

# PERFORMANCE REPORT

**STATE:** Alaska

**GRANT NO.:** F-10-33

**GRANT TITLE:** Sport Fish Investigations in Alaska

**PERIOD COVERED:** July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

**STUDY NO. AND TITLE:** E-2-5 Chinook and Coho Salmon Escapement Monitoring, Anchorage and North Gulf Coast Management Areas

## STUDY OBJECTIVES:

Objectives for Chinook and coho salmon escapement index surveys of the Anchorage Management and North Gulf Coast Areas include:

- 1) Determine whether historic escapement levels in both Anchorage and North Gulf Coast Management Areas are being met.
- 2) Count the number of visible Chinook salmon, by foot survey once per a week, in Ship Creek beginning mid-June until 750 Chinook salmon are counted above the Chugach Association Power Plant dam (CAPP) to ensure that brood stock needs are met.
- 3) Count the number of visible Chinook salmon, by foot survey, in Bird Creek, Campbell Creek, Eagle River (South Fork and Meadow Creek), and Rabbit Creek by conducting at least one survey of each stream beginning in mid to late July.
- 4) Count the number of visible coho salmon, by foot survey once a week, in Ship Creek beginning mid-August until 1,000 coho salmon are counted above the Chugach Association Power Plant dam (CAPP) to ensure that brood stock needs are met.
- 5) Count the number of visible coho salmon, by foot survey, in Ship Creek, Campbell Creek, Bird Creek, and Rabbit Creek by conducting at least one survey of each stream between mid-September and mid-October.
- 6) During the peak of the coho salmon returns in mid- to late October, count the number of visible coho salmon by foot survey in seven streams in Resurrection Bay drainage: Airport, Box Canyon, Clear, Dairy, Grouse, Japanese, and Mayor creeks.

## **RESULTS/DISCUSSIONS:**

**Objective 1:** Historic escapement levels were met through management actions and by conducting stock assessments in-season with surveys.

**Objective 2:** Foot stream surveys for Chinook salmon were performed on Ship Creek starting on June 20<sup>th</sup>. Peak survey counts occurred on June 26<sup>th</sup> with 612 Chinook salmon counted. The William Jack Hernandez Hatchery was able to meet its Chinook brood stock goal. In addition, the fishery was liberalized to allow additional Chinook salmon harvest in 2017.

**Objective 3:** Successful stream surveys to enumerate Chinook salmon were performed on Bird Creek, Campbell Creek, Eagle River (South Fork and Meadow Creek), and Rabbit Creek between July 9 – 18, 2017.

**Objective 4:** Four foot stream surveys were conducted between July 8<sup>th</sup> and September 19<sup>th</sup>. On August 23<sup>rd</sup> the largest number of coho salmon were enumerated in Ship Creek (1,638 fish). The William Jack Hernandez Hatchery was able to meet its coho salmon brood stock goal.

**Objective 5:** Successful coho salmon surveys were conducted in Ship Creek, Campbell Creek, Bird Creek, and Rabbit Creek in mid-September.

**Objective 6:** Surveys were performed on all seven streams (Airport, Box Canyon, Clear, Dairy, Grouse, Jap, and Mayor creeks) in the Resurrection Bay drainage during the second week in October. Surveys were successful with good water clarity for observing fish.



Bird Creek king salmon stream survey.

## **FINAL REPORT STATUS:**

This report is the final performance report for the objectives in this project for the grant period.

Survey numbers will be reported in the following Area Management Reports:

Anchorage area –  
Area management report for the sport fisheries of Anchorage, 2016-2018.

*North Gulf Coast*–  
Area Management report for the sport fisheries of the North Gulf Coast, 2016-2018.

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**DATE:** August 6, 2018