



STIKINE RIVER SALMON UPDATE

Thursday, September 16, 2021

Note: This update is intended as a message to fish harvesters. Information provided in this update is preliminary and subject to change. For more information contact the individuals listed at the end of this update.

Fisheries Management:

Lower Stikine Commercial

The lower Stikine River Coho salmon commercial fishery opened on September 12th for 5 days. No further openings will be announced.

Upper Stikine Commercial

The upper Stikine River Sockeye salmon commercial fishery is closed.

Food Social and Ceremonial Fisheries (First Nations Fisheries)

Currently open but fishing complete for the season.

Fishery Actions:

Fishery	Status	Harvest to Date	Comments
Commercial	Opening for directed Coho salmon fishing on September 12 (5 days).	Sockeye: 608 Chinook: 0 Coho: 4,467 Pink: 2 Chum: 83	Canada's allowable coho salmon catch is 5,000 as per provisions of the Pacific Salmon Treaty.
Chinook Assessment	No fishing for 2021		
FSC (First Nation Fishery)	Open but no effort anticipated for the remainder of the season.	Sockeye: 4,094 Chinook: 182 large; 333 small Coho: 0	
Recreational	Restricted	NA	Coho retention permitted (daily quota 2 over 50cm)

U.S. Fisheries

Regular updates on fisheries occurring in U.S. waters can be found on the following website:

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareasoutheast.main>

Stock Assessment

Chinook

The pre-season run size of large Chinook salmon was estimated at 9,900 fish. Stock assessment projects are underway to assess in-season run sizes. Current inseason information suggests the inriver Chinook salmon run is consistent with the preseason forecast.

Assessment Program	Date	Number to Date	Comments
Little Tahltan Chinook Enumeration	June 18 to August 16 (extended to August 19) Complete	Large: 1,037 Small: 440 CWT: 57 Tags: 26	Delayed weir installation as a result of high water; weir fish tight July 07; First fish: July 10; project extended to August 19
Kakwan Chinook Tagging	May 05 to July 10 Complete	210 large tagged; CPUE 40% of average	Above average river levels. 2021 field component completed by ADFG.
Stikine Juvenile Tagging	April 15 to May 31 Complete	62.3k Chinook tagged 8.7k Coho tagged	Targets: 50k Chinook; 10k coho. Tagging targets achieved in 2021; 2021 field component completed by ADFG

Sockeye

The preseason terminal run forecast for Sockeye salmon was 56,000 fish. This is well below the 10 year average Stikine River Sockeye salmon terminal run size of approximately 143,000 fish and below the 10 year average of 107,600 excluding the enhanced Tuya Lake fish. The post season estimate for Stikine sockeye salmon will be available later this fall.

Assessment Program	Date	Number to Date	Comments
Tahltan Lake Sockeye Count	July 07 to September 15 Complete	43,245 (as of September 13)	Weir fish tight: July 07 First fish: July 20 Weir out: Sept 13

Assessment Fishery (non-lethal)	June 20 to August 28 Complete	Set Net Catch: 1,069 Drift Net Catch: 76 (as of August 27)	
Tahltan Lake Smolt Count	May 04 to June 28 Complete	Count: 1,860,257 (preliminary)	Project completed June 28. Forecast was 1.8 million.
Aerial surveys	Sept 12 Complete		

Contacts

For questions about the information provided in this update or additional information please contact:

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