



# TNG FISHERIES

*The latest information important to T̓silhqot̓'in fish and fishing activities*



## Ts'eman (Sockeye) In-Season Update

### Ts'eman (sockeye) technical information:

- Taseko is the earliest Ts'eman run that returns to T̓silhqot̓'in territory to spawn.
- Current information indicates these fish are entering the Chilcotin system now in a highly stressed state, due to extremely high water levels in the Fraser during their migration. This stress may reduce spawning success.
- A small population with declining numbers, this stock has been a serious conservation concern for many years.
- TNG Fisheries is installing our SONAR in the Taseko next week to count Taseko Ts'eman and prepare for emergency conservation enhancement brood collection in early September.
- In the coming weeks, TNG Fisheries will be collecting and receiving technical information about the much stronger Chilko Ts'eman return; updates will be provided through our weekly fisheries bulletins.

### TNG Ts'eman (Sockeye) Voluntary Closure Notice until Aug 6, 2022 — issued July 29, 2022:



The T̓silhqot̓'in Council of Chiefs requests that fishers voluntarily release all Ts'eman (sockeye) to help protect the vulnerable early-timed Taseko population that is currently returning to spawn in T̓silhqot̓'in Territory.

**Until August 6, 2022:** Please release all Ts'eman (sockeye) caught in the Chilcotin mainstem from the Fraser to the Taseko/Chilko junction.

### Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) Fraser River Window Closure:

DFO has put in place a window closure for sockeye on the Fraser mainstem to protect Early Stuart sockeye and some of the earliest returning Early Summer stocks such as Bowron and Taseko. **Until August 6, there are no sockeye directed fisheries on the Fraser River mainstem** from Deadman's Creek to Quesnel (including T̓silhqot̓'in Territory).

## FISHERIES TEAM

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and **Aimee Arsenaault**,  
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## T̓silhqot̓'in Ts'eman (Sockeye) Fishery:

The much stronger Chilko Ts'eman (sockeye) run — the basis for the T̓silhqot̓'in Ts'eman fishery — is expected to return to the Territory in good numbers to support a sustainable T̓silhqot̓'in fishery this year. **The Chilko run is expected to reach the Chilko system in mid August and peak around the third week of August.**

## Jaŝ (Chinook) In-season Update

### Jaŝ (Chinook) technical information:

- Due to a combination of very low abundance from the ocean and high flows in the Fraser since early June, very few Jaŝ (Chinook) have been able to migrate through the Fraser system to date.
- Early timed Upper and Lower Chilcotin Jaŝ have already been in the Fraser system for an extended period, burning up critical energy needed to reach their spawning grounds in the Little Chilcotin.
- Water levels in the Fraser have been dropping rapidly in the past week; **Jaŝ are now able to migrate throughout the Fraser, including through Hell's Gate and Big Bar.**
- TNG Fisheries has detected **Chilcotin Jaŝ** in the Lower Chilcotin system, and is now preparing for emergency conservation enhancement brood collection on the Upper Chilcotin stock.
- Later-timed **Chilko Jaŝ** were detected at Lillooet last week; this larger stock makes up the basis for the Tŝilhqot'in Jaŝ fishery. These fish are now on their way to the Lower Chilcotin/Chilko system.

### Jaŝ (Chinook) Harvest Notice Reminder:

See pages 4-5

The Tŝilhqot'in Council of Chiefs is asking fishers to follow 2 limited measures to protect extremely vulnerable early timed Jaŝ (Chinook) that spawn in the Little Chilcotin system.

- 1) **For the full fishing season:** Please do not fish for Jaŝ (Chinook) in the **LITTLE CHILCOTIN SYSTEM** above the Chilko/Chilcotin junction.
- 2) **July 15 to August 1:** Please release any Jaŝ (Chinook) caught on the **CHILCOTIN MAINSTEM** between the Fraser River and the Chilko/Chilcotin junction.

**Highly vulnerable Upper and Lower Chilcotin Jaŝ are now in the Chilcotin system.** These early-timed fish have been very stressed due to high water during their migration through the Fraser River.

Between now and August 1 is a critical time to protect these fish. **Let's make these last few days count and help them reach their spawning grounds.**

## If you catch a tagged fish:

Researchers with DFO, in partnership with First Nations and the Province of BC, are tagging Chinook, Sockeye, and Coho salmon with radio tracking transmitters. Numbers printed on the radio transmitters uniquely identify individual salmon and will be used to evaluate adult salmon migration success associated with the Big Bar landslide.

Please report the **tag number** along with the **date** and **location** of capture or recovery to **BigBarTag@gmail.com**, or turn the tags in with the above information through your local catch monitoring program.



### Tŝilhqot'in Jaŝ (Chinook) Fishery:

We anticipate that dropping water levels in the Fraser will allow later-timed Jaŝ (Chinook) runs to return to Tŝilhqot'in Territory. This would support a near-typical Tŝilhqot'in Jaŝ fishery **after August 1.**

## TNG Fisheries Weekly Updates

For weekly updates on the status of Tŝilhqot'in salmon populations and returns, Tŝilhqot'in fisheries, and TNG Fisheries Department activities, please see our weekly TNG Fisheries updates at [www.tsilhqotin.ca/fisheries](http://www.tsilhqotin.ca/fisheries) and on the TNG Facebook page.

**For questions please contact TNG Fisheries Manager Randy Billyboy**  
Email: [rbillyboy@tsilhqotin.ca](mailto:rbillyboy@tsilhqotin.ca) / Tel: 250-392-3918

### Please see attached below:

- July 29 Temporary Ts'eman (Sockeye) Closure Notice (p. 3)
- July 15 Jaŝ (Chinook) Harvest Notice and Map (p. 4-5)



## Early timed Ts'eman (Sockeye) Closure Notice

July 29, 2022

### **TNG Request for Voluntary Release Until August 6:**

The T̓silhqot'in Council of Chiefs request that fishers voluntarily release T'seman (sockeye) to help protect the vulnerable early-timed Taseko population that is currently returning to spawn in T̓silhqot'in Territory.

**Until August 6, 2022: Please release all Ts'eman (sockeye) caught in the Chilcotin mainstem from the Fraser to the Taseko/Chilko junction.**

**We anticipate that the much stronger and later-timed Chilko Ts'eman run will support a typical T̓silhqot'in Ts'eman fishery when these fish return in mid to late August.**

Please note that the request for **voluntary measures to protect early-timed Ja̓s (Chinook)** are still in effect; please see the July 15 Ja̓s notice for more information.

### **Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) Fraser River Window Closure:**

DFO has put in place a window closure for sockeye on the Fraser mainstem to protect Early Stuart sockeye and some of the earliest returning Early Summer stocks such as Bowron and Taseko.

**Until August 6, 2022: No sockeye directed fisheries on the Fraser River mainstem from the Deadman's Creek to Quesnel (including T̓silhqot'in Territory).**

For weekly updates on the status of T̓silhqot'in stocks, please see our weekly TNG Fisheries updates at [www.tsilhqotin.ca/fisheries](http://www.tsilhqotin.ca/fisheries) and on the TNG Facebook page

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TŚILHQOT'IN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

# Jaș (Chinook) Harvest Notice

July 15, 2022

**The Tșilhqot'in Council of Chiefs request voluntary compliance with limited measures to protect extremely vulnerable Chinook populations.**

Very high water in the Fraser is causing extreme stress for early timed Chinook that return to the Little Chilcotin system. Very few fish may make it back to spawn.

We can all help protect these at-risk Chinook populations for the future by allowing them to safely return to their spawning grounds.

Please follow these limited measures:

- 1. For the full fishing season:** Please **do not fish for Chinook in the LITTLE CHILCOTIN SYSTEM** above the Chilko/Chilcotin junction.
- 2. July 15 to August 1:** Please **release any Chinook caught on the CHILCOTIN MAINSTEM** between the Fraser River and the Chilko/Chilcotin junction.

We anticipate that later-timed Chinook will support a near-typical Tșilhqot'in fishery after August 1, 2022.

Note: Current information indicates that there will be enough Chilko Ts'eman (sockeye) to support a sustainable Tșilhqot'in Ts'eman fishery this year.

For weekly update on the status of Tșilhqot'in stocks, please see our weekly TNG Fisheries updates at [www.tsilhqotin.ca/fisheries](http://www.tsilhqotin.ca/fisheries) and on the TNG Facebook page.

**For questions please contact TNG Fisheries Manager Randy Billyboy  
rbillyboy@tsilhqotin.ca / 250-392-3918**



# Jaš (Chinook) Harvest Notice

Voluntary Measures to Protect Early Timed Chinook - July 15, 2022

