



## Salmon

### North Coast Areas 1-6



Fisheries and Oceans  
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# 2024 Expectations and Results

2024 EXPECTATIONS & RESULTS AREAS 1 TO 10						
<b>1. Preseason Expectations</b>						
Expected Return	<u>Area</u>	<u>Sockeye</u>	<u>Coho</u>	<u>Pink</u>	<u>Chum</u>	<u>Chinook</u>
	1-2W	Near avg	UNK	Near avg	Below avg	UNK
	3 <sup>1</sup>	Below avg	Below avg	Average	Below avg	Below Avg
	4	Below avg	Near Avg	Average	Well Below Avg	Below Avg
	5	Below avg	Below avg	Average	UNK	UNK
	6	Below avg	Near avg	Near avg	Near avg	UNK
	7 <sup>6</sup>	Below avg	Below avg	Near avg	Well Below Avg	Below avg
	8	Below avg	Below avg	Below avg	Near avg	Below avg
	9	Well Below Avg	UNK	UNK	UNK	Below avg
	10	Well Below Avg	UNK	UNK	UNK	Below Avg
Interim Target	1	100,000	UNK	1,152,000	62,000	UNK
Escapement <sup>2</sup>	2E	15,000	UNK	728,075	468,000	UNK
	2W	12,000	UNK	411,550	180,000	UNK
	3 <sup>3</sup>	200,000	60,000	225,000	67,000	15,000
	4 <sup>4</sup>	900,000	UNK	2,097,800	20,000	UNK
	5	50,500	UNK	254,500	UNK	UNK
	6	63,850	UNK	1,344,450	520,000	UNK
	7	24,200	UNK	440,720	311,950	UNK
	8	UNK	UNK	1,475,400	267,450	UNK
	9	200,000	UNK	342,450	150,700	22,700
	10	100,000	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK
<b>Total</b>		1,665,550	UNK	8,471,945	2,047,100	UNK
Food, Social and Ceremonial Alloc.	1-2W	20,000	5,000	2,500	2,500	3,000
	3-6 North	244,250	8,650	32,425	4,975	15,860
	6 South-10	50,000	8,470	13,270	12,520	7,970
<b>Total</b>		314,250	22,120	48,195	19,995	26,830
Treaty - Nisga'a (all catch)	3 <sup>5</sup>	71,000	13,000	57,000	5,800	5,000
<sup>1</sup> - Nisga'a Fisheries Sockeye and Chinook sibling forecasts <sup>2</sup> - Target Escapements are based on subjective spawning capacity with some reference to historic esc. and subsequent returns <sup>3</sup> - Skeena and Nass Sockeye and Skeena Pink escapement targets are the product of stock recruitment analysis. <sup>4</sup> - Chinook targets for the Skeena and Nass Rivers are the PST stock rebuilding goals <sup>5</sup> - Nisga'a Treaty + Harv. Agr. allocation based on pre-season forecast TRTC of "Nass Area" salmon stocks (overage/underage not included) <sup>6</sup> - Area 7 & 8 Chinook are based on the Bella Coola/Atnarko preseason outlook						

**2024 EXPECTATIONS & RESULTS**

**AREAS 1 TO 10**

**2. Post Season Catch (preliminary)**

<b>Commercial</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Sockeye</b>	<b>Coho</b>	<b>Pink</b>	<b>Chum</b>	<b>Chinook</b>		
Troll	1	Closed	9,090	2,425	Closed	7,701		
In-season Hail	2W	Closed	885	46	Closed	8,612		
	3	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed		
	6	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed		
	7	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed		
	8	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed		
	101	198	58,748	55,593	Closed	37,138		
	102	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed		
	103	161	18,126	28,650	Closed	Closed		
	104	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed		
	105	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed		
	142	Closed	4,071	827	Closed	23,266		
<b>Total</b>		359	90,920	87,541	0	76,717		
	<b>Area</b>	<b>Sockeye</b>	<b>Coho</b>	<b>Pink</b>	<b>Chum</b>	<b>Chinook</b>		
Gillnet	1	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
In-season Hail	2E	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
	2W	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
	3	19,876	closed	19,760	38,919	closed		
	4	123,423	closed	56,936	closed	closed		
	5	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
	6	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
	7	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
	8	closed	closed	closed	closed	146		
	9	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
	10	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
<b>Total</b>		143,299	0	76,696	38,919	146		
	<b>Area</b>	<b>Sockeye</b>	<b>Coho</b>	<b>Pink</b>	<b>Chum</b>	<b>Chinook</b>		
Seine	1	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
In-season Hail	2E	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
	2W	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
	3	33,220	closed	799,438	73,315	closed		
	4	49,171	closed	233,531	closed	closed		
	5	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
	6	closed	closed	112,650	closed	closed		
	7	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
	8	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
	9	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
	10	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
<b>Total</b>		82,391	0	1,145,619	73,315	0		
	<b>Area</b>	<b>Sockeye</b>	<b>Coho</b>	<b>Pink</b>	<b>Chum</b>	<b>Chinook</b>		
CSAF Demonstration	3	14,076	closed	71,737	0	closed		
Fisheries (North Coast)	4	30,944	closed	57,673	closed	closed		
	5	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
	6	closed	closed	0	closed	closed		
	7,8	closed	closed	closed	closed	25		
<b>Total</b>		45,020	0	129,410	0	25		
<b>Sport</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Sockeye</b>	<b>Coho</b>	<b>Pink</b>	<b>Chum</b>	<b>Chinook</b>	<b>Jacks</b>	<b>Steelhead</b>
Tidal	1	92	27,377	709	2,095	21,121	UNK	UNK
	2E	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK
	2W	0	4,072	86	411	8,208	UNK	UNK
	3,4	45	29,253	2,036	27	9,239	NA	NA
	5,6	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK
	7,8,9	NA	4,521	106	85	2,547	NA	NA
	10	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK
<b>Total</b>		137	65,223	2,937	2,618	41,115	0	0
Freshwater								
Babine Lake	4	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK
Babine River	4	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK
Middle Skeena	4	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK
Lower Skeena	4 <sup>9</sup>	1,009	144	103	closed	closed	NA	NA
<b>Total</b>		1,009	144	103	0	0	0	0

9 - Skeena River from Terrace area downstream, data from LGL Limited Lower Skeena Creel Survey

2024 EXPECTATIONS & RESULTS								
AREAS 1 TO 10								
2. Post Season Catch (preliminary) cont'd								
First Nations	Area	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Chinook	Jacks	Steelhead
FSC*	Terminal	1	4,239	UNK	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Interception	1	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	NA	NA
	Terminal	2E	4,164	UNK	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Interception	2E	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	NA	NA
	Terminal	2W	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK
	Interception	2W	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK
	Tidal/Terminal	3	20,454	21	3	60	160	0
	Tidal	4,5,6	16,508	217	384	348	275	0
	Non-tidal	Skeena	56,063	936	5,556	65	1,860	1463
	Tidal	7	1,620	248	0	250	602	0
	Tidal	8	2,000	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK
	Non-tidal	8	57	2	146	325	955	UNK
	Tidal	9	646	24	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK
	Non-tidal	9	227	38	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK
	Tidal	10	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK
	<b>Total</b>		105,978	1,486	6,089	1,048	3,852	1,463
Treaty - Nisga'a (all catch)	3	116,776	1,917	11,677	773	5,832	UNK	598
ESSR	Area	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Chinook	Jacks	Steelhead
	Meziadin Lake	3	33,183	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Babine Lake	4	205,766	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Witset Canyon	4	NA	NA	945	NA	NA	NA
	<b>Total</b>		238,949	0	945	0	0	0
*Data set is not complete								
2024 EXPECTATIONS & RESULTS								
AREAS 1 TO 10								
3. Commercial Fishery Statistics								
	Area	Date of First Fishery	Date of Last Fishery	Closed for Balance	Days Fishing	Total Boat Days		
Gillnet	1	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
	2E	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
	2W	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
	3	July 8	July 24	Sept 20	6	307		
	4	July 13	August 9	Sept 20	11	1046		
	5	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
	6	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
	7	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
	8	June 3	June 17	Oct 20	3	33		
	9	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
	10	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
Seine	1	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
	2E	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
	2W	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
	3	July 9	August 5	Sept 20	11	114		
	4	July 25	Aug 4	Sept 20	7	54		
	5	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
	6	August 5	August 11	Sept 20	3	15		
	7	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
	8	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
	9	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
	10	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed		
Troll	Area F	July 1	August 16	Sept 30	92	2310		

**Figure 1. Statistical Area Map of the North Coast**



# Commercial Troll Fishery Review

## **2024 SALMON LICENSE AREA F TROLL SUMMARY**

### **Coho Salmon Troll Fishery**

Due to continuing concerns regarding Northern Coho abundance and productivity the longer term **closure** of the Area F mixed stock directed Coho fishery was maintained in 2024. As an additional precautionary measure the Central Coast limited effort Coho demonstration fishery was not implemented from 2019 to 2024. However, Coho retention was permitted in both the A-B Line Pink Salmon directed opening and the Chinook Salmon ITQ opening neither of which extend into Hecate Strait.

The **Area F troll, full season, Coho catch in 2024 was 90,920**, which is **approximately 40% of the 10 year average prior to PSSSI closures in 2021**. Within the reduced Coho retention area, catches through the first three closure years increased and Coho CPUE during comparable full fleet activity (August 16<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>) averaged 13.3 in 2021, 29.7 in 2022 and 40.1 in 2023. During **2024 the average CPUE through the same timeframe was 33.5, which is somewhat lower than the previous year.**

Tissue samples for genetic stock identification were collected from the Coho catch again in 2024 and the results will be provided by NC StAD once analysis is complete. In addition, approximately 30% of all Area F licenced trollers were required to retain heads from all Coho and Chinook salmon caught, to facilitate CWT recovery for stock identification.

### **A-B Line Pink Salmon Troll Fishery**

The A-B Line (North Dixon Entrance) directed Pink Salmon fishery opened on July 1<sup>st</sup> and continued until August 15<sup>th</sup> with retention of Coho and Sockeye. By-catch provisions for Sockeye within Dixon Entrance troll fisheries are contingent on the availability of commercial TAC of Skeena and Nass Sockeye. Retention of Chum Salmon was not permitted due to ongoing concerns regarding Haida Gwaii and NCA abundance.

A total of **34 vessels** participated over the course of the 46 day A-B line opening with an average daily participation of 13 vessels and a maximum of 21 vessels. An estimated 44,539 Coho and 81,813 Pinks were retained during the A-B Line opening from July 1<sup>st</sup> to August 15<sup>th</sup>. The **2024 full season Pink Salmon catch (87,541) was above the average for the previous 10 years (72,500) but much lower than the 2023 catch (168,400), which was the highest in many years.**

In-season management measures for Northern boundary area Coho are also defined within the Canada US Pacific Salmon Treaty (Chapter 7, Schedule B). This agreement identifies CPUE thresholds within the Southeast Alaskan (SEAK) Area 6 commercial troll fishery during statistical weeks 27 to 29 that can trigger closures within the boundary area commercial Coho fisheries in both countries.

Late July in-season review by managers from both countries resulted in a consensus decision not to implement a treaty closure. Effort in SEAK Area 6 was very limited again in 2024 but the available catch data indicated a CPUE that was above the first closure threshold. Based on other available information including the A-B Line CPUE and also considering the highly precautionary Area F Coho management measures in place since 2021, the parties agreed that a trigger closure of the Northern Boundary area was not merited.

## ITQ Chinook Troll Fishery

The Area F troll Chinook ITQ fishery is a component of the Northern B.C. Aggregate Abundance Based Management (AABM) Chinook fishery, as defined in the Pacific Salmon Treaty (PST), which includes the troll fishery in PFMA 1 to 5, 101 to 105 and 142 as well as the recreational fishery in PFMA 1, 2, 101, 102 and 142. The pre-season Area F troll Chinook total allowable catch (TAC) is determined by subtracting the expected recreational harvest from the total Northern BC AABM TAC, which equated to a starting TAC of 142,800 Chinook and an individual transferable quota (ITQ) of 768 Chinook for each of the remaining 186 licences (Table 1).

In addition to maintaining a maximum 3.2% exploitation threshold for WCVI Chinook, further precautionary time restrictions have been implemented in recent years, to protect Northern Chinook stocks and at-risk Fraser Stream type Chinook (Spring 4<sub>2</sub>, Spring 5<sub>2</sub> and Summer 5<sub>2</sub>). These time restrictions also support the additional objective of allowing increased passage of not-at-risk Fraser Summer 4<sub>1</sub> Chinook for higher priority fisheries including FSC harvest. These actions resulted in delaying the start of the Area F Troll Chinook fishery until August 20<sup>th</sup> in 2019, August 15<sup>th</sup> in 2020, August 12<sup>th</sup> in 2021 and August 10 in 2022. In 2023 a decision was made to provide additional coast wide protective measures for the later migrating Fraser Summer 5<sub>2</sub> Chinook SMU and as a result the Area F Troll start date was delayed until August 16<sup>th</sup>. These measures were maintained in 2024, which also had an August 16 start date for the Chinook fishery.

The 2024 Chinook ITQ fishery remained open until September 30<sup>th</sup> with retention of Coho and non-retention of Chum and Sockeye to minimize impacts on Northern Chum and passing Fraser Sockeye. A total of 89 vessels participated in the Chinook opening with daily participation averaging 73 vessels through the first 10 days. Maximum daily effort was 82 vessels. Average CPUE through the first 10 days was 77 Chinook per vessel-day, which is over twice as high as the average for the previous five years with August start dates.

Average CPUE remained substantially higher than recent years up until approximately September 11<sup>th</sup> when it dropped below 20 Chinook per vessel day. Only a handful of vessels remained after September 15<sup>th</sup> and the fishery closed on September 30<sup>th</sup> with a total validated catch of 76,717 Chinook or approximately 54% of the 2024 Area F AABM TAC. An additional 48,417 Coho and 5,728 Pinks were caught during the Chinook ITQ opening.

DNA samples were collected from Chinook and Coho salmon and stock composition (GSI) data for the catch will be provided by NCA StAD once the lab work and analysis are completed. Post season estimates of WCVI Chinook exploitation will also be determined using DNA and CWTs with results available in early spring of 2024.



## **Haida Community Based Troll Fishery**

In 2024 the Area F Chinook salmon ITQ opening also included a Haida Community Based Fishery (CBF). Community-Based Fisheries are collaboratively managed sale fisheries that are designed to enable enhanced community participation and have been developed pursuant to the Fisheries Resources Reconciliation Agreement between the Council of Haida Nation (CHN) and Canada, as executed on July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The 2024 Haida CBF pilot troll fishery opening was concurrent with the Area F Chinook ITQ starting on August 16<sup>th</sup> and closing on September 30<sup>th</sup>. Retention of Chinook, Coho and Pink salmon for sale was permitted with Chinook Salmon being managed in accordance with Area F Troll ITQ management rules. Dual fishing for salmon and groundfish species was also permitted in this pilot CBF fishery. Mandatory validation of all landings was required and dockside monitoring included DNA sampling and CWT recovery for both Chinook and Coho.

The Haida CBF open area included all of the full fleet Chinook open area in PFMA 1,101, 2W and 142. Additional inshore waters including the North Graham Island Ribbon Boundary and selected inshore sub-areas in 2W were open to smaller vessels, 30 feet or less, meeting additional restricted gear requirements including a maximum of two gurdies. Five vessels participated in this opening including one full sized troller and four smaller vessels. Total effort was 50 vessel-days and fish retained for sale totalled 127 Chinook and 964 Coho. Catch retained for sale and releases for the Haida CBF opening are shown in Table 2.

Table 1. Area F Troll Chinook ITQ and AABM Summary.

<b><u>Area F Troll</u></b>				
Licence Summary		Allocation / Catch Summary		
No. Licences		No. Chinook		
Total Area F	186	Season Start:	<u>TAC</u> 142,800	<u>ITQ</u> 768
DFO Inventory				
Total-	21	Unavailable ITQ:	16,123	
Active Fishing	89	Available TAC:	126,677	
		Troll Catch:	76,717	
<b><u>AABM Review</u></b>			<b><u>Preseason</u></b>	<b><u>Catch</u></b>
		Area 1-2 Recreational:	36,600	29,329
		Area F Troll:	142,800	76,717
		<b>Total AABM:</b>	<b>179,400</b>	<b>106,046</b>

Notes:

Northern B.C. AABM Chinook Fishery includes the Area F Troll and Area 1-2 Recreational fisheries as defined in the Pacific Salmon Treaty.

Recreational forecast based on preseason abundance index of 1.48 was 47,550 but expected catch was reduced by 23% to account for management actions and reduced lodge capacity in 2024.

The following table summarizes weekly catch and release by species. Effort values are expressed as vessel-days.

Table 2. Estimated Area F Troll Total Catch and Releases by Species.

WEEK	End Date	Effort	Chinook		Coho		Pink		Sockeye		Chum	
			Kept	Rel.	Kept	Rel.	Kept	Rel.	Kept	Rel.	Kept	Rel.
27	6-Jul	56	0	993	5,847	22	1,699	0	38	0	0	141
28	13-Jul	77	0	1,211	7,645	0	10,482	532	38	3	0	148
29	20-Jul	89	0	786	7,263	16	11,289	17	54	1	0	69
30	27-Jul	121	0	1,010	9,446	36	17,229	250	93	0	0	131
31	3-Aug	119	0	1,204	7,969	15	20,122	984	92	4	0	266
32	10-Aug	127	0	1,028	5,685	9	19,263	195	44	2	0	397
33	17-Aug	184	15,702	1,148	10,688	53	3,255	1,684	0	23	0	1,725
34	24-Aug	525	34,452	2,987	16,950	118	3,203	4,516	0	46	0	3,605
35	31-Aug	362	13,510	1,807	7,869	71	709	1,355	0	10	0	1,586
36	7-Sep	327	8,117	1,243	6,190	20	256	192	0	5	0	975
37	14-Sep	224	4,069	533	3,864	37	29	19	0	0	0	242
38	21-Sep	76	782	189	1,137	7	5	4	0	0	0	94
39	28-Sep	22	84	67	366	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
40	30-Sep	2	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,310</b>	<b>76,717</b>	<b>14,209</b>	<b>90,920</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>87,541</b>	<b>9,748</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9,393</b>

**Catch and releases by opening:**

A-B Line (Jul 1-Aug 15)	612	0	6,409	44,539	98	81,813	1,978	359	13	0	1,217
CN ITQ (Aug 16-Sep 30)	1,648	76,590	7,790	45,417	260	5,728	7,670	0	81	0	8,126
Haida CBF (Aug 16-Sep 30)	50	127	10	964	46	0	100	0	0	0	50

## Highlights of the 2024 North Coast Troll Fishery

- Jan. 10** Area F Harvest Committee submits proposal requesting mark selective Chinook fishery during the July A-B Line Pink directed opening in 2024.
- Jan. 24** Area F Harvest Committee – Area F 2023 Post Season Review and 2024 early planning meeting
- Jan. 25** Area F Harvest Committee submits final 2024 fishing proposal requesting a July 1<sup>st</sup> A-B Line Pink directed opening, with additional open area portions of PFMA's 101 and 103, an August 1<sup>st</sup> mixed stock directed Coho opening and August 10<sup>th</sup> Chinook start date. In addition to providing a five year plan the proposal also requested that the Central Coast limited effort Coho demonstration fishery and an Area 3 (Nass targeted) Coho be considered as options again for 2024.
- Mar. 28** The Pacific Salmon Commission's (PSC) Chinook Technical Committee (CTC) completed calibration CLB2403 to determine the NBC preseason Abundance Index and determine the allowable Chinook catch for the troll and Haida Gwaii sport (NBC) Aggregate Abundance Based Management (AABM) fisheries. The 2024 pre-season NBC AABM AI was 1.48 with a TAC of 179,400 Chinook. The 2023 recreational forecast was calculated as 47,550 but was later adjusted to 36,600 to account for planned reductions in daily and possession limits as well as a further reduction in capacity for major Haida Gwaii fishing lodges. The remaining Area F TAC was set at 142,800 resulting in an ITQ of 768 pieces for each of the remaining 186 licences.

- Apr. 23** Area F Harvest Committee Spring Planning Meeting:  
Discussion of ongoing Coho management approach and steps required to review the mixed stock closure in light of apparent increased abundance.  
Discussion of AFHC request for August 10<sup>th</sup> Chinook ITQ start.
- Jun. 10** FN0534 - Area F mandatory reporting requirements.  
FN0535 - Area F Chinook and Coho Head retention and delivery requirements.
- Jun. 14** FN0557 - List of Area F licence holders exempt from retaining salmon heads for Salmon Head Recovery Program.
- Jul. 1** Dixon Entrance A-B Line Pink Salmon opening with Coho retention and non-retention of Chum bycatch. Sockeye bycatch provisions in effect. (FN0550 – released Jun. 13).  
Open areas:  
  - Subareas 101-4, 101-5, 101-8, 101-9 and that portion of Subarea 101-3 North of 54 degrees 24 minutes North latitude.
  - That portion of Area 103 West of 131 degrees 14 minutes West longitude.
- Jul. 23** Meeting between DFO and ADF&G:  
In-season Review of Northern Boundary Coho management resulting in consensus decision to not issue management actions in 2024. In-season management measures for Northern boundary area Coho are defined within the Pacific Salmon Treaty (Chapter 7, Attachment B).
- Aug. 1** Area F Harvest Committee meeting with DFO regional salmon managers to discuss the 2024 Fraser River Chinook management directives, which included an August 16 start date for the Chinook fishery.
- Aug. 15** A-B Line closure (FN00794 released August 8)
- Aug. 16** Chinook ITQ opening with retention of Coho and Pinks and non-retention of Sockeye and Chum. (FN0761 released August 1 and Haida CBF FN0819 released August 14)  
Open Areas:

- Those portions of Subareas 1-2, 1-3, 1-7 and that portion of Subarea 1-5 West of a line drawn true North from Skonun Point, outside and seaward of a line drawn one nautical mile parallel to the shorelines of Graham Island and Langara Island (defined at the mean high water mark).
- That portion of Subarea 1-5 East of a line running true North from Skonun Point.
- Subareas 101-4, 101-5, 101-8 to 101-10.
- Those portions of Subareas 101-2, 101-3, 101-6 and 101-7 outside and seaward of a line drawn one nautical mile parallel to the shorelines of Graham Island and Langara Island (defined at the mean high water mark).
- Those portions of Subareas 1-1, 101-1, 101-2 and 142-2 that lie outside the Frederick Island Rockfish Conservation Area.
- Subareas 2-48, 2-49, 2-63, 2-68, 2-69, 2-78, 2-79, 2-86, 2-88, 2-92, 2-97 and 2-98
- Those portions of Subareas 2-31, 2-35, 2-38 and 142-1 outside the Strict Protection Areas identified in the Gwaii Haanas Gina 'Waadluxan KilGuhlGa Land Sea-People Management Plan.
- Additional inshore open areas (North Graham Island ribbon boundary and selected inshore 2W sub-areas: 2-50, 2-51, 2-53, 2-54, 2-55, 2-60, 2-64, 2-66, 2-71, 2-73, 2-75, 2-87) were also available to smaller Haida Community Based vessels with restricted gear.

**Sept. 3** Boundary adjustment for Chinook, Coho, Pink salmon fishery (FN0879 released Aug. 29) – Removal North Graham Island ribbon boundary East of Shag Rock.

**Sept. 13** Boundary adjustment for Chinook, Coho, Pink salmon fishery (FN0904 released Sept. 4) – Removal North Graham Island ribbon boundary East of Shag Rock.

**Sept. 30** Area F Troll closed for the balance of the season. (FN0988 and FN0987 released Sept. 23)

# Area 1

Figure 2 Area 1 Map



## ***First Nations Fishery Review***

### **Haida FSC**

#### **Terminal Fisheries**

Sockeye - Haida traditional river fisheries in Area 1 focus on **small terminal Sockeye stocks such as the Yakoun, Awun and Naden Rivers**. Sockeye fishery openings are managed under the direction of a Public Management Committee in Old Massett. The Haida Fisheries Program provides technical advice to the committee and Haida Fisheries Guardians monitor the fisheries to provide onsite management and to collect catch data. In 2024 the ARIS sonar program also generated in-season Sockeye stock assessment information for the Yakoun River, which helped to inform FSC harvest management decisions.

Some fall FSC net effort targeting Coho did occur in the Yakoun River but no effort or catch estimates are available. There were no reports of terminal gillnetting activities to harvest Ain River Chum Salmon in 2024.

#### **Interception Hook and Line Fisheries**

The majority of FSC effort targeting Chinook and Coho using hook and line gear occurs off of Massett on an annual basis. This fishery occurs during the summer months and targets mixed passing stocks. In 2024 dual fishing was also permitted in the Haida Community Based troll fishery but validated catches of Chinook and Coho salmon retained as FSC were relatively small when compared to other FSC by hook and line.

#### **Interception Net Fisheries**

The majority of FSC marine net interception effort targetting Sockeye salmon has traditionally occurred within Dixon Entrance using seine and gillnet gear in the Langara Island area. No FSC marine net interception effort occurred in 2024.

## ***ESSR Review***

There were no ESSR licences issued in Area 1 during the 2024 season.

## ***Recreational Review***

### **Recreational (Tidal)**

Normally the majority of Haida Gwaii based recreational effort occurs between Massett and Langara Island along the North shore of Graham Island. The majority of fishing occurs from mid-May to mid-September with little to no effort in the winter months. In addition to a fleet made up of independent anglers and charter operators working out of Massett there are 4 fly-in lodge operations (floating and land based) within Area 1, including 3 at Langara Island and 1 in Naden Harbour.

In 2024 the daily and possession limits for Chinook Salmon in Areas 1, 2, 142, and that portion of Area 101 West of 131 degrees 40.0 minutes West Longitude were reduced to 1 and 2 from June 14 to July 31 to protect passing Skeena River Chinook and Fraser River Summer 52 Chinook. The annual Chinook limit remained at 10 across the region as a precautionary measure towards protection of Southern at-risk Chinook stocks.

Recreational catch estimates are generated using data from two sources including the Haida Fisheries Creel and the DFO Logbook catch reporting program. Release estimates for Chinook and Coho are also generated by the Haida Creel Program. The estimated Area 1 recreational harvest in 2024 was 21,121 Chinook and 27,377 Coho. Release estimates for Area 1 included 9,706 Chinook and 7,659 Coho. Refer to Table 3 below for detailed catch information.

Table 3. 2024 Season Estimates of Area 1 and 2 Recreational Catch.

2024			Catch By Species									
Month	Area	Effort (Boat trips)	Coho	Coho-Rel	Chinook	Chinook-Rel	Pink	Sockeye	Chum	Halibut	Lingcod	Rockfish
May	1	619	3	-	1,012	-	23	1	1	444	453	342
	2E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2W	14	0	-	27	-	0	0	0	14	28	0
	May Total		3	0	1,039	0	23	1	1	458	481	342
June	1	3,817	2,711	352	5,479	4,806	333	16	390	3,811	3,479	2,381
	2E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2W	591	63	0	1,394	345	0	0	3	496	1,713	650
	June Total		2,774	352	6,873	5,151	333	16	393	4,307	5,192	3,031
July	1	4,514	15,254	7,092	4,636	4,497	182	59	268	4,997	3,856	2,746
	2E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2W	823	1,444	448	1,846	1,317	41	0	32	852	2,017	987
	July Total		16,698	7,540	6,482	5,814	223	59	300	5,849	5,873	3,733
August	1	4,167	9,076	167	8,263	148	127	16	671	4,071	2,539	2,309
	2E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2W	1,622	2,268	498	4,755	4,308	45	0	364	1,024	2,670	772
	August Total		11,344	665	13,018	4,456	172	16	1,035	5,095	5,209	3,081
September	1	1,657	333	48	1,731	255	44	0	765	1,384	577	435
	2E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2W	260	297	25	186	62	0	0	12	37	235	0
	September Total		630	73	1,917	317	44	0	777	1,421	812	435
May-Sept.	1	14,774	27,377	7,659	21,121	9,706	709	92	2,095	14,707	10,904	8,213
	2E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2W	3,296	4,072	971	8,208	6,032	86	0	411	2,409	6,635	2,409
	All Areas	18,084	31,449	8,630	29,329	15,738	795	92	2,506	17,130	17,567	10,622

Notes: -Data sources include the DFO logbook catch recording program from fishing lodges and Haida Fisheries Program Creel.  
-The Haida Creel does not cover May or the last half of September so estimates for those months are lower than actual catches.

## Commercial Net Fishery

Pink Salmon - Haida Gwaii stocks are primarily even year stocks with little to no returns in odd years. Pink salmon returns to Area 1 were average for Naden Harbour watersheds and above average for most Masset Inlet watersheds including the Yakoun River, which was just below target escapement. Although one watershed in Juskatla Inlet exceeded target there was not sufficient abundance overall to support an opening and no commercial fishing opportunities were identified in 2024. Observations did suggest that a large proportion of the Masset Inlet Pink return dispersed and escaped into smaller watersheds, where they have not been observed in recent years.



Chum Salmon – Returns to Area 1 have been consistently at or below management targets over the past two decades. Area 1 escapement surveys conducted by the Haida Fisheries Program indicated that the 2024 abundance was also low. No commercial net fishing opportunities were identified in 2024.

## Area 1 Stream Escapements

Table 4. Area 1 Stream Escapements

### AREA 1 (preliminary) STREAM ESCAPEMENTS 2024

STREAM	SOCKEYE		COHO		PINK		CHUM	
	Esc.	Target*	Esc.	Target*	Esc.	Target*	Esc.	Target*
<b>MASSET SUBAREA</b>								
Ain River	A/P	(15,000)		(20,000)			A/P	<b><u>(25,000)</u></b>
Awun River	7,300	<b><u>(20,000)</u></b>		(8,000)	12,000		1,000	<b><u>(15,000)</u></b>
Datlamen Creek				<b><u>(5,000)</u></b>	40,000	<b><u>(30,000)</u></b>		
Mamin River				(15,000)	30,000	<b><u>(50,000)</u></b>		
McClinton Creek					3,000			
Yakoun River <sup>1</sup>	17,000	<b><u>(45,000)</u></b>		(45,000)	500,000	<b><u>(650,000)</u></b>		
<b>NADEN SUBAREA</b>								
Davidson Creek						(100,000)		
Lignite Creek						(50,000)		
Naden River		<b><u>(20,000)</u></b>				<b><u>(100,000)</u></b>	A/P	<b><u>(20,000)</u></b>
Stanley Creek								<b><u>(2,000)</u></b>

\* -Targets are not biological escapement goals. They are used as a surrogate to assist management identify harvest opportunities.

- **Targets** that are in bold and underlined are identified as indicators and priority for assessment.

-The Yakoun River Sockeye estimate was derived from the Haida Fisheries Program ARIS sonar project.

N/O: None observed.

A/P: Adults present.

## Area 2 East

Figure 3 Area 2 East Map



## ***First Nations Fishery Review***

### **Haida FSC**

#### **Terminal Fisheries**

Sockeye - Haida traditional fisheries focus primarily on Sockeye returning to Copper Creek during the month of May. Sockeye fishery openings are managed with input from a Community Management Committee in Skidegate. Typically, the Haida Fisheries Program provides technical advice to the committee and Haida Fisheries Guardians monitor the river fisheries and provide onsite management at Copper Bay. Copper returns are normally assessed in-season using the Copper River counting fence and data is used to inform fishery management decisions.

#### **Interception Net Fisheries**

Terminal Sockeye returns normally support only a proportion of the community requirements and in many years additional FSC harvest in marine interception net fisheries has occurred, but these activities typically occur outside of Area 2E in either Dixon Entrance (Area 1 and 101) or Area 2W. As mentioned above there was no FSC marine net interception effort in 2024.

#### **Interception Hook and Line Fisheries**

Small amounts of FSC effort occurred in Area 2E using hook and line gear to target Chinook in late winter and spring as well as Coho in late summer and fall.

## ***ESSR Review***

There were no ESSR licences issued in Area 2E during the 2024 season.

## ***Recreational Review***

The early Chinook salmon fishery in East Skidegate during late winter and early spring was reported to be average in 2024. While the catch of Chinook in Area 2E is unknown, it is assumed to be less than 300 pieces and typically represents only a very small proportion of the overall recreational salmon catch around Haida Gwaii. In most years the vast majority of recreational effort (>98%) occurs in Area 1 and 2W.

Area 2E is most recognized for its fall Coho Salmon fisheries, which occur along the shores and in key producing streams of East Skidegate Inlet, Cumshewa Inlet, Copper Bay and Tlell. Coho abundance in 2024 was reported by most anglers to be lower than the previous 2 years.

## ***Commercial Net Fishery***

Pink Salmon - After over a decade of moderate to low Pink Salmon returns in Area 2E the 2024 return was relatively strong and the largest since 2012 when the last net fishery

occurred in this area. Unfortunately severe drought conditions prevailed through late August and the first half of September and a large proportion of the Pink Salmon that had entered fresh water died prior to spawning. Pre-spawn mortality in 2E creeks from Cumshewa south was estimated to be approximately 90,000. Returns to Skidegate Inlet were also judged to be above target but there were also very high rates of pre-spawn mortality in the key systems. Due to the severe drought conditions and associated uncertainty regarding spawning success no commercial net harvest opportunities were permitted in 2024.

Chum Salmon – Haida Gwaii Chum Salmon assessment efforts in 2024 were hampered by very challenging conditions including extremely high creek levels driven by frequent storms, including two atmospheric river events, passing through the assessment areas. Chum salmon returns to Area 2E over the past two decades have been well below management targets with 2020 and 2021 returns being the lowest on record. Returns to Area 2E in 2022 showed modest improvement but unfortunately both the 2023 and 2024 returns fell far well below targets. No commercial net harvest opportunities were identified in 2024.

## ***Area 2 East Stream Escapements***

*Table 5. Area 2 East Stream Escapements (see next page)*

**AREA 2E (preliminary) STREAM ESCAPEMENTS      2024**

STREAM	SCKEYE		COHO		PINK		CHUM	
	Esc.	Target*	Esc.	Target*	Esc.	Target*	Esc.	Target*
<b>TLELL SUBAREA</b>								
Tlell River			4,988	<b><u>(25,000)</u></b>	16,550	<b><u>(25,000)</u></b>		
<b>SKIDEGATE SUBAREA</b>								
Cameron Creek								
Deena River				<b><u>(12,000)</u></b>		<b><u>(100,000)</u></b>	1,000	<b><u>(30,000)</u></b>
Haans Creek				(2,500)		<b><u>(5,000)</u></b>		(2,000)
Honna River				(2,000)		<b><u>(25,000)</u></b>		<b><u>(10,000)</u></b>
Indian Cabin Creek							400	<b><u>(8,000)</u></b>
Lagins Creek				(3,000)		(3,500)	2,000	<b><u>(25,000)</u></b>
Mud Bay Creek								(3,000)
Outlook Creek								(2,500)
Saltspring Creek				(250)				(2,500)
Slatechuck Creek				(2,000)				<b><u>(18,000)</u></b>
South Bay Dump Creek								
South Bay Culvert Creek								
Tarundl Creek				(1,500)		<b><u>(N/A)</u></b>		<b><u>(5,000)</u></b>
<b>COPPER SUBAREA</b>								
Copper River	12,200	<b><u>(10,000)</u></b>		(15,000)	70,000	<b><u>(75,000)</u></b>		
<b>CUMSHEWA SUBAREA</b>								
Carmichael Creek					11,200		55	<b><u>(N/A)</u></b>
Chadsey Creek			150		31,200		250	<b><u>(3,500)</u></b>
Mathers Creek						(75,000)		(20,000)
Pallant Creek			420		117,000	<b><u>(75,000)</u></b>	200	<b><u>(30,000)</u></b>
<b>SELWYN SUBAREA</b>								
Big Goose Creek			60	(200)	21,800	<b><u>(20,000)</u></b>	400	<b><u>(7,000)</u></b>
Clint Creek (Sewell L/H#3)			0		510		95	(500)
Dana #1 Creek			25		2,520		360	(2,500)
Dana #2 Creek			0		660		150	(500)
Dana #3 Creek			2		150		120	(1000)
Dass Creek			0		46		14	
Lagoon Creek			300	(1,500)	4,800		2,500	<b><u>(25,000)</u></b>
Little Goose Creek			20	(150)	7,400	(5,000)	140	(4,000)
Pacofi Creek			120		4,600		315	<b><u>(3,500)</u></b>
Sewell Inlet Head Creek			40	(1,500)	1,500		1,350	(6,500)
Sewell Point Creek								(500)
Thorsen Creek (Sewell L/H#1)			2	(200)	4,900		430	(2,000)
Thurston Creek			0		1,720		185	(2,000)
Traynor Creek			0		50		0	
Waterfall Creek			0		1,730		80	(2,000)
<b>ATLI SUBAREA</b>								
Beljay Bay Creeks (2)			0		0		0	
Moore Creek			0		0		0	(3,000)
Powrivco Creek			0		42		215	<b><u>(5,000)</u></b>
Richardson Creek			10		15		90	
Sandy Creek			0		12		340	<b><u>(4,500)</u></b>
Takelley Creek			0		0		0	
<b>DARWIN SUBAREA</b>								
Anna Inlet Creek			0		12,660	(10,000)	0	<b><u>(1,500)</u></b>
Crescent Creek			150	(1,000)	39,000	<b><u>(30,000)</u></b>	400	<b><u>(6,500)</u></b>
Echo Harbour Creek			10		33,000	<b><u>(15,000)</u></b>	0	
Kostan Creek			0		20		360	(1,500)
Salmon River			2	(750)	224,000	(100,000)	35	(25,000)
<b>JUAN PEREZ SUBAREA</b>								
Arrow Creek				(250)				(2,000)
Gate Creek					30,000	<b><u>(20,000)</u></b>	15	
Hutton Head Creek					12,000	(15,000)	95	<b><u>(5,000)</u></b>
Hutton L/H Creek					11,100	1,750	100	<b><u>(3,000)</u></b>
Marshall Creeks (3)					7,800	(7,000)	40	<b><u>(3,000)</u></b>
Matheson L/H Creek			1		27,000	<b><u>(30,000)</u></b>	260	<b><u>(6,000)</u></b>
Matheson R/H Creek			80		16,200	<b><u>(5,000)</u></b>	390	<b><u>(3,000)</u></b>
Sedgwick Creek			10	(250)	500		1,430	<b><u>(7,000)</u></b>
Windy Bay Creek			50	(500)	35,000	(70,000)	5	
<b>SKINCUTTLE SUBAREA</b>								
Bag Harbour Creek				(1,000)	4,000	(1,500)	725	<b><u>(12,000)</u></b>
George Bay Creek				(500)	19,600	<b><u>(1,000)</u></b>	450	(12,000)
Harriet Harbour Creek					500		450	<b><u>(6,000)</u></b>
Slim Inlet Creek					6,300		640	<b><u>(1,500)</u></b>
Tangle Creek					2,500		30	<b><u>(4,000)</u></b>

\* -Targets are not biological escapement goals. They are used as a surrogate to assist management identify harvest  
- **Targets** that are in bold and underlined are identified as indicators and priority for assessment.  
-Coho numbers (in italics) are single count observations and in most cases represent only a small portion of total escapement  
-Tlell River Coho estimate is from the video based counting fence program (4,441 Large and 547 Jacks)  
N/O: None observed.      A/P: Adults present.

## Area 2 West

Figure 4 Area 2 West Map



## ***First Nations Fishery Review***

### **Haida FSC Review**

#### **Interception Hook and Line Fisheries**

Haida FSC activities in Area 2W primarily target passing stocks of Chinook and Coho by hook and line from West Skidegate and Rennell Sound.

#### **Interception Net Fisheries**

FSC Sockeye Salmon have traditionally been harvested near Rennell Sound with seine gear targeting passing Sockeye stocks. There was no reports of FSC seine or gillnet effort in Area 2W in 2024.

### ***ESSR Review***

There were no ESSR licences issued for Area 2W during 2024.

### ***Recreational Review***

Most years the Area 2W recreational salmon fishery occurs between Englefield Bay and Port Louis. The majority of effort occurs from mid-May to the mid-September with little to no effort in the winter months. The fleet is made up of independent anglers and charter operators based out of Daajing Giids and Sandspit as well as one fly-in land based lodge operation in Port Louis on the West Coast. Management actions implemented in 2024 included reduction of Chinook daily and possession limits to 1 and 2 from June 14 to July 31 to reduce impacts on passing Northern Chinook and Fraser River Summer 5<sub>2</sub> Chinook.

The total Area 2W recreational harvest was 8,208 Chinook and 4,072 Coho. The Haida Fisheries Program creel also estimated releases of 6,032 Chinook and 971 Coho in Area 2W. Refer to Table 3 for detailed catch information.

### ***Commercial Net Fishery***

Unfortunately there was no charter patrol assessment in Area 2W in 2024 so detailed stream escapement efforts did not occur in most areas. Haida Fisheries Program did complete several inspections of Rennell Sound creeks and one inspection of Dawson Harbour Creek in West Skidegate. The Area 2E Charter Patrolman was also able to complete an inspection of Tasu Creek to assess Chum salmon escapement.

Escapement estimates are summarized in the table below. No commercial net harvest opportunities were identified in 2024.

## Area 2 West Stream Escapements

Table 6. Area West Stream Escapements

### AREA 2 WEST (preliminary) STREAM ESCAPEMENTS 2024

STREAM	SCKEYE		COHO		PINK		CHUM	
	Esc.	Target*	Esc.	Target*	Esc.	Target*	Esc.	Target*
<b>RENNELL SUBAREA</b>								
Bonanza Creek				(1,500)	8,600	<b><u>(25,000)</u></b>		(1,000)
Clapp Basin Creek								<b><u>(N/A)</u></b>
Gregory Creek				(500)	2,600	(25,000)		<b><u>(1,000)</u></b>
Kano Creek (head)						<b><u>(20,000)</u></b>		<b><u>(4,000)</u></b>
Mountain Creek								<b><u>(2,000)</u></b>
Rennell Creek								<b><u>(1,500)</u></b>
Riley Creek				<b><u>(2,000)</u></b>	10,000	<b><u>(20,000)</u></b>		(4,000)
<b>W. SKIDEGATE SUBAREA</b>								
Buck Channel Creek #6 and #7								
Buck Channel Creek #1								
Buck Channel Creek #8								
Buck Channel Creek #3								
Buck Channel Creek #2 (Nici)								(500)
Canoe Pass Creek								<b><u>(2,000)</u></b>
Dawson Harbour Creek				(300)			2,000	<b><u>(3,000)</u></b>
Dawson Inlet Creek				(200)				<b><u>(1,000)</u></b>
Government Creek				(2,000)		(60,000)		(7,500)
Trounce Creek (head)(North Arm)				(300)				<b><u>(4,000)</u></b>
Trounce R/H Creek (North Arm)								<b><u>(3,500)</u></b>
West Narrows Creek								(3,000)
<b>TASU SUBAREA</b>								
Botany Inlet Creek (head)				(300)				<b><u>(5,000)</u></b>
Botany Inlet Creek (outer)								<b><u>(4,000)</u></b>
Edwards Creek								
Fairfax Inlet Creek		(2,000)		(1,000)				(3,000)
Fairfax Outer Creek				(1,000)				(3,000)
Flat Creek								(2,000)
Lomgon Creek								
Tasu Creek				<b><u>(1,000)</u></b>	3,500	(25,000)	400	<b><u>(7,000)</u></b>
Wilson Bay Creek								(2,000)
<b>SOUTH SUBAREA</b>								
Goski Bay Creek								<b><u>(N/A)</u></b>
Louscoone Inlet Creek	0		3,400		400		180	<b><u>(N/A)</u></b>

\*

-Targets are not a biological escapement goals. They are used as a surrogate to assist management identify harvest opportunities.

- **Targets** that are in bold and underlined are identified as indicators and priority for assessment.

N/O: None observed.

A/P: Adults present.



# Area 3

Figure 5 Area 3 Map



## ***First Nations Fishery Review***

There are 6 First Nations groups that include Area 3 and Nass watershed Food, Social and Ceremonial salmon fisheries in their communal licence:

Nisga'a Lisims Government

Gitanyow First Nation

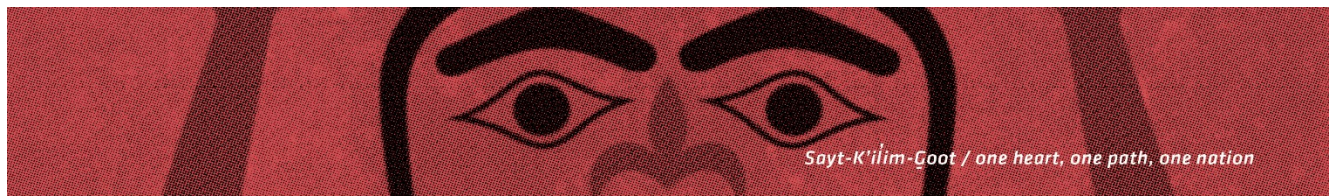
Lax Kw'alaams First Nation

Metlakatla First Nation

Kitselas First Nation

Kitsumkalum First Nation

FSC fisheries occur throughout Area 3 in both marine and freshwater locations using a variety of gear types. The Nisga'a salmon fishery is authorized by the Nisga'a Treaty and Harvest Agreement.



Nisga'a Lisims Government

**NISGA'A FISHERIES & WILDLIFE**  
T 250 633 2617 / F 250 633 2971  
TF 1 866 633 2145  
PO Box 228 / 5101 Gitzyon St  
New Aiyansh BC / Canada V0J 1A0  
**NISGAANATION.CA**

## **2024 Nass River Salmon Stock Assessment – Post-Season Summary**

### **Nass River Fishwheel Operational Summary**

The 2024 Nass River test fishery fishwheels (FW1 and FW2) were commenced operations on May 31 for tagging and historical catch index assessments for salmon and summer-run steelhead and were shutdown on September 11. The fishwheels generally operated 24-hour each day over the period with discharge rates averaging 1,172 m<sup>3</sup>/s (range: 431–2,148 m<sup>3</sup>/s) and water levels averaging 2.07 m (range: 0.78–3.45 m). There

were no high-water shutdown periods (i.e., > 3,000 m<sup>3</sup>/s or 5 m on gauge) or anticipated delays in upstream fish passage.

The average water level in 2024 ranked the 10<sup>th</sup> lowest (2.0 m vs. 2.3 m) over 31 years of fishwheel operations from 1994 to 2024 (Table 7). The water temperatures in 2024 ranked the 10<sup>th</sup> highest (10.0°C vs. 9.3°C; Table 8).

**Table 7. Mean water levels (m) on the Nass River at Gitwinksihlkw by period, 2000–2024.**

Month	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Mean (94-23)
June	3.1	2.7	3.8	3.5	3.2	4.1	3.5	3.5	3.7	2.5	3.2	2.9	3.5	4.0	2.6	4.0	2.5	3.2	3.8	3.0	2.6	2.5	2.1	2.8	1.8	2.1	3.1	4.5	4.9	2.7	2.7	3.1
July	2.9	2.6	3.2	2.6	1.9	3.0	3.2	3.0	2.6	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.5	3.9	2.6	2.8	1.8	2.1	3.5	1.7	2.0	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.4	1.5	2.7	2.9	3.9	1.9	2.3	2.5
August	2.5	2.0	2.1	2.1	1.7	2.2	2.3	1.9	1.9	1.2	1.6	1.6	1.3	1.8	2.2	1.5	1.3	1.8	1.7	1.2	1.1	1.5	1.1	1.6	1.0	1.8	3.1	1.9	2.4	1.7	1.4	1.8
September	1.5	1.8	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.6	2.2	1.4	1.7	1.3	0.9	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.0	1.1	0.8	3.9	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.8	1.1	1.1	0.3	0.9	1.6	1.8	2.5	1.1	1.2	1.4
Season	2.7	2.3	2.6	2.5	2.1	2.7	2.7	2.5	2.4	1.9	2.1	2.0	2.3	2.7	2.4	2.6	1.7	2.6	2.7	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.6	2.0	1.2	1.7	2.8	3.0	3.4	2.0	2.0	2.3
Rank (lowest)	25	15	23	19	13	24	26	20	18	8	14	12	16	28	17	22	3	21	27	7	6	5	2	9	1	4	29	30	31	11	10	

**Table 8. Mean water temperatures (°C) on the Nass River at Gitwinksihlkw by period, 2000–2024.**

Month	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Mean (94-23)
June	9.0	12.4	8.1	8.5	8.4	8.4	9.4	3.9	6.4	8.6	11.3	9.1	8.8	8.1	7.0	7.4	8.3	7.5	6.7	8.4	8.0	8.9	9.3	8.3	9.6	9.1	7.0	8.7	8.2	9.5	8.6	8.3
July	10.4	11.3	9.5	10.4	6.8	9.7	10.5	5.8	9.1	10.2	12.1	9.5	10.1	8.6	8.0	9.0	10.2	8.7	8.1	10.1	9.6	10.5	10.8	10.3	11.0	10.3	8.7	11.2	9.9	11.2	10.8	9.8
August	10.5	10.1	9.7	10.3	6.8	11.2	10.9	7.6	9.5	10.8	10.5	10.0	10.1	9.6	9.3	10.2	9.7	9.0	9.0	10.1	10.2	9.9	9.4	10.1	9.7	9.4	8.7	10.4	11.1	11.0	10.8	9.8
September	9.6	8.8	8.6	9.4	6.8	9.9	9.4	5.6	8.7	8.8	8.9	8.8	9.0	8.8	8.2	9.5	8.0	8.1	8.3	10.1	8.6	8.3	8.6	9.6	7.9	8.9	8.5	8.7	9.9	10.5	9.2	8.7
Season	10.1	10.1	9.0	9.7	7.1	10.1	10.3	5.8	8.9	10.0	11.0	9.4	9.8	8.9	8.2	9.0	9.2	8.4	8.0	9.6	9.2	9.7	9.7	9.6	9.8	9.5	8.2	10.1	10.0	10.6	10.0	9.3
Rank (highest)	7	4	22	13	30	6	3	31	25	8	1	19	12	24	28	23	21	26	29	16	20	15	14	17	11	18	27	5	9	2	10	

## Gitwinksihlkw Fishwheels: Nass River Test Fishery (started in 1994 [31st year])

All fish caught in the GW fishwheels in 2024 were released alive after tagging and/or counting. Of the 54,285 salmon (52,000 adults and 1,685 jacks), steelhead (463), Pacific Lamprey (186), and Dolly Varden (114) caught at the GW fishwheels in 2024, 15,559 were tagged or adipose fin marked including 932 Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) tagged Chinook, 394 PIT tagged steelhead, 307 radio-tagged Chinook, 806 Pink (all anchor tags), and 114 Pacific Lamprey (all spaghetti tagged).

## Grease Harbour (GH) Fishwheels

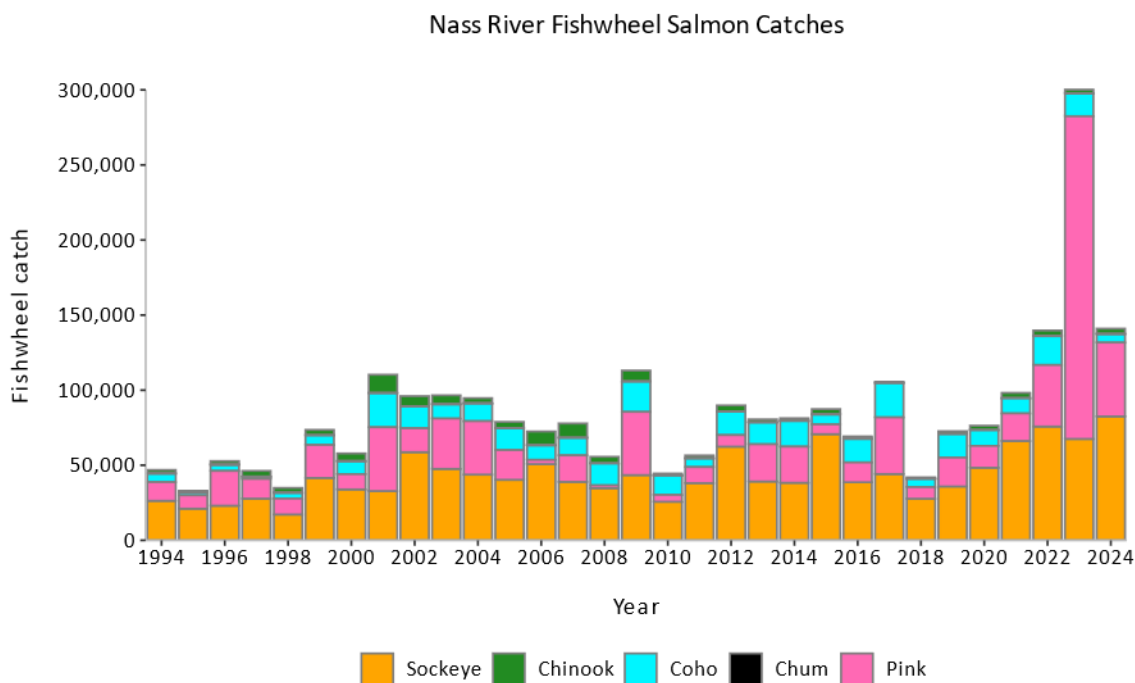
Three fishwheels began operation in 2024 on June 8 (FW3, FW5, and FW6) at Grease Harbour (upstream of Ts'im Anwiihlist), located approximately 16 km upstream of GW fishwheels. The GH fishwheels were shutdown on August 28 (FW6), September 5 (FW3), and September 7 (FW5). The GH fishwheels are used for in-season mark-recapture tag recoveries of salmon, abundance estimates passing upstream, additional tagging (adult Chinook and Chum salmon, steelhead, and Pacific Lamprey), and for selective harvesting when permitted by Nisga'a Lisims Government (no harvest was permitted in 2024). A total of 93,419 salmon (89,446 adults and 3,973 jacks), 590 steelhead, and 1,167 non-salmon fish species were caught at the GH fishwheels and released in 2024. Of the total catch of fish at GH fishwheels, 2,304 were tagged, 1,789 Chinook (1,766 PIT tags), 460 steelhead (454 PIT tags), 55 Chum (all operculum tags), and 382 Pacific Lamprey (all spaghetti tagged).

## Nass Fishwheel Catch Summary

Of the 149,317 fish caught at the fishwheels in 2024, 147,704 salmon, 1,053 steelhead, and 1,482 non-salmon species were released (Table 10). **The total Nass River salmon fishwheel catches this year were the second highest over the 31 years of operation since 1994** (149,317 vs. 85,548 average; Figure 1). Of the total salmon, steelhead/trout, and non-salmon catch, 17,860 were tagged or fin marked including 2,698 Chinook Salmon and

848 summer-run steelhead tagged with Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) tags for detecting on antennas operated at the Meziadin fishway and Kwinageese weir, and spawning ground surveys, and 307 radio-tagged Chinook Salmon.

The total Nass fishwheel catches this year were above average for Sockeye, Pink, Chum, and Pacific Lamprey, and below average for Chinook and Coho salmon and summer-run steelhead (Table 10). The fishwheel catches of small (jacks) salmon (< 50 cm NFL for Chinook, < 45 cm NFL for Sockeye, and < 40 cm NFL for Coho) were above average for Chinook (2,677 vs. 1,010) and below average for Sockeye (2,894 vs. 3,698) and Coho (87 vs. 408) when compared to the mean catches from 1994–2023. Other adult species and juvenile salmon catches at the fishwheels included: 131 Dolly Varden (19 tagged), 87 Peamouth Chub, 94 Rainbow Trout, 96 Mountain Whitefish, 30 Cutthroat Trout, 63 Suckers, 25 Sculpin, 38 Pikeminnow, 91 salmon juvenile smolts (57 Coho, 27 Chinook, 7 Sockeye), and 4 seals (Table 10).



**Figure 6. Pacific adult salmon caught in fishwheels operated in the lower Nass River, 1994–2024.**

**Table 10. Nass fishwheel catches of salmon, summer-run steelhead, and non-salmon species from 1994–2024.**

Year	# of FW	Start date	End date	Total effort (days)	Total effort (hrs)	Salmon <sup>a</sup>					Trout, Char, and Whitefish <sup>a</sup>					Non-Salmonid							Total fish captured	
						Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Summer-run steelhead	Dolly Varden	Cutthroat Trout	Rainbow Trout	Mountain Whitefish	Pacific Lamprey	Northern Pike/minnow	Peamouth Chub	Sucker	Sculpin	Redside Shiner			
1994	4	7-Jun	7-Sep	92	5,859	2,667	24,746	6,990	12,436	250	211	42	5	2	11	47								47,407
1995	4	8-Jun	4-Sep	88	6,670	920	21,090	1,837	8,881	224	111	101	8	6	42	81								33,301
1996	4	29-May	22-Sep	116	7,705	2,191	23,063	4,029	23,601	371	485	177	29	21	108	384								54,459
1997	4	21-May	2-Sep	104	7,974	3,736	27,762	1,438	13,167	130	485	294	27	23	145	388			7					47,602
1998	4	12-Jun	20-Sep	100	9,875	3,071	17,185	3,760	10,624	272	701	388	61	9	140	194	84		38	69				36,596
1999	4	7-Jun	30-Sep	115	9,073	3,476	41,545	6,393	22,019	127	641	1,189	97	17	155	185	65		24	24				75,957
2000	6	11-Jun	18-Sep	99	11,196	5,003	33,879	8,529	10,206	241	1,404	558	97	5	75	251	53		34	14				60,349
2001	6	7-Jun	14-Sep	99	10,783	12,106	32,821	22,705	42,508	162	1,435	347	69		67	238	75		42	13				112,588
2002	6	20-Jun	9-Sep	81	9,691	6,785	58,728	14,556	15,893	54	1,100	429	72	22	51	187	93		8	17				97,995
2003	6	14-Jun	5-Sep	83	10,299	5,802	47,556	9,460	33,560	175	583	524	94	26	99	936	105	9	29	25				98,983
2004	6	11-Jun	10-Sep	91	11,250	3,314	43,782	11,788	35,605	242	655	276	71	54	55	1,132	137	29	44	11				97,195
2005	6	6-Jun	16-Sep	102	11,960	4,111	40,320	14,508	19,788	141	726	150	26	48	55	615	100	73	33	16				80,710
2006	6	8-Jun	3-Sep	87	10,477	9,089	50,769	9,671	2,817	158	466	286	62	66	91	363	145	36	33	9				74,061
2007	6	14-Jun	20-Sep	98	8,928	9,440	38,942	11,874	12	0	783	254	47	69	70	315	140	22	20	31				62,019
2008	5	5-Jun	6-Sep	93	9,898	4,331	34,702	14,640	1,932	52	851	193	88	55	55	198	72	9	18	14	6			57,216
2009	6	1-Jun	12-Sep	103	11,097	7,136	43,426	20,270	42,120	108	1,688	328	93	117	119	483	93	46	27	56	0			116,110
2010	6	1-Jun	22-Sep	113	13,520	1,140	25,703	12,938	4,614	78	1,191	161	9	155	557	21	132	21	388	46	7			47,161
2011	5	1-Jun	17-Sep	108	10,280	1,795	38,083	5,752	10,719	166	988	481	156	86	353	632	181	35	45	17	10			59,499
2012	5	1-Jun	15-Sep	106	9,197	4,059	62,385	15,608	7,694	106	1,525	424	59	45	108	674	180	129	27	22	4			93,049
2013	5	2-Jun	13-Sep	103	11,031	1,981	39,184	14,555	24,801	52	612	169	67	46	79	567	137	111	21	12	9			82,403
2014	6	1-Jun	13-Sep	104	12,298	1,693	38,345	17,137	24,038	83	1,472	213	72	72	68	629	97	42	12	33	9			84,015
2015	6	4-Jun	11-Sep	99	11,881	3,397	70,737	6,616	6,476	141	778	256	68	111	108	746	136	73	14	21	17			89,695
2016	6	31-May	9-Sep	101	12,916	1,389	38,677	15,690	13,197	228	1,070	332	72	134	139	860	63	69	28	28	15			71,991
2017	6	31-May	9-Sep	101	12,992	695	44,152	22,908	37,748	68	982	147	40	154	183	1,188	95	65	23	48	8			108,504
2018	6	1-Jun	15-Sep	106	13,252	859	27,709	5,525	7,718	92	1,078	112	37	121	127	1,255	48	70	14	27	31			44,823
2019	6	2-Jun	13-Sep	103	12,568	1,631	35,894	15,724	19,230	166	710	174	39	228	138	2,330	28	158	25	53	43			76,571
2020	5	31-May	12-Sep	104	10,535	2,838	48,369	10,535	14,541	31	587	138	22	159	41	791	8	118	13	15	15			78,221
2021	5	31-May	11-Sep	103	7,632	3,499	66,211	10,148	18,323	30	237	104	28	36	38	1,459	33	77	23	32	16			100,294
2022	5	14-Jun	10-Sep	89	7,014	3,654	75,796	19,208	40,993	111	1,099	106	45	11	19	745	14	23	35	8	23			141,890
2023	5	1-Jun	6-Sep	98	9,958	2,370	67,525	15,149	214,918	222	686	171	63	77	69	2,141	21	84	54	21	7			303,578
2024	5	31-May	11-Sep	103	10,500	3,443	82,537	5,635	49,193	185	1,053	131	30	94	96	1,040	38	87	63	25	9			143,659
2000 to 2024 <sup>b</sup> :																								
Mean	6	20-May	27-Aug	99	10,846	4,062	47,449	13,245	17,572	124	1,020	297	68	77	129	594	110	52	45	24	11			95,303
Min	5	31-May	03-Sep	81	7,014	695	25,703	5,525	1,932	0	466	112	9	5	51	21	48	9	8	9	0			44,823
Max	6	31-May	11-Sep	13,520	13,520	82,537	82,537	22,908	49,193	242	1,688	558	156	557	557	1,255	181	388	388	56	31			303,578

<sup>a</sup> Counts are for adult fish, defined as: Chinook ≥ 50cm nose-fork length (NFL); Sockeye ≥ 45cm NFL; Coho ≥ 40 cm NFL; steelhead ≥ 50cm NFL; and trout, char, and whitefish ≥ 20cm NFL

<sup>b</sup> Pink mean, min, and max are for even years only.



## Meziadin Fishway Operation and Count Summary

The Meziadin fishway was operated from 1 July to 4 October 2024. The fishway water levels and temperatures averaged 1.15 m (range: 1.00 m to 1.38 m) and 16.3°C (range: 10.0°C to 21.9°C), respectively. The water level and temperatures in 2024 were below average and above average, respectively, when compared to 2000 to 2023 operations (mean water level: 1.25 m [1.16–1.38 m] and mean temperatures: 14.1°C [7.3–17.1°C]).

Counts at the Meziadin Fishway in 2024 were **above average for Sockeye Salmon (375,358 vs. 174,000)** when compared to mean counts from 2000 to 2023 (Table 11). Counts in 2024 were **below average for Chinook (73 vs. 303)**, Coho (3,875 vs. 4,695) and steelhead (10 vs. 29) when compared to historical mean counts. Small salmon (jack) counts at the fishway were above average for Sockeye (8,244 vs. 7,000), Chinook (122 vs. 50) and Coho (85 vs. 60) salmon when compared with mean counts from 2000 to 2023. A total of 15 adult Bull Trout (> 20 cm NFL) were also counted at the fishway in 2024.

A total of 5,771 marked fish (5,699 Sockeye, 12 Chinook, and 60 Coho) from the Nass fishwheels were counted passing through the Meziadin fishway in 2024. **The PIT tag monitoring of tagged fish at the fishway detected 30 Chinook Salmon tagged with a PIT tag with 12 passing upstream.** Preliminary information on Chinook spawning above the fishway suggests jumping of the falls occurred and consistent between years with 73 Chinook using the fishway for passage in 2024. We conducted a spawner survey upstream of the fishway on September 21 and counted 177 Chinook spawners indicating that over 50% of Meziadin Chinook jumped the falls in 2024. After accounting for observer efficiency, we estimated 354 Chinook likely spawned in Meziadin River in 2024 with 79% jumping the falls and 21% using the fishway.

**Table 11. Counts of large salmon and summer-run steelhead at the Meziadin Fishway, 2000–2024.**

Year	Operational period			Adults <sup>a</sup> counted					Tags counted				Mark rates observed			
	Start	End	Days	Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Steelhead	Pink	Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Steelhead	Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Steelhead
2000	29-Jun	13-Oct	107	416	137,042	1,423	46	0	30	2,964	35	2	7.2%	2.2%	2.5%	4.3%
2001	04-Jul	15-Oct	104	613	116,192	5,942	72	2	66	2,982	173	9	10.8%	2.6%	2.9%	12.5%
2002	01-Jul	15-Oct	107	464	332,442	5,082	41	0	21	6,027	99	2	4.5%	1.8%	1.9%	4.9%
2003	02-Jul	10-Oct	101	479	196,852	3,907	30	5	18	4,650	91	1	3.8%	2.4%	2.3%	3.3%
2004	03-Jul	03-Oct	93	490	140,923	4,172	58	0	20	4,417	154	12	4.1%	3.1%	3.7%	20.7%
2005	01-Jul	15-Oct	107	638	142,751	7,189	85	10	33	3,819	259	9	5.2%	2.7%	3.6%	10.6%
2006	01-Jul	12-Oct	104	721	146,954	5,466	39	0	35	4,694	251	1	4.9%	3.2%	4.6%	2.6%
2007	01-Jul	11-Oct	103	754	104,308	2,504	27	0	34	4,082	67	2	4.5%	3.9%	2.7%	7.4%
2008	01-Jul	09-Oct	101	518	150,396	3,861	29	0	17	5,016	167	2	3.3%	3.3%	4.3%	6.9%
2009	01-Jul	06-Oct	98	336	168,392	5,423	18	0	15	4,887	96	2	4.5%	2.9%	1.8%	11.1%
2010	01-Jul	23-Oct	115	315	159,120	4,138	81	0	3	2,670	129	7	1.0%	1.7%	3.1%	8.6%
2011	01-Jul	06-Oct	98	330	167,524	2,336	12	5	28	4,213	44	1	8.5%	2.5%	1.9%	8.3%
2012	01-Jul	04-Oct	96	255	144,923	4,980	34	0	42	6,112	246	5	16.5%	4.2%	4.9%	14.7%
2013	01-Jul	04-Oct	96	126	170,376	5,934	23	0	19	3,726	128	0	15.1%	2.2%	2.2%	0.0%
2014	01-Jul	07-Oct	99	51	144,920	7,223	28	0	5	2,875	268	1	9.8%	2.0%	3.7%	3.6%
2015	01-Jul	08-Oct	100	95	185,917	2,713	3	0	14	3,859	89	0	14.7%	2.1%	3.3%	0.0%
2016	30-Jun	05-Oct	98	33	109,861	5,013	7	0	2	2,015	128	0	6.1%	1.8%	2.6%	0.0%
2017	01-Jul	05-Oct	97	38	119,088	7,556	5	3	2	2,482	279	0	5.3%	2.1%	3.7%	0.0%
2018	30-Jun	05-Oct	98	36	96,827	2,145	9	0	1	1,676	39	0	2.8%	1.7%	1.8%	0.0%
2019	30-Jun	10-Oct	103	107	88,197	4,320	6	0	5	2,036	147	0	4.7%	2.3%	3.4%	0.0%
2020	01-Jul	08-Oct	100	156	126,468	2,047	7	0	14	4,011	93	0	9.0%	3.2%	4.5%	0.0%
2021	01-Jul	07-Oct	99	165	273,955	4,280	14	0	35	4,639	75	1	21.2%	1.7%	1.8%	7.1%
2022	01-Jul	07-Oct	99	83	343,765	7,131	10	0	9	6,905	182	2	10.8%	2.0%	2.6%	20.0%
2023	01-Jul	06-Oct	98	61	408,462	7,896	5	108	6	5,637	81	0	9.8%	1.4%	1.0%	0.0%
2024	01-Jul	04-Oct	96	73	375,357	3,879	10	4	12	5,698	60	3	16.4%	1.5%	1.5%	30.0%
Mean (00-23)	01-Jul	08-Oct	101	303	173,986	4,695	29	6	20	4,016	138	2	7.8%	2.5%	2.9%	6.1%
Min (00-23)	29-Jun	03-Oct	93	33	88,197	1,423	3	0	1	1,676	35	0	1.0%	1.4%	1.0%	0.0%
Max (00-23)	04-Jul	23-Oct	115	754	408,462	7,896	85	108	66	6,905	279	12	21.2%	4.2%	4.9%	20.7%

<sup>a</sup> Adults are defined as Chinook ≥50 cm nose-fork length (NFL); Sockeye ≥45 cm NFL; Coho ≥40 cm NFL; and steelhead ≥50 cm NFL.

Escapement targets for adult large salmon at Meziadin Fishway are approximately: 160,000 Sockeye, 500 Chinook, and 3,500 Coho. Escapement targets were reached for Sockeye and Coho salmon but were below target for Chinook Salmon, including any adjustment for Chinook that jumped falls.

## **Kwinageese Weir Operation Summary and Net Upstream Counts**

The Kwinageese video-counting weir operations were conducted from 11 July to 8 October 2024. The water levels and temperatures at the weir averaged 0.22 m (ranged from 0.08 m to 0.70 m) and 15.1°C (ranged from 8.7°C to 20.9°C), respectively. The weir was functional for the majority of period of monitoring and was not topped in 2024.

Total adult salmon net upstream counts of large fish were 784 Chinook, 4,581 Sockeye, and 725 Coho salmon through the Kwinageese River video weir in 2024 (Table 12). Other net upstream counts included: 295 summer-run steelhead and 177 adult Bull Trout (> 15 cm NFL). It is uncertain how many more Coho Salmon or steelhead would subsequently pass the weir after operation, but these counts are considered to cover most of the passage to the Upper Kwinageese River for 2024. In addition, reported video counts are preliminary until final video reviews are completed. **Net upstream counts through the Kwinageese weir were above average for Chinook and steelhead, and below average for Sockeye, Coho, and Bull Trout (177 vs. 97) when compared to the average counts from monitored years since 2002 (Table 12).**

**Table 12. Counts of medium/large salmon and steelhead at the Kwinageese Weir, 2002, 2005, 2006, and 2009–2024.**

Year	Operational period			Adult <sup>a</sup> salmon and steelhead counted				Tags counted				Mark rates (%) observed			
	Start	End	Days	Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Steelhead	Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Steelhead	Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Steelhead
2002	17-Jul	17-Oct	93	1,893	5,891	1,283	267	114	86	8	8	6.0%	1.5%	0.6%	3.0%
2005	12-Aug	22-Oct	72	538	3,186	2,663	304	19	37	59	25	3.5%	1.2%	2.2%	8.2%
2006	25-Aug	05-Oct	42	410	2,700	1,582	129	27	123	51	6	6.6%	4.6%	3.2%	4.7%
2009	12-Jul	15-Oct	96	895	107	60	33	28	0	0	4	3.1%	0.0%	0.0%	12.1%
2010	09-Jul	19-Oct	103	131	48	191	110	2	0	8	7	1.5%	0.0%	4.2%	6.4%
2011	10-Jul	05-Oct	88	740	10,273	226	50	87	240	10	0	11.8%	2.3%	4.4%	0.0%
2012	19-Jul	11-Oct	85	715	3,688	155	296	224	143	9	28	31.3%	3.9%	5.8%	9.5%
2013	13-Jul	11-Oct	91	813	397	763	208	109	4	13	7	13.4%	1.0%	1.7%	3.4%
2014	10-Jul	14-Oct	97	560	438	1,229	459	41	3	25	29	7.3%	0.7%	2.0%	6.3%
2015	03-Jul	09-Oct	99	1,093	7,044	301	163	108	60	8	7	9.9%	0.9%	2.7%	4.3%
2016	11-Jul	14-Oct	96	855	19,797	2,633	380	83	244	25	4	9.7%	1.2%	1.0%	1.1%
2017	09-Jul	12-Oct	96	241	7,240	2,649	217	27	71	58	17	11.2%	1.0%	2.2%	7.8%
2018	06-Jul	10-Oct	97	459	289	249	22	18	2	6	0	3.9%	0.7%	2.4%	0.0%
2019	12-Jul	08-Oct	89	518	6,007	1,691	196	64	66	76	7	12.4%	1.1%	4.5%	3.6%
2020	08-Jul	08-Oct	93	591	3,256	730	112	143	57	26	13	24.2%	1.8%	3.6%	11.6%
2021	24-Jul	27-Sep	66	1,197	8,478	1,312	67	212	80	17	3	17.7%	0.9%	1.3%	4.5%
2022	20-Jul	12-Oct	85	670	5,115	3,444	220	164	72	79	13	24.5%	1.4%	2.3%	5.9%
2023	08-Jul	05-Oct	90	429	8,490	4,464	72	99	39	41	1	23.1%	0.5%	0.9%	1.4%
2024	11-Jul	08-Oct	90	775	4,636	1,001	282	134	36	13	17	17.3%	0.8%	1.3%	6.0%
Mean	15-Jul	10-Oct	88	712	5,109	1,401	189	90	72	28	10	12.5%	1.3%	2.4%	5.2%
Min	03-Jul	27-Sep	42	131	48	60	22	2	0	0	0	1.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Max	25-Aug	22-Oct	103	1,893	19,797	4,464	459	224	244	79	29	31.3%	4.6%	5.8%	12.1%

<sup>a</sup> Adults are defined as: Chinook ≥50 cm nose-fork length (NFL); Sockeye ≥45 cm NFL; Coho ≥40 cm NFL; and steelhead ≥50 cm NFL

A total of 202 marked fish (141 Chinook, 34 Sockeye, 10 Coho, and 17 steelhead) from the Nass fishwheels were counted passing through the Kwinageese weir in 2024. **The PIT tag monitoring of tagged Chinook Salmon and steelhead through the video-counting chamber detected 160 unique PIT tagged Chinook Salmon and 17 PIT tagged steelhead that passed the weir from Nass fishwheel marked fish.** These fish provide specific biological data collected from the fishwheels for size, sex, and age and genetics tagged fish to inform the population return to Kwinageese River in 2024 and test for biases (e.g., size, sex, age and temporal) in mark-recapture methods used to generate population estimates.

## NFWD Salmon Escapement Survey Counts

A total of 21 Area 3 streams were monitored by NFWD and 50 surveys were conducted in 2024. Typically, three to five surveys were conducted on each system to generate an AUC or a peak count escapement estimate (Table 13).

NFWD conducted salmon escapement surveys in the Nass watershed on the following 19 systems in 2024:

- **Chinook** (n = 3): Ksi Hlginx (Ishkeenickh River), Ksi Gingolx (Kincolith River), Damdochax Creek;
- **Sockeye** (n = 2): Gingit, Wiminasiik (Damdochax) creeks;
- **Chum** (n = 8): Coastal Nass: Illiance River, Kshwan River, Stagoo Creek, Dak River, Wilauks Creek, Dogfish Creek; Lower Nass: Ksi Ts'oohl Ts'ap (Zolzap Creek), Ksemamaith Creek;
- **Pink** (n = 10): Coastal Area 3: Xnukw (Iknoouk River), Ksi Gingolx (Kincolith River), Illiance River, Kshwan River, Stagoo Creek, Wilauks Creek, Dak River, Dogfish Creek; Lower Nass: Ksi Ts'oohl Ts'ap (Zolzap Creek), Ksemamaith Creek; and
- **Coho** (n = 5): Coastal Nass: Salmon Cove Creek; Lower Nass: Ansedagan Creek, Diskangieq Creek, Anudol, and Ksi Ts'oohl Ts'ap (Zolzap Creek).

**Table 13. Preliminary escapement estimates for Nass Area streams (n = 21) surveyed by NFWD in 2024.**

Streams are listed alphabetically.

Stream	Survey dates (2024)	Preliminary escapement estimate <sup>a</sup>						Method
		Sockeye	Chinook	Coho	Chum	Pink	Steelhead	
ANSEDAGAN CREEK	Oct 3, 17, 30; Nov 13	N/I	N/I	520	N/I	N/I	N/I	Peak x 2
ANUDOL RIVER	Oct 28	N/I	N/I	2,153	N/I	N/I	N/I	Peak x 2
DAMDOCHAX CREEK	Aug 29; Sep 4, 9, 16	N/I	3,745	N/I	DNS	DNS	N/I	Chinook = peak x2
DISKANGIEQ CREEK	Oct 2, 16, 29; Nov 12	N/I	N/I	2,526	N/I	N/I	N/I	Peak x 2
DOGFISH CREEK	Aug 23; Sep 3	N/I	N/I	N/I	30	24,663	N/I	Chum & Pink = Peak x2
GINGIT CREEK	Jul 24; Aug 1, 11, 19	8,030	N/O	N/I	A/P	N/O	N/O	Sockeye = AUC
ILLIANCE RIVER	Jul 29; Aug 7, 17, 24	A/P	A/P	A/P	78	36,430	N/O	Chum & Pink = AUC
KSI GINGOLX (Kincolith River)	Jul 23; Aug 8, 13, 28	N/O	286	N/I	N/O	145,203	N/O	Chinook = peak x2; Pink = AUC
KSI HLGINX (Ishkeenickh River)	Jul 23; Aug 8, 28	N/O	673	N/I	N/O	100,000	N/O	Chinook & Pink = Peak x 2
KITSAULT (Dak River)	Aug 17	N/O	N/O	N/I	N/O	8,453	N/O	Chum & Pink = Peak x 2
KSEMAMAITH CREEK	Aug 25	N/O	N/O	N/I	96	6,249	N/O	Chum & Pink = Peak x 2
KSHWAN RIVER	Aug 24; Sep 8, 19	A/P	N/O	A/P	61,944	11,438	N/O	Chum = AUC; Pink = peak x 2
KWINAGEESE RIVER (weir)	Fence operational: Jul 11 - Oct 10	4,667	801	966	N/O	N/O	281	Video weir - adults only
MEZIADIN RIVER (fishway)	Fishway operational: Jul 1 - Oct 4	375,357	73	3,879	N/O	4	10	Fishway Counts
MEZIADIN RIVER (ground)	Sep 21	N/I	354	N/I	N/O	N/O	30	Chinook = peak x 2; Steel = peak x 2
SALMON COVE CREEK	Oct 4; 18	N/I	N/I	N/I	N/I	N/I	N/I	Could not be counted due to high water
STAGOO CREEK	Jul 16, 29; Aug 7, 17	N/O	N/O	N/I	4,557	107,016	N/O	Chum & Pink = AUC
WILAUKS CREEK	Aug 17	N/O	N/O	N/I	N/O	2,215	N/O	Chum & Pink = Peak x 2
WIMINASI (Damdochax between lakes)	Sep 4, 9, 16	29,180	340	N/I	DNS	DNS	N/I	Sockeye and Chinook = peak x2
WIMINASI (upstream of Wiminasi Lake)	Sep 4, 9, 16	7,562	162	N/I	DNS	DNS	N/I	Sockeye and Chinook = peak x2
KSI TS'OOHL TS'AP (Zolzap Creek) survey	Oct 24	N/I	N/I	1,188	N/I	N/I	DNS	Peak x 2
XNUKW (Iknoouk River)	Aug 13, 28	N/O	N/O	N/I	N/O	62,334	N/I	Pink = Peak x2
Observed		424,796	6,361	11,232	66,705	504,005	311	

<sup>a</sup> AP = Adults present; DNS = do not spawn; N/I = not inspected; N/O = not observed.



## **Preliminary Nass Salmon and Summer-Run Steelhead Run Size Estimates to Gitwinksihlkw and Net Escapement Estimates for 2024**

### **Upper Nass Salmon and Summer-Run Steelhead Estimates**

Preliminary post-season aggregate estimates for Upper Nass salmon and summer-run steelhead returns in 2024 (Table 14) were calculated from current mark-recapture data (Table 15).

**Table 14. Preliminary estimates of run size to Gitwinksihlkw fishwheels and aggregate net escapement (spawners) for Upper Nass salmon and summer-run steelhead, 2023.**

Post-season Estimate	Sockeye	Chinook	Coho	Steelhead
<b>Run size estimate to GW fishwheels</b>	<b>614,751</b>	<b>11,388</b>	<b>82,153</b>	<b>12,995</b>
<i>In-season estimate to GW fishwheels</i>	<i>433,000</i>	<i>14,707</i>	<i>56,000</i>	<i>15,583</i>
<i>% difference of in-season to post-season</i>	<i>-30%</i>	<i>29%</i>	<i>-32%</i>	<i>20%</i>
<b>Net Escapement estimate above Gitwinksihlkw</b>	<b>526,049</b>	<b>8,816</b>	<b>81,118</b>	<b>12,843</b>
<i>Net Escapement goal - Upper Nass only (min for steelhead)</i>	<i>200,000</i>	<i>13,000</i>	<i>60,000</i>	<i>4,000</i>

The preliminary Upper Nass escapement estimates for salmon and summer-run steelhead to Gitwinksihlkw in 2024 were based on mark-recapture results presented in Table 15. **Upper Nass net escapement goals were met for all salmon species in 2024 other than Chinook Salmon which was under target (Table 16).** The in-season population estimates were within  $\pm 20$ -32% of final preliminary post-season estimates for Nass River Sockeye, Chinook, Coho, and summer run steelhead during migrations in 2024 (Table 14). The in-season population information uses mark-recapture information collected from only Grease Harbour fishwheels whereas post-season estimates are based on spawning ground mark rates. The in-season tracking of these species, particularly for Nass Sockeye and Chinook, tracked well enough to guide fisheries in 2024 and reach net aggregate escapement goals Sockeye, Coho and steelhead.

**Table 15. Preliminary mark-recapture estimates for Nass salmon (Chinook, Sockeye and Coho) and summer-run steelhead returns to Gitwinksihlkw and spawning grounds, 2024. Best estimates are bolded.**

Species	Marked (M)	Censored	% marks removed	Net marks available (M*)	Examined (C)	Marks recovered (R)	GH estimate (N)	Catch between GH and GW	Esc between GH and GW	Population Estimate to GW (N)	SE	CV%	Catch above GH	Net escapement estimate
<b>Chinook-stratified (Operculum Tag) by size</b>	<b>2,731</b>	<b>1,253</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>1,478</b>	<b>1,035</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>7,184</b>	<b>2,376</b>	<b>1,828</b>	<b>11,388</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>6.9%</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>8,816</b>
Chinook-pooled (Operculum Tag)	2,731	1,253	46%	1,478	1,035	216	7,060	2,376	1,804	11,240	425	6.8%	196	8,668
<b>Sock-size stratified (Spaghetti Tag) - Mez-Kwin</b>	<b>11,812</b>	<b>2,954</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>8,858</b>	<b>380,024</b>	<b>5,734</b>	<b>582,008</b>	<b>32,743</b>		<b>614,751</b>	<b>7,626</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>55,959</b>	<b>526,049</b>
Sockeye-pooled-spaghetti tag	11,812	2,954	25%	8,858	380,024	5,734	587,033	32,743		619,776	7,692	1.3%	55,959	531,074
Sockeye-size stratified (Mez only)	11,812	2,954	25%	8,859	375,357	5,698	578,428	32,743		611,171	7,712	1.3%	55,959	522,469
<b>Coho-pooled (Anchor Tag) - Mez-Kwin</b>	<b>1,474</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>1,245</b>	<b>4,845</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>81,595</b>	<b>558</b>		<b>82,153</b>	<b>9,350</b>	<b>11.6%</b>	<b>477</b>	<b>81,118</b>
Coho-stratified by size (Mez only)	1,474	229	16%	1,245	3,879	60	79,253	558		79,810	9,986	12.8%	477	78,776
Coho-stratified by size (Mez-Kwin)	1,474	229	16%	1,245	4,845	73	83,763	558		84,320	10,367	11.8%	477	83,286
<b>Steelhead-pooled (Anchor Tag) - Mark Recapture</b>	<b>871</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>509</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>12,453</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>12,995</b>	<b>2,099</b>	<b>17.7%</b>	-	<b>12,843</b>
Steelhead (Coho MR index)														

% marks removed are as associated with initial handling/capture induced mortality, primary tag loss if applicable, and selective removal in fisheries below Grease Harbour.

Post-season aggregate population estimates for Upper Nass Chinook, Sockeye and Coho salmon returns in 2024 (Table 14) were quite precise ( $< 15\%$  CV) from mark-recapture surveys with high numbers of marks released from the fishwheels and recovered (or estimated) on the spawning grounds for Chinook ( $R = 216$ ;  $CV = 6.9\%$ ), Sockeye ( $R = 5,734$ ;  $CV = 1.3\%$ ), Coho ( $R = 73$ ;  $CV = 11.6\%$ ) and summer-run steelhead ( $R = 31$ ;  $CV = 17.7\%$ ). Genetic analyses of Upper Nass Chinook and Sockeye samples collected from the fishwheels will be conducted to determine overall stock contributions in 2024 to further evaluate run size estimates. Interim genetic stock estimates used for Chinook and summer-run steelhead that spawn between GW and GH fishwheels was 16.1% and 3.0%, respectively, based on historical genetic results from 2019–2023. The Upper Nass summer-run steelhead aggregate population estimate for 2024 is based on mark-recapture where 871 steelhead were tagged with anchor tags with 848 also tagged with PIT tags (Table 15).

## Nass Area Salmon and Summer-Run Steelhead Net Escapement Estimates 2024

The 2024 preliminary post-season estimates of net escapement for Nass salmon and summer-run steelhead were calculated according to methods developed by the Nisga'a-Canada-BC Treaty Joint technical committee (NCB-JTC) and preliminary results are presented in Table 16 for the Nass watershed including coastal, lower, and upper Nass areas. Lower and coastal Nass Coho escapement estimates were calculated by prorating stream specific ground survey results (Table 13) to habitat-capacity model (Bocking and Peacock 2004) aggregate area estimates. Nass Area salmon and summer-run steelhead run sizes to the Nass River in 2024 were above average for Sockeye, Pink, Coho, Chum, and summer-run steelhead; but were below average for Chinook Salmon (Table 16).

**Table 16. Estimates of run size to Gitwinksihlkw fishwheels and net escapement for Nass salmon and summer-run steelhead, 2000–2024 (NFWD 2024 [draft]).**

Year	RUN SIZE TO GITWINKSIHLKW FISHWHEELS						NET ESCAPEMENT (COASTAL, LOWER, MIDDLE AND UPPER NASS)					
	Sockeye	Pink	Chinook	Coho	Chum	Steelhead	Sockeye	Pink	Chinook	Coho	Chum	Steelhead
2000	243,584	118,998	21,617	72,175	3,200	14,831	204,407	221,006	19,348	106,115	18,561	14,757
2001	206,033	314,483	34,703	89,536	1,600	13,484	168,753	760,250	32,256	194,716	30,383	13,459
2002	470,083	190,921	16,081	167,829	700	18,144	405,498	291,196	14,804	292,317	14,753	18,118
2003	328,916	524,790	29,462	77,574	1,800	17,454	263,688	854,007	28,274	140,895	64,545	17,441
2004	283,712	196,522	17,984	60,106	2,300	4,840	215,857	493,155	16,875	99,000	49,276	4,792
2005	285,916	135,845	16,764	99,906	1,300	7,924	224,559	1,063,691	15,571	159,862	30,041	7,842
2006	296,338	20,135	28,609	54,730	1,400	4,986	250,642	118,016	28,061	101,694	51,382	4,902
2007	195,238	146,719	27,165	55,944	800	6,350	164,747	647,378	24,964	141,931	11,005	6,309
2008	235,222	16,718	21,681	84,817	700	13,992	218,105	45,476	22,138	115,479	3,055	13,920
2009	281,235	563,671	30,253	201,683	1,400	27,381	244,900	722,772	29,576	311,691	20,195	27,244
2010	261,722	31,312	20,720	92,134	1,400	20,445	229,010	179,592	20,729	148,264	8,515	20,229
2011	308,636	142,584	11,573	74,108	2,700	22,917	276,700	115,830	10,826	98,006	6,338	22,821
2012	239,400	34,988	10,785	69,383	700	14,083	203,028	231,088	9,797	114,962	15,676	13,751
2013	248,650	322,215	10,240	129,882	700	8,098	210,126	848,048	9,034	354,225	14,426	7,843
2014	301,072	222,379	14,354	123,223	1,900	20,405	260,102	346,777	12,979	231,718	20,396	20,236
2015	469,466	65,850	22,262	44,262	2,400	16,222	389,503	353,574	20,595	55,934	47,835	16,034
2016	304,135	181,823	11,009	137,214	5,100	25,516	277,484	293,507	10,192	183,234	20,762	25,338
2017	260,585	340,741	5,677	116,419	1,100	9,726	226,758	840,119	4,984	189,943	22,517	9,649
2018	248,224	127,191	16,289	58,979	1,600	30,099	224,132	222,716	16,319	72,615	45,975	29,864
2019	268,000	117,124	13,211	93,595	2,500	11,645	243,259	159,782	11,926	143,864	24,222	11,625
2020	241,090	104,276	14,931	53,896	300	4,247	215,513	736,028	14,297	96,287	102,159	4,206
2021	381,877	281,917	12,968	104,672	300	6,146	348,826	546,659	12,736	180,903	118,809	6,135
2022	486,852	255,505	15,149	130,084	1,200	11,361	444,273	467,002	18,208	291,433	98,003	11,339
2023	544,618	3,655,159	12,229	181,178	3,500	26,860	503,654	2,242,091	13,501	270,416	54,147	26,836
2024	614,751	791,824	11,388	82,153	3,500	26,860	526,049	1,102,902	11,855	173,424	115,317	12,840
Mean 00-23	308,000	338,000	18,000	99,000	2,000	15,000	267,000	533,000	17,000	171,000	37,000	15,000
Goal-target	250,000		13,000	60,000		11,000	200,000	225,000	15,000	60,000	45,000	10,500
Goal-min							100,000	150,000	10,000	40,000	30,000	4,200

### Preliminary Harvest Estimates for Adult Nass Salmon and Steelhead

#### 2024 Alaskan Fisheries in SE Alaska (courtesy of Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

The 2024 Alaskan Southeast fisheries started on 16 June for gillnet fisheries in District 101 (Tree Point) and District 106 (Sumner and Upper Clarence), and for seine fisheries, 4 July for Districts 101 and 102, 14 July for District 104, and 25 July for District 103. Preliminary estimates of catches of salmon are approximately 15,911,000 in Alaskan commercial net fisheries in Districts 101–106 (and mean catch comparisons from 2000 to 2023) and shown in Table 17. Estimated total salmon catches in these fisheries to 31 August are 15.9 million salmon which is above average (14.2 million). Districts 101-104 seine fisheries shutdown for the season on 29 August (Table 17).

**Table 17. In-season commercial gillnet and seine catch estimates of salmon in Alaskan fisheries in Districts 101–106, 2024 (ADFG 2024).**

IN-SEASON SE ALASKAN CUM. SALMON GILLNET/SEINE CATCH ESTIMATES (ADFG WEBSITE) - 2024								WEEKEND:		14-Sep-24	
DISTRICTS	AREA	SOCK CATCH	AVG (00-23)	CHIN CATCH	AVG (00-23)	PINK CATCH	AVG EVE (00-22)	CHUM CATCH	AVG (00-23)	COHO CATCH	AVG (00-23)
DIST 101 GN	TREE PT	21,600	56,000	1,040	1,500	88,200	366,900	338,200	246,000	11,500	32,600
DIST 106 GN	UPP. CLAR	31,800	74,000	500	1,400	11,040	189,000	120,100	163,000	19,830	91,000
DIST 101 SN	LOW CLAR	76,100	59,400	50	600	5,252,000	4,092,000	625,000	281,000	46,200	35,300
DIST 102 SN	MID CLAR	35,500	37,000	10	700	1,130,000	2,640,600	376,000	489,000	14,800	44,500
DIST 103 SN	CORDOVA	15,500	23,900	620	360	2,861,000	1,798,200	72,000	131,100	34,200	28,400
DIST 104 SN	NOYES/DALL	150,500	276,000	7,200	6,400	4,176,000	2,778,000	324,000	191,000	71,300	70,000
CUMULATIVE TOTAL		331,000	526,000	9,000	11,000	13,518,000	11,865,000	1,855,000	1,501,000	198,000	302,000

Of the total in-season Sockeye catch reported in the SE Alaskan District fisheries in 2024 to date (331,000), approximately 15% (50,000) is estimated as Nass origin based on mean stock composition estimates from 1982 to 2023 and is below average (96,000). The average total mean harvest of Nass salmon in Alaskan net fisheries from 2000 to 2023 is 107,000 Sockeye (range: 22,000–304,000), 69,000 Pink (range: 4,000–240,000), 139,000 Coho (range: 59,000–433,000), and 9,000 Chum (<1,000–40,000) based on estimates from NFWD (Table 18).

On average, harvests in Alaskan fisheries of all Nass salmon were estimated at approximately 325,000 based on preliminary total harvest and runs from 2000 to 2023 (NFWD 2024) and represents approximately 18% of the average total Nass salmon returns. **On average for total Nass salmon runs, Alaskan exploitation rates represent approximately 17% for Sockeye, 8% for Pink, 5% for Chinook, 40% for Coho, and 15% for Chum based on preliminary analyses from NFWD (Table 18).**

**Table 18. Preliminary estimates of Nass salmon harvests in Alaskan fisheries, total Nass salmon returns, and US exploitation rates, 2000–2024 (NFWD 2024 [draft]).**

Year	ALASKAN HARVEST					TOTAL RUN					ALASKA EXPLOITATION RATE				
	Sock.	Pink	Chin.	Coho	Chum	Sockeye	Pink	Chinook	Coho	Chum	Sockeye	Pink	Chinook	Coho	Chum
2000	86,000	32,000	1,700	92,000	4,000	625,000	600,000	34,700	208,000	40,000	14%	5%	5%	44%	10%
2001	202,000	192,000	2,400	176,000	18,000	582,000	2,093,000	52,400	374,000	90,000	35%	9%	5%	47%	20%
2002	125,000	41,000	1,400	63,000	2,000	1,404,000	693,000	31,400	378,000	32,000	9%	6%	4%	17%	6%
2003	153,000	136,000	2,200	89,000	11,000	1,177,000	1,155,000	46,200	261,000	87,000	13%	12%	5%	34%	13%
2004	304,000	86,000	600	91,000	24,000	985,000	782,000	33,600	222,000	82,000	31%	11%	2%	41%	29%
2005	145,000	175,000	300	163,000	9,000	667,000	1,523,000	28,300	374,000	42,000	22%	11%	1%	44%	21%
2006	138,000	5,000	1,800	69,000	12,000	775,000	141,000	45,800	195,000	72,000	18%	4%	4%	35%	17%
2007	251,000	119,000	1,300	107,000	8,000	602,000	1,015,000	41,300	282,000	21,000	42%	12%	3%	38%	38%
2008	47,000	4,000	400	61,000	400	380,000	55,000	30,400	193,000	4,400	12%	7%	1%	32%	9%
2009	150,000	102,000	1,200	125,000	7,000	575,000	912,000	40,200	479,000	28,000	26%	11%	3%	26%	25%
2010	47,000	18,000	800	97,000	1,000	439,000	203,000	27,800	277,000	10,000	11%	9%	3%	35%	10%
2011	99,000	6,000	1,500	86,000	1,000	557,000	180,000	19,500	209,000	8,000	18%	3%	8%	41%	13%
2012	58,000	32,000	1,200	102,000	2,000	477,000	302,000	17,200	256,000	18,000	12%	11%	7%	40%	11%
2013	67,000	140,000	200	433,000	2,000	504,000	1,116,000	16,200	876,000	17,000	13%	13%	1%	49%	12%
2014	66,000	62,000	1,600	149,000	3,000	553,000	461,000	24,600	441,000	24,000	12%	13%	7%	34%	13%
2015	117,000	35,000	2,200	157,000	8,000	870,000	457,000	35,200	249,000	61,000	13%	8%	6%	63%	13%
2016	80,000	38,000	1,700	282,000	5,000	442,000	387,000	19,700	508,000	28,000	18%	10%	9%	56%	18%
2017	28,000	38,000	700	130,000	2,000	369,000	964,000	11,700	370,000	25,000	8%	4%	6%	35%	8%
2018	22,000	10,000	1,200	59,000	3,000	316,000	266,000	24,200	149,000	50,000	7%	4%	5%	40%	6%
2019	51,000	15,000	1,000	75,000	4,000	377,000	190,000	21,000	237,000	28,000	14%	8%	5%	32%	14%
2020	31,000	32,000	1,100	124,000	12,000	296,000	776,000	22,100	232,000	114,000	10%	4%	5%	53%	11%
2021	90,000	72,000	1,000	185,000	40,000	503,000	639,000	20,000	374,000	160,000	18%	11%	5%	49%	25%
2022	103,000	35,000	1,200	209,000	18,000	622,000	520,000	24,200	511,000	118,000	17%	7%	5%	41%	15%
2023	107,000	240,000	900	210,000	10,000	696,000	2,528,000	18,900	511,000	65,000	15%	9%	5%	41%	15%
2024	50,000	114,000	900	143,000	25,000	760,000	1,312,000	19,900	326,000	142,000	7%	9%	5%	44%	18%
Mean 00-23	107,000	69,000	1,000	139,000	9,000	616,000	748,000	29,000	340,000	51,000	17%	8%	5%	40%	15%

## ***Preliminary 2024 Post-Season Net, Troll, and Recreational Catch Estimates for Nass Salmon***

### **Commercial Catch Estimates of Nass Salmon**

DFO did not open Area 3 commercial net salmon fisheries in 2024 until July 8. Fishery planning for 2024 was based on DFO's Integrated Fisheries Management Plan (IFMP) where a precautionary approach on reaching escapement targets for Nass salmon are primary objectives for 2024 while supporting DFO's Pacific Salmon Strategy Initiative (PSSI; <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2021/06/minister-jordan-announces-long-term-commercial-closures-and-licence-tetirement-program-in-effort-to-save-pacific-salmon.html>).

Area 3 commercial fisheries were planned to minimize direct harvest impacts to upper **Nass River Chinook salmon in 2024 that have only reached the escapement goal (15,000) three times (2015, 2018, and 2022) in the past 13 years (2011–2023)**. Opening on 8 July ensured a good portion of the upper Nass Chinook salmon had passed the marine area, on average 69% (range: 3-89%) of upper Nass Chinook stocks have entered the Nass River by 8 July based on returns from 1994 to 2023. DFO conducted 17 commercial fisheries (6 gillnet and 11 seine) in Area 3 from 8 July to 5 August (Table 19) in 2024 targeting mostly Nass Area Pink and Sockeye with Chum salmon retention up to 23 July. A total of 905,239 salmon and steelhead were estimated caught in-season and 96% harvested (872,609) in 2024. Of the total in-season Sockeye harvested in Area 3 (49,500) and northern Area 4 (3,700) commercial fisheries in 2024, NFWD estimated approximately 8% (4,200) are of Nass origin based on mean stock composition from northern boundary sockeye run reconstructions from 1982 to 2023. No additional fisheries occurred in Area 3 after 5 August.

**Table 19. In-season salmon and steelhead gillnet (GN) and seine (SN) catch estimates by day in DFO Area 3 commercial net fisheries, 2024 (DFO 2024).**

GEAR	DATE	Boats fished	SO-harv	SO-Rel	CO-HARV	CO-Rel	PK-HARV	PK-Rel	Chum-harv	Chum-Rel	CH-harv	CH-Rel	STEEL-Rel
GN	2024-07-08	63	3,122	0	0	13	636	0	8,769	0	0	4	4
	2024-07-09	51	2,093	0	0	3	367	0	3,370	0	0	2	2
	2024-07-16	64	6,941	0	0	90	3,723	0	2,828	224	0	6	11
	2024-07-17	83	7,082	0	0	123	10,421	0	6,480	271	0	1	0
	2024-07-23	23	1,296	0	0	11	1,687	0	5,267	0	0	27	0
	2024-07-24	23	1,393	0	0	15	1,445	0	3,715	0	0	0	1
<b>GN Total</b>		<b>307</b>	<b>21,927</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>18,279</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>30,429</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>18</b>
SN	2024-07-09	11	950	0	0	70	2,571	0	7,157	0	0	63	4
	2024-07-10	10	967	0	0	49	2,311	0	9,983	0	0	26	3
	2024-07-15	12	2,813	0	0	266	12,289	0	10,344	0	0	63	12
	2024-07-16	12	2,943	0	0	137	22,410	0	9,913	0	0	87	18
	2024-07-19	11	1,634	0	0	197	102,281	0	9,676	0	0	143	0
	2024-07-20	11	1,564	0	0	527	37,906	0	10,288	0	0	72	0
	2024-07-22	10	5,102	0	0	296	112,472	0	11,500	0	0	108	16
	2024-07-23	9	4,320	0	0	148	136,260	0	10,440	0	0	23	13
	2024-07-29	11	3,735	0	0	458	165,500	0	0	14,250	0	39	5
	2024-07-30	11	2,453	0	0	92	22,000	0	0	10,800	0	16	17
	2024-08-05	6	1,092	0	0	287	79,100	0	0	3,475	0	19	23
<b>SN Total</b>		<b>114</b>	<b>27,573</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,527</b>	<b>695,100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>79,301</b>	<b>28,525</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>659</b>	<b>111</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>421</b>	<b>49,500</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,782</b>	<b>713,379</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>109,730</b>	<b>29,020</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>129</b>

SN=seine; SO=Sockeye; PK=Pink, CO=Coho, CH=Chinook; STEEL=steelhead; harv=harvested, Rel=released; Vessel days=Boat days.



**Table 20. Preliminary post-season commercial net and troll catch estimates of Nass salmon in DFO commercial fisheries in Areas 1-5, 2000–2024 (NFWD 2024 [draft]).**

Year	COMMERCIAL (GILLNET & SEINE)					COMMERCIAL (TROLL)					TOTAL COMMERCIAL CATCH ESTIMATES				
	Sockeye	Pink	Chinook	Coho	Chum	Sockeye	Pink	Chinook	Coho	Chum	Sockeye	Pink	Chinook	Coho	Chum
2000	239,000	205,000	1,826	2,367	11,500	UNK	UNK	NA	NA	UNK	239,000	205,000	1,826	2,367	11,500
2001	132,000	982,000	928	2,367	31,200	UNK	UNK	NA	4,000	UNK	132,000	982,000	928	6,367	31,200
2002	725,000	239,000	5,980	2,367	9,800	UNK	UNK	2,100	10,000	UNK	725,000	239,000	8,080	12,367	9,800
2003	616,000	146,000	6,076	4,979	11,100	UNK	UNK	2,500	20,000	UNK	616,000	146,000	8,576	24,979	11,100
2004	318,000	192,000	7,186	15,438	7,300	UNK	UNK	400	22,000	UNK	318,000	192,000	7,586	37,438	7,300
2005	174,000	280,000	3,449	11,200	2,400	UNK	UNK	400	19,000	UNK	174,000	280,000	3,849	30,200	2,400
2006	292,000	13,000	4,939	2,488	7,900	UNK	UNK	1,300	8,000	UNK	292,000	13,000	6,239	10,488	7,900
2007	131,000	241,000	4,475	10,021	1,000	UNK	UNK	600	9,000	UNK	131,000	241,000	5,075	19,021	1,000
2008	60,000	1,000	467	2,655	200	UNK	UNK	0	4,000	UNK	60,000	1,000	467	6,655	200
2009	103,000	55,000	1,366	3,511	1,100	UNK	UNK	300	16,000	UNK	103,000	55,000	1,666	19,511	1,100
2010	86,000	2,000	973	2,662	200	UNK	UNK	300	13,000	UNK	86,000	2,000	1,273	15,662	200
2011	108,000	11,000	1,371	3,684	400	UNK	UNK	400	18,000	UNK	108,000	11,000	1,771	21,684	400
2012	133,000	18,000	1,248	3,108	400	UNK	UNK	400	21,000	UNK	133,000	18,000	1,648	24,108	400
2013	140,000	89,000	1,876	11,696	600	UNK	UNK	200	51,000	UNK	140,000	89,000	2,076	62,696	600
2014	127,000	43,000	2,046	7,182	400	UNK	UNK	100	41,000	UNK	127,000	43,000	2,146	48,182	400
2015	187,000	38,000	2,501	9,273	4,500	UNK	UNK	400	13,000	UNK	187,000	38,000	2,901	22,273	4,500
2016	17,000	35,000	856	12,206	200	UNK	UNK	100	17,000	UNK	17,000	35,000	956	29,206	200
2017	34,000	65,000	1,355	7,766	100	UNK	UNK	0	26,000	UNK	34,000	65,000	1,355	33,766	100
2018	13,000	17,000	354	2,145	600	UNK	UNK	100	10,000	UNK	13,000	17,000	454	12,145	600
2019	19,000	3,000	365	1,859	100	UNK	UNK	0	10,000	UNK	19,000	3,000	365	11,859	100
2020	0	1,000	138	1,663	0	UNK	UNK	100	5,000	UNK	0	1,000	238	6,663	0
2021	0	17,000	22	75	900	UNK	UNK	0	4,000	UNK	0	17,000	22	4,075	900
2022	1,000	7,000	73	78	1,000	UNK	UNK	100	6,000	UNK	1,000	7,000	173	6,078	1,000
2023	8,000	37,000	70	301	800	UNK	UNK	100	7,000	UNK	8,000	37,000	170	7,301	800
2024	4,660	83,000	0	9	800	UNK	UNK	100	5,000	UNK	4,660	83,000	100	5,075	800
Mean 00-23	153,000	114,000	2,000	5,000	4,000	UNK	UNK	450	15,000	UNK	153,000	114,000	2,000	20,000	4,000

## Recreational Catch Estimates of Nass Salmon 2024

Limited data are available for the preliminary sport catch estimates shown here for Nass River salmon, but minimum harvest estimates of Nass salmon in recreational fisheries for 2024 were approximately: 200+ Sockeye with the Nass River and Meziadin Lake open, 500 Chinook, 1,700 Coho, and < 100 Pink based on preliminary data from NFWD, DFO Prince Rupert, and methods developed by the NFWD (Table 21). The recreational catch estimates of Nass salmon that are shown in Table 21 are based on many assumptions (e.g., relative stock composition of Nass salmon in total recreational catches in Areas 1 to Area 4 (tidal only)). The preliminary recreational harvest estimates for Nass salmon in 2024 were below average for Nass Chinook and Coho salmon when compared to mean estimates from 2000 to 2023 (Table 21).

**Table 21. Preliminary post-season Nass salmon harvest estimates in recreational fisheries, 2000–2024 (NFWD 2024 [draft]).**

Year	IN-RIVER RECREATIONAL CATCH					MARINE (TIDAL) RECREATIONAL CATCH					TOTAL RECREATIONAL CATCH				
	Sock.	Pink	Chin.	Coho	Chum	Sock.	Pink	Chin.	Coho	Chum	Sock.	Pink	Chin.	Coho	Chum
2000	20	UNK	1,200	300	UNK	UNK	UNK	1,000	600	UNK	20	UNK	2,200	900	UNK
2001	280	UNK	1,100	600	UNK	UNK	UNK	1,700	3,600	UNK	280	UNK	2,800	4,200	UNK
2002	30	UNK	900	400	UNK	UNK	UNK	1,100	4,800	UNK	30	UNK	2,000	5,200	UNK
2003	UNK	UNK	1,200	200	UNK	UNK	UNK	1,200	4,500	UNK	UNK	UNK	2,400	4,700	UNK
2004	UNK	UNK	900	200	UNK	UNK	UNK	1,900	4,400	UNK	UNK	UNK	2,800	4,600	UNK
2005	UNK	UNK	800	400	UNK	UNK	UNK	1,500	4,800	UNK	UNK	UNK	2,300	5,200	UNK
2006	UNK	UNK	1,300	100	UNK	UNK	UNK	1,000	4,700	UNK	UNK	UNK	2,300	4,800	UNK
2007	UNK	UNK	1,500	400	UNK	UNK	UNK	1,800	3,900	UNK	UNK	UNK	3,300	4,300	UNK
2008	UNK	UNK	1,300	100	UNK	UNK	UNK	1,600	6,200	UNK	UNK	UNK	2,900	6,300	UNK
2009	UNK	UNK	1,300	1,300	UNK	UNK	UNK	1,300	7,300	UNK	UNK	UNK	2,600	8,600	UNK
2010	120	UNK	500	200	UNK	UNK	UNK	400	4,700	UNK	120	UNK	900	4,900	UNK
2011	10	0	600	200	UNK	UNK	UNK	900	5,800	UNK	10	UNK	1,500	6,000	UNK
2012	UNK	10	600	100	UNK	UNK	UNK	500	2,600	UNK	UNK	10	1,100	2,700	UNK
2013	30	20	500	300	UNK	UNK	UNK	500	6,400	UNK	30	20	1,000	6,700	UNK
2014	120	UNK	900	300	UNK	UNK	UNK	700	2,700	UNK	120	UNK	1,600	3,000	UNK
2015	20	50	600	400	UNK	UNK	UNK	700	5,200	UNK	20	50	1,300	5,600	UNK
2016	UNK	UNK	300	100	UNK	UNK	UNK	800	4,600	UNK	UNK	UNK	1,100	4,700	UNK
2017	UNK	10	200	1,600	UNK	UNK	UNK	800	3,700	UNK	UNK	10	1,000	5,300	UNK
2018	UNK	UNK	400	200	UNK	UNK	UNK	200	2,100	UNK	UNK	UNK	600	2,300	UNK
2019	UNK	UNK	300	400	UNK	UNK	UNK	900	3,800	UNK	UNK	UNK	1,200	4,200	UNK
2020	UNK	UNK	300	500	UNK	UNK	UNK	300	2,500	UNK	UNK	UNK	600	3,000	UNK
2021	UNK	UNK	300	500	UNK	UNK	UNK	400	1,600	UNK	UNK	UNK	700	2,100	UNK
2022	200	UNK	300	700	UNK	UNK	UNK	300	1,600	UNK	200	UNK	600	2,300	UNK
2023	200	UNK	200	700	UNK	UNK	UNK	300	1,100	UNK	200	UNK	500	1,800	UNK
2024	200	UNK	200	400	UNK	UNK	UNK	300	1,300	UNK	200	UNK	500	1,700	UNK
Mean 00-23	100	20	1,000	400	UNK	UNK	UNK	1,000	4,000	UNK	100	20	2,000	4,300	UNK

## Nisga'a Nation Catch Estimates of Nass Salmon and Steelhead 2024

The 2024 Nisga'a salmon and steelhead fisheries were monitored from 11 May to 7 September as part of the NFWD's annual salmon catch monitoring program. Incidental salmon and steelhead catch before 1 May and after 7 September were also accounted for in NFWD's annual non-salmon catch monitoring program. During the salmon catch-monitoring period, estimates were expanded each week for non-reporting based on catch and fishing effort analyses.

The harvests of Nass salmon and steelhead estimated in 2024 for Nisga'a fisheries are above average for the Food, Social, and Ceremonial (FSC) fishery (50,000 vs. 44,000) and above average for total catches (135,000 vs. 105,000) when including sale fisheries, release mortalities, and comparing harvests from 2000 to 2023. Nisga'a fishing effort (net hours) in 2024 was below average (6,863 vs. 8,640 hours) from 1,075 interviews when compared to 2015 to 2023 fishing seasons.

Table 22 shows the preliminary post-season Nisga'a Treaty catch potential of Nass salmon and harvest estimates of Nass salmon and steelhead in Nisga'a fisheries in 2024. A total of 14 Nisga'a Treaty sale fisheries occurred from 26 June to 1 August with 12 marine fisheries (six from 26 June to 5 July and six from 19-20 July and 28-29, 31 July, 1 Aug) and 8 in-river (19-20 July, 22-23 July, and 28-29, 31 July, 1 Aug) fisheries. Time area management of the sale fisheries for sockeye was conducted to reduce harvests of weaker non-Meziadin stocks. Marine sale fisheries did not occur between 12-18 July (period anticipated to be peak Kwinageese) with the last marine fishery conducted on July 5 and then restarted on July 19. However, Kwinageese was not identified as a concern for conducting sale fisheries in 2024 and had a good return to the river.

Preliminary sale catches totalled 76,039 Sockeye (includes Treaty and demonstration allocations), 4,651 Pink, 878 Chum, and 373 Coho, with approximately 479 fisher days. Domestic harvesting was closed 24 hours prior to the start of the Nisga'a Treaty sale fisheries and remained closed until 12 hours after the fishery closed. All catch was reported to a NFWD catch monitor. Steelhead and Chinook that were caught were released if healthy or otherwise taken as food and reported to a NFWD catch monitor. Tag recoveries from kept or released fish, including radio-tagged Chinook, returned to Nisga'a Fisheries will be eligible for a tag lottery draw (seven draws of \$100) to be conducted in November 2024.

Preliminary total salmon harvests in the Nisga'a fisheries include angling gear catches and preliminary estimates of release mortalities (60% from gillnets). Estimated harvests in the Nisga'a fisheries for 2024 were: 116,732 Sockeye (including 2,378 effort adjustment, 76,039 sold, and 44 release morts), 5,832 Chinook (including 1,650 effort adjustment, 118 angled, and 3 release morts), 1,917 Coho (including 550 effort

adjustment, 139 angled, and 411 release morts), 8,953 Pink (including 421 effort adjustment and 2,724 release morts), Chum (including 264 effort adjustment and 42 release morts), and 598 steelhead ((including 17 effort adjustment, 48 angled, and 177 release morts)). Steelhead harvest estimates included three winter-run and 595 summer-run fish. Preliminary post-season Nisga'a harvest estimates for all Nass salmon and steelhead in 2024 were below average based on mean harvests from 2000 to 2023. There is currently no defined Nisga'a entitlement for steelhead (winter or summer-run), other than a maximum allocation for summer-run steelhead (1,000) defined in the Nisga'a Treaty; domestic harvests are permitted each year.

**Table 22. Nisga'a Treaty TRTC entitlement and harvest estimates for Nass salmon and steelhead (including estimated release mortalities), 2000–2024 (NFW 2024 [draft]).**

Year	NISGA'A TREATY ENTITLEMENT (NOT INCLUDING UNDERAGES)					NISGA'A FISHERIES HARVESTS					
	Sockeye	Pink	Chinook	Coho	Chum	Sockeye	Pink	Chinook	Coho	Chum	Steelhead
2000	93,855	43,062	6,935	9,241	12,601	93,179	12,172	9,326	1,950	1,067	495
2001	66,781	257,071	10,447	15,878	7,071	77,183	79,378	11,764	14,706	1,617	403
2002	195,288	67,446	6,315	19,200	9,899	140,666	4,086	5,431	9,016	132	557
2003	161,879	124,282	9,155	13,754	6,077	140,861	18,949	6,709	14,882	318	445
2004	117,389	74,242	6,957	10,508	4,612	145,248	10,755	5,985	20,363	1,030	512
2005	89,457	174,082	5,904	16,874	3,127	113,360	4,780	6,601	14,988	698	244
2006	111,598	93	9,147	10,047	4,830	88,079	4,699	7,810	8,512	1,110	253
2007	56,344	105,229	8,317	13,977	561	53,886	7,438	6,814	9,520	932	116
2008	47,774	30	6,340	10,580	203	45,805	4,475	4,475	3,466	506	179
2009	68,164	91,835	8,236	19,200	376	69,449	31,759	5,518	14,104	139	266
2010	60,768	2,179	5,750	14,379	101	67,849	3,184	4,643	10,395	102	709
2011	75,474	340	6,778	9,819	193	60,445	47,331	4,605	2,655	210	193
2012	66,839	7,904	5,650	12,291	215	68,766	21,035	3,614	12,182	316	542
2013	70,834	117,557	6,258	19,200	210	73,475	38,528	4,459	19,510	111	433
2014	81,788	28,177	5,905	19,200	287	79,721	9,567	6,029	8,573	553	468
2015	126,668	31,660	6,921	8,270	4,210	154,199	30,189	8,335	8,002	255	424
2016	54,145	20,371	5,768	18,060	788	46,875	20,323	5,418	8,258	2,486	542
2017	49,380	109,847	2,449	19,191	117	58,180	20,376	3,688	10,362	346	233
2018	39,156	5,888	4,791	7,161	3,729	46,776	15,795	5,504	2,855	89	409
2019	46,238	3,441	6,509	12,976	71	50,281	11,590	6,682	2,374	157	95
2020	32,882	81,611	4,574	8,624	8,179	39,390	6,606	5,577	897	73	97
2021	65,383	54,159	6,080	15,089	9,582	39,195	3,280	5,576	1,736	12	47
2022	88,883	41,403	4,782	19,200	7,960	42,159	10,587	3,864	1,800	505	110
2023	104,348	314,987	3,828	19,200	4,398	43,626	8,718	3,219	1,331	70	65
2024	121,170	151,493	4,962	14,652	9,378	116,776	11,677	5,832	1,917	773	598
Mean 00-23	82,000	73,000	6,000	14,000	4,000	77,000	18,000	6,000	8,000	1,000	300

### **Preliminary Nass Salmon Total Return to Canada (TRTC) and Total Run (TR) Estimates for 2024**

Pre-season forecasts for Nass salmon Total Runs, Total Return to Canada (TRTC), and Nisga'a Treaty entitlement allocation ranges for 2024 were calculated using pre-season forecast models based on Nass salmon returns and age information for past years. The pre-season forecasts are used for general planning purposes until in-season data are available from Nass River salmon assessment programs starting mid-June. Pre-season forecast models used were a combination of sibling regressions (Nass Sockeye and Chinook only) and brood year mean returns (2 year even-year cycle (Pink), 3–4 year (Coho), and 4 year (Chum)) that project 25%, 50%, and 75% probability point estimates. Pre-season Total Return to Canada (TRTC) forecasts (50% probability estimates) for 2024 predicted to be below average returns for Nass Sockeye (440,000 vs. 616,000), Nass Chinook (24,000 vs. 30,000), and Nass Coho (166,000 vs. 176,000), and above average TRTC returns for Nass Chum (73,000 vs. 56,000) and even-year Nass Pink (583,000 vs. 362,000), based on mean TRTC returns from 1992 to 2023 (Table 23; NFW 2024; DFO IFMP 2024). When reviewing Nass salmon TRTC returns over a 33-year period since 1992, the pre-season forecast projections predicted 2024 to be fair to average returns for Sockeye (14th worst), for Chinook (14th worst), Pink (19th worst) and Coho (18th worst), and good for Chum (9th best). The overall TRTC return forecast for Nass salmon in 2024 (1,287,000 vs. 1,458,000 average) was predicted to be the 14th worst return in 33 years.

**Table 23. Pre-season forecasts for Total Return to Canada (TRTC) and Nisga'a entitlement catch potential for Nass salmon returns, 2024.**

PRE-SEASON TRTC & ENTITLEMENT FORECASTS	SOCK	CHIN	COHO	PINK-EVE	CHUM
HISTORICAL MEAN TRTC (1994-2023)	616,000	30,000	174,000	362,000	56,000
PRE-SEASON TRTC FORECAST (50% PROBABILITY)	440,000	24,000	166,000	583,000	73,000
75% probability	307,000	20,000	130,000	477,000	47,000
25% probability	631,000	29,000	211,000	713,000	116,000
PRE-SEASON NISGA'A ENTITLEMENT	71,000	5,000	13,300	57,000	5,800
CUM UNDERAGE (+)/OVERAGE (-) AVAILABLE OR OWED: 2000-2022	0	rebuild	0	0	0
TOTAL PRE-SEASON NISGA'A CATCH POTENTIAL	71,000	5,000	13,000	57,000	5,800
75% probability	32,000	4,200	10,400	40,000	4,000
25% probability	111,000	6,100	17,000	77,000	9,000

The preliminary post-season TRTC estimates for determining the Nisga'a Treaty entitlements for Nass salmon in 2024 are approximately: 710,000 Sockeye, 1,198,000 Pink, 19,000 Chinook, 183,000 Coho, and 117,000 Chum (Table 24). These estimates are considerably higher than the pre-season estimates for Sockeye (710,000 vs. 440,000), Pink (1,198,000 vs. 583,000), Coho (183,000 vs. 166,000) and Chum (117,000 vs. 73,000), but lower for Chinook (19,000 vs. 24,000). Nass salmon total run size data including preliminary Alaskan harvests are provided in Table 25.

Preliminary Canadian exploitation rates for 2024 were below average for Nass Sockeye (24% vs. 35%), Pink (7% vs. 16%), Chinook (34% vs. 35%), Chum (1.2% vs. 7%), and Coho (3% vs 10%) when compared to the means from 2000 to 2023 (Table 24). Preliminary total run exploitation rate (total catch / total run) estimates for Nass salmon in all fisheries in 2024 (Table 18) were 31% Sockeye, 16% Pink, 39% Chinook, 47% Coho, and 19% Chum when combining harvests from Alaskan (Table 24) and Canadian (Table 24) fisheries.

Ranking the TRTC returns (Table 26) and Total Runs (Table 27) for Nass salmon and summer-run steelhead in 2024 over a 33-year return period (1992–2024), the total returns in 2024 was the 8<sup>th</sup> best return of all Nass salmon. Very good returns for Nass Area Pink (5<sup>th</sup> best) and Chum (5<sup>th</sup> best), fair returns for Nass Sockeye (13<sup>th</sup> best), Coho (13<sup>th</sup> best), and steelhead (19<sup>th</sup> best), Chum (28<sup>th</sup> worst/4<sup>th</sup> best), Coho (28<sup>th</sup> worst/5<sup>th</sup> best), and a very poor return for Nass Chinook (26<sup>th</sup> best or 5<sup>th</sup> worst).

**Table 24. Preliminary estimates of Total Return to Canada, total harvests in all Canadian fisheries, and associated exploitation rates for Nass salmon returns, 2000–2024 (NFWD 2024 [draft]).**

Year	TOTAL RETURN TO CANADA (TRTC)					HARVEST TOTALS (ALL CAN FISHERIES)					EXPLOITATION RATE (ALL CAN FISHERIES)				
	Sockeye	Pink	Chinook	Coho	Chum	Sockeye	Pink	Chinook	Coho	Chum	Sockeye	Pink	Chinook	Coho	Chum
2000	539,000	568,000	33,000	116,000	36,000	335,000	217,000	13,400	27,000	8,000	53.6%	36.2%	38.6%	13.0%	20.0%
2001	380,000	1,901,000	50,000	198,000	72,000	212,000	1,062,000	15,600	48,000	6,000	36.4%	50.7%	29.8%	12.8%	6.7%
2002	1,279,000	652,000	30,000	315,000	30,000	873,000	243,000	13,500	22,000	3,000	62.2%	35.1%	43.0%	5.8%	9.4%
2003	1,024,000	1,019,000	44,000	172,000	76,000	760,000	165,000	15,300	31,000	11,000	64.6%	14.3%	33.1%	11.9%	12.6%
2004	681,000	696,000	33,000	131,000	58,000	466,000	203,000	16,300	32,000	8,000	47.3%	26.0%	48.5%	14.4%	9.8%
2005	522,000	1,348,000	28,000	211,000	33,000	297,000	284,000	12,500	51,000	3,000	44.5%	18.6%	44.2%	13.6%	7.1%
2006	637,000	136,000	44,000	126,000	60,000	386,000	18,000	15,500	24,000	9,000	49.8%	12.8%	33.8%	12.3%	12.5%
2007	351,000	896,000	40,000	175,000	13,000	187,000	249,000	14,600	33,000	2,000	31.1%	24.5%	35.4%	11.7%	9.5%
2008	333,000	51,000	30,000	132,000	4,000	115,000	6,000	8,100	17,000	1,000	30.3%	10.9%	26.6%	8.8%	22.7%
2009	425,000	810,000	39,000	354,000	21,000	181,000	87,000	9,600	43,000	1,000	31.5%	9.5%	23.9%	9.0%	3.6%
2010	392,000	185,000	27,000	180,000	9,000	163,000	5,000	6,700	31,000	300	37.1%	2.5%	24.1%	11.2%	3.0%
2011	458,000	174,000	18,000	123,000	7,000	182,000	58,000	7,500	25,000	1,000	32.7%	32.2%	38.5%	12.0%	12.5%
2012	419,000	270,000	16,000	154,000	16,000	216,000	39,000	6,000	39,000	1,000	45.3%	12.9%	34.9%	15.2%	5.6%
2013	437,000	976,000	16,000	443,000	15,000	227,000	127,000	7,400	89,000	1,000	45.0%	11.4%	45.7%	10.2%	5.9%
2014	487,000	399,000	23,000	292,000	21,000	227,000	52,000	9,700	60,000	1,000	41.0%	11.3%	39.4%	13.6%	4.2%
2015	753,000	422,000	33,000	92,000	53,000	363,000	68,000	12,400	36,000	5,000	41.7%	14.9%	35.2%	14.5%	8.2%
2016	362,000	349,000	18,000	226,000	23,000	86,000	55,000	7,500	43,000	3,000	19.5%	14.2%	38.1%	8.5%	10.7%
2017	341,000	926,000	11,000	240,000	23,000	114,000	86,000	6,100	50,000	0	30.9%	8.9%	52.1%	13.5%	0.0%
2018	294,000	256,000	23,000	90,000	47,000	70,000	33,000	6,500	17,000	1,000	22.2%	12.4%	26.9%	11.4%	2.0%
2019	326,000	175,000	20,000	162,000	24,000	83,000	15,000	8,300	18,000	240	22.0%	7.9%	39.5%	7.6%	0.9%
2020	265,000	744,000	21,000	108,000	102,000	49,000	8,000	6,600	12,000	70	16.6%	1.0%	29.9%	5.2%	0.1%
2021	413,000	567,000	19,000	189,000	120,000	72,000	20,000	6,600	8,000	960	14.3%	3.1%	33.0%	2.1%	0.6%
2022	519,000	485,000	23,000	302,000	100,000	90,000	18,000	4,600	10,000	1,500	14.5%	3.5%	19.0%	2.0%	1.3%
2023	589,000	2,288,000	18,000	301,000	55,000	85,000	45,000	3,800	11,000	830	12.2%	1.8%	20.1%	2.2%	1.3%
2024	710,000	1,198,000	19,000	183,000	117,000	184,000	95,000	6,800	9,000	1,750	24.2%	7.2%	34.2%	2.8%	1.2%
Mean 00-23	509,000	679,000	27,000	201,000	42,000	243,000	132,000	10,000	32,000	3,000	35.3%	15.7%	34.7%	10.1%	7.1%



**Table 25. Preliminary estimates of total run size, total harvests in all fisheries, and total run exploitation rates for Nass salmon returns, 2000–2024 (NFWD 2024 [draft]).**

Year	TOTAL RUN					HARVEST TOTALS (ALL FISHERIES)					TOTAL RUN EXPLOITATION RATES				
	Sockeye	Pink	Chinook	Coho	Chum	Sockeye	Pink	Chinook	Coho	Chum	Sockeye	Pink	Chinook	Coho	Chum
2000	625,000	600,000	34,700	208,000	40,000	421,000	249,000	15,100	119,000	12,000	67.4%	41.5%	43.5%	57.2%	30.0%
2001	582,000	2,093,000	52,400	374,000	90,000	414,000	1,254,000	18,000	224,000	24,000	71.1%	59.9%	34.4%	59.9%	26.7%
2002	1,404,000	693,000	31,400	378,000	32,000	998,000	284,000	14,900	85,000	5,000	71.1%	41.0%	47.5%	22.5%	15.6%
2003	1,177,000	1,155,000	46,200	261,000	87,000	913,000	301,000	17,500	120,000	22,000	77.6%	26.1%	37.9%	46.0%	25.3%
2004	985,000	782,000	33,600	222,000	82,000	770,000	289,000	16,900	123,000	32,000	78.2%	37.0%	50.3%	55.4%	39.0%
2005	667,000	1,523,000	28,300	374,000	42,000	442,000	459,000	12,800	214,000	12,000	66.3%	30.1%	45.2%	57.2%	28.6%
2006	775,000	141,000	45,800	195,000	72,000	524,000	23,000	17,300	93,000	21,000	67.6%	16.3%	37.8%	47.7%	29.2%
2007	602,000	1,015,000	41,300	282,000	21,000	438,000	368,000	15,900	140,000	10,000	72.8%	36.3%	38.5%	49.6%	47.6%
2008	380,000	55,000	30,400	193,000	4,400	162,000	10,000	8,500	78,000	1,400	42.6%	18.2%	28.0%	40.4%	31.8%
2009	575,000	912,000	40,200	479,000	28,000	331,000	189,000	10,800	168,000	8,000	57.6%	20.7%	26.9%	35.1%	28.6%
2010	439,000	203,000	27,800	277,000	10,000	210,000	23,000	7,500	128,000	1,300	47.8%	11.3%	27.0%	46.2%	13.0%
2011	557,000	180,000	19,500	209,000	8,000	281,000	64,000	9,000	111,000	2,000	50.4%	35.6%	46.2%	53.1%	25.0%
2012	477,000	302,000	17,200	256,000	18,000	274,000	71,000	7,200	141,000	3,000	57.4%	23.5%	41.9%	55.1%	16.7%
2013	504,000	1,116,000	16,200	876,000	17,000	294,000	267,000	7,600	522,000	3,000	58.3%	23.9%	46.9%	59.6%	17.6%
2014	553,000	461,000	24,600	441,000	24,000	293,000	114,000	11,300	209,000	4,000	53.0%	24.7%	45.9%	47.4%	16.7%
2015	870,000	457,000	35,200	249,000	61,000	480,000	103,000	14,600	193,000	13,000	55.2%	22.5%	41.5%	77.5%	21.3%
2016	442,000	387,000	19,700	508,000	28,000	166,000	93,000	9,200	325,000	8,000	37.6%	24.0%	46.7%	64.0%	28.6%
2017	369,000	964,000	11,700	370,000	25,000	142,000	124,000	6,800	180,000	2,000	38.5%	12.9%	58.1%	48.6%	8.0%
2018	316,000	266,000	24,200	149,000	50,000	92,000	43,000	7,700	76,000	4,000	29.1%	16.2%	31.8%	51.0%	8.0%
2019	377,000	190,000	21,000	237,000	28,000	134,000	30,000	9,300	93,000	4,240	35.5%	15.8%	44.3%	39.2%	15.1%
2020	296,000	776,000	22,100	232,000	114,000	80,000	40,000	7,700	136,000	12,070	27.0%	5.2%	34.8%	58.6%	10.6%
2021	503,000	639,000	20,000	374,000	160,000	162,000	92,000	7,600	193,000	40,960	32.2%	14.4%	38.0%	51.6%	25.6%
2022	622,000	520,000	24,200	511,000	118,000	193,000	53,000	5,800	219,000	19,500	31.0%	10.2%	24.0%	42.9%	16.5%
2023	696,000	2,528,000	18,900	511,000	65,000	192,000	285,000	4,700	221,000	10,830	27.6%	11.3%	24.9%	43.2%	16.7%
2024	760,000	1,312,000	19,900	326,000	142,000	234,000	209,000	7,700	152,000	26,750	30.8%	15.9%	38.7%	46.6%	18.8%
Mean 00-23	616,000	748,000	29,000	340,000	51,000	350,000	201,000	11,000	171,000	11,000	52.2%	24.1%	39.2%	50.4%	22.6%

7 Table 26. Preliminary Total Runs and rankings by year for Nass salmon and steelhead from 1992 to 2024 (NFWD 2024 [draft]).

NASS SALMON & SUMMER-RUN STEELHEAD TOTAL RUN ESTIMATES, 1992-2024								NASS TOTAL RUN RANKING BY YEAR FOR SALMON: BEST RETURN FROM 1 TO 33 YEARS						
Year	Sockeye	Pink	Chinook	Coho	Chum	Total Salmon	Steelhead	Sockeye	Pink	Chinook	Coho	Chum	Total Salmon	Steelhead
1992	1,960,000	392,000	37,000	305,000	67,000	2,761,000	9,000	2	23	11	14	14	4	29
1993	2,151,000	1,205,000	48,000	119,000	323,000	3,846,000	17,000	1	6	2	32	1	1	19
1994	837,000	222,000	45,000	759,000	149,000	2,012,000	13,000	11	27	6	2	4	14	24
1995	1,169,000	1,010,000	23,000	151,000	113,000	2,466,000	6,000	5	10	23	29	8	11	32
1996	1,055,000	570,000	44,000	208,000	61,000	1,938,000	28,000	6	18	7	24	16	16	7
1997	995,000	475,000	38,000	61,000	53,000	1,622,000	22,000	7	20	10	33	18	21	14
1998	712,000	167,000	48,000	134,000	290,000	1,351,000	31,000	14	31	2	31	2	26	5
1999	843,000	1,454,000	30,000	207,000	89,000	2,623,000	23,000	10	4	16	26	10	7	13
2000	625,000	600,000	35,000	208,000	40,000	1,508,000	21,000	17	17	12	24	21	22	17
2001	582,000	2,093,000	52,000	374,000	90,000	3,191,000	27,000	20	2	1	9	9	3	8
2002	1,404,000	693,000	31,000	378,000	32,000	2,538,000	22,000	3	15	15	8	22	9	14
2003	1,177,000	1,155,000	46,000	261,000	87,000	2,726,000	25,000	4	7	4	17	11	5	10
2004	985,000	782,000	34,000	222,000	82,000	2,105,000	11,000	8	13	14	22	12	12	26
2005	667,000	1,523,000	28,000	374,000	42,000	2,634,000	12,000	16	3	18	9	20	6	25
2006	775,000	141,000	46,000	195,000	72,000	1,229,000	7,000	12	32	4	27	13	27	31
2007	602,000	1,015,000	41,000	282,000	21,000	1,961,000	22,000	19	9	8	15	28	15	14
2008	380,000	55,000	30,000	193,000	4,000	662,000	18,000	29	33	16	28	33	33	18
2009	575,000	912,000	40,000	479,000	28,000	2,034,000	47,000	21	12	9	6	23	13	1
2010	439,000	203,000	28,000	277,000	10,000	957,000	25,000	28	28	18	16	31	30	10
2011	557,000	180,000	20,000	209,000	8,000	974,000	30,000	22	30	26	23	32	29	6
2012	477,000	302,000	17,000	256,000	18,000	1,070,000	16,000	26	25	31	18	29	28	21
2013	504,000	1,116,000	16,000	876,000	17,000	2,529,000	11,000	24	8	32	1	30	10	26
2014	553,000	461,000	25,000	441,000	24,000	1,504,000	26,000	23	21	20	7	27	23	9
2015	870,000	457,000	35,000	249,000	61,000	1,672,000	24,000	9	22	12	19	16	20	12
2016	442,000	387,000	20,000	508,000	28,000	1,385,000	34,000	27	24	26	5	23	25	4
2017	369,000	964,000	12,000	370,000	25,000	1,740,000	11,000	31	11	33	12	26	18	26
2018	316,000	266,000	24,000	149,000	50,000	805,000	35,000	32	26	21	30	19	32	2
2019	377,000	190,000	21,000	237,000	28,000	853,000	16,000	30	29	25	20	23	31	21
2020	296,000	776,000	22,000	232,000	114,000	1,440,000	5,000	33	14	24	21	7	24	33
2021	503,000	639,000	20,000	374,000	160,000	1,696,000	9,000	25	16	26	9	3	19	29
2022	622,000	520,000	24,000	511,000	118,000	1,795,000	15,000	18	19	21	3	6	17	23
2023	696,000	2,528,000	19,000	511,000	65,000	3,819,000	35,000	15	1	30	3	15	2	2
2024	760,000	1,312,000	20,000	326,000	142,000	2,560,000	17,000	13	5	26	13	5	8	19
MEANS: Even year:								COLOR CODING:						
92-23	766,000	409,000	31,000	316,000	74,000	1,920,000	20,000	BEST RETURN: 1		Good 1-11				
* Color coding from mean averages from 1992-2023: Green - above average; Tan - below average but higher than 1 SD; and Red - below average and lower than 1 SD.								WORST 33		Fair 12-21				
										Poor 22-33				

Table 27. Preliminary Total Return to Canada (TRTC) and rankings by year for Nass salmon and steelhead from 1992 to 2024 (NFWD 2024 [draft]).

NASS SALMON & STEELHEAD TOTAL RETURN TO CANADA (TRTC) ESTIMATES, 1992-2024								NASS TRTC RANKING BY YEAR FOR SALMON: POOREST RETURN FROM 1 TO 33 YEARS						
Year	Sockeye	Pink	Chinook	Coho	Chum	Total Salmon	Steelhead	Sockeye	Pink	Chinook	Coho	Chum	Total Salmon	Steelhead
1992	1,572,000	328,009	35,400	160,210	53,817	2,149,436	6,000	32	10	23	16	19	27	5
1993	1,586,000	874,099	45,400	62,481	238,610	2,806,590	11,000	33	24	31	2	33	32	12
1994	590,000	183,958	42,800	351,220	105,452	1,273,431	8,000	22	6	28	31	29	13	8
1995	855,000	829,319	21,700	68,032	83,001	1,857,053	4,000	29	23	11	3	26	23	1
1996	694,000	465,482	41,600	126,240	40,410	1,367,731	15,000	26	15	27	12	16	17	20
1997	574,000	416,004	36,300	33,182	30,787	1,090,273	12,000	20	13	24	1	13	10	13
1998	446,000	142,601	45,700	72,387	182,007	888,696	13,000	14	3	32	4	32	7	16
1999	645,000	1,258,752	29,000	107,028	68,042	2,107,821	16,000	24	30	17	7	23	25	22
2000	539,000	568,000	33,000	116,000	36,000	1,292,000	17,000	19	18	20	9	15	14	23
2001	380,000	1,901,000	50,000	198,000	72,000	2,601,000	15,000	8	32	33	23	24	31	20
2002	1,279,000	652,000	30,000	315,000	30,000	2,306,000	20,000	31	19	18	30	12	29	26
2003	1,024,000	1,019,000	44,000	172,000	76,000	2,335,000	19,000	30	28	29	18	25	30	25
2004	681,000	696,000	33,000	131,000	58,000	1,599,000	5,000	25	20	20	13	21	21	3
2005	522,000	1,348,000	28,000	211,000	33,000	2,142,000	8,000	18	31	16	24	14	26	8
2006	637,000	136,000	44,000	126,000	60,000	1,003,000	5,000	23	2	29	11	22	9	3
2007	351,000	896,000	40,000	175,000	13,000	1,475,000	7,000	6	25	26	19	4	19	7
2008	333,000	51,000	30,000	132,000	4,000	550,000	14,000	4	1	18	14	1	1	18
2009	425,000	810,000	39,000	354,000	21,000	1,649,000	28,000	12	22	25	32	7	22	32
2010	392,000	185,000	27,000	180,000	9,000	793,000	21,000	9	7	15	20	3	5	27
2011	458,000	174,000	18,000	123,000	7,000	780,000	24,000	15	4	4	10	2	4	29
2012	419,000	270,000	16,000	154,000	16,000	875,000	14,000	11	9	2	15	6	6	18
2013	437,000	976,000	16,000	443,000	15,000	1,887,000	9,000	13	27	2	33	5	24	10
2014	487,000	399,000	23,000	292,000	21,000	1,222,000	21,000	16	12	12	27	7	11	27
2015	753,000	422,000	33,000	92,000	53,000	1,353,000	18,000	28	14	20	6	18	16	24
2016	362,000	349,000	18,000	226,000	23,000	978,000	26,000	7	11	4	25	9	8	30
2017	341,000	926,000	11,000	240,000	23,000	1,541,000	10,000	5	26	1	26	9	20	11
2018	294,000	256,000	23,000	90,000	47,000	710,000	31,000	2	8	12	5	17	3	33
2019	326,000	175,000	20,000	162,000	24,000	707,000	12,000	3	5	9	17	11	2	13
2020	265,000	744,000	21,000	108,000	102,000	1,240,000	4,000	1	21	10	8	28	12	1
2021	413,000	567,000	19,000	189,000	120,000	1,308,000	6,000	10	17	7	22	31	15	5
2022	519,000	485,000	23,000	302,000	100,000	1,429,000	12,000	17	16	12	29	27	18	13
2023	589,000	2,288,000	18,000	301,000	55,000	3,251,000	27,000	21	33	4	28	20	33	31
2024	710,000	1,198,000	19,000	183,000	117,000	2,227,000	13,000	27	29	7	21	30	28	16
MEANS: Even year:								COLOR CODING:						
92-23	600,000	369,000	30,000	182,000	57,000	1,518,000	14,000	BEST RETURN: 33		Good 22-33				
* Color coding from mean averages from 1992-2023: Green - above average; Tan - below average but higher than 1 SD; and Red - below average and lower than 1 SD.								WORST 1		Fair 12-21				
										Poor 1-11				



Table 28. Preliminary Nass salmon and summer-run steelhead escapement estimates and rankings by year from 1992 to 2024 (NFWD 2024 [draft]).

NASS SALMON & SUMMER-RUN STEELHEAD AGGREGATE ESCAPEMENT ESTIMATES, 1992-2024								NASS ESCAPEMENT RANKING BY YEAR FOR SALMON & STEELHEAD: BEST RETURN FROM 1 TO 33 YEARS						
Year	Sockeye	Pink	Chinook	Coho	Chum	Total Salmon	Steelhead	Sockeye	Pink	Chinook	Coho	Chum	Total Salmon	Steelhead
1992	<div></div> 673,000	<div></div> 206,000	<div></div> 18,000	<div></div> 109,000	<div></div> 28,000	<div></div> 1,034,000	<div></div> 5,000	1	26	15	20	18	13	29
1993	<div></div> 538,000	<div></div> 372,000	<div></div> 26,000	<div></div> 43,000	<div></div> 98,000	<div></div> 1,077,000	<div></div> 9,000	2	16	5	32	5	12	23
1994	<div></div> 310,000	<div></div> 145,000	<div></div> 25,000	<div></div> 207,000	<div></div> 74,000	<div></div> 761,000	<div></div> 7,000	9	29	6	7	7	22	26
1995	<div></div> 265,000	<div></div> 402,000	<div></div> 9,000	<div></div> 47,000	<div></div> 49,000	<div></div> 772,000	<div></div> 3,000	13	15	31	31	11	21	33
1996	<div></div> 218,000	<div></div> 278,000	<div></div> 23,000	<div></div> 79,000	<div></div> 26,000	<div></div> 624,000	<div></div> 12,000	24	22	9	27	19	24	16
1997	<div></div> 250,000	<div></div> 299,000	<div></div> 20,000	<div></div> 27,000	<div></div> 23,000	<div></div> 619,000	<div></div> 12,000	17	19	13	33	21	25	16
1998	<div></div> 266,000	<div></div> 115,000	<div></div> 25,000	<div></div> 70,000	<div></div> 154,000	<div></div> 630,000	<div></div> 12,000	12	32	6	29	1	23	16
1999	<div></div> 211,000	<div></div> 535,000	<div></div> 13,000	<div></div> 103,000	<div></div> 35,000	<div></div> 897,000	<div></div> 11,000	28	12	23	22	15	16	20
2000	<div></div> 204,000	<div></div> 221,000	<div></div> 19,000	<div></div> 106,000	<div></div> 19,000	<div></div> 569,000	<div></div> 15,000	30	25	14	21	26	30	11
2001	<div></div> 169,000	<div></div> 760,000	<div></div> 32,000	<div></div> 195,000	<div></div> 30,000	<div></div> 1,186,000	<div></div> 13,000	32	7	1	8	16	10	14
2002	<div></div> 405,000	<div></div> 291,000	<div></div> 15,000	<div></div> 292,000	<div></div> 15,000	<div></div> 1,018,000	<div></div> 18,000	6	21	20	3	28	14	8
2003	<div></div> 264,000	<div></div> 854,000	<div></div> 28,000	<div></div> 141,000	<div></div> 65,000	<div></div> 1,352,000	<div></div> 17,000	14	4	3	17	8	5	9
2004	<div></div> 216,000	<div></div> 493,000	<div></div> 17,000	<div></div> 99,000	<div></div> 49,000	<div></div> 874,000	<div></div> 5,000	26	13	17	24	11	17	29
2005	<div></div> 225,000	<div></div> 1,064,000	<div></div> 16,000	<div></div> 160,000	<div></div> 30,000	<div></div> 1,495,000	<div></div> 8,000	22	3	18	13	16	3	24
2006	<div></div> 251,000	<div></div> 118,000	<div></div> 28,000	<div></div> 102,000	<div></div> 51,000	<div></div> 550,000	<div></div> 5,000	16	30	3	23	10	31	29
2007	<div></div> 165,000	<div></div> 647,000	<div></div> 25,000	<div></div> 142,000	<div></div> 11,000	<div></div> 990,000	<div></div> 6,000	33	10	6	16	30	15	27
2008	<div></div> 218,000	<div></div> 45,000	<div></div> 22,000	<div></div> 115,000	<div></div> 3,000	<div></div> 403,000	<div></div> 14,000	24	33	10	18	33	33	12
2009	<div></div> 245,000	<div></div> 723,000	<div></div> 30,000	<div></div> 312,000	<div></div> 20,000	<div></div> 1,330,000	<div></div> 27,000	18	9	2	2	24	6	2
2010	<div></div> 229,000	<div></div> 180,000	<div></div> 21,000	<div></div> 148,000	<div></div> 9,000	<div></div> 587,000	<div></div> 20,000	20	27	11	14	31	26	6
2011	<div></div> 277,000	<div></div> 116,000	<div></div> 11,000	<div></div> 98,000	<div></div> 6,000	<div></div> 508,000	<div></div> 23,000	10	31	28	25	32	32	5
2012	<div></div> 203,000	<div></div> 231,000	<div></div> 10,000	<div></div> 115,000	<div></div> 16,000	<div></div> 575,000	<div></div> 14,000	31	23	29	18	27	29	12
2013	<div></div> 210,000	<div></div> 848,000	<div></div> 9,000	<div></div> 354,000	<div></div> 14,000	<div></div> 1,435,000	<div></div> 8,000	29	5	31	1	29	4	24
2014	<div></div> 260,000	<div></div> 347,000	<div></div> 13,000	<div></div> 232,000	<div></div> 20,000	<div></div> 872,000	<div></div> 20,000	15	18	23	6	24	18	6
2015	<div></div> 390,000	<div></div> 354,000	<div></div> 21,000	<div></div> 56,000	<div></div> 48,000	<div></div> 869,000	<div></div> 16,000	7	17	11	30	13	19	10
2016	<div></div> 277,000	<div></div> 294,000	<div></div> 10,000	<div></div> 183,000	<div></div> 21,000	<div></div> 785,000	<div></div> 25,000	10	20	29	10	23	20	4
2017	<div></div> 227,000	<div></div> 840,000	<div></div> 5,000	<div></div> 190,000	<div></div> 23,000	<div></div> 1,285,000	<div></div> 10,000	21	6	33	9	21	8	22
2018	<div></div> 224,000	<div></div> 223,000	<div></div> 16,000	<div></div> 73,000	<div></div> 46,000	<div></div> 582,000	<div></div> 30,000	23	24	18	28	14	28	1
2019	<div></div> 243,000	<div></div> 160,000	<div></div> 12,000	<div></div> 144,000	<div></div> 24,000	<div></div> 583,000	<div></div> 12,000	19	28	26	15	20	27	16
2020	<div></div> 216,000	<div></div> 736,000	<div></div> 14,000	<div></div> 96,000	<div></div> 102,000	<div></div> 1,164,000	<div></div> 4,000	26	8	21	26	4	11	32
2021	<div></div> 349,000	<div></div> 547,000	<div></div> 13,000	<div></div> 181,000	<div></div> 119,000	<div></div> 1,209,000	<div></div> 6,000	8	11	23	11	2	9	27
2022	<div></div> 444,000	<div></div> 467,000	<div></div> 18,000	<div></div> 291,000	<div></div> 98,000	<div></div> 1,318,000	<div></div> 11,000	5	14	15	4	5	7	20
2023	<div></div> 504,000	<div></div> 2,242,000	<div></div> 14,000	<div></div> 270,000	<div></div> 54,000	<div></div> 3,084,000	<div></div> 27,000	4	1	21	5	9	1	2
2024	<div></div> 526,000	<div></div> 1,103,000	<div></div> 12,000	<div></div> 173,000	<div></div> 115,000	<div></div> 1,929,000	<div></div> 13,000	3	2	26	12	3	2	14

MEANS:

Even year:

92-23

286,000

274,000

18,000

149,000

43,000

970,000

13,000

\* Color coding from mean averages from 1992-2023: Green - above average; Tan - below average but higher than 1 SD; and Red - below average and lower than 1 SD.

COLOR CODING:

BEST RETURN:

1

WORST

33

Good

1-11

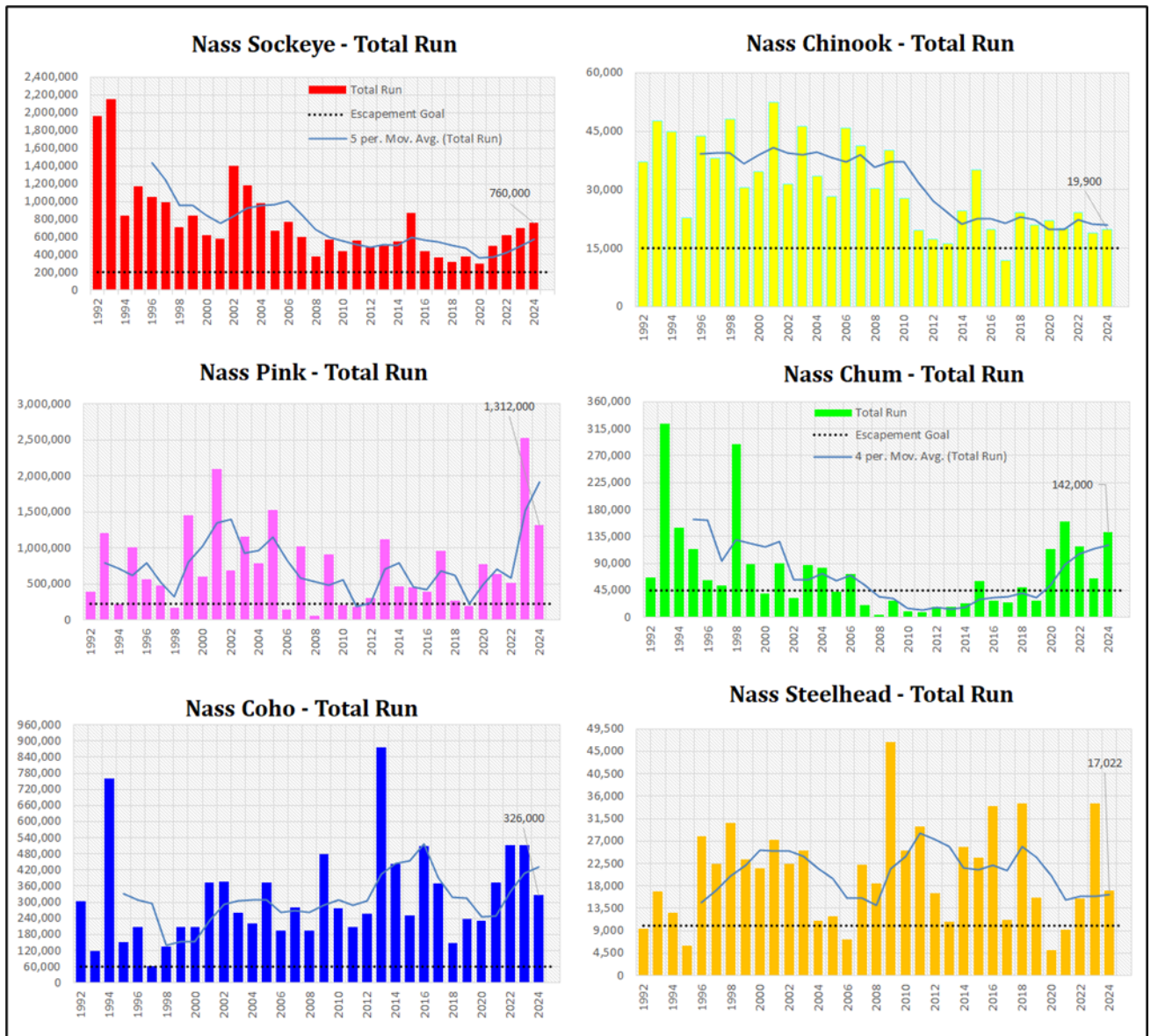
Fair

12-21

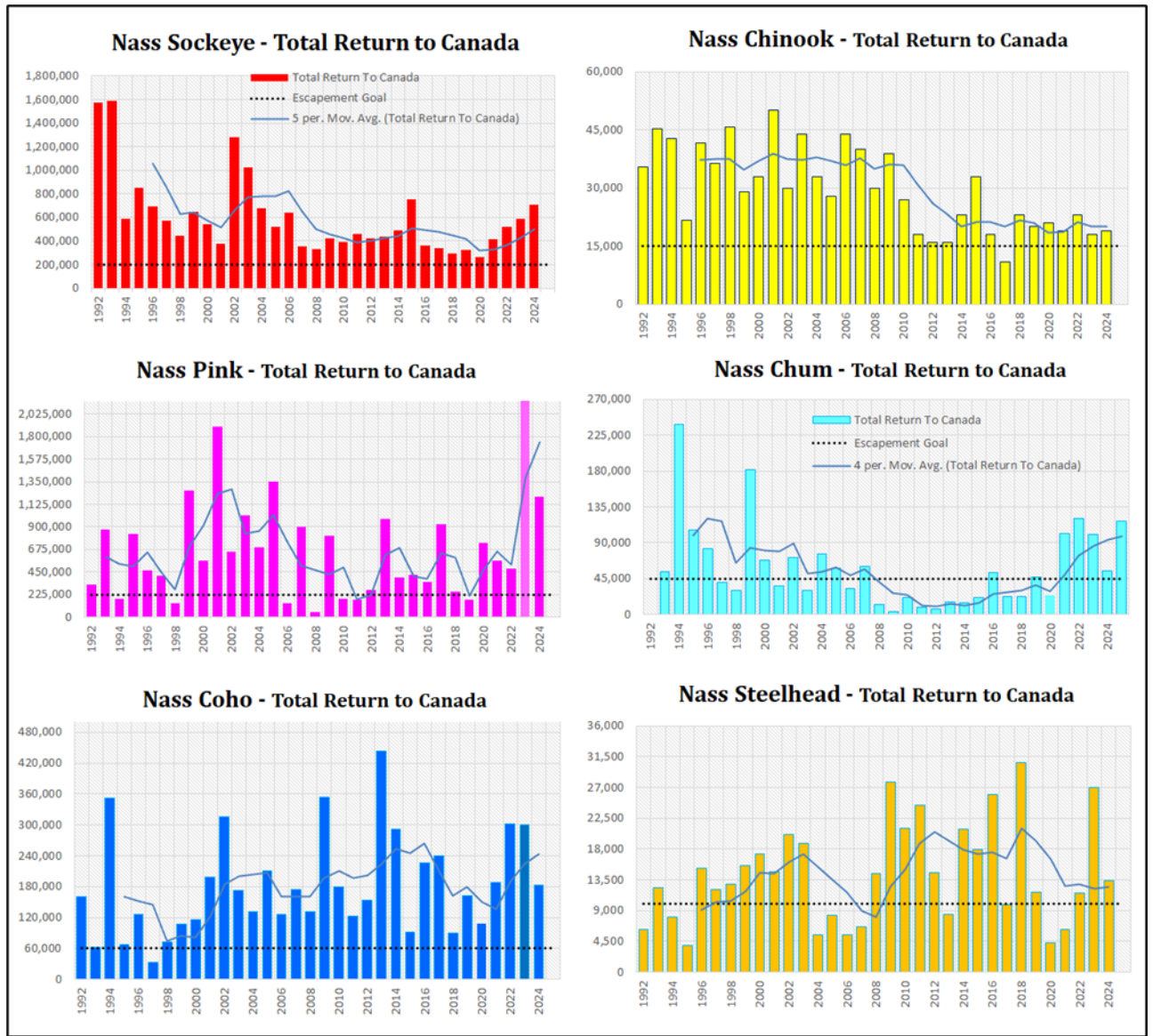
Poor

22-33

**Preliminary Nass Salmon & Steelhead Total Run Charts for 2024 – Years 1992-2024**

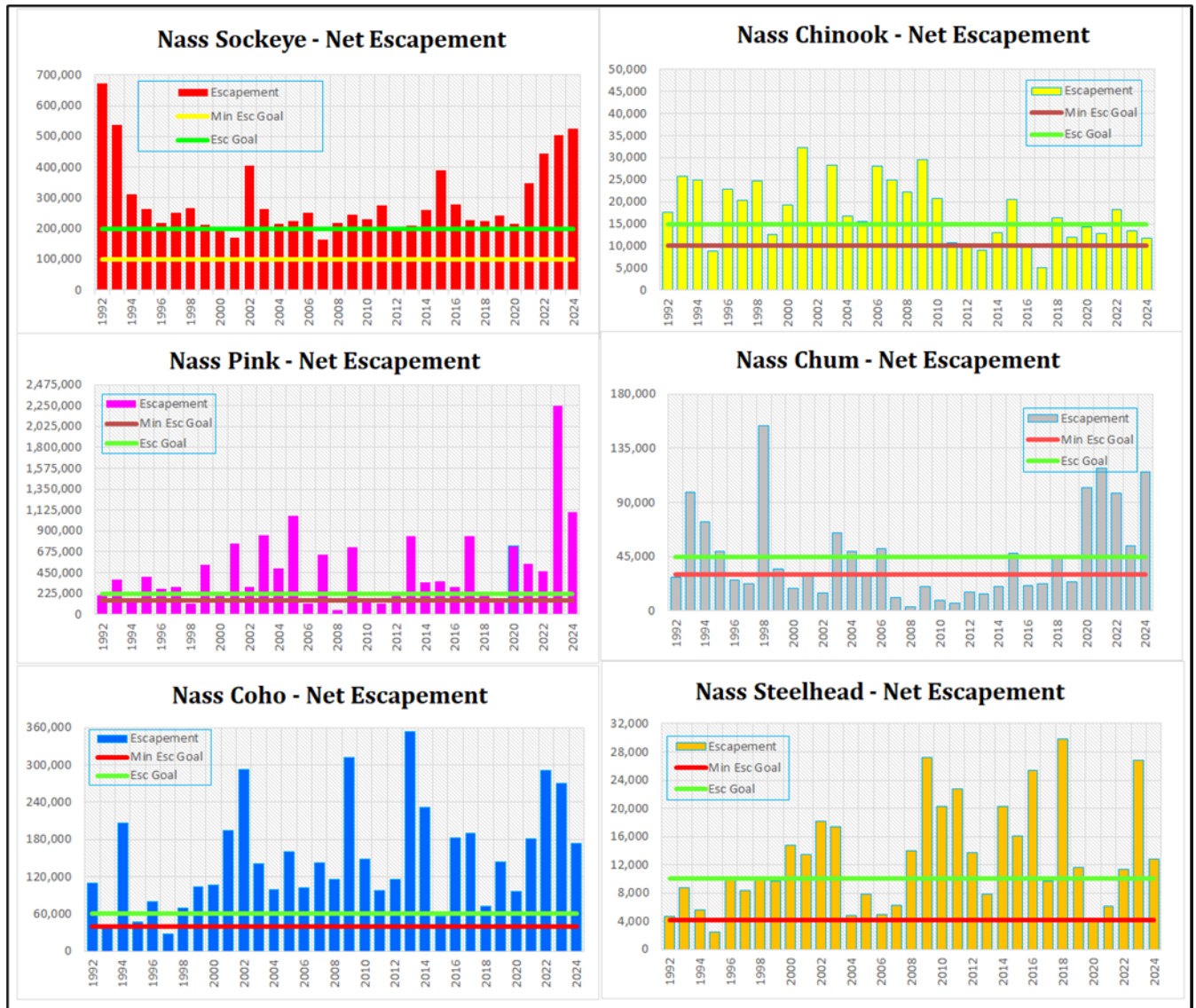


**Preliminary Nass Salmon & Steelhead Total Return to Canada Charts for 2024 – Years 1992-2024**





**Preliminary Nass Salmon & Steelhead Escapement Charts for 2024 – Years 1992-2024**



### **Area 3 and Nass River Demonstration Fisheries**

Two Pink-directed commercial demonstration fisheries were implemented in Area 3 in 2024 (Table 29). The proponents of these fisheries were Lax Kw'alaams Band and Metlakatla First Nation as a joint fishery, and North Coast Skeena First Nations Stewardship Society (NCSFNSS). One fishery opening occurred with Sockeye retention permitted from August 8 to August 10 using seine vessels. Allocation was generated as a percent share (16.88%) of Area A fishery harvest in Area 3, further divided amongst the proponents with 11.25% and 5.63% available to NCSFNSS and Lax Kw'alaams/Metlakatla, respectively.

Two Sockeye-directed demonstration fisheries were implemented on the Nass River. The proponents of these fisheries were Gitanyow First Nation and Nisga'a Lisims Government, with reporting of the Nisga'a in-river demonstration fishery accessible through the Nisga'a Fisheries and Wildlife Department annual program summary. Allocation was generated as a percent share (18.81%) of available harvestable surplus (Canadian Total Allowable Catch), after accounting for escapement goals, Treaty Entitlements, and FSC. This share was further divided with 10.90% and 7.91% available to the Nisga'a and Gitanyow fisheries, respectively. The Gitanyow Fisheries Authority fishery occurred at Lax An Zok, below the Meziadin River Fishway, from July 30 to August 19 (Table 29). It was conducted selectively using dip nets.

Table 29. Three of the four 2024 Area 3 Marine and Nass River Demonstration fishery catches

Proponent	Location	Gear Type	Dates	Retained (pieces)	
				Sockeye	Pink
NCSFNSS	PFMA 3-3, 3-7	Seine	Aug 8-10	198	36,977
Lax Kw'alaams Band and Metlakatla First Nation	PFMA 3-7	Seine	Aug 8-10	123	34,760
Gitanyow Fisheries Authority	Meziadin River	Dip net	Jul 30-Aug 19	13,755	0

### **ESSR Review**

An incremental Excess Salmon to Spawning Requirement (ESSR) fishery opportunity targeting Meziadin Sockeye was approved, and such as in the 2023 season, remained precautionary to support stock rebuilding and long-term sustainability. The Total Allowable Catch was informed by updated fishway counts beyond the return of 180,000 Sockeye to the Meziadin River Fishway and was further reduced by 50%, before being divided by the potential fishery proponents which included Gitanyow First Nation and Nisga'a Lisims Government.

The Gitanyow Fisheries Authority conducted their approved fishery from August 20 to September 9 in two locations using two separate gear types: dip nets at the same Lax An Zok site as their Demonstration fishery below the fishway, and with a seine vessel above in Meziadin Lake. The ESSR harvest concluded with 33,183 Sockeye caught.



## ***Recreational Fishery Review***

The tidal water salmon sport fishery in Area 3 begins with low effort in late April, with initial participation by local area residents launching from Prince Rupert or Port Edward. Independent and guided day charter effort increases in late May, remaining high throughout the peak season in June, July and August, and with primarily local participants again by the end of September. There were two recreational fishing lodges that operated in Area 3 in 2024, and the catch and effort numbers are included in the Area 3 & 4 Creel Program summary.

Chinook daily limits started at two (2) per day in 2024, but the fishery was reduced to one (1) Chinook per day in Areas 3, 4, and 5 from June 14, 2024 to June 22, 2024. On June 23, 2024 to July 17, 2024 Chinook went to non-retention. On July 18, 2024 to Aug 10, 2024 the daily limit for Chinook reopened to one (1) Chinook per day and then increased to two (2) Chinook per day on Aug 11, 2024 for the remainder of the season. Sockeye opened to 4 per day on July 27, 2024 in the tidal waters of Areas 3, 4 and 5. Other salmon species daily limits were 4 Pink and 4 Coho, with a combined daily limit of 4 salmon.

Area 3 & 4 Creel Program collects catch information from the recreational fishery surrounding Prince Rupert and Port Edward on the North Coast of B.C. It is focused in Areas 3 and 4, comprising the waters of Chatham Sound between the mouths of the Nass and Skeena Rivers. Chatham Sound is bordered by the Alaska/BC border to the North, Dundas and Stephens Island groups to the West and Porcher Island to the South, covering an area of approximately 4,200 km<sup>2</sup>. The North Coast Skeena First Nations Stewardship Society (NCSFNSS), an aggregate of North Coast B.C. First Nations, was granted resources from the Pacific Salmon Commission to operate the Area 3 & 4 Creel Program and has done so using the same study design as was used by DFO during 2008-2014.

The Area 3 & 4 Creel Program operated from May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024. During this time there were approximately 13,729 vessel trips made by recreational vessels with an estimated retained catch of 9,239 Chinook, 29,253 Coho, 2,036 Pink, 27 Chum, and 45 Sockeye.

This was an increase in vessel trips compared to 2023 where there were approximately 12,086 vessel trips and an estimated retained catch of 6,443 Chinook, 42,525 Coho, 2,548 Pink, 259 Chum and 31 Sockeye.

### **Nass River**

The Nass River watershed started with normal daily limits and opening times for Chinook, Coho, Pink and Sockeye.

On June 17, 2023 the Nass River watershed closed to fishing for Chinook salmon. This closure remained in place for the remainder of the season.

As per the triggers set out in the 2024/25 NC Salmon IFMP, on July 25, 2024 Meziadin Lake (excluding tributaries) opened to one (1) Sockeye per day. The limit was then increased to two (2) per day on Aug 3, 2024. The fishery closed on Sept 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Chinook fishing closed in all rivers and lakes flowing into PFMA 3 to 6 on June 14, 2024 and remained in place for the entire season.

## ***Area 3 Commercial Net Fishery Summary***

### **Gill net**

Nass River Sockeye returns were forecasted to be below average with an expected total return to Canada from 307,000 (75% probability) to 631,000 (25% probability) and a point estimate of 440,000 (50% probability) based on a sibling-regression model.

The season was to be managed with an expected average even year pink return while meeting a number of pre-season commitments, however the department exercised caution during the season from the flooding events from 2017/2018. These commitments included managing in accordance to the Nisga'a Treaty, the Pacific Salmon Treaty, allocation policy, chum and Chinook rebuilding, and limiting impacts on steelhead. Some of the restrictions put into place to deal with these commitments were, closed areas, daylight only fisheries, non-retention steelhead for both gear types, mandatory brailing for seines, non-retention Chinook for seines and gill nets.

The snow came late in the season, and a cool early spring held the snow a bit longer, but as of May 15 the snowpack in the Skeena-Nass region was at 55% of its average for mid May.

As observed in 2024 the spring freshet was observed to be early this season allowing salmon to migrate up river rapidly. This was supported by early and steady migration through the Meziadin counting fence throughout the season.

Area 3 opened on the outside of Portland inlet to gillnets on July 8 with an observed 63 gillnets actively participating.

Peak fleet topped off at 83 for the season on July 17.

Gill nets finished the season with a total sockeye catch of 19,876 compared to the last ten year average of 38,109 respectively.

Area 3 gill net chum boundaries were in place July 16 opening the inside of Portland inlet till the end of the season.

Chum retention was allowed throughout the season totalling 38,919 chums retained for the season compared to the ten-year average of 8,889 respectively.

Gillnets finished the season with a total of 6 sockeye openings with 307 vessel operating days compared to a ten-year average of 7.6 openings and 765 vessel operating days.

Table 30. Area 3 2024 Gill net Catches (Kept/Released) and effort.

Fishery Operations System

**Commercial SALMON GILL NET In-Season Estimated Catch-by-Area (Pieces)  
for Period 01-Apr-2024 to 02-Dec-2024**
**Management Area 3**[Report Details by Subarea or Portion](#)

Stat Week	Week of Year	Date	Effort	Sockeye Salmon		Coho Salmon		Pink Salmon		Chum Salmon		Chinook Salmon		Steelhead		Status	Last Updated
				Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel		
		08-Jul	63	3122	0	0	13	636	0	8769	0	0	4	0	4	Reviewed	28-Aug-2024
		09-Jul	51	2093	0	0	3	367	0	3370	0	0	2	0	2	Reviewed	28-Aug-2024
		Total for Week	114	5215	0	0	16	1003	0	12139	0	0	6	0	6		
		16-Jul	64	5140	0	0	26	3701	666	4736	88	0	20	0	3	Reviewed	08-Aug-2024
		17-Jul	83	6632	0	0	21	10360	743	10853	38	0	27	0	13	Reviewed	08-Aug-2024
		Total for Week	147	11772	0	0	47	14061	1409	15589	126	0	47	0	16		
		23-Jul	23	1296	0	0	27	2530	0	6563	0	0	10	0	3	Reviewed	13-Aug-2024
		24-Jul	23	1593	0	0	15	2166	0	4628	0	0	0	0	1	Reviewed	08-Aug-2024
		Total for Week	46	2889	0	0	42	4696	0	11191	0	0	10	0	4		
		Total for Management Area 3 in Period	307	19876	0	0	105	19760	1409	38919	126	0	63	0	26		

## Notes:

1. Consult the applicable Fishery Manager or Biologist as to the status of particular catch estimates.

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**Seine**

The first seine opening occurred July 9 with 11 seines participating, fishing was restricted to the outside of Portland Inlet southwest of Wales Island and south of Sommerville Island. Peak fleet count was confirmed at 12 seines by on grounds charter patrol from the start of the season. Typically area 3 is not a strong cycle for pinks on even years. However a strong American chum return was forecasted for 2024. Seine pink fishing started out slow which is typical early in the season and showed improvement as the season progressed. In season stream escapements observed a number of small pinks returning to area 3. Chum by-catches were steady throughout the season and suggested a solid escapement into area 3. However is season stream assessments did not support a strong chum escapement for area 3.

The season ended with a Total of 11 seine openings with 114 vessel operating days compared to the last ten year average of 8 openings and 129 vessel operating days. Seine opportunities ceased after August 5.

Final catch of 799,438 pinks compared to the last five even year average 393,490 pinks. Effort throughout the season was considerably lower compared in comparison to past years.

Typically chum retention in area 3 is curbed on July 19 however Chum retention was allowed until July 23 due to the strong by catch observations by on grounds charter patrol with a final catch of 73,315 chums compared to the last ten year average of 39,231.

Under extreme river conditions and high volume of migrating salmon the Nisga'a Fisheries department continue to do an excellent job managing the Nass River fishwheel program which is critical for the management of the Area 3 commercial net fisheries.

Table 31. Area 3 2024 Seine Catches (Kept/Released) and effort.

<b>Management Area 3</b>																	
<a href="#">Report Details by Subarea or Portion</a>																	
Stat Week	Week of Year	Date	Effort	Sockeye Salmon		Coho Salmon		Pink Salmon		Chum Salmon		Chinook Salmon		Steelhead		Status	Last Updated
				Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel		
		09-Jul	11	937	0	0	80	1512	0	6183	0	0	59	0	44	Reviewed	30-Aug-2024
		10-Jul	10	954	0	0	64	1358	0	8625	0	0	58	0	17	Reviewed	30-Aug-2024
		Total for Week	21	1891	0	0	144	2870	0	14808	0	0	117	0	61		
		15-Jul	12	3688	0	0	218	34746	0	14700	0	0	93	0	35	Reviewed	30-Aug-2024
		16-Jul	12	3860	0	0	262	63361	0	14087	0	0	69	0	18	Reviewed	05-Sep-2024
		19-Jul	11	3150	0	0	522	80235	0	5584	0	0	152	0	0	Reviewed	05-Sep-2024
		20-Jul	11	3015	0	0	491	29736	0	5937	0	0	108	0	0	Reviewed	05-Sep-2024
		Total for Week	46	13713	0	0	1493	208078	0	40308	0	0	422	0	53		
		22-Jul	10	6116	0	0	302	108053	0	9539	0	0	97	0	16	Reviewed	05-Sep-2024
		23-Jul	9	5179	0	0	211	130906	0	8660	0	0	31	0	13	Reviewed	05-Sep-2024
		Total for Week	19	11295	0	0	513	238959	0	18199	0	0	128	0	29		
		29-Jul	11	3241	0	0	332	255891	0	0	11819	0	50	0	5	Reviewed	06-Sep-2024
		30-Jul	11	2127	0	0	422	32441	0	0	9900	0	48	0	17	Reviewed	06-Sep-2024
		Total for Week	22	5368	0	0	754	288332	0	0	21719	0	98	0	22		
		05-Aug	6	953	0	0	257	61199	0	0	8281	0	49	0	23	Reviewed	06-Sep-2024
		Total for Week	6	953	0	0	257	61199	0	0	8281	0	49	0	23		
		Total for Management Area 3 in Period	114	33220	0	0	3161	799438	0	73315	30000	0	814	0	188		

Notes:

1. Consult the applicable Fishery Manager or Biologist as to the status of particular catch estimates.

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## Area 3 Stream Escapements

Table 8. Area 3 Preliminary Stream Escapements

A/P - ADULTS PRESENT, INADEQUATE INFORMATION TO MAKE ESTIMATE

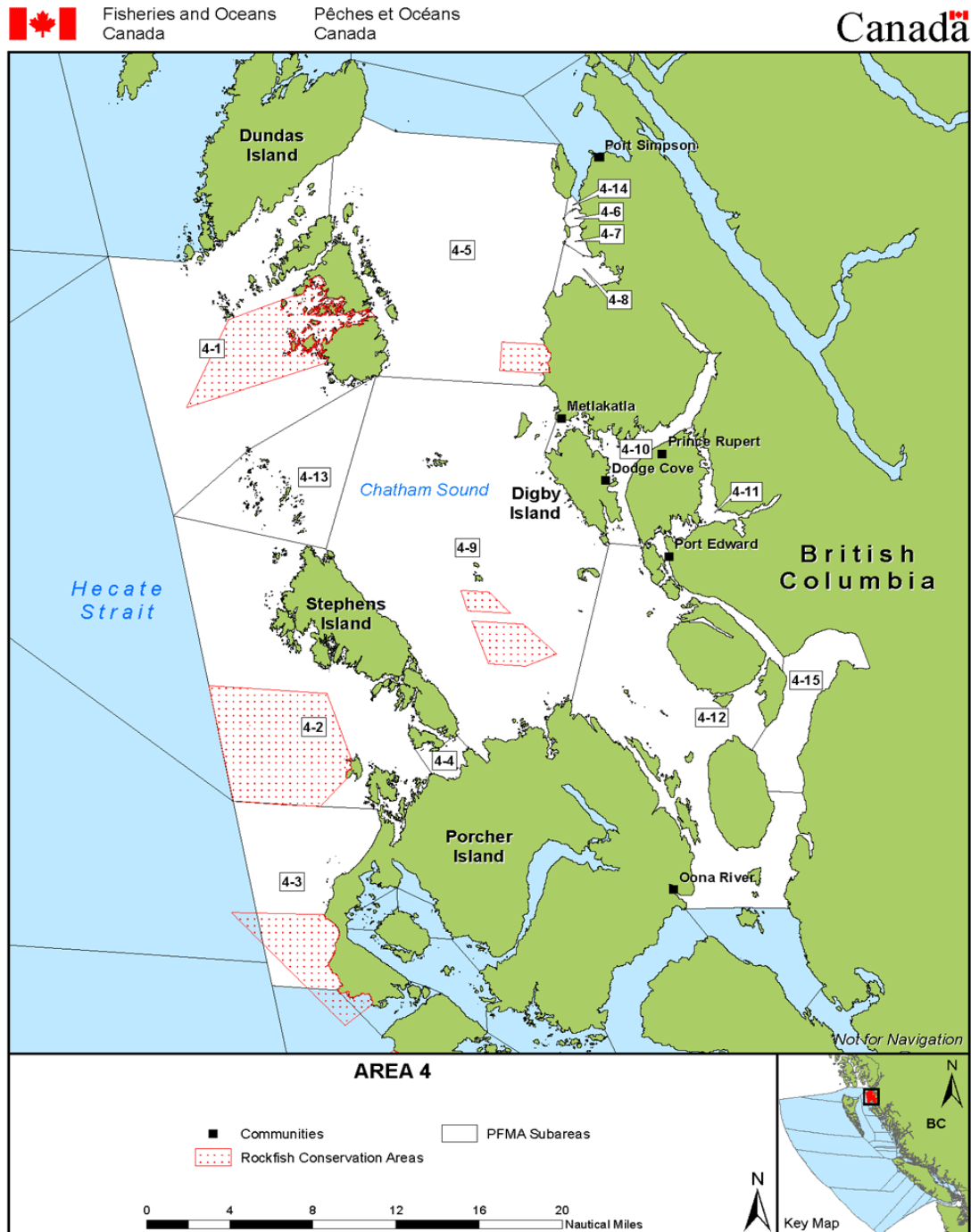
Location	Stream Name	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Chinook	Comments
<b>COASTAL</b>							
	AMERICAN BAY CREEK			735			CP - S. Trainor
	BOAT HARBOUR CREEK			300			CP - S. Trainor
	BRUNDIGE CREEK			2150	40		CP - S. Trainor
	SANDY BAY CREEK			4010	70		CP - S. Trainor
	TRACY BAY #2 CREEK			1200	A/P		CP - S. Trainor
	TRACY CREEK			1070	25		CP - S. Trainor
<b>NASS RIVER</b>							
	ANSEDAGAN CREEK		520				Nisga'a Fish & Wildlife (NFWD)
	ANUDOL CREEK		2153				NFWD
	BROWN BEAR CREEK	454					Gitan'yow (GFA)
	CRANBERRY RIVER					1259	GFA
	DAMDOCHAX RIVER AND LAKE					3745	NFWD
	WIMINASI (Damdochax between lakes)	29180				340	NFWD
	WIMINASI (upstream of Wiminasi Lake)	7562				162	NFWD
	DISKANGIEG CREEK		2526				NFWD
	GINGIT CREEK	8030			A/P		NFWD
	IKNOUK RIVER	N/O		62334	N/O	N/O	NFWD
	ISHKHEENICKH RIVER	N/O		100000		673	NFWD
	KINCOLITH RIVER	N/O		145203		286	NFWD
	KSEMAMAITH CREEK	N/O		6249	96		NFWD
	KWINAGEESE RIVER (weir count)	4636	981			772	NFWD
	MEZIADIN RIVER (fence count)	375360	3859	4		73	NFWD, GFA, NC StAD
	MEZIADIN LAKE (fishway to confluence)			354			NFWD
	ZOLZAP CREEK		1188				NFWD
<b>OBSERVATORY INLET</b>							
	ILLIANCE RIVER	A/P	A/P	36430	78	A/P	NFWD
	KITSAULT RIVER			8453			NFWD
	KSHWAN RIVER			11438	61944		NFWD
	STAGOO CREEK			107016	4557		NFWD
	WILAUKS CREEK			2215			NFWD
<b>PORTLAND CANAL</b>							
	DOGFISH BAY CREEK			24663	30		NFWD
<b>PORTLAND INLET</b>							
	CRAIG CREEK			3600	A/P		CP - S. Trainor
	CROW LAGOON CREEK			1500	A/P		CP - S. Trainor
	KHUTZEYMA TEEN RIVER			128000	5000		DFO- RM
	KWINAMASS RIVER			131000	20		DFO- RM
	LIZARD CREEK			3500	A/P		CP - S. Trainor
	MANZANITA COVE CREEK			1650	120		CP - S. Trainor
	PIRATE COVE CREEK			2100	A/P		CP - S. Trainor
<b>WORK CHANNEL</b>							
	ENSHESEHE RIVER		A/P	18,000	550	A/P	CP - S. Trainor, NC StAD
	LACHMACH RIVER			1,800			NC StAD
	TOON RIVER			35,000	400	A/P	CP - S. Trainor, NC StAD
	TRAIL BAY CREEK			370	40		CP - S. Trainor

Location	Stream Name	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Chinook	Comments
COASTAL	AMERICAN BAY CREEK			735			CP - S. Trainor
	BOAT HARBOUR CREEK			300			CP - S. Trainor
	BRUNDIGE CREEK			2150	40		CP - S. Trainor
	SANDY BAY CREEK			4010	70		CP - S. Trainor
	TRACY BAY #2 CREEK			1200	A/P		CP - S. Trainor
	TRACY CREEK			1070	25		CP - S. Trainor
NASS RIVER	ANSEDAGAN CREEK		520				Nisga'a Fish & Wildlife (NFW)
	ANUDOL CREEK		2153				NFW
	BROWN BEAR CREEK	500					Gitanyow (GFA)
	CRANBERRY RIVER					1249	GFA
	DAMDOCHAX RIVER AND LAKE					3745	NFW
	WIMINASK (Damdochax between lakes)	29180				340	NFW
	WIMINASK (upstream of Wiminask Lake)	7562				162	NFW
	DISKANGIEG CREEK		2526				NFW
	GINGIT CREEK	8030			A/P		NFW
	IKNOUK RIVER	N/O		62334	N/O	N/O	NFW
	ISHKEENICKH RIVER	N/O		100000		673	NFW
	KINCOLITH RIVER	N/O		145203		286	NFW
	KSEMAMAITH CREEK	N/O		6249	96		NFW
	KWINAGEESE RIVER (weir count)	4636	981			772	NFW
	MEZIADIN RIVER (fence count)	375360	3859	4		73	NFW, GFA, NC StAD
	MEZIADIN LAKE (fishway to confluence)			354			NFW
	ZOLZAP CREEK		1188				NFW
OBSERVATORY INLET	ILLIANCE RIVER	A/P	A/P	36430	78	A/P	NFW
	KITSALT RIVER			8453			NFW
	KSHWAN RIVER			11438	61944		NFW
	STAGOO CREEK			107016	4557		NFW
	WILAUKS CREEK			2215			NFW
PORTLAND CANAL							
	DOGFISH BAY CREEK			24663	30		NFW
PORTLAND INLET							
	CRAIG CREEK			3600	A/P		CP - S. Trainor
	CROW LAGOON CREEK			1500	A/P		CP - S. Trainor
	KHUTZEYMA TEEN RIVER			128000	5000		DFO - RM
	KWINAMASS RIVER			131000	20		DFO - RM
	LIZARD CREEK			3500	A/P		CP - S. Trainor
	MANZANITA COVE CREEK			1650	120		CP - S. Trainor
WORK CHANNEL	PIRATE COVE CREEK			2100	A/P		CP - S. Trainor
	ENSHESEHE RIVER		A/P	18,000	550	A/P	CP - S. Trainor, NC StAD
	LACHMACH RIVER			1,800			NC StAD
	TOON RIVER			35,000	400	A/P	CP - S. Trainor, NC StAD
	TRAIL BAY CREEK			370	40		CP - S. Trainor

N/O - NONE OBSERVED INFORMATION TO MAKE ESTIMATE						
N/I - NOT INSPECTED						
DNS - DOES NOT SPAWN IN THIS CREEK						
A/P - ADULTS PRESENT, INADEQUATE						

# Area 4

Figure 6 Area 4 Map



There are 11 First Nations groups that include Area 4 and Skeena watershed Food, Social and Ceremonial salmon fisheries in their communal licence:

Lax Kw'alaams First Nation

Metlakatla First Nation

Gitxaala First Nation

Kitsumkalum First Nation

Kitselas First Nation

Gitksan First Nation

Gitanyow First Nation

Wet'suwet'en First Nation

Lake Babine First Nation

Takla Lake First Nation

Yekooche First Nation

FSC fisheries occur throughout Area 4 in both marine and freshwater locations using a variety of gear types.

### ***Skeena CSAF Demonstration Fisheries***

Five CSAF Demonstration fisheries were approved and implemented in 2024. These fisheries accessed allocations based on 18.81% share of the Canadian Total Allowable Catch which was generated by licences held in DFO inventory. Three of the fisheries were implemented in the marine environment of the Skeena River approach waters, one fishery was implemented mid-river, and one fishery in the upper.

The proponents of the three marine CSAF Demonstration fisheries were North Coast Skeena First Nations Stewardship Society (NCSFNSS), Metlakatla First Nation, and Lax Kw'alaams Band. These fisheries were implemented under the same area and gear restrictions as the Area A and C fleets, with the option to use both seine and gillnet vessels. From July 16, there were 6 fishery opportunities offered to proponents with various level of participation. Efforts ranged from 1-8 vessels for each proponent. The final marine demonstration opportunity was provided on August 11, following the closure of the main commercial gillnet fleet on August 9, with catch data provided in Table 33.

For 2024, "type B" dual fishing was piloted for the second season in Area 4 Demonstration fisheries, permitting the retention of non-target bycatch species under communal licences for the purpose of FSC harvest. The aggregate bycatch retention representing all applicable fishery efforts resulted in 8 Chum, 32 Chinook, 78 Coho, and 85 steelhead for the season.

The proponents of the in-river demonstration fisheries were Gitksan Watershed Authorities (GWA) and Lake Babine Nation (LBN). The GWA fishery was implemented



mid-river from Legate Creek to Caribou Creek with a closure at the Kitwanga confluence, exclusively using beach seines. This fishery had consecutive openings from August 6 to August 19 (Table 33). The LBN fishery was implemented adjacent to Fulton River in Babine Lake, exclusively using a seine vessel, implementing measures to reduce impact at the Babine River Counting Fence. This fishery had consecutive openings from August 25, closing for the balance of the season on August 31 (Table 33).

Table 33. 2024 Skeena CSAF Demonstration Fisheries Catch information.

Proponent	Location	Gear Type	Dates	Retained (pieces)		Released (pieces)				
				Sockeye	Pink	Chum	Chinook	Coho	Sockeye	Steelhead
<i>NCSFNSS</i>	PFMA 4-9, 4-12, 4-15	Gillnet, Seine	Jul 16-Aug 11	11,608	11,859	Type-B Dual Fishing retention				
<i>Metlakatla First Nation</i>	PFMA 4-9, 4-12, 4-15	Gillnet, Seine	Jul 31-Aug 7	3395	42,852	Type-B Dual Fishing retention				
<i>Lax Kw'alaams Band</i>	PFMA 4-9, 4-12, 4-15	Gillnet	Jul 16-Aug 7	4589	2962	Type-B Dual Fishing retention				
<i>Gitksan Watershed Authorities</i>	Skeena: mid-River	Beach seine	Aug 6-19	11,352	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Lake Babine Nation</i>	Babine Lake: Fulton River	Seine	Aug 25-31	34,030	0	0	0	33	315 jacks	0

## ESSR Review

Two Skeena ESSR fisheries were licenced in 2024, targeting Pink salmon at Witset Canyon in the Bulkley River, and large Sockeye in Babine Lake, adjacent to the Fulton River Spawning Channel.

The Pink-directed ESSR at Witset Canyon was implemented by the Office of the Wet'suwet'en. This fishery had consecutive openings from July 26 to August 28, using dip nets exclusively (Table 34).

The large Sockeye ESSR fishery was implemented by Lake Babine Nation from August 31 to September 18 (Table 34), targeting enhanced Fulton populations. The fishery is triggered once a surplus to the spawning channel requirements has been identified in-season, which follows a 900,000 Sockeye count through the Babine River Counting Fence that considers wild stocks, FSC needs, recreational efforts, and enhancement facility escapements.

Table 9. Total Skeena ESSR catches in 2024.

Proponent	Location	Gear Type	Dates	Target Species	Total Catch
<i>Office of the Wet'suwet'en</i>	Witset Canyon: Bulkley River	Dip net	Jul 26-Aug 28	Pink	945
<i>Lake Babine Nation</i>	Babine Lake: Fulton River	Seine	Aug 31-Sep 18	Large Sockeye	205,766

## ***Recreational Fishery Review***

The tidal water salmon sport fishery in Area 3 begins with low effort in late April, with initial participation by local area residents launching from Prince Rupert or Port Edward. Independent and guided day charter effort increases in late May, remaining high throughout the peak season in June, July and August, and with primarily local participants again by the end of September. There were two recreational fishing lodges that operated in Area 3 in 2024, and the catch and effort numbers are included in the Area 3 & 4 Creel Program summary.

Chinook daily limits started at two (2) per day in 2024, but the fishery was reduced to one (1) Chinook per day in Areas 3, 4, and 5 from June 14, 2024 to June 22, 2024. On June 23, 2024 to July 17, 2024 Chinook went to non-retention. On July 18, 2024 to Aug 10, 2024 the daily limit for Chinook reopened to one (1) Chinook per day and then increased to two (2) Chinook per day on Aug 11, 2024 for the remainder of the season. Sockeye opened to 4 per day on July 27, 2024 in the tidal waters of Areas 3, 4 and 5. Other salmon species daily limits were 4 Pink and 4 Coho, with a combined daily limit of 4 salmon.

Area 3 & 4 Creel Program collects catch information from the recreational fishery surrounding Prince Rupert and Port Edward on the North Coast of B.C. It is focused in Areas 3 and 4, comprising the waters of Chatham Sound between the mouths of the Nass and Skeena Rivers. Chatham Sound is bordered by the Alaska/BC border to the North, Dundas and Stephens Island groups to the West and Porcher Island to the South, covering an area of approximately 4,200 km<sup>2</sup>. The North Coast Skeena First Nations Stewardship Society (NCSFNSS), an aggregate of North Coast B.C. First Nations, was granted resources from the Pacific Salmon Commission to operate the Area 3 & 4 Creel Program and has done so using the same study design as was used by DFO during 2008-2014.

The Area 3 & 4 Creel Program operated from May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024. During this time there were approximately 13,729 vessel trips made by recreational vessels with an estimated retained catch of 9,239 Chinook, 29,253 Coho, 2,036 Pink, 27 Chum, and 45 Sockeye.

There was an observed increase in vessel trips compared to 2023 where there were approximately 12,086 vessel trips and an estimated retained catch of 6,443 Chinook, 42,525 Coho, 2,548 Pink, 259 Chum and 31 Sockeye.

### **Skeena River**

The Skeena River watershed started with normal daily limits and opening times for Chinook, Coho and Pink salmon in 2024.

On June 14, 2024 the Department closed the entire Skeena River watershed and all rivers and lakes in Region 6 flowing into PFMA 3 to 6, not including the Nass and Kitimat rivers, to fishing for Chinook salmon. Chinook fishing remained closed for the remainder of the 2024/2025 season.

Sockeye salmon started closed in 2024 as identified in the 2024/25 NC Salmon IFMP. On July 18, 2024 the recreational Sockeye fishery opened to one (1) per day on the Skeena River Mainstem. On July 27, 2024 the Sockeye daily limit was increased to four (4) per day on the Skeena River mainstem.

Babine Lake opened to one (1) Sockeye per day on Aug 1, 2024 and was increased to two (2) per day on Aug 3, 2024.

Babine River Opened to one (1) Sockeye per day on Aug 1, 2024, however, the Babine river from the Nilkitkwa River confluence with the Babine River upstream to the fishing boundary signs below the Babine fence closed on Aug 3, 2024 as per the Babine River Collaborative Management Plan.

On Aug 21, 2024 the Kispiox River Closed to fishing for salmon due to low water levels and high water temperatures. Coho fishing on the Kispiox River reopened on Sept 18, 2024.

Chinook fishing closed in all rivers and lakes flowing into PFMA 3 to 6 on June 14, 2024 and remained in place for the entire season.

### **Lower Skeena River Angling Creel Survey 2024**

This Project commenced on June 22, 2024 and ended on October 10, 2024. The focus of the project was to monitor fishing activities in three zones of the Skeena River (Terrace to the Lakelse Confluence; Lakelse to the Exstew Confluence; and Exstew to the Kwinitsa boat launch). From June 22 to October 10, 2024 there were approximately 14,538 angler-hours with an estimated retained catch of 1 Chinook, 144 Coho, 1,009 Sockeye, and 103 Pink.

### **Area 4 Commercial Net Fishery Summary**

The total Skeena Sockeye return was expected to be below average with a pre-season return forecast range from 727 thousand (90% probability) to 3.27 million (10% probability) and a point estimate of 1.54 million (50% probability) based on the sibling model.

**Gill net:**

The 2024 season was similar to the 2023 season in terms of river conditions early in the season, **area 4 freshet melted early** and the river was able to clear up and stabilize prior to the fishing season. Skeena sockeye escapement showed strength early in June past the Skeena Tyee test fishery which was encouraging for early wild up river sockeye escapement to area 4. **Due to strong early indications of sockeye returning to area 4 and a favorable preseason sockeye forecast the Skeena river was opened to gill nets on July 13.** Sockeye past the Skeena Tyee Test fishery maintained steady escapement that was reflected in the commercial catches throughout the season.

The area 4 gill net fleet was relatively small and remained so throughout the season. Selective gill net restrictions (half nets/20 min soak times/restricted fishing area) were in effect throughout the season to address weak stock and species concerns. Sockeye catches held strength throughout July to August 9. Late July escapement past the Skeena Tyee Test fishery was trending downward as concerns for wild Skeena sockeye, chum and steelhead were becoming an issue the last opening occurred on August 9.

Gillnets finished the season with a total of 11 sockeye openings with 1,046 vessel operating days compared to ten year average of 6.7 openings and 1,257 vessel operating days.

Coho and chinook retention was not permitted by gillnets in area 4 throughout the season for 2024.

Peak fleet occurred on July 25/26 with 127 gill nets accounted for by on grounds charter patrol observations.

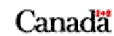
Area 4 final gill net catch of 123,423 sockeye compared to the last ten year average 126,357.

Table 105. Area 4 2024 commercial gillnet fishery catch and effort information.



Fisheries and Oceans  
Canada

Pêches et Océans  
Canada



Fishery Operations System

**Commercial SALMON GILL NET In-Season Estimated Catch-by-Area (Pieces)  
for Period 01-Apr-2024 to 02-Dec-2024**

**Management Area 4**

Stat Week	Week of Year	Date	Effort	Sockeye Salmon		Coho Salmon		Pink Salmon		Chum Salmon		Chinook Salmon		Steelhead		Status	Last Updated
				Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel		
		13-Jul	91	6696	0	0	87	629	0	0	766	0	15	0	29	Reviewed	28-Aug-2024
		Total for Week	91	6696	0	0	87	629	0	0	766	0	15	0	29		
		20-Jul	125	15977	0	0	61	2402	0	0	2784	0	15	0	20	Reviewed	28-Aug-2024
		Total for Week	125	15977	0	0	61	2402	0	0	2784	0	15	0	20		
		21-Jul	60	18320	0	0	133	5180	300	0	391	0	50	0	70	Reviewed	28-Aug-2024
		25-Jul	141	27509	0	0	149	4136	1229	0	335	0	52	0	133	Reviewed	28-Aug-2024
		26-Jul	125	9618	0	0	86	3300	897	0	190	0	41	0	75	Reviewed	29-Aug-2024
		Total for Week	326	55447	0	0	368	12616	2426	0	916	0	143	0	278		
		29-Jul	125	9221	0	0	165	6823	1627	0	152	0	40	0	101	Reviewed	29-Aug-2024
		30-Jul	108	7869	0	0	149	7634	966	0	168	0	39	0	88	Reviewed	29-Aug-2024
		02-Aug	91	13476	0	0	254	10160	2805	0	371	0	63	0	173	Reviewed	29-Aug-2024
		03-Aug	93	10822	0	0	160	9786	1628	0	317	0	50	0	120	Reviewed	29-Aug-2024
		Total for Week	417	41388	0	0	728	34403	7026	0	1008	0	192	0	482		
		08-Aug	48	2521	0	0	125	5164	2236	0	198	0	13	0	86	Reviewed	29-Aug-2024
		09-Aug	39	1394	0	0	133	1722	1505	0	135	0	19	0	70	Reviewed	29-Aug-2024
		Total for Week	87	3915	0	0	258	6886	3741	0	333	0	32	0	156		
		Total for Management Area 4 in Period	1046	123423	0	0	1502	56936	13193	0	5807	0	397	0	965		

Notes:

1. Consult the applicable Fishery Manager or Biologist as to the status of particular catch estimates.

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## Seine:

Seine ITQ fishery August 2 to August 4:


This is an Individual Transferable Quota sockeye fishery. The aggregate seine quota for this week was 46,656 Sockeye salmon. The individual transferable quota share of Sockeye is 1.17% (e.g. 1/85 licenses). This equates to 549 Sockeye per licence.

At this point in the season the department was exercising caution in regards to late wild Skeena sockeye, chum and steelhead.

Coho retention was not allowed by seines in area 4 throughout the season for 2024.


Final verified sockeye catch of 49,171 compared to the last ten year average of 39,854. Area 4 seine pink catch 233,531 compared to the last ten year average of 118,647.

Table 36. Area 4 2024 commercial seine fishery catch and effort information.



Fisheries and Oceans  
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Pêches et Océans  
Canada



Fishery Operations System

**Commercial SALMON SEINE In-Season Estimated Catch-by-Area (Pieces)**  
**for Period 01-Apr-2024 to 02-Dec-2024**

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**Management Area 4** [Report Details by Subarea or Portion](#)

Stat Week	Week of Year	Date	Effort	Sockeye Salmon		Coho Salmon		Pink Salmon		Chum Salmon		Chinook Salmon		Steelhead		Status	Last Updated
				Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel		
		25-Jul	8	8576	0	0	122	20995	0	0	165	0	18	0	69	Reviewed	09-Sep-2024
		26-Jul	12	12855	0	0	247	28364	0	0	191	0	30	0	83	Reviewed	09-Sep-2024
		27-Jul	8	4984	0	0	117	31470	0	0	374	0	38	0	31	Reviewed	09-Sep-2024
		<b>Total for Week</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>26415</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>80829</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>183</b>		
		28-Jul	1	1106	0	0	0	8172	0	0	3	0	1	0	9	Reviewed	09-Sep-2024
		02-Aug	12	10587	2	0	358	41678	350	0	1321	0	92	0	117	Reviewed	09-Sep-2024
		03-Aug	9	9454	0	0	361	84052	0	0	894	0	71	0	77	Reviewed	09-Sep-2024
		<b>Total for Week</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>21147</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>719</b>	<b>133902</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2218</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>203</b>		
		04-Aug	4	1609	0	0	58	18800	0	0	129	0	11	0	39	Reviewed	09-Sep-2024
		<b>Total for Week</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1609</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>18800</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>39</b>		
		<b>Total for Management Area 4 in Period</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>49171</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1263</b>	<b>233531</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3077</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>425</b>		

**Notes:**

1. Consult the applicable Fishery Manager or Biologist as to the status of particular catch estimates.

Printed from the Fishery Operations System on December 2, 2024 at 10:38

## Area 4 Stream Escapements

Table 37. Area 4 Preliminary Stream Escapements (starting next page)

N/O - None Observed, A/P - ADULTS PRESENT, INADEQUATE INFORMATION TO MAKE ESTIMATE

Location	Stream Name	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Chinook	Comments
<b>BABINE</b>	BABINE FENCE COUNT*	2010428	7230	330719		2006	NC StAD
	BABINE RIVER - SECTIONS 1, 2 AND 3	34442		1123		7	NC StAD
	BABINE RIVER - SECTION 4	2604		61205		325	NC StAD
	BABINE RIVER - SECTION 5	43		47		A/P	NC StAD
	BERNANN CREEK (DEEP CR.)						
	BOUCHER CREEK	2825		744			Lake Babine Nation (LBN)
	FIVE MILE CREEK	30					LBN
	FOUR MILE CREEK	904					LBN
	FULTON RIVER	TBD					SEP, NC StAD
	MORRISON CREEK	9731					NC StAD
	MORRISON LAKE	240					NC StAD
	NILKITKWA RIVER	42					NC StAD
	NINE MILE CREEK	118					LBN
	PENDELTON CREEK (CROSS CREEK)	227					LBN
	PIERRE CREEK	3464					NC StAD
	PINKUT CREEK	TBD					SEP, NC StAD
	SHASS CREEK	137					NC StAD
	SIX MILE CREEK (GULLWING CR.)						LBN
	SUTHERLAND RIVER	340					NC StAD
	TAHLO CREEK - (LOWER)	6087					NC StAD
	TAHLO CREEK - UPPER (SALMON CR.)						NC StAD
	TSEZAKWA CREEK	25					LBN
	TWAIN CREEK	251					LBN
*Babine Fence Count includes all other tributaries in the Babine except BABINE RIVER - SECTION 5 and NILKITKWA RIVER, which are downstre							
<b>BEAR</b>	ASITKA LAKE	313					NC StAD
	AZUKLOTZ CREEK	1848					NC StAD
	BEAR LAKE	516					NC StAD
	BEAR RIVER	24		26		2222	NC StAD
	MOTASE LAKE	130					NC StAD
	SALIX CREEK	73					NC StAD
	BEAR RIVER WEIR*	13580				3349	Skeena Fisheries Commision (SFC)/Gitksan Watershed Authority (GWA)/Takla
The Bear River fence count includes the top half of Bear River, Bear Lake and Azuklotz Creek.							
<b>BULKLEY / MORICE</b>	ATNA RIVER AND LAKE						
	BULKLEY RIVER - UPPER						
	GOSNELL CREEK						
	MORICE RIVER			136154		3502	NC StAD
	NANIKA RIVER	6508				33	NC StAD
<b>COASTAL</b>	DIANA CREEK	85	A/P	93			NC StAD
	ECSTALL RIVER	26		850	122	535	CP - S. Hutchings
	KHYEX RIVER			8900	10	36	CP - S. Hutchings
	KLOIYA RIVER			890			LKF/NC StAD
	LA HOU CREEK			83063			LKF
	PRUDHOMME CREEK	3352	A/P				LKF
	SHAWATLAN RIVER	1020	A/P	110			LKF/NC StAD
	SPILLER RIVER			130			J. Trainor

<b>KISPIOX</b>							
	BARNES CREEK	161					GWA
	BEAVERLODGE CREEK		A/P				GWA
	CLIFFORD CREEK		A/P				GWA
	CLUB CREEK (LOWER)	6046					GWA
	CLUB CREEK (UPPER)	344					GWA
	CULLON CREEK		186				GWA
	DATE CREEK						GWA
	FALLS CREEK	419					GWA
	FOOTSORE CREEK		141				GWA
	FOOTSORE CREEK UPPER						GWA
	HODDER CREEK		37				GWA
	IRONSIDE CREEK		A/P				GWA
	JACKSON CREEK	87					GWA
	KISPIOX RIVER					2000	GWA
	MCCULLY CREEK		A/P			A/P	GWA
	MCQUEEN CREEK						GWA
	NANGEESE RIVER	A/P	A/P				GWA
	SKUNSNAT CREEK		A/P				GWA
	SWAN LAKE CREEK #2 UNNAMED	179					GWA
	STEPHENS CREEK WEIR*	18346	672				GWA, SFC
*Fish counting weir located at the outlet of Stephens Lake. Fence count includes of all tris flowing into swan and Stephens Lakes (Lower and Upper Club, Stephens beach spawners, Unnamed 2, Jackson, Barnes, Falls).							
<b>KITSUMKALUM</b>							
	KITSUMKALUM LAKE	7298					Kitsumkalum Fish & Wildlife (KKFW)
<b>LAKELSE</b>							
	CLEARWATER CREEK			188			KKFW
	LAKELSE RIVER			1400000			CP - S. Hutchings, KKFW
	WILLIAMS CREEK	5031					Kitselas
	<i>Sockeye Creek</i>	494					NC StAD
<b>OTHER LOWER SKEENA</b>							
	ALASTAIR LAKE	160					CP - S. Hutchings
	ANDESITE CREEK			806	AP		KKFW
	ERLANDSEN CREEK	DNS	AP				CP - S. Hutchings
	EXCHAMSIKS RIVER	DNS	5200	3100	90	160	CP - S. Hutchings
	EXSTEW RIVER AND SLOUGH	DNS	3200	AP	AP	AP	CP - S. Hutchings
	GITNADOIX RIVER	DNS	450	370	AP		CP - S. Hutchings
	KADEEN CREEK	DNS	1100				CP - S. Hutchings
	KASIKS RIVER	DNS	3900	10000	115	225	CP - S. Hutchings
	SOUTHEND CREEK	1625	160				CP - S. Hutchings
<b>OTHER MIDDLE SKEENA</b>							
	KITSEGUECLA RIVER		N/O				NC StAD
	KITWANGA RIVER (fence count)	2401	1450	279890	229	468	GFA
	KLEANZA RIVER			872			Kitselas
	SINGLEHURST CREEK			1914			Kitselas
	ZYMOETZ RIVER - UPPER	1924	243				GWA, NC StAD

N/O - NONE OBSERVED INFORMATION TO MAKE ESTIMATE

N/I - NOT INSPECTED

DNS - DOES NOT SPAWN IN THIS CREEK

A/P - ADULTS PRESENT, INADEQUATE



# Area 5

Figure 7 Area 5 Map



## ***First Nations Fisheries Review***

There are 5 First Nations groups that include Area 5 Food, Social and Ceremonial salmon fisheries in their communal licence:

Lax Kw'alaams First Nation

Metlakatla First Nation

Gitxaala First Nation

Kitsumkalum First Nation

Kitselas First Nation

FSC fisheries occur throughout Area 5 in both marine and freshwater locations using a variety of gear types.

## ***Recreational Fishery Review***

The tidal water interception salmon sport fishery begins in late April, with effort increasing significantly in late May and continuing to mid-September. Initial effort is mostly by local anglers out of Prince Rupert and Port Edward, and then with a significant fleet made up of independent anglers and charter operators.

Chinook daily limits started at two (2) per day in 2024, but the fishery was reduced to one (1) Chinook per day in Areas 3, 4, and 5 from June 14, 2024 to June 22, 2024. On June 23, 2024 to July 17, 2024 Chinook went to non-retention. On July 18, 2024 to Aug 10, 2024 the daily limit for Chinook reopened to one (1) Chinook per day and then increased to two (2) Chinook per day on Aug 11, 2024 for the remainder of the season. Sockeye opened to 4 per day on July 27, 2024 in the tidal waters of Areas 3, 4 and 5. Other salmon species daily limits were 4 Pink and 4 Coho, with a combined daily limit of 4 salmon.

Recreational catch data is not provided for Area 5 at this time, but the internet recreational fishing effort and catch survey (iREC) could provide catch estimates in future years.

Chinook fishing closed in all rivers and lakes flowing into PFMA 3 to 6 on June 14, 2024 and remained in place for the entire season.

## ***Area 5 Commercial Net Fishery Summary***

Area 5 was not opened to gill nets for 2024. Charter patrol observations throughout the season suggested low returns of pinks to Area 5, therefore no seine fisheries were opened in Area 5 for 2024.

However in season charter patrol inspections did indicate improved pink returns to indicator systems in area 5 but still remain below escapement levels.

## Area 5 Stream Escapements

Table 11. Area 5 Preliminary Stream Escapements

A/P - ADULTS PRESENT, INADEQUATE INFORMATION TO MAKE ESTIMATE

Location	Stream Name	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Chinook	Comments
<b>LOWER GRENVILLE</b>							
	DEER LAKE CREEK	1,680					CP - S. Hutchings/Gitga'at
	LOWE INLET SYSTEM	8,000					CP - S. Hutchings/Gitga'at
	TSIMTACK LAKE SYSTEM						
	Moore Lake	0					CP - S. Hutchings/Gitga'at
	No Name Lake	1,090					CP - S. Hutchings/Gitga'at
	Rogers Lake	560					CP - S. Hutchings/Gitga'at
<b>LOWER PRINCE</b>							
	DEER LAKE CREEK	1680		A/P			
<b>OGDEN / KITKATLA</b>							
	ALPHA CREEK		A/P	4560	A/P		CP - J. Trainor
	CAPTAIN COVE CREEK			3500	A/P		CP - J. Trainor
<b>PETREL CHANNEL / ALA PASS</b>							
	HEVENOR INLET CREEKS			122	26		CP - J. Trainor
	MARKLE INLET CREEK		A/P	37	140		CP - J. Trainor
	NEWCOMBE HARBOUR CREEKS (3)		A/P	355	54		CP - J. Trainor
	WILSON INLET CREEK			18	25		CP - J. Trainor
<b>PORCHER INLET</b>							
	HEAD CREEK			5320	110		CP - J. Trainor
<b>UPPER GRENVILLE</b>							
	ALVIN CREEK			275	35		CP - J. Trainor
	FALSE STEWART CREEK		A/P	830			CP - J. Trainor
	KLEWNUGGIT INLET CREEKS	330	30	400	55		CP - J. Trainor
	KUMEALON CREEK		78	26500	750		CP - J. Trainor
	KXNGEAL CREEK			2900	112		CP - J. Trainor
	PA-AAT RIVER		50	3350	30		CP - J. Trainor

**Area 6**  
**Figure 8. Area 6 Map**



## ***First Nations Fishery Review***

There are 4 First Nations groups that include Area 6 Food, Social and Ceremonial salmon fisheries in their communal licence:

Gitxaala First Nation

Gitga'at First Nation

Haisla First Nation

Kitasoo First Nation

FSC fisheries occur throughout Area 6 in both marine and freshwater locations using a variety of gear types.

## ***Recreational Fishery Review***

The tidal water interception salmon sport fishery begins in late April, with effort increasing significantly in late May and continuing to mid-September. Initial effort is mostly by local anglers out of Kitimat, and then with a significant fleet made up of independent anglers and charter operators. One lodge operated in Area 6 in 2024.

Salmon species daily limits in Area 6 were 2 Chinook, 4 Pink, 4 Coho, 4 Chum and 4 Sockeye, with a combined daily limit of 4 salmon.

Recreational catch data is not provided for Area 6 at this time, but the internet recreational fishing effort and catch survey (iREC) could provide catch estimates in future years.

Chinook fishing closed in all rivers and lakes flowing into PFMA 3 to 6 on June 14, 2024 and remained in place for the entire season.

## ***Area 6 Commercial Net Fishery Summary***

Early hatchery and charter patrol inspections of the Kitimat river suggested poor Pink and Chum returns. Due to poor wild tributary and Kitimat hatchery Chum returns the inside of Area 6 did not open to gill nets for 2024.

With decent area 3 and 4 seine pink catches and charter patrol observations of jumpers throughout the inner channels of area 6 it was decided to open the outside of Area 6 to seines on August 5, 10 & 11 with a final pink catch of 112,650 compared to the last 10 year average of 401,651.

Peak fleet count was observed on August 10 with 6 seines operating. Seine catches were not strong throughout the openings fishing was not opened again for the rest of the season.

Table 39. Area 4 2024 commercial seine fishery catch and effort information

Fishery Operations System

**Commercial SALMON SEINE In-Season Estimated Catch-by-Area (Pieces)  
for Area A (North-PR) and  
for Period 01-Apr-2024 to 02-Dec-2024**

**Management Area 6**

[Report Details by Subarea or Portion](#)

Stat Week	Week of Year	Date	Effort	Sockeye Salmon Kept	Coho Salmon Kept	Pink Salmon Kept	Chum Salmon Kept	Chinook Salmon Kept	Status	Last Updated
		05-Aug	5	0	0	53600	0	0	Preliminary	06-Aug-2024
		10-Aug	6	0	0	33550	0	0	Preliminary	12-Aug-2024
Total for Week			11	0	0	87150	0	0		
		11-Aug	4	0	0	25500	0	0	Preliminary	14-Aug-2024
Total for Week			4	0	0	25500	0	0		
Total for Management Area 6 in Period			15	0	0	112650	0	0		

Notes:

1. Consult the applicable Fishery Manager or Biologist as to the status of particular catch estimates.

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**Area 6 Stream Escapements**

Table 40. Area 6 Preliminary Stream Escapements

A/P - ADULTS PRESENT, INADEQUATE INFORMATION TO MAKE ESTIMATE

N/O - NONE OBSERVED INFORMATION TO MAKE ESTIMATE							
N/I - NOT INSPECTED							
DNS - DOES NOT SPAWN IN THIS CREEK							
A/P - ADULTS PRESENT, INADEQUATE							

Location	Stream Name	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Chinook	Comments
ARISTAZABAL ISLAND WEST	EAGLE CREEK			1424	4107		Kitasoo
	FLUX CREEK			471	1038		Kitasoo
	STANNARD CREEK			3039	964		Kitasoo
DOUGLAS-URSULA-DEVASTATION CHANNELS	ANGLER COVE CREEK			820	7		CP - S. Hutchings
	BIG TILLHORN RIVER		AP	510	21		CP - S. Hutchings
	EVELYN CREEK	880	AP	7700	150		CP - S. Hutchings, Haisla Fisheries Commission (HFC)
	FISHTRAP BAY CREEK						CP - S. Hutchings
	FOCH RIVER	22	AP	19000	16000		CP - S. Hutchings, HFC
	GILTOYES CREEK						CP - S. Hutchings
	GOAT RIVER			1010	22		CP - S. Hutchings
	GRIBBLE ISLAND CREEK			5200	3		CP - S. Hutchings
	HARTLEY BAY CREEK	AP	AP	AP			CP - S. Hutchings
	HAWKSBURY ISLAND CREEK			5800	80		CP - S. Hutchings
	HUGH CREEK			13000	20		CP - S. Hutchings
	KEESIL CREEK						CP - S. Hutchings
	KHESS CREEK			260	2		CP - S. Hutchings
	KISKOSH CREEK		150	700	280		CP - S. Hutchings
	KITKIATA CREEK	2790	AP	7500	65		CP - S. Hutchings, Gitga'a Oceans and Lands Depart. (GOLD)
	LITTLE TILLHORN RIVER			160			CP - S. Hutchings
	MISSED CREEK						CP - S. Hutchings
	PIKE CREEK						CP - S. Hutchings
	QUAAL RIVER		2050	286000	3700		CP - S. Hutchings, GOLD
	RIORDAN RIVER		85	1800	15		CP - S. Hutchings
	VERNEYPASSAGE CREEK	55	AP	5300	195		CP - S. Hutchings
	WEEWANIE CREEK	2	AP	7900	440		CP - S. Hutchings
FRASER - GRAHAM REACH	AALTANHASH RIVER		AP	12000	120		CP - S. Hutchings
	CANOONA RIVER	3000	AP	3500			CP - S. Hutchings
	DOVE CREEK (HEAD CR.)			750	45		CP - S. Hutchings
	GREEN RIVER		880	80000	1500		CP - S. Hutchings
	KHUTZE RIVER		1600	335000	1200	AP	CP - S. Hutchings
	KLEKANE RIVER			1300	25		CP - S. Hutchings
	MARSHALL CREEK			30	5		CP - S. Hutchings
	MCKAY CREEK			7592	214		Kitasoo
	SCOW BAY CREEK	AP	8,000	1,350			CP - S. Hutchings
	SODA CREEK			9231	1555		Kitasoo
GARDNER CHANNEL	BRIM RIVER		1190	65000	450	2	CP - S. Hutchings, HFC
	CRAB RIVER			5200	160		CP - S. Hutchings
	HOTSPRING CREEK			2740	280		CP - S. Hutchings
	KEMANO RIVER		2780	325000	2000		CP - S. Hutchings, HFC
	KILTUSH RIVER		AP	8530	1100		CP - S. Hutchings
	KITLOPE RIVER	14600	AP	25000	NO	625	CP - S. Hutchings, HFC
	KOWE SAS RIVER						CP - S. Hutchings
	PARIL RIVER		225	5100	250		CP - S. Hutchings
	TSAYTIS RIVER						CP - S. Hutchings
	WAHOO CREEK		870	10200	75	120	CP - S. Hutchings, HFC
KITIMAT ARM	BISH CREEK		AP	50000	105		CP - S. Hutchings, HFC
	DALA RIVER	50	2400	154000	3800	2	CP - S. Hutchings, HFC
	EAGLE BAY RIVER			4400	50		CP - S. Hutchings
	GOBEL BAY CREEK						
	KILDALAR RIVER		3200	42000	525		CP - S. Hutchings, HFC
	KITIMAT RIVER (Estimates include the tr	1400		200000	25000	AP	CP - S. Hutchings, HFC
	ANDERSON CREEK		216	2850	18		CP - S. Hutchings, HFC
	CHIST CREEK	5	65	2550	120	16	CP - S. Hutchings, HFC
	HIRSCH CREEK	NO		3500	250	200	CP - S. Hutchings
	HUMPHRYS CREEK		AP	700	65	NI	CP - S. Hutchings
	HUNTER CREEK	4200		2250	485	4	HFC
	LITTLE WEDEENE RIVER	AP	510	13200	350	AP	CP - S. Hutchings
	WATHL CREEK	1	70	2240	140		CP - S. Hutchings, HFC
LAREDO CHANNEL - CAMPANIA SOUND	BARNARD CREEK		15	4100	520		CP - S. Hutchings
	CRANE BAY CREEK		NI	700	NO		CP - S. Hutchings
	EAST ARM CREEK	5	AP	720	52		CP - S. Hutchings
	GIL CREEK			32000	95		CP - S. Hutchings
	LAEDKIN CREEK/RIVERS BIGHT CR			550	AP		CP - S. Hutchings
	TURN CREEK			2700	AP		CP - S. Hutchings
	TURTLE CREEK			14000	25		CP - S. Hutchings
	WEST ARM CREEK	AP	AP	400	150		CP - S. Hutchings
	WHALEN LAKE CREEK			4500	35		CP - S. Hutchings
LAREDO SOUND	ARNOUNP CREEK			70596	1674		Kitasoo
	BLEE CREEK			1813	220		Kitasoo
	BLOOMFIELD CREEK	1222					Kitasoo
	NIAS CREEK			5251	5346		Kitasoo
	TYLER CREEK			6295	2120		Kitasoo

This page provided for notes: