



KENAI

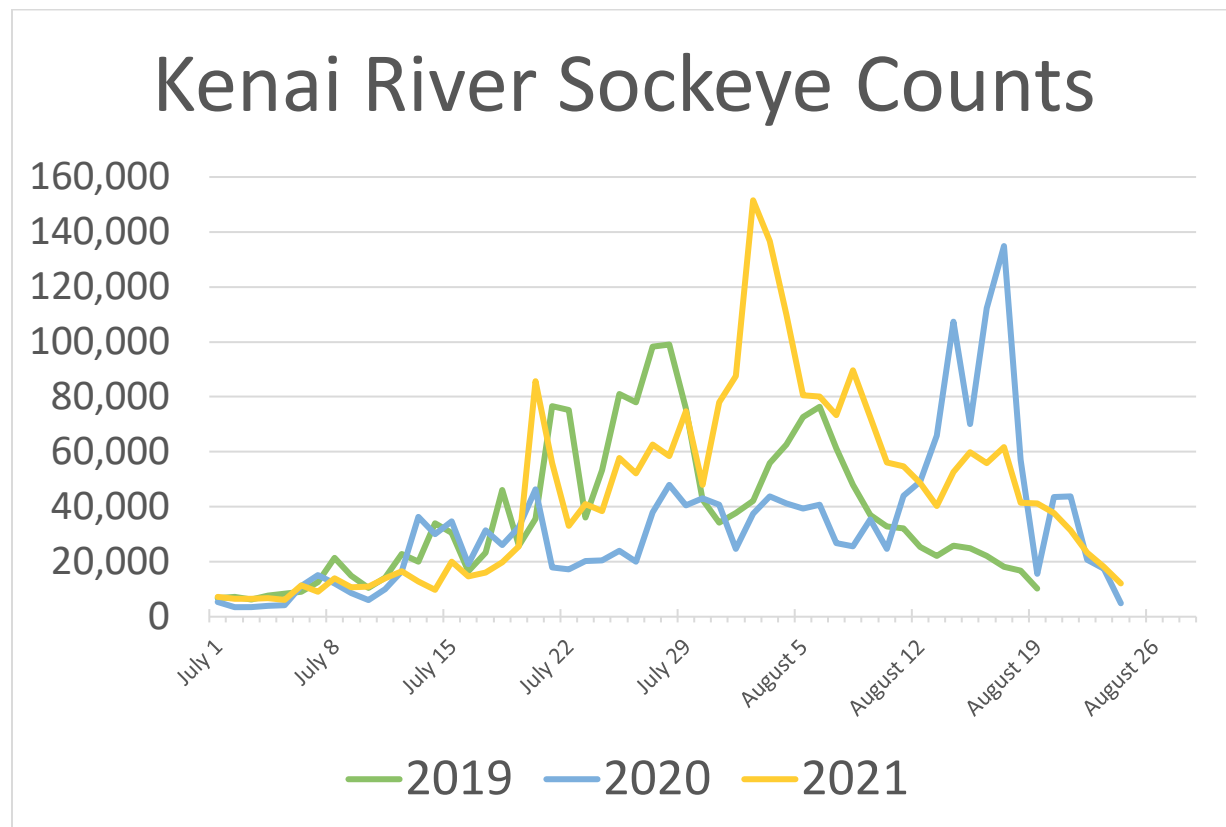
City of Kenai | 210 Fidalgo Ave, Kenai, AK 99611-7794 | 907.283.7535 | www.kenai.city

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Brian Gabriel and Kenai City Council
FROM: Paul Ostrander, City Manager
DATE: October 26, 2021
SUBJECT: 2021 Personal Use Fishery (Dip Net) Report

The Personal Use Fishery took place July 10, 2021 through July 31, 2021. In 2021, sockeye escapement to the Kenai River was the highest in recent memory, with over 2.4 million fish passing the counter, exceeding the escapement goal by over 1.2 million fish. Participation was consistently strong during the 21-day Fishery.

The following table depicts the run strength in 2021 relative to the previous three years:



The timing of the 2021 Kenai River sockeye run was delayed – a change that has been observed over the last number of years. The disparity between August and July escapement numbers continues to grow. In 2020, over 1.1 million sockeye were counted in August compared to only 687,000 sockeye counted in July. In 2021, over 1.5 million sockeye were counted in August compared to only 924,000 sockeye counted in July. Despite the fact that escapement numbers were lower in July than August, Fishery participants reported good fishing.

Operations in 2021

The no-wake zone along approximately 6,000 lineal feet of the Kenai River continued to work extremely well this year from the first day of the Fishery until the last. Fishery participants expressed their appreciation for having a portion of the River in which to fish and not be buffeted by the wake from speeding boats.

It is the Administration's intent to continue to manage the no-wake zone in the same manner in the future.

Operational Changes in 2021

There were several operational changes that occurred in 2021 worth noting:

- New permanent restrooms were completed on North and South Beach, providing improved facilities for both fishery participants and other beach users.
- Signage related to the Fishery was improved by updating information and removing conflicting or confusing signage.

Dip Net App

In 2018, the City built a Dip Net App for iPhone and Android devices, free to download, that provided up-to-date information on the Fishery, including tide information, fish counts, weather, fee calculators, general Fishery information, webcams, and additional information that was relevant and useful for Fishery participants. The App also allowed the City to provide "push notifications" with timely information to improve the experience and safety of anyone who downloaded the App.

Over the first four years of availability, the App had been downloaded over 20,900 times. Use of the App was down 28% this year, indicating that after 5 years, an update of the App is likely needed. The City will look to update the App prior to next year's Fishery.

2021 Financial Summary

The Council-adopted budget for the P.U. Fishery included revenues of \$483,151, expenditures of \$525,146, and a lapse of \$11,337, netting to revenues under expenditures of (\$30,658). Revenues are projected at \$452,123, and projected expenses are \$448,566, with the projected lapse still at \$11,337 netting to revenues over expenditures of \$14,894. A transfer of \$75,000 was made from the P.U. Fishery Fund to the General Fund to support general operations of the City, an increase of \$25,000 over the prior three years.

The P.U. Fishery Fund began FY2022 with a fund balance of \$276,857. Given the above, the ending fund balance for FY2022 is projected to be \$291,751.

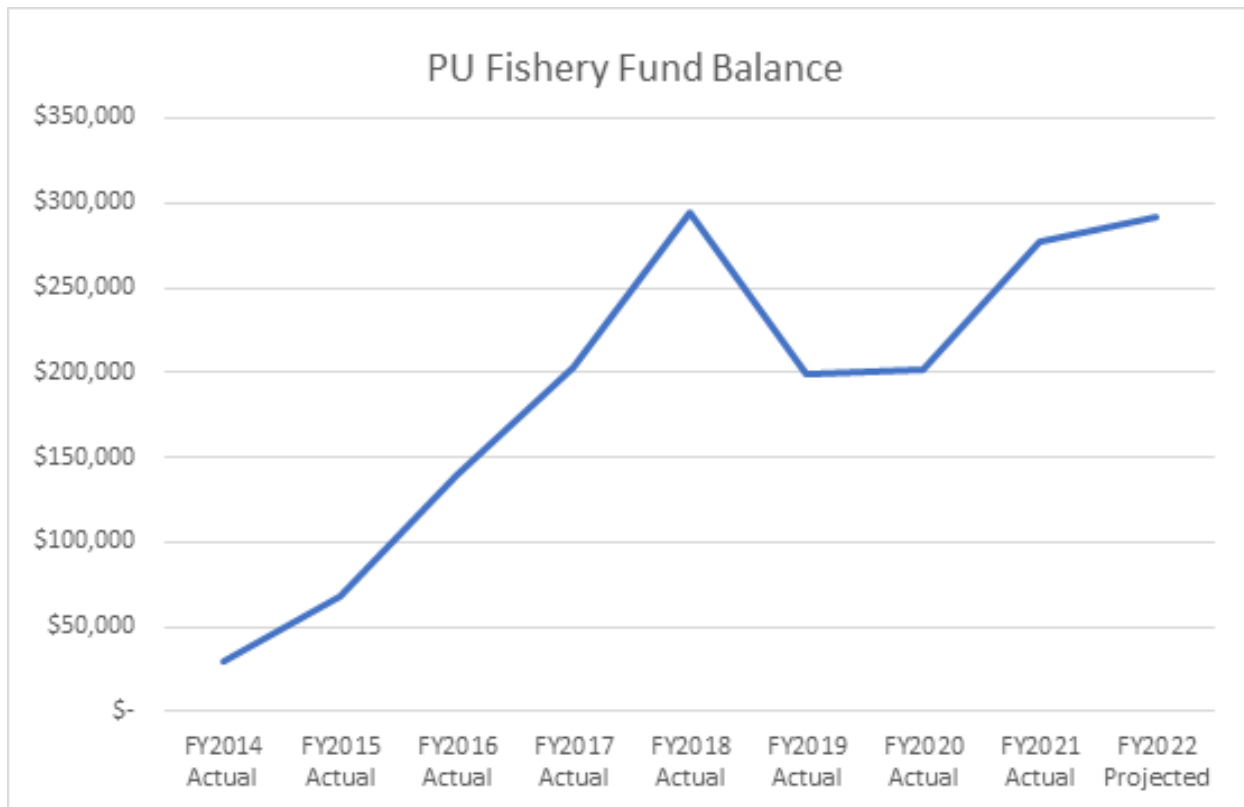


The purpose of a fund balance is to provide funding for present and future capital expenditures to support City operations during the Fishery and to safeguard the City's General Fund in the event that the Fishery is closed by emergency order and the City is unable to recoup expenditures.

Personal Use Fishery Fund Management

Prior to FY2014, the City had instituted accounting controls so that expenses and revenues associated with the Personal Use Fishery were identified as discretely separate from other City operations. In many ways, this accounting mirrored the manner in which enterprise funds capture financial information.

The creation of the P.U. Fishery Fund provides a funding mechanism where Fund balance can be utilized to provide funding for larger one-time capital expenditures or other purposes deemed appropriate by the Council. Fund balance since inception is shown below:



Administration believes that the Personal Use Fishery Fund balance is sufficient to support capital expenditures to support City operations during the Fishery and protect the City's General Fund. The continued use of revenues generated from the Fishery to support General Fund capital projects or operations will need to be considered annually during the budget process.



Capital Improvements for the Personal Use Fishery Fund

As the Fishery has evolved, the City of Kenai has responded by creating its overall management plan. A growing component of that plan has been meeting the capital requirements to manage, react, and respond to the needs of the Fishery participants.

The City received a capital grant in 2015 for Kenai River South Beach Dip Net Access, of which there is still an unallocated balance of \$238,173. During the 2019 legislative session, a grant language change was made that allowed the utilization of these funds for improvements on North Beach. During FY2021, Council approved the construction of vault bathrooms on North Beach, construction of permanent restrooms at the Little League Fields, and construction of the fee shack for South Beach. The fee shack and vault restrooms are completed, and the permanent restrooms at the Little League Fields are slated for construction next year. Once the final cost of the restrooms at the Little League Fields is known, Council will need to determine how best to utilize the remainder of these funds to the greatest benefit to the personal use fishery participants and the residents of the City.

Given the State of Alaska's fiscal issues, it is doubtful that the City of Kenai will receive additional State grants for capital improvements to respond to Fishery needs in the foreseeable future.

Proposed Changes to the 2021 Fee Structure

Administration does not recommend any changes to the fee structure for the 2022 Personal Use Fishery.

If you have any questions, please contact me at your convenience.





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MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Brian Gabriel and Kenai City Council
THROUGH: Paul Ostrander, City Manager
FROM: Terry Eubank, Finance Director
DATE: October 19, 2021
SUBJECT: 2021 Personal Use Fishery (Dip Net) Report – Finance

Dipnet Smartphone App

2021 marked the five-year anniversary of the Dipnet Kenai smartphone app. Use of the app was down 28% from last year. This is likely a result of lower participation in the fishery this year, and the fact that the app has now gone five years without a major update.

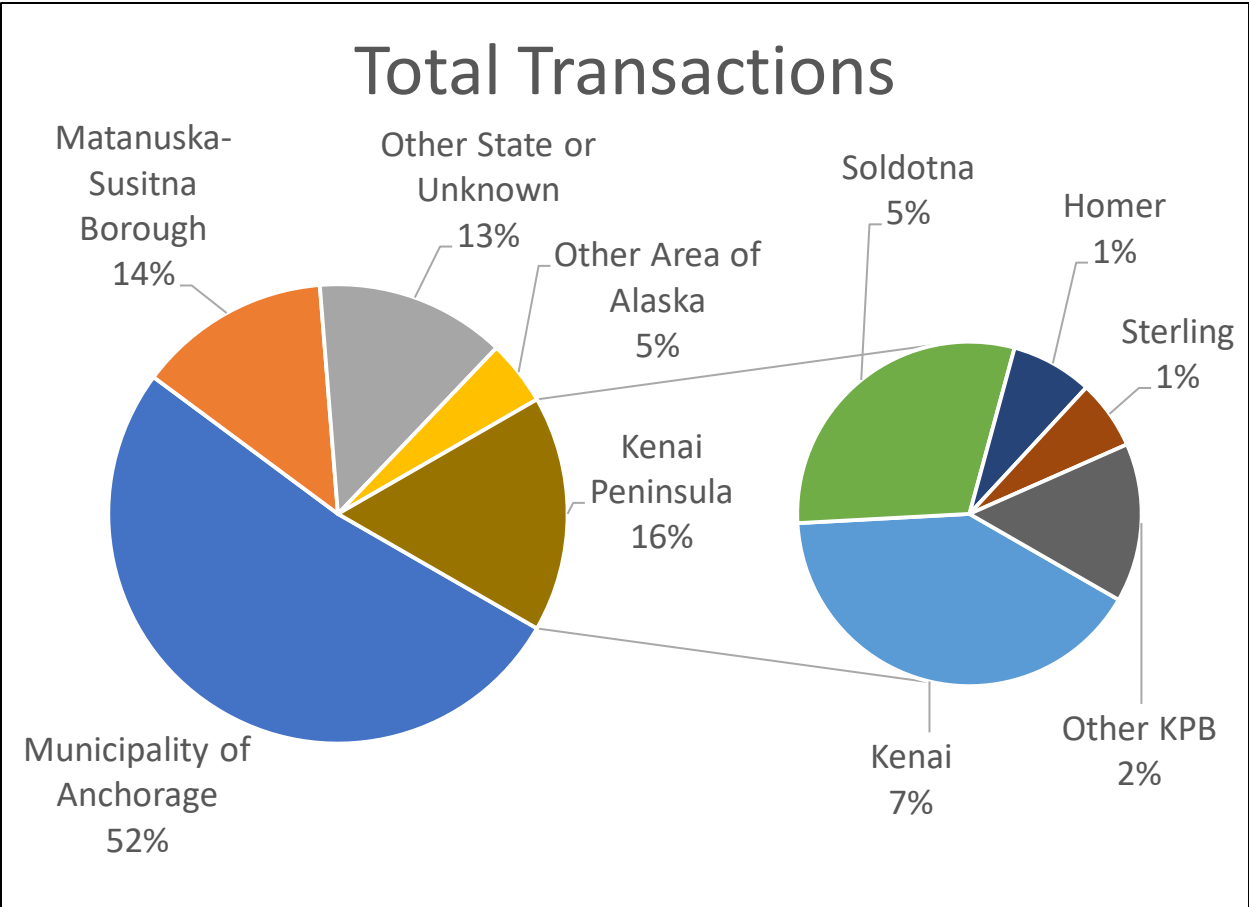
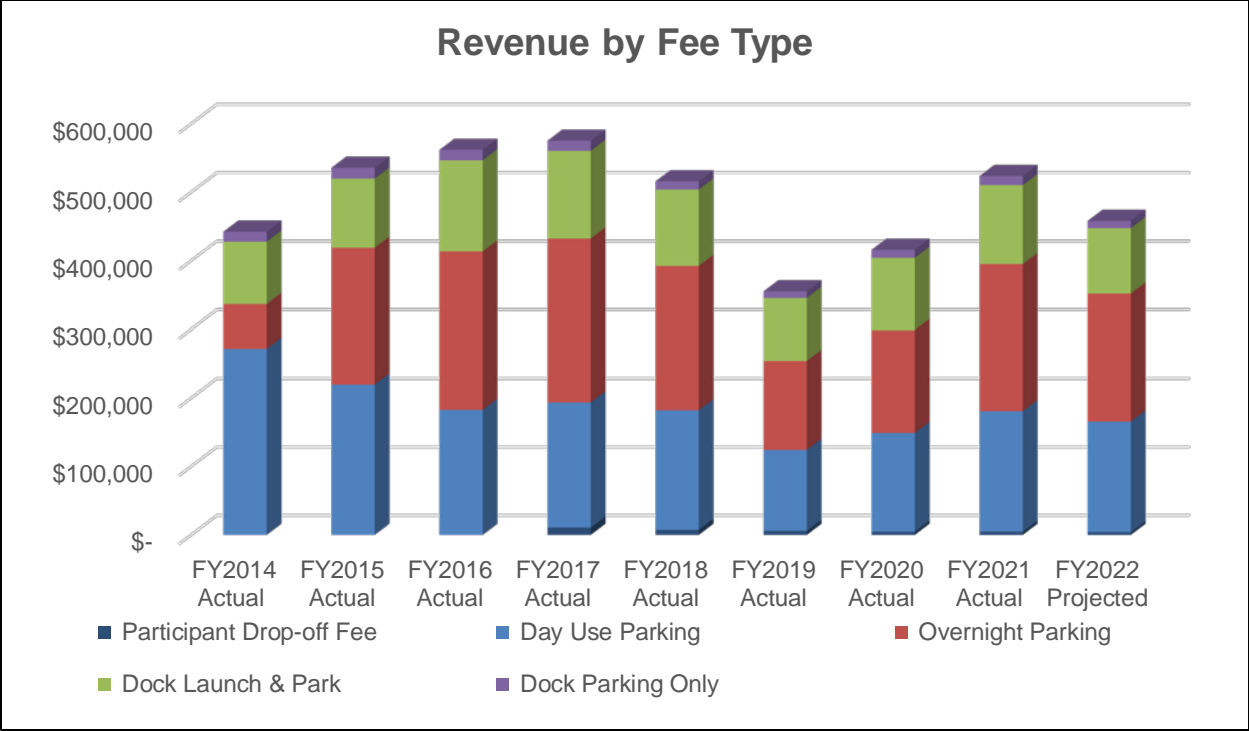
Improvements

There were no significant changes in 2021.

FY21 Revenues

The FY21 fee structure remained the same as that of FY20. FY21 fishery revenues, not including capital grant revenues and net of sales tax and transaction fees, are projected to be \$446,714, \$30,991 less than budgeted and \$70,742 less than FY20 fishery revenues. Capital grant revenue is projected to be \$380,435. A comparison of FY21 fishery revenue to prior years is shown below, the breakdown by site and service for FY14 thru FY21 is based upon actual transactions.

Revenues	FY2014 Actual	FY2015 Actual	FY2016 Actual	FY2017 Actual	FY2018 Actual	FY2019 Actual	FY2020 Actual	FY2021 Actual	FY2022 Projected
Day Use Parking	\$271,770	\$219,704	\$182,739	\$182,854	\$174,613	\$118,308	\$144,330	\$175,980	\$161,580
Overnight Parking	64,838	199,203	230,729	238,752	210,269	129,939	149,788	214,248	186,387
Dock Launch & Park	91,011	100,970	133,181	128,109	111,528	91,358	105,275	115,304	95,425
Dock Parking Only	14,689	15,868	15,238	14,807	12,009	9,547	11,736	13,377	10,641
Participant Drop-off Fee	-	-	-	10,717	7,481	5,943	4,698	4,792	4,019
Interest Earnings	665	680	1,580	671	1,522	7,624	8,836	469	750
PERS Grant	-	17,437	2,167	2,688	1,546	2,743	3,355	3,969	4,696
Miscellaneous	(2,401)	(3,234)	(6,888)	(3,681)	675	(3,250)	(4,306)	(10,592)	(11,375)
Total Revenue	440,572	550,628	558,746	574,917	519,643	362,212	423,712	517,547	452,123



Total transactions this year were down 11% from 2020. Transactions on North Beach continue to increase, accounting for 61% of the total this year, up from 57% in 2020. South Beach accounted for 20% and the Dock accounted 19%. Participant numbers were down 13% over 2020. The percentages of participants from different regions didn't vary significantly from previous years.

Future Considerations

As the number of transactions continues to grow on North Beach it may be necessary to provide a third fee shack at this location. The third shack would be located in the lower parking lot and would serve as an information booth as well as a fee shack. Users could renew their permits or upgrade from drop off passes without having to go up to the top of the hill. This would also provide an extra employee that could be used to backfill other shacks if an employee is sick or resigns. This facility would also serve as an information booth, answering questions, dealing with lost and found items, and could provide a safe location to store the AED.

The cost to provide this third shack would include both capital costs to setup the facility, as well as ongoing costs to cover the employee.



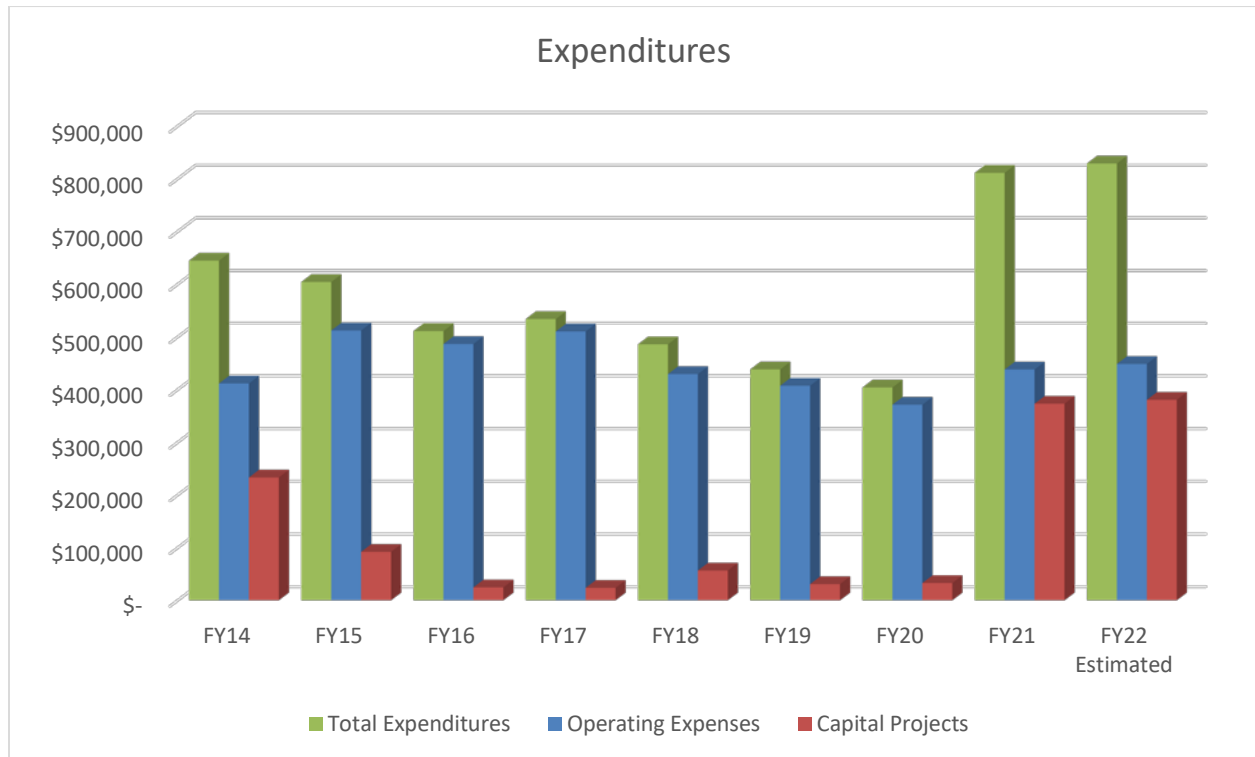
FY22 Financial Projections

	Council * Adopted FY 2022	Amended Budget	YTD Actual	FY2022 Projected	Projected Variance	% Available
Revenues						
Beach Parking	\$183,775	\$183,775	\$161,580	\$161,580	\$(22,195)	-12.08%
Beach Camping	179,725	179,725	186,387	186,387	6,662	3.71%
Dock Launch & Park	109,600	109,600	95,425	95,425	(14,175)	-12.93%
Dock Parking Only	13,400	13,400	10,641	10,641	(2,759)	-20.59%
Participant Drop-off Fee	4,205	4,205	4,019	4,019	(186)	-4.42%
Interest Earnings	750	750	-	750	-	0.00%
PERS Grant	4,696	4,696	-	4,696	-	0.00%
Other	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%
Credit Card Transaction Fees	<u>(13,000)</u>	<u>(13,000)</u>	<u>(11,375)</u>	<u>(11,375)</u>	<u>1,625</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
Total Revenue	<u>483,151</u>	<u>483,151</u>	<u>446,677</u>	<u>452,123</u>	<u>(31,028)</u>	<u>-6.42%</u>
Expenditures						
Public Safety	\$106,173	\$106,173	\$87,735	\$106,173	\$-	0.00%
Streets	53,332	53,332	26,857	29,487	23,845	44.71%
Boating Facility	52,588	52,330	36,454	39,174	13,156	25.14%
Parks, Recreation & Beautification	<u>196,800</u>	<u>225,138</u>	<u>191,255</u>	<u>176,812</u>	<u>48,326</u>	<u>21.47%</u>
Total Expenditures	408,893	436,973	342,301	351,646	85,327	19.53%
Transfers Out:						
Transfers - Transfer to General Fund	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	-	0.00%
Transfers - PU Fishery Capital Proj Fund	<u>50,000</u>	<u>21,920</u>	<u>21,920</u>	<u>21,920</u>	-	<u>0.00%</u>
Total Transfers	<u>125,000</u>	<u>96,920</u>	<u>96,920</u>	<u>96,920</u>	-	<u>0.00%</u>
Total Expenditures & Transfers	533,893	533,893	439,221	448,566	85,327	15.98%
Contribution To/(From) Fund Balance:	(50,742)	(50,742)	7,456	3,557	54,299	
Projected Lapse	<u>(11,337)</u>	<u>(11,337)</u>	<u>(11,337)</u>	<u>(11,337)</u>	-	
Adjusted (Deficit)/Surplus	<u>(39,405)</u>	<u>(39,405)</u>	<u>18,793</u>	<u>14,894</u>	<u>54,299</u>	
Beginning Fund Balance	<u>289,217</u>	<u>276,857</u>	<u>276,857</u>	<u>276,857</u>		
Ending Fund Balance	<u>\$249,812</u>	<u>\$237,452</u>	<u>\$295,650</u>	<u>\$291,751</u>		

* Council Adopted Budget includes annually adopted budget and carryforward encumbrances.



\$380,435 remains in a State of Alaska Department of Commerce Community and Economic Development grant. The City successfully, with the assistance of the late Representative Knopp, secured a change in scope making improvements on either the City's north or south beach eligible. A project currently underway which will utilize these grant funds is the construction of a new restroom at the Kenai Little League Fields.





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MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Brian Gabriel and Kenai City Council
THROUGH: Paul Ostrander, City Manager
FROM: Scott Curtin
DATE: October 25, 2021
SUBJECT: 2021 Personal Use Fishery (Dipnet) Report – Public Works

The Public Works Department provided support services for another successful year of the Fishery. The Streets Division, currently consisting of *five* full-time employees, recruits additional temporary staff to manage the boat launch and parking at the City Dock Facility. This year five Temps were recruited and worked a combined 857.5 hours over the three-week period in support of the Fishery. Additionally, Streets Division Staff prepares for the Fishery annually by performing the following:

- 1) Installing temporary access roads at both North and South Beach locations
- 2) Placement of over 100 jersey barriers for the direction of traffic
- 3) Fee shacks are placed and set up for operation
- 4) Dumpsters and portalets are coordinated with a subcontractor whose services are competitively bid annually
- 5) Temporary signage is installed throughout various locations of the City
- 6) Roads and parking areas are graded, and dust control measures placed
- 7) Speed bumps deployed on Eagle Rock Dr.
- 8) No wake signage and buoys are placed within the river
- 9) City dock parking area is striped
- 10) Removal of the above at the conclusion of the Fishery

The Division continued to rely heavily on Temps this year to effectively manage the process, allowing our full-time staff to work on other City Maintenance Projects. As a result, actual hours worked in support of the Fishery came in well under budgeted amounts.

Total transactions for the dock were 3,456. Comprised of 2,873 Boat Launch & Parking Pass, 557 Day Use Passes, and 26 Drop Offs generating approximately \$106,066 in revenue compared to \$135,605 last year.

This year the new vault restrooms were placed into service on North and South beach. Additional roadway dumpsters were provided on North Beach along Kenai Ave. Both were received well by the public.

Aerial photos below are a good indication of when the fish are in!





KENAI

Kenai Police Department | 107 S. Willow St., Kenai, AK 99611 | 907.283.7879 | www.kenai.city

MEMORANDUM

TO: Paul Ostrander, City Manager
FROM: Dave Ross, Police Chief
DATE: September 20, 2021
SUBJECT: 2021 Personal Use Fishery (Dip Net) Report - Police

The 2021 Dipnet fishery opened on July 10 and ended as scheduled on July 31. In 2021 the City employed five Temporary Enforcement Officers (TEOs) dedicated to Police dipnet operations. Significant 2021 Police dipnet information includes:

- Police handled 105 dipnet-related calls for service during the month of July. Those calls included a wide variety of issues: 37 (9-1-1) misdials, 5 parking problems, 1 traffic congestion, 3 motor vehicle crashes, 8 lost & found property, 8 disorderly complaints, 1 boat collision, 3 lost children, 4 animal problems, 5 stuck vehicles, and 30 miscellaneous calls for service.
- TEOs wrote 169 dipnet related citations (primarily for paid parking and other parking related violations).
- Salmon Frenzy volunteers returned to assist in the fishery after cancelling last year due to COVID. Volunteers assisted at the beach with traffic flow along Kenai Avenue, and at the City dock. Their numbers of volunteers were fewer this year than in prior years, but they provided valuable assistance to operations.
- COVID did not appear to have any impacts on our dipnet operations this year.
- For the second year, pay shacks did not accept cash. This continued to reduce the commitment of time and resources to handle that cash. TEOs were able to focus their time on other fishery related issues.
- TEOs also proved invaluable in assisting with other police emergencies/operations over the busy summer months, including assistance at a motor vehicle collision that included multiple fatalities.

The 2021 fishery went smoothly from the perspective of the police department.



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Paul Ostrander, City Manager
FROM: Tony Prior, Fire Chief
DATE: September 22, 2021
SUBJECT: 2021 Personal Use Fishery (Dip Net) Report – Fire Department

Fire Department dipnet related call volume was similar to previous years in 2021. This season we conducted 2 vaccine clinics at North beach, in addition to other dipnet related calls. We conducted 3 “No Wake” patrols in coordination with KPD. Total overtime hours for boat patrols were 11.5 hours.

The Fire Department had the following service calls for Dip Net season.

Actively dipnetting 6

Here for dipnet, but not actively dipnetting 3

Fires 2

Automobile fire 1

Falsely Reported fire 1

EMS calls 7

Trauma/ Assault 2

Medical 5

Cardiac Arrest 0

Service Calls 2

Vaccine Clinics 2

Boat Patrols 3



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Brian Gabriel and Kenai City Council

THROUGH: Paul Ostrander, City Manager

FROM: Robert J. Frates, Parks & Recreation Director

DATE: October 1, 2021

SUBJECT: 2021 Personal Use Fishery (Dip Net) Report - Parks and Rec

The purpose of this memo is to summarize the Kenai Parks & Recreation Department's activities related to the 2021 Kenai Personal Use Fishery.

The dipnet fishery started July 10 and continued through July 31. Dipnetting was only open between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. There were no emergency orders issued this season by the Alaska Department of Fish & Game affecting either openings or closures. Moreover, there were no DEC advisories issued for fecal coliform or enterococci bacteria exceedances as part of the Kenai Beach program.

As in years past, City departments played a key role in meeting a wide range of operational and maintenance challenges. Whether City services aided in the direct support of the fishery or indirectly as a result of increased visitations to our facilities, all departments are to be commended for a job well done. Additionally, local businesses contributed and benefited by the extra traffic in town. This provided a much-desired boost to the local economy which assisted in recovering from some of the negative impacts of Covid-19.

The newly constructed vaulted restrooms along Kenai Avenue and on Royal Street were completed in time for dipnet season. Although the anticipated rental (portable restrooms) savings were not realized as originally projected, much improved services were provided for the participants both in terms of increased capacity and cleanliness.

The Alaska Missions and Retreat had a presence this season after not participating last year due to Covid-19. Although their presence was smaller in numbers as compared to year's past, their contribution was far reaching. Whether helping direct traffic, picking up litter or sweeping restrooms, their effort was felt and greatly appreciated.

Below is a summary of dipnet related tasks and activities the department was engaged in:

- Reinstalled 100 lineal feet of post and chain along Kenai Avenue on the backside of the newly constructed restrooms.

- Coordinated with the Kenai Watershed Forum for their educational booth setup and presence.
- Coordinated the Kenai Central High School Nordic ski team for Tuesday and Thursday clean ups on the north beach. They estimated 6,500 sq. ft. of trash was collected during the fishery and had a total of 71 participants.
- Coordinated with staff at the Wildwood Correctional Facility for end of season clean up. A total of 30 labor hours were provided. The department logged 23 hours of clean up after the season.
- Cleaned out and relocated 15 to 20 fire rings on the north beach.
- Installation and removal (65 hrs) of temporary signs related to the fishery.
- Installation and removal (38.50 hrs) of temporary fencing.
- Striping (14 hrs) the north beach and Little League parking lots.
- Restroom cleaning and waste management (115 hrs). This is an increase from previous seasons and largely attributable to the additional vaulted restrooms.
- Participated in “all hands training” and conducted training in-house for key personnel. Total training time was approximately 14 hours.
- Coordinated with Kenai Little League for their hosting of the District 1 Minor Division baseball tournament (July 10-17).
- Our Beach Assistant provided 276 hours patrolling the north and south beaches and worked closely with the Temporary Seasonal Officers. The focus this season was almost exclusively on the north beach.

