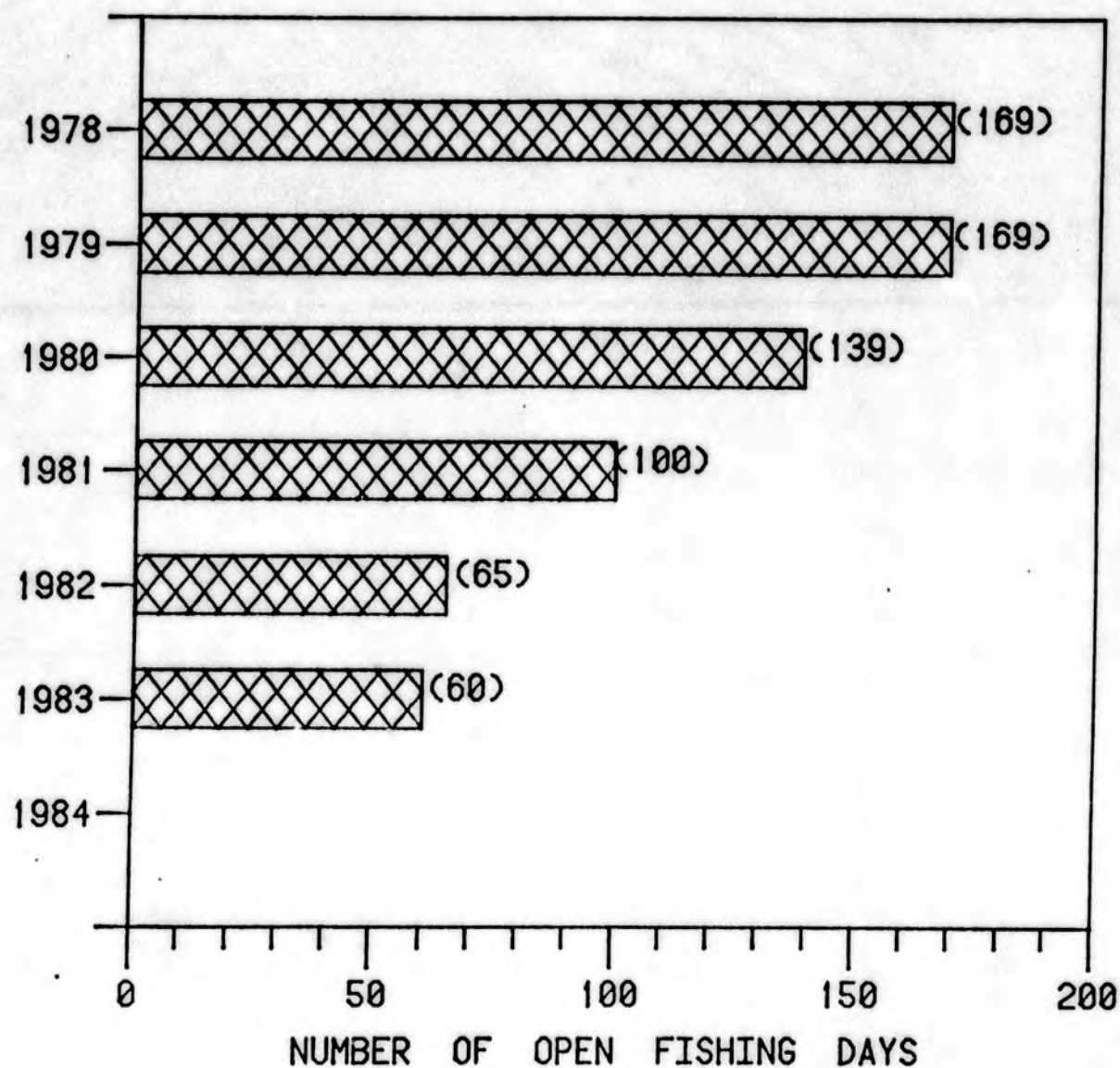


FIGURE 3 . NUMBER OF DAYS SOUTHEAST ALASKA TROLL FISHERY OPEN TO CHINOOK SALMON FISHING DURING THE SUMMER SEASON APRIL 15 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 1978-83 (ADF&G 7/23/83)

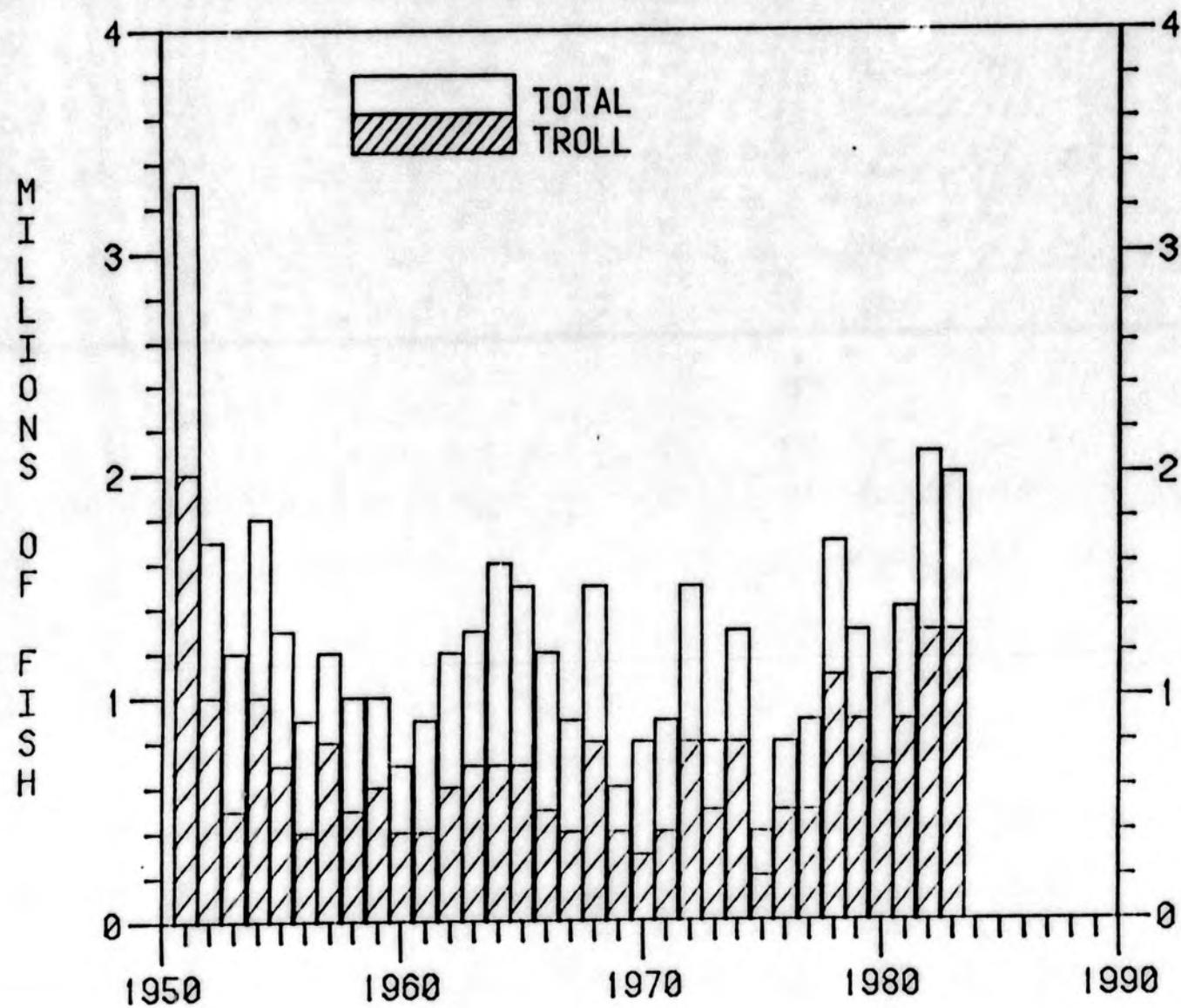


FIGURE 4. SOUTHEAST ALASKA REGION ANNUAL COMMERCIAL COHO SALMON CATCHES BY THE TROLL FISHERY AND ALL COMMERCIAL FISHERIES 1951 - PRESENT. (ADF&G 9/83)

Table 1. Preliminary Inseason 1983 Chinook and Coho Salmon Catches
by Southeast Alaska Fisheries (ADF&G Revised 9/17/83)

	No. of Days	Est. Catches	
		Chinook	Coho
TROLL FISHERY			
Winter Fishery			
Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 1982		12,400	
Jan. 1 - Apr. 14, 1983		17,600	
Winter Fishery Subtotal		30,000	
Summer Fishery			
Apr. 15 - May 14	30	-CLOSED ALL SPECIES-	
May 15 - Jun. 8	25	101,000	
June 9 - 30	22	-CLOSED ALL SPECIES-	
July 1 - Aug. 4	35	139,000	830,000
Aug. 5 - 14	10	-CLOSED ALL SPECIES-	
Aug. 15 - Sept. 20	37	1/	450,000
Summer Fishery Subtotal		240,000	1,280,000
TROLL FISHERY SUBTOTAL		270,000	1,280,000
NET FISHERIES			
Gillnet Fisheries		6,000	300,000
Seine Fisheries		14,000	350,000
NET FISHERIES SUBTOTAL		20,000	650,000
ALL GEAR TOTAL CATCH		290,000	1,930,000

1/ Troll fishery closed to harvest of chinook salmon.

Table 2. Southeast Alaska Commercial and Recreational Chinook Salmon Harvest, 1965 - Present. (ADF&G 9/12/83)

(Numbers of Fish in Thousands)

Year	-- Commercial Fisheries --			Recreational Fisheries 1/	Total
	Troll	Net	Subtotal		
1965	259	28	287	(13)	(300)
1966	282	26	308	(13)	(321)
1967	275	26	301	(13)	(314)
1968	304	28	332	(14)	(346)
1969	290	24	314	(14)	(328)
1965-69 Ave.	282	26	308	13	322
1970	305	18	323	(14)	(337)
1971	334	22	356	(15)	(371)
1972	242	45	287	(15)	(302)
1973	308	36	344	(16)	(360)
1974	322	25	347	(17)	(364)
1971-74 Ave.	302	29	331	15	347
1975	287	14	301	(17)	(318)
1976	231	11	242	(17)	(259)
1977	272	13	285	17	302
1978	376	25	401	17	418
1979	338	29	367	17	384
1975-79 Ave.	301	18	319	17	336
1980	300	22	322	20	342
1981	248	20	268	17	285
1982	242	49	291	19	310
1980-82 Ave.	263	30	294	19	312
1983 2/	(270)	(20)	(290)	(19) 3/	309

1/ Estimates of recreational catches for 1977-82 based on mail surveys. Estimates for 1965-76 based on 1977-80 average catch per capita of 0.332 fish applied to population estimates.

2/ Preliminary data.

3/ Projection equal to 1980-82 average catch.

Table 3. Number of days Southeast Alaska troll fishery open to chinook salmon fishing during the summer season April 15 through September 30, 1978-83 (ADF&G 7/23/83)

Year	Number of Open Days 1/	Number of Closed Days	Closed Periods (No. of Days)
1978	169	0	None
1979	169	0	None
1980	139	30	July 15-24 (9); Sept. 10-30 (21)
1981	100	69	Apr. 15 - May 14 (30); June 26 - July 4 (9); Aug. 10-19 (10); Sept. 4-12 (9); Sept. 20-30 (11)
1982	65	104	Apr. 15 - May 14 (30); June 7-16 (10); July 29 - Sept. 30 (64)
1983	60	109	Apr. 15 - May 14 (30); June 9-30 (22); Aug. 5 - Sept. 30 (57)

1/ Number of days major portion of Southeast Alaska open to chinook salmon fishing. Selected area closures for all species occurred in some years during the open periods indicated above.

TABLE 4 . PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES OF 1983 CHINOOK SALMON INDEX ESCAPEMENTS TO NINE SOUTHEAST ALASKA INDEX SYSTEMS
(ADF&G 8/31/83)

System - Tributary	Type of Estimate 1/	Index Escapements				Percent change in 1983 compared to Ave. 1975-80 1982		Mgm't Escap. Goals	Percent of Goal	
		Ave. 1975-80	1981	1982	1983				1983	1982-83
Major Systems (3 total) 2/										
Alsek - Kluckshu	(2)	2,890	2,110	2,360	2,520	- 13%	+ 7%	3,200	79%	73%
Taku - Nakina	(1)	2,810	5,100	2,530	970	- 65	-62	9,000	11	32
Nahlin	(1)	780	2,940	1,250	390	- 50	-69	2,500	16	61
Taku Subtotal		3,590	8,040	3,780	1,360	- 62	-64	11,500	12	38
Stikine - Little Tahlitan	(1)	970	3,330	2,830	590	- 39	-79	2,100	28	107
Major Systems Subtotals		7,450	13,480	8,970	4,470	- 40	-50	16,800	27	53
Medium Systems Subtotals (8 total) 2/										
Situk	(2)	1,490	810	510	730	- 51	+43	2,100	35	33
Behm Canal Systems										
Unuk	(1)	800	730	1,350	1,110	+ 39	-18	1,800	62	59
Chickamin	(1)	220	280	340	340	+ 55	+ 0	900	38	36
Blossum	(1)	100	160	340	590	+490	+74	800	61	45
Keta	(1)	250	330	750	820	+228	+ 9	500	164	127
Behm Canal Subtotals		1,370	1,500	2,780	2,860	+109	+ 3	4,000	72	60
Medium Systems Subtotals		2,860	2,310	3,290	3,590	+ 26	+ 9	6,100	59	50
Minor Systems (22 total) 2/										
King Salmon River	(1)	80	100	260	210	+160	-20	200	104	94
All Index Systems Totals		10,390	15,890	12,520	8,270	- 20	-34	23,100	36	53

(Cont.)

(Cont.)

TABLE 4 . (CONT.) PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES OF 1983 CHINOOK SALMON INDEX ESCAPEMENTS TO NINE SOUTHEAST ALASKA INDEX SYSTEMS (ADF&G 8/31/83)

1/ Type of estimate codes: (1) Helicopter peak spawning count (primary method).
(2) Weir total count.

2/ System size categories: Potential run size: major - greater than 10,000
medium - 1,500 to 10,000
minor - less than 1,500

Notes: (1) Thirty-three known chinook salmon producing systems exist in Southeast Alaska. However, due to poor surveying conditions in many systems only those included in the table have been surveyed in a consistent manner each year to provide a relative measure of index of total chinook salmon escapements to Southeast Alaska systems.
(2) Index escapements shown in the table have not been expanded for aerial survey counting rates or for tributaries not surveyed to estimate total spawning escapements.

Data Sources: 1975-81: Kissner, Paul D., Jr. 1982. A Study of Chinook Salmon in Southeast Alaska. Alaska Dept. Fish and Game. Completion Report 1981-82, Project AFS-41

1982-83: Alaska Department of Fish and Game unpublished management records.
Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans unpublished management records. (Kluckshu weir counts provided by S. Johnson, CDFO.)

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please

E.P.

PRELIMINARY SOUTHEAST ALASKA
1983 SALMON CATCH DATA

September 21, 1983

Division of Commercial Fisheries
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Commercial Fisheries
Southeast Region

Preliminary In-Season Commercial Salmon Harvest Report

All Gears 1983

Report Date 09/20/83
Statistical Week 39

Fishery	Catch - Cumulative through last week reported					Total
	Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	
(1) Seine	11887	773854	309266	32830342	547571	34472920
Southern	11133	735842	284215	27707182	344833	29083205
Northern	754	38012	25051	5123160	202738	5389715
(2) Drift Gillnet	4621	584254	185400	1396346	350977	2521598
Southern	2169	203701	118645	1185746	163018	1673279
Northern (excluding Yakutat)	2452	380553	66755	210600	187959	848319
(3) Set Gillnet (Yakutat)	796	155501	54605	50614	10565	272081
(4) Gillnet Total	5417	739755	240005	1446960	361542	2793679
(5) Troll	270000	10700	1258475	508640	21000	2068815
Southern	91661	5326	158100	254023	10462	519572
Northern	178339	5374	1100375	254617	10538	1549243
(6) Trap (Annette Is.)	194	4854	6270	802700	1776	815794
Southern Subtotals	105157	949723	567230	29949651	520089	32091850
Northern Subtotals	182341	579440	1246786	5638991	411800	8059358
Totals	287498	1529163	1814016	35588642	931889	40151208

Cautionary note: In-season catch data shown above should be considered VERY PRELIMINARY. Changes may occur daily as data is edited and updated. Data is computed in this form primarily for in-season management use and general catch reporting.

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Commercial Fisheries
Southeast Region

Preliminary In-Season Commercial Salmon Harvest Report

Seine 1983

Report Date 09/20/83
Statistical Week 35

District	last week reported	ending date	Catch - Chinook	Last week Sockeye	reported Coho	cummulative Pink	to date Chum	Total
(1)	40	Oct 1	395	63058	42142	5978063	47487	6131145
(2)	38	Sep 17	94	11102	30985	1741803	54183	1838167
(3)	36	Sep 3	90	10152	26884	2311102	46958	2395186
(4)	35	Aug 27	10519	647730	169624	15786214	177505	16791592
(5)	36	Sep 3	15	420	3380	233000	14900	251715
(6)	34	Aug 20	10	2000	8400	800000	1200	811610
(7)	36	Sep 3	10	1380	2800	857000	2600	863790
(9)	36	Sep 3	42	613	2413	568806	12922	584796
(10)	32	Aug 6	130	1120	950	183300	1780	187280
(11)	0		0	0	0	0	0	0
(12)	36	Sep 3	106	15902	8692	1738791	81700	1845191
(13)	35	Aug 27	465	19440	11387	2295395	54741	2381428
(14)	38	Sep 17	11	937	1609	336868	51595	391020
Southern Subtotals (Districts (1) - (7))			11133	735842	284215	27707182	344833	29083205
Northern Subtotals (Districts (9) - (14))			754	38012	25051	5123160	202738	5389715
Totals			11887	773854	309266	32830342	547571	34472920

Cautionary note: In-season catch data shown above should be considered VERY PRELIMINARY. Changes may occur daily as data is edited and updated. Data is computed in this form primarily for in-season management use and general catch reporting.

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Commercial Fisheries
Southeast Region

Preliminary In-Season Commercial Salmon Harvest Report

Seine 1983

Report Date 09/20/83
Statistical Week 39

District	week	ending date	Catch - Weekly to date in this district					Total
			Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	
(4)	28	Jul 9	3469	44833	50481	180185	22848	301816
(4)	29	Jul 16	781	55213	25522	338335	11298	431149
(4)	30	Jul 23	1496	74701	27330	677900	14026	795453
(4)	31	Jul 30	1825	172400	23951	3389720	24958	3612854
(4)	32	Aug 6	823	152424	14009	5042370	40043	5249669
(4)	33	Aug 13	1079	96312	12348	4365440	32783	4507962
(4)	34	Aug 20	1046	51847	15983	1792264	31549	1892689
(4)	35	Aug 27	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals			10519	647730	169624	15786214	177505	16791592

Cautionary note: In-season catch data shown above should be considered VERY PRELIMINARY. Changes may occur daily as data is edited and updated. Data is computed in this form primarily for in-season management use and general catch reporting.

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Commercial Fisheries
Southeast Region

Gillnet 1983

Preliminary In-Season Commercial Salmon Harvest Report

Report Date 09/20/83
Statistical Week 38

fishery	last week reported	ending date	Catch - Cumulative through last week reported					Total
			Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	
(1) Portland Canal	38	Sep 17	1504	133108	39398	770536	126003	1070549
(2) Annette Island	36	Sep 3	144	21850	7795	209867	17453	257109
(3) Prince of Wales	38	Sep 17	476	48569	57214	201201	18957	326417
(4) Blind Slough	0		0	0	0	0	0	0
(5) Stikine River	38	Sep 17	45	174	14238	4142	605	19204
(6) Taku/Snettisham	38	Sep 17	886	30903	22830	63731	14848	133198
(7) Lynn Canal	38	Sep 17	1566	349650	43925	146869	173111	715121
(8) Akwe River	38	Sep 17	93	5680	2249	151	78	8251
(9) Alsek River	38	Sep 17	74	19131	3246	6	195	22652
(10) Last River	38	Sep 17	30	82204	4332	273	9240	96079
(11) Italio River	38	Sep 17	0	1338	1610	455	574	3977
(12) Kaliakh	38	Sep 17	0	0	3105	0	0	3105
(13) Tsiu	38	Sep 17	0	0	11180	0	0	11180
(14) Yahtse	37	Sep 10	0	0	3582	0	0	3582
(15) Lost River	38	Sep 17	3	2459	4600	1376	5	8443
(16) Manby Shore	38	Sep 17	25	7679	4205	139	13	12061
(17) Situk River	38	Sep 17	333	19408	13249	33314	98	66402
(18) Yakutat Bay	38	Sep 17	238	17602	3247	14900	362	36349
Southern Subtotals								
(Fisheries (1) - (5))			2169	203701	118645	1185746	163018	1673279
Northern Excluding Yakutat Subtotals								
(Fisheries (6) - (7))			2452	380553	66755	210600	187959	848319
Yakutat Subtotals								
(Fisheries (8) - (18))			796	155501	54605	50614	10565	272081
Totals			5417	739755	240005	1446960	361542	2793679

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Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Commercial Fisheries
Southeast Region

Gillnet 1983

Preliminary In-Season Commercial Salmon Harvest Report

Report Date 09/20/83
Statistical Week 38

fishery	week	ending date	Catch - Weekly to date in this fishery				Chum	Total
			Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink		
(1) Portland Canal	26	Jun 25	349	16678	658	1734	12700	32119
(1) Portland Canal	27	Jul 2	331	13601	2034	24612	16261	56839
(1) Portland Canal	28	Jul 9	240	4701	1313	22910	6388	35552
(1) Portland Canal	29	Jul 16	302	8934	1925	28917	12011	52089
(1) Portland Canal	30	Jul 23	95	22782	2381	150586	15315	191159
(1) Portland Canal	31	Jul 30	76	17267	3374	108520	9003	138240
(1) Portland Canal	32	Aug 6	62	22993	6756	137822	13243	180876
(1) Portland Canal	33	Aug 13	14	19093	5421	183742	9348	217618
(1) Portland Canal	34	Aug 20	9	4351	3262	76631	9511	93764
(1) Portland Canal	35	Aug 27	10	1254	2263	21036	5852	30415
(1) Portland Canal	36	Sep 3	15	883	5863	11282	7285	25328
(1) Portland Canal	37	Sep 10	0	499	3317	2409	5944	12169
(1) Portland Canal	38	Sep 17	1	72	831	335	3142	4381
Totals			1504	133108	39398	770536	126003	1070549

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1983 Preliminary Canadian Net Fishery Catches
and
Escapement Data - Area 3 and Area 4

Catches						
Area	King	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total
Area 3	7571	405,010	125,723	6,189,681	184,281	6,912,226
Area 4	2828	326,145	32,182	756,296	17,642	1,135,093

Escapement			
System	Species	Escapement Goal	1983 Escapement
Nass River	Sockeye	220,000	180,000
Skeena River	Sockeye	1,000,000	1,000,000
Skeena River	Pink	1,000,000	2,000,000

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Commercial Fisheries
Southeast Region

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Preliminary In-Season Commercial Salmon Harvest Report

Report Date 09/20/83
Statistical Week 38

fishery	week	ending date	Catch - Weekly to date in this fishery				Chum	"	Total
			Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink			
(3) Prince of Wales	26	Jun 25	23	5545	669	9385	941		16563
(3) Prince of Wales	27	Jul 2	125	6829	1291	6493	1394		16132
(3) Prince of Wales	28	Jul 9	100	5158	1822	5471	995		13546
(3) Prince of Wales	29	Jul 16	18	4966	1333	4482	943		11742
(3) Prince of Wales	30	Jul 23	39	12382	4808	27122	3932		48283
(3) Prince of Wales	31	Jul 30	25	8048	3840	23366	1796		37075
(3) Prince of Wales	32	Aug 6	3	1295	1400	4491	1155		8344
(3) Prince of Wales	33	Aug 13	49	2523	3708	44102	1798		52180
(3) Prince of Wales	34	Aug 20	11	924	7633	32994	2260		43822
(3) Prince of Wales	35	Aug 27	25	556	8409	25575	1288		35853
(3) Prince of Wales	36	Sep 3	22	237	9758	15548	1091		26656
(3) Prince of Wales	37	Sep 10	20	94	8599	1753	737		11203
(3) Prince of Wales	38	Sep 17	16	12	3944	419	627		5018
Totals			476	48569	57214	201201	18957		326417

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Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Commercial Fisheries
Southeast Region

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Preliminary In-Season Commercial Salmon Harvest Report

Report Date 09/20/83
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fishery	week	ending date	Catch - Weekly to date in this fishery						Total
			Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum		
(5) Stikine River	34	Aug 20	0	78	255	3014	182	3529	
(5) Stikine River	35	Aug 27	6	30	1085	737	66	1924	
(5) Stikine River	36	Sep 3	7	41	4262	64	84	4458	
(5) Stikine River	37	Sep 10	18	21	4962	242	115	5358	
(5) Stikine River	38	Sep 17	14	4	3674	85	158	3935	
Totals			45	174	14238	4142	605	19204	

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1983 Preliminary Canadian Transboundary Fishing Data

STIKINE

Week Ending	Days Fished	Large King	Jack King	Chum	Sock-eye	Pink	Coho	Fishermen
6/18	2	109	55	-	45	-	-	7
6/25	2	77	69	-	179	-	-	7
7/01	3	98	100	-	1060	4	-	9
7/09	4	50	95	-	2240	4	-	9
7/16	4	60	56	14	2912	164	-	10
7/24	4	33	-	18	1919	157	2	9
7/31	4	16	-	36	3312	238	6	9
8/07	4	9	-	63	2315	253	54	8
8/14	3	2	-	40	1312	87	128	9
8/21	3	2	-	15	235	19	166	?
8/27	1	-	-	6	114	8	144	8
9/03	3	-	-	25	146	8	634	8
TOTAL		456	375	217	15,789	942	1134	

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
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Preliminary In-Season Commercial Salmon Harvest Report

Report Date 09/20/83
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fishery	week	ending date	Catch - Weekly to date in this fishery				Chum	Total
			Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink		
(6) Taku/Snettisham	26	Jun 25	147	2308	9	272	22	2758
(6) Taku/Snettisham	27	Jul 2	241	3337	53	5745	226	9602
(6) Taku/Snettisham	28	Jul 9	175	6160	62	7298	701	14396
(6) Taku/Snettisham	29	Jul 16	39	1675	127	5069	538	7448
(6) Taku/Snettisham	30	Jul 23	15	839	162	9905	1222	12143
(6) Taku/Snettisham	31	Jul 30	115	5947	1055	18711	1347	27175
(6) Taku/Snettisham	32	Aug 6	98	6147	2386	13696	1269	23596
(6) Taku/Snettisham	33	Aug 13	24	2203	2077	2313	913	7530
(6) Taku/Snettisham	34	Aug 20	6	713	1137	592	579	3027
(6) Taku/Snettisham	35	Aug 27	3	850	6500	105	1620	9078
(6) Taku/Snettisham	36	Sep 3	11	500	4300	20	3300	8631
(6) Taku/Snettisham	37	Sep 10	12	219	2962	5	2411	5609
(6) Taku/Snettisham	38	Sep 17	0	5	1500	0	700	2205
Totals			886	30903	22830	63731	14848	133198

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1983 Preliminary Canadian Transboundary Fishing Data

TAKU								
Week Ending	Days Fished	Large King	Jack King	Chum	Sock- eye	Pink	Coho	Fish- ermen
6/18	2	35	100	-	123	-	-	3
6/25	2	42	124	-	305	-	-	4
7/01	2	39	98	-	711	20	-	7
7/09	2	19	50	-	645	177	-	7
7/16	4	9	-	-	2390	260	27	6
7/24	4	7	-	11	1929	1218	103	7
7/31	4	3	-	9	3130	199	249	11
8/07	4	-	-	5	4112	-	654	11
8/14	4	-	-	4	978	-	514	9
8/20	4	-	-	30	473	-	1237	5
8/27	4	-	-	456	433	-	959	4
9/03	4	-	-	270	359	-	1095	8
9/10	4	-	-	719	427	-	1118	8
TOTAL		154	372	1504	16,015	1874	7830	8

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Commercial Fisheries
Southeast Region

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Preliminary In-Season Commercial Salmon Harvest Report

Report Date 09/20/83
Statistical Week 38

fishery	week	ending date	Catch - Weekly to date in this fishery					Total
			Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	
(7) Lynn Canal	26	Jun 25	38	2299	1	121	.60	2519
(7) Lynn Canal	27	Jul 2	74	4631	68	2165	1202	8140
(7) Lynn Canal	28	Jul 9	267	9854	18	3197	2620	15956
(7) Lynn Canal	29	Jul 16	106	7518	86	8369	3582	19661
(7) Lynn Canal	30	Jul 23	177	25937	346	42103	6637	75250
(7) Lynn Canal	31	Jul 30	279	56587	238	21087	4144	82335
(7) Lynn Canal	32	Aug 6	193	57663	416	16193	2714	77179
(7) Lynn Canal	33	Aug 13	144	48930	1802	18818	7210	76904
(7) Lynn Canal	34	Aug 20	33	34347	2823	14656	10581	62440
(7) Lynn Canal	35	Aug 27	100	50437	6915	16448	28565	102465
(7) Lynn Canal	36	Sep 3	124	39799	12221	3283	42071	97498
(7) Lynn Canal	37	Sep 10	3	10398	10369	426	35286	56482
(7) Lynn Canal	38	Sep 17	28	1200	8622	3	28439	38292
Totals			1566	349650	43925	146869	173111	715121

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STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
JUNEAU
BILL SHEFFIELD
GOVERNOR

NEWS RELEASE



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GOVERNOR REPORTS NO PROGRESS IN FISH TREATY TALKS

JUNE 20, 1983

NO. 83-124

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JUNEAU -- The Alaska Department of Fish and Game is preparing to develop a new fisheries management plan centering on the assumption that no salmon interception treaty will be signed between Canada and the United States, Governor Bill Sheffield said today.

"There has been absolutely no progress in the treaty talks, and it's beginning to look like the Canadians are not interested in trying to overcome Alaska's objections to the draft language of the treaty," Sheffield said. "I'm extremely disappointed, but if that's going to be their position, we might as well start putting together a plan that assumes no treaty."

"I must add that while we'll manage our fish stocks with conservation in mind under this new plan, we do not intend to then simply hand over fish to the Canadians; the stocks we manage will be managed for our fishermen."

The state opposes the treaty because it provides for insufficient harvest of chinook salmon for Alaska fishermen and fails to provide adequate distribution of salmon harvested in transboundary rivers.

Don Collinsworth, Commissioner of the Department of Fish and Game, and Commercial Fisheries Director Steve

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Pennoyer are to return to Juneau from Washington D.C. Tuesday, following the latest in a series of unsuccessful talks with representatives of the government of Canada.

They joined Alaska U.S. Senators Ted Stevens and Frank Murkowski and a U.S. State Department representative in a meeting Monday with Canadian representatives to discuss Canada's early opening for sockeye salmon on the Taku River.

Alaska opposed the opening because it increases the likelihood of increased incidental catches of chinooks. The Canadians' gave no positive response to Alaska's concern over the premature opening, Sheffield said.

"This and other developments during the past few weeks make it seem increasingly clear that Canada is going to pursue only what is in that country's interest and is not willing to seriously consider our concerns," the Governor said. "If that's to be the case, we must stand firm on our position that the treaty is unacceptable. As written, it's unfair to our fishermen, and we must protect their interests."

(Sheffield said Collinsworth would begin at once to draft a new fisheries management strategy without a treaty as its base.)

"Conservation of salmon stocks will continue to be a primary goal, but now we'll have to look at ways to do it without this treaty," Sheffield said.

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Date?

INTERIM MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR 1983
SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA SALMON FISHERIES

Recent discussions between US and Canadian officials have led to serious doubt that there will be a treaty or interim agreement to guide management actions for the 1983 salmon season in Southeastern Alaska. Canadian officials have been outspoken in their threats of what actions may be taken if the US side does not ratify the current treaty draft. In light of the current situation, it is appropriate for the State to inform Alaska commercial fishermen about the management measures they can expect for the balance of this season.

Alaska has consistently stated that a treaty between the United States and Canada governing coastwide management of salmon species of mutual concern is needed to conserve the stocks and ensure long-term benefits to the fleets of both countries. We will continue to practice conservative management while not accepting reallocation to Canada from traditional fisheries. In the absence of agreed upon stock allocations between the United States and Canada, we have no formal objective for Canadian harvests. Without such a formal arrangement Alaskan managers have no choice but to choose a management regime which will provide for the conservation of the stocks while preventing escalation of interceptions of the kind that might make future negotiations and final conclusion of a treaty impossible. The 1982 interim arrangements were intended to accomplish this and, in general, were the way Alaska had proposed that a new treaty be entered into. If the Canadian government will mirror our actions, stock conservation should be assured and a reasonable atmosphere would be maintained for future negotiation.

The fishery by fishery summaries below are intended to continue the reasonable and responsible attitude the state has continually held with regard to resource conservation and management, but are subject to change to protect the interest of Alaskans should Canadian actions dictate.

Troll Fishery:

Canada has already announced its intent to fish its troll fisheries in the 1982 pattern, which means they will institute no more than a two week closure in northern British Columbia alone (June 17 to July 1) and will certainly not achieve the chinook salmon conservation objectives envisioned in the treaty draft. They are certain to harvest a substantial portion of any fish our fishery transfers south for conservation purposes. Our fishery has already had seven weeks of closures this season and the probability of another ten day closure during the month of August has been announced. Catches have been poor off British Columbia as a result of a speculated combination of oceanographic and stock conditions. It seems likely that Canada will not fill the quota levels envisioned in the treaty draft even with a wide open seven day a week fishery for the remainder of the season. At this time, based on conservation concerns, their season should be limited even further rather than extended. (Quotas alone will not protect stocks that are weaker than anticipated as appears to be the case in Canada.)

The Alaska troll fishery will be opened throughout Southeastern Alaska on July 1st. It is our view that this opening will allow us to manage within the Board of Fisheries OY range. Trollers are reminded that they can anticipate a probable ten day coho/chinook closure in mid-August, with other potential regulatory actions dependent upon their catch rates and Canadian actions.

Taku River Gill Net Fishery:

The Canadians have announced their intention to harvest 15,000 sockeye salmon commercially in the Taku this summer--a unilateral escalation from their 3,000 sockeye limit in 1982, which was to continue in 1983 under the draft treaty. We will manage our fishery to provide for appropriate sockeye escapement and no more than a background level of Canadian fishery, consistent with the 1982 interim agreement and the draft treaty arrangement for 1983--3,000 sockeye and 5,000 pink salmon. If the Canadians escalate their fishery beyond the 3,000 sockeye, they will do so knowing that they are removing spawning stocks and intentionally reducing productivity.

Stikine River Gill Net Fishery:

The Canadians have not announced their harvest intentions in this river. The 40 to 50 percent Canadian sockeye harvest stipulated in the draft treaty was a concession, given the anticipated small run and the fact we expected the longer-term arrangement to be a 65 percent US, 35 percent Canadian sharing in the sockeye total allowable catch. This has not occurred. We intend to manage our fishery to provide for adequate sockeye escapement and an inriver Canadian harvest equivalent to 35 percent of the total allowable catch of this stock. Coho harvest strategies will be addressed in a later release.

Tree Point Gill Net Fishery:

The Tree Point gill net fishery will be managed initially along the lines of the 1981-82 management plan. Effort will be restricted to the average historic level and spread through the season. The sockeye catch will be allowed to fluctuate with the strength of the runs. Such a management regime should result, on the average, in a catch of about 130,000 sockeye, the same number as used in the interim and draft treaty. Inseason adjustments may be made to take into account identified conservation problems for either US or Canadian stocks.

Adherence to this initial regime will be dependent upon Canadian actions in the boundary area and transboundary rivers. We intend to continue our co-operative conservation efforts regarding Portland Canal chums and would urge that Canadian fishery managers reciprocate.

Noyes Island Seine Fishery:

It is our intent to manage this fishery in general conformity to the 1981-82 management plan. Effort will initially be limited to an average historical level that over time would produce a catch of about 160,000 sockeye if contributing stocks were at average abundance levels. This regime may be modified dependent on Canadian management actions for stocks of mutual concern.

alaska department of fish & game

P.O. Box 3-2000, Juneau, Alaska 99802

Phone 465 4113



Bill Sheffield
Governor

Don W. Collinsworth
Commissioner

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 24, 1983

INTERIM SOUTHEAST TROLL PLAN ANNOUNCED

JUNEAU--A failure to find common ground during recent talks on the U.S./Canada salmon treaty has led the State to implement an interim management plan for Southeast Alaska troll fisheries, the Department of Fish and Game announced today.

Don W. Collinsworth, Commissioner, said recent discussions between US and Canadian officials have led to serious doubt that there will be a treaty or interim agreement to guide management actions for the 1983 season.

"Canadian officials have been outspoken in their threats of what actions may be taken if the US side does not ratify the current treaty draft," Collinsworth said. "In light of the current situation, it is appropriate for the State to inform Alaska commercial fishermen about the management measures they can expect for the balance of this season."

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June 24, 1966

The interim plan calls for an opening of the troll fishery on July 1, with a probable coho/chinook closure in mid-August; management of the Taku pink and sockeye gill net fishery to achieve the spawning escapement goal plus 3,000 sockeye and 5,000 pink salmon; Stikine gill net fishery management to allow an "adequate sockeye escapement;" Tree Point gill net fishery to result in a catch of about 130,000 sockeye, and management of Noyes Island seine fishery to produce a catch of about 160,000 sockeye.

Collinsworth noted these plans "are subject to change to protect the interest of Alaskans should Canadian actions dictate." The management strategy, he said, is "intended to continue the reasonable and responsible attitude the State has held continually with regard to resource conservation and management."

Alaska has consistently stated it agrees a treaty is needed to govern coastwide management of salmon species, he said. But in the absence of agreed-upon stock allocations between the United States and Canada, Collinsworth said, "Alaskan managers have no choice but to choose a management regime which will provide for stock conservation while preventing escalation of interceptions that might make future negotiations and final conclusion of a treaty impossible."

A detailed fishery by fishery summary follows:

-More-

Troll Fishery:

Canada has already announced its intent to fish its troll fisheries in the 1982 pattern, which means they will institute no more than a two week closure in northern British Columbia alone (June 17 to July 1) and will certainly not achieve the chinook salmon conservation objectives envisioned in the treaty draft. They are certain to harvest a substantial portion of any fish our fishery transfers south for conservation purposes. Our fishery has already had seven weeks of closures this season and the probability of another ten day closure during the month of August has been announced. Catches have been poor off British Columbia as a result of a speculated combination of oceanographic and stock conditions. It seems likely that Canada will not fill the quota levels envisioned in the treaty draft even with a wide open seven day a week fishery for the remainder of the season. At this time, based on conservation concerns, their season should be limited even further rather than extended. Quotas alone will not protect stocks that are weaker than anticipated as appears to be the case in Canada.

The Alaska troll fishery will be opened throughout Southeastern Alaska on July 1st. It is our view that this opening will allow us to manage within the Board of Fisheries range. Trollers are reminded that they can anticipate a probable ten day coho/chinook closure in mid-August, with other potential regulatory actions dependent upon their catch rates and Canadian actions.

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-More-

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The Tree Point gill net fishery will be managed initially along the lines of the 1981-82 management plan. Effort will be restricted to the average historic level and spread through the season. The sockeye catch will be allowed to float with the strength of the runs. Such a management regime should result, on the average, in a catch of about 130,000 sockeye, the same number as used in the interim and draft treaty. Inseason adjustments may be made to take into account identified conservation problems for either US or Canadian stocks.

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Salmon plan 5-5-5-5-5

June 24 1983

level that over time would produce a catch of about 160,000 sockeye if contributing stocks were at average abundance levels. This regime may be modified dependent on Canadian management actions for stocks of mutual concern.

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