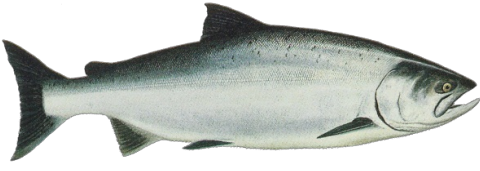


Chinook salmon Alaska

Fishery:  Copper River  Alaska  United States  Drift gillnets

IDENTIFICATION



SCIENTIFIC NAME

Oncorhynchus tshawytscha

SPECIES NAME(S)

Chinook salmon, King Salmon

COMMON NAMES

Chinook salmon, king salmon

STOCK IDENTIFICATION

Fishery profile for review

Click [here](#) to learn how you can contribute

This fishery was recertified by the Marine Stewardship Council system in November 2013. Click [here](#) to link to the MSC fishery page and to learn more about the MSC fishery certification unit.



RELATED LINKS:

- [Alaska Department of Fish and Game \(ADF&G\)](#)
- [Alaska Department of Fish and Game \(ADF&G\)](#)

ASSESSMENT

Strengths

1. Alaska is displaying responsiveness to emerging stock status issues through the regulatory listing of some stocks, declaration of a State of Disaster in some management regions in 2012, and development of a statewide research plan to address knowledge gaps with the species. 2. The 2009 edition of the Pacific Salmon Treaty (PST) stipulated an overall reduction in exploitation rate of the Southeast troll fishery by 30% for 2009-2018 to protect weak stocks. 3. Monitoring of harvest and stock composition in the troll fishery is fairly robust.

1. Management has demonstrated improved responsiveness to in-season stock status in recent years. 2. Extensive stock identification studies have been carried out over the past eight years, yielding improved knowledge regarding sub-stock diversity in the Copper basin. 3. There is no hatchery production of Chinook salmon in the Copper basin.

Weaknesses

1. Many stocks in the Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim and Cook Inlet regions are exhibiting depressed returns. 2. Mean length at age measures are exhibiting declines among Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim stocks. 3. High cumulative overage (harvest vs. post-season allowable catch) is noted in the Southeast Alaska troll fishery in 1999-2011. Overages in one year are not corrected for in the next year. 4. The release of adipose fin-clipped hatchery fish without Coded Wire Tags by Pacific Northwest hatcheries is a potential threat to the integrity of the Coded Wire Tagging stock composition monitoring program, long used to estimate hatchery and wild contributions to catch. 5. There is high incidental mortality in the Southeast Alaska troll fishery, amounting to approximately 14% of the legal harvest.

Wild yield has declined at a meaningful rate over the past 15 years, and Chinook populations elsewhere in Alaska and the Eastern Pacific are similarly in decline. 2. Until genetic baseline studies are completed (foreseen before the 2013 fishing season), it is uncertain whether or not the single escapement goal and schedule of fishery openings and closures are adequately protecting sub-stock diversity.

SCORES

Management Quality:

| Management Strategy | Managers Compliance | Fishers Compliance |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 7 to 10 | 6.5 to 10 | 7 to 10 |

Stock Health:

| Current Health | Future Health |
|----------------|---------------|
| 6 to 10 | 6 to 10 |

FIPS

No related FIPs

MSC

- Alaska salmon:

MSC Recertified

RECOMMENDATIONS

RETAILERS & SUPPLY CHAIN

- Monitor the progress in closing out conditions placed upon the MSC certification of the fishery and if agreed timelines are met. Offer assistance in closing conditions where possible.