

2017 SEASON SUMMARY

KODIAK SPORT FISH MANAGEMENT AREA



Ayakulik River

The king salmon run fell below the Biological Escapement Goal (BEG) of 4,800-8,400 fish with a weir count of 3,712 salmon. The weir count should be considered a minimum number as high water prompted weir panels to be pulled for a total of 23 days. A DIDSON sonar was installed but was only occasionally able to differentiate king salmon from sockeye salmon; therefore, estimates were made using 10-year average counts for the days the weir was out. The mid-point of the run occurred on June 19, 2017, which is similar to historical run-timing.

Management Actions

- A preseason emergency order effective June 1, 2017, prohibited the retention of king salmon in the Ayakulik River drainage.

Table 1. Summary of preliminary catch, harvest and escapement, Ayakulik River king salmon fishery, 2017.

Escapement Goal Range	BEG = 4,800-8,400
Total Catch	TBD
Total Harvest	0
Weir Count	3,712
Preliminary Escapement	3,712

Karluk River

The king salmon run fell below the BEG of 3,000-7,000 fish with a weir count of 2,597 salmon. The mid-point of the run occurred on June 23, 2017, which is similar to historical run-timing. The Karluk River has not been open to the harvest of king salmon since 2007 and sport fishing for king salmon has been entirely closed since 2008.

Management Actions

- A preseason emergency order effective June 1, 2017, closed the Karluk River drainage to sport fishing for king salmon.



Table 2. Summary of preliminary catch, harvest and escapement, Karluk River king salmon fishery, 2017.

Escapement Goal Range	BEG = 3,000-6,000
Total Catch	TBD
Total Harvest	0
Weir Count	2,597
Preliminary Escapement	2,597

Chignik River

The king salmon run fell below the BEG of 1,300-2,700 fish with a weir count of 1,137 salmon. The mid-point of the run occurred on July 15, 2017, which is similar to historical run-timing.

Management Actions

- On July 14, 2017, the retention of king salmon in the Chignik River drainage was prohibited effective July 14-August 9.

Table 3. Summary of preliminary catch, harvest and escapement, Chignik River king salmon fishery, 2017.

Escapement Goal Range	BEG = 1,300-2,700
Total Catch	TBD
Total Harvest	TBD
Weir Count	1,137
Preliminary Escapement	1,137

Nelson River

The 2017 weir count for king salmon was 1,502 fish. However, this represents a partial estimate as some king salmon spawn below the weir and a post season estimate is added annually based on aerial surveys. The BEG is 2,400-4,400 salmon. There is no retention in this fishery throughout the season based on regulations enacted in 2011. The weir count can be considered a minimal estimate of escapement for 2017. The mid-point of the run occurred on July 5, 2017, which is similar to historical run-timing.

Management Actions

- No management actions were implemented during the 2017 sport fishery.

Table 4. Summary of preliminary catch, harvest and escapement, Nelson River king salmon fishery, 2017.

Escapement Goal Range	BEG = 2,400-4,400
Total Catch	0
Total Harvest	0
Weir Count	1,502
Preliminary Escapement	1,502



Kodiak Stocked Road System Streams

Each year the Olds River, American River, Salonie Creek, and Monashka Creek are stocked with up to 80,000 king salmon smolt. The Kodiak stocked road system streams produced a mixed fishery this year. Returns to the Olds River produced good fishing. However, returns to the American River and Salonie Creek did not meet expectations and received relatively little fishing pressure due to small returns. Very few fish returned to Monashka Bay and Monashka Creek. Egg take goals have not been met in the last four years. To compensate for this shortfall, extra coho salmon are stocked to supplement king salmon production. The 2017 king salmon egg take spawned 13 pairs which should produce at least 65,000 eggs, though this is well short of the goal to release 200,000 king salmon smolt. Coho salmon will be taken again in early November to supplement this shortfall.

Management Actions

- A preseason emergency order effective June 1, 2017, prohibited sport fishing for king salmon in the waters of Monashka Creek drainage and Monashka Bay in order to obtain enough king salmon broodstock to stock the Kodiak road system streams.



Karluk River

The early sockeye salmon run fell within the BEG of 150,000-250,000 fish with a weir count of 235,225 salmon. Little harvest occurs upstream of the weir and escapement is likely equal to the weir count. Harvest of sockeye salmon by anglers on the Karluk River is minimal compared to the size of the run but it remains one of the larger sockeye salmon sport fisheries on Kodiak.

Management Actions

- On June 7, 2017, the sockeye salmon bag limit was increased from five per day to ten per day.

Ayakulik River

The early sockeye salmon run fell within the BEG of 140,000-280,000 fish with a weir count of 204,497 salmon. Harvest of sockeye salmon by anglers on the Ayakulik River is minimal compared to the size of the run but it remains one of the larger sockeye salmon sport fisheries on Kodiak, and is similar to second in size to Karluk River.

Management Actions

- No management actions were implemented during the 2017 sport fishery.

Buskin River

The sockeye salmon run fell within the BEG of 5,000-8,000 fish with a weir count of 7,214 salmon. No harvest occurs upstream of the weir (located just downstream from Buskin Lake) and escapement is equal to the weir count. The mid-point of the run occurred on June 7, 2017, which is about one week earlier than historical run-timing.



Management Actions

- On June 7, 2017 the sockeye salmon bag limit was increased from two per day to five per day.

Saltery Cove

The sockeye salmon came in above the escapement goal of 15,000-35,000 fish with a weir count of 39,315 salmon. No harvest occurs upstream of the weir and escapement is equal to the weir count. The mid-point of the run occurred on July 20, 2017, which is similar to historical run-timing. This is the largest freshwater sport fishery on Kodiak by angler effort and harvest for a single stock. This fishery has been liberalized annually since 2015 and in most years since weir operation began in 2009.

Management Actions

- On July 19, 2017, the sockeye salmon bag limit was increased from five per day to ten per day.

Pasagshak River

The sockeye salmon run came in above the lower bound Sustainable Escapement Goal (SEG) of 3,000 fish with a weir count of 11,021 salmon. No harvest occurs upstream of the weir and escapement is equal to the weir count. Recent escapements at Pasagshak River have fallen below the goal; although, the 2016 escapement exceeded the goal. In 2017, the sockeye salmon run was very large but was also late compared to historical run-timing. The mid-point of the run occurred on July 28, 2017, which is about two weeks later than historical run-timing. The weir has only been in operation since 2011.

Management Actions

- No management actions were implemented during the 2017 sport fishery.

Afognak River

The sockeye salmon run came in within the BEG of 20,000-50,000 fish with a weir count of 22,151 salmon. This is one of the earliest sockeye salmon runs on the island. However, the weir was installed late on June 1, 2017. Angler reports indicated a large early run prior to weir installment. However, according to weir counts the mid-point of the run occurred on June 12, 2017, similar to historical run-timing, but later than the previous two years.

Management Actions

- No management actions were implemented during the 2017 sport fishery.



Buskin River – Preliminary Summary

The BEG for Buskin River coho salmon is 4,700-9,600 fish and the 2017 run is ongoing. Nonetheless, the run is expected to be within the range. To date, only 64 coho salmon have been



counted through the weir located at Buskin Lake. The weir located near saltwater has been flooded for more than half the time it has been installed. Currently there is an estimated 4,000-5,000 coho salmon in the Buskin River, between both weirs. A formal estimate will be made once the weir is operational.

Management Actions

- To date, no management actions were implemented during the 2017 sport fishery.

Olds River - Preliminary Summary

The lower bound SEG for Olds River coho salmon is 1,000 fish and the 2017 run is ongoing. The 2017 run is expected to be above the range and recent abundance has been high. The Olds River coho salmon run is assessed via post season foot surveys.

Management Actions

- To date, no management actions have been implemented during the 2017 sport fishery.

American River – Preliminary Summary

The lower bound SEG for American River coho salmon is 400 fish and the 2017 run is ongoing. The 2017 run is expected to be above the range and recent abundance has been high. The American River coho salmon run is assessed via post season foot surveys.

Management Actions

- To date, no management actions have been implemented during the 2017 sport fishery.

Pasagshak River – Preliminary Summary

The lower bound SEG for Pasagshak River coho salmon is 1,200 fish and the 2017 run is ongoing. The 2017 run is expected to be above the range and recent abundance has been high. The Pasagshak River coho salmon run is assessed via post season foot surveys.

Management Actions

- To date, no management actions have been implemented during the 2017 sport fishery.



Table 1 – Select Southcentral Region Salmon Escapement Goals and Escapements, 2008 to 2017 (preliminary).

System	2016 Goal Range		Type	Initial Year	Escapement											Preliminary 2017
	Lower	Upper			2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016			
KING SALMON																
<i>Bristol Bay</i>																
Nushagak River	55,000	120,000	SEG	2013	91,364	74,781	56,088	102,258	167,618	107,602	70,482	98,019	125,368	56,961		
Alagnak River	2,700		LB SEG	2007	1,825	1,957	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	917	1,283	429		
<i>Kodiak/Alaska Peninsula</i>																
Karluk River	3,000	6,000	BEG	2011	752	1,306	2,917	3,420	3,197	1,824	1,182	2,777	3,434	2,597		
Ayakulik River	4,800	8,400	BEG	2017	3,071	2,615	5,197	4,251	4,556	2,304	789	2,392	4,594	3,712		
Chignik River	1,300	2,700	BEG	2002	1,620	1,590	3,845	2,490	1,404	1,185	2,895	2,041	1,843	1,137		
Nelson River	2,400	4,400	BEG	2004	5,012	2,048	2,767	1,704	1,192	1,421	3,801	2,440	4,618	1,502		
<i>Upper Cook Inlet</i>																
Alexander Creek	2,100	6,000	SEG	2002	150	275	177	343	181	588	911	1,117	754	170		
Campbell Creek	380		LB SEG	2011	439	554	290	260	NS	NS	274	654	544			
Chuitna River	1,200	2,900	SEG	2002	586	1,040	735	719	502	1,690	1,398	1,965	1,372	235		
Chulitna River	1,800	5,100	SEG	2002	2,514	2,093	1,052	1,875	667	1,262	1,011	3,137	1,151	NS		
Clear (Chuniina) Creek	950	3,400	SEG	2002	1,795	1,205	903	512	1,177	1,471	1,390	1,205	NS	780		
Crooked Creek	650	1,700	SEG	2002	879	617	1,088	654	631	1,103	1,411	1,459	1,747	911		
Deshka River	13,000	28,000	SEG	2011	7,533	11,967	18,594	19,026	14,010	18,531	16,335	24,316	22,874	11,553		
Goose Creek	250	650	SEG	2002	117	65	76	80	57	62	232	NC	NC	148		
Kenai R. - Early Run	3,900	6,600	OEG	2017							1,601	2,261	4,198	-6,300		
	2,800	5,600	SEG	2017										6,550		
Kenai R. - Late Run	13,000	27,000	SEG	2017							12,308	11,972	16,830	-15,500		
Lewis River	250	800	SEG	2002	120	111	56	92	107	61	61	5 ^c	0	0		
Little Susitna River	900	1,800	SEG	2002	1,297	1,028	589	887	1,154	1,651	1,759	1,507	1,622	1,192		
Little Willow Creek	450	1,800	SEG	2002	NC	776	468	713	494	858	684	788	675	840		
Montana Creek	1,100	3,100	SEG	2002	1,357	1,460	755	494	416	1,304	953	1,416	692	603		
Peters Creek	1,000	2,600	SEG	2002	NC	1,283	NC	1,103	459	1,643	1,443	1,514	1,122	307		
Prairie Creek	3,100	9,200	SEG	2002	3,039	3,500	3,022	2,038	1,185	3,304	2,812	3,290	1,853	1,930		
Sheep Creek	600	1,200	SEG	2002	NC	500	NC	350	363	NC	262	NC	NC	NC		
Talachulitna River	2,200	5,000	SEG	2002	2,964	2,608	1,499	1,368	847	2,285	2,256	2,582	4,295	1,087		
Theodore River	500	1,700	SEG	2002	345	352	202	327	179	476	312	426	68	21		
Willow Creek	1,600	2,800	SEG	2002	1,255	1,133	1,173	1,061	756	1,752	1,335	2,046	1,814	1,329		
<i>Lower Cook Inlet</i>																
Anchor River	3,800	10,000	SEG	2011	5,806	3,455	4,449	3,545	4,509	4,388	2,497	10,049	7,146	5,796		
Deep Creek	350	800	SEG	2002	205	483	387	696	447	475	601	535	NS	753		
Ninilchik River	550	1,300	SEG	2008	586	528	605	668	555	571	891	874	572	855		
COHO SALMON																
<i>Kodiak/Alaska Peninsula</i>																
Buskin	4,700	9,600	BEG	2014	8,176	9,583	6,239	5,298	4,906	4,401	7,345	3,363	2,513			
Okls	1,000		LB SEG	2011	656	697	NA	1,003	624	2,145	1,320	1,357	1,634			
American	400		LB SEG	2011	700	639	NA	1,061	427	841	1,595	530	500	NS		
Pasagshak	1,200		LB SEG	2011	3,875	2,385	1,971	1,083	3,132	1,648	4,934	1,790	667			
<i>Upper Cook Inlet</i>																
Fish Creek (Knik)	1,200	4,400	SEG	2011	4,868 ^b	8,214	6,977	1,428 ^b	1,237	7,593 ^b	10,283	7,912	2,484	5,779		
Jim Creek	450	1,400	SEG	2014	1,890	1,331	242	229	213	663	122	571	106	3,603		
Little Susitna River	10,100	17,700	SEG	2002	18,485	9,523	9,214	4,826	6,779	13,583	24,211 ^c	12,756	10,049	14,364		
SOCKEY SALMON																
<i>Bristol Bay</i>																
Kvichak River	2,000,000	10,000,000	SEG	2010	2,757,912	2,266,140	4,207,410	2,264,352	4,164,444	2,088,576	4,458,540	7,341,612	4,462,728	3,163,404		
Alagnak River (Tower) ^e	320,000		LB SEG	2007	2,180,502	970,818	1,187,730	883,794	861,747	1,095,950	200,524	5,770,650	NS	2,041,824		
Alagnak River (Aerial Survey) ^d	125,000		LB SEG	2016									696,400			
Naknek River	800,000	2,000,000	SEG	2015	2,472,690	1,169,466	1,463,928	1,177,074	900,312	938,160	1,474,428	1,920,954	1,691,910	1,899,972		
Egegik River	800,000	2,000,000	SEG	2015	1,259,568	1,146,276	927,054	961,200	1,233,900	1,113,630	1,382,466	2,160,792	1,837,260	2,595,042		
Ugashik River	500,000	1,400,000	SEG	2015	596,332	1,364,338	830,886	1,029,853	670,578	898,110	640,158	1,564,638	1,635,270	1,186,446		
Wood River	700,000	1,800,000	SEG	2015	1,724,676	1,319,232	1,804,344	1,098,006	764,202	1,183,348	2,764,614	1,941,474	1,309,707	4,274,224		
Igushik River	150,000	400,000	SEG	2015	1,054,704	514,188	518,040	421,380	193,770	387,036	340,590	651,172	469,230	579,120		
Nushagak River	260,000	760,000	OEG	2012	492,546	484,149	468,696	428,191	432,438	894,172	618,477	796,684	680,513	2,852,306		
<i>Kodiak/Alaska Peninsula</i>																
Buskin River	5,000	8,000	BEG	2011	5,900	7,757	9,800	11,982	8,565	16,189	13,976	8,719	11,584	7,214		
Afognak	20,000	50,000	BEG	2005	26,874	31,358	52,255	49,193	41,553	42,153	36,345	38,151	33,167	22,151		
Saltery	15,000	35,000	BEG	2011	47,467	43,468	24,102	27,803	25,155	35,939	29,047	42,468	57,867	39,315		
Pasagshak River	3,000		lower-bound SEG	2011	14,900	1,400	4,800	8,100	2,600	9,750	1,582	2,077	7,053	11,021		
Karluk River	150,000	250,000	BEG	2014	82,191	52,798	71,453	87,049	188,085	234,880	252,097	233,036	164,760	235,225		
Ayakulik River	140,000	280,000	SEG	2011	96,912	200,648	201,933	177,480	213,501	214,969	210,040	218,178	182,589	204,497		
Frazer Lake	75,000	170,000	BEG	2008	105,363	101,845	94,680	134,642	148,884	136,059	200,296	219,093	122,585	128,844		
<i>Upper Cook Inlet</i>																
Fish Creek (Knik)	20,000	70,000	SEG	2002	19,339	83,480	126,836	66,678	18,813	18,912	43,915	102,309	46,202	61,235		
Kasilof River	160,000	390,000	OEG	2011	324,880	324,783	293,765	243,767	372,523	487,700	438,238	470,677	239,981	358,699		
	160,000	340,000	BEG	2011												
Kenai River ^f	700,000	1,400,000	OEG	2011	708,805	848,117	1,038,302	1,280,733	1,212,921	980,208	1,218,342	1,400,047	1,118,155	1,058,000		
	700,000	1,200,000	SEG	2011												
Russian River - Early Run	22,000	42,000	BEG	2011	30,989	52,178	27,074	29,129	24,115	35,776	44,920	50,226	38,739	37,123		
Russian River - Late Run	30,000	110,000	SEG	2005	46,638	80,088	38,848	41,529	54,911	31,364	52,277	46,223	37,837	44,000		
Chelatna Lake	20,000	65,000	SEG	2009	73,469	17,721	37,784	70,353	36,577	70,555	26,212	69,750	60,792	26,952		
Judd Lake	25,000	55,000	SEG	2009	54,304	44,616	18,361	39,997	18,303	14,088	22,416	47,684	NA	35,729		
Larson Lake	15,000	50,000	SEG	2009	35,040	40,933	20,324	12,413	16,708	21,821	12,040	23,214	14,333	31,687		
<i>Lower Cook Inlet</i>																
English Bay	6,000	13,500	SEG	2002	11,993	18,183	12,253	9,920	3,444	10,891	7,832	6,290	7,673	7,673		
Delight Lake	7,550	17,650	SEG	2011	23,933	12,700	23,775	20,190	10,887	5,961	22,289	3,220	5,110	5,110		
Desire Lake	8,800	15,200	SEG	2002	10,700	16,000	6,320	9,630	8,840	8,400	11,480	2,830	6,740	6,740		
Bear Lake	700	8,300	SEG	2002	9,264	10,364	8,880	9,608	8,031	8,999	9,090	9,560	9,011	9,011		

Note: NA = data not available; NC = no count; NS = no survey; LB SEG = lower-bound SEG.

^a Lewis River mouth naturally obstructed.

^b Incomplete counts for Fish Creek (Knik) coho salmon in 2008, 2011 and 2013 because weir was pulled before end of run.

^c 2009 to 2015 Alagnak River sockeye salmon escapements for Alagnak River (Tower) escapement goal are expanded aerial surveys.

^d Alagnak River sockeye salmon aerial survey-based escapement goal will be used in years that the Alagnak River tower is not operated.

^e Kenai River sockeye salmon uses the best estimate of sport harvest upstream of sonar.

