

# Western Alaska Chinook and Chum Salmon Stock Status

Dr. Katie Howard, Fisheries Scientist

ADF&G Salmon Ocean Ecology Program

#### Western Alaska Chinook Salmon Index



### 2021 Chinook Salmon

0

Below average to poor statewide

#### Western Alaska Chum Salmon Index



## 2021 Chum Salmon

0

# Average to poor runs statewide

• Kuskokwim River Chinook –

age 5 &  $6 \rightarrow 4$  & 5

 $\alpha$ 

 Norton Sound Chum and Coho – record low size

• Yukon River Chum – record low size

#### Salmon Ocean Ecology Program (SOEP)

#### What we do:

- 1) Understand the marine life of Alaskan salmon
- 2) Assist fishery management decision making
- 3) Understand what drives salmon populations







- Long term monitoring of Alaskan salmon at sea 1.
- Identify survival bottlenecks that affect future run sizes 2.
- Forecast run sizes (1 to 3 years in the future) 3.



Juvenile salmon (1st summer at sea)

Immature and Maturing Chinook (2-4 years)

Immature and Maturing Chum (3-4 years)



RIVER







~3 months



RIVER

## Yukon fall chum salmon runs also seem to be driven by factors early in life...







 $\sim 3 \text{ months}$ 



#### Bering Sea Changes Affect Salmon

Stocks moving north



Different food available



Empty stomachs



 $\uparrow$  growth early in marine life =  $\uparrow$  jacks





Juvenile Chinook

Juvenile Chum

kathrine.howard@alaska.gov

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## Thank You