

**TATCHUN CREEK CHINOOK SALMON SPAWNER ENUMERATION 1999**

**prepared by:**

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**for**

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Restoration and Enhancement Fund**

**and**

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## ABSTRACT

A temporary counting fence and trap were installed in the lower reaches of Tatchun Creek, Yukon Territory from August 6 to September 1, 1999 for the purpose of enumerating chinook salmon spawners. Data collected during the operation of the weir also included run timing, sex ratios and the presence of any tagged fish. A total of 5 male and 6 female chinook were collected as brood stock for the McIntyre Creek incubation facility as part of a public education program.

The results of the 1999 study showed that a total of 250 chinook salmon ascended the creek in 1998, of which 139 (56%) were male and 111 (44%) were female. The first chinook passed through the weir on August 9 and the last on August 31. The total number of spawners counted in 1999 was lower than in both 1997 and 1998 when a total of 1,198 and 405 chinook ascended the stream, respectively. It was originally intended that the weir remain in operation until September 3, but flooding due to heavy rains forced the decommissioning of the weir on September 1. Chinook salmon were observed spawning in the mainstem Yukon River approximately 500 metres downstream of the Tatchun Creek outlet.

Aug. 16  
Aug. 17  
Aug. 18  
Aug. 19  
Aug. 20  
Aug. 21  
Aug. 22  
Aug. 23  
Aug. 24  
Aug. 25  
Aug. 26  
Aug. 27  
Aug. 28  
Aug. 29  
Aug. 30  
Aug. 31  
Sept. 1

Totals

**Tagged Fish:** A male chinook was collected at the weir on August 21, 1999. This fish was held at the McIntyre Creek incubation facility until it was released below the creek near the weir on August 24, 1999. Since no sampling took place upstream of the counting chamber, the location of the weir was not known.

**Broodstock Collection:** Five male and six female chinook were held at the McIntyre Creek incubation facility. These fish were subsequently released into the Yukon River. The remainder of the chinook spawners were not held and were released at the weir.