

## **Abundance and Run Timing of Adult Salmon in Henshaw Creek, Kanuti National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska, 2004**

**Abstract:** During 2004, a resistance board weir was used to record escapement information from Chinook *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* and chum salmon *O. keta* in Henshaw Creek, a tributary of the Koyukuk River, Alaska. An estimated total of 1,248 Chinook salmon migrated through the weir. Run timing for Chinook salmon was similar to the previous four years of weir operation. Five age groups were identified from 636 Chinook salmon sampled with age 1.2 (45%) dominating. The sex ratio was 23% female and 77% male. The mean length for 147 females was 807 mm, range 590-960 mm, and the mean length for 489 males was 645 mm, range 375-950 mm. An estimated total of 86,474 chum salmon migrated through the weir. The run timing for chum salmon was similar to the previous four years of weir operation. Three age groups were identified from 773 chum salmon sampled, with age 0.3 (86%) dominating. The sex ratio was 54% female and 46% male. The mean length for 421 females was 541 mm, range 450-655 mm, and the mean length for 352 males was 564 mm, range 460-670 mm. The most abundant non-salmon species was longnose sucker *Catostomus catostomus* (N=4,557), followed by Arctic grayling *Thymallus arcticus* (N=133), whitefish (Coregoninae) (N=94), and northern pike *Esox lucius* (N=26). Chinook and chum salmon escapement counts from this portion of the Koyukuk River drainage assist fisheries managers in making in-season decisions during the Yukon River commercial and subsistence fishing seasons, provide post-season evaluation of various management practices, and assist in developing future run projections.

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