

## **Abundance and Run Timing of Adult Pacific Salmon in the Tuluksak River, Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska, 2007**

The Kenai Fish and Wildlife Field Office operated a weir on the Tuluksak River, a tributary to the lower Kuskokwim River in the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge, between June 20 and September 10, 2007. The resistance board weir was used to collect abundance, run timing, and biological data from returning salmon. These data supported in-season management of the commercial and subsistence fisheries in the Kuskokwim area. In 2007, 16,762 chum *Oncorhynchus keta*, 371 Chinook *O. tshawytscha*, 2,768 coho salmon *O. kisutch*, 345 sockeye *O. nerka*, and 61 pink *O. gorbuscha* passed the Tuluksak River weir. Peak weekly passage occurred from July 15 to 28 for Chinook, chum, and sockeye salmon, from July 29 to August 4 for pink salmon, and from August 26 to September 1 for coho salmon. Fish passage was calculated for 4 days when either partial or no escapement numbers were collected due to high water events. Escapement estimates were generated using average daily proportions of fish passing the weir on those days between 1991-1993 and 2002-2006. Based on corrections made to actual counts we estimated that 17,286 chum, 374 Chinook, 2,807 coho, 352 sockeye, and 64 pink salmon escaped in 2007. Age 0.3 chum, 1.4 Chinook, 2.1 coho, and 1.3 sockeye salmon were the dominant age classes. Thirty-one percent of chum salmon, 48% of Chinook salmon, 36% of coho salmon, and 40% of sockeye salmon were females.

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