K'ezghlegh Nondalton Traditional Ecological Knowledge of Freshwater Fish

Abstract: In conjunction with the National Park Service, the Nondalton Tribal Council conducted a study to collect and record traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) from village elders and other knowledgeable people regarding sockeye salmon and other freshwater fish harvested for subsistence use by Nondalton residents. The study focused on waters adjacent to the community of Nondalton, including Lake Clark and its tributary streams, the Tazimina drainage, Six-Mile Lake and it tributaries and the mainstem Newhalen River. Local knowledge was collected to identify the distribution of sockeye salmon spawning areas; the locations and Dena'ina names for areas traditionally used to harvest salmon and other freshwater fish for subsistence; changes in fishing effort and sites over time, and observed changes in fish abundance and habitat. This information helped to identify critical subsistence fisheries management issues in the Nondalton and Lake Clark areas and ascertain resource monitoring and information needs for future research.

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