## North Coast Salmon Update #6 – 2 August, 2022

Please note that catch numbers and estimates are preliminary, and are subject to review.

On June 29th, 2021, under the Pacific Salmon Strategy Initiative (PSSI), Fisheries and Oceans Canada announced significant commercial salmon closures for the 2021 season. These closures were implemented on an interim basis in 2021 with a commitment to review fisheries for potential longer term closures for 2022. Decisions on fisheries identified for longer-term closures or additional mitigation requirements are provided in Appendix 10 of the IFMP.

More information on PSSI can be found at: https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/campaign-campagne/pssssp/index-eng.html

The 2022/23 Northern Salmon IFMP is now available at the following link: https://wavesvagues.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/Library/41061093.pdf

## **North Coast Troll**

There are currently 23 vessels participating in the Dixon Entrance A-B Line Pink salmon opening and total effort to the end of week 31 (July 30<sup>th</sup>) was 333 vessel-days. Average daily participation through July was approximately 11 vessels. Weekly estimates of effort, catch and releases are summarized in the following table.

Table 1. Weekly estimates of effort, catches, and releases in the A-B Line pink salmon fishery.

Area F Troll - 2022 Estimated Weekly Catch and Release by Species

	End		Chir	nook	Coho		Pin	ık	Sock	кеуе	Ch	um
WEEK	Date	Effort	Kept	Rel.	Kept	Rel.	Kept	Rel.	Kept	Rel.	Kept	Rel.
27	2-Jul	9	0	61	583	0	937	0	0	0	0	23
28	9-Jul	57	0	273	3,894	1	10,066	0	11	0	0	75
29	16-Jul	64	0	174	7,059	0	12,690	121	60	8	0	57
30	23-Jul	108	0	716	10,499	2	16,599	289	77	13	0	67
31	30-Jul	95	0	1,462	8,892	9	10,445	1,781	69	4	0	187
Total		333	0	2,686	30,927	12	50,737	2,191	217	25	0	409

Note: Effort is reported in vessels-days

Coho CPUE throughout July has been substantially higher than recent years and remains strong into week 32, suggesting improved Coho abundance in Northern Dixon Entrance for 2022.

## Chinook Salmon

The Area F Chinook ITQ opening will start on August 10<sup>th</sup> with an adjusted Chinook TAC of 109,440, which equates to an individual transferable quota (ITQ) of 504 Chinook for each of the 217 licences. Retention of Coho and Pink salmon will be permitted and the open areas include portions of 101, 1, 142 and 2W as detailed in FN0733.

Dockside validation of all Chinook landings is mandatory. Area F Chinook and Coho catches are sampled for CWT recovery and DNA is collected for GSI analysis.

## Areas 1 & 2 - Haida Gwaii

## **Terminal Salmon Assessments:**

Terminal salmon assessments of the Inlets and watersheds of Haida Gwaii will start in early to mid-August to assess dominant cycle Pink salmon returns (even years on Haida Gwaii) and the monitoring will continue through September and October to assess Chum salmon returns

Two vessel based operators will provide charter patrol coverage in 2022, including 48 days in Area 2E (Cumshewa to Skincuttle) and 28 days in Area 2W (Rennell to Tasu). In addition, the Haida Fisheries Program will carry out assessments of key watersheds in Skidegate Inlet, Masset Inlet, Naden Harbour and Rennell Sound starting in mid-August.

#### **Recreational:**

Preliminary rough estimates of June recreational catch in Area 1, based on fly in Lodge logbook reports and typical catch ratios by community based anglers, are 5,100 Chinook, 1,350 Coho, 950 Pink, 20 Sockeye and 120 Chum salmon. Estimates for non-salmon species include 4,200 Halibut and 3,000 Lingcod.

Revised June catch estimates for Area 1 and estimates for Area 2W will be available once the Haida Fisheries Creel program report becomes available. Preliminary catch estimates for July should be available sometime next week once all the major lodge logbook reports for July are received.

NC Chinook Management Plan

The following measures are in place for the 2022/23 season:

Areas 1, 2, 142, and that portion of Area 101 west of 131 degrees 40.0 minutes West longitude:

Effective June 15, 2022, at 00:01 hours to July 31, 2022 - one (1) Chinook per day Effective Aug 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023 - two (2) Chinook per day

See Figure 1 for map of 2022/2023 Chinook management measures.

#### Area 3 - Nass River

The Nass River fish wheels have been operating since June 1. High-water and discharge rates (>2500- 3000 m<sup>3</sup>/s) occurred from June 1-13, 18-23, and June 26 to July 6. During this period, one or both of the fishwheels were shut down and salmon movement upstream is expected to be very limited, confirmed with abundance monitoring programs upstream in Grease Harbour.

In-season run size estimates past the Nass fishwheels are shown in Table 2. The current in-season TRTC Nass Sockeye forecast is from 438k to 625k (95% confidence intervals) with a point estimate of 532k. Current estimates of Nass Chinook suggest a return of 21k (20k – 22k, 95% confidence interval). The TRTC estimates for coho, pink, and chum are 194k (103k to 286k, 95% confidence interval); 294k (187k to 402k, 95% confidence interval), and 45k (33k to 57k, 95% confidence interval), respectively.

*Table 2. Nass fishwheel in-season run size estimate to date on July 31, 2022, and historical average cumulative catch (2000-2021) to date.* 

Year	Sockeye	Chinook	Coho	Steelhead
2022	285,212	13,132	9,879	427
1994-2021 Avg.	201,000	18,000	4,828	1,130

<sup>\*</sup>Data provide from Nisga'a Lisims Government Fisheries and Wildlife Department.

Water levels at the Gitwinksihlkw Fishwheels on July 24, 2022, are approximately 1.5 m higher than mean water levels from 1994-2021 (3.5 m vs 2.0 m). Water temperatures are  $1.6^{\circ}$ C warmer than the 1994-2021 average (11.6 °C vs  $10.0^{\circ}$ C).

Nass River salmon stock assessment updates from the Nisga'a Fish and Wildlife Department will be available here: <a href="http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/northcoast-cotenord/nass-eng.html">http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/northcoast-cotenord/nass-eng.html</a>
Or here: <a href="https://www.dropbox.com/sh/0jrnv9ucslmxvbz/AAA2FqFre2BomarTx6oHnvlEa?dl=0">https://www.dropbox.com/sh/0jrnv9ucslmxvbz/AAA2FqFre2BomarTx6oHnvlEa?dl=0</a>.

#### **Net Fisheries:**

#### Area A

No further seine opportunities have occurred in Area 3 since the July 25 opening.

There have been four seine fishery openings in Area 3 to date (July 12 FN0694; July 18 FN0731; July 19 FN0749; July 25 FN0768). Catch information for all openings are provided in Table 3. No additional opportunities for seine fisheries in Area 3 are anticipated, DFO will continue to monitor escapement and provide opportunities where available (FN0823).

Table 3. 2022 Area A Seine openings kept and release information for all salmon species.

Management Are	a 3											Details by Subarea					
					e Salmon		Salmon		almon		n Salmon		k Salmon		elhead		
Stat Week	Week of Year	Date	Effort	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Status	Last Updated
		12-Jul	3	0	250	0	31	1100	0	3735	0	0	28	0	0	Preliminary	15-Jul-2022
		Total for Week	3	0	250	0	31	1100	0	3735	0	0	28	0	0		
		18-Jul	8	1012	0	0	28	18830	0	6255	0	0	28	0	0	Preliminary	19-Jul-202
		19-Jul	9	1302	0	0	108	37002	0	16998	0	0	171	0	0	Preliminary	20-Jul-202
		Total for Week	17	2314	0	0	138	55832	0	23253	0	0	199	0	0		
		25-Jul	10	0	558	0	288	52902	0	0	6310	0	17	0	0	Preliminary	28-Jul-202
		Total for Week	10	0	558	0	288	52902	0	0	6310	0	17	0	0		

Notes:

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

#### **CSAF Demonstration Fisheries:**

Two CSAF demonstration fisheries targeting Nass Sockeye have been approved in 2022 IFMP. The proponents of these fisheries are Nisga'a Lisims Government and Gitanyow First Nation. No fisheries have been implemented to date, however plans are in place to implement these fisheries shortly. Further information will be provided as it becomes available.

Two CSAF Demonstration fisheries targeting Area 3 Pink have also been approved in 2022. No fisheries have been implemented to date.

## **Meziadin Fishway:**

The Meziadin Fishway operations began on July 1. To date, 124,948 sockeye salmon have been counted at the fishway, over double the 1994-2021 cumulative count to date (Table 4). Chinook abundance remains low to date compared to longer-term average (Table 4).

Table 4. Cumulative Meziadin fishway counts to date (August 1) and mean cumulative adult count to date.

Year	Sockeye	Chinook	Coho	Steelhead
2022	124,948	28	0	0
1994-2021 Avg.	61,412	109	0	0

<sup>\*</sup>Data provide from Nisga'a Lisims Government Fisheries and Wildlife Department.

Meziadin River water levels and water temperature are higher than the longer-term average to date at 1.31m (1998 – 2021 average for this date = 1.24 m) and 19.0°C (16.4 °C, 1999-2021), respectively.

Historic and 2022 counts will be available here: http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/northcoast-cotenord/meziadin-eng.html

## **Kwinageese Weir:**

The Kwinageese Weir, operated by the Nisga'a Fish and Wildlife department, began salmon enumeration via video-counts on July 20. To date, only 73 Chinook and 65 sockeye salmon have been observed (Table 5).

Table 5. Cumulative Kwinageese weir counts to date (August 1) and mean cumulative adult count to date.

Year	Sockeye	Chinook	Coho	Steelhead
2022	65	73	0	0
Longer-term Avg. <sup>1</sup>	102	122	0	0

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Longer-term averages calculated from 2002, 2005, 2006, 2011-2021.

Kwinageese River water levels are lower than the longer-term average to date at 0.2 m (2002-2021 average for this date = 0.59 m), while water temperatures are well above average at 18.0°C (8.0°C, 2002-2021).

#### Alaska Fisheries

## **District 1 Gill Net Fishery:**

<sup>\*</sup>Data provide from Nisga'a Lisims Government Fisheries and Wildlife Department.

The district 1 (D1) gill net fishery in Alaska opened for four days of fishing in week 31 commencing on July 24, 2022, catch information is below (Table 6). Another D1 opening occurred at noon on July 31, 2022, for an additional four days of fishing.

*Table 6. Alaskan D1 gill net fishery harvest and catch per effort (CPUE) for stat week 31 in 2022 and the 10-year average.* 

Species	District 1 Catch – Week 31 (CPUE)	10-Year Average (CPUE)
Chinook	150 (0.8)	44 (0.2)
Sockeye	1,400 (8)	3,252 (17)
Coho	1,100 (6)	1,647 (8)
Pink	46,000 (250)	53,386 (275)
Chum	41,000 (223)	25,237 (130)
Effort	46	43
Fishing Days	4	5

<sup>\*</sup>Data from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game

## **District 4 Seine Fishery:**

The district 4 (D4) purse seine fishery opened for two days in Statistical week 31, on July 24 and 28, for a combined effort of 30 hours. Catch information is provided below (Table 7). Another D4 opening occurred on July 31 for 15 hours (05:00 to 20:00), catch information will be provided as it becomes available.

Table 7. Alaskan D4 purse seine fishery harvest in statistical week 31, 2022.

	Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Boats	Hours
SW 31 -24/7	550	23,000	4,500	145,000	29,000	22	15
SW 31 – 28/7	900	27,000	5,400	185,000	30,000	36	15
SW 31 Total	1,450	50,000	9,900	330,000	59,000	58	30

<sup>\*</sup>Data from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game

More information on Southeast Alaskan fisheries is available here: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishing.main

# Area 4 - Skeena River

Based on results from the Tyee test fishery to August 1, the current run size estimates range from 3.16–5.42 M Skeena Sockeye (80% certainty), with a mean (point) estimate of 4.12 M (Table 8, Figure 2). With average run timing, 71.77% of the run is estimated to have passed Tyee as of August 1.

Table 8. 2022 in-season run size estimate probability for Skeena Sockeye as of August 1, 2022.

Species	Stock	Escapement	TRTC	2022 In-sea	2022 In-season Run Size Estimate Probability							
		Target		10%	25%	50%	75%	90%				
Sockeye	Skeena	1,050,000	Mean			4,117,241						
			Median	5,424,788	4,763,785	4,127,031	3,581,107	3,160,662				

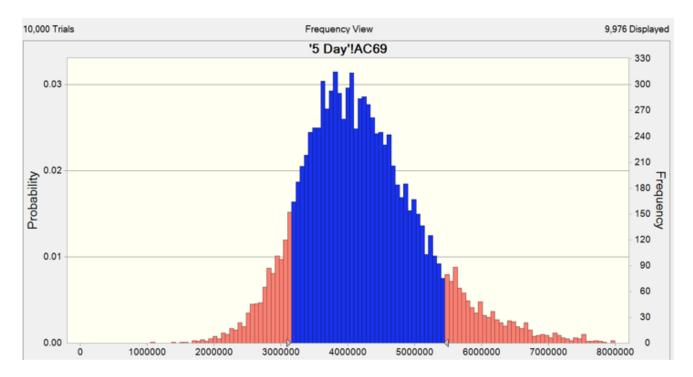


Figure 2. Total return to Canada run size probability distribution to August 1, 2022. Blue shaded area indicates the 80% credibility interval.

## **Tyee Test Fishery:**

The test fishery began operation on June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022. As of August 1, the estimated number of Large Sockeye past Tyee is 2,458,624.

Index values for sockeye, coho and pink are above 2010-2019 and 2000-2009 averages showing an improvement in relative abundance to previous time periods. While large Chinook show an improved relative abundance compared to recent history and longer-term averages but still remain below the 2000-2009 average to date (Table 9).

Table 9. Tyee test fishery cumulative index to date August 1, 2022, and longer-term averages (2000-2009; 2010-2019; and 2017-2021) to date.

Year	Sockeye	Coho	Pink (even)	Chum	Lg. Chinook	Steelhead
2022	1,984.10	14.67	150.79	4.82	145.46	29.33
2021	544.15	18.31	-	1.95	72.67	8.28
2020	675.04	8.70	87.71	2.97	81.12	28.41
2019	349.55	12.37	-	3.42	83.29	24.38
2018	1136.72	4.69	34.78	6.97	99.82	134.14
2017-2021 Avg. to date	648.41	11.29	61.25	6.52	78.01	42.35
2010-2019 Avg. to date	999.43	11.24	122.26	5.92	110.33	55.88
2000-2009 Avg. to date	1,398.07	9.68	106.43	4.83	264.18	45.17

The 2022 Tyee test fishery daily and cumulative sockeye escapement estimate data, along with 2022 daily and cumulative escapement indices by species, are available here: <a href="http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/northcoast-cotenord/skeenatyee-eng.html">http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/northcoast-cotenord/skeenatyee-eng.html</a>

#### **Net Fisheries**

The allowable harvest rate at the current forecasted run size is 40.0% which results in a Skeena Sockeye commercial TAC of 1,645,508 (gillnet share 1,234,131 and seine share 411,377). As of August 1, approximately 577,051 of the TAC has been caught/allocated leaving 1,068,457 remaining.

#### Area C

In the past week, there have been an additional four days of gillnet fishing on July 28, 29 (FN0793) and July 31, August 1 (FN0819). Fishing was restricted to subareas 4-4, 4-5, a portion of 4-9, 4-12, and 4-15, with retention of sockeye and pink salmon and non-retention of coho, chinook, chum, and steelhead. To date there have been six, two-day gillnet openings, catch information is provided in Table 10.

Another two-day opening will occur on August 3 and 4, 28-29 for 17-hours each day (<u>FN0820</u>) with area and retention rules are consistent with the previous week's openings.

Table 10. Area C gillnet opening kept and release information for all salmon species in 2022.

											Report Details by Suba				
				Salmon		oho Salmon		k Salmon		Chum Salmon		nook Salmon		Steelhead	
	Date	Effort	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Status
15-Jul		91	16457	0	0	45	85	22	0	29	0	63	0	6	Reviewed
16-Jul		91	20115	0	0	32	97	0	0	29	0	59	0	6	Reviewed
	Total for Week	182	38572	0	0	77	182	22	0	58	0	122	0	12	
19-Jul		113	40959	0	0	31	1388	0	0	84	0	108	0	19	Reviewed
20-Jul		113	31552	0	0	35	1433	0	0	71	0	131	0	16	Reviewed
22-Jul		125	37080	0	0	18	4248	0	0	83	0	54	0	31	Reviewed
23-Jul		125	20210	0	0	39	2921	0	0	88	0	14	0	29	Reviewed
	Total for Week	478	129781	0	0	123	9966	0	0	324	0	305	0	95	
25-Jul		125	35554	0	0	100	4483	0	0	344	0	57	0	48	Reviewed
26-Jul		125	28583	0	0	144	8251	0	0	175	0	58	0	81	Reviewed
28-Jul		121	56638	0	0	82	7093	0	0	1411	0	24	0	53	Preliminary
29-Jul		121	58845	0	0	144	9470	0	0	48	0	40	0	92	Preliminary
	Total for Week	492	179420	0	0	470	29297	0	0	1978	0	179	0	272	
31-Jul		116	38922	0	0	198	11162	0		58	0	44	0	38	Preliminary
01-Aug		116	23832	ō	ŏ	103	9117	ŏ	ŏ	44	ŏ	13	ō	15	Preliminary
	Total for Week	232	62554	0	0	299	20279	0	0	102	0	57	0	51	
Total for Manageme	ent Area 4 in Period	1382	408327	0	0	969	59724	22	0	2482	0	663	0	430	

#### Area A

The second Area 4 seine ITQ fishery proceeded starting on Wednesday July 27 for 5 days with a total weekly TAC of 84,800 (FN0794). On July 29, the weekly seine TAC was amended to total of 148,400 sockeye (FN0824). Fishing was restricted to daylight hours (06:00 to 23:00) in subarea 4-5, 4-9, portions of subarea 4-12 and 4-15, with retention of pink salmon and non-retention of chum, coho, chinook, and steelhead.

To date, one additional seine ITQ fishery proceeded from July 20-24, with a total weekly TAC of 47,379 (FN0748). Catch information is available in Table 11. Landed catch validation of 100% is required in the seine ITQ fishery.

A third Area 4 seine ITQ fishery will proceed starting on August 3 for 5 days with a total TAC of 259,382 (FN0831). Fishing is restricted to daylight hours (06:00 to 22:00) and the subareas 4-5, 4-9, portions of subarea 4-12 and 4-15, with retention of pink salmon and non-retention of chum, coho, chinook, and steelhead.

*Table 11. Area A seine opening kept and release information for all salmon species in 2022.* 

										Report Details by Subarea or Portion				
			Socke	ye Salmon	Co	ho Salmon	Pin	k Salmon	Chu	m Salmon	Chir	ook Salmon	S	teelhead
	Date	Effort	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel
	20-Jul	4	2489	0	0	18	120	0	0	8	0	11	0	0
	21-Jul	11	13946	0	0	61	780	0	0	20	0	79	0	12
	22-Jul	10	8208	0	0	54	502	0	0	33	0	27	0	0
	23-Jul	6	3407	0	0	13	98	0	0	7	0	12	0	0
	Total for Week	31	28028	0	0	144	1500	0	0	68	0	129	0	12
	24-Jul	4	3081	0	0	18	352	0	0	12	0	19	0	2
	Total for Week	4	3081	0	0	18	352	0	0	12	0	19	0	2
Total for Manage	ement Area 4 in Period	35	31109	0	0	162	1852	0	0	80	0	148	0	14

## **CSAF Demonstration Fisheries and Excess to Salmon Spawning Requirements:**

North Coast Skeena First Nations Stewardship Society, Metlakatla First Nation, and Lax Kw'alaams First Nation have continued to implement demonstrations fisheries within the same area as the Area C and Area A fleet and under the same retention rules and gear restrictions. The total catches to date for these fisheries are listed below (Table 12).

Table 12. CSAF Demo fisheries 2022 catch

Fishery Notice	Fishery Opening	# of Vessels	Vessel Type	Area Fished	# Pieces Sockeye	# Pieces Pink
FN0743	Monday, July 18, 2022	2	gillnet	4-9	492	22
FN0743	Monday, July 18, 2022	3	gillnet	4-12	633	12
FN0761	Thursday, July 21, 2022	3	gillnet	4-15	598	16
FN0761	Thursday, July 21, 2022	1	gillnet	4-12	219	1
FN0779	Sunday, July 24, 2022	1	gillnet	4-15	123	20
FN086/FN0791	Tuesday, July 26, 2022	1	seine	4-12	2345	830
FN0796	Thursday, July 27, 2022	1	gillnet	4-12	506	178
FN0826	Saturday, July 30, 2022	1	seine	4-12	4343	1107
FN0825	Saturday, July 30, 2022	1	gillnet	4-12	503	2
FN0825	Sunday, July 31, 2022	1	seine	4-9	3291	2860

Gitksan Watershed Authorities CSAF demonstration fishery started on July 29 for 7 days on the Skeena River mainstem (FN0821). Lake Babine Nation will begin implementation of the CSAF demonstration fishery at the Babine Counting Fence on August 4<sup>th</sup>. Catch information from these fisheries will be provided as it becomes available.

Three ESSRs in the Skeena River watershed have been approved in 2022: Babine Jack Sockeye, Babine Large Sockeye, and Bulkley River Pink. The Bulkley River Pink ESSR opened on July 20 (FN 0762). No catch has been reported to date. The Babine Jack Sockeye ESSR is scheduled to begin on August 4<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Recreational Fisheries:**

Area 3 and 4 Creel Survey

#### May Summary

The North Coast Skeena First Nations Stewardship Society began their creel survey operations in May of 2022. They performed 400 interviews totalling 1,034 anglers, with a reported catch of 477 Chinook, 1 Pink and 1 Coho. These numbers are expanded and produce a catch estimate of 1,414 Chinook, 3 Pink, and 3 Coho for the month of May.

## June Summary

566 interviews were conducted in June totalling 1,761 anglers, with a reported catch (kept) of 394 Chinook, 16 Coho, 1 Chum and 0 Pink. These numbers are expanded to produce a catch (kept) estimate of 1,732 Chinook, 69 Coho, 2 Chum, and 3 Pink for the month of June.

#### NC Chinook Management Plan

The following measures are in place for the 2022/23 season:

• Areas 3 to 5, 103 to 105, Subarea 102-1, and that portion of Area 101 east of 131 degrees 40.0 minutes West longitude:

Effective June 15, 2022, at 00:01 hours to July 15, 2022 - zero (0) Chinook per day Effective July 16, 2022, at 00:01 hours to July 31, 2022 - zero (0) Chinook per day (FN0741)

The recreational Chinook fishery is open to retention as follows:

- o One (1) Chinook per day from Aug 1, 2022 to Aug 31, 2022.
- o Two (2) Chinook per day from Sept 1, 2022 to Mar 31, 2023.

See Figure 1 for map of 2022/2023 Chinook management measures.

#### Skeena River

The recreational Sockeye fishery opened on the Skeena River July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to 1 Sockeye per day (<u>FN0752</u>). On July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 the daily limit was increased to 2 Sockeye per day (<u>FN0763</u>). On July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022 the daily limit was increased on the Skeena River mainstem to 4 Sockeye per day (<u>FN0800</u>). The Babine River and Lake opened on Aug 1, 2022 with daily limits of 2 Sockeye per day as outlined in <u>FN0763</u>.

## **Babine Fence:**

The Babine Fence began operations on July 16 this year. As of August 1, a total of 328,480 large sockeye have been counted (Table 13). In the past seven days of fence operation, water levels and temperatures have ranged from 1.08 - 1.18 m and 14.7 - 18.2°C, respectively.

Table 13. Cumulative Babine Fence counts to date (August 1).

Year	Sockeye (Jack)	Chinook (Jack)	Coho	Pink	Steelhead
2022	328,480 (4,026)	13 (0)	0	0	0

Historic and 2022 counts will be available here:

https://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/northcoast-cotenord/babine-eng.html

#### Kitwanga Weir:

The Gitanyow Fisheries Authority will be operating the Kitwanga weir again this year. The fence became fish tight on July 23, preliminary reports suggest sockeye presence at the fence.

Updates provided by the Gitanyow Fisheries Authority will be available here: <a href="https://www.gitanyowfisheries.com">www.gitanyowfisheries.com</a>

#### **Sustut Weir:**

The Province of BC will be operating the Sustut weir this year. It is expected to be operational by August.

## Area 6

#### **Net Fisheries:**

Area 6 Seine and Gillnet fisheries are implemented subject to in-season abundance. Further information will be provided as it becomes available.

At this time, reports from Charter Patrol do not indicate a harvestable surplus in the area.

#### **CSAF Demonstration Fisheries**

One CSAF demonstration fishery targeting Area 6 Pink has been approved in 2022, but will not be implemented in 2022.

## Areas 7 to 10 - Central Coast

#### **Net Fisheries:**

Four chinook directed gillnet fisheries have occurred in Area 8 since the last week of May. The openings on May 31, June 6, June 13 and June 20 were 24 hours. The Nuxalk Nation also conducted one Chinook DEMO gillnet fishery on June 23. The effort was average for the commercial openings, starting with 11 boats in the first week and increasing to 23-30 in the following openings. Catch and effort estimates to date openings are listed below (Table 14). All data is preliminary.

*Table 14. Area C gillnet opening kept and release information for all salmon species for statistical weeks 23-26.* 

# Commercial SALMON GILL NET In-Season Estimated Catch-by-Area (Pieces) for Period 01-Apr-2022 to 27-Jun-2022

			Sockeve Salmon		Coho Salmon		lmon	Chum Salmon		Chinook Salmon	
	Effort	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel
Total for Week	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	31	0
Total for Week	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	57	0
Total for Week	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	0	99	0
Total for Week	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	238	2	197	2
	Total for Week Total for Week	Total for Week 23 Total for Week 29	Total for Week 23 0 Total for Week 29 0	Total for Week 23 0 0 Total for Week 29 0 0	Total for Week         23         0         0         0           Total for Week         29         0         0         0	Total for Week 23 0 0 0 0 0 Total for Week 29 0 0 0 0	Total for Week 23 0 0 0 0 0 0 Total for Week 29 0 0 0 0 0	Total for Week 23 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 Total for Week 29 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	Total for Week 23 0 0 0 0 0 0 10 Total for Week 29 0 0 0 0 0 0 40	Total for Week 23 0 0 0 0 0 0 10 0 Total for Week 29 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	Total for Week         23         0         0         0         0         0         10         0         57           Total for Week         29         0         0         0         0         0         40         0         99

## Fish Management Assessments & Charter Patrol:

Fish management overflight assessments of the Central Coast will begin August 4, followed by Charter patrol creek assessments of areas 9,7 & 8. Snootli Creek hatchery has finished the installation of all lower Bella Coola tributary Chum fences, and the egg take is currently underway. Nuxalk Nation led lower tributary Chum creek walk began last week. Early reports show that Chum salmon have started to move into the lower tributaries, but no significant abundance has been observed to date.

#### **Recreational Fisheries:**

Data will be provided when available later in the season.

The Heiltsuk, Kitasoo/Xai'xais, Nuxalk, and Wuikinuxv Nations, under the direction of the Central Coast Indigenous Resource Alliance (CCIRA) continue to collect data through a creel survey and over-flight program. The program will assess recreational and First Nations' Food, Social, and Ceremonial (FSC) fisheries in marine portions of Areas 6 to 9, and in the Bella Coola River system within freshwater Region 5B Survey. Survey work will occur through September, 2022. Recreational and Indigenous fishers should be aware that they may be approached by creel surveyors from the Nations to collect important data from these fisheries.

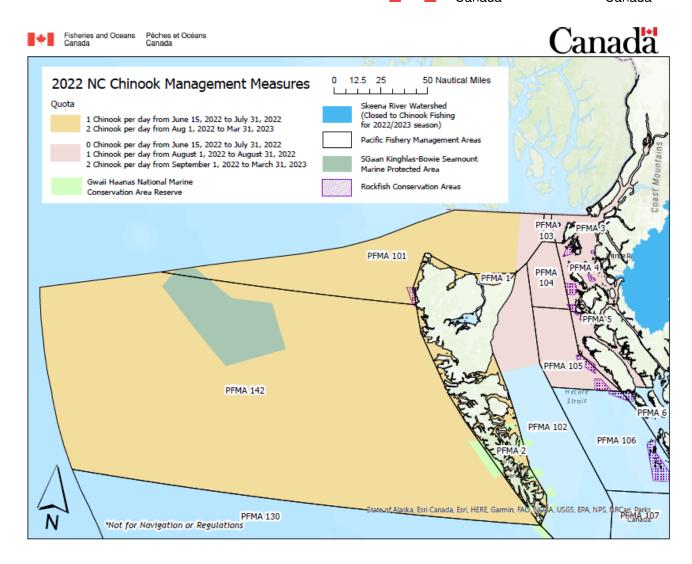


Figure 1. North Coast map of 2022/2023 Chinook management measures.