

Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group

1 (800) 315-6338 (MEET) Code: 58756# (KUSKO)

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

Meeting Agenda

Date: 07/01/2015

Time: 10:00am

Place: Bethel

Time Called to Order:

Chair: LaMont Albertson

Time Adjourned:

ROLL CALL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM:

QUORUM MET? Yes / No

Upriver Elder:

Processor:

Downriver Elder:

Member at Large:

Commercial Fisher:

Sport Fisher:

Lower River Subsistence:

Western Interior RAC:

Middle River Subsistence:

Y-K Delta RAC:

Upper River Subsistence:

ADF&G:

Headwaters Subsistence:

INTRODUCTIONS:

INVOCATION:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *Optional. ADF&G does not prepare official meeting minutes.*

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

- ADF&G Management Actions under consideration
- Overview of Kuskokwim River salmon run assessment\ discussion of ADF&G considerations:
 - a. Test Fisheries (Bethel and Aniak):
 - b. Weirs/Mark-Recapture/Aerial Surveys/Other:
- Subsistence Reports: Lowest river, ONC Inseason Subsistence Report, Lower River, Middle River, Upper River, Headwaters.
 - USFWS: Lower River and Community Harvest Update
- Commercial Catch Report:
- Processor Report:
- Sport Fish Report:
- Intercept Fishery Report: *optional*
- Weather Forecast:
- Discussion of ADF&G Management considerations and discussion of possible alternatives (recommendations from the Working Group).
- Motion for Discussion and Action.

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD:

OLD BUSINESS:

- Tier II process

NEW BUSINESS:

- State position on extraterritorial jurisdiction

COMMENTS FROM WORKING GROUP MEMBERS:

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

Informational Packet

Information Packets *ARE*:

- **Intended to help inform Working Group discussions.**
- **To be viewed and used in context with Working Group meetings only.**

Packets *ARE NOT*:

- **To be viewed as standalone documents.**
- **A final say on fisheries management decisions.**

Please use this information responsibly:

Packet information is an incomplete snapshot of an ongoing discussion and changing conditions. Packet information should not be reproduced for any purpose other than to describe Working Group meeting discussions.

Misuse of Packet information can contribute to misunderstandings that can **cause harm to salmon users** and potentially **damage salmon resources**.

Ask Questions: ADF&G staff will be happy to answer biology and management questions. Please call **1-855-933-2433** to reach ADF&G Kuskokwim Area staff.

Attend Meetings: Each Working Group meeting is announced at least 48 hours prior to time and date of meeting. In addition, each meeting is recorded. Recordings can be found here:
http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyarea_kuskokwim.kswg

Viewing the information packet while listening to meetings/recordings will provide a better understanding of the information presented in this packet.

Thank you.

Jennifer Peeks

Chris Shelden

Working Group coordinators

Informational Packet

LOWER KUSKOKWIM RIVER INSEASON CATCH MONITORING REPORT: Orutsarmiut Native Council (ONC)

June 29, 2015

Fishing reports from June 22-28th, 2015

Families Surveyed	Families Fishing	Drift-nets	Set-nets	Both	>6" Mesh	>4"-6" Mesh	4" or Less	Rod & Reel	Dipnet
51	33	33	0	0	0	33	0	0	0
		100%	0%	0%	0%	100%	%	0%	0%

Percentages are based on the number of families fishing each week.

Compared with this time in a normal year, how are catch rates for salmon this week?

CHINOOK			CHUM			SOCKEYE		
Very Good	Normal	Poor	Very Good	Normal	Poor	Very Good	Normal	Poor
2	7	17	6	19	5	5	15	11
6%	21%	52%	19%	58%	16%	16%	45%	33%

Percentages are based on the number of families fishing each week.

Does the salmon run timing appear to be early, late, or normal?

CHINOOK			CHUM			SOCKEYE		
Early	Normal	Late	Early	Normal	Late	Early	Normal	Late
2	10	8	0	19	8	0	19	8
6%	30%	24%	0%	58%	24%	0%	58%	24%

Percentages are based on the number of families fishing each week.

Harvest Goal Summary:

This week, three families discussed harvest goals for this season.

Chinook salmon harvest goals ranged from 0- 20 fish. Chum salmon harvest goals ranged from 10-100 fish.

Sockeye salmon harvest goals ranged from 20-100 fish. Coho salmon harvest goals ranged from 0 to 150.

Two families commented on total salmon harvest goals ranging from 60-150.

Chinook:

Of the families surveyed, 21% of were unable to comment on catch rate and 39% were unable to comment on run timing this week. One family will not be targeting Chinook salmon this year. One family reported catching a large Chinook salmon with very light colored meat compared to a normal Chinook salmon.

Chum:

Of the families surveyed, 9% were unable to comment on catch rate and 18% were unable to comment on run timing. Two families reported catching chum salmon with mushy meat and puss oozing out. One family reported a few chum salmon with parasites in the meat.

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Sockeye:

Of the families surveyed, 6% were unable comment on catch rate and 18% were unable to comment on run timing. Many of the families are still concerned about the sockeye salmon return due to the low catch rates. One family caught a few reds with parasites located in the belly meat.

Comments:

Some of the families expressed their concern in opening the whole river when they are trying to conserve Chinook salmon, because there were too many boats fishing at once. A few families expressed the water being too high for fishing causing poor catch rates..

Surveyor comments:

One family turned in their ASL kit this week and a few more were still working on them until the end of next week.

ONC Fishery Technicians have distributed BTF fish to the following locations: Lulu Herron, Prematernal home care, Ayalpik Apartments, Long Term Care Facility, Teen Center, TWC, Moravian Volunteers, VFW, and the Bethel Community Action Center for Evacuees. ONC was still distributing to the Community Distribution List with the priority going to elders, widows, disabled individuals, individuals with no means to fish, and funerals. USFWS and ONC partnered to distribute to the community of Akiachak, Red Devil, Eek, Napaimute, Napakiak, and Napaskiak.

ONC Total Distribution (updated):

Chinook: 272

Sockeye: 127

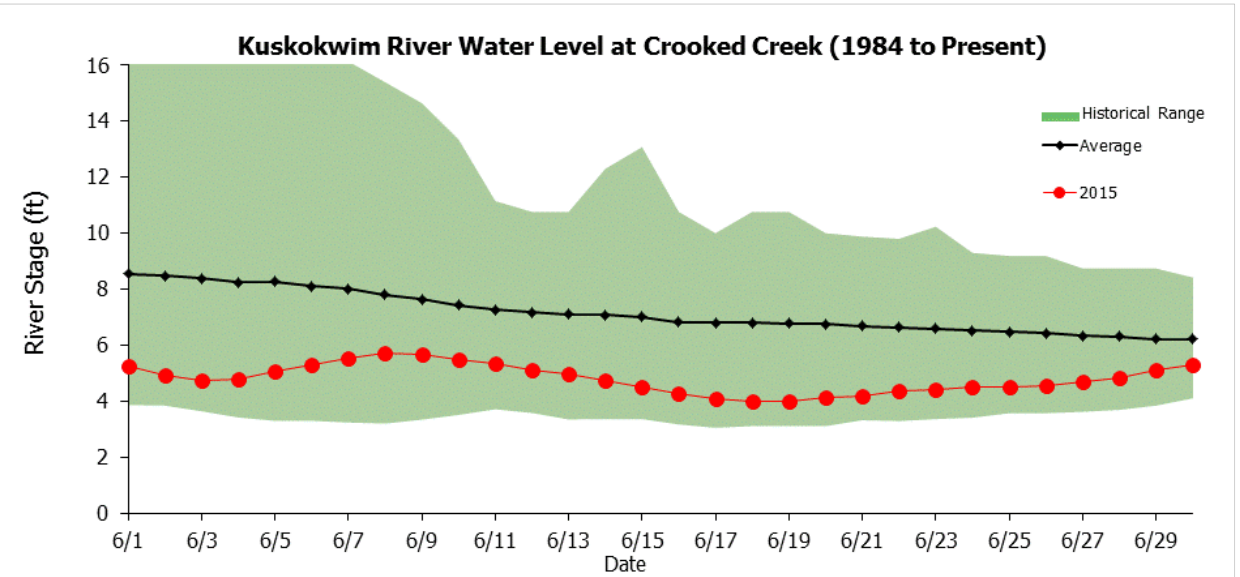
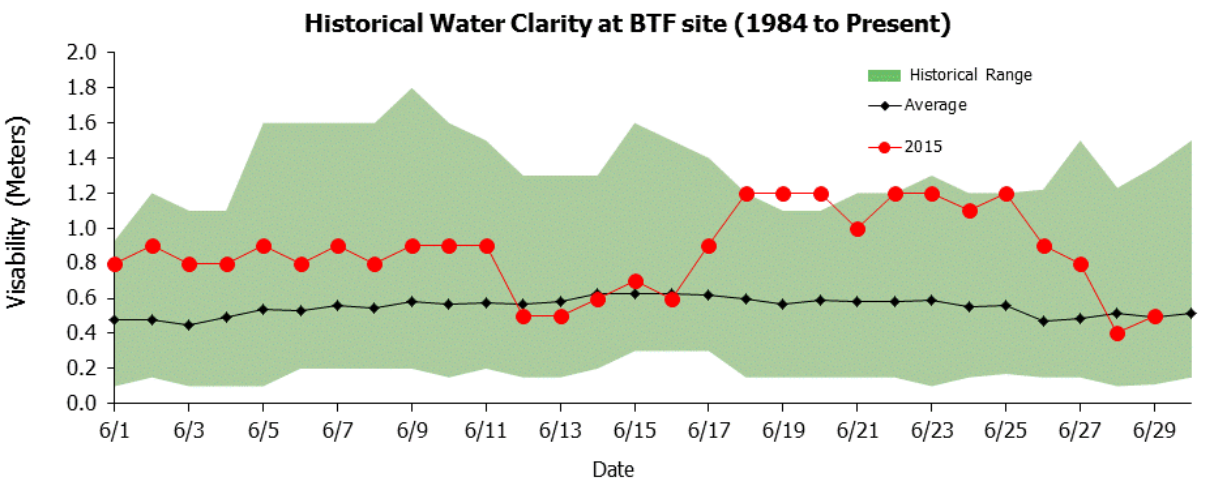
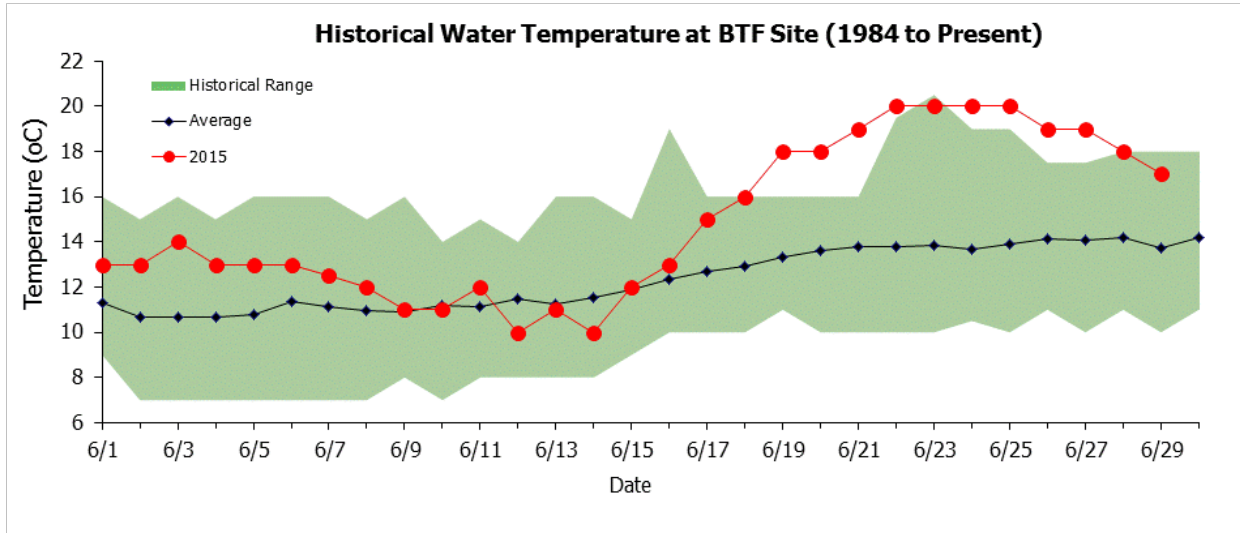
Chum: 234

Inconnu: 32

Burbot: 7

Humpback: 2

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*To access BTF and weir data online, please visit <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareakuskokwim.salmon#fishcounts>
Chinook Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index, Bethel Test Fishery

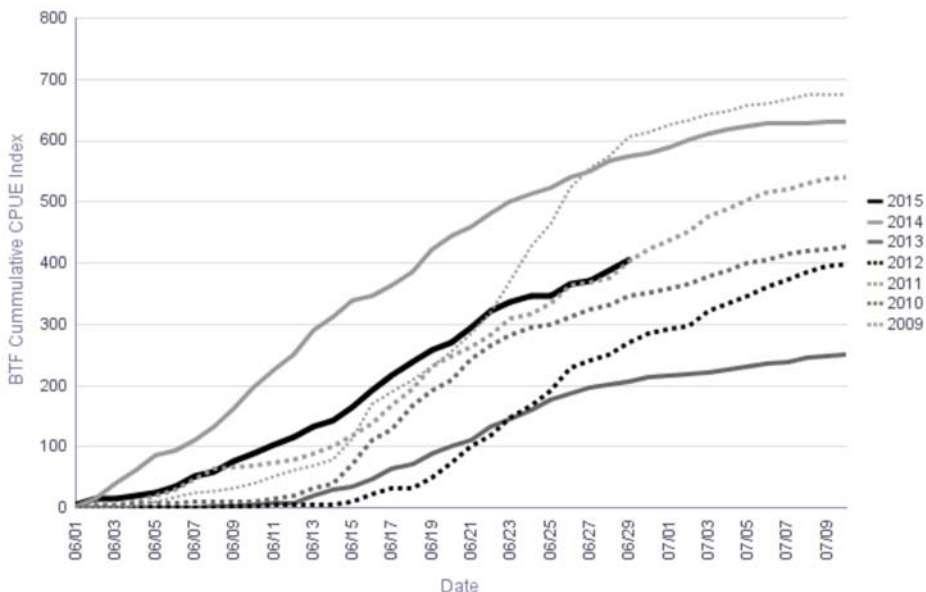
Bethel Test Fishery Chinook Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index

**2015 data are PRELIMINARY and not comparable
to previous years due to subsistence fishing restrictions. **

Date	CPUE						
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
06/21	285	242	263	102	110	458	296
06/22	320	265	283	118	132	481	321
06/23	370	283	309	147	145	500	336
06/24	426	294	317	168	159	513	345
06/25	463	299	335	192	177	524	347
06/26	522	311	363	228	187	539	366
06/27	555	324	369	240	197	550	372
06/28	575	332	376	251	202	568	387
06/29	606	345	402	270	206	573	405
06/30	614	352	423	286	214	579	
07/01	626	359	437	293	217	588	
07/02	634	367	452	298	218	600	
07/03	642	378	475	321	222	611	
07/04	649	389	489	334	226	618	
07/05	658	401	503	347	231	624	
07/06	661	406	516	361	237	628	
07/07	667	414	520	374	239	629	
07/08	676	419	530	386	246	629	
07/09	676	423	538	395	248	630	
07/10	676	428	541	398	251	630	

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Season Total	705	458	579	418	261	650	

Chinook Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index Chart



Resulting escapement relative to New Kuskokwim River SEG (65,000 - 120,000)

- 2009 - Achieved (+) no restrictions
- 2010 - Not Achieved (-) late tributary restrictions
- 2011 - Achieved (+) 15 days restrictions, minor reduction to subsistence harvest
- 2012 - Achieved (+) 35 days restrictions, significant reduction to subsistence harvest
- 2013 - Not Achieved (-) tributary restrictions and late main stem restrictions, significant reduction to subsistence harvest
- 2014 - Achieved (+) 30 days of restrictions, significant reduction in subsistence harvest

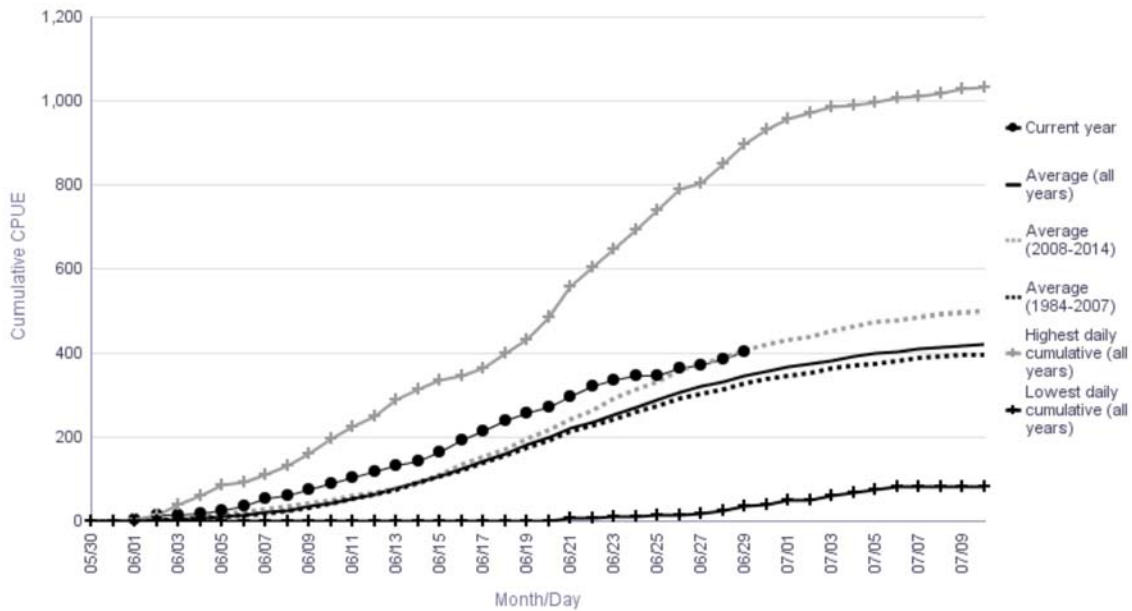
Informational Packet

Bethel Test Fishery Chinook Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index

Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	Average (1984-2007)	Average (2008-2014)	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current year
06/21	8.00	220.38	214.04	241.67	558.00	295.77
06/22	8.00	237.43	229.00	265.90	602.00	321.01
06/23	11.00	255.27	244.08	293.21	646.00	335.67
06/24	11.00	272.12	259.67	314.38	694.00	345.13
06/25	15.00	289.09	276.21	332.80	741.00	346.56
06/26	15.00	307.26	291.54	360.72	788.00	366.29
06/27	18.00	320.14	303.63	376.32	804.00	371.78
06/28	26.00	332.35	315.58	389.40	851.00	386.95
06/29	35.00	345.76	327.58	407.64	897.00	404.54
06/30	39.00	357.90	339.00	422.27	932.00	
07/01	51.00	367.00	347.88	432.13	956.00	
07/02	52.00	374.68	355.33	440.60	972.00	
07/03	61.00	383.68	363.13	453.74	984.00	
07/04	67.00	392.06	371.13	463.41	990.00	
07/05	76.00	398.89	377.00	473.51	998.00	
07/06	82.00	404.91	382.79	480.33	1,007.00	
07/07	83.00	410.20	387.83	486.45	1,012.00	
07/08	83.00	414.76	391.67	493.50	1,019.00	
07/09	83.00	418.24	394.92	497.80	1,029.00	
07/10	83.00	421.29	398.17	500.16	1,032.00	

	Lowest CPUE	Average CPUE	Highest CPUE
Season Total	91.00	447.69	1,141.00

Current Year: 2015



Informational Packet

Chum Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index, Bethel Test Fishery

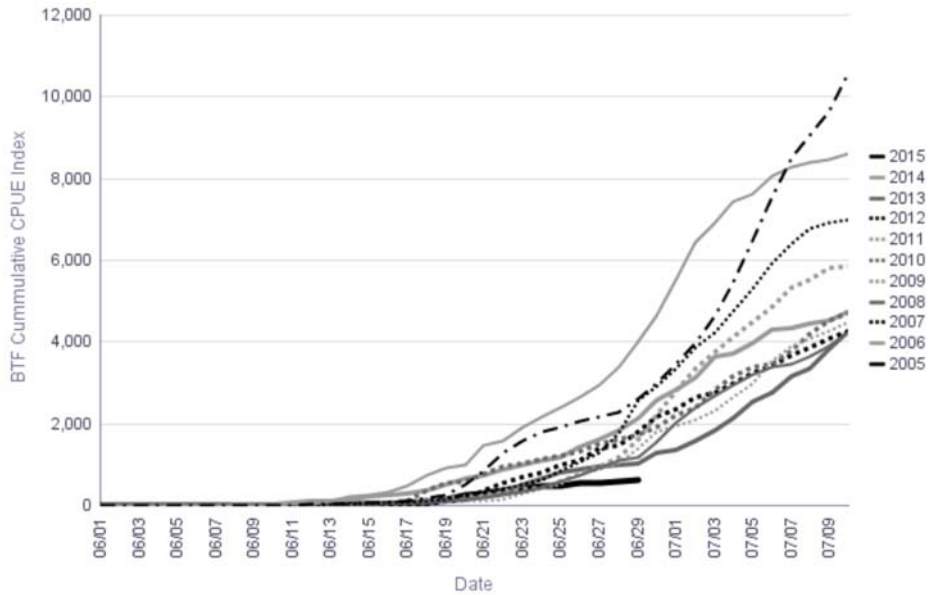
Bethel Test Fishery Chum Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index

**2015 data are PRELIMINARY and not comparable
to previous years due to subsistence fishing restrictions. **

Date	CPUE										
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
06/21	844	1,481	344	190	134	765	277	387	235	731	292
06/22	1,288	1,594	408	264	148	955	372	553	313	886	380
06/23	1,587	1,915	507	337	300	1,050	415	705	511	995	431
06/24	1,816	2,187	633	437	396	1,164	434	798	669	1,120	471
06/25	1,917	2,410	841	598	531	1,225	598	989	805	1,195	482
06/26	2,076	2,645	1,075	754	782	1,340	770	1,110	881	1,434	540
06/27	2,182	2,939	1,309	922	903	1,524	964	1,386	979	1,608	553
06/28	2,273	3,401	1,784	1,101	1,028	1,613	1,166	1,495	1,007	1,851	589
06/29	2,631	4,030	2,590	1,178	1,407	1,739	1,607	1,801	1,020	2,155	627
06/30	2,989	4,659	2,918	1,551	1,800	1,932	2,223	2,188	1,297	2,596	
07/01	3,455	5,529	3,342	2,012	1,959	2,197	2,813	2,350	1,349	2,836	
07/02	3,982	6,436	3,862	2,379	2,104	2,379	3,354	2,653	1,584	3,144	
07/03	4,649	6,936	4,253	2,681	2,340	2,840	3,751	2,756	1,842	3,644	
07/04	5,463	7,423	4,737	2,954	2,664	3,174	4,128	2,998	2,146	3,708	
07/05	6,476	7,628	5,314	3,198	3,000	3,381	4,505	3,239	2,527	3,992	
07/06	7,541	8,053	5,927	3,392	3,530	3,480	4,854	3,423	2,757	4,308	
07/07	8,496	8,278	6,414	3,473	3,916	3,804	5,340	3,695	3,176	4,333	
07/08	9,055	8,409	6,775	3,661	4,083	4,206	5,542	3,879	3,355	4,463	
07/09	9,656	8,468	6,914	3,910	4,256	4,526	5,811	4,078	3,831	4,530	
07/10	10,604	8,609	7,011	4,220	4,502	4,718	5,842	4,275	4,263	4,765	

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Season Total	18,192	13,927	10,655	6,749	8,257	7,655	10,028	6,894	5,739	6,345	

Bethel Test Fishery, Chum Salmon Cumulative CPUE thru 07/10



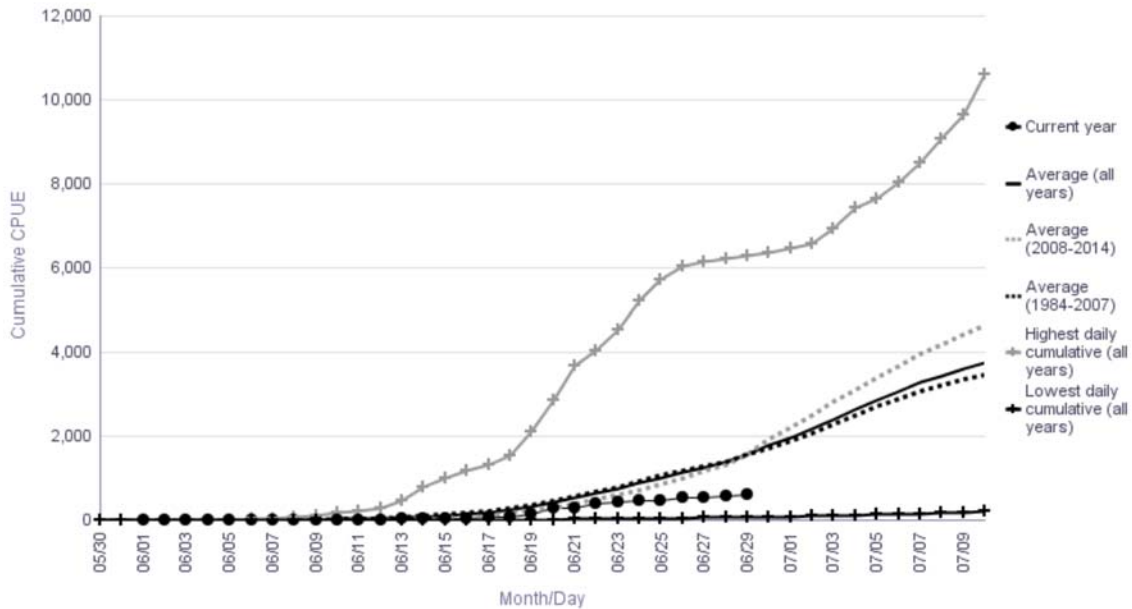
Informational Packet

Bethel Test Fishery Chum Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index

Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	Average (1984-2007)	Average (2008-2014)	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current year
06/21	30.00	533.24	575.43	388.39	3,682.00	291.93
06/22	36.00	633.14	672.27	498.82	4,039.00	380.12
06/23	39.00	764.47	807.73	616.02	4,537.00	430.61
06/24	50.00	886.11	935.43	716.84	5,202.00	470.59
06/25	56.00	1,020.54	1,070.64	848.60	5,715.00	481.50
06/26	56.00	1,146.40	1,186.06	1,010.24	6,040.00	539.83
06/27	64.00	1,268.37	1,292.98	1,183.83	6,130.00	553.36
06/28	64.00	1,389.88	1,409.35	1,322.97	6,210.00	588.75
06/29	70.00	1,583.26	1,590.52	1,558.22	6,303.00	626.72
06/30	73.00	1,775.25	1,726.85	1,941.05	6,366.00	
07/01	85.00	1,969.28	1,897.10	2,216.60	6,458.00	
07/02	102.00	2,179.28	2,081.64	2,513.88	6,572.00	
07/03	114.00	2,401.87	2,275.10	2,836.33	6,936.00	
07/04	120.00	2,636.37	2,498.10	3,110.27	7,423.00	
07/05	137.00	2,864.89	2,707.06	3,405.88	7,628.00	
07/06	145.00	3,071.65	2,894.85	3,677.66	8,053.00	
07/07	165.00	3,276.67	3,076.60	3,962.45	8,496.00	
07/08	185.00	3,443.20	3,231.23	4,169.83	9,055.00	
07/09	194.00	3,602.17	3,363.52	4,420.25	9,656.00	
07/10	235.00	3,747.13	3,482.27	4,655.08	10,604.00	

	Lowest CPUE	Average CPUE	Highest CPUE
Season Total	549.00	5,461.89	18,192.00

Current Year: 2015



Informational Packet

Sockeye Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index, Bethel Test Fishery

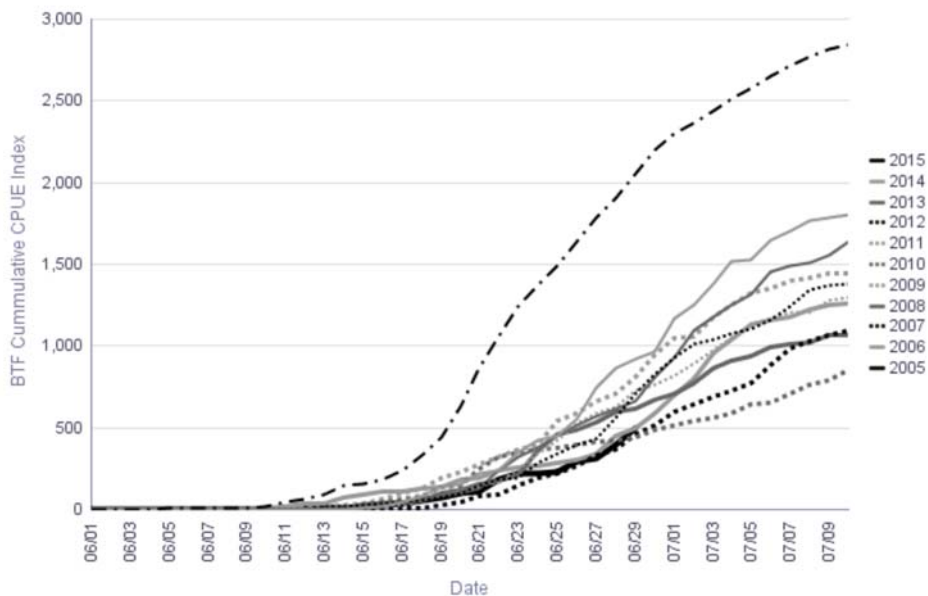
Bethel Test Fishery Sockeye Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index

**2015 data are PRELIMINARY and not comparable
to previous years due to subsistence fishing restrictions. **

Date	CPUE										
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
06/21	866	219	147	129	145	252	275	83	162	193	108
06/22	1,056	239	186	238	170	324	327	94	179	239	188
06/23	1,239	350	197	322	250	348	366	146	213	262	219
06/24	1,370	422	290	382	339	367	401	194	358	271	225
06/25	1,489	454	338	456	428	375	544	225	461	286	236
06/26	1,640	556	393	519	527	394	587	269	492	303	292
06/27	1,785	748	436	573	587	411	664	332	531	338	316
06/28	1,901	869	559	619	629	428	710	368	601	452	393
06/29	2,052	920	709	661	729	446	813	465	614	498	499
06/30	2,203	971	832	814	766	491	952	516	674	585	
07/01	2,297	1,165	933	934	818	515	1,049	596	712	697	
07/02	2,363	1,248	1,012	1,093	891	545	1,059	649	773	800	
07/03	2,438	1,380	1,044	1,179	978	561	1,181	689	862	954	
07/04	2,510	1,522	1,075	1,253	1,048	594	1,253	726	915	1,041	
07/05	2,580	1,530	1,105	1,314	1,136	645	1,325	778	937	1,129	
07/06	2,652	1,652	1,163	1,452	1,169	654	1,354	883	992	1,160	
07/07	2,712	1,706	1,242	1,489	1,208	707	1,397	987	1,011	1,181	
07/08	2,770	1,764	1,341	1,511	1,208	765	1,418	1,034	1,025	1,220	
07/09	2,813	1,785	1,370	1,560	1,277	794	1,448	1,065	1,064	1,250	
07/10	2,842	1,808	1,380	1,636	1,301	857	1,448	1,099	1,069	1,264	

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Season Total	3,019	2,139	1,521	1,713	1,520	1,375	1,518	1,171	1,148	1,367	

Bethel Test Fishery, Sockeye Salmon Cumulative CPUE thru 07/10



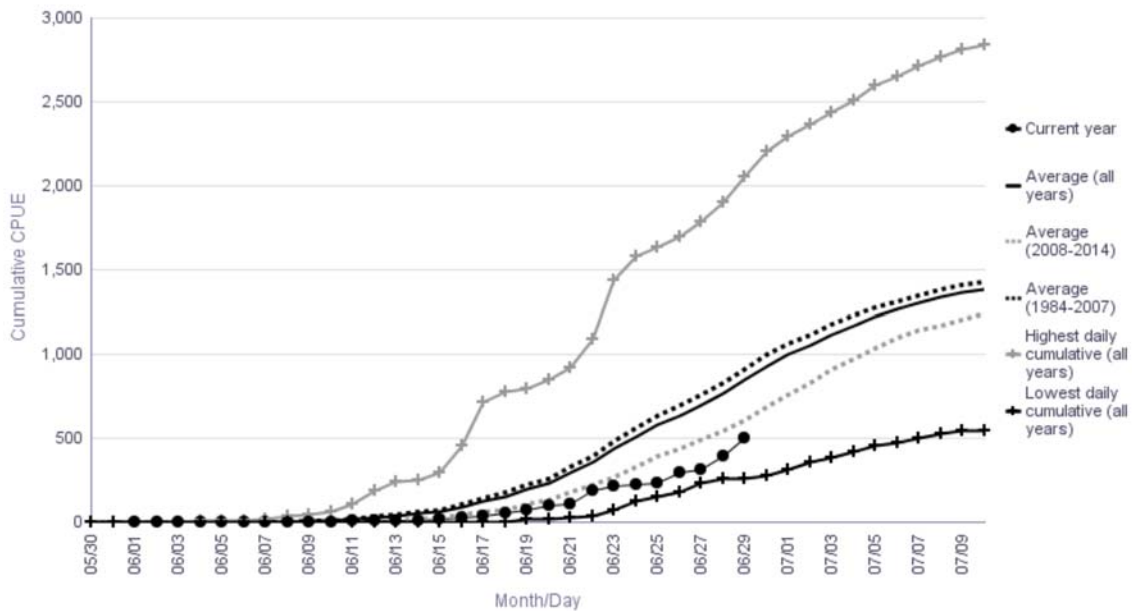
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Bethel Test Fishery Sockeye Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index

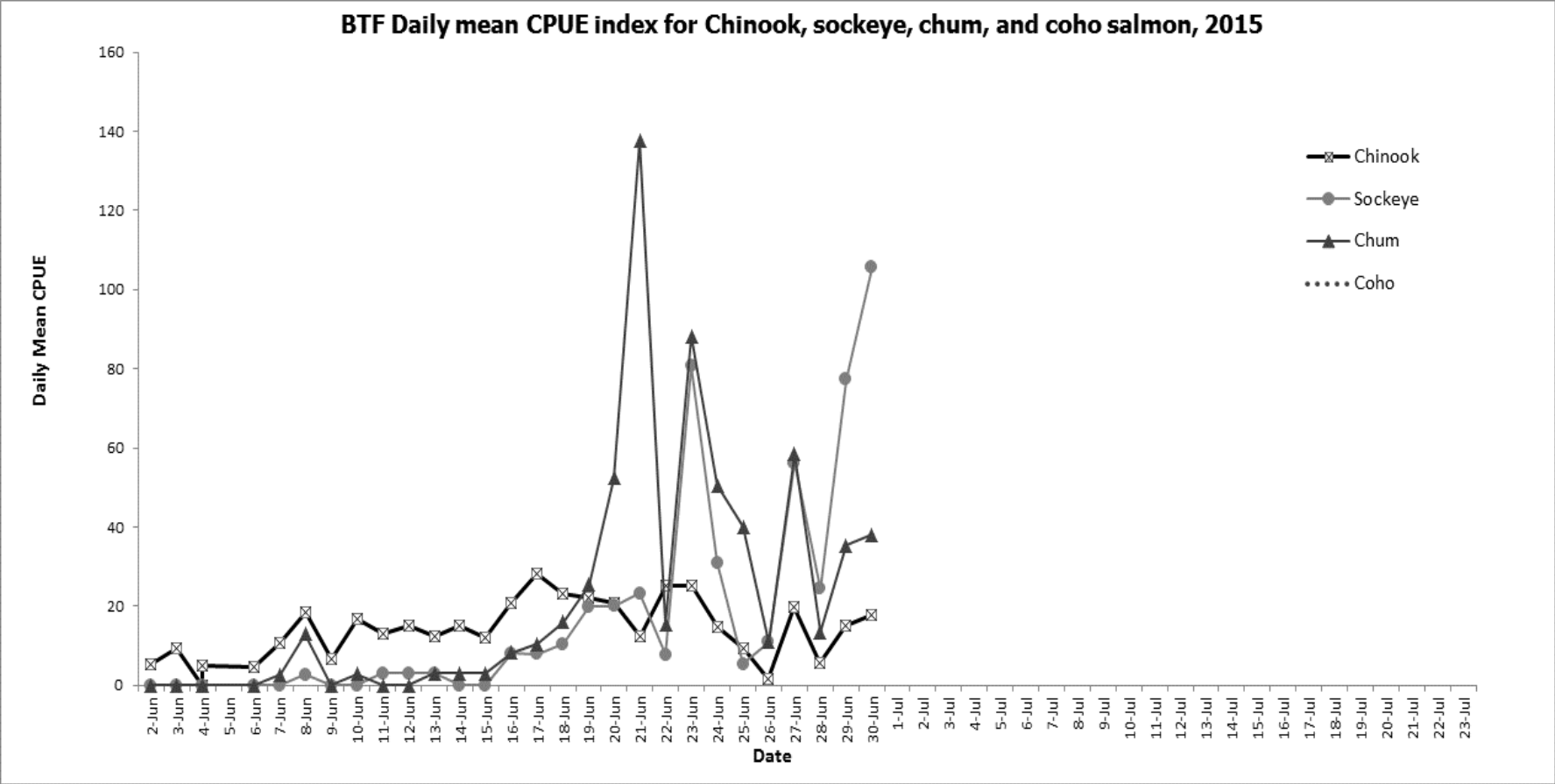
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	Average (1984-2007)	Average (2008-2014)	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current year
06/21	28.00	295.91	330.61	176.97	921.00	107.73
06/22	39.00	356.09	394.49	224.48	1,087.00	188.36
06/23	75.00	435.51	483.07	272.48	1,442.00	219.27
06/24	128.00	507.66	559.40	330.27	1,584.00	224.61
06/25	151.00	579.48	632.86	396.49	1,633.00	235.52
06/26	180.00	637.58	694.74	441.64	1,695.00	291.73
06/27	233.00	699.15	759.95	490.74	1,785.00	316.17
06/28	256.00	766.98	832.07	543.84	1,901.00	393.41
06/29	259.00	845.05	915.45	603.71	2,052.00	498.93
06/30	277.00	926.36	996.61	685.50	2,203.00	
07/01	311.00	997.25	1,066.40	760.20	2,297.00	
07/02	357.00	1,052.36	1,117.24	829.95	2,363.00	
07/03	381.00	1,117.96	1,177.24	914.76	2,438.00	
07/04	417.00	1,172.71	1,230.20	975.66	2,510.00	
07/05	452.00	1,221.80	1,275.49	1,037.74	2,601.00	
07/06	475.00	1,264.87	1,314.49	1,094.79	2,652.00	
07/07	499.00	1,301.75	1,348.90	1,140.09	2,712.00	
07/08	526.00	1,338.02	1,387.40	1,168.71	2,770.00	
07/09	543.00	1,367.06	1,413.36	1,208.31	2,813.00	
07/10	545.00	1,385.56	1,428.28	1,239.12	2,842.00	

	Lowest CPUE	Average CPUE	Highest CPUE
Season Total	569.00	1,489.82	3,019.00

Current Year: 2015



Informational Packet

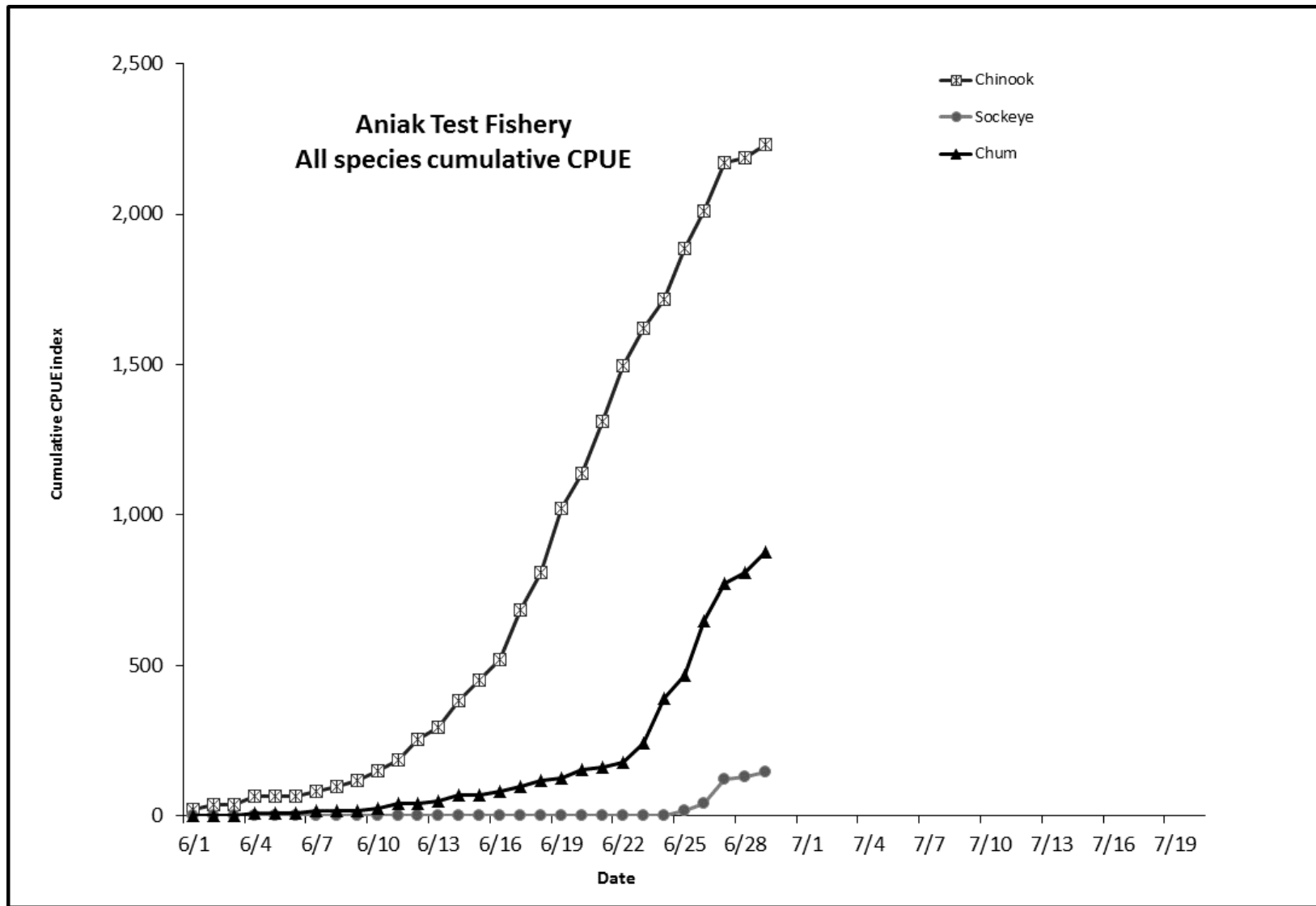


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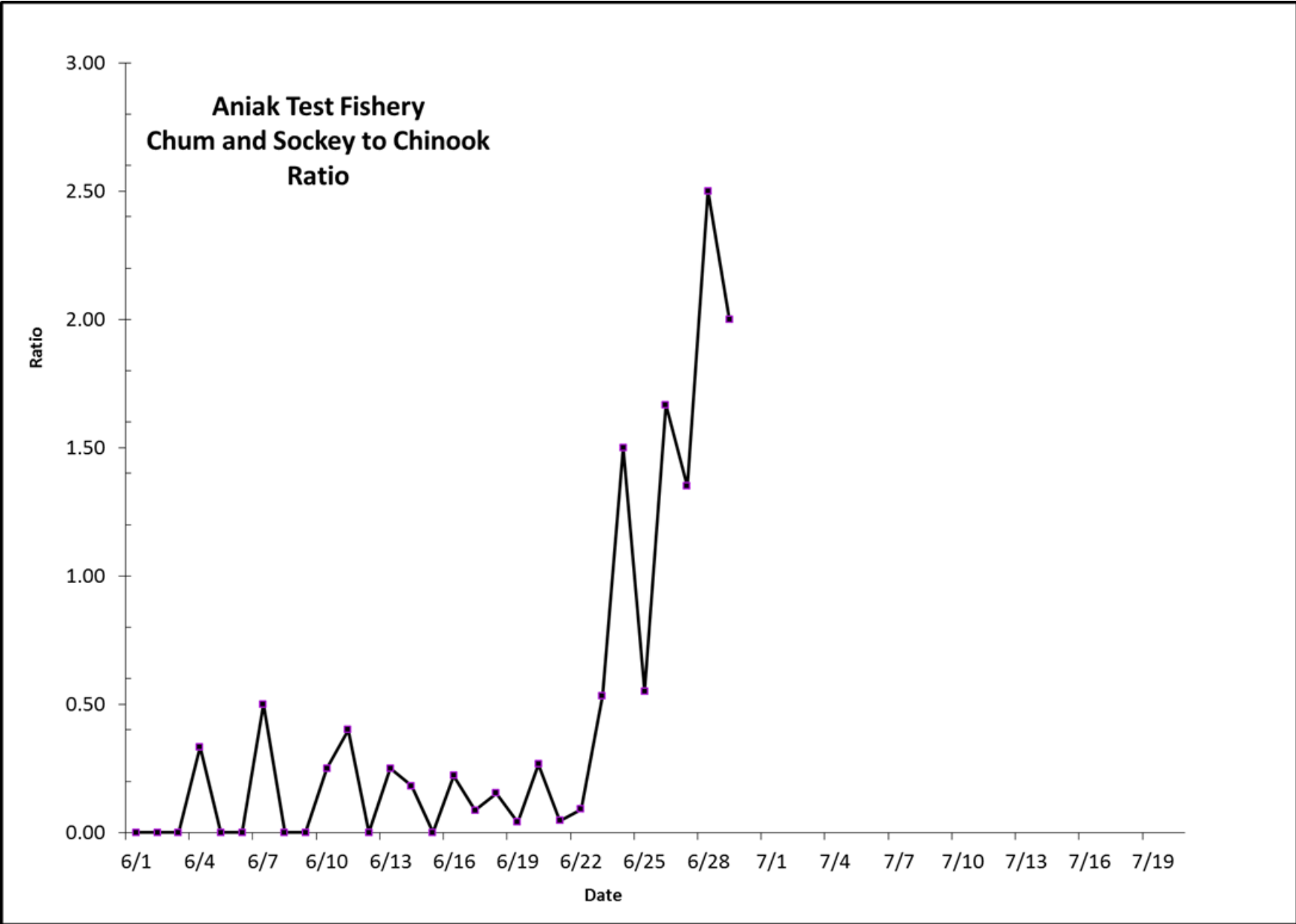
Aniak Test Fishery

	Chinook			Sockeye			Chum			
	Daily	Daily	Cumulative	Daily	Daily	Cumulative	Daily	Daily	Cumulative	Species
Date	Catch	CPUE	CPUE	Catch	CPUE	CPUE	Catch	CPUE	CPUE	Ratio
6/1	2	20	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
6/2	2	18	37	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
6/3	0	0	37	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
6/4	3	26	64	0	0	0	1	9	9	0.3
6/5	0	0	64	0	0	0	0	0	9	0.0
6/6	0	0	64	0	0	0	0	0	9	0.0
6/7	2	17	81	0	0	0	1	8	18	0.5
6/8	2	17	98	0	0	0	0	0	18	0.0
6/9	2	17	115	0	0	0	0	0	18	0.0
6/10	4	34	149	0	0	0	1	8	26	0.3
6/11	5	37	186	0	0	0	2	15	41	0.4
6/12	9	70	256	0	0	0	0	0	41	0.0
6/13	4	37	293	0	0	0	1	9	51	0.3
6/14	11	89	382	0	0	0	2	17	67	0.2
6/15	8	67	449	0	0	0	0	0	67	0.0
6/16	9	70	519	0	0	0	2	15	82	0.2
6/17	23	165	685	0	0	0	2	16	98	0.1
6/18	13	122	807	0	0	0	2	18	115	0.2
6/19	25	214	1021	0	0	0	1	9	124	0.0
6/20	15	118	1139	0	0	0	4	31	155	0.3
6/21	22	173	1311	0	0	0	1	7	163	0.0
6/22	22	185	1497	0	0	0	2	17	180	0.1
6/23	15	123	1620	0	0	0	8	61	241	0.5
6/24	12	97	1717	0	0	0	18	150	390	1.5
6/25	20	168	1885	2	17	17	9	77	467	0.6
6/26	15	124	2009	3	25	43	22	182	649	1.7
6/27	20	161	2170	11	78	121	16	123	771	1.4
6/28	2	18	2189	1	9	130	4	38	809	2.5
6/29	5	41	2230	2	16	146	8	67	875	2.0
6/30										

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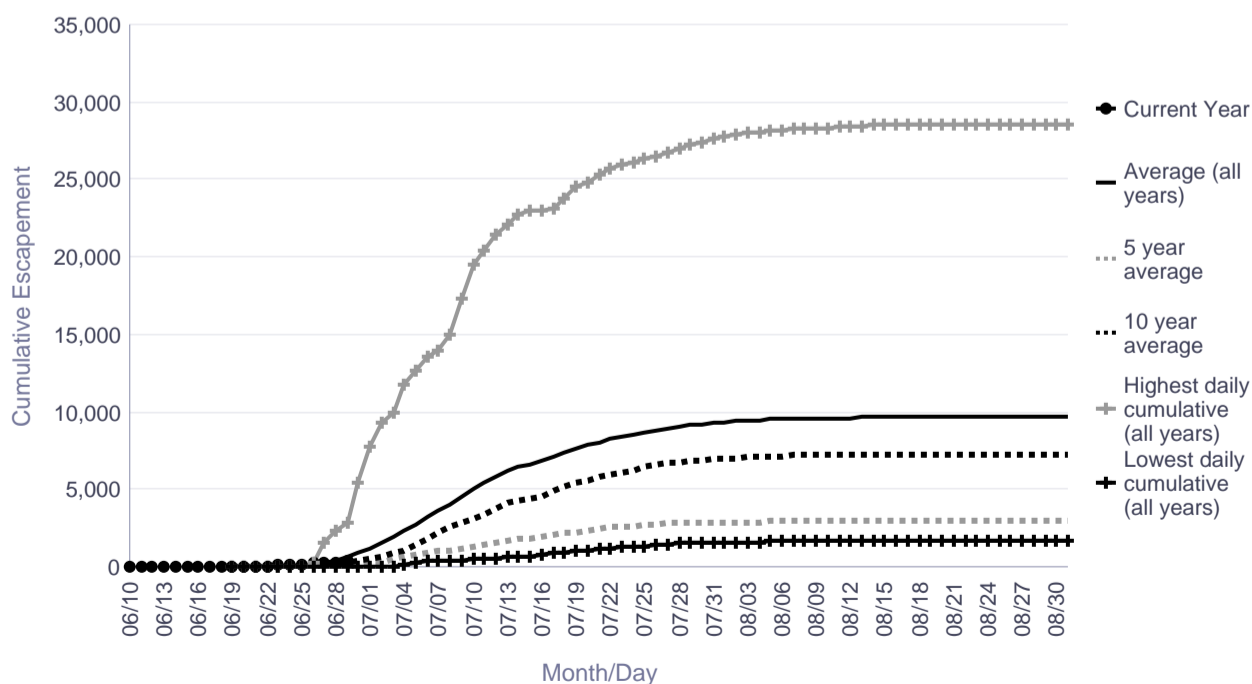
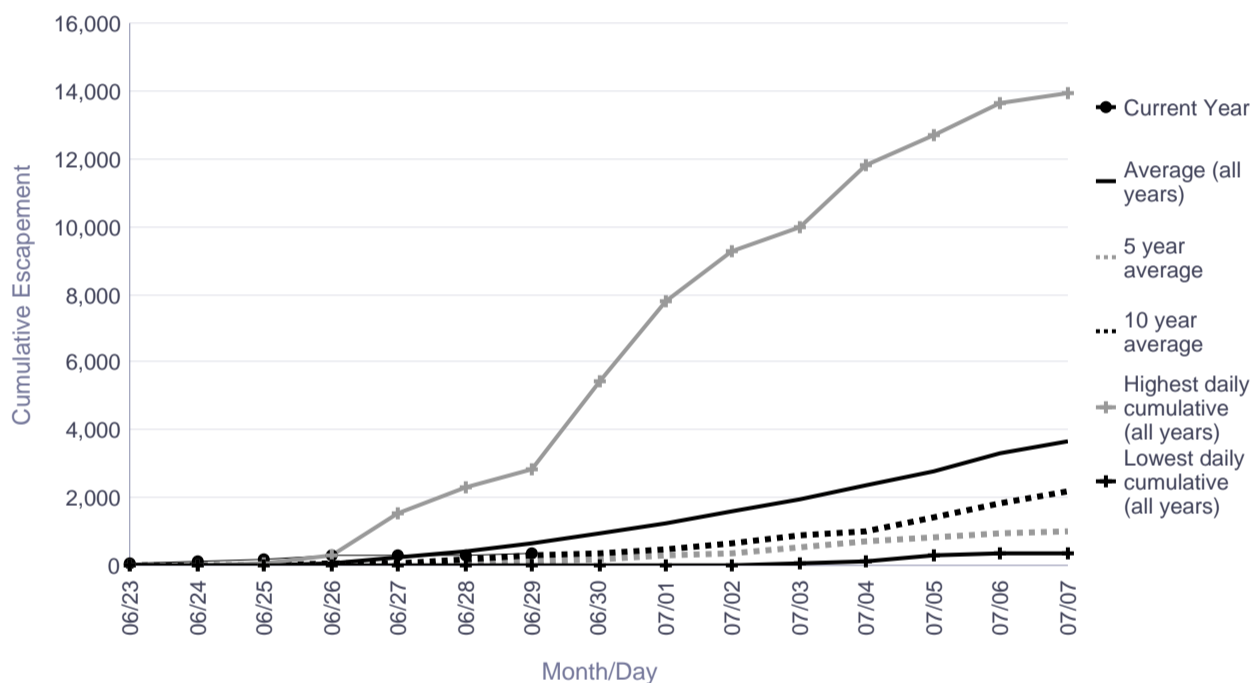
Informational Packet

Kwethluk River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon

Escapement Goal Range: 4,100 to 7,500

Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	10 year average	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current Year
06/23	0	4	0	2	7	93
06/24	0	9	1	5	19	132
06/25	0	25	10	15	43	188
06/26	0	76	27	40	327	280
06/27	0	233	37	83	1,528	284
06/28	0	410	87	172	2,322	300
06/29	2	639	131	285	2,860	365
06/30	8	933	172	372	5,460	
07/01	18	1,239	279	500	7,774	
07/02	32	1,621	342	672	9,257	
07/03	81	1,957	529	871	9,951	
07/04	135	2,372	699	1,025	11,804	
07/05	292	2,796	816	1,440	12,700	
07/06	360	3,298	937	1,844	13,621	
07/07	361	3,638	1,038	2,218	13,960	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average	10 Year Average	Highest Count
Season Total	1,668	9,517	2,982	7,102	28,605

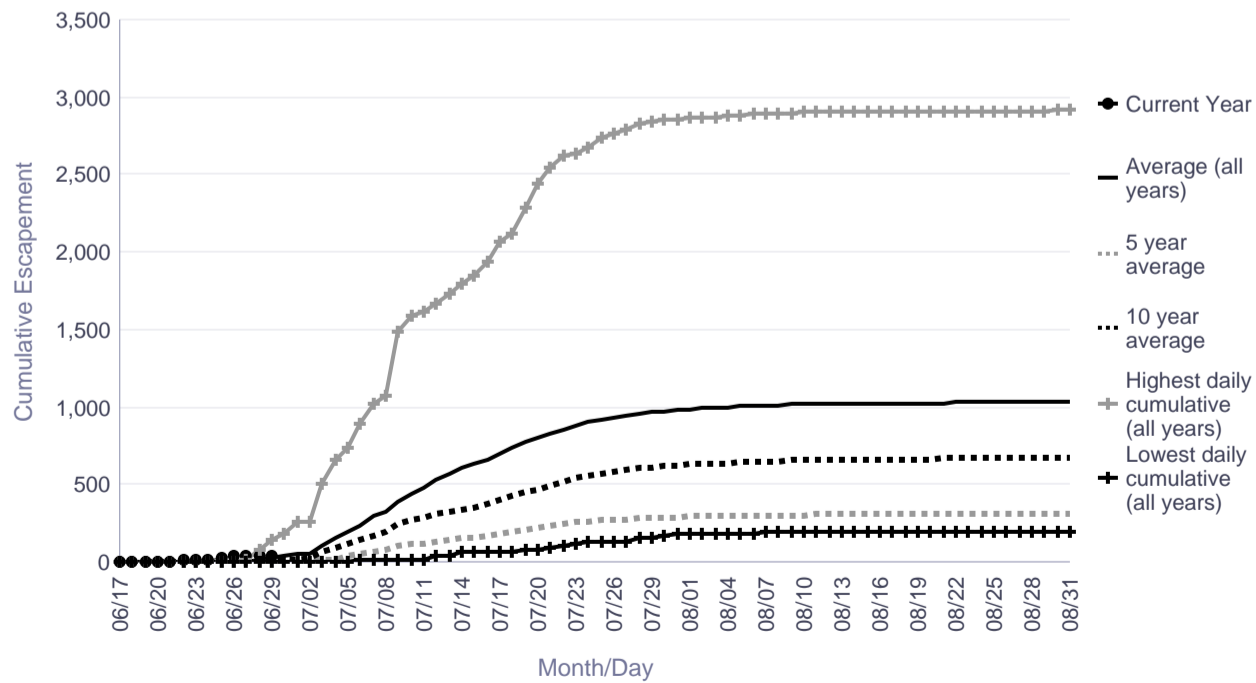
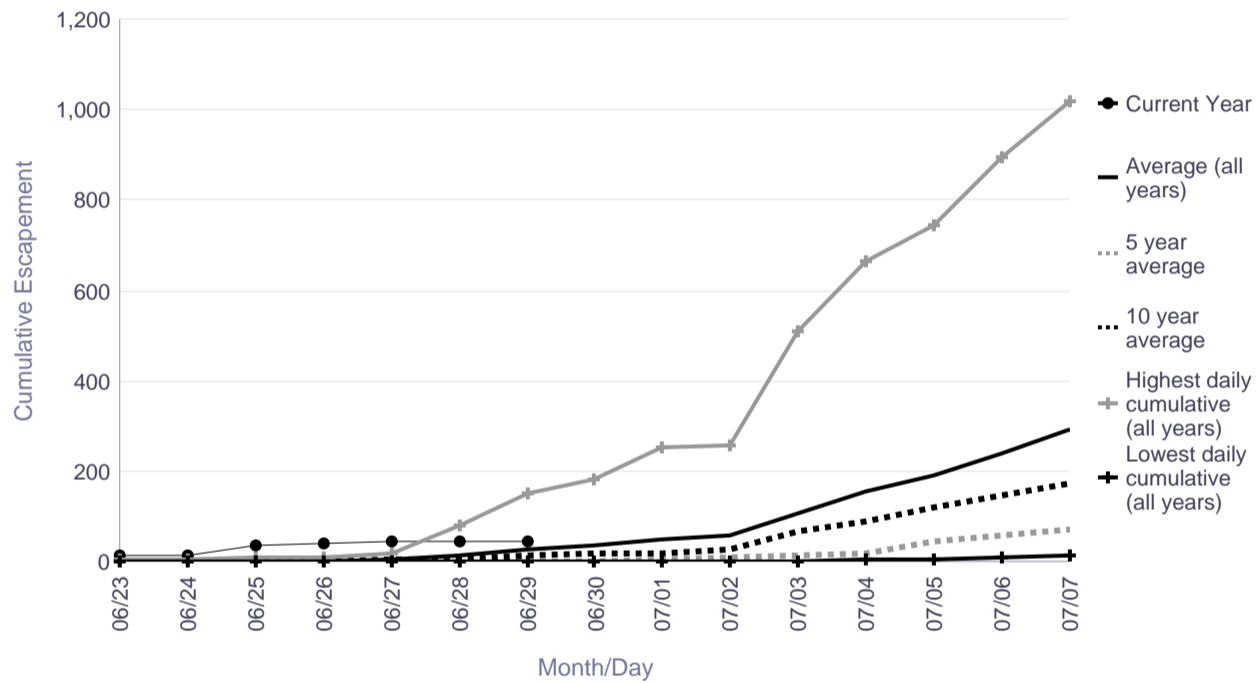


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Tuluksak River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon

Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	10 year average	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current Year
06/23	0	1	0	0	3	13
06/24	0	1	0	0	5	15
06/25	0	2	0	0	8	34
06/26	0	3	0	1	8	42
06/27	0	5	0	3	19	43
06/28	0	13	0	5	80	43
06/29	0	26	0	12	149	43
06/30	0	36	1	16	180	
07/01	0	47	3	19	255	
07/02	0	57	10	27	259	
07/03	2	106	14	69	511	
07/04	3	156	19	91	665	
07/05	5	192	44	119	744	
07/06	10	239	60	148	896	
07/07	12	294	71	173	1,018	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average	10 Year Average	Highest Count
Season Total	193	1,034	311	672	2,918

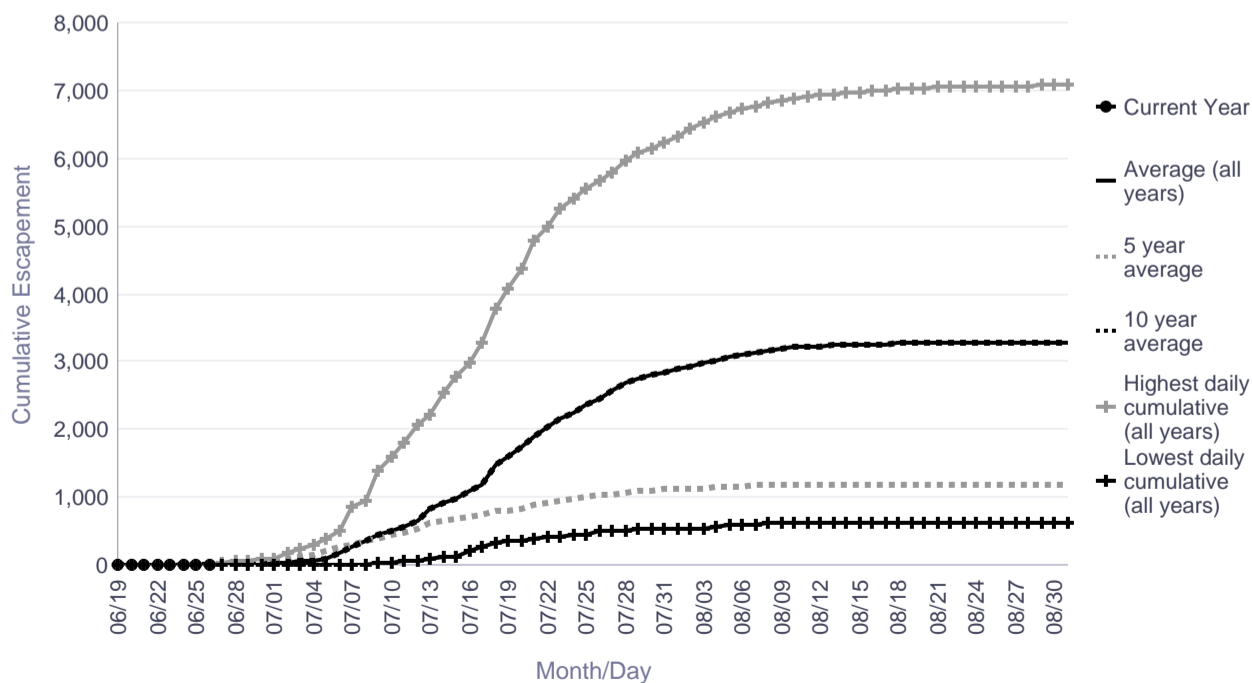
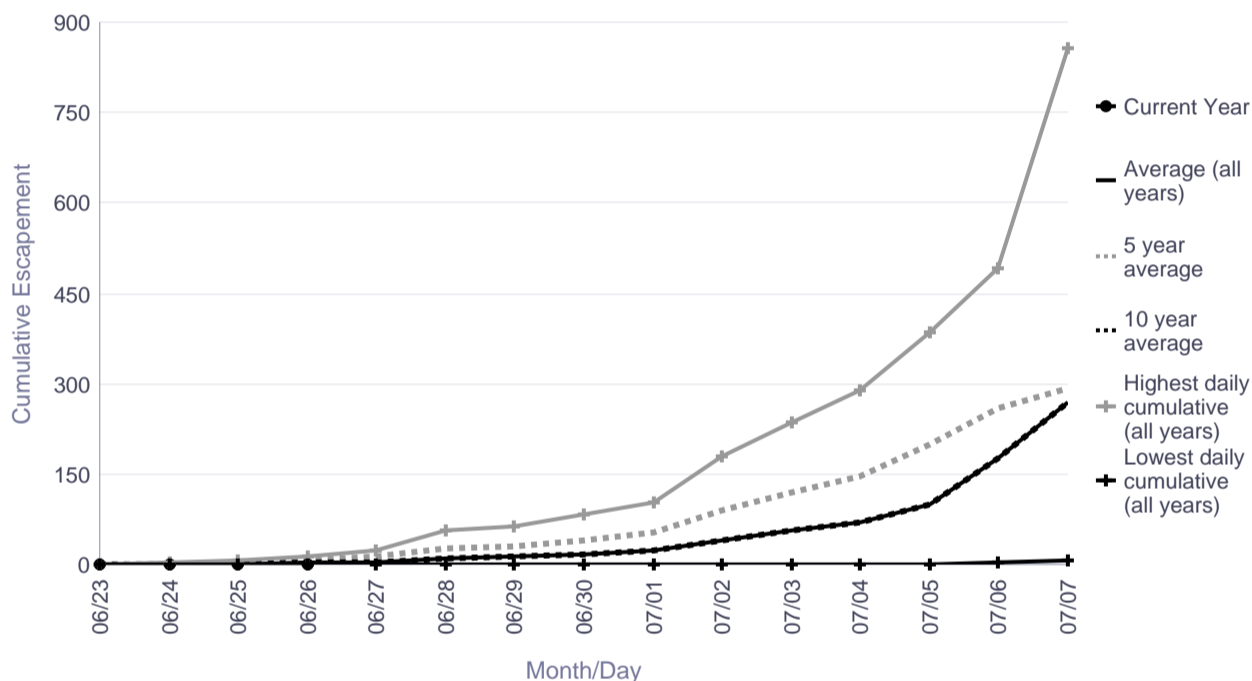


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Salmon River (Aniak) Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon

Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	10 year average	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current Year
06/23	0	1	1	1	2	2
06/24	0	1	2	1	3	2
06/25	0	2	4	2	7	2
06/26	0	3	7	3	14	2
06/27	0	5	13	5	25	
06/28	0	11	29	11	57	
06/29	0	13	32	13	64	
06/30	0	17	42	17	83	
07/01	0	24	53	24	104	
07/02	0	39	92	39	181	
07/03	0	56	119	56	236	
07/04	0	71	148	71	288	
07/05	1	102	199	102	384	
07/06	3	176	261	176	493	
07/07	6	271	293	271	856	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average	10 Year Average	Highest Count
Season Total	625	3,291	1,191	3,291	7,075

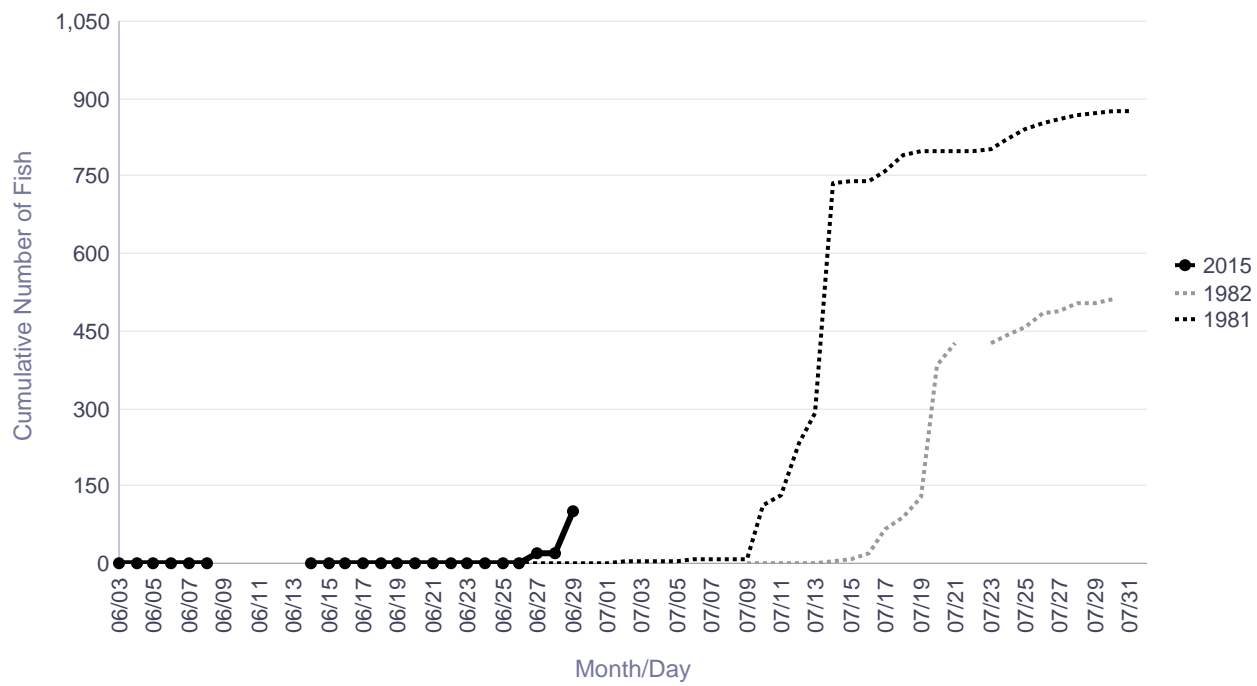
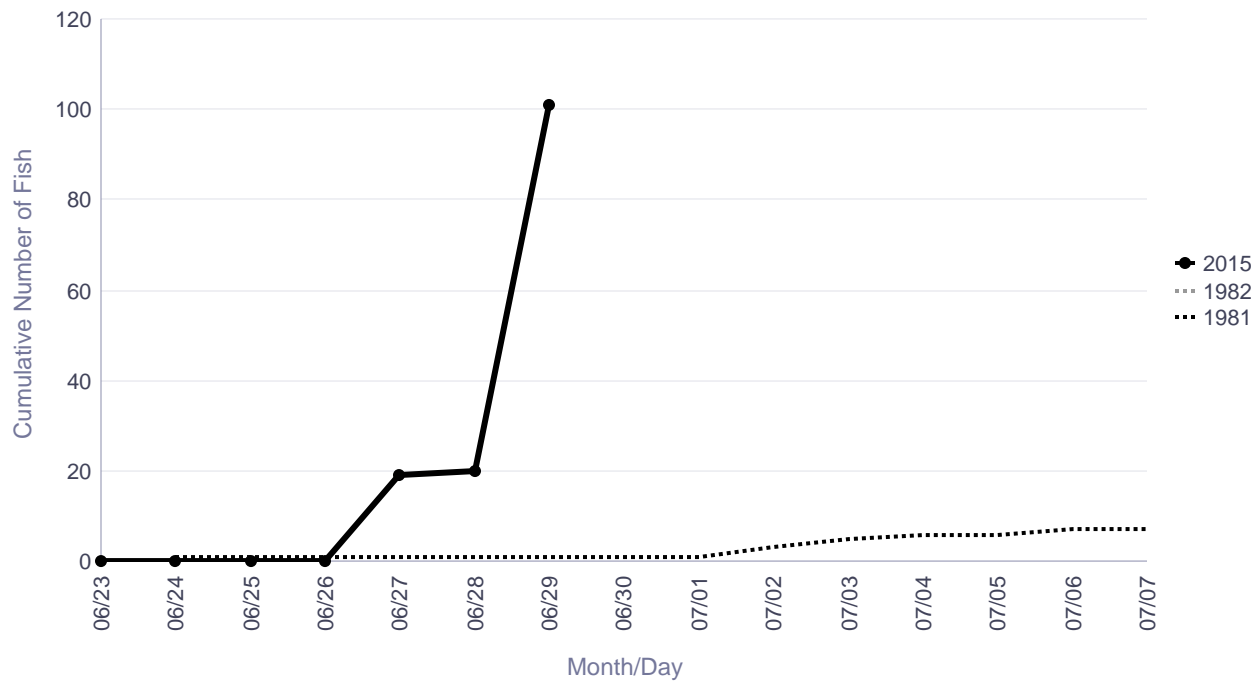


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Salmon River (Pitka Fork) Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage		
Date	1981	1982	2015
06/23			0
06/24	1		0
06/25	1		0
06/26	1		0
06/27	1		19
06/28	1		20
06/29	1		101
06/30	1		
07/01	1		
07/02	3		
07/03	5		
07/04	6		
07/05	6		
07/06	7		
07/07	7		

	1981	1982	2015
Season Total	877	511	



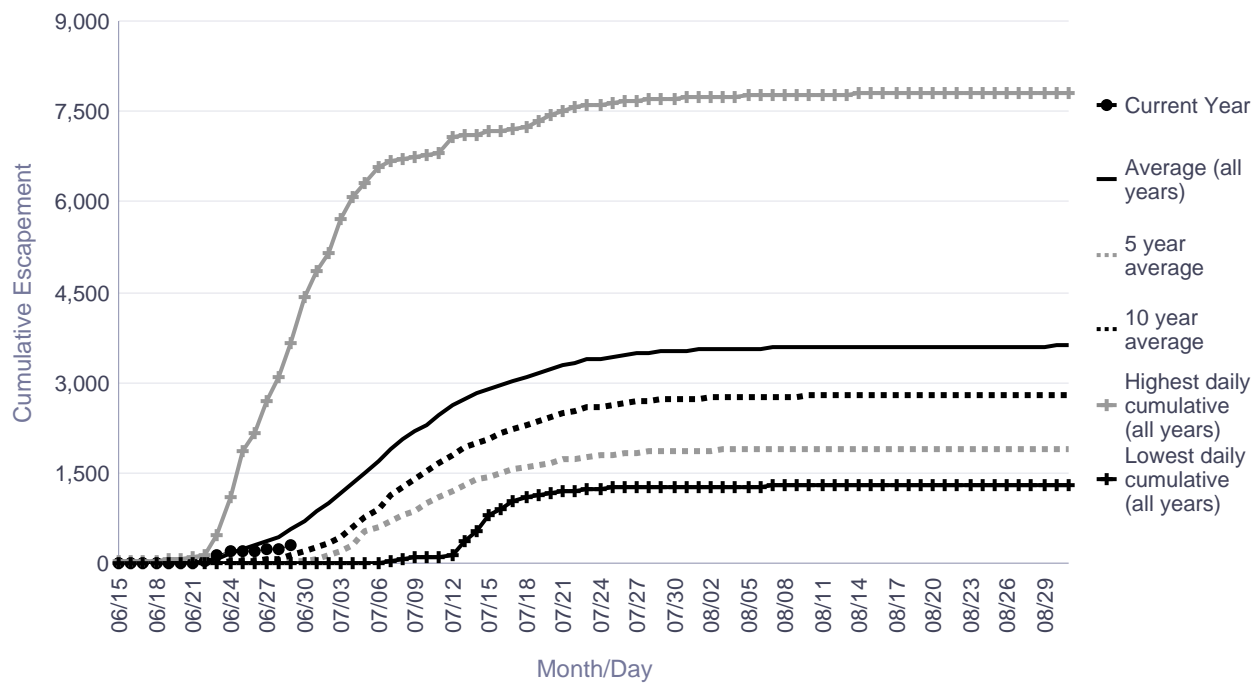
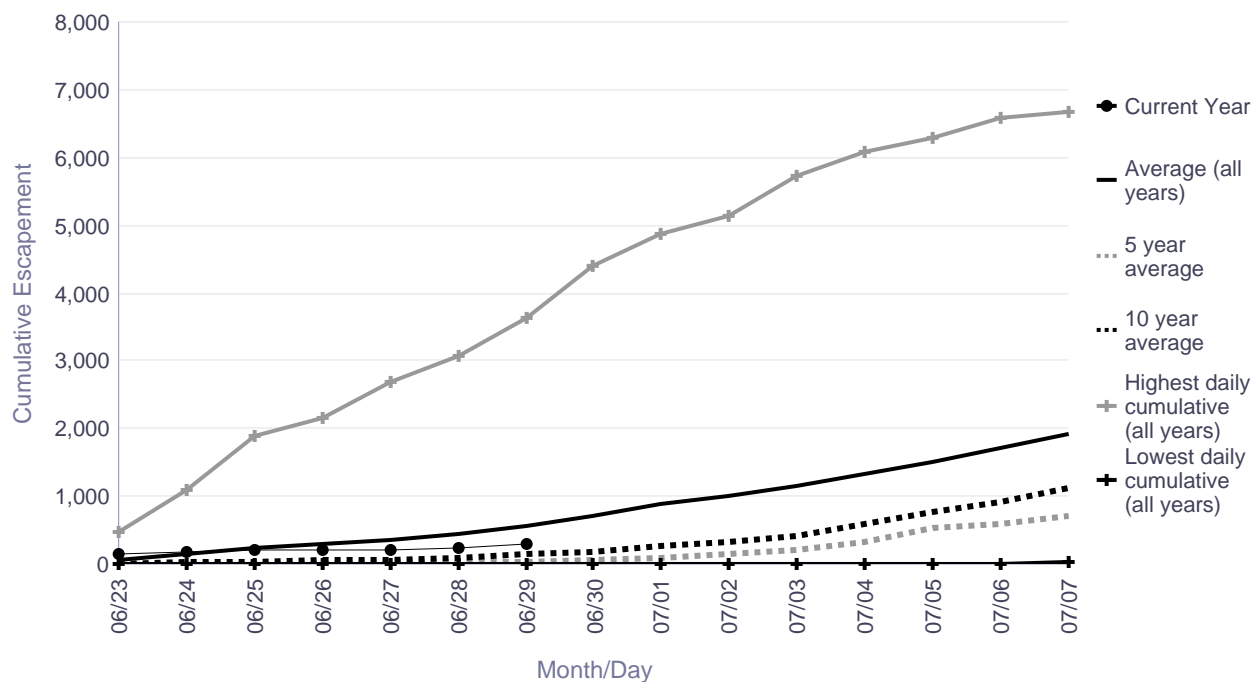
Informational Packet

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	10 year average	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current Year
06/23	0	74	3	17	484	147
06/24	1	165	4	29	1,104	196
06/25	3	249	10	40	1,879	216
06/26	3	288	17	50	2,167	220
06/27	10	372	21	68	2,681	222
06/28	10	439	29	88	3,078	254
06/29	11	570	44	140	3,644	290
06/30	11	698	54	194	4,411	
07/01	11	876	79	272	4,867	
07/02	11	994	143	332	5,144	
07/03	11	1,154	207	427	5,728	
07/04	12	1,318	318	593	6,075	
07/05	14	1,510	525	777	6,296	
07/06	18	1,712	593	908	6,590	
07/07	31	1,908	716	1,117	6,683	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average	10 Year Average	Highest Count
Season Total	1,292	3,607	1,906	2,797	7,810



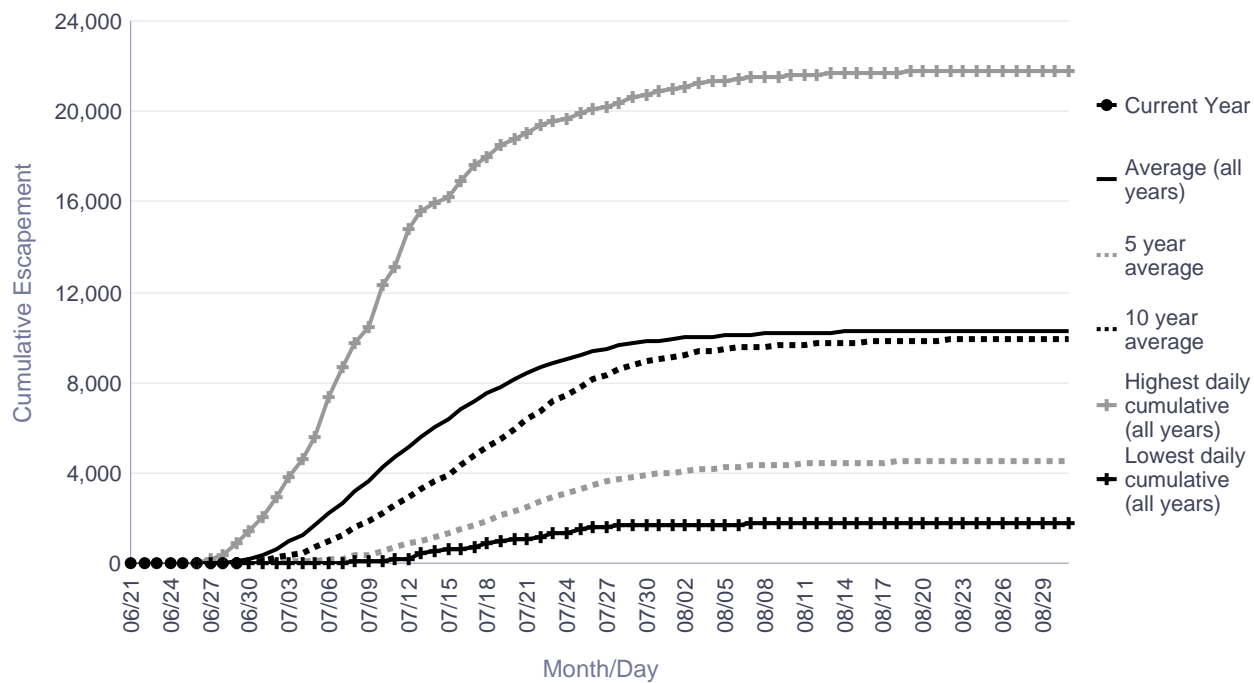
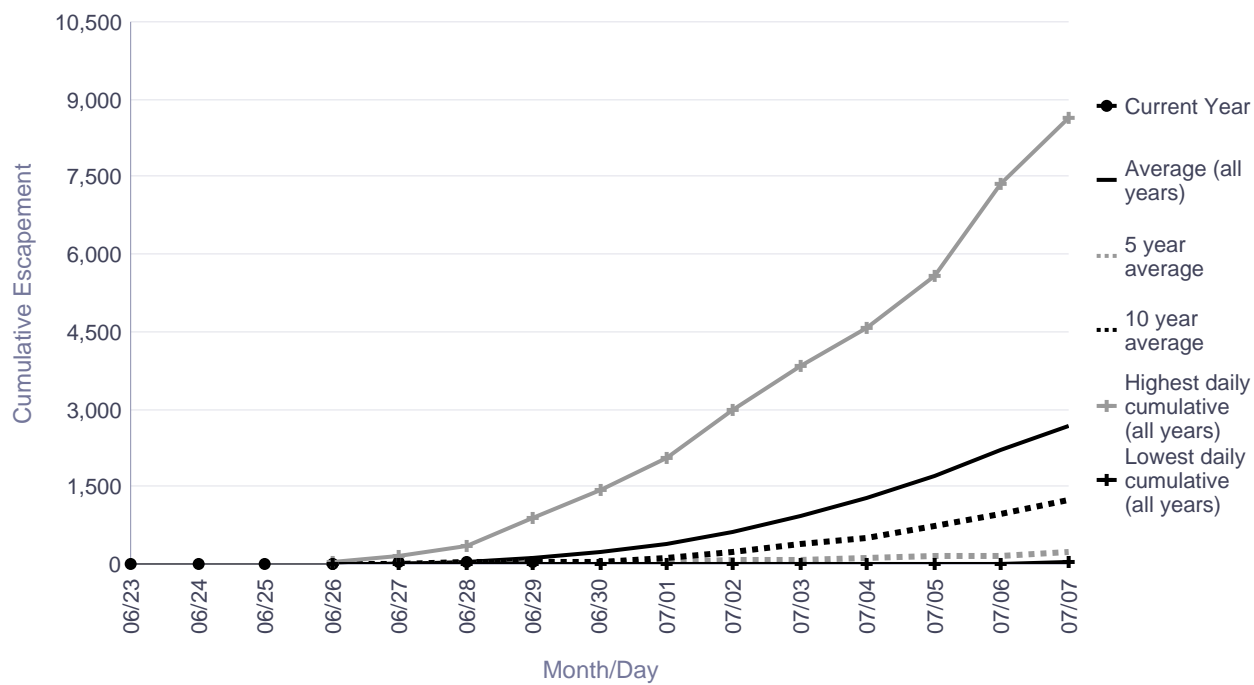
Informational Packet

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	10 year average	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current Year
06/23						7
06/24						14
06/25						18
06/26	0	5	1	8	58	20
06/27	0	19	9	16	159	28
06/28	0	49	20	30	353	48
06/29	0	138	28	45	886	56
06/30	0	236	34	61	1,448	
07/01	0	394	45	125	2,065	
07/02	0	645	67	237	2,969	
07/03	0	946	103	391	3,848	
07/04	1	1,282	122	500	4,588	
07/05	4	1,714	148	735	5,589	
07/06	21	2,196	166	960	7,343	
07/07	56	2,692	220	1,240	8,649	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average	10 Year Average	Highest Count
Season Total	1,819	10,316	4,524	9,925	21,819

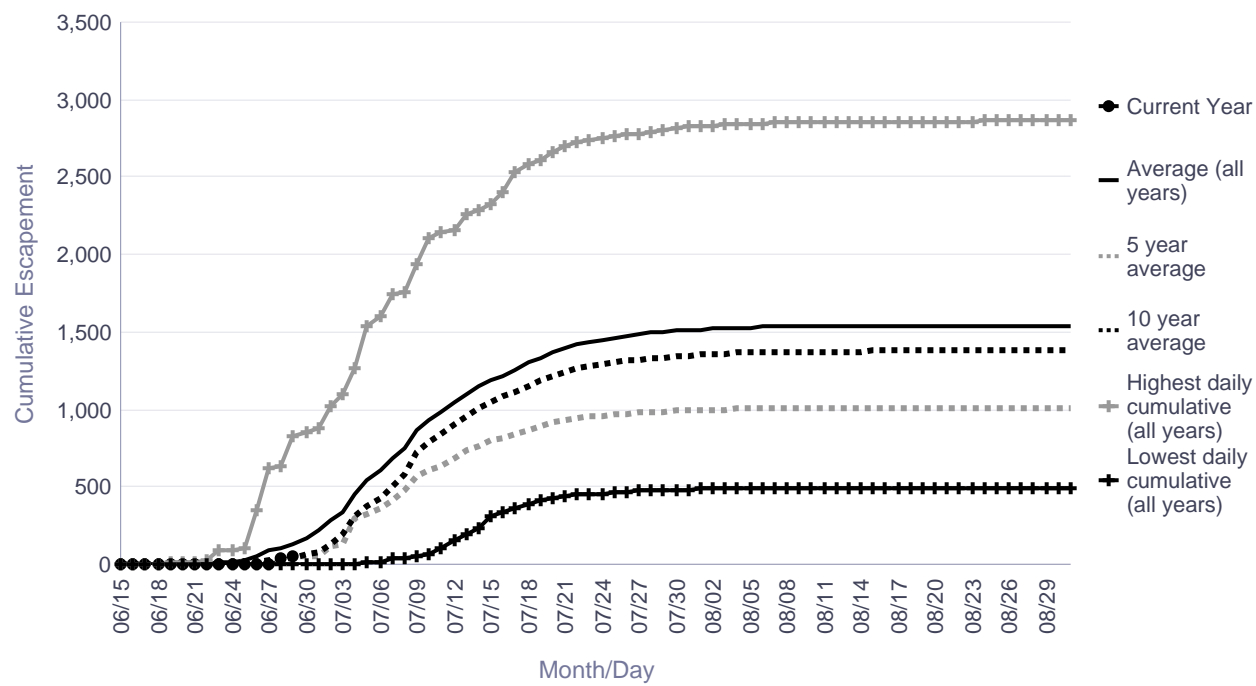
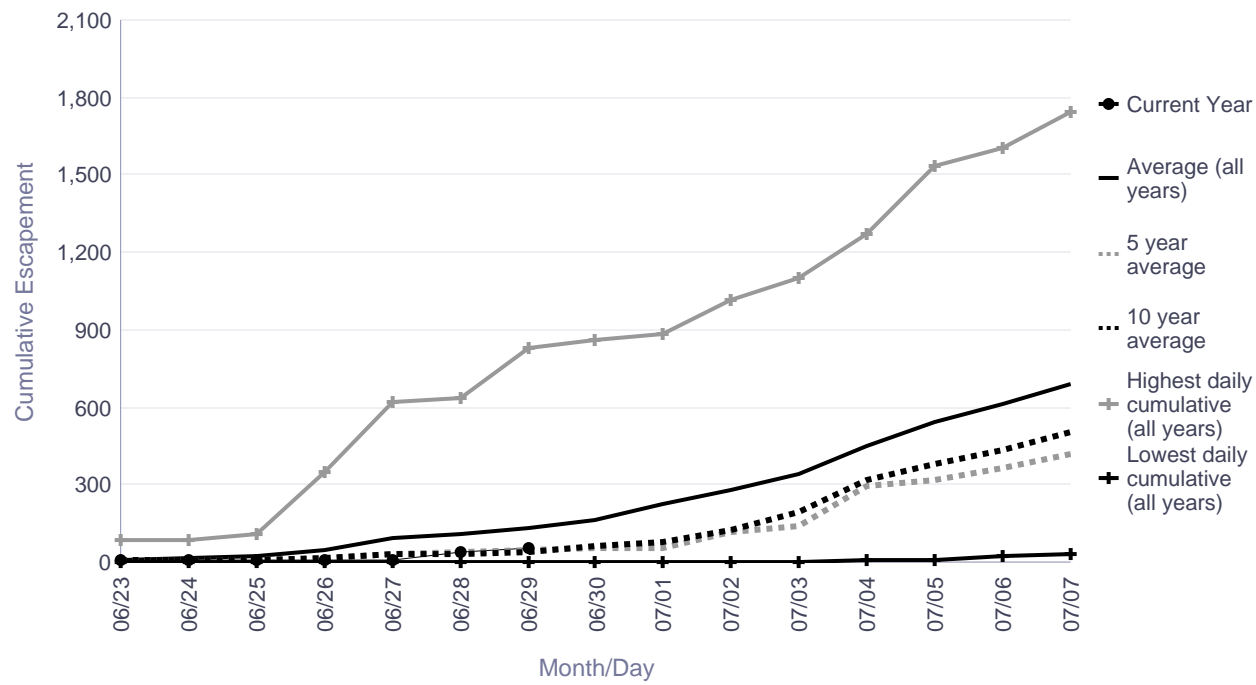


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Tatlawiksuk River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon

Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	10 year average	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current Year
06/23	0	12	7	6	87	6
06/24	0	15	9	7	90	7
06/25	0	22	12	9	107	8
06/26	1	48	14	15	348	8
06/27	1	95	34	29	617	8
06/28	1	111	42	36	638	37
06/29	2	134	51	42	833	57
06/30	2	164	53	67	858	
07/01	2	223	56	82	886	
07/02	3	280	120	128	1,017	
07/03	4	342	138	192	1,103	
07/04	7	450	296	318	1,268	
07/05	12	540	322	379	1,538	
07/06	21	611	362	432	1,602	
07/07	35	688	421	504	1,747	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average	10 Year Average	Highest Count
Season Total	495	1,542	1,011	1,380	2,864

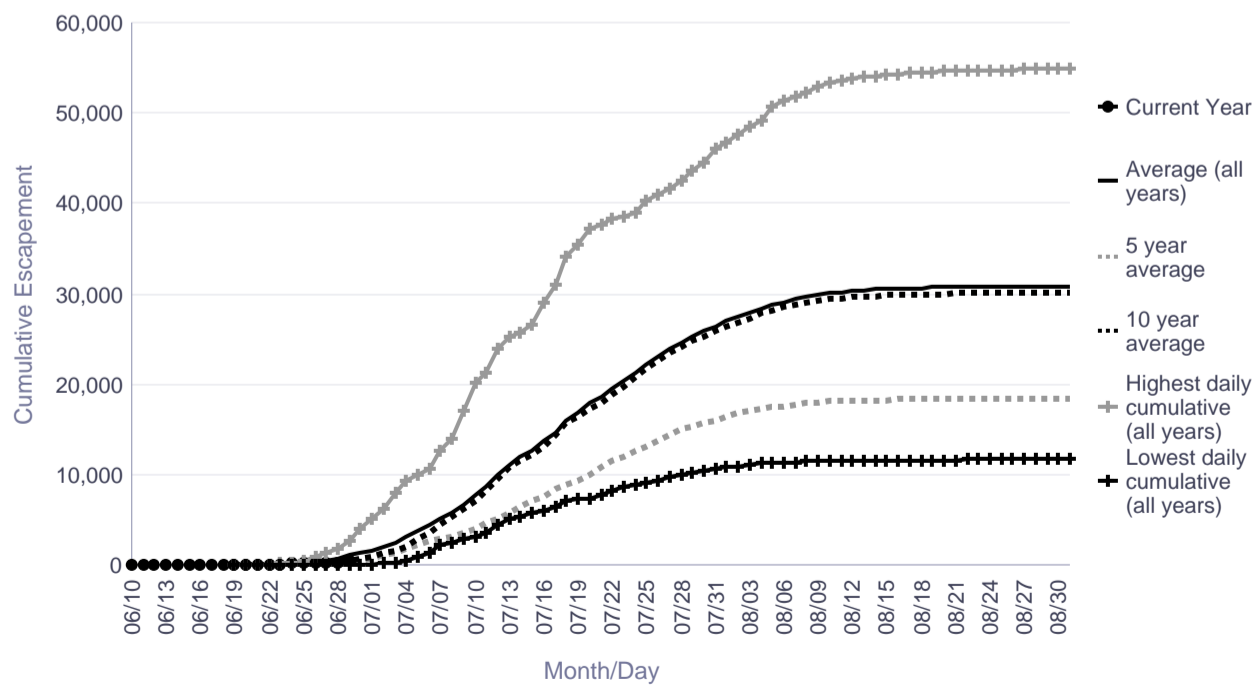
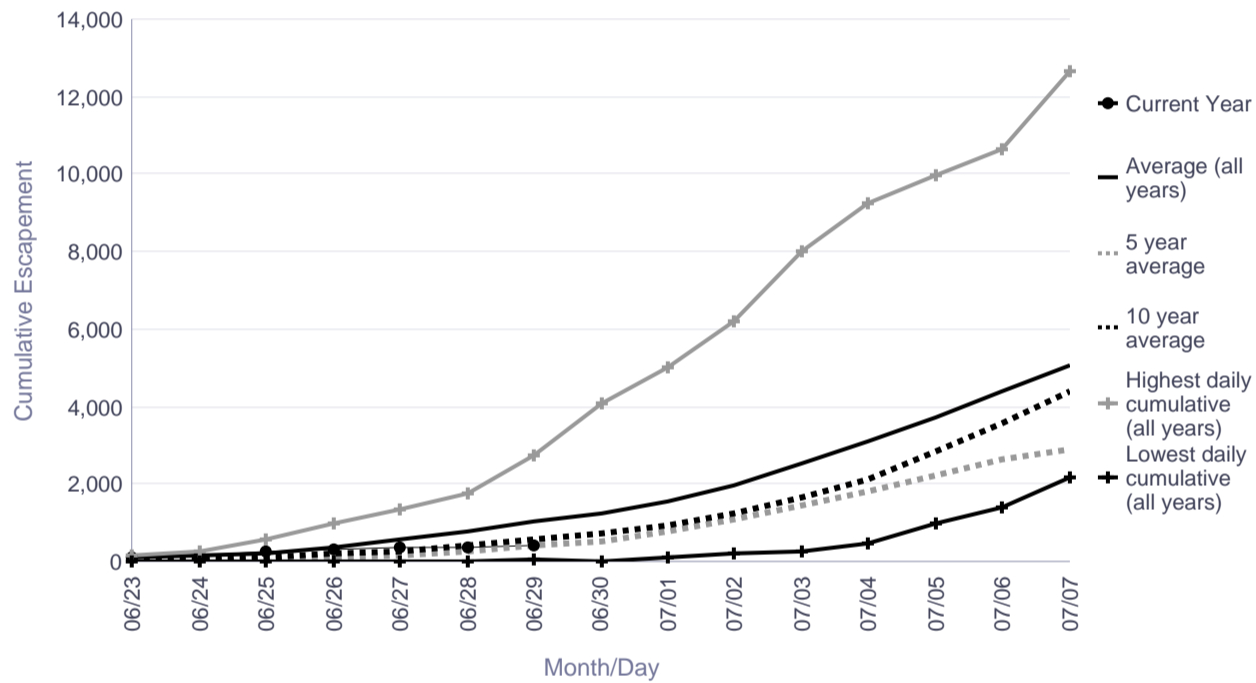


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Kwethluk River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Chum Salmon

Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	10 year average	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current Year
06/23	0	91	19	47	188	117
06/24	0	141	34	78	271	175
06/25	0	228	70	124	552	271
06/26	0	383	117	202	1,001	334
06/27	0	586	161	292	1,347	357
06/28	0	761	277	411	1,789	368
06/29	44	1,037	397	587	2,721	439
06/30	30	1,273	524	729	4,106	
07/01	97	1,540	774	953	5,035	
07/02	200	1,951	1,095	1,265	6,203	
07/03	289	2,538	1,438	1,656	8,014	
07/04	475	3,093	1,790	2,129	9,260	
07/05	1,014	3,726	2,225	2,871	9,965	
07/06	1,419	4,400	2,639	3,572	10,653	
07/07	2,160	5,051	2,874	4,406	12,646	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average	10 Year Average	Highest Count
Season Total	11,691	30,588	18,508	29,804	54,913

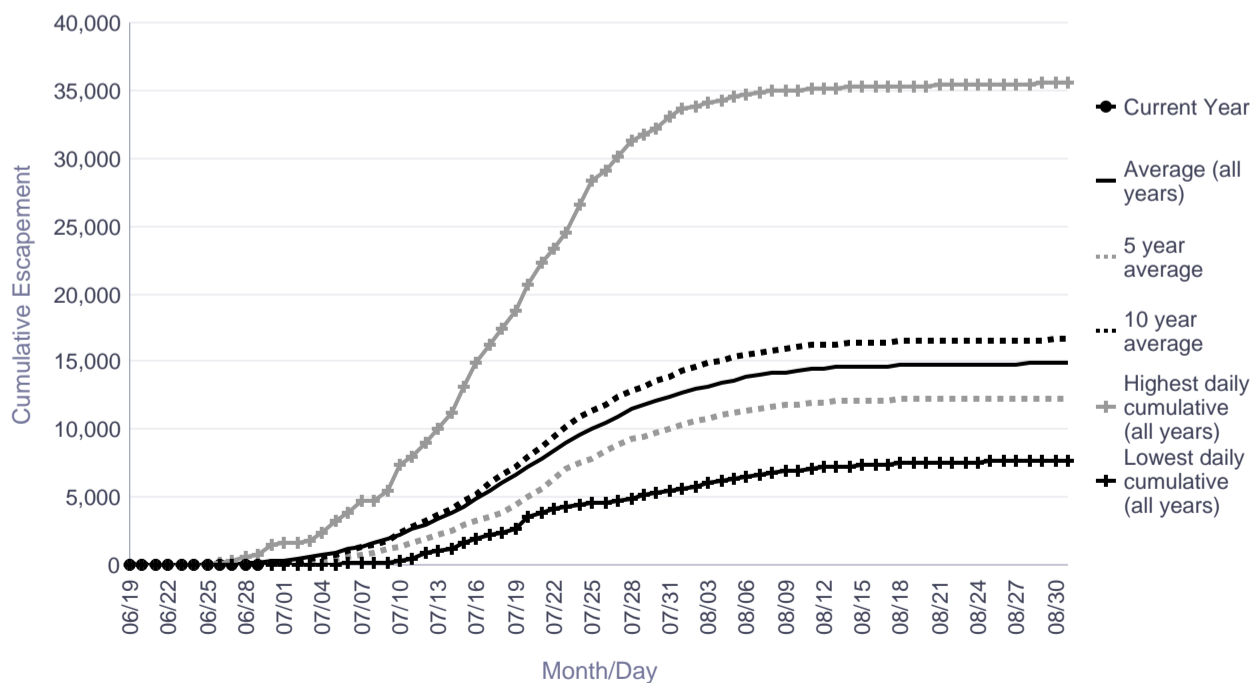
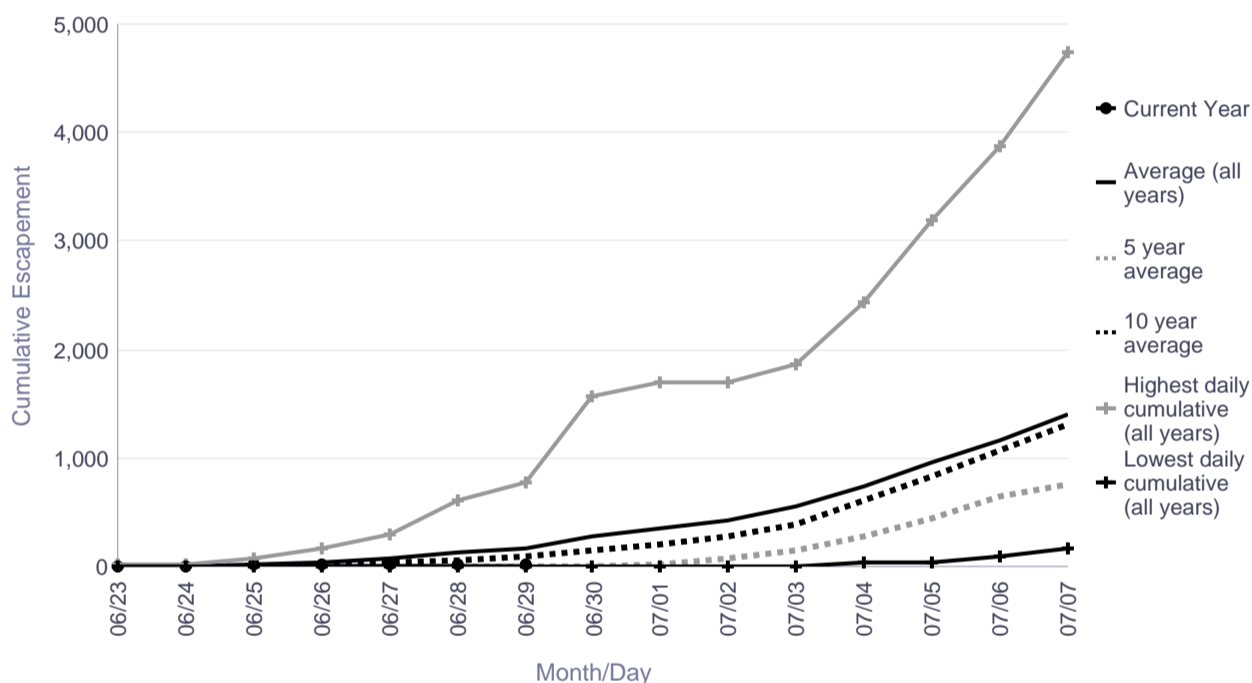


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Tuluksak River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Chum Salmon

Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	10 year average	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current Year
06/23	0	6	0	0	17	5
06/24	0	9	0	2	27	9
06/25	0	25	0	10	82	15
06/26	0	45	0	19	167	23
06/27	0	74	0	39	290	25
06/28	0	132	0	67	612	25
06/29	0	174	0	88	772	27
06/30	1	273	7	148	1,568	
07/01	2	357	27	206	1,706	
07/02	3	431	80	275	1,707	
07/03	11	549	159	395	1,859	
07/04	35	749	287	607	2,443	
07/05	44	958	446	834	3,201	
07/06	101	1,163	648	1,077	3,881	
07/07	160	1,403	756	1,319	4,735	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average	10 Year Average	Highest Count
Season Total	7,675	14,608	12,204	16,492	35,696

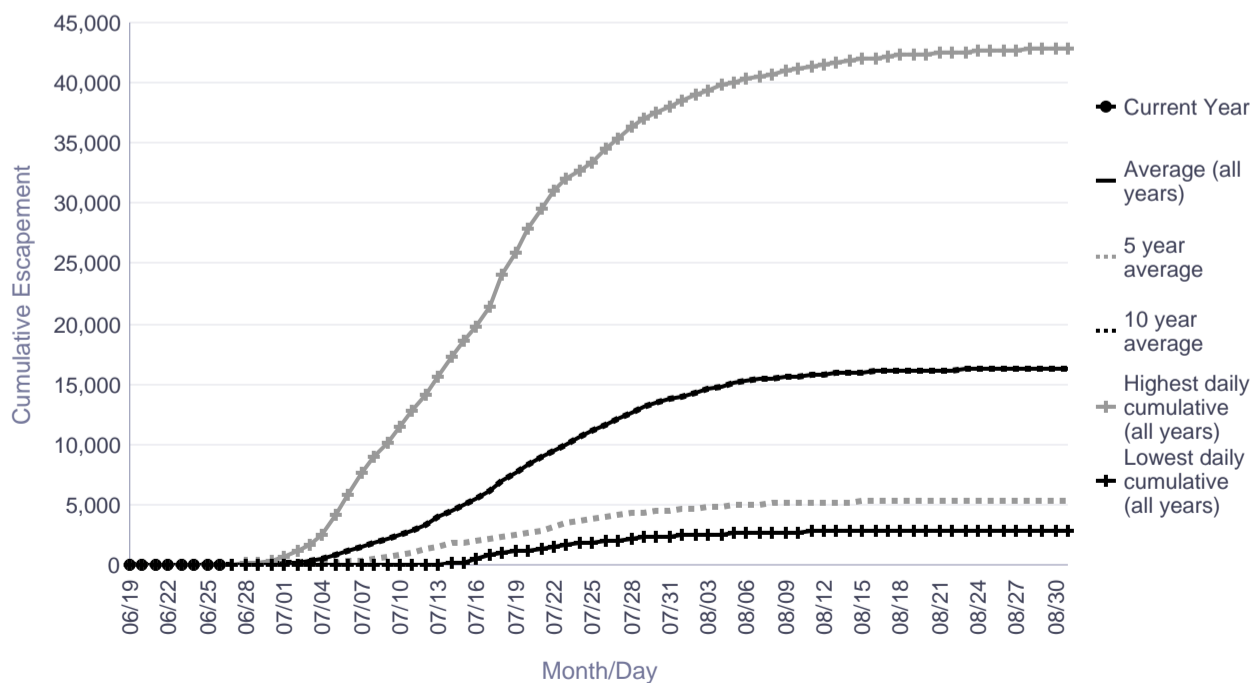
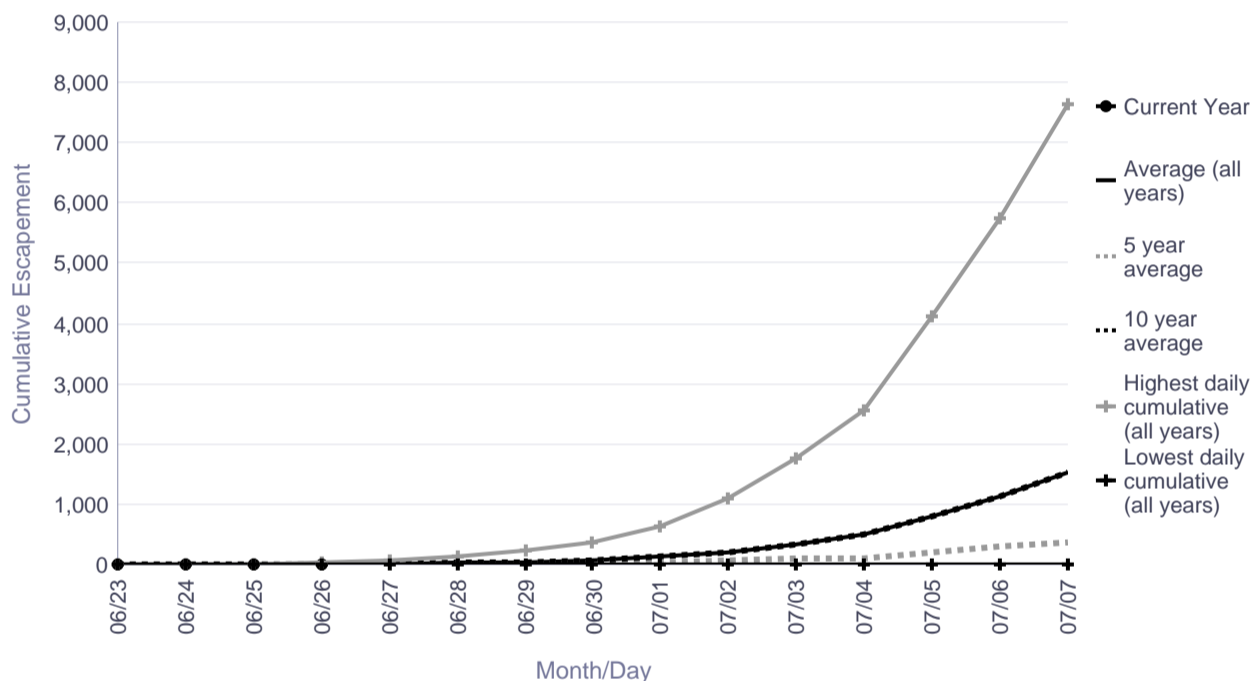


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Salmon River (Aniak) Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Chum Salmon

Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	10 year average	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current Year
06/23	0	0	0	0	0	2
06/24	0	1	1	1	2	5
06/25	0	3	1	3	15	9
06/26	0	10	4	10	48	9
06/27	0	15	7	15	72	
06/28	0	29	14	29	139	
06/29	0	45	15	45	229	
06/30	0	77	27	77	369	
07/01	0	134	51	134	647	
07/02	0	221	71	221	1,112	
07/03	0	344	90	344	1,748	
07/04	0	495	117	495	2,554	
07/05	0	803	206	803	4,117	
07/06	0	1,134	295	1,134	5,758	
07/07	1	1,521	387	1,521	7,644	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average	10 Year Average	Highest Count
Season Total	2,890	16,272	5,307	16,272	42,825

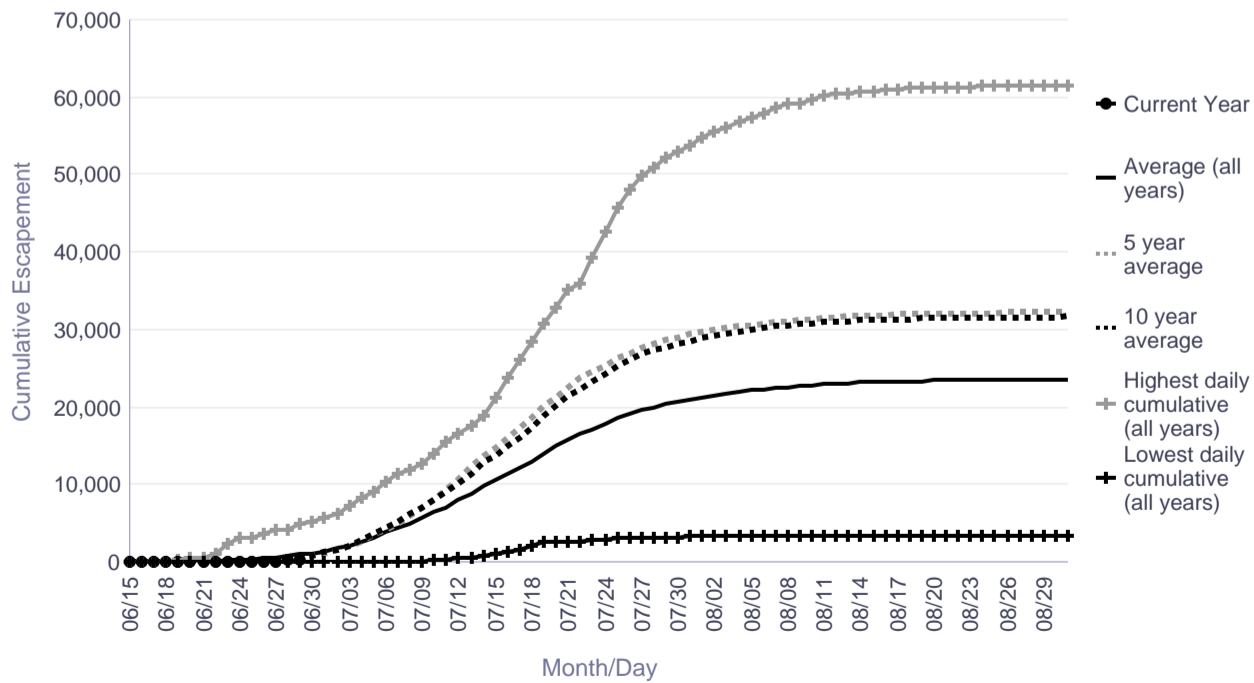
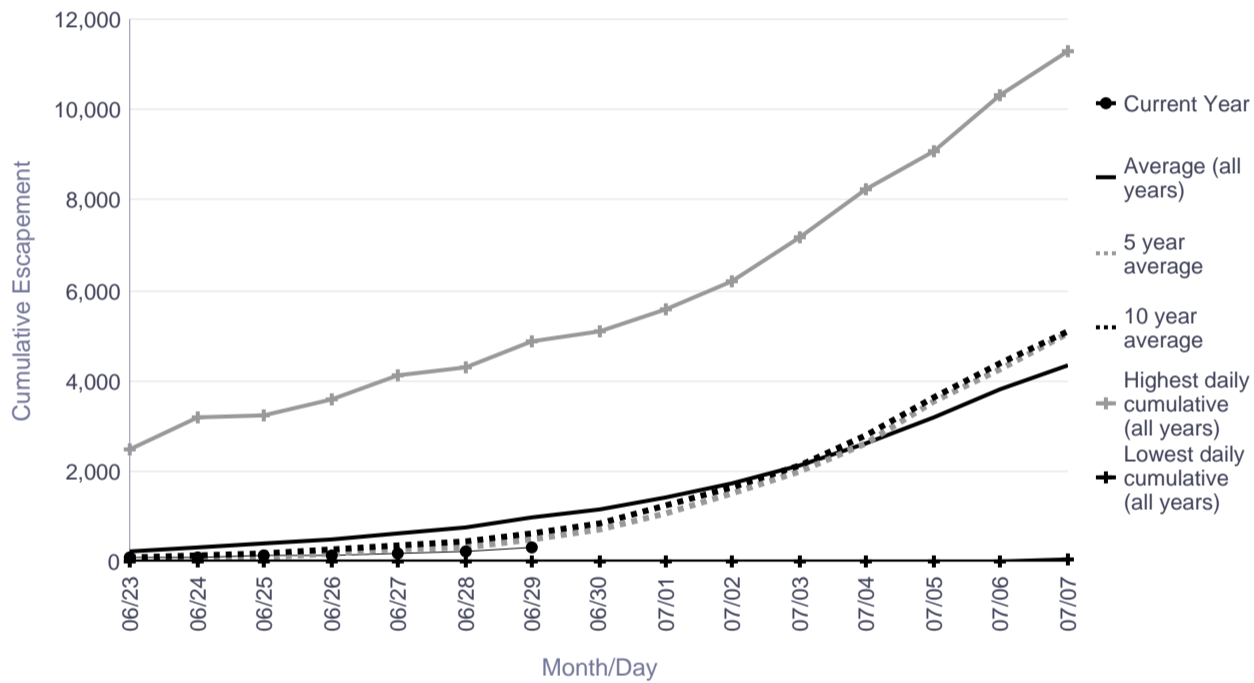


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George River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Chum Salmon

Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	10 year average	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current Year
06/23	0	243	41	81	2,492	99
06/24	0	329	69	124	3,184	117
06/25	0	396	112	182	3,233	144
06/26	0	501	202	258	3,609	158
06/27	0	648	256	350	4,117	170
06/28	0	776	320	467	4,284	230
06/29	0	966	490	635	4,882	334
06/30	0	1,155	693	862	5,097	
07/01	0	1,426	1,069	1,226	5,595	
07/02	0	1,743	1,533	1,641	6,204	
07/03	1	2,139	1,980	2,112	7,165	
07/04	3	2,633	2,602	2,781	8,239	
07/05	7	3,198	3,542	3,617	9,060	
07/06	16	3,790	4,262	4,382	10,334	
07/07	33	4,364	5,031	5,089	11,293	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average	10 Year Average	Highest Count
Season Total	3,507	23,671	32,252	31,729	61,531



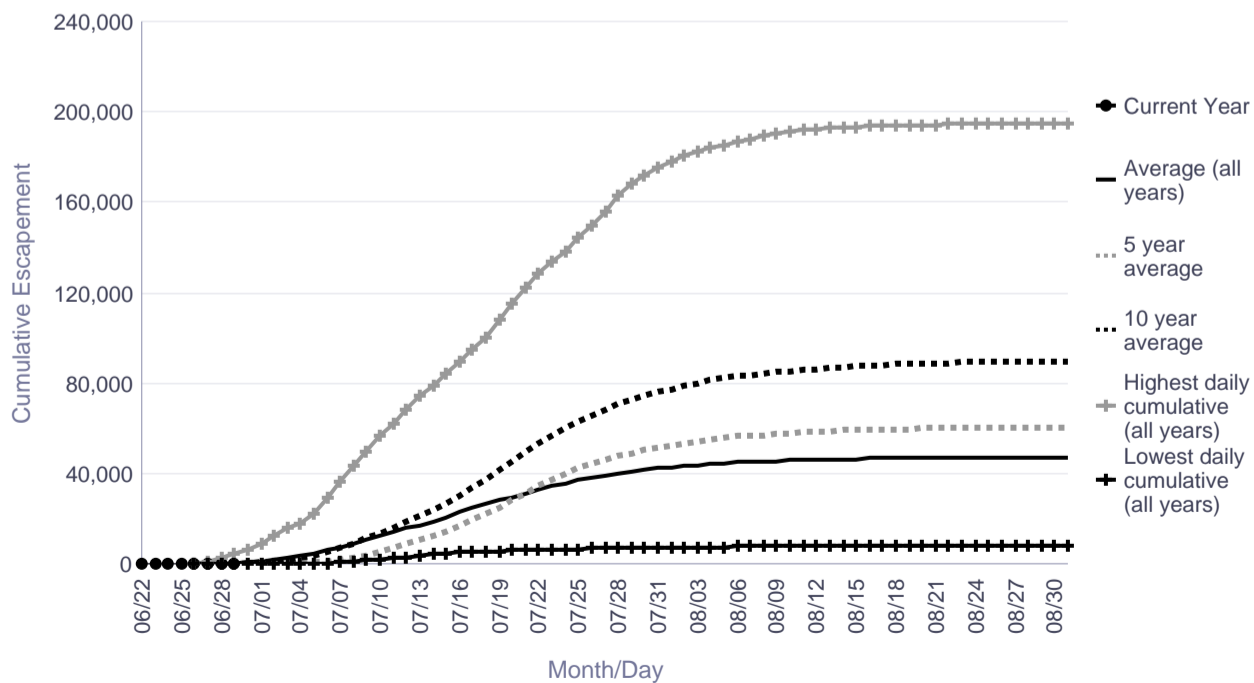
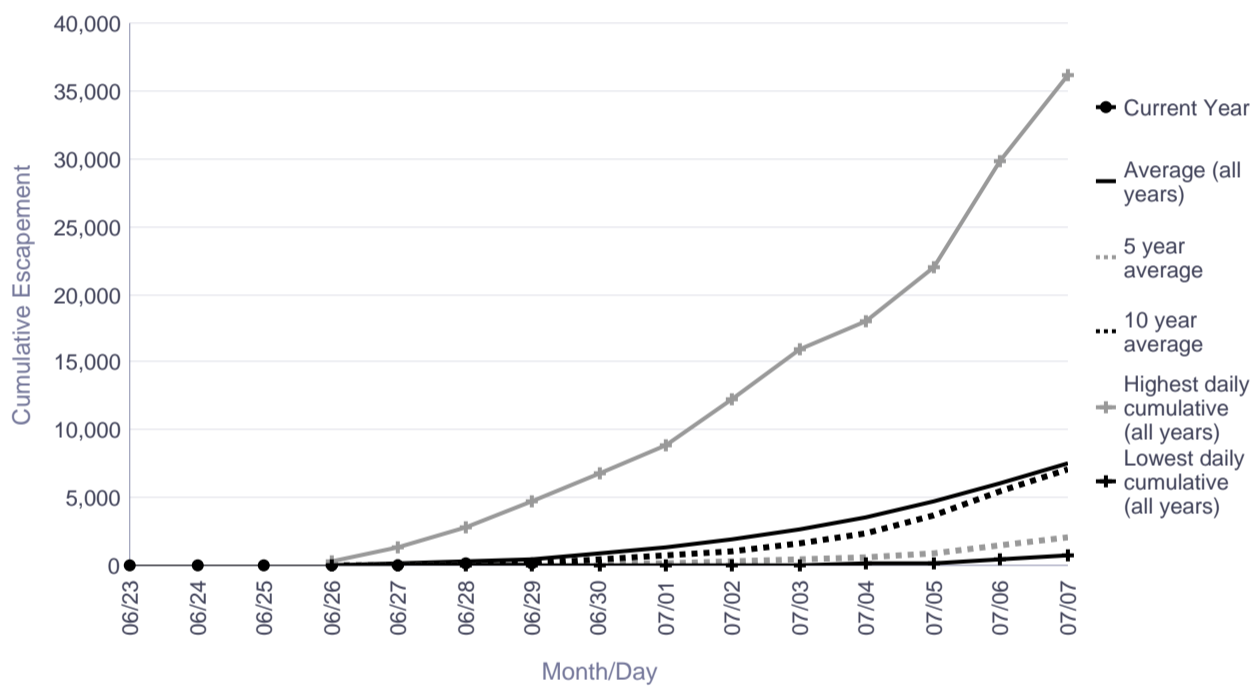
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Kogrukluk River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Chum Salmon

Escapement Goal Range: 15,000 to 49,000

Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	10 year average	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current Year
06/23						7
06/24						35
06/25						54
06/26	0	26	10	7	324	66
06/27	0	105	26	24	1,343	87
06/28	0	252	46	80	2,893	125
06/29	0	537	73	221	4,754	138
06/30	0	862	122	420	6,766	
07/01	0	1,301	192	741	8,821	
07/02	1	1,944	287	1,126	12,310	
07/03	4	2,728	399	1,641	15,917	
07/04	124	3,627	580	2,437	18,024	
07/05	234	4,810	958	3,744	22,060	
07/06	405	6,139	1,464	5,483	29,780	
07/07	783	7,488	2,040	7,165	36,192	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average	10 Year Average	Highest Count
Season Total	7,975	47,231	60,622	89,507	194,887

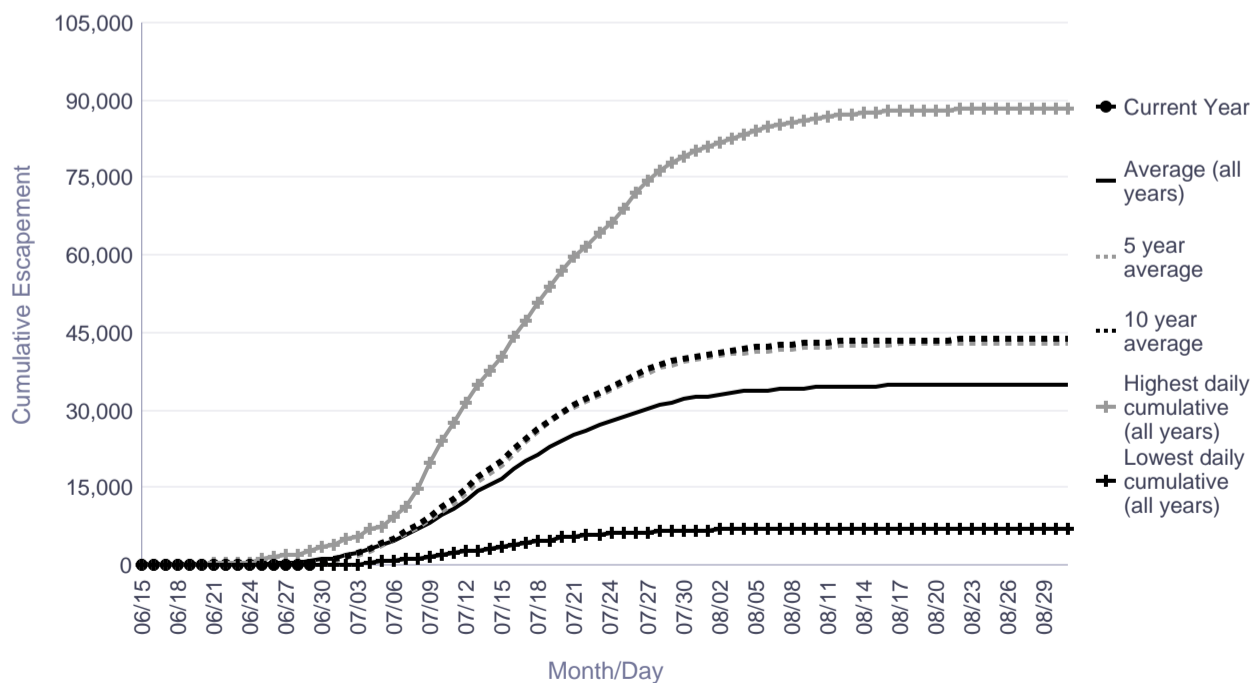
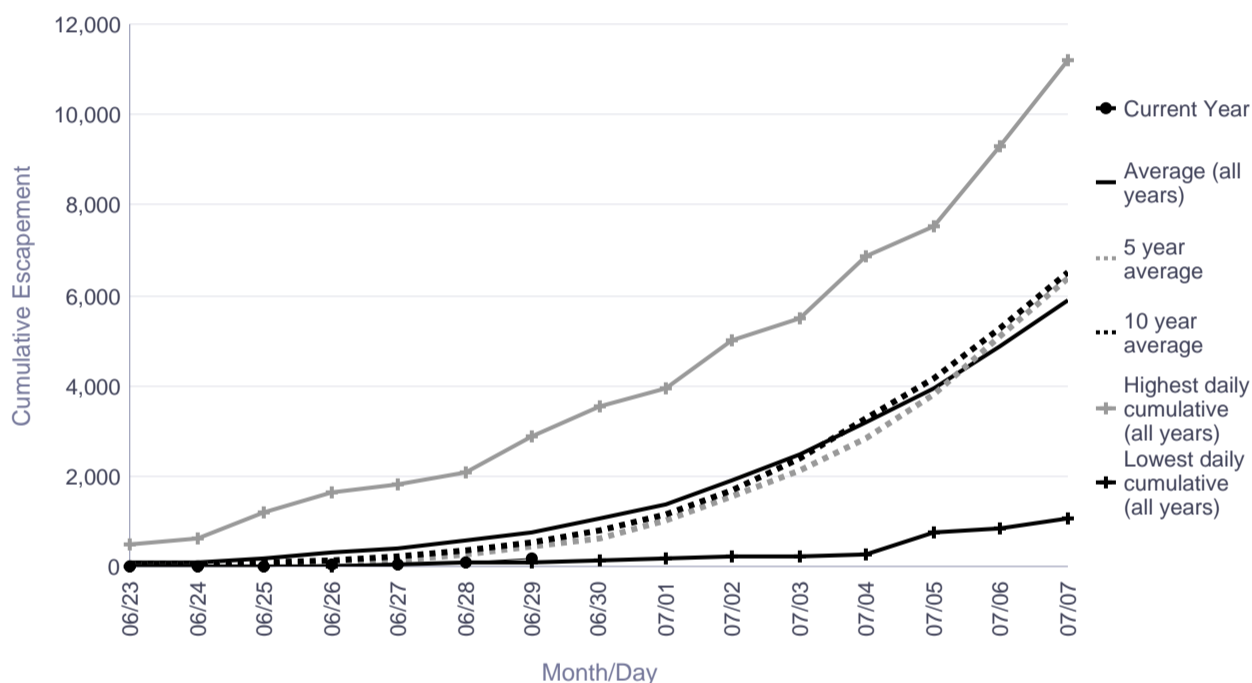


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Tatlawiksuk River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Chum Salmon

Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	10 year average	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current Year
06/23	0	86	30	32	487	14
06/24	11	118	39	54	607	26
06/25	15	197	53	93	1,201	28
06/26	19	314	87	151	1,651	30
06/27	43	422	145	246	1,826	31
06/28	98	561	251	358	2,067	97
06/29	112	760	447	525	2,901	185
06/30	132	1,054	639	814	3,535	
07/01	165	1,388	1,014	1,156	3,959	
07/02	221	1,898	1,569	1,675	4,996	
07/03	226	2,490	2,114	2,393	5,497	
07/04	276	3,190	2,822	3,273	6,851	
07/05	742	3,953	3,804	4,151	7,534	
07/06	849	4,890	5,118	5,265	9,296	
07/07	1,054	5,894	6,368	6,513	11,183	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average	10 Year Average	Highest Count
Season Total	7,076	34,909	43,042	43,718	88,202

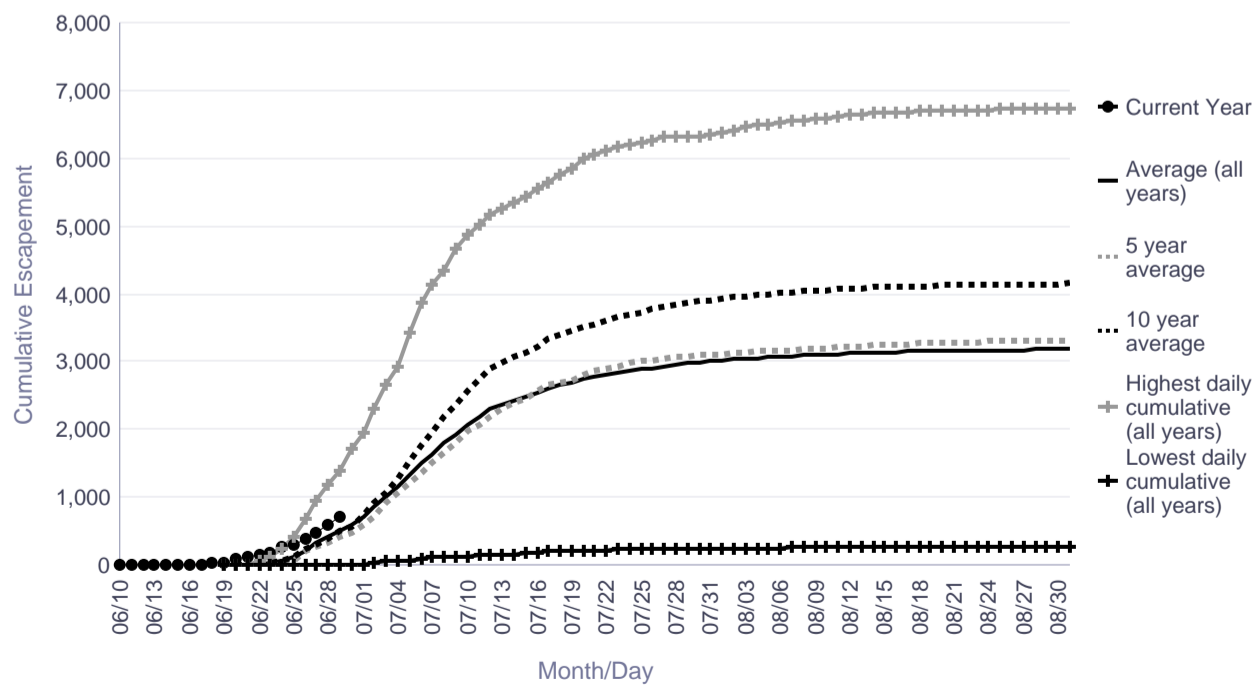
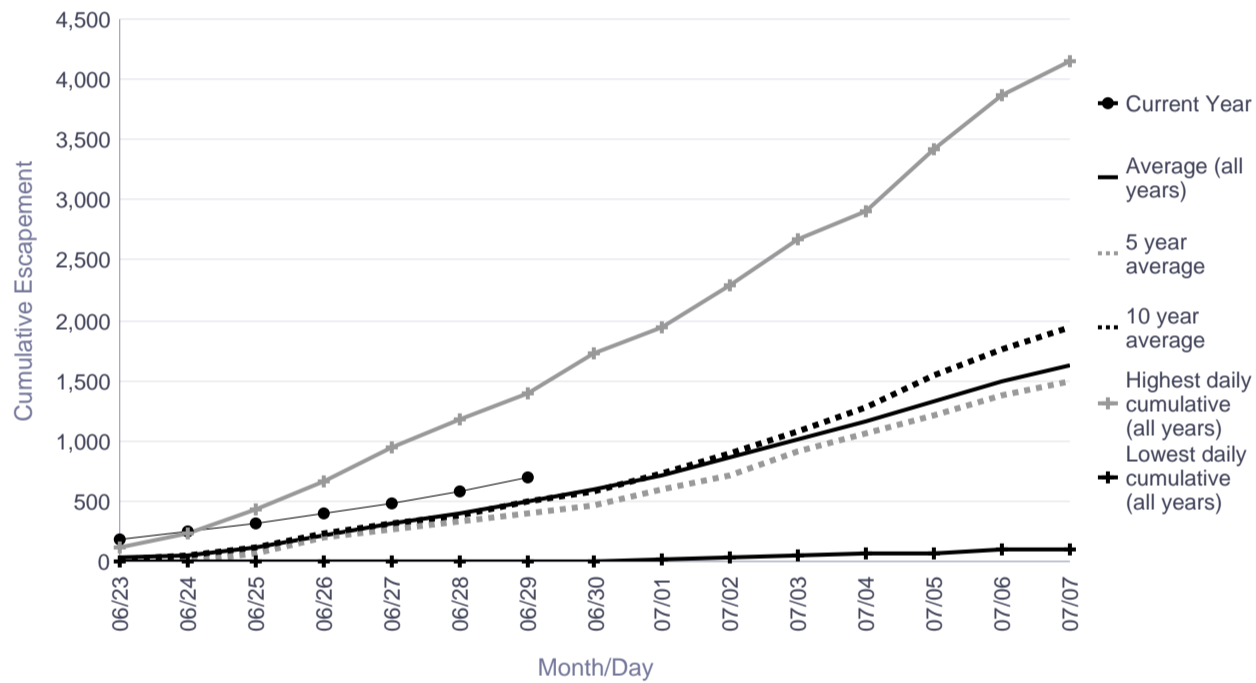


Informational Packet

Kwethluk River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Sockeye Salmon

Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	10 year average	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current Year
06/23	0	30	5	25	112	192
06/24	0	61	11	53	234	257
06/25	0	122	74	119	430	310
06/26	0	211	200	233	672	401
06/27	0	320	264	314	953	491
06/28	0	404	328	388	1,174	588
06/29	4	502	405	493	1,402	699
06/30	7	604	475	578	1,724	
07/01	16	723	594	728	1,946	
07/02	37	869	712	906	2,293	
07/03	59	1,007	916	1,081	2,667	
07/04	70	1,156	1,065	1,285	2,913	
07/05	77	1,335	1,212	1,551	3,424	
07/06	99	1,498	1,373	1,765	3,867	
07/07	109	1,631	1,501	1,948	4,145	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average	10 Year Average	Highest Count
Season Total	272	3,069	3,327	4,036	6,733

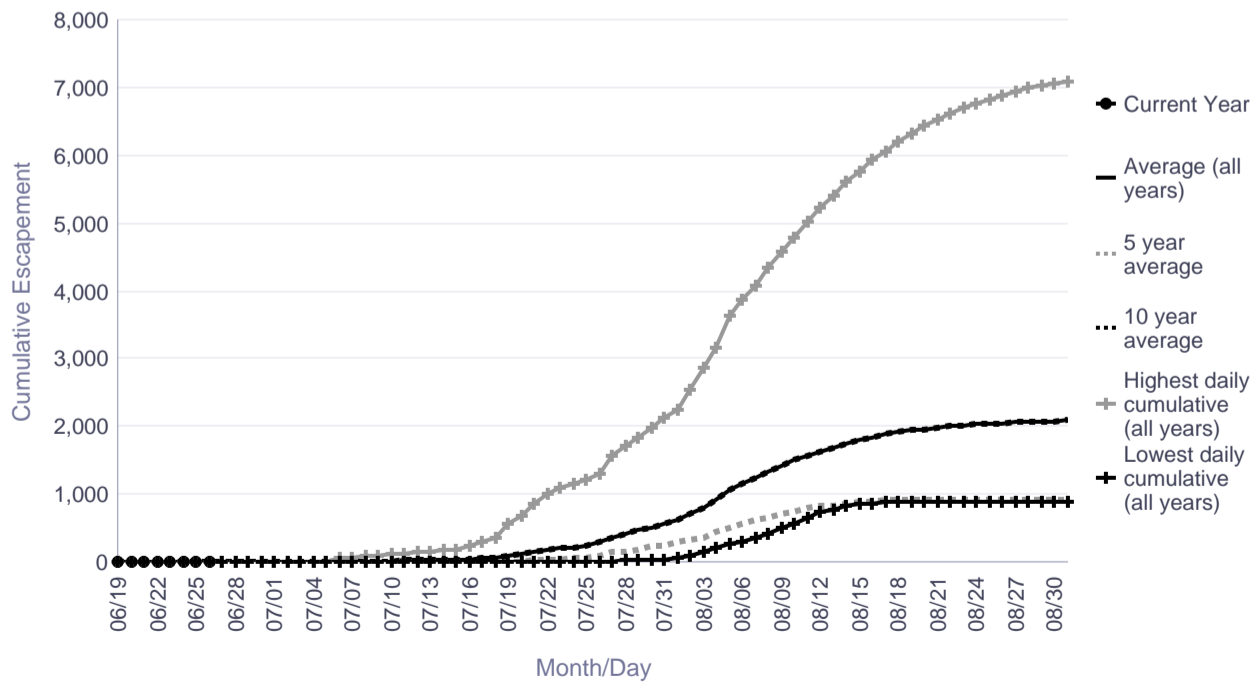
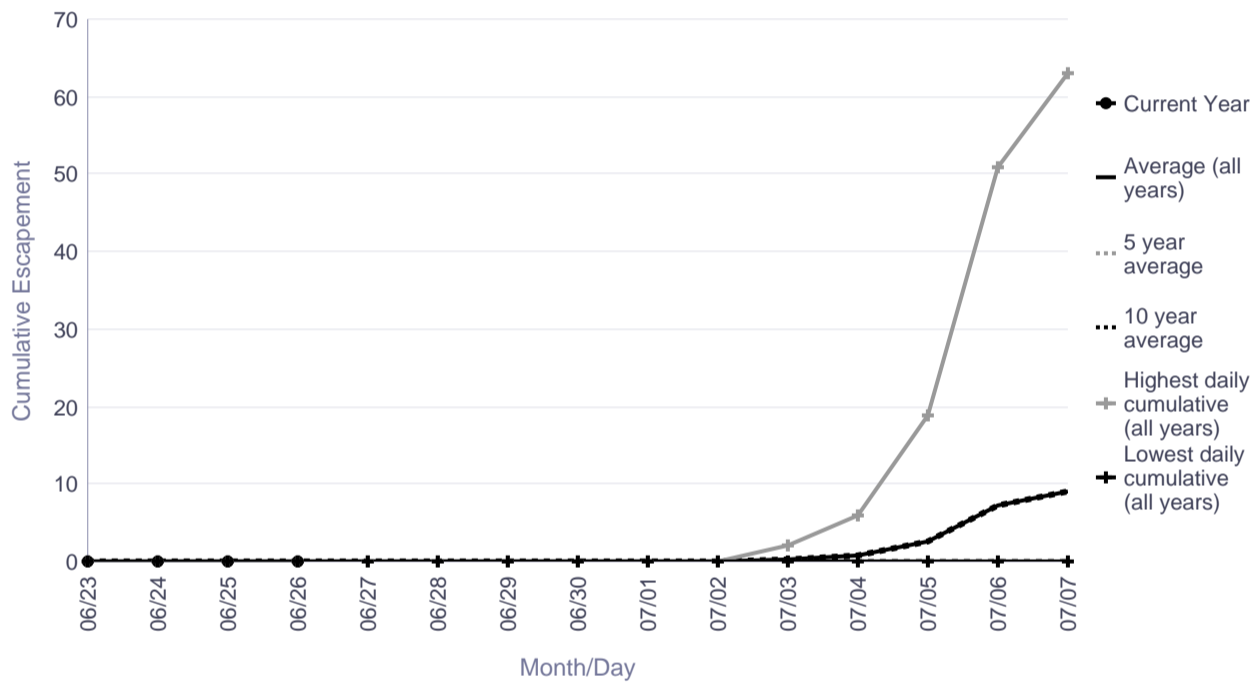


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Salmon River (Aniak) Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Sockeye Salmon

Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	10 year average	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current Year
06/23	0	0	0	0	0	0
06/24	0	0	0	0	0	0
06/25	0	0	0	0	0	0
06/26	0	0	0	0	0	0
06/27	0	0	0	0	0	0
06/28	0	0	0	0	0	0
06/29	0	0	0	0	0	0
06/30	0	0	0	0	0	0
07/01	0	0	0	0	0	0
07/02	0	0	0	0	0	0
07/03	0	0	0	0	0	2
07/04	0	1	0	1	6	6
07/05	0	3	0	3	19	19
07/06	0	7	0	7	51	51
07/07	0	9	0	9	63	63

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average	10 Year Average	Highest Count
Season Total	894	2,087	928	2,087	7,086



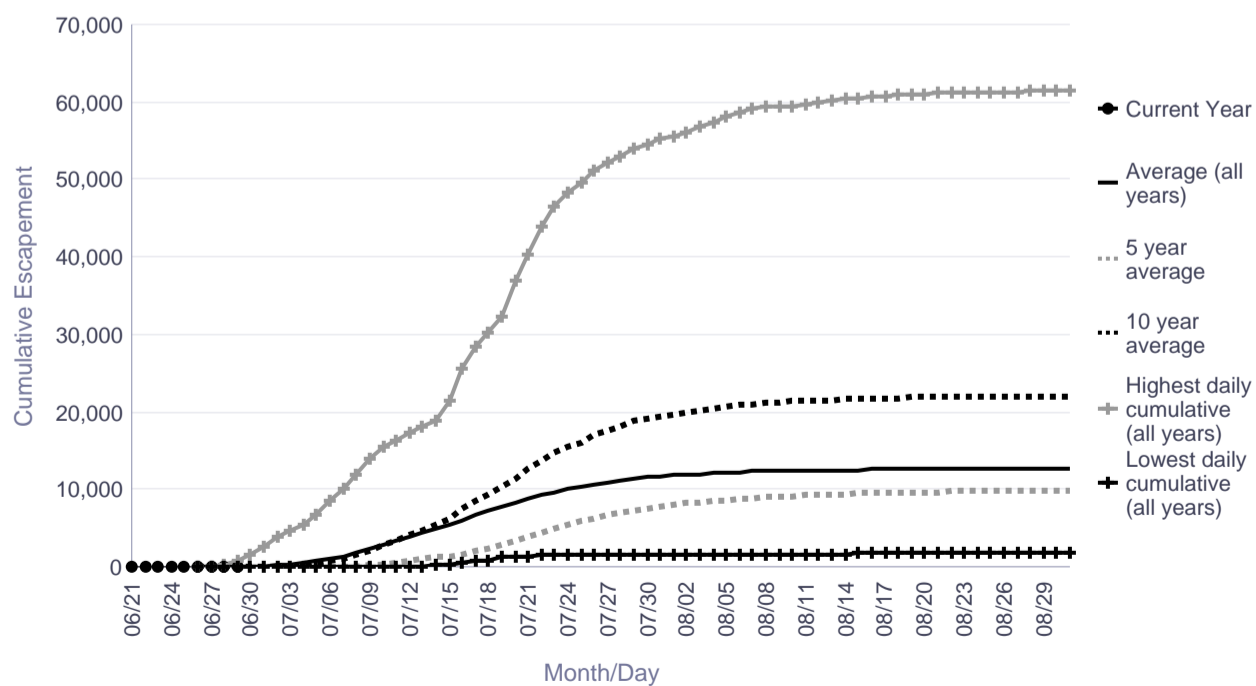
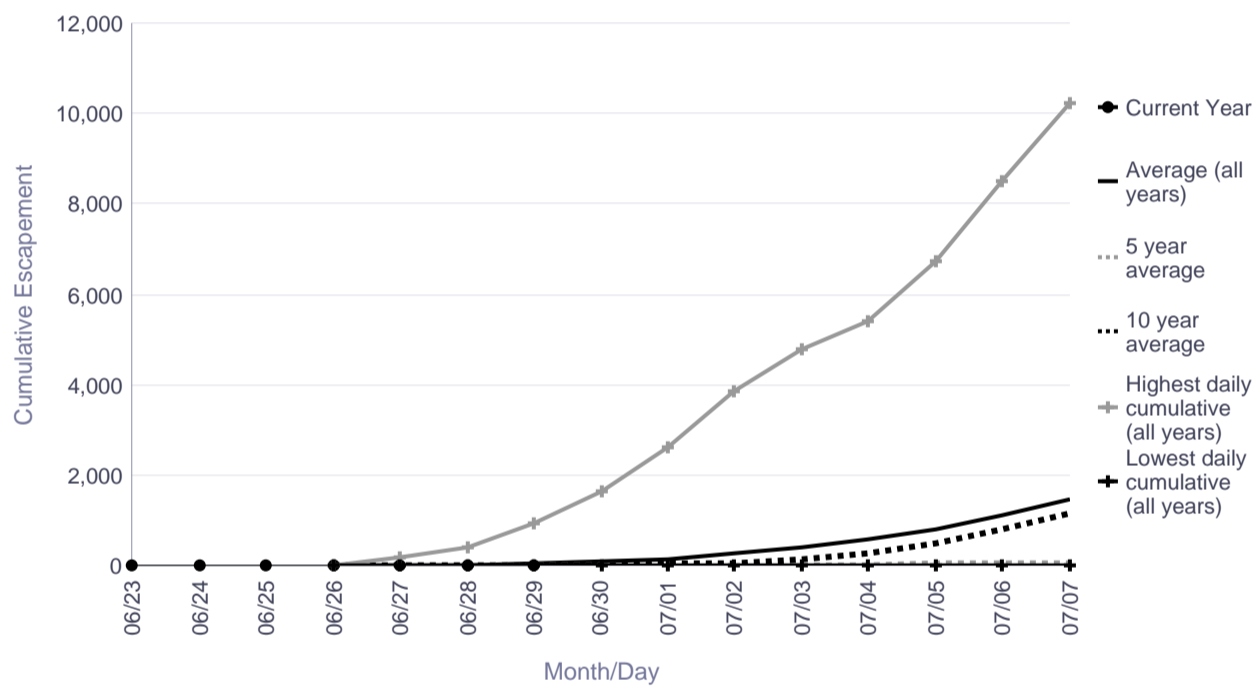
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Kogrukluk River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Sockeye Salmon

Escapement Goal Range: 4,400 to 17,000

Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	10 year average	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current Year
06/23						0
06/24						0
06/25						0
06/26	0	1	0	0	18	0
06/27	0	6	0	1	170	0
06/28	0	15	0	3	392	0
06/29	0	40	0	5	932	0
06/30	0	78	1	11	1,637	
07/01	0	146	3	34	2,611	
07/02	0	256	6	74	3,863	
07/03	0	398	8	139	4,803	
07/04	0	570	14	291	5,427	
07/05	0	797	30	489	6,736	
07/06	0	1,114	36	809	8,498	
07/07	8	1,447	61	1,143	10,227	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average	10 Year Average	Highest Count
Season Total	1,732	12,652	9,834	22,024	61,382



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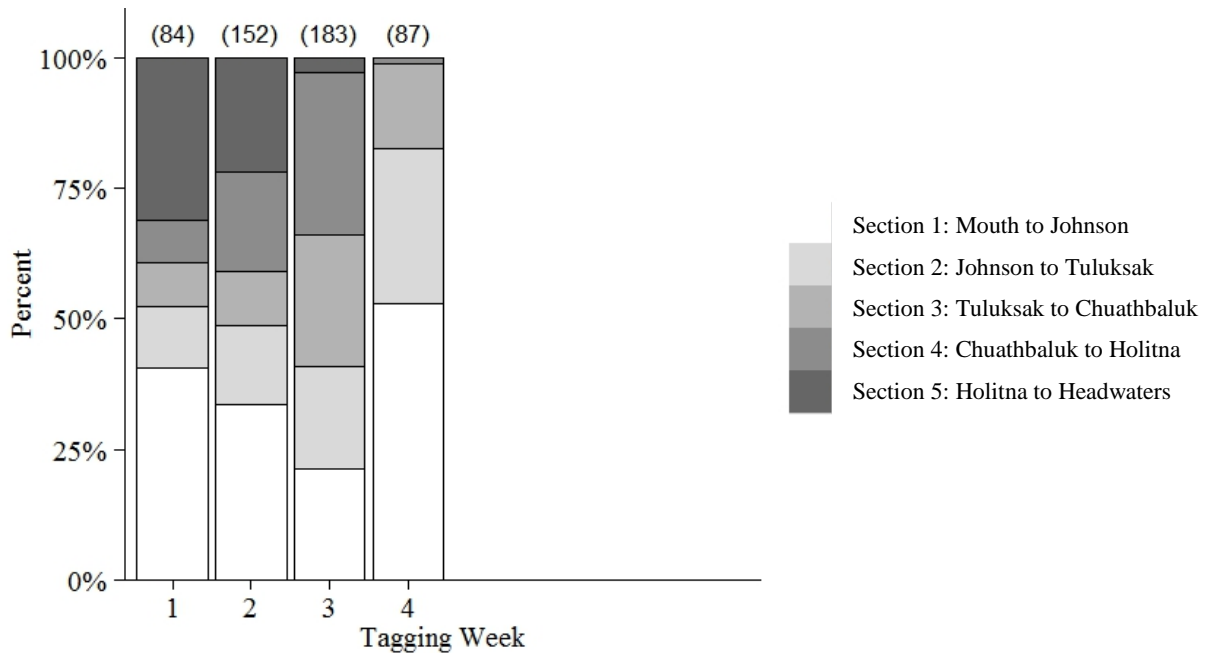
Lower River Chinook Tagging

Tag Week	Date	Captured	Tagged	Chum	Sockeye	Notes
1	6/1	2	2 (2)	0	0	
1	6/2	1	1 (1)	0	0	
1	6/3	11	11 (11)	0	0	
1	6/4	3	3 (2)	0	0	Half Effort
1	6/5	21	20 (20)	0	0	
1	6/6	16	16 (16)	0	0	
1	6/7	29	29 (29)	0	0	
2	6/8	15	15 (15)	0	0	Half Effort
2	6/9	29	29 (29)	0	0	
2	6/10	29	28 (28)	0	0	Half Effort
2	6/11	31	31 (20)	1	0	Half Effort
2	6/12	31	30 (19)	0	0	
2	6/13	35	34 (20)	0	0	
2	6/14	54	54 (21)	2	2	
3	6/15	36	36 (35)	1	1	Half Effort
3	6/16	48	47 (40)	0	0	
3	6/17	60	60 (31)	4	0	
3	6/18	76	76 (18)	5	4	
3	6/19	12	12 (12)	1	0	Half Effort
3	6/20	61	61 (17)	2	3	
3	6/21	42	41 (30)	2	2	
4	6/22	23	23 (17)	0	0	Half Effort
4	6/23	26	26 (12)	8	0	
4	6/24	52	51 (14)	11	3	
4	6/25	45	45 (12)	7	1	
4	6/26	28	26 (11)	12	5	Half Effort
4	6/27	28	28 (10)	11	3	
4	6/28	43	41 (11)	4	3	
5	6/29	38	38 (9)	6	1	
5	6/30					
	Total	928	917 (515)	77	28	

Note: Tagging operations began on June 1, 2015. Two crews fish both incoming tides daily. Half effort refers to days when only one crew fished. All fish received external tags. The number of Chinook salmon that received a radio tag is indicated in the parentheses. An additional 3 fish were tagged prior to June 1.

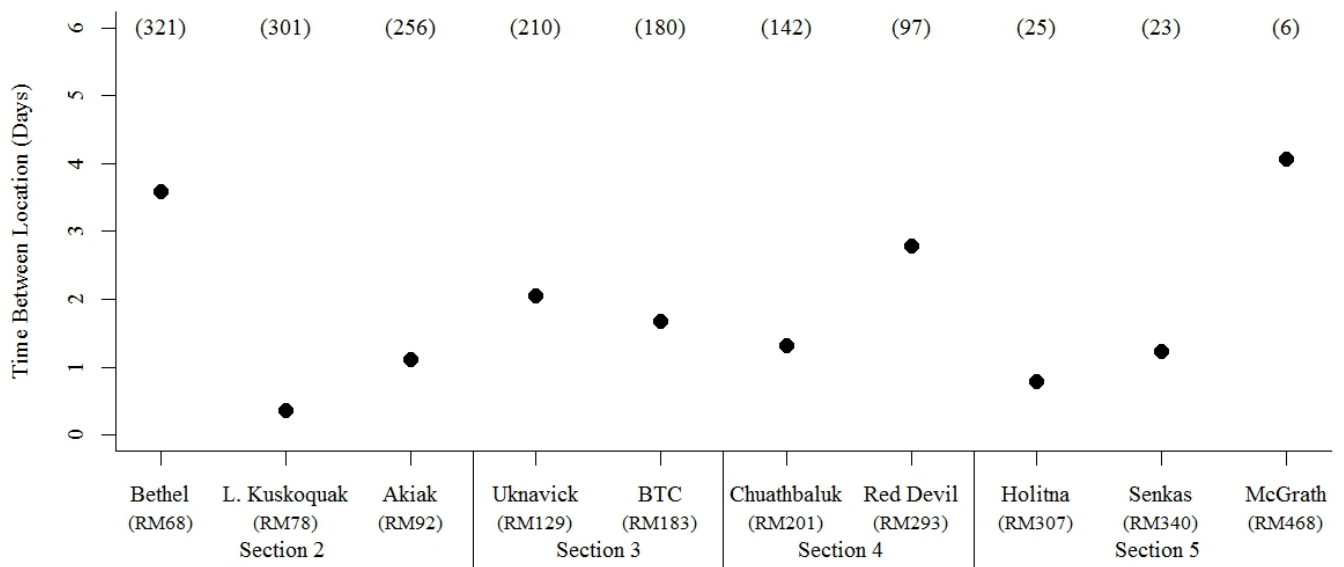
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Distribution of radiotagged Chinook salmon among the 5 Kuskokwim River conservation sections



Note: Tagged fish are stratified by week and tracked separately in an attempt to monitor groups of fish migrating upriver. This figure represents our most complete understanding of where groups of tagged fish are currently. Comparing this figure to prior versions from earlier Working Group packets shows the movement of groups of fish over time. The number of radiotagged fish by week is shown in parentheses.

Average travel time between successive telemetry towers along the mainstem Kuskokwim River



Note: The number of radiotagged fish used to calculate the average shown in parentheses. This figure represents our most complete understanding of how many days it takes fish to travel among telemetry towers.

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Kuskokwim River Inseason Subsistence CPUE and Harvest Estimation Project

Department of Fish and Game Division of Subsistence staff are working with local fishers in several communities in the lower and middle Kuskokwim River. We've asked volunteers to write down some information while they fish during subsistence fishing openings. Volunteers record where they fish, what size net they use, the length of time of each drift they make, and how many Chinook, chum, and sockeye they catch in each drift. We have provided a table summarizing data we've gathered for each opening in the middle and lower river since June 20. We've also provided a table explaining how to understand all of this information. We encourage people to read these tables at their convenience and ask questions during the Working Group meetings. We will briefly discuss some of the information in the data table and explain how it might be useful to the Working Group and salmon managers.

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	Date	22-Jun-15	26-Jun-15	26-Jun-15	20-Jun-15	27-Jun-15
1	Fishing location	Johnson R. to Lomavik	Johnson R. to Lomavik	Below Wille Pete's to Johnson	ANI to CHU	ANI to CHU
2	Hours open	16:00-20:00	14:00-22:00	18:00-22:00	14:00-18:00	12:00-18:00
3	Total fishers (sample)	5	11	5	5	4
4	SUM individual drifts (sample)	10	42	13	41	25
5	AVG number nets observed (fleet)	79 ¹	106 (15:00-16:30) / 74 (19:00-21:00)	25	12	n/a ²
6	CPUE factor (fm*60min)	50	50	25	10	10
7	CPUE chin	3.35	1.39	1.68	4.25	5.78
8	CPUE chumsock	5.66	12.83	20.29	1.81	17.52
9	CPUE total fish	9.02	14.22	21.97	6.06	23.3
10	CPUE chin sample variance (s ²)	3.31	65.12	8.38	37.94	12.65
11	Total catch chin	45	40	14	47	34
12	Total catch chum	55	256	85	17	64
13	Total catch sock	21	114	84	3	39
14	Total catch chin/fisher (range)	3--21	0--9	0--10	1--27	1--15
15	Median total catch chin/fisher	9	2	1	7	9
16	AVG total catch chin/fisher	5	3.1	2.8	9.4	8.5
17	Total catch chumsock/fisher (range)	6--32	6--65	3--31	0--13	4--32
18	Median total catch chumsock/fisher	9	28	11	2	14
19	AVG total catch chumsock/fisher	15	29	17	3.4	16
20	AVG total catch all fish/fisher	28	37	34	15	34
21	Net length (fm)	50	50	25	10	10
22	Meshes (range)	5.5--5 7/8	5.5--6	5.5--6	4--6	6
23	AVG soak time/drift (min)	81	45	40	16	22
24	AVG soak time/ fisher/opener (h:min)	2:41	2:50	1:45	1:11	2:17
	1 Partial count due to rough seas 2 Staff not present to count nets					

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Date	20-Jun-15	What does this mean?
Fishing location	ANI to CHU	We ask fishers where they drifted, and group their information into these areas.
Hours open	14:00-18:00	These are the times of each opener.
Total fishers (sample)	5	This is the number of volunteers who recorded information about their fishing.
SUM individual drifts (sample)	41	This is the total number of drifts that our volunteers made in each opener.
AVG number nets observed (fleet)	12	This is the average number of nets that we saw drifting in the water in each opener.
CPUE factor (fm*60min)	10	This means we are adjusting our formula so that information is comparable even if people fish with different net lengths. This number is listed in fathoms (1 fm = 6 ft).
CPUE chin	4.25	This is a number based on a formula. It is an indicator of how many Chinook our volunteers caught on average for each hour of drifting (net in water).
CPUE chumsock	1.81	Indicator of how many chum and sockeye volunteers caught on average for each hour of drifting (net in water) with a defined net size
CPUE total fish	6.06	Indicator of how many fish volunteers caught on average for each hour of drifting (net in water) with a defined net size
CPUE chin sample variance (s^2)	37.94	The higher the number here, the bigger the differences in the rates that people caught Chinook. If this number were close to 0, it would tell us that everyone caught Chinook at about
Total catch chin	47	Total Chinook salmon harvested by all volunteers (combined) in the opener.
Total catch chum	17	Total chum salmon harvested by all volunteers (combined) in the opener.
Total catch sock	3	Total sockeye salmon harvested by all volunteers (combined) in the opener.
Total catch chin/fisher (range)	1--27	The lowest catch of Chinook by a volunteer (1) and the highest catch (27)
Median total catch chin/fisher	7	The middle number of Chinook each volunteer caught in the opener. If 5 volunteers were scored from 1st to 5th place, the middle/3rd-place volunteer caught 7 kings.
AVG total catch chin/fisher	9.4	The average number of Chinook each volunteer caught in the opener
Total catch chumsock/fisher (range)	0--13	The lowest catch of chum and sockeye by a volunteer (0) and the highest catch (13)
Median total catch chumsock/fisher	2	The middle number of chum/sockeye each volunteer caught in the opener
AVG total catch chumsock/fisher	3.4	The average number of chum/sockeye each volunteer caught in the opener
AVG total catch all fish/fisher	15	The average number of total fish that each volunteer caught in the opener
Net length (fm)	10	Net length in fathoms that volunteers used and/or the net length that was legal in opener
Meshes (range in inches)	4--6	The smallest mesh size to the largest mesh size that volunteers used
AVG soak time/drift (min)	16	The average time volunteers' nets were in the water for a drift
AVG soak time/fisher/opener (h:min)	1:11	The average time volunteers' nets were in the water for the whole opening

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2015 Inseason Salmon Assessment Update for the Kuskokwim Area #4

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) works cooperatively with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and various Tribal or community groups to monitor the health of Kuskokwim Area salmon stocks and provide data for inseason management.

ADF&G ensures that all assessment data are publicly available inseason. Detailed project summaries are prepared each week and presented to the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group. Management meetings are held each Wednesday at the ADF&G office in Bethel. Working Group meetings are open to the public, in person or via teleconference. Project summaries and associated meeting materials are available online by 5:00 PM Tuesday during the salmon season. In addition, select data are available daily by 10:00 AM.

Working Group Information

Packets: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareakuskokwim.kswg>

Inseason Bethel Test Fish and Escapement Monitoring Data:

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

Assessment Overview

The 2015 Chinook salmon forecast is 96,000–163,000 fish. A run size within this range is well below the historical average of 240,000 fish. A run size near the lower end of the forecast range would be one of the lowest run sizes on record. As a result substantial fishing restrictions have been enacted to conserve Chinook salmon and provide for drainage-wide and tributary escapement goals. ADF&G has determined that a drainage-wide escapement of 65,000–120,000 Chinook salmon is needed to ensure the long-term health of Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon, sustain the subsistence fishery, and provide opportunity for other sources of harvest.

The Chinook salmon run is beginning to wane in the lower portion of the Kuskokwim River and is progressing upriver. Bethel Test Fishery and Lower River Tagging projects indicate that the peak of the Chinook salmon run has passed the Bethel Area. Telemetry tracking data and Aniak Test Fishery confirm that the peak of the Chinook salmon run is likely passing upriver of Aniak, and the early part of the Chinook salmon run is now approaching headwaters communities.

Mounting evidence suggests that the 2015 Chinook salmon run was early and weak. Inseason assessment data has only limited utility for estimating total run size; however, our best estimate is that the run will be near the lower bound of the forecasted range. As a result, conservation measures are warranted. It is too early to determine the effects of the conservation measures on drainage-wide escapement. However, weir projects and telemetry data indicate that Chinook salmon are migrating into spawning tributaries, and escapement observations to date are encouraging.

Chum and sockeye salmon abundance has exceeded Chinook salmon throughout much of the lower and middle portions of the Kuskokwim River, although the observed ratios are low for this time of year. The chum and sockeye salmon runs appear to be late, weak, or both. Sockeye salmon catches in the Bethel Test Fishery have picked up in recent days, while chum salmon catches have remained well below average. Cumulative Catch Per Unit Effort (CPUE) for chum salmon is approximately 70% less than what

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was observed at this time in 2014, which was perceived to be a weak run. Bethel Test Fishery indicates that chum salmon abundance may be very weak and conservation measures are warranted to achieve established escapement goals on the Kogruklu River.

Chinook Salmon Tagging

ADF&G is tagging Chinook salmon downstream of Bethel near Fowler Island. The purpose of this study is to estimate the total number of Chinook salmon that return to the Kuskokwim River in 2015 and monitor the migration timing and speed of fish as they travel through the primary harvest areas towards their spawning grounds. Abundance estimation will be completed post season. Migration timing will be assessed inseason and preliminary results presented weekly.

As of June 29, ADF&G has caught 928 Chinook salmon of which 515 have been radiotagged. Peak daily catches ranging from 60–80 fish per day were observed at the tag site between June 17 and June 20. Since that time, daily catches have declined slowly to 30–40 Chinook salmon per day. Our best estimate is that 85%–95% of the Chinook salmon run has passed the tag site. We expect daily catches to decline over the coming weeks as the final portion of the Chinook salmon run passes through the lower river.

Radio tagged fish are being monitored as they migrate upriver using aerial surveys and tracking towers located between Bethel and McGrath. On average, tagged fish are swimming 22.5 miles per day, and fish tagged later in the season are swimming faster than fish that were tagged at the beginning of the run. Tagged fish continue to move upriver towards their spawning grounds. Approximately 72% of the tagged fish are upriver from Tuluksak, 47% are upriver from Chuathbaluk, 19% are upriver from Sleetmute, and 3% are upriver from McGrath. Of the tagged fish located downriver of Tuluksak, 31% have been detected in the Kwethluk and Kisaralik Rivers combined.

ADF&G is conducting a Salmon Tag Lottery. Tagged fish are identifiable by a brightly colored plastic tag attached to their back, and a metal antennae coming out of their mouth. *It is okay if you harvest one of these tagged fish.* If you do, please call 1-800-267-2104 and return the radio tag to the ADF&G office in Bethel. In appreciation, you will be entered into the monthly Lottery and eligible for a cash prize of \$200 and a seasonal cash prize of \$500. So far, 47 tagged fish have been reported harvested in the subsistence fishery. Thank you to all who reported catching a tagged fish – you have been entered into the June Lottery.

Bethel Test Fishery

Bethel Test Fishery (BTF) is the primary inseason run assessment tool for Kuskokwim River salmon and is operated the same way each year. The daily Catch Per Unit Effort (CPUE) is used to index run timing and relative abundance of Chinook, chum, sockeye, and coho salmon. The data has only limited utility for estimating total run size or escapement. *The 2015 data is not directly comparable to prior years due to subsistence fishing restrictions.* The Bethel Test Fishery continues to operate on schedule.

Chinook salmon cumulative CPUE as of June 29 is 405. The cumulative CPUE is below the 10-yr average for this date. The cumulative CPUE is above the recent 5-yr average; however, those years include some of the lowest run sizes on record. It appears that the Chinook salmon run was early compared to past years, and our best estimate is that 80%–90% of the run has passed the test site. We

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expect BTF catches of Chinook salmon to decline over the coming weeks as the final portion of the run passes through the Bethel area.

Sockeye salmon cumulative CPUE as of June 29 is 500. The cumulative CPUE is below the 5 and 10-yr averages for this date. The sockeye salmon run continues to build in the Bethel area with increased catches observed over the past few days. The historical mid-point of the sockeye salmon run is June 28. On average 56% of the sockeye salmon run has passed Bethel as of June 29. However, the 2015 run appears to be late, weak, or both. Late run timing would suggest that 25%–45% of the sockeye salmon run has passed Bethel.

Chum salmon cumulative CPUE as of June 29 is 628. The cumulative CPUE is the third lowest on record for this date and is well below the 5 and 10-yr averages. The historical mid-point of the chum salmon run is July 4. On average 31% of the chum salmon run has passed Bethel, as of June 29. However, the 2015 run appears to be late, weak, or both. Late run timing would suggest that 15%–20% of the chum salmon run has passed Bethel.

Aniak Test Fishery

The Aniak Test Fishery is operated cooperatively by the Native Village of Napaimute (NVN) and ADF&G. *The 2015 data is not directly comparable to CPUE observed at the Bethel Test Fishery.*

As of June 29, the Aniak Test Fishery has caught 272 Chinook salmon, 107 chum salmon, and 19 sockeye salmon. Cumulative CPUE is 2,230 Chinook salmon, 875 chum salmon, and 146 sockeye salmon. Over the past week, the Chinook salmon CPUE has remained relatively high and consistent, indicating the peak of the run is likely passing the Aniak area. Chum and sockeye abundance has been building over the past week. These trends were interrupted on June 28 and June 29 when CPUE for all species declined by approximately 75%. The ratio of chum and sockeye salmon to Chinook salmon has remained below 3:1, which is low for this time of year based on past fishing efforts by ADF&G downriver from Aniak.

Kwethluk River Weir

The Kwethluk River weir is operated by USFWS and used to index salmon escapement to the lower Kuskokwim River tributaries. As of June 29, 365 Chinook salmon, 439 chum salmon, and 699 sockeye salmon have been counted past the weir. The cumulative escapement for all salmon species is above the recent 10-yr average for this date. It is still very early in the salmon escapement for this location. Sockeye salmon escapement typically peaks in early to mid-July. Chinook salmon escapement typically peaks in mid-July. Chum salmon escapement typically peaks in mid to late-July.

A sustainable escapement goal of 4,100–7,500 Chinook salmon has been established by ADF&G for this river. The escapement goal has not been achieved since 2009.

Tuluksak River Weir

The Tuluksak River weir is operated by USFWS. As of June 29, 43 Chinook salmon, 27 chum salmon, and 1 sockeye salmon have been counted past the weir. It is still very early in the salmon escapement for this location. Chinook salmon escapement typically peaks in mid-July. Chum salmon escapement typically peaks in mid to late-July.

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No salmon escapement goals have been established by ADF&G for this river.

Salmon River (Aniak River) Weir

The Salmon River (Aniak) weir is operated by ADF&G and used to index salmon escapement to the Aniak River drainage. The weir was successfully installed on June 19. No counts have been performed at this location since June 26 due to staff availability. As of June 26, 2 Chinook salmon and 9 chum salmon have been counted past the weir. Daily operations continued as planned on June 30. It is still very early in the salmon escapement for this location. Chinook salmon and chum salmon escapement typically peaks in mid to late-July. Sockeye salmon typically peak in early August.

No weir-based salmon escapement goals have been established by ADF&G for this river.

George River Weir

The George River weir is operated by ADF&G and used to index salmon escapement to middle Kuskokwim River tributaries. The weir was successfully installed on June 15. As of June 29, 290 Chinook salmon and 323 chum salmon have been counted past the weir. The Chinook salmon escapement is above the recent 10-yr average for this date. Chum salmon escapement is near average. It is still very early in the salmon escapement for this location. Chinook salmon typically peak early to mid-July. Chum salmon typically peak in mid-July.

A sustainable escapement goal of 1,800–3,300 Chinook salmon has been established by ADF&G for this river. The escapement goal was achieved in 2014.

Tatlawiksuk River Weir

The Tatlawiksuk River weir is operated by ADF&G and used to index salmon escapement to middle Kuskokwim River tributaries. The weir was successfully installed on June 13. As of June 29, 57 Chinook salmon and 185 chum salmon have been counted past the weir. The current cumulative passage counts are similar to prior years at this location. It is still very early in the salmon escapement for this location. Chinook salmon typically peak early to mid-July. Chum salmon typically peak in mid-July.

No salmon escapement goals have been established by ADF&G for this river.

Kogrukluk River Weir

The Kogrukluk River weir is operated by ADF&G and used to index salmon escapement to the Holitna River drainage. The weir was successfully installed on June 21. As of June 29, 38 Chinook salmon and 84 chum salmon were counted past the weir. The current cumulative passage counts are similar to prior years at this location. It is still very early in the salmon escapement for this location. Chinook salmon and chum salmon typically peak mid-July. Sockeye salmon typically peak mid to late-July.

Sustainable escapement goals have been established by ADF&G for Chinook salmon (4,800–8,800), chum salmon (15,000–49,000), sockeye salmon (4,400–17,000), and coho salmon (13,000–28,000). Goals were achieved for all species except Chinook salmon in 2014.

Telaquana Lake Weir

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The Telaquana Lake weir is operated cooperatively by ADF&G and National Park Service. The weir is used to index escapement for lake-spawning sockeye salmon. Staff arrived on site to install the weir on June 18, but was evacuated this past week due to numerous wildfires in the area. Staff will continue installation of the weir as soon as it is safe to do so. In prior years the weir was operational by July 3.

Salmon River (Pitka Fork) Weir

The Salmon River (Pitka Fork) weir is operated by ADF&G and MTNT (McGrath, Takotna, Nikolai, Telida) and used to index Chinook salmon escapement to the headwaters upriver from McGrath. The weir was successfully installed on June 1. The very early installation date was in response to local area residents who reported seeing Chinook salmon historically in early June. The first Chinook salmon passed the weir on June 27. As of June 29, 101 Chinook salmon have passed the weir. No other salmon species have been counted.

Kuskokwim Bay Weirs

The Kanektok and Goodnews River weirs are operated by ADF&G and used to index escapement to Districts 4 and 5, respectively, in Kuskokwim Bay. Both weirs were successfully installed and began operations on June 25. As of June 28, 18 Chinook salmon, 51 chum salmon, and 1,374 sockeye salmon have passed the Goodnews River weir. As of June 28, 11 Chinook salmon, 122 chum salmon, and 531 sockeye salmon have passed the Kanektok River weir. It is still very early in the salmon escapement for these locations.

Inseason Subsistence Harvest Monitoring

Orutsararmiut Native Council (ONC) in coordination with ADF&G collect subsistence fishing reports from Bethel area fish camps in an attempt to understand salmon harvest timing and success. ONC staff visit area fish camps each week during the salmon season, share fisheries updates, and answer questions about research and management. In addition, this project provides an opportunity for subsistence fishermen to share information and feedback with managers. Project updates will be provided every Wednesday by ONC to the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group.

Lower Kuskokwim River Chinook Age, Sex, Length Sampling

Since 2001, ADF&G and ONC have partnered to recruit lower river residents to sample age, sex, and length (ASL) from Chinook salmon harvested for subsistence. Sampling is easy, you get paid for your time, all information is confidential, and you get to keep your fish. All lower river communities have been notified of this sampling opportunity by phone, mail, and Delta Discovery newspaper. The first sampling workshop was held in Bethel on June 6 and another on June 9. If you would like to participate in this program, contact Zachary Liller with ADF&G (907)-717-3419 or Dustin Wagner with ONC (907)-543-0523.

Kuskokwim River Sonar Feasibility

ADF&G is assessing the feasibility of operating sonar on the mainstem Kuskokwim River to count the total number of salmon by species. If the project proves viable, it could provide daily counts of salmon

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and greatly strengthen inseason management capabilities. The feasibility efforts began in 2014 and are continuing in 2015.

Two potential sonar sites have been identified. One is located near the upper confluence of the Kuskokwim River and Church Slough and the other is located downriver from the community of Akiak. Staff has completed the first full round of feasibility work at the lower site – including testing sonar equipment and drift gillnet fishing, which is necessary to determine what species of fish are being detected by the sonar. All fish harvested were donated to the community of Kwethluk. Over the past week, staff relocated to the upper site near Akiak and has successfully installed multiple types of sonar to determine which technology is most appropriate at that location. Staff has been in contact with the community of Akiak and made arrangements to donate all fish harvested while fishing in this location.