

Development and Implementation of Salmon Stock of Concern in Alaska

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RC 3, Tab 1

Objectives of Presentation

- Policy framework for salmon stock of concern
- Stock of concern levels and definitions
- Processes and responsibilities
- Review stock of concern designations
- Recommendations to consider

Policies and Regulations Provide for Sustained Yield

- Policy for the management of sustainable salmon fisheries (SSFP; 5 AAC 39.222)
- Policy for statewide salmon escapement goals (EGP; 5 AAC 39.223)
- Salmon Management Plans

Policy Framework under the SSFP

- Roles & Responsibilities – ADF&G, Board
- Stock of Concern Levels
- Action Plan – regulatory, management, research, habitat

Yield Concern

Chronic inability, despite use of specific management measures, to maintain expected yields, or harvestable surpluses, above a stock's escapement needs

Management Concern

Chronic inability, despite use of specific management measures, to maintain escapements for a stock within the bounds of the SEG, BEG, or OEG, or other specified management objective

Conservation Concern

Chronic inability, despite use of specific management measures, to maintain escapements for a stock above a Sustained Escapement Threshold (SET)

Stock of Concern Process

Regional/Area Management and Research staff

- Review recent escapements against goals
- Recommend SOC according to 5 AAC 39.222

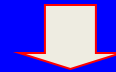


Review & approval by Regional Supervisors and Directors



Recommendations presented to Board of Fisheries

- Board may request ADF&G draft Action Plan



Potential action(s) at Board regulatory meeting & subsequent review of stock status

History of Stocks of Concern

➤ Since SSFP initiated in 2000

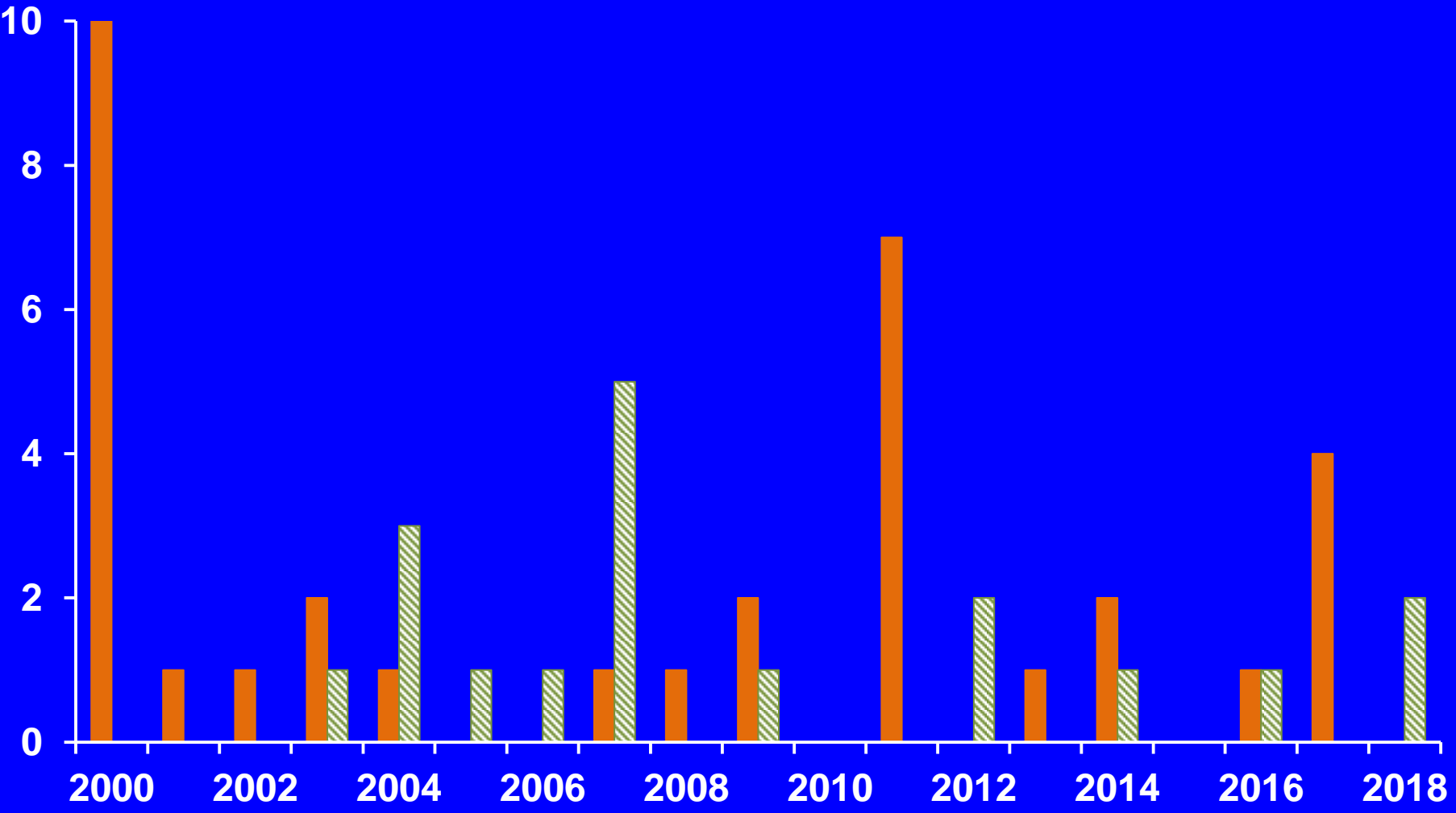
- 34 stock of concern designations among all species
- No stock ever designated conservation concern
- 6 removed after 3 years, 5 removed after 6 years, 3 removed after 9 years

➤ Currently

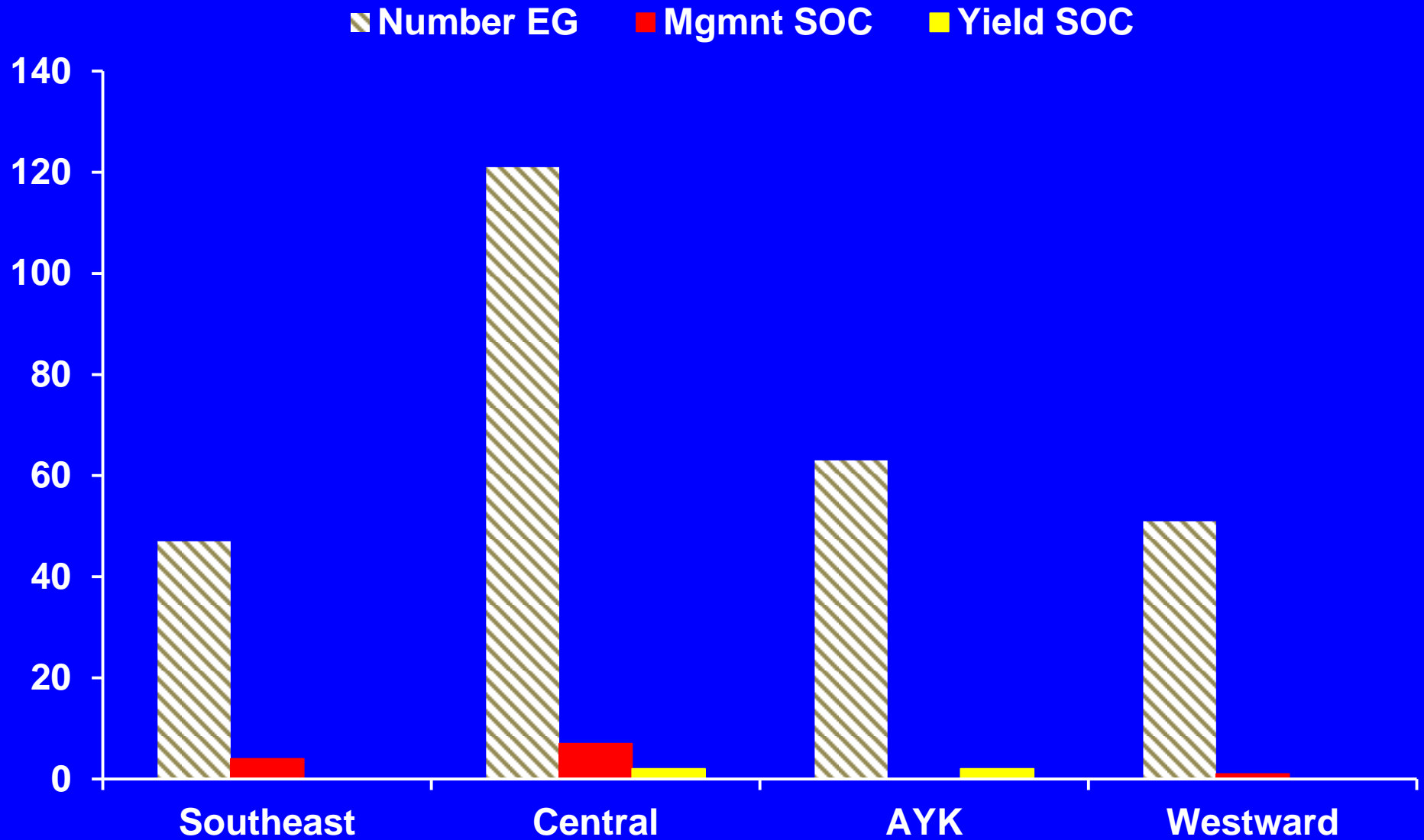
- 16 stocks of concern
- 1 on-going since 2000
- 13 designated since 2011 (11 are king)

Stock of Concern by year (all species)

■ Designate ■ Remove

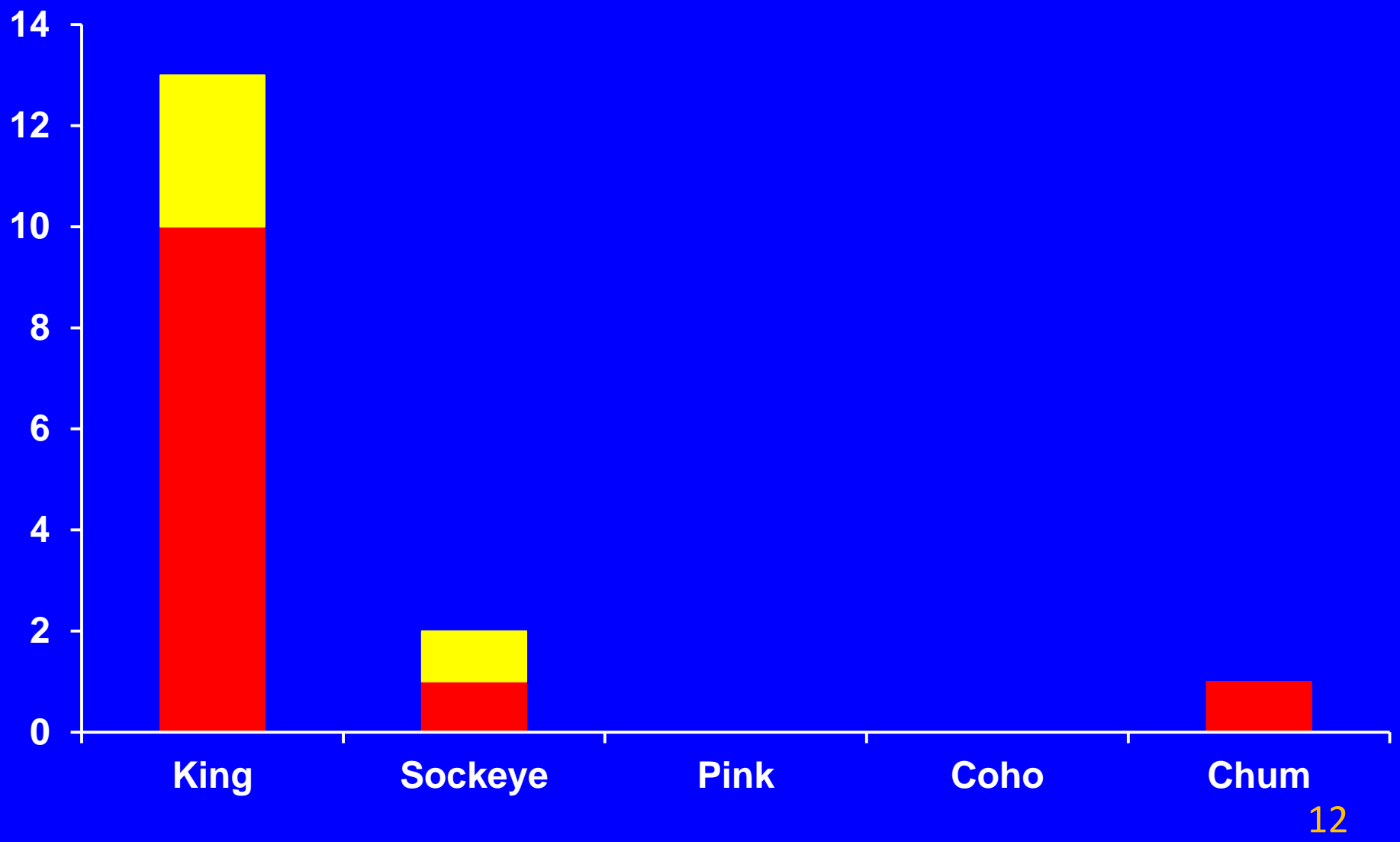


Stock of Concern by region (all species)



Stock of Concern by species (all region)

Mgmt SOC Yield SOC



Current Stocks of Concern

➤ **AYK**

Yukon River	2000	king	Yield
Norton Sound Sub-Districts 5,6	2004	king	Yield

➤ **Westward**

Karluk River	2011	king	Mgmt.
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➤ **Central**

Susitna (Yentna) River	2008	sockeye	Yield
Chuitna River	2011	king	Mgmt.
Theodore River	2011	king	Mgmt.
Lewis River	2011	king	Mgmt.
Alexander Creek	2011	king	Mgmt.
Willow Creek	2011	king	Yield
Goose Creek	2011/2014	king	Yield/Mgmt.
Sheep Creek	2014	king	Mgmt.
McNeil River	2016	chum	Mgmt.

➤ **Southeast**

Chilkat River	2018	king	Mgmt.
King Salmon River	2018	king	Mgmt.
Unuk River	2018	king	Mgmt.
McDonald Lake	2018	sockeye	Mgmt.

Delisted Stocks of Concern

Stock	Species	Type	Year Initiated	No. Years SOC
Norton Sound SD 1	chum	Mgmt./Yield	2000	15
Toklat River	fall chum	Mgmt.	2000	3
Fishing Branch	fall chum	Mgmt.	2000	3
Yukon River	summer chum	Mgmt.	2000	6
Anchor River	king	Mgmt.	2001	3
Hugh Smith Lake	sockeye	Mgmt.	2003	3
McDonald Lake	sockeye	Mgmt.	2009	3
Kvichak River	sockeye	Yield/Mgmt. /Yield	2000	12
Kuskokwim River	chum	Yield	2000	6
Kuskokwim River	king	Yield	2000	6
Yukon River	fall chum	Yield	2000	6
Fish Creek	sockeye	Yield	2002	3
Swanson Lagoon	sockeye	Mgmt.	2013	6
Norton Sound SD 2,3	chum	Yield	2000	18

What Was Learned

- Management Concern – criteria straightforward
- Yield Concern – criteria more subjective
- Improved justification & documentation over time

Recommendations

- Action Plans document conditions to delist
- Clearly document regulatory, management, research & habitat actions taken in response to stock of concern designation
- Periodically review & document decisions to retain, change or delist stock of concern designation

Questions??

