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

*July 6, 2018*

**Summary of Interview Activities**

OTNC conducted surveys with24 fish camps from Friday, June 29 through Sunday, July 1, 2018. Several fish camps commented on the high abundance of chum salmon in the river. One fish camp requested more openers before the bad weather comes. Another fish camp requested more four-inch opportunities be provided during the closure to target whitefish. Two fish camps commented on restrictions and attributed them to loss of Yup’ik culture and processing fish. One fish camp commented on high seas fisheries and weirs, both of which thought were having negative impacts on the fish. Over the past two survey periods, five fish camp respondents reported they are waiting for coho salmon and fishing closures to end before they begin regularly fishing.

**Chinook Salmon ASL (Age-Sex-Length) Sampling Program**

Thus far, we’ve received ASL samples from 11 individuals in the Bethel area.

**Fish Distribution**

As of Monday, July 2, 2018, OTNC is no longer distributing fish. This season, we’ve distributed 306 Chinook salmon, 167 chum salmon and 110 sockeye salmon to Bethel elders, disabled and widows caught from the ADFG Bethel Test Fishery. YDNWR distributed fish to Nunapitchuk, Kasigluk and Atmautluak. KRITFC assisted with three deliveries in the Bethel area.

**Harvest Summary**

*June 29, 2018 Opener*

We collected data from 22 unique fishing trips at fish camps. Most fishing trips (n=19) occurred from Napaskiak to Akiachak.

**Table 1.** Gear type, mesh size range and soak time reported from the June 29 fishing opener.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Total Drift Nets** | **Total Set Nets** | **Mesh Size Range** | **Average Soak Time (hours)** |
| 20 | 2 | 5.5”-6” | 2.3 hours |

**Table 2.** Average number of salmon harvested by surveyed fish camps from the June 29 fishing opener.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Average Chinook Salmon Harvest**  | **Average Chum Salmon Harvest** | **Average Sockeye Salmon Harvest** | **Average other harvest** |
| 5.4 | 21.6 | 15.3 | <1 |

**Fishing Progress Data**

This past survey period, we asked fish camps the following question: “How close are you to achieving your Chinook salmon, chum salmon and sockeye salmon harvest goals?” 11 fish camps had responses for their Chinook salmon and sockeye salmon fishing progress and 10 fish camps had responses for their chum salmon fishing progress.

**Table 3.** Fishing progress by surveyed fish camps for Chinook salmon, chum salmon and sockeye salmon following the June 29 opener.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Salmon Species**  | **Not at all**  | **Under Half** | **Halfway** | **Over Half** | **Goal Met** |
| Chinook salmon  | 18.2%(n=2) | 36.3%(n=4) | 18.2%(n=2) | 9.1%(n=1) | 18.2%(n=2) |
| Chum salmon  | 10%(n=1) | 10% (n=1) | 10%(n=1) | 10%(n=1) | 60%(n=6) |
| Sockeye salmon  |  0%(n=0) | 36.4%(n=4) | 9.1%(n=1) | 18.2%(n=2) | 36.3%(n=4) |