

SOUTH SOUND – JOHNS/MILL CREEKS FALL CHUM

STOCK STATUS

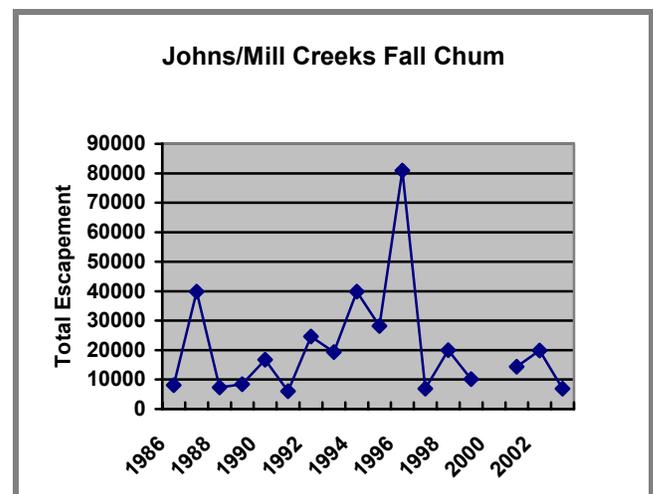
1992 STATUS	2002 STATUS
Healthy	Healthy

STOCK STATUS RATING DATA

USEFULNESS FOR RATING STOCK

STATUS: Good

YEAR	TOTAL ESCAPEMENT
1986	8,115
1987	39,856
1988	7,301
1989	8,444
1990	16,767
1991	6,035
1992	24,623
1993	19,348
1994	39,903
1995	28,252
1996	80,961
1997	6,889
1998	19,999
1999	10,128
2000	No data
2001	14,400
2002	19,904
2003	6,870



Data are total escapement estimates based on annual index counts of live spawners in Johns and Mill creeks.

Stock status is rated **Healthy** in 2002. This stock has a long-term pattern of relatively stable escapements with somewhat higher escapements in the 1990s.

STOCK DEFINITION

Johns/Mill Creeks fall chum were identified as a stock based on their distinct spawning distribution and spawning timing. Much of the production in this area comes from wild escapement in Johns Creek. Mill Creek escapement is primarily based on wild spawning fish with a narrower run timing (November to December spawner). However, because of the over-lap in run timing, they can be considered the same stock.

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SPAWNING DISTRIBUTION: Most spawning takes place in Johns Creek. Spawning also occurs in Mill Creek.

SPAWNING TIMING: Spawning generally occurs from November through early February.

GENETIC ANALYSIS: Allozyme analysis has shown Johns/Mill Creek fall chum salmon to have a genetically mixed background. Mill Creek may have a remnant native fall chum population (Phelps et al. 1995).

STOCK ORIGIN

This is a **mixed** stock with **wild** production. At one point, Hood Canal hatchery chum were introduced into the system. Fisheries were conducted in attempts to remove these fish but were not considered to be effective. Hatchery plants from Hood Canal and other facilities (Minter Creek) may have affected the genetic make-up of the native stock and created a mixed stock.