

## **Kanektok River Salmon Monitoring and Assessment, 2009**

Kanektok River is the primary salmon spawning drainage in the Quinhagak area and supports subsistence, commercial, and sport fisheries. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game, in cooperation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Native Village of Kwinhagak, has operated a resistance board weir on Kanektok River since 2001 to estimate escapement and provide a platform to collect samples used in estimating age, sex, and length for Chinook *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*, sockeye *O. nerka*, chum *O. keta*, and coho *O. kisutch* salmon. In 2009, the weir was operational from 5 July through 11 August. Total escapement past the weir during the 2009 operational period was estimated at 6,841 Chinook, 272,483 sockeye, 51,652 chum, and 2,336 coho salmon and 26,606 Dolly Varden. The Chinook salmon escapement was the lowest recorded, while sockeye salmon had the second highest escapement on record and the chum salmon escapement was near average. The Chinook salmon escapement was comprised of 62.7% males and dominated by age-1.4 (49.5%) fish. The sockeye salmon escapement was comprised of 48.3% males and dominated by age-1.2 (62.1%) fish. The chum salmon escapement was comprised of 64.3% males and dominated by age-0.3 (68%) fish. The 2009 District W-4 commercial harvest was 13,920 Chinook, 112,153 sockeye, 48,115 coho, and 91,158 chum salmon, for a total of 265,346 fish. Samples were also collected from the District W-4 commercial catch for use in estimating age, sex, and length of the 2009 commercial harvest. Aerial surveys were not flown in 2009.

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