



Subsistence Q&As

What are key dates for Federal subsistence?

- 1971 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA)
- 1980 Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA)
- 1982 State of Alaska certified by DOI to implement Subsistence, Title VIII of ANILCA
- 1989 State of Alaska out of compliance because of State Supreme Court decision
- 1992 USDA/DOI jointly implement subsistence for wildlife, and fish on non-navigable waters
- 1999 USDA/DOI jointly implement subsistence for most navigable waters (includes salmon)
- 2000 First dedicated line item in appropriations act for the Forest Service

How many people live in Alaska? How many of them are rural, for subsistence purposes?

698,000 Alaskans ^Δ
 Under State law, 100% are subsistence users due to court rulings.
 Under Federal law, about 127,000 ^Δ (18%) are subsistence users.

How many people live in Southeast Alaska (Tongass National Forest) and Southcentral Alaska (Chugach National Forest)? How many of them are rural, for Federal subsistence purposes?

70,000 live in Southeast Alaska (SE); 38% rural (27,000). ^Δ
 350,000 live in Southcentral Alaska (SC); < 1% rural (3,100). ^{Δ*}

What is the range of harvests for rural communities of subsistence resources in SE/SC?

Southeast: 48 to 550 pounds per person per year, averaged across a community. ⁺
 Southcentral: 80 to 605 pounds per person per year, averaged across a community. ⁺

Approximately how many total pounds of subsistence resources are harvested, ^x annually? What would the value be at \$5 per pound?

Statewide	48,000,000	\$240,000,000
Southeast	5,600,000	\$28,000,000
Southcentral	650,000	\$3,300,000

How many requests for regulatory change were received by the Federal Subsistence Program during their most recent regulatory cycles? ^y

Regularly scheduled: Wildlife (2012-14) 94 statewide (National Forests: 22)
 Fisheries (2013-15) 25 statewide (National Forests: 11)
 Special Actions by delegated authority in 2012 on National Forests: 9

How many National Forest dollars have been spent on monitoring, needed for management, since 2000? What percent has gone to local entities (principally tribes)? How many rural jobs result, annually? ^y

\$24 million, with 65% to 18 different tribal governments; 35 to 60 annual jobs.

How many \$'s of specific appropriations has the Forest Service received for subsistence management, by year, since 2005 (millions, not adjusted for inflation)?^Z

2005: \$5.9

2006: \$5.1

2007: \$5.0

2008: \$5.0

2009: \$5.0

2010: \$2.6 (plus \$1.3 additional NFS appropriations for monitoring projects)

2011: \$2.6 (plus \$1.3 additional NFS appropriations for monitoring projects)

2012: \$2.6 (plus \$1.0 additional NFS appropriations for monitoring projects)

2013: \$2.4 (plus \$0.9 additional NFS appropriations for monitoring projects)

What websites provide additional information about subsistence?

Federal program: <http://www.doi.gov/subsistence/index.cfm>

State program: <http://www.subsistence.adfg.state.ak.us/>

Pre-1998 chronology: http://www.alaskool.org/projects/ancsa/subsistence_chron/subchron.htm

More Information

Steve Kessler, Regional Subsistence Program Leader, (907) 743-9461.

^Δ U.S. Census, retrieved May, 2010

^{*} Southcentral population includes Anchorage and Kenai Boroughs, and the Valdez/Cordova Census Areas. It does not include the nearby Matanuska-Susitna Borough. Rural communities include Chenega, Tatitlek, Cooper Landing, Hope, Cordova and Whittier.

⁺ For Southcentral: Chugach National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (2002); For Southeast: Tongass National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (2008)

^x ADF&G Statewide estimate is 375 pounds per person (<http://www.subsistence.adfg.state.ak.us/geninfo/about/subfaq.cfm>); Southeast estimates from Tongass Resource Use Cooperative Survey (approx. 1988-1990); Southcentral estimates from household surveys summarized in Chugach National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (2002). 210 pounds per year per person is used as an average for both forests. Value per pound considered a minimum – no source.

^y Internal records – 35 annual jobs currently, 60 jobs at the peak of investments in 2005

^Z Annual “Interior, Environment and Related Agencies” Appropriations Acts. NFS = National Forest System.