



2015: Post Season Analysis
Outlook and Forecast for Yukon Chinook Salmon Timing
Lower Yukon River (Area Y-1), August 3, 2015

How Did the 2015 Outlook Perform?

The [2015 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 15, and the observed 15% point was June 17, a little later than average**. The outlook called for the half-way point (50%) to be later than average, occurring about **June 23, and the observed 50% point was June 26, a little later than average**. Although weather and ocean conditions in the southeastern Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska were a good deal warmer than average, the northern Bering Sea experienced average to cool conditions. The April mean air temperature at Nome (-5.89 C) was slightly warmer than average, the average sea surface temperatures (-1.69 C) adjacent to the delta were slightly colder than average, and the average spring (March 20 – May 31) sea ice concentrations (55.7%) in waters between the delta and St. Lawrence Island (Shpanberg Strait) were close to average.

How Close was the 2015 Forecast?

The [2015 forecast](#) was very close to the actual timing. The run was protracted, with chinook beginning to arrive at the end of May. Nonetheless, the run developed slowly, with the middle of the migration not occurring until June 26. 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 15	June 17	2
Twenty-five	June 17	June 20	2
Fifty	June 23	June 26	3

Credits

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