

ABSTRACT

Abundance and Run Timing of Adult Salmon in Long Lake in the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve. 04-501. Final Report.

The upper Copper River drainage is an important spawning area for both sockeye salmon, *Oncorhynchus nerka*, and Chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*. Both species of salmon are harvested from this drainage by commercial fisherman, subsistence users in the Copper River basin and sport fishermen. Data collected at the Long Lake weir, located in the Chitina River drainage, provides information essential to the management of healthy populations of fish in Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve and throughout the Copper River basin. It is the only ongoing project in the Chitina River drainage that supplies any salmon escapement information.

This report presents a summary of data collected by Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve at the Long Lake weir over a three year period, 2004-2006 and data collected previously by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) (1974-1975), by local land owner Cliff Collins (1976-2002) and by the National Park Service (2003). The weir operated on a daily basis from mid July until late fall. Data collected at the weir includes the enumeration of sockeye salmon migrating through the weir, daily staff gauge and water temperature measurements, and age, sex and length samples.

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