



Wednesday, July 22nd, 2020

Post-Season Update on the 2020 Yukon River Chinook Run Timing Forecast

The Yukon River Chinook salmon run arrived just about as expected based upon the pre-season run timing forecast. On May 1st, we issued an [early look forecast](#) indicating average run timing. The early look forecast is based on the [forecast model](#) and the average monthly air temperature at the Nome, AK airport which was slightly above the long-term average of at -3.9°C (long-term average; -6.7°C).

On June 2nd, we issued the final, [pre-season run timing forecast](#) for the first significant pulse (15%) of Chinook salmon to arrive on the delta by June 14th, 25% of the run to arrive by June 16th, and 50% of the run to arrive by June 22nd. The observed 50% point was only a day later than forecast (Table 1) which is in line with historical performance of the forecast model. The run ended up starting slightly earlier than forecast with the 15% point being observed three days earlier than forecast on June 11th.

Table 1: Dates of forecasted and observed 15, 25, and 50th percentiles of run timing and their differences in days.

Percent of Run	Forecasted	Observed	Difference
15%	June 14th	June 11th	3 days earlier
25%	June 16th	June 16th	0 days
50%	June 22nd	June 23rd	1 day later

We thank the ADF&G staff for continuing to operate the Lower Yukon Test Fishery which serves as the foundation for this forecast project and AOOS for their continued data and web support.

Credits

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