

Economic Significance of Fishing in Alaska during 2007

Prepared for
Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Task Force
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Bill Romberg
Fisheries Biologist
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Sport Fish Division
907-267-2366

Background

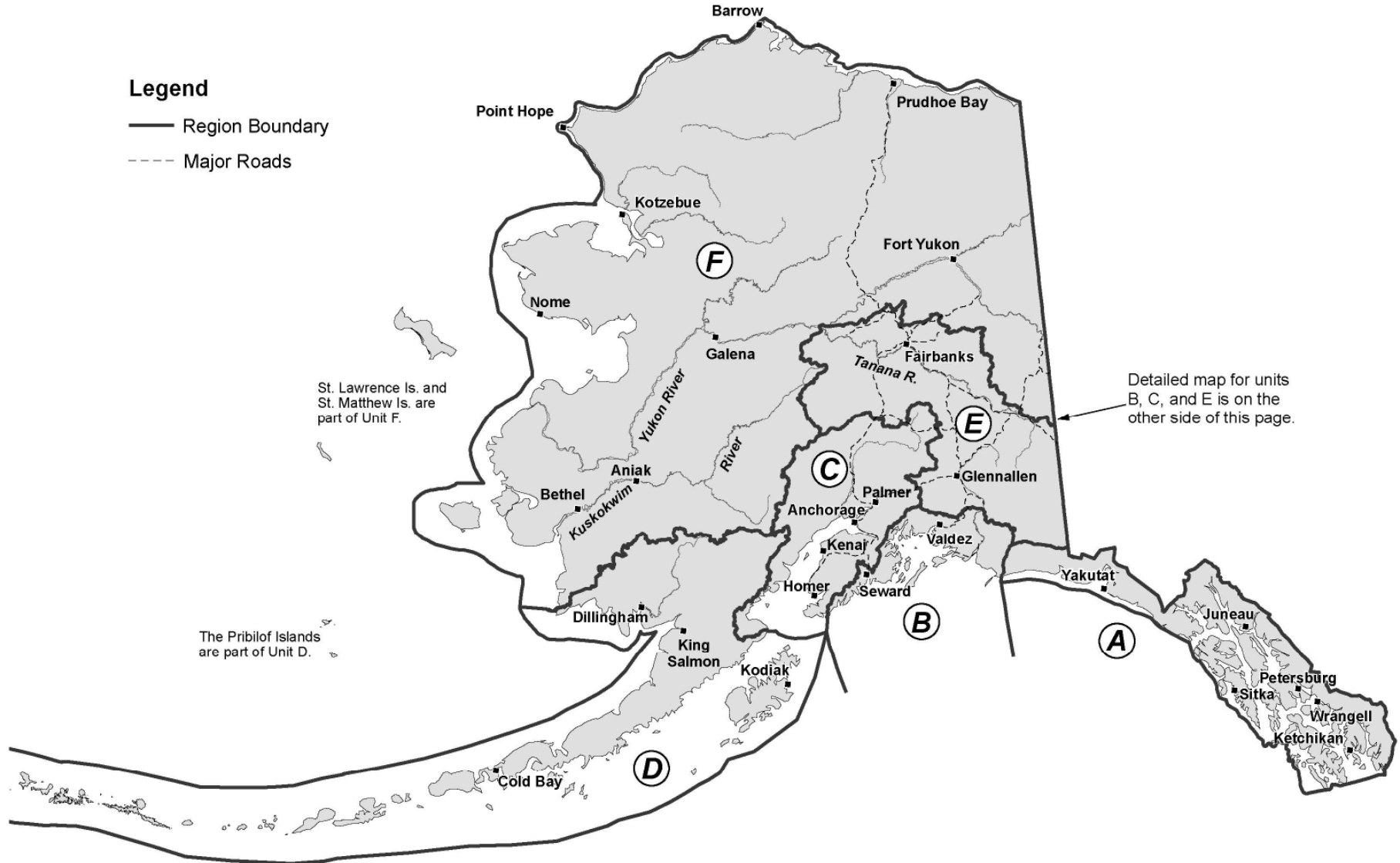
- USFWS National Survey—every 5 years, small sample, statewide only. Limited utility.
- ADF&G-SF has periodically contracted statewide and regional economic analysis
 - Jones & Stokes 1986, 1988
 - UAA- ISER 1993-1998
 - Several regional and fishery-based studies
- Reliable estimates for Alaska are nearly 15-years old

Project Goals #1

Provide current estimates of the economic contribution of sport fishing to the Alaska economy statewide and for key regions

- Southeast AK
- Southcentral AK
- Interior AK
- Cook Inlet waters
- Southeast Marine Fisheries

Study Regions



Project Goal #2

- Establish a consistent and repeatable method for collecting and reporting estimates of economic contribution of sportfishing to the Alaska economy.
 - Make estimates available on a more regular basis--every 2-3 yrs.
 - Track and compare such estimates over time
 - Scalable-allowing for more detailed analyses or expansion in future

Type of Study

Economic Significance/Impact Analysis:

A) Estimate what residents and non-residents actually spent on sport fishing activities in Alaska in 2007 (total expenditures)

B) Estimate the direct, indirect, and induced economic benefits of such spending to Alaska economy using an economic input/output model (IMPLAN) customized to Alaska's economy

NOT an economic valuation study that attempts to estimate the total value or net economic value (willingness to pay – expenses) of sportfishing in Alaska.

Definitions

- Economic Significance= total economic activity within a region (e.g. economic benefits of both resident & nonresident spending)
- Economic Impact= economic benefits from dollars originating outside the region (e.g. nonresident spending in region)
- Angler Expenditures= dollars spent for the primary reason of sportfishing.

Definitions (cont.)

Angler Expenditures include:

Fishing trip-related expenditures in Alaska

(licenses, fuel, guide/charter fees, bait, ice, processing, & travel expenses such as lodging, food, etc.)

Sportfishing equipment purchases in Alaska

(rods, reels, fishing tackle, coolers, boat, etc.)

Other purchases in Alaska for the primary

purpose of supporting sportfishing activities (fishing magazines, equipment maintenance, etc.)

Study Approach

- Angler expenditure surveys to collect spending amounts by trip in 2007 (~7,000 surveys, 40% response rate)
- Licensed guide/charter business surveys--how expenses distributed (~500, 35% response rate)
- IMPLAN Economic model—customized for Alaska using business survey

Economic Measures Produced

Statewide & for each region:

- Total expenditures for sportfishing by residency and water type (freshwater, saltwater)
- Avg expenditures per day of sportfishing by residency, water type, and guided/non-guided fishing
- Total full and part-time jobs generated
- Total wages and salaries generated
- Total govt. tax receipts generated
- Total combined economic impact (of resident and nonresident spending) to Alaska

**Breakdown by species groups (salmon vs. bottomfish) may be possible at statewide level only—data dependent

Information NOT Provided By Study

- Economic benefits by species or specific fisheries (maybe in future with more \$)
- Total economic value of sport fishing in Alaska
- Direct comparisons of the economic benefits/values of sport and commercial fisheries in Alaska

Project Timeline

- Project proceeding per RFP timeline, report(s) by Dec 31, 08
- Spring 2006: Division receives additional funding to conduct updated economic study
- Summer 2006: Detailed Request for Proposals (RFP) developed—with independent review by outside economist
- Fall 2006: Division releases RFP
Division evaluates/scores bid proposals
- Jan/Feb 2007: Southwick Associates proposal wins competitive bid proposal process and contract is issued.

Project Timeline (cont.)

- Feb-May 2007: ADF&G and Southwick Associates develop and sign detailed research plan
- July 2007 – Feb 2008: Angler expenditure surveys, Guide Business survey
- Feb-July 2008: Data entry, editing, analysis, and economic modeling with review/oversight by ADF&G team.
- Sept 2008: Draft reports to ADF&G
- **Dec 31, 2008: Final reports to ADF&G for distribution, communication of results to staff and other stakeholders**

Project Information & Updates

- The project webpage
<http://www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us/Statewide/economics/2007Study.cfm>
- Technical Questions about the project contact Bill Romberg at 907-267-2366
- Alternative contacts:
 - Bob Clark, 907-267-2222
 - Lisa Evans 907-267-233