

**State of Alaska  
FY2004 Governor's Operating Budget**

**Department of Fish and Game  
Central Region Fisheries Management  
Component Budget Summary**

## **Component: Central Region Fisheries Management**

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### **Component Mission**

The mission of the Division of Commercial Fisheries is to manage, protect, rehabilitate, enhance, and develop fisheries and aquatic plant resources in the interest of the economy, consistent with the sustained yield principle and subject to allocations through public regulatory processes.

### **Component Services Provided**

The fisheries managed by Central Region are composed of a complex and vast array of fish species, geographical locations, fishing gear, types of users and uses of the resource. There are five species of salmon, ten major species of groundfish, herring, scallops, three species of clams, five species of crab, three species of shrimp, miscellaneous invertebrates and aquatic plants. There are approximately fifteen different types of gear normally used in the region's fisheries. Some fish are harvested for multiple uses and have separate fisheries and complex regulatory management plans. For example, herring are harvested for sac roe, roe-on-kelp, human food, bait and fishmeal. Salmon harvests are allocated to commercial, sport, personal use and subsistence users. This mix results in a large number of distinct fisheries that are managed as separate entities.

The following are some of the tasks carried out by the region in providing its management services for these complex systems:

- Development of management plans and harvest strategies to provide for sustained yield of the resource by the various stakeholders. The Central Region staff works with task forces, advisory committees, public at large and the Board of Fisheries to accomplish this process.
- Collection of resource information, such as life histories, abundance, age structure and distribution.
- Collection of fisheries information, such as harvest by gear type, species, stock, and location, number of units of gear fished, time fished, and fleet dynamics.
- Determination of reproductive needs and growth to maximize production, and from there, determination of allowable harvest.
- Manipulation of the fisheries inseason by time and area to obtain reproductive and harvest goals.
- Dissemination of information to the public. This includes fisheries information, regulations, harvest policies, management plans, as well as highly technical reports based on the results of applied research programs.

In carrying out its management function, the region operates five area offices, 30 data collection field camps, and two research vessels.

### **Component Goals and Strategies**

The goals and strategies of this component are to maintain healthy and productive fish populations and optimize over the long term, the harvest by the commercial, subsistence and personal use fisheries over which the region has management authority. Optimal production will provide for an economically healthy industry and produce an environment conducive to the development of new sustainable fisheries, as well as provide for traditional individual consumptive needs through subsistence and personal use.

## **Key Component Issues for FY2003 – 2004**

Key issues affecting this component include the following:

Complex mixed species and stock harvest management systems are placed under heavy demands by competing user groups, particularly in Cook Inlet and the Copper River.

Diligent assessment of in-season run strengths for Bristol Bay sockeye salmon stocks is necessary. Causes for reduced productivity from specific systems such as the Kvichak River are poorly understood. Shifts in marine environments may affect productivity across a broader range of salmon stocks.

Assessment of salmon escapement in six large river systems is dependent upon sonar technology that is becoming obsolete and unserviceable. Replacement systems are vital to maintaining healthy populations and optimal utilization of the resource. New replacement technologies are emerging, but fiscal resources are limited to fund necessary replacement costs.

## **Major Component Accomplishments in 2002**

Accurate documentation of harvests, including species, numbers, weight, location, time, gear, and units of effort are compiled annually and appended to historic data bases.

Forecasts are prepared and harvest strategies are put into action annually to achieve escapement goals for major salmon stocks. Harvests of salmon stocks are managed to comply with allocation structure in regulatory management plans established by the Board of Fisheries. Managers meet with industry annually to develop harvest strategies to improve quality and insure full utilization.

Other fish stocks for which reproductive objectives have been set are monitored regularly and harvest strategies are put into action to sustain healthy populations and optimally utilize available surplus.

Biological data on fish stocks and age structures are collected, quantified and reported.

Information is provided to industry, resource users, other scientists and the public at large through personal contacts, news releases, distribution of reports, and electronic media. A web site is maintained with fishery statistics and information for each management area and fishery, with statistics updated daily during the season.

Management and research staff annually participate in the Board of Fisheries process for the fisheries of the region. Reports and analyses are prepared pertaining to the specific issues of concern.

Central Region staff, leading a statewide program to develop new sonar technologies, have made great strides in finding modern technological solutions to replacing aging sonar salmon counting systems.

## **Statutory and Regulatory Authority**

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**Central Region Fisheries Management**  
**Component Financial Summary**

*All dollars in thousands*

	FY2002 Actuals	FY2003 Authorized	FY2004 Governor
<b>Non-Formula Program:</b>			
<b>Component Expenditures:</b>			
71000 Personal Services	4,161.2	4,643.1	4,435.8
72000 Travel	213.3	111.9	176.9
73000 Contractual	1,135.6	1,237.8	827.8
74000 Supplies	344.6	253.5	214.1
75000 Equipment	20.9	19.5	19.5
76000 Land/Buildings	0.0	0.0	0.0
77000 Grants, Claims	0.0	0.0	0.0
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Expenditure Totals</b>	<b>5,875.6</b>	<b>6,265.8</b>	<b>5,674.1</b>
<b>Funding Sources:</b>			
1004 General Fund Receipts	5,338.5	5,288.5	5,024.1
1109 Test Fisheries Receipts	537.1	977.3	650.0
<b>Funding Totals</b>	<b>5,875.6</b>	<b>6,265.8</b>	<b>5,674.1</b>

**Central Region Fisheries Management  
Proposed Changes in Levels of Service for FY2004**

See Proposed Changes in Levels of Service for FY2004 in the Commercial Fisheries BRU narrative.

**Summary of Component Budget Changes  
From FY2003 Authorized to FY2004 Governor**

*All dollars in thousands*

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
<b>FY2003 Authorized</b>	<b>5,288.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>977.3</b>	<b>6,265.8</b>
<b>Adjustments which will continue current level of service:</b>				
-Annualize FY2003 COLA Increase for General Government and Supervisory Bargaining Units	0.0	0.0	12.7	12.7
<b>Proposed budget decreases:</b>				
-Decrement Test Fish Authority	0.0	0.0	-340.0	-340.0
-Decrement General Fund	-264.4	0.0	0.0	-264.4
<b>FY2004 Governor</b>	<b>5,024.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>650.0</b>	<b>5,674.1</b>

**Central Region Fisheries Management**

**Personal Services Information**

	Authorized Positions		Personal Services Costs	
	<u>FY2003</u> <u>Authorized</u>	<u>FY2004</u> <u>Governor</u>		
Full-time	47	47	Annual Salaries	3,293,679
Part-time	118	116	Premium Pay	170,010
Nonpermanent	5	5	Annual Benefits	1,252,609
			<i>Less 5.95% Vacancy Factor</i>	(280,503)
			Lump Sum Premium Pay	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>Total Personal Services</b>	<b>4,435,795</b>

**Position Classification Summary**

Job Class Title	Anchorage	Fairbanks	Juneau	Others	Total
Administrative Clerk II	0	0	0	1	1
Biometrician II	2	0	0	0	2
Biometrician III	1	0	0	0	1
Boat Officer I	0	0	0	2	2
Boat Officer II	0	0	0	1	1
Boat Officer III	0	0	0	1	1
Boat Officer IV	0	0	0	1	1
F&G Regional Spvr	1	0	0	0	1
F&W Technician I	0	0	0	1	1
F&W Technician II	2	0	0	85	87
F&W Technician III	1	0	0	18	19
F&W Technician IV	0	0	0	2	2
Fish & Game Program Tech	0	0	0	4	4
Fishery Biologist I	0	0	0	9	9
Fishery Biologist II	5	0	0	11	16
Fishery Biologist III	2	0	0	13	15
Fishery Biologist IV	3	0	0	0	3
Maint Gen Journey	0	0	0	1	1
Research Analyst III	1	0	0	0	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>168</b>