

## ATTENTION TAHLTAN NATION FISHERS:

The TCG Fisheries Department would like to provide members with an update regarding the **low Chinook and Sockeye forecasts for the 2021 fishing season.**

**We ALL need to do our part in the conservation and protection of our failing Chinook Salmon stocks, to ensure their availability for future generations. Please note and follow all recommendations from the TCG Fisheries Director while conducting your Food Fish harvest.**

### Chinook:

- 2021 run forecast: 9,900 [10yr average = 18,500]
- Conservation management measures remain in effect for Stikine Chinook – no Total Allowable Catch (TAC), no directed fisheries in Canada or the USA.
- Tahltan River closed to angling/rod fishing.
- No setting food fish nets until most of the Chinook have passed through the TC/Tahltan River food fish corridor.
- Food fishery to commence in early July to target sockeye only (incidental catches of Chinook occur in our food fishery but a later start date allows for more Chinook to migrate through to the spawning grounds).
- Release any healthy Chinook from your net, record the date caught and number of Chinook released in your catch records, if it is tagged, please document the tag number before you release it.
- If you catch a Chinook with a missing adipose fin (the rubbery appendage between the tail and dorsal fin) this fish has been coded wire tagged. Please cut off the head, place it in a bag, label with date and where it was caught, freeze the head (if possible) and turn it over to the TCG Fisheries Department staff to obtain the coded wire tag information.

### Sockeye:

- 2021 run forecast: 56,000 (combined stocks) [10yr average = 108,000]
- Tahltan Lake terminal run forecast: 28,000 [10yr average = 67,000]
- Tahltan Lake escapement goal range: 18,000-30,000
- Tahltan Lake management objective: 24,000
- Mainstem terminal run forecast: 28,000 [10yr average = 41,000]
- Mainstem escapement goal range: 20,000 to 40,000
- Mainstem management objective: 30,000

# Attention Tahltan Nation Fishers

7 May 2021

- Canadian in-river commercial fishery closed for 2021.
- Targeted sockeye food fishery to commence in early July.
- Record sockeye catches and spaghetti tag interceptions in your harvest records.
- **Fish conservatively, harvest only for your immediate household/family.**
- **Harvest only what you NEED for the sake of conservation and assurance that enough sockeye make it to their spawning grounds.**

## COVID-19 Protocols:

To all non-residents or out-of-territory visitors:

The COVID-19 virus is a threat to our small community, and we appreciate your cooperation to keep our community safe and COVID free.

Although over 90% of our adult population, age 18 years and over, have been vaccinated, our youth and children, age 17 years and under, have not been vaccinated; therefore, we must remain vigilant for their protection.

If you are planning to travel to Telegraph Creek for work or cultural reasons, please ensure you follow our recommendations:

- Check in at the gate and be prepared to provide name(s), contact information (for contact tracing purposes) length and purpose of visit;
- DO NOT enter any community spaces without prior permission (Community hall, health center, band office, post office, safehouse, etc...);
- Ensure you have enough supplies and fuel for your trip;
- Keep at least 6 feet distance between yourself and others;
- Wear a mask at all times when in the presence of others;
- Use hand sanitizer and wash hands frequently with soap and water;
- If you need supplies or fuel, please contact the Health Director at (250) 235 3211 or email [Christine.ball@tahltan.ca](mailto:Christine.ball@tahltan.ca)
- Do not visit if you have any flu-like symptoms unless you have been confirmed negative for COVID-19;
- If you develop symptoms after you have entered the community, please contact the Health Centre for further instructions asap (250)235-3211
- If you require any more information, please contact the Tahltan Health Centre.

Mēduh,  
TCG Fisheries Department