

**September 29, 2013 Performance Report**  
**Report Period (April 1, 2012 -June 30, 2013)**

**Title:** Lower Kuskokwim River Chinook Salmon Subsistence Harvest ASL Composition

**Project Number:** FRMP 12-302

The 2012 Chinook salmon return to the Kuskokwim River was one of the lowest on record, and resulted in unprecedented restrictions to the subsistence fishery. In an attempt to achieve escapement objectives, subsistence fishing was closed in the lower Kuskokwim River for 14 days and mesh size restrictions were implemented for an additional 22 days.

The circumstances surrounding the 2012 run created significant challenges recruiting subsistence fisherman to collect ASL samples. Sample collection efforts in 2012 were the smallest on record for this project. ONC and ADF&G staff recruited 8 samplers from three lower Kuskokwim River communities (Table 1). However, the range of gear types used (Table 2) and the timing of samples collected are consistent with the limited harvest opportunities that were available during the season - suggesting that samples collected are reasonably representative of the broader subsistence harvest.

All data analyses for the 2012 collections are complete, and results are published in the Salmon Age, Sex, and Length Catalog for the Kuskokwim Area, 2012 Brodersen, A. B., Z. W. Liller, and C. L. Truesdale. 2013. Salmon age, sex, and length catalog for the Kuskokwim Area, 2012. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries, Regional Information Report 13-07, Anchorage.

(annual report for FRMP 10-303). ASL data was collected from 367 subsistence harvested Chinook salmon. Age estimates were assigned for 265 fish.

A performance report was submitted on March 29, 2013 that covered the portion of the reporting period from April 1, 2012 -March 31, 2013. This report is in addition to that which was already submitted and covers the entire reporting period.