

# SKAGIT - SUIATTLE CHINOOK

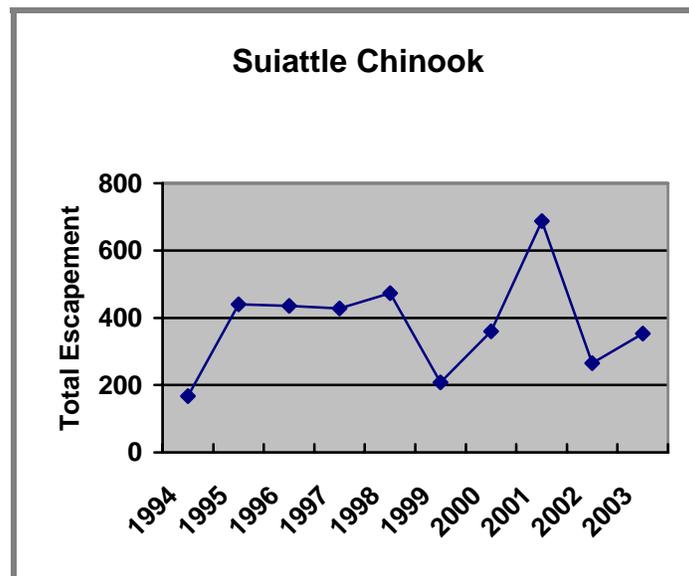
## STOCK STATUS

1992 STATUS <b>Depressed</b>	2002 STATUS <b>Healthy</b>
---------------------------------	-------------------------------

## STOCK STATUS RATING DATA

USEFULNESS FOR RATING STOCK STATUS: Excellent

Year	Total Escapement
1994	167
1995	440
1996	435
1997	428
1998	473
1999	208
2000	360
2001	688
2002	265
2003	353



Data are total escapement estimates based on redd counts in Big, Tenas, Straight, Circle, Buck, Lime, Downey, Sulphur, Milk creeks. A new escapement methodology was applied beginning in 1994. Expanded cumulative redd counts are thought to represent the total spawner population better than peak live plus dead counts which were used prior to 1994 (Pete Castle, WDFW, personal communication). New estimates are not comparable to the estimates in the 1992 SASSI.

Stock status is rated **Healthy** in 2002. The mean escapement of 368 spawners for brood years 1994 through 1997 is greater than the recovery goal of 160 established for the stock by EDT

# SKAGIT - SUIATTLE CHINOOK

---

analysis (Koenings et al. 2002). Stock productivity is also high. The status of this stock is subject to change as values for recruits, provided by NOAA Fisheries, change during on-going analyses.

## STOCK DEFINITION

Suiattle Chinook were identified as a stock based on their distinct spawning distribution, spawning timing and genetic composition.

**SPAWNING DISTRIBUTION:** Most spawning takes place in tributaries such as Big, Tenas, Straight, Circle, Buck, Lime, Downey, Sulphur and Milk creeks. Some spawning also occurs in the mainstem Suiattle River.

**SPAWNING TIMING:** Spawning generally occurs from late July through early September.

**GENETIC ANALYSIS:** Genetic analysis of samples over a period of six years has shown that Suiattle Chinook is genetically distinct from all other Washington Chinook stocks examined (Marshall et al. 1995).

## STOCK ORIGIN

This is a **native** stock with **wild** production.