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**Alaska Salmon Hatchery Releases,
Commercial Fishery Catch Statistics and Sport Fishery
Harvest Statistics for 2011 Season**

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Hatchery Releases

In 2011 there were 27 private nonprofit, 2 federal, and 2 state hatcheries operating in Alaska. Most of these facilities (18) are located in Southeast Alaska (Figure 1). The Cook Inlet and Prince William Sound regions have 11 hatcheries and the Kodiak region has 2 hatcheries.

Alaskan hatcheries released approximately 1.5 billion fish in 2011 (Table 1). Of the fish released, 57% were pink salmon and 37% were chum salmon. Hatcheries in Prince William Sound contributed 53% and hatcheries in Southeast Alaska contributed 35% of the fish released.

Commercial Catch Statistics

The Alaska salmon harvest of all species combined for 2011 totaled 177.4 million fish, which was about 26 million less than the preseason forecast of 203.5 million, but still the ninth largest salmon harvest. In 2011, pink salmon catch was 116.2 million compared to the preseason projection of 133 million. Prince William Sound fisheries harvested 33.3 million, about 5 million below the projected harvest; the Southeast Alaska harvest of 59 million pink salmon was slightly above the 55 million forecast, and well above the recent 10-year average harvest of 40 million (2001–2010). The statewide chum salmon harvest of 17 million was effectively equal to the ten-year average harvest of 17.1 million. Coho salmon catches of 3.5 million were well below the ten-year average of 4.5 million and the lowest since 1997. Sockeye salmon were expected to yield a harvest of 44.7 million fish and provided 40.3 million fish; in Bristol Bay, the harvest of 22 million sockeye salmon was 21% below projection, and also below the 10-year average harvest of 23.6 million. Cook Inlet's catch of 5.7 million sockeye salmon was the fourth-largest in the past 20 years. The Chinook salmon catch of 470,000 was below average; however, the Chinook salmon catch, outside of Southeast Alaska, was 126,000, the third lowest for that area since 1940 (the 2009 catch was the lowest at 98,000). The State of Alaska is very concerned about our Chinook salmon stocks and will be engaged in workshops and other venues to seek solutions to the current situation. Table 2 shows 2011 harvest numbers by salmon species and fishing area, in units of fish harvested, and Table 3 provides this information in units of tonnes harvested. The preliminary estimate for the total exvessel value of Alaska's 2011 harvest is \$609 million.

Sport Fishery Catch Statistics

Sport fishery harvests in Alaska for 2010 are in Table 4. Slightly less than 1.4 million fish were harvested for all species.

Inseason harvest information, postseason statistics, and other information about salmon in Alaska can be found at <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov>

Table 1.—Anadromous salmon releases in 2011, by region, from Alaska hatcheries, in millions of fish.

Region/Location	Sockeye	Pink	Chum	Coho	Chinook	Steelhead	Total
Southeast Alaska	13.30	94.75	404.49	21.21	6.87		540.6
Prince William Sound	30.66	641.60	139.50	5.59	0.30		817.7
Cook Inlet	6.84	0.00	0.00	1.38	1.36		9.6
Kodiak/AK Pen/Westward	3.27	146.46	19.50	1.25	0.06		170.5
Total	54.06	882.81	563.50	29.43	8.58		1,538.4

Table 2.–Preliminary 2011 Alaska commercial salmon catch by fishing area and species, in thousands of fish.

Fishing Area	Species					Total
	Sockeye	Pink	Chum	Coho	Chinook	
Southeast Region Total	1,242	59,088	10,730	2,311	344	73,716
Prince William Sound	3,542	33,356	1,911	371	20	39,200
Upper Cook Inlet	5,284	34	130	96	11	5,555
Lower Cook Inlet	393	362	32	2	0	789
Bristol Bay	22,106	1	702	14	37	22,859
Central Region Total	31,325	33,753	2,775	483	68	68,404
Kodiak	2,269	16,649	825	190	19	19,952
Chignik	2,497	905	270	77	7	3,755
South Alaska Peninsula & Aleutians	1,921	5,639	979	153	7	8,700
North Alaska Peninsula	926	109	294	19	2	1,350
Westward Region Total	7,613	23,301	2,367	440	35	33,757
AYK Region Total	77	7	1,129	257	23	1,495
Total Alaska	40,257	116,150	17,002	3,491	470	177,371

NOTE: Columns and rows may not total exactly due to rounding.

Table 3.–Preliminary 2011 Alaska commercial salmon catch by fishing area and species, in tonnes of fish.

Fishing Area	Species					Total
	Sockeye	Pink	Chum	Coho	Chinook	
Southeast Region Total	3,415	99,439	37,152	6,255	2,077	148,339
Prince William Sound	9,815	45,260	6,420	1,188	176	62,859
Upper Cook Inlet	15,547	50	393	247	103	16,339
Lower Cook Inlet	904	472	97	6	1	1,480
Bristol Bay	61,106	1	2,042	38	210	63,397
Central Region Total	87,372	45,784	8,951	1,478	490	144,075
Kodiak	6,097	24,236	2,524	576	79	33,513
Chignik	8,114	1,307	842	236	34	10,533
South Alaska Peninsula & Aleutians	5,234	8,415	2,952	422	41	17,064
North Alaska Peninsula	2,385	148	932	63	17	3,545
Westward Region Total	21,830	34,107	7,251	1,297	171	64,655
AYK Region Total	229	9	3,604	820	102	4,764
Total Alaska	112,846	179,338	56,958	9,850	2,841	361,833

NOTE: Columns and rows may not total exactly due to rounding.

Table 4.—Statewide Sport Harvest of Salmon in Alaska, by region, freshwater and saltwater combined, 2011.

Fishing Area	Species						Total
	Sockeye	Pink	Chum	Coho ¹	Chinook ¹	Steelhead	
Southeast	20,769	59,002	20,843	235,857	66,575	24	403,070
Southcentral	505,893	35,070	6,803	331,506	57,511	109	936,892
Artic-Yukon-Kuskokwim	8,447	566	1,412	7,940	4,021	0	223,86
Total Alaska	535,109	94,638	29,058	575,303	128,107	133	1,362,348

¹ Does not include freshwater landlocked coho and Chinook salmon harvests.

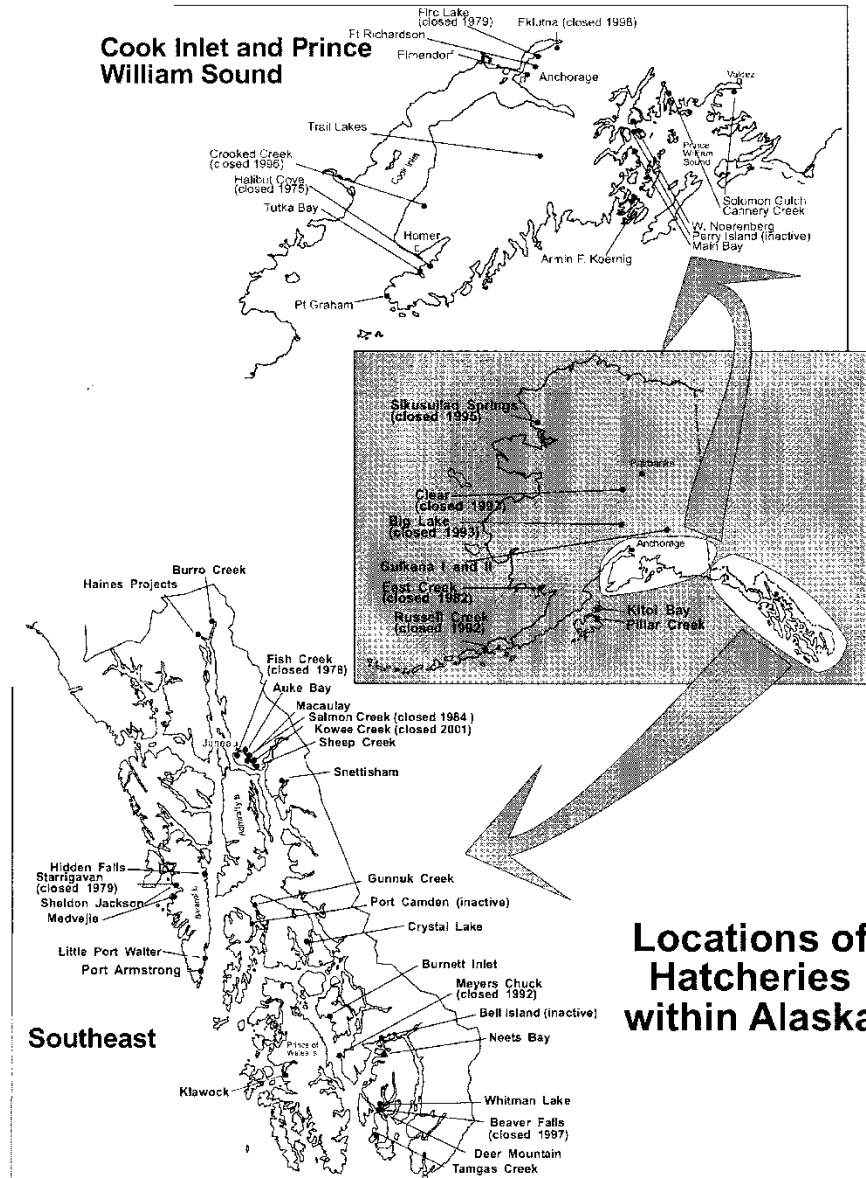


Figure 1.-Location of hatcheries within Alaska.

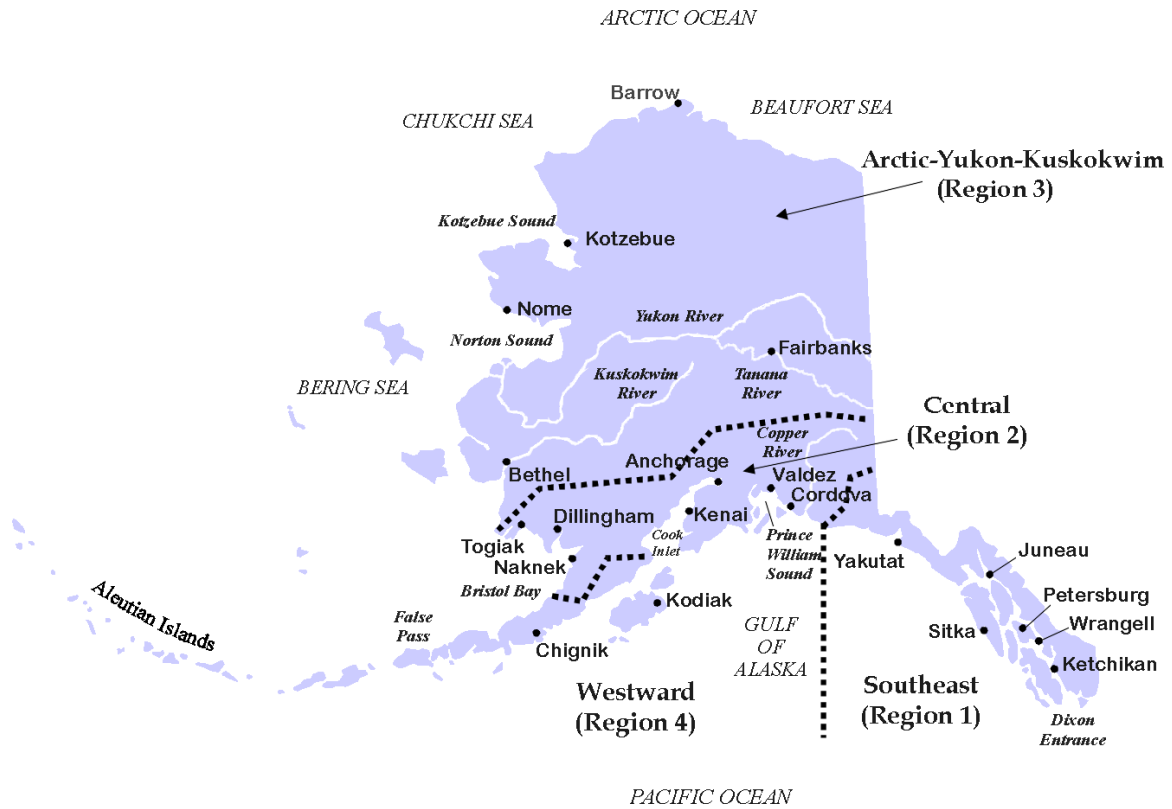


Figure 2.—The four fishery management regions (Southeast, Central, Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim, and Westward) of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries.