



# TNG FISHERIES

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



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

### End of Ts'eman (Sockeye) Measures:

- Voluntary Ts'eman protection measures requested by the T̓silhqot̓'in Council of Chiefs to protect early timed Ts'eman populations including Early Stuart, Bowron, and Taseko ended on August 6.
- DFO's window closure (sockeye non-retention) to protect early timed sockeye also ended in this region on August 6.

### Ja̓s̓ (Chinook) Reminder:

- The T̓silhqot̓'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) / ʔElhdachugh (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.

### FISHERIES TEAM

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With regular support from:  
**Andrea Sterling**, Biologist  
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 and **Aimee Arsenault**, Communications.

## 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.

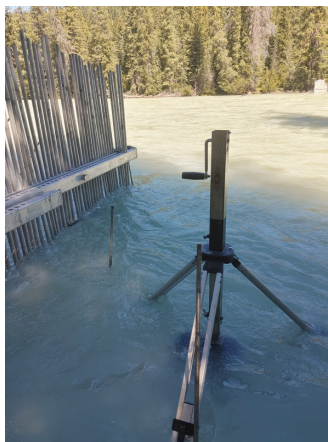


## Jaš (Chinook) Technical Information:

- Fraser water levels have been dropping rapidly over the past three weeks. Jaš are now able to migrate throughout the Fraser, including Hell's Gate and Big Bar.
- Chilko Jaš are now present in the Fraser River and the Lower Chilcotin/Chilko system.
- The limited measure to protect early timed Jaš on the Lower Chilcotin/Chilko system ended on August 1st. Normal fishing for Jaš is now underway in the Fraser mainstem and the Lower Chilcotin/Chilko system. **NOTE: The limited voluntary protection measure is still in effect for the Little Chilcotin system** – please see above on page 1).
- TNG Fisheries began monitoring Jaš in the Chilko system (mark and recapture) and in the Upper Chilcotin (helicopter survey) this week. We will start to get an idea of the spawning populations throughout the territory in the next 5 to 6 weeks.

## Ts'eman (Sockeye) Technical Information:

- Early Stuart Ts'eman are in very stressed condition due to extended high water in the Fraser River, which caused migration barriers/delays for early-timed fish. They are a high conservation concern. However, new information indicates that Early Stuart Ts'eman are now showing up throughout the Stuart River system in key spawning areas. This is good news!
- Water temperatures in the Fraser River are currently average, which is good news for salmon migrating right now.
- Water levels/flows have dropped in the last few weeks and are no longer impacting migration.
- Early run Taseko Ts'eman (a key conservation concern) are arriving in the Taseko system. TNG Fisheries installed our SONAR in the Taseko River last week to count these fish and prepare for emergency enhancement in early September (see photos below).
- Chilko Ts'eman (the basis for the Tšilhqot'in Ts'eman fishery) and other summer run populations are increasing in numbers in the marine approach area. The first part of the run has entered the Fraser River, but it's still early in the season, and most of the run is still in the ocean.
- We anticipate a normal Ts'eman fishery later in August and will continue to monitor all data sources. More information on the Chilko run will be available in the next couple of weeks.
- There are currently no Canadian or southern US commercial fisheries directed at Fraser sockeye. Low-impact US Ceremonial & Sustenance fisheries started last week, as well as First Nations fisheries in Canada in the Fraser River and the marine area.



Photos: TNG Fisheries crew installing the SONAR system in the Taseko River to count vulnerable Taseko Ts'eman (sockeye).

## TNG FISHERIES WEEKLY UPDATES

For weekly updates on the status of Tšilhqot'in salmon populations, fisheries, and TNG Fisheries Department activities, please see our weekly 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](mailto:rbillyboy@tsilhqotin.ca) / 250-392-3918**



TŚILHQOT'IN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

# Tsilhqot'in Harvest Notice

August 10, 2022

The Chilcotin/Chilko River Mainstem and the  
Fraser River Mainstem are open for  
Ts'eman (sockeye) and Jaș (Chinook) fisheries

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## Jaș (Chinook) Reminder:

For the full fishing season: The voluntary closure of the Jaș (Chinook) fishery in the Little Chilcotin system above the Chilko/Chilcotin junction remains in effect. This voluntary conservation measure is to protect vulnerable early timed Jaș (Chinook).

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## 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.

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For weekly updates on the status of Tsilhqot'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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