

Dept. of

F & G

Overview

1-17-92



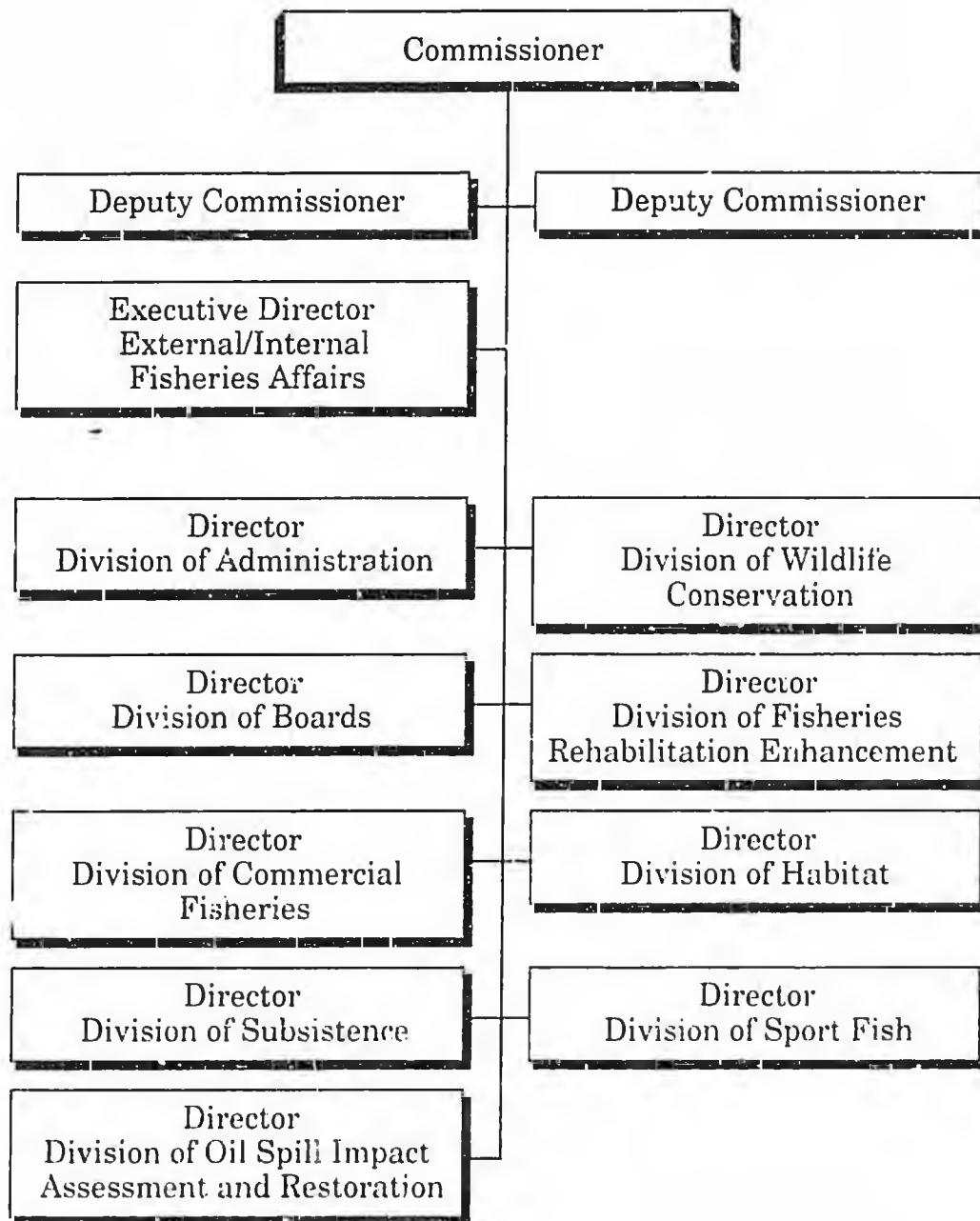
**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME  
DEPARTMENT BUDGET AND PROGRAM OVERVIEW - FY93**

**Carl L. Rosier, Commissioner**  
**Ron Somerville, Deputy Commissioner**  
**Chuck Meacham, Deputy Commissioner**

**Division Directors**

Larry Jones, Division of Administration  
Laird A. Jones, Division of Boards  
Denby Lloyd, Division of Commercial Fisheries  
Jeffery P. Koenings, Division of Fisheries Rehabilitation, Enhancement and Development  
Frank Rue, Division of Habitat  
Norval Netsch, Division of Sport Fish  
Robert Bosworth, Division of Subsistence  
David Kelleyhouse, Division of Wildlife Conservation

# DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME



# Department of Fish and Game

## FY93 Funding by Source

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**Fish & Game Fund**

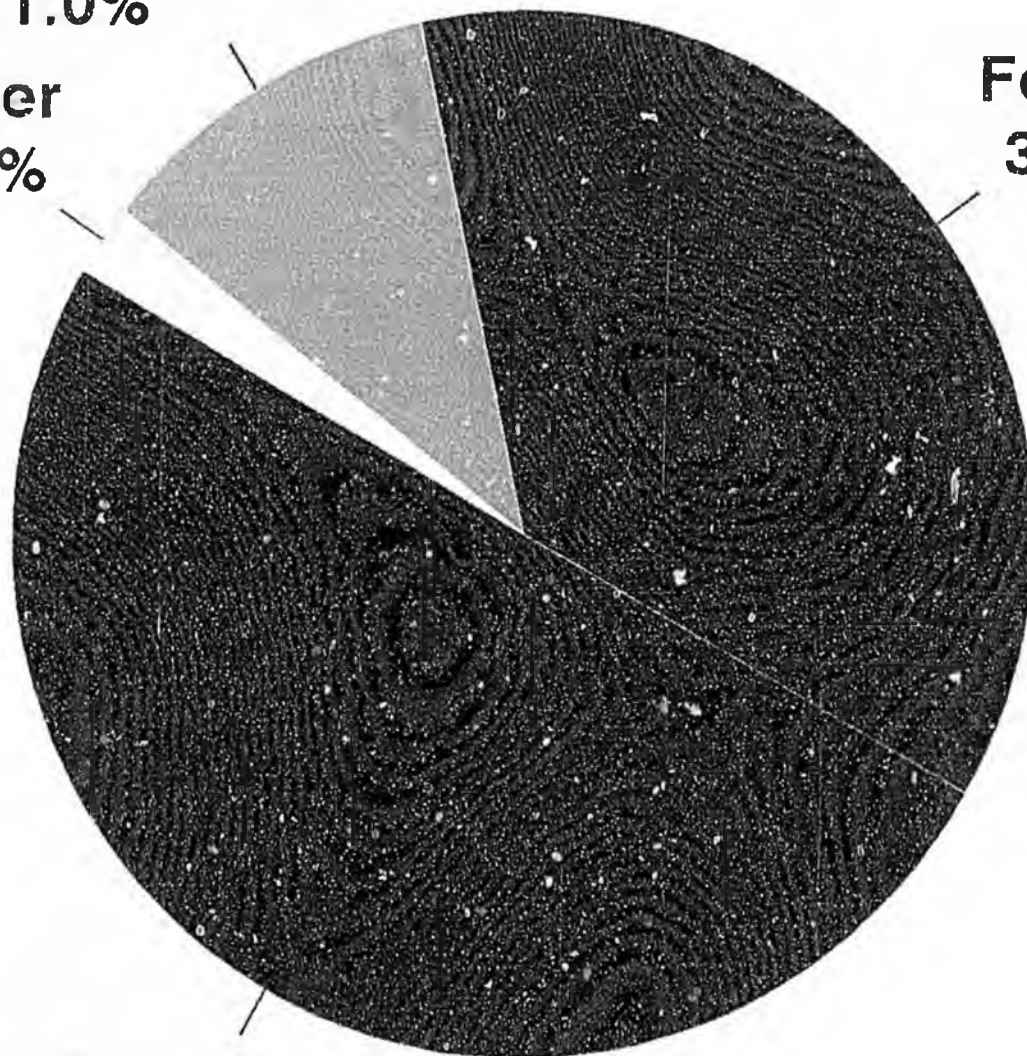
**11.0%**

**Other**

**2.2%**

**Federal**

**36.6%**



**General Funds \***

**50.2%**

\* General Funds include Program Receipts.

# Department of Fish and Game

FY93 "General Fund" by Source

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**Fish & Game Fund**

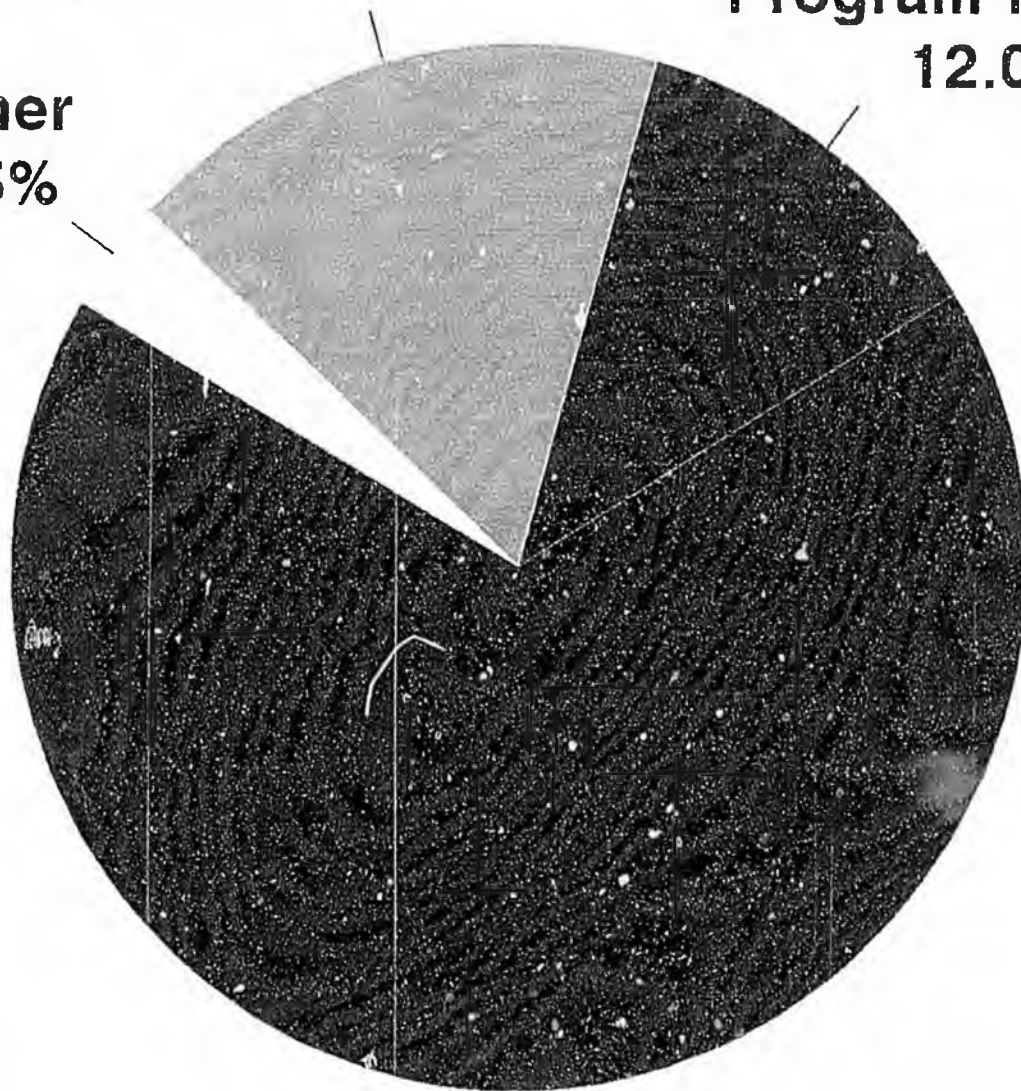
**17.4%**

**Program Receipts**

**12.0%**

**Other**

**3.5%**

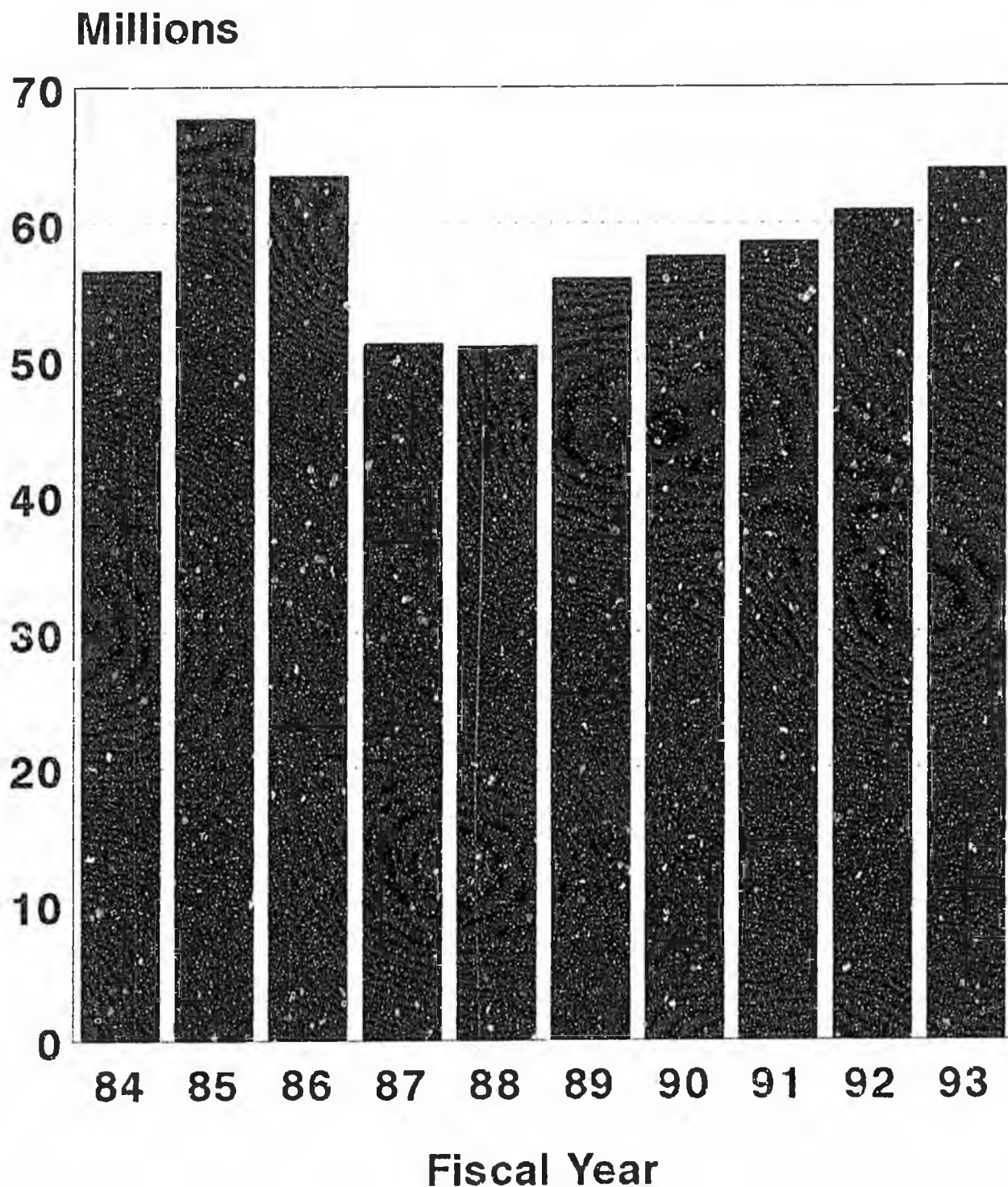


**General Fund**

**67.1%**

# Department of Fish and Game

## General Fund Dollars



General Funds include Program Receipts, Fish and Game Fund, and Other General Funds.

## ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

The administration has identified controlling personal services costs, the user pay funding concept, economic diversification, and the institution of federal management efficiencies as the best means of preparing state government for the expected declines in revenue associated with the depletion of the Prudhoe Bay oil field.

The Department of Fish and Game has undertaken an extensive management and budgetary review over the past few months to implement this philosophy in its programmatic and budgetary systems. This review is ongoing, and only partial results of the process are reflected in the FY93 budget submissions. Potential reorganization of certain divisions of the department and resultant savings will be considered and presented as appropriate in those budgets.

The goal of the FY93 operational budget is to provide the same, or an improved, level of resource management, research capability, and technical or public service as previously provided. Within the limits of the overall state budget and through reprogramming efforts some new programs have been initiated. Our budget is also designed to increase or expand revenue sources.

Throughout the Operating budgeting process, the department has placed considerable importance on this administration's priority agenda goals of controlling costs, revenue enhancement, and economic diversification.

U.S. Canada  
should be  
used for  
Chinook

GENERAL FUNDS NOT INCLUDING FISH AND GAME FUND MONIES

Division	FY91 Actual	FY92 Authorized	FY93 Request	Increase/ Decrease FY91/FY92	Increase/ Decrease FY91/FY92	Increase Decrease FY91/FY92
Commercial Fish	20705.0	21577.0	22554.4	4.2%	8.9%	4.5%
Sport Fish	0.0	0.0	18.2	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
FRED	11210.9	11337.5	11732.2	1.1%	4.6%	3.5%
Wildlife Cons.	1998.5	2070.2	2081.9	3.6%	4.2%	0.6%
CFEC	2583.8	2534.6	2793.8	-1.9%	5.1%	10.2%
Commissioner	1150.7	850.7	1000.6	-26.1%	-13.0%	17.6%
PCS	293.8	365.9	365.9	24.5%	24.5%	0.0%
Administration	3630.8	3559.1	3447.5	-2.0%	-5.0%	-3.1%
Facility Maint.	0.0	169.8	0.0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Boards	1378.8	1197.9	1354.6	-13.1%	-1.8%	13.1%
Subsistence	2031.1	1909.9	1925.4	-6.0%	-5.2%	0.8%
Habitat	<u>3339.3</u>	<u>3318.7</u>	<u>3394.9</u>	<u>-0.6%</u>	<u>1.7%</u>	<u>2.3%</u>
Total F&G	48322.7	48891.3	50669.4	1.2%	4.9%	3.6%

NOTE: Total General Fund COLA for FY93 = 868.0  
by absorbing COLA effective percentages are

3.1% 1.9%

TOTAL FUNDS

Commercial Fish	24965.2	27306.4	29540.0	9.4%	18.3%	8.2%
Sport Fish	9886.4	11177.9	13008.7	13.1%	31.6%	16.4%
FRED	16313.4	18925.4	25369.1	16.0%	55.5%	34.0%
Wildlife Cons.	11736.0	12413.2	14438.9	5.8%	23.0%	16.3%
CFEC	2593.8	2643.0	2903.6	1.9%	11.9%	9.9%
Commissioner	1214.1	982.1	1133.3	-19.1%	-6.7%	15.4%
PCS	498.1	576.4	576.4	15.7%	15.7%	0.0%
Administration	4165.0	4278.2	4222.0	2.7%	1.4%	-1.3%
Facility Maint.	0.0	192.2	0.0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Boards	1651.7	1602.2	1758.9	-3.0%	6.5%	9.8%
Subsistence	3285.8	2622.7	3483.0	9.9%	46.0%	32.8%
Habitat	<u>4025.7</u>	<u>4431.8</u>	<u>4568.0</u>	<u>10.1%</u>	<u>13.5%</u>	<u>3.1%</u>
Total F&G	79435.2	87151.5	101001.9	9.7%	27.2%	15.9%

NOTE: Total COLA for FY93 = 1446.3  
by absorbing COLA effective percentages are

25.3% 14.2%

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## OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

### A. FUNCTIONS:

#### 1. Statutory basis.

Title 16, 37, 39, 44

#### 2. Duties.

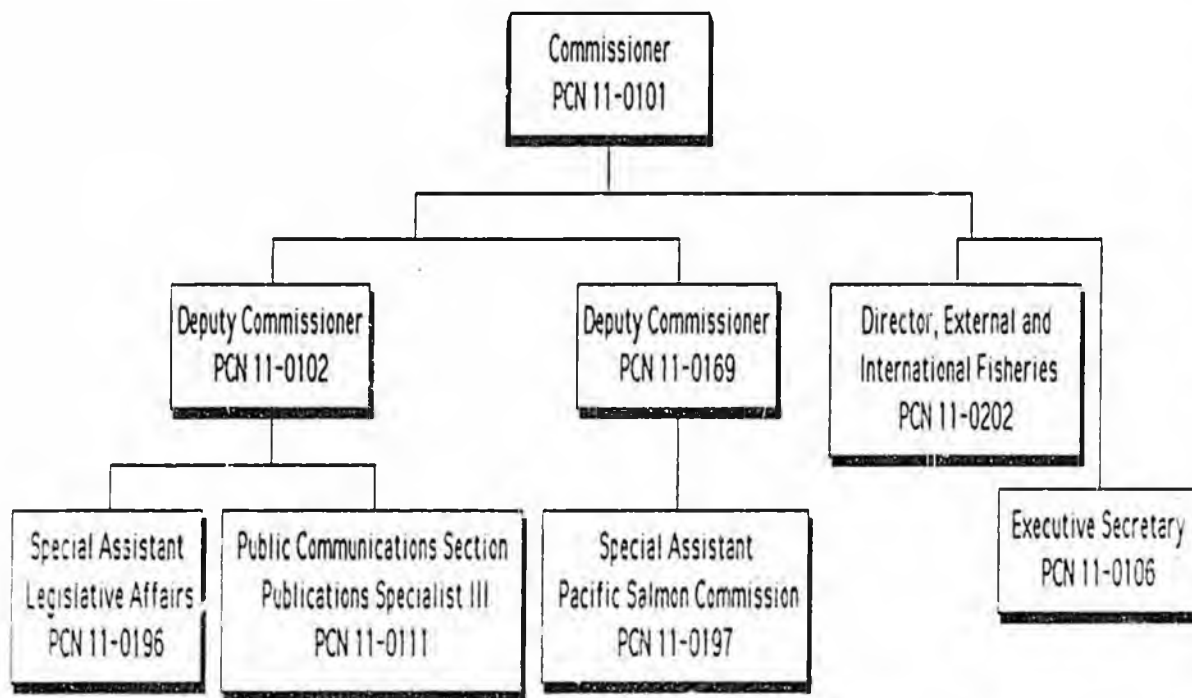
The Office of the Commissioner provides departmental leadership and policy guidance and has full responsibility for the department's mission of managing Alaska's fish and wildlife resources. Included within this component is the department's Office of External and International Fisheries, grants to the Alaska Zoo and the Eskimo Walrus Commission, and funding for representation on the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission, the Pacific Salmon Commission, and other interstate and international bodies.

#### 3. Staffing and Location.

A chart showing number of staff positions and organization follows.

Location	PFT
Juneau	10*

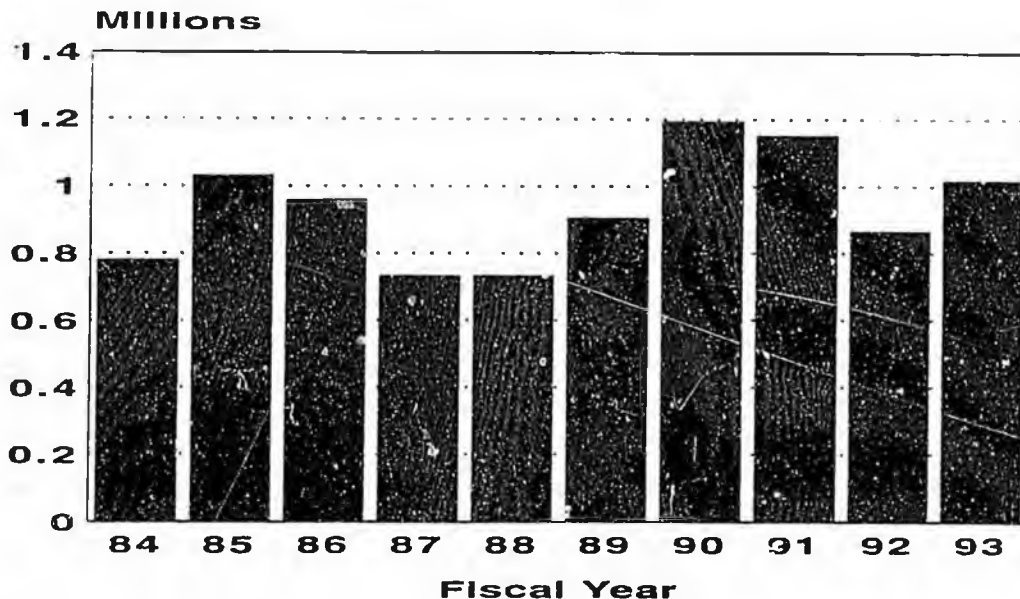
\*This number does not include PCS staff.



**B. CHANGES TO FY92 BUDGET:**

**COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE**  
**General Fund Dollars**

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**General Funds Include Program Receipts,  
Fish and Game Fund, and Other General Funds.**

**C. FY93 BUDGET REQUEST:**

An additional increment above the FY92 budget has been requested to restore funding for the two deputy commissioner positions in the Commissioner's Office budget.

**D. REORGANIZATION PLANS:**

No proposed reorganizations at this time.

**E. MAJOR ISSUES:**

1. Increased emphasis has been placed on the development of a Yukon River treaty with Canada. Negotiations are underway with full participation by the State of Alaska. The major goals are the maintenance and enhancement of the shared resources and the protection of Alaskan interests.
2. Preparations are being made for negotiations of major annexes to the U.S./ Canada treaty affecting southeastern Alaska.

3. The Commissioner's Office is taking a lead role in dealing with increasing national and international concerns with the implementation of the Endangered Species act. Strict interpretation of the act may well jeopardize major Alaskan fisheries.
4. Increasing preemptive actions by the federal agencies in Alaska have resulted in the development of new legal and administrative efforts to protect Alaskan jurisdictional authorities.
5. The Commissioner's Office has the major leadership responsibilities to implement the Governor's strategies to bring a major portion of the Alaska bottom fishery processing from offshore to onshore, providing more benefits to Alaskans and year-round quality fishery products.

## PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

### A. DIVISION FUNCTIONS:

1. **Statutory basis.**

Title 16

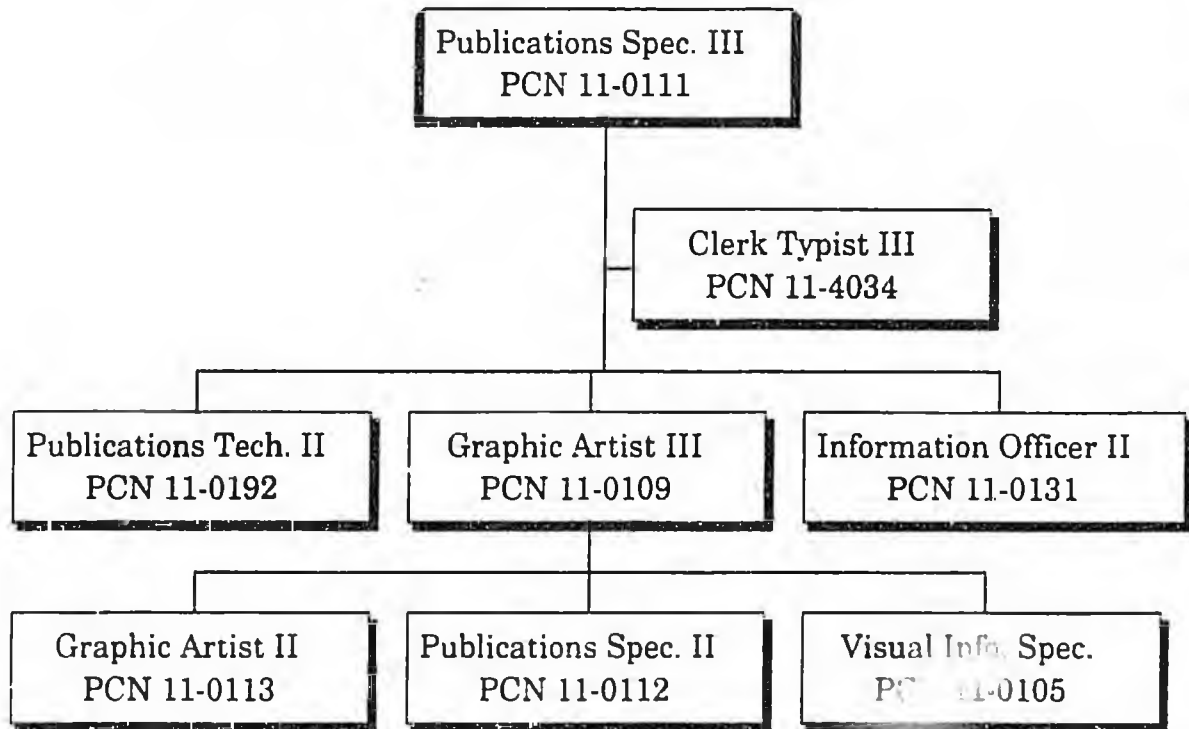
2. **Duties**

The Public Communications Section component (PCS) informs and educates the general public to improve the general level of understanding and acceptance of the department's regulations, policies, and activities. PCS produces the department's regulation booklets, publishes the *Alaska's Wildlife* magazine six times a year, and answers general inquiries from the public.

3. **Staffing and locations.**

An organizational chart showing structure and number of full-time and seasonal staff follows.

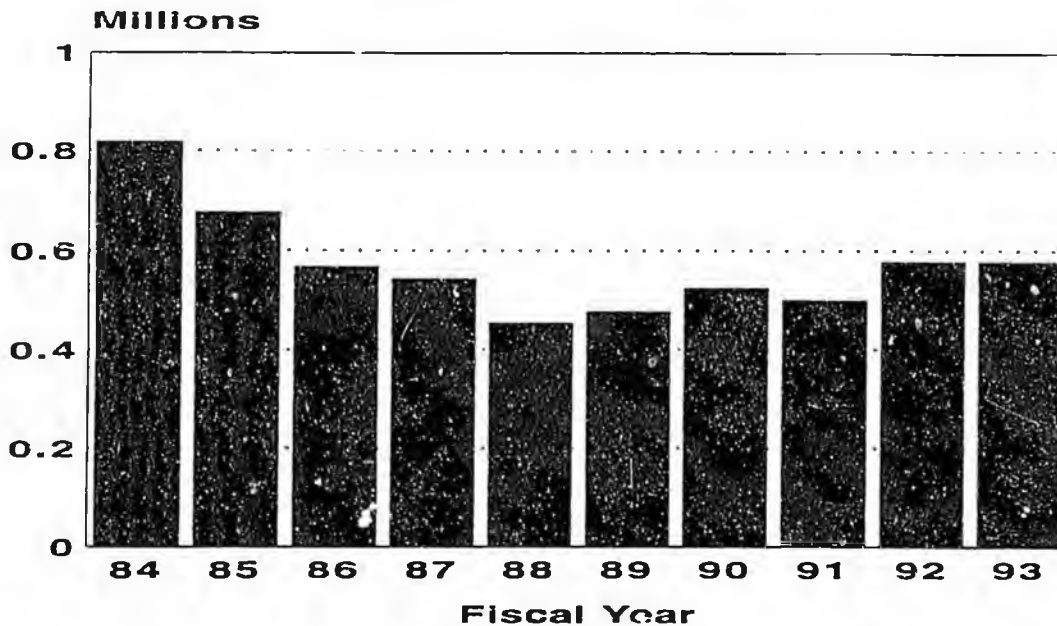
Location	PFT	PPT
Juneau	6	2



**B. CHANGES TO FY92 BUDGET:**

**PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS SECTION**  
General Fund Dollars

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**General Funds include Program Receipts, Fish and Game Fund, and Other General Funds.**

An existing publications technician was transferred from the Division of Boards of Fisheries and Game to PCS, where the position has in fact been historically housed and supervised. The incumbent works on development of regulation books for the regulations promulgated by the boards. Reduced travel has lessened considerably the coverage of the Boards of Fisheries and Game meetings, and reduced production capabilities have limited development and issuance of special publications.

**C. FY93 BUDGET REQUEST:**

No significant changes in the Public Communications Section are contemplated in FY93. Continuing effort will be made in FY93 to increase the level of program receipts relating to magazine subscriptions and other publication sales to the public. Additional options for program direction and marketing, and potentially for increased program receipts from users, will be pursued. The FY93 request represents a basic continuation budget from FY92, with the effect of increased personal services costs and inflationary costs in other line items absorbed by increased personnel vacancy factor (difficult to achieve in a small section) and production efficiencies.

**D. REORGANIZATION PLANS:**

No proposed reorganization plans at this time.

**E. MAJOR ISSUES:**

Publication of Fish and Game's *Alaska's Wildlife* magazine.

## DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION

### A. DIVISION FUNCTIONS:

1. **Statutory basis.**

Titles 16, 37, 39, and 44

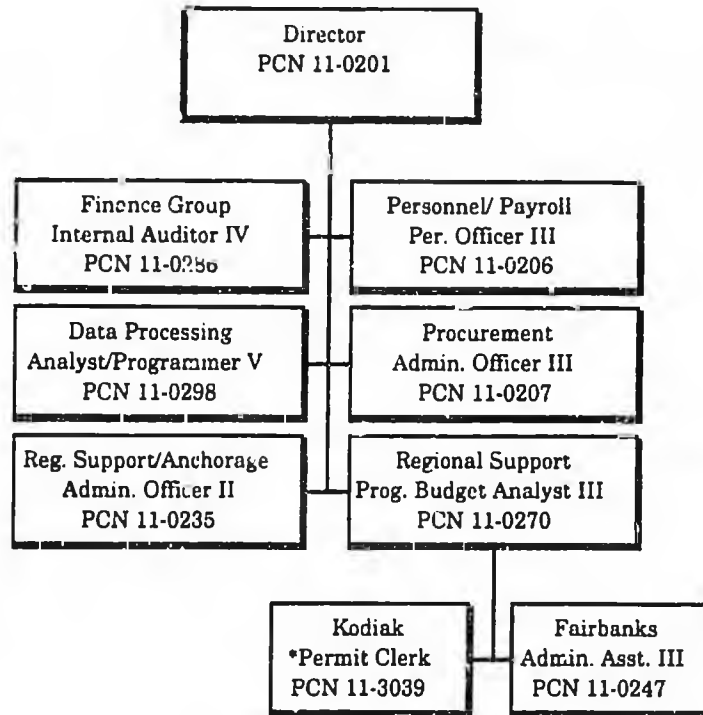
2. **Duties.**

The Division of Administration provides administrative management support services to help the department accomplish its goals and objectives in an efficient, cost effective, and accountable manner. To meet this goal the division offers support services in budgeting, fiscal management, accounting, contracting, leasing, reimbursable services agreements, federal billing, supply, purchasing, property control, personnel management, payroll, and labor contract administration. The responsibility for the fish and game licensing system, and administrative support for the OSIAR Division, is also placed with the Division of Administration. The division is organized into five primary sections (Finance/Licensing, Personnel/Payroll, Procurement/Contracting, Data Processing and Director's Office), and has four regional offices.

3. **Staffing and locations.**

An organization chart showing structure to the regional level and number of full-time and seasonal staff follows.

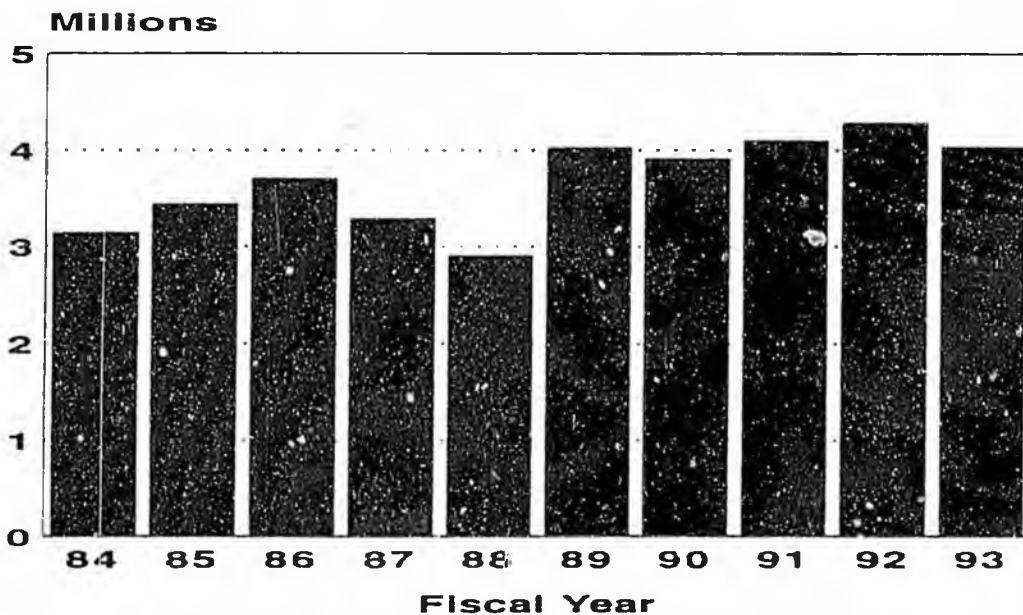
Location	PFT	PSEA	NP
Juneau	50	1	12
Anchorage	7		
Fairbanks	4		1
Kodiak	<u>2</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
	63	1	13



\*CFEC PCN funded 50% by Administration

**B. CHANGES TO FY92 BUDGET:**

**DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION**  
General Fund Dollars



General Funds Include Program Receipts,  
Fish and Game Fund, and Other General Funds.

The level of services provided by the Douglas Regional Office was considerably reduced for FY92, resulting in transfer of some functions to headquarters and the delegation of remaining functions to other divisions in Douglas. In personal services, the Deputy Director and a Clerk Typist position were eliminated from the Director's office.

### **C. FY93 BUDGET REQUEST:**

1. **Projects/programs deleted or reduced**

The Division of Administration will be eliminating the direct sales of fish and game licenses in the Juneau headquarters and Anchorage/Kodiak/Fairbanks regional offices. Numerous private license vendors are available in those cities for license sales. The reduction of this service results in the deletion of the equivalent of five full-time positions in the Division of Administration for FY93. The reduction of positions in the Kodiak Regional Office will result in reorganization of that office, and transfer of some functions to the existing Anchorage Regional Office staff of the Division of Administration. Also, in FY93 the division will necessarily maintain an exceptionally high, and perhaps unrealistic, vacancy percentage for personal services.

2. **No new or expanded projects/programs.**

3. **No capital items.**

### **D. PLANNED REORGANIZATIONS:**

There are no planned reorganizations at this time for FY93, other than reassignment of certain functions relating to the Kodiak Regional Office. Should organizational, program, or funding changes in the OSIAR Division occur in FY93, some reorganization of the Division of Administration may result due to the level of funding currently provided to Administration for the purpose of administrative support to OSIAR.

### **E. MAJOR ISSUES:**

The ability, under the considerably reduced General Fund level for FY93, for the division to provide adequate management support to the Commissioner and the department in meeting goals and objectives is of concern. Future reductions in General Fund support for the Division of Administration may result in the further reorganization or closure of the Douglas and Kodiak regional offices of the division.

## DIVISION OF BOARDS

### A. DIVISION FUNCTIONS:

1. **Statutory basis.**

Title 16.05, 220-255, 260 and Public Law 96-487

2. **Duties.**

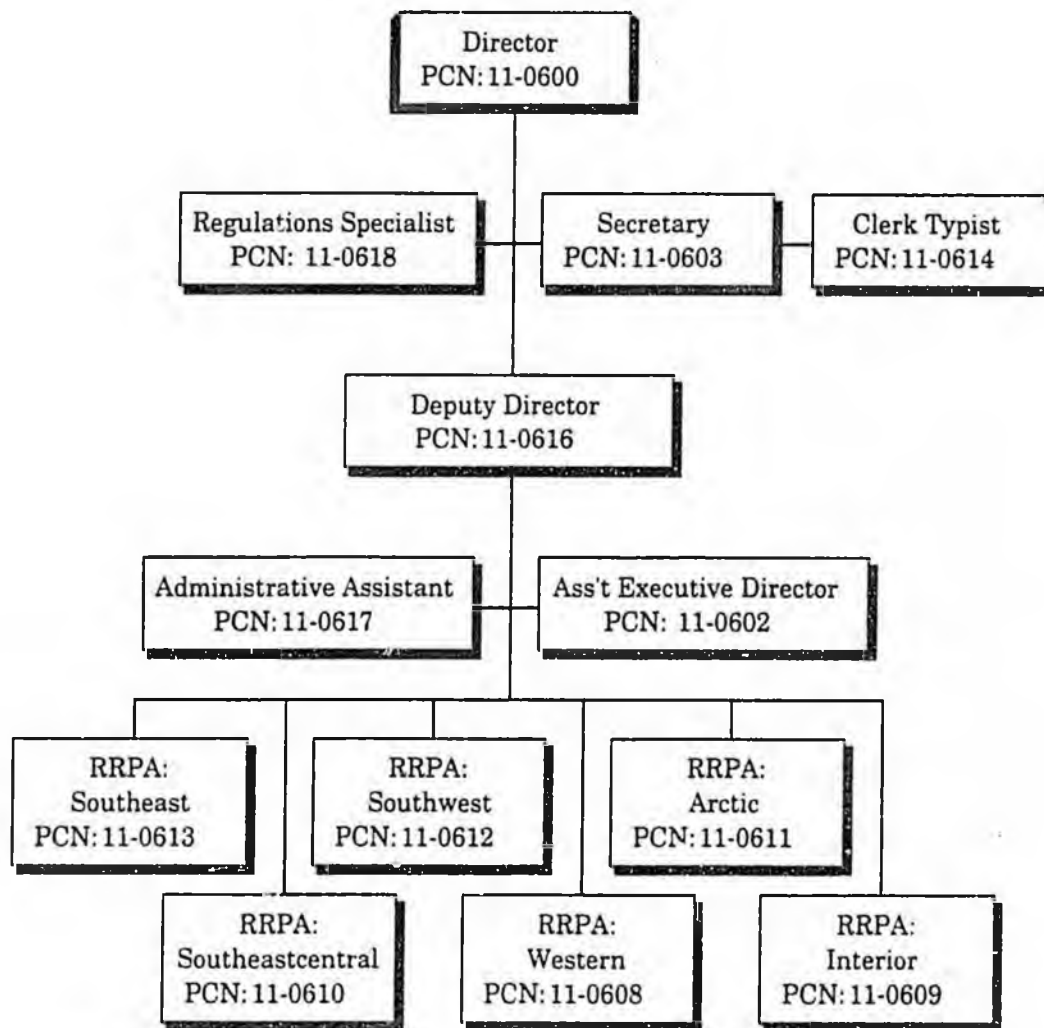
The Board of Fisheries, the Board of Game, and the Joint Boards of Fisheries and Game promulgate regulations for the conservation, development, and utilization of Alaska's fish and wildlife resources - or more simply, allocate the allowable harvest of fish and wildlife resources. The Division of Boards provides support for the boards and this regulatory process. This includes staff support to the boards, 80 local advisory committees and six regional councils. At least three times annually the division of boards publishes a Call for Proposed Changes to the regulations which results in as many as 1,000 proposals for changes. These changes are deliberated upon, as required under the Administrative Procedure Act, in public hearings which during FY92 were scheduled for approximately 100 days. Resulting changes are codified and published in 21 regulation books. Regional Coordinators are located in Bethel, Fairbanks, Juneau, Anchorage, Kotzebue, and Dillingham.

3. **Staffing and locations.**

Location	PFT	PSEA	Location	PFT	PSEA
Juneau	7		Juneau/Reg	*2	
Anchorage	*2		Fairbanks	*2	
Bethel	*1	1	Dillingham	<u>*1</u>	<u>1</u>
Kotzebue		<u>*2</u>		5	1
	<u>10</u>	<u>3</u>			

\*6 Clerical positions are shared with other divisions and some are counted in other division's totals.

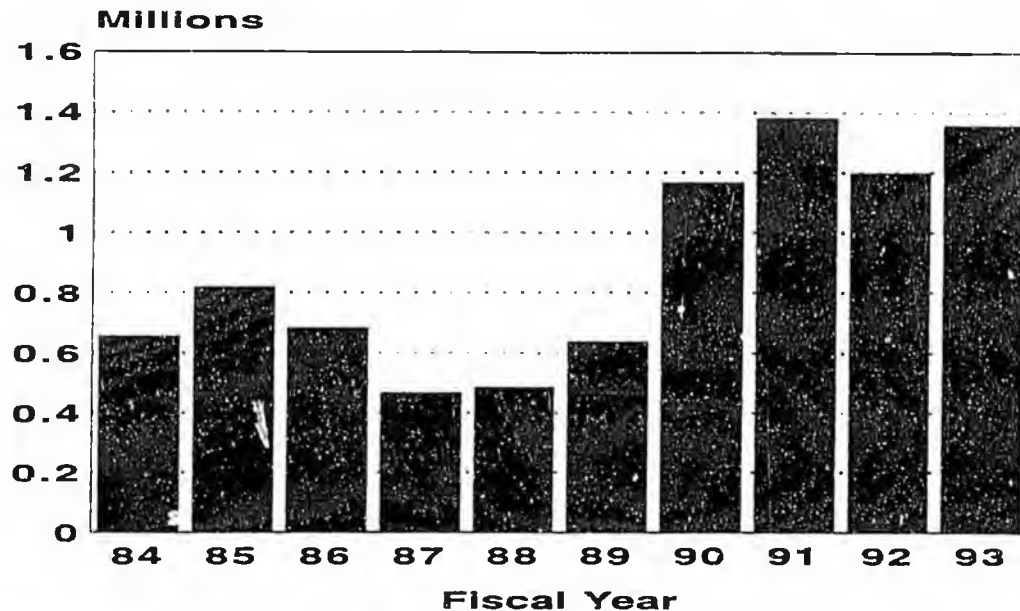
RRPA=Regional Regulatory Program Assistant



**B. CHANGES TO FY92 BUDGET:**

**DIVISION OF BOARDS**  
General Fund Dollars

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**General Funds Include Program Receipts,  
Fish and Game Fund, and Other General Funds.**

The absorption of increased cost due to general inflation and increased board activity relating to the subsistence issue reduces the division approximately \$44.0 in providing last year's program this year. To accomplish these savings the division instituted the following reductions:

1. Advisory Committees were reduced from three meetings annually to two meetings annually.
2. Regional Councils were reduced from two meetings annually to one meeting annually.
3. The Board of Fisheries was reduced by eight meeting days.
4. There are no Joint Board meetings scheduled for FY92.

### **C. FY93 REQUEST:**

In addition to maintaining the reductions shown above in FY92, there are two additional reduction areas for FY93:

1. It is anticipated that federal funding shortfalls in FY93 may result in reduction of clerical support by 50 percent.
2. Board meeting time will be cut by an additional three to five days. Another three to six days will need to be removed from either the Board of Fisheries or the Board of Game to allow for the Joint Board to meet.

### **D. REORGANIZATION PLANS:**

There are presently no plans to reorganize the Division of Boards. Board staff consists of ten full-time positions, three seasonal positions, and six shared clerical positions.

### **E. MAJOR ISSUES:**

The uncertain status of receipt of funding from the federal government severely jeopardizes the validity of this FY93 budget submission. Negotiations with the federal government continue at this time for determination of funding levels, but until such time as the final federal regulations for subsistence management of fish and game on public lands is determined and a decision is made on whether the Federal Subsistence Board will rely on the state-created advisory committee/regional council system or create its own, it is not possible to predict the level of future funding. Even at this late date, we are uncertain of the level of funding that will be available during FY92. The division could well be in a situation where supplemental funding is required in FY92 and either additional general funds in FY93 or a complete overhaul of the current system.

The Division of Boards has been considerably impacted in the past by the ongoing controversy surrounding the subsistence issue. Depending on what happens with the Governor's proposal on subsistence, the boards could once again be looking at emergency or special board meetings to deal with subsistence. This could create the need for considerable commitment of staff time and the need for supplemental funding.

## DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

### A. DIVISION FUNCTIONS:

1. **Statutory basis.**

Title 16, primarily in chapters 5 and 10

2. **Duties.**

The division is responsible for the management of the state's commercial, subsistence, and personal use fisheries. It also plays a major role in management of fisheries in the 200 mile Exclusive Economic Zone and in international fisheries negotiations.

3. **Staffing and locations.**

The division is organized into a headquarters office located in Juneau and four regional offices. The regions and their geographic areas of responsibility are as follows:

Southeastern: the waters of the southeastern archipelago and eastern Gulf of Alaska from Dixon Entrance to Cape Suckling.

Westward: the waters of the western Gulf of Alaska and southern Bering Sea, including the Kodiak, Chignik, Alaska Peninsula, and Aleutian Islands areas.

Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim: northern Bering Sea waters and river drainages north of Cape Newenham.

The following is an organizational chart showing key headquarters and region staff

**Southeastern Region & Headquarters**

Location	PFT	PPT
Juneau Hq.	31	3
Douglas Reg.	37	27
Douglas Area	4	14
Craig	0	5
Haines	1	13
Hoonah	0	1
Hyder	0	1
Ketchikan	6	29
Klawock	0	1
Pelican	0	1
Petersburg	10	18
Port Alexander	0	1
Sitka	8	17
Snettisham	0	2
Wrangell	1	4
Yakutat	<u>1</u>	<u>8</u>
	99	145

**Central Region**

Location	PFT	PPT
Anchorage Reg	17	7
Cordova	10	23
Dillingham	5	30
Galena	0	0
Homer	7	8
King Salmon	2	28
Soidotna	6	34
Tutka Lagoon	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
Central total	47	131

**Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim Region**

Location	PFT	PPT
Anchorage	18	9
Anvik	0	2
Bethel	5	24
Emmonak	0	10
Fairbanks	4	12
Kotzebue	1	7
Nome	3	11
Saint Mary's	<u>0</u>	<u>23</u>
AYK totals	31	98

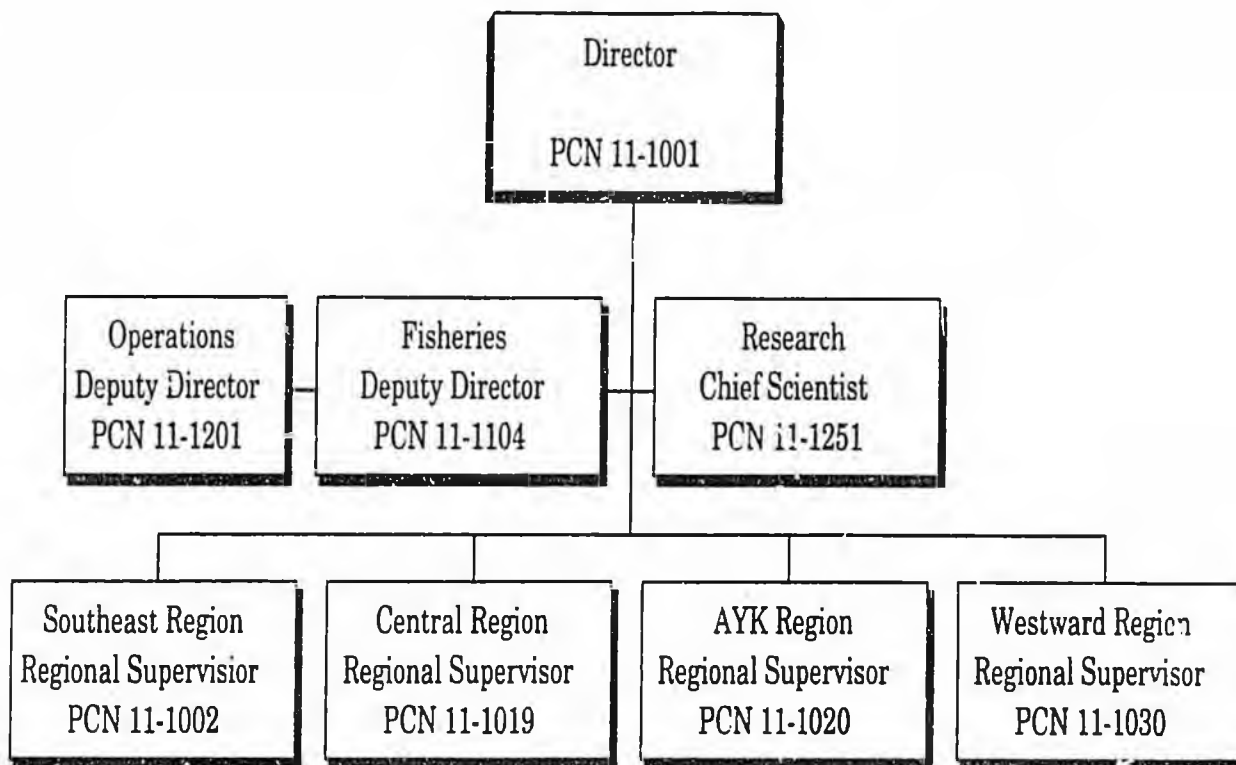
**Westward Region**

Location	PFT	PPT
Kodiak	31	58
Belkofsky	0	1
Chignik	1	8
Cold Bay	0	4
Dutch Harbor	4	9
King Cove	0	4
Bear River	0	2
Sand Point	1	7
Port Moller	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>
Westward totals	37	96

**Division Totals**

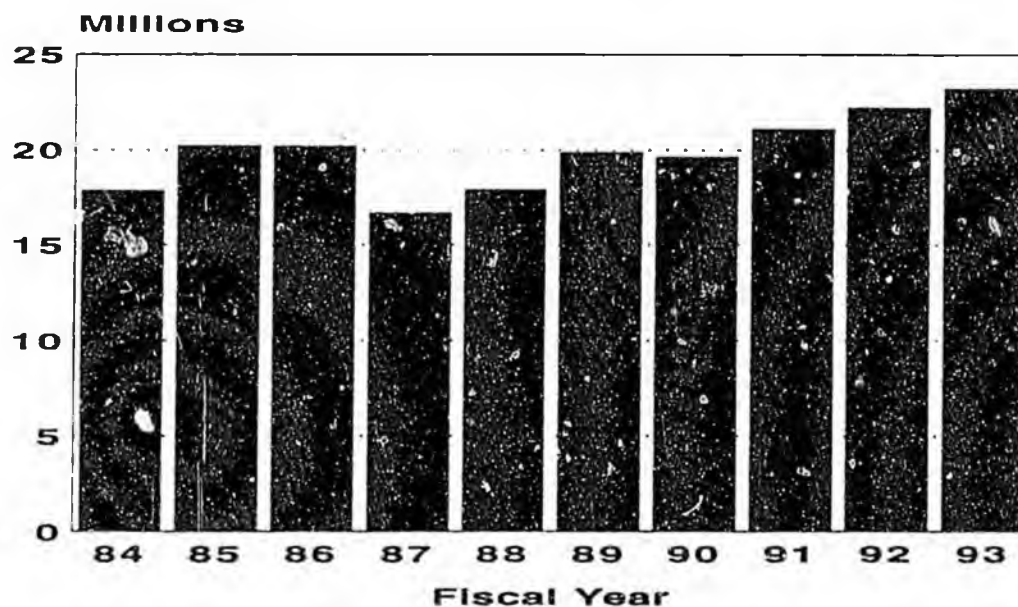
Comm Fish	180	338
Special Projects	<u>34</u>	<u>132</u>
Division totals	214	470

The above organizational chart shows key headquarters and regional staff, as well as office staffing levels. Note that temporary positions are included with permanent part time (PPT) positions in the above table.



**B. CHANGES TO FY 92 BUDGET:**

**DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES**  
General Fund Dollars



General Funds include Program Receipts, Fish and Game Fund, and Other General Funds.

The division has not made any substantive changes between the way the FY92 budget was authorized and the way it is being spent. The division was required to reduce its General Fund service level by about \$1.7 million below that provided in FY91.

### C. FY93 BUDGET REQUEST:

1. Project/programs deleted or reduced  
The FY93 Governor's budget request will allow the division to continue the level of services it provided in FY92. Those programs and projects that are being operated during FY92 will be operated again in FY93.
2. New or expanded projects/programs  
The Governor's FY93 budget request contains funding for a number of new or expanded projects.

Bering Sea/Aleutians Crab \$141.5  
Biological information on crab landed at shoreside processing facilities will be collected, and quality of similar information collected at sea will be improved. Such information is critical to the setting of preseason harvest levels and ensuring that the allowable harvest is not exceeded.

Kuskokwim Herring \$42.5  
Herring returning to the five Kuskokwim area herring fisheries will be sampled for biological information. The local herring stocks are currently experiencing a decline in recruitment. It is imperative that the Kuskokwim herring program be improved to ensure that the stocks are not overharvested and that the stocks be rebuilt.

Prince of Wales Island Herring Pound Fishery \$44.8  
During its winter 1990/1991 meeting, the Board of Fisheries established a herring roe-on-kelp in pounds fishery that will take place in the waters off Prince of Wales Island. This increment will provide the funds needed to manage that fishery, which has a potential exvessel value of \$1.2 million.

Norton Sound Crab Fishery \$22.5  
This increment will provide the funds needed to reopen the Norton Sound summer red king crab fishery. The last time the fishery was open, about \$580 thousand worth of crab were harvested.

U.S./Canada Pacific Salmon Treaty \$884.2  
This increment provides increased federal funds for a number of U.S./Canada Pacific Salmon Treaty activities such as assessment of wild chinook stocks in

southeastern Alaska, estimates of the contribution of British Columbia stock to the southeastern Alaska fisheries, identification of Yukon River stocks, improved escapement estimations for Yukon River stocks, and improved information on subsistence salmon uses along the Yukon River.

#### **D. REORGANIZATION PLANS:**

The division is not contemplating any major reorganization during FY93. However, the division will be investigating ways to utilize position vacancies to solve high priority programmatic needs.

#### **E. MAJOR ISSUES:**

The following are several major issues that confront the state's commercial, subsistence, and personal use fishery management programs for FY93 and beyond.

##### **Vessel Maintenance**

The division has five large research and support vessels, with a total replacement value in excess of \$10 million, that require regular maintenance and periodic overhaul. These vessels are integral to a variety of finfish, shellfish, and groundfish stock assessment programs, as well as providing platforms for inseason management of several specific fisheries. Maintenance must be provided to protect this capital investment and to ensure safety and efficiency of the vessel support program. In addition, one of the vessels, the R/V *Steller*, has recently been found to be unstable to the degree that it has been pulled out of service. It will most likely have to be eventually replaced with a new vessel. In the meantime, vessel contracting will have to be employed.

##### **Groundfish Management**

Federal and cooperative management of groundfish in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) off Alaska (3-200 miles) is quickly becoming so complicated that the state is losing the ability to protect its legitimate interests. Allocation of allowable harvests and limitation of impacts on state-managed resources are issues of great import to Alaska residents, yet these concerns are not adequately addressed with current fiscal resources.

##### **Genetic Stock Identification**

Ascribing harvests of mixed-stock fisheries to stock of origin is fundamental to the protection and optimal exploitation of distinct reproductive populations; such stock ID work is also increasingly important in allocation, bycatch, and interception disputes. Although existing stock ID methods have shown general patterns, new and more reliable techniques (such as use of genetic markers) will be necessary to adequately address the detailed questions being asked.

### **Developing Fisheries**

In recent years there has been a growth in exploitation of previously underutilized species such as sea cucumbers, sea urchins, and clams. These growing industries, however, are exploiting stocks not normally assessed or managed by the division. In order to best take advantage of these development opportunities, more assessment and management planning will be required.

### **Bering Sea Herring**

Western Alaska herring stocks support locally important commercial and subsistence fisheries, yet some of the stocks themselves are showing signs of decline. Existing rudimentary aerial survey techniques may not be sufficient to assure adequate protection, and certainly will not provide for optimal utilization, of these distant fishery resources.

### **Pink Salmon Quality**

As exemplified in 1991, it would be desirable for management of commercial fisheries to account not only for spawning escapement and harvest of optimum numbers, but also assist the industry in harvesting fish of high quality. Pink salmon harvested some distance away from their natal streams can be of higher quality than those harvested in terminal areas. But such distant harvests present real risks of overexploiting some stocks in mixed-stock fisheries. Studies to distinguish separate stocks at distances from spawning streams, combined with marketability analyses for quality, will be necessary to achieve an optimum balance.

### **Shellfish Stock Assessment**

Almost all of the king, Tanner, and Dungeness, as well as other shellfish, stocks in Alaska are managed on very rudimentary information about stock status, reproductive potential, and optimum exploitation rate. This has resulted in very conservative management in many areas and has allowed for some boom and bust cycles in the past. Given lower prices for salmon in recent years, shellfish fisheries hold substantial potential for increased income and revenue, but such expansion will require significant increases in assessment information and management precision.

### **U.S./Canada and Southeast Salmon**

Currently much of the salmon management and research program in Southeast Alaska relies upon federal funding pursuant to the Pacific Salmon Treaty and ongoing U.S./Canada negotiations. If any substantial portion of those federal funds were lost, either through competition with other participants in the treaty process, lack of annual Congressional appropriation, or other circumstances, then the Southeast salmon program would be at risk. The challenge will be to wean core management from and research projects off this federal funding and to secure stable state funding to ensure an adequate program.

## DIVISION OF FISHERIES REHABILITATION, ENHANCEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (FRED)

### A. DIVISION FUNCTIONS:

#### 1. Statutory Basis

AS 16.05.092; AS 16.10.380; AS 16.10.440; AS 16.10.443; AS 16.10.375;  
AS 16.05.092; AS 15.40.150; AS 16. 40.105

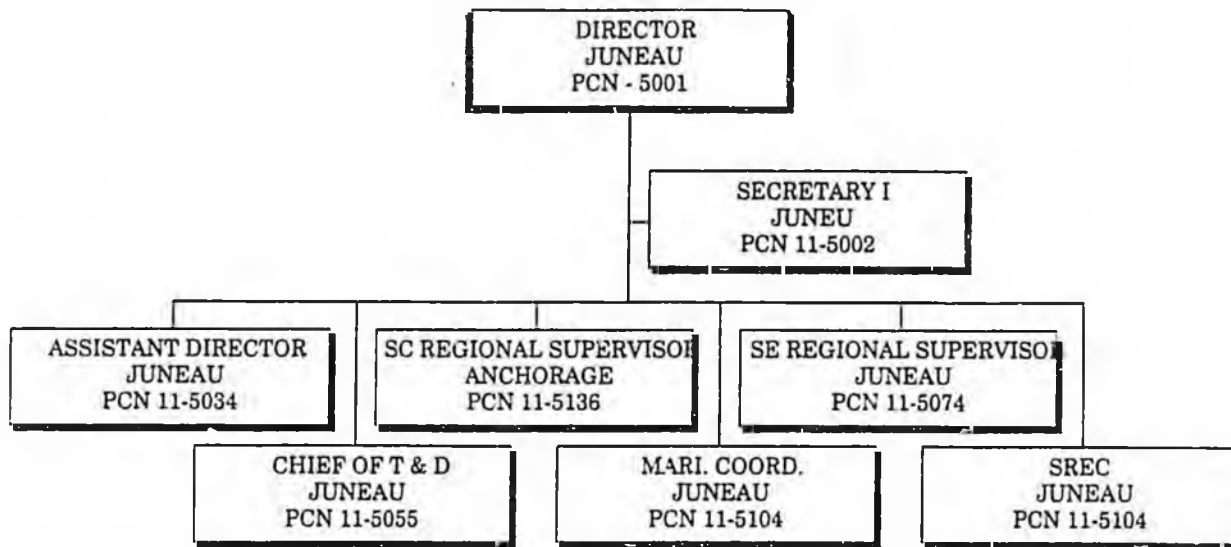
#### 2. Duties

The primary mission of the FRED Division is to sustain and enhance Alaskan fisheries through the development and application of technologies in supplemental production and natural stock rehabilitation. The division operates five laboratories that serve the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) and other state, federal, and private agencies. The Fish Pathology Section has two laboratories, one in Anchorage and another in Juneau, to provide diagnostic services and brood stock evaluations for state, federal, and PNF programs. The Limnology Section provides technical supervision of all lake enrichment projects, and the Limnology Laboratory in Soldotna conducts analyses for the nutrient content of water, zooplankton, and in-lake fish populations sampled for lake productivity studies. The Coded-Wire Tag Processing Laboratory in Juneau decodes metal tags implanted in fish, and supplies resultant information for hatchery and natural stock evaluation and harvest management of chinook salmon in concert with the U.S./Canada Pacific Salmon Treaty. The Genetics Laboratory in Anchorage has an active program designed to protect Alaskan fish stocks and to provide new tools, such as stock identification, for fishery enhancement.

#### 3. Staffing and Locations

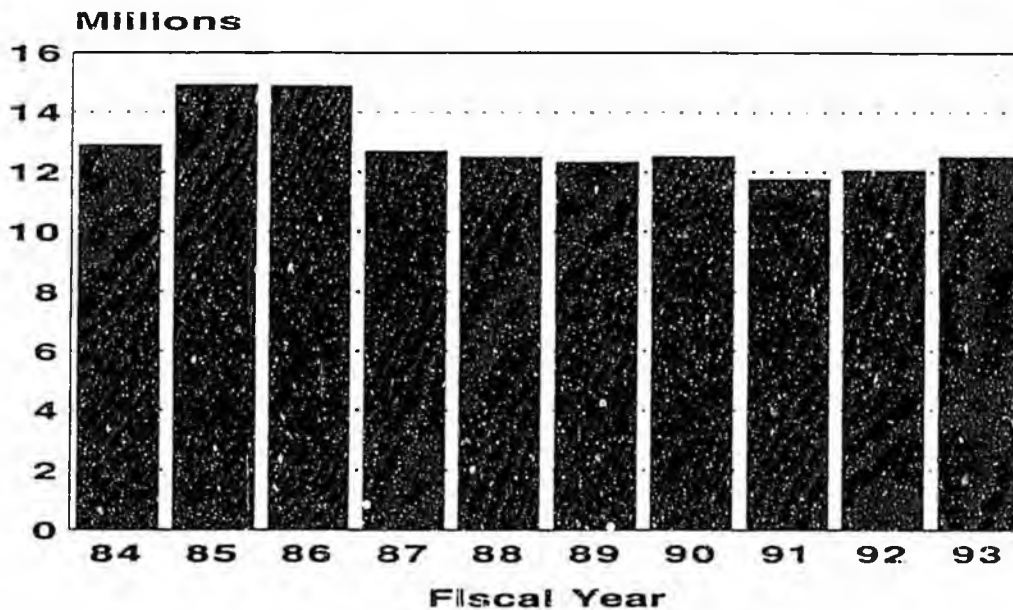
An organizational chart showing structure to the regional level and number of full-time and seasonal staff follows.

Location	PFT	PSEA	Location	PFT	PSEA
Anchorage	20	3	Ketchikan	8	5
Big Lake	2	7	Kitoi Bay	4	10
Clear	3	2	Klawock	7	4
Cordova	1	1	Kodiak	1	4
Crooked Creek	2	3	Kotzebue	3	7
Crystal Lake	5	3	Little Port Walter		
Elmendorf	5	1		1	2
Ft. Richardson	10	6	Nome	1	1
Glennallen	1	5	Petersburg	1	5
Homer	1	8	Russel Creek	2	10
Juneau	43	25	Snettisham	3	6
			Soldotna	4	7
Totals	PFT=128	PSEA=132			



**B. CHANGES TO THE FY92 BUDGET:**

**DIVISION OF FRED**  
General Fund Dollars



**General Funds Include Program Receipts, Fish and Game Fund, and Other General Funds.**

In FY91, a one-year supplemental was obtained for the operation of the Main Bay and Tutka Hatcheries. Long-term contracts for operation of these two facilities

by local aquaculture associations were obtained in FY92. Although funding was lost in FY91 for various hatcheries and hatchery programs, the FRED Division was able to continue these projects through program receipts (monies received from aquaculture associations) and approved revised program requests. The revised programs were approved again in FY92 to operate the Gulkana, Pillar Creek, and Kitoi Bay Hatcheries. In FY93, funds will be brought back into the division's base in the form of a program receipt increment in the amount of \$813.1.

The FY92 General Fund budget request was reduced by \$294.4, resulting from a 10 percent loss of travel and a 2 percent loss of personal services funds, as well as a further reduction of personal services funds for mid-level management funding in the amount of \$127.4. In addition, \$903.1 in program add-ons that were approved by the Legislature in 1991 were vetoed.

### **C. FY 93 BUDGET REQUEST:**

#### **1. Project/Programs Deleted or Reduced**

Overall, the FRED Division's FY93 operating appropriation has been reduced by 7.5% in general funds and 8.6% in federal funds. Reductions in general funds (\$776.6) included the FY92 operating funds for the Tutka Hatchery. The budget was also reduced \$213.2 in anadromous fish federal funding left unfunded by Congress. As a result no operating funds have been identified for the Big Lake and Deer Mountain Hatcheries.

#### **2. New or Expanded Projects/Programs**

The FRED Division's continuing vision for the 1990s includes a king crab rehabilitation project, expansion of the mariculture program, and expansion of the Coded-Wire Tag Processing Laboratory to include otolith mark evaluation to benefit various user groups, stimulate economic development, and implement a user pays funding mechanism once these programs are developed. These programs were not funded in the operational budget; however, remaining in the divisional request is the expanded planning and development request to further the statewide comprehensive salmon plans and to develop regional salmon plans for the Norton Sound and Kotzebue Regions.

### **D. MAJOR ISSUES:**

#### **1. Enhancement as an Active Management Tool**

Fisheries enhancement, in the broad sense of the word, includes all of the functions normally associated with FRED Division programs: rehabilitation to restore fish stocks to former levels; enhancement (in the narrow sense) to add production to a fish stock to raise it above its former levels; and development to initiate a new run where one has never existed. Most people know and

understand the various functions. What seems to elude many is the fact that enhancement is truly an active management tool.

When it first became apparent that successful enhancement might alter traditional management programs, insightful people began to develop deliberate strategies using enhancement as a management tool. Using hatcheries, limnology/biology, genetics, and pathology, the FRED Division provides fish to users in locations where they were never previously available. This acts as a management tool by (1) providing fish when natural production is low, (2) taking pressure off wild stocks by moving some of the user effort to other areas, and (3) providing population estimates and migration patterns and timing through the use of fish marking. In fact, the preponderance of information on stock movements has been accumulated because of and since the FRED Division's origin.

Fisheries development and rehabilitation programs in many areas help to relieve the fishing pressure on more fragile wild stocks and accelerate wild stock restoration. Three of the most graphic examples involve FRED programs at Homer Spit and Crooked Creek, the Chena River, and Karluk Lake. The extremely successful king salmon programs at Homer Spit and Crooked Creek have reduced the sport fishing pressure on more fragile, southern Kenai Peninsula wild stocks. With extremely depressed king salmon runs to the Kenai River and resulting closures, sport fishermen have focused on these newly developed runs.

The Chena River near Fairbanks once supported the world's largest grayling sport fishery. Overharvest of this wild stock a decade ago led to severe population declines and very restrictive management in recent years. The Sport Fish Division has concluded that even with severe area and time restrictions, it could take 20-30 years to restore the Chena River Arctic grayling population and fishery. As such, the FRED and Sport Fish Divisions are now jointly pursuing an aggressive 4-year restoration program through the Clear Hatchery.

Karluk Lake (Kodiak Island) sockeye salmon populations have been declining since the 1920s and have not responded to traditional management for the last 60 years. A cooperative sockeye salmon restoration program established in 1985 that uses the technique of lake enrichment has resulted in sockeye salmon populations of between 2.2 and 2.5 million in 1990 and 1991, respectively. These are the highest returns of Karluk Lake sockeye salmon since the early 1920s.

The FRED Division provides a deliberate, proactive component to management when simple time and area closures are not enough. The division provides fish to be caught while protecting endangered natural stocks, or providing harvestable stocks so that managers can spread out the fishing effort, be it sport or commercial. The use of enhancement as a management tool is not new, but the

concept of deliberately planning to do this is new to our thinking. Though this strategy is still young, it has been used recently in both commercial and sport fish management to solve problems and meet overall resource management goals.

2. Complying with Board of Fisheries Requests

For the past seven or eight years, the FRED Division has had little direct communication with the Board of Fisheries (BOF). This past year, the BOF, recognizing the statewide scope of enhanced fisheries, realized it knew little about the state's enhancement program or FRED Division, and its oversight responsibilities for the program. At the BOF meeting in Anchorage, FRED Division staff presented an overview of the FRED program and look forward to interacting with the BOF on an annual basis. An issue was raised, however, in that many of the things that have come from the interaction with the board, such as increased planning for enhancement projects, require new monies that have not yet been identified.

3. Decreasing Budget

The FRED Division faces decreasing revenues. Unlike some agencies, the division has incurred significant cuts in its General Fund appropriations in the past seven years. For FY92, FRED general funds have decreased to 66 percent of their FY85 level, not accounting for inflation. Considering inflation, the division's FY92 General Fund allocation has only 53 percent of the purchasing power of the FY85 General Fund allocation.

4. Alaska's Need for Economic Development

In the 1990s, the FRED Division plans to expand its programs to regions of the state not yet directly benefiting from enhancement projects. The division plans to continue to lead the salmon enhancement program and its private sector partners through planning, technological development, and application of technical services. In addition, the division plans to aggressively move into new and critical areas, such as king crab rehabilitation and mariculture, to expand fisheries habitat rehabilitation efforts, and to continue its involvement with restoration programs in oil spill-affected areas. Based on the past success of the salmon enhancement program, there is a growing interest in using fisheries enhancement as an economic diversification tool for Alaskan communities. Full utilization of the biological and economic potential of Alaska's fisheries resources can be achieved through carefully planned fisheries rehabilitation, enhancement, and development.

## DIVISION OF HABITAT

### A. DIVISION FUNCTIONS:

#### 1. Statutory basis.

AS 16.05.020; AS 16.05.050; AS 16.05.840; AS 16.05.870; AS 16.20.5 AAC 95.010; 5 AAC 95

#### 2. Duties.

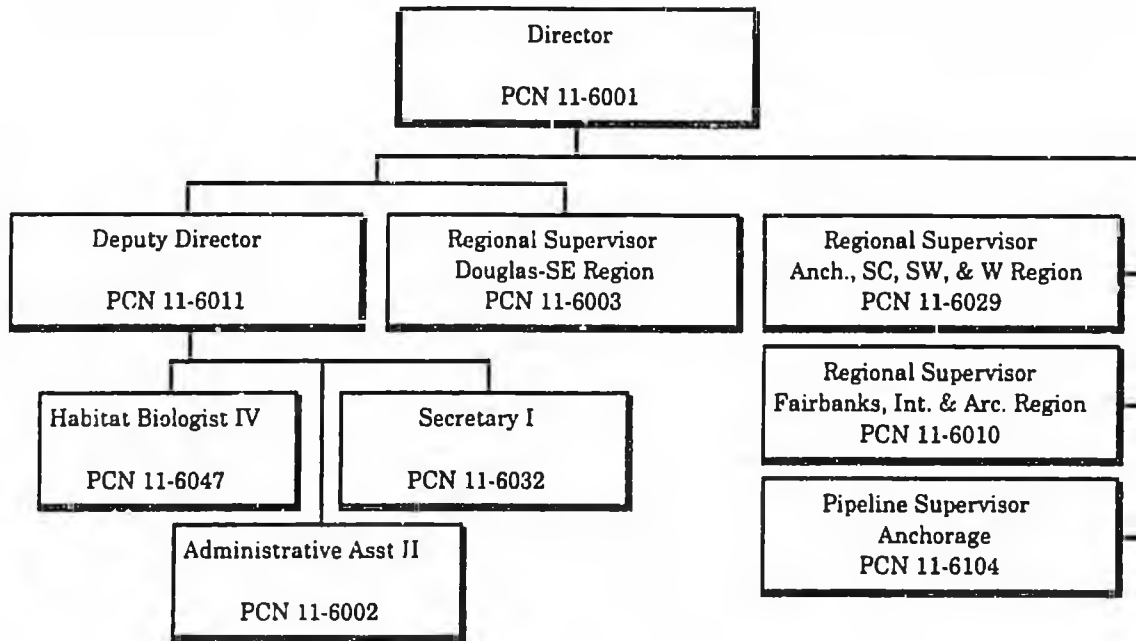
Maintain fish and wildlife for public use and enjoyment through issuance of permits for activities affecting fish-bearing waters and game refuges, critical habitat areas and game sanctuaries, and participation in land use planning activities to ensure that fish and wildlife needs are addressed. The division is involved in such land and resource use activities as timber harvest, mining, oil and gas exploration and development, land disposals, urban expansion, hydro development, and agriculture.

For each plan or project review, the division acquires and analyzes fish, wildlife, and habitat data; analyzes potential adverse effects; and develops recommendations or stipulations to protect habitat while allowing development activity to proceed. Major tasks in FY93 include the review of approximately 2,600 permit applications; participation in planning for use of at least 50 million acres of Alaska lands, about 118 million acres of federal lands, and for up to 12 federal and state oil and gas lease sales; assistance to as many as 12 coastal districts in preparing and implementing coastal management plans; participation in planning for approximately 15 million acres of National Forest land; and permitting and planning for approximately 3.0 million acres of legislatively designated state game refuges, critical habitat areas, and game sanctuaries.

#### 3. Staffing and locations.

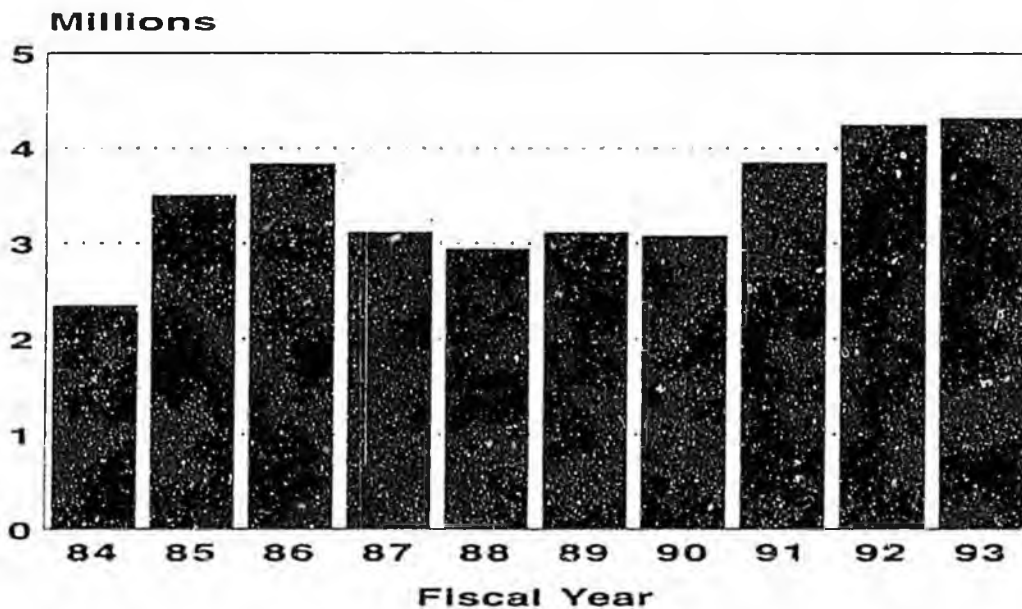
An organizational chart showing structure to the regional level and number of full-time and seasonal staff follows.

Location	PFT	PSEA	Totals	PFT = 62	PSEA = 11
Juneau/HQ	5	1			
Juneau/SE	4	1			
Ketchikan	4	1			
Petersburg	1	1			
Sitka	2	1			
Anchorage	34	3			
Fairbanks	10	1			
Anchorage	2	2			
Pipeline Supr					



**B. CHANGES TO FY92 BUDGET:**

**DIVISION OF HABITAT**  
General Fund Dollars



General Funds Include Program Receipts,  
Fish and Game Funds, and Other General Funds

There were no major changes in the Habitat Component budget between the FY92 authorization and the FY93 request.

In the Special Projects Component, there was a net gain of \$191.9 from the FY92 authorized to the FY93 request. This is a combined result of: 1) shift of \$166.7 in federal and industry oil spill contingency planning from the Habitat component to the Special Projects component, and 2) the addition of \$25.2 COLA for FY93.

**C. FY93 BUDGET REQUEST:**

No project/programs are expected to be added, deleted or directly reduced. There will, however, be an indirect reduction in services as a result of increases in workload due to the increased pace of resource development activities and in increased personal services costs.

**D. REORGANIZATION PLANS:**

No proposed reorganizations at this time.

**E. MAJOR ISSUES:**

**Unfunded increment**

Carry forward increment of \$115.5 in Special Projects Component. This will require the division to submit an RPL in order to receive federal funds and program receipts that were made available in state FY92 and which, because of the three-month difference between state and federal fiscal years, will carry over into state FY93. These funds consist of two federal EPA wetland grants and Red Dog Mine funds, the latter provided by Cominco for subsequent pass through from ADF&G to the U.S. Geological Survey.

## DIVISION OF SPORT FISH

### A. DIVISION FUNCTIONS:

1. **Statutory basis.**  
AS 16.05.020; AS 16.05.060

2. **Duties.**

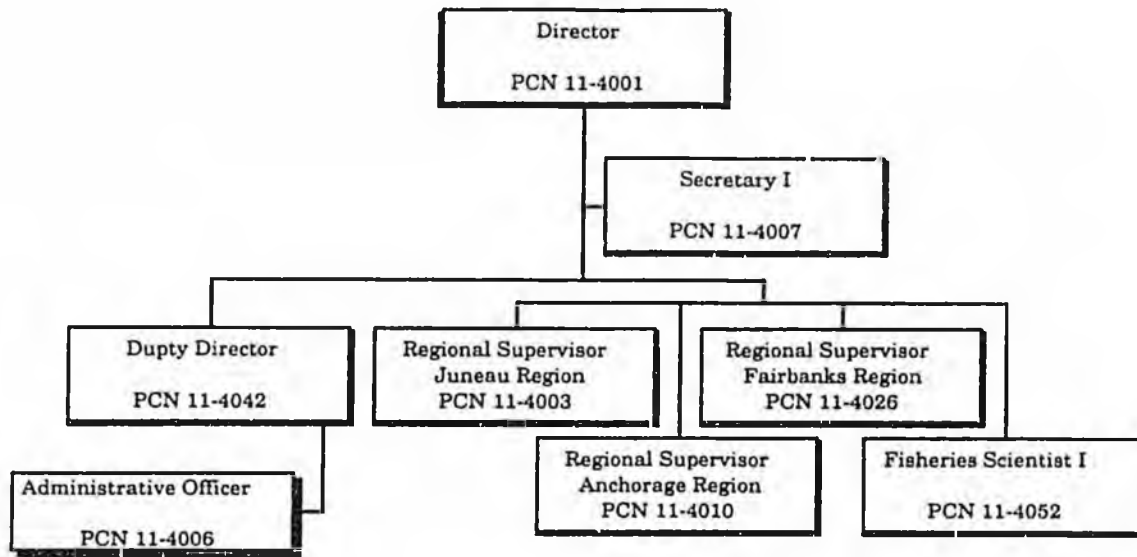
The major responsibilities of the Division of Sport Fish are to manage, protect, maintain, improve and extend the state's recreational fishery resources so as to provide a diverse mix of sport fishing opportunities that address the desires of the angling public and contribute to the Alaska economy. Sport fishing is the most popular recreational activity in Alaska and provides significant economic benefits to the state. The Division of Sport Fish collects data to assess the size and condition of fish stocks, impacts of environmental conditions, and to forecast the size of future runs. Harvest surveys are conducted to determine sport fishing effort, catch and harvest of fish, and details of the composition of the catch. This information is used to manage fish stocks for sustained yield and maximum public benefit.

Under provisions of the federal Wallop-Breaux program, a minimum of 10 percent of our federal apportionment must be spent on recreational boating access. This will provide for a variety of public access projects that will benefit anglers and communities throughout Alaska.

3. **Staffing and locations.**

An organizational chart showing staff structure to the regional supervisor level and number of full-time and seasonal follows.

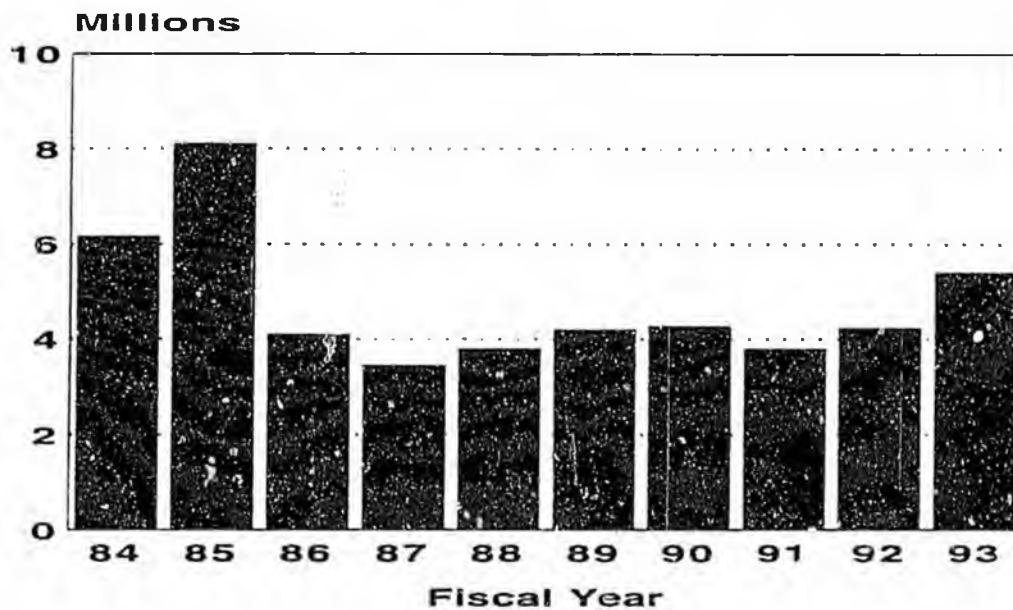
Location	PFT	PSEA	Location	PFT	PSEA
Juneau/HQ	11	0	Region II:		
Anchorage/RTS	15	5	Anchorage	13	12
Region I:			Soldotna	6	19
Douglas	13	15	Palmer	4	20
Haines	0	2	Dillingham	2	5
Ketchikan	2	6	Kodiak	2	5
Petersburg	0	1	Glennallen	1	7
Sitka	1	5	Seward	0	1
Yakutat	0	2	Russian River	0	1
Klawock	0	1	Homer	0	1
			King Salmon	0	1
			Valdez	0	1
Totals	PFT = 88		Region III:		
	PSEA=135		Fairbanks	16	18
			Delta Junction	2	7



**B. CHANGES TO THE FY92 BUDGET:**

## DIVISION OF SPORT FISH

General Fund Dollars



**General Funds include Program Receipts, Fish and Game Fund, and Other General Funds.**

The funding and project structure in the FY93 Sport Fish BRU base budget is largely unchanged from FY92. However, two relatively large increments are being requested: Coho Salmon Management (\$630.8), and Steelhead/Resident Species Projects (\$477.2). As with all other programs in the Sport Fish BRU, these increments are funded entirely with non-general fund monies.

Most of the project changes in the Sport Fisheries component for FY93 are minor and reflect increased contractual services costs associated with a statewide economic survey of sport fisheries, decreased spending on equipment, completion of some activities (for example, Situk River steelhead kelt outmigration estimates, and stock composition studies of Upper Cook Inlet salmon), and the addition of several new projects which were requested in the coho and steelhead/resident species increments (for example, Kenai River coho harvest and escapement estimates, urban coho enhancement, southern Southeast coho monitoring, and Situk River smolt estimates).

**C. FY93 BUDGET REQUEST:**

**D. REORGANIZATION PLANS:**

No proposed reorganizations at this time.

**E. MAJOR ISSUES:**

**Increased Management Complexity of Sport Fisheries**

Increasing numbers of fishermen, conflicts between user groups, subsistence issues, federal management, and increased demands on fishery resources have made fisheries management more complex than ever before. Sport, subsistence, and personal use fisheries often occur on anadromous stocks in freshwater or inshore of commercial fisheries. Because subsistence fisheries receive allocative priority, the burden of conservation is often left to the sport and personal use fisheries which are managed by the Division of Sport Fish. Specific management plans and policies are needed to guide fishery decisions, and precise and timely data about harvest and escapement on an increasing number of fisheries are essential to prevent overharvest.

**Funding is Inadequate**

Increased funding is needed to meet the sport fish management needs of fisheries that continue to be more heavily used, complex, and competitive. The public is demanding that diverse fishing opportunities and more and better facilities be provided. As fishing pressure intensifies, costly hatchery programs are required in urban areas and innovative management approaches are needed to protect wild stocks. There is a need for increased enforcement of fish and game laws in many areas of the state. All operational costs of the Sport Fishery BRU are paid by sport fishermen and recreational boaters. The 1990 Legislature approved an

increase in nonresident license fees. The department has been asking the public to consider the need for increases in resident sport fishing license fees (last increased in 1977) and other user pay approaches to increase funds available for sport fishery programs throughout the state.

Between 1977 and 1990, sport fishing effort in Alaska increased nearly 108 percent from 1.2 million days to 2.5 million days fished. During 1990, the last year for which complete figures are available, 425,000 people sport fished and paid nearly \$4.8 million in state license fees. About 59 percent of these anglers were Alaska residents; 46 percent of the resident population participated in the sport. In 1985, sport fishing contributed \$204.7 million to the state economy and provided over 3,000 full-time jobs. In Southcentral Alaska alone, sport fishing provided 2,178 jobs.

Alaska's expanding sport fisheries have placed increased pressures on the resource and have resulted in increasing conflicts between users. The Division of Sport Fish provides the needed information about fish population structure, harvest, effort, economics, and public interest regarding management options. With this information, the fisheries are managed to provide maximum benefit to users without jeopardizing the resource.

The Sport Fish BRU is a "user pay" program, receiving funding from federal taxes on expenditures by sport fishermen (Dingell-Johnson/Wallop-Breaux Act) and Alaska fishing license sales (Fish and Game Fund). The BRU is managed statewide in three regional offices located in Juneau, Anchorage, and Fairbanks, and the headquarters office in Juneau. Smaller area offices are located in communities in each major region. By maintaining these offices, we are striving to provide direct service and benefits at the local level. Activities within this BRU are classified into four major categories: area fisheries management, research/data collection, information/education, and public fishing access.

Area management biologists are responsible for sport fisheries in their areas. Area biologists or assistant area biologists are stationed in 15 communities located throughout the state. They evaluate harvest, escapement, and other biological data during each fishing season to determine if sustainable yield will occur. If conservation concerns are indicated, appropriate management/regulatory actions are taken. Management biologists are the primary source of area-specific information for the public, and they are also the primary providers of information to the Board of Fisheries during the regulatory process. Each area biologist has the authority to make emergency orders and emergency regulations for the sport and personal use fisheries in their areas.

Research and data collection are primary responsibilities of the department. To meet our constitutional mandate of maintaining sustainable yield, timely and precise population and fishery data are required throughout the state.

## DIVISION OF SUBSISTENCE

### A. DIVISION FUNCTIONS

1. **Statutory basis.**

AS 16.05.090; AS 16.05.094; AS 16.05.258

2. **Duties.**

Compile existing data and conduct studies to gather information, including data from subsistence users, on all aspects of the role of subsistence hunting and fishing in the lives of the residents of the state.

Quantify the amount, nutritional value, and extent of dependence on food acquired through subsistence hunting and fishing.

Make information gathered available to the public, appropriate agencies, and other organized bodies. Assist the department, the Board of Fisheries and the Board of Game in determining what uses of fish and game, as well as what users and what methods, should be termed subsistence users, uses, and methods.

Evaluate the impact of state and federal laws and regulations on subsistence hunting and fishing and, when corrective action is indicated, make recommendations to the department.

Make recommendations to the Board of Fisheries and the Board of Game regarding adoption, amendment, and repeal of regulations affecting subsistence fishing and hunting.

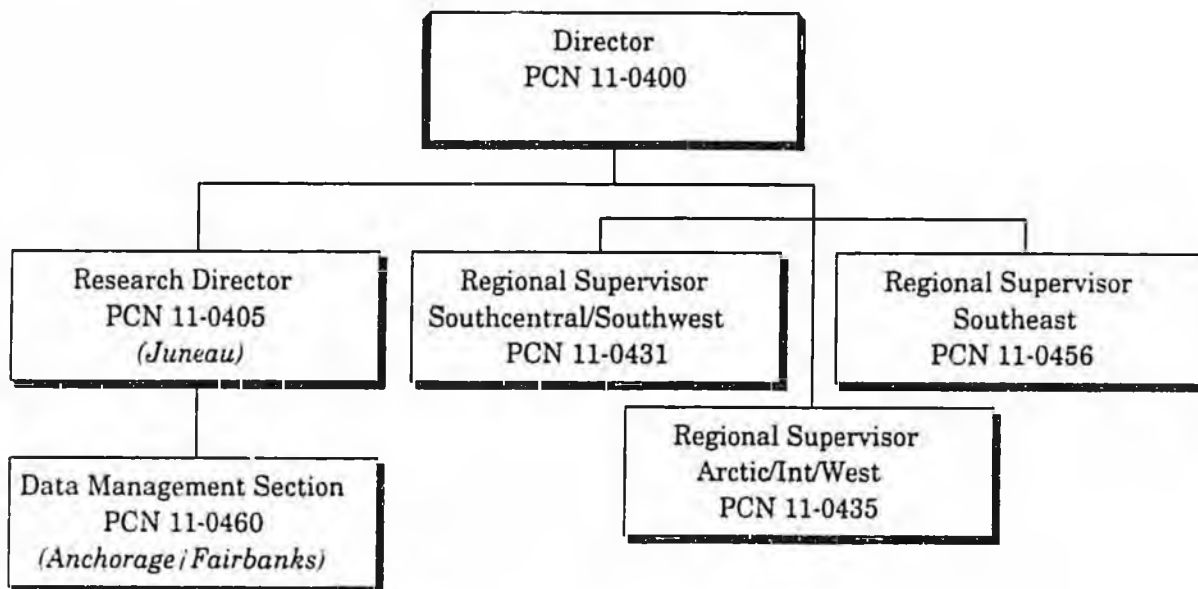
Participate with other divisions in the preparation of statewide and regional management plans so that those plans recognize and incorporate the needs of subsistence users of fish and game.

3. **Staffing and locations.**

1. An organizational chart showing structure to the field office level, and the total number of full-time and seasonal staff follows.

Division Staffing: Statewide

Location	PFT	PSEA
Juneau/Douglas	9	1
Angoon	0	1
Anchorage	6	4
Dillingham	1	2
Bethel	2	1
Fairbanks	6	2
Ft. Yukon	0	1
Kotzebue	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>
TOTAL	24	16



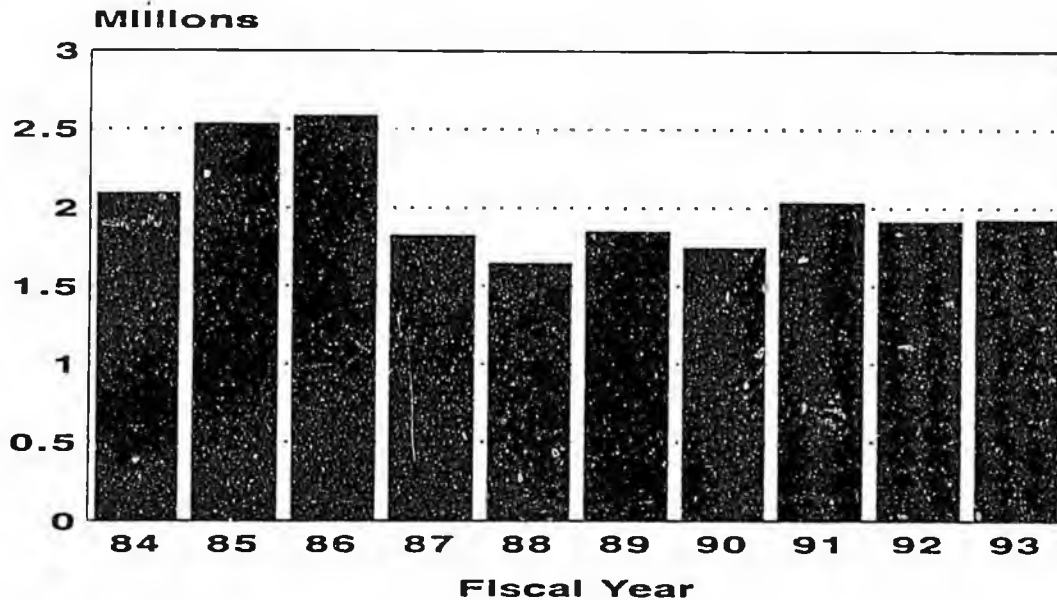
2. Efficiencies, Cost Control Measures

In FY92 the Division of Subsistence initiated cost-cutting measures in two ways. First, in order to reduce personal services costs the position of the deputy director was eliminated. This was accomplished through attrition. Additionally, both cost and management efficiencies were achieved with the reorganization of the division's regional management structure; the Arctic, Western, and Interior region programs were combined under one regional program manager, rather than two.

**B. CHANGES TO FY92 BUDGET:**

**DIVISION OF SUBSISTENCE**  
General Fund Dollars

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**General Funds Include Program Receipts, Fish and Game Fund, and Other General Funds.**

**C. FY93 BUDGET REQUEST:**

Operational Funding. The Division's FY93 budget request represents a slight decrease in funding from FY92. Overall, the division's spending level has remained fairly stable in recent years, though programs have been impacted by inflation and cost-of-living increases. Some instability in the division's budget has resulted, since FY91, from federal funding uncertainties. The state is presently out of compliance with subsistence priority provisions of ANILCA, and the federal government has not yet articulated a policy for continued funding for state subsistence programs. Prior to 1990, federal funding approximated \$400,000 annually. In recent years, federal reimbursement for specific subsistence research projects has been negotiated on a year-to-year basis, but has consistently been less than that amount. For FY93, continuation-level funding from federal sources is hoped for, but not guaranteed.

**D. REORGANIZATION PLANS:**

No proposed reorganization at this time.

## **E. MAJOR ISSUES:**

As in the past year, a high degree of uncertainty surrounds implementation of the state subsistence law and the federal subsistence management program on federal lands. The Division of Subsistence needs stability in funding in order to continue to provide reliable data on subsistence uses, and to assure people that the state is serious in its commitment to address subsistence uses.

Recent court decisions and the reality of dual federal/state management of subsistence in Alaska have resulted in several specific challenges for the Division of Subsistence:

### **Research Coordination**

Gathering information on subsistence uses and users is an important element of both the federal and state programs, but uncoordinated research can be counter-productive. The Subsistence Division has initiated subsistence research training seminars for federal staff entering this field. The division also has worked with federal agencies to promote high ethical and technical standards in the collection and use of subsistence information, to ensure data compatibility, and to make efficient use of available research funding. Maintaining these standards as new research entities emerge has become a significant issue for the division.

### **Fish and Game Management Coordination**

Fish and game management decisions are being made by both the federal subsistence boards and the state boards, at their regular meetings. State involvement in the federal board process has been limited by the board to where we have little more than observer status. Understanding the rationale for federal subsistence board actions, the implications of those decisions, and the appropriate state response has become a major issue for the division.

### **All Alaskans Eligible for Subsistence**

Since the McDowell supreme court decision, all Alaskans potentially have become eligible subsistence users. The implications of this have dramatically affected the work of the division and the department as a whole, due to the expanded pool of eligible fishers and hunters and a complex legal framework for providing for subsistence uses. Developing a new subsistence law that limits eligibility has also become a significant new issue in which the division has played, and will continue to play, a significant role.

## DIVISION OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

### A. DIVISION FUNCTIONS:

1. **Statutory basis.**

AS 16.05; AS 16.20; AS 16.55

2. **Duties.**

The division serves as the state's primary wildlife conservation agency irrespective of land ownership status. Primary duties and functions include:

Management programs consisting of habitat and population management, annual surveys and inventories of big game, furbearer and waterfowl populations, and assessment of harvests of these game species. These projects are conducted to determine the biological status and trends of wildlife populations and to enhance wildlife populations important for human use.

Research programs include studies to provide new biological information or develop improvements in investigation techniques for application to management activities.

Information and recommendations from management and research programs are summarized for presentation to local fish and game advisory committees, regional councils, and the Alaska Board of Game for the state's regulatory process.

Public service projects include response to public inquiries on wildlife-related issues, development and distribution of wildlife educational materials (e.g., Project WILD, Alaska Wildlife Week), and a statewide hunter education/safety program.

Technical assistance is provided to other state and federal agencies, public institutions, and private organizations.

3. **Staffing and locations.**

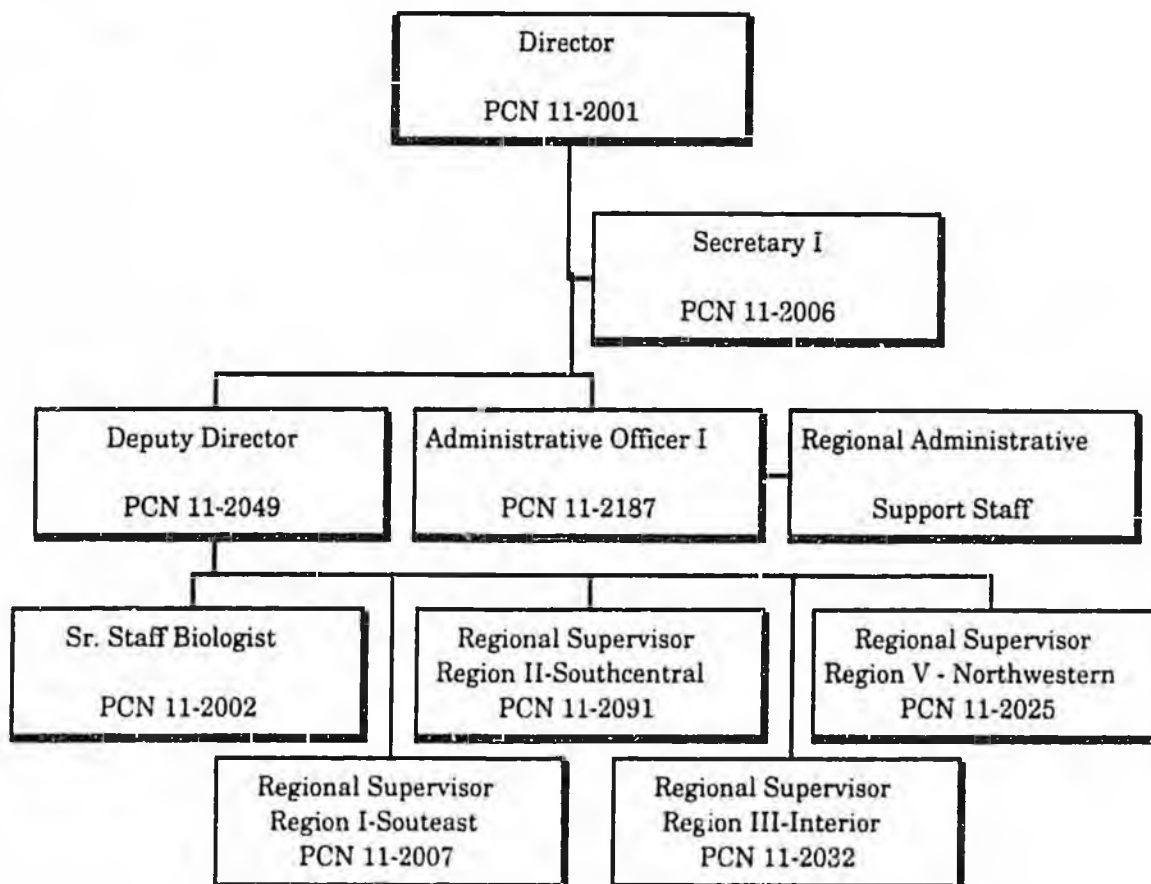
The division is organized into four regions with 18 area offices. The headquarters office is located in Juneau. Distribution of the division's 167 PCNs is shown on the following chart.

Location	PFT	PSEA
Anchorage	46	6
Fairbanks	35	7
Juneau	20	8
Nome	3	1
Soldotna	3	1
Kotzebue	2	
Palmer	5	
Glennallen	3	

Location	PFT	PSEA
King Salmon	1	2
Ketchikan	1	
Cordova	2	
Sitka	2	1
Delta Junction	1	1
Bethel	1	1
Petersburg	1	1
Kodiak	1	1

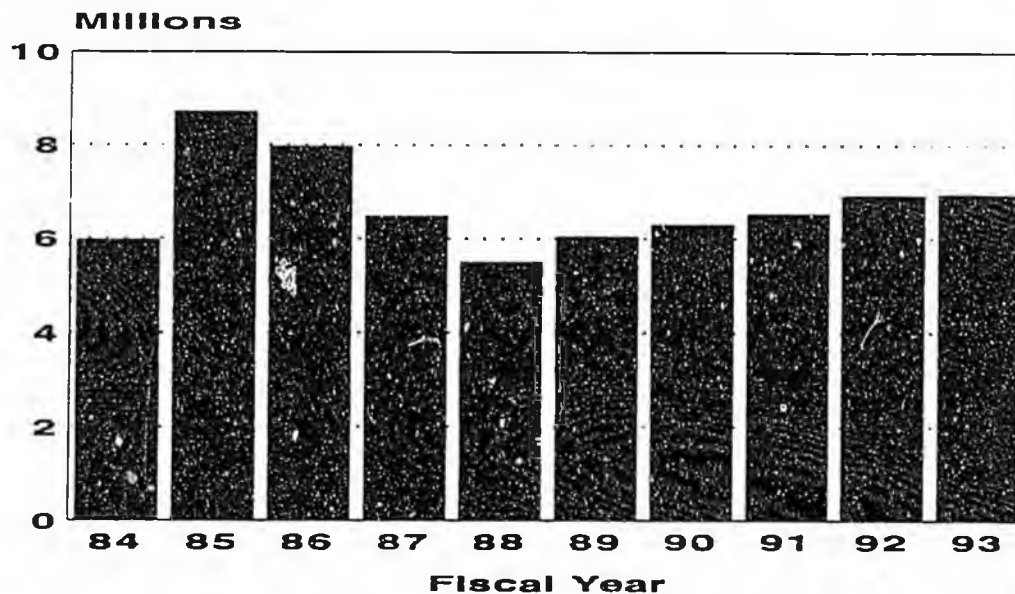
Location	PFT	PSEA
Homer	1	1
Tok	1	2
Barrow	1	
McGrath	1	
Dillingham	1	1
Galena	1	

Totals	PFT	PSEA
	133	34



## B. CHANGES TO FY92 BUDGET:

### DIVISION OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION General Fund Dollars



General Funds Include Program Receipts,  
Fish and Game Fund, and Other General Funds.

The FY92 budget has been increased over the authorized version by \$500,000 in federal funds under RPL 11-92-0077. These funds are available under the Pittman-Robertson act and will be used to supplement and expand existing wildlife resource management studies for the following species: moose, brown bear, caribou, elk, goat, bison, and wolf. The availability of increased P-R funds will continue through FY95 and this increased level has been incorporated into the FY93 budget request (an additional \$200,000 above the revised FY92 level). Even with these increased funds, the FY93 budget request represents essentially a maintenance level budget with only minor internal shifts in program priorities based on current and anticipated needs.

## C. FY93 BUDGET REQUEST:

### 1. Projects/programs deleted or reduced

The only reductions for FY93 are related to either the cyclical nature of some population surveys (elk), or a restructuring of projects to more accurately reflect actual services provided (nongame). There are no major project or program deletions planned for FY93.

### 2. New or expanded projects/programs

Increases in both the General Wildlife (\$278.8) and Public Services (\$144.)

programs are due primarily to the continued fine-tuning of the division's budget to more accurately reflect services. Projects previously shown under Nongame Management are now shown under either the General Wildlife or Public Services programs. Increased costs due to implementation of subsistence regulations are also shown in these two programs. The increases in the Bison Management program (\$51.4) are due primarily to increased management costs for the Delta Bison Range. The increases in Marine Mammal Management (\$31.0) reflect more accurate accounting for the costs of the Round Island Sanctuary project including salary costs not previously shown for this project. The major program increase is in Wolf Management (\$176.3) and reflects the costs associated with implementation of the Strategic Wolf Management Plan adopted by the Board of Game at the Fall 1991 meeting.

#### **D. REORGANIZATION PLANS:**

Early in FY92 the Ft. Yukon area office was closed and the area biologist position and management functions for GMU 25 were transferred to Fairbanks. In addition the regional supervisor for our Northwestern Region was transferred from Nome to Fairbanks and that region is now being managed from our Interior Region office. The reduced salary costs will be offset somewhat by increased travel costs, but an overall savings is anticipated. Additional consolidation or reorganization plans are being considered but no specific decisions have been made at this time.

#### **E. MAJOR ISSUES:**

##### **Unfunded increments**

As submitted the FY93 budget request contains no unfunded increments.

##### **Need for or impact of proposed legislation**

The Division of Wildlife Conservation is funded primarily with hunting and trapping license revenues (Fish and Game Fund) and federal Pittman-Robertson (P-R) monies. To a much lesser extent, appropriate projects are financed from the General Fund. License revenues, although increasing nominally each year, have not kept up with the demand for improved or enhanced services or for program expansions necessary to meet current needs for more active management and additional information upon which to base wildlife management decisions in Alaska. Increased levels of federal P-R funds cannot be expected to continue past FY95 and may in fact decline, so this funding source cannot be expected to sustain necessary increases in funding needed for Alaska's wildlife programs. As a consequence, Alaska must face the need for developing other funding sources, including an increase in resident license fees and the development of new funding sources for watchable wildlife and nongame management to help fund necessary wildlife management programs.

John 17/16, 92 M43

# Alaska State Legislature

Sen. Lloyd Jones, *Chair*  
Sen. Sam Cotten, *Vice-Chair*  
Sen. Dick Ellason, *Member*  
Sen. Steve Frank, *Member*  
Sen. Rick Halford, *Member*  
Sen. Curt Menard, *Member*  
Sen. Fred Zharoff, *Member*



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## Senate Resources Committee

### MEMORANDUM

To: Senate Resources Committee Members

From: Senator Lloyd Jones, Chairman  
Senate Resources Committee

Subject: Fish and Game overview

Date: January 16, 1992

The Senate Resources Committee will meet tomorrow at 1:30 p.m. to hear a presentation by the Department of Fish and Game. Commissioner Rosier will be present, along with directors to present a report to the committee on the activities of the department.

Attached is a packet prepared by the department.