STATUS OF STEELHEAD IN ALASKA

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Steelhead Streams in Alaska
Steelhead Streams in Southeast Alaska
Steelhead Streams in Southcentral Alaska
Stock Status Assessments

- Weir counts of kelts and or adults upstream
  - Length sampling
  - Scale sampling and analysis
  - Southeast and South central

- Snorkel surveys
  - Peak Counts
  - Used only in Southeast Alaska
  - Run timing
Index Streams in Southeast Alaska

- Situk River
- Peterson Creek
- Pleasant Bay Creek
- Petersberg Creek
- Ward Creek
- White River
- Sashin Creek
- Ford Arm Creek
- Sitkoh Creek
- Slippery Creek
- Eagle Creek
- Harris River
Index Streams in Southcentral Alaska

- Litnik River
- Karluk River
- Ayakulik River
- Dog Salmon River
Southeast Alaska Steelhead Snorkel Survey Index Stream; Relative Abundances

Regional Trend In SEAK Steelhead Index Surveys

- Eagle Creek
- Ford Arm Creek
- Harris River
- Petersburg Creek
- Peterson Creek
- Pleasant Bay Creek
- Sitkoh Creek
- Slippery Creek
- Ward Creek
- White River
- Average
Southeast Alaska Steelhead Snorkel Survey Index Streams; Abundance

- Total Yearly Index Count of Steelhead
- Reported stream count
- Mean
Weir Counts – Southeast Alaska

### Situk River
- **Kelt Count**
- **10 Year Mean**
- **All year median**

### Sashin Creek
- **Adult count**
- **10 year Mean**
- **All Year Median**
Weir Counts – Southcentral Alaska

Dog Salmon River

- Kelt Count
- 10 Year Mean
- All Year Median

Ayakulik

- Kelt Count
- 10 year Mean
Types of Fishery Removal

• Sport Fish
• Commercial – non target
• Subsistence
**Sport Fishery Regulations**

- **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 (11-22) in combination with cutthroat

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

- **Upper Copper River**
  - 2 per day, 1 (> 20 inches)
  - Catch and release
  - Spawning closures
Statewide Catch Survey; Angling Catch

Number of Steelhead Caught in Sport Fisheries

- Total Alaska
- Southeast Alaska
- Southcentral Alaska

Reported Steelhead Harvests in Commercial Fisheries

Commercial Steelhead Harvest Alaska
Steelhead Harvested in Subsistence Fisheries

Harvest Recorded on Federal Permits
Total Removals of Steelhead in Alaska

- **Sport**
- **Commercial**
- **Subsistence**
Mean Total Length of Steelhead Kelts Sampled at the Situk River Weir
Management Issues:

Habitat Degradation

- Hydroelectric Projects
- Timber Harvest Management
- Culvert Maintenance

Hatcheries

Undocumented harvest in commercial and subsistence fisheries

Angler expectation management

: What targets to manage for?
### Future Management Directions

- **Preemptive Management**
  - **Trout management plan**
    - Protection of habitat and species interactions
    - Maintain size and age attributes
  - Emphasize importance of Fishery
  - Stock status data needed
    - Large basins and Mainland
  - Continue long term datasets
  - Survey unknown steams
  - Create goals for indexes
### Situk River Steelhead Counts and Abundance Goal

- **Kelt Count**
- **Upper bound**
- **Lower bound**
- **10 Year Mean**
- **All Year Median**

**SEG method.**
• Harvests are highly restricted and remain low, but relative harvests per type have changed recently.

• Size attributes remain within normal variation where assessed.

• Current abundances of steelhead in the assessed streams of Alaska appear to be within normal variation?

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