

2021 Kuskokwim River Chinook Salmon Run Reconstruction and 2022 Forecast

by

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Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Division of Commercial Fisheries



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Weights and measures (metric)		General		Mathematics, statistics	
centimeter	cm	Alaska Administrative Code		all standard mathematical signs, symbols and abbreviations	
deciliter	dL		AAC		
gram	g	all commonly accepted abbreviations	e.g., Mr., Mrs., AM, PM, etc.	alternate hypothesis	H _A
hectare	ha			base of natural logarithm	<i>e</i>
kilogram	kg	all commonly accepted		catch per unit effort	CPUE
kilometer	km	professional titles	e.g., Dr., Ph.D., R.N., etc.	coefficient of variation	CV
liter	L			common test statistics	(F, t, χ^2 , etc.)
meter	m	at	@	confidence interval	CI
milliliter	mL	compass directions:		correlation coefficient (multiple)	R
millimeter	mm	east	E	correlation coefficient (simple)	r
Weights and measures (English)		north	N	covariance	cov
cubic feet per second	ft ³ /s	south	S	degree (angular)	°
foot	ft	west	W	degrees of freedom	df
gallon	gal	copyright	©	expected value	<i>E</i>
inch	in	corporate suffixes:		greater than	>
mile	mi	Company	Co.	greater than or equal to	≥
nautical mile	nmi	Corporation	Corp.	harvest per unit effort	HPUE
ounce	oz	Incorporated	Inc.	less than	<
pound	lb	Limited	Ltd.	less than or equal to	≤
quart	qt	District of Columbia	D.C.	logarithm (natural)	ln
yard	yd	et alii (and others)	et al.	logarithm (base 10)	log
		et cetera (and so forth)	etc.	logarithm (specify base)	log ₂ etc.
Time and temperature		exempli gratia		minute (angular)	'
day	d	(for example)	e.g.	not significant	NS
degrees Celsius	°C	Federal Information Code	FIC	null hypothesis	H ₀
degrees Fahrenheit	°F	id est (that is)	i.e.	percent	%
degrees kelvin	K	latitude or longitude	lat or long	probability	P
hour	h	monetary symbols		probability of a type I error (rejection of the null hypothesis when true)	α
minute	min	(U.S.)	\$, ¢	probability of a type II error (acceptance of the null hypothesis when false)	β
second	s	months (tables and figures): first three letters	Jan,...,Dec	second (angular)	"
Physics and chemistry		registered trademark	®	standard deviation	SD
all atomic symbols		trademark	™	standard error	SE
alternating current	AC	United States (adjective)	U.S.	variance	
ampere	A	United States of America (noun)	USA	population	Var
calorie	cal	U.S.C.	United States Code	sample	var
direct current	DC	U.S. state	use two-letter abbreviations (e.g., AK, WA)		
hertz	Hz				
horsepower	hp				
hydrogen ion activity (negative log of)	pH				
parts per million	ppm				
parts per thousand	ppt, ‰				
volts	V				
watts	W				

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RUN RECONSTRUCTION AND 2022 FORECAST**

by

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
LIST OF TABLES.....	ii
LIST OF FIGURES	ii
LIST OF APPENDICES	ii
ABSTRACT	1
INTRODUCTION	1
OBJECTIVE.....	2
METHODS.....	2
Model Overview	2
Escapement Counts.....	3
Commercial Catch and Effort.....	3
Model Scaling.....	3
Likelihood Model	3
Model Inputs.....	4
RESULTS AND DISCUSSION.....	4
Model Results	5
Uncertainty in 2021 Model Estimates	6
2021 Run Reconstruction Model Conclusions	6
2022 Chinook Salmon Run Forecast	7
Future Model Considerations	8
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	9
REFERENCES CITED	9
TABLES AND FIGURES	11
APPENDIX A: 2021 NPFMC 3-SYSTEM INDEX LETTER.....	27
APPENDIX B: 2021 ADMB-CODE WITH ANNOTATIONS.....	31
APPENDIX C: MODEL INPUT DATA.....	37

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Page
1 Historical and recent year observations of Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon abundance used to inform the run reconstruction model.	12
2 Annual drainagewide run and escapement of Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon from the 2021 run reconstruction model.	13
3 Parameter estimates derived from the 2021 run reconstruction model.	15
4 Starting values used for the 2021 run reconstruction model sensitivity analysis and associated results.	16
5 Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon forecast produced using the <i>P</i> -star model, 2022.	17
6 Brood table for Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon.	18

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure	Page
1 Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon escapement monitoring projects used to inform the run reconstruction model.	20
2 Annual run (black) and escapement (white) estimates with 95% confidence intervals estimated from the 2021 run reconstruction model.	21
3 Annual uncertainty (coefficient of variation; grey bars) of the run reconstruction model estimate of total run size and the number of assessment projects (dotted black line) used to inform the model in each year.	22
4 Observed versus model estimated escapement counts.	23
5 Range of drainagewide escapement estimates produced by the model based on each escapement project.	24
6 Sensitivity of 2021 Chinook salmon total run size estimates using all available data (base data) and removal of single escapement monitoring projects (dots).	25
7 Escapement (bars), recruits per spawner (solid line), and the 1:1 replacement line for recruits per spawner (dotted line) for Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon, 1976–2021.	26

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix	Page
A1 2021 North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFRMC) 3-system index letter.	28
B1 2021 ADMB-code with annotations.	32
C1 Independent estimates of Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon abundance, used to scale the run reconstruction model.	38
C2 Harvest of Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon.	39
C3 Weir escapement counts of Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon.	40
C4 Peak aerial survey index counts of Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon.	41
C5 Proportion of total annual Chinook salmon run in District W-1, by week, as estimated by Bethel test fishery.	43
C6 Chinook salmon catch and effort (permit-hours) for Kuskokwim River District W-1.	45

ABSTRACT

A maximum likelihood model was used to estimate the 2021 drainagewide run size and escapement of Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*). The total run was estimated to be 129,751 (95% CI: 94,489–178,171) fish and escapement was estimated to be 101,000 (95% CI: 65,738–149,420) fish. Model estimates were informed by direct observations of the 2021 escapement at 3 weirs and 2021 harvest, combined with historical observations of escapement (up to 6 weirs and 14 aerial surveys), harvest, test fishery, and mark–recapture data dating back to 1976. Model results are adequate to draw broad conclusions about the 2021 run and escapement. The 2021 total run of Chinook salmon was below the 1976–2020 average of 214,475 fish. The drainagewide sustainable escapement goal of 65,000–120,000 was met in 2021. The 2022 Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon forecast is for a range of 99,000–161,000 fish.

Key words: Chinook salmon *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*, run reconstruction model, total run, total escapement, forecast, Kuskokwim River.

INTRODUCTION

This report describes methods used to estimate the drainagewide run size and escapement of Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) that returned to the Kuskokwim River in 2021. Because it is impossible to count all Chinook salmon that return to the Kuskokwim River, estimates of annual abundance and escapement were made using a maximum likelihood model. The model (Bue et al. 2012), with subsequent revisions (Liller et al. 2018), is an extension of the approach presented by Shotwell and Adkison (2004) and was specifically developed for use in data-limited situations. The model combines information about subsistence harvest, commercial catch and effort, sport harvest, test fishery harvest and catch per unit effort (CPUE) at Bethel, estimates of total inriver abundance, counts of salmon at 6 weirs, and peak aerial survey counts from 14 tributaries spread throughout the Kuskokwim River drainage (Figure 1). Each of these data sources provides an index of total abundance, and some data are more informative than others. The model provides an approach to combine and weight available information about Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon abundance to arrive at a scientifically defensible estimate of total run size and escapement. Estimates produced by the model represent the most likely run size given the observed data.

The run reconstruction model has become an important tool to guide the sustainable management of the Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon fishery. Model results from Bue et al. (2012) contributed to a spawner-recruit analysis used to establish a drainagewide escapement goal of 65,000–120,000 Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon (Hamazaki et al. 2012). The established escapement goal was reviewed in 2018, and it was determined that the existing goal range was appropriate for this stock (Liller and Savereide 2018). The run reconstruction model has been used annually since 2013 as a postseason tool to determine if the drainagewide escapement goal was achieved. Model results have also been used since 2012 to inform preseason management strategies to achieve escapement goals. Since 2014, a preseason forecast range has been developed based on the prior year's run size, as determined from the run reconstruction model.

The run reconstruction model has implications beyond the management of Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon fisheries. Since 2016, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has been required to provide the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) with a preliminary total run estimate of Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon abundance no later than October 1 of each year. The preliminary run abundance estimate is 1 component of a 3-system index (Upper Yukon, Unalakleet, and Kuskokwim Rivers) of Western Alaska Chinook salmon abundance used by NPFMC to guide Chinook salmon bycatch thresholds in the Bering Sea pollock

trawl fishery. The preliminary 2021 3-system abundance estimate was provided to the NPFMC on September 22, 2021 (Appendix A), before final escapement and subsistence harvest estimates were available. The preliminary Kuskokwim River abundance estimate was based on model output from the run reconstruction model using preliminary escapement estimates and a prediction of total subsistence harvest. The final total run estimate was expected to change slightly from what was provided to NPFMC.

Given the significance of the run reconstruction model, it is important that the model is reviewed regularly and any changes are communicated in a timely and transparent manner. The model underwent a multi-year interagency peer review. The details of that review process and a description of the model changes that resulted from that review are documented in Liller et al. (2018) and Schindler et al. (2019). ADF&G adopted the revised model in 2018 (Smith 2019), and NPFMC also approved its use in the 3-system index¹. There have been no changes to the run reconstruction model since that review.

OBJECTIVE

The project objective was to estimate the total run size and escapement of Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon in 2021.

METHODS

MODEL OVERVIEW

Drainagewide escapement (E_y) of Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon for year (y) is equal to the drainagewide run size (N_y) minus harvest (C_y),

$$E_y = N_y - C_y, \quad (1)$$

where C_y is the sum of harvest by subsistence, commercial, sport, and test fisheries. Each part of Equation 1 was known to different degrees. Total annual escapement was indexed by count data from weirs and aerial surveys of tributaries located throughout the lower, middle, and upper portions of the Kuskokwim River (Figure 1). Estimates of total abundance for scaling the model were derived from mark–recapture, escapement, and harvest data. Total abundance estimates were available for years 2003–2007 and 2014–2017 (Liller et al. 2018). Total annual harvests from commercial fish tickets and test fisheries were known to a high degree of confidence. Subsistence harvest was estimated from extensive postseason surveys, and the estimates were incorporated into the model without error (Shelden et al. 2016; Dave Koster, Research Analyst, Division of Subsistence, ADF&G, Anchorage; personal communication). Estimates of sport fish harvest were less precise, but the effect of a lower level of precision was assumed to be negligible because of the small annual sport harvest.

Total run and escapement of Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon were estimated using a maximum likelihood model (Appendix B) developed for data-limited situations, with subsequent revisions to the model configuration (summarized in Liller et al. 2018). The model simultaneously combined abundance data from multiple sources to estimate a time series of the most likely estimates of total annual run abundance. The methodology was divided into 3 components to simplify the description of the estimation process and was based on the type of data used in the model: (1)

¹ [NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL - File #: ID 18-064 \(legistar.com\)](#)

escapement, (2) commercial catch and effort, and (3) direct estimates of total run size for model scaling.

ESCAPEMENT COUNTS

Assuming annual escapement of Chinook salmon returning to each tributary and observed by a weir or aerial survey is a constant fraction of drainagewide escapement (E_y), the expected escapement (\hat{e}) in year (y) to tributary (i) observed by method (j : weir or aerial) is:

$$\hat{e}_{ijy} = E_y / k_{ij}, \quad (2)$$

where k_{ij} is a scaling parameter estimated by the model. The assumption of constant proportionality is tenuous and not supported by the tributary escapement data, but the revised model performance has been shown to be robust to violations of this assumption (Schindler et al. 2018).

COMMERCIAL CATCH AND EFFORT

Assuming commercial CPUE each week is proportional to the drainagewide run migrating during that week, the expected commercial catch CPUE (\widehat{CPUE}_{wky}) in week (w) with net configuration (k) is:

$$\widehat{CPUE}_{wky} = c_{wky} / f_{wky} = q_k (p_{wy} N_y), \quad (3)$$

where \widehat{CPUE}_{wky} is the expected commercial catch CPUE at week (w) of net configuration (k), c_{wky} is the commercial catch at week (w) of net configuration (k), f_{wky} is the commercial efforts at week (w) of net configuration (k), p_{wy} is the proportion of Chinook salmon available at week (w) observed at Bethel test fishery, and q_k is the catchability coefficient of net configurations (k) (i.e., unrestricted, restricted).

Summing for all weeks and adjusting by the proportion of fish migrating through the harvest area during the weeks when fisheries occurred, the expected annual cumulative CPUE (\widehat{CPUE}_{ky}) is:

$$\widehat{CPUE}_{ky} = \frac{\sum_w (c_{wky} / f_{wky})}{\sum_w p_{wy}} = q_k N_y. \quad (4)$$

The proportion of Chinook salmon available for harvest each week and observed at Bethel test fishery included weeks 3–10. Data from weeks 8–10 were combined. Commercial catch and effort by week and net configuration included weeks 3–9. Data from weeks 8 and 9 were combined. Run timing from 1976–1983 was estimated using the average run timing from 1984–2020.

MODEL SCALING

Direct estimates of total run size (\hat{N}_y) from 2003–2007 and 2014–2017 were derived using a combination of mark–recapture data, escapement estimates, extrapolation of escapement values to unmonitored areas, and harvests. Those estimates of the total run and associated uncertainties were used to scale the run reconstruction model. Measurement error associated with the model scalars was represented using the estimates of variance presented in Liller et al. (2018).

LIKELIHOOD MODEL

Assuming all observations follow lognormal distributions, negative log-likelihoods with omissions of constants were constructed as:

$$\begin{aligned}
& \text{Escapement Counts} \\
& + \sum_y \sum_i \sum_j \left(\ln(\sigma_j) + 0.5 \left(\frac{\ln(\hat{e}_{ijy}) - \ln(e_{ijy})}{\sigma_j} \right)^2 \right) \\
& \text{Adjusted Commercial CPUE} \\
L(\theta/\text{data}) = & + \sum_y \sum_k \left(\ln(\sigma_k) + 0.5 \left(\frac{\ln(\widehat{CPUE}_{ky}) - \ln(CPUE_{ky})}{\sigma_k} \right)^2 \right) \\
& \text{Drainagewide Run} \\
& + \sum_y \left(0.5 \left(\frac{\ln(\hat{N}_y) - \ln(N_y)}{\sigma_y} \right)^2 \right),
\end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

where $\sigma_j^2 = \ln(CV_j^2 + 1)$, $\sigma_k^2 = \ln(CV_k^2 + 1)$, and $\sigma_y^2 = \ln(CV_y^2 + 1)$, CV_j and CV_k were estimated from the model, and CV_y was the observed CV of drainagewide run sizes of 2003–2007 and 2014–2017.

The model was written in AD Model Builder and run using the computing environment R (Appendix B; Fournier et al. 2012; R Core Team 2019).

MODEL INPUTS

Numerous data sources were available to inform the model and estimate the total run and escapement in 2021. Model estimates in 2021 were informed by independent scalers using total run estimates from 2003–2007 and 2014–2017, which corresponded to years of relatively high and low run abundance (Appendix C). The model was also informed by commercial, subsistence, sport, and test fishery harvest and escapement at 6 weirs and 14 aerial surveys from 1979–2021 (Appendix C). Finally, the model was informed by the proportion of total annual Chinook salmon run in District W-1, by week, as estimated using data collected from the Bethel test fishery from 1984–2021 and harvest and effort, by week, for Kuskokwim River District W-1 from 1976–2021 (Appendix C). All model inputs were the best available data at the time of reporting and have been reviewed and finalized since the release of the preliminary run reconstruction estimate to NPFMC in September 2021.

The subsistence harvest estimate used to produce the preliminary run reconstruction estimate in September 2021 has changed. The preliminary run estimate relied on a “best guess” of 27,416 Chinook salmon harvested for subsistence purposes. Since that time, postseason subsistence harvest surveys have been completed, and the harvest was estimated to be 28,365 (95% CI 25,933–30,797; Dave Koster, Division of Subsistence, ADF&G; personal communication). The revised subsistence harvest estimate was used in this final run reconstruction analysis.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The run reconstruction model was informed by 6 weirs and 14 aerial survey index locations (Table 1). In 2021, 3 of 6 weirs operated and 0 of 14 aerial surveys were successfully flown. Weirs located on the George, Kogruluk, and Takotna rivers operated. The Kwethluk River weir did not operate due to logistical challenges and weirs located on the Tuluksak and Tatlawiksuk rivers have not operated in recent years due to funding limitations. No aerial surveys were flown in 2021 due to

persistent inclement weather when flights were scheduled, i.e., during peak spawning. This was the first year no aerial surveys were flown since at least 1976.

Harvest data came from subsistence and test fishery catches. The preliminary subsistence harvest of 28,365 (95% CI 25,933–30,797) Chinook salmon in 2021 is unlikely to change substantially and was below the amounts reasonably necessary for subsistence uses (ANS: 67,200–109,800) as defined by the Alaska Board of Fisheries (5 AAC 01.286). A total of 386 Chinook salmon were caught in the Bethel test fishery. No commercial or sport fish harvest of Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon occurred during the 2021 season.

Escapement estimates and observations during 2021 indicated that the Chinook salmon escapement throughout the Kuskokwim River was generally less than prior years. In 2021, all projects reported lower escapements than the 2016–2020 averages and 1 out of 3 escapement projects reported lower escapement than the 2011–2020 averages. Escapement at all 3 projects was lower than the long-term 1976–2020 averages (Table 1).

There were 9 tributaries with established escapement goals in 2021 (Liller and Savereide 2018). Of those, only the escapement goals on the George and Kogrukluks rivers were assessed, and both were met. The escapement goal on the Kwethluk River was not assessed because the weir did not operate and the remaining tributary escapement goals were not assessed because no aerial surveys were flown in 2021.

MODEL RESULTS

The 2021 Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon drainagewide run was an estimated 129,751 (95% CI: 94,489–178,171) fish (Table 2; Figure 2). Based on the 2021 model run, the total run in 2021 was 40% less than the 1976–2020 average of 214,475 Chinook salmon. CV for the 2021 total run was estimated to be 16%, which was larger than the 1976–2020 average of 10% (range: 5–25%; Figure 3). The root mean square error was smaller for weirs compared to aerial surveys, which indicated the model fit weir data better than aerial survey data (Figure 4).

The 2021 Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon drainagewide escapement was an estimated 101,000 (95% CI: 65,738–149,420) fish (Table 2). Based on the 2021 model run, the total escapement in 2021 was 23% less than the 1976–2020 average of 131,184 Chinook salmon. The total escapement in 2021 was greater than 17 of 45 (38%) prior years. Acknowledging that uncertainty in the drainagewide escapement was relatively high, the 95% confidence range of 65,738–149,420 fish provided evidence that the drainagewide escapement goal of 65,000–120,000 fish was met (Table 2; Figure 2).

The run reconstruction model produces updated total run and escapement estimates for all years since 1976 each time the model is updated with new information. Results from prior year model runs represented the best available estimates based on information available at that time. The 2021 model run represents the most informed historical time series of total run and escapement and supersedes previous estimates. Estimates of total annual abundance from 1976–2020, generated by the 2021 model run, were compared against the estimates reported by Larson 2021 (Table 2). The difference between total annual run and escapement estimates changed by an average of 0.24% and 0.41%, respectively, across all years (1976–2020). The absolute difference between pairs of

annual total run estimates ranged between 0–18,484² fish (average = 738). The long-term (1976–2020) averages for both total run and escapement differed by 636 fish between the 2021 and 2020 model runs.

UNCERTAINTY IN 2021 MODEL ESTIMATES

There was relatively high level of uncertainty associated with the 2021 model run (Figure 3). Uncertainty about any individual year model estimate is generally related to the number of index projects that operated in that year and the similarity in the information about each project’s total run. The number of index projects operated in 2021 (3 total projects) was at the 45th percentile (median 11; range: 2–20) over the 45 years (1976–2020) of available data, which would suggest a limited amount of information to update the model and a relatively high level of uncertainty. However, each project provided a similar picture of the total run. The model is specifically designed to accommodate “conflicting” data from a range of index projects; however, smaller differences among projects result in less uncertainty about the actual size of the total run and escapement. To illustrate this, the entire drainagewide escapement was estimated using data from 1 escapement project at a time (Figure 5). In 2021, estimates of drainagewide Chinook salmon escapements derived from individual weir projects were 96,000–105,000 fish (Table 3; Figure 5).

The sensitivity of the 2021 model results to parameter starting values was evaluated. Run estimates were compared across a range of 100 starting values for all model parameters independently (Table 4). The maximum observed difference between annual run estimates was less than 3 fish. Results for all parameter starting values confirmed the 2021 model run was not sensitive to starting values and the total run estimates presented represent the best fit model.

The full sensitivity of model results to the limited 2021 escapement data was explored using a “leave one-out approach (Figure 6). Specifically, the model was run with the removal of a single escapement project at a time. Running the model without the Takotna River weir served the purpose of investigating model sensitivity to headwaters projects. Early season management actions to close or heavily restrict Chinook salmon harvest during the early portion of the run (commonly referred to as the “front-end closure”) have been implemented annually since 2014 (codified in regulation in 2016 5 AAC 07.365 *Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Plan*). These annual front-end-closures have resulted in disproportionately large escapements to the headwaters, compared to other areas in the drainage, and concern that the model may be overestimating total escapement when headwaters escapement data are included. All point estimates fell within the 95% confidence interval of the base model. Confidence intervals overlapped in all scenarios. When the Takotna River weir (headwaters data) was removed from the model, the total run estimate of about 127,000 fish was similar to the estimate produced using all available data. No aerial surveys were flown in 2021 so their effect could not be evaluated. These comparisons are not meant to lend more or less credibility to specific escapement data sources but rather show the importance of having a comprehensive assessment program to inform the run reconstruction model.

2021 RUN RECONSTRUCTION MODEL CONCLUSIONS

- The total run of Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon was estimated to be 129,751 (95% CI: 94,489–178,171) fish.

² In preparation for the 2021 model run, historical data were reviewed. The 1996 Takotna River weir estimates was determined to be of insufficient quality to inform the run reconstruction and was removed. This correction to the historical model input dataset resulted in relatively large change (18,484 or 5.7% difference) in the 1996 total run estimate.

- Total run abundance was below the 1976–2020 average of 214,475 fish and below the range of run sizes necessary to meet at least the lower bound of the drainagewide escapement goal (65,000–120,000) and support at least the lower bound of ANS (67,200–109,800) as defined by the Alaska Board of Fisheries (5 AAC 01.2086). For example, a run of at least 132,200 fish would be needed to meet the lower bounds of the drainagewide escapement goal and ANS.
- Total escapement of Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon was estimated to be 101,000 (95% CI: 65,738–149,420) fish, and the drainagewide sustainable escapement goal of 65,000–120,000 was met.

2022 CHINOOK SALMON RUN FORECAST

The 2022 Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon forecast is for a range of 99,000–161,000 fish. The forecast range is equal to $\pm 24\%$ of the 2021 total run, as presented in this report. Uncertainty in the forecast (i.e., $\pm 24\%$) is based on the 2015–2021 (7-year) average percent error between forecasted and actual run estimates. Interestingly, when using data from 1976–2021, the average percent error between forecasted and actual run estimates (23%) is nearly identical to the 7-year average percent error. Despite several years of similar run sizes since 2015, the 2019 run was well above forecast, and the 2020 run was well below forecast, both of which contributed to increased uncertainty in the 2022 forecast.

The forecast range is not based on probability and provides no insight into the most probable run size within the forecasted range. The value of the forecast is in preseason planning. For example, managers and stakeholders may choose to put equal effort into planning for all run size scenarios within the forecast range or focus their planning on a subset of the forecast. This forecast can be used alongside probability-based forecasts to identify run sizes with the highest probability to guide preseason planning.

Probability-based forecast methods like the *P*-star model³ developed by Staton and Catalano (2019) have been explored for Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon. That model uses the same prior year method for defining the mean of the forecast range but uses the entire time series to describe forecast uncertainty. That model assumes uncertainty around the forecast expectation is lognormally distributed. A bias-corrected lognormal distribution is used to ensure the mean of the distribution is the same as the previous year's run size. Forecast uncertainty is quantified by calculating the errors the 'previous-year method' would have made, as though they were lognormal random variables, and calculating their standard deviation. The method described by Staton and Catalano (2019) produces forecast ranges based on any statistical confidence interval that is desired and can be used to describe the probability of different run sizes occurring. Probability-based forecasts necessitate proper interpretation and context to be useful for focusing preseason management planning discussions.

Probability-based methods like the *P*-star model can provide context to understand better the 2022 forecast produced by ADF&G and can be used to make explicit predictions about the 2022 run before the availability of inseason assessment data. The ADF&G 2022 forecast (based on the 7-year average percent error) represents approximately the central 60% of probable run size predictions identified through the *P*-star model. There is a 20% chance the 2021 run size will return

³ <https://bstaton.shinyapps.io/BayesTool>

smaller than 97,000 and a 20% chance the run will return larger than 159,000 (Table 5). The *P*-star model indicated that there is a 95% chance the 2022 run size will be less than 202,000, which is less than the average run size (1976–2020 average run size is 214,475). Stated more simply, there is a high probability that the 2022 run will be smaller than average. However, the *P*-star model provides considerable evidence that the 2022 run size will be large enough to meet the drainagewide escapement goal and allow some harvest. There is a 99% chance the 2022 run size will be equal to or exceed 63,000, which is a run size just below the lower bound of the escapement goal. There is a 55% chance that the run will return larger than 120,000, which is a run size at the upper bound (120,000) of the drainagewide escapement goal⁴ (Table 5).

Preseason expectations of Chinook salmon harvestable surplus in 2022 are highly uncertain. Simple subtraction of the drainagewide escapement goal (65,000–120,000) from the ADF&G forecast (94,000–155,000) would suggest a harvest outlook anywhere between 0–96,000 fish. However, run size probabilities from the *P*-star model provide considerable evidence that large run sizes suitable for supporting large harvests have a low chance of occurring in 2022. Actual harvest opportunities will be determined inseason based on run size assessments and expectations of achieving the drainagewide escapement goal range (65,000–120,000) and tributary escapement goals.

Successive years of achieving the drainagewide escapement goal provide some support for the notion that the 2022 Chinook salmon run will be large enough to meet escapement needs and provide for some harvest. The dominant brood years contributing to the 2022 run will be 2016–2018. These brood years will return fish that are age-4 (2018 brood), age-5 (2017 brood), and age-6 (2016 brood). The actual number of each age class that will return in 2022 is not known with certainty, but the drainagewide escapement goal was achieved in each of the contributing brood years. Drainagewide escapement was estimated to be 99,460 fish in 2016, 114,973 fish in 2017, and 112,980 fish in 2018 (Table 6). The drainagewide escapement goal on the Kuskokwim River was designed to maximize the probability that future run sizes are large enough to meet escapement and harvest needs.

Stock productivity trends should be considered when using this forecast to plan preseason management of the 2022 Chinook salmon run. Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon productivity, measured as recruits per spawner, has fluctuated through time (Figure 7). Relatively high productivity occurred during brood years 1982–1991 and again during brood years 1999–2001. Brood years 2004–2009 experienced low productivity (<1 recruit per spawner). Since that time, productivity has increased, and the 2011–2013 brood years have produced on average 3 recruits per spawner (Table 6; Figure 7).

FUTURE MODEL CONSIDERATIONS

Improvements to the Chinook salmon run reconstruction model are being explored. The model may benefit from time-varying scaling parameters that accommodate changes in management or spatial shifts in production that could affect the proportion of the total escapement observed at individual assessment locations. For example, headwaters stocks tend to have earlier run timing than middle river stocks (Clark and Smith 2019). Managers have heavily restricted fishing during the early portion of the Chinook salmon run since 2014, which has led to lower exploitation and higher escapements for headwater stocks than were observed before 2014. As a result, the observed

⁴ Percentages presented in this text are rounded.

escapement at headwater assessment projects has tended to be higher than what the run reconstruction model predicted. This may be addressed by incorporating a time-variant scaler into the model. Also, the Kuskokwim River sonar is an assessment tool that has been fully operational since 2018. The sonar provides valuable salmon passage data at a site approximately 20 km upriver from Bethel. The appropriateness of using sonar data as an additional model input will continue to be explored. ADF&G will engage and report out to stakeholders and ensure an appropriate level of review if any changes to the current model are adopted.

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TABLES AND FIGURES

Table 1.—Historical and recent year observations of Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon abundance used to inform the run reconstruction model.

Method	Location	Number of years of data (1976–2021)	Historical average (1976–2020)	10-yr average (2011–2020)	5-yr average (2016–2020)	2020	2021
Weir	Kwethluk	15	9,432	6,224	7,856	–	–
	Tuluksak	21	985	519	779	–	–
	George	23	3,505	2,598	3,091	2,418	2,920
	Kogruklu	35	9,702	6,443	7,417	5,645	6,969
	Tatlawiksuk	18	1,692	1,663	2,420	–	–
Aerial survey	Takotna	21	406	275	359	357	323
	Kwethluk	12	2,061	943	–	721	–
	Kisaralik	27	1,082	642	655	350	–
	Tuluksak	11	421	–	–	–	–
	Salmon (Aniak)	34	784	408	521	269	–
	Kipchuk	28	1,018	768	995	723	–
	Aniak	25	2,576	1,773	1,691	1,264	–
	Holokuk	19	333	164	244	99	–
	Oskawalik	24	285	163	248	169	–
	Holitna	24	1,483	891	1,009	854	–
	Cheeneetnuk	27	689	462	641	419	–
	Gagaryah	27	486	312	447	–	–
	Pitka	15	242	256	299	160	–
	Bear	21	262	385	497	321	–
	Salmon (Pitka)	34	1,065	1,252	1,346	1,150	–
Harvest	Subsistence	46	64,384	30,251	28,625	35,846	28,365
	Commercial	46	17,885	159	0	0	0
	Sport	45	420	58	0	0	0
	Test fishery	46	612	403	440	355	386

Note: Not all projects operated in all years. En dash represents the project did not operate or a historical average could not be calculated, due to insufficient data.

Table 2.—Annual drainagewide run and escapement of Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon from the 2021 run reconstruction model.

Year	2021 Model run			Previously published total run estimate ^a	2021 Model run			Previously published total esc. estimate ^a
	Total run estimate	Lower 95% CI	Upper 95% CI		Total esc. estimate	Lower 95% CI	Upper 95% CI	
1976	206,497	159,586	267,197	206,588	115,950	69,039	176,650	116,041
1977	326,456	232,630	458,124	326,025	232,749	138,923	364,417	232,318
1978	238,287	189,742	299,252	237,858	154,815	106,270	215,780	154,386
1979	237,200	170,555	329,888	236,265	140,898	74,253	233,586	139,963
1980	364,886	225,891	589,408	364,915	267,918	128,923	492,440	267,947
1981	311,648	226,301	429,183	310,624	201,249	115,902	318,784	200,225
1982	143,792	126,113	163,948	143,849	36,791	19,112	56,947	36,848
1983	148,623	122,379	180,496	148,494	66,478	40,234	98,351	66,349
1984	175,387	137,056	224,439	175,454	86,211	47,880	135,263	86,278
1985	145,221	117,927	178,832	145,166	63,294	36,000	96,905	63,239
1986	124,380	94,000	164,579	124,134	53,768	23,388	93,967	53,522
1987	183,056	146,919	228,082	182,733	78,813	42,676	123,839	78,490
1988	207,428	179,423	239,805	207,057	79,665	51,660	112,042	79,294
1989	215,158	178,011	260,059	215,249	89,005	51,858	133,906	89,096
1990	268,544	230,482	312,891	268,125	104,358	66,296	148,705	103,939
1991	216,118	182,272	256,249	215,904	102,970	69,124	143,101	102,756
1992	261,317	225,801	302,419	260,912	130,217	94,701	171,319	129,812
1993	273,777	224,788	333,443	272,597	174,110	125,121	233,776	172,930
1994	399,365	306,403	520,530	397,965	277,261	184,299	398,426	275,861
1995	372,332	301,288	460,128	371,818	237,603	166,559	325,399	237,089
1996	341,902	254,049	460,137	323,418	236,327	148,474	354,562	217,843
1997	262,761	217,339	317,676	262,514	171,427	126,005	226,342	171,180
1998	255,174	195,431	333,179	254,394	155,202	95,459	233,207	154,422
1999	160,752	130,069	198,673	160,317	82,159	51,476	120,080	81,724
2000	122,487	107,873	139,080	122,173	54,278	39,664	70,871	53,964
2001	192,752	163,867	226,728	192,403	114,112	85,227	148,088	113,763
2002	238,306	204,482	277,725	238,306	156,458	122,634	195,877	156,458
2003	231,909	207,667	258,980	231,941	163,204	138,962	190,275	163,236
2004	365,032	322,554	413,104	365,280	264,391	221,913	312,463	264,639
2005	327,044	294,649	363,001	327,123	235,268	202,873	271,225	235,347
2006	323,372	287,230	364,063	323,790	228,987	192,845	269,678	229,405
2007	248,471	224,993	274,398	248,548	151,611	128,133	177,538	151,688
2008	214,922	189,492	243,765	214,918	116,017	90,587	144,860	116,013
2009	194,718	169,598	223,559	194,763	106,784	81,664	135,625	106,829

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Table 2.–Page 2 of 2.

Year	2021 Model run			Previously published total run estimate ^a	2021 Model run			Previously published total esc. estimate ^a
	Total run estimate	Lower 95% CI	Upper 95% CI		Total esc. estimate	Lower 95% CI	Upper 95% CI	
2010	116,026	105,082	128,110	115,951	45,362	34,418	57,446	45,287
2011	115,858	103,939	129,144	114,453	51,829	39,910	65,115	50,424
2012	75,242	62,158	91,082	74,992	51,750	38,666	67,590	51,500
2013	88,498	79,099	99,012	88,496	41,010	31,611	51,524	41,008
2014	82,133	70,833	95,237	82,216	70,367	59,067	83,471	70,450
2015	125,767	110,941	142,576	125,677	109,163	94,337	125,972	109,073
2016	130,678	113,679	150,218	130,443	99,460	82,461	119,000	99,225
2017	131,643	112,759	153,690	131,530	114,973	96,089	137,020	114,860
2018	135,711	107,775	170,887	136,076	112,980	85,044	148,156	113,345
2019	226,224	182,779	279,995	226,835	187,720	144,275	241,491	188,331
2020	124,540	102,781	150,904	124,486	88,339	66,580	114,703	88,285
2021	129,751	94,489	178,171		101,000	65,738	149,420	
Average								
(1976–2020)	214,475			213,839	131,184			130,549

Note: The run reconstruction model produces estimates for all years every time the model is updated with new information. Previously published estimates of total run and escapement associated with prior year model runs are shown for reference.

^a Prior year model run from Larson (2021). Based on the prior year model run, the 1976–2020 average total run and escapement was larger than the 2020 model run average by 636 fish (0.24%) and 81 fish (0.41%), respectively.

Table 3.–Parameter estimates derived from the 2021 run reconstruction model.

	Parameter	95% Bound		Observed	Total
	estimate (<i>k</i>)	Lower	Upper	escapement	escapement ^a
Weir projects (<i>k</i>)					
Kwethluk weir	2.74	2.54	2.94	—	—
Tuluksak weir	5.05	4.87	5.22	—	—
George weir	3.55	3.38	3.73	2,920	101,945
Kogrukluk weir	2.63	2.47	2.78	6,969	96,306
Tatlawiksuk weir	4.19	4.01	4.38	—	—
Takotna weir	5.78	5.60	5.96	323	104,941
Aerial survey (<i>k</i>)					
Kwethluk River	4.44	4.10	4.79	—	—
Kisaralik River	5.14	4.91	5.38	—	—
Tuluksak River	6.12	5.76	6.48	—	—
Salmon (Aniak River)	5.36	5.14	5.58	—	—
Kipchuk River	5.01	4.77	5.24	—	—
Aniak River	4.05	3.81	4.30	—	—
Holokuk River	6.31	6.04	6.58	—	—
Oskawalik River	6.49	6.24	6.74	—	—
Holitna River	4.54	4.28	4.79	—	—
Cheeneetnuk River	5.41	5.17	5.64	—	—
Gagaryah River	5.84	5.60	6.08	—	—
Pitka Fork	6.41	6.10	6.71	—	—
Bear River	6.27	6.01	6.54	—	—
Salmon(Pitka Fork)	4.80	4.58	5.02	—	—
Catchability (<i>q</i>)					
Unrestricted	-9.51	-9.79	-9.22	—	—
Restricted	-10.05	-10.21	-9.88	—	—

Note: Parameter values (k) are presented as natural logarithms (ln). En dash means not applicable.

^a The expected drainagewide total escapement equals the observed escapement*EXP(k).

Table 4.—Starting values used for the 2021 run reconstruction model sensitivity analysis and associated results.

Parameter	Starting values range	Average difference ^a	Max difference ^b
Total run (N_y)	100,000–400,000	0.008	0.03
Weir escapement scaling (k_{ij})	0.01–10	0.121	0.963
Aerial escapement scaling (k_{ij})	0.01–10	0.003	0.018
Catchability (q_k)	-20–1	0.015	0.096
Weir coefficient of variation ^c	-20–20	0.229	2.846
Aerial coefficient of variation ^c	-20–20	0.229	2.846
Catchability coefficient of variation ^c	-20–20	0.229	2.846

^a Average difference in numbers of fish among all 1976–2021 total run estimates across a range of 100 different starting values for each parameter.

^b Maximum difference in numbers of fish among all 1976–2021 total run estimates across a range of 100 different starting values for each parameter.

^c Weir, aerial, and catchability coefficient of variation starting values were evaluated simultaneously.

Table 5.—Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon forecast produced using the *P*-star model, 2022.

Run size	Percent chance of being below run size	Percent chance of being above run size
63,000	1%	99%
77,000	5%	95%
85,000	10%	90%
92,000	15%	85%
97,000	20%	80%
102,000	25%	75%
107,000	30%	70%
111,000	35%	65%
116,000	40%	60%
120,000	45%	55%
125,000	50%	50%
129,000	55%	45%
134,000	60%	40%
139,000	65%	35%
145,000	70%	30%
152,000	75%	25%
159,000	80%	20%
169,000	85%	15%
181,000	90%	10%
202,000	95%	5%
247,000	99%	1%

Note: The model assumes the probability of outcomes between any 2 intervals is not uniform, that is, values closer to the mean (129,800 fish) have higher probabilities of being the correct run size than values farther from the mean. Statistical methodology is described in Staton and Catalano (2019) and the *P*-star model can be accessed at <https://bstaton.shinyapps.io/BayesTool>. Model code can be accessed at <https://github.com/bstaton1/kusko-bayes-tool>.

Table 6.—Brood table for Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon.

Brood		Return by age class														Return	R/S
year	Escapement	(0.2)	(1.1)	(0.3)	(1.2)	(2.1)	(0.4)	(1.3)	(2.2)	(1.4)	(2.3)	(1.5)	(2.4)	(1.6)	(2.5)		
1976	115,950	0	64	6	65,825	6	0	106,018	34	82,418	85	6,103	260	91	0	260,908	2.25
1977	232,749	0	66	6	23,800	6	0	44,254	32	77,458	70	7,482	515	67	0	153,755	0.66
1978	154,815	0	672	5	11,441	5	0	39,452	26	61,301	498	4,835	52	5	0	118,293	0.76
1979	140,898	0	209	4	24,468	4	32	76,890	159	61,090	64	6,445	60	6	0	169,433	1.20
1980	267,918	0	693	5	28,107	5	0	51,908	176	46,312	74	3,481	80	7	0	130,848	0.49
1981	201,249	0	372	4	27,024	4	0	59,350	28	83,160	99	12,094	85	7	0	182,227	0.91
1982	36,791	0	48	5	11,330	5	0	53,085	37	69,279	104	6,583	1,062	10	0	141,547	3.85
1983	66,478	0	699	6	43,040	6	0	96,072	39	103,302	733	5,714	130	33	302	250,077	3.76
1984	86,211	0	74	7	29,718	7	0	67,163	1,579	72,770	161	5,277	842	8	0	177,605	2.06
1985	63,294	0	78	7	34,469	7	0	130,586	60	107,737	1,276	5,050	219	8	90	279,589	4.42
1986	53,768	0	90	10	56,228	10	0	72,341	1,927	91,691	236	10,330	720	10	0	233,592	4.34
1987	78,813	0	2,938	7	26,229	7	0	87,237	621	99,883	780	6,109	1,641	9	0	225,463	2.86
1988	79,665	76	82	8	69,782	8	0	83,370	211	130,779	1,985	4,120	360	16	0	290,795	3.65
1989	89,005	0	6,208	8	77,896	8	180	212,476	1,423	194,717	388	38,716	116	7	0	532,145	5.98
1990	104,358	0	421	10	43,143	10	0	107,999	56	119,236	764	3,142	95	7	0	274,884	2.63
1991	102,970	90	738	9	64,728	9	0	146,919	385	124,163	117	5,118	97	7	0	342,382	3.33
1992	130,217	0	144	9	35,500	9	0	64,293	44	86,684	120	3,106	87	6	0	190,002	1.46
1993	174,110	0	130	7	70,667	7	0	126,403	45	95,521	107	3,968	81	0	0	296,936	1.71
1994	277,261	0	88	7	35,796	7	0	47,930	166	55,514	99	7,742	81	0	0	147,431	0.53
1995	237,603	0	284	7	13,568	7	0	47,413	37	101,219	0	8,138	0	0	0	170,672	0.72
1996	236,327	0	230	6	15,237	6	0	63,736	0	94,760	0	9,736	0	0	0	183,713	0.78
1997	171,427	0	100	0	19,756	0	0	84,856	61	75,913	0	4,625	0	0	0	185,311	1.08
1998	155,202	0	0	0	50,205	0	0	102,299	0	106,510	0	4,410	172	0	0	263,597	1.70
1999	82,159	0	204	0	43,415	0	0	111,233	426	110,167	548	14,770	91	0	0	280,856	3.42
2000	54,278	0	381	0	141,134	0	0	152,629	10	125,987	182	5,207	1,100	0	0	426,631	7.86
2001	114,112	0	1,206	0	58,786	0	0	97,901	91	90,353	470	4,767	180	0	0	253,754	2.22

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Table 6.–Page 2 of 2.

Brood		Return by age class														Return	R/S
year	Escapement	(0.2)	(1.1)	(0.3)	(1.2)	(2.1)	(0.4)	(1.3)	(2.2)	(1.4)	(2.3)	(1.5)	(2.4)	(1.6)	(2.5)		
2002	156,458	0	485	0	83,147	0	0	81,535	0	61,496	1,254	2,162	312	0	0	230,391	1.47
2003	163,204	0	1,083	0	69,463	0	0	104,911	66	83,930	273	3,210	41	64	0	263,040	1.61
2004	264,391	0	194	0	41,763	0	0	72,011	771	40,084	0	1,659	55	0	0	156,537	0.59
2005	235,268	0	448	0	35,178	0	0	49,026	79	37,705	276	873	1	0	0	123,585	0.53
2006	228,987	0	81	68	23,282	68	0	46,342	109	23,188	452	830	95	0	0	94,514	0.41
2007	151,611	0	202	0	29,346	0	0	41,021	0	47,094	236	814	0	0	0	118,714	0.78
2008	116,017	0	264	0	9,654	0	0	27,058	75	30,098	353	446	1	0	0	67,948	0.59
2009	106,784	45	0	0	12,858	75	0	32,858	483	24,057	360	5	1	0	77	70,818	0.66
2010	45,362	0	95	0	14,514	0	122	44,277	766	16,925	358	17	99	0	0	77,173	1.70
2011	51,829	0	2,861	0	54,832	2	0	74,680	233	28,676	205	111	0	0	0	161,601	3.12
2012	51,750	65	805	0	36,557	0	0	59,947	165	22,342	52	77	468	0	0	120,478	2.33
2013	41,010	0	1,919	0	41,320	0	124	59,192	124	30,136	1,629	863	111	0	0	135,418	3.30
2014	70,367	0	1,057	0	50,538	0	234	73,854	2,306	28,188	4	648	163	0	0	156,991	2.23
2015	109,163	0	3,186	239	104,936	88	0	51,840	54	27,124	58	0	0	0	0	187,526	–
2016	99,460	30	12,404	0	42,230	0	1	48,638	107	0	0	0	0	0	0	103,410	–
2017	114,973	0	1,219	119	50,883	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	52,320	–
2018	112,980	0	2,107	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,107	–
2019	187,720	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	–	–
2020	88,339	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	–	–
2021	101,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	–	–

Note: The number of recruits returning from brood year escapement are shown as R/S. Brood years 2015–2021 are incomplete. En dash means no component of the return has been realized or the R/S cannot be calculated at this time.

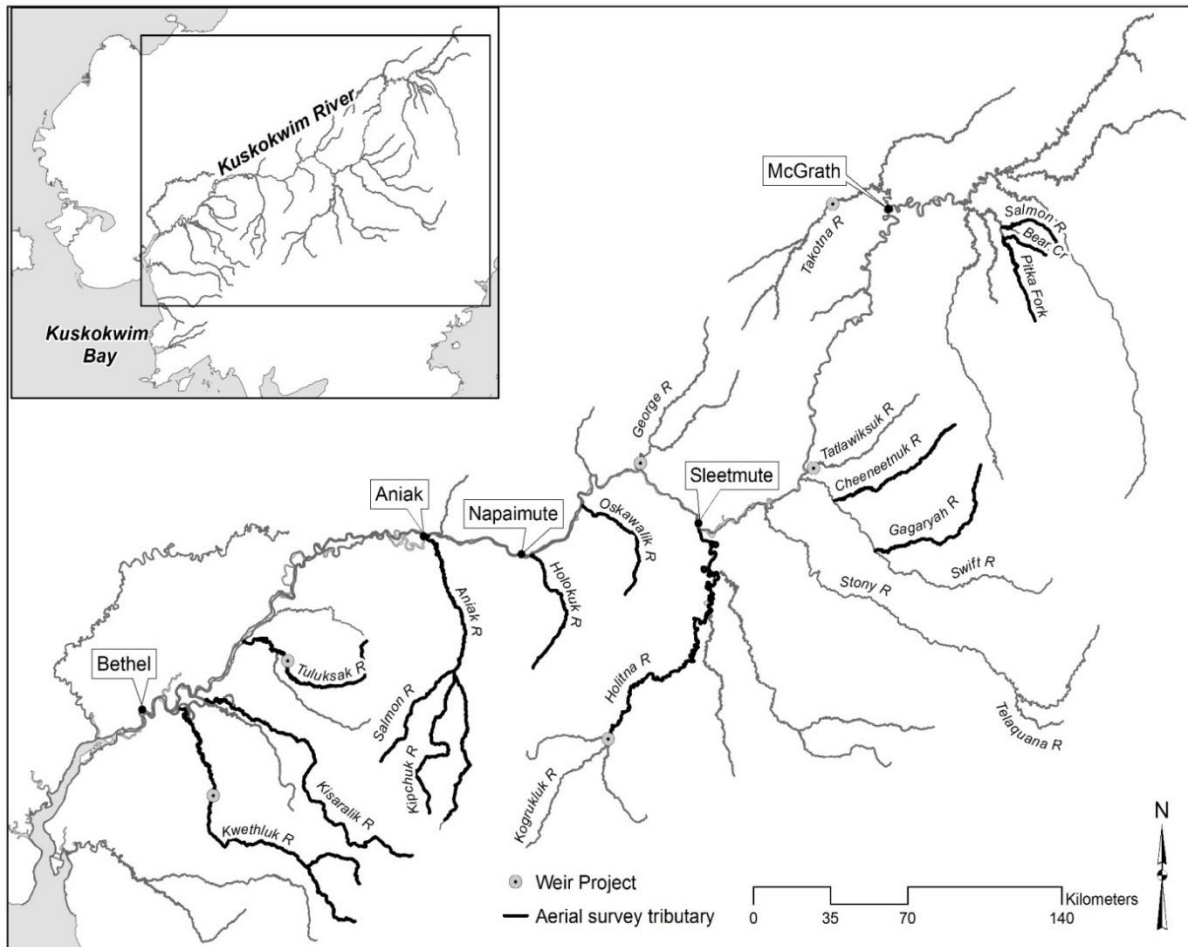


Figure 1.—Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon escapement monitoring projects used to inform the run reconstruction model.

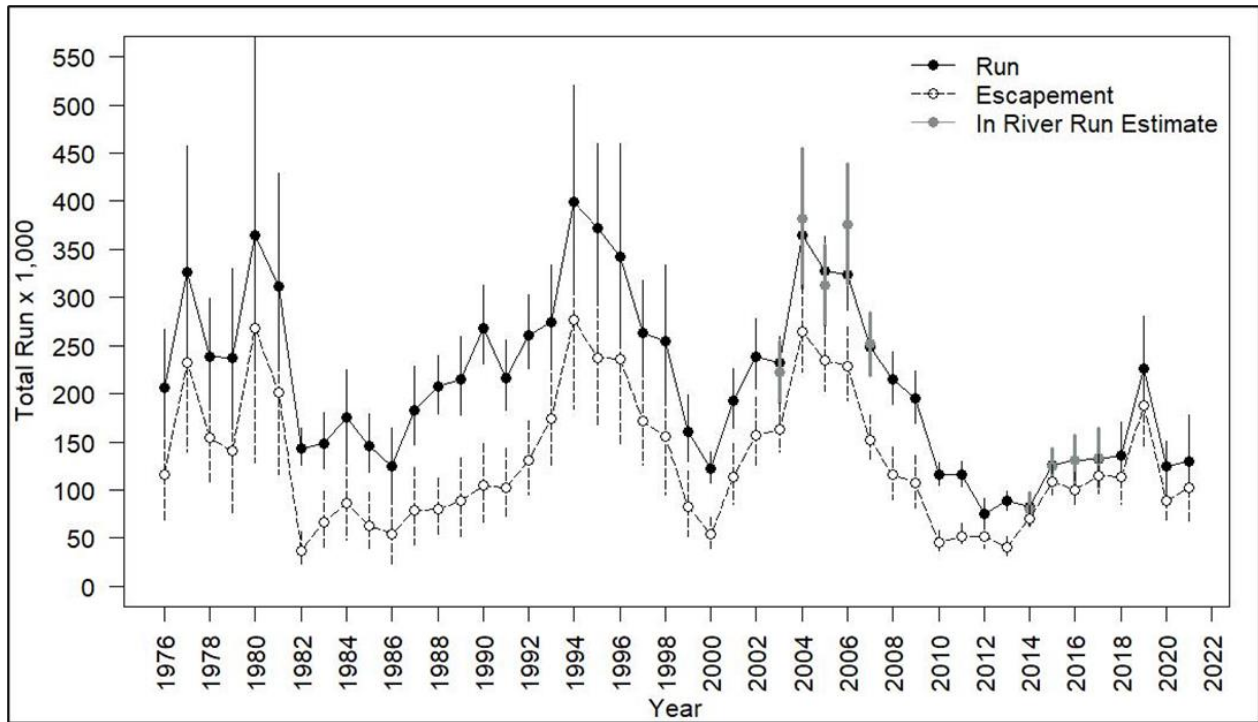


Figure 2.—Annual run (black) and escapement (white) estimates with 95% confidence intervals estimated from the 2021 run reconstruction model.

Note: Gray dots are drainagewide run size and 95% confidence intervals for years 2003–2007 and 2014–2017 used to scale the model. Model scalars are direct estimates of total run derived from a combination of mark–recapture data, escapement estimates, extrapolation of escapement values to unmonitored areas, and harvests (Liller et al. 2018).

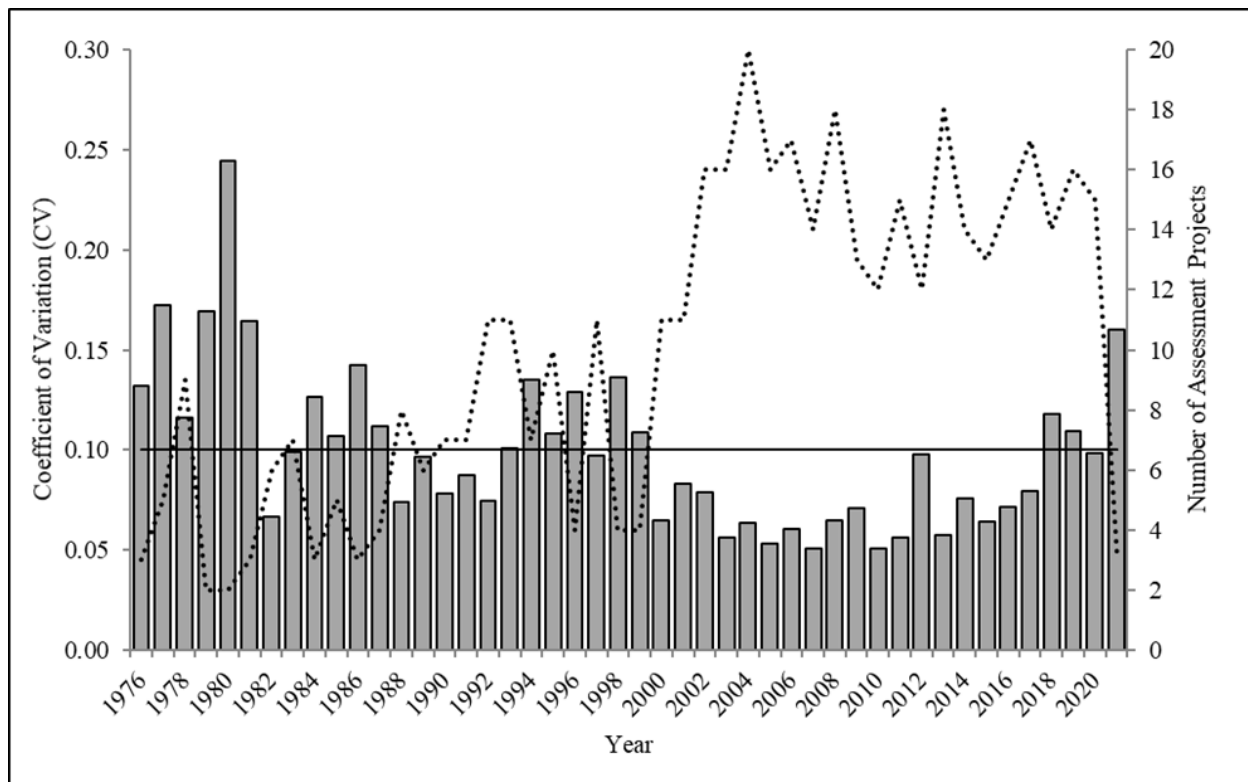


Figure 3.—Annual uncertainty (coefficient of variation; grey bars) of the run reconstruction model estimate of total run size and the number of assessment projects (dotted black line) used to inform the model in each year.

Note: The solid black line is the average coefficient of variation (10%) across years 1976–2020.

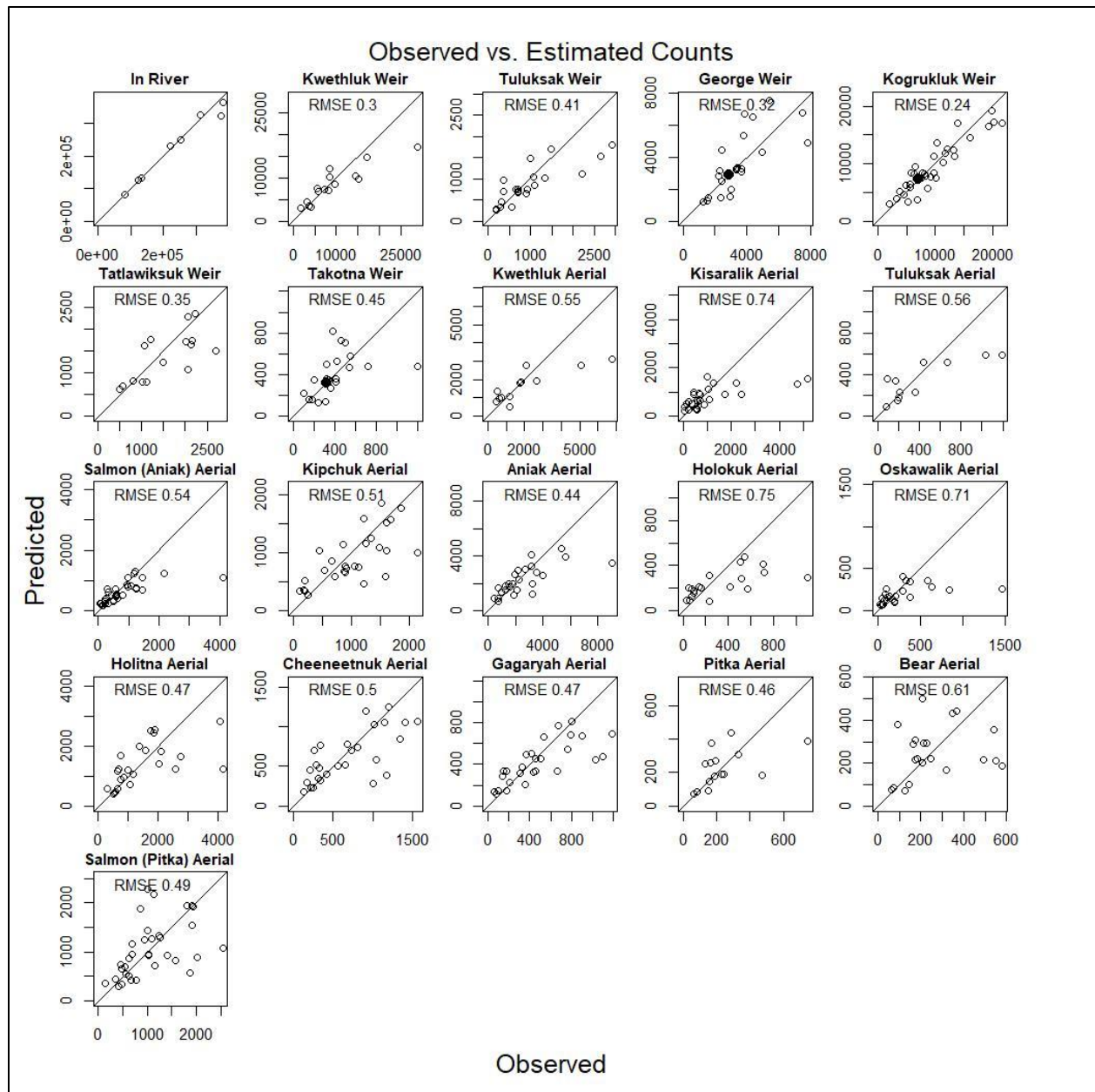


Figure 4.—Observed versus model estimated escapement counts.

Note: The diagonal line within each subplot represents the 1:1 line, which is the point at which observed and estimated escapements are equal. Hollow dots are the prior observations and solid dots are the 2021 observations. Dots that fall below the 1:1 line indicate that the observed counts are higher than the model estimates, and the opposite is also true. The top left subplot titled “Inriver” is the 2003–2007 and 2014–2017 total run estimates used to scale the model.

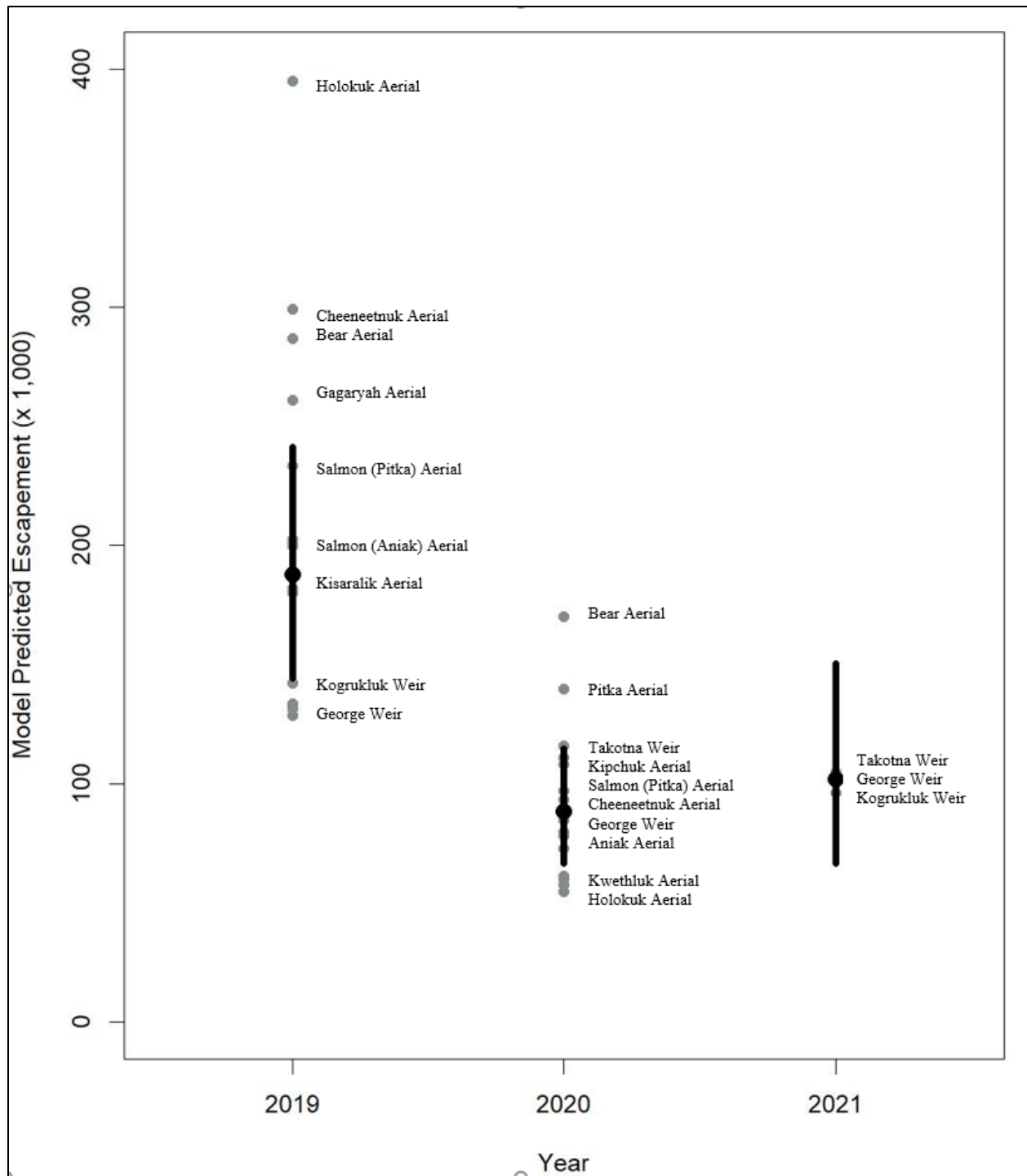


Figure 5.—Range of drainagewide escapement estimates produced by the model based on each escapement project.

Note: Grey dots are individual project estimates of the total run based on the model estimated scaling factor. Black dots and lines show the model derived drainagewide escapement and 95% confidence interval after simultaneously combining the information from all escapement monitoring projects. Estimates for years 2019 and 2020 are shown to provide context for 2021 results.

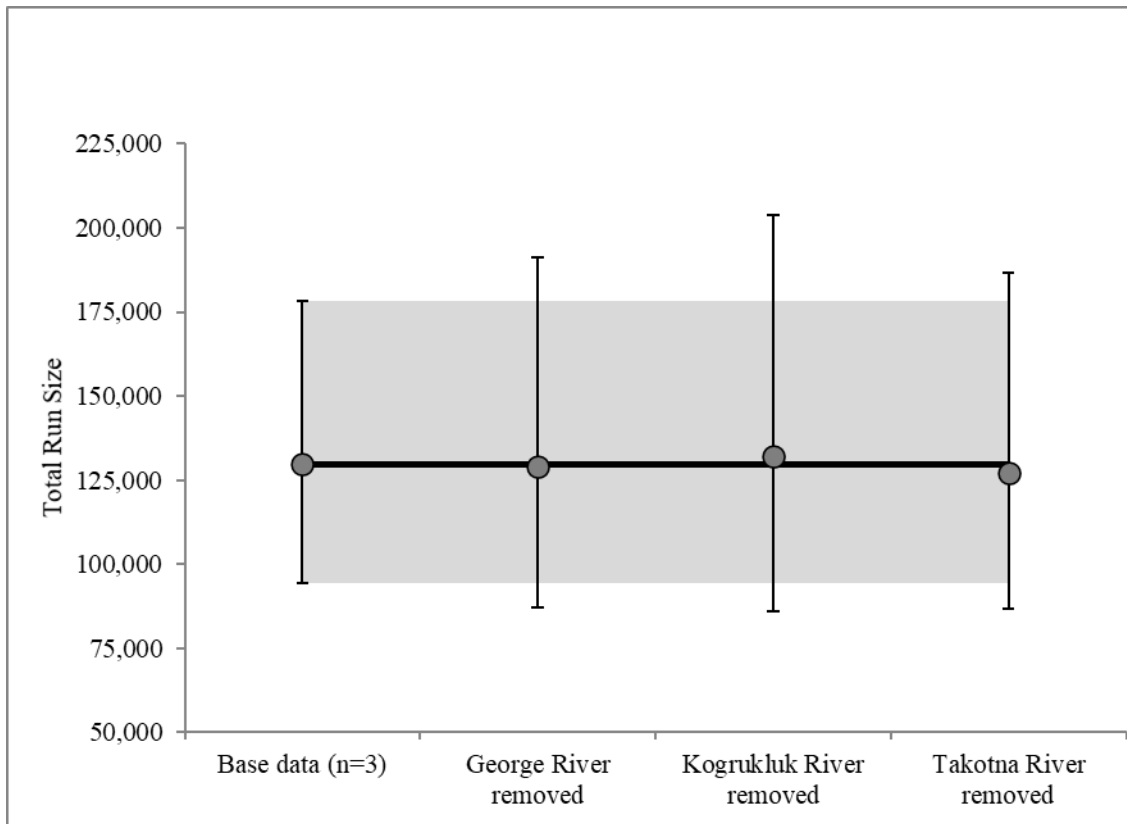


Figure 6.—Sensitivity of 2021 Chinook salmon total run size estimates using all available data (base data) and removal of single escapement monitoring projects (dots).

Note: The solid black line is the point estimate of the ADF&G base model, and the grey shaded area is the 95% confidence interval. Alternative estimates (dots) and 95% confidence intervals are shown for comparison. The amount of overlap with the grey shaded area indicates the degree of similarity between estimates.

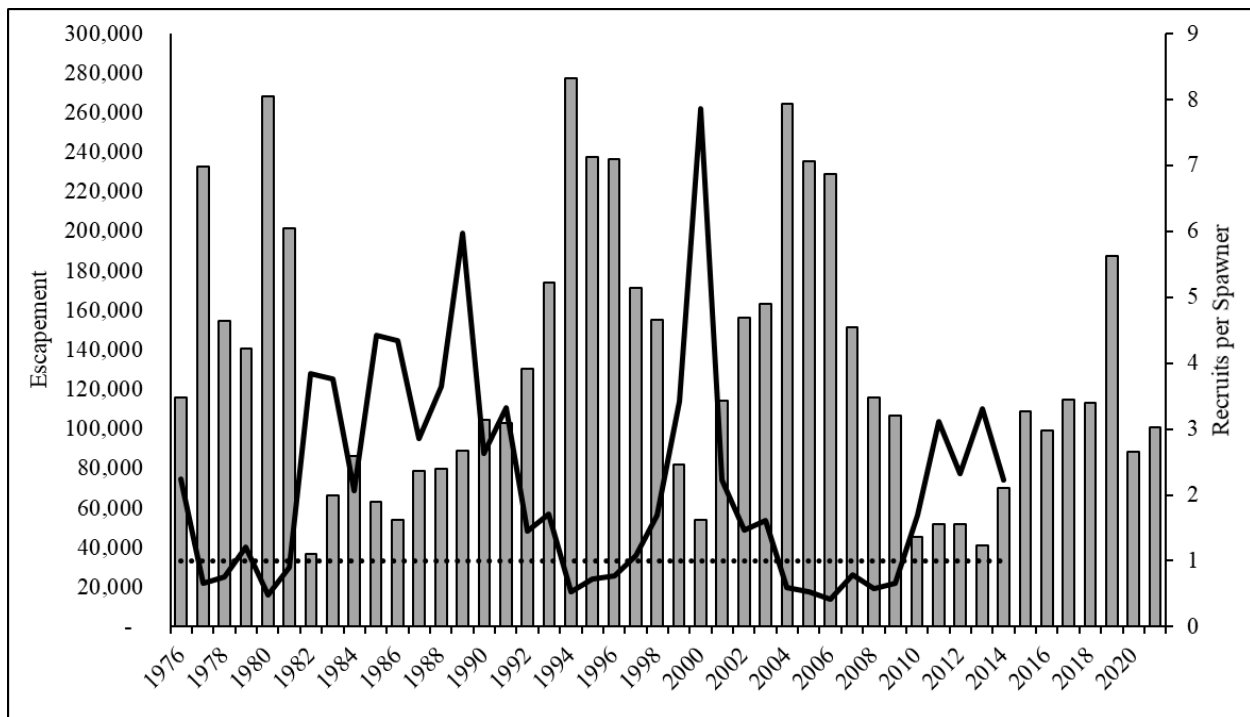


Figure 7.—Escapement (bars), recruits per spawner (solid line), and the 1:1 replacement line for recruits per spawner (dotted line) for Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon, 1976–2021.

APPENDIX A: 2021 NPFMC 3-SYSTEM INDEX LETTER



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Fish and Game

Division of Commercial Fisheries
Headquarters Office

1255 West 8th Street
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, Alaska 99811-5526
Main: 907.465.4210
Fax: 907.465.2604

September 22, 2021

Dr. James Balsiger, Administrator
NOAA Fisheries, Alaska Region
PO Box 21668
Juneau, Alaska 99802-1668

Dear Dr. Balsiger,

In April 2015, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) adopted an action that lowers Chinook salmon bycatch caps in the Bering Sea pollock fishery when Chinook salmon abundance in Western Alaska is at historically low levels.¹ The Council's action identifies historically low Western Alaskan Chinook salmon abundance using a three-system index of inriver adult Chinook salmon run sizes from the Unalakleet, Upper Yukon, and Kuskokwim rivers combined at or below the threshold level of 250,000 fish. The Council's action also specified a process by which the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (department) would provide postseason abundance estimates to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) by October 1, following the salmon season each year. If the threshold is not met, the performance standard and hard cap applicable to the Bering Sea pollock fishery would be lowered in the following year.

Methods and analyses used by the department to estimate the postseason run size for each of the three systems have been approved by the Council, and there were no changes to those methods in 2021. The methods used for the Unalakleet and Upper Yukon rivers are consistent with what is outlined in the Council's public review analysis.² Methods used for the Kuskokwim River were approved by the Council in June 2018³.

The 2021 three-system index of inriver adult Chinook salmon run sizes from the Unalakleet, Upper Yukon, and Kuskokwim rivers is 165,148 and is below the threshold level of 250,000.

The following details the preliminary total run estimates for each system:

Unalakleet River

The preliminary postseason run size estimate of Unalakleet River Chinook salmon is **2,892**, based on the sum of reported commercial harvest, expected subsistence harvest, and estimated total escapement. A total of seven Chinook salmon were commercially harvested in Norton Sound Subdistrict 6 (Unalakleet Subdistrict), and the total catch was assumed to be bound for the Unalakleet River. The department expects approximately 1,500 Unalakleet River Chinook salmon were harvested for subsistence uses in 2021. Subsistence harvest in 2021 is expected to be comparable or slightly smaller than the 2020 harvest (i.e., 1,778) given similarities in fishing opportunities combined with adverse weather conditions. The North River Tower and Unalakleet River weir operated successfully during much of the target operational period. The preliminary total escapement of Chinook salmon to the Unalakleet River was estimated to be 1,385 and is considered reliable (95% CI⁴: 977–1,793).

¹ <https://npfmc.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=2237783&GUID=89E4DA9C-19B8-4BDE-8643-B19D68DD9EE3>

² Public Review draft Environmental Assessment/ Regulatory Impact Review/ Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis for Proposed Amendment to the Fishery Management Plan for Bering Sea Aleutian Islands Groundfish Bering Sea Chinook and Chum salmon bycatch management measures, March 2015.

³ <https://npfmc.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=3486558&GUID=81056FD0-C9E8-4376-BD59-C2F6084C82E9&Options=ID|Text&Search=Kuskokwim>

⁴ CI: confidence interval

-continued-

Dr. James Balsiger

- 2 -

September 22, 2021

Upper Yukon River

The preliminary postseason run size estimate of Upper Yukon River Chinook salmon is **33,251**, based on the preliminary assessment of total passage into Canada and expectations of the total harvest in Alaska. Chinook salmon passage into Canada was based on a sonar project operated near the U.S./Canada border, downriver from Eagle, Alaska. The preliminary sonar count is 31,631 (90% CI: 31,289–31,973). The total harvest of Upper Yukon River Chinook salmon in Alaska is expected to be about 1,620. The potential for a very small Chinook salmon run was forecasted pre-season, and in-season assessment indicated both the Chinook salmon and chum salmon runs were very weak. As such, conservation actions were implemented to protect both Chinook salmon and chum salmon which co-migrate throughout much of the Yukon River. There were no commercial salmon fisheries executed in the Yukon River in 2021, relevant sport fisheries were closed, and subsistence fishing was closed for all salmon beginning June 2 in the lower portion of the river. Limited harvest of Upper Yukon River Chinook salmon occurred in test fisheries operated by the department and in small-mesh gillnet opportunities directed at non-salmon species. The 2021 preliminary harvest expectation was informed by the 2014 total harvest (approximately 3,000), which resulted from heavy restrictions like those imposed in 2021, and the recent five-year average proportion of Canadian-origin Chinook salmon in Alaska fisheries (54%). The preliminary total run size of Upper Yukon River Chinook salmon was generally consistent with the lower end of the pre-season run forecast (i.e., 80% CI: 42,000–77,000), but notably smaller than the lower end of the in-season run size estimate (i.e., 59,000) based on independent sonar and genetic stock identification programs.

Kuskokwim River

The preliminary postseason run size estimate of Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon is **129,005** fish (95% CI: 93,700–177,600), based on preliminary results of a maximum likelihood model. The total run estimate was informed by direct observations of escapement and an expectation of drainagewide harvest. The preliminary escapement estimate (101, 203) is uncertain (95% CI: 65,900–149,800) because the model was informed by only three weir projects. Poor weather conditions prevented the department from flying aerial surveys during the 2021 season, and those indices of escapement were not available to inform the model. The total harvest of Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon is expected to be 27,802. No commercial harvest of Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon occurred during the 2021 season. Nearly all harvest occurred in the subsistence fishery, and minimal harvest occurred in test fisheries operated by the department and collaborators. Subsistence fishing restrictions were implemented throughout the Chinook salmon run in 2021. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) estimated that approximately 21,560 Chinook salmon were harvested within a portion of the Yukon Delta National Wildlife refuge during subsistence fishing openers announced by Federal Special Actions. A preliminary estimate of drainagewide subsistence harvest was generated using a five-year relationship between partial harvest estimates developed in-season by USFWS and drainagewide estimates developed post-season by the department. The preliminary total run size of Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon was within the pre-season run forecast of 94,000–155,000 and is consistent with an independent partial run estimate of 102,525 (90% CI: 84,409–120,641) Chinook salmon, based on a sonar project operated near Bethel, Alaska.

Sincerely,



Sam Rabung
Director, Division of Commercial Fisheries

cc: Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner
Rachel Baker, Deputy Commissioner
Glenn Merrill, NMFS AKR
David Witherell, NPFMC

APPENDIX B: 2021 ADMB-CODE WITH ANNOTATIONS

```
//=====
//DATA SECTION
//=====
DATA_SECTION

init_int nyear; // number of years with datae
init_int nweek; // number of weeks for harvest data
init_int nweir; // number of weir sites
init_int nair; // number of aerial survey sites

init_matrix testf(1,nyear,1,nweek); //Estimates of run proportion by week

init_matrix ceff(1,nyear,1,nweek); // Weekly effort commercial fishery
init_matrix ccat(1,nyear,1,nweek); // Weekly catch commercial fishery
init_matrix creg(1,nyear,1,nweek); // Weekly indicator of fishery regulation

init_vector inriv(1,nyear); // Annual in-river run estimate
init_vector inriv_sd(1,nyear); // SD of annual in-river run estimate

init_vector tcatch(1,nyear); // Total harvest across all fishery sectors
init_matrix esc_w(1,nyear,1,nweir); // Weir escapement indices
init_matrix esc_a(1,nyear,1,nair); // Aerial escapement indices

init_vector minesc(1,nyear); // Minimum annual escapement
init_vector minrun(1,nyear); // Minimum annual run size
init_vector ubrun(1,nyear); // Upper bounds for annual run size estimation

//=====
// Parameter Section
//=====
PARAMETER_SECTION
init_bounded_number_vector log_trun(1,nyear,minrun,ubrun,1); // log drainage-wide run
init_bounded_vector log_wesc(1,nweir,0,7,1); // log slope for weir counts
init_bounded_vector log_aesc(1,nair,0,7,1); // log slope for aerial counts
init_bounded_vector log_q(1,2,-12,-9,1); // log Catchability for different fishery sectors
init_bounded_number log_cvw(-10,1,1); // log cv for weir counts
init_bounded_number log_cva(-10,1,1); // log cv for aerial counts
init_bounded_number log_cvq(-10,1,1); // log cv for commercial cpue
vector t_run(1,nyear); // storage for untransformed total runs
vector wesc(1,nweir); // storage for untransformed weir escapement slopes
vector aesc(1,nair); // storage for untransformed aerial escapement slopes
vector q(1,2); // storage for untransformed catchabilities
number cvw; // storage for untransformed weir cv parameters
number cva; // storage for untransformed aerial cv parameters
number cvq; // storage for untransformed fishery cv parameters
matrix wk_est(1,nyear,1,nweek); // storage matrix for the estimated number of fish available for harvest
each week
number tfw; // likelihood for weir counts
number tfa; // likelihood for aerial counts
```

```

vector tfc(1,3);           // likelihood for commercial CPUE
number tft;                // likelihood for in-river run estimates
vector esc(1,nyear);       // vector of total escapement estimates
number var1;               // storage for Weir Escapement variance parameter
number var2;               // storage for Aerial Escapement variance parameter
number var3;               // storage for CPUE variance parameter
matrix cpue(1,3,1,nyear); // storage matrix for annual CPUE by fishery
matrix testp(1,3,1,nyear); // testfish weekly run proportion

objective_function_value objf;

INITIALIZATION_SECTION
log_trun 12.5;
log_wesc 5.0;
log_aesc 4.0;
log_q -11.0;
log_cvw 1.0;
log_cva 1.0;
log_cvq 1.0;

//=====
// Calculate Annual run adjusted CPUE
//=====
PRELIMINARY_CALCS_SECTION
int i,j,k;
for (i=1;i<=nyear;i++)
{
for (j=1;j<=nweek;j++)
{
// Unrestricted mesh catch
if(creg(i,j)==1)
{
cpue(1,i) += ccat(i,j)/ceff(i,j);
testp(1,i) += testf(i,j);
}
// Restricted mesh catch
if(creg(i,j)==2)
{
cpue(2,i) += ccat(i,j)/ceff(i,j);
testp(2,i) += testf(i,j);
}
// Mono-filament mesh catch
if(creg(i,j)==3 or creg(i,j)==5)
{
cpue(3,i) += ccat(i,j)/ceff(i,j);
testp(3,i) += testf(i,j);
}
}
}

//=====

```

```

// Procedure Section
//=====
PROCEDURE_SECTION

objf = 0.0;

convert_parameters_into_rates();

evaluate_obj_func();

RUNTIME_SECTION
maximum_function_evaluations 200000000
convergence_criteria 1.e-30 //was 1.e-20 //low converge was .000001

//=====
// Function convert_parameters_into_rates
//=====
FUNCTION convert_parameters_into_rates

t_run=exp(log_trun);
wesc=exp(log_wesc);
aesc=exp(log_aesc);
q=exp(log_q);
cvw=exp(log_cvw);
cva=exp(log_cva);
cvq=exp(log_cvq);
var1 = log(square(cvw)+1);
var2 = log(square(cva)+1);
var3 = log(square(cvq)+1);

//=====
// Function evaluate_obj_func
//=====
FUNCTION evaluate_obj_func
int i,j,k,l,ctr1,ctr2,ctr3;

tfw= 0.0;
tfa= 0.0;
tft= 0.0;
tfc=0.0;

for (i=1;i<=nyear;i++)
{
esc(i)=t_run(i)-tcatch(i);

if(inriv(i)>0)
{
tft+= 0.5*square(log(inriv(i))-log(t_run(i)))/log(square(inriv_sd(i)/inriv(i))+1);
// In-River run estimate likelihood
}
}

```



```

// Weir likelihoods
for(j=1;j<=nweir;j++)
{
    if(esc_w(i,j)>0)
    {
        tfw += log(sqrt(var1))+0.5*square(log(esc_w(i,j))-log(esc(i)/wesc(j)))/var1;
    }
}

// Aerial likelihoods
for(k=1;k<=nair;k++)
{
    if(esc_a(i,k)>0)
    {
        tfa += log(sqrt(var2))+0.5*square(log(esc_a(i,k))-log(esc(i)/aesc(k)))/var2;
    }
}

//== Calculate annual run adjusted CPUE ==
    if(cpue(1,i)>0)
    {
        tfc(1) += log(sqrt(var3))+0.5*square(log(cpue(1,i)/testp(1,i))-log(q(1)*t_run(i)))/var3;
    }
// Remove CPUE during the Restricted Period
//    if(cpue(2,i)>0)
//    {
//        tfc(2) += log(sqrt(var3))+0.5*square(log(cpue(2,i)/testp(2,i))-log(q(2)*t_run(i)))/var3;
//    }
    if(cpue(3,i)>0)
    {
        tfc(3) += log(sqrt(var3))+0.5*square(log(cpue(3,i)/testp(3,i))-log(q(2)*t_run(i)))/var3;
    }

}

objf+= tft+tfw+tfa+sum(tfc);

//=====
=====
// Report Section
//=====
=====
REPORT_SECTION

report<<"Total Run"<< endl << t_run << endl;
report<<"ObjFunc"<< endl << objf << endl;
report<<"tfc"<<endl<< tfc <<endl;
report<<"tft"<<endl<< tft <<endl;
report<<"tfa"<<endl<< tfa <<endl;

```

```

report<<"tfw"<<endl<< tfw <<endl;
report<<"cvw"<<endl<< cvw << endl;
report<<"cva"<<endl<< cva << endl;
report<< "q" << endl << q << endl;
report<< "wesc" <<endl<< wesc << endl;
report<< "aesc" <<endl<< aesc << endl;
report<<"tcatch"<<endl<< tcatch<<endl;
report<<"TotalEscapement"<<endl<< esc << endl;

//=====
=====
// Globals Section
//=====
=====
GLOBALS_SECTION
#include <df1b2fun.h>
#include <math.h>
#include <time.h>
#include <statsLib.h>
#include <adnrndeff.h>
#include <admodel.h>
time_t start,finish;
long hour,minute,second;
double elapsed_time;

TOP_OF_MAIN_SECTION
armblsize = 100000000;
gradient_structure::set_MAX_NVAR_OFFSET(30000000);
gradient_structure::set_GRADSTACK_BUFFER_SIZE(3000000);
gradient_structure::set_CMPDIF_BUFFER_SIZE(100000000);
time(&start);

FINAL_SECTION
// Output summary stuff
time(&finish);
elapsed_time = difftime(finish,start);
hour = long(elapsed_time)/3600;
minute = long(elapsed_time)%3600/60;
second = (long(elapsed_time)%3600)%60;
cout << endl << endl << "Starting time: " << ctime(&start);
cout << "Finishing time: " << ctime(&finish);
cout << "This run took: " << hour << " hours, " << minute << " minutes, " << second << " seconds." <<
endl << endl;

```

APPENDIX C: MODEL INPUT DATA

Appendix C1.—Independent estimates of Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon abundance, used to scale the run reconstruction model.

Conventional name:	Year	Total run	Standard error
	2003	222,145	16,055
	2004	381,958	36,322
	2005	312,353	21,083
	2006	376,291	31,094
	2007	251,781	16,315
	2014	80,399	8,605
	2015	124,421	9,362
	2016	131,090	12,632
	2017	133,292	15,702

Appendix C2.—Harvest of Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon.

Var name:	Year	H.Com	H.Sub	H.Sports	H.Test
Conventional name:	Year	Commercial	Subsistence	Sport	Testfish
	1976	30,735	58,606	—	1,206
	1977	35,830	56,580	33	1,264
	1978	45,641	36,270	116	1,445
	1979	38,966	56,283	74	979
	1980	35,881	59,892	162	1,033
	1981	47,663	61,329	189	1,218
	1982	48,234	58,018	207	542
	1983	33,174	47,412	420	1,139
	1984	31,742	56,930	273	231
	1985	37,889	43,874	85	79
	1986	19,414	51,019	49	130
	1987	36,179	67,325	355	384
	1988	55,716	70,943	528	576
	1989	43,217	81,175	1,218	543
	1990	53,502	109,778	394	512
	1991	37,778	74,820	401	149
	1992	46,872	82,481	367	1,380
	1993	8,735	87,830	587	2,515
	1994	16,211	102,817	1,139	1,937
	1995	30,846	101,921	541	1,421
	1996	7,419	96,477	1,432	247
	1997	10,441	79,334	1,227	332
	1998	17,359	80,969	1,434	210
	1999	4,705	73,538	252	98
	2000	444	67,596	105	64
	2001	90	78,174	290	86
	2002	72	81,169	319	288
	2003	158	67,737	401	409
	2004	2,305	96,788	857	691
	2005	4,784	85,863	572	557
	2006	2,777	90,812	444	352
	2007	179	94,898	1,478	305
	2008	8,865	88,912	708	420
	2009	6,664	79,896	904	470
	2010	2,732	67,286	354	292
	2011	747	62,366	579	337
	2012	627	22,544	0	321
	2013	174	47,113	0	201
	2014	35	11,234	0	497
	2015	8	16,124	0	472
	2016	0	30,693	0	525
	2017	0	16,380	0	290
	2018	0	22,266	0	465
	2019	0	37,941	0	563
	2020	0	35,846	0	355
	2021	0	28,365	0	386

Appendix C3.—Weir escapement counts of Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon.

Var name:	Year	w.kwe	w.tul	w.geo	w.kog	w.tat	w.tak
Conventional name:	Year	Kwethluk	Tuluksak	George	Kogruklu	Tatlawiksuk	Takotna
	1976	—	—	—	5,822	—	—
	1977	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1978	—	—	—	13,436	—	—
	1979	—	—	—	11,437	—	—
	1980	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1981	—	—	—	16,075	—	—
	1982	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1983	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1984	—	—	—	4,922	—	—
	1985	—	—	—	4,479	—	—
	1986	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1987	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1988	—	—	—	8,603	—	—
	1989	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1990	—	—	—	10,093	—	—
	1991	—	697	—	7,602	—	—
	1992	9,675	1,083	—	6,471	—	—
	1993	—	2,218	—	12,157	—	—
	1994	—	2,932	—	—	—	—
	1995	—	—	—	20,249	—	—
	1996	—	—	7,501	13,900	—	—
	1997	—	—	7,810	13,116	—	423
	1998	—	—	—	—	—	1,197
	1999	—	—	—	5,567	1,484	—
	2000	3,547	—	2,956	3,254	808	—
	2001	—	924	3,313	8,151	2,013	345
	2002	8,543	1,346	2,445	9,830	2,237	718
	2003	14,475	1,067	—	11,751	—	326
	2004	28,801	1,475	5,392	19,880	2,833	378
	2005	—	2,653	3,845	21,686	2,858	461
	2006	17,019	1,008	4,359	19,305	1,700	499
	2007	15,112	374	4,972	—	2,058	537
	2008	5,642	707	3,383	9,740	1,194	412
	2009	5,826	362	3,664	9,201	1,071	413
	2010	1,716	201	1,500	5,160	554	311
	2011	4,056	284	1,605	6,926	1,011	183
	2012	—	559	2,362	—	1,116	149
	2013	—	198	1,267	1,919	495	238
	2014	3,191	325	2,988	3,726	2,050	104
	2015	8,163	711	2,301	8,333	2,131	—
	2016	—	909	2,218	7,062	2,693	—
	2017	7,207	648	3,669	7,787	2,146	318
	2018	—	—	3,322	6,292	—	205
	2019	8,505	—	3,828	10,301	—	554
	2020	—	—	2,418	5,645	—	357
	2021	—	—	2,920	6,969	—	323

Note: En dash means no data.

Appendix C4.—Peak aerial survey index counts of Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon.

Var name:	Year	a.kwe	a.kis	a.tul	a.sla	a.kip	a.ank	a.hlk	a.osk	a.hlt	a.che	a.gag	a.pit	a.ber	a.slp
Conventional name:	Year	Kwethluk	Kisaralik	Tuluksak	Salmon (Aniak)	Kipchuk	Aniak	Holokuk	Oskawalik	Holitna	Cheeneetnuk	Gagaryah	Pitka	Bear	Salmon (Pitka)
	1976	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,571	—	663	—	182	—
	1977	2,075	—	439	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,407	897	—	—	1,930
	1978	1,722	2,417	—	289	—	—	—	—	2,766	268	504	—	227	1,100
	1979	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	682
	1980	—	—	1,035	1,186	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1981	—	—	—	—	—	9,074	—	—	—	—	—	—	93	—
	1982	—	81	—	126	—	—	—	—	521	—	—	—	127	413
	1983	471	—	186	231	—	1,909	—	—	1,069	173	—	—	—	572
	1984	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,177	—	—	—	545
	1985	—	63	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,002	—	—	—	620
	1986	—	—	—	336	—	424	—	—	650	—	—	—	—	—
	1987	—	—	—	516	193	—	—	193	—	317	205	—	—	—
	1988	622	869	195	244	—	954	—	80	—	—	—	—	—	474
	1989	1,157	152	—	631	1,598	2,109	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	452
	1990	—	631	205	596	537	1,255	—	113	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1991	—	217	358	583	885	1,564	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1992	—	—	—	335	670	2,284	—	91	2,022	1,050	328	—	—	2,536
	1993	—	—	—	1,082	1,248	2,687	233	103	1,573	678	419	—	—	1,010
	1994	—	1,021	—	1,218	1,520	—	—	—	—	1,206	807	—	—	1,010
	1995	—	1,243	—	1,446	1,215	3,171	—	326	1,887	1,565	1,193	—	—	1,911
	1996	—	—	—	985	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1997	—	439	—	980	855	2,187	—	1,470	2,093	345	364	—	—	—
	1998	—	457	—	557	443	1,930	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	98	741	—	—	—	—	—
	2000	—	—	—	238	182	714	—	62	301	—	—	151	—	362
	2001	—	—	—	598	—	—	52	—	4,156	—	143	—	175	1,033
	2002	1,795	1,727	—	1,236	1,615	—	513	295	733	730	452	165	211	1,255

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Appendix C4.–Page 2 of 2.

Var name:	Year	a.kwe	a.kis	a.tul	a.sla	a.kip	a.ank	a.hlk	a.osk	a.hlt	a.che	a.gag	a.pit	a.ber	a.slp
Conventional name:	Year	Kwethluk	Kisaralik	Tuluksak	Salmon (Aniak)	Kipchuk	Aniak	Holokuk	Oskawalik	Holitna	Cheeneetnuk	Gagaryah	Pitka	Bear	Salmon (Pitka)
	2003	2,661	654	94	1,242	1,493	3,514	1,096	844	–	810	1,095	197	176	1,242
	2004	6,801	5,157	1,196	2,177	1,868	5,362	539	293	4,051	918	670	290	206	1,138
	2005	5,059	2,206	672	4,097	1,679	–	510	582	1,760	1,155	788	744	367	1,801
	2006	–	4,734	–	–	1,618	5,639	705	386	1,866	1,015	531	170	347	862
	2007	–	692	173	1,458	2,147	3,984	–	–	–	–	1,035	131	165	943
	2008	487	1,074	–	589	1,061	3,222	418	213	–	290	177	242	245	1,033
	2009	–	–	–	–	–	–	565	379	–	323	303	187	209	632
	2010	–	235	–	–	–	–	229	–	587	–	62	67	75	135
	2011	–	534	–	79	116	–	61	26	–	249	96	85	145	767
	2012	–	588	–	49	193	–	36	51	–	229	178	–	–	670
	2013	1,165	599	83	154	261	754	–	38	532	138	74	–	64	469
	2014	–	622	–	497	1,220	3,201	80	200	–	340	359	–	–	1,865
	2015	–	709	–	810	917	–	77	–	662	–	–	–	–	2,016
	2016	–	622	–	–	898	718	100	47	1,157	217	135	–	580	1,578
	2017	–	–	–	423	889	1,781	140	136	676	660	453	234	492	687
	2018	–	584	–	442	1,123	1,534	162	–	980	565	438	471	550	1,399
	2019	–	1,063	–	950	1,344	3,160	719	638	1,377	1,345	760	330	542	1,918
	2020	721	350	–	269	723	1,264	99	169	854	419	–	160	321	1,150
	2021 ^a	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

Note: En dash means no data. Only surveys rated good or fair were used. Only surveys flown between July 17 and August 5, inclusive, were used. Chinook salmon live and carcass counts were combined.

^a No aerial surveys were flown in 2021 due to inclement weather.

Appendix C5.—Proportion of total annual Chinook salmon run in District W-1, by week, as estimated by Bethel test fishery.

Var name:	Year	rpw.3	rpw.4	rpw.5	rpw.6	rpw.7	rpw.8	rpw.9	rpw.10
Conventional name:	Year	6/10–6/16	6/17–6/23	6/24–6/30	7/1–7/7	7/8–7/14	7/15–7/21	7/22–7/28	7/29–8/26
	1976	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1977	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1978	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1979	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1980	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1981	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1982	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1983	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1984	0.2243	0.2903	0.1488	0.1633	0.0509	0.0522	0.0090	0.0173
	1985	0.0000	0.0930	0.2427	0.4306	0.1504	0.0247	0.0175	0.0410
	1986	0.1503	0.4039	0.1656	0.1399	0.0488	0.0097	0.0241	0.0000
	1987	0.1988	0.3070	0.2368	0.1137	0.0210	0.0344	0.0130	0.0094
	1988	0.2080	0.3086	0.1786	0.0852	0.0218	0.0419	0.0145	0.0192
	1989	0.1769	0.2780	0.3474	0.0976	0.0258	0.0190	0.0119	0.0112
	1990	0.1434	0.2095	0.3325	0.1492	0.0609	0.0136	0.0266	0.0256
	1991	0.0593	0.2965	0.2942	0.1994	0.0337	0.0430	0.0000	0.0000
	1992	0.3466	0.1791	0.2132	0.1085	0.0542	0.0554	0.0000	0.0118
	1993	0.2148	0.4172	0.1270	0.0328	0.0273	0.0097	0.0000	0.0000
	1994	0.2883	0.3098	0.1396	0.1009	0.0138	0.0122	0.0000	0.0061
	1995	0.1566	0.3066	0.3005	0.0988	0.0300	0.0050	0.0097	0.0050
	1996	0.4007	0.2138	0.0963	0.0288	0.0214	0.0000	0.0066	0.0033
	1997	0.1913	0.5295	0.1196	0.0533	0.0357	0.0119	0.0079	0.0059
	1998	0.1166	0.2199	0.3866	0.1513	0.0378	0.0116	0.0055	0.0000
	1999	0.1360	0.1349	0.2469	0.1462	0.1903	0.0297	0.0754	0.0297
	2000	0.2089	0.3896	0.1530	0.0461	0.0205	0.0410	0.0000	0.0183
	2001	0.0791	0.4157	0.2510	0.1036	0.0528	0.0367	0.0000	0.0156
	2002	0.3547	0.2245	0.1601	0.1034	0.0337	0.0137	0.0089	0.0132
	2003	0.2764	0.2748	0.1433	0.0662	0.0351	0.0255	0.0112	0.0042
	2004	0.2130	0.2927	0.2513	0.0693	0.0406	0.0537	0.0160	0.0021
	2005	0.2335	0.2851	0.1876	0.1601	0.0768	0.0062	0.0000	0.0168
	2006	0.1299	0.3054	0.2935	0.1675	0.0535	0.0114	0.0142	0.0105
	2007	0.0996	0.2000	0.3114	0.2472	0.0754	0.0316	0.0095	0.0032

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Appendix C5.–Page 2 of 2.

Var name:	Year	rpw.3	rpw.4	rpw.5	rpw.6	rpw.7	rpw.8	rpw.9	rpw.10
Conventional name:	Year	6/10–6/16	6/17–6/23	6/24–6/30	7/1–7/7	7/8–7/14	7/15–7/21	7/22–7/28	7/29–8/26
	2008	0.1524	0.2931	0.3057	0.1183	0.0431	0.0334	0.0083	0.0139
	2009	0.1955	0.2830	0.3460	0.0753	0.0323	0.0164	0.0000	0.0049
	2010	0.2190	0.3755	0.1517	0.1335	0.0556	0.0185	0.0113	0.0103
	2011	0.1188	0.2976	0.1996	0.1695	0.0818	0.0130	0.0000	0.0031
	2012	0.0508	0.2964	0.3308	0.2114	0.0627	0.0201	0.0088	0.0127
	2013	0.1681	0.3708	0.2654	0.0963	0.0743	0.0108	0.0000	0.0000
	2014	0.2834	0.2370	0.1217	0.0771	0.0148	0.0146	0.0000	0.0029
	2015	0.1859	0.2292	0.1520	0.1316	0.0625	0.0591	0.0338	0.0238
	2016	0.1696	0.1830	0.2085	0.1385	0.0722	0.0296	0.0197	0.0112
	2017	0.0899	0.2067	0.3202	0.1459	0.1117	0.0473	0.0266	0.0265
	2018	0.1979	0.1706	0.3085	0.174	0.0539	0.0231	0.0175	0.0108
	2019	0.1478	0.3298	0.2459	0.0473	0.0591	0.0165	0.0106	0.0000
	2020	0.1327	0.1895	0.2331	0.1599	0.1398	0.0435	0.0073	0.0124
	2021	0.1722	0.1931	0.2705	0.1270	0.1275	0.0284	0.0096	0.0000

Note: En dash means no data.

Appendix C6.–Chinook salmon catch and effort (permit-hours) for Kuskokwim River District W-1.

Var name: Conventional name:	Year Year	Week 3 6/10–6/16			Week 4 6/17–6/23			Week 5 6/24–6/30		
		chw.3 Catch	cew.3 Effort	cfw.3 Net	chw.4 Catch	cew.4 Effort	cfw.4 Net	chw.5 Catch	cew.5 Effort	cfw.5 Net
	1976	0	0	0	20,010	5,724	1	4,143	2,088	2
	1977	12,458	2,802	1	16,227	2,904	1	1,841	4,722	2
	1978	18,483	3,972	1	10,066	2,004	1	3,723	5,346	2
	1979	24,633	6,432	1	5,651	3,012	2	3,860	6,438	2
	1980	9,891	2,814	1	21,698	5,364	4	1,460	2,448	2
	1981	29,882	6,180	1	3,830	3,066	2	4,563	5,952	2
	1982	4,912	2,784	1	24,628	5,970	1	12,555	5,176	4
	1983	13,406	5,634	1	8,063	5,544	2	4,925	5,958	2
	1984	0	0	0	17,181	5,562	1	5,643	5,616	2
	1985	0	0	0	6,519	2,538	3	19,204	5,880	3
	1986	0	0	0	0	0	0	11,986	6,540	3
	1987	0	0	0	19,126	4,734	3	0	0	0
	1988	12,640	4,816	3	11,708	3,672	3	15,060	7,518	3
	1989	0	0	0	15,215	5,208	3	11,094	6,144	3
	1990	0	0	0	16,690	3,780	3	25,459	7,536	3
	1991	0	0	0	13,813	3,606	3	12,612	3,696	3
	1992	0	0	0	24,334	9,488	3	16,307	8,628	3
	1993	0	0	0	0	0	0	8,184	4,976	3
	1994	0	0	0	0	0	0	14,221	4,608	3
	1995	0	0	0	6,895	2,276	3	14,424	4,532	3
	1996	0	0	0	4,091	1,056	3	666	360	3
	1997	0	0	0	10,023	2,118	3	0	0	0
	1998	0	0	0	0	0	0	12,771	4,584	3
	1999	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,668	2,454	3
	2000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2001	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2002	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2003	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2004	0	0	0	0	0	0	520	104	3
	2005	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,531	1,189	3
	2006	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,493	1,038	3
	2007	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2008	0	0	0	6,415	1,026	3	2,362	783	3
	2009	0	0	0	3,003	668	3	2,539	752	3
	2010	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,724	1,324	5
	2011	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2012	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2014	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2018	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2019	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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Appendix C6.–Page 2 of 2.

Var name:	Year	Week 6 7/1–7/7			Week 7 7/8–7/14			Week 8 7/15–7/21			Week 9 7/22–7/28		
		chw.6	cew.6	cfw.6	chw.7	cew.7	cfw.7	chw.8	cew.8	cfw.8	chw.9	cew.9	cfw.9
Conventional name:	Year	Catch	Effort	Net	Catch	Effort	Net	Catch	Effort	Net	Catch	Effort	Net
	1976	1,550	2,490	2	1,238	4,548	2	236	1,590	2	0	0	0
	1977	673	4,194	2	153	2,310	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1978	2,354	8,676	2	153	2,310	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1979	1,233	3,252	2	470	3,120	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1980	498	2,298	2	445	2,586	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1981	2,795	5,520	2	941	2,640	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1982	1,970	3,968	2	1,055	4,734	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1983	2,415	5,634	2	633	2,796	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1984	3,206	5,454	2	2,069	5,592	2	744	2,238	2	0	0	0
	1985	9,942	5,844	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1986	5,029	6,852	3	1,156	3,192	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1987	9,606	6,948	3	1,910	3,582	3	2,758	6,720	3	0	0	0
	1988	5,871	6,954	3	5,270	10,794	3	1,728	6,636	3	662	6,276	3
	1989	7,911	7,092	3	6,043	10,962	3	868	2,622	3	210	3,372	3
	1990	4,071	3,546	3	4,931	8,534	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1991	8,068	7,308	3	904	3,426	3	452	3,408	3	419	7,522	3
	1992	3,250	4,696	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1993	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1994	0	0	0	578	1,984	3	441	3,000	3	538	6,348	3
	1995	4,368	3,824	3	1,452	3,716	3	568	3,488	3	0	0	0
	1996	861	836	3	408	896	3	251	1,195	3	307	6,398	3
	1997	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1998	2,277	1,780	3	1,127	1,668	3	0	0	0	816	4,296	3
	1999	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2000	357	896	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2001	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2002	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2003	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2004	1,107	446	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	127	360	3
	2005	874	604	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2006	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2007	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2008	19	4	3	1	6	3	0	6	0	0	12	0
	2009	762	519	3	113	436	3	83	672	3	58	752	3
	2010	290	522	3	271	686	3	186	958	3	176	1,632	3
	2011	361	634	5	227	996	5	129	1,226	5	24	1,668	5
	2012	0	0	0	45	604	5	195	1,616	5	39	1,464	5
	2013	0	0	0	0	0	0	139	2,018	5	21	1,556	5
	2014	0	0	0	14	584	5	14	2,276	5	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2018	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2019	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Note: Key to column net:

- 1 = Gillnet mesh size unrestricted.
- 2 = Gillnets were restricted to 6" or less - old gear.
- 3 = Gillnets were restricted to 6" or less - new gear.
- 4 = Both unrestricted and restricted mesh size periods in the week.
- 5 = Personal use harvest also included in catch and effort calculations - 6" or less new gear.