

## **Middle Fork Goodnews River Fisheries Studies, 2002**

**Abstract:** The commercial effort, harvest, and the age, sex, and length (ASL) composition of Chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*, sockeye salmon, *O. nerka*, coho salmon, *O. kisutch*, and chum salmon, *O. Keta*, harvested from District W-5 are summarized for the 2002 season. Escapement and escapement ASL composition for Chinook, sockeye, chum, and coho salmon are summarized for the Middle Fork Goodnews River Middle Fork)) for the 2002 season. Escapement estimates for Chinook, sockeye, and chum salmon in the Goodnews River are summarized for the 2002 season. Aresistance-board floating weir was used in the Middle Fork to estimate Chinook, sockeye, chum, and coho salmon escapement, and to provide a platform for the collection of age, sex, and length data. Chinook, sockeye, and chum salmon abundances in the Goodnews River were estimated by expanding aerial survey counts by the Middle Fork weir index. Chinook and sockeye salmon did not achieve their escapement goals at the weir. Chinook salmon was the only species to achieve its aerial survey escapement goal in the Goodnews River. Chinook, sockeye, and chum salmon did not meet their escapement goals in the Middle Fork. No aerial surveys were flown for coho salmon. The percentage of age 1.2 Chinook salmon harvested in District W-5 was 15% greater than the over all total, while the percentage of age 1.3 fish was 13% less than the overall total. The percentage of age 1.3 sockeye salmon harvested in District W-5 was 21% below the overall total, while the percentage of age 1.3 in the weir escapement was 44% below the overall total. The percentage of age 0.3 chum salmon escapement at the weir was 25% below the overall total, while the percentage of age 0.4 fish was 22% above the overall total. Commercial harvest and escapement ASL information for coho salmon were not available at the time of this writing.

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