

Title: Takotna River Salmon Weir Continuation  
Study Number: FIS 12-304

Primary Objectives:

1. Estimate daily and total annual escapements of Chinook, chum, and coho salmon to the Takotna River upstream of the community of Takotna during the target operational period of 24 June to 20 September, 2012.

Results: The Takotna River weir was installed and operated from 4 July through 14 September in 2012. High river stage delayed installation for 12 days past the target operational period (TOP). During the season, the weir was inoperable for three days due to holes, and six days due to high water. High water also triggered early removal of the weir, six days before the TOP end date. Standard methods were used to estimate missed passage when the weir was not operational. Total annual escapements were 228 Chinook (0% estimated), 6,050 chum (.06% estimate), and 1,838 coho salmon (18.7% estimated).

2. Collect age, sex, and length data from adult Chinook, chum, and coho salmon such that total sample sizes are sufficient for estimating age composition.

Results: Sampling goals were not achieved for all species during the 2012 season. Post-season analysis of these samples is currently proceeding under FRMP # 10-303 (Kuskokwim Salmon Age-Sex-Length Assessment).

3. Begin escapement monitoring for 2013 field season on June 24th.

Results: Weir was re-installed on June 24th, 2013. Lower water levels made for a relatively smooth and easy installation process.

Secondary Objectives:

- Temperature Monitoring: In support of this OSM initiative (FIS 08-701), crew deployed and maintained equipment provided by OSM for standardized air and water temperature monitoring. Air temperature loggers were successfully deployed, maintained, and recovered in 2012 and deployed again in 2013.
- Mentor high school students through the TCA high school internship program: Takotna Community Association (TCA) provided three high school interns with part time employment at Takotna River weir throughout the 2012 season. Interns were instructed in fisheries science techniques and were given educational presentations on fisheries science and management. Interns participated in all aspects of weir operation throughout the 2012 season.