



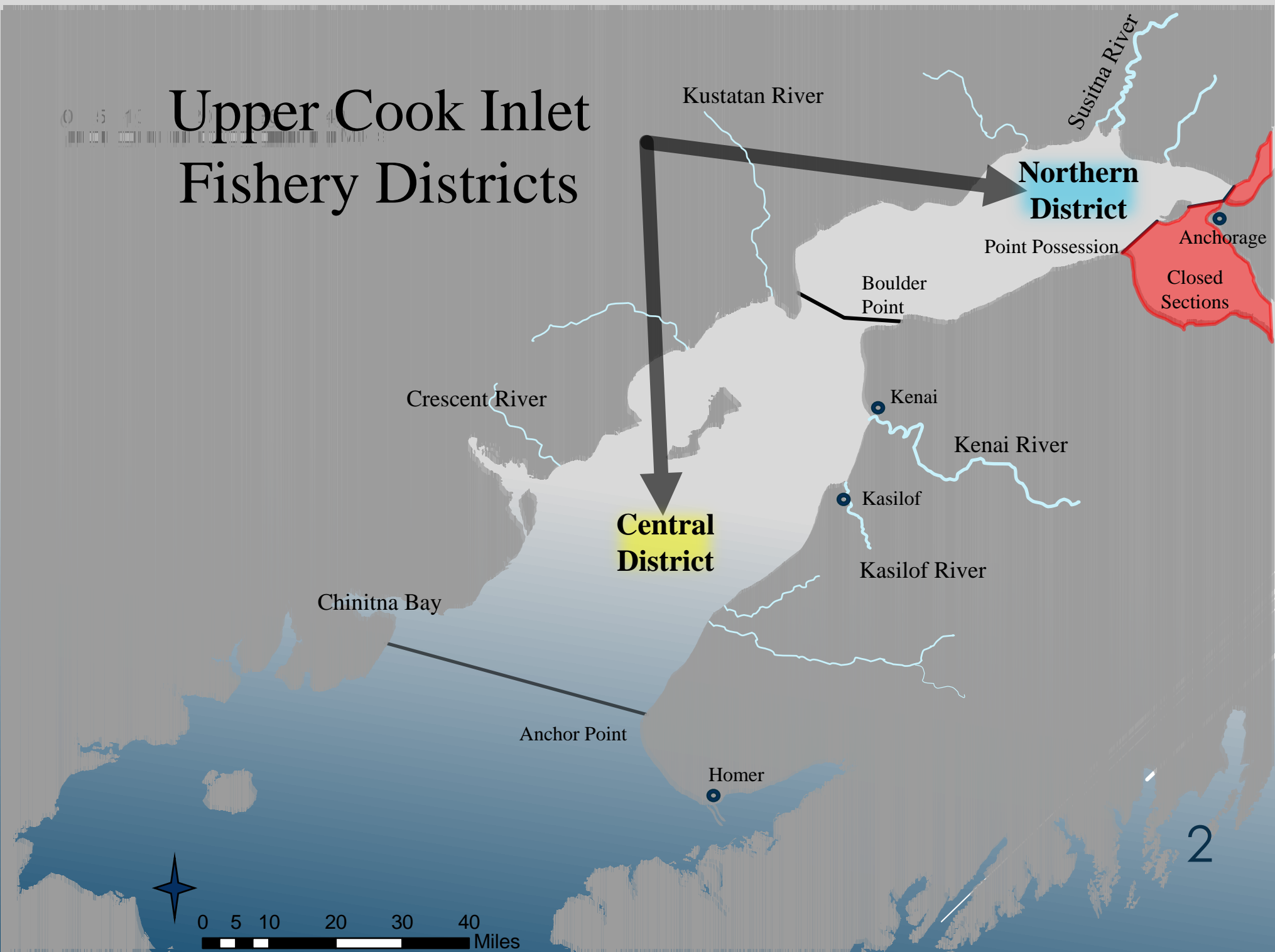
COMMERCIAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT REPORT UPPER COOK INLET

REPORT TO THE ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES
FEBRUARY 2020

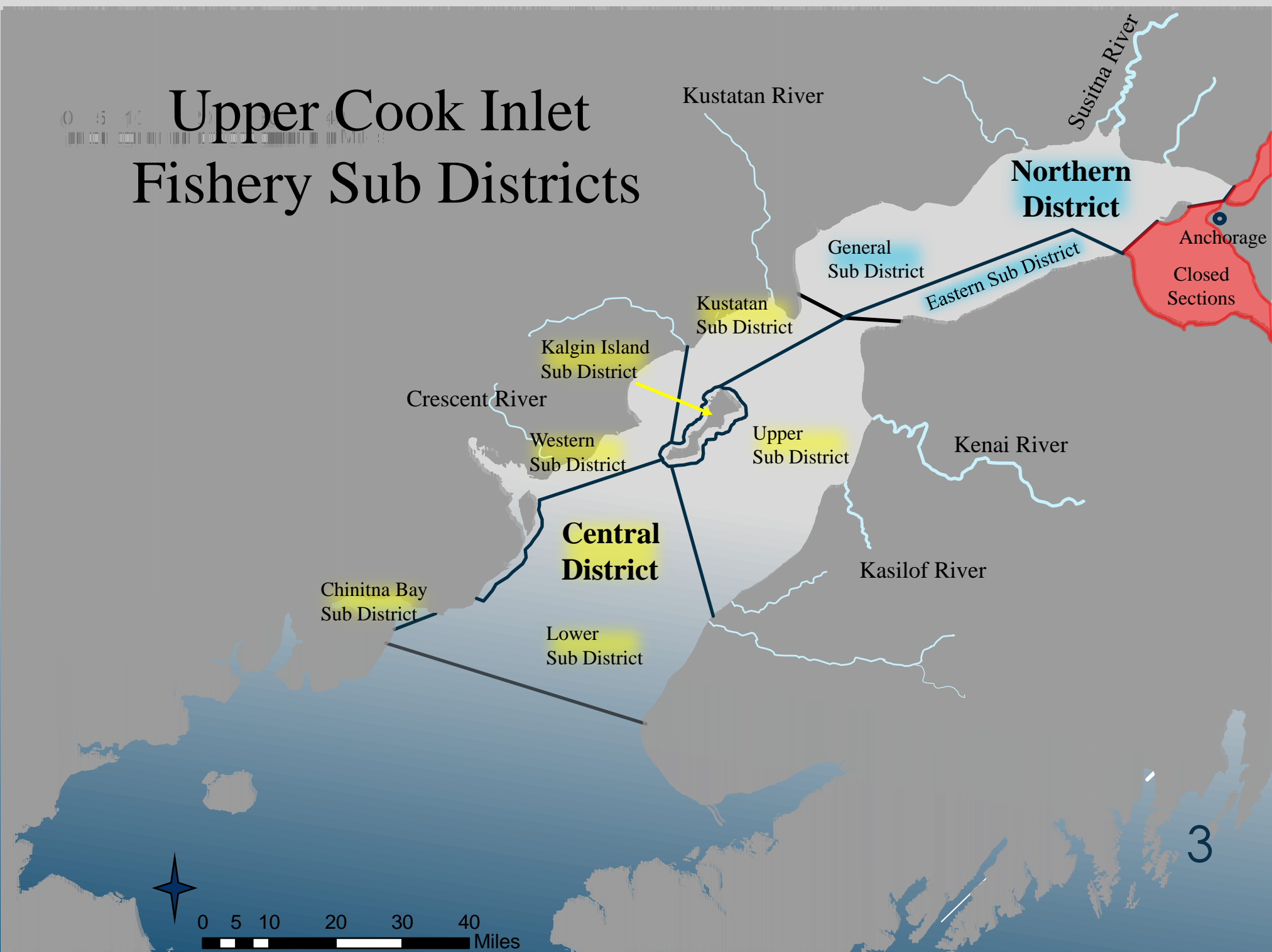
RC 4, Tab 9

Brian Marston
Area Management Biologist for UCI Commercial Fisheries
ADF&G

Upper Cook Inlet Fishery Districts



Upper Cook Inlet Fishery Sub Districts

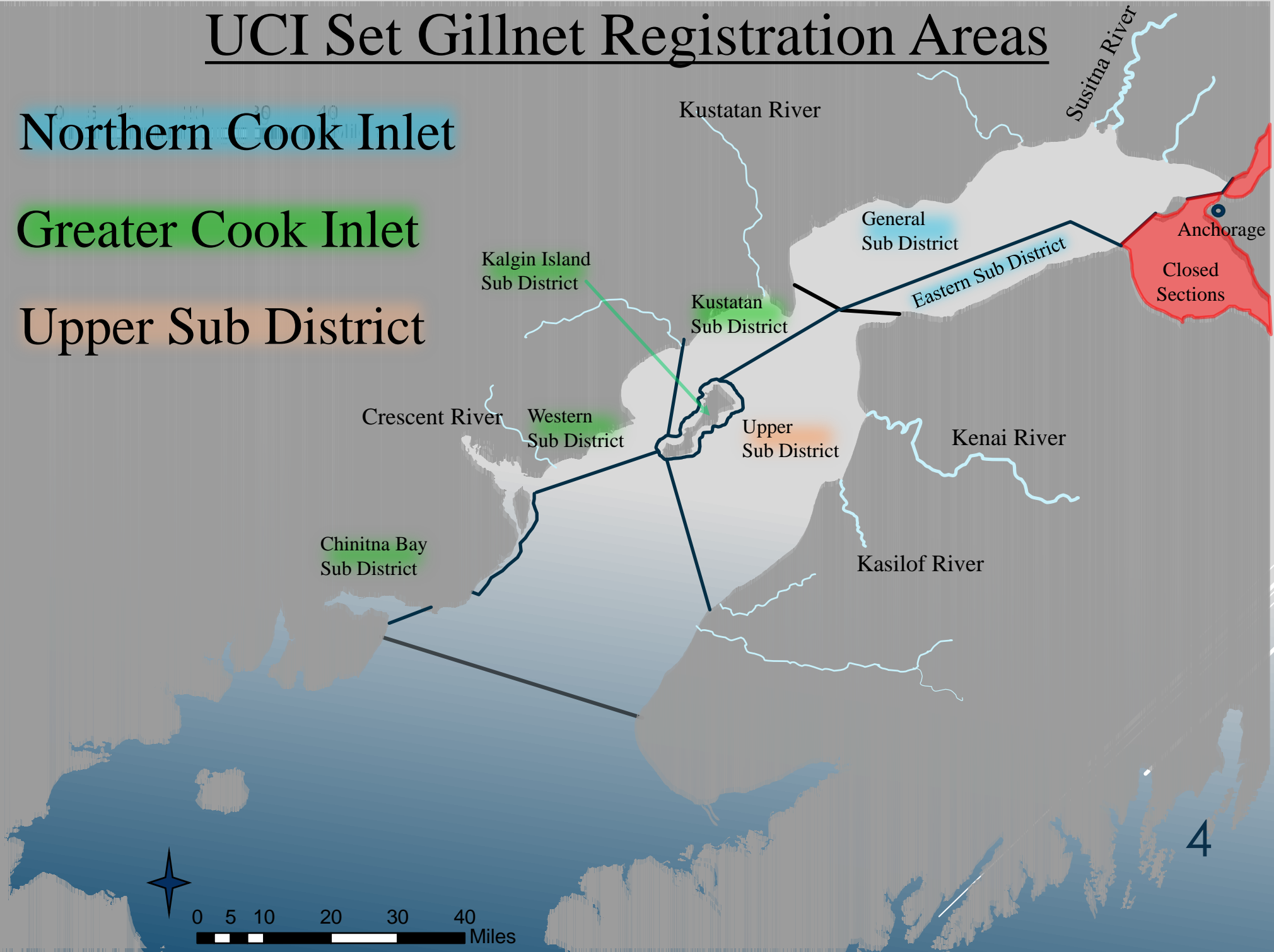


UCI Set Gillnet Registration Areas

Northern Cook Inlet

Greater Cook Inlet

Upper Sub District



Chronology and Locations of UCI Salmon Fisheries

Northern District Chinook Salmon Set Gillnet 5/25

Big River Set Gillnet 6/1

Western Sub District Set Gillnet 6/16

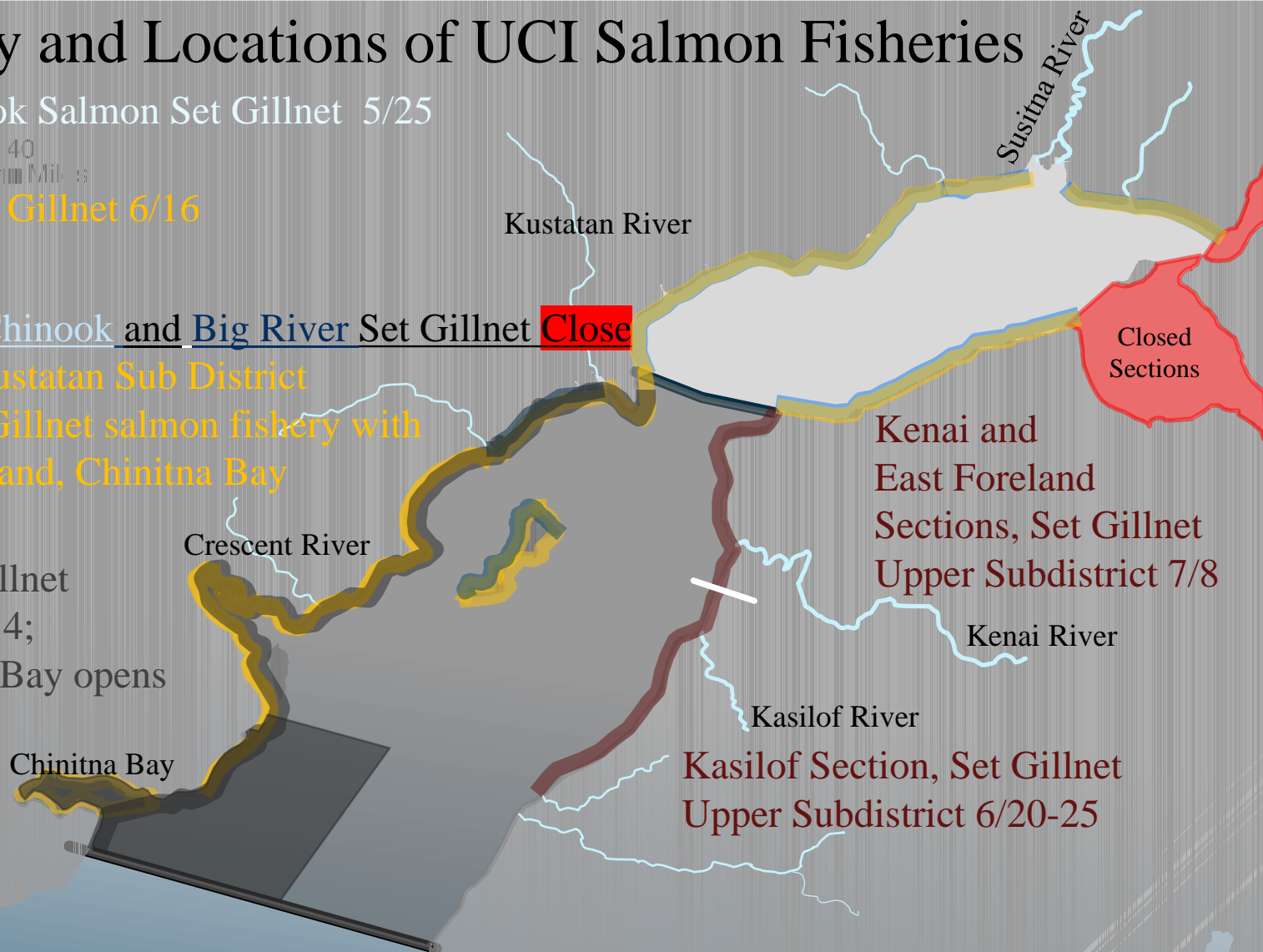
UCI Drift Gillnet 6/19

6/25 Northern District Chinook and Big River Set Gillnet **Close**

Northern District and Kustatan Sub District remain open as the Set Gillnet salmon fishery with Western, Kalgin Island, and, Chinitna Bay Sub Districts

After 8/15 UCI Drift Gillnet Restricted to area 3 and 4;

ESSN Closes; Chinitna Bay opens to drift if chum salmon aerial count meets goal



**All UCI commercial salmon fisheries
Closed by Emergency Order ~ 10/1**

CFEC PERMITS AND LEGAL GEAR

▶ **733 active set gillnet permits in Cook Inlet**

- ▶ 613 registered to fish in UCI in 2019
- ▶ One person may own and operate 2 setnet permits (Dual permits)
- ▶ 84% of active set net permits are owned by Alaskan residents

▶ **567 registered drift gillnet permits in UCI**

- ▶ 422 permits reported fishing in 2019
- ▶ D-Boat)
 - ▶ Two permit holders may fish on one vessel or one person may hold two permits and fish the same vessel.
- ▶ 74% of active drift gillnet permits are owned by Alaskan residents

Management Plans Concerning Commercial Fisheries Management in UCI

1. Central District Drift Gillnet Management Plan
2. Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Plan
3. Northern District Salmon Management Plan
4. Kenai River Late Run King Salmon Management Plan
5. Kenai River Late Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan
6. Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan
7. Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan
8. Northern District King Salmon Management Plan
9. Big River Salmon Management Plan
10. Packers Creek Salmon Management Plan
11. Central District Herring Management Plan
12. Cook Inlet Smelt Management Plan

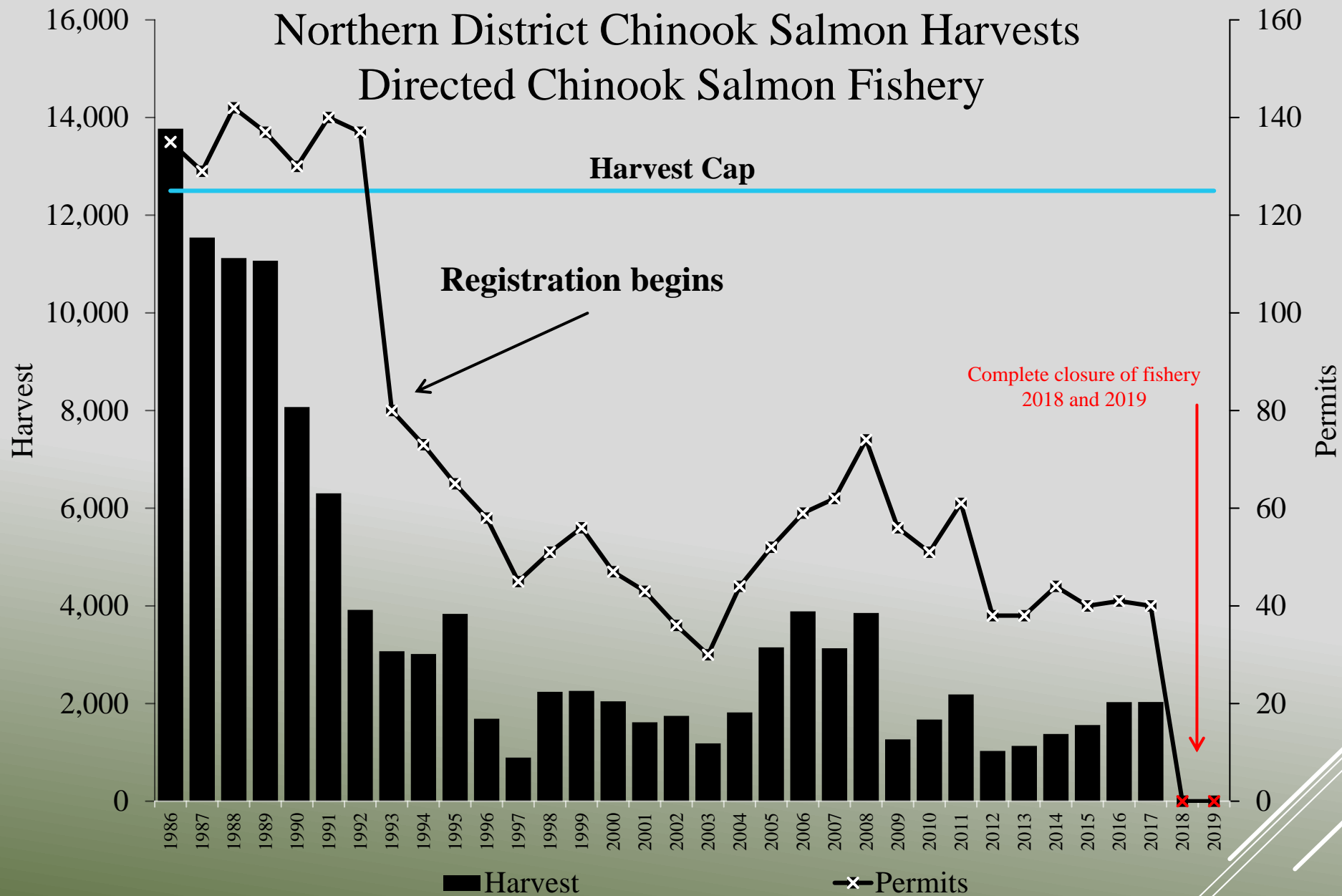
NORTHERN DISTRICT KING SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN

The purpose of this management plan is to ensure an adequate escapement of Chinook salmon into the Northern District drainages and to provide guidelines to the department.

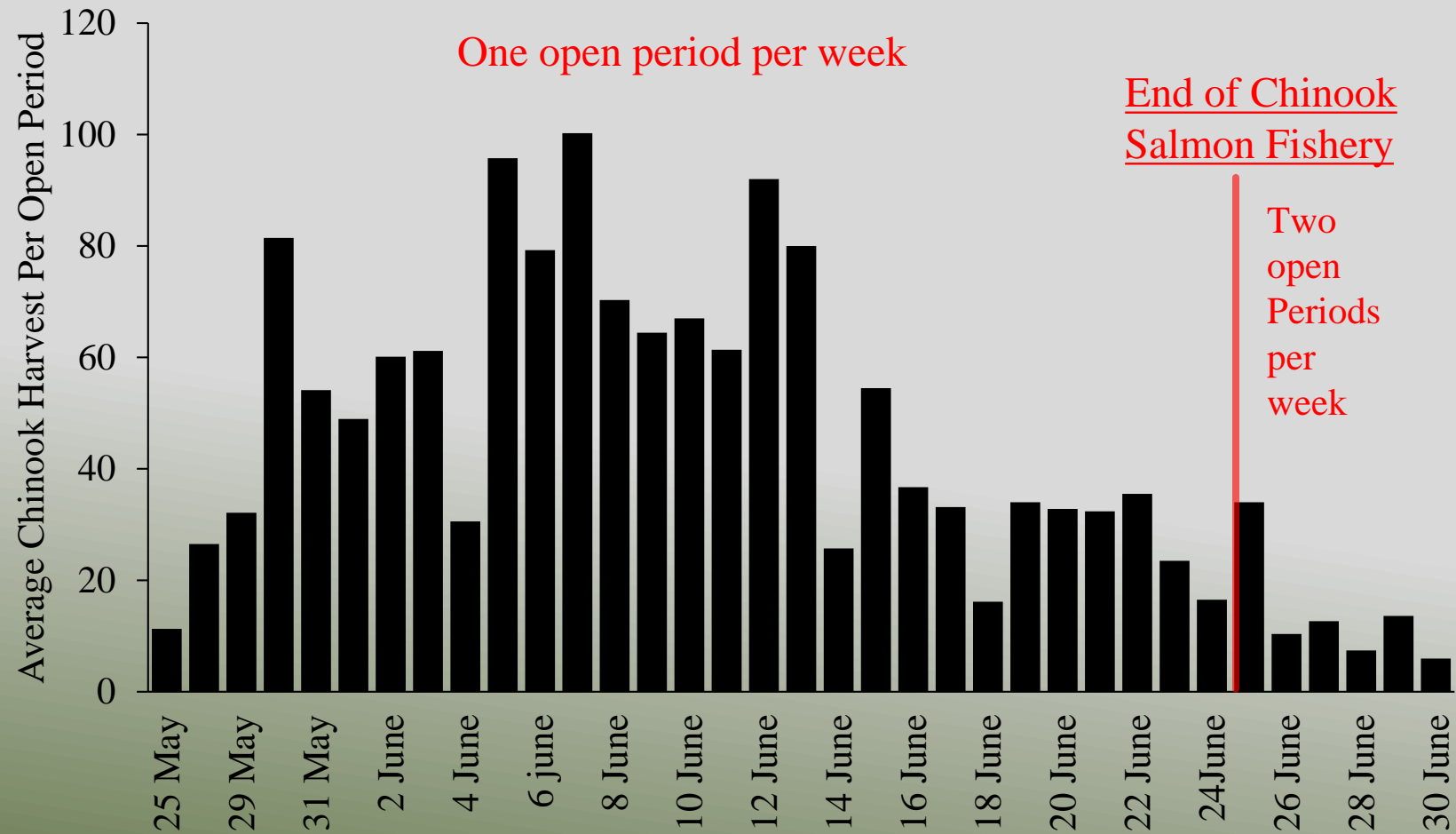


Northern District Chinook Salmon Harvests

Directed Chinook Salmon Fishery



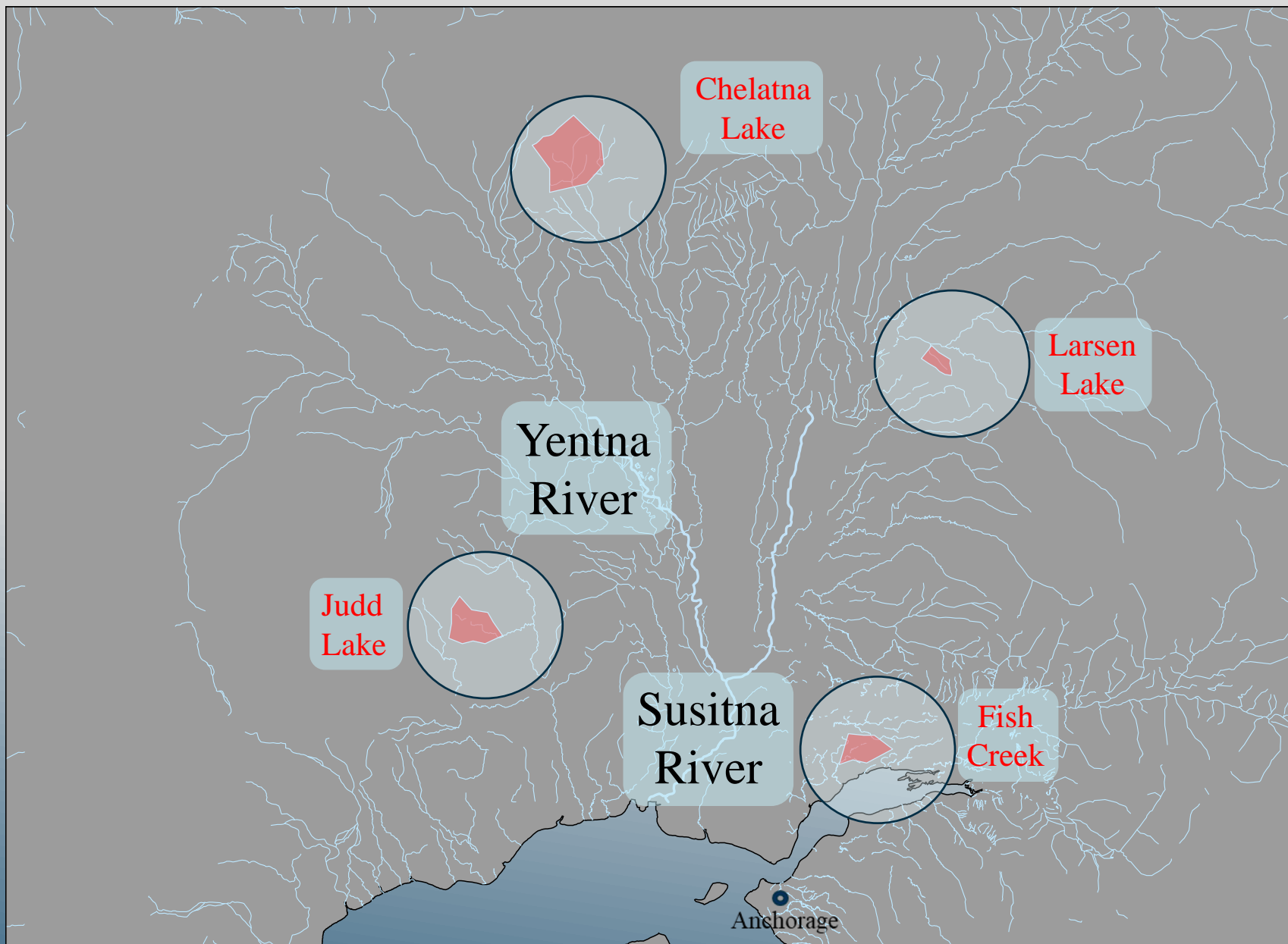
Average Chinook Salmon Harvest Per Open Period for Northern District; 09-17



NORTHERN DISTRICT SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN

This plan directs the department to manage chum, pink, and sockeye salmon primarily for commercial uses, but also states the purpose of the plan is to minimize the harvest of coho salmon bound for the Northern District.

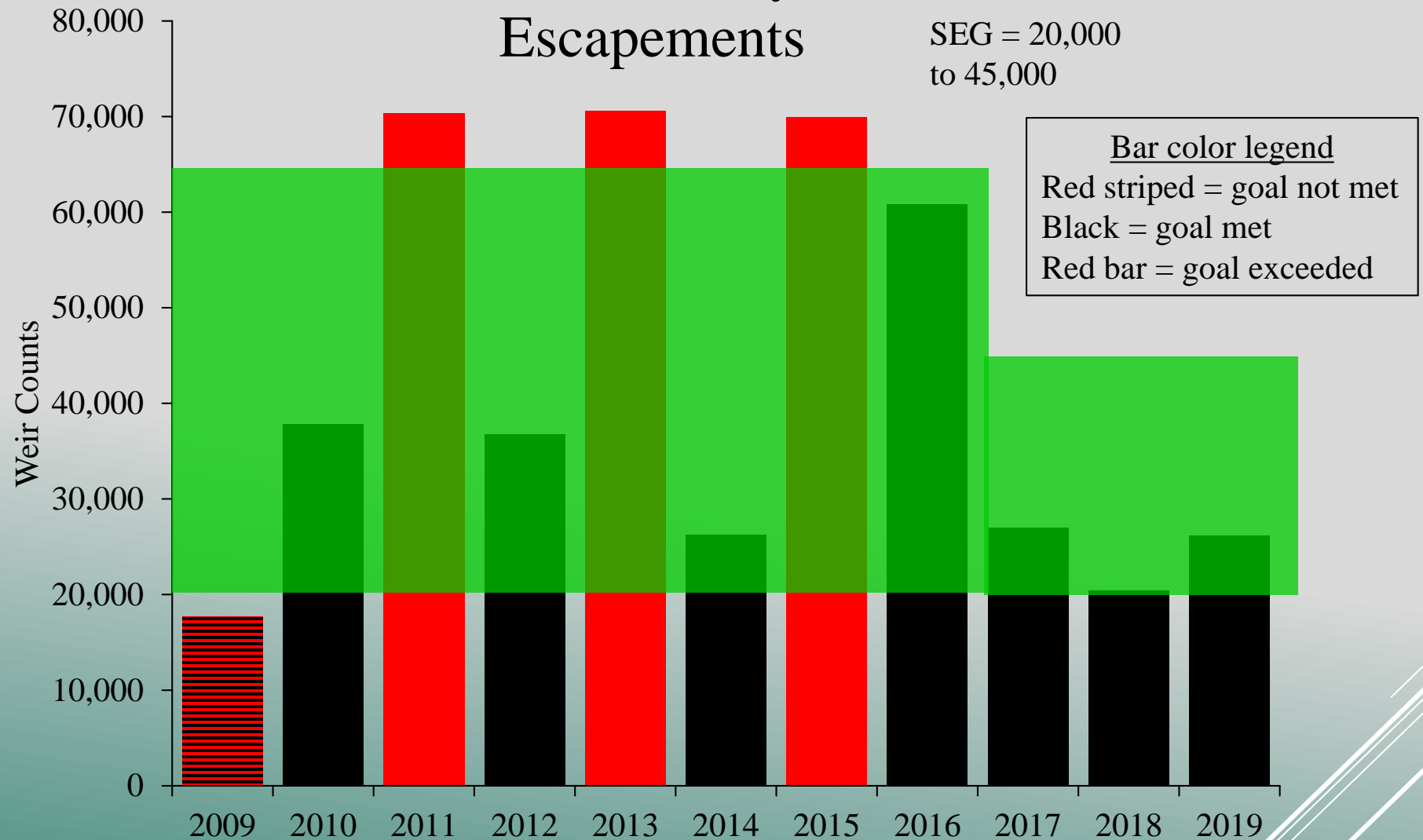




Chelatna Lake Sockeye Salmon

Escapements

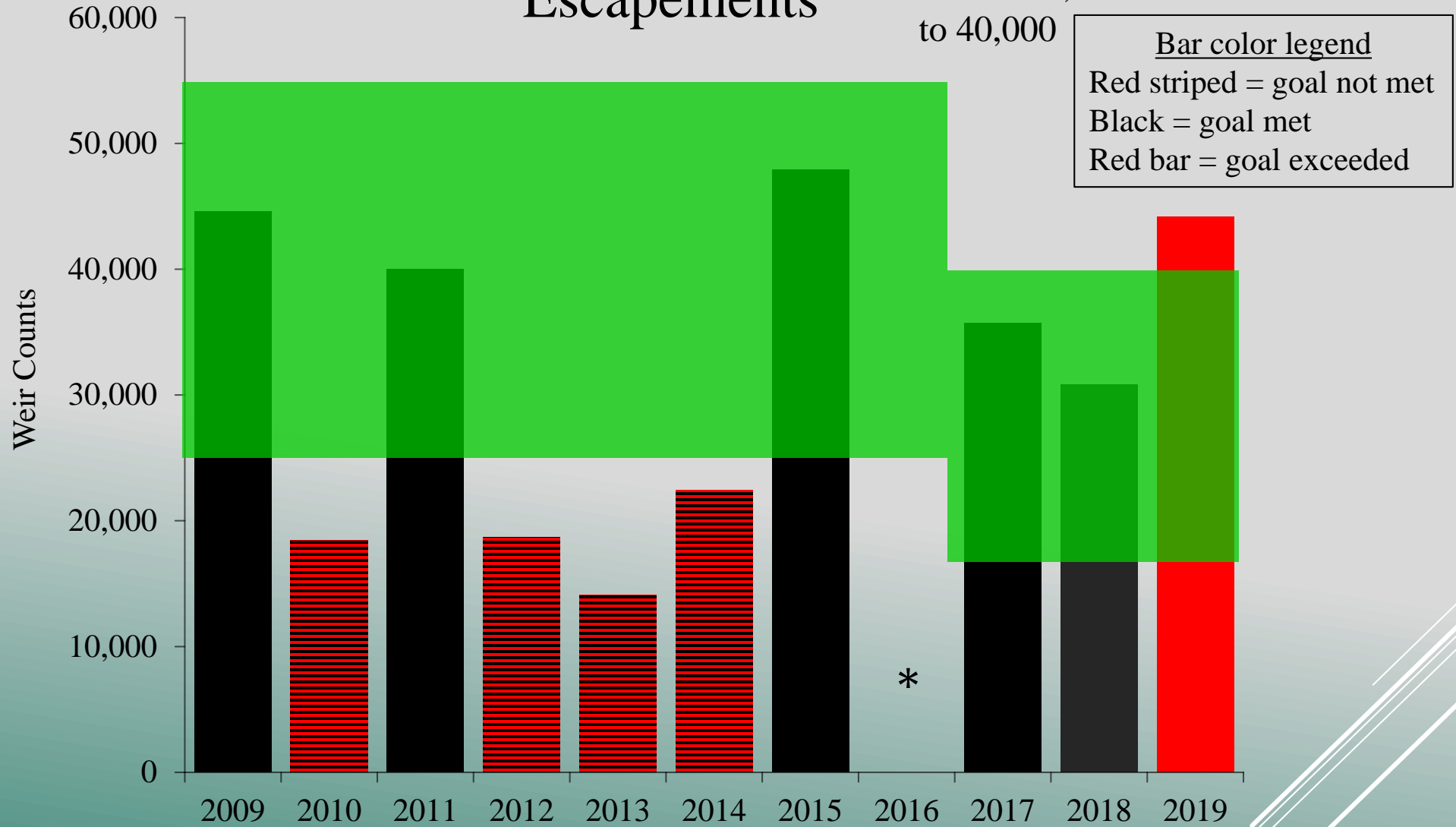
SEG = 20,000
to 45,000



Judd Lake Sockeye Salmon

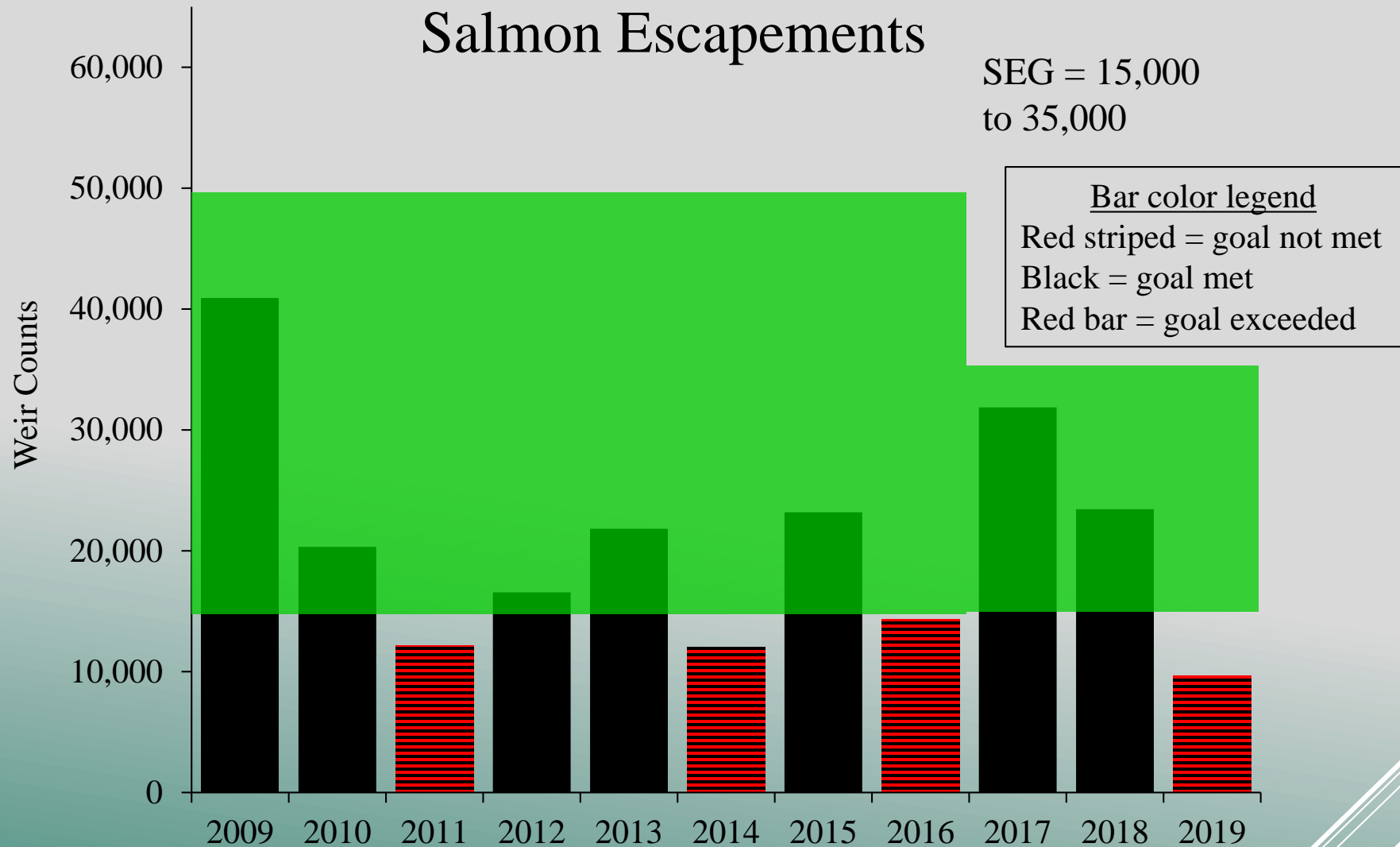
Escapements

SEG = 15,000
to 40,000

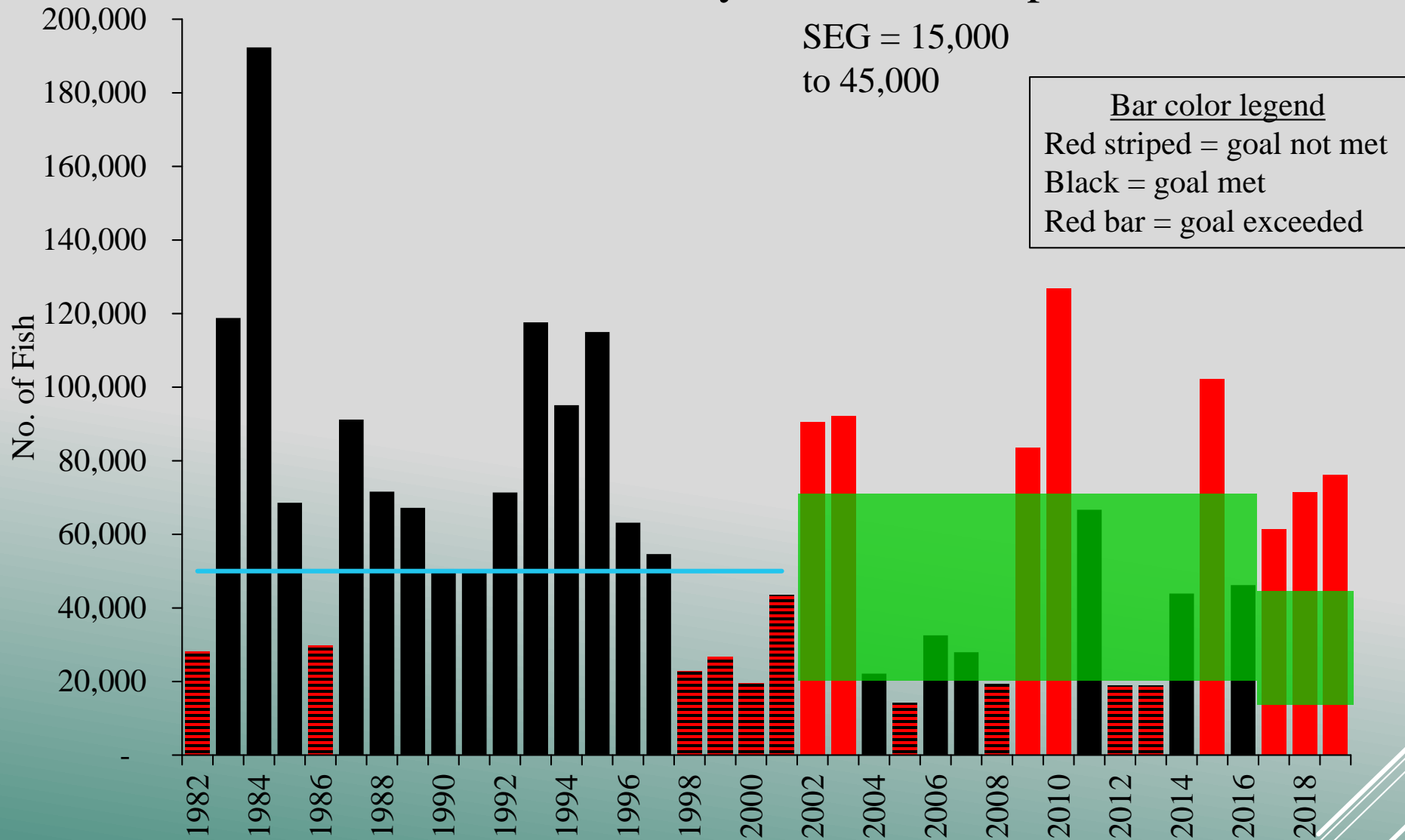


* Project not funded

Larson Lake Sockeye Salmon Escapements



Fish Creek Sockeye Salmon Escapement





KASILOF RIVER SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN

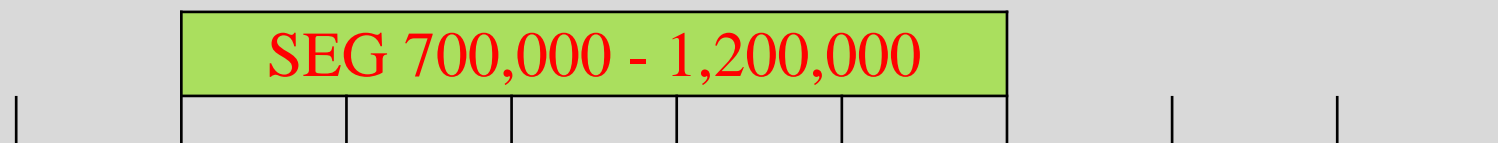
Provides direction to the department for management of Kasilof River sockeye salmon from June 25 through July 7.

KENAI RIVER LATE-RUN SOCKEYE SALMON PLAN

States that the department shall manage Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon stocks primarily for commercial uses based on abundance, while minimizing the harvest of Northern Dist. coho, late-run Kenai River Chinook, and Kenai River coho salmon.



KENAI RIVER SOCKEYE SALMON MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES



of Fish 600,000 700,000 800,000 900,000 1,000,000 1,100,000 1,200,000 1,300,000 1,400,000 1,500,000

IN RIVER GOALS

TOTAL RUN (> 4,600,000)
Upper Tier

1,100,000 - 1,500,000

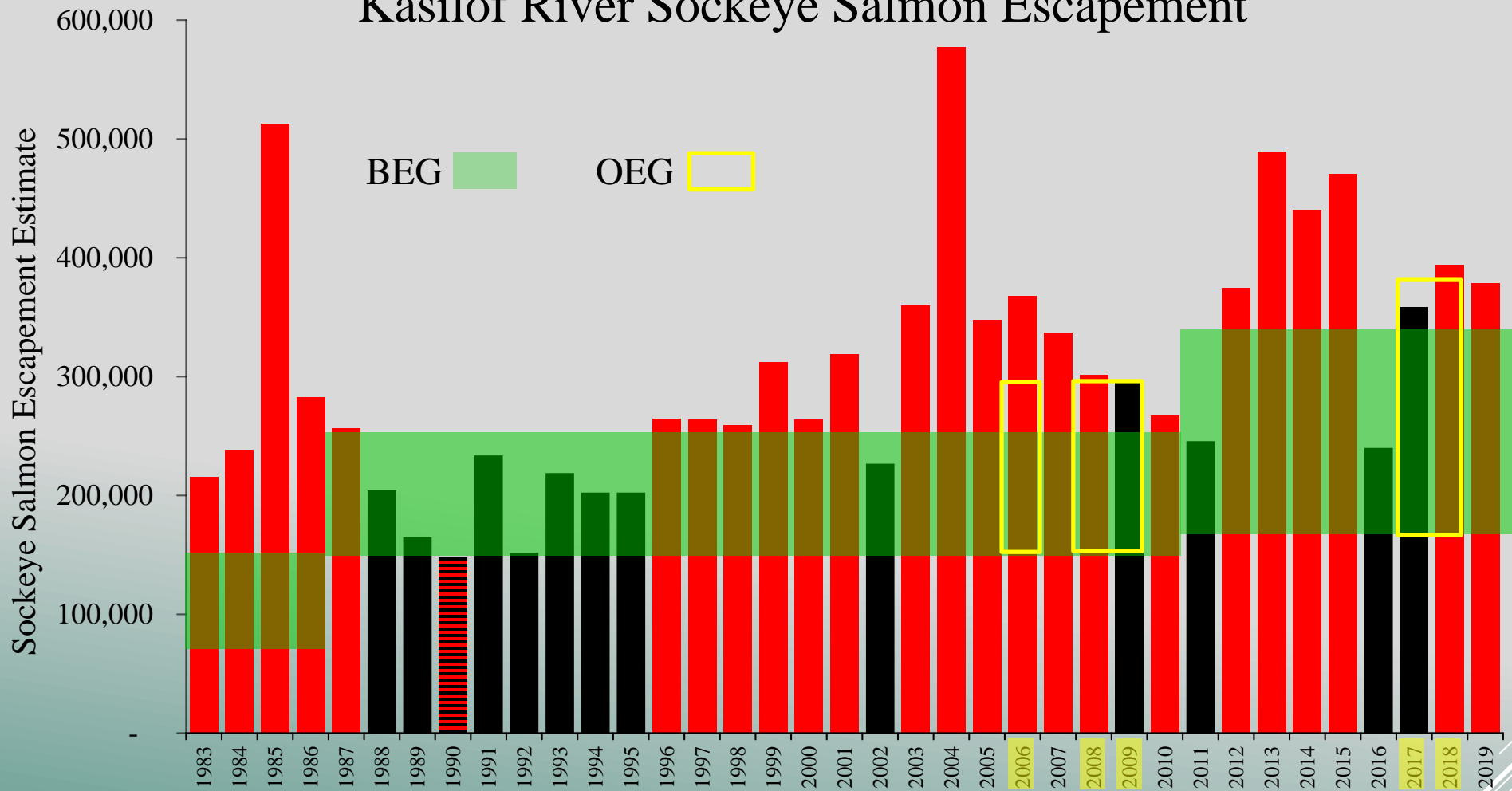
TOTAL RUN (2.3 – 4,600,000)
Middle Tier

1,000,000 - 1,300,000

TOTAL RUN (< 2,300,000)
Lower Tier

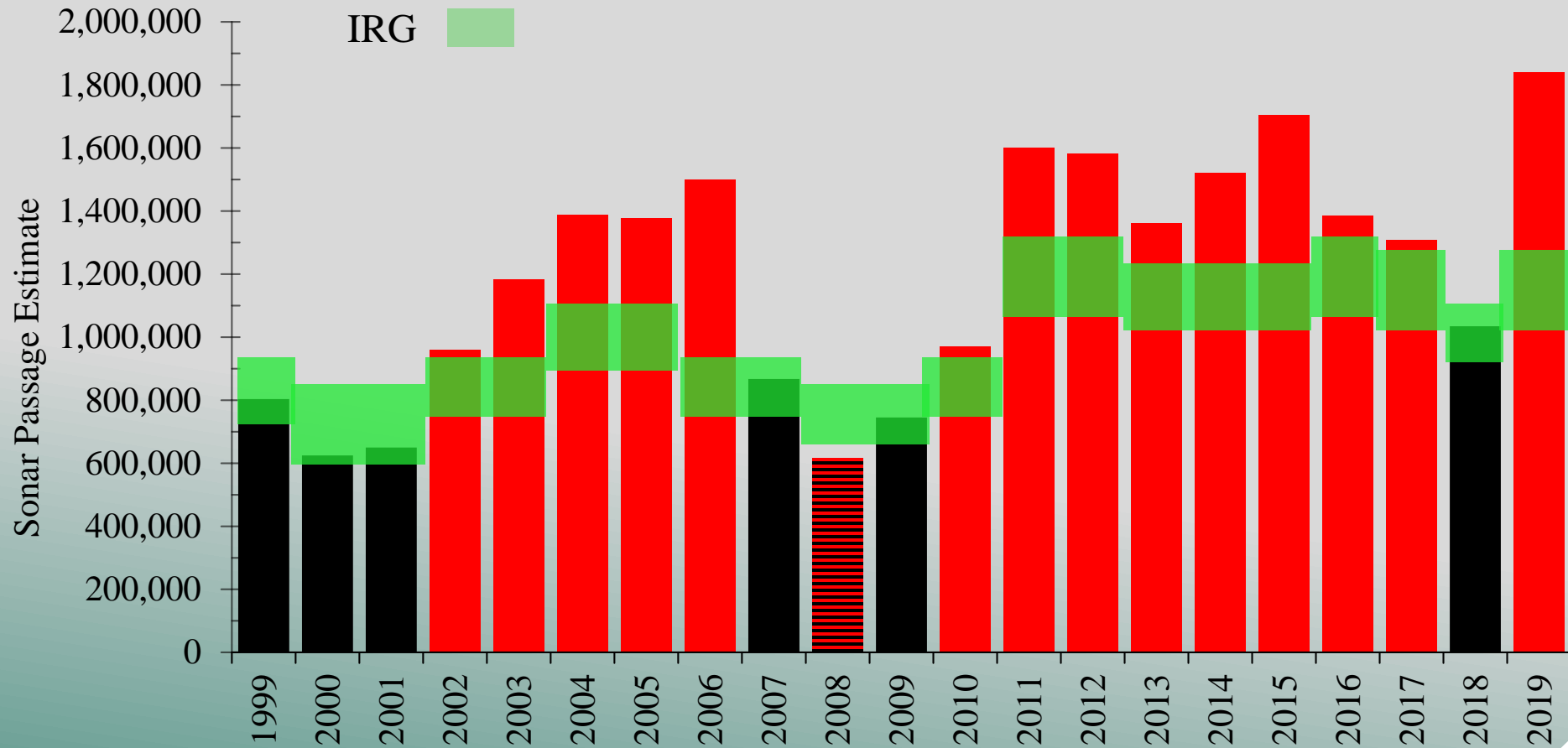
900,000 - 1,100,000

Kasilof River Sockeye Salmon Escapement



Bar color legend
 Red striped = goal not met
 Black = goal met
 Red bar = goal exceeded

Kenai River Sockeye Salmon Sonar Passage & Inriver Goals



Bar color legend
 Red striped = goal not met
 Black = goal met
 Red bar = goal exceeded

Kenai River Sockeye Salmon Escapements

Sockeye Salmon Escapement Estimate

SEG



OEG



2019 escapement is approximate and based on estimated sport harvests above sonar

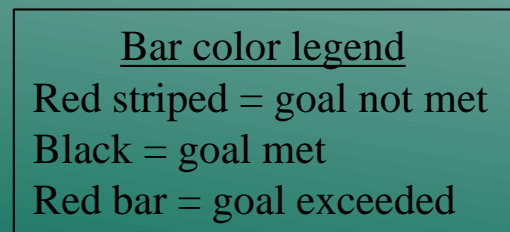
2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019

Bar color legend

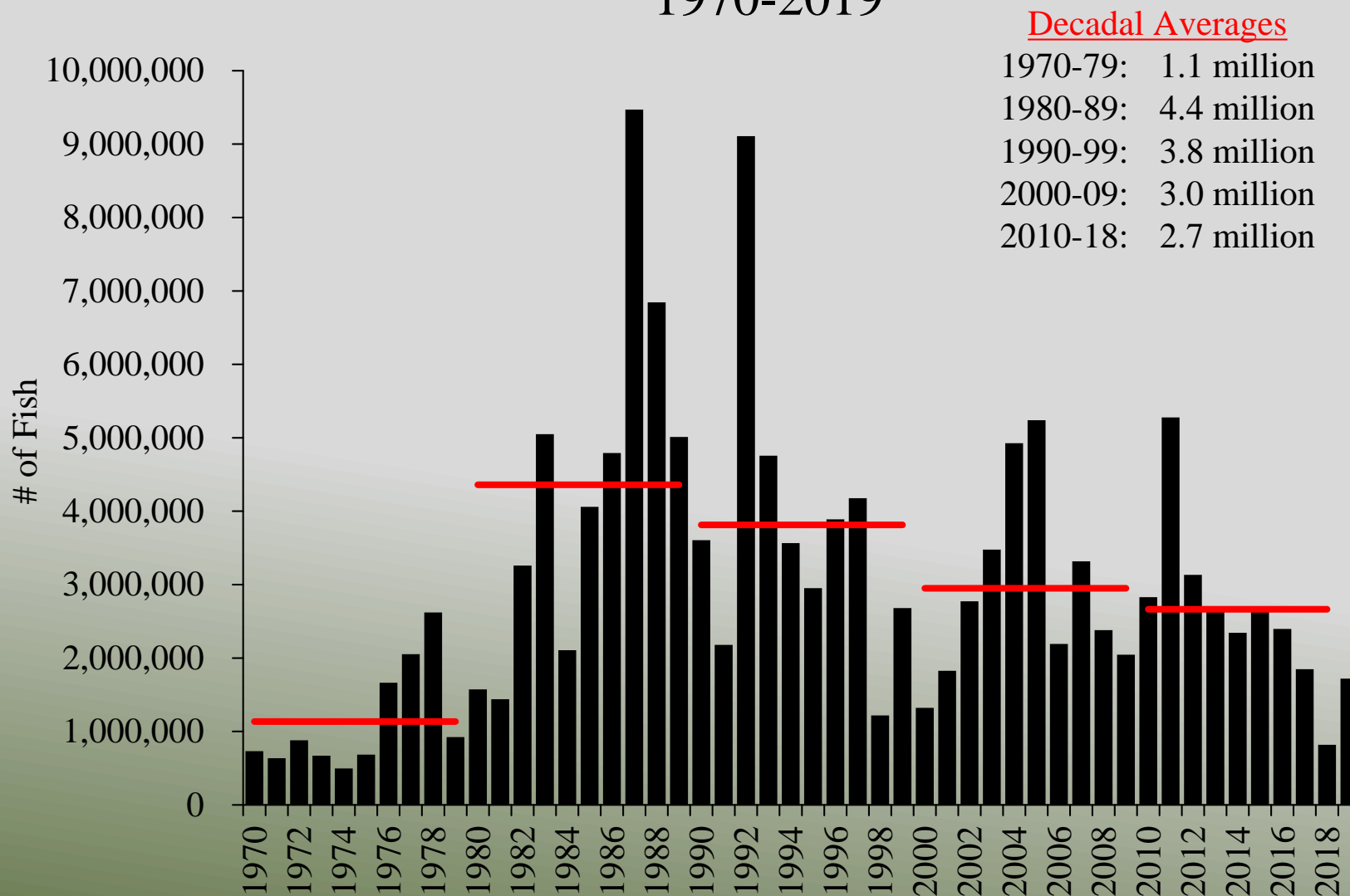
Red striped = goal not met

Black = goal met

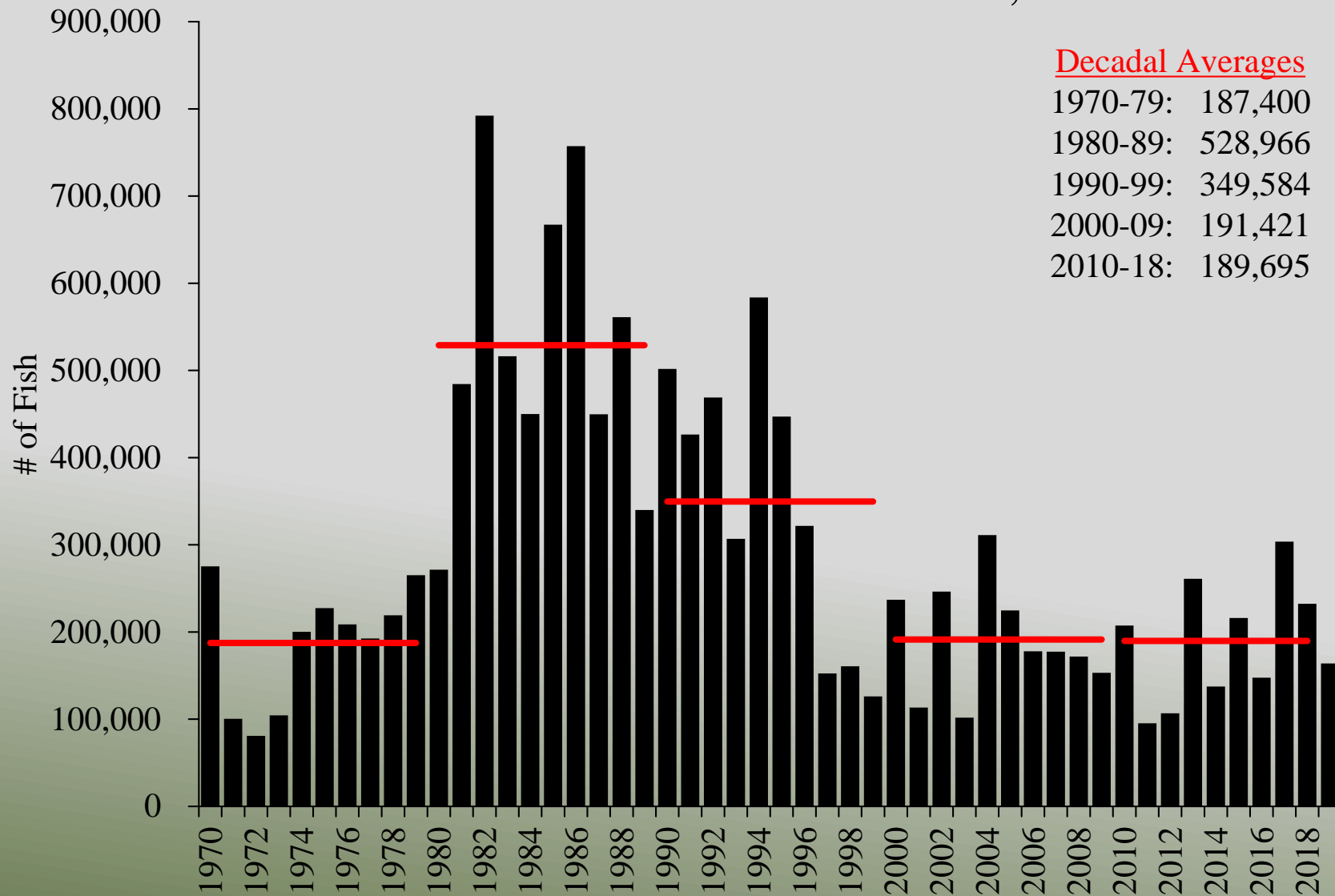
Red bar = goal exceeded



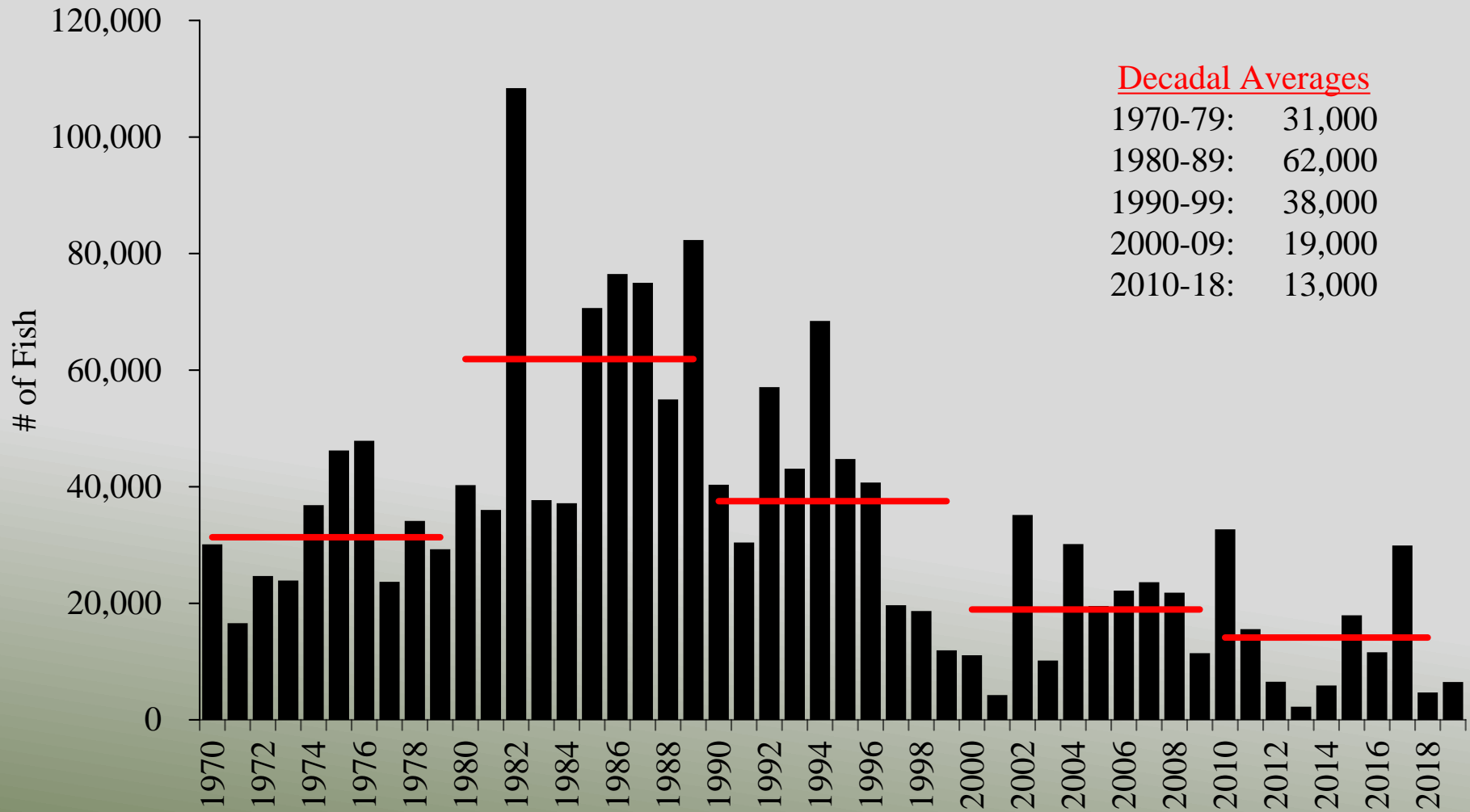
UCI Commercial Sockeye Salmon Harvest 1970-2019



UCI commercial coho salmon harvest, 1970-2019

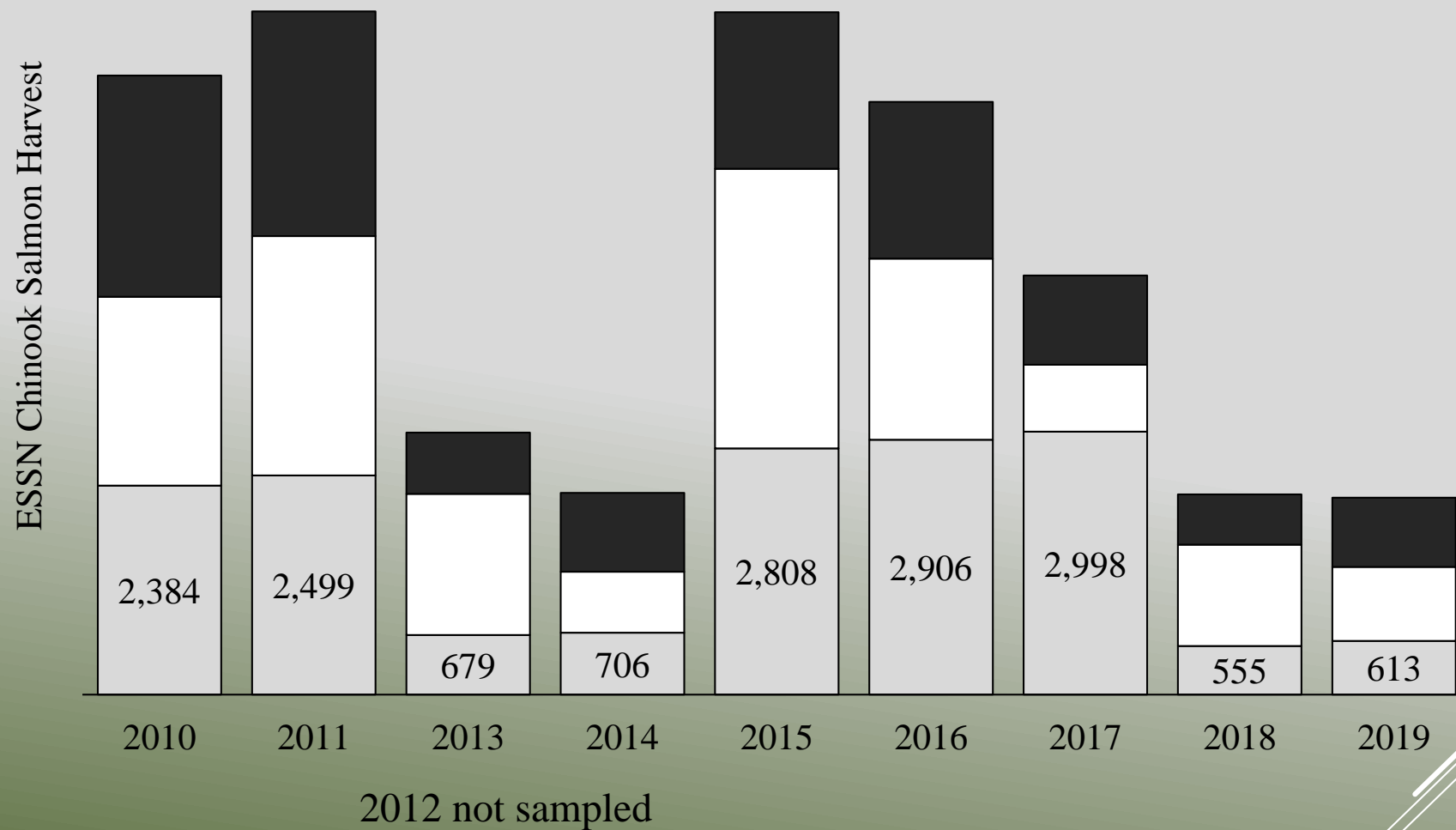


ESSN coho salmon harvest, 1970-2019

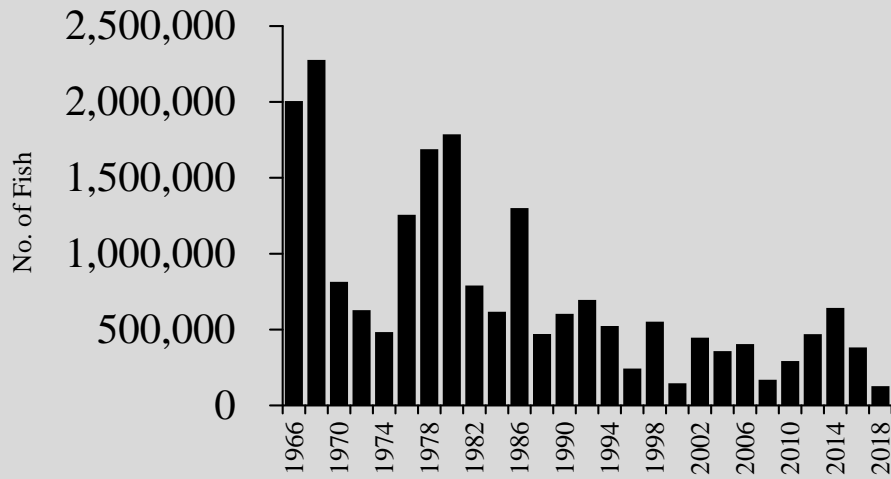


Stock Origin of ESSN Chinook Salmon Harvest

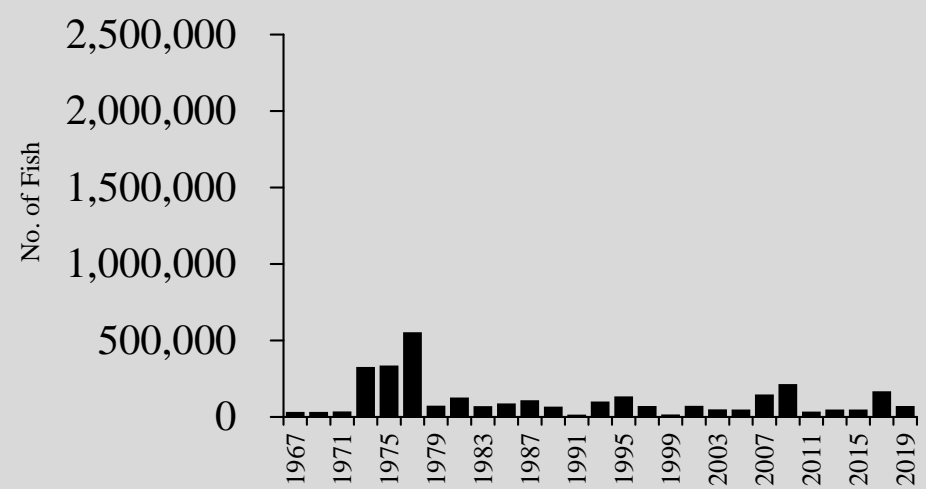
□ Kenai Stock Large □ Kenai Stock Small ■ Other Stocks



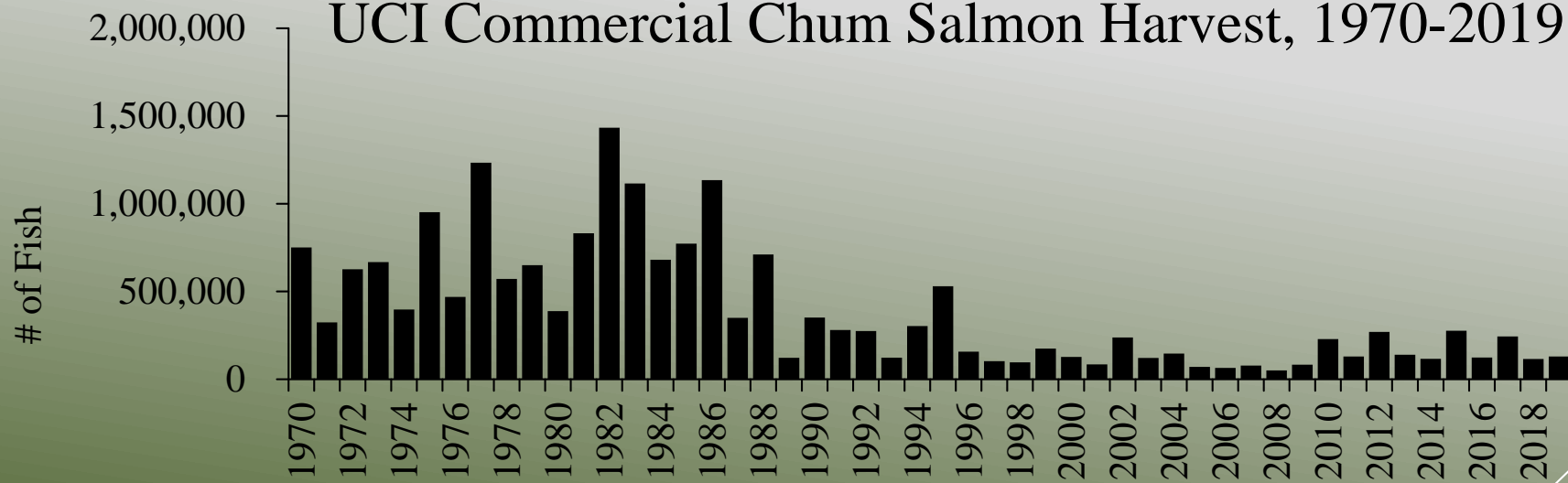
UCI Even-Year Pink Salmon Harvest



UCI Odd-Year Pink Salmon Harvest



UCI Commercial Chum Salmon Harvest, 1970-2019

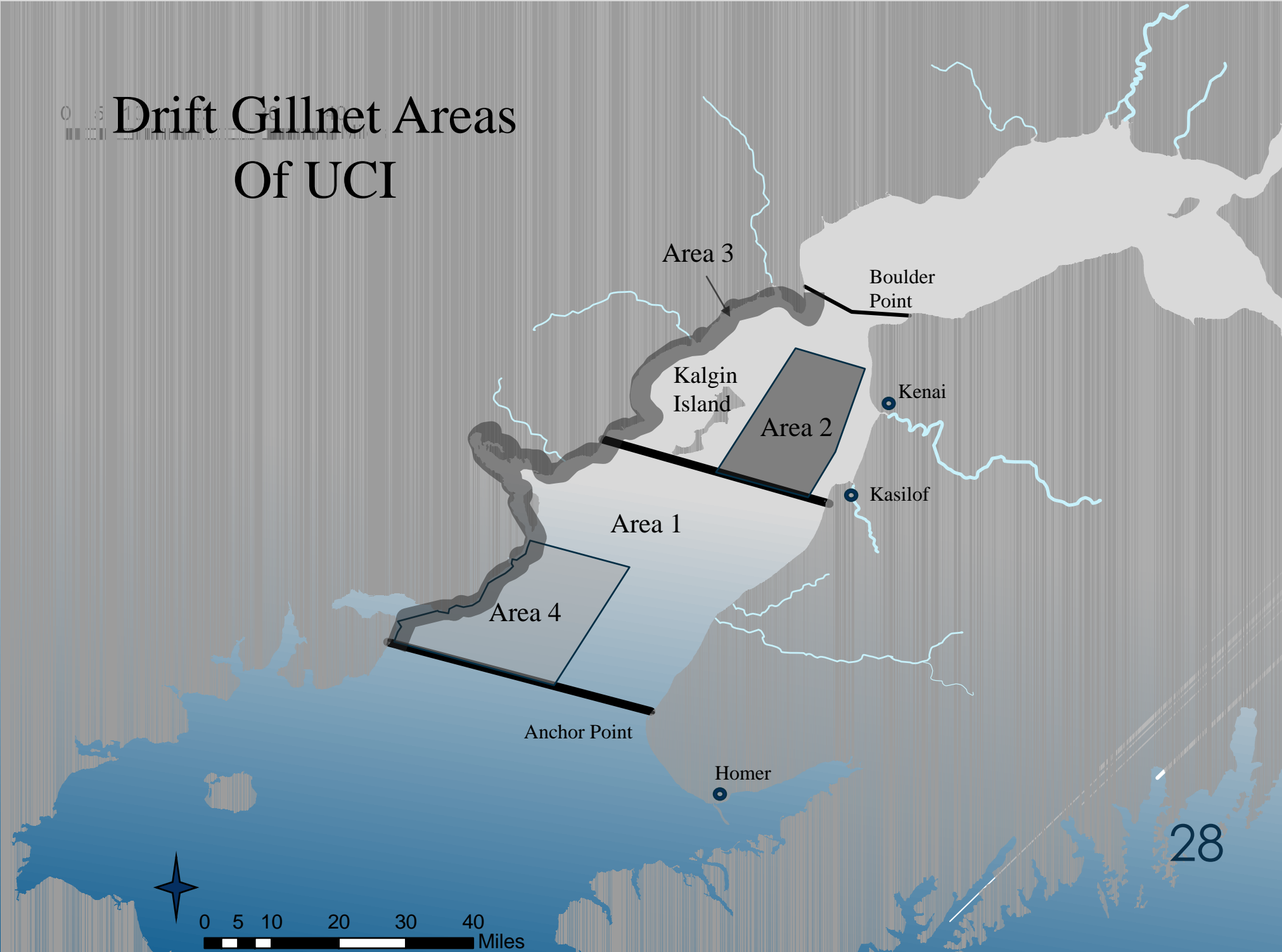


CENTRAL DISTRICT DRIFT GILLNET MANAGEMENT PLAN

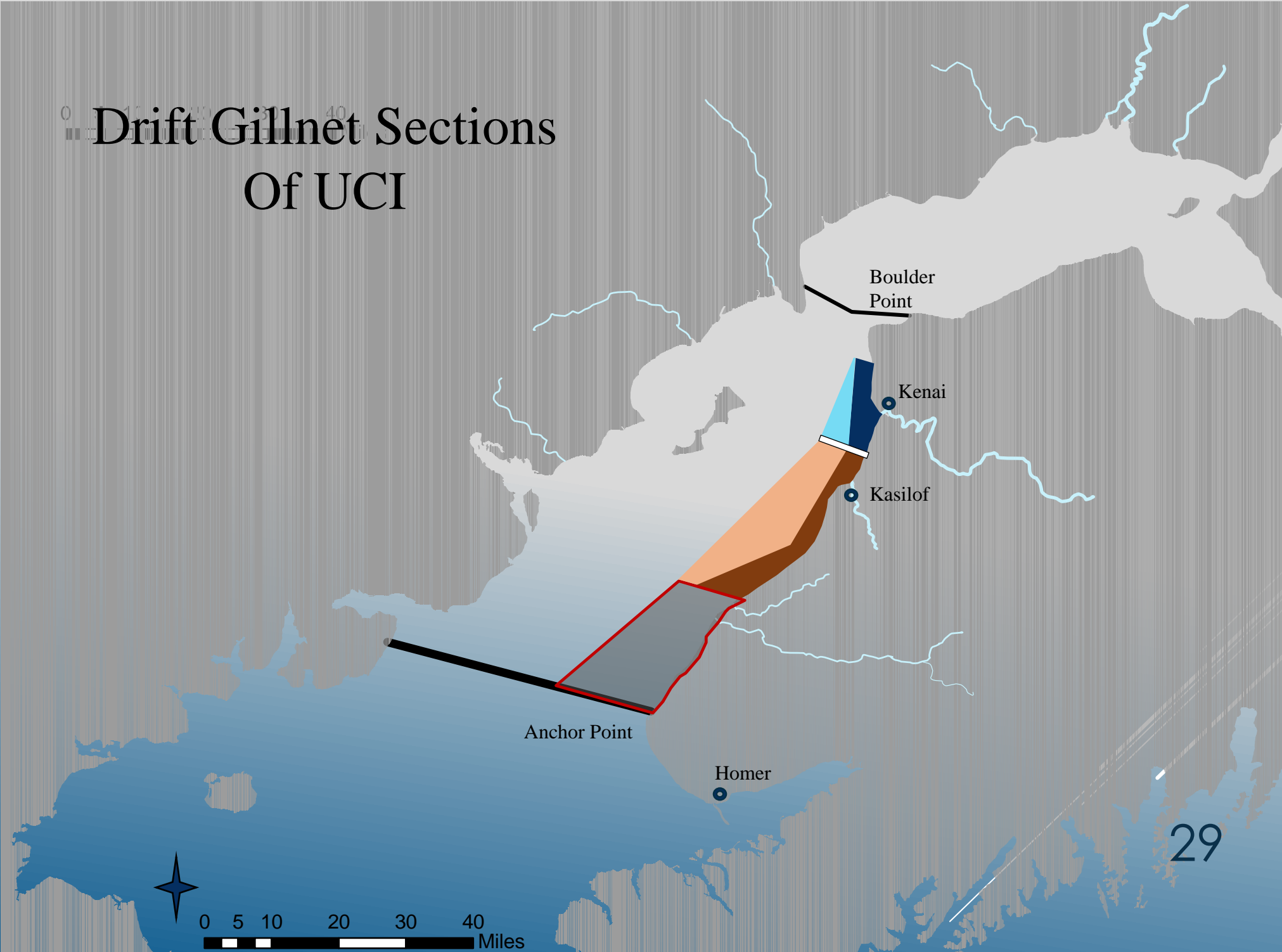
States that the department shall manage the drift gillnet fishery to minimize the harvest of Northern District and Kenai River coho salmon to provide sport and guided sport fishermen a reasonable opportunity to harvest these stocks.



Drift Gillnet Areas Of UCI



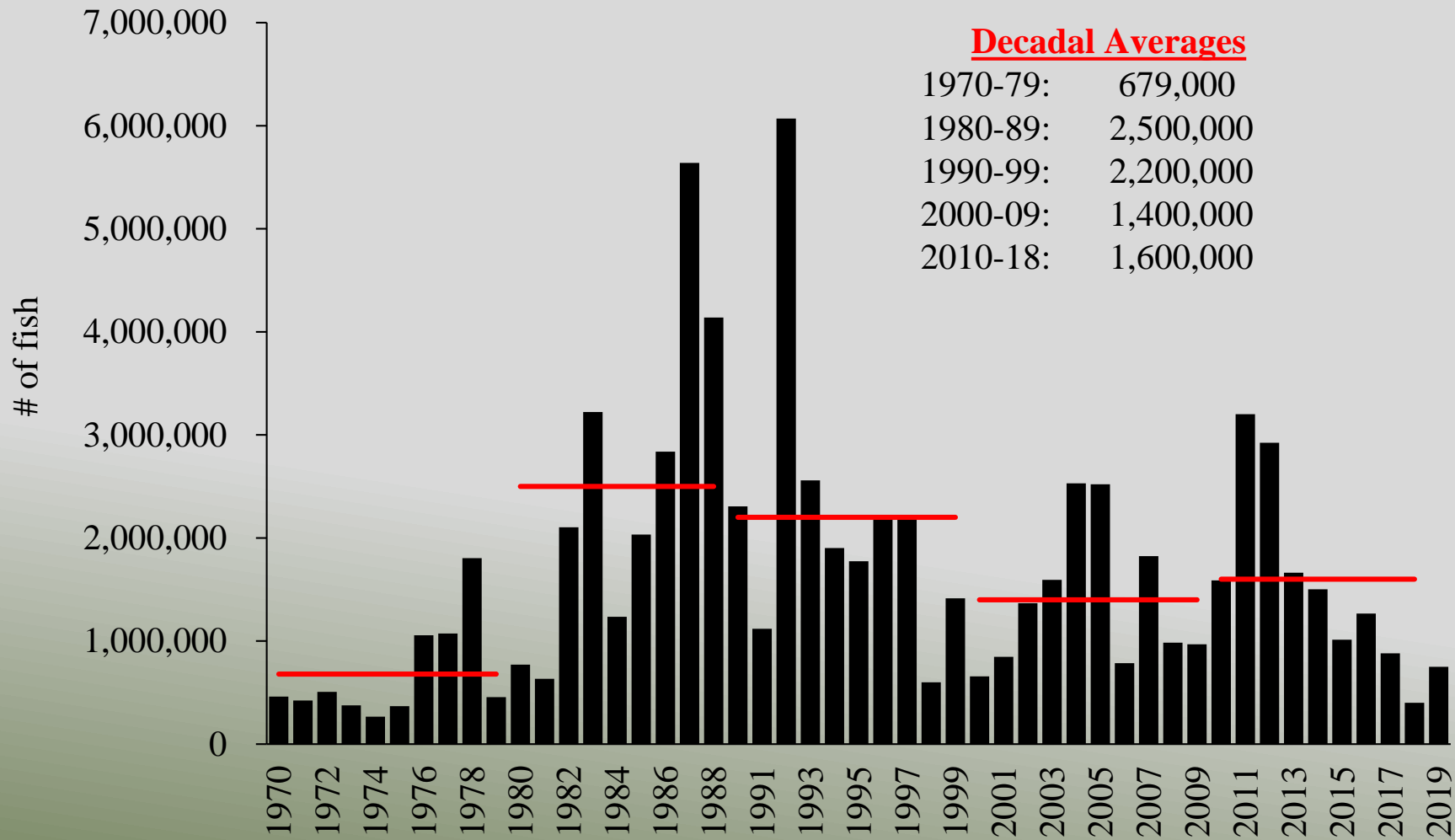
Drift Gillnet Sections Of UCI



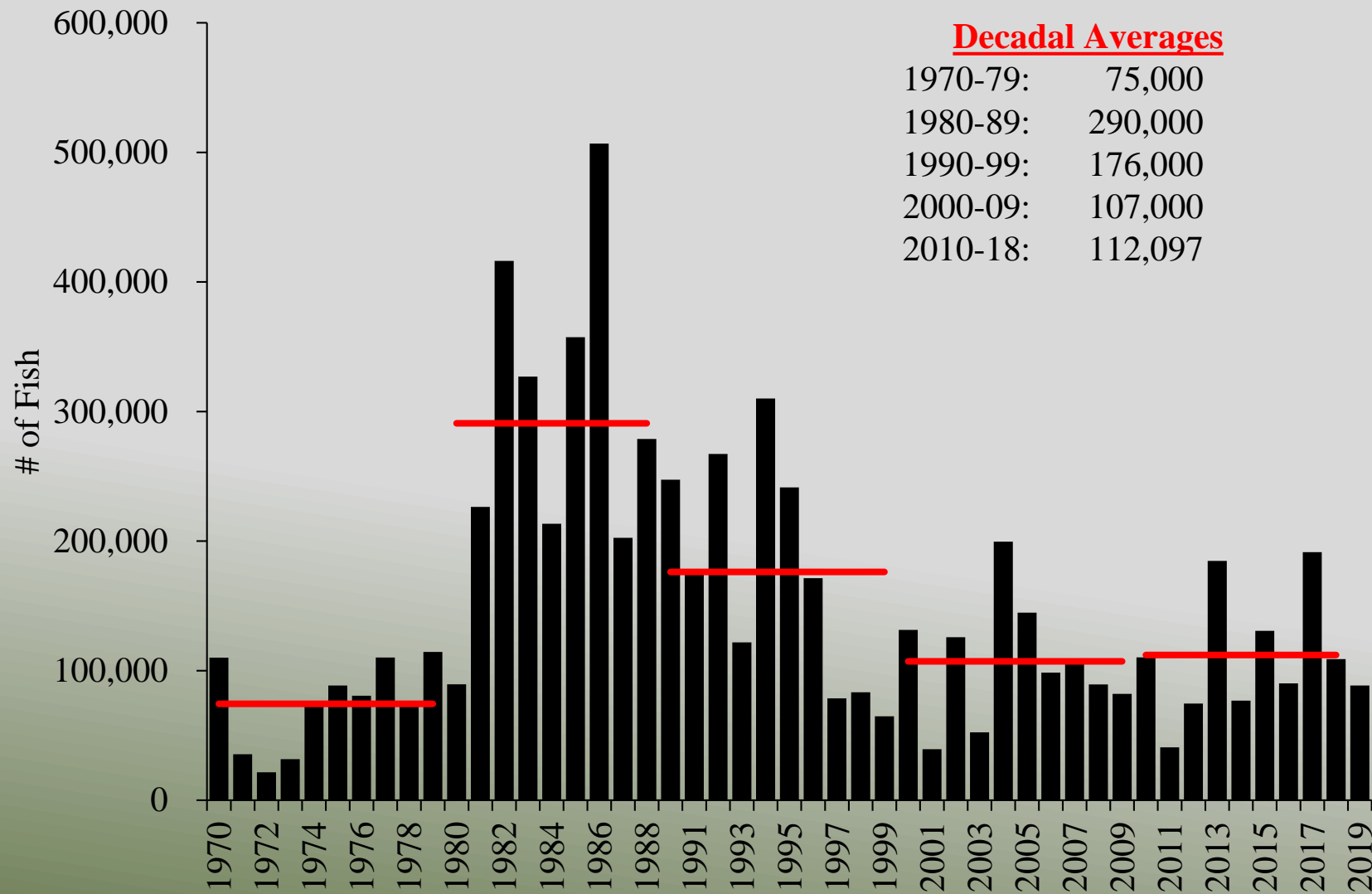
CENTRAL DISTRICT DRIFT GILLNET MANAGEMENT PLAN

1. Season opens to district wide periods on third Monday in June, or June 19.
2. From July 9-15:
 - Regular periods restricted to Drift Area 1 & Expanded Ken/Kas Sections
 - Additional time in Expanded Ken/Kas Sections only
 - On Kenai sockeye salmon runs > 2.3 – 4.6 million, option for a 3rd Area 1 period
3. From July 16-31: Restrictions triggered by Kenai River sockeye run size.
 - < 2.3 million: All fishing is restricted to Expanded Ken/Kas or AP Sections
 - 2.3 – 4.6 million: One period/week restricted to one or all the following:
Drift Area 1; Expanded Ken/Kas and AP Sections, Remaining period and all other fishing time is restricted to Expanded Ken/Kas and AP Sections, A1 expansion to district wide possible one time.
 - > 4.6 million: One period/week may be fished district-wide.
All other fishing time is restricted to Expanded Ken/Kas and AP Sections
4. From August 1-15: All periods are district wide, and from August 11-15 only regular periods are allowed.
5. After August 15: all periods are restricted to area 3 or 4.

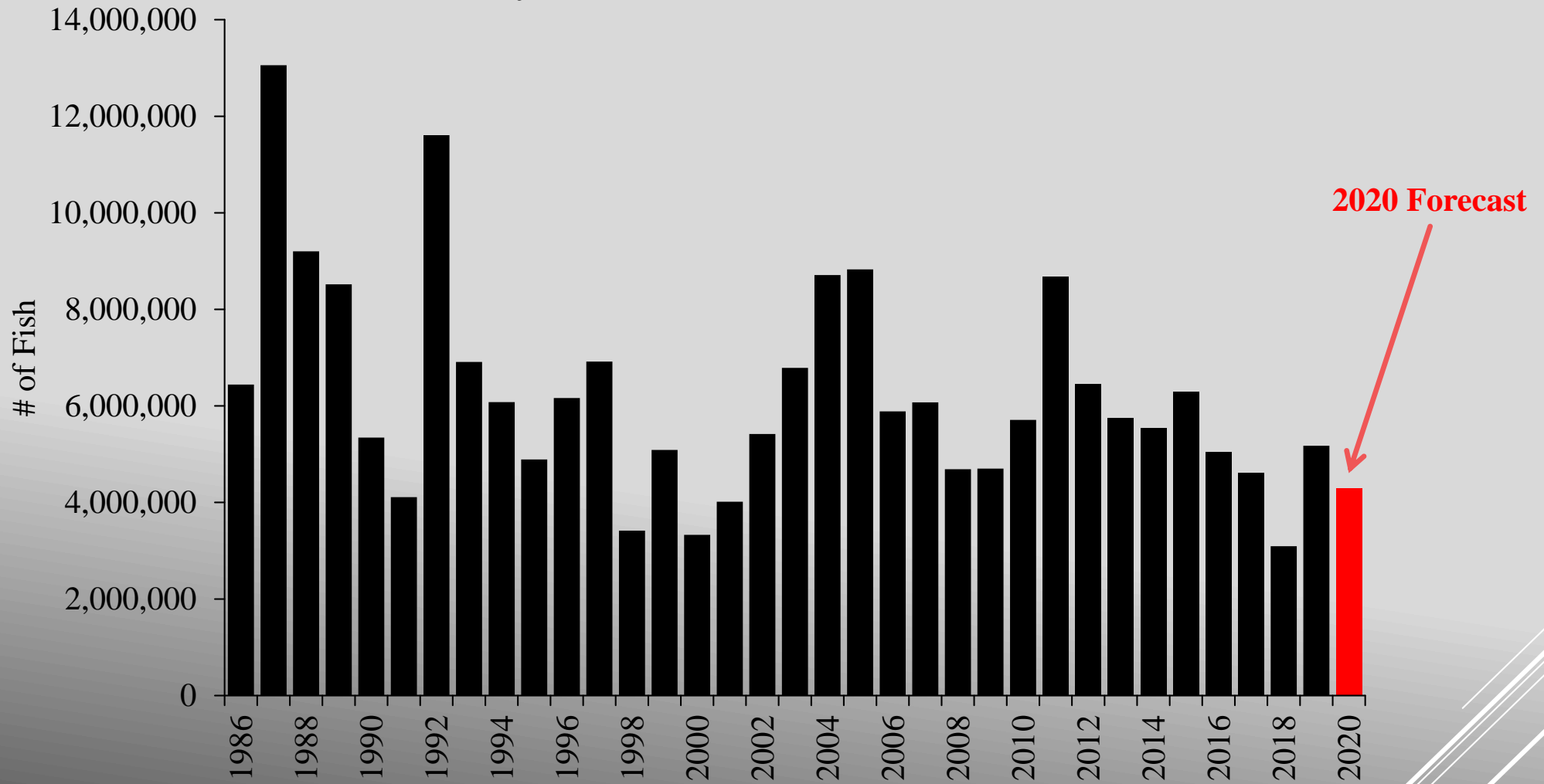
Drift Gillnet Sockeye Salmon Harvests, 1970-2019



Drift Gillnet Coho Salmon Harvest, 1970-2019



UCI Sockeye Salmon Total Runs with 2020 Forecast



QUESTIONS?

