



April 14, 2023

Final DRAFT Spend Plan for funds appropriated to address the 2020 Norton Sound, Yukon River, Kuskokwim River, Chignik, Southeast Alaska; and 2021 Yukon River salmon disaster determination. NOAA Fisheries has allocated \$55,928,849 for these salmon fishery disasters. The spend plan informs the federal grant application submitted by Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC) to NOAA Fisheries and is subject to change based on approval of the final grant.

Process to develop the spend plan: ADF&G posted an initial draft spend plan for public comment in September 2022 and received 27 written comments on the initial plan (Appendix 2). ADF&G revised the plan based on public comments and posted a second draft plan for public comment on January 31, 2023. Fourteen additional comments were received and in response, ADF&G is recommending the following revisions:

Research: Projects were selected from the list provided in the Appendix of the second draft spend plan for direct funding. These research projects are all responsive to the research themes developed by ADF&G and public comments and cover all geographic areas affected by this fishery disaster.

Subsistence: Clarified that households may only qualify for a direct payment in one subsistence fishing area included in this disaster: Norton Sound, Yukon River, or Kuskokwim River.

Vessel crew: Clarified that direct payments to minors are not authorized by the terms of the Federal grant but may be authorized to guardians in the same household on behalf of an eligible minor.

Communities: Funds for communities that meet all eligibility requirements will be made available pro rata to their demonstrated loss. The loss will be calculated as the communities' 2017-2019 average exvessel value for salmon compared to the 2020 exvessel value for salmon. The estimated loss must be greater than \$50,000 because losses less than this amount result in very small allocations.

Southeast: Clarified that persons may qualify as crew and/or a permit holder in more than one gear sector but may not qualify as a crew and permit holder in the same gear sector.

The Harvester/Processor allocation was adjusted from a 75/15 split in the initial draft spend plan to 85/15 split in the second draft spend plan and adjusted to a 80/20 split in the final draft spend plan.

Allocations between the seine, gillnet, and troll gear sectors are based on the median value of two recommended approaches for calculating the historical 5-year average value of the fishery; one approach uses the most recent 2015-2019 average for all species and the other approach uses the 2010-2018 even-year average value for all species.

Troll sector eligibility – based on public comments, added a minimum value threshold of \$2,500 for 2020 chum and coho salmon landings.

Guiding principles for disaster fund distribution: Disbursement of funds is intended to:

1) assist fishery participants harmed by the 2020 and 2021 salmon fishery disasters and 2) improve fishery information used to assess and forecast future fishery performance and to develop management approaches that avoid and/or mitigate the impacts of future fishery disasters that cannot be prevented.

Proposed allocations to project categories: The proposed categories and allocations reflect comments received from stakeholder input.

Category	Allocation	Estimated funds
Research	12%	\$6,697,062
Communities	3%	\$1,674,265
Commercial and subsistence participants	85%	\$47,437,522
Program support	0.2%	\$120,000
Total		\$55,928,849

Research: Funds will be allocated to support projects that improve available fishery information and help prevent and/or mitigate future fishery disasters. The scope of this fishery disaster is statewide and includes all species of salmon, specifically: chum and coho salmon in Norton Sound, Chinook and chum salmon in the Yukon River and Kuskokwim River, Chinook, chum, coho, sockeye, and pink salmon in Chignik, and chum, coho, sockeye, and pink salmon in Southeast Alaska.

The following research projects are responsive to the research themes that were developed by ADF&G staff and fishery participants and are proposed to be funded directly in the federal fishery disaster grant. Directing fishery disaster research funds to these projects in the spend plan expedites the administrative process and maximizes the amount of time for investigators to conduct research.

Salmon Ocean Ecology Program projects:

1. Juvenile marine salmon survey in the Southern Bering Sea to assess ocean/climate condition impacts on future Kuskokwim Chinook and chum salmon runs and estimate non-adult abundance that can be used for developing forecasting tools. This survey is modeled after other surveys that have proven useful in the northern Bering Sea and southeast Alaska for predicting run size up to three years in the future and for evaluating how marine conditions impact future runs. ADF&G, \$354,510 annually over three years = \$1,063,531 total.
2. Juvenile marine salmon survey in the western Gulf of Alaska to assess ocean/climate condition impacts on future Chignik salmon runs and estimate non-adult abundance that can be used for developing forecasting tools. This survey is modeled after other surveys that have proven useful in the northern Bering Sea and southeast Alaska for predicting run size up to three years in the future and for evaluating how marine conditions impact future runs. ADF&G, \$354,510 annually over three years = \$1,063,531 total.
3. Assess early marine food availability, zooplankton and diet analysis, for Norton Sound, Yukon and Kuskokwim chum salmon and Chignik salmon in the Bering Sea and Western Gulf of Alaska, respectively. Stakeholders have expressed concern for the role of warm water temperatures and competition affecting the available food and survival of Alaskan salmon stocks. This project would assess the quantity and quality of food available and how much diet overlap exists among salmon and non-salmon species in their early marine life. ADF&G and UAF for zooplankton component, \$200,000 annually over three years = \$600,000 total.

Arctic Yukon Kuskokwim Area projects:

1. Structured evaluation of Yukon River Chinook salmon management strategies. This project would allow for a facilitated stakeholder outreach and engagement program to occur concurrently with data simulations to evaluate escapement goal and management strategies for co-occurring Chinook and summer chum salmon. Expected products include 1) documentation of stakeholder objectives and priorities for salmon resources, 2) evaluation of tradeoffs associated with alternative management strategies, and 3) recommendations for consideration by management agencies and

stakeholder advisory groups. Successful implementation of this project would require a dedicated facilitator, agency/non-agency/academic partnerships, and extensive stakeholder engagement. ADF&G, \$260,00 annually over three years = \$780,000 total.

2. Kuskokwim chum salmon radiotelemetry abundance estimation. Drainage wide estimates of Kuskokwim River chum salmon are not available; however, the existing Kuskokwim River sonar program provides an index of abundance of unknown magnitude. This project would use radiotelemetry and mark-recapture techniques to estimate the total abundance of Kuskokwim River chum salmon upriver from the mainstem sonar location. Results would provide important context for interpreting and possibly correcting bias associated the annual sonar estimates. Results would be expected to dramatically improve understanding and annual monitoring of Kuskokwim River chum salmon abundance to inform harvest management, set biological escapement goals at spatial scales appropriate for management, and inform run forecast models. Funds would allow for mainstem tagging, tracking, and subsidize the cost of tag recapture efforts within spawning tributaries. ADF&G, \$500,000 annually over three years = \$1.5 million total.
3. Unalakleet River coho salmon sonar extension project to expand escapement estimates of Unalakleet River coho salmon beyond the normal weir operational period by installing a sonar and initiating species apportionment methods. Unalakleet River coho salmon escapement monitoring is hindered during much of the run due to high water conditions that prevent operation of the Unalakleet River weir. This project would improve escapement counts by providing more robust information for evaluating total run, escapement, stock production, and consideration of harvest management options. ADF&G, \$95,000 annually over three years = \$285,000 total.

Chignik Area projects:

1. Analyze 20 years of limnological and juvenile sockeye salmon data and enhance this data set with genetic, diet, bioenergetic, and high-resolution limnological data to evaluate drivers of Chignik River watershed sockeye salmon population productivity to understand critical linkages between ecological conditions in time and space that are key drivers to annual salmon production. Results will benefit the maintenance and conservation of Chignik sockeye salmon by identifying the importance of lake rearing habitats for survival, mediated by habitat quality effects on juvenile sockeye salmon condition and growth, which will assist in identifying factors affecting future returns. ADF&G, \$138,333 annually over three years = \$415,000 total.
2. Study the seasonal Chignik Lake habitat utilization by juvenile sockeye salmon within the watershed using split-beam hydroacoustics. Greater understanding of the sockeye salmon life history and migrations within the watershed will yield important information about key timeframes and parameters while estimating abundance, size and condition are particularly useful in assessing productivity of the entire watershed. ADF&G, \$100,000 annually over three years = \$300,000 total.

Southeast Area projects:

1. Southeast Coastal Monitoring Survey (SECM) work in Stephens Passage, Upper Chatham Strait, and Icy Strait. The primary objective of SECM is to evaluate the status of the pelagic ecosystem, including juvenile salmon and other pelagic fish species, in the northern region of Southeast Alaska (SEAK). SECM surveys support research on the marine ecology of salmon, provide data for harvest forecast models for SEAK pink salmon, and support ecosystem research in the Gulf of Alaska. ADF&G, \$100,000 annually over three years = \$300,000 total.
2. Chum salmon helicopter surveys throughout Southeast Alaska. ADF&G maintains a standardized survey program to index spawning chum salmon abundance at 87 summer-run and seven fall-run streams. Chum salmon may be masked by high densities of pink salmon on the spawning grounds,

particularly in years of low chum salmon abundance, which makes monitoring wild chum salmon populations challenging. Helicopter surveys provide surveyors improved views of these streams, validate observations of chum and pink salmon abundance, identify primary chum salmon spawning areas, and improve managers’ ability to identify chum salmon during routine aerial surveys of other index streams in the area. ADF&G, \$60,000 annually over three years = \$180,000 total.

- McDonald Lake sockeye mark-recapture study. McDonald Lake sockeye salmon are a current *Stock of Concern* in Southeast Alaska, and an *Action Plan* is in place to reduce the commercial fisheries harvest on this stock. Escapements are estimated from standardized foot survey counts at Hatchery Creek, the primary spawning tributary. The expansion factor was based on comparison of peak foot survey counts to six years of population estimates from weir counts and mark–recapture studies. This project would fund additional years of mark-recapture population estimates to improve the current foot survey expansion and allow for improved age composition data and other relevant data to be collected at the lake. ADF&G, \$70,000 annually over three years = \$210,000 total.

Total for all research projects: \$6,697,062

Communities: Municipalities and boroughs rely on revenue generated from salmon landings and other economic activities related to the salmon fisheries. Fishery disaster funds allocated to communities impacted by the fishery disaster can only be used for managing, repairing, or maintaining approved infrastructure, services, or habitat that support salmon fisheries in the affected areas. Only communities that have a demonstrated loss of salmon landings due to the fishery disaster will be eligible for community funds. Fishery disaster funds are Federal funds and cannot be used for projects where matching funds are required and this includes state or local match requirements.

Experience with recent fishery disasters has shown that not all communities eligible for fishery disaster funds are interested in receiving them given that they can only be used for approved projects through a subaward to the Federal fishery disaster grant. ADF&G is recommending that eligible communities be provided with an option to opt-out of disaster funding, based on initial allocations, before final community allocations are calculated. This will help ensure that community-designated funds are fully utilized and made available to communities that are interested in receiving them.

Proposed eligibility criteria for communities:

- ADF&G fish ticket data must show that the salmon species included in this fishery disaster in the affected areas were landed in the community, based on port of landing, in either 2019 or 2020. The year 2019 is used for areas where there were minimal or no commercial fishery landings in 2020.

Area/Year	Salmon species
Norton Sound (2020)	chum and coho
Yukon River (2019)	Chinook and chum
Kuskokwim River (2019)	Chinook and chum
Chignik (2019)	All salmon
Southeast (2020)	Sockeye, chum, coho, and pink

- Estimated loss in 2020 must be at least \$50,000 as compared to the 2017-2019 average.

Based on these criteria, the following communities may be eligible for community-designated funds: Unalakleet, Emmonak, Chignik, Kodiak, Sand Point, Craig, Haines, Hoonah, Juneau, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Sitka, Wrangell, and the Metlakatla Indian Community.

Commercial and subsistence participants: This category includes commercial harvesters, crew, and processors in the Norton Sound, Yukon River, Kuskokwim River, Chignik, and Southeast areas. It also includes subsistence households that rely on subsistence fisheries in the Norton Sound, Yukon River, and Kuskokwim River areas.

Allocations, eligibility criteria, and payment distribution methods were informed by public comment and therefore are not the same across the fishery management regions or across all gear sectors in the same region. Comments from fishery associations were weighted more heavily than those from individuals based on the premise that fishery associations represent majority interests of those stakeholders.

- **Subsistence households:** Direct payments to subsistence households that rely on subsistence fisheries in the Norton Sound, Yukon, and Kuskokwim River areas. Revenue losses in the subsistence fisheries were estimated using an average of the urban and rural food replacement costs for salmon species where harvest in the disaster year was at least 35%¹ lower than the previous five-year average (2015-2019). Available data show that the value of subsistence losses in the Norton Sound, Yukon River, and Kuskokwim River area in the disaster years were significant. In the Norton Sound area, the estimated replacement value of subsistence losses in 2020 were approximately 25% of the commercial fishery losses. In the Kuskokwim River area nearly all the estimated losses in 2020 were in the subsistence fishery. Likewise, the estimated replacement value of subsistence salmon losses on the Yukon River in 2020 and 2021 were far greater than the losses to the commercial fishery.

ADF&G is not proposing to include subsistence as a category for direct payments in the 2020 Chignik and Southeast areas. The 2018 Chignik fishery disaster spend plan did not include subsistence as a category based on public input that providing funds for commercial permit holders and their crew mitigated subsistence fishery losses. The estimated replacement value of subsistence losses in Chignik due to the 2020 disaster was less than 2% of the commercial fishery losses. For these reasons, ADF&G is not proposing to include a subsistence category for the Chignik area in the 2020 disaster spend plan. Similarly, the estimated replacement value of subsistence losses in the Southeast area was less than 0.2% of the commercial fishery losses and subsistence fisheries in the Southeast region were not restricted in 2020. For these reasons, ADF&G is not proposing to include a subsistence category for the Southeast area in the spend plan.

- **Commercial harvesters:** Direct payments to commercial fishery permit holders and their vessel crew who meet all eligibility criteria. Direct payments to minors are not authorized by the terms of the Federal grant but may be authorized to guardians in the same household on behalf of an eligible minor. Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) permit data, fish ticket data from commercial salmon landings, and CFEC gross revenue value information will be used to determine eligibility and payment for permit holders.
- **Processors:** Direct payments to processing companies. COAR fisheries production and value data will be used to determine eligibility and payment for processors based on their federal operational identification number.

Program Support: ADF&G is proposing to designate funds for staff working on fishery disaster plan development and implementation in coordination with Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission.

ADF&G is proposing to allocate commercial and subsistence harvester funds proportional to the estimated losses. The estimated loss due to the fishery disaster was calculated by subtracting the gross

¹ The 35% threshold is used in [NMFS policy guidance on Disaster Assistance](#) to determine whether a commercial fishery failure occurred.

revenue value of the fishery in the disaster year from the previous five-year average (2015-2019) gross revenue value for the species of salmon included in the disaster.

Fishery	Estimated loss due to fishery disaster	Proportion of total loss	Proposed allocation
2020 Norton Sound commercial chum and coho salmon	\$2,084,944	1.9%	\$921,972
2020/2021 Yukon River & 2020 Kuskokwim River commercial Chinook and chum salmon	\$5,723,606	5.3%	\$2,531,005
2020 Chignik commercial all salmon	\$7,243,729	6.8%	\$3,203,211
2020 Southeast commercial chum, coho, pink and sockeye salmon	\$61,805,783	57.6%	\$27,330,804
2020 Norton Sound subsistence	\$535,440	0.5%	\$236,774
2020/2021 Yukon River subsistence	\$28,629,992	26.7%	\$12,660,315
2020 Kuskokwim River subsistence	\$1,251,548	1.2%	\$553,440
Total	\$107,275,042	100%	\$47,437,522

The 2020 and 2021 Yukon River and 2020 Kuskokwim River commercial fisheries are combined into one category because there has been one commercial fishery participant on the Kuskokwim River in recent years and therefore harvest and revenue information are confidential. To include the Kuskokwim River participant in the spend plan, the area must be combined with another area.

Subsistence Fisheries

Subsistence households in the Norton Sound, Yukon River, and Kuskokwim River areas are eligible for direct payments based on the number of shares they qualify for, and the total amount of proposed funds allocated to each area as follows:

2020 Norton Sound: \$236,774

2020/2021 Yukon River: \$12,660,315

2020 Kuskokwim River: \$553,440

Subsistence households may only qualify for disaster funds in one area.

Eligibility criteria for subsistence households are based on criteria that were developed for Section 12005 CARES Act Fisheries Assistance. To receive fishery disaster assistance, one household member would submit an application for the household. Eligible applicants will be placed into tiers based on household size in 2020 and/or 2021 for Yukon River households. Smaller households with 1-3 members will be eligible for one share and larger households with four or more members will be eligible for two shares. Once all applications have been received, the total number of shares in each area will be determined and payments for applicants will be calculated accordingly.

Household size	Number of Shares
1-3	1
4 or more	2

Proposed subsistence household eligibility requirements:

1. All eligible household members **MUST** be Alaskan residents, this will be verified by meeting at least one of the following criteria:
 - a) Eligible to receive an Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend in 2021 for calendar year 2020*.

- b) Possessed or eligible to receive a 2020* Alaska resident sport fishing license from the Department of Fish and Game.
 - c) Registered as a resident during 2020* with the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission.
 - d) Held a subsistence or personal use permit issued by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in 2020* in either the Norton Sound – Port Clarence Area defined at 5 AAC 01.150; the Yukon Area as defined at 5 AAC 01.200; or the Kuskokwim Area as defined at 5 AAC 01.250. Personal use fishery permits are NOT eligible for relief under this spend plan. They may ONLY be used to prove residency.
2. Applicant for household MUST be at least 18 years old to apply per federal requirements.
 3. MUST self-certify that they are not de-barred from receiving federal funds and are not on the federal government “do not pay list”.
 4. Eligibility will be determined by Alaskan household.
 - o A household is defined as a person or persons having the same permanent residence.
 - o All Alaskan households participating in subsistence fisheries may apply regardless of physical household address.
 - o Only one application may be submitted per household.
 5. MUST self-certify that one or more members of the household participated in a salmon subsistence fishery in at least two of the previous four years (2016-2019) in the area for which they are applying: Yukon River, Kuskokwim River, or Norton Sound-Port Clarence Area.
 - o Participation includes harvesting, sharing, and/or using salmon subsistence fishery resources. Subsistence harvest does NOT require the use of a sport fishing license.
 - o Subsistence fisheries are defined as fisheries on salmon stocks for which the Alaska Board of Fisheries has found there are positive customary and traditional uses, in addition to federal subsistence fisheries that have no state equivalent.
 6. Eligible applicants MUST self-certify that their household has incurred a negative impact on their ability to access subsistence salmon fishery resources in 2020* that was directly or indirectly related to the fishery disaster.

*Criteria for Yukon River subsistence households can be met for either 2020 or 2021.

Commercial Fisheries

2020 Norton Sound commercial (\$921,972):

2020 Norton Sound commercial		Estimated funds
Harvesters (85%)	S04Z permit holders (90%)	\$705,309
	Crew (10%)	\$78,368
Processors (15%)		\$138,296

Total gross revenue losses for harvesters in the Norton Sound coho and chum salmon fishery are estimated at \$2.08 million dollars. The proposed funds allocated to the harvesting sector are intended to mitigate this loss by providing funds to bring the harvesting sector up to 38% of their recent average value.

Total losses for the processing sector are confidential because there are less than three processing companies. The funds allocated to the processing sector are less than 5% of the recent average first wholesale value.

Norton Sound Harvesters – 85%. The harvester allocation will be divided into two pools, one for S04Z permit holders (85%) and one for vessel crew members (10%). The split between permit holders and crew members is based on a typical crew size of one person earning a 10% crew share.

Norton Sound Permit holders (90% of harvester pool). Proposed eligibility criteria for Norton Sound permit holders:

1. S04Z permit must have been used to make Norton Sound chum or coho salmon landings in 2020.

Funds are proposed to be paid to the person listed as the 2020 ‘Permit holder’ and temporary emergency transfer permit holders (transferees) in the CFEC database. Permit holders who certified they were unable to participate in 2020 in order to qualify for an emergency transfer or permit holders who permanently transferred a permit away in 2020 will not receive payments.

Permit holder funds will be distributed based on the following four tiers. Four tiers are established based on the 2017-2019 average estimated CFEC gross revenue value for chum and coho salmon landed on each permit. Landings from 2020 will be used for permit holders who do not have a 2017-2019 average. Each eligible permit holder in the same tier would receive an equal payment.

Tier level	2017-2019 average CFEC gross revenue value of chum and coho salmon landings	Tier allocation	Est. number of eligible permit holders
1	≥ \$30,000	40%	24
2	\$20,000 - \$29,999	26%	25
3	\$10,000 - \$19,999	27%	43
4	≤ \$9,999	7%	29

Norton Sound Crew (10% of harvester pool). Crew that meet all criteria are eligible to receive an **equal payment** from the crew member pool. Direct payments to minors are not authorized by the terms of the Federal grant but may be authorized to guardians in the same household on behalf of an eligible minor.

Proposed eligibility criteria for Norton Sound fishing crew:

1. Crew member must have held a 2020 commercial crew license or a 2020 CFEC permit for any fishery. This information will be verified using the ADF&G Licensing database and the CFEC permit database.
2. Crew member must provide information to show they participated as fishing crew in the 2020 commercial Norton Sound salmon fishery for a qualified permit holder, based on an affidavit from the permit holder.
3. Crew member must not be eligible for fishery disaster funds as a Norton Sound permit holder.

Norton Sound Processors – 15%. Norton Sound salmon processing companies that meet all criteria are eligible for payment based on the average wholesale value of Norton Sound chum and coho salmon processed by the company, based on federal operational identification number, from 2017 to 2019 using COAR production data.

Proposed Norton Sound Processor eligibility criteria:

1. Processing company must have processed Norton Sound chum and/or coho salmon in 2020.
2. Processing company must have a 2020 wholesale value of \$10,000 or greater for Norton Sound chum and/or coho salmon.

Disaster payments to processing companies are **pro rata** to their demonstrated loss. The loss is proposed to be calculated as the company’s 2017-2019 average wholesale value for Norton Sound chum and/or coho salmon compared to the 2020 wholesale value for Norton Sound chum and/or coho salmon.

2020/2021 Yukon River and 2020 Kuskokwim River commercial (\$2,531,005):

2020/2021 Yukon River & 2020 Kuskokwim River commercial		Estimated funds
Harvesters (85%)	S04Y and S04W permit holders (90%)	\$1,936,219
	Crew (10%)	\$215,135
Processors (15%)		\$379,651

Total gross revenue losses for harvesters in the 2020 and 2021 Yukon River and 2020 Kuskokwim River Chinook and chum salmon fisheries are estimated at \$5.77 million dollars. The proposed funds allocated to the harvesting sector are intended to mitigate this loss by providing funds to bring the harvesting sector up to 37% of their recent average value.

Total losses for the processing sector are confidential because there were less than three processing companies operating in either 2019 or 2020. The funds allocated to the processing sector are less than 5% of the recent average first wholesale value.

Yukon River and Kuskokwim River Harvesters – 85%. Funds provided for this fishery disaster cover both the 2020 and 2021 fishing seasons on the Yukon River and the 2020 fishing season on the Kuskokwim River. For that reason, ADF&G is proposing that the eligible Kuskokwim River permit holder and their crew receive 50% of the payment that eligible Yukon River permit holders and crew receive.

The harvester allocation is proposed to be divided into two pools, one for S04Y and S04W permit holders (90%) and one for crew members (10%). The split between permit holders and crew members is based on a typical crew size of one person earning a 10% crew share.

Yukon River and Kuskokwim River permit holders (90% of harvester pool). Proposed eligibility criteria for Yukon River and Kuskokwim River permit holders:

1. S04Y or S04W permit card must have been used to make Chinook and/or chum salmon landings in either 2019 or 2020. Landings on an S04W permit must have been from the Kuskokwim River (ADF&G statistical area 033511, 033512, 033513, 033514, or 033520).

Funds are proposed to be paid to the person listed as the 2020 ‘Permit holder’ and temporary emergency transfer permit holders (transferees) in the CFEC database. Permit holders who certified they were unable to participate in 2020 in order to qualify for an emergency transfer or permit holders who permanently transferred a permit away in 2020 will not receive payments.

Permit holder funds will be distributed based on the following four tiers. Four tiers are proposed based on the 2017-2019 average estimated CFEC gross revenue value for Chinook and/or chum salmon landed on each permit. Landings from 2020 will be used for new permit holders who do not have a 2017-2019 average. Each eligible S04Y permit holder in the same tier would receive an equal payment. The eligible S04W permit holder would receive 50% of an equal tier payment because this fishery disaster covers only the 2020 fishing year for the Kuskokwim River.

Tier level	2017-2019 average CFEC gross revenue value of Chinook and chum salmon landings	Tier allocation	Est. number of eligible permit holders
1	≥ \$14,000	23%	41
2	\$10,000 - \$13,999	25%	65
3	\$6,000 - \$9,999	29%	113
4	≤ \$5,999	23%	221

Yukon River and Kuskokwim River Crew (10% of harvester pool): Crew that meet all criteria are eligible to receive an **equal payment** from the crew member pool. Direct payments to minors are not authorized by the terms of the Federal grant but may be authorized to guardians in the same household on behalf of an eligible minor.

Crew that worked for a Kuskokwim River permit holder are eligible to receive 50% of an equal payment. Proposed eligibility criteria for Yukon River and Kuskokwim River fishing crew:

1. Crew member must have held a 2019 or 2020 commercial crew license or a 2019 or 2020 CFEC permit for any fishery. This information will be verified using the ADF&G Licensing database and the CFEC permit database.
2. Crew member must provide information to show they participated as fishing crew in the 2019 or 2020 commercial Yukon River or Kuskokwim River salmon fishery for a qualified permit holder, based on an affidavit from the permit holder.
3. Crew member must not be eligible for fishery disaster funds as a Yukon River or Kuskokwim River permit holder.

Yukon River Processors – 15%: Yukon River salmon processing companies that meet all criteria are eligible for payment based on the average wholesale value of Yukon River Chinook and/or chum salmon processed by the company, based on federal operational identification number, from 2017-2019 using COAR production data. No commercial processing companies have operated on the Kuskokwim River since 2015 and so none are proposed to be included in this fishery disaster spend plan.

Proposed Yukon River Processor eligibility criteria:

1. Processing company must have processed Yukon River Chinook and/or chum salmon in 2019 or 2020.
2. Processing company must have a 2019 or 2020 wholesale value of \$10,000 or greater for Yukon River Chinook and/or chum salmon.

Disaster payments to processing companies are **pro rata** to the company's demonstrated loss. The loss is proposed to be calculated as the company's 2017-2019 average wholesale value for Yukon River Chinook and/or chum salmon compared to its 2020 average wholesale value for Yukon River Chinook and/or chum salmon.

2020 Chignik commercial (\$3,203,211):

2020 Chignik commercial		Estimated funds
Harvesters (85%)	S01L permit holders (80%)	\$2,178,183
	Crew (20%)	\$544,546
Processors (15%)		\$480,482

Total gross revenue losses for harvesters in the Chignik salmon fishery are estimated at \$7.24 million dollars. The proposed funds allocated to the harvesting sector are intended to mitigate this loss by providing funds to bring the harvesting sector up to 38% of their recent average value.

Total losses for the processing sector are confidential because there were less than three processing companies operating in 2019 and the 2020 fishery was closed. The funds allocated to the processing sector are less than 5% of the recent average first wholesale value.

Chignik Harvesters – 85%: The harvester allocation will be divided into two pools, one for vessel permit holders (80%) and one for vessel crew members (20%). The split between permit holders and crew members is based on average crew size and crew shares and considers the higher initial costs borne by the vessel operators that are typically reimbursed through standard deductions to crew pay when the fishery is open.

Chignik Permit holders (80% of harvester pool). Proposed eligibility criteria for Chignik permit holders:

1. Permit holder must have had a valid S01L permit card in 2020. A permit is considered valid if fees were paid to renew the permit in 2020.
2. Permit holder did not make landings in another 2020 salmon seine fishery.

Funds are proposed to be paid to the person listed as the 2020 ‘Permit holder’ and temporary emergency transfer permit holders (transferees) in the CFEC database. Permit holders who certified they were unable to participate in 2020 in order to qualify for an emergency transfer or permit holders who permanently transferred a permit away in 2020 will not receive payments.

Each permit holder who meets both eligibility criteria above will receive a minimum payment of \$30,000, except those eligible permit holders who made landings on the same vessel in 2019. If more than one eligible permit holder made landings on the same vessel in 2019, the total payment will be calculated at the vessel level and divided between eligible permit holders pro rata to the value of their 2019 salmon landings. Fifty-six permit holders across 55 vessels are estimated to be eligible for minimum payments based on the proposed criteria.

Additional tier payments for permit holders who made Chignik salmon landings in 2019 will be distributed as described below. Estimated gross revenue value for all salmon species will be used to establish tiers because all salmon species were included in the fishery disaster for the Chignik area. Four tiers are proposed based on the estimated gross revenue for salmon landed in 2019 on each permit, or vessel if more than one permit holder landed salmon on the same vessel. Twenty-five percent of the remaining funds, after accounting for minimum payments, will be allocated to each tier and each eligible permit holder in the same tier would receive an equal payment. Forty-six permit holders across 45 vessels are estimated to be eligible for an additional tier payment.

Tier level	2019 average CFEC gross revenue value of salmon landings	Tier allocation	Est. number of eligible permit holders
1	≥ \$299,000	25%	6
2	\$245,000 – \$298,999	25%	8
3	\$140,000 – \$244,999	25%	12
4	≤ \$139,000	25%	19

Chignik Vessel Crew (25% of harvester pool). Vessel crew that meet all criteria are eligible to receive an **equal payment** from the crew member pool. Direct payments to minors are not authorized by the terms of the Federal grant but may be authorized to guardians in the same household on behalf of an eligible minor.

Proposed eligibility criteria for vessel crew:

1. Crew member must have held a 2019 or 2020 commercial crew license or a 2019 or 2020 CFEC permit for any fishery. This information will be verified using the ADF&G Licensing database and the CFEC permit database.
2. Crew member must provide information to show they participated as fishing crew for a qualified permit holder, based on an affidavit from the permit holder or vessel owner.
3. Crew member must not be eligible for fishery disaster funds as a Chignik permit holder.

Chignik Processors – 15%. Chignik salmon processing companies that meet all criteria are eligible for payment based on the average wholesale value of Chignik salmon processed by the company from 2015 to 2017 using COAR production data. Proposed processor eligibility criteria:

1. Processing company must have processed Chignik salmon in 2019.
2. Processing company must have a 2019 wholesale value of \$10,000 or greater for Chignik salmon.

Disaster payments to processing companies are **pro rata** to the company’s demonstrated loss. The loss is proposed to be calculated as the company’s 2015-2017 average wholesale value for Chignik salmon compared to 2019 average wholesale value for Chignik salmon.

2020 Southeast commercial (\$27,330,804):

2020 Southeast commercial		Estimated funds
Harvesters (80%)	S01A, S03A, S05B, S15B permit holders and crew	\$21,864,643
Processors (20%)		\$5,466,161

Total gross revenue losses for harvesters in the Southeast salmon fishery are estimated at \$64.4 million dollars. The proposed funds allocated to the harvesting sector are intended to mitigate this loss by providing funds to bring the harvesting sector up to 34% of their recent average gross revenue value.

Total first wholesale revenue losses for the Southeast salmon processing sector are estimated at \$143.87 million dollars. The proposed funds allocated to the processing sector are intended to mitigate this loss by providing funds to bring the harvesting sector up to 4% of their recent average first wholesale value.

Southeast Harvesters – 80%: Salmon are commercially harvested in Southeast Alaska with purse seines and drift gillnets and in both the Yakutat and Southeast Alaska areas with hand troll and power

troll gear. A salmon fishery with set gillnet gear also occurs in the Yakutat area and the Governor did not receive any requests to include the Yakutat set gillnet fishery in the fishery disaster. Therefore, the Yakutat set gillnet fishery was not included in the State’s fishery disaster request to the Secretary of Commerce and it is not included in this spend plan.

Public comments received on the second draft spend plan supported using the same historical base period for all species when calculating the relative loss of fishery value for each gear sector due to the disaster. Allocations that use the 2015-2019 historical average value for all species provide higher allocations for the seine gear sector while allocations that use the 2010-2018 even-year value for all species provide higher allocations for the gillnet and troll gear sectors. ADF&G is recommending the median value of these two approaches to allocate funds between the gear sectors.

	<u>Estimated Loss: 2020 fishery value compared to historical value</u>				
	2015-2019 average	2010-2018 even-year average	Median value	Proportion of loss	Estimated funds
Seine	-\$38,826,233	-\$40,344,478	-\$39,585,355	59.6%	\$13,022,594
Gillnet	-\$17,969,694	-\$23,062,049	-\$20,515,872	30.9%	\$6,749,210
Troll	-\$5,009,856	-\$7,713,535	-\$6,361,695	9.6%	\$2,092,839
Total	-\$61,805,783	-\$71,120,062	-\$66,462,922	100%	\$21,864,643

The three gear sectors include seine (S01A) permit holders and crew, drift gillnet (S03A) permit holders and crew, and troll (S05B/S15B) permit holders and crew. Funds for vessel crew will be provided within each gear sector allocation and consider both the average crew size by gear type and comments for suggested allocations received on the draft spend plans.

Southeast seine sector:

S01A permit holders (80% of seine sector allocation or ~\$10.4 million): On average over 91% of the salmon harvested in Southeast seine fisheries are pink and chum salmon. Therefore, ADF&G is proposing to use pink and chum salmon landings for the seine permit holder eligibility criteria.

Funds are proposed to be paid to the person listed as the 2020 permit holder and temporary emergency transfer permit holders (transferees) in the CFEC database. Permit holders who certified they were unable to participate in 2020 in order to qualify for an emergency transfer or permit holders who permanently transferred a permit away in 2020 will not receive payments. Crew must have worked for an eligible permit holder and meet all crew criteria.

Proposed eligibility criterion for seine (S01A) permit holders:

1. The S01A permit holder must have made a landing of chum and/or pink salmon in 2020.

Every S01A permit holder for whom a recent average fishery value could be calculated (i.e. 2020 was not their first year fishing), experienced a loss in their estimated gross revenue for chum and pink salmon due to the disaster. Therefore, no additional criteria are proposed for eligibility.

An estimated 204 permit holders meet the above criterion and based on public comment, ADF&G is proposing an **equal payment** distribution based on public comments received from the seine fishery association. Equal payments are proposed to be limited to no more than one payment per vessel; if multiple permit holders made landings in 2020 on the same vessel, the equal payment will be split pro rata to the value of each permit holders’ pink and chum salmon landings in 2020.

Seine vessel crew (20% of seine sector allocation or ~\$2.6 million). Seine vessel crew must meet the following proposed criteria to be eligible for an **equal payment** of the seine crew pool. Direct payments to minors are not authorized by the terms of the Federal grant but may be authorized to guardians in the same household on behalf of an eligible minor.

The split between permit holders and crew members is based on average crew size and crew shares and considers the higher initial costs borne by the vessel operators that are typically reimbursed through standard deductions to crew pay when the fishery is open.

Proposed Southeast seine crew eligibility criteria:

1. Crew member must have held a 2020 commercial crew license or a 2020 CFEC permit for any fishery. This information will be verified using the ADF&G Licensing database and the CFEC permit database.
2. Crew member must provide information to show they participated as fishing crew in the 2020 commercial Southeast salmon fishery for a qualified S01A permit holder, based on an affidavit from the permit holder or vessel owner.
3. Seine crew member may not be eligible for fishery disaster funds as a seine permit holder but may be eligible as crew and/or a permit holder in the gillnet and/or troll sectors.

Southeast gillnet sector:

S03A permit holders (85% of the gillnet sector allocation or ~\$5.7 million): On average over 93% of the salmon harvested in Southeast drift gillnet fisheries are chum, sockeye, and coho salmon. Therefore, ADF&G is proposing to use chum, sockeye, and coho salmon landings for the gillnet permit holder eligibility criteria.

Proposed criterion for Southeast gillnet (S03A) permit holders:

1. The S03A permit holder must have made a landing for chum, sockeye and/or coho salmon in 2020.

Every S03A permit holder for whom a recent average fishery value could be calculated (i.e. 2020 was not their first year fishing), experienced a loss in their estimated gross revenue for chum, sockeye, and coho salmon due to the disaster. Therefore, no additional criteria are proposed for eligibility.

S03A permit holder funds are proposed to be distributed based on the following four tiers. Four tiers are established based on the 2017-2019 average estimated CFEC gross revenue value for chum, sockeye, and coho salmon landed by each permit holder. Based on public comments received from Southeast harvesters, ADF&G is proposing to use the annual fleet average for permit holders that do not have a fishery value in 2017, 2018, and/or 2019. Each eligible permit holder in the same tier would receive an equal payment.

Tier level	2017-2019 average CFEC gross revenue value of chum, sockeye, and coho salmon landings	Tier allocation	Est. number of eligible permit holders
1	≥ \$102,000	25%	44
2	\$70,000 - \$101,999	25%	73
3	\$54,000 - \$69,999	25%	99
4	≤ \$53,499	25%	155

Gillnet vessel crew (15% of gillnet sector allocation or ~\$1.0 million). Gillnet vessel crew must meet the following proposed criteria to be eligible for an **equal payment** of the gillnet crew pool. Direct payments to minors are not authorized by the terms of the Federal grant but may be authorized to guardians in the same household on behalf of an eligible minor.

1. Crew member must have held a 2020 commercial crew license or a 2020 CFEC permit for any fishery. This information will be verified using the ADF&G Licensing database and the CFEC permit database.
2. Crew member must provide information to show they participated as fishing crew in the 2020 commercial Southeast salmon fishery for a qualified S03A permit holder, based on an affidavit from the permit holder or vessel owner.
3. Gillnet crew member may not be eligible for fishery disaster funds as a gillnet permit holder but may be eligible as crew and/or a permit holder in the seine and/or troll sectors.

Southeast troll sector:

Troll (S05B/S15B) permit holders (90% of troll sector allocation or ~\$1.9 million): On average over 99% of the salmon species included in this fishery disaster and harvested in the Southeast troll fishery are chum and coho salmon. Therefore, ADF&G is proposing to use chum and coho salmon landings for the troll permit holder eligibility criteria.

Proposed eligibility criteria for troll (S05B or S15B) permit holders.

1. S05B or S15B permit holder must have made landings of chum and/or coho salmon in 2020 with a CFEC gross revenue value of at least \$2,500. In 2020, a total of 521 troll permit holders made chum and/or coho salmon landings with an estimated value greater than \$2,500.
2. Troll permit holder must have a demonstrated loss in 2020 estimated CFEC gross revenue value for chum and/or coho salmon as compared to their 2017-2019 average CFEC gross revenue value for chum and/or coho salmon. The annual average value of chum and coho salmon landings will be used for permit holders that do not have a fishery value in 2017, 2018, and/or 2019. A total of 416 permit holders may qualify for fishery disaster funds based on this second eligibility criterion.

ADF&G is proposing that troll permit holders who meet the criteria are eligible to receive an **equal payment** from the troll permit holder funds.

Troll vessel crew (10% of troll allocation or ~\$209,000). Troll vessel crew must meet the following proposed criteria to be eligible for an **equal payment** of the troll crew pool. Direct payments to minors are not authorized by the terms of the Federal grant but may be authorized to guardians in the same household on behalf of an eligible minor.

1. Crew member must have held a 2020 commercial crew license or a 2020 CFEC permit for any fishery. This information will be verified using the ADF&G Licensing database and the CFEC permit database.
2. Crew member must provide information to show they participated as fishing crew in the 2020 commercial Southeast salmon fishery for a qualified S05B or S15B permit holder, based on an affidavit from the permit holder or vessel owner.
3. Troll crew member may not be eligible for fishery disaster funds as a troll permit holder but may be eligible as crew and/or a permit holder in the seine and/or gillnet sectors.

Southeast Processors – 20%: Southeast salmon processing companies that meet all criteria are eligible for payment based on the average wholesale value of southeast sockeye, chum, coho, and pink salmon processed by the company from 2017-2019 using COAR production data. Processor eligibility criteria:

1. Processing company must have processed southeast sockeye, chum, coho, and/or pink salmon in 2020 with a wholesale value of at least \$10,000.
2. Processing company must have a demonstrated loss in wholesale value of southeast sockeye, chum, coho, and/or pink salmon in 2020 as compared to their 2017-2019 average wholesale value of southeast sockeye, chum, coho, and/or pink salmon.

Disaster payments to processing companies are **pro rata** to their demonstrated loss.

General direction: Unclaimed funds in any of the categories and/or subcategories are proposed to be reallocated amongst all qualified individuals within the same category/subcategory the funds were allocated to. Individuals may be eligible for more than one category e.g., permit holder or crew and head of household for subsistence, S01A and S04A permit holder, but may not be eligible as both a permit holder and crew in the same fishery sector e.g., a S01A permit holder and Southeast seine vessel crew.