

Middle Fork Goodnew River Fisheries Studies, 2001

ABSTRACT

In 2000, the District W-5 commercial harvest was 4,442 chinook, 37,252 sockeye, 15,531 coho, and 7,450 chum, and 7 pink salmon for a total harvest of 64,682 fish. The exvessel value was \$213,014. There were 25 periods in 2000 for a total of 300 fishing hours, and 46 permits fished the district. In 2001, the commercial harvest was 1,519 chinook, 25,654 sockeye, 9,275 coho, and 39,860 chum salmon for a total harvest of 39,860 fish. The exvessel value was \$98,849. There were 16 periods for 183 fishing hours and 32 permits fished the district. In 2000 and 2001, a resistance board floating weir was used in the Middle Fork Goodnews River to estimate escapement and to provide a platform for the collection of age, sex and length data. In 2000, estimated salmon escapement in the Middle Fork Goodnews River was 3,295 chinook, 42,197 sockeye, 19,676 coho, 14,720 chum, and 2,530 pink salmon. Chinook and chum salmon failed to reach their respective escapement goals of 3,500 and 15,000 fish. Estimated drainage wide escapement was 10,306 chinook, 128,313 sockeye, and 50,195 chum salmon. Drainage wide escapement estimates were not made for coho or pink salmon.

In 2000, estimated salmon escapement in the Middle Fork Goodnews River was 5,404 chinook, 22,495 sockeye, 19,626 coho, 26,829 chum, and 1,328 pink salmon. Sockeye salmon failed to achieve its escapement goal at the Middle Fork Goodnews River weir. Aerial survey results for the Middle Fork Goodnews River were 2,799 chinook, 12,383 sockeye, and 6,945 chum salmon. Both sockeye and chum salmon failed to achieve their respective aerial survey escapement objectives of 15,000 and 17,000 fish. Estimated escapement for the Goodnews River was 8,128 chinook, 137,364 sockeye, and 33,902 chum salmon. Escapement estimates were not made for coho or pink salmon. Aerial survey results for the Goodnews River were 3,561 chinook, 29,340 sockeye, and 7,230 chum salmon for the Middle Fork Goodnews River. Estimated drainage wide escapement was 13,532 chinook, 159,859 sockeye, and 60,731 chum salmon. No drainage wide escapement estimates were made for coho or pink salmon. In 2000, the predominant age classes for chinook and sockeye salmon in the escapement and commercial harvest samples were age-1.3. No age class composition for escapement is available for chum salmon because of insufficient sample size. Age-0.4 chum salmon were predominant in the commercial harvest. For coho salmon, age-2.1 fish were predominating in both the escapement and the commercial harvest. In 2001, the majority of Chinook salmon in the escapement and commercial harvest were age-1.4, while age 1.3 sockeye salmon were predominating in the escapement and commercial harvest. For chum salmon, escapement and the commercial harvest was primarily age 0.3 fish. Coho salmon in both the escapement and commercial harvest were primarily age-2.1 fish.

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