

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: 08/12/2015

Time: 10:00am

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.*

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

- ADF&G Management Actions under consideration
- Overview of Kuskokwim River salmon run assessment\ discussion of ADF&G considerations:
 - a. Test Fisheries (Bethel and Aniak):
 - b. Weirs/Mark-Recapture/Aerial Surveys/Other:
- Subsistence Reports: Lowest river, ~~ONC Inseason Subsistence Report~~, Lower River, Middle River, Upper River, Headwaters.
 - USFWS Subsistence Report
- Commercial Catch Report:
- Processor Report:
- Sport Fish Report:
- Intercept Fishery Report: *optional*
- Weather Forecast:
- Discussion of ADF&G Management considerations and discussion of possible alternatives (recommendations from the Working Group):
- Motion for Discussion and Action:

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD:

OLD BUSINESS:

- Kuskokwim Subsistence Salmon Panel (KSSP) update- *Glenn Haight*
- Placement of *People to be Heard* on the Working Group agenda

NEW BUSINESS:

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.**
- **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.

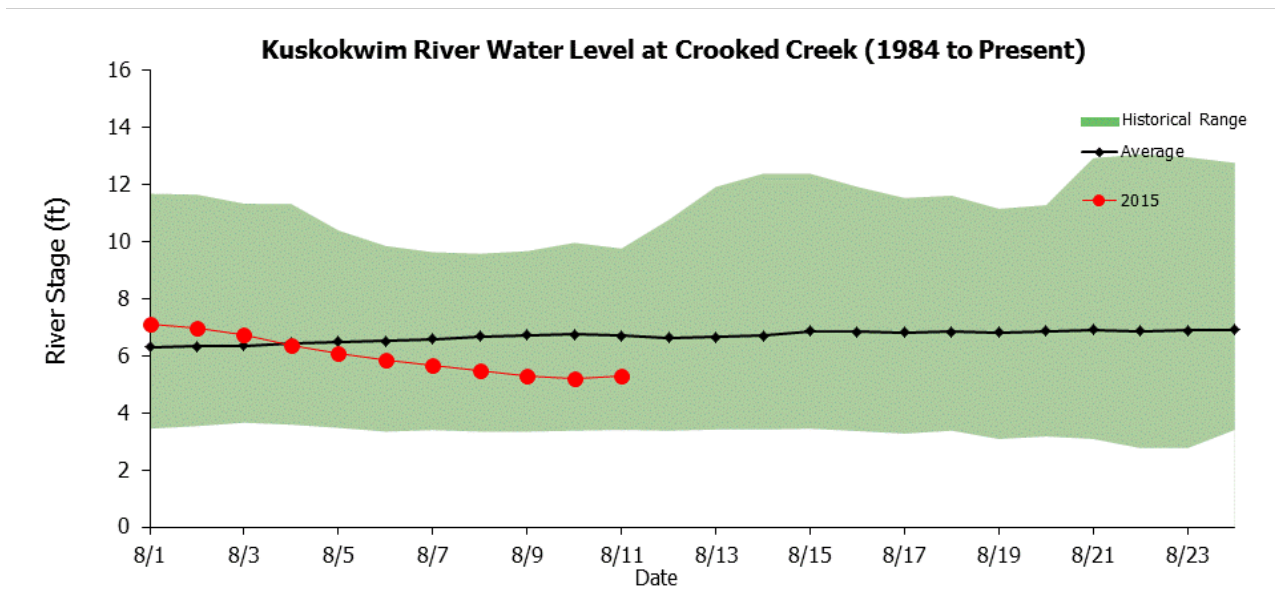
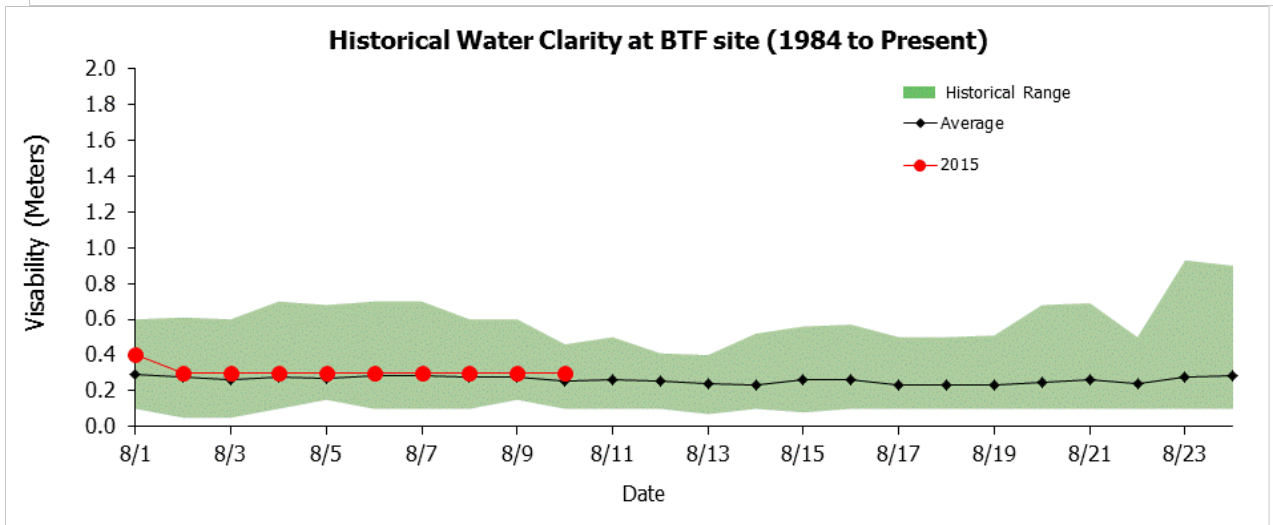
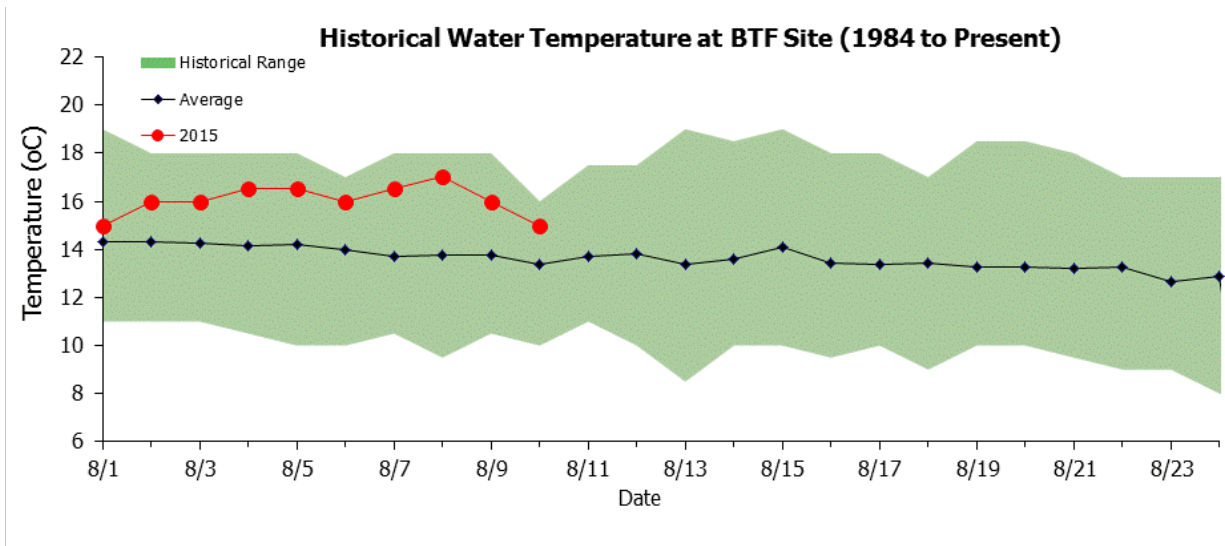
Thank you.

Jennifer Peeks

Chris Shelden

Working Group coordinators

Informational Packet



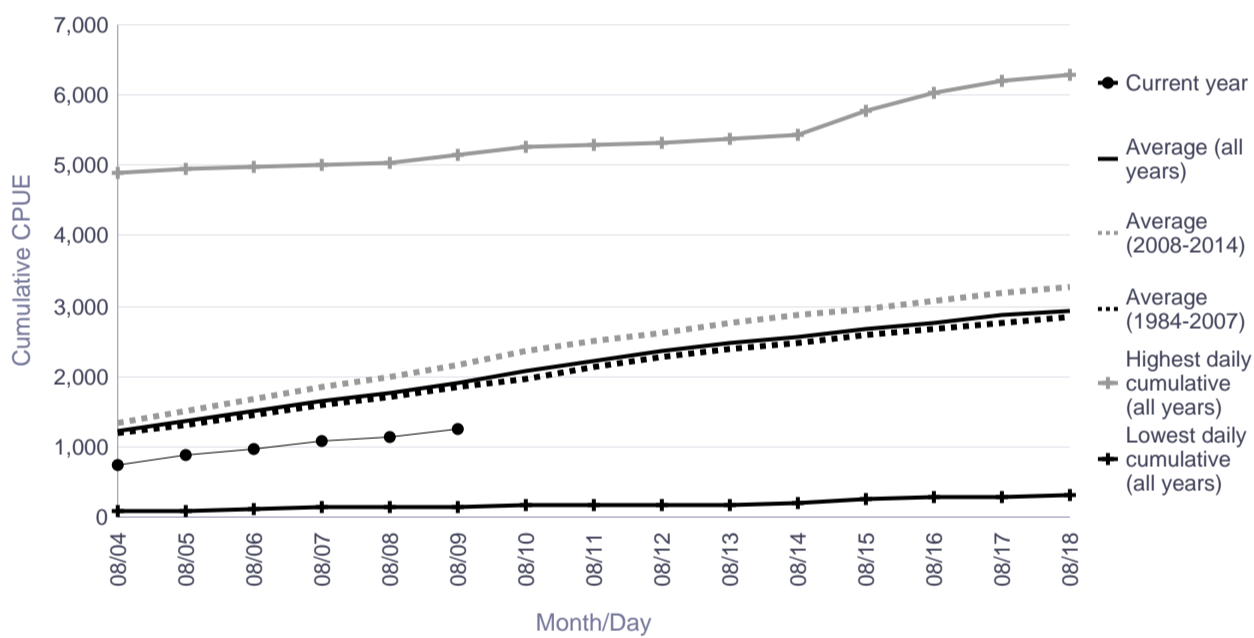
Informational Packet

Bethel Test Fishery Coho Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index

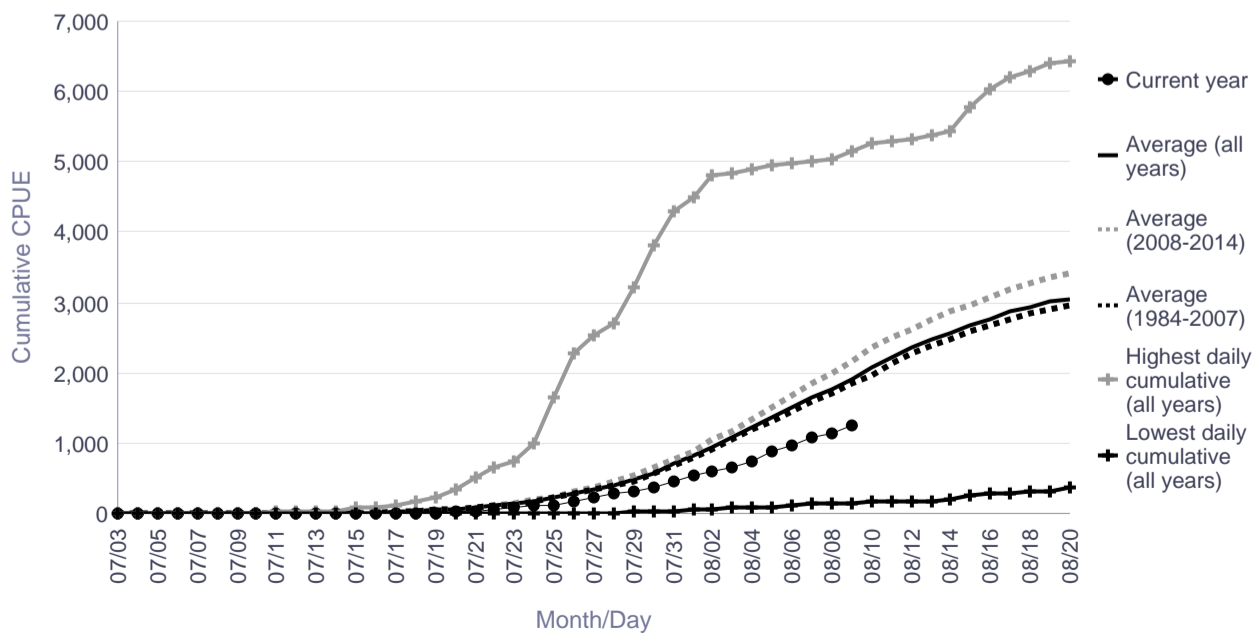
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	Average (1984-2007)	Average (2008-2014)	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current year
08/04	89	1,237	1,209	1,333	4,880	756
08/05	99	1,361	1,314	1,522	4,959	872
08/06	105	1,502	1,453	1,669	4,985	972
08/07	135	1,647	1,586	1,855	5,012	1,098
08/08	139	1,774	1,707	2,005	5,037	1,142
08/09	147	1,913	1,839	2,167	5,157	1,245
08/10	162	2,066	1,980	2,360	5,251	1,322
08/11	164	2,217	2,134	2,503	5,289	
08/12	180	2,354	2,276	2,623	5,328	
08/13	184	2,471	2,387	2,757	5,391	
08/14	192	2,573	2,487	2,871	5,435	
08/15	247	2,685	2,604	2,961	5,762	
08/16	296	2,771	2,681	3,080	6,030	
08/17	303	2,864	2,769	3,192	6,197	
08/18	312	2,943	2,846	3,278	6,276	

	Lowest CPUE	Average CPUE (all years)	Average CPUE (1984-2007)	Average CPUE (2008-2014)	Highest CPUE
Season Total	423	3,294	3,203	3,606	7,183

Focused Two-Week Data View

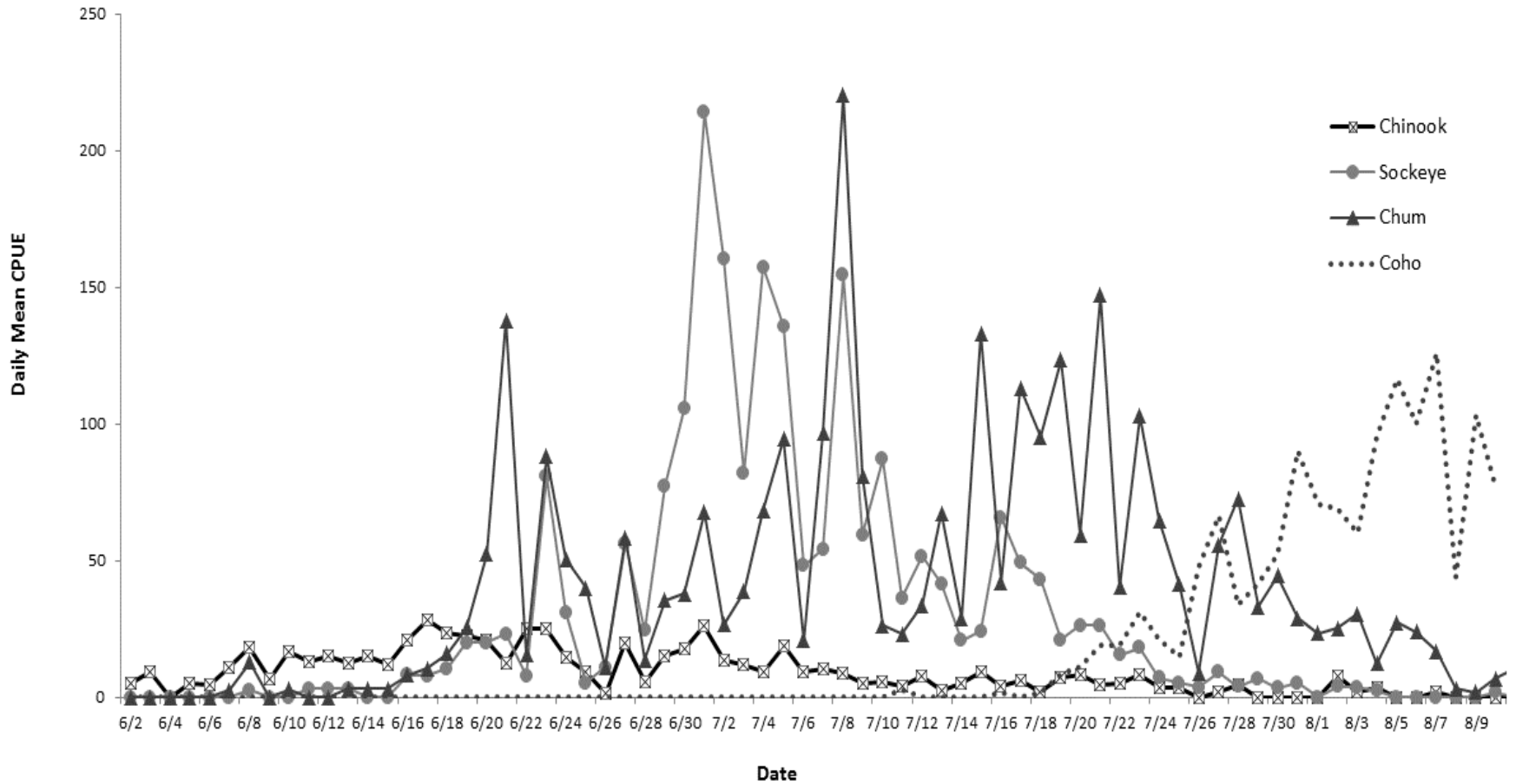


Season Total Overview



Informational Packet

BTF Daily mean CPUE index for Chinook, sockeye, chum, and coho salmon, 2015



Informational Packet

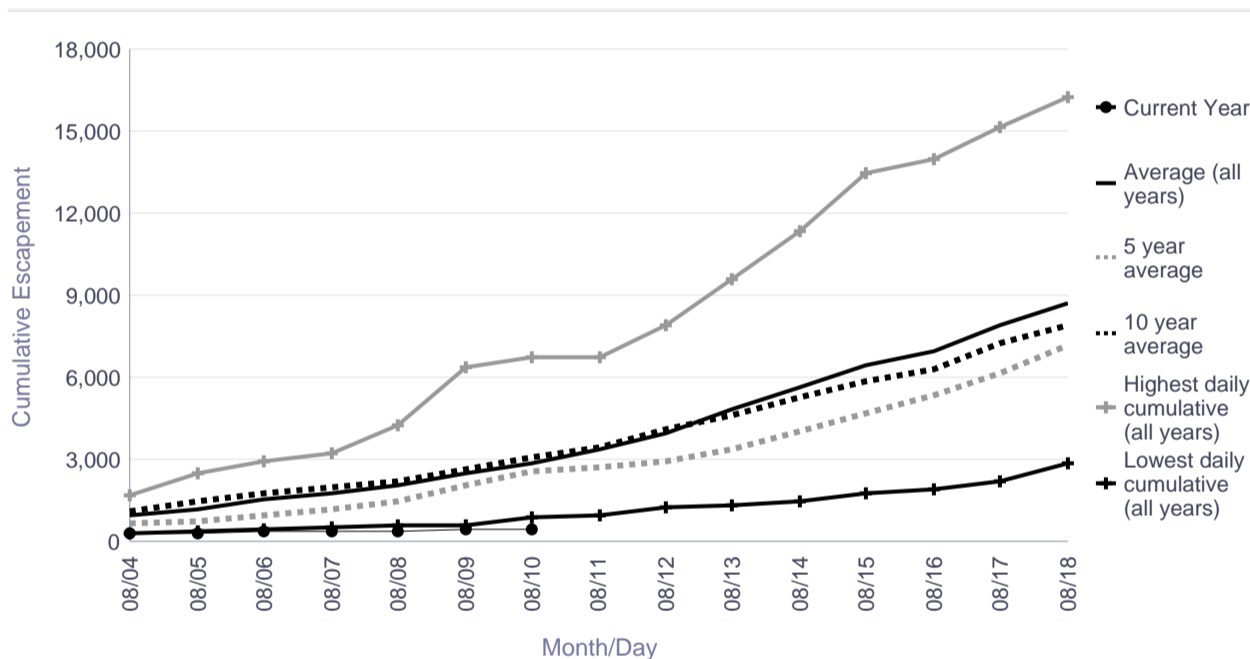
Kwethluk River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Coho Salmon

Escapement Goal Range: >19,000

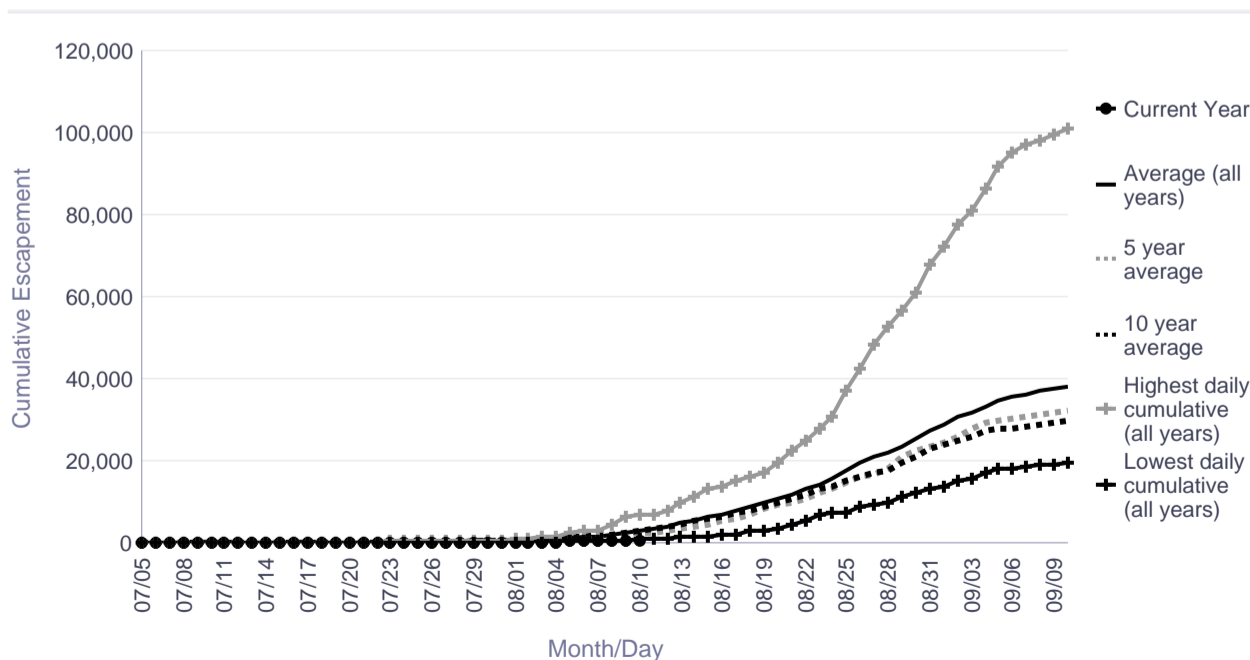
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	10 year average	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current Year
08/04	308	957	653	1,126	1,670	321
08/05	344	1,216	742	1,446	2,495	329
08/06	467	1,527	998	1,746	2,948	351
08/07	525	1,778	1,198	1,976	3,201	362
08/08	572	2,063	1,481	2,225	4,268	364
08/09	617	2,533	2,088	2,625	6,358	440
08/10	859	2,878	2,594	3,074	6,748	444
08/11	971	3,341	2,738	3,434	6,772	
08/12	1,271	3,950	2,956	4,090	7,908	
08/13	1,351	4,837	3,364	4,637	9,602	
08/14	1,452	5,636	4,014	5,254	11,368	
08/15	1,734	6,479	4,677	5,884	13,482	
08/16	1,898	6,945	5,313	6,331	13,959	
08/17	2,230	7,940	6,130	7,264	15,178	
08/18	2,881	8,710	7,149	7,940	16,217	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average	10 Year Average	Highest Count
Season Total	19,473	39,467	34,213	30,108	107,789

Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview



Informational Packet

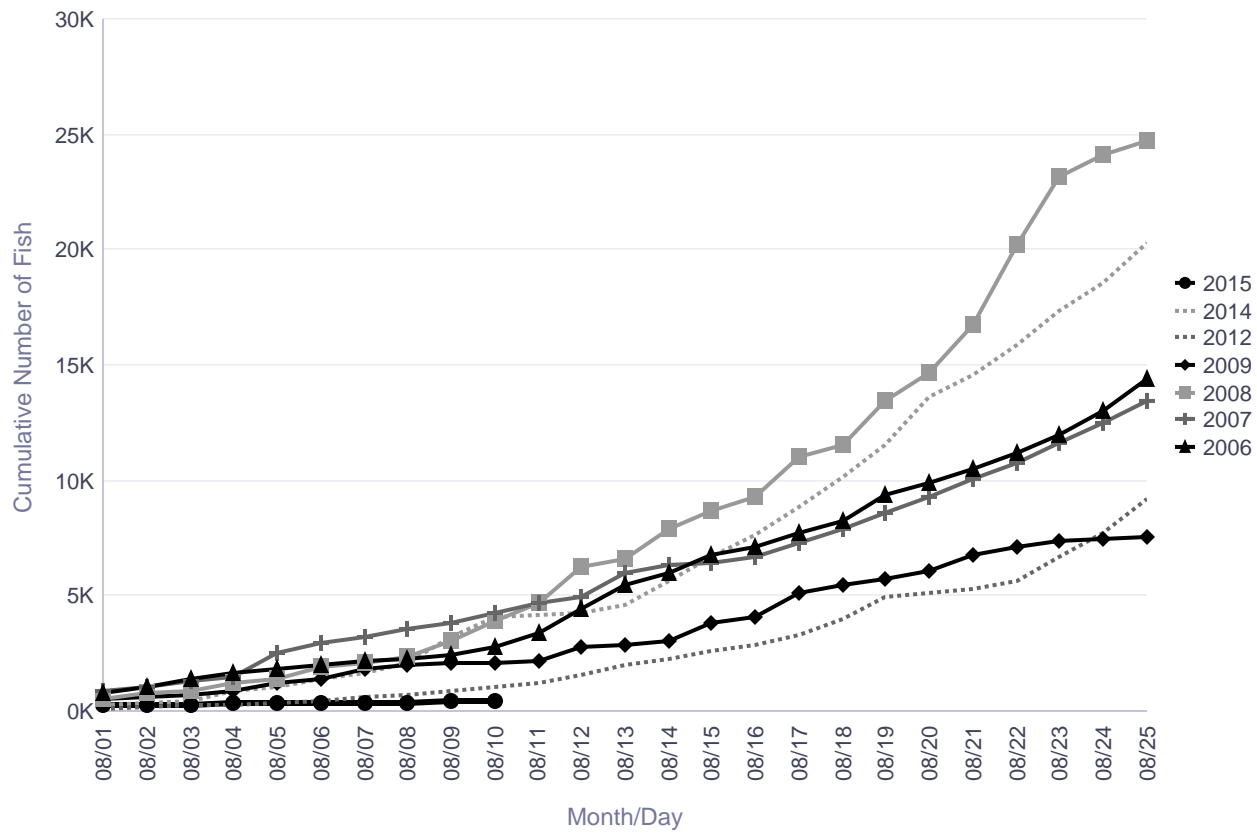
Kwethluk River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Coho Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
08/08	2,293	3,527	2,336	2,031			731		2,127	364
08/09	2,424	3,801	3,081	2,065			879		3,194	440
08/10	2,749	4,289	3,885	2,134			1,023		4,061	444
08/11	3,401	4,657	4,678	2,192			1,200		4,173	
08/12	4,452	4,988	6,215	2,769			1,551		4,258	
08/13	5,466	5,962	6,567	2,897			2,026		4,599	
08/14	6,031	6,310	7,902	3,050			2,309		5,616	
08/15	6,772	6,463	8,679	3,833			2,583		6,667	

Escapement Goal Range: > 19,000
 Highlighted years below are when escapement goal was achieved or exceeded.

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Season Total	25,667	19,473	48,049	21,911			20,895		43,945	

Kwethluk River Coho



There are no comments for the past three days.

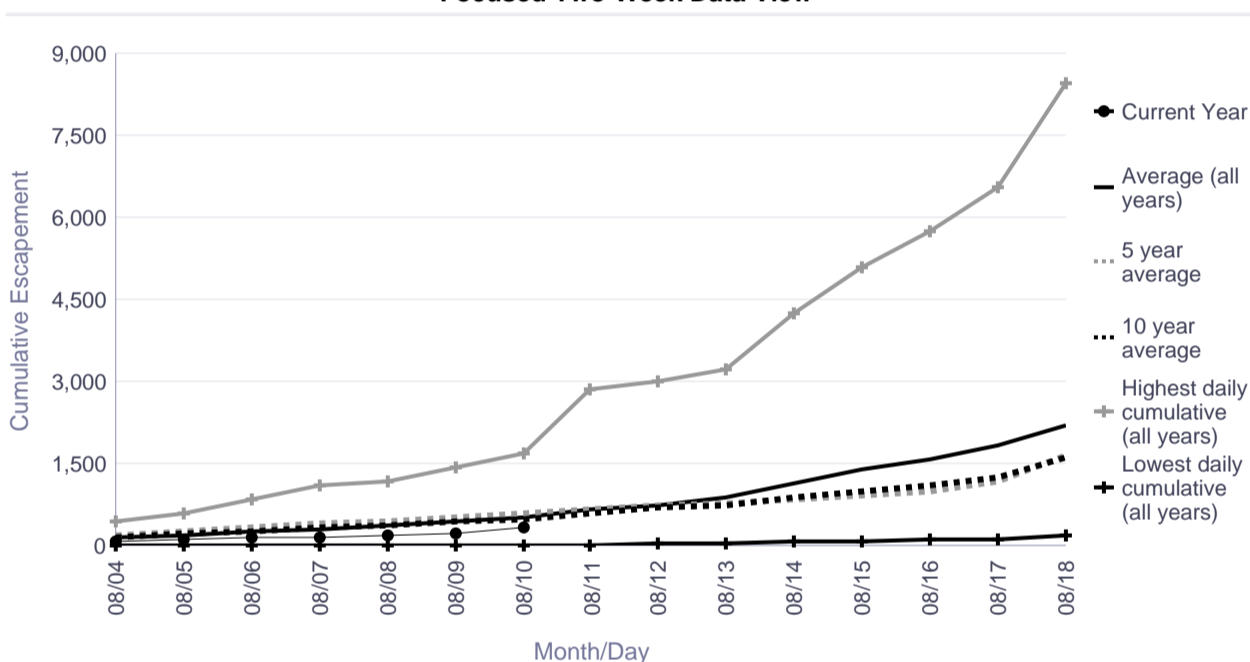
Informational Packet

Tuluksak River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Coho Salmon

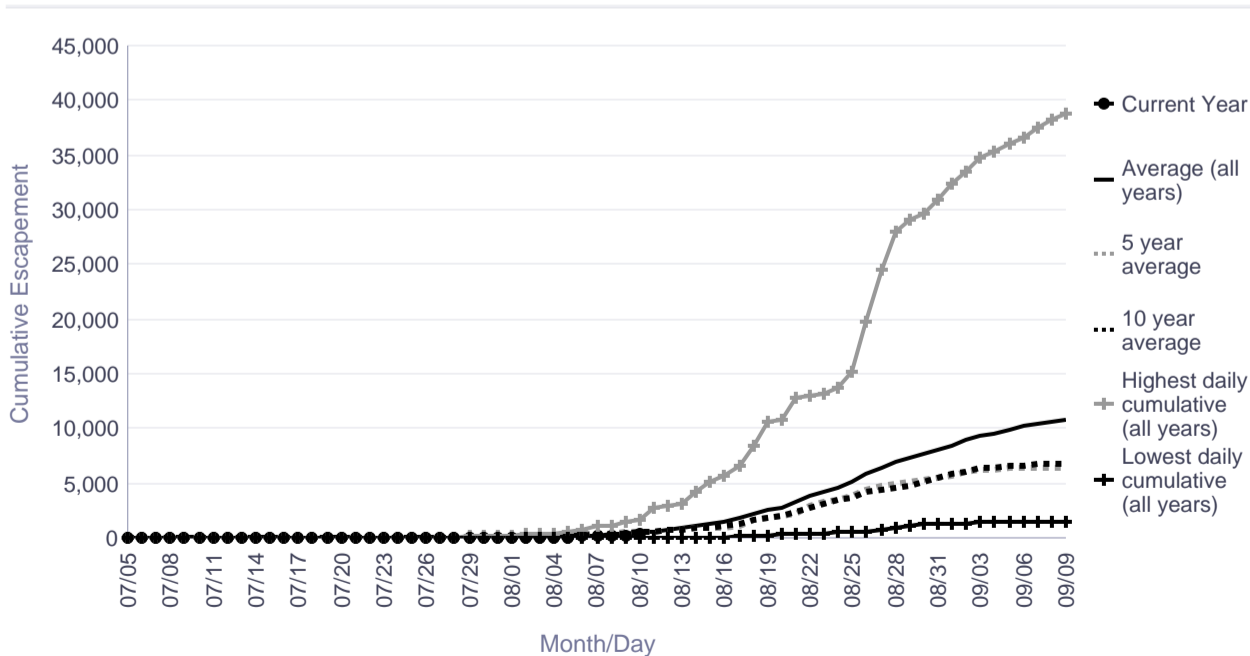
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	10 year average	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current Year
08/04	1	143	197	164	463	78
08/05	3	185	267	224	600	114
08/06	3	244	334	278	837	151
08/07	7	298	402	324	1,107	170
08/08	7	356	460	367	1,181	184
08/09	10	440	517	428	1,439	219
08/10	14	514	578	495	1,686	329
08/11	18	651	648	581	2,850	
08/12	34	752	727	684	3,007	
08/13	53	876	770	752	3,211	
08/14	73	1,122	857	881	4,233	
08/15	75	1,377	930	981	5,087	
08/16	100	1,569	1,000	1,111	5,741	
08/17	126	1,834	1,163	1,253	6,547	
08/18	181	2,194	1,648	1,614	8,447	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average	10 Year Average	Highest Count
Season Total	1,525	11,144	6,810	6,980	41,071

Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview



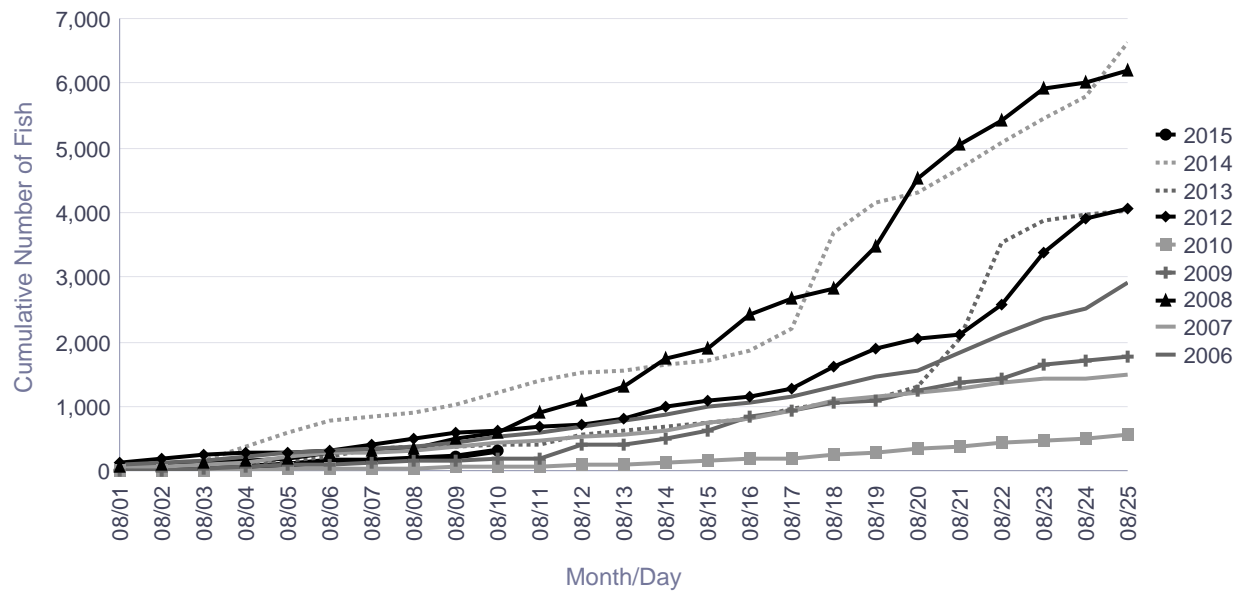
Informational Packet

Tuluksak River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Coho Salmon

Cumulative Daily Passage										
Date	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
08/08	385	310	346	155	50		503	375	913	184
08/09	430	380	491	165	60		593	388	1,028	219
08/10	539	437	605	182	72		631	404	1,205	329
08/11	<u>606</u>	<u>478</u>	<u>911</u>	<u>197</u>	<u>81</u>		<u>701</u>	<u>421</u>	<u>1,390</u>	
08/12	685	540	1,103	410	102		728	568	1,511	
08/13	772	566	1,305	422	110		802	613	1,553	
08/14	887	626	1,728	512	126		986	678	1,636	
08/15	994	741	1,879	638	176		1,086	736	1,720	

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Season Total	6,111	2,807	7,457	8,137	1,525		4,407	6,490	13,797	

Tuluksak River Coho



There are no comments for the past three days.

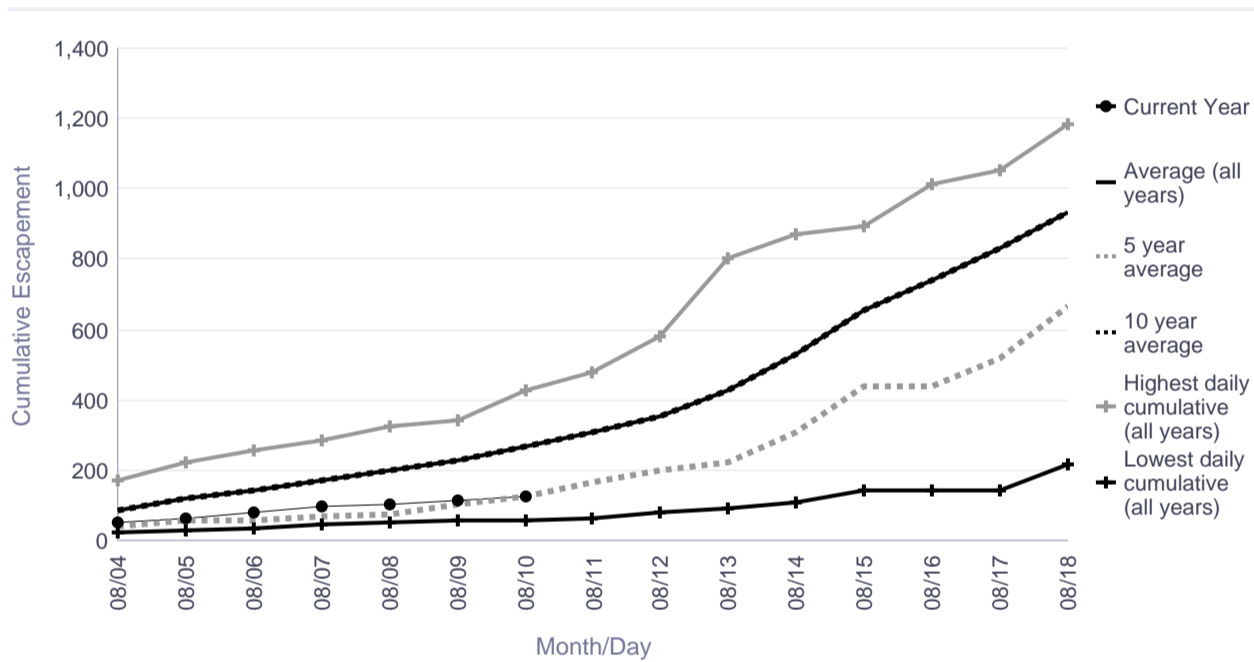
Informational Packet

Salmon River (Aniak) Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Coho Salmon

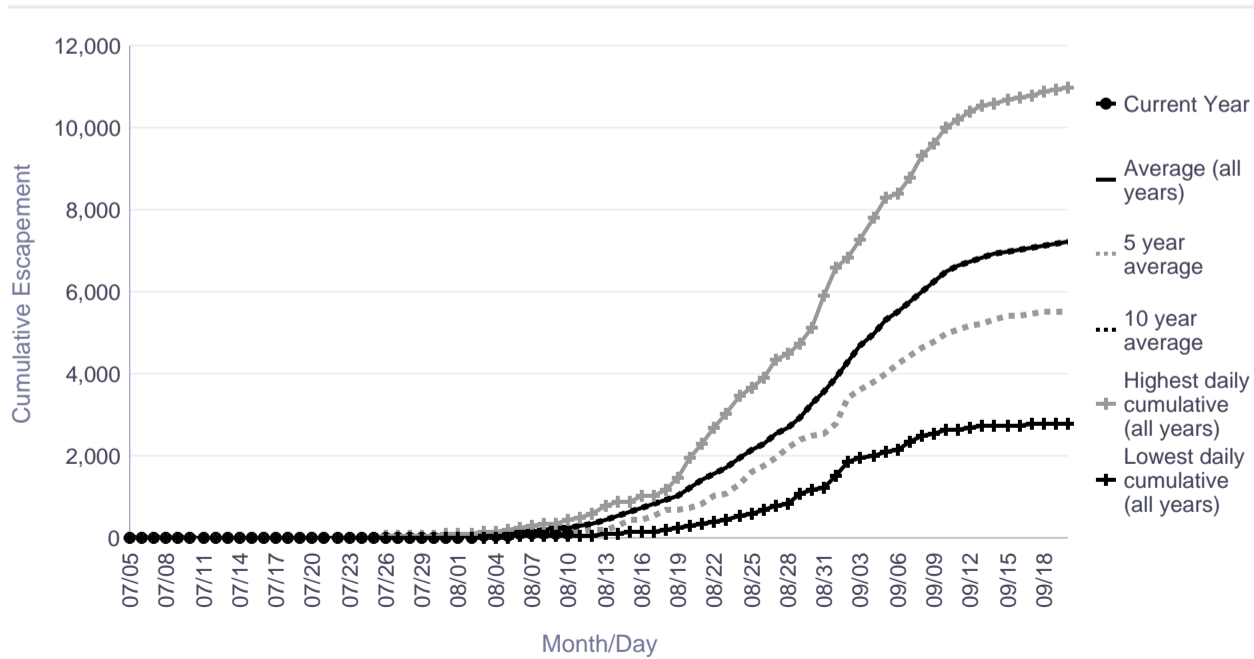
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	10 year average	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current Year
08/04	21	88	41	88	169	51
08/05	31	122	56	122	222	62
08/06	34	145	60	145	256	83
08/07	47	171	70	171	288	100
08/08	50	197	77	197	327	102
08/09	55	229	106	229	344	113
08/10	58	270	126	270	428	126
08/11	62	311	165	311	478	
08/12	80	355	200	355	581	
08/13	93	426	224	426	805	
08/14	108	528	308	528	870	
08/15	143	655	437	655	891	
08/16	143	738	437	738	1,012	
08/17	143	828	520	828	1,051	
08/18	217	935	666	935	1,184	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average	10 Year Average	Highest Count
Season Total	327	5,736	5,526	5,736	10,974

Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview



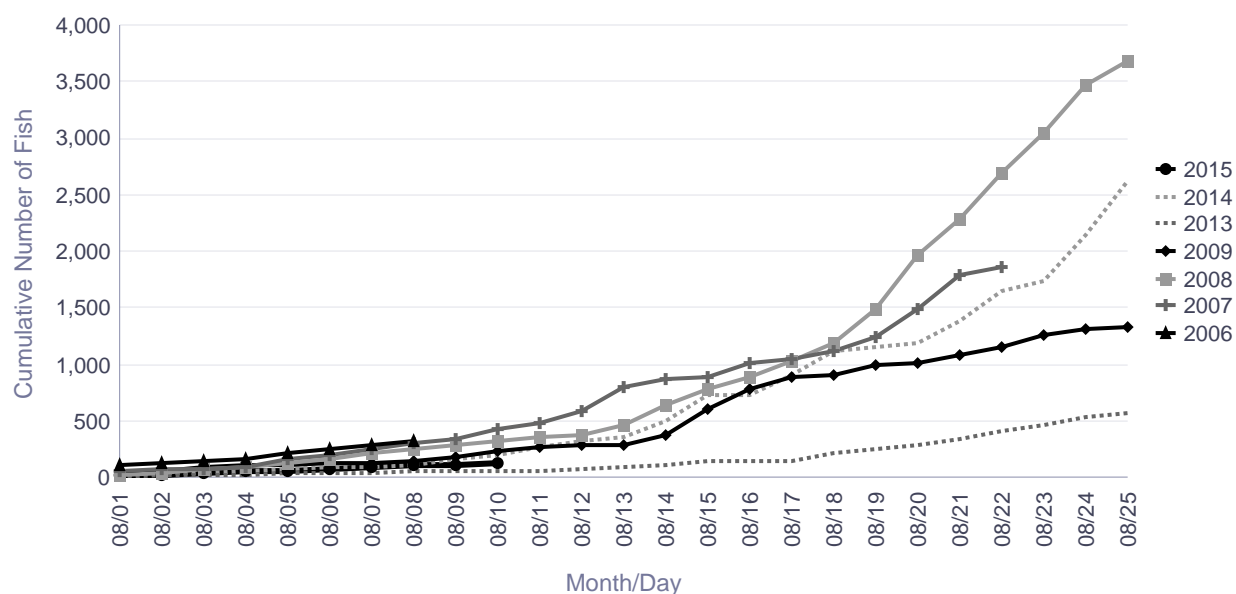
Informational Packet

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

Cumulative Daily Passage										
Date	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
08/08	327	308	248	147				50	103	102
08/09		344	283	178				55	157	113
08/10		428	318	225				58	193	126
08/11		478	351	264				62	268	
08/12		581	382	283				80	320	
08/13		805	455	290				93	355	
08/14		870	645	380				108	507	
08/15		891	785	597				143	730	

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Season Total	327	1,860	10,974	6,351				2,797	8,254	

Salmon River (Aniak) Coho



There are no comments for the past three days.

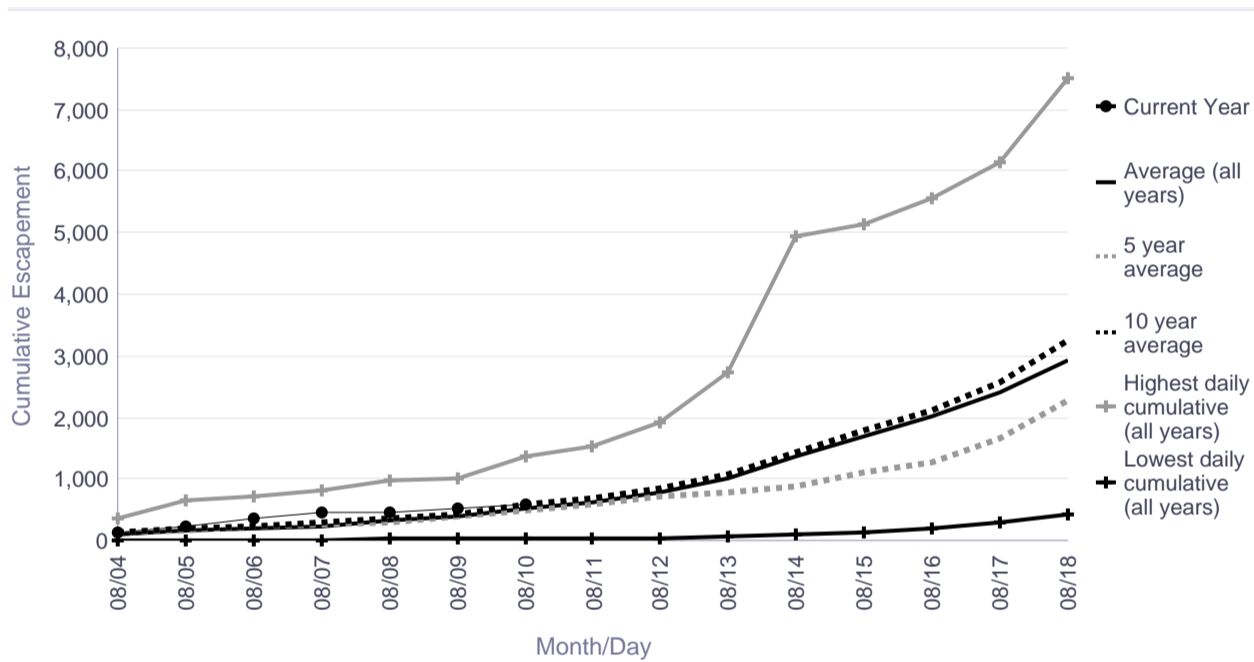
Informational Packet

George River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Coho Salmon

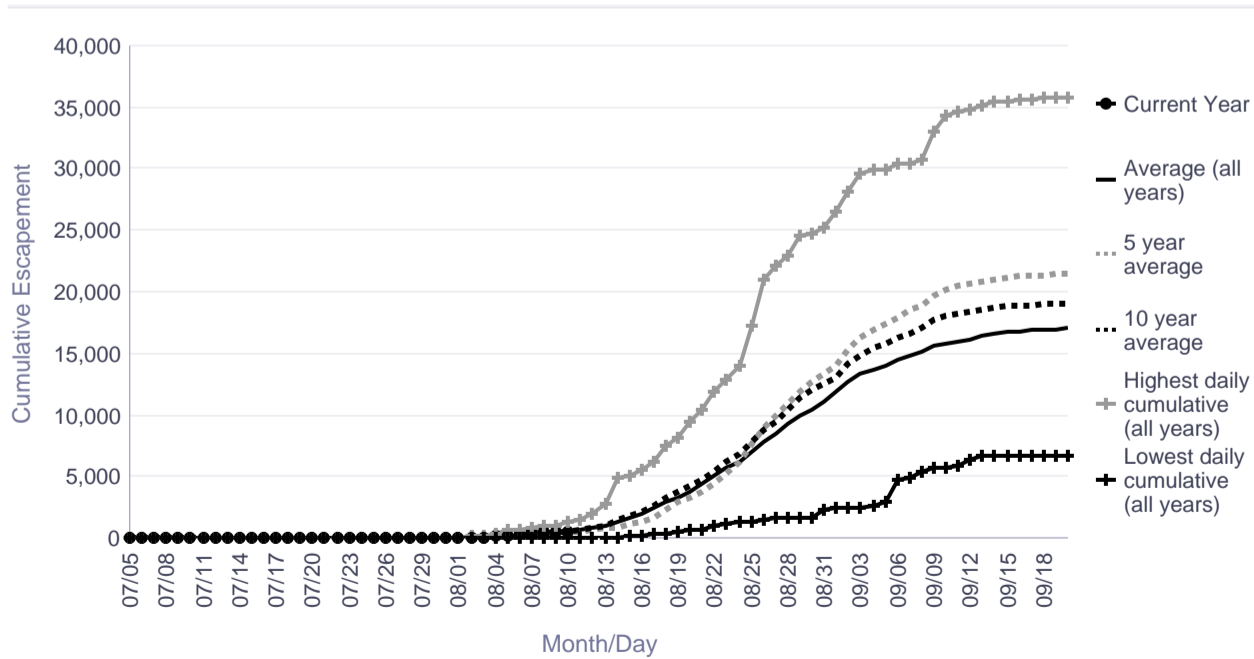
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	10 year average	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current Year
08/04	3	106	140	135	347	137
08/05	15	155	168	197	647	245
08/06	15	195	217	240	723	352
08/07	18	244	273	288	833	446
08/08	22	317	310	366	987	475
08/09	28	402	391	439	1,016	510
08/10	36	538	490	578	1,356	580
08/11	49	636	577	696	1,542	
08/12	53	798	707	857	1,923	
08/13	76	1,013	782	1,063	2,726	
08/14	108	1,373	869	1,422	4,945	
08/15	141	1,694	1,103	1,802	5,141	
08/16	211	2,018	1,272	2,105	5,562	
08/17	305	2,414	1,661	2,562	6,155	
08/18	421	2,936	2,282	3,243	7,518	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average	10 Year Average	Highest Count
Season Total	6,759	17,033	21,463	19,113	35,771

Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview



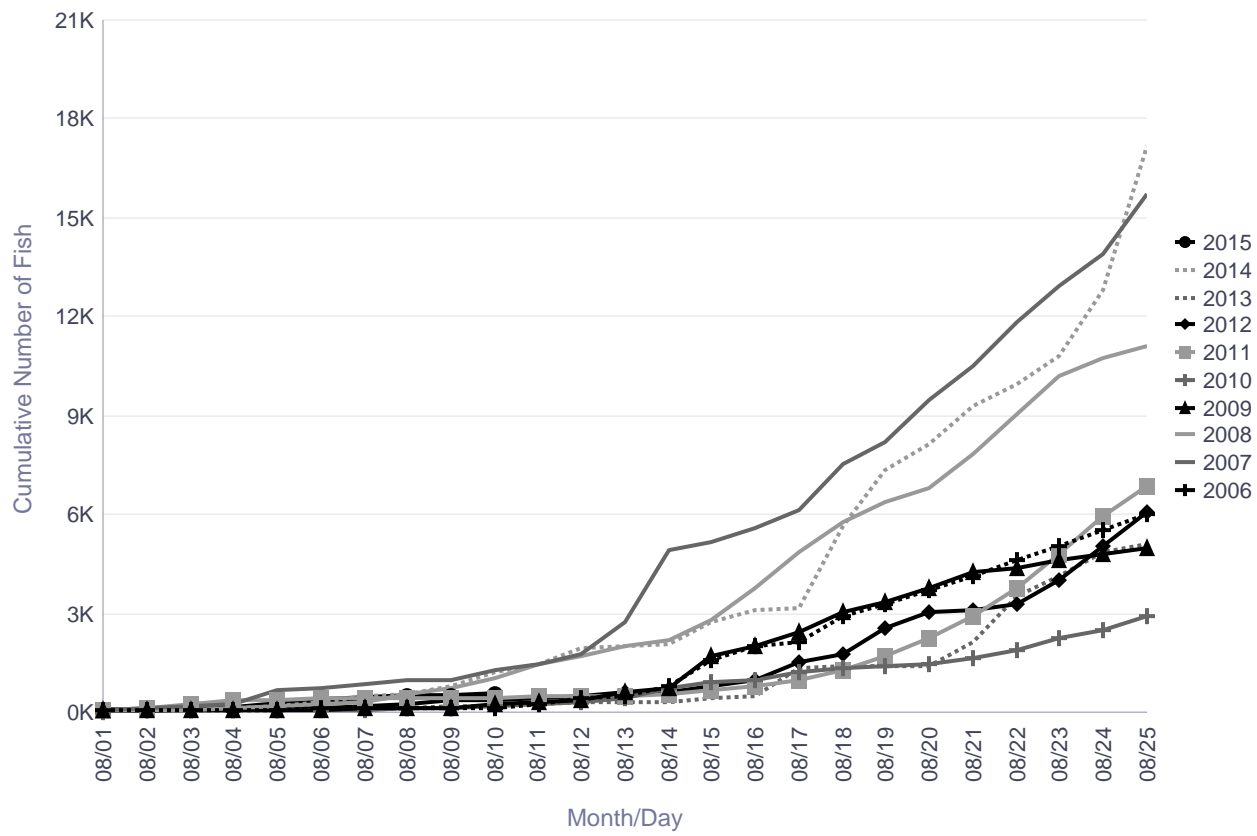
Informational Packet

George River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Coho Salmon

Cumulative Daily Passage										
Date	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
08/08	125	987	530	118	108	449	279	142	574	475
08/09	133	996	736	150	160	452	354	163	828	510
08/10	158	1,304	1,052	230	196	457	398	182	1,217	580
08/11	<u>225</u>	<u>1,448</u>	<u>1,460</u>	<u>334</u>	<u>245</u>	<u>467</u>	<u>446</u>	<u>257</u>	<u>1,469</u>	
08/12	443	1,781	1,685	392	316	486	498	310	1,923	
08/13	464	2,726	2,009	611	455	519	593	324	2,017	
08/14	800	4,945	2,212	738	709	575	643	338	2,079	
08/15	1,591	5,141	2,790	1,691	898	665	818	418	2,714	

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Season Total	12,705	28,398	21,931	12,490	12,639	29,120	14,478	15,308	35,771	

George River Coho



There are no comments for the past three days.

Informational Packet

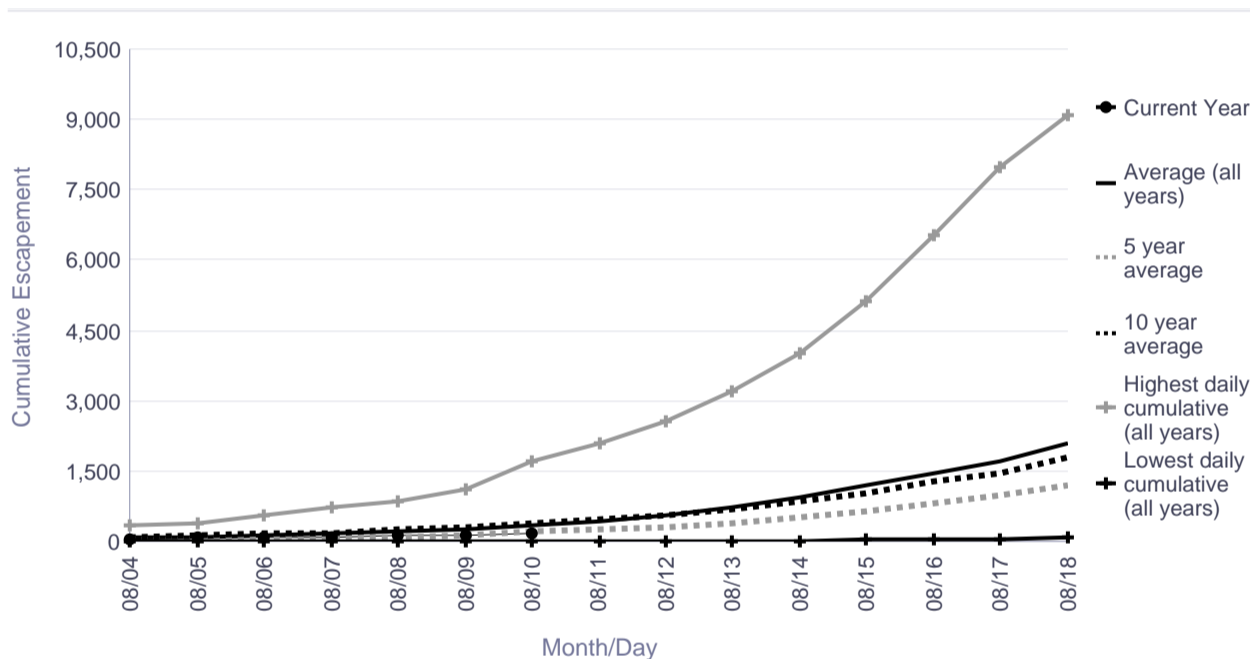
Kogrukluk River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Coho Salmon

Escapement Goal Range: 13,000-28,000

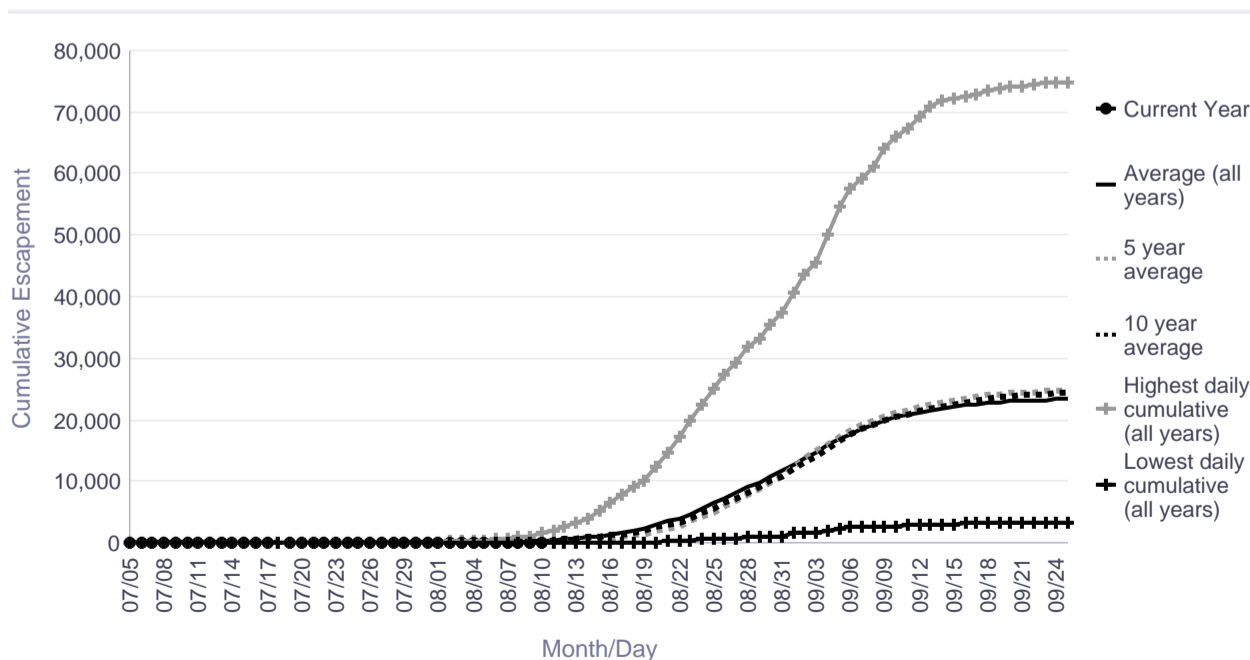
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	10 year average	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current Year
08/04	0	77	42	100	330	62
08/05	0	97	49	134	386	83
08/06	0	122	68	157	581	101
08/07	0	160	85	197	732	112
08/08	0	203	108	251	872	122
08/09	0	266	151	316	1,117	141
08/10	0	356	209	391	1,723	163
08/11	0	433	273	478	2,086	
08/12	1	582	298	576	2,574	
08/13	16	732	388	699	3,211	
08/14	28	938	522	868	4,018	
08/15	43	1,190	638	1,051	5,141	
08/16	48	1,454	820	1,266	6,525	
08/17	59	1,723	1,009	1,466	7,998	
08/18	81	2,080	1,213	1,781	9,105	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average	10 Year Average	Highest Count
Season Total	3,446	23,350	24,818	24,372	74,915

Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview



Informational Packet

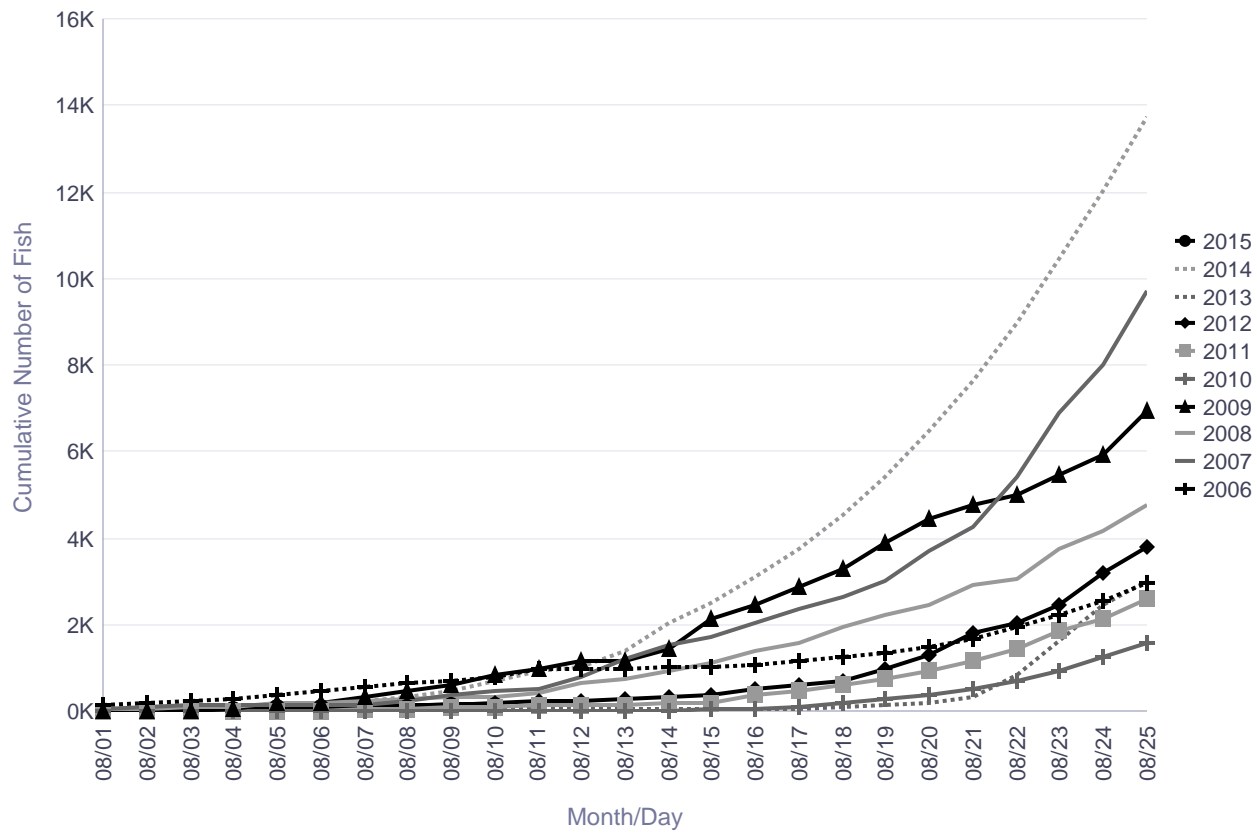
Kogrukluk River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Coho Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
08/08	648	242	268	464	1	57	133	40	311	122
08/09	713	360	322	614	2	90	157	40	466	141
08/10	771	451	345	836	3	112	192	40	700	163
08/11	<u>977</u>	<u>502</u>	<u>428</u>	<u>981</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>155</u>	<u>217</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>948</u>	
08/12	984	789	638	1,165	9	158	258	40	1,024	
08/13	996	1,211	755	1,183	16	164	304	40	1,414	
08/14	1,015	1,548	944	1,438	28	175	344	41	2,021	
08/15	1,044	1,701	1,119	2,118	47	194	388	43	2,518	

Escapement Goal Range: 13,000 to 28,000
Highlighted years below are when escapement goal was achieved or exceeded.

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Season Total	<u>16,268</u>	<u>26,423</u>	<u>29,237</u>	<u>22,289</u>	<u>14,689</u>	<u>21,800</u>	<u>13,421</u>	<u>21,207</u>	<u>52,975</u>	

Kogrukluk River Coho



There are no comments for the past three days.

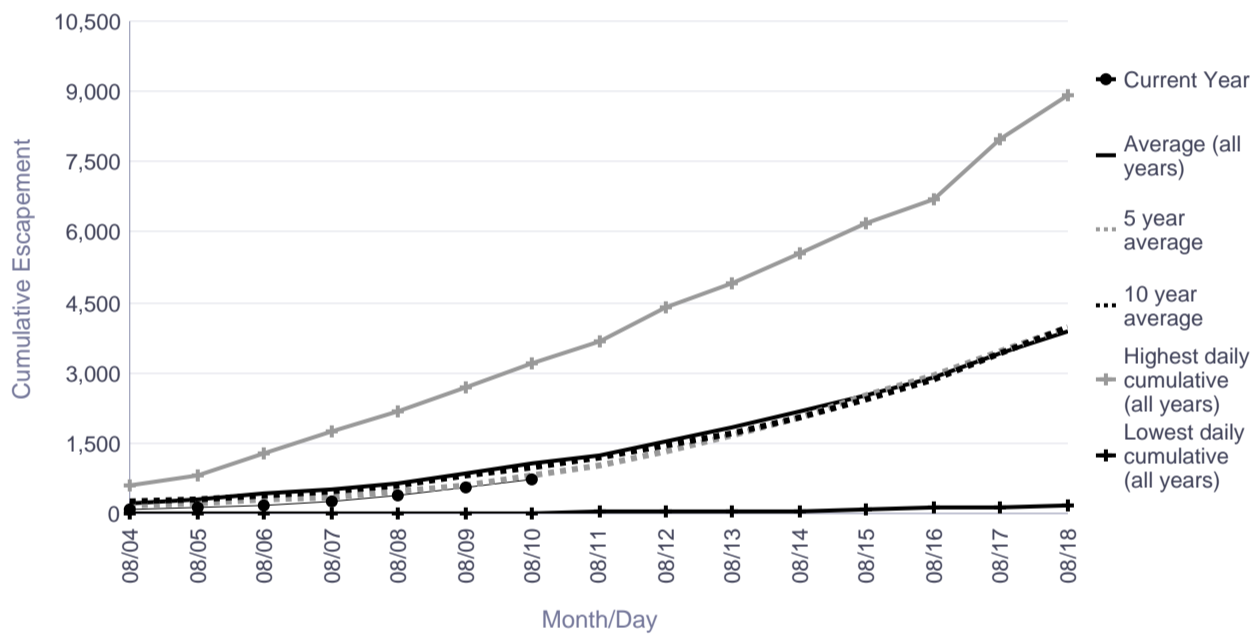
Informational Packet

Tatlawiksuk River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Coho Salmon

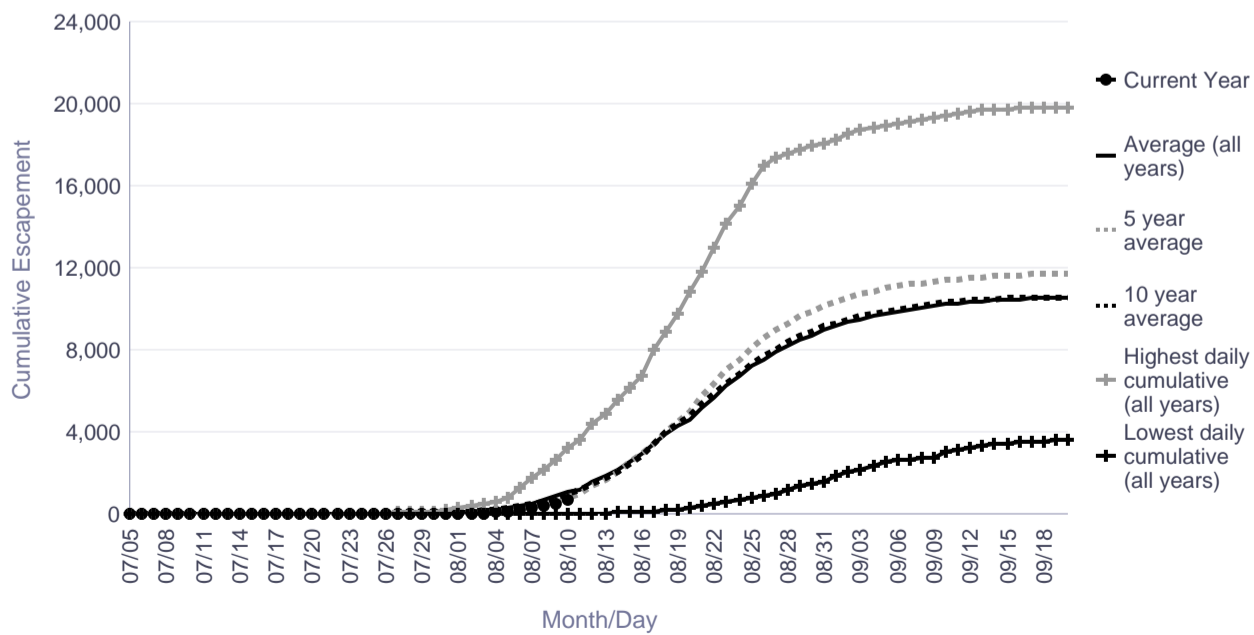
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	10 year average	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current Year
08/04	15	238	160	242	605	91
08/05	17	310	227	310	819	152
08/06	17	420	285	405	1,271	191
08/07	22	529	353	492	1,739	266
08/08	23	668	468	624	2,176	410
08/09	24	853	604	806	2,673	541
08/10	28	1,052	813	1,004	3,209	716
08/11	34	1,232	1,017	1,186	3,659	
08/12	42	1,538	1,344	1,465	4,381	
08/13	54	1,845	1,672	1,725	4,915	
08/14	70	2,180	2,046	2,072	5,561	
08/15	91	2,532	2,529	2,445	6,189	
08/16	118	2,907	2,951	2,846	6,704	
08/17	153	3,404	3,451	3,435	7,972	
08/18	196	3,888	3,977	3,971	8,930	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average	10 Year Average	Highest Count
Season Total	3,621	10,543	11,710	10,588	19,814

Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview



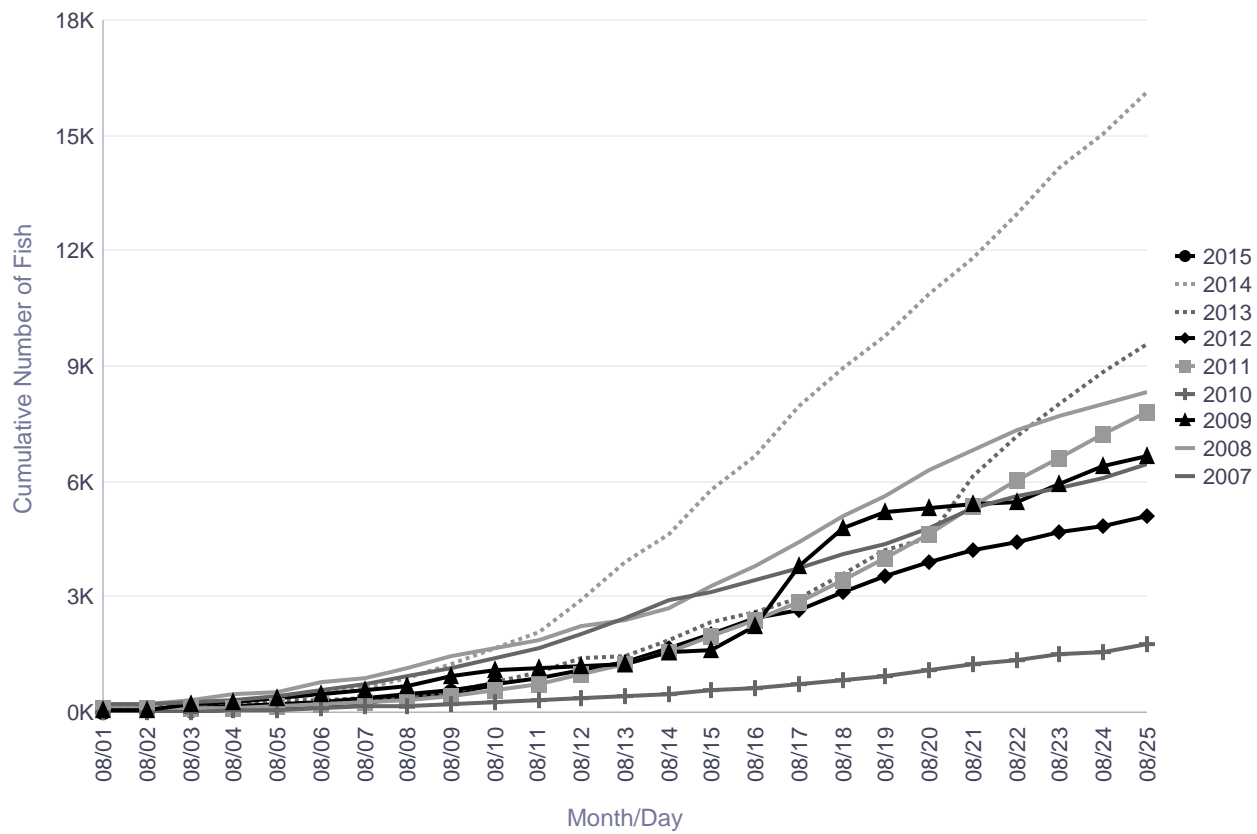
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Tatlawiksuk River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Coho Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
08/08		922	1,168	679	183	332	495	444	886	410
08/09		1,145	1,483	929	226	437	589	536	1,231	541
08/10		1,396	1,682	1,092	263	576	739	805	1,684	716
08/11		<u>1,674</u>	<u>1,889</u>	<u>1,128</u>	<u>304</u>	<u>754</u>	<u>904</u>	<u>1,027</u>	<u>2,097</u>	
08/12		2,055	2,234	1,184	354	977	1,088	1,392	2,911	
08/13		2,477	2,391	1,239	414	1,250	1,303	1,467	3,924	
08/14		2,916	2,727	1,549	484	1,576	1,655	1,878	4,635	
08/15		3,144	3,267	1,637	565	1,958	2,020	2,335	5,766	

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Season Total		8,500	11,022	10,148	3,773	14,184	8,015	12,764	19,814	

Tatlawiksuk River Coho



There are no comments for the past three days.

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2015 Location of Coho Salmon by Date Past Bethel Continuing Up the Kuskokwim River

Community	RIVER MILES	DAYS BETWEEN SITES	Index 1	Index 2	Index 3	Index 4	Index 5
	Bethel Test Index		31.00	66.00	69.00	100.00	103.00
	Cumulative CPUE		94	244	601	972	1,245
Travel in miles per day		14	14	14	14	14	14
Apokak Slough S1 L	0	0	19-Jul	23-Jul	29-Jul	3-Aug	5-Aug
Tuntutuliak	28	2.0	21-Jul	25-Jul	31-Jul	5-Aug	7-Aug
Johnson R S2 L	48	3.4	22-Jul	26-Jul	1-Aug	6-Aug	8-Aug
Napaskiak	60	4.3	23-Jul	27-Jul	2-Aug	7-Aug	9-Aug
Bethel	66	4.7	23-Jul	27-Jul	2-Aug	7-Aug	9-Aug
Kwethluk	82	5.9	24-Jul	28-Jul	3-Aug	8-Aug	10-Aug
Akiak	100	7.1	26-Jul	30-Jul	5-Aug	10-Aug	12-Aug
Tuluksak S3 L	120	8.6	27-Jul	31-Jul	6-Aug	11-Aug	13-Aug
Kalskag	163	11.6	30-Jul	3-Aug	9-Aug	14-Aug	16-Aug
Birch Tree	183	13.1	1-Aug	5-Aug	11-Aug	16-Aug	18-Aug
Aniak	191	13.6	1-Aug	5-Aug	11-Aug	16-Aug	18-Aug
Chuathbaluk S4 L	201	14.4	2-Aug	6-Aug	12-Aug	17-Aug	19-Aug
Napaimiut	223	15.9	3-Aug	7-Aug	13-Aug	18-Aug	20-Aug
Crooked Creek	259	18.5	6-Aug	10-Aug	16-Aug	21-Aug	23-Aug
Holitna River S5 L	305	21.8	9-Aug	13-Aug	19-Aug	24-Aug	26-Aug
Tatlawiksuk River	350	25.0	13-Aug	17-Aug	23-Aug	28-Aug	30-Aug
McGrath	468	33.4	21-Aug	25-Aug	31-Aug	5-Sep	7-Sep
Nikolai	585	41.8	29-Aug	2-Sep	8-Sep	13-Sep	15-Sep

Cumulative CPUE	94	244	601	972	1,245
5-year Avg CPUE	96	245	737	1,258	1,735
10-year Avg CPUE	177	369	1,019	1,685	2,172

Bethel Test Fishery - Coho

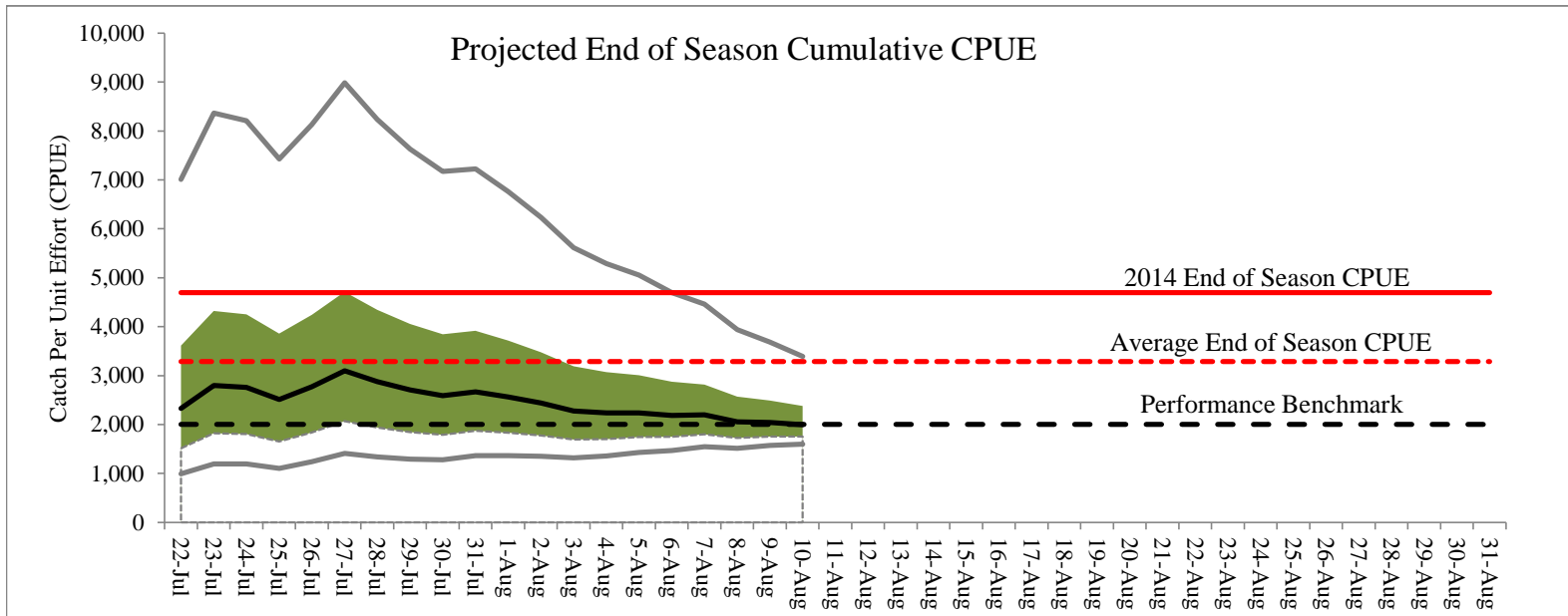
8/10/2015

Best Estimate of Run Timing:	Average
Average percent of run past Bethel on this date:	60%
5-Day Forecast (Anticipated Percent of Run):	17% - 25%
Daily CPUE:	77
Daily Cumulative CPUE:	1322
Percentile Rank (1984-2014):	32%

End of Season Projections as of:	8/10/2015
Run Timing Scenerio	Cum. CPUE
Earliest 10%	1,598
First Quartile	1,754
Median	1,998
Third Quartile	2,380
Latest 10%	3,391

Percent of all Salmon Passing Bethel as of:	8/10/2015
2015	92%
Historical Average	97%

Note: Percentages based on 3-day average.



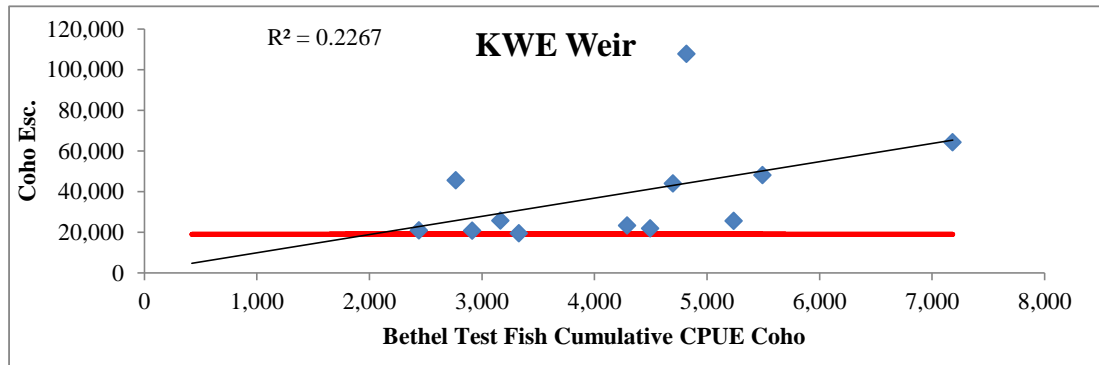
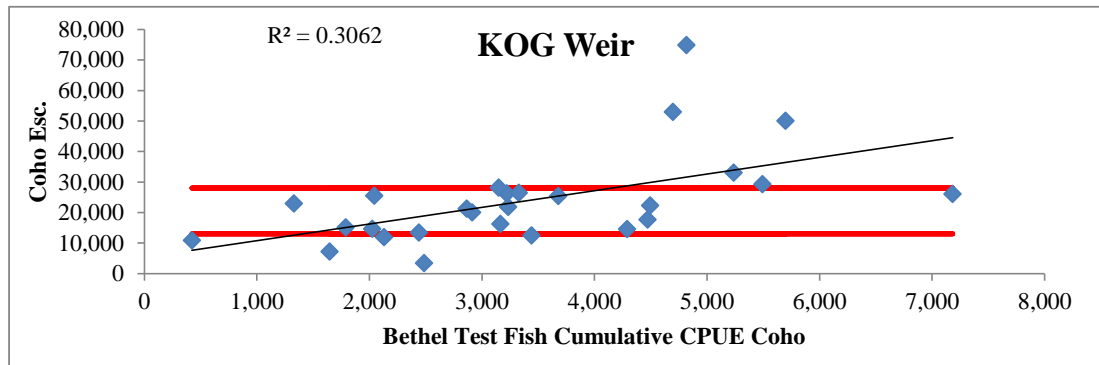
The "Performance Benchmark" refers to an end of season CPUE of 2,000. Historically, when BTF exceeded 2,000 escapement goals at Kogruluk and Kwethluk were achieved, subsistence harvest was within ANS, and modest commercial fishing opportunity was provided.

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Preliminary Data

Historical Coho Salmon Abundance

	BTF	Total Run	Total Esc.	Kogrukluk	Kwethluk
1984	3,219			26,206	
1985	1,790			15,076	
1986	4,471			17,660	
1987	2,043			25,461	
1988	3,441			12,463	
1989	2,624				3,446
1990	2,485				7,206
1991	1,645				45,605
1992	2,766				
1993	2,765				
1994	3,150			28,110	
1995	1,998				
1996	5,699			50,003	
1997	2,130			11,883	
1998	1,328			22,987	
1999	422			10,908	
2000	5,236	875,447	567,210	33,063	25,610
2001	2,914	742,976	515,962	19,983	20,725
2002	4,289	631,145	500,566	14,515	23,298
2003	4,819	2,699,102	2,375,943	74,915	107,789
2004	7,183	1,679,812	1,191,700	26,078	64,216
2005	3,678	819,739	639,004	25,407	
2006	3,164	694,283	464,617	16,268	25,667
2007	3,328	777,552	597,110	26,423	19,473
2008	5,494	1,130,279	931,753	29,237	48,049
2009	4,495	723,807	583,283	22,289	21,911
2010	2,024	499,951	407,065	14,689	
2011	3,234	1,170,785	1,064,277	21,800	
2012	2,440	559,219	443,296	13,421	20,895
2013	2,865			21,207	
2014	4,697			52,975	43,945
AVG.	3,285	1,000,315	790,907	23,840	38,932



Generally when BTF CPUE exceeds 2,000 the escapement goals (RED Lines) at Kogrukluk River (13,000-28,000) and Kwethluk River (>19,000) are achieved.

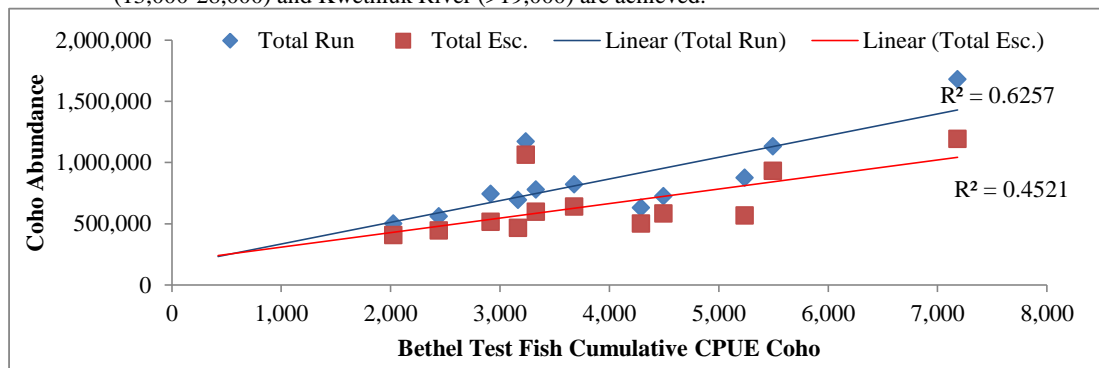


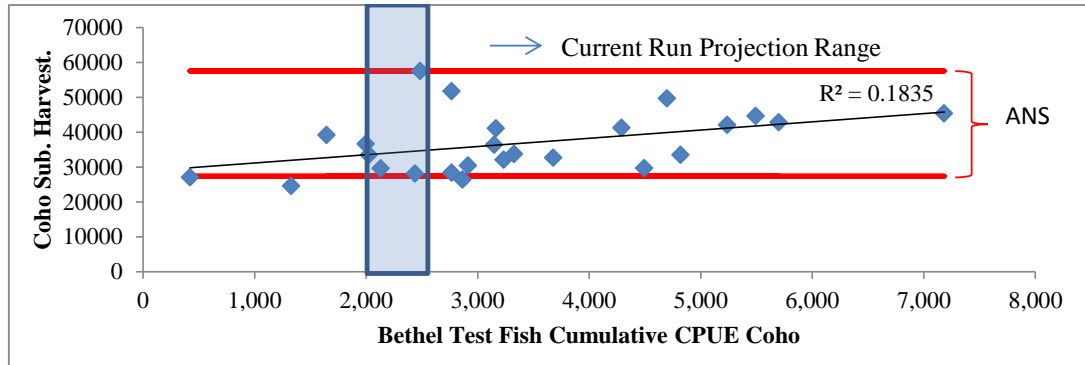
Figure above does not include data from 2003.

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Preliminary Data

Historical Abundance and Subsistence Harvest

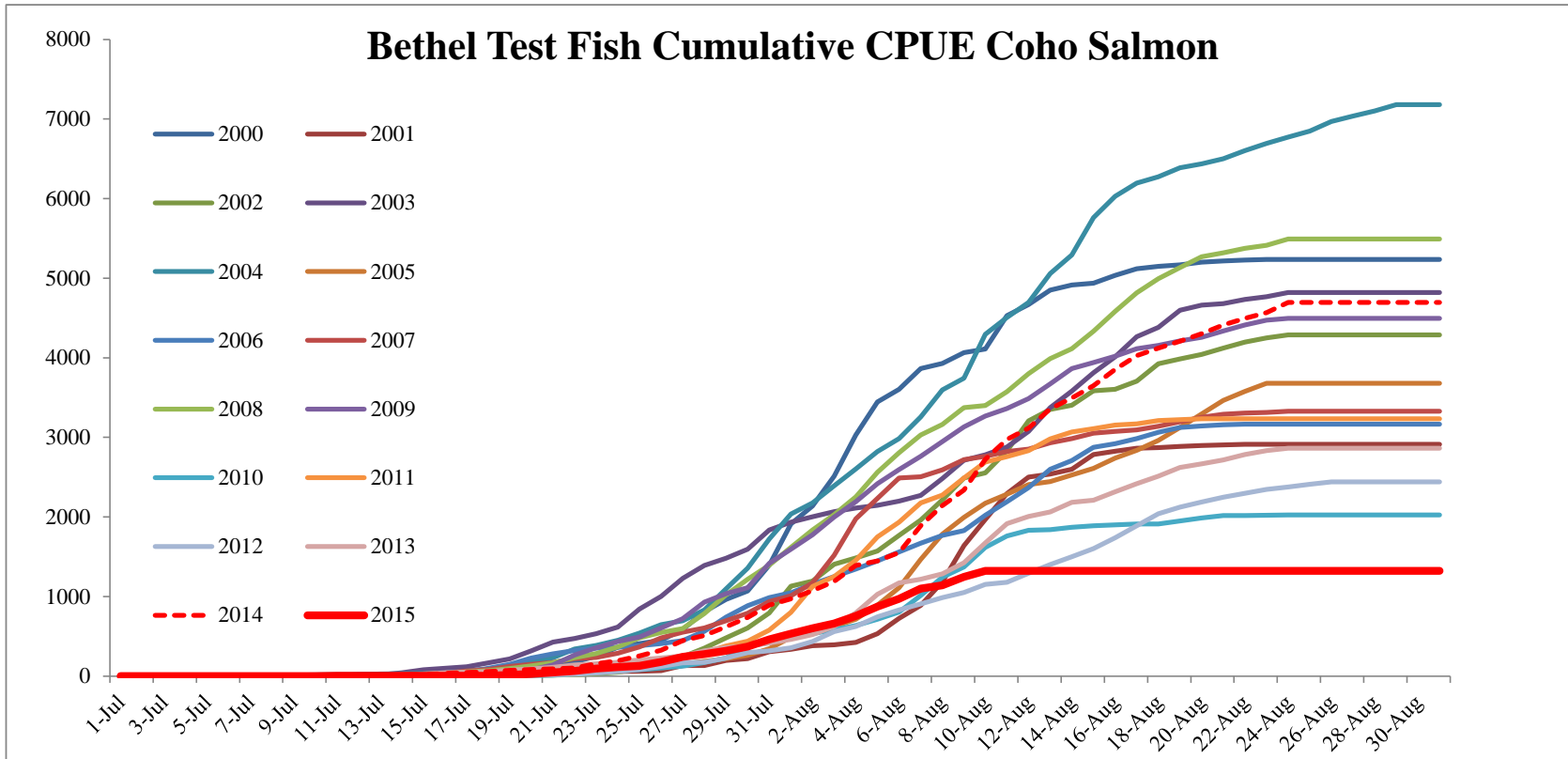
	BTF	Total Run	Total Esc.	Sub. Harvest
1984	3,219			57,560
1985	1,790			39,252
1986	4,471			51,836
1987	2,043			28,458
1988	3,441			36,465
1989	2,624			36,648
1990	2,485			42,854
1991	1,645			29,649
1992	2,766			24,611
1993	2,765			27,102
1994	3,150			42,096
1995	1,998			30,465
1996	5,699			41,277
1997	2,130			33,531
1998	1,328			45,450
1999	422			32,755
2000	5,236	875,447	567,210	41,175
2001	2,914	742,976	515,962	33,766
2002	4,289	631,145	500,566	44,724
2003	4,819			29,767
2004	7,183	1,679,812	1,191,700	33,580
2005	3,678	819,739	639,004	32,172
2006	3,164	694,283	464,617	28,200
2007	3,328	777,552	597,110	26,409
2008	5,494	1,130,279	931,753	49,736
2009	4,495	723,807	583,283	
2010	2,024	499,951	407,065	
2011	3,234	1,170,785	1,064,277	
2012	2,440	559,219	443,296	
2013	2,865			
2014	4,697			
AVG.	3,285	858,750	658,820	36,782



Amounts Reasonably Necessary for Subsistence (coho salmon) = 27,4000 - 57,600
 Average subsistence harvest is approximately 36,000 coho salmon
 Anticipate twice the coho salmon harvest due to inability to harvest other salmon
 Highest Sub. harvest has been observed within the range of predicted run strength

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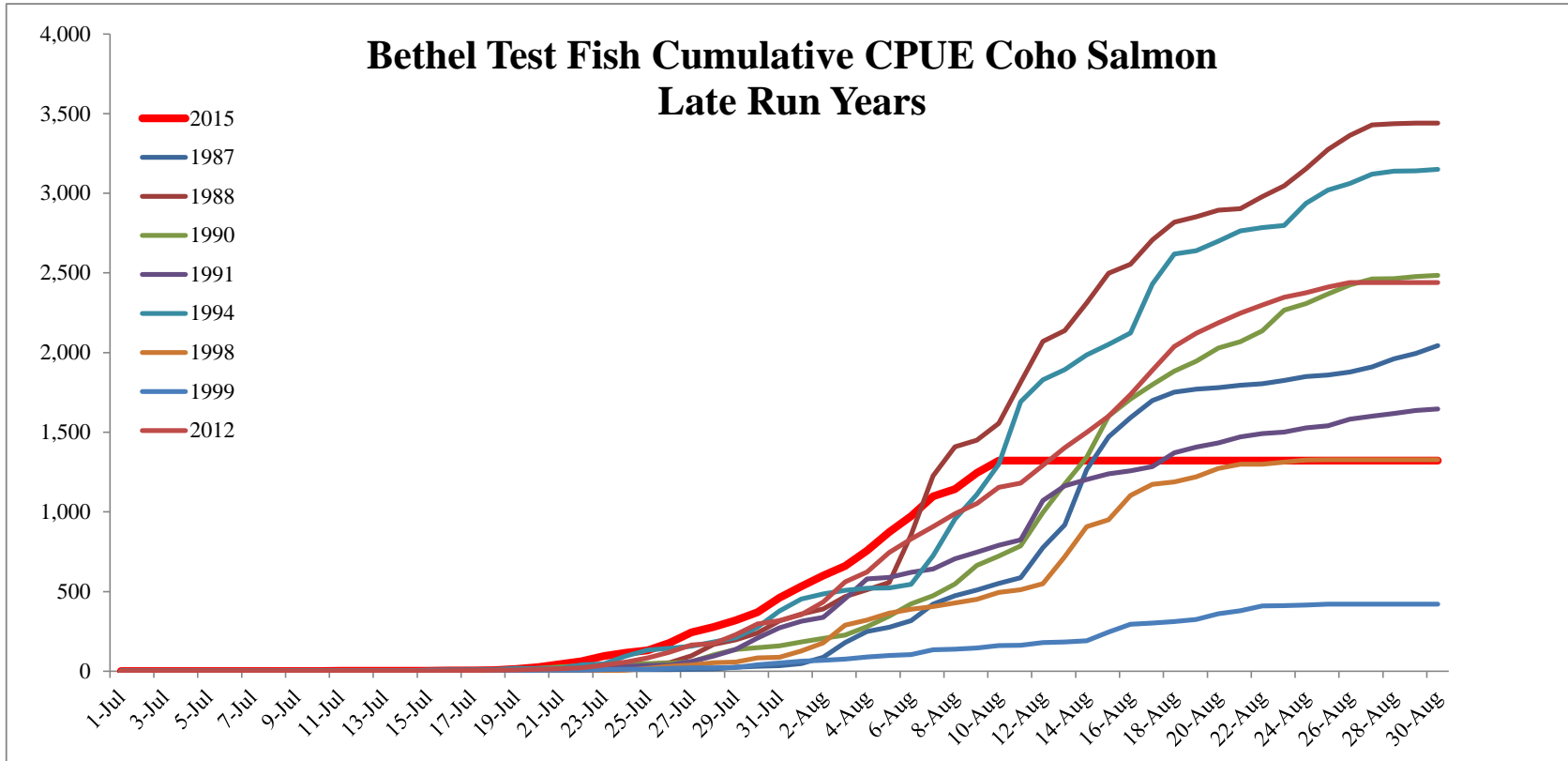
Preliminary Data



Note: Average midpoint is August 6 for year shown. Median projection based on midpoint of August 7. Third quartile projection based on midpoint of August 9. Latest 10% projection based on midpoint of August 12.

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Preliminary Data



Note: Average midpoint is August 11 for year shown. Median projection based on midpoint of August 7. Third quartile projection based on midpoint of August 9. Latest 10% projection based on midpoint of August 12. Late run years shown here are years with a midpoint date at least 2 days later than average.

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Coho salmon commercial harvest by day, 2004–2015

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	5-yr Average	10-yr Average
22-Jul					94			1,525					1,525	810
23-Jul										2,960			2,960	2,960
24-Jul									1,562				1,562	1,562
25-Jul					90									90
26-Jul							3,603			5,785			4,694	4,694
27-Jul								5,688	2,912				4,300	4,300
28-Jul						14,516								14,516
29-Jul														
30-Jul	9,462				119		6,049			8,968			7,509	5,045
31-Jul									3,485				3,485	3,485
1-Aug			10,309	19,133		16,846								15,429
2-Aug		8,666			150									4,408
3-Aug	23,957							12,563	6,958				9,761	9,761
4-Aug			10,650			19,337								14,994
5-Aug		21,463												21,463
6-Aug	28,638			15,926	12,013	380	17,246			23,461			20,354	13,805
7-Aug									5,148				5,148	5,148
8-Aug			14,162		13,552	16,224								14,646
9-Aug		20,026												20,026
10-Aug	20,022			13,059				8,660	5,209	30,972		23,335	14,947	14,475
11-Aug			23,209			15,569					23,999		23,999	20,926
12-Aug							7,274							7,274
13-Aug	20,353				19,667	3,709				8,077			8,077	10,484
14-Aug				15,411							32,570		32,570	23,991
15-Aug		7,768	18,253		20,140									15,387
16-Aug									7,996				7,996	7,996
17-Aug	8,491			6,231				4,557		12,778			8,668	7,855
18-Aug			7,833			10,189					26,395		26,395	14,806
19-Aug														
20-Aug	9,287				7,017					11,630			11,630	9,324
21-Aug									2,838		18,809		10,824	10,824
22-Aug			6,004	3,993	6,280	6,419							5,674	5,674
23-Aug	19,068									5,447			5,447	5,447
24-Aug	18,642			3,085										3,085
25-Aug		6,549	5,427		5,242									5,739
26-Aug											10,400		10,400	10,400
27-Aug	13,535													
28-Aug			2,593											2,593
29-Aug														
30-Aug	11,563		1,334											1,334
31-Aug														
Total	183,018	64,472	99,774	76,838	84,364	103,189	34,172	32,993	36,108	110,078	112,173	23,335	65,105	75,416
22-Jul to 1-Aug	9,462	0	10,309	19,133	303	31,362	9,652	7,213	7,959	17,713	0	0	8,507	10,364
2-Aug to 8-Aug	52,595	30,129	24,812	15,926	25,715	35,941	17,246	12,563	12,106	23,461	0	0	13,075	19,790
9-Aug to 14-Aug	40,375	20,026	23,209	28,470	19,667	19,278	7,274	8,660	5,209	39,049	56,569	23,335	23,352	22,741
15-Aug to 31-Aug	80,586	14,317	41,444	13,309	38,679	16,608	0	4,557	10,834	29,855	55,604	0	20,170	22,521

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2015 Inseason Salmon Assessment Update for the Kuskokwim Area #10

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) works cooperatively with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), National Park Service, and various Tribal or community groups to monitor the health of Kuskokwim Area salmon stocks and provide data for inseason management.

ADF&G ensures that all assessment data are publicly available inseason. Detailed project summaries are prepared each week and presented to the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group. Management meetings are held each Wednesday at the ADF&G office in Bethel. Working Group meetings are open to the public, in person or via teleconference. Project summaries and associated meeting materials are available online by 5:00 PM Tuesday during the salmon season. In addition, select data are available daily by 10:00 AM.

Working Group Information

Packets: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareakuskokwim.kswg>

Inseason Bethel Test Fish and Escapement Monitoring Data:

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

Assessment Overview

Coho salmon are the most abundant species in the lower portion of the Kuskokwim River, and ADF&G has shifted toward coho salmon management. The historical average midpoint of the coho salmon run past Bethel is August 8. Daily CPUE in the Bethel Test Fishery (BTF) has increased slightly over the past week, indicating a modest increase in coho salmon abundance. Cumulative CPUE is below average for this time of year, indicating the coho salmon run is either late, weak, or both. Coho salmon have only recently begun to arrive in consistent numbers at tributary escapement monitoring projects. Escapement is below average nearly all monitoring locations. Tributary escapement projects are currently experiencing relatively low and clear water conditions. The first commercial harvest opportunity for coho salmon was August 10, downriver from Bethel. Total harvest and CPUE from that commercial opportunity was average for this time of year. Inseason projections of run strength suggest that coho salmon abundance is likely adequate to meet escapement needs, provide for an increased subsistence harvest compared to recent years, and allow for limited commercial harvest.

Bethel Test Fishery

Bethel Test Fishery (BTF) is the primary inseason run assessment tool for Kuskokwim River salmon and is operated the same way each year. The daily Catch Per Unit Effort (CPUE) is used to index run timing and relative abundance of Chinook, chum, sockeye, and coho salmon. These data have only limited utility for estimating total run size or escapement. *The 2015 Chinook salmon, chum salmon, and sockeye salmon data is not directly comparable to prior years due to subsistence fishing restrictions.* The Bethel Test Fishery continues to operate on schedule.

Coho salmon are the most abundant species in the lower river. As of August 10, cumulative CPUE of coho salmon is 1,322, which is below the recent 5-year average of 1,971 and recent 10-year average of 2,348. The CPUE to date is about half of what was observed in 2014, which was a large run. The historical midpoint of the coho salmon run is August 8. The coho salmon run timing appears to be

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average or late. Inseason projections based on both average and late run timing suggest the end of season cumulative CPUE will be below average, but will likely exceed 2,000 fish. In prior years when BTF cumulative CPUE of coho salmon exceeded 2,000, escapement goals at the Kogrukluk and Kwethluk rivers were achieved, amounts necessary for subsistence (27,400–57,600) were met, and modest commercial harvest opportunity was allowed.

The Chinook salmon, chum salmon, and sockeye salmon runs through the lower river are effectively over. As of August 10, Chinook salmon cumulative CPUE is 625, chum salmon is 2,909, and sockeye salmon is 2,148. Cumulative CPUE is above average for Chinook salmon and sockeye salmon, and below average for chum salmon.

Kwethluk River Weir

The Kwethluk River weir is operated by USFWS and used to index salmon escapement to the lower Kuskokwim River tributaries. As of August 10, a total of 8,017 Chinook salmon, 22,291 chum salmon, 8,823 sockeye salmon, and 444 coho salmon have been counted past the weir. The Chinook salmon escapement is considerably larger compared to recent years at this location. Chum salmon escapement is similar to the long-term average. Sockeye salmon escapement is the largest on record for this location. It is still early in the coho salmon escapement. On average, the midpoint of the coho salmon escapement is August 26. Cumulative coho salmon escapement to date is the lowest on record for this location.

Escapement goals have been established by ADF&G for Chinook salmon (4,100–7,500) and coho salmon (>19,000). The upper bound of the Chinook salmon escapement goal has been exceeded. Inseason projections indicate that the coho salmon escapement goal may not be met.

Tuluksak River Weir

The Tuluksak River weir is operated by USFWS. As of August 10, a total of 615 Chinook salmon, 5,736 chum salmon, 695 sockeye salmon, and 329 coho salmon have been counted past the weir. Chinook salmon escapement is larger than the recent 5-year average but smaller than the long-term historical average for this date. Chum salmon escapement is the lowest on record for this date. It is still early in the coho salmon escapement. On average, the midpoint of the coho salmon escapement is August 26. Cumulative coho salmon escapement to date is below average.

No salmon escapement goals have been established by ADF&G for this river.

Salmon River (Aniak River) Weir

The Salmon River (Aniak) weir is operated by ADF&G and used to index salmon escapement to the Aniak River drainage. The weir is scheduled to end operations on August 15.

As of August 10, a total of 2,227 Chinook salmon, 5,203 chum salmon, 1,267 sockeye salmon, and 126 coho salmon have been counted past the weir. Chinook salmon and sockeye salmon escapements are similar to the long-term average for this location. Chum salmon escapement is greater than 2014, but is the second lowest on record. It is still early in the coho salmon escapement. On average, the midpoint of the coho salmon escapement past the weir is September 1. Cumulative coho salmon escapement to date is below average.

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No weir-based salmon escapement goals have been established by ADF&G for this river.

George River Weir

The George River weir is operated by ADF&G and used to index salmon escapement to middle Kuskokwim River tributaries. As of August 10, a total of 2,251 Chinook salmon, 16,270 chum salmon, and 580 coho salmon have been counted past the weir. Chinook salmon and chum salmon escapements are similar to what was observed in 2014, but below the historical average. It is still early in the coho salmon escapement at this location. On average, the midpoint of the coho salmon escapement is August 28. Cumulative coho salmon escapement to date is average.

A sustainable escapement goal of 1,800–3,300 Chinook salmon has been established by ADF&G for this river. The lower bound of the Chinook salmon escapement goal was achieved on July 15.

Tatlawiksuk River Weir

The Tatlawiksuk River weir is operated by ADF&G and used to index salmon escapement to middle Kuskokwim River tributaries. Operations were interrupted on July 19 due to high water and normal operations were resumed on July 20. As of August 10, a total of 2,077 Chinook salmon, 9,730 chum salmon, and 716 coho salmon have been counted past the weir. Chinook salmon escapement is above average, and chum salmon escapement is below average. It is still early in the coho salmon escapement at this location. On average, the midpoint of the coho salmon escapement is August 23. Cumulative coho salmon escapement to date is below average.

No salmon escapement goals have been established by ADF&G for this river.

Kogrukluk River Weir

The Kogrukluk River weir is operated by ADF&G and used to index salmon escapement to the Holitna River drainage. Operations were interrupted on July 17 due to high water and normal operations were resumed on July 20. As of August 10, a total of 7,456 Chinook salmon, 28,008 chum salmon, 6,103 sockeye salmon, and 163 coho salmon were counted past the weir. It is still early in the coho salmon escapement at this location. On average, the midpoint of the coho salmon escapement is September 1. Cumulative coho salmon escapement to date is below average.

Sustainable escapement goals have been established by ADF&G for Chinook salmon (4,800–8,800), chum salmon (15,000–49,000), sockeye salmon (4,400–17,000), and coho salmon (13,000–28,000). The lower bound of the Chinook salmon, chum salmon, and sockeye salmon goals were achieved on July 23, July 29, and August 1 respectively. The likelihood of achieving the coho salmon goal is uncertain at this time.

Telaquana Lake Weir

The Telaquana Lake weir is operated cooperatively by ADF&G and National Park Service. The weir is used to index escapement for lake-spawning sockeye salmon. The weir is scheduled to end operations on August 11.

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As of August 10, a total of 90,725 sockeye salmon have been observed past the weir. Cumulative escapement to date is the largest on record for this location and is nearly three times the historical average.

Salmon River (Pitka Fork) Weir

The Salmon River (Pitka Fork) weir is operated by ADF&G and MTNT (McGrath, Takotna, Nikolai, Telida) and used to index Chinook salmon escapement to the headwaters upriver from McGrath. The weir is scheduled to end operations on August 15.

As of August 10, a total of 6,229 Chinook salmon and 51 chum salmon have passed the weir. This is the first year that this weir has operated since 1982. The location of the weir has changed since that time, and no comparable data exists.

Kuskokwim River Chinook Salmon Aerial Surveys

Aerial surveys of peak Chinook salmon spawning abundance have been completed for select tributaries in the upper, middle, and lower portions of the Kuskokwim River drainage. Aerial surveys are an index of escapement to a very broad geographic area – meaning not all fish are counted, but the number of fish observed is related to the number of fish that escaped.

A total of 10 tributaries were successfully surveyed. Of the tributaries surveyed, ADF&G has established aerial survey escapement goals on the Salmon River Pitka Fork (470–1,600), Holitna River mainstem (970–2,100), Gagarayah River (300–830), and Kisaralik River (400–1,200). The escapement goal was exceeded on the Salmon River Pitka Fork, achieved on the Kisaralik River, and not achieved on either the Holitna or Gagarayah rivers.

District W1 – Commercial Harvest

The first commercial harvest opportunity in District W1 was August 10. Total harvest was 3 Chinook salmon, 100 sockeye salmon, 366 chum salmon, and 23,335 coho salmon. Coho salmon harvest and CPUE was average.

District W4 – Kuskokwim Bay

The Kanektok River weir is used to monitor escapement to District W4. The weir is scheduled to end operations on August 15.

As of August 10, total passage through the weir is 10,048 Chinook salmon, 105,119 sockeye salmon, 14,480 chum salmon, and 1,052 coho salmon. Chinook salmon escapement is above average for this date, while the escapement of sockeye salmon, chum salmon, and coho salmon are below average. No weir-based salmon escapement goals have been established by ADF&G for this river.

ADF&G has established aerial survey escapement goals for Chinook salmon (3,500–8,000) and sockeye salmon (14,000–34,000) in the Kanektok River. Air surveys have been completed. The Chinook salmon goal was achieved, and the sockeye salmon goal was exceeded.

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There have been a total of 11 commercial openers in District W4. The first commercial opener was July 3. Total harvest to date is 7,415 Chinook salmon, 15,174 chum salmon, 29,387 sockeye salmon, and 16,497 coho salmon. Harvest is below average for Chinook salmon, chum salmon, and sockeye salmon. Coho salmon harvest is average.

District W5 – Kuskokwim Bay

The Middle Fork Goodnews River weir is used to monitor escapement to District 5. As of August 10, total passage through the weir is 1,375 Chinook salmon, 53,792 sockeye salmon, 10,299 chum salmon, and 72 coho salmon. Sockeye salmon escapement is above average. Chinook salmon, chum salmon, and coho salmon escapements are below average for this location.

ADF&G has established weir-based escapement goals for Chinook salmon (1,500–2,900), chum salmon (>12,000), sockeye salmon (18,000–40,000), and coho salmon (>12,000). Escapement has exceeded the upper bound of the sockeye salmon goal. Chinook salmon and chum salmon goals have not been achieved.

ADF&G has established aerial survey escapement goals for Chinook salmon (640–3,300) and sockeye salmon (5,500–19,500) in the North Fork Goodnews River. Air surveys have been completed. The Chinook salmon goal was achieved, and the sockeye salmon goal was exceeded.

There have been a total of 12 commercial openers in District W5. The first commercial opener was July 3. Total harvest to date is 688 Chinook salmon, 4,430 chum salmon, 23,622 sockeye salmon, and 2,667 coho salmon. Harvest is below average for all species.

Chinook Salmon Tagging

ADF&G is conducting a Salmon Tag Lottery through September 2015. Tagged Chinook salmon are identifiable by a brightly colored plastic tag attached to their back, and a metal antennae coming out of their mouth. *It is okay if you harvest one of these tagged fish.* Please call 1-800-267-2104 and return the radio tag to the ADF&G office in Bethel. In appreciation, you will be entered into the monthly Lottery and eligible for a cash prize of \$200 and a seasonal cash prize of \$500.