

Submitted by UCIDA

Response to RC 166, effects of overescapement

Small lakes in the Mat-Su drainage are very sensitive to the effects of overescapements/ exceeding the carrying capacity.

This table for Judd Lake shows the clear inverse relationship between large escapements and small fry. The average fry weight in 4 of these last 5 years indicates they were near starvation. Salmon fry at .6 grams or less in weight do not have enough body mass and/or fat reserves to survive the winter. Fry with decreasing weights of less than 1 gram have increasing higher mortality rates when compared to healthy fry.

Judd Lake	SEG range 25-55		
Year	Escapement	Age 0 Fry Length (mm)	Age 0 Fry Weight (g)
2005		43.8	1.0
2006		53.8	2.1
2007	40,633*	47.6	1.3
2008	58,134*	37.6	0.7
2009	54,304*	41.2	0.8
2010	43,153*	38.0	0.7
2011	18,361*	50.3	1.4
2012	39,997*	39.0	0.6
2013	18,303*		
2014	14,021*		
	*Weir count from previous year		