



Downstream Migration

Ecology

- Downstream migration of 1+ juveniles may commence as early as early May, peaks in June (Bradford et al. 2008) and may be delayed if the spring is cool or late. Chinook that migrate to sea after one or more years in freshwater are referred to as “stream-type” Chinook
- Few 1+ juveniles are captured in the Canadian portion of the Yukon River after July 15 of any given year suggesting that the vast majority of Yukon Chinook smolt after 1 year in freshwater.
- Downstream migration to the ocean is direct and, given the timing of migration past Dawson City, likely results in a mid-summer entry into the Yukon estuary (Bradford et al. 2008).

Potential Limiting Factors

- Short-term climatic/hydrologic variation resulting in low spring water temperatures and delayed out-migration of overwintered yearlings.
- Entrainment in hydroelectric facilities.