WEEKLY IN-SEASON FISHERIES BULLETIN . TNG FISHERIES . AUGUST 22, 2022 . ISSUE 05



TNG FISHERIES

The latest information important to Tŝilhqot'in fish and fishing activities



The Chilcotin System and the Fraser River Mainstem are open for Ts'eman (sockeye) and Jaŝ (Chinook) fisheries

Jaŝ (Chinook) Reminder for the Little Chilcotin System:

- The Tŝilhqot'in Council of Chiefs is asking fishers to follow 1 limited measure to protect extremely vulnerable early timed Chinook that spawn in the Little Chilcotin system.
- For the full fishing season: Please do not fish for Chinook in the LITTLE CHILCOTIN SYSTEM above the Chilko/Chilcotin junction.

Tislagh (Steelhead) / ?Elhdachugh (Sturgeon) Reminder:

- Please release any Tislagh (steelhead) due to continued conservation concern for these endangered fish.
- DFO regulations also require release of non-target species, including steelhead and sturgeon.

End of Early-Season Voluntary Measures:

- Earlier in the season, extremely high water on the Fraser River severely impacted passage and migration timing for at-risk early-timed Ts'eman (sockeye) and Jaŝ (Chinook). The Tŝilhqot'in Council of Chiefs requested limited voluntary measures to help protect these vulnerable stocks.
- These voluntary measures ended in the first week of August, except for the voluntary measure in the Little Chilcotin system, which remains in effect (see above).

FISHERIES TEAM

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With regular support from: Andrea Sterling, Biologist (Water Quality and Quantity Program, Conservation Hatchery Program, Emergency Enhancement) and Aimee Arsenault, Communications.

Ts'eman (Sockeye) Update:

- Chilko Ts'eman (sockeye), the basis for the Tŝilhqot'in Ts'eman fishery, continue to enter the Fraser River and Tŝilhqot'in Territory. Tŝilhqot'in members have been out fishing at key sites, and are seeing Ts'eman showing up in good numbers. We're pleased to celebrate a good Ts'eman fishery so far!
- Current technical information shows a strong Chilko run to support continuing Ts'eman fisheries. The run is expected to peak in the Territory the last week of August and the first week of September.

Jaŝ (Chinook) Update:

- TNG Fisheries began monitoring Jaŝ in the Chilko system (mark and recapture) and the Upper Chilcotin (helicopter survey) in the past two weeks.
- We will start to get an idea of Jaŝ spawning populations throughout the territory in the next 4 to 5 weeks.

We will continue to monitor all data sources and provide updates through our weekly fisheries bulletins.



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





TNG FISHERIES WEEKLY UPDATES

For weekly updates on the status of Tŝilhqot'in salmon populations, fisheries, and TNG Fisheries Department activities, please see our weekly updates at 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