

Oral Report to the Alaska Board of Fisheries 2026

Review of Salmon Escapement Goals in the Alaska Peninsula/ Aleutian Islands and Chignik Management Areas



by
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and
Nick Decovich

February 2026

Oral Report: RC 3, Tab 1

Presentation Objectives

- Identify policies
- Identify escapement goals and review process
- Present findings



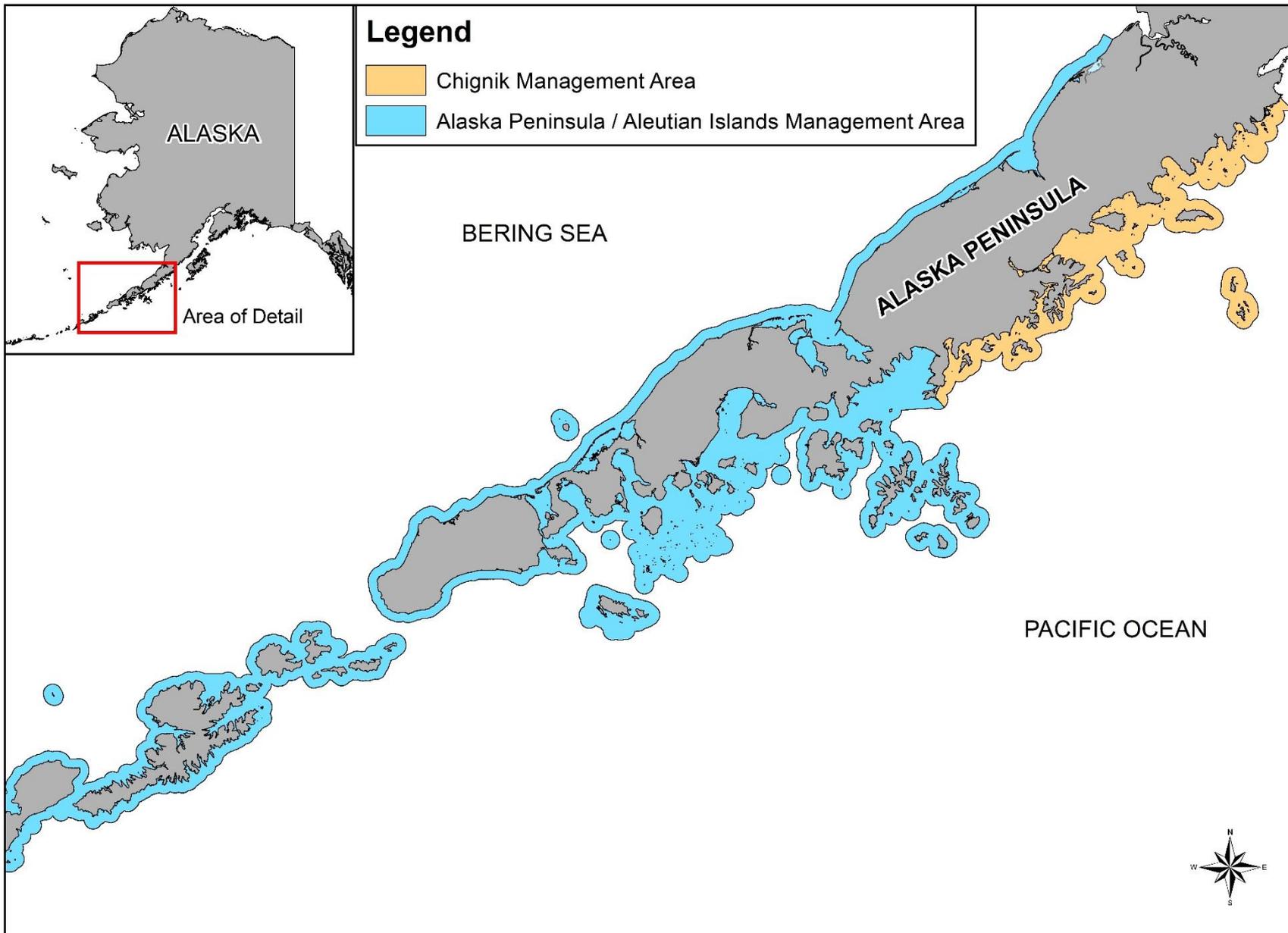
Policy and Escapement Goal Definition

This review was based on

- Policy for the Management of Sustainable Salmon Fisheries (SSFP; 5 AAC 39.222)
- Policy for Statewide Salmon Escapement Goals (EGP; 5 AAC 39.223)
- Important terms defined in the SSFP are
 - biological escapement goal (BEG)
 - sustainable escapement goal (SEG)
 - optimal escapement goal (OEG)

Review of Process

- Three-year interval
- Review stock data quality and availability
- Determine appropriate goal type and methods
- Perform analysis, assess goal range, team review
- Provide findings to directors of Commercial Fisheries and Sport Fish Divisions



Alaska Peninsula Management Area



BERING SEA

- ★ ADF&G Field Offices
- 🟡 King Salmon Systems
- 🔴 Sockeye Salmon Systems
- 🟢 Coho Salmon Systems
- 🟠 Pink Salmon Systems
- 🟢 Chum Salmon Systems

North Peninsula

Northern District

ALASKA PENINSULA

Chignik Management Area

Northwestern District

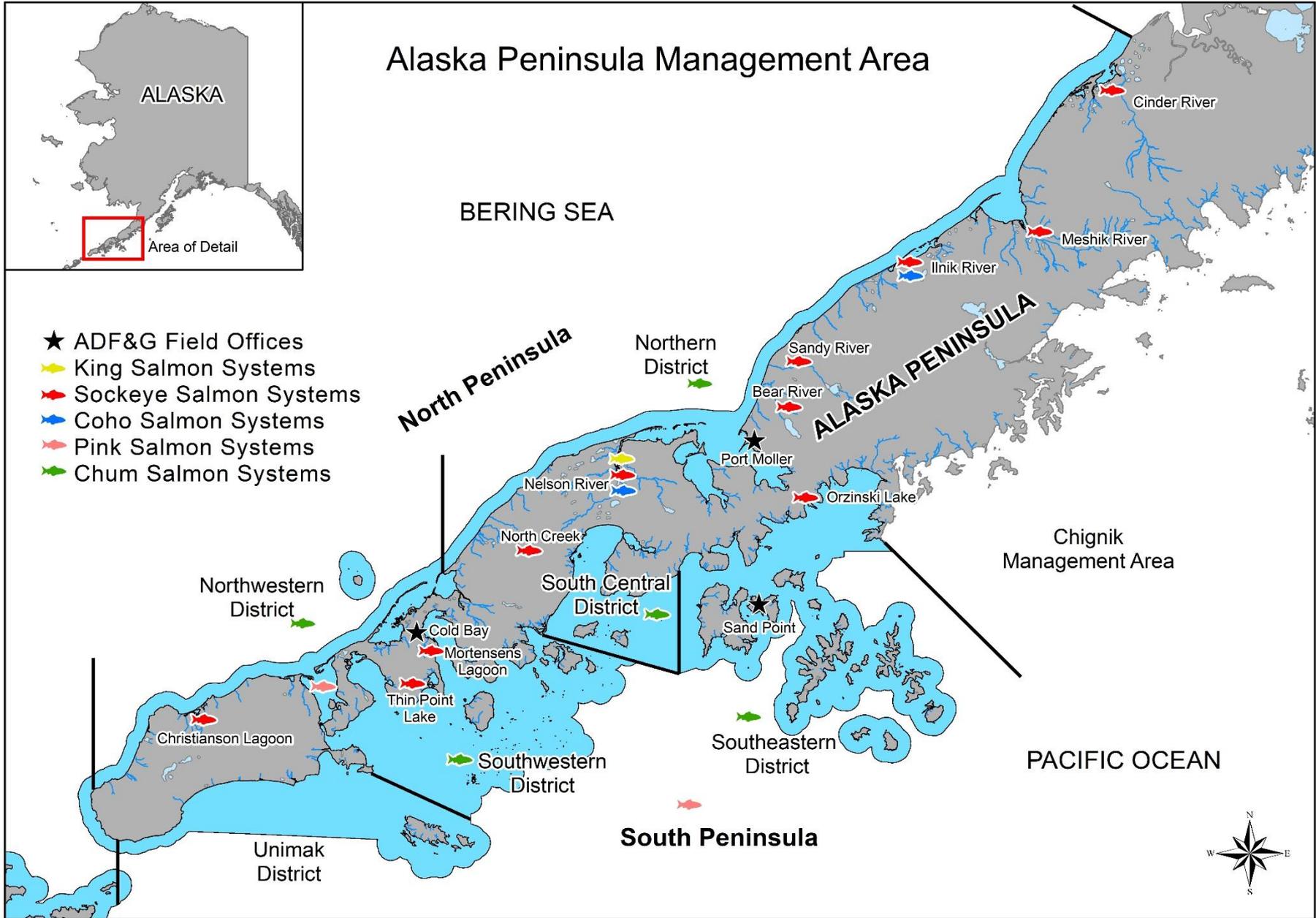
South Central District

Southeastern District

PACIFIC OCEAN

Unimak District

South Peninsula



Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Islands Management Area

Findings: No change

Species and system	2025 Goal range		Type	Year current goal was established	Escapement				
	Lower	Upper			2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
KING SALMON									
Nelson River	2,400	5,000	BEG	2019	4,839	5,285	4,078	3,542	4,551
CHUM SALMON									
Northern District	49,000	132,000	SEG	2023	94,856	163,882	<i>128,000</i>	41,200	<i>78,000</i>
Northwestern District	49,000	133,000	SEG	2023	68,050	50,090	94,000	85,275	<i>121,750</i>
South Central District	68,900	99,200	SEG	2019	51,900	<i>140,600</i>	<i>151,200</i>	<i>178,480</i>	<i>164,700</i>
Southeastern District	62,500	151,900	SEG	2019	<i>141,550</i>	<i>130,800</i>	<i>163,200</i>	56,900	144,300
Southwestern District	86,900	159,500	SEG	2019	114,600	57,250	<i>133,100</i>	74,560	204,850
COHO SALMON									
Ilnik River	9,000	24,000	SEG	2023	11,000	36,200	NS	NS	NS
Nelson River	19,000	29,000	SEG	2023	26,000	21,500	5,000	NS	NS
PINK SALMON									
South Peninsula Total	1,750,000	4,000,000	SEG	2016	4,388,100	5,177,350	5,914,600	2,486,157	4,442,350

Red text = goal was not met.

Italicized text = full suite of index streams not surveyed.

NS = No survey

Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Islands Management Area

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Goals in effect for 2021 and 2022

Northern District chum: 119,600 – 239,200

Northwestern District chum: 100,000 – 215,000

Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Islands Management Area

Findings: No change

Species and system	2025 Goal range		Type	Year current goal was established	Escapement				
	Lower	Upper			2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
SOCKEYE SALMON									
Bear River Early Run	176,000	293,000	SEG	2004	387,240	368,072	280,626	208,459	212,355
Bear River Late Run	117,000	195,000	SEG	2004	192,760	148,928	171,703	245,768	126,401
Christianson Lagoon	23,000	50,000	SEG	2023	61,100	40,700	79,600	55,000	54,300
Cinder River	36,000	94,000	SEG	2016	54,500	102,500	54,700	35,200	30,650
Ilnik River	40,000	75,000	SEG	2023	70,000	110,500	109,021	99,694	40,810
McLees Lake	10,000		LB SEG	2019	16,173	14,015	26,945	NW	NW
Meshik River	48,000	86,000	SEG	2016	117,500	112,700	79,100	52,500	45,900
Mortensen Lagoon	1,400	5,700	SEG	2023	1,500	3,900	5,100	NS	1,100
Nelson River	97,000	219,000	BEG	2004	110,000	98,000	250,213	754,766	555,000
North Creek	7,500	10,000	SEG	2019	9,100	9,900	11,200	500	7,200
Orzinski Lake	14,000	28,000	SEG	2023	21,839	17,283	19,512	14,571	16,394
Sandy River	37,000	69,000	SEG	2023	52,657	44,000	48,757	38,007	NW
Thin Point Lake	9,000	19,000	SEG	2023	18,900	11,900	6,870	26,920	10,300

Red text = goal was not met.

NW = No weir

NS = No survey

Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Islands Management Area

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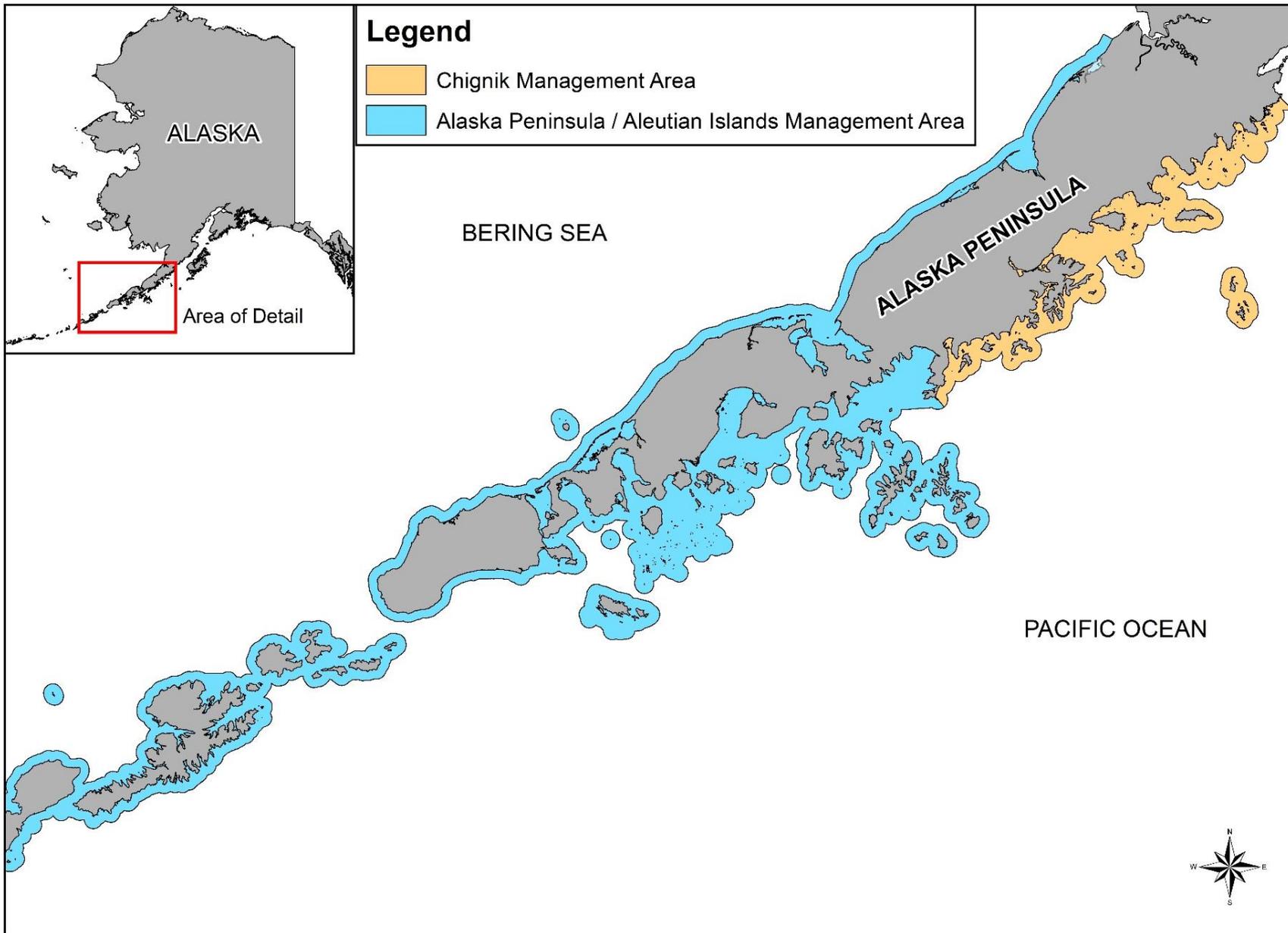
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Goals in effect for 2021 and 2022

Mortensen Lagoon sockeye: 3,200 – 3,400

Thin Point Lake sockeye: 14,000 – 28,000



Chignik Management Area

BERING SEA

Kodiak Management Area

ALASKA PENINSULA

Eastern District

Central District

Western District

Perryville District

PACIFIC OCEAN

Alaska Peninsula Management Area



- ★ ADF&G Field Office
- King Salmon Systems
- ☛ Sockeye Salmon Systems
- ☛ Pink Salmon Systems
- ☛ Chum Salmon Systems

☛ Chignik Bay District

Chignik Weir



Chignik Management Area

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	Lower	Upper			2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
King									
Chignik River	1,300	2,700	BEG	2002	1,135	724	267	1,166	1,391
Chum									
CMA	45,000	110,000	SEG	2016	107,000	73,200	183,000	83,100	95,000
Pink									
CMA even years	170,000	280,000	SEG	2016	392,000	–	621,000	–	474,900
CMA odd years	260,000	450,000	SEG	2016	–	303,600	–	262,700	–
Sockeye									
Chignik River early	300,000	400,000	OEG	2023	295,726	412,228	431,283	372,831	399,019
Chignik River late	240,000	360,000	OEG	2023	345,216	395,858	457,071	354,749	659,245
Chignik River total	450,000	800,000	BEG	2023	640,942	808,086	888,354	727,580	1,058,264

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Chignik Management Area

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Chignik River total	450,000	800,000	BEG	2023	640,942	808,086	888,354	727,580	1,058,264

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Chignik early-run sockeye goal in effect for 2021 and 2022 was 350,000 – 450,000 fish.

Chignik Management Area

Stocks of management concern

King salmon

- Listed in 2023
- Met goal in 2025 for the first time since 2019

Early-run sockeye salmon

- Listed in 2022, out of cycle
- Met the BEG in the last 4 consecutive years (2022–2025)

Stock status and action plans will be discussed in detail in separate presentations.

Questions?

