

# 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: 8/20/2014

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
    - Update on the ADF&G Creel Survey in the middle and upper Kuskokwim 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:

1. Update on the request to open a dipnet fishery all season long.
2. Further discussion of the current escapement goals.
3. Grant Fairbanks' letter and Agenda Change Request for the BOF.

NEW BUSINESS: N/A

### 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](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.

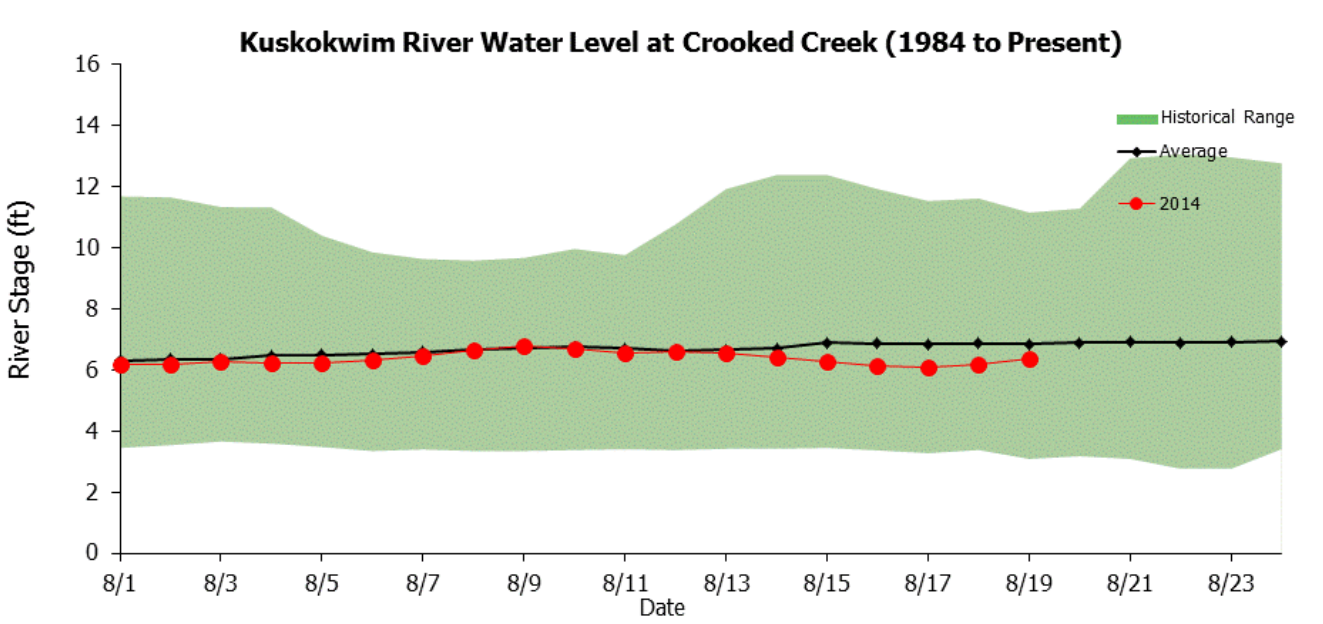
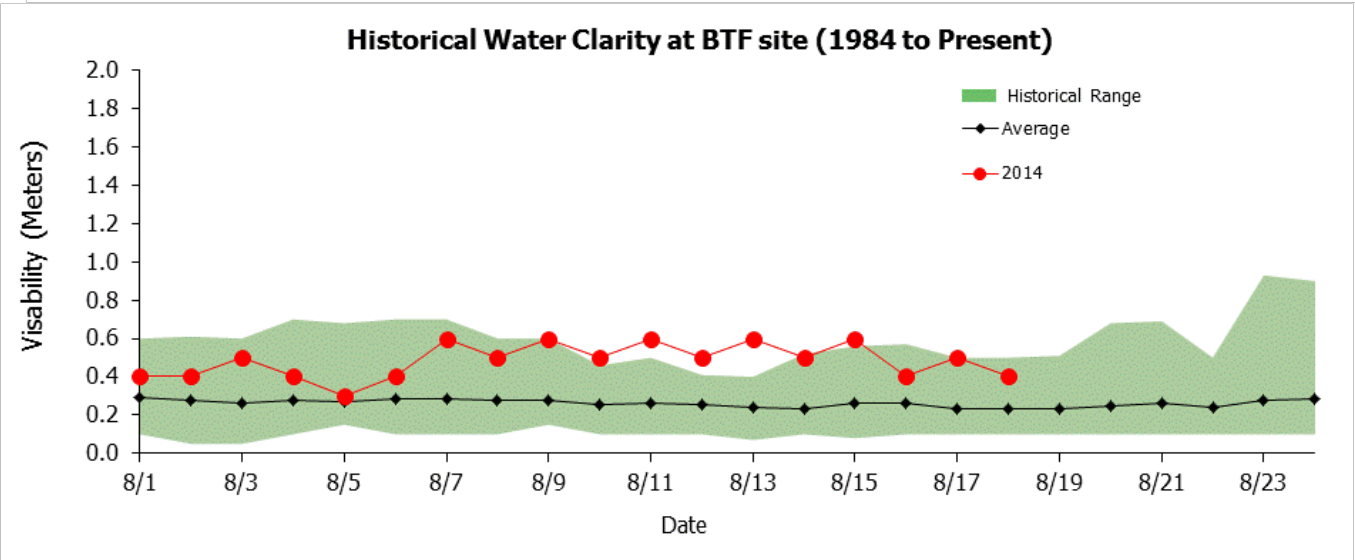
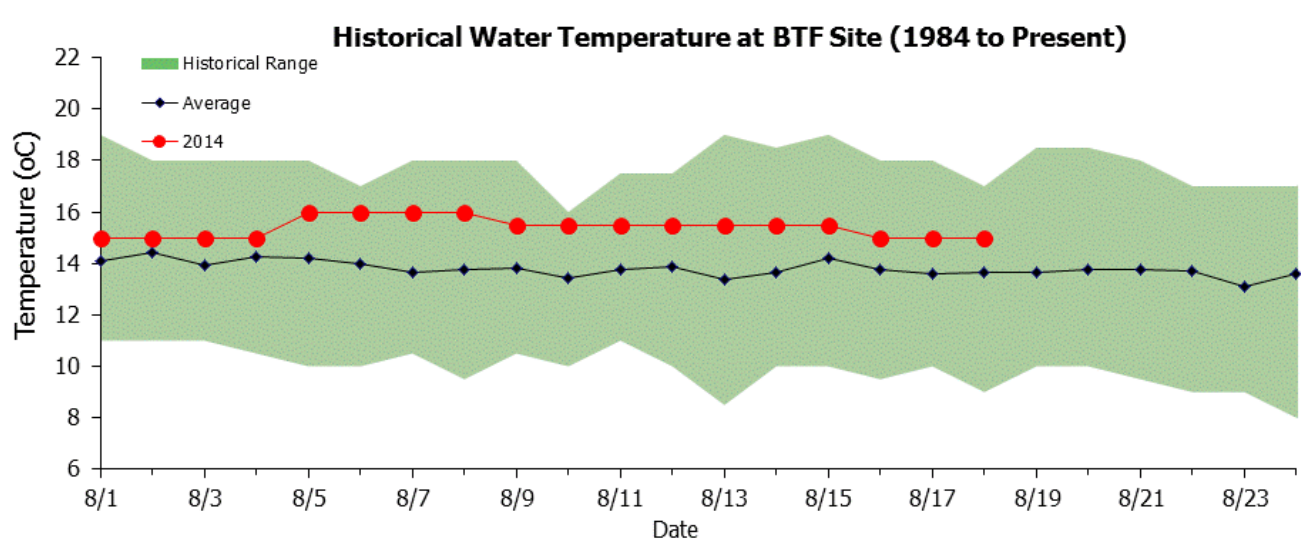
**Thank you.**

**Jennifer Peeks**

**Chris Shelden**

**Working Group coordinators**

# Informational Packet



# Informational Packet

## Coho Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index, Bethel Test Fishery

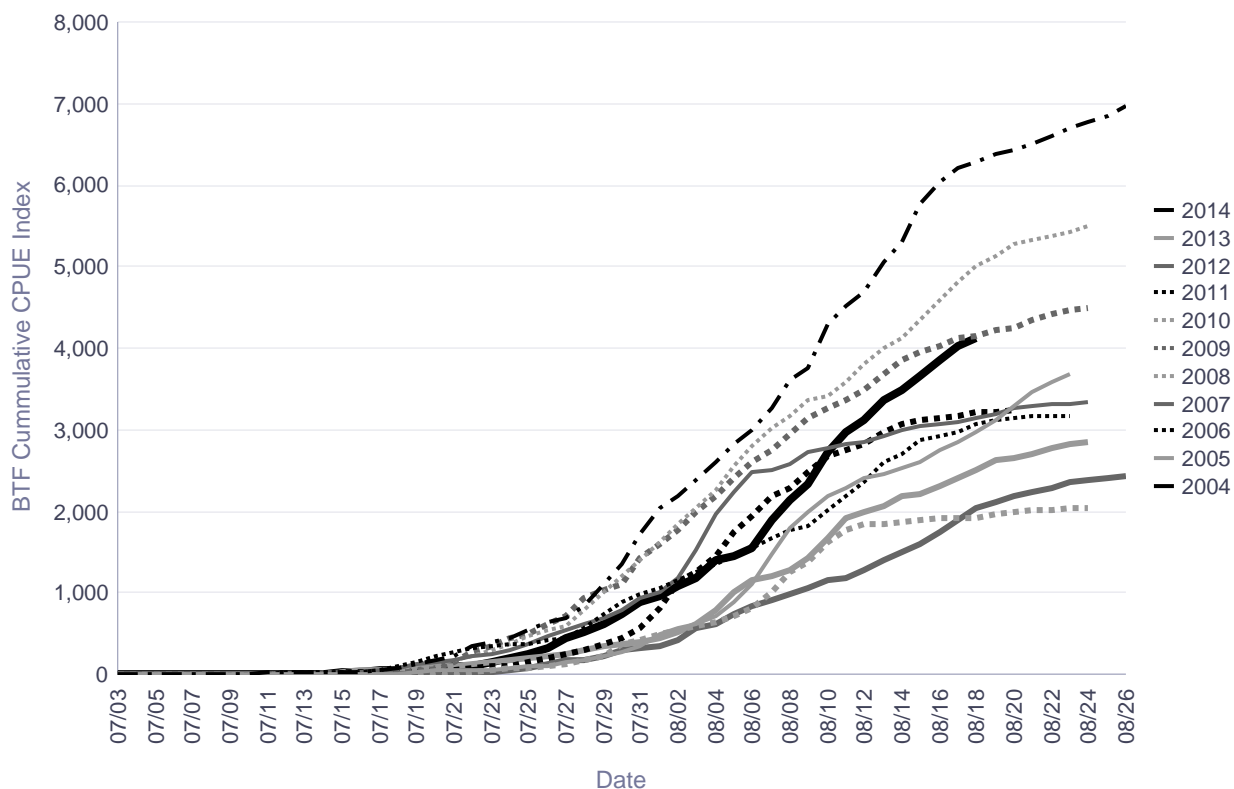
### Bethel Test Fishery Coho Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index

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

Date	CPUE										
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/10	4,299	2,175	2,019	2,763	3,403	3,266	1,620	2,689	1,152	1,665	2,723
08/11	4,509	2,287	2,192	2,822	3,575	3,363	1,766	2,756	1,179	1,908	2,972
08/12	4,698	2,407	2,368	2,851	3,803	3,485	1,835	2,830	1,291	2,000	3,115
08/13	5,061	2,445	2,599	2,931	3,992	3,672	1,845	2,977	1,401	2,056	3,357
08/14	5,294	2,530	2,705	2,984	4,118	3,865	1,876	3,067	1,498	2,177	3,494
08/15	5,762	2,611	2,872	3,054	4,337	3,941	1,894	3,107	1,599	2,203	3,648
08/16	6,030	2,739	2,920	3,078	4,585	4,020	1,906	3,151	1,735	2,307	3,853
08/17	6,197	2,839	2,982	3,097	4,818	4,116	1,918	3,166	1,888	2,411	4,026
08/18	6,276	2,965	3,064	3,142	4,999	4,157	1,918	3,209	2,037	2,504	4,121
08/19	6,388	3,125	3,122	3,199	5,136	4,212	1,956	3,220	2,120	2,616	
08/20	6,436	3,295	3,141	3,254	5,275	4,257	1,991	3,231	2,186	2,661	
08/21	6,500	3,466	3,159	3,293	5,324	4,337	2,021		2,245	2,710	
08/22	6,605	3,581	3,163	3,309	5,379	4,411	2,023		2,296	2,777	
08/23	6,693	3,680	3,163	3,316	5,416	4,472	2,027		2,346	2,827	
08/24	6,774			3,329	5,497	4,495	2,029		2,375	2,857	
08/25	6,849								2,411		
08/26	6,968								2,439		
08/27	7,038										
08/28	7,102										
08/29	7,183										

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	7,183	3,680	3,163	3,329	5,497	4,495	2,029	3,231	2,439	2,857	

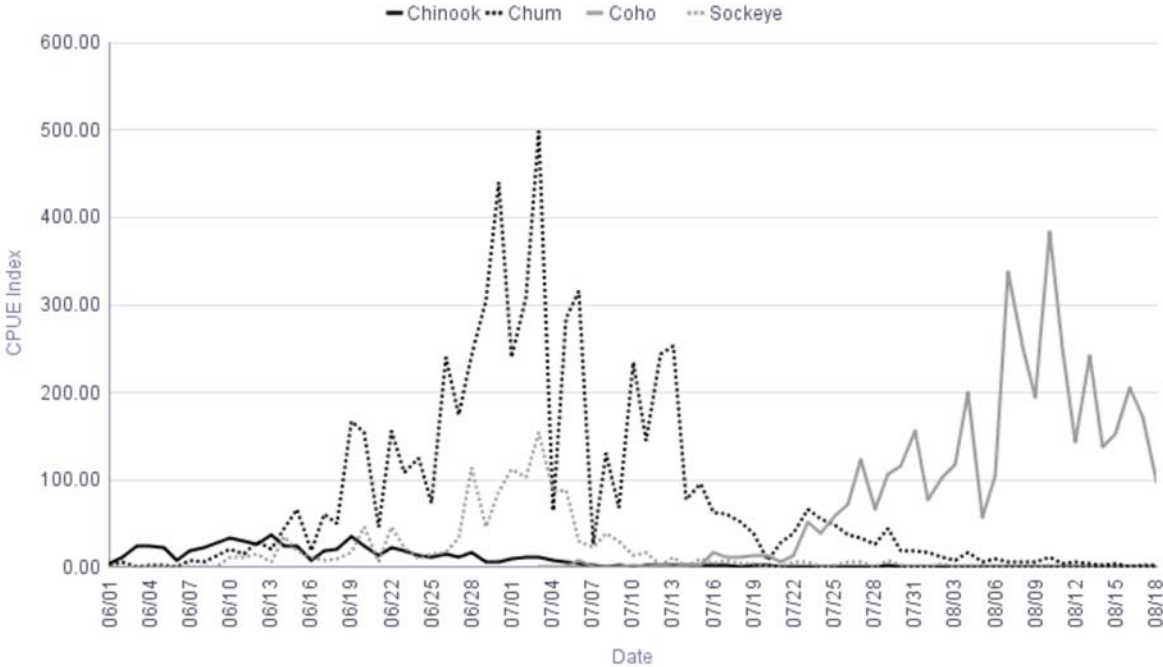
**Bethel Test Fishery, Coho Salmon Cumulative CPUE thru 8/26**



# Informational Packet

Bethel Test Fishery  
Daily CPUE  
2014

All Species



# Informational Packet

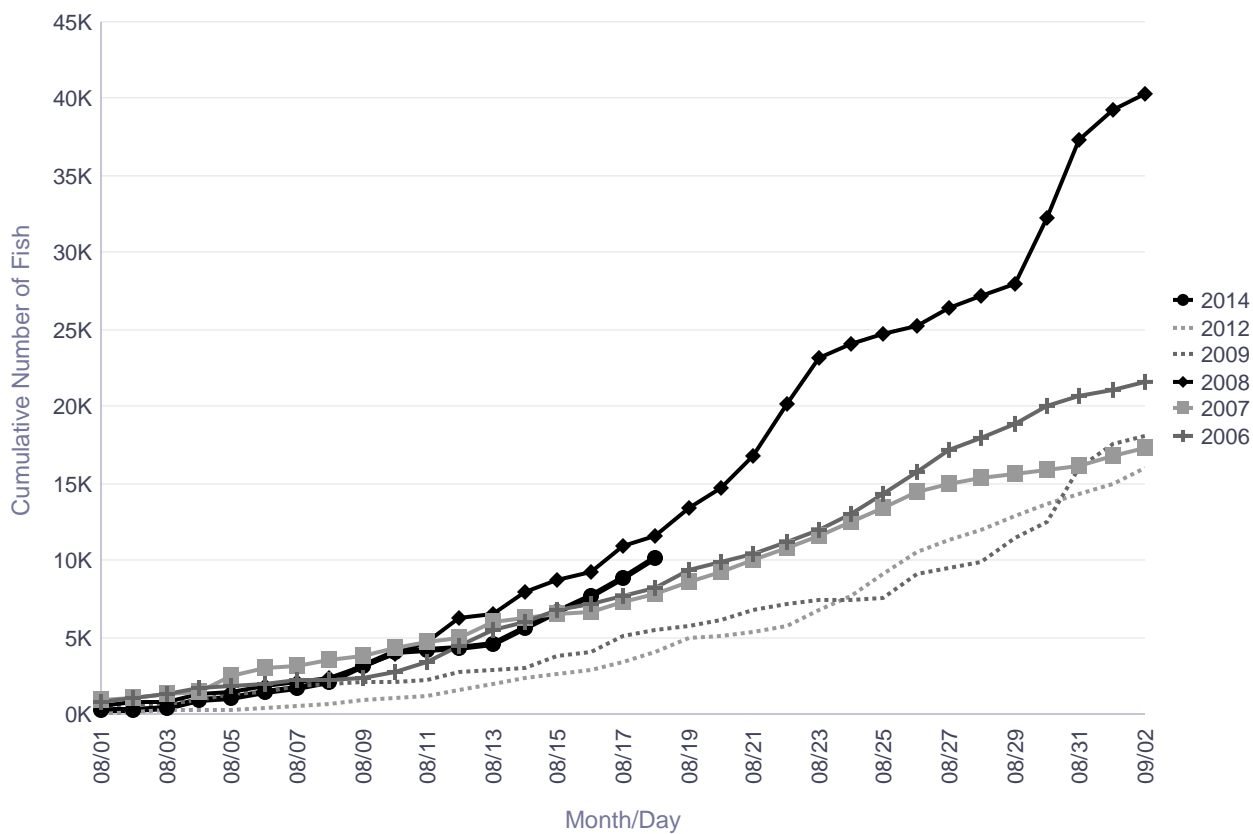
## Kwethluk River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Coho Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/16		7,133	6,679	9,266	4,082			2,888		7,634
08/17		7,712	7,276	11,003	5,133			3,339		8,817
08/18		8,266	7,870	11,544	5,462			4,038		10,156
08/19		<b>9,330</b>	<b>8,585</b>	<b>13,440</b>	<b>5,745</b>			<b>4,929</b>		
08/20		9,870	9,293	14,657	6,071			5,149		
08/21		10,461	10,023	16,727	6,814			5,330		
08/22		11,228	10,765	20,173	7,136			5,679		
08/23		12,009	11,612	23,132	7,414			6,716		

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

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total		25,664	20,256	49,972	21,911			19,960		

### Kwethluk River Coho



There are no comments for the past three days.

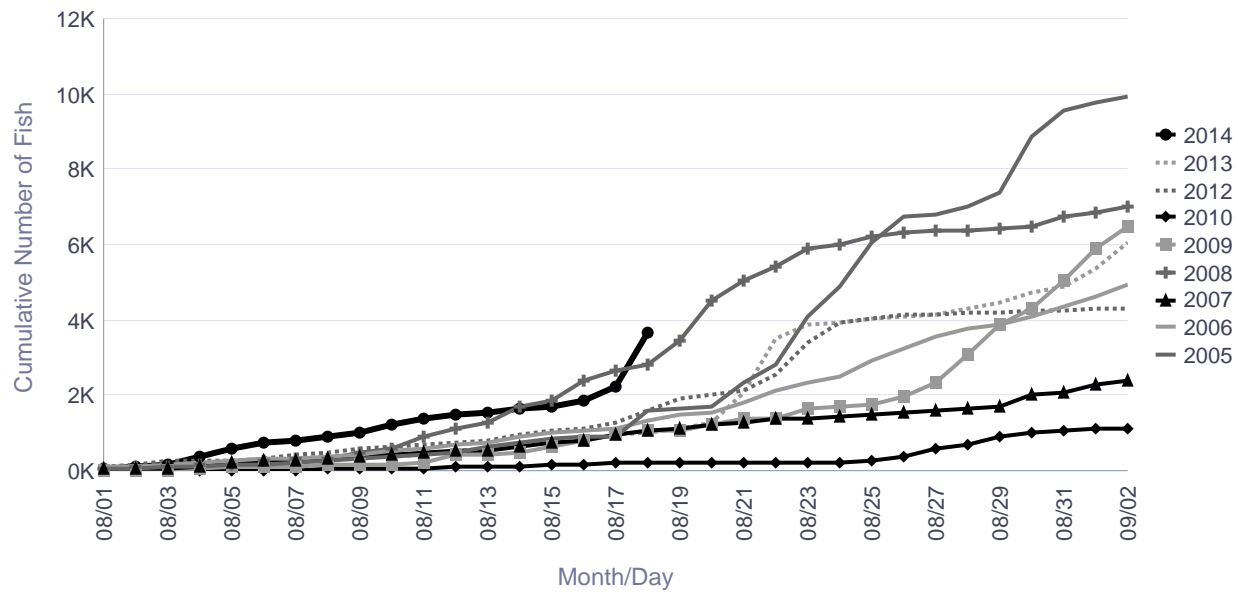
# Informational Packet

## Tuluksak River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Coho Salmon

Cumulative Daily Passage										
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/16	888	1,054	811	2,418	829	190		1,138	818	1,854
08/17	937	1,137	947	2,653	950	202		1,265	972	2,213
08/18	1,628	1,315	1,098	2,834	1,056	203		1,623	1,044	3,686
08/19	<u>1,667</u>	<u>1,470</u>	<u>1,142</u>	<u>3,466</u>	<u>1,086</u>	<u>203</u>		<u>1,900</u>	<u>1,134</u>	
08/20	1,687	1,543	1,216	4,510	1,232	203		2,033	1,297	
08/21	2,321	1,833	1,267	5,058	1,369	203		2,119	2,057	
08/22	2,824	2,124	1,364	5,413	1,415	203		2,577	3,532	
08/23	4,075	2,349	1,415	5,921	1,647	213		3,381	3,871	

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	11,324	6,111	2,807	7,457	8,137	1,216		4,407	6,490	

### Tuluksak River Coho



There are no comments for the past three days.

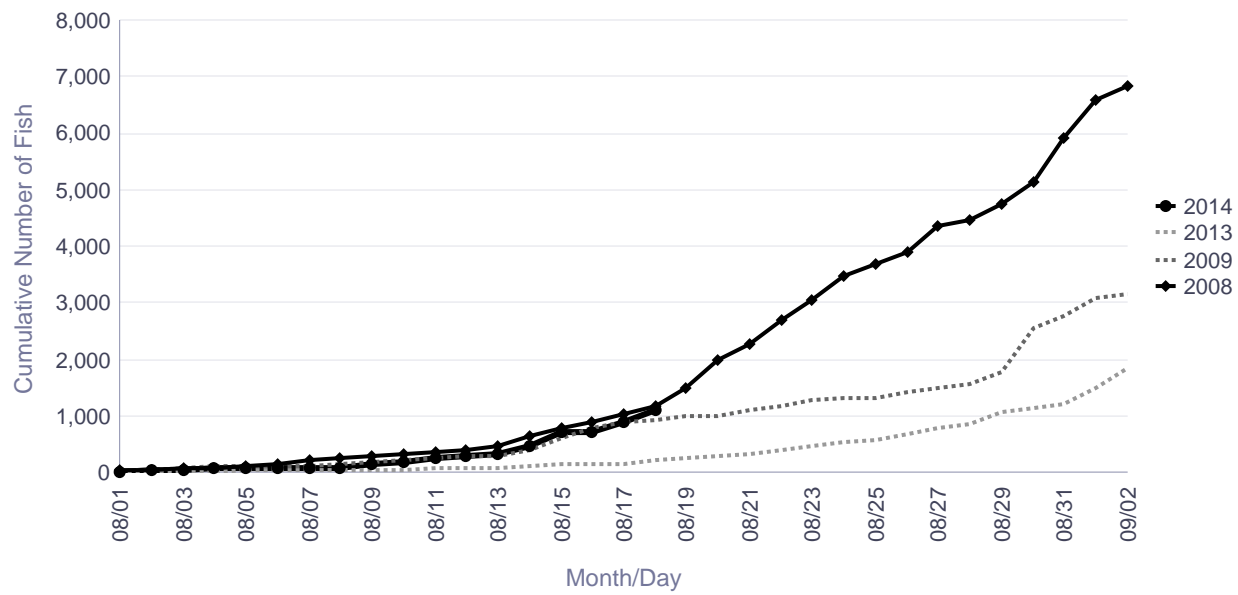
# Informational Packet

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

Cumulative Daily Passage										
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/16				894	779				143	707
08/17				1,037	883				143	874
08/18				1,184	914				217	1,092
08/19				1,483	988				259	
08/20				1,973	1,005				280	
08/21				2,287	1,087				341	
08/22				2,691	1,157				405	
08/23				3,048	1,263				467	

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total				11,022	6,391				2,869	

### Salmon River (Aniak) Coho



There are no comments for the past three days.



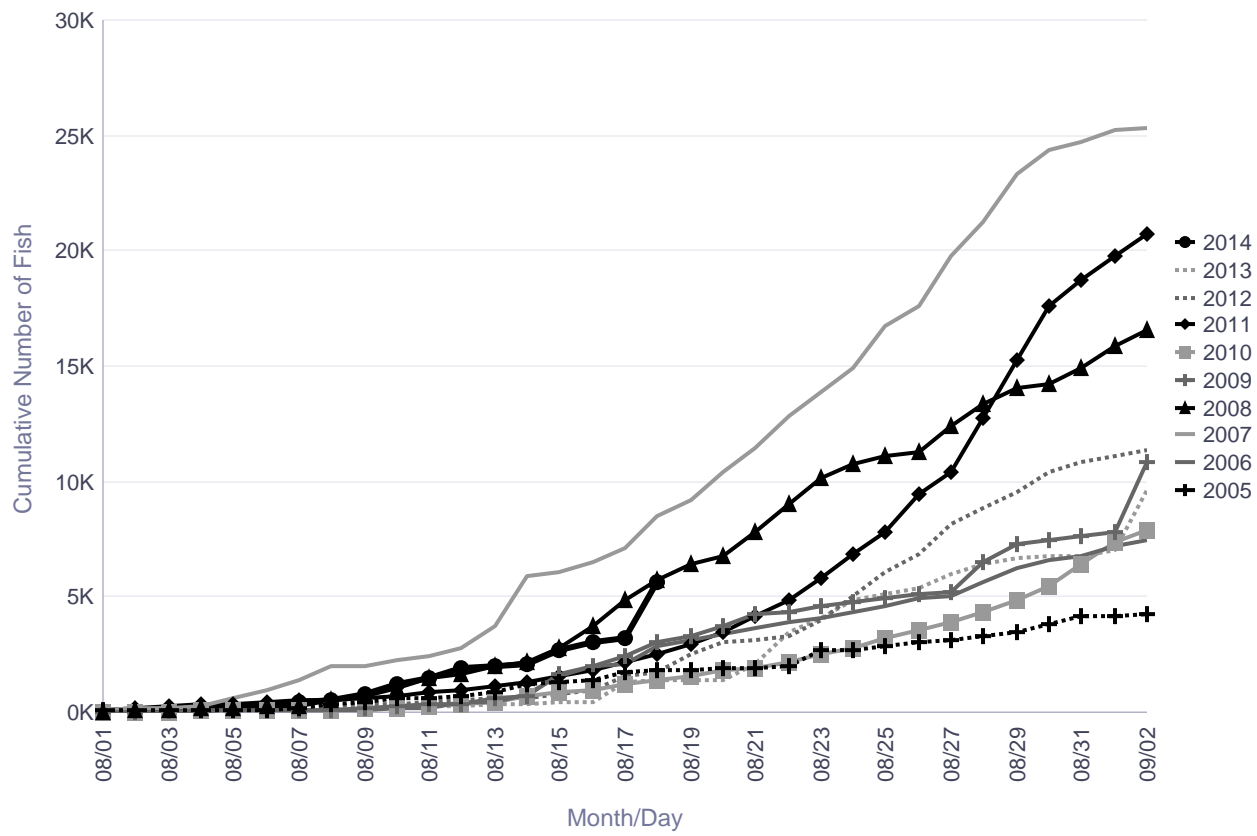
# Informational Packet

## George River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Coho Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/16	1,363	1,991	6,543	3,756	2,016	1,004	1,820	991	488	3,069
08/17	1,739	2,120	7,136	4,853	2,445	1,239	2,138	1,544	1,322	3,188
08/18	1,802	2,901	8,499	5,751	3,047	1,416	2,516	1,754	1,385	5,647
08/19	<u>1,855</u>	<u>3,155</u>	<u>9,196</u>	<u>6,385</u>	<u>3,343</u>	<u>1,600</u>	<u>2,966</u>	<u>2,552</u>	<u>1,389</u>	
08/20	1,880	3,404	10,437	6,792	3,729	1,791	3,501	3,054	1,396	
08/21	1,956	3,648	11,472	7,821	4,253	1,945	4,138	3,125	2,123	
08/22	1,983	3,887	12,803	9,022	4,376	2,186	4,895	3,306	3,515	
08/23	2,691	4,121	13,921	10,194	4,600	2,565	5,796	4,031	4,106	

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	8,200	11,294	29,317	21,956	12,573	12,961	30,028	15,272	13,894	

### George River Coho



There are no comments for the past three days.

# Informational Packet

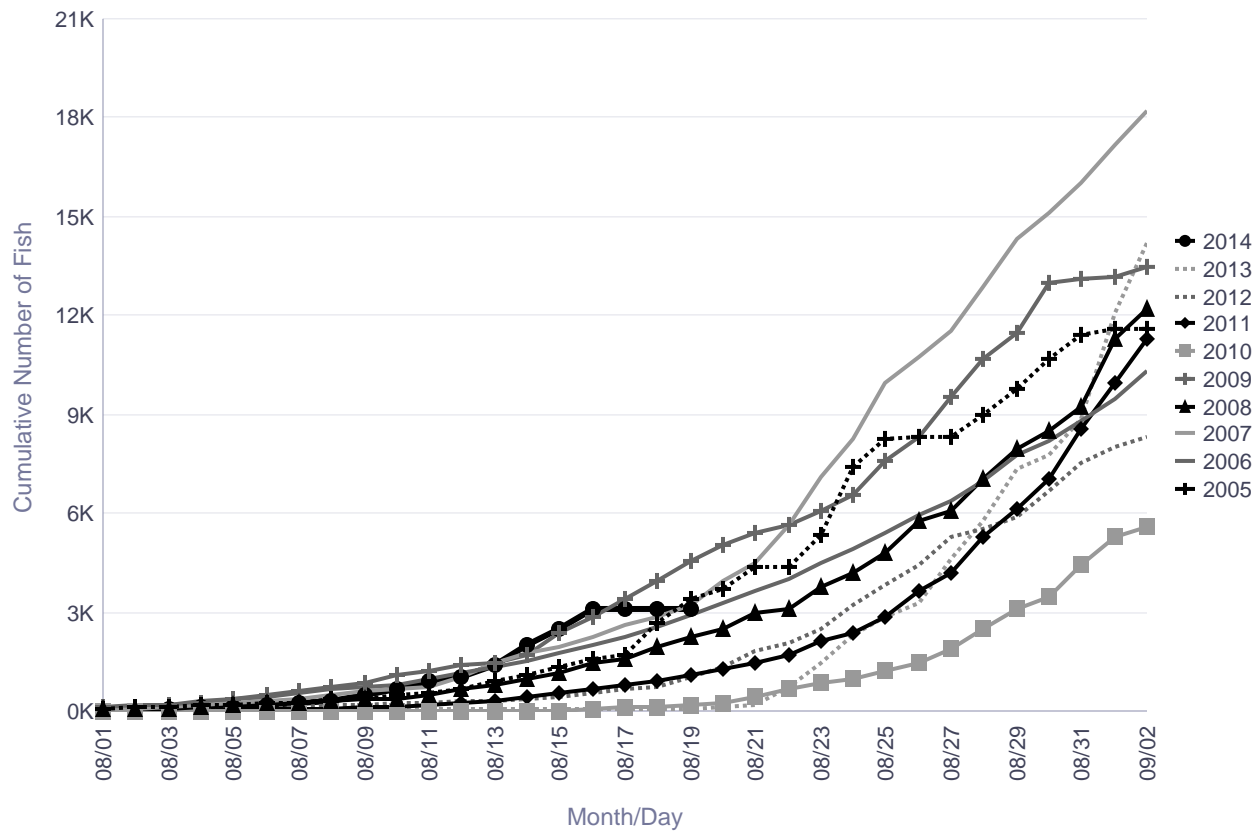
## Kogrukluk River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Coho Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/16	1,584	2,003	2,261	1,437	2,870	54	701	529	40	3,121
08/17	1,700	2,282	2,590	1,602	3,385	107	820	661	41	3,121
08/18	2,660	2,585	2,860	1,970	3,923	160	937	718	45	3,121
08/19	<u>3,378</u>	<u>2,913</u>	<u>3,221</u>	<u>2,257</u>	<u>4,533</u>	<u>173</u>	<u>1,109</u>	<u>1,010</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>3,121</u>
08/20	3,712	3,265	3,936	2,503	5,047	266	1,282	1,355	102	
08/21	4,358	3,642	4,489	2,964	5,385	460	1,483	1,832	199	
08/22	4,381	4,043	5,641	3,101	5,641	668	1,712	2,061	709	
08/23	5,328	4,469	7,109	3,776	6,097	831	2,107	2,503	1,482	

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

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	<u>24,115</u>	<u>17,011</u>	<u>27,034</u>	<u>29,661</u>	<u>22,981</u>	<u>13,970</u>	<u>24,174</u>	<u>13,697</u>	<u>23,590</u>	

### Kogrukluk River Coho



Date	Comments
8/17/2014	Weir inoperable as of 900am due to high water.
8/18/2014	Out of operation due to high water.
8/19/2014	No counts.

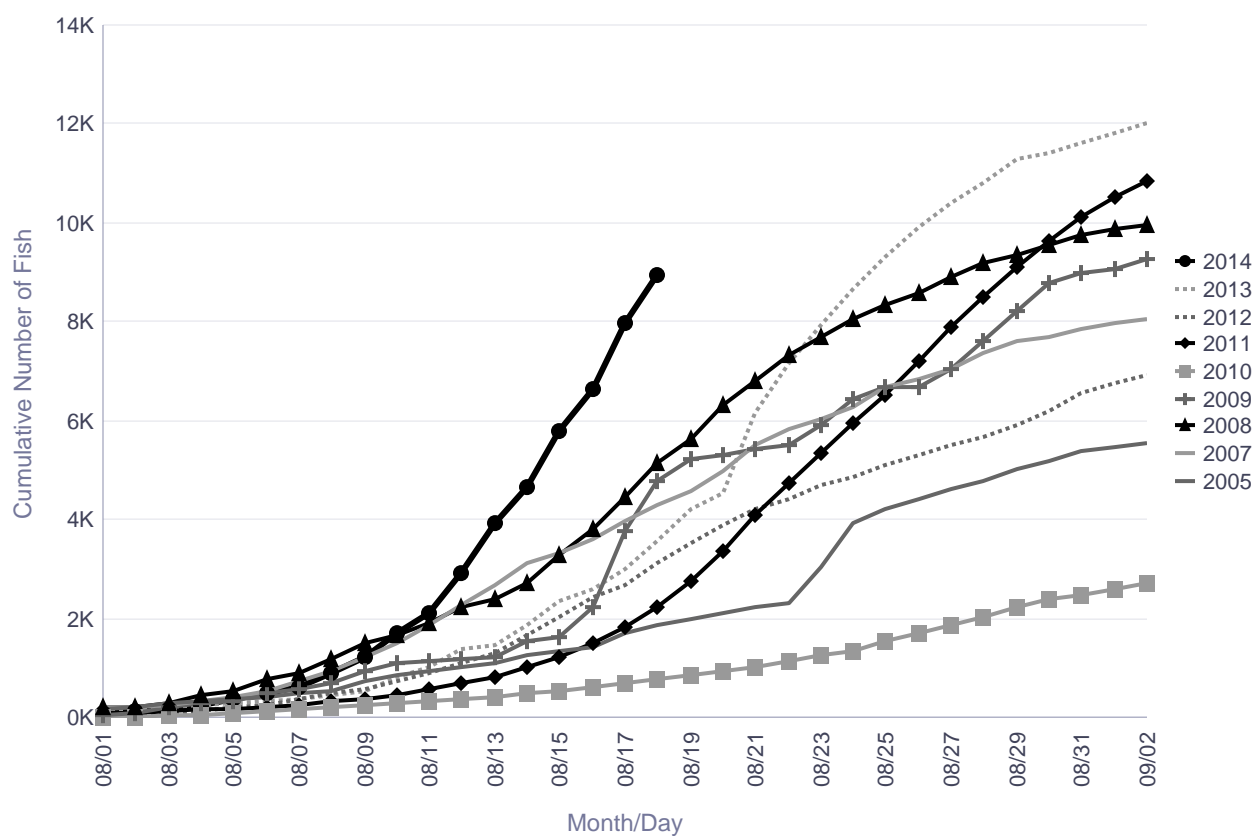
# Informational Packet

## Tatlawiksuk River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Coho Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/16	1,422		3,615	3,814	2,246	614	1,504	2,446	2,610	6,657
08/17	1,699		3,968	4,448	3,785	684	1,837	2,678	2,993	7,980
08/18	1,861		4,311	5,128	4,788	761	2,245	3,110	3,582	8,938
08/19	<u>1,986</u>		<u>4,566</u>	<u>5,621</u>	<u>5,231</u>	<u>844</u>	<u>2,745</u>	<u>3,523</u>	<u>4,194</u>	
08/20	2,104		4,990	6,318	5,308	934	3,349	3,899	4,541	
08/21	2,215		5,490	6,820	5,410	1,030	4,079	4,223	6,137	
08/22	2,295		5,833	7,335	5,486	1,133	4,755	4,429	7,178	
08/23	3,052		6,034	7,684	5,911	1,252	5,350	4,683	7,943	

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	7,560		8,686	11,065	10,155	3,521	12,927	8,070	13,076	

### Tatlawiksuk River Coho



There are no comments for the past three days.

# Informational Packet

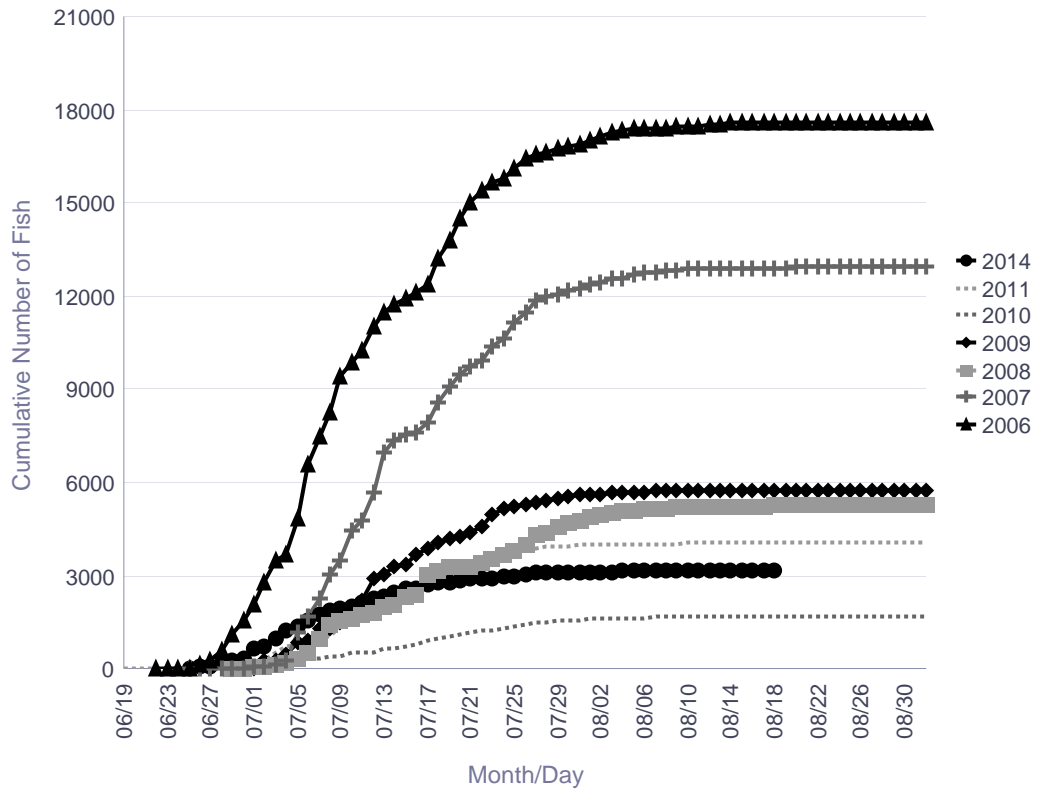
## Kwethluk River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon

Cumulative Daily Passage										
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/16		17,570	12,898	5,254	5,735	1,667	4,054			3,174
08/17		17,573	12,905	5,256	5,738	1,667	4,056			3,176
08/18		17,581	12,913	5,258	5,739	1,667	4,058			3,177
08/19		<u>17,587</u>	<u>12,916</u>	<u>5,259</u>	<u>5,740</u>	<u>1,667</u>	<u>4,060</u>			
08/20		17,588	12,919	5,259	5,740	1,667	4,060			
08/21		17,590	12,921	5,260	5,743	1,667	4,061			
08/22		17,591	12,922	5,266	5,743	1,668	4,062			
08/23		17,595	12,923	5,267	5,743	1,668	4,062			

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			

### Kwethluk River Chinook



There are no comments for the past three days.

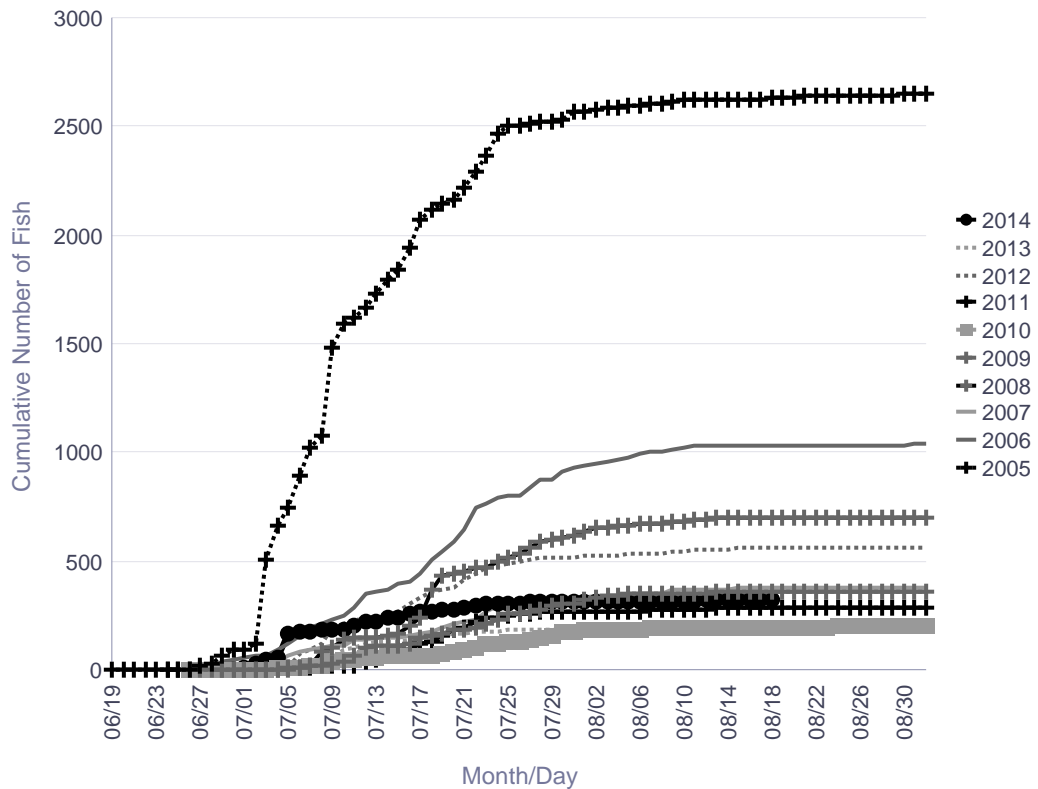
# Informational Packet

## 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
08/16	2,626	1,032	374	699	358	198	282	559	192	319
08/17	2,627	1,032	374	699	358	198	282	560	192	319
08/18	2,629	1,032	374	699	358	198	282	560	192	319
08/19	<u>2,630</u>	<u>1,033</u>	<u>374</u>	<u>701</u>	<u>358</u>	<u>198</u>	<u>282</u>	<u>560</u>	<u>192</u>	
08/20	2,633	1,033	374	701	358	198	282	560	192	
08/21	2,638	1,034	374	701	358	198	282	560	193	
08/22	2,640	1,034	374	701	362	198	283	560	193	
08/23	2,642	1,034	374	701	362	198	283	560	193	

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

### Tuluksak River Chinook



There are no comments for the past three days.

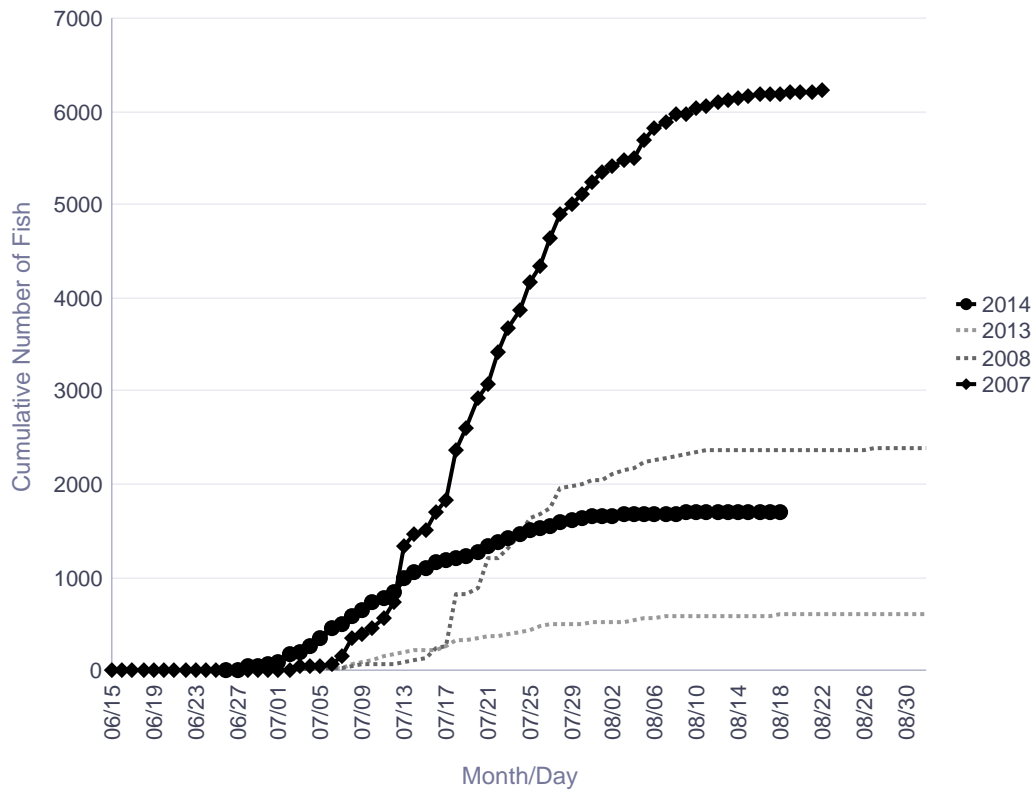
# Informational Packet

## 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
08/16			6,174	2,368					593	1,697
08/17			6,181	2,369					593	1,697
08/18			6,190	2,370					594	1,697
08/19			6,199	2,371					594	
08/20			6,200	2,372					594	
08/21			6,212	2,372					594	
08/22			6,220	2,373					594	
08/23				2,373					594	

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

### Salmon River (Aniak) Chinook



There are no comments for the past three days.

# Informational Packet

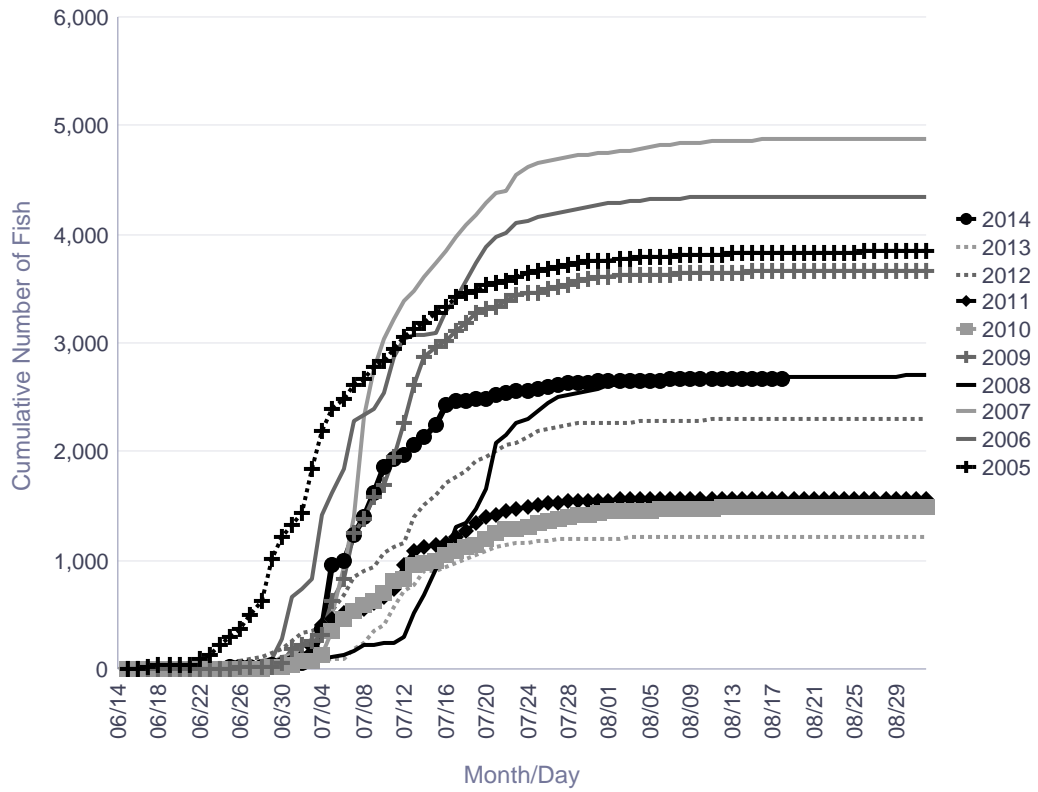
## George River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon

Date	Cumulative Daily Passage									
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/16	3,835	4,347	4,874	2,691	3,658	1,494	1,571	2,300	1,215	2,670
08/17	3,835	4,348	4,875	2,692	3,658	1,496	1,571	2,300	1,217	2,670
08/18	3,836	4,348	4,878	2,692	3,659	1,497	1,571	2,300	1,217	2,672
08/19	<u>3,837</u>	<u>4,348</u>	<u>4,880</u>	<u>2,692</u>	<u>3,659</u>	<u>1,498</u>	<u>1,571</u>	<u>2,300</u>	<u>1,217</u>	
08/20	3,837	4,348	4,880	2,693	3,659	1,498	1,571	2,300	1,217	
08/21	3,837	4,348	4,881	2,695	3,659	1,498	1,571	2,301	1,218	
08/22	3,837	4,348	4,882	2,695	3,659	1,498	1,571	2,301	1,218	
08/23	3,837	4,348	4,883	2,696	3,659	1,498	1,571	2,301	1,219	

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	<u>3,845</u>	<u>4,355</u>	<u>4,883</u>	<u>2,698</u>	<u>3,663</u>	1,500	1,571	<u>2,302</u>	1,219	

### George River Chinook



Date	Comments
8/17/2014	Lower bound of escapement goal was met on July 20th.

# Informational Packet

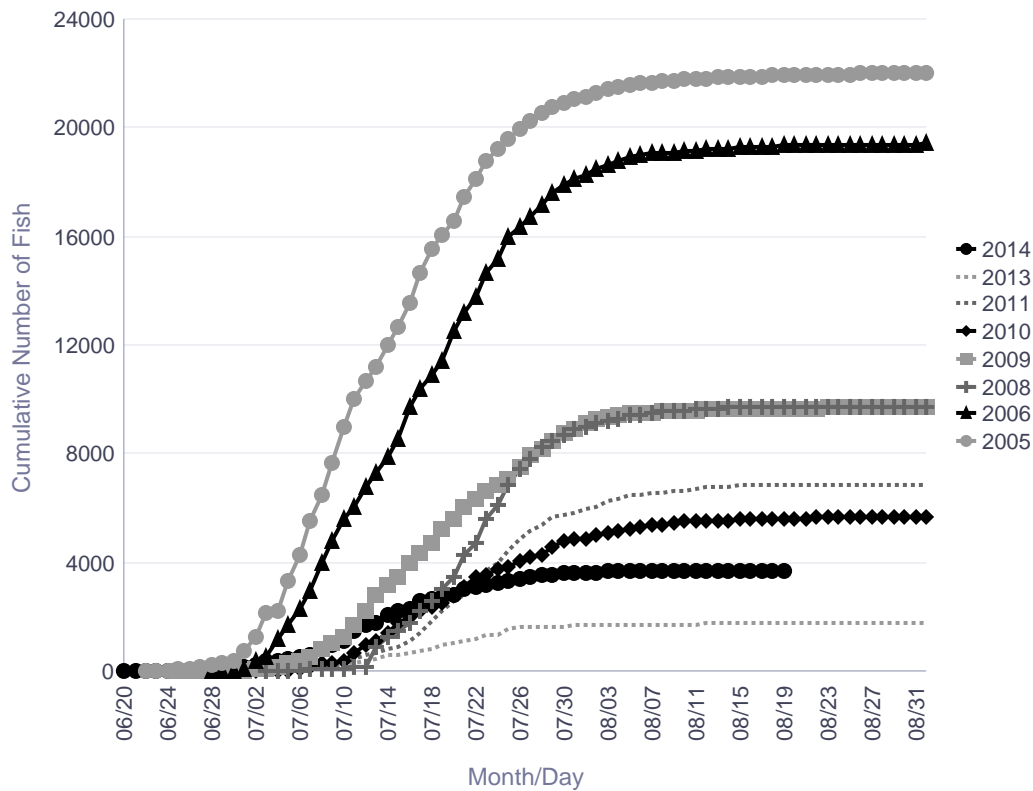
## Kogrukluk River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon

Date	Cumulative Daily Passage									
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/16	21,878	19,278		9,705	9,654	5,588	6,847		1,758	3,719
08/17	21,887	19,297		9,708	9,660	5,592	6,867		1,761	3,719
08/18	21,910	19,314		9,712	9,666	5,600	6,875		1,763	3,719
08/19	<u>21,926</u>	<u>19,330</u>		<u>9,716</u>	<u>9,670</u>	<u>5,604</u>	<u>6,877</u>		<u>1,765</u>	<u>3,719</u>
08/20	21,935	19,344		9,717	9,677	5,623	6,881		1,767	
08/21	21,943	19,356		9,721	9,679	5,638	6,884		1,767	
08/22	21,946	19,366		9,721	9,680	5,649	6,886		1,769	
08/23	21,950	19,374		9,722	9,687	5,668	6,886		1,769	

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	<u>21,999</u>	<u>19,414</u>		<u>9,730</u>	<u>9,701</u>	<u>5,693</u>	<u>6,890</u>		1,772	

### Kogrukluk River Chinook



Date	Comments
8/17/2014	Weir inoperable as of 900am due to high water.
8/18/2014	Out of operation due to high water.
8/19/2014	No counts.



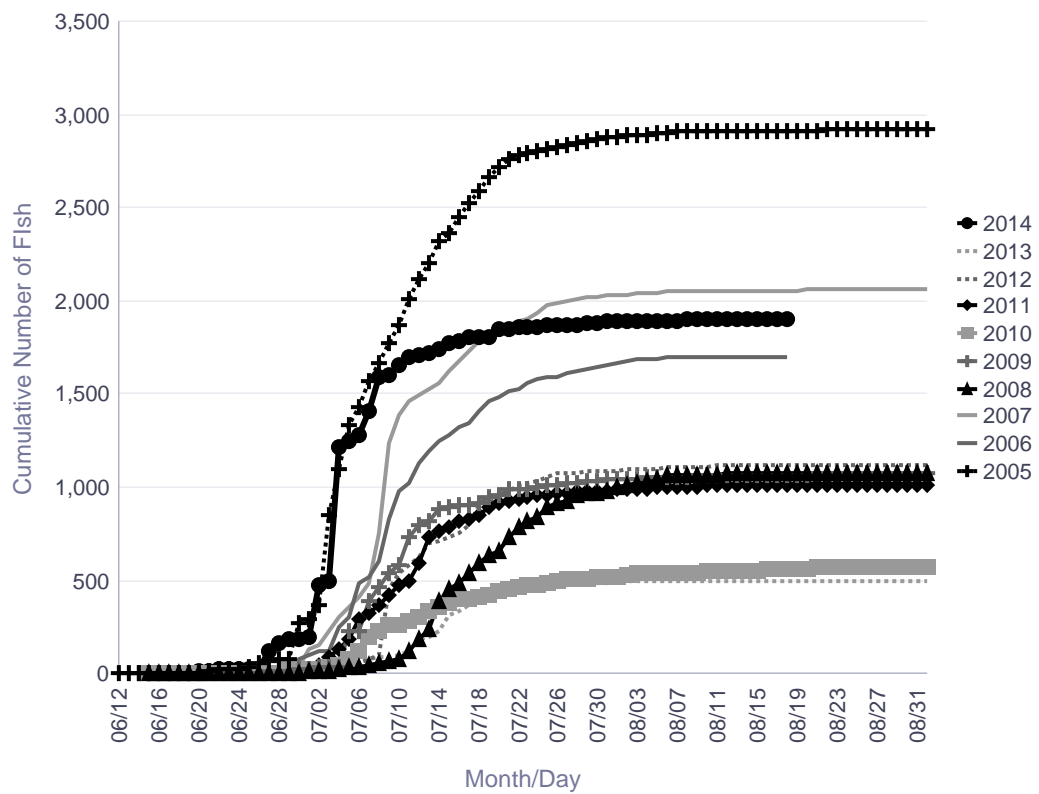
# Informational Packet

## Tatlawiksuk River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/16	2,912	1,700	2,056	1,070	1,067	556	1,013	1,115	495	1,896
08/17	2,912	1,700	2,056	1,070	1,067	558	1,014	1,115	495	1,896
08/18	2,913	1,700	2,056	1,070	1,069	560	1,014	1,115	495	1,896
08/19	2,913		2,056	1,070	1,069	562	1,014	1,115	495	
08/20	2,914		2,057	1,070	1,069	564	1,014	1,116	495	
08/21	2,914		2,057	1,070	1,070	565	1,014	1,116	495	
08/22	2,916		2,057	1,070	1,070	566	1,014	1,116	495	
08/23	2,916		2,057	1,070	1,070	567	1,014	1,116	495	

	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	

### Tatlawiksuk River Chinook



There are no comments for the past three days.

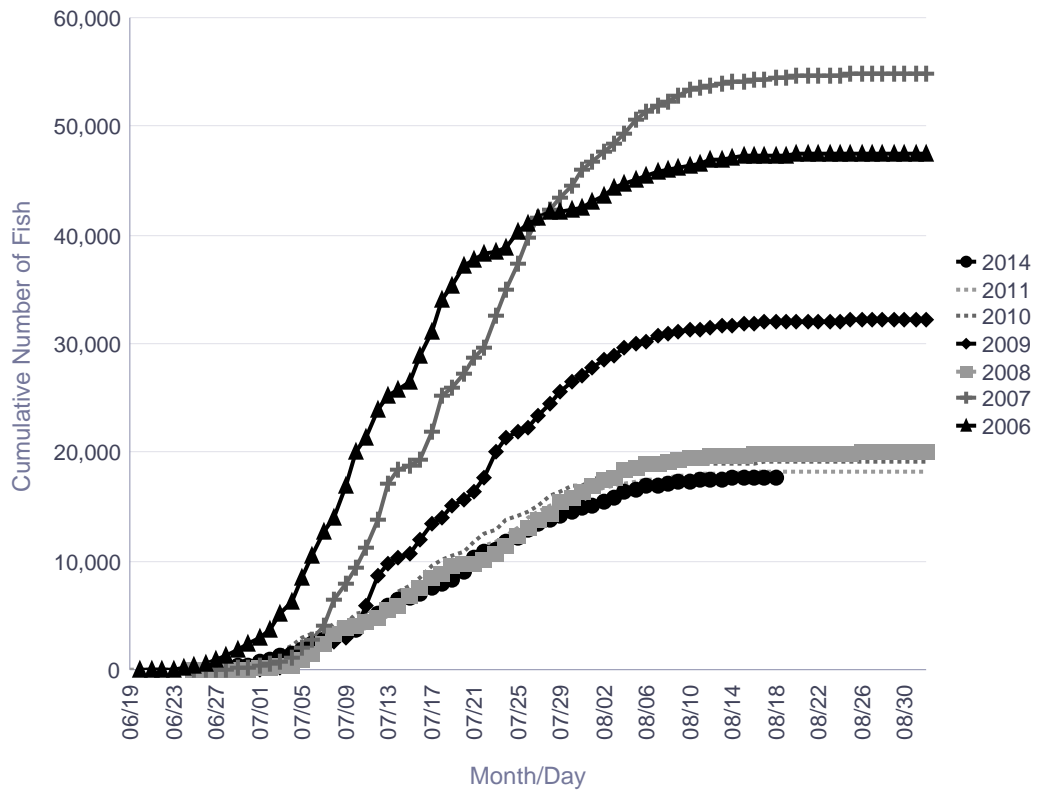
# Informational Packet

## 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
08/16		47,326	54,255	19,824	31,918	19,044	18,178			17,672
08/17		47,349	54,379	19,859	31,964	19,079	18,203			17,705
08/18		47,382	54,483	19,881	32,000	19,105	18,224			17,723
08/19		<u>47,384</u>	<u>54,546</u>	<u>19,921</u>	<u>32,026</u>	<u>19,126</u>	<u>18,240</u>			
08/20		47,402	54,599	19,934	32,055	19,145	18,254			
08/21		47,412	54,643	19,948	32,082	19,161	18,265			
08/22		47,420	54,676	19,968	32,106	19,175	18,275			
08/23		47,426	54,698	19,975	32,122	19,185	18,283			

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

### Kwethluk River Chum



There are no comments for the past three days.

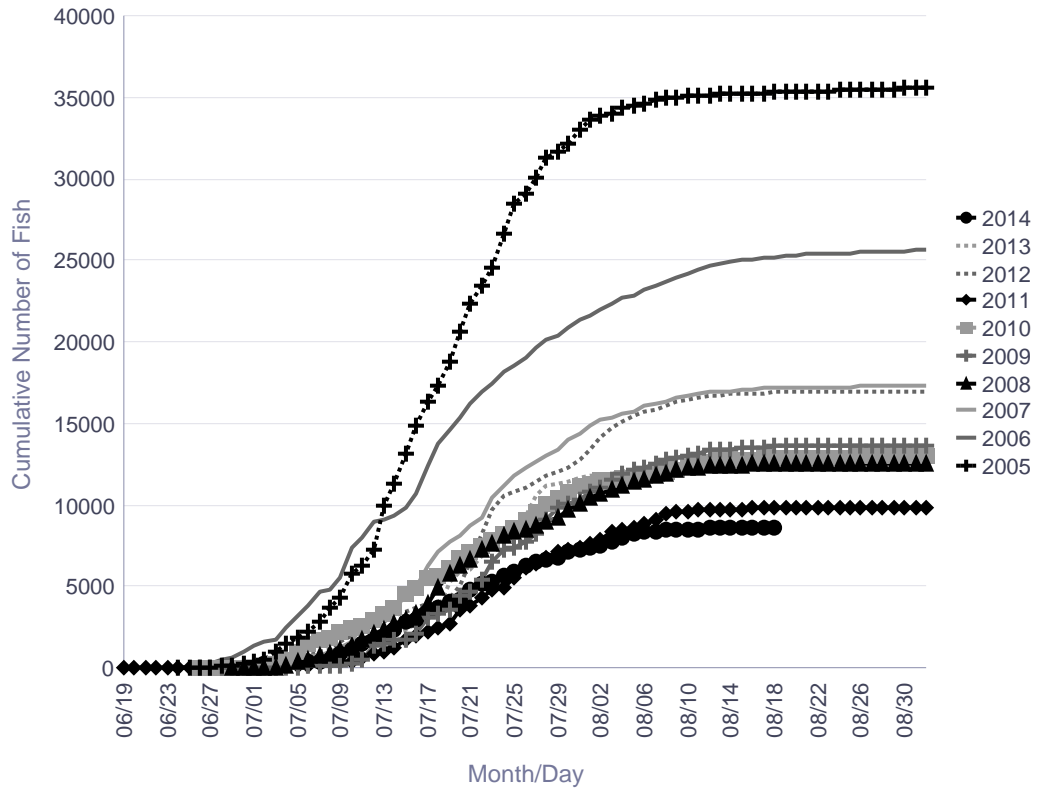
# Informational Packet

## 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
08/16	35,248	25,070	17,079	12,477	13,536	12,815	9,772	16,843	12,631	8,624
08/17	35,263	25,139	17,171	12,492	13,562	12,838	9,793	16,859	12,670	8,643
08/18	35,290	25,200	17,192	12,504	13,578	12,874	9,800	16,883	12,689	8,653
08/19	<u>35,301</u>	<u>25,248</u>	<u>17,202</u>	<u>12,522</u>	<u>13,584</u>	<u>12,890</u>	<u>9,804</u>	<u>16,900</u>	<u>12,710</u>	
08/20	35,318	25,301	17,210	12,529	13,601	12,906	9,804	16,914	12,726	
08/21	35,349	25,345	17,219	12,541	13,611	12,910	9,810	16,923	12,742	
08/22	35,380	25,369	17,227	12,547	13,615	12,916	9,813	16,929	12,770	
08/23	35,397	25,399	17,236	12,547	13,628	12,930	9,813	16,946	12,797	

	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	

### Tuluksak River Chum



There are no comments for the past three days.

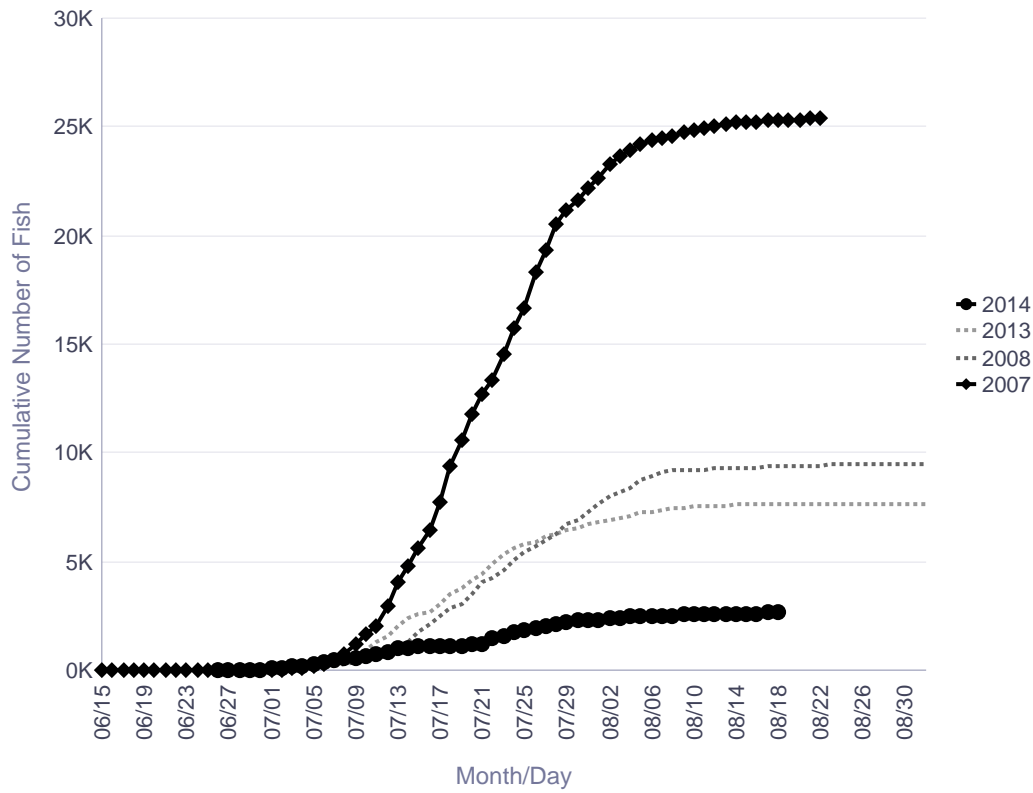
# Informational Packet

## 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
08/16			25,259	9,331					7,630	2,632
08/17			25,286	9,353					7,630	2,653
08/18			25,302	9,380					7,636	2,661
08/19			<u>25,315</u>	<u>9,406</u>					<u>7,641</u>	
08/20			25,345	9,423					7,648	
08/21			25,368	9,431					7,653	
08/22			25,379	9,437					7,655	
08/23				9,446					7,656	

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

### Salmon River (Aniak) Chum



There are no comments for the past three days.

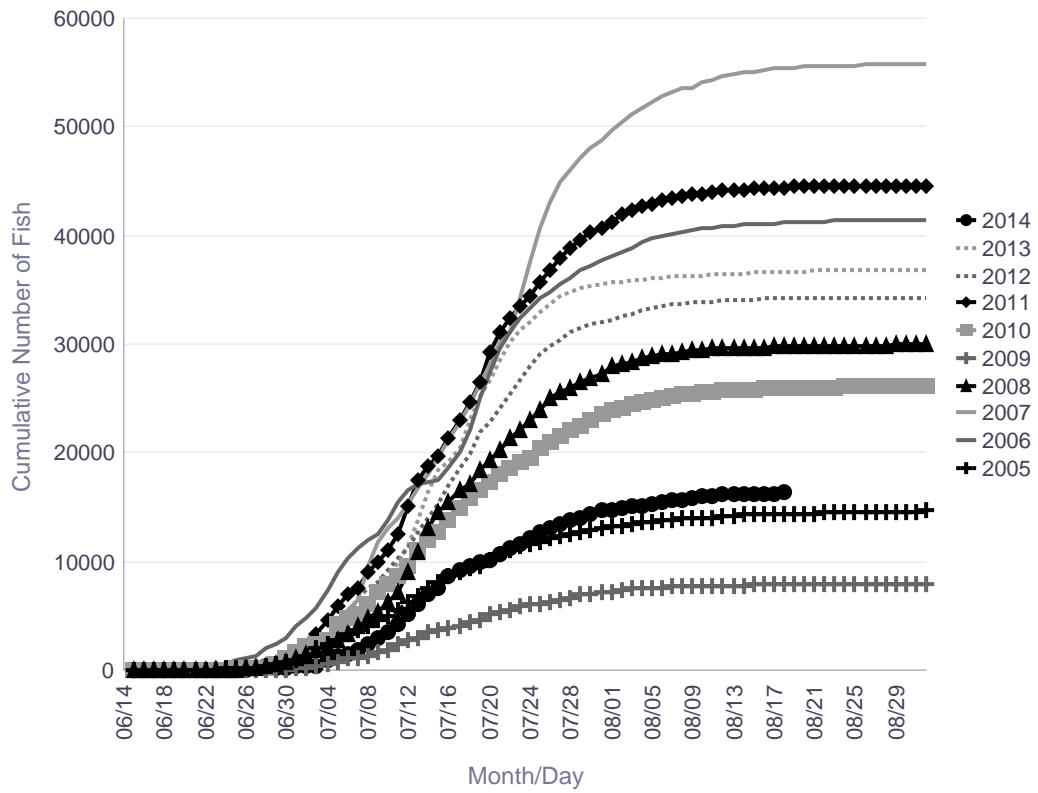
# Informational Packet

## George River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Chum Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/16	14,345	41,059	55,211	29,714	7,864	25,887	44,344	34,174	36,597	16,276
08/17	14,397	41,118	55,303	29,744	7,874	25,929	44,387	34,223	36,655	16,296
08/18	14,411	41,166	55,400	29,768	7,881	25,956	44,424	34,231	36,693	16,351
08/19	<u>14,424</u>	<u>41,209</u>	<u>55,467</u>	<u>29,786</u>	<u>7,897</u>	<u>25,979</u>	<u>44,456</u>	<u>34,239</u>	<u>36,701</u>	
08/20	14,438	41,246	55,532	29,805	7,906	25,997	44,483	34,249	36,713	
08/21	14,459	41,278	55,557	29,815	7,917	26,010	44,506	34,252	36,728	
08/22	14,467	41,304	55,598	29,842	7,919	26,024	44,526	34,258	36,753	
08/23	14,480	41,325	55,630	29,869	7,920	26,043	44,543	34,269	36,763	

	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	

### George River Chum



There are no comments for the past three days.

# Informational Packet

## Kogrukluk River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Chum Salmon

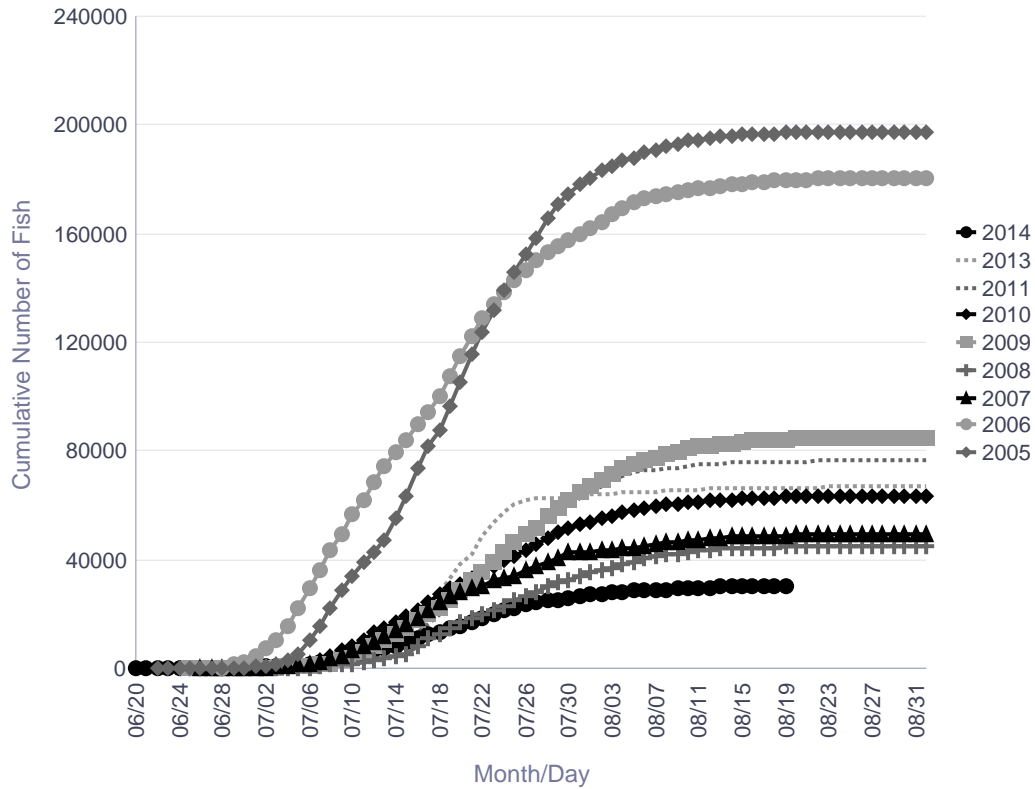
Date	Cumulative Daily Passage									
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/16	196,469	178,630	48,664	44,401	83,661	62,701	75,861		66,416	30,138
08/17	196,657	178,977	48,802	44,490	83,950	62,864	75,977		66,473	30,138
08/18	196,818	179,288	48,885	44,609	84,158	63,007	76,066		66,521	30,138
08/19	<u>196,969</u>	<u>179,563</u>	<u>48,983</u>	<u>44,669</u>	<u>84,330</u>	<u>63,092</u>	<u>76,136</u>		<u>66,561</u>	<u>30,138</u>
08/20	197,081	179,802	49,062	44,722	84,413	63,145	76,199		66,594	
08/21	197,179	180,005	49,137	44,805	84,500	63,247	76,245		66,622	
08/22	197,239	180,172	49,209	44,823	84,581	63,314	76,275		66,658	
08/23	197,302	180,303	49,260	44,853	84,641	63,369	76,295		66,705	

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	<u>197,723</u>	<u>180,601</u>	<u>49,509</u>	<u>44,978</u>	84,940	63,582	76,386		66,834	

### Kogrukluk River Chum



Date	Comments
8/16/2014	Lower bound of escapement goal was met on July 20th.
8/17/2014	Weir inoperable at 900am due to high water.
8/18/2014	Out of operation due to high water.
8/19/2014	No counts.

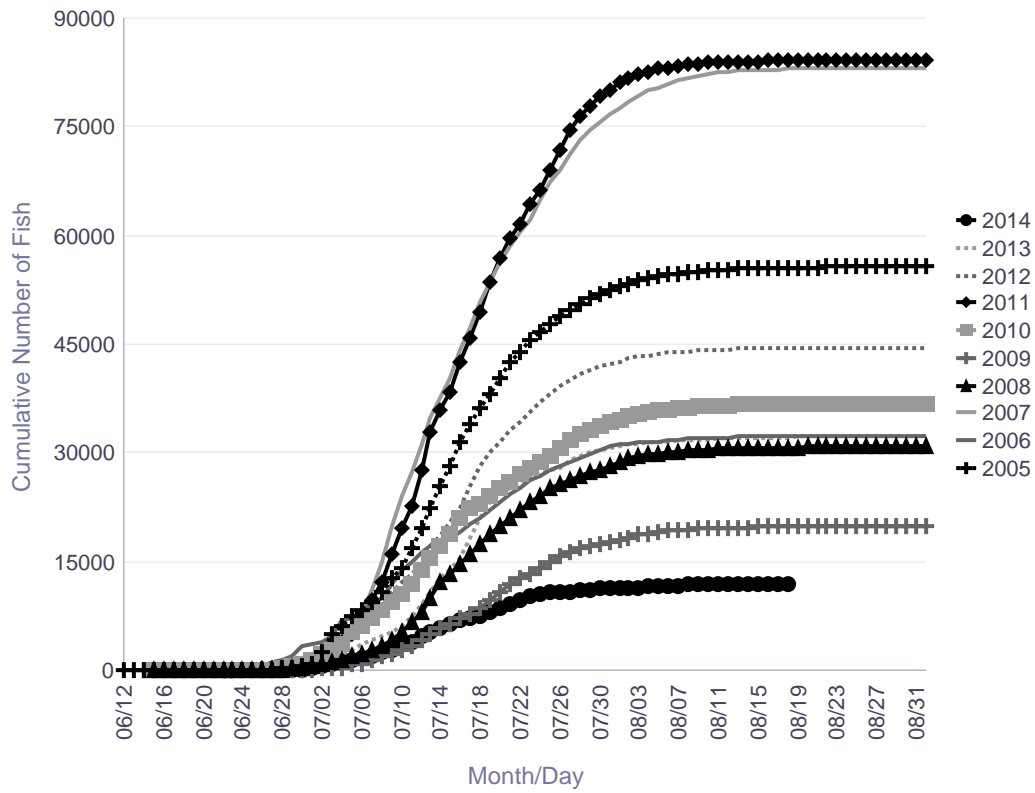
# Informational Packet

## Tatlawiksuk River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Chum Salmon

Cumulative Daily Passage										
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/16	55,533	32,200	82,894	30,733	19,807	36,678	84,079	44,490	32,114	12,001
08/17	55,549	32,210	82,948	30,767	19,833	36,680	84,099	44,501	32,141	12,011
08/18	55,577	32,214	82,993	30,797	19,845	36,682	84,115	44,514	32,178	12,019
08/19	<u>55,596</u>	<u>32,231</u>	<u>83,025</u>	<u>30,802</u>	<u>19,855</u>	<u>36,684</u>	<u>84,128</u>	<u>44,527</u>	<u>32,198</u>	
08/20	55,602	32,242	83,062	30,813	19,861	36,686	84,136	44,535	32,215	
08/21	55,614	32,253	83,087	30,829	19,866	36,688	84,137	44,547	32,233	
08/22	55,647	32,273	83,114	30,831	19,929	36,691	84,147	44,553	32,236	
08/23	55,664	32,274	83,133	30,837	19,943	36,693	84,156	44,553	32,243	

	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	

### Tatlawiksuk River Chum



There are no comments for the past three days.

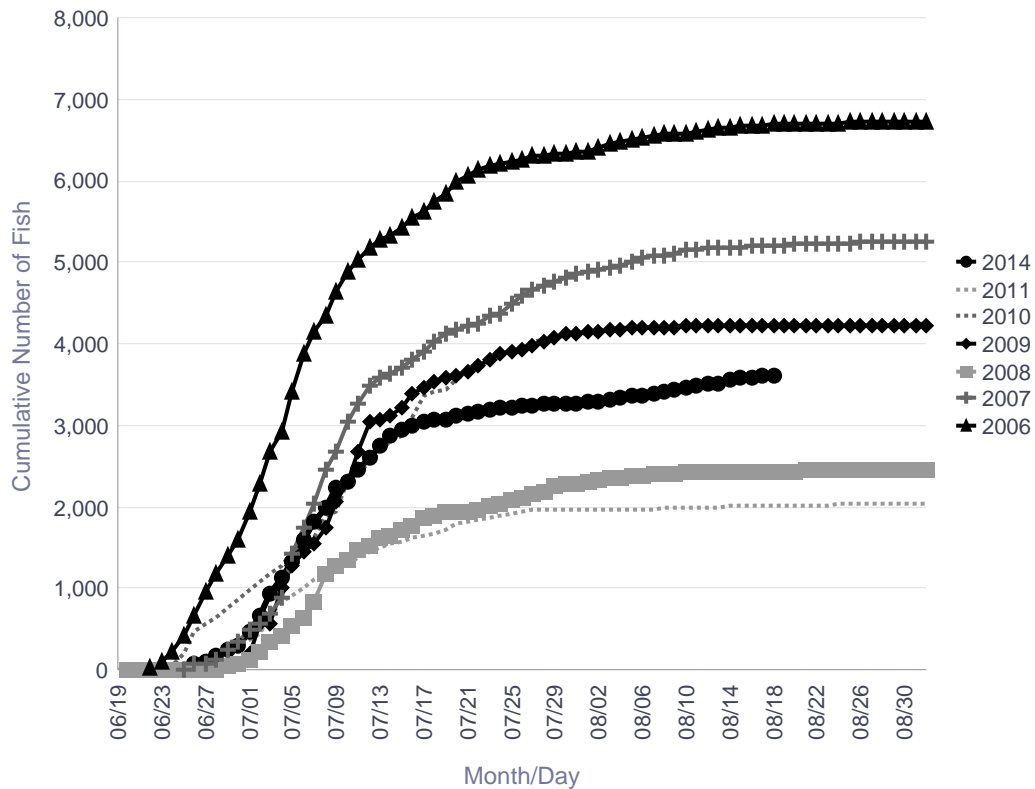
# Informational Packet

## Kwethluk River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Sockeye Salmon

Cumulative Daily Passage										
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/16		6,679	5,196	2,439	4,214	4,218	2,013			3,589
08/17		6,682	5,205	2,440	4,216	4,218	2,014			3,603
08/18		6,690	5,208	2,441	4,217	4,218	2,017			3,621
08/19		<u>6,691</u>	<u>5,211</u>	<u>2,442</u>	<u>4,217</u>	<u>4,218</u>	<u>2,018</u>			
08/20		6,698	5,216	2,443	4,217	4,218	2,021			
08/21		6,704	5,221	2,444	4,218	4,220	2,022			
08/22		6,706	5,223	2,445	4,220	4,222	2,023			
08/23		6,709	5,228	2,447	4,222	4,225	2,024			

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total		6,733	5,262	2,451	4,230	4,239	2,031			

### Kwethluk River Sockeye



There are no comments for the past three days.



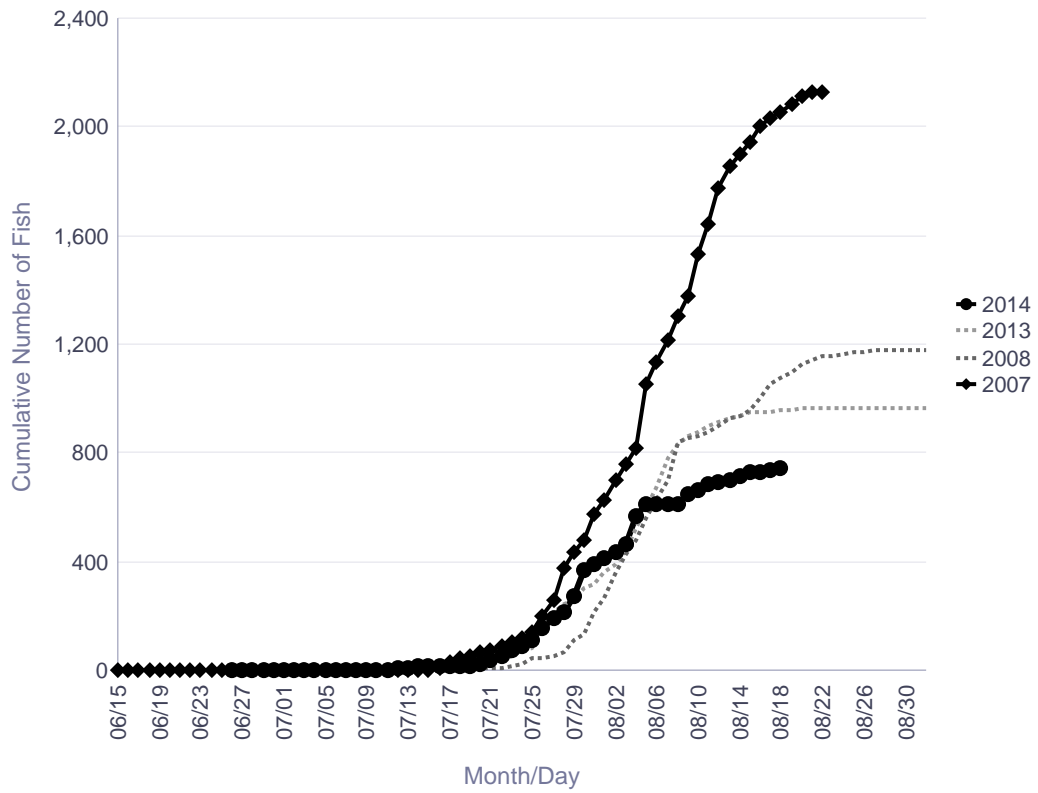
# Informational Packet

## Salmon River (Aniak) Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Sockeye Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/16			2,003	1,003					951	727
08/17			2,034	1,053					951	735
08/18			2,055	1,074					955	741
08/19			2,086	1,099					958	
08/20			2,110	1,127					963	
08/21			2,127	1,143					964	
08/22			2,130	1,155					964	
08/23				1,160					964	

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total			2,130	1,181					966	

### Salmon River (Aniak) Sockeye



There are no comments for the past three days.

# Informational Packet

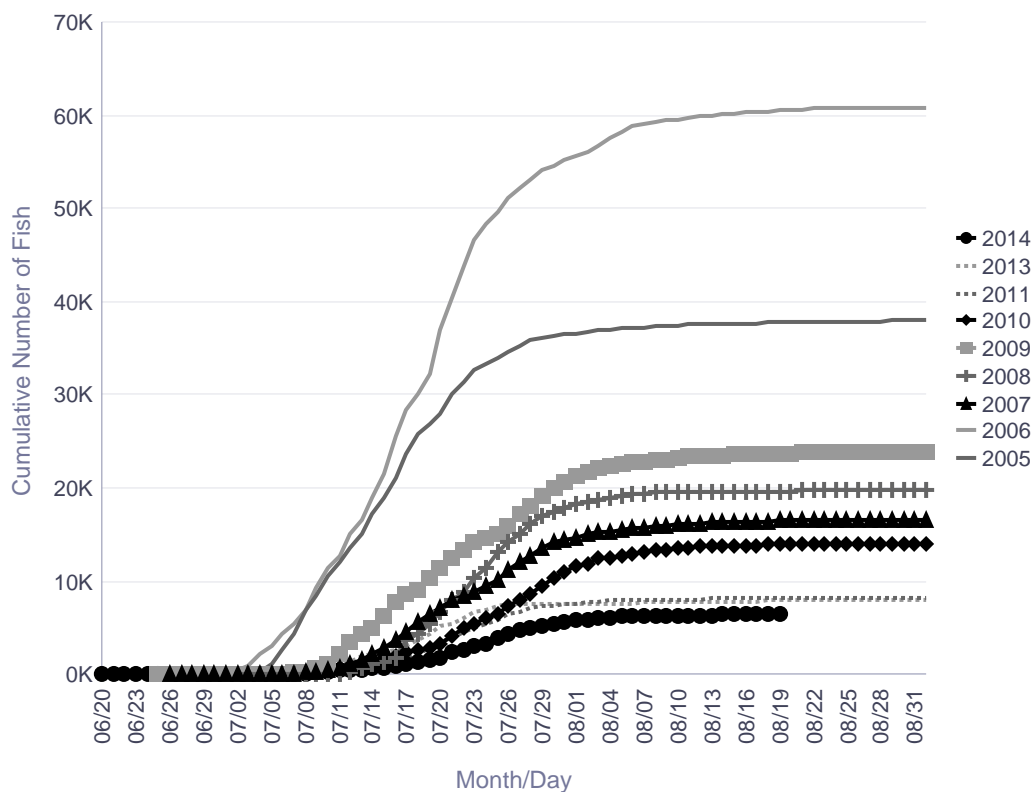
## Kogrukluk River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Sockeye Salmon

Date	Cumulative Daily Passage									
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/16	37,662	60,272	16,402	19,642	23,620	13,837	8,105		7,851	6,381
08/17	37,692	60,360	16,423	19,650	23,667	13,854	8,108		7,859	6,381
08/18	37,741	60,439	16,434	19,653	23,701	13,881	8,111		7,865	6,381
08/19	<u>37,776</u>	<u>60,509</u>	<u>16,450</u>	<u>19,662</u>	<u>23,731</u>	<u>13,897</u>	<u>8,113</u>		<u>7,870</u>	<u>6,381</u>
08/20	37,795	60,570	16,464	19,662	23,744	13,912	8,115		7,875	
08/21	37,818	60,623	16,474	19,669	23,750	13,933	8,117		7,875	
08/22	37,830	60,667	16,482	19,671	23,758	13,967	8,118		7,875	
08/23	37,847	60,702	16,490	19,672	23,764	13,967	8,120		7,875	

Escapement Goal Range: 4,400 to 17,000  
 Highlighted years below are when escapement goal was achieved or exceeded.

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	<u>37,939</u>	<u>60,807</u>	<u>16,526</u>	<u>19,675</u>	<u>23,785</u>	<u>13,997</u>	<u>8,135</u>		<u>7,882</u>	

### Kogrukluk River Sockeye



### Day Comments

Date	Comments
8/16/2014	Lower bound of escapement goal was met on July 26th.
8/17/2014	Weir inoperable as of 900am due to high water.
8/18/2014	Out of operation due to high water.
8/19/2014	No counts.

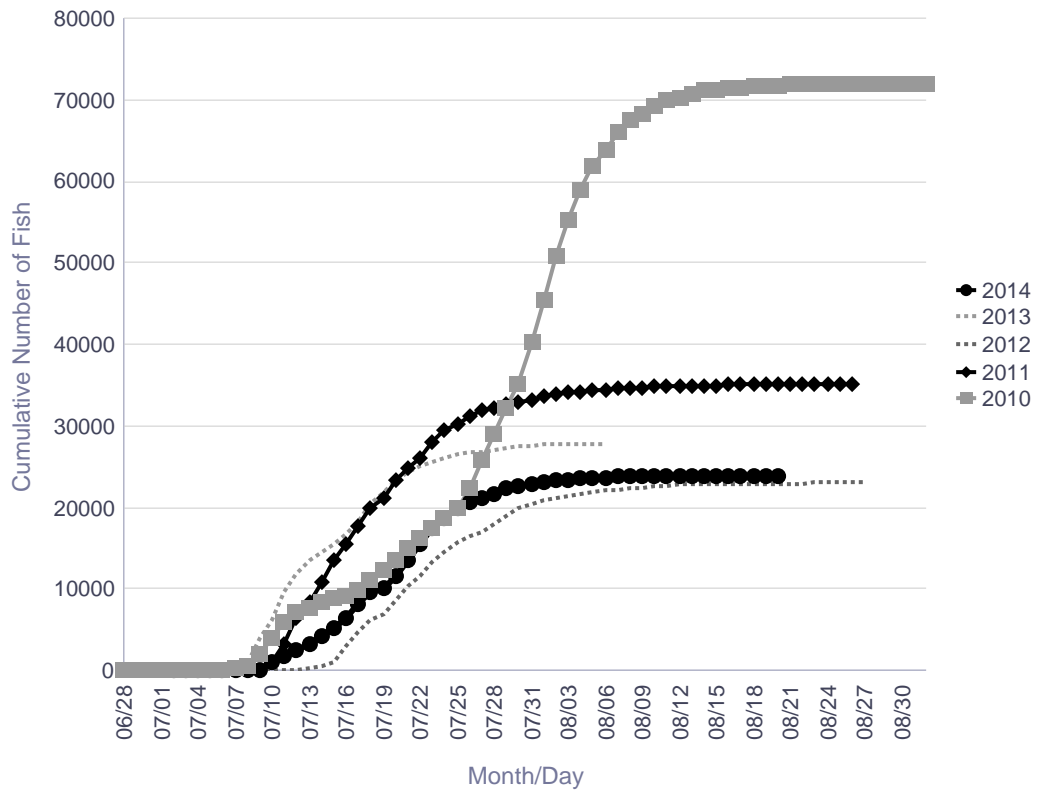
# Informational Packet

## Telaquana River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Sockeye Salmon

Cumulative Daily Passage					
Date	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/16	71,360	34,992	22,898		23,820
08/17	71,493	35,026	22,906		23,820
08/18	71,563	35,045	22,923		23,820
08/19	<u>71,655</u>	<u>35,057</u>	<u>22,931</u>		<u>23,820</u>
08/20	71,737	35,075	22,943		23,820
08/21	71,778	35,084	22,950		
08/22	71,851	35,088	22,963		
08/23	71,878	35,092	22,974		

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	72,020	35,105	22,994	27,806	

### Telaquana River Sockeye



### Day Comments

Date	Comments
8/19/2014	Operations ended on August 10th for the season.

## Informational Packet

### District 1 Commercial Openings for 2014 <sup>a</sup>

Date	Subdistrict	Permits	Hours	Chinook <sup>b</sup>		Sockeye		Chum		Coho	
				Catch	CPUE	Catch	CPUE	Catch	CPUE	Catch	CPUE
7/14/2014	1-B	142	4	23	0.04	1,030	1.81	7,213	12.70	0	0.00
7/18/2014	1-B	159	6	3	0.00	847	0.89	7,135	7.48	1,856	1.95
7/21/2014	1-B	154	6 <sup>c</sup>	3	0.00	614	0.66	3,810	4.12	3,373	3.65
8/11/2014	1-B	187	6 <sup>c</sup>	1	0.00	116	0.10	170	0.15	23,999	21.39
8/14/2014	1-B	259	6	0	0.00	25	0.02	31	0.02	32,809	21.11
8/18/2014	1-B	261	6	1	0.00	9	0.01	24	0.02	26,395	16.86
<b>Total</b>		<b>259</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2,641</b>	<b>0.30</b>	<b>18,383</b>	<b>2.09</b>	<b>88,432</b>	<b>10.04</b>

<sup>a</sup> In-season data is preliminary, subject to change.

<sup>b</sup> All Chinook harvested during the commercial opening were not sold but kept as personal use.

<sup>c</sup> Does not include 2-hour extension in Lower Section of 1-B.

## Informational Packet

Grant Fairbanks  
P. O. Box 370  
Bethel, Alaska 99559  
May 13, 2014

August 18, 2014

Chairman Karl Johnstone  
Alaska Board of Fisheries  
Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
Boards Support Section  
P.O. Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811---5526

Dear Chairman Johnstone,

I am writing to you as a long-time resident on the Kuskokwim River. I have lived many years in Bethel and on my homestead on the Holitna River, a major tributary to the Upper Kuskokwim.

Kuskokwim king salmon are in trouble. I'm writing this letter, and attaching an Agenda Change Request, to request that you review and address the serious conservation, management and allocation concerns with king salmon on the Kuskokwim River.

We need assurance that conservative, risk-adverse management actions will be taken to insure the recovery of this vital subsistence resource. This has not been the case recently. King salmon have failed to reach escapement goals in many of the tributaries of the Kuskokwim for the four years prior to 2014 assumption of federal management of Chinook on the lower river. In 2013, when other regions took special precautions to protect weak Chinook salmon runs, in-season management errors on the Kuskowim lead to over-harvest, and resulted tributary escapements throughout the drainage being well below the bottom end of the escapement goal range of set by the Department and reviewed by the BOF in 2012. The Comm. Fish Div. Kuskokwim manager publically apologized for the errors in a post-season public meeting in Bethel, stating "...when we look at the results of escapement I failed miserably in my job last summer. I apologize for that."

In light of these long standing conservation problems, it was not a surprise that the Federal Subsistence Board, at its April 17, 2014 meeting, unanimously approved a special action request from the Napaskiak Traditional Council that initiated federal in-season management of Chinook stocks. Implementing section 804 of ANILCA, the Federal Subsistence Board authorized action limited harvesting surplus Chinook salmon to federally qualified subsistence users within the boundary of the Yukon Delta NWR.

## Informational Packet

There have also been long standing concerns that Dept. actions have not provided for a fair or equitable allocation of kings among users across the watershed. There is a single ANS determination for Chinook Salmon for all communities along the 900 mile long Kuskokwim River. A review of harvest data will show that fishers in the upper portions of the watershed have had significantly less harvesting opportunities, during periods of severe restrictions, compared to harvesters in the lower portion of the watershed. I request that the Board re-evaluate the ANS determination for Chinook salmon within the Kuskokwim River drainage and consider establishment of ANS amounts for major sub-sections of the river to create “nested” ANS determinations. Such action is necessary to help ensure that all segments within the river have a fair and equitable opportunity to harvest available surpluses.

The Alaska Board of Fish (BOF) is guided by statute to provide subsistence fishing opportunities among all qualified residents. Sometimes, however, the surplus available for harvest is less than the Amounts Necessary for Subsistence (ANS) – as formally established by the BOF -- and the essential subsistence needs of all qualified subsistence harvesters needs cannot be met.

AS 16.05.258, referred to as “Tier II”, is an allocation system that is triggered when there is insufficient harvestable surplus to satisfy all subsistence needs. This system also distinguishes and identifies those individuals most dependent on a particular fish stock or wildlife population among all subsistence users. Tier II gives priority to users based on: 1) customary dependence, 2) proximity to the stock or population and 3) availability of alternative resources. Clearly, we have reached the point where applying this process to Kuskokwim kings should be considered.

I understand that one-time or short-term shortages may not warrant an immediate Tier II designation. However, the Kuskokwim King Salmon stock has now experienced four consecutive years of harvests below ANS. There is no reasonable biological evidence that this situation will change any time soon. I understand that implementing Tier II would not be easy, nor should it be considered the only or best option.

I request that the Board consider all actions that will protect both the fish and equitable subsistence harvest opportunities for all residents of the Kuskokwim, per the attached Agenda Change Request. This could include crafting a very conservative management plan, establishing village quotas or individual permits, or any other actions that effectively address documented conservation problems and fair allocation. Without effective and timely board action, unified salmon management may remain a distant goal.

The Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group should be partners in the discussions. These volunteer stakeholders and participants have been very involved during very difficult times while king populations have been low, requiring conservative actions. They have the local knowledge and understanding of the fishery that is needed to craft solutions to the king salmon conservation and allocation issues on the Kuskokwim.

## Informational Packet

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Grant Fairbanks". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Grant Fairbanks

Attached: AK BOF - Agenda Change Request

CC. Kuskokwim Salmon Management Working Group Co-Chairs  
Regional Supervisor, ADFG- Commercial Fisheries Division, AYK Region

# Informational Packet

## Alaska Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Request

### 1) WHAT IS THE REGULATION THAT WILL BE CHANGED?

5 AAC 01.286 Customary and traditional subsistence uses of fish stocks and amounts necessary for subsistence uses, and 5 AAC NEW

### 2) WHAT IS THE PROBLEM YOU WOULD LIKE THE BOARD TO ADDRESS? STATE IN DETAIL THE NATURE OF THE CURRENT PROBLEM. Address only one issue. State the problem clearly and concisely. The board will reject multiple or confusing issues.

There is a lack of reasonable opportunity for the subsistence use of Chinook salmon in the Kuskokwim River drainage. Extremely low returns of Chinook salmon to the Kuskokwim River are a serious conservation concern. The minimum Amount Necessary for Subsistence (ANS) for Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon (67,200 to 109,800) has not been achieved for the last five years (see Fig. 1), 2014 data is not yet available but certainly fell well below the lower bound of the ANS range and possibly also below the record low harvest of 2012.

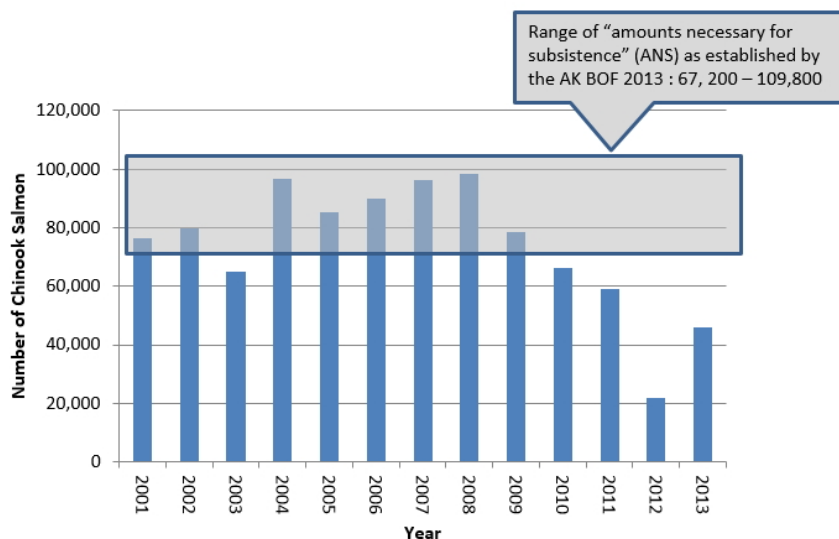


Figure 1. Kuskokwim Chinook salmon subsistence harvests 2001-2013, showing range of “Amounts necessary for subsistence” as established by the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon stocks remain a major conservation concern. The 2014 Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon pre-season forecast provided by the ADFG called for a very poor run, similar to the 2013 run: 94,000 king salmon (range 71,000-117,000). Based on the recent depressed runs, plus a projected low run for 2014, the ADFG was considering a very conservative king salmon harvesting schedule with extensive restrictions. The Kuskokwim Salmon Management Working Group (Working Group), at their April 3-4, 2014 meeting supported this approach, voting to support an unprecedented 40 day subsistence fishing closure beginning at the front of the run in order to try to achieve the tributary goals as well as the



## Informational Packet

drainage-wide escapement goal currently in place. However, prior to the start of the 2014 Chinook run, the Federal Subsistence Board voted unanimously to assume management of the Chinook salmon fishery within the Yukon Delta NWR – where the vast majority of the harvest occurs - per the provisions of Title 8 of ANILCA. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in-season manager managed the fishery very conservatively, essentially as agreed to previously by the Working Group. Management actions aimed at achieving escapement goals resulted in severely curtailed subsistence harvests. Despite these conservation actions, based on near-final tributary weir counts, it appears that even the lower bounds of the existing escapement goals will not be met for either the Kwethluk or the Kogrukluk Rivers -- the two most productive monitored stocks in the watershed. The Tuluksak River stock remains severely depressed. The George River weir is the only system in the watershed which appears to have met or exceeded the lower bound of an existing escapement goal in 2014.

In recent years, when there has been moderate harvest opportunity, upriver users have complained that the distribution of harvest, and reasonable opportunity, has not been equitably shared throughout the drainage. In years when the surpluses have been extremely low, it is very difficult for the fishery managers to allow fishing opportunity to all subsistence users, without fear of harvesting too many fish and impacting escapement needs.

This ACR requests the Board to consider subdividing the ANS for the Kuskokwim River into multiple amounts, or ranges, for different sections of the river and to consider the implementation of a Tier II fishery framework as outlined in AS 16.05.258 (b)(4) or explore alternative ways to address very limited harvest opportunity for subsistence uses within the Kuskokwim River drainage.

3) WHAT SOLUTION DO YOU PREFER? Or, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new or amended regulation say?

The Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) is guided by statute to provide subsistence fishing opportunities among all qualified residents. Sometimes, however, the surplus available for harvest is less than the Amounts Necessary for Subsistence (ANS) – as formally established by the BOF -- and the essential subsistence needs of all qualified subsistence harvesters needs cannot be met.

When surpluses are low to moderate and the ANS may be met, a single ANS for Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon does not always provide for an equitable distribution of harvest throughout the drainage. This number, or range, should be subdivided for different sections of the river drainage.

When available surpluses are very low and not able to provide a reasonable opportunity to meet all subsistence needs for Chinook salmon, the Board should consider Tier II fisheries framework, as specified in AS 16.05.258 (b)(4).

Under AS 16.05.258, when the available harvest is not sufficient to provide a reasonable opportunity for subsistence uses, the Board shall establish a system that distinguishes among

## Informational Packet

subsistence users, identifying those most dependent on a particular fish stock or wildlife population. Tier II gives priority to users based on: 1) customary dependence, 2) proximity to the stock or population\*\* and 3) availability of alternative resources.

*AS 16.05.258 (b)*

*(4) if the harvestable portion of the stock or population is not sufficient to provide a reasonable opportunity for subsistence uses, the appropriate board **shall** (emphasis added)*

*(A) adopt regulations eliminating consumptive uses, other than subsistence uses;*

*(B) distinguish among subsistence users, through limitations based on*

*(i) the customary and direct dependence on the fish stock or game population by the subsistence user for human consumption as a mainstay of livelihood;*

*(ii) the proximity of the domicile of the subsistence user to the stock or population\*\*; and*

*(iii) the ability of the subsistence user to obtain food if subsistence use is restricted or eliminated.*

*\*\* Court decisions may have invalidated the “proximity” criterion*

If Tier II does not appear to be the most reasonable solution to conservation and allocation of Chinook on the Kuskokwim River, then I request that other management actions be considered, including, but not limited to: community/village quotas, individual permits, or changes to management plans.

The Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group should be called upon to assist the Board with the development of a possible Tier II system, and/or to explore alternative ways to address the problem and provide recommendations back to the Board, if this ACR is accepted. There is a considerable amount of detail to be developed with revised/subdivided ANS numbers and how those would work within a Tier II (or other) scheme can allocate limited subsistence harvest opportunity for Chinook salmon.

4) STATE IN DETAIL HOW THIS ACR MEETS THE CRITERIA STATED ABOVE. If one or more of the three criteria set forth above is not applicable, state that it is not.  
a) for a fishery conservation purpose or reason

The Kuskokwim River is clearly in a conservation crisis for Chinook salmon. The total returns in recent years have been extremely low and have resulted in the lowest observed escapements ever, in some years, and in the lowest available surpluses when escapement needs have been met. With all Alaska residents qualifying as subsistence users, it has been difficult for fishery managers to provide fishing opportunity for all users without impacting escapement needs.

b) to correct an error in regulation

n/a

c) to correct an effect on a fishery that was unforeseen when a regulation was adopted.

## Informational Packet

It is possibly unforeseen that the Amount Necessary for Subsistence adopted in the Board would provide for inequitable distribution of harvest opportunity at low to moderate available surpluses of Chinook salmon in the Kuskokwim River.

5) WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF THIS PROBLEM IS NOT SOLVED PRIOR TO THE REGULAR CYCLE?

The Board may not be providing a reasonable opportunity when moderate surpluses of Chinook salmon exist, or fairly distributing a greatly reduced opportunity in very low abundance years to harvest Chinook salmon in the Kuskokwim River and may be in violation of AS 16.05.258 (b)(4).

6) STATE WHY YOUR ACR IS NOT PREDOMINANTLY ALLOCATIVE

Conservation is the main intent of this ACR. While Tier II is, of course, an allocative tool, it also serves a strong conservation purpose because of the difficulty in controlling harvest to within a very small available surplus when fishing under Tier I (everyone) and the significant fishing power that represents. It also seeks to preserve the long-standing allocative balance within the drainage. There is significant concern from upriver residents that recent fishing restrictions for Chinook conservation have shifted this balance.

7) IF THIS REQUEST IS ALLOCATIVE, STATE THE NEW INFORMATION THAT COMPELS THE BOARD TO CONSIDER AN ALLOCATIVE PROPOSAL OUTSIDE OF THE REGULAR CYCLE.

In 2013, surpluses were weak and even the limited fishing opportunity provided still harvested too many Chinook salmon, resulting in the lowest-ever observed escapements in most of the Kuskokwim tributaries. There is also more recent subsistence harvest information, demonstrating a consistent failure to meet minimum amounts necessary for subsistence harvest, and a failure to provide reasonable opportunity.

8) STATE YOUR INVOLVEMENT IN THE FISHERY THAT IS THE SUBJECT OF THIS ACR

I reside in Bethel, Alaska and also at my homestead on the Holitna River. I fish as a subsistence user and also occasionally as a sport user in the Kuskokwim River drainage.

9) STATE WHETHER THIS ACR HAS BEEN CONSIDERED BEFORE, EITHER AS A PROPOSAL OR AS AN ACR, AND IF SO, DURING WHICH BOARD OF FISHERIES MEETING.

This was submitted earlier as a petition but had somehow fallen through the administrative cracks and did not go to the Board for consideration.

Respectfully,

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*Grant Fairbanks*

Grant Fairbanks  
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(907)543-4227