

Orutsararmiut Native Council (ONC) Inseason Harvest Monitoring Weekly Report

June 14, 2019

Summary of Interview Activities

On Saturday, June 8 and Wednesday, June 12, our fisheries team visited 30 total fish camps from Oscarville slough up to the bluffs and conducted surveys at the Bethel boat harbor with some surveys conducted in the Brown slough area.

Here is a summary of the comments from the June 8 opportunity:

- Requesting more openers to support large families
- Soak times are very long, but catches are low
- Wanted a drift-net opener
- Reported a state trooper throw a dead fish back into the water
- Wasting good drying weather waiting around for an opener

Here is a summary of the comments from the June 12 opportunity:

- Early in run because many of the Chinook salmon caught are small
- Patchy white coloration all over Chinook salmon flesh raised concerns
- Combat fishing

Table 2. Average number of salmon harvested by surveyed Bethel area fish camps and Bethel boat harbor from the June 8 fishing opportunity.

Data Source	Number of Surveys Conducted	Average Chinook Salmon Harvest	Average Chum Salmon Harvest	Average Sockeye Salmon Harvest	Average other harvest
Bethel Area Fish Camps	13	9	<1	<1	<1
Bethel Boat Harbor	27	3	<1	<1	<1

Table 2. Average number of salmon harvested by surveyed Bethel area fish camps and Bethel boat harbor from the June 12 fishing opportunity.

Data Source	Number of Surveys Conducted	Average Chinook Salmon Harvest	Average Chum Salmon Harvest	Average Sockeye Salmon Harvest	Average other harvest
Bethel Area Fish Camps	17	10	1	1	1
Bethel Boat Harbor	85	6	<1	1	<1

Fishing Progress Information

This past survey period, we asked eight fish camps the following question: “How close are you to achieving your Chinook salmon harvest goals?”

Table 3. Fishing progress by surveyed fish camps for Chinook salmon from the June 12 fishing opportunity.

Salmon Species	Not at all	Under Half	Halfway	Over Half	Goal Met
Chinook salmon	25% (n=2)	25% (n=2)	38% (n=3)	12% (n=1)	0% (n=0)

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

Thus far this season, there are 21 interested samplers from the Bethel community, and we’ve received samples from four of those individuals, all from the Bethel community.

Fish Distribution

From June 3-June 8, we’ve delivered 100 Chinook salmon, 7 sheefish and 5 chum salmon to Bethel area Elders, disabled and widows as well as ONC Senior Services department to provide salmon for the meals on wheels program. These fish served 90+ area Elders, disabled and widows in Bethel. These fish were caught by the Alaska Department of Fish & Game Bethel Test Fishery.