PWSAC 2017 Fisheries Updates

Thursday, June 22, 2017

Chum Salmon Update

Wally Noerenberg Hatchery:

The chum salmon returns are still lagging behind the forecast return. Chum salmon cost recovery started on June 15th. As of Wednesday 6/21 just over 375,000 chum salmon have been harvested from the Coghill District. PWSAC has harvested 300,582 chum salmon as of 6/21. PWSAC is at 69% of the chum salmon cost recovery goal. We are not harvesting chum salmon on Thursday 6/22 because of the common property fishery in the Eastern and SE districts. Tuesday's female percentage was 35%. The average weight on Wednesday was around 8.3 lbs. The age composition of harvested chum salmon on 6/20 was: 4 year old = 49%, 5 year old= 46% and 6 year old= 5%. If run entry remains at the same levels we anticipate completing cost recovery on chum salmon around June 25. Adult chum salmon are very reluctant to enter into Lake Bay at the hatchery. We have not been able to capture any fish for brood yet since no fish are entering the bay.

Main Bay Hatchery:

The Main Bay sockeye salmon return is starting to lag behind the 1.15 million fish return forecast as well. Total harvest as of yesterday in the Eshamy District is just over 107,100 sockeye salmon all caught in the CPF fishery. No brood stock have been captured at MBH yet.

AFK Hatchery:

The chum salmon fishery at AFK hatchery is lagging behind forecast as well. Approximately 46,500 chum salmon have been harvest as of 6/21

Port Chalmers:

Chum salmon harvest at Port Chalmers has slowed after the initial high harvest rates since the fleet has been restricted to a smaller area. Total harvest as of 6/21 is approximately 222,800 chum salmon.