

Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group

1 (800) 315-6338 (MEET) Code: 58756# (KUSKO)

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

Meeting Agenda

Date: 6/26/2014

Time: 1:30pm

Place: Bethel

Time Called to Order:

Chair: Bev Hoffman

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. Update on 2014 Chinook salmon returns statewide.

COMMENTS FROM WORKING GROUP MEMBERS:

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

Informational Packet

Information Packets *ARE*:

- **Intended to help inform Working Group discussions.**
- **To be viewed and used in context with Working Group meetings only.**

Packets *ARE NOT*:

- **To be viewed as standalone documents.**
- **As a final say on fisheries management decisions.**

Please use this information responsibly:

Packet information is an incomplete snapshot of an ongoing discussion and changing conditions. Packet information should not be reproduced for any purpose other than to describe Working Group meeting discussions.

Misuse of Packet information can contribute to misunderstandings that can **cause harm to salmon users** and potentially **damage salmon resources**.

Ask Questions: ADF&G staff will be happy to answer biology and management questions. Please call **1-855-933-2433** to reach ADF&G Kuskokwim Area staff.

Attend Meetings: Each Working Group meeting is announced at least 48 hours prior to time and date of meeting. In addition, each meeting is recorded. Recordings can be found here:
http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyarea_kuskokwim.kswg

Viewing the information packet while listening to meetings/recordings will provide a better understanding of the information presented in this packet.

Thank you.

Jennifer Peeks

Chris Shelden

Working Group coordinators

Informational Packet

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

June 22, 2014

Fishing reports from June 16-22, 2014

Families Surveyed	Families Fishing	Driftnets	Setnets	Both Nets	Larger than 6" mesh	6" mesh and smaller	Both Sizes	Rod & Reel	Dipnet
29	22	0	19	3	0	22	0	0	0
		0%	86%	14%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%

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
2	1	12	3	9	10	12	6	4
9%	5%	55%	14%	41%	45%	55%	27%	18%

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
4	5	3	5	12	4	6	12	2
18%	23%	14%	23%	55%	18%	27%	55%	9%

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

Harvest Goal Summary:

This week 12 families discussed harvest goals for this season.

Three families planned to harvest 15-200 whitefish this season.

Two families reported having met their Chum and Sockeye harvest goals for the season and are done fishing. Three families reported being half-way to meeting their harvest goals and plan on finishing within the next couple of days.

Chinook:

Four families said they are not targeting Chinook salmon this year. Two families said they are keeping incidental catches of Chinook. Two families did not comment on harvest goals for Chinook salmon. One family commented that they hadn't caught Chinook in their setnet two days in a row. Two families commented on releasing live Chinook salmon from their setnets this week. Two families reported that they have not met their goals but are done fishing until coho's arrive. Some families reported catching Chinook in spawning colors.

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Chum:

This week 11 families reported Chum harvest goals ranging from 10-200 salmon. One family reported catching Chum in spawning colors.

Sockeye:

This week 11 families reported sockeye salmon harvest goals of 5-200. One family reported catching more reds than normal, this week. Two families reported some of the reds they caught had parasites.

Coho:

Six families reported harvest goals ranging from 15-30 salmon.

Comments:

Three families reported having gone fishing below the Johnson River to take advantage of the subsistence opening to 6-inch mesh driftnets. Five families have not started fishing this year and two families have stopped fishing.

Two families reported Chinook salmon catch rates dropping off. One family commented that a group of fisherman went fishing for them. One family reported catching small Chinook without reproductive organs. One family reported witnessing salmon floating down the river. One family reported catching Arctic Char, and one reported to releasing a live Arctic Char from their net. One family reported catching Dolly Varden that was bigger than Sockeye and Chum. One family reported that the Kuskokwim water is too swift for dipnetting.

Surveyor comments:

For the week ending of June 22th, ONC surveyed 29 families from the mouth of Church Slough to Napaskiak slough. The number of families that are supported per fish camp ranged from 1 to 20. Surveyors observed 148 setnets from Church Slough to Napaskiak this week. One boat was observed dip netting.

Seven families did not comment on catch rate

Ten families did not comment on run timing.

Surveyors have distributed 5 ASL kits to date this year with no ASL samples returned so far.

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Kuskokwim Native Association – INSEASON SUBSISTENCE REPORT

Week of: June 23—26, 2014

KALSKAG

Families Surveyed	Families Fishing	Drift-nets	Set-nets	>6" Mesh	>4"-6" Mesh	4" or Less	Rod & Reel	Dipnet	Fish Wheel
7	4	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	0
		0%	100%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%

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

Average Catch based on families surveyed

CHINOOK	CHUM	SOCKEYE	Other
28	50	100	32WF

Harvester comments: All families were excited to heard of the 6" opener on Friday. Some families did not have 4" nets this season and were not able to harvest any fish, now they will be.

ANIAK

Families Surveyed	Families Fishing	Drift-nets	Set-nets	>6" Mesh	>4"-6" Mesh	4" or Less	Rod & Reel	Dipnet	Fish Wheel
8	4	1	3	0	0	4	0	1	0
		13%	87%	0%	0%	100%	0%	13%	0%

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

Average Catch based on families surveyed

CHINOOK	CHUM	SOCKEYE	Other
22	71	85	26WF 5P

Harvester comments: Many families still waiting for other species to reach this part of the river before attempting to fish. Many were happy to hear of 6" opener set for Friday. Some people tried dip-netting in eddys but did not catch anything.

CHUATHBALUK

Families Surveyed	Families Fishing	Drift-nets	Set-nets	>6" Mesh	>4"-6" Mesh	4" or Less	Rod & Reel	Dipnet	Fish Wheel
3	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
		100%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0	0%

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

Average Catch based on families surveyed

CHINOOK	CHUM	SOCKEYE	Other
0	0	0	0

Harvester comments: Water is coming up and lots of sticks in the river.

Informational Packet

NAPAIMUTE

Families Surveyed	Families Fishing	Drift-nets	Set-nets	>6" Mesh	>4"-6" Mesh	4" or Less	Rod & Reel	Dipnet	Fish Wheel
2	2	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	1
		100%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	50%

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

Average Catch based on families surveyed

CHINOOK	CHUM	SOCKEYE	Other
16	38	38	61WF

Harvester comments: Water is raising and there are lots of sticks in the river. Fishing has been going ok with 4" and there are less kings now. Fish Wheel was set last Thursday and was not catching, finally on Monday it caught 1 Whitefish and 1 Humpy then the basket broke.

CROOKED CREEK

Families Surveyed	Families Fishing	Drift-nets	Set-nets	>6" Mesh	>4"-6" Mesh	4" or Less	Rod & Reel	Dipnet	Fish Wheel
2	2	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
		100%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%

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

Average Catch based on families surveyed

CHINOOK	CHUM	SOCKEYE	Other
4	2	4	9WF

Harvester comments: Water is raising making it hard to set nets. Gas is expensive to dry drifting. They are wondering when they will have an opener to fish with larger mesh?

GEORGETOWN

Families Surveyed	Families Fishing	Drift-nets	Set-nets	>6" Mesh	>4"-6" Mesh	4" or Less	Rod & Reel	Dipnet	Fish Wheel
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

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

Average Catch based on families surveyed

CHINOOK	CHUM	SOCKEYE	Other
0	0	0	0

Harvester comments: No families have tried to fish yet.

Informational Packet

RED DEVIL

Families Surveyed	Families Fishing	Drift-nets	Set-nets	>6" Mesh	>4"-6" Mesh	4" or Less	Rod & Reel	Dipnet	Fish Wheel
1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

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

Average Catch based on families surveyed

CHINOOK	CHUM	SOCKEYE	Other
0	0	0	0

Harvester comments: Water raising with lots of sticks. No one has tried fishing yet, except one elder who can never be reached.

SLEETMUTE

Families Surveyed	Families Fishing	Drift-nets	Set-nets	>6" Mesh	>4"-6" Mesh	4" or Less	Rod & Reel	Dipnet	Fish Wheel
6	4	0	2	0	0	2	2	0	0
		0%	50%	0%	0%	50%	50%	0%	0%

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

Average Catch based on families surveyed

CHINOOK	CHUM	SOCKEYE	Other
3	0	1	6SH 1P

Harvester comments: They are wondering when it will be there turn to fish with 6", especially since hardly anyone has 4" nets up this way they have not been able to harvest any species of fish since closures.

STONY RIVER

Families Surveyed	Families Fishing	Drift-nets	Set-nets	>6" Mesh	>4"-6" Mesh	4" or Less	Rod & Reel	Dipnet	Fish Wheel
3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

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

Average Catch based on families surveyed

CHINOOK	CHUM	SOCKEYE	Other
0	0	0	0

Harvester comments: Three families were contacted and none had fished yet. A fish wheel was being built but not finished yet.

Informational Packet

LIME VILLAGE

Families Surveyed	Families Fishing	Drift-nets	Set-nets	>6" Mesh	>4"-6" Mesh	4" or Less	Rod & Reel	Dipnet	Fish Wheel
3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

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

Average Catch based on families surveyed

CHINOOK	CHUM	SOCKEYE	Other
0	0	0	0

Harvester comments: All families said they normally don't fish until July when the Reds start to make their way up the Stony River.

McGRATH

Families Surveyed	Families Fishing	Drift-nets	Set-nets	>6" Mesh	>4"-6" Mesh	4" or Less	Rod & Reel	Dipnet	Fish Wheel

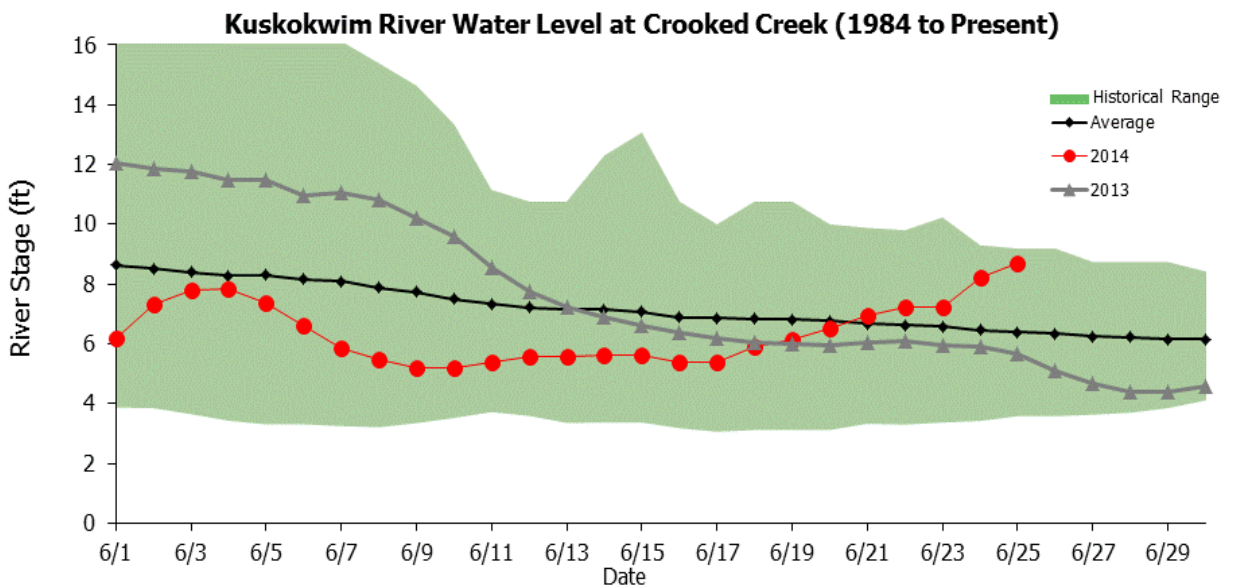
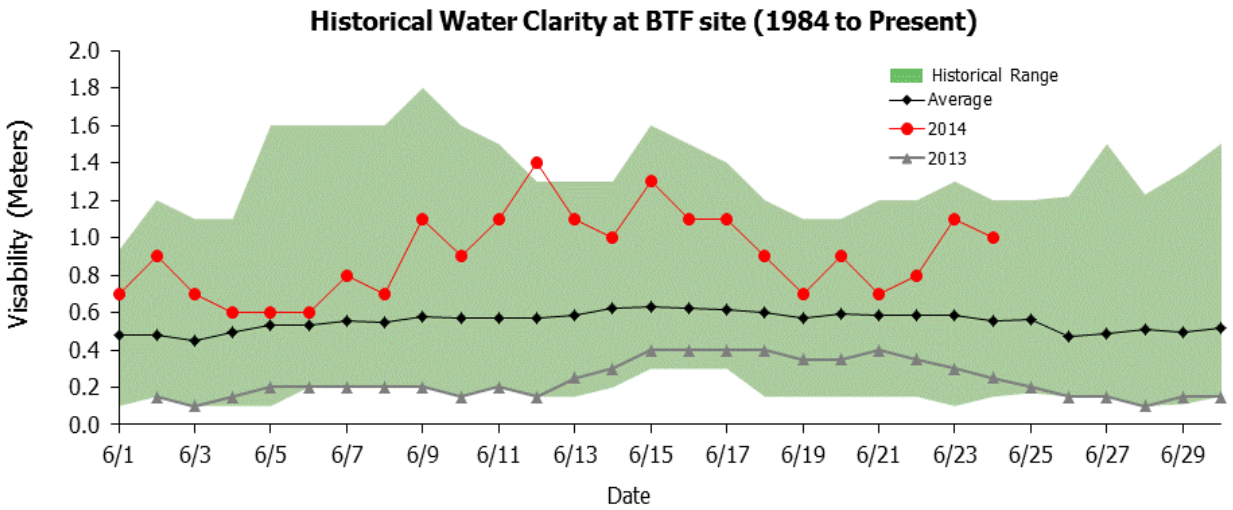
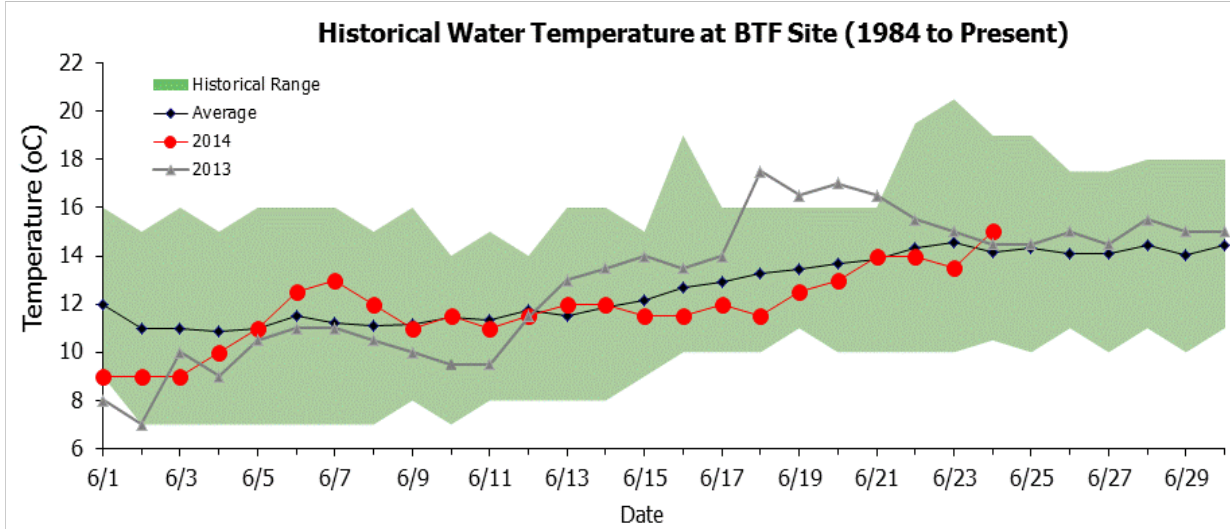
Percentages are based on the number of families fishing each week.

Average Catch based on families surveyed

CHINOOK	CHUM	SOCKEYE	Other
Female	Female	Female	
Male	Male	Male	

Harvester comments: One family said they have not fished; they will go down to Georgetown around the 4th of July and start fishing for a few weeks.

Informational Packet



Informational Packet

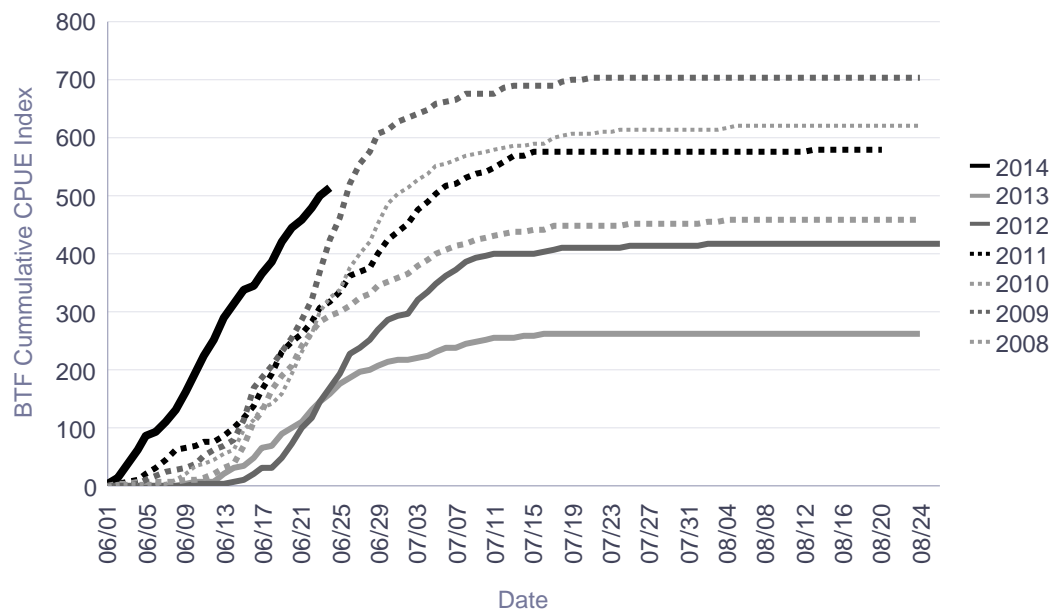
Chinook Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index, Bethel Test Fishery

Bethel Test Fishery Chinook Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index

****2014 data are PRELIMINARY and not comparable to previous years due to subsistence fishing restrictions. ****

Date	CPUE						
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
06/16	115	170	110	137	23	48	346
06/17	135	188	128	166	32	65	365
06/18	142	208	166	193	33	70	385
06/19	160	232	191	230	49	89	421
06/20	195	255	208	248	73	100	445
06/21	231	285	242	263	102	110	458
06/22	263	320	265	283	118	132	481
06/23	299	370	283	309	147	145	500
06/24	324	426	294	317	168	159	513
06/25	340	463	299	335	192	177	
06/26	375	522	311	363	228	187	
06/27	399	555	324	369	240	197	
06/28	422	575	332	376	251	202	
06/29	451	606	345	402	270	206	
06/30	488	614	352	423	286	214	
07/01	505	626	359	437	293	217	
07/02	515	634	367	452	298	218	
07/03	527	642	378	475	321	222	
07/04	539	649	389	489	334	226	
07/05	551	658	401	503	347	231	

Bethel Test Fishery, Chinook Salmon Cumulative CPUE



Resulting escapement relative to New Kuskokwim River SEG (65,000 - 120,000)

2008 - Achieved (+) no restrictions

2009 - Achieved (+) no restrictions

2010 - Not Achieved (-) late tributary restrictions

2011 - Achieved (+) 15 days restrictions, minor reduction to subsistence harvest

2012 - Achieved (+) 35 days restrictions, significant reduction to subsistence harvest

2013 - Not Achieved (-) tributary restrictions and late main stem restrictions, significant reduction to subsistence harvest

Informational Packet

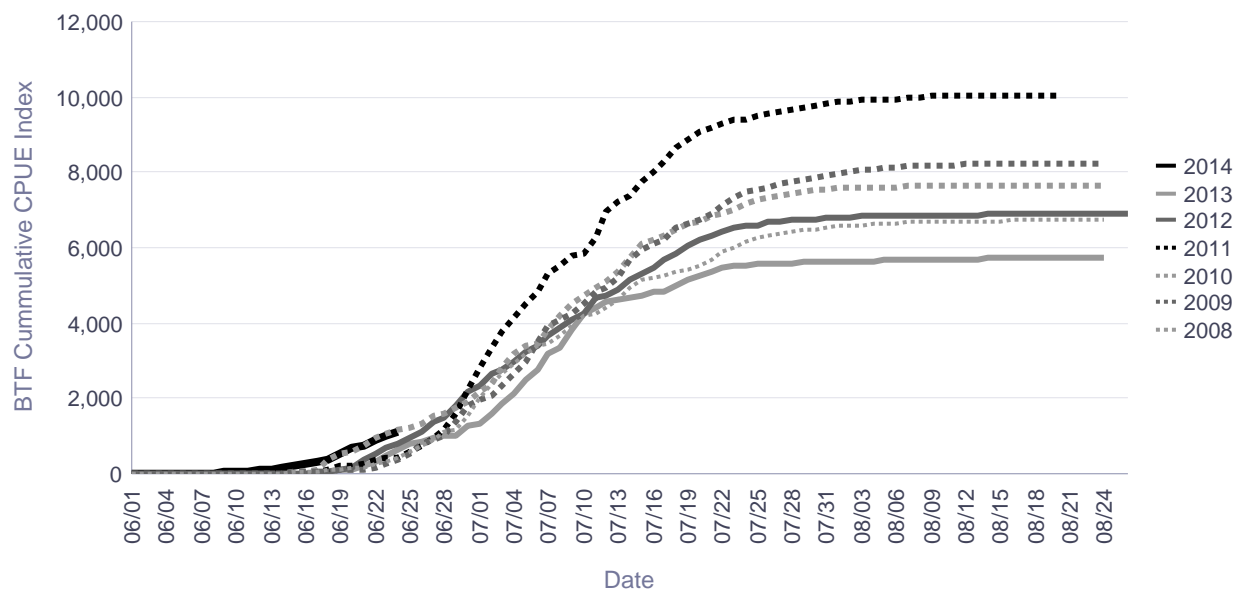
Chum Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index, Bethel Test Fishery

Bethel Test Fishery Chum Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index

****2014 data are PRELIMINARY and not comparable to previous years due to subsistence fishing restrictions. ****

Date	CPUE						
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
06/16	67	69	87	64	27	37	255
06/17	81	74	134	86	42	48	316
06/18	95	90	387	136	57	69	365
06/19	106	98	543	200	99	115	532
06/20	161	104	589	242	171	139	686
06/21	190	134	765	277	387	235	731
06/22	264	148	955	372	553	313	886
06/23	337	300	1,050	415	705	511	995
06/24	437	396	1,164	434	798	669	1,120
06/25	598	531	1,225	598	989	805	
06/26	754	782	1,340	770	1,110	881	
06/27	922	903	1,524	964	1,386	979	
06/28	1,101	1,028	1,613	1,166	1,495	1,007	
06/29	1,178	1,407	1,739	1,607	1,801	1,020	
06/30	1,551	1,800	1,932	2,223	2,188	1,297	
07/01	2,012	1,959	2,197	2,813	2,350	1,349	
07/02	2,379	2,104	2,379	3,354	2,653	1,584	
07/03	2,681	2,340	2,840	3,751	2,756	1,842	
07/04	2,954	2,664	3,174	4,128	2,998	2,146	
07/05	3,198	3,000	3,381	4,505	3,239	2,527	

Bethel Test Fishery, Chum Salmon Cumulative CPUE



Informational Packet

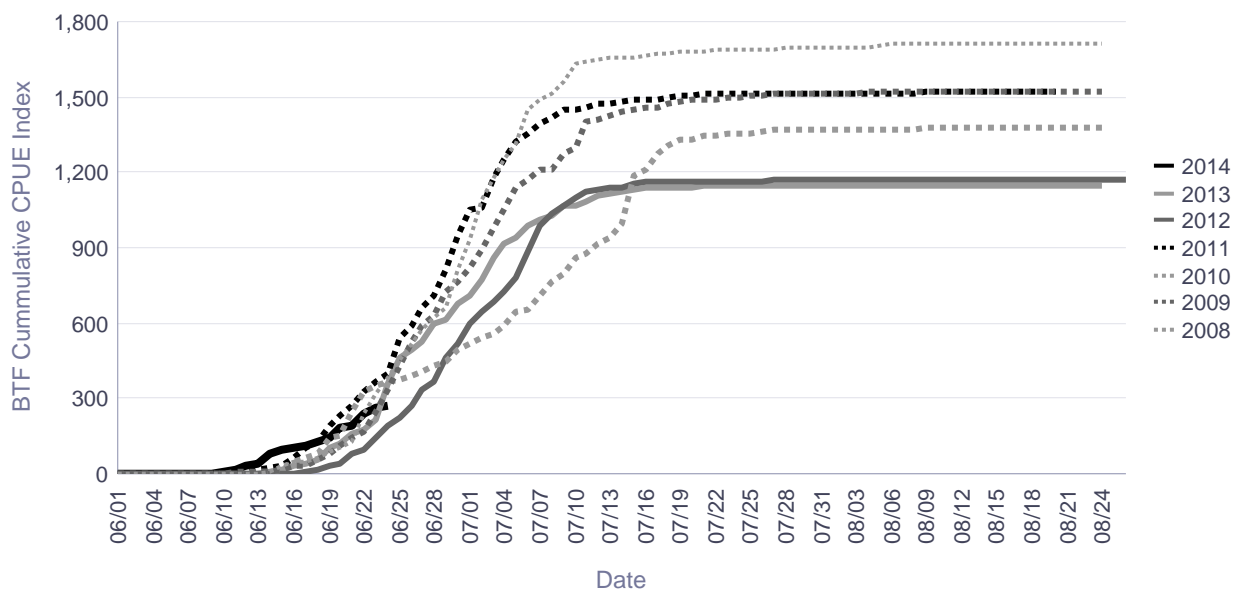
Sockeye Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index, Bethel Test Fishery

Bethel Test Fishery Sockeye Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index

****2014 data are PRELIMINARY and not comparable to previous years due to subsistence fishing restrictions. ****

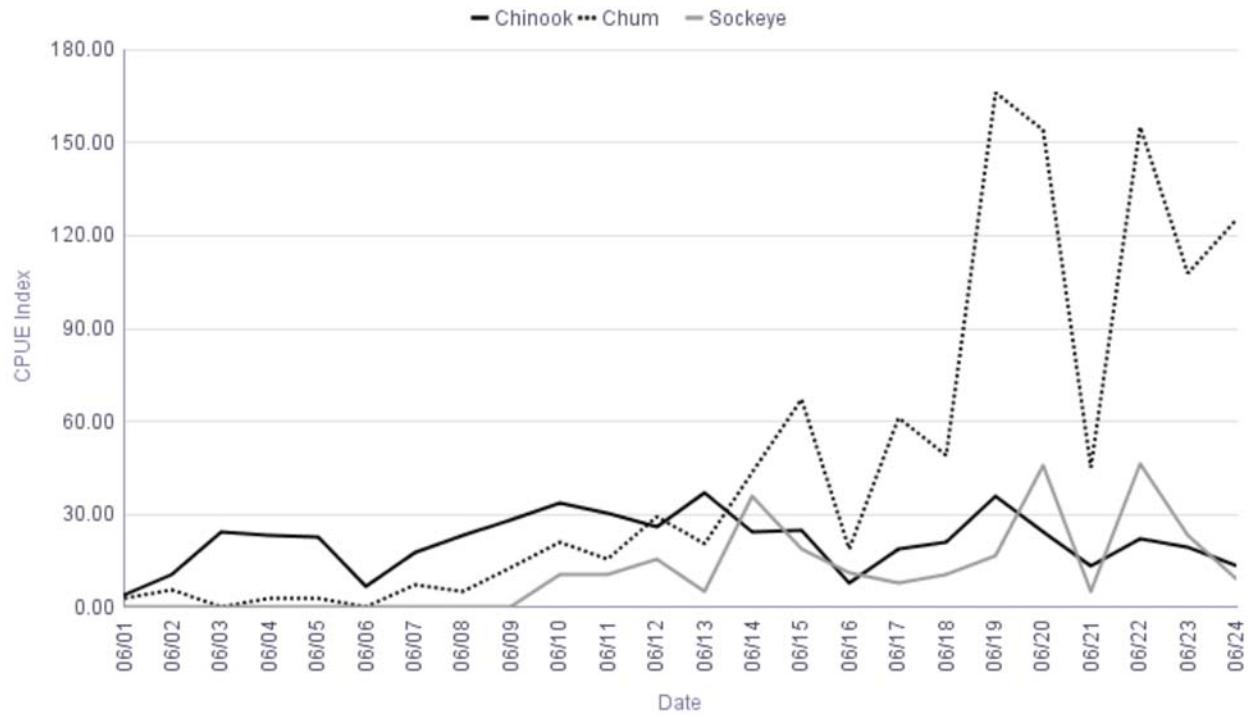
Date	CPUE						
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
06/16	46	30	47	63	3	37	108
06/17	49	33	66	103	12	45	115
06/18	63	61	85	127	15	56	126
06/19	88	85	143	192	32	102	142
06/20	103	112	150	233	45	123	188
06/21	129	145	252	275	83	162	193
06/22	238	170	324	327	94	179	239
06/23	322	250	348	366	146	213	262
06/24	382	339	367	401	194	358	271
06/25	456	428	375	544	225	461	
06/26	519	527	394	587	269	492	
06/27	573	587	411	664	332	531	
06/28	619	629	428	710	368	601	
06/29	661	729	446	813	465	614	
06/30	814	766	491	952	516	674	
07/01	934	818	515	1,049	596	712	
07/02	1,093	891	545	1,059	649	773	
07/03	1,179	978	561	1,181	689	862	
07/04	1,253	1,048	594	1,253	726	915	
07/05	1,314	1,136	645	1,325	778	937	

Bethel Test Fishery, Sockeye Salmon Cumulative CPUE



Informational Packet

Bethel Test Fishery Daily CPUE 2014 All Species



Informational Packet

Lower River Tagging

year to date	Chinook		Chum	Sockeye	Coho
	Caught	Tagged			
	67	65	5	3	0
6/3	4	4	0	0	0
6/4	1	1	0	0	0
6/5	0	0	0	0	0
6/6	2	1	0	0	0
6/7	Weather Day				
6/8	3	3	0	0	0
6/9	7	6	0	0	0
6/10	1	1	0	0	0
6/11	2	2	0	1	0
6/12	7	7	0	0	0
6/13	2	2	0	0	0
6/14	3	3	0	0	0
6/15	5	5	0	0	0
6/16	6	6	0	0	0
6/17	Day Off				
6/18	5	5	0	0	0
6/19	4	4	2	2	0
6/20	4	4	0	0	0
6/21	2	2	1	0	0
6/22	3	3	2	0	0
6/23	6	6	0	0	0
6/24	Day Off				
6/25					
6/26					

Kalskag Tagging

year to date	Chinook		Chum	Sockeye	Coho
	Caught	Tagged			
	188	182	86	19	0
6/3					
6/4					
6/5	4	4	2	0	0
6/6	1	1	1	0	0
6/7	4	4	1	0	0
6/8	1	1	0	0	0
6/9	3	3	2	0	0
6/10	3	3	1	0	0
6/11	3	2	0	0	0
6/12	4	4	0	0	0
6/13	Day Off				
6/14	3	3	1	0	0
6/15	6	6	0	1	0
6/16	15	15	4	0	0
6/17	28	27	2	2	0
6/18	20	18	7	2	0
6/19	22	22	3	2	0
6/20	Day Off				
6/21	20	19	2	0	0
6/22	24	24	14	5	0
6/23	27	26	46	7	0
6/24					
6/25					
6/26					

Informational Packet

Kwethluk River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
06/22		1					0			
06/23		7					1			
06/24		18					3			0
06/25		<u>40</u>	<u>0</u>			<u>0</u>	<u>7</u>			
06/26		113	0			0	15			
06/27		297	0			0	26			
06/28		595	0			1	56			
06/29		1,131	2	8		3	120			

Escapement Goal Range: 4,100 to 7,500
Highlighted years below are when escapement goal was achieved or exceeded.

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total		<u>17,619</u>	<u>12,927</u>	<u>5,276</u>	<u>5,744</u>	1,668	4,079			

Date	Comments
6/24/2014	Install is IN PROGRESS

Tuluksak River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
06/22			0				0			
06/23			0				0			
06/24	0	1	0				0		0	0
06/25	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>				<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>	
06/26	5	3	0		0	0	0		0	
06/27	19	5	0		0	0	0	0	0	
06/28	26	15	0		0	0	0	0	0	
06/29	66	34	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	2,653	1,043	374	701	362	201	284	560	193	

Date	Comments
6/24/2014	Install to begin soon.

Informational Packet

Salmon River (Aniak) Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon

Cumulative Daily Passage										
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
06/22			0						0	
06/23			0						0	
06/24			0	0					0	0
06/25			0	0					0	
06/26			1	0					0	
06/27			1	1					0	
06/28			2	1					0	
06/29			2	1					0	

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total			6,220	2,376					598	

Date	Comments
6/24/2014	Install of the weir is in progress.

George River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon

Cumulative Daily Passage										
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
06/22	104	19	1	4	6	0	5	31	4	1
06/23	125	20	2	5	6	3	6	40	4	1
06/24	231	22	3	6	9	5	6	50	4	4
06/25	303	25	3	7	10	6	7	63	17	
06/26	363	26	3	9	16	10	19	79	27	
06/27	506	31	13	11	19	10	19	98	33	
06/28	620	72	13	15	20	10	22	121	40	
06/29	1,012	90	49	22	23	17	22	149	63	

Escapement Goal Range: 1,800 to 3,300
 Highlighted years below are when escapement goal was achieved or exceeded.

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	3,845	4,355	4,883	2,698	3,663	1,500	1,571	2,302	1,219	

Date	Comments
6/24/2014	Weir is operating fine.

Informational Packet

Kogrukluk River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
06/22	1						0			3
06/23	2						0			3
06/24	2						0			5
06/25	60				0		0			
06/26	118				0		0		0	
06/27	154				0	1	0		0	
06/28	210	0			5	3	0		0	
06/29	291	6			9	3	13		0	

Escapement Goal Range: 4,800 to 8,800
 Highlighted years below are when escapement goal was achieved or exceeded.

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	21,999	19,414		9,730	9,701	5,693	6,890		1,772	

Date	Comments
6/24/2014	Operations are going fine.

Tatlawiksuk River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
06/22	18	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	24
06/23	21	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	7	25
06/24	27	0	0	0	2	1	1	1	17	25
06/25	32	1	2	0	2	1	3	1	27	
06/26	59	4	10	2	5	2	3	1	32	
06/27	69	26	13	2	9	3	4	1	32	
06/28	74	29	36	2	11	4	5	1	35	
06/29	79	33	37	3	17	19	5	3	39	

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	2,920	1,700	2,061	1,071	1,071	569	1,014	1,116	495	

Date	Comments
6/23/2014	Partial day of counts - high water.
6/24/2014	No counts. High water caused weir to become inoperable.

Informational Packet

Kwethluk River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Chum Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
06/22		52				9	20			
06/23		102				11	38			
06/24		167				13	68			0
06/25		<u>320</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>0</u>		<u>60</u>	<u>117</u>			
06/26		603	58	0		97	173			
06/27		1,003	64	0		124	236			
06/28		1,366	68	0		254	335			
06/29		1,930	157	44		369	421			

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total		47,491	54,913	20,030	32,191	19,235	18,329			

Date	Comments
6/24/2014	Install is IN PROGRESS

Tuluksak River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Chum Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
06/22			0				0			
06/23			0				0			
06/24	0	9	0				0		0	0
06/25	<u>0</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>1</u>				<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>	
06/26	0	126	1		3	0	0		0	
06/27	38	272	1		3	0	0	0	0	
06/28	81	476	1		3	0	0	0	0	
06/29	163	598	1	7	3	0	2	0	0	

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	35,696	25,652	17,286	12,550	13,671	13,042	9,828	16,981	12,911	

Date	Comments
6/24/2014	Install to begin soon.

Informational Packet

Salmon River (Aniak) Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Chum Salmon

Cumulative Daily Passage										
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
06/22			0						0	
06/23			0						0	
06/24			0	0					0	0
06/25			0	0					0	
06/26			4	0					2	
06/27			4	0					3	
06/28			7	0					3	
06/29			9	2					3	

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total			25,379	9,459					7,666	

Date	Comments
6/24/2014	Install of the weir is in progress.

George River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Chum Salmon

Cumulative Daily Passage										
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
06/22	60	255	7	19	23	7	111	229	27	2
06/23	75	451	26	31	24	15	128	294	58	4
06/24	134	631	47	53	28	88	158	374	88	11
06/25	169	897	53	104	34	125	177	473	191	
06/26	192	1,123	68	130	59	206	303	595	393	
06/27	257	1,390	244	266	60	237	367	745	517	
06/28	318	2,014	313	400	68	274	423	930	671	
06/29	588	2,371	475	587	88	554	468	1,157	1,100	

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	14,828	41,467	55,843	29,979	7,941	26,154	44,641	34,336	36,874	

Date	Comments
6/24/2014	Weir is operating fine.

Informational Packet

Kogrukluk River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Chum Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
06/22	1						0			13
06/23	3						3			32
06/24	4						12			60
06/25	19				0		14			
06/26	35		0		10		19		0	
06/27	60		22		25	1	34		0	
06/28	105	336	37		58	2	57		0	
06/29	210	1,293	72		118	12	86		3	

Escapement Goal Range: 15,000 to 49,000
 Highlighted years below are when escapement goal was achieved or exceeded.

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	197,723	180,601	49,509	44,978	84,940	63,582	76,386		66,834	

Date	Comments
6/24/2014	Operations are going fine.

Tatlawiksuk River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Chum Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
06/22	41	18	5	10	18	8	52	1	13	52
06/23	48	76	10	15	18	8	66	3	17	57
06/24	80	191	25	22	20	11	83	14	35	57
06/25	95	425	72	45	27	18	117	18	58	
06/26	131	690	125	80	47	49	199	22	105	
06/27	174	1,131	226	129	78	77	246	46	249	
06/28	230	1,398	468	129	98	251	311	230	311	
06/29	360	1,862	541	210	112	631	319	517	594	

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	55,724	32,303	83,246	30,896	19,975	36,702	84,204	44,572	32,277	

Date	Comments
6/23/2014	Partial day of counts - high water.
6/24/2014	No counts. High water caused weir to become inoperable.

Informational Packet

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES NEWS RELEASE



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Date Issued: June 25, 2014

Kuskokwim River Salmon Fishery Update #2 Kuskokwim River Inseason Assessment and Run Status

This is an announcement from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Bethel for subsistence salmon fishermen in the Kuskokwim River Drainage.

All Bethel Test Fishery and escapement numbers can be found online at:

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareakuskokwim.salmon#/fishcounts>

Bethel Test Fishery

Bethel Test Fishery continues to operate on schedule. The cumulative Catch Per Unit Effort as of June 24, 2014 is 513 which is higher than the recent five year average for this date of 273. Daily numbers continue to be around ~20 (Except for single tide days) indicating the Chinook salmon run is continuing to arrive in the lower Kuskokwim River.

Summary

- Bethel Test Fishery numbers in 2014 are not directly comparable to previous years.
- Because our primary goal is to meet escapement, fishery managers have been cautious in drawing conclusions about the overall strength of this year's Chinook salmon run.
- Increasing numbers of chum and sockeye relative to Chinook salmon over the last week have allowed us to hold two limited 6"-mesh openings over the last week.

Informational Packet

- Based on BTF data and information about the recent subsistence harvest, state and federal managers are cautiously optimistic that the drainage-wide escapement goal will be achieved.

Lower Kuskokwim River Chinook Salmon Tagging

In an effort to understand the migration speed of Chinook salmon through the lower Kuskokwim River, ADF&G is conducting a new pilot project below Johnson River. This project uses 7.5” & 8” drift gillnets to capture and live release Chinook salmon with tags attached to monitor their migration upriver. As of June 24th, the crew has tagged 65 Chinook salmon.

Preliminary results of 15 tagged Chinook salmon, suggest these fish take about 3 days to migrate from the Johnson River area, past Bethel. Some fish took as long as 7 days to make the trip. Aerial telemetry was conducted on June 24th to monitor fish movement upriver. Tags were successfully located in the mainstem Kuskokwim River past Kalskag, and in the Kwethluk River.

These fish are identifiable by a plastic tag attached to their back, and a metal antennae coming out of their mouth. If you find one of these tagged fish, please call the number on the plastic tag, and you will be entered into a monthly cash drawing of \$200, and a seasonal cash drawing of \$500.

Kalskag Area Fish Wheel /Drift Gillnet Tagging; ADF&G, KNA

Similar to other years this project has operated, we cooperating with Kuskokwim Native Association to tag Chinook salmon using fish wheels and drift gillnets near Kalskag. Tagged fish that are later recovered at weir projects, allow for ADF&G to estimate the total abundance of Chinook salmon in the middle and upper Kuskokwim River. As of June 23nd, the crew has tagged 182 Chinook salmon.

These fish are identifiable by a plastic tag attached to their back, and a metal antennae coming out of their mouth. If you find one of these tagged fish, please call the number on the plastic tag, and you will be entered into a monthly cash drawing of \$200, and a seasonal cash drawing of \$500.

Kuskokwim River Sonar Investigation

In early July, ADF&G staff will survey the lower Kuskokwim River from the Kwethluk “Y” to Johnson River looking for potential sites for a main stem sonar site. We will identify possible sites, and briefly test sonar systems in these locations to see if the technology is able to work.

Kwethluk River Salmon Monitoring; USFWS

This monitoring station is located on the Kwethluk River and monitors salmon passage to spawning areas, as well as serving as a recapture site for tagged Chinook salmon. This weir is currently being installed. High waters continue to delay installation, and operations are expected to start once water levels recede.

Tuluksak River Salmon Monitoring; USFWS

Informational Packet

This monitoring station is located in the Tuluksak River drainage and monitors salmon passage to spawning areas, as well as serving as a recapture site for tagged Chinook salmon. This project will be installed towards the end of June.

Salmon River Weir; ADF&G, KNA

This weir is located in the Aniak River drainage and monitors salmon passage to spawning areas, as well as serving as a recapture site for tagged Chinook salmon. This project is currently being installed and is expected to start operations around the 27th.

George River Weir; ADF&G, KNA

This weir is located in the George River drainage and monitors salmon passage to spawning areas, as well as serving as a recapture site for tagged Chinook salmon. This weir began operations on June 16th, and has counted 4 Chinook salmon through June 24, which is lower than the recent five year average of 15. There have also been 11 chum salmon counted past the weir.

Tatlawiksuk River Weir; ADF&G, KNA

This weir is located in the Tatlawiksuk River drainage and monitors salmon passage to spawning areas, as well as serving as a recapture site for tagged Chinook salmon. This weir began operations on June 14th, and has counted 25 Chinook salmon through June 23rd when the weir became non-operational because of high water; it will commence operations once water levels have receded. This count of Chinook salmon is still higher than the recent five year average of 4 for the 24th. There have also been 57 chum salmon counted past the weir.

Kogrukluk River Weir; ADF&G

This weir is located in the Holitna River drainage and monitors salmon passage to spawning areas, as well as serving as a recapture site for tagged Chinook salmon. This weir began operations on June 20th, and has counted 5 Chinook salmon through June 23. This project has only operated this early in 1 of the last 5 years, and in 2011 the count was 0 for this day. There have also been 60 chum salmon counted past the weir.

Summary

Escapement is starting to show at the weirs, but it is too early to give indication of the expected escapement from these projects. We will continue to monitor escapement throughout the year, and hope weather conditions allow for continuous operation.

For additional information concerning this news release:

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USFWS: Brian McCaffery in Bethel 907-543-1014