



Fraser Salmon Bulletin No: 2025-3

Date: September 19, 2025

This is the third Fraser Salmon Bulletin for the 2025 season. These bulletins will be provided every two to four weeks until mid-October. The purpose of this bulletin is to provide you with the links and information to keep yourself up to date on in-season fishing information.

Fraser Chinook

The Albion Chinook test fishery has operated since 1981 on the lower Fraser River at Albion, BC (near Fort Langley). The test fishery is conducted with a drifted gill net at a specific site near the old Albion ferry crossing. On each day of operation, the boat fishes two sets, timed to coincide with the daily high tide.

The Chinook test fishery uses two different nets which fish on alternating days: the "standard" Chinook net, which is constructed using eight-inch mesh; and a "multi-panel" net, which consists of panels of six-, seven-, eight-, and nine-inch mesh. Both gill nets are 200 fathoms long. The purpose of the multi-panel net is to ensure representative sampling of Chinook passing through the lower Fraser River, due to the wide range of body sizes observed in Fraser River Chinook stocks.

Albion test fishery data largely consist of a long-term series of catch data that provides important information on run timing and stock composition of Chinook salmon migrating up the Fraser River. This information is currently used in post-season analysis to parse out the catch in various fisheries by stock grouping (i.e., Management Unit). Albion catch per unit effort (CPUE) data are used in-season to estimate the total return of Fraser Spring and Summer 5₂ Chinook to the mouth of the Fraser River with a linear regression model of historical CPUEs and run sizes.

In 2025, the Albion test fishery commenced on April 20 and will collect Chinook data daily until August 31. After August 31, the test fishery alternates fishing the standard (8" mesh) Chinook gill net with a smaller mesh (6 ¾") gill net designed to assess the return of Chum Salmon to the Fraser River. The test fishery stops fishing with the standard Chinook gill net after October 20.

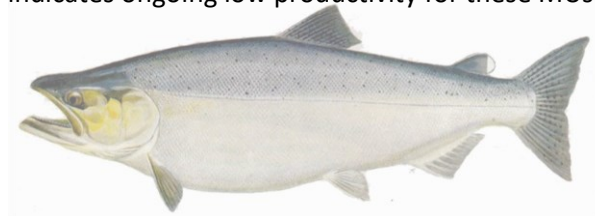
2025 Albion Chinook Catch – [Link to online Albion information.](#)

For 2025, Albion run size updates for the Spring and Summer 5₂ management units (MUs) are provided for information purposes only and will not be used in-season to adjust management measures given conservation concerns.

On June 19, fishery notice [FN0552](#) was sent out outlining the details of the final in-season run size estimate for these MUs. A brief summary of the notice is also provided below.

The standard version of the in-season abundance model, that is based only on the 8-inch mesh data, predicts a terminal return for the Fraser River Spring 5₂ and Summer 5₂ Chinook aggregate of 45,280 (95% PI of 24,000 to 85,000).

Additionally, the low catch at the test fishery suggests low abundance for the Spring 5₂ and Summer 5₂ Chinook Salmon returning in 2025, and indicates ongoing low productivity for these MUs.



Fraser Sockeye & Pink

Fraser River Panel:

Fraser River Panel in-season meetings have now concluded for the season.

The Pacific Salmon Commission releases in-season information on the status of the Fraser River Sockeye Fraser River Pink runs. These include weekly reports, regulatory announcements, information packages and test fishing results. To access this information, please click [here](#).

In-season Fraser Sockeye updates will be distributed separately in their own report and will provide a summary of the previous Fraser River Panel meeting.

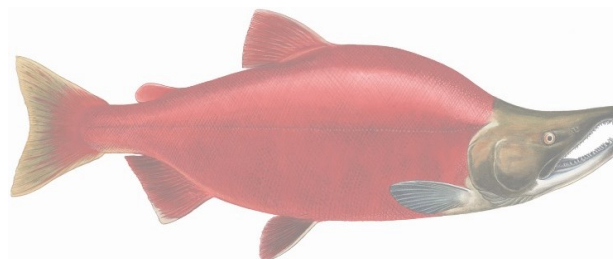
Fraser Sockeye & Pink Test Fishing Schedule

Monitoring Program		Pre-season Schedule ^a	
Panel Area Waters			
1.	Area 20 Gillnet:	July 10	August 5
2.	Area 20 Purse Seine:	July 25	- September 2
3.	Area 5 Gillnet:	TBD: 10 days of observations prior to U.S. commercial openings	
4.	Area 29, Whonnock Gillnet:	June 25	- September 23
5.	Area 29, Brownsville Bar Gillnet:	July 10	- September 7
6.	Area 7 Reef Nets:	TBD: 10 days of observations prior to U.S. commercial openings	
7.	Mission Hydroacoustics:	July 4	- September 28
Non-Panel Area Waters			
8.	Area 12 Round Island Gillnet:	July 8	August 3
9.	Area 12 Purse Seine:	July 24	- September 1
10.	Area 13 Purse Seine:	Not scheduled to run in 2025	
11.	Fraser River Qualark Gillnet: ^b	July 2	- September 29
12.	Qualark Hydroacoustics: ^c	July 1	- September 30
13.	Hells Gate Visual Observation:	July 3	- September 30

^a Test fisheries and hydroacoustic monitoring end dates will be based on low salmon CPUE and in-season management needs.

^b The Fraser River Qualark Gillnet program expenses will be paid through the Test Fishing Revolving Fund.

^c The Qualark Hydroacoustics program expenses will be paid through alternative funding sources by Canada.



Fraser Chum

Johnstone Strait (Area 12) Chum Seine Test Fishery – [Link to online information](#)

The 2025 Johnstone Strait (Blinkhorn & Double Bay) Chum seine test fishery will commence on September 22 and will continue through to approximately October 27. Fishing will be conducted up to seven days a week except during commercial fishery openings.

Albion Chum Test Fishery – [Link to online Albion information](#)

Fraser Chum are assessed in-season using Albion test fishery data to estimate Chum abundance, migration timing, and other biological information. The chum test fishery normally runs every other day from September 1 through October 20, alternating days with the chinook test fishery. From October 21 through the end of November, the chum test fishery operates daily. The gill net used in the Albion Chum test fishery is 150 fathoms long, constructed from 6.75 inch mesh.

[Fraser Chum 2025 Integrated Fisheries Management Plan \(IFMP\) Link](#) (p. 306)

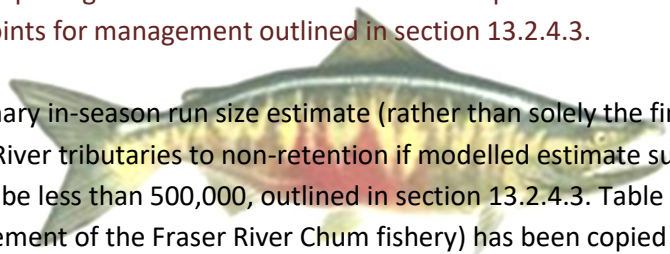
In-River

In-season estimates of the Fraser Chum return to the mouth River ("terminal") abundance are based on historical information on the probable range of run size, timing, expansion line, and duration, combined with the current year's Albion test fishery catch information. Catch in the Chum net through September 17 totaled 4 Chum Salmon. Additional information on potential fishing opportunities will be provided via separate fishery notices. Management decision guidelines related to marine and in-river Fraser River Chum fisheries can be found in sections 13.2.3.3 and 13.2.4.3 starting on p. 276 and p.308 of the 2025/2026 IFMP for Southern BC Salmon.

A reminder that opportunities to harvest Chum Salmon for commercial, recreational, and First Nations Food, Social, and Ceremonial purposes in the Fraser River mainstem will be constrained by management objectives for Interior Fraser Steelhead, a population of concern presently co-migrating with Chum Salmon in the Fraser River. Commercial Chum fisheries in marine areas will also be constrained by management objectives for Interior Fraser Steelhead. Moving window closures are in place for all salmon fisheries located along the migratory route of Thompson and Chilcotin River Steelhead, including Southern BC marine waters and the Fraser River and tributaries downstream of Thompson and Chilcotin River Steelhead spawning areas, as outlined in the 2025/2026 South Coast Salmon IFMP. Harvest opportunities in all fisheries will be planned in line with these management measures.

Continuing in 2025/26: Given the relatively poor outlook for Fraser Chum Salmon, all recreational fisheries targeting Chum Salmon in the Lower Fraser River and tributaries remain closed until the in-season run size estimate is available. Recreational fishery openings directed on Fraser Chum will depend on the in-season abundance estimate and associated key decision points for management outlined in section 13.2.4.3.

New for 2025/26: The preliminary in-season run size estimate (rather than solely the final in-season estimate) may be considered to open Fraser River tributaries to non-retention if modelled estimate suggests the run size is very unlikely (0-10% probability) to be less than 500,000, outlined in section 13.2.4.3. Table 13-21 (Summary of key decision points for the management of the Fraser River Chum fishery) has been copied to the next page.



Please phone the Observe Record Report line at **1-800-465-4336** if you encounter any non-authorized fishing activity taking place

Table 13-21: Summary of key decision points for the management of the Fraser River Chum fishery

Fraser River Terminal Run Size	Harvest Plan	Lower Fraser First Nations	Commercial	Recreational
<500,000	Reduced directed harvest of Chum Salmon in FSC and test fisheries. Harvest rate not to exceed 10% of the terminal run size for Fraser Chum.	Reduced allocation and limited fisheries (reduced hours and days/week fishing)	Closed	Mainstem Fraser River and tributaries closed to fishing for Chum Salmon.
500,000 to 800,000	Directed harvest of Chum Salmon limited to FSC and test fisheries. Catch not to exceed 91,800 (82,800 First Nations* and 9,000 test fishing).	Full allocation	Closed	Mainstem Fraser River closed to fishing for Chum Salmon. Non-retention of Chum Salmon in tributaries.
Fraser River Terminal Run Size	Harvest Plan	Lower Fraser First Nations	Commercial	Recreational
800,000 to 916,000	Directed harvest of Chum Salmon limited to FSC, test fisheries, and reduced recreational fisheries. Catch not to exceed 91,800 (82,800 First Nations* and 9,000 test fishing).	Full allocation	Closed	Mainstem Fraser River and tributaries open to retention of Chum Salmon. Consider reduced daily Chum retention limits.
916,000 to 1,050,000	Directed harvest of Chum Salmon. Commercial catch not to exceed 10% of the terminal run size for Fraser Chum.	Full allocation	Open (TAC 35,000-105,000)	Mainstem Fraser River and tributaries open to retention of Chum Salmon, subject to regular daily limits.
>1,050,000	Directed harvest of Chum Salmon. Commercial catch not to exceed 15% of the terminal run size for Fraser Chum.	Full allocation	Open (minimum TAC 105,001)	Mainstem Fraser River and tributaries open to retention of Chum Salmon, subject to regular daily limits.

* Note: Tsawwassen and Tla'amin Treaty domestic fishery allocations are not included here.

Other In-Season Meetings:

In-season communications between DFO, First Nations, Recreational and Commercial fleets take place to share information during the fishing season. If you would like to receive an invite to the meeting series, please follow-up with the respective DFO Manager.

2025 Management Measures:

Below are links to fishery notices announcing 2025 management measures for Fraser River Chinook salmon. Fishing for salmon is closed at the mouth of the Fraser River and in the Fraser River tidal and non-tidal waters effective January 1 each year. Details are at the DFO [Area 29 Salmon webpage](#).

[FN0107](#) – Recreational Salmon - Chinook - Strait of Juan de Fuca - Portions of Areas 19 and 20 - management measures - March 1, 2025

[FN0289](#) – RECREATIONAL Salmon - Chinook - Areas 11 to 20, 111, and Subareas 29-1 to 29-5 and 29-8 - Non Retention - Effective April 1, 2025

[FN0299](#) – RECREATIONAL - Salmon - Chinook Management Measures - West Coast of Vancouver Island - Area 121 and Areas 123 to 127- Effective April 1, 2025

[FN0324](#)– RECREATIONAL Salmon - Chinook - Southern BC waters: Vancouver Area and Fraser River - Area 28 and portions of Area 29 - Reminder of Fraser Chinook Management Measures - April 1, 2025

[FN0312](#) – RECREATIONAL - Salmon - Chinook - Portions of Areas 12, 13, and 15 to 20 - Chinook Management Measures - Effective April 1, 2025

2025-26 IFMP:

The 2025-26 Southern BC Salmon Integrated Fisheries Management Plan (IFMP) has been released and may be accessed online here: <https://waves-vagues.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/library-bibliotheque/41293824.pdf>

The IFMP outlines management policies, specific management objectives, and decision guidelines for a wide range of fisheries and anticipated opportunities for First Nations, recreational and commercial fisheries. These plans were developed through consultation with First Nations and stakeholder representatives. This document will be used by DFO to guide southern BC salmon management between July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.



FSC In-River Management Actions

FSC Indigenous in-season fisheries information is available online at:

<https://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/fraser/index-eng.html#indigenous>

Catch Information

If you are looking for updates to catch information, the most current catch reports are available online at:

<http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/fraser/index-eng.html>

To receive a weekly harvest report for the fishing areas upstream of Sawmill Creek, please contact Cynthia Breau (Cynthia.Breau@dfo-mpo.gc.ca) tel: (250) 256-2652 to be added to her mailing list.

South Coast Sport Catch Bulletin – to be added to the distribution list, please contact Aswea Porter (Aswea.Porter@dfo-mpo.gc.ca). These are produced monthly from June to September.

Interior Fraser River Coho Window Closure IFMP p.378

Table 13-36: Window Closure Dates to protect Interior Fraser Coho for non-selective fishing gear

Subareas 29-6, 29-7, 29-9 and 29-10	September 2 to October 3
Fraser River - Below Mission	September 2 to October 3
Fraser River - Mission to Hope	September 4 to October 6
Fraser River - Hope to Sawmill Creek	September 6 to October 11
Fraser River - Sawmill Creek to Lytton	September 16 to December 31
Fraser River - Lytton to Williams Lake River	September 23 to December 31
Fraser River - Upstream of Williams Lake River	October 1 to December 31
Thompson River Downstream of the confluence of the North and South Thompson Rivers	September 23 to December 31
Thompson River Upstream of the confluence of the North and South Thompson Rivers	October 1 to December 31

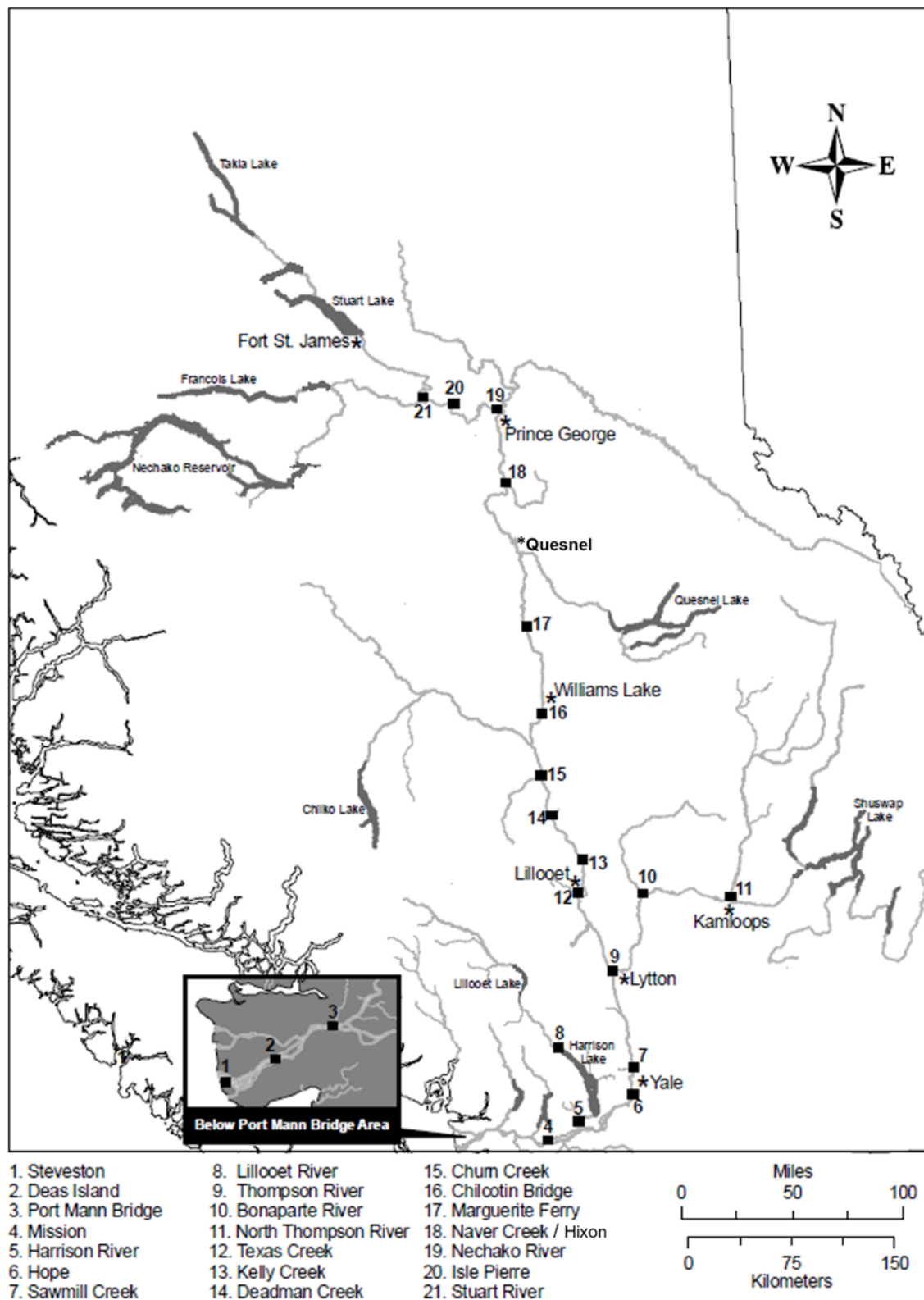
Interior Fraser River Steelhead Window Closure IFMP p. 582

Table 0-3: Interior Fraser River Steelhead Rolling Window Closure Dates by Area

Fishery Location		27-day window closure (commercial troll fisheries and FSC fisheries occurring in the Fraser River)		42-day window closure (commercial drift and set gillnet, purse seine, beach seine, and shallow seine fisheries and recreational fisheries occurring in the Fraser River)	
		Start	End	Start	End
Fraser River	Area 29: 29-6, 29-7, 29-9, and 29-10	26-Sep	22-Oct	19-Sep	30-Oct
	Mouth to Port Mann Bridge	26-Sep	22-Oct	19-Sep	30-Oct
	Port Mann Bridge to Mission	28-Sep	24-Oct	21-Sep	1-Nov
	Mission to Hope	29-Sep	25-Oct	22-Sep	2-Nov
	Hope to Sawmill Creek	3-Oct	29-Oct	26-Sep	6-Nov
	Sawmill Creek to Lytton (Thompson Confluence)	5-Oct	31-Oct	28-Sep	8-Nov
	Lytton to Texas Creek	8-Oct	3-Nov	1-Oct	11-Nov
	Texas Creek to Kelly Creek	10-Oct	5-Nov	3-Oct	13-Nov
	Kelly Creek to Deadman Creek	13-Oct	8-Nov	6-Oct	16-Nov
	Deadman Creek to Chilcotin River	16-Oct	11-Nov	9-Oct	19-Nov
	Chilcotin River	19-Oct	14-Nov	12-Oct	22-Nov
	Thompson River – Thompson Confluence to Bonaparte	8-Oct	3-Nov	1-Oct	11-Nov
	Thompson River – Bonaparte River to Kamloops Lake	12-Oct	7-Nov	5-Oct	15-Nov

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Map of Fishing Areas within the Fraser River Watershed



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BC Drought Update

Follow this link to review the current summary of drought conditions provided by Provincial government [B.C. Drought Information Portal](#). The table attached below is from the website and was last updated September 18th, 2025.

2025 DROUGHT LEVELS AT A GLANCE																													
Drought Levels:	0	1	2	3	4	5	*	Not updated outside of core drought season																					
BASINS	15-May	22-May	29-May	5-Jun	12-Jun	19-Jun	26-Jun	3-Jul	10-Jul	17-Jul	24-Jul	31-Jul	7-Aug	14-Aug	21-Aug	28-Aug	4-Sep	11-Sep	18-Sep	25-Sep	2-Oct	9-Oct	16-Oct	23-Oct	30-Oct				
Fort Nelson	3	3	3	3	4	3	5	5	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1										
East Peace	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3										
North Peace	3	3	3	3	4	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1									
South Peace	*	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	3									
Northwest	*	*	*	0	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1									
Stikine	*	*	*	0	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1									
Skeena-Nass	*	*	1	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	3	2									
Skeena-Bulkley	*	*	*	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	1									
Nechako-Lakes	*	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	3	2									
Finlay	*	*	*	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0									
Parsnip	*	*	*	0	2	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2									
Upper Fraser West	*	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	2									
Upper Fraser East	*	*	0	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	2	2	2									
Upper Columbia	*	*	*	0	0	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
Upper Arrow Lakes	*	*	*	0	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	1	1	1	2									
Kootenay River	*	*	*	0	3	3	4	3	3	3	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	3	3	3									
Elk-Flathead Valleys	*	*	3	1	4	5	4	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	2	2	2									
Creston	*	*	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	4	3	2	2	2	3	4	4	4	4	4									
Kootenay Lake-West Arm	*	*	2	0	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	1	0	1	2	3	3	3									
Slocan-Lower Columbia	*	*	1	0	2	2	3	2	3	4	4	3	2	2	1	2	2	2	3	3									
Kettle River	*	*	1	0	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	2									
Clearwater	*	2	1	2	3	3	3	2	3	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	2									
South Cariboo	*	2	2	1	3	3	1	1	2	2	0	0	1	1	2	3	3	3	3	3									
Quesnel	*	*	*	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	2	3									
Chilcotin	*	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	2									
Lower Thompson	*	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	2									
North Thompson	*	*	*	0	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	2	2									
South Thompson	*	*	*	0	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	2									
Bridge	*	*	*	0	1	1	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	1	2	2									
Nicola	*	1	2	2	2	1	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3									
Okanagan	*	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	1	1	1	0	1	2	3	3	3									
Similkameen	*	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4									
Central Pacific Range	*	*	2	0	1	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	3	1	2	2	1	1									
Eastern Pacific Range	*	*	*	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	3	3	2	3									
Sunshine Coast	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	0	2	2	2	1	0	1	1	1	2									
Lower Mainland	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	0	2	2	2	1	0	1	1	1	1									
Central Coast	*	*	2	1	0	2	2	2	2	2	0	1	2	3	3	0	1	1	2	1									
West Vancouver Island	3	2	0	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	0	0	1	2	1	1									
East Vancouver Island	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	0	1	2	2	2	2									
Haida Gwaii	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
Prepared By: Water Management Branch - Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship																													

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For more information / details, you can review these additional Provincial drought resources. See links below:

[B.C. River Forecast Centre Conditions Map](#)

[Drought and Watershed Watch Map](#)