

SKAGIT - MAINSTEM SKAGIT FALL CHUM

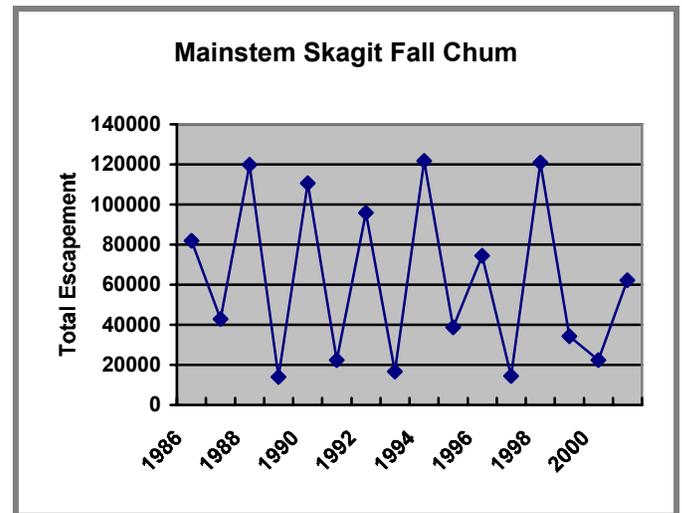
STOCK STATUS

1992 STATUS Healthy	2002 STATUS Healthy
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STOCK STATUS RATING DATA

USEFULNESS FOR RATING STOCK STATUS: Excellent

YEAR	TOTAL ESCAPEMENT
1986	81,869
1987	42,853
1988	119,791
1989	13,904
1990	110,567
1991	22,364
1992	95,940
1993	16,673
1994	121,775
1995	38,666
1996	74,474
1997	14,392
1998	120,875
1999	34,311
2000	22,321
2001	62,262



Data are total escapement estimates based on live spawner counts in the Skagit River mainstem and side channel index areas. The estimates include counts for the Sauk fall chum stock. We believe that these numbers adequately reflect the status of the Mainstem Skagit fall chum stock.

The Mainstem Skagit fall chum stock has a long-term pattern of relatively stable, but inter-annually variable escapements. Stock status is rated **Healthy** in 2002.

STOCK DEFINITION

Mainstem Skagit fall chum were identified as a stock based on their distinct spawner distribution, spawning timing and genetic composition.

SPAWNING DISTRIBUTION: Spawning takes place in the mainstem Skagit River from RM 34 to 93. Spawning also occurs in larger tributaries such as the Cascade River, Nookachamps, Gilligan, Illabot, and Bacon creeks.

SPAWNING TIMING: Spawning generally occurs from mid-November through December, which is later than spawning by the Lower Skagit Tribs fall chum stock.

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GENETIC ANALYSIS: Allozyme analysis has shown Mainstem Skagit fall chum to be genetically distinct from all other Washington chum and Canadian chum stocks examined (Phelps et al. 1995).

STOCK ORIGIN

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