

North Alaska Peninsula Commercial Salmon Management Overview

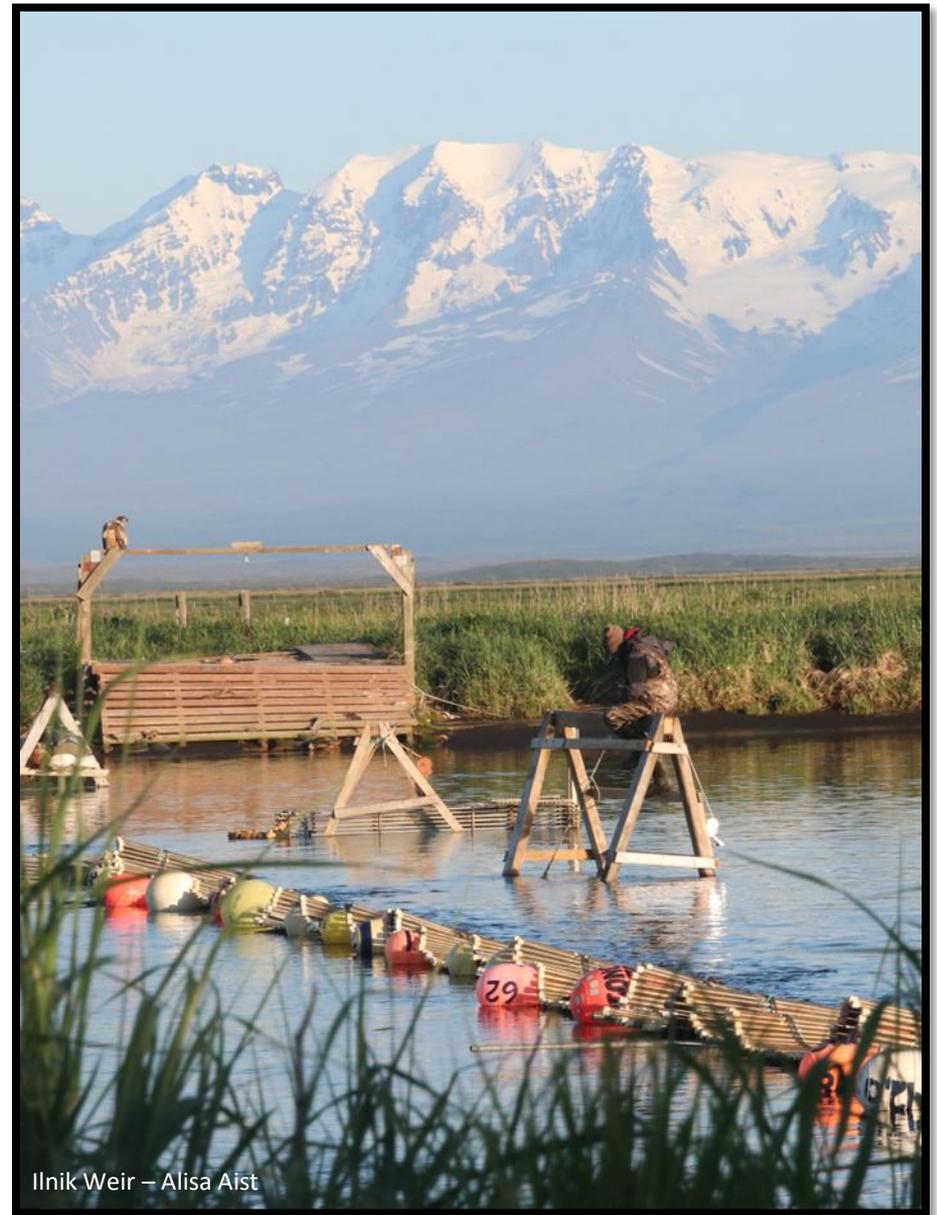


A Report to the Alaska Board
of Fisheries; February 2026
Division of Commercial Fisheries

Charles W. Russell
Oral Report: RC 3; Tab 4

Presentation Outline

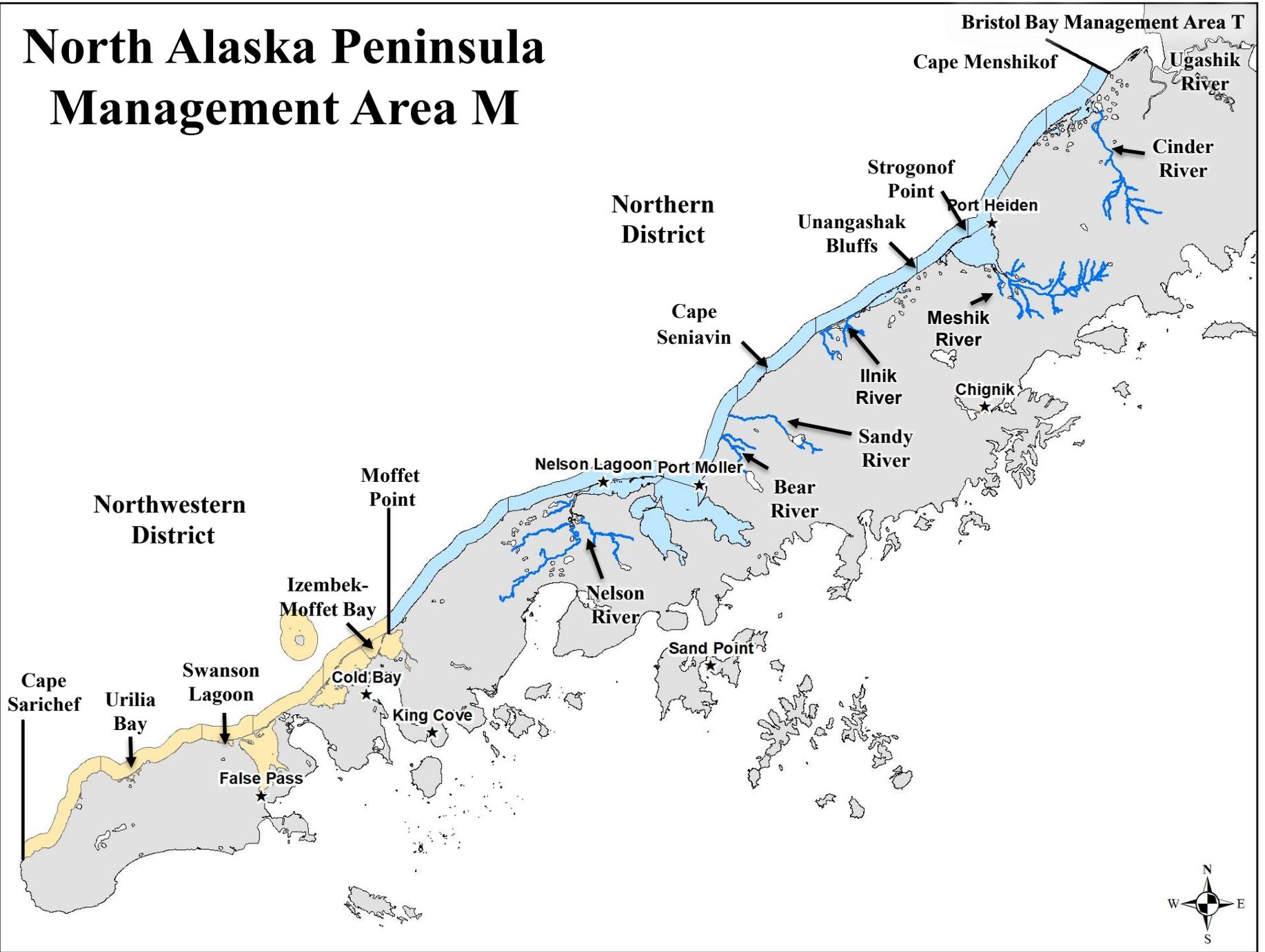
- **North Peninsula Overview**
- **North Peninsula Fishery Assessment Tools and Salmon Management**
- **Harvest and Escapement**
- **Overview of Proposals**



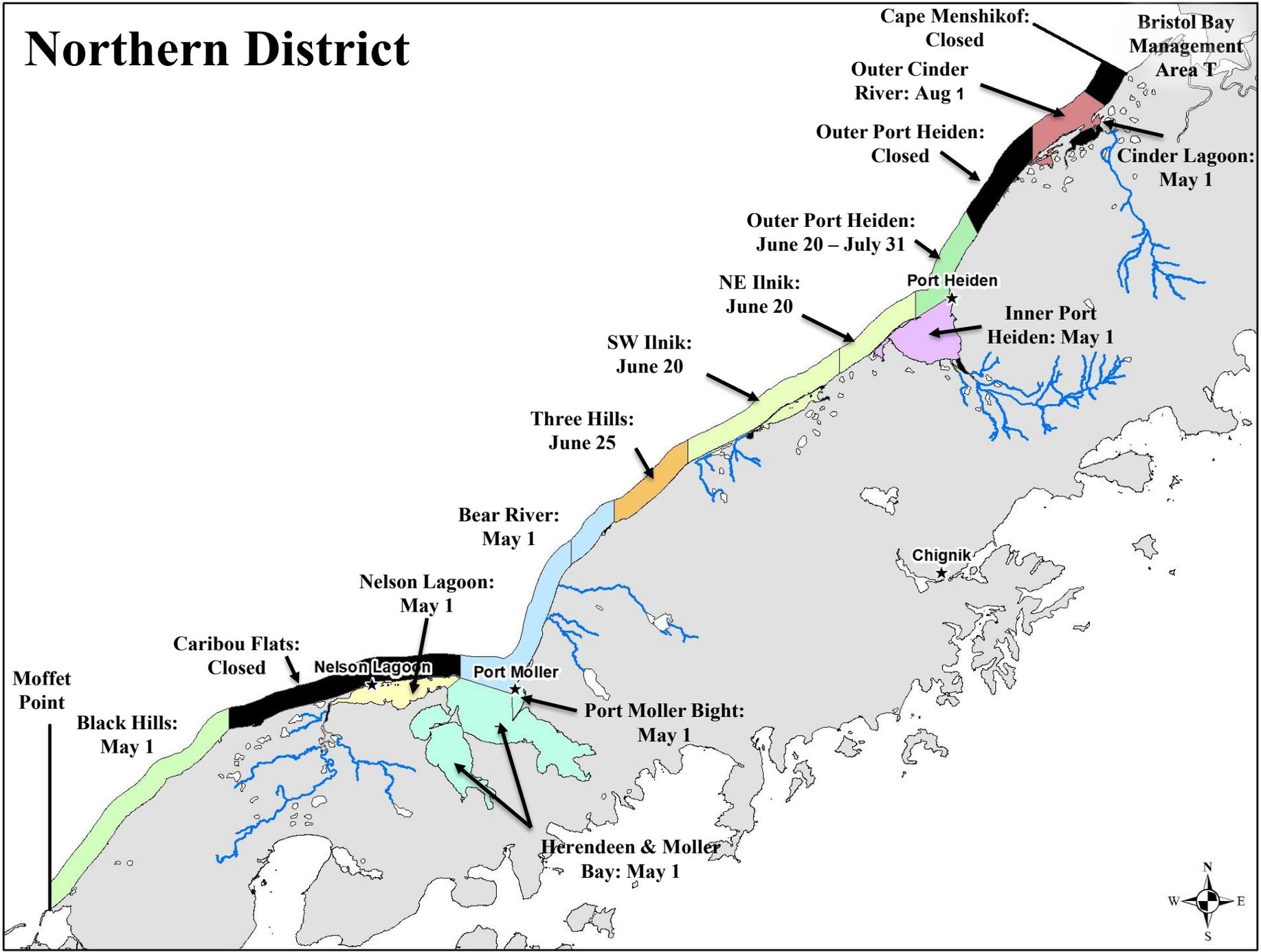
Ilnik Weir – Alisa Aist



North Alaska Peninsula Management Area M



Northern District



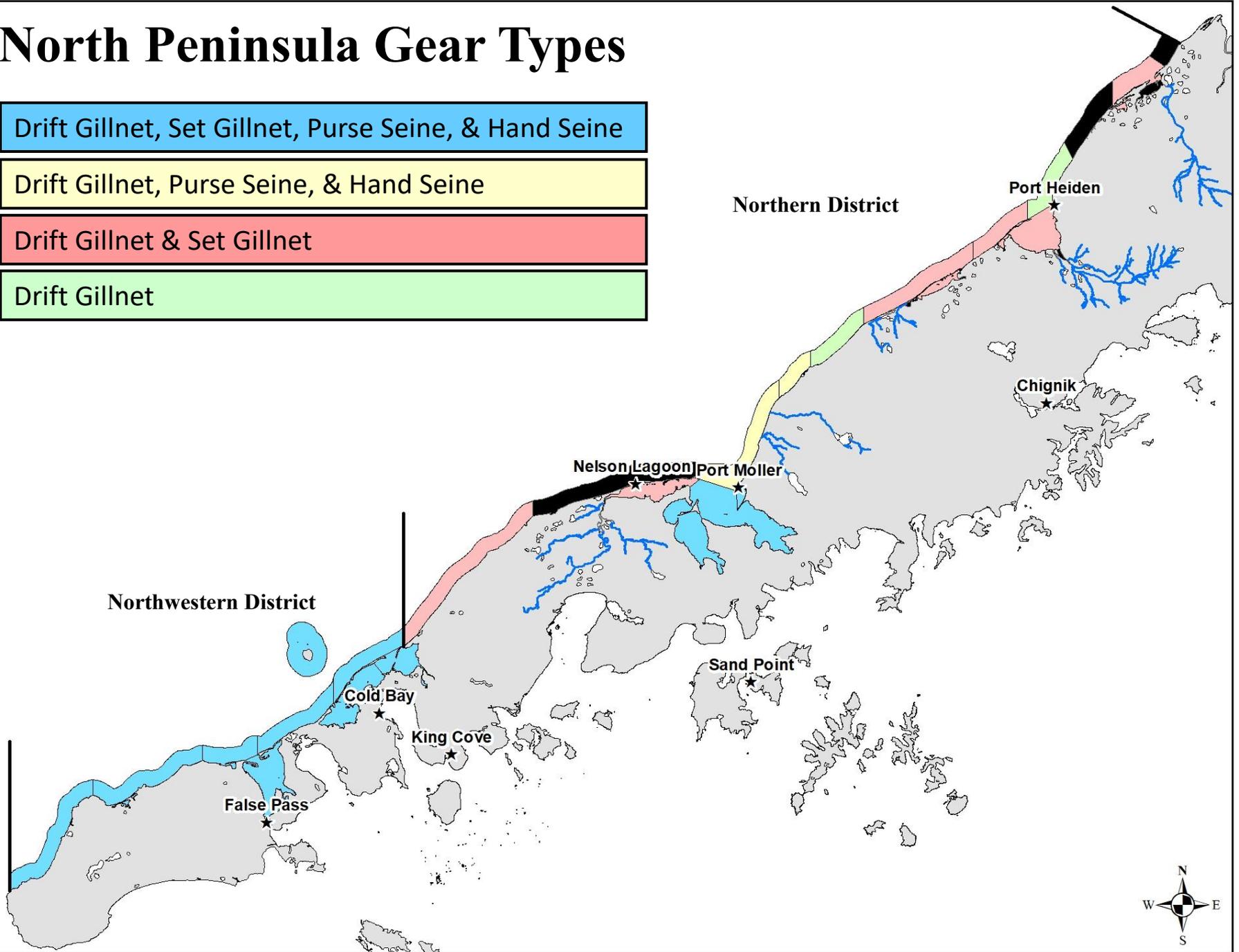
North Peninsula Gear Types

Drift Gillnet, Set Gillnet, Purse Seine, & Hand Seine

Drift Gillnet, Purse Seine, & Hand Seine

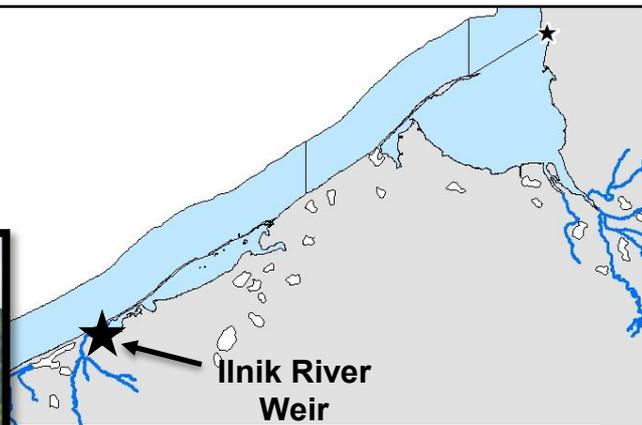
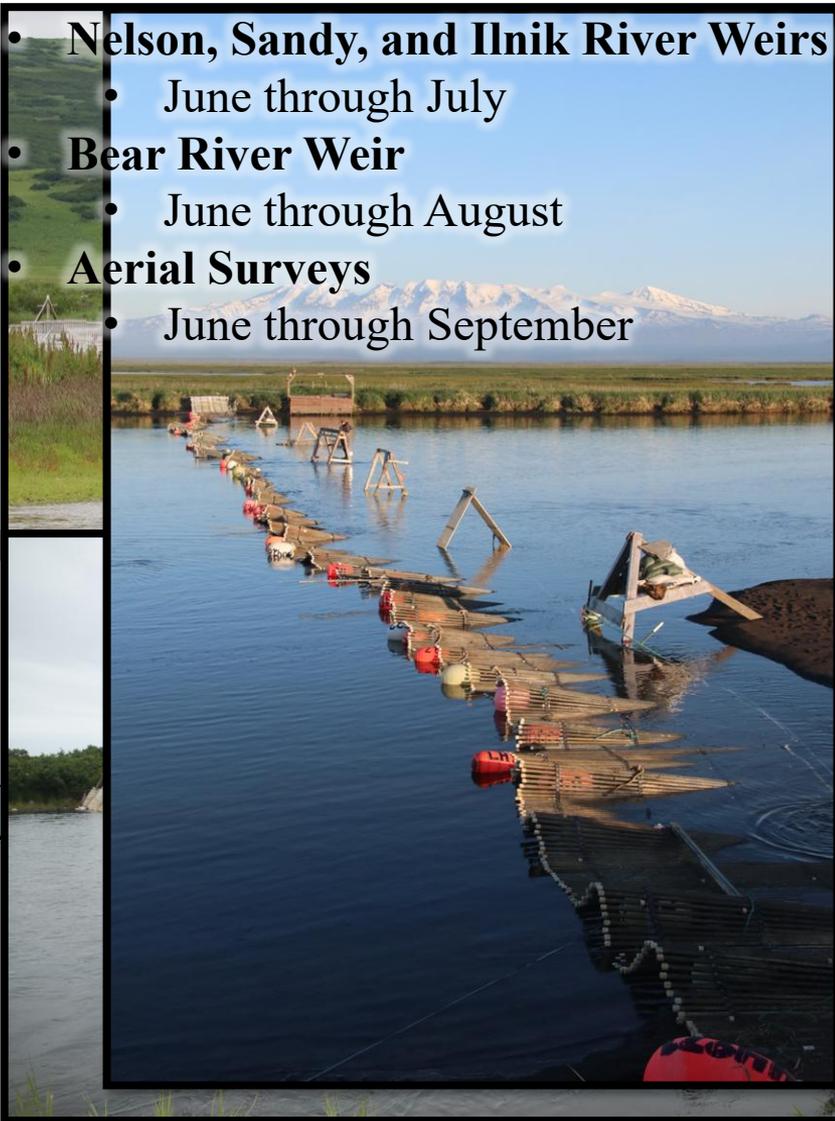
Drift Gillnet & Set Gillnet

Drift Gillnet



North Peninsula Fishery Assessment Tools

- **Nelson, Sandy, and Ilnik River Weirs**
 - June through July
- **Bear River Weir**
 - June through August
- **Aerial Surveys**
 - June through September



North Peninsula Salmon Management

- Escapement Monitoring
 - Weirs
 - Aerial Surveys
- Commercial Harvest
- Test Fisheries
- Age, Sex, Length Data

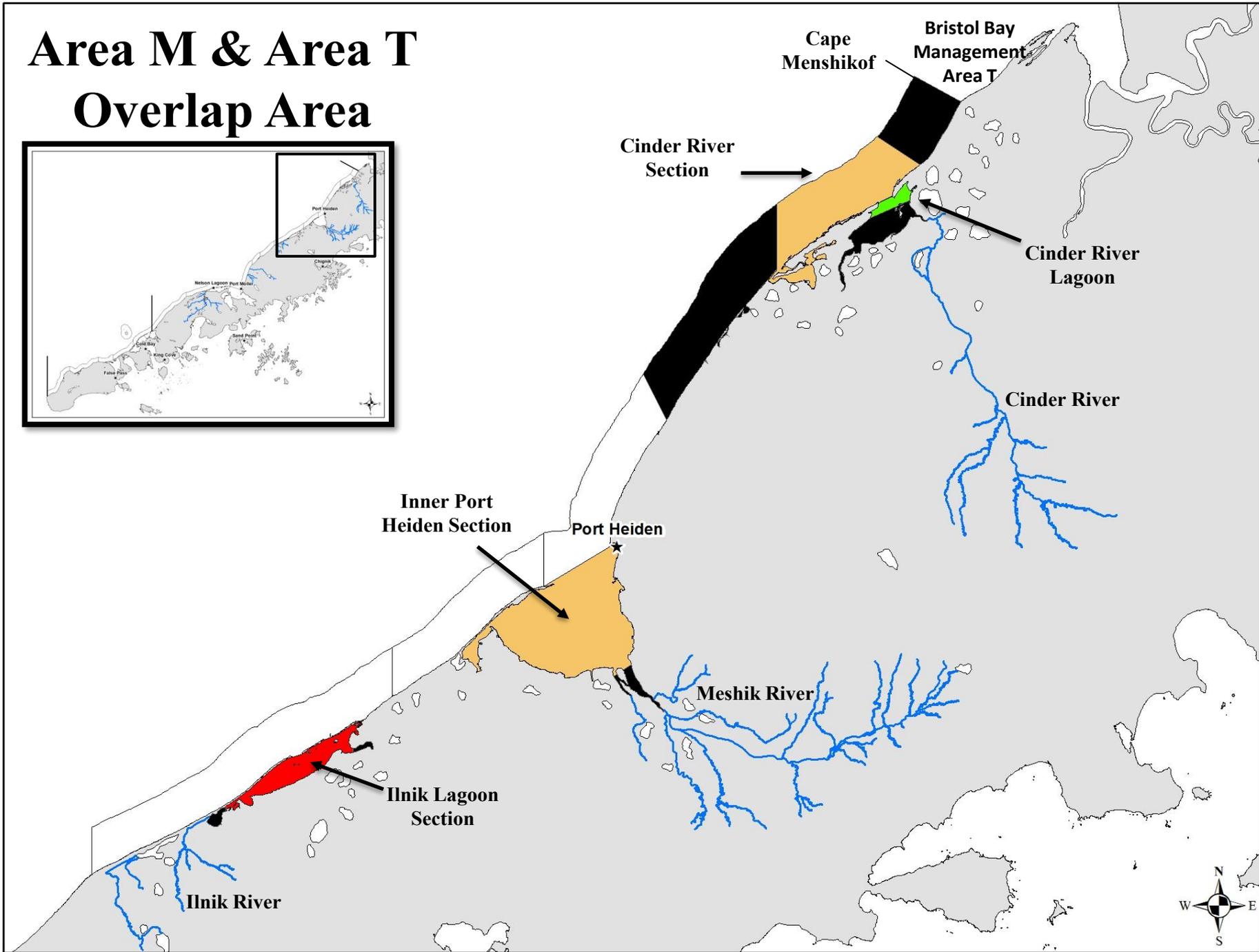
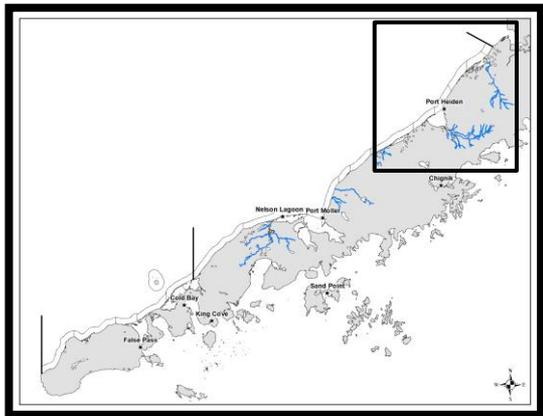


Northern District Sockeye Salmon Stock Management

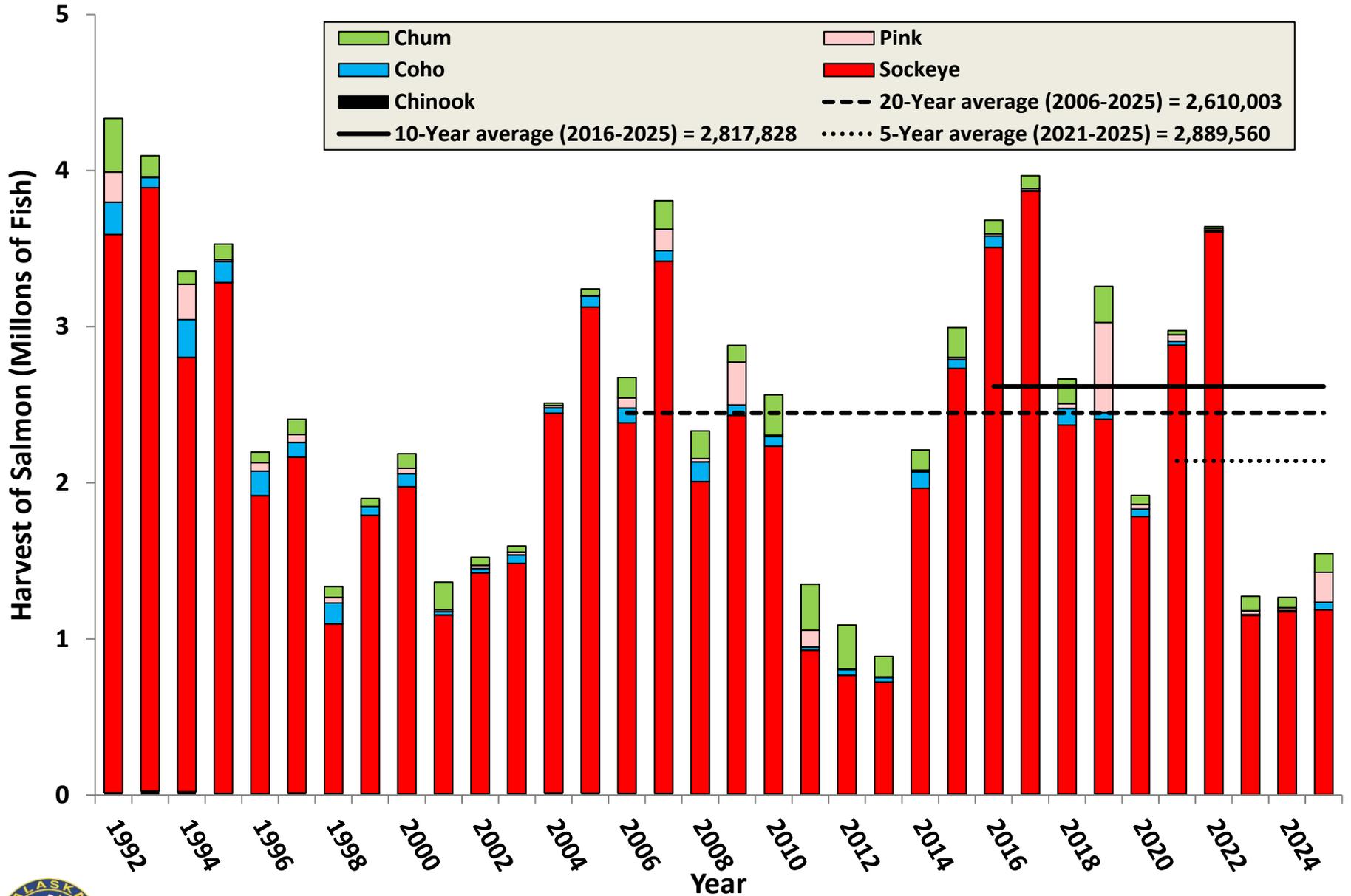
<u>Section</u>	<u>Through July 20</u>	<u>After July 20</u>
Bear River	Bear and Sandy Rivers	Bear and Sandy Rivers
Three Hills	Bear, Sandy, and Ilnik Rivers	Bear and Sandy Rivers
Ilnik – SW of Unangashak Bluffs	Ilnik River	Bear River(<i>through Aug 15</i>)
Ilnik – NE of Unangashak Bluffs	Ilnik and Meshik Rivers	Bear River(<i>through Aug 15</i>)
Outer Port Heiden <i>(June 20 – July 31)</i>	Meshik River	Meshik River



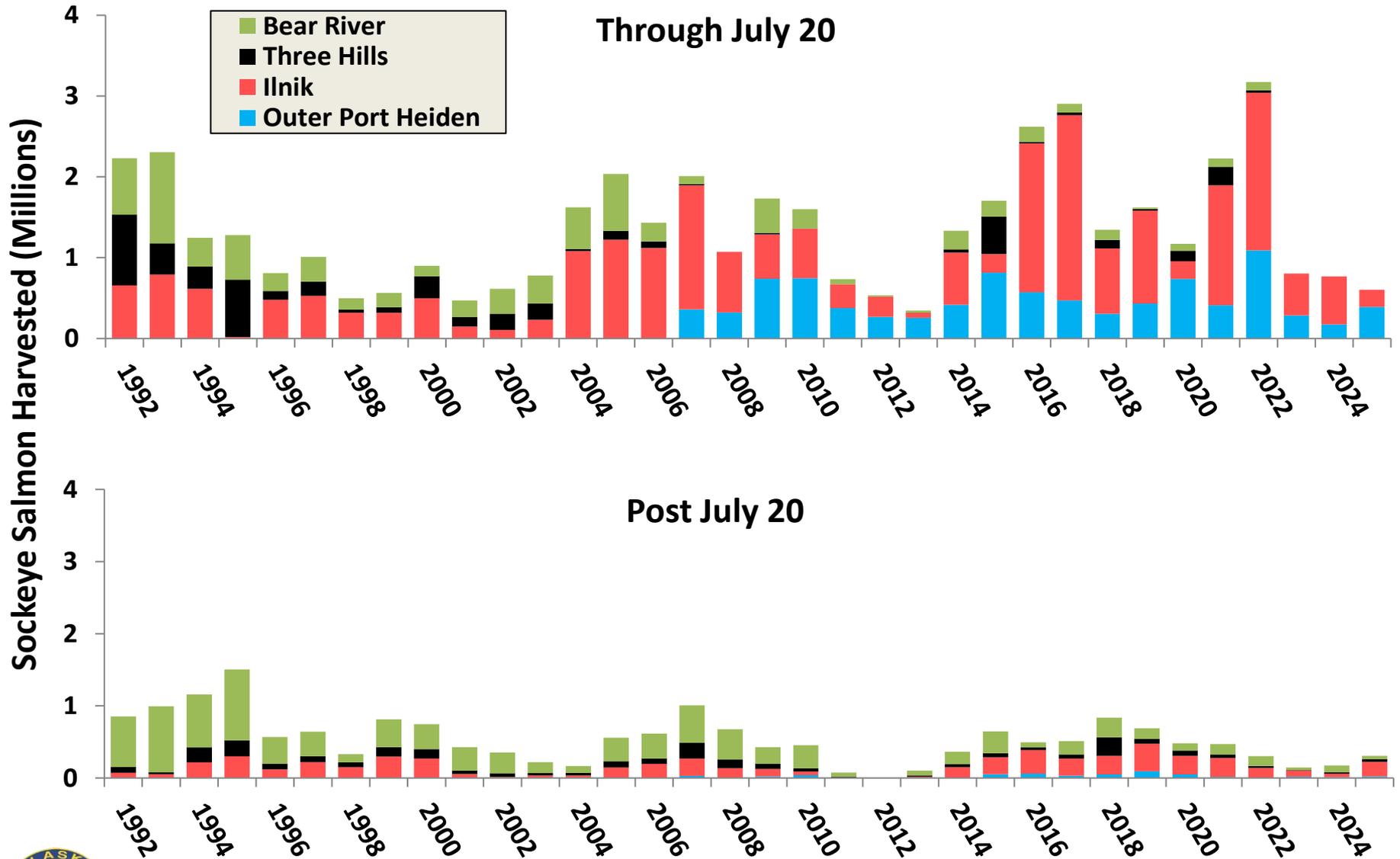
Area M & Area T Overlap Area



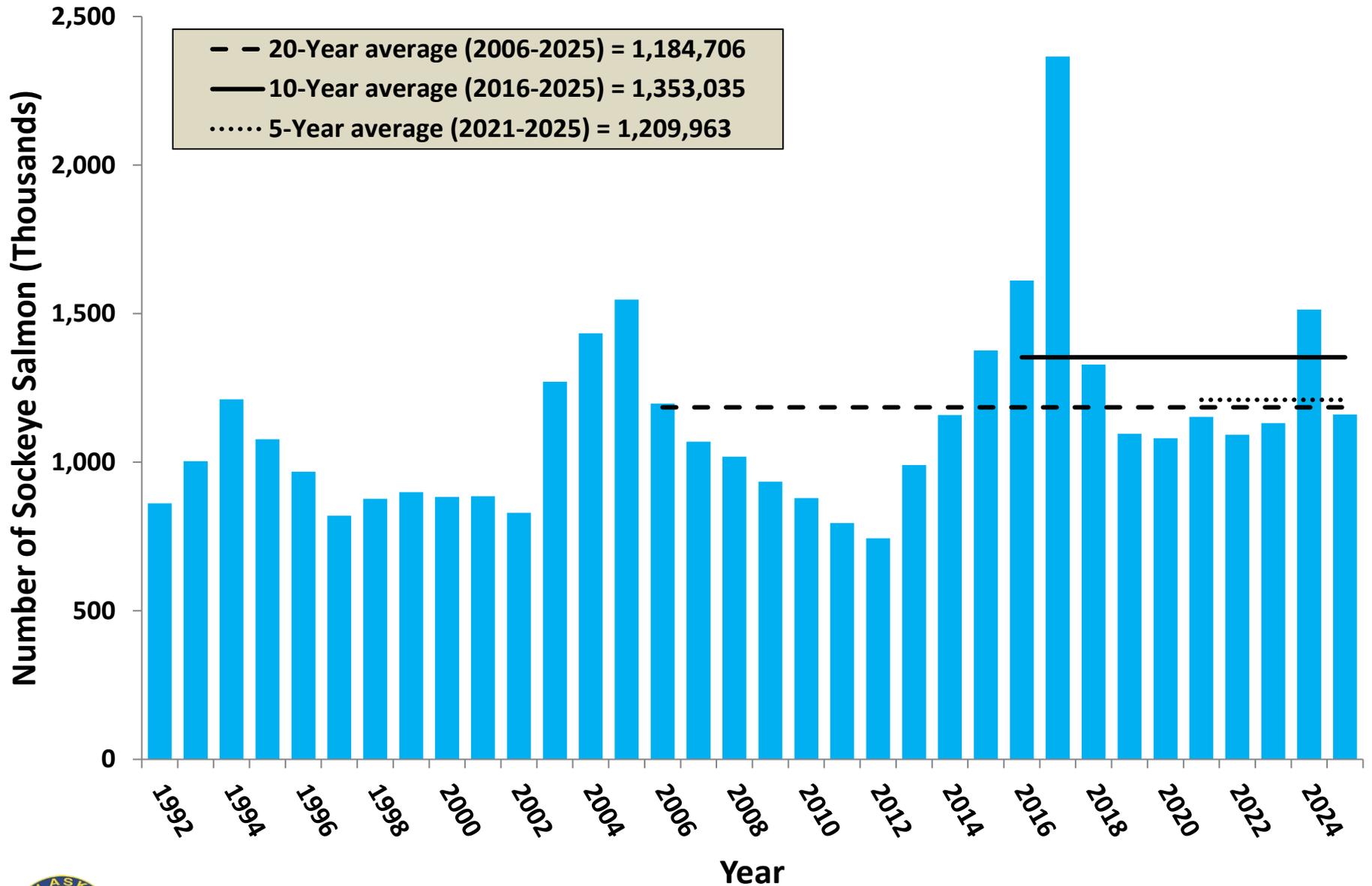
North Peninsula Salmon Harvest, 1992–2025



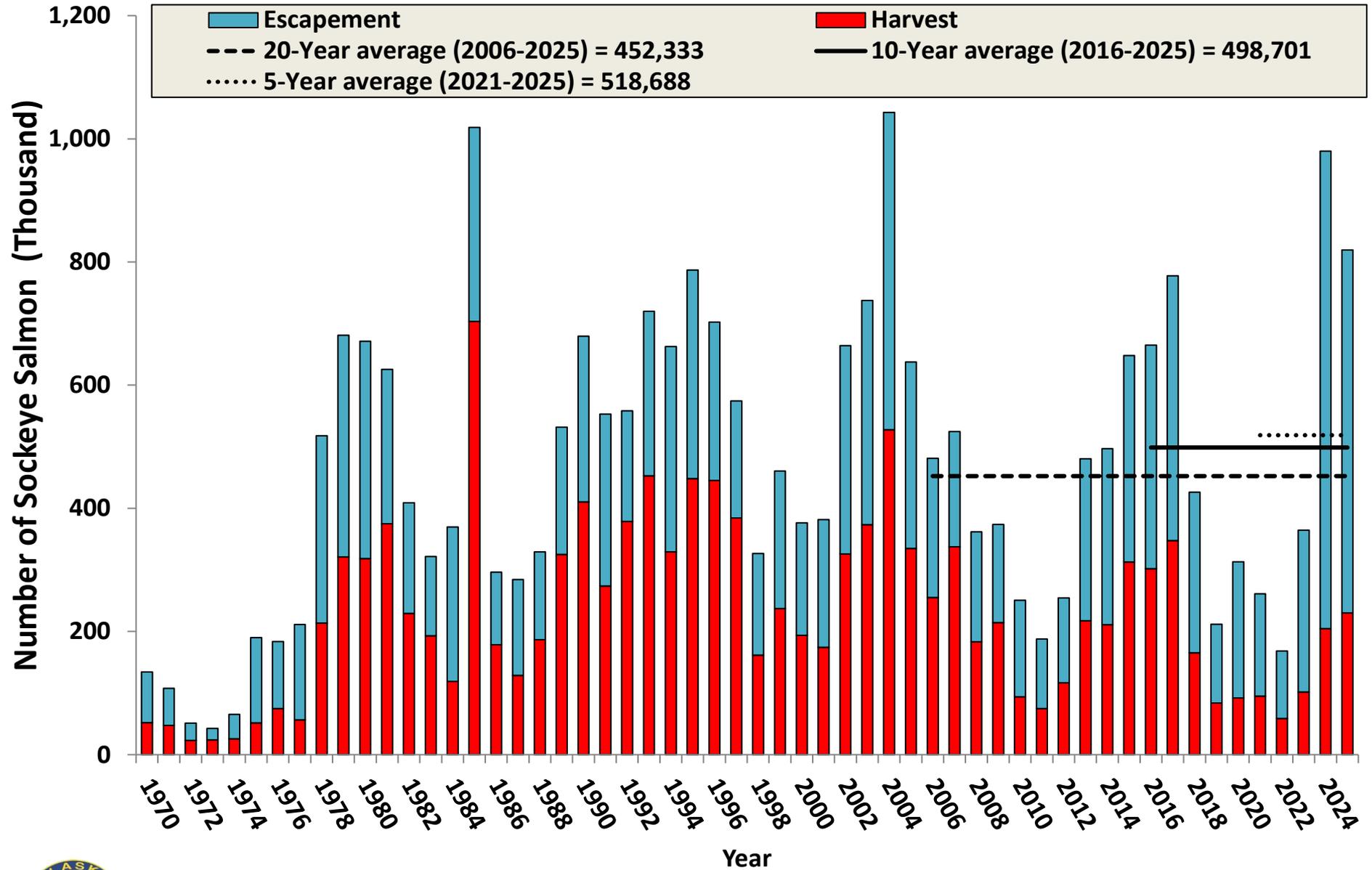
Bear River, Three Hills, Ilnik, and Outer Port Heiden Sections Harvest, Through and Post July 20, 1992–2025



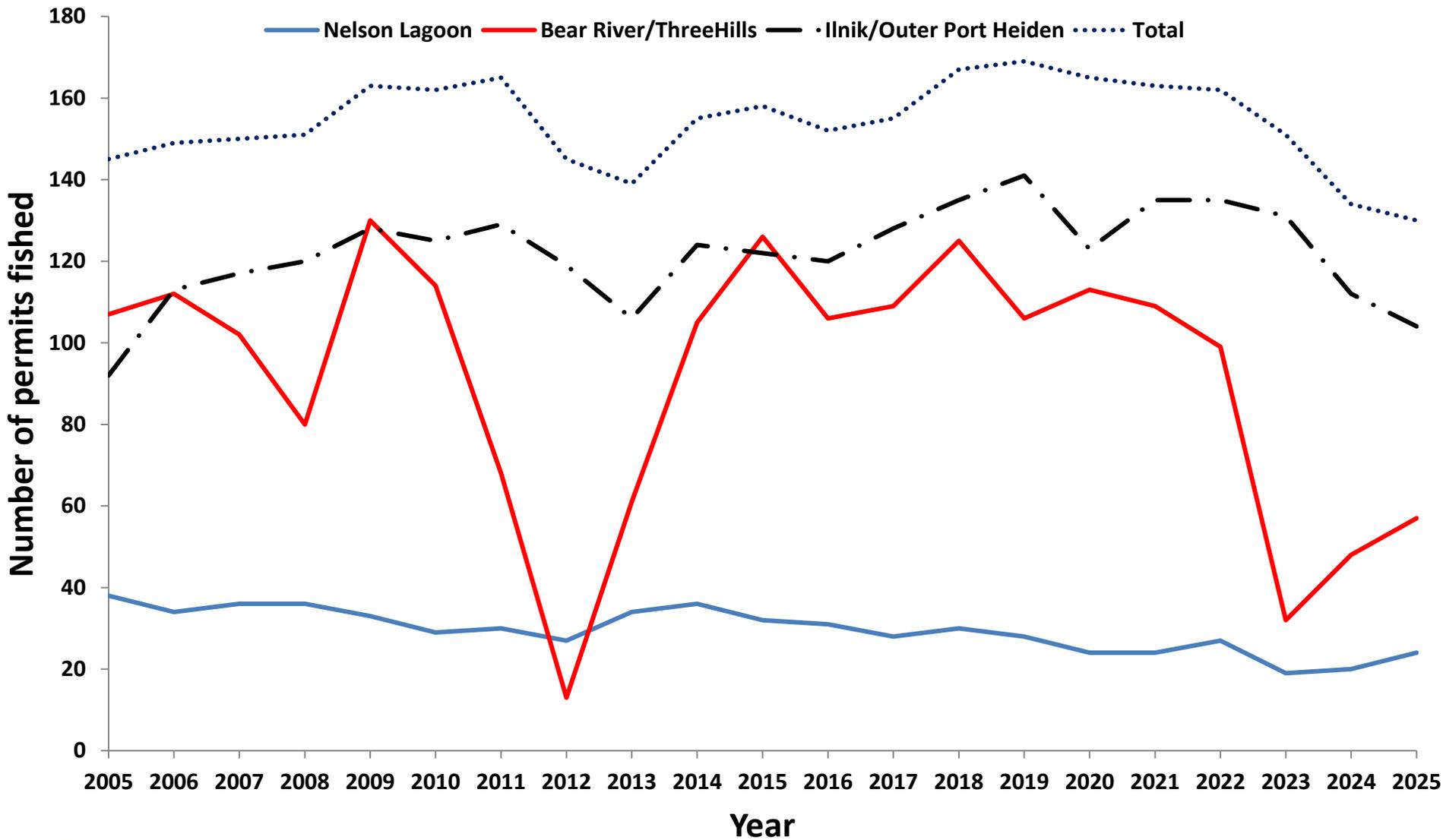
North Peninsula Sockeye Salmon Escapement, 1992–2025



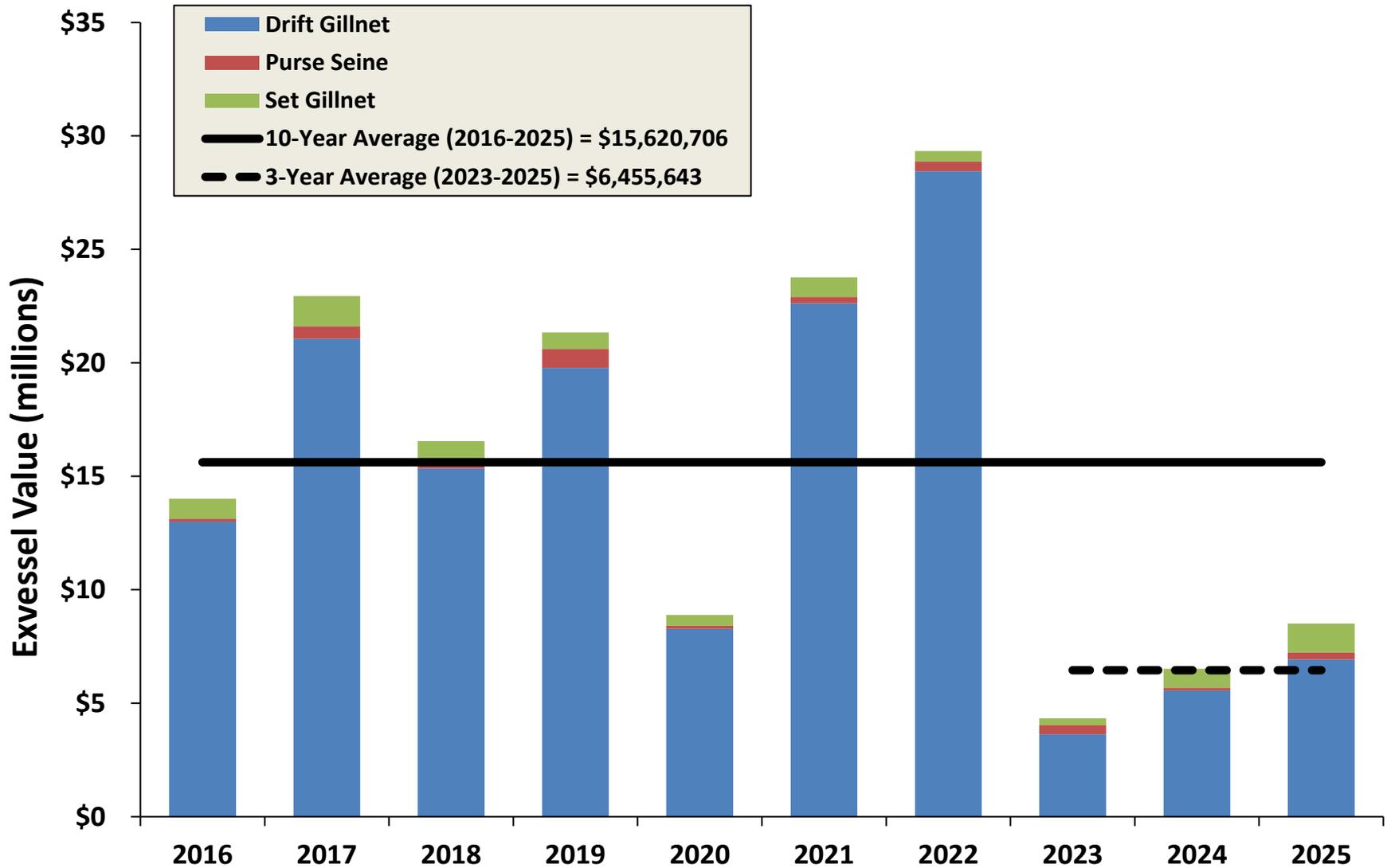
Nelson River Sockeye Salmon Total Run, 1970–2025



Number of permits fished in the Nelson Lagoon, Bear River, Three Hills, Ilnik and Outer Port Heiden sections, 2005-2025



North Peninsula Exvessel Value, 2016-2025



North Peninsula Proposals

Reopen Caribou Flats Section and allow set and drift gillnet gear to fish in the section if the upper end of the Nelson River sockeye salmon biological escapement goal (BEG) is met between June 20 and July 31

Proposal 113

Repeal language from the *Northern District Salmon Fisheries Management Plan* that sunset on December 31, 2018.

Proposal 114

Change the *Northern District Fisheries Management Plan* to increase the time the Ilnik Section is managed during July for Ilnik sockeye and add additional language for the management of Bear River sockeye in the Southwest Ilnik area.

Proposal 115

Add mandatory closures to the Northern District fisheries to conserve Nelson Lagoon sockeye salmon.

Proposal 116

Require steelhead to be reported as bycatch during Northern District commercial coho fisheries.

Proposal 117 & 118



Questions or Comments?



Acknowledgments

- ADF&G Commercial Fisheries Staff
- Will Middleton
- Alisa Aist
- Jeff Wadle

