

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Health
"Fish Safety Monitoring"



FY02 Grant Award: \$180,000

Project Match: \$179,115



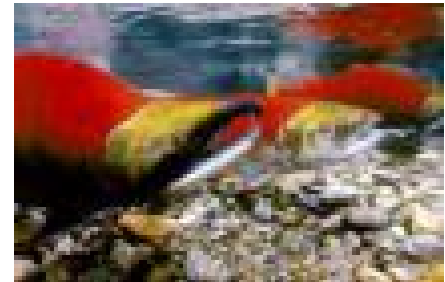
Description and Purpose: The purpose of this project is two-fold: 1) to determine what levels of methyl-mercury, Chromium, Arsenic, Cadmium, Nickel, Lead, selected PCB congeners, Dioxin, and pesticides exist in the meat of Alaskan salmon species, halibut, cod, rock fish, pike, pollock, sheefish (Alaskan Salmon will be sampled more often than other species); and 2) to increase DEC coordination with other groups doing related research.

Evaluation of Environmental Benefits:

This research will provide an answer to the increasingly common question all departments in the State of Alaska are hearing: Is this fish safe to eat? We do not have enough data to answer this question with any assurance to date. The outcome will be a significant amount of data that tells us what levels of contaminants exist in the meat of Alaskan salmon. Our performance measure is an increase in the amount of reliable results that exist determining the level of contaminants in commonly eaten Alaskan fish species.

The impact of coordination will be better use of resources and a better understanding across organizations about levels of contaminants. No performance measure exists for this objective.

Our QAPP will be peer reviewed beforehand so that it's difficult to dispute results. A lab protocol has also been established and is in the QAPP. It defines our quality assurance procedures to ensure samples are evaluated correctly.



Deliverables for this project include:

A preliminary report analyzing the data and interpreting the results will be provided with the final progress report by July 30, 2002. The data will be analyzed and the report written by a private contractor. The final report will be peer reviewed before being released to the public. In addition, simple brochures, fact sheets, and web pages will be created that break the scientific information into easy-to-understand terms. Copies of the Project QAPP, brochures, fact sheets, web pages and other outreach material will be submitted with the final report.

Project Contacts:

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