

Abstract

The Kenai Fish and Wildlife Field Office, assisted by the Organized Village of Kwethluk, monitored the escapement of five species of Pacific salmon returning to the Kwethluk River. From June 30 to September 10, 2009 a resistance board weir was utilized to collect abundance, run-timing, age, sex, and length data from returning adult salmon. These data support in-season and post-season management of the commercial and subsistence fisheries that occur on the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge and the Kuskokwim River drainage. The estimated escapement was 32,191 chum salmon *Oncorhynchus keta*, 5,744 Chinook salmon *O. tshawytscha*, 4,230 sockeye salmon *O. nerka*, 1,119 pink salmon *O. gorbuscha*, and 21,911 coho salmon *O. kisutch*. Peak weekly passage occurred July 12–18 for chum and Chinook, July 5–11 for sockeye, July 19–25 for pink, and August 30–September 5 for coho salmon. Age, sex, and length data were collected for each species except pink salmon. Dominant ages were 0.3 for chum, 1.3 for male and 1.4 for female Chinook, 1.3 for sockeye, and 2.1 for coho salmon. Over all percentages for female salmon were chum 48%, Chinook 51%, sockeye 65%, and coho 51%. Mean lengths varied between male and female salmon for each species.