



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR SEAN PARNELL

**Department of
Fish and Game**

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Members
Alaska Board of Fisheries

DATE: September 19, 2013

FROM: Jeff Regnart, Director
Division of Commercial Fisheries

SUBJECT: Kodiak-Chignik Stock
of Concern
Recommendations

and

Charles O. Swanton, Director
Division of Sport Fish

The *Policy for the management of sustainable salmon fisheries* (SSFP; 5 AAC 39.222) directs the department to report to the Alaska Board of Fisheries (board) on the status of salmon stocks and identify any stocks that present a concern related to yield, management, or conservation during regular board meetings. An interdivisional review team consisting of staff from the divisions of Commercial Fisheries and Sport Fish reviewed escapement goals in the Kodiak Management Area (KMA) and the Chignik Management Area (CMA) as part of the current board meeting cycle. In conjunction with the escapement goal review, the team examined potential stocks of yield, management, or conservation concern, as defined in the SSFP. This memorandum summarizes the results of the stock of concern evaluation for Kodiak and Chignik salmon stocks for the 2013–2014 board regulatory cycle.

All king, sockeye, pink, coho, and chum salmon stocks in the KMA and CMA were examined for potential stock of concern status (Munro and Volk 2013). Currently, Karluk River king salmon is a stock of management concern and the only stock of concern in either area. The department recommends Karluk River king salmon remain a stock of management concern because although the escapement goal was met in 2011 and 2012, it was not met in 2013 despite management actions taken to limit fishing mortality of this stock. No other stocks examined in the KMA and CMA were found to be stocks of concern by the escapement goal committee. The Olds River coho salmon stock was identified by the committee as a potential candidate, but was ultimately not recommended for stock of concern status.

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The Olds River is located on the Kodiak road system. The coho salmon fishery has been assessed postseason since 1980 by foot surveys (Table 1, Figure 1). From 2007–2012, the lower-bound sustainable escapement goal was not achieved in four of the five years it was assessed. After reviewing recent escapements and harvests (Table 1), the department recommends Olds River coho salmon not be nominated as a stock of concern for the following reasons:

- The escapement goal was achieved in 2011.
- There is no indication harvest has increased during the last 20 years.

Stock of Concern Recommendation

No additional Kodiak or Chignik salmon stocks have had a chronic inability to achieve their escapement goals and therefore, we recommend that no new stocks of concern be established for either the KMA or CMA.

Literature Cited

Munro, A.R., E.C. Volk. 2013. Summary of Pacific salmon escapement goals in Alaska, with a review of escapements from 2004 to 2012. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries Manuscript Series No. 13-05, Anchorage.

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Table 1.—Annual counts, harvests, and total estimated returns of Olds River coho salmon, 1980– 2012. Blanks indicate no survey or data available.

Year	Foot	Harvest			Total
	Survey	Recreational ^a	Subsistence ^b	Commercial ^c	
1980	780		0	6,069	
1981			152	1,366	
1982	1,375		279	1,839	
1983		31	64	766	861
1984	325	611	445	4,252	5,633
1985	1,648	304	337	332	2,621
1986	1,849	1,651	312	447	4,259
1987	842	307	379	3,310	4,838
1988		1,273	209	1,773	
1989	743	2,571	143	0	3,457
1990	1,706	948	379	7	3,040
1991		1,778	247	178	
1992	308	1,085	276	0	1,669
1993	525	1,876	82	40	2,523
1994	395	1,083	225	2	1,705
1995	2,642	833	116	3,988	7,579
1996	2,200	864	305	0	3,369
1997	4,064	1,519	363	3,011	8,957
1998	2,296	951	267	10	3,524
1999	1,382	1,349	258	320	3,309
2000	1,097	1,712	337	0	3,146
2001	3,454	1,268	295	4,748	9,765
2002	790	1,346	215	0	2,351
2003	1,534	1,233	595	9	3,371
2004	1,860	2,082	342	446	4,730
2005	2,495	1,993	347	0	4,835
2006	1,912	1,617	366	4,491	8,386
2007	868	1,401	183	1,811	4,263
2008	656	696	173	20	1,545
2009	697	1,864	93	46	2,700
2010		1,253	53	0	
2011	1,003	1,351	61	168	2,583
2012	624	734	79	32	1,469

^a Recreational harvests from the Statewide Harvest Survey.

^b Subsistence harvests from the ADF&G Division of Commercial Fisheries database.

^c Commercial harvests from the ADF&G Division of Commercial Fisheries database.

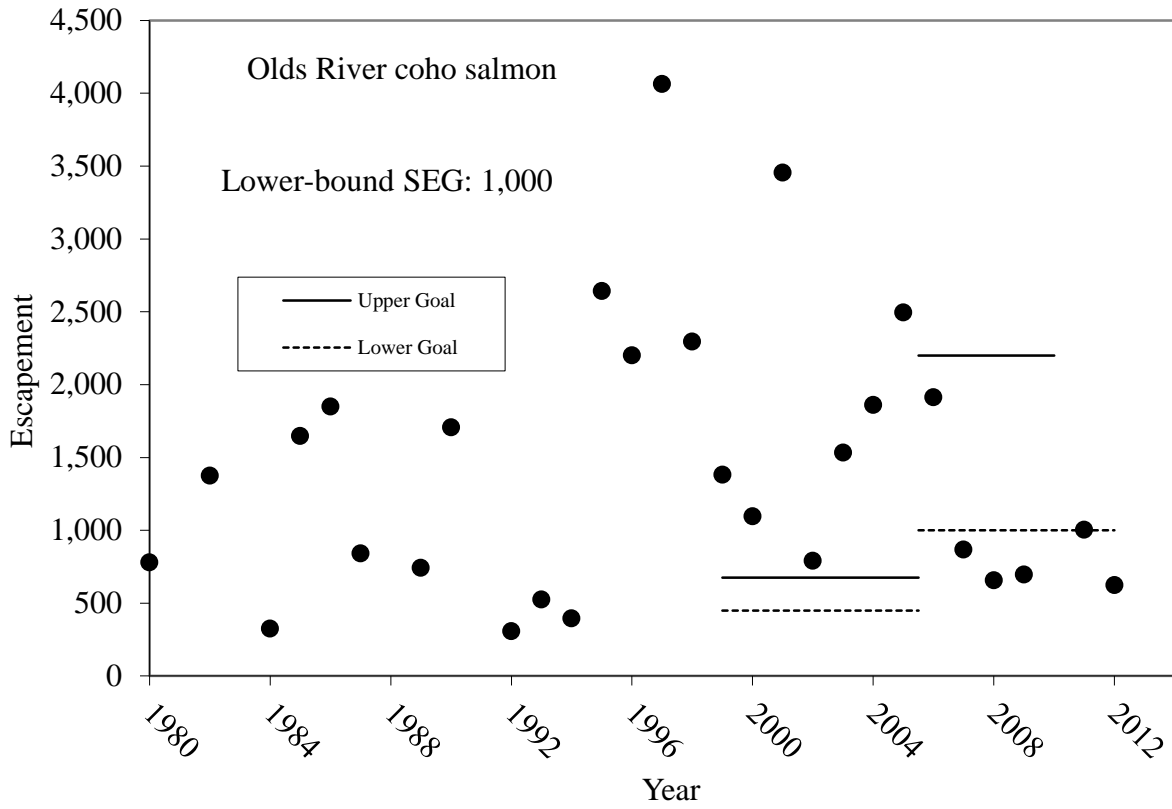


Figure 1.—Annual escapement of Olds River coho salmon, 1980–2012, and escapement goal ranges.