



2016: Post Season Analysis
Outlook and Forecast for Yukon Chinook Salmon Timing
Lower Yukon River (Area Y-1), July 25, 2016

How Did the 2016 Timing Outlook Perform?

The [2016 timing outlook](#) (issued June 1) was on target. The outlook anticipated the first significant pulse (15% point of the migration) on the delta at around **June 9, and the observed 15% point was in fact June 9, which is earlier than average.** The outlook called for the half-way point (50%) to be a little early to average, occurring about **June 19, and the observed 50% point was in fact June 19 a little earlier than average.** The weather and ocean conditions in the northern Bering Sea were warmer than average in spring of 2016. The April mean air temperature at Nome (**1.3 C**) was the second warmest since 1907. The average sea surface temperatures (**-0.6 C**) adjacent to the delta were close to average, and the average spring (March 20 – May 31) sea ice concentrations (**41.6%**) in waters between the delta and St. Lawrence Island (Shpanberg Strait) were lower than average.

How Close was the 2016 Timing Forecast?

The [2016 timing forecast](#) was very close to the actual timing. Chinook began to arrive at the end of May. The run developed as expected with the middle of the migration occurring June 19. Please visit the [project web site](#) for data and more details about the forecast.

Percentage Points	Predicted Dates	Observed Dates	Obs – Pred (Days)
Fifteen	June 9	June 9	0
Twenty-five	June 12	June 13	1
Fifty	June 19	June 19	0

Credits

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