

Project Title: Kuskokwim, Yukon and Kotzebue Data Rescue, Correction and Standardization

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Study Location: Yukon River, Kuskokwim River, Kotzebue area

Abstract: Age, sex, and length data have been collected from salmon in the Yukon Area since 1960, in the Kuskokwim Area since 1961 and in the Kotzebue Area since 1962. However, no formal archiving system was established for the Arctic Yukon Kuskokwim (AYK) Region and much of these electronic data have been lost. An overall goal for AYK Region is to provide managers, researchers and public entities involved in salmon fisheries in AYK a system to enter and process new data as well as retrieve historic data. This goal will be achieved through a series of projects from various funding sources. Projects will have complementary objectives and focus on tasks pertinent to the funding agency (Figures 1 and 2). The main objective of this project was to aggregate, error-check, and correct historic chinook, coho, sockeye, and pink salmon age, sex, length (ASL) data from the Yukon, Kuskokwim, and Kotzebue areas. Standardizing data formats for inclusion into a centralized database was a secondary objective. The project goal is to incorporate all salmon ASL data collected in the AYK Region over the past forty years into the region's database management system, under development. The main accomplishment of this project was loading, validating and correcting 508 ASL data files representing 219,616 salmon into databases. The majority of these were chinook and coho salmon from the Yukon and Kuskokwim areas. Technicians keyed an additional 143 handwritten Yukon ASL files representing 30,711 chinook 2 salmon into databases. Aggregation and correction efforts for data relevant to this project were brought to 81% completion.