

SOUTH SOUND – SINCLAIR INLET FALL CHUM

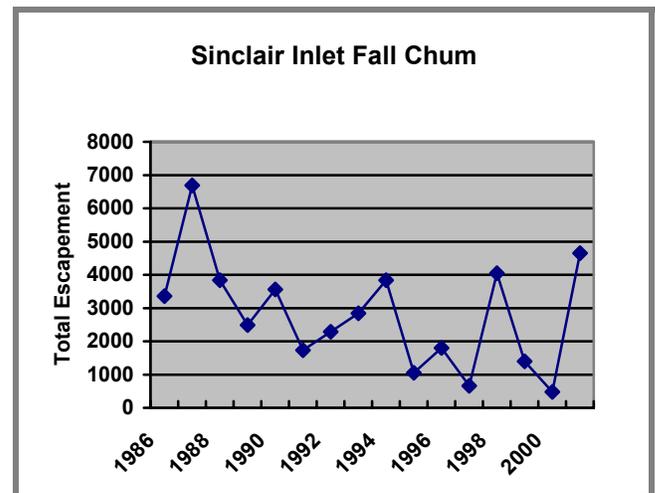
STOCK STATUS

1992 STATUS Healthy	2002 STATUS Healthy
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STOCK STATUS RATING DATA

USEFULNESS FOR RATING STOCK STATUS: Good

YEAR	TOTAL ESCAPEMENT
1986	3,360
1987	6,690
1988	3,840
1989	2,486
1990	3,561
1991	1,736
1992	2,289
1993	2,840
1994	3,838
1995	1,048
1996	1,799
1997	663
1998	4,045
1999	1,395
2000	477
2001	4,649



Data are total escapement estimates based on live spawner counts in Ross, Blackjack and Gorst creeks.

Stock status is rated **Healthy** in 2002. We do not consider that the low escapements in 1997 and 2000 indicate that the stock is declining or signal a need for corrective action. Early information on the 2002 return suggest that it will be larger than the 2001 return. We believe that the stock may be entering a period of increased escapements.

STOCK DEFINITION

Sinclair Inlet fall chum were identified as a stock based on their distinct spawning distribution and spawning timing, which extends a little later than that of other East Kitsap fall chum stocks.

SPAWNING DISTRIBUTION: Most spawning takes place throughout Sinclair Inlet including tributaries such as Gorst, Anderson, Ross and Blackjack creeks.

SPAWNING TIMING: Spawning generally occurs from December through early January.

GENETIC ANALYSIS: Allozyme analysis has shown Sinclair Inlet fall chum collected from Gorst Creek to be genetically similar to Chico Creek chum (Dyes Inlet/Liberty Bay stock) (Phelps et al. 1995).

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STOCK ORIGIN

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