

**03/24/14**

**FISHERIES**

**PRESENTA-**

**TIONS**

<TARGET><BILL></BILL><SUBJECT>03-24-14 FISHERIES  
PRESENTATIONS</SUBJECT><COMM>SRES28</COMM></TARGET>

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Sen. Cathy Giessel, Chair  
Sen. Fred Dyson, Vice Chair  
Sen. Lesil McGuire  
Sen. Anna Fairclough  
Sen. Click Bishop  
Sen. Peter Micciche  
Sen. Hollis French



State Capitol, Room 427  
Juneau AK 99801-1182  
907-465-4843  
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## Senate Resources Committee

Butrovich Room 205  
Monday, March 24, 2014  
3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

### AGENDA

➤ **City of Kenai**

Rick Koch, City Manager

➤ **Matanuska-Susitna Borough Fish and Wildlife Commission**

Bruce Knowles, Chairman

➤ **Kenai River Professional Guide Association**

Steve McClure, President

➤ **Kenai Area Fishermen's Coalition**

Dwight Kramer, Chairman

➤ **Alaska Outdoor Council**

Rod Arno, Executive Director

➤ **Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association**

Amber Every

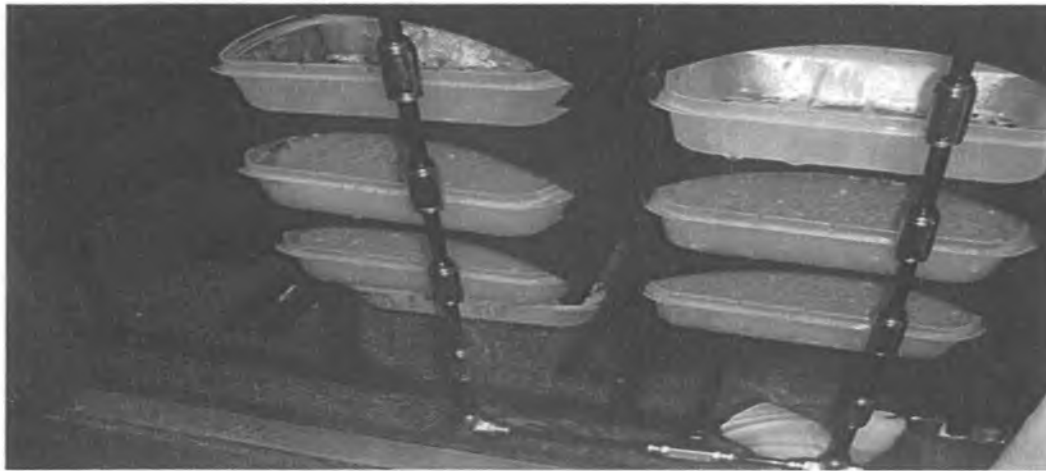
Lisa Gabriel

Megan Smith

(Testimony by Invitation Only)

# LITTLE SUSITNA MOIST AIR INCUBATION

*"Increasing Native Salmon Escapement"*



Increase fertilization and hatching



**Egg to fry survival rate in the wild: 38%**

- Source: The Behavior & Ecology of Pacific Salmon & Trout – Thomas Quinn



**Egg to fry survival rate using Moist Air Incubation: 80-90%**

- Source: Alaska Resource & Economic Development Mist Incubation Studies



Capacity up to 400,000 eggs per unit



Not a hatchery



More cost effective than hatcheries



Protection against enemies and unfavorable environmental conditions



Better conditions for growth and survival



No chemicals or fish food



Minimum Water use



Minimum time eggs are out of waterless Human intervention



In-Stream rearing



## Contact Information:

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*Houston Chamber of Commerce*

*907-301-3963 – CELL*

*907-357-9922 – OFFICE*

*rpakhome@hotmail.com*



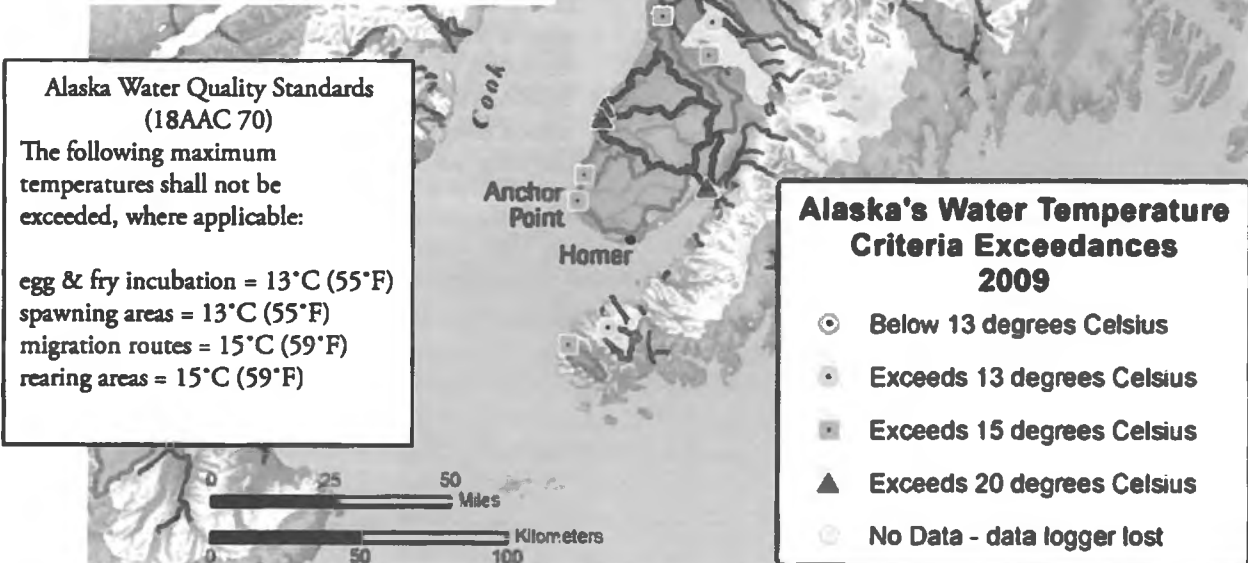
## Salmon in Hot Water

Water temperature is critically important for salmon production. Stream and lake temperatures affect egg and fry survival, food supply, migration timing, the amount of oxygen available in the water and salmon's ability to use oxygen. Excessively high water temperatures cause salmon physiological stress. The fish then become more vulnerable to additional stressors like predators, parasites and pollution. Water temperature is a factor affecting a salmon's ability to survive after being hooked and released in a sport fishery.

Extensive research has delineated temperature parameters and limits for salmon health and survival. When stream temperatures reach 17°C (63°F) there is not enough dissolved oxygen in the water to allow salmon to swim upstream. The shallow, meandering character of much of the waterways in the Mat-Su Basin increase the systems' vulnerability to rising temperatures.

This map shows one year of data from a multi-year program conducted by Cook Inletkeeper to collect consistent, long-term temperature data for salmon streams around Cook Inlet. Beginning in 2008, continuous water and air temperatures were taken in 48 non-glacial salmon streams during open water periods. The information collected will help resource managers prioritize efforts to study impacts on salmon, buffer effects and restore habitat where appropriate.

The effects on salmon migration, spawning and rearing in a "warm" summer like 2009 will show up in decreased returns two to five years later.



Mauger, S. 2011. Stream Temperature Monitoring Network for Cook Inlet Salmon Streams 2008-2010. Alaska Clean Water Action Grant 11-01, FY2011 Final Report. Cook Inletkeeper, Homer, Alaska.



# Alaska sportsmen & women

## 563,000 hunters & anglers spent \$1.16 billion in 2011

### SPORTSMEN BENEFIT THE STATE ECONOMY

563,000 people (residents and non-residents) hunted or fished in Alaska in 2011, more than the population of the entire Anchorage Metropolitan Statistical Area (563,000 vs. 388,000).

The total number of people who fished or hunted in Alaska in 2011 is more than the number of people who attended the Alaska State Fair that year (563,000 vs. 308,572).

Sportsmen and women spent \$1.16 billion on hunting and fishing in Alaska in 2011 - that is nearly five times the revenues from crab landings in the state that year (\$1.16 billion vs. \$249 million in crab landings).

Hunters and anglers support 15,942 jobs in Alaska, more than the combined employment of the three largest employers in the state - Providence Health & Services, Carrs/Safeway, and Fred Meyer (15,942 vs. 9,566 combined jobs).

Spending by sportsmen and women in Alaska generated \$141 million in state and local taxes in 2011 - that's enough to support the average salaries of more than 2,000 teachers.

**Every single state makes a contribution.  
Here are the facts on Alaska's anglers and hunters.**

SEGMENT	PARTICIPANTS	DAYS	SPENDING	JOBS
Total Sportsmen *	563,000	14.9 million	\$1.16 billion	15,942
Total Anglers *	537,900	4.4 million	\$718 million	9,992
Total Hunters *	125,200	10.5 million	\$439 million	5,950

\*Data includes both residents and non-residents age 16 and up, and is a snapshot of participation and spending for 2011.  
Total Sportsmen does not equal the sum of Anglers and Hunters as some individuals both hunt and fish.

### Alaska Sportsmen & Women Support

Spending per Day  
**\$3.2 million**

Salaries and Wages  
**\$554 million**

Federal Taxes  
**\$114 million**

State and Local Taxes  
**\$141 million**

Ripple Effect  
**\$1.7 billion**

# AN OUTDOOR NATION

Sportsmen and women spent \$90 billion in 2011, that's more than the combined global sales of Apple's iPhone® and iPad® the same year.



## NATIONAL STATISTICS

PARTICIPANTS	SPENDING	JOBS	SALARIES / WAGES	TOTAL TAXES
<b>Sportsmen:</b> 37.4 million *	\$90.0 billion **	1.5 million	\$61.7 billion	\$26.7 billion
<b>Anglers:</b> 33.1 million	\$47.7 billion	828,000	\$35.3 billion	\$14.9 billion
<b>Hunters:</b> 13.7 million	\$38.3 billion	681,000	\$26.4 billion	\$11.8 billion

## ALASKA STATISTICS & NATIONAL RANK

563,000 #30	\$1.16 billion #27	15,942 #29	\$554 million #28	\$255 million #27
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\* Total Sportsmen are participants age 16 and up, does not equal the sum of Anglers and Hunters as some individuals both hunt and fish.

\*\* Total angling and hunting expenditures do not add to Total Sportsmen spending due to expenditures not categorized specifically for either pursuit.



Since 1989 the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (CSF) has maintained a singleness of purpose that has guided the organization to become the most respected and trusted sportsmen's organization in the political arena. CSF's mission is to work with Congress, governors, and state legislatures to protect and advance hunting, recreational fishing and shooting and trapping. The unique and collective force of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus (CSC), the Governors Sportsmen's Caucus (GSC) and the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses (NASC), working closely with CSF, and with the support of major hunting, recreational fishing and shooting, and trapping organizations, serves as an unprecedented network of pro-sportsmen legislators that advance the agenda of America's hunters and anglers.

This report is made possible with help from our sponsors.

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For more information visit [www.sportsmenslink.org](http://www.sportsmenslink.org) or call Cole Henry at 202-543-6850 x19.

Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation 110 North Carolina Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20003

Sources: Hunting in America: An Economic Force for Conservation, National Shooting Sports Foundation; Fishing in America: An Economic Force for Conservation, American Sportfishing Association; 2011 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife Associated Recreation, US Fish & Wildlife Service. Specific sources for state comparisons available on request, 202-543-6850.



## **AMERICA'S SPORTING HERITAGE:**

Fueling the American Economy



02  
03

## America's Sportsmen And Women

### Fueling the American economy today. Funding American conservation for the future.

Time in the field hunting or on the water fishing is often spent alone or with a small group of close friends and family. But when you add up all of those individuals, 37.4 million people over the age of 16 hunted or fished in this country in 2011. That's as much as the population of the entire state of California. And the numbers are going up - 2011 saw the first increase in hunters (9 percent) and anglers (11 percent) in recent years.

All of those sportsmen and women are an economic force, fueling the American economy. The \$90 billion they spent in 2011 would land them at #24 on the Fortune 500 list, above well-known companies like Kroger, Procter & Gamble and Costco. From boats to shotguns to land purchased for a place to hunt or fish, on average each sportsman and woman spent \$2,407 that year.

Beyond the money they spend on their outdoor pursuits, sportsmen and women bankroll conservation. Excise taxes on fishing, hunting and shooting equipment, and motorboat fuel as well as fees for licenses and stamps are all dedicated toward state fish and wildlife management, fueling the American System of Conservation Funding. Add their generous support of conservation organizations through memberships and contributions and you're looking at \$3 billion for conservation over the course of a year.

When you take a closer look, America's sportsmen and women are an economic engine helping to fuel our country's economy and the future of conservation.



The Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation produced this report through the generous support of our partners in order to promote the importance of hunting and recreational shooting, angling and boating in the American economy.

The primary source of data for this report comes from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) 2011 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife Associated Recreation. This survey is the most comprehensive data available based on interviews with 16,371 hunting and fishing households across the country. The number of participants cited is a snapshot of people who hunted or fished in 2011 and the actual number is probably even higher - industry research found that over 40 percent of resident hunters will buy a license in only one or two years over a five year period.

The National Shooting Sports Foundation and the American Sportfishing Association commissioned Southwick Associates to provide even more detailed economic figures that are also referenced in this report. In addition, other industry-sponsored research on market segments outside the scope of the USFWS report is included.

04  
05

## American Sportsmen: A Closer Look

When it comes to defining your typical sportsman or woman, there's no right image. Anglers fish in rivers and lakes... except that nearly a third of them fish in saltwater. Hunters come from the south... except that Wisconsin has the second highest number of in-state hunters at nearly 900,000. Sportsmen and women are rural... but they also hail from the big city. There's no simple way to categorize sportsmen and women, and that is what makes them such an important constituency in this country.

Nationwide, there are 37.4 million Americans, age 16 and older, who hunted or fished in 2011. If you add youth age 6 to 15, there's an additional 1.8 million hunters; young anglers add another 8.5 million to the ranks. And in 2011, hunting and fishing increased by 9 percent and 11 percent respectively from five years before. There are more people who hunt and fish in America than go bowling (34.9 million participants age 7 and up) or play basketball (26.1 million participants over age 7).

But perhaps more importantly during a time of economic recession, sportsmen and women spend a lot of money in pursuit of their sports. The \$90 billion they spent in 2011? That's the same as combined revenues for the United States' TV broadcast and cable network industry – yes, that includes NBC, FOX, ESPN, Discovery Channel and much more.

The bottom line is that hunting and fishing are good for the economy – for small, rural communities where sportsmen and women visit to hunt and fish, as well as for companies in cities across the country that make and sell the equipment that sportsmen and women depend on.



There are **37.4 million hunters and anglers** over the age of 16, that's equivalent to the entire population of the state of California.



If every sportsman and woman had voted in the 2012 presidential election, they would have made up **30 percent of the total votes cast**.

# \$90.0 BILLION

Sportsmen and women spent \$90 billion in 2011, that's more than the combined global sales of Apple's iPhone® and iPad® the same year.



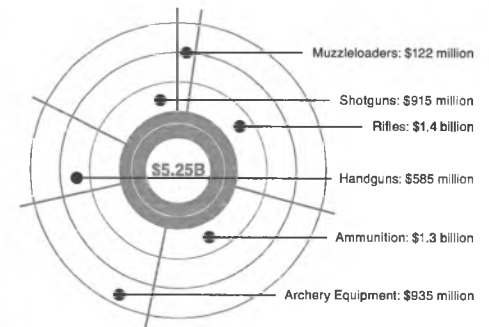
The **\$11.6 billion** in food and lodging spent by sportsmen in 2011 is almost 3 percent of the entire Gross Domestic Product in these industries.



Sportsmen spent **\$25 billion** in special equipment (boats, trucks, RVs, ATVs, cabins, etc.) in 2011, which is as much as the revenues for the video game industry.



Combined, sportsmen spent more than **835 million days afield** and took more than 711 million trips in 2011 – that averages out to 22 days in the woods and on the water.



**Total expenditures for shooting sports equipment by hunters in 2011.**

06  
07

## America's Hunters Spend \$38.3 Billion

For many, it is a tradition passed down for generations, parents or grandparents to children, spending hours in the field and precious time together. Some may not think that hunting is "mainstream" anymore, that a sport like soccer has far more participation. But that is far from the truth. There are 13.7 million people age 16 and up who hunted in the United States in 2011 and if you add the 1.8 million youth hunters, age 6 to 15, you have a total of 15.5 million hunters. In comparison, a mere 13.9 million Americans over the age of 7 play soccer.

These hunters may live in small towns, but they are just as likely to live in the city and travel to the country in order to hunt. Many of them are men, but a growing number are women. They may be mostly interested in big game hunting (10.8 million), but more than a third of them hunt migratory and upland birds.

And of particular note, there are 9 percent more hunters than there were five years ago. Whether that increase comes from the growing ranks of women hunters or the movement to eat local, organic meats, or simply from a renewed interest in connecting with the great outdoors in a more fundamental way, hunting is on the rise.

This is great news for the American economy because hunting requires gear and usually travel. When you add up all those hunters, their equipment and all the trips they take - you're looking at \$38.3 billion in spending in 2011, topping revenues for Comcast that same year (\$37.9 billion). In difficult economic times, hunters spent 30 percent more than they did five years before.



Spending by hunters pays \$5.4 billion in state and local taxes, a sum that could pay the wages of 113,000 firefighters. 37 percent of all professional firefighters in the country. If you add in federal taxes paid by hunters, the number doubles to **\$11.8 billion**.



Hunters spent **\$6 billion** on guns, ammunition and archery equipment in 2011, that's the same as the sales of bicycles in the United States.

# \$38.3 BILLION

America's hunters spent \$38.3 billion in 2011, more than the revenues for Comcast that year.



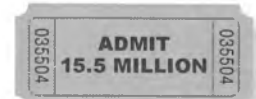
The **15.5 million hunters** over the age of 6 could fill every NASCAR track, NFL stadium, NBA arena, MLB ballpark and NHL rink in the country more than twice (15.5 million vs. 7.2 million total capacity).



Sportsmen put their money towards conserving fish and wildlife habitat, spending **\$8 billion** in 2011 to own, lease and cultivate land for hunting.



Something as simple as decoys and game calls? Hunters spent **\$302 million** in 2011 for those.



Trip-related expenses paid by hunters in 2011 are more than the total box office gross receipts that year (**\$10.4 billion vs. \$10.2 billion**).

08  
09

## More Than 40 Million Anglers

It starts with a worm and a bobber and then you are hooked for a lifetime of fishing enjoyment. That bait starts to add up (\$1.5 billion), and then spinners or crank bait or other artificial flies and lures are added to the mix (\$1.17 billion). Don't forget about rods and reels (\$2.37 billion). Add in all of the tackle boxes, hooks, lines and sinkers, and fishing equipment and bait becomes a \$7.6 billion business.

That's just the tip of the iceberg. Many anglers book guided trips or charters (\$1.1 billion in guide fees and package costs). Those trips usually require hotel or lodge stays (\$2.3 billion in lodging) – or they might just decide to buy a cabin or camper for a more personal overnight trip. And eventually they probably will end up buying a boat and paying to dock it and fuel it. When you add up all the expenditures by anglers in 2011, it totaled a whopping \$47.7 billion, more than revenues for Lockheed Martin that year (\$46.9 billion).

But the beauty of fishing is that the simple worm and bobber on the end of the rod and reel still work perfectly. Fishing appeals as much to the most back-to-basics outdoorsmen and women as it does to the tech-savvy angler using the market's latest tackle innovations. No matter what your budget or where you live, there are always bluegills in the local reservoir or wild trout in your dream stream in Montana.

Perhaps this is why fishing has such an appeal throughout this country. In 2011, 33.1 million Americans over the age of 15 fished, and youth from ages 6 to 15 added another 8.5 million anglers. All together that is 41.6 million American anglers. The best news of all is that represents an 11 percent increase in participation since the last survey was done five years ago.

With so many anglers spending so much money, there's a whole lot of fishing going on.



There were **41.6 million American anglers** over the age of 6 in 2011, that's more than the number of people who went to Disney's Magic Kingdom, Epcot, and Animal Kingdom in Orlando, FL that year (41.6 million vs. 37.5 million).

**Bait**  
\$1.50 billion

**Tackle boxes**  
\$142.00 million

**Rods and reels**  
\$2.37 billion

**Lines and leaders**  
\$593.00 million

**Hooks, sinkers, etc**  
\$628.60 million

**Artificial flies and lures**  
\$1.17 billion

**A lure here, some bait there, adds up to billions of dollars.**



# \$61.7 BILLION

Fishing's contribution to the country's Gross Domestic Product is \$61.7 billion, a lot more than the contribution from the manufacturing of paper products (\$61.7 billion vs. \$53.2 billion).



Anglers support **828,133 jobs**, well more than the 761,000 McDonald's employees in the U.S.



Trip related expenditures for anglers is more than the combined 2011 revenues for all major professional sports leagues – MLB, NHL, NBA and NFL (**\$21.8 billion vs. \$21.4 billion**).



The **\$12 billion** anglers spent on boats and other special equipment in 2011 is more than the global revenues for Starbucks that year.



Anglers paid **\$8.2 billion in federal taxes**, which would pay the salaries for 410,000 active duty privates in the U.S. Army.

10  
11

## The American System Of Conservation Funding

Seventy-five years ago, America's great outdoors looked much different. Generations of natural resource over-use resulted in leveled forests, tilled native grasslands, and drained wetlands. Bison were largely extirpated from the lower 48 states, passenger pigeons were about to make their final appearance, and sightings of some of today's common wildlife species like deer and turkeys made the local newspapers. Instead of clouds of ducks in the Central Flyway, residents saw clouds of dust darkening the skies. The situation was bleak.

But America's sportsmen and women knew and cared about these resources. They knew that fish and wildlife were sustainable natural resources and that with quality habitat and regulations to limit harvest numbers, populations would rebound. Hunters, recreational anglers and shooters and trappers and boaters cared so passionately about these resources that they advocated to tax themselves on the equipment and motorboat fuel they used to fund conservation. They pushed for hunting and fishing licenses with the fees dedicated to state-based wildlife management and for a duck stamp to protect wetlands critical for maintaining waterfowl populations.

All of these excise taxes and fees are directed into the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration programs for use exclusively by state fish and wildlife agencies to professionally manage fish and wildlife and provide access for sportsmen. These "user-pays, public-benefits" funding programs celebrated their 75th Anniversary in 2012. They are the foundation of the American System of Conservation Funding and have allowed the larger public to enjoy the benefits of bountiful fish and wildlife populations and the lands and waters on which they depend. It is a uniquely American approach to conservation funding that is still paying dividends – and is still the primary funding source for fish and wildlife conservation in the country. Combined, the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration programs have totaled \$14.5 billion for conservation since they were established.

Without sportsmen and women and industry partners stepping up for conservation, our outdoor world would be a very different place.



Since 1934, hunters have bought Federal Duck Stamps to hunt waterfowl, to the tune of more than **\$750 million** generated to date that has protected over 6 million acres of wetland habitat – an area the size of the state of Vermont.



# \$3.0 BILLION

In 2011, sportsmen and women contributed more than \$3 billion toward conservation efforts, including the purchase of licenses, stamps, motorboat fuel, sporting equipment, and contributions to organizations - that's

**\$8.3 million per day**

**\$344,000 per hour**

**\$5,700 per minute**

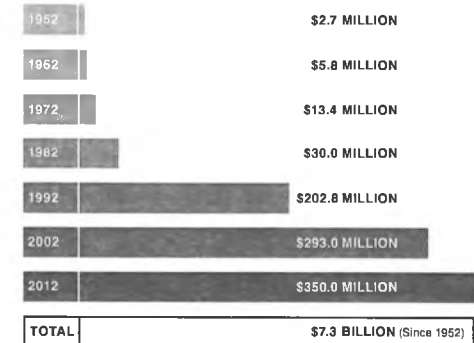
**\$95.54 per second**



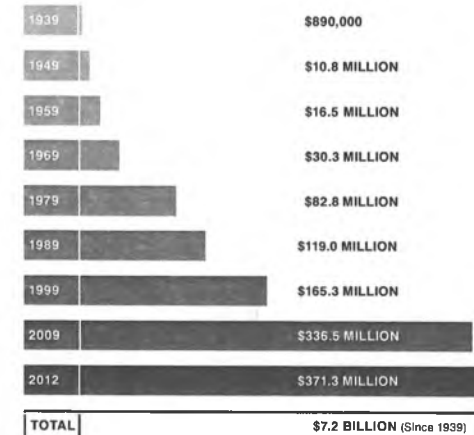
Sportsmen's groups like Safari Club International, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Ducks Unlimited and B.A.S.S. are closely involved with fish and wildlife management efforts, and sportsmen and women give generously to these groups contributing **\$1.1 billion** in 2011 for an average of \$30 per person.

Year after year, sportsmen and women have helped fund the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration programs through excise taxes on their fishing and hunting purchases.

### Sport Fish Restoration



### Wildlife Restoration



12  
13

## Millions Of Recreational Shooters & Boaters

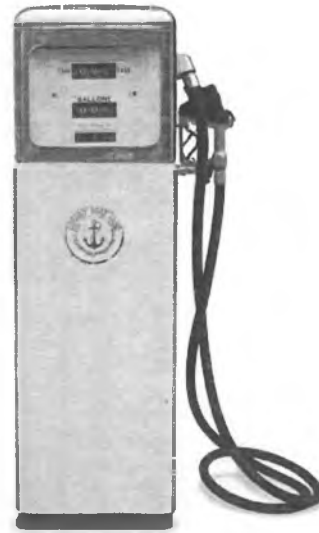
Industry insiders know that a large percentage of outdoor enthusiasts go target shooting or boating, but may not hunt or fish. These markets are very important to sportsmen and women because the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration programs utilize excise taxes on arms and ammunition and motorboat fuel regardless of whether the buyer intends to hunt or fish. And these funds - which fuel the American System of Conservation Funding - are essential to the conservation of fish and wildlife and their habitats.

The lines between enthusiast groups are typically blurred, and shooters and boaters that don't hunt or fish may not be captured by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's data. But, every hunter likes to brush up on their skills through a round of sporting clays or target shooting at shooting ranges and the boats sportsmen and women buy can also provide a pleasant cruise at the local lake. And in the reverse, an avid user of a shooting range might decide to take his or her skills afield as they become more proficient or a boater might decide to bring a fishing rod aboard. Case in point - boat manufacturers already estimate that six out of ten boaters fished while they were on the water.

With this in mind, these pages spotlight some of the research developed by industry trade groups as well as expenditures by sportsmen and women from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service survey to add more details to the trends for shooters and boaters.



The National Shooting Sports Foundation reports that the arms and ammunition industry **directly employs 98,750 people.**



Buying a boat is the first stage of an ongoing investment. After that there's boat fuel, mooring and storage, launch fees and more. Expenditures by sportsmen and women for these additional boating costs is over \$4 billion, making up just under half of the boating industry's estimate of **\$9.8 billion** for this market.

# \$15.0 BILLION

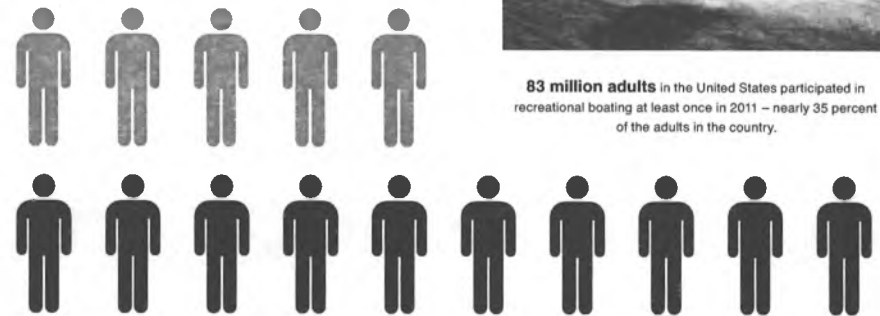
The National Marine Manufacturers Association estimates that there were 16.35 million boats in use during 2011. More than one million boats changed hands that year with sales of all watercraft (including sail boats, personal water craft and others) totaling \$15 billion. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service data estimates that hunters and anglers spent \$3.9 billion on motorboats and non-motorized boats that year - equaling more than a quarter of the market.



NSSF and Responsive Management research in 2009 found that 15 percent of the U.S. population participated in some type of target or sport shooting - that's **34.4 million people.**



**83 million adults** in the United States participated in recreational boating at least once in 2011 - nearly 35 percent of the adults in the country.



There are more than 32,000 retail/service boating businesses, employing over 200,000 people in 2010 - that's more than eight times the 3,982 Walmart stores in the country and **twice the number of employees Intel has.**

	HUNTING 2011						FISHING 2011					
	◆ HUNTERS	■ RETAIL SALES	SALARIES & WAGES	JOBS	STATE & LOCAL TAXES	FEDERAL TAXES	◆ ANGLERS	■ RETAIL SALES	SALARIES & WAGES	JOBS	STATE & LOCAL TAXES	FEDERAL TAXES
Alabama	535,110	\$1,189,125,204	\$613,175,542	27,257	\$104,412,563	\$128,554,235	682,625	\$736,194,840	\$320,214,191	10,489	\$81,184,997	\$70,240,159
** Alaska	125,189	\$439,326,408	\$195,786,814	5,950	\$53,998,861	\$40,221,118	537,927	\$718,452,401	\$358,679,292	9,992	\$86,459,590	\$73,887,017
Arizona	269,296	\$341,898,298	\$208,088,736	5,715	\$42,474,173	\$46,806,825	636,966	\$693,418,656	\$490,946,268	12,505	\$89,281,673	\$108,821,355
Arkansas	393,234	\$1,034,162,738	\$500,305,183	17,592	\$112,772,887	\$115,790,116	554,881	\$517,364,731	\$232,560,542	7,801	\$50,109,458	\$51,806,775
California	394,471	\$1,141,737,383	\$758,501,918	20,640	\$153,291,677	\$174,421,918	1,673,633	\$2,393,961,476	\$1,573,094,107	35,748	\$334,401,009	\$365,552,269
Colorado	259,200	\$465,114,408	\$291,973,454	8,355	\$51,352,632	\$68,371,147	767,365	\$657,405,955	\$430,026,121	10,338	\$83,185,849	\$102,804,411
Connecticut	49,994	\$305,986,045	\$142,099,320	4,128	\$36,035,072	\$41,178,819	341,995	\$446,137,179	\$273,332,655	6,625	\$53,723,252	\$88,287,470
Delaware	22,544	\$40,943,868	\$23,136,398	549	\$4,819,825	\$5,100,584	165,935	\$109,167,781	\$42,741,504	1,319	\$11,951,595	\$11,259,350
Florida	241,792	\$965,096,389	\$482,598,709	14,873	\$94,839,788	\$125,126,365	3,091,952	\$4,953,493,028	\$2,702,670,214	80,211	\$516,516,023	\$685,323,663
Georgia	391,844	\$977,169,692	\$800,193,419	23,996	\$97,169,692	\$108,552,804	828,869	\$1,306,650,305	\$822,480,242	15,644	\$109,281,377	\$147,791,801
‡ Hawaii	22,523	\$52,713,340	\$23,514,889	774	\$6,025,027	\$5,099,046	158,720	\$239,713,712	\$108,579,841	3,007	\$22,394,047	\$21,788,329
Idaho	248,279	\$471,243,529	\$212,603,577	8,009	\$47,711,230	\$51,252,055	448,718	\$548,392,876	\$229,684,505	7,252	\$49,541,983	\$54,084,065
Illinois	511,766	\$1,324,341,410	\$698,887,510	18,049	\$158,380,239	\$180,372,476	1,043,780	\$1,020,000,407	\$548,144,825	13,548	\$118,506,781	\$136,903,628
Indiana	391,738	\$229,913,491	\$110,612,210	3,765	\$26,498,117	\$27,484,462	800,749	\$693,739,202	\$325,000,798	10,293	\$76,365,973	\$78,919,648
Iowa	253,071	\$448,853,497	\$227,965,683	6,975	\$47,852,640	\$52,111,319	473,307	\$330,071,230	\$146,885,016	4,574	\$29,792,679	\$33,646,934
Kansas	282,626	\$404,795,400	\$236,222,287	6,200	\$47,135,477	\$50,986,788	400,291	\$224,448,862	\$103,609,537	3,131	\$21,997,805	\$24,807,182
Kentucky	347,094	\$1,038,943,809	\$486,794,744	22,944	\$97,857,604	\$114,520,681	554,163	\$882,888,495	\$361,029,199	12,059	\$89,516,147	\$82,294,089
Louisiana	276,727	\$710,426,685	\$329,613,923	10,080	\$72,130,602	\$70,940,810	824,949	\$958,784,822	\$453,441,513	13,265	\$93,390,154	\$93,009,897
Maine	180,509	\$213,219,154	\$119,871,379	3,864	\$28,074,112	\$28,008,447	341,154	\$395,692,015	\$201,185,974	6,723	\$42,878,034	\$44,501,743
Maryland	88,280	\$265,625,600	\$127,954,484	4,498	\$32,387,060	\$34,760,701	426,065	\$549,436,134	\$268,791,438	6,209	\$51,680,339	\$61,010,190
Massachusetts	56,139	\$150,982,784	\$78,102,194	1,888	\$15,227,411	\$18,979,332	531,707	\$475,488,281	\$303,259,366	7,213	\$55,748,533	\$72,009,874
Michigan	528,936	\$2,361,806,575	\$1,202,811,230	34,473	\$289,120,831	\$307,741,128	1,744,208	\$2,485,535,795	\$1,447,918,090	37,989	\$287,082,977	\$335,597,718
Minnesota	478,540	\$733,229,489	\$417,868,357	12,439	\$93,744,728	\$106,029,695	1,561,881	\$2,440,230,389	\$1,311,490,021	35,462	\$264,335,821	\$319,557,705
Mississippi	483,182	\$1,293,954,215	\$497,748,808	22,511	\$111,982,004	\$112,297,307	650,905	\$902,096,726	\$349,050,297	11,073	\$74,823,920	\$73,449,999
Missouri	576,479	\$985,002,441	\$540,932,011	18,053	\$107,620,783	\$126,352,931	1,071,487	\$684,809,095	\$361,357,550	10,842	\$73,509,816	\$84,547,273
Montana	150,071	\$633,572,345	\$281,270,023	11,140	\$64,819,239	\$71,158,716	267,213	\$349,913,031	\$147,910,383	5,375	\$36,895,735	\$38,361,371
Nebraska	128,445	\$582,145,198	\$267,356,966	8,856	\$59,518,903	\$63,090,525	206,967	\$217,840,844	\$106,275,569	3,230	\$21,225,298	\$23,561,091
Nevada	43,423	\$219,512,540	\$112,681,197	3,058	\$21,890,940	\$26,941,653	148,541	\$189,689,911	\$92,700,327	2,268	\$16,507,952	\$21,025,417
New Hampshire	56,190	\$60,440,355	\$34,494,405	923	\$7,551,752	\$8,402,889	228,087	\$210,095,175	\$114,048,888	3,814	\$23,905,031	\$27,758,574
New Jersey	93,826	\$116,095,966	\$70,326,693	1,519	\$13,492,573	\$17,300,219	766,085	\$1,148,551,669	\$583,147,807	15,386	\$137,228,333	\$158,769,630
New Mexico	68,842	\$145,772,931	\$72,201,507	2,208	\$16,069,090	\$15,693,172	278,016	\$433,283,763	\$188,044,225	5,487	\$42,284,888	\$40,433,851
New York	823,410	\$2,252,489,308	\$1,178,786,626	23,697	\$289,887,302	\$287,485,940	1,882,280	\$2,696,583,564	\$1,526,230,881	32,317	\$332,964,752	\$356,339,771
North Carolina	334,958	\$648,548,175	\$317,739,033	9,376	\$71,548,105	\$76,527,590	1,524,578	\$1,655,538,064	\$899,667,215	25,712	\$177,290,388	\$203,218,395
** North Dakota	82,440	\$147,595,292	\$89,554,245	2,254	\$18,809,128	\$15,177,285	88,147	\$74,100,883	\$34,859,486	1,210	\$9,438,585	\$7,626,233
Ohio	552,936	\$853,801,721	\$490,289,865	20,471	\$97,437,823	\$111,472,383	1,341,857	\$1,903,619,503	\$789,311,723	26,354	\$203,191,366	\$208,530,370
Oklahoma	243,821	\$680,712,580	\$254,285,204	12,090	\$85,987,438	\$72,982,908	729,191	\$821,069,868	\$301,144,447	11,342	\$77,341,322	\$84,503,409
Oregon	196,389	\$248,240,140	\$132,197,830	3,726	\$32,084,273	\$32,065,677	637,746	\$680,636,132	\$382,802,979	11,043	\$72,381,359	\$91,781,493
Pennsylvania	774,930	\$985,541,589	\$529,087,694	15,211	\$121,054,741	\$138,888,489	1,101,173	\$502,996,175	\$303,917,251	9,587	\$59,880,258	\$72,812,786
Rhode Island	20,100	\$18,503,090	\$11,458,525	290	\$2,241,343	\$2,807,804	174,882	\$135,428,891	\$73,301,720	2,056	\$15,484,543	\$17,264,447
South Carolina	253,540	\$658,420,897	\$301,861,172	20,011	\$49,939,385	\$73,630,962	743,818	\$865,561,873	\$431,085,953	19,964	\$74,244,785	\$104,818,801
South Dakota	270,287	\$723,236,029	\$302,183,278	11,034	\$62,113,252	\$72,731,738	267,862	\$313,888,605	\$126,326,966	3,747	\$25,108,727	\$28,801,493
Tennessee	374,588	\$505,208,458	\$281,408,858	8,847	\$54,841,175	\$64,885,378	826,293	\$1,279,223,286	\$690,098,985	17,542	\$112,094,480	\$149,379,195
Texas	1,148,657	\$2,118,800,404	\$1,140,972,709	36,170	\$216,876,666	\$279,321,294	2,246,367	\$2,014,497,308	\$1,144,853,889	29,824	\$195,917,234	\$260,143,858
Utah	192,871	\$549,531,282	\$309,947,917	12,471	\$82,483,387	\$70,199,557	413,568	\$489,764,385	\$253,475,908	7,207	\$49,702,987	\$58,338,487
Vermont	90,069	\$294,712,917	\$140,855,725	4,394	\$33,908,231	\$34,040,482	207,014	\$147,111,097	\$73,224,447	2,420	\$15,966,003	\$17,139,314
Virginia	432,418	\$978,807,941	\$525,896,157	20,492	\$102,801,062	\$132,134,526	832,841	\$1,407,011,422	\$842,302,899	18,672	\$139,406,127	\$164,573,485
Washington	218,800	\$369,565,921	\$211,083,317	5,612	\$39,653,073	\$50,647,408	938,053	\$1,186,275,897	\$655,222,636	16,211	\$119,631,627	\$150,271,880
West Virginia	248,894	\$421,819,113	\$153,805,141	5,377	\$35,544,522	\$35,579,954	305,122	\$448,099,897	\$199,013,407	7,208	\$45,289,085	\$45,428,838
Wisconsin	894,522	\$2,565,720,458	\$1,026,590,029	34,180	\$228,393,941	\$262,835,667	1,246,775	\$1,459,883,024	\$667,112,559	21,542	\$148,688,219	\$186,477,700
Wyoming	140,118	\$301,218,745	\$151,501,068	4,934	\$24,254,951	\$35,476,413	302,758	\$478,768,980	\$238,166,287	9,008	\$28,384,285	\$54,828,250

DATA PROVIDED BY:  
NATIONAL SHOOTING SPORTS  
FOUNDATION  
AND  
AMERICAN SPORTFISHING  
ASSOCIATION.

◆ Total participants includes both resident and non-resident hunters or anglers. These numbers only report the number of sportsmen/women 16 years and older. Detailed data were not available for youth 6-15 years of age that hunted or fished.

■ The expenditures reported are greater than the total reported by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Sportsmen often attributed purchases to both fishing and hunting (especially vehicles and big-ticket items). These items were not included in the Service's expenditure estimates. Such items were included in this table by prorating each item's cost based on each respondent's total days of hunting and fishing activity.

‡ Estimate based on a small sample size of 10-29 hunters

\*\* The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) and the North Dakota Game and Fish Department have expressed concerns regarding the expenditure estimates from the USFWS National Survey. Readers may wish to defer to economic statistics produced by these states as alternate sources.



**Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation**  
110 North Carolina Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20003

Since 1989 the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (CSF) has maintained a singleness of purpose that has guided the organization to become the most respected and trusted sportsmen's organization in the political arena. CSF's mission is to work with Congress, governors, and state legislatures to protect and advance hunting, recreational fishing and shooting and trapping. The unique and collective force of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus (CSC), the Governors Sportsmen's Caucus (GSC) and the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses (NASC), working closely with CSF, and with the support of major hunting, recreational fishing and shooting, and trapping organizations, serves as an unprecedented network of pro-sportsmen legislators that advance the agenda of America's hunters and anglers.

For more information visit [www.sportsmenlink.org](http://www.sportsmenlink.org)  
or call Cole Henry at 202-543-6850 x19.

**Sources:**

2011 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation,  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, 2012.

Hunting in America: An Economic Force for Conservation.  
Southwick Associates for the National Shooting Sports Foundation in partnership  
with the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, 2012.

Sportfishing in America: An Economic Force for Conservation.  
Southwick Associates for the American Sportfishing Association under a  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Sport Fish Restoration grant (F12AP00137,VA M-26-R)  
awarded by the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, 2012.

2011 Recreational Boating Statistical Abstract.  
National Marine Manufacturers Association, 2012.

Shooting Sports Participation in the United States in 2009.  
Responsive Management for the National Shooting Sports Foundation, 2010.

Firearms and Ammunition Industry Economic Impact Report.  
National Shooting Sports Foundation, 2012.

**Comparisons to other industries:**

Apple, Inc.; CNN Money; Entertainment Software Association; ESPN; Fortune Magazine;  
GoArmy.com; Intel Corp.; McDonald's Corporation; Nash Information Services;  
National Bicycle Dealers Association; National Sporting Goods Association; NASCAR;  
Research and Markets; Starbucks Corp.; Themed Entertainment Association;  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis; U.S. Department of Labor;  
Bureau of Labor Statistics; Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.



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# The City of Kenai

## Senate Resources Presentation





# FISHERIES IN THE CITY OF KENAI

- Subsistence
- Commercially-Guided Sportfish
- Sportfish
- Commercial Shore (Set Net)
- Commercially-Guided Personal Use
- Personal Use
- Commercial Drift Net



# Topics of the City of Kenai's Presentation

- Growth of the Personal Use Fishery
- Successes & Challenges
- Solutions
  - State Support
  - Board of Fisheries Process



## **A Typical Day During the Personal Use Fishery At the Mouth of the Kenai River**

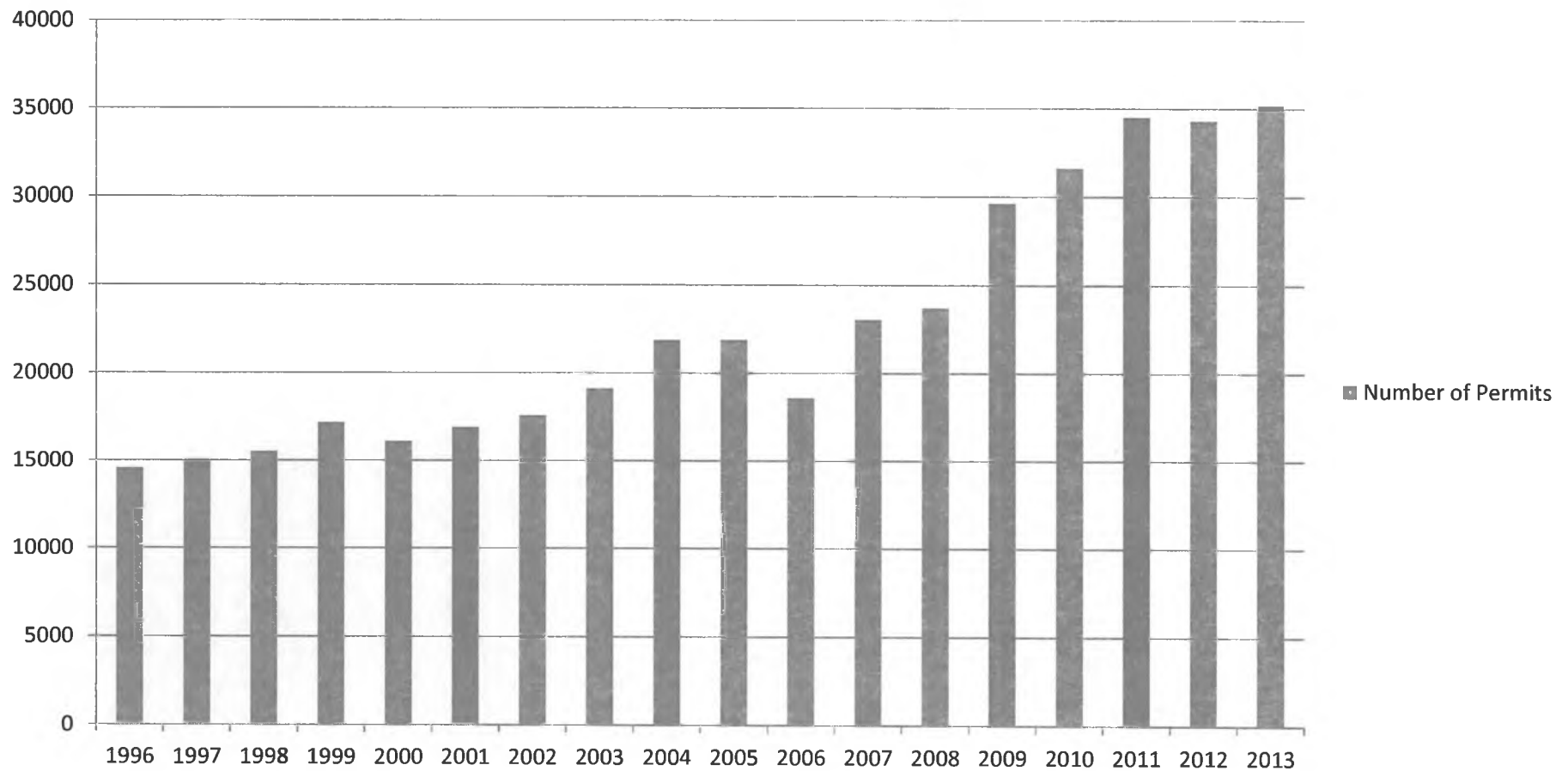
**All of the uplands, tidelands, and submerged lands shown in this picture are owned  
by the City of Kenai.**





# KENAI SALMON PERSONAL USE FISHERY PERMITS

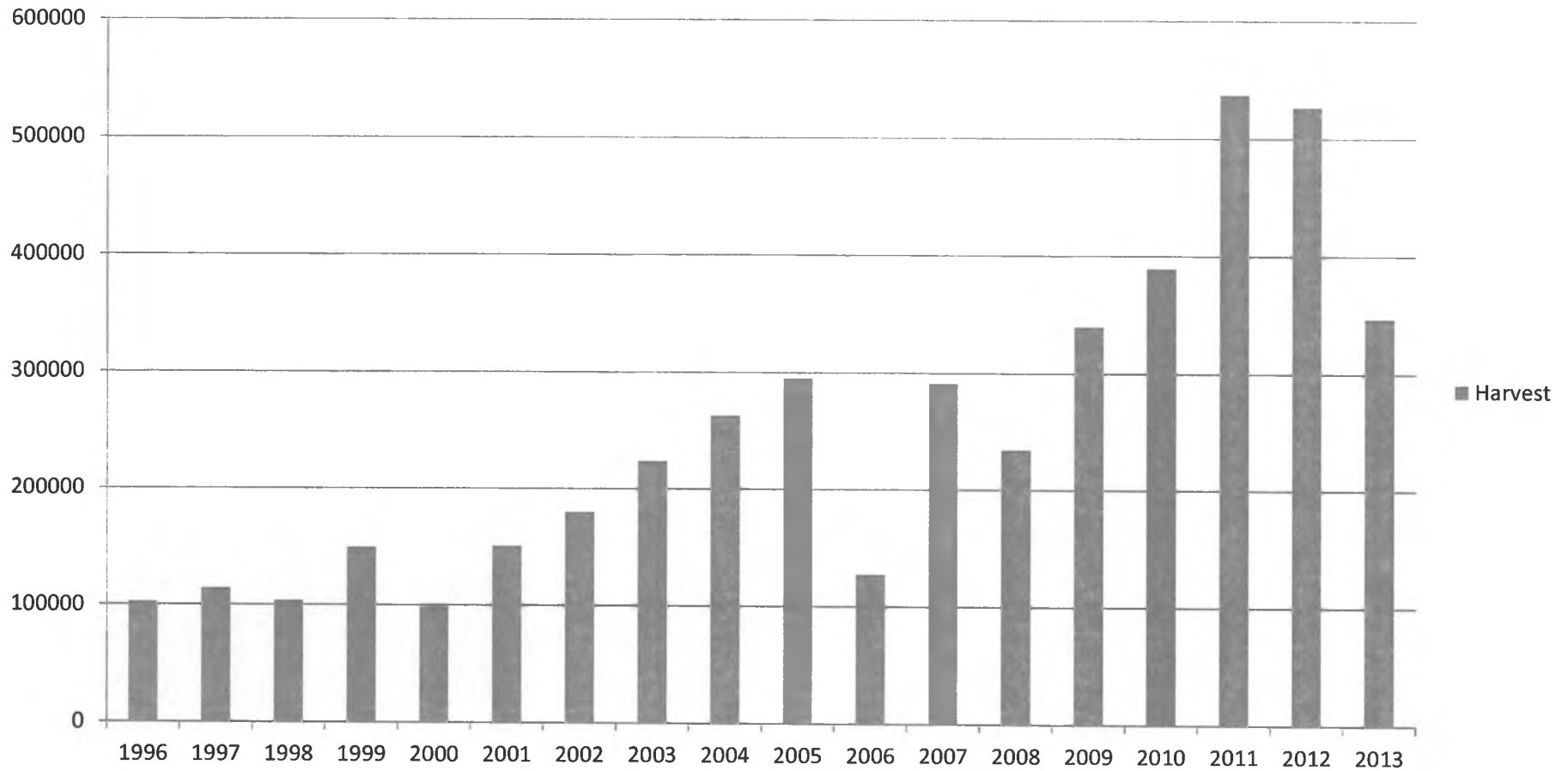
Number of Permits





# KENAI RIVER PERSONAL USE FISHERY HARVEST

Harvest





### **Typical Fish Waste on the Kenai Beach Prior to 2013**

**In 2013 the City amended our local ordinance to require that all fish waste be deposited in to waters of the Kenai River or Cook Inlet. This, coupled with two tractors with rakes to clean the beaches, greatly minimized the problem.**



## **Seagulls attracted to Fish Waste on the Kenai Beaches**

Fecal matter deposited by Seagulls and other warm-blooded mammals attracted to fish waste on the Kenai beaches contributed to elevated bacteria counts exceeding EPA water-quality standards in the Kenai River.



**One of two tractors with rake assemblies dedicated to cleaning Kenai's beaches from 11PM to 6AM each night/morning during the Personal Use Fishery**



## South Shore Beach in 2013

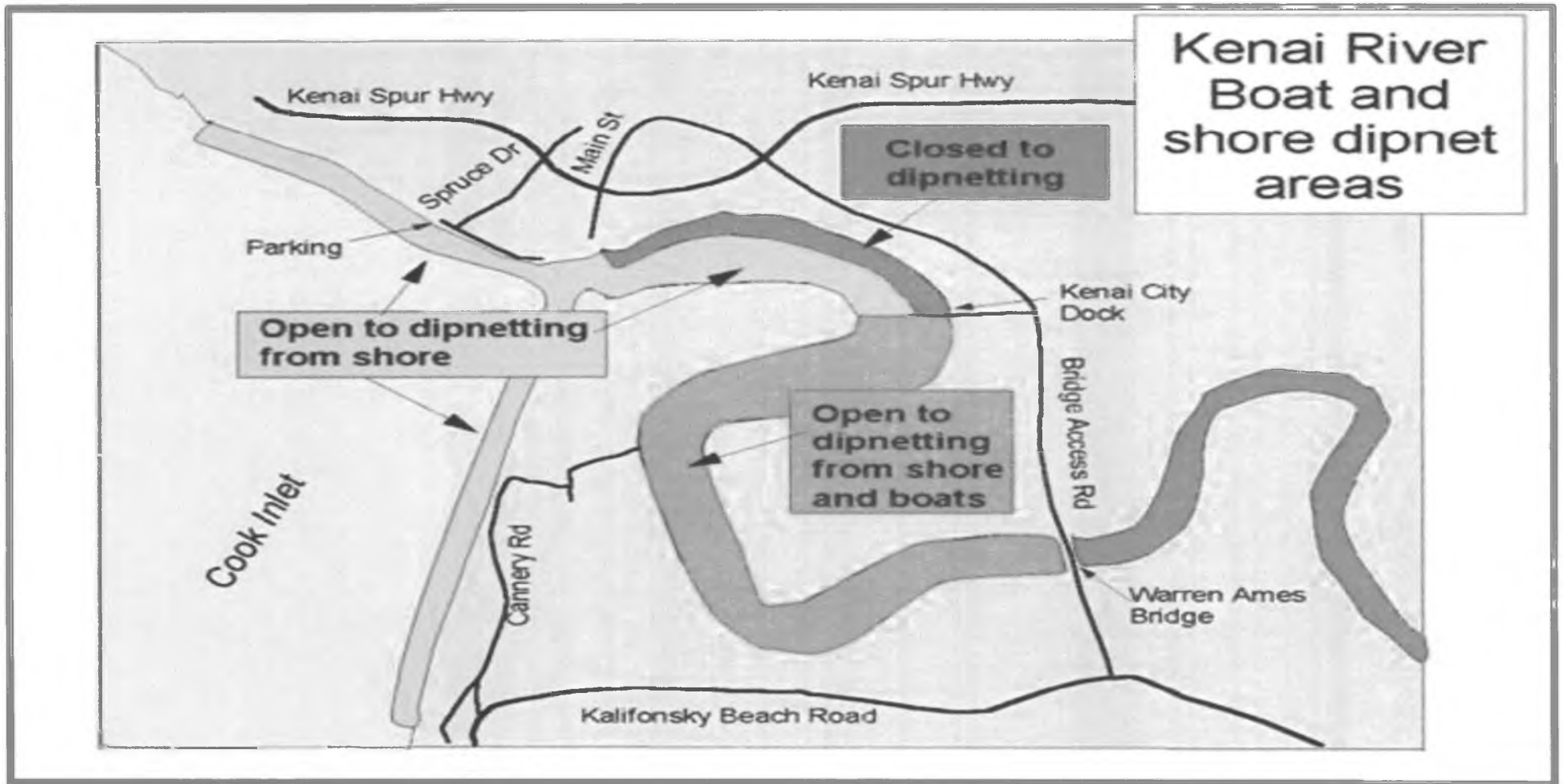
While not pristine, the amount of fish waste on the beach, and the significantly decreased number of seagulls on the beach resulted in fish waste being a more acceptable and manageable issue.



## Loss of Habitat and Habitat Protection

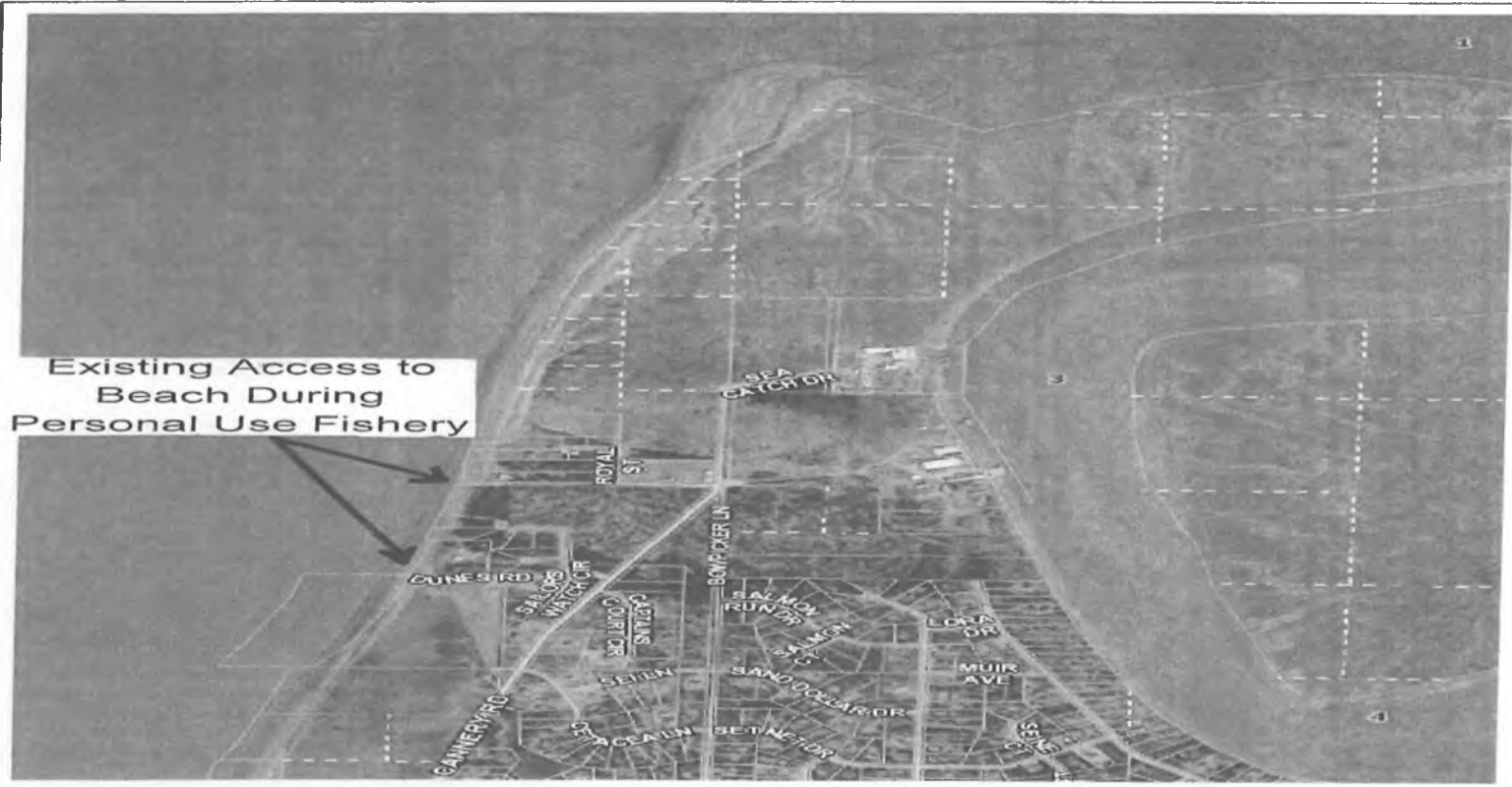
Each year the loss of, and damage to, environmentally sensitive areas at the mouth of, and along, the Kenai River is a greater issue.





## INFORMATION FROM ADF&G WEBSITE

With the exception of a small area near the Warren Ames Bridge the lands that ADF&G advertises as being open for dipnetting are owned by the City of Kenai, and are environmentally sensitive.



Existing Access to Beach During Personal Use Fishery



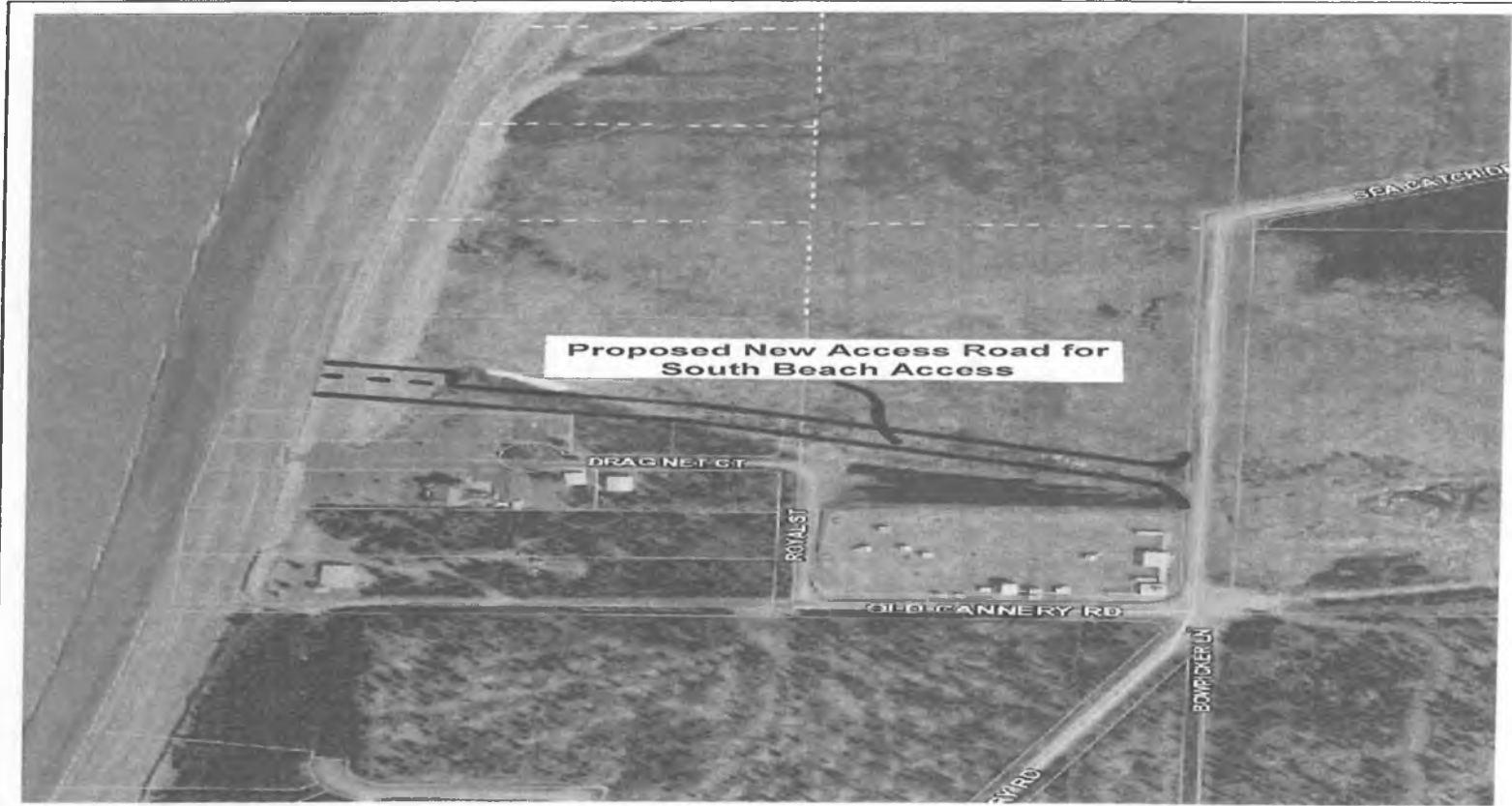
KPB Parcel Viewer



Printed: Mar 07, 2014



# Existing South Shore Access



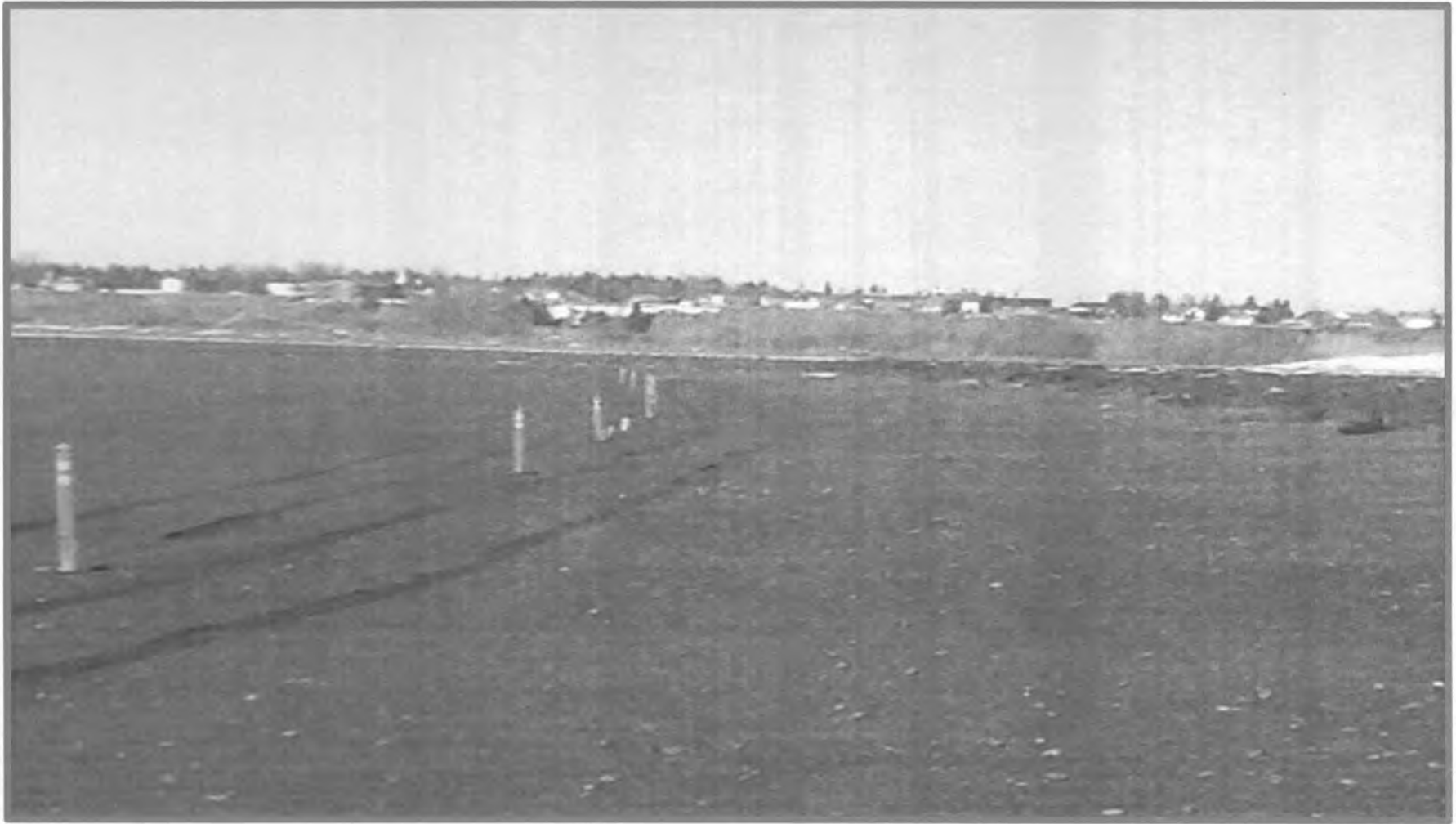
**KPB Parcel Viewer**



Printed: Mar 21, 2014



# Proposed New Access for South Shore



## South Shore Access

Private Property to right of  
traffic delineation candles.





## **South Shore Beach Access**

**Traffic Delineation Candles are placed  
approximately on private property boundary.  
Private property to right.**

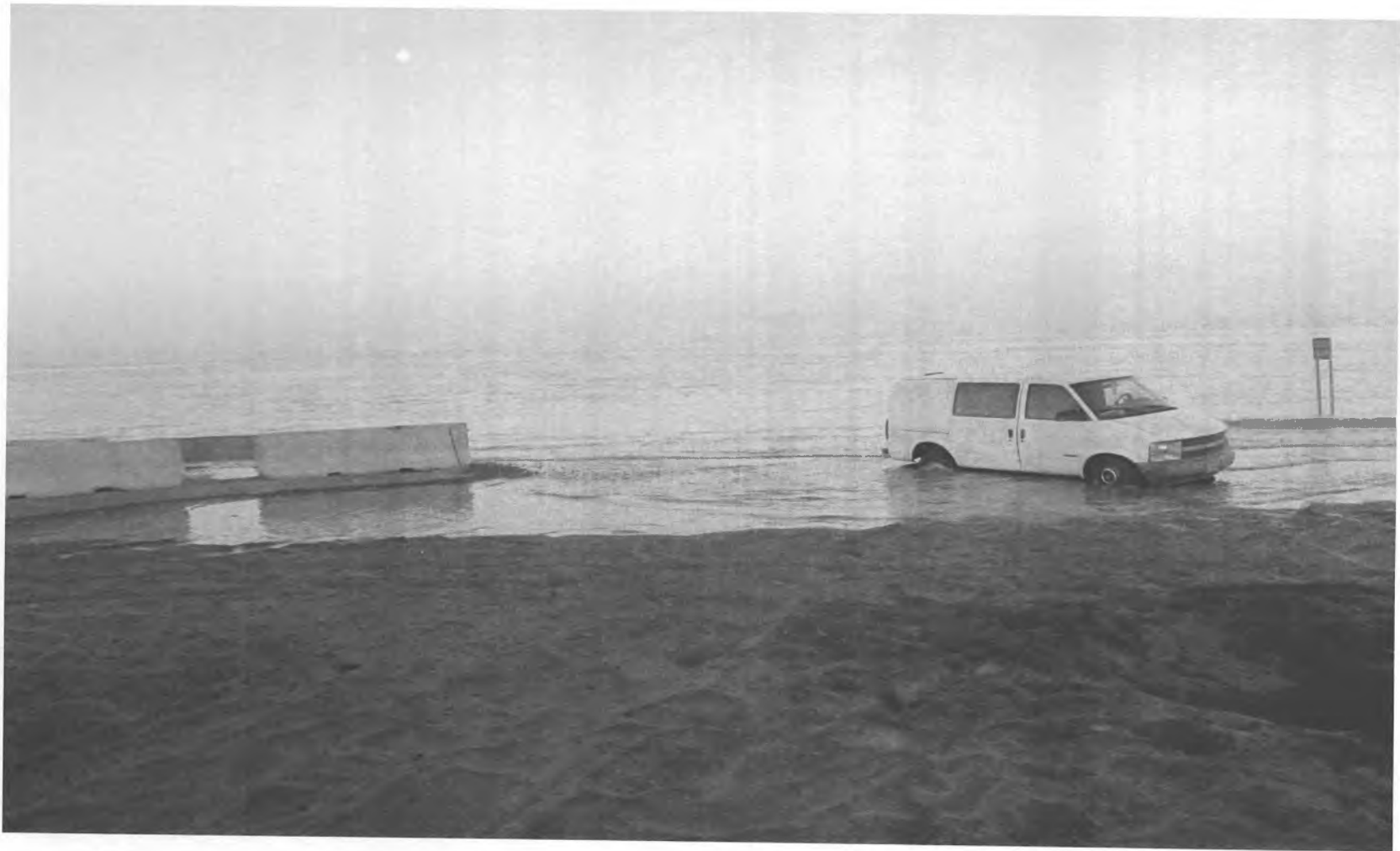


## South Beach Access

Private property extends approximately to the water in this photograph.



**Things we would like to see less of**





# South Shore Alternative Access Cost Estimate

## Cost Estimate Construction of Roadway for Alternative Access to the South Shore Kenai River Personal Use Fishery Area

Cost Item Description	Unit	Quantity	Unit Cost	Sub-Total
<u>General Conditions</u>				
Mobilization & De-Mobilization	LS	1	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
Survey	LS	1	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan	LS	1	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
Permitting	LS	1	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
Land Purchase, KPB Parcel 04910111, 0.54 AC.	LS	1	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
Land Purchase, KPB Parcel 04910112, 0.51 AC.	LS	1	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
Land Purchase, KPB Parcel 0491010, 5.45 AC.	LS	1	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00
Land Purchase, KPB Parcel 04910113, 1.28 AC.	LS	1	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 150,000.00
Land Purchase, KPB Parcel 04910051, 0.86 AC.	LS	1	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 45,000.00
Traffic Control	LS	1	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
			Sub-Total	\$ 575,000.00
<u>New Road Construction</u>				
Silt Fence	LF	3000	\$ 6.00	\$ 18,000.00
Geotextile Support Fabric	SY	7000	\$ 4.50	\$ 31,500.00
Type III, Classified Fill	Ton	16000	\$ 12.50	\$ 200,000.00
Type II, Classified Fill	Ton	3000	\$ 16.00	\$ 48,000.00
Crushed Aggregate Base Course	Ton	1200	\$ 26.00	\$ 31,200.00
AC Pavement (2")	Ton	600	\$ 135.00	\$ 81,000.00
Striping	LF	3000	\$ 0.35	\$ 1,050.00
Signage	LS	1	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
Fencing	LF	3500	\$ 35.00	\$ 122,500.00
Sigh Obscuring Fencing 6"	LF	900	\$ 45.00	\$ 40,500.00
Topsoil & Seeding	Acre	3	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 90,000.00
			Sub-Total	\$ 667,250.00
<u>Construction of Additional Lane &amp; Paving Sea Catch Drive</u>				
Silt Fence	LF	500	\$ 6.00	\$ 3,000.00
Geotextile Support Fabric	SY	1500	\$ 4.50	\$ 6,750.00
Type III, Classified Fill	Ton	3000	\$ 12.50	\$ 37,500.00
Type II, Classified Fill	Ton	800	\$ 16.00	\$ 12,800.00
Crushed Aggregate Base Course	Ton	200	\$ 26.00	\$ 5,200.00
AC Pavement (2")	Ton	250	\$ 135.00	\$ 33,750.00
Striping	LF	1000	\$ 0.35	\$ 350.00
Signage	LS	1	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Topsoil & Seeding	Acre	2	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 60,000.00
			Sub-Total	\$ 160,850.00
			Sub-Total Construction	\$ 1,403,100.00
			Design @ 15%	\$ 210,465.00
			Construction Administration @ 15%	\$ 210,465.00
			Contingency @ 15%	\$ 273,604.50
			Total Cost Estimate	\$ 2,097,634.50

Prepared By: R. Koch  
March 21, 2014



# Solutions, Interim & Permanent

- State of Alaska – Department of Fish & Game
  - The City requests that ADF&G work cooperatively with the City in the planning and decision-making process regarding the Personal Use Fishery. Shore areas of environmentally sensitive areas of City owned properties need to be removed from the fishery.
  - The City requests that ADF&G acknowledge the City's rights and efforts in managing its property. For the past three years the City has requested that ADF&G not open the fishery to 24 hours per day so the City could perform maintenance services in a safe and effective manner. The City's requests have been unsuccessful.



# Solutions, Interim & Permanent (cont.)

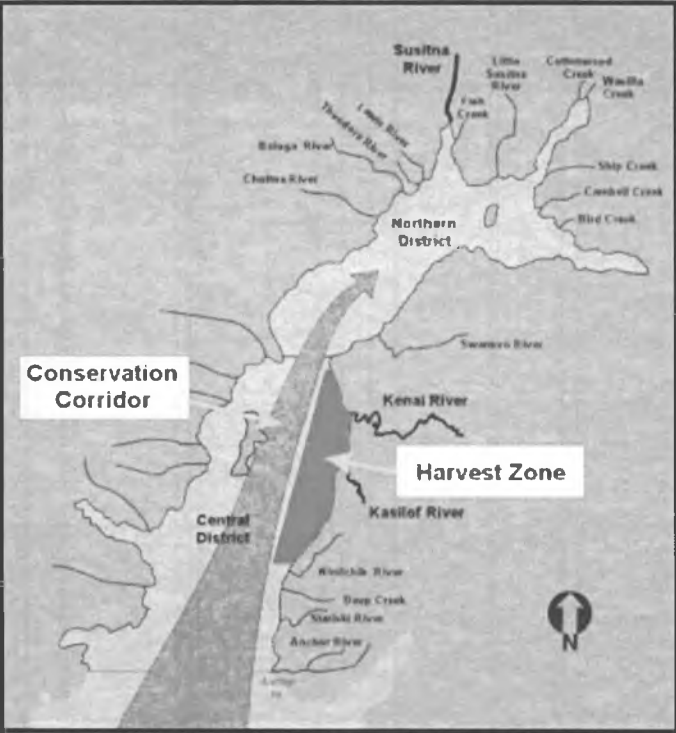
- Alaska Board of Fisheries
  - The City requests that the BOF acknowledge the City's rights as a property owner and a "fishing community."



# Solutions, Interim & Permanent (cont.)

- Alaska State Legislature
  - The City requests that the Legislature recognize that the Personal Use Fishery is a statewide responsibility.
  - The City requests that the Legislature include a legislative appropriation to the City of Kenai in the amount of \$2.1 million for the design and construction of an alternative access to the south shore of the Kenai River.

# Juneau, We Have a Problem






## Northern Cook Inlet Fisheries

by MSB Fish and Wildlife Commission  
Senate Resources Committee

March 2014



## MAT-SU BOROUGH FISH & WILDLIFE COMMISSION

-  2007 Established as Mayor's Blue Ribbon Sportsmen's Committee, 7 members appointed by Mayor and Assembly
-  2011 Adopted into Borough code as Fish & Wildlife Commission
-  Purpose: to represent the interests of the Borough in the conservation and allocation of fish, wildlife, and habitat



# UPPER COOK INLET FISHERIES

Salmon are *essential* to the character, lifestyle and economy of the Mat-Su Borough



# Upper Cook Inlet

*a complex, mixed-stock fishery*

## Run Timing of Salmon In UCI



# UCI Sport Fishery

Population - Nearly  $\frac{2}{3}$  of AK's residents  
reside along shores of UCI

250,000 people sport fish annually  
160,000 are salmon fishermen  
30,000 households fish for personal use

About 1 out of 3 Alaskans sport fish

highest rate in the nation



## \$ Economic Value of Fishing \$

The value of commercial fisheries has always been widely known, yet the economic significance of sport fishing has only recently gained recognition

**Statewide \$1.4 billion spent sport fishing 2007**



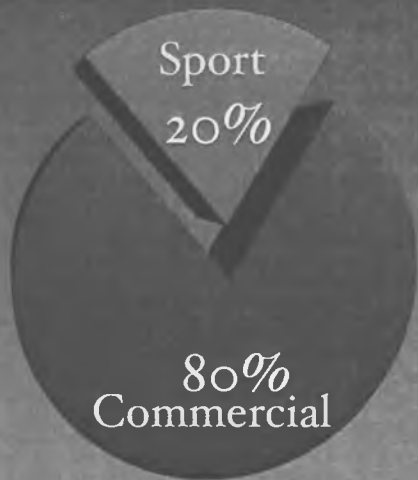
Half of all sport fishing in AK occurs in Cook Inlet, Anglers spent \$733 million in 2007 which supported 8,056 jobs and generated \$55 million in state and local taxes

**Mat-Su Anglers fished nearly 300,000 days in 2007 spent \$118 million and generated \$31 M to \$64 M to local economy**

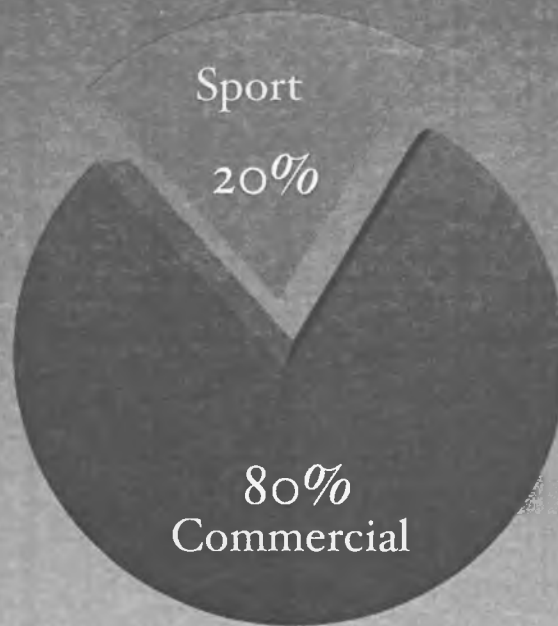


Wholesale value of commercial salmon fishing in 2007 in Cook Inlet = \$ 77 million

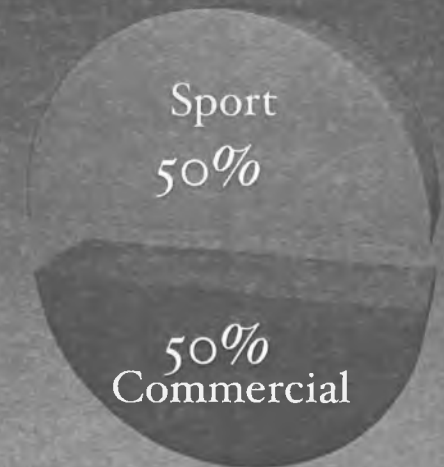
# Upper Cook Inlet Harvest Shares



UCI Sockeye  
3 million/year



All UCI Salmon  
4 million/year



UCI Coho  
400,000/year

\*Sport includes personal use fisheries, subsistence and brood stock

# MAT-SU SALMON STOCKS OF CONCERN



*7 out of 11 Stocks of Concern in Alaska are in North Cook Inlet*

---

Susitna sockeye declared Stock of Concern in 2008

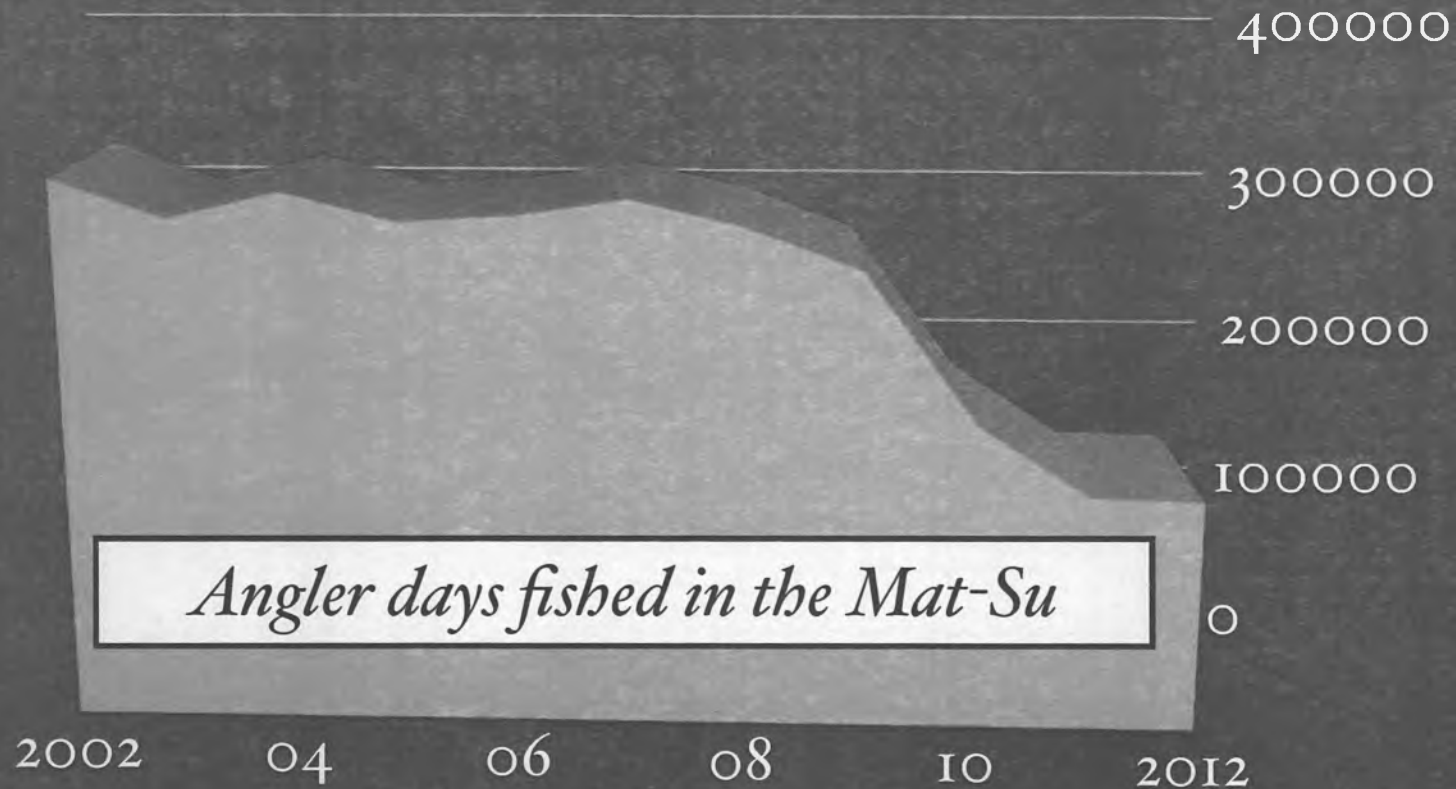
Six king stocks declared Stock of Concern in 2011

## Potential future Stocks of Concern

- Jim Creek - Coho
- Little Susitna River - Coho
- Sheep Creek - Kings



## *Sport fishing Is Plummeting in Mat-Su*



*Closures and restrictions to the recreational fishery have caused participation, as defined by angler-days, to crash.*

*In 2012, participation fell to the lowest level in 37 years*

# Factors Affecting Salmon Abundance in Northern Cook Inlet

Freshwater

Invasive species

Loss of wetlands

Fish passage barriers

High Seas

Temperature changes

Bycatch

Federal policies

Cook Inlet

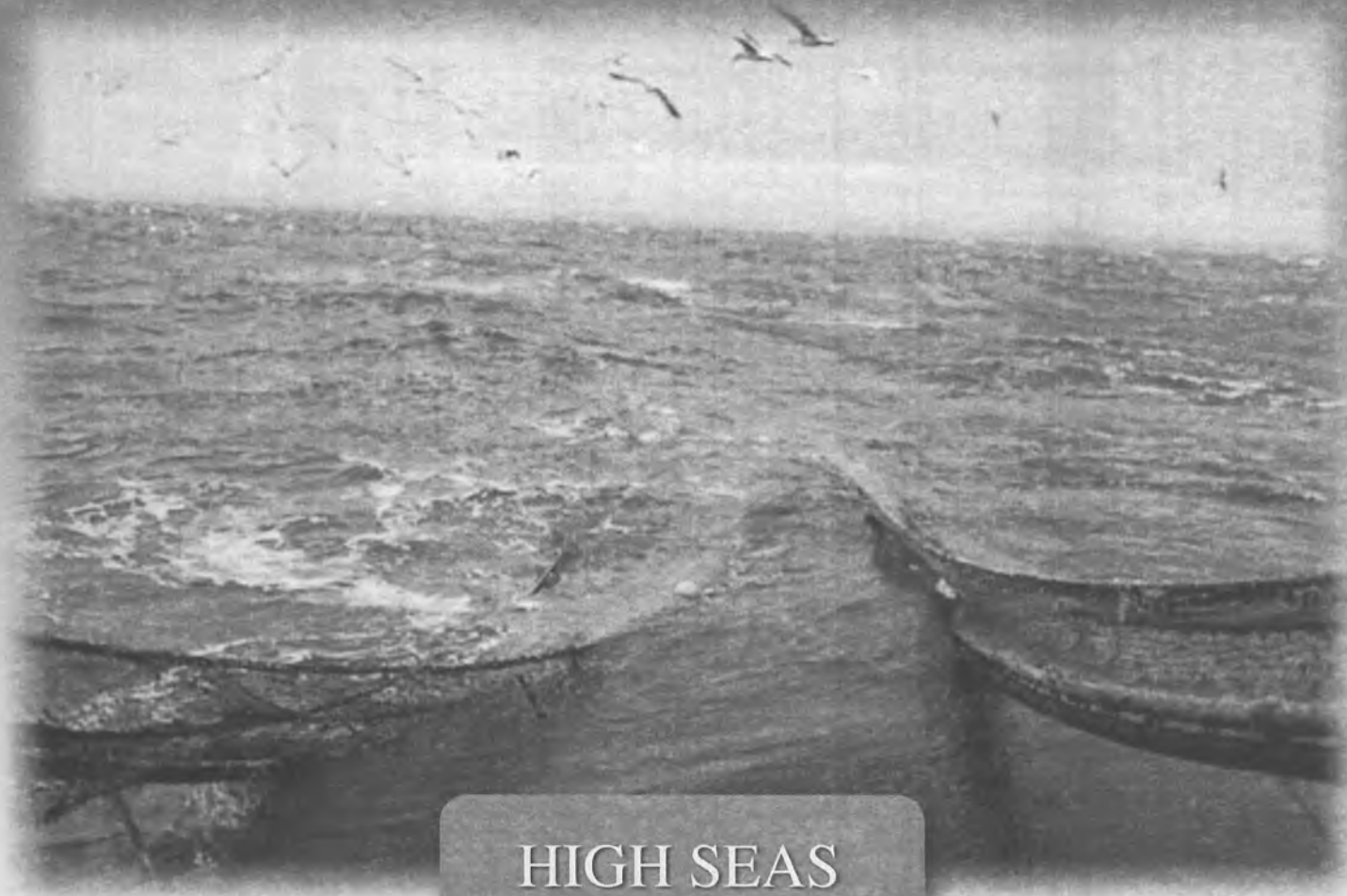
Fisheries management

Commercial harvest

Research gaps



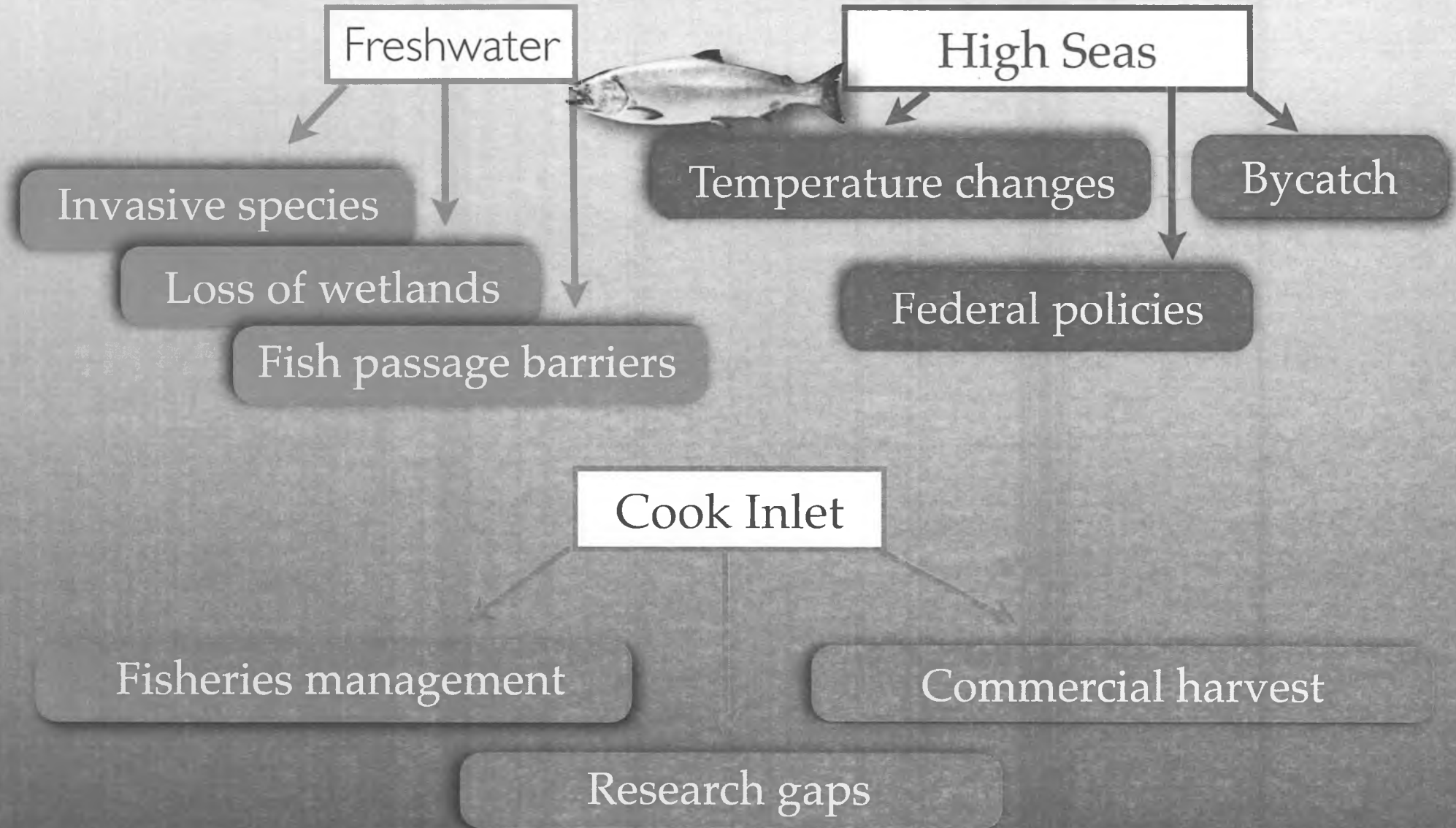
## *Low Salmon Abundance*



HIGH SEAS

Environmental Changes (temperature) and/or bycatch

# Causes for low Salmon Abundance in Upper Cook Inlet



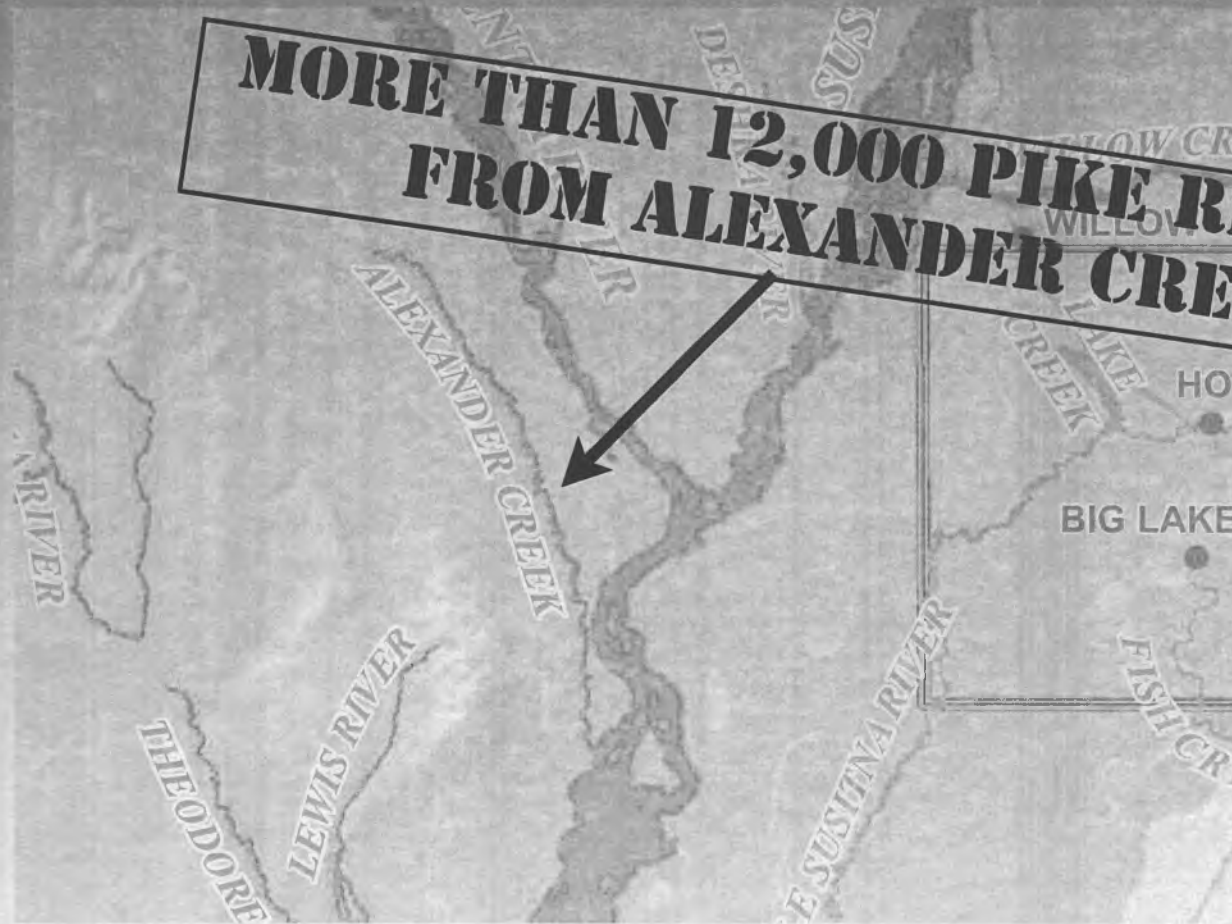
## *Causes For Low Salmon Abundance*



*86 culverts replaced for Salmon Passage*

*The culvert area is to the east of the Mat-Su's major fish waters*

## *Pike Suppression in the Mat-Su*

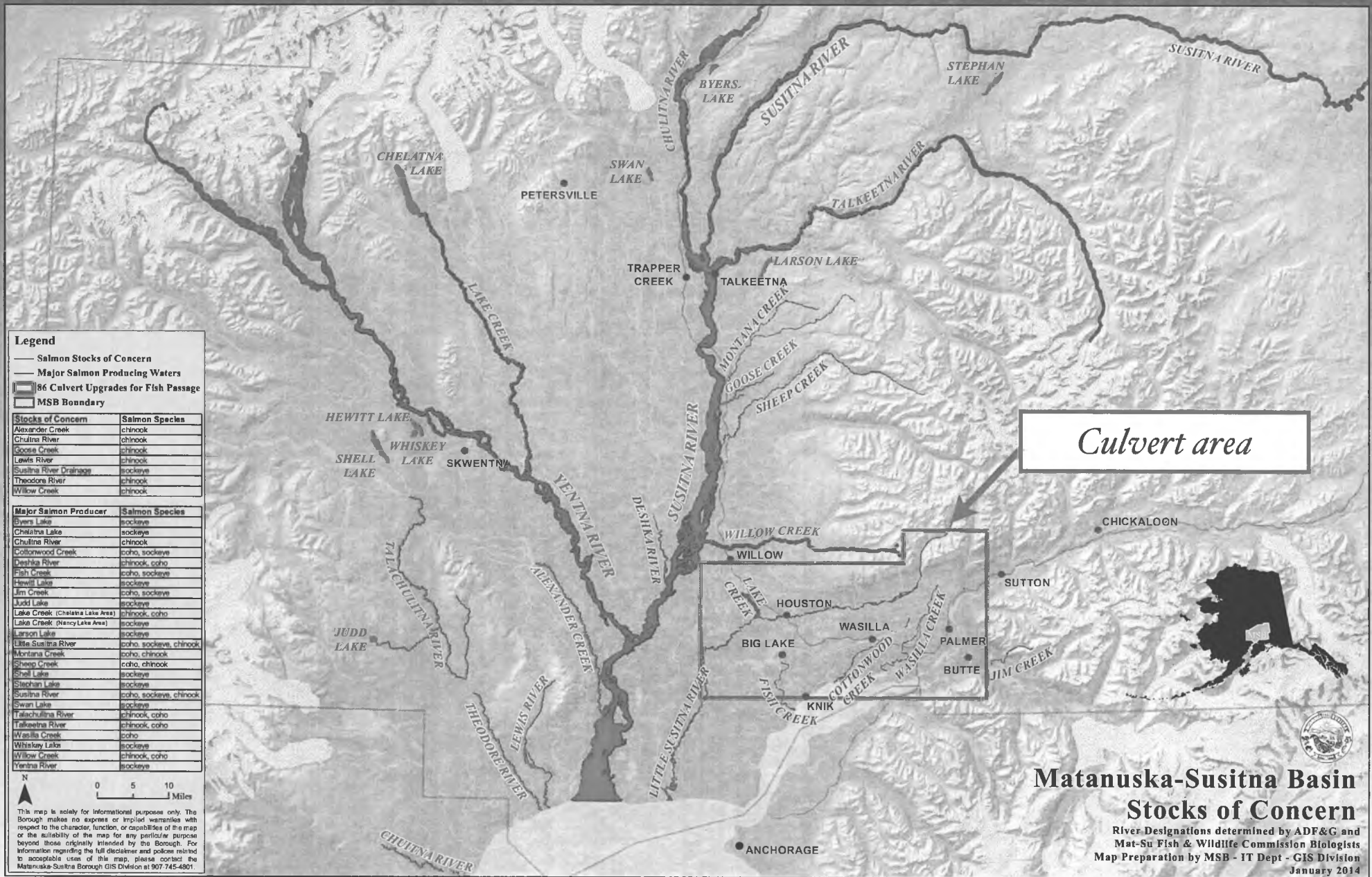


**MORE THAN 12,000 PIKE REMOVED  
FROM ALEXANDER CREEK**

*ADF & G multi-year program*

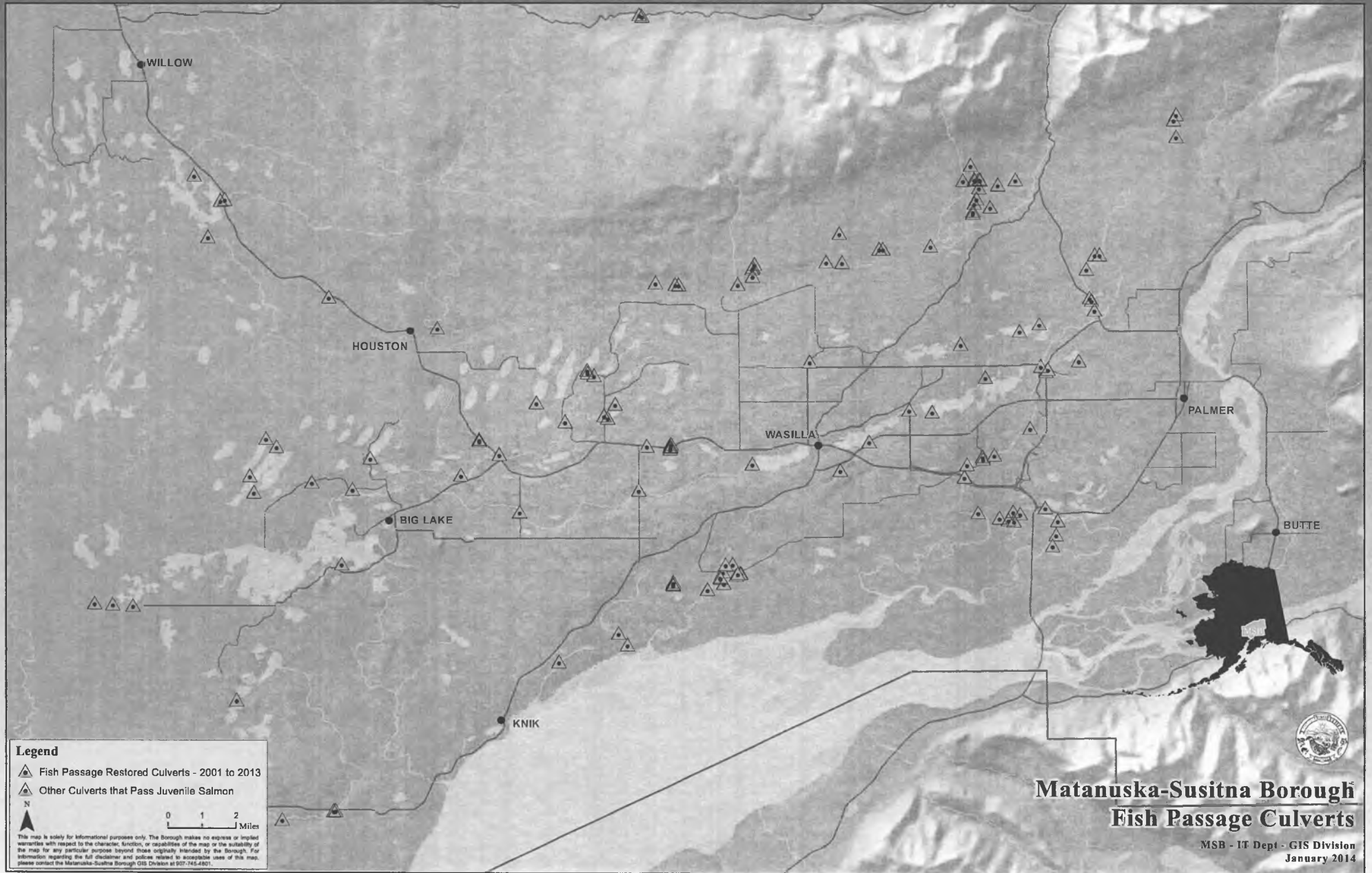
*2013 Minnow trapping studies indicate juvenile salmon recolonizing*

# Major fish producing waters



*(Red shows stocks of concern)*

# Fish passage culverts



# Causes for low Salmon Abundance in Upper Cook Inlet

Freshwater

Invasive species

Loss of wetlands

Fish passage barriers



Fisheries management

High Seas

Temperature changes

Bycatch

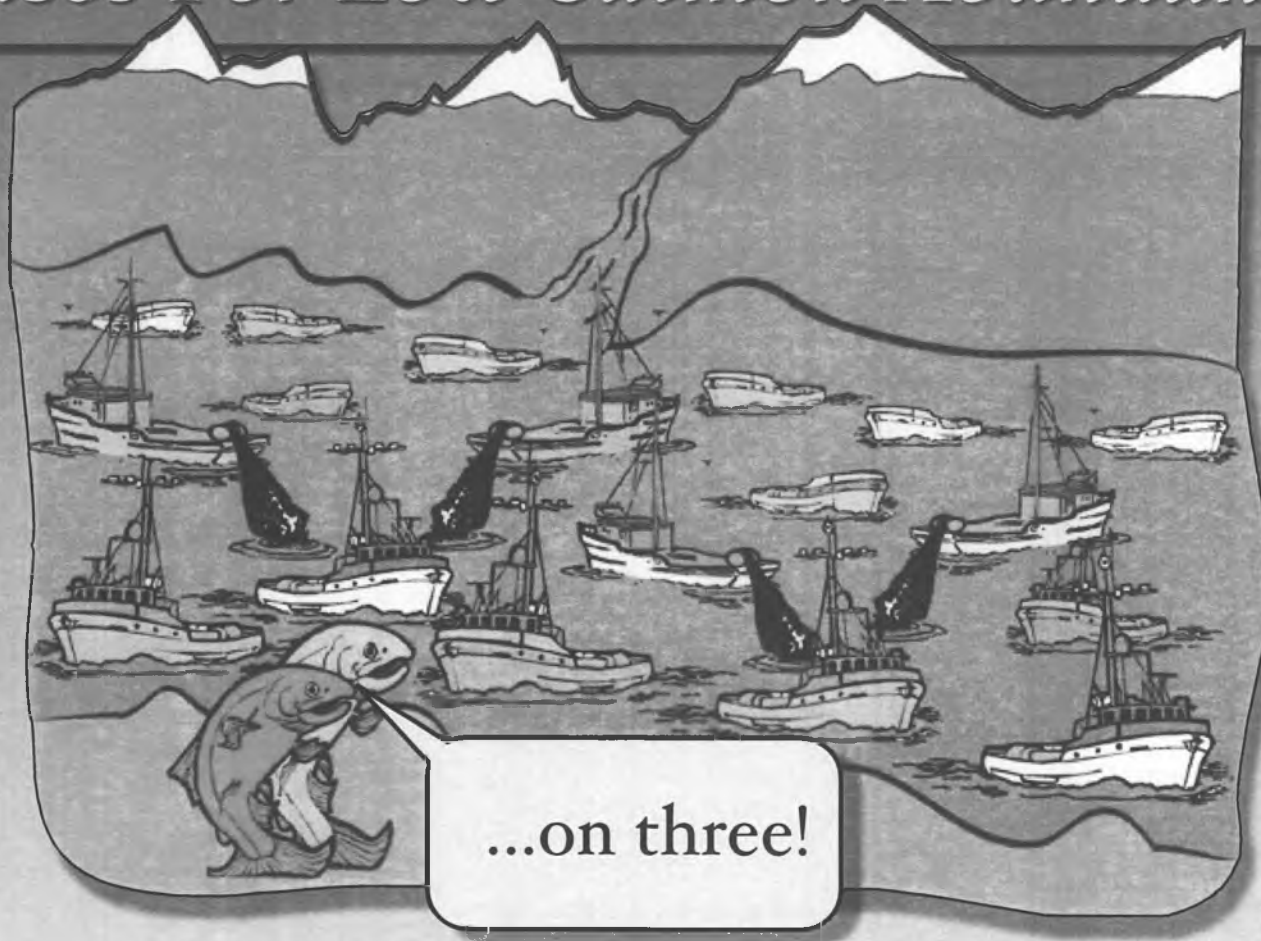
Federal policies

Cook Inlet

Commercial harvest

Research gaps

# *Causes For Low Salmon Abundance*



## Running the UCI gauntlet

Fisheries management allows over harvest in gill net fishery targeting Kenai Sockeye

# CAUSES FOR LOW SALMON ABUNDANCE



UCI Northern District salmon are not getting through commercial fishing gauntlet in sufficient numbers.

ADF&G lacks in-season management tools for UCI mixed stock fishery

Lack of **genetic identification** of salmon species other than sockeye

UCI Fisheries management is **focused on Kenai sockeye**



# SOLUTIONS

## 1) Revise Upper Cook Inlet management plans

Update plans to insure sustained yield for UCI for both northern district and central district salmon

## 2) Discreet stock harvest zones

Restructure UCI commercial fishery to be more similar to Bristol Bay commercial fishery - most successful salmon fishery in the world

## 3) Maintain UCI Conservation Corridor

Retain and refine conservation corridor established by BOF

## 4) Genetic and Acoustic Research

Identify timing/movement/location of all 5 salmon species in UCI

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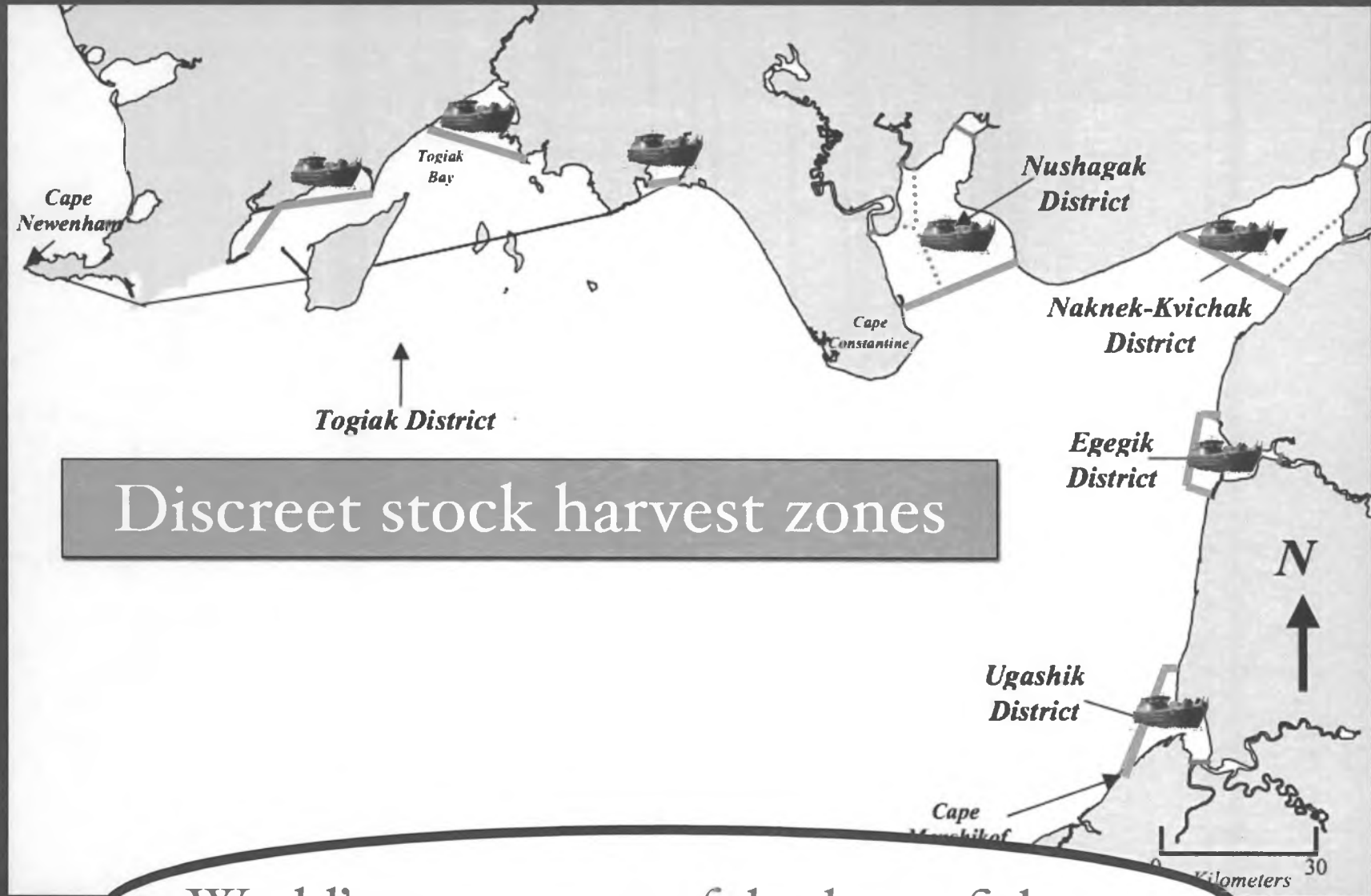
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# Bristol Bay Fisheries

Commercial fishery subdistricts



Discreet stock harvest zones

World's most successful salmon fishery

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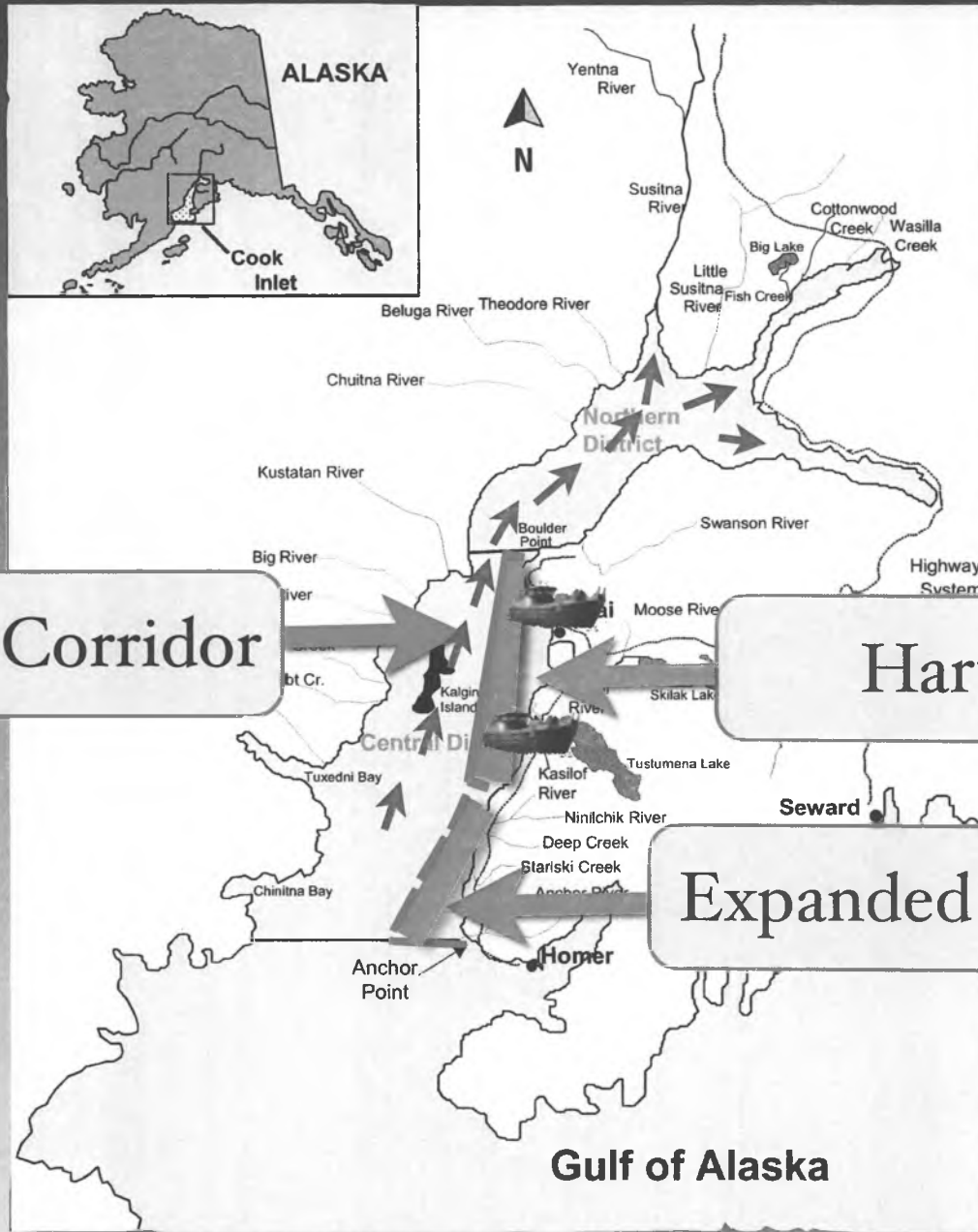
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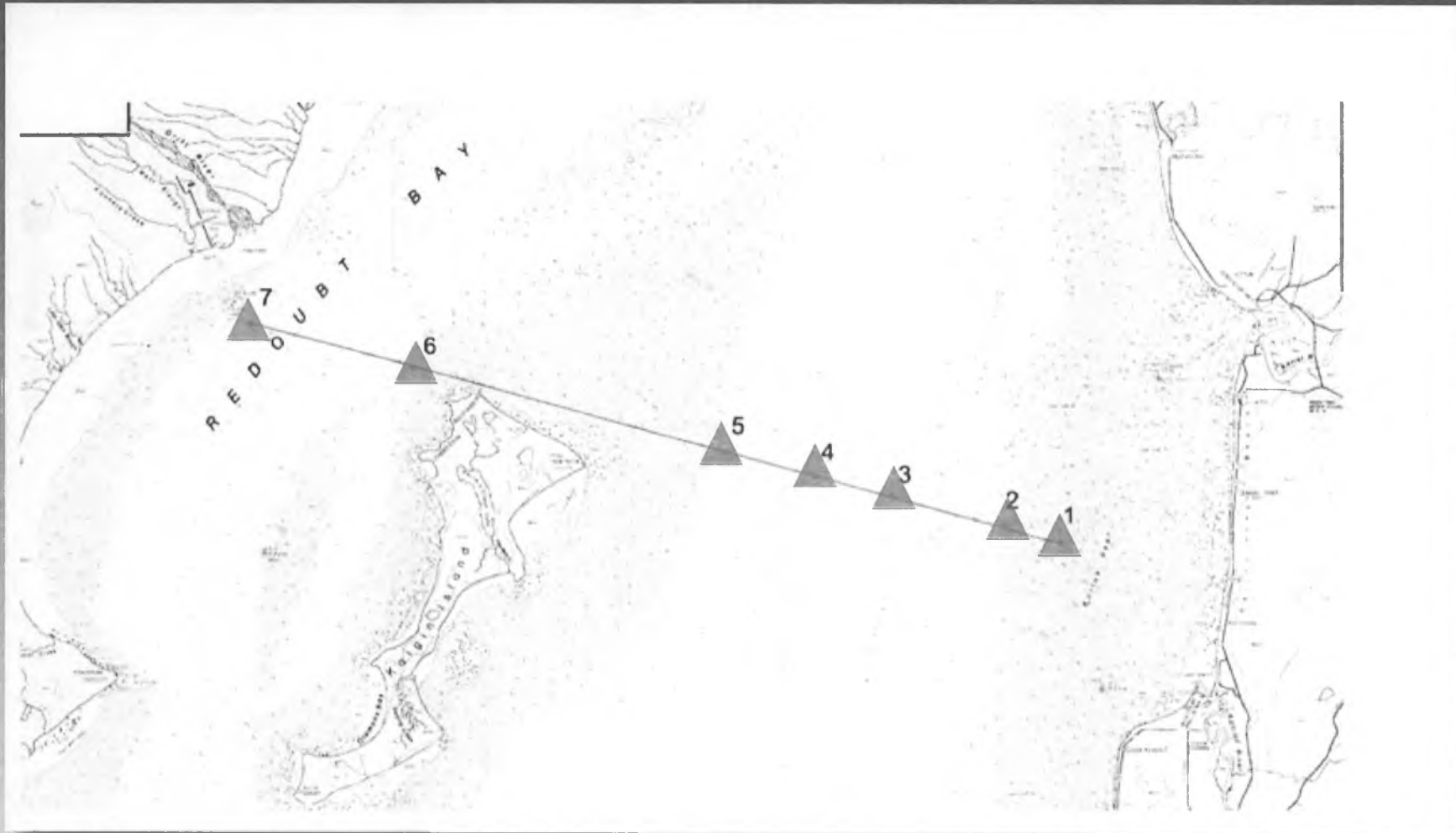
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## 4) Genetic and Acoustic Research

Identify timing/movement/location of all 5 salmon species in UCI

## (New) Off-Shore Test Fishery



**For genetic stock identification**

# State Capital Funding To MSB

\$2.5 million, FY 2014

## Science and Research

Genetic Sampling of all Cook Inlet salmon species to supplement research being done by ADF&G to better inform management of mixed stock fishery

UCI Fisheries Data Gap Analysis to identify research needs



## Fish Passage

Projects to replace culverts to restore access for 12.2 miles of salmon habitat.  
Funds matched by grants and borough funds

# FISH & WILDLIFE COMMISSION NEXT STEPS



- \$2.5 million State Legislative funding request for FY 2015  
- for research and habitat projects
- MSB Fish Research Program - conduct studies on UCI fisheries, data gap analysis
- 2014 BOF meeting - advocated for policies to improve UCI fisheries management for all users

# Contacts

## MSB Fish and Wildlife Commission

---

Bruce Knowles, Chair

Jim Colver, Vice Chair

Ben Allen

Andy Couch

Howard Delo

Jehnifer Ehmann

Larry Engel



Matanuska-Susitna Borough

350 E. Dahlia Avenue

Palmer, AK 99645

(907)745-4801

## **KENAI RIVER GUIDE REALITY circa 2014**

1923 – First Guided fishing trips on Kenai River and Drainages

### **Economic Impact of Kenai River Sport Fishing Guides**

- ADFG's Study of Economic Impacts and Contributions of Sport Fishing shows that guided anglers on the Kenai River are responsible for nearly \$40,000,000.00 in direct expenditures annually.
- Kenai River Sport Fishing Guides Annual Fees account for \$360,875.00 to the State of Alaska annually. This number does not include additional daily boat launch and parking fees which recent studies suggest could bring the value of annual fees associated with Kenai River Sport Fishing Guides to a total of \$500,000.00

### **Kenai River Sport Fishing Guide Numbers**

- 71% of Kenai River Sport Fishing Guides are Alaska Residents
- 285 Kenai River Sport Fishing Guides Registered in 2013.
- Loss of 111 Kenai River Sport Fishing Guides since 2007 (peak year of registered Kenai River Sport Fishing Guides of 396 total) due to economic attrition.
- 46% of Kenai River Sport Fishing Guides have ten (10) plus years of Kenai River Guiding experience.

### **Kenai River Guided Angler Effort**

- On average 51,430 Guided Anglers fish the Kenai River annually.
- Guided Angler effort makes up 14% of the Total Angler Effort on the Kenai River annually.
- Total Angler Effort on the Kenai River down 67% from historical average.
- Early Run King Salmon Guided Angler Effort down 83% from historical average.
- Late Run King Salmon Guided Angler Effort down 70% from historical average.

### **Kenai River Sport Fishing Guide Regulations**

- Most regulated group of sport fishing guides in the State of Alaska governed by a total of six (6) separate state and federal agencies.

- Required to pass a three credit college course in order to become a licensed Kenai River Guide (The ONLY sport fishing guides required to do in the State of Alaska)
- The State of Alaska Board of Fish has adopted policies that limit both the days of the week and hours of the day that Kenai River Sport Fishing Guides can operate. This has resulted in limiting the opportunities for both resident and non-resident guided anglers to access and fish the Kenai River.
  1. No fishing from a guide vessel Sundays or Mondays in May, June, and July
  2. No fishing from a guide vessel from 6:00 p.m. to 6 a.m. in May, June, and July.
  3. No fishing for Coho Salmon from a guide vessel downstream of the Moose River Confluence on Mondays in August and September.
  4. No more than five (5) passengers, including the guide/operator, may occupy a guide vessel in July.

### **Kenai River Sport Fishing Guide Fees – Annually**

- Kenai River Sport Fishing Guides pay the highest annual licensing fees in the State of Alaska.
  1. Annual Resident Kenai River Guide Fee = \$1075.00
  2. Annual Non-Resident Kenai River Guide Fee = \$2075.00
- Annual Sport Fishing Guide License for the remainder of the State of Alaska is \$150.00 annually – Permitting guided activity on every drainage in the state except the Kenai River.

### **REFERENCES**

ECONOMIC IMPACTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF SPORT FISHING IN ALASKA. Summary Report 2007. ADF&G. – Division of Sport Fish. – January 2009. – Anchorage, Alaska.

Sigurdsson,D. and B. Powers. 2013. Participation, Effort, and Harvest in the Sport Fish Business/Guide Licensing and Logbook Programs.-2012.-ADF&G, Fishery Data Series No. 13-37 Anchorage.

Sigurdsson,D. and B. Powers. 2012. Participation, Effort, and Harvest in the Sport Fish Business/Guide Licensing and Logbook Programs.-2011.-ADF&G, Fishery Data Series No. 12-27 Anchorage.

Sigurdsson,D. and B. Powers. 2011. Participation, Effort, and Harvest in the Sport Fish Business/Guide Licensing and Logbook Programs.-2010.-ADF&G, Fishery Data Series No. 11-31 Anchorage.

Sigurdsson,D. and B. Powers. 2010. Participation, Effort, and Harvest in the Sport Fish Business/Guide Licensing and Logbook Programs.-2009.-ADF&G, Fishery Data Series No. 10-65 Anchorage.

Sigurdsson,D. and B. Powers. 2009. Participation, Effort, and Harvest in the Sport Fish Business/Guide Licensing and Logbook Programs.-2006-2008.-ADF&G, Fishery Data Series No. 09-11 Anchorage.

Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation,  
Kenai River Special Management Area, Commercial Services Permits Data.

**Good afternoon and thank you for the opportunity to present testimony before you today. My name is Dwight Kramer and I am Chairman of Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition.**

**Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition is a private angler group that formed in 2007 to provide a voice for private anglers and promote conservation of our resources for future generations to enjoy. We have 10 past ADF&G or USF&W fisheries biologists on our Board of Directors or in our membership.**

**We advocate for science based fisheries management and sustained resource stability by providing direct input to agencies regarding fisheries management and habitat issues. We have no commercial interests.**

### **UCI King Salmon Stocks**

**During the early part of this century our UCI King stocks were devastated by over-fishing in the poorly regulated commercial sector. It took about 20 years or so to a recovery of these stocks so they could produce harvestable numbers once again. During this recovery there were years of commercial closures and the sport fishery, as we know it, had not developed yet. The fish enjoyed virtually natural river systems to reproduce and recover. There was little development, hardly any sport fishing effort and no pike.**

**Now we find ourselves in another period of low King salmon abundance partly because of ocean phenomena that we don't fully understand and partly because of human effects. We now have trawlers operating in the high seas that take countless thousands of Kings as by-catch, vast developments and roadways along and crossing our streams, hydrocarbon contamination from boat engines, bank erosion and turbidity issues from boat wakes, invasive species (pike) in many of our lakes and waterways and of course a growing public demand for fishing opportunities.**

**One of the causes of this recent collapse has to be shouldered by a mismanaged in-river sport and guided sport fishery. Never before in their history had our King salmon been fished for size selectivity and pursued on their spawning grounds for trophy selection.**

**Recent research information now suggests that targeting the largest Kings may have some lasting affects on the characteristics of the stocks. Size selectivity over time can cause future returning fish to be smaller, fewer in numbers and produce fewer females than in more productive times.**

**Please Note: These are all symptoms that we are currently seeing in our Kenai and UCI stocks.**

**The point being is that we should expect any recovery of these stocks to take much longer than at any other time in history because of the new human effects and a growing demand to want to fish on them as soon as there are any harvestable amounts to satisfy socio-economic interests.**

**Now, more than any other time in recent years, is when we have to adopt more conservation oriented approaches to how we manage our King salmon fisheries so that we can institute an in-river model that will stand the test of time and give us the best opportunity at achieving healthy and sustainable stocks for future generations to enjoy.**

**We have to stop taking our biggest and best breeders out of our systems and we have to have more spawning protections on some of our most productive spawning and staging grounds. We can start by protecting our biggest fish with meaningful, season long slot limits individually appropriate for all of our rivers. Taxidermists have molds for all sizes and shapes of Kings so it's no longer necessary to kill a large King to get a mount made.**

**In the case of our current King salmon situation we have to remember that scientists tell us, "When salmon runs are at risk, conservation must be given a priority"**

### **Habitat Issues**

**Healthy salmon stocks rely on good habitat in our rivers, streams and lakes. We currently have many habitat issues that stand in our way of rebuilding declining stocks and maintaining healthy ones. Because of socio-economic issues related to the powerful guided sport fish lobby and tourism, both municipalities and state agencies are reluctant to support necessary listings of impaired water bodies as identified by the**

**clean water act and the more obvious crippling impacts of invasive species (pike) on juvenile salmon production.**

**In the Matsu for instance, ten years ago we had 11 sockeye producing lakes in the Susitna drainage. Then a few years ago we were down to seven and now we are down to four and two of the four have failed to meet their escapement levels in the last two years. Pike and stream blockage by beaver dams are the main two reasons. We have hydrocarbon and turbidity violations associated with powerboat use in the Little Susitna that is worse than the Kenai ever was but no Category 5 impaired water-body listing to date. In Big lake we have quit trying to enhance Sockeye production because the juvenile survival rates were so poor because of pollution factors associated with hydrocarbon exceedances and chemical pollution associated with runoff of lawn care products (fertilizer, weed killers, etc.) and sewage issues.**

**In the Kenai we have different issues associated with increased use and a shift in use patterns that is not being addressed. One would think that with reduced King salmon fishing opportunities things would be better but that is not the case. We have seen a huge increase in July powerboat traffic associated with personal use fishermen launching upriver to avoid the congestion of the lower river launches and parking. In 2013, for instance, the days that we exceeded turbidity standards on the lower river coincided with the busiest days in the PU fishery. This should be a growing concern to the resource for both bank erosion and juvenile salmon survival.**

**Another issue of concern is the rapid growth in the in-river sockeye sport fishery. Both the guide industry and private sector have transferred efforts away from the King fishery to the more productive Sockeye fishery. This doesn't come without problems though as this is mostly a bank oriented fishery and we are witnessing new areas of bank degradation in the riparian areas associated with riverbank crowding. The sad part is that nobody from the various agencies currently have available staff to assess these damages and make appropriate bank closures. This is an area where recent budget cuts and personnel vacancies have reduced our effectiveness in habitat protection where our vigilance now should be more rather than less.**

**So overall, if we don't want to end up like the Pacific Northwest and have to spend billions of dollars on reclamation projects, hatcheries and enhancement to rebuild the salmon stocks we failed to protect. We need to acknowledge our habitat problems and deal with them now rather than later. Everyone should want clean water and healthy habitat. To stand in the way this endeavor is neither prudent of good fishery management and should not be tolerated by anyone associated with legislative oversight.**

### **Board of Fisheries**

**Given the complexities of our fisheries and the current allocation issues related to declining stock issues throughout most of Alaska, it has become apparent to many that our current BOF process does not possess the technical knowledge and sometimes internal integrity to accomplish decisions based on science and available technical data.**

**The recent Upper Cook Inlet meeting was a prime example. A majority of the board had a preconceived agenda on how they were going to deal with the King salmon declines throughout Upper Cook Inlet and Sockeye numbers in the Susitna. That conclusion was to find a way to transfer allocations from the commercial sector to the in-river users and that they did. There was little regards for in-river conservation measures on how these fish would be protected so that we could advance a production model that would actually help us start to recover these stocks.**

**We believe that the benefits of this methodology will be marginal without meaningful changes in how we regulate in-river fishing methods. There was no serious considerations for how we can protect prominent spawning areas or most of the largest age class fish of our most valuable breeding component.**

**The current BOF process is swayed to easily by the most prominent and powerful groups and often give into political pressure, innuendo and fabricated statements rather than scientific information.**

**It is time to consider a professional Board of Fisheries. With billions of dollars at stake annually involved in this decision making body we have evolved past the time when a lay board is adequate to meet the demands**

**of our modern day fishery issues. With everything from foreign enhancement and competition, high seas mortality, global warming, evolving habitat issues, population increases and overall growing demand we have to have a panel of experts from various areas of fisheries expertise that can better understand the volumes data and research that is presented for evaluation in the decision making process. For instance, this last 2014 UCI meeting produced thousands of pages of data, research reports, proposals, public comment, and meeting record comments. During the meeting it became painfully obvious that the board members had not had time to adequately familiarize themselves with much of this information.**

**What can a legislative body like this do to help:**

**We believe there are two important things the legislature could do that would help change the course of Upper Cook Inlet salmon production and allocative management;**

- 1) Initiate legislation to move toward a professional Board of Fisheries. We envision this body to be made up of paid positions selected for their scientific or socio-economic expertise in the area of fisheries management and research. We would also suggest that they would have a dedicated research staff solely for the purpose of helping them coalesce and present necessary data for the regulatory area under consideration at the time.**

**Members of this board would be selected by the governor and confirmed by the legislature, much as it is now. Members of this board would be selected for their knowledge of fishery issues without regards to any allocative or area representation.**

**The Board meetings would still invite public participation in regulatory proposals submissions and public testimony.**

**We're not sure exactly what for this body should actually look like but these are our suggestions. There are probably a variety of state fishery boards out there that could provide a workable outline for this concept.**

- 2) We believe it is imperative that the legislature support a**

**comprehensive independent research project of our UCI salmon stocks and habitat issues as they relate to the recovery and sustainability of these valuable resources. We would like to see this accomplished along the same lines as the recently published, “Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim Chinook Salmon Research Action Plan”, which involved some of the most respected fishery scientists in the nation. This document laid out various hypothesis for what precipitated the declines, issues that needed attention and recommendations for research projects that could be beneficial in the recovery and long-term sustainability of the stocks.**

**The timing is perfect for pursuing this type of effort as there appears to be some funding that might be available through the direction of the recently approved National Marine Fisheries Service’s 2012 salmon fisheries disaster relief program. It appears that the State of Alaska is going to be instrumental in deciding how this 20.8 million dollars is going to be divided up and dispersed within Alaska.**

**So to recap our testimony:**

**We believe we need to put more emphases on in-river King salmon production by installing regulatory sport fishing methods that protect our largest age class breeding stocks and set aside some protective zones recognized as important spawning and staging areas.**

**We need to acknowledge and mitigate habitat deficiencies that could cause undesirable effects on the recovery and sustainability of our fishery resources.**

**We need to move forward on changing to a professional Board of Fisheries to meet our modern day complexities and future demands on our fishery resources.**

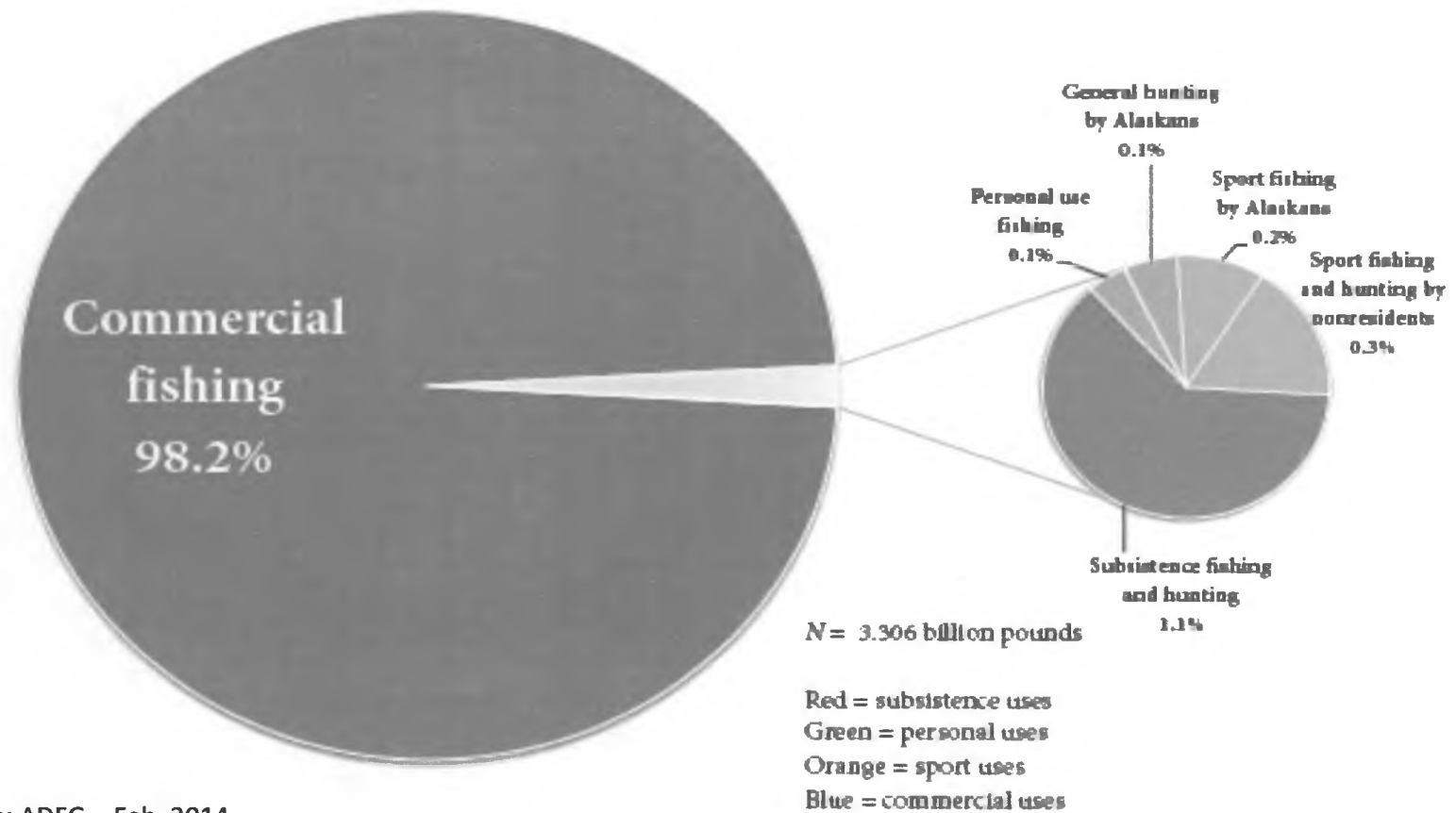
**We need a complete and thorough indepenant review of our UCI salmon stocks, habitat issues and fisheries management practices.**

**I once again thank you for the opportunity to present testimony before you today and would be happy to answer any questions you might have.**



Senate Resources Committee  
Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Dialogue  
March 24, 2014

### Who harvests fish and game? Resource harvests by use in Alaska



Source: ADFG – Feb. 2014

- Less than 20 % of the Upper Cook Inlet Salmon resource is available to over 150,000 sport fishers, and over 20,000 personal use households.
- Over 80% of the Upper Cook Inlet salmon resource is available to fewer than 1,300 commercial fishers.



## Division of Commercial Fisheries

### Mission and Core Services

Overview

Mission and Core Services

Organization

Budget

Director

Staff and Contacts

#### Contribution to Department Mission

The mission of the Division of Commercial Fisheries is to manage subsistence, commercial, and personal use fisheries in the interest of the general well being of the people and economy of the state, consistent with the sustained yield principle, and subject to allocations through public regulatory processes.

#### Core Services

- Stock Assessment and Applied Research: Maintain ongoing programs for the enumeration, assessment, and understanding of salmon, herring, groundfish, and shellfish stocks.
- Harvest Management: Control the harvest of fishery resources for subsistence, commercial, and personal uses according to plans and regulations.
- Aquaculture Permitting: Permit and provide regulatory, technical, and planning services to aquatic farmers and private nonprofit hatchery operators.
- Information Services and Public Participation: Develop, maintain and disseminate data, analyses, and published reports.

See also: [Commercial Fishing](#)

Source: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=divisions.cfmission>



## Alaska Constitution

### Art VIII, Sec II – General Authority

 The *legislature* shall provide for the utilization, development and conservation of all natural resources belonging to the state...



**Title 16** “The commissioner is the principal executive officer of the department...”

-  there is created the Board of Fisheries
-  there is created a Board of Game

**ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES  
UPPER COOK INLET FINFISH  
January 31 – February 13, 2014  
Egan Civic Center, Anchorage**

**COMMITTEE A: PERSONAL USE (25 proposals)**

Board committee members: Huntington – chair; Morisky; and Jeffrey.

**COMMITTEE B: COOK INLET COMMERCIAL FISHING (13 proposals)**

Board committee members: Kluberton – chair; Jensen ; and Johnson.

**COMMITTEE C: KENAI RESIDENT SPECIES, GUIDES, BOUNDARIES, AND HABITAT (22 proposals)**

Board committee members: Johnson – chair; Jeffrey; and Huntington.

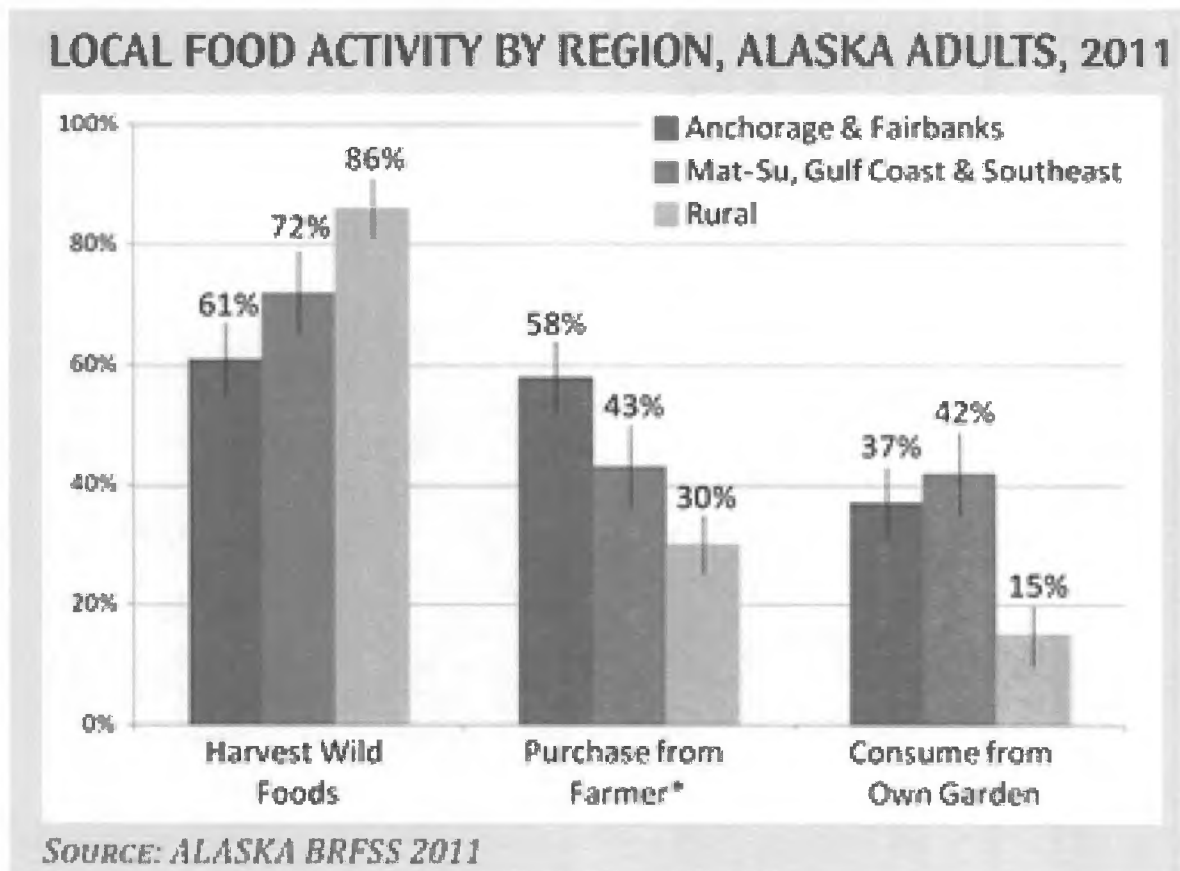
**COMMITTEE D: NORTHERN COOK INLET ESCAPEMENT GOALS, AND COMMERCIAL, SPORT, AND SUBSISTENCE FISHING (32 proposals)**

Board committee members: Jensen – chair; Morisky; and Kluberton.

**COMMITTEE E: UPPER COOK INLET/KENAI/KASILOF SPORT (27 proposals)**

Board committee members: Morisky – chair; Kluberton ; and Jeffrey.

**Cook Inlet – Areawide Sport Fisheries (13)**

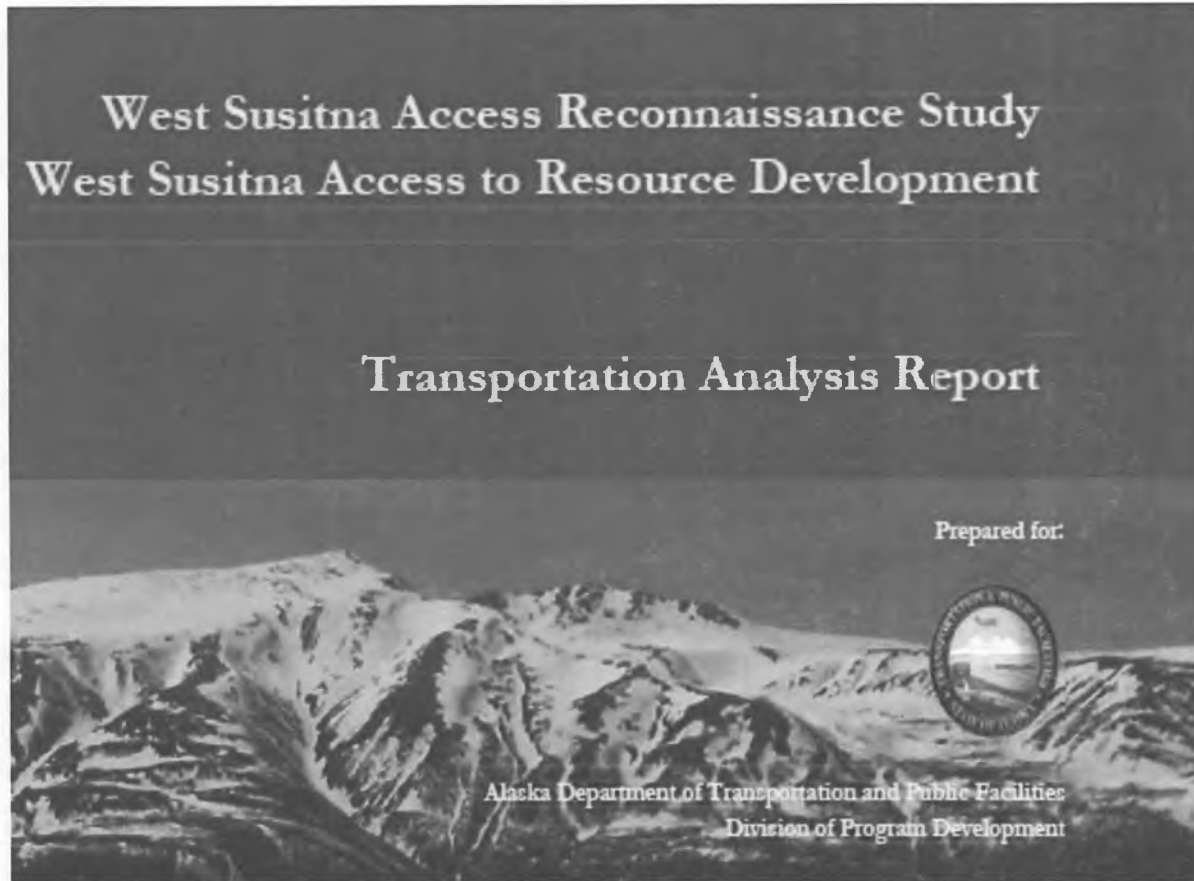


- HCR 1 – 2013 Food Policy Development Working Group

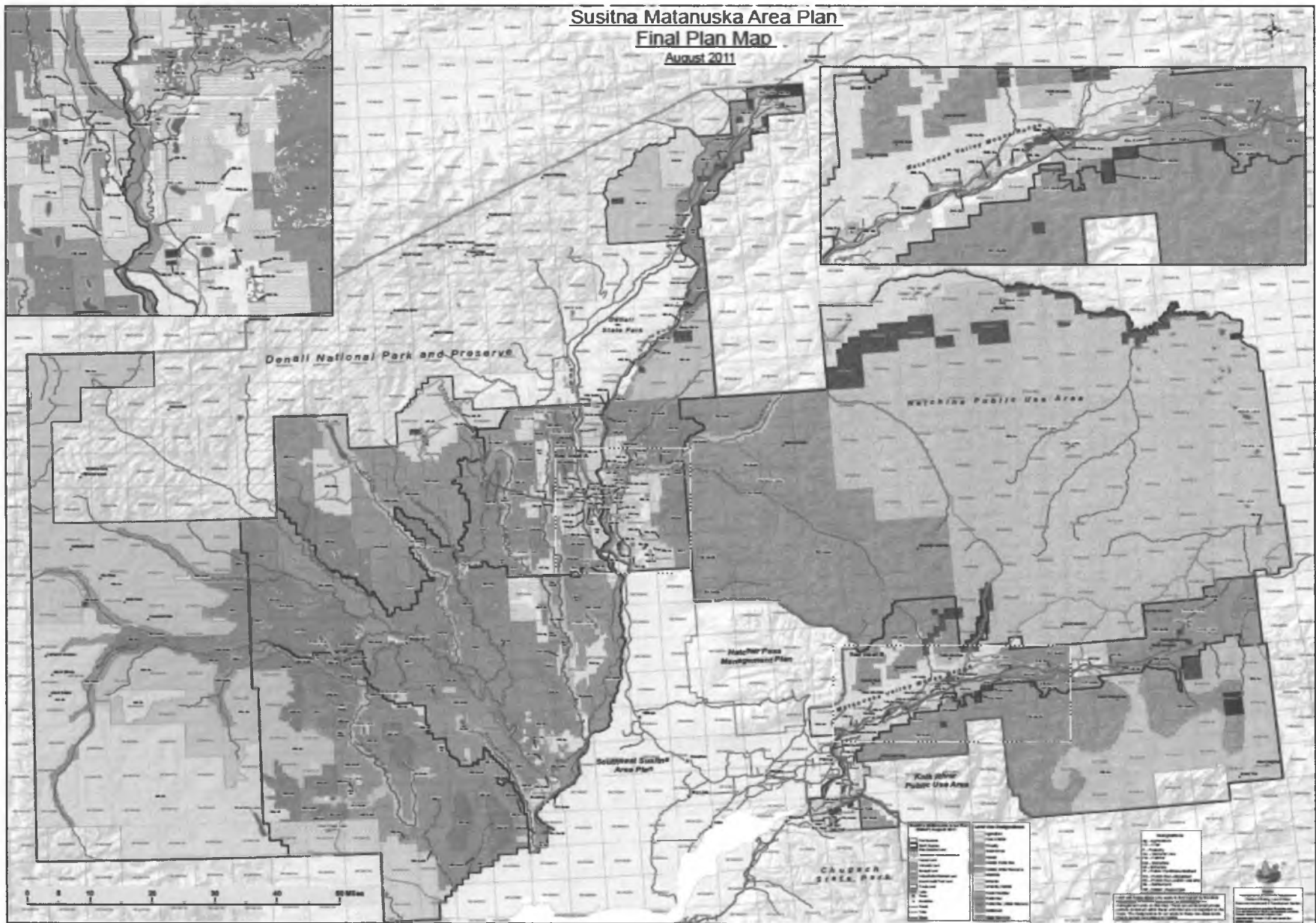
- “...access to fresh and local wild food...”

- “...consumption of local wild seafood...”





- Transportation corridors crossing or parallel to fisheries resources
- Transportation to oil and gas exploration and potential development
- Transportation to mining exploration and potential development
- Transportation to forestry



**CONCLUSIONS:**

- **Alaskans want to harvest wild, local, organic, healthy Upper Cook Inlet salmon – a public resource**
- **There are “imbalances” in the system**
- **The legislature can help**



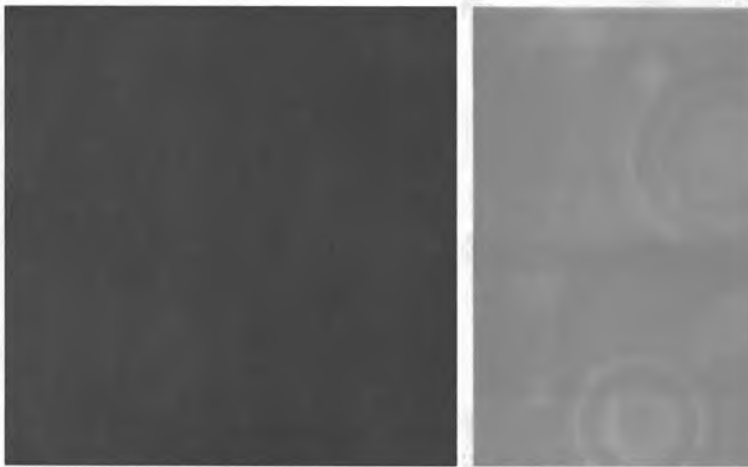


2014 Senate Resources Committee Presentation

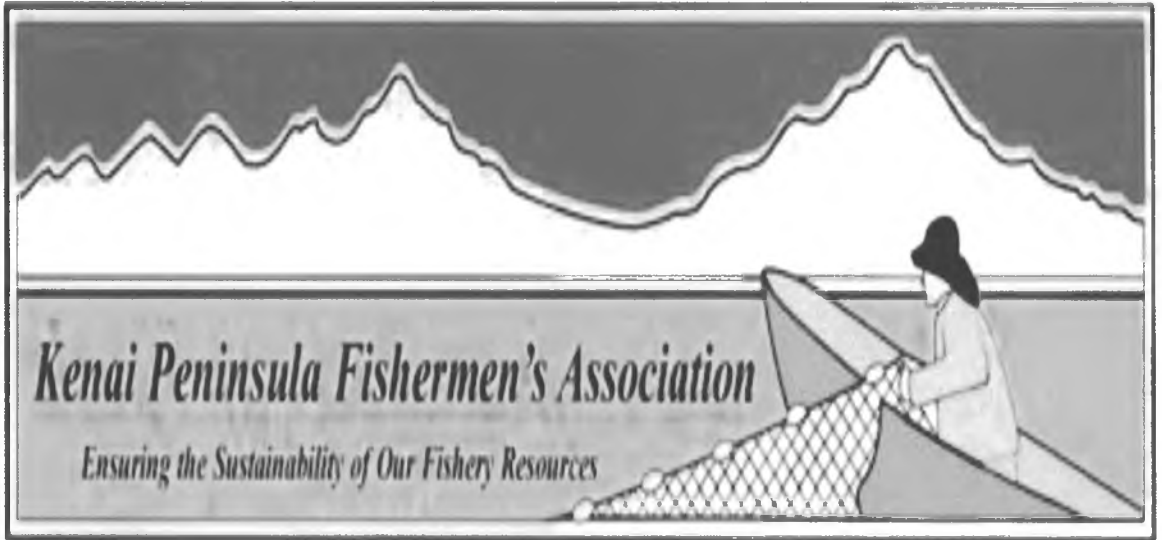
# Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association



Presented March 24, 2014



**Megan  
Smith**



**Amber  
Every**



## GOALS

To explain who UCI Setnetters are and our **role** in the Upper Cook Inlet fishery

The **importance** of **sockeye** in Upper Cook Inlet

The impact of the **Personal Use** and **In-River Sport** fisheries

**Kenai River Late Run Chinook**

What do **Upper Cook Inlet Setnetters** want from our **Legislature**?

# WHO WE ARE? Is what we do...



We are fathers and mothers, we are grandparents, we are children, sons and daughters, we are families. We are a community filled with generations of setnetting families. We are an important part of our local history. Setnetting is not just a job to us.

**Setnetting defines us, it is who we are.**





# FEEDING THE WORLD

For generations, Upper Cook Inlet fisherman have helped to feed the world a natural and healthy protein



Since the beginning of setnetting in Cook Inlet over 135 years ago, our fishing methods and means have changed very little.



What are the economics of Commercial Fishing in UCI?

The estimated overall economic contribution to the Cook Inlet region from harvesters and processors of Cook Inlet salmon approaches \$350 million per year.

Sockeye are the predominant species harvested in Cook Inlet. From 1980 to 2011 Sockeye account for 88% of the more than \$2 billion total in revenues in 2012 dollars.

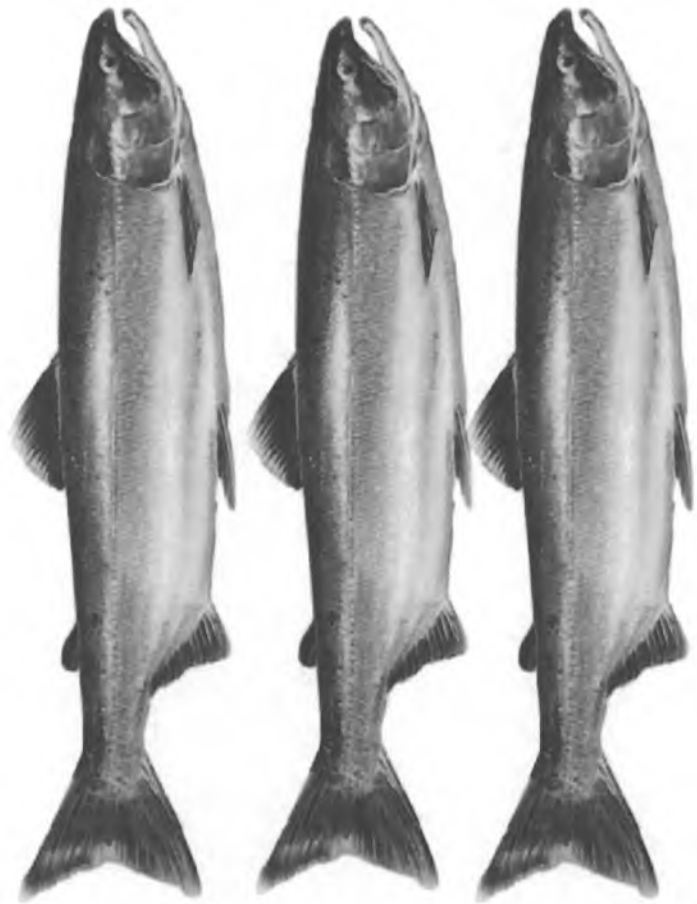
In 2010 and 2011 Cook Inlet ranked fourth among Alaska major salmon fisheries.




COMMERCIAL  
FISHING

*Source of Data: 2013 Northern Economics: Economics Study*

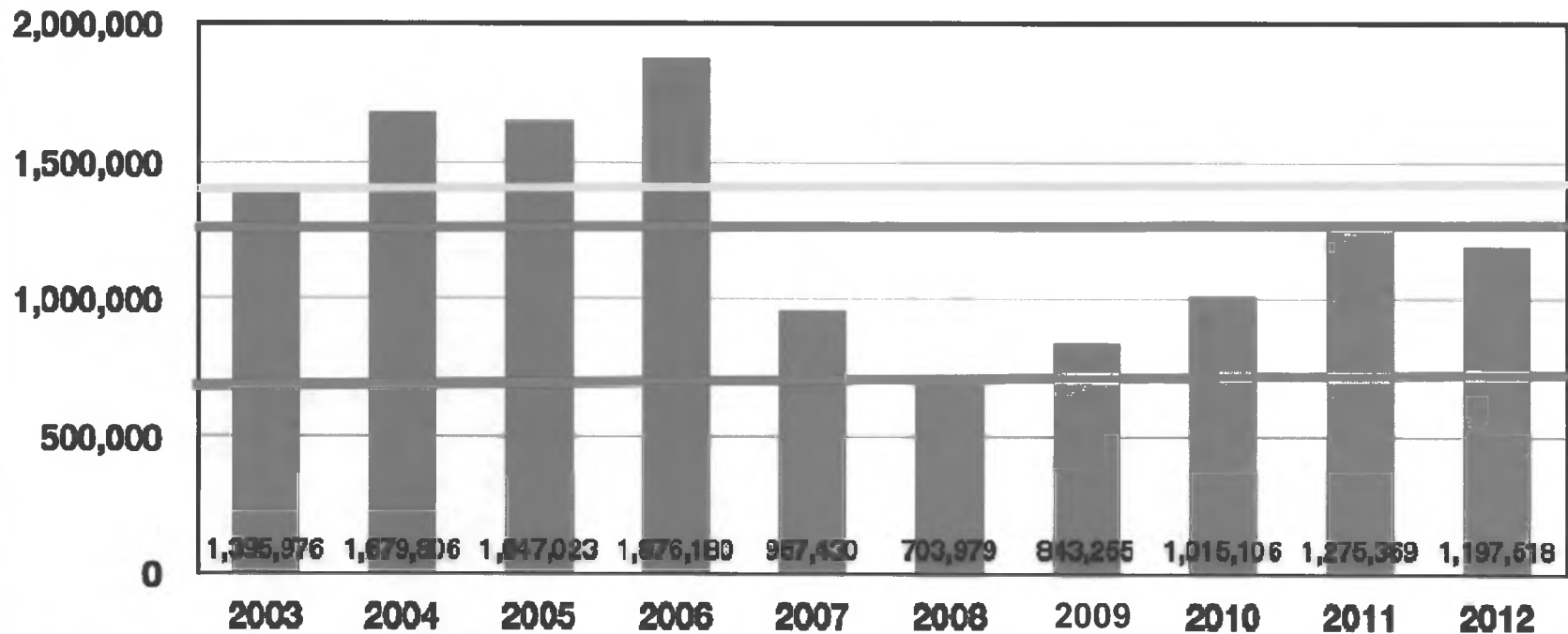




The  of  
Upper Cook Inlet  
is  
SOCKEYE SALMON!!

# KENAI RIVER spawners

## Kenai River Sockeye Spawning Escapement

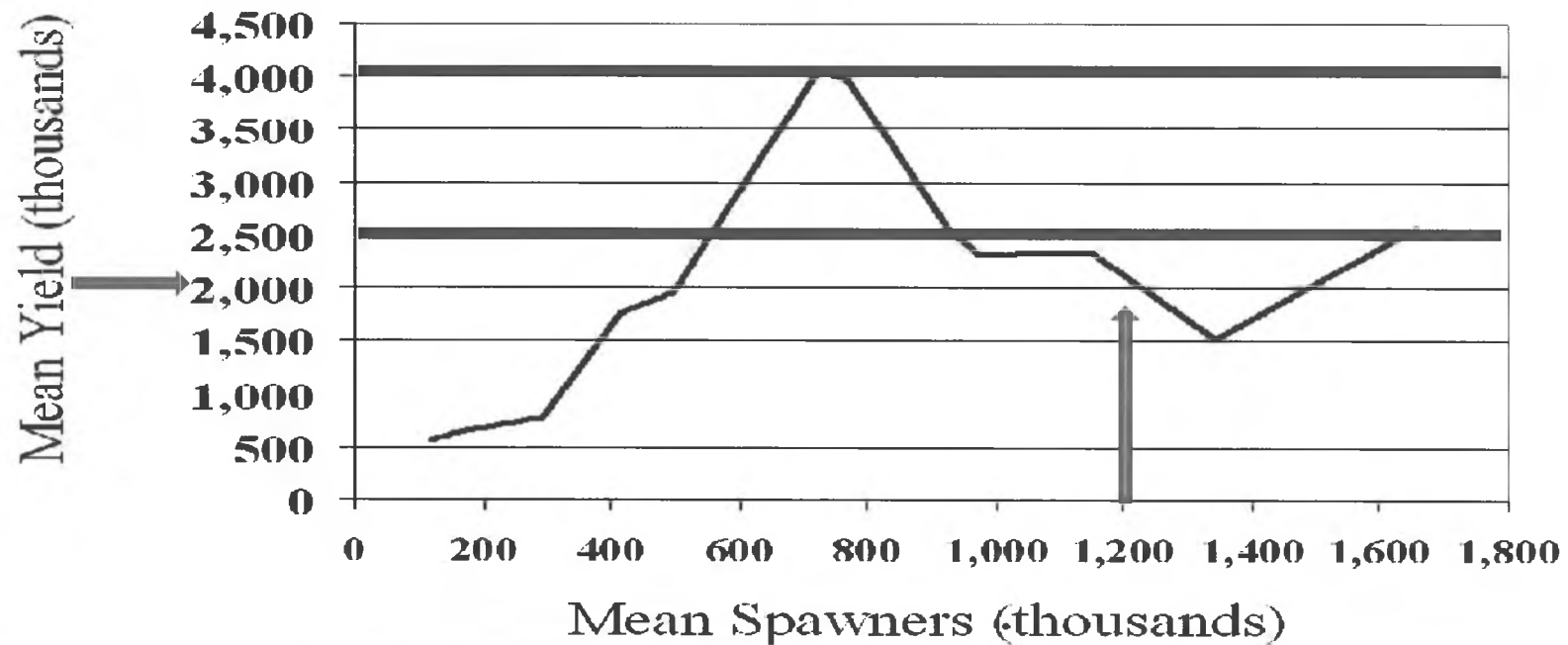


The 10 year average of spawners in the Kenai River is 1,259,160  
Why should this CONCERN us?

Source of Data : 2013 Upper Cook Inlet Commercial Fisheries Annual Management Report

# What Kenai Sockeye Salmon YIELDS Do We Want?

## Mean Yield of Kenai River Sockeye Salmon at Various Spawner Densities



Future Yields are diminished on a salmon stock that the majority of Alaskans depend on.

Source of Data : ADF&G - Actual measured values

# SOCKEYE

**2 Million Sockeye Return**



**Escapement = 1 million**

**Personal use and Sport Fishery = 1 million**

**What is left for the Commercial Fishery?**

**Commercial Fishermen are being allocated out of the fishery.**

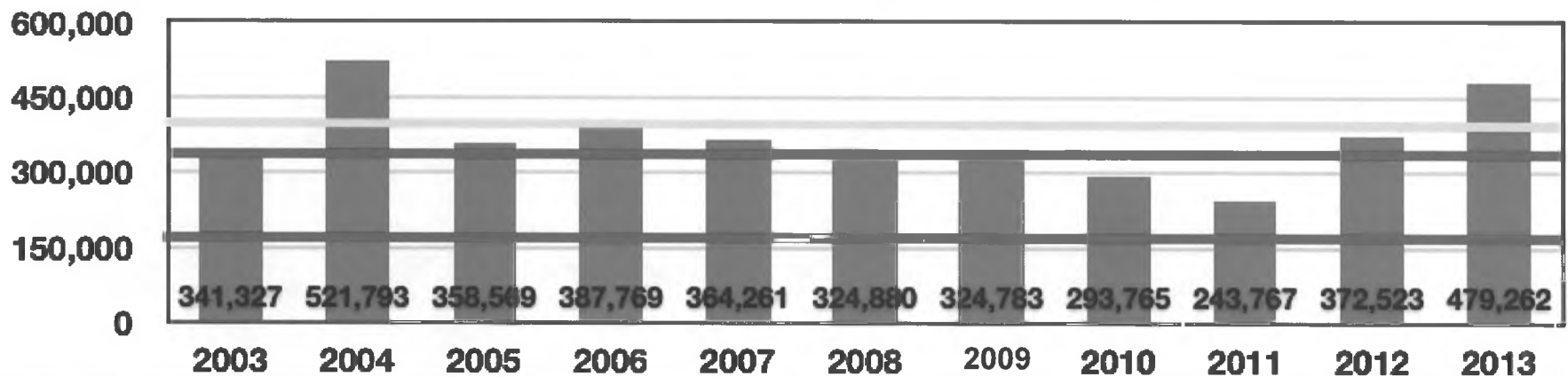
# KASILOF river

## Kasilof River Sockeye Goals

BEG-160,000 - 340,000

OEG-160,000 - 390,000

### Kasilof River Sockeye Spawning Escapement



11 year average is 364,790

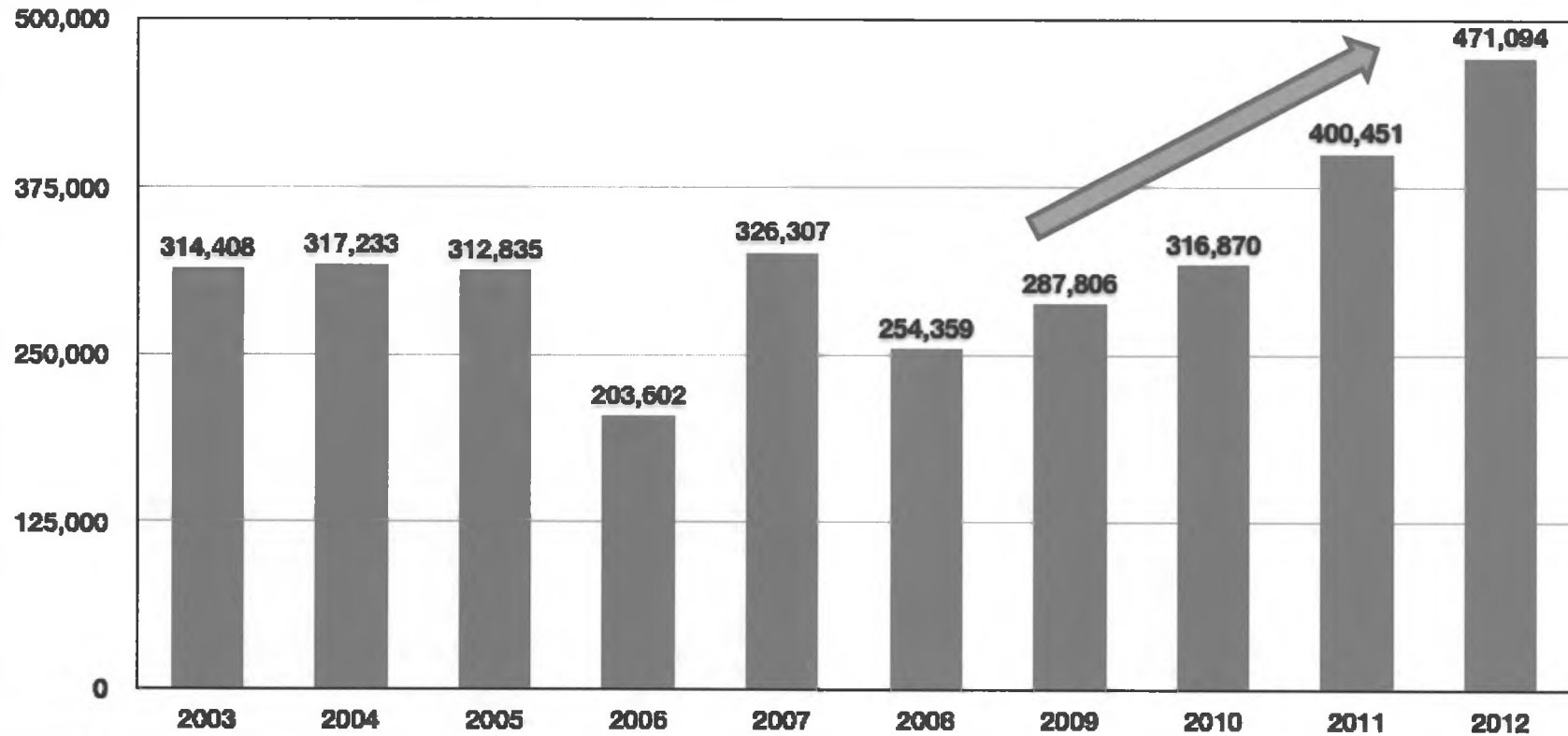
Source of Data : 2013 Upper Cook Inlet Commercial Fisheries Annual Management Report

# KENAI RIVER in-river sockeye fishery



# IN-RIVER sockeye harvest

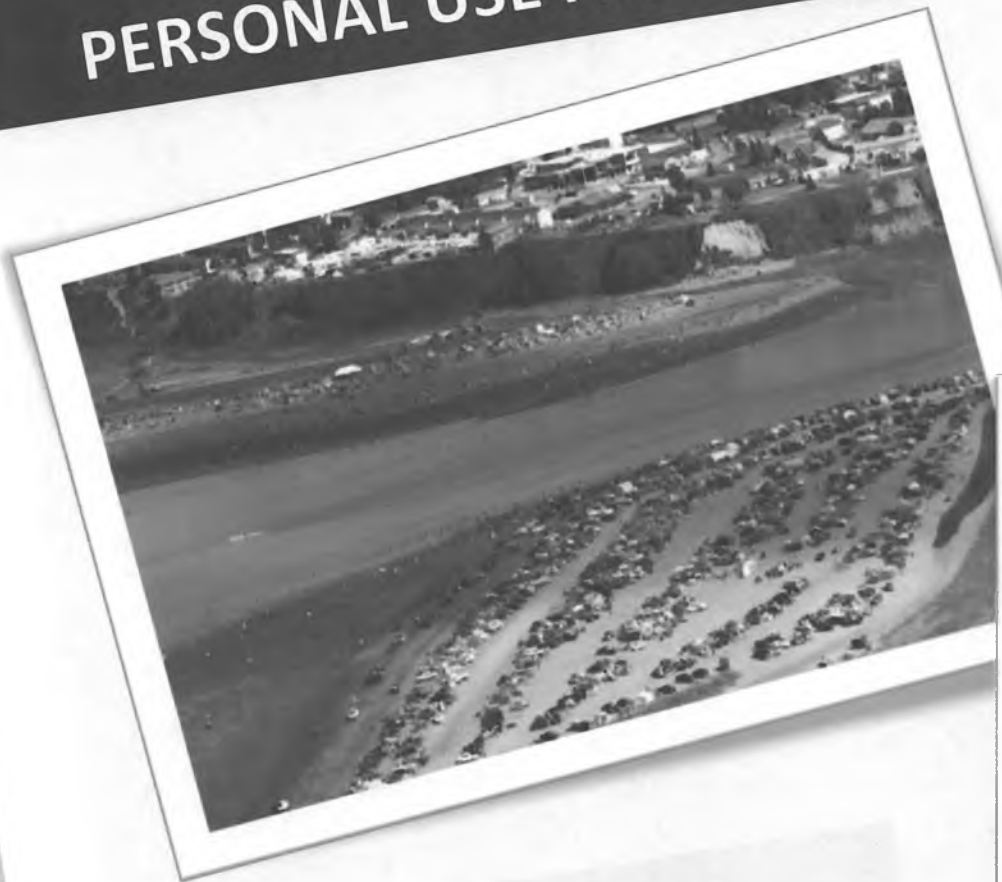
## Kenai In-River Total Sockeye Harvest



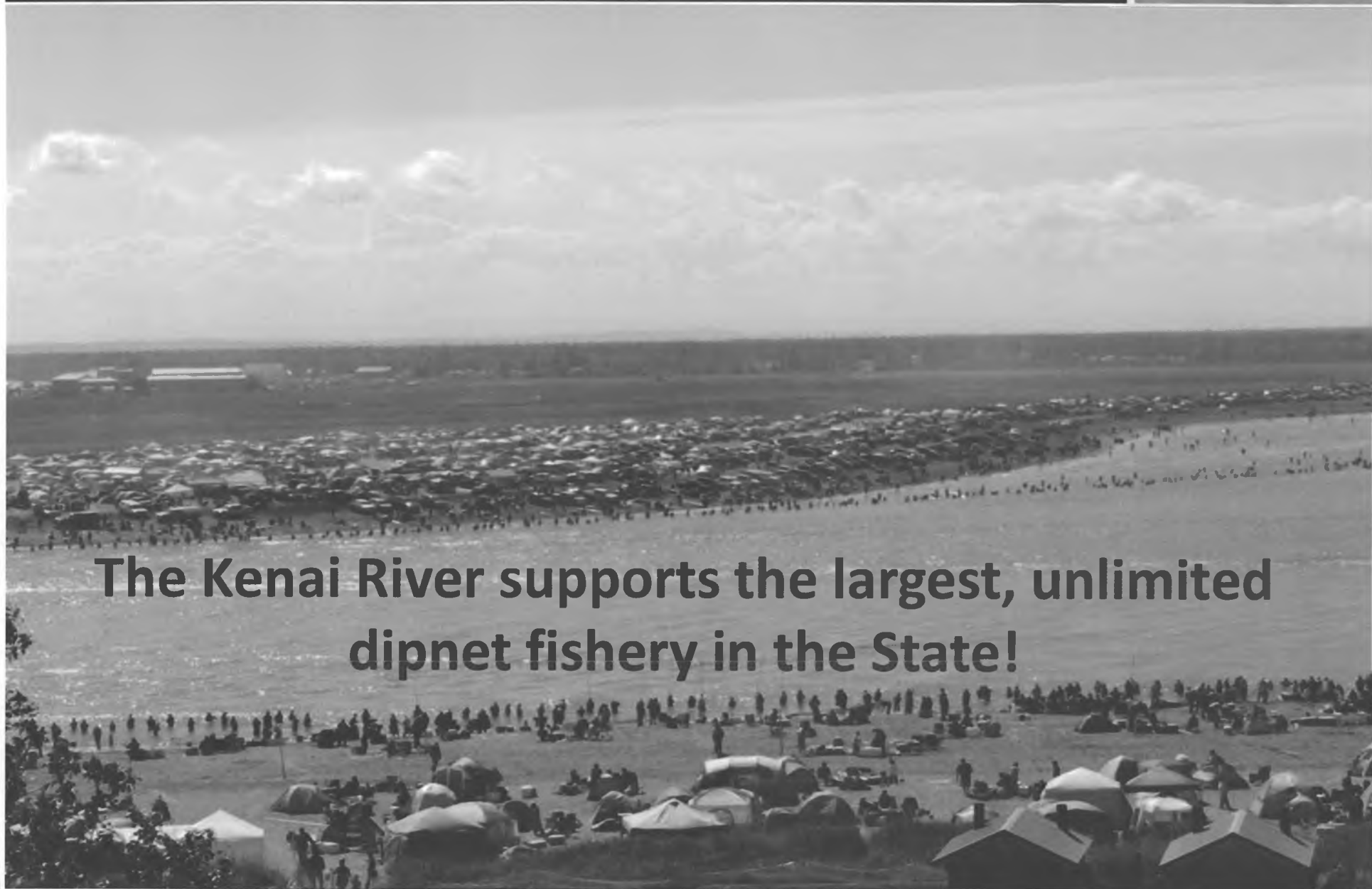
The In-river Sockeye harvest is at its highest point and has yet to harvest what has been allocated by the BOF.

Source of Data : ADF&G

PERSONAL USE FISHERY dipnet



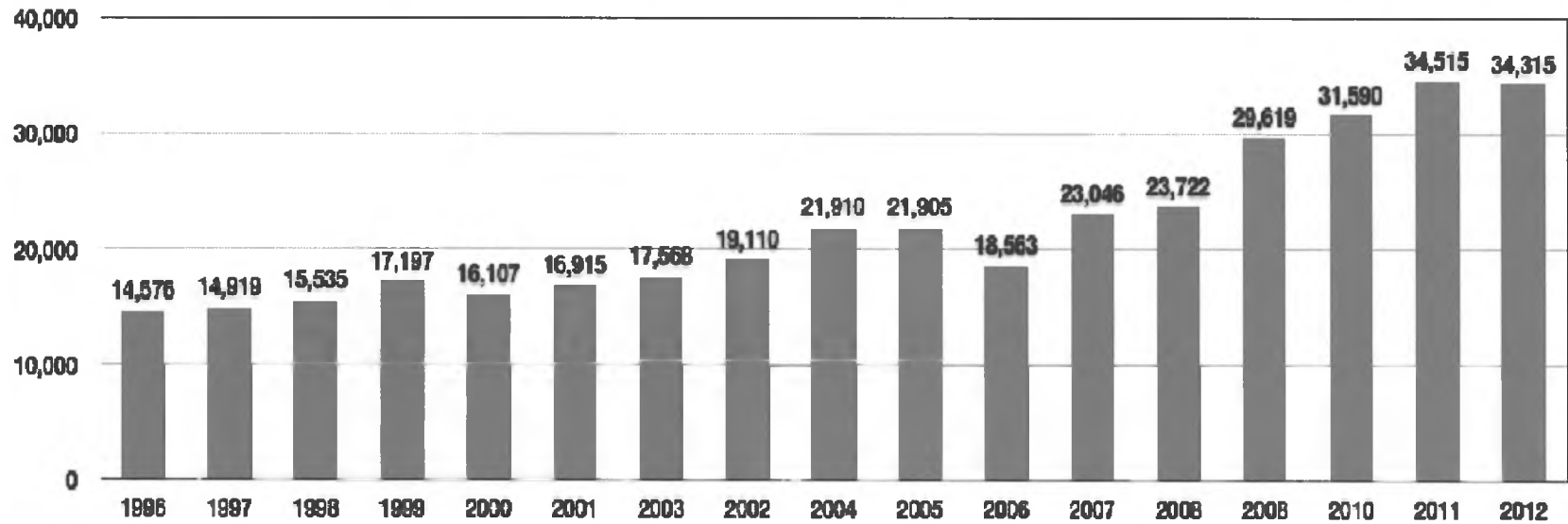
## **KENAI RIVER** dipnet fishery



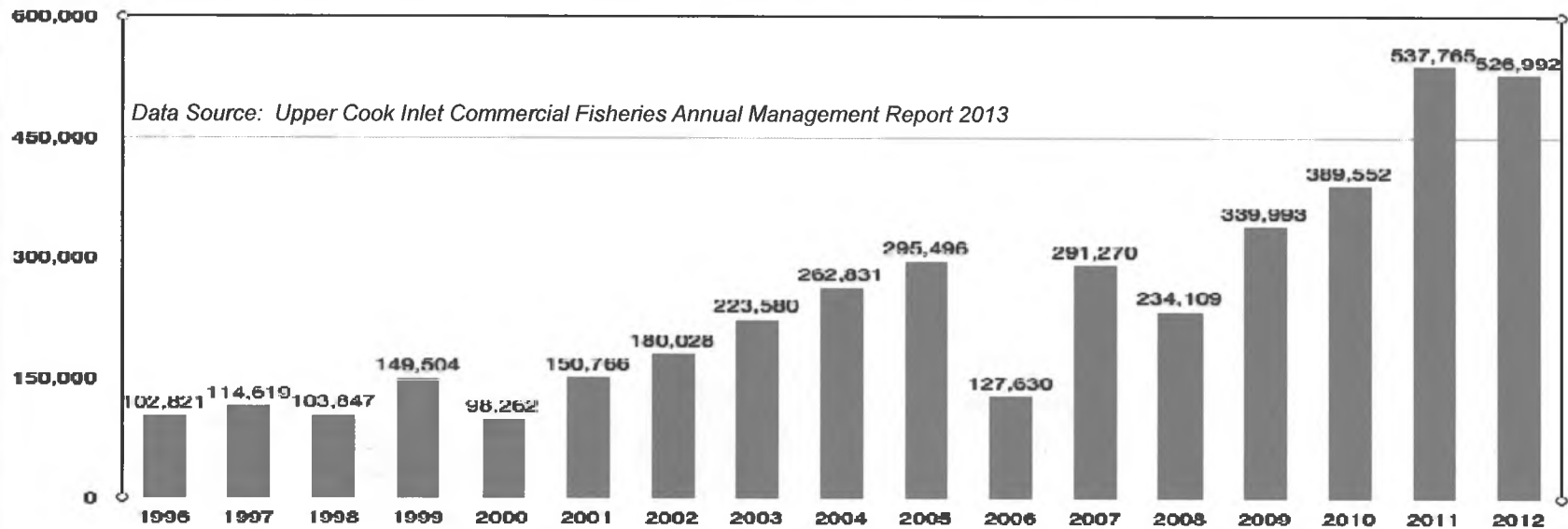
**The Kenai River supports the largest, unlimited dipnet fishery in the State!**

# KENAI RIVER dipnet fishery

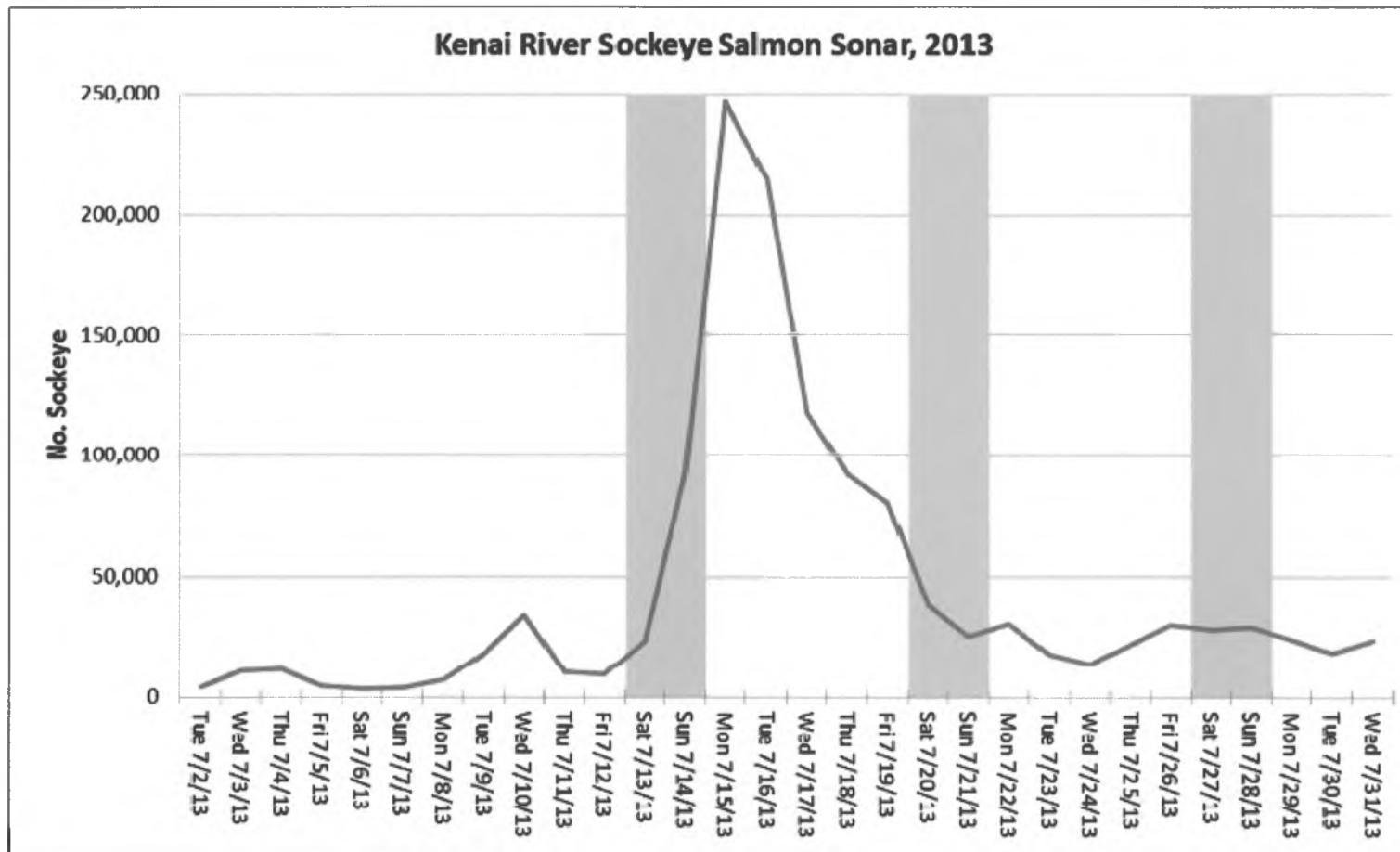
## Cook Inlet Personal Use Permits Issued



## Kenai River Personal Use Harvest



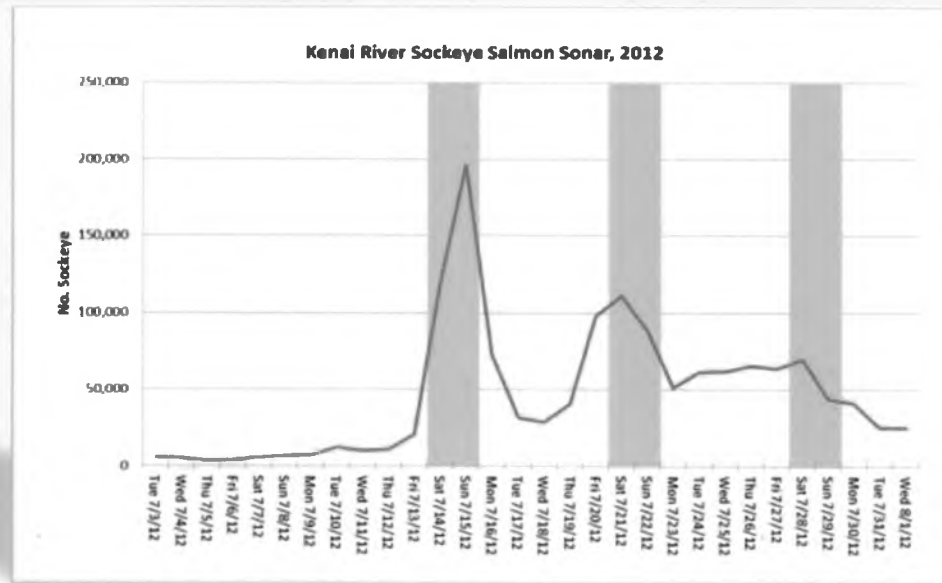
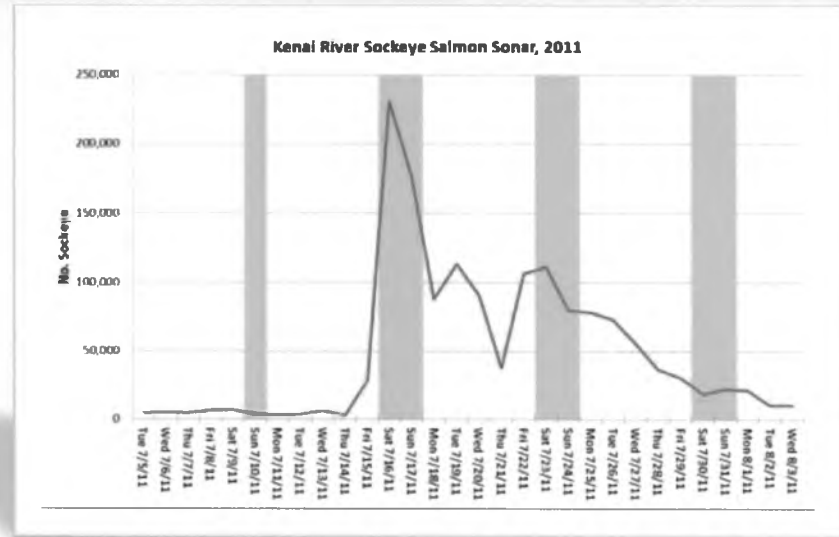
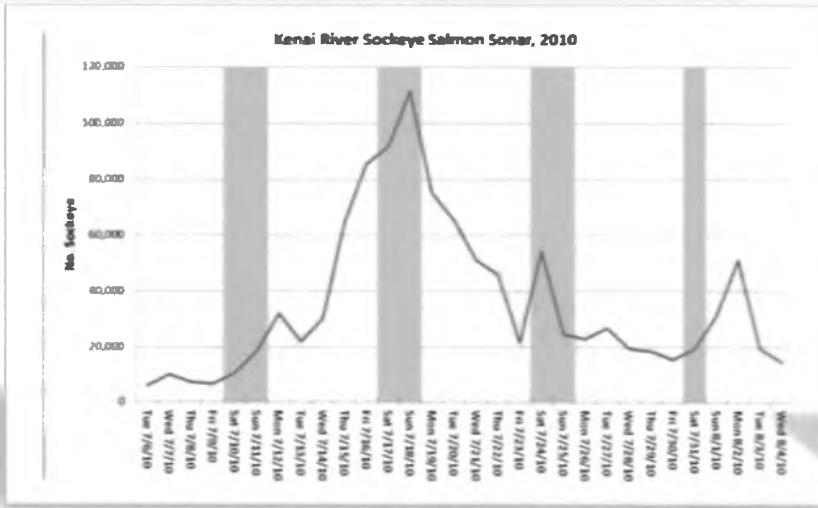
# KENAI RIVER sockeye timing



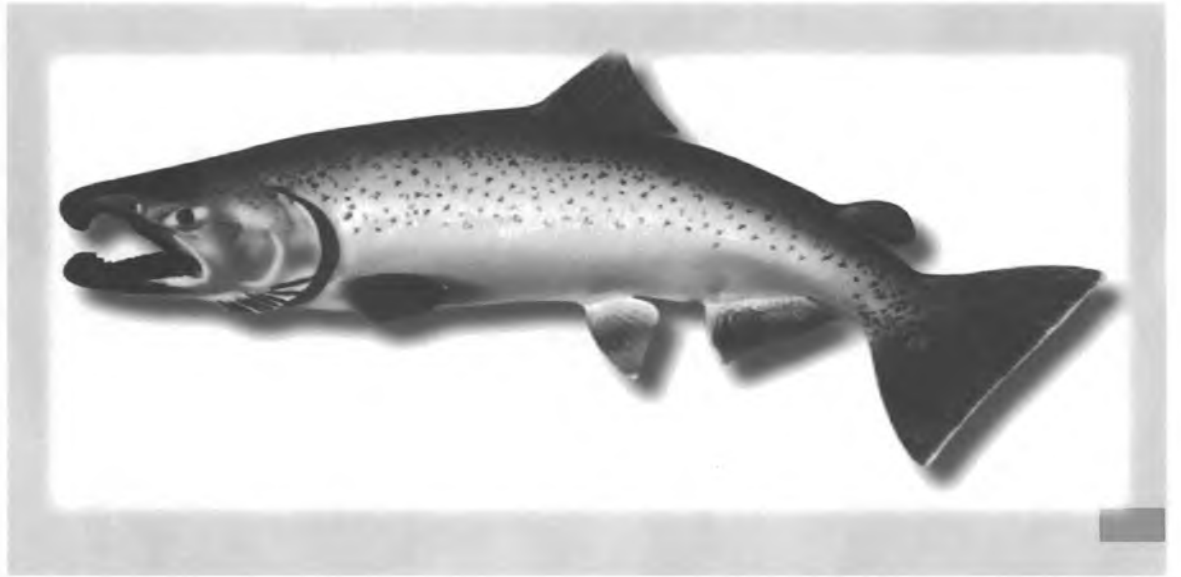
**2013** is the FIRST year that a pulse of sockeye did not fall on a weekend.  
**Sockeye don't know what day of the week it is!!**

Source of Data : ADF&G

# KENAI RIVER sockeye timing



Source of Data : ADF&G



**Late-Run Chinook  
KENAI RIVER**



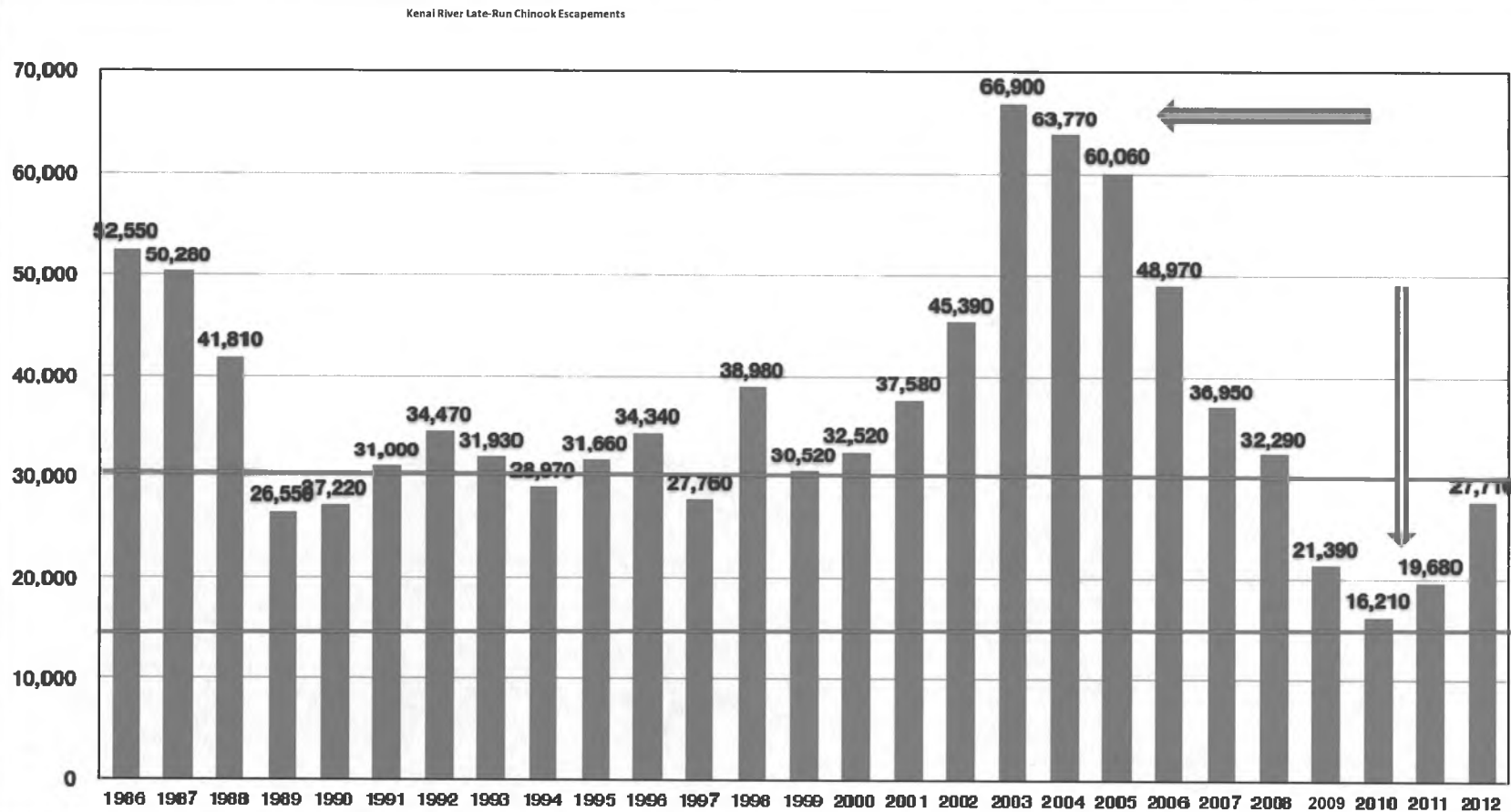
# KENAI RIVER escapement goal

In 2013 ADF&G changed the Late-Run Chinook Salmon Escapement Goal to 15,000-30,000

Selection of an escapement goal always involves a tradeoff between risk to the stock (lower goals increase risk of overharvest) and risk to the fishery (higher goals increase risk of fishery restrictions). The recommended goal of 15,000 to 30,000 provides a small safety factor to reduce risk to the Chinook salmon stock. That is, the goal range is not centered with respect to maximum yield probabilities (Figure 8), nor with respect to expected sustained yields (Figure 9), being slightly higher than what would be required to symmetrically bracket these measures of yield performance. Along with the uncertainties discussed above, the primary reason for slightly elevating the recommended goal is that we have not yet experienced returns from escapements below 20,000 (Figure 12). The lowest escapement from which the return is complete was 23,830 (90% CI: 17,630-31,170) in 1997, which produced 59,000-88,370 (90% CI) returning adults (Table 4). Returns from the small 2009 escapement (22,320; 17,110-28,990) will commence as age-4 fish in 2013, and from the smaller 2010 escapement (16,320; 12,730-20,590) as age-4 fish in 2014 (Table 4).

This did NOT lower the goal, it was simply adjusting to the counting method with the new Didson sonar. In Fact, on Page 16 of the **Draft Escapement Goal Report**, the recommended goal of **15,000 to 30,000** provides a "small safety factor" to reduce risk to the Chinook salmon stock. Without the "safety factor" the NEW SEG would be **12,000-28,000**. (3,000 Chinook "safety factor")

# KENAI RIVER late-run chinook



Kenai River Late-Run Chinook have met their Escapement Goal for the past 27 years, and have exceeded the upper goal for 19 of those years.

Source of Data : ADF&G

## KENAI RIVER exploitation rate

Average Annual Exploitation Rate on  
Kenai River Late-Run Chinook

**39%**



**ESSN**

**13%**



**Other User  
Groups**

**26%**

*Source of Data: ADF&G*

# Trade-off



## Chinook

### *Sport Fisherman*

- 301 Registered Guides
- Private Resident Anglers

### *Economic*

- Local businesses
- Tourism



## Sockeye

### *Personal Use*

- 34,315 Household Permits
- 100,000 Alaskan Residents

### *Subsistence*

- Native Tribes

### *Commercial*

- 1305 Upper Cook Inlet Permits
- 5000 Jobs

### *Processors & Buyers*

- Over 19 Major Buyers for UCI

### *Sport Fisherman*

- Increased guided anglers
- Private Anglers

### *Economic*

- Local businesses
- Tourism



*More Alaskan residents benefit from a healthy sockeye run.*

# What do UCI Setnetters Want?

- **Legislative support for our 736 small family businesses**
- **Research dollars to help us understand the Kenai River Chinook salmon spawning and rearing areas, and juvenile out-migration studies**
- **Proactive Multi-agency Chinook Action Plan for Upper Cook Inlet**
- **Functional Board of Fish process**



# Legislative Support

**The ELIMINATION of Upper Cook Inlet Setnetters would result in....**

- **ONLY 13% more Late Run King Salmon entering the Kenai River- That amount of fish will NOT revitalize the in-river fisheries.**
- **0% more Early Run Kings entering the Kenai River because setnetters do NOT harvest that stock.**
- **Putting 736 Small Businesses, Families and Crew members out of work- 615 of those businesses being owned by Alaska Residents**
- **The LOSS of millions of dollars to the local and state economies**
- **Giving up sustainable Sockeye goal management for Upper Cook Inlet- the salmon species that the majority of Alaskans have come to depend on**
- **The LOSS of Alaska's rich history and traditional family values**
- **The LOSS of economic diversification**
- **Community Conflict rather than Community Cooperation**

**Is the GAIN WORTH the LOSS??**

# Research Dollars

## **The Kenai River Early Run Chinook are losing production...**

- **The Early Run Kenai Chinook run has failed to meet its goal for the past two years.**
- **Beaver Creek, Slikok Creek, and Soldotna Creek are tributaries in which hundreds of Chinook were once produced and now have only handfuls of fish returning to them.**
- **We need to identify important Kenai River salmon spawning and rearing areas for both Early and Late Run Kings. The identification of critical habitat areas will help us formulate a plan for future development and use.**
- **We need funding for juvenile Chinook out-migration studies**

**Help us guarantee that Chinook Salmon  
survive for future generations!**

# **Proactive Multi-agency Partnership in Chinook Research and Action for Upper Cook Inlet**

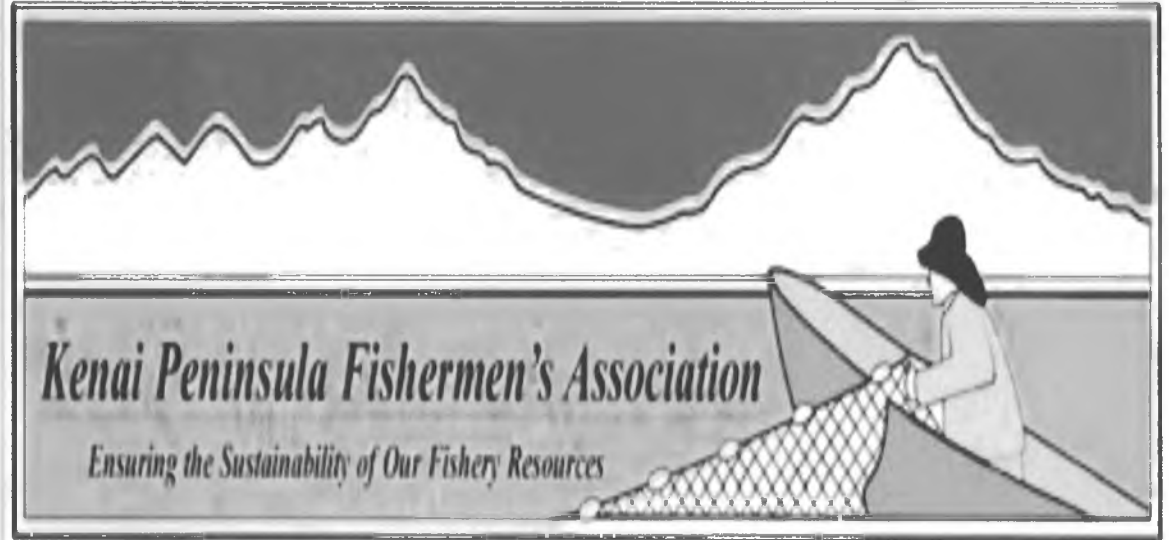
- **The Arctic, Yukon, Kuskokwim Sustainable Salmon Initiative provides with a blueprint on how collaboratively to address declining chinook stocks**
- **Alaska Department of Fish and Game**
- **US Fish and Wildlife Service**
- **Alaska Native Tribes**
- **Kenai Watershed Forum**
- **Independent Biologists, Fisheries Scientists, University Biologists**
- **Local Municipal Governments (Cities and Borough)**
- **Local and Traditional knowledge**
- **National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)**

**Help us build Community Cooperation,  
NOT Community Conflict**

# Board of Fish Process

- **Board of fish member qualification - biological, social, economics**
  - **Professional Board?**
- **Overwhelming information load in limited time period**
  - **Board generated proposal require a cooling off period before regulatory decisions are made**
- **Government agencies are not relied upon for their knowledge**
  - **ADF&G had very limited input on board discussions**
- **Meeting is inaccessible to private participants**
  - **Cost and time prohibitive**
- **Public mistrust**
  - **Tone of meetings is of conflict and politics , not science**
- **Lack of consistent process**
  - **Board does not adhere to any specific rules of order, only previous board precedence**

**Help us Restore Faith in the Public Process**



This presentation may be viewed at

**[KPFAlaska.org](http://KPFAlaska.org)**

Questions?