

Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group

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

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

Meeting Agenda

Date: 07/06/2016

Time: 12:00 PM

Place: Bethel

Time Called to Order:

Chair: LaMont Albertson

ROLL CALL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM:

QUORUM MET? Yes / No

Upriver Elder:

Processor:

Downriver Elder:

Member at Large:

Commercial Fisher:

Sport Fisher:

Lower River Subsistence:

Western Interior RAC:

Middle River Subsistence:

Y-K Delta RAC:

Upper River Subsistence:

ADF&G:

Headwaters Subsistence:

INTRODUCTIONS:

INVOCATION:

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

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

ADF&G MANAGEMENT ACTIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD:

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

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

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

COMMENTS FROM WORKING GROUP MEMBERS:

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

Informational Packet

Information Packets *ARE*:

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

Packets *ARE NOT*:

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

Please use this information responsibly:

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

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

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

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

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

Thank you.

Jennifer Peeks

Chris Shelden

Working Group coordinators

Informational Packet

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

July 5th, 2016

Table 1: Fishing reports from 26th June- 4th July 2016

Families Surveyed	Families Fishing	Drift-nets	Set-nets	Both	6" Mesh	5 7/8" Mesh	5 3/4" Mesh	5 1/2" Mesh	5" Mesh
23	18	17	1	0	9	1	1	6	1
		94%	5%	0	50%	5%	5%	33%	5%

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

Table 2: Compared with the previous 72-hour opener, how are catch rates for salmon this week?

CHINOOK			CHUM			SOCKEYE		
Very Good	Normal	Poor	Very Good	Normal	Poor	Very Good	Normal	Poor
0	6	4	0	6	4	2	7	1
0	33%	22%	0	33%	22%	1%	38%	1%

Percentages are based on the number of families fishing in the last two 72-hour openers (6/21-6/24 & 6/29-7/2).

Table 3: Quantitative Fish Camp Data

	Opener 2	Opener 3	Opener 4
Total Number of Quantitative Based Interviews	20	31	9
Mean Soak Time	5.19	2.15	1.31

Fish camp data was obtained by ONC and calculated by Ben Staton, USFWS. Soak time refers to total time of net in water actively fishing.

Table 4: Fish Camp Salmon Catch Data

Species	Mean (Opener 2)	Mean (Opener 3)	Mean (Opener 4)
Chinook	12.95	10.87	2.11
Chum	4.63	10.55	10.56
Sockeye	1.75	5.81	14

Fish camp data was obtained by ONC and calculated by Ben Staton, USFWS.

Harvest Goal Summary:

No new harvest goals were documented last week. Fourteen families reported to be done harvesting salmon and are now waiting to harvest coho salmon. Two families were unable to comment on their final harvest goals. One family reported that they were done fishing due to conservation concerns, despite their inability to meet their harvest goals. One family reported they were unable to meet their goals due to physical injuries in the prior opening. One family reported that they had not started fishing this year and were waiting for the coho salmon run to begin harvesting salmon.

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Chinook: Eight families reported they had met their harvest goals. Four families did not meet their harvest goals.

Chum: Six families reported they had met their harvest goals. Five families did not meet their harvest goals.

Sockeye: Seven families reported they had met their harvest goals. Four families did not meet their harvest goals.

Comments:

Chinook: A few families reported the Chinook salmon harvest to be average. Most families continue to catch mainly male Chinook salmon. The size of the Chinook salmon was reported as medium. A few families reported that many of the Chinook salmon were caught by the teeth on their nets, and escaped. A few of our fisherman reported large numbers of Chinook salmon jumping around and over their nets. Other families reported they were not able to catch any Chinook salmon this opener, which was contrary to their harvest in the previous 72-hour opener. Some families reported higher Chinook salmon harvest this season in comparison to last season.

Chum: Chum salmon catches were reported to be higher this opener, compared to the previous two openers. One family reported they were catching more chum salmon than last year. Certain families reported not catching any chum salmon where they were fishing. Certain families harvested many chum salmon, while others did not harvest any, due to location of fishing activity. A few families reported on the importance of fishing location and speed of current when targeting different salmon species.

Sockeye: Families this opener reported the number of sockeye salmon has increased in run size and abundance. Sockeye salmon size was average for most nets, and large for 5 7/8" net.

Fish Openings: They had better openings this year. Two families commented on their desire to have more 72-hour opening this year. One family reported that they were cut off by other fishermen who were using 300ft length nets. A few families reported witnessing other people using illegal 300ft length nets.

Tagged salmon: Two families reported their harvest of tagged salmon and have notified ADFG already.

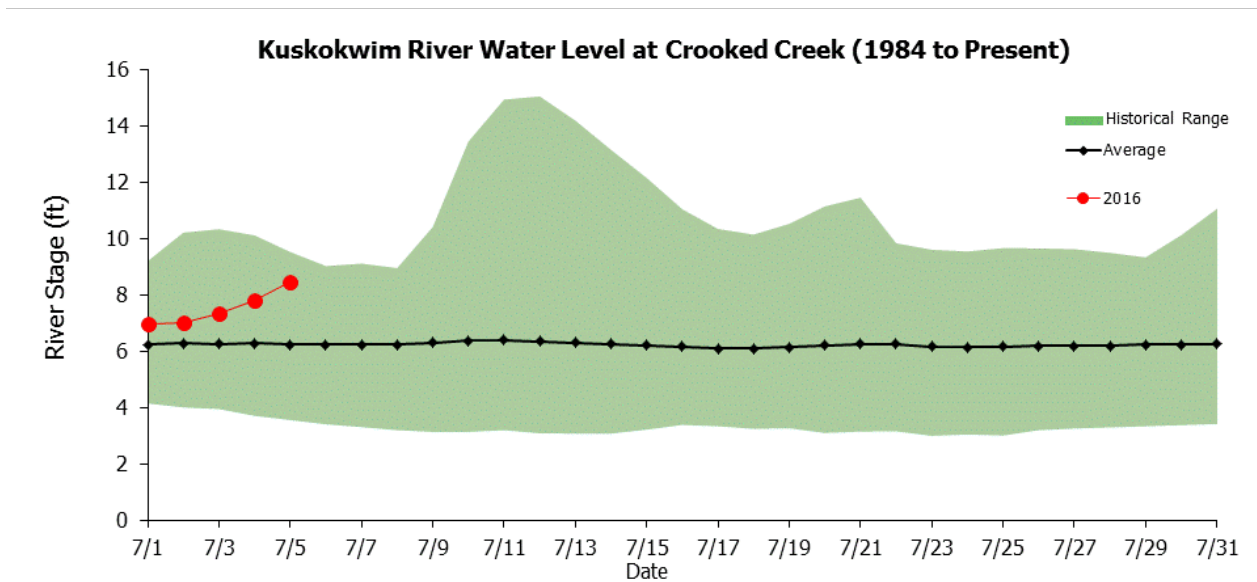
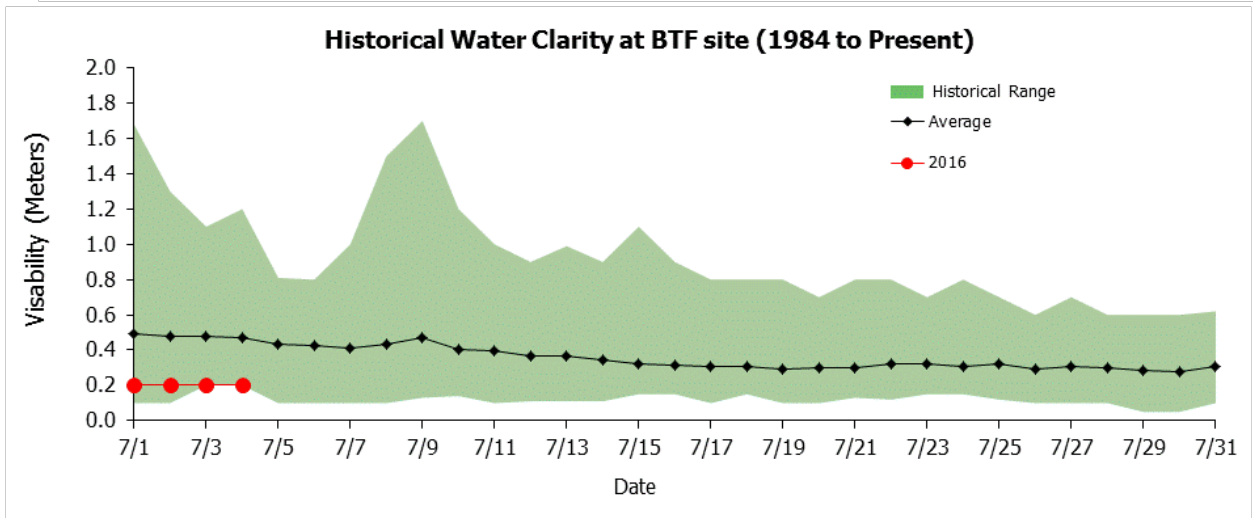
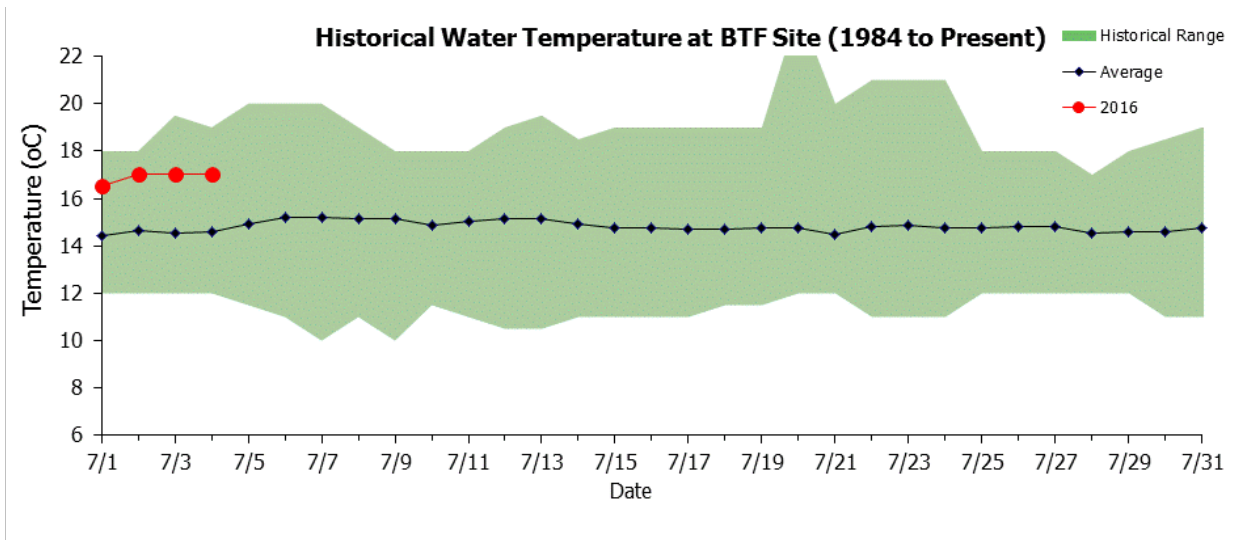
Additional: One family reported that after fishing they had to use only half of the net, because they would have sunk their net with fish. One family reported information from a family living in a village of the mouth of the Kuskokwim River, who indicated there was still an abundance of fish in that area. A few families reported that flies were causing fish to rot, or were preventing them from hanging fish on racks. One family was hoping for a commercial opener.

Surveyor comments:

Last week's fish camp surveys were conducted at the fish camps and boat harbor. Quantitative and qualitative data were collected in efforts to calculate catch per unit effort in collaboration with USFWS. We also obtained qualitative information to compare catch rates this 72-hour opener with the last 72-hour opener. This week more than half of our families that were surveyed had reported to be done fishing for the year and were waiting to harvest coho salmon. A lot of families were already putting away their salmon when we visited fish camps. All of the fish camps surveyed this week looked well maintained.

ASL Kits: Eight kits were distributed. Three kits were turned in. ASL was conducted at the boat Harbor and at fish camps during the previous 72-hour opener.

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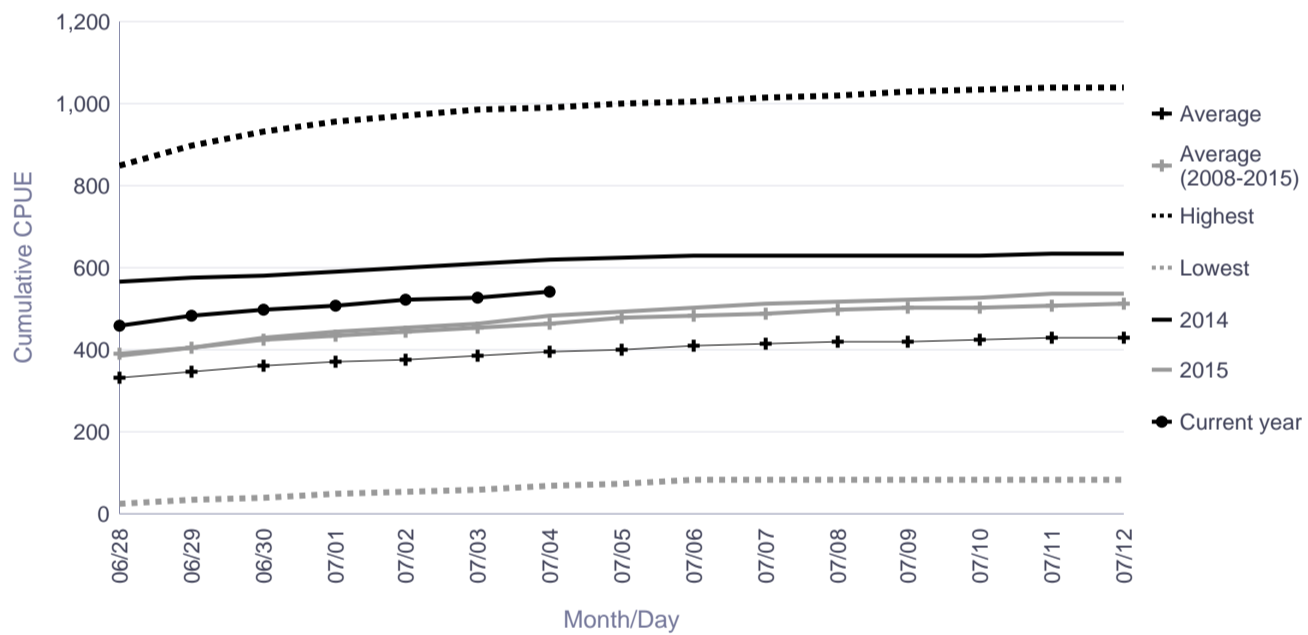
*To access BTF and weir data online, please visit: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareakuskokwim.salmon#fishcounts>

Bethel Test Fishery Chinook Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index

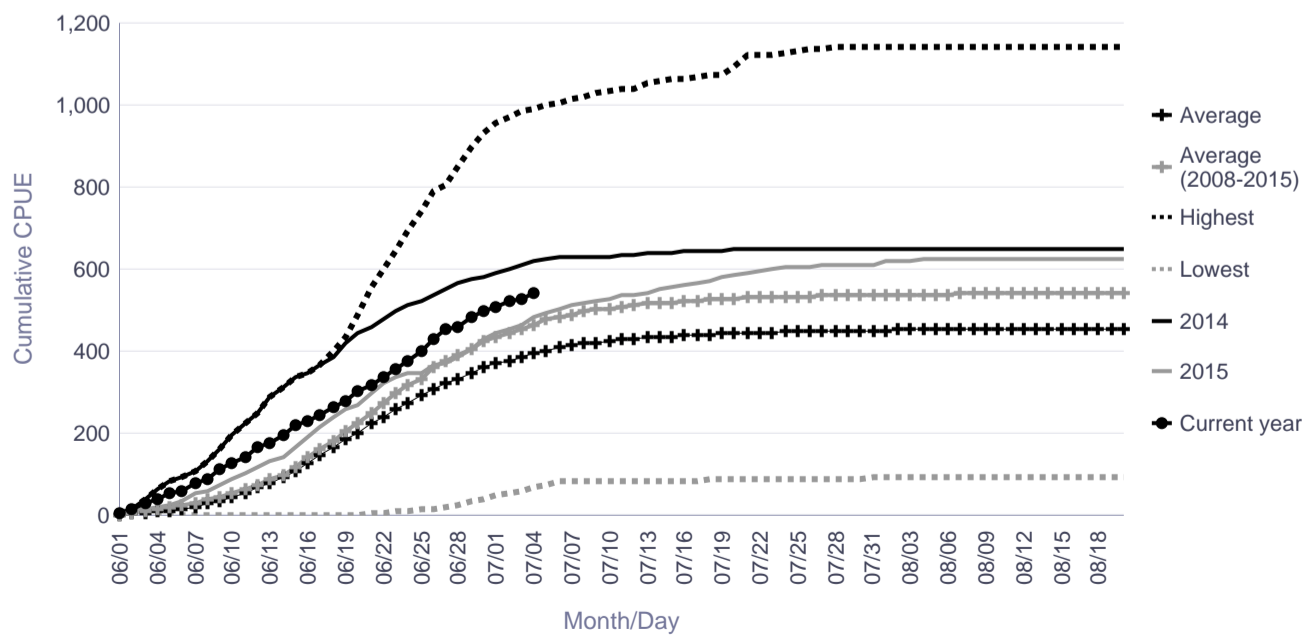
Date	Lowest	Average	Average (2008-2015)	Highest	2014	2015	Current year
06/28	26	334	389	851	568	387	461
06/29	35	348	407	897	573	405	483
06/30	39	360	423	932	579	431	497
07/01	51	369	434	956	588	444	509
07/02	52	377	442	972	600	456	520
07/03	61	386	455	984	611	465	529
07/04	67	395	466	990	618	484	540
07/05	76	402	476	998	624	493	
07/06	82	408	483	1,007	628	504	
07/07	83	413	490	1,012	629	513	
07/08	83	418	497	1,019	629	518	
07/09	83	422	501	1,029	630	523	
07/10	83	425	504	1,032	630	527	
07/11	85	428	507	1,037	633	535	
07/12	85	430	512	1,040	636	537	

	Lowest	Average	Average (2008-2015)	Highest	2014	2015
Season Total	91	453	540	1,141	650	625

Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview



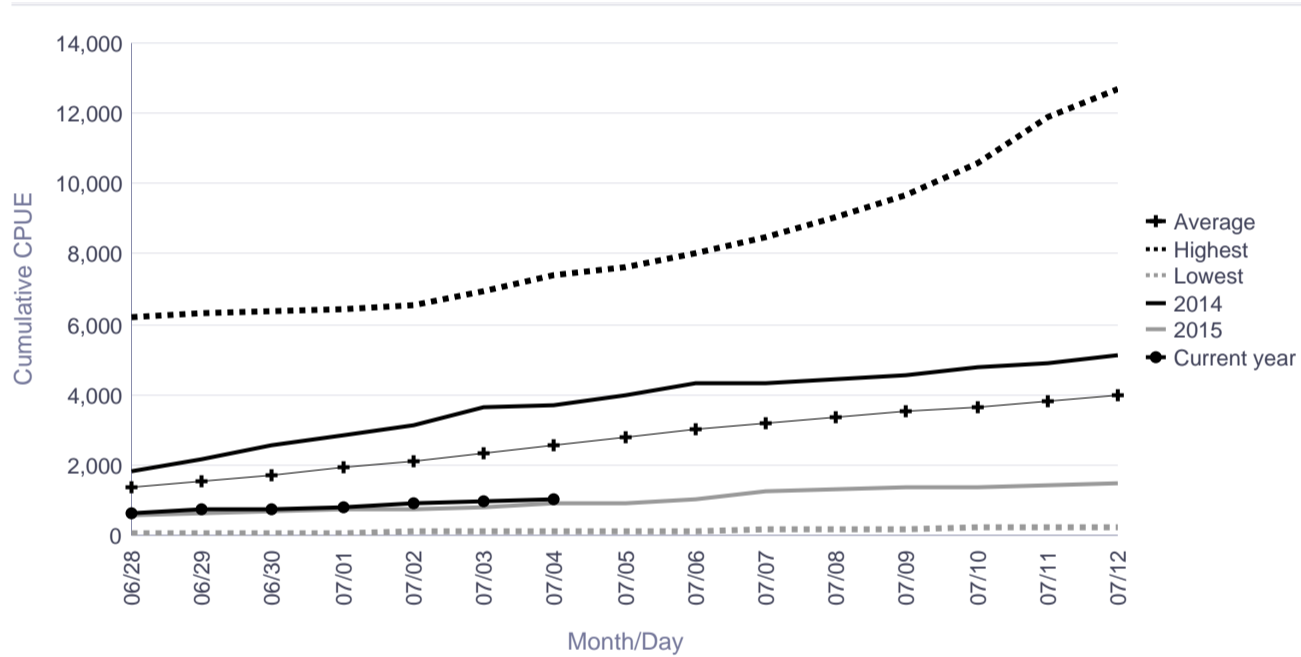
Informational Packet

Bethel Test Fishery Chum Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index

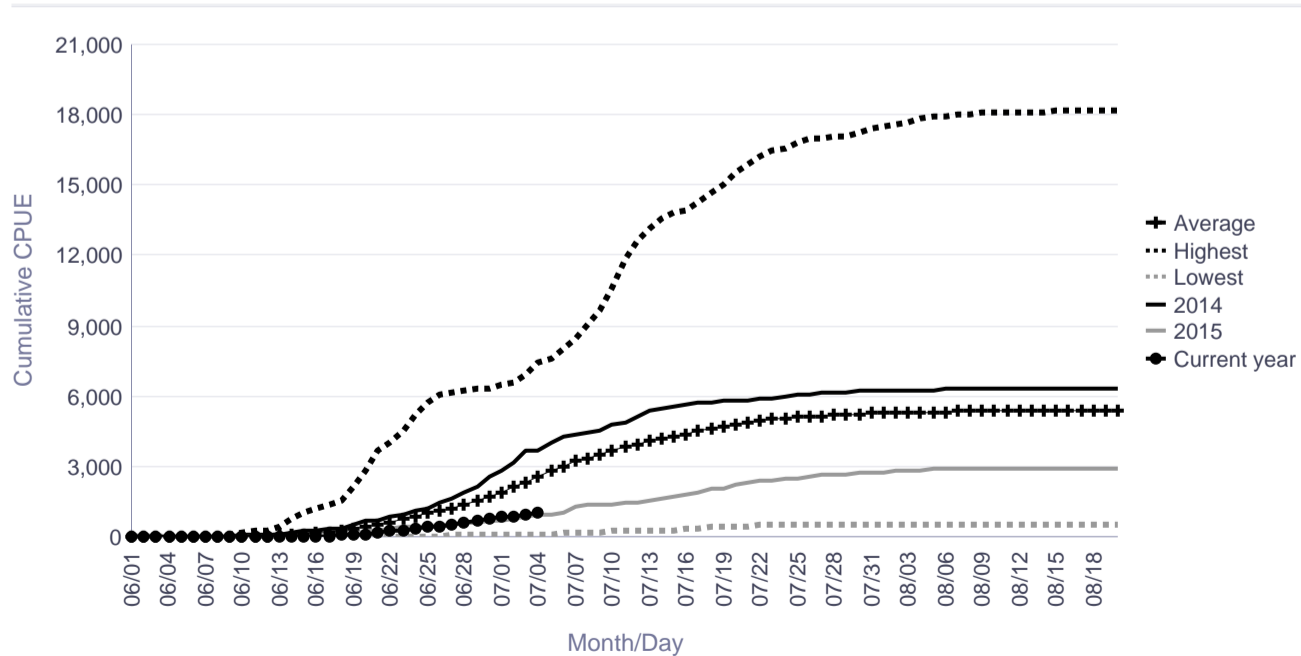
Date	Lowest	Average	Highest	2014	2015	Current year
06/28	64	1,365	6,210	1,851	589	613
06/29	70	1,553	6,303	2,155	627	735
06/30	73	1,741	6,366	2,596	694	758
07/01	85	1,930	6,458	2,836	721	828
07/02	102	2,135	6,572	3,144	759	897
07/03	114	2,353	6,936	3,644	828	971
07/04	120	2,583	7,423	3,708	922	1,060
07/05	137	2,805	7,628	3,992	943	
07/06	145	3,008	8,053	4,308	1,042	
07/07	165	3,214	8,496	4,333	1,262	
07/08	185	3,378	9,055	4,463	1,343	
07/09	194	3,532	9,656	4,530	1,370	
07/10	235	3,674	10,604	4,765	1,393	
07/11	247	3,819	11,899	4,910	1,426	
07/12	260	3,963	12,658	5,153	1,494	

	Lowest	Average	Highest	2014	2015
Season Total	549	5,383	18,192	6,345	2,945

Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview



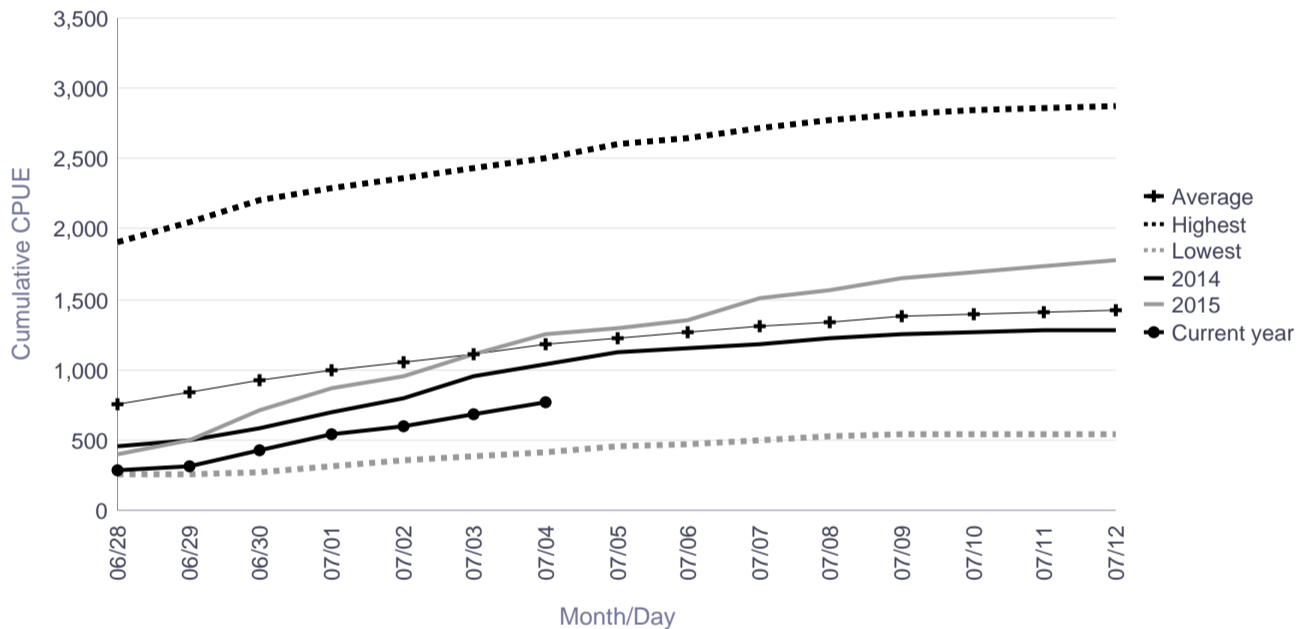
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Bethel Test Fishery Sockeye Salmon Cumulative CPUE Index

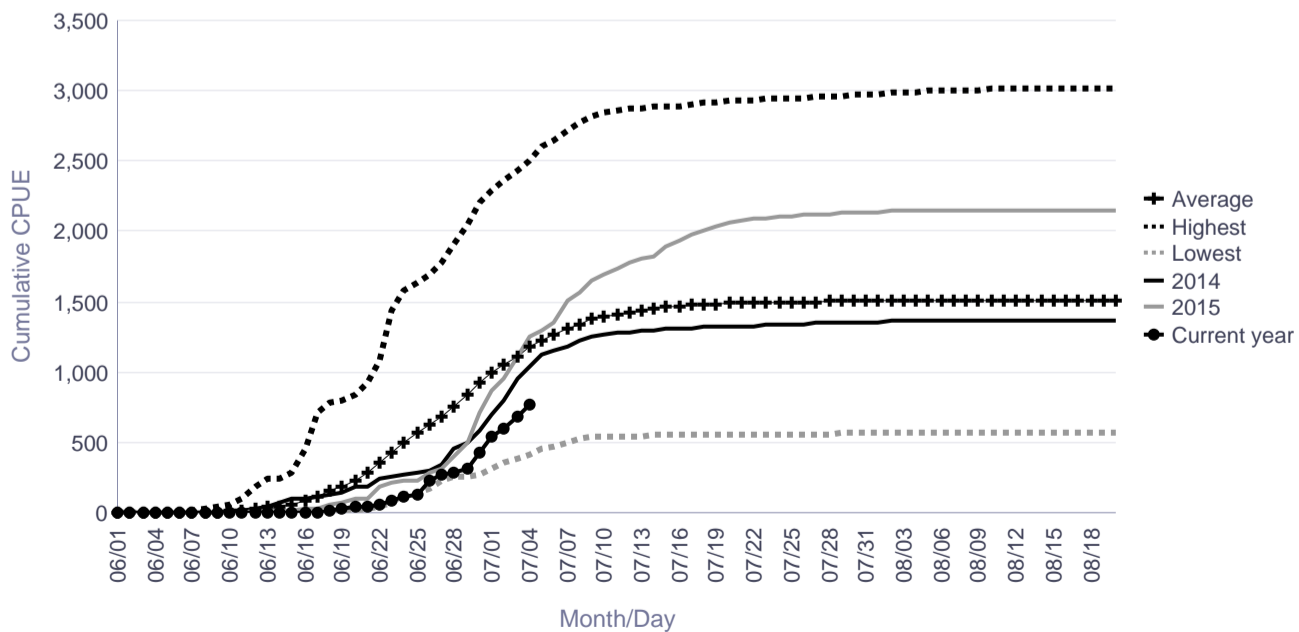
Date	Lowest	Average	Highest	2014	2015	Current year
06/28	256	755	1,901	452	393	280
06/29	259	834	2,052	498	499	308
06/30	277	920	2,203	585	713	426
07/01	311	993	2,297	697	873	537
07/02	357	1,049	2,363	800	955	604
07/03	381	1,118	2,438	954	1,113	688
07/04	417	1,175	2,510	1,041	1,248	771
07/05	452	1,224	2,601	1,129	1,296	
07/06	475	1,268	2,652	1,160	1,351	
07/07	499	1,308	2,712	1,181	1,505	
07/08	526	1,345	2,770	1,220	1,565	
07/09	543	1,376	2,813	1,250	1,651	
07/10	545	1,395	2,842	1,264	1,688	
07/11	547	1,411	2,857	1,280	1,739	
07/12	549	1,424	2,867	1,282	1,781	

	Lowest	Average	Highest	2014	2015
Season Total	569	1,511	3,019	1,367	2,157

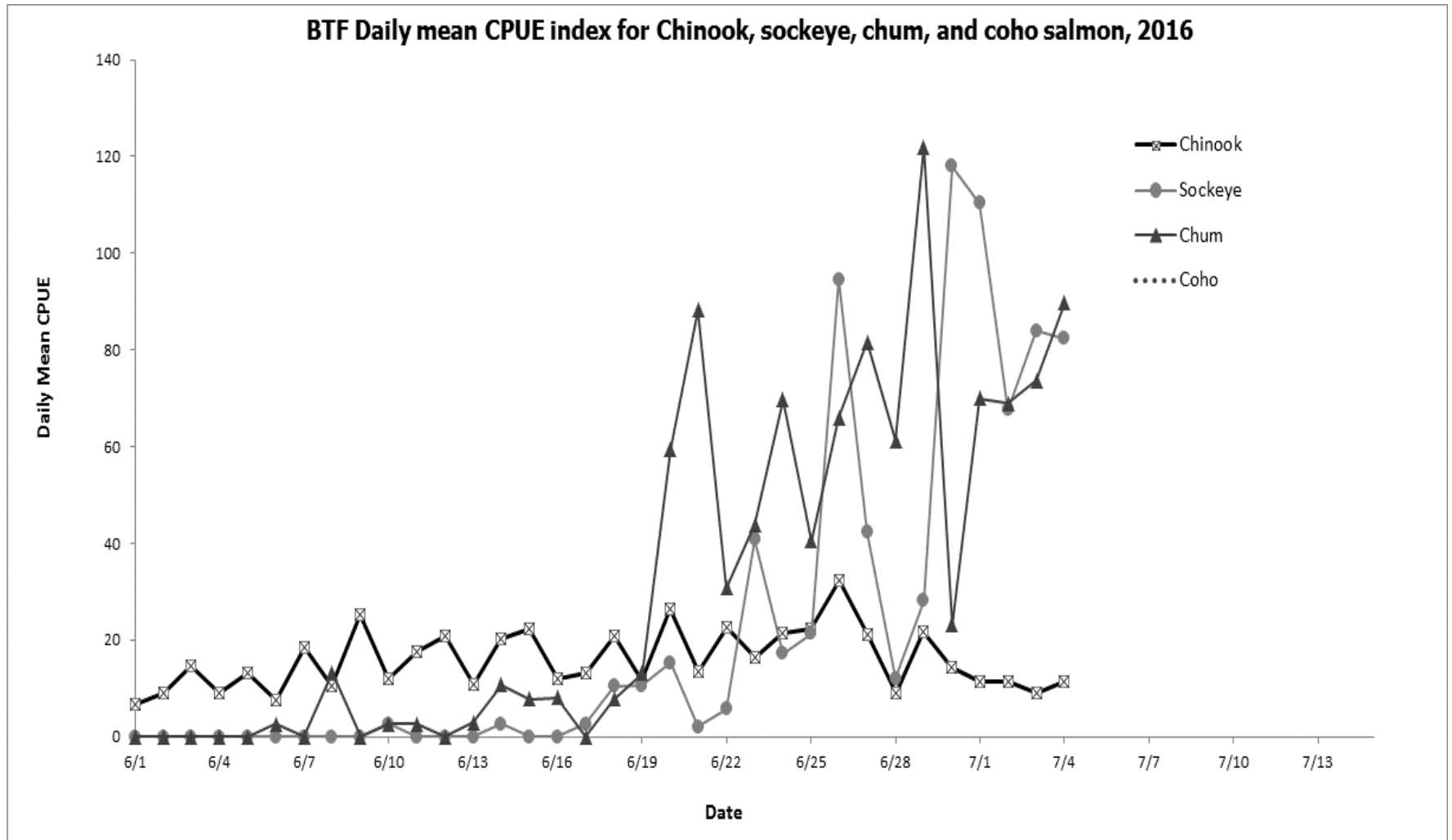
Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview



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Aniak Test Fishery

Date	Chinook			Sockeye			Chum			Species
	Catch	Daily CPUE	Cumm. CPUE	Catch	Daily CPUE	Cumm. CPUE	Catch	Daily CPUE	Cumm. CPUE	Ratio
6/1	1	8	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
6/2	13	101	108	0	0	0	1	5	5	0.1
6/3	10	74	182	0	0	0	0	0	5	0.0
6/4	7	52	234	0	0	0	0	0	5	0.0
6/5	2	17	251	0	0	0	0	0	5	0.0
6/6	5	49	300	0	0	0	0	0	5	0.0
6/7	6	44	344	0	0	0	1	7	12	0.2
6/8	7	53	397	0	0	0	0	0	12	0.0
6/9	9	69	466	0	0	0	1	7	19	0.1
6/10	16	123	589	0	0	0	0	0	19	0.0
6/11	9	70	659	0	0	0	0	0	19	0.0
6/12	9	65	724	0	0	0	1	8	27	0.1
6/13	1	8	731	0	0	0	0	0	27	0.0
6/14	18	136	867	0	0	0	3	22	49	0.2
6/15	13	104	971	0	0	0	3	23	72	0.2
6/16	13	105	1076	0	0	0	1	8	80	0.1
6/17	9	73	1149	0	0	0	3	24	105	0.3
6/18	5	40	1189	0	0	0	1	8	113	0.2
6/19	14	114	1304	0	0	0	3	24	137	0.2
6/20	4	30	1334	0	0	0	2	15	153	0.5
6/21	6	52	1386	0	0	0	5	43	196	0.8
6/22	2	17	1403	0	0	0	3	25	221	1.5
6/23	4	32	1435	0	0	0	1	8	229	0.3
6/24	4	35	1470	0	0	0	9	78	307	2.3
6/25	5	44	1514	1	8	8	17	149	456	3.6
6/26	6	50	1564	0	0	8	12	107	563	2.0
6/27	11	93	1657	0	0	8	10	86	649	0.9
6/28	12	106	1763	2	18	26	36	309	958	3.2
6/29	12	94	1857	0	0	26	20	166	1124	1.7
6/30	13	108	1964	0	0	26	23	194	1318	1.8
7/1	11	91	2056	4	35	61	50	451	1769	4.9
7/2	18	151	2207	1	8	69	16	146	1915	0.9
7/3	7	61	2267	1	8	77	20	177	2091	3.0
7/4	13	104	2372	4	33	110	41	337	2429	3.5
7/5										

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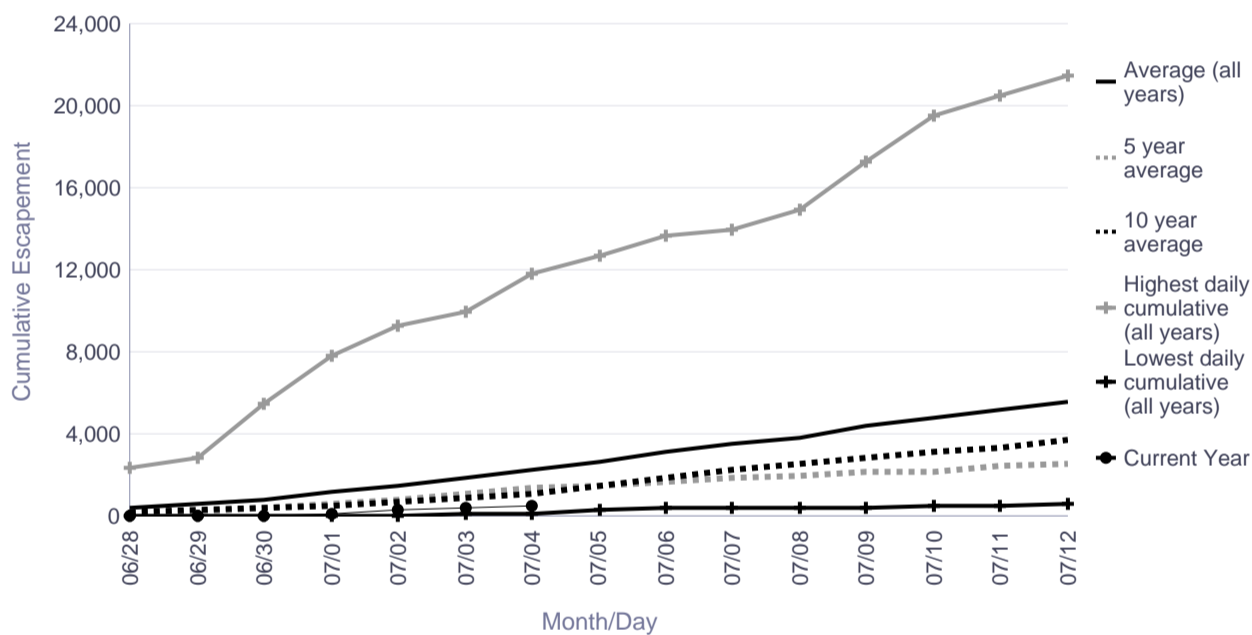
Kwethluk River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon

Escapement Goal Range: 4,100 to 7,500

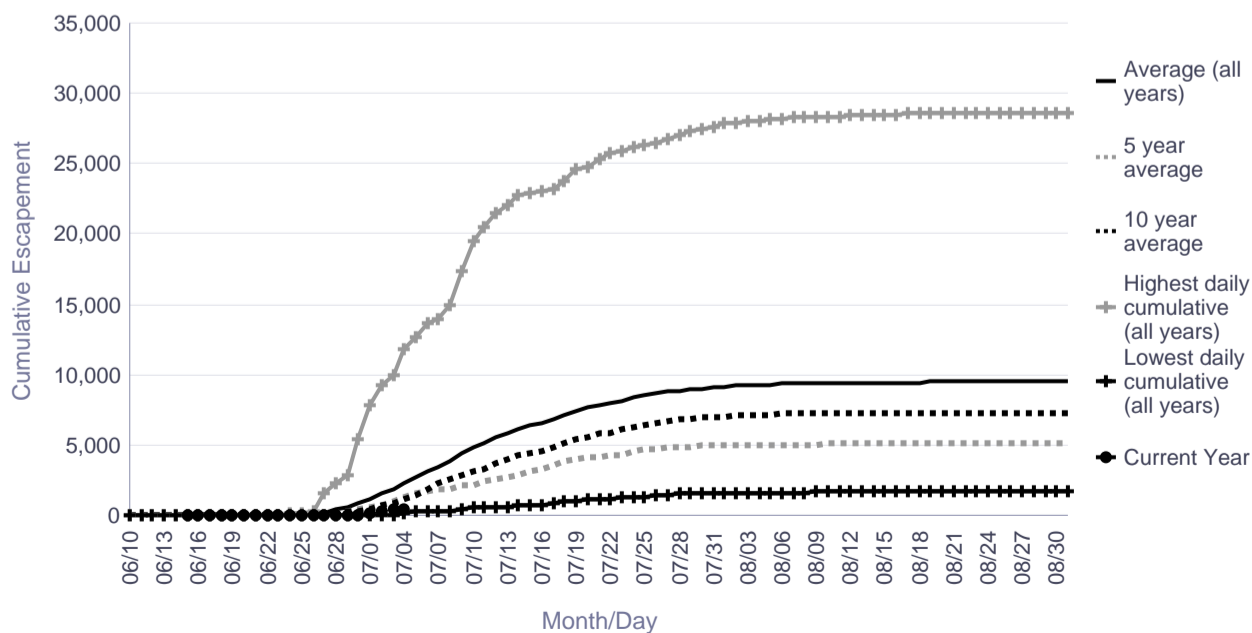
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	10 year average	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current Year
06/28	0	398	187	193	2,322	0
06/29	2	580	252	271	2,860	0
06/30	8	838	427	364	5,460	13
07/01	18	1,144	631	514	7,774	163
07/02	32	1,518	781	698	9,257	286
07/03	81	1,851	1,053	911	9,951	424
07/04	135	2,266	1,343	1,097	11,804	511
07/05	292	2,683	1,517	1,502	12,700	
07/06	360	3,170	1,721	1,894	13,621	
07/07	361	3,491	1,850	2,233	13,960	
07/08	372	3,838	1,934	2,530	14,968	
07/09	405	4,378	2,113	2,829	17,294	
07/10	522	4,817	2,204	3,098	19,489	
07/11	526	5,149	2,428	3,351	20,436	
07/12	557	5,566	2,562	3,711	21,479	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average	10 Year Average	Highest Count
Season Total	1,668	9,497	5,143	7,333	28,605

Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview



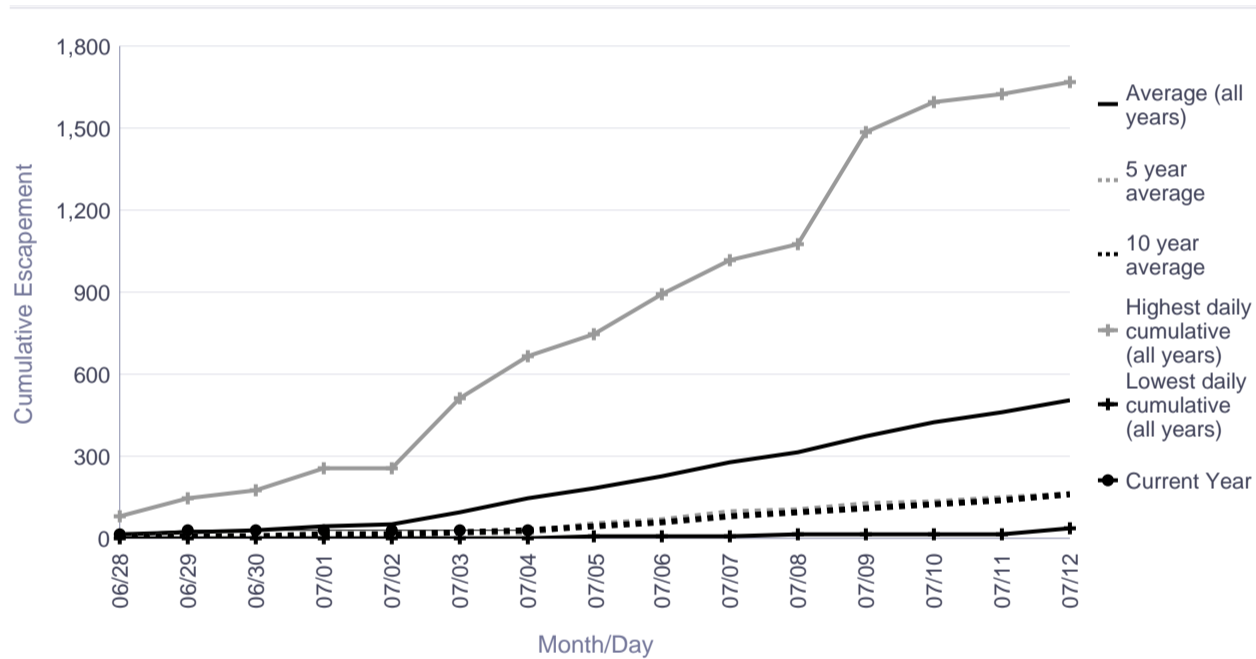
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Tuluksak River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon

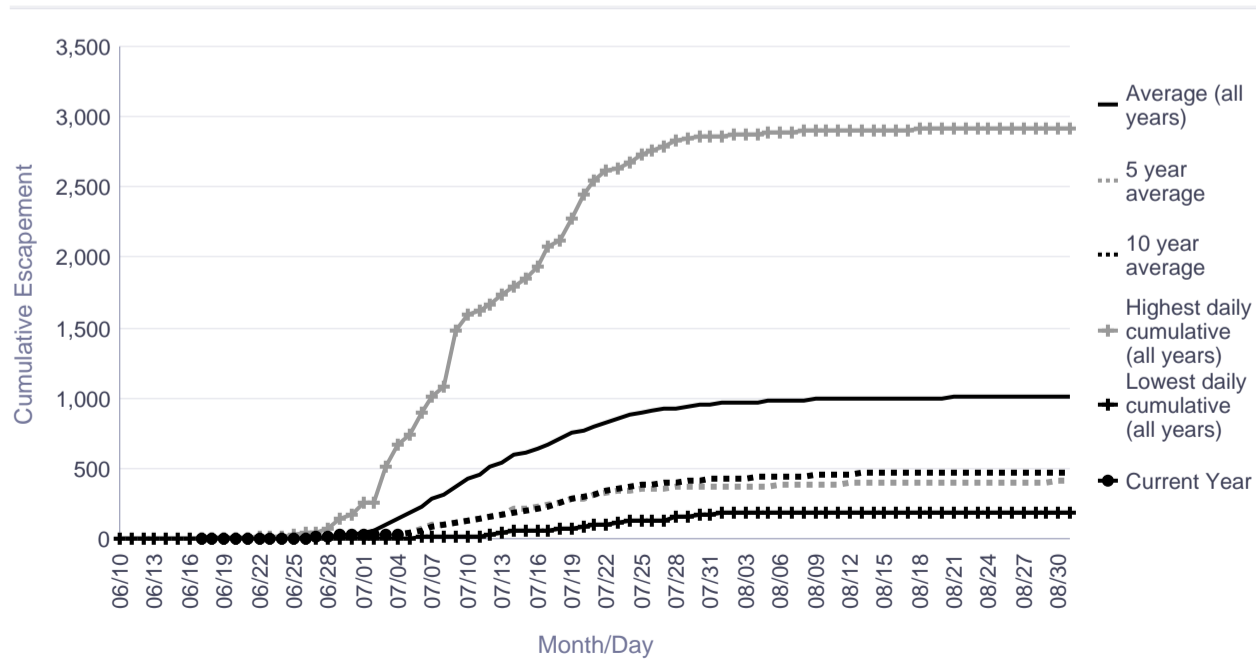
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	10 year average	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current Year
06/28	0	14	11	7	80	15
06/29	0	25	11	8	149	32
06/30	0	33	9	10	180	33
07/01	0	43	12	12	255	33
07/02	0	53	19	18	259	33
07/03	2	99	22	21	511	33
07/04	3	147	26	28	665	33
07/05	5	181	50	47	744	
07/06	10	225	67	62	896	
07/07	12	283	95	83	1,018	
07/08	16	317	104	96	1,078	
07/09	17	371	122	111	1,483	
07/10	17	425	135	126	1,592	
07/11	17	462	150	143	1,621	
07/12	35	507	161	160	1,667	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average	10 Year Average	Highest Count
Season Total	193	1,010	413	474	2,918

Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview



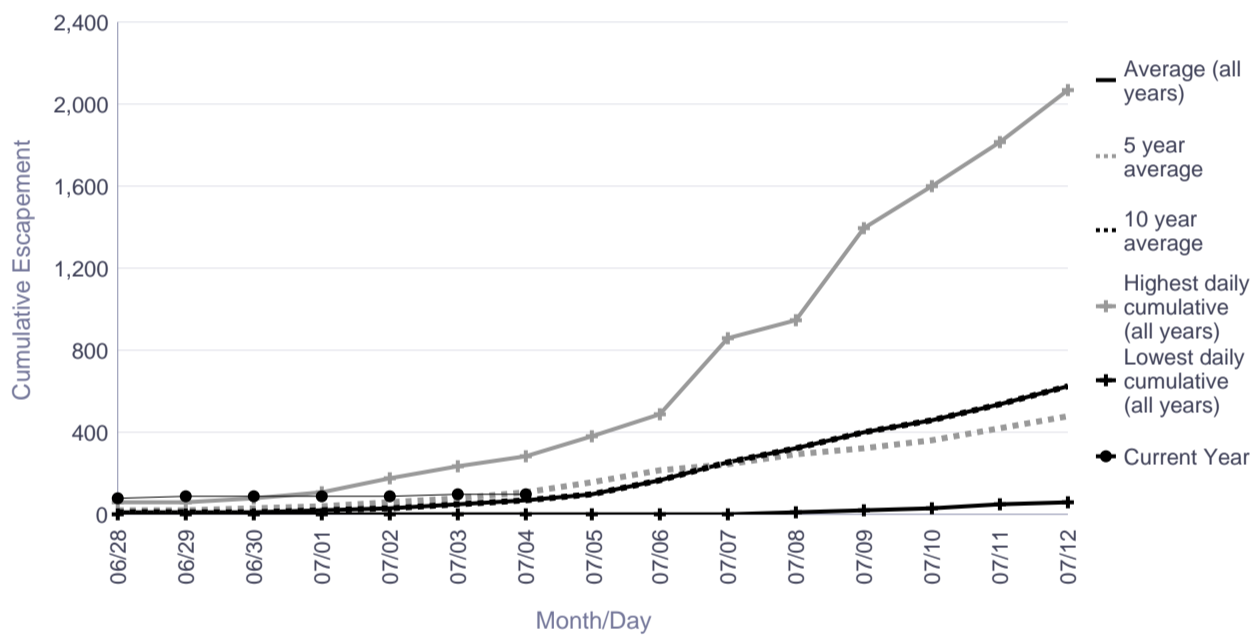
Informational Packet

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

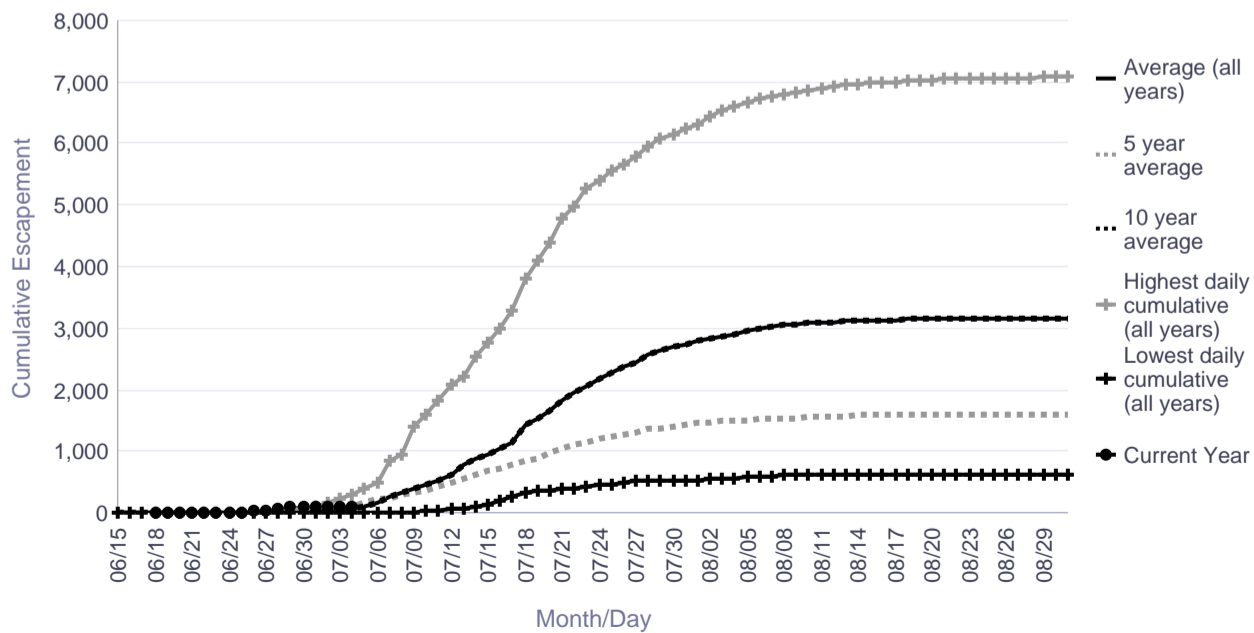
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	10 year average	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current Year
06/28	0	10	20	10	57	83
06/29	0	11	22	11	64	87
06/30	0	14	28	14	83	88
07/01	0	21	38	21	104	88
07/02	0	34	63	34	181	91
07/03	0	49	82	49	236	95
07/04	0	66	113	66	288	102
07/05	1	100	162	100	384	
07/06	3	170	218	170	493	
07/07	6	252	241	252	856	
07/08	11	321	296	321	947	
07/09	20	405	327	405	1,392	
07/10	33	463	366	463	1,599	
07/11	51	537	425	537	1,817	
07/12	63	626	479	626	2,070	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average	10 Year Average	Highest Count
Season Total	625	3,164	1,595	3,164	7,075

Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview



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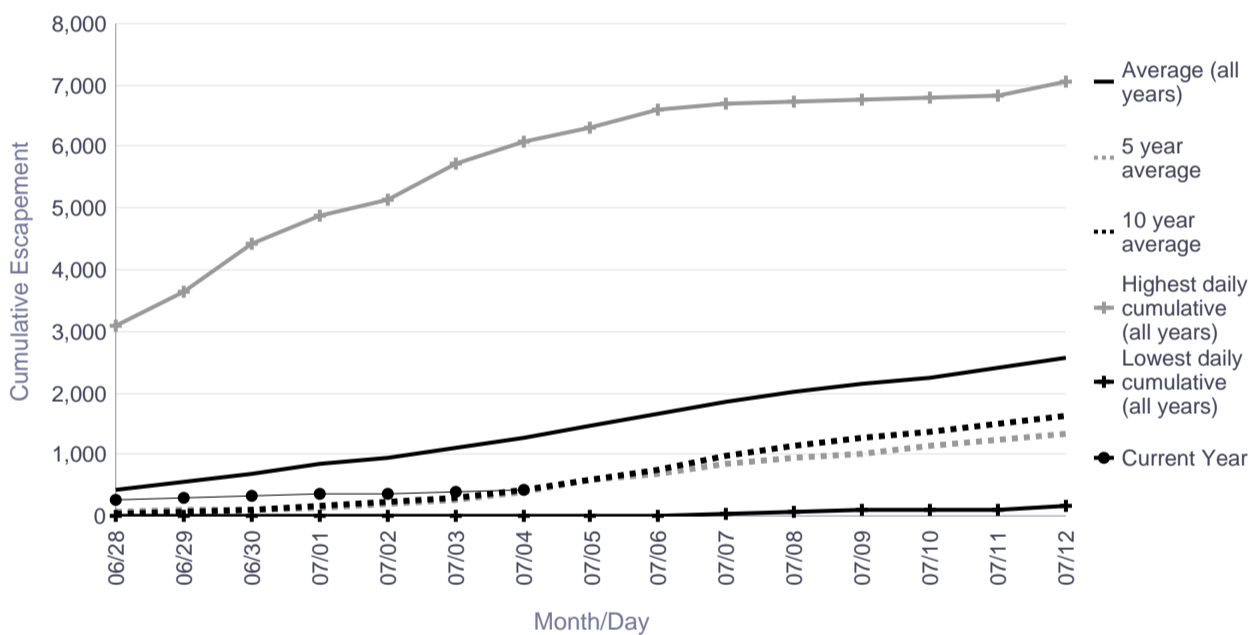
George River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon

Escapement Goal Range: 1,800 to 3,300

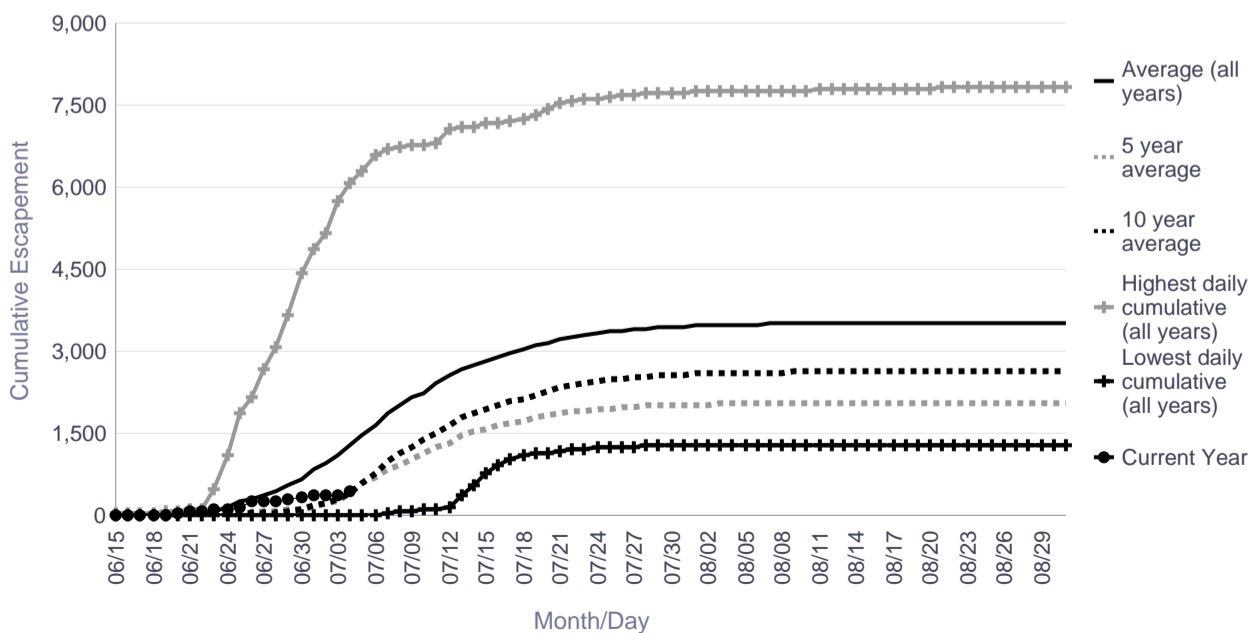
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	10 year average	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current Year
06/28	10	428	78	52	3,078	265
06/29	11	554	98	68	3,644	308
06/30	11	676	114	105	4,411	332
07/01	11	848	150	179	4,867	360
07/02	11	961	213	231	5,144	365
07/03	11	1,112	280	286	5,728	385
07/04	12	1,271	396	426	6,075	440
07/05	14	1,461	590	606	6,296	
07/06	18	1,668	694	757	6,590	
07/07	31	1,867	851	978	6,683	
07/08	81	2,015	932	1,137	6,717	
07/09	89	2,145	1,025	1,258	6,754	
07/10	102	2,246	1,146	1,381	6,783	
07/11	112	2,411	1,238	1,515	6,816	
07/12	153	2,566	1,338	1,638	7,061	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average	10 Year Average	Highest Count
Season Total	1,292	3,529	2,063	2,641	7,810

Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview



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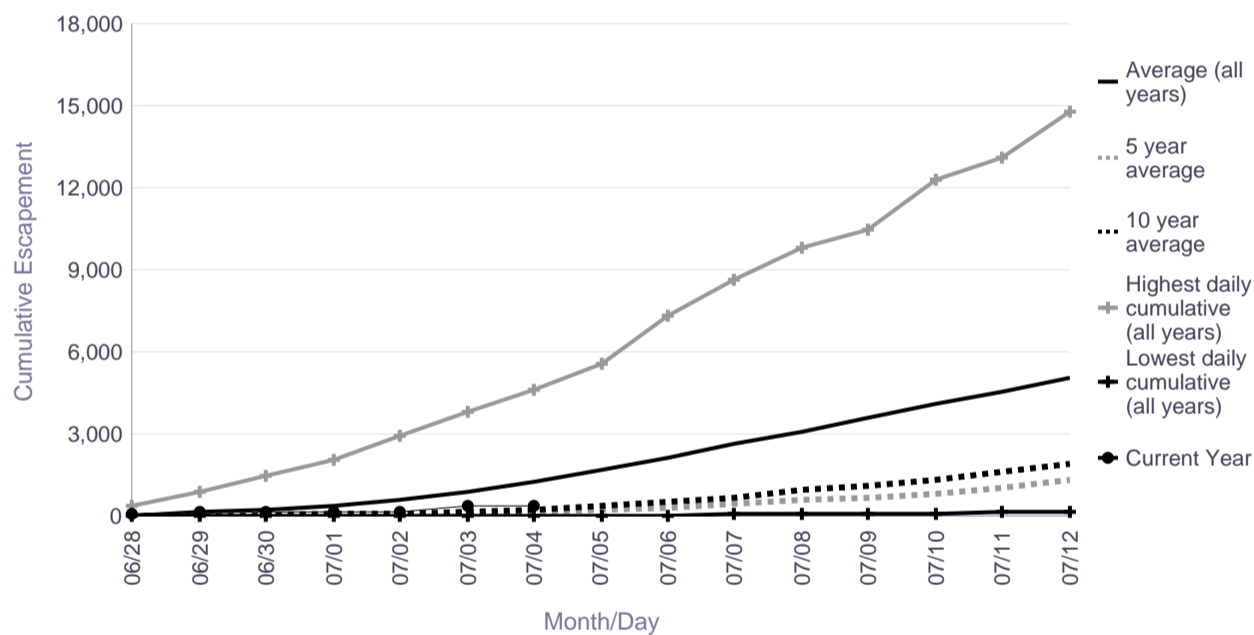
Kogrukluk River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon

Escapement Goal Range: 4,800 to 8,800

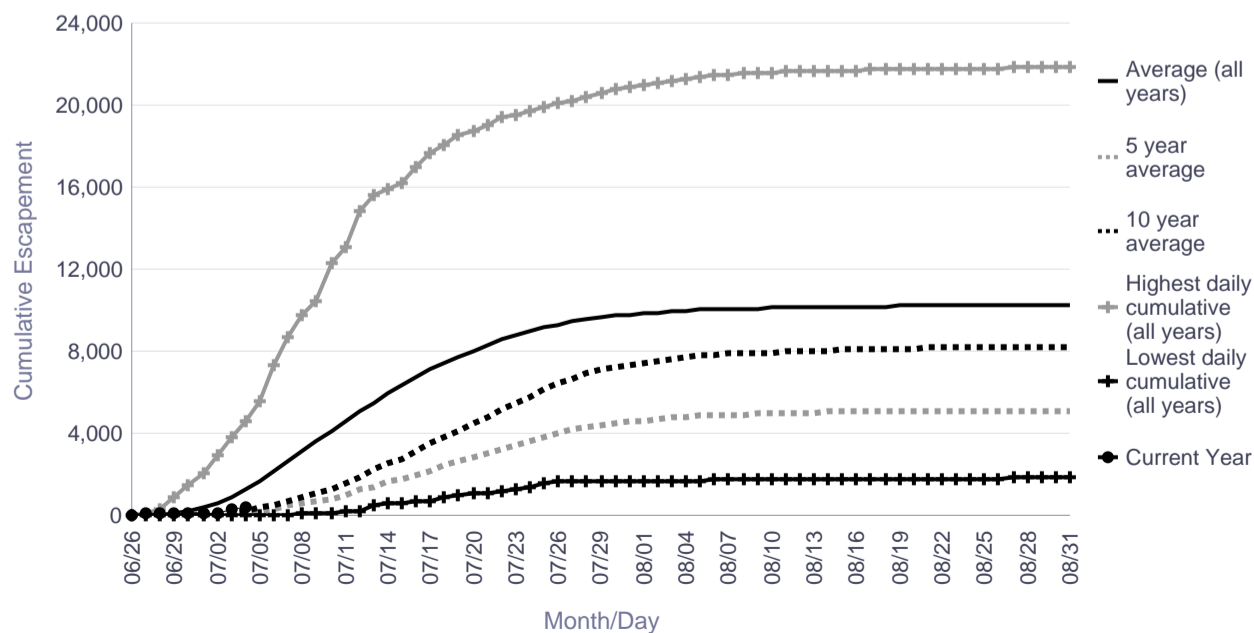
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	10 year average	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current Year
06/28	0	48	27	15	353	117
06/29	0	135	36	21	886	142
06/30	0	231	55	34	1,448	147
07/01	0	385	75	56	2,065	150
07/02	0	629	109	105	2,969	155
07/03	0	922	157	159	3,848	347
07/04	1	1,248	185	259	4,588	389
07/05	4	1,669	232	373	5,589	
07/06	21	2,141	288	497	7,343	
07/07	56	2,639	466	697	8,649	
07/08	83	3,117	580	940	9,782	
07/09	104	3,609	664	1,113	10,461	
07/10	116	4,138	815	1,330	12,287	
07/11	167	4,577	1,038	1,588	13,084	
07/12	191	5,091	1,299	1,916	14,798	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average	10 Year Average	Highest Count
Season Total	1,819	10,242	5,091	8,207	21,819

Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview



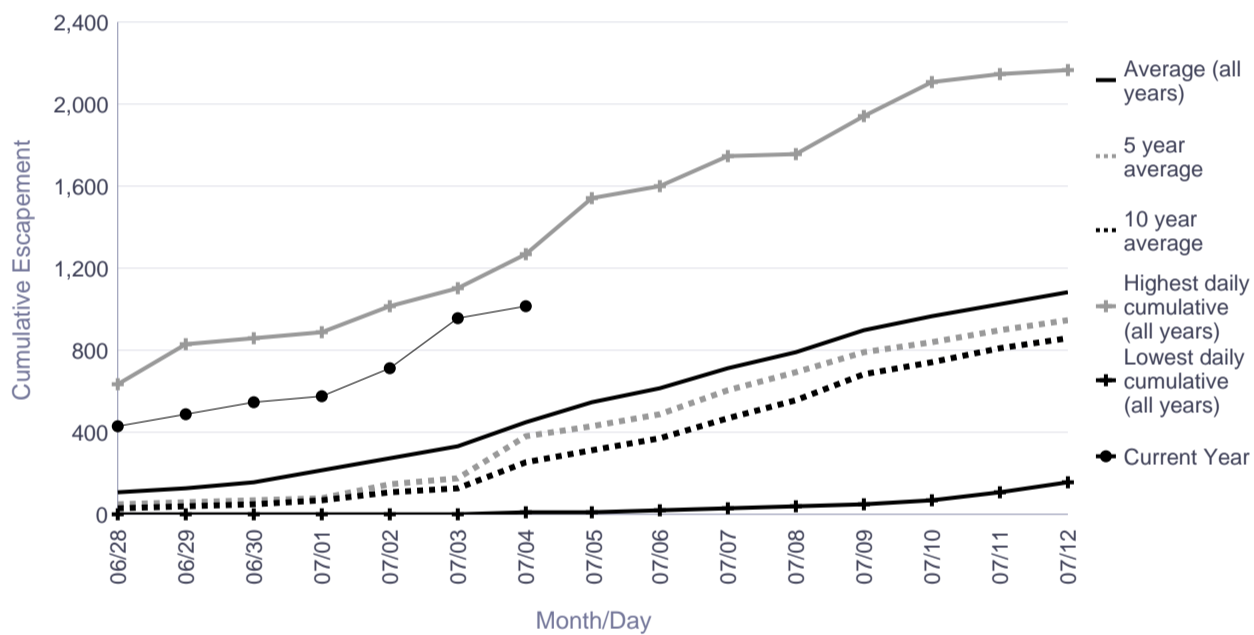
Informational Packet

Tatlawiksuk River Salmon Monitoring Project Cumulative Daily Passage of Chinook Salmon

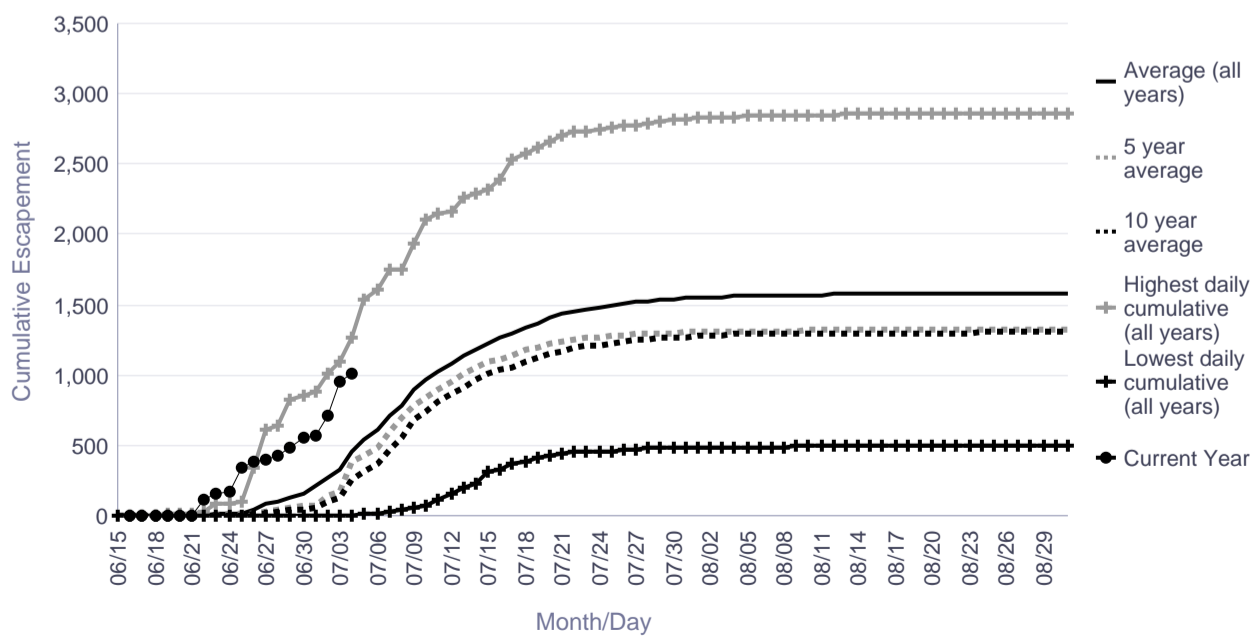
Date	Lowest daily cumulative (all years)	Average (all years)	5 year average	10 year average	Highest daily cumulative (all years)	Current Year
06/28	1	106	49	33	638	435
06/29	2	130	58	40	833	487
06/30	2	160	68	49	858	551
07/01	2	218	78	66	886	572
07/02	3	272	146	106	1,017	710
07/03	4	333	172	128	1,103	952
07/04	7	451	381	255	1,268	1,017
07/05	12	547	434	315	1,538	
07/06	21	620	490	371	1,602	
07/07	35	715	606	466	1,747	
07/08	43	788	695	555	1,757	
07/09	54	900	790	687	1,937	
07/10	70	962	837	745	2,102	
07/11	109	1,024	899	809	2,145	
07/12	160	1,080	951	863	2,161	

	Lowest Count	Average Count	5 Year Average	10 Year Average	Highest Count
Season Total	495	1,577	1,322	1,304	2,864

Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview



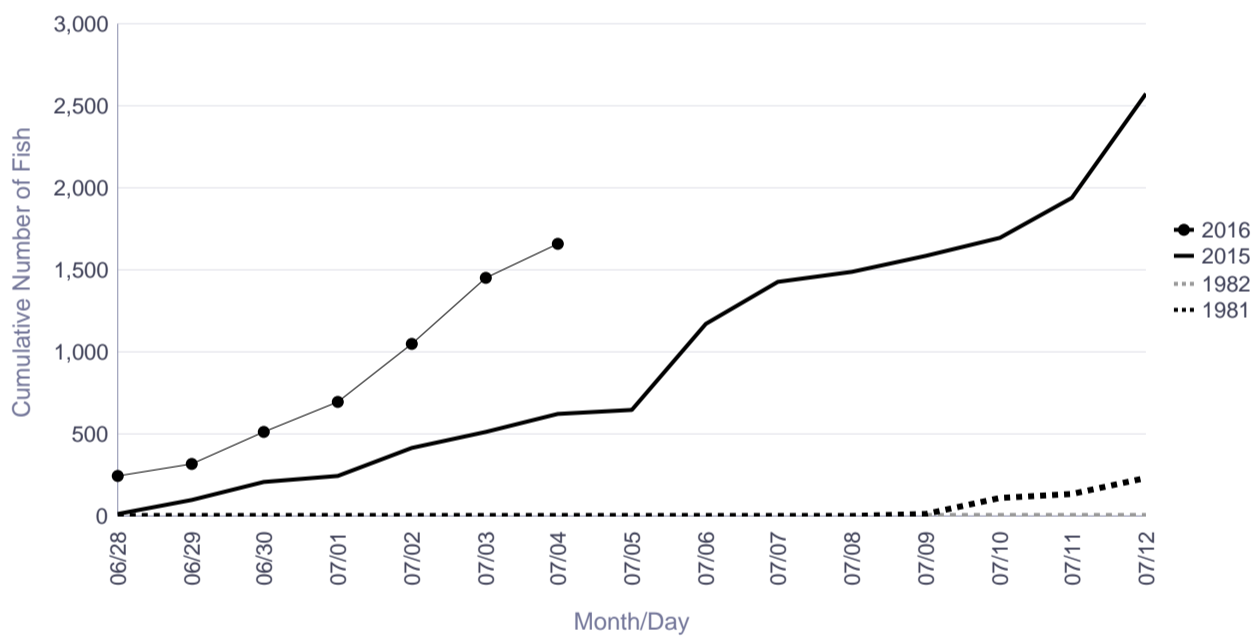
Informational Packet

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

	Cumulative Daily Passage			
Date	1981	1982	2015	2016
06/28	1		20	245
06/29	1		101	318
06/30	1		212	508
07/01	1		247	700
07/02	3		411	1,048
07/03	5		513	1,446
07/04	6		629	1,664
07/05	6		644	
07/06	7		1,177	
07/07	7		1,425	
07/08	8		1,493	
07/09	10	0	1,580	
07/10	112	0	1,693	
07/11	133	0	1,945	
07/12	232	0	2,569	

	1981	1982	2015	2016
Season Total	877	511	6,736	

Focused Two-Week Data View



Season Total Overview

