### **Alaska Salmon Research Task Force**

Presentation to the AKRTF

November 14, 2023

Presented by:

Ed Farley NOAA Fisheries Alaska Fisheries Science Center Juneau, AK

**AKSRTF** - Chair



Reference: S.3429 An Act

## **Purposes of the Act**

- to ensure that Pacific salmon trends in Alaska regarding productivity and abundance are characterized and that research needs are identified;
- 2. to prioritize scientific research needs for Pacific salmon in Alaska;
- to address the increased variability or decline in Pacific salmon returns in Alaska by creating a coordinated salmon research strategy; and
- 4. to support collaboration and coordination for Pacific salmon conservations efforts in Alaska.

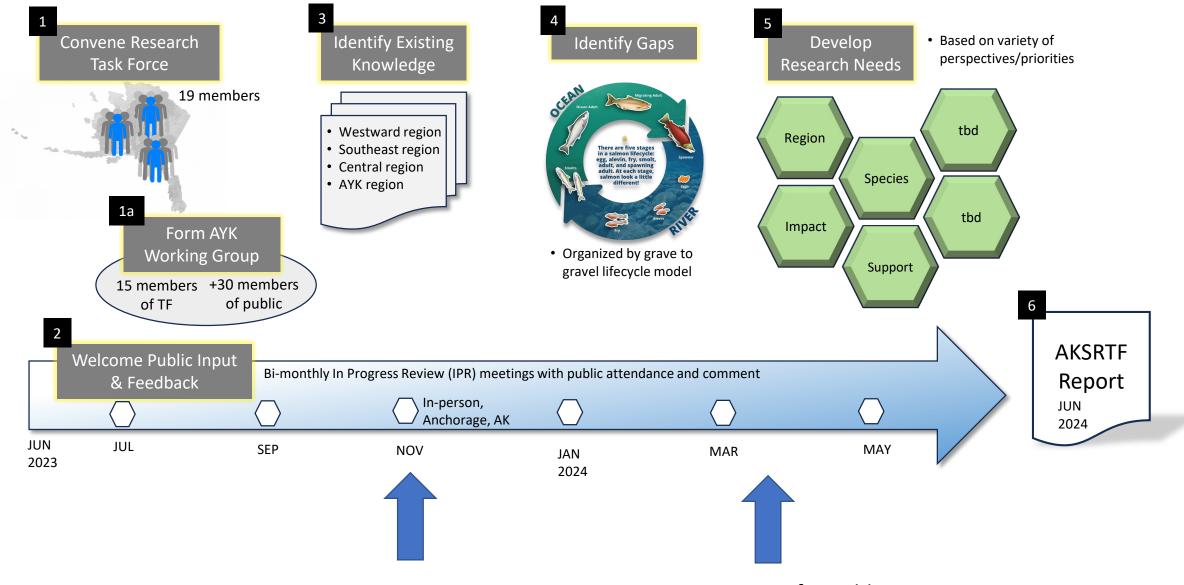


## Duties

- EXISTING KNOWLEDGE: Review Pacific salmon science relevant to understanding salmon returns in Alaska
- IDENTIFY GAPS: Identify scientific research Gaps in understanding the Pacific salmon life cycle in Alaska
- 3. RECOMMEND RESEARCH: Recommendations on filling knowledge gaps that warrant further scientific inquiry



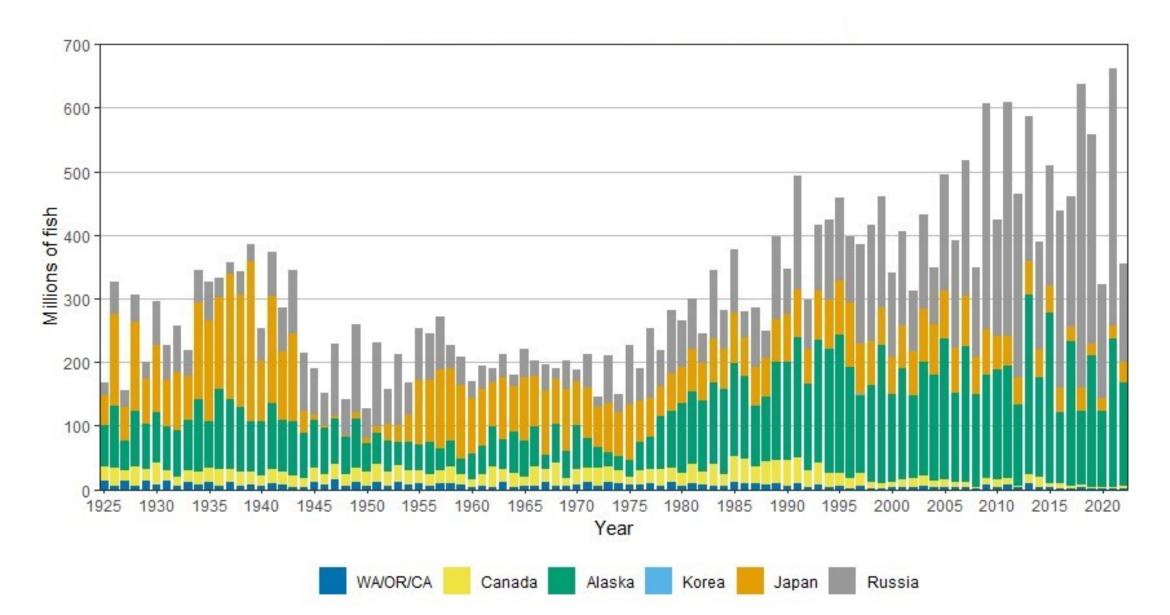
#### Alaska Salmon Research Task Force (AKSRTF) Process Overview



**DRAFT Report for Public Review** 

### Commercial Catch of Pacific Salmon

ACT: salmon productivity trends in other regions, both domestic and international, that put AK salmon populations in a broader geographic context



### Alaska Regions



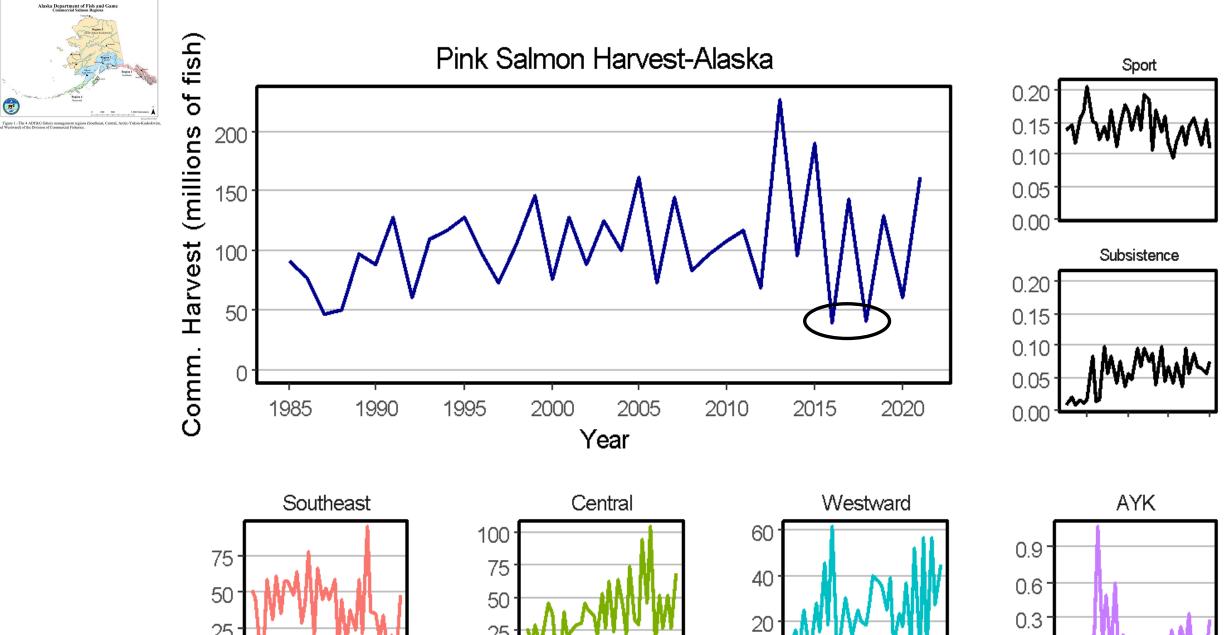
Figure 1.-The 4 ADF&G fishery management regions (Southeast, Central, Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim, and Westward) of the Division of Commercial Fisheries.

Arctic Yukon Kuskokwim – Yellow

Westward – Green

Central – Blue

Southeast - Red



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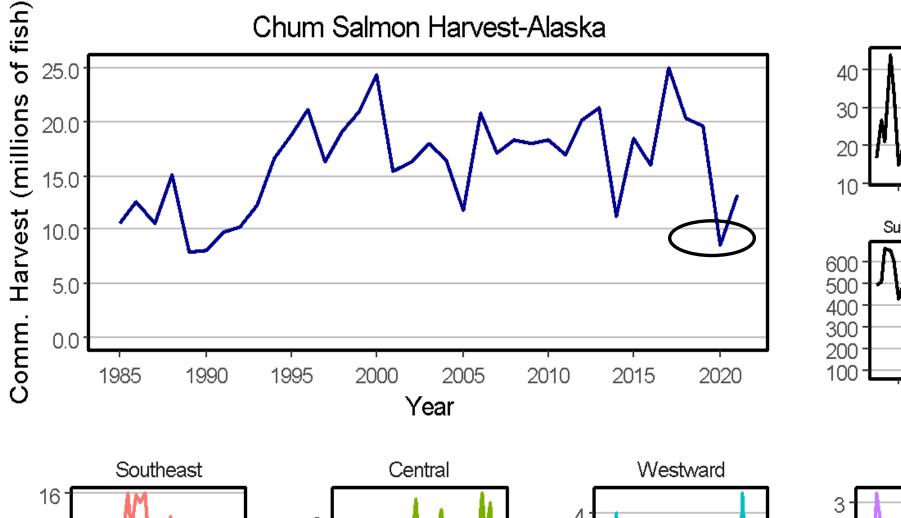
**High Variability** 

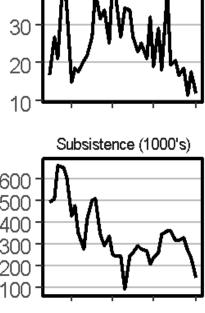
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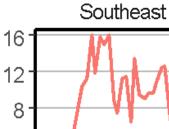
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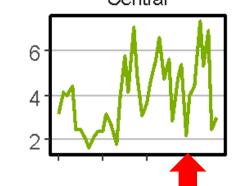


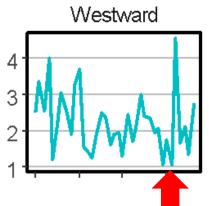


Sport (1000's)

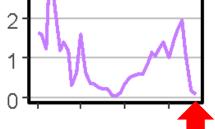


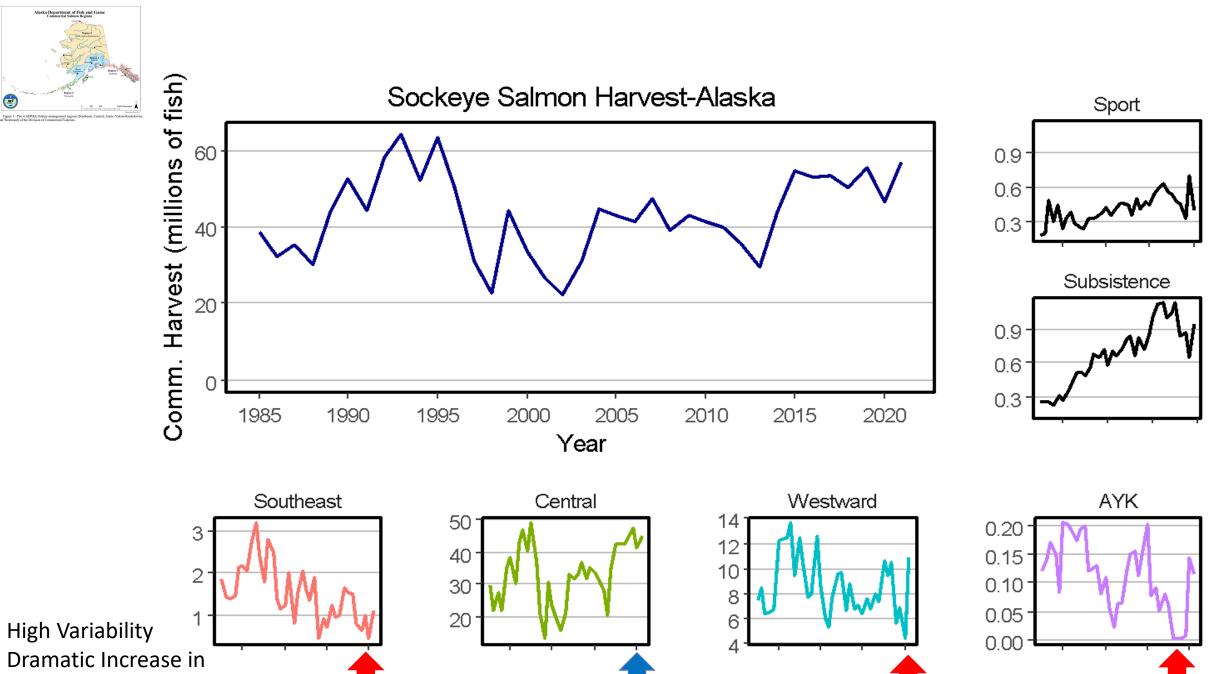
High Variability Dramatic Decline in AYK









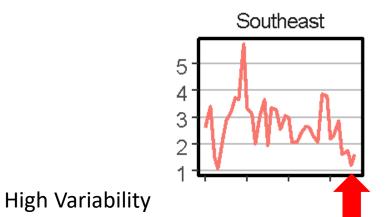


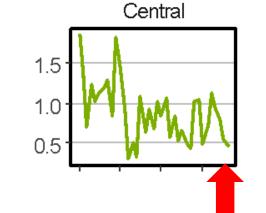
Central (Bristol Bay)

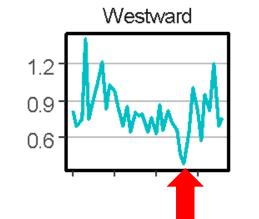


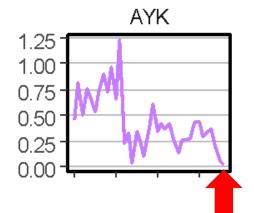
Comm. Harvest (millions of fish) Coho Salmon Harvest-Alaska 10.0 0.75 0.50 7.5 0.25 5.0 Subsistence 2.5 0.75 0.50 0.0 0.25 1985 1990 1995 2000 2005 2010 2015 2020





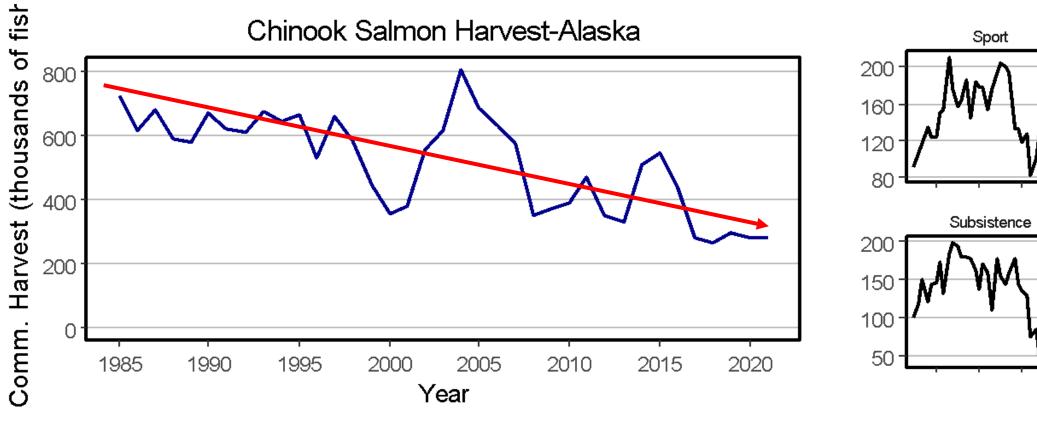


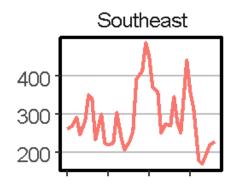




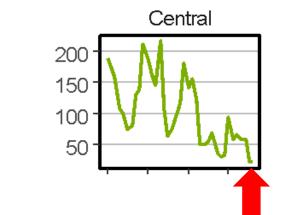
Sport

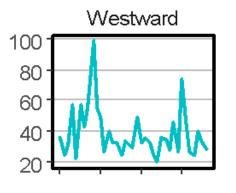


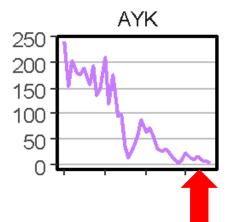




Continued decline







# **Meeting Schedule**

Date	Meeting Schedule
June 28, 2023	Task Force Meeting – Introductions and Tasks
July 27, 2023	Task Force Meeting (virtual – open to public); Establish the ARCTIC YUKON KUSKOKWIM WORKING GROUP
September 19, 2023	Task Force Meeting (virtual – open to public); Discuss report outline and progress toward existing knowledge and research gaps
November 14/15, 2023	Task Force Meeting (Hybrid in Anchorage, AK – open to public); Day 1 – (1/2 day) Report Existing knowledge and gaps (1/2 day) Public comment/testimony; Day 2 – (1/2 day) Report Research Needs (1/2 day) Public comment/testimony.
January 25, 2024	Task Force Meeting (virtual – open to public); Report on progress toward DRAFT Report
March 27, 2024	Task Force Meeting (virtual – open to public) Report on DRAFT FINAL REPORT
May 22, 2024	Task Force Meeting (virtual – open to public) FINAL DRAFT of REPORT
June 27, 2024	FINAL REPORT

