

## ANVIK RIVER SONAR CHUM SALMON ESCAPEMENT STUDY, 2008

### ABSTRACT

The 2008 Anvik River sonar project operated from late June until the end of July to estimate the passage of summer chum salmon *Oncorhynchus keta*. Data from each bank was collected using a high frequency imaging sonar (DIDSON) sampling 30 minutes of each hour, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The estimated salmon passage was 1,109,766 (SE 2,943) of which pink salmon comprised 66% (734,837) and summer chum salmon passage was 374,929. The summer chum salmon passage was 7% above the minimum escapement objective for the Anvik River biological escapement goal of 350,000 to 700,000 chum salmon. Based on 1979–1985 and 1987–2007 mean quartile passage dates, timing of the 2008 chum salmon run was 2–3 days later for the first and third quartiles. A chum salmon diurnal migration pattern was observed with the highest passage (37%) occurring during the darkest part of the day (2300–0500 hours). Females comprised 54.9% of the catch in beach seines. Age-0.4 fish comprised 50.6% of the chum salmon run in 2008.

Key words: chum salmon, *Oncorhynchus keta*, pink salmon, *O. gorbuscha*, sonar, DIDSON, Anvik River

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