

## Anchor River Chinook and Coho Salmon Escapement

In 2003, the application of a new sonar system called the DIDSON (Dual Identification Frequency Sonar) allowed for the first time daily Chinook salmon counts in the early spring when the water level in Anchor River is typically high preventing the use of traditional counting methods such as weirs or counting towers to count immigrating fish (Figure 1). In 2004, the DIDSON system was again used to estimate Chinook salmon escapement during high flows, but when water levels lowered a weir was installed to continue monitoring Chinook salmon escapement and to census coho salmon escapement (Figure 2). The coho salmon escapement was last monitored in 1992. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game is continuing to use the DIDSON system in combination with a weir to monitor Chinook and coho escapements.

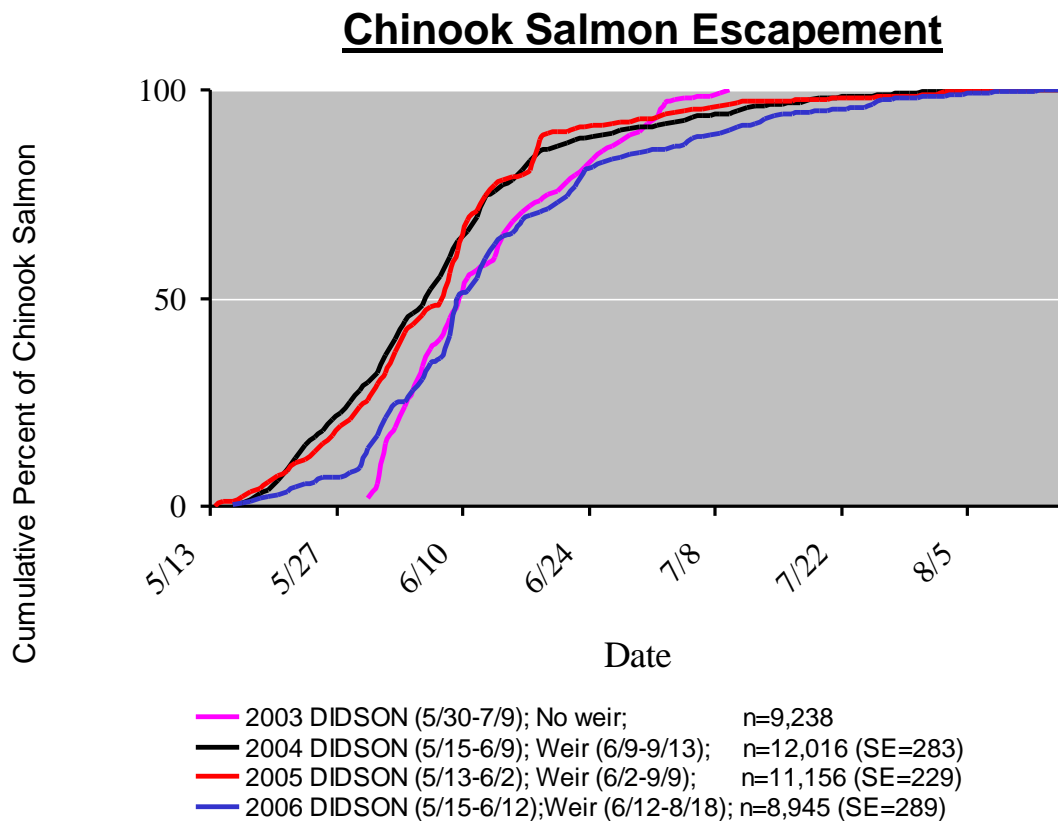


Figure 1. The Chinook salmon escapement count and run timing at the mainstem sonar/weir site located approximately 2.8 rkm upstream from the mouth of the Anchor River, 2003 to 2006.

## Coho Salmon Escapement

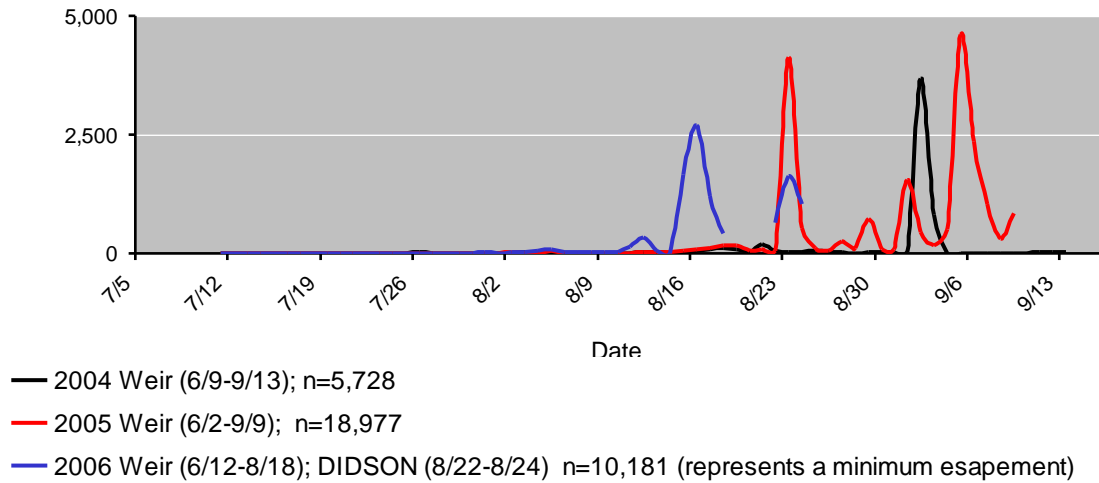


Figure 2. The number of coho salmon counted at the DIDSON/weir site located approximately 2.8 rkm upstream from the mouth of the Anchor River from 2004 to 2006. In 2006 no counts were made from August 19 to August 22 because the weir washed out. The DIDSON was used from August 22-24, and then pulled.