

16th Annual Invasive Species Workshop

Signal crayfish, *Pacifastacus leniusculus*, in Kodiak

Brown, Blythe

Kodiak Soil and Water Conservation District

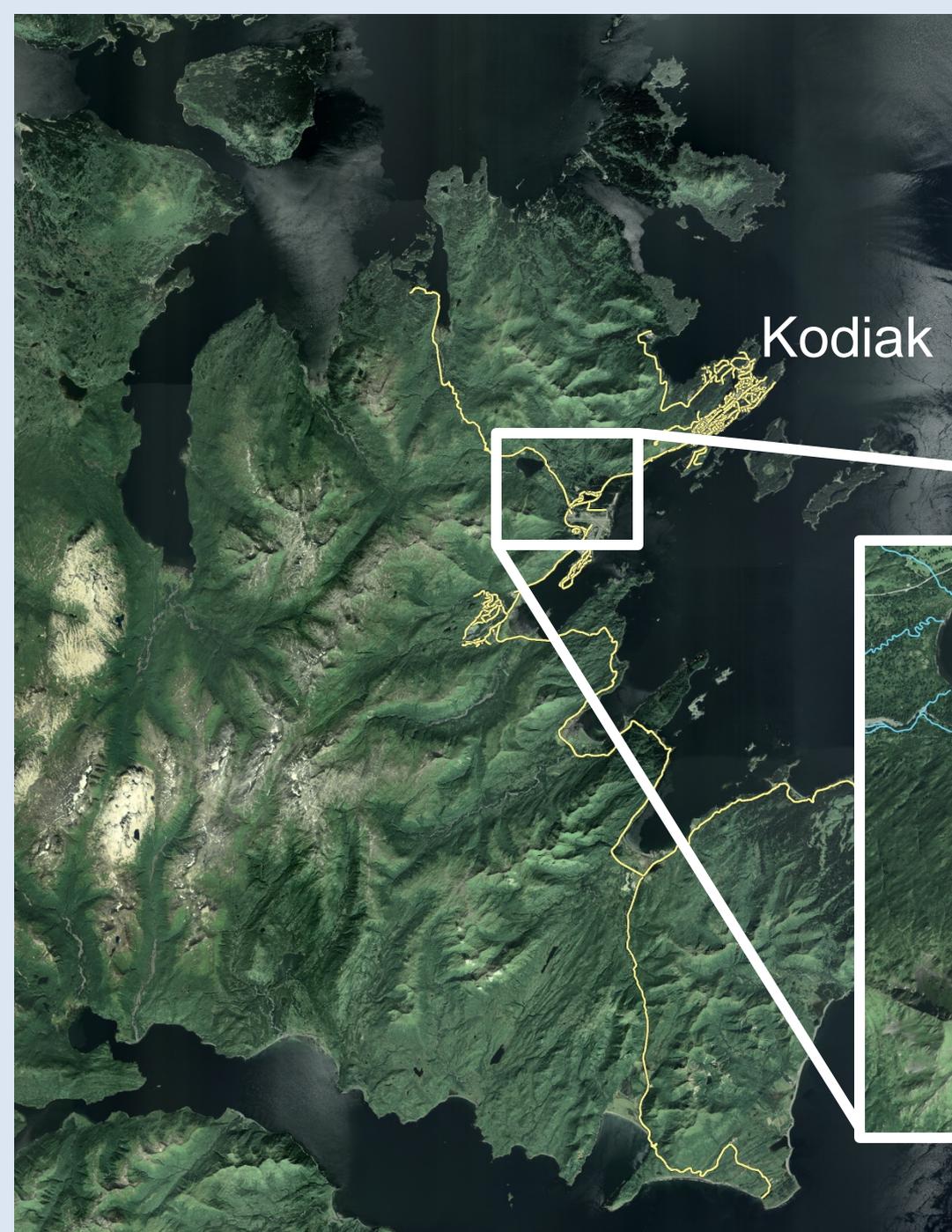
Many of the public considered it a “rumor” or “myth” that individual crayfish had been found on occasion in the Buskin River system for several years, but nobody knew how many were present, where they were and whether they were just survivors or actually breeding. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Coastal Programs provided funding for the Kodiak Soil and Water Conservation District to answer some of those questions. Blythe Brown, programs coordinator and acting district manager for the Kodiak Soil and Water Conservation District, will describe results.



Crawdads, Crawfish, Crayfish in Kodiak

Blythe Brown

Kodiak Soil and Water Conservation District October 2015

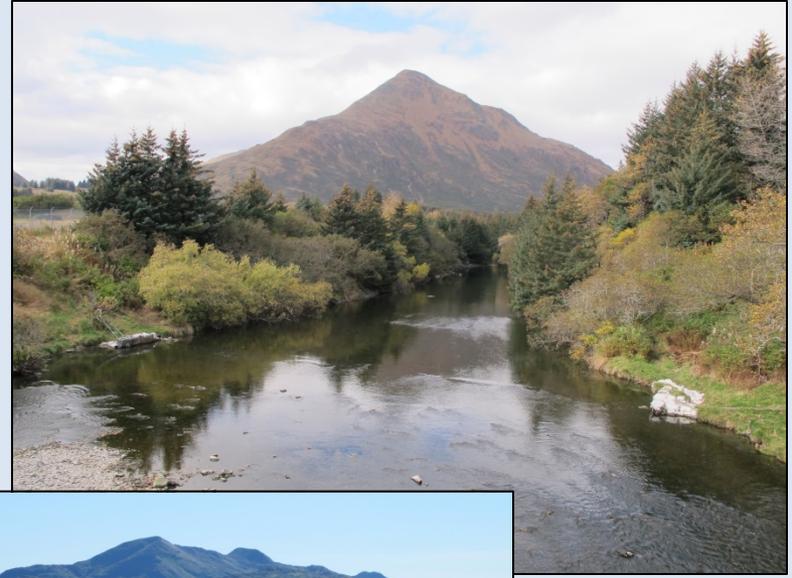


Kodiak city



Buskin
Lake

Buskin River



Buskin Lake and River, Kodiak, Alaska

Crayfish sightings in Kodiak



Date	Location	Comment
2000?	River mouth	Eric Munk specimen 4/15/2013
4/12/2002	Buskin River	USGS collection, bait?
200?	Buskin River “near airport”	USCG dad and his kid
2010?	Buskin lake inlet?	Tammy Davis, student report?
9/30/2011	Buskin Lake, inlet or outlet?	Jeff Woods, KHS Student
8/1/2012	Lake outlet weir	ADFG, “sickly”
9/20/2013	Lake outlet weir	ADFG, “very much alive & feisty”
9/19/2014	Below lake outlet weir	Fly fisherman
9/21/2014	Lake outlet/river	Maxton and his dad – no myth!

WANTED!



Crayfish / Crawfish / Crawdad...

Please contact the Kodiak Soil and Water Conservation District if you find any of these aquatic animals. Call: **907-486-5574**

Crayfish are not native to Kodiak, they have the potential to damage our salmon habitat, but we need to know more...

We are currently conducting surveys to assess the presence and abundance of crayfish in Buskin Lake and River waters – please contact us with any information concerning sightings and locations.

Kodiak Soil and Water Conservation District
518 West Marine Way, Suite 206, Kodiak AK
Office: 907-486-5574 or cell: 907-539-5372
E-mail: blythe.brown@kodiaksoilandwater.org



Report Invasive Species: **1-877-INVASIV** www.alaskainvasives.org



Trapping efforts

- ADFG 2012 - 2013
- KSWCD 2014 - 2015





Female
with
eggs
6/16/2015



Male
6/8/2015



Female 9/10/2015



Signal crayfish, *Pacifastacus leniusculus*



“Shipped LIVE to any kitchen in America”

“Crawfish – shipped year round”

“Crawfish for sale”

“How to care for pet crawdads”

“Crayfish on eBay”

“Crayfish, small, living, pack of 12,
not sexed”



“Due to USDA or USDOT regulations this item may not be shipped to the following locations: Alaska, ...”

“Can you ship to Alaska or Hawaii?”

Yes, we can ship live crawfish to Alaska, but there is an additional charge \$1.25 per pound. We CANNOT ship Live Crawfish into Hawaii.”

A concern in Kodiak?

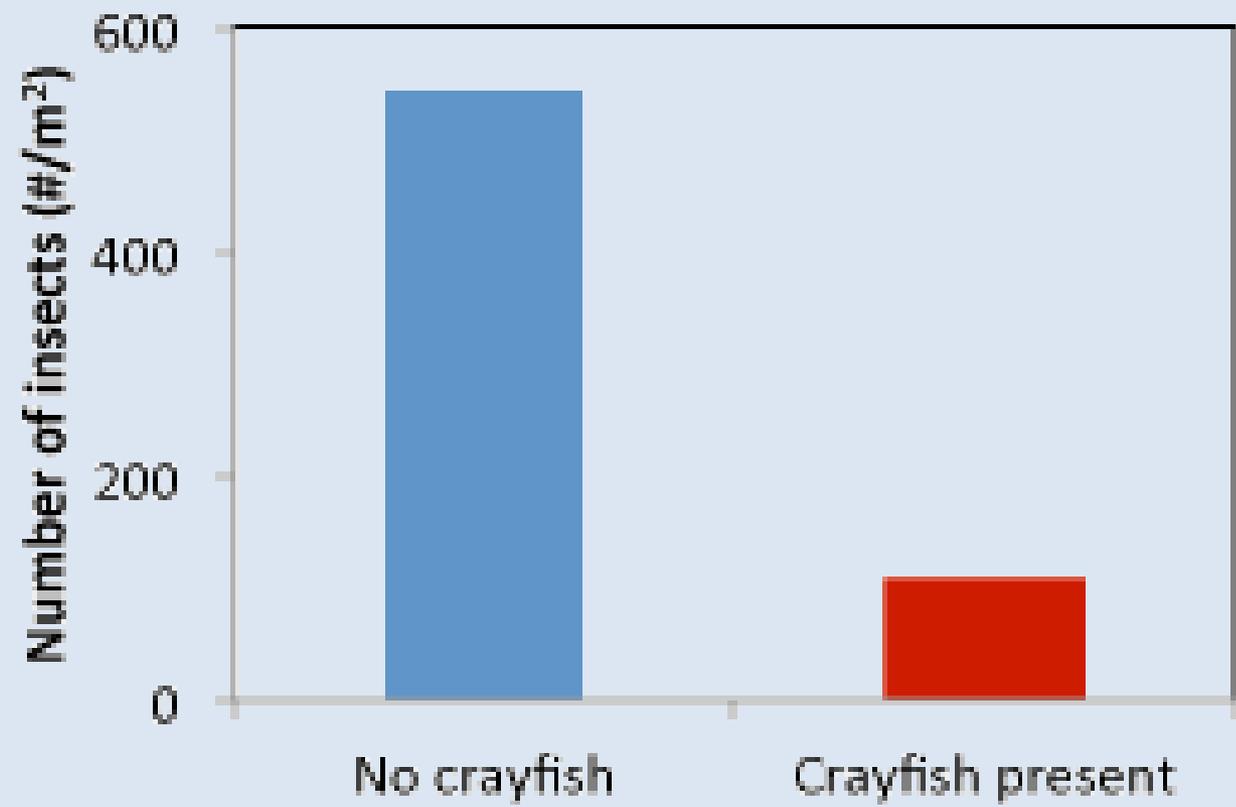
- No native crawfish (disease carriers in Europe)
- No frogs or newts (displacement in Crater Lake)
- Coexist with same salmon species in native range.



**Omnivorous: fish, invertebrates, vegetation, fish eggs
Reduce vegetation, Alter food webs, Impact bank integrity,
Increase turbidity, Competition for shelter...**

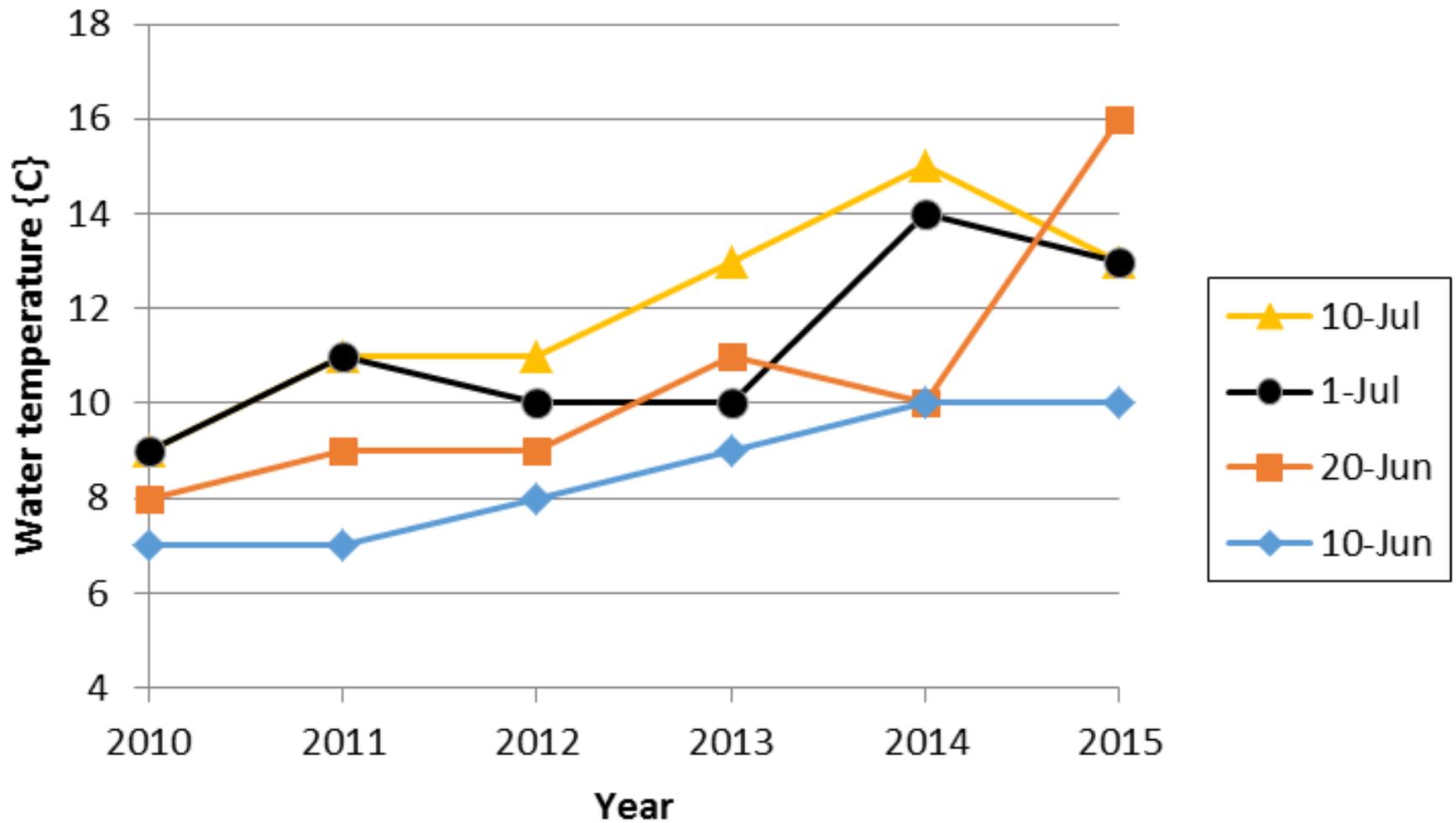
Walton and Gottahardt, Alaska Natural Heritage Program, UAA

FOOD AVAILABILITY



Experiments show that where crayfish are located in Crater Lake the number of aquatic insects is reduced. The left (blue) bar shows the number of insects with no crayfish. The right (red) bar shows insect numbers with crayfish present. Both crayfish and newts depend upon insects for food. NPS

Water temperature recorded at ADFG weir, Buskin Lake outlet.



Minnow Traps



Setting traps



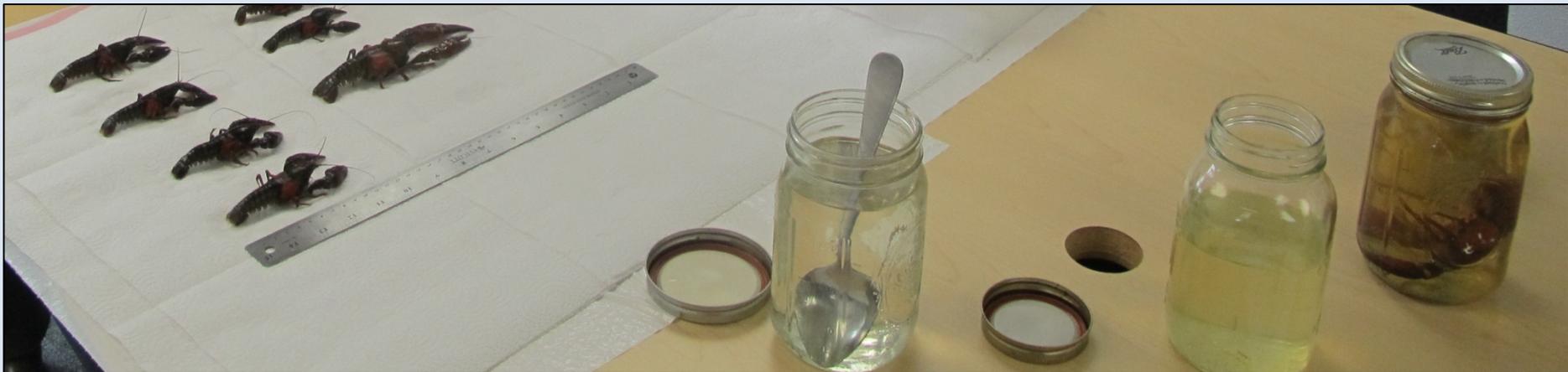
Flipping rocks



Viewing



Record Keeping and Permits



Bears and Navy Seals



Water levels



Success!





What Next?



Thank You!

US Fish and Wildlife Service Coastal Programs
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak
Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association
US Coast Guard Base Kodiak
Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge