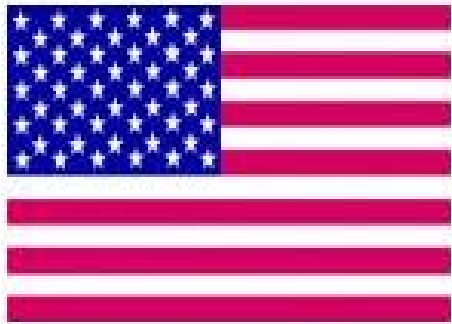


Yukon River 2009 Fall Season Projection and Alaska Outlook



**JTC Presentation to the US / Canada Panel
March 25 – 28, 2009
Whitehorse, Canada**

Yukon River Fall Salmon Fisheries

- Drainage-wide Fall Chum Stock Status
- 2009 Fall Chum Run Size Projection
- 2009 Fall Season Outlook for Alaska

Fall Chum Salmon Stock Status Summary

Odd/Even year cycle disrupted in mid-90's

- Strong parent year escapements produced poor returns in 1998 through 2002.
- Poor parent year escapements produced strong returns from 2003 to 2008.

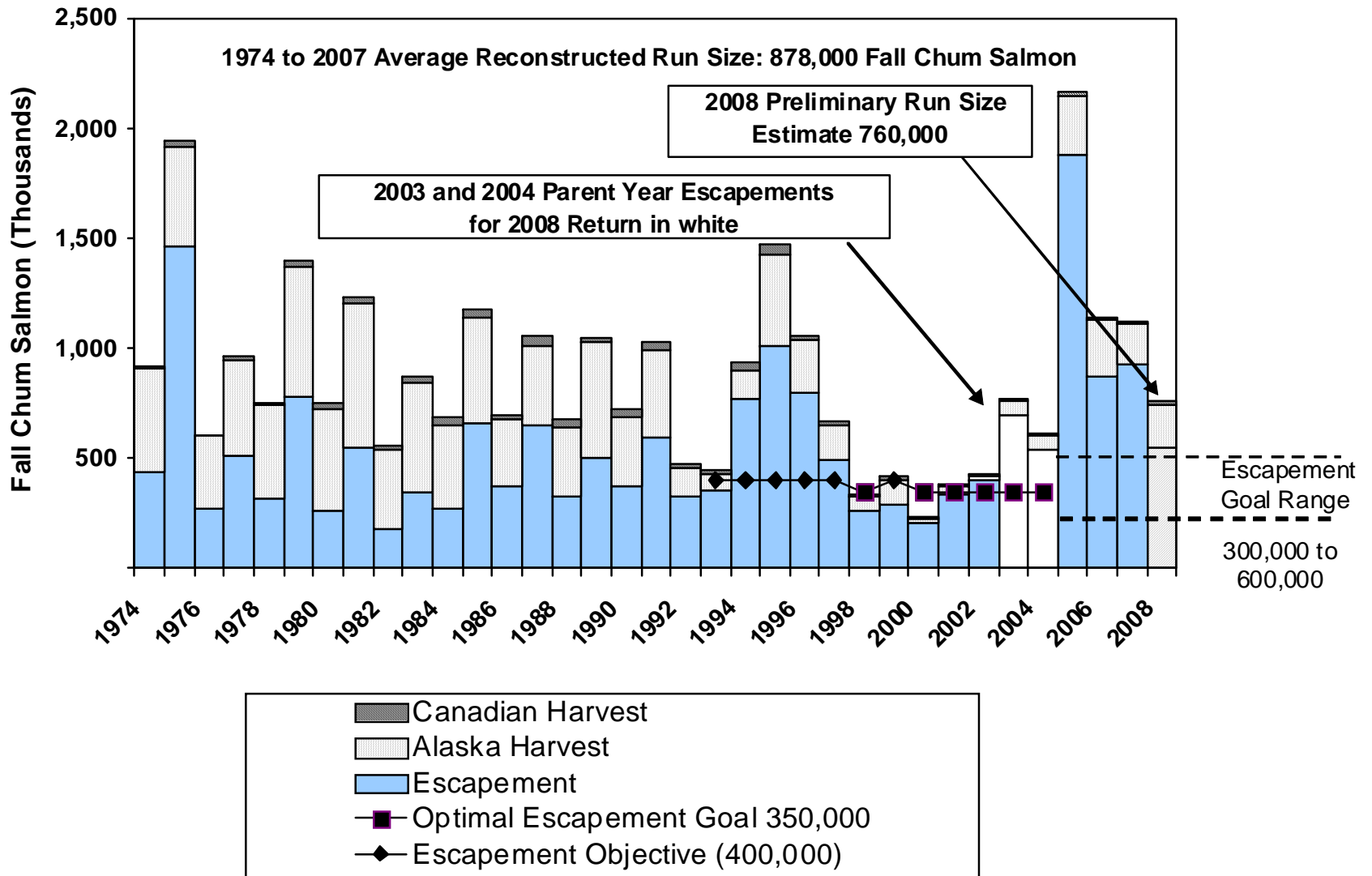
(Low escapements in 2000 and 2001 produced the 2005 record run)

Removed “Yield Concern” designation in 2004

- Commercial harvests have occurred each year in Alaska since 2003.
- Alaska subsistence opportunity has been liberalized each year since 2004.
- Drainage-wide escapement goal achieved each year since 2001 with most tributary goals consistently achieved.

 **Current production rate difficult to predict.**

Yukon River Fall Chum Salmon Reconstructed Total Run Size



2009 Fall Chum Projection



➤ Run size will be made up of primarily both 4 and 5 year old fish.

Age – 5 component will contribute approximately 173,000 fall chum based on sibling relationship.

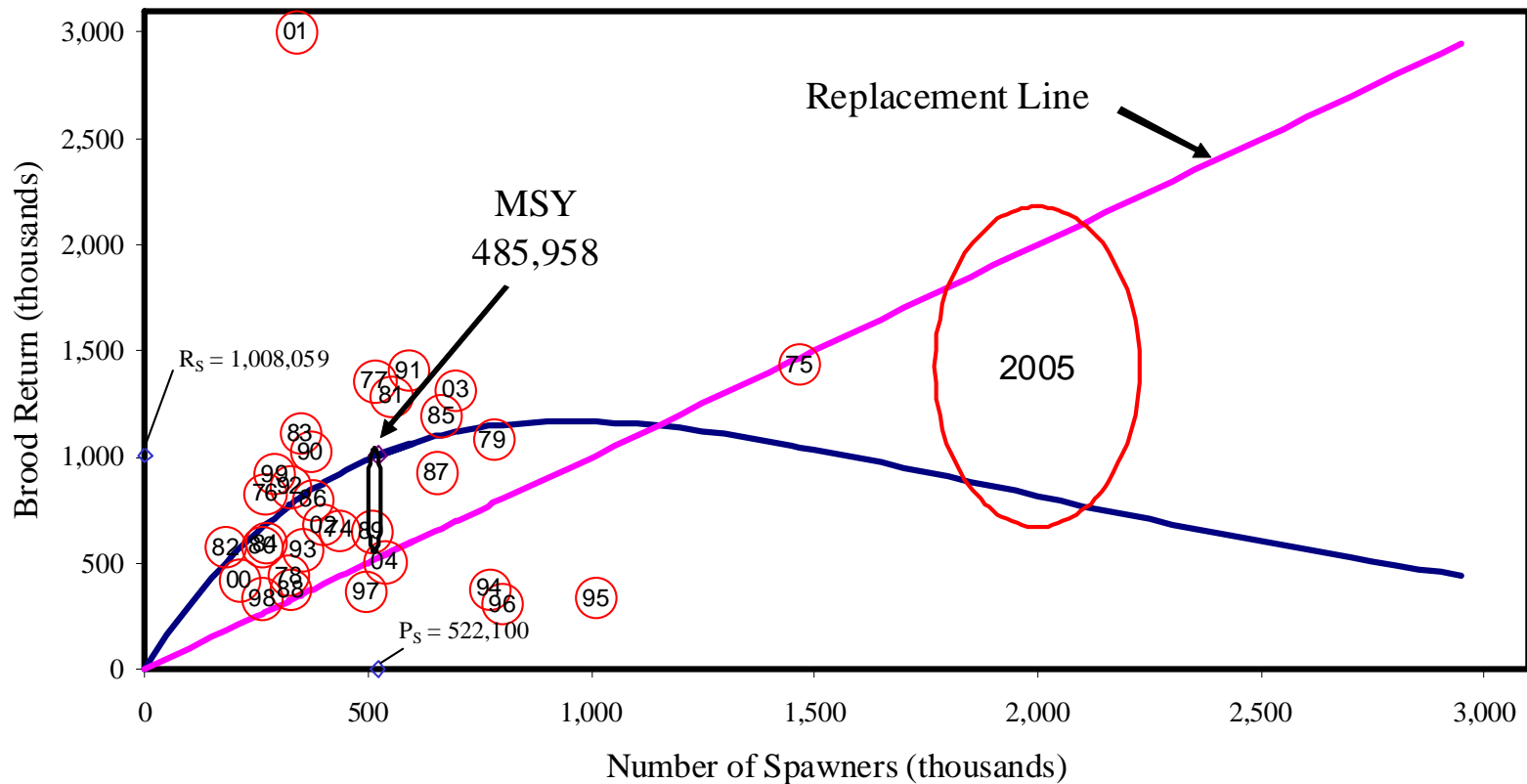
Age – 4 however.....

2009 Fall Chum Projection (cont.)



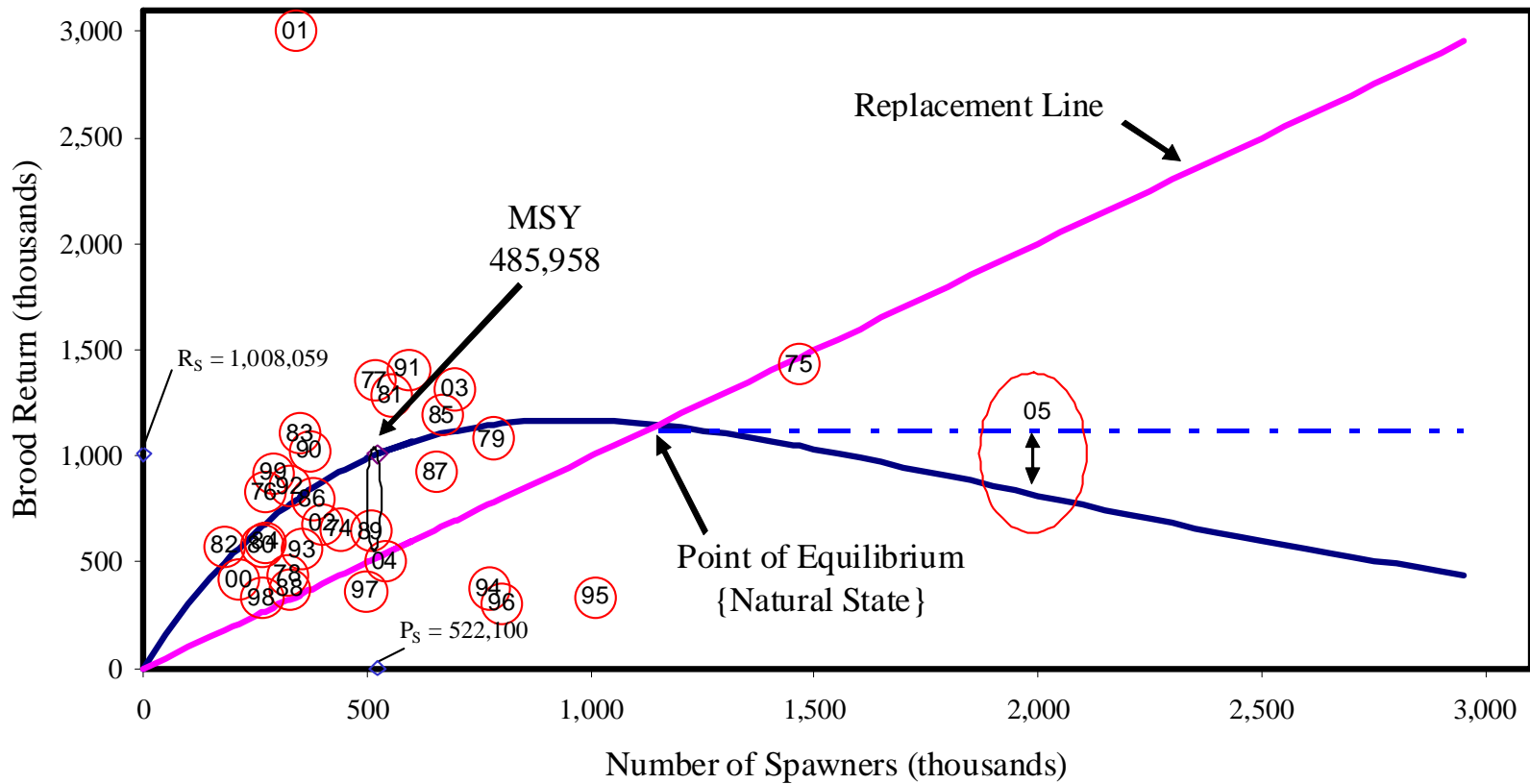
Age-4 Component
Uncertain

Yukon River Fall Chum Salmon Ricker Curve Projection



*Uncertainty around what return per spawner factor to use in projecting the 4-year old age component.

Yukon River Fall Chum Salmon Ricker Curve Projection



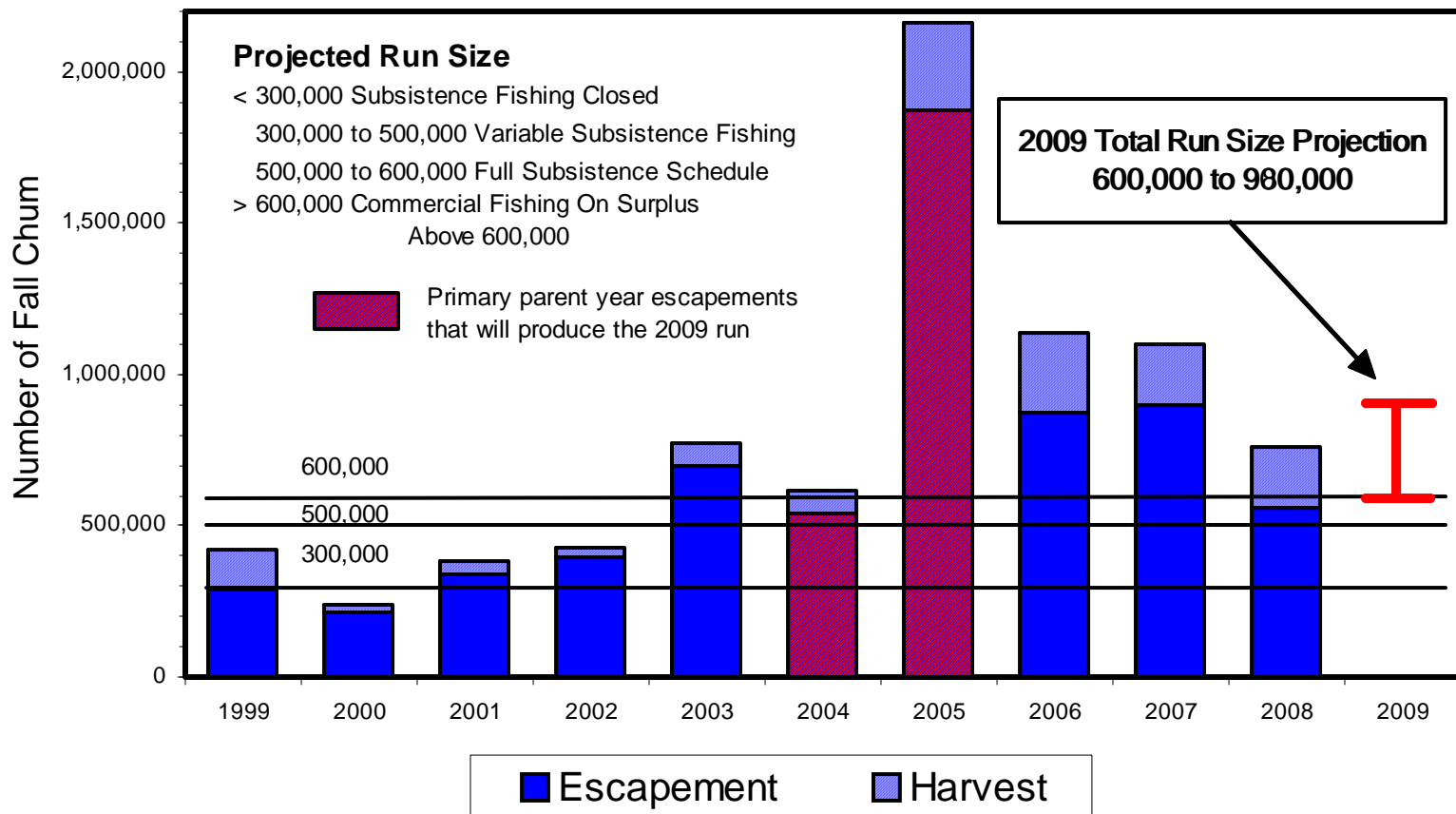
2009 Fall Chum Salmon Projection

Run Size => 600,000 to 980,000

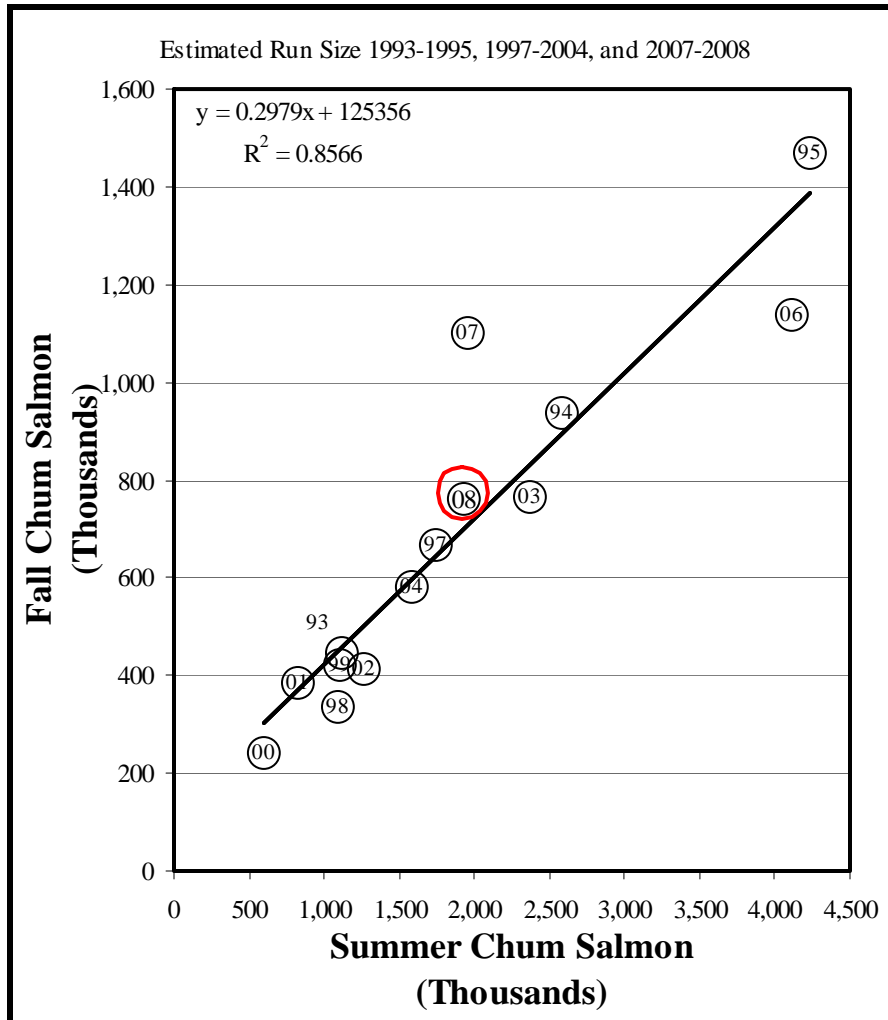
- Based on expectation of weak 5-year old age component from 2004 and the uncertainty of 4-year olds returning from a record escapement in 2005.

Yukon River Drainage Fall Chum Salmon Management Plan

Total Run Size and Escapement



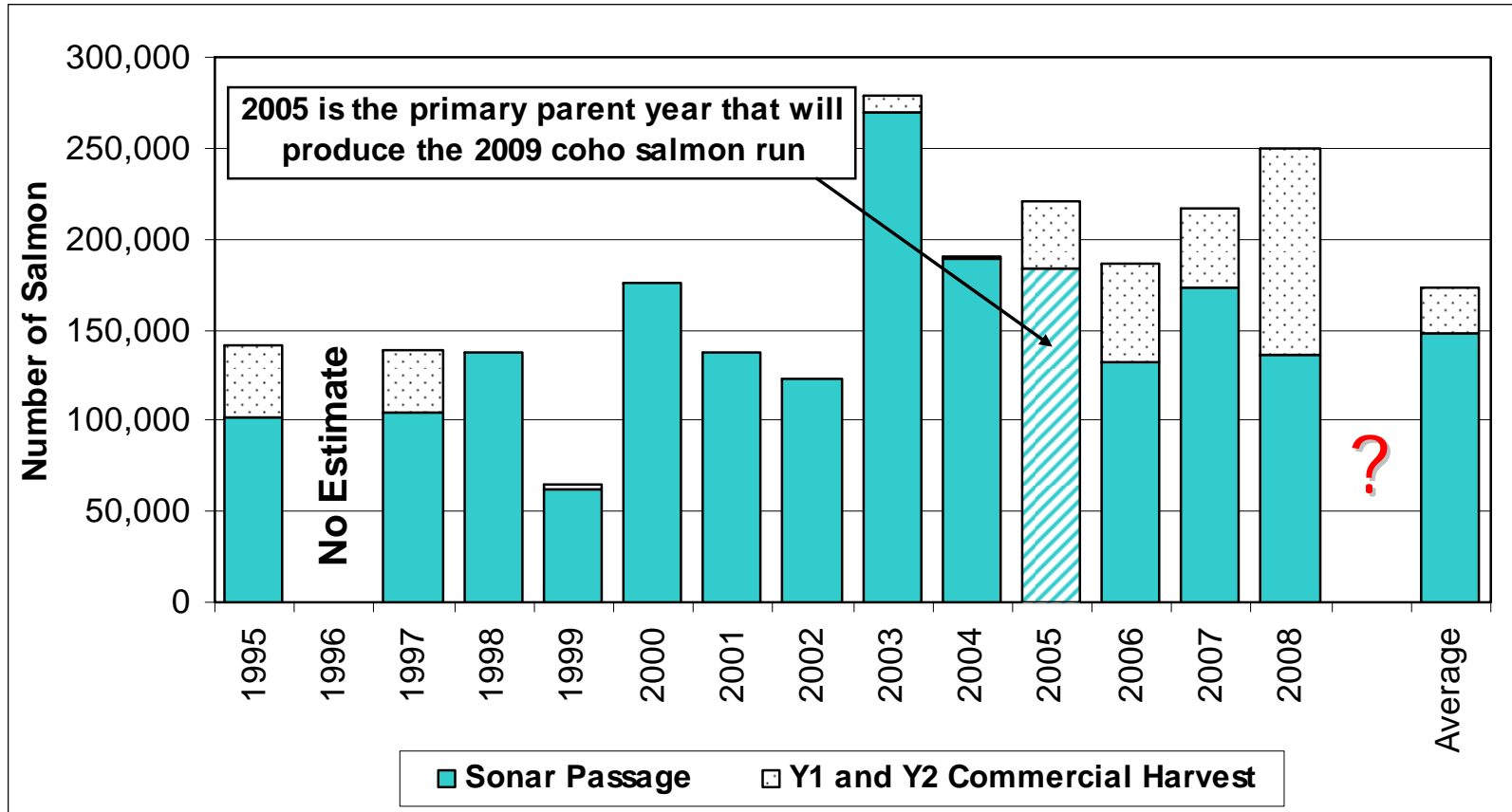
2009 Inseason Management



- An early inseason projection will be provided based on summer/fall relationship.
- Management actions will be based on evaluation of inseason indicators of run strength.

Coho Salmon Run

Pilot Station Sonar Index



2009 Fall Season Outlook

- ❑ Preseason run projection is 600,000 to 980,000 fall chum salmon.
- ❑ Coho salmon expected to be near average
- ❑ Anticipate:
 - Most escapement objectives will be attained including Canadian stock components.
 - Most subsistence fishermen will have adequate opportunity to harvest their fall fish.
 - Fall chum commercial harvest 50,000 to 300,000.
 - Coho commercial harvest 30,000 to 70,000.

Emmonak, AK

