ABSTRACT

Abundance and Run Timing of Adult Salmon in Long Lake in the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve: 2007-2009. 07-505 Final Report.

Long Lake flows into the Lakina River, a tributary of the Chitina River in the Copper River drainage. It provides important spawning habitat for sockeye salmon, which contribute to intensive down-river commercial and subsistence fisheries. The monitoring and evaluation of this run is essential to ensure that Wrangell - St. Elias National Park and Preserve (WRST) maintains natural and healthy populations of fish as required by the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA). The Long Lake weir is one of several projects providing accurate assessment of yearly run strength and migratory timing in tributaries to the Copper River and the only ongoing one in the Chitina River drainage.

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, 2007-2009 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 (2003-2006). The weir operated on 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, sex and length measurements and scale and otolith samples for ageing the sockeye salmon

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