**Orutsararmiut Traditional Native Council (OTNC) Inseason Harvest Monitoring Weekly Report**

*June 14, 2018*

**Summary of Interview Activities**

OTNC conducted surveys with36 fish camps from Tuesday, June 5 through Tuesday, June 12. There were many more active fish camps this survey period compared to the previous week. Five families commented on the high water levels this year. Four families were in support of conservation, two of which expressed their concerns on managers allowing fishery openers this early and with very few fish in the water. A recommendation was made to wait to fish until more Chum and Sockeye salmon are in the river, to prevent more Chinook salmon from being harvested. Seven families commented on restrictions, many of which want more, earlier fishing openers and would like the openers to accommodate fishing during both slack tides. Three families do not want these block openers, and one recommended a permit system. Two families suggested Bethel Test Fishery relocate their fishing site because they are missing a lot of fish. One family requested information on the False Pass reception fishery. Another family requested us to go on KYUK to talk about Salmon life history because he heard reports of Chinook (jack) salmon going back out to the ocean after the enter river.

**Chinook Salmon Age-Sex-Length Sampling Program**

A total of 26 peopleexpressed interest in participating in the Chinook salmon ASL sampling program and were given sampling supplies.

**Fish Distribution**

Thus far, we’ve distributed thirty-seven Chinook salmon to Bethel elders. This is a collaborative effort between OTNC natural resource department, ADF&G and Kuskokwim River Intertribal Fish Commission (KRITFC).

**Harvest Summary**

*June 12, 2018 Opener*

We collected data from 17 unique fishing trips. Most fishing trips occurred as far down river as the Johnson River all the way up to Akiachak. One fishing trip occurred below the Johnson River.

**Table 1.** Gear type reported from June 12 fishing opener.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Total Drift Nets** | **Total Set Nets** | **Average Soak Time (hours)** | **Mesh Size Range** |
| 15 | 2 | 5 hours | 5⅜”-6” |

**Table 2.** Average number of salmon harvested by surveyed fish camps from June 12 fishing opener.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Average Chinook Salmon Harvest** | **Average Chum Salmon Harvest** | **Average Sockeye Salmon Harvest** | **Average other harvest** |
| 6 | 2 | <1 | 1 |