

SOUTH SOUND – GIG HARBOR/OLLALA CREEK FALL CHUM

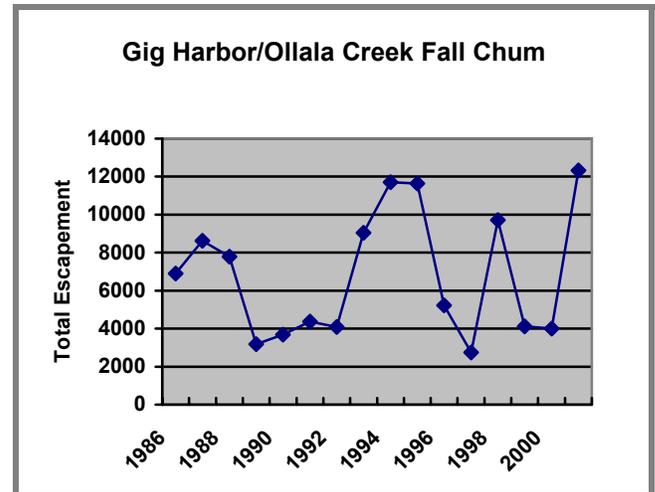
STOCK STATUS

1992 STATUS Healthy	2002 STATUS Healthy
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STOCK STATUS RATING DATA

USEFULNESS FOR RATING STOCK STATUS: *Good*

YEAR	TOTAL ESCAPEMENT
1986	6,905
1987	8,628
1988	7,786
1989	3,185
1990	3,677
1991	4,369
1992	4,088
1993	9,038
1994	11,713
1995	11,638
1996	5,218
1997	2,749
1998	9,709
1999	4,120
2000	4,000
2001	12,325



Data are total escapement estimates based on live spawner counts in North, Crescent and Ollala creeks.

Stock status is rated **Healthy** in 2002. Escapements increased substantially beginning in 1995 and have remained at high levels, primarily because of the contributions of a local hatchery program.

STOCK DEFINITION

Gig Harbor/Ollala Creek fall chum were identified as a stock based on their distinct spawning distribution and spawn timing which is a little earlier than that of the Sinclair Inlet stock and later than that of the Dyes Inlet/Liberty Bay stock.

SPAWNING DISTRIBUTION: Most spawning takes place in North (Donkey), Ollala, Curley and Crescent creeks.

SPAWNING TIMING: Spawning generally occurs from late November through December.

GENETIC ANALYSIS: Allozyme analysis has shown Gig Harbor/Ollala Creek fall chum salmon to have a mixed genetic background (Phelps et al. 1995). North (Donkey) Creek chum are derived from Elson Creek Hatchery Stock (via Minter Creek).

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STOCK ORIGIN

This is a **mixed** stock with **composite** production. Donkey Creek production has been supported by the Minter Creek Hatchery. Prior to 1989, the hatchery released fall chum of Hood Canal origin. These fish were replaced by Elson Creek Hatchery fall chum (a South Sound stock) by 1992. Chum in Ollala, Curley and Crescent creeks may be native.