

Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group

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ADF&G Bethel toll free: 1 (855) 933-2433

Meeting Agenda

Date: June 5, 2014

Time: 1:30 pm

Place: Bethel

Time Called to Order

Chair

Time Adjourned

ROLL CALL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM:

Upriver Elder:

Downriver Elder:

Commercial Fisher:

Lower River Subsistence:

Middle River Subsistence:

Upper River Subsistence:

Headwaters Subsistence:

QUORUM MET? Yes / No

Processor:

Member at Large:

Sport Fisher:

Western Interior RAC:

Y-K Delta RAC:

ADF&G:

INTRODUCTIONS:

INVOCATION:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: *the agenda may be amended at this time.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *Optional. ADF&G does not prepare official meeting minutes.*

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD:

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

1. Subsistence Reports:
 - a. Lowest River
 - b. ONC Inseason Subsistence
 - c. Lower River
 - d. Middle River
 - e. KNA Inseason Subsistence
 - f. Upper River
 - g. Headwaters
2. Overview of Kuskokwim River salmon run assessment projects:
 - a. Bethel Test Fish:
 - b. Weirs/Mark-Recapture/Aerial Surveys/Other:
3. Commercial Catch Report:
4. Processor Report:
5. Sport Fish Report:
6. Intercept Fishery Report: *optional*
7. Weather Forecast:
8. Recommendation:
9. Motion for Discussion and Action

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Requested clarification on federal and state citation policies. *Agency staff.*
2. Report on conversations with Kuskokwim Bay coast villages regarding Chinook conservation. *ADFG staff*
3. Test Fish distribution update. *ONC*
4. Update on fishwheel management in state managed waters. *ADFG staff*
5. Update on the KRSMWG request for a state administered cultural social permit. *ADFG staff*
6. Update on dipnet fisheries, request for early start, and demonstrations. *ADFG staff*
7. Report on the smelt study from upriver. *Dave Cannon and Lisa Feyereisen*

COMMENTS FROM WORKING GROUP MEMBERS:

NEXT MEETING DATE: _____ **Time:** _____ **Place:** _____

Informational Packet

LOWER KUSKOKWIM RIVER INSEASON CATCH MONITORING REPORT: Orutsararmiut Native Council (ONC)

June 1, 2014

Fishing reports from May 27-June 1, 2014

Families Surveyed	Families Fishing	Driftnets	Setnets	Both Nets	Larger than 6" mesh	6" mesh and smaller	Both Sizes	Rod & Reel
17	10	0	8	0	0	8	0	2
		0%	80%	0%	0%	80%	0%	20%

Percentages are based on the number of families fishing each week.

Compared with this time in a normal year, how are catch rates for salmon this week?

CHINOOK			CHUM			SOCKEYE		
Very Good	Normal	Poor	Very Good	Normal	Poor	Very Good	Normal	Poor
0	6	0	0	6	0	0	6	0
0%	60%	0%	0%	60%	0%	0%	60%	0%

Percentages are based on the number of families fishing each week.

Does the salmon run timing appear to be early, late, or normal?

CHINOOK			CHUM			SOCKEYE		
Early	Normal	Late	Early	Normal	Late	Early	Normal	Late
0	6	0	0	5	1	0	5	1
0%	60%	0%	0%	50%	10%	0%	50%	10%

Percentages are based on the number of families fishing each week.

Harvest Goal Summary:

Four families were unsure about their salmon harvest goals this year. One family commented that in a normal year, they would harvest between 40-100 Chinook salmon to feed 3 families and numerous relatives.

Chinook:

Three families were unsure whether they would target Chinook salmon and 3 families said that they would not harvest Chinook salmon this year.

Chum:

Seven families said that they planned to harvest chum salmon this year. Harvest goals ranged from 5-200, or more.

Sockeye:

Seven families said that they planned to harvest sockeye salmon this year. Harvest goals ranged from 30-200.

Informational Packet

Other species of fish:

Five families said they planned to harvest between 15-50 coho salmon.

Three families reported actively targeting whitefish. Goals ranged between 15-200.

There are a few families that commented on harvesting and catching a range of other fish species such as Sheefish, whitefish, pike, lush, and trout

Comments:

Out of 8 families fishing, 4 families reported using 4-inch mesh set gillnet; 2 families reported using 3.5-inch mesh set gillnet; and 2 families did not comment. Two families reported using only rod-n-reel, and 2 families reported using 2 different mesh size nets.

Four families declined to comment on run timing and catch rates for salmon.

Chinook:

Six families commented that the Chinook catch rate and run timing were normal.

Chum:

Six families commented that the chum salmon catch rate was normal for this time of year and 5 families commented that the run timing was normal. One family said they were running late.

Sockeye:

Six families commented that the sockeye salmon catch rate was normal and 1 family commented that the run timing was late.

Surveyor comments:

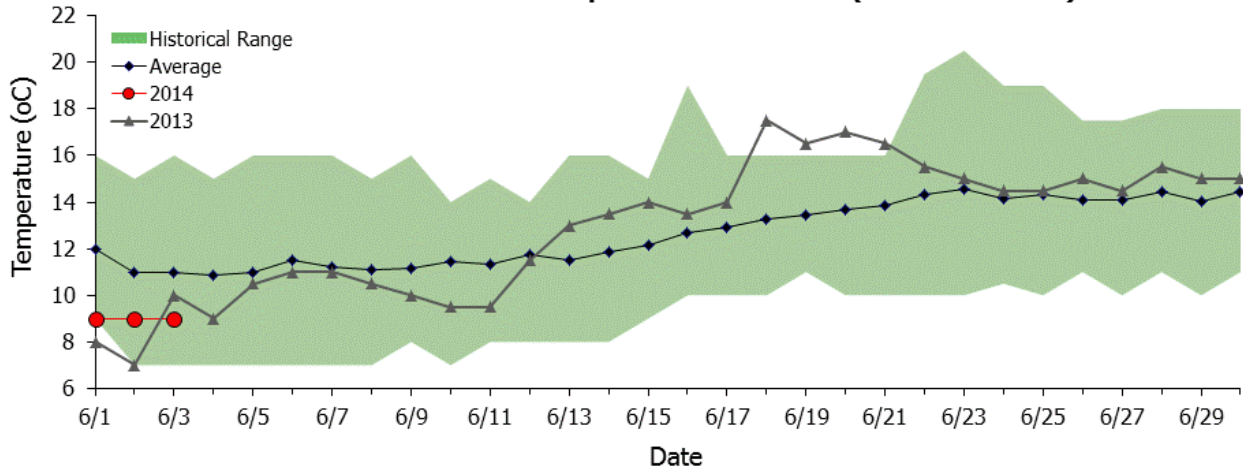
This week the ONC Subsistence Fishery Survey Crew counted a total of 22 setnets between Bethel to the mouth of Church Slough, and a total of 10 setnets from Bethel downriver to Napakiak.

To date the ONC Subsistence Crew distributed a total of 2 Chinook ASL kits. Due to the Chinook restrictions and closures, many fishcamps were empty during this week's survey. The ONC Subsistence Survey Crew also observed a lot of fishcamps with whitefish and Sheefish on the drying racks.

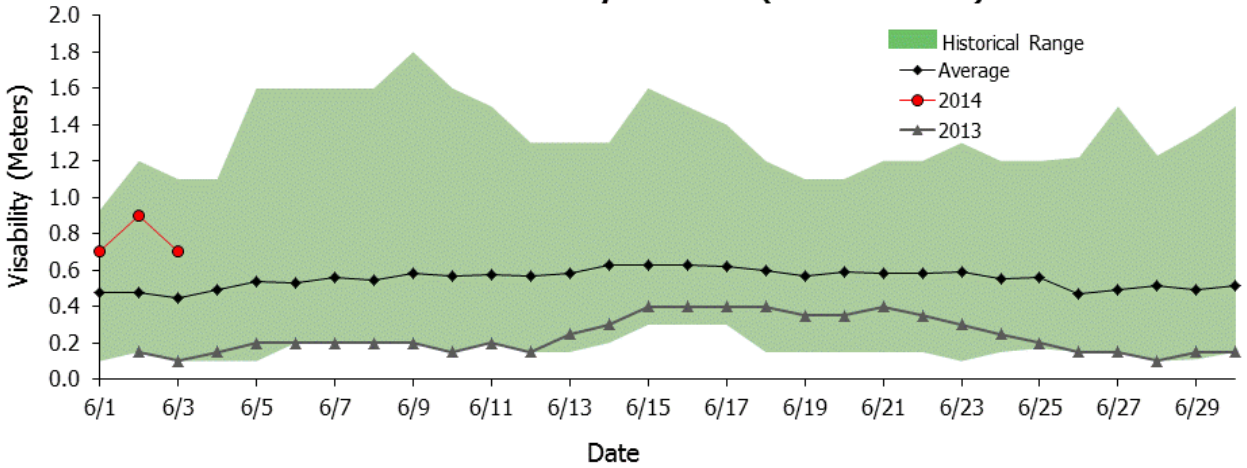
This year the ONC Subsistence Survey Crew has been collecting Bethel Test Fish catches to be distributed to elders in Bethel. We have distributed a total of 10 Chinook, 2 Sockeye, 1 Chum, 5 Sheefish, and 1 Cisco. The ONC crew has brought salmon to the following locations: Senior Center, Lulu Herron Apartments, and 3 elders. We are keeping a distribution list of elders. If you know of any elders that need fish, please contact the ONC Subsistence Survey Crew to be added to this list.

Informational Packet

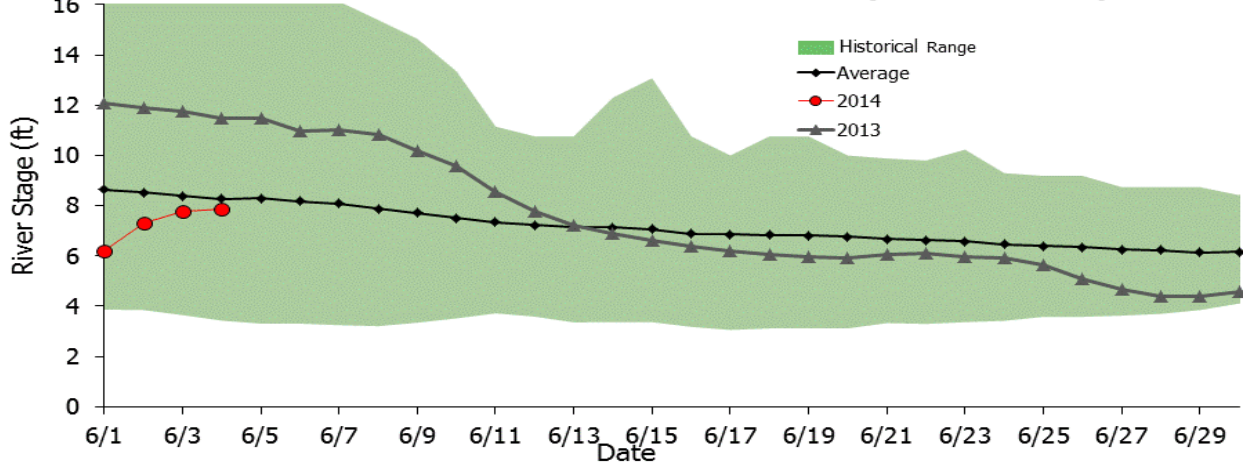
Historical Water Temperature at BTF Site (1984 to Present)



Historical Water Clarity at BTF site (1984 to Present)



Kuskokwim River Water Level at Crooked Creek (1984 to Present)



Informational Packet

Bethel Test Fish

Bethel Test Fishery						
Chinook Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index						
Date	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
6/1	0	0	3	0	0	4
6/2	0	3	5	0	0	15
6/3	1	4	8	0	0	39
6/4	4	7	11	1	0	
6/5	10	7	20	1	0	
6/6	17	8	31	1	0	
6/7	24	10	47	1	0	
6/8	28	10	63	1	2	
6/9	33	11	67	3	4	
6/10	40	13	70	4	6	

Bethel Test Fishery						
Chum Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index						
Date	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
6/1	0	0	0	0	0	3
6/2	0	0	0	0	0	8
6/3	0	0	0	0	0	8
6/4	0	4	3	0	0	
6/5	3	6	3	0	0	
6/6	4	6	3	3	0	
6/7	4	6	3	3	0	
6/8	6	6	6	3	0	
6/9	9	6	11	3	0	
6/10	9	9	17	8	0	

Bethel Test Fishery						
Sockeye Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index						
Date	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
6/1	0	0	0	0	0	0
6/2	0	0	0	0	0	0
6/3	0	0	0	0	0	0
6/4	0	0	0	0	0	
6/5	0	0	0	0	0	
6/6	0	0	3	0	0	
6/7	0	0	4	0	0	
6/8	1	0	4	0	0	
6/9	4	0	4	0	0	
6/10	4	0	7	0	0	