# **Operational Plan: Chilkat Lake Salmon Weir Enumeration and Sampling Procedures, 2020–2022**

by Nicole L. Zeiser Shane R. Ransbury Steven C. Heinl and Sara E. Miller

April 2020

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Divisions of Sport Fish and Commercial Fisheries



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Weights and measures (metric)		General		Mathematics, statistics	
centimeter	cm	Alaska Administrative		all standard mathematical	
deciliter	dL	Code	AAC	signs, symbols and	
gram	g	all commonly accepted		abbreviations	
hectare	ha	abbreviations	e.g., Mr., Mrs.,	alternate hypothesis	H <sub>A</sub>
kilogram	kg		AM, PM, etc.	base of natural logarithm	е
kilometer	km	all commonly accepted		catch per unit effort	CPUE
liter	L	professional titles	e.g., Dr., Ph.D.,	coefficient of variation	CV
meter	m		R.N., etc.	common test statistics	(F, t, $\chi^2$ , etc.)
milliliter	mL	at	@	confidence interval	CI
millimeter	mm	compass directions:		correlation coefficient	
		east	E	(multiple)	R
Weights and measures (English)		north	Ν	correlation coefficient	
cubic feet per second	ft <sup>3</sup> /s	south	S	(simple)	r
foot	ft	west	W	covariance	cov
gallon	gal	copyright	©	degree (angular)	0
inch	in	corporate suffixes:		degrees of freedom	df
mile	mi	Company	Co.	expected value	Ε
nautical mile	nmi	Corporation	Corp.	greater than	>
ounce	OZ	Incorporated	Inc.	greater than or equal to	≥
pound	lb	Limited	Ltd.	harvest per unit effort	HPUE
quart	qt	District of Columbia	D.C.	less than	<
yard	yd	et alii (and others)	et al.	less than or equal to	$\leq$
		et cetera (and so forth)	etc.	logarithm (natural)	ln
Time and temperature		exempli gratia		logarithm (base 10)	log
day	d	(for example)	e.g.	logarithm (specify base)	$\log_2$ etc.
degrees Celsius	°C	Federal Information		minute (angular)	,
degrees Fahrenheit	°F	Code	FIC	not significant	NS
degrees kelvin	Κ	id est (that is)	i.e.	null hypothesis	Ho
hour	h	latitude or longitude	lat. or long.	percent	%
minute	min	monetary symbols		probability	Р
second	s	(U.S.)	\$,¢	probability of a type I error	
		months (tables and		(rejection of the null	
Physics and chemistry		figures): first three		hypothesis when true)	α
all atomic symbols		letters	Jan,,Dec	probability of a type II error	
alternating current	AC	registered trademark	®	(acceptance of the null	
ampere	А	trademark	тм	hypothesis when false)	β
calorie	cal	United States		second (angular)	
direct current	DC	(adjective)	U.S.	standard deviation	SD
hertz	Hz	United States of		standard error	SE
horsepower	hp	America (noun)	USA	variance	
hydrogen ion activity	pH	U.S.C.	United States	population	Var
(negative log of)	•		Code	sample	var
parts per million	ppm	U.S. state	use two-letter	*	
parts per thousand	ppt,		abbreviations		
- •	<b>%</b>		(e.g., AK, WA)		
volts	V				
watts	W				

### **REGIONAL OPERATIONAL PLAN CF.1J.2020.02**

### **OPERATIONAL PLAN: CHILKAT LAKE SALMON WEIR ENUMERATION AND SAMPLING PROCEDURES, 2020–2022**

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April 2020

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This document should be cited as:

Zeiser, N. L., S. R. Ransbury, S. C. Heinl, and S. E. Miller. 2020. Operational plan: Chilkat Lake salmon weir enumeration and sampling procedures, 2020–2022. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Regional Operational Plan ROP.CF.1J.2020.02, Douglas.

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### SIGNATURE PAGE

Project Title:	<i>Operational Plan: Chilkat Lake Salmon Weir Enumeration and Sampling Procedures, 2020–2022</i>
Project leader(s):	Nicole Zeiser and Shane Ransbury
Division, Region, and Area	Commercial Fisheries, Region 1, Haines
Project Nomenclature:	FM-163 GF Chilkat Weir-DIDSON
Period Covered	2020–2022
Field Dates:	1 June–15 October
Plan Type:	Category II

### Approval

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### PURPOSE

The Chilkat Lake sockeye salmon (Oncorhynchus nerka) run, which spawns near Haines, is one of the largest in Southeast Alaska and contributes substantially to harvests in the District 15 commercial drift gillnet fishery in Lynn Canal. This operational plan outlines objectives, methods, and timelines for conducting sockeye salmon stock assessment designed to (1) estimate annual escapement, (2) provide information for inseason fishery management, and (3) reconstruct runs and assess stock status. The Chilkat Lake sockeye salmon run is managed for a biological escapement goal of 70,000–150,000 fish, which is enumerated with a Dual-Frequency Identification Sonar (DIDSON) system operated in conjunction with a standard picket weir located just downstream of the lake outlet. Genetic mixed stock analysis of weekly sockeye salmon harvests in the District 15 commercial drift gillnet fishery provides stock composition estimates that guide inseason management of the fishery (detailed in a separate Chilkoot Lake sockeye salmon operational plan). Biological sampling, along with escapement enumeration and stock-specific harvest data, allows for total run reconstruction required for escapement goal review. This project also supports the collection of basic limnology information at Chilkat Lake.

Keywords: Chilkat Lake, Chilkat River, DIDSON, escapement, Oncorhynchus nerka, sockeye salmon, limnology, weir

### BACKGROUND

The Chilkat and Chilkoot river watersheds, located in northern Southeast Alaska, near the town of Haines (Figure 1), support two of the largest sockeye salmon (Oncorhynchus nerka) runs in Southeast Alaska. Between 1900 and 1920, the annual commercial harvest of sockeye salmon in northern Southeast Alaska averaged 1.5 million fish, the majority of which were believed to originate from the Chilkat and Chilkoot river watersheds (Rich and Ball 1933). Harvests decreased in the early 1920s and remained at relatively low levels thereafter; the average sockeye salmon harvest in northern Southeast Alaska averaged 0.44 million fish between 1980 and 2008, of which an average 93,000 and 89,000 fish originated from Chilkat and Chilkoot lakes, respectively (Eggers et al. 2010). Historically, Chilkat sockeye salmon were harvested in the large fish trap and purse seine fisheries in Icy and northern Chatham straits as well as in terminal drift gillnet areas of Lynn Canal. Fish traps were eliminated after Alaska statehood in 1959 and Lynn Canal was developed into a designated drift gillnet fishing area (District 15), where most of the commercial harvest of Chilkat sockeye salmon takes place (Figure 1). A smaller portion of the Chilkat run is harvested in the commercial purse seine fisheries that target pink salmon (O. gorbuscha) in Icy and northern Chatham straits (Ingledue 1989; Gilk-Baumer et al. 2015). Annual contributions to those fisheries are not known and likely vary annually depending on fishing effort and the strength of pink salmon runs. Chilkat sockeye salmon are also harvested annually in subsistence fisheries in Chilkat Inlet and the Chilkat River, where reported harvests for the period 2009-2018 averaged 5,300 fish per year.

Commercial harvest of Chilkat Lake sockeye salmon in the District 15 commercial drift gillnet fishery has been estimated from scale pattern analysis and, more recently, genetic stock identification (Bednarski et al. 2017). The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) initiated a scale pattern analysis program in 1980 to estimate contributions of Chilkat and Chilkoot sockeye salmon stocks based on consistent differences in freshwater scale patterns (Stockley 1950; Bergander 1974; McPherson 1990; McPherson et al. 1992). From 2015 to 2016, scale pattern analysis and genetic stock identification were conducted concurrently to compare estimates using the two methods (Serena Rogers Olive, ADF&G Fisheries Geneticist, personal communication). Since 2017, harvests of sockeye salmon stocks in the District 15 commercial drift gillnet fishery have been estimated solely through genetic stock identification (Bednarski et al. 2017; Zeiser et al. 2019).

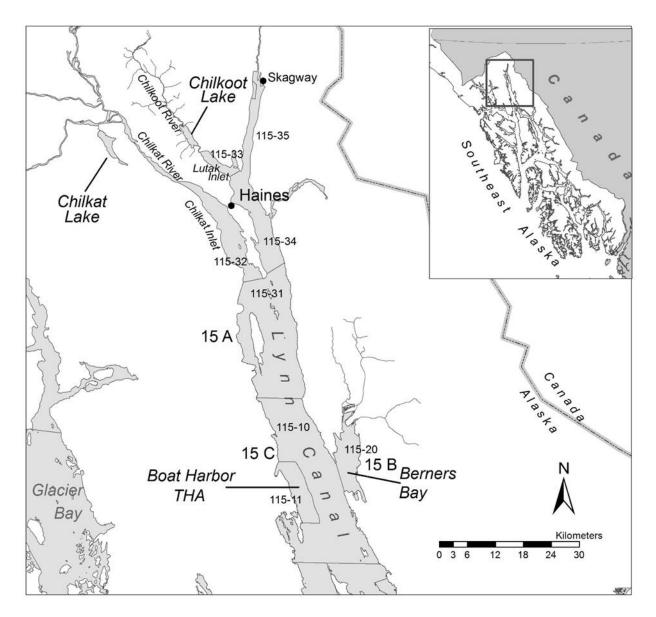


Figure 1.–Map showing Chilkat Lake and its proximity to Haines, the Chilkat and Chilkoot river watersheds, and the District 15 commercial fishing areas in Lynn Canal.

Chilkat Lake sockeye salmon escapements have been variously estimated through weir counts (1967–1993), weir counts with concurrent mark–recapture estimates (1994 and 1995, 1999–2007), mark–recapture estimates only (1996–1998), and Dual-Frequency Identification Sonar (DIDSON) counts with mark–recapture estimates (2008–2016) (Eggers et al. 2010; Sogge and Bachman 2014; Bednarski et al. 2017). Biological data have been collected annually at the lake to estimate the age, size, and sex composition of the escapement. Two-event mark–recapture studies in conjunction with operation of fish wheels in the lower Chilkat River were initiated in 1994 because weir counts at Chilkat Lake were thought to underestimate escapement (Kelley and Bachman 2000; Eggers et al. 2010). Periodic flooding of the silty Tsirku River into Chilkat Lake (Bergander et al. 1988) required opening the weir, sometimes for extended periods, and increased boat traffic in and out

of the lake required frequent lowering of a boat gate in the center of the weir through which fish could pass uncounted (Kelley and Bachman 2000). Sockeye salmon were marked at the fish wheels and sampled for marks at the Chilkat Lake weir and various Chilkat River mainstem and tributary spawning locations; drainage wide mark–recapture estimates were then generated and divided into Chilkat Lake and Chilkat River mainstem estimates (Kelley and Bachman 2000; Bachman and McGregor 2001; Bachman 2005, 2010). In 2008, a DIDSON was installed at the Chilkat Lake weir to improve counts (Eggers et al. 2010). Finally, concerns regarding mark–recapture as a reliable measure of abundance lead to suspension of mark–recapture studies after 2016 and recommendations to improve DIDSON operations to estimate escapement into Chilkat Lake (Bednarski et al. 2017).

The Chilkat Lake sockeye salmon run has been managed for at least five different escapement goals since 1976. Informal goals of 60,000–70,000 fish in 1976 and 70,000–90,000 fish in 1981 (Bergander et al. 1988) were replaced with a biological escapement goal (BEG) of 52,000–106,000 sockeye salmon in 1990 (McPherson 1990), a sustainable escapement goal (SEG) of 80,000–200,000 sockeye salmon in 2006 (Geiger et al. 2005), and a BEG of 70,000–150,000 sockeye salmon in 2009 (Eggers et al. 2008, 2010). The escapement goal was reviewed in 2018 using updated information and an age-structured state-space spawner-recruit model to account for uncertainty in escapement estimates (Miller and Heinl 2018). Based on model results, however, maximum sustainable yield would be achieved with escapements within the current escapement goal range, so no changes were recommended to the goal (Miller and Heinl 2018).

This operational plan outlines objectives, methods, and timelines for ADF&G stock assessment of the Chilkat Lake sockeye salmon run. Information provided by this project, in conjunction with stock assessment projects on the Chilkat River (Elliott 2018; Elliott and Peterson 2018; Rhea-Fournier 2018) and Chilkoot Lake (Zeiser et al. 2019), is used inseason to manage the District 15 commercial drift gillnet fishery to ensure escapement goals are met and to maximize and sustain the harvest of sockeye salmon from the two watersheds. Escapement and stock-specific harvest data, along with biological data on age at return, are essential for reconstruction of brood year returns for use in future escapement goal evaluation. Bednarski et al. (2017) provided a comprehensive review of historical sockeye salmon stock assessment studies in the Chilkat River drainage and recommendations for future improvements that are reflected in this plan.

### **STUDY SITE**

Chilkat Lake (ADF&G Anadromous Waters Catalogue No. 115-32-10250-2067-3001-0010; 59.32577° N, 135.89436° W) is located approximately 27 river miles upstream from the city of Haines, Alaska (Figures 1 and 2). It is a relatively large clear lake with a surface area of  $9.8 \times 106$  m<sup>2</sup> (2,432 acres), a mean depth of 32.5 m, a maximum depth of 57 m, and a volume of  $319 \times 106$  m<sup>3</sup>. The lake outlet, Clear Creek, flows 0.5 km to the Tsirku River, which then drains into the Chilkat River. Resident fish include sockeye salmon, coho salmon (*O. kisutch*), Dolly Varden (*Salvelinus malma*), cutthroat trout (*Salmo clarki*), threespine stickleback (*Gasterosteus aculeatus*), sculpin (*Cottus* spp.) and whitefish (*Prosopium cylindraceum*) (Johnson and Daigneault 2013). Very small numbers of adult pink and chum salmon (*O. keta*) have been observed at the Chilkat Lake weir, but the spawning location of these fish is not known. Chilkat Lake is a remote lake with moderate to heavy boat traffic. There are numerous private cabins on the lake (50 to 100 cabins), which are only accessible by jet boat and floatplane.

The Chilkat River (ADF&G Anadromous Waters Catalogue No. 115-32-10250) drains a large watershed stretching from British Columbia, Canada to the northern end of Lynn Canal, near Haines, Alaska (Figure 2). It is characterized by rugged, highly dissected mountains with steep-gradient streams, and braided rivers that flow through glaciated valleys. The watershed encompasses approximately 1,600 km<sup>2</sup>, and the main river and tributaries comprise approximately 350 km of river channels. Principle tributaries include the Tahkin, Tsirku, Klehini, Kelsall, and Tahini rivers. Chilkat River discharge rates range from 80 to 20,400 ft<sup>3</sup>/s (Bugliosi 1988). The river supports large runs of sockeye, coho, chum, Chinook (*O. tshawytscha*), and pink salmon.

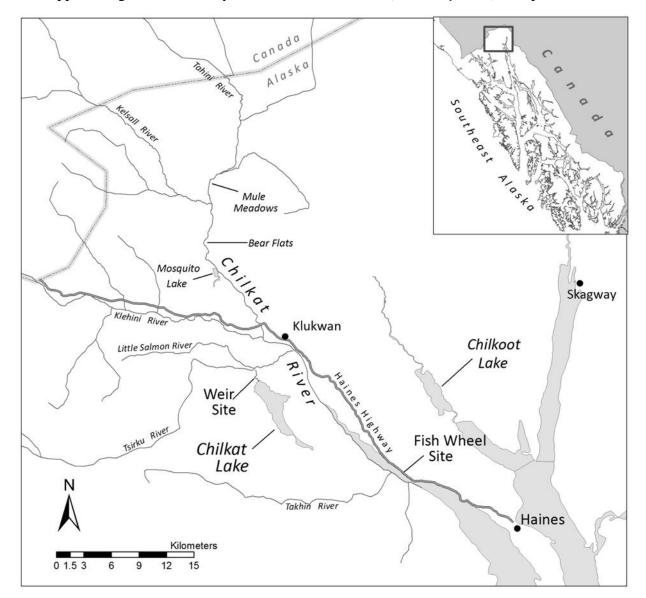


Figure 2.–Map of the Chilkat River drainage, showing locations of the Chilkat River fish wheels, Chilkat Lake, and the Chilkat Lake weir site.

### **OBJECTIVES**

#### **Primary objectives**

- 1. Enumerate the sockeye salmon escapement into Chilkat Lake from 20 June to 10 October.
- 2. Estimate the seasonal age, sex, and length composition of the Chilkat Lake sockeye salmon escapement, such that the estimated proportions are within 5% of the true value with at least 95% probability.

#### Secondary objectives

- 1. Maintain a standardized beach seine sampling schedule during August–October to ensure accurate species apportionment of DIDSON counts between coho and sockeye salmon.
- 2. Perform periodic, systematic observer comparison of DIDSON counts to increase precision of the DIDSON count. Inseason disagreement between observers of more than 5% should be flagged for a detailed review.
- 3. Measure water column temperature, record light penetration profiles, and estimate zooplankton species composition, size, density, and biomass in Chilkat Lake on a monthly basis at the beginning of the month, June–October.

### **METHODS**

### CHILKAT LAKE ESCAPEMENT ENUMERATION

A DIDSON (manufactured by Sound Metrics Corporation<sup>1</sup>) sonar will be used in conjunction with a picket weir to enumerate the Chilkat Lake sockeye salmon escapement. The escapement count will be used to determine if the escapement goal is met. Data collected at the weir will provide inseason and postseason information on run timing, run strength, and age composition.

#### **Chilkat Lake Weir**

The Chilkat Lake adult salmon counting weir will be operated from approximately 20 June to 10 October (Appendix A). The weir will be installed in Clear Creek, approximately 0.4 km downstream of Chilkat Lake (Figure 2). The weir is a semi-removable steel bipod structure approximately 33 m wide. The maximum water depth at the weir site is approximately 3 m. The weir framework consists of 11 5-cm steel pipe bipods spaced between 2.4–2.7 m apart and driven into the bed of the river. Bipods are connected with perforated steel stringers of varying lengths. Iron pipe pickets, 2.5 cm outside diameter, spaced 3.8 cm apart, will be placed in the evenly spaced holes of the stringers to form a fence across the lake outlet (Figures 3 and 4). The maximum possible space between each picket is 4.1 cm. Each spring, two divers and crew will install two removable bipods in the center of the weir to support a 3.6-m wide boat gate that will allow boat traffic to access the lake. The boat gate will be operated remotely via an electric hoist/winch. Sandbags and fencing will be placed along the upstream side of the weir to prevent fish from passing uncounted. The integrity of the weir will be verified throughout the season by regular underwater inspections and placement of additional sandbags and fencing as needed. Operating

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Product names used in this publication are included for completeness but do not constitute product endorsement.

the DIDSON overnight with the gate shut is another method that will be used to check for leaks in the weir.

Stream height, water temperature, and water clarity (e.g., excellent, fair, poor) will be recorded at approximately 6:30 a.m. each day. Stream height (cm) will be measured on a stadia rod, and water temperature (°C) will be measured with a thermometer installed near the middle of the weir.

Periodic flow reversals, caused when glacial water from the flooding Tsirku River backs into Clear Creek and into Chilkat Lake, will require keeping the boat gate open to prevent damage to the gate until the reversal subsides. Flow reversals could last from a few hours to several days.

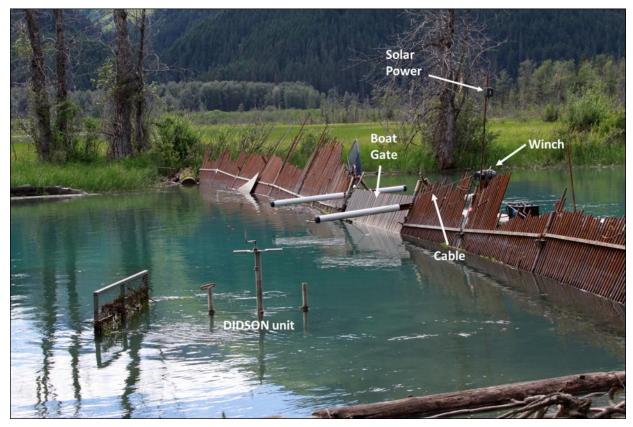


Figure 3–View of the Chilkat River weir from the upstream side, 23 July 2013, showing the boat gate, the boat gate winch and cable, the boat gate solar power panel, and the location of the DIDSON unit. (© ADF&G/photo by Steven C. Heinl.)



Figure 4.–Two views (from the cabin side of the creek) of the Chilkat Lake weir without pickets (left) and with pickets installed (right), 2019. (© 2019 ADF&G/photos by Nicole L. Zeiser.)

#### Sockeye Salmon Age, Sex, and Length Composition

The seasonal age composition of the Chilkat Lake sockeye salmon escapement (including jack sockeye salmon) will be determined from a minimum sample of 665 fish captured on the downstream side of the weir. This sample size was based on work by Thompson (2002) to estimate proportions of four or more major age classes. A sample of 510 fish is needed to ensure the estimated proportion of each major age class will be within 5% of the true value with at least 95% probability. The sample size was increased to 665 fish to ensure the sampling goal will be met, even if age cannot be determined from the scales of 30% of the sampled fish. In addition, three scales will be sampled from each fish to increase the proportion of readable scales. Up to 10 sockeye salmon will be sampled each day for matched scales, sex, and length (70 fish/week). If fish are present at 6:00 a.m., beach seine gear will be used to capture fish below the weir. This weekly sample will be more than sufficient to meet objective criteria, since the total seasonal sample will be more than the 665 samples required. This sample will also meet seasonal requirements for estimating sex composition, as only 385 samples (assuming no data loss) are needed to achieve the precision criteria (within 5% of the true value with 95% probability) (Thompson 2002).

**Procedures for age, sex, and length sampling and recording data are outlined in detail in Appendices B–G.** Sockeye salmon will be the only species sampled. All fish sampled for scales will be measured (mm) from mid eye to tail fork (Appendix C), and the sex will be determined from examination of external dimorphic sexual maturation characteristics such as snout and kype development, belly shape, and shape of vent opening (Appendix D). Three scales will be collected from the "preferred area" of each sampled fish (i.e., the left side of the fish, two scale rows above the lateral line on the diagonal from the posterior insertion of the dorsal fin to the anterior insertion of the anal fin; INPFC 1963; Appendix E) and placed on a scale card (Appendices E and F). Corresponding data (sex and length) will be recorded on (ASL) optical scan forms (Appendix G).

Scale samples will be analyzed at the Region 1 Scale Aging Laboratory in Douglas, Alaska. Scale impressions will be made in cellulose acetate and prepared for analysis as described by Clutter and Whitesel (1956). Scales will be examined under moderate ( $70\times$ ) magnification to determine age. Age classes will be designated by the European aging system where freshwater and saltwater years are separated by a period (e.g., 1.3 denotes a fish with one freshwater and three ocean years) (Koo 1962). The weekly age distribution, the seasonal age distribution and SE weighted by statistical week, and SE of sex composition weighted by statistical week will be calculated postseason using standard equations from Cochran (1977) (Appendix L).

#### **DIDSON Installation and Settings**

The DIDSON will be deployed just upstream of the weir approximately 3-5 m from the left bank of the river (Figure 3). The transducer will be attached to an aluminum rod and oriented perpendicularly to the current. The wide axis of the beam will be oriented horizontally and positioned close to the river bottom to maximize residence time of targets in the beam. Daily visual inspections will be conducted to confirm proper transducer placement and orientation and to make adjustments to accommodate varying water levels. The DIDSON will be operated at 1.8 MHz (high frequency 96 beams) with a viewing angle of  $29^{\circ} \times 14^{\circ}$ . A 30 m cable will be used to transmit power and data between the DIDSON and a "topside box" located inside the camp cabin, and an Ethernet cable will be used to route data to a laptop computer. Playback of files to enumerate fish will be controlled on the laptop computer with the latest version of DIDSON software inside the camp cabin.

Fish will be recorded as they move upstream through the boat gate opening at a range of approximately 5 m to 10 m from the face of the transducer, well within the 30-m effective range for a DIDSON set at high frequency. The sample rate will be set at 6 frames per second. Data will be recorded continuously in 60-minute increments and saved on a 3-terabyte portable external hard drive.

A gasoline powered generator or solar panel array and inverter will provide power for all equipment. In the event that the generator or array does not produce enough power to operate the DIDSON, power will automatically switch to an onsite battery bank. When sufficient power is being supplied by the generator or array, the battery bank will be charged at a float voltage of 13.7 V, equalization voltage of 14.7-15 V, and absorption voltage of 14.7 V due to the use of four 6 V Rolls S6-275 AGM batteries wired both in series and in parallel. Both the solar controller and the inverter/charger wired to the gasoline generator will be explicitly set to these voltages. Any deviation in the composition of the battery bank will require calling the manufacturer to set new float, equalization, and absorption voltages. The inverter/charger will be monitored via a controller inside the camp cabin.

The solar panel array will consist of six SYP130S-M 130W Instapark Photovoltaic Modules wired in series to breakers on a Big Baby Midnite Classic solar controller. As direct current (DC) power from the photovoltaic (PV) panels is routed through the solar controller and into the battery bank, a Magnum Energy MagnaSine charger/inverter will invert the DC from the battery bank into alternating current (AC) to supply power to most of the camp, including the DIDSON. Power from the battery bank is also known as constant current (CC). When the solar panel array is not in use, a gasoline powered generator will provide AC to the camp and the MagnaSine charger/inverter, which will automatically stop inverting and begin charging the batteries (a diagram of this set-up will be located in the camp cabin). The switch between inverting and charging will be fast enough that the DIDSON will continue to record data between power-source transfers.

#### **DIDSON** Operation

DIDSON operation will begin by statistical week 24 (Appendix A). The DIDSON will be operated 24 hours a day for the first five days with the boat gate closed at night. If any fish are observed passing through the weir at night while the gate is closed, the opening will be found and patched as soon as possible. This process will be extended past the first five days if fish continue to be observed passing through the weir when the gate is closed. Acoustic sampling will then begin each morning around 6:00 a.m. and continue until 10:00 p.m., when the boat gate will be closed for the night. Closing the gate at 10:00 p.m. will allow fish to build up behind the weir, where they can be easily sampled in the morning. In the rare event that a boat requires passage through the weir between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., the period of time the gate is down will be limited as much as possible, but some fish may pass without being counted. If the boat gate remains open after 10:00 p.m. due to a flow reversal or a mechanical issue with the gate, the DIDSON will be operated 24 hours a day every Sunday to ensure the weir is fish tight. If fish are recorded moving though the weir uncounted, the weir will be inspected to rectify the problem. If the problem continues, operating the DIDSON 24 hours a day for the entire season will be considered.

The DIDSON will be set to record data onto the hard drive in 60-minute increments, creating a separate date- and time-stamped file for each recording period. The weir crew will identify and tally fish traces from the playback of recorded files. All fish determined to be salmon will be counted. This can be completed at the same time new files are being recorded, however, during normal operation the files will be viewed sometime after the initial recording, often the next day. Viewing a file later allows for the recording to be sped up, increasing efficiency. Files will not be viewed at speeds in excess of 60 frames per second. Playback of DIDSON files in excess of 60 frames per second causes the computer to drop frames during review, increasing the likelihood of missing fish. Files can be initially screened with the playback speed set at 60 frames per second to facilitate quicker viewing when there are long periods without any observed fish passage. When a moving object is observed, the recording can be stopped then replayed forwards and backwards at a lower speed to evaluate the nature of the object (relative size, swimming pattern, etc.). Technicians will familiarize themselves with behaviors typical of various fish species through intensive observation. Fish which display feeding or milling behavior known to be associated with cutthroat trout or whitefish will not be counted. Fish that exhibit behavior identified with sockeye salmon (directional migration, no milling) will be assumed to be sockeye salmon and will be counted manually with tally counters.

#### **Observer Training**

The use of the DIDSON to count fish has limitations that need to be accounted for during operations or addressed preseason, including species apportionment (see below), shadowing effects, and observer bias from species nondetection or misclassification (cutthroat trout and whitefish identification versus salmon species) (Keefer et al. 2017). Observer fatigue or

interruptions in viewing can also bias observations between operators (Cronkite et al. 2006). Acoustic shadowing effects can be a problem when fish are present in high densities—fish nearer to the DIDSON mask or "shadow" fish passing farther away—which leads to undercounting. In studies conducted elsewhere, problems associated with shadowing occurred when fish densities were greater than 1,000 fish an hour (Holmes et al. 2006; Maxwell and Gove 2007; Westerman and Willette 2012). Hourly fish counts at Chilkat Lake have usually been well below 1,000 fish. In the rare event that large schools of fish (estimated at >1,000 fish) are present immediately below the weir, fish passage will be restricted by closing the boat gate and pulling a few pickets to create a smaller opening for fish to move through, which should help reduce the occurrence of acoustic shadowing. Event nondetection bias or perception bias occurs in field observations studies when animals are visible but not observed, and typically result in underestimates of abundance (Nichols et al. 2000). Misclassification biases occur when species are misidentified, also inducing bias in abundance estimates (Conn et al. 2013). These biases can be reduced by training observers in the preseason and by routinely conducting inseason observer comparisons to maintain quality control and ensure accuracy.

#### Early Season

Accurate DIDSON counts rely on an observer's expertise to detect individual fish (Petreman et al. 2014; Martignac et al. 2015). To standardize sockeye salmon identification and enumeration, along with training observers during the preseason, an 'experienced' observer will independently view, enumerate, and process a set of 4 raw 60-minute training files from prior seasons of DIDSON deployment. The 'experienced' observer will enumerate sockeye salmon for each 60-minute file, repeatedly, until the fish count has a CV of less than 10% between repetitions of the same file. The training files will include a variety of fish densities, along with upstream and downstream movement of fish, to ensure that observers are subjected to a full spectrum of fish densities, movement patterns, and behaviors. The training files will be used to develop a sockeye salmon identification criterion, to standardize enumeration scoring, and to increase agreement among different observers about event identification.

Observers in training will independently view and enumerate sockeye salmon detection events from the four raw 60-minute training files. For consistency across observers, software setting, monitor size, and playback speed will be held constant, but observers will be allowed to rewatch clips and adjust some settings such as brightness. Observers in training will rewatch and reenumerate each training file until they achieve a final fish count  $\pm$  15% from the benchmark interpretation set by the 'experienced' observer for each file. The 'experienced' observer will review files, as necessary, with each observer in training.

#### Inseason

Periodic, systematic observer comparisons of DIDSON counts will be conducted inseason to ensure accuracy of escapement counts. Every four weeks, four raw 60-minute files, representing the peak count for the four previous weeks, will be independently reviewed and enumerated for sockeye salmon abundance one time by each observer. These files should incorporate abundances greater than 100 fish/file when possible. An average of all individual counts ( $\bar{x}$ ) will be used as a baseline to compare against the averages of each observer ( $\bar{x}_i$ ) (Westerman and Willette 2011):

$$\bar{x} = \frac{\sum f}{n} \text{ and } \bar{x}_i = \frac{\sum f_i}{n_i},$$
 (1)

where:

 $\sum f = \text{sum of all fish counts of all observers},$ 

 $\sum f_i$  = sum of fish counts of an individual observer,

n = number of files counted by all observers, and

 $n_i$  = number of files counted by an individual observer.

The difference (d) from the average will be measured for each observer, then compared to the average of all individual subsample counts,

$$d = \bar{x}_i - \bar{x}.\tag{2}$$

If an individual observer's count is higher than the average, the difference will be expressed as a plus (+), and if below the average, a minus (-). Mean absolute percent error (MAPE) will be calculated as the mean of the absolute values of the percent errors. MAPE yields a measure of observer performance with over- and under-estimates treated equally (e.g., Ryall 1998),

$$MAPE = \left| -\frac{(\bar{x} - \bar{x}_i)}{\bar{x}} \right| * 100.$$
(3)

Disagreement of more than MAPE = 5% between the average all the individual counts of the observers and an individual observer's average should be flagged for a detailed review.

#### **Species Apportionment**

The DIDSON cannot be used to identify salmon to species when two or more species of similar size and shape are present (Martignac et al. 2015). Although on some river systems apportionment of sonar counts by species requires separate, intensive net or fish wheel sampling programs (Bromaghin 2005; Lozori and McIntosh 2014), species identification at the Chilkat Lake weir involves only two species (coho and sockeye salmon) and it is not an issue until coho salmon start arriving in late August or early September. Pink and chum salmon numbers are expected to be very low since few were historically counted through the weir (the 1981–2007 average annual weir count was 10 chum salmon and 1 pink salmon); therefore it is assumed that these species will have a negligible presence at the weir. Species apportionment of Chilkat Lake DIDSON counts will start on the first day a coho salmon is observed at the weir or captured in morning beach seine sampling events in conjunction with sockeye salmon scale sampling.

The daily proportions of coho and sockeye salmon will be determined from a sample of *at least* 68 fish (combination of coho and sockeye salmon) captured in beach seine sets each morning. This sample will be sufficient to estimate the proportion of each species within 10% of the true value with 90% probability, with the assumption that the proportion sampled in morning beach seine sets is representative of the proportion of coho and sockeye salmon present throughout the day. The number of fish captured by species will be recorded for each beach seine set conducted. To avoid duplicate counting, all captured fish will be marked with a hole punch on the upper left operculum. Coho salmon will simply be marked and enumerated (they will not be sampled for age,

sex, and length). Pink and chum salmon will also be counted if any are captured during beach seine sampling events. The proportions of coho and sockeye salmon captured during morning sampling events will be applied to that day's DIDSON counts. If, however, fewer than 68 fish are captured and counted on day X, the total sample on that day will be added to samples from previous days until the combined total equals *at least* 68 fish. The combined total will be then be applied to the DIDSON counts on day X.

ADF&G personnel will enter the beach seine recovery data from field forms into Excel computer spreadsheets at the field camp. Hourly DIDSON counts will be recorded on a paper data sheet during enumeration and recorded into Excel computer spreadsheets at the field camp. The summarized hourly counts will be entered directly into a daily counts Excel spreadsheet with proper apportionment when multiple species are caught in beach seine sampling events.

### LIMNOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

Basic limnological data, including zooplankton, light, and temperature sampling, will be collected monthly at Chilkat Lake from June to October. Sampling will be conducted as close as possible to the first day of each month. Since 2008, all limnological sampling has been conducted at stations 1A (59.3420° N, 135.9131° W) and 2A (59.3263° N, 135.8961° W), which are marked by anchored buoys in the lake. All sampling data will be recorded directly onto Limnology Sampling Forms (Appendix K). Monthly results will be averaged between the two stations, and seasonal estimates will be calculated as the average of the monthly values, June–October.

### Light and Temperature Sampling

Light penetration measurements will be used to estimate the euphotic zone depth (EZD) of the lake, which is defined as the depth at which light (photosynthetically available radiation at 400–700 nm) is attenuated to 1% of the intensity just below the lake surface (Schindler 1971). Photometric illuminance will be recorded as lumens per square meter (lm/m<sup>2</sup>) at 0.5-m intervals, from just below the lake surface to the depth at which ambient light level equals 1% of the subsurface recording. The natural log of the ratio of light intensity *I* just below the surface (*I*<sub>0</sub>) to light intensity at depth *Z*, or ln(*I*<sub>0</sub>/*I*<sub>2</sub>), will be calculated for each depth. The vertical light extinction coefficient (*K*<sub>d</sub>), the rate (m<sup>-1</sup>) at which light dims with increasing depth, will be estimated as the slope of the regression of ln(*I*<sub>0</sub>/*I*<sub>2</sub>) versus depth, and EZD will be calculated as 4.6502/*K*<sub>d</sub> (Kirk 1994; Edmundson et al. 2000). Only the measurements recorded from 5 cm below the surface to just below 1% of the subsurface measurement will skew the estimate of EZD.

Light profiles will be collected at each station using an ILT 1400 International Light Technologies Photometer. A Protomatic light meter that measures illumination in foot candles or a secchi disk may be used as a backup. If the Protomatic light meter is used, the recording of the light intensity will include the value of the meter multiplier (e.g., 10,000x; 1,000x; 100x). If the ILT 1400 is used, this area of the Limnology Sampling Form should be used to record whether each reading is in lumens per square meter ( $lm/m^2$ ) or kilolumens per square meter ( $klm/m^2$ ).

Temperature (°C) will be measured with a Yellow Springs Instruments Model 58 meter. Temperature will be recorded at 1-m intervals from the lake surface to a depth of 20 meters, and at 5-m intervals from 20 meters to a depth of 50 meters. Temperature readings will be recorded in the "Meter" column of the Limnology Sampling Form (Appendix K).

#### **Zooplankton Sampling**

Zooplankton samples will be collected at each station using a 0.5 m diameter, 153 µm mesh conical net. Vertical zooplankton tows will be pulled from a depth of 50 meters to the surface at a constant speed of 0.5 m/sec. Once the top of the net clears the water surface, the rest of the net will be pulled slowly from the water and rinsed from the outside with lake water to wash organisms into the screened sampling container at the cod end of the net. All specimens in the sampling container will be carefully rinsed with tap water into a labeled 500 ml sampling bottle and preserved in a buffered 10% formalin or 10% EtOH solution. Sampling bottles will be topped off with tap water. The lake name, date, sampler's name, sampling station, and preservative type will be recorded on the bottle label. The start and stop times and time elapsed for each zooplankton tow will be recorded on the Limnology Field Sampling Form (Appendix K). Zooplankton samples will be analyzed at the ADF&G Kodiak Limnology Laboratory (Hopkins 2017).

### **DATA REDUCTION**

### WEIR COUNTS

Data collected at the fish weir will be recorded on field forms specific to each activity (Appendices H through J). Data forms will be kept up to date at all times and will be inspected daily for errors and completeness by all crew members and double-checked again by the crew leader. Daily counts will be called into the Haines office daily via cell phone by 9:00 a.m. and distributed within the department via weekly email by office staff.

DIDSON weir counts will be entered daily (or as timely as possible) into the ADF&G database at the Haines ADF&G office using the Zander data entry application on the ADF&G OceanAK website. Data to be entered include the water temperature (°C), stream height (mm), brief comments (e.g., water clarity, flow reversals), and fish numbers by count type, maturity, and species. It is important that a count of 0 be entered for any species/maturity type that might reasonably be expected to be present if none are counted on a given day. Sockeye salmon, for example, should be expected on any given day the weir is operated; thus, enter 0 for all days when no fish are counted through the weir when the gate is open. Conversely, there is no need to enter a count of 0 should be entered for all days when none are counted. To ensure accuracy, entered data should be checked against the raw data each time they are entered into the database. Once the project is completed, daily weir counts for the entire season should be downloaded from OceanAK and double-checked again to ensure they are accurate and complete.

### SOCKEYE SALMON AGE, SEX, AND LENGTH COMPOSITION

All ASL forms and scale cards (Appendices E through G) will be checked weekly to ensure that scales are clean and mounted correctly, labeled correctly, and match up with the corresponding ASL data form. Scales will be remounted when necessary. All data associated with sockeye salmon scale samples will be sent to the Region 1 Scale Aging Laboratory in Douglas **each Monday morning** for review, analysis, and archiving.

### LIMNOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

Limnological data forms (Appendix K) will be kept up to date at all times and will be inspected monthly for errors and completeness. Light and temperature data will be entered into specific Excel spreadsheets at the Haines office and stored on the ADF&G regional shared network drive.

Zooplankton samples and associated forms (Appendix K) will be delivered to the Haines ADF&G Commercial Fisheries office for seasonal storage. At the end of the season, all samples will be shipped to the ADF&G Kodiak Limnology Laboratory for analysis.

### SCHEDULE AND DELIVERABLES

about 20 June–10 October

monthly, June-October

### FIELD OPERATIONS

Field sampling activities are scheduled as follows:

- 1. Chilkat Lake weir and DIDSON sonar
- 2. Chilkat Lake limnology

### REPORTING

Results of this study will be presented in the annual fishery management plan for the Lynn Canal drift gillnet fishery (Fishery Management Report) in April of each year and the biannual report summarizing the results of this project (Fishery Data Series Report), which will be completed in December of 2020 and in March of each following odd year.

### RESPONSIBILITIES

- Nicole L. Zeiser, Fishery Biologist III, Area Management Biologist, Principal Investigator: Sets up all major aspects of project, including planning, budget, sample design, permits, equipment, hiring, training and evaluating personnel. Supervises overall project; edits, analyzes, and reports data; oversees major repairs; and expedites major purchases. Reviews schedules and writes the operational plan and project reports; and serves as lead biologist for the project.
- Shane Ransbury, Fishery Biologist I: Responsible for overseeing Chilkat Lake weir operations and directing the projects in the absence of Zeiser. Assists with the supervision of the overall project; edits, analyzes, and reports data; conducts quality control on data and data files and prepares them for shipping; trains the crew in safety and project procedures; creates crew schedules; assists with fieldwork; arranges logistics with the field crew; and serves as project expeditor. Assists with writing and reviewing operational plans and ensures the plan is followed or modified appropriately. Resolves personnel or administrative issues related to this project and writes crew evaluations.
- David Besh, Fish and Wildlife Technician III: Crew leader on the Chilkat Lake weir and DIDSON project; responsible for employee training and data quality control.
- Taylor Cowan and Zach McKeown, Fish and Wildlife Technicians II: These positions assist in all aspects of the operation and maintenance of the Chilkat Lake weir and DIDSON and assist in the limnological sampling.

- Faith Lorentz, Program Technician: Coordinates communication with Chilkat Lake weir crew, updates master spreadsheet with daily weir and fish wheel counts, provides administrative assistance, tracks project budgets, and provides other assistance as needed.
- Steven C. Heinl, Regional Research Coordinator: Assists with project operational planning and review of project report.
- Sara Miller, Biometrician III: Assists with sampling design, project operational planning, and data analysis.

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**APPENDICES** 

	202	20	202	21	202	22
Statistical Week <sup>a</sup>	Beginning Date	Ending Date	Beginning Date	Ending Date	Beginning Date	Ending Date
23	31-May	6-Jun	30-May	5-Jun	29-May	4-Jun
24	7-Jun	13-Jun	6-Jun	12-Jun	5-Jun	11-Jun
25	14-Jun	20-Jun	13-Jun	19-Jun	12-Jun	18-Jun
26	21-Jun	27-Jun	20-Jun	26-Jun	19-Jun	25-Jun
27	28-Jun	4-Jul	27-Jun	3-Jul	26-Jun	2-Jul
28	5-Jul	11-Jul	4-Jul	10-Jul	3-Jul	9-Jul
29	12-Jul	18-Jul	11-Jul	17-Jul	10-Jul	16-Jul
30	19-Jul	25-Jul	18-Jul	24-Jul	17-Jul	23-Jul
31	26-Jul	1-Aug	25-Jul	31-Jul	24-Jul	30-Jul
32	2-Aug	8-Aug	1-Aug	7-Aug	31-Jul	6-Aug
33	9-Aug	15-Aug	8-Aug	14-Aug	7-Aug	13-Aug
34	16-Aug	22-Aug	15-Aug	21-Aug	14-Aug	20-Aug
35	23-Aug	29-Aug	22-Aug	28-Aug	21-Aug	27-Aug
36	30-Aug	5-Sep	29-Aug	4-Sep	28-Aug	3-Sep
37	6-Sep	12-Sep	5-Sep	11-Sep	4-Sep	10-Sep
38	13-Sep	19-Sep	12-Sep	18-Sep	11-Sep	17-Sep
39	20-Sep	26-Sep	19-Sep	25-Sep	18-Sep	24-Sep
40	27-Sep	3-Oct	26-Sep	2-Oct	25-Sep	1-Oct
41	4-Oct	10-Oct	3-Oct	9-Oct	2-Oct	8-Oct
42	11-Oct	17-Oct	10-Oct	16-Oct	9-Oct	15-Oct

Appendix A.–ADF&G statistical weeks 23–42 and corresponding calendar dates, 2020–2022.

<sup>a</sup> Statistical weeks begin on Sunday at 12:01 a.m. and end the following Saturday at midnight and are numbered sequentially starting from the first week of the calendar year.

Appendix B.–Procedures for sampling adult sockeye salmon for age, sex, and length (ASL).

#### ESCAPEMENT SAMPLING FOR SCALES

The following is a detailed explanation on how to collect salmon scale samples. If you have any questions, ask your co-worker or supervisor for clarification. Scales must be readable and properly organized to be useful, so follow proper technique when sampling.

For sampling you will need:

- Clipboard with ADF&G Salmon Age-Sex-Length (ASL) forms
- Pencils (No. 2)
- Pre-labeled scale cards
- Wax paper inserts
- Forceps (tweezers)
- Plastic scale card holders (optional)
- Measuring tape/measuring board or measuring trough
- Dip net
- Gloves

#### SCALE CARDS

A scale card (also called a gum card) is a gum-backed sheet for mounting individual scales collected from a fish. Each card has 40 positions, numbered 1 through 40. Scale samples are placed on the cards in sequential order but working down in columns instead of rows because you will take more than one scale from each fish.

It is important to keep scale cards dry at all times. A wet scale card is useless, as the scales will fall off and prevent a readable impression from being taken. If the scale card does get wet (really wet), the scales should be remounted onto a new scale card and great care should be taken to keep each scale in its original position. The completed scale card should be allowed to dry completely before storing. All scale cards should be stored with a sheet of wax paper placed between them to keep the cards from sticking to each other, and the cards should be kept in a moisture-proof container or pressed between paper towels while drying.

#### SCALE SAMPLING PROCEDURES

Pluck the scale from the "preferred area" of the fish using forceps (tweezers). The preferred scales are located on the left side of the fish, two scale rows above the lateral line on the diagonal from the posterior insertion of the dorsal fin to the anterior origin of the anal fin (Appendix E). If the preferred scales are missing, reabsorbed, or obviously deformed, try the preferred area on the right side of the fish or sample a different fish. **Do not sample scales outside of the preferred area.** 

After plucking scales from the fish, **take time to clean the scale and make sure the scales are mounted correctly on the scale card.** Remove all slime, grit, and as much skin (silver color) as possible from them by wiping the under surface (the side adhering to the fish) on the back of your hand or between fingers. Moisten cleaned scales and mount them on the appropriate number on the scale card. Mount scales with the anterior end (the end of the scale pointing toward the fish's head when plucked) pointed toward the top of the scale card (Appendix E).

Appendix B.-continued (Page 2 of 7).

Avoid collecting scales that are regenerated, torn, or misshapen. Patches of regenerated scales are often visible on the fish as a scar or patch of irregularly shaped scales. Regenerated scales have irregular patterns and often have a clear or blank area visible in the middle of the scale, all of which makes them useless for determining the fish's age.

It is essential that scales be cleaned before they are mounted on the scale card. If all the silvercolored skin, slime, and dirt are not removed, the scale will not adhere well to the card. In addition, slime and dirt on the scales or on the gum card will obscure the scale and render it useless for determining the fish's age (which is the purpose of the entire sampling process).

**It is very important to not turn the scale over when mounting it on the gum card.** The ridged or sculptured side of the scale should always face up, as it does on the outer surface of the fish. The age of the fish is determined from the pattern of these ridges on the outer surface of the scale. The underside of the scale, the side facing the fish's body, is perfectly smooth and thus not useful for determining age. Scales that are accidentally placed upside down (inverted) on the scale card can often be spotted later, because the edges of the scale will start to pull away from the card as they dry. The ridges can easily be detected by lightly scratching the surface of the scale with a fingernail or tweezers.

It is very important that all scales be mounted on the scale card pointed in exactly the same direction. The anterior portion of the scale (the end of the scale that points toward the fish's head) should be oriented toward the top of the card. Uniform orientation makes it much easier to view and age the scales at the ADF&G aging laboratory. If the scales are pointing in different directions, they will have to be remounted at the lab, so it is essential to mount them correctly at the time they are collected.

#### SOCKEYE SALMON SCALE SAMPLING

When sampling sockeye salmon, you will take THREE SCALES from each fish. For the first sockeye salmon sampled, mount the three scales over scale-card boxes 1, 11, and 21 (working down in a column instead of across rows). Scales from the second fish sampled will be placed on scale-card boxes 2, 12, and 22. Repeat for the remainder of the fish sampled (Appendix E). You will sample 10 fish every day so the scale card will be filled up daily and you will use a new scale card for each new sampling event. The same ASL form will be used each day until it is full. Sockeye salmon ASL forms will have 4 scale cards associated with them if 40 fish are sampled during the statistical week. On the ASL form, simply write the new sampling date on the line in the right margin of the form that corresponds to the fish number (Appendix G). It is important that scale card number and information match the information entered on the corresponding optical scan (ASL) form. Remember to always start a new scale card and new corresponding ASL form at the beginning of each statistical week (Appendix A).

#### FILLING OUT A SCALE CARD (example shown in Appendix F)

#### **Species:**

Write name of species out completely, as shown on the reverse side of the ASL form (i.e., sockeye). Do not abbreviate.

Appendix B.-continued (Page 3 of 7).

#### Card No:

Scale cards are numbered sequentially beginning with "001" and continue through the entire season. Each species will have its own card numbering series. Do not repeat or omit scale card numbers.

#### Locality:

Write out the name of the system being sampled (i.e., Chilkat Lake).

#### Stat. Code:

Write the 3-digit district (115), then the 2-digit subdistrict (32), then the 3-digit stream number (032) (i.e., 115-32-032 for Chilkat Lake).

#### Sampling date:

Record the date when fish were sampled. This should match the date on the corresponding ASL form.

#### Gear:

Write out completely (i.e., weir). Do not abbreviate.

#### **Collector(s):**

Record the last name of the persons sampling and their respective jobs. The fish wrestler (W), the data recorder (R), and the scale plucker (P); e.g., Heinl (W), Zeiser (P, R).

#### **Remarks:**

Record any pertinent information (i.e., for sockeye salmon you would record: 3 scales/fish, # of fish sampled, and corresponding ASL #).

#### COMPLETING THE OPTICAL SCAN FORMS (example shown in Appendix G)

Salmon from many systems throughout the state are sampled for age, sex, and length annually by field crews. To be useful, data must be recorded neatly and accurately on the optical scan forms. Complete each section on the left side of the optical scan form using a No. 2 pencil and darken the corresponding ovals as shown in the figures. It is imperative that you darken the oval completely and neatly. Make every effort to darken the entire oval because the optical scanner that reads and records the data from the optical scan forms often misses partially filled or lightly filled ovals but avoid pressing so hard as to indent the paper. Do not stack forms when filling them out and label only one form at a time to avoid "the carbon paper effect" and resulting stray marks. It is essential that the forms are reviewed at the end of each day to ensure that all data are filled in and appropriately marked.

#### **ASL Header Section:**

# **Description:** SPECIES/ DIST., SUB-DIST, OR STREAM/ GEAR/ PORT OR ESCAPEMENT SYSTEM/ WEEK.

Write the description information in the header of the ASL above the appropriate sections, following the examples shown in Appendix G; for the Chilkat Lake weir this will be **Sockeye/ Dist. 115-32-032/weir/Chilkat Lake Escapement/Week 26**).

```
Appendix B.-continued (Page 4 of 7).
```

Continue filling out the entries along the left side of the **optical scan** (ASL) form as described below:

#### **Description:**

Write out the name of the species, District, sub-district system and the type of sampling being done, and statistical week

#### Card:

CARD:	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
001	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
001	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Scale cards are numbered sequentially throughout the season starting with 001 or continuing where previously left off. A separate numbering sequence will be used for each species, gear, fishery, and harvest code so be sure you are using the correct scale card number. Since three scales per fish are sampled for sockeye salmon, each gum card will have scales from 10 fish, and each ASL can have up to four scale cards. The first scale card of the sequence for each ASL form should be recorded and appropriate blocks filled in, while the other associated scale cards should be written in where the ASL form states "CARD #" between each 10-row section.

#### **Species:**

The code numbers for each species are listed on the reverse side of the ASL form.

SPECIES: 2	1	2	3	4	5	
Sockeye $= 2$						

#### Day, Month, Year:

An ASL form will show the date of the first sampling event of the week marked in the boxes on the left side of the form, and subsequent sampling dates throughout the statistical week will be written on the line in the right-hand margin of the form (Appendix G). Use appropriate blocks for the date the fish were sampled.

DAY:	0	1	2	3						
24	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
MONTH:	0	1								
06	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
YEAR:	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
18	0	0	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

#### **District:**

DISTRICT:	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
115	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
115	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Appendix B.-continued (Page 5 of 7).

#### **Sub-District:**

SUB-	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
DISTRICT: 32	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

#### Stream:

STREAM:	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
032	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
032	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

#### **Port:** Leave Blank

#### **Statistical Week:**

List the statistical week in which you are sampling. Refer to the statistical week calendar found in Appendix A for this number.

STAT.	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
WEEK 26	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

#### **Project:**

The project code for escapement sampling at a weir site is 3. Refer to the reverse side of the ASL form to see codes.

PROJECT: 3       1       2       3       4       5       6       7       8       9
--

#### Gear:

The gear code is 14 = Weir. Refer to the reverse side of the ASL form to see codes.

GEAR:	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
14	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

#### Length Type:

Use length type 2 (mid eye to fork of tail).

LENGTH TYPE: 2 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
------------------------------------

#### Number of Cards:

Mark 1, 2, 3, or 4 as appropriate, for number of scale cards associated with that ASL form.

# CARDS: 4	1	2	3	4	

User Code Definitions: Leave blank.

Appendix B.-continued (Page 6 of 7).

#### Sex Column:

Fill in the appropriate M (male) or F (female) block for each sockeye salmon sampled. Do the same for sampling Chinook salmon.

#	SE	X
1	Μ	F
2	Μ	F
3	Μ	F

#### Length Columns:

Measure fish from **mid eye to fork of tail (MEF) to the nearest 5mm (Appendix C).** Mark (1) in the "T" column for fish > 999 mm in MEF length.

Т					10	<b>0S</b>								L	EN	GT	H								1	's				
1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

#### SOME REMINDERS

- It is extremely important to keep the optical scan forms flat, dry, and clean. Fish slime and water curling will cause the optical scanning reader machine to reject the entire optical scan form. If unnecessary pencil marks, dark spots, etc. are visible, they need to be erased or the machine will misinterpret the mark. It is essential to fill in all information and darken the circles completely.
- Record length by blackening the appropriate column circles on the optical scan form. Column 3 on the optical scan form is used for fish over 999 millimeters long. Measure all salmon to the nearest 5 millimeters.
- Optical scan forms should be carefully reviewed and edited before submitting to the immediate supervisor. This is extremely important and cannot be emphasized enough. Recheck header information on optical scan forms and make sure all available information is filled in. Card numbers should not be repeated. Crew leaders should take time to ensure that the circles are being blackened correctly; if the circles are not darkened properly or are sloppily marked the optical scanner will record the information incorrectly or miss it entirely. Keep marks within each circle and completely fill them. Do not mark outside the circles.
- Transfer important comments from scale cards to optical scan forms. After pressing scales, the cards are seldom referred to again, and important remarks can be lost. Write any necessary comments in the top margin (not on the left side) or on the reverse side of the optical scan form. If no room is available on the optical scan form to completely explain the remarks, use a separate piece of paper.
- If the optical scan forms get terribly wrinkled or blotched, they should be copied to a new form before submitting to the area office. The optical scanning machine is extremely sensitive to wrinkles and blotches and will misread or reject the sheets.

Appendix B.–continued (Page 7 of 7).

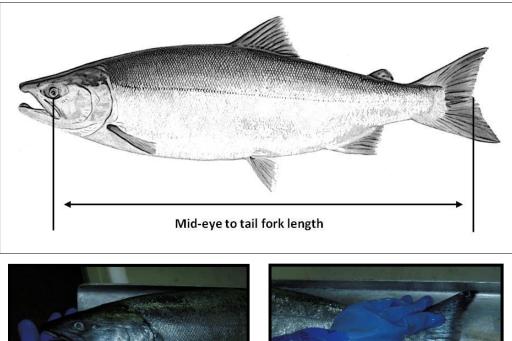
- Look down the form from 2 angles after the data have been recorded to pick up any glaring mistakes. A common error, for instance, is placing both the 1 and 9 of a 419 mm fish in the 10's column with nothing in the 1's column.
- It is important for post-season editing that all information is provided on every ASL form and scale card. Include such information as who wrestled the fish, plucked the scale, and filled out the forms. It is the responsibility of the crew leader to make sure all information is entered correctly. The project leader will also double-check the forms before sending the data to Juneau.

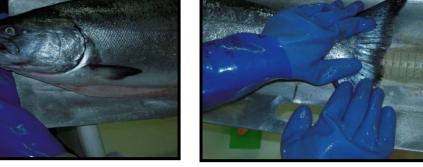
Appendix C.–Measuring adult salmon for length.

The snout of a salmon changes as the fish approaches sexual maturity, therefore changing the length of the fish. As a result, length measurements are made from the middle of the eye to the fork of the tail. **The length is always rounded and recorded to the <u>nearest 5 millimeters (mm).</u> Examples of rounded lengths are: 561–562 mm rounded to 560 mm, 563–567 mm rounded to 565 mm, and 568–569 mm rounded to 570 mm.** 

A fish measuring trough is used at the Chilkoot River weir site. The procedure for measuring mideye to fork of tail length is as follows:

- 1. Place the salmon flat, right side down, in the measuring trough. If you are the one wrestling the salmon, orient the salmon with its head on your right, the tail in your left hand, and the salmon's dorsal surface (back) towards you. This puts the salmon in the correct orientation for the plucker (P) and recorder (R) to remove the preferred scale from the fish's left side if the plucker is standing on the other side of the measuring trough.
- 2. Line the eye of the salmon up with the end of the measuring tape, then hold the salmon's head with your right hand. Gently sliding your thumb into the salmon's mouth and grasping the lower jaw works well for larger fish.
- 3. Flatten and spread the tail against the board with your left hand. Read the mid eye to fork of tail length to the nearest 5 millimeters and record the length on the ASL form.





(© 2019 ADF&G/photo Anna Buettner)

Appendix D.–Determining the sex of salmon.

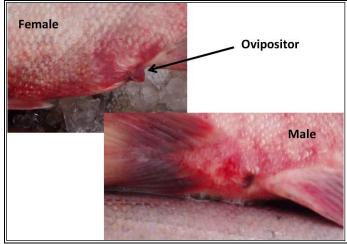
External sexing of salmon can be difficult, depending on the species and sexual maturity of the fish, and requires practice and attention to detail in order to be accurate. Sex determination requires examination of a combination of characteristics: 1) the head of the fish, for the development of a long snout and kype in males (shown in the photo below); 2) the vent, on the underside of the fish, for the presence of an ovipositor in females; and 3) the belly, which becomes rounder and fuller in females as their eggs develop.

1) Male sockeye and Chinook salmon may have longer snout than females and develop more of a hooked top jaw/nose and hooked kype (lower jaw) as they mature, as illustrated by the fish on the right. Female salmon tend to have a rounder, shorter nose/face and lack the hooked top jaw, as illustrated by the fish on the left.

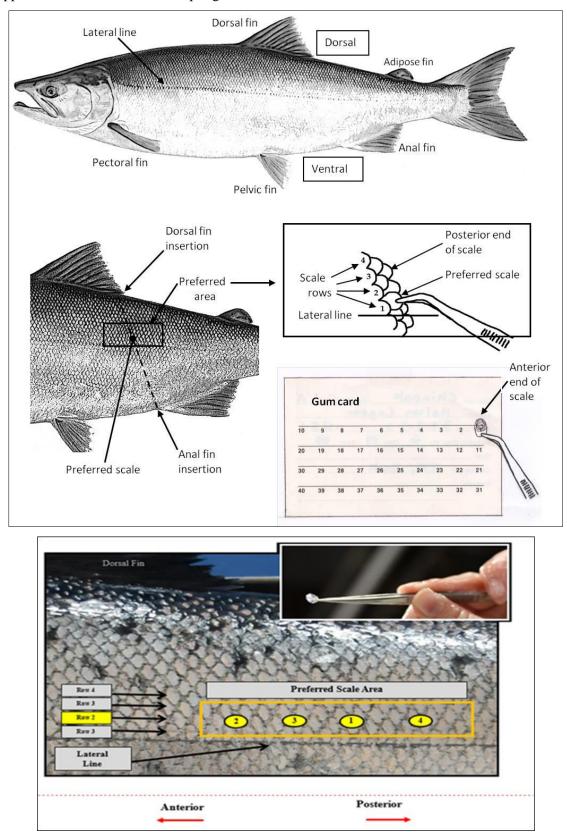


(© 2019 ADF&G)

2) Examining the fish's vent is another helpful procedure to determine male or female salmon.



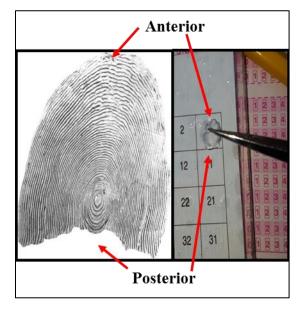
(© 2019 ADF&G)



Appendix E.–Preferred scale sampling area on an adult salmon.

Appendix E.-continued (Page 2 of 2).

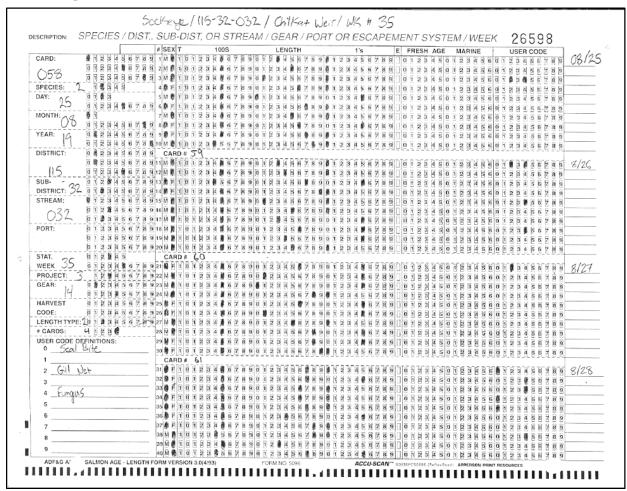
Clean, moisten and mount scale on the scale card directly over the appropriate scale number. The side of the scale facing up on the scale card is the same as the side facing up when it is attached to the fish. This outward facing side is referred to as the "sculptured" side of the scale. The ridges on this sculptured side can be felt with fingernail or forceps. When placing the scale on the scale card, place in one uniform direction. **ANTERIOR SIDE POINTING UP, SCULPTURED SIDE FACING OUT.** 



Appendix F.-Example of a completed scale card that corresponds to the completed ASL form in Appendix G.

Card No: 0 5 8 Species: Sochers Locality: Chilkat Lake 15-32-032 = 51 3 Stat. Code: Sampling Date: Mo. 08 Day 25 Year 2019 2 3 8 Gear: Weir 8 3 8 3 Collector(s): TC(W) ZM(B Remarks: 3 Scales/fish 10 FISM TOTAL ASL # 26598 3 scales per fish

Appendix G.–Example of ADF&G Adult Salmon Age, Sex, Length (ASL) form filled out for sockeye salmon samples collected at the Chilkat Lake weir.



Chilka DIDSO Stat W	N Hour /eek	2018 ly Coun 24	ts	Record ga Enter dat Transfer Starting v	ate openir a into "Ho daily total veek 35 (c	g and clos ourly coun s to "Daily or when co	passage fi sure times ts" spread Counts" s bho presen ionment"	Isheet spreadshe nt) transfe	eet er		QC/QA b Check tra Check da When co check "S	Y anscription ily totals in ho presen onar Appo	n to "Hour n "Daily Co	_ ly Counts ounts"
		<u>10</u>		<u>11</u>		<u>12</u>		<u>13</u>		14		<u>′15</u>		<u>16</u>
	# Fish	Gate	# Fish	Gate	# Fish	Gate	# Fish	Gate	# Fish	Gate	# Fish	Gate	# Fish	Gate
0:00														
1:00														
2:00														
3:00														
4:00														
5:00														
6:00														
7:00														
8:00														
9:00														
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17:00														
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19:00														
20:00														
21:00														
22:00														
23:00									l		l		l	
Notes: Daily Total	0		0		0		0		0		0	•	0	•
Transfe	er Daily To	otals into	Daily C Coho pres	ounts" sp	oreadshee	et								

#### Appendix H.–Chilkat Lake Hourly Fish Counts Form.

	kat Lak	_	2018	Closegat	e at night :	and seine	in the AM	. Daily, co	llect 10 s	ockeye sal	mon for s	ales, sex	and length	n. 3 scales,	/fish.	Data entr	у by		_		
in	ne Reco	very		Useones	scale gum	card per o	day. Scale	data colle	ted withi	n the stat	week reco	rded on a	ne AWL			QC/QA by	/		_		
	Week		24							and chur		nt in seine							VL and sca	ale cards	
	CREWNA	MES		1						fish are ca	-							n to "Reco			
-										ly total to ye and #co					•"	Check dat				ortionmer	
				Starting v	veek 55 (c	when a	no prese	ių transie	s #Socke	ye anu #co	no daliy a	JLais LO 3	onal App	oraonmen		whenco	no presen	L, CHECK	sonar App	ortionne	ii.
:	Start			Start			Start			Start			Start			Start			Start		
,	Stop			Stop			Stop			Stop			Stop			Stop			Stop		
		6/10			6/11			6/12			6/13			6/14			6/15			6/16	
	#sock	#scales	#coho	# sock	#scales	#coho	# sock	#scales	#coho	#sock	#scales	#coho	# sock	#scales	#coho	# sock	<u>#scales</u>	#coho	# sock	#scales	#c
1																					
_																					
2																					-
3																					
-																					⊢
4																					
Ì																					
5																					
	AWL Card	l Number		AWLCard	d Number		AWL Caro	d Number		AWL Card	i Number		AWL Card	d Number		AWL Card	d Number		AWL Card	d Number	
	AWL Sam	ple Numb	er(s)	AWLSam	nple Numb	er(s)	AWL Sam	iple Numb	er(s)	AWLSam	pleNumb	er(s)	AWL Sam	nple Numb	er(s)	AWL Sam	npleNumb	er(s)	AWL Sam	nple Numb	er(s
									_												
ľ	Comment	:s:		Commen	ts:		Comment	ts:		Commen	15:		Commen	ts:		Comment	ts:		Commen	ts:	
1	#pink			#pink			#pink			#pink			#pink			#pink			#pink		-
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I	#SOCK	#scales	#coho	# sock	#scales	#coho	# sock	#scales	#coho	# sock	#scales	#coho	# sock	#scales	#coho	# sock	#scales	#coho	# sock	#scales	#0
/ el	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

#### Appendix I.–Chilkat Lake Seine Recovery Form.

#sock and #coho daily totals to "Sonar Apportionment" spreadsheet

Da	ate	DIDSON					Ар	portic	onment						Wate	r
				Se	ine Sam	pling			1	Daily	Count					
						Sockeye	Coho									
Stat. Week	Date	Daily Total	Actual Sampled Sockeye: Coho	68 Total Sampled (Y/N)	Date of Ratio Used if N	(Most recen sam)		Sockeye	Cumulative Sockeye	Scales Collected	Cumulative Collected	Coho	Cumulative Coho	Temp.	Level	Visibility
23	5/31															
23	6/1															
23	6/2															
23	6/3															
23	6/4															
23	6/5															_
23	6/6						_									
24	6/7	_														-
24	6/8 6/9															-
24 24	6/9	-														
24	6/10	-														-
24	6/12															
24	6/13	-														-
25	6/14															
25	6/15															
25	6/16															
25	6/17															
25	6/18															1
25	6/19															1
25	6/20							1								1
26	6/21															
26	6/22															
26	6/23															
26	6/24															
26	6/25															
26	6/26															
26	6/27															
27	6/28															
27	6/29															-
27	6/30															
27	7/1															

Appendix J.–Chilkat Lake Daily Counts Spreadsheet.

			LA	KE SURV	EY - Field Form			
Lake ID						Date:		
Sampling	Station:		Sampling I	Depth (m):		Lake El	ev(m):	
		Weather / bservers:		onditions:				
		-						
		al Paramete						
Parame	eter profile:		to		Hrs DO/temp m			
Light intens	sity profile:		to		Hrs Light m	eter used:		
[	Dissolv	ed Oxyge	en (mg/L)		Temperature (C)		Light Inte	ensity
Depth	meter	% O2 saturation	Winkler titration	Depth	Meter	Depth	Foot Candles (Up looking)	Multiplie
Above				Above		Above		
Surface 5 cm				Surface 5 cm		Surface 5 cm		
					~			
0.5 m				0.5 m		0.5 m		
1.0 m				1.0 m	~	1.0 m		
1.5 m 2.0 m				1.5 m 2.0 m		1.5 m 2.0 m		
2.0 m				2.0 m	~	2.0 m		
2.5 m 3.0 m				2.5 m		2.5 m		
3.5 m				3.5 m		3.5 m		
4.0 m				4.0 m		4.0 m		
4.5 m				4.5 m		4.5 m		
4.5 m				4.5 m		4.5 m		
5.5 m				5.5 m		5.5 m		
6.0 m				6.0 m		6.0 m		
6.5 m				6.5 m	<u> </u>	6.5 m		
7.0 m				7.0 m		7.0 m		
7.5 m				7.5 m	$\sim$	7.5 m		
8.0 m				8.0 m	$\sim$	8.0 m		
8.5 m				8.5 m		8.5 m		
9.0 m				9.0 m		9.0 m		
9.5 m				9.5 m		9.5 m		
10.0 m				10.0 m		10.0 m		
10.5 m				10.5 m	$\searrow$	10.5 m		
11.0 m				11.0 m		11.0 m		
11.5 m				11.5 m	$\searrow$	11.5 m		
12.0 m				12.0 m		12.0 m		
12.5 m				12.5 m	$\searrow$	12.5 m		
13.0 m				13.0 m		13.0 m		
13.5 m				13.5 m		13.5 m		
14.0 m				14.0 m		14.0 m		
14.5 m				14.5 m	$\searrow$	14.5 m		
15.0 m				15.0 m		15.0 m		

Appendix K.–Limnology Sampling Form.

Lake ID	-						Date:		
Sampling	g Station:		Sa	impling D	epth (m):		-		
	Dissolv		en (mg/L)		Tempera	ature (C)	-	Light Inte	nsity
Depth	meter	% O2 saturation	Winkler titration	Depth	Me	eter	Depth	Foot Candles (Up looking)	Multipl
16.0 m				16.0 m			16.0 m		
17.0 m				17.0 m			17.0 m		
18.0 m				18.0 m			18.0 m		
19.0 m				19.0 m			19.0 m		
20.0 m				20.0 m			20.0 m		
25.0 m				25.0 m			25.0 m		
30.0 m				30.0 m			30.0 m		
35.0 m				35.0 m			35.0 m		
40.0 m				40.0 m			40.0 m		
45.0 m				45.0 m			45.0 m		
50.0 m				50.0 m			50.0 m		
		Depth	Date	lime	(hrs)	Sample Bottle #			
		Depth	Date	lime	(hrs)		- - -		
Biologica	I Paramete			Zooplankt	ton	Bottle #	- - - -		
-	Station	ers		Zooplankt	ton Station	Bottle #	-		
Time of	Station f Sample End:	ers		Zooplankt	ton Station Stanple End:	Bottle #	-	_	
Time of S	Station f Sample End: Sample Start:	ers		Zooplankt Time of Time of	ton Station Sample End: Sample Start:	Bottle #			
Time of S	Station f Sample End: Sample Start: ime (min:sec)	ers		Zooplankt Time of Time of	ton Station Sample Start: Sample Start: ime (min:sec)	Bottle #		-	
Time of S	Station f Sample End: Sample Start: ime (min:sec) Tow depth:	ers	m	Zooplankt Time of Time of	ton Station Sample End: Sample Start: ime (min:sec) Tow depth:	Bottle #	m	-	
Time of Time of S Bapsed ti Time of	Station f Sample End: Sample Start: ime (min:sec) Tow depth: Station f Sample End:	ers	m	Zooplankt Time of Eapsed ti	ton Station Sample End: Sample Start: ime (min:sec) Tow depth: Station Sample End:	Bottle #	_m -		
Time of Time of Bapsed ti Time of Time of	Station f Sample End: Sample Start: ime (min:sec) Tow depth: Station f Sample End: Sample Start:	ers	m	Zooplankt Time of Time of Bapsed ti Time of Time of	ton Station Sample End: Sample Start: ime (min:sec) Tow depth: Station Sample End: Sample Start:	Bottle #	_m -	- - -	
Time of Time of Bapsed ti Time of Time of	Station f Sample End: Sample Start: ime (min:sec) Tow depth: Station f Sample End: Sample Start: ime (min:sec)	ers	m	Zooplankt Time of Time of Bapsed ti Time of Time of	ton Station Sample End: Sample Start: ime (min:sec) Tow depth: Station Sample End: Sample Start: ime (min:sec)	Bottle #	_m -	-	
Time of Time of Bapsed ti Time of Time of	Station f Sample End: Sample Start: ime (min:sec) Tow depth: Station f Sample End: Sample Start:	ers	m	Zooplankt Time of Bapsed ti Time of Time of Bapsed ti	ton Station Sample End: Sample Start: ime (min:sec) Tow depth: Sample End: Sample Start: ime (min:sec) Tow depth:	Bottle #	_m 	-	
Time of Time of Bapsed ti Time of Time of	Station f Sample End: Sample Start: ime (min:sec) Tow depth: Station f Sample End: Sample Start: ime (min:sec)	ers	m	Zooplankt Time of Time of Bapsed ti Time of Time of Hapsed ti	ton Station Sample End: Sample Start: ime (min:sec) Tow depth: Sample End: Sample Start: ime (min:sec) Tow depth:	Bottle #	_m 		
Time of Time of Bapsed ti Time of Time of	Station f Sample End: Sample Start: ime (min:sec) Tow depth: Station f Sample End: Sample Start: ime (min:sec) Tow depth:	ers	m pplankton - Time set	Zooplankt Time of Time of Bapsed ti Time of Time of Hapsed ti	ton Station Sample End: Sample Start: ime (min:sec) Tow depth: Station Sample End: Sample Start: ime (min:sec) Tow depth: tin - Chloro	Bottle #	_m m plesnd time		
Time of Time of Bapsed ti Time of Time of	Station f Sample End: Sample Start: ime (min:sec) Tow depth: Station f Sample End: Sample Start: ime (min:sec) Tow depth:	ers	m pplankton - Time set	Zooplankt Time of Time of Bapsed ti Time of Time of Hapsed ti	ton Station Sample End: Sample Start: ime (min:sec) Tow depth: Station Sample End: Sample Start: ime (min:sec) Tow depth: tin - Chloro	Bottle #	_m m plesnd time		

Appendix K.-continued (Page 2 of 2).

Appendix L.-Escapement sampling data analysis.

The weekly sockeye salmon age-sex distribution, the seasonal age-sex distribution weighted by week, and the mean length by age and sex weighted by week, will be calculated using equations from Cochran (1977). Let

h = index of the stratum (week),

j =index of the age class,

 $p_{hj}$  = proportion of the sample taken during stratum *h* that is age class *j*,

 $n_h$  = number of fish sampled in week h, and

 $n_{hj}$  = number observed in class *j*, week *h*.

The age distribution will then be estimated for each week of the escapement in the usual manner,

$$\hat{p}_{hj} = n_{hj} / n_h \ . \tag{1}$$

If  $N_h$  equals the number of fish in the escapement in week h, Standard errors of the weekly age class proportions will be calculated in the usual manner (Cochran 1977, page 52, equation 3.8),

$$SE(\hat{p}_{hj}) = \sqrt{\left[\frac{(\hat{p}_{hj})(1-\hat{p}_{hj})}{n_h-1}\right]} [1-n_h/N_h].$$
(2)

The age distributions for the total escapement will be estimated as a weighted sum (by stratum size) of the weekly proportions. That is,

$$\hat{p}_j = \sum_h p_{hj} (N_h / N), \tag{3}$$

such that N equals the total escapement. The standard error of a seasonal proportion is the square root of the weighted sum of the weekly variances (Cochran 1977, pages 107–108),

$$SE(\hat{p}_{j}) = \sqrt{\sum_{j}^{h} \left[ SE(\hat{p}_{hj}) \right]^{2} (N_{h}/N)^{2}} .$$
(4)

The mean length, by sex and age class (weighted by week of escapement), and the variance of the weighted mean length, will be calculated using the following equations from Cochran (1977, pages 142–144) for estimating means over subpopulations. That is, let *i* equal the index of the individual fish in the age-sex class *j*, and  $y_{hij}$  equal the length of the *i*th fish in class *j*, week *h*, so that,

$$\hat{\bar{Y}}_{j} = \frac{\sum_{h} (N_{h}/n_{h}) \sum_{i} y_{hij}}{\sum_{h} (N_{h}/n_{h}) n_{hj}}, \text{ and}$$

$$\hat{V}\left(\hat{\bar{Y}}_{j}\right) = \frac{1}{\hat{N}_{j}^{2}} \sum_{h} \frac{N_{h}^{2} (1 - n_{h}/N_{h})}{n_{h} (n_{h} - 1)} \left[ \sum_{i} (y_{hij} - \bar{y}_{hj})^{2} + n_{hj} \left( 1 - \frac{n_{hj}}{n_{h}} \right) (\bar{y}_{hj} - \hat{\bar{Y}}_{j})^{2} \right].$$
(5)