

Fishermen net 128 million fish

The 1986 Alaska commercial salmon harvest is estimated to be the fourth largest in history with a catch of 127.8 million fish, weighing a total of 589.6 million pounds.

The ex-vessel value is estimated to be worth \$413.9 million, and it may be higher when more precise price information becomes available, according to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

This is the seventh consecutive year that Alaska commercial salmon harvests have exceeded the 100-million fish mark.

The harvest was less than the pre-season catch projection of 138 million fish. This was largely due to the 1986 pink salmon catches — 76.7 million — being lower than the 1986 catch projection — 95.6 million. However, sockeye salmon catches of 32.2 million were higher than the anticipated 24.5 million fish.