STATUS OF STEELHEAD IN ALASKA

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Presentation Topics

- Distribution
- Fisheries
- Monitoring Data
- Concerns and conclusions
Stock Status Assessment

- Snorkel surveys
- Weir counts of kelts and or adults upstream
- Length sampling
Steelhead Index Streams in Southeast Alaska
Southeast Alaska Steelhead Snorkel
Survey Index Stream; Relative Abundances

Yearly average proportion
Southeast Alaska Steelhead Snorkel Survey Index Stream; Abundance
Weir Counts
Situk River Weir Counts – Southeast Alaska

Number of Steelhead Kelts

- Count
- 10 year mean
- All year median


Counts:
- 2003: 7,964
- 2004: 12,462
- 2005: 12,265
- 2006: 15,003
- 2007: 12,438
- 2008: 7,312
- 2009: 7,302
- 2010: 5,335
- 2011: 7,424
- 2012: 4,864
- 2013: 7,533

10 year mean:
- Total: 6,509.5
- Average: 1084.92

All year median:
- Total: 7,382
- Average: 1230.33
Sashin Creek Weir Counts – Southeast Alaska

- Count
- 10 year mean
- All year median

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th># of Steelhead adults</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>2013</td>
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Litnik Weir Counts – Kodiak Area

Number of steelhead kelts

<table>
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- **Count**
- **All data median**
- **10 year mean**
Ayakulik Weir Counts – Kodiak Area

Number of steelhead kelts

Year: 2003 - 790
Year: 2004 - 591
Year: 2005 - 319
Year: 2006 - 342
Year: 2007 - 790
Year: 2008 - 769
Year: 2009 - 769
Year: 2010 - 585
Year: 2011 - 546
Year: 2012 - 559
Year: 2013 - 768
Types of fishery harvest

• Sport Fish
• Subsistence
• Commercial – non target
• Southcentral Alaska
  Harvest Limit: 1 per day, 2 annually (> 20 inches)
  Spawning area closures
  Winter closures
  Kodiak Road Zone: C&R
  Trout: 2 per day (11-16) in combination with cutthroat

• Southeast Alaska
  Harvest Limit: 1 per day, 2 annually (> 36 inches)
  Catch and release
  Spawning area closures
  Trout: 2 per day (11-22) in combination with cutthroat

• Upper Copper River
  2 per day, 1 > 20 in.
  Catch and release
  Spawning closures
Statewide Harvest Survey; Angling Harvest

- Number of steelhead harvested
- Southcentral
- Southeast
- Total

X-axis: Years 2003 to 2012
Y-axis: Number of steelhead harvested

Graph shows fluctuations in the number of steelhead harvested from 2003 to 2012, with peaks in 2005 and 2012 for the Total category, and in 2006 for the Southcentral category.
Subsistence Harvest


<table>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Harvest Recorded on Federal Permits</th>
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Management Issues:

Habitat Degradation

- Roads
- Hydroelectric Projects
- Timber Harvest Management
- Situk Glacial flood

Undocumented harvest in commercial and subsistence fisheries

Angler expectation
Future management directions

- Stock status data needed
- Continue long term datasets
- Survey unknown streams
- Manage conservatively
  - Trout management plan
    - Protection of habitat
    - Maintain size and age attributes
Current conservative regulations provide for sustainability of steelhead stocks while allowing for a productive sport fishery.

- Harvests remain low.
- Size attributes remain within normal variation where assessed.
- Current abundances of steelhead in the assessed streams of Alaska appear to be within normal variation
  - SE streams have remained near average, while SC streams have been more variable but experienced recent above average counts.

Sustainable fisheries, habitat conservation, and maintenance of current stock attributes remains the primary focus.
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THE END