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South Coast Assessment Bulletin
June 2026 Creel Survey Update
Recreational Fishery South Coast Tidal Waters

Overview:

This bulletin provides a monthly update on estimates of recreational fin-fishing effort and catch in the marine waters of southern British Columbia within Pacific Fishery Management Areas (PFMA) 11 - 29, 111, and 121 - 127. These estimates are generated from data collected by the DFO's South Coast Creel Survey. An overview of the survey, the study area, and methods used to collect data and generate these estimates is provided in the first bulletin of 2026 available on the Federal Science Library catalogue:

<http://science-libraries.canada.ca/eng/home/>

The search term 'South Coast assessment bulletin, creel survey' is helpful to find the bulletins.

The estimates presented in this bulletin are based on in-season data and should be interpreted as preliminary and subject to revision as the data are finalized.

Recreational Fishery Links:

It is the responsibility of all fishers to be familiar with the current regulations prior to fishing. Information on regulations and management measures in place can be accessed from the Fisheries and Oceans Canada Pacific Region Recreational Fishery webpage:

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

In addition, Fisheries and Oceans fishery notices of in-season regulation updates can be viewed here:

<http://notices.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fns-sap/index-eng.cfm>

Creel Survey Data:

A summary of survey statistics and preliminary recreation effort, measured in boat trips, by PFMA is presented in Table 1. Maps identifying the PFMA's are available by following the link provided above to the Fisheries and Oceans Canada Pacific Region Recreational Fishery webpage.

Cumulative totals are calculated June and where surveys were active.

Recreational Catch Estimates:

Summaries of preliminary kept and released catch estimates for key species by PFMA are presented in Tables 2 through 5. Table 6 presents kept Chinook catch estimates by PFMA, divided into Aggregate Abundance-based Management (AABM) and Individual Stock-based Management (ISBM) groupings.

Note:

As of March 2022, catch and effort estimates for the creel sub-areas within the management corridor along the west coast of Vancouver Island (i.e. 1 nm seaward from the surfline, from Barkley to Quatsino) are included as part of the associated offshore PFMA, with the exception of Chinook AABM/ISBM catch estimates (Table 6) as per the Pacific Salmon Treaty.

During overflights in PFMA's 24, 124, 25, and 125, Five Nations vessels are indistinguishable from sport vessels. Current in-season estimates are not adjusted to remove Five Nations effort.

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Table 1: Creel survey statistics (number of interviews and flights) and preliminary effort estimates (number of boat trips) by Pacific Fishery Management Area, June 2026.

Pacific Fishery Management Area (PFMA)	Number of Creel Interviews	Number of Effort Count Flights ¹	Effort			
			Estimate	%SE ²	Year to date ³	Year to date 5-yr avg
11	133	8	181	22%	181	373
111	78	8	174	32%	174	316
12	97	8	287	16%	287	491
13	150	8	2402	11%	2402	1964
14	169	8	3505	11%	3505	1992
15	11	8	817	11%	817	1427
16	48	8	651	15%	651	1431
17	81	8	2726	28%	2726	1782
18	27	8	871	17%	871	867
19	87	8	1492	15%	1492	1367
20	191	11	2689	9%	2689	2338
21	104	8	180	16%	180	254
121	65	10	133	33%	133	338
23	487	9	6286	9%	6286	4670
123	122	9	451	14%	451	551
24	70	9	662	17%	662	260
124	57	9	582	16%	582	494
25	98	7	1041	17%	1041	766
125	36	7	515	17%	515	937
26	Based on Logbooks	7	934	0%	934	576
126	Based on Logbooks	7	506	0%	506	373
27	85	8	740	18%	740	779
127	25	8	388	23%	388	325
28	70	8	869	12%	869	866
29	35	8	1260	19%	1260	1584
Total ⁴	2331		30342	4%	30342	27121

¹ The number of flights where weather conditions allowed effort counts.

² %SE is a measure of uncertainty: one Standard Error as a percentage of the estimate.

³ Cumulative effort (from June 2026) to date summed across periods where surveys are active.

⁴ Individual flights cover multiple PFMAs, so an additive total is not appropriate.

Table 2: Preliminary recreational kept catch estimates (number of fish) for key salmon species by Pacific Fishery Management Area (PFMA), June 2026. Percent standard error (%SE; one standard error as a percentage of the estimate), a measure of uncertainty, is indicated for estimates from PFMA's where they are calculated in-season.

Pacific Fishery Management Area (PFMA)	Chinook				Coho				Sockeye			
	Estimate	%SE	Year to date ¹	Year to date 5-yr. average ¹	Estimate	%SE	Year to date ¹	Year to date 5-yr. average ¹	Estimate	%SE	Year to date ¹	Year to date 5-yr. average ¹
11	686	17%	686	944								
111	867	18%	867	1051								
12					226	33%	226	35				
13	152	33%	152	732	2548	17%	2548	1141				
14					6136	15%	6136	1893				
15					1053	15%	1053	202				
16					125	43%	125	431				
17					1070	34%	1070	1659				
18					191	55%	191	29				
19												
20	141	46%	141	298	144	74%	144	829				
21	964	12%	964	816								
121												
23	6090	12%	6090	3680	1462	18%	1462	930	15621	16%	15621	8874
123	585	19%	585	524								
24	990	22%	990	268	335	34%	335	59				
124	224	26%	224	294								
25	2306	16%	2306	1487	1366	20%	1366	516				
125	511	23%	511	1438								
26	1825		1825	1201	349		349	219				
126												
27	1008	24%	1008	1320	435	30%	435	487				
127	316	45%	316	127	408	58%	408	41				
28	113	78%	113	2	2859	15%	2859	689				
29					1494	30%	1494	1534				
Sum ²	16778	6%	16778	14182	20201	7%	20201	10694	15621	16%	15621	8874

¹ Cumulative kept catch (from June 2026) to date summed across periods where surveys are active. Only displayed for PFMA where surveys were active this month.

² These are simple sums of the numbers displayed in the columns for the month.

Table 3: Preliminary recreational released catch estimates (number of fish) for key salmon species by Pacific Fishery Management Area (PFMA), June 2026. Percent standard error (%SE; one standard error as a percentage of the estimate), a measure of uncertainty, is indicated for estimates from PFMAs where they are calculated in-season.

Pacific Fishery Management Area (PFMA)	Chinook				Coho				Sockeye			
	Estimate	%SE	Year to date ¹	Year to date 5-yr. average ¹	Estimate	%SE	Year to date ¹	Year to date 5-yr. average ¹	Estimate	%SE	Year to date ¹	Year to date 5-yr. average ¹
11	398	33%	398	290	0		0	2	0		0	1
111	404	31%	404	202	2	120%	2	0				
12	276	34%	276	403	487	58%	487	37				
13	6767	15%	6767	5933	8861	17%	8861	3631	10	93%	10	12
14	18090	20%	18090	7066	19356	16%	19356	5200	1	135%	1	0
15	2560	12%	2560	5699	3712	14%	3712	618	5	79%	5	
16	1229	29%	1229	1381	541	25%	541	1511				
17	5090	25%	5090	3779	4287	44%	4287	4008				
18	206	38%	206	544	443	49%	443	101				
19	1129	34%	1129	381	302	68%	302	21				
20	3645	17%	3645	2541	420	38%	420	2632	36	94%	36	36
21	132	25%	132	225	0		0	7				
121	0		0	6								
23	8471	17%	8471	11469	781	31%	781	406	1646	23%	1646	626
123	372	31%	372	510	30	58%	30	151	0		0	
24	312	44%	312	133	123	49%	123	15				
124	88	55%	88	77	0		0	11				
25	803	23%	803	2560	537	37%	537	338				
125	231	59%	231	2328	25	98%	25	362				
26	557		557	295								
126												
27	375	42%	375	719	637	28%	637	173				
127	0		0	54	107	127%	107	25				
28	2285	27%	2285	1417	4332	19%	4332	1351				
29	3104	24%	3104	3566	3350	29%	3350	3408				
Sum ²	56524	8%	56524	51578	48333	9%	48333	24008	1698	22%	1698	675

¹ Cumulative kept catch (from June 2026) to date summed across periods where surveys are active. Only displayed for PFMA where surveys were active this month.

² These are simple sums of the numbers displayed in the columns for the month.

Table 4: Preliminary recreational kept catch estimates (number of fish) for key groundfish species by Pacific Fishery Management Area (PFMA), June 2026. Percent standard error (%SE; one standard error as a percentage of the estimate), a measure of uncertainty, is indicated for estimates from PFMA's where they are calculated in-season.

Pacific Fishery Management Area (PFMA)	Halibut				Lingcod				Rockfishes ¹			
	Estimate	%SE	Year to date ²	Year to date 5-yr. average ²	Estimate	%SE	Year to date ²	Year to date 5-yr. average ²	Estimate	%SE	Year to date ²	Year to date 5-yr. average ²
11	81	32%	81	239	404	30%	404	550	376	19%	376	599
111	159	39%	159	183	353	37%	353	272	711	19%	711	676
12	157	40%	157	141	130	42%	130	174	126	27%	126	328
13	0		0	6	401	24%	401	351	585	25%	585	412
14	0		0	4	53	59%	53	153	517	39%	517	116
15	0		0	8	61	33%	61	278	174	31%	174	144
16	0		0	18	59	43%	59	154	211	29%	211	313
17	0		0	0	559	36%	559	310	213	38%	213	236
18	0		0	0	291	38%	291	153	478	27%	478	332
19	161	56%	161	218	219	45%	219	141	496	27%	496	498
20	104	69%	104	92	341	28%	341	307	590	35%	590	993
21	20	42%	20	36	54	54%	54	57	129	20%	129	159
121	358	34%	358	1208	172	74%	172	134	101	41%	101	232
23	73	68%	73	19	504	27%	504	373	1013	18%	1013	712
123	305	24%	305	459	383	28%	383	363	569	22%	569	426
24	130	51%	130	8	677	41%	677	27	63	53%	63	108
124	410	28%	410	556	941	32%	941	374	954	23%	954	334
25	38	65%	38	87	101	46%	101	248	735	27%	735	318
125	282	31%	282	394	1184	20%	1184	1477	614	29%	614	685
26	106		106	96	650		650	291	296		296	306
126	387		387	518	1206		1206	631	832		832	423
27	154	61%	154	145	604	38%	604	537	621	25%	621	601
127	90	60%	90	268	819	55%	819	1132	366	67%	366	523
28	0		0	0	0		0	0	0		0	10
29	0		0	0	207	36%	207	201	50	46%	50	237
Sum ³	3015	11%	3015	4703	10373	10%	10373	8688	10820	7%	10820	9721

¹ All rockfishes including those not identified to species.

² Cumulative kept catch (from June 2026) to date summed across periods where surveys are active. Only displayed for PFMA where surveys were active this month.

³ These are simple sums of the numbers displayed in the columns for the month.

Table 5: Preliminary recreational released catch estimates (number of fish) for key groundfish species by Pacific Fishery Management Area (PFMA), June 2026. Percent standard error (%SE; one standard error as a percentage of the estimate), a measure of uncertainty, is indicated for estimates from PFMA's where they are calculated in-season.

Pacific Fishery Management Area (PFMA)	Halibut				Lingcod				Rockfishes ¹			
	Estimate	%SE	Year to date ²	Year to date 5-yr. average ²	Estimate	%SE	Year to date ²	Year to date 5-yr. average ²	Estimate	%SE	Year to date ²	Year to date 5-yr. average ²
11	33	84%	33	53	115	34%	115	222	150	28%	150	313
111	33	62%	33	27	237	33%	237	261	262	26%	262	414
12	17	74%	17	33	47	49%	47	132	211	36%	211	652
13	0		0	1	1097	23%	1097	1418	637	28%	637	860
14	0		0	0	38	58%	38	385	244	35%	244	594
15	0		0	0	279	34%	279	567	122	47%	122	602
16	0		0	0	32	63%	32	433	408	44%	408	622
17	0		0	1	710	51%	710	598	957	40%	957	550
18	0		0	0	810	29%	810	575	575	29%	575	538
19	0		0	34	997	26%	997	1231	570	40%	570	787
20	3	107%	3	44	1469	69%	1469	976	773	24%	773	1266
21	18	76%	18	3	47	40%	47	40	11	62%	11	48
121	84	43%	84	234	93	95%	93	36	10	83%	10	72
23	12	94%	12	13	602	23%	602	634	913	25%	913	753
123	116	42%	116	142	269	35%	269	475	316	25%	316	251
24	27	80%	27	0	179	69%	179	7	179	62%	179	35
124	95	56%	95	160	238	41%	238	112	369	34%	369	177
25	0		0	12	126	48%	126	171	348	41%	348	271
125	73	49%	73	54	47	51%	47	873	677	25%	677	866
26	51		51	2	17		17	22	156		156	88
126	99		99	74	169		169	35	294		294	463
27	7	80%	7	38	127	53%	127	289	178	34%	178	523
127	5	80%	5	57	182	86%	182	321	288	61%	288	514
28	0		0	0	57	55%	57	6	0		0	44
29	0		0	0	118	54%	118	296	88	69%	88	214
Sum ³	673	19%	673	982	8102	15%	8102	10115	8736	9%	8736	11517

¹ All rockfishes including those not identified to species.

² Cumulative kept catch (from June 2026) to date summed across periods where surveys are active. Only displayed for PFMA where surveys were active this month.

³ These are simple sums of the numbers displayed in the columns for the month.

Table 6: Preliminary recreational kept Chinook catch estimates (number of fish) by Pacific Fishery Management Area (PFMA), June 2026, divided into Aggregate Abundance-based Management (AABM) and Individual Stock-based Management (ISBM) groupings.

Area	Region	AABM			ISBM		
		Esti- mate	Year to date ¹	Year to date 5-yr. average ²	Esti- mate	Year to date ¹	Year to date 5-yr. average ²
121	Swiftsure Bank	0	0	0	0	0	0
123	Offshore Barkley	585	585	500	0	0	0
124	Offshore Clayoquot	224	224	350	0	0	0
125	Offshore Nootka	511	511	1450	0	0	0
126	Offshore Kyuquot	0	0	0	0	0	0
127	Offshore Quatsino	316	316	150	0	0	0
20 (West)	Juan de Fuca	0	0	0	0	0	0
21	Nitinat	964	964	800	0	0	0
23-1,2	Alberni Inlet	101	101	0	0	0	0
23-3 to 11	Barkley Sound	5989	5989	3650	0	0	0
24	Clayoquot Sound	990	990	250	0	0	0
25	Nootka Snd. / Esperanza Inlet	2306	2306	1500	0	0	0
26	Kyuquot Sound	1825	1825	1200	0	0	0
27	Quatsino Sound	1008	1008	1300	0	0	0
Total		14819	14819	11150	0	0	0

¹ Cumulative kept catch (from June 2026) to date summed across periods where surveys are active.

² Cumulative kept catch 5-year averages have been rounded to the nearest 50 fish.