

Subsistence Salmon Fisheries along the Yukon River, Alaska

Prepared for the Yukon Salmon Panel,
March 2009

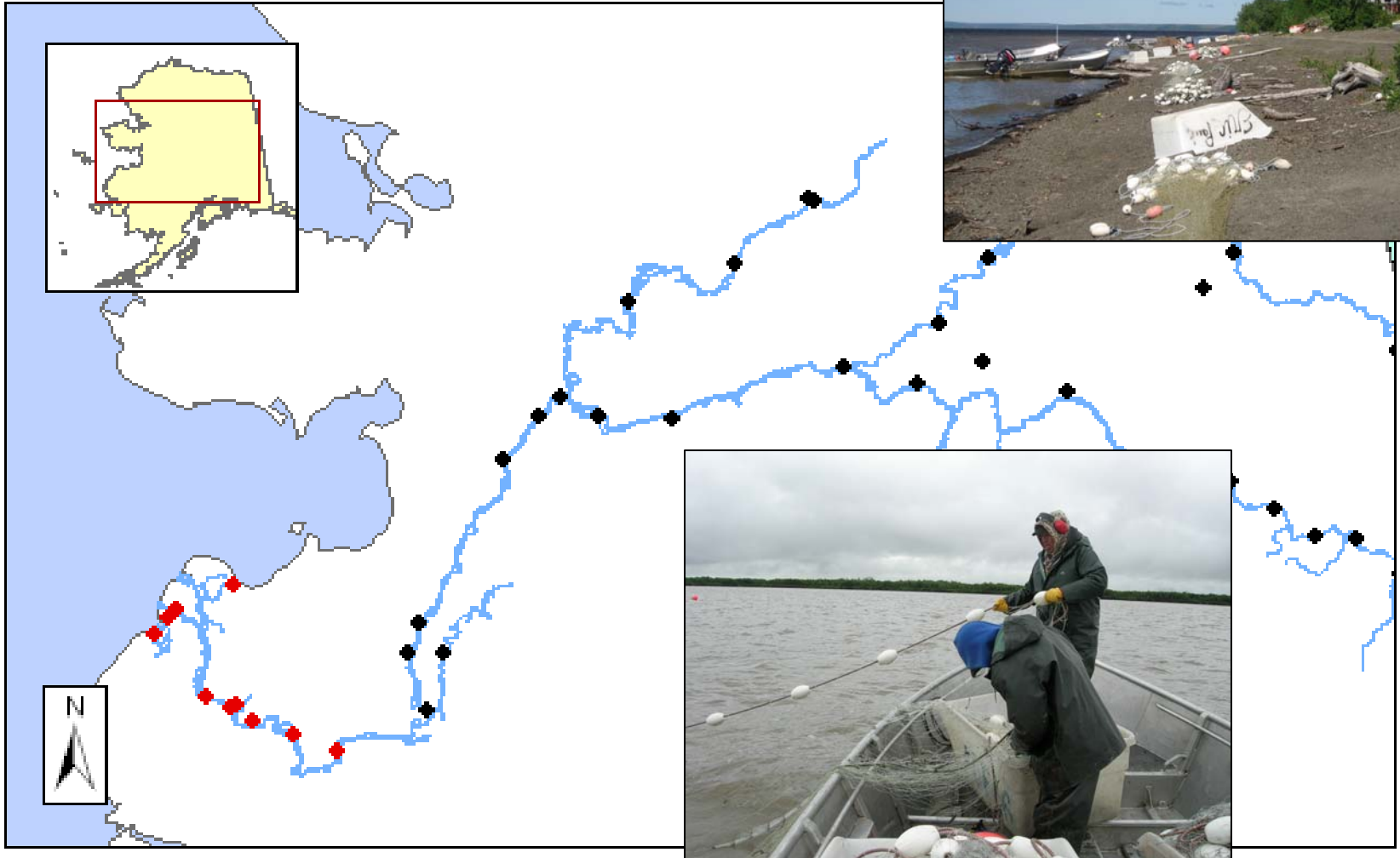
Alaska Department of Fish & Game



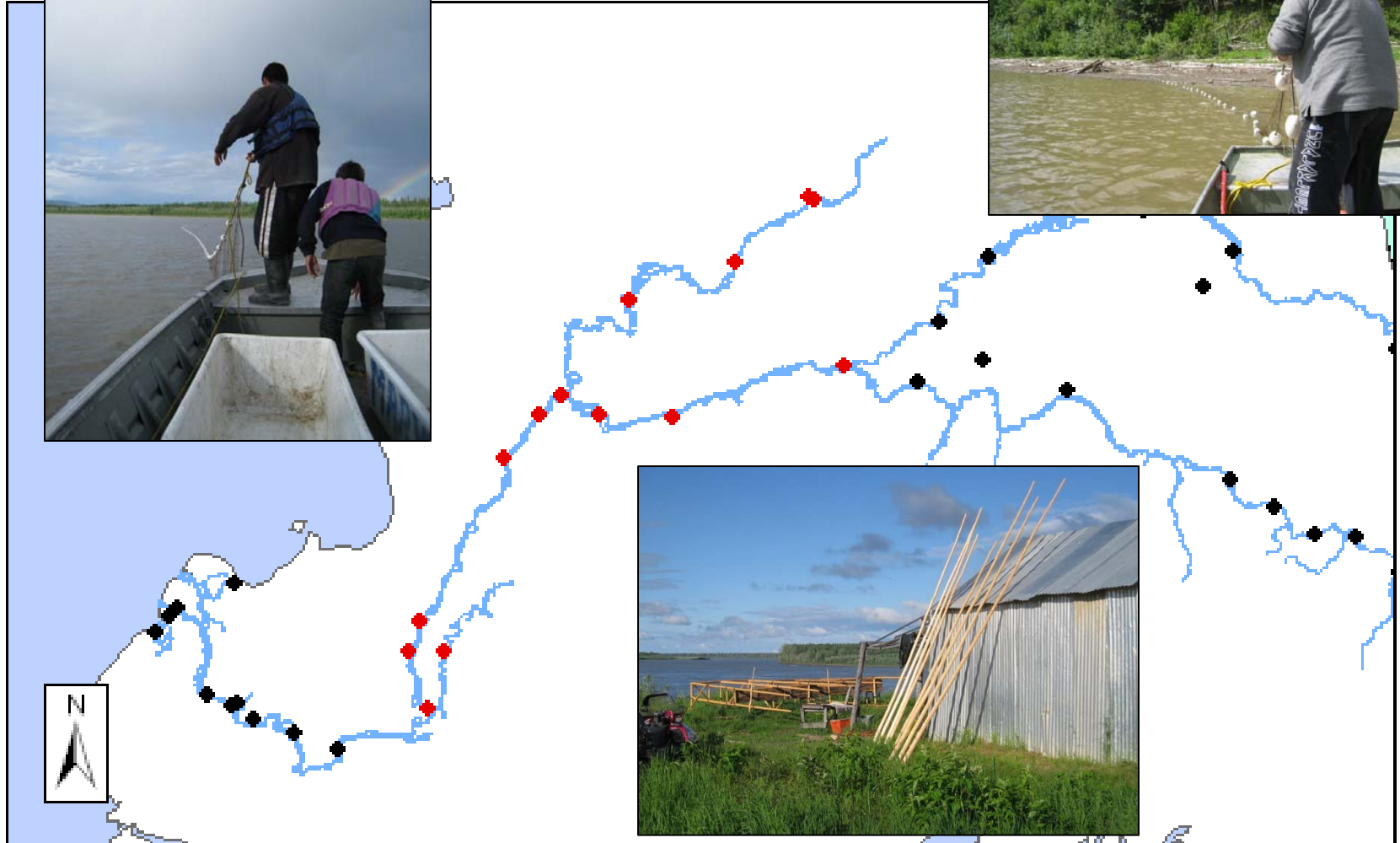
River-wide patterns of fishing



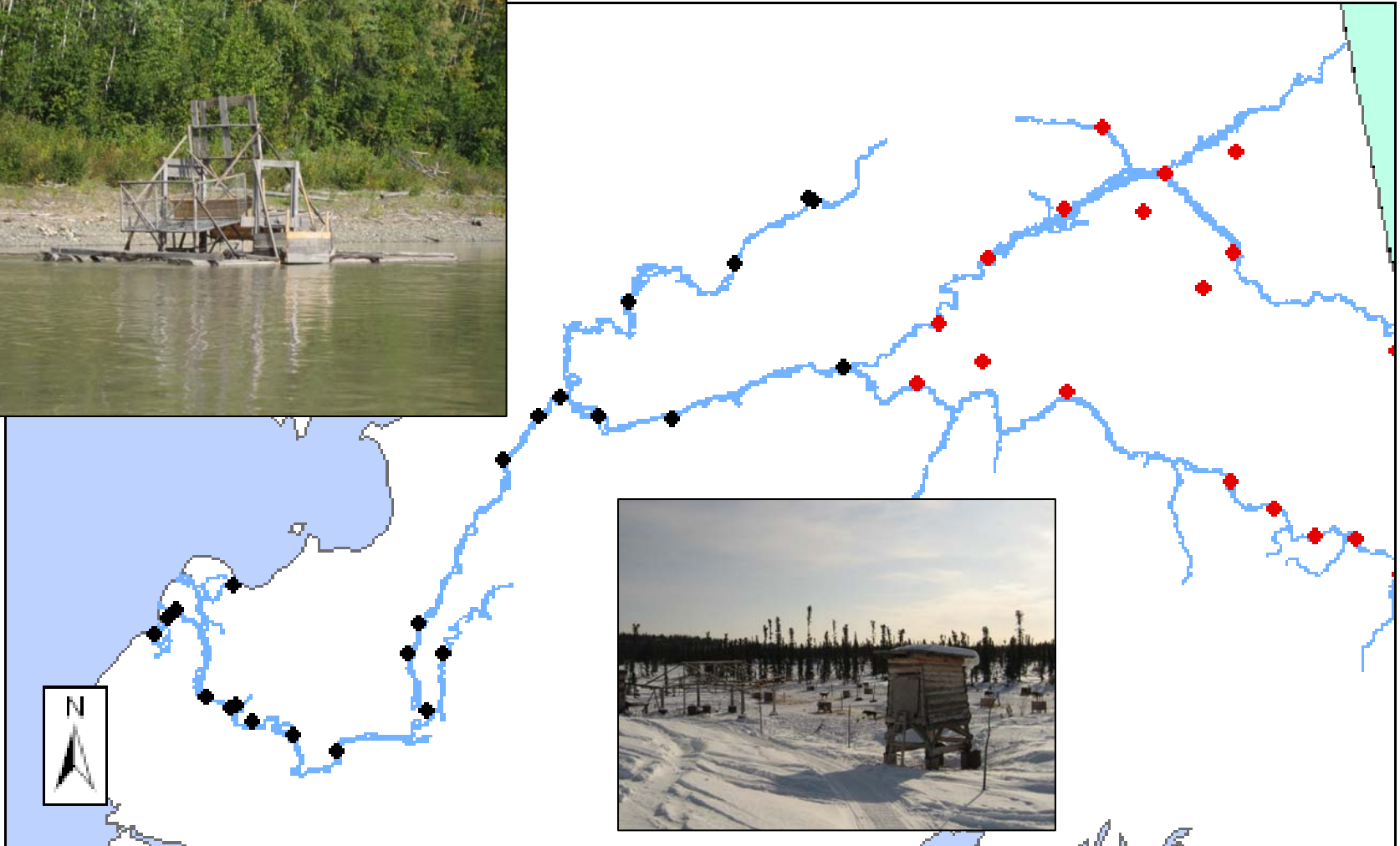
Fishing gear and methods lower river



Fishing Gear and Methods middle river



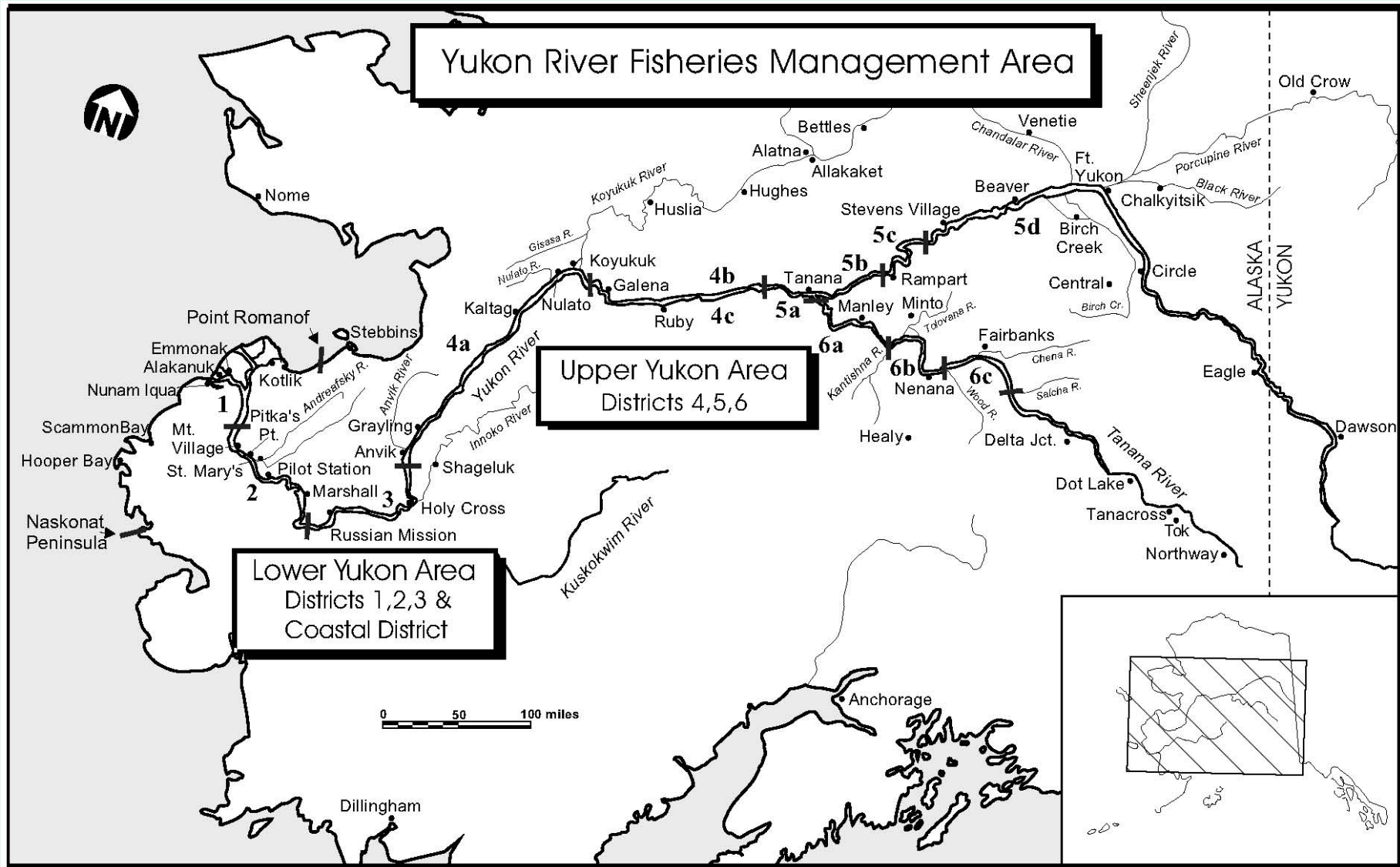
Fishing gear and methods upper river



Family groups and fish camps



Yukon River Management Areas, Alaska



2008 Subsistence fishing schedule (later modified)

Area	Regulatory subsistence salmon fishing periods	Schedule to begin	Days of the week
Coastal District	7 days/week	by regulation	M/T/W/TH/F/SA/SU – 24 hours
District 1	Two 36-hour periods/week	May 26, 2008	Mon. 8 pm to Wed. 8 am /Thu. 8 pm to Sat. 8 am
District 2	Two 36-hour periods/week	May 28, 2008	Wed. 8 pm to Fri. 8 am / Sun. 8 pm to Tue. 8 am
District 3	Two 36-hour periods/week	May 30, 2008	Tue. 8 am to Wed. 8 pm / Fri. 8 am to Sat. 8 pm
District 4	Two 48-hour periods/week	June 8, 2008	Sun. 6 pm to Tue. 6 pm / Wed. 6 pm to Fri. 6 pm
Koyukuk, Innoko, and Kantishna, Rivers	7 days/week	By Regulation	M/T/W/TH/F/SA/SU – 24 hours
Subdistricts 5-A, B, C	Two 48-hour periods/week	June 17, 2008	Tue. 6 pm to Thu. 6 pm /Fri. 6 pm to Sun. 6 pm
Subdistrict 5-D	7 days/week	By Regulation	M/T/W/TH/F/SA/SU – 24 hours
District 6	Two 42-hour periods/week	By Regulation	Mon. 6 pm to Wed. Noon /Fri. 6 pm to Sun. Noon
Old Minto Area	5 days/week	By Regulation	Friday 6pm to Wednesday 6pm

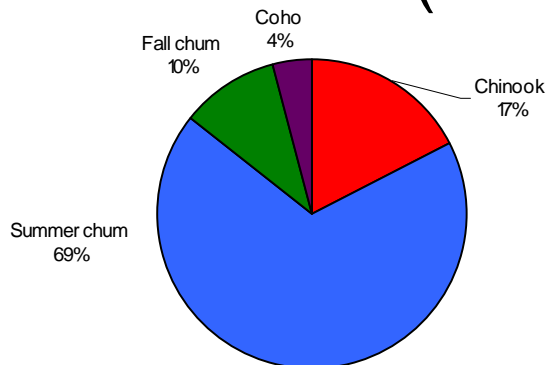
Harvests by species and district (1998-2007 average)

	Chinook	Summer chum	Fall chum	Coho
Coastal District	1,289	13,359	213	247
District 1	6,112	23,812	3,566	1,439
District 2	9,937	24,775	3,144	1,912
District 3	5,155	3,989	718	325
District 4	11,526	6,750	5,517	2,263
Koyukuk River	451	6,956	1,043	413
District 5	15,231	5,314	35,095	3,869
District 6	1,623	2,032	12,858	10,038
TOTAL	51,322	86,988	62,154	20,506

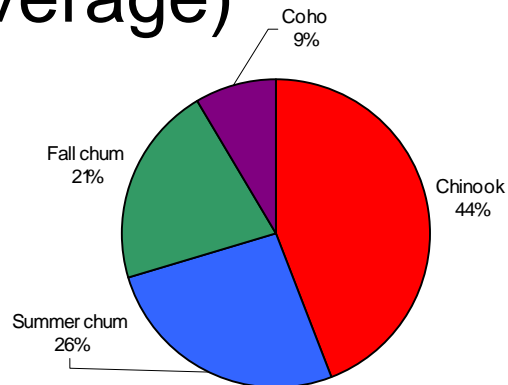
% of Species harvested by district

(1998-2007 average)

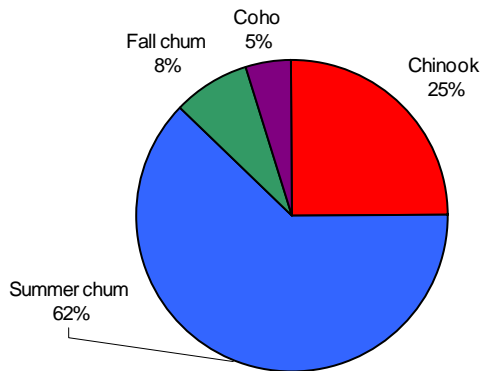
Y-1



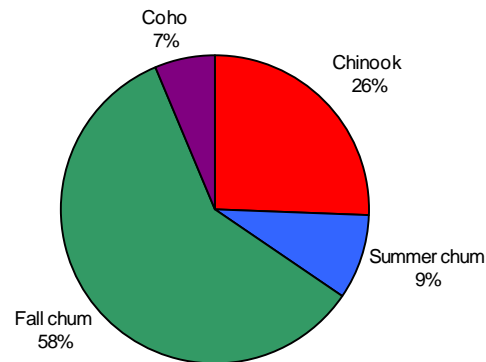
Y-4



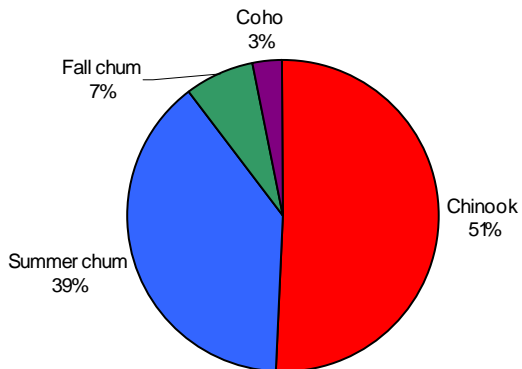
Y-2



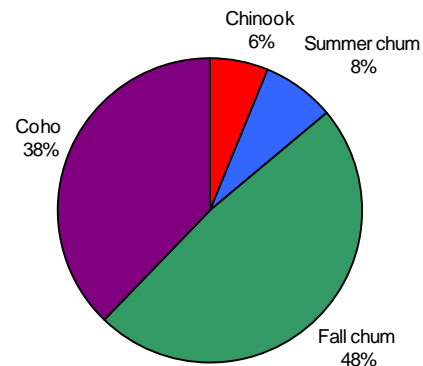
Y-5



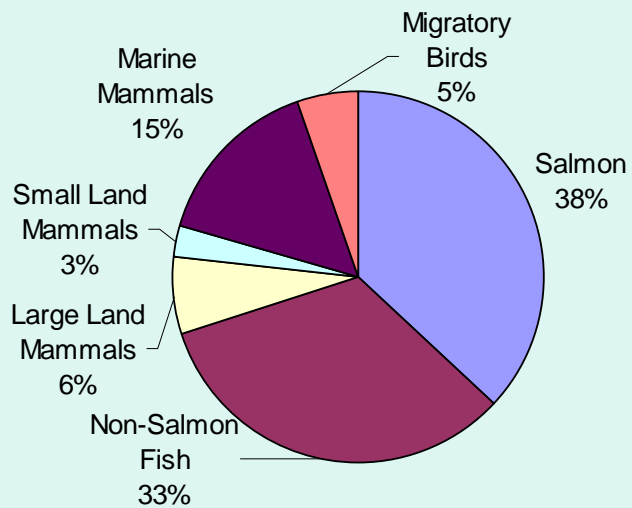
Y-3



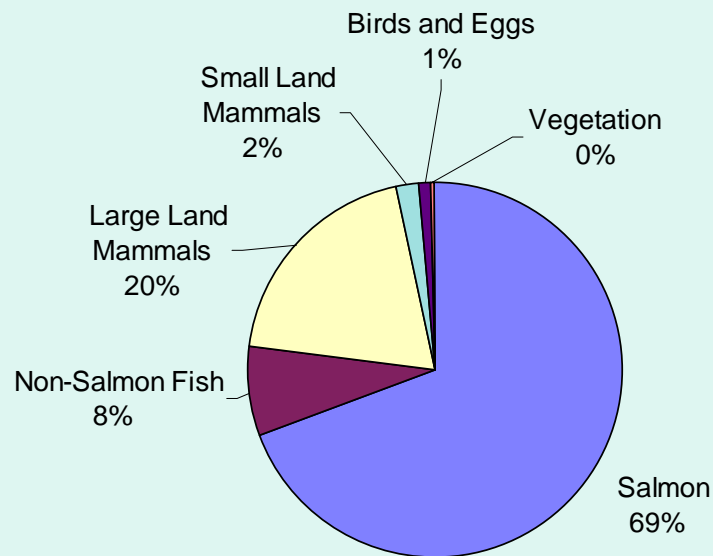
Y-6



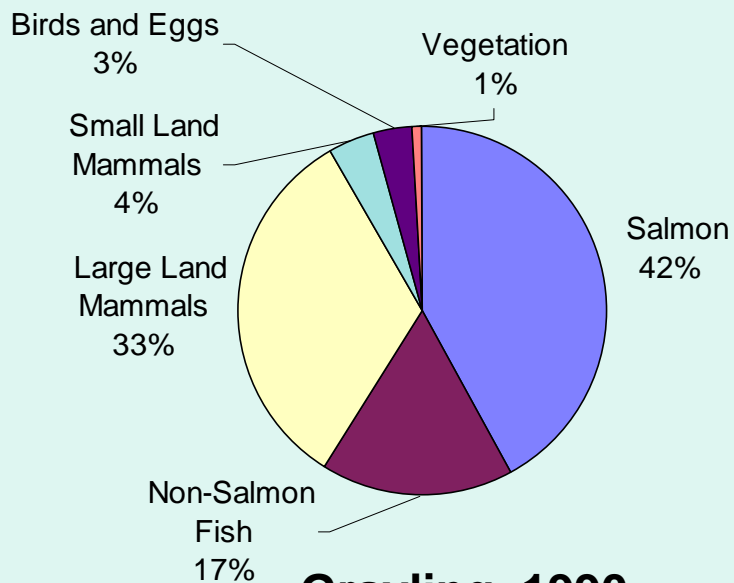
Comparison of total subsistence harvests



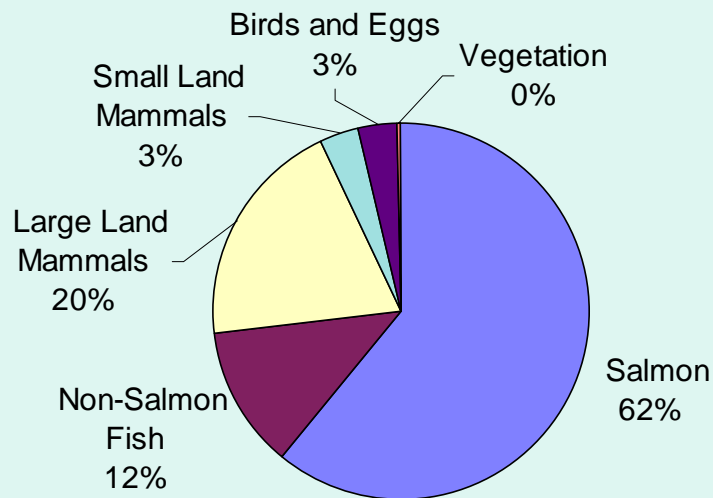
Emmonak, 1980



Galena, 1985



Grayling, 1990



Fort Yukon, 1987

Customary trade – state regulations

- Though recognized as a subsistence use, customary trade of fish is currently *illegal* in the Yukon drainage.



Customary trade – federal regulations

- Allow exchange for cash in limited quantities subsistence-harvested fish, their parts, or eggs ***to rural or other non-rural residents***



- Individuals, businesses, or organizations ***may not*** purchase, barter, or re-sell subsistence-caught fish and fish products as a significant commercial enterprise.
- Usually, the only allowable customary trade sale is fresh, un-cut, and unprocessed fish.



Questions?