



Canadian Management Considerations Yukon River Salmon 2016



Presentation to the Yukon River Panel

April 2016

Anchorage, AK



Potential 2016 Allowable Catch Ranges Canadian-Origin Chinook Salmon

	Lower	Upper
Pre-Season Run Size Outlook	65,000	88,000
Spawning Escapement Goal (IMEG)	42,500	55,000
Total Allowable Catch (US and Canada)	10,000	45,500
Canadian Allowable Catch (23% Harvest Share)	2,300	10,500
US Allowable Catch (77% Harvest Share)	7,700	35,000

Note 1

Catch shares as established by the Yukon River Salmon Agreement are:

- US 74 to 80% (77% used as the mid-point)
- Canada 20 to 26% (23% used as the mid-point)



2016 Chinook Salmon Canadian Management Plan Development

- The 2016 Chinook salmon management approach will be finalized following:
 - Pre-season Yukon River Panel meeting.
 - Input from Yukon First Nation Governments, Renewable Resources Councils, general public.
 - Receipt of annual recommendations from the Yukon Salmon Sub-Committee.

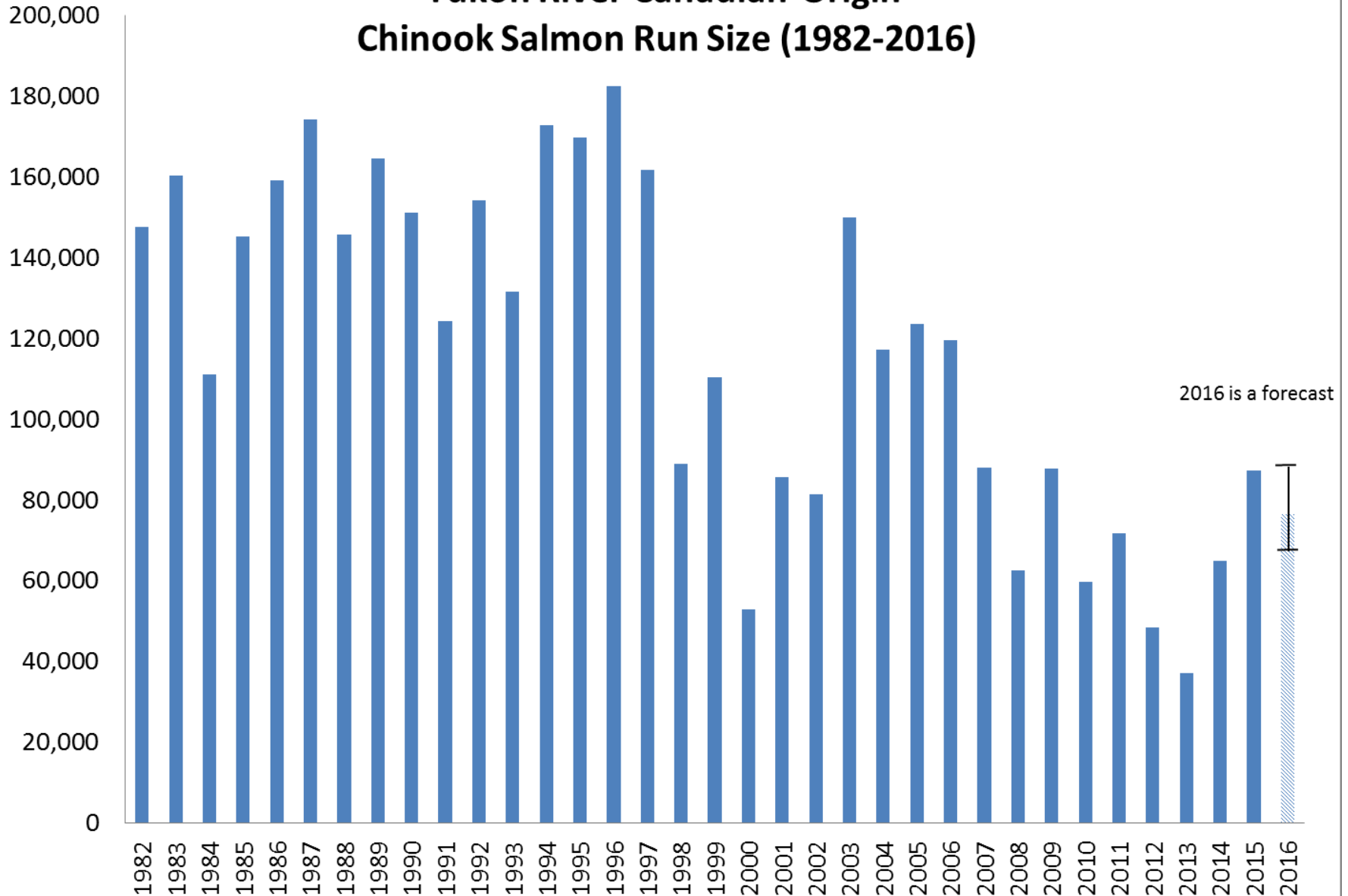


Canadian Management Considerations

- Recommend a precautionary approach
 - Below average pre-season forecast
 - Continued concern about
 - Low run sizes
 - Low productivity
 - Quality of escapement
- Recognition of conservative US management
- Yukon River Salmon Agreement harvest shares



Yukon River Canadian-Origin Chinook Salmon Run Size (1982-2016)





DRAFT 2016 Chinook Salmon Decision Matrix

	Border Escapement Projections	Fishery	Guideline Harvest	Anticipated Management Action
RED ZONE	< 42,500	FN	0	Removal of allocation for conservation purposes
		RF	0	Closed – Directed salmon fishing prohibited
		CF	0	Closed
		DF	0	Closed
YELLOW ZONE	42,500 – 55,000¹ <i>*Management Target 48,750</i>	FN	0 to 8,000	Catch target to vary with abundance within zone: limited harvest below 48,750; up to 8,000 catch at run of 55,000. Catch is subject to international harvest sharing provisions
		RF	0	Closed – No retention permitted
		CF	0	Closed
		DF	0	Closed
GREEN ZONE	> 55,000²	FN	Variable	Unrestricted
		RF	100 – 500	Allocation (harvest opportunities) subject to international harvest sharing provisions
		CF	Variable	
		DF	100–300	
Legend: FN = First Nation fishery; CF = commercial fishery; RF = recreational fishery; DF = domestic fishery.				

*Notes – ¹ The Management Target of 48,750 is the minimum number of salmon intended to reach the spawning grounds.

² Allocation of Chinook salmon to Canadian recreational, commercial or domestic fisheries will only be considered if the number of Chinook salmon returning to Canada, in excess of First Nation Harvest, is likely to exceed 55,000.



Potential 2016 Allowable Catch Ranges Canadian-Origin Chinook Salmon

	Lower	Upper
Pre-Season Run Size Outlook	65,000	88,000
Canadian Management (Spawning) Target	48,750	
Canadian Allowable Catch (23% Harvest Share)	3,700	9,000



Canadian Harvest Share and Status of Fisheries Within Pre-Season Outlook Range

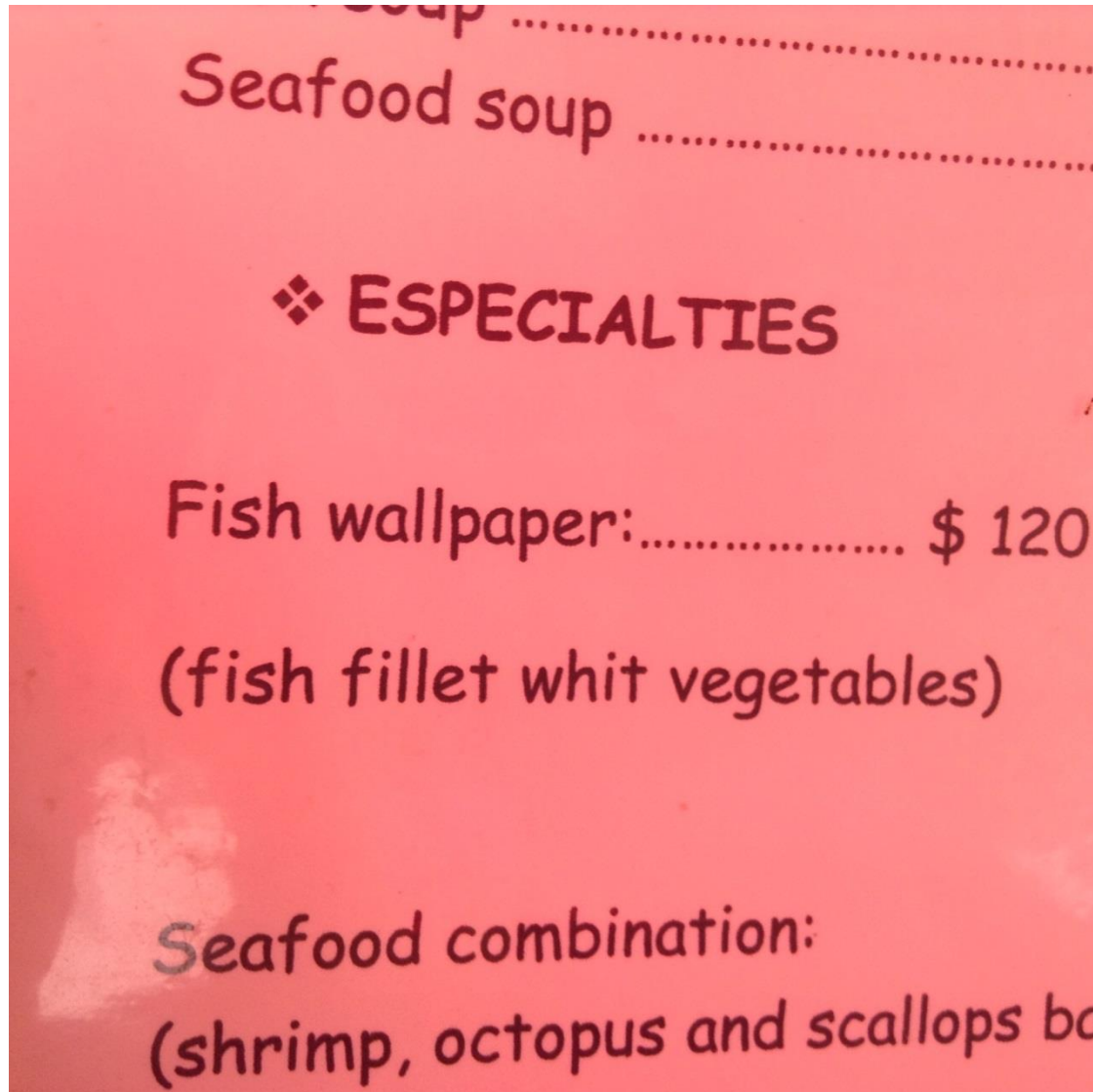
Outlook (Run size)	Canadian Harvest Share*	Canadian Fisheries (Chinook)			
		First Nation	Recreational	Commercial	Domestic
65,000	3,700	3,700	Non-retention	Closed	Closed
76,500	6,400	6,400	Restricted	Closed	Closed
88,000	9,000	8,000	Open	Closed	Closed

**Assumes a spawning target of 48,750 (the Canadian Management Target in 2015) and a 23% (mid-point) of the Canadian harvest share range.*



In-Season Management (Canada)

- Pre-season forecasts have inherent uncertainty
- Provide rough predictions of anticipated run size
 - e.g., weak, average, strong
- Used to inform likely fishery management measures
 - e.g., no commercial fishery
- Pre-season forecasts inform management strategy until in-season information is available (lower river)
- Canadian fishery management decisions based on in-season information (abundance)





Comments or Questions?



THE FIRST CHINOOK SALMON ARRIVE IN YUKON