



Fraser Salmon Bulletin No: 2025-4

Date: October 17, 2025

This is the fourth Fraser Salmon Bulletin for the 2025 season. These bulletins will be provided every two to four weeks until late-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 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 until further notice. 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

The first in-season Fraser Chum run size estimate was posted ([FN1095](#)). Catch in the Chum net through October 13 totaled 550 Chum Salmon. In-season estimates of return-to-the-mouth ("terminal") abundance for Fraser River Chum Salmon 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. Combining this data with the historical information on return size and timing in a Bayesian non-linear regression model resulted in an expected terminal Fraser River Chum Salmon return of **600,000 Chum** (median estimate), with a 50% migration date of October 21. The return is expected to be between **305,000 and 1,171,000** (80% probability), and there is a 29% chance the run size will meet the escapement goal of 800,000.

The current run size estimate is insufficient to allow for recreational and commercial opportunities (including First Nations Economic Opportunities) in the Fraser River, subject to confirmation of the final run size estimate. Additional information on potential fishing opportunities will be provided via separate fishery notices.

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.

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.

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.

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

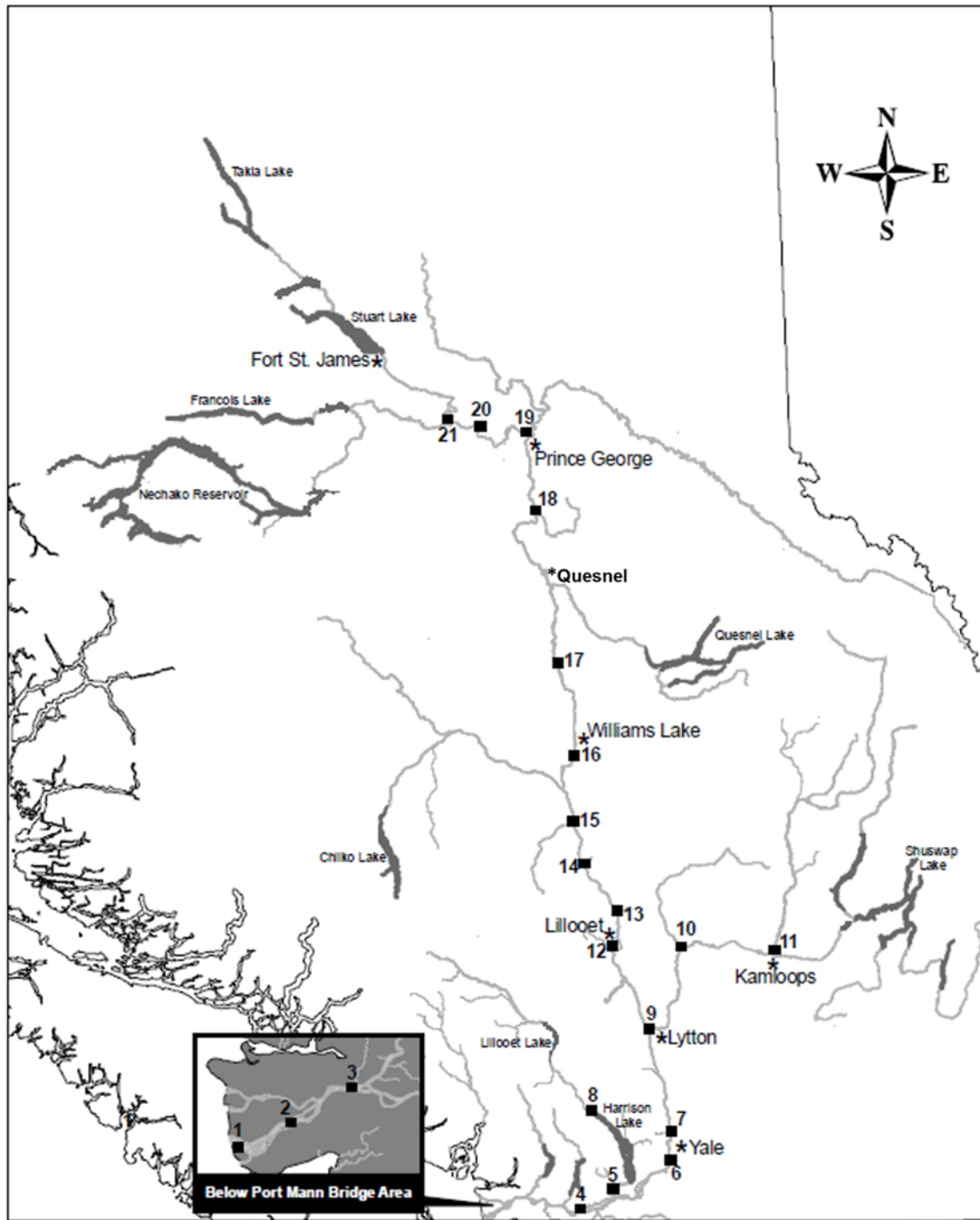
Interior Fraser River Steelhead Window Closure IFMP p. 582

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

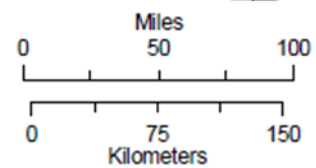
Fishery Location	27-day window closure (commercial troll fisheries and FSC fisheries occurring in the Fraser River)		42-day window closure (commercial drift and set gillnet, purse seine, beach seine, and shallow seine fisheries and recreational fisheries occurring in the Fraser River)		
	Start	End	Start	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

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

Map of Fishing Areas within the Fraser River Watershed



- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Steveston | 8. Lillooet River | 15. Chum Creek |
| 2. Deas Island | 9. Thompson River | 16. Chilcotin Bridge |
| 3. Port Mann Bridge | 10. Bonaparte River | 17. Marguerite Ferry |
| 4. Mission | 11. North Thompson River | 18. Naver Creek / Hixon |
| 5. Harrison River | 12. Texas Creek | 19. Nechako River |
| 6. Hope | 13. Kelly Creek | 20. Isle Pierre |
| 7. Sawmill Creek | 14. Deadman Creek | 21. Stuart River |



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 October 16th, 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	1	1	2	2	2	2		
East Peace	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4			
North Peace	3	3	3	3	4	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	3	2	2	1			
South Peace	*	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	3	3	2	1	1	1			
Northwest	*	*	*	0	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			
Stikine	*	*	*	0	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	0			
Skeena-Nass	*	*	1	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	1			
Skeena-Bulkley	*	*	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	1			
Nechako-Lakes	*	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	3			
Finlay	*	*	*	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0			
Parsnip	*	*	*	0	2	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	0	0	0			
Upper Fraser West	*	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2			
Upper Fraser East	*	*	*	0	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	2	2	2	1	0	0	0			
Upper Columbia	*	*	*	0	0	1	1	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2			
Upper Arrow Lakes	*	*	*	0	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	1	1	1	2	3	4	3	3	3			
Kootenay River	*	*	*	0	3	3	4	3	3	3	2	1	2	1	1	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2			
Elk-Flathead Valleys	*	*	3	1	4	5	4	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2			
Creston	*	*	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	2	2	2	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3			
Kootenay Lake-West Arm	*	*	2	0	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	1	0	1	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3			
Sticam-Lower Columbia	*	*	1	0	2	2	3	2	3	4	4	3	2	2	1	2	2	3	3	3	4	4	4	4			
Kettle River	*	*	1	0	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	2	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3			
Cleanwater	*	2	1	2	3	3	3	2	3	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	2			
South Cariboo	*	2	2	1	3	3	1	1	2	2	0	0	1	1	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	1	1			
Quesnet	*	*	*	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	2	3	3	2	0	0	0			
Chilcotin	*	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	1	1			
Lower Thompson	*	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	1			
North Thompson	*	*	*	0	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	2	2	3	3	2	2	2			
South Thompson	*	*	*	0	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	3	2	2	2			
Bridge	*	*	*	0	1	1	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	1	2	2	0	0	0	0			
Nicola	*	1	2	2	2	1	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	3	3			
Okanagan	*	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	1	1	1	0	1	2	3	3	3	3	4	3	3			
Similkameen	*	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	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	2	1	0	1			
Eastern Pacific Range	*	*	*	0	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	3	3	2	3	2	2	0	1	1			
Sunshine Coast	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	0	2	2	2	1	0	1	1	2	2	1	0	0	0	0			
Lower Mainland	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	0	2	2	2	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0			
Central Coast	*	*	2	1	0	2	2	2	2	0	1	2	3	3	0	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	1	1			
West Vancouver Island	3	2	0	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	0	0	1	2	1	1	1	0	0	1	1			
East Vancouver Island	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	0	1	2	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	0			
Haida Gwaii	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1			

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](#)