Special Publication No. 24-19

Overview of the Sport Fisheries for King Salmon in Southeast Alaska through 2024: A Report to the Alaska Board of Fisheries

by

Troy Tydingco

Jason Pawluk

Alex Tugaw

Jeff Rice

and

Southeast Region Division of Sport Fish Staff

December 2024

Alaska Department of Fish and Game **Divisions of Sport Fish and Commercial Fisheries**

Symbols and Abbreviations

The following symbols and abbreviations, and others approved for the Système International d'Unités (SI), are used without definition in the following reports by the Divisions of Sport Fish and of Commercial Fisheries: Fishery Manuscripts, Fishery Data Series Reports, Fishery Management Reports, and Special Publications. All others, including deviations from definitions listed below, are noted in the text at first mention, as well as in the titles or footnotes of tables, and in figure or figure captions.

Weights and measures (metric)

centimeter	cm
deciliter	dL
gram	g
hectare	ha
kilogram	kg
kilometer	km
liter	L
meter	m
milliliter	mL
millimeter	mm

Weights and measures (English)

cubic feet per second	ft^3/s
foot	ft
gallon	gal
inch	in
mile	mi
nautical mile	nmi
ounce	oz
pound	lb
quart	qt
yard	yd

Time and temperature

day	d
degrees Celsius	°C
degrees Fahrenheit	°F
degrees kelvin	K
hour	h
minute	min
second	s

Physics and chemistry

all atomic symbols	
alternating current	AC
ampere	A
calorie	cal
direct current	DC
hertz	Hz
horsepower	hp
hydrogen ion activity (negative log of)	pH
parts per million	ppm
parts per thousand	ppt, ‰
volts	V
watts	W

General

Alaska Administrative Code	AAC
all commonly accepted abbreviations	e.g., Mr., Mrs., AM, PM, etc.
all commonly accepted professional titles	e.g., Dr., Ph.D., R.N., etc.
at	@
compass directions:	
east	E
north	N
south	S
west	W
copyright	©
corporate suffixes:	
Company	Co.
Corporation	Corp.
Incorporated	Inc.
Limited	Ltd.
District of Columbia	D.C.
et alii (and others)	et al.
et cetera (and so forth)	etc.
exempli gratia (for example)	e.g.
Federal Information Code	FIC
id est (that is)	i.e.
latitude or longitude	lat or long
monetary symbols (U.S.)	$, ¢
months (tables and figures): first three letters	Jan,...,Dec
registered trademark	®
trademark	™
United States (adjective)	U.S.
United States of America (noun)	USA
U.S.C.	United States Code
U.S. state	use two-letter abbreviations (e.g., AK, WA)

Mathematics, statistics

all standard mathematical signs, symbols and abbreviations	
alternate hypothesis	H_A
base of natural logarithm	e
catch per unit effort	CPUE
coefficient of variation	CV
common test statistics	(F, t, χ^2, etc.)
confidence interval	CI
correlation coefficient (multiple)	R
correlation coefficient (simple)	r
covariance	cov
degree (angular)	°
degrees of freedom	df
expected value	E
greater than	>
greater than or equal to	≥
harvest per unit effort	HPUE
less than	<
less than or equal to	≤
logarithm (natural)	ln
logarithm (base 10)	log
logarithm (specify base)	$\log_2$, etc.
minute (angular)	′
not significant	NS
null hypothesis	H_O
percent	%
probability	P
probability of a type I error (rejection of the null hypothesis when true)	α
probability of a type II error (acceptance of the null hypothesis when false)	β
second (angular)	″
standard deviation	SD
standard error	SE
variance	
population	Var
sample	var

SPECIAL PUBLICATION NO. 24-19

OVERVIEW OF THE SPORT FISHERIES FOR KING SALMON IN SOUTHEAST ALASKA THROUGH 2024: A REPORT TO THE ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

by
Troy Tydingco
Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, Sitka

Jason Pawluk
Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, Yakutat

Alex Tugaw
Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, Haines

Jeff Rice
Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, Petersburg

and

Southeast Region Division of Sport Fish Staff
Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, Juneau

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Sport Fish, Research and Technical Services
333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, Alaska, 99518-1565

December 2024

The Special Publication series was established by the Division of Sport Fish in 1991 for the publication of techniques and procedures manuals, informational pamphlets, special subject reports to decision-making bodies, symposia and workshop proceedings, application software documentation, in-house lectures, and similar documents. The series became a joint divisional series in 2004 with the Division of Commercial Fisheries. Special Publications are intended for fishery and other technical professionals. Special Publications are available through the Alaska State Library, Alaska Resources Library and Information Services (ARLIS), and on the Internet: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/publications/. This publication has undergone editorial and peer review.

Troy Tydingco
Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, Sitka

Jason Pawluk
Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, Yakutat

Alex Tugaw
Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, Haines

Jeff Rice
Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, Petersburg

and

Southeast Region Division of Sport Fish staff
Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, Juneau

This document should be cited as follows:
Tydingco, T., J. Pawluk, A. Tugaw, J. Rice, and Southeast Region Division of Sport Fish staff. 2024. Overview of the sport fisheries for king salmon in Southeast Alaska through 2024: A report to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Special Publication No. 24-19, Anchorage.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

LIST OF TABLES

LIST OF TABLES (Continued)

LIST OF FIGURES

LIST OF APPENDICES

LIST OF APPENDICS (Continued)

ABSTRACT

King (Chinook) salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) are highly sought after by sport anglers and the commercial fishing industry in Southeast Alaska (SEAK). Fisheries management for the species is complex and involves international and domestic allocations, sustainable Alaska wild stock management objectives, and providing opportunity for Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon. The SEAK all-gear catch limit is established under the U.S.–Canada Pacific Salmon Treaty (PST), whereas the Alaska Board of Fisheries (board) allocates domestic shares to the various SEAK fisheries. The PST was renegotiated in 2018 resulting in a new 10-year agreement covering years 2019 to 2028 that included several changes impacting Alaskan king salmon fisheries. These changes in the PST required the board to modify the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* (KSMP) that was accomplished outside of a typical board cycle in 2019, and since that revision, the plan has been modified twice both during its regularly scheduled meeting in 2022, and during an out of cycle meeting in 2023. The board has received 16 proposals related to king salmon for consideration at the 2025 SEAK board meeting that if adopted would modify the sport fishery in SEAK.

The management of the sport fishery has been guided by the KSMP, which has been revised several times since first adoption in 1992. The sport harvest of king salmon in SEAK has averaged 52,588 fish between 2014 and 2023. During this same time, sport harvest has averaged 20.2% of the sport/troll allocation of the SEAK all-gear catch limit, slightly above the target allocation of 20%. Nonresident harvest of king salmon has averaged 68% of the total sport harvest (2014–2023). The outer coast sport fisheries of Sitka and Prince of Wales Island harvest 62% of the total king salmon harvest (2014–2023). Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon contribute a larger percentage of the total king salmon catch in the inside coast sport fisheries of Haines/Skagway, Juneau, Petersburg/Wrangell, and Ketchikan compared to the outer coast fisheries.

Keywords: king salmon, Chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*, Southeast Alaska, SEAK, Alaska Board of Fisheries, board, Pacific Salmon Treaty, PST, sport fishery, Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan, KSMP, allocation, regulations

INTRODUCTION

King (Chinook) salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) are the most preferred species in the Southeast Alaska (SEAK) sport fishery and are also highly valued by the commercial fishing industry. In the SEAK region, between Dixon Entrance to the south and Cape Suckling to the north (Figure 1), the sport fishery primarily occurs from May through August. King salmon harvest is composed of local SEAK wild stocks, Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon, and both wild and hatchery-produced king salmon originating from Canada and the U.S. states of the Pacific Northwest.

The U.S.–Canada Pacific Salmon Treaty (PST) dictates the annual SEAK all-gear catch limit of king salmon (excluding most of the Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon). Due to this limit on SEAK harvest and the high value to both commercial and sport fisheries, establishing an allocation of king salmon between the 2 user groups has been contentious. Since 1992, Alaska's all-gear catch limit for king salmon has been allocated domestically between the sport and commercial fisheries. Sport fisheries have been managed under the direction of the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* (KSMP; 5 AAC 47.055), which has undergone numerous revisions since its first implementation in 1992.

The continuing challenge of managing the SEAK king salmon sport fishery is providing sustainable management of Alaska wild stocks, maintaining the sport fishery within its allocation, complying with specific provisions of the PST in terminal areas of the Stikine and Taku Rivers, and providing opportunity to harvest Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon. These objectives are complicated by factors such as (1) varying king salmon abundance and stock composition across time and location within SEAK and along the Pacific coast, (2) changing patterns of angler effort

in the fishery, and (3) the influence of angler behavior or preferences on outcomes of management action.

This report will provide an overview of the sport fishery for king salmon in SEAK, a discussion of the KSMP, and an update of stock and fishery status. Specifically, this report will provide the following details for SEAK:

1) historical information including sport fisheries regulations for king salmon and implementation of the various management plans since 1992
2) fisheries data such as king salmon harvest, effort, stock composition, angler behavior and demographics
3) status of SEAK wild king salmon
4) additional material board members may find useful when discussing proposals to be decided at the 2025 Southeast Alaska Board of Fisheries (board) meeting

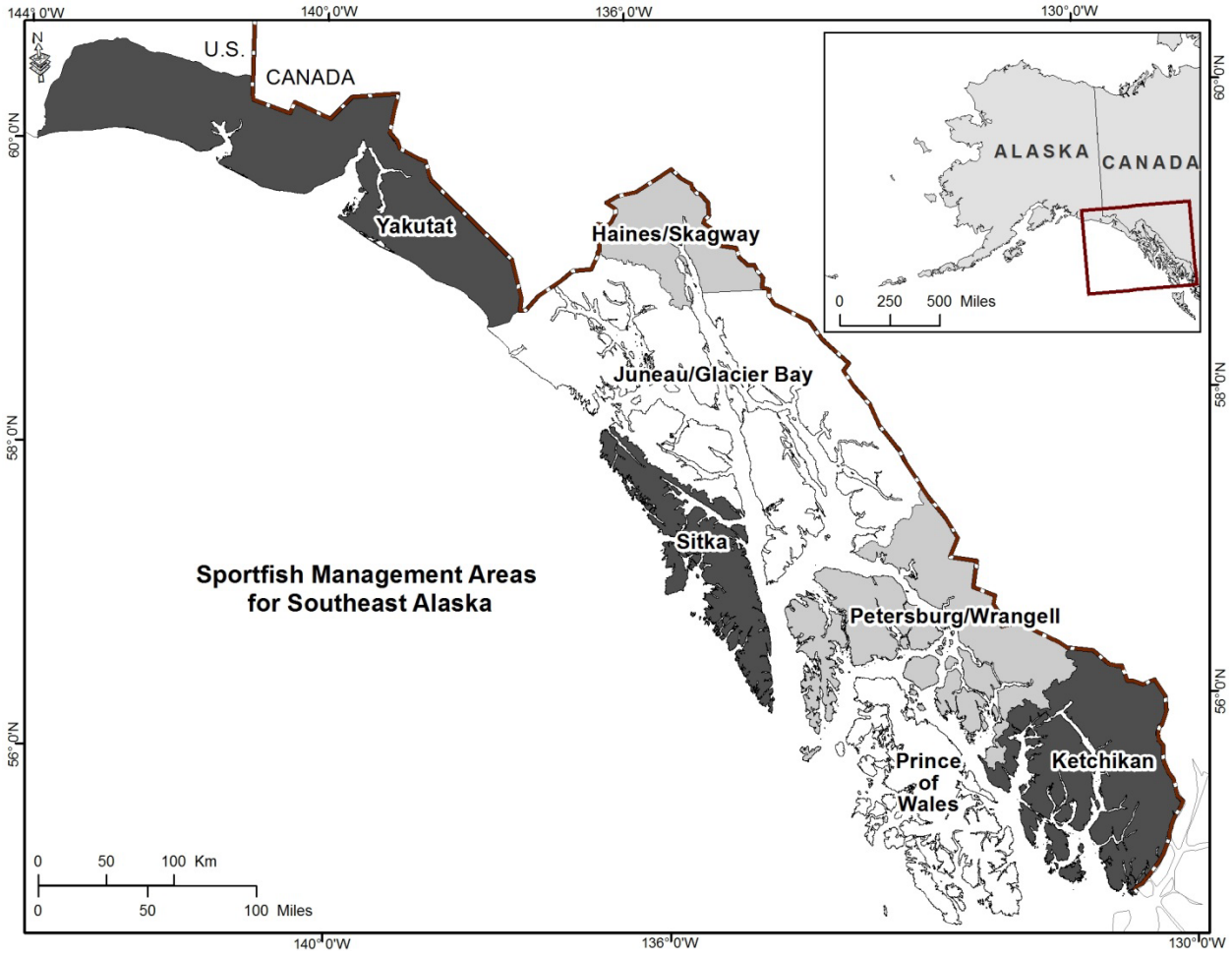


Figure 1.–Sport Fish Management Areas within the Southeast Alaska region.

REGULATORY HISTORY

FRESHWATER FISHERIES

Sport fishing for king salmon in the fresh waters of SEAK east of the longitude of Cape Fairweather (all management areas except Yakutat) has been closed since 1963. Some exceptions have been made to allow opportunity for Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon in locations where no wild stock king salmon are present, including Juneau area road system drainages, freshwaters draining into the Sitka Sound Special Use Area, and Blind Slough near Petersburg.

In the Yakutat management area, all freshwaters are open to king salmon fishing, with the Situk, Akwe, and the East Alsek Rivers receiving the largest amount of effort. The *Situk-Ahrnklin Inlet and Lost River King Salmon Fisheries Management Plan* (5 AAC 30.365) establishes sport and commercial fisheries regulations based on the projected inriver run to the Situk River weir.

MARINE FISHERIES

The marine king salmon sport fishery is managed to achieve 3 primary goals: (1) sustainable SEAK wild stocks, (2) compliance with the provisions of the PST, and (3) providing opportunity for Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon when possible. In the current regulatory environment, the domestic allocation of king salmon between SEAK fisheries is established by the *Allocation of king salmon in the Southeastern Alaska-Yakutat Area* (5 AAC 29.060), whereas 20% of the Alaska all-gear catch limit, after allocation to the net fisheries has been subtracted, is allocated to the sport fishery. This allocation does not include harvest of Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon. Regulatory guidance to the sport fishery is established by the KSMP (5 AAC 47.055), which directs the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) to implement specific management actions according to the annual allocation of king salmon to the sport fishery. Emergency order (EO) authority is used to establish bag, possession, annual limits, and other provisions annually in accordance with the management plan and when necessary to protect the sustainability of SEAK wild king salmon stocks. In addition, EO authority is used to provide specific opportunity for Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon within terminal areas, some of which have site-specific management plans. These various components are discussed in more detail in the following sections of this report. A complete description of management actions enacted each year is provided in Appendix A, and a summary of regulations by year from 1958 to 2024 is provided in Table 1.

Minimum Size

The current minimum size limit for king salmon is 28 inches in total length and has been in place since 1977 with specific exceptions. From 1958 to 1962, the minimum size limit was 26 inches (fork length), and during the period from 1963 to 1975, there was no minimum size limit for king salmon. In 1976, a minimum size limit of 26 inches (total length) was put into effect but was increased the following year to 28 inches (total length). From 1980 to 1983, the minimum size limit was eliminated from April 1 to June 14 to provide for the harvest of small mature males known as “jacks,” but the 28-inch size limit was in effect for the remainder of the year. From 1983 through May 1989, it was legal for marine anglers to keep undersized king salmon (less than 28 inches in length) that were missing adipose fins. This regulation was enacted to increase recoveries of coded wire tags (CWTs). However, retention of these fish caused biased estimates of hatchery contributions, and the regulation was repealed in 1989 with the minimum size limit reverting to 28 inches regardless of missing adipose fins, unless otherwise stated through EO. In

2008, the nonresident minimum size limit was increased to 48 inches between July 16 and September 30, which was a provision within the KSMP at that time. Since 2009, the regionwide minimum size limit of 28 inches has been in place for all marine waters, with the exception that in some areas where Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon are returning, opportunity to harvest undersize king salmon is provided.

Table 1.–Summary of regional king salmon regulations in the marine waters of Southeast Alaska, 1958−2024.

Year	Minimum size limit (in)	Bag/possession limit	Other regionwide regulations	Areas with additional restrictions
1958–1962	≥26 fork	3/3		Ketchikan
1963–1975	None	3/3	Freshwater–first closed	Ketchikan
1976	≥26 fork	3/3		Juneau, Ketchikan
1977	≥28 total	3/3		Juneau, Ketchikan
1978–1979	≥28 total	3/3		Juneau, Ketchikan, Haines, Wrangell
1980–1982	≥28 total	3/3		Juneau, Ketchikan, Haines, Wrangell
1983–1988	≥28 total	2/2	No size limit–tagged fish	Juneau, Ketchikan, Wrangell
1989–1991	≥28 total	2/2	Terminal area management	Juneau, Ketchikan, Haines, Wrangell
1992–1996	≥28 total	2/2	Management Plan	Juneau, Ketchikan, Haines, Wrangell
1997–2002	≥28 total	2/2	No retention by charter vessel crews 4 fish (≥28 in) annual limit for nonresidents	Juneau, Ketchikan, Wrangell
2003–2005[a]	≥28 total	2/2	No retention by charter vessel crews 1 fish (≥28 in) bag and possession limit for nonresidents	Juneau, Ketchikan, Wrangell
2006–2007	≥28 total	3/3	No retention by charter vessel crews 1 fish (≥28 in) bag and possession limit for nonresidents 3 fish (≥28 in) annual limit for nonresidents Use of 2 rods Oct–Mar	Skagway (2007)
2008	≥28 total and ≥48 total	1/1	1 fish (≥28 in) bag and possession limit for nonresidents May 1–Jul 15 and Oct 1–Dec 31 1 fish (≥48 in) bag and possession limit for nonresidents July 16–Sep 30 Nonresident harvest limits: 3 fish Jan 1–Jun 30 2 fish Jul 1–15 1 fish Jul 16–Dec 31	
2009	≥28 total	2/2	1 fish (≥28 in) bag and possession limit for nonresidents 3 fish annual limit for nonresidents	Skagway, Petersburg/Wrangell

-continued-

Table 1.–Page 2 of 4.

Year	Minimum size limit (in)	Bag/possession limit	Other regionwide regulations	Areas with additional restrictions
2010	≥28 total	2/2	From Oct 1–Mar 31 residents may use 2 rods 1 fish (≥28 in) bag and possession limit for nonresidents 3 fish annual limit for nonresidents	Ketchikan, Petersburg/Wrangell
2011	≥28 total	3/3	From Oct1–Mar 31 all anglers may use 2 rods 1 fish (≥28 in) bag and possession limit for nonresidents except 2 fish (≥28 in) bag and possession limit for nonresidents May 1–May 31 5 fish annual limit for nonresidents	Skagway, Petersburg/Wrangell
2012	≥28 total	3/3	From Oct 1–Mar 31 all anglers may use 2 rods 1 fish (≥28 in) bag and possession limit for nonresidents except 2 fish (≥28 in) bag and possession limit for nonresidents May 1–May 31 4 fish annual limit for nonresidents	Skagway, Petersburg–Wrangell
2013	≥28 total	1/1	1 fish (≥28 in) bag and possession limit for nonresidents nonresident harvest limits: 3 fish Jan 1–Jun 30 2 fish Jul 1–15 1 fish Jul 16–Dec 31	Haines/Skagway, Petersburg/Wrangell
2014	≥28 total	3/3	From Oct 1–Mar 31 all anglers may use 2 rods 1 fish (≥28 in) bag and possession limit for nonresidents except 2 fish (≥28 in) bag and possession limit for nonresidents May 1–Jun 30 6 fish annual limit for nonresidents	Skagway, Petersburg/Wrangell, Ketchikan
2015	≥28 total	3/3 (Jan 1– Jun 30) 2/2 (Jul 1– Dec 31)	From Oct 1–Mar 31 all anglers may use 2 rods 1 fish (≥28 in) bag and possession limit for nonresidents except 2 fish (≥28 in) bag and possession limit for nonresidents May 1–Jun 30 Nonresident annual limit: 6 fish (Jan 1–Jun 30) 3 fish (Jul 1–Dec 31)	Juneau, Ketchikan

-continued-

Table 1.–Page 3 of 4.

Year	Minimum size limit (in)	Bag/possession limit	Other regionwide regulations	Areas with additional restrictions
2016	≥28 total	3/3	From Oct 1–Mar 31 all anglers may use 2 rods 1 fish (≥28 in) bag and possession limit for nonresidents except 2 fish (≥28 in) bag and possession limit for nonresidents May 1–Jun 30 6 fish annual limit for nonresidents	Haines/Skagway, Juneau, Petersburg/Wrangell, Ketchikan
2017	≥28 total	2/2	From Oct 1–Mar 31 all anglers may use 2 rods 1 fish (≥28 in) bag and possession limit for nonresidents 3 fish annual limit for nonresidents Retention of king salmon prohibited Aug 10–Sep 30	Haines/Skagway, Juneau, Petersburg/Wrangell, Ketchikan Regionwide retention prohibited Aug 10–Sep 30
2018	≥28 total	1/1	From Oct 1–Mar 31 resident anglers may use 2 rods Nonresident annual harvest limit 3 fish from January 1–Jun 30 and 1 fish Jul 1–Dec 31	Haines/Skagway, Juneau, Petersburg/Wrangell, Ketchikan
2019	≥28 total	1/1	Bag and possession limit increased to 2 fish in inside waters after these areas reopened to harvest Nonresident annual harvest limit 3 fish from January 1–Jun 30 and 1 fish Jul 1–Dec 31 Retention of king salmon was prohibited for nonresident anglers Aug 1–16	Haines/Skagway, Juneau, Petersburg/Wrangell, Ketchikan
2020	≥28 total	1/1 (Jan 1–Jun 14) 3/3 (Jun 15–Jul 9) 4/4 (Jul 10–Jul 28 6/6 (Jul 29– Oct 1) 1/1 (Oct 1– Dec 31)	From Oct 1 to Mar 31 resident anglers may use 2 rods Nonresident annual limits: 3 fish (Jan 1–Jun 14), 4 fish (Jun 15–Jul 9), 6 fish (Jul 11–Jul 28), 9 fish (Jul 29–Dec 31), Nonresident bag and possession limit: 1 fish (Jan 1–Jul 10), 2 fish (Jul 10–Jul 28), 3 fish (Jul 29–Dec 31)	Haines/Skagway, Juneau, Petersburg/Wrangell, Ketchikan

-continued-

Table 1.–Page 4 of 4.

Year	Minimum size limit (in)	Bag/possession limit	Other regionwide regulations	Areas with additional restrictions
2021	≥28 total	1/1 (Jan 1–Jun 14) 3/3 (Jun 15–Jul 9) 4/4 (Jul 10–Jul 28 6/6 (Jul 29–Oct 1) 1/1 (Oct 1–Dec 31)	From Oct 1 to Mar 31 resident anglers may use 2 rods Nonresident annual limits: 4 fish (Jan 1–Jun 20), 3 fish (Jun 21–Jun 30), 2 fish (Jul 1–Jul 7), 1 fish (Jul 8–Jul 31), 0 fish (Aug 1–Aug 31), 1 fish (Sep 1–Dec 31) Nonresident bag and possession limit: 1 fish (Jan 1– Dec 31)	Haines/Skagway, Juneau, Petersburg/Wrangell, Ketchikan
2022	≥28 total	1/1 (Jan 1–Feb 2) 2/2 (Feb 3–Dec 31)	From Oct 1 to Mar 31 resident anglers may use 2 rods Nonresident annual limits: 1 fish (Jan 1–Feb 2), 3 fish (Feb 3–Jun 30), 2 fish (Jul 1–Jul 15), 1 fish (Jul 16–Dec 31) Nonresident bag and possession limit: 1 fish (Jan 1–Dec 31)	Haines/Skagway, Juneau, Petersburg/Wrangell, Ketchikan
2023	≥28 total	2/2 (Jan 1–Dec 31)	From Oct 1 to Mar 31 resident anglers may use 2 rods Nonresident annual limits: 1 fish (Jan 1–Mar 9), 3 fish (Mar 10–Jun 30), 2 fish (Jul 1–Jul 15), 1 fish (Jul 16–Dec 31) Nonresident bag and possession limit: 1 fish (Jan 1–Dec 31)	Haines/Skagway, Juneau, Petersburg/Wrangell, Ketchikan
2024	≥28 total	2/2 (Jan 1–Dec 31)	From Oct 1 to Mar 31 resident anglers may use 2 rods Nonresident annual limits: 1 fish (Jan 1–Mar 31), 3 fish (Apr 1–Jun 30), 2 fish (Jul 1–Jul 15), 1 fish (Jul 16–Dec 31) Nonresident bag and possession limit: 1 fish (Jan 1–Dec 31)	Haines/Skagway, Juneau, Petersburg/Wrangell, Ketchikan

[a] In 2005, the regional regulation was modified by emergency regulation for a portion of the year and the nonresident annual limit was increased to 5 and the resident bag limit was increased to 3 fish.

PACIFIC SALMON TREATY

In 1985, the U.S. and Canada signed the PST, which includes provisions for management and conservation of king salmon stocks along the Pacific Coast, north of southern Oregon up to Cape Suckling in SEAK. The PST is renegotiated amongst party members every 10 years. Catch ceilings (limits) were established for the king salmon fishery in SEAK and other major fisheries in Canada as part of the initial catch-sharing arrangements. Upon initial implementation domestically, only the commercial troll fishery was subject to the annual harvest limits for treaty fish. But in 1987, the board allocated the harvest of treaty fish across all commercial users in SEAK, and by 1992, allocations were in place for the sport fishery as well. Catch accounting of the SEAK king salmon harvest is tracked by Alaska members of the Pacific Salmon Commission (PSC) Chinook Technical Committee (CTC) with consideration to various provisions and obligations of the PST. With the exception of a small number of Alaska hatchery fish that are harvested in SEAK, harvests of Alaska hatchery fish do not count towards the SEAK all-gear catch limit. In addition, king salmon harvest in excess of base level average harvest in District 8 and District 11 do not count towards the SEAK all-gear catch limit. Base level harvest was derived using average harvest in these areas between 1985–2003 and between statistical week (SW) 17 and SW29.

In 1998, the PSC negotiated an agreement for the 1999 to 2008 period that implemented abundance-based management for all king salmon fisheries in both the U.S. and Canada. Between 1999 and 2018, SEAK fisheries have been managed to achieve a king salmon harvest level based on the annual coastwide abundance rather than on a fixed ceiling. The SEAK all-gear catch limit was based on the best available preseason abundance index (AI) as determined by the CTC of the PSC. The 2009 to 2018 agreement reduced the SEAK all-gear catch limit on average by 15% because of concessions made by Alaska during those renegotiations (Table 2).

The annual all-gear catch limit is allocated domestically in accordance with *Allocation of king salmon in the Southeastern Alaska-Yakutat Area* (5 AAC 29.060), where the commercial net fisheries allocation is first subtracted from the SEAK all-gear catch limit (1,000 is first allocated to the set gillnet fishery and the remaining drift gillnet and seine fisheries each are allocated 2.9% and 4.3%, respectively, of the remaining all-gear catch limit), and the remainder is allocated 80% to commercial troll fisheries and 20% to sport fisheries. Fisheries performance data for the years when the preseason AI was used to establish the SEAK all-gear catch limit (1999–2018) and resulting harvest is presented in Table 3.

Table 2.–Southeast Alaska all-gear catch limits and domestic fishery allocations at a range of abundance indices based on the 2009–2018 Pacific Salmon Treaty agreement.

Abundance index	All-gear catch limit	Commercial net allocation [a]	80% Commercial troll allocation [b]	20% Sport allocation [b]
0.5	72,250	6,202	52,838	13,210
0.8	105,400	8,589	77,449	19,362
0.9	116,450	9,384	85,652	21,413
1.0	127,500	10,180	93,856	23,464
1.1	151,725	11,924	111,841	27,960
1.2	175,950	13,668	129,825	32,456
1.3	214,237	16,425	158,250	39,562
1.4	229,409	17,517	169,514	42,378
1.5	244,582	18,610	180,777	45,194
1.6	279,983	21,159	207,060	51,765
1.7	296,420	22,342	219,262	54,815
1.8	312,856	23,526	231,464	57,866
1.9	329,293	24,709	243,667	60,917
2.0	345,729	25,892	255,869	63,967
2.1	362,200	27,078	268,097	67,024
2.2	378,600	28,259	280,273	70,068
2.3	395,000	29,440	292,448	73,112
2.4	411,500	30,628	304,698	76,174
2.5	427,900	31,809	316,873	79,218
2.6	444,300	32,990	329,048	82,262

[a] Commercial net allocation is 1,000 for set gillnet, 2.9% of the all-gear catch limit for drift gillnet, and 4.3% of the all-gear catch limit for seine.

[b] The 80% commercial troll allocation and 20% sport allocation is applied after the commercial net allocation is subtracted from the all-gear catch limit.

Table 3.–Harvest of treaty king salmon and commercial troll and sport overage and underage calculations using allocations based on preseason abundance indices, 1999–2018.

Year	Preseason abundance index	Preseason catch limit	Troll + sport allocation	Preseason troll allocation	Preseason sport allocation	All-gear observed catch	Troll catch	Sport harvest	Troll deviation	Sport deviation	Troll (%)[a]	Sport (%)[b]
1999	1.15	192,800	175,910	140,728	35,182	198,842	132,741	53,158	-7,987	17,976	75.5	30.2
2000	1.14	189,900	173,134	138,507	34,627	186,493	133,963	41,439	-4,544	6,812	77.4	23.9
2001	1.14	189,900	173,134	138,507	34,627	186,919	128,692	44,725	-9,815	10,098	74.3	25.8
2002	1.74	356,500	332,570	266,056	66,514	357,133	298,132	45,504	32,076	-21,010	89.6	13.7
2003	1.79	366,100	341,758	273,406	68,352	380,152	307,380	49,239	33,974	-19,113	89.9	14.4
2004	1.88	383,500	358,410	286,728	71,682	417,019	321,876	55,413	35,148	-16,269	89.8	15.5
2005	2.05	416,400	389,895	311,916	77,979	388,640	304,891	63,330	-7,025	-14,649	78.2	16.2
2006	1.69	346,800	320,830	256,664	64,166	360,094	263,980	69,375	7,316	5,209	82.3	21.6
2007	1.60	329,400	304,684	243,747	60,937	328,268	240,474	62,298	-3,273	1,361	78.9	20.4
2008	1.07	170,000	156,760	125,408	31,352	172,905	126,352	32,603	944	1,251	80.6	20.8
2009	1.33	218,800	202,046	161,637	40,409	227,954	159,126	48,120	-2,511	7,711	78.8	23.8
2010	1.35	221,800	204,830	163,864	40,966	230,611	177,982	44,315	14,118	3,349	86.9	21.6
2011	1.69	294,800	272,575	218,060	54,515	291,161	220,787	53,964	2,727	-551	81.0	19.8
2012	1.52	266,800	246,590	197,272	49,318	242,821	191,553	37,722	-5,719	-11,596	77.7	15.3
2013	1.20	176,000	162,328	129,862	32,466	191,388	134,580	43,304	4,718	10,838	82.9	26.7
2014	2.57	439,400	406,764	325,411	81,353	435,195	340,015	73,951	14,604	-7,402	83.6	18.2
2015	1.45	237,000	218,936	175,149	43,787	335,026	251,086	65,174	75,937	21,387	114.7	29.8
2016	2.06	355,600	328,996	263,197	65,799	350,939	266,172	59,503	2,975	-6,296	80.9	18.1
2017	1.27	209,700	193,601	154,881	38,720	175,414	123,691	44,125	-31,190	5,405	63.9	22.8
2018	1.07	144,500	133,096	106,477	26,619	127,776	101,469	21,243	-5,008	-5,376	76.2	16.0
1999–2008 Average		294,130	272,709	218,167	54,542	297,647	225,848	51,708	7,681	-2,833	81.7	20.3
2009–2018 Average		256,440	236,976	189,581	47,395	260,829	196,646	49,142	7,065	1,747	82.7	21.2
All year average		275,285	254,842	203,874	50,969	279,238	211,247	50,425	7,373	-543	82.2	20.7

[a] Target allocation is 80% of the total troll and sport allocation.

[b] Target allocation is 20% of the total troll and sport allocation.

In August of 2018, the PST was renegotiated for the next 10-year period (2019–2028). With this renegotiation there were significant changes with implications to the management of the sport fishery. The renegotiated treaty created 7 catch limit tiers (Table 4) that replace the previous catch limit ranges, resulting in a 1% to 7% reduction on average to the preexisting catch limits for SEAK fisheries. Additionally, the use of the coastwide AI for establishing SEAK preseason catch limits was replaced with the early winter (October through December) troll CPUE from District 13. Finally, the renegotiated treaty includes a provision where any overage in the SEAK all-gear catch limit will result in a reduced allocation by the same amount in the following year. These changes required modifications to the KSMP, and the board took action to address the immediate need to align the KSMP with changes to the PST during an out-of-cycle meeting in 2019 but delayed a more comprehensive revisions until the next regularly scheduled SEAK board meeting. During the 2022 SEAK board meeting, the KSMP and the *Allocation of king salmon in Southeast Alaska* (5 AAC 29.060) were modified to allow for underages or overages in the sport fishery to benefit or be absorbed by the commercial troll fishery. This avoids exceeding the Alaska all-gear catch limit while providing flexibility domestically towards effectively utilizing the allocation between sport and commercial troll. A provision in the PST triggered a review of the use of the early winter CPUE as an estimate of abundance if there was significant discrepancy between the CPUE and the post season abundance index. Because of the discrepancy in 2021 and 2022, a new approach (multivariate) was introduced and approved for use in setting the 2023 preseason all-gear catch limit for SEAK aggregate abundance-based management (AABM). The 2023 preseason (multivariate model) and postseason (AI) once again disagreed and therefore per PST stipulations, the PSC returned to the use of the preseason AI as the metric used to establish the Alaska all-gear catch limit in 2024. For years 2019−2024, the preseason metric of abundance, resulting all-gear catch limit, domestic allocation and fishery performance data is presented in Table 5.

Table 4.–Winter troll CPUE index and related allocations for king salmon in Southeast Alaska under the 2019–2028 Pacific Salmon Treaty agreement.

Winter troll CPUE	AI equivalent range	All-gear catch limit	Commercial net allocation[a]	Commercial troll allocation[b]	Sport allocation[b]
20.5 and above	greater than 2.28	372,921	27,850	276,057	69,014
8.7 to less than 20.5	1.875–2.28	334,465	25,081	247,507	61,877
6.0 to less than 8.7	1.55–1.87	266,585	20,194	197,113	49,278
3.8 to less than 6.0	1.245–1.55	205,165	15,772	151,514	37,879
2.6 to less than 3.8	1.035–1.24	140,323	11,103	103,376	25,844
2.0 to less than 2.6	0.995–1.03	111,833	9,052	82,225	20,556
less than 2.0	less than 0.875	PSC determination	TBD	TBD	TBD

Note: AI = Abundance Index; PSC = Pacific Salmon Commission; TBD = To be determined.

[a] Commercial net allocation is 1,000 for set gillnet, 2.9% of the all-gear catch limit for drift gillnet, and 4.3% of the all-gear catch limit for seine.

[b] The 80% commercial troll allocation and 20% sport allocation is applied after the commercial net allocation is subtracted from the all-gear catch limit.

Table 5.–Harvest of treaty king salmon and commercial troll and sport overage and underage calculations under the 2019–2028 PST agreement.

Year	CPUE[a]	Model[b]	AI[c]	All-gear catch limit[d]	All gear harvest	Troll + sport allocation	Troll allocation	Sport allocation	Troll harvest	Sport harvest	Troll deviation	Sport deviation	Troll (%) [e]	Sport (%) [f]
2019	3.38	0.98	1.07	140,323	140,307	129,220	103,376	25,844	103,067	24,496	-309	-1,396	79.8	19.0
2020	4.83	1.09	1.13	205,165	204,624	189,393	151,514	37,879	165,406	30,561	13,892	-7,318	87.3	16.1
2021	3.85	1.16	1.28	205,165	202,082	189,393	151,514	37,879	155,590	36,935	4,076	-944	82.2	19.5
2022	7.02	1.30	1.16	266,585	238,621	246,391	197,113	49,278	187,613	34,166	-9,500	-15,112	76.1	13.9
2023	9.20	1.42	1.15	206,027	202,931	190,193	152,154	38,039	136,579	55,129	-15,576	17,107	71.8	29.0
2024	14.82	1.66	1.44	211,400	207,811	195,179	156,143	39,036	143,955	52,759	-12,188	13,723	73.8	27.0

[a] Winter Troll CPUE.

[b] Pacific Salmon Commission-Chinook Technical Committee (PSC-CTC) Multivariate Model

[c] PSC Preseason Abundance Index (AI)

[d] All-gear catch limit determined from Winter Troll CPUE (2019−2022), from PSC-CTC Multivariate Model (2023), and from the PSC Preseason Abundance Index (AI) in 2024.

[e] Target allocation is 80% of the total troll and sport allocation.

[f] Target allocation is 20% of the total troll and sport allocation.

SOUTHEAST ALASKA KING SALMON MANGEMENT PLAN

The *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* (5 AAC 47.055) was first adopted by the board in 1992. This plan provides guidance to the sport fishery by providing specific management actions to be implemented on an annual basis to meet the sport allocation. The management plan has undergone revisions throughout its history addressing changes in sport allocation, management objectives, direction for when the sport fishery is over or under its allocation, angler preferences, management of the charter fleet, and a variety of other issues. A synopsis of past iterations of the management plan and the history of king salmon allocation to the sport fishery is provided below.

ALLOCATION OF KING SALMON TO THE SPORT FISHERY

In March of 1992, the board allocated the SEAK king salmon treaty harvest limit between the commercial and sport fisheries. A total of 20,000 king salmon were allocated to the commercial net fisheries, and the rest of the available king salmon were divided as follows: 83% to the commercial troll fishery and 17% to the sport fishery. Prior to this time, the estimated sport harvest of king salmon was subtracted from the allowable harvest limit and the commercial troll fishery was managed to take the balance of the harvest limit available. During a subsequent board meeting in early 1994, the allocation to the sport fishery was increased from 17% to 18%, then to 19% in 1995, and then up to 20% in 1996, where it has remained to present day.

The board also directed that the harvest of treaty fish and the "Alaska hatchery add-on" (those Alaska hatchery fish that do not count against the harvest limit) were to be calculated separately for the sport and commercial fisheries. All wild and non-Alaska hatchery king salmon harvested by the sport fishery are counted against the sport fish allocation.

MANAGEMENT PLAN EVOLUTION

Management Plan 1992–2002

The board initially adopted the KSMP in 1992. The plan outlined how ADF&G was to manage the marine sport fishery for its king salmon harvest allocation and provided regulatory authorities to implement the plan. The core objectives of the 1992 plan were as follows: (1) allow uninterrupted sport fishing for king salmon in marine waters while not exceeding the allocation, and (2) minimize regulatory restrictions on unguided anglers that harvest king salmon at a lower CPUE than guided anglers fishing from charter vessels. The management provisions implemented to achieve these objectives included several bag limit, size limit, and gear restriction options to increase or reduce the sport harvest to meet the allocation as well as options for increased harvest recording. Bag limits of 2 king salmon per day, 2 in possession, with a minimum size limit of 28 inches were to remain in effect in SEAK marine waters until it was projected (either preseason or in season) that the total harvest would deviate by more than the management range from the allocation. The management range was set by regulation at 7.5%.

The plan was modified at board meetings in 1994, 1997, and 2000. The primary change in 1994 was to increase the sport allocation over a 3-year period from 17% to 20%. In 1997, the board determined that stability was important to the sport fishery and modified the plan to minimize inseason regulatory actions. Under the 1997 plan, as soon as the sport allocation was determined, ADF&G was to implement a 1-, 2-, or 3-fish bag limit for all anglers as needed. The projected

harvest under the specific bag limit became the new harvest target for the sport fishery. Other significant changes in 1997 were implemented as follows: (1) a 4 fish annual limit for nonresidents, (2) a prohibition on charter operators and crew from retaining king salmon when clients are onboard, and (3) a limit to the number of lines fished from charter vessels based on the number of paying clients on board but not to exceed the 6-line maximum. While not contained within the plan, but impacting the sport fish management of king salmon in SEAK, the board passed a mandatory logbook requirement for charter vessels during the 1998 statewide meeting. The primary changes to the plan in 2000 were as follows: (1) establish the sport fishery regulations prior to May 1 and have the regulations remain in effect for the entire season (except as needed for conservation), (2) provide more specific regulatory actions to be taken at various levels of king salmon abundance, and (3) implement more restrictive regulations on nonresidents and anglers fishing from charter vessels. Under the 2000 plan, the commercial troll fishery continued to be managed to harvest the difference between the all-gear catch limit less the net allocation and projected sport harvest. Cumulative sport harvest above the sport fishery allocation came out of the troll allocation and were to be paid back in future years by not implementing more liberal regulations in the sport fishery, and the cumulative number of fish not harvested (underage) was applied as an offset against excess harvests in prior or future years.

Management Plan 2003–2005

In 2003, the plan was modified to include the following core objectives: (1) manage the sport fishery to attain an average harvest of 20% of the annual harvest limit specified by the CTC after subtracting the commercial net harvest, (2) allow uninterrupted sport fishing in salt waters for king salmon while not exceeding the sport fishery harvest ceiling, (3) minimize regulatory restrictions on resident anglers, and (4) provide stability to the sport fishery by eliminating inseason regulatory changes except those needed for conservation. The board rescinded general regulations for specific king salmon bag, possession, and annual limits and set general regulations that required ADF&G to establish king salmon bag, possession, and annual limits by EO as specified by the KSMP.

The primary changes to the plan to achieve these objectives were as follows: (1) require that the sport and troll fisheries be managed separately to achieve their own allocations (uncoupling of the fisheries); (2) cumulative overages or underages in the sport fishery would not be used to liberalize or restrict regulations; (3) at AIs above 1.2, reduce either bag limits, annual limits, or both for nonresidents; (4) remove additional restrictions to residents fishing on guided vessels; and (5) implement a series of additional restrictions at lower AIs.

Management Plan 2006–2008

In 2006, the king salmon AI and resulting sport allocation had been at near record levels since 2002. With relatively limited options for expanding the sport fishery at high abundance levels, the sport fishery was consistently harvesting under its allocation.

The management measures within the plan were substantially modified by the board in 2006 to increase harvest during years when AIs were above 1.5. Those changes include the following: (1) the resident bag limit was increased to 3 fish at AIs greater than 1.5; (2) the nonresident bag limits increased to 2 fish during May and June at AIs above 2.0, and in May when AIs are above 1.5 to 2.0; (3) annual limits for nonresidents were increased to 6 fish at AIs above 2.0, to 5 or 6 fish at AIs above 1.75 to 2.0, and to 4 or 5 fish at AIs greater than 1.5 to 1.75; and (4) a management measure allowing the use of 2 rods per angler during March through October was also added to the plan to benefit resident anglers.

In 2008, ADF&G enacted all management measures in the plan for AIs below 1.1 and above 1.0 due to a severely a low AI. This included a 48-inch size limit between 1 August and 30 September as well as limiting the number of rods which could be used on a charter vessel to 4 rods. This was the first time these management measures were used since the management plan was substantially modified by the board in 2003. After implementation of these management measures by EO, questions arose within the department (and from the public) pertaining to the August exception for the Juneau sport fishing derby; questions also arose as to how the provision for 4 fishing lines should be applied. ADF&G sought clarification on implementation of these management measures by polling the board.

In April of 2008, the board convened and modified provisions within the plan that had allowed the retention of king salmon less than 48 inches in length in the Juneau derby area August 15 through August 25. The management measure restricting the maximum number of lines that may be fished from a charter vessel to 4 lines was also eliminated. Additionally, a resident bag and possession limit of 1 fish 28 inches or greater in length was added making an exception for residents fishing within the Juneau derby area unnecessary. To balance the increased harvest by these more liberal management measures, the board increased the nonretention period by 2 weeks for king salmon less than 48 inches for nonresidents. An EO was issued on May 1, 2008, to apply these revisions for the remainder of the 2008 season.

Management Plan 2009–2018

An agreement on fishery arrangements under the PST was reached between the U.S. and Canada in May 2008. One of the key elements to reaching that agreement was a 15% reduction to the all-gear catch limit of king salmon in the SEAK AABM fishery. This reduction had significant implications for management of the sport fishery, especially at lower levels of abundance. To address this resulting reduction of allowable catch in the sport fishery, the board modified harvest limits at the 2009 board meeting for nonresident anglers in years when the AI is 1.1 or lower. Additionally, the board modified management measures to allow resident anglers the use of 2 rods from October through the following March when the AI is less than or equal to 1.5. In 2012, the board modified the plan to clearly articulate that when the use of 2 rods is allowed, it is only for the fishing of king salmon.

Management Plan 2019–2021

In August of 2018, the PST was renegotiated for the next 10-year period (2019–2028). With several changes made to the PST, the KSMP required revision to align the prescribed management actions with the newly adopted CPUE model tiers and the overall reduction in the all-gear catch limit. In January 2019, the board took up Proposal 176 (previously Agenda Change Request 9, ACR 9) to modify the KSMP. Understanding that it would be best to address modification to the plan during the 2021 SEAK board meeting, but that immediate action was needed, the board modified 3 sections of the plan that would most likely cover the anticipated abundance indices occurring in 2019 and 2020, and adopted the proposal as amended. For the 3 sections of the plan, board modified language was added directing ADF&G to use inseason management to avoid exceeding the sport allocation while also providing a resident angler priority. The 2021 SEAK board meeting was delayed until 2022 due to safety and travel concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic. During 2019–2021, the sport fishery was managed inseason by either increasing or decreasing sport fishing opportunity to achieve the annual allocation to the sport fishery.

MANAGEMENT PLAN 2022–2024

During the 2022 Southeast and Yakutat Finish and Shellfish meeting, the board approved modifications to the KSMP (proposal 82 as modified by RC 178). In this management plan, sport fish bag, possession, annual limits, and other management provisions are established at the beginning of the season based on the winter troll CPUE with no inseason adjustments for allocation purposes. The management plan was designed to harvest the sport allocation on average but was expected to over harvest during years of low allocation and under harvest during years of high allocation. If the sport fishery was over or under allocation, the commercial troll fishery would absorb the overage or benefit from the underage. Included in the modifications was a provision that the management plan would expire July 2025 to allow the board the opportunity to review the performance of the plan and the harvest sharing arrangement between sport and commercial troll fisheries. For the 2025 SEAK board meeting, the board has received several proposals which, if adopted, would modify the KSMP as well as impact the domestic allocation of king salmon with implications for the sport fishery. A summary of the prescribed management actions under the current KSMP is provided in Table 6.

Appendices A2–A5 provide a detailed description of the allocation, regulatory actions, and fishery harvest results for each year that the plan has been in effect, with the most recent 4 years (2021–2024) discussed in the following sections of this report.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS IN 2021

The 2021 SEAK Winter Troll CPUE of 3.85 was announced in March 2021. This level of abundance resulted in an all-gear catch of 205,165. The 20% sport allocation less the net allocation was 37,879 king salmon.

Given that the SEAK Winter Troll CPUE was greater than 3.8 and less than or equal to 6.0, the management plan required a bag limit of 1 king salmon 28 inches or greater in length for nonresidents, and a bag limit of 3 king salmon 28 inches or greater in length for residents. Due to the expected lingering effects of COVID-19 on fishing effort, a nonresident king salmon total harvest limit of 4 fish was implemented effective from March 3–December 31. In addition, from October 1 through March 31, a resident sport angler could use 2 rods when fishing for king salmon. These regulations were implemented by EO 1-KS-R-04-21 and became effective on March 3, 2021. These regulations applied to all marine waters in SEAK, including Yakutat; terminal harvest areas (THAs) established by EO to harvest excess Alaska hatchery king salmon and areas of king salmon nonretention to protect wild stocks were excluded.

Beginning in late May, estimates and projected sport harvest of king salmon for the remainder of the season indicated the sport fishery would be over its allocation due to better than expected harvest rates. This projection required the following restrictive actions to sport king salmon limits throughout the season for the sport fishery to stay within its allocation: on July 1, the nonresident annual limit to 2 fish; on July 8, the nonresident annual limit to 1 fish (EO 1-KS-R-16-21). With these restrictions, the sport fishery harvest came in just under its allocation.

SEAK wild king salmon stocks continued to be in a period of low production during 2021. In 2021, 7 of the 11 king salmon indicator stocks met escapement goals. In April 2021, to protect SEAK wild king salmon stocks, more restrictive sport fishery king salmon regulations than the regional king salmon regulations were established in the Yakutat, Haines/Skagway, Juneau, Petersburg/Wrangell, and Ketchikan Management Areas in concert with conservative management

in the commercial fisheries. These management actions are outlined in the *Southeast Alaska Wild Stocks and Management* section of this report. These management actions were effective at decreasing the harvest of wild Alaska king salmon but also led to a decreased harvest of treaty king salmon.

Table 6.−Current sport fish management actions prescribed by the Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan for each management tier.

	Tier						
	47.055 (c)	47.055 (d)	47.055 (e)	47.055 (f)	47.055 (g)	47.055 (h)	47.055 (i)
CPUE	≥20.5	<20.5–8.7	8.7–6.0	6.0–3.8	3.8–2.6	2.6–2.0	2
AI equivalent	>2.2	<2.2–>1.8	1.8–1.5	1.5–1.2	1.2–1.0	1.0–0.875	0.875
Sport harvest limit CPUE	69,000	61,900	49,300	37,900	25,800	20,600	
Sport harvest limit AI	>69,014	55,421–69,014	42,685–55,420	34,303–42,684	22,328–34302	19,381–22327	<19,381
	Current resident bag limit[a]						TBD[b]
Jan 1–Dec 31	3	3	2	2	1(2[c])	1(2[c])	
	Current nonresident bag/annual limits						
Jan 1–Jun 30	1/3	1/3	1/3	1/3	1/3	1/3	
Jul 1–7	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/1	
Jul 8–15	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/1	1/1	
Jul 16–Dec 31	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	

[a] No annual limits for residents.

[b] At CPUE abundances below 2 or allocations less than 19,381 fish, the all-gear catch limit will be determined by the Pacific Salmon Commission and the commissioner may establish limits.

[c] In tiers g and h, a resident bag limit is 2 king salmon in areas where conservation management measures prohibited king salmon retention or closed fishing for king salmon once they reopen.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS IN 2021 (Continued)

The estimated treaty harvest in the sport fishery for 2021 was 36,935 fish which was 944 fish below the 20% allocation based on the SEAK Winter Troll CPUE. The sport fishery took 19.5% of the all-gear catch limit less the net harvest.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS IN 2022

The 2022 SEAK Winter Troll CPUE of 7.02 was announced in February 2022. This level of abundance resulted in an all-gear catch of 266,585. The 20% sport allocation less the net allocation was 49,278 king salmon.

Given that the SEAK Winter Troll CPUE was greater than 6.0 and less than or equal to 8.7, the management plan required a bag limit of 1 king salmon 28 inches or greater in length for nonresidents, and a bag limit of 2 king salmon 28 inches or greater in length for residents. A nonresident king salmon total harvest limit of 3 fish was implemented effective from February 3–December 31. In addition, from October 1 through March 31, a resident sport angler could use 2 rods when fishing for king salmon. These regulations were implemented by EO 1-KS-R-05-22 and became effective on February 3, 2022. These regulations applied to all marine waters in SEAK, including Yakutat. THAs established by EO to harvest excess Alaska hatchery king salmon and areas of king salmon nonretention to protect wild stocks were excluded.

During the 2022 Southeast and Yakutat Finish and Shellfish meeting, the board approved modifications to the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* (KSMP; proposal 82 as modified by RC 178). This EO implemented the newly revised management prescriptions called for under subsection (e) when the Southeast Alaska Winter Troll CPUE is less than 8.7 and equal to or greater than 6.0. In accordance with these modifications, the board also made changes to the allocation of king salmon in the Southeast Alaska-Yakutat Area (5 AAC 29.060), and the sport fishery was not managed in season to achieve the sport allocation of 49,300 king salmon. These changes were implemented through EO 1-KS-R-17-22

Additionally in 2022, SEAK wild king salmon stocks continued to be in a period of low production. In 2022, only 5 of the 11 king salmon indicator stocks met escapement goals. In April 2022, to protect SEAK wild king salmon stocks, more restrictive sport fishery king salmon regulations than the regional king salmon regulations were established in the Yakutat, Haines/Skagway, Juneau, Petersburg/Wrangell, and Ketchikan Management Areas in concert with conservative management in the commercial fisheries. These management actions are outlined in the *Southeast Alaska Wild Stocks and Management* section of this report. These management actions were effective at decreasing the harvest of wild Alaska king salmon. The estimated treaty harvest in the sport fishery for 2022 was 34,166 fish which was 15,112 fish below the 20% allocation based on the SEAK Winter Troll CPUE. The sport fishery took 13.9% of the all-gear catch limit less the net harvest.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS IN 2023

The PSC adopted a new method for establishing the Alaska all-gear catch limit in February 2023 which used the winter troll CPUE in combination with output from the PSC Chinook model; this metric has been commonly referred to as the multivariate model. Catch limits for the SEAK fisheries were determined using a tiered approach using 17 tiers that are defined by a range of abundance index values. A catch ceiling was associated with each tier (Table 7). For example, tier 6 is associated with abundance indices from 1.105 to 1.175 and an annual catch limit of 142,101

king salmon. The department submitted an ACR to update the KSMP, replacing the now outdated reference to the Winter troll CPUE with a range of allocation. In this manner, sport fish management actions are prescribed based on the allocation available to the sport fishery without reference to the method the PSC uses to determine the allocation to Alaska fisheries. This ACR was accepted by the board and ultimately adopted in December 2023 at the Lower Cook Inlet Board of Fisheries meeting.

Table 7.–Chinook catch limits for SEAK aggregate abundance-based management fishery and the CPUE-based tiers.

Tier	Abundance index range	AI midpoint	Catch limit
1	<0.8965	N/A	Commission determination
2	0.895−0.945	0.920	107,498
3	0.945−0.985	0.965	111,888
4	0.985−1.035	1.101	116,278
5	1.035−1.105	1.070	127,130
6	1.105−1.175	1.140	142,101
7	1.175−1.245	1.210	157,072
8	1.245−1.345	1.295	191,963
9	1.345−1.455	1.400	206,027
10	1.455−1.555	1.505	220,091
11	1.555−1.665	1.610	252,358
12	1.665−1.765	1.715	267,594
13	1.765−1.875	1.820	282,830
14	1.875−2.015	1.945	314,799
15	2.015−2.145	2.080	335,288
16	2.145−2.285	2.215	355,778
17	>2.285	2.285	373,801

Note: N/A means no data.

The catch limit (206,027) determined by the PSC was announced on March 30, 2023. Of this, the sport allocation was 38,039 after the net subtraction. At this abundance level, the management prescriptions prescribed by the KSMP were identical to those issued in 2022: a bag limit of 1 king salmon 28 inches or greater in length for nonresidents and a bag limit of 2 king salmon 28 inches or greater in length for residents. A nonresident king salmon total harvest limit of 3 fish was implemented effective from January 1–June 30, 2 fish from July 1–July 15, and 1 fish from July 16–December 31. In addition, from October 1 through March 31, a resident sport angler could use 2 rods when fishing for king salmon. These regulations were implemented by EO 1-KS-R-03-23 and became effective on March 10, 2023. These regulations applied to all marine waters in SEAK, including Yakutat. THAs established by EO to harvest excess Alaska hatchery king salmon and areas of king salmon nonretention to protect wild stocks were excluded.

SEAK wild king salmon stocks continued to be in a period of low production during 2023. In 2023, only 6 of the 11 king salmon indicator stocks met escapement goals. In April 2023, to protect SEAK wild king salmon stocks, more restrictive sport fishery king salmon regulations than the regional king salmon regulations were established in the Yakutat, Haines/Skagway, Juneau,

Petersburg/Wrangell, and Ketchikan Management Areas in concert with conservative management in the commercial fisheries. These management actions are outlined in the *Southeast Alaska Wild Stocks and Management* section of this report. These management actions were effective at decreasing the harvest of wild Alaska king salmon but also led to a decreased harvest of treaty king salmon.

The estimated treaty harvest in the sport fishery for 2023 was 55,129 fish which was 17,090 fish over the 20% allocation based on the new multivariate model. The sport fishery took 29% of the all-gear catch limit less the net harvest.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS IN 2024

The 2024 SEAK all gear catch limit of 211,400 was announced on March 28, 2024. This level of abundance resulted in allocation of 39,036 king salmon to the sport fishery. At this level of abundance and allocation, the management plan required a bag limit of 1 king salmon 28 inches or greater in length for nonresidents and a bag limit of 2 king salmon 28 inches or greater in length for residents. A nonresident king salmon total harvest limit of 3 fish was implemented effective from January 1–June 30, 2 fish from July 1–July 15, and 1 fish from July 16–December 31. In addition, from October 1 through March 31, a resident sport angler could use 2 rods when fishing for king salmon. These regulations were implemented by EO 1-KS-R-08-24 and became effective on April 1, 2024. On August 22, the department released an EO to close the sport fishery for king salmon through September 30 due to concerns of exceeding the all-gear catch limit. These regulations were implemented by EO 1-KS-R-27-24 and became effective on August 26, 2024. These regulations applied to all anglers and all SEAK marine waters including Yakutat. Special hatchery sport harvest areas established by EO to harvest excess Alaska hatchery king salmon and areas of king salmon nonretention to protect wild stocks were excluded.

In April 2024, to protect SEAK wild king salmon stocks, more restrictive sport fishery king salmon regulations than the regional king salmon regulations were established in the Yakutat, Haines/Skagway, Juneau, Petersburg/Wrangell, and Ketchikan Management Areas in concert with conservative management in the commercial fisheries. These management actions are outlined in the *Southeast Alaska Wild Stocks and Management* section of this report. These management actions were effective at decreasing the harvest of wild Alaska king salmon but also led to a decreased harvest of treaty king salmon.

The estimated treaty harvest in the sport fishery for 2024 was 52,387 fish, which was 13,351 fish over the 20% allocation. The sport fishery took 26.8% of the combined troll and sport allocation.

OPPORTUNITY FOR ALASKA HATCHERY-ORIGIN KING SALMON

Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon provide an important contribution to SEAK sport fisheries by providing directed harvest opportunity in areas where Alaska hatchery king salmon are returning. Many of these terminal areas are located near major communities where opportunity for king salmon harvest has been restricted to conserve SEAK wild stock king salmon. Large amounts of angler effort are expended in these areas which, if directed elsewhere, could increase pressure on wild stocks. In addition, Alaska hatchery-origin king salmon harvest does not count toward the SEAK all-gear catch limit.

In 1989, ADF&G was given authority to increase harvest opportunities for king salmon in special hatchery sport harvest areas. Increased bag and possession limits, reduced size limits, and removal of annual limits have been used to increase opportunity in selected areas in accordance with management plans, king salmon action plans, and with consideration towards the potential interceptions of wild king salmon. Hatchery areas where increased opportunity was provided through EO between 2021 and 2024 are displayed in Table 8 and Figure 2.

Table 8.–Sport fishing regulations in terminal areas of Southeast Alaska to provide opportunity for Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon 2021–2024.

Year	Management area	Hatchery area	Effective dates	Bag, possession, annual limits
2021	Juneau	Lena Cove, Auke Bay, Fritz Cove, and Gastineau Channel	June 1−August 31	4 fish any size nonresident annual limit does not apply
2021	Ketchikan	Mountain Point	June 1−June 14	1 fish ≥ 28″, annual limit is 3
2021	Ketchikan	Neets Bay	June 15−August 14	1 fish ≥28″, annual limit is 3
2021	Ketchikan	Thomas Basin	June 1−June 14	1 fish ≥28″, annual limit is 3
2021	Ketchikan	Herring Bay	June 1−July 31	3 fish bag and possession limit, no annual limit
2021	Petersburg/ Wrangell	Blind Slough/ Wrangell Narrows	June 1−July 31	2 fish >28″ and 2 fish <28″, nonresident annual limit does not apply
2021	Petersburg/ Wrangell	City Creek Release site	June 15−July 14	one fish any size
2021	Petersburg/ Wrangell	Anita Bay	June 1−July 15	regional regulations apply
2021	Sitka	Hidden Falls	June 1−July 14	1 fish ≥28″, annual limit is 4
2022	Juneau	Lena Cove, Auke Bay, Fritz Cove, and Gastineau Channel	June 1−August 31	4 fish any size nonresident annual limit does not apply
2022	Ketchikan	Mountain Point	June 8−June 14	1 fish ≥28″, annual limit is 3
2022	Ketchikan	Neets Bay	June 15−August 14	1 fish ≥28″, annual limit is 3
2022	Ketchikan	Thomas Basin	June 1−June 14	1 fish ≥28″, annual limit is 3
2022	Ketchikan	Carroll Inlet	June 1−June 8	1 fish equal to or <28″, annual limit is 3
2022	Ketchikan	Herring Bay	June 1−July 31	3 fish bag and possession limit, no annual limit
2022	Petersburg/ Wrangell	Blind Slough/ Wrangell Narrows	June 1−July 31	2 fish >28″ and 2 fish <28″, nonresident annual limit does not apply
2022	Petersburg/ Wrangell	City Creek Release site	June 15−July 14	one fish any size
2022	Petersburg/ Wrangell	Anita Bay	June 1−July 15	regional regulations apply
2022	Sitka	Hidden Falls	June 1−July 14	1 fish ≥28″, annual limit is 3

-continued-

Table 8.–Page 2 of 2.

Year	Management area	Hatchery area	Effective dates	Bag, possession, annual limits
2023	Juneau	Lena Cove, Auke Bay, Fritz Cove, and Gastineau Channel	June 1–August 31	4 fish any size nonresident annual limit does not apply
2023	Ketchikan	Mountain Point	June 8–June 14	1 fish equal to or >28″, annual limit is 3
2023	Ketchikan	Neets Bay	June 15–August 14	1 fish equal to or >28″, annual limit is 3
2023	Ketchikan	Thomas Basin	June 1–June 14	1 fish equal to or >28″, annual limit is 3
2023	Ketchikan	Carroll Inlet	June 1–June 8	1 fish equal to or >28″, annual limit is 3
2023	Ketchikan	Herring Bay	June 1–July 31	3 fish bag and possession limit, no annual limit
2023	Petersburg/ Wrangell	Blind Slough/Wrangell Narrows	June 1–July 31	2 fish over 28″ and 2 fish under 28″, nonresident annual limit does not apply
2023	Petersburg/ Wrangell	City Creek Release site	June 15–July 14	1 fish any size
2023	Petersburg/ Wrangell	Anita Bay	June 1–July 15	regional regulations apply
2023	Sitka	Hidden Falls	June 1–July 14	1 fish equal to or >28″, annual limit is 3
2024	Juneau	Lena Cove	June 1–August 31	4 fish any size nonresident annual limit does not apply
2024	Juneau	Auke Bay, Fritz Cove, and Gastineau Channel	June 1–August 31	CLOSED
2024	Ketchikan	Mountain Point	June 8–June 14	1 fish equal to or >28″, annual limit is 3
2024	Ketchikan	Carroll Inlet	June 1–June 14	1 fish equal to or >28″, annual limit is 3
2024	Ketchikan	Thomas Basin	June 1–June 14	1 fish equal to or >28″, annual limit is 3
2024	Ketchikan	Herring Bay	June 1–July 31	3 fish bag and possession limit, no annual limit
2024	Petersburg/ Wrangell	Blind Slough/Wrangell Narrows	June 1–July 31	2 fish over 28″ and 2 fish under 28″, nonresident annual limit does not apply
2024	Petersburg/ Wrangell	City Creek Release site	June 15–July 14	one fish any size
2024	Petersburg/ Wrangell	Anita Bay	June 1–July 15	regional regulations apply
2024	Sitka	Hidden Falls	June 1–July 14	1 fish equal to or >28″, annual limit is 3

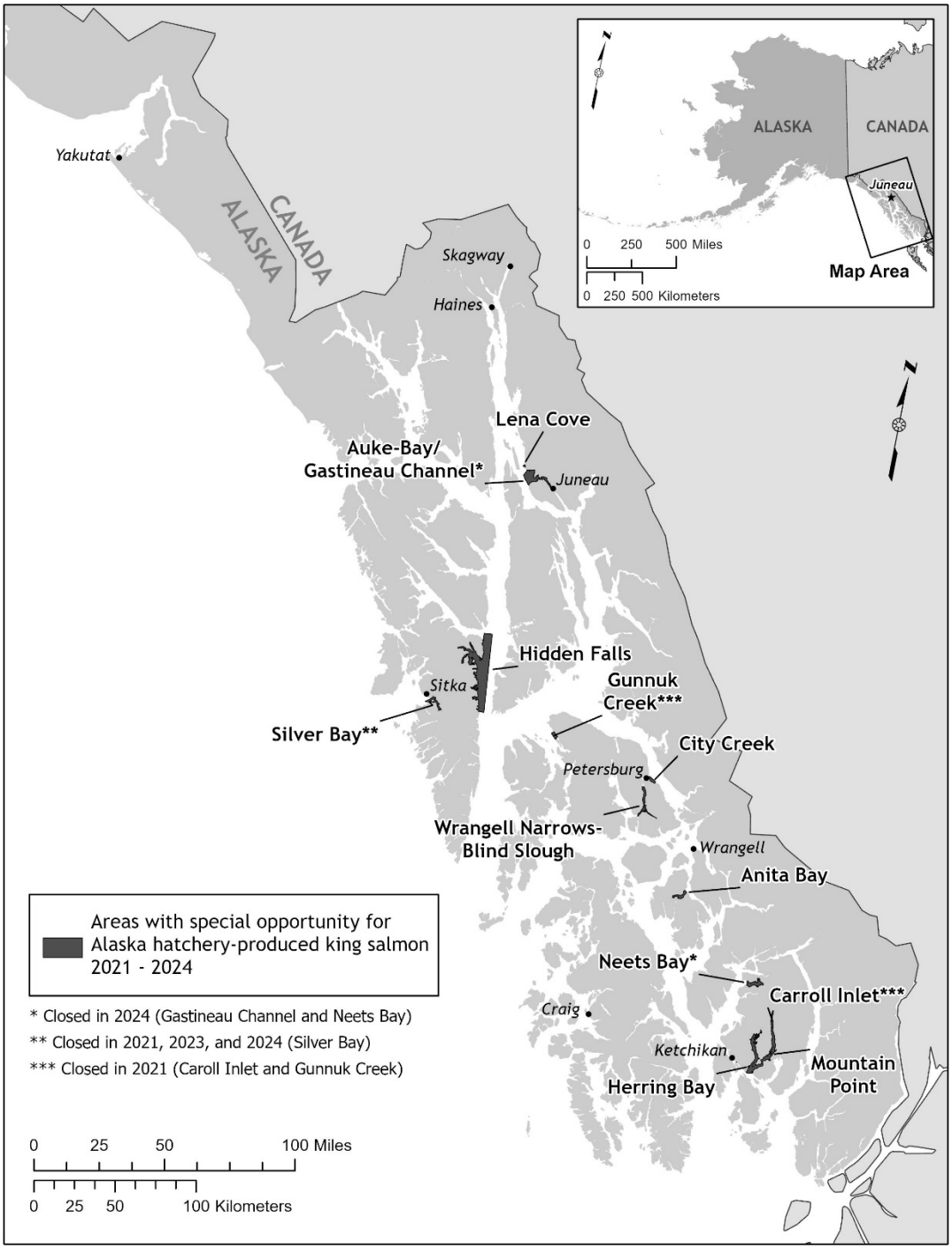


Figure 2.–Areas in Southeast Alaska with special opportunity for Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon, 2021–2024.

EFFORT

TOTAL NUMBER OF ANGLERS

The total number of anglers fishing in SEAK has experienced an annual growth rate of 4.0% between 1984 and 2023 (Figure 3). The growth in the fishery can be attributed to an increasing number of nonresident anglers, while a slight decreasing trend has been observed in the number of resident anglers. In 2023, 155,584 anglers fished in SEAK, of which 82% (127,152) were nonresident anglers.

While the general trend has been growth, the annual number of nonresident anglers is influenced by outside factors affecting the visitor industry in SEAK. Notably during 2008–2011, a decline in nonresident angler participation was observed, corresponding with the nationwide economic trends of the Great Recession. Recently, a drastic decline in nonresident angler participation was observed in 2020, resulting from travel restrictions and other impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since that year, however, sport fishing effort has returned to levels seen before 2020 and has increased since the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak.

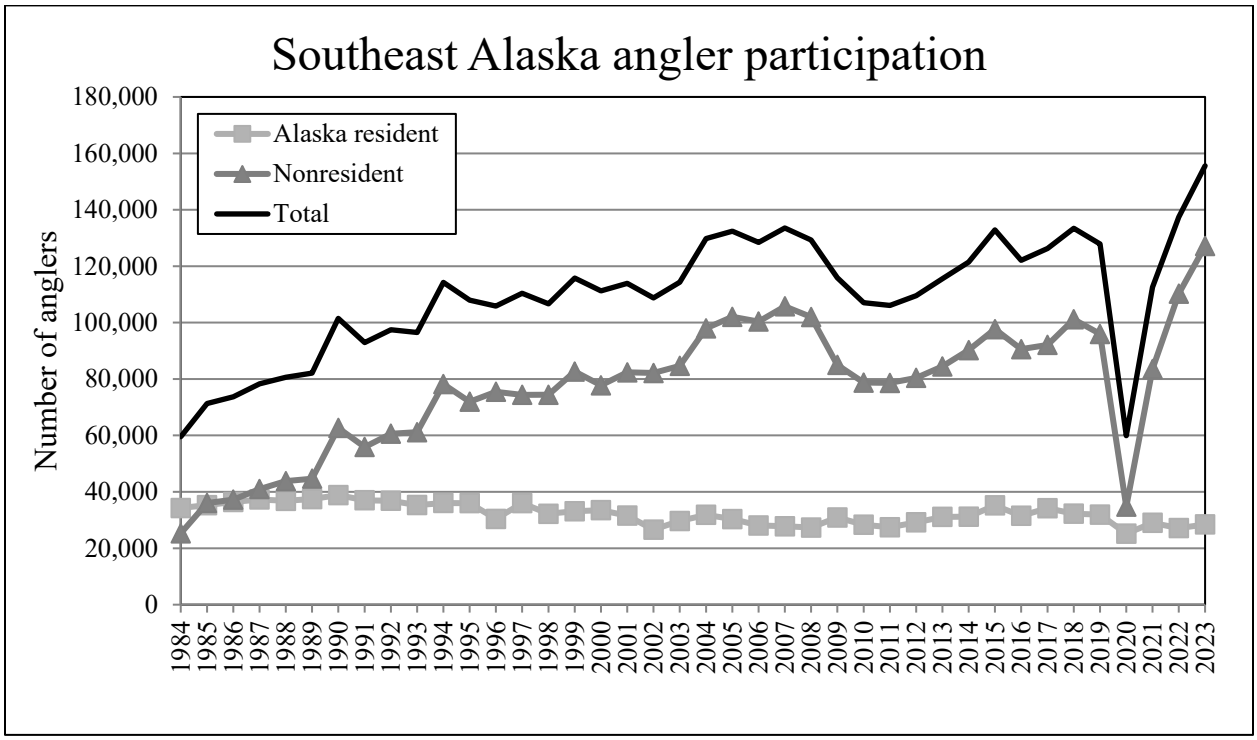


Figure 3.–Number of resident and nonresident anglers who fished in Southeast Alaska, 1984–2023, as estimated from the Alaska Sport Fishing Survey (i.e., SWHS; available at https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/sportfishingsurvey/index.cfm?ADFG=main.home).

Note: Angler participation estimates prior to 1996 can be found on the ADF&G Historic Statewide Harvest Survey Publications website at https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/sportfishingsurvey/index.cfm?ADFG=main.historic.

CHARTER VESSEL REGISTRATIONS AND LOGBOOK PROGRAM

In 1998, a saltwater vessel logbook program was implemented, requiring all guided charter vessels operating in saltwater to obtain and complete a logbook. Sport fishing guides and businesses are required to register with ADF&G, and each charter vessel is registered when a logbook is issued to that vessel. Each chartered vessel completes a logbook page for each fishing trip and returns that information to ADF&G. The information recorded includes the trip duration, target species, anglers and their residency status, harvest or release information by species, along with other information. Although numerous program changes have been made to the logbook program since inception, the 2021 logbook page is provided in Appendix B for reference. Beginning in 2021, charter operators were required to submit information from completed chartered trips electronically.

The total number of chartered trips in Southeast Alaska between 2006 and 2023 ranged from a high of 39,589 in 2007 to a low of 13,665 in 2020 (Figure 4). The number of active saltwater charter vessels within SEAK has ranged from 768 during 2007 to a low of 426 during 2020 (Figure 5 and Table 9). Beginning in 2009, the number of active charter vessels decreased each year, declining 27% before stabilizing in 2013. Between 2015 and 2019, the number of active registered vessels experienced a relatively stable growth of 3% annually to reach 653 vessels in 2019. In 2020, the unprecedented travel restrictions and other measures related to the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in the lowest number of active charter vessels since inception of the program. The number of active saltwater charter vessels increased the following 3 years; 2021 (569), 2022 (603), and 2023 (617). Even if a charter vessel is registered, it might not be utilized in the guided sport fishery. Summary data from the logbook program shows that on average from 2005 to 2019, 84% of registered vessels reported taking clients on at least 1 charter fishing trip, indicating that they were active during that year (Table 9 and Figure 5). During 2020, the number of active vessels not only declined in correspondence with the reduction in registered vessels, but fewer registered vessels reported being active. Only 75% of registered vessels reported being active in 2020. Before the global pandemic of 2020, the number of active charter vessels during 2019 was 15% lower than the peak observed in 2007. Since 2020, registered vessels that reported being active (2012–2023) have remained stable at an average of 82%. Of these active vessels, the average number of trips taken annually per vessel decreased from 2006 to 2009 from 48 to 38, and with the exception of 2020, has steadily increased since 2009 from 38 to 57.

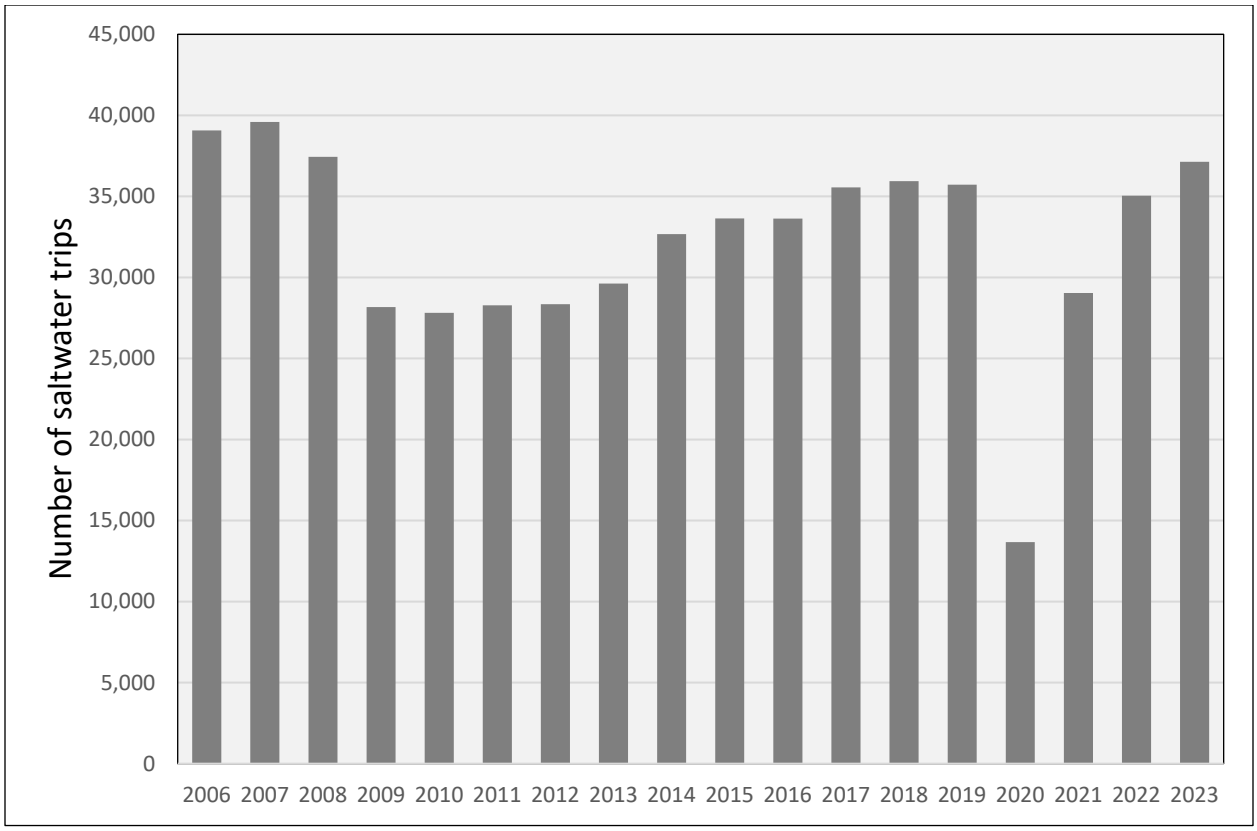


Figure 4.–Number of charter trips in Southeast Alaska as determined from saltwater logbook and vessel registration program, 1999–2023.

Table 9.–Overall number of active saltwater charter vessels in Southeast Alaska by Statewide Harvest Survey (SWHS) area as determined from saltwater logbook and vessel registration program, 2005–2024.

SWHS area[a]	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Ketchikan	172	178	182	184	157	155	141	140	144	145	145	141	154	168	175	102	136	161	161
Prince of Wales Island	178	196	197	175	168	161	137	135	130	135	144	165	155	159	165	149	159	158	159
Petersburg/Wrangell	51	56	56	61	53	53	50	39	43	40	35	42	36	39	35	22	26	30	29
Sitka	239	241	242	232	202	194	194	185	173	168	162	166	173	170	180	146	174	177	193
Juneau	119	134	119	117	110	109	96	88	89	99	103	108	95	97	102	51	94	95	95
Skagway	9	9	8	7	8	4	4	6	4	7	7	5	6	3	4	0	2	1	1
Haines	6	5	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	1	2	2	2	4	3	0	1	1	1
Glacier Bay	85	83	93	108	93	85	81	80	77	80	75	77	85	88	88	71	80	78	79
Yakutat	18	19	20	17	13	13	12	14	16	17	15	13	15	16	16	14	18	18	15
Other[b]	2	7	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	5	1	1	20	17	15	6	4	17	15
Total[c,d]	879	926	918	904	807	778	716	689	678	695	686	718	741	761	783	561	694	736	748

[a] SWHS area is assigned based on port of offloading, bottomfish statistical area, and salmon statistical area in that order.

[b] Column is not additive; some vessels fished in more than one SWHS area and counted in each SWHS where they fished.

[c] Operated or offloaded fish and/or clients at an unknown location or didn't write the port of offloading.

[d] Column is not additive. Some vessels fished in more than one SWHS area and counted more than once but were not identified as "Other."

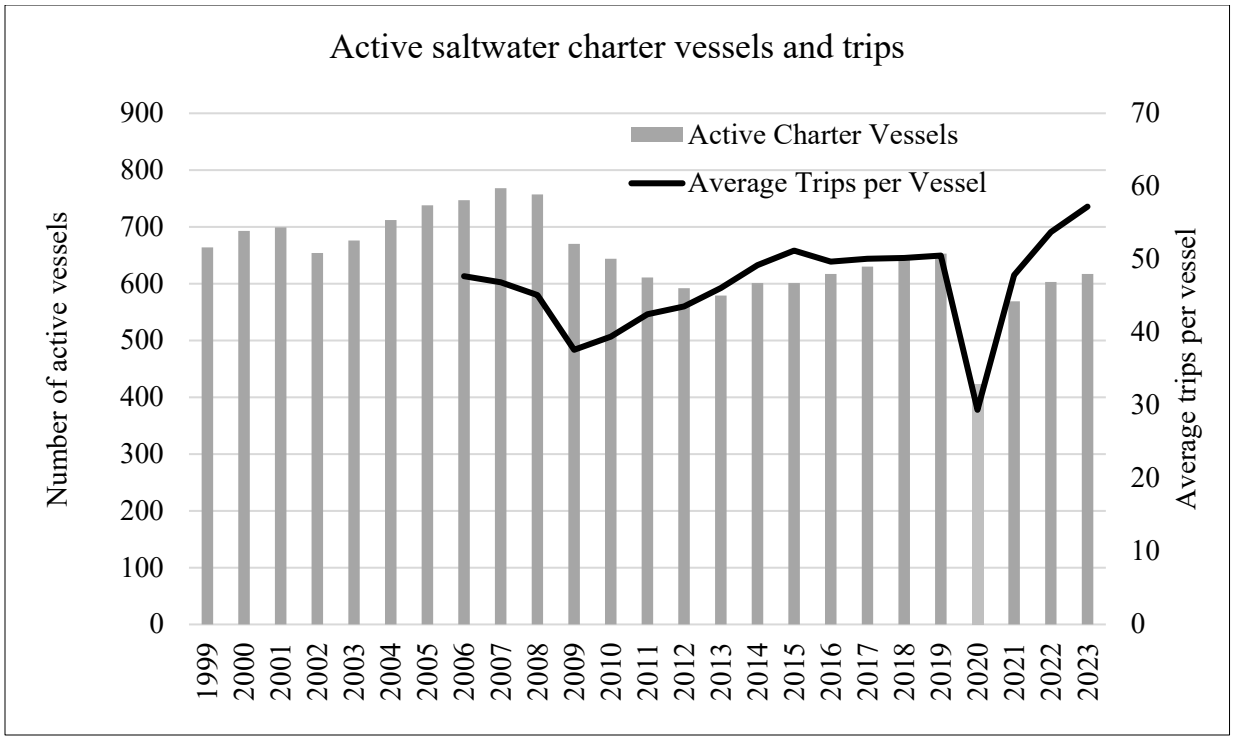


Figure 5.–Number of active saltwater charter vessels and average number of annual trips per vessel in Southeast Alaska as determined from saltwater logbook and vessel registration program, 1999–2023.

Note: Active vessels are those that turned in logbook forms reporting at least one trip with clients.

Note: 2023 data is preliminary.

HARVEST

REGIONWIDE HARVEST

The annual harvest of king salmon is driven by several factors including abundance of king salmon, angler effort, and annual regulatory actions. Marine and freshwater sport harvest of king salmon in SEAK from 1977 to 1988 was relatively stable; however, harvest began increasing rapidly in 1989 (Table 10). From 1977 to 1990, the average harvest was approximately 24,500 fish, whereas the 1991–2000 average was about 56,400 fish. From 2001 to 2010, the total sport harvest averaged nearly 72,400 king salmon. The largest observed sport harvest occurred in 2014, when nearly 87,000 fish king salmon were harvested. The average regionwide harvest during 2011–2020 was approximately 56,283 king salmon, a marked decrease in harvest from the previous decade. Harvest from 2021 to 2023 has dropped even further with an average of 44,169 fish.

Distribution of king salmon harvest by area in SEAK has changed substantially since the 1980s (Table 10 and Figure 6). Average harvest in the Glacier Bay, Sitka, and Prince of Wales Island (PWI) areas displayed similar trends across 4 time periods that amounted to an increased harvest for each subsequent time period, the highest harvest during the 2011–2020 period. Ketchikan, Petersburg-Wrangell, and Juneau displayed somewhat similar trends (increased harvest through the first 3 time periods) until 2011–2019, when harvest levels decreased. During the most recent time period (2020–2023), the outer coast fisheries of Sitka and PWI accounted for over 61% of the regionwide harvest. Ketchikan (12%), Juneau (10%), and Petersburg-Wrangell (8%)

collectively accounted for about 30% of the remaining harvest from 2020 to 2023. While recent management actions (2017–2024) to protect wild stock king salmon have disproportionately restricted fishing opportunity in the inside waters of Haines/Skagway, Juneau, Petersburg/Wrangell, and Ketchikan areas, the harvest ratios between these areas and those of the outside coast have remained stable or increased, with the exception of the Haines/Skagway area, where virtually no opportunity to harvest king salmon in the sport fishery exists. This can largely be explained by the continued contribution of Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon to the fishery.

Table 10.–Estimated annual saltwater and freshwater sport harvest of king salmon in Southeast Alaska by area, 1977–2023, as determined from the Statewide Harvest Survey (SWHS).

Year	Ketchikan	Prince of Wales	Petersburg/ Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines/ Skagway	Glacier Bay	Yakutat	Total
1977	4,672	811	2,671	1,738	6,377	471	356	353	17,449
1978	3,845	1,817	2,109	1,841	5,686	769	315	257	16,639
1979	4,165	863	2,173	2,054	5,935	644	282	445	16,561
1980	5,415	1,274	3,495	1,489	7,068	792	241	439	20,213
1981	5,683	1,294	2,906	1,955	7,722	1,372	184	184	21,300
1982	6,215	933	4,076	1,781	10,614	1,592	147	398	25,756
1983	7,968	1,543	3,332	2,108	5,431	1,426	157	356	22,321
1984	5,063	1,095	3,067	2,251	8,948	1,313	129	184	22,050
1985	6,170	534	4,060	1,430	10,376	2,041	186	61	24,858
1986	6,197	987	3,906	1,902	7,213	2,054	183	109	22,551
1987	5,826	649	3,534	2,537	9,857	1,419	258	244	24,324
1988	7,422	1,135	4,668	3,539	7,884	789	438	285	26,160
1989	7,642	2,599	4,702	5,569	9,375	758	344	82	31,071
1990	12,784	5,564	10,185	8,041	12,349	1,809	369	117	51,218
1977–1990									
Average	6,362	1,507	3,920	2,731	8,203	1,232	256	251	24,462
Percent	26%	6%	16%	11%	34%	5%	1%	1%	
1991	11,887	6,749	8,011	13,243	16,914	679	2,385	624	60,492
1992	8,010	4,381	5,746	11,139	11,886	181	1,071	478	42,892
1993	6,028	8,367	6,132	13,464	13,118	844	716	577	49,246
1994	5,448	7,006	4,217	12,263	11,407	636	576	812	42,365
1995	3,543	9,063	4,085	17,342	11,428	1,243	895	2,068	49,667
1996	5,437	6,833	5,125	17,617	14,684	777	3,425	3,612	57,510
1997	5,257	7,830	6,299	26,526	15,521	1,609	5,553	2,929	71,524
1998	3,236	10,233	3,686	23,162	8,779	690	2,682	2,514	54,982
1999	7,916	8,518	9,502	26,968	11,574	1,168	3,675	2,760	72,081
2000	9,570	6,755	8,926	18,888	12,126	1,342	3,217	2,349	63,173
1991–2000									
Average	6,633	7,574	6,173	18,061	12,744	917	2,420	1,872	56,393
Percent	12%	13%	11%	32%	23%	2%	4%	3%	

-continued-

Table 10.–Page 2 of 2.

Year	Ketchikan	Prince of Wales	Petersburg/ Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines/ Skagway	Glacier Bay	Yakutat	Total
2001	10,348	7,455	9,962	24,205	15,215	1,252	2,711	1,143	72,291
2002	12,366	11,917	8,542	17,994	13,364	1,550	2,838	966	69,537
2003	11,788	7,793	7,465	21,727	13,679	2,117	3,325	1,476	69,370
2004	14,393	10,120	7,958	26,443	14,756	1,895	3,601	1,406	80,572
2005	16,483	13,615	8,988	26,698	14,948	1,359	3,343	1,141	86,575
2006	10,084	12,670	10,972	34,751	11,163	1,302	3,488	1,364	85,794
2007	11,370	11,633	10,797	30,879	10,372	1,300	5,363	1,134	82,848
2008	11,030	3,894	5,669	15,337	10,524	450	1,671	690	49,265
2009	22,633	5,793	5,328	18,336	12,169	735	3,277	1,294	69,565
2010	10,128	7,014	3,987	23,515	10,085	742	2,072	960	58,503
2001–2010									
Average	13,062	9,190	7,967	23,989	12,628	1,270	3,169	1,157	72,432
Percent	18%	13%	11%	33%	17%	2%	4%	2%	
2011	12,387	10,385	3,843	27,909	6,839	1,254	3,155	803	66,575
2012	4,831	7,390	3,679	21,927	6,038	561	1,778	291	46,495
2013	11,039	7,335	3,657	19,974	8,105	645	4,947	690	56,392
2014	13,878	12,784	5,214	40,748	7,224	446	5,264	1,384	86,942
2015	10,197	16,472	5,045	31,878	9,986	172	4,777	1,232	79,759
2016	5,740	15,112	6,897	33,674	3,868	115	2,001	940	68,347
2017	6,384	11,493	4,203	23,561	3,032	0	2,579	1,054	52,306
2018	6,446	5,650	3,484	8,900	3,790	0	1,994	597	30,861
2019	4,722	6,522	2,714	13,855	4,911	0	1,720	407	34,851
2020	3,485	7,741	3,366	17,595	5,111	0	2,471	536	40,305
2011–2020									
Average	7,911	10,088	4,210	24,002	5,890	319	3,069	793	56,283
Percent	14%	18%	7%	43%	10%	1%	5%	1%	
2021	3,534	7,519	3,184	17,911	5,456	0	2,397	635	40,636
2022	4,431	8,167	3,709	16,595	4,170	0	2,609	637	40,318
2023[a]	7,516	9,104	3,122	22,520	3,972	14	4,260	1,044	51,552
2021–2023									
Average	5,160	8,263	3,338	19,009	4,533	5	3,089	772	44,169
Percent	12%	19%	8%	43%	10%	0%	7%	2%	100%

[a] Preliminary data

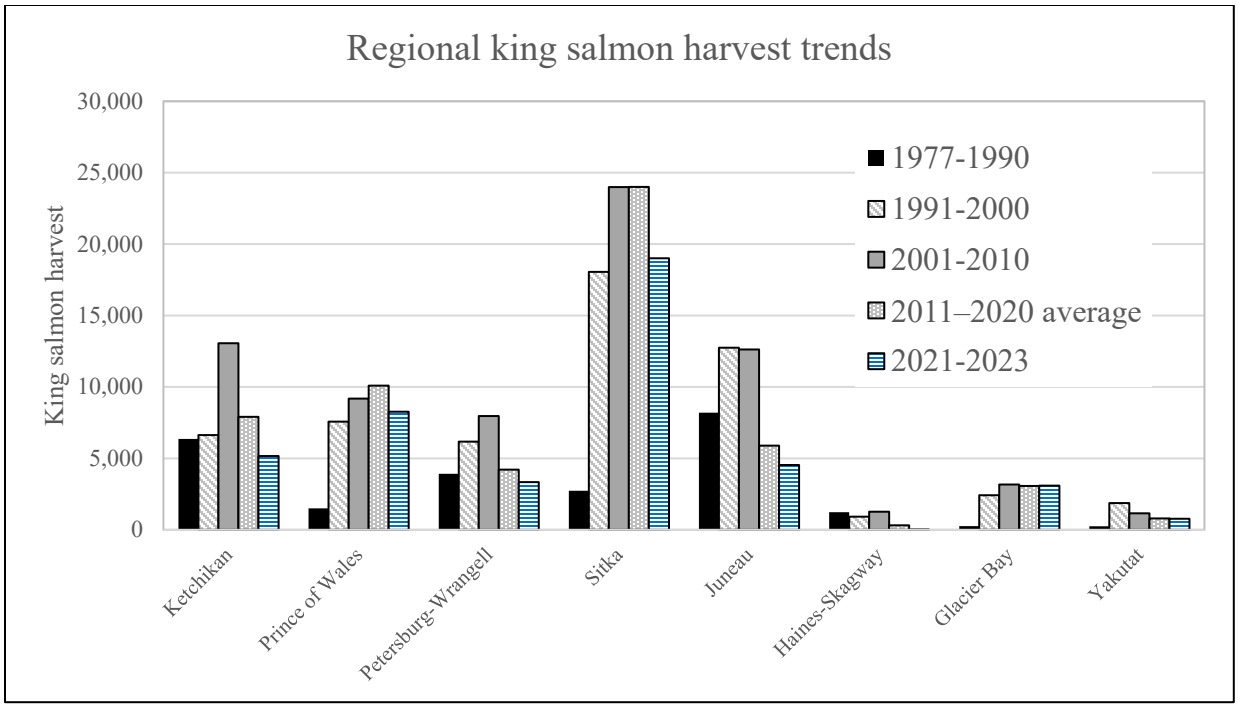


Figure 6.–Average estimated harvest of king salmon in Southeast Alaska for 1977–1990, 1991–2000, 2001–2010, 2011–2020, and 2021–2023 as determined by the Statewide Harvest Survey (SWHS).

HARVEST BY RESIDENT AND NONRESIDENT ANGLERS

Marine and freshwater harvests of king salmon by both Alaska resident and nonresident anglers have been estimated since 1987 (Figure 7, Tables 11 and 12). In the late 1980s through mid-1990s, the proportion of fish taken by nonresident anglers increased from 28% in 1987 to a peak of 68% in 1994. In response to increasing harvest in the sport fishery, the board implemented annual limits for nonresidents in 1997. Annual limits, as well as lower bag and possession limits for nonresidents, reduced the proportion of the total harvest taken by nonresidents up through 2010, averaging 55% between 1997 and 2010. Growth in the nonresident fishery occurring after 2010 is reflected in the increase in nonresident harvest. The proportion of nonresident harvest in the most recent 5 years (2019–2023) has averaged 67% of total harvest.

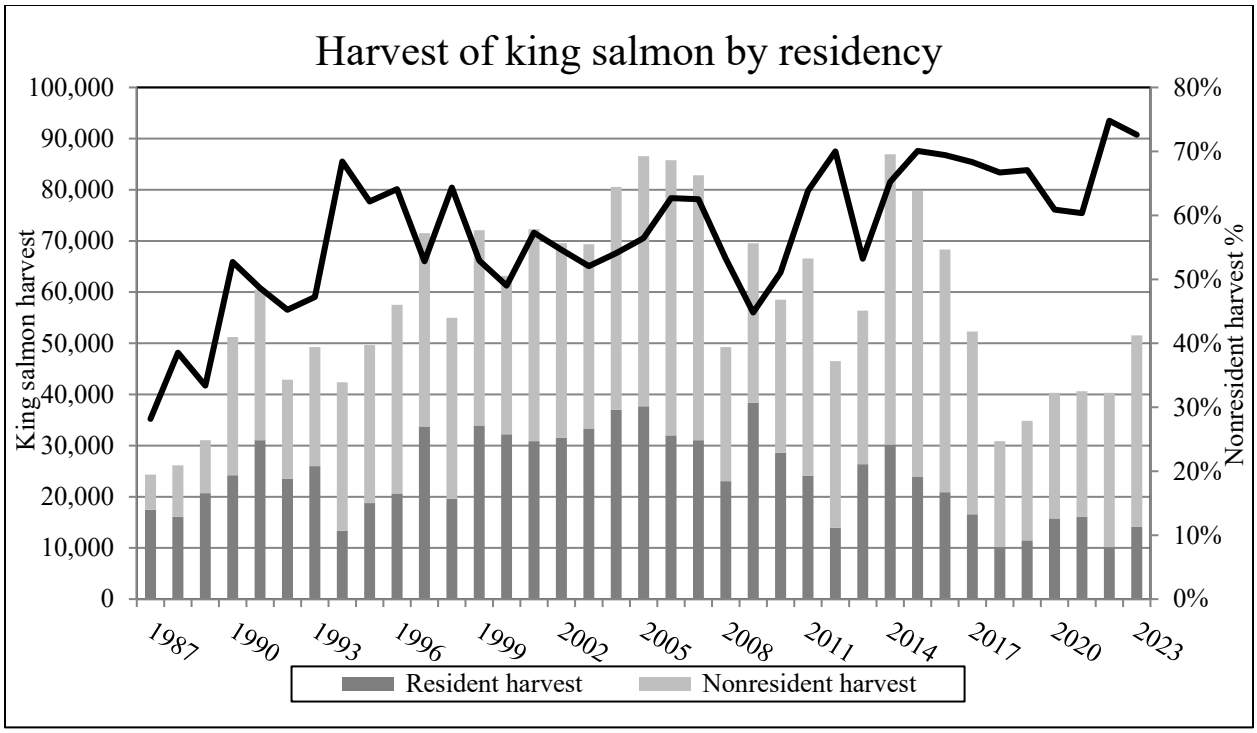


Figure 7.–Estimated harvest of king salmon by resident and nonresident anglers in Southeast Alaska, 1987–2023, as determined from the Statewide Harvest Survey (SWHS).

Table 11.–Percent (%) marine and freshwater sport harvest of king salmon by Alaska resident anglers in Southeast Alaska (by area) as estimated by the Statewide Harvest Survey (SWHS), 1987–2023.

Year	Ketchikan	Prince of Wales	Petersburg/ Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines/ Skagway	Glacier Bay	Yakutat
1987	22	3	13	11	49	1	1	0
1988	18	4	14	15	44	1	2	1
1989	23	5	11	20	39	1	0	0
1990	18	6	18	19	37	1	0	0
1991	16	4	14	23	38	1	3	1
1992	16	5	15	23	39	0	1	1
1993	12	9	12	26	39	1	1	1
1994	10	7	11	15	53	2	1	1
1995	7	10	13	25	41	1	2	1
1996	11	3	10	20	45	1	7	2
1997	7	6	8	32	33	2	10	0
1998	6	10	10	34	34	1	5	1
1999	13	6	17	32	23	1	5	1
2000	17	7	18	21	29	1	6	0
2001	18	4	15	22	35	1	4	1
2002	23	8	16	20	27	2	3	1
2003	21	6	14	20	30	3	6	0
2004	20	6	9	26	31	3	4	1
2005	22	9	12	22	29	2	4	1
2006	13	10	17	27	27	2	4	1
2007	16	6	15	27	27	1	7	0
2008	23	6	15	14	38	1	2	1
2009	44	4	10	11	25	1	2	1
2010	23	5	10	26	31	2	3	1
2011	25	8	9	30	22	4	1	0
2012	7	9	12	34	33	2	2	0
2013	26	9	10	24	22	0	9	0
2014	25	7	8	39	18	1	2	0
2015	18	15	10	23	32	0	2	1
2016	13	13	16	41	12	0	2	2
2017	10	13	12	46	15	0	3	1
2018	28	7	16	15	30	0	3	0
2019	18	10	7	27	36	0	1	0
2020	11	11	12	29	31	0	4	1
2021	9	13	12	36	28	0	2	1
2022	10	15	8	34	28	0	4	0
2023	22	9	10	34	21	0	5	0
Average								
1987–1999	14	6	13	23	40	1	3	1
2000–2009	22	7	14	21	30	2	4	1
2010–2019	19	10	11	30	25	1	3	1
2020–2023	13	12	10	33	27	0	4	1

Table 12.–Percent Marine and freshwater sport harvests of king salmon by nonresident anglers in Southeast Alaska (by area) as estimated by the Statewide Harvest Survey (SWHS), 1987–2023.

Year	Ketchikan	Prince of Wales	Petersburg/ Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines/ Skagway	Glacier Bay	Yakutat
1987	28	3	18	8	19	19	2	3
1988	44	5	24	11	8	6	0	2
1989	28	15	23	13	12	5	3	1
1990	31	16	21	12	12	6	1	0
1991	23	19	12	21	17	2	5	1
1992	22	16	12	29	14	0	4	1
1993	13	26	13	29	12	3	2	1
1994	14	21	10	35	15	1	2	2
1995	7	23	5	41	12	3	2	6
1996	9	17	8	36	14	1	5	9
1997	7	15	9	41	11	2	6	7
1998	6	23	5	47	6	2	5	6
1999	9	17	9	43	10	2	5	6
2000	13	15	10	39	9	3	4	7
2001	12	15	13	42	10	2	4	2
2002	13	24	9	31	13	2	5	2
2003	14	16	8	42	11	3	3	4
2004	16	19	10	39	7	2	5	3
2005	17	21	9	38	8	1	4	2
2006	11	18	11	48	5	1	4	2
2007	12	19	12	43	4	2	6	2
2008	22	10	8	46	7	1	5	2
2009	18	13	5	45	8	1	8	3
2010	12	18	4	53	4	1	4	3
2011	15	20	4	49	4	0	7	2
2012	12	19	6	53	4	1	5	1
2013	14	17	4	45	8	2	8	2
2014	11	19	5	51	3	1	8	2
2015	11	23	5	47	4	0	8	2
2016	6	26	7	53	3	0	3	1
2017	13	26	6	45	2	0	6	2
2018	17	24	9	36	3	0	8	3
2019	11	23	8	46	3	0	7	2
2020	7	24	6	53	1	0	8	1
2021	9	22	5	49	4	0	8	2
2022	11	22	9	43	4	0	7	2
2023	12	21	5	47	3	0	9	3
Average								
1987–1999	19	17	13	28	13	4	3	4
2000–2009	15	17	10	41	8	2	5	3
2010–2019	12	21	6	48	4	0	6	2
2020–2023	10	22	6	48	3	0	8	2

CHARTER HARVESTS

Mandatory logbooks for charter vessels fishing in marine waters were implemented in 1998. The logbook estimates of king salmon harvests for SEAK have varied from 16,353 to over 56,000 during 2006–2023 (Table 13). From 2006 to 2013, the total regionwide estimated charter harvest of king salmon averaged about 53,000 fish and 35,000 fish from 2014 –2023. During the 2014–2023 time period, an average of 82% of the charter harvest occurred in the outer coast fisheries (Sitka and PWI) with an average of 53% occurring off the coast of Sitka and 29% off of the west coast of PWI.

Table 13.–Estimated charter harvest of large (≥28″) king salmon in Southeast Alaska as determined from the saltwater charter logbook database, 2006−2023.

	SWHS area[a,b]								
Year	Ketchikan	Prince of Wales	Petersburg/ Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines/ Skagway	Glacier Bay[c]	Yakutat	Total
2006	4,603	15,317	1,640	29,970	1,552	300	2,899	267	56,548
2007	4,179	11,906	1,183	26,908	1,775	249	3,298	282	49,780
2008	1,918	3,051	403	13,042	749	153	893	309	20,518
2009	2,404	4,097	336	15,511	970	235	1,834	388	25,775
2010	2,122	5,475	345	16,414	543	188	1,560	111	26,758
2011	2,949	9,696	440	22,428	582	155	2,668	182	39,100
2012	2,246	6,464	292	15,124	899	207	1,139	204	26,575
2013	1,829	6,646	465	13,159	803	194	2,271	228	25,595
2014	3,859	12,575	1,058	30,886	851	135	3,762	407	53,533
2015	3,535	13,963	813	26,616	1,143	121	3,623	349	50,163
2016	1,988	15,167	783	25,706	360	63	1,080	140	45,287
2017	2,558	12,112	1,145	16,530	283	0	1,744	218	34,590
2018	1,966	5,836	509	6,381	212	1	1,273	175	16,353
2019	1,671	5,838	634	11,111	390	4	1,154	214	21,016
2020	350	6,892	421	12,301	26	0	1,609	183	21,782
2021	923	7,617	336	13,632	223	1	2,836	293	25,861
2022	1,327	5,969	769	15,745	687	0	2,130	379	27,006
2023	2,622	9,767	937	17,980	513	0	3,391	186	35,396
Average									
2006−2013	2,781	7,832	638	19,070	984	210	2,070	246	33.831
2014−2023	2,080	9,574	741	17,689	469	36	2,260	254	33,099
2019−2023	1,379	7,217	619	14,154	368	1	2,224	251	26,212

[a] SWHS area is assigned based on salmon statistical area, bottomfish statistical area, and port of offloading, in that order.

[b] Unique angler identification information was not collected, so harvest is for all anglers. Crew members were not allowed to retain king salmon.

HARVEST COMPOSITION

Although it may be easy to assume that king salmon from all stocks are equally distributed across SEAK marine fisheries, harvest sampling of SEAK fisheries reveals varying trends in harvest composition across time and between locations. As each stock or stock group migrates through fishery corridors, their availability to harvest changes. The SEAK sport fishery is sampled for the recovery of CWTs and also utilizes genetic sampling from tissue collected during sport fish harvest sampling. The genetic stock sampling report to the board (Peterson et al. 2024) describes the results of genetic sampling in the sport fishery. The ports on the outside coast of SEAK (Sitka, Craig, Klawock, and Yakutat) will harvest a higher ratio of king salmon stocks originating from out of state. The inside waters of Ketchikan, Petersburg, Wrangell, Juneau, Haines, and Skagway have greater potential to harvest SEAK wild stocks originating from the mainland coast in close proximity to those areas. The interception of Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon occurs through SEAK but is typically greatest immediately adjacent to hatchery terminal areas or remote release sites. In addition to differences due to location, stock composition is also affected by timing as various stocks migrate through fishery areas. For example, the early season within inside waters will harvest a greater proportion of SEAK wild stock king salmon as well as Alaska hatchery-origin fish.

ALASKA HATCHERY COMPOSITION OF MIXED-STOCK HARVESTS

Mixed-stock sport harvests of king salmon have been extensively sampled in SEAK for CWTs since 1983. Alaska hatchery contributions for the major mixed-stock fisheries have been substantial, especially in the Ketchikan/east PWI and Juneau areas (Figure 8). From 2021 to 2024, the average Alaska hatchery percentage in the sport harvest was 22% in Ketchikan/east PWI and 40% in Juneau. In the outer coast fisheries, the average percentage of Alaska hatchery fish remains much lower than the inside waters (west PWI 7%, Sitka 7%). After king salmon hatchery releases were terminated in the Haines/Skagway area in 2015, and because king salmon nonretention regulations to conserve wild stocks were in effect throughout the area, marine harvest sampling for CWTs has been suspended since 2017 in the ports of Haines and Skagway. It is important to note that Figure 8 excludes harvest occurring in selected THAs where management action is taken to provide targeted opportunity for Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon within the Juneau, Ketchikan, and Petersburg/Wrangell areas.

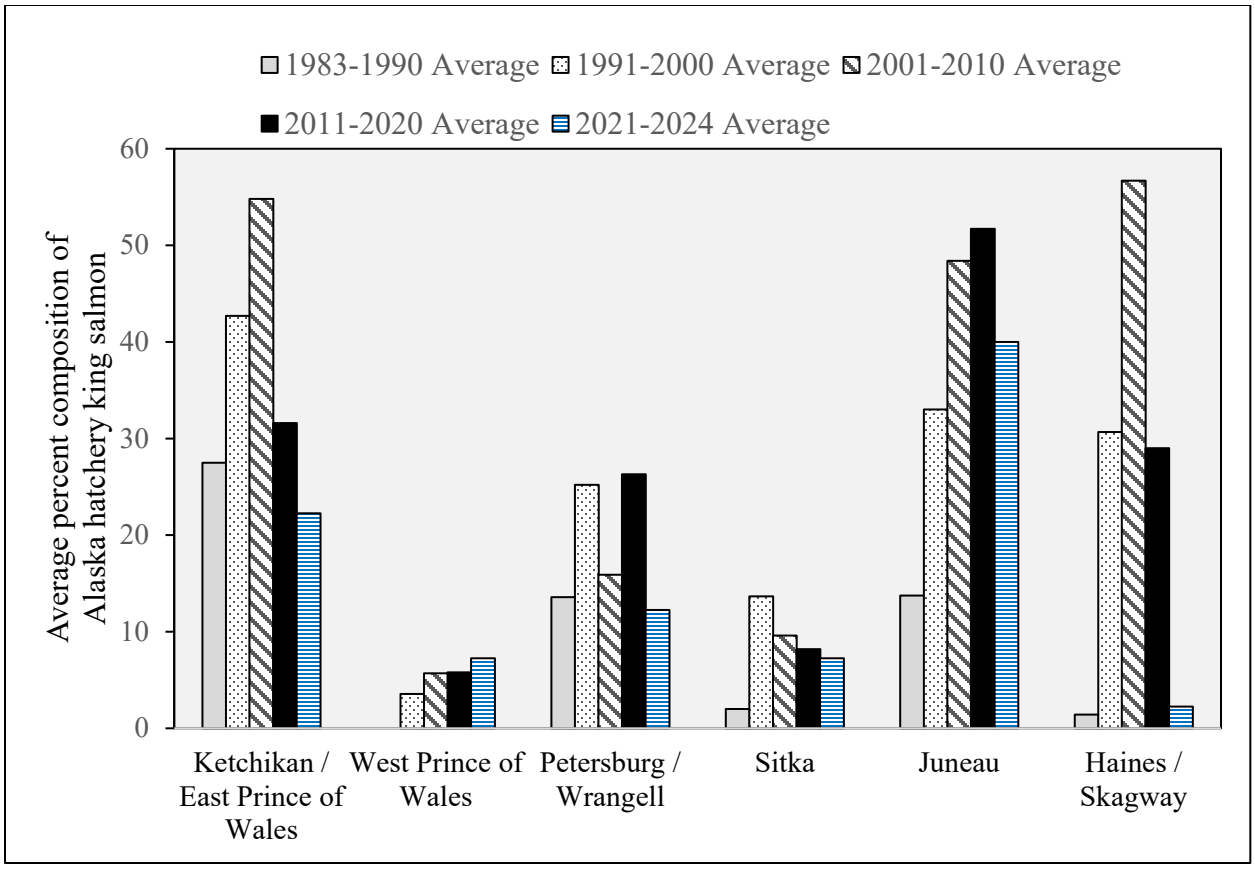


Figure 8.–Estimated percentages of Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon harvested in selected marine sport fishery areas in Southeast Alaska during 4 time periods as determined from the SEAK Marine Harvest Studies program.

Note: Some terminal harvest areas (THAs) are excluded. These include Wrangell Narrows THA in Petersburg, shoreline fisheries near hatcheries, and release sites in Juneau and Ketchikan THAs.

TIMING OF MARINE HARVEST

The midpoint of the marine waters harvest of treaty king salmon typically occurs in mid to late June (Figure 9). On average, 45% of the total regional harvest occurs in the 4-week period from approximately June 7 to July 4. Beginning in 2018, and continuing through 2024, management action was taken to prohibit retention of king salmon in the inside waters near Haines/Skagway, Juneau, Petersburg/Wrangell, and Ketchikan between April 15 and June 14. As a result, regional harvest in the early season before June 15 has been reduced in recent years. In 2020, observed harvest was shifted later in the season due to management actions to protect wild stock king salmon in the early season combined with increasingly liberal regulations in the latter half of the season as it became apparent the sport fishery would not achieve its allocation due to the reduced nonresident effort related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

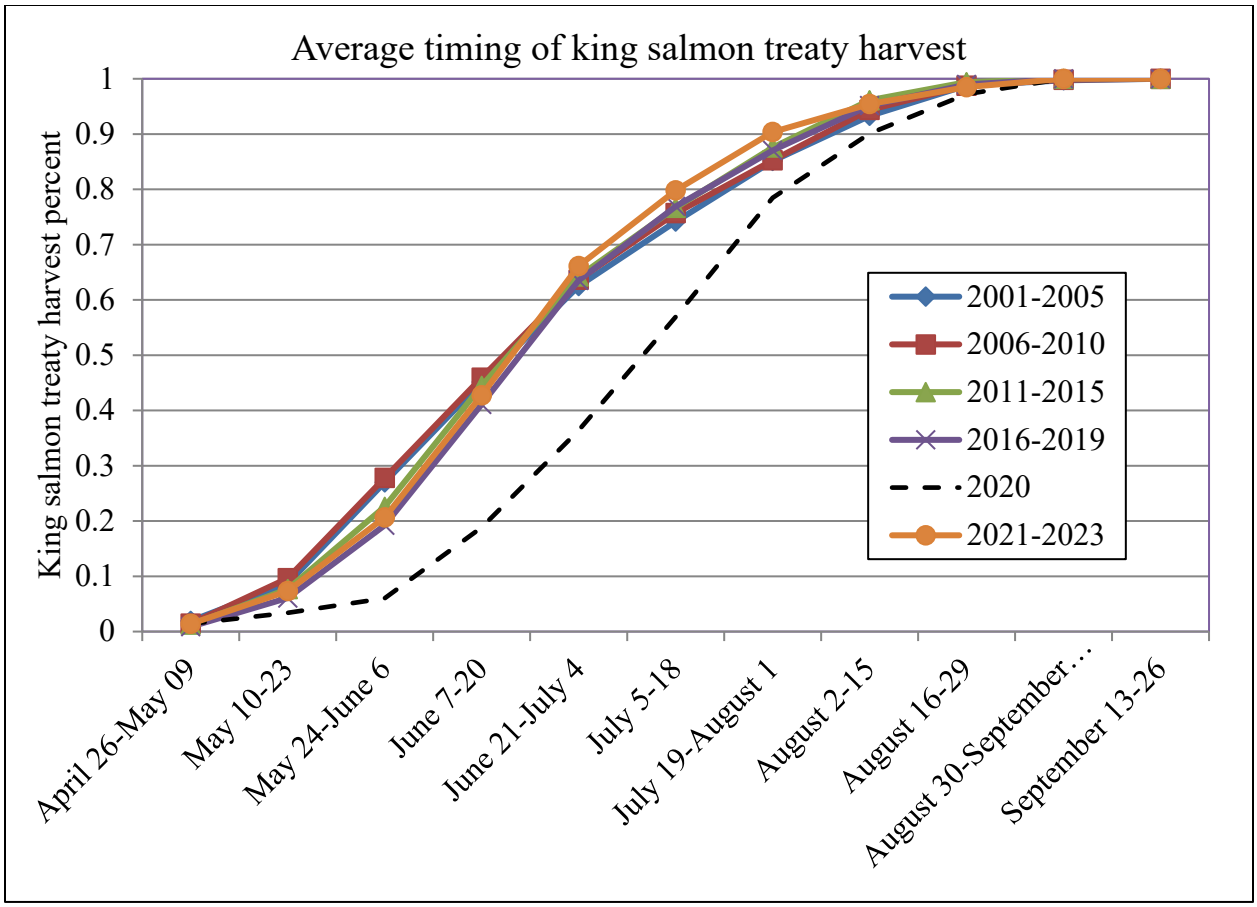


Figure 9.–Average timing of treaty king salmon harvest by 2-week periods for the Southeast Alaska marine sport fishery across multiple timeframes as determined by the SEAK Marine Harvest Studies program.

HARVEST PER UNIT EFFORT IN MARINE FISHERIES

Over the past 10 years, HPUE for king salmon in Sitka has averaged far above the HPUE in Juneau and Ketchikan (Figure 10). HPUE on the west coast of PWI is also higher than inside ports, but not as high as in Sitka. The higher HPUE in outer coast fisheries is partly due to better access to large numbers of non-Alaskan stocks migrating by and the movement of the charter fleet since 1994 to very productive fishing grounds around the outer coast of Kruzof Island near Sitka. Also, guided anglers constitute a larger percentage of the fisheries in Sitka and west PWI. Guided anglers generally have HPUEs for king salmon that are about twice as high as those of unguided anglers.

Peak HPUE for king salmon generally occurs in June (Figure 10). HPUE generally declines through the month of July, and by early August, HPUE is generally very low in Juneau and Ketchikan. In Sitka and Craig, however, HPUE often remains high until about August 1, and then declines steadily to low levels by September 1.

During the spring, king salmon is the only species of salmon readily available to marine anglers. In July, HPUE for pink and coho salmon increases rapidly and normally far exceeds HPUE for king salmon (Figure 11). As HPUE for other salmon species increases, most anglers begin to target pink and coho salmon for the balance of the fishing season.

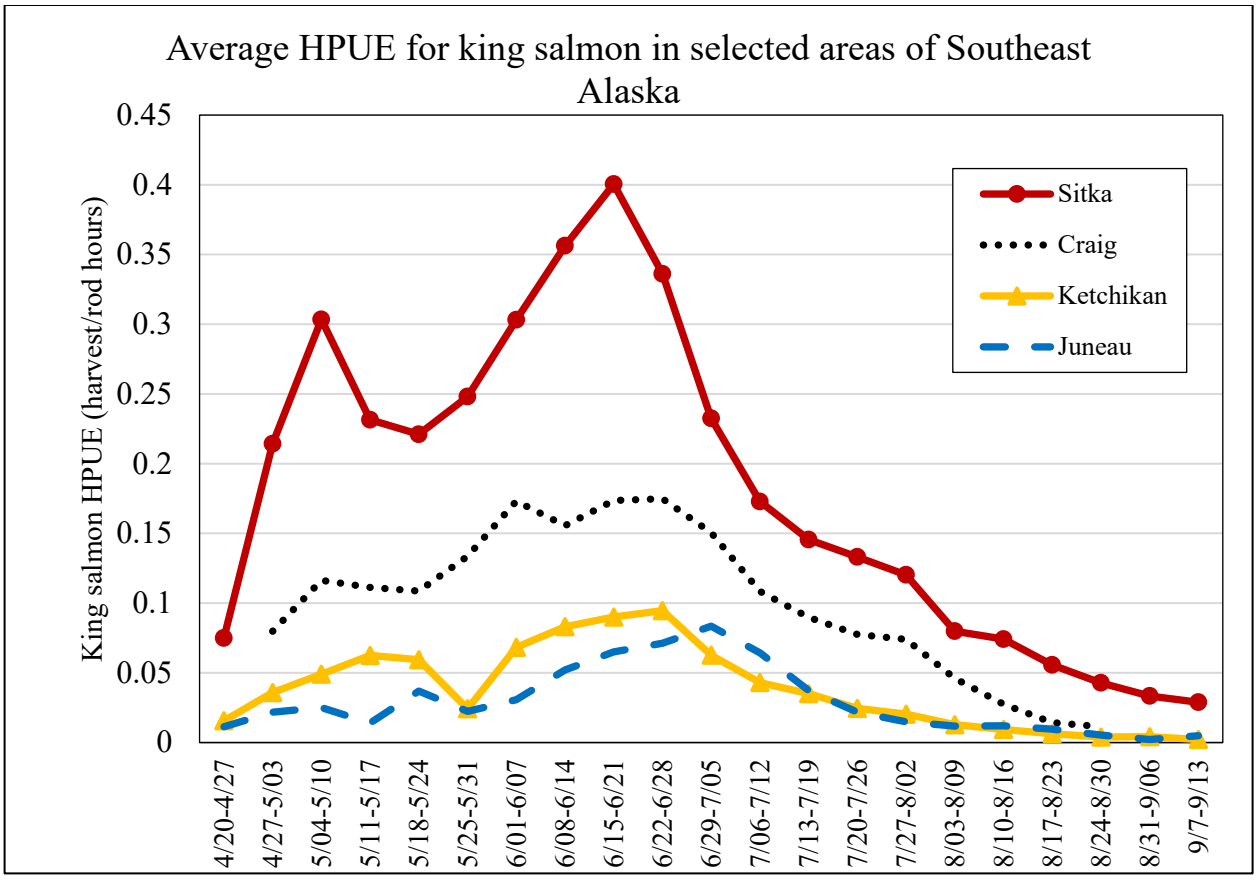


Figure 10.–Average weekly HPUE for king salmon in Juneau, Ketchikan, Sitka, and West Prince of Wales Island (Craig) during 2014–2023, as determined from the SEAK Marine Harvest Studies program.

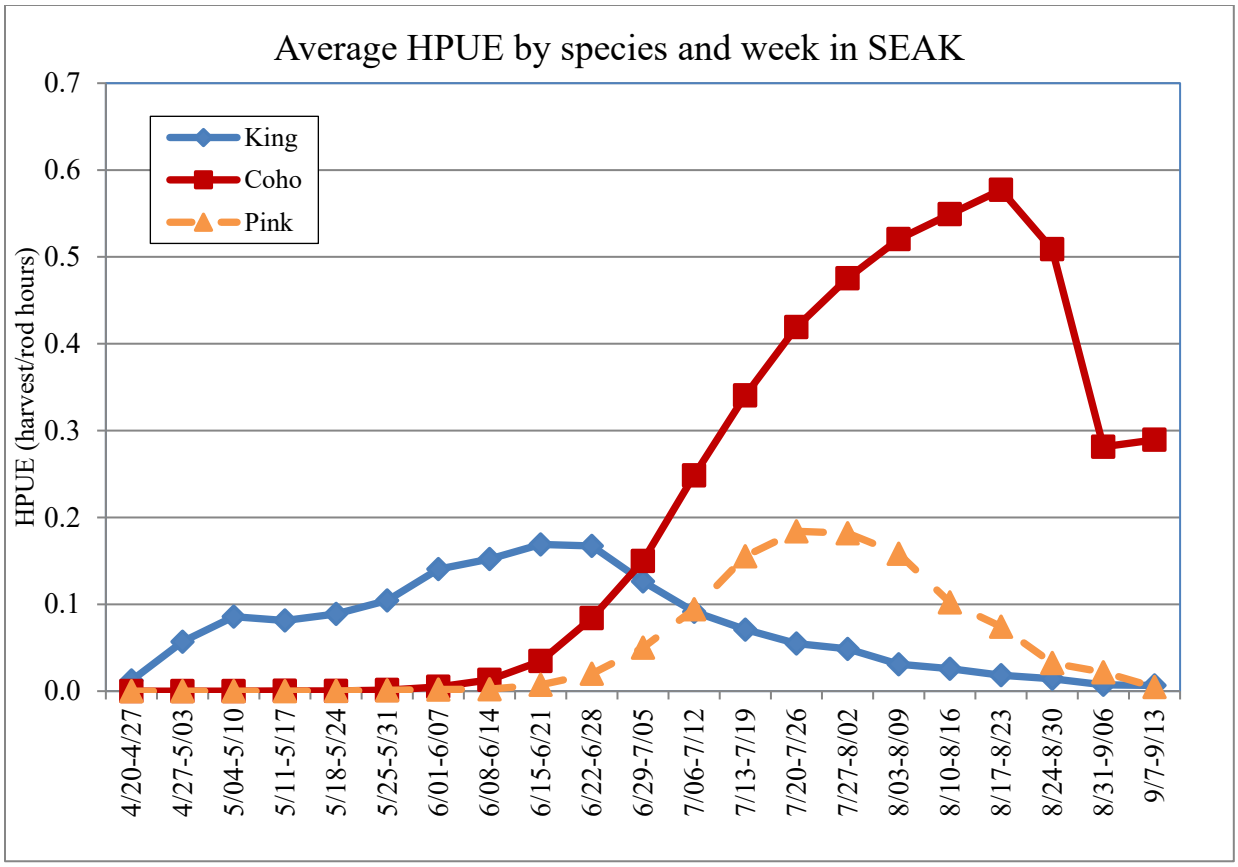


Figure 11.–Average weekly HPUE (harvest per angler-hour of salmon fishing effort) for king, coho, and pink salmon in the Southeast Alaska marine sport fishery as determined by the SEAK Marine Harvest Studies program, 2014–2023.

SOUTHEAST ALASKA WILD STOCKS AND MANAGEMENT

There are 34 documented king salmon stocks in SEAK (Mecum and Kissner 1989), and among those are 11 indicator stocks that ADF&G manages annually to ensure escapement levels are considered under 5 AAC 39.222 (Figure 12, Table 14). Three of the stocks originate in Canada, Alsek, Taku, and Stikine Rivers, which are considered transboundary rivers (TBRs) and subject to bilateral catch sharing arrangements and agreed-to escapement goals with Canada as mandated by the PST. In addition to the TBRs, the remaining 8 king salmon indicator systems in SEAK also have established escapement goals and are monitored using various stock assessment methods (mark–recapture, aerial and foot surveys, and weirs).

In February 2005, the U.S. and Canada reached a bilateral terminal harvest sharing agreement for Taku and Stikine River king salmon fisheries to occur in years when an allowable catch (AC) of large king salmon (≥660 mm mid eye to tail fork [METF]) exists (Figure 13). Further, the determination of an AC using preseason forecasts of the total terminal run would be decided by December 1 of the preceding year allowing time for planning and preparations for the upcoming season. Once mark–recapture estimates of abundance and projections of total terminal run were valid and agreed to by both countries, ACs would be calculated on a weekly basis.

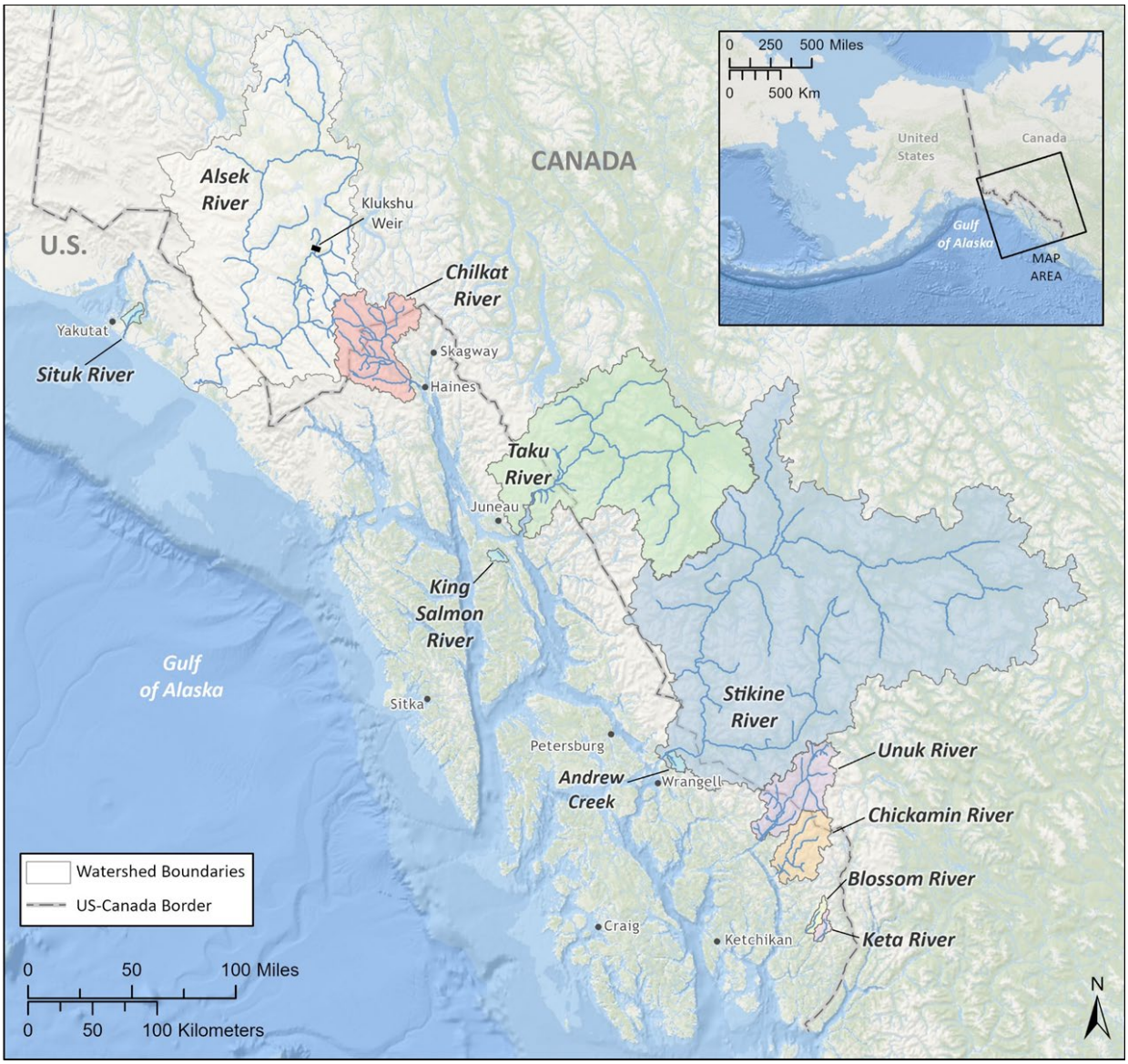


Figure 12.–Locations of the 11 king salmon indicator stocks in Southeast Alaska.

Table 14.–Southeast Alaska king salmon escapement goals and escapement estimates, 2012–2023.

Stock	Situk River	Alsek River	Chilkat River	Taku River	King Salmon River	Stikine River	Andrew Creek	Unuk River	Chickamin River	Blossom River	Keta River
BEG range	450–1,050	3,500–5,000	1,750–3,500	19,000–36,000	120–240	14,000–28,000	650–1,500	1,800–3,800	2,150–4,300	500–1,400	550–1,300
Fish included	≥age-1.3	≥age-1.2	≥age-1.3	≥660mm METF	≥660mm METF	≥660mm METF	≥660mm METF	≥660mm METF	≥660mm METF	≥660mm METF	≥660mm METF
BEG updated	2003	2013	2003	2009	1997	2000	1998	2009	2018	2018	2018
Estimation method	Weir count	Expanded weir count	M–R	M–R / index count	Index count	M–R	Index count	Index count	Index count	Index count	Index count
Year											
2012	321	3,027	1,723	16,713[b]	155	22,332	587	956	2,109	793	725
2013	924	4,992	1,719	18,002[b]	94	16,783	920	1,135	2,223	987	1,484
2014	475	3,357	1,529	23,532	68	24,374	1,261	1,691	3,097	840	1,321
2015	174	5,697	2,452	23,567	50	21,597	796	2,623	2,760	642	915
2016	329	2,514	1,380	9,177	149	10,554	402	1,463	964	522	1,342
2017	1,187	1,741	1,173	8,214	85	7,335	349	1,203	722	341	903
2018	420	4,348	873[b]	7,271	30	8,603	482	1,971	2,052	1,087	1,662
2019	623	6,319	2,028	11,558	27	13,817	698	3,115	1,610	557	1,041
2020	1,197	5,330	3,180	15,593	100	9,753	470	1,135	2,280	515	668
2021	1,064	5,562	2,038	11,341	134	8,376	530	2,666	2,404	170	707
2022	890	3,351	1,582	12,722	123	9,090	821	1,304	2,522	395	689
2023	144[a]	4,185[a]	2,234[a]	14,755[a]	68[a]	12,795[a]	386[a]	2,072[a]	3,719[a]	670[a]	759[a]

Note: Shaded cells indicate escapement estimate below the lower bound of the BEG range; METF = mid eye to tail fork length.

[a] Estimates are preliminary until final report is published.

[b] Mark–recapture (M–R) was not used to estimate escapement due to insufficient numbers of marked and sampled fish; For the Chilkat in 2018, a CPUE-based approach was used; for the Taku in 2012 and 2013, expanded peak aerial surveys were used.

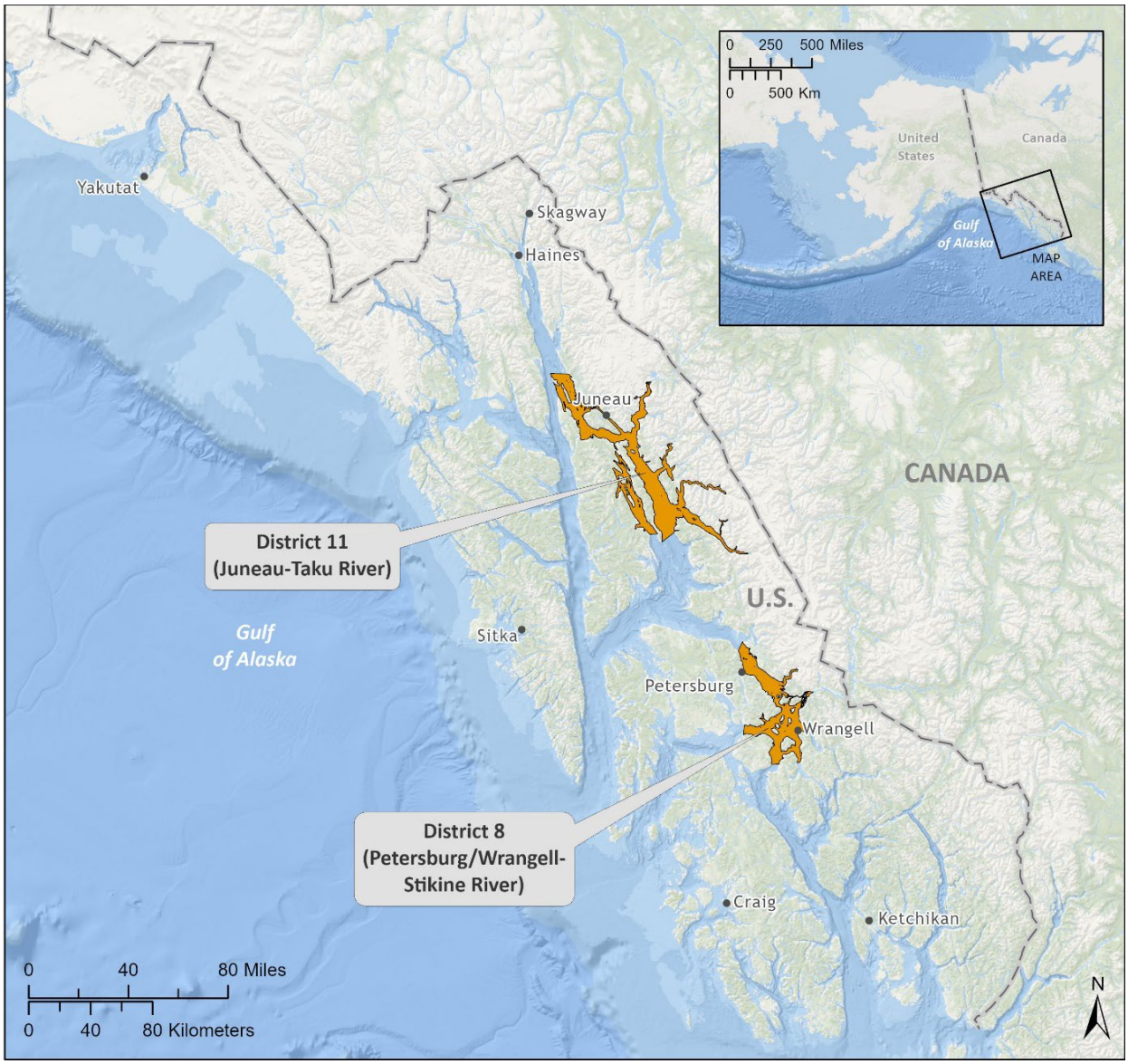


Figure 13.–Directed fishery areas in Southeast Alaska for king salmon when an allowable catch exists in District 8 and District 11 waters based on preseason forecasts and inseason projections of the Stikine and Taku River stocks of king salmon.

In March 2005, and immediately after, the harvest sharing agreement was established with Canada, and the board approved emergency regulations containing domestic management measures that would be implemented for directed sport and commercial king salmon fisheries in District 8 and District 11 marine waters. At the February 2006 SEAK Finfish board meeting, the board adopted management provisions for directed king salmon sport fisheries in District 8 specific to the Stikine River (5 AAC 47.057) and District 11 for the Taku River (5 AAC 47.021(e)). These liberalized sport fishing regulations included the use of 2 rods per angler for resident and nonresident anglers, increased bag and possession limits for resident anglers, and increased bag, possession, and annual limits for nonresident anglers.

Starting in 2012, wild king salmon escapements began to fall short of the goal ranges in multiple SEAK indicator systems, including the Unuk, King Salmon, and Chilkat Rivers (Table 14). In August and September 2017, ADF&G enacted regionwide king salmon nonretention in SEAK sport fisheries to reduce harvest of wild king salmon stocks (EO 1-KS-R-28-17). In fall 2017, the board adopted ADF&G's stock of management concern recommendation for the Chilkat, King Salmon, and Unuk River stocks. At the January 2018 SEAK Finfish board meeting, the board adopted action plans that specified management measures to reduce harvest of these 3 stocks in all SEAK fisheries (detailed in Lum and Fair 2018a and 2018b). In addition to the management actions described in the action plans, the inside waters of the SEAK were closed to retention of sport-caught king salmon between April 1 and June 14 from 2018 through 2024 (Figure 14). Sport fishery conservation actions specific to each of the 11 king salmon indicator stocks in SEAK are detailed in the following sections.

STIKINE RIVER

The Stikine River is a TBR glacial system that supports an "outside-rearing" stock of king salmon (i.e., a stock that rears and matures mostly outside of SEAK marine waters). The Stikine River originates in British Columbia and flows into central SEAK near the towns of Petersburg and Wrangell, and it is the largest river flowing into SEAK (Figure 12). Wild juvenile king salmon have been coded-wire-tagged since 2000 to estimate smolt and adult production and harvest rates. Since 2007, U.S. harvest has mostly occurred in the commercial troll fishery (44%), followed by the commercial gillnet fishery (36%) and sport fisheries (20%). Since 2007, the average harvest rate on the Stikine River king salmon run over all fisheries has been 27%, of which the U.S. and Canada account for 16% and 11%, respectively.

A biological escapement goal (BEG) range of 14,000 to 28,000 large king salmon (METF ≥660 mm) was established for the Stikine River in 2000 (Bernard et al. 2000), and escapements were within the BEG range from 2010 to 2015 (Heinl et al. 2014), and below the BEG range in 2016–2017 (Heinl et al. 2020) and 2018–2023 (Table 14; Priest et al. *In prep*). Available information dating back to 1975 suggests the 2017, 2018, and 2021 runs were the lowest on record. The Stikine River was recommended as a new king salmon stock of concern in 2022 and continues to be in stock of concern status. An action plan was developed, and the management actions are being implemented.

The sport harvest of large Stikine River king salmon from 2008 to 2017 averaged 964 fish. With regionwide wild stock conservation measures in effect since 2018, the average sport harvest declined to 99 large fish. Since 2017, the Stikine River king salmon preseason forecasts projected runs that would not support an allowable catch and a directed fishery. Stikine River area sport fishery management measures taken to conserve Stikine River king salmon from 2012 to 2023 are provided in Table 15.

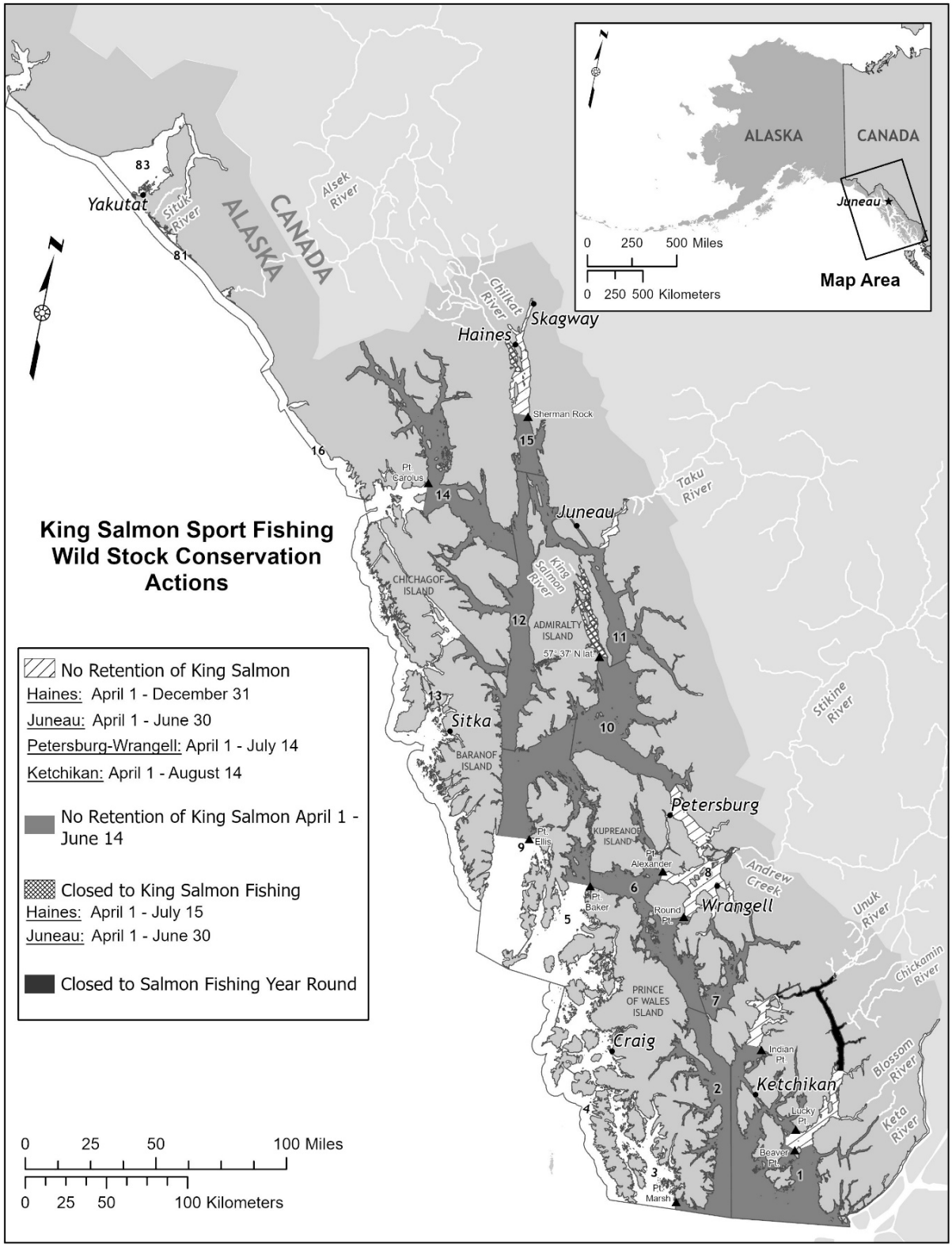


Figure 14.–King salmon sport fishing management actions for Southeast Alaska wild king salmon stock conservation, 2021–2024.

Table 15.–Stikine River area sport fishery management measures, sport harvest, and escapement of Stikine River king salmon, 2012–2024.

Year	Petersburg/Wrangell area sport fishery management actions for Stikine River king salmon	Stikine River king salmon sport harvest		Stikine River large king salmon escapement (≥660 mm METF)[c]
		District 8[a]	Remainder of SEAK[b]	
2012	The preseason forecast indicated an allowable catch was present; in accordance with the management plan the following directed king salmon regulations in District 8 were established: resident bag limit 3 fish ≥28 inches, possession limit 6; nonresident bag and possession limit of 2 fish ≥28 inches, annual limit 6; 2 rods per angler May 1 through June 3 (EO 1-KS-C-05-12). Inseason information indicated an allowable catch was no longer present but the BEG would be met requiring that directed District 8 king salmon regulations be rescinded, reverting District 8 regulations back to the following regional king salmon regulations on June 4: resident bag and possession limit of 3 fish ≥28 inches; nonresident bag and possession 1 fish ≥28 inches with an annual limit of 4 (EO 1-KS-C-14-12). Updated inseason information indicated an allowable catch was once again present and the directed fishing regulations were reestablished in District 8 from June 22 through July 15 (EO 1-KS-C-17-12).	591	171	22,332[d]
2013	Because the preseason forecast indicated no allowable catch was present but the BEG would be met, the following regional king salmon regulations applied in District 8: bag and possession limit of 1 fish ≥28 inches; nonresident annual limit of 3 fish ≥28 inches through June 30, 2 fish ≥28 inches July 1 through July 15; and 1 fish ≥28 inches July 16 through December 31; and 2 rods for resident anglers October through March (EO 1-KS-R-2-13).	636	834	16,783[d]
2014	Because the preseason forecast indicated no allowable catch was present but the BEG would be met, the following regional king salmon regulations applied in District 8: resident bag and possession limit of 3 fish ≥28 inches; nonresidents bag and possession limit of 1 fish ≥28 inches except in May and June the nonresident bag and possession limit was 2 fish ≥28 inches, nonresident annual limit of 6 fish; and 2 rods October through March for all anglers (EO 1-KS-R-03-14)..	697	0	24,374[d]
2015	The preseason forecast indicated an allowable catch was present; in accordance with the management plan the following directed king salmon regulations were established in District 8 from May 1 through July 15: resident bag limit 3 fish ≥28 inches, possession limit 6. Nonresident bag limit 2 fish ≥28 inches, possession limit 6.	781	513	21,597[d]

-continued-

Table 15.–Page 2 of 5.

Year	Petersburg/Wrangell area sport fishery management actions for Stikine River king salmon	Stikine River king salmon sport harvest		Stikine River large king salmon escapement (≥660 mm METF)[c]
		District 8[a]	Remainder of SEAK[b]	
2016	The preseason forecast indicated an allowable catch was present; in accordance with the management plan the following directed king salmon regulations were established May 1 through June 1 in District 8: resident bag limit 3 fish ≥28 inches, possession limit 6; nonresident bag limit 2 fish ≥28 inches, possession limit 6. Inseason data indicated an allowable catch was no longer present but the BEG would be met requiring that directed District 8 king salmon regulations be rescinded reverting District 8 regulations back to the following regional king salmon regulations: resident bag and possession limit of 3 fish ≥28 inches, nonresident bag and possession of 2 fish during May and June, 1 fish bag and possession for the remainder of the year, annual limit of 6.	438	485	10,554[d]
2017	The preseason forecast indicated no allowable catch was present and lower end of the BEG was unlikely to be met unless harvest of Stikine River king salmon was reduced. To reduce harvest, the District 8 bag and possession limit was reduced to 1 king salmon ≥28 inches for all anglers and nonresident annual limit of 3 king salmon ≥28 inches was enacted from May 1 through July 15 (EO 1-KS-C-7-17). Inseason information then indicated the BEG was not likely to be achieved. Further conservative management action was taken by closing a portion of District 8 from May 25 through July 15 to fishing for king salmon (EO 1-KS-C-14-17).	139	389	7,335[d]
2018	The preseason forecast indicated no allowable catch was available and the lower bound of the escapement goal was unlikely to be achieved. Management action was taken to prohibit the retention of king salmon within District 8 and a small portion of District 7 between April 1 and July 14 (EO 1-KS-R-02-18). A small area within District 8 where Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon were expected to return to the City Creek release site remained open to the retention of king salmon between June 1 and July 14. In order to protect other Alaska wild stocks of king salmon, the inside waters of Southeast Alaska, including the majority of the Petersburg/Wrangell management area, was closed to the retention of king salmon from April 1 through June 14. This action reduced the interception of Stikine River king salmon along migration corridors.	12[b]	0	8,603[d]

-continued-

Table 15.–Page 3 of 5.

Year	Petersburg/Wrangell Area sport fishery management actions for Stikine River king salmon	Stikine River king salmon sport harvest		Stikine River large king salmon escapement (≥660 mm METF)[c]
		District 8[a]	Remainder of SEAK[b]	
2019	The preseason forecast indicated no allowable catch was available and the lower bound of the escapement goal was unlikely to be achieved. Management action was taken to prohibit the retention of king salmon within District 8 and a small portion of District 7 between April 1 and July 14 (EO 1-KS-R-03-19). A small area within District 8 where Alaska hatchery king salmon were expected to return to the City Creek release site remained open to the retention of king salmon between June 15 and July 14. In order to protect other Alaska wild stocks of king salmon, the inside waters of Southeast Alaska, including the majority of the Petersburg/Wrangell management area was closed to the retention of king salmon from April 1 through June 14. This action reduced the interception of Stikine River king salmon along migration corridors.	2	0	13,817
2020	The preseason forecast indicated no allowable catch was available and the lower bound of the escapement goal was unlikely to be achieved. Management action was taken to prohibit the retention of king salmon within District 8 and a small portion of District 7 between April 1 and July 14 (EO 1-KS-R-06-20). A small area within District 8 where Alaska hatchery king salmon were expected to return to the City Creek release site remained open to the retention of king salmon between June 15 and July 14. In order to protect other Alaska wild stocks of king salmon, the inside waters of Southeast Alaska, including the majority of the Petersburg/Wrangell management area were closed to the retention of king salmon from April 1 through June 14. This action reduced the interception of Stikine River king salmon along migration corridors.	93[b]	0	9,753

-continued-

Table 15.–Page 4 of 5.

Year	Petersburg/Wrangell Area sport fishery management actions for Stikine River king salmon	Stikine River king salmon sport harvest		Stikine River large king salmon escapement (≥660 mm METF)[c]
		District 8[a]	Remainder of SEAK[b]	
2021	The preseason forecast indicated no allowable catch was available and the lower bound of the escapement goal was unlikely to be achieved. Management action was taken to prohibit the retention of king salmon within District 8 and a small portion of District 7 between April 1 and July 14 (EO 1-KS-R-05-21). A small area within district 8 where Alaska hatchery king salmon were expected to return to the city creek release site remained open to the retention of king salmon between June 15 and July 14. In order to protect other Alaska wild stocks of king salmon, the inside waters of Southeast Alaska, including the majority of the Petersburg/Wrangell management area was closed to the retention of king salmon from April 1 to June 14. This action reduced the interception of Stikine River king salmon along migration corridors.	88[b]	0	8,376[d]
2022	The preseason forecast indicated no allowable catch was available and the lower bound of the escapement goal was unlikely to be achieved. Management action was taken to prohibit the retention of king salmon within District 8 and a small portion of District 7 between April 1 and July 14 (EO 1-KS-R-06-22). A small area within District 8 where Alaska hatchery king salmon were expected to return to the City Creek release site remained open to the retention of king salmon between June 15 and July 14. In order to protect other Alaska wild stocks of king salmon, the inside waters of Southeast Alaska, including the majority of the Petersburg/Wrangell management area were closed to the retention of king salmon from April 1 to June 14. This action reduced the interception of Stikine River king salmon along migration corridors.	6[b]	299	9,090[d]

-continued-

Table 15.–Page 5 of 5.

Year	Petersburg/Wrangell Area sport fishery management actions for Stikine River king salmon	Stikine River king salmon sport harvest		Stikine River large king salmon escapement (≥660 mm METF)[c]
		District 8[a]	Remainder of SEAK[b]	
2023	The preseason forecast indicated no allowable catch was available and the lower bound of the escapement goal was unlikely to be achieved. Management action was taken to prohibit the retention of king salmon within District 8 and a small portion of District 7 between April 1 and July 14 (EO 1-KS-R-04-23). A small area within district 8 where Alaska hatchery king salmon were expected to return to the City Creek release site remained open to the retention of king salmon between June 15 and July 14. In order to protect other Alaska wild stocks of king salmon, the inside waters of Southeast Alaska, including the majority of the Petersburg/Wrangell management area were closed to the retention of king salmon from April 1- June 14. This action reduced the interception of Stikine River king salmon along migration corridors.	0	0	12,864[d]
2024	The preseason forecast indicated no allowable catch was available and the lower bound of the escapement goal was unlikely to be achieved. Management action was taken to prohibit the retention of king salmon within District 8 and a small portion of District 7 between April 1 and July 14 (EO 1-KS-R-04-23). A small area within district 8 where Alaska hatchery king salmon were expected to return to the City Creek release site remained open to the retention of king salmon between June 15 and July 14. In order to protect other Alaska wild stocks of king salmon, the inside waters of Southeast Alaska, including the majority of the Petersburg/Wrangell management area were closed to the retention of king salmon from April 1 to June 14. This action reduced the interception of Stikine River king salmon along migration corridors.	TBD	TBD	TBD

Note: TBD = to be determined.

[a] Estimates derived from genetic stock identification (GSI).

[b] Based on coded wire tag (CWT) recoveries and expansions.

[c] The Stikine River king salmon biological escapement goal (BEG) is 14,000–28,000 large fish; large is defined as mid eye to tail fork length (METF) ≥660 mm.

[d] Preliminary estimate.

TAKU RIVER

The Taku River is a TBR glacial system that supports an outside-rearing stock of king salmon. The Taku River originates in British Columbia and drains over 17,000 square kilometers before its terminus at Taku Inlet approximately 40 km northeast of Juneau (Figure 12). Starting in 2005, during years of surplus production to the Taku River, directed king salmon fisheries were allowed in the marine waters in District 11 near Juneau and in Canada (Figure 13). Wild juvenile king salmon were coded-wire-tagged from 1976 to 1981 and from 1993 to present.

A BEG range of 30,000 to 55,000 large (≥660 mm METF) fish was established for the Taku River stock of king salmon in 2000. The board adopted a new BEG range of 19,000 to 36,000 large spawners in 2009 after the analysis was updated using more recent data (McPherson et al. 2010). Escapements were above the lower bound of the BEG range from 2009 to 2011 and 2014 to 2015, but were below the BEG range in 2012, 2013, and 2016–2020 (Table 14; Heinl et al. 2020). The Taku River was recommended as a new king salmon stock of concern with an action plan developed during the 2022 SEAK Finfish board meeting.

From 2008 to 2017, the harvest rate on the Taku River king salmon runs for all fisheries averaged 25%, of which the U.S. and Canada account for 15% and 10%, respectively. The U.S. harvest mostly occurred in the commercial troll fishery (61%), followed by the commercial gillnet fishery (22%), and the sport fishery (17%). A small number of fish are also incidentally harvested in the inriver personal use fishery.

After the January 2018 SEAK board meeting, conservation measures were taken to reduce harvest of all SEAK wild king salmon stocks, including the Taku River stock. From 2018 to 2020, the harvest rate on Taku River king salmon in all fisheries averaged 2.6%, of which the U.S. and Canada accounted for 2.4% and 0.2%, respectively. The U.S. harvest occurred in the drift gillnet (65%), sport (23%), and commercial troll (12%) fisheries.

From 2021 to 2023, the harvest rate of Taku River king salmon across all fisheries averaged 8%. Of this total, the U.S. accounted for 7.8%, while Canada accounted for 0.2%. The U.S. harvest was distributed among the drift gillnet (20%), sport (26%), and commercial troll (54%) fisheries.

Juneau area sport fishery management restrictions taken to conserve Taku River king salmon from 2012 through 2023 have helped to reduce harvest and improve escapement (Table 16).

Table 16.–Taku River area sport fishery management measures, sport harvest, and escapement of Taku River king salmon, 2012–2024.

Year	Juneau Area sport fishery management actions for Taku River king salmon	Taku River king salmon sport harvest		Taku River large (≥660 mm METF) king salmon escapement[c]
		District 11[a]	Remainder of SEAK[b]	
2012	The preseason forecast indicated an allowable catch was present, in accordance with District 11 king salmon sport fishery regulations the following king salmon regulations were established April 25 through June 30 in District 11: resident bag and possession limit of 3 fish ≥28 inches; nonresident bag and possession limit of 2 fish ≥28 inches, annual limit 5; 2 rods per angler (EO 1-KS-E-03-12). By late May, inseason information indicated that the BEG would not be achieved and the liberalized sport fishing regulations based on an allowable catch were no longer justified and therefore were rescinded June 1 (EO 1-KS-E-13-12). From June 1 through August 31, a bag and possession limit of 4 king salmon with no size or annual limit was established in a designated sport harvest area to provide increased opportunity for king salmon in excess of hatchery broodstock requirements (EO 1-KS-E-10-12).	695	0	16,713[d]
2013	The following regional king salmon regulations applied in the Juneau area including District 11: bag and possession limit of 1 fish ≥28 inches; nonresident harvest limit of 3 fish ≥28 inches through June 30, 2 fish ≥28 inches July 1 through July 15, and 1 fish ≥28 inches July 16 through December 31; and 2 rods for resident anglers October through March (EO 1-KS-R-2-13). From June 1 through August 31, a bag and possession limit of 4 king salmon with no size or annual limit was established in a designated sport harvest area to provide increased opportunity for king salmon in excess of hatchery broodstock requirements (EO 1-KS-E-7-13).	271	0	18,002[d]
2014	The following regional king salmon regulations applied in the Juneau area including District 11: resident bag and possession limit of 3 fish ≥28 inches; nonresident bag and possession limit of 1 fish ≥28 inches except in May and June; the nonresident bag and possession limit was 2 fish ≥28 inches, nonresident annual limit of 6 fish; and 2 rods October through March for all anglers (EO 1-KS-R-03-14). From June 1 through August 31, a bag and possession limit of 4 king salmon with no size or annual limit was established in a designated sport harvest area to provide increased opportunity for king salmon in excess of hatchery broodstock requirements (EO 1-KS-E-9-14).	810	0	23,532[d]

-continued-

Table 16.–Page 2 of 5.

Year	Juneau Area sport fishery management actions for Taku River king salmon	Taku River king salmon sport harvest		Taku River large (≥660 mm METF) king salmon escapement[c]
		District 11[a]	Remainder of SEAK[b]	
2015	The preseason forecast indicated no allowable catch was present and unless harvest of Taku River king salmon was reduced it was unlikely the BEG would be achieved. To reduce harvest, the bag and possession limit for District 11 was reduced to 1 king salmon ≥28 inches for all anglers with a nonresident annual limit of 3 king salmon ≥28 inches from April 4 through June 30, and king salmon north of a line from Cooper Point to the mouth of Dorothy Creek could not be retained until after July 1 (EO 1-KS-E-4-15). From June 1 through August 31, a bag and possession limit of 4 king salmon with no size or annual limit was established in a designated sport harvest area to provide increased opportunity for king salmon in excess of hatchery broodstock requirements (EO 1-KS-E-13-15).	463	308	23,567[d]
2016	The preseason forecast indicated unless harvest of Taku River king salmon was reduced it was unlikely the BEG would be achieved. To reduce harvest, the bag and possession limit for District 11 and District 15 south of Sherman Rock was reduced to 1 king salmon ≥28 inches for all anglers from April 15 through June 30, and king salmon north of a line from Cooper Point to the mouth of Dorothy Creek could not be retained until after July 1 (EO 1-KS-E-4-16). Inseason information then indicated the BEG was not likely to be achieved. Further conservative management action was taken by closing a portion of District 11 from June 4 through June 30 to the retention of king salmon (EO 1-KS-E-18-16). From June 1 through August 31 a bag and possession limit of 4 king salmon with no size or annual limit was established in a designated sport harvest area to provide increased opportunity for king salmon in excess of hatchery broodstock requirements (EO 1-KS-E-13-16).	635	0	9,177[d]
2017	The preseason forecast indicated that unless harvest of Taku River king salmon was reduced, it was unlikely the BEG would be achieved. To reduce harvest, retention of sport fish caught king salmon was prohibited in District 11, Sections 12-B and 15-C from April 15 through June 14 (EO 1-KS-E-06-17).	34	0	8,214[d]

-continued-

Table 16.–Page 3 of 5.

Year	Juneau Area sport fishery management actions for Taku River king salmon	Taku River king salmon sport harvest		Taku River large (≥660 mm METF) king salmon escapement[c]
		District 11[a]	Remainder of SEAK[b]	
2018	The preseason forecast indicated that even with zero harvest of Taku River king salmon it was unlikely the BEG would be achieved. To reduce harvest, sport fishing for king salmon in the majority of marine waters in the Juneau area (the northern portion of District 9, District 10, Sections 11-A, 11-B, 11-C, District 12, southeast portion of Section 13-C, Sections 14-B and 14-C, and District 15 south of the latitude of Sherman Rock), the retention of king salmon was prohibited April 1 through June 14. In addition, the waters of Seymour Canal near King Salmon River (Section 11-D) were closed to king salmon fishing from April 1 through June 30 (EO 1-KS-R-02-18).	9	0	7,271[d]
2019	The preseason forecast indicated that even with zero harvest of Taku River king salmon it was unlikely the BEG would be achieved. To reduce harvest, sport fishing for king salmon in the majority of marine waters in the Juneau area (the northern portion of District 9, District 10, Sections 11-A, 11-B, 11-C, District 12, southeast portion of Section 13-C, Sections 14-B and 14-C, and District 15 south of the latitude of Sherman Rock), the retention of king salmon was prohibited April 1 through June 14. In addition, the waters of Seymour Canal near King Salmon River (Section 11-D) were closed to king salmon fishing from April 1 through June 30 (EO 1-KS-R-03-19).	94	0	11,558[d]
2020	The preseason forecast indicated that even with zero harvest of Taku River king salmon it was unlikely the BEG would be achieved. To reduce harvest, sport fishing for king salmon in the majority of marine waters in the Juneau Area (the northern portion of District 9, District 10, Sections 11-A, 11-B, 11-C, District 12, southeast portion of Section 13-C, Sections 14-B and 14-C, and District 15 south of the latitude of Sherman Rock), the retention of king salmon was prohibited April 1 through June 14. In addition, the waters of Seymour Canal near King Salmon River (Section 11-D) were closed to king salmon fishing from April 1 through June 30 (EO 1-KS-R-06-20). Inseason information indicated that the Taku River large (≥660 mm METF) king run was poor and an additional 2-week nonretention period (June 15 through June 30) was implemented in the marine waters of Taku Inlet north of a line from Point Bishop to Point Greely to reduce harvest (EO 1-KS-R-17-20).	112	0	15,593[d]

-continued-

Table 16.–Page 4 of 5.

Year	Juneau Area sport fishery management actions for Taku River king salmon	Taku River king salmon sport harvest		Taku River large (≥660 mm METF) king salmon escapement[c]
		District 11[a]	Remainder of SEAK[b]	
2021	The preseason forecast indicated that even with zero harvest of Taku River king salmon it was unlikely the BEG would be achieved. To reduce harvest, sport fishing for king salmon in the majority of marine waters in the Juneau Area (the northern portion of District 9, District 10, Sections 11-A, 11-B, 11-C, District 12, southeast portion of Section 13-C, Sections 14-B and 14-C, and District 15 south of the latitude of Sherman Rock), the retention of king salmon was prohibited April 1 through June 14. In addition, the waters of Seymour Canal near King Salmon River (Section 11-D) were closed to king salmon fishing from April 1 through June 30. The waters of Taku Inlet prohibited king salmon retention April 1 through June 30 (EO 1-KS-R-05-21).	176	0	11,341
2022	The preseason forecast indicated that even with zero harvest of Taku River king salmon it was unlikely the BEG would be achieved. To reduce harvest, sport fishing for king salmon in the majority of marine waters in the Juneau Area (the northern portion of District 9, District 10, Sections 11-A, 11-B, 11-C, District 12, southeast portion of Section 13-C, Sections 14-B and 14-C, and District 15 south of the latitude of Sherman Rock), the retention of king salmon was prohibited April 1 through June 14. In addition, the waters of Seymour Canal near King Salmon River (Section 11-D) were closed to king salmon fishing from April 1 through June 30. The waters of Taku Inlet prohibited king salmon retention April 1 through June 30 (EO 1-KS-R-06-22).	142	0	12,722
2023	The preseason forecast indicated that even with zero harvest of Taku River king salmon it was unlikely the BEG would be achieved. To reduce harvest, sport fishing for king salmon in the majority of marine waters in the Juneau Area (the northern portion of District 9, District 10, Sections 11-A, 11-B, 11-C, District 12, southeast portion of Section 13-C, Sections 14-B and 14-C, and District 15 south of the latitude of Sherman Rock), the retention of king salmon was prohibited April 1 through June 14. In addition, the waters of Seymour Canal near King Salmon River (Section 11-D) were closed to king salmon fishing from April 1 through June 30. The waters of Taku Inlet prohibited king salmon retention April 1 through June 30 (EO 1-KS-R-04-23).	120	301	14,755

-continued-

Table 16.–Page 5 of 5.

Year	Juneau Area sport fishery management actions for Taku River king salmon	Taku River king salmon sport harvest		Taku River large (≥660 mm METF) king salmon escapement[c]
		District 11[a]	Remainder of SEAK[b]	
2024	The preseason forecast indicated that even with zero harvest of Taku River king salmon it was unlikely the BEG would be achieved. To reduce harvest, sport fishing for king salmon in the majority of marine waters in the Juneau Area (the northern portion of District 9, District 10, Sections 11-A, 11-B, 11-C, District 12, southeast portion of Section 13-C, Sections 14-B and 14-C, and District 15 south of the latitude of Sherman Rock), the retention of king salmon was prohibited April 1 through June 14. In addition, the waters of Seymour Canal near King Salmon River (Section 11-D) were closed to king salmon fishing from April 1 through June 30. The waters of Taku Inlet prohibited king salmon retention April 1 through June 30 (EO 1-KS-R-09-24).	TBD	TBD	TBD

[a] Estimates derived from genetic stock identification (GSI).

[b] Based on coded wire tag (CWT) sampling. If no CWTs were recovered, then 0 was entered.

[c] The Taku River king salmon biological escapement goal (BEG) is 19,000 to 36,000 large fish; large is defined as mid eye to tail fork (METF) length ≥660 mm.

[d] Preliminary estimate.

ALSEK RIVER

The Alsek River is a TBR glacial system that originates in southwestern Yukon and northwestern British Columbia and flows into the Gulf of Alaska about 80 km southeast of Yakutat (Figure 12). The Alsek River supports an outside-rearing stock of king salmon. Canadian sport and Aboriginal king salmon fisheries operate in the upper drainage and some bycatch occurs in Alaska in the directed sockeye salmon fisheries in the lower Alsek River. Unlike the other SEAK indicator stocks in which escapement estimates are germane to large fish, the Alsek River king salmon estimates include non-large king salmon (<28 inches) that are predominately ocean-age-2 (4-year-old) fish. A weir is operated on the Klukshu River, an upriver tributary of the Alsek River, to estimate escapement. Weir counts are added to any harvest in the Klukshu River to generate Klukshu River inriver run estimates. Several years of mark–recapture studies were performed to estimate the total Alsek inriver run of king salmon After comparing mark–recapture estimates with Klukshu River inriver runs, an expansion factor of 4.0 was developed to estimate drainagewide escapement and run size without the cost of mark–recapture studies. An escapement goal analysis resulted in a drainagewide BEG range of 3,500 to 5,300 king salmon (Bernard and Jones III 2010). Alsek River king salmon runs have achieved or exceeded the lower bound of the escapement goal range in 8 of the last 13 years (Table 14).

UNUK AND CHICKAMIN RIVERS

The Unuk River is a glacial river originating in British Columbia that flows into the northeast corner of Behm Canal, 85 km north of Ketchikan (Figure 12). Historically, the Unuk River is the fourth largest producer of king salmon in SEAK (Pahlke 2010). Unuk River king salmon are caught in the sport fishery throughout the marine waters of SEAK, primarily in the Ketchikan Management Area. ADF&G conducts an annual stock assessment of Unuk River king salmon and expanded peak aerial and foot survey counts are used to estimate total escapement.

The current BEG range of 1,800 to 3,800 large (METF length ≥660 mm) spawners was established in 2009, based on a stock–recruit analysis of the 1982 to 2001 brood years (Hendrich et al. 2008).

For 34 years, the escapement has been met or exceeded the BEG in every year (1977–2011); however, beginning in 2012, this stock failed to achieve the lower bound of the escapement goal in 5 of 6 years (2012–2017). In 2018, the board designated the Unuk River king salmon run as a stock of concern and adopted a set of conservation measures to be taken in SEAK commercial, sport, and personal use fisheries, as reported in the *Unuk River King Salmon Stock Status and Action Plan*, 2018 (Lum and Fair 2018a). Since 2018, the Unuk River king salmon escapement goal has been achieved in 5 of the last 7 years (2018–2024), which meets criteria outlined in the action plan for removing the stock. The Unuk River is no longer recommended as a stock of concern.

The Chickamin River is a glacial river that originates in British Columbia and flows east into Behm Canal, 32 km south of Burroughs Bay where the mouth of the Unuk River is located (Figure 12). The Chickamin River produces the second largest run of Chinook salmon in southern SEAK. Chickamin River king salmon are caught in the sport fishery throughout the marine waters of SEAK, primarily in the Ketchikan Management Area. The Chickamin River is monitored annually with standardized helicopter surveys coupled with field sampling to gather age, sex, length, and genetic information. Spawning escapements are estimated by expanding peak aerial surveys in index reaches. In the Chickamin River, the BEG is 2,150 to 4,300 large spawners.

From 2016 to 2019, the Chickamin River king salmon stock failed to attain the lower bound of its BEG range. At the March 2022 SEAK board meeting, the board designated the Chickamin River as a stock of concern and adopted the same set of conservation measures designed to protect the Unuk River stock, as reported in the *Unuk and Chickamin River Stock Status and Action Plan*, 2022 (Meredith et al. 2022). The Chickamin River king salmon escapement goal has been achieved in 5 of the last 7 years (2018–2024), which meets the criteria outlined in the action plan for removing the stock. The Chickamin River is no longer recommended as a stock of concern.

Standing regulations protect the Unuk and Chickamin Rivers king salmon by closing North and Northeast Behm Canal to salmon fishing year-round (5 AAC 47.021(j)(2)), and by prohibiting retention of king salmon in Southeast Behm Canal from April 1 to August 14 (5 AAC 47.021(j)(3)). Since 2018, Unuk and Chickamin Action Plan regulations issued by EO have expanded the seasonal king salmon nonretention area to include West Behm Canal and Southeast Revillagigedo Channel. In addition, king salmon retention has been prohibited in all SEAK inside waters, including Districts 1 and 2 (Figure 14). Liberalized king salmon regulations have allowed harvest of returning hatchery-origin fish in Mountain Point, Neets Bay, Thomas Basin, and Herring Bay sport THAs.

From 2007 to 2017, prior to the action plan, the harvest rate on the Unuk River king salmon run in all fisheries averaged 42.2%, of which the U.S. and Canada account for 40.8% and 1.4%, respectively. The U.S. harvest was divided amongst the commercial troll fishery (25%), the commercial net fisheries (8.8%), and the sport fishery (7%).

From 2018 to 2023, with Unuk River and Chickamin River Action Plan conservation measures in place, the harvest rate on Unuk River king salmon averaged 29.5%, of which the U.S. and Canada account for 27.6% and 1.9%, respectively. The U.S. harvest was divided amongst the commercial troll fishery (8.1%), commercial net fisheries (13%), and the sport fishery (6.6%).

KETA AND BLOSSOM RIVERS

The Keta and Blossom Rivers empty into East Behm Canal (Figure 12) where near-terminal waters are closed to all salmon fishing year-round, and there are no directed fishing efforts on these stocks. Spawning escapements are estimated by expanding peak aerial surveys in index reaches, and each of these stocks has a BEG range (Heinl et al. 2020). In the Keta and Blossom Rivers, the BEGs are 550 to 1,300 and 500 to 1,400 large spawners, respectively, where large fish are defined as METF length ≥660 mm (Table 14; Fleischman et al. 2011; McPherson and Carlile 1997). From 1999 through 2024, the BEG was met in the Blossom River in most years. However, the Blossom River stock missed the lower bound in 2021 and 2022. The one bright spot for the escapement goal performance of the 11 monitored SEAK king salmon stocks is the Keta River stock, which has attained or exceeded the BEG range every year since 1998. There are no directed management actions taken to reduce harvest rates on the Keta and Blossom River stocks, but actions taken to conserve the Unuk and Chickamin River stocks and other SEAK wild stocks also conserve these Behm Canal stocks.

Table 17.–Ketchikan Area sport fishery management measures, sport harvest, and escapement of Unuk River king salmon, 2012–2024.

Year	Ketchikan Area sport fishery management actions for Unuk River king salmon	Ketchikan total king salmon sport harvest[a]	Unuk River king salmon sport harvest		Unuk River large (≥660 mm METF) king salmon escapement[d]
			Ketchikan[b]	Remainder of SEAK[c]	
2012	Regionwide regulations applied: resident bag and possession limit of 3 king salmon and a nonresident bag and possession limit 1 king salmon ≥28 inches, except during May when the bag and possession limit was 2 king salmon ≥28 inches; nonresident annual limit of 4 king salmon (EO 1-KS-R-2-12). The Ketchikan Sport terminal harvest area (THA) opened by regulation and Neets Bay THA was also opened: June 1–July 31, bag and possession limit of 6 king salmon any size, no nonresident annual limit (EO 1-KS-A-12-12).	3,879	411	33	956
2013	Regionwide regulations applied: bag and possession limit of 1 king salmon ≥28 inches. Nonresident annual harvest limit: 3 king salmon ≥28 inches January 1 through June 30; 2 king salmon ≥28 inches July 1 through July 15; 1 king salmon ≥28 inches July 16 through December 31 (EO 1-KS-R-2-13). The Ketchikan Sport THA opened by regulation and Neets Bay THA was also opened: June 1 through July 31, bag and possession limit of 6 king salmon any size, no nonresident annual limit (EO 1-KS-A-6-13).	9,410	450	71	1,135
2014	North Behm Canal was closed to salmon fishing May 27 through June 30. West Behm Canal was reduced to 1 king salmon for all anglers with a nonresident annual limit of 6 king salmon from May 27 through June 30. The Ketchikan Sport THA was postponed until July 1 (EO 1-KS-R-5-14). Small terminal areas within Herring Bay and Neets Bay were opened June 1–July 31, with a bag and possession limit of 6 king salmon any size; no nonresident annual limit (EO 1-KS-R-6-14).	12,040	64	118	1,691

-continued-

Table 17.–Page 2 of 6.

Year	Ketchikan Area sport fishery management actions for Unuk River king salmon	Ketchikan total king salmon sport harvest[a]	Unuk River king salmon sport harvest		Unuk River large (≥660 mm METF) king salmon escapement[d]
			Ketchikan[b]	Remainder of SEAK[c]	
2015	North Behm Canal was closed to salmon fishing May 26 through July 15. West Behm Canal king salmon bag and possession limits were reduced to 1 king salmon for all anglers with a nonresident annual limit of 6 king salmon from May 26 through June 30. The Ketchikan Sport terminal harvest area (THA) was postponed until July 1 (EO 1-KS-A-9-15), Regionwide regulations implemented from June 1 through June 30 with resident bag and possession limit of 3 king salmon; nonresident bag and possession limit of 2 king salmon, annual limit of 6 king salmon (EO 1-KS-R-8-15). A small terminal area within Herring Bay was opened June 1 through July 31, with a bag and possession limit of 6 king salmon any size; no nonresident annual limit (EO 1-KS-A-9-15).	9,939	215	84	2,623
2016	North Behm Canal was closed to salmon fishing May 24 through June 30. West Behm Canal king salmon bag limit was reduced to 1 fish for all anglers with a nonresident annual limit of 6 king salmon mirroring the regional nonresident annual limit from May 24 through June 30. The Ketchikan Sport THA opened by regulation with a bag and possession limit of 6 king salmon any size; no nonresident annual limit (EO 1-KS-A-07-16).	5,502	0	179	1,463
2017	North Behm Canal and Northeast Behm Canal closed to salmon fishing April 1 through August 14. West Behm Canal was reduced to 1 king salmon for all anglers with a nonresident annual limit of 3 king salmon from April 1 through August 14. The Ketchikan Sport THA was restricted April 1 through June 30 to a 1 king salmon bag and possession limit for all anglers with a nonresident annual limit of 3 king salmon. A small terminal area within Herring Bay was opened June 1 through July 31, with a bag and possession limit of 6 king salmon any size; no nonresident annual limit (EO 1-KS-A-8-17).	10,800[e]	0	0	1,203

-continued-

Table 17.–Page 3 of 6.

Year	Ketchikan Area sport fishery management actions for Unuk River king salmon	Ketchikan total king salmon sport harvest[a]	Unuk River king salmon sport harvest		Unuk River large (≥660 mm METF) king salmon escapement[d]
			Ketchikan[b]	Remainder of SEAK[c]	
2018	North and Northeast Behm Canal was closed to salmon fishing year-round. In West Behm Canal, Southeast Behm Canal, and Southern Revillagigedo Channel, king salmon retention was prohibited April 1 through August 14 (EO 1-KS-R-02-18). In all remaining waters of District 1 and 2, king salmon retention was prohibited from April 1 through June 14, June 15 through August 14, and the Alaska resident and nonresident bag and possession limit was 1 king salmon ≥28 inches. THAs in Mountain Point, Neets Bay, and Thomas Basin were opened May 15 through June 14 with a bag and possession limit of 1 king salmon ≥28 inches, nonresident annual limit of 3 king salmon. A small terminal area within Herring Bay was opened June 1 through July 31 with a bag and possession limit of 3 king salmon any size, no nonresident annual limit (EO 1-KS-A-07-18).	6,446	0	61	1,971[e]
2019	North and Northeast Behm Canal was closed to salmon fishing year-round. In West Behm Canal, Southeast Behm Canal, and Southern Revillagigedo Channel, king salmon retention was prohibited April 1 through August 14 (EO 1-KS-R-03-19). In all remaining waters of District 1 and 2, king salmon retention was prohibited from April 1 through June 14, June 15 through August 14, and the Alaska resident and nonresident bag and possession limit was 1 king salmon ≥28 inches. In addition, a 2 fish resident bag limit was implemented in areas closed for wild stock management when they reopened (EO 1-KS-R-05-19). A subsequent EO was issued correcting the regulations in District 1 by reducing the bag limit from 2 fish to 1 fish through August 14 per the Unuk River Action Plan (EO 1-KS-A-18-19). THAs in Mountain Point and Thomas Basin were opened June 1 through June 14, and Neets Bay THA was opened June 15 through August 14 with a bag and possession limit of 1 king salmon ≥28 inches; nonresident annual limit of 3 king salmon. A small terminal area within Herring Bay was opened June 1 through July 31 with a bag and possession limit of 3 king salmon of any size, no nonresident annual limit (EO 1-KS-A-13-19).	4,772	97	57	3,115[e]

-continued-

Table 17.–Page 4 of 6.

Year	Ketchikan Area sport fishery management actions for Unuk River king salmon	Ketchikan total king salmon sport harvest[a]	Unuk River king salmon sport harvest		Unuk River large (≥660 mm METF) king salmon escapement[d]
			Ketchikan[b]	Remainder of SEAK[c]	
2020	North and Northeast Behm Canal was closed to salmon fishing year-round. In West Behm Canal, Southeast Behm Canal, and Southern Revillagigedo Channel, king salmon retention was prohibited April 1 through August 14 (EO 1-KS-R-06-20). In all remaining waters of District 1, king salmon retention was prohibited April 1 through June 14, June 15 through August 14, and resident and nonresident bag and possession limits were 1 king salmon ≥28 inches. In District 2, king salmon retention was prohibited from April 1 through June 14. In addition, a 2 fish resident bag limit was implemented in areas closed for wild stock management when they reopened. THAs in Mountain Point and Thomas Basin were opened June 1 through June 14, and Neets Bay THA was opened June 15 through August 14 with a bag and possession limit of 1 king salmon ≥28 inches; nonresident annual limit of 3 king salmon. A small terminal area within Herring Bay was opened June 1 through July 31 with a bag and possession limit of 3 king salmon any size; no nonresident annual limit (EO 1-KS-A-14-20).	3,485	52	162	1,135[e]

-continued-

Table 17.–Page 5 of 6.

Year	Ketchikan Area sport fishery management actions for Unuk River king salmon	Ketchikan total king salmon sport harvest[a]	Unuk River king salmon sport harvest		Unuk River large (≥660 mm METF) king salmon escapement[d]
			Ketchikan[b]	Remainder of SEAK[c]	
2021	North and Northeast Behm Canal was closed to salmon fishing year-round. In West Behm Canal, Southeast Behm Canal and Southern Revillagigedo Channel, king salmon retention was prohibited April 1 through August 14 (EO 1-KS-R-02-18). In all remaining waters of District 1 and 2: king salmon retention was prohibited from April 1 through June 14; June 15 through August 14, the Alaska resident and nonresident bag and possession limit was 1 king salmon ≥28 inches. When the conservation areas opened to retention the resident bag limit was 2 fish. THA's in Mountain Point and Thomas Basin were opened June 1 through June 14, and Neets Bay opened June 15–August 14 with a bag and possession limit of 1 king salmon ≥28 inches, nonresident annual limit of 3 king salmon. A small terminal area within Herring Bay was opened June 1 through July 31 with a bag and possession limit of 3 king salmon any size, no nonresident annual limit (EO-1-KS-A-9-21).	3,534	41	63	2,666
2022	North and Northeast Behm Canal was closed to salmon fishing year-round. In West Behm Canal, Southeast Behm Canal and Southern Revillagigedo Channel, king salmon retention was prohibited April 1 through August 14 (EO 1-KS-R-02-18). In all remaining waters of District 1 and 2: king salmon retention was prohibited from April 1 through June 14; June 15 through August 14, the Alaska resident bag limit was 2 king salmon, and nonresident bag and possession limit was 1 king salmon ≥28 inches. THA's in Mountain Point opened June 8 through June 14, Thomas Basin opened June 1 through June 14, Carroll Inlet opened June 1 through June 8, Neets Bay opened June 15 through August 14 with a bag and possession limit of 1 king salmon ≥28 inches, nonresident annual limit of 3 king salmon. A small terminal area within Herring Bay was opened June 1 through July 31 with a bag and possession limit of 3 king salmon any size, no nonresident annual limit (EO-1-KS-A-12-22).	4,431	143	0	1,304

-continued-

Table 17.–Page 6 of 6.

Year	Ketchikan Area sport fishery management actions for Unuk River king salmon	Ketchikan total king salmon sport harvest[a]	Unuk River king salmon sport harvest		Unuk River large (≥660 mm METF) king salmon escapement[d]
			Ketchikan[b]	Remainder of SEAK[c]	
2023	North and Northeast Behm Canal was closed to salmon fishing year-round. In West Behm Canal, Southeast Behm Canal and Southern Revillagigedo Channel, king salmon retention was prohibited April 1 through August 14 (EO 1-KS-R-02-18). In all remaining waters of District 1 and 2: king salmon retention was prohibited from April 1 through June 14; June 15 through August 14, the Alaska resident and nonresident bag and possession limit was 1 king salmon ≥28 inches. THA's in Mountain Point opened June 8 through June 14, Thomas Basin opened June 1 through June 14 and Carroll Inlet opened June 1 through June 8, and Neets Bay opened June 15 through August 14 with a bag and possession limit of 1 king salmon ≥28 inches, nonresident annual limit of 3 king salmon. A small terminal area within Herring Bay was opened June 1 through July 31 with a bag and possession limit of 3 king salmon any size, no nonresident annual limit (EO-1-KS-A-8-23).	7,516	194	152	2,072
2024	North and Northeast Behm Canal was closed to salmon fishing year-round. In West Behm Canal, Southeast Behm Canal and Southern Revillagigedo Channel, king salmon retention was prohibited April 1 through August 14 (EO 1-KS-R-02-18). In all remaining waters of District 1 and 2: king salmon retention was prohibited from April 1 through June 14; June 15 through August 14, the Alaska resident and nonresident bag and possession limit was 1 king salmon ≥28 inches. THA's in Mountain Point opened June 8 through June 14, Thomas Basin opened June 1 through June 14 and Carroll Inlet opened June 1 through June 8, and Neets Bay opened June 15 through August 14 with a bag and possession limit of 1 king salmon ≥28 inches, nonresident annual limit of 3 king salmon. A small terminal area within Herring Bay was opened June 1 through July 31 with a bag and possession limit of 3 king salmon any size, no nonresident annual limit. (1-KS-A-10-24).	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

Note: TBD = to be determined.

[a] SWHS final estimates for 2012–2023.

[b] The Unuk River sport harvest estimates provided for the Ketchikan Area are analogous to the sport harvest estimates for the SE quadrant in 2013–2023. All the tag recoveries from the SE quadrant occurred in the Ketchikan Area except one fish was recovered in Petersburg in 2012. The harvest estimates for 2012 were refined to separate Ketchikan from the remainder of SEAK.

[c] The Unuk River sport harvest estimate for the remainder of SEAK is the sum of the sport harvest estimates for the NE, NW, and SW quadrants.

[d] The Unuk River king salmon biological escapement goal (BEG) range is 1,800–3,800 large fish, where large is defined as MEF length ≥660 mm.

[e] Preliminary estimate.

ANDREW CREEK

Andrew Creek is a clearwater tributary in the U.S. that flows into the lower Stikine River (Figure 12) and supports a mostly "inside-rearing" king salmon stock (i.e., a stock that rears and matures mostly within SEAK marine waters). Harvests of Andrew Creek fish occur primarily in SEAK and to a small extent in northern British Columbia fisheries, based on coded wire tag recoveries of king salmon from SEAK hatcheries that use Andrew Creek broodstock.

The BEG range of 650 to 1,500 large spawners was established for Andrew Creek in 1998, based on a stock–recruit analysis (Clark et al. 1998). This stock experiences higher exploitation rates in years when directed fishing is allowed for Stikine River fish. Escapements were below the lower bound of the BEG range in 2016, 2017, 2018 (Heinl et al. 2020), and in 2020, 2021, and 2023 (Table 14; Piston et al. 2024). Management actions taken to protect the Stikine River king salmon stock also protect returns to Andrew Creek. Andrew was recommended as a new king salmon stock of concern in 2022 and continues to be in stock of concern status. An action plan was developed, and the management actions are being implemented.

KING SALMON RIVER

The King Salmon River is a clearwater system located on Admiralty Island, southeast of Juneau, Alaska (Figure 12), that supports a mostly inside-rearing stock of king salmon. This stock does not support directed fisheries but is harvested incidentally in marine sport and commercial fisheries.

The current BEG range is 120 to 240 large spawners, established in 1997 based on a stock–recruit analysis of the 1971 to 1991 brood years (Table 14; McPherson and Clark 2001). From 2013–2020, escapements of king salmon to the King Salmon River were below the lower bound of the escapement goal range in 7 of 8 years (2013–2020; Heinl et al. 2020).

In the fall of 2017, the board adopted ADF&G's stock of management concern recommendation for this stock. At the SEAK board meeting in January 2018, the board adopted the *Chilkat River and King Salmon River king salmon stock status and action plan, 2018* (Lum and Fair 2018b), and updated this action plan to include the Taku River designated as a stock of concern in 2022. The action plan specifies periods when Seymour Canal is closed to king salmon sport fishing as well as periods of king salmon nonretention in District 11 to reduce harvest rates on this stock. Actions taken to protect the Taku River, Stikine River, and other SEAK wild king salmon stocks also protect the King Salmon River stock (Tables 14 and 16). Escapement has been achieved in 2 of the last 4 years (2021–2024) ADF&G has recommended continuing the stock of concern designation for the King Salmon River.

CHILKAT RIVER

The Chilkat River is a glacial system located near Haines, Alaska (Figure 12), that supports a mostly inside-rearing stock of king salmon. This stock is caught in a relatively small terminal marine sport fishery that operates in Chilkat Inlet near the mouth of the Chilkat River. Chilkat River fish are also harvested incidentally in mixed-stock sport, commercial drift gillnet, and commercial troll fisheries that occur primarily in northern SEAK. The Chilkat River stock is also harvested incidentally in subsistence fisheries that take place in the terminal waters of Chilkat Inlet and in the Chilkat River. Harvest of this stock in Chilkat Inlet and in the Chilkat River is managed according to the *Lynn Canal and Chilkat River King Salmon Fishery Management Plan* (5 AAC 33.384) to achieve escapements within the BEG range of 1,750 to 3,500 age-1.3 and older

fish, which was adopted by the board in 2003 based on a stock–recruit analysis by Ericksen and McPherson (2004; Table 14). From 2012 to 2017, the escapement fell short of the lower bound of the goal range in 5 out of 6 years despite progressive conservative management actions that were taken in sport, commercial, and subsistence fisheries in terminal waters and in surrounding Section 15-A (Table 18). From 2008 to 2017, the harvest rate on the Chilkat River king salmon stock averaged 26%, and all harvests occurred in U.S. fisheries, split among the commercial net (34%), sport (33%), commercial troll (24%), and subsistence (8%) sectors.

In the fall of 2017, the board adopted ADF&G's stock of management concern recommendation for the Chilkat River king salmon stock. At the SEAK board meeting in January 2018, the board adopted the *Chilkat River and King Salmon River king salmon stock status and action plan, 2018* (Lum and Fair 2018b). The action plan specifies periods of closed king salmon sport fishing in Chilkat Inlet terminal waters as well as nonretention of sport caught king salmon in Section 15-A from April 1 through December 31 annually (Table 18). During the 2022 board meeting, the board voted to continue the conservation measures in place for Chilkat River stock. Between 2018 and 2022, the Chilkat River made escapement only 3 out of 5 years.

As a result of the action plan's conservative management actions, the average harvest rate on the stock dropped to 6%. All harvest occurred within U.S. fisheries, and was divided among commercial gillnet (61%), sport (33%; all outside of Section 15-A), and commercial troll (6%). Since 2019, the lower bound of the escapement goal has been reached 4 out of 5 years. Although the requirements have been met to delist Chilkat River king salmon as a stock of concern, this has only been possible due to the conservative management measures implemented under the action plan which have successfully reduced harvest.

SITUK RIVER

The Situk River is a clearwater system located near Yakutat, Alaska (Figure 12), that supports an outside-rearing stock of king salmon. Known harvests of Situk River king salmon occur in the commercial set gillnet fishery that operates in the Situk-Ahrnklin Inlet, in subsistence fisheries that occur in the Situk-Ahrnklin Inlet as well as inriver, and in sport fisheries that take place exclusively inriver. Fisheries that target this stock are managed according to the *Situk-Ahrnklin Inlet and Lost River King Salmon Fisheries Management Plan* (5 AAC 30.365) to achieve escapements within the BEG range of 450 to 1,050 large (ocean-age-3 and older) fish that was established in 2003 and based on an updated stock–recruit analysis (McPherson et al. 2005). Escapement estimates are based on weir counts minus any upstream sport fishery harvests, which are estimated from an on-site creel survey and a postseason mail-out survey. The weir has been operated annually since 1976, and was also operated from 1928 to 1955. From 2012 to 2024, escapements were below the BEG range in 5 years (Table 14; Heinl et al. 2020). Yakutat Area sport fishery management measures taken to conserve Situk River king salmon from 2012 to 2024 are shown in Table 19. The total annual harvest rate for all fisheries averaged about 60% from 1990 to 2003, but harvest rates have been substantially lower since 2004, averaging 3% since 2014.

Table 18.–Haines/Skagway Area sport fishery management measures, sport harvest, and escapement of Chilkat River king salmon, 2012–2024.

Year	Haines/Skagway Area sport fishery management to conserve Chilkat River king salmon	SEAK sport harvest of Chilkat king salmon		Chilkat large king salmon escapement
		Early (May–July)	Late (August)	
2012	Extended northern Chilkat Inlet king salmon sport fishing closure July 16 through July 31. In the remainder of Chilkat Inlet, bag and possession limit reduced to 1 king salmon ≥28 inches July 16 through July 31(EO 1-KS-F-22-12).	307	103	1,723 [a]
2013	Extended northern Chilkat Inlet king salmon sport fishing closure July 16 through July 31 (EO 1-KS-F-18-13).	141	0	1,719 [a]
2014	Extended northern Chilkat Inlet king salmon sport fishing closure July 16 through July 31 (EO 1-KS-F-17-14).	360	90	1,529 [a]
2015	Closed Chilkat Inlet to king salmon sport fishing April 15 through July 15. In the remainder of District 15, bag and possession limit reduced to 1 king salmon ≥28 inches April 15–December 31 (EO 1-KS-F-5-15).	296	0	2,452 [a]
2016	Closed Chilkat Inlet to king salmon sport fishing April 15 through July 15. In the remainder of Section 15-A, bag and possession limit reduced to 1 king salmon ≥28 inches April 15–December 31 (EO 1-KS-F-5-16). In Sections 15-B and 15-C, bag and possession limit reduced to 1 king salmon ≥28 inches, April 15–June 30 (EO 1-KS-E-4-16).	0	293	1,380 [a]
2017	Closed Chilkat Inlet to king salmon sport fishing April 15 through July 15. Section 15-A, Lynn Canal north of the latitude of Sherman Rock, king salmon retention prohibited April 15 through December 31 (EO 1-KS-F-5-17). In Sections 15-B and 15-C, closed to king salmon fishing April 15 through June 15 (EO 1-KS-E-06-17).	125	0	1,173 [a]
2018	Closed Chilkat Inlet to king salmon sport fishing, April–June 30. Section 15-A, Lynn Canal north of the latitude of Sherman Rock, king salmon retention prohibited April 1 through December 31 (EO 1-KS-R-02-18). In Sections 15-B and 15-C, closed to king salmon fishing April 15 through June 14.	0	135	873 [a]
2019	Closed Chilkat Inlet to king salmon sport fishing April 1 through June 30. Section 15-A, Lynn Canal north of the latitude of Sherman Rock, king salmon retention prohibited April 15 through December 31 (EO 1-KS-R-03-19). In Sections 15-B and 15-C, closed to king salmon fishing April 15 through June 14.	0	0	2,028 [a]
2020	Closed Chilkat Inlet to king salmon sport fishing April 1 through July 15. Section 15-A, Lynn Canal north of the latitude of Sherman Rock, king salmon retention prohibited April 1 through December 31 (EO 1-KS-R-06-20). In Sections 15-B and 15-C, closed to king salmon fishing April 15 through June 14.	0	10	3,180 [a]

-continued-

Table 18.–Page 2 of 2.

Year	Haines/Skagway Area sport fishery management to conserve Chilkat River king salmon	SEAK sport harvest of Chilkat king salmon		Chilkat large king salmon escapement
		Early (May–July)	Late (August)	
2021	Closed Chilkat Inlet to king salmon sport fishing April 1 through July 15. Section 15-A, Lynn Canal north of the latitude of Sherman Rock, king salmon retention prohibited April 1 through December 31 (EO 1-KS-R-05-21). In Sections 15-B and 15-C, king salmon retention prohibited April 1 through June 14.	0	0	2,038
2022	Closed Chilkat Inlet to king salmon sport fishing April 1 through July 15. Section 15-A, Lynn Canal north of the latitude of Sherman Rock, king salmon retention prohibited April 1 through December 31 (EO 1-KS-R-06-22). In Sections 15-B and 15-C, king salmon retention prohibited April 1 through June 14.	0	0	1,582
2023	Closed Chilkat Inlet to king salmon sport fishing April 1 through July 15. Section 15-A, Lynn Canal north of the latitude of Sherman Rock, king salmon retention prohibited April 1 through December 31 (EO 1-KS-R-04-23). In Sections 15-B and 15-C, king salmon retention prohibited April 1 through June 14.	0	0	2,240
2024	Closed Chilkat Inlet to king salmon sport fishing April 1 through July 15. Section 15-A, Lynn Canal north of the latitude of Sherman Rock, king salmon retention prohibited April 1 through December 31 (EO 1-KS-R-09-24). In Sections 15-B and 15-C, king salmon retention prohibited April 1 through June 14.	TBD	TBD	TBD

Note: The Chilkat River king salmon biological escapement goal (BEG) range is 1,750 to 3,500 age-1.3 and older fish. SEAK = Southeast Alaska; TBD = to be determined.

[a] Preliminary estimates.

Table 19.–Yakutat Area sport fishery management measures, sport harvest, and escapement of Situk River king salmon, 2012–2024.

Year	Yakutat Area sport fishery management actions for Situk River king salmon	Situk River king salmon sport harvest[a]	Situk River king salmon escapement (age-1.3 and older)[b]
2012	The preseason forecast for large king salmon on the Situk River was predicted to be 500 fish. In accordance with the management plan, the department closed the sport fishery for king salmon 20 inches or greater in length in the Situk River drainage to help achieve escapement. Additionally, king salmon 20 inches or greater in length caught while angling for other fish had to remain in the water and be released immediately (EO 1-KS-H-8-12).	0	321
2013	The preseason forecast for large king salmon on the Situk River was predicted to be 475 fish. In accordance with the management plan, the department closed the sport fishery for king salmon 20 inches or greater in length in the Situk River drainage to help achieve escapement. Additionally, king salmon 20 inches or greater in length caught while angling for other fish had to remain in the water and be released immediately (EO 1-KS-H-4-13). The Situk River weir count as of July 14 was 743 large king salmon, which is within the escapement goal range. Escapement projections indicate the achievement of escapement above the midpoint of the escapement goal range, after considering additional harvest. The retention of king salmon 20 inches or greater in length was allowed below the weir under existing regulations, with a bag and possession limit of 1 fish (EO 1-KS-H-20-13).	70[c]	924
2014	The preseason forecast for large king salmon on the Situk River was predicted to be 500 fish. In accordance with the management plan, the department closed the sport fishery for king salmon 20 inches or greater in length in the Situk River drainage to help achieve escapement. Additionally, king salmon 20 inches or greater in length caught while angling for other fish had to remain in the water and be released immediately (EO 1-KS-H-8-14).	89[c]	475
2015	The preseason forecast for large king salmon on the Situk River was predicted to be 600 fish. In accordance with the management plan, the department prohibited the retention of king salmon in the sport fishery 20 inches or greater in length in the Situk River drainage to help achieve escapement. Additionally, king salmon 20 inches or greater in length caught while angling for other fish had to remain in the water and be released immediately (EO 1-KS-H-10-15). The Situk River weir count as of July 9 was only 99 large king salmon, indicating the escapement goal may not be reached. Effective July 11, 2015, the department closed the Situk River to sport fishing for king salmon and any king salmon caught incidentally had to remain in the water and be released immediately (EO 1-KS-H-17-15).	0	176

-continued-

Table 19.–Page 2 of 3.

Year	Yakutat Area sport fishery management actions for Situk River king salmon	Situk River king salmon sport harvest[a]	Situk River king salmon escapement (age-1.3 and older)[b]
2016	The preseason forecast for large king salmon on the Situk River was predicted to be 684 fish. In accordance with the management plan and considering recent small escapements, the department closed the sport fishery for king salmon in the Situk River drainage. Any king salmon caught incidentally had to remain in the water and be released immediately (EO 1-KS-H-11-16).	0	337
2017	The preseason forecast for large king salmon on the Situk River was predicted to be 500 fish. In accordance with the management plan and considering recent small escapements, the department closed the sport fishery for king salmon in the Situk River drainage. Any king salmon caught incidentally had to remain in the water and be released immediately (EO 1-KS-H-4-17). Effective July 10, 2017, the department increased the area closed to sport fishing on the Situk River by relocating the ADF&G regulatory marker approximately 2,100 feet downstream of the weir. This action was taken to taken to further protect king salmon staging in several pools downstream of the weir. This emergency order was rescinded on August 4, 2017, because the midpoint of the BEG had been achieved (EO 1-KS-H-26-17).	0	1,190
2018	The preseason forecast for large king salmon on the Situk River was predicted to be 730 fish. In accordance with the management plan and considering recent small escapements, the department closed the sport fishery for king salmon in the Situk River drainage. Any king salmon caught incidentally had to remain in the water and be released immediately (EO 1-KS-H-08-18).	0	421
2019	The preseason forecast for large king salmon on the Situk River was predicted to be 300 fish. In accordance with the management plan and considering recent small escapements, the department closed the sport fishery for king salmon in the Situk River drainage. Any king salmon caught incidentally had to remain in the water and be released immediately (EO 1-KS-H-08-19).	0	620
2020	The preseason forecast for large king salmon on the Situk River was predicted to be 850 fish. Considering recent small escapements, the department closed the sport fishery for king salmon in the Situk River drainage. Any king salmon caught incidentally had to remain in the water and be released immediately (EO 1-KS-H-07-20). Effective July 22, 2020, the department allowed retention of king salmon downstream of the Situk River weir. This action was taken because the upper end of the BEG was projected to be exceeded (EO 1-KS-R-21-20).	0	1,197

-continued-

Table 19.–Page 3 of 3.

Year	Yakutat Area sport fishery management actions for Situk River king salmon	Situk River king salmon sport harvest [a]	Situk River king salmon escapement (age-1.3 and older) [b]
2021	The preseason forecast for large king salmon on the Situk River was predicted to be 1,550 fish. Considering recent small escapements, the department closed the sport fishery for king salmon in the Situk River drainage. Any king salmon caught incidentally had to remain in the water and be released immediately (EO 1-KS-H-7-21). Effective July 20, 2021, the department allowed retention of king salmon downstream of the Situk River weir. This action was taken because the upper-end of the BEG was projected to be exceeded (EO 1-KS-H-20-21).	0	1,064
2022	The preseason forecast for large king salmon on the Situk River was predicted to be 1,600 fish. Considering recent small escapements, the department closed the sport fishery for king salmon in the Situk River drainage. Any king salmon caught incidentally had to remain in the water and be released immediately (EO 1-KS-H-08-22). Effective July 24, 2022, the department allowed retention of king salmon downstream of the Situk River weir. This action was taken because the mid-point of the BEG was achieved (EO 1-KS-H-21-22).	0	888
2023	The preseason forecast for large king salmon on the Situk River was predicted to be 450 fish. Considering recent small escapements, the department closed the sport fishery for king salmon in the Situk River drainage. Any king salmon caught incidentally had to remain in the water and be released immediately (EO 1-KS-H-11-23).	0	144
2024	Starting in 2024 no preseason forecasts were generated for the Situk River. Considering recent small escapements, the department closed the sport fishery for king salmon in all freshwaters of the Yakutat management area. Any king salmon caught incidentally had to remain in the water and be released immediately (EO 1-KS-H-14-24).	N/A	517

Note: N/A means data was not available.

[a] Situk River king salmon harvest only includes harvest occurring in the Situk River and is obtained from the SWHS.

[b] The Situk River king salmon biological escapement goal (BEG) is 450–1,050 large (age-1.3 and older) fish.

[c] Harvest reported to the Statewide Harvest Survey (SWHS) as small king salmon, less than 20 inches in length.

KING SALMON MANAGEMENT ISSUES AND BOARD PROPOSALS

The board received 18 proposals for consideration during the 2025 SEAK board meeting, which if adopted, could modify management of the king salmon sport fishery in SEAK. In addition to the submitted proposals, the Chickamin River, Unuk River, Klukshu River, and Chilkat River are no longer recommended as stocks of concern. Action plans will be reviewed by the board with specific management actions addressing these stocks of concern.

SOUTHEAST ALASKA KING SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN

During the 2022 board meeting, the board revised the KSMP (Proposal 82 modified by RC 178), continuing the work the board started in 2019 through an out-of-cycle action to bring the KSMP into alignment with new provisions of the PST. Due to changes in the PST commonly referred to as the "payback provision" any overage of the Alaska all-gear catch limit must be paid back by reducing the Alaska all-gear catch limit for the following year. In order to prevent Alaska fisheries from exceeding the annual all-gear catch limit a harvest sharing agreement was adopted that would allow the sport fishery to have stable fishing regulations for the duration of the season and any underage or overage in sport allocation would either be absorbed or transferred to the commercial troll fishery. The management provisions within the KSMP were designed to harvest the sport allocation on average but was expected to over harvest the sport allocation during years of low allocation and under harvest during years of high allocation. Included in the modifications was a provision that the management plan would expire in July of 2025 designed to allow the board the opportunity to review the performance of the plan and the harvest sharing arrangement between sport and commercial troll fisheries.

During the 2023 Lower Cook Inlet meeting, the board updated the KSMP by adopting proposal 257 as amended by RC 63. This proposal submitted by the department replaced references to the now outdated Winter Troll CPUE with the allocation range for each sport fish management tier. In this manner, sport fish management actions are based on the available allocation to the sport fishery, and the KSMP no longer references the method the PSC uses to determine the all-gear catch limit.

In the 3 years this iteration of the KSMP has been in effect, the sport fishery was under allocation in 2021 (-15,112), and overage allocation in 2023 and 2024 (17,107 and 13,351 respectively). Collectively, over these 3 years the sport fishery is over allocation by 15,346 king salmon and has harvested an average of 22.4% of the combined sport/troll allocation.

2025 PROPOSALS

The primary issues that the board is being asked to address through proposals submitted for the 2025 meeting can be summarized as follows:

- Aligning management of the sport fishery in the Exclusive Economic Zone with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Management Act.
- Revising the management prescriptions of the current KSMP.
- Requiring inseason management of the sport fishery.
- Modify the allocation between sport and commercial troll fisheries.
- Limiting nonresident harvest through reductions in harvest limits.
- Closing the nonresident sport fishery during a portion of each week.

In addition to the information provide earlier in this document and within staff comments for each individual proposal, the following information may be helpful to board members when deliberating on these proposals.

Inseason management

In the most recent renditions of the KSMP, excluding the changes adopted because of the renewed PST agreement (2018–2029), the sport fishery was directed to be managed to achieve an average allocation over time. This management strategy was developed with the recognition that the sport fishery would be expected to over harvest its allocation at the lower abundance levels and under harvest the allocation at high abundance levels (Table 3). Due to the dynamics of angler behavior, the more liberal bag, possession, and annual limits implemented during high abundance do not often increase harvest in an equivalent manner. Despite increased harvest opportunity, total harvest remains limited by the number of anglers participating in the fishery, the abundance (measured by abundance index [AI] or CPUE), and the fact that angler motivations are often focused on opportunity and experiences rather than maximum harvest and efficiency.

Utilizing inseason management requires ADF&G to project inseason harvest as the season progresses and adjust management action in response to these projections. This element increases the number of changes to sport fish regulations throughout the season, which can be disruptive to sport fishing businesses and increase the regulatory complexity for anglers. In addition, ADF&G projections are subject to statistical variance where uncertainty is generally highest early in the season and decreases as the season progresses. Unfortunately, anglers are most likely to utilize higher bag and annual limits during the period of highest CPUE during June. This creates a difficult situation where inseason projections may not be reliable until after the period of time when a change in management action is most effective. Management action may be required to be severe in the latter half of the season in order to achieve a harvest target which could have been accomplished with minor action implemented earlier in the season.

Midweek closures

The effectiveness of closures of the sport fishery for a single day or period of days within a week often decreases shortly after implementation. Angler behavior tends to adapt as a portion of the reduction in opportunity is displaced into the open periods.

Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)

The Magnuson Stevens Fisheries Management Conservation Act specifies that,"Conservation and management measures shall not discriminate between residents of different States." (16 U.S.C. 1851 (a)(4)). Over the last 3 decades, the board has consistently provided increased opportunity for Alaska residents in the SEAK sport fishery when restrictions were necessary for conservation or allocative purposes. These actions are often in response to concerns that growth in the nonresident sport sector negatively impacted Alaska resident opportunity. The majority of sport fishing effort and harvest occurs within state waters (waters from land extending out to sea 3 miles), but limited sport fishing does occur within the EEZ (Figure 15), primarily off the coast of Sitka and Prince of Wales Island. Removing the use of deferential resident/nonresident management provisions has implications for existing management plans and delegation of authority. In addition to demersal shelf rockfish and sablefish provisions listed in 5 AAC 47.020, the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* (5 AAC 47.055), *Lingcod delegation of authority and provisions for management* (5 AAC 47.060), and *Demersal shelf rockfish delegation of authority and provisions for management* (5 AAC 47.065) contain provisions that differentially

apply to anglers based on residency. The department recommends aligning sport fish management with provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Management Act in waters of the EEZ in order to be in compliance with the Act, meaning state regulations that apply in the EEZ must not differentiate between angler residency. The department also recommends maintaining current management regimes within state waters (generally land out to 3 miles), which provide a resident priority, and when applicable, apply the current nonresident regulations to all anglers when fishing in the EEZ.

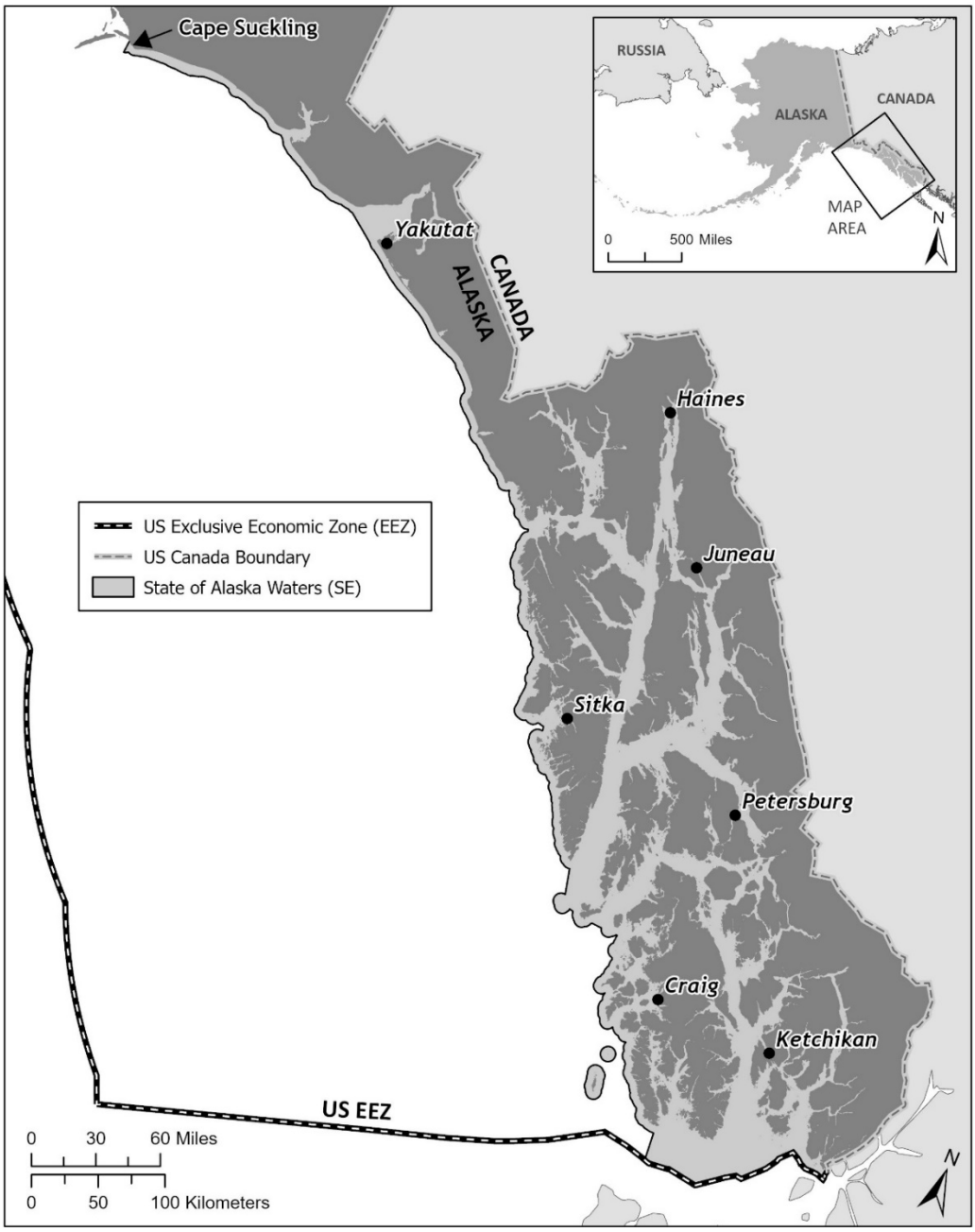


Figure 15.–State waters and the Exclusive Economic Zone boundaries in Southeast Alaska.

REFERENCES CITED

Bernard, D. R., and E. L. Jones III. 2010. Optimum escapement goals for Chinook salmon in the transboundary Alsek River. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Manuscript Series No. 10-02, Anchorage. http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidPDFs/FMS10-02.pdf.

Bernard, D. R., S. A. McPherson, K. A. Pahlke, and P. Etherton. 2000. Optimal production of Chinook salmon from the Stikine River. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Manuscript No. 00-1, Anchorage. http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidPDFs/fms00-01.pdf.

Clark, J. H., S. A. McPherson, and D. M. Gaudet. 1998. Biological escapement goal for Andrew Creek Chinook salmon. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries, Regional Information Report No. 5J98-08, Juneau. http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidPDFs/RIR.5J.1998.08.pdf.

Ericksen, R. P., and S. A. McPherson. 2004. Optimal production of Chinook salmon from the Chilkat River. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Manuscript No. 04-01, Anchorage. http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidPDFs/fms04-01.pdf.

Fleischman, S. J., J. A. Der Hovanisian, and S. A. McPherson. 2011. Escapement goals for Chinook salmon in the Blossom and Keta rivers. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Manuscript Series No. 11-05, Anchorage. http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidPDFs/FMS11-05.pdf.

Heinl, S. C., E. L. Jones III, A. W. Piston, P. J. Richards, and L. D. Shaul. 2014. Review of salmon escapement goals in Southeast Alaska, 2014. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Manuscript No. 14-07, Anchorage. http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidPDFs/FMS14-07.pdf.

Heinl, S. C., E. L. Jones III, A. W. Piston, P. J. Richards, J. T. Priest, J. A. Bednarski, B. W. Elliott, S. E. Miller, R. E. Brenner, and J. V. Nichols. 2021. Review of salmon escapement goals in Southeast Alaska, 2020. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Manuscript Series No. 21-03, Anchorage. http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidPDFs/FMS21-03.pdf.

Hendrich, C. F., J. L. Weller, S. A. McPherson, and D. R. Bernard. 2008. Optimal production of Chinook salmon from the Unuk River. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Manuscript No. 08-03, Anchorage. http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidPDFs/fms08-03.pdf.

Lum, J. L., and L. Fair. 2018a. Unuk River king salmon stock status and action plan, 2018. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Regional Information Report No. 1J18-04, Douglas. http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidpdfs/RIR.1J.2018.04.pdf.

Lum, J. L., and L. Fair. 2018b. Chilkat River and King Salmon River king salmon stock status and action plan, 2018. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Regional Information Report No. 1J18-05, Douglas. http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidpdfs/RIR.1J.2018.05.pdf.

McPherson, S., and J. H. Clark. 2001. Biologcial escapement goal for King Salmon River Chinook salmon. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries, Regional Information Report No. 1J01-40, Juneau. http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidpdfs/RIR.1J.2001.40.pdf.

McPherson, S. A., and J. Carlile. 1997. Spawner-recruit analysis of Behm Canal Chinook salmon stocks. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries, Regional Information Report No. 1J97-06, Juneau. http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidPDFs/RIR.1J.1997.06.pdf.

McPherson, S. A., R. E. Johnson, and G. F. Woods. 2005. Optimal production of Chinook salmon from the Situk River. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Manuscript No. 05-04, Anchorage. http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidPDFs/fms05-04.pdf.

McPherson, S. A., E. L. Jones III, S. J. Fleischman, and I. M. Boyce. 2010. Optimal production of Chinook salmon from the Taku River through the 2001 year class. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Manuscript Series No. 10-03, Anchorage. http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidPDFs/FMS10-03.pdf.

Pahlke, K. A. 2010. Escapements of Chinook salmon in Southeast Alaska and transboundary rivers in 2008. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Data Series No. 10-71, Anchorage. http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidPDFs/FDS10-71.pdf.

Peterson, R. L., S. Gilk-Baumer, K. Shedd, E. L. Jones III, D. Evenson, and J. V. Nichols. 2024. Harvest of Southeast Alaska wild-origin Chinook salmon in the Southeast Alaska troll and sport fisheries, 2005–2023. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Special Publication No. 24-15, Anchorage. http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidPDFs/SP24-15.pdf.

Priest, J. T., A. W. Piston, J. V. Nichols, E. L. Jones III, P. J. Richards, J. A. Bednarski, B. W. Elliott, and S. E. Miller. *In prep*. Review of salmon escapement goals in Southeast Alaska, 2024. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Manuscript, Anchorage.

APPENDIX A: HISTORY OF KING SALMON MANAGEMENT IN SOUTHEAST ALASKA

Prior to 1992, the sport fishery for king salmon was managed using general regionwide regulations to conserve wild stocks and to provide an opportunity to harvest Southeast Alaska (SEAK) wild and hatchery stocks. Bag limits were established by emergency order and ranged from 2 to 3 fish, whereas length limits ranged from a no size limit to a 28-inch minimum size requirement.

Sport fisheries in SEAK were monitored primarily by creel survey programs that provided inseason and early postseason effort, harvest, and hatchery contribution estimates by fishery. Final harvest estimates were obtained in approximately late June of the following year from the Statewide Harvest Survey (SWHS). The SWHS is a postal survey sent to a random sample of license holders, and because it is a mail-out survey, multiple mailings, and the time it takes to process submitted information means that results are delayed. Creel surveys were conducted in Juneau from 1980 to 1999, in Ketchikan from 1985 to 1991, and in Petersburg and Wrangell from 1983 to 1989. In 1986, surveys were initiated in Sitka with support from U.S. and Canadian funds, but surveys in Sitka, Petersburg, and Wrangell were discontinued midseason in 1989 when these funds became unavailable. Salmon derbies were sampled for coded wire tags (CWTs) in 1990 in Sitka, and in 1991 in Petersburg, Wrangell, and Sitka.

Sport harvest of king salmon was fairly stable from 1985 to 1988, averaging about 24,500 fish (including Alaska hatchery fish).[1] In 1989, however, sport harvest began a rapid increase due primarily to increases in fishing effort and harvest in outer coastal areas in Sitka and Prince of Wales Island (PWI), as well as increases in hatchery returns. Total harvest increased from 31,100 in 1989 to 60,500 in 1991. Unfortunately, these increases occurred at a time when monitoring of sport fisheries had been virtually eliminated in Sitka, and CWT sampling in the Petersburg and Wrangell fisheries was also reduced or eliminated (1990). Due to the rapid increase in harvest, coupled with a decline in fishery monitoring, the 1990 sport harvest estimate obtained from creel surveys (38,200 fish) was 25% below the final total harvest estimate of 51,200 obtained from the SWHS.

In 1990, the final treaty harvest estimate of 41,360 fish was about double the average harvest for the previous 5 years (22,283 treaty king salmon). This trend continued in 1991, when the sport treaty harvest increased to 45,144. Due to the rapid rise in king salmon sport harvests, the Alaska Trollers Association submitted a request to the Alaska Board of Fisheries (board) in November 1991 to allocate a fixed percentage of the harvest limit to the troll fleet and establish an allocation for the sport fishery. The board subsequently met in 1992 and provided an allocation to the sport fishery of 17% of the harvest limit after subtracting the net allocation of 20,000 fish. At the same time, the board also adopted the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* (KSMP) which directed the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (department) to manage the marine sport fishery for its allocation and provided regulatory authorities and guidelines to implement the plan. The regulatory authorities included options to change bag limits, size limits, and gear restrictions to increase or reduce the sport harvest to meet the allocation.

-continued-

[1] Alaska Sport Fishing Survey database [Internet]. 1996– . Anchorage, AK: Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish (cited December 2014). Available from: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/sportfishingsurvey/.

The objectives of the KSMP were as follows: (1) allow uninterrupted sport fishing in marine waters for king salmon while not exceeding the allocation, and (2) minimize regulatory restrictions on unguided anglers, who harvest king salmon at a lower CPUE than do guided anglers fishing from charter vessels. Under the plan, limits of 2 king salmon per day, 2 in possession, with a minimum size limit of 28 inches were to remain in effect in SEAK–Yakutat marine waters until it was projected (either preseason or inseason) that the total harvest would deviate by more than the management range from the inseason management target. The management range was set by regulation at 7.5% (e.g., 3,100 fish for an allocation of 41,310 fish). The inseason management target was defined as the current year's allocation plus or minus cumulative deviations from past allocations.

In order to implement the new management plan, the creel survey program was expanded to more extensively monitor the sport fishery and improve inseason and postseason estimates of harvest. Surveys in Sitka, Wrangell, and Petersburg were reinstated and a creel survey was initiated in Craig (converted to a catch sampling program in 1993 to provide better stock composition estimates). CWTs were recovered during creel surveys and by voluntary programs at remote lodges scattered throughout the region to estimate the contribution of Alaska hatchery stocks.

Data from the creel surveys were used to project the total sport harvest of treaty king salmon on an inseason basis. Harvest and hatchery contribution estimates were made every 2 weeks. The biweekly estimates were combined with the following data to project the total harvest of king salmon in SEAK sport fisheries:

1) harvest timing data for the king fisheries from past on-site surveys
2) ratios of past SWHS harvest estimates within a given area to the creel survey estimates for the same area
3) the ratio of the total SWHS harvest, including areas not sampled in on-site programs (Yakutat, Glacier Bay, and Haines/Skagway), to the areas sampled in on-site programs (Ketchikan, Prince of Wales, Petersburg/Wrangell, Sitka, and Juneau)
4) comparisons of past hatchery contribution data for surveyed fisheries to current year data as collected

The most important dates for the inseason harvest projections were June 15, July 1, and July 15. Because the bulk of the king salmon fishery occurred between the middle of May and the middle of July, early season projections were necessary to effectively limit the harvest. Harvest per unit effort (HPUE) for king salmon was also determined every week and compared with past averages to assess current year performance of the fishery.

Appendix A2.–Management of the sport fishery under the original *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan*, 1992–1993.

Overview of management decisions—1992

In 1992, the preseason harvest forecast exceeded the 7.5% management range. Therefore, on May 15, a 1 fish bag limit was implemented for all anglers, and charter boat operators and crew were prohibited from retaining king salmon. These restrictions were subsequently repealed on July 28 when it was determined by inseason monitoring that the sport harvest would not reach the management target. The final treaty harvest of 35,346 fish was below the sport allocation by 5,964 fish.

Overview of management decisions—1993

In 1993, the preseason harvest projection indicated that a 2-fish bag limit was the appropriate regulation to stay within the allocation. However, an inseason harvest projection exceeded the management range, and a 1-fish bag limit for all anglers, downrigger ban on all anglers, and prohibition on retention of king salmon by charter boat operators and crew were implemented on June 17. The downrigger ban was rescinded on August 16, 1993, to allow anglers to use downriggers to fish for coho salmon. The final treaty harvest of 42,677 exceeded the sport allocation by 3,067. The emergency order reducing the bag limit to 1 king salmon and banning take by charter operators and crew expired on December 31, 1993.

The following table summarizes the sport fishery harvest limit and harvest that occurred under the original KSMP, 1992–1993. Over the 2 years of the plan, the sport fishery harvested 2,897 fish fewer than its allocation.

Harvest	1992	1993
Sport allocation	41,310	39,610
Sport treaty harvest	35,346	42,677
Deviation from allocation	−5,964	+3,067
Cumulative deviation from allocation or target	−5,964	−2,897
Alaska hatchery add-on	7,546	6,569
Total sport harvest	42,892	49,246
Total Alaska hatchery	9,464	8,321
Basis of harvest limits (after subtracting net allocation)	17% of 243,000	17% of 243,000 minus 1,700

The Alaska Board of Fisheries (board) increased the allocation to the sport fishery from 17% to 18% in 1994, to 19% in 1995, and to 20% in 1996. Other than the increase in allocation, the management plan remained essentially unchanged. During this period, Pacific Salmon Commission negotiations for a treaty harvest limit were protracted and were not completed until late June. By then, as much as 85% of the sport harvest had been taken, making it very difficult to manage the sport fishery to achieve the objectives of the management plan.

Creel survey monitoring for 1994–1996 generally continued as during 1992–1993; however, the Petersburg and Wrangell surveys were converted to catch sampling programs to provide better stock composition estimates. Sampling in the Sitka Area was also increased to provide better estimates of harvests and stock contributions.

Summary of management decisions—1994

The preseason harvest forecast for 1994 with a 2-fish bag limit was 50,000 fish. Because the sport allocation had not yet been negotiated, the early season sport fishery had to be managed based on an "informed guess" of what the harvest limit would be. This "guess" was based on a combined sport underage of 2,897 fish from the previous season and an expected harvest limit of 263,000 to give an 18% sport allocation of 47,000. Under this scenario, no inseason actions would have been necessary because the projected harvest of 50,000 was within the 7.5% management range of the expected allocation. However, preseason consultations for a Section 7 Permit under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) were ongoing with National Marine Fisheries Service. With the results of the consultations unknown, it was decided to manage conservatively. On April 15, a 1-fish bag limit and prohibition on retention of king salmon by charter boat operators and crew were implemented. The final harvest limit was set in late June at 240,000 fish, which made the sport fish allocation 39,000. The more restrictive regulations were rescinded on July 1 when sport harvest was lower than expected. A 3-fish bag limit was implemented on July 30 but did little to increase harvest. The final sport harvest of 35,467 fish was below the sport allocation by 4,133.

Summary of management decisions—1995

The preseason forecast for 1995 with a 2-fish bag limit was 40,000 king salmon. ESA consultations were again ongoing and the allocation was unknown in early May when the sport fishery commenced. Therefore, early season management decisions were based on an anticipated all-gear catch limit of 230,000 fish, and given an allocation of 19%, the sport allocation of 40,000 matched closely with the preseason forecast, and therefore, no management actions were taken. Alaska continued managing for this harvest limit until August 17 when the commercial king salmon fisheries were closed by court order (and a harvest cap of 2,000 additional king salmon was placed on the sport fishery). In response to the court order, the bag limit for the sport fishery was reduced to 1 fish from August 17 through October 3. The postseason sport treaty harvest was 35,496, but because of the court order, actual allocations for the sport and commercial fisheries were never established. One interpretation is that the sport allocation would be determined by taking 19% of the actual combined sport and troll harvest, or about 29,500 fish. Under this scenario, the sport harvest exceeded its harvest limit by 5,996. Another interpretation is that each fishery's allocation would equal their actual harvest. It is unclear to this day how to interpret results from this fishing season.

-continued-

Summary of management decisions—1996

For the 1996 season, king salmon availability was forecast to be similar to 1995, and so it was expected that about 35,000 treaty king salmon would be taken with a 2-fish bag limit. At the beginning of the season, a number of scenarios were discussed with all-gear catch limits ranging from 120,000 to 180,000. No harvest limit was announced, however, and the season began with a 2-fish bag limit and early season catches were below normal. Although no harvest limit was finalized, it was decided in early June that harvests should be limited by a 1-fish bag limit because indications were that the harvest limit would be less than the harvest of 175,000 in 1995. Therefore, on June 15, the bag limit was reduced to 1 fish, and charter boat operators and crews were prohibited from retaining king salmon. The postseason harvest was 38,975 treaty king salmon. The final harvest limit was established as a range between 140,000 and 155,000 fish. The 20% sport allocation ranged from 24,000 to 27,000 with a midpoint of 25,500. Assuming the midpoint allocation, the sport overage in 1996 was about 13,475 treaty fish.

The following table summarizes the sport fishery harvest limit and harvest that occurred under the revised *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan*, 1994–1996. Because no harvest limit was ever established for 1995, it is difficult to assess the cumulative harvest deviation for the sport fishery. However, assuming that the 1995 harvest limit was equal to the harvest, the sport fishery exceeded its cumulative harvest limit by 9,342 fish over the 3 years that this plan was in effect.

Year	Sport harvest limit	Sport treaty harvest	Deviation from harvest limit	Cumulative deviation from harvest limit or target	Alaska hatchery add-on	Total sport harvest	Total Alaska hatchery	Basis of harvest limit (after subtracting net allocation)
1994	39,600	35,467	–4,133	–4,133	6,898	42,365	9,083	18% of 220,000
1995	[a]	35,496	[a]	[a]	14,171	49,667	16,524	[a]
1996	25,500	38,975	13,475	9,342	13,177	57,508	14,511	20% of 127,500

[a] There was no negotiated harvest limit in 1995.

Appendix A4.–Management of the sport fishery under the second revision of the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan*, 1997–1999.

In June of 1996, Alaska and the treaty representatives for the U.S. signed a letter of agreement to manage king salmon fisheries based primarily upon abundance. Under this approach, an initial harvest limit is based upon a preseason abundance forecast. After the first opening in the troll fishery, the harvest limit could be modified in late July based on catch rates in the troll fishery, which were believed to be a more reliable indicator of abundance. Although fishery managers supported this approach, it meant that the final harvest limit would not be known until after most sport harvest had occurred, and therefore, adjustments would be ineffective in managing the sport fishery to achieve its share of the harvest limit. Therefore, there was a need to modify the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* (KSMP) to make it more workable under this abundance-based approach.

In early 1997, concerns with the existing management plan were brought to the attention of the Alaska Board of Fisheries (board), who subsequently revised the management plan and allocation scheme. Under the revised management plan a 2-fish bag limit was in place until the preseason abundance index (AI) was established. Once a preseason index and initial harvest limit were obtained, Alaska Department of Fish and Game (department) staff were to project what the annual sport harvest would be under 1-, 2-, and 3-fish bag limits, and then implement the bag limit that came closest to obtaining the 20% allocation (based on the preseason AI). The harvest projected for the selected bag limit then became the sport fishery allocation, and additional management measures (as listed in the previous management plan) were to be implemented only if the sport harvest deviated more than 7.5% (approximately 3,000 fish) from this "adjusted harvest target." Inseason adjustments to the all-gear king salmon harvest limit based on commercial troll fishery performance were to have no effect on management of the sport fishery. The commercial troll fishery was to be managed to harvest the difference between the adjusted harvest target for the sport fishery and the all-gear catch limit less the net allocation. Only the portion of the deviation from the management target that is within the 7.5% management range was to be carried forward to future years.

The board also prohibited retention of king salmon by charter vessel operators and crew while chartering (year-round), and prohibited the number of lines fished from a vessel engaged in charter activities from exceeding the number of paying clients onboard. A 4-king salmon (28 inches or more) annual limit for nonresident anglers was also passed by the board, with a provision that it would be increased to 5 if the AI was 1.5 or greater. A management plan for Wrangell Narrows–Blind Slough fisheries for returns of king salmon to Crystal Lake hatchery was also implemented.

Creel survey monitoring generally continued as during 1994–1996. Estimates of stock contribution were improved by an increase in coded wire tag (CWT) sampling rates in 1998 when anglers were prohibited by emergency order from heading or filleting king (and coho) salmon on the fishing grounds, at ports monitored with creel survey, or during catch sampling programs. Sampling rates for CWTs were also increased in some ports due to addition of samplers dedicated to this task.

-continued-

Summary of management decisions—1997

In 1997, the "preseason" AI was not announced until June 17. The "initial" 20% allocation from the harvest limit of 277,000 was 51,300 treaty fish. At this time, enactment of a 1-fish bag limit was projected to limit the treaty harvest to 53,800 treaty fish, which became the management target. A 1-fish bag limit was implemented on July 7 and remained in effect through December 31.

Subsequently, the harvest limit was increased to a range from 277,000 to 302,000. The postseason harvest estimate of 53,305 fish was 495 fish below the harvest target, but less than the lower bound of the 7.5% management range, and therefore, not carried over to the 1998 fishery.

Summary of management decisions—1998

The 1998 fishery began with below-average sport harvests in the inside fisheries, and the "preseason" AI (resulting in a 263,000 fish harvest limit) was not announced until June 25. At this time, it was projected that 41,200 treaty king salmon would be harvested by continuing with a 2-fish bag limit, whereas a 3-fish bag limit would result in a harvest of 41,700 fish; both of these projected harvests were below the 20% allocation of 48,600. As directed under the management plan, the harvest target for the season became 41,700, and the bag limit was increased to 3 fish on July 3. Due to higher than expected harvest of king salmon during August in Craig and Sitka, the upper bound of the harvest target management range was exceeded. Therefore, on September 9, the bag limit was reduced to 1 fish. The postseason estimate of 46,303 fish exceeded the harvest target by 4,603. Therefore, 1,475 treaty fish above the 7.5% management range of 3,126 were subtracted from the initial 20% allocation in 1999 prior to setting bag limits and harvest targets.

Summary of management decisions—1999

In 1999, the preseason AI was released on June 28. In late June, the new treaty agreement was also signed, which resulted in a significant reduction of the king salmon harvest limit for SEAK, especially at the lower AI. A preseason all-gear catch limit of 192,800 resulted in a 20% sport allocation of 35,182, which was reduced to 33,697 after subtraction of the 1,475 fish from the 1998 overage. When the AI was received in late June, the sport fishery was projected to take 42,800 treaty fish under a 1-fish bag limit. Therefore, a 1-fish bag limit was implemented on July 3, and 42,800 fish became the sport harvest target for 1999. Harvests in the sport fishery were again higher than expected.

-continued-

The following table summarizes the sport fishery harvest limit and harvest that occurred under the revised KSMP, 1997–1999. Over the 3 years of the plan, the sport fishery harvest exceeded the harvest target of treaty fish by a cumulative total of 14,466 fish. Because "preseason" AIs were not obtained prior to mid-June during 1997–1999, regulation changes made in early July when sport harvests were declining rapidly did not have an appreciable effect on harvests. Also, projections of final sport harvests made inseason were inaccurate and unreliable at predicting postseason harvest.

Year	Sport harvest limit	Adjusted harvest target	Sport treaty harvest	Deviation from harvest limit	Cumulative deviation from harvest limit or target	Alaska hatchery add-on	Total sport harvest	Total Alaska hatchery	Basis of harvest limit (after subtracting net allocation)
1997	51,300	53,800	53,305	−495	−495	11,858	71,524	13,522	20% of 256,500
1998	48,600	41,700	46,303	4,603	4,108	7,094	55,013	8,361	20% of 243,000
1999	35,182	42,800	53,158	10,358	14,466	17,578	72,081	19,657	20% of 161,000

Summary of management decisions—2000

In late April 2000, a preseason abundance index (AI) of 1.01 was announced. This index resulted in an all-gear catch limit of 152,850 fish, of which the 20% sport fish allocation totaled 27,535. Given that the preseason AI was less than 1.1, the newly revised management plan required that bag limits for all anglers and annual limits for nonresident anglers be reduced. Therefore, the king salmon bag and possession limit in marine waters of Southeast Alaska (SEAK) was decreased to 1 fish 28 inches or more in length on May 3, 2000. In addition, the annual limit for nonresident anglers was decreased from 4 to 2. It was projected that these regulatory changes would decrease the sport harvest to 34,100 treaty king salmon.

Because the 20% allocation of 27,535 would still be exceeded, additional regulations were needed to reduce the harvest from 34,100. Therefore, on June 3, 4 additional harvest restrictions were imposed:

1) retention and possession of king salmon was prohibited if more than 4 lines were being fished from a chartered vessel from June 3 through June 30
2) nonresident anglers and anglers fishing from a chartered vessel could not retain king salmon on any Wednesday from June 3 through July 31
3) nonresident anglers and anglers fishing from a chartered vessel could not retain king salmon from August 1 through September 30
4) nonresident anglers and anglers fishing from a chartered vessel could not retain king salmon within 2 areas of the outside coast around Sitka and the west and south coasts of Prince of Wales Island (PWI) from July 12 through July 31

The first 3 restrictions applied to all marine waters in SEAK, including Yakutat, except for terminal harvest areas (THAs) established by emergency order to harvest excess Alaska hatchery king salmon. In aggregate, these 4 restrictions were projected to reduce the harvest down to the harvest target. Normally, these restrictions would have been placed into effect by May 1; however, implementation was delayed in 2000 because the revised management plan was not officially in effect until late May.

On June 5, the Alaska Sportfish Council filed for a temporary restraining order (TRO) to block implementation of the 4 restrictions on nonresident anglers and anglers fishing from a chartered vessel that went into effect on June 3. The request for a TRO was denied and then a "preliminary injunction" hearing was held in Juneau on June 14 based on the filing. The motion for a preliminary injunction was also denied.

In late June, review of results from the king salmon model used to estimate coastwide abundance indicated that prior changes to the model were incorrect. Correction of the straying rates and a "recalibration" of the model resulted in a revised AI for SEAK of 1.14. Because an AI of 1.1 to 1.2 results in a 1-fish bag limit and a 3-fish nonresident annual limit under the management plan, the 4 restrictions detailed above concerning the charter and nonresident fishery were rescinded on June 27. In addition, the nonresident annual limit for king salmon was increased from 2 to 3. The 1-fish bag limit for all anglers and the 3-fish annual limit for nonresident anglers remained in place for the rest of the year.

-continued-

The late June revision of the preseason AI (1.14) resulted in a 35,182-fish allocation to the sport fishery. The postseason estimate of treaty harvest was 41,439 fish, which was 6,812 fish above the 20% allocation based on the preseason AI. Based on the preseason estimate of abundance and the final harvest estimate, the sport fishery took 23.9% of the all-gear catch limit less the net harvest.

Summary of management decisions—2001

The 2001 preseason AI of 1.14 was announced by May 1. This level of abundance resulted in an all-gear catch limit of 189,900 and a sport allocation of 34,627. According to the plan, the sport regulations remained at 1 fish for all anglers, with a 3-fish annual limit for nonresidents. Despite the reduced bag limit, harvests remained higher than expected, especially late in the season. The estimated harvest was 44,725, and based on the preseason AI, exceeded the sport allocation by 10,098 fish. Based on the preseason estimate of abundance and the final harvest estimate, the sport fishery took 25.8% of the all-gear catch limit less the net harvest.

Summary of management decisions—2002

The 2002 preseason AI of 1.74 was significantly higher than the prior 2 years. This level of abundance resulted in an all-gear catch limit of 356,500 and a sport allocation of 66,514 fish. According to the plan, when the preseason AI is greater than 1.5, the bag limit for resident anglers is 2 fish. However, because the sport fishery had a cumulative overage from prior years, nonresidents were limited to a 1-fish bag limit and a 3-fish annual limit. These regulations became effective by emergency order on April 27, 2002. The estimated sport harvest of treaty king salmon was 45,504 fish, which was 21,010 below the 20% allocation based on the preseason AI. Based on the preseason estimate of abundance and the final harvest estimate, the sport fishery took 13.7% of the all-gear catch limit less the net harvest.

Summary of management decisions—2003

In April 2003, a preseason AI of 1.79 was announced. This index resulted in an all-gear catch limit of 366,100 fish, of which the 20% sport fish allocation totaled 68,352. Given that the preseason AI was greater than 1.2, the newly revised management plan required a 2-fish bag limit for residents, and a 1-fish bag limit and 3-fish annual limit for nonresident anglers. These regulations were implemented by an emergency order that became effective on May 1, 2003. These regulations applied to all marine waters in SEAK, including Yakutat, except for THAs established by emergency order to harvest excess Alaska hatchery king salmon. These restrictions were expected to reduce the sport harvest to well below the 20% sport harvest target.

The estimate of treaty harvest for the sport fishery in 2003 was 49,239 fish. This was 19,113 below the 20% allocation based on the preseason AI. Based on the preseason estimate of abundance and the final harvest estimate, the sport fishery took 14.4% of the all-gear catch limit less the net harvest.

-continued-

Summary of management decisions—2004

The 2004 preseason AI of 1.88 was announced on April 6. This level of abundance resulted in an all-gear catch limit of 383,500 and a sport allocation of 71,682. According to the plan, the sport fishery bag limits remained at 2 fish for residents, and 1 fish with a 3-fish annual limit for nonresidents. These regulations applied to all marine waters in SEAK, including Yakutat, except for THAs established by emergency order to harvest excess Alaska hatchery king salmon. These restrictions were expected to reduce the sport harvest to well below the 20% sport harvest target.

The estimate of treaty harvest for the sport fishery in 2004 was 55,413 fish. This was 16,269 below the 20% allocation based on the preseason AI. Based on the preseason estimate of abundance and the final harvest estimate, the sport fishery took 15.5% of the all-gear catch limit less the net harvest.

Summary of management decisions—2005

The 2005 preseason AI of 2.05 was announced in mid-April. The resulting all-gear catch limit was 416,400 and the sport allocation was 77,979 fish. Based on the performance of the sport fishery during the prior 3 years of high king salmon abundance (in which the sport fishery underharvested its allocation by a total of 56,392 fish), the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (department) decided to request permission from the Alaska Board of Fisheries (board) to issue an emergency regulation that would implement more liberal regulations than allowed under the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* (KSMP). The board agreed to this approach for increasing harvest opportunity in the sport fishery, and on May 3, 2005, the resident bag limit was increased to 3 fish, and the nonresident annual limit was increased from 3 to 5 fish. The nonresident bag and possession limits remained at 1 fish. These regulations were in place throughout SEAK from May 3, 2005, through August 30, 2005. Prior to and after that time the regulations were in effect, the regulations mandated by the KSMP applied (resident 2 fish bag limit, nonresident 1 fish bag limit, nonresident 3 fish annual limit).

The final estimate of treaty harvest was 63,330 fish, which was 14,649 fish below the 20% allocation based on the preseason AI. Based on the preseason estimate of abundance and the final harvest estimate, the sport fishery took 16.2% of the all-gear catch limit less the net harvest.

-continued-

Summary of management decisions—2006

In April 2006, a preseason AI of 1.69 was announced. This index resulted in an all-gear catch limit of 346,800 fish, of which the 20% sport fish allocation less the net harvest totaled 64,166 fish. Given that the preseason AI was greater than 1.5, the newly revised management plan required a 3-fish bag limit for residents; and for nonresidents, a 2-fish bag limit in May, a 1-fish bag limit for the remainder of the year, and a 4-fish annual limit. In addition, the use of 2 rods per angler was also allowed from October 2006 through March 2007, as directed by the plan. These regulations were implemented by Emergency Order 1-KS-R-02-06, which became effective on May 1, 2006. These regulations applied to all marine waters in SEAK, including Yakutat, except for THAs established by emergency order to harvest excess Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon. These restrictions were expected to maintain the sport harvest within the 20% average sport harvest target.

The estimate of treaty harvest for the sport fishery in 2006 was 69,375 fish. This was 5,209 fish above the 20% allocation based on the preseason AI. Based on the preseason estimate of abundance and the final harvest estimate, the sport fishery took 21.6% of the all-gear catch limit less the net harvest.

Summary of management decisions—2007

The 2007 preseason AI of 1.60 was announced in April. This level of abundance resulted in an all-gear catch limit of 329,400 and a sport allocation of 60,937. Given that the preseason AI was greater than 1.5, the management plan required a 3-fish bag limit for residents; and for nonresidents, a 2-fish bag limit in May, a 1-fish bag limit for the remainder of the year, and a 4-fish annual limit for nonresident anglers. In addition, the use of 2 rods per angler was also allowed from October 2007 through March 2008 as per the plan. These regulations were implemented by Emergency Order 1-KS-R-02-07, which became effective on May 1, 2007. These regulations applied to all marine waters in SEAK, including Yakutat, except for THAs established by emergency order to harvest excess Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon. These restrictions were expected to maintain the sport harvest within the 20% average sport harvest target.

The estimate of treaty harvest for the sport fishery in 2007 was 62,298 fish. This was 1,361 fish above the 20% allocation based on the preseason AI. Based on the preseason estimate of abundance and the final harvest estimate, the sport fishery took 20.4% of the all-gear catch limit less the net harvest.

-continued-

Summary of management decisions—2008

The 2008 preseason AI of 1.07 was announced in early April, resulting in an all-gear catch limit of 170,000 fish, of which the 20% sport allocation less the net harvest totaled 31,353 fish. This was a 48% reduction in the number of king salmon allocated to the sport fishery in 2007. The department issued Emergency Order 1-KS-R-03-08 on April 9, which enacted all management measures in the plan for AIs below 1.1 and above 1.0. These management measures in the plan were substantially modified by the board in 2003; this was the first time any of these management measures had been used. After implementation of the emergency order, questions arose within the department and from the public pertaining to the August exception for the Juneau sport fishing derby (the derby dates had changed) and how the 4-line limit should be applied. The department sought clarification on the implementation of these management measures by polling the board, the results of which are detailed in the main body of this document under the section titled *Management Plan 2006–2008*.

According to the modified plan, the sport fish bag limit was 1 fish for resident anglers. The nonresident bag limit was 1 fish during May 1–July 15 and October 1–December 31. From July 16 to September 30, the nonresident bag limit was 1 fish 48 inches or greater in length.

The nonresident harvest limit (an annual limit that decreases during the year) was 3 fish 28 inches or greater in length January 1–June 30; 2 fish 28 inches or greater in length, July 1–July 15; 1 fish 48 inches or greater in length, July 16–September 30; and 1 fish 28 inches or greater in length October 1–December 31. Any fish 28 inches or greater in length harvested by a nonresident angler earlier in the year applied toward their harvest limit.

These regulations were implemented by Emergency Order 1-KS-R-09-08, which became effective on May 2, 2008. These regulations applied to all marine waters in SEAK, including Yakutat, except for THAs established by emergency order to harvest excess Alaska hatchery king salmon. These restrictions were expected to reduce the sport harvest within the 20% average sport harvest target.

The final estimate of treaty harvest for the sport fishery in 2008 was 32,603 fish. This was 1,251 fish above the 20% allocation based on the preseason AI. Based on the preseason estimates of abundance and the final harvest estimate, the sport fishery took 20.8% of the all-gear catch limit less the net harvest.

Summary of management decisions—2009

The 2009 preseason AI of 1.33 was announced in April. This level of abundance resulted in an all gear harvest limit of 218,800, of which the 20% allocation less the net harvest totaled 40,409 king salmon. Given that the preseason king salmon AI was greater than 1.2 and less than or equal to 1.5, the newly revised management plan required a 2-fish bag limit for residents, a 1-fish bag limit for nonresidents, and a 3-fish annual limit for nonresident anglers. In addition, the use of 2 rods per angler was also allowed from October 2009 through March 2010 by residents, as per the plan.

-continued-

These regulations were implemented by Emergency Order 1-KS-R-01-09, which became effective on April 1, 2009. These regulations applied to all marine waters in SEAK, including Yakutat, except for THAs established by emergency order to harvest excess Alaska hatchery king salmon. These restrictions were expected to maintain the sport harvest within the 20% average sport harvest target.

The final estimate of treaty harvest for the sport fishery in 2009 was 48,120 fish. This was 7,711 fish above the 20% allocation based on the preseason AI. Based on the preseason estimates of abundance and the final harvest estimates, the sport fishery took 23.8% of the all-gear catch limit less the net harvest.

Summary of management decisions—2010

The 2010 preseason king salmon AI of 1.35 was announced in late March. The resulting all-gear catch limit was 221,800 fish, of which the 20% allocation less the net harvest totaled 40,966 fish. According to the plan, the sport fishery bag limits remained at 2 fish for residents, and a 1-fish bag limit with a 3-fish annual limit for nonresidents. Resident anglers were allowed the use of 2 rods per angler from October 2010 through March 2011, as directed by the plan. These regulations were implemented by Emergency Order 1-KS-R-02-10, which became effective on April 1, 2010. These regulations applied to all marine waters in SEAK, including Yakutat, except for THAs established by emergency order to harvest excess Alaska hatchery king salmon. These restrictions were expected to maintain the sport harvest within the 20% average sport harvest target. The final estimate of treaty harvest for the sport fishery in 2010 was 44,315 fish. This was 3,349 fish above the 20% allocation based on the preseason AI. Based on the preseason estimates of abundance and the final harvest estimates, the sport fishery took 21.6% of the all-gear catch limit less the net harvest.

Summary of management decisions—2011

The 2011 preseason king salmon AI of 1.69 was announced in late March, resulting in an all-gear catch limit of 294,800 fish, of which the 20% sport allocation less the net allocation totaled 54,515 fish. Given that the preseason king salmon AI was greater than 1.51 and less than or equal to 1.75, the management plan required a 3-fish bag limit for residents; and for nonresidents, a 2-fish bag limit in May, a 1-fish bag limit for the remainder of the year, and a 5-fish annual limit. In addition, the use of 2 rods per angler was allowed from October 2011 through March 2012, as per the plan. These regulations were implemented by Emergency Order 1-KS-R-02-11, which became effective on April 1, 2011. These regulations applied to all marine waters in SEAK, including Yakutat, except for THAs established by emergency order to harvest excess Alaska hatchery king salmon. These restrictions were expected to maintain the sport harvest within the 20% average sport harvest target.

The final estimate of treaty harvest was 53,964 fish, which is 551 fish below the 20% allocation based on the preseason AI. Based on the preseason estimates of abundance and the final harvest estimates, the sport fishery took 19.8% of the all-gear catch limit less the net harvest.

-continued-

Summary of management decisions—2012

The 2012 preseason king salmon AI of 1.52 was announced in late March, resulting in an all-gear catch limit of 266,800 fish, of which the 20% sport allocation less the net harvest totaled 49,318 fish. Given that the preseason AI was greater than 1.51 and less than or equal to 1.75, the management plan required a 3-fish bag limit for residents. Nonresidents were allowed a bag of 2-fish in May and 1 fish for the remainder of the year; a 4-fish annual limit also applied to nonresidents under this regime. In addition, the use of 2 rods per angler was allowed (while fishing for king salmon) from October 2012 through March 2013, as per the plan. These regulations were implemented by Emergency Order 1-KS-R-02-12, which became effective on March 30, 2012. These regulations applied to all marine waters in SEAK, including Yakutat. THAs established by emergency order to harvest excess Alaska hatchery king salmon were excluded. These restrictions were expected to maintain the sport harvest within the 20% average sport harvest target.

The final estimate of treaty harvest was 37,722 king salmon which was 11,596 fish below the 20% allocation based on the preseason AI. Based on the preseason estimates of abundance and the final harvest estimates, the sport fishery took 15.3% of the all-gear catch limit less the net harvest.

Summary of management decisions—2013

The 2013 preseason AI of 1.20 was announced in April. This level of abundance resulted in an all-gear catch limit of 176,000 yielding the 20% sport allocation (less the net allocation) of 32,466 king salmon. Given that the preseason AI was greater than 1.1 and less than or equal to 1.2, the newly revised management plan required a 1-fish bag limit for residents, a 1-fish bag limit for nonresidents, and a nonresident harvest limit (an annual limit that decreases during the year) of 3 fish 28 inches or greater in length January 1–June 30; 2 fish 28 inches or greater in length, July 1–15; and a 1 fish 28 inches or greater in length, July 16–December 31. In addition, the use of 2 rods per angler was also allowed from October 2013 through March 2014 for residents. These regulations were implemented by Emergency Order 1-KS-R-02-13, which became effective on April 8, 2013, and applied to all marine waters in SEAK, including Yakutat. THAs established by emergency order to harvest excess Alaska hatchery king salmon were exempt. The restrictions were expected to maintain the sport harvest within the 20% average sport harvest target.

The final estimated treaty harvest in the sport fishery for 2013 was 43,304 fish, which was 10,838 fish above the 20% allocation based on the preseason AI. Based on the preseason estimates of abundance and the final harvest estimates, the sport fishery took 26.7% of the all-gear catch limit less the net harvest.

-continued-

Summary of management decisions—2014

The 2014 preseason AI of 2.57 was announced in late March, resulting in an all-gear catch limit of 439,400 fish—the highest AI observed since the inception of aggregate abundance-based management regimes established in 1999. The 20% sport allocation (less the net allocations) yielded 81,353 fish. Given that the preseason king salmon AI was greater than 2.0, the management plan required a 3-fish bag limit for residents. Nonresidents were allowed 2 fish in May and June, and 1 fish the remainder of the year; a 6-fish nonresident annual limit applied. In addition, the use of 2 rods per angler was allowed from October 2014 through March 2015, as per the plan. These regulations were implemented by Emergency Order 1-KS-R-03-14, which became effective on April 2, 2014. Enacted regulations applied to all marine waters in SEAK, including Yakutat. THAs established by emergency order to harvest excess Alaska hatchery king salmon were exempt. Implemented regulations were expected to maintain the sport harvest within the 20% average sport harvest target.

The final estimated treaty harvest was 73,951 fish, which was 7,402 fish below the 20% allocation based on the preseason AI. Based on the preseason estimates of abundance and the final harvest estimates, the sport fishery took 18.2% of the all-gear catch limit less the net harvest.

Summary of management decisions—2015

The 2015 preseason AI was not available prior to May 1, and required that the 2015 SEAK sport fishery regional king salmon regulations be based on the previous year AI of 2.57, as mandated by the plan. Given that the 2014 preseason AI was greater than 2.0, the management plan required a 3-fish bag limit for residents. Nonresidents were allowed a 2-fish bag limit in May and June, and 1 fish per day the remainder of the year; a 6-fish nonresident annual limit applied. In addition, the use of 2 rods per angler was allowed from October 2015 through March 2016 as per the plan. These regulations were implemented by Emergency Order 1-KS-R-08-15, which became effective on April 30, 2015.

Technical discussions among the Pacific Salmon Commission–Chinook Technical Committee (PSC–CTC) members continued through May and into June between PSC representatives of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, and Canada concerning an AI that accurately reflected the true abundance of king salmon along the Pacific coast in 2015. Although a preseason AI was not bilaterally agreed to by PSC-CTC members, the PSC Commissioner for Alaska committed to the other Treaty Parties that management of the SEAK king salmon fisheries would be managed for an all-gear catch based on the 2015 draft AI (calibration 1503) of 1.45, with the understanding that the model that is used to calculate the AI would be reviewed to address the Alaska delegation's concerns with the inaccuracy of the model.

The 2015 agreement to manage the 2015 SEAK king salmon fisheries for a preseason AI of 1.45 was announced on June 26, 2015, resulting in an all-gear catch limit of 237,000 fish, of which the 20% sport allocation less the net harvest totaled 43,787 fish. Given that the preseason AI was greater than 1.2 and less than or equal to 1.5, the management plan required a 2-fish bag limit for residents. Nonresidents were allowed a bag limit of 1 fish for the remainder of the year; a 3-fish annual limit also applied to nonresidents under this regime. In addition, the use of 2 rods by resident anglers was allowed from October 2015 through March 2016, as per the plan.

-continued-

These regulations were implemented by Emergency Order 1-KS-R-16-15, which became effective on July 1, 2015. These regulations applied to all marine waters in SEAK, including Yakutat. THAs established by emergency order to harvest excess Alaska hatchery king salmon were excluded.

The 2015 estimate of treaty harvest was 65,174 king salmon which was 21,387 fish above the 20% allocation based on the preseason AI (Table 3). Based on preseason estimates of abundance and final harvest estimates, the sport fishery took 29.8% of the all-gear catch limit less the net harvest. In 2015, the sport fishery took 21% of the combined sport and troll fishery treaty king salmon harvest.

More restrictive sport fishery king salmon were established in the Yakutat, Haines/Skagway, Juneau, Petersburg/Wrangell, and Ketchikan Management Areas compared to the regional regulations to protect Alaska wild king salmon stocks. These management actions are outlined in the *Southeast Alaska Wild Stocks and Management* section of this report.

Summary of management decisions—2016

The 2016 preseason AI of 2.06 was announced in April. This level of abundance resulted in an all-gear catch limit of 355,600 yielding the 20% sport allocation less the net allocation of 65,799 king salmon. Given that the 2016 preseason AI was greater than 2.0, the management plan required a 3-fish bag limit for residents. Nonresidents were allowed a 2-fish bag limit in May and June, and 1 fish per day the remainder of the year; a 6-fish nonresident annual limit applied. In addition, the use of 2 rods per angler was allowed from October 2016 through March 2017 as per the plan. These regulations were implemented by Emergency Order 1-KS-R-06-16, which became effective on April 12, 2016, and applied to all marine waters in SEAK, including Yakutat. THAs established by emergency order to harvest excess Alaska hatchery king salmon were exempt.

The estimated treaty harvest in the sport fishery for 2016 was 59,503 fish, which was 6,296 fish below the 20% allocation based on the preseason AI (Table 3). Based on preseason estimates of abundance and final harvest estimates, the sport fishery took 18.1% of the all-gear catch limit less the net harvest.

More restrictive sport fishery king salmon regulations were established in the Yakutat, Haines/Skagway, Juneau, Petersburg/Wrangell, and Ketchikan Management Areas compared to regional regulations to protect Alaska wild king salmon stocks. These management actions are outlined in the *Southeast Alaska Wild Stocks and Management* section of this report.

Summary of management decisions—2017

The 2017 preseason AI of 1.27 was announced in April. This level of abundance resulted in an all-gear catch limit of 209,700, yielding the 20% sport allocation less the net allocation of 38,720 king salmon. Given that the preseason AI was greater than 1.2 and less than or equal to 1.5, the management plan required a 2-fish bag limit for residents, a nonresident bag limit of 1 fish and a nonresident annual limit of 3 fish. In addition, the use of 2 rods per resident angler was allowed from October 2017 through March 2018 as per the plan.

-continued-

These regulations were implemented by Emergency Order 1-KS-R-11-17 and became effective on April 12, 2017. These regulations applied to all marine waters in SEAK, including Yakutat. THAs established by emergency order to harvest excess Alaska hatchery king salmon were excluded.

Nine of the 11 SEAK wild king salmon indicator stocks did not achieve their escapement goals in 2016 indicating low production for king salmon stocks in 2017. In March 2017, to protect SEAK wild king salmon stocks, more restrictive sport fishery king salmon regulations than the regional king salmon regulations were established in the Yakutat, Haines/Skagway, Juneau, Petersburg/Wrangell, and Ketchikan Management Areas in concert with conservative management in the commercial fisheries. These management actions are outlined in the *Southeast Alaska Wild Stocks and Management* section of this report.

By early August 2017, initial surveys indicated that SEAK king salmon runs would be lower than anticipated indicating that additional conservative management measures in all SEAK king salmon fisheries were needed to protect wild SEAK king salmon stocks. To provide this additional protection, the department Deputy Commissioner coordinated the implementation of prohibiting the retention of king salmon in all SEAK fisheries. Under Emergency Order 1-KS-R-28-17, the retention of king salmon in the SEAK marine sport fishery was prohibited from August 10 to September 30, 2017.

On October 1, 2017, given that effort and the subsequent harvest of king salmon in the sport fishery from October through the end of March is usually low, the SEAK king salmon sport fishery was reopened under Emergency Order 1-KS-R-30-17, mirroring the king salmon regulations implemented in April under Emergency Order 1-KS-R-17; this was a management prescription outlined in KSMP and was based on a preseason king salmon AI of 1.27.

The preliminary estimated treaty harvest in the sport fishery for 2017 is 47,470 fish, which was 8,750 fish above the 20% allocation based on the preseason AI (Table 3). Based on preseason estimates of abundance and preliminary harvest estimates, the sport fishery took 24.5% of the all-gear catch limit less the net harvest.

Summary of management decisions—2018

The 2018 preseason AI of 1.07 was announced in April. This level of abundance resulted in an all-gear catch limit of 144,500, yielding the 20% sport allocation less the net allocation of 26,619 king salmon. Given that the preseason AI was less than 1.1, the management plan required a bag limit of 1 king salmon 28 inches or greater in length; a king salmon annual harvest limit for nonresident anglers of 3 fish from January 1–June 30, and 1 fish July 1–December 31. In addition, a resident angler was allowed to use 2 rods October through March when fishing for king salmon. These regulations were implemented by Emergency Order 1-KS-R-04-18 and became effective on April 15, 2018. These regulations applied to all marine waters in SEAK, including Yakutat. Terminal harvest areas (THAs) established by emergency order to harvest excess Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon and areas of king salmon nonretention to protect wild stocks were excluded.

-continued-

SEAK king salmon escapements in 2016 and 2017 were poor with only 2 out of the 11 king salmon indicator stocks meeting escapement goals each year. This trend of low production was expected to continue in 2018. The Chilkat, King Salmon and Unuk River stocks had not achieved their escapement goal in 4 of the past 5 years. During the 2017/2018 board cycle these stocks were identified as stocks of concern prompting the development of specific action plans that outline conservative management measures for all fisheries to reduce the harvest of these stocks. In April 2018, to protect SEAK wild king salmon stocks, more restrictive sport fishery king salmon regulations than the regional king salmon regulations were established in the Yakutat, Haines/Skagway, Juneau, Petersburg/Wrangell, and Ketchikan Management Areas in concert with conservative management in the commercial fisheries. These management actions are outlined in the *Southeast Alaska Wild Stocks and Management* section of this report. These management actions were effective at decreasing the harvest of wild Alaska king salmon and also decrease harvest of treaty king salmon.

The estimated treaty harvest in the sport fishery for 2018 is 21,243 fish, which was 5,376 fish below the 20% allocation based on the preseason AI of 1.07 (Table 3). The sport fishery took 16.0% of the all-gear catch limit less the net harvest.

Summary of management decisions—2019

Under the newly modified KSMP beginning in 2019, the regional king salmon sport fish bag and possession limits and any other management measures prescribed in the plan are based upon the SEAK Winter Troll CPUE. The 2019 SEAK Winter Troll CPUE of 3.38 was announced in April. This level of abundance resulted in an all-gear catch limit of 140,323, yielding the 20% sport allocation less the net allocation of 25,844 king salmon. Given that the SEAK Winter Troll CPUE was greater than 2.6 and less than or equal to 3.8, the management plan required a bag limit of 1 king salmon 28 inches or greater in length; a king salmon annual harvest limit for nonresident anglers of 3 fish from January 1–June 30, and 1 fish July 1–December 31. Any king salmon harvested during the earlier period applied toward the later period. In addition, a resident bag limit of 2 king salmon 28 inches or greater in length was established for the inside waters that were closed to reduce harvest of Alaska wild king salmon once they reopened. These regional regulations were implemented by Emergency Order 1-KS-R-05-19 and became effective on April 2, 2019. These regulations applied to all marine waters in SEAK, including Yakutat. THAs established by emergency order to harvest excess Alaska hatchery king salmon were excluded and areas closed to king salmon nonretention for wild stock conservation.

In early July, an estimate of projected harvest of king salmon for the entire year (including harvest to date and projected for the remainder of the season) was shown to be over the sport allocation. As directed by the KSMP, at this level of abundance nonresident anglers will be restricted in season to stay within the sport harvest allocation, and ADF&G shall only restrict resident anglers if nonresident angler restrictions are insufficient to remain within the sport harvest allocation. To maintain the sport fishery within its allocation, a period of king salmon nonretention for nonresident anglers from August 1 through September 15 was implemented by Emergency Order 1-KS-R-23-19 issued on July 22.

-continued-

Based on harvest estimates and projected harvest of king salmon for the remainder of the season, in late August, the period of king salmon nonretention for nonresident anglers was no longer necessary to ensure that the sport fishery remained within its allocation. Emergency Order 1-KS-R-27-19 issued August 16, rescinded the nonresident nonretention period and reestablished the same management measures established at the beginning of the season as directed by the KSMP at a SEAK Winter Troll CPUE of 3.38.

SEAK wild king salmon stocks continued to be in a period of low production in 2019. SEAK king salmon escapements during 2016–2018 were the worst on record, with 3 and 2 out of the 11 king salmon indicator stocks meeting escapement goals in 2016 and 2017, respectively. In 2018, only 4 of the 11 king salmon indicator stocks met escapement goals. This trend of low production continued in 2019. In April 2019, to protect SEAK wild king salmon stocks, more restrictive sport fishery king salmon regulations than the regional king salmon regulations were established in the Yakutat, Haines/Skagway, Juneau, Petersburg/Wrangell, and Ketchikan Management Areas in concert with conservative management in the commercial fisheries. These management actions are outlined in the *Southeast Alaska Wild Stocks and Management* section of this report. These management actions were effective at decreasing the harvest of wild Alaska king salmon, but also led to a decreased harvest of treaty king salmon.

The estimated treaty harvest in the sport fishery for 2019 is 24,596 fish, which was 1,248 fish below the 20% allocation based on the SEAK Winter Troll CPUE (Table 5). The sport fishery took 19.0% of the all-gear catch limit less the net harvest.

Summary of management decisions—2020

The 2020 SEAK Winter Troll CPUE of 4.83 was announced in February. This level of abundance resulted in an all-gear catch of 205,165, yielding the 20% sport allocation less the net allocation of 37,879 king salmon.

Given that the SEAK Winter Troll CPUE was greater than 3.8 and less than or equal to 6.0, the management plan required a bag limit of 1 king salmon 28 inches or greater in length; a nonresident king salmon total harvest limit of 3 fish from January 1–June 30, 2 fish from July 1–July 7, and 1 fish from July 8–December 31. In addition, a resident bag limit of 2 king salmon 28 inches or greater in length was established for the inside waters that were closed to reduce harvest of Alaska wild king salmon once they reopened, and from October 1 through March 31, a resident sport angler could use 2 rods when fishing for king salmon. These regulations were implemented by Emergency Order 1-KS-R-05-20 and became effective on April 15, 2018. These regulations applied to all marine waters in SEAK, including Yakutat. THAs established by emergency order to harvest excess Alaska hatchery king salmon and areas of king salmon nonretention to protect wild stocks were excluded.

-continued-

Beginning in late May, estimates and projected sport harvest of king salmon for the remainder of the season indicated the sport fishery would be significantly under its allocation due to reduced salmon effort caused by the COVID-19 pandemic travel restrictions. This sport salmon effort reduction of approximately 50% required the following progressive liberalizations of sport king salmon limits throughout the season for the sport fishery to obtain its allocation: on June 15, the resident bag limit was increased to 3 fish and the nonresident annual limit to 4 fish (Emergency Order 1-KS-R-16-20); on July 10, the resident bag limit was increased to 4 fish from July 11 through August 15, and the nonresident bag limit and annual limit was increased by 2 and 6 fish, respectively, from July 11 through August 15 (Emergency Order 1-KS-R-19-20); On July 29, the resident bag limit was increased to 5 fish, and the nonresident bag limit was increased to 3 fish, with a nonresident annual limit of annual limit 9 fish (Emergency Order 1-KS-R-23-20). Despite these liberations, the sport fishery was significantly under its allocation.

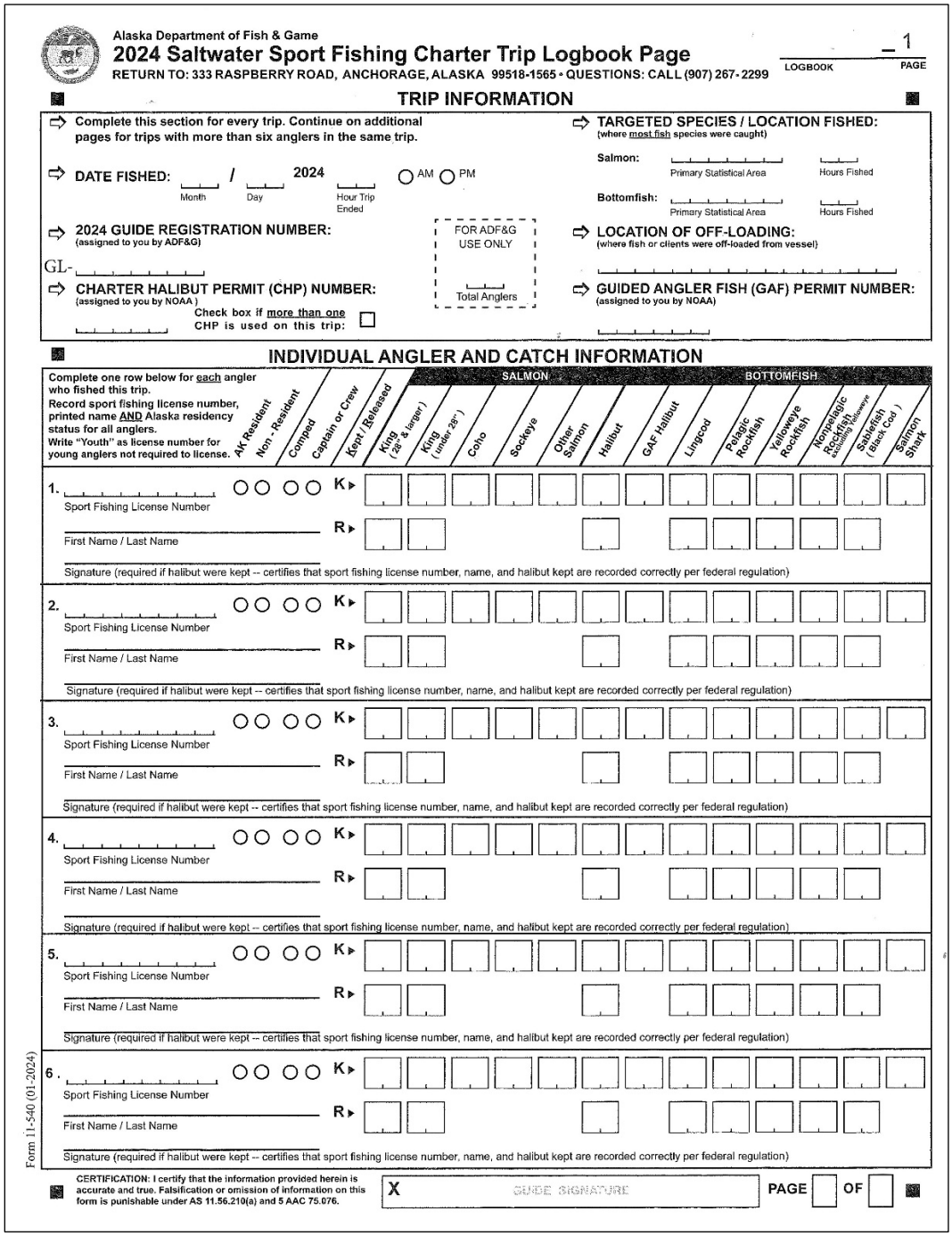
In September, with the sport king salmon fishery being over 90% complete, king salmon regulations reestablishing management measures set at the beginning of the season, mandated by the KSMP at a SEAK Winter Troll CPUE of 4.83, were established by Emergency Order 1-KS-R-24-20 effective October 1, 2020.

SEAK wild king salmon stocks continued to be in a period of low production during 2020. Despite better performance in 2019, the trend of low production was expected to continue in 2020 for many of the 11 monitored systems, including the Taku, Stikine, and Chilkat River stocks, which are projected to have escapements below the lower bound of the escapement goal ranges. The Chilkat River stock has not achieved its escapement goal in 6 of the past 8 years, the King Salmon River stock has not achieved its escapement goal in 6 of the past 8 years, and the Unuk River stock has not achieved its escapement goal in 4 of the past 8 years. During the 2017/2018 board cycle, these stocks were identified as stocks of concern prompting the development of specific action plans that outline conservative management measures for all fisheries to reduce the harvest of these stocks. The Taku, Stikine, and Chickamin River stocks have not achieved the lower bound of escapement goals between 2016 and 2020. In April 2020, to protect SEAK wild king salmon stocks, more restrictive sport fishery king salmon regulations than the regional king salmon regulations were established in the Yakutat, Haines/Skagway, Juneau, Petersburg/Wrangell, and Ketchikan Management Areas in concert with conservative management in the commercial fisheries. These management actions are outlined in the *Southeast Alaska Wild Stocks and Management* section of this report. These management actions were effective at decreasing the harvest of wild Alaska king salmon, but also led to decreased harvest of treaty king salmon.

The estimated treaty harvest in the sport fishery for 2020 is 30,561 fish, which was 7,318 fish below the 20% allocation based on the SEAK Winter Troll CPUE. The sport fishery took 16.1% of the all-gear catch limit less the net harvest.

APPENDIX B: SALTWATER SPORT FISHING CHARTER LOGBOOK SAMPLE PAGE

Appendix B1.–2024 Saltwater Sport Fishing Charter Logbook sample page.



Alaska Department of Fish & Game

2024 Saltwater Sport Fishing Charter Trip Logbook Page

RETURN TO: 333 RASPBERRY ROAD, ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99518-1565 • QUESTIONS: CALL (907) 267-2299

LOGBOOK _ 1 PAGE

TRIP INFORMATION

⇨ Complete this section for every trip. Continue on additional pages for trips with more than six anglers in the same trip.

⇨ DATE FISHED: ___ (Month) / ___ (Day) 2024 ___ (Hour Trip Ended) ○ AM ○ PM

⇨ 2024 GUIDE REGISTRATION NUMBER: (assigned to you by ADF&G)

GL- ____

⇨ CHARTER HALIBUT PERMIT (CHP) NUMBER: (assigned to you by NOAA)

____ Check box if more than one CHP is used on this trip: ☐

FOR ADF&G USE ONLY

___ Total Anglers

⇨ TARGETED SPECIES / LOCATION FISHED: (where most fish species were caught)

Salmon: ____ (Primary Statistical Area) ___ (Hours Fished)

Bottomfish: ____ (Primary Statistical Area) ___ (Hours Fished)

⇨ LOCATION OF OFF-LOADING: (where fish or clients were off-loaded from vessel)

____

⇨ GUIDED ANGLER FISH (GAF) PERMIT NUMBER: (assigned to you by NOAA)

____

INDIVIDUAL ANGLER AND CATCH INFORMATION

Complete one row below for each angler who fished this trip.
Record sport fishing license number, printed name AND Alaska residency status for all anglers.
Write "Youth" as license number for young anglers not required to license.

	AK Resident	Non-Resident	Comped	Captain or Crew	Kept / Released	SALMON: King (28" & larger)	SALMON: King (under 28")	SALMON: Coho	SALMON: Sockeye	SALMON: Other Salmon	BOTTOMFISH: Halibut	BOTTOMFISH: GAF Halibut	BOTTOMFISH: Lingcod	BOTTOMFISH: Pelagic Rockfish	BOTTOMFISH: Yelloweye Rockfish	BOTTOMFISH: Nonpelagic Rockfish (excluding Yelloweye)	BOTTOMFISH: Sablefish (Black Cod)	BOTTOMFISH: Salmon Shark
1. Sport Fishing License Number	○	○	○	○	K ▸													
First Name / Last Name					R ▸													
Signature (required if halibut were kept -- certifies that sport fishing license number, name, and halibut kept are recorded correctly per federal regulation)																		
2. Sport Fishing License Number	○	○	○	○	K ▸													
First Name / Last Name					R ▸													
Signature (required if halibut were kept -- certifies that sport fishing license number, name, and halibut kept are recorded correctly per federal regulation)																		
3. Sport Fishing License Number	○	○	○	○	K ▸													
First Name / Last Name					R ▸													
Signature (required if halibut were kept -- certifies that sport fishing license number, name, and halibut kept are recorded correctly per federal regulation)																		
4. Sport Fishing License Number	○	○	○	○	K ▸													
First Name / Last Name					R ▸													
Signature (required if halibut were kept -- certifies that sport fishing license number, name, and halibut kept are recorded correctly per federal regulation)																		
5. Sport Fishing License Number	○	○	○	○	K ▸													
First Name / Last Name					R ▸													
Signature (required if halibut were kept -- certifies that sport fishing license number, name, and halibut kept are recorded correctly per federal regulation)																		
6. Sport Fishing License Number	○	○	○	○	K ▸													
First Name / Last Name					R ▸													
Signature (required if halibut were kept -- certifies that sport fishing license number, name, and halibut kept are recorded correctly per federal regulation)																		

Form 11-540 (01-2024)

CERTIFICATION: I certify that the information provided herein is accurate and true. Falsification or omission of information on this form is punishable under AS 11.56.210(a) and 5 AAC 75.076.

X GUIDE SIGNATURE

PAGE ☐ OF ☐

APPENDIX C: STATEWIDE HARVEST SURVEY AREAS FOR SOUTHEAST ALASKA

Appendix C1.–Areas within the Southeast Alaska region for which sport effort and harvests are estimated through use of the Statewide Harvest Survey (SWHS) postal questionnaire.