

## **Estimation of sockeye and coho salmon escapement in Mortensens Creek, Izembek National Wildlife Refuge, 2002**

**Abstract:** A fixed picket weir was operated on Mortensens Creek from 25 June to 22 October 2002. Coho salmon *Onchorynchus kisutch* was the most abundant species counted through the weir (N=6,406) followed by sockeye *O. nerka* (N=5,205), chum *O. keta* (N=55), and pink salmon *O. gorbushca* (N=16). Dolly Varden char *Savelinus malma* were also observed at the weir. Sockeye salmon sampled at the weir were 47% female (SE=1.7%), and represented seven age groups. Age 1.3 was estimated to be 73% (SE=1.4%) of the escapement followed by age 1.2 (17%; SE=1.6%). The mid-eye-to-fork length for male sockeye salmon ranged from 451 to 657 mm and from 465 to 640 mm for females. Coho salmon sampled at the weir were 45% female (SE=2.5%) and represented four age groups. Age 2.1 was estimated to account for 83% (SE=2.0%) of the escapement followed by age 1.1 (11%; SE=1.7%) and 3.1 (6%; SE=1.3%). The mid-eye-to-fork length for male coho salmon ranged from 479 to 741 mm and from 486 to 711 mm for females.

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