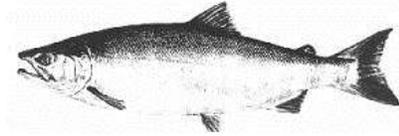


**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE**



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director*



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Date Issued: 13 November 2014
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2015 NUSHAGAK RIVER CHINOOK SALMON HARVEST PROJECTION

The 2015 Nushagak River Chinook salmon harvest projection is provided below.

AREA: **Bristol Bay, Nushagak District**

SPECIES: **Chinook Salmon**

PROJECTION OF 2015 COMMERCIAL HARVEST

	Projection (thousands)	Projection Range (thousands)
TOTAL PRODUCTION:		
Commercial Common Property Harvest	17	9-25

While it has been our practice in the past to forecast Chinook salmon total run to the Nushagak River, the total run forecast model has not performed well in recent years. As we have done in recent years, we will forgo a total run forecast for 2015 and project the commercial harvest based on historical harvests.

The anticipated commercial harvest of Nushagak River Chinook salmon in 2015 is 17,000 fish and is projected to range between 9,000 and 25,000 fish. This projection is based on the 5-year historical average harvest and the mean absolute percent error (MAPE; 48%) experienced during the same time frame. Over this period harvests have ranged between 10,000 and 26,000 (Table 1).

We believe the 2015 run will be below average but large enough to meet the escapement goal and provide for commercial, sport, and subsistence harvest opportunities. This run was very weak between 2007 and 2010, increased for three years and was again very weak in 2014. We expect that age-1.2, -1.3 and -1.4 fish will make up approximately 32%, 45% and 22% of the 2015 Nushagak River Chinook run.

Greg Buck, Fred West and Charles Brazil
Bristol Bay Research Staff
Anchorage

Table 1.—Commercial harvest of Chinook salmon in the Nushagak fishing district of Bristol Bay, Alaska from 2010 through 2014.

Year	Harvest
2010	25,501
2011	26,443
2012	11,385
2013	9,918
2014	10,819