

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: 8/6/2014

Time: 1:30pm

Place: Bethel

Time Called to Order:

Chair: Bev Hoffman

Time Adjourned:

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.*

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD:

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

1. Subsistence Reports:
 - a. Lowest River
 - b. ~~ONC Inseason Subsistence~~
 - c. Lower River
 - d. Middle River
 - Update on the ADF&G Creel Survey in the middle and upper Kuskokwim River.
 - e. KNA Inseason Subsistence
 - f. Upper River
 - g. Headwaters
2. Overview of Kuskokwim River salmon run assessment projects:
 - a. Bethel Test Fish:
 - b. Weirs/~~Mark Recapture~~/Aerial Surveys/Other:
3. Commercial Catch Report:
4. Processor Report:
5. Sport Fish Report:
6. Intercept Fishery Report: optional
7. Weather Forecast:
8. Recommendation:
9. Motion for Discussion and Action

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Discussion of the dipnet fishery with Norman Ayagalria.
2. Continued discussion of a Tier II permit system and other fishery management options for the Kuskokwim River.
3. Follow-up on requests for federal takeover of fisheries on the Kuskokwim River.
4. Continued discussion on a Kuskokwim Drainage exchange program.
5. Discussion on changing the KRSMWG meeting times.
6. Discussion of current escapement goals.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion of a letter of support for Steve Miller's (USFWS) proposed sonar project.

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.

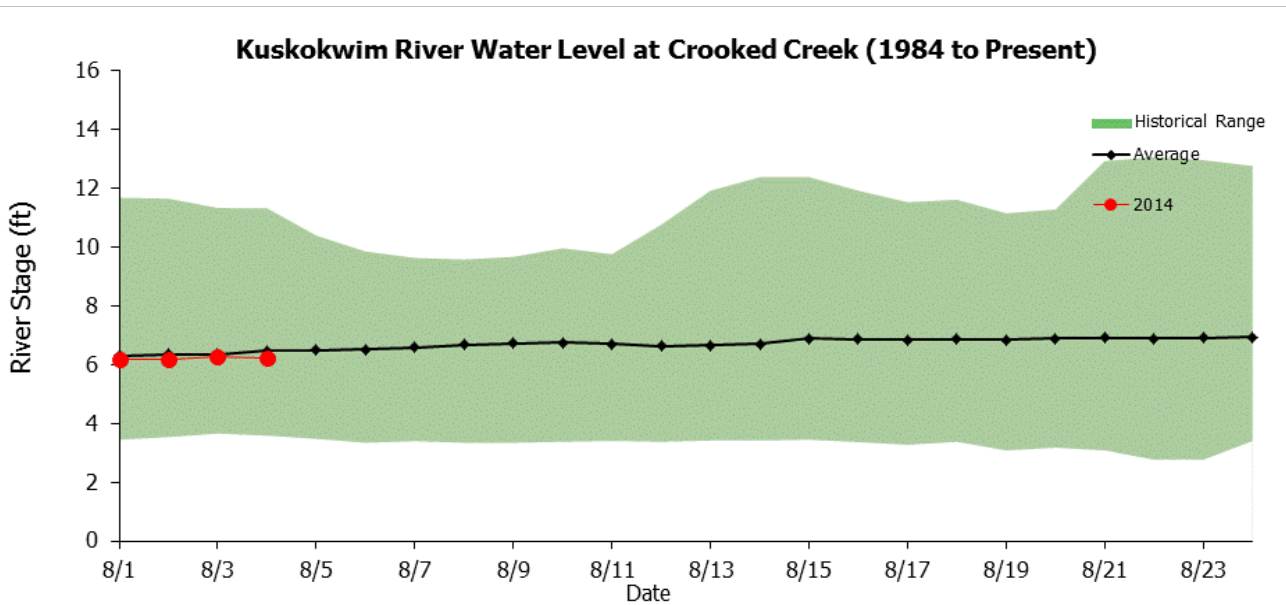
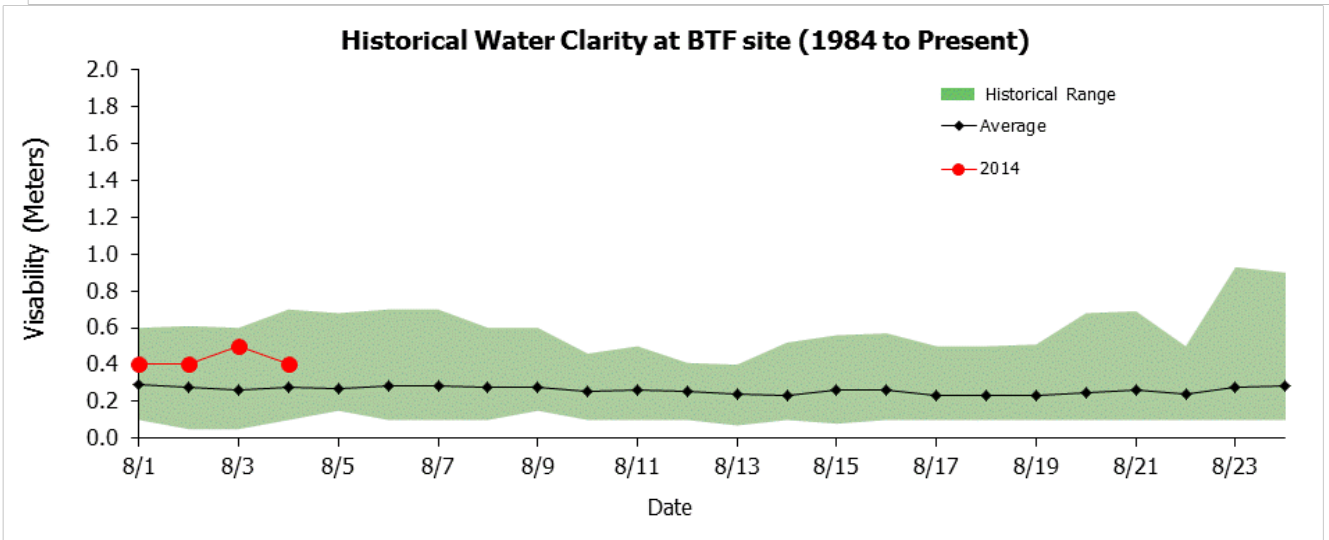
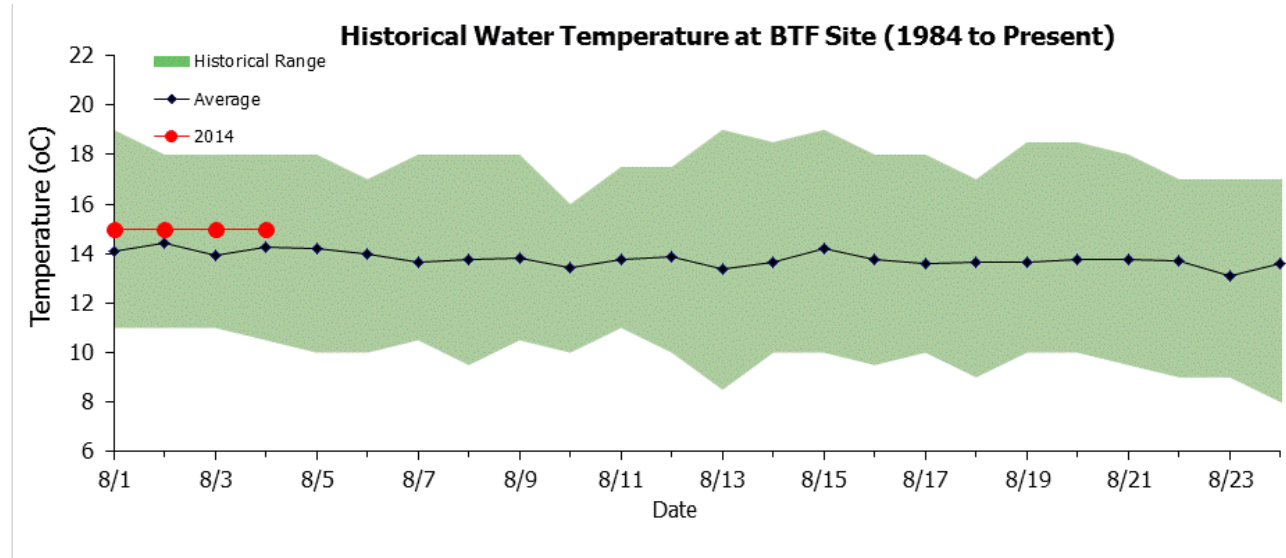
Thank you.

Jennifer Peeks

Chris Shelden

Working Group coordinators

Informational Packet



Informational Packet

Chinook Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index, Bethel Test Fishery

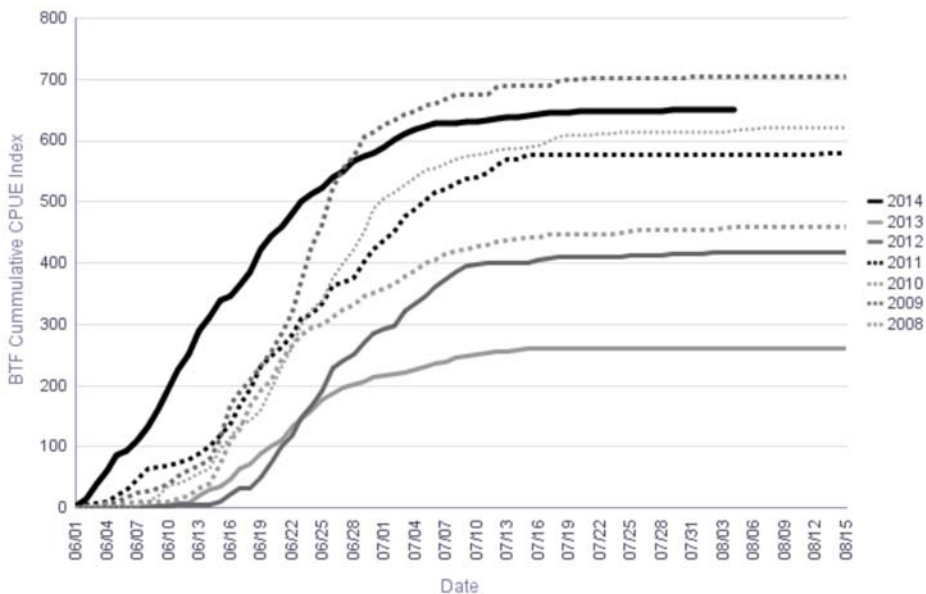
Bethel Test Fishery Chinook Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index

**2014 data are PRELIMINARY and not comparable
to previous years due to subsistence fishing restrictions. **

Date	CPUE						
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
07/27	613	702	453	577	413	261	648
07/28	613	702	453	577	413	261	648
07/29	613	702	453	577	414	261	650
07/30	613	702	453	577	414	261	650
07/31	613	705	453	577	414	261	650
08/01	613	705	453	577	414	261	650
08/02	613	705	455	577	417	261	650
08/03	613	705	457	577	418	261	650
08/04	616	705	458	577	418	261	650
08/05	619	705	458	577	418	261	
08/06	619	705	458	577	418	261	
08/07	621	705	458	577	418	261	
08/08	621	705	458	577	418	261	
08/09	621	705	458	577	418	261	
08/10	621	705	458	577	418	261	
08/11	621	705	458	577	418	261	
08/12	621	705	458	577	418	261	
08/13	621	705	458	579	418	261	
08/14	621	705	458	579	418	261	
08/15	621	705	458	579	418	261	

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	621	705	458	579	418	261	

Chinook Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index Chart



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

- 2008 - Achieved (+) no restrictions
- 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

Informational Packet

Chum Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index, Bethel Test Fishery

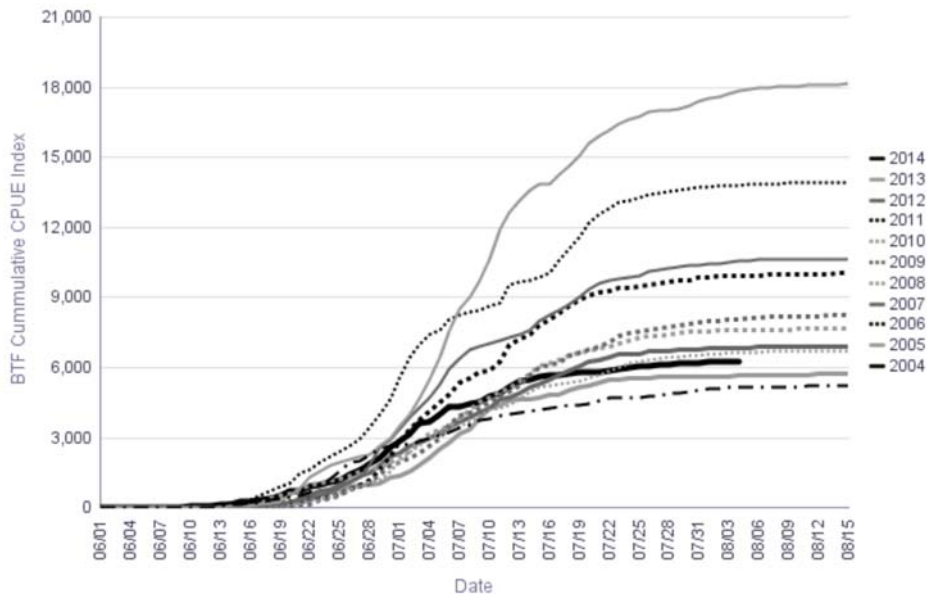
Bethel Test Fishery Chum Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index

**2014 data are PRELIMINARY and not comparable
to previous years due to subsistence fishing restrictions. **

Date	CPUE										
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
07/27	4,796	17,011	13,483	10,189	6,354	7,681	7,368	9,625	6,715	5,587	6,111
07/28	4,884	17,031	13,549	10,259	6,431	7,762	7,422	9,649	6,728	5,601	6,136
07/29	4,934	17,093	13,618	10,296	6,459	7,811	7,510	9,714	6,745	5,615	6,180
07/30	4,979	17,211	13,677	10,359	6,502	7,850	7,546	9,757	6,769	5,615	6,199
07/31	5,028	17,368	13,723	10,390	6,530	7,926	7,556	9,833	6,792	5,615	6,217
08/01	5,083	17,523	13,748	10,416	6,585	7,981	7,569	9,862	6,807	5,618	6,235
08/02	5,102	17,599	13,762	10,439	6,601	8,017	7,582	9,895	6,826	5,627	6,246
08/03	5,132	17,690	13,788	10,522	6,614	8,050	7,591	9,906	6,848	5,642	6,255
08/04	5,140	17,827	13,815	10,560	6,624	8,088	7,600	9,920	6,856	5,657	6,272
08/05	5,147	17,916	13,833	10,582	6,642	8,116	7,611	9,937	6,865	5,677	
08/06	5,150	17,949	13,852	10,609	6,660	8,148	7,620	9,952	6,868	5,687	
08/07	5,161	17,998	13,872	10,613	6,677	8,168	7,627	9,980	6,871	5,689	
08/08	5,177	18,038	13,883	10,620	6,685	8,177	7,631	9,993	6,873	5,694	
08/09	5,182	18,062	13,885	10,627	6,692	8,184	7,637	10,011	6,873	5,694	
08/10	5,192	18,064	13,902	10,634	6,694	8,198	7,645	10,014	6,875	5,701	
08/11	5,197	18,076	13,910	10,637	6,699	8,205	7,647	10,014	6,875	5,703	
08/12	5,201	18,095	13,910	10,641	6,706	8,214	7,649	10,015	6,875	5,710	
08/13	5,211	18,099	13,912	10,648	6,711	8,229	7,649	10,020	6,877	5,712	
08/14	5,219	18,120	13,919	10,649	6,715	8,232	7,653	10,024	6,883	5,713	
08/15	5,226	18,139	13,921	10,653	6,717	8,232	7,655	10,024	6,887	5,715	

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	5,257	18,192	13,927	10,655	6,749	8,257	7,655	10,028	6,894	5,739	

Bethel Test Fishery, Chum Salmon Cumulative CPUE thru 08/15



Informational Packet

Sockeye Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index, Bethel Test Fishery

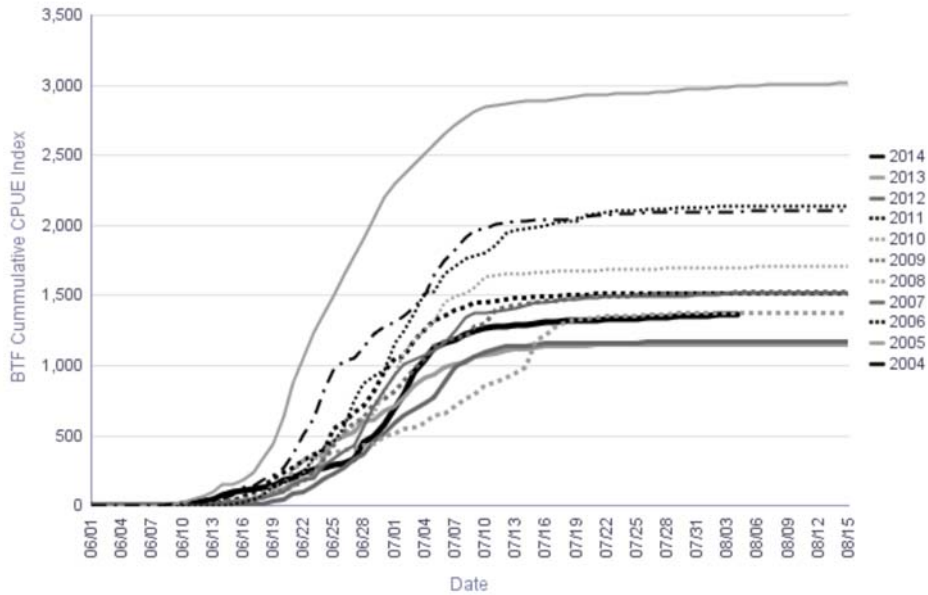
Bethel Test Fishery Sockeye Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index

**2014 data are PRELIMINARY and not comparable
to previous years due to subsistence fishing restrictions. **

Date	CPUE										
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
07/27	2,091	2,953	2,116	1,495	1,691	1,510	1,367	1,511	1,168	1,146	1,347
07/28	2,091	2,955	2,120	1,495	1,694	1,512	1,369	1,511	1,168	1,148	1,347
07/29	2,091	2,964	2,124	1,498	1,696	1,513	1,371	1,511	1,170	1,148	1,354
07/30	2,091	2,972	2,126	1,498	1,696	1,513	1,373	1,511	1,170	1,148	1,355
07/31	2,091	2,976	2,128	1,501	1,696	1,513	1,373	1,511	1,170	1,148	1,355
08/01	2,091	2,978	2,130	1,506	1,696	1,513	1,373	1,511	1,170	1,148	1,355
08/02	2,091	2,983	2,136	1,508	1,696	1,513	1,373	1,511	1,170	1,148	1,360
08/03	2,096	2,987	2,136	1,510	1,698	1,515	1,373	1,511	1,170	1,148	1,360
08/04	2,099	2,990	2,136	1,512	1,700	1,520	1,373	1,515	1,170	1,148	1,362
08/05	2,103	2,997	2,138	1,514	1,702	1,520	1,373	1,515	1,171	1,148	
08/06	2,103	2,999	2,139	1,516	1,709	1,520	1,373	1,515	1,171	1,148	
08/07	2,103	3,004	2,139	1,516	1,709	1,520	1,373	1,515	1,171	1,148	
08/08	2,103	3,008	2,139	1,516	1,709	1,520	1,373	1,516	1,171	1,148	
08/09	2,103	3,008	2,139	1,516	1,709	1,520	1,375	1,518	1,171	1,148	
08/10	2,103	3,010	2,139	1,516	1,709	1,520	1,375	1,518	1,171	1,148	
08/11	2,103	3,010	2,139	1,517	1,709	1,520	1,375	1,518	1,171	1,148	
08/12	2,103	3,010	2,139	1,519	1,709	1,520	1,375	1,518	1,171	1,148	
08/13	2,103	3,010	2,139	1,519	1,709	1,520	1,375	1,518	1,171	1,148	
08/14	2,103	3,012	2,139	1,519	1,709	1,520	1,375	1,518	1,171	1,148	
08/15	2,103	3,012	2,139	1,519	1,709	1,520	1,375	1,518	1,171	1,148	

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	2,107	3,019	2,139	1,521	1,713	1,520	1,375	1,518	1,171	1,148	

Bethel Test Fishery, Sockeye Salmon Cumulative CPUE thru 08/15



Informational Packet

Coho Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index, Bethel Test Fishery

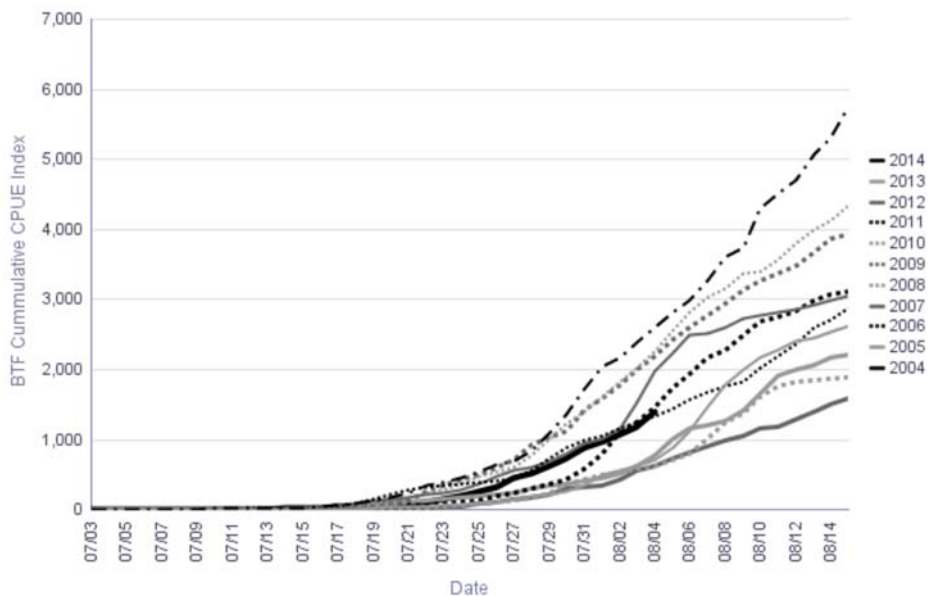
Bethel Test Fishery Coho Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index

**2014 data are PRELIMINARY and not comparable
to previous years due to subsistence fishing restrictions. **

Date	CPUE										
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
07/27	697	157	446	552	596	720	126	240	163	244	446
07/28	833	186	564	606	786	931	173	296	173	309	512
07/29	1,098	220	743	698	1,021	1,037	231	378	227	350	619
07/30	1,360	263	886	791	1,217	1,112	376	437	294	371	736
07/31	1,725	345	985	937	1,394	1,418	424	578	315	408	892
08/01	2,039	487	1,047	1,009	1,617	1,593	491	801	354	455	969
08/02	2,178	561	1,158	1,172	1,838	1,777	534	1,125	432	515	1,073
08/03	2,394	623	1,250	1,520	2,030	2,000	583	1,251	559	617	1,191
08/04	2,605	716	1,344	1,976	2,254	2,190	636	1,453	620	785	1,391
08/05	2,824	893	1,447	2,234	2,560	2,418	716	1,748	743	1,019	
08/06	2,987	1,113	1,560	2,491	2,807	2,594	807	1,931	828	1,164	
08/07	3,261	1,467	1,668	2,506	3,032	2,761	1,015	2,175	906	1,208	
08/08	3,600	1,784	1,767	2,590	3,164	2,946	1,245	2,274	986	1,277	
08/09	3,745	1,995	1,827	2,719	3,374	3,132	1,374	2,487	1,050	1,416	
08/10	4,299	2,175	2,019	2,763	3,403	3,266	1,620	2,689	1,152	1,665	
08/11	4,509	2,287	2,192	2,822	3,575	3,363	1,766	2,756	1,179	1,908	
08/12	4,698	2,407	2,368	2,851	3,803	3,485	1,835	2,830	1,291	2,000	
08/13	5,061	2,445	2,599	2,931	3,992	3,672	1,845	2,977	1,401	2,056	
08/14	5,294	2,530	2,705	2,984	4,118	3,865	1,876	3,067	1,498	2,177	
08/15	5,762	2,611	2,872	3,054	4,337	3,941	1,894	3,107	1,599	2,203	

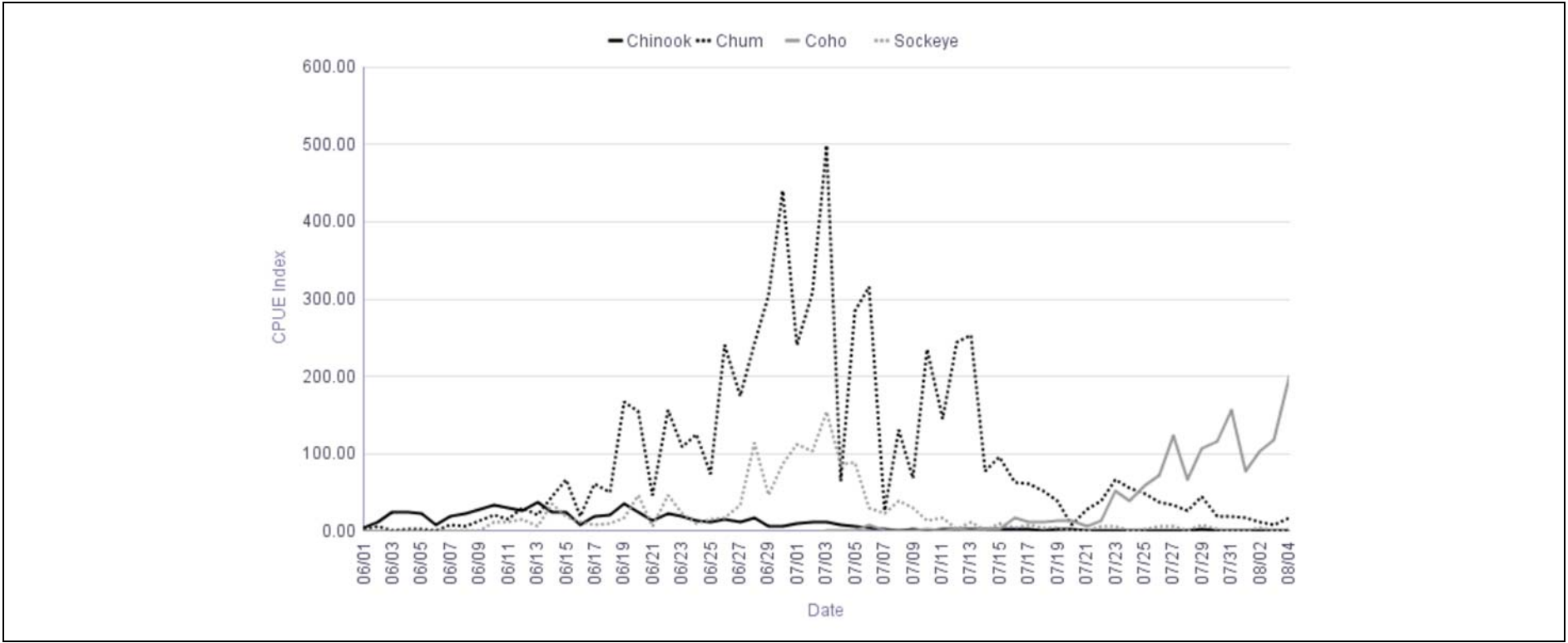
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	7,183	3,680	3,163	3,329	5,497	4,495	2,029	3,231	2,439	2,857	

Bethel Test Fishery, Coho Salmon Cumulative CPUE thru 08/15



Informational Packet

Bethel Test Fishery Daily CPUE 2014 All Species



Informational Packet

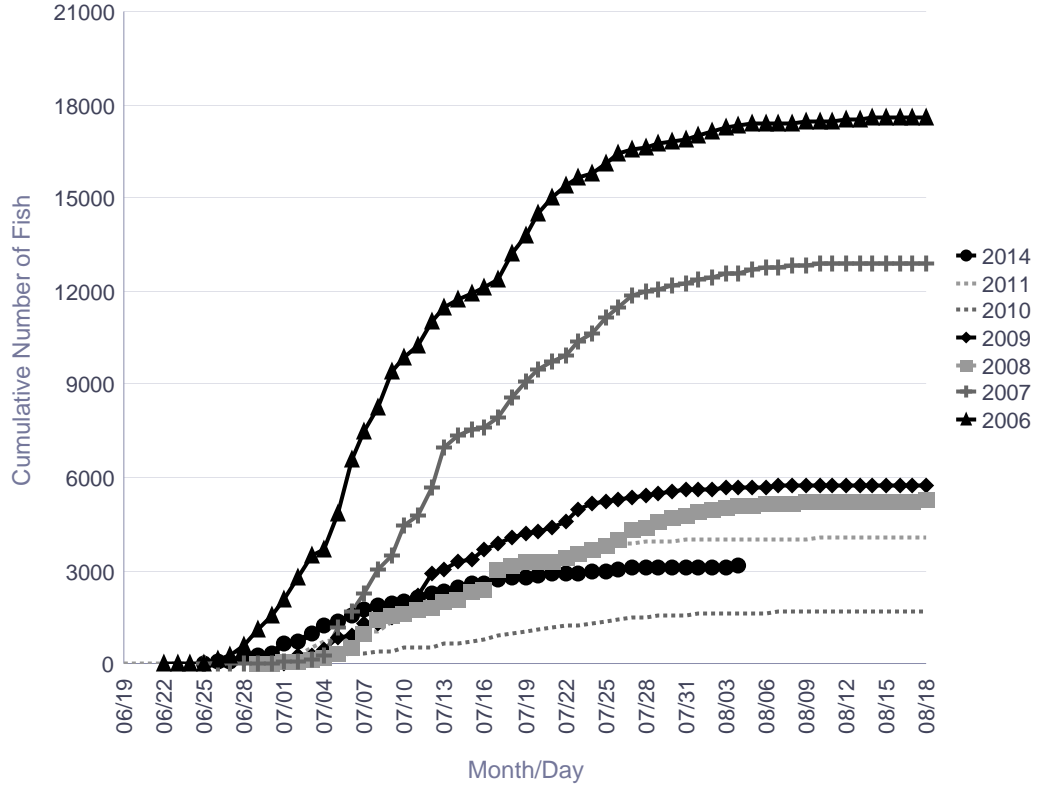
Kwethluk River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/02		17,110	12,460	4,999	5,634	1,617	3,992			3,105
08/03		17,241	12,549	5,027	5,653	1,630	4,000			3,119
08/04		17,337	12,591	5,084	5,671	1,633	4,004			3,136
08/05		<u>17,363</u>	<u>12,688</u>	<u>5,099</u>	<u>5,688</u>	<u>1,636</u>	<u>4,009</u>			
08/06		17,380	12,739	5,138	5,694	1,643	4,018			
08/07		17,408	12,789	5,161	5,708	1,652	4,021			
08/08		17,418	12,828	5,179	5,712	1,658	4,024			
08/09		17,446	12,849	5,199	5,713	1,660	4,030			

Escapement Goal Range: 4,100 to 7,500
Highlighted years below are when escapement goal was achieved or exceeded.

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total		<u>17,619</u>	<u>12,927</u>	<u>5,276</u>	<u>5,744</u>	1,668	4,079			

Kwethluk River Chinook



There are no comments for the past three days.

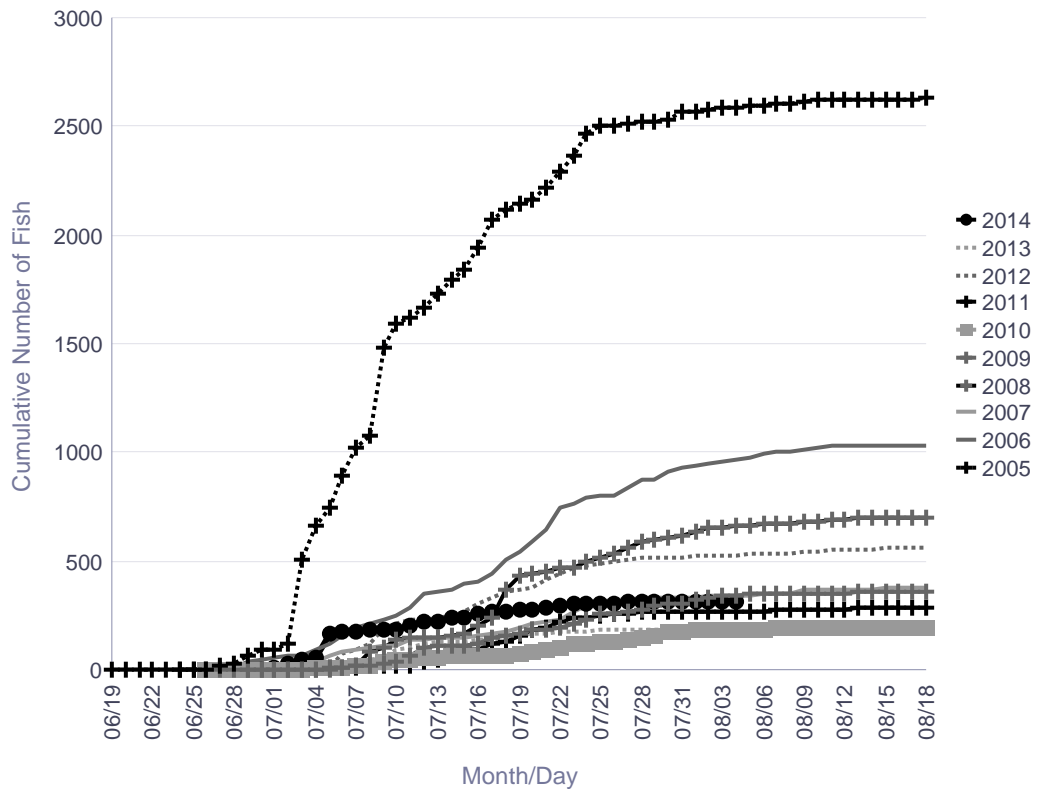
Informational Packet

Tuluksak River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon

Cumulative Daily Passage										
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/02	2,574	949	338	652	329	183	269	526	185	313
08/03	2,583	957	340	658	340	185	269	528	187	313
08/04	2,584	971	340	663	344	185	269	530	187	315
08/05	2,594	980	344	666	350	186	269	531	190	
08/06	2,599	991	349	674	351	186	269	532	190	
08/07	2,603	1,002	350	675	351	190	275	533	190	
08/08	2,606	1,005	351	676	351	191	277	538	190	
08/09	2,614	1,016	367	680	351	192	278	544	190	

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	2,653	1,043	374	701	362	201	284	560	193	

Tuluksak River Chinook



There are no comments for the past three days.

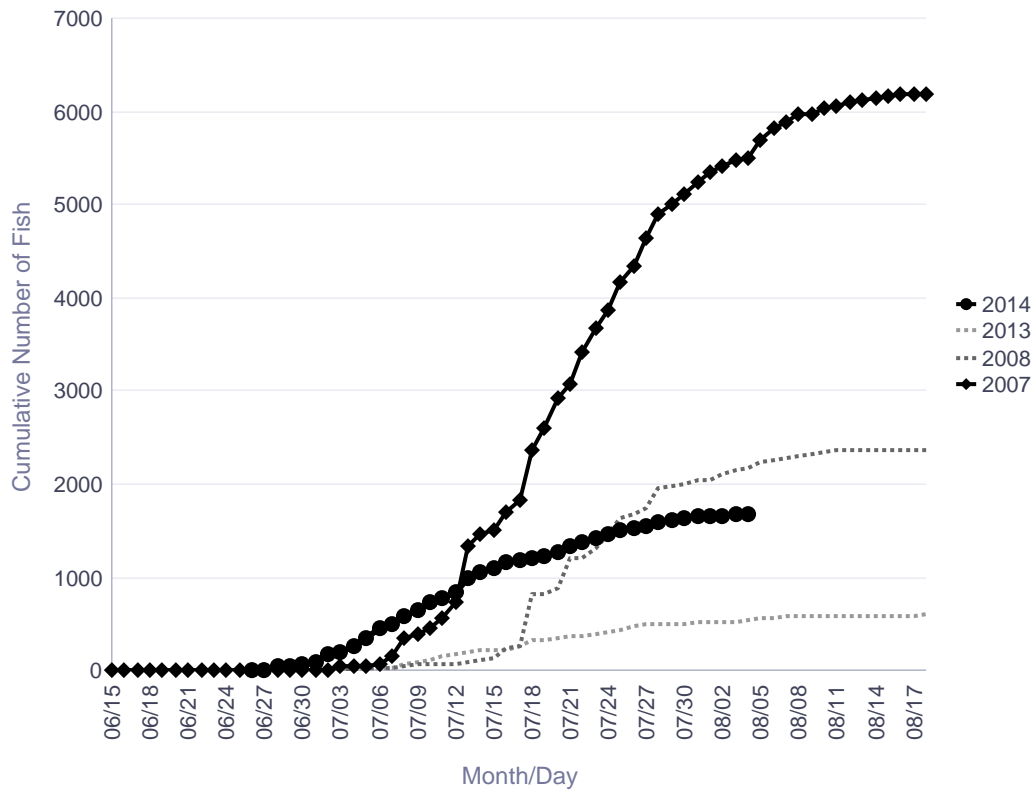
Informational Packet

Salmon River (Aniak) Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/02			5,409	2,108					518	1,663
08/03			5,479	2,147					523	1,670
08/04			5,505	2,166					538	1,679
08/05			5,700	2,229					564	
08/06			5,810	2,260					567	
08/07			5,876	2,285					576	
08/08			5,959	2,309					583	
08/09			5,978	2,329					585	

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total			6,220	2,376					598	

Salmon River (Aniak) Chinook



There are no comments for the past three days.

Informational Packet

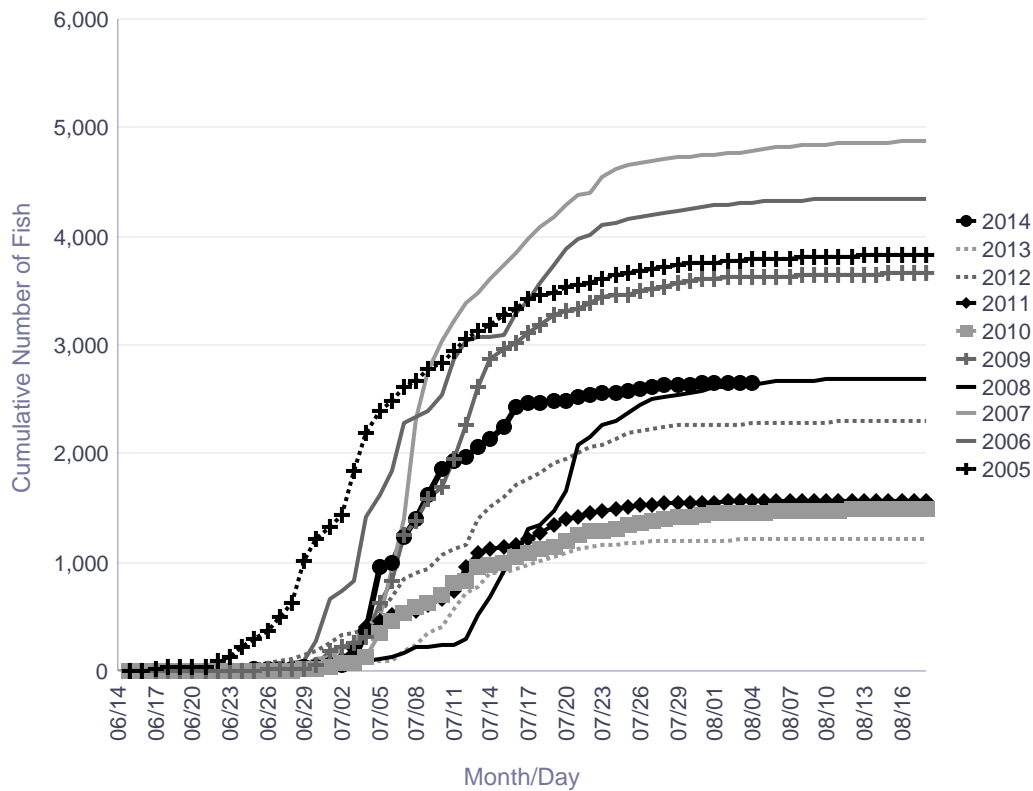
George River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/02	3,770	4,289	4,759	2,621	3,622	1,453	1,558	2,269	1,207	2,653
08/03	3,776	4,302	4,770	2,628	3,627	1,464	1,559	2,273	1,210	2,657
08/04	3,783	4,314	4,778	2,642	3,629	1,464	1,560	2,277	1,210	2,657
08/05	<u>3,790</u>	<u>4,320</u>	<u>4,803</u>	<u>2,657</u>	<u>3,630</u>	<u>1,465</u>	<u>1,560</u>	<u>2,281</u>	<u>1,210</u>	
08/06	3,792	4,322	4,817	2,664	3,634	1,466	1,562	2,286	1,210	
08/07	3,797	4,329	4,828	2,668	3,634	1,471	1,563	2,286	1,211	
08/08	3,807	4,333	4,836	2,671	3,639	1,472	1,564	2,287	1,211	
08/09	3,807	4,337	4,836	2,678	3,639	1,474	1,565	2,289	1,212	

Escapement Goal Range: 1,800 to 3,300
 Highlighted years below are when escapement goal was achieved or exceeded.

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	<u>3,845</u>	<u>4,355</u>	<u>4,883</u>	<u>2,698</u>	<u>3,663</u>	1,500	1,571	<u>2,302</u>	1,219	

George River Chinook



There are no comments for the past three days.

Informational Packet

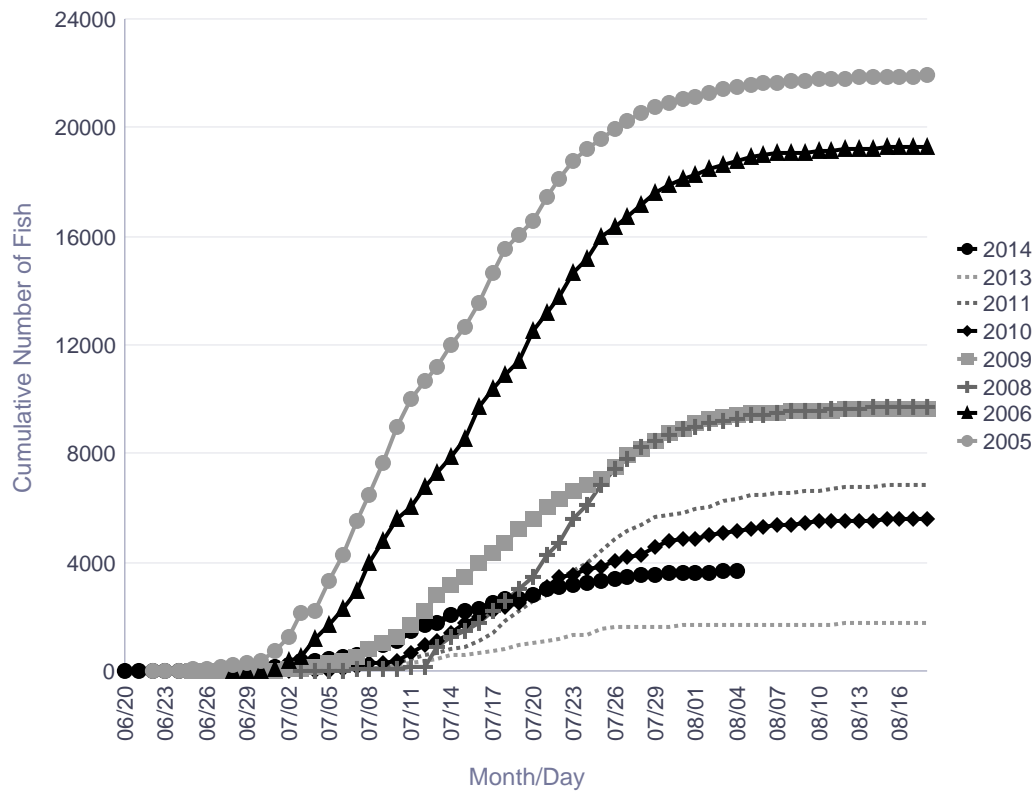
Kogrukluk River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/02	21,288	18,462		9,122	9,253	4,994	6,069		1,681	3,638
08/03	21,392	18,624		9,227	9,351	5,097	6,256		1,691	3,658
08/04	21,490	18,751		9,309	9,404	5,188	6,374		1,693	3,668
08/05	<u>21,554</u>	<u>18,912</u>		<u>9,397</u>	<u>9,471</u>	<u>5,222</u>	<u>6,462</u>		<u>1,695</u>	
08/06	21,611	18,975		9,461	9,512	5,325	6,519		1,696	
08/07	21,656	19,037		9,519	9,534	5,374	6,545		1,707	
08/08	21,707	19,075		9,548	9,555	5,393	6,573		1,716	
08/09	21,737	19,092		9,584	9,578	5,458	6,618		1,724	

Escapement Goal Range: 4,800 to 8,800
 Highlighted years below are when escapement goal was achieved or exceeded.

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	<u>21,999</u>	<u>19,414</u>		<u>9,730</u>	<u>9,701</u>	<u>5,693</u>	<u>6,890</u>		1,772	

Kogrukluk River Chinook



There are no comments for the past three days.

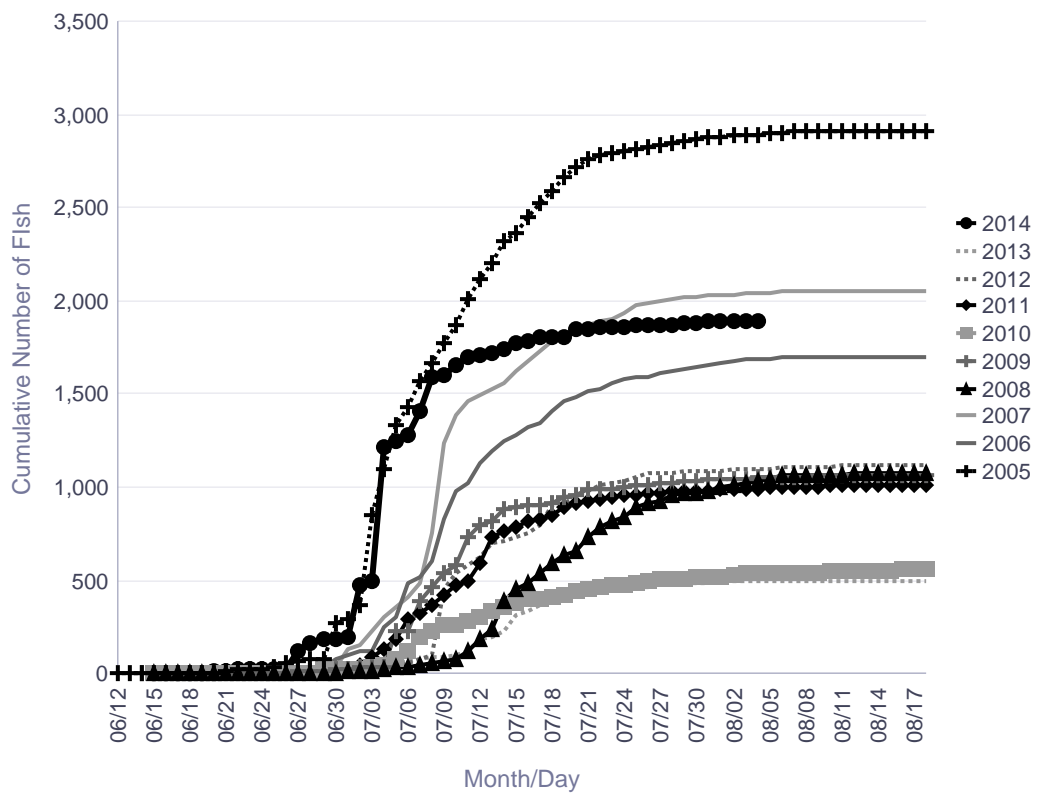
Informational Packet

Tatlawiksuk River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/02	2,888	1,676	2,034	1,012	1,044	528	987	1,094	491	1,890
08/03	2,893	1,681	2,038	1,021	1,047	533	990	1,097	491	1,891
08/04	2,893	1,684	2,042	1,037	1,049	537	993	1,099	491	1,891
08/05	2,900	1,686	2,044	1,046	1,051	537	996	1,101	491	
08/06	2,902	1,692	2,047	1,059	1,055	539	998	1,104	491	
08/07	2,905	1,696	2,049	1,061	1,057	540	1,000	1,105	492	
08/08	2,907	1,698	2,051	1,064	1,058	541	1,002	1,110	492	
08/09	2,907	1,699	2,053	1,066	1,061	543	1,004	1,110	494	

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	2,920	1,700	2,061	1,071	1,071	569	1,014	1,116	495	

Tatlawiksuk River Chinook



There are no comments for the past three days.

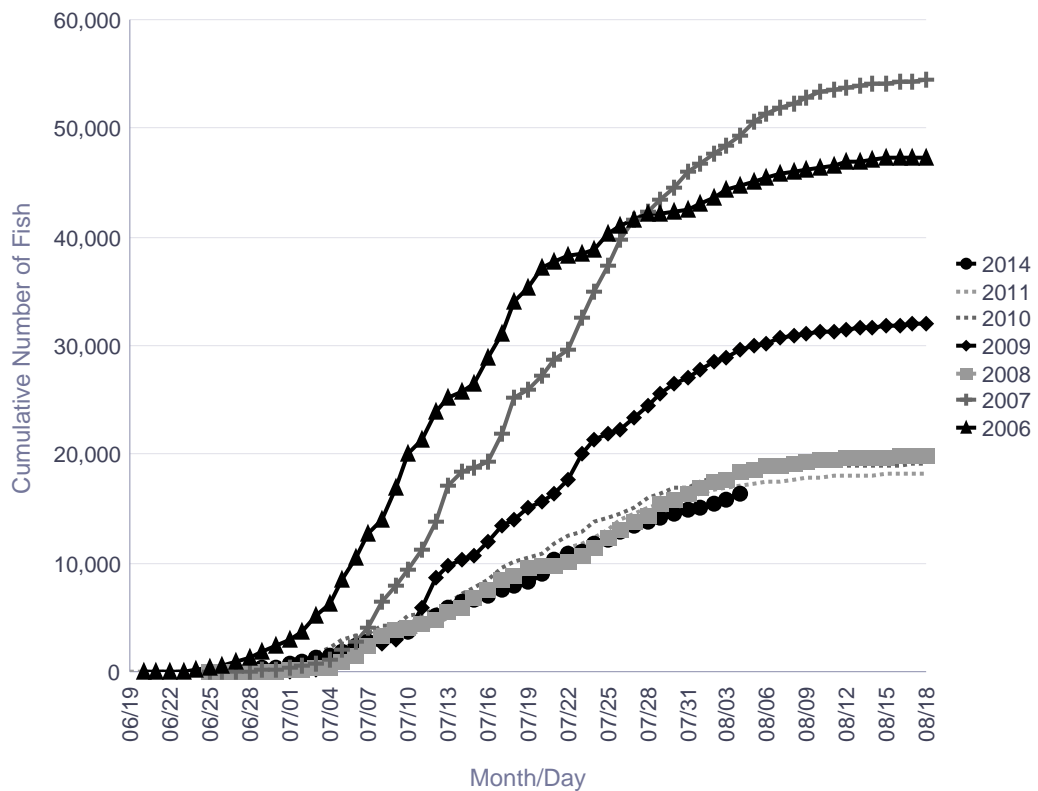
Informational Packet

Kwethluk River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Chum Salmon

Cumulative Daily Passage										
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/02		43,614	47,653	17,483	28,470	17,860	16,834			15,542
08/03		44,361	48,471	17,730	28,890	18,133	16,965			15,922
08/04		44,812	49,247	18,415	29,643	18,283	17,202			16,359
08/05		<u>45,104</u>	<u>50,630</u>	<u>18,588</u>	<u>30,015</u>	<u>18,393</u>	<u>17,298</u>			
08/06		45,409	51,367	18,889	30,268	18,495	17,452			
08/07		45,787	51,831	18,993	30,755	18,722	17,581			
08/08		45,927	52,349	19,124	31,012	18,840	17,706			
08/09		46,170	52,841	19,338	31,102	18,907	17,819			

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total		47,491	54,913	20,030	32,191	19,235	18,329			

Kwethluk River Chum



There are no comments for the past three days.

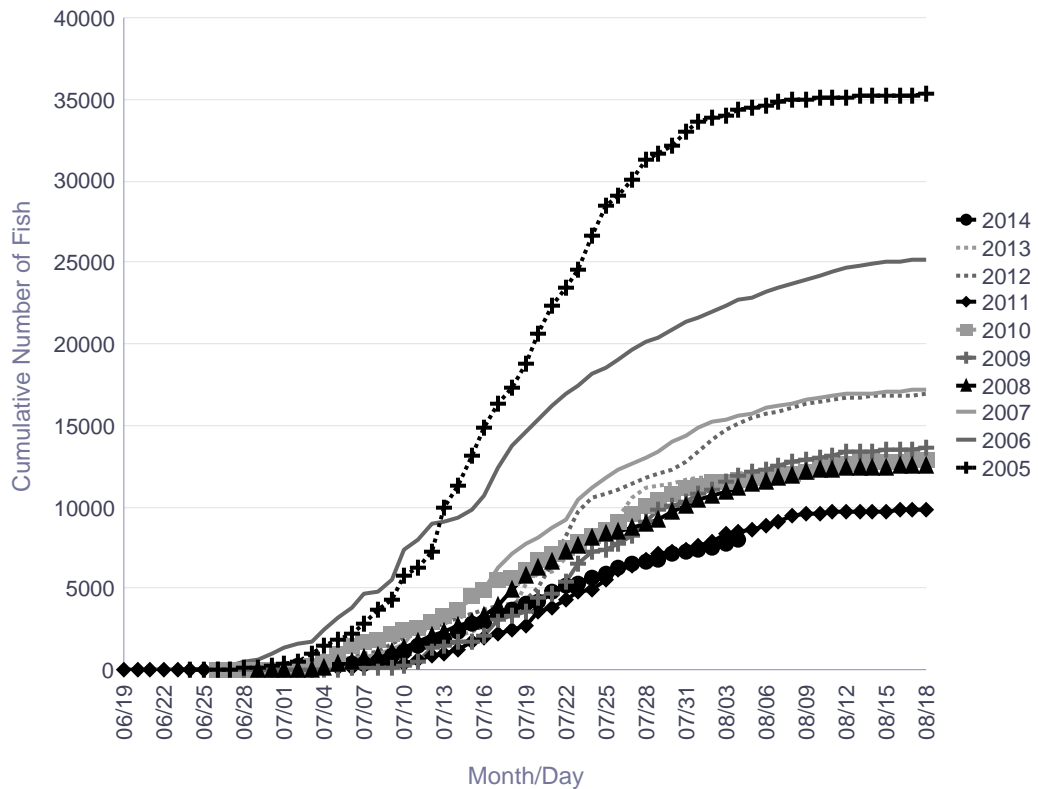
Informational Packet

Tuluksak River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Chum Salmon

Cumulative Daily Passage										
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/02	33,869	22,014	15,175	10,716	11,054	11,494	7,917	14,069	11,851	7,537
08/03	34,032	22,370	15,406	10,926	11,539	11,562	8,339	14,740	11,930	7,718
08/04	34,305	22,658	15,588	11,207	11,919	11,678	8,510	15,118	12,031	8,023
08/05	<u>34,480</u>	<u>22,849</u>	<u>15,729</u>	<u>11,393</u>	<u>12,133</u>	<u>11,784</u>	<u>8,647</u>	<u>15,423</u>	<u>12,112</u>	
08/06	34,660	23,192	16,059	11,576	12,339	11,809	8,859	15,657	12,196	
08/07	34,807	23,447	16,233	11,761	12,577	11,913	9,063	15,850	12,282	
08/08	34,923	23,702	16,384	11,897	12,788	12,061	9,452	16,085	12,320	
08/09	34,999	23,925	16,614	12,102	12,888	12,209	9,553	16,300	12,338	

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	35,696	25,652	17,286	12,550	13,671	13,042	9,828	16,981	12,911	

Tuluksak River Chum



There are no comments for the past three days.

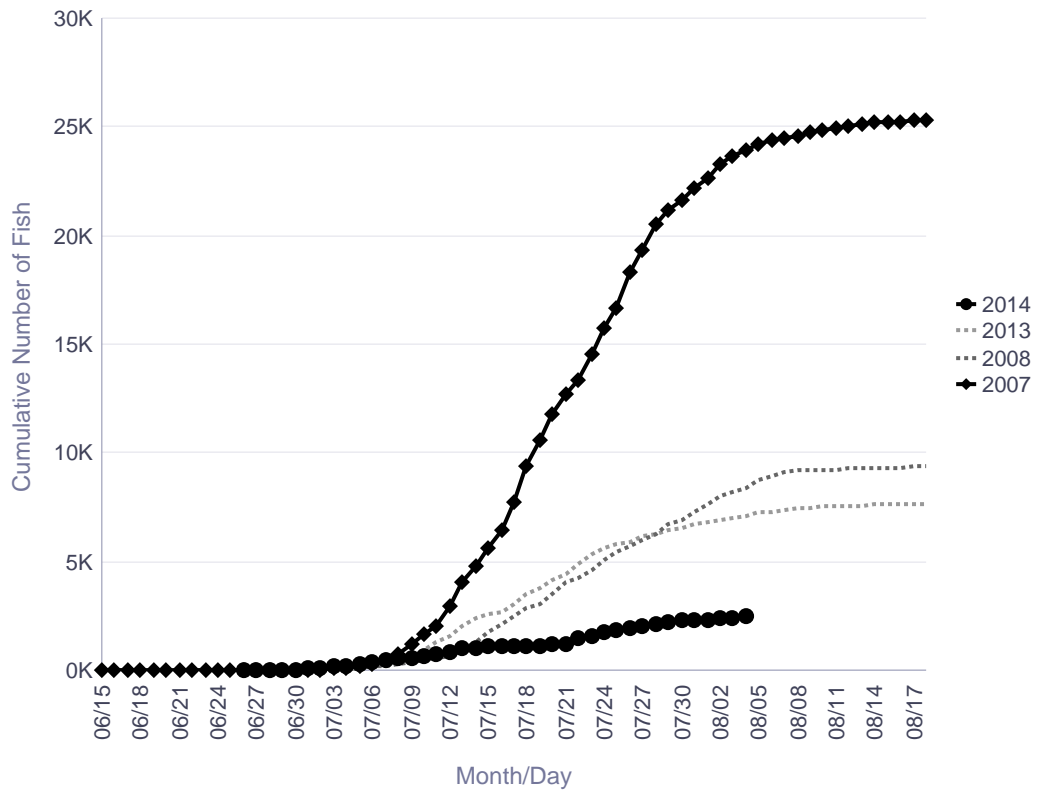
Informational Packet

Salmon River (Aniak) Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Chum Salmon

Cumulative Daily Passage										
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/02			23,258	8,016					6,897	2,387
08/03			23,626	8,226					6,973	2,406
08/04			23,937	8,411					7,127	2,464
08/05			<u>24,213</u>	<u>8,707</u>					<u>7,237</u>	
08/06			24,359	8,960					7,306	
08/07			24,494	9,100					7,395	
08/08			24,599	9,165					7,465	
08/09			24,712	9,224					7,497	

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total			25,379	9,459					7,666	

Salmon River (Aniak) Chum



There are no comments for the past three days.

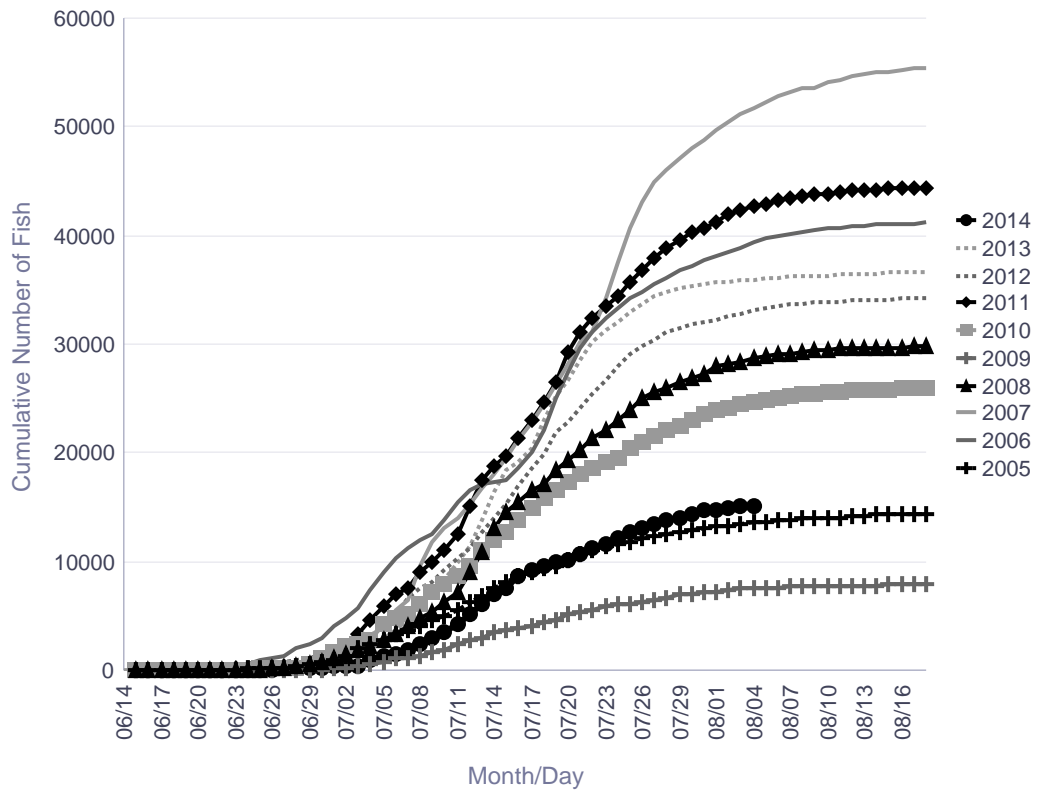
Informational Packet

George River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Chum Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/02	13,340	38,414	50,470	28,222	7,382	24,166	41,882	32,539	35,796	14,875
08/03	13,446	38,843	51,191	28,381	7,495	24,448	42,283	32,843	35,878	15,027
08/04	13,576	39,342	51,737	28,679	7,530	24,676	42,780	33,077	35,958	15,197
08/05	<u>13,670</u>	<u>39,701</u>	<u>52,335</u>	<u>28,840</u>	<u>7,566</u>	<u>24,831</u>	<u>42,961</u>	<u>33,277</u>	<u>36,022</u>	
08/06	13,753	39,920	52,811	29,047	7,628	25,048	43,243	33,457	36,101	
08/07	13,852	40,188	53,192	29,183	7,665	25,201	43,442	33,620	36,179	
08/08	13,999	40,350	53,477	29,315	7,698	25,355	43,613	33,729	36,253	
08/09	14,019	40,492	53,505	29,441	7,722	25,446	43,760	33,813	36,303	

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	14,828	41,467	55,843	29,979	7,941	26,154	44,641	34,336	36,874	

George River Chum



There are no comments for the past three days.

Informational Packet

Kogrukluk River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Chum Salmon

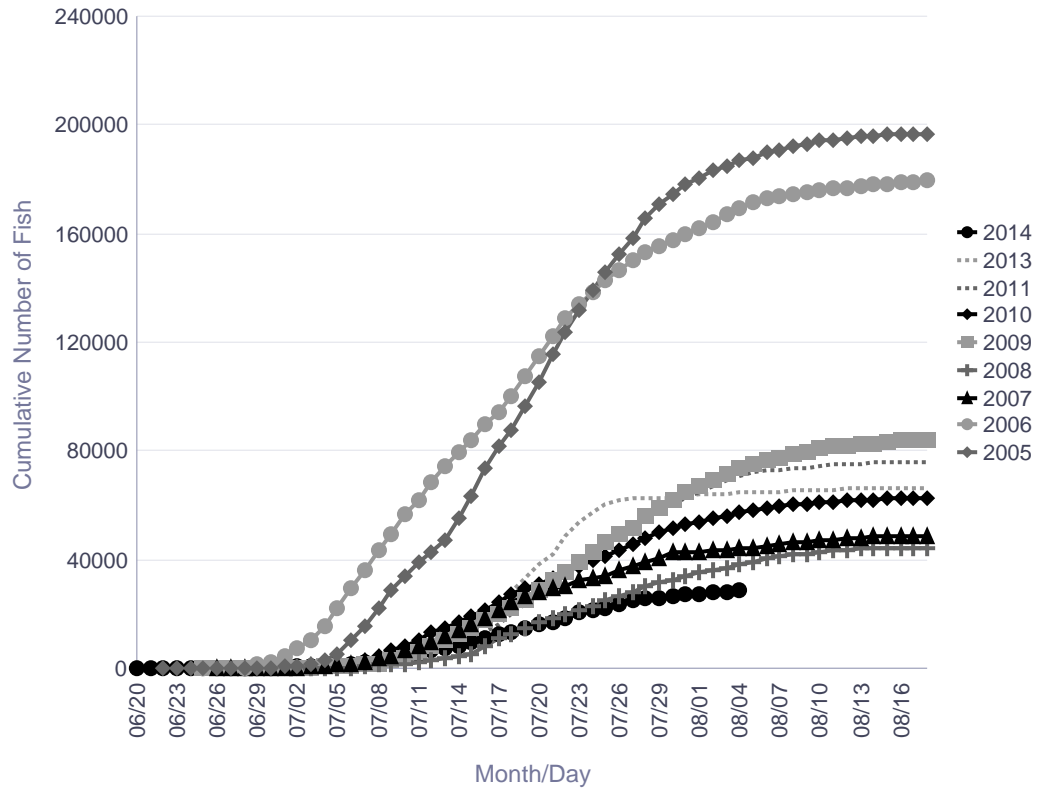
Date	Cumulative Daily Passage									
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/02	183,100	164,555	43,279	36,095	69,531	55,015	66,725		64,121	27,784
08/03	184,923	167,055	43,716	37,197	71,562	56,284	68,911		64,412	28,207
08/04	186,662	169,271	44,091	38,340	73,324	57,354	70,613		64,502	28,647
08/05	<u>188,072</u>	<u>171,342</u>	<u>44,513</u>	<u>39,452</u>	<u>75,187</u>	<u>58,266</u>	<u>71,892</u>		<u>64,665</u>	
08/06	189,590	172,704	44,982	40,392	76,597	58,961	72,747		64,709	
08/07	190,785	173,743	45,498	41,058	77,672	59,647	73,299		65,041	
08/08	192,054	174,754	46,180	41,898	78,611	60,201	73,609		65,320	
08/09	193,192	175,230	46,624	42,358	79,688	60,578	74,022		65,554	

Escapement Goal Range: 15,000 to 49,000

Highlighted years below are when escapement goal was achieved or exceeded.

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	<u>197,723</u>	<u>180,601</u>	<u>49,509</u>	<u>44,978</u>	84,940	63,582	76,386		66,834	

Kogrukluk River Chum



There are no comments for the past three days.

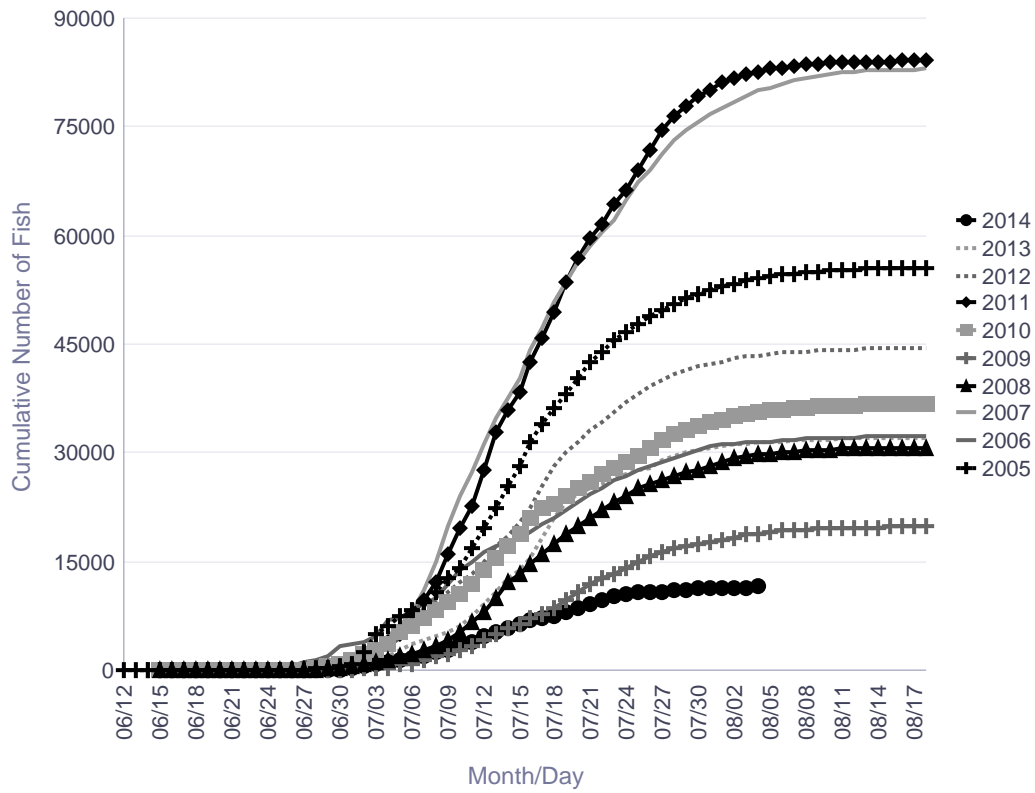
Informational Packet

Tatlawiksuk River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Chum Salmon

Cumulative Daily Passage										
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/02	53,322	31,331	78,446	29,206	18,317	35,039	81,779	42,991	31,168	11,398
08/03	53,808	31,455	79,296	29,456	18,677	35,355	82,270	43,287	31,295	11,483
08/04	54,074	31,559	80,015	29,743	18,925	35,624	82,660	43,447	31,461	11,558
08/05	<u>54,339</u>	<u>31,631</u>	<u>80,461</u>	<u>29,901</u>	<u>19,118</u>	<u>35,836</u>	<u>82,970</u>	<u>43,631</u>	<u>31,564</u>	
08/06	54,566	31,746	80,974	30,093	19,282	35,977	83,217	43,799	31,603	
08/07	54,762	31,847	81,418	30,161	19,396	36,118	83,413	43,924	31,655	
08/08	54,884	31,920	81,792	30,290	19,457	36,232	83,569	44,022	31,714	
08/09	55,052	32,028	82,097	30,417	19,551	36,330	83,693	44,120	31,771	

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	55,724	32,303	83,246	30,896	19,975	36,702	84,204	44,572	32,277	

Tatlawiksuk River Chum



There are no comments for the past three days.

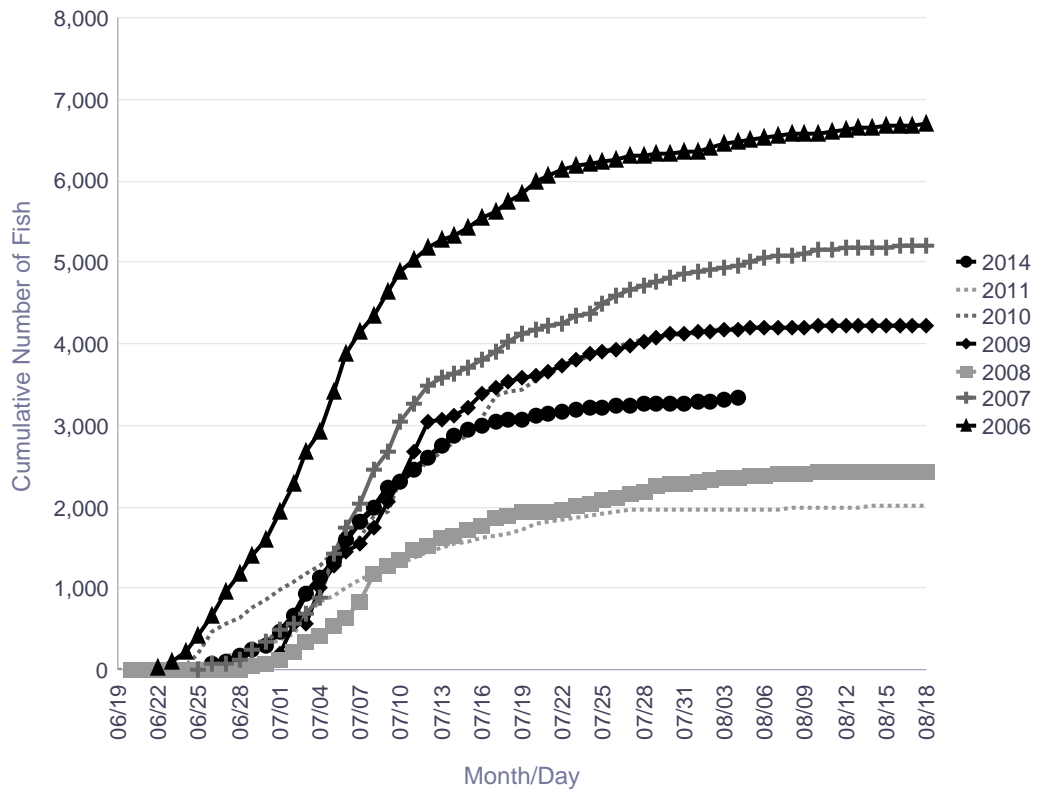
Informational Packet

Kwethluk River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Sockeye Salmon

Cumulative Daily Passage										
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/02		6,408	4,903	2,345	4,154	4,162	1,974			3,293
08/03		6,455	4,934	2,351	4,168	4,180	1,974			3,309
08/04		6,483	4,958	2,368	4,185	4,189	1,974			3,346
08/05		<u>6,505</u>	<u>5,019</u>	<u>2,376</u>	<u>4,192</u>	<u>4,197</u>	<u>1,974</u>			
08/06		6,537	5,055	2,392	4,195	4,201	1,976			
08/07		6,557	5,071	2,396	4,200	4,206	1,976			
08/08		6,566	5,091	2,407	4,204	4,209	1,978			
08/09		6,575	5,116	2,416	4,205	4,212	1,982			

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total		6,733	5,262	2,451	4,230	4,239	2,031			

Kwethluk River Sockeye



There are no comments for the past three days.

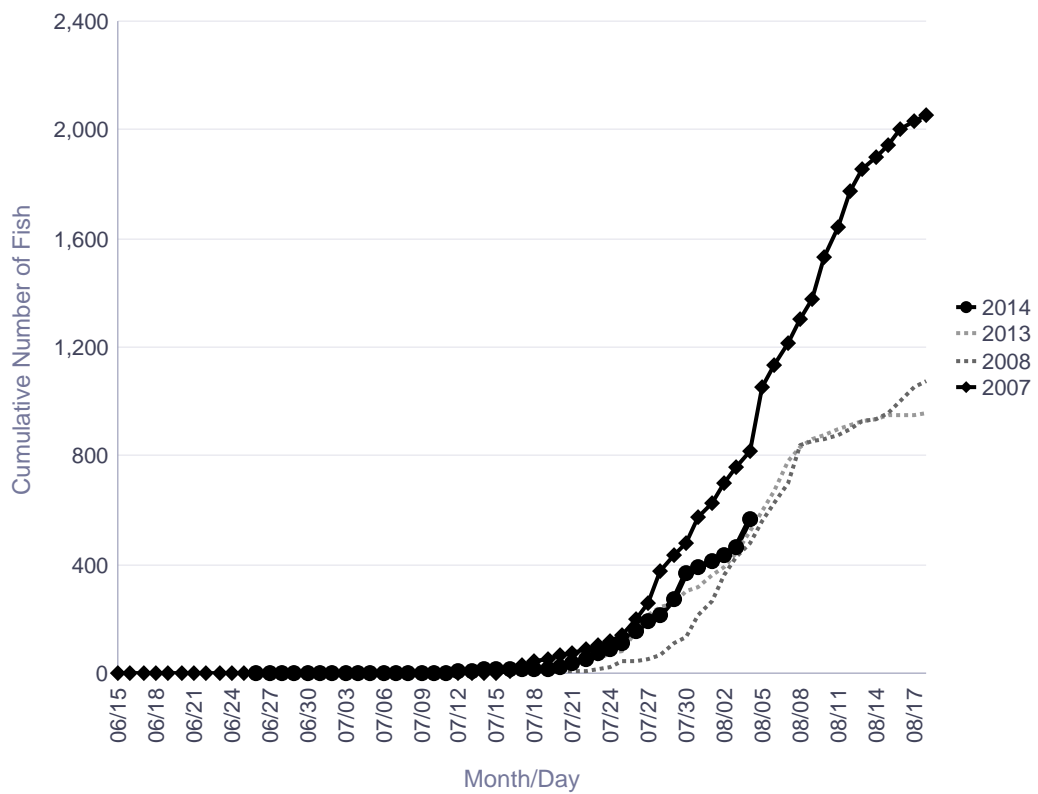
Informational Packet

Salmon River (Aniak) Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Sockeye Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/02			700	358					390	434
08/03			759	430					443	464
08/04			819	476					526	569
08/05			1,052	563					597	
08/06			1,136	623					672	
08/07			1,216	702					784	
08/08			1,306	837					835	
08/09			1,377	853					863	

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total			2,130	1,181					966	

Salmon River (Aniak) Sockeye



There are no comments for the past three days.

Informational Packet

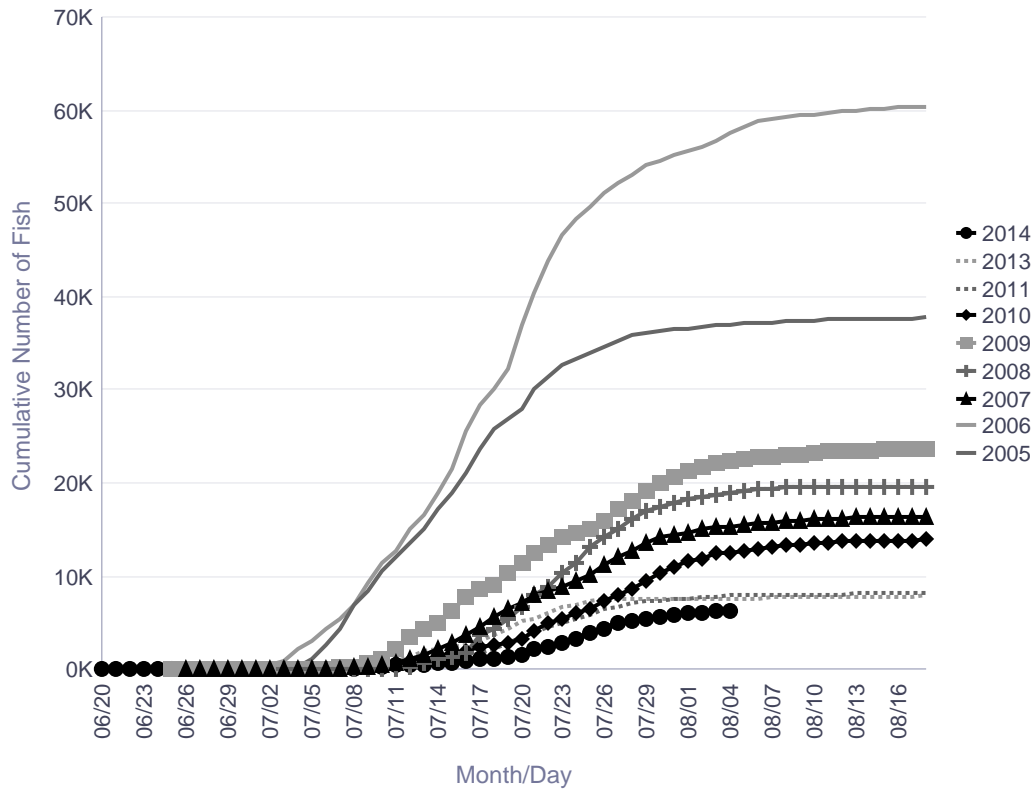
Kogrukluk River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Sockeye Salmon

Date	Cumulative Daily Passage									
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/02	36,798	56,122	14,979	18,446	21,704	11,872	7,705		7,597	6,057
08/03	36,899	56,769	15,173	18,678	22,065	12,410	7,792		7,609	6,196
08/04	37,006	57,465	15,373	18,917	22,252	12,570	7,866		7,621	6,329
08/05	<u>37,113</u>	<u>58,245</u>	<u>15,545</u>	<u>19,139</u>	<u>22,543</u>	<u>12,706</u>	<u>7,920</u>		<u>7,640</u>	
08/06	37,186	58,758	15,688	19,294	22,727	12,909	7,955		7,644	
08/07	37,237	59,047	15,803	19,383	22,852	13,079	7,966		7,683	
08/08	37,331	59,280	15,890	19,452	22,983	13,271	7,985		7,716	
08/09	37,402	59,423	15,976	19,484	23,097	13,405	8,005		7,744	

Escapement Goal Range: 4,400 to 17,000
 Highlighted years below are when escapement goal was achieved or exceeded.

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	<u>37,939</u>	<u>60,807</u>	<u>16,526</u>	<u>19,675</u>	<u>23,785</u>	<u>13,997</u>	<u>8,135</u>		<u>7,882</u>	

Kogrukluk River Sockeye



There are no comments for the past three days.

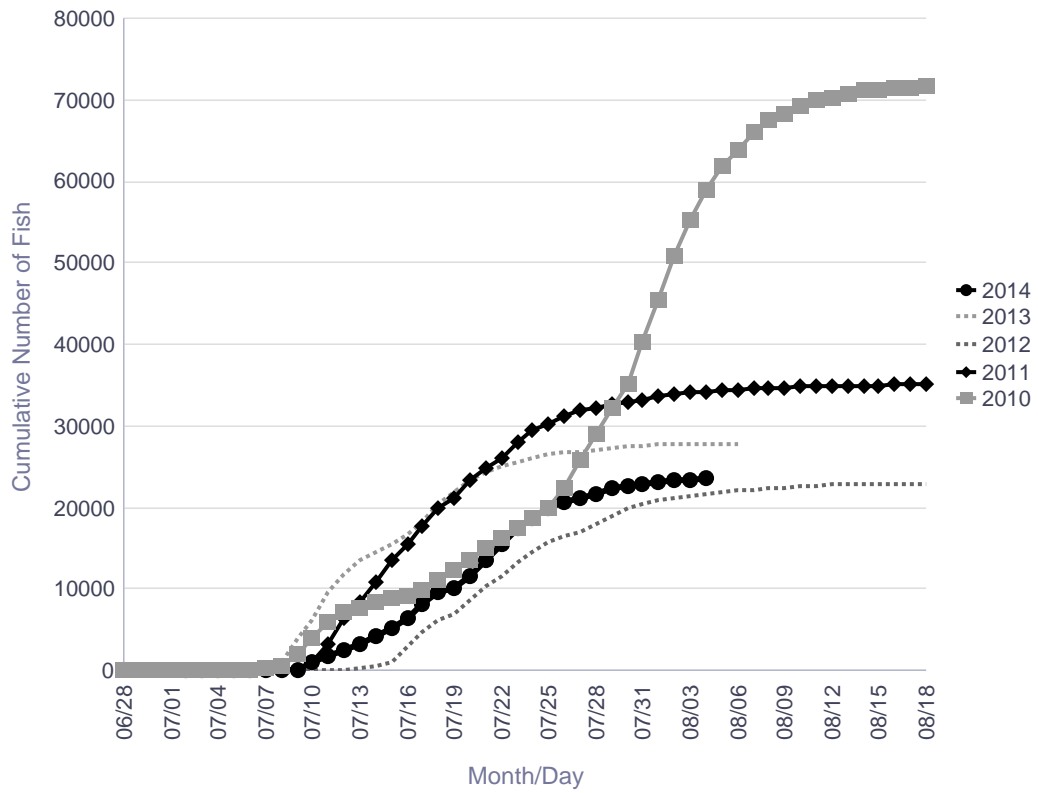
Informational Packet

Telaquana River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Sockeye Salmon

Cumulative Daily Passage					
Date	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/02	50,834	33,812	21,127	27,677	23,243
08/03	55,169	34,051	21,369	27,720	23,359
08/04	58,811	34,171	21,632	27,737	23,463
08/05	<u>61,893</u>	<u>34,314</u>	<u>21,935</u>	<u>27,764</u>	
08/06	63,898	34,373	22,060	27,806	
08/07	66,060	34,527	22,230		
08/08	67,582	34,641	22,416		
08/09	68,218	34,742	22,470		

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	72,020	35,105	22,994	27,806	

Telaquana River Sockeye



There are no comments for the past three days.

Informational Packet

Kwethluk River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Coho Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/02		1,025	1,032	809	610			170		335
08/03		1,366	1,276	859	686			263		458
08/04		1,670	1,447	1,259	873			308		895
08/05		<u>1,806</u>	<u>2,495</u>	<u>1,427</u>	<u>1,263</u>			<u>344</u>		
08/06		2,022	2,948	1,885	1,424			467		
08/07		2,190	3,201	2,054	1,814			591		
08/08		2,293	3,527	2,336	2,031			731		
08/09		2,424	3,801	3,081	2,065			879		

Escapement Goal Range: > 19,000
 Highlighted years below are when escapement goal was achieved or exceeded.

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total		25,664	20,256	49,972	21,911			19,960		

There are no comments for the past three days.

Tuluksak River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Coho Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/02	80	136	65	98	16	18		192	113	96
08/03	91	166	86	126	26	20		254	117	171
08/04	123	222	124	155	68	20		273	131	364
08/05	<u>165</u>	<u>271</u>	<u>223</u>	<u>193</u>	<u>94</u>	<u>23</u>		<u>290</u>	<u>154</u>	
08/06	188	310	286	271	110	24		318	221	
08/07	224	342	299	315	131	27		412	339	
08/08	266	385	310	346	155	50		503	375	
08/09	316	430	380	491	165	60		593	388	

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	11,324	6,111	2,807	7,457	8,137	1,216		4,407	6,490	

There are no comments for the past three days.

Informational Packet

Salmon River (Aniak) Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Coho Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/02				47	60				16	33
08/03				78	92				16	41
08/04				91	103				21	61
08/05				123	110				31	
08/06				166	124				34	
08/07				211	129				47	
08/08				248	147				50	
08/09				283	178				55	

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total				11,022	6,391				2,869	

There are no comments for the past three days.

George River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Coho Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/02	74	50	152	78	54	40	152	45	40	40
08/03	87	56	197	96	65	55	261	68	45	82
08/04	94	71	278	147	72	65	347	94	59	130
08/05	112	96	661	199	76	77	371	117	81	
08/06	131	103	995	265	92	81	439	146	103	
08/07	153	117	1,431	307	103	99	495	213	124	
08/08	352	125	1,968	530	118	108	562	279	142	
08/09	424	133	1,977	736	150	160	641	354	163	

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	8,200	11,294	29,317	21,956	12,573	12,961	30,028	15,272	13,894	

There are no comments for the past three days.

Informational Packet

Kogrukluk River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Coho Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/02	113	175	90	54	155	1	15	32	12	28
08/03	156	218	130	88	217	1	24	47	20	61
08/04	190	283	175	122	258	1	32	61	31	108
08/05	<u>207</u>	<u>386</u>	<u>233</u>	<u>191</u>	<u>362</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>78</u>	<u>39</u>	
08/06	237	453	305	236	464	1	57	98	40	
08/07	274	559	390	263	591	1	73	120	40	
08/08	352	648	469	313	725	1	90	161	40	
08/09	399	713	587	367	875	1	123	188	40	

Escapement Goal Range: 13,000 to 28,000
 Highlighted years below are when escapement goal was achieved or exceeded.

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	<u>24,115</u>	<u>17,011</u>	<u>27,034</u>	<u>29,661</u>	<u>22,981</u>	<u>13,970</u>	<u>24,174</u>	<u>13,697</u>	<u>23,590</u>	

There are no comments for the past three days.

Tatlawiksuk River Weir Historical Cumulative Daily Passage of Coho Salmon

	Cumulative Daily Passage									
Date	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
08/02	214		220	226	78	18	104	55	185	122
08/03	284		264	299	208	28	124	102	211	176
08/04	320		323	452	285	42	148	141	236	245
08/05	<u>356</u>		<u>424</u>	<u>534</u>	<u>346</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>177</u>	<u>202</u>	<u>308</u>	
08/06	407		550	774	474	132	213	267	317	
08/07	487		722	894	589	173	257	369	367	
08/08	547		940	1,168	679	204	311	495	444	
08/09	719		1,204	1,483	929	247	377	589	536	

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Season Total	7,560		8,686	11,065	10,155	3,521	12,927	8,070	13,076	

There are no comments for the past three days.

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Chinook salmon spawning aerial survey index estimates, Kuskokwim River Drainage, Kuskokwim Management Area, 1975–2014.

Year	Lower Kuskokwim River ^a				Middle Kuskokwim River ^a						Upper Kuskokwim River ^a			
	Kwethluk				Aniak	Kipchuk	Salmon	Holokuk	Oskawalik	Holitna	Gagarayah	Cheeneetnuk	Salmon (Pitka)	
	Eek	Canyon C.	Kisaralik	Tuluksak										
1975					202	94								
1976		997								2,571		663		
1977		1,116		439				60				897	1,407	1,940
1978		1,722	2,417	403			322			2,766		504	268	1,100
1979								45						682
1980	2,378			1,035			1,186							1,450
1981		2,034	672		9,074									1,439
1982		471	81					42		521				413
1983	188			202	1,909		231	33		1,069				572
1984													1,177	545
1985	1,118		63	142				135					1,002	620
1986					424		336	100		650			317	
1987	1,739					193	516	210	193			205		
1988	2,255		869	188	954		244		80					473
1989	1,042	1,157	152		2,109	994	631							452
1990			631	200	1,255	537	596	157	113					
1991	1,312		217	358	1,564	885	583							
1992					2,284	670	335	64	91	2,022		328	1,050	2,536
1993					2,687	1,248	1,082	114	103	1,573		419	678	1,010
1994			1,243			1,520	1,218					807	1,206	1,010
1995			1,243		3,171	1,215	1,446	181	326	1,887		1,193	1,565	1,911
1996							985	85						
1997					2,187	855	980	165	1,470	2,093			345	
1998	522		457		1,930	443	557							
1999								18	98					
2000					714	182	238	42		301				362
2001							598		186	1,130		143		1,033
2002		1,795	1,727			1,615	1,236	186	295	1,578		452		1,255
2003	1,236	2,628	654	94	3,514	1,493	1,242	528	844			1,095	810	1,241
2004	4,653	6,801	5,157	1,196	5,362	1,868	2,177	306	293	4,051		670	918	1,138
2005		5,059	2,206	672		1,679	4,097	268	582	1,760		788	1,155	1,801
2006			4,734		5,639	1,618		365	386	1,866		531	1,015	862
2007			692	173	3,984	2,147	1,458	146				1,035		943
2008		487	1,074		3,222	1,061	589	190	213			177	290	1,305
2009								390	379			303	323	632
2010			235					108		587		62		135
2011	263		534			116	79	20	26			96	249	767
2012			610			193	49	9	51			178	229	670
2013	240	1,165	597	83	754	261	154	29	38	670		74	138	475
2014			622		3,196	1,219	478	79	200	3,086		358	340	1,863
Escapement Goal:			400–1,200		1,200–2,300		330–1,200			970–2,100		300–830	340–1,300	470–1,600
10-yr ave	2,051	3,354	1,762	534	4,344	1,310	1,281	229	326	1,829		461	624	982

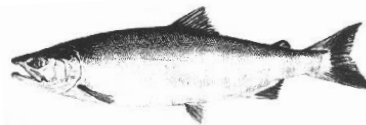
^a Estimates are from aerial surveys conducted during peak spawning periods under 'good' or 'fair' survey conditions.

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ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES NEWS RELEASE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director



Contact:

Aaron Poetter, Area Management Biologist
Aaron Tiernan, Asst. Area Management Biologist
Phone: (907) 543-2433
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Kuskokwim Area Office
P.O. Box 1467
Bethel, AK 99559
Date Issued: August 5, 2014
Time: 4:30 p.m.

Kuskokwim River Salmon Fishery Update #7 Kuskokwim River Inseason Assessment and Run Status

This is an announcement from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Bethel for subsistence fishermen in the Kuskokwim Area.

2014 Kuskokwim River Inseason Assessment

All Bethel Test Fishery and escapement numbers can be found online at: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareakuskokwim.salmon#/fishcounts>

Bethel Test Fishery

Bethel Test Fishery continues to operate on schedule. The cumulative Catch Per Unit Effort (CPUE) as of August 4, is 650 Chinook; 1,362 sockeye; 6,272 chum; and 1,391 for coho salmon. The cumulative Chinook value is higher than 5 of the last 6 years. The decreasing daily values are indicating the Chinook salmon run is coming to an end, average run timing indicates it is over 99% complete past Bethel. No Chinook have been caught since July 29th. Chum salmon cumulative CPUE is below average as of this date. The counts have dropped off in the last week indicating the chum salmon run is coming to an end. The run timing indicates that the chum salmon run is 99% complete. Sockeye salmon cumulative CPUE is similar to the average, indicating an average size run, and the recent decreases in daily CPUE, and average run timing indicate the run is 99% complete past Bethel. Coho salmon cumulative CPUE to this point is above average, and average coho salmon run timing indicates the run is 40% complete at Bethel. Peak passage of coho salmon is usually observed during the first week of August at Bethel.

Lower Kuskokwim River Chinook Salmon Tagging

In an effort to understand the migration speed of Chinook salmon through the lower Kuskokwim River, ADF&G conducted a new pilot project below Johnson River. This project used 7.5" & 8"

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drift gillnets to capture and live release Chinook salmon with tags attached to monitor their migration upriver. This project completed the tagging portion on July 9. The crew deployed 92 tags throughout the season.

Preliminary results indicate tags have successfully moved upriver in the mainstem Kuskokwim River, and have been located in the Kwethluk River. Travel speed was about 3 days on average from Johnson River to Bethel. 10 of the tags deployed have been identified passing the Kwethluk River weir, and these tags were well distributed throughout the run, indicating Kwethluk River Chinook salmon arrive in the Kuskokwim River throughout the run. It took tagged fish around 19 days to go from the tagging location to the weir.

These fish are identifiable by a plastic tag attached to their back, and a metal antennae coming out of their mouth. If you find one of these tagged fish, please call the number on the plastic tag, and you will be entered into a monthly cash drawing of \$200, and a seasonal cash drawing of \$500.

Kalskag Area Fish wheels /Drift Gillnet Tagging; ADF&G, KNA

Similar to other years this project has operated, in collaboration with Kuskokwim Native Association to tag Chinook salmon using fish wheels and drift gillnets near Kalskag. Tagged fish that are later recovered at weir projects, allow for ADF&G to estimate the total abundance of Chinook salmon in the middle and upper Kuskokwim River. This project ended tagging operations on July 17th, and deployed 295 tags in Chinook salmon.

Preliminary information shows that several of these tagged fish have passed upriver weirs. Aerial survey flights will be conducted August 26-30, to identify final tag locations in the mainstem.

These fish are identifiable by a plastic tag attached to their back, and a metal antennae coming out of their mouth. If you find one of these tagged fish, please call the number on the plastic tag, and you will be entered into a monthly cash drawing of \$200, and a seasonal cash drawing of \$500.

Kuskokwim River Sonar Investigation

ADF&G staff surveyed the lower Kuskokwim River from the Kwethluk “Y” to Johnson River looking for potential sites for a main stem sonar site. Potentially useable sites were identified upriver of Bethel, and sonar tests indicated fish were identifiable with the sonar. ADF&G will continue to pursue feasibility of these identifiable sites as inseason monitoring projects.

Kwethluk River Salmon Monitoring; USFWS

This monitoring station is located on the Kwethluk River and monitors salmon passage to spawning areas, as well as serving as a recapture site for tagged Chinook salmon. This project became operational on the evening of June 25, which is earlier than 3 of the past five years. As of August 4, the crew has counted 3,136 Chinook; 3,346 sockeye; 16,359 chum; and 894 coho salmon. The Chinook salmon escapement goal (4,100-7,500) will likely not be achieved as historical run timing indicates that approximately 98% of the run has passed the weir. Chum salmon escapement appears to be below average, and average run timing indicates the escapement is approximately 90% complete. Sockeye salmon escapement is above average for this date, and average run timing indicates the escapement is over 95% complete. Coho salmon

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escapement is about average for this date, and average run timing indicates the run is just beginning (3% complete).

Tuluksak River Salmon Monitoring; USFWS

This monitoring station is located in the Tuluksak River drainage and monitors salmon passage to spawning areas, as well as serving as a recapture site for tagged Chinook salmon. This project became operational on June 30, which is a few days later than the past few years. As of August 4, the crew has counted 315 Chinook; 423 sockeye; 8,021 chum; and 364 coho salmon. Chinook salmon escapement is higher than 3 of the past 7 years as of this date and escapement is below average. Average run timing indicates the Chinook escapement is over 95% complete. Chum salmon escapement is below average for this date, and average run timing indicates the escapement is 90% complete. Coho salmon escapement is above average for this date, and average run timing indicates the run is just beginning (2% complete).

Salmon River Weir; ADF&G, KNA

This weir is located in the Aniak River drainage and monitors salmon passage to spawning areas, as well as serving as a recapture site for tagged Chinook salmon. This project became operational on the evening of June 26, and has had continuous operations with the exception of a few partial days of counts. As of August 4, the crew has counted 1,679 Chinook; 614 sockeye; 2,464 chum; 61 coho salmon. There are no escapement goals for this system, and all of the escapements this year are within the range of previous years with the exception of chum salmon, which is lower than historical years.

George River Weir; ADF&G, KNA

This weir is located in the George River drainage and monitors salmon passage to spawning areas, as well as serving as a recapture site for tagged Chinook salmon. This weir began operations on June 16th, and has had continuous operations. As of August 4, the crew has counted 2,657 Chinook; 15,197 chum salmon; and 130 coho salmon. The Chinook salmon count achieved the lower bound of the escapement goal on July 10th, and average run timing indicates the escapement is 99% complete. Chum salmon escapement is below average for this date in past years, and average run timing indicates the escapement is 95% complete at this point. Coho salmon escapement is above average for this date, and average run timing indicates the run is just beginning (1% complete).

Tatlawiksuk River Weir; ADF&G, KNA

This weir is located in the Tatlawiksuk River drainage and monitors salmon passage to spawning areas, as well as serving as a recapture site for tagged Chinook salmon. This weir began operations on June 14th, with 3.5 days of no operation due to high water. As of August 4, the crew has counted 1,891 Chinook; 11,558 chum; and 245 coho salmon. Chinook salmon escapement is above average on this day with only 4 of 14 years seeing higher escapements to date. Average run timing indicates the Chinook salmon run is 99% complete. Chum salmon escapements are below average with only 2 of 14 years having seen fewer fish at this point. Average run timing indicates the chum salmon escapement is 97% complete. Coho salmon escapement is about average for this date, and average run timing indicates the run is just beginning (2% complete).

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Kogrukluk River Weir; ADF&G

This weir is located in the Holitna River drainage and monitors salmon passage to spawning areas, as well as serving as a recapture site for tagged Chinook salmon. This weir began operations on June 20th, and has had continuous operations. As of August 4, the crew has counted 3,668 Chinook; 6,329 sockeye; 28,647 chum; and 108 coho salmon. The Chinook salmon count is below average for this date, and average run timing indicates the escapement is 98% complete. Achievement of the escapement goal for Chinook salmon is unlikely and currently projecting to be below the lower bound of the goal of 4,800. Chum salmon escapement is below average at this point, and average run timing indicates the escapement is 96% complete. The lower bound of the escapement goal for chum salmon (15,000) was achieved on July 20th. Sockeye salmon escapement is below average for this date; however, the lower bound of the escapement goal for sockeye salmon (4,400) was met on July 26th. Average run timing indicates that sockeye salmon escapement is 99% complete. Coho salmon escapement is about average for this date, and average run timing indicates the run is just beginning (<1% complete).

Telaquana River Weir; ADF&G, NPS

This weir is located in the Telaquana River drainage and monitors salmon passage to spawning areas, as well as historically serving as a recapture site for tagged sockeye salmon. This is the 5th year of operations at this project. Sockeye salmon are the only salmon species observed in high quantities at this weir. This project became operational on July 2nd. As of August 4, the crew has counted 52 Chinook; 23,463 sockeye; and 65 chum salmon. Escapement and run timing to date is similar to historical years.

Aerial Surveys

As of August 4, all of the escapement aerial surveys of the Kuskokwim River drainage have been completed. The Aniak, Holitna, and Pitka Fork Salmon River have exceeded the upper bound of their respective Chinook escapement goal range. The Kisaralik, Salmon, Gagarayah, and Cheeneetnuk Rivers have exceeded the lower bound of their respective Chinook escapement goal range. The Kisaralik, Aniak, and Salmon Rivers reached their highest Chinook escapements since 2008. Pitka Fork Salmon River has achieved its highest Chinook escapement since 1992.

Summary

Achievement of escapement goals for Chinook salmon is unlikely at several projects, and uncertain for the Kuskokwim River. One escapement project has achieved the escapement goal, while the others will likely be below the lower end. Escapements are higher than the past few years, showing that the restrictions were necessary and were successful at increasing escapement.

Chum salmon escapements are below average for all projects, but all projects are within the historical ranges, and the escapement goal at Kogrukluk was achieved.

Sockeye salmon escapements are all within the historical ranges, and although it appears below average, achievement of the Kogrukluk escapement goal was achieved. Sockeye salmon escapement at other projects appears at or above average.

Coho salmon have started to reach the escapement projects. It is too early to estimate escapement outcomes.

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Further announcements will be made from the Bethel Fish and Game office, on the State of Alaska web site (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>), and local radio stations. News releases will be faxed to area villages and local fish processing companies. For additional information or questions regarding Kuskokwim Area fisheries, contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game office in Bethel at 543-2433 or toll free at 1-855-933-2433.

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Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group

P.O. Box 1467 • Bethel, AK 99559 • 907-543-2433 • 907-543-2021 fax

Carly Vynne
Claude Gascon
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
1133 Fifteenth St. NW, Suite 1100
Washington, D.C. 20005

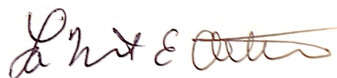
Dear Ms. Vynne and Mr. Gascon,

I am writing on behalf of the Kuskokwim Salmon Management Working Group to express our support for the NFWF proposal being submitted by the Bering Sea Fishermen's Association entitled "Capacity building for sustainable management of imperiled Kuskokwim Chinook Salmon".

Kuskokwim Salmon Management Working Group is a 13-member panel formally established in 1988 by the Alaska Board of Fisheries to provide a forum for area fishermen, user representatives and community representatives. The Working Group provides an important public forum for federal and state fisheries managers to engage with local users of the salmon resource. As the core stakeholder organization actively engaged in salmon management on the river, we are very concerned about the steep decline of Chinook salmon essential for subsistence.

At our 30 July 2014 meeting, the Kuskokwim Salmon Management Working Group passed a formal motion expressing our strong support for this capacity building project which we believe will effectively contribute to increasing the transparency and trust among stakeholders and between stakeholders and managers, regarding the conservation and management of Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon.

Sincerely,



Lamont Albertson, KSMWG Co-Chair

Ben Mohr, Senior Policy Advisor
550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1700
Anchorage, AK 99501
Ben.Mohr@Alaska.Gov

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I appreciate very much the time and the audience you, through the governor's office, afforded me on behalf of the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group (KRSMWG). Your understanding of the life cycle of salmon and the tributaries' need for the nourishment derived from the spent salmon carcasses was impressive. You may be interested in looking up a study done on the Kwethluk River, a tributary of the Kuskokwim River, as a part of the Salmonid Rivers Observation Network (SaRON), which was sponsored in part by the University of Montana. I think you will find the information fascinating. Salmon, by themselves, are truly interesting creatures. Throw in their life cycle needs and it really gets intriguing.

As I stated yesterday, the KRSMWG's primary concern is that the families of the Kuskokwim River reach their annual fishery subsistence needs. We have made that abundantly clear to ADF&G. That position is also supported by the Alaska Constitution and ANILCA. Their actions for the past several years make it obvious, particularly those of us who reside from Kalskag up to the headwaters of the Kuskokwim, that that is clearly not their primary concern. In fairness, an argument can be made that it is probably not as true below the community of Kalskag. Though this year, KRSMWG members are being contacted almost daily by subsistence users in the City of Bethel to let us know that many of them will absolutely be dependent upon the coho run to meet their subsistence needs.

Our friends at the Office of Subsistence Management, United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USF&W), tell me that the fisherfolk on the Kuskokwim River represent the largest subsistence fishery on the North American continent. One would think that fact alone would ensure the Kuskokwim River's subsistence users a meaningful voice in any deliberations regarding openings and closings of any fisheries. We recognize and honor the need to assure research-established escapement goals and we also recognize the need for meaningful salmon research and adequate escapement monitoring sites.

This year, the necessary restrictive king salmon fishing and reduced chum salmon numbers are going to require an inordinate dependence on coho (silver) salmon in order for our constituency to reach personal and community subsistence needs. We oppose any commercial openings for silvers until it is established beyond the shadow of a doubt that our subsistence needs are met. But it is a given that any commercial opening prior to August 15th, which is typically towards the mid point of the coho run at the Bethel Test Fish (BTF) site, will work an undue severe hardship on subsistence fisherfolk. Despite this obvious fact, approximately 5,000 silvers have already been harvested from the Kuskokwim River by commercial interests, with ADF&G's blessing.

We know that the governor's office must take hunger and inadequate food sources for your rural citizenry seriously. We live there and we do too. We spend \$7 to \$12 a gallon for gas to pursue our subsistence resources, and we want fish to be in the places where we have traditionally caught them. That will not happen with literally tens of thousands of coho salmon being removed commercially from the downriver system **WHERE, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF BETHEL, MOST VILLAGE SUBSISTENCE NEEDS HAVE ALREADY BEEN MET.** Please also consider our costs for fuel oil, electricity and groceries. Consider the costs for us in just getting to a health clinic, much less a hospital. There is never a year for us when subsistence resources are not critically needed, but this year it is even more dire because of the earlier restricted fisheries.

Our upriver schools are closing; our community populations are down. That is not an accident of history. It is in no small part a result of ADF&G policies that favor commercial fishing interests over upriver subsistence needs. It has been going on for years but we lack a political voice with which to call attention to our situation. We have the Commercial Division of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game managing the fishery resources of a river that **SHOULD** be managed for subsistence needs. Subsistence is by far the most important fishery on the Kuskokwim River. This is self evident.

We are fully aware of the fact that there are other avenues for calling attention to our subsistence plight. We have identified and contacted several but we are loathe to commit to any actions in that direction yet. We appeal to you to compassionately and honestly consider our concerns about the ramifications of ADF&G's decision to remove coho salmon from our river for commercial interests this critical year.

Thank you for relaying our concerns to Governor Parnell and Commissioner Campbell.

LaMont E. Albertson, Co-Chair, KRSMWG