

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: 06/28/2016

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Place: Bethel

Time Called to Order:

Chair: Bev Hoffman

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**

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 27th, 2016

Fishing reports from 19-26th June 2016

Families Surveyed	Families Not Fishing	Drift-nets	Set-nets	Both	6" Mesh	4" or Less	5 1/2" Mesh	5 3/4" Mesh	5 7/8" Mesh
32	1	30	4	3	15	2	7	2	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
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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

Harvest Goal Summary:

Chinook harvest goals: 10 to 300. Some of the families are still waiting until the restrictions are over and reported to not be targeting Chinook salmon. **Sockeye harvest goals:** 0 to 400. **Chum harvest goals:** 0 to 400. **Coho harvest goals:** 0 to 300. Some families only target king salmon, and therefore, identify other salmon species as "bycatch." Other families did not quantify their harvest goals, but rather wanted enough to fill their racks.

Chinook: Most families were content with the amount of king salmon caught during the 72 hour opener. The majority of catches reported were male king salmon. Many families indicated they had higher catch rates this opener in comparison to the previous openers, indicative of a higher CPUE by fish camp families.

Chum: Some families indicated that they caught more chum salmon during the 72 hour opener, but it depended on where they were fishing.

Sockeye: Many of the families had commented that there were hardly any sockeye salmon this opener. The sockeye salmon caught were reported to be small.

Coho: (No current data)

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Comments:

Some families had lower chum salmon catches than the previous openers, with barely any sockeye salmon harvested. Other families indicated that by this time last year, their sockeye salmon catch was much higher. Families reported catching mainly male king salmon. Fish jumping out of the river was observed by fish camps, indicating high densities of fish in the river. People were content with the fishing this opener. Many families said they caught enough fish to fill their racks, with higher CPUE than previous openers. Overall, families surveyed at fish camps were happy.

Surveyor comments:

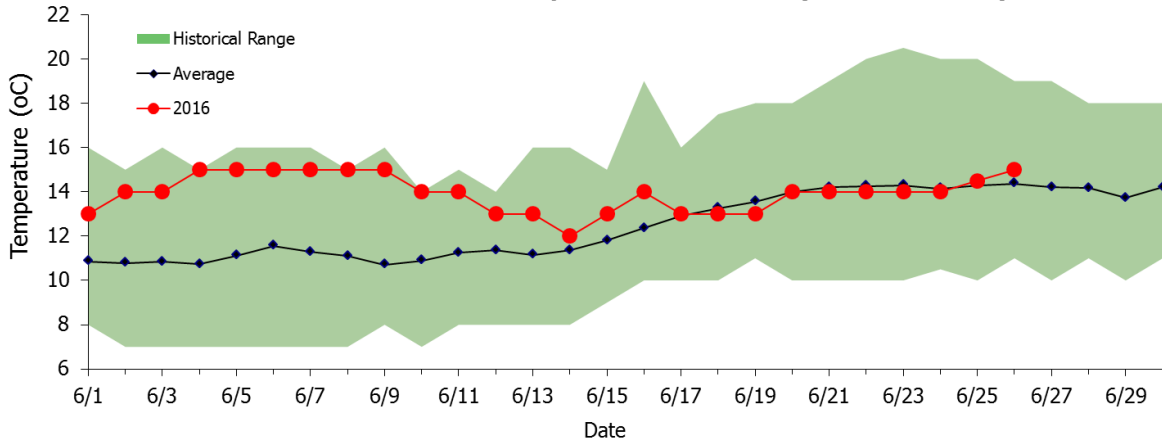
Families were very busy cutting and hanging fish. There were more people assisting with cutting this opener than observed in prior openers. Fish racks were starting to fill up with different species of fish. Many families were out fishing during evening hours, as indicated by the absence of boats and people during those survey periods. Families were very happy and willing to report their fish catches. The majority of families at fish camp had already filled their racks and did not anticipate catching any more king salmon this season. However, they expressed the desire to catch sockeye and silver salmon later in the summer.

Bethel Test Fish Distribution:

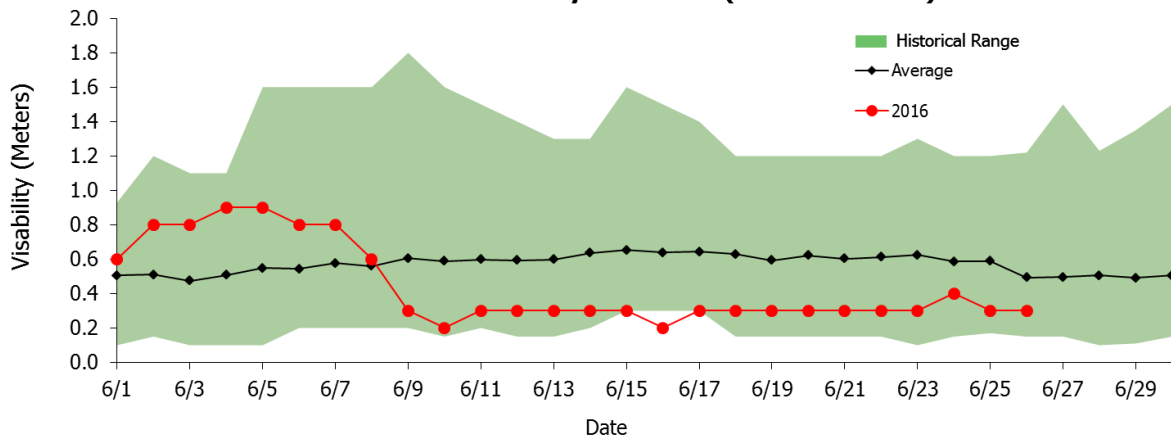
ONC Test Fish Distribution from the ADFG Bethel Test Fishery fish has completed conducting deliveries as of June 24, 2016. ONC had delivered fish to elders, disabled individuals and many others residing in Bethel and other villages. The community fish bin was put out by ADFG as of June 26, 2016. ADFG can address any question about the community fish bin.

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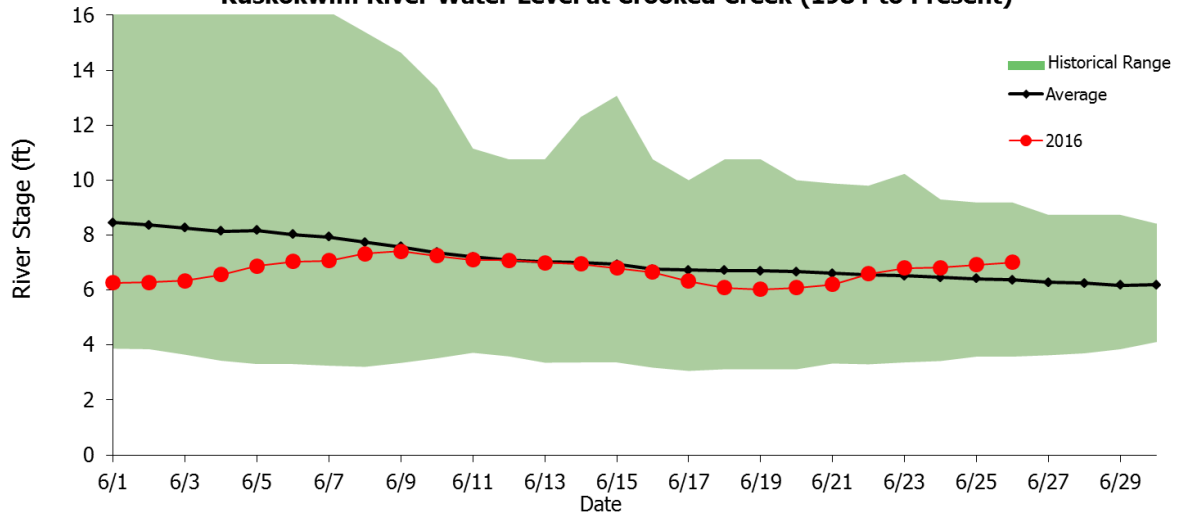
Historical Water Temperature at BTF Site (1984 to Present)



Historical Water Clarity at BTF site (1984 to Present)



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



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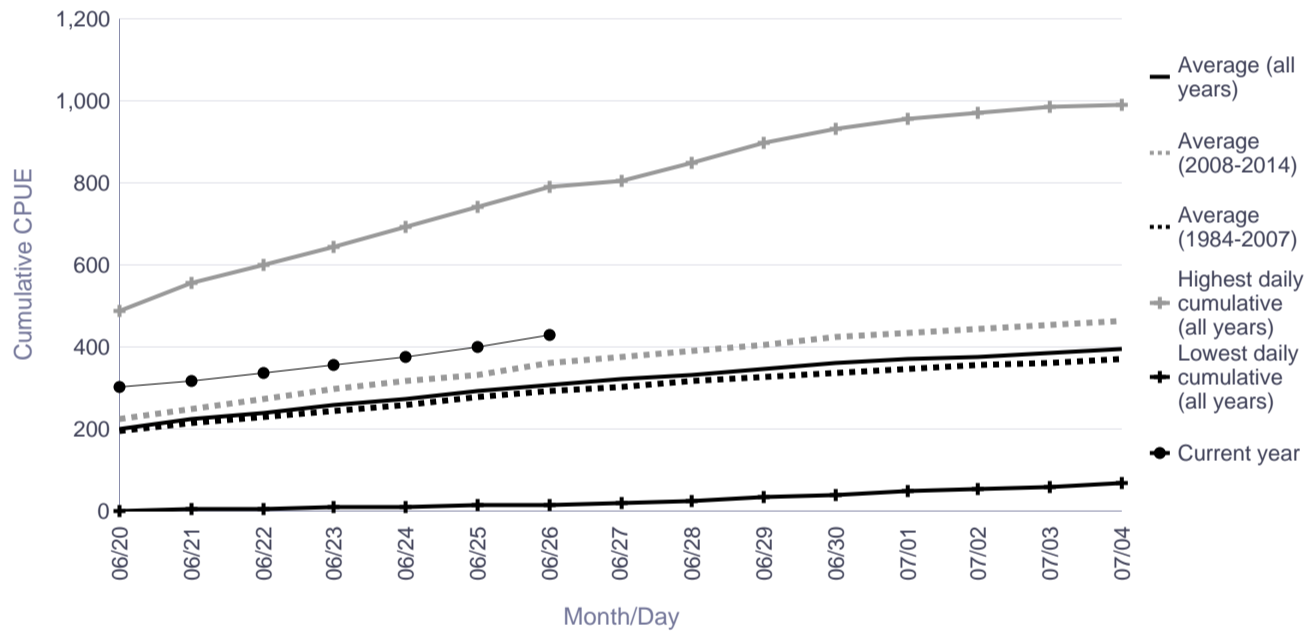
*To access BTF and weir data online, please visit <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareakuskokwim.salmon#fishcounts>

Bethel Test Fishery Chinook Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index

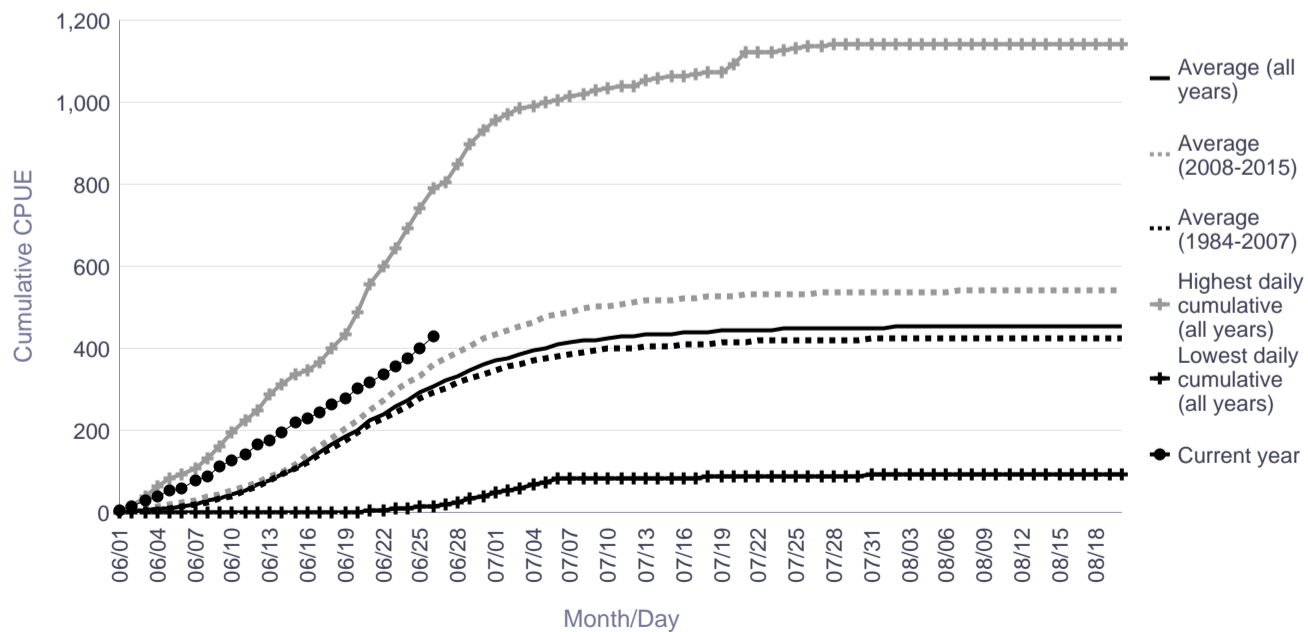
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	Average (1984-2007)	Average (2008-2015)	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current year
06/20	1	202	194	224	486	303
06/21	8	223	214	248	558	316
06/22	8	240	229	273	602	339
06/23	11	258	244	299	646	355
06/24	11	274	260	318	694	377
06/25	15	291	276	335	741	399
06/26	15	309	292	361	788	431
06/27	18	322	304	376	804	
06/28	26	334	316	389	851	
06/29	35	348	328	407	897	
06/30	39	360	339	423	932	
07/01	51	369	348	434	956	
07/02	52	377	355	442	972	
07/03	61	386	363	455	984	
07/04	67	395	371	466	990	

	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



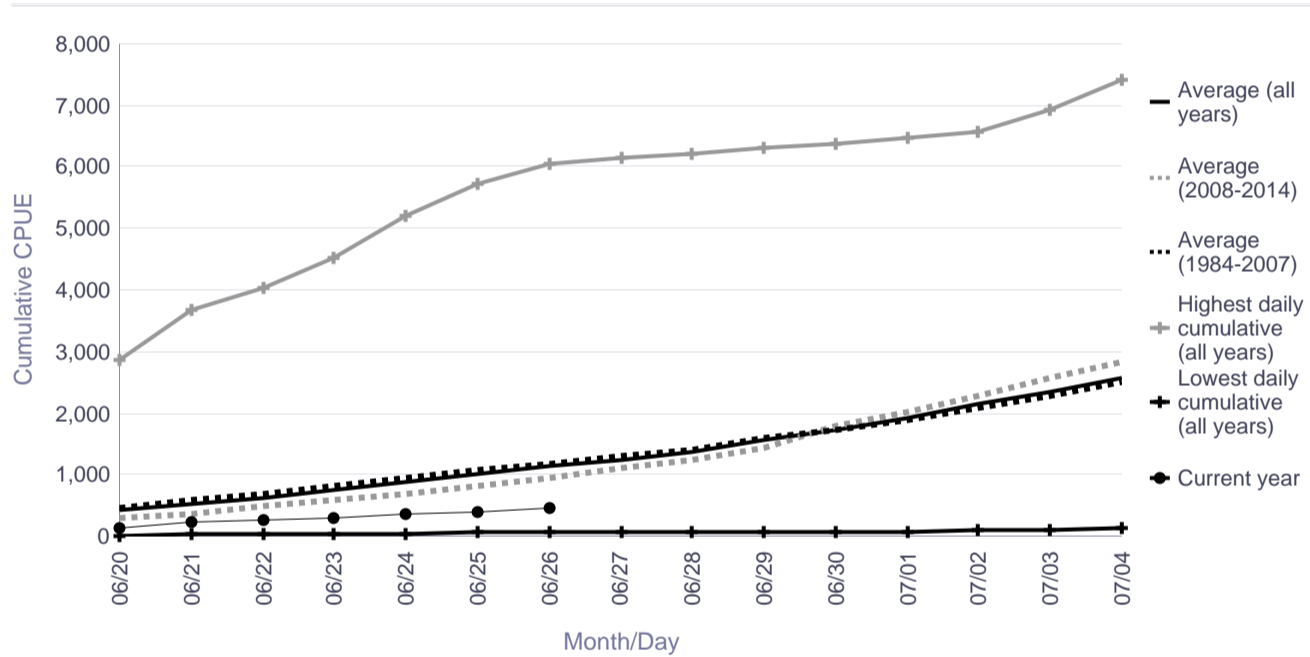
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Bethel Test Fishery Chum Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index

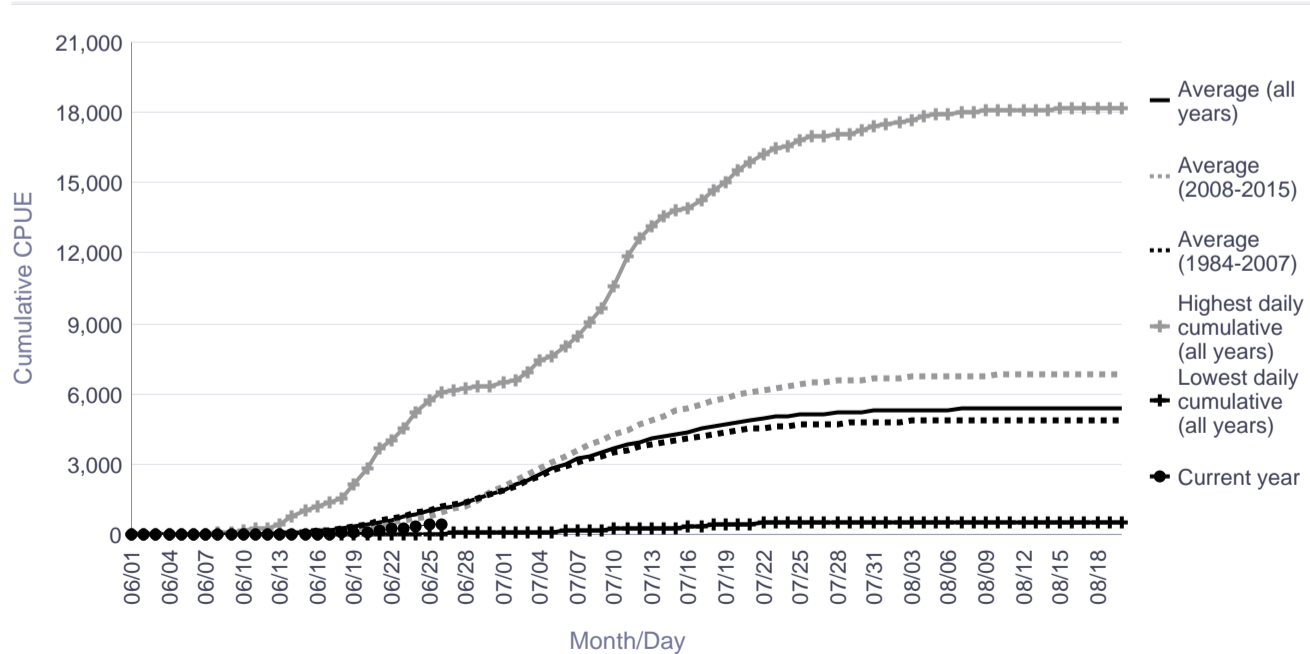
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	Average (1984-2007)	Average (2008-2015)	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current year
06/20	18	412	451	296	2,862	131
06/21	30	526	575	376	3,682	219
06/22	36	625	672	484	4,039	250
06/23	39	754	808	593	4,537	294
06/24	50	873	935	686	5,202	364
06/25	56	1,004	1,071	803	5,715	404
06/26	56	1,127	1,186	951	6,040	470
06/27	64	1,246	1,293	1,105	6,130	
06/28	64	1,365	1,409	1,231	6,210	
06/29	70	1,553	1,591	1,442	6,303	
06/30	73	1,741	1,727	1,785	6,366	
07/01	85	1,930	1,897	2,030	6,458	
07/02	102	2,135	2,082	2,295	6,572	
07/03	114	2,353	2,275	2,585	6,936	
07/04	120	2,583	2,498	2,837	7,423	

	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



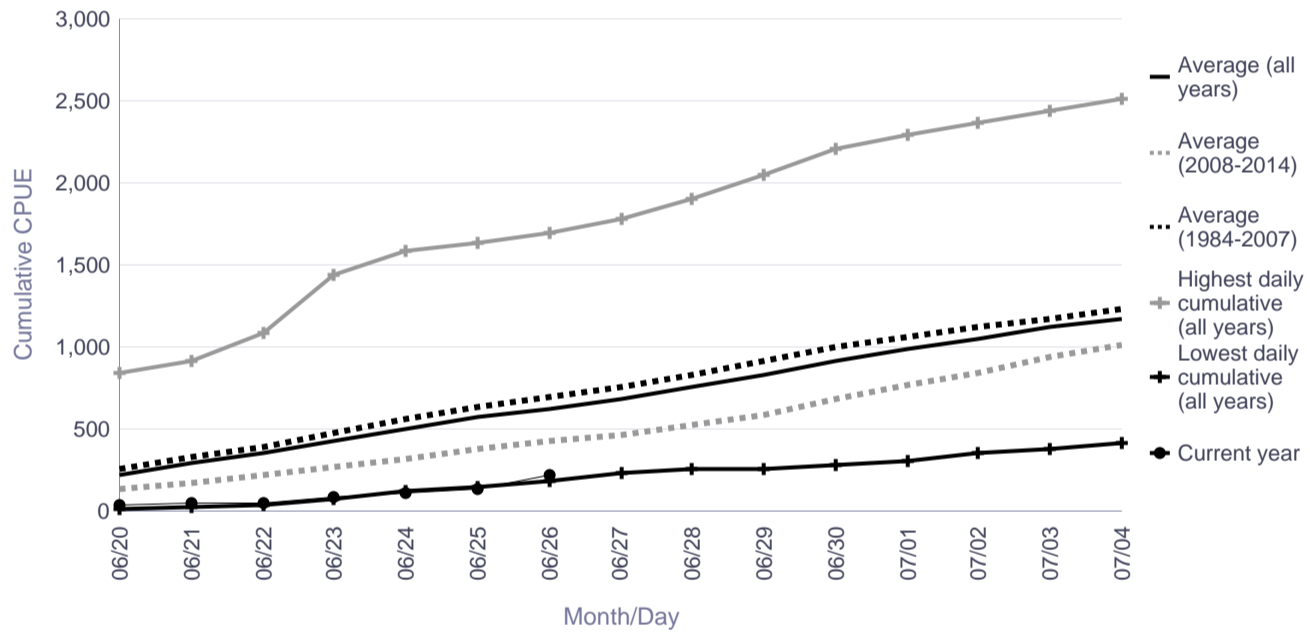
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Bethel Test Fishery Sockeye Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index

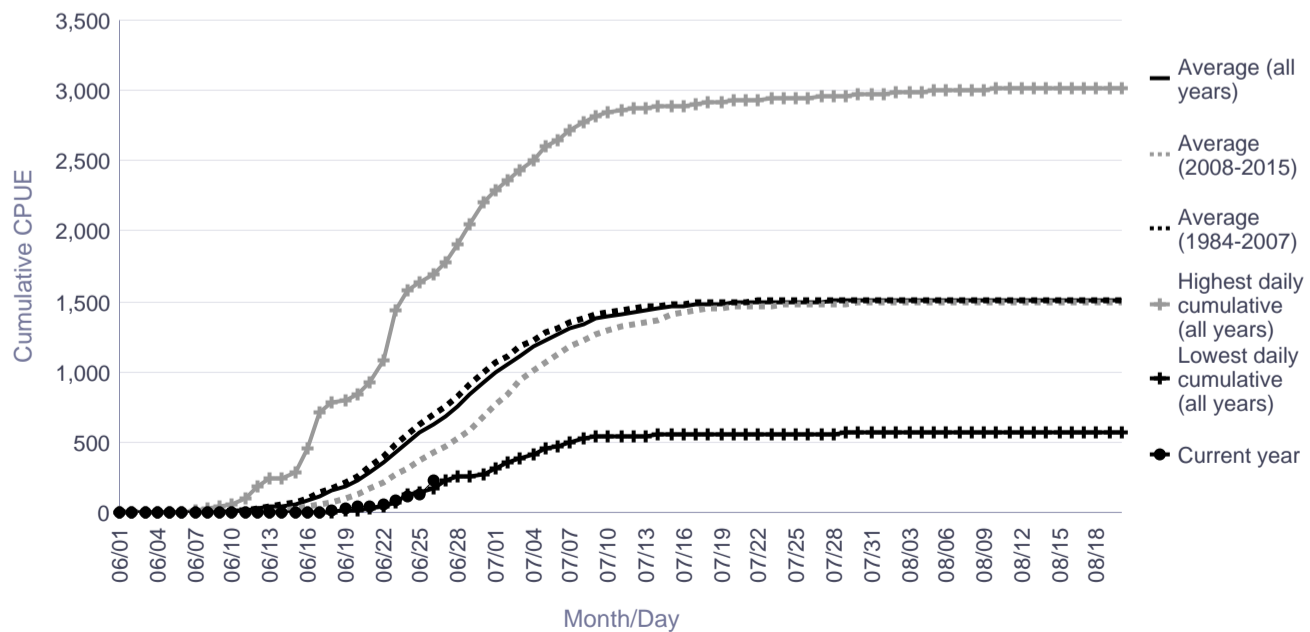
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	Average (1984-2007)	Average (2008-2015)	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current year
06/20	16	227	259	132	845	44
06/21	28	290	331	168	921	46
06/22	39	351	394	220	1,087	52
06/23	75	429	483	266	1,442	93
06/24	128	499	559	317	1,584	110
06/25	151	569	633	376	1,633	131
06/26	180	627	695	423	1,695	226
06/27	233	687	760	469	1,785	
06/28	256	755	832	525	1,901	
06/29	259	834	915	591	2,052	
06/30	277	920	997	689	2,203	
07/01	311	993	1,066	774	2,297	
07/02	357	1,049	1,117	846	2,363	
07/03	381	1,118	1,177	939	2,438	
07/04	417	1,175	1,230	1,010	2,510	

	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

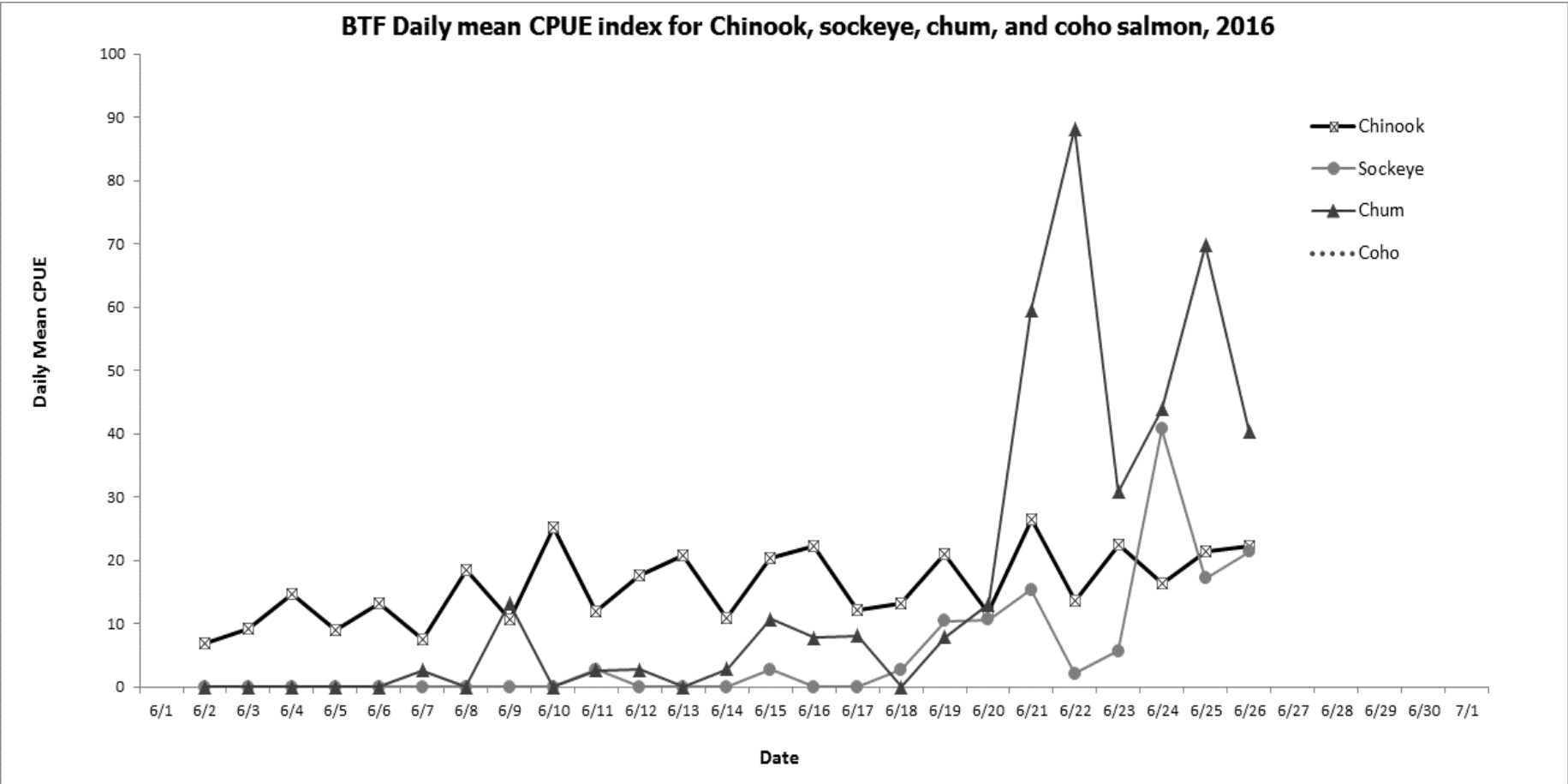
Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview



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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	4	30	1334	0	0	0	2	15	153	0.5
6/21	6	52	1386	0	0	0	5	43	196	0.8
6/22	2	17	1403	0	0	0	3	25	221	1.5
6/23	4	32	1435	0	0	0	1	8	229	0.3
6/24	4	35	1470	0	0	0	9	78	307	2.3
6/25	5	44	1514	1	8	8	17	149	456	3.6
6/26	6	50	1564	0	0	8	12	107	563	2.0
6/27										

Informational Packet

Lower Kuskokwim Subsistence Harvest Monitoring: ADF&G Division of Subsistence

Information from Drift Gillnet Subsistence Fishers (Fishing Area between Fowler Island and Willy Pete's)

Chinook Catch Statistics				
	Number of Reporting Fishers	Total Chinook Harvest	Average Chinook Per Drift	Average Chinook Catch per Fisher
6/21/2016	6	54	1.5	9.0
6/22	5	37	2.1	7.4
6/23	5	44	3.4	8.8
6/24	1	5	2.5	5.0
6/21-24/2016	9	140	2.1	15.6
6/12-17/2016	12	217	1.85	18.1
6/22/2015	8	63	3.0	7.9

Chum and Sockeye Statistics				
	Number of Reporting Fishers	Total Chum and Sockeye	Average Chum/Sockeye Per drift	Average Chum/Sockeye Catch Per Fisher
6/21/2016	6	141	4.0	23.5
6/22	5	129	7.2	25.8
6/23	5	114	8.8	22.8
6/24	1	7	3.5	7.0
6/21-24/16	9	391	5.8	43.4
6/12-17/2016	12	116	0.99	9.7
6/22/2015	8	173	8.2	21.6

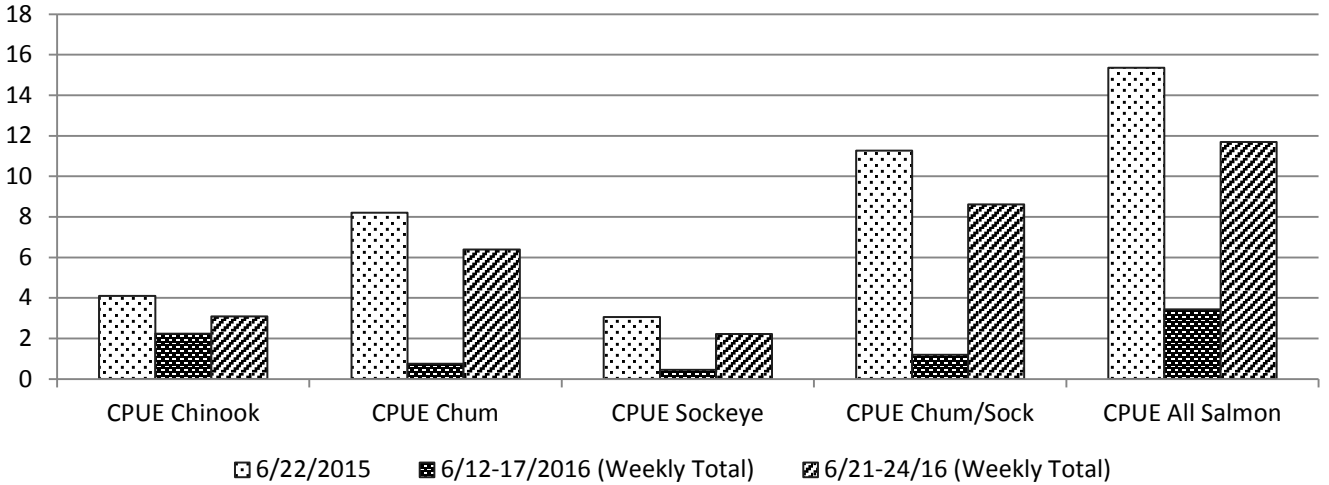
CPUEs by Fishing Period/Opener					
	CPUE Chinook	CPUE Chum	CPUE Sockeye	CPUE Chum/Sock	CPUE All Salmon
6/21/2016	2.68	5.36	1.64	6.99	9.67
6/22	2.49	6.00	2.70	8.70	11.19
6/23	4.83	10.20	2.30	12.51	17.33
6/24	2.73	0.00	3.82	3.82	6.55
6/21-24/16	3.08	6.39	2.22	8.61	11.70
6/12-17/2016	2.24	0.75	0.44	1.20	3.43
6/22/2015	4.10	8.20	3.06	11.26	15.36

Opener CPUE Variance					
	CPUE Variance Chinook	CPUE Var. Chum	CPUE Var. Sockeye	CPUE Var. Chum/Sock	CPUE Var. All Salmon
6/21/2016	14.97	189.57	3.32	181.70	227.81
6/22/2016	8.79	21.96	3.91	35.72	38.57
6/23/2016	41.63	37.68	3.01	38.13	77.93
6/24/2016	0.60	0.00	0.60	0.60	2.38
6/21-24/16	18.55	113.54	3.54	113.25	150.00
6/12-17/2016	9.29	2.63	0.96	3.72	16.03
6/22/2015	12.05	183.96	125.98	503.93	581.79

Informational Packet

Lower Kuskokwim Subsistence Harvest Monitoring: ADF&G Division of Subsistence
Information from Drift Gillnet Subsistence Fishers (Fishing Area between Fowler Island and Willy Pete's)

Subsistence Gillnet, CPUE By Fishing Period



Average Fish Catch per Drift

