

MID-COLUMBIA – HANFORD REACH FALL CHINOOK

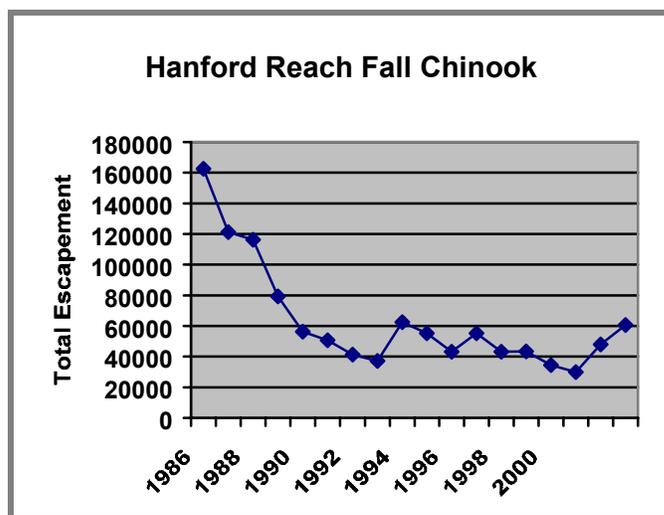
STOCK STATUS

1992 STATUS Healthy	2002 STATUS Healthy
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STOCK STATUS RATING DATA

USEFULNESS FOR RATING STOCK STATUS: Good

YEAR	TOTAL ESCAPEMENT
1986	162,487
1987	121,243
1988	116,169
1989	79,410
1990	56,204
1991	50,730
1992	41,269
1993	37,254
1994	62,541
1995	55,208
1996	43,249
1997	43,493
1998	34,393
1999	29,812
2000	47,960
2001	60,570



Data are total escapement estimates based on counts of adult Chinook at McNary Dam minus Chinook counts at Ice Harbor and Priest Rapids dams, minus estimated returns to the Yakima River and Yakima River and Hanford Reach harvest. There is a problem with fish falling back at Priest Rapids Dam and being counted more than once.

Escapements have been stable within a range of about 30,000 to 60,000 spawners per year since 1990. Escapements were about twice as high from 1985 through 1989, but prior to that time were in the same range as seen today. The escapement goal is 45,000 Chinook at McNary Dam. Stock status is rated **Healthy** in 2002.

STOCK DEFINITION

Hanford Reach fall Chinook were identified as a stock based on their distinct spawning distribution, appearance (an upriver “bright” fall stock which enters freshwater with chrome-bright skin and red flesh) and genetic composition.

SPAWNING DISTRIBUTION: Most spawning takes place in the Hanford Reach of the mainstem Columbia River from Priest Rapids to the Tri-Cities, a distance of about 45 miles.

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SPAWNING TIMING: Spawning generally occurs from late October to early December.

GENETIC ANALYSIS: Allozyme analysis has shown Hanford Reach fall Chinook to be genetically distinct from other Washington Chinook stocks examined, including other upriver bright fall stocks in the upper Columbia and Snake rivers (WDF and WDW 1993).

STOCK ORIGIN

This is a **native** stock with **composite** production. Hanford Reach fall Chinook are also maintained and released into the Columbia River from the WDFW Priest Rapids Hatchery.