

# Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group

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

## Meeting Agenda

Date: 06/21/2016

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Place: Bethel

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Time Called to Order:

Chair: Fritz Charles

### 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:

ADF&G:

### 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.*

### ADF&G MANAGEMENT ACTIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION

### PEOPLE TO BE HEARD:

### CONTINUING BUSINESS:

- Subsistence Reports: Lowest River, ONC Inseason Subsistence Report, Lower River, Middle River, Upper River, Headwaters.
- 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:
  - c. Subsistence Division update
- Commercial Catch Report: N/A
- 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:

### OLD BUSINESS:

### NEW BUSINESS:

### 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](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: Orutsararmiut Native Council (ONC)

June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016

### Fishing reports from 13-19<sup>th</sup> June 2016

Families Surveyed	Families Not Fishing	Drift-nets	Set-nets	Both	6" Mesh	4" or Less	5/12" Mesh	5 3/4" Mesh	5 7/8" Mesh
33	4	25	3	3	14	2	8	3	3
		75%	9%	9%	42%	6%	24%	9%	9%

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
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

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
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

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

### Harvest Goal Summary:

**Chinook harvest goals:** 8 families did not report a harvest goal or are planning on targeting Chinook salmon. 8 families harvest goal was 50 or less, 8 families harvest goal of 100 or less, and 1 family harvest goal more than 100. **Sockeye harvest goals:** 4 families did not report a harvest goal for Sockeye. 6 families harvest goal of 50 or less, 7 families harvest goal of 100 or less, and 6 family harvest goal is from 100-300. **Chum harvest goals:** 8 families harvest goal of 50 or less, 6 families harvest goal of 100 or less, and 4 family harvest goals is from 100-400. **Coho harvest goals:** 13 families harvest goal of 50 or less, 6 families harvest goal of less than 100, and 4 family harvest goals is from 100-400. **Total harvest goal** for all species 200-300.

**Chinook:** Some families claimed that there were more females this opener, while others claimed that there was less. Some families indicated that they caught larger kings compared to the first opener.

**Chum:** Some families indicated that they were catching much more chums this past opener, but it depended on where they were fishing.

**Sockeye:** Some families reported that they were catching more reds and that they were smaller than previous years. Some families indicated that the Sockeyes had worms and puss.

# Informational Packet

**Coho: (No current data)**

## **Comments:**

Two families requested to have longer openers with fewer restrictions. The short fishing windows have prevented families from meeting their annual harvest needs. Some families have reported that they have ran out of fish last year mid-winter. One family claimed non-locals should not be fishing in areas that they do not reside in, or are originally from. Many families indicated that there was high combat fishing, which caused them to cease fishing earlier than normal. A few families indicated that early thunder in May will indicate more fish returns. Many families claim that this year's Chinook salmon catches were smaller compared to prior years with a higher number of Chums and Sockeye. Certain families believe warming climates have caused changes to salmon life cycles.

## **Surveyor comments:**

*Bethel Test Fish Distribution:*

ONC Test Fish Distribution from the ADFG Bethel Test Fishery has delivered to the following locations: Senior Center, Lions Club, Lulu Herron, Prematernal home care, Ayalpik Apartments, Long Term Care Facility, VFW, ONC Community Distribution List with the priority going to elders, widows, disabled individuals, and individuals with no means to fish. Funeral families of Napaskiak and Kwethluk were also delivered by ONC. USFWS and ONC partnered in distribution to the following communities of Akiachak, Tuntatuliak, and Akiak.

Due to the new staff we are still compiling distribution data.

ONC Total Distribution (updated as of 20 JUNE 2016):

Chinook Salmon: 218

Sockeye Salmon: 23

Chum Salmon: 70

Pink Salmon: 0

Dolly Varden: 0

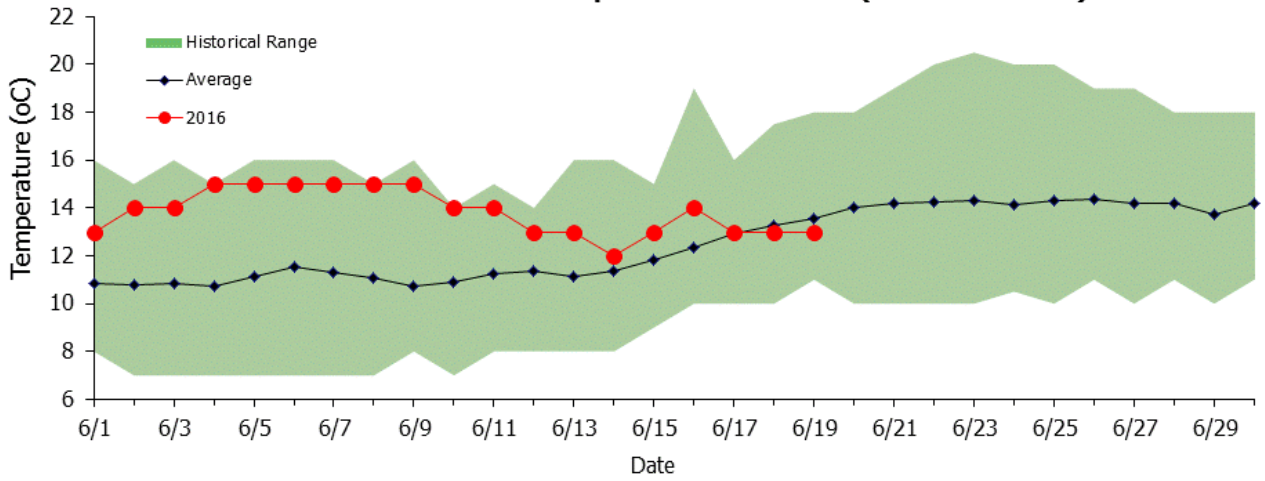
Inconnu: 16

Humpback: 4

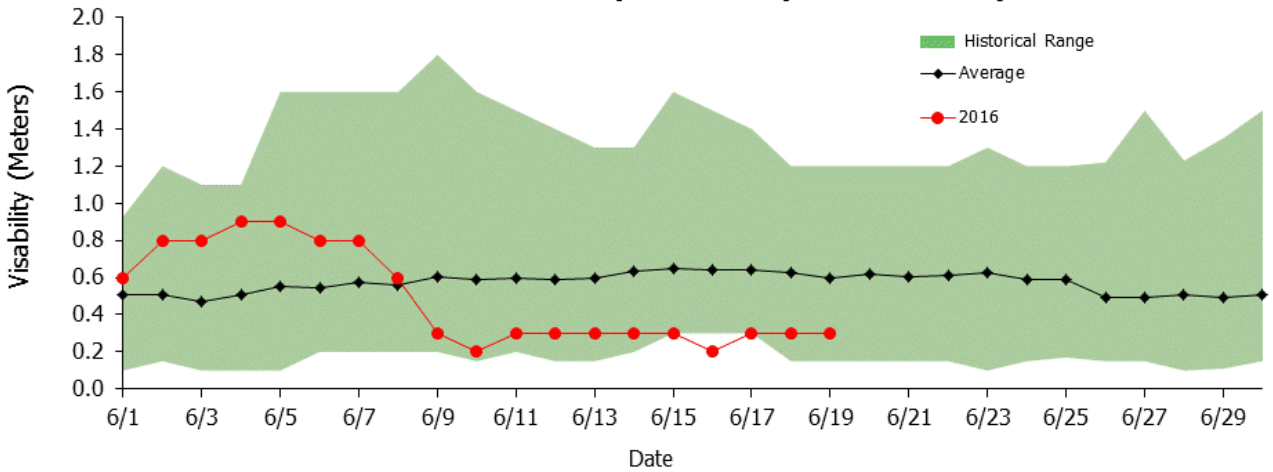
Burbot: 0

# Informational Packet

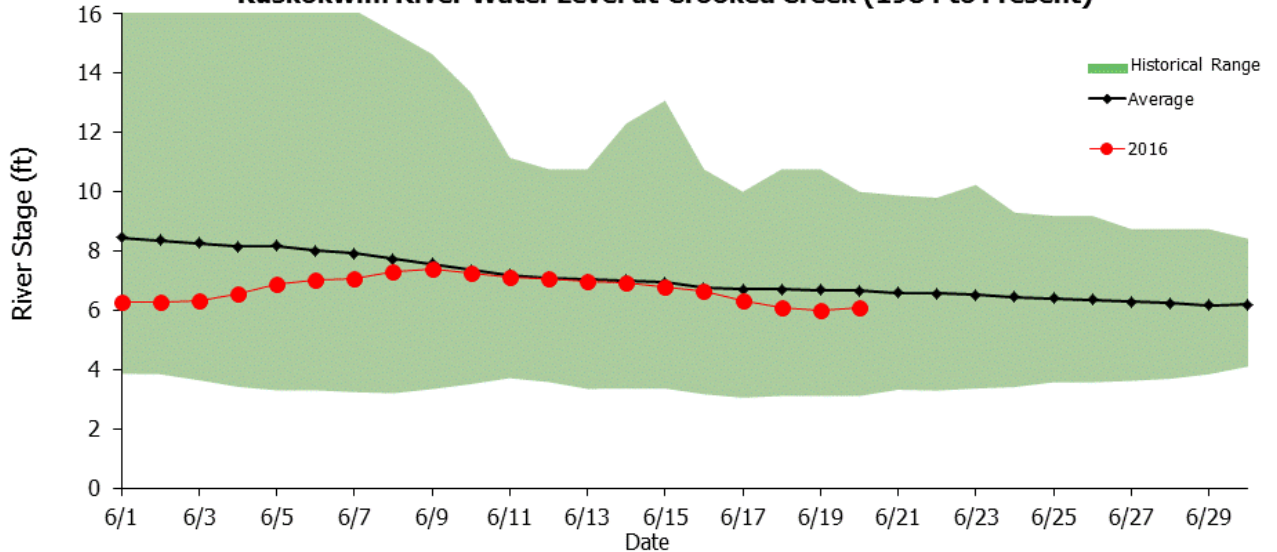
## Historical Water Temperature at BTF Site (1984 to Present)



## Historical Water Clarity at BTF site (1984 to Present)



## Kuskokwim River Water Level at Crooked Creek (1984 to Present)



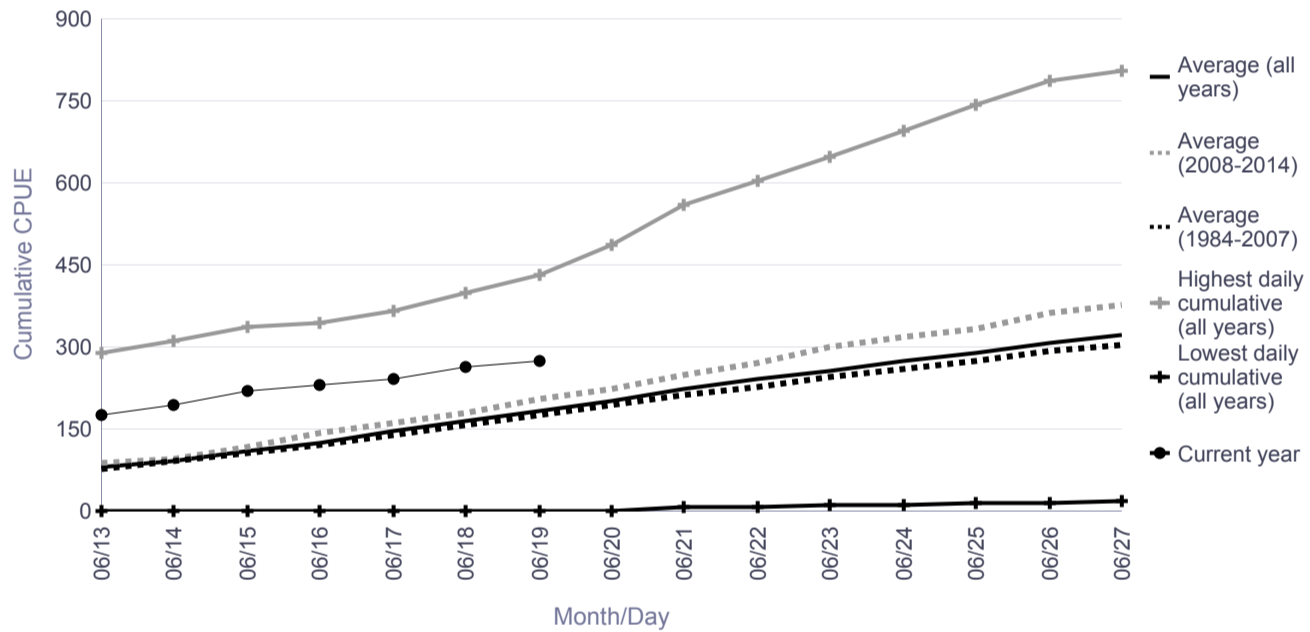
# Informational Packet

## Bethel Test Fishery Chinook Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index

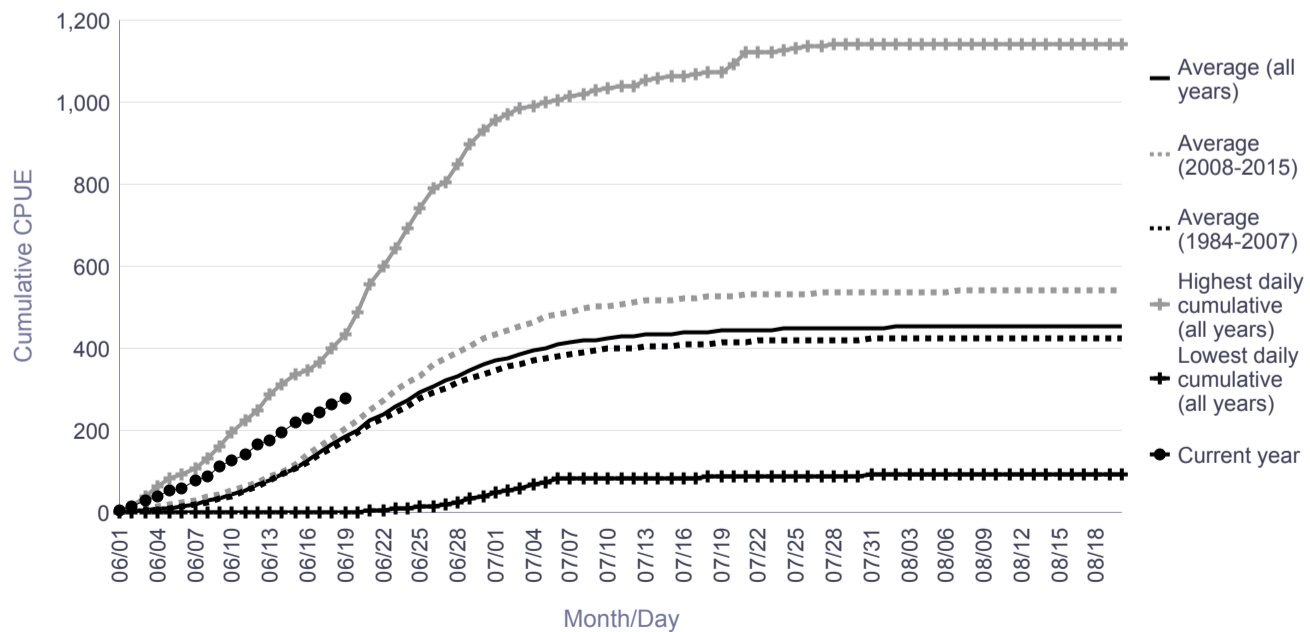
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	Average (1984-2007)	Average (2008-2015)	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current year
06/13	0	80	77	87	289	175
06/14	0	94	92	97	313	196
06/15	0	109	106	118	338	218
06/16	0	127	121	143	346	230
06/17	0	146	141	162	365	243
06/18	0	164	159	179	399	264
06/19	0	184	177	204	433	276
06/20	1	202	194	224	486	
06/21	8	223	214	248	558	
06/22	8	240	229	273	602	
06/23	11	258	244	299	646	
06/24	11	274	260	318	694	
06/25	15	291	276	335	741	
06/26	15	309	292	361	788	
06/27	18	322	304	376	804	

	Lowest CPUE	Average CPUE (all years)	Average CPUE (1984-2007)	Average CPUE (2008-2015)	Highest CPUE
Season Total	91	453	424	540	1,141

### Focused Two-Week Data View



### Season Total Overview



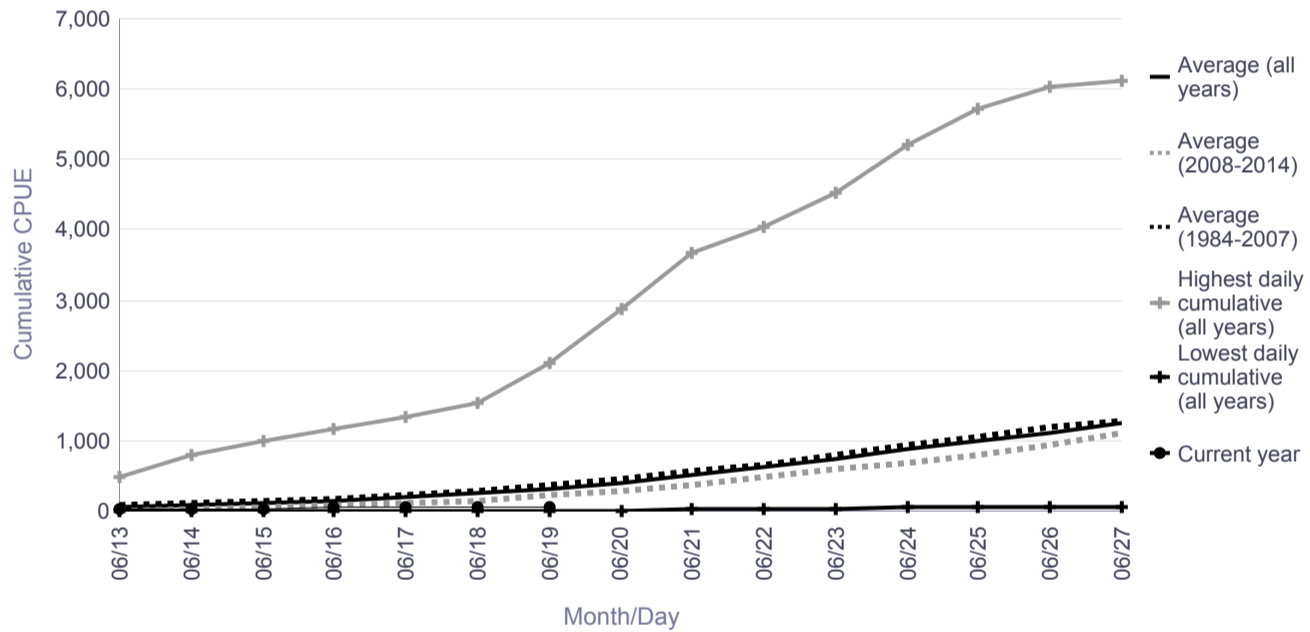
# Informational Packet

## Bethel Test Fishery Chum Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index

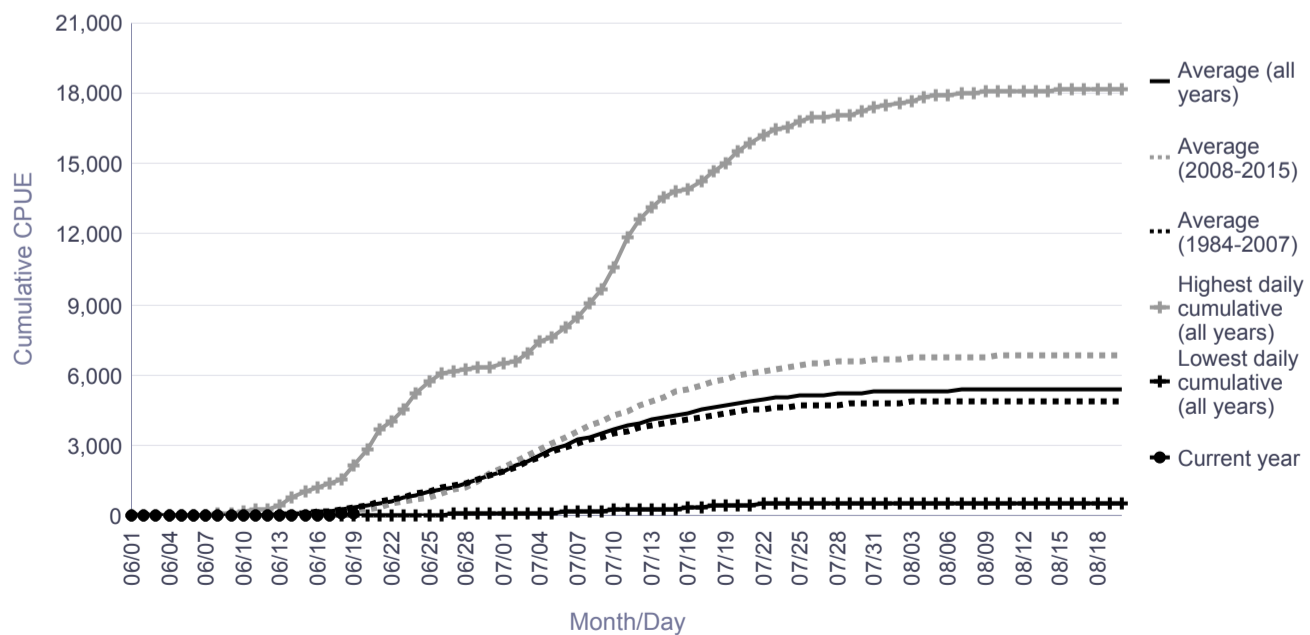
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	Average (1984-2007)	Average (2008-2015)	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current year
06/13	3	66	78	32	475	24
06/14	3	89	105	42	796	35
06/15	6	123	143	63	1,000	42
06/16	9	152	175	81	1,168	50
06/17	9	191	219	105	1,339	50
06/18	9	253	284	161	1,526	58
06/19	9	330	363	229	2,120	71
06/20	18	412	451	296	2,862	
06/21	30	526	575	376	3,682	
06/22	36	625	672	484	4,039	
06/23	39	754	808	593	4,537	
06/24	50	873	935	686	5,202	
06/25	56	1,004	1,071	803	5,715	
06/26	56	1,127	1,186	951	6,040	
06/27	64	1,246	1,293	1,105	6,130	

	Lowest CPUE	Average CPUE (all years)	Average CPUE (1984-2007)	Average CPUE (2008-2015)	Highest CPUE
Season Total	549	5,383	4,902	6,826	18,192

### Focused Two-Week Data View



### Season Total Overview



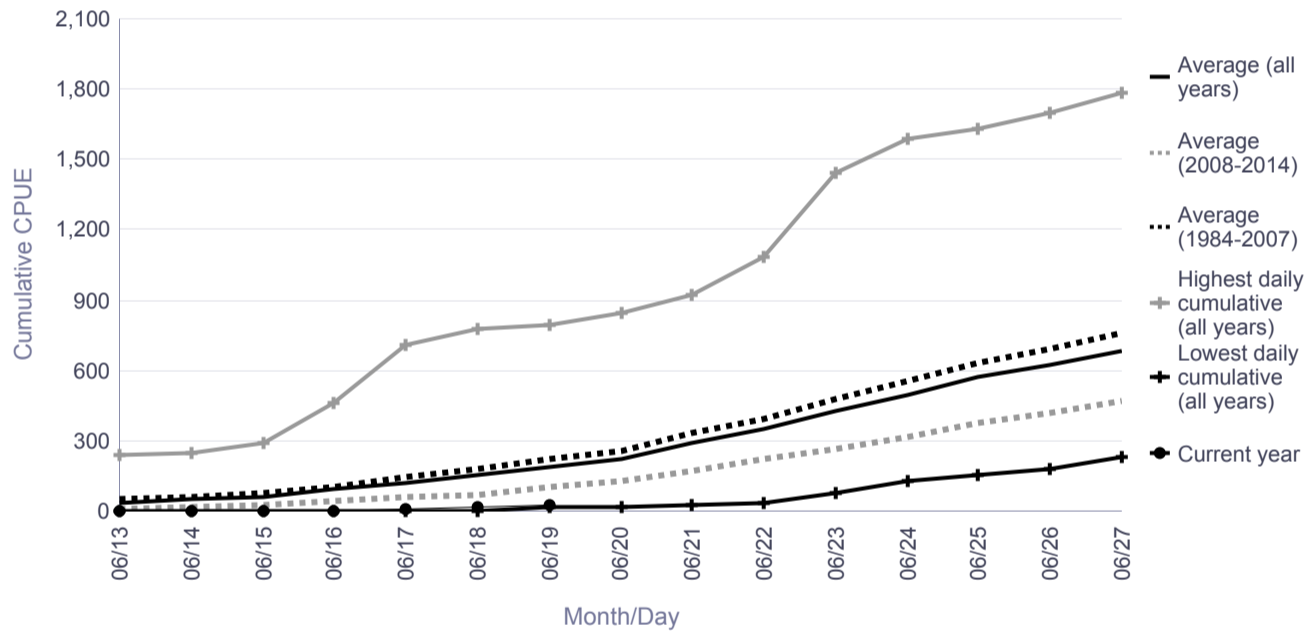
# Informational Packet

## Bethel Test Fishery Sockeye Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index

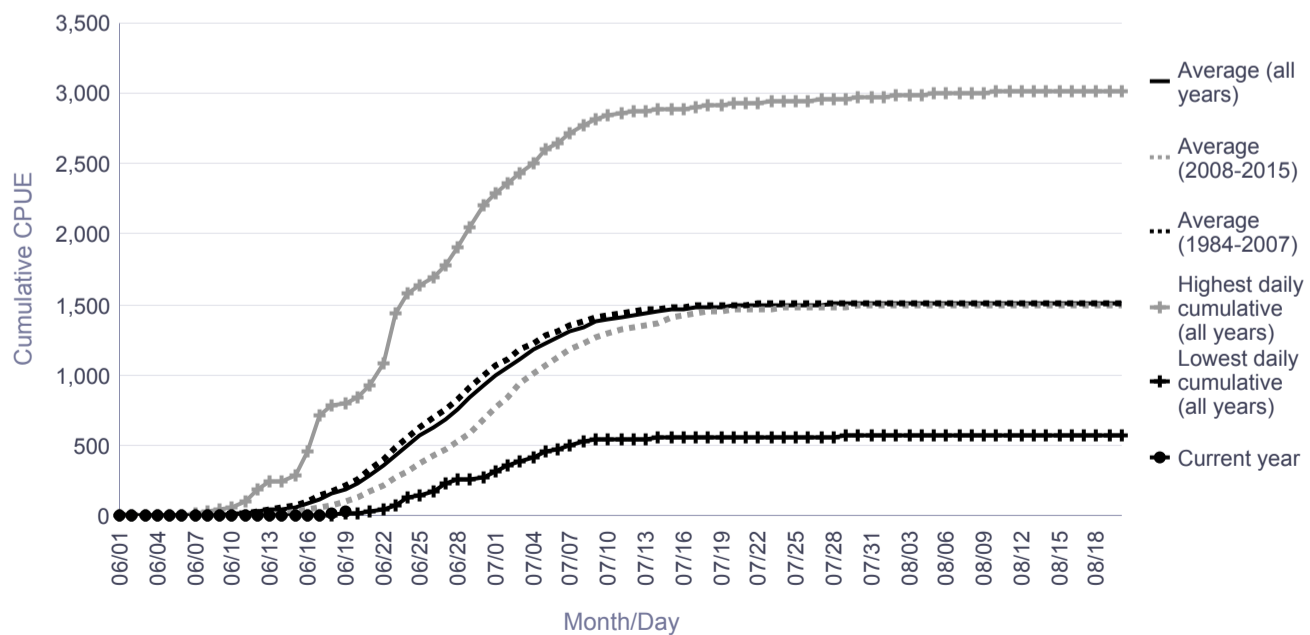
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	Average (1984-2007)	Average (2008-2015)	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current year
06/13	0	39	49	12	241	3
06/14	0	50	61	18	250	5
06/15	0	64	75	29	292	5
06/16	0	91	107	45	460	5
06/17	0	123	145	58	712	8
06/18	3	153	180	74	781	18
06/19	16	192	220	108	798	29
06/20	16	227	259	132	845	
06/21	28	290	331	168	921	
06/22	39	351	394	220	1,087	
06/23	75	429	483	266	1,442	
06/24	128	499	559	317	1,584	
06/25	151	569	633	376	1,633	
06/26	180	627	695	423	1,695	
06/27	233	687	760	469	1,785	

	Lowest CPUE	Average CPUE (all years)	Average CPUE (1984-2007)	Average CPUE (2008-2015)	Highest CPUE
Season Total	569	1,511	1,516	1,496	3,019

### Focused Two-Week Data View



### Season Total Overview





# Informational Packet

## Aniak Test Fishery

	Chinook			Sockeye			Chum			Species
Date	Catch	Daily CPUE	Cumm. CPUE	Catch	Daily CPUE	Cumm. CPUE	Catch	Daily CPUE	Cumm. CPUE	Ratio
6/1	1	8	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
6/2	13	101	108	0	0	0	1	5	5	0.1
6/3	10	74	182	0	0	0	0	0	5	0.0
6/4	7	52	234	0	0	0	0	0	5	0.0
6/5	2	17	251	0	0	0	0	0	5	0.0
6/6	5	49	300	0	0	0	0	0	5	0.0
6/7	6	44	344	0	0	0	1	7	12	0.2
6/8	7	53	397	0	0	0	0	0	12	0.0
6/9	9	69	466	0	0	0	1	7	19	0.1
6/10	16	123	589	0	0	0	0	0	19	0.0
6/11	9	70	659	0	0	0	0	0	19	0.0
6/12	9	65	724	0	0	0	1	8	27	0.1
6/13	1	8	731	0	0	0	0	0	27	0.0
6/14	18	136	867	0	0	0	3	22	49	0.2
6/15	13	104	971	0	0	0	3	23	72	0.2
6/16	13	105	1076	0	0	0	1	8	80	0.1
6/17	9	73	1149	0	0	0	3	24	105	0.3
6/18	5	40	1189	0	0	0	1	8	113	0.2
6/19	14	114	1304	0	0	0	3	24	137	0.2
6/20										