

AFSC/ABL: Juvenile chum salmon allozyme stock identification, Bering Sea 2002

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Genetic stock identification techniques were used to identify the origin and provide stock-specific migration and distribution patterns of juvenile chum (*Oncorhynchus keta*) salmon caught during annual fall surveys (2002) along the eastern Bering Sea (Fig. 1). Preliminary results indicate that: 1) Yukon River Fall chum salmon are widely distributed from offshore of the Yukon River, eastward to 62°N, 172°W, and as far south as Nunivak Island (60°N), suggesting a southwesterly migration pathway along the Bering Sea shelf; 2) juvenile chum salmon from the Kuskokwim River are narrowly distributed south of Nunivak Island from the mouth of the Kuskokwim River, south to 58°N, and as far west as 168°W, suggesting a westerly migration pathway along the Bering Sea shelf; and 3) northern Russia juvenile chum salmon stocks (mainly stocks from rivers draining into the Gulf of Anadyr) are distributed as far east as 62°N, 171°W (Fig. 2). These results are unique in that they represent the first attempt to identify early marine distribution and migration of juvenile chum salmon stocks on the eastern Bering Sea shelf.