Water & Environment Committee
Council of State Governments
Anchorage, August 9, 2014
Fish Come First: Conservation is Sustainability

- Fish: Core to Alaskan Values
- KRSA: Our Role in Fishery Conservation
- Kenai River: Conservation Partnerships Work
- Conservation-based Management Benefits Fish, Users
- Alaska Empowers the Public in Fisheries Public Policy
- Public Funding, Adaptive Government Critical
Fish: Core to Alaska

- Fish are Iconic in Alaska, Woven into Fabric of Society
- Subsistence, Personal Use, Sport & Commercial Fisheries
- Food, Cultural, Social, Recreational, Economic Values
- Fish influence Quality of Life, Food Security, Jobs
- Fish Tales – Rich Traditions of Stories & Heritage
- Fish Tails – Success in Conservation, Fisheries Policy & Management, Public Participation, Human Usages
What is KRSA?

- KRSA: a Leading Conservation Organization in AK
- 501 (c) 3 non-profit / Anglers & Conservationists
- Fish Habitat, Fisheries Policy, Research, Education
- The Kenai: World-class fishery, Well-managed waterway
- Cooperative, Conservation model – Local, State, Federal
- Public / Private Investment, Positive Change
Fish Habitat
Responsible Angler Access
Fisheries Policy
Public Access to Fisheries
Education
Promote Stewardship
• Largest Sport, Personal Use Fisheries in Alaska
• Crown Jewel: Award-winning public/private partnerships
• Fish Friendly Regs: Boats, Motors, Boardwalks, Conservation Easements, Culverts, Habitat Setback, Spawning/Bank Closures
• Streamlined Permitting: One location, multiple agencies
• Investment in Fish Habitat: Cost Share, KPFHP, EVOS, PCSRF
• Partners: Education, Research, Monitoring efforts
Fish Come First Philosophy
Benefits Fish and Users

- Fish Come First Embedded in Fish Policies
- Fish Data Drives Policy, Management Decisions
- Government, Industry & Public Alignment
- No Overfished Stocks, Long-term Success Record
- Model for Fisheries Management Elsewhere
- Robust Fisheries Values Benefit Users, Alaska
Fisheries are Big Business in Alaska

- $6 billion in direct, indirect and induced expenditures
- Support 100,000 direct and indirect jobs
- Greater than $200 million in state and local taxes
- Primary source of subsistence food for rural Alaskans
- Important source of food security for low income families
Who harvests fish and game?
Resource harvests by use in Alaska

Commercial fishing 98.2%

$N = 3.306$ billion pounds

Red = subsistence uses
Green = personal uses
Orange = sport uses
Blue = commercial uses

Source: ADFG

Source: Developed by Northern Economics based on data from Hiatt 2008b.
Total Alaska Seafood Workforce: 56,606

- Shore-based Harvesting Workforce: 25,577 or 46% of total
- Shore-based Processing Workforce: 22,690 or 40% of total
- At-Sea Processing Workforce: 6,203 or 11% of total
- At-Sea Harvesting Workforce: 1,936 or 3% of total

Source: Estimated by Northern Economics using from ADOLWD (2008a), CFEC (2008), and Hiatt (2008a)
TOTAL SPORTFISHING EXPENDITURES, ALL ANGLERS

$1.4 billion

Residents
$733 million
53%

Nonresidents
$652 million
47%

Source: ADFG
TOTAL ANGLER SPENDING
BY CATEGORY

Fishing-related Real Estate Expenditures 13%

Fishing-related Equipment 35%

Trip-related Expenses, except packages 42%

Travel Packages 10%
(Nonresidents only)

Source: ADFG
## Average Per Day Expenditure for Trip-Related Items Only, Including Package Trips
(Lodging, fuel, food, travel packages, etc.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Per Day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Alaska Fishing Combined</td>
<td>$277.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residents Only</td>
<td>$150.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Residents Only</td>
<td>$448.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Saltwater</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residents, Unguided</td>
<td>$162.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residents, Guided</td>
<td>$466.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Residents, Unguided</td>
<td>$209.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Residents, Guided</td>
<td>$744.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Freshwater</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residents, Unguided</td>
<td>$91.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residents, Guided</td>
<td>$509.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Residents, Unguided</td>
<td>$213.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Residents, Guided</td>
<td>$790.41</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Average Expenditure for Non-Resident Fishing: $450 /day

Non-Resident, Unguided: $210/day

Non-Resident, Guided: $770/day

2007 ADFG Report Economic Impacts and Contributions of Sportfishing in Alaska

Average Expenditure For Non-Resident to Alaska per Trip: $760 / Trip

Average Stay 8.8 Days

Alaska Visitor Statistics Program (2006-07)

Source: ADFG
## Wild food harvests in Alaska:
### Nutritional and replacement values

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rural areas</th>
<th>Annual wild food harvest (pounds per person)</th>
<th>Annual wild food harvest (total pounds usable weight)</th>
<th>Percent of population's required:</th>
<th>Estimated wild food replacement value at $4.00/pound</th>
<th>Estimated wild food replacement value at $8.00/pound</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Southcentral</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>1,368,571</td>
<td>117%</td>
<td>$5,474,284</td>
<td>$10,948,568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kodiak Island</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>2,229,342</td>
<td>101%</td>
<td>$8,917,367</td>
<td>$17,834,734</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>5,537,324</td>
<td>128%</td>
<td>$22,149,296</td>
<td>$44,298,593</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwest-Aleutian</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>3,416,176</td>
<td>130%</td>
<td>$13,664,705</td>
<td>$27,329,409</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interior</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>3,211,194</td>
<td>205%</td>
<td>$12,844,777</td>
<td>$25,689,554</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arctic</td>
<td>438</td>
<td>11,010,583</td>
<td>280%</td>
<td>$44,042,333</td>
<td>$88,084,665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western</td>
<td>425</td>
<td>10,099,562</td>
<td>271%</td>
<td>$40,398,250</td>
<td>$80,796,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td><strong>295</strong></td>
<td><strong>36,872,753</strong></td>
<td><strong>189%</strong></td>
<td><strong>$147,491,012</strong></td>
<td><strong>$294,982,023</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Urban areas</th>
<th>Annual wild food harvest (pounds per person)</th>
<th>Annual wild food harvest (total pounds usable weight)</th>
<th>Percent of population's required:</th>
<th>Estimated wild food replacement value at $4.00/pound</th>
<th>Estimated wild food replacement value at $8.00/pound</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ketchikan Area</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>473,626</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>$1,894,506</td>
<td>$3,789,011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juneau Area</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>715,553</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>$2,662,212</td>
<td>$5,724,424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mat-Su Area</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>2,448,794</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>$9,795,176</td>
<td>$19,590,352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairbanks-Delta</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>2,093,631</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>$8,374,526</td>
<td>$16,749,051</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenai Peninsula</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>2,346,621</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>$9,386,483</td>
<td>$18,772,966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anchorage Area</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>5,075,980</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>$20,303,922</td>
<td>$40,607,844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valdez</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>185,026</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>$740,103</td>
<td>$1,480,206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prudhoe Bay</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>47,761</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>$191,044</td>
<td>$382,089</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td><strong>22</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,386,993</strong></td>
<td><strong>14%</strong></td>
<td><strong>$53,547,972</strong></td>
<td><strong>$107,095,943</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Alaska Total         | **69**                                      | **50,259,746**                                         | **44%**                         | **$201,038,983**                                  | **$402,077,966**                                |
Composition of wild food harvest by rural Alaska residents

- Salmon: 32%
- Land Mammals: 23%
- Marine Mammals: 14%
- Wild Plants: 4%
- Birds and Eggs: 3%
- Shellfish: 3%

Percentage of households participating in subsistence activities in rural areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Harvesting game</th>
<th>Using game</th>
<th>Harvesting fish</th>
<th>Using fish</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arctic</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interior</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southcentral</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwest</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>98%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total rural</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: ADFG
Federal, State and Local public policy for fisheries

- Fish Policy (boards) distinct from Fish Management (agencies)
- Fish research & data (agency) instructs harvestable surpluses
- Public members are the fish policy decision makers (boards)
- Fisheries Policy in Alaska: open & transparent public process, public encouraged to participate and also serve on boards
- Industry, user groups, agencies & public all actively engage
- Allocation of fish is decided through public debate
Fishery Policy
Driven by Public Participation
Sustainable fisheries depend upon:
- Healthy Fish Habitat, Healthy Fish, Healthy Participation

Financing underpins all phases of healthy fisheries
- Habitat conservation, fish research, fisheries policies, public access, infrastructure, management, certifications

Public – Private partnerships work well, important

Invest $: Access to fish keeps people connected to fish
Fish On!
Questions & Answers
Ricky Gease
Kenai River Sportfishing Association
www.krsa.com
(907) 262-8588
ricky@krsa.com