

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEES 1901-1902

1862 HRES - SB 875 - SCR 31

20. Litigation with the Municipality of Anchorage. This Agreement does not affect the pending litigation by the University against the Municipality of Anchorage in Case No. 3AN-79-2801 Civ., Third Judicial District, State of Alaska. The University retains all causes of action, claims, demands and right to damages, expenses and compensation which it now has or may hereafter have against the State or the Municipality of Anchorage as a result of the Municipality's selection of University-grant lands pursuant to AS 29.18.201-213, or any predecessor statute thereto.

21. Notice. If it becomes necessary as a result of the execution and performance of this Agreement to provide public notice pursuant to Article VIII, Sec. 10 of the Alaska Constitution or to AS 38.50.110, the Department and the University shall cooperate in complying with such notice requirements.

22. Resolution by Board of Regents. The Board of Regents shall, if it approves this Agreement, pass a resolution signed by all members of the Board, approving and adopting this Agreement, and specifically and irrevocably assuming responsibility as trustee to the University regarding the management and disposition of all lands which are contemplated to be transferred in fee to the University pursuant to this Agreement. The State shall have the right to review the form and adequacy of the assumption of the obligations of trustee by the Board, prior to making any land conveyances under this Agreement.

23. Advice of Counsel. Each of the parties acknowledges that it was represented by counsel during the negotiation, drafting, and execution of this Agreement.

24. Good Faith. The parties agree that the performance of all obligations set forth in the terms and conditions herein shall be conducted in good faith.

25. Successors in Interest. Each and all of the terms, covenants and conditions in this Agreement shall inure to the benefit of, and shall be binding upon, the successors in interest of each of the parties to this Agreement.

26. Enforcement. Enforcement of the public trust responsibilities required to be assumed by the Board of Regents as a result of its approval of this Agreement shall be vested in the Office of the Attorney General, State of Alaska.

DATED: 3/12/82

DATED: 3-11-82

By Edward Rasmuson

Edward Rasmuson, President of

of

the Board of Regents

By John W. Katz

John W. Katz, Commissioner

the Department of Natural

Resources

DATED: 3/12/82

DATED: 3-11-82

By Jay Barton

Jay Barton, President of the

University of Alaska

By Thomas Williams

Thomas Williams, Commissioner

of the Department of Revenue

Approved as to Form:

DATED: 3-11-82

By Astrid de Pany

Counsel for the University

By William Hudson

William Hudson, Commissioner

of the Department of

Administration

By Robert P. Beck

Assistant Attorney General

STATE OF ALASKA)

) ss.

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT)

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that on this 12th day of March, 1982, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska, duly commissioned and sworn as such, personally appeared EDWARD RASMUSON, known to me and to be known to be the individual described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and he acknowledged to me that he signed the same freely and voluntarily for the uses and purposes therein described.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal the day and year first hereinabove written.

Anne M. Swenaker
Notary Public in and for Alaska
My Commission Expires: 3/14/84

STATE OF ALASKA)
) ss.
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT)

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that on this 12th day of March, 1982, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska, duly commissioned and sworn as such, personally appeared JAY BARTON known to me and to me known to be the individual described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and he acknowledged to me that he signed the same freely and voluntarily for the uses and purposes therein described.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal the day and year first hereinabove written.

Anne M. Swenaker
Notary Public in and for Alaska
My Commission Expires: 3/14/84

STATE OF ALASKA)

) ss.

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT)

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that on this 11th day of March, 1982, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska, duly commissioned and sworn as such, personally appeared JOHN W. KATZ known to me and to me known to be the individual described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and he acknowledged to me that he signed the same freely and voluntarily for the uses and purposes therein described.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal the day and year first hereinabove written.

Annie Boston

Notary Public in and for Alaska

My Commission Expires: Nov. 2, 1983

STATE OF ALASKA)

) ss.

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT)

THIS IT TO CERTIFY that on this 11th day of March, 1982, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska, duly commissioned and sworn as such, personally appeared WILLIAM HUDSON, known to me and to me known to be the individual described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and he acknowledged to me that he signed the same freely and voluntarily for the uses and purposes therein described.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal the day and year first hereinabove written.

Jennie Boston.

Notary Public in and for Alaska

My Commission Expires: Nov. 2, 1983

STATE OF ALASKA)

) ss.

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT)

THIS IT TO CERTIFY that on this 11th day of March, 1982, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska, duly commissioned and sworn as such, personally appeared THOMAS WILLIAMS, known to me and to me knowu to be the individual described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and he acknowledged to me that he signed the same freely and voluntarily for the uses and purposes therein described.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal the day and year first hereinabove written.

Jennie Boston

Notary Public in and for Alaska

My Commission Expires: Nov. 2, 1983



Jay Barton
President

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701

March 31, 1982

Dear Bettye:

I am enclosing some information on the recent agreement reached by the Departments of Natural Resources, Revenue and Administration and the University of Alaska regarding University lands. I think that this thumbnail sketch will help to answer a number of the questions that members of the Legislature have raised. I am most pleased that we have reached this agreement. As you know, I have long felt that discussion and negotiation are far more appropriate than lawsuits - it is far more appropriate to develop trust and mutual respect. This agreement is a milestone in achieving those goals. Merry Tuten and John Katz are to be warmly congratulated for resolving a most difficult problem.

You may wish to share this letter and its attachments with your colleagues. Please call me if you require more detailed information. We are most pleased with the support you have offered to the University. I hope that we will continue to merit your trust and confidence.

Cordially,

Jay Barton
President

JB:dm

The Honorable Bettye Fahrenkamp
Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

March 31, 1982

*Take a good
look at this*

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Where did the University's land come from?

The land was granted by the Federal Government to provide a stable source of income for the University.

Why did the State manage University grant lands?

The State and University entered into an agreement at Statehood providing for one land management agency to avoid duplication of efforts.

Why did the State DNR have difficulty managing the lands as trustees for the University?

The State DNR did not have adequate funds for many years to manage these lands, and the trustee responsibilities had not been emphasized. It was, and still is, difficult for DNR to favor one interest group over another, which is what trustee responsibilities require.

Why should the University manage these lands and be in the land business?

The University Board of Regents is best able to protect its interests and carry out the duties of a trustee. Many land-grant colleges own land and derive substantial revenue from their holdings. The University will maintain a small core staff, contract specific areas of development to the private sector, and emphasize long term revenue producing projects.

What does the University do with the money it receives from land management?

Income derived from land management is deposited into the UA's Permanent Fund and managed by the Department of Revenue. The University can use only the interest from the fund. So far there has been little income. Some of the income has been used to establish a land management office in the University. In the future the University will produce greater income and must plan for the expenditure of such funds. The Board of Regents is currently addressing this issue and will develop guidelines for the use of the funds within the next few months.

Why did the State and University settle out of court?

All parties agreed that the University was owed compensation and no one wanted to continue to litigate at the public's expense. A comprehensive solution was sought by all parties to lay the issue to rest once and for all.

Why does the State owe the University any money? The legislature funds the University every year.

The Alaska Supreme Court ruled that the University be fully compensated for takings of University trust land at less than fair market value. The University lost income during years of State management and desires to re-establish its original land base by taking a portion of its compensation in land. The intent of Congress was to establish a stable, long term economic base, an "endowment" for the University even though only a partial support

If the legislature funds the settlement agreement will the University be self sufficient?

The University is a long way from being self sufficient. Since the University hasn't managed its grant lands for 20 years it must start from scratch to produce income. It will take some years before the University receives a significant return. However, the land base will remain an important asset of the University and continue to appreciate through the years. The value of the lands is insufficient to do more than supplement State support (an endowment of approximately one billion dollars would be required for full support!)

What is the value of the University's land?

A rough estimate is \$225 million.

How many acres comprise University grant lands?

108,000 acres.

Does the settlement agreement benefit the State?

YES. The agreement resolves a longstanding legal issue at minimal cost to the public; minimizes DNR's responsibilities; returns management to the University and provides the University with an opportunity to offset State appropriations in the future.

Why didn't the University give up its land in 1978 when the State offered it 1/2 of 1% of all resource revenues?

Because it felt that inasmuch as one legislature can't bind another it would be wiser to keep the trust lands. The University felt State oil revenues might decline. The University would lose its lands with no guarantee that deposits would be made to the fund (cp. Mental Health trust fund).

MAR 29 1982

4610-34th. W.,
Seattle, WA-98199
March 26, 1982

Honorable Bettye Fahrenkamp
Chairman - Resources Committee
Pouch V
State Capitol,
Juneau, AK-99811

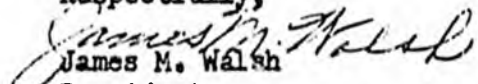
Dear Senator Fahrenkamp:

As an alumnus of the University of Alaska at Fairbanks,
Class of 1940, I wish to express my support for legislation
proper to the conveyance of land trusteeship from the State
to the University.

Further, I support the funding in the amount of one-half
million dollars for the above purpose.

It is my feeling that these actions are in the best interests
of the State and the University.

Respectfully,


James M. Walsh
President
Western Washington Chapter
UAAA

Proposed amendment to CSSE 375

Page 1, line 6: Delete title block, and replace with:

For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to land; and providing for an
effective date."

Page 2, line 18: Delete section 6, and insert the following:

* Section 6. AS 38 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

CHAPTER 09. HOMESTEAD ENTRY.

Sec. 38.09.010. HOMESTEAD ENTRY. (a) The director may designate and make available for homestead entry under this chapter state land available

(1) under AS 38.05.057; or

(2) under AS 38.05.077 unless the director determines that the land is more suitable for recreational or residential use.

(b) A homestead entry made under AS 38.05.057 may not exceed 320 acres.

(c) A homestead entry made under AS 38.05.077 may not exceed 160 acres.

(d) A person who has applied for or received state land under this chapter is not eligible for a loan under AS 03.10 for the habitable dwelling or the clearing of the land required under AS 38.09.040.

Sec. 38.09.020. QUALIFICATIONS FOR HOMESTEAD ENTRY. A person is qualified to apply for a homestead entry under this chapter if the person is

(1) qualified under AS 38.05.057 to participate in the disposal of land by lottery; or

(2) qualified under AS 38.05.077 to make an entry under the

remote parcel disposal procedures.

Sec. 38.09.030. APPLICATION FOR HOMESTEAD ENTRY. (a) A person who has staked the exterior boundaries of a homestead entry under AS 38.05.077 and a person who has been selected to purchase land designated for homestead entry by lottery shall apply for the homestead entry on a form prepared by the department.

(b) The department may charge a fee for filing an application under this chapter.

(c) A person applying for a homestead entry shall certify that he has not previously leased a remote parcel from the state or applied for homestead entry under this chapter within the eight years immediately preceding the date of the application.

Sec. 38.09.040. PATENT FOR HOMESTEAD ENTRY. (a) A person who has made a homestead entry under this chapter and filed an application under AS 38.09.030(a) is entitled to a patent if, within seven years from the date of the application, the applicant

(1) occupies the land for a total of 35 months;

(2) erects a habitable dwelling;

(3) clears and prepares for cultivation not less than

(A) one-fourth of the land entered if the land is limited to agricultural use; or

(B) one-eighth of the land entered if the land is not limited to agricultural use;

(4) brushes the boundaries of the homestead entry and maintains the brushed boundaries so that they are easily visible from the ground;

(5) causes a survey of the homestead entry to be made that is acceptable to the director

(b) The director shall require an applicant for homestead entry

to submit proof necessary to establish compliance with the requirements of (a) of this section. An applicant is not required to submit proof under (a)(4) or (5) of this section if the land comprising the homestead entry has been surveyed.

(c) As used in this section, "habitable dwelling"

(1) means a permanent dwelling of not less than 200 square feet and its fixtures and facilities;

(2) does not include a mobile home unless it is permanently attached to a permanent foundation.

Sec. 38.09.050. HOMESTEAD APPLICATION VOID. An application for homestead entry and the interest of the applicant under the homestead entry is void if the applicant fails to comply with a requirement of AS 38.09.040(a). On the request of the director, the attorney general shall bring an action to declare the homestead entry void and, if necessary, to eject the homestead applicant.

* Sec. 7. AS 38.04.020(g)(3) is amended to read:

(3) Land designated agricultural, commercial, industrial, or suitable for other disposal may [SHALL] be sold under AS 38.05.055 or 38.05.057. Land designated agricultural or suitable for disposal other than as commercial or industrial may be sold under AS 38.05.077.

* Sec. 8. AS 38.05.057(a) is amended to read:

(a) The commissioner may dispose of land, including land limited to use for agricultural purposes, by lottery. The purchase price of land sold by lottery shall be the fair market value of the land as determined by the commissioner. The commissioner may sell land by lottery for less than the fair market value of the land if he determines that scarcity of land for private use in the area of the land to be sold has resulted in unrealistic land values. Before the commissioner determines the purchase price for land which is located in a municipality and

which is to be sold under this section, he shall consult with the assessor of the municipality. The lottery shall be conducted in public by the commissioner or his representative. An applicant may not be selected to purchase land unless he is present on the date and at the place that the lottery is conducted unless medical reasons, attendance at school, or military service [OUTSIDE THE STATE] prevent attendance. [AN APPLICANT MAY BE REPRESENTED BY AN AGENT ON THE DAY OF THE LOTTERY IF THE LAND OFFERED FOR SALE IS COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL, OR AGRICULTURAL LAND.] On the day of the lottery a purchaser selected by lot shall deposit an amount equal to five percent of the purchase price, or if the purchaser elects to use land discounts granted under AS 38.05.058, five percent of the purchase price after deduction of the discount. If the land is designated for homestead entry, the applicant selected by lottery for homestead entry must file an application under AS 38.09.030(a).

* Sec. 9. AS 38.05.077(a) is amended to read:

(a) The commissioner shall designate remote parcel selection areas and shall dispose of remote parcels in accordance with AS 38.04.020. The commissioner may set the number of remote parcels that may be selected in each remote parcel selection area. A remote parcel may be purchased under AS 38.05.078 or an applicant may receive a patent to a remote parcel under AS 38.09. A remote parcel purchased under AS 38.05.078 may not exceed 40 acres. A remote parcel acquired under AS 38 may not exceed 160 acres.

* Sec. 10. AS 38.05.077(b) is amended to read:

(b) The commissioner may designate remote parcel selection areas where staking will be restricted to aliquot parts when parcels are 40 acres or larger and shall prescribe parcel selection procedures for each remote parcel selection area designated under (a) of this section. The parcel selection procedures shall include

(1) the maximum size of a remote parcel that may be selected in the parcel selection area;

(2) (repealed)

(3) the minimum distance between remote parcels in the parcel selection area;

(4) parcel dimensions, configuration, orientation and other parcel design requirements;

(5) a description of land within the area that may not be included in a parcel;

(6) a requirement that landmarks, monuments or other points be used as points of reference for the measurement of distances within an area; and

(7) specification for the type of stakes to use to mark the corners of a parcel.

* Sec. 11. AS 38.05.077(d) is amended to read:

(d) Not later than 15 days after staking the exterior boundaries of a remote parcel, the person who staked the parcel shall file a sketch plat with the department which shows the location of the remote parcel. At the time of filing the sketch plat, the person who staked the parcel shall apply to lease the land or apply for homestead entry under AS 38.09. Application [TO LEASE THE LAND] shall be on a standard form prepared by the department. The annual rental payment for the first year of the lease shall be submitted to the department with the application. After the application to lease a remote parcel is approved, the commissioner shall offer to lease the land to the person who staked the remote parcel. A lease granted under this section shall contain the following terms:

(1) a remote parcel may be leased for five years;

(2) a remote parcel lease may be renewed at the option of the

lessee for a second five-year period under the same terms as provided for the first five-year period of the remote parcel lease;

(7) a rental payment shall be paid annually and shall be \$10 for each acre;

(4) unless the land is surveyed, the lessee shall, within one year of approval of the lease application and continuously for the lease period, physically delineate the boundaries of the parcel by brushing a line so that they are readily visible from the ground.

* Sec. 12. AS 35.077(1)(3) is amended to read:

(3) certify that he has not previously leased a remote parcel from the state nor made application for a homestead entry on state land within eight years immediately preceding the date of staking a remote parcel.

* Sec. 13. AS 03.10.030 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(g) A person who has received state land under AS 38.09 is not eligible for a loan under this chapter for improvements to that land before patent to the land has been received.

* Sec. 14. AS 38.05.180 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(aa) In order to achieve the purposes of (a) of this section, to conduct the pre-sale analysis required by (f) of this section, and to assist the Department in knowledgeably managing the leasing, exploration, and development of oil and gas resources underlying state land, the commissioner may require persons conducting geophysical exploration for oil or gas resources or drilling a stratigraphic test well on unleased state land to provide him with access to and copies of all uninterpreted exploration data acquired from these activities. The commissioner shall pay all reasonable costs of reproducing the data. The commissioner shall keep all exploration data submitted to the department

under this subsection confidential in accordance with AS 38.05.035(a)(9)(C). All employees of the department who have access to exploration data submitted under this subsection are subject to AS 11.56.860. All agents or contractors of the department who have access to exploration data submitted under this subsection shall execute and post a bond in an amount to be determined by the commissioner. The bond shall be to the benefit of the State and the permittee.

*Sec. 15. AS 38.05.180(aa) added by sec. 14 of this Act applies only to uninterpreted data acquired after the effective date of sec. 14 of this Act.

*Sec. 16. Sections 6 - 13 of this Act take effect July 1, 1982.

*Sec. 17. Sections 1 - 5 and sections 14 and 15 take effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.10.070(c).

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COMMITTEE REPORT

HOUSE

4/1/82

FURTHER:

(7)

Date: April 13, 1982

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on RESOURCES has had SB 877

"An Act relating to the staff of the Citizens' Advisory Commission on Federal Areas in Alaska; eff date."

under consideration and (a majority of the committee) (the committee) reports it back with the following recommendations:

- do pass do not pass
- do pass with attached amendments(s) same title
- replace with CS for _____ new title
- and recommends _____
- AND attaches a "Letter of Intent" New Fiscal Note
- reports it back without recommendation
- referred to the _____ Committee

**MEMBERS SIGNING
DO PASS**

V. Fanning
R. Barnes
D. ...
Rich Hatch
Eric G. Sutchiffe

**MEMBERS HAVING
OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:**

V. Fanning
 CHAIRMAN

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

- SB 877 "An Act relating to the staff of the Citizens' Advisory Commission on Federal Areas in Alaska; and providing for an effective date."
- Sec. 1 Deletes the language that the staff is responsible to the Commission and places the employees in the exempt service, serving at the pleasure of the Commission and receiving compensation set by the Commission.
- Sec. 2 Adds the employees of the Commission to the list of those in the exempt service.
- Sec. 3 Repeals Sec. 2 above. (See Sec. 5)
- Sec. 4 Immediate effective date for Sections 1 and 2.
- Sec. 5 The effective date of Section 3 is June 30, 1988. NOTE: The is repealed effectively June 30, 1988.

Editor's notes. — As enacted, this section contained a subsection (b) which was redesignated as AS 41.37.065 by the revisor of statutes under AS 01.05.031.

Sec. 41.37.065. Expenses and per diem [Repealed effective June 30, 1988]. A member of the commission is entitled to travel expenses and per diem prescribed for state boards and commissions. (AS 41.37.060(b); § 1 ch 81 SLA 1981)

Editor's notes. — This section was originally enacted as AS 41.37.060(b) and was transferred by the revisor of statutes under AS 01.05.031.

✓ **Sec. 41.37.070. Staff of the commission [Repealed effective June 30, 1988].** The commission may employ staff and contract for services relating to matters within its authority. Staff employed under this section are responsible to the commission. (§ 1 ch 81 SLA 1981)

Sec. 41.37.080. Duties of the commission [Repealed effective June 30, 1988]. (a) The commissioner shall consider, research, and hold hearings on the consistency with federal law and congressional intent on management, operation, planning, development, and additions to federal management areas in the state.

(b) The commission shall consider, research, and hold hearings on the impact of federal regulations and federal management decisions on the people of the state.

(c) The commission may, after consideration of the public policy concerns under (a) and (b) of this section, make a recommendation on the concerns identified under (a) and (b) of this section to an agency of the state or to the agency of the United States which manages federal land in the state.

(d) The commission shall consider the views, research, and reports of advisory groups established by it under AS 41.37.090 as well as the views, research, and reports of individuals and other groups in the state.

(e) The commission shall establish internal procedures for the management of the responsibilities granted to it under AS 41.37.010 — 41.37.150.

(f) The commission shall report annually to the governor and the legislature within the first 10 days of a regular legislative session.

(g) The commission shall cooperate with each department or agency of the state or with a state board or commission in the fulfillment of their duties. (§ 1 ch 81 SLA 1981)

Sec. 41.37.090. Advisory groups of the commission [Repealed effective June 30, 1988]. (a) The commission may establish advisory groups in the state.

(b) The commission shall invite nominations for the membership on the advisory groups and shall consider the nominations in making its appointments to the groups.

Effect of amendments. — The 1981 retroactive to January 1, 1981, added sub-amendment, effective July 12, 1981 and section (b).

Sec. 39.20.340. Leave of absence for reserve or auxiliary members of armed forces. (a) An employee of the state, or a political subdivision, with the approval of the city council or borough assembly, who is a member of a reserve or auxiliary component of the United States Armed Forces is entitled to a leave of absence without loss of pay, time or efficiency rating on all days during which he or she is ordered to training duty, as distinguished from active duty, with troops or at field exercises, or for instruction, or when under direct military control in the performance of a search and rescue mission. The leave of absence may not exceed 16½ working days in any 12-month period.

(b) If an employee is called to active duty by the governor, an employee otherwise qualified in (a) of this section is entitled to five days leave of absence without loss of pay, time, or efficiency rating. (§ 1 ch 20 SLA 1951; am § 1 ch 154 SLA 1970; am § 4 ch 151 SLA 1972; am § 1 ch 49 SLA 1976)

Editor's notes. — This section was set out to correct an omission in the main pamphlet.

Chapter 25. State Personnel Act.

Article

2. Coverage of Personnel (§§ 39.25.110, 39.25.120)

Article 2. Coverage of Personnel.

Section

110. Exempt service
120. Partially exempt service

Sec. 39.25.110. Exempt service. The following positions in the state service constitute the exempt service and are exempt from the provisions of this chapter and the rules adopted under it:

- (1) persons elected to public office by popular vote or appointed to fill vacancies in elected offices;
- (2) justices of the supreme court, judges of the superior court, judges and magistrates of other state courts established by law;
- (3) the administrative director and all other employees of the state court system, and employees and members of the Judicial Council;
- (4) the chief administrative officer of each house of the legislature;
- (5) all employees of the state legislature and its agencies;
- (6) the head of each principal department in the executive branch;
- (7) officers, members of the teaching staff, and employees of the University of Alaska;

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Alaska State Legislature

SENATE Resources Committee

POUCH V
STATE CAPITOL
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
(907) 465-3834
(907) 465-3835

Official Business

BETTYE FAHRENKAMP, Chairman
VIC FISCHER, Vice-Chairman
BRAD BRADLEY
DICK ELIASON
DON GILMAN
BOB MULCAHY
ARLISS STURGULEWSKI

MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator Fahrenkamp
Senator Fischer
Senator Bradley
Senator Mulcahy
Senator Sturgulewski

March 29, 1982
1:35 p.m.

Beltz Room
211 - Capitol

Hearing:

SB 877 Relating to the staff of the Citizens' Advisory Commission on Federal areas in Alaska and providing for an effective date.
SB 834 Continuing the existence of the Guide Licensing and Control Board.
SB 840 Making a special appropriation for payment as a grant to the City of Cordova for a feasibility study of the Bering River coal field port and transportation system.

SB 877

Senator Fahrenkamp stated that SB 877 was necessary to assure that staff employees of the Citizens' Advisory Commission are exempt from the State service.

Senator Mulcahy moved SB 877 with individual recommendations.

SB 834

Mark Jensen, Chairman, State Guide Board, stated that the Board, consisting of three guides and four public members, was established in 1973. Jensen endorses SB 834, and although he endorses the idea of a review of Board action every few years, he feels that the sunset provision is not in the best interest of the State or the Board, as it creates "unnecessary upheaval."

Senator Sturgulewski referred to the audit report, and its recommendation that several changes be made in the Board's operation.

Jensen feels the Board has covered the major recommendations made in the audit.

Harry Traeger, Director, Division of Occupational Licensing, Department of Commerce and Economic Development, stated that the Code Revision Commission has Title 8 under consideration, and that the Administration will insist changes be made to satisfy the shortcomings outlined in the audit.

Senator Mulcahy moved SB 834 with individual recommendations.

SB 840

Edgar Blatchford, Chairman of the Board, Chugach Natives, Inc., spoke in support of SB 840, stating that the coal in the Bering River area is of high quality, and that the amount of money already invested by Chugach Natives is proof of their commitment to the project. They are requesting a one-time appropriation to study alternative sites for the port, the transportation system, and the financial and economic aspects of the project.

Carl Propes, Director of Lands and Natural Resources, Chugach Natives, Inc., stated that this appropriation is a proper role for the State, as a transportation system would cross State lands, and the port may be sited on State lands. Lack of State funding will probably delay the project at least a year. Carl emphasized that any State appropriation would not be interpreted as a commitment for further funding. He also stated that any funds appropriated will go to the City of Cordova, and the studies will be put out for competitive bid.

Senator Fischer expressed concern over how the State could recoup its investment, and brought up the issue of a severance tax.

Phil Holdsworth, COAL, expressed support for SB 840, stating that the Bering River coal field has real potential. He emphasized that coal is a marginal industry in Alaska, and that imposing a severance tax on the gross product may be enough to kill the industry. Coal operators would instead favor a tax based on net income. Holdsworth explained that Bering River had not been developed sooner, because it is a geologically complex area, unlike other coal deposits in Alaska which have thick beds and are strippable. The Bering River coal is of a much higher quality, and has a market in Korea.

Senator Mulcahy moved SB 840 with individual recommendations.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

FISCAL NOTE

I. REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No. SB 877

Title The staff of the Citizen's Advisory Council on Federal Areas in
 Requested by Resources Committee Date 3/26/82 Alaska.

II. FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected Natural Resources

Program Category Affected Management & Administration

FRU, Program, Or Subprogram(s) Affected Management & Administration

(Note: If more than one budget component is affected, separate line-item amounts and funding for each component in the analysis section.)

EXPENDITURES (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 COMMODITIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS, ETC.						
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

FUNDING (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER (Specify Source)						
	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

POSITIONS

FULL TIME						
PART TIME						
TEMPORARY						
	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

III. ANALYSIS (See Fiscal Note Preparation Instruction, Section III)

There is no fiscal impact connected with this bill.

IV. DATE 3/31/82

PREPARED BY Thomas L. Fenstra

AGENCY Natural Resources

PHONE 465-2400

Original: Legislative Finance
 cc: Budget and Management

Prime Sponsor (First Legislator Named)

33-001 (Rev. 12/81)

SCR

12

16 March 1981
Sitka, AK

The Honorable Fred Zharoff
Co-Chairman, House Resources Committee
Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Rep. Zharoff,

I respectfully request your support of SCR No. 12
authored by Sen. Eliason, and would appreciate
any efforts toward expediting its passage at
the earliest possible opportunity. As a
concerned handtroller, and lifetime Alaskan,
I feel passage of SCR No. 12 will do much
towards alleviating a constantly changing,
very confusing, and I feel, a very
discriminatory situation.

Sincerely,
Harry Johnson
P.O. Box 932
Sitka, AK 99835



March 12, 1951

Representative Zharoff
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Representative Zharoff,

I would appreciate your special consideration and support on Senator Eliason's Senate concurrent resolution No. 13. I have been involved in handtrawling for several years and have tried to help the Board of Fisheries by testifying at their hearings, trying to help line out the handtrawl issue.

The Board of Fisheries keep adding on restrictions rather than enforcing the restrictions already imposed. The handtrawl issue needs to be resolved sensibly so we can turn our attention to preserving our stocks.

I and all handtrawlers in general would appreciate any help that you can give us regarding this resolution.

If I can be of any assistance to you, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth C Proctor

Box 545
Wrangell, Ak. 99929
March 6, 1981

Representative Zharoff:

I would greatly appreciate your support of resolution SCR 12 by Senator Elias. To many handtrollers like myself, it is of utmost importance that the Alaska Board of Fisheries reconsider its most recent gear limitations for hand trollers.

Sincerely,

Dean Jagers

Box 165
Wrangell, Ak. 99929
March 6, 1981

Representative Zharoff:

I would greatly appreciate your support of resolution SCR 12 by Senator Eliason. To many handtrollers like myself, it is of utmost importance that the Alaska Board of Fisheries reconsider its most recent gear limitations for hand trollers.

Sincerely,

Gene Ferris

Box 607
Wrangell, Ak. 99929
March 6, 1981

Representative Zharoff:

I would greatly appreciate your support of resolution SCR 12 by Senator Eliason. To many handtrollers like myself, it is of utmost importance that the Alaska Board of Fisheries reconsider its most recent gear limitations for hand trollers.

Sincerely,

Robert Schilke

Box 441
Wrangell, Ak. 99929
March 6, 1981

Representative Zharoff:

I would greatly appreciate your support of resolution SCR 12 by Senator Eliason. To many handtrollers like myself, it is of utmost importance that the Alaska Board of Fisheries reconsider its most recent gear limitations for hand trollers.

Sincerely,

Harry Hobbs

Box 606
Wrangell, Ak. 99929
March 6, 1981

Representative Zharoff:

I would greatly appreciate your support of resolution SCR 12 by Senator Eliason. To many handtrollers like myself, it is of utmost importance that the Alaska Board of Fisheries reconsider its most recent gear limitations for hand trollers.

Sincerely,

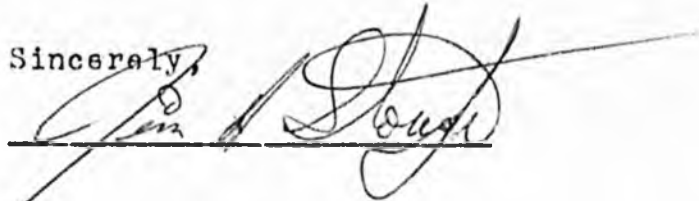
Randy Churchill

Box 1342
Wrangell, Ak. 99929
March 6, 1981

Representative Zharoff:

I would greatly appreciate your support of resolution SCR 12 by Senator Eliason. To many handtrollers like myself, it is of utmost importance that the Alaska Board of Fisheries reconsider its most recent gear limitations for hand trollers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "P. J. Douglas", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and somewhat stylized, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Box 912
Wrangell, Ak. 99929
March 6, 1981

Representative Zharoff:

I would greatly appreciate your support of resolution SCR 12 by Senator Eliason. To many handtrollers like myself, it is of utmost importance that the Alaska Board of Fisheries reconsider its most recent gear limitations for hand trollers.

Sincerely,

Bob Maritz

Box 912
Wrangell, Ak. 99929
March 3, 1981

Alaska Board of Fisheries:

I oppose the one hand gurdy ruling for the following reasons:

1. The combination of a hand gurdy and a sport pole is a poor one. To make the commercial gear work properly one has to troll faster than sport gear should be trolled, so if the gurdy gear is fished effectively the sport pole won't be and vice-versa.
2. Concerning the 20-80 split for power and hand trollers, Fish and Game statistics show handtrollers have averaged about 13% of the king salmon catch for 1975 through 1979. Although handtrollers have averaged about 20% of the cohos for the same time period, we have not historically caught 20% of the king salmon. Also, Fish and Game statistics show handtrollers catch a large number of humpies in comparison to power trollers. The reason for this is because most power trollers will avoid catching humpies if there is any possibility of catching coho or kings. In a bumper year of pinks like 1977 for example, when power trollers do concentrate on catching humpies, handtrollers don't even come close to getting 20% of the humpies. Therefore, the handtroller is not getting his share of king salmon and statistics on the humpy catch are misleading.
3. The one gurdy ruling is being instituted without seeing what the limiting of the hand troll fleet will accomplish. Also, when the Commission of Limited Entry first presented its case on limiting the hand troll fleet, nothing was said about further gear limitations. Handtrollers had already been cut from four gurdies to two, and most handtrollers had no idea further gear restrictions would be imposed. If handtrollers had known their number was going to be cut in half, plus more drastic gear limitations, there would have been vehement resistance to being limited at all.
4. The one gurdy ruling will cause undue hardship in small rural communities. Although few people make their living handtrolling, many in rural areas supplement a good portion of their income by handtrolling.
5. Enforcement of the one gurdy ruling will be difficult. In many cases handtrollers will be civilly disobedient, and it will cause many now honest handtrollers to become dishonest.

In lieu of the one hand gurdy ruling to protect king and coho stocks, I suggest the following: Cut the foreign catch of kings and coho. In 1980 the Japanese alone gillnetted 750,000 king salmon. Who knows how many kings and coho are caught by foreign trawlers. Second, cut the coho catch of seiners. They get the lion's share of sockeye, chums, and humpy and could survive nicely without coho.

Signed,
Ron Merritt
Ron Merritt

SCR

17

THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWELFTH LEGISLATURE

FISCAL NOTE

I. REQUEST
 Bill/Resolution No. SSSCR 17
 Title Relating to the development of a wood products industry in the State.
 Requested by _____ Date 4/24/81

II. FISCAL DETAIL
 Agency Affected Department of Natural Resources
 Program Category Affected Land and Water Management
 Budget Request Unit(s) Affected Timber Inventory/Sales

EXPENDITURES (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 80	FY 81	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85
100 PERSONAL SERVICES			35.0	37.5	40.0	43.0
200 TRAVEL			3.0	3.2	3.2	3.5
300 CONTRACTUAL			2.0	2.1	2.1	2.5
400 COMMODITIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS, ETC.						
TOTAL			40.0	42.8	45.3	49.0

FUNDING (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 80	FY 81	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85
GENERAL FUND			40.0	42.8	45.3	49.0
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER (Specify)						

POSITIONS

	FY 80	FY 81	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85
FULL TIME						
PART TIME						
TEMPORARY						

III. ANALYSIS (See Fiscal Note Preparation Instructions, Section III)

There will be a need for one full-time Research Analyst II to gather data, information and statistics on wood fiber utilization methods and make it available to the Commissioner and Director for their discussions with industry. Proposals for utilization will be analyzed and if they seem feasible, methods of coordinating the disposals with the proposals will be developed. Actions taken during the year will be prepared into report form for inclusion with report called for under AS 41.17.070(b).

Salary - 27,492	Travel - 3,000
Benefits - 7,944	Contractual - 2,000
Total P.S. 35,436	

IV. DATE 4/24/81 PREPARED BY *George A. Holloway*
 AGENCY Division of Forest, Land & Water Management
 PHONE 279-5577
 Original: Legislative Finance
 cc: Budget and Management
 Prime Sponsor (First Legislator Named)

SCR

31

COMMITTEE REPORT

HOUSE

6/17/81

97)

FURTHER:

Date: March 1 1982

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on RESOURCES has had CSSCR 31 (Res)

under consideration and (a majority of the committee) (the committee) reports it back with the following recommendations:

- do pass do not pass
- do pass with attached amendments(s)
- replace with CS for CSSCR 31 (Resources) same title
 new title
- and recommends _____
- AND attaches a "Letter of Intent" New Fiscal Note
- reports it back without recommendation
- referred to the _____ Committee

MEMBERS SIGNING
DO PASS

E. Sutcliffe

MEMBERS HAVING
OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

James Keate No Rec
Phil Thigpen No Rec

E. Sutcliffe
 CHAIRMAN

1981 SOUTHEAST ALASKA - YAKUTAT TROLL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PLAN

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Southeast Region

This plan provides an overview of the approach that will be employed to manage the 1981 Southeast Alaska troll commercial salmon fishery. The plan is based upon the best available pre-season information. The management approach may need to be refined during the coming season as in-season information becomes available, however, the current plan should prove valuable for planning by fishermen and industry.

A summary of new and other important fishing regulations for the 1981 troll season are provided. Information describing the troll management system, the salmon resources involved, and the rationale for important regulatory changes are included and should prove of interest to all fishermen.

Management System

The Alaska ocean salmon troll fishery occurs in waters under both State and Federal jurisdictions, east of the longitude of Cape Suckling. Salmon trolling is permitted only in State waters of the Yakutat and Southeastern commercial fishing areas, which extends from Dixon Entrance in the south to Cape Suckling in the north. The Federal jurisdiction encompasses all waters of the 3-200 mile Fisheries Conservation Zone (FCZ) adjoining the Yakutat and Southeastern areas. All other waters of Alaska, including the FCZ, west of Cape Suckling are closed to commercial salmon trolling.

The same stocks of salmon are often harvested in both State and Federal waters. Often times an individual troller will fish in both areas on the same day. A cooperative approach is essential for good management of the Alaskan troll fishery.

The Alaska Board of Fisheries promulgates State fishing regulations while the Secretary of Commerce is the Federal counterpart for regulating fishing activities in the FCZ. The Board of Fisheries and the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council meet jointly to insure that compatible management is employed.

Management of the troll fishery, like other Alaskan commercial fisheries, is based upon policies and regulations promulgated by the Board of Fisheries. The authority to issue in-season emergency orders, to adjust fishing season and areas, is delegated through the Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to Department fisheries management biologists. This provides the necessary flexibility to regulate the troll fishery in-season in response to resource availability. A similar approach exists in the federal management system as the National Marine Fisheries Service has the authority to institute in-season regulatory changes.

taining current production levels will require new management and regulatory approaches.

Chinook Salmon Management

Current Southeast Alaska chinook salmon escapements are below minimum desired levels. Spawning escapement improvements have not been adequate in spite of significant restrictions imposed in the terminal area troll and net fisheries since the mid 1970's. There are currently no directed gillnet or seine fisheries on chinook salmon in Southeast Alaska. Sport fisheries throughout Southeast Alaska harvest approximately 15,000 to 17,000 chinook salmon each year; however, sport fisheries management will not be addressed in this plan.

Spring Trolling Closure

The major management approach for rebuilding Alaskan chinook stocks will be to reduce the harvest of the mature spawning run fish during the spring and early summer fishing period. The specific regulation is to close the Alaskan troll fishery from April 15 through May 14.

This closure corresponds to the time period when the majority of chinook spawners of Alaskan origin would be available to the troll fishery. It should allow increased numbers of spawners to move into the spawning streams or enter inside terminal areas where current fishing regulations provide a high degree of protection.

Guideline Harvest Level

To prevent increased fishing pressure on immature Alaskan stocks and stocks of non-Alaskan origin, as a result of the reduced fishing time early in the season, the seasonal chinook salmon harvest ceiling will be 285,000 fish. The harvest level reduction will provide for additional Alaskan chinook salmon escapement in future years to the extent that immature salmon are not harvested. During the 1980 season the harvest ceiling (i.e., optimum yield or OY) was expressed as a range from 286,000 to 320,000 fish.

Winter Chinook Salmon Fishery

A distinct fishing season has been established for the traditional winter king salmon fishery. The winter fishing season is from October 1 through April 14. To maintain the winter fishery the seasonal calculation for the allowable chinook salmon catch has been specified to commence at the start of the winter season (on October 1), and end at the end of the summer season (September 20) of the following year.

- (3) During the first three or four weeks following the beginning of the summer fishery on May 15, the troll fishery chinook harvest will be monitored to develop an estimate of the weekly catch rate.
- (4) Using the estimated weekly catch rate and adjusting for an expected chinook harvest reduction during the anticipated 10-day mid-season coho closure, an estimate will be made of the summer season chinook harvest expected by approximately September 10 assuming no further closures (see Figure 1 for a graphical presentation of this management strategy). If the summer troll harvest projected in this manner, combined with the winter season troll harvest and the expected net fishery incidental harvest exceeds the OY ceiling, then an appropriate mid to late June closure will be developed. (Depending on the winter troll harvest, mid-May to mid-June harvest rates and actual calendar dates, the closure might occur as late as the first week in July.)

A September 10 target date for projecting total seasonal catches, as opposed to the September 20 summer season closure date, is being employed to allow for a final season adjustment, if needed, based on actual July and August chinook salmon harvest rates.

Coho Salmon Management

One of the major problems confronting the effective management of the coho fishery is the recent shift of fishing effort from the inside districts to the outer coastal fishing grounds. This has increased the mixed stock nature of the coho fishery. Management problems have resulted because a major portion of the coho catch is occurring in the coastal and outer coastal fishing areas prior to the time that the coho return enters the inside fishing districts where run strength can be assessed. The shift of fishing effort has also changed the historical allocation balance of coho salmon between user groups.

Inside/Outside Coho Harvest Objective

The Board of Fisheries adopted as part of the "Southeast-Alaska-Yakutat Chinook and Coho Salmon Troll Fisheries Management Plan" the objective of returning inside district coho salmon troll catches to pre-1978 levels by 1984.

Ten Day Troll Closure

In order to curtail fishing pressure on coho salmon early in the season, before the actual run strength can be determined, and to allow more coho salmon to move further along their migration routes and to inside waters, a ten day closure of commercial trolling can be expected in late July or early August.

CORRECTION

CORRECTION

1981 SOUTHEAST ALASKA - YAKUTAT TROLL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PLAN

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Southeast Region

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The same stocks of salmon are often harvested in both State and Federal waters. Often times an individual troller will fish in both areas on the same day. A cooperative approach is essential for good management of the Alaskan troll fishery.

The Alaska Board of Fisheries promulgates State fishing regulations while the Secretary of Commerce is the Federal counterpart for regulating fishing activities in the FCZ. The Board of Fisheries and the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council meet jointly to insure that compatible management is employed.

Management of the troll fishery, like other Alaskan commercial fisheries, is based upon policies and regulations promulgated by the Board of Fisheries. The authority to issue in-season emergency orders, to adjust fishing season and areas, is delegated through the Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to Department fisheries management biologists. This provides the necessary flexibility to regulate the troll fishery in-season in response to resource availability. A similar approach exists in the federal management system as the National Marine Fisheries Service has the authority to institute in-season regulatory changes.

The complicated and widespread nature of the troll fishery necessitates a closely coordinated management program. State management of the troll fishery is accomplished through a management team approach led by the Southeast Regional Finfish Coordinator; and, including a Regional Troll Biologist, five Area Management Biologists, and a Regional Biometrician. The names and locations of people to contact concerning Alaskan troll fishery management are shown at the end of the management plan.

Salmon Stocks

The troll fishery harvest primarily chinook and coho salmon stocks. Other species of salmon harvested by trollers are normally considered incidental to the taking of the primary target species and will not be addressed in this plan. The troll fishery normally accounts for over 90% of the chinook salmon and 50-75% of the coho salmon taken in the Southeast Alaska commercial fisheries.

Native chinook and coho salmon stocks occur throughout Southeast Alaska. Chinook salmon stocks spawn primarily in the large mainland rivers and their tributaries, the most important of which are the Alsek, Taku, Stikine, Unuk, and Chickamin rivers. Some 28 other river systems in Southeast Alaska are known to produce runs of chinook salmon. Southeast Alaska chinook salmon stocks are all "spring type" in that they enter the spawning streams during the spring and early summer months. Current information indicates that a majority of the chinook salmon harvested in the Alaska troll fishery are produced from spawning streams in Canada and the Pacific Northwest. Results of recent coded wire tagging experiments have identified among others, the upper Columbia River "brite" stock as a major contributor to the Alaskan troll fishery. Several age classes of mature spawners and immature chinook salmon are harvested by trollers during any one fishing season.

By contrast, coho salmon populations occur in most of the 2,000 plus streams in Southeast Alaska which host anadromous fish, and spawn during the fall and early winter months. Most of coho salmon harvested by trollers are of Alaskan origin, are of a single age class, and are caught in the year of spawning.

Resource Problems

Southeast Alaska chinook and coho salmon stocks are depressed from historical production levels. Chinook salmon stocks are, additionally, depressed coastwide. Annual commercial catches in recent years by all Southeast Alaska gear types have often exceeded 300,000 chinook and 1,000,000 coho salmon. These harvests, though substantial, are considerably lower than levels produced between 1930 and 1950.

Until quite recently only minor regulatory restrictions have been imposed in the Alaska troll fishery. However, the fishing power of the troll fleet has increased greatly in recent years, relative to the available salmon and a more restrictive regulations have become necessary. The rebuilding of chinook and coho salmon stocks or even main-

taining current production levels will require new management and regulatory approaches.

Chinook Salmon Management

Current Southeast Alaska chinook salmon escapements are below minimum desired levels. Spawning escapement improvements have not been adequate in spite of significant restrictions imposed in the terminal area troll and net fisheries since the mid 1970's. There are currently no directed gillnet or seine fisheries on chinook salmon in Southeast Alaska. Sport fisheries throughout Southeast Alaska harvest approximately 15,000 to 17,000 chinook salmon each year; however, sport fisheries management will not be addressed in this plan.

Spring Trolling Closure

The major management approach for rebuilding Alaskan chinook stocks will be to reduce the harvest of the mature spawning run fish during the spring and early summer fishing period. The specific regulation is to close the Alaskan troll fishery from April 15 through May 14.

This closure corresponds to the time period when the majority of chinook spawners of Alaskan origin would be available to the troll fishery. It should allow increased numbers of spawners to move into the spawning streams or enter inside terminal areas where current fishing regulations provide a high degree of protection.

Guideline Harvest Level

To prevent increased fishing pressure on immature Alaskan stocks and stocks of non-Alaskan origin, as a result of the reduced fishing time early in the season, the seasonal chinook salmon harvest ceiling will be 285,000 fish. The harvest level reduction will provide for additional Alaskan chinook salmon escapement in future years to the extent that immature salmon are not harvested. During the 1980 season the harvest ceiling (i.e., optimum yield or OY) was expressed as a range from 286,000 to 320,000 fish.

Winter Chinook Salmon Fishery

A distinct fishing season has been established for the traditional winter king salmon fishery. The winter fishing season is from October 1 through April 14. To maintain the winter fishery the seasonal calculation for the allowable chinook salmon catch has been specified to commence at the start of the winter season (on October 1), and end at the end of the summer season (September 20) of the following year.

In-Season Management of Chinook Salmon Fishery

The 1981 troll fishery will be managed in-season to insure that the catch of chinook salmon does not exceed the established guideline harvest level of 285,000 fish. The harvest level applies to the chinook salmon catch by all commercial gear types. The harvest calculation will also include all chinook salmon harvested since the beginning of the winter season on October 1, 1980. Thus, when the summer season opens, on May 15, a portion of the allowable catch would have already been harvested.

The Southeast Alaska troll fishery targets almost exclusively on chinook salmon from October through June, and on both coho and chinook salmon during July, August, and September. The relative degree to which vessels target on coho or chinook from July through September depends on the relative abundance and price of the two species, factors which vary within a season and from year to year.

In managing the troll fishery to keep the total Southeast Alaska commercial chinook salmon harvest from exceeding the OY harvest ceiling, it is desirable insofar as possible to avoid chinook salmon only closures during July and August when the major coho salmon harvest occurs. A chinook salmon only closure during July and August would result in undesirable hook and release mortalities on both mature and immature chinook salmon, hooked incidentally by the fleet while targeting on coho salmon.

Late June is considered an ideal time period to implement any needed major troll fishery restriction to maintain the seasonal harvest of chinook salmon at the desired guideline harvest level. This is because of the relatively low abundance and smaller size of coho salmon during late June and the capability of the troll fleet to fully harvest the available salmon beginning in early July.

To determine the need for a June troll fishery closure and the required length of any closure, the following procedures will be used consistent with the afore mentioned considerations.

- (1) The chinook salmon harvest taken during the winter troll fishery from October 1 of the previous year through April 14 of the current year will be determined during the April 15 - May 14 closure.
- (2) The winter troll harvest and a projected incidental net fishery harvest will be subtracted from the established OY harvest ceiling to determine the maximum allowable troll harvest during the summer season of May 15 - September 20. An incidental net fishery harvest of 20,000 chinook salmon will be used as a pre-season projection; however, as the net fishery season progresses the number may be raised or lowered depending on the actual incidental catch rates.

- (3) During the first three or four weeks following the beginning of the summer fishery on May 15, the troll fishery chinook harvest will be monitored to develop an estimate of the weekly catch rate.
- (4) Using the estimated weekly catch rate and adjusting for an expected chinook harvest reduction during the anticipated 10-day mid-season coho closure, an estimate will be made of the summer season chinook harvest expected by approximately September 10 assuming no further closures (see Figure 1 for a graphical presentation of this management strategy). If the summer troll harvest projected in this manner, combined with the winter season troll harvest and the expected net fishery incidental harvest exceeds the OY ceiling, then an appropriate mid to late June closure will be developed. (Depending on the winter troll harvest, mid-May to mid-June harvest rates and actual calendar dates, the closure might occur as late as the first week in July.)

A September 10 target date for projecting total seasonal catches, as opposed to the September 20 summer season closure date, is being employed to allow for a final season adjustment, if needed, based on actual July and August chinook salmon harvest rates.

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Inside/Outside Coho Harvest Objective

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Ten Day Troll Closure

In order to curtail fishing pressure on coho salmon early in the season, before the actual run strength can be determined, and to allow more coho salmon to move further along their migration routes and to inside waters, a ten day closure of commercial trolling can be expected in late July or early August.

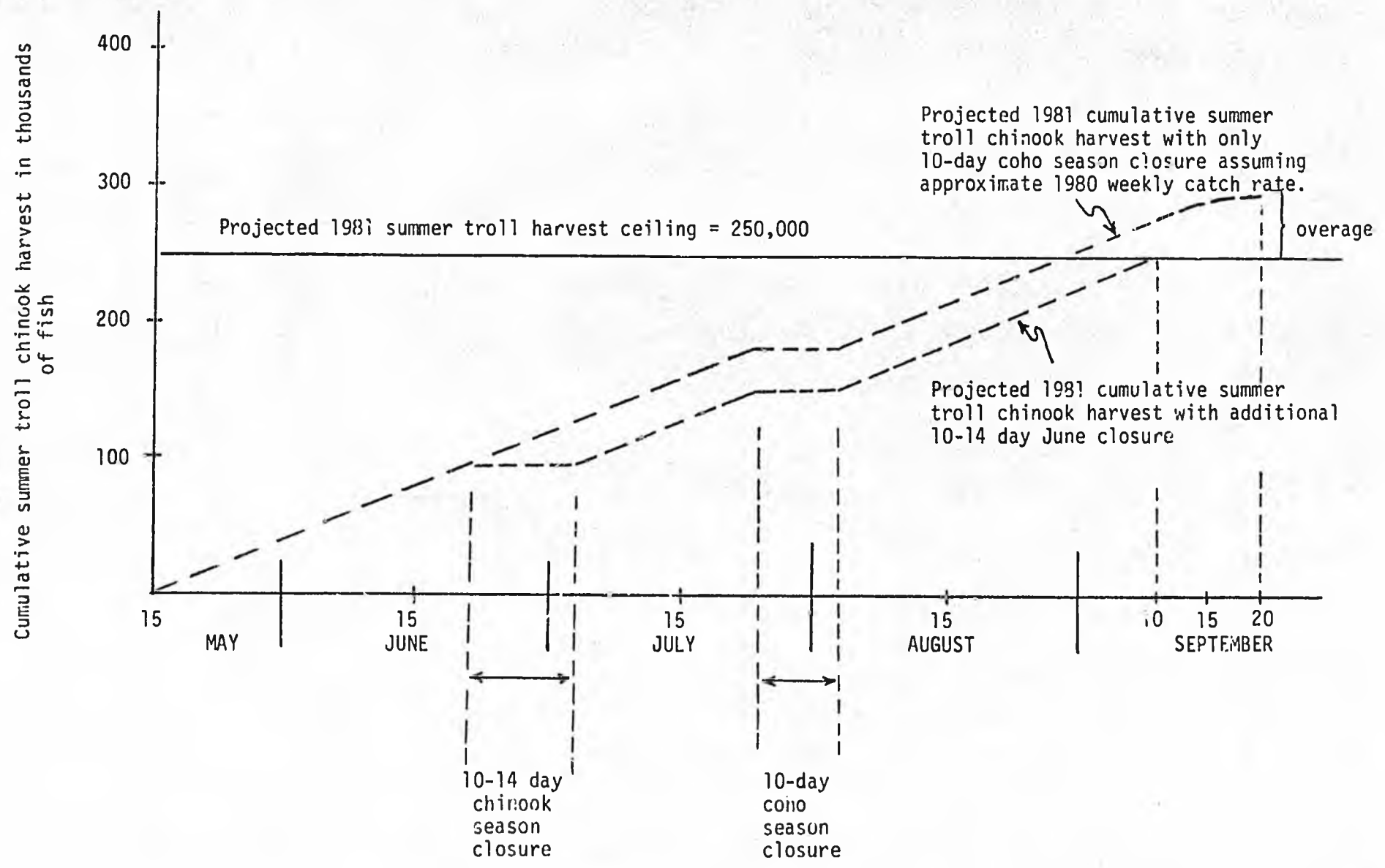


Figure 1. Graphical illustration of procedure for determining duration of June closure of Southeast Alaska troll fishery if needed for management of chinook salmon fishery (ADF&G-4/81).

This closure, as specified by the Board of Fisheries, will take place unless the coho run appears well above average in magnitude and the movement of coho to inshore waters appear to be good. The closure will apply to trolling for all species of salmon. If possible, the timing of the closure will overlap one of the 6 day closed periods specified under the 8 day on 6 day off fishing periods in northern areas.

Hand Troll Fishery

The hand troll fishery has undergone rapid change in recent years. Individual units of hand troll gear have increased in efficiency due to widespread conversion from the use of sport rods to hand gurdies and the development of a "full time" hand troll fleet. Additionally, the number of hand trollers has increased substantially. The combination of these factors has increased the total catching power of the hand troll fleet. This has resulted in an increased percentage of coho and chinook salmon being taken by hand trollers and a corresponding decrease in the proportion being taken by fishermen using other gear types.

The impending hand troll limited entry system will limit the number of hand trollers to 2,150 units of gear, a level which still has the potential fishing power to continue or even exaggerate conservation and allocation problems. The decision to issue a large number of permits was based on maintaining the traditional nature of the hand troll fishery and making it readily accessible to new entrants.

Hand Troll - Power Allocation Policy

Recognizing that the 2,150 maximum permit level would result in an expansion of efficiency in the hand troll fleet, the Board of Fisheries adopted a hand troll-power troll allocation policy in 1979 for 80% power troll and a 20% hand troll ratio for troll caught coho salmon. This policy will remain in effect for the 1981 season.

Hand Troll Management Outlook

To formalize the management of the hand troll fishery, the Board of Fisheries issued a policy statement during the January 1981 meeting, stating that "the hand troll fishery should be managed to preserve its unique historical character and to allow the larger number of people dependent on supplemental returns from hand trolling to continue to participate in the fishery." To achieve this goal while maintaining historical allocation balances between user groups the Board of Fisheries adopted more restrictive hand troll gear regulations. Coupled with the gear restrictions was the removal of time and area restrictions that were specific to handtrollers. The gear regulations (these were changed at a later meeting) specified an aggregate of four fishing rods or an aggregate of one hand troll gurdy and one fishing rod for the 1981 season.

Hand Troll Gear Regulations

The Board of Fisheries reconsidered the 1981 hand troll gear regulations at the spring shellfish meeting. A new management approach was adopted which included a relaxation of hand troll gear regulations that will be effective for the 1981 season. The new management approach specifies a two gurdy or four sport pole hand troll gear limitation and provides that the desired hand troll-power troll coho salmon allocation proportion be maintained by adjusting the hand troll fishing season. No more than one legal limit of hand troll gear (i.e., two troll gurdies or four sport poles) may be onboard any salmon hand troll vessel.

In-season Management of the Hand Troll Fishery

To maintain the desired allocation balance between troll gear types, the Board of Fisheries directed the Commercial Fisheries management staff to adjust hand troll fishing time. To achieve the desired hand troll harvest proportion, troll landing of coho salmon will be monitored closely through the early portions of the coho season. Any needed adjustment in hand troll fishing time will be accomplished by a hand troll fishing closure after mid-August.

To actually determine the duration of a mid-August hand troll closure if needed to achieve the 80:20 coho catch allocation as directed by the Board, the catch allocation through mid-August will be estimated from in-season catch records. (In past years the percentage allocation between hand and power troll gear by mid-August very closely approximated the total season percentage allocation.) Based on the projected percentage allocation through mid-August and the estimated relative proportion of the total troll coho catch which has already occurred, the duration of the hand troll closure will be calculated.

Hand Troll Fishing Areas

Area and time restrictions that were specific for hand troll gear have been removed. This means that hand trollers can fish seven days a week in district 1 for the entire season and in all coastal and offshore fishing areas. The 8 on and 6 off fishing periods will remain in effect in the northern areas, where they apply to both hand and power troll gear.

Summary

This management plan provides an overview of the approach that will be followed to manage the 1981 Alaskan troll salmon fishery. Management of the Alaskan troll fishery has undergone major changes in recent years in response to declining chinook and coho salmon populations. New man-

agement approaches are needed to rebuild chinook and coho salmon to former productive capabilities or to even maintain current production levels.

The major management approach for rebuilding Alaskan chinook salmon stocks will be to close the troll fishery from April 15 through May 14. This closure corresponds to the time period when a majority of chinook spawners of Alaskan origin would be available to the troll fishery. Coupled with the spring spawner closure will be a reduction of the chinook salmon harvest ceiling to 285,000. This compares to a harvest ceiling (i.e., optimum yield or OY) of 286,000 to 320,000 employed for the 1980 season. To achieve the desired harvest level, early season catch levels will be monitored closely and a closure of the troll fishery may be expected in late June to early July if seasonal catch projections indicated that the 285,000 harvest level, by all gear types will be exceeded. The spring spawner closure and the lower seasonal harvest level will also benefit chinook salmon stocks of non-Alaskan origin.

A ten day closure of the troll fishery during the coho season can be expected again during the 1981 season. This closure is designed to curtail fishing pressure on coho salmon early in the season, before the actual run strength can be determined, and to allow more coho salmon to enter the inside waters. The closure will be implemented in late July or early August, unless the coho run appears well above average in magnitude and the movement of coho to inshore waters appears to be good.

A new management approach will be followed for the 1981 hand troll fishery. The hand troll-power troll allocation policy adopted by the Board of Fisheries in 1979 will remain in effect for the 1981 season. The new management approach specifies a two gurdy or four sport pole hand troll gear limitation and provides that the desired hand troll-power troll coho allocation proportion will be maintained by adjusting the hand troll fishing season. To determine the need for any hand troll closure, coho salmon landings will be monitored closely through the early portion of the coho season to project seasonal harvest proportions. Any needed adjustment in hand troll fishing time will be accomplished by a hand troll fishing closure after mid-August.

Coupled with the new hand troll gear regulation was the removal of area and time restrictions that were specific to hand trollers.

This management plan presents only a portion of the troll regulations that will be in effect for the 1981 season. A complete listing of troll regulations is available in the 1981 Finfish Regulation booklet. A special recapitulation of troll regulations entitled "1981 Alaska Commercial Salmon Trolling Regulation Guide" has been developed for the 1981 season and is available at local Fish and Game offices.

Department of Fish and Game Contacts

The following are Commercial Fisheries Division contacts regarding this management plan:

Dave Cantillon Region I Supervisor	230 S. Franklin St. Rm 301 Juneau
Gary Gunstrom Region I Research Supervisor	230 S. Franklin St. Rm 301 Juneau
Paul Larson Region I Finfish Coordinator	230 S. Franklin St. Rm 301 Juneau
Alan Davis Troll Management Biologist	Box 499 Sitka
Mel Seibel Region I Biometrician	230 S. Franklin St. Rm 301 Juneau
Don Ingledue Area Management Biologist	230 S. Franklin St. Rm 301 Juneau
William Bergmann Area Management Biologist	Box 667 Petersburg
Randy Timothy Assistant Area Biologist	Box 200 Wrangell
John Valentine Area Management Biologist	208 State Office Building Ketchikan
Bob DeJong Area Management Biologist	Box 499 Sitka
Ray Staska Area Management Biologist	Box 431 Haines

Proposed amendment to SCR 31

Page 2, line 6. Delete resolve clause, replace with:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that it respectfully requests the Governor to contract with a private research organization of competent expertise to complete an investigation and evaluation of the research methodology and validity of the statistics used in fisheries resource management for the troll fishery in Southeast Alaska and to report those findings to the Legislature at the beginning of the First Session of the Thirteenth Legislature, along with proposals to rectify any shortcomings that are identified.

Justification: An objective analysis of the troll management program would benefit all parties. The Department of Fish and Game personnel have repeatedly stated they do not want the troll fleet and they are going to eliminate it. This is not the role of government and a look at Fish and Game procedures from the outside would be helpful. Also, in Senate Resource hearings with state and federal managers, in May, 1981, the people at Fish and Game were asked if they could prove any of their assumptions. The answer was "no". They were asked if these management plans were required. The answer was "no". Managers say that all data is preliminary for 3 years.

THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWELFTH LEGISLATURE

FISCAL NOTE

I. REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No. House CS For CS For Senate Concurrent Resolution #31 (Resources)
 Title Southeastern Alaska Troll Fishery
 Requested by House Resources Committee Date 3/25/82

II. FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected Department of Fish and Game
 Program Category Affected Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation
 BRU, Program, or Subprogram(s) Affected Div of Commercial Fisheries
 (Note: If more than one budget component is affected, separate line-item amounts and funding for each component in the analysis section.)

EXPENDITURES (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 81	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 COMMODITIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS, ETC.						
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

FUNDING (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER (Specify Fund Source)						

POSITIONS

FULL TIME						
PART TIME						
TEMPORARY						

III. ANALYSIS (See Fiscal Note Preparation Instructions, Section III)

No fiscal impact associated with investigation, and evaluation of, research methodology and validity of statistics.

Any costs associated with action required as a result of the above will be included in proposal to the Legislature.

IV. DATE March 25, 1982 PREPARED BY John T. Stewart
 AGENCY Department of Fish and Game

Original: Legislative Finance Bob Grogan PHONE 465-4120

cc: Budget and Management Ron Lehr
 Prime Sponsor (First Legislator Named) Resource Committee
 Office of the Governor Keith Specking

Original sponsor: Resources Committee

Offered: 6/10/81
Referred: Rules

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 31 (Resources)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to the Southeastern Alaska
6 troll fishery.

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

8 WHEREAS salmon trolling constitutes a major portion of the economic
9 activity of Southeastern Alaska; and

10 WHEREAS the Board of Fisheries determines the time, place, and manner
11 that trollers may take salmon in Alaska waters based on ^{best available} biological data
12 furnished by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game; and

13 WHEREAS the U.S. Secretary of Commerce determines the time, place, and
14 manner that trollers may take salmon in the Fisheries Conservation Zone
15 based on ^{best available} biological data furnished by the Alaska Department of Fish and
16 Game; and

17 WHEREAS the biological data furnished by the Department of Fish and
18 Game should determine the number of fish that may be harvested in any one
19 year without diminishing the number of fish that will be available to
20 harvest in future years; and

21 WHEREAS the Department of Fish and Game ^{may not} ~~does not~~ furnish data on the
22 methods it uses to collect the biological data it furnishes; and

23 WHEREAS complete data regarding salmon returns and salmon runs is not
24 available; there is no ^{single} compendium of what data is available and what is
25 missing; some of the data is interpolated, and these interpolations are not
26 ^{always clearly} identified; and

27 WHEREAS the regulatory measures of the Board of Fisheries are imposed
28 based on incomplete biological data; and

29 WHEREAS the regulatory measures of the Board of Fisheries that are not

1 based on complete data may increase fishing pressure on ^{specific} ~~certains~~ stocks and
2 may be adverse to the conservation of the resource; and

3 WHEREAS the regulatory measures of the Board of Fisheries are imposed
4 without using ^{complete} ~~adequate~~ information regarding, or consideration of, the
5 effects of regulatory measures used in the past;

6 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that it respectfully
7 requests the governor to direct the commissioner of fish and game to conduct
8 a complete investigation, and evaluation of, the research methodology and
9 validity of the statistics used in fisheries resource management for the
10 troll fishery in Southeastern Alaska and to report his findings to the
11 legislature at the beginning of the ^{15th} ~~Second~~ Session of the ^{Thirteenth} ~~Twelfth~~ Legisla-
12 ture, along with a proposal to rectify any shortcomings that are identified.

03-01-82

Original sponsor: Resources Committee

Offered: 6/10/81
Referred: Rules

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE
 2 CS FOR SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 31 (Resources)
 3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
 4 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

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Alaska

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Alaska

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REPORT TO THE BOARD OF FISHERIES

1981 SOUTHEAST ALASKA SALMON TROLL FISHERY

By:

Region I Staff

Southeast Region
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Commercial Fisheries Division
November 1981

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INTRODUCTION

The troll fishery in Southeast Alaska occurs in State and Federal waters from Cape Suckling southeast to Dixon Entrance (figure 1). Target species are primarily chinook and coho salmon although an increasing number of fishermen also target on pink salmon. Catches of chinook for the period 1970-1980 have averaged 301,000. The 1981 chinook catch by the troll fishery was 247,000. Catches of coho for the period 1970-1980 averaged 619,000. The 1981 coho catch was 861,000. Catches of other species by the troll fishery in 1981 included 576,000 pinks, 9,000 chums and 7,600 sockeye. Annual salmon catches by the troll fishery since 1970 are shown in Table 1. Fishing periods and period catches of chinook and coho for the 1981 seasons are shown in Table 2.

Historically trollers fished coastal and inshore waters but in the last 20 years a trend of increased fishing effort in offshore and coastal waters has occurred. Seventy-two percent of the 1981 troll catch of chinook was taken in coastal State and offshore Federal waters with 26% of the catch reportedly taken in offshore Federal waters (FCZ) only.

Troll gear, which annually harvests approximately 95% of the total all-gear chinook catch and 65% of the all-gear coho catch, is separated into two gear types; power and hand troll gear. The Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission currently issues 973 power troll permits and 2,150 hand troll permits. Preliminary estimates of gear actually fished during the 1981 season include approximately 850 power troll and 1,150 hand troll units. Hand troll gear permit holders accounted for approximately 13% of the chinook troll catch and 21% of the coho troll catch in 1981.

In recent years, several changes have occurred in the troll fishery that have affected management decisions and consequently the conduct of the fishery.

First, chinook salmon production from Southeast Alaska river systems has remained depressed as a result of decreased spawning escapements. In spite of severe curtailment of terminal area net fisheries, inside troll fisheries and sport fisheries beginning in the mid-1970's, escapements did not initially increase as increased effort by the troll fishery apparently offset inside and terminal area fishery restrictions. In 1980 and 1981, when more restrictive regulations were also extended to the troll fishery, some improvement in escapements occurred although the improvement was generally limited to two major systems, the Taku and Stikine Rivers. Escapements to many of the non-Alaskan chinook systems contributing to the S.E. Alaska troll fishery are also currently below optimum levels.

Second, coho escapements and production have generally declined although not as severely as chinook.

Third, increases in troll fishing effort have occurred. Increased numbers of participants during the 1970's as well as increased actual fishing power due to vessel and gear improvement produced this overall increase in fishing effort.

Fourth, recent restrictions placed on fishing time, gear and areas have resulted in more intense fishing effort during open periods.

Fifth, fishing restrictions, which were initially applied to terminal and inshore areas for the purpose of increasing escapements, transferred more fishing effort to coastal and offshore areas. As more fishermen became aware of better availability of fish in outer coastal areas, this outward shift of effort increased further. This further compounded mixed stock management problems. Harvests remained high in these areas while catches in inside fisheries and escapements of chinook and coho declined.

1981 Season Summary

Prior to the 1981 troll season, several regulatory changes were adopted by the Alaska Board of Fisheries and the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council. The two regulations that most influenced management strategy of the Department in 1981 were the reduction of the optimum yield or guideline harvest range for chinook and specification of the policy to curtail the outside coho catch to allow more fish to reach corridor and terminal areas.

The commercial chinook harvest guidelines established by the Board and Council for the 1981 season differed in that the range specified by the Board required approximately a 10% reduction over the 1980 range of 286,000 to 320,000 while the range specified by the Council required a 15% reduction. In numbers of fish, the Board's range was 272,000 to

285,000^{1/} and the Council range was 243,000 to 272,000. Since both of these ranges were significantly below recent years' chinook troll catches, but applied to both net and troll gear, the harvest ceilings represented a major step toward rebuilding Alaska's chinook stocks through providing increased escapements.

Winter and summer seasons were established for purposes of maintaining the traditional winter troll fishery and to facilitate enumeration of catches. The winter troll season was established as October 1 through April 14. To provide maximum benefit to depressed Alaskan stocks of chinooks the Board also specified a closure of the troll fishery to occur from April 15 to May 14. The summer season was established as May 15 through September 20.

A major problem complicating effective coho troll fishery management is the magnitude of catch that occurs in outer areas prior to the time the stocks are segregated and run strength can be assessed. A progressively larger segment of the annual catch has been taken in recent years from coastal and offshore areas as the fish migrate from the offshore feeding areas to the terminal areas and spawning streams. This phenomenon has resulted in more restrictive measures imposed on all gears in the terminal areas to insure escapement which has in turn changed the historical allocation balance of coho salmon between user groups as shown

^{1/} A harvest guideline of 272,000 to 288,000 initially considered by the Board at the January 1981 meeting, was shown in the 1981 Regulation booklet. However, the final harvest guideline established by the Board at the March 1981 meeting was 272,000 to 285,000.

in Figure 2 and Table 3. The Board adopted a policy in 1981 to return these inside district troll coho catches to pre-1978 levels by 1984, by specifying a 10-day troll closure to allow more coho to move further along their migration routes and to inside waters.

In-season Management Strategy

The 1981 troll fishery was managed to insure that the chinook salmon catch did not exceed the guideline harvest level established by the Board. The guideline harvest level of 285,000 fish included catches by all commercial gear types. This was the second year that a guideline harvest range was established to limit the total commercial harvest of chinook salmon in Southeast Alaska fisheries.

The Department's management plan included provisions for implementing a closure during the latter part of June, if necessary, to extend the chinook season through the end of August. This was to insure that the guideline harvest level was not achieved prior to mid-August, thereby increasing effort on coho stocks and a higher mortality on chinook hooked and released in the resulting coho only fishery. By June 15 it was apparent that the catch levels to that date were above 3 of the 4 most recent years' catches (Figure 3). This indicated that if recent years' catch patterns occurred throughout the rest of the season the harvest level would have been achieved by late July. The troll fishery was then closed for 9 days, June 26 through July 5.

The higher than normal early season catch level was due to a combination of several factors: (1) unusually good weather which allowed access to prime fishing grounds for all of the 42 days between May 15 and June 25, and (2) increased early season effort in numbers of vessels fishing due to predicted poor returns of chinook in Washington and Oregon and corresponding closures, and the reduction of the guideline harvest level in Alaska.

Following the reopening of the troll fishery on July 5, chinook and coho catches were monitored on a weekly basis. Catch projections based on fish ticket accounting systems and port sampling of deliveries were used to estimate fishery performance for chinook and coho.

A system was devised whereby normal fish ticket accounting and early landing reports from major ports were combined. This system provided weekly fishery performance estimates. These weekly estimates were then compared to the '77-80 fishery performance weekly averages and projections were made on chinook total catch and coho run strength.

By the first week of August it appeared that the chinook harvest was comparable to previous years and catch projections indicated that the chinook catch would probably reach the guideline harvest level by the first week of September. Coho returns to inside areas, as determined from inshore and terminal area catches, were poor and below the 10 year average while coho catches by the troll fishery in outer areas were relatively strong compared to recent years (Figure 4).

The troll fishery was closed again on August 10 for 10 days for the purpose of allowing more coho to reach inside areas. The National Marine Fisheries Service issued a similar regulation for the FCZ, but did not reopen the FCZ to trolling for the remainder of the 1981 season because of projections that the Council OY ceiling of 272,000 chinook would be met and significant mortality due to hook and release of chinook would occur during any coho directed fishery.

During the period from August 20 when the fishery reopened to September 3, catches of chinook and coho were monitored closely because catches appeared to be approaching the harvest ceiling for chinook and several districts continued to exhibit poor coho catches.

Historically, effort levels in numbers of vessels targeting on chinook in coastal waters have produced substantial catches during late August and early September. Numbers of vessels continuing to fish during this time period, in 1981, were greater than normal and the Department projected that the guideline harvest level would be achieved by the first week of September. The troll fishery was closed to the taking of chinook salmon in all areas and certain districts were also closed to trolling entirely for coho conservation on September 4. Districts closed to coho fishing to protect weak coho runs were 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 15 and portions of 9 and 12.

Between September 4 and 10 concerted efforts were made to collect all fish tickets from remote buyers and landing ports to tabulate the chinook catch. By September 10 preliminary figures indicated that the catches of chinook were at the low end of the Board's guideline harvest range of 272,000-285,000. In order to prevent hooking and release mortality of chinook salmon during the ongoing coho fishery, the troll fishery was reopened to the taking of chinook in those areas opened to coho fishing. The fishery remained opened in those areas until the close of the summer season on September 20.

In addition to the foregoing description of actions taken by the Department during the 1981 troll season in Southeast Alaska, the following management measures were also taken.

The waters of District 9 in the near proximity to Little Port Walter and Big Port Walter were not closed on September 4 to allow harvest of coho returns resulting from a surplus of hatchery and lake stocking experiments.

In the Yakutat area, the weekly fishing period for trolling specified in the regulations was extended to seven days for the area between Dangerous River and Sitkagi Bluff in August when it appeared coho returns to the Situk River were near average and catches by troll gear were minimal. Following the opening of the area to 7 day per week fishing by troll gear a period of mild weather and reductions in fishing areas elsewhere in Southeast Alaska resulted in increased effort in the Yakutat area to more than triple from 6 to 20 power troll vessels and 18 hand troll vessels. Coho availability in the area was good and catches by power

troll vessels of 150-200 coho per day were reported. Trolling was returned to the weekly fishing period specified in the regulations on August 31 when the high effort levels and good catches began to affect inriver net fishery management before coho run strengths could be assessed.

Evaluation of In-season Management Strategy

The primary management goals in 1981 for the troll fishery were: (1) Increase chinook escapement and reverse the trend in declining production from systems in Southeast Alaska; (2) provide for a harvest of chinook by all gear types within the range established by the Board, and (3) reverse the trend of declining escapements of coho and increase the numbers of coho reaching inside areas while providing for a harvest level determined by in-season assessment of run strength.

Preliminary estimates of the total chinook catch by all gear, including that portion of the winter troll fishery from October 1 to December 31, 1980, indicate that a harvest of approximately 268,100 fish was achieved. This includes an estimated 19,500 fish taken incidentally in net and trap fisheries as shown in Table 4. It appears, therefore, that the final catch will probably be near the lower end of the Board harvest guideline range and the upper end of the Council range (Figure 5).

Based on catch projections made in late August and early September, a slightly larger total season chinook harvest near the mid to upper end of the Board range of 272,000 to 285,000 had been expected. The lower catch apparently occurred due to several factors, including differences between preliminary in-season catch estimates and final catches tabulated by computer from fish tickets, and lower than expected late season catch rates resulting from reduced availability of chinook combined with a shift of effort to the relatively strong coho runs in some areas. Other factors included the impact of the FCZ being closed from August 10 through the remaining part of the season and an apparent reduction in the number of boats holding and freezing fish during the season to be sold at the end of the season.

Chinook escapements to two of the three major river-systems in Southeast Alaska were increased in 1981 (Table 5). The major Taku River tributaries, the Nakina River and the Nahlin River, showed substantial improvement. The major Stikine River tributaries, the Tahltan River and Little Tahltan River, also showed significant improvement. Escapements to several other lesser producing chinook salmon systems including the Chilkat River and the Farragut Bay streams appeared to have improved over recent years.

In the southern portion of Southeast Alaska, escapements to the medium sized streams in Behm Canal were mixed. The Blossom River and Keta River escapements were approximately twice the 1980 escapements, however, the Unuk River escapement was less than 1980 and the Chikamin River escapement showed little improvement. Escapements to the Behm Canal systems were all substantially below minimum escapement goals.

It appears that, for northern Southeast Alaska streams, the fishing restrictions between April 15 and May 14 contributed to the increased escapements. In the southern districts, which have slightly later run timing, the closure did not contribute significantly to increasing the escapements. The Department has submitted proposals to delay the fishing season opening in portions of District 1. These proposals, if adopted, should increase the chinook escapements to southern Southeast streams.

Coho escapements in 1981 appear to have generally improved over recent years, however, surveys are still being conducted and a more complete assessment will be provided at the Board meeting. Exceptions to these improvements were in the middle districts (5-10) where some systems declined in escapements. The northern and southern systems showed generally good escapements. Primary reasons for the increases in coho escapements were the August 10-20 troll closures and the late season net gear restrictions.

Special Problems

The periodic closures during the 1981 season reportedly caused some crowding of boats into certain areas. Many skippers reported that they could not move into distant areas because of the short time during openings. The result was concentrations of 100-200 vessels in several coastal areas. Additionally, problems were reported in landing of the catch when all of these boats came to port following a closure. Difficulties in unloading, re-icing and re-supplying were a direct result of

overcrowding. Processors reported difficulty in maintaining production quality when large volumes of fish were unloaded at the start of a closed period. Some problems also arose during the time beginning August 20 when the federally managed Fishery Conservative Zone remained closed to fishing while state waters were open. Many fishermen were confused regarding the exact delineation of boundaries for the FCZ area.

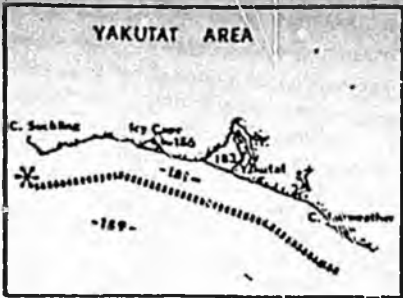
Observations on Marked or Scarred Fish

A number of chinook and coho caught in the 198 troll fishery were observed to be scarred. The Department will present a short report with visual aids on this subject at the Board and Council joint session in January.

The incidence of these external scars was about 1% for chinook and 3% for coho overall, although there were incidences as high as 10% for some deliveries sampled. The scars appear to be caused from encounters with predators and/or fishing gear, possibly nets, of unknown origin. The Department and National Marine Fisheries Service is continuing to investigate the possible sources of these scars.

YAKUTAT AREA

REVISED 1981



*ALASKA "3 MILE LIMIT" symbol

12 MILE DEMARCATION LINE symbol

-137- Includes all Fairweather Grounds

116-23

-134-

-132-

International waters including Hecate Straits -130-

Dixon Entrance

Figure 1 . Southeast Alaska Troll Fishery Statistical Areas

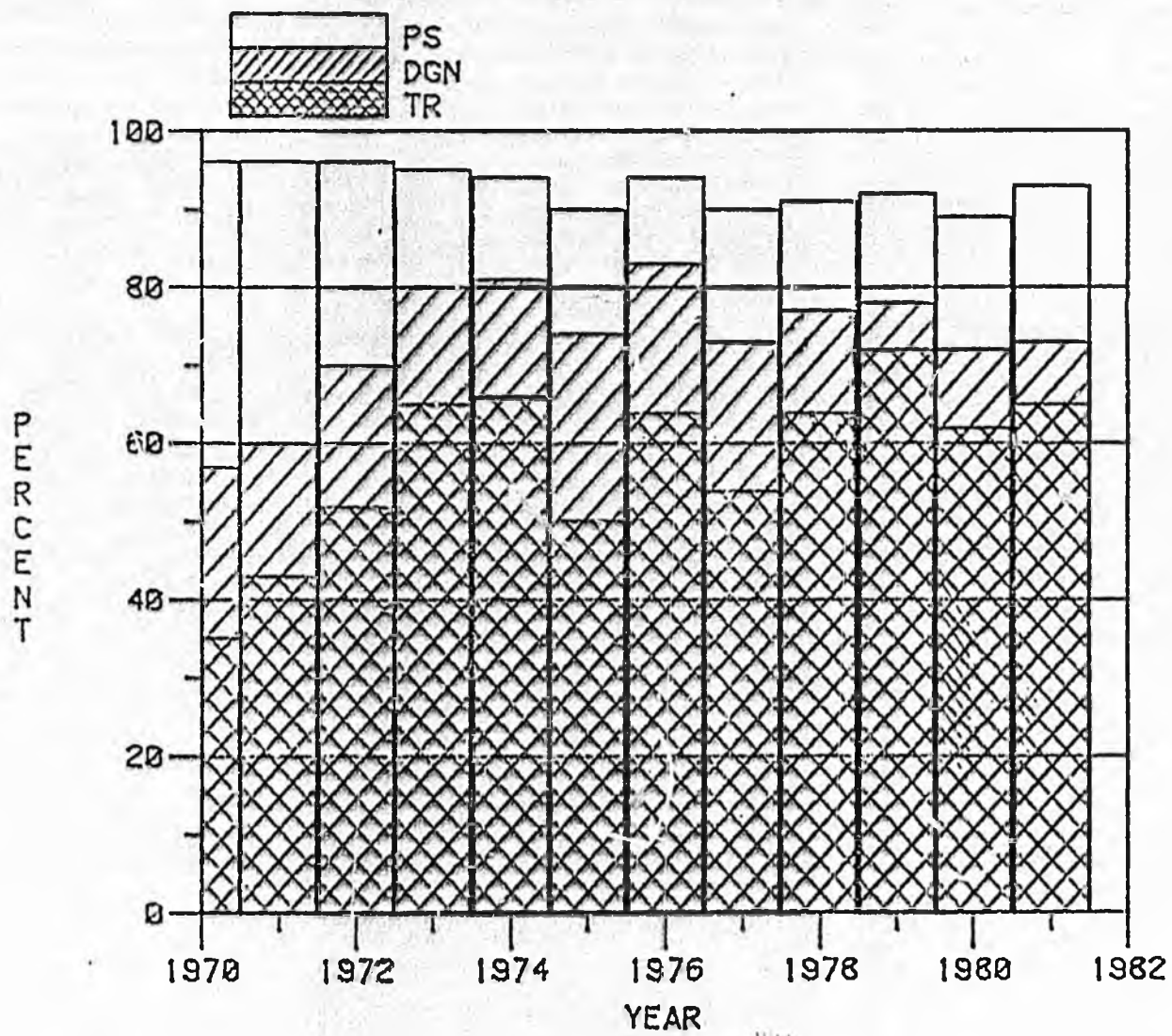


FIGURE 2. PERCENT OF TOTAL SOUTHEAST ALASKA REGION COHO SALMON HARVEST TAKEN BY PURSE SEINE (PS), DRIFT GILLNET (DGN) AND TROLL (TR) GEAR, 1970-81 (ADF&G)

PREPARED 11/18/81

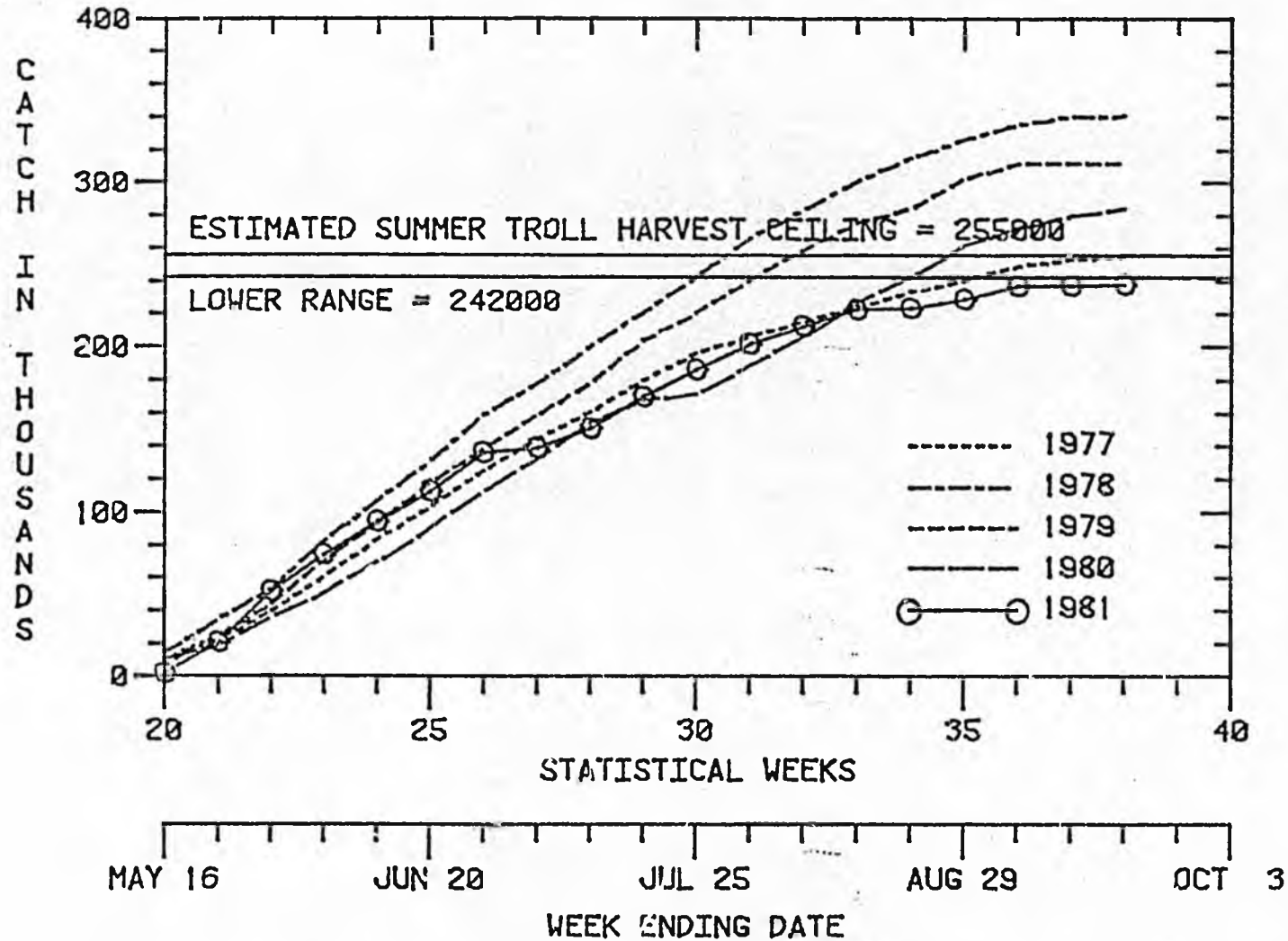


FIGURE 3. SOUTHEAST ALASKA TROLL FISHERY CUMULATIVE CHINOOK SALMON HARVEST BY WEEK BEGINNING MID-MAY, 1977-81 (ADF&G). (1981 DATA PRELIMINARY)

PREPARED 11/18/81

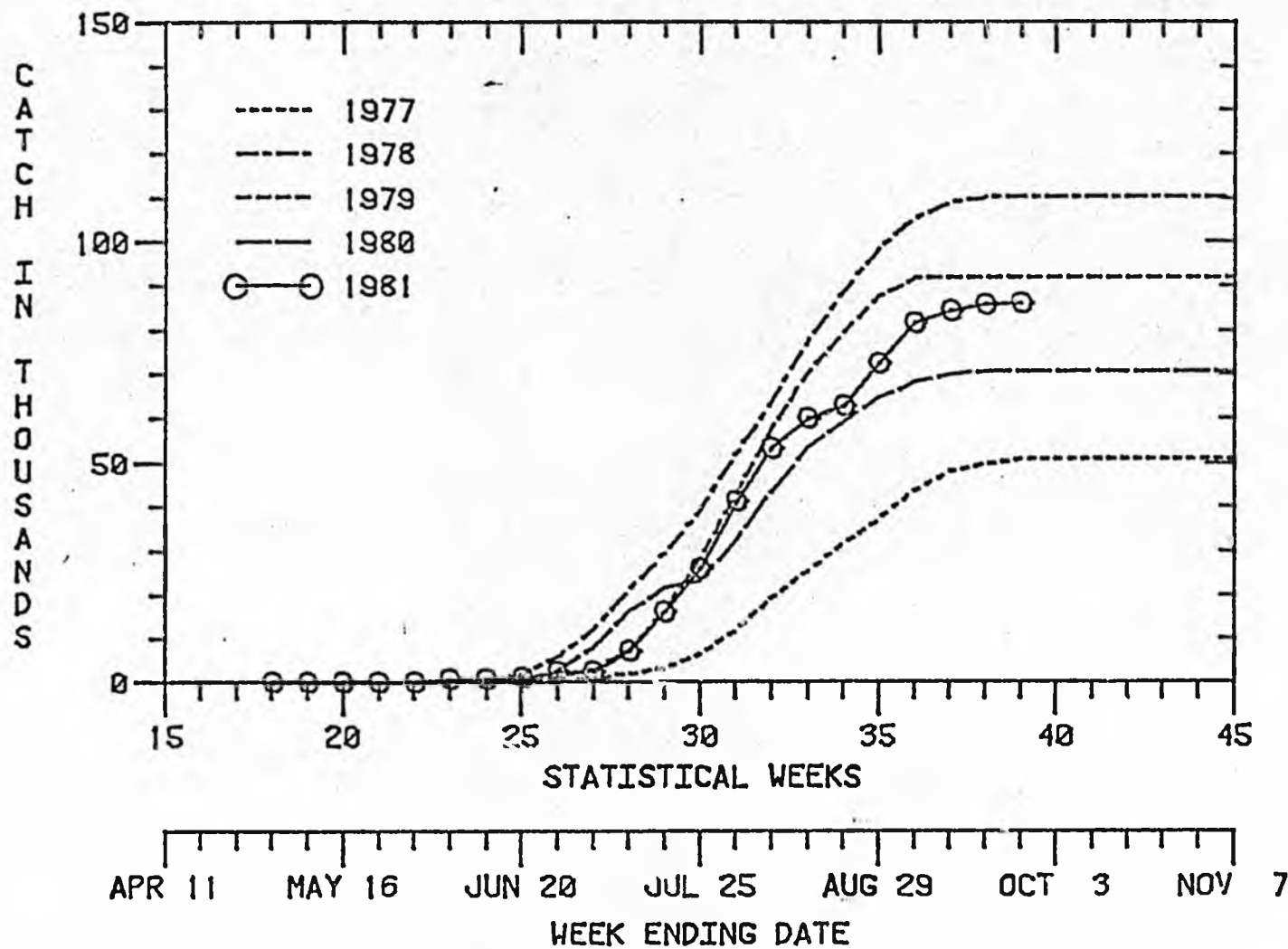


FIGURE 4. SOUTHEAST ALASKA TROLL FISHERY CUMULATIVE COHO SALMON HARVEST BY WEEK BEGINNING MID-MAY, 1977-81 (ADF&G). (1981 DATA PRELIMINARY)

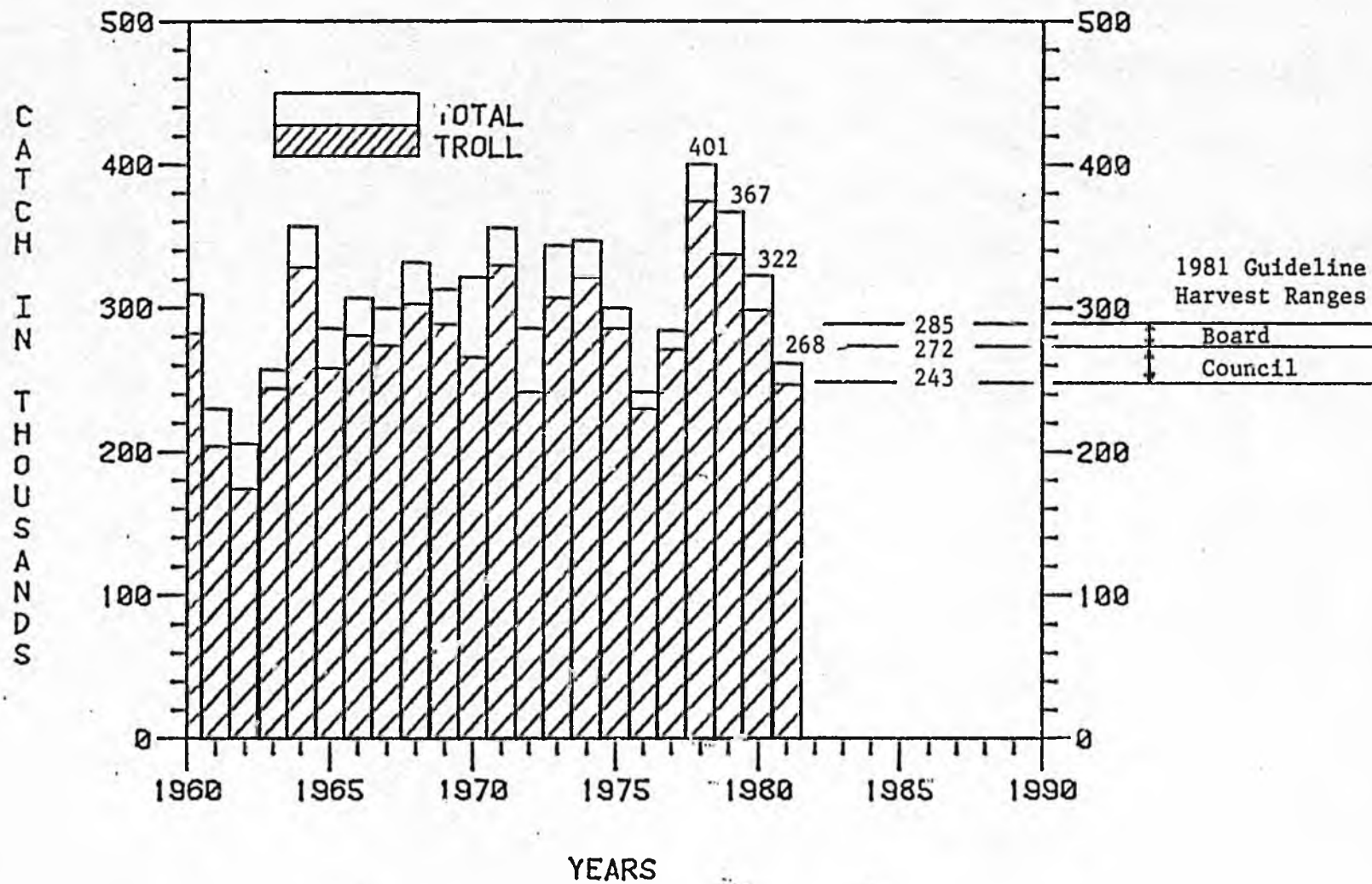


FIGURE 5. SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMERCIAL CHINOOK SALMON CATCHES, 1960-81

Table 1 . Southeast Alaska region annual commercial salmon catches in numbers by species, 1970 to present (ADF&G 11/12/81).

Gear troll

Year	Chinook	Coho	Sockeye	Pink	Chum	Total
1970	305431	267763	477	70076	2804	646551
1971	333738	391569	936	104633	7672	838548
1972	242095	791668	1068	166853	11680	1213364
1973	307815	540104	1222	134585	10466	994192
1974	322208	846620	2606	263603	13819	1448856
1975	287348	214254	1103	77207	2825	582737
1976	231282	524992	1274	193777	4635	955960
1977	271777	506927	5701	281286	11617	1077308
1978	375624	1102063	2804	617817	26211	2124522
1979	338219	918596	6455	629192	24703	1917165
1980	299930	706521	2902	267465	12213	1289031
<hr/>						
Average 1970 to present	301406	619189	2413	255136	11695	1189839
1981 (Prelim.)	247000	860900	7600	576000	9000	1700500

Footnotes: (1) Most recent years data should be considered preliminary.