

ABSTRACT

Local Knowledge and Harvest Monitoring of Nonsalmon Fishes in the Lower Kuskokwim River Region, Alaska, 2005–2009

The Lower Kuskokwim River communities of Eek, Tuntutuliak, and Nunapitchuk are located off the mainstem of the Kuskokwim River, in areas of smaller rivers and lakes that are prime habitat for nonsalmon fishes. Through a combination of household harvest surveys and key respondent interviews, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) Division of Subsistence and the Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP) developed baseline documentation of traditional ecological knowledge and subsistence harvests and uses of nonsalmon fishes in these 3 communities. In the first year of the project (April 2006–March 2007), household surveys and key respondent interviews for the project period were conducted in Eek, Nunapitchuk, and Tuntutuliak. Follow-up key respondent interviews were conducted in fall 2008 and winter 2009. Information collected with surveys included the species and number of fish harvested, type of gear used, and general locations of harvests. Information collected during key respondent interviews included contemporary and historical nonsalmon fish harvest and use patterns, areas of use, gear types, and processing methods; life histories of the nonsalmon species, including habitats, seasonal migrations, spawning locations, and diets; community taxonomy of nonsalmon species; and contemporary and traditional self management practices.

Citation: Ray, L., C. Brown, A. Russell, T. Krauthoefer, C. Wassillie, and J. Hooper. 2010. Local knowledge and harvest monitoring of nonsalmon fishes in the Lower Kuskokwim River Region, Alaska 2005–2009. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Subsistence Management, Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program, Final Report (Study No. 06-351). Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Subsistence, Technical Paper No. 356, Fairbanks, Alaska.