

GARY MARTINEK

SENIOR ASSOCIATE AND AQUACULTURE CONSULTANT

QUALIFICATIONS

Gary recently retired after 38 years of dedicated service at the Gulkana Hatchery. He served as the Hatchery's Manager for 24 years perhaps setting the longevity record for Hatchery Managers in Alaska.

The Gulkana Hatchery is located 260 miles from the Gulf of Alaska at the base of the Alaska Range, near the headwaters of the Gulkana River. From 1973 to 1980 the hatchery capacity expanded yearly, while continuing to focus on research in sockeye culture and incubator design. During this time, user group demand continued to escalate, while natural production declined. In 1980, with 20 incubators in operation, the emphasis moved from research to production. By 1984, Gulkana became the largest sockeye fry production facility worldwide, with egg takes of 26 million. The annual average adult salmon return is 250,000 sockeye salmon.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

- Successful sockeye salmon hatchery manager in the Copper River.
- Developed and implemented numerous hatchery and remote camp procedures and guidelines for smolt outmigration enumeration and adult return enumeration.
- Established protocols for large scale sockeye salmon egg takes and fry releases, including on-site and remote locations.
- Extensive on-site hatchery construction including egg take/strontium marking building, hatchery water intake system, on-site fry rearing area, remote camp quarters, storage buildings and weirs. Developed plans and specifications, and managed construction and placement of new modular bunkhouses.
- Oriented, trained and evaluated all hatchery personnel.
- Provided instrumental leadership developing strontium chloride otolith marking techniques for emergent sockeye salmon fry.
- Successfully instituted and maintained a large-scale strontium chloride marking program for sockeye salmon fry.
- Participated in extensive research in sockeye and Chinook salmon fish culture in interior Alaska.
- Developed successful aerial transport and release program for sockeye and Chinook salmon fry.
- Collaborated in comprehensive field pathology sampling of wild sockeye and Chinook stocks for use as potential hatchery brood stock.
- Developed and fabricated the "Gulkana Tote Incubator." Designed to increase egg-to-fry survivals, this incubator can be disinfected, reused and is less susceptible to interior Alaska's subzero temperatures.

- Administered the on-site project management efforts of the Gulkana River Reconstruction and Repair Project, \$600,000.
- Collaborated with commercial, subsistence, personal use and sport fisheries state agencies to ensure the availability of enhanced sockeye for all user groups.
- Organized and administered annual operations and capital budget.
- Hatchery procurement including direct, vendors, and contractors.

Years of Experience: 38

Employment History:

Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation

1993 – 2017: Gulkana Hatchery Manager

State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G)

1990 – 1993: Gulkana Hatchery Fish Culturist

1979 – 1990: Gulkana Hatchery Fisheries Technician

Education:

Biology coursework, Santa Ana College, 1972-1974

Areas of Expertise:

- Leadership
- Salmon Hatchery Operation Management
- Human Resource Management
- Large-scale Production Salmon Aquaculture Techniques
- Construction Project Management
- Sockeye Salmon Egg Take Protocols
- Government and Public Relations
- Interior Alaska Sockeye & Chinook Salmon Fish Culture Research

Awards/Certificates:

- 1972 – Present: NAUI Certified diver
- 1985 – Present: Mountain Safety Rescue
- 1990 – Present: Swift Water Rescue
- 1993 – Present: Alaska State Emergency Trauma Technician
- 2013 – Present: Alaska State Certified Flagger, Traffic Controller

Related Activities:

- 1993 – 2017: Copper River Native Association, hatchery enhancement to subsistence fisheries
- 1993 – 2017: ADF&G/PWSAC, Regional Planning Team
- 1995 – 2017: Native Village of Eyak, Research - travel timing and distance of hatchery sockeye stocks
- 2004 – 2017: Copper River Watershed Project, various projects involving Copper Basin salmon stocks
- 2007 – 2010: Ecotrust, Copper River Salmon assessment and interaction between hatchery and wild salmon stocks in the Copper River
- Personal interests include fresh and saltwater fly fishing, travel and family