

ABSTRACT

The project collected information about subsistence harvests of nonsalmon freshwater fish by residents of the eight communities of the Kvichak River watershed of the Bristol Bay area, southwest Alaska, for a 12-month period from October 2002 through September 2003. Local research assistants were hired and trained to collect harvest calendars from participating households and conduct a post-season harvest survey. Data were collected on amounts harvested, gear types used, timing of harvests, and location of harvests. There was a high level of involvement in the subsistence use of nonsalmon fish in the study communities, although harvests were low compared to previous estimates from the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s, primarily because the unusually warm winter in 2002/2003 inhibited travel and the use of traditional methods such as ice fishing. Also, TEK interviews were conducted with 28 individuals, covering such topics as population trends, fish ecology, and traditional harvest methods. These interviews were transcribed and incorporated into a searchable database using the askSam program from which a species by species description was written.

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