Chinook salmon
Alaska
Fishery: Southeast Alaska, United States, Purse seines

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 state-wide 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 15% for 2009-2018 to protect weak stocks. 3. Monitoring of harvest and stock composition in the troll fishery is fairly robust.

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, used to estimate hatchery and wild contributions to catch. 5. There is high incidental mortality in the Southeast Alaska troll fishery, amounting to approximately 15% of the legal harvest.

Recently two of the more productive stocks in the fishery, the Alsek and Situk, have missed multiple escapement goals. 2. The Alaskan legislature recently failed to renew the Alaska Coastal Zone Management Program, putting salmon habitat in the region at risk.

Options
Renew the Alaska Coastal Zone Management Program. 2. Fund long-term efforts to explore reasons for Chinook salmon stock status declines in Alaska

SCORES

Management Quality: 7 to 10  
Managers Compliance: 6.5 to 10  
Fishers Compliance: 7 to 10

Stock Health:

Current Health: 6 to 10  
Future Health: 6 to 10

FIPS

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.