



City of Homer

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Office of the City Clerk

491 East Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603


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Memorandum Agenda Changes/Supplemental Packet

TO: MAYOR WYTHER AND HOMER CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JO JOHNSON, MMC, CITY CLERK 

DATE: JANUARY 13, 2014

SUBJECT: AGENDA CHANGES AND SUPPLEMENTAL PACKET

CONSENT AGENDA

Memorandum 14-001, from Deputy City Clerk Re: Liquor License Renewals for Down East Saloon, Kharacters, Alibi, Harbor Grill, Grog Shop East End, Cosmic Kitchen, Pho & Thai Restaurant, and a New Liquor License for Little Mermaid.

Non objection letters from Kenai Peninsula Borough Clerk as backup

Page 3

Ordinance 14-04, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the FY 2014 Operating Budget by Appropriating \$35,000 From the Port and Harbor Depreciation Reserves to Replace the Fish Grinder in the Fish Waste Grinding Facility. City Manager/Port and Harbor Director.

Written public comments

Page 11

Resolution 14-006, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Approving a Memorandum of Understanding Between the City of Homer and Kachemak City Regarding the Canyon Trails Subdivision and Road Maintenance on Stellers Jay Drive and Golden Plover Avenue. City Manager.

Map of area as backup

Page 9

Resolution 14-019, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Opposing Alaska Board of Fisheries Proposals 138, 139, 140, 142, and 143 That Close or Restrict Waters of Cook Inlet Near Homer to Commercial Drift Fishing. Lewis.

Written public comments

Page 11

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager's Report of January 13, 2014

Page 29

RECOMMENDATION:

Voice consensus to changes under Agenda Approval.

Fiscal Note: N/A



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

144 North Binkley Street • Soldotna, Alaska 99669-7520

PHONE: (907) 714-2160 • FAX: (907) 714-2388

Toll-free within the Borough: 1-800-478-4441 Ext. 2160

Email: assemblyclerk@borough.kenai.ak.us

JAN 13 2014

JOHNI BLANKENSHIP, MMC
BOROUGH CLERK

January 13, 2014

Ms. Christine Lambert
Records & Licensing Supervisor
Alcoholic Beverage Control Board
2400 Viking Drive
Anchorage, AK 99501-1768

RE: Non-Objection of License Renewal

Business Name	:	Pho & Thai Restaurant
License Type	:	Restaurant Eating Place – Public Convenience
License Location	:	City of Homer
License No.	:	5173

Dear Ms. Lambert,

This serves to advise that the Finance Department has reviewed the above referenced application and has no objection to the renewal of this license.

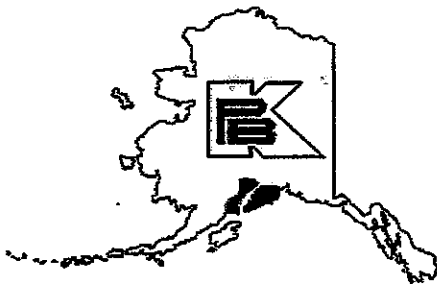
Should you have any questions, or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

Johni Blankenship, MMC
Borough Clerk

JB/klr

cc: Applicant
City of Homer
KPB Finance Department
File



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

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JAN 13 2014

JOHNI BLANKENSHIP, MMC
BOROUGH CLERK

January 13, 2014

Ms. Christine Lambert
Records & Licensing Supervisor
Alcoholic Beverage Control Board
2400 Viking Drive
Anchorage, AK 99501-1768

RE: Non-Objection of License Renewal

Business Name	:	Harbor Grill
License Type	:	Beverage Dispensary - Seasonal
License Location	:	City of Homer
License No.	:	3174

Dear Ms. Lambert,

This serves to advise that the Finance Department has reviewed the above referenced application and has no objection to the renewal of this license.

Should you have any questions, or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

Johni Blankenship, MMC
Borough Clerk

JB/klr

cc: Applicant
City of Homer
KPB Finance Department
File



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JAN 13 2014

JOHNI BLANKENSHIP, MMC
BOROUGH CLERK

January 13, 2014

Ms. Christine Lambert
Records & Licensing Supervisor
Alcoholic Beverage Control Board
2400 Viking Drive
Anchorage, AK 99501-1768

RE: Non-Objection of License Renewal

Business Name	:	Grog Shop East End
License Type	:	Package Store
License Location	:	City of Homer
License No.	:	2301

Dear Ms. Lambert,

This serves to advise that the Finance Department has reviewed the above referenced application and has no objection to the renewal of this license.

Should you have any questions, or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

Johni Blankenship, MMC
Borough Clerk

JB/klr

cc: Applicant
City of Homer
KPB Finance Department
File



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JAN 13 2014

JOHNI BLANKENSHIP, MMC
BOROUGH CLERK

January 13, 2014

Ms. Christine Lambert
Records & Licensing Supervisor
Alcoholic Beverage Control Board
2400 Viking Drive
Anchorage, AK 99501-1768

RE: Non-Objection of License Renewal

Business Name	:	Cosmic Kitchen
License Type	:	Restaurant Eating Place – Public Convenience
License Location	:	City of Homer
License No.	:	4359

Dear Ms. Lambert,

This serves to advise that the Finance Department has reviewed the above referenced application and has no objection to the renewal of this license.

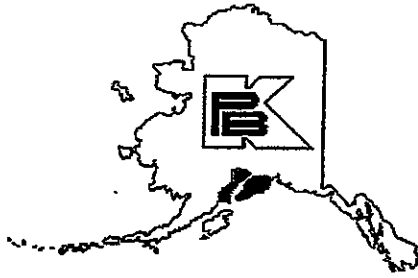
Should you have any questions, or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

Johni Blankenship, MMC
Borough Clerk

JB/klr

cc: Applicant
City of Homer
KPB Finance Department
File



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JAN 9 2014

JOHNI BLANKENSHIP, MMC
BOROUGH CLERK

January 8, 2014

Ms. Christine Lambert
Records & Licensing Supervisor
Alcoholic Beverage Control Board
2400 Viking Drive
Anchorage, AK 99501-1768

RE: Non-Objection of License Renewal

Business Name	:	Down East Saloon
License Type	:	Beverage Dispensary
License Location	:	City of Homer
License No.	:	2300

Dear Ms. Lambert,

This serves to advise that the Finance Department has reviewed the above referenced application and has no objection to the renewal of this license.

Should you have any questions, or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

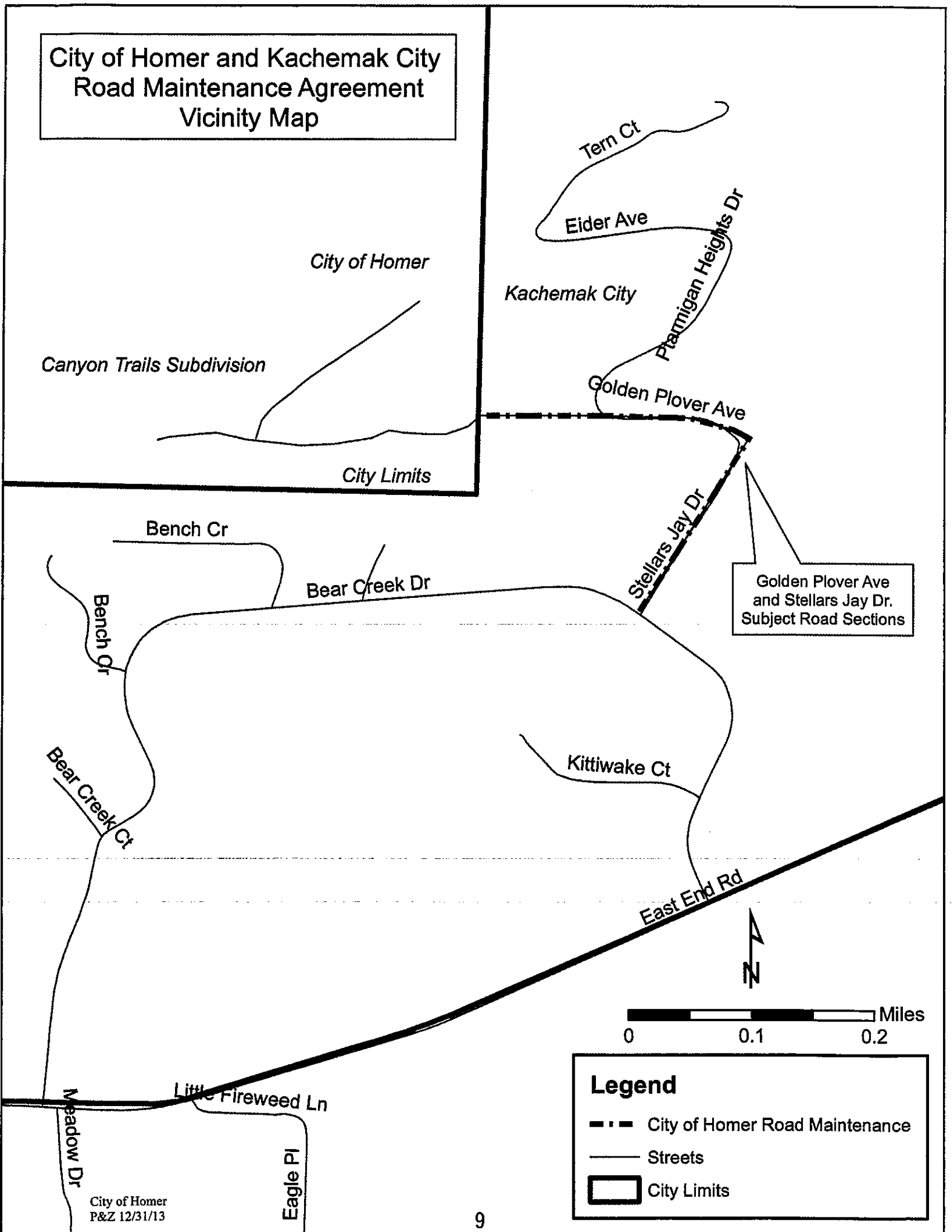
Sincerely,

John Blankenship, MMC
Borough Clerk

JB/klr

cc: Applicant
City of Homer
KPB Finance Department
File

City of Homer and Kachemak City Road Maintenance Agreement Vicinity Map



Jo Johnson

From: Kevin Hogan <kevin.auctionblock@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 10, 2014 2:25 PM
To: Jo Johnson
Subject: Please forward to council

I would like to offer comments on a couple items on your next agenda.

1. I would like to express support for Reso 14-019. The impact to the local economy of a management strategy that pushes UCI harvest away from the port of Homer can not be overstated. Please keep in mind the Mat-su Borough is spending a significant amount of money to lobby the Board of Fish against the interest of Homer

2.Re: Ord 14-04 again we have the cart before the horse. By selecting the brand and amount of money (which is on the high end) to pay you are proceeding contrary to the spirit of the procurement policy. I would suggest an RFP first. While Autio is a fine product, there are numerous options for brand and vendors that might better serve the future needs of fish waste disposal. One concern is the possibility of the development of targeted fisheries for dog fish and skate which I believe the Autio and weiller style grinders do not handle well. As an aside, our 11" autio style grinder is on line and operational as an option for backup. Please slow down on this

Thanks
Kevin Hogan

Jo Johnson

From: Frank Mullen <mullenf@alaska.net>
Sent: Saturday, January 11, 2014 6:37 PM
To: davidlewis@city.homer.ak.us; Department Clerk; Barbara Howard; Francie Roberts; citymanager@ci.homer.ak.us; Gus Van Dyke; Beauregard Burgess; Bryan Zak
Subject: Resolution 14-019 opposing various proposals before the Board of Fisheries
Attachments: Susitna paper.doc

Dear Mr. Lewis and councilmembers;

Thank you for considering a resolution directed towards the potential negative economic impacts to the City of Homer and the entire community on the lower peninsula. As a lifelong Cook Inlet commercial fisherman who lives in Homer I can assure you that if even one of the proposals mentioned in the Resolution 14-019 passes, consequences much more serious and negative than those presently contemplated in the resolution will result.

For instance; according to the most recent list available from the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission, there are 300 Cook Inlet Drift permit owners with addresses in the greater Homer area. There are a total of about 560 drift permits issued. While most (about 250) of them are in Homer Zip codes, there are about 30 in Anchor Point, and a few in Seldovia and Halibut Cove. If you consider that each drift permit represents a vessel potentially using Homer facilities, and that each drift permit with two deckhands represents about 900 jobs directly associated with the lower Peninsula economy, the picture becomes more clear about the potential negative impacts.

Additionally, a report has recently been released (see attached) that specifically address the economic impacts associated with Cook Inlet management practices promulgated by the Board of Fisheries since 1981. Briefly, in an attempt to conserve and enhance sockeyes traveling through the mixed stock fishery towards the greater Susitna drainage, the use of "corridors" was implemented. At the time, it was believed that by keeping the fleet in the corridor or other regulated "box" would enhance the passage of Susitna bound sockeye. As the study indicates (using data from ADF&G), this is not, nor has it ever been, an effective method of promoting a higher percentage of passage of Susitna sockeye. With the advent of genetic testing, it has been found that Susitna sockeye are intermixed throughout the Inlet in a fairly consistent percentage of about 5 – 7%. The fleet catches about the same percentage of Susitna fish whether in the corridor or fishing Inletwide.

This effort by the Board of Fisheries to increase Susitna sockeye production through corridors and areas runs into even tougher sledding when scrutinized carefully. Due to poor and unreliable methods of counting sockeye in the Susitna system, it has now come to be known that there has been chronic OVERescapment in the Susitna system for many years. (Table 2) Much of the habitat in the Susitna drainage (14 out of 24 spawning lakes) has become infested with pike, with many of them are now completely barren with regard to salmon production. The details are in the report.

The conclusions drawn from the report are nothing short of incredible. Simply put, due to poor methods of counting, lack of good science, and an unwillingness by the Board of Fisheries to revisit and correct policies implemented in the 1980's, the Cook Inlet Drift fleet has suffered for 30 years from an unnecessary loss of opportunity. The policy has made it even more difficult for Commercial Fisheries managers to manage an already challenging mixed stock fishery. Often, the result has been that the Kenai and Kasilof rivers have been overescaped as a consequence of the "corridor" strategy, thus creating more economic loss and habitat imbalance.

My last point: Table 2 on Page 9 indicates that the direct loss of revenue (ex vessel value) when considering lost fishing opportunity is \$45-\$90 million. This figure is conservative because it does not factor in traditional

multipliers; after the fisherman delivers his or her fish and is paid, deckhands are paid, the processor hires crew to process the fish, the vendors sell the necessary stores to fishermen, fishermen buy or rent homes in the area and use the Homer Harbor and local restaurants. What would the multiplier be? If it were 3X, for instance, you would then have a potential loss of \$135 - \$270 million to the fleet, about half of which is in the greater Homer area.

If it were possible to add a **whereas** or three, here is what I might suggest:

- Whereas the Board of Fisheries should eliminate restrictions on Central District drift gillnetting during the July 9 through July 31 time period because it now known that these restrictions are not an effective method if improving Susitna sockeye production.
- - Whereas problems with Susitna salmon production have been identified and are the result of freshwater habitat issues.
- Whereas intensive management of saltwater fisheries will never solve the problems found in the freshwater habitats of spawning and rearing salmon.

Again, my thanks to all of you for considering taking action on this matter so important to your many residents and the local economy. I would very much encourage the City of Homer to be sure that a representative attends the Board of Fish meetings beginning on January 21 with the intent of testifying on behalf of the City.

Thank you,

Frank Mullen
Homer, Alaska

907 299 3399
mullenf@alaska.net

Fishery Related Aspects of Faulty Sonar Data, Over-Escapement and Impaired Habitat for Susitna Sockeye

Summary

ADF&G is recommending to the BOF that Susitna River sockeye salmon remain classified as a stock of yield concern (RC 8). A stock of yield concern is defined as “a concern arising from a chronic inability, despite the use of specific management measures, to maintain specific yields, or harvestable surpluses, above a stock’s escapement needs”. Susitna River sockeye do not meet that definition. The “specific management measures” that have been used were based on faulty data or no data at all and they have had the opposite effect from their intent. If the Bendix sonar counter had been properly counting the actual number of returning salmon there would be no stock of yield concern designation for Susitna sockeye.

For 30 years there was a perception that the sockeye returning to the Susitna River were not meeting the escapement goals. This was driven by the premise that the Bendix sonar counter and the fishwheel apportionment were accurately counting the sockeye escapements. The perception led to restrictions on the Central District drift fleet and Northern District setnets. The effectiveness of the restrictions was never examined. The 2006-2008 ADF&G escapement goal study revealed that the escapement counting methodology was grossly underestimating sockeye escapement into the Susitna River. From 1981 through 2008 escapement goals were being exceeded by an average of more than 100 percent, some years the goals were exceeded by 300-400 percent or more.

These chronic over-escapements have led to instability in the sockeye runs and have masked the growing in-river habitat problems. The restrictions placed unnecessarily on commercial fisheries had no demonstrated effectiveness, severely limited the department’s ability to manage the Cook Inlet salmon fishery and cost the industry many millions of dollars in lost harvest opportunity on Susitna and other sockeye stocks.

At this time the department cannot scientifically justify designating Susitna sockeye salmon as a stock of yield concern. Restrictions on commercial fisheries for sockeye conservation also have no legitimate justification. The Board should remove the stock of yield concern designation for Susitna sockeye. In addition, the Board should eliminate restrictions on Central District drift gillnetting during the July 9 through July 31 time period. The department should continue collecting data through the test boat fisheries in Cook Inlet and use genetic testing to scientifically inform future decisions.

Background

The purpose of an escapement goal is to ensure sustainability and maximize yield. State policy requires that escapements goals must be scientifically defensible. “Over-escapement, in general, is not sustainable....” Quote from ADF&G *2007 Biological and Fishery-Related Aspects of Overescapement in Alaskan Sockeye Salmon*, by Robert Clark, M Willette, S Fleischman and D Eggers.

An escapement goal for Susitna sockeye was established in 1979 based on non-system specific characteristics. The Bendix sonar counter was placed into service at that time to measure the escapement. (The counter was placed in a Susitna tributary, the Yentna River, and the SEG for that location was used to manage sockeye salmon throughout the Susitna River watershed.) In the late 1980's the goal was revised using system specific information on salmon production based on a euphotic volume study of 24 salmon producing lakes in the Susitna drainage and a 4:1 return per spawner ratio.

The escapement counts were periodically called into question, particularly after the 1989 season when the Exxon Valdez oil spill caused drift gillnetting to be closed in Cook Inlet - with no apparent effect on the Susitna escapement sonar count. Increasing uncertainty with the escapement assessment prompted ADF&G to initiate a 3-year study in 2006. The study utilized a DIDSON system, weir counts and a mark-recapture program to compare with the Bendix sonar counts.

In 2008, before the study was completed, the BOF designated Susitna sockeye a stock of yield concern due to a chronic inability to meet the Yentna SEG (range 90-160,000) as measured by sonar. In 2009 ADFG released a special report outside of the normal three year cycle of escapement goal review because the errors with the sonar enumeration were so significant. The results of the study suggested that both the Bendix and DIDSON were grossly underestimating the number of sockeye salmon spawning in the Yentna River. (Fair, L. F., T. M. Willette, and J. Erickson. 2009. *Escapement goal review for Susitna River sockeye salmon, 2009. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Manuscript Series No. 09-01, Anchorage.*)

Data from pages 18 and 21 of the report indicate that the Bendix sonar count (dating back to 1981) was biased low by more than 100 percent. While it is not possible to go back and re-count the escapements, it is evident the escapement goals were being met and in all years, except for 2005, the upper end of the goal range was significantly exceeded (see Table 2).

The report recommended eliminating the Yentna SEG and replacing it with SEGs for 3 individual lakes (Chelatna, Judd and Larson) in the Susitna watershed. The new escapement goals became effective for the 2009 salmon runs.

During the decades that area restrictions were placed on the drift fleet to conserve northern sockeye stocks, no studies were ever done and no evidence or data was ever generated to show that the restrictions had any effect on escapements. The latest research incorporating genetic testing with Off-shore Test Fishing in the Central District has demonstrated that sockeye stocks are intermingled and dispersed, both spatially and temporally, throughout Cook Inlet as they migrate.

Genetic testing of commercially caught sockeye has also shown that the percentage of northern-bound sockeye caught by drift fishermen in restricted corridors is not significantly different than the percentage caught when the fishermen are dispersed throughout Cook Inlet. In 2011, drift fishermen caught 781,146 sockeye while restricted to the Corridor. Of these, 6.8% were genetically identified as Susitna fish. While not restricted to the Corridor in 2011, drift fishermen caught 2,261,582 sockeye of which 5.7% were identified as Susitna fish.

The department also reported in RC 8 that Susitna median yield (harvest) estimates in 2008–2013 were 26% larger than those from 2003–2007. This increase in yield occurred even though the drift fleet had additional area restrictions during that time period that were intended to reduce the yield.

What we have learned from the use of mandatory restrictions is that they prevent fishery managers from reacting to real-time information during the season and interferes with their ability to manage the whole fishery. Harvest opportunity has been lost due to the restrictions. Not only the millions of sockeye that exceeded escapement goals in the Susitna, but also millions of sockeye that exceeded escapement goals in other Cook Inlet systems due to mandatory restrictions that were based on faulty sonar data and flawed assumptions.

Susitna Sockeye – Not a stock of yield concern

In their memorandum (RC 8) to the BOF dated October 3, 2013, the ADF&G recommended that Susitna River sockeye salmon remain classified as a stock of yield concern because:

- 1) Five of the escapements in 3 different lakes (out of 15 total) have been below the minimum goal, and
- 2) Harvests in Central and Northern districts from 2008 through 2013 were generally less than the long-term averages.

Their justification was that in the Central District drift fishery, Susitna median yield (harvest) estimates in 2008–2013 were 26% larger than those from 2003–2007, and about 75% of those from 1983–2002 and 1993–2002, the two time periods to which recent (2003–2007) yields (harvest) were compared when determining the stock of yield-concern in February 2008.

The first glaring error with this justification is that the Department has no reliable data for run size, escapement or yield from 1981–2013 as the sonar counters used until 2008 were so inaccurate and there is still no reliable method for counting all the salmon that return to Mat-Su streams. Without some reasonably accurate method for enumerating salmon escapement they have no way to determine the yield (harvest) as a percentage of run size.

The attempt to use reduced median yield (harvest) estimates as a justification for maintaining a stock of concern classification also fails as it does not recognize that there were new management regulations for the Central District drift fishery from 2008–2013 that were intended to reduce the yield (harvest). This application of circular logic has no business masquerading as science.

What does it mean? If the median yield (harvest) estimates from 2008–2013 were 26% larger than the 2003–2007 time period as the Department stated, then either the restrictions on the drift fishery are not effective at conserving particular stocks, or, these stocks are much more robust than were assumed.

The methodology of using combined escapement counts from three different lakes does not fit the criteria for a Stock of Yield Concern. The escapement goals for these 3 lakes (Chelatna, Judd and Larson) do need to be re-evaluated as the returns to Chelatna and Judd are showing oscillating patterns in their sockeye populations from year to year, which can be an indicator of over-escapement. These escapement goals were based on returns to those lakes during years that we know the Susitna river goal was exceeded, so these goals are likely too high. In Judd Lake the fry size and weight suggest they are exceeding the rearing capacity of the lake and are near starvation.(see Table 1) The Chelatna Lake escapement goal has been met four of the past five years, Judd Lake two of the past five years, and Larson Lake four of the past five years.

Again, a stock of yield concern is defined as “a concern arising from a chronic inability, despite the use of specific management measures, to maintain specific yields, or harvestable surpluses, **above a stock’s escapement needs**”. The department has a poor grasp of what the current sockeye escapement is or should be in the Susitna.

At least 14 of the original 24 sockeye producing lakes studied in 1989 now contain invasive northern pike. Six of those lakes with pike no longer produce salmon, five more lakes with pike have severely reduced production. Shell Lake, one of the largest producers, had nearly 70,000 spawners in 2006 and now it has none due to pike and disease.

The October 3, 2013 memo (RC 8) from ADF&G to the BOF also failed to factor the increasing sport fish harvest into the yield (harvest). During the same time period, 2008-2013, while restrictions were placed on the commercial fisheries (both Central and Northern District) for conservation purposes, the sport fishery yield (harvest) had no similar restrictions and continued to increase. Quote from ADF&G *2011 Fisheries Management Report 10-50*: “The action plan states sport harvest will not be used to determine escapements or in developing escapement goals. Further, the Susitna sport fisheries will remain open with a three fish bag limit unless otherwise directed by the BOF and any harvest restrictions will be realized in the commercial fisheries...”

Conclusion - Stock of Habitat Concern

ADF&G has not assessed and updated escapement goals for the Susitna river system. Sockeye production capacity has been significantly reduced by invasive northern pike and migration impedances. Maintaining escapement levels without accounting for the decreases in production capacity will inevitably cause adverse density-dependent effects in the systems that are still productive. As mentioned in the previous section, Judd Lake is showing effects symptomatic of over-escapement – oscillating returns and dangerously low fry size and weight.

Decades of escapements that routinely exceeded the goals by an average of 200% flooded the system with spawners. This masked and obscured the habitat issues that were gradually reducing production during this time.

Restrictions placed on commercial fisheries over the past 30 years were not necessary and were never supported by any assessment of effectiveness. The negative consequences of the mandatory restrictions include preventing fishery managers from doing their jobs and lost harvest opportunity for the commercial industry on the scale of tens of millions of dollars. Intensive management of saltwater fisheries cannot solve habitat-related production problems.

The Sustainable Salmon Fisheries Policy defines three levels to the stock of concern - yield, management and conservation - with yield being the lowest level of concern and conservation the highest level of concern. All three levels use the measurement of returning salmon, or escapement, as a threshold or trigger to determine the status of a stock. In the case of Susitna salmon stocks these levels of concern address the wrong end of the equation. The habitat for spawning and rearing salmon in the Susitna watershed is so affected by invasive northern pike, beaver dams, disease, culverts and the effects of urbanization that salmon production is the overriding problem, not the number of returning salmon.

ADF&G's 2012 *Upper Cook Inlet Management Report 2012* clearly stated that: "...unless the impacts from pike predation, disease and beaver dams can be significantly reduced, the total sockeye salmon production in the Susitna River drainage will continue to suffer, regardless of the amount of restrictions placed on commercial fisheries."

In 2013 ADF&G published *A Comprehensive Inventory of Impaired Anadromous Fish Habitats in the Matanuska-Susitna Basin, with Recommendations for Restoration* wherein the Habitat Research and Restoration Staff described habitat problems affecting salmon production and recommended restoration and research projects totaling over \$8.5 million. Many of these projects are only assessing damage or those that will require annual funding so the actual cost of restoration is yet to be determined.

Within the Sustainable Salmon Fisheries Policy, a new level of concern needs to be added - "a stock of habitat concern" - defined as "a concern arising from the inability of salmon to successfully spawn and rear in their freshwater habitats as a result of invasive species, parasites, pollution, migration impedances or other habitat disturbances." This would enable the Board of Fisheries and ADF&G to focus their efforts on the cause of declining salmon runs, not just the effects. A new action plan should be developed that will help stabilize salmon production in systems that are still functioning, work towards eliminating pike from other systems, set goals for removal of migration impedances and develop a restocking program.

At this time the department cannot scientifically justify designating Susitna sockeye salmon as a stock of yield concern. Restrictions on commercial fisheries for sockeye conservation also have no legitimate justification. Therefore the Board should eliminate restrictions on Central District drift gillnetting during the July 9 through July 31 time period. The department should continue collecting data through the test boat fisheries in Cook Inlet and use genetic testing to scientifically inform future decisions.

- Sonar counts from 1981-2008 were inaccurate and biased low by more than 100%
- Stock of Yield Concern for Susitna sockeye was based on this faulty data.
- Restrictions placed on the Drift Fleet and Northern District set nets for over 20 years were based on this faulty data.
- Restrictions placed on commercial fisheries under the guise of conservation were not paired with restrictions on the sport fishery.
- Problems with Susitna salmon production have been identified and are the result of freshwater habitat issues.
- Intensive management of saltwater fisheries will never solve the problems found in the freshwater habitats of spawning and rearing salmon.

This report prepared by Catherine Cassidy and Erik Huebsch, Cook Inlet Fishermen and UCIDA members with all data sourced from ADF&G as of 1/10/14

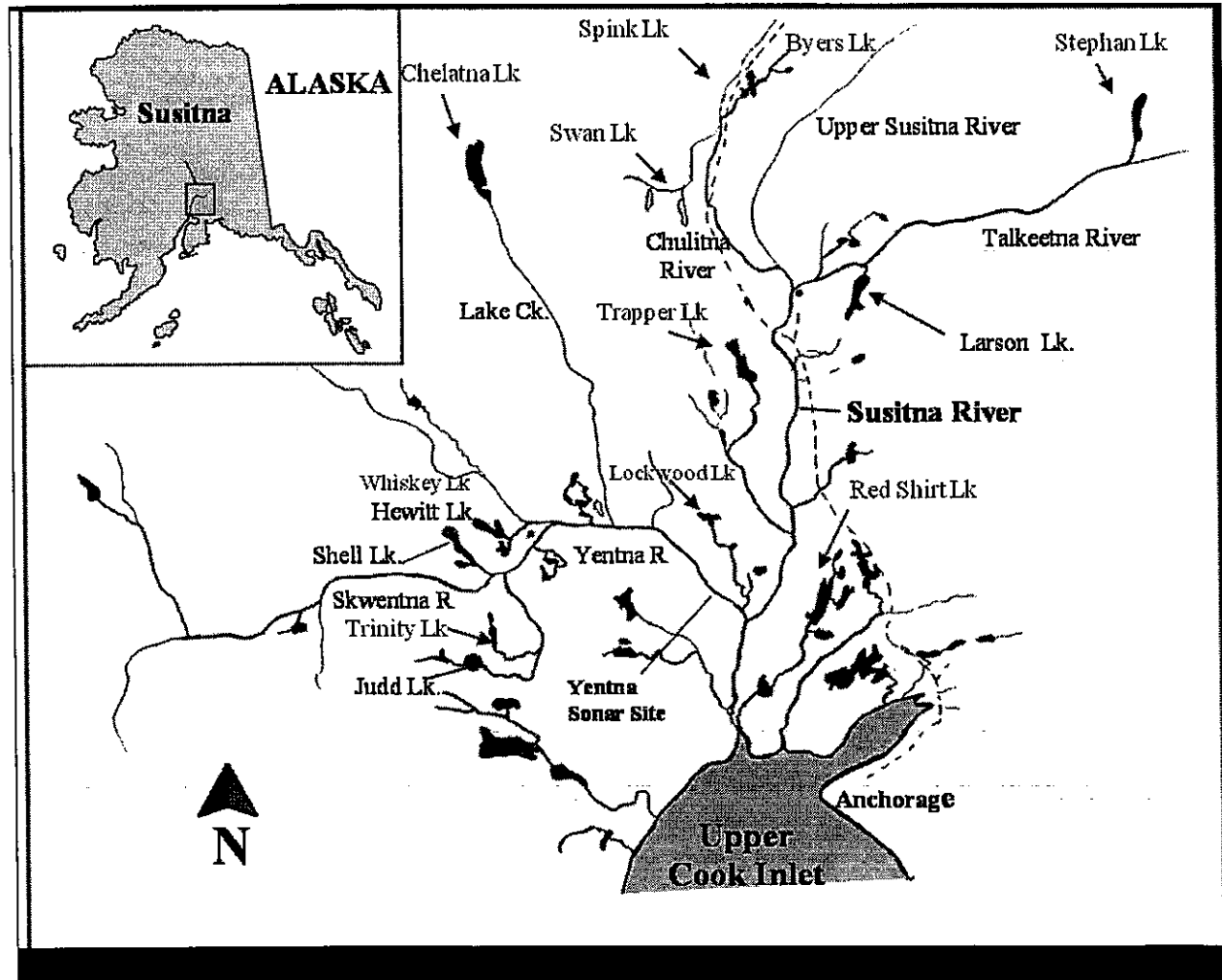


Table 1
Susitna Sockeye Fry Size Relative to Escapement

Chelatna Lake	SEG range 20-65		
Year	Escapement*	Age 0 Fry Length (mm)	Age 0 Fry Weight (g)
2005		57.5	2.7
2006		50.8	1.7
2007	18,433*	68.1	4.0
2008	41,290*	45.6	1.3
2009	73,469*	60.6	2.8
2010	17,865*	48.2	1.7
2011	37,784*	52.2	2.0
2012	70,353*	46.9	1.3
2013	36,577*		
2014	70,555*		
*Weir count from previous year			
Judd Lake	SEG range 25-55		
Year	Escapement*	Age 0 Fry Length (mm)	Age 0 Fry Weight (g)
2005		43.8	1.0
2006		53.8	2.1
2007	40,633*	47.6	1.3
2008	58,134*	37.6	0.7
2009	54,304*	41.2	0.8
2010	43,153*	38.0	0.7
2011	18,361*	50.3	1.4
2012	39,997*	39.0	0.6
2013	18,303*		
2014	14,021*		
*Weir count from previous year			
Larson Lake	SEG range 15-50		
Year	Escapement*	Age 0 Fry Length (mm)	Age 0 Fry Weight (g)
2005		58.9	2.5
2006	9,751*	62.4	2.9
2007	57,411*	61.5	3.0
2008	47,736*		
2009	35,040*	64.2	3.1
2010	41,929*	59.9	2.9
2011	20,324*	71.9	4.4
2012	12,413*	61.7	2.9
2013	16,708*		
2014	21,813*		
*Weir count from previous year			

Judd Lake average fry weight in 4 of the last 5 years indicates they were near starvation. Salmon fry at .6 grams or less in weight do not have enough body mass and/or fat reserves to survive the winter. Fry with decreasing weights of less than 1 gram have increasing higher mortality rates when compared to healthy fry.

Description of information in Table 2 Historic Yentna Escapement Data

Column

1. Year 1982 through 2008 (27 years).
2. Original Bendix sonar escapement number. ADFG reports.
3. DIDSON equivalent escapement number, based on a three year comparison with Bendix and DIDSON systems running concurrently in the Yentna River. ADFG reports.
4. Upper end of Yentna escapement goal. ADF&G reports.
5. DIDSON adjusted for fish wheel selectivity. Calculated using fish wheel selectivity coefficients and adjusted to provide the lowest possible Mean Absolute - Percentage Error (MAPE) compared with mark-recapture abundance estimates. ADF&G data.
6. Escapement goal exceeded, percentages are calculated by first subtracting the number in column 4 from the number in column 5, then dividing the remainder by the number in column 4. The number in this column is the percentage that is over and above the upper end of the escapement goal.
7. DIDSON adjusted for mark-recapture based on a 5 year average ratio. ADF&G data
8. Escapement goal exceeded, percentages are calculated by first subtracting the number in column 4 from the number in column 7, then dividing the remainder by the number in column 4. The number in this column is the percentage that is over and above the upper end of the escapement goal.
9. Average goal exceeded number, calculated by subtracting the number in column 4 from the average of column 5 and column 7. The number in this column is the average number of salmon over and above the upper end of the escapement goal. Total number at the bottom, multiplied by a 6 pound average for total weight.

The escapement numbers listed in columns 5 and 7 are intended to represent the approximate escapement. These numbers are mathematically derived and not actual fish counts.

Table 2 Historic Yentna Escapement Data from ADF&G data and reports

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Original Bendix Escapement Number	DIDSON Equivalent*	Upper End of Escapement Goal	DIDSON Adjusted for Fish Wheel Selectivity	Escapement Goal Exceeded Percentage	DIDSON Adjusted for Mark/Recapture	Escapement Goal Exceeded Percentage	Average Goal Exceeded Number
1982	113,847	253,982	100,000	667,733	568%	523,203	423%	495,468
1983	104,414	210,105	100,000	323,461	223%	432,816	333%	278,139
1984	149,375	298,383	100,000	773,450	673%	614,669	515%	594,059
1985	107,124	211,806	100,000	417,147	317%	436,320	336%	326,734
1986	92,076	169,048	150,000	974,513	550%	348,239	132%	511,376
1987	66,054	130,040	150,000	291,897	95%	267,882	79%	129,890
1988	52,330	101,854	150,000	286,421	91%	209,819	40%	98,120
1989	96,289	189,554	150,000	491,489	228%	390,481	160%	290,985
1990	140,290	259,729	150,000	682,631	355%	535,042	257%	458,836
1991	109,632	217,158	150,000	347,900	132%	447,345	198%	247,623
1992	66,074	130,966	150,000	463,272	209%	269,790	80%	216,531
1993	141,694	282,837	150,000	593,576	296%	582,644	288%	438,110
1994	128,032	251,856	150,000	413,317	176%	518,823	246%	316,070
1995	121,220	232,856	150,000	416,842	178%	479,683	220%	298,263
1996	90,660	172,882	150,000	308,169	105%	356,137	137%	182,153
1997	157,822	308,949	150,000	379,445	153%	636,435	324%	357,940
1998	119,623	211,500	150,000	445,538	197%	435,690	190%	290,614
1999	99,029	186,981	150,000	280,900	87%	385,181	157%	183,040
2000	133,094	291,848	150,000	409,266	173%	601,207	301%	355,236
2001	83,532	153,847	150,000	376,228	151%	316,925	111%	196,576
2002	78,591	158,564	160,000	479,228	200%	326,642	104%	242,935
2003	180,813	344,224	160,000	609,591	281%	709,101	343%	499,346
2004	71,281	142,187	160,000	347,900	117%	292,905	83%	160,403
2005	36,921	71,264	160,000	131,541	-18%	146,804	-8%	
2006	92,051	166,697	160,000	390,567	144%	343,396	115%	206,981
2007	79,901	125,146	160,000	206,146	29%	257,801	61%	71,973
2008	90,146	131,772	160,000	252,804	58%	271,450	70%	102,127
Average	103,774	200,224		435,592	214%	412,460	196%	
* Actual DIDSON counts used for 2006-2008								
						Total fish over goal		7,549,530
						Total weight		45,297,178
						Loss of direct revenue		\$45-\$90 million

Table 3. Susitna River sockeye salmon studies, 2006-2012.

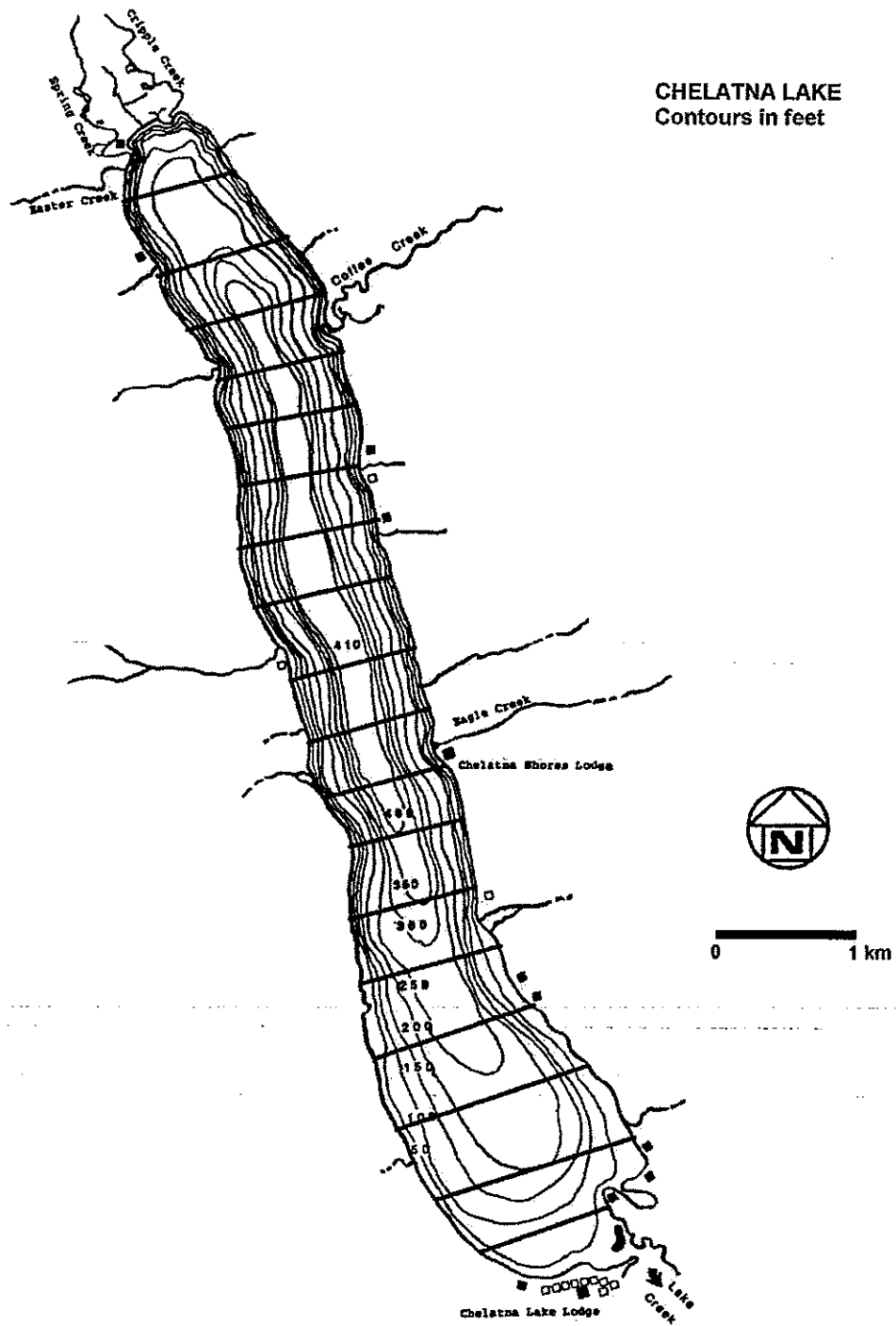
Yentna River Passage	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Bendix	92,051	79,901	90,146	28,428 43,972-	53,399-	62,231-	30,462-
DIDSON-adjusted	166,697	125,146	131,772	153,910	144,949	140,445	89,957

Weir Data	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Chelatna	18,433	41,290	73,469	17,865	37,784	70,353	36,577
Judd	40,633	58,134	54,304	43,153	18,361	39,997	18,303
Larson	57,411	47,736	35,040	41,929	20,324	12,413	16,708
Weir Totals	116,477	147,160	162,813	102,947	76,469	122,763	71,588

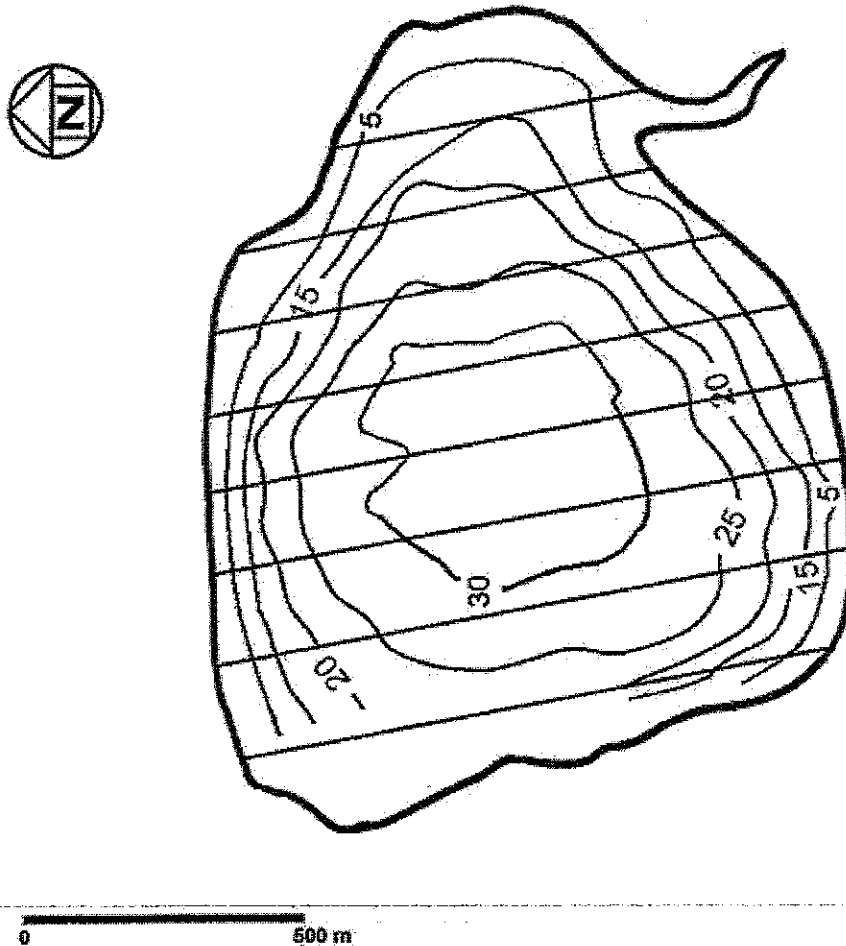
Susitna Population Estimates	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012 ^b
Mark Recapture	418,197	327,732	359,760	219,041	190,460	314,447	141,804
MR : Weirs ratio	3.6	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.5	2.6	2.0
MR : Bendix ratio	4.5	4.1	4.0	9.7	ND	ND	ND

^a Mark recapture estimates from 2009 to 2011 are preliminary values

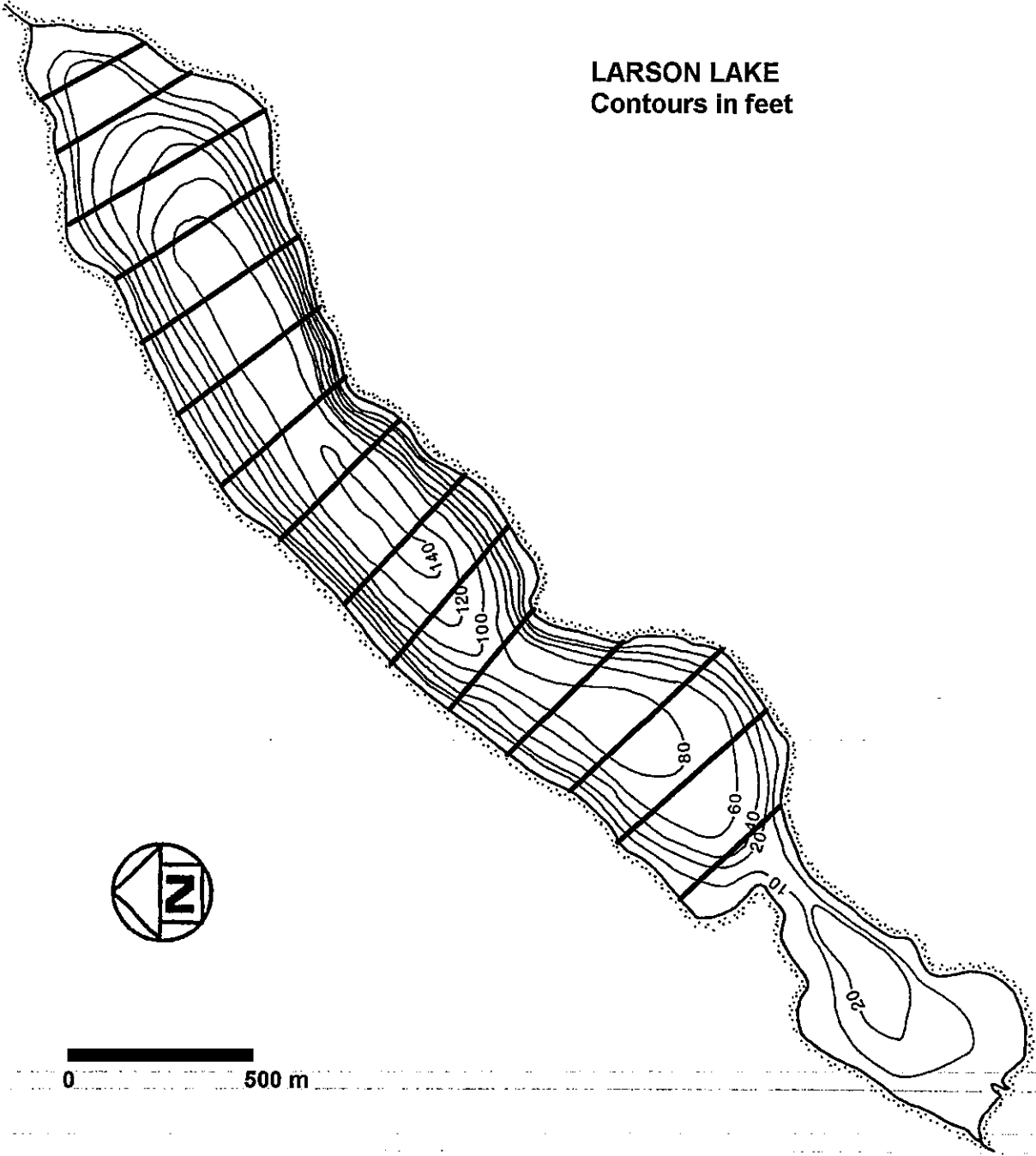
This table shows the escapement estimate data from 2006 - 2012. The bottom line showing the Mark-Recapture to Bendix ratio clearly correlates with the historic escapement data in Table 2. ADFG Annual Management Report 2012.



JUDD LAKE
Contours in meters



LARSON LAKE
Contours in feet





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MANAGER'S REPORT

January 13, 2014

TO: MAYOR WYTHE / HOMER CITY COUNCIL

FROM: WALT WREDE

UPDATES / FOLLOW-UP

NOTE: Some of these items appeared in the last report. I have updated them and brought them back in case the Council wanted to discuss.

1. Natural Gas Conversions: City Hall is now heated with natural gas. The conversion was completed and the gas started flowing on January 8th. We are now paying less for energy and we have lowered greenhouse gas emissions by 30%. PW expect the library, animal shelter, sewer treatment plant, and the airport terminal to be converted and burning gas within the next 10 days.
2. 2014 Budget: The Finance Department is working hard to incorporate all of the budget amendments and produce the new and approved budget for 2014. We expect that hard copies will be available and the new budget posted online within the next few days. Fortunately, the budget still balanced after all of the amendments were made! The Finance Department is also preparing for the 2013 Audit which is coming up quickly.
3. Recodified City Code: You will recall that the 2013 Budget included money to recodify the code and improve its online presence. The project is now complete and it took almost a year. Thanks to Jo and to Tom Klinkner for all of their work on this project. The Code was reorganized and consolidated, inconsistencies and redundancies were addressed to the extent possible, and the code is now on a website actively managed by an outside company. The paper code is now half the size because it is double sided. All ordinances will be codified within 3 to 5 days of passage and placed online. There are new and much improved search functions that will make it easier for the public to access the Code and find what they want. This is a real upgrade and I hope Jo gets an opportunity to talk about it a little.
4. Wastewater Agreement with Kachemak City: This agenda contains a resolution approving a new wastewater agreement between the City of Homer and Kachemak City. This agreement has not been updated since it was originally signed in 1988. The new version is mostly an update and removes much of the language that is no longer relevant; especially all of language having to do with construction of the new sewer treatment plant and the sewer lines in Kachemak City. One thing of particular note is that the draft agreement

says the baseline average for gallons put into the system is 2,500 instead of 3,500. You will recall that this was a big issue for Kachemak City when the new water and sewer rate fee schedule was approved. Since the fee schedule was approved, we have spent more time talking to Kachemak City about this and we are pretty certain that the average monthly number of gallons placed into the collection system is significantly less than 3,500. There are many reasons for this including the fact that everyone either hauls water or has it delivered. People who do that tend to be much more conservation minded. Also, the demographics there are changing. Kids are grown up and moving out, the population is aging, and many residences have only two occupants. The new rate model was based primarily upon consumption. Keeping that in mind, it seems inconsistent with the intent of the model to charge people for more than they are actually using. Installing meters is problematic for a variety of reasons and measuring how much water people use is complicated because it is delivered, hauled, collected by roof cistern systems, and obtained via wells. 2,500 gallons seems like a reasonable number. The available evidence seems to suggest that the average is probably less than that. Another reason for dropping the number to 2,500 is that Kachemak City residents do not have the ability to shut off their meters and pay less during the months that they are away and are not putting anything into the system. They pay the full amount whether they are home or not. We recommend changing the amount to 2,500. If Council agrees, we will have to amend the fee schedule. The estimated fiscal impact is about \$27,000.

5. Emergency Services Agreement with Kachemak City: This agenda contains a resolution approving a new emergency services agreement with Kachemak City. The new agreement is not much different from the old one but it renews and updates this long standing relationship. The basics are the same. Homer provides Fire and EMS services to Kachemak. Kachemak contributes a fire truck that Homer can use, a place to house and station the truck, and payment equal to 1 Mil based upon total property values in Kachemak. This relationship has worked well over the years, benefits both parties, and we recommend renewal.
6. Virtualization: The IT staff is working to install the newly budgeted virtualization equipment. They are presently evaluating vendors and models and the merits of leasing rather than purchasing. The equipment will be purchased to be compatible with what already exists which under the procurement policies, is a justification for going sole source. This will be a large upgrade to the City's IT infrastructure and we appreciate the Council's support.
7. Recreation Service Area: Right before the Christmas break I participated in a teleconference with Mike Illg, Kate Crowley from ReCreate Rec, the Borough Attorney, and a staff member from Mayor Navarre's office. A lot of good information was exchanged. I would be happy to talk about this a little at the meeting if there is interest. Council could also invite Kate to give an update and progress report at a future meeting.
8. Camp Fee Station: The camp fee building has continued to take a pounding from some of the storms we have experienced this year. One of the storms over the holidays damaged the electrical box and exposed the sewer line. In order to prevent further damage, PW is hiring a contractor to lift the building and move it back to a safe place in the parking lot. Utilities will be capped or shut off and the pilings will be removed. The building will stay in

that location until a final destination is determined. You will recall that there has been discussion about moving that building over to the “Pier One Lot”. The parks staff suggests that Mariner Park would also be a good location.

9. **Vehicle in Lake:** Right before Christmas a vehicle broke through the ice and was partially submerged on Beluga Lake. Chief Robl worked to get the owner to take responsibility and have it hauled out. His efforts were unsuccessful. DOT/PF was contacted for assistance but they were reluctant or unable to provide assistance. DEC was in touch but was not in a position to provide assistance beyond advice. To make a long story short, we decided to hire a contractor to extract the vehicle from the lake. We will send the owner the bill and take other necessary steps to reimburse the City. The estimated cost was \$2,000.
10. **Scheduling:** One item that appeared in the last report but did not get discussed due to the big agenda was scheduling. The Council has said that it wants to do a citizen academy and some strategic planning, all this winter. Time will slip away fast if we don't start mapping this out. Attached is a memo from Katie regarding the Citizen's Academy which talks about preparation time and all of the steps that might be involved.

ATTACHMENTS

1. January Employee Anniversaries
2. Memorandum on Citizen Academy

