

Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group

ZOOM.US Meeting ID: 816 6267 8969 OR 1-888-788-0099

Passcode: 849016

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

Meeting Agenda

Date: August 6th, 2025

Time: 10 am

Place: Bethel

Time Called to Order:

Chair:

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:
KRITFC:
ADF&G:

INTRODUCTIONS:

INVOCATION:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: *the agenda may be amended at this time.*

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD: *Non-Working Group Members*

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

- A. Subsistence Reports: Lowest River, ONC Inseason Subsistence Report, KRITFC Inseason Harvest Report, Lower River, Middle River, Upper River, Headwaters
- B. Overview of Kuskokwim River salmon run assessment:
 - 1. ADF&G – Sean Larson (sonar/weirs/ATF)
 - 2. USFWS – Nate Akers
 - 3. NVN – Dan Gillikin
 - 4. ONC – Jacob Wade
 - 5. KRITFC – Justin Leon
- C. Intercept Fishery Report: *optional*
- D. Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge Fishery Management update – Spencer Rearden and Kevin Whitworth
- E. ADF&G upcoming management considerations and discussion of possible alternatives (recommendations from the Working Group) – Sam Decker
- F. Motions for Discussion and Action

OLD BUSINESS:

- G. Co-chair update

NEW BUSINESS:

- H. Presentation: Upper Kuskokwim Natural Indicators project – Tim Bembenic

COMMENTS FROM WORKING GROUP MEMBERS:

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

Kuskokwim River Salmon Assessment Update

8/4/2025



The data summaries presented in this document are provided by ADF&G. **All data and analyses contained are preliminary and are subject to change, so please make interpretations carefully.**

If you have any questions about the content, please contact Sean Larson (ADF&G; sean.larson@alaska.gov). Original development of code used to create this document is credited to Benjamin Staton.

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Species Composition Summaries

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Abbreviations

- ATF: Aniak Test Fishery
- CPUE: Catch-per-unit-effort
- EOS: End-of-Season
- ADF&G: Alaska Department of Fish and Game
- KRITFC: Kuskokwim River Inter-tribal Fisheries Commission
- OTNC: Orutsaramiut Traditional Native Council
- USFWS: United States Fish and Wildlife Service
- YDNWR: Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge

To view escapement information, please visit the ADF&G Kuskokwim River Fish Counts page

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

For the most up-to-date information regarding fishing opportunities please visit

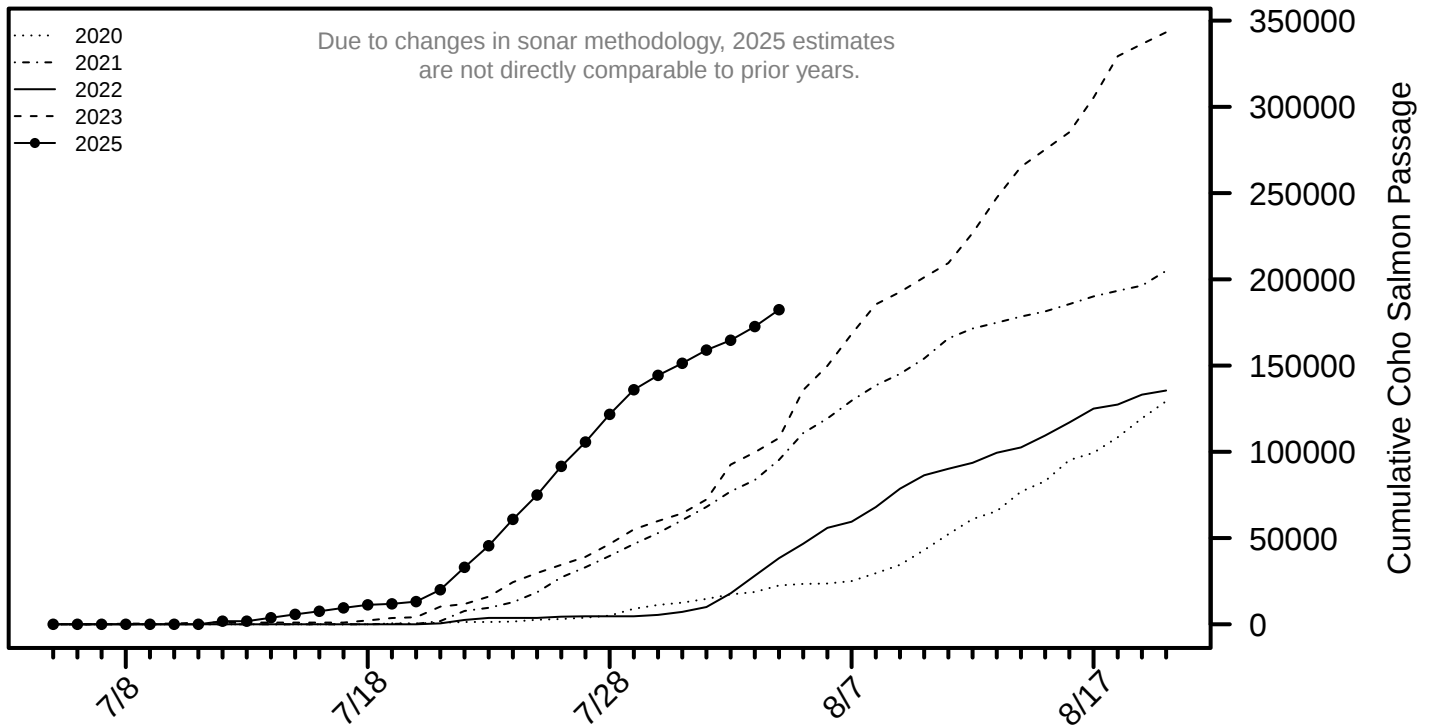
- **USFWS:** https://www.fws.gov/refuge/yukon_delta/wildlife_and_habitat/dailyupdate.html
- **ADF&G:** <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>

Coho Salmon Summary (8/4)

Based on Kuskokwim River Sonar

- The sonar daily passage was **9,761**.
- The sonar cumulative passage is now **182,378**.
- The average (2020-2023) sonar cumulative passage is **66,041** for this date.
- **100%** of years since 2018 fell below the cumulative passage for this date.
- **18% - 34%** of the run is likely complete based on historical run timing at the sonar.

Coho Salmon Figure 1: The cumulative sonar passage from 2025 plotted along with the 4 prior years sonar that operated through August. Only 3 sonar units were deployed in 2020-2023, which resulted in some missed offshore coho salmon passage. A 4th sonar unit was added in 2025 for full coverage and is represented in the graph below. See *Coho Salmon Table 1* for differences between 2025 estimates using full (4 sonar units) and partial (3 sonar units) coverage.



Coho Salmon Table 1. Cumulative passage at the Kuskokwim River sonar. Sonar ended operations in July during the 2018, 2019, and 2024 seasons, which resulted in incomplete coho salmon assessment. Only 3 sonar units were deployed in 2020-2023, which resulted in some missed offshore coho salmon passage. A 4th sonar unit was added in 2025 for full coverage. 2025a represents estimates using full coverage. 2025b represents estimates using coverage similar to 2020-2023 and is a more direct comparison to those years. Average includes years 2020-2023. *Note: Estimates are subject to change.*

Date	2025a	2025b	2023	2022	2021	2020	Average
8/1	158,969	110,227	72,348	10,000	68,052	14,726	41,282
8/2	164,683	115,288	92,574	17,936	77,005	17,301	51,204
8/3	172,617	122,785	99,710	28,163	83,637	18,720	57,558
8/4	182,378	128,516	107,991	38,324	95,337	22,513	66,041
EOS			379,736	161,469	237,285	165,685	236,044

Chinook, Chum, and Sockeye Salmon Summaries

Chinook Salmon Summary

Chinook Salmon Table 1. Cumulative passage at the Kuskokwim River sonar. Sonar ended operations in July during the 2018, 2019, and 2024 seasons. Average includes years 2018-2024. *Note: Estimates are subject to change.*

Date	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	Average
8/1	120,153	142,662	78,501	144,659	102,549	105,165	161,888	132,971	124,056
8/2	120,153	142,662	78,501	144,659	102,549	106,025	161,888	132,971	124,179
8/3	120,153	142,662	79,166	144,659	102,549	106,025	161,888	132,971	124,274
8/4	120,153	142,662	79,166	144,659	102,549	106,025	161,888	132,971	124,274
EOS		142,662	79,166	145,896	102,549	106,764	161,888	132,971	124,557

*** The ATF ended operations on 7/9 with a cumulative CPUE of **1,437 for Chinook salmon**, which was below the 2015-2024 average cumulative CPUE of **2,165** .

Chum Salmon Summary

Chum Salmon Table 1. Cumulative passage at the Kuskokwim River sonar. Sonar ended operations in July during the 2018, 2019, and 2024 seasons. Average includes years 2018-2024. *Note: Estimates are subject to change.*

Date	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	Average
8/1	154,436	253,825	241,487	100,086	26,763	74,392	385,409	552,011	233,425
8/2	154,436	253,825	242,577	100,283	26,763	74,392	385,409	552,011	233,609
8/3	154,436	253,825	242,634	100,469	26,763	74,392	385,409	552,011	233,643
8/4	154,436	253,825	244,229	100,632	26,763	74,392	385,409	552,011	233,894
EOS		253,825	251,542	103,864	26,973	76,432	385,409	552,011	235,722

*** The ATF ended operations on 7/9 with a cumulative CPUE value of **948 for chum salmon** , which was below the 2015-2024 average cumulative CPUE of **2,865**.

Sockeye Salmon Summary

Sockeye Salmon Table 1. Cumulative passage at the Kuskokwim River sonar. Sonar ended operations in July during the 2018, 2019, and 2024 seasons. Average includes years 2018-2024. *Note: Estimates are subject to change.*

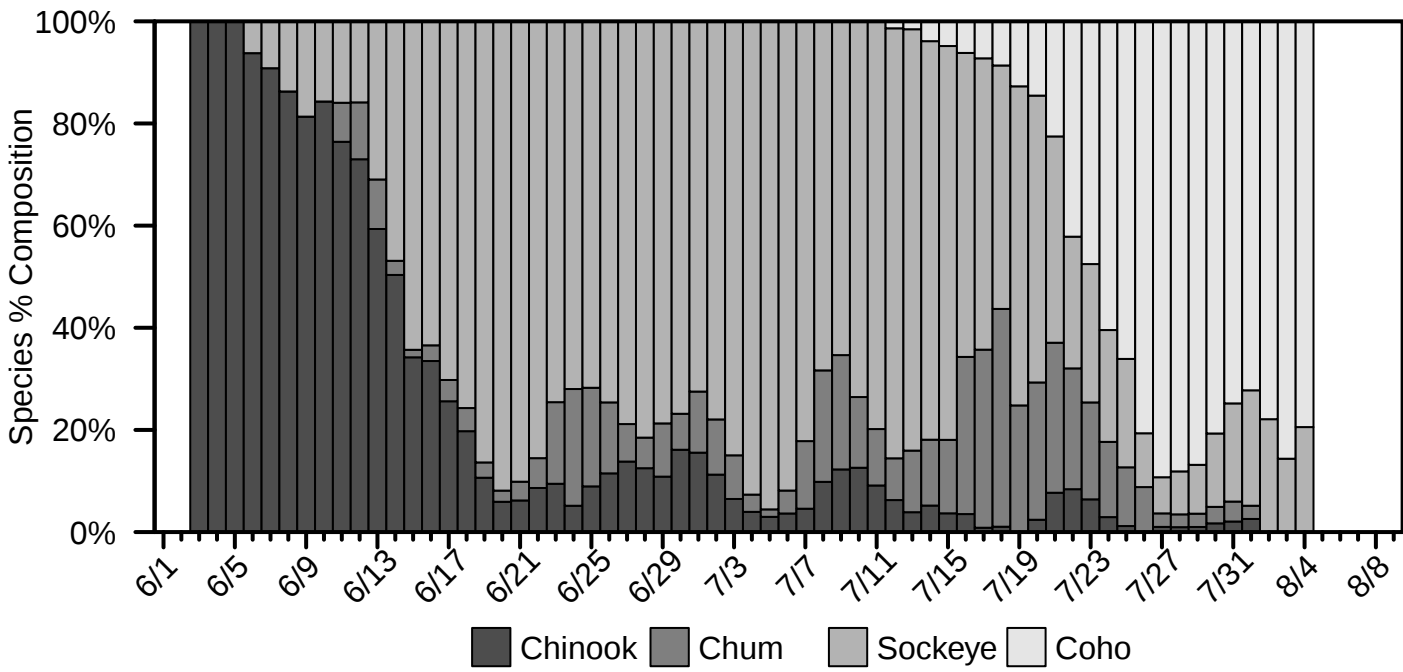
Date	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	Average
8/1	897,624	695,724	888,947	598,700	861,658	563,707	924,354	635,493	738,369
8/2	898,653	695,724	893,582	600,584	865,233	566,007	924,354	635,493	740,140
8/3	898,653	695,724	893,603	602,734	865,233	566,558	924,354	635,493	740,528
8/4	903,682	695,724	894,179	604,772	866,167	567,715	924,354	635,493	741,201
EOS		695,724	899,180	614,712	869,268	574,928	924,354	635,493	744,808

*** The ATF ended operations on 7/9 with a cumulative CPUE value of **55 for sockeye salmon** , which was below the 2015-2024 average cumulative CPUE of **271**.

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Percent Composition by Salmon Species

Species Composition Figure 1. Species percent composition from the sonar estimates from 2025 (salmon species only, excluding pink salmon). The composition presented on each day represents the average composition over the past 3 days.



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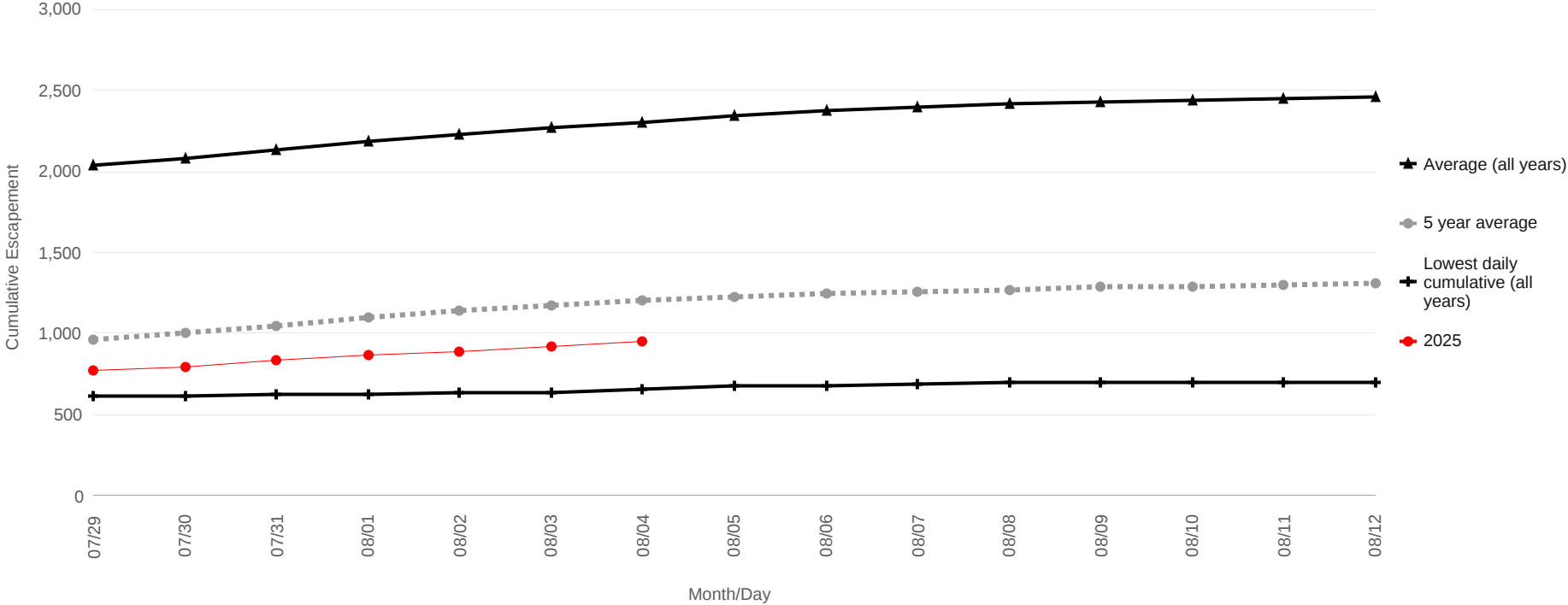
Salmon River (Aniak) Weir - Chinook Salmon (8/5/2025 12:02:57 PM).....	1
George River Weir - Chinook Salmon (8/5/2025 12:03:01 PM).....	2
Kogrukluuk River Weir - Chinook Salmon (8/5/2025 12:03:04 PM).....	3
Takotna River Weir - Chinook Salmon (8/5/2025 12:03:08 PM).....	4
Salmon River (Aniak) Weir - Chum Salmon (8/5/2025 12:03:11 PM).....	5
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Salmon River (Aniak) Salmon Monitoring Project
Passage of Chinook Salmon

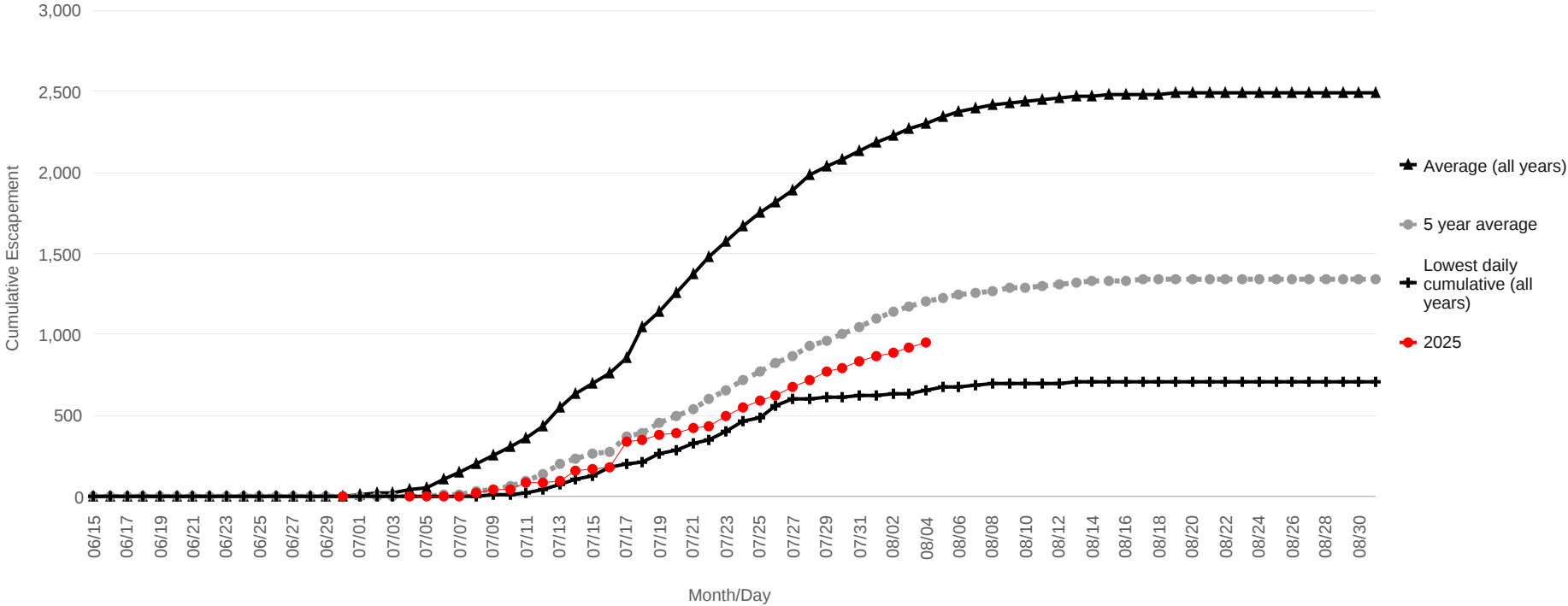
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	2025
07/29	611	2,040	963	771
07/30	617	2,085	1,005	797
07/31	622	2,138	1,049	837
08/01	626	2,184	1,096	867
08/02	631	2,229	1,142	893
08/03	636	2,274	1,177	923
08/04	651	2,307	1,208	952
08/05	677	2,347	1,228	
08/06	680	2,375	1,244	
08/07	689	2,394	1,256	
08/08	696	2,415	1,271	
08/09	698	2,427	1,285	
08/10	698	2,441	1,291	
08/11	702	2,451	1,303	
08/12	703	2,462	1,314	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average
Season Total	711	2,492	1,345

Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview

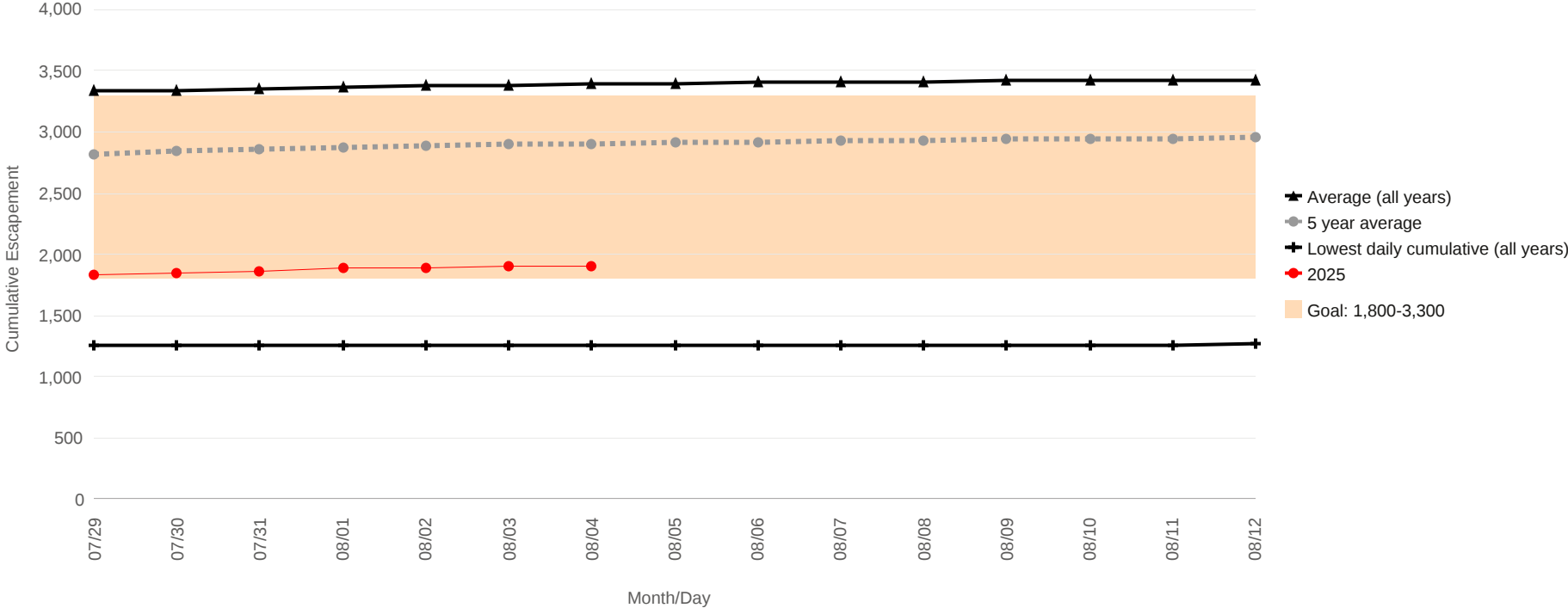


George River Salmon Monitoring Project
Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon
Escapement Goal Range: 1,800 to 3,300

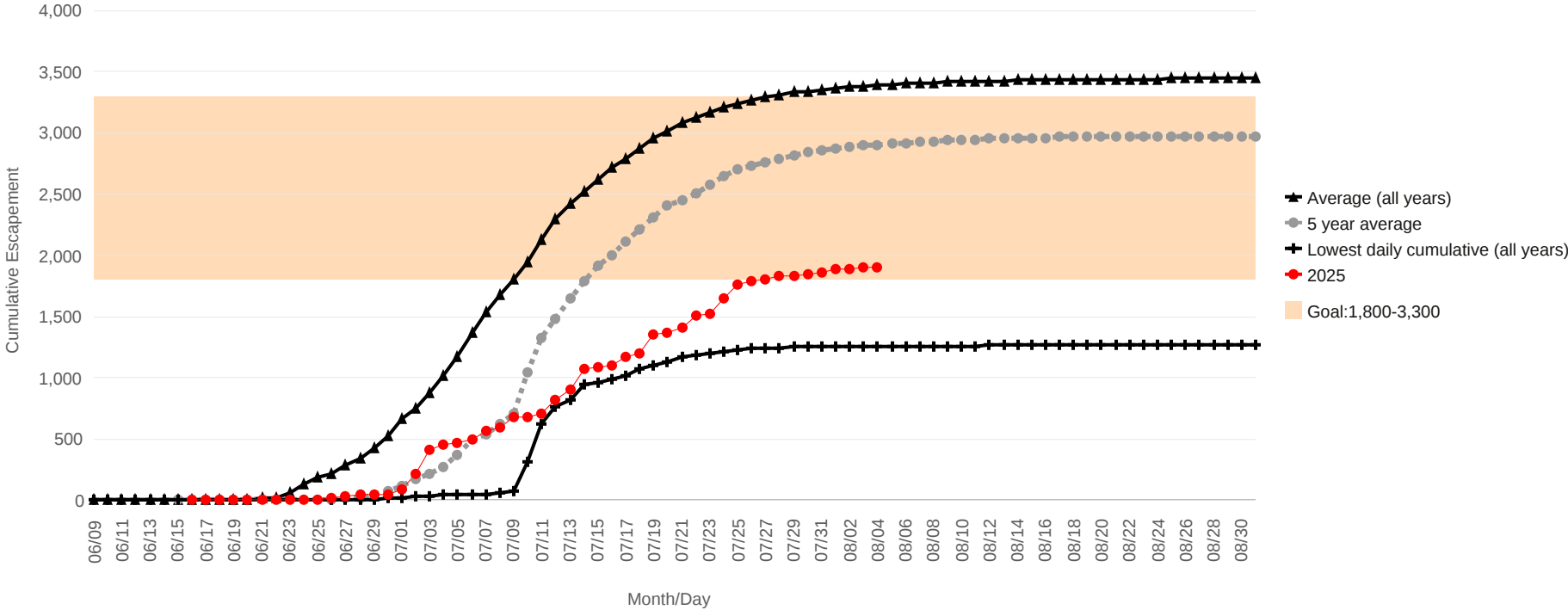
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	2025
07/29	1,248	3,331	2,816	1,839
07/30	1,250	3,344	2,843	1,853
07/31	1,251	3,357	2,859	1,862
08/01	1,254	3,368	2,872	1,882
08/02	1,255	3,377	2,887	1,890
08/03	1,258	3,386	2,897	1,898
08/04	1,258	3,392	2,905	1,900
08/05	1,258	3,398	2,913	
08/06	1,258	3,403	2,919	
08/07	1,259	3,408	2,924	
08/08	1,259	3,413	2,932	
08/09	1,260	3,416	2,938	
08/10	1,260	3,420	2,944	
08/11	1,261	3,424	2,950	
08/12	1,263	3,427	2,954	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average
Season Total	1,267	3,446	2,978

Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview

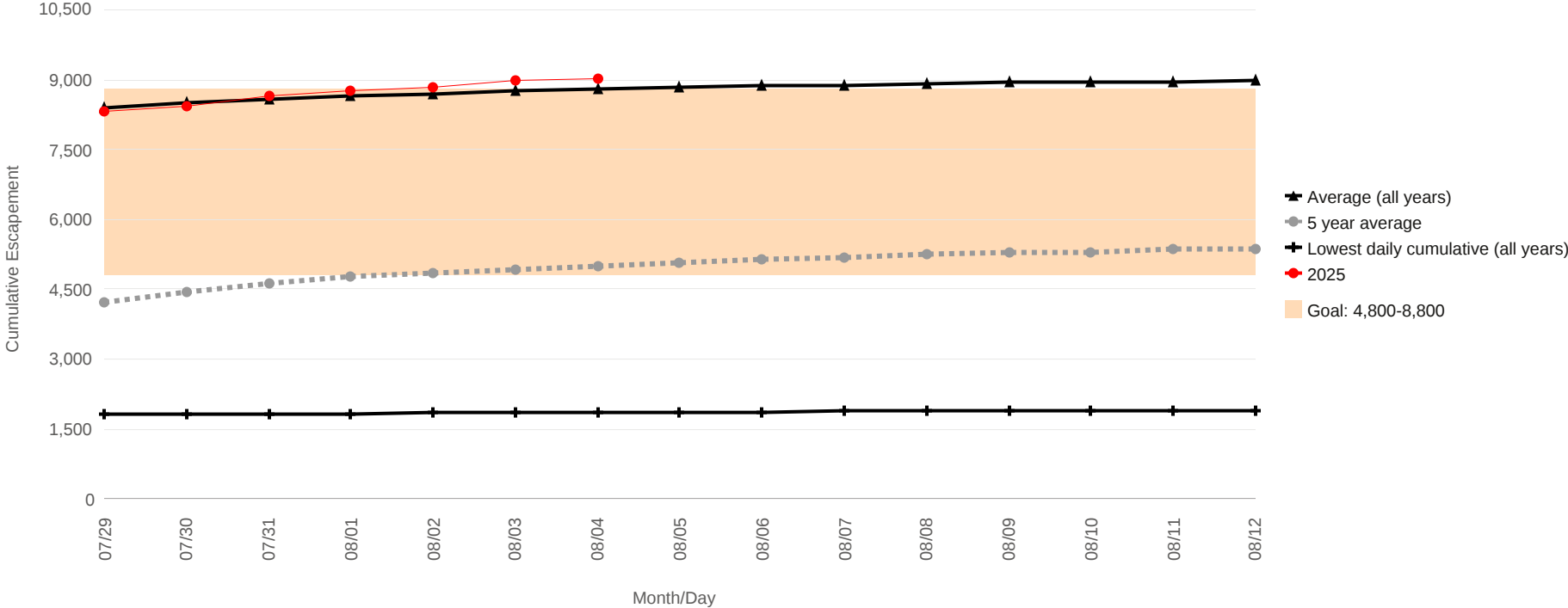


Kogrukluk River Salmon Monitoring Project
Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon
Escapement Goal Range: 4,800 to 8,800

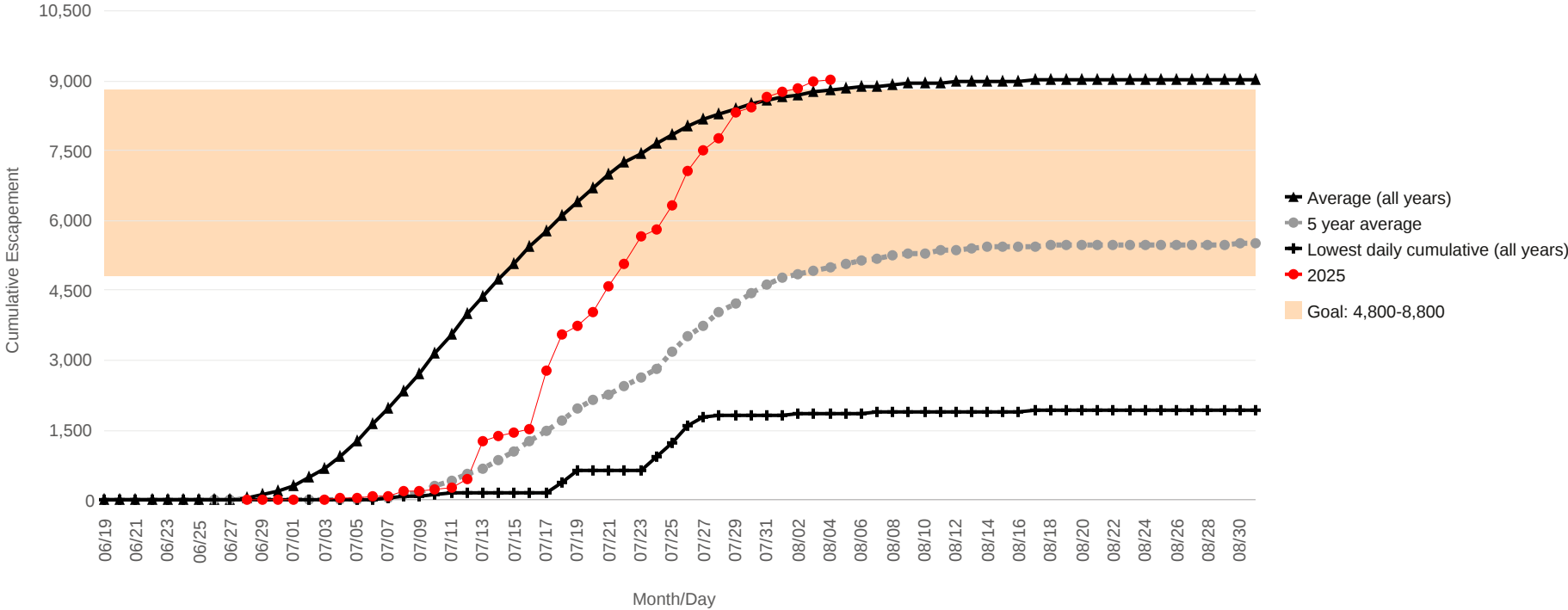
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	2025
07/29	1,801	8,410	4,217	8,314
07/30	1,812	8,508	4,425	8,427
07/31	1,824	8,588	4,615	8,637
08/01	1,834	8,651	4,765	8,766
08/02	1,838	8,705	4,850	8,823
08/03	1,848	8,755	4,928	8,974
08/04	1,859	8,795	5,012	9,028
08/05	1,861	8,833	5,074	
08/06	1,869	8,861	5,124	
08/07	1,876	8,887	5,189	
08/08	1,882	8,910	5,238	
08/09	1,887	8,928	5,280	
08/10	1,892	8,943	5,303	
08/11	1,896	8,959	5,353	
08/12	1,899	8,970	5,378	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average
Season Total	1,919	9,035	5,496

Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview

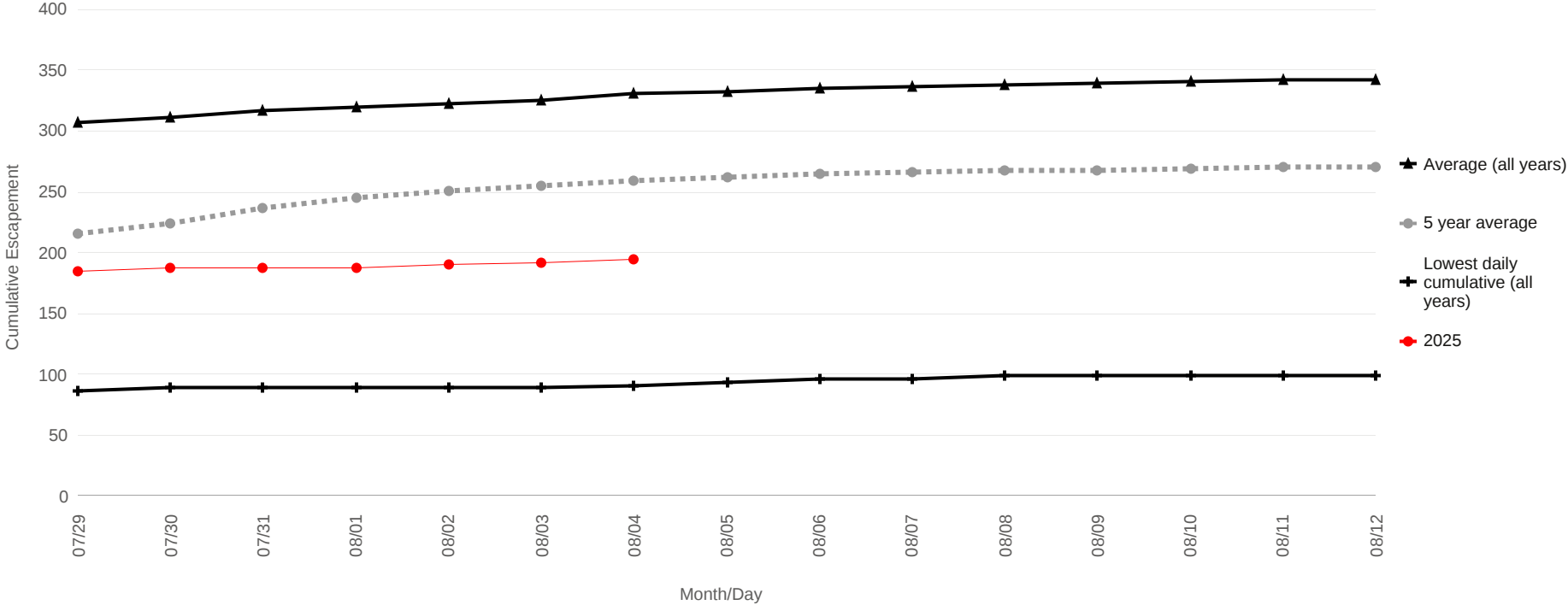


Takotna River Salmon Monitoring Project
Passage of Chinook Salmon

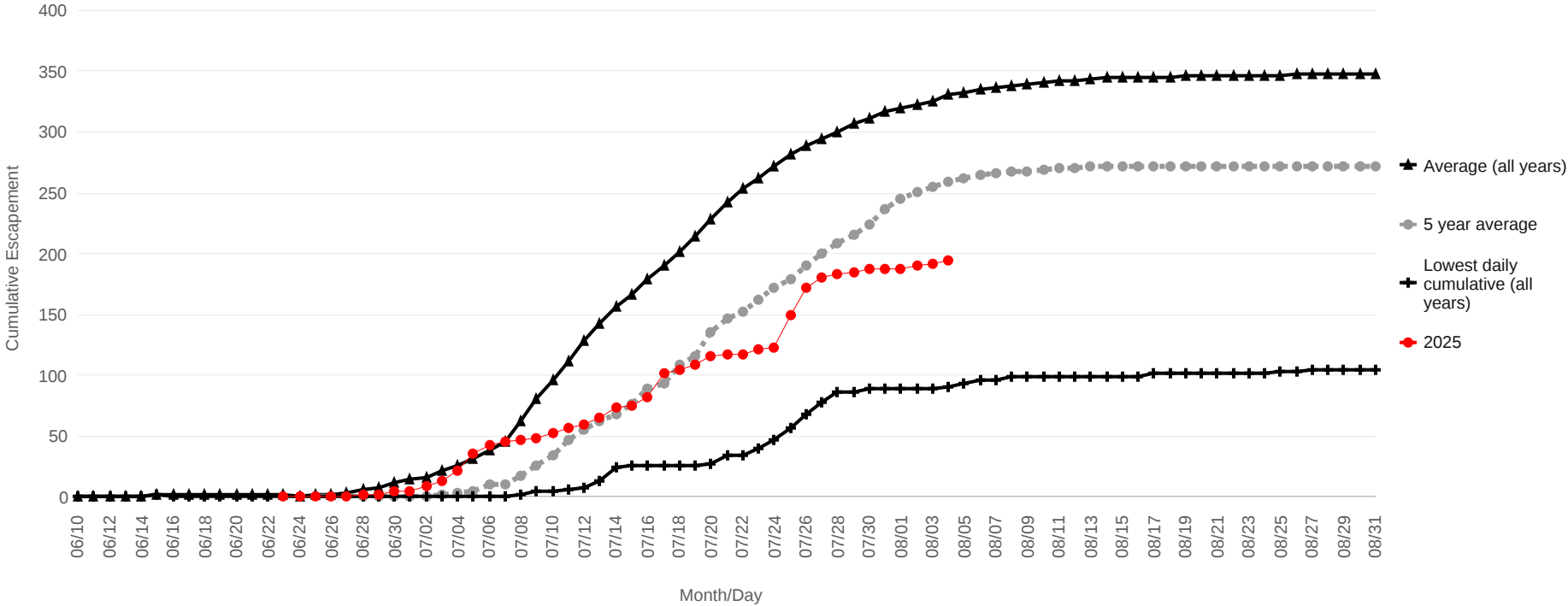
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	2025
07/29	86	306	215	185
07/30	89	312	223	187
07/31	89	316	236	188
08/01	89	320	245	188
08/02	89	322	250	190
08/03	89	326	254	192
08/04	91	331	259	195
08/05	93	333	262	
08/06	96	335	264	
08/07	96	337	266	
08/08	99	338	267	
08/09	99	340	268	
08/10	99	341	269	
08/11	99	342	270	
08/12	99	343	271	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average
Season Total	104	349	272

Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview

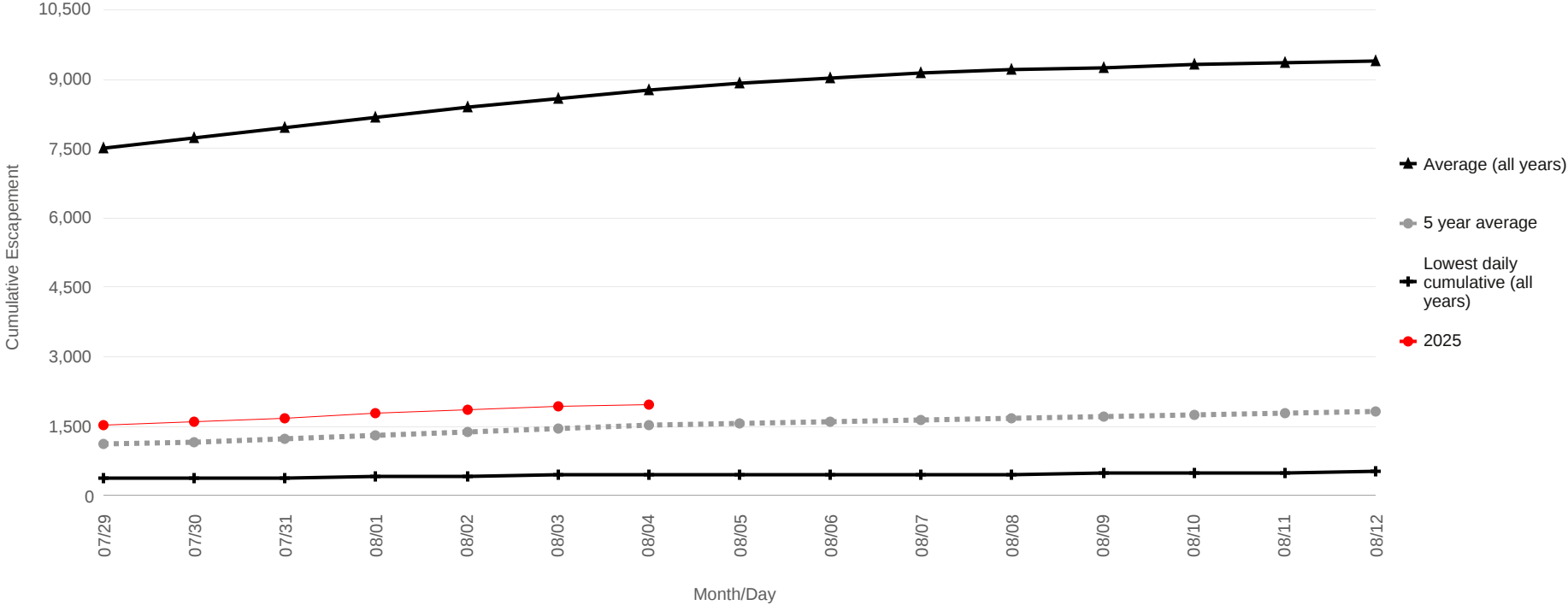


Salmon River (Aniak) Salmon Monitoring Project
Passage of Chum Salmon

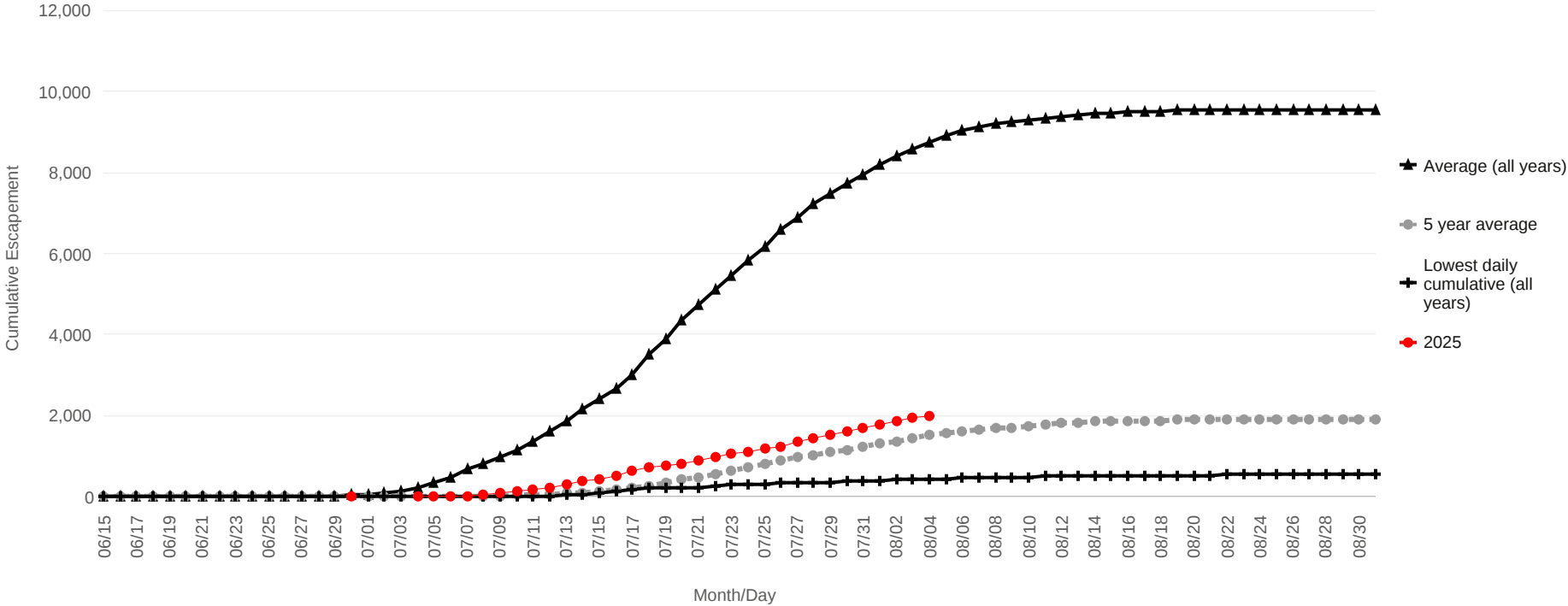
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	2025
07/29	365	7,491	1,101	1,532
07/30	379	7,720	1,159	1,599
07/31	391	7,965	1,231	1,685
08/01	402	8,186	1,312	1,789
08/02	414	8,394	1,377	1,864
08/03	433	8,584	1,445	1,929
08/04	442	8,748	1,509	1,981
08/05	449	8,904	1,563	
08/06	458	9,027	1,603	
08/07	462	9,130	1,649	
08/08	466	9,199	1,678	
08/09	480	9,258	1,702	
08/10	491	9,309	1,737	
08/11	503	9,353	1,771	
08/12	517	9,394	1,802	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average
Season Total	537	9,564	1,906

Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview

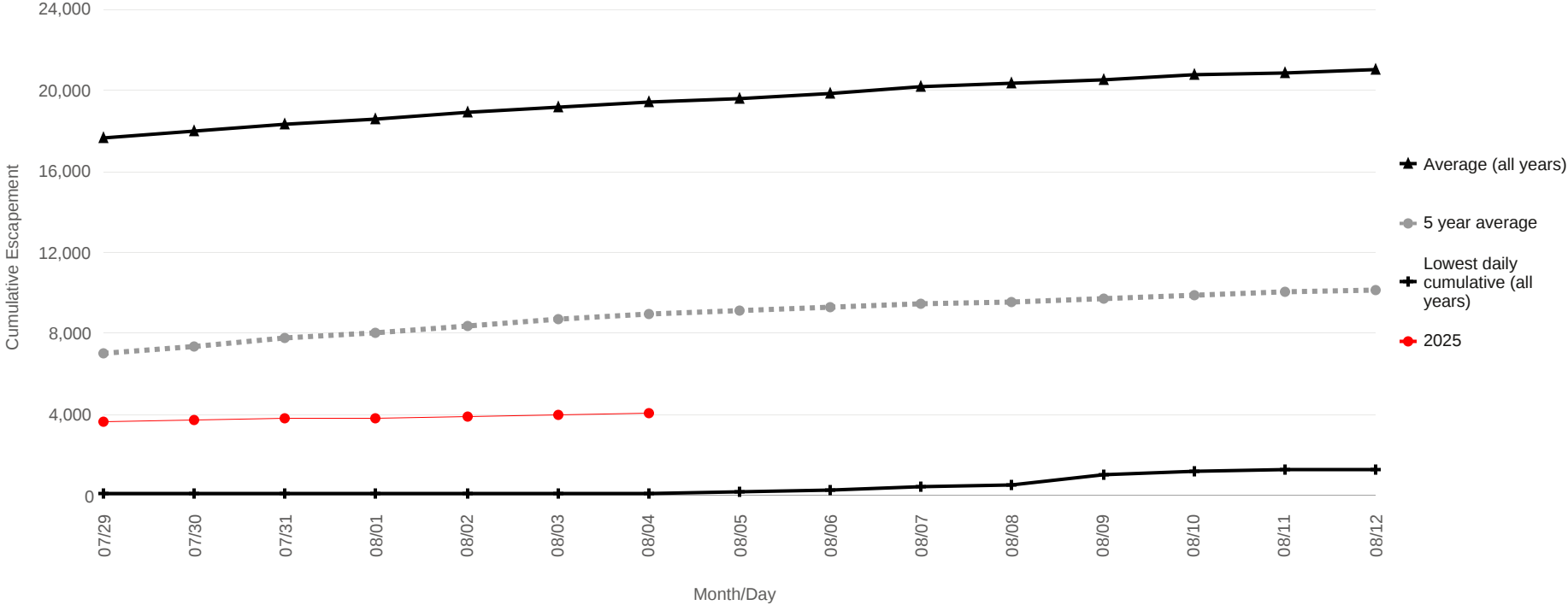


George River Salmon Monitoring Project
Cumulative Daily Passage of Chum Salmon

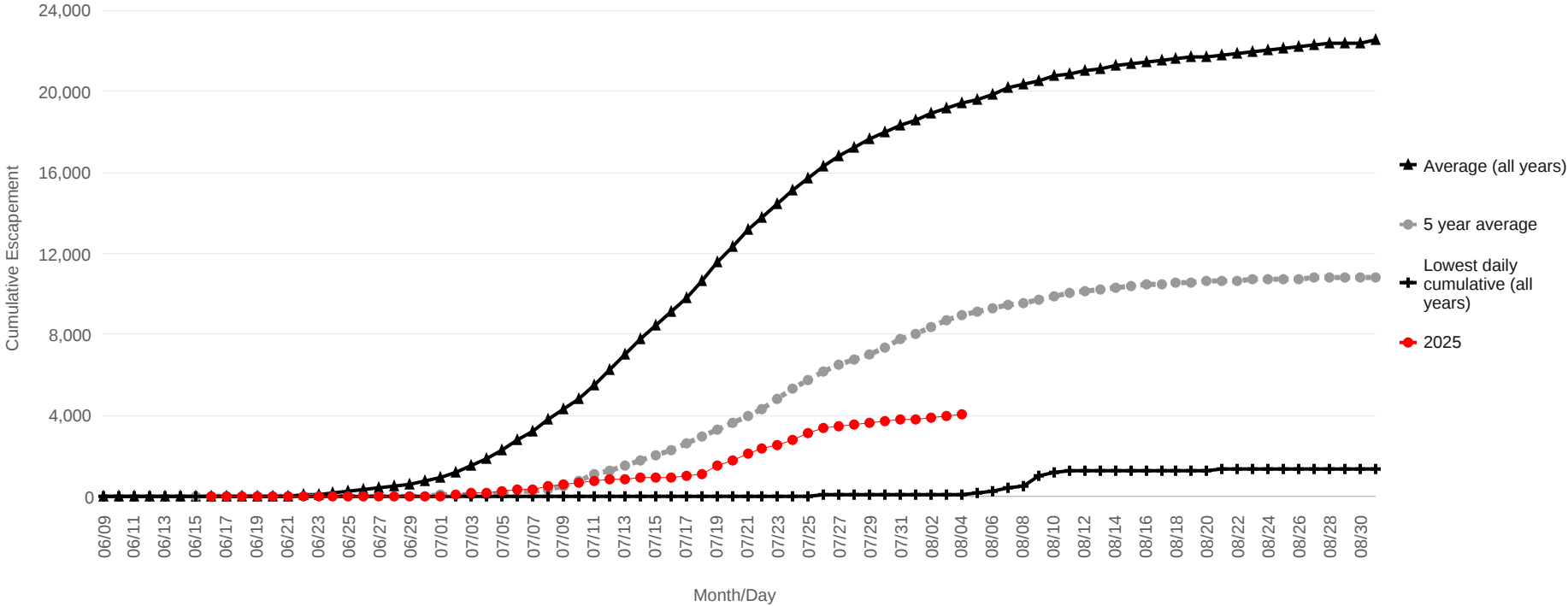
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	2025
07/29	80	17,622	7,057	3,645
07/30	80	17,995	7,385	3,711
07/31	80	18,331	7,745	3,773
08/01	80	18,623	8,043	3,842
08/02	80	18,902	8,361	3,898
08/03	81	19,178	8,679	3,989
08/04	97	19,397	8,939	4,028
08/05	159	19,597	9,140	
08/06	257	19,855	9,289	
08/07	413	20,153	9,450	
08/08	526	20,389	9,570	
08/09	1,033	20,569	9,705	
08/10	1,232	20,745	9,889	
08/11	1,256	20,899	10,053	
08/12	1,274	21,033	10,155	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average
Season Total	1,371	23,003	10,848

Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview

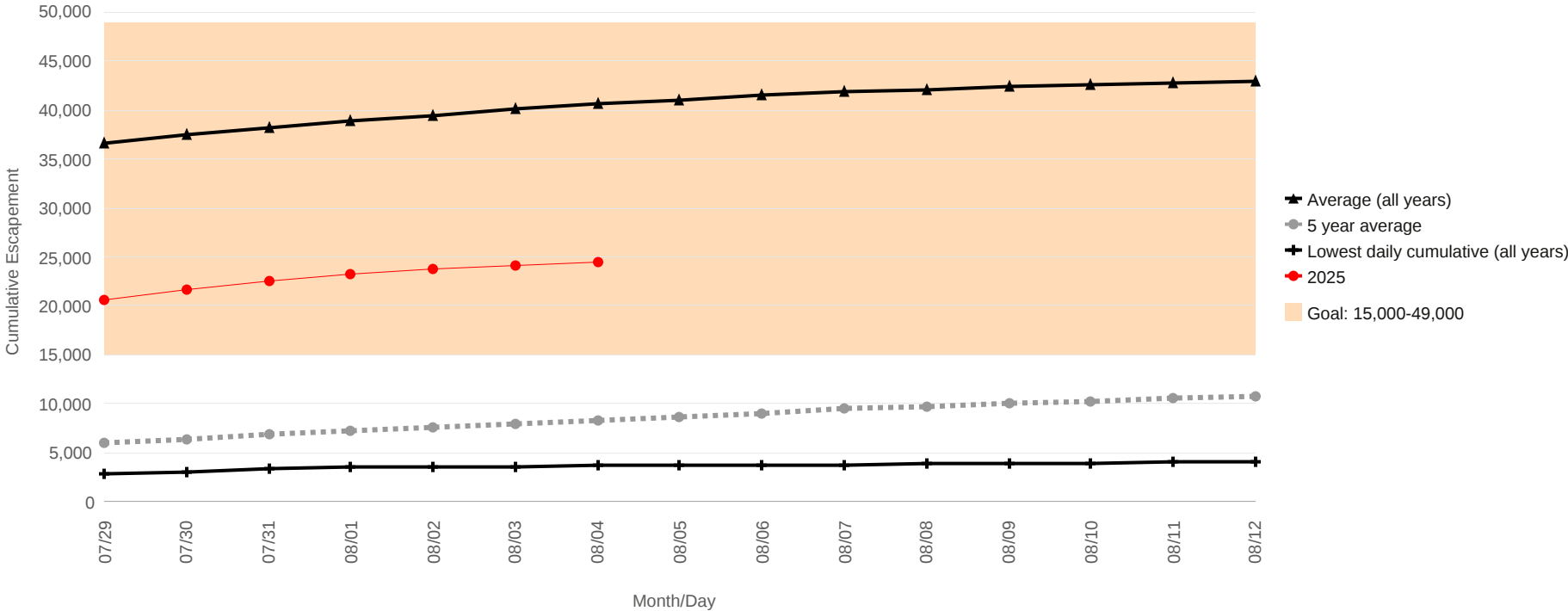


Kogrukluk River Salmon Monitoring Project
Cumulative Daily Passage of Chum Salmon
Escapement Goal Range: 15,000 to 49,000

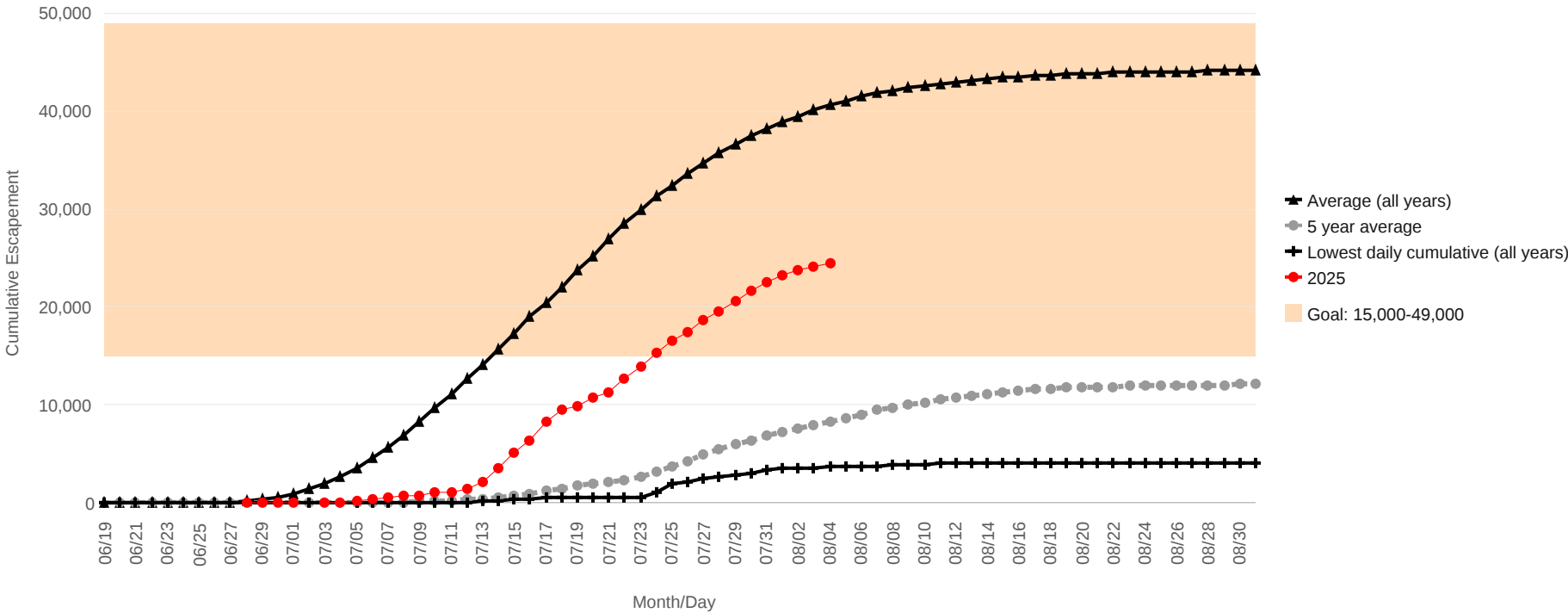
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	2025
07/29	2,889	36,619	5,993	20,625
07/30	3,103	37,443	6,410	21,655
07/31	3,289	38,194	6,810	22,507
08/01	3,495	38,888	7,241	23,181
08/02	3,528	39,523	7,576	23,773
08/03	3,593	40,102	7,933	24,103
08/04	3,651	40,619	8,309	24,451
08/05	3,712	41,094	8,672	
08/06	3,789	41,482	9,039	
08/07	3,810	41,816	9,457	
08/08	3,850	42,123	9,777	
08/09	3,914	42,376	10,033	
08/10	3,969	42,611	10,235	
08/11	4,009	42,830	10,552	
08/12	4,026	43,020	10,765	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average
Season Total	4,153	44,147	12,109

Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview

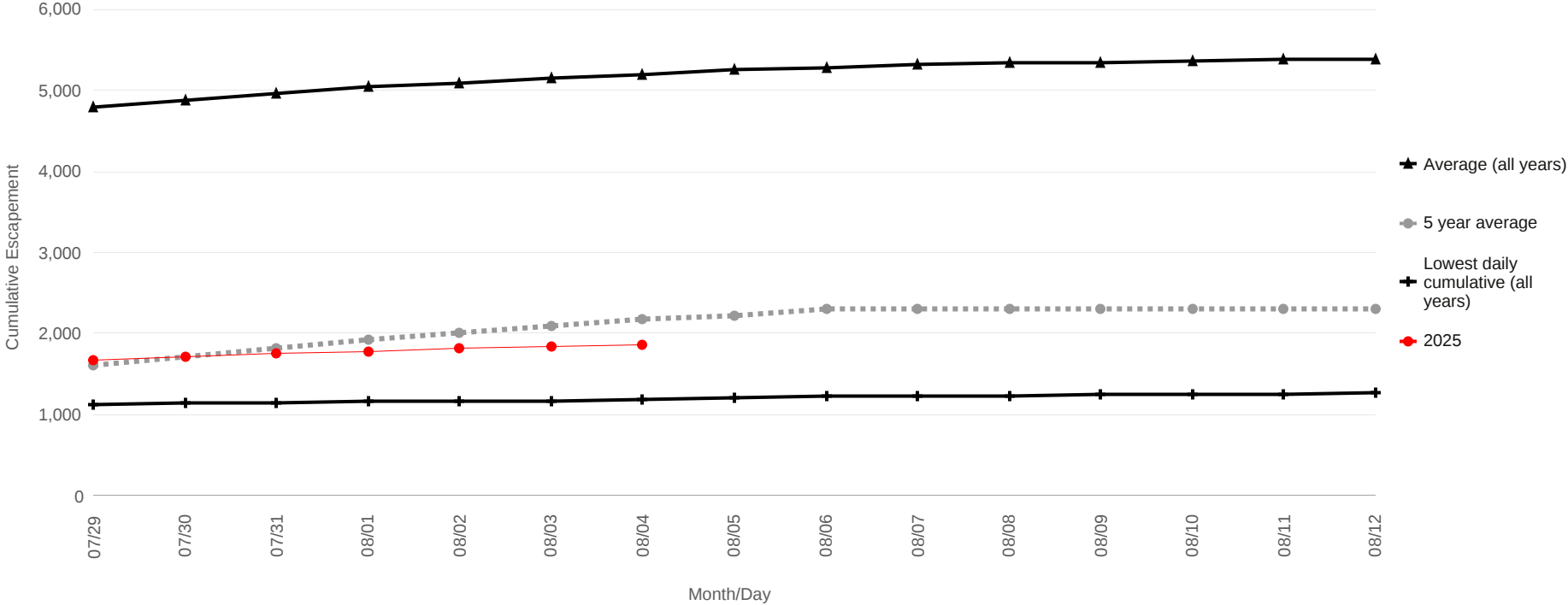


Takotna River Salmon Monitoring Project
Passage of Chum Salmon

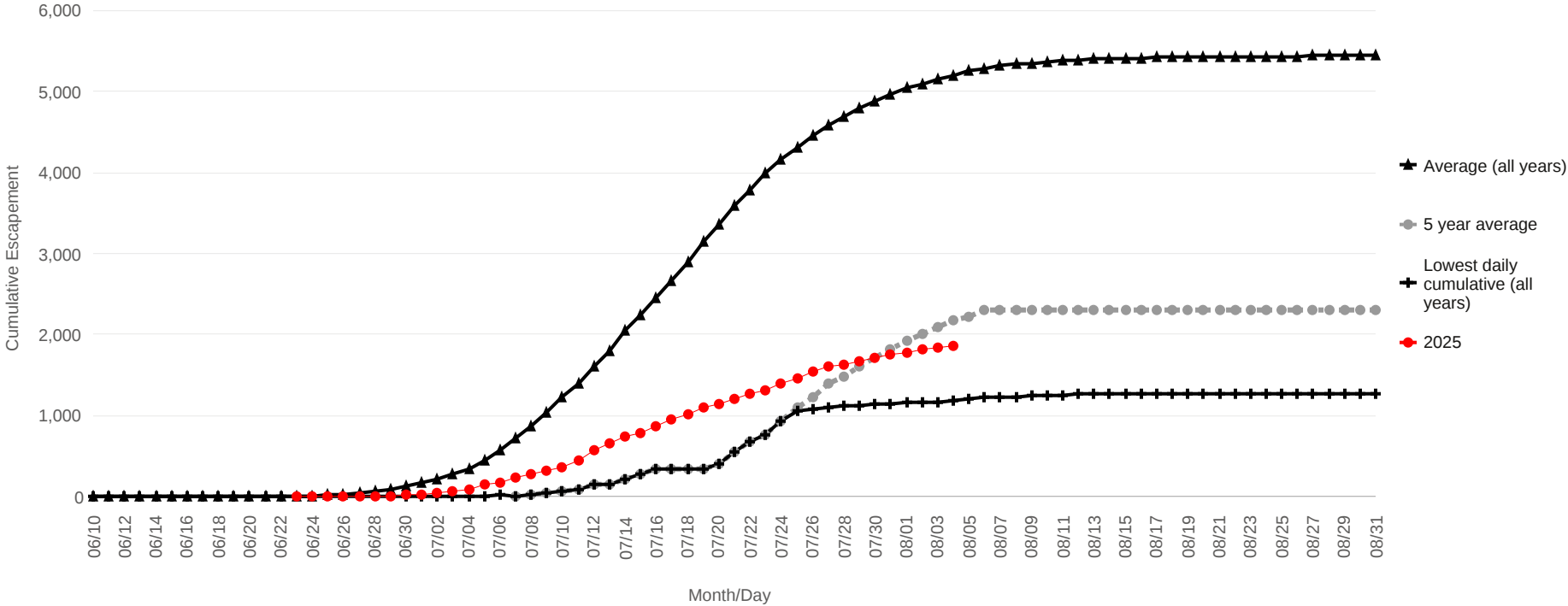
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	2025
07/29	1,130	4,802	1,604	1,676
07/30	1,142	4,890	1,716	1,719
07/31	1,152	4,974	1,816	1,753
08/01	1,155	5,038	1,927	1,783
08/02	1,167	5,098	2,011	1,809
08/03	1,169	5,153	2,088	1,849
08/04	1,191	5,206	2,174	1,867
08/05	1,213	5,251	2,228	
08/06	1,224	5,288	2,294	
08/07	1,229	5,313	2,314	
08/08	1,234	5,336	2,314	
08/09	1,239	5,353	2,314	
08/10	1,249	5,368	2,314	
08/11	1,255	5,381	2,314	
08/12	1,261	5,391	2,314	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average
Season Total	1,265	5,444	2,314

Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview

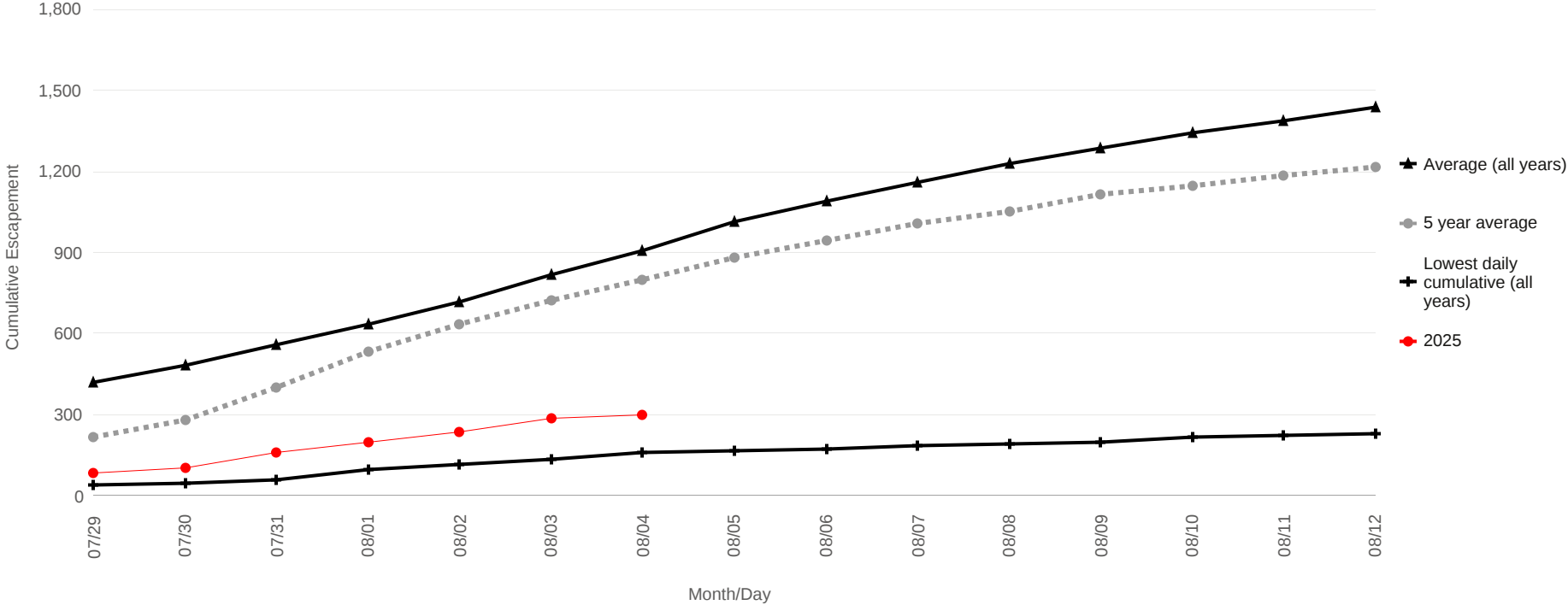


Salmon River (Aniak) Salmon Monitoring Project
Passage of Sockeye Salmon

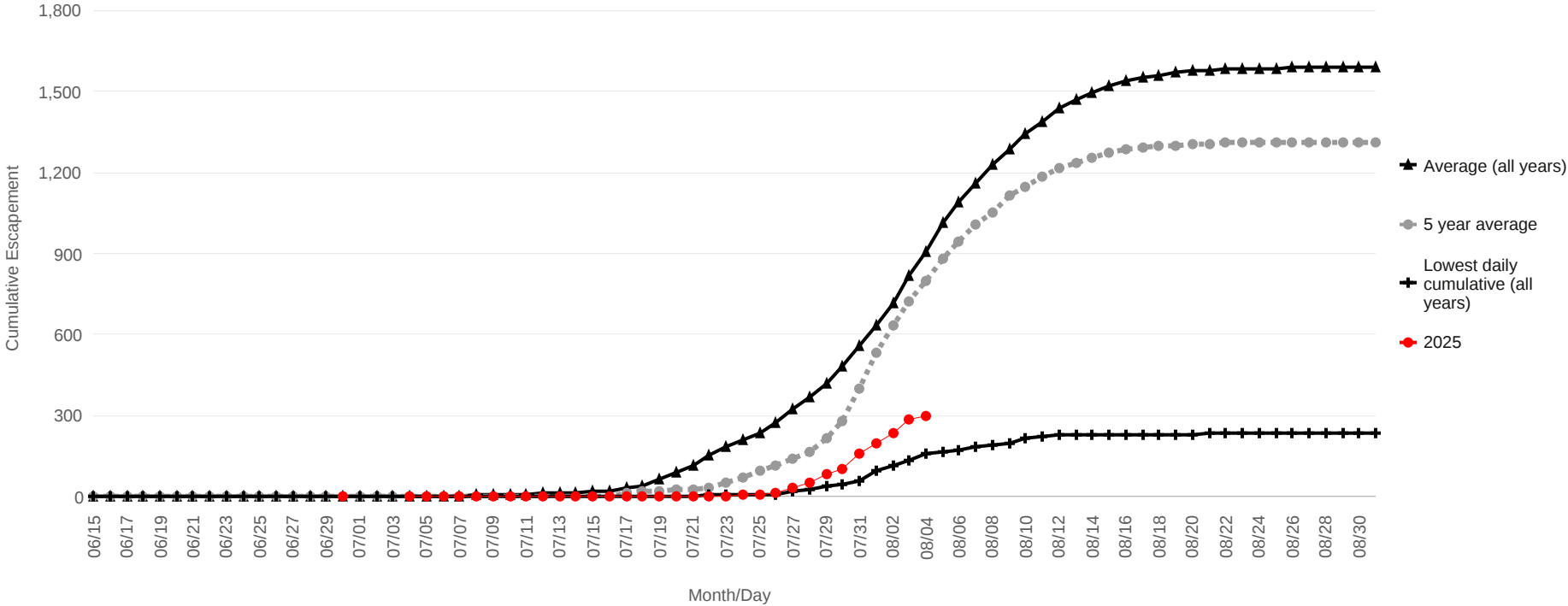
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	2025
07/29	41	420	215	85
07/30	47	484	279	104
07/31	57	557	397	158
08/01	93	634	532	197
08/02	114	719	632	237
08/03	133	821	723	286
08/04	157	906	801	296
08/05	167	1,012	879	
08/06	174	1,090	948	
08/07	184	1,159	1,007	
08/08	190	1,227	1,054	
08/09	199	1,286	1,113	
08/10	219	1,342	1,150	
08/11	223	1,387	1,184	
08/12	226	1,435	1,217	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average
Season Total	234	1,590	1,312

Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview

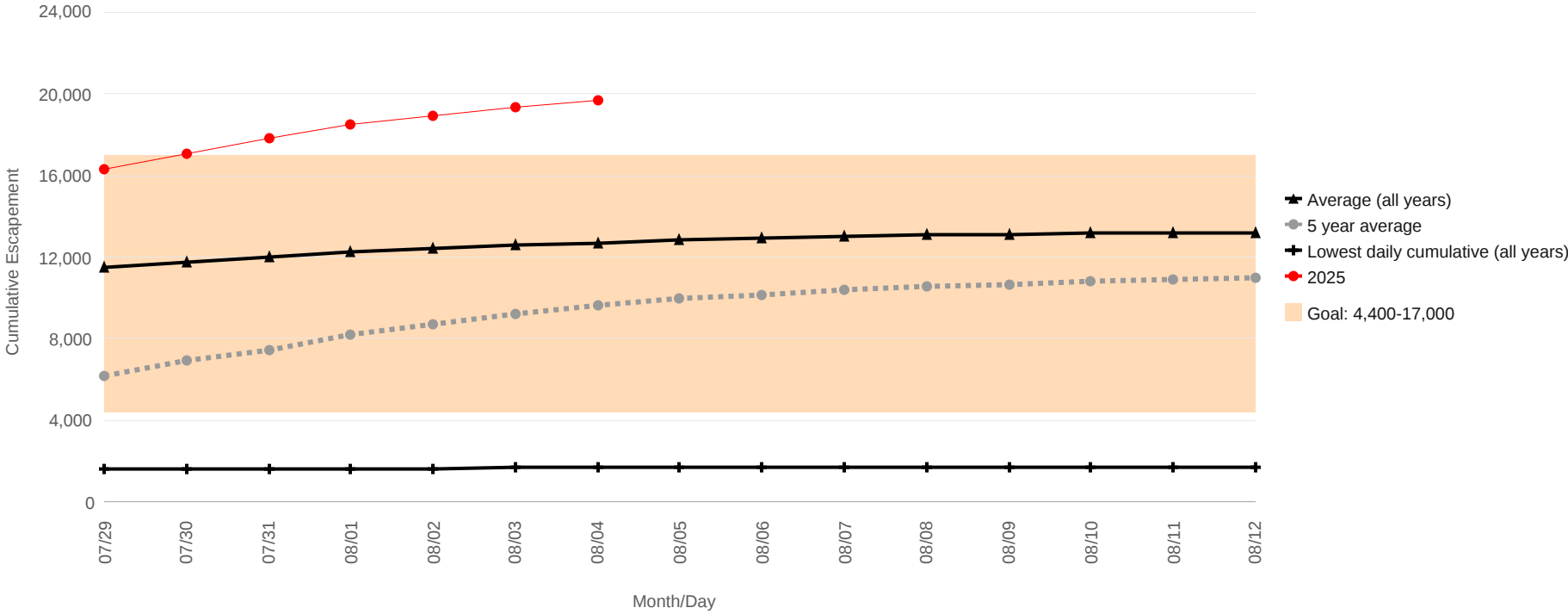


Kogrukluk River Salmon Monitoring Project
Cumulative Daily Passage of Sockeye Salmon
Escapement Goal Range: 4,400 to 17,000

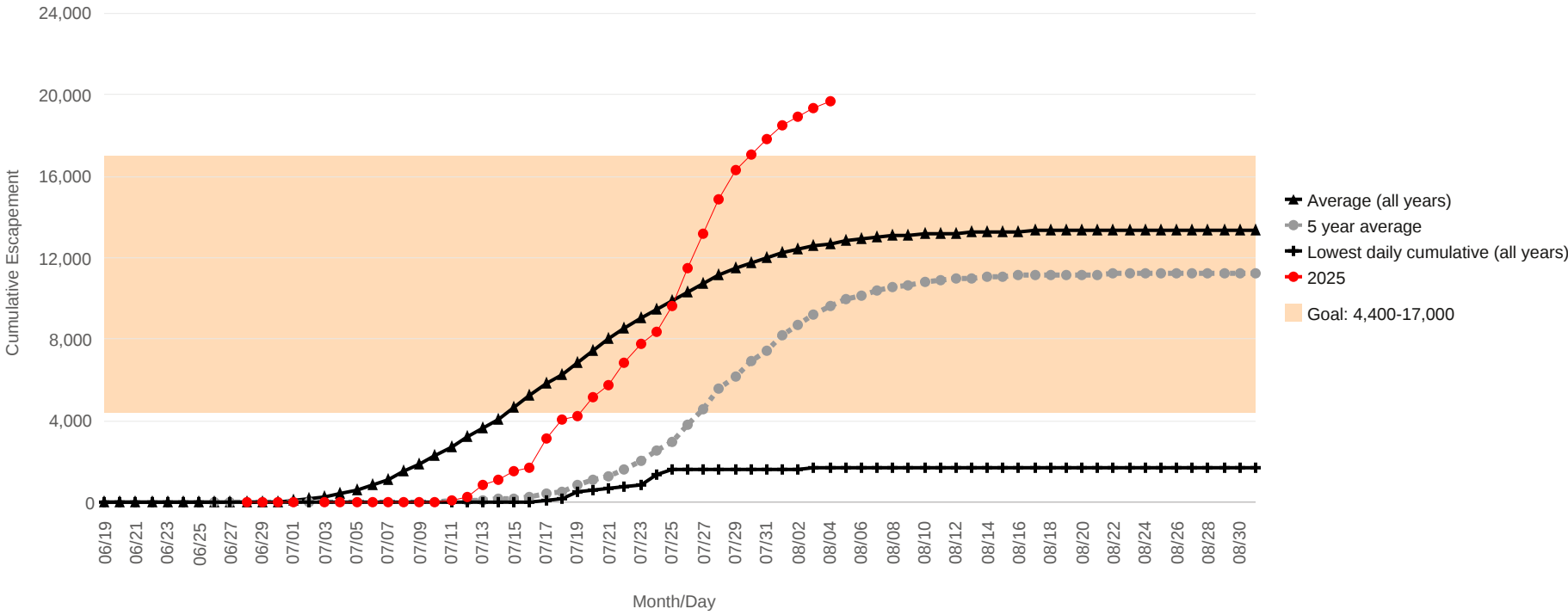
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	2025
07/29	1,634	11,466	6,168	16,274
07/30	1,642	11,770	6,946	17,067
07/31	1,649	12,000	7,449	17,850
08/01	1,651	12,225	8,196	18,469
08/02	1,658	12,396	8,685	18,961
08/03	1,663	12,568	9,203	19,386
08/04	1,666	12,706	9,647	19,654
08/05	1,666	12,831	9,942	
08/06	1,670	12,925	10,173	
08/07	1,672	12,998	10,377	
08/08	1,674	13,060	10,539	
08/09	1,675	13,113	10,690	
08/10	1,675	13,155	10,785	
08/11	1,676	13,197	10,893	
08/12	1,676	13,229	10,958	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average
Season Total	1,676	13,391	11,245

Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview

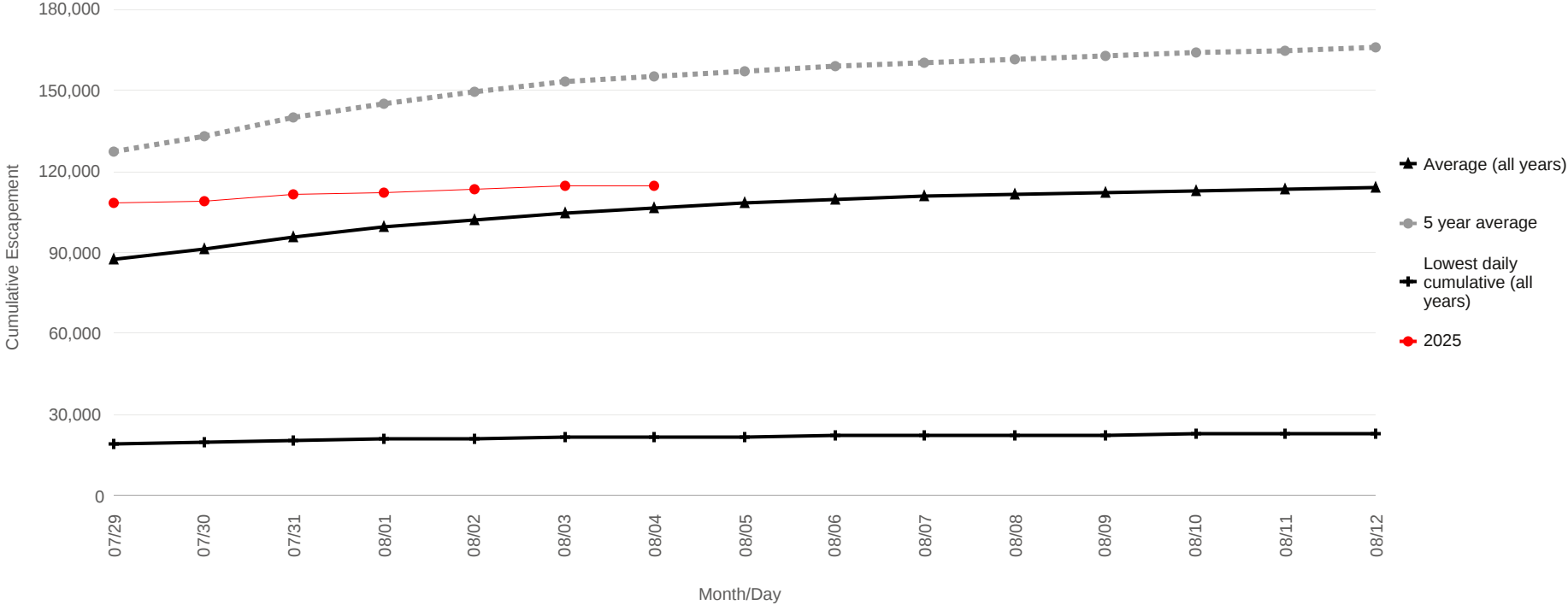


Telaquana River Salmon Monitoring Project
Passage of Sockeye Salmon

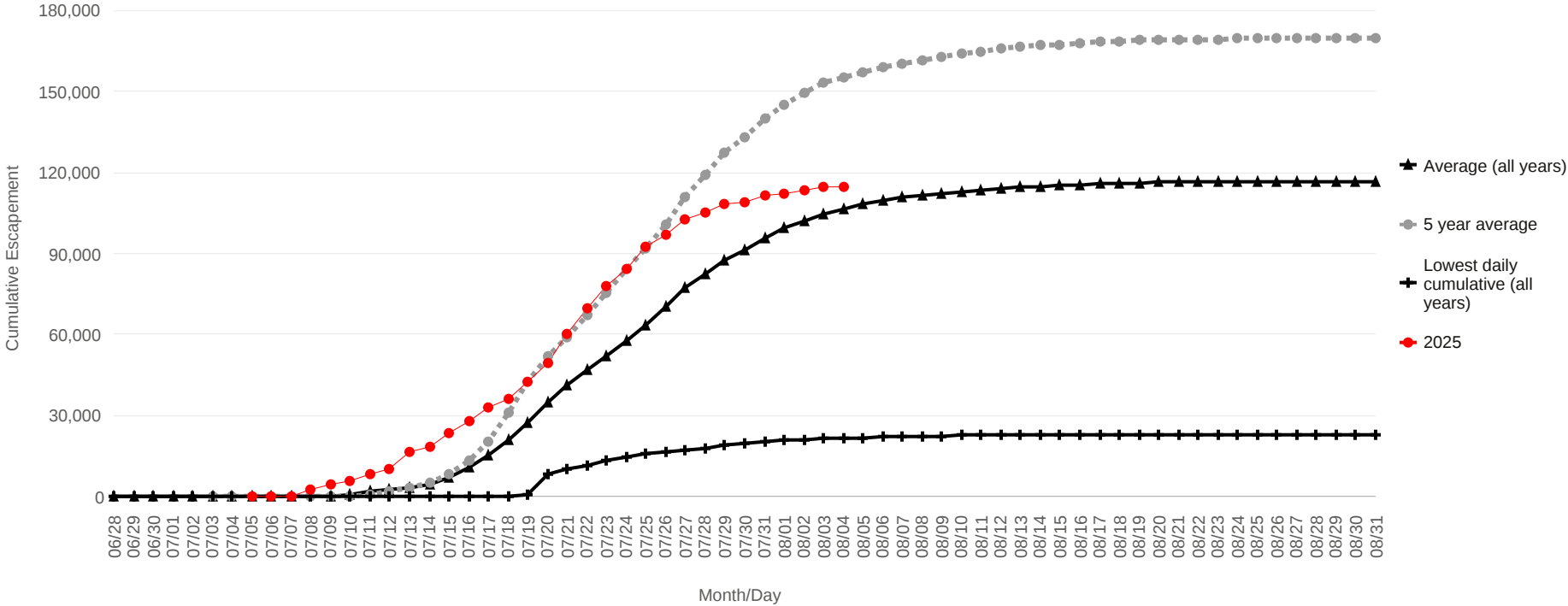
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	2025
07/29	18,844	87,811	127,395	108,204
07/30	19,887	91,553	132,972	109,181
07/31	20,309	95,951	139,962	111,333
08/01	20,778	99,389	145,300	112,249
08/02	21,140	102,159	149,372	113,241
08/03	21,382	104,759	153,043	114,549
08/04	21,645	106,611	155,183	114,992
08/05	21,948	108,416	157,228	
08/06	22,073	109,535	158,833	
08/07	22,243	110,624	160,226	
08/08	22,429	111,629	161,729	
08/09	22,483	112,345	162,594	
08/10	22,607	113,133	163,934	
08/11	22,664	113,717	164,852	
08/12	22,742	114,261	165,817	

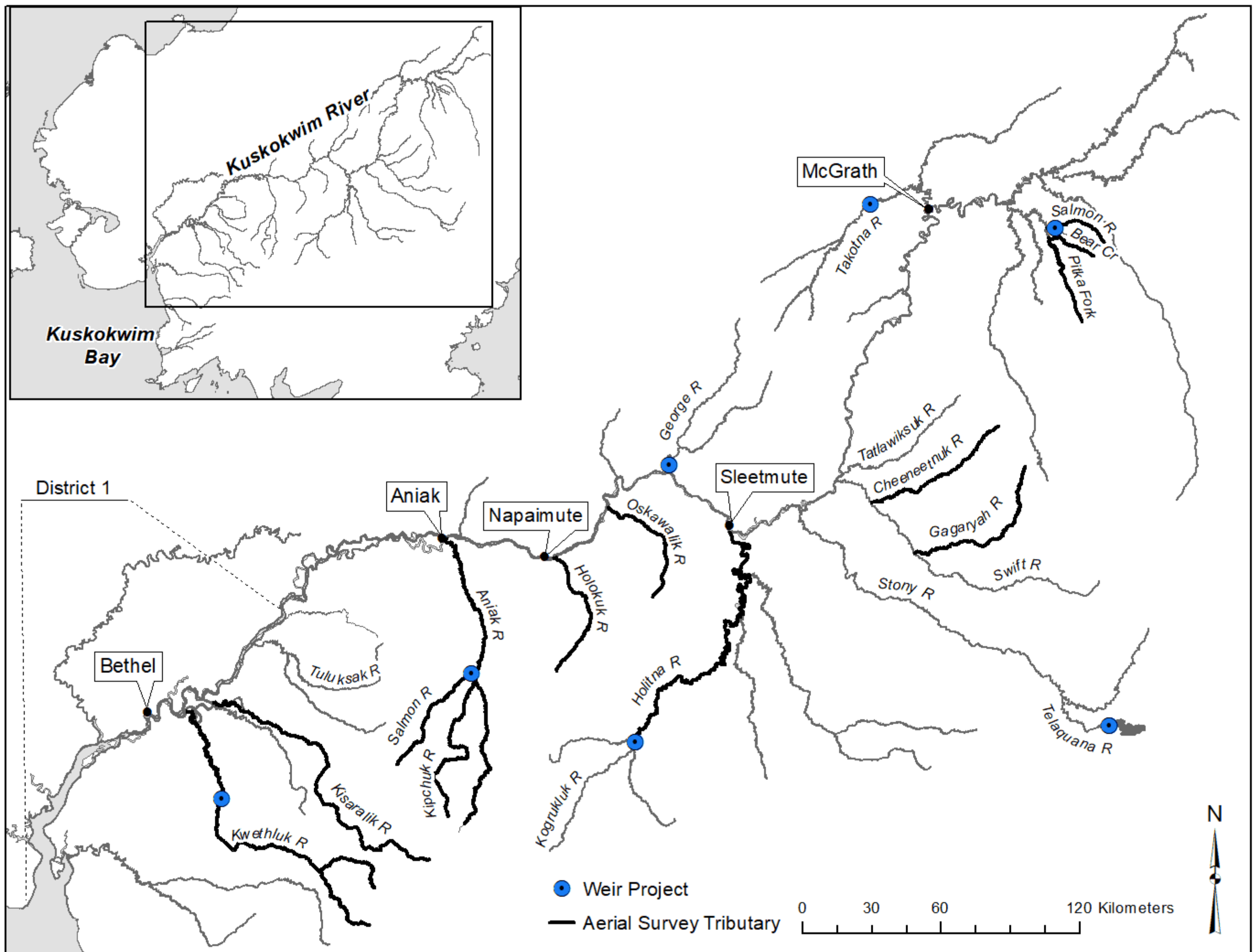
	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average
Season Total	23,007	116,672	169,638

Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview







Subsistence Division Overview

Presentation to the Kuskokwim River Working Group
Bethel, Alaska – August 6, 2025

Our mission is to scientifically gather, quantify, evaluate, and report information about customary and traditional uses of Alaska's fish and wildlife resources. AS 16.05.094



Quantitative and qualitative research



Most projects are partnerships



Research is voluntary and confidential



Inform **C&T** and **ANS** findings

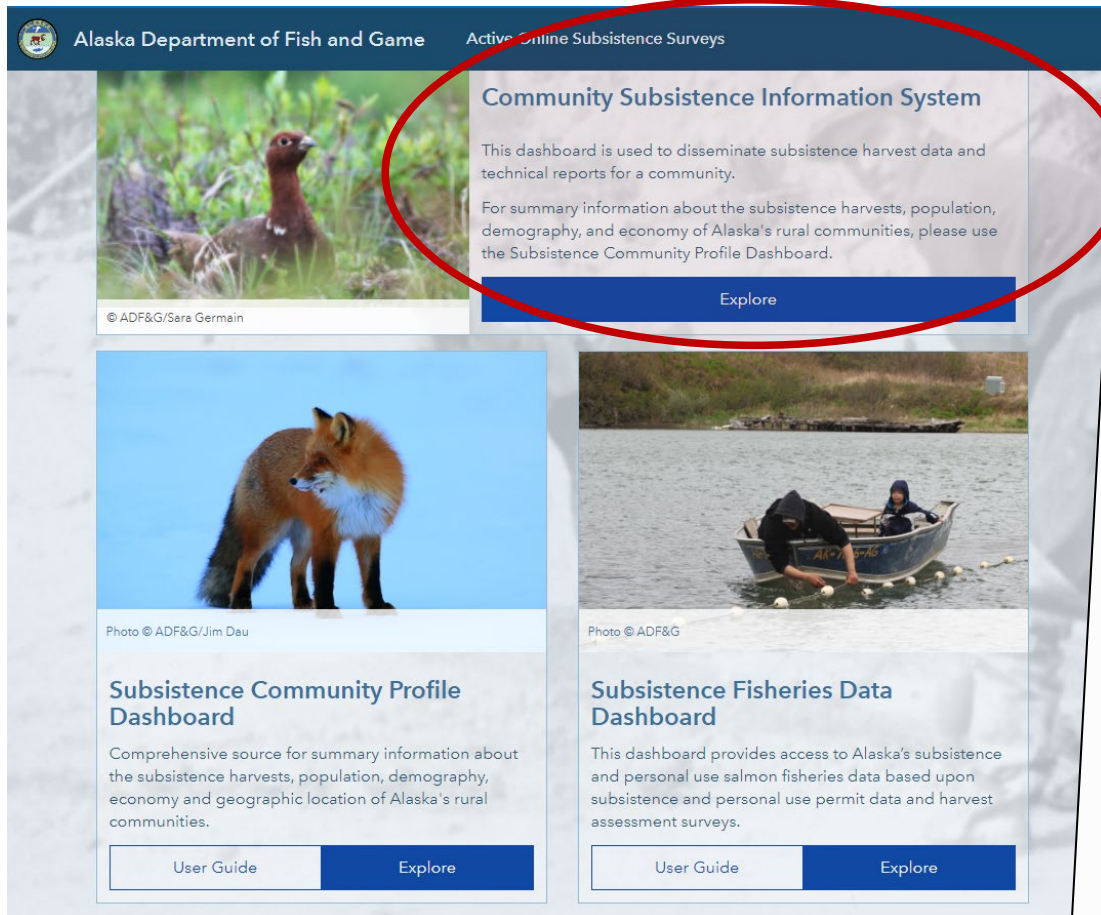
Photo captions:

Participant observation in Tyonek;

Harvest area mapping in Chenega;

King salmon drying in Tyonek.





The screenshot shows the Alaska Department of Fish and Game website. The header includes the department logo and the text "Alaska Department of Fish and Game" and "Active Online Subsistence Surveys". The main content area features a red circle highlighting the "Community Subsistence Information System" section. This section includes a photo of a brown bear, a description of the dashboard's purpose, and an "Explore" button. Below this, there are two other dashboard sections: "Subsistence Community Profile Dashboard" with a photo of a red fox and "Subsistence Fisheries Data Dashboard" with a photo of people in a boat. Each of these sections also has a "User Guide" and an "Explore" button.

Alaska Department of Fish and Game Active Online Subsistence Surveys

Community Subsistence Information System

This dashboard is used to disseminate subsistence harvest data and technical reports for a community.

For summary information about the subsistence harvests, population, demography, and economy of Alaska's rural communities, please use the Subsistence Community Profile Dashboard.

Explore

Photo © ADF&G/Sara Germain

Subsistence Community Profile Dashboard

Comprehensive source for summary information about the subsistence harvests, population, demography, economy and geographic location of Alaska's rural communities.

User Guide Explore

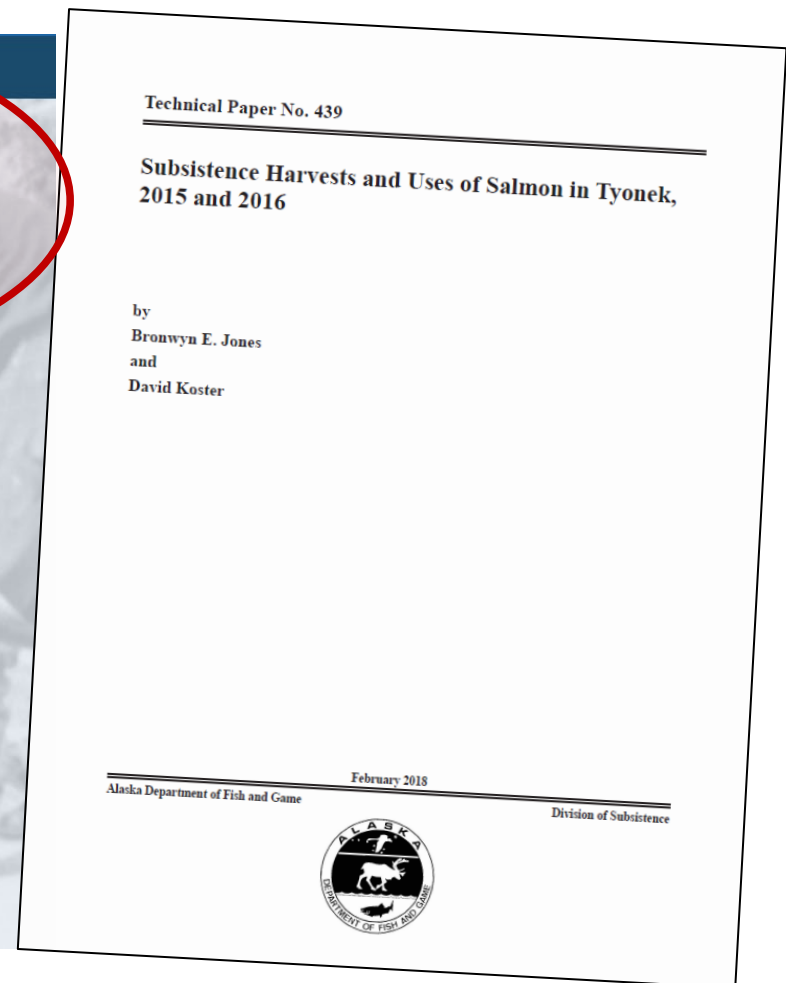
Photo © ADF&G

Subsistence Fisheries Data Dashboard

This dashboard provides access to Alaska's subsistence and personal use salmon fisheries data based upon subsistence and personal use permit data and harvest assessment surveys.

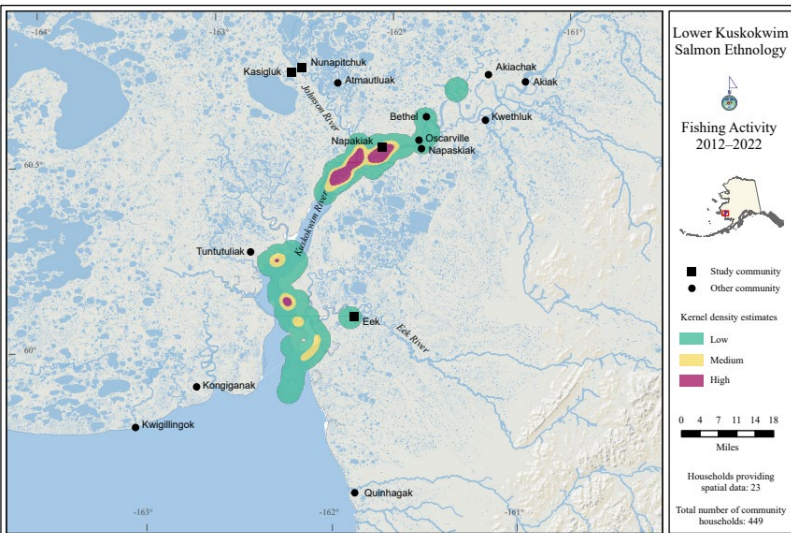
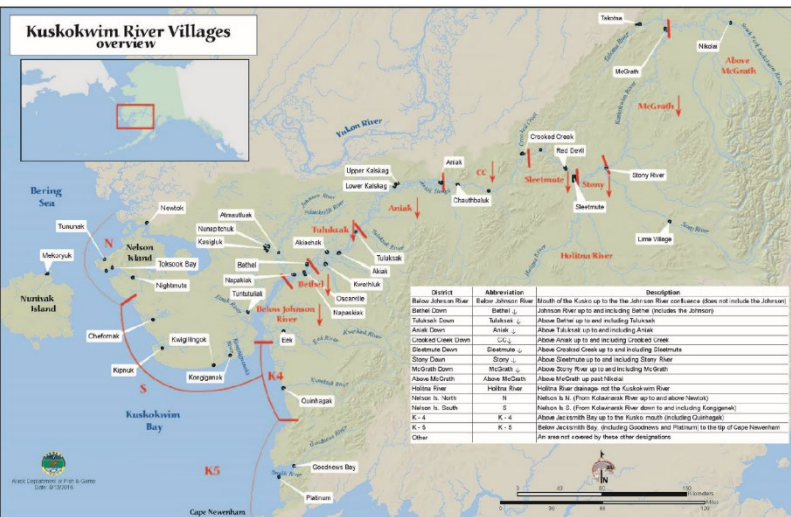
User Guide Explore

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sb/CSIS/>



<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/publications/>





1. Community baseline studies
2. Special topic research
3. Local and Traditional Knowledge
4. Harvest monitoring (multi-year)

Figure 6-2.—Estimated salmon fishing density in the Kuskokwim Management Area, 2012–2022.



1. Household surveys:
comprehensive, network,
cultural consensus analysis
2. Mapping of harvest areas
3. Key respondent interviews
and ethnography
4. Participant observation
5. Harvest monitoring and
assessments
6. Other sources of
information

Project Title: Natural Indicators in the Upper Kuskokwim River

Principal Investigators:

Caroline Brown, Division of Subsistence, ADF&G
1300 College Rd, Fairbanks, AK 99701, Phone: (907) 459-7317, Email: caroline.brown@alaska.gov

Co-Principal Investigator: Ann Fienup-Riordan, Independent Contractor, 9951 Prospect Dr., Anchorage, AK 99507 phone: (907)-346-2952, email: riordan@alaska.net

Purpose:

This project seeks to understand the types of signs or information on the landscape that fishers used to evaluate when the salmon are coming and how the run might unfold. This is sometimes called the **natural indicators** of salmon run timing and abundance.

Objectives:

1. Document local and traditional ecological knowledge of Chinook, chum, sockeye, and coho salmon natural indicators in **McGrath, Nikolai, and Takotna**.
2. Map important salmon habitats (migratory routes, spawning, juvenile rearing, etc.), fishing locations, historical and contemporary fish camps, and other areas of ecological importance.
3. Promote capacity building among local communities, agencies, tribal councils, and NGOs.

Study Design:

This study will use **key respondent interviews** to document traditional knowledge. Interviews can be in a group format or on a one-on-one basis. Respondents will be compensated for sharing their time and knowledge.

Researchers will try to interview 4 to 6 people in each community, if possible and include a cross-section of the community, including age, gender, and experiential differences.



1. Project is funded by U.S. Department of Interior's Office of Subsistence Management (OSM)
2. Focus is to seek understanding of historical abundance, distribution, and health of salmon populations and document natural indicators and TEK of salmon in upper Kuskokwim River region
3. Study communities: McGrath, Nikolai, and Takotna



Photo: Isabelle Tiller, ADFG, displays a berry mashing implement in Nikolai

Objective 1: Document local and TEK of Chinook, chum, sockeye, and coho salmon natural indicators in 3 upper Kuskokwim River communities

Objective 2: Map locally significant salmon habitats, fishing locations, historical and contemporary fish camps, and other areas of ecological importance used in observing the landscape for natural indicators

Objective 3: Promote capacity building among local communities, management agencies, Tribal organizations, and non-profit organizations



Photo credit Isabelle Tiller, ADFG Subsistence during participant observation July 2025

- Ethnographic interviews and participant observation
- Mapping with community respondents
- Analysis of interviews to identify TEK and natural indicators
- Analysis of mapping and environmental changes

McGrath:

May 2022: One group interview conducted. The trip was shortened due to COVID

August 2023: 4 individual interviews and mapping conducted. One participant observation trip conducted

Takotna:

August 2023: 3 individual interviews conducted. The weir site was also visited

Nikolai:

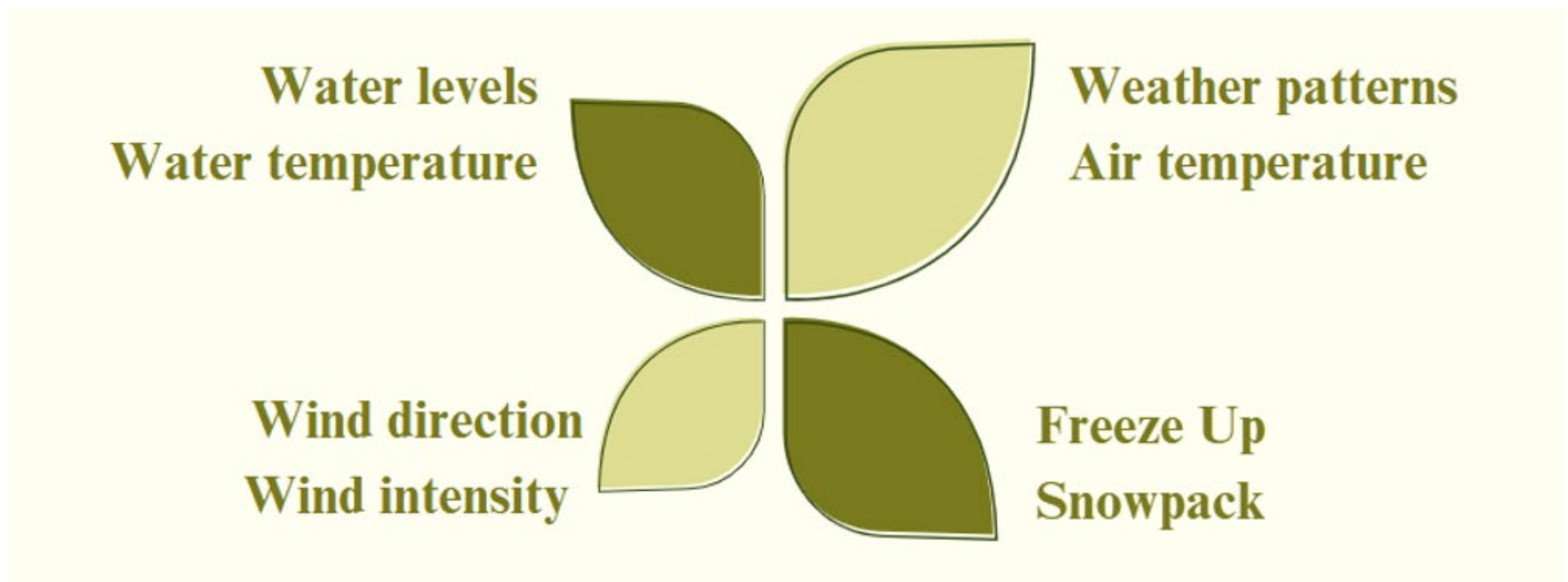
November 2023: 6 individual interviews were conducted

July 2025: Participant observation trip conducted to fish camp



Photo by Isabelle Tiller, ADFG Subsistence in Nikolai

These are environmental phenomena that may directly influence the salmon runs. Examples of causal natural indicators may include:





This type of indicator have no direct influence on the salmon runs but may indicate that salmon are present or will be arriving soon. Examples include:

1. Vegetation
2. Insects
3. Water features
4. Nonsalmon Species
5. Avian Species
6. Other

Photo credit Isabelle Tiller and Tim Bembenic, ADFG Subsistence

During ethnographic interviews, researchers asked questions pertaining to environmental changes observed through time

In addition, questions were asked regarding changes to the salmon fishery

Environmental changes may include weather patterns, river morphology, temperature, ice pack, fisheries, wildlife, vegetative, or other natural phenomena



Photo credit: ADF&G Sport Fish



On behalf of ADF&G Division of Subsistence, we would like to thank each respondent for sharing your knowledge of the upper Kuskokwim River region.

We would also like to thank:

The city of McGrath and the McGrath Native Village Council
The community of Takotna and the Takotna Traditional Council
The community of Nikolai and the Nikolai Edzeno' Tribal Council

Photo: Yentna River Fish Wheel. Credit: ADF&G Sport Fish



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