

✓
EIS
D
W
(S)

FEDERAL AID IN SPORT FISH RESTORATION

Volume 3, Number 6

Homer Area Sport Fisheries Enhancement

by
Nick Dudiak and Larry Boyle
F-27-R

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Fisheries Rehabilitation,
Enhancement and Development

Don W. Collinsworth
Commissioner

Brian J. Allee, Ph.D.
Director

P. O. Box 3-2000
Juneau, Alaska 99802-2000

October 1988

chinook salmon in the Kachemak Bay area. While the number of fish caught is small, it is interesting that the majority of the fish were released from areas far from Cook Inlet. Of 39 tags reported from "feeder" chinook salmon since 1977, 12 were from Oregon hatcheries, 3 from Washington hatcheries, 20 from British Columbia hatcheries, and 4 from southeastern Alaska hatcheries (Table 9).

SUMMARY

All the projects that make up the sport fisheries enhancement program in the Homer area have greatly increased the sport-fishing opportunities and have satisfied an increased angling demand. The objectives of the program have successfully provided supplemental salmon production and increased the sport-fishing opportunities in the Kachemak Bay area. A total of nearly 23,000 more salmon was harvested in 1988 (Table 10) and juvenile salmon released in 1988 should guarantee the continued success of the sport-fishery enhancement program (Table 11).

Within this enhancement program and by taking advantage of salmon imprinting abilities, anglers now have a greater variety of locations, species, and time to fish in the Homer area. Boat and shore anglers now have a longer open season and more locations to fish for chinook salmon than is available on the rivers of the lower Kenai Peninsula, and the program has displaced fishing pressure from the natural returns that occur in those rivers. This can be especially important during years when natural returns are low because of conditions such as stream flooding, as was the case for local natural pink salmon stocks in 1988. Overall, this enhancement program is estimated to contribute at least 90% of the sport-caught salmon in Kachemak Bay area waters. Because of these efforts and through public information and education, new anglers have also been drawn to the sport, and

FEDERAL AID IN SPORT FISH RESTORATION

Volume 3, Number 6

Homer Area Sport Fisheries Enhancement

by
Nick Dudiak and Larry Boyle
F-27-R

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Fisheries Rehabilitation,
Enhancement and Development

Don W. Collinsworth
Commissioner

Brian J. Allee, Ph.D.
Director

P. O. Box 3-2000
Juneau, Alaska 99802-2000

October 1988

chinook salmon in the Kachemak Bay area. While the number of fish caught is small, it is interesting that the majority of the fish were released from areas far from Cook Inlet. Of 39 tags reported from "feeder" chinook salmon since 1977, 12 were from Oregon hatcheries, 3 from Washington hatcheries, 20 from British Columbia hatcheries, and 4 from southeastern Alaska hatcheries (Table 9).

SUMMARY

All the projects that make up the sport fisheries enhancement program in the Homer area have greatly increased the sport-fishing opportunities and have satisfied an increased angling demand. The objectives of the program have successfully provided supplemental salmon production and increased the sport-fishing opportunities in the Kachemak Bay area. A total of nearly 23,000 more salmon was harvested in 1988 (Table 10) and juvenile salmon released in 1988 should guarantee the continued success of the sport-fishery enhancement program (Table 11).

Within this enhancement program and by taking advantage of salmon imprinting abilities, anglers now have a greater variety of locations, species, and time to fish in the Homer area. Boat and shore anglers now have a longer open season and more locations to fish for chinook salmon than is available on the rivers of the lower Kenai Peninsula, and the program has displaced fishing pressure from the natural returns that occur in those rivers. This can be especially important during years when natural returns are low because of conditions such as stream flooding, as was the case for local natural pink salmon stocks in 1988. Overall, this enhancement program is estimated to contribute at least 90% of the sport-caught salmon in Kachemak Bay area waters. Because of these efforts and through public information and education, new anglers have also been drawn to the sport, and