

Contemporary Subsistence Uses and Population Distribution of Non-Salmon Fish in Grayling, Anvik, Shageluk, and Holy Cross.

Abstract: Situated along the Innoko River and the lower-middle Yukon River, the communities of Grayling, Anvik, Shageluk, and Holy Cross (GASH) maintain a historically complex relationship with their land and the animals it supports, including non-salmon fish species. Most participating key respondents continue to follow a seasonal, subsistence round based on availability of the resource itself and the availability of other resources. As such, the subsistence economies of the GASH area continue to be flexible systems. As contemporary salmon resources decrease, there is growing concern about similar effects on non-salmon fish in the face of increasing reliance on these species. This study contains three approaches to understanding the role of non-salmon fish species in the lives of GASH residents. First, this project begins to document traditional ecological knowledge of non-salmon fish species through ethnographic interviews with area residents. Second, it produced estimates of village based use of non-salmon fish species using a door-to-door harvest survey conducted in 2002. Finally, this project addresses ongoing user conflicts in the area that have led local people to be concerned about their ability to maintain important subsistence harvests of pike. Specifically, this component considers the effect of existing harvest levels on the pike population in the area, and also examines the degree of overlap between the pike populations targeted by sport and subsistence fishermen.

Key Words: Alaska blackfish (*Dallia pectoralis*), Anvik, Arctic grayling (*Thymallus arcticus*), Arctic lamprey (*Lampetra japonica*), burbot (*Lota lota*), Grayling, inconnu (sheefish) (*Stenodus leucichthys*), Holy Cross, Longnose sucker (*Catostomus catostomus*), northern pike (*Esox lucius*), Shageluk, and whitefish (*Coregonus sp.* & *Prosopium cylindraceum*).

Citation: Brown, C.L., J. Burr, K. Elkin, and R.J. Walker. 2005. Contemporary Subsistence Uses and Population Distribution of Non-Salmon Fish in Grayling, Anvik, Shageluk, and Holy Cross. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Subsistence Management, Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program, Final Report (Study 02-037). Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Subsistence, Technical Paper Series No. 289. Fairbanks, Alaska.