

The Harvest of Non-Salmon Fish by Residents of Aniak and Chuathbaluk, Alaska, 2001-2003

The goal of this project was to identify and understand changes in non-salmon subsistence fishing patterns in the Aniak River drainage during 2001-2003. Data were collected through key respondent interviews and household surveys in Aniak and Chuathbaluk. Key respondent interviews were conducted with five individuals in Aniak in 2002 and documented local knowledge related to critical habitat, life histories, and seasonal movements of non-salmon species, along with changes in the quality and abundance of fish over time in the drainage. Household surveys on non-salmon harvests were completed with most (80-90 percent) households in Aniak and Chuathbaluk in 2002 and 2003, resulting in baseline subsistence harvest estimates for eleven non-salmon species by gear type and season. This detailed examination of contemporary subsistence fishing patterns provides new understanding of subsistence harvests of non-salmon fish in the Middle Kuskokwim River area. It can be used to support future research and may assist policy decisions related to subsistence uses of both salmon and non-salmon species in the area.

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