

### **Tatlawiksuk River weir salmon studies, 2003**

**Abstract:** Tatlawiksuk River salmon escapements were monitored in 2003 using a resistance board weir. The project target operational period is 15 June through 20 September; however, the weir washed out on 4 July during a high water event, prematurely terminating operations. Total Chinook salmon escapement was determined to be 1,683 fish based on a proportional estimate using radio tagged Chinook salmon passage data. A total of 479 chum salmon were observed passing upstream through the weir before 3 July, but premature termination of the project precluded estimates of total chum salmon escapement. No coho salmon were observed during the operational period of the project in 2003. Samples collected before 3 July were inadequate for generating age-sex-length composition estimates of escapement, but suggest trends similar to age-sex-length trends in previous years at Tatlawiksuk River, and to age-sex-length trends at other Kuskokwim River escapement projects. Premature termination of the project resulted in inadequate mark-recapture data for generating travel time, swim speed, and in-river run timing estimates of Tatlawiksuk River chum and coho salmon populations.

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