

Kuskokwim Area stock status and fishery overview

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AYK Board of Fisheries Meeting

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Oral Report: RC 3; Tab 10

Written Report: RC 3; Tab 3



Kuskokwim River salmon management strategies

Sport and commercial fishery restrictions

Subsistence fishery- in times of conservation

- Front end closure
- Tributary gillnet closures
- Gear restrictions
 - Mesh and length
 - Selective gears (hook and line, beach seine and dipnet) with live release



Kuskokwim River management structure

Alaska Board of Fisheries

Federal Subsistence Board

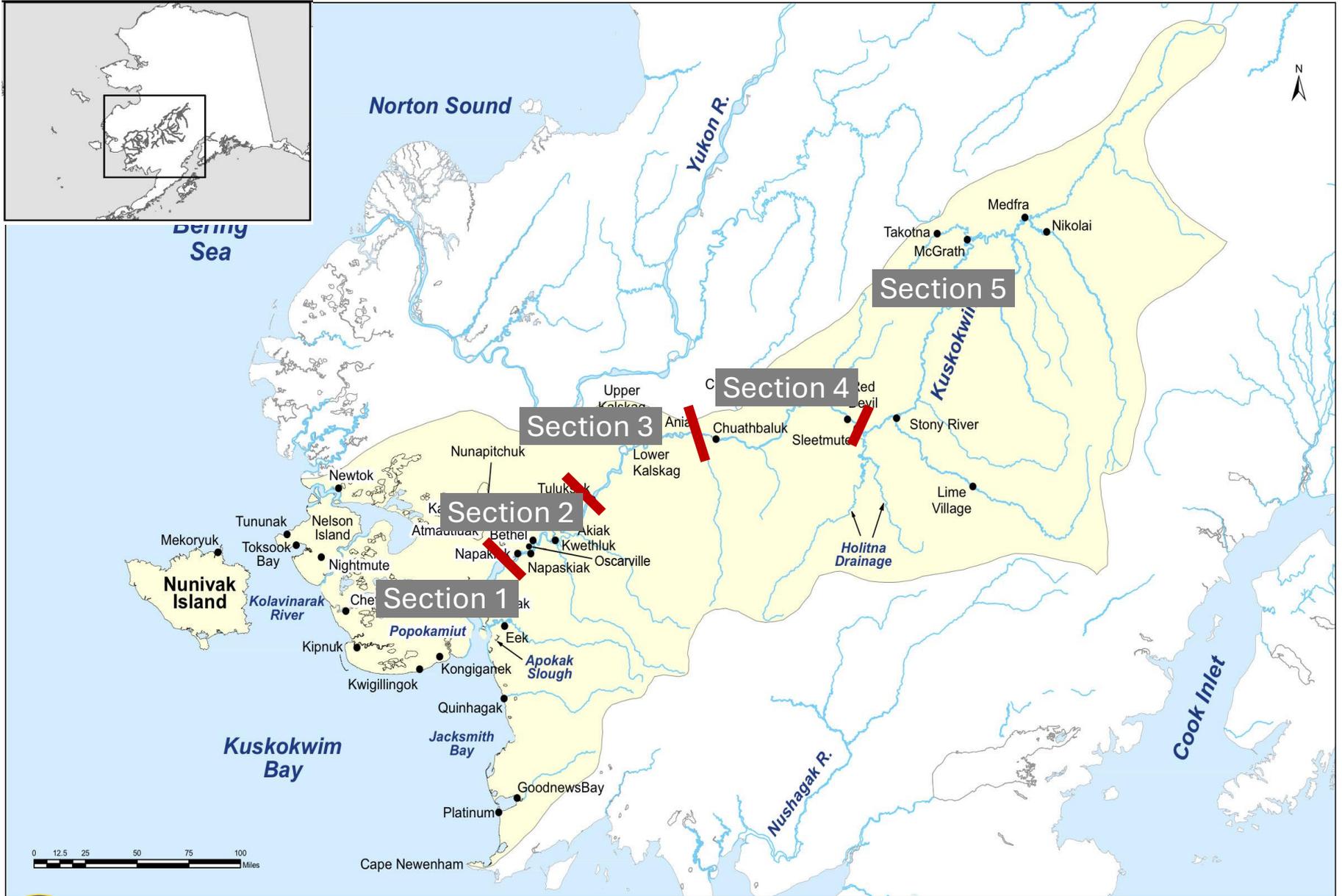


Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group

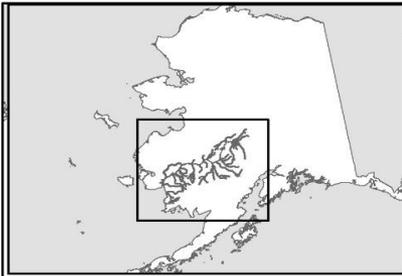


KUSKOKWIM RIVER
INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION





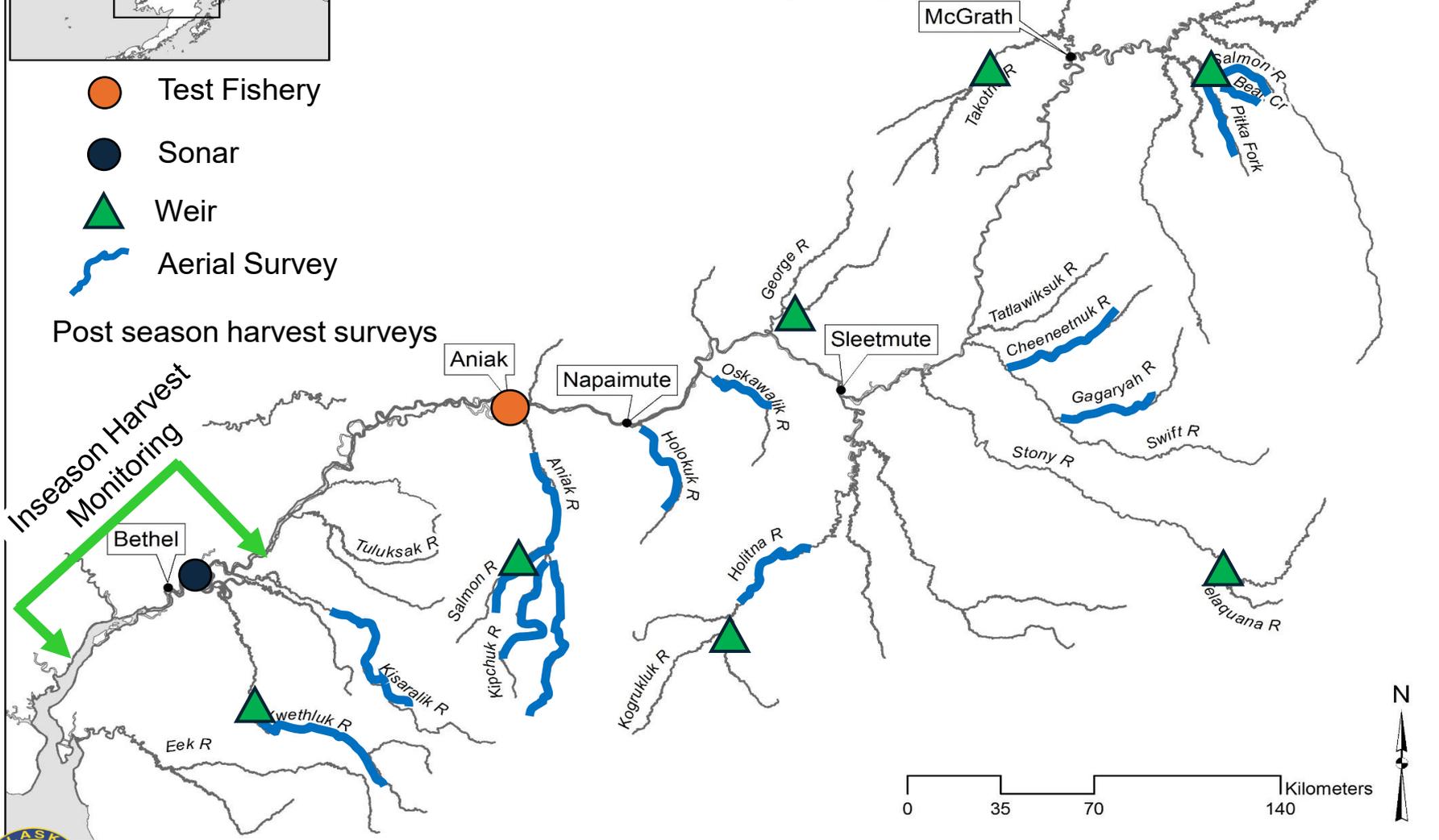
Kuskokwim River assessment projects



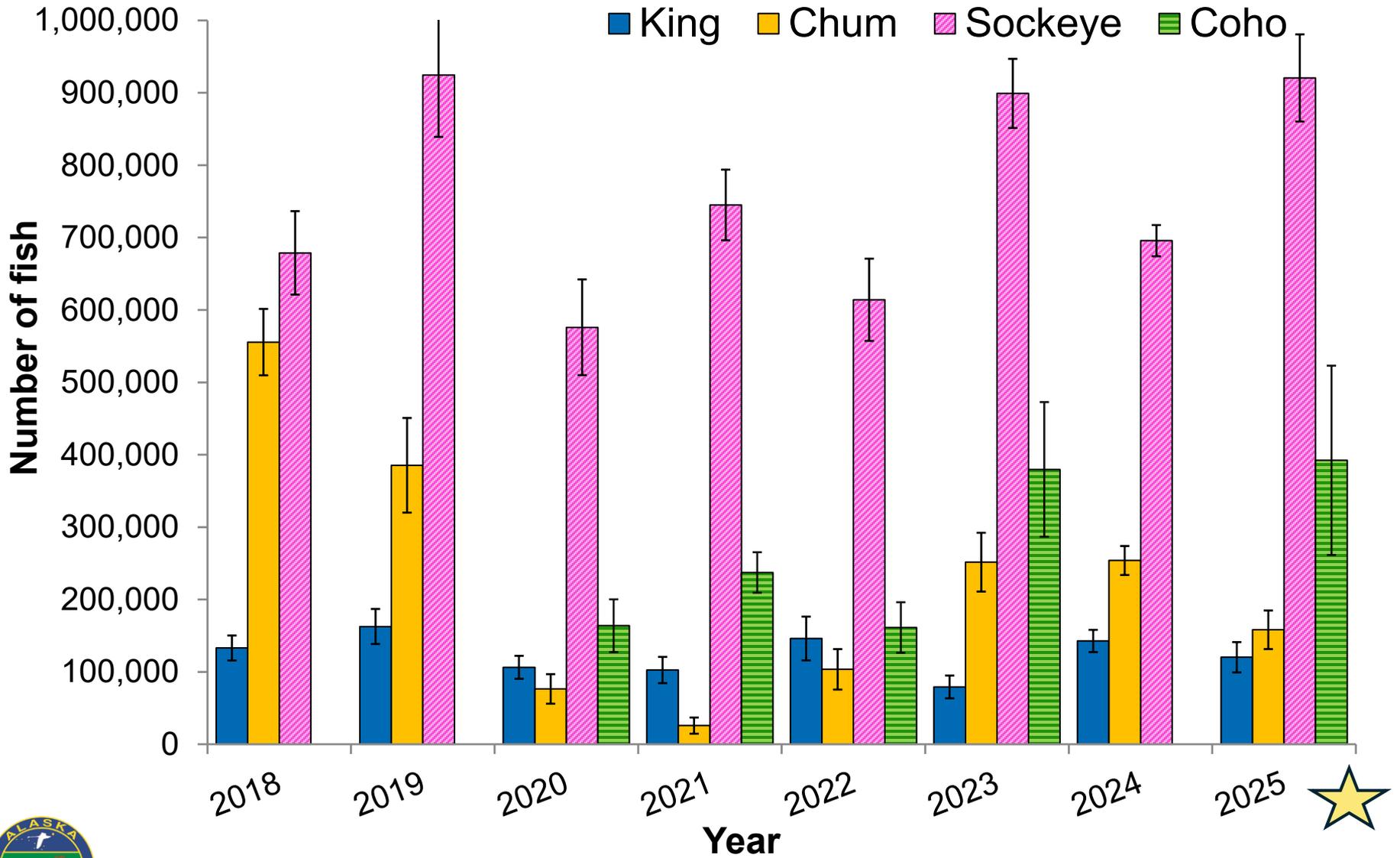
- Test Fishery
- Sonar
- ▲ Weir
- ~ Aerial Survey

Post season harvest surveys

Inseason Harvest Monitoring



Kuskokwim sonar passage by species



Escapement goal performance Kuskokwim River

Chinook salmon		Method	SEG range	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Kuskokwim River	Run Reconstruction		65,000-120,000	Over	Met	Met	Met	Met	Over	Met
	Kwethluk River	weir	4,100-7,500	Over	NS	NS	Met	NS	NS	NS
	George River	weir	1,800-3,300	Over	Met	Met	Over	Met	Met	Met
	Kogrukluk River	weir	4,800-8,800	Over	Met	Met	Met	NS	NS	Over
	Kogrukuk River	weir	4,800-8,800	Over	Met	Met	Met	NS	NS	Over
	Salmon River (Pitka Fork)	AS	470-1,600	Over	Met	NS	NS	Met	Met	Met

Chum Salmon

	Kogrukluk River	weir	15,000-49,000	Over	Met	Under	Under	NS	NS	Met
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Sockeye salmon

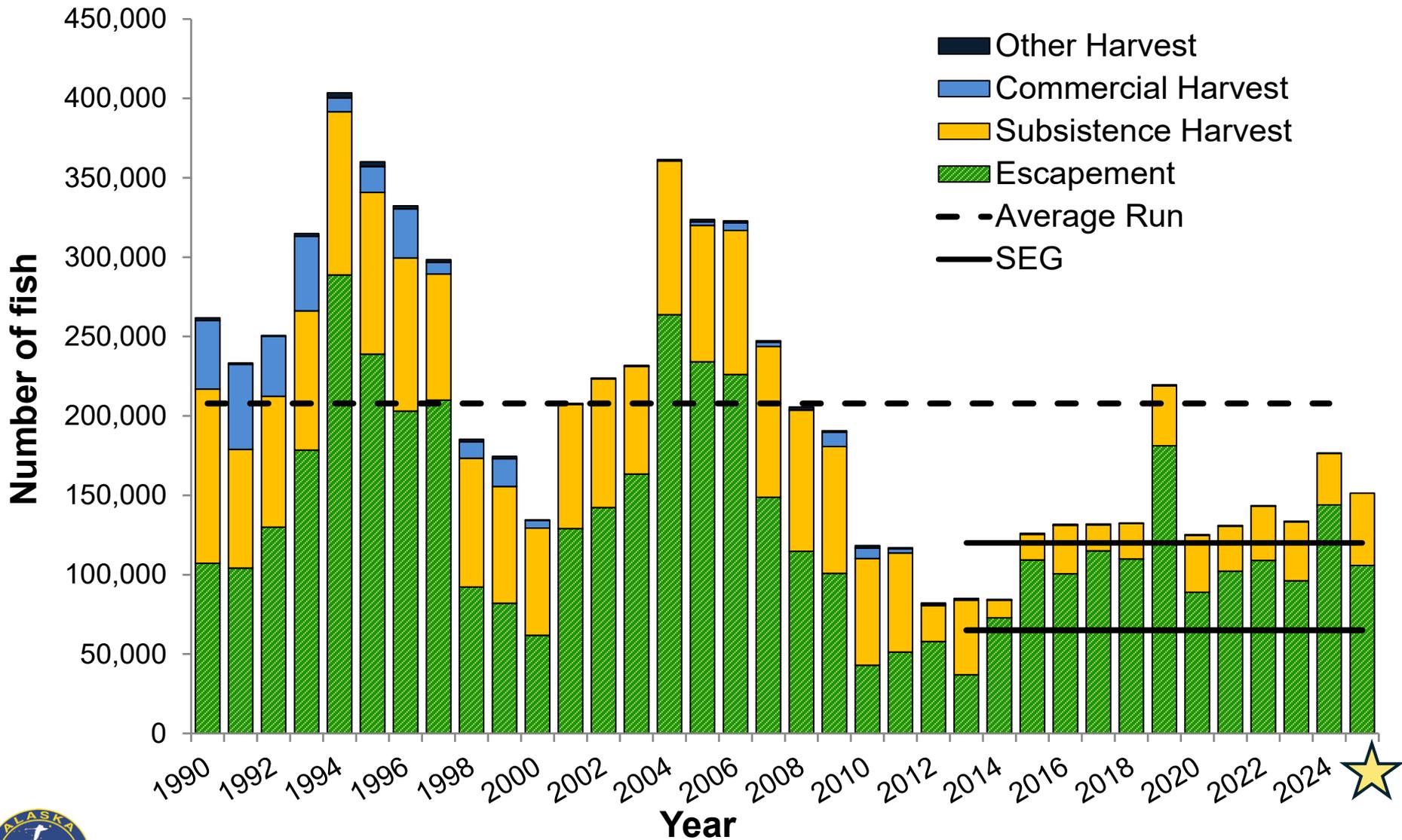
	Kogrukluk River	weir	4,400-17,000	Over	Met	Met	Met	NS	NS	Over
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Coho salmon

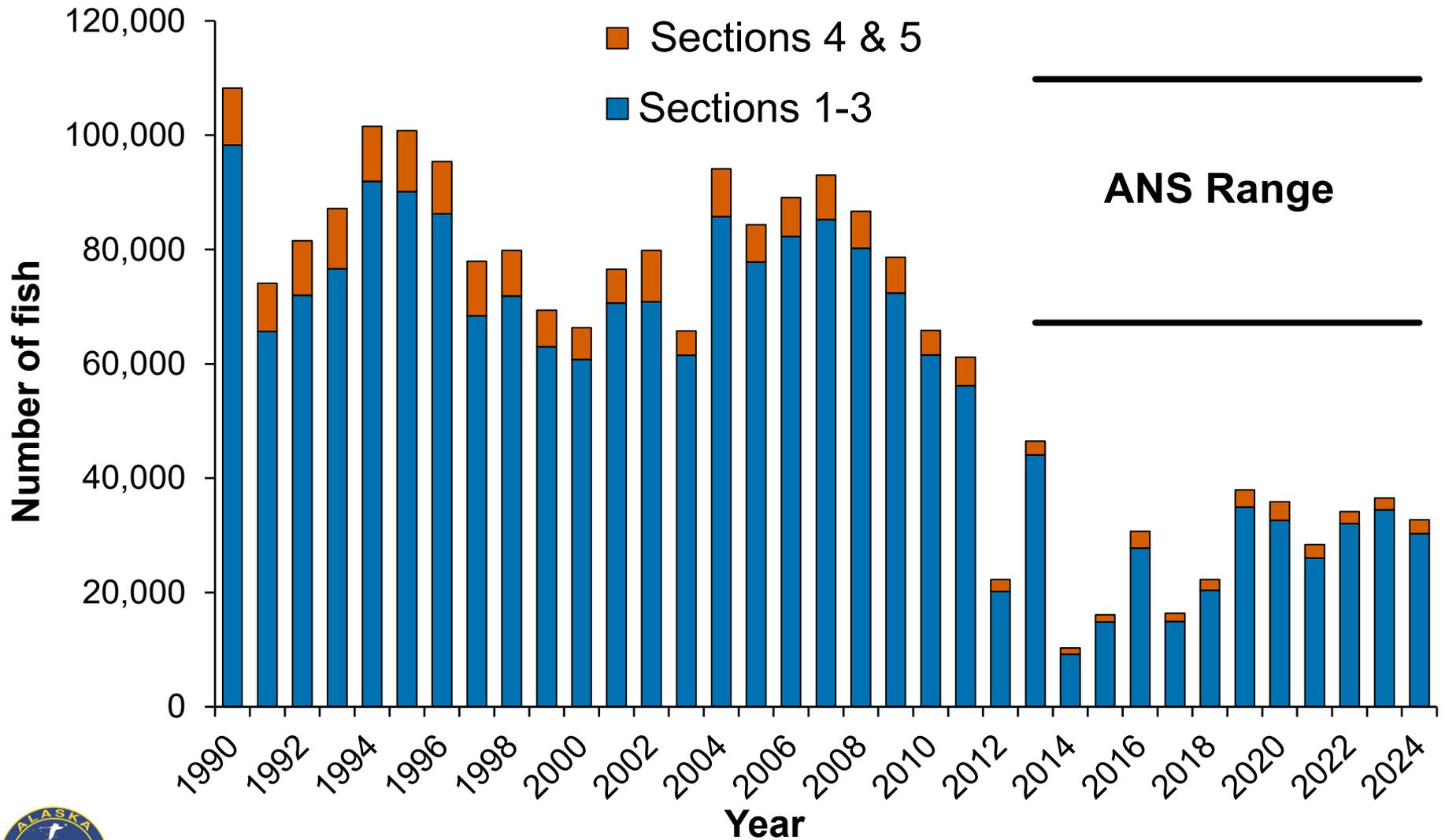
	Kwethluk River	weir	>19,000	Met	NS	NS	Under	Met	NS	NS
	Kogrukluk River	weir	13,000-28,000	Met	NS	Met	NS	Over	Met	NS



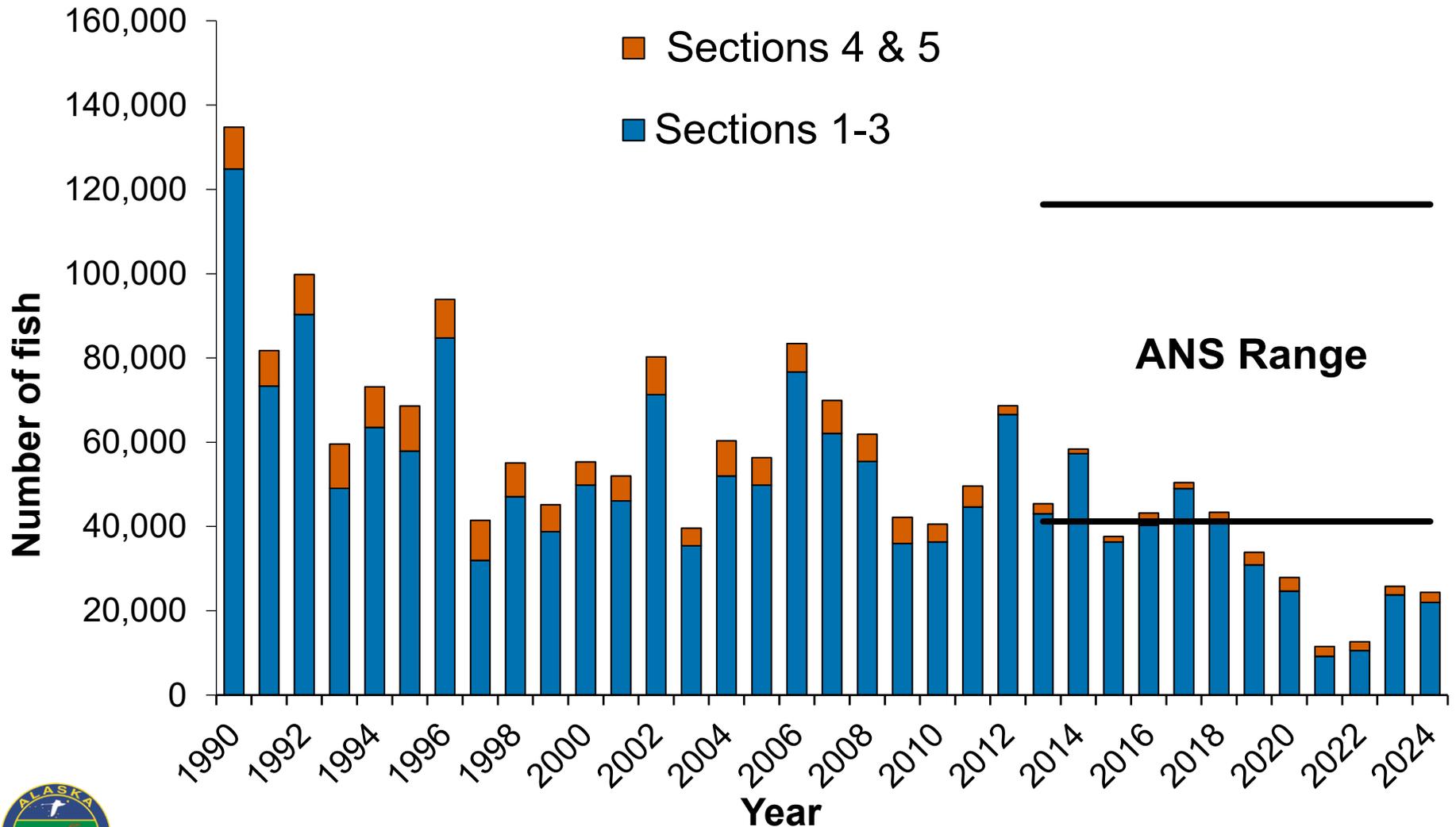
Kuskokwim River king salmon total run



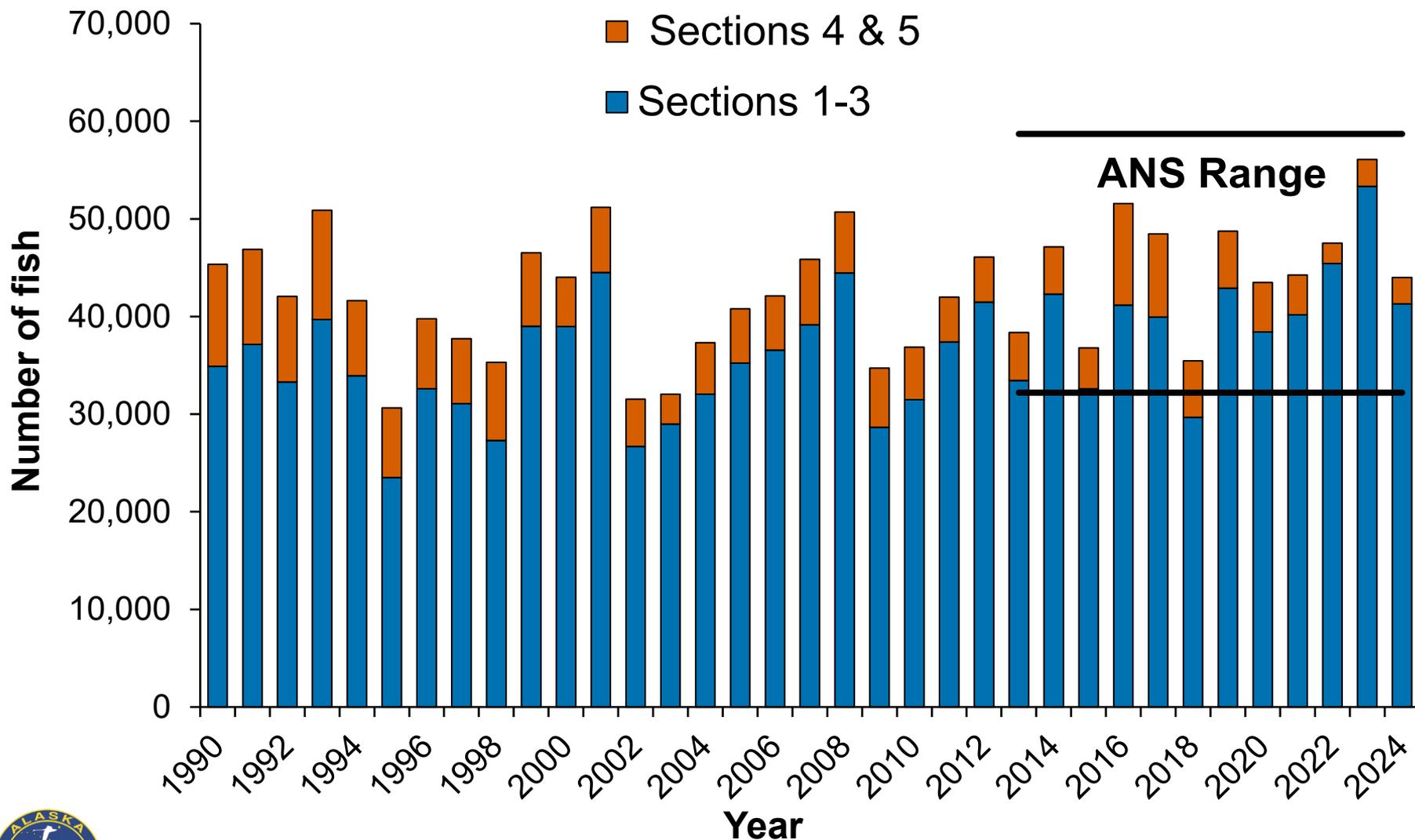
Kuskokwim River king salmon subsistence harvest, 1990–2024



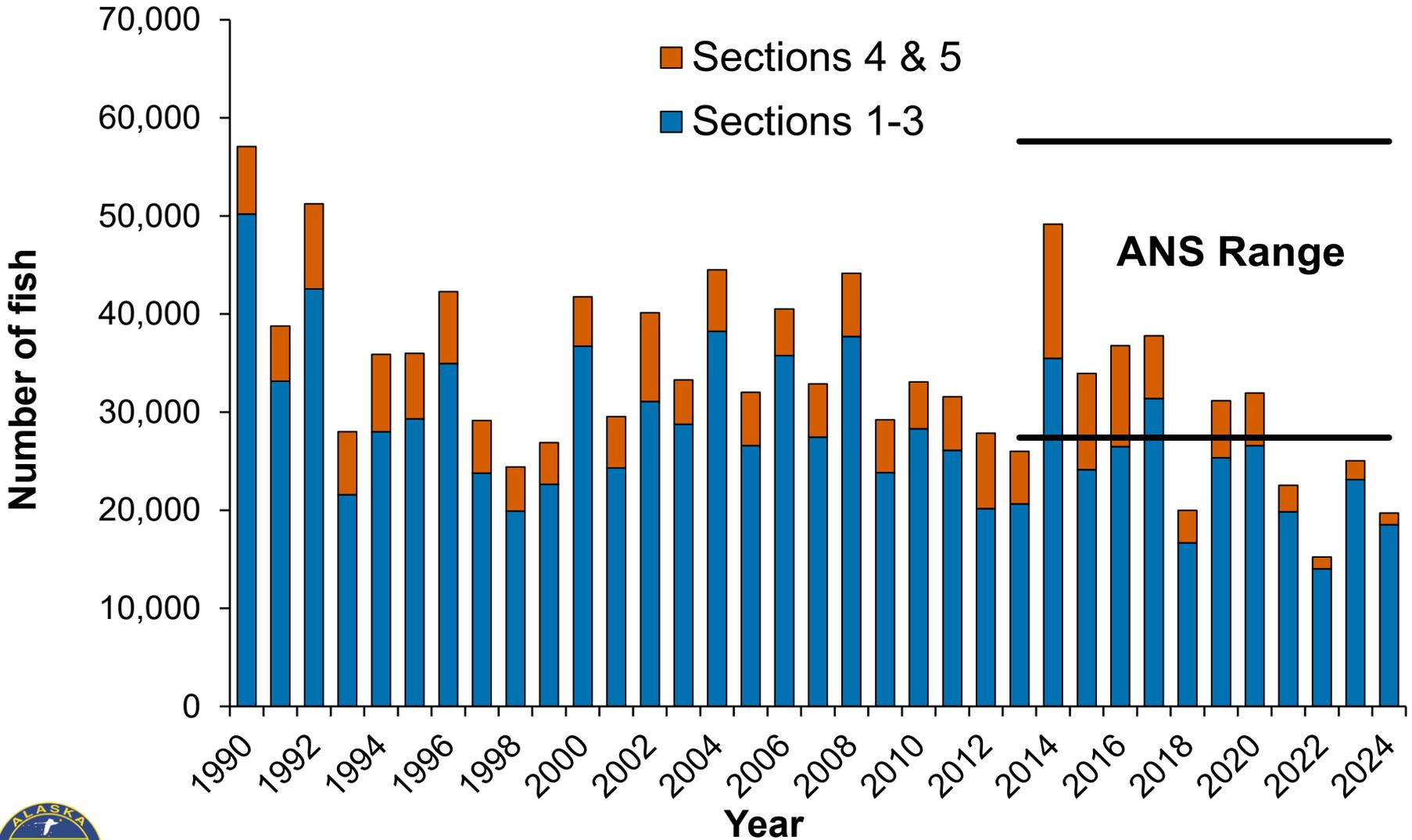
Kuskokwim River chum salmon subsistence harvest, 1990-2025



Kuskokwim River sockeye salmon subsistence harvest, 1990-2024



Kuskokwim River coho salmon subsistence harvest, 1990-2024



Kuskokwim Bay assessment projects

Historically: weirs on
Kanektok and Goodnews
rivers

Currently:

- Local knowledge
- Aerial surveys
- Post season subsistence harvest survey



Escapement goal performance Kuskokwim Bay

Chinook salmon	Method	SEG range	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
North (Main) Fork Goodnews R.	AS	640-3,300	Met	Met	Met	NS	Over	NS	NS
Middle Fork Goodnews River	weir	1,500-3,600	Over	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
Kanektok River	AS	3,900-12,000	Met	Met	Met	NS	Met	Met	Met

Chum salmon

Middle Fork Goodnews River	weir	>12,000	Met	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
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Sockeye salmon

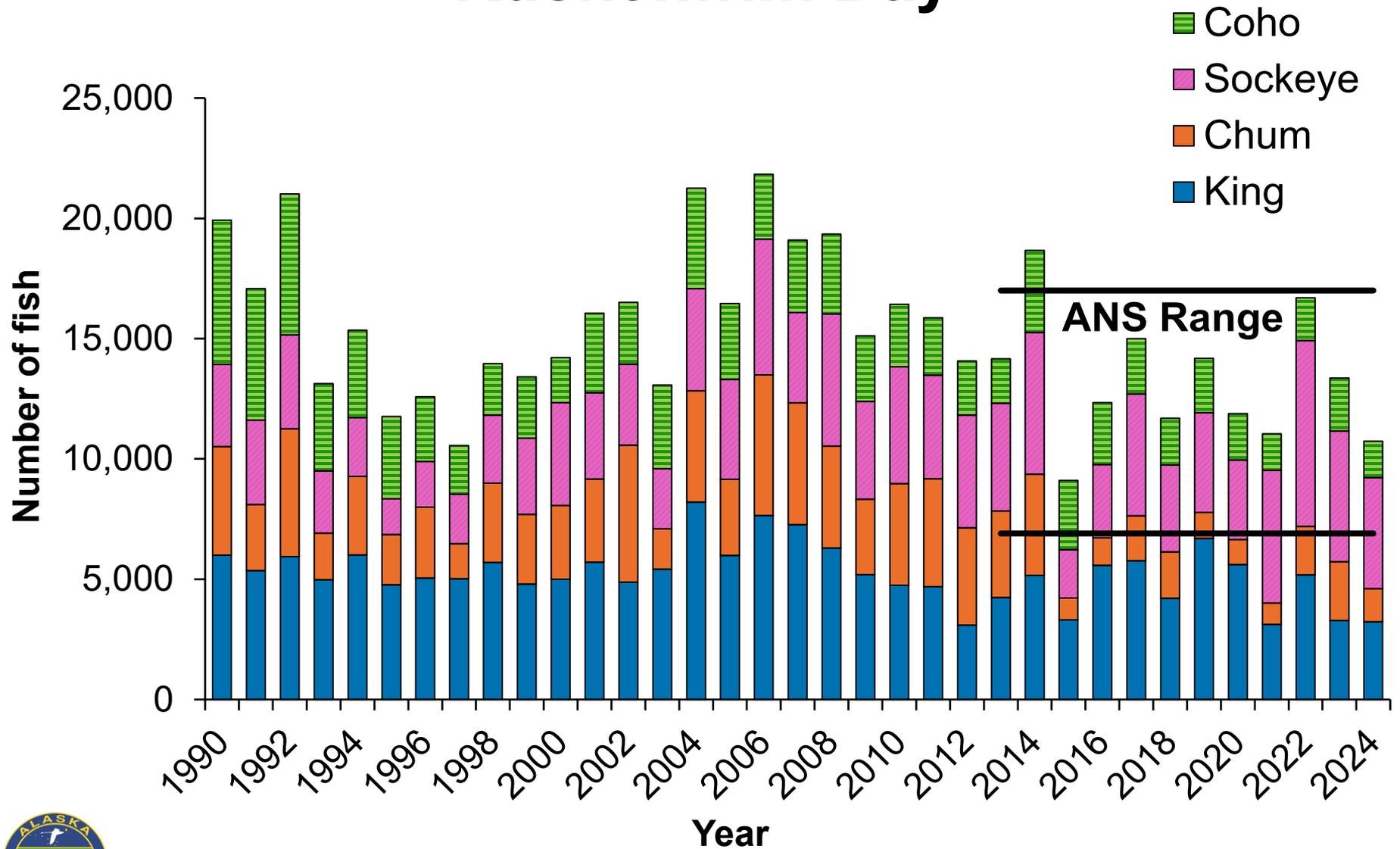
North (Main) Fork Goodnews R.	AS	9,600-18,000	Over	Over	Over	NS	Over	NS	NS
Middle Fork Goodnews River	weir	22,000-43,000	Over	Under	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
Kanektok River	AS	15,300-41,000	Over	Over	Over	NS	Over	Over	NS

Coho salmon

Middle Fork Goodnews River	weir	>12,000	NS						
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Total subsistence salmon harvest Kuskokwim Bay



Districts 4 and 5 management strategies

Subsistence fishery

- District 4 regulations
 - June 1-July 15 fishing closed on Sunday
 - One net per boat

Commercial fishery

- Local interest in a commercial fishery but no processor



Kuskokwim management area proposal 2025

Subsistence Fishing

- Proposal 12: 5 AAC 01.270 Lawful gear and gear specifications.
 - Add eel sticks as legal subsistence gear for lamprey.



Questions?

