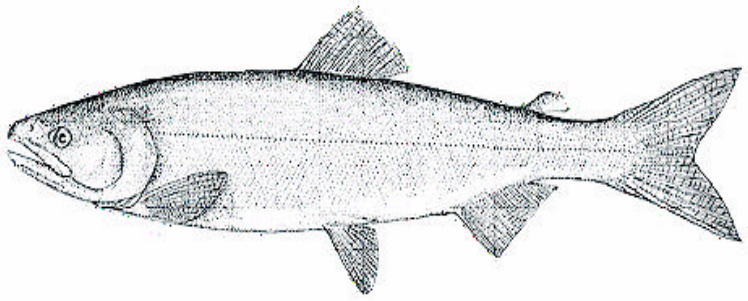
PACIFIC REGION

INTEGRATED FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PLAN

SALMON
NORTHERN B.C.
JUNE 1, 2008 - MAY 31, 2009



Oncorhynchus spp

Fisheries and Oceans Canada | Pêches et Océans Canada

Canada

This Integrated Fisheries Management Plan is intended for general purposes only. Where there is a discrepancy between the Plan and the Fisheries Act and Regulations, the Act and Regulations are the final authority. A description of Areas and Subareas referenced in this Plan can be found in the Pacific Fishery Management Area Regulations.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

DEPARTMENT CONTACTS
INDEX OF WEB-BASED INFORMATION
MANAGEMENT CHANGES FOR 2008/2009 10
1. INTRODUCTION 12
2. GENERAL CONTEXT 13
2.1. Background 13
2.2. Policy Framework for the Management of Pacific Salmon Fisheries 13
2.3. Conservation 15
2.4. Marine Mammal Management Plans 18
2.5. First Nations and Canada's Fisheries Framework 20
2.6. Scientific Support 21
2.7. Pacific Salmon Treaty 22
2.8. Fishing Vessel Safety 24
3. OBJECTIVES 24
3.1. Fishery Management Objectives for Stocks of Concern 24
3.2. First Nations Fisheries Objectives 27
3.3. Recreational and Commercial Fisheries Objectives 27
3.4. International Objectives 27
3.5. Domestic Allocation Objectives 28
3.6. Compliance Management Objectives 28
3.7. Enhancement Objectives 29
4. DECISION GUIDELINES AND SPECIFIC MANAGEMENT MEASURES 35
4.1. General Decision Guidelines 35
4.2. Chinook - AABM / ISBM Management 39
4.3. Queen Charlotte Islands Chum and Pink Decision Guidelines 40
4.4. Nass River Decision Guidelines 42
4.5. Skeena River Decision Guidelines 44
4.6. Area 6 - Kitimat, Kemano, Quaal Pink and Chum Decision Guidelines 50
4.7. Area 7 Chum Decision Guidelines 51
4.8. Area 8 - Atnarko Chinook 53
4.9. Area 8 Pink and Chum Decision Guidelines 54
4.10. Area 9 - Rivers Inlet Sockeye Decision Guidelines 55
4.11. Area 10 - Long Lake Sockeye and Nekite Chum Decision Guidelines 56
4.12. Northern Troll Decision Guidelines 57
5. FIRST NATIONS FISHING PLAN 60
5.1. Catch Monitoring and Reporting Initiatives 60
5.2. Specific Conservation Measures 60
5.3. Communal Licence Harvest Targets 60
5.4. Anticipated Food, Social and Ceremonial Opportunities 62
5.5. Nisga'a Fisheries 62

5.6. Aboriginal Commercial Fishing Opportunities....63
6. RECREATIONAL FISHING PLAN....63
6.1. Catch Monitoring and Reporting Initiatives....63
6.2. Specific Conservation Measures....64
6.3. Tidal Waters Fishery....64
6.4. Non-Tidal Waters Fishery....67
7. COMMERCIAL FISHING PLAN....67
7.1. Catch Monitoring and Reporting Initiative....67
7.2. Implementation....68
7.3. Test Fishing/Use of Fish Arrangements....69
7.4. Licence Application and Issuance....69
7.5. Mandatory Log-Book and Phone-In Program....70
7.6. North Coast Non-Retention Species....71
7.7. Net Fishing Times....72
7.8. Revival Tanks....72
7.9. Demonstration Fisheries....73
7.10. Gill Net Construction and Configuration....73
7.11. Selective Fishing and other Conservation Measures....74
7.12. Seine Fisheries....75
7.13. Anticipated Net Opening Dates....75
7.14. Northern Troll....77
8. 2007 POST-SEASON OBJECTIVES REVIEW....78
8.1. Conservation Objectives....78
8.2. First Nations Fisheries Objectives....80
8.3. Recreational and Commercial Fisheries Objectives....80
8.4. International Objectives....80
8.5. Domestic Allocation Objectives....80
8.6. Compliance Management Objectives....81
8.7. Enhancement Objectives....81
9. ATTACHMENTS....86

DEPARTMENT CONTACTS
A more comprehensive list of contacts can be found online at:

www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/ops/fm/toppages/contacts_e.htm

24 Hour Recorded Information (Commercial)	Vancouver	(604) 666-2828
	Toll Free	(888) 431-3474
Pacific Salmon Commission (PSC) Office		(604) 684-8081
PSC Test Fisheries (Recorded, In-Season Information)		(604) 666-8200

Recreational Fishing:
www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/recfish/default_e.htm

Commercial Fishing:
www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/ops/fm/Commercial/index_e.htm

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Resource Manager - Central Coast commercial	Terry Palfrey	(250) 799-5345
Resource Manager - Central Coast AFS and Recreational	Kristen Smith	(250) 799-5346
Resource Manager - Northern Troll	Victor Fradette	(250) 559-4467
Resource Manager - Recreational Fisheries	Mark Reagan	(250) 627-3409
Salmon Management Biologist, North Coast	Mark Potyrala	(250) 627-3459
Resource Manager, AFS North Coast coastal	Karen Kimura-Miller	(250) 627-3020
Resource Manager, AFS North Coast interior	Vacant	(250) 847-5108

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417 2nd Avenue West
Prince Rupert, B.C. V8J 1G8

INDEX OF WEB-BASED INFORMATION

FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA - GENERAL INFORMATION

Main Page (www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/) Our Vision, Latest News, Current Topics

Acts, Orders, and Regulations (www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/communic/policy/dnload_e.htm)
Examples are: Canada Shipping Act, Coastal Fisheries Protection Act, Department of Fisheries and Oceans Act, Financial Administration Act, Fish Inspection Act, Fisheries Act, Fisheries Development Act, Fishing and Recreational Harbours Act, Freshwater Fish Marketing Act, Navigable Waters Protection Act, Oceans Act.

Reports and Publications (www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/publication_e.htm)
Examples are: Administration and Enforcement of the Fish Habitat Protection and Pollution Prevention Provisions of the *Fisheries Act*, Audit and Evaluation Reports - Audit and Evaluation Directorate Canadian Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing Operations, Departmental Performance Reports, Fisheries Research Documents, Standing Committee's Reports and Government responses, Sustainable Development Strategy

Waves (http://inter01.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/waves2/index.html)
Fisheries and Oceans Canada online library catalogue

Pacific Salmon Treaty (www.psc.org/about_treaty.htm)
Background information; full text of the treaty

PACIFIC REGION - GENERAL

Main Page (www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/)
General information, Area Information, Latest News, Current topics

Policies, Reports and Programs
(www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species/salmon/policies/default_e.htm)
Reports and Discussion Papers, New Directions Policy Series, Agreements

Oceans Program (www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/oceans/default_e.htm)
Integrated Coastal Management; Marine Protected Areas; Marine Environmental Quality; Oceans Outreach; Oceans Act

PACIFIC REGION - FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE MANAGEMENT

Main Page (www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/ops/fm/fishmgmt_e.htm)
Commercial Fisheries, New and Emerging Fisheries, Recreational Fisheries, Maps, Notices and Plans
Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy (www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/tapd/afs_e.htm)
Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy (AFS) principles and objectives; AFS agreements; Programs; Treaty Negotiations

Recreational Fisheries (www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/recfish/default_e.htm)
Fishery Regulations and Notices, Fishing Information, Recreational Fishery, Policy and Management, Contacts, Current B.C. Tidal Waters Sport Fishing Guide and Freshwater Supplement; Rockfish Conservation Areas, Shellfish Contamination Closures; On-line Licensing

Commercial Fisheries (www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/ops/fm/Commercial/index_e.htm)
Links to Groundfish, Herring, Salmon, Shellfish and New and Emerging Fisheries homepages; Selective Fishing, Test Fishing Information, Fishing Areas, Canadian Tide Tables, Fishery Management Plans, Commercial Fishery Notices (openings and closures)

Fisheries Notices (www-ops2.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fns_reg/index.cfm)
Want to receive fishery notices by e-mail? If you are a recreational sport licence vendor, processor, multiple boat owner or re-distribute fishery notices, register your name and/or company at the web-site address above. Openings and closures, updates, and other relevant information regarding your chosen fishery are sent directly to your registered email. It's quick, it's easy and it's free.

Integrated Fishery Management Plans
(www-ops2.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/xnet/content/MPLANS/MPlans.htm)
Current Management Plans for Groundfish, Pelagics, Shellfish (Invertebrates), Minor Finfish, Salmon; sample Licence Conditions; Archived Management Plans

Salmon Test Fishery - Pacific Region
(www-ops2.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/xnet/content/salmon/testfish/default.htm)
Definition, description, location and target stocks

Licensing (www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/ops/fm/Licensing/Default_e.htm)
Contact information; Recreational Licensing Information, Commercial Licence Types, Commercial Licence Areas, Licence Listings, Vessel Information, Vessel Directory, Licence Statistics and Application Forms

Salmon (www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species/salmon/default_e.htm) – NEW!!
Salmon Facts; Salmon Fisheries; Enhancement and Conservation; Research and Assessment; Consultations; Policies, Reports and Agreements; Glossary of Salmon Terms

Fraser River / B.C. Interior Area Resource Management and Stock Assessment
(www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fraserriver/)
Contact information; Test fishing and survey results (Albion, creel surveys, First Nations); Fraser River sockeye and pink escapement updates; Important notices; Recreational fishing information

North Coast Resource Management (www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/northcoast/default.htm)
First Nations fisheries, Recreational fisheries; Commercial salmon and herring fisheries; Skeena Tyee test fishery; Counting facilities; Post-season Review; Contacts

Yukon/Transboundary Rivers Area Main Page
(www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/yukon/default_e.htm)
Fisheries Management; Recreational fisheries; Habitat; Fisheries Management; Licensing; Contacts

PACIFIC REGION – OCEANS, HABITAT AND ENHANCEMENT

Main Page (www-heb.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/default_e.htm)
Publications (legislation, policy, guidelines, educational resources, brochures, newsletters and bulletins, papers and abstracts, reports); GIS maps and Data (Habitat inventories, spatial data holdings, land use planning maps); Community involvement (advisors and coordinators, educational materials, Habitat Conservation and Stewardship Program, projects, Streamtalk)

PACIFIC REGION - POLICY AND COMMUNICATIONS

Main Page (www-comm.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/)
Media Releases; Salmon Updates, Backgrounders, Ministers Statements, Publications; Contacts

Consultation Secretariat
(www-comm.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pages/consultations/consult_e.htm)
Consultation Calendar; Policies; National; Partnerships; Fisheries Management, Oceans, Science and Habitat and Enhancement Consultations; Current and Concluded Consultations

Publications Catalogue
(www-comm.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pages/NPubCatalogue/pubs_e.asp)
Listing of information booklets and fact sheets available through Communications branch

Species at Risk Act (SARA)
(www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/sara/default_e.htm)
SARA species; SARA permits; public registry; enforcement; Stewardship projects; Consultation; Past Consultation; First Nations; Related Sites; For Kids; News Releases

PACIFIC REGION - SCIENCE

Main Page (http://www-sci.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/sci/default_e.htm)
Science divisions; Research facilities; PSARC; International Research Initiatives

Salmon and Freshwater Ecosystems (SAFE)
(www-sci.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/mehsd/index_e.htm)
Research; Research Sites; Research Programs; Fraser River Environmental Watch Program; Publications and Reports; Photo Gallery; Pink Salmon/Sea Lice Monitoring Program

GLOSSARY

A more comprehensive glossary is available online at:

www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/ops/fm/salmon/glossary_e.htm

AABM	Aggregate Abundance Based Management
AAROM	Aboriginal Aquatic Resource and Oceans Management
AHC	Area Harvest Committee
AFS	Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy
ATP	Allocation Transfer Program
BKD	Bacterial Kidney Disease
COSEWIC	Committee for the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada
CPUE	Catch per unit effort
CSAB	Commercial Salmon Advisory Board
CWT	Coded wire tag
ESSR	Excess Salmon to Spawning Requirements
FRP	Fraser River Panel
FSC	Food, social and ceremonial
IHPC	Integrated Harvest Planning Committee
ISBM	Individual Stock Based Management
PICFI	Pacific Integrated Commercial Fisheries Initiative
PSARC	Pacific Scientific Advice Review Committee
PSC	Pacific Salmon Commission
PST	Pacific Salmon Treaty
RCA	Rockfish Conservation Area
SARA	Species at Risk Act
SEP	Salmonid Enhancement Program
SFAB	Sport Fishing Advisory Board
TAC	Total allowable catch
WCVI	West Coast Vancouver Island
WSP	Wild Salmon Policy (*Canada's Policy for Conservation of Wild Pacific Salmon)*

MANAGEMENT CHANGES FOR 2008/2009

(These are only some of the changes for this year. For more details, please refer to appropriate section.)

An independent science review conducted on Skeena salmon and steelhead was released on May 15, 2008. The Department will be consulting with all users of the Skeena resource, as well as others interested in the Skeena, to determine the exact course of action to follow. For 2008, management of the Skeena system will be precautionary, and given the modest returns expected, the fishery in 2008 is expected to be of low intensity.

Coho will be non-retention in all commercial north coast net fisheries at the start of the year. This may change in-season depending on observed abundance. This non-retention is being re-established after survival rates have declined in recent years.

Assessment of the 2007 Skeena chinook return indicated a very poor age-4 component, likely leading to few age-5 chinook returning to the Skeena in 2008. In addition, Bear River chinook returns have been poor since 2005. As a result, the Area 4 gill net chinook-directed opportunity will be dependent upon in-season stock assessment information. Changes to recreational sector regulations may also be required in 2008 should in-season stock assessment information indicate a very poor 2008 Skeena chinook return.

Troll fishing for chinook is scheduled from June 20 to July 31, with further fisheries dependant on WCVI catch. The closing date of July 31 could occur earlier if more than the expected amount of WCVI chinook are caught. The overall troll allocation is 64,800, with an ITQ amount of 228 chinook per Area F vessel.

A more restrictive Area 104 boundary will be re-established for the coho troll fishery. This boundary was dropped in 2007, but is being re-established to continue to provide additional protection to Skeena River coho, which had a poor survival rate in the 2007 return year.

Sockeye fisheries in Areas 9 and 10 are very unlikely. Given the continued poor survival of these fish, it is essential to have a sustained increase in returns before any fishery is contemplated.

The development of an improved catch monitoring regime will continue to be a priority in the management of commercial, recreational and First Nations fisheries. The Department is working with the stakeholder and First Nation groups to develop catch monitoring standards for all fisheries. The standards focus on data collected to estimate catches, releases, and other essential biological data for stock assessments and fishery management evaluations.

The Department has recently released a consultation document in February, 2008 called *"Interim Fishery Monitoring and Catch Reporting Standards for Commercial Salmon Fisheries"*. This document will form the basis for discussion with the commercial salmon fleet regarding interim fishery monitoring and catch reporting standards.

Pacific Integrated Commercial Fisheries Initiative (PICFI) is a new initiative aimed at achieving environmentally sustainable and economically viable commercial fisheries, where conservation is the first priority and First Nations' aspirations to be more involved are supported.

For further information, please visit:
http://www-comm.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pages/consultations/Consultation2007/PICFI/default_e.htm

In 2008, Area Harvest Committees will continue to explore innovative ways to access TAC more efficiently, to increase market value of the product, or TAC that may be unavailable due to conservation concerns, or to access TAC that a full fleet fishery is unable to access. As in previous years, the focus with First Nations will be on experimenting in terminal areas on abundant stocks. These fisheries will be conducted separately from food, social and ceremonial fisheries, under the same priority and similar rules as the commercial fishery and fish harvested will be off-set with licences retired from the commercial fishery.

1. INTRODUCTION

This 2008/2009 Northern B.C. Salmon IFMP covers the period from June 1, 2008 to May 31, 2009 for First Nations, recreational and commercial fisheries directed towards Pacific salmon in the north and central coast areas of British Columbia (B.C.). The plan encompasses tidal and non-tidal waters from Cape Caution north to the B.C./Alaska boundary. The tidal waters within this area are denoted as Management Areas 1 to 10 inclusive, 101 to 110 inclusive, and 130 and 142. For the purposes of this IFMP, non-tidal waters are defined as the watersheds that contain anadromous salmon and flow into Areas 1 to 10. Pacific salmon species covered in this plan include sockeye, coho, pink, chum and chinook salmon.

This plan describes the management of Pacific salmon fisheries in northern B.C. and the factors which influence decision-making.

This plan incorporates the results of consultation and input from the Integrated Harvest Planning Committee (IHPC), north coast First Nations, north coast recreational and commercial advisors, and environmental non-government organizations (ENGOs).

Fisheries and Oceans Canada will continue to consult with First Nations, recreational, and commercial fish harvesters to further co-ordinate fishing activities in 2008. Further consultations will occur as updated forecast information becomes available or when observed in-season returns are not covered by the decision guidelines.

Details about on-going policy development and other departmental initiatives can be found on the Fisheries and Oceans Canada website. For more specific information, refer to the Index of Web Based Information section of this document.

2. GENERAL CONTEXT

Salmon have always played a pivotal role in the fabric of Pacific coast life. They are an integral part of the ecosystem providing a source of food and nutrients for a wide variety of flora and fauna. They have been a key component of First Nations culture and diets for millennia and more recently, played a very important part in the socio-economic development of Canada's west coast.

Due to their significance and the very high level of interest in ensuring these populations can sustain themselves, prudent and careful management supported by the broad spectrum of interests is required. Salmon are currently under a variety of threats including changing conditions resulting from environmental uncertainty, habitat modifications and in some cases, overexploitation.

In order to effectively manage these stocks, a series of policies and regulations have been adopted to address biological uncertainty, legal requirements and sharing of the resource. This section provides a brief overview of key policies and the legal context for Pacific salmon management. Additional information is accessible on-line and can be found through the Index of Web Based Information.

2.1. Background

Departmental policy development related to the management of fisheries is guided by a range of considerations that include legislated mandates, judicial guidance and international and domestic commitments that promote biodiversity and a precautionary, ecosystem-based approach to the management of marine resources. Each of the policies were developed with considerable consultation from all those with an interest in salmon management. While the policies themselves are not subject to annual changes, implementation details are continually refined where there is general support.

2.2. Policy Framework for the Management of Pacific Salmon Fisheries

Salmon management programs in 2008 will continue to be guided by policy and operational initiatives adopted over the past several years. These include; *Canada's Policy for Conservation of Wild Pacific Salmon* (WSP), *An Allocation Policy for Pacific Salmon*, Pacific Fisheries Reform, *A Policy for Selective Fishing, A Framework for Improved Decision Making in the Pacific Salmon Fishery,* the Integrated Harvest Planning Committee, and Pacific Region Fishery Monitoring and Reporting Framework.

Canada's Policy for Conservation of Wild Pacific Salmon (also called the Wild Salmon Policy) sets out the vision regarding the importance and role of Pacific Wild salmon as well as a strategy for their protection. More information on this can be found in Section 2.3.1 of this plan or on the internet at http://www-comm.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/ publications/wsp/default_e.htm

An Allocation Policy for Pacific Salmon, announced in 1999, contains principles to guide the management and allocation of the Pacific salmon resource between First Nations, commercial and

recreational harvesters, and forms the basis for general decision guidelines outlined in Section 4.1 of this plan.

Pacific Fisheries Reform, announced by the Department in April of 2005, provides a vision of a sustainable fishery where the full potential of the resource is realized, Aboriginal rights and title are respected, there is certainty and stability for all, and fishery participants share in the responsibility of management. Future treaties with First Nations are contemplated, as is the need to be adaptive and responsive to change. This policy direction provides a framework for improving the economic viability of commercial fisheries, and to addressing First Nations aspirations with respect FSC and commercial access and involvement in management. Over the past two years work has also been initiated between the recreational sector (SFAB), DFO and the Province of B.C. that recognizes the current and future value of the recreational fishery via the development of a vision and strategic plan for the recreational fishery in BC. The draft document, *A Vision for Recreational Fisheries in British Columbia 2008-2012, encompassing tidal waters and anadromous species of the West Coast of Canada,* is the result of that effort and is intended to chart a course for the future for a recreational fishery in BC that is sustainable, provides benefits to Canadians, and is managed in an integrated fashion that respects the interests of others.

In January 2001, the Department released *A Policy for Selective Fishing in Canada's Pacific Fisheries*. Under the Department's selective fishing initiative, harvester groups have experimented with a variety of methods to reduce the impact of fisheries on non-target species, with a number of measures reaching implementation in fisheries.

Consultative elements of an *Improved Decision Making* discussion paper have been implemented through establishment of the Consultation Secretariat, which works to improve the flow of information between stakeholders and the Department. Up-to-date information pertaining to on-going consultations can be found on the Secretariat's website at: http://www-comm.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pages/consultations/consult_e.htm.

The Integrated Harvest Planning Committee (IHPC) for salmon is comprised of First Nations, recreational and commercial interests (as represented by the Sport Fishing Advisory Board and the Commercial Salmon Advisory Board) and the Marine Conservation Caucus (representing a coalition of "environmental" organizations. This committee is recognized to be the primary source of stakeholder input into Salmon Integrated Fisheries Management Plans.

In 2002, the Department released the Pacific Region Fishery Monitoring and Reporting Framework. This framework will be used as the main reference tool during coast-wide consultations to identify necessary improvements in fishery monitoring and catch reporting systems. This framework outlines the department's goals, objectives and requirements in catch monitoring.

Further information on salmon consultations, including terms of reference, membership, meeting dates and records of consultation can be found on the Salmon Consultation website at: http://www-ops2.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/xnet/content/consultations/salmon/sapdefault_e.htm.

On May 1, 2004, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) introduced a new national policy entitled, *Access to Wild Aquatic Resources as it Applies to Aquaculture*. For the purposes of this policy, wild aquatic resources include both wild salmon, defined in 'Canada's Policy for Conservation of Wild Pacific Salmon' and hatchery stocks managed by DFO.
Aquaculturists require access to the wild resource to conduct their aquaculture operations. This policy is consistent with the commitment taken by DFO in its "Aquaculture Policy Framework" introduced in 2002 to provide aquaculturists with predictable, equitable, and timely access to the aquatic resource base.

This policy provides the aquaculture industry with access to wild stocks in a manner that is consistent with the department's sustainable management of those stocks. Access requests for wild aquatic resources will be considered by the regional aquaculture offices in collaboration with the ongoing fisheries management planning process.

For further information refer to the following web link:
http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/aquaculture/ref/AWAR_e.htm

2.3. Conservation

Given the importance of Pacific salmon to the cultural and socio-economic fabric of Canada, conservation of these stocks is of the utmost importance. In order to achieve this, specific actions are taken to not only ensure protection of fish stocks, but also freshwater and marine habitats. Protecting a broad range of stocks is the most prudent way of maintaining biodiversity and genetic integrity.

Management of a natural resource like salmon has a number of inherent risks. Uncertain forecasting, environmental and biological variability as well as changes in harvester behaviour all add risks that can threaten conservation. Accordingly management actions will be precautionary and risks will be specifically evaluated. Conservation of salmon stocks is the best approach to reduce risk of long term negative impacts to these stocks and the social and economic values that are derived from them.

2.3.1. Wild Salmon Policy

The WSP, which was approved in 2005, sets out a process for the protection, preservation and rebuilding of wild salmon and their marine and freshwater ecosystems for the benefit of all Canadians. The policy provides for the identification of irreplaceable groupings of stocks (called “Conservation Units”) and the identification of upper and lower benchmarks that are a measure of the status of each CU. Other features of the WSP include the monitoring of habitat status and a process for public engagement in the establishment of long term strategic plans for Conservation Units. In 2008, work is continuing to finalize Conservation Units and develop methodologies for definitions of upper and lower benchmarks, complete habitat and ecosystem indicators and Regional reviews. In addition, WSP pilots for the development of strategic plans will be implemented including a pilot in Barkley Sound (Area 23) salmon starting in 2008.

2.3.2. Species at Risk Act

The *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) came into force in 2003. The purposes of the *Act* are "to prevent wildlife species from being extirpated or becoming extinct, and to provide for the recovery of a wildlife species that are extirpated, endangered or threatened as a result of human activity and to manage species of special concern to prevent them from becoming endangered or threatened".

Endangered, threatened, and special concern marine species in Pacific region currently listed under Schedule I of SARA are:

1. Blue whale - Endangered
2. Killer whale southern resident population - Endangered
3. Killer whale northern resident population - Threatened
4. Killer whale transient population - Threatened
5. Leatherback turtle - Endangered
6. North Pacific right whale - Endangered
7. Sei whale - Endangered
8. Northern Abalone - Threatened
9. Fin whale - Threatened
10. Humpback whale - Threatened
11. Sea otter - Threatened[*]
12. Green sturgeon – Special Concern
13. Grey whale – Special Concern
14. Harbour porpoise – Special Concern
15. Killer whale offshore population – Special Concern
16. Olympia oyster – Special Concern
17. Steller sea lion – Special Concern

In addition to the existing prohibitions under the *Fisheries Act*, it is illegal to kill, harm, harass, capture, take, possess, collect, buy, sell or trade any listed endangered or threatened animal or any part or derivative of an individual. These prohibitions apply unless a person is authorized, by a permit, licence or other similar document issued in accordance with SARA, to engage in an activity affecting the listed species or the residences of its individuals. Species listed as special concern are not included in these prohibitions.

COSEWIC-designated marine or anadromous species in Pacific region currently under consideration for listing under Schedule I of SARA are:

1. Basking shark - Endangered
2. Bocaccio - Threatened

[*] In 2007, COSEWIC re-assessed sea otter as a species of Special Concern. It is currently in the listing process, proposed to be re-listed as Special Concern, replacing the current Threatened listing.

3. Northern fur seal - Threatened
4. Okanagan Chinook - Threatened
5. Longspine thornyhead – Special Concern
6. Rougheye rockfish types I & II – Special Concern
7. Sea otter – Special Concern
8. Sixgill shark – Special Concern
9. Soupfin shark (tope) – Special Concern

The formal SARA legal listing process begins when the Minister of Environment issues a response statement, detailing how he intends to proceed with the COSEWIC species designations. This step has already occurred for these nine species, and the response statements can be found at: http://www.sararegistry.gc.ca/search/advSearchResults_e.cfm?stype=doc&docID=19.

Listing decisions are likely to take place in winter 2008 for Northern fur seal, longspine thornyhead, rougheye rockfish, sea otter, sixgill shark, and soupfin shark (tope). Listing decisions for basking shark, bocaccio, and Okanagan chinook are likely to take place in winter 2009.

COSEWIC Assessments

For a full list of the 2007 assessment results, please visit: http://www.cosewic.gc.ca/rpts/Detailed_Species_Assessments_e.html. In 2008, COSEWIC will be assessing the status of yelloweye rockfish. Assessments produced by COSEWIC help inform the Minister of Environment's decision on whether to list species under Schedule I of SARA.

Salmon

Three populations of salmon (Cultus Lake sockeye, Sakinaw Lake sockeye, and Interior Fraser coho) have been designated as Endangered by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC). Following extensive public and stakeholder consultation processes for each population, the Minister of Environment, in consultation with the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, did not include these populations on Schedule I of SARA. However, recovery efforts are continuing for each population.

DFO, in cooperation with the Interior Fraser Coho Recovery Team, have developed the *Conservation Strategy for Coho Salmon, Interior Fraser River Populations*. This strategy is an integral tool in effecting recovery of these unique coho populations. It is a science-based document that describes the species' biology, habitats and threats. The strategy also identifies a recovery goal, with accompanying principles and objectives designed to guide activities to achieve recovery. To view the conservation strategy, please visit: http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species/salmon/InteriorFraserCohoCS/default_e.htm.

Conservation Strategies for Cultus and Sakinaw Lake sockeye are currently being finalized. Specific conservation objectives for these and other stocks are laid out in Section 3.

2.4. Marine Mammal Management Plans

DFO is currently developing SARA Management Plans for four marine mammals listed as Special Concern: offshore killer whale, harbour porpoise, grey whale, and Steller sea lion. These plans, which will be posted on the SARA Registry for public comment in Summer 2008, describe species biology, distribution, and threats, as well as recommending potential actions to protect these species, and mitigate impacts from key threats. Several key threats to these species include oil spills, chemical pollution, acute noise stress, reduced prey availability, habitat degradation and fishing gear entanglement.

More information on COSEWIC, SARA, and the listing process can be found at:
www.cosewic.gc.ca/
www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species-especes/home_e.asp
www.sararegistry.gc.ca/

Marine Mammal Disturbance

Comments, questions or concerns regarding these marine mammal notices can me made to MarineMammals@pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca

The Marine Mammal Regulations under the *Fisheries Act* specifically prohibit the disturbance of marine mammals. Many marine mammals are also listed as threatened or endangered under the Species at Risk Act which also prohibits the harassment and harm of these species.

Guidelines for marine mammal viewing have been developed. To avoid disturbing marine mammals, fish harvesters are advised to follow the ***Be Whale Wise: Marine Wildlife Guidelines for Boaters, Paddlers and Viewers (BWW),*** which are available from local Fisheries Offices or on-line at http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species/marinemammals/default_e.htm

Non-compliance with the BWW Guidelines, may lead to charges under the Marine Mammal Regulations and/or the Species at Risk Act.

Whale Depredation

Depredation (the removal of fish from fishing gear) by killer whales has been reported by groundfish longline, salmon troll, and recreational harvesters in B.C.

Depredation is a learned behaviour that spreads throughout whale social groups and, once established, is impossible to eliminate. It is critical that B.C. fish harvesters do not encourage this learning by having whales associate obtaining fish with fishing activity. Encouraging this behaviour will quickly lead to significant losses for commercial and sports fish harvesters.

The most important approach to prevent this from spreading is by NOT feeding whales directly or indirectly. Not hauling gear in the vicinity of killer whales and sperm whales is recommended. Killer whales will typically pass through an area and fishing can be resumed. Additional tips on avoiding depredations and further information are available in Marine Mammal Bulletin #2 (see below). It is also recommended that you advise other fish harvesters in the area if you encounter depredation.

If you experience depredation by whales, please report the incident by email to MarineMammals@pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca or by calling (250) 756-7253. Reporting all incidents will assist DFO and fish harvesters in understanding this problem and developing strategies to avoid it. Reports will be confidential unless explicit permission is given to release information.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada Contact:

Marilyn Joyce 250-666-9965
John Ford 250-729-8375

BC Commercial Fishing Industry Contacts:

The following fish harvesters participated in a symposium on depredation and are available for more information or to discuss depredation:

Jake Vanderheide	250-709-2336
David Boyes	250-338-2188
Henry Heggelund	250-642-3316
Terry Gustafson	250-743-5213

A Depredation Fact Sheet (Marine Mammal Bulletin #2) is available and will be distributed with licences or can be found at: www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species/marinemammals/default_e.htm

Reporting Whale, Dolphin, Porpoise & Turtle Sightings

Understanding the distribution and movements of cetaceans on the BC coast is a key objective of the DFO's Research Program. Your assistance in reporting sightings is greatly appreciated and there are several reporting options outlined below.

To report sightings of cetacean (whale, dolphin and porpoise) or sea turtles, contact the B.C. Cetacean Sighting Network as soon as possible by phone at 1-866-I SAW ONE (472-9663) or www.vanaqua.org/sightings (for an online form) or by email at: sightings@vanaqua.org or turtles@vanaqua.org . You may also participate in a formalized logbook program by calling or contacting the Network at the one of the above contacts.

Reporting Marine Mammal Incidents (including entanglement & by-catch)

Marine mammal incidents comprise a range of occurrences which may include; live strandings, dead, sick or injured animals, entanglements or potential violations (disturbance, harm, or harassment). Orphaned seal pups are the exception (see below).

To report a marine mammal incident, including violations, call DFO's Observe, Record, Report (ORR) line at 1-800-465-4336. All entanglements or by-catch of marine mammals must be reported.

Observations of orphaned seal pups may be reported to the Vancouver Aquarium Marine Mammal Rescue and Rehabilitation 604-258-SEAL (7325) or the Island Wildlife Natural Care Centre (Saltspring Island) 250-537-0777. In many cases seal pups are not truly orphaned, and staff at these facilities will assess the circumstances.

2.5. First Nations and Canada's Fisheries Framework

The Government of Canada's legal and policy frameworks identify a special obligation to provide First Nations the opportunity to harvest fish for food, social and ceremonial purposes. The Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy (AFS) was implemented in 1992 to address several objectives related to First Nations and their access to the resource. These included:

- improving relations with First Nations,
- providing a framework for the management of the First Nations fishery in a manner that was consistent with the 1990 Supreme Court of Canada Sparrow decision,
- greater involvement of First Nations in the management of fisheries, and
- increased participation in commercial fisheries (Allocation Transfer Program or ATP).

The AFS continues to be the principal mechanism that supports the development of relationships with First Nations including the consultation, planning and implementation of fisheries, and the development of capacity to undertake fisheries management, stock assessment, enhancement and habitat protection programs.

The Aboriginal Aquatic Resources and Oceans Management (AAROM) program has been implemented to fund aggregations of First Nation groups to build the capacity required to coordinate fishery planning and program initiatives. AAROM is focused on developing affiliations between First Nations to work together at a broad watershed or ecosystem level – a level at which there is a certain number of common interests and where decisions and solutions can be based on integrated knowledge of several Aboriginal communities. In the conduct of their activities, AAROM bodies are working to be accountable to the communities they serve, while working to advance collaborative relationships between member communities, DFO and other interests in aquatic resource and oceans management.

As part of the reform of Pacific fisheries and the recently announced PICFI initiative in 2007, DFO is looking for opportunities to increase First Nations participation in new economic fisheries. Treaty provisions are likely to provide for economic provisions and new planning approaches and fishing

techniques will be required to ensure an economically viable fishery. In recent years some "demonstration fisheries" have been initiated where some of these facets of potential future fisheries have been explored. Similar projects could be anticipated again in 2008 subject to available commercial TAC.

2.6. Scientific Support

The research activities of the Department's science branch are summarized in scientific papers that are peer reviewed through the Pacific Scientific Advice Review Committee (PSARC). The advice is then forwarded to the appropriate sectors for review and adoption as required.

Specific areas of focus for Pacific salmon research in 2008 include:

- continuing investigations into climate change and salmon fisheries issues (2 international workshops to design a multi-national monitoring program in the North Pacific Ocean),
- factors influencing variable pink salmon abundance in the Broughton Archipelago and publication of past years research
- assessments of specific stocks (priority assessments identify by Fishery Management) and continuation of Cultus Lake sockeye recovery efforts
- Implementation of WSP pilots for development of strategic plans – Barkley Sound (Area 23) salmon
- Finalization of WSP conservation units and development of methodologies for definitions of upper and lower benchmarks, completion of habitat and ecosystem indicators and Regional reviews
- Response to the Independent Scientific Review of Skeena River salmon management and initial stages of developing a Skeena Watershed Advisory council.
- Regional response to Pacific Salmon Commission reports on the Coded-wire tagging program and the application of genetic stock identification methods in coastwide management of chinook salmon under the PST.

2.6.1. Fishery Monitoring and Catch Reporting

A complete, accurate and verifiable fishery monitoring and catch reporting program is required to successfully balance conservation with the objectives of optimal harvest levels. Across all fisheries, strategies are being developed to improve catch monitoring programs by identifying standards that must be achieved as well as clarifying roles and responsibilities of the Department and harvesters. The Department has recently released a consultation document on catch monitoring standards for the commercial salmon fishery.

Further details are contained in section 7.10. As well, new technologies (e.g., E logs) are being used to facilitate the timely submission of data directly into centralized DFO databases. These and other changes will ensure that the fishery information required to make critical management decisions is available to all those who need it, when it is required. Furthermore, catch data required to manage shares will be available to and have the confidence of all harvesters.

2.6.2. Pacific Integrated Commercial Fishing Initiative (PICFI)

PICFI is a new initiative aimed at achieving environmentally sustainable and economically viable commercial fisheries, where conservation is the first priority and First Nations' aspirations to be more involved are supported.

The Government of Canada has committed $175 million over five years to implement the initiative. PICFI builds on fisheries reform work begun in response to the 2004 reports of the First Nations Panel on Fisheries and the Joint Task Group on Post-treaty Fisheries, as well as subsequent discussions in a wide variety of forums that have confirmed the need for PICFI.
For further information, please visit:
http://www-comm.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pages/consultations/Consultation2007/PICFI/default_e.htm

2.7. Pacific Salmon Treaty

In March 1985, the United States and Canada agreed to co-operate in the management, research and enhancement of Pacific salmon stocks of mutual concern by ratifying the Pacific Salmon Treaty (PST).

The Pacific Salmon Commission (PSC), established under the PST, provides regulatory and policy advice as well as recommendations to Canada and the United States with respect to interception salmon fisheries. Annex IV chapters that outline agreements between Canada and the U.S. expire in 2008 for chinook, coho chum and trans-boundary salmon. Recommendations from the PSC regarding changes to the chapters of Annex IV, which expire at the end of 2008, are currently before the Canadian and U.S. governments for approval [see section on "PST Renewal – 2008," below].

Under the terms of the Treaty, the responsibility for in-season management of all species rests with the Parties to the agreement, except for the in-season management of Fraser River sockeye and pink salmon, where the Fraser River Panel (FRP) is specifically delegated the responsibility for in-season management, with assistance from PSC staff.

In order to properly account for the full impact of fishing on chinook and coho stocks, the PST specifies that all parties develop programs to monitor all sources of fishing related mortality on chinook and coho. Catch monitoring programs are being modified to include estimates of encounters of all legal and sub-legal chinook and coho, as well as other salmon species, in all fisheries.

Coded-wire tag (CWT) data are essential to the management of chinook and coho salmon stocks under the PST. In 1985, the United States and Canada entered into an August 13, 1985 Memorandum of Understanding in which "the Parties agree to maintain a coded-wire tagging and recapture program designed to provide statistically reliable data for stock assessments and fishery evaluations". Both countries recognized the importance of the CWT program to provide the data required to evaluate the effectiveness of bilateral conservation and fishing agreements. This approach has been confirmed with the recent release of an expert panel review that concluded the CWT system was the only technology that is currently capable of providing the data required for PST management regimes for chinook and coho salmon.

PST Renewal - 2008

Five of the fishery chapters contained in Annex IV of the PST will expire at the end of 2008: Chapter 1 (Transboundary Rivers); Chapter 2 (Northern Boundary); Chapter 3 (chinook, coastwide); Chapter 5 (Coho); and Chapter 6 (Chum). Chapter 4 covering Fraser River sockeye and pink will expire in 2010. In 2006, Canada and the U.S. agreed to renew the expiring chapters using the existing Pacific Salmon Commission (PSC) structure. The renewal process began in January 2007 whereby the bilateral PSC panels, under direction of the Commission, would review and make recommendations to revise the treaty language for Chapters 1, 2, 5 and 6. The one exception is Chapter 3 (chinook), which was being led by the Commission.

On May 22, 2008, the bilateral PSC announced an agreement on proposed changes to the five expiring chapters of Annex IV. The draft agreement has now been referred to the Governments of Canada and the U.S. for their domestic consultation and approval processes, with a view to ratifying an agreement by December 31, 2008. A copy of the proposed management regimes can be accessed via the PSC website at www.psc.org. If approved by both Parties, the new management regimes will be in place for the 2009 season.

chinook (coastwide): The Parties identified chinook negotiating teams of five PSC Commissioners to review and recommend changes to the chinook chapter, with the support of the bilateral chinook Technical Committee. Building on changes made in 1999, the Parties have recommended potential adjustments to the chinook regime to help address conservation concerns in both countries while maintaining the abundance-based management approach established under the 1999 agreement.

Coho (Southern BC and Washington State): Discussions to renew Chapter 5 (Coho) were led by the bilateral Southern Panel of the PSC with the support of the Coho Technical Committee and Coho Working Group. Proposed changes to the Coho Chapter are focused largely on editorial changes to the treaty language for Chapter 5.

Chum (Southern BC and Washington State): The renewal of Chapter 6 (Chum) was led by the bilateral Southern Panel of the PSC, with the support of the Chum Technical Committee. The Parties have recommended changes to the chapter that would impact: the level of Canadian chum abundance used as a status threshold; the U.S. response in the San Juan Islands and Point Roberts Areas (7 & 7A) to critical/low stock levels in-season for the Fraser River; overage/underage provisions; and a review of Chum Technical Committee responsibilities.

Northern Boundary (Northern British Columbia and Southeastern Alaska): This chapter, as well as the chinook chapter, governs fisheries covered in the NC Salmon IFMP. Discussions to renew the Northern Boundary chapter took place in the bilateral Northern Panel throughout 2007. The bilateral Northern Panel has recommended only minor changes to the existing chapter for Northern British Columbia and Southeast Alaska chum, sockeye and pink fisheries.

Transboundary Rivers: The Transboundary chapter sets out the conservation and harvest sharing arrangements for sockeye, coho, chinook, and pink salmon for several transboundary rivers flowing from the Yukon to the Pacific through southeast Alaska, including the Stikine, Taku, and Alsek

Rivers. Discussions to renew this chapter were led by the bilateral Transboundary Panel, with the support of the Transboundary Technical Committee. Proposed changes to the Transboundary chapter include: sockeye harvest shares on the Taku; coho harvest shares on the Stikine and Taku; and joint sockeye enhancement on the Stikine and Taku.

2.8. Fishing Vessel Safety

Commercial fishing is recognized as a very dangerous activity. Concerns over fishing related injuries and deaths have prompted DFO to proactively work with Transport Canada and Worksafe BC to ensure coordinated approaches to improving fishermen's safety.

3. OBJECTIVES

3.1. Fishery Management Objectives for Stocks of Concern

The Department manages fisheries with the objective of ensuring that stocks are returning at sustainable levels. When returns decline below sustainable levels, management actions are taken which may include reducing the impact of fisheries on specific stocks, strategic enhancement, and habitat restoration.

3.1.1. Rivers and Smith Inlets Sockeye

The objective for Rivers and Smith Inlets sockeye salmon is to continue rebuilding these stocks to reach escapement goals and achieve a sustainable stock that will support harvest.

Since the mid-1990's, low survivals for Rivers Inlet sockeye have precluded any fishing opportunities. Rivers Inlet sockeye return forecasts are very uncertain, but the relatively poor brood year escapements (2003 – 139,000 and 2004 – 115,000) coupled with the extremely poor returns from the 2003 brood year in 2007, result in an expectation that there will be no surplus in 2008. Management will remain very conservative given the modest escapements, the extreme variability in return rates, and the uncertain in-season abundance estimate methods.

For Smith Inlet sockeye, the Docee Fence provides an accurate in-season tally of returns that can be used to provide in-season abundance estimates. Brood year escapements (2003 – 180,000 and 2004 – 7800) were mixed, and the return of 4 year old sockeye from the 2003 escapement was less than 5000. Management will remain very conservative.

Due to the on-going poor returns in both Rivers and Smith inlet sockeye stocks, there is not expected to be a directed fishery on either of these stocks in 2008.

3.1.2. Skeena River Sockeye

The objectives for Skeena River sockeye is to ensure exploitation rates are maintained at sustainable levels.

On May 15, 2008, the *Report of the Skeena Independent Science Review Panel* was released. This report contains 23 recommendations that cover many aspects of the fisheries, management, stock assessment, and habitat in the Skeena drainage. The Department will be examining this document, and discussing it with all interested parties, in the coming months. For 2008, the Skeena sockeye run is expected to only be 1.3M, and so a very modest harvest is expected to take place while this consultation is undertaken.

3.1.3. Coho

The objective for north and central coast coho is to maintain rebuilding success and ensure overall exploitation does not exceed sustainable rates.

Coho fisheries in Areas 1 to 10 will be managed to maintain or rebuild coho stocks. With the recent ocean survival rates, sustainable coho rates are estimated to be in the 40% to 60% range. Coho originating from Areas 3 through 10 are subject to significant Alaskan exploitation averaging between 20 percent and 40 percent. Areas 8, 9, and 10 will be carefully monitored after a downturn was observed in 2006, with only slight improvement in 2007. In-season abundance indications will play an important role in coho management. Lower Skeena coho are also of concern, and a careful watch will be maintained on escapements to these systems.

3.1.4. North Coast Chum

The objective for wild north coast chum is to minimize fishery impacts on these fish to the greatest degree possible while still maintaining fisheries targeting other species.

While Central Coast and Kitimat hatchery chums are reasonably healthy, other north coast chums have been either declining or in a depressed but stable state in recent years. Management actions will again be taken in Areas 3 to 6 to reduce fishery impacts on wild chum salmon.

3.1.5. North Coast Chinook

The objective for West Coast of Vancouver Island (WCVI) chinook is to manage Canadian ocean fisheries (not including enhanced terminal areas) to an exploitation rate of 10% of the return to Canada. The objective for North Coast chinook is to manage in accordance with the allocation policy, and to manage the northern troll fishery to a WCVI chinook exploitation rate of 3.2%.

For the past several years WCVI chinook have experienced low return rates and low spawner levels due to poor marine survival. Forecasts are for low returns of age 4 chinook in 2008 and poor returns of age 4 and 5 chinook are expected in 2009.

Additional actions will be required in 2008 to ensure the exploitation rate does not exceed 10%. For purposes of this calculation, all WCVI chinook caught and kept in Canadian fisheries are assumed to be

returning in the present year. Fisheries that this limit applies to are the northern troll, QCI sport, WCVI troll and WCVI sport. The exploitation rate is measured by Coded Wire Tag (CWT) data gathered from these fisheries. The exploitation rate limit includes chinook caught and kept, as well as an estimate of fishing related mortalities.

As in the past, commercial troll fisheries in the North Coast will be monitored in-season using DNA analysis to minimize impacts on these stocks, while time and area closures will again be used in WCVI fisheries. DNA analysis will guide in season management actions, but the official measure of success will be made using post-season CWT cohort analysis.

The total allowable catch under the PST for 2008 for north coast AABM fisheries, which include Areas 1 and 2 for recreational and Areas 1 through 5 for commercial troll, is 124,800. From the total TAC, 60,000 will be reserved for the recreational fishery, leaving 64,800 for northern troll (Area F). This equates to 228 chinook for each of the 284 Area F troll licences.

On the West Coast of Vancouver Island, Robertson Creek returns are estimated to be 60% of the total return. The forecast for Robertson Creek is then expanded to get an estimate of the total return for WCVI. For 2008, the forecast return of Robertson Creek chinook to Canadian waters after Alaskan harvest is 61,015 and expands to a total return to WCVI of 101,692. The area F troll fishery will be managed to 3.2% of the WCVI return; a limit of 3,254 WCVI chinook.

3.1.6. Skeena Steelhead

The objective for Skeena steelhead, as well as all north coast steelhead, is to minimize commercial impacts.

On May 15, 2008, the *Report of the Skeena Independent Science Review Panel* was released. This report contains 23 recommendations that cover many aspects of the fisheries, management, stock assessment, and habitat in the Skeena drainage. The Department will be examining this document, and discussing it with all interested parties, in the coming months. For 2008, the Skeena sockeye run is expected to only be 1.3M, and so a very modest harvest is expected to take place while this consultation is undertaken, resulting in only a modest impact on steelhead. In all north coast commercial fisheries, steelhead shall be released to the water with the least possible harm.

3.1.7. Inshore Rockfish

The management objective for inshore rockfish is to continue conservation strategies that will ensure stock rebuilding over time. A fishing mortality rate of less than 2.0 percent (all Pacific Region fisheries) will be required to achieve this objective.

Rockfish Conservation Areas, (RCAs) are no fishing zones for fishing gear that impacts on rockfish. The RCAs have been implemented within the Strait of Georgia and in all outside waters including the Queen Charlotte Islands. The conservation strategy for rockfish along the coast of British Columbia is long term. Rockfish are a long-lived species with a low level of productivity and therefore rebuilding will take several decades.

Management actions to address inshore rockfish conservation concerns are developed to achieve the objectives for fishing mortality rates and closed area coverage. The actions taken to address fishing mortality objectives will apply to commercial and recreational fisheries. Not all fishing activity is prohibited in the closed areas; harvesting activities that will not impact on rockfish are permitted.

To evaluate these objectives, biological and catch data will be collected and analysed, and a stock assessment framework will be developed to monitor the effectiveness of management measures over time and to ensure conservation and rebuilding objectives are achieved.

Updates will be posted on the Rockfish Conservation Strategy website at:
www.comm.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pages/consultations/fisheriesmgmt/rockfish/default_e.htm

3.2. First Nations Fisheries Objectives

The objective is to manage fisheries to ensure that, after conservation needs are met, First Nations' food, social and ceremonial requirements and treaty obligations to First Nations have first priority in salmon allocation in accordance with "An Allocation Policy for Pacific Salmon" "A new Direction: The fourth in a series of papers from Fisheries and Oceans Canada, October 1999."

Feedback from consultation sessions is relied on to measure the performance of providing first priority to First Nations for opportunities to catch fish for FSC purposes and any treaty obligations. The Nisga'a fishery will be implemented as defined in the Nisga'a Annual Fishing Plan (NAFP). The NAFP defines the escapement goals required to guide management decisions for Nass salmon stocks, calculates Nisga'a allocations for each salmon species and the general regulatory requirements for catches of each fish species on an annual basis.

3.3. Recreational and Commercial Fisheries Objectives

The objective is to manage fisheries for sustainable benefits, consistent with the Wild Salmon Policy, the Allocation Policy, and the Operational Policy Framework for Recreational Fisheries.

The policy framework for recreational fisheries takes into account their important socio-economic contribution not only to the fishing communities and tourism industries but to Canadians in general. This policy framework lays out five principles to guide the Department in its task to develop and implement recreational fisheries policies, programs and initiatives.

In the commercial fishery, the objective is to achieve environmentally sustainable and economically viable commercial fisheries, where conservation is the first priority and First Nations' aspirations to be more involved are supported.

3.4. International Objectives

The objective is to manage Canadian treaty fisheries to ensure that obligations within the PST are achieved.

Details can be found at the PSC website at: www.psc.org

Review of the performance of the PST provisions occurs annually at bilateral meetings of the Northern Panel of the PSC, and those results are published post-season.

3.5. Domestic Allocation Objectives

The objective is to manage fisheries in a manner that is consistent with the *Allocation Policy for Pacific Salmon* and the 2008 Pacific Salmon Allocation Implementation Plan.

An Allocation Policy for Pacific Salmon can be found on-line at:
www-comm.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/publications/allocation/AllocationPolicyoct201.htm

The *Allocation Policy for Pacific Salmon* identifies the priority for allocation of salmon harvest and sets sharing arrangements for each of the three different commercial gear groups. It has been decided, based on CSAB advice, that for 2008, the sharing arrangements will be similar to past years: 40% seine, 38% gill net, and 22% troll based on information (average weights and prices) gathered coastwide. The allocation targets are used as a general guide and may be adjusted in-season to address unexpected conditions.

Catch estimates and pricing surveys are summarized annually and compared with pre-season objectives.

3.6. Compliance Management Objectives

The objective of the Conservation and Protection Program is to ensure compliance with legislation, regulations, and management measures under DFO's jurisdiction.
Overall Conservation and Protection program priorities in Pacific region include:

- Salmon
    - Fraser sockeye
    - Early-timed Fraser chinook
    - West Coast Vancouver Island and Lower Georgia Strait chinook
    - Skeena/Nass sockeye
- Canadian Shellfish Sanitation Program (CSSP)
- Fisheries Renewal implementation
    - PICFI – year 2 of 5 year plan

North Coast C&P staff will be developing comprehensive Operational Plans that will identify activities to achieve key compliance management objectives for salmon, while at the same time addressing other Regional and Area priorities such as SARA and CSSP. Strategic planning will focus effort on activities and persons that pose a high degree of risk to the resource.

In 2008, C&P staff will focus effort on specific objectives for the NC salmon fishery:

- Compliance with management actions designed to protect stocks of concern.

- maintaining a significant patrol and monitoring presence in the commercial gill net and seine fisheries targeting mandatory selective fishing measures such as provisions for revival tanks, brailing, catch reporting requirements (i.e. hail-ins and log books), short sets, barbless hooks (recreational and troll) and non-retention of prohibited species.
- Illegal sales of salmon in all areas will again be an Area C&P priority and specifically any laundering of FSC fish into the Area 3 and 4 commercial salmon fisheries.
- Directed patrols prior to, during and after fisheries to ensure compliance with licence conditions, closed time/area, and other compliance provisions.
- maintain a significant patrol and monitoring presence in the tidal and non-tidal
- recreational fisheries, specifically focusing on the Skeena, Kitimat and Nass Rivers
- dedicated pre-season inspections and in-season patrols of the recreational sport lodge fisheries throughout the North Coast,
- continued compliance management of the Skeena FN Inland Commercial fishery.

Nisga'a Fisheries

Enforcement procedures related to Nisga'a fisheries are defined in the Nisga'a Enforcement Agreement. Federal Fishery Officers and B.C. Conservation Officers have the authority to enforce Nisga'a laws and regulations and work together in this approach. A Joint Enforcement Committee (JEC) which meets twice a year was established to facilitate the implementation of the Enforcement Agreement. The JEC reports directly to the JFMC.

General Enforcement

In 2008 NC C&P staff will focus salmon compliance and enforcement efforts on:

- Enforcement of management actions designed to protect stocks of concern.
- maintaining a significant patrol and monitoring presence in the commercial gill net and seine fisheries targeting mandatory selective fishing measures such as provisions for revival tanks, brailing, catch reporting requirements (i.e. hail-ins and log books), short sets, barbless hooks (recreational and troll) and non-retention of prohibited species.
- Illegal sales of salmon in all areas will again be an Area C&P priority and specifically the laundering of FSC fish into the Area 3 and 4 commercial salmon fisheries.
- Directed patrols prior to, during and after fisheries to ensure compliance with licence conditions, closed time/area, and other compliance provisions.
- maintain a significant patrol and monitoring presence in the tidal and non tidal recreational fisheries, specifically focussing on the Skeena, Kitimat and Nass Rivers
- dedicated pre-season inspections and in-season patrols of the recreational sport lodge fisheries throughout the North Coast,
- continued compliance and enforcement of the Skeena FN Inland Commercial fishery.

3.7. Enhancement Objectives

The Salmonid Enhancement Program (SEP) in British Columbia, Canada is comprised of nearly 300 projects across B.C. and the Yukon and includes hatcheries, fishways, spawning and rearing channels, and small classroom incubators. Projects range in size from spawning channels producing nearly 100

million juvenile salmon annually to school classroom incubators releasing fewer than one hundred juveniles (per aquarium).

The following tables detail proposed enhancement targets for hatcheries and managed spawning channels operated by DFO staff (Enhancement Operations), contracted to community and native groups (Community Economic Development or CEDP) or operated by volunteers (Designated Public Involvement or DPI). Egg targets are determined pre-season for each stock and consider potential adult production based on average fecundities, average incubation to release survival rates and average marine survival rates. Expected adults were calculated based on long-term average survivals for the species, area and stage at release and may not reflect current marine survivals. They are adults expected from the 2008 brood target releases.

Hatcheries may collect additional eggs for other programs for education, research or stock re-establishment. These additional eggs are not included in the hatchery egg target in the following tables. Designated Public Involvement (DPI) projects, the larger or more complex Public Involvement projects, include only Terrace in the North/Central area. The smaller public involvement projects that are not included here are focussed toward stewardship, stock rebuilding or educational activities and do not release large numbers of fish. Facilities may also enhance steelhead and cutthroat under the direction of the Province of BC; targets for these species are not included. SEP also works with First Nations, industry, community groups and other government agencies to design and implement habitat restoration projects. Habitat related activities are not addressed in this report.

Objective: Enhancement Operations facilities will continue efforts focussed toward production supporting conservation and sustainable fisheries and provide key support to other priority watershed and public involvement activities.

Objective: DFO will continue working with hatcheries operated by volunteers or by communities under contract to DFO to meet community objectives for public stewardship, community capacity development, habitat conservation and fish production.

3.7.1. General

Small adjustments are made to some egg targets to reflect current fecundity and rearing survival to maintain consistent release numbers. Adult broodstock at some hatcheries are screened for the presence of the causative organism of Bacterial Kidney Disease (BKD), depending on the prevalence of BKD in the stock. BKD is a common disease in Pacific salmon populations which can be problematic in fish culture. There may be small numbers of surplus chinook and coho fry released into natal streams from Spius Creek Hatchery, depending on the incidence (i.e. the lower the incidence of BKD, the higher the fry release). Recently, this has ranged from 0-30k.

3.7.1 Chinook

2008 brood numbers are not yet finalized. The delay is the result of differences in timing of the business planning and IFMP schedules. At present, production targets for the 2008 brood in DFO Enhancement Facilities are listed the same as for the 2007 brood.

Planning is underway for a comprehensive production planning process for future brood production.

Draft 2008 Brood Production Targets for Chinook for DFO Operated Hatcheries, Hatcheries Contracted to DFO, Hatcheries Operated by Community Groups and Pallant Cost Recovery Hatchery

						2007 Brood Targets		Draft 2008 Brood Proposals		
Project	**Species**	**Run**	**Stock**	**Release Site**	**Stage**	**Eggs**	**Release**	**Eggs**	**Release**	**Exp Adults**
Enhancement Operations										
Kitimat R	Chinook	Spring	Hirsch Cr	Hirsch Cr	Smolt 0+	225,000	200,000	225,000	200,000	800
		Spring	Kitimat R	Kitimat R	Smolt 0+	1,700,000	1,400,000	1,700,000	1,400,000	5,600
Snootli Cr	Chinook	Summer	Atnarko R Low	Atnarko R Low	Smolt 0+	1,050,000	904,000	1,050,000	904,000	3,616
		Summer	Atnarko R Up	Atnarko R Up	Smolt 0+	1,050,000	904,000	1,050,000	904,000	3,616
		Summer	Noosgulch R	Noosgulch R	Smolt 0+	50,000	43,000	50,000	43,000	172
		Summer	Nusatsum R	Nusatsum R	Smolt 0+	100,000	86,000	100,000	86,000	344
		Summer	Salloomt R	Salloomt R	Smolt 0+	100,000	86,000	100,000	86,000	344
		Summer	Wannock R	Wannock Est	Seapen0+	200,000	80,000	200,000	80,000	320
				Wannock R	Smolt 0+		80,000		80,000	320
Community Economic Development & Designated Public Involvement										
Fort Babine	Chinook	Summer	Babine R	Babine R	Smolt 1+	85,000	70,000	85,000	70,000	280
Kincolith R	Chinook	Spring	Kincolith R	Kincolith R	Smolt 1+	70,000	50,000	70,000	50,000	200
Masset	Chinook	Summer	Yakoun R	Yakoun R	Smolt 0+	250,000	200,000	250,000	200,000	8,000
Pallant Cr	Chinook	Fall	Pallant Cr	Pallant Cr	Smolt 0+	55,000	40,000	55,000	40,000	1,600
Terrace	Chinook	Summer	Kitsum Abv Can	Kitsumkalum R	Fed Spr	125,000	100,000	125,000	100,000	200
					Smolt 1+		15,000		15,000	60
			Kitsum Bel Can	Kitsumkalum R	Fed Spr	125,000	100,000	125,000	100,000	200
					Smolt 1+		15,000		15,000	60
Toboggan Cr	Chinook	Spring	Bulkley R Up	Bulkley R Up	Smolt 1+	60,000	43,000	60,000	43,000	172
			Morice R	Morice R	Smolt 1+	100,000	72,000	100,000	72,000	288

3.7.2 Coho

2008 brood numbers are not yet finalized. The delay is the result of differences in timing of the business planning and IFMP schedules. At present, production targets for the 2008 brood in DFO Enhancement Facilities are listed the same as for the 2007 brood.

Planning is underway for a comprehensive production planning process for future brood production.

Draft 2008 Brood Production Targets for Coho for DFO Operated Hatcheries, Hatcheries Contracted to DFO and Pallant Cost Recovery Hatchery

						2007 Brood Targets		Draft 2008 Brood Proposals		
Project	**Species**	**Run**	**Stock**	**Release Site**	**Stage**	**Eggs**	**Release**	**Eggs**	**Release**	**Exp Adults**
Enhancement Operations										
Kitimat R	Coho	Fall	Kitimat R	Kitimat R	Smolts	600,000	500,000	600,000	500,000	10,000
Snootli Cr	Coho	Fall	Salloomt R	Salloomt R	Smolts	50,000	40,000	50,000	40,000	800
		Fall	Snootli Cr	Snootli Cr	Smolts	50,000	40,000	50,000	40,000	800
Community Economic Development & Designated Public Involvement										
Hartley Bay Cr	Coho	Fall	Hartley Bay Cr	Hartley Bay Cr	Smolts	500,000	70,000	90,000	70,000	700
				Hartley Bay Lk	Fed Spr		70,000		70,000	700
				Red Bluff Lk	Fed Spr		70,000		70,000	700
				Whalen Lk	Fed Spr		30,000		60,000	
Heiltsuk	Coho	Fall	McLaugh Bay Cr	McLaughlin Bay	Seapen	90,000	60,000	90,000	60,000	1,200
Klemtu Cr	Coho	Fall	Kitasoo Cr	Trout Bay	Seapen	90,000	60,000	90,000	60,000	1,200
Masset	Coho	Fall	Yakoun R	Yakoun R	FedSpr	40,000	30,000	40,000	30,000	
Pallant Cr	Coho	Fall	Braver+Pallant	Braver+Pallant	Fed Spr	1,083,000	378,000	1,083,000	378,000	9,639
					Smolts		540,000		540,000	27,540
Toboggan Cr	Coho	Summer	Toboggan Cr	Toboggan Cr	Smolts	40,000	30,000	40,000	30,000	2,010

- All eggs for the Hartley Bay Creek project are collected at Hartley Bay Creek, but the fry are released into several hanging lakes as well as back to Hartley Bay Creek.
- Toboggan Creek Hatchery began enhancing Morice River chinook with the 2007 brood.

3.7.3 Chum

2008 brood numbers are not yet finalized. The delay is the result of differences in timing of the business planning and IFMP schedules. At present, production targets for the 2008 brood in DFO Enhancement Facilities are listed the same as for the 2007 brood.

Planning is underway for a comprehensive production planning process for future brood production.

Draft 2008 Brood Production Targets for Chum for DFO Operated Hatcheries, Hatcheries Contracted to DFO and Pallant Cost Recovery Hatchery

						2007 Brood Targets		Draft 2008 Brood Proposals		
Project	**Species**	**Run**	**Stock**	**Release Site**	**Stage**	**Eggs**	**Release**	**Eggs**	**Release**	**Exp Adults**
Enhancement Operations										
Kitimat R	Chum	Summer	Hirsch Cr	Hirsch Cr	Fed FW	1,200,000	1,000,000	1,200,000	1,000,000	24,200
		Summer	Kitimat R	Kitimat R	Fed FW	4,000,000	3,500,000	4,000,000	3,500,000	84,700
Snootli Cr	Chum	Summer	Fish+Airport	Fish+Airport	Fed FW	1,800,000	1,656,000	1,800,000	1,656,000	40,075
		Summer	Salloomt R	Salloomt R	Fed FW	1,800,000	1,656,000	1,800,000	1,656,000	40,075
		Summer	Snootli Cr	Snootli Cr	Fed FW	1,800,000	1,656,000	1,800,000	1,656,000	40,075
		Summer	Thorsen Cr	Thorsen Cr	Fed FW	1,800,000	1,656,000	1,800,000	1,656,000	40,075
Community Economic Development & Designated Public Involvement										
Heiltsuk	Chum	Fall	McLaugh Bay Cr	McLaughlin Bay	Seapen	1,500,000	1,080,000	1,500,000	1,080,000	31,212
Kincolith R	Chum	Fall	Kincolith R	Kincolith R	Fed FW	30,000	21,600	30,000	21,600	367
Klemtu Cr	Chum	Fall	Kitasoo Cr	Trout Bay	Seapen	1,250,000	900,000	1,250,000	900,000	17,010
Pallant Cr	Chum	Fall	Mathers Cr	Mathers Cr	Fed FW	0	0	0	0	0
		Fall	Pallant Cr	Deer Bay	Seapen	25,000,000	21,375,000	25,000,000	21,375,000	226,575

- There is no proposed 2008 brood chum target for Mathers Creek stock. Due to deteriorating conditions of the fence, it is no longer possible to collect adult brood stock.

3.7.4 Sockeye

2008 brood numbers are not yet finalized. The delay is the result of differences in timing of the business planning and IFMP schedules. At present, production targets for the 2008 brood in DFO Enhancement Facilities are listed the same as for the 2007 brood.

Planning is underway for a comprehensive production planning process for future brood production.

Draft 2008 Brood Production Targets for Sockeye for DFO Operated Hatcheries and Manned Channels, Hatcheries Contracted to DFO and Pallant Cost Recovery Hatchery

						2007 Brood Targets		Draft 2008 Brood Proposals		
Project	**Species**	**Run**	**Stock**	**Release Site**	**Stage**	**Eggs**	**Release**	**Eggs**	**Release**	**Exp Adults**
Enhancement Operations										
Fulton R	Sockeye	Summer	Fulton Ch#1	Fulton Ch#1	Chan Fry	30,000,000	15,000,000	30,000,000	15,000,000	286,500
		Summer	Fulton Ch#2	Fulton Ch#2	Chan Fry	174,000,000	87,000,000	174,000,000	87,000,000	1,661,700
		Summer	Fulton R	Fulton R	Nat Fry	300,000,000	45,000,000	300,000,000	45,000,000	859,500
Pinkut Cr	Sockeye	Summer	Pinkut Ch	Pinkut Ch	Chan Fry	87,000,000	43,500,000	87,000,000	43,500,000	830,850
Snootli Cr	Sockeye	Summer	Atnarko R	Atnarko R	Fed Spr	100,000	80,000	100,000	80,000	792
		Summer Summer	Williams Cr Curtis Lk	Williams Cr Curtis Lk	Fed Spr Fed Spr	250,000	200,000	250,000	200,000	1,980
		Summer	Lonesome Lk	Lonesome Lk	Fed Spr					
		Summer	Mikado Cr	Micado Cr	Fed Spr					
Community Economic Development & Designated Public Involvement										
Heiltsuk	Sockeye	Summer	Tankeeah R	Tankeeah R	Fed Spr	100,000	90,000	100,000	90,000	891
Victor Cr	Sockeye	Summer	Lagoon Cr	Lagoon Cr	Seapen	75,000	10,000	50,000	10,000	450
				Roderick Lk	Fed Spr		20,000		20,000	198
				Victor Cr	Smolts		10,000		10,000	450

- A decision was made to enhance the Williams Creek (Lakelse) sockeye stock due to concerns over recent low returns. This enhancement began in 2006 and is proposed to continue for one cycle or until stock improvement is observed. Gitanyow First Nation is partnering with Snootli Creek Hatchery on this project. Snootli also began enhancing Curtis Lake, Mikado Creek and Lonesome Lake in 2007, due to poor recent returns, but no targets have been set yet.

4. DECISION GUIDELINES AND SPECIFIC MANAGEMENT MEASURES

The following comprehensive decision guidelines outline management responses that will be invoked under a range of in-season circumstances, and the general rationale to be applied in making management decisions.

Decision guidelines are meant to capture general management approaches with the intention of working towards multi-year management plans.

Specific fishing plans for 2008 are described in sections 5, 6, and 7.

4.1. General Decision Guidelines

4.1.1. Pre-season Planning

Development of decision guidelines is part of the pre-season planning process. Development is guided by relevant departmental policies, scientific advice, consultation with harvesters and other interests, and the experience of fishery managers.

Pre-season decisions may include the development of escapement targets, exploitation ceilings, sector allocations and enforcement objectives.

4.1.2. In-season Decisions

In-season decision points vary from fishery to fishery depending on type, availability and quality of in-season information and the established advisory, consultation and decision-making processes. Decisions include opening and closure of fisheries, level of effort deemed acceptable, gear type restrictions, deployment of special projects, etc.

When possible, in-season decisions will follow a pre-season plan. However, the implementation and applicability of decision guidelines and pre-season plans can be influenced in-season by a number of factors. These include unanticipated differences between pre-season forecasts and in-season run size estimates, unexpected differences in the strength and timing of co-migrating stocks, unusual migratory conditions and the availability and timeliness of in-season information. A post-season multi-sector review of run returns, management actions and by-catch levels will occur.

4.1.3. Allocation Guidelines

Allocation decisions are made in accordance with the *Allocation Policy for Pacific Salmon.*

The table below describes a generalized framework by which fishing opportunities are allocated to different fishing sectors at different abundance levels.

Allocation Guidelines

	Low Abundance			High Abundance	
First Nations Food, Social, Ceremonial	Non-retention / Closed	By-catch Retention	Directed	Directed	Directed
Recreational	Non-retention / Closed	Non-retention	By-catch Retention	Directed	Directed
Commercial	Non-retention / Closed	Non-retention	By-catch Retention	By-catch retention	Directed

Note: This table describes conceptually how First Nations, recreational and commercial fisheries might be undertaken across a range of returns. It does not imply that specific management actions for all stocks exactly follow these guidelines, but rather is an attempt to depict the broad approach.

The allocation guidelines above refer to target stocks. The application of the Allocation Policy on non-target stocks is case specific. The inadvertent harvest of different species of concern is referred to as by-catch. The inadvertent harvest of stocks of concern within the same species (i.e. Kitwanga sockeye when harvesting aggregate Skeena River sockeye) is referred to as incidental harvest. Both by-catch and incidental harvest are factored into the calculation of exploitation rates on various stocks, and therefore, fishing plans are designed to be consistent with existing policies and to keep exploitation rates on stocks of concern within the limits described in the conservation objectives (Section 3.1).

All harvest groups have recommended that the Department consult on by-catch/incidental harvest allocations. However, the Department does not allocate by-catch or portions of the acceptable exploitation rate on stocks of concern. Rather the Department considers a number of fishing plan options and attempts to address a range of objectives including minimizing by-catch and incidental catch.

4.1.4. First Nations - Food, Social and Ceremonial

The *Allocation Policy for Pacific Salmon* provides that after requirements for conservation, the first priority in salmon allocation is to FSC for harvest opportunities under communal FSC licences issued to First Nations, and to treaty rights for harvest opportunities for domestic purposes (consistent with Treaty Final Agreements).

While these opportunities will be provided on a priority basis, it does not necessarily mean that fishery targets for First Nations will be fully achieved before other fisheries can proceed. For example, many First Nations conduct their FSC fisheries in terminal areas while other fisheries are undertaken in marine areas or approach areas. The general guideline is that the fishing plan must adequately provide for the First Nations' FSC harvests that will occur further along the migration route over a reasonable range of potential run sizes.

4.1.5. First Nations – Nisga'a Allocations

The Nisga'a Final Agreement defines the catch allocations and fisheries management structures related to Nisga'a fisheries and Nass Area stocks. Sales of a specific species of salmon caught in Nisga'a fisheries is permitted if DFO permits other commercial or recreational fisheries to target Nass Area stocks of that species.

Nisga'a Lisims Government is responsible for the internal allocation of catch opportunities between Nisga'a fish harvesters and day to day operation of the Nisga'a fishery. The Nisga'a have distributed their salmon catches between three type of fisheries: domestic fisheries for food, social and ceremonial purposes; communal sale fisheries where proceeds are used to support fisheries management programs; and individual sale fisheries that provide commercial catch opportunities and income for Nisga'a fish harvesters.

4.1.6. First Nations – Economic Opportunities

The Pacific Integrated Commercial Fishing Initiative (PICFI) seeks to transfer commercial salmon shares to First Nations. The Aboriginal Transfer Program (ATP), where commercial licences are purchased out of the fleet and transferred to First Nation communities, is one means by which First Nations communities may gain further access to economic benefits from the fishery. The Skeena Inland Demonstration Fishery is once again being planned for 2008 (Appendix 8). This would involve the transfer of the salmon allocation of some commercial licences inland to be fished by the First Nations of the Skeena.

4.1.7. Recreational Fisheries

Under the Department's *Allocation Policy for Pacific Salmon,* after First Nation's food, social and ceremonial fisheries, the recreational sector has priority to directed fisheries for chinook and coho salmon. For sockeye, pink and chum salmon, recreational harvesters will be provided predictable and stable fishing opportunities.

If stock abundance information suggests that conservation objectives cannot be attained, closures or non-retention regulations will generally be applied. In some cases, recreational fisheries with a non-retention restriction in place will remain open while First Nations food, social and ceremonial fisheries directed on stocks of concern are closed, provided the recreational fishery is not directed on the stock of concern, nor is the impact on the stock of concern significant.

Prior to a directed commercial fishery on chinook and coho, the fishing plan will provide for full daily and possession limits in tidal waters. Decision guidelines may also identify considerations for changing the area of the fishery, modifying dates or changing daily limits.

4.1.8. Commercial Fisheries

The *Allocation Policy for Pacific Salmon* provides for at least 95 percent of the combined commercial and recreational sockeye, pink and chum harvest to be allocated to the commercial sector. Commercial harvest of chinook and coho salmon will occur when abundance permits and First Nations and recreational priorities are considered to have been addressed.

Specific coast-wide sector target allocations are: seine 40 percent, gill net 38 percent, and troll 22 percent expressed on a sockeye equivalent basis. The ability to achieve these targets is often compromised by conservation constraints and other factors.

Low impact fisheries generally occur prior to those having a higher impact, particularly at low run sizes, at the start of the run when run sizes are uncertain or when stocks of concern have peaked but continue to migrate through an area.

When one commercial gear type is unlikely to achieve its allocation, the usual approach will be that the same gear type, but in a different area, will be provided opportunities to harvest the uncaught balance.

Allocation targets are not catch targets for each sector. While DFO will plan and implement fisheries to harvest fish in accordance with allocation targets, opportunities may be provided that are inconsistent with the allocation targets, due to conservation objectives that have a higher priority than allocation objectives.

4.1.9. Excess Salmon to Spawning Requirements Fisheries

Salmon fisheries are managed with the objective of reaching escapement targets or harvesting a certain proportion of the run. Uncertain forecasts, inaccurate in-season run size estimates, and mixed-stock concerns can result in escapement to terminal areas that are in excess of their required habitat or hatchery spawning capacity. In these cases, Excess Salmon to Spawning Requirements (ESSR) fisheries may occur.

DFO will attempt, wherever practical, to eliminate or minimize ESSR by harvesting in the food, social and ceremonial, recreational and commercial fisheries. It is not the intention of DFO to establish new ESSR fisheries to displace existing fisheries.

First priority will be to use identified surpluses to meet outstanding FSC requirements which cannot be met through approved food, social and ceremonial fisheries. As a second priority, the local band or Tribal Council may be offered the opportunity to harvest all or part of the surplus under an ESSR licence.

4.1.10. Selective Fisheries

Selective fishing is defined as the ability to avoid non-target fish, invertebrates, seabirds, and marine mammals or, if encountered, to release them alive and unharmed. Selective fishing technology and practices will be adopted where appropriate in all fisheries in the Pacific Region, and there will be attempts to continually improve harvesting gear and related practices.

The continued development of selective fishing techniques has taken on more importance as a result of heightened conservation concerns on identified stocks as well as a stronger focus on protection of small stocks. The Selective Fisheries Program (1998 to 2001) began the widespread exploration of selective

gear and methods. Currently, selective gear and methods are widely used and required in all fisheries. More recently development has focused on refining the most promising techniques.

Selective harvesting standards will be set in the context of the *Policy for Selective Fishing in Canada's Pacific Fisheries* and the *Allocation Policy for Pacific Salmon.* In the future, priority will be given to those who have demonstrated the ability to meet or exceed the selective fishing standards. The Department encourages the incorporation of selective fishing experiments into regular fisheries where appropriate in order to realize cost savings.

The Canadian commercial fishing sector has responded positively to this growing conservation consciousness by developing its own Canadian Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing Operations. Over 80 percent of Canada's fishing organizations have signed on and ratified the Canadian Code of Conduct that is overseen by a Responsible Fishing Board. Similarly, the recreational sector in the Pacific Region, through the Sport Fishing Advisory Board (SFAB), recently developed a Code of Conduct for recreational anglers. First Nations have also embraced the principles of selective fishing by adopting more selective fishing gear, as often these types of gear reflect a traditional way of fishing for many First Nations.

4.2. Chinook - AABM / ISBM Management

Chinook fisheries in B.C. are managed under the umbrella of the PST, with domestic considerations for stocks of concern, allocation between sectors of the fishery, and application of selective fishing practices.

4.2.1. PST Chinook Abundance Based Management Framework

The basis for managing fisheries impacting chinook from Alaska to Oregon is the chinook abundance based management system in the PST. This management system was adopted in 1999 and will define harvests of chinook through 2008. Two types of fisheries were identified in this agreement. The proposed revisions to Chapter 3 (chinook) would maintain the abundance based management framework established under the 1999 Agreement.

The mixed-stock aggregate fisheries of Southeast Alaska, northern B.C., and WCVI are managed on the forecast abundance of the aggregate of stocks (called Aggregate Abundance Based Management or AABM fisheries). In the AABM fisheries a total allowable catch is determined based on the forecast abundance of the aggregate of stocks. Along the WCVI and northern B.C., the AABM fishery includes the WCVI and North Coast troll fisheries and the "outside" WCVI and Queen Charlotte Islands recreational fishery. Fisheries are managed based on a chinook fishery year which extends from October 1 in one calendar year to September 30 in the next calendar year.

For the remaining fisheries, the 1999 agreement imposed a limit on the adult equivalent mortality rate for individual stock groups (called Individual Stock Based Management or ISBM). Under ISBM, fisheries are regulated to limit impacts on individual stock groups. In Canada, the adult equivalent mortality rate in all ISBM fisheries was limited to 65% of the historic (or base period) adult equivalent mortality rate on each stock group.

Further explanation and the text of the chinook agreement can be found on the PSC website at: www.psc.org/Index.htm.

4.3. Queen Charlotte Islands Chum and Pink Decision Guidelines

4.3.1. Background

Surplus pink salmon opportunities on the QCI occur only during even years; odd year returns are either minimal or non-existent in most streams. Preseason predictions of pink salmon surpluses are not reliable and for the most part harvest opportunities are normally provided only when surpluses are identified in-season.

In the past terminal chum salmon opportunities have occurred in a variety of wild stock locations. However, in recent years returns of chum have declined to levels where surpluses have frequently not been observed. Terminal harvest opportunities will be considered only on identified surpluses.

Chum stocks harvested within Cumshewa Inlet are enhanced stocks from Pallant Creek. The overall escapement goals for chum are 30,000 to Pallant Creek and 25,000 for hatchery brood stock; and 20,000 to Mathers Creek. Fisheries are managed to harvest Pallant Creek surpluses. Due to a low returns in recent years, harvest opportunities will be considered only on identified surpluses.

Pallant Creek coho are also enhanced to allow for a recreational fishery, retention of coho in commercial fisheries directed at enhanced chum, and directed harvest by troll. The increased enhancement of coho, and a rearing program with pens in Mosquito Lake, has significantly increased the abundance of coho.

The Pallant Creek Hatchery facility has been under the management and operation of the Haida Fisheries Program (HFP) with program objectives established through the Haida Tribal Society. An in-season community board meets periodically to discuss returns to Cumshewa Inlet, and enhancement strategies for Pallant Creek hatchery. This community board is made up of members from the Haida Tribal Society, DFO, and recreational and commercial advisors.

4.3.2. General Constraints

Generally the required escapement is secured within the stream(s) and/or behind boundaries near the estuary location(s) before fisheries are allowed to proceed.

Coho by-catch may be a concern in some areas, and so brailing by seines and the use of revival tanks by both gill nets and seines are usually, but not always, required.

All fisheries are during daylight hours, generally 11 or 12 hour days during September reducing to 10 or 11 hour days in October. This reduces the amount of by-catch.

4.3.3. Pre-season Decisions

Initial openings are based on fish observed to be schooling in front of the various systems. If a poor run is predicted, such that only enough salmon are expected to return to stock the creek, then no fishing will occur unless an actual surplus is identified in-season. Conversely, if a surplus is forecast, an initial opening may be held to confirm returning stock abundance with subsequent openings as appropriate. The size of the return will be estimated by the CPUE of the first few openings.

4.3.4. In-season Decisions

The Ain and Awun River systems in Masset Inlet are the primary chum salmon producers in Area 1. Catches in early stock assessment fisheries for gill nets in the western portion of McIntyre Bay, outside Masset Sound, are generally a reliable indicator of run size.

In Areas 2 East and 2 West wild chum harvest opportunities for both gill nets and seines are considered only when surpluses have been identified. Streams which support wild stock chum returns which may present surplus harvest opportunities are located in East Skidegate Inlet, Selwyn Inlet, and Darwin Sound in Area 2 East, and West Skidegate Inlet, Englefield Bay and Tasu Sound in Area 2 West. The size of the runs to these systems can usually be determined by observations of fish holding in front of the streams, and the timing in relation to historical run timing for that system.

Cumshewa Inlet will be managed similarly to wild chum systems, with openings only on identified surpluses, due to the poor returns observed in Cumshewa in recent years. Boundaries will be determined depending on fish holding behaviour and the status of Pallant Creek hatchery brood stock collection. When fish are abundant, fisheries have been conducted with inner boundaries being from Beattie Anchorage to the easternmost point of Oliver Island, thence from the westernmost point of Oliver Island to a boundary sign on the Moresby Island shore, or from Barge Point to a boundary sign on the opposite shore.

Cumshewa Inlet opportunities will only be considered if there is reasonable evidence that escapement and hatchery brood stock objectives are at least 75 percent secure behind the inner boundary. The percentage of secured escapement and hatchery brood stock would increase during later weeks such that fisheries considered late in the season (second week of October) would be with the full complement of escapement and brood stock either in-stream, harvested at the fence, protected behind the proposed inner boundary, or a combination of such preferred circumstances.

Alternate seine and gill net opportunities may be considered if the gill net fleet size is greater than 30 vessels. Gill net fleet size will generally be estimated from the size of the fleet during the previous opening.

All net fisheries are managed so that catch may be delivered within two days, as requested by the commercial industry.

4.3.5. Prospects for 2008

Pink surpluses normally only occur during even years, and so monitoring for pink surpluses will begin in September. Chum surpluses are expected to be limited in 2008. Monitoring to determine incoming runs

throughout the season will be concentrated in Masset Inlet, on the east coast between Skidegate Inlet and Darwin Sound, and on the west coast between Tasu Sound and Dawson Inlet. Terminal harvest opportunities will be based on identified surpluses determined through a variety of measures such as fence counts, over flights, or charter patrol observations.

4.4. Nass River Decision Guidelines

4.4.1. Background

Seasonal management, assessment of Nass Area salmon stocks, and minimum and production-based salmon escapement goals are all discussed in the Nass Fisheries Operational Guidelines (FOG), developed to aid in the implementation of the Nisga'a Final Agreement. Objectives and goals of managing Nass salmon stocks, as defined in the FOG document, are as follows:

- To provide for conservation and protection of fish stocks and their habitat through the application of scientific management principles applied in a risk averse and precautionary manner based on the best scientific advice available.
- To develop sustainable fisheries through a cooperative joint management process and ensure that the fishery resources of the Nass Area are utilized for the benefit of all Canadians.
- To develop fishing plans and cooperative research programs which will contribute to improving the knowledge base and understanding of the resource.
- To consider the goals of each party with respect to social, cultural and economic values of the fishery.
- To consider health and safety in the development and implementation of management plans, fishery openings and closures.
- To consider opportunity for the development of the aquaculture industry.

4.4.1.1. Sockeye

There are 14 sockeye streams in Area 3, all but two of which are tributaries to the Nass. The major producers are Bowser, Damdochax, Kwinageese, and Meziadin.

In addition to these sockeye stocks, all five salmon species are present throughout the fishing season.

Fisheries are managed to meet commitments in accordance with the Pacific Salmon Treaty (PST) and the Nisga'a Final Agreement (NFA). In the event of a management error, overage/underage provisions in both treaties would apply. The runs entering the Nass River are estimated by a series of fish wheels operated by the Nisga'a Lisims Government (NLG), and a mark-recapture program is conducted on some of the species. Close liaison is maintained throughout the season between Alaskan and NLG fishery managers and DFO staff. Commercial openings are planned keeping these treaty obligations in mind.

The northern part of Chatham Sound in Area 3 is managed in conjunction with the Skeena River fishery because of the large numbers of Skeena sockeye and pink passing through Chatham Sound during the fishing season.

4.4.1.2. Chum

There is no single major chum producer in Area 3, but significant stocks return to the Kshwan, Stagoo, and Khutzeymateen Rivers. Chum returns start in early July and continue throughout the summer and into October. Chum returns are expected to be poor in 2008, and management restrictions will be in place.

4.4.1.3. Pink

The major stocks return to the Kwinamass, Khutzeymateen, and the Iknouk Rivers (odd years). Most Area 3 pink stocks arrive in the fishing area at approximately the same time, mid-July. The outer coastal stocks are an exception, arriving in August and early September.

4.4.1.4. Coho

Net fisheries will start with non-retention of coho, and will be managed based on in-season abundance.

4.4.2. General Constraints

- The fishery must be managed to meet commitments in accordance with the NFA and the PST.
- Fishing is limited to daylight hours to reduce the incidental catch of coho.
- Non-retention of steelhead is mandatory in all fisheries.
- Brailing and sorting, with the mandatory release of chinook, chum and coho will be in place for the seine fishery. Changes to the non-retention species are possible depending on in-season estimation of run strengths or identified surpluses.
- Non-retention of coho for both seine and gill net will be in place initially, but may be modified depending on stock abundances and fishing effort.
- Gill nets have a 137 mm maximum mesh restriction. This restriction is in place so that sockeye is targeted selectively and larger non-target species such as chum and chinook are impacted to a lesser degree.
- Gill net fish harvesters are requested to release all live chum and Chinook to the water with the least possible harm. The chum conservation ribbon boundary along the Pearce and Wales Islands shore is expected to be in place.

4.4.3. Pre-season Decisions

Opportunities for a gill net fishery in mid-June are evaluated during the pre-season planning process based on brood year escapements. The fishery is implemented to assess sockeye strength. The fishery has very little impact on other salmon stocks because it occurs early in the sockeye run, and avoids

others species due to the early timing and with the use of mesh restrictions. The first fishery is predetermined in the planning process. Other indicators prior to the fishery are not reliable and significant fish harvesting opportunities can be missed in years of large returns if fishing does not start at this time.

Seine fishing usually starts towards the middle of July based on conservation and allocation considerations. Immature chinook presence and gill net allocation goals preclude an earlier seine opening.

4.4.4. In-season Decisions

The sockeye gill net fishery continues in some years into August depending upon run timing and stock strength. Starting in mid-July, the seine fishery is usually a targeted sockeye and pink fishery with restrictions such as time, area and gear restrictions in place to pass more chums through to the spawning grounds. Terminal chum fisheries could occur in some restricted terminal areas once a surplus has been identified from spawning ground escapement inspections.

Weekly decisions are made from run size predictions based on:

- Catch and effort data from the Area 3 and Alaskan Tree Point commercial net fisheries.
- Escapement information from the Nisga'a Fishwheel Program conducted at test-fishing sites near Gitwinksihlkw on the Nass River and fish counts at the Meziadin fishway, and later from individual stream inspections for chum and pink.

4.4.5. Prospects for 2008

A below average return of 350,000 to Canada is forecast for Nass sockeye. Available commercial fishery surplus after Nisga'a Treaty obligations, Gitanyow FSC harvest and the required escapement of 200,000 is about 100,000 sockeye. In addition since sockeye escapement targets have not been met in a number of recent years, including a significant shortfall in 2007, the management approach will be more conservative.

A below average return of pink salmon is forecast with an expected surplus of about 700,000. However, pink returns are erratic, and so predictions must be treated with some caution.

Area 3 chum returns are expected to be poor. Fisheries will be managed to avoid and release chum. Terminal fisheries on some systems may be possible if surpluses are identified in-season.

4.5. Skeena River Decision Guidelines

4.5.1. Background

The Skeena River is the second largest producer of sockeye in B.C. The major stocks in the Skeena River system are the Babine River and the enhanced runs to Fulton River and Pinkut Creek.

Co-migrating with these strong sockeye stocks are weaker runs of wild sockeye, as well as stocks of all the northern Pacific salmon species. Measures have been taken to reduce the impact of the fishery on

Skeena River coho, chum, steelhead, and some sockeye stocks. These measures include non-retention of some species, gear and fishing modifications, and specific timing closures or sockeye harvest rate reductions when weak stocks are present.

Skeena River returns are harvested in Areas 4 and 5 and upper Chatham Sound in Area 3.

There are 154 recorded coho streams in Management Area 4. Individual stock arrival timing at the test fishery varies, but generally it is the streams of the upper Skeena (Bulkley, Babine, and Interior Skeena stocks) which arrive first (from late July to early August), followed by middle Skeena stocks, then coastal stocks.

In the Skeena River, pinks have returned well in recent years from both odd and even year cycles, although in 2006 poor returns were observed which resulted in significantly lower escapements. 128 systems have a recorded pink salmon presence. Tagging studies were conducted in 1982, 1984 and 1985. These studies were designed primarily to provide information on interception rates, but also provided information on stock abundance, migration and timing. Management stock groupings are upper Skeena, lower Skeena and coastal.

Chums are the least abundant salmon species in the Skeena system, and return to the fewest number of streams. There are 43 chum streams or rivers in Area 4.

The Skeena is the second largest chinook producer on the B.C. coast. Skeena chinook are taken in all northern B.C. fishing areas as well as southern Alaskan troll and net fisheries. Returning adults tend to follow a north to south migration pattern. Peak timing of chinook past the test fishery is in the first and second weeks of July, with escapements continuing into late August.

Skeena salmon are taken in virtually all northern B.C. and southern Alaskan fisheries. In B.C., directed net fisheries on sockeye and pink salmon occur in Areas 3, 4 and 5. Troll fishing effort is directed on pink, chinook, and coho salmon in Areas 1 and 101. Recreational and First Nations fisheries occur on all these salmon species, with chinook and coho being the main targeted species for the recreational fisheries, and sockeye being the major target in the First Nations fisheries.

4.5.1.1. Tyee Test Fishery

The Tyee Test Fishery is the main in-season stock assessment tool for estimating the relative abundance of Skeena River salmon and steelhead through the use of a multi-panel gill net with varying mesh sizes. In addition, daily in-season escapements and total run size are estimated for sockeye. Estimates are subject to error as the catchability of salmon by the test fishery net varies from year to year due to varying environmental conditions (including water level, clarity and temperature, weather conditions and tide).

4.5.2. General Constraints

- The fishery must be managed to meet commitments in accordance with the PST.

- Fishing is limited to daylight hours to reduce the incidental catch of coho, except during directed chinook gill net fisheries when mesh size and run timing are used to target chinook only.
- Non-retention of steelhead is mandatory in all fisheries.
- Brailing and sorting, with the mandatory release of chinook, chum and coho will be in place for the seine fishery. Changes to the non-retention species are possible depending on in-season estimation of run strengths or identified surpluses.
- Non-retention of coho for both seine and gill net will be in place initially, but may be modified depending on stock abundances and fishing effort.
- Gill nets have a 137 mm maximum mesh restriction. This restriction is in place so that sockeye is targeted selectively and larger non-target species such as chum and chinook are impacted to a lesser degree.
- Gill net fish harvesters are required to release all live chum to the water with the least possible harm.

4.5.2.1. Sockeye

Sockeye from various streams migrate up the Skeena throughout the salmon season. These wild stocks are generally less productive and therefore cannot withstand the same exploitation rate as the enhanced stocks of Pinkut Creek and Fulton River. Two wild sockeye stocks have been a specific concern in recent years, the Nanika-Morice and the Kitwanga. These stocks are bracketed by the aggregate Skeena sockeye run timing, with Nanika-Morice sockeye peaking through the fishing area in early July (early timing), and the Kitwanga sockeye stocks peaking through the fishing area in late July (middle timing). Since both these stocks have accurate annual escapement programs they are one of the tools used to evaluate fishery impacts and sockeye stock status.

4.5.2.2. Coho

Upper and middle Skeena coho have shown a significant increase in abundance over the last decade. Status of the lower Skeena (late timing) coho is less certain. Coho harvests in Canada will be divided between First Nations food, social and ceremonial and recreational fisheries. The troll plan will be modified to avoid Skeena coho to a large extent. The commercial net fisheries will begin with non-retention of coho, but this may change if in-season the abundance of coho is found to be high.

4.5.2.3. Chinook

A poor return of 5-year old Skeena chinook is anticipated in 2008. Restrictions to commercial and recreational opportunities may be implemented if in-season stock assessment information determines concerns over returns.

4.5.2.4. Chum

Chum stocks are expected to return below desirable levels in most north coast waters (Areas 3 to 6). Conservation actions such as mandatory release of chum by seine and gill net (in Areas 4, & 5) and mesh restrictions of maximum 137mm by gill net are expected to be implemented. Also, additional time and area closures may be required to meet rebuilding initiatives.

4.5.3. Pre-season Decisions

Initial openings are based on the expected returns for a given year. If a surplus of sockeye is predicted, then fishery openings are planned. If no surpluses are forecast, then fisheries will not take place until it is determined in-season that the run size is sufficient to produce a fishable surplus.

For 2008, five year old chinook may be a concern, and so the regularly scheduled gill net fishery that occurs in June will not take place, and any directed commercial chinook fishery will be based on an in-season estimate of a surplus.

4.5.4. In-season Decisions

4.5.4.1. Sockeye

Skeena River sockeye migrate up the river in an aggregate of stocks, but the individual stock groupings can be separated to some extent by run timing. At annual escapement levels of 400,000 or less sockeye into the Skeena River, fishing activity on sockeye should cease. To conduct commercial fisheries, the escapement should be predicted to achieve 900,000 for spawning purposes, and 150,000 for food, social and ceremonial purposes, by the end of the year.

4.5.4.2. Food, Social and Ceremonial Fisheries

There is currently a total catch allocation in communal licences issued to First Nations bands to harvest 150,000 sockeye upstream of the Tyee test fishery. Weekly escapement estimates that indicate an annual run size estimate of less than 550,000 (400,000 plus 150,000) would trigger consultations with Skeena River First Nations to limit their food, social and ceremonial fisheries. There is also a request for First Nations not to fish near the confluence of the Kitwanga River, to protect Kitwanga sockeye that may be holding in that area.

4.5.4.3. First Nations Economic Demonstration Fisheries

A Demonstration Fishery on the Skeena River is being planned with Skeena River First Nations, similar to what was conducted in 2007. Average Area 4 commercial vessel catches of sockeye and pink salmon will be transferred inland. The Skeena River Sockeye Inland Fishery Management Plan is described in Appendix 8. This fishery will be managed with the same priority as the marine commercial fishery.

4.5.4.4. Recreational Fisheries

Sockeye fishing strategy will be guided by the Independent Science Review report, which is expected in late March. Below are the rules outlined for 2007, but these may be modified when the Science Review is complete.

The normal bag limits for Skeena recreational sockeye are four per day in tidal waters. For non-tidal waters in the Skeena mainstem, at escapement levels predicted to be below 650,000, recreational sockeye fisheries in the Skeena River would cease. At escapement levels between 650,000 and

800,000, recreational bag limits will be 1 per day. Escapements greater than 800,000 will see a normal bag limit of 2 per day. Escapements exceeding 1.5M will see bag limits increase to 4 per day.

The following table outlines the guidelines for management actions that may occur. Please note that the escapement estimate is calculated by subtracting any commercial amount that has been transferred up-river for the Skeena sockeye demonstration fishery.

Skeena Sockeye Escapement Estimate	**Management Action for Sockeye**
Greater than 1.5 million	Bag limits increase to 4/day
Greater than 800,000 sockeye	Normal bag limits for Recreational Fishery
650,000 – 800,000 sockeye	Bag limits reduced to 1 per day
Less than 650,000 sockeye	Recreational opportunities cease

4.5.4.5. Commercial Sockeye Fisheries

In order to initiate commercial fisheries on Skeena sockeye, an estimated annual escapement in excess of 1,050,000 is required (escapement of 900,000 and food, social and ceremonial requirements of 150,000).

Commercial allocation of Skeena sockeye (Areas 3 to 5) is listed in Appendix 1. The management strategy to achieve these allocations are to open the gill net fishery first, followed by the seine fishery, which usually opens mid-July, depending on estimated run size, current escapement information, and gill net catch to date. The troll allocation of sockeye is usually achieved by incidental catch on fisheries conducted in outside waters directed at other species.

In 2008, a demonstration Individual Transferable Quota seine fishery may be attempted in Area 4, depending on the desires of the northern seine fishermen. Details of this demonstration fishery will be worked out with the seine advisors prior to the fishery.

4.5.4.6. Pink

During the second week of August, the target species in the commercial Area 4 fishery switches from sockeye to pink salmon. The management target for pink escapement is one to two million fish. If the escapement was low during the sockeye directed fishery, no management actions would be taken. Once the fishery switches to pink management, if the yearly escapement is not expected to reach one million, the fishery may close. An exception may be made if the sockeye run is still strong at this time. Pink returns between one and two million are managed with a balance between catch and escapement, and this balance depends on escapement distribution and concern for other species.

Coastal Area 4 and 5 pink stocks are traditionally managed in accordance with Skeena runs until mid-August when local pink stocks become prevalent. In recent years Area 5 pink fisheries have taken place in August. Care will be taken not to over-harvest local stocks while conducting the Skeena directed fishery. Seine fisheries for coastal pink stocks are then considered based on catch and stream escapement information. There are no major coastal pink stocks in Areas 4 or 5 but a number of small streams which all contribute to this stock.

4.5.4.7. Chinook

A poor return of 5-year old Skeena chinook is anticipated in 2008. The directed chinook fishery by gill net that usually occurs in June will not take place, and any commercial opportunity in July will be dependent on an estimate of the run strength and the 2008 fishing effort.

If the returning run strength is very weak, management actions may occur on the recreational fishery. These actions could include reduced bag limits in tidal waters, closed times and areas, gear restrictions in non-tidal waters, or monthly quotas in non-tidal waters. Consultation with the recreational advisors is on-going to determine a course of action that will both protect the chinook run and be least intrusive to the individual fisherman.

4.5.4.8. ESSR Fishery (Sockeye and Pink)

For Skeena River sockeye and pink salmon, all ESSR fisheries will be by selective means, with live release of all non-target species.

For Skeena River sockeye, a surplus will not be declared in-river below the Babine River confluence due to the mixed stock nature of the sockeye run in the lower and middle reaches of the river. Once the sockeye return has moved into the Babine River, many of the weaker wild stocks have moved into their natal streams to spawn, and an ESSR fishery may be considered. This is still a mixed stock sockeye fishery, but to a much lesser degree than downstream. Surpluses in Babine Lake immediately in front of the two spawning channels at Pinkut Creek and Fulton River are not mixed-stock fisheries, and can be harvested at a much higher exploitation rate if required.

Once a commercial fishery has been conducted at the mouth of the Skeena River, and later a sockeye surplus is determined in the Babine River, then an ESSR opportunity may be declared in the Babine River and Lake. Due to uncertainty in estimating escapements, the surplus amount in the river will be half of the estimated overage. For allocation purposes, this surplus will be split in half again, and half will be available to the Gitksan Watershed Authority, to be harvested in the Babine River, while the other half will be available to the Lake Babine First Nation, to be harvested at the Babine Fence.

If a surplus of sockeye arrives at the Pinkut or Fulton spawning facilities, an additional ESSR opportunity may be available to the Lake Babine First Nation. Amounts specified for harvest will be determined in close liaison with Pinkut Creek and Fulton River hatchery managers to ensure enough sockeye are available to stock the channels.

If the sockeye run is below the requirements to trigger a commercial fishery, then no ESSR fisheries will occur in the Babine River. A lake fishery could still occur in front of the spawning channels if a surplus develops and is identified.

4.5.5. Prospects for 2008

Skeena sockeye returns are expected to be below average with an expected return of 1.3M.

Skeena pink returns are expected to be below average.

Area 4 chum returns are expected to be very poor. Fisheries will be managed to avoid and release chum

4.6. Area 6 - Kitimat, Kemano, Quaal Pink and Chum Decision Guidelines

4.6.1. Background

In recent years Area 6 has experienced strong pink returns on odd years with only very modest returns on even years. Historically, chum fisheries have been managed along with more abundant pink returns. In recent years the only directed chum fishery has been on stocks returning to the Kitimat Hatchery.

4.6.2. General Constraints

Gill nets have a 149mm minimum and 165mm maximum mesh restriction. This restriction is in place so that chum is targeted selectively and other non-target species such as sockeye and chinook are not impacted. Gill net fisheries will be restricted to Douglas Channel. There will be non-retention of steelhead in all fisheries.

Commercial net fishing is limited to daylight hours to reduce by-catch. Other conservation measures are also in effect, including mandatory brailing for all seine sets and non-retention of chinook, steelhead, coho and chum by the commercial seine fleet.

Non-retention of a species could change in-season depending on abundance and allocative split.

4.6.3. Pre-season Decisions

Opportunities for a gill net fishery are evaluated during the pre-season planning process based on Kitimat Hatchery chum production and wild chum stock assessments. Wild chum stocks have declined in recent years. Assessment fisheries will be confined to determining hatchery stock strength. Terminal wild stock chum fisheries may be considered based on in-stream escapement assessments.

Seine fishing opportunities are usually evaluated pre-season for a start in mid-July. The anticipated opening date is determined from brood year escapements, run timing and concurrent openings in other areas.

4.6.4. In-season Decisions

Gill net fisheries are announced in-season based on catch and escapement information. In mid-July seine fisheries are considered. These fisheries will target pink stocks returning to numerous streams with the Quaal and Kemano Rivers being the main producers. Further fishing opportunities are based on the

assessments of the fishery, with good catches indicating a strong return. As the season progresses the focus changes increasingly to an assessment of escapements to determine further fishing opportunities.

4.6.5. Prospects for 2008

Area 6 pink returns are expected to be modest.

Area 6 chum returns are expected to be very poor with the exception of returns to the Kitimat Hatchery. The forecast hatchery surplus is modest. Chum fisheries will be restricted to the Douglas Channel area to avoid catching weaker stocks. Note that returns to Kitimat Hatchery have been highly variable and forecasts unreliable.

4.7. Area 7 Chum Decision Guidelines

4.7.1. Background

The major wild chum salmon that are actively managed in Area 7 are the Mussel, Kainet, Neekas, Quartcha and Roscoe stocks. The Kitasoo and McLoughlin Bay Hatcheries contribute to harvests of enhanced stocks. These fisheries occur in terminal areas or the approach areas where timings of these stocks are known. Pink salmon migrate during a similar time period as chum but are not actively targeted and are caught incidentally. Fisheries for Mussel and Kainet chum generally occur in August. Early returns of Roscoe and McLoughlin chum occur in Seaforth Channel in August, while the main return occurs in September. Gill net and seine fleets are normally small for these fisheries with generally no more than two days per week fishing during good returns and one day per week during an average return. Pink salmon migrate during the same time period but are not targeted to the same extent as chum.

4.7.2. General Constraints

- The half-mile radius boundary around Mary's Cove Creek is in effect year-round to conserve Mary's Cove and Lagoon Creek sockeye.
- Gill nets with 149mm mesh restriction all season to protect sockeye stocks in some of the central coast systems.
- Seines are required to brail and release sockeye, chinook and steelhead to the water with the least possible harm all season.
- Fishing is limited to daylight hours to reduce by-catch.
- Coho in the North and Central Coast are being managed to an exploitation rate ceiling. Coho will be actively managed during all net fisheries in 2008 with coho retention initially not allowed in gillnet and seine fisheries. Fishery managers will monitor the encounter rates on a weekly basis and will allow retention of coho if abundances warrant.
- Subject to conservation concerns and First Nations food, social and ceremonial fisheries, the Klemtu Pass area may be opened to harvest surplus chum returning to the Kitasoo Creek Hatchery. Openings targeting Kitasoo Creek Hatchery stocks and surplus chum in terminal areas would only be considered after August 22 and would follow the pattern of gill nets fishing first and seines second.

- During periods of high pink salmon catches in Areas 7 or 8, fisheries will be managed so that there is a maximum of two consecutive days of fishing. This action has been recommended by fish harvesters and processors to maximize the value of the pink salmon caught.
- Where possible, openings in Areas 6 through 10 will be co-ordinated.

4.7.3. Pre-season Decisions

Opportunities for one-day gill net and seine assessment fisheries on the last week of July or first week of August are determined pre-season based on recent trends in brood year escapement. If recent escapement estimates indicate an increasing or stable run, the assessment fisheries will very likely go ahead, regardless of other information. Since it occurs early in the run, this fishery has little impact on the overall escapement, and still provides an improved indication of run strength. One-day assessment fisheries are under consideration for lower Finlayson, lower Mathieson, Sheep Pass and the eastern portion of Seaforth Channel.

4.7.4. In-season Decisions

First Week of August: One additional day of fishing during daylight hours is considered if the run appears strong on the afternoon of the one-day assessment fisheries. The assessment of run strength and expected escapement is based on a review of hailed catches after 14:00 hours on the fishing day to estimate CPUE, salmon escapements to the Mussel and Kainet Rivers to-date, and total catch of chum salmon to-date.

Second Week of August until Mid-October: The results of the past week's fisheries and their implications for the status of target stocks and incidental stocks are reviewed at the in-season advisory meeting with central coast advisors. Recommendations on future fishing opportunities are discussed at this meeting. If stock strength permits, fishing opportunities are considered each week until mid-October. Announcements for the next week's opportunities are made on the Thursday or Friday of the week preceding the proposed fishery. Salmon escapements to the Mussel and Kainet Rivers will be monitored in conjunction with CPUE and total catch of chum salmon to estimate the run strength and the resulting escapement.

Subject to in-season discussions with central coast advisors, Lama Pass (McLoughlin Bay) may be opened in mid-August, depending on observed chum abundance. Gill nets and seines alternate their fishing each week.

Subject to in-season discussions with central coast advisors, portions of Spiller Channel may be opened to seines and gill nets in late August. Openings in that area will depend on chum escapements to the Neekas River.

Subject to in-season discussions with central coast advisors, portions of Johnson Channel and Roscoe Inlet may be opened to seines and gill nets in late August. Openings in that area will depend on chum escapements to the Roscoe, Quartcha and Clatse Rivers.

4.7.5. General Constraints

First Week of August: Extra fishing time may depend on other areas in the north coast being open to fishing to reduce gear movement.

Second Week of August until Mid-October: A large increase in fleet size could adversely affect small mixed-stock runs in the area, so extra fishing time may depend on openings in other areas in the north coast.

4.7.6. Prospects for 2008

Pink: Given the recent poor returns in 2006, there is considerable uncertainty in the forecast for 2008, but run sizes are expected to be poor.

Chum**:** Returns have been trending down in recent years.

4.8. Area 8 - Atnarko Chinook

4.8.1. Background

The Atnarko chinook stock is an enhanced chinook population that supports food, social and ceremonial and recreational fisheries, as well as a limited commercial chinook gill net fishery. The Nuxalk First Nation's food, social and ceremonial fishery provides the best indication of run strength and is used as a small test fishery to predict run size. Atnarko chinook are harvested by the commercial gill net fleet in North Bentinck Arm, a portion of South Bentinck Arm, Labouchere Channel and Burke Channel. A fleet of approximately 40 gill net vessels using large mesh nets is normal for recent years.

4.8.2. General Constraints

Gill nets have a 203mm mesh restriction. The restriction is in place so that chinook are targeted selectively and other non-target species such as sockeye are not impacted.

4.8.3. Pre-season Decisions

Opportunities for a one day gill net assessment fishery on the last week in May or the first week in June is evaluated during the pre-season planning process in November/December. If recent escapement estimates indicate an increasing or stable run, the assessment fishery will very likely go ahead, regardless of other information. This fishery has very little impact on the stock, because it occurs early in the run and the benefits of the stock status information provided by this fishery outweigh the small risks associated with its limited impact. The final decision is made two weeks prior to the actual opening.

4.8.4. In-season Decisions

During June opportunities are evaluated based on in-season data from the previous week, including First Nations FSC fishery catches and gill net catches. The Bella Coola River chinook Bayesian run size predictor, based on First Nations FSC catches, will be used to determine run strength.

4.8.5. Prospects for 2008

The outlook for Atnarko River chinook remains similar to previous years. The 2008 brood year escapements were average, and with enhanced production, there should be a good return. The brood

year escapements to the Dean River were respectable. The outlook for Dean River chinook is for a below average to average return.

4.9. Area 8 Pink and Chum Decision Guidelines

4.9.1. Background

Chum fisheries in Area 8 target mainly on Kimsquit and Bella Coola River stocks. Fisheries also occur on returns to Lower Dean streams (Elcho, Cascade and Jenny) but to a lesser extent. The Bella Coola River system is enhanced while the Kimsquit River is not. Pink fisheries in Area 8 target mainly on Atnarko River stocks but there is a component of Kwatna River and Koeye River pinks that are fished. The pink fishery on Kwatna stocks occurs at the same time as the Atnarko fishery while Koeye pinks are harvested during the later part of August. Fisheries in North Bentinck Arm, Dean Channel and Burke Channel are gill net only while fisheries in Fisher Channel and Fitz Hugh Sound are open for gill net as well as seine. Conservation measures to protect Rivers Inlet and local sockeye stocks have been put in place in recent years.

4.9.2. General Constraints

- Gill nets are under a 158mm mesh restriction until the beginning of August to protect sockeye stocks in some of the central coast systems. Gill nets will be allowed to use nets with 149mm for the remainder of the season.
- Fishing is limited to daylight hours to reduce the catch of coho.
- Coho in the North and Central Coast are being managed to a 60% exploitation rate ceiling. Coho will be actively managed during all net fisheries with coho retention initially not allowed in gillnet and seine fisheries. Fishery managers will monitor the encounter rate on a weekly basis and will allow retention of coho if abundance warrants.
- Seines are required to brail and release sockeye, chinook and steelhead to the water all season.
- Between July 10 and August 14 weed lines are required for gill nets in Sub areas 8-5 north of Bold Point and 8-8 for steelhead conservation.
- If the in-season estimate of the Atnarko River pink salmon stock exceeds two million fish, a portion of Sub area 8-13 south of a line from Kelpa Point due west to a boundary sign on King Island may be opened for seines. This would only be done after consultation with central coast advisors.
- The seine opening date will be reviewed in conjunction with other seine openings on the north coast.
- During periods of high pink salmon catches in Areas 7 or 8, fisheries will be managed so that there is a maximum of two consecutive days of fishing. This action has been recommended by fish harvesters and processors to maximize the value of the pink salmon caught.
- Where possible, openings in Areas 6 through 10 will be concurrent.

4.9.3. Pre-season Decisions

In November/December during the pre-season planning process, opportunities for two-day gill net assessment fisheries in the first two weeks of July are evaluated. The evaluation is mainly based on brood year escapements. This fishery is implemented to get an early assessment of run strength. It has very little impact on the stocks because it occurs early in the run and the benefits of the stock status

information provided by this fishery outweigh the small risks associated with its limited impact. Two weeks of data are required to obtain sufficient information for an updated run-size estimate. The final decision is made the previous week.

4.9.4. In-season Decisions

Second Week of July: The assessment openings may be extended for a third day that week if the runs appear strong based on a review of catches to-date. Opportunities for a gill net and seine opening on Monday in the third week in July are considered, based on the results of the assessment fisheries:

- If Atnarko pink stocks are weak but Bella Coola and Kimsquit chum stocks are strong, Sub areas 8-3 and a portion of Sub area 8-4 south of a line from Walker Point to Hergest Point will be closed.
- If Kimsquit chum are weak but Bella Coola chum are strong, Sub area 8-5 will be closed.
- If Kimsquit chum are very weak but Bella Coola chum are strong, Sub areas 8-5 and 8-4 north of Walker Point will be closed.

4.9.5. Prospects for 2008

Given the recent poor returns on pink salmon in 2006, there is considerable uncertainty in the forecast for 2008. Returning runs are expected to be below average.

The 2008 forecast for Area 8 chum predicts a modest surplus. The primary contributors include the Bella Coola and Kimsquit Rivers.

4.10. Area 9 - Rivers Inlet Sockeye Decision Guidelines

4.10.1. Background

There has been no gill net fishery in Rivers Inlet since 1995 after the sockeye returns declined dramatically in 1994. This decline was caused by poor marine survival beginning with the 1990 and 1991 brood years. Since 2002, total returns have shown some improvement, although the 2006 return was poorer than expected and the 2007 returns were very poor. Sockeye salmon in Rivers Inlet remain in the recovery mode.

4.10.2. Pre-season Decisions

Fishing opportunities for Rivers Inlet sockeye are evaluated pre-season based on brood year stock status and indications of marine survival rates. For Rivers Inlet sockeye, optimum spawning escapements are very uncertain, but likely within the 200,000 to 600,000 range. If indications of ocean survival are poor and Owikeno Lake sockeye stocks continue to be depressed, as in the past five years, no commercial or recreational fisheries will be considered for the year.

4.10.3. In-season Decisions

Owikeno Lake sockeye stocks are currently considered to be in the recovery mode, and the forecast indicates they are not abundant enough to support a commercial fishery. A commercial fishery is not expected to occur in Area 9.

4.10.4. General Constraints

If or when a fishery occurs, a maximum mesh restriction of 150mm would be in place to protect Rivers Inlet chinook stocks. Commercial gill net boundaries will be developed through consultations with commercial, First Nations, and recreational interests.

4.10.5. Prospects for 2008

The pre-season forecast for Owikeno sockeye is very uncertain due to the highly variable return rates in recent years. Brood year escapements could produce a moderate return, but will most likely be below 200,000. No fishing opportunities are expected with the exception of a small First Nation harvest for food, social, and ceremonial purposes.

4.11. Area 10 - Long Lake Sockeye and Nekite Chum Decision Guidelines

4.11.1. Background

Since 1985, all gill net fishing has occurred inside Smith Inlet with the last fishery occurring in 1996. Total returns to the tributaries of Long Lake have remained relatively poor since the 1996 fishing closure.

4.11.2. Pre-season Decisions

For Smith Inlet sockeye, the updated assessments suggest that optimum escapements for un-fertilized conditions are in the 43,000 to 80,000 range. For fertilized conditions, optimum escapements are in the 155,000 to 300,000 range. As the lake is no longer being fertilized, 100,000 sockeye will be the conservative interim escapement goal for Smith sockeye. However, since there have been a trend of poor survivals in recent years, a fishery would be unlikely to occur on Smith Inlet sockeye.

An expanded mark-recapture experiment will be conducted for Nekite chum in 2008 to determine whether escapements may support a terminal fishery in future years. Given poor marine survivals from the 2004 brood, a precautionary approach will be taken regarding any Nekite chum fishery.

4.11.3. In-season Decisions

Long Lake sockeye stocks remain in recovery mode. Opportunities for Long Lake sockeye directed fisheries are evaluated in-season based on Docee Fence fish counts, but are not expected until a trend to higher escapements are observed.

The primary tool available for inseason management of this stock consists of a run-size predictor using historic (1972-2006) daily proportional average sockeye counts observed at the Docee River fence. Normal mean run timing date is July 20.

If a terminal fishery is initiated for Nekite chum salmon, catch and escapement data will be used to make decisions on any further fisheries. Because of the lack of data on this system, caution will be used regarding any harvest opportunities.

4.11.4. General Constraints

If a fishery takes place, a maximum mesh restriction of 150mm will be in place to protect Docee River chinook stocks. Boundaries will be restrictive to protect non-targeted stocks. No coho retention unless abundance warrants.

4.11.5. Prospects 2008

Smith Inlet sockeye returns have been poor in recent years, and no fisheries are being contemplated until an upturn in returns are seen. Nekite chum salmon have experienced modest returns in recent years, and returns will be monitored in 2008 to determine if a small terminal fishery is possible.

4.12. Northern Troll Decision Guidelines

4.12.1. Background

In 1999, Canada and the US agreed to implement an abundance-based coast-wide chinook management regime, under which fishery regimes are classified as aggregate abundance-based management regimes (AABM) or individual stock-based management regimes (ISBM). In northern B.C., troll fisheries in Management Areas 1 to 5 and Queen Charlotte Islands sport fisheries (Areas 1 and 2) are managed under an AABM regime. All other fisheries in the north and central coast are managed under an ISBM regime.

The northern B.C. (and South-East Alaska) AABM allowable catch is constrained by a specified formula agreed to by the two countries. The AABM fishery is managed annually according to an allocation calculated from this formula.

The coho harvest in western Dixon Entrance and around the QCI is from a wide variety of stocks, mostly from north and central coast mainland streams. Coho harvest will be limited to an exploitation rate of 40 to 60 percent, in the lower end of the range if ocean survivals continue to be poor. Coho exploitation rates are estimated in-season using an effort-based management model, and post season using CWT analysis from the catch. Management adjustments will be made based on assessments of coho abundance in-season.

4.12.2. General Constraints

- WCVI chinook will be managed in-season to a harvest rate of 3.2% of the return to Canada.
- Areas with known high abundance of undersized chinook will remain closed.
- Areas or times where weak Queen Charlotte Islands, Northern mainland and Central coast chinook, coho and chum stocks are known to be abundant will remain closed.
- Dockside monitoring will be mandatory in ITQ fisheries.
- Appropriate biological sampling, particularly for coded-wire tags and DNA, will be conducted.
- Coho will be managed in accordance with the overall exploitation rate objective and the indications of in-season abundance.
- Barbless hooks and operating revival boxes are required for all fisheries.

- There will be non-retention of steelhead and chum all year, and sockeye in Fraser River migration areas.
- Additional measures may be implemented in recognition of weak salmon stocks.

4.12.3. Pre-season Decisions

4.12.3.1. Sockeye

The main producers of sockeye in the north and central coast are the Skeena and Nass Rivers. Rivers and Smith Inlets sockeye are rebuilding and will be protected by restricting sockeye retention to Dixon Entrance. Fraser River sockeye migrating through north coast waters will also be protected by prohibiting sockeye retention in known migration routes, specifically west of 133 degrees West Longitude.

4.12.3.2. Coho

Coho will be managed to a maximum exploitation rate of 40 to 60 percent, with initial targets in the lower end of the range given the recent downturn in ocean survivals. This will be measured in-season by an effort-based management model, and post season by CWT analysis of the catch. Local closures will be implemented to reduce fishery impacts for stocks of concern.

Areas 4, 5, 103, and portions of 104 will remain closed to trolling to protect migrating Skeena and other north and central coast coho.

4.12.3.3. Pink

Canada will manage the Area 1 troll fishery to achieve an annual catch share of 2.57 percent of the annual allowable harvest (AAH) of a portion of south-east Alaska, as agreed to in the Pacific Salmon Treaty (PST). The methodology for AAH calculations is provided in the PST. Canada can carry forward from year to year annual deviations from the prescribed catch. To increase the pink catch, the northern section of Dixon Entrance will open to pink salmon fishing on July 1st. During this fishery, coho and sockeye retention will also be allowed.

4.12.3.4. Chum

Chum is expected to be weak in most mainland and QCI systems. There will be non-retention of chum in effect all year.

4.12.3.5. Chinook

For PST purposes, the accounting year runs from October 1 to September 30 of the following year. The allowable northern B.C. troll catch (Management Areas 1 to 5) for the 2008 accounting period will be 64,800 chinook.

For this year, the ITQ demonstration fishery will include all Area F trollers. The ITQ will be set with equal vessel shares, as in the past. Vessel share in 2008 is 228 chinook per vessel.

If the chinook fishery opens, and then is closed due to a high incidence of WCVI chinook, a restart may be possible depending on analysis of test samples and overall catch of WCVI chinook to date.

In 2008, a specific timing window will be provided for the ITQ chinook fishery, with variances possible due to DNA analysis. The open date will be June 20, and the closing date will be July 31. Any further chinook troll opportunities will be in a late fishery, with dates to be announced upon evaluation of the summer fishery.

4.12.4. In-season Decisions

4.12.4.1. Coho

The coho troll management model and other indicators of in-season abundance will be used in-season to provide estimates of exploitation rates and coho stock abundance. The model includes fisheries in Areas 1 through 10 and stocks for Areas 1 through 12. The basic concept of the model is to use base period (1985 to 1996) relationships between effort and exploitation rates to predict fishery impacts from in-season effort. Areas could be closed to coho on short notice if the exploitation rate on the coho stocks present is estimated to be achieved, or if ocean survival levels are less than recent levels. Coho will open on July 25 in selected waters, similar to recent years. The Area 104 boundary is being re-established. This boundary, which runs north and south cutting 104 approximately in half, was dropped in 2007, but is being reinstated due to poor lower Skeena coho returns.

4.12.4.2. Pink

Pink salmon opportunities will begin on July 1 in the northern portions of Dixon Entrance, and are anticipated to remain available throughout the coho fishery. The allowable pink harvest under the provisions of the PST is such that it is very unlikely that the troll fleet will be restricted.

4.12.4.3. Chum

Chum salmon returns are expected to be poor in Areas 1 to 6. Chum salmon is expected to remain closed all year.

4.12.4.4. Chinook

The opening date of the summer fishery will be June 20, and last day of fishing July 31. DNA sampling will be conducted, and depending on WCVI presence, the fishery may close earlier that anticipated. Further fishing time will be based on the number of WCVI chinook caught in the summer fishery.

5. FIRST NATIONS FISHING PLAN

After conservation needs are met, First Nations' food, social, and ceremonial (FSC) requirements and treaty obligations to First Nations have first priority in salmon allocation. DFO manages FSC fisheries cooperatively with individual First Nations using Aboriginal Fishing Agreements and communal licences.

Catch Monitoring will be a priority in the management of First Nations fisheries. Monitoring programs and real-time reporting technologies will be examined.

5.1. Catch Monitoring and Reporting Initiatives

5.1.1. Improving Coded Wire Tag (CWT) sampling of FSC fisheries

Many First Nations FSC fisheries have not been sampled for CWTs, and most of those that were have been inconsistently or inadequately sampled for CWTs, with some exceptions. Since many of these fisheries are terminal and intercept chinook and/or coho indicator stocks, this is a serious concern because it generates unknown bias for cohort analyses and implementation of PST management regimes for chinook and coho salmon. In 2006, the Department began addressing this concern in the lower Fraser River FSC fisheries that retain chinook or coho salmon. Fishery monitors, who were already in place for catch data collection, were instructed to request to retain heads from adipose fin-clipped chinook and coho when the fisher did not object. This project was quite successful, and was expanded in 2007, to improve coverage of lower Fraser River FSC fisheries, as well as to include other FSC fisheries in the Pacific Region. Because the complexity of FSC fisheries varies greatly in the Region, other approaches to CWT sampling these fisheries will also be explored.

5.2. Specific Conservation Measures

When a conservation concern comes up for any individual stock that First Nations harvest, then consultation is undertaken and an acceptable fishing plan is reached that will provide the necessary protection to the weak stock.

5.3. Communal Licence Harvest Targets

First Nations access to salmon for FSC purposes is managed through communal licences. These licences are designed for the effective management and regulation of First Nations fisheries through a negotiated series of mutually acceptable conditions wherever possible. The date, times and locations where harvesting may occur, acceptable gear types, and other conditions are described in these licences. Communal licences can be amended in-season for resource conservation purposes.

DFO seeks to provide for the effective management and regulation of First Nations fisheries through negotiation of mutually acceptable and time-limited Fisheries Agreements. If an Agreement cannot be mutually concluded, DFO will issue an Aboriginal Communal fishing licence to the group authorizing them to fish for FSC purposes.

Harvest targets for communal licences in the north and central coast of B.C. are outlined below. Note that actual numbers of fish on some communal licences are still in negotiation, and therefore the numbers listed below are subject to change. Actual catches will be dependent on, among other factors, in-season assessments of actual stock strength, management measures taken to ensure conservation of individual stocks, and abundance of other species.

Communal Licence Harvest Targets (Arranged From North and Inland)

	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Chinook
Gitanyow (Nass River)	6,000	250	185	25	620
Yekooche (Babine Area)	2,000	0	0	0	0
Takla (Bear/Sustut)	1,050	0	0	0	550
Lake Babine (Babine Lake and Area)	35,000	500	1,000		100
Gitksan (Skeena River) and **Wet'suwet'en** (Bulkley River)	100,000	2,500	25,000	500	10,000
Kitselas (Skeena River near Terrace)	14,000	1,000	2,000	200	1,500
Kitsumkalum (Skeena River near Terrace)	12,000	200	1,000	500	1,000
Lax Kw'alaams (Areas 3 and 4)	20,000	500	1,000	700	750
Metlakatla (Area 4)	5,000	100	500	100	100
Kitkatla (Area 5)	5,500	100	600	750	100
Gitga'at (Area 6)	2,200	750	140	200	140
Haisla (Area 6)	2,500	2,500	1,000	2,000	1,000
Haida (Areas 1 and 2)	20,000	5,000	2,500	2,500	3,000
Kitasoo (Areas 6 and 7)	9,000	1,500	1,500	3,000	500
Heiltsuk (Areas 7 and 8)	20,000	3,000	6,000	6,000	2,000
Ulkatcho (Bella Coola/Atnarko Rivers)	500	50	350	50	350
Nuxalk (Area 8)	14,000	3,500	5,000	3,000	5,000
Wui'kinuxv (Area 9)	4,500	400	400	400	100
Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw (Area 10)	2,000	20	20	70	20

5.4. Anticipated Food, Social and Ceremonial Opportunities

Salmon fishing for FSC purposes is open year round, except closed for nets in the vicinity of commercial net fisheries as described in individual First Nations' communal licences.

5.5. Nisga'a Fisheries

The Nisga'a Annual Fishing Plan (NAFP) is developed by the Fisheries Program of the Nisga'a Lisims Government and governed by the terms of the Nisga'a Final Agreement and the Nisga'a Harvest Agreement. The Nisga'a Harvest Agreement does not form part of the Nisga'a Final Agreement, and includes Nisga'a fish allocations expressed as a percentage of the adjusted total allowable catch of sockeye and pink. The NAFP is developed in accordance with Chapter 8 of the Nisga'a Final Agreement. Once approved by the Minister, the Annual Fishing Plan remains in effect until replaced the following year. The fishing plan applies to persons who harvest fish, other than steelhead, in Nisga'a fisheries.

Notwithstanding that Nisga'a fish entitlements are treaty rights, a Nisga'a fish allocation of sockeye and pink, as defined in the Nisga'a Harvest agreement, is set out as a percentage of the Canadian Total Allowable Catch for Nass Area stocks. Nisga'a commercial fisheries for these or other salmon species have the same priority in fisheries management decisions as other commercial and recreational fisheries that target Nass Area salmon stocks.

The NAFP defines the escapement goals required to guide management decisions for Nass salmon stocks, calculates Nisga'a allocations for each salmon species and provides the general regulatory requirements for catches of each salmon species. The NAFP is reviewed by the Joint Fisheries Management Committee (JFMC) prior to being submitted to the Minister for approval. Nisga'a Lisims Government is responsible for the internal allocation of catch opportunities between Nisga'a fish harvesters and day to day operation of the Nisga'a fishery.

Pre-season estimates for the Nisga'a salmon allocation are:

a) **52,000** sockeye of a Total Return to Canada (TRTC) of **350,000** based on a sibling (age) relationship model. Actual entitlement that may be targeted could be approximately 9,000 greater (**61,000**), depending on run strength, to account for underages accrued in 2007.

b) **54,000** pink of a TRTC of **569,000** based on the 5-year average return of even-year pink (no underage or overage are accrued).

c) **4,000** Chinook of a TRTC of **21,000** based on a sibling (age) relationship model. Actual entitlement that may be targeted could be approximately 3,000 greater (**7,000**) depending on run strength to account for underages accrued between 2004 and 2007.

d) **8,000** coho of a TRTC of **104,000** based on the minimum return over the past 5 years.

Actual entitlement that may be targeted could be approximately 4,000 greater (**12,000**) depending on run strength to account for underages accrued between 2000 and 2007.

e) **7,000** chum of a TRTC of **90,000** based on the 5-year average return or dominant brood year return. Actual entitlement that may be targeted could be approximately 35,000 greater (**42,000**) depending on run strength to account for underages accrued between 2000 and 2003, and from 2007.

5.6. Aboriginal Commercial Fishing Opportunities

The AFS was implemented to address several objectives related to First Nations and their access to the resource. One of these objectives was to contribute to the economic self-sufficiency of Aboriginal communities. An integral component of the AFS is the Allocation Transfer Program (ATP). This Program facilitates the voluntary retirement of commercial licences and the issuance of licences to eligible Aboriginal groups in a manner that does not add to the existing effort on the resource, thereby providing Aboriginal groups with much needed employment and income. Since 1994 when the ATP was first launched, over 250 commercial licences have been transferred to Aboriginal groups.

Discussions regarding economic opportunities for First Nations are on-going with First Nations and stakeholders. For 2008, as in previous years, the focus with First Nations will be on experimenting in terminal areas on abundant stocks. These fisheries will be conducted separately from food, social and ceremonial fisheries, under the same priority and similar rules as the commercial fishery and fish harvested will be off-set with licences retired from the commercial fishery.

6. RECREATIONAL FISHING PLAN

Recreational fishing opportunities for salmon are regulated by the *British Columbia Sport Fishing Regulations, 1996* made under the *Fisheries Act*. The regulations are generally summarized in the *2007 to 2009 British Columbia Tidal Waters Sport Fishing Guide* and the *2007 to 2009 British Columbia Freshwater Salmon Supplement*.

This information is subject to change in-season if additional conservation concerns arise or if additional recreational opportunities become available. Changes will be communicated through Fishery Notices, media reports, telephone information lines and/or postings on the Pacific Region Fisheries and Oceans Canada website at: www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/recfish.

Catch Monitoring will be a priority in the management of recreational fisheries. The Department is working with the Sport Fishing Advisory Board to develop catch monitoring standards for use in the recreational fishery.

6.1. Catch Monitoring and Reporting Initiatives

The development of an improved catch monitoring regime will continue to be a priority in the management of recreational fisheries. The Department is working with the Sport Fishing Advisory Board to develop catch monitoring standards for the recreational fishery. The standards focus on data collected to estimate catches, releases, and essential biological data for stock assessments and fishery management evaluations.

6.1.1. Initiatives to increase Coded Wire Tag (CWT) submission rates

The CWT system relies on voluntary submissions of heads from adipose fin clipped chinook and coho salmon to estimate the quantity and composition of CWTs caught by anglers. Over the past several years, submission rates have decreased for both species, but most drastically for coho salmon. Now, recovery rates for coho salmon have become too low to provide sufficiently precise CWT catch estimates for stock assessment purposes; in certain fisheries, recovery rates of chinook salmon are also too low. Further, the 2005 expert panel review of the CWT system found that an increased proportion of the total catch was occurring in sport fisheries, which are more difficult to sample than commercial fisheries. To increase angler awareness of the program and head submission rates, the department is increasing promotion and advertising efforts, and communicating these concerns to the Sport Fish Advisory Board. In 2008, the Department will explore additional means of improving the certainty of the recreational fishery CWT data.

Sport catch taken on guided trips, both lodge-based and non-lodge based, is one sector of the sport fishery that has seen increased head submission rates in recent years, due to cooperation of the guides in collecting and in some cases delivering heads. In 2008, the department will strive to increase the proportion of guiding companies collecting heads to better represent their fishing activity.

6.2. Specific Conservation Measures

There are specific management measures in all management areas of the north and central coast, and these specifics are outlined in the *2007 to 2009 British Columbia Tidal Waters Sport Fishing Guide*. These restrictions are to protect vulnerable salmon from being over-harvested, with many closures occurring at the mouths of streams where salmon school and acclimatize to a fresh water environment prior to entering the stream.

6.3. Tidal Waters Fishery

The following restrictions apply to all North Coast tidal waters, except for specific circumstances listed by Management Area below.

- Chinook salmon open January 1 to December 31. Daily limit is two.
- Sockeye, coho, pink and chum salmon open January 1 to December 31. Daily limit is four.
- The daily limit for coho in the tidal portions of all streams in Areas 1, 2E, and 2W is two.
- The daily limit for coho in the tidal portions of all streams in Area 6 has the same corresponding limit as the non-tidal portion.
- Barbless hooks must be used while angling for salmon.
- Aggregate tidal water bag limit is four salmon, possession limit of eight salmon.
- Rockfish Conservation Areas are not mentioned in the sections below, but are in effect in portions of Areas 1 to 10, where fishing is restricted. Visit www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/recfish for maps and descriptions.

6.3.1. Area 1

- Coho salmon open January 1 to December 31. Daily limit two in the tidal portions of all streams.
- In tidal portions of all streams, only a single, barbless hook may be used.
- The waters of Masset Inlet and Sound south of a line from a boundary sign at Griffiths Point to a boundary sign due west on the opposite shore are closed to chinook retention, from May 15 to October 31.
- The waters of Masset Inlet and Sound south of a line from Entry Point to Westacott Point are closed to chinook retention, from June 15 to October 31.

6.3.2. Area 2E

- Sockeye salmon open January 1 to December 31 except local closure in 2-1 and 2-2, April 1 to June 30. Daily limit four.
- Coho daily limit two in the tidal portions of all streams excluding the Pallant and Braverman system.
- In the tidal portions of all streams, only a single, barbless hook may be used.
- The waters shoreward of a line between two boundary signs on either side of the Copper River estuary and the Pallant Creek estuary, a single barbless hook restriction applies all year.
- The tidal portion of Tlell River is closed to the retention of pink salmon.
- The waters of Skidegate Inlet shoreward of a line between two boundary signs on either side of Sachs Creek estuary are closed to pink and chum salmon from August 15 to October 31.
- The waters of Cumshewa Inlet east of a line from a boundary sign 3.5 km west of Mathers Creek to a boundary sign on McLellan Island and west of a line from this boundary sign to a boundary sign 3.5 km east of Mathers Creek are closed to all finfish (no angling allowed) August 15 to October 31.

6.3.3. Area 2W

- Coho daily limit two in the tidal portions of all streams.
- In the tidal portions of all streams, only a single, barbless hook may be used.
- The waters of Fairfax Inlet shoreward of a line from Magneson Point to Reid Point, non-retention of sockeye May 15 to August 15.

6.3.4. Area 3

- The daily limit for chinook salmon over 45cm is 1/day in the tidal portions of the Kincolith River from the Kincolith Highway Bridge downstream to boundary signs at the mouth.

6.3.5. Area 4

- The waters downstream of a tidal boundary sign at the water line crossing on Shawatlan Creek to the fishing boundary signs at the mouth of Shawatlan Bar are closed to all finfish (no angling allowed) July 15 to August 15.
- The waters from a fishing boundary sign at the mouth of Kloiya Creek to the fishing boundary sign at the mouth of Kloiya Bay are closed to all finfish (no angling allowed) August 1 to September 1.

6.3.6. Area 5

- Inside a line drawn from boundary signs located approximately 100 m seaward of the falls at the mouth of the Kumowdah River flowing into Lowe Inlet, closed to all finfish July 1 to October 31. No angling allowed.

6.3.7. Area 6

- Coho in the tidal portion of all streams flowing into tidal waters of Area 6 have the same daily limit as the non-tidal portions.

6.3.8. Area 7

- The waters of McLaughlin Bay shoreward of a line connecting two fishing boundary signs on each side of the entrance to McLaughlin Bay is closed to fishing for all finfish, from July 1 to October 31.

6.3.9. Area 8

- The mouth of Namu River shoreward of a line between two fishing boundary signs located 180 m from a bridge at the mouth of Namu Creek on the west shore and a point on the opposite side of the bay, closed to fishing for all finfish, all year.

6.3.10. Area 9

- Sockeye salmon closed all year. Daily limit zero.
- In those waters of Rivers Inlet shoreward of a line connecting two square white boundary signs off the mouth of the Wannock River is closed to fishing for all finfish, June 1 to September 15.
- In those waters of Rivers Inlet shoreward of a line connecting two square boundary signs off the mouth of the Chuckwalla and Kilbella Rivers is closed to fishing for all finfish, June 1 to September 15.
- In those waters of Rivers Inlet shoreward of a line connecting two square boundary signs located at Rutherford Point and McAllister Point, closed to fishing with a fishing line or downrigger line to which is attached either to a weight that is greater than 168 grams (6 ounces), or an attracting device that is not affixed directly to the hook, from June 1 to September 15.

6.3.11. Area 10

- Sockeye salmon closed all year. Daily limit zero.
- Pink, coho and chum salmon open all year. Daily limit four.
- Smith Inlet, the waters of Wyclees Lagoon lying southerly of the boundary sign near the entrance: non-retention of all salmon, June 20 to November 30.

6.4. Non-Tidal Waters Fishery

Non-tidal salmon openings and closures are found in Appendix 6. Specific non-tidal salmon fishing opportunities may be announced in-season based on abundance and the likelihood of achieving escapement targets.

7. COMMERCIAL FISHING PLAN

7.1. Catch Monitoring and Reporting Initiative

The development of an improved catch monitoring regime will continue to be a priority in the management of commercial fisheries. The Department will work with the Commercial Salmon Advisory Board and Area Harvest Committees to implement tools and develop annual catch monitoring plans for commercial fisheries. The standards focus on data collected to estimate catches, releases, and essential biological data, such as CWT sampling, for stock assessments and fishery evaluations.

Traceability of commercially harvested fish is increasingly a focus of concern as a result of the need to provide market confidence in resource sustainability and product safety. The Department will work with all fleets to implement components of traceability including consultation regarding mandatory hailout provisions for the net fleets (currently in place in troll fisheries) and a pilot mandatory dockside monitoring program.

7.1.1. Coded Wire Tag (CWT) sampling of Freezer Troll Catch

The importance of adequately CWT sampling this catch has increased as the portion of landings frozen at sea has increased. There are three concerns with CWT sampling of freezer troll catch which are being addressed in 2008.

The first concern results from the removal of heads from the catch at sea when trollers freeze their catch. For commercial landings chosen for CWT sampling, sampling activity must examine 100% of the landed fish, and collect all heads that are suspected to contain a CWT. Therefore, trollers removing heads at sea have increasingly been requested by fishery notice, and/or required by Condition of Licence (chinook in Area F and H), to retain all heads from chinook and coho and deliver them to processing plants when landing their catch. However, even where required by Condition of Licence, heads are not always delivered, and many head deliveries contain substantially fewer heads than the body count in the landing, seriously eroding (or even eliminating) the usefulness of the sample.

The second concern also results from the removal of heads before sampling. Recognizing that freezer trollers may have space limitations for retaining heads, the Department allows the alternative of retaining only the portion of the head likely to contain the CWT, referred to as the 'snout'. Unfortunately, many deliveries of snouts have had limited or no sampling usefulness because the snouts have been cut too small, making it likely that CWTs actually present in the fish are not included in the sample.

To address these two concerns, in 2008 the Department will:

i) require, by condition of licence, a randomly selected 40% of Area F licences to retain and deliver heads from all retained coho and chinook caught under that licence (including chinook caught under that licence on quota leased or transferred from another licence),

ii) specify, as a Condition of Licence, the minimum portion of each head that must be retained,

iii) provide instructions regarding these conditions, in troll logbooks and troll Fishery Notices, and in other communications with trollers (Appendix 7).

The third concern results because freezer trollers often land two or more weeks worth of catch during one landing. The Mark Recovery Program (MRP) is required to estimate the catch of CWTs by week. Ice trollers land often enough that CWTs detected in their catch can be attributed to the week they were caught in. However, when freezer trollers land after a trip lasting two or more weeks, and deliver heads for the entire fishing trip duration, it is unknown which week each discovered CWT was caught in; thus, such samples can not contribute to the estimates of CWT catch by week (but are still useful for improving estimates of CWT catch in each fishery).

To address this concern, the Department is implementing a program in which special purpose bags and labels are provided to freezer trollers for use in storing and labelling head samples separately according to the week they were caught. These bags and labels were tested by several trollers in Area F in 2007, and they were positively reviewed. For 2008, freezer trollers will be able to pick up packages of bags and labels at Fishery Licensing offices in Vancouver, Nanaimo, and Prince Rupert, after June 6. Vessel masters unable to pick up bags from licensing offices should contact the Department toll-free at 1-866-483-9994 to arrange delivery.

7.2. Implementation

Due to the uncertainty of both timing and size of returning salmon runs, many commercial openings are not confirmed until a few days prior to the actual opening. Announcements are at least weekly, usually every Thursday afternoon at 14:00 hours and during days when a fishery is in progress, usually prior to 16:00 hours, and occasionally more frequently. Although it is not stated under each week in each area of this fishing plan, management actions planned for any area may change in-season. Fishing Areas, Sub areas or portions thereof, provisions for extensions, opening patterns and the duration of the fishing season can all be adjusted based on factors such as weak stock concerns, target stock abundance, fishing effort, rate of gear selectivity, domestic allocations and other factors.

This fishing plan is designed to harvest abundant salmon stocks while minimizing the incidental harvest of those stocks that are at less than abundant levels. For example, boundaries have been adjusted to reduce the size of the mixed stock fishing area from historic levels. Stocks of concern for which management actions have been included are Rivers and Smith Inlets sockeye, chum along the outer coast of Areas 3 to 6, Skeena coho and Skeena steelhead. Net fisheries that occur on the north and central coast may be required to release all non-target species with the least possible harm, depending on local stock concerns. Central coast pink and chum fisheries will be monitored to ensure coho harvest does not harmfully impact on local stocks.

Fishery managers are working with fleet advisors to develop demonstration fisheries that experiment with meeting a range of objectives including matching fleet size to the available stock, pacing fisheries to maximize value of the harvest and developing more cooperative fishing arrangements between fish harvesters. Lessons learned from the demonstration fisheries will be considered for inclusion into fisheries of the future.

Catch Monitoring will be a priority in the management of commercial fisheries. DFO will continue to focus efforts on enforcement of current reporting requirements.

7.3. Test Fishing/Use of Fish Arrangements

DFO uses a range of methodologies to determine in season stock abundance and composition. Historically, test fisheries have played a prominent role in collecting data to both support the setting of user TAC's and to ensure that conservation objectives are met. In the past, test fishing programs were structured to allow fish harvesters assisting with data collection activities to help offset their costs by retaining and selling fish caught in test fisheries. Recent Federal court decisions have affected the department's ability to deliver test fishing programs in this way. DFO will be working in close consultation with resource users to ensure that the fisheries data collections necessary to set TAC's and to ensure conservation will continue to be undertaken.

7.4. Licence Application and Issuance

The salmon licensing period encompasses April 1 to March 31 of the following year. Applications must be completed and submitted to a Pacific Fishery Licence Unit by March 31 of each year along with the required fee.

Prior to annual licence issue, vessel owners must ensure that:

a) Any Ministerial conditions placed on the licence eligibility have been met;
b) Any conditions of the previous year's licence have been met, such as:
    i. Submission of all harvest logs (for further information contact the Salmon Catch Monitoring Unit at (250) 756-7000); and
    ii. Submission of all fish slips (for further information contact the Regional Data Unit at (604)-666-2716).

7.4.1. Fisher Identification Number (FIN)

Starting in 2006 DFO introduced unique Fisher Identification Numbers (FIN) that were assigned to all Pacific commercial harvesters.

The FIN allows for fast, easy, and reliable on-grounds identification of fish harvesters for data collection, fisheries management and enforcement purposes. Once a FIN has been assigned to a fisher, that individual will reference the FIN when identifying him or herself in subsequent business dealings with both the department and service contractors, e.g. completing the FIN field on logbooks, noting the FIN when hailing, landing catch, etc. As the FIN will now be used during normal business interactions with DFO and contractors fish harvesters will no longer need to provide detailed personal identifying information such as gender or date of birth.

Fish harvesters will not need to apply for a FIN as one will be automatically generated the first time an annual FRC (Fishers Registration Card) licence is issued. Once the FIN is issued to a fisher, it will not change from year to years.

7.5. Mandatory Log-Book and Phone-In Program

Fish harvesters are reminded that there is a mandatory log-book and phone-in program in place for all commercial fisheries. In-season decisions could be directly affected by the level of compliance to the phone-in provisions.

Conditions of Licence require that commercial fish harvesters make service arrangements with an approved service provider in order to fulfil reporting requirements. An approved service provider is a third party company, organisation or individual who meets departmental requirements for impartiality and security, and who will provide services including:

- Provide fish harvesters with harvest logs with the same format and content as the appropriate example in Appendix 3;
- Establish and maintain a computer network with secure access to the departmental salmon fishery database and computer software that will enable data entry into that database;
- Establish and maintain a call centre that will receive in-season reports and enter the reported information electronically into the departmental salmon fishery database;
- Submit the post-season catch reports required by conditions of licence electronically to the departmental salmon fishery database, and issue letters confirming receipt of these reports.

Information on contacting currently approved service providers will be included with licence packages mailed to licence holders.

Fishermen should be aware that completion of their previous year's logbook must be completed and submitted before their new licence will be released.

7.5.1. Electronic Logbooks (E-Logs)

Fisheries and Oceans Canada is piloting an Electronic Logbook system in some areas. This computer application has been designed following the current, paper versions of logbooks for the gill net, seine and troll fleets. The ultimate goal of this new initiative is to improve the efficiency and compliance of reporting catch to the Department. Participants will be required to follow the terms as described in their licence conditions.

A selected number of computers will be deployed to each of the three gear types, and will be the primary means used to transfer each vessel's catch and other fishery information to DFO's Fishery Operations System (FOS). Participants in this pilot project will not be required to purchase the salmon logbook service or be required to phone in their catch and fishery information to the service provider. A list of Fish harvesters, Vessel Names and associated VRN numbers will be communicated via Fishery Notice once determined.

For more information please contact Carmen McConnell at 250-713-7172 or Ron Goruk at 250-713-1522.

Refer to your conditions of licence for further details regarding the log book and phone-in program.

7.6. North Coast Non-Retention Species

There will be non-retention of steelhead in all commercial fisheries.

7.6.1. Seine Fisheries

Areas 3 through 6: non-retention of coho, chum and chinook; chum retention may be allowed in certain areas and certain times, depending on stock strength. Coho may be opened based on in-season information of returning runs.

Areas 7 and 8: non-retention of coho, sockeye and chinook. Coho may be allowed once the incoming run size is assessed.

7.6.2. Gill Net Fisheries

Area 3: Non-retention of coho. A special request is made to release all live chum and chinook to the water with the least possible harm. Chum non-retention may be implemented in-season. Coho may be opened based on in-season assessment of returning runs.

Areas 4 and 5: non-retention of coho and chum. A special request is made to release all live chinook (except during directed chinook fisheries) to the water with the least possible harm. Coho may be opened based on in-season assessment of returning runs.

Area 6: non-retention of coho. Coho may be opened based on in-season assessment of returning runs.

Areas 7 and 8: non-retention of coho. A special request is made to release all live chinook to the water (except during directed chinook fisheries). Coho may be allowed once the incoming run size is assessed.

7.6.3. Troll Fisheries

Non-retention of chum. Other species will be non-retention at certain times and areas throughout the season. Fishery notices will be issued whenever fishing regimes change.

7.6.4. Retention of Lingcod and Rockfish by Salmon Troll

To help meet the conservation and sustainability objectives under groundfish integration, an individual quota (IQ) system has been established for the lingcod fishery. Initial allocation of quota was based on catch history from 1996 to 2003 as this time period coincided with the Dockside Monitoring Program. For those who have fished lingcod in conjunction with salmon during the qualifying years, fish slips were used to determine catch.

Implementation of an integrated groundfish fishery for this year has management implications for those wishing to retain lingcod while salmon trolling. Similar to last year, all vessels wishing to retain any amount of lingcod must have their fish validated through the established dockside monitoring program. In addition to this, any vessel wishing to land lingcod must acquire sufficient quota to do so.

Requirements include the following (less than 500 lbs of lingcod per trip):

- Vessel must have sufficient IVQ
- Transportation requirement – All lingcod must be transported by the licensed vessel either directly to land or to a fish pen
- Hail in and Hail out requirements through the designated service provider Archipelago Marine Research Ltd (AMR)
- Specific locations and times at which landing of fish is permitted
- Landing requirements – The landing of any fish of any species is not permitted unless a designated observer is present to authorize the commencement of weight verification.

Vessels wishing to retain and land **more than 500 lbs** per trip of lingcod must, in addition to all of the above, meet the new electronic monitoring requirements. For more information on these requirements please refer to the 2008/2009 Groundfish Integrated Fisheries Management Plan.

The salmon troll fishery is currently permitted to retain 20 rockfish per day (excluding Yelloweye, Quillback, China, Tiger and Copper, as by-catch to salmon fishing (i.e. during salmon troll open times and when salmon are retained on board the vessel). This allowance will continue in 2008. There are no additional monitoring requirements.

7.7. Net Fishing Times

All north and central coast net fisheries, with only a few exceptions, will normally be restricted to daylight hours (not longer than 16 hours per day, progressively shorter as the daylight hours get shorter).

The local manager may vary these net fishing times depending on circumstances such as by-catch concerns, strong returns of target species, abundance of prohibited species, weather, or other factors. Times will be specified in fishery notices released prior to each fishery.

7.8. Revival Tanks

Revival tanks conforming to the Conditions of Licence will be required, and all prohibited species captured incidentally must be either revived in the revival tank and released, or released directly to the water with the least possible harm. If in-season indicators show a deterioration of expected stock levels, additional measures may be implemented.

7.9. Demonstration Fisheries

The Department has conducted extensive consultations with the commercial salmon industry and First Nations concerning fisheries reform and renewal. Changes in the fishery will be designed to improve biological and economic performance of the fishery.

Two demonstration projects proceeded in the north coast in 2007 - Area F chinook individual transferable quota, and the Skeena inland commercial demonstration fishery. These demonstration fisheries are expected to continue in 2008.

In an ever-changing environment such as resource conservation, a group may want to explore special harvesting initiatives or new management approaches to develop flexible fisheries with greater harvester control that improves product quality, increases value to the fleet and have better catch monitoring and compliance with catch limits. Projects that fall under this category may include investigating quota management in salmon fisheries, fishing in an unconventional area/time, or testing the abundance of stocks prior to full fleet fisheries. Special projects or initiatives may have significant components that relate to selective fishing.

Special projects or initiatives should be planned well in advance of proposed implementation so that effective planning and approval can take place. If an individual or group is interested in pursuing a special project or initiative they should contact the appropriate departmental resource manager and advisors for that fishery. After discussion, the resource manager will likely require a detailed proposal to submit for approval.

7.10. Gill Net Construction and Configuration

In Management Areas 1 to 10, gill nets of different constructions may be used. Net construction may be either multistrand (30 filaments), or four, five or six filaments (Alaska twist). Specific restrictions such as the specifications for net construction and revival boxes are found in the conditions of the individual licences, which are attached to the licence. Fish harvesters are urged to read these conditions carefully to ensure that their vessel and fishing techniques are in accordance with their licence.

All gill nets will meet one of the following configurations:

1. Nets may be hung without a weedline (corkline to web distance 0 to 45 cm) to a maximum of 60 meshes deep.
2. In areas 3 to 5, nets may be greater than 60 meshes deep, but must be hung with a weedline (corkline to web distance minimum 1.2 m, maximum 1.5 m) to a maximum of 90 meshes deep. As well, every fifth cork must be red or another distinctive colour (not white).
3. Between July 10 and August 14 weed lines are required for gill nets in Sub areas 8-5 north of Bold Point and 8-8.

Specific restrictions for net configuration are found in the Fishery Notice issued prior to every commercial fishery. Fish harvesters are urged to read these carefully to ensure that their fishing gear is in accordance with the opening.

7.11. Selective Fishing and other Conservation Measures

7.11.1. Selective Fishing Experiments

The Department will work with Area Harvest Committee representatives to develop selective fishing experiments aimed at solving by-catch issues. Individual proposals will need to be vetted through Area Harvest Committees for consultation and approval by the Department. Proposals must have professional experimental design and reporting, appropriate observer coverage, and final results that can be independently verified. The Department and Area Harvest Committees will evaluate proposals based on specific criteria (conservation, project design, general manageability, future applicability and budget).

7.11.2. Selective Fishing Implementation

When selective fishing experiments have provided positive evidence for a gear or method that would reduce impacts on non-target species or stocks the next step is implementation. A simple gear or fishing method change may be easy to implement directly into a fishery over a short period of time, while a more complex measure would require time to incorporate. More complex measures would require a greater degree of consultation and a strategy to allow for effective implementation by affected harvesters.

The first step in implementation may be the development of a demonstration fishery to advance a measure beyond the experimental phase. A demonstration fishery using the new gear and/or methods allows the affected harvesters the opportunity to better understand the operational aspects of a selective fishing gear or method by testing the implementation with a sub-sample of the fleet. If the demonstration fishery is successful, further consultation would take place prior to the gear or method potentially being incorporated as a tool to be used to help solve a conservation issue through full implementation.

7.11.3. Skeena River Selective Gill Net Fisheries

The decision on when to implement this selective gill net fishery will be made in-season based on the level of fishing that has occurred to date and the expected impact on steelhead, upper Skeena coho and chum throughout the year.

For the selective gill net fishery, the following rules will apply:

- Half length nets: Maximum net length will be 100 fathoms, or 187.5 m. It will not be acceptable to have a regular length net on your drum and only set half. It will also not be acceptable to have both halves of the net on your drum. Only one (half-length) net will be allowed on your drum or in the water.
- 20 minute soak times: The maximum amount of time the net is allowed to be in the water from the time it is completely set to the time it begins to be retrieved is 20 minutes. Note that this “soak time” is designed to equal a 40 minute time from when the first portion of the

net enters the water to the when the last portion of the net leaves the water. Times will be monitored on the grounds.

- Fish handling: Gill net fish harvesters are encouraged to handle prohibited species with the greatest of care. Operating revival boxes are mandatory as in all gill net fisheries. However, if the salmon is in a vigorous condition, it is best to release it directly to the water rather than put it in the revival box. Fish harvesters are asked to use their judgement on which fish should go into the revival box before they are then released to the water.
- Reduced fishing area. In order to effectively monitor this selective fishery, the fishing area will be reduced. This will be achieved by closing the northern portions of Chatham Sound.

The commercial gill net fleet is reminded that the success of this selective fishery is critical to their future access to Skeena sockeye. In-season decisions on further fishing days will be directly dependant on compliance to the above restrictions.

7.12. Seine Fisheries

All seine fisheries unless otherwise authorized will be conducted with mandatory brailing and sorting of the catch. Specific restrictions such as the specifications of revival boxes are found in the Conditions of Licence. Fish harvesters are urged to read these conditions carefully to ensure that their vessel and fishing techniques are in accordance with their licence. When moving between areas with different non-retention and non-possession rules, seiners must offload prior to fishing in the area they are moving to.

7.13. Anticipated Net Opening Dates

All dates are anticipatory only. Sub areas open and hours of fishing will be announced in fishery notices prior to openings.

7.13.1. Area 1

September 17: First anticipated opening for gill nets only. This will be a chum salmon assessment fishery. Gill nets mesh size minimum 100 mm.

7.13.2. Area 2E & 2W

No gill net or seine fisheries will be directed on passing stocks.

Mid-September to October: Possible terminal fisheries directed on identified surpluses of local chum stocks.

ESSR fisheries on chum and coho are possible in Pallant Creek. Decisions on ESSR fisheries are made in-season if a surplus is identified.

For commercial net openings in Cumshewa Inlet, coho may be retained and seines will be allowed to ramp due to the hatchery origin of the coho.

7.13.3. Area 3

June 24: First anticipated gill net fishery. Maximum mesh size 137 mm. This fishery will assess the returning Nass River sockeye run.

July 15: First anticipated seine fishery. Minimum bunt mesh size 70 mm. Earlier fishery possible if stocks abundant.

If a surplus of sockeye develops at the Meziadin Fishway, an ESSR fishery will be considered.

7.13.4. Area 4 & 5

Openings will be based on Skeena salmon returns, as measured at the Tyee test fishery.

7.13.5. Area 6

July 14: First anticipated gill net opening, Douglas Channel only. Minimum mesh size 149 mm, maximum mesh size 165 mm.

July 15: First anticipated seine opening. Areas open will be determined in-season. Minimum bunt mesh size 70 mm.

7.13.6. Area 7

July 28: First anticipated gill net and seine opening in 7-5, portion of 7-6 (Finlayson), portion of 7-9 (Mathieson), 7-29 (Sheep), and a portion of 7-12 (Seaforth). Minimum mesh size 149 mm.

August 18: Possible opening in 7-17 (McLoughlin Bay). Gear types will alternate each week.

August 18: Consideration for terminal chum harvest on Kitasoo Creek Hatchery stocks; gill nets first and seines second.

August 25: Possible seine and gill net opening in portions of 7-30 (Johnstone Channel), 7-15 (Roscoe Inlet) and 7-13 (Spiller Channel).

7.13.7. Area 8

June 2: First anticipated gill net opening in the Bella Coola gill net area. This will be a directed chinook fishery. Minimum mesh size 203 mm.

June 30: Anticipated gill net opening in the Bella Coola gill net area and Fisher/Fitz Hugh. Minimum mesh size 158 mm.

July 14: First anticipated seine opening in Fisher/Fitz Hugh. Minimum bunt mesh size 70 mm.

July 10 to August 14: Weedlines are in effect in upper 8-5 (Fisher Ch) and 8-8 (Upper Dean Ch).

7.13.8. Area 9

No anticipated openings.

7.13.9. Area 10

To be determined.

7.14. Northern Troll

This year, the ITQ demonstration fishery will be conducted with all trollers. For the first three years of this demonstration fishery, there were two management regimes for chinook harvest. Trollers had to choose whether to participate in a competitive fishery or an Individual Transferable Quota (ITQ) fishery. Choices for the competitive fishery ranged from 7 vessels in the first year, to only two vessels in 2007. For 2008, as a continuation of demonstrating the viability of an ITQ regime for northern trollers, the competitive chinook fishery has been discontinued, and all trollers will participate in the ITQ fishery.

The troll fishery is limited in 2008 to 64,800 chinook. This equates to 228 chinook for each of the 284 Area F trollers. The forecast for WCVI is estimated to be 101,692. 3.2% of this return is 3,254 chinook, which is the limit that will be managed for in the northern troll fishery.

The chinook fishery will open on June 20. The quota per vessel will be 228. The fishery will close when either the WCVI allowance of 3,254 chinook is reached, or July 31, whichever comes first.

The ceiling on the number of chinook that can be held on any single licence is 1500 chinook at any given time. Once a vessel's catch reaches this limit, then additional quota can be put on the licence. This is intended to prevent speculation and large scale amassing of quota.

All Areas and Sub-areas mentioned are subject to change in-season.

There will be a 1.0 nautical mile ribbon boundary in Areas 1 and 101 following the Graham Island and Langara Island shorelines initiating at Langara Island and terminating at Skonun Point. There will be no commercial trolling shoreward of this ribbon boundary.

The chinook fishery may be closed on short notice if the proportion of WCVI chinook increases.

July 1 - Open to pink, coho, and sockeye (sockeye only open East of 133 degrees West Longitude) in Sub areas 101-3 (northern portion only, refer to Fishery Notice), 101-4, 101-5, 101-8 and 101-9.

July 25 - Normal coho areas open – please note a boundary change in Management Area 104. Chum will remain closed. Refer to Fishery Notices for specific open areas.

Trolling is closed in all rockfish conservation areas listed in Appendix 2.

7.14.1. Retention of freezer troll caught chinook and coho heads

For 2008, Conditions of Licence will be made consistent across all three licence areas (F, G, and H). Please check your conditions of licence for the exact wording.

8. 2007 POST-SEASON OBJECTIVES REVIEW

In the 2007 Northern B.C. Salmon IFMP, a number of objectives were outlined. An analysis of these objectives follows.

8.1. Conservation Objectives

Conservation of Pacific salmon is the primary objective and will take precedence in managing the resource.

Some of the restrictions in place to attain these goals were area closures, harvest rate and exploitation rate limitations, daylight only fisheries, non-retention of stocks of concern, weedlines, brailing for seines, on-board observers, half-length gill nets, short gill net sets, revival tanks and proper handling of non-target species. On-going assessment programs monitor the health of north coast salmon stocks, and if declines are noted, management actions are taken.

8.1.1. Rivers Inlet Sockeye

The objective for Rivers Inlet sockeye is to continue with rebuilding these stocks to reach escapement goals and achieve a sustainable stock that will support harvest.

There were no commercial or sport fisheries targeting on Rivers Inlet sockeye in 2007. An estimated escapement of 100,000 spawners reached the tributaries of Owikeeno Lake in 2007. This was below the forecasted return of 122,000. As in previous years, trawl surveys were conducted to estimate the abundance and condition of juvenile sockeye and other limnetic fish that use the lake as a nursery area.

8.1.2. Skeena River Sockeye

The objective for Skeena River sockeye is to ensure exploitation rates are maintained at sustainable levels.

Through the 2007 season, the estimated total run-size projection was between 1.5 and 3 million, leading to a target exploitation rate of between 26 and 31%. The estimated Canadian commercial Skeena sockeye exploitation rate was 26.7%, and the estimated final run size was just over 2.0 million. The target is a 10% reduction from past years averages, and this was achieved in 2007.

8.1.3. Coho

The objective for north and central coast coho is to operate Canadian fisheries within a sustainable range of 40% to 60%.

Post season assessment determined coho stocks throughout the north coast, including upper Skeena coho, saw a total exploitation rate that fell within this range. However, in-season indicators of abundance showed weak returns for the coho stocks originating in the Central Coast (Areas 8 to 10). The management action of closing the Central Coast commercial fisheries to coho was validated post-season by the low escapement estimates.

8.1.4. North Coast Chum

The objective for North Coast chum is to minimize fishery impacts on these fish to the greatest degree possible while still maintaining fisheries targeting other species.

In 2007, chum remained a concern. Troll fisheries had a small by-catch in the Alaskan Boundary pink fishery. Seine fisheries were mostly non-possession of chum. Chum retention was allowed occasionally in Area 3 due to mortality concerns of sorting during times of high chum abundance. Gill net fisheries in Area 3 had voluntary release of chum and in Areas 4 & 5 mandatory release all year. Area 3 had a 0.5 nautical mile ribbon boundary along the shorelines of Pearce and Wales Island to reduce the chum catch. In Area 6 the Gil Island area is closed to gillnet fishing to conserve wild chum.

8.1.5. West Coast Vancouver Island Chinook

The objective for West Coast of Vancouver Island (WCVI) chinook is to manage Canadian Pacific fisheries (not including terminal areas) to an exploitation rate of 10%. For North Coast troll, the objective is to catch the amount of chinook allowed under the PST, while managing WCVI chinook to a 3.2% harvest rate on the total return to Canada.

The aggregate chinook allocation to northern troll in 2007 was 118,000 and 82,383 were caught. The WCVI allowance was 6344 mortalities, and in-season mortalities were estimated at 6465 based on DNA analysis. Post-season exploitation rates estimates based on coded-wire tag recoveries were not available in time to include with this plan.

8.1.6. Skeena Steelhead

The objective for Skeena steelhead, as well as all north coast steelhead, is to release to the water with the least possible harm all steelhead caught incidentally in fisheries targeting other species.

All commercial fisheries were operated with a non-retention of steelhead provision. Post-season, DFO and their provincial colleagues normally use a run-reconstruction method to estimate the actual Skeena River steelhead impact. Due to the independent science review, DFO and the province have not met to determine the 2007 run-reconstruction.

8.1.7. Inshore Rockfish

The management objective for inshore rockfish is to introduce conservation strategies that will reverse declines and ensure stock rebuilding over time. A fishing mortality rate of less than 2.0 percent (all Pacific Region fisheries) will be required to achieve this objective.

Rockfish Conservation Areas, (RCA's, no fishing zones for gear that impact on rockfish), have been implemented within the Strait of Georgia and in all outside waters including the Queen Charlotte Islands. The conservation strategy for rockfish along the coast of British Columbia is long term. Rockfish are a long-lived species with a low level of productivity and therefore rebuilding will take several decades.

8.2. First Nations Fisheries Objectives

The objective is to manage fisheries to ensure that, subject to conservation needs, first priority is accorded to First Nations for opportunities to harvest fish for food, social, and ceremonial purposes and any treaty obligations.

Opportunities for First Nations FSC fisheries were average in B.C.'s north coast. Fishing for all species of salmon was permitted. One exception was the concern expressed by the Wet'suwet'en over sockeye and chinook abundance at Moricetown.

The 2007 season was the eighth year of implementation of the Nisga'a Final Agreement and Harvest Agreement. The success of implementing the Nisga'a agreements was illustrated by the strong working relationships between Nisga'a, DFO and B.C. The Nisga'a Fisheries Program provided DFO and Nisga'a stock assessment managers with information (e.g., run size and Nisga'a catch) required to manage the Nisga'a fishery and assess Nass area stocks in 2007.

8.3. Recreational and Commercial Fisheries Objectives

The objective is to manage fisheries for sustainable benefits, consistent with the Wild Salmon Policy.

Recreational opportunities were maintained, and commercial opportunities expanded in accordance with the Wild Salmon Policy. An example of this was the expanded economic opportunity provided by the inland demonstration fishery on the Skeena River, while still maintaining our goal of reducing the long term average commercial exploitation rate by 10%.

8.4. International Objectives

The objective is to manage Canadian treaty fisheries to ensure that obligations within the PST are achieved.

Obligations within the PST were met this year with all species under catch quotas. The Area 3-1 to 3-4 net fishery catch of pink salmon was within the annual catch share of 2.49 percent of the AAH of Alaskan Districts 101, 102 and 103.

The Area 1 troll catch of pink salmon was within the annual catch share of 2.57 percent of the AAH of Alaskan Districts 101, 102 and 103.

Review of the performance of the PST provisions occurs annually at two bilateral meetings of the northern Panel of the PSC, and these results are published and available from the PSC.

8.5. Domestic Allocation Objectives

The objective is to manage fisheries in a manner that is consistent with the *Allocation Policy for Pacific Salmon* and the 2005 Pacific Salmon Allocation Implementation Plan.

Fisheries were managed in accordance with the Allocation Policy for Pacific Salmon and in accordance with the 2007 IFMP Appendix 1.

8.6. Compliance Management Objectives

The objective is to ensure compliance with acts and regulations associated with the management of Pacific salmon.

A post-season enforcement review highlighted several enforcement issues as follows:

- Continued laundering of FSC and illegally caught fish into commercial fisheries,
- Compliance problems with the use of revival boxes and the release of by-catch (non-retainable) in a manner that causes the fish the least harm,
- Closed Area compliance problems in the salmon troll fishery.
- Compliance problems with salmon seines ramping (not using brailer).

These issues will be considered priorities for Conservation and Protection in the future.

8.7. Enhancement Objectives

Egg targets are determined pre-season for each stock. Actual egg take numbers in these tables are preliminary. Difficulties in capturing brood stock because of environmental conditions or poor returns can limit success in achieving targets. Actual fecundity and in-hatchery survival rates will determine the number of juveniles released. If there are excess fry due to higher than usual fecundity and in-hatchery survival, they are usually released as unfed or small fed fry. Hatcheries may collect additional eggs for other programs for education, research or stock re-establishment. These additional eggs are not included in the hatchery targets in the following tables, but are included in the actual eggs taken. For the 2007 brood year, in addition to major DFO operations and contract hatcheries (Community Economic Development Program, or CEDP), larger or more complex Public Involvement Projects (Designated Public Involvement, or DPI), operated by volunteers, are included in these tables. The only DPI project in the North Coast is Terrace. The smaller Public Involvement projects that are not included are focussed towards stewardship, stock rebuilding or educational activities, and do not release large numbers of fish. Facilities may also enhance steelhead and cutthroat under the direction of the Province of BC. Targets and actual numbers for these species are not included. SEP also works with First Nations, industry, community groups and other government agencies to design and implement habitat restoration projects. Habitat-related activities are not addressed in this report.

8.7.1. Chinook

Enhancement of chinook at Kitimat and Snootli Hatcheries is primarily undertaken to supplement runs for commercial and recreational fisheries. Wannock chinook are enhanced in partnership with the Rivers Inlet North Coast Salmon Enhancement Association and the Wui'Kinuxv First Nation. In addition, two small runs of central coast chinook are enhanced opportunistically at Snootli hatchery; the number of eggs collected is dependent on brood stock availability and staff requirements. Chinook egg takes were down in some places due to low returns or problems accessing brood stock due to high water.

Enhanced Chinook Production from DFO Operated Hatcheries and Managed Channels, Hatcheries Contracted to DFO or Run by Community Groups and Pallant Cost Recovery Hatchery

					2006 Brood		2007 Brood		
Project	**Run**	**Stock**	**Release Site**	**Stage**	**Release Target**	**Actual Release[1]**	**Release Target**	**Egg Target**	**Eggs Attained**
Enhancement Operations									
Kitimat R	Spring	Hirsch Cr	Hirsch Cr	Smolt 0+	200,000	205,295	200,000	225,000	225,000
	Spring	Kitimat R	Kitimat R	Smolt 0+	1,400,000	1,442,521	1,400,000	1,700,000	1,952,232
Snootli Cr	Summer	Atnarko R Low	Atnarko R Low	Smolt 0+	904,000	957,044	904,000	1,050,000	1,174,801
	Summer	Atnarko R Up	Atnarko R Up	Smolt 0+	904,000	990,914	904,000	1,050,000	1,166,784
	Summer	Noosgulch R	Noosgulch R	Smolt 0+	43,000	7,477	43,000	50,000	0
	Summer	Nusatsum R	Nusatsum R	Smolt 0+	86,000	92,114	86,000	100,000	32,780
	Summer	Salloomt R	Salloomt R	Smolt 0+	86,000	137,487	86,000	100,000	52,607
	Summer	Wannock R	Wannock R	Smolt 0+	80,000	52,969	80,000	200,000	228,668
	Summer	Wannock R	Wannock Est	Seapen	80,000	234,696	80,000		
Community Economic Development & Designated Public Involvement									
Fort Babine	Summer	Babine R	Babine R	Smolt 1+	70,000	42,719	70,000	85,000	75,000
Kincolith R	Spring	Kincolith R	Kincolith R	Smolt 1+	70,000	57,000	70,000	50,000	82,431
Masset	Summer	Yakoun R	Yakoun R	Smolt	200,000	243,376	200,000	250,000	MISSING
Pallant Cr	Fall	Pallant Cr	Pallant Cr	Smolt 0+	40,000	3,473	40,000	55,000	0
Terrace	Summer	Kitsum Abv Can	Kitsum Abv Can	Fed Spr	100,000	49,015	100,000	125,000	116,231
	Summer	Kitsum Abv Can	Kitsum Abv Can	Smolt 1+	15,000		15,000		
	Summer	Kitsum Bel Can	Kitsum Bel Can	Fed Spr	100,000	77,154	100,000	125,000	77,424
	Summer	Kitsum Bel Can	Kitsum Bel Can	Smolt 1+	15,000		15,000		
Tobogga n Cr	Spring	Bulkley R Up	Bulkley R Up	Smolt 1+	43,000	44,258	43,000	60,000	8,140
	Spring	Morice R	Morice R	Smolt 1+	72,000		72,000	100,000	90,079

1. Smolt 1+ are fry on hand for release in 2008.

- Noosgulch chinook (Snootli Creek Hatchery) experienced escapement numbers that were well below anticipated. As a result, both the 2006 and 2007 brood egg targets were not met. Nusatsum and Salloomt were also low in 2007. The number of 2006 brood smolts released exceeded Wannock chinook targets due to provision of extra funding by the Rivers Inlet Hakai Pass Sport Fish Association.

- The Pallant Creek chinook target is incidental to their main production of coho and chum. The returns consist of remnants from past transplant efforts (1986-1988 broods).
- The Terrace Salmon Enhancement Society experienced difficulty in catching chinook from Kitsumkalum R in both 2006 and 2007 due to water conditions and low escapement.
- The 2007 eggs taken for Toboggan Creek Hatchery, Bulkley River chinook were well below target due to very high flow conditions experienced in the Upper Bulkley River.

8.7.2. Coho

Most coho production from northern and central hatcheries is from facilities operated by communities and volunteers. Coho smolts are released from Kitimat hatchery to support an in-river sport fishery and from Snootli Hatchery to support educational and assessment programs. Pallant Creek Hatchery is operated by the Haida Tribal Society as a cost recovery pilot hatchery, with production also contributing to North Coast commercial and recreational marine fisheries.

Enhanced Coho Production from DFO Operated Hatcheries and Managed Channels, Hatcheries contracted to DFO and Pallant Cost Recovery Hatchery

					2006 Brood		2007 Brood		
Project	**Run**	**Stock**	**Release Site**	**Stage**	**Release Target**	**Actual Release [1]**	**Release Target**	**Egg Target**	**Eggs Attained**
Enhancement Operations									
Kitimat R	Fall	Kitimat R	Kitimat R	Smolts	500,000	509,000	500,000	600,000	642,367
Snootli Cr	Fall	Snootli Cr	Snootli Cr	Smolts	40,000	24,915	40,000	50,000	0
	Fall	Atnarko R Low							15,000
	Fall	Bella Coola R							9,000
	Fall	Johnston Cr							16,682
	Fall	Salloomt R	Salloomt R	Smolts	40,000	0	40,000	50,000	32,000
Community Economic Development & Designated Public Involvement									
Hartley Bay Cr	Fall	Hartley Bay Cr	Hartley Bay Lk	Fed Spr	70,000	31,000	70,000	500,000	424,158
	Fall	Hartley Bay Cr	Red Bluff Lk	Fed Spr	70,000		70,000		
	Fall	Hartley Bay Cr	Whalen Lk	Fed Spr	70,000		70,000		
	Fall	Hartley Bay Cr	Hartley Bay Cr	Smolts	30,000	14,000	30,000		
Heiltsuk	Fall	McLaugh Bay Cr	McLaughlin Bay	Seapen	60,000	68,881	60,000	90,000	104,000
Klemtu Cr	Fall	Kitasoo Cr	Trout Bay	Seapen	60,000	59,083	60,000	90,000	102,500
Masset	Fall	Yakoun R	Yakoun R	Fed Spr	45,000	56,829	40,000	30,000	MISSING
Pallant Cr	Fall	Braver+Pallant	Braver+Pallant	Fed Spr	378,000	100,000	378,000	1,083,000	977,452
	Fall	Braver+Pallant	Braver+Pallant	Smolts	540,000	491,000	540,000		
Toboggan Cr	Summer	Toboggan Cr	Toboggan Cr	Smolts	30,000	37,458	30,000	40,000	36,159

1. Smolts are fry on hand for release in 2008

- Snootli Creek Hatchery experienced poor returns in 2006 and 2007. As a result, release targets will not be achieved.
- All eggs are collected at Hartley Bay Creek and released at several sites, accounting for the 500k Hartley Bay Creek egg target.

8.7.3. Chum

Enhancement of chum is undertaken to supplement runs for First Nations, commercial and recreational fisheries. Pallant Creek Hatchery is operated by the Haida Tribal Society as a cost recovery pilot hatchery.

Enhanced Chum Production from DFO Operated Hatcheries and Managed Channels, Hatcheries Contracted to DFO and Pallant Cost Recovery Hatchery

					2006 Brood		2007 Brood		
Project	**Run**	**Stock**	**Release Site**	**Stage**	**Release Target**	**Actual Release**	**Release Target**	**Egg Target**	**Eggs Attained**
Enhancement Operations									
Kitimat R	Summer	Hirsch Cr	Hirsch Cr	Fed FW	1,000,000	1,025,497	1,000,000	1,200,000	1,078,074
	Summer	Kitimat R	Kitimat R	Fed FW	3,500,000	3,597,007	3,500,000	4,000,000	2,743,732
Snootli Cr	Summer	FishAirport	FishAirport	Fed FW	1,656,000	1,718,416	1,656,000	1,800,000	2,062,595
	Summer	Salloomt R	Salloomt R	Fed FW	1,656,000	1,681,488	1,656,000	1,800,000	2,086,691
	Summer	Snootli Cr	Snootli Cr	Fed FW	1,656,000	1,686,614	1,656,000	1,800,000	2,228,975
	Summer	Thorsen C/CCST	Thorsen C/CCST	Fed FW	1,656,000	1,685,563	1,656,000	1,800,000	2,247,153
Community Economic Development & Designated Public Involvement									
Heiltsuk	Fall	McLaugh Bay Cr	McLaughlin Bay	Seapen	1,080,000	1,257,133	1,080,000	1,500,000	1,328,907
Klemtu Cr	Fall	Kitasoo Cr	Trout Bay	Seapen	900,000	1,126,482	900,000	1,250,000	1,341,612
Kincolith R	Fall	Kincolith R	Kincolith R	Fed FW	21,600	0	21,600	30,000	0
Pallant Cr	Fall	Mathers Cr	Mathers Cr	Fed FW	0	0	0	0	0
	Fall	Pallant Cr	Deer Bay	Seapen	21,375,000	14,196,813	21,375,000	25,000,000	23,469

- Kincolith chum broodstock were not taken in 2006 and 2007 due to poor adult returns.
- No chum eggs were taken for Mathers Creek stock, Pallant Hatchery. Due to deteriorating conditions of the fence, it is no longer possible to collect adult brood stock. The reason for the poor Pallant Creek egg take is unknown, although chum returns to the North Coast were generally poor.

8.7.4. Pinks

There is no hatchery or managed channel production of pinks from North Coast facilities. Atnarko channel, though not managed, is kept open for pink salmon spawning. The habitat was also modified to support rearing opportunities for other species.

8.7.5. Sockeye

Enhancement of sockeye from the Babine Lake Development Project (Pinkut and Fulton channels) is undertaken to supplement runs for First Nations, commercial and recreational fisheries. The project operates as a complex of manned spawning channels and controlled river flows.

Enhanced Sockeye Production from DFO Operated Hatcheries and Managed Channels and Hatcheries Contracted to DFO

					2006 Brood		2007 Brood		
Project	**Run**	**Stock**	**Release Site**	**Stage**	**Release Target**	**Actual Release[1]**	**Release Target**	**Egg Target**	**Eggs Attained**
Enhancement Operations									
Fulton R	Summer	Fulton Ch#1	Fulton Ch#1	Chan Fry	15,000,000	4,800,000	15,000,000	30,000,000	27,170,000
	Summer	Fulton Ch#2	Fulton Ch#2	Chan Fry	87,000,000	68,700,000	87,000,000	174,000,000	184,730,000
	Summer	Fulton R	Fulton R	Chan Fry	45,000,000	31,700,000	45,000,000	300,000,000	414,520,000
Pinkut Cr	Summer	Pinkut Ch	Pinkut Ch	Chan Fry	43,500,000	39,196,257	43,500,000	87,000,000	MISSING
	Summer	Pinkut Ch	Pinkut Cr	Fed Spr		9,340,353			
Snootli Cr	Summer	Atnarko	Atnarko	Fed Spr	80,000	32,405	80,000	100,000	102,468
	Summer	Williams Cr	Williams Cr	Fed Spr	80,000	96,406	200,000	250,000	322,000
	Summer	Curtis Lk	Curtis Lk	Fed Spr					14,080
	Summer	Mikado Cr	Mikado Cr	Fed Spr					17,500
	Summer	Lonesome Lk	Lonesome Lk	Fed Spr					60,955
Community Economic Development									
Heiltsuk	Summer	Tankeeah R	Tankeeah R	Fed Spr	90,000	65,242	90,000	100,000	109,755
Klemtu Cr	Fall	Lagoon Cr/CCST	Roderick Lk	Fed Spr	20,000	46,698	20,000	50,000	67,460
	Fall	Lagoon Cr/CCST	Lagoon Cr Est	Seapen	10,000		10,000		
	Fall	Lagoon Cr/CCST	Victor Cr	Smolt	10,000	7,281	10,000		

1. Smolts are fry on hand to be released in 2008.

- The estimate for eggs attained at Pinkut Creek channel has not been determined yet.
- Snootli Creek Hatchery is enhancing several sockeye stocks of concern. Williams Creek is done in partnership with the Gitanyow First Nation.

9. ATTACHMENTS

Appendix 1: Advisory Board Memberships
Appendix 2: Fishing Vessel Safety
Appendix 3: Rockfish Conservation Areas
Appendix 4: 2008 Pacific Salmon Allocation Implementation
Appendix 5: Maps of Commercial Salmon Licence Areas
Appendix 6: Freshwater Salmon Sport Fishing Regulations
Appendix 7: Chinook and coho head retention and delivery requirements
Appendix 8: 2008 Demonstration Project - Skeena River Sockeye Inland Fishery Management
Appendix 9: Salmon Logbook Examples

Appendix 1: Advisory Board Memberships

Meeting dates and records of consultation can be found at:

www-ops2.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/xnet/content/consultations/salmon/sapdefault_e.htm

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Appendix 2: Fishing Vessel Safety

Vessel owners and masters have a duty to ensure the safety of their crew and vessel. Adherence to safety regulations and good practices by owners, masters and crew of fishing vessels will help save lives, protect the vessel from damage and protect the environment. All fishing vessels must be in a seaworthy condition and maintained as required by Transport Canada (TC), Workers Compensation Board of British Columbia (WCB) and other applicable agencies. Vessels subject to inspection should ensure that the certificate of inspection is valid for the area of intended operation.

Before leaving on a voyage the owner, master or operator must ensure that the fishing vessel is capable of safely making the passage. Critical factors for a safe voyage include the seaworthiness of the vessel, vessel stability, having the required safety equipment in good working order, crew training, and knowledge of current and forecasted weather conditions.

Useful publications include Transport Canada Publication TP 10038 '*Small Fishing Vessel Safety Manual*' which can be obtained from Transport Canada or printed from the Internet at:

www.tc.gc.ca/MarineSafety/Tp/Tp10038/tp10038e.htm.

On July 30, 2003 all crew with more than 6 months at sea will be required to have taken minimum Marine Emergency Duties (MED) training or be registered for such training. MED provides a basic understanding of the hazards associated with the marine environment; the prevention of shipboard incidents (including fires); raising and reacting to alarms; fire and abandonment situations; and the skills necessary for survival and rescue.

Vessel owners and masters are reminded of the importance of paying close attention to current weather treads and forecasts during the voyage. Marine weather information and forecasts can be obtained on VHF channels 21B, Wx1, Wx2, Wx3, or Wx4. Weather information is also available from Environment Canada on the Internet at:
www.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca/marine/region_03_e.html.

Vessel stability is paramount for safety. Care must be given to the stowage and securing of all cargo, skiffs, equipment, fuel containers and supplies, and also to correct ballasting. Fishers must be familiar with their vessel's centre of gravity, the effect of liquid free surfaces on stability, loose water or fish on deck, loading and unloading operations and the vessel's freeboard. Know the limitations of your vessel; if you are unsure contact a reputable marine surveyor or the local Transport Canada Marine Safety office.

Vessel owners and masters should ensure that all crew are able to activate the Search and Rescue (SAR) system early rather than later by contacting the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG). It is strongly recommended that all fishers carry a registered 406 MHz Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB). These beacons should be registered with the National Search and Rescue secretariat. When activated, an EPIRB transmits a distress call that is picked up or

relayed by satellites and transmitted via land earth stations to the Joint Rescue Co-ordination Centre (JRCC), which will task and co-ordinate rescue resources.
Fishers should monitor VHF channel 16 or MF 2182 Khz and make themselves and their crews familiar with other radio frequencies. All crew should know how to make a distress call and should obtain their restricted operator certificate from Industry Canada. However, whenever possible, masters should contact the nearest Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) Marine Communications and Traffic Services (MCTS) station (on VHF channel 16 or MF 2182 kHz) prior to a distress situation developing. Correct radio procedures are important for communications in an emergency. Incorrect or misunderstood communications may hinder a rescue response.

As of August 1, 2003 all commercial vessels greater than 20 metres in length are required to carry a Class D VHF Digital Selective Calling (DSC) radio. A registered DSC VHF radio has the capability to alert other DSC equipped vessels in your immediate area and MCTS that your vessel is in distress. Masters should be aware that they should register their DSC radios with Industry Canada to obtain a Marine Mobile Services Identity (MMSI) number or the automatic distress calling feature of the radio may not work.

A DSC radio that is connected to a GPS unit will also automatically include your vessel's current position in the Distress message. More detailed information on MCTS and DSC can be obtained by contacting a local Coast Guard MCTS centre (located in Vancouver**,** Victoria**,** Prince Rupert**,** Comox and Tofino**) or** from the Internet at:

www.pacific.ccg-gcc.gc.ca.

Fishers must be knowledgeable of the *Collision Regulations* and the responsibilities between vessels where risk of collision exists. Navigation lights must be kept in good working order and must be displayed from sunset to sunrise and during all times of restricted visibility. To help reduce the potential for collision or close quarters situations which may also result in the loss of fishing gear, fishers are encouraged to monitor the appropriate local Vessel Traffic Services (VTS) VHF channel, when travelling or fishing near shipping lanes or other areas frequented by large commercial vessels. Vessels required to participate in VTS include:

a) every ship twenty metres or more in length,
b) every ship engaged in towing or pushing any vessel or object, other than fishing gear,
c) where the combined length of the ship and any vessel or object towed or pushed by the ship is forty five metres or more in length; or
d) where the length of the vessel or object being towed or pushed by the ship is twenty metres or more in length.

Exceptions include:

a) a ship towing or pushing inside a log booming ground,
b) a pleasure yacht *less than* 30 metres in length, and
c) a fishing vessel that is *less than* 24 metres in length and not *more than* 150 tons gross.

More detailed information on VTS can be obtained by calling (604) 775-8862 or from the Internet at:

www.pacific.ccg-gcc.gc.ca/mcts-sctm/index_e.htm.
Fishers are encouraged to use the buddy system when transiting, and fishing as this allows for the ability to provide mutual aid. An important trip consideration is the use of a sail plan which includes the particulars of the vessel, crew and voyage. The sail plan should be left with a responsible person on shore or filed with the local MCTS. After leaving port the fisher should contact the holder of the sail plan daily or as per another schedule. The sail plan should ensure notification to JRCC when communication is not maintained which might indicate your vessel is in distress. Be sure to cancel the sail plan upon completion of the voyage.

WorkSafe BC

In B.C., WorkSafeBC administers some regulations concerning health and safety issues in commercial fishing, which includes the health and safety of the crew and the design, construction and use of fishing equipment on the vessel. Matters of shipping and navigation fall to the federal government and are administered by Transport Canada, Marine Safety (TCMS).

WorkSafeBC and TCMS entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on fishing vessel safety that addresses jurisdiction. The MOU states that each party will work co-operatively to ensure vessels and their crews remain healthy and safe.

Commercial fishing is legislated by the requirements for diving, fishing and other marine operations found in Part 24 of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation (OHSR). Many general hazard sections of the OHSR also apply. For example, Part 8: Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment addresses issues related to safety headgear, safety foot wear and personal floatation devices. Part 15 addresses issues on rigging, Part 5 addresses issues of exposure to chemical and biological substances, and Part 3 addresses training of young and new workers, first aid, and accident investigation issues. Part 3 of the Workers Compensation Act (WCA) defines the roles and responsibilities of owners, employers, supervisors and workers. The OHSR and the WCA are available from the Provincial Crown Printers or by visiting the WorkSafeBC website:

www.worksafebc.com

WorkSafeBC is presently focusing on issues pertaining to fishing vessel stability, emergency drills and cold water immersion.

Fishing Vessel Stability

Fishing vessel owners are required to develop detailed instructions addressing the limits of stability for each of their vessels. The instructions need to be based on a formal assessment of the vessel by a qualified naval architect and include detailed safe operation documentation kept on board the vessel. Examples of detailed documentation include engine room procedures, maintenance schedules to ensure watertight integrity, and instructions for regular practice of emergency drills.

Emergency Drill Requirements

The master must establish procedures and assign responsibilities to each crew member for emergencies such as crew member overboard, fire, flooding, abandoning ship and calling for help.

Cold Water Immersion

Drowning is the number one cause of death in B.C.'s fishing industry. Cold water is defined as water below 25 degrees Celsius, but the greatest effects occur below 15 degrees. BC waters are usually below 15 degrees. The effects of cold water on the body occur in four stages: cold shock, swimming failure, hypothermia and post-rescue collapse. Know what to do to prevent you or your crew from falling into the water and what to do if that occurs. More information is available in the WorkSafe Bulletin: Cold Water Immersion at www.worksafebc.com

For further information, contact an Occupational Safety Officer (Shane Neifer, Terrace, (250) 615-6640), Pat Olsen, Richmond (604) 244-6477 or Mark Lunny, Courtney (250) 334-8732 or the Focus Sector Manager for fishing Bruce Clarke, Prince George, (250) 612-3708).

For information on projects related to commercial fishing contact Ellen Hanson (604) 233-4008 or Toll Free 1-888 621-7233 ext. 4008 or by email: Ellen.Hanson@worksafebc.com.

Fish Safe

Fish Safe is coordinated by Gina Johansen and directed by the Fish Safe Advisory Committee (membership is open to all interested in improving safety on board). The advisory committee meets quarterly to discuss safety issues and give direction to Fish Safe in the development of education and tools for fishermen. The Fish Safe Stability Education Course is available to all fishermen who want to improve their understanding of stability and find practical application to their vessel's operation.

Fish Safe also works closely with WorkSafeBC to improve the fishing claims process.

Appendix 3: Rockfish Conservation Areas

A total of 164 Rockfish Conservation Areas (RCAs) have been implemented coastwide. With the onset of the Rockfish Conservation Strategy, the Department announced that it would create closed areas that encompassed up to 50% of the rockfish habitat within the Strait of Georgia and up to 20% on the West Coast of Vancouver Island, Central Coast, North Coast and the Queen Charlotte Islands.

Beginning in September 2005, Fisheries and Oceans Canada carried out further consultation to identify potential rockfish conservation areas within the Strait of Georgia. Additional RCAs have now been established within the Strait of Georgia. Upon completion of the closed area component of the strategy, 20% of outside rockfish habitat will have been described as RCA's. The goal for the Strait of Georgia is 30%.

Descriptions including maps of the RCAs can be found online at: www-comm.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pages/consultations/fisheriesmgmt/rockfish/default_e.htm or check with your local Fisheries and Oceans Canada office for more information.

Permitted Fishing Activity in Rockfish Conservation Areas

The following fishing activities **will be permitted** in RCAs:

RECREATIONAL	COMMERCIAL
Invertebrates by hand picking or dive Crab by trap Prawn by trap Smelt by gillnet	Invertebrates by hand picking or dive Crab by trap Prawn by trap Scallops by trawl Salmon by seine or gillnet Herring by gillnet, seine and spawn-on-kelp Sardine by gillnet, seine and trap Smelt by gillnet Euphausid (krill) by mid-water trawl Opal Squid by seine Groundfish by mid-water trawl

Recreational and commercial fishing activities not listed in the tables above are *not* permitted.

First Nations are encouraged to employ fishing methods or fish in locations to avoid the harvest of inshore rockfish. First Nations fishing for food, social and ceremonial purposes is permitted in RCAs.

Appendix 4: 2008 Pacific Salmon Allocation Implementation Plan

This document describes anticipated licence area allocations for each gear type and for each species of salmon. These anticipated licence area allocations are intended to guide fishing arrangements at the local level and are not fixed entitlements. Application of these sharing arrangements is subject to meeting all conservation objectives, First Nations obligations, international commitments, deliverability and manageability constraints and other management considerations including all conservation measures currently in effect. Where appropriate the potential harvest identified is a range that reflects the most recent PSARC approved forecasts for each stock grouping at a 50 percent and 75 percent probability level. In other cases, the potential harvest represents the informed point estimate of fisheries managers based upon historic average return rates and available PSARC approved analysis.

Although best efforts will be made to achieve these coast-wide allocation targets, no guarantees are offered that target allocations will actually be achieved in any given year. The achievement of these targets will depend upon the ability to fish selectively and the conservation needs of the resource. In the event that target allocations are not achieved, no compensatory adjustments will be made to future allocations. Specifically, "catch up/make up" adjustments to future target allocations will not be considered in the event that a gear type does not meet its target allocation.

The following specific operational guidelines for 2008 are noted:

- Individual licence holders and groups of licence holders will not be permitted to make their own allocation transfer arrangements unless agreed to by DFO under Demonstration Fisheries arrangements.
- As in recent years, there will be no directed commercial fisheries for Fraser River sockeye or Fraser River pink salmon in the north (i.e. area licence categories A, C and F).
- Harvest from both full and limited fleet exploratory and assessment fisheries intended to obtain information that will benefit a specific fleet will be considered part of the allocation of the fleet conducting the exploratory fishery.
- Harvest from experimental or selective fisheries, designed to test (new or modified) more selective fishing gear and methods, in most cases will be considered part of the five percent allocation set aside to encourage selective fishing. This will be determined preseason based on approved selective fishing proposals.
- The target allocations for gill net D and gill net E area licences attempt to equalize the relative average catch per licence in sockeye equivalents, although this may not be possible.
- The target allocations for troll G and troll H area licences attempt to equalize the relative average catch per licence in sockeye equivalents, although this may not be possible.

- If a specific licence area is unable to harvest its target allocation of a particular species or stock, efforts will be made to deliver that foregone target allocation to the same gear in another licence area. This approach will help each gear harvest its coastal target allocations by gear.

It is noted that these are not fixed entitlements but are a projection of available fishing opportunities given present forecasts of stock abundance and best efforts to achieve coast-wide target allocations by gear type. These represent the intentions of fisheries management if abundance is as expected and all other things are equal. However, in many cases in-season adjustments will be necessary to address conservation concerns or other unforeseen events.

1. NORTH COAST

1.1. North Coast Sockeye

Areas	Potential Harvest (Pieces)	Seine A	Gill Net C	Troll F
1, 3 to 5, 101 to 105	250,000	25%	74.8%	0.2%
6 to 10	-	25%	75%	0%

1.2. North Coast Pink

Areas	Potential Harvest (pieces)	Seine A	Gill Net C	Troll F
1 to 5, and 101 to 105	1.5M	80%	18%	2%
6 to 10	1.0 M	90%	10%	0%

1.3. North Coast Chum

Areas	Potential Harvest (pieces)	Seine A	Gill Net C	Troll F
1,2,101 to 111,130,142	-	55%	45%	0%
3 to 5	-	0%	100%	0%
6 to 10	500K	55%	45%	0%

Notes on chum allocations:

- Catch shares in Areas 6 to 10 have been highly variable in recent years and depends on amount of gear fishing.
- Anticipate seine non-retention of chums in Areas 3 to 6 except when fishing hatchery chums in Area 6.

1.4. North Coast Coho

Areas	Potential Harvest (Pieces)	Seine A	Gill Net C	Troll F
1 to 10, 101, 102, 105-107, 130, 142	150K	0%	0%	100%

Notes on coho allocations:

- There will likely be opportunities for directed coho harvest in troll fisheries on the north coast of B.C. Retention of coho in net fisheries is not planned; check weekly Fishery Notices for details.

1.5. North Coast Chinook

Areas	Potential Harvest (Pieces)	Seine A	Gill Net C	Troll F
1 to 5	66K	0%	1.5%	98.5%
6 to 10	5K	0%	95%	5%

Notes on chinook allocations:

- There are no directed chinook fisheries on the north coast of B.C. for the seine fleet. Directed gill net fisheries occur in Areas 4 and 8 and there is some by-catch in other north coast fisheries.
- Areas 1-5 troll, the TAC is determined by the PST chinook model. The PST allocation for the Area F troll fleet is preliminarily set at approximately 65,000 However, due to conservation concerns for other stocks the expected harvest may be less than this level. A harvest of approximately 1,000 Chinook could be taken as by-catch in the area C gill net fisheries.

2. SOUTH COAST

2.1. South Coast Sockeye

Areas	Potential Harvest (Pieces)	Seine B	Gill Net D	Gill Net E	Troll G	Troll H
Area 23	-	60%	40%		0%	
Fraser River Sockeye	80K	47.5%	18.5%	22%	0%	12%

Notes on sockeye allocations:

- Fraser River sockeye: Based upon the spawning escapement requirements, the preliminary Fraser River sockeye commercial TAC was projected to be approximately eighty thousand sockeye (the midpoint of the 50p and 75p levels). However, protective measures will be implemented to address statistical variations, environmental conditions as well as conservation concerns for Sakinaw Lake, Cultus Lake and Early Stuart sockeye. These factors will substantially reduce opportunities to harvest the full TAC.

- Barkley sockeye: There is zero potential harvest identified based on the pre-season estimate of a 150K return. Sockeye abundance will be reforecast in-season .

2.2. South Coast Pink

Areas	Potential Harvest (Pieces)	Seine B	Gill Net D	Gill Net E	Troll G	Troll H
Fraser River	0	70%	4%	1%	12%	13%
Mainland Inlets (A12)	0	73%	9%	0%	0%	18%

Notes on pink allocations:

- 2008 is an off-cycle for Fraser Pink salmon
- No directed Mainland Pink fishery anticipated, to be confirmed in-season

2.3. South Coast Chum

Areas	Potential Harvest (Pieces)	Seine B	Gill Net D	Gill Net E	Troll G	Troll H
11 to 19, 28 to 29	515K	63%	19%	12%	0%	6%
21 to 22	35K	70%		29%	1%	
23 to 27	20K	0%	98%	0%	2%	0%

Notes on chum allocations:

- Commercial allocation sharing arrangements in Johnstone Strait are; seine Area B – 77 percent; gill net Area D – 17 percent; and troll Area H – 6 percent. Anticipated catch in Johnstone Strait is approximately 400,000 with an additional 65,000 for the South Coast terminal areas and 50,000 in the Fraser River.
- Nitinat Chum (Area 21 and 22) sharing arrangements provide an opportunity for Area G licence holders to harvest stocks produced in the geographical area for

which they are licensed. For the 2008 season, Area G trollers will continue to be allocated a small portion of these local stocks.

- The current allocation guideline for "early season" Nitinat chum is 50 percent gill net and 50 percent seine with a cap of 200,000 chums for gill nets during the early part of the season. In the "clean-up" phase, fishing will be opened to both gears simultaneously. These guidelines are under review.
- For the West Coast Vancouver Island (WCVI) chums (areas 23-27), limited effort gill net fisheries will be considered.
- For Fraser River chum, harvest opportunities will be constrained by conservation concerns for Interior Fraser River steelhead.

2.4. South Coast Coho

Areas	Potential Harvest (Pieces)	Seine B	Gill Net D	Gill Net E	Troll G	Troll H
11 to 20, 29	0K	55%	15%	15%	0%	15%
21 to 27, 121, 123 to 127	3,500	40%	10%	0%	50%	0%

Notes on coho allocations:

- Inside coho - no coho retention fisheries planned.
- WCVI coho - it is anticipated that retention of incidental catches of coho will be allowed in terminal fisheries in Area 23 and 25. As well, retention of adipose clipped coho may be considered in offshore troll fisheries in the fall period only.

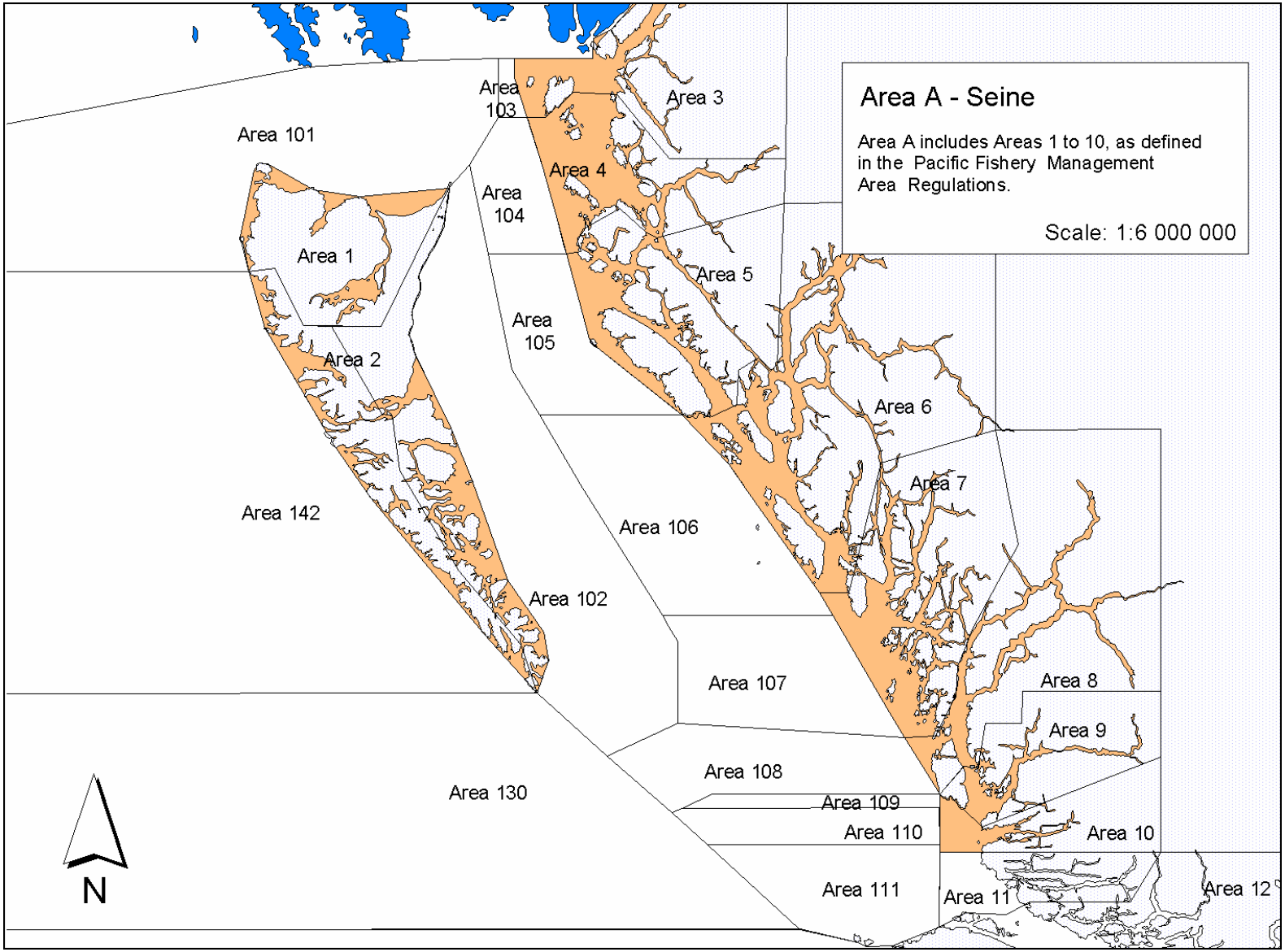
2.5. South Coast Chinook

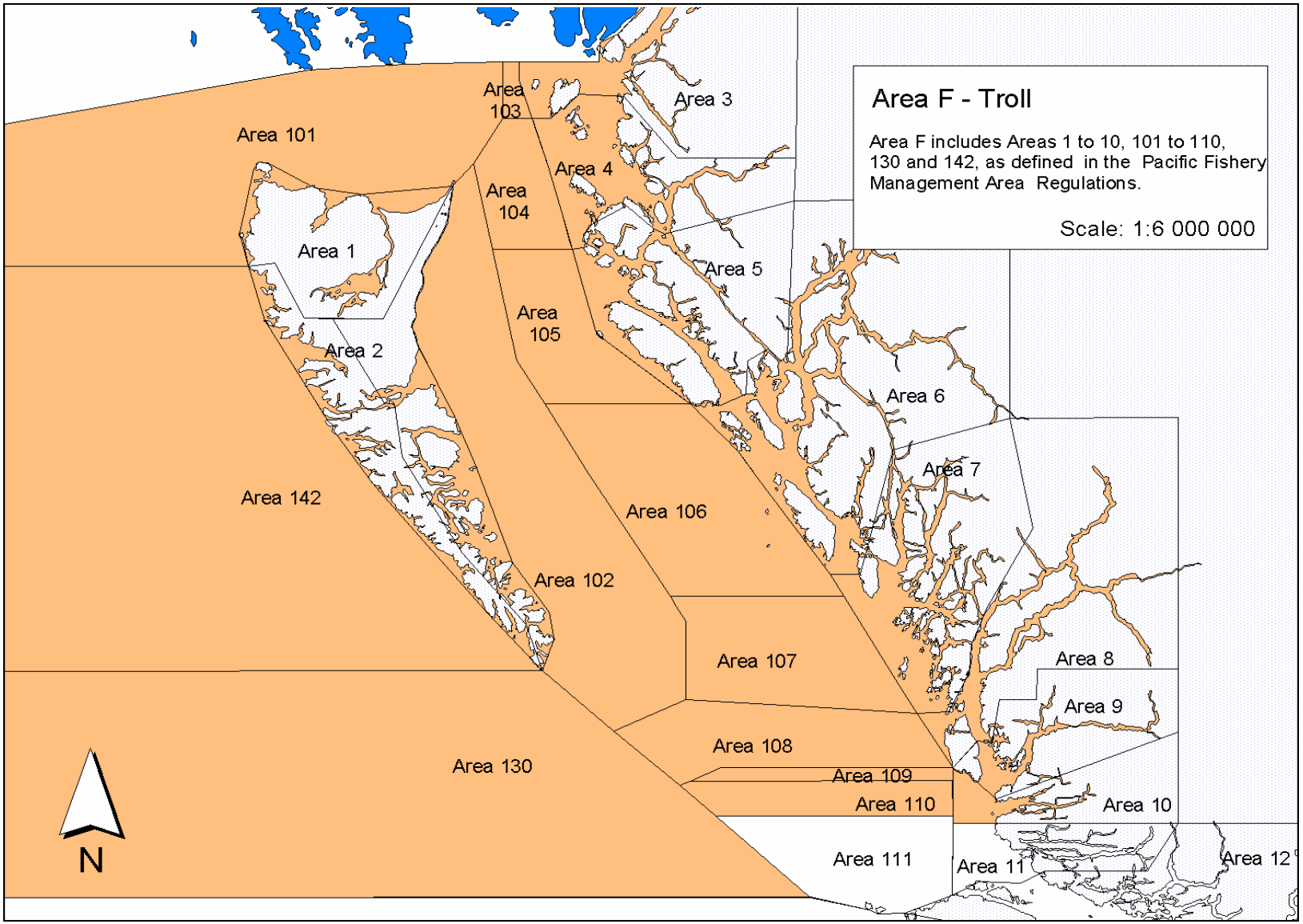
Areas	Harvest Forecast (Pieces)	Seine B	Gill Net D	Gill Net E	Troll G	Troll H
11 to 20, 29	500		0 %	100 %		0%
21 to 27, 121 to 127	87K	2.6%	5.4%	0%	92%	0%

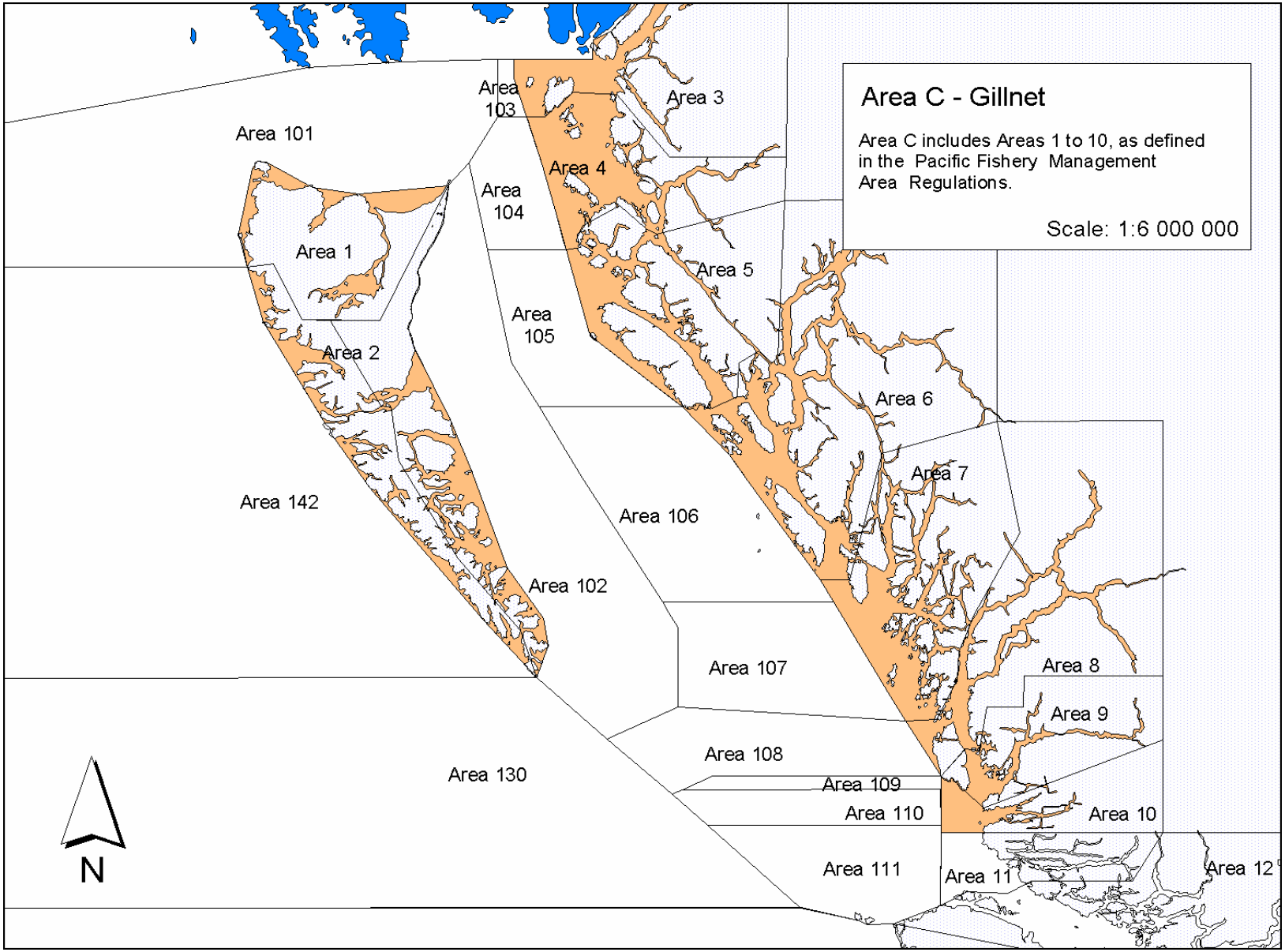
Notes on chinook allocations:

- Inside chinook - 500 Chinook by-catch in Area E fisheries in Area 29
- AABM Chinook - A troll catch of approximately 80,000 is estimated. The commercial target may be adjusted in-season if observed First Nation and recreational catches differ from anticipated levels.
- WCVI Terminal Chinook - Anticipate a total catch of approximately 7,000 Chinook in terminal net fisheries in Area 23 and 25.
- All catch during the calendar year of 2008 will be accounted for in the 2008 allocation plan.

Appendix 5: Maps of Commercial Salmon Licence Areas




Area F - Troll
Area F includes Areas 1 to 10, 101 to 110, 130 and 142, as defined in the Pacific Fishery Management Area Regulations.
Scale: 1:6 000 000
Area 101
Area 103
Area 3
Area 4
Area 104
Area 1
Area 5
Area 105
Area 2
Area 6
Area 7
Area 142
Area 106
Area 102
Area 107
Area 8
Area 9
Area 108
Area 130
Area 109
Area 110
Area 10
Area 111
Area 11
Area 12
N


Area C - Gillnet
Area C includes Areas 1 to 10, as defined in the Pacific Fishery Management Area Regulations.
Scale: 1:6 000 000
Area 101
Area 103
Area 3
Area 4
Area 104
Area 1
Area 5
Area 105
Area 2
Area 6
Area 7
Area 142
Area 106
Area 102
Area 107
Area 8
Area 9
Area 108
Area 130
Area 109
Area 110
Area 10
Area 111
Area 11
Area 12
N

Appendix 6: Freshwater Salmon Sport Fishing Regulations

REGION 5: CARIBOO
(PART B: Coastal Watershed - Management Units 5-6 to 5-11)

Please read these regulations in conjunction with the *Freshwater Fishing Regulations Synopsis*.

1. Unless otherwise stated in the table, the daily limit in all waters of Region 5 is zero (0).
2. The aggregate daily limit for all species of Pacific salmon (other than kokanee) from tidal and non-tidal waters combined is four (4).
3. All retained chinook, sockeye, pink, coho, and chum must measure 30 cm or more from tip of nose to tail fork.
4. A single, barbless hook is in effect year round for all streams in Region 5.
5. There is an annual limit of 10 adult chinook from non-tidal waters. All retained adult chinook must be recorded on the back of your freshwater angling licence. An "adult chinook" is defined as being over 65 cm in the Bella Coola/Atnarko River.
6. An adult coho salmon in Region 6 is defined as being greater than 50 cm measured from the tip of the nose to the fork in the tail (fork length). "Jack" coho salmon is defined as being a coho between 30-50 cm fork length.

WATERS	SPECIFIC AREA	SPECIES	DATES	LIMITS/GEAR
Any lake or stream or part thereof in Management Units 5-6 to 5-11 in Region 5B, unless otherwise stated below (i.e. Region 5 not including the Fraser River watershed)		Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	4 per day, only 1 over 50cm.
		Coho	Jan 01-Dec 31	4 per day only 2 over 50cm.
Atnarko River	Including tributaries	Chinook	Jan 01-Jul 22	4 per day, only 1 over 65cm.
			Jul 23-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
		Coho	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for coho. (see exception below)*
		Sockeye	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for sockeye.*
		Pink	Jan 01-Dec 31	2 per day.
		Chum	Jan 01-Dec 31	1 per day.
	Below signs located approx. 50m below Corbould Bridge	Coho	Jan 01-Oct 15	4 per day, only 2 over 50cm.
			Oct 16-Dec31	*No fishing for coho.*
Bella Coola River	Including tributaries (not including Atnarko River)	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec31	4 per day, only 1 over 65cm. (See exception below)
		Coho	Jan 01-Dec 31	4 per day, only 2 over 50cm.
		Pink	Jan 01-Dec 31	2 per day.
		Chum	Jan 01-Dec 31	1 per day.
		Sockeye	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for sockeye.*
	All tributaries to the Bella Coola River.	Chinook	July 16 - Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
Chuckwalla River		Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
		Coho	Jan 01-Oct 31	4 per day only 2 over 50cm
			Nov 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for coho.*
		Sockeye	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for sockeye.*
		Pink	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for pink.*
		Chum	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chum.*
Docee River		All	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for salmon.*

WATERS	SPECIFIC AREA	SPECIES	DATES	LIMITS/GEAR
Kilbella River		Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
		Coho	Jan 01-Oct 31	4 per day only 2 over 50cm.
			Nov 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for coho.*
		Sockeye	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for sockeye.*
		Pink	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for pink.*
		Chum	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chum.*
Long Lake	Including tributaries	All	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for salmon.*
Wannock River		All	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for salmon.*

REGION 6: SKEENA

Please read these regulations in conjunction with the *Freshwater Fishing Regulations Synopsis*.

7. Unless otherwise stated in the table, the daily limit in all waters of Region 6 is zero (0).
8. The aggregate daily limit for all species of Pacific salmon (other than kokanee) from tidal and non-tidal waters combined is four (4).
9. All retained chinook, sockeye, pink, coho, and chum must measure 30 cm or more from tip of nose to tail fork.
10. A single, barbless hook is in effect year round for all streams in Region 6.
11. There is an annual limit of 10 adult chinook from non-tidal waters. All retained adult chinook must be recorded on the back of your freshwater angling licence. An "adult chinook" in Region 6 (other than Fraser River Watershed) is defined as being over 65 cm measured from the tip of the nose to tail fork.
12. An adult coho salmon in Region 6 is defined as being greater than 50 cm measured from the tip of the nose to the fork in the tail (fork length). "Jack" coho salmon is defined as being a coho between 30-50 cm fork length.

WATERS	SPECIFIC AREA	SPECIES	DATES	LIMITS/GEAR
A. All Region 6 Waters	Any lake or stream or part thereof in Region 6, unless otherwise stated below. Please review sections B, C, D, and E carefully.	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	4 per day, only 1 over 65cm. (1 over 50cm in Fraser River Watershed)
		Coho	Jan 01-Dec 31	4 per day, only 1 over 50cm.
B. Skeena River Watershed- Section "A" applies if stream, specific area, time period, quotas or other species restrictions are not listed in the following sections:				
B. Part (i): Skeena River Watershed-Waters upstream of CNR Railway Bridge at Terrace				
All waters in section "B(i)" - Skeena River Watershed upstream of the CNR Railway Bridge at Terrace, unless otherwise stated below		All	Jan 01-Jun 15	*No fishing for salmon.*
		Coho	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for coho.*
		Sockeye	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for sockeye.*
		Chum	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chum.*
Babine Lake	Including tributaries	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
Babine Lake	**Not** including tributaries	Sockeye	Aug 01-Sep 15	2 per day. No fishing for sockeye within a 400 m radial boundary of the following tributaries: Morrison Cr., Pierre Cr., Hazelwood Cr., Four Mile Cr., Six Mile Cr., Pendleton Cr., Twain Cr., Sockeye Cr., Five Mile Cr., Tsezakwa Cr., Tachek Cr., and Big Loon Cr.
Babine Lake	Within a 400 metre radius of the mouth of Pinkut Creek	All	Aug 15-Sep 15	*No angling.*
Babine River		Chinook	Jun 16-Dec 31	4 per day, only 1 over 65cm. *No fishing for chinook from a point 100m above Fort Babine bridge to Nichyeskwa Creek.*
		Sockeye	Aug 01-Aug 31	2 per day.
	Upstream of the logging bridge located near Sam Green Creek.	Coho	July 15-Sep 30	4 per day, only 2 over 50 cm
Bear River	Including tributaries	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
		Coho	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for coho.*
Bulkley River	Downstream of the Morice River	Chinook	Jun 16-Dec 31	4 per day, only 1 over 65cm.

WATERS	SPECIFIC AREA	SPECIES	DATES	LIMITS/GEAR
	confluence.	Pink	Jun 16-Dec 31	2 per day.
		Coho	July 15-Sep 30	4 per day, only 2 over 50 cm
Fulton River		Sockeye	Aug 01-Aug 14	2 per day.
Kispiox River (including tributaries)		Chinook	Jun 16-Jul 31	4 per day, only 1 over 65cm. Monthly quota = 1 over 65 cm.
			Aug 01-Aug 31	4 per day, none over 65cm.
		Coho	July 15-Sep 30	4 per day, only 2 over 50 cm
	Downstream of boundary signs near Kispiox River Resort	Pink	Jun 16-Aug 31	2 per day. Open downstream of boundary signs located approx. 25 m downstream of fish counting fence.
Kitseguecla River	Including tributaries	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
Kitwanga River	Including tributaries	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
Morice Lake	Including tributaries	All	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for salmon.*
Morice River (including tributaries)	Upstream of Lamprey Creek	All	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for salmon.*
	From boundary signs located approximately 100 metres downstream of Gosnell Creek to Lamprey Creek	Chinook	Jun 16-July 31	4 per day, only 1 over 65cm.
	Below Lamprey Creek	Chinook	Jun 16-Aug 31	4 per day, only 1 over 65cm.
			Sep 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
		Coho	July 15-Sep 30	4 per day, only 2 over 50 cm.
	From Gosnell Creek to Lamprey Creek	Coho	Sep 01-Sep 30	4 per day, only 2 over 50 cm. Flyfishing only.
	From the confluence of the Bulkley and Morice Rivers upstream to the Bymac Bridge on Walcott Road	Pink	Jun 16-Aug 31	2 per day.
	Upstream of the Bymac Bridge on Walcott Road	Pink	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for pink.*
Nilkitkwa Lake		Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
Pinkut Creek	Downstream of boundary signs located approx. 25 m downstream of fish counting fence.	Sockeye	Aug 01-Aug 14	2 per day.
		All	Aug 15-Sep 15	*No Angling*
Shegunia River	Between signs located above and below logging road bridge	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*

WATERS	SPECIFIC AREA	SPECIES	DATES	LIMITS/GEAR
Skeena River	Mainstem waters only, between Cedarvale and the CNR Railway Bridge at Terrace	Chinook	Apr 01-Dec 31	4 per day, only 1 over 65cm.
		Coho	July 15-Sep 30	4 per day, only 2 over 50cm
	Mainstem waters only, upstream of Cedarvale.	All	Jan 01-May 31	*No fishing for salmon.*
		Chinook	Jun 01-Dec 31	4 per day, only 1 over 65cm.
	Mainstem waters only.	Pink	Jun 16-Dec 31	2 per day.
	downstream of confluence with Kispiox River to the CNR Railway Bridge at Terrace.	Sockeye	Jun 16-Sep 15	2 per day. 0 per day from a boundary sign on the north bank of the Skeena R, 100 m upstream of the confluence with the Kitwanga River downstream to Mill Creek.
	mainstem waters within 3 white boundary signs located at the confluence of the Skeena River and Kispiox River	Chinook	Jun 01-Jul 31	4 per day, only 1 over 65cm. Monthly limit=1 over 65cm. Adult chinook caught and retained from these waters must be recorded on your licence as having been caught from the Kispiox River.
			Aug 01-Aug 31	4 per day, none over 65cm.
	Between boundary signs located at the confluence with the Bulkley River and 500 m downstream.	Coho	July 15-Sep 30	4 per day, only 2 over 50 cm.
	Between boundary signs located approx. 100 m either side of the confluence with the Kitwanga R.	Coho	July 15-Sep 30	4 per day, only 2 over 50 cm.
	From a point 100m above the confluence with Burdick Creek downstream to the CNR bridge at Terrace	Coho	July 15-Sep 30	4 per day, only 2 over 50 cm
Suskwa (Bear) River		Chinook	Jun 16-Dec 31	4 per day, only 1 over 65cm.
Sustut River	Including tributaries	Chinook	Jun 16-Dec 31	4 per day, only 1 over 65cm.
Telkwa River	Downstream of Howson Creek	Coho	Jul 15–Sep 30	4 per day, only 2 over 50cm.
Zymoetz (Copper) River		Chinook	Apr 01-Dec 31	4 per day, only 1 over 65cm.
	Upstream of Highway # 16 bridge	Chinook	Jul 23-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
B(ii). Skeena River Watershed-Waters downstream of CNR Railway Bridge at Terrace				
All waters in section "B(ii)" - Skeena River Watershed downstream of the CNR Railway Bridge at Terrace, unless otherwise stated below		Sockeye	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for sockeye.*
		Coho	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for coho.*
Ecstall River (including tributaries)		Coho	Sep 01-Oct 31	4 per day, only 1 over 50cm.
		Chinook	Apr 01-Jul 31	4 per day, only 1 over 65cm.
			Aug 01-Mar 31	4 per day, none over 65cm.
	Upstream of signs near confluence with Johnston Creek	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
Exchamsiks River		Coho	Sep 01-Oct 31	4 per day, only 1 over 50cm.

WATERS	SPECIFIC AREA	SPECIES	DATES	LIMITS/GEAR
(including tributaries)	Upstream of Highway # 16 bridge	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
Exstew River (including tributaries)		Coho	Sep 01-Oct 31	4 per day, only 1 over 50cm.
	Upstream of Hwy # 16 bridge	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
Gitnadoix River (including tributaries)		Coho	Sep 01-Oct 31	4 per day, only 1 over 50cm.
	Upstream of powerline crossing near river mouth	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
Kasiks River (including tributaries)	Downstream of boundary signs located below the Upper Pool	Coho	Sep 01-Oct 31	4 per day, only 1 over 50cm.
	Upstream of Hwy # 16 bridge	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook*.
Khyex River (including tributaries)	Upstream of Hwy # 16 bridge	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
Kitsumkalum River (including tributaries) Note: The mouth of the Kisumkalum River is designated by boundary signs located approx. 1.25 km downstream of the CNR bridge and approx. 200 m east of the CNR bridge.		Coho	Sep 01-Oct 31	4 per day, only 1 over 50cm.
	upstream of signs below lower canyon	Chinook	Jan 01-May 24	4 per day, none over 65cm.
			May 25-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
	downstream of signs below lower canyon	Chinook	Jan 01-Jun 30	4 per day, none over 65cm.
			Jul 01-Aug 06	4 per day, only 1 over 65cm.
			Aug 07-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
	downstream of railway bridge	Pink	Jan 01-Dec 31	2 per day.
Kitsumkalum Lake	including tributaries	Coho	Sep 01-Oct 31	4 per day, only 1 over 50cm.
		Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
Lakelse River (including tributaries)		Coho	Sep 01-Oct 31	0 per day
	Below logging road bridge near the mouth	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	4 per day, only 1 over 65cm.
	Above logging road bridge near the mouth	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
Redsand Lake	Including tributaries	Coho	Sep 01-Oct 31	4 per day, only 1 over 50 cm.
		Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
Scotia River	including tributaries	Coho	Sep 01-Oct 31	4 per day, only 1 over 50 cm.
		Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
Skeena River	mainstem waters downstream of CNR Railway Bridge at Terrace	Coho	July 15-Aug 31 Sep 01-Nov 30	4 per day, only 2 over 50 cm. 4 per day, only 1 over 50cm
		Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	4 per day, only 1 over 65cm.
		Sockeye	Apr 01-Sep 15	2 per day.
		Pink	Jan 01-Dec 31	2 per day.
		Chum	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chum.*
	from Lakelse River mouth upstream to the Skeena River Overpass (New Hwy Bridge) at Ferry Island.	Chinook	Aug 07-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
Treston Lake		Coho	Sep 01-Oct 31	4 per day, only 1 over 50 cm.
		Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
Zymagotitz River (including tributaries)		Coho	Sep 01-Oct 31	1 per day.
	upstream of Highway # 16 bridge	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*

WATERS	SPECIFIC AREA	SPECIES	DATES	LIMITS/GEAR
C. Nass River Watershed- Section "A" applies if stream, specific area, time period, quotas or other species restrictions are not listed in the following sections:				
All waters in section "C" - Nass River Watershed unless otherwise stated below		Coho	Jan 01-Oct 31	4 per day, only 2 over 50 cm.
		Coho	Nov 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for coho.*
		Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	4 per day, only 1 over 65 cm.
Cranberry River	including tributaries NOTE: the section of river from Cranberry-Kiteen junction to Nass R. is part of the Cranberry R.	Chinook	Jun 16-Jul 31	4 per day, only 1 over 65 cm. Monthly Quota = 1 over 65cm.
Iknouk River		Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for Chinook*
Kiteen River	including tributaries	Chinook	Jun 16-Jul 31	4 per day only 1 over 65 cm. Monthly Quota = 1 over 65cm.
Meziadin Lake	Including tributaries	Coho	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for coho.*
	Excluding tributaries	Sockeye	Jul 1-Sep 06	2 per day.
		Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
Meziadin River	Including tributaries	All	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for salmon.*
Nass River		Coho	Jan 01-Dec 31	4 per day, only 2 over 50 cm.
	mainstem waters downstream of the confluence with the Meziadin River	Sockeye	Jul 01-Sep 15	2 per day.
	mainstem waters upstream of the confluence with the Meziadin River	Pink	Jan 01-Dec 31	2 per day.
Oweegee Creek		All	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for salmon.*
Oweegee Lake		All	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for salmon*
Tseax River (including tributaries) Note: The mouth of the Tseax river is designated by boundary signs located where what was formerly known as the Nass Back Channel enters the Nass R.	upstream of Nisga'a Hwy Bridge	All	Aug 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for salmon.*
	downstream of Nisga'a Hwy Bridge	Coho	Jan 01-Nov 30	4 per day, only 2 over 50 cm.
		Chinook	Jul 01-Sep 15	4 per day only 1 over 65 cm. Monthly Quota = 1 over 65cm.
			Sep 16-Mar 31	4 per day, none over 65cm
Ishkheenickh River	including tributaries	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
D. Queen Charlotte Islands Watersheds- Section "A" applies if stream, specific area, time period, quotas or other species restrictions are not listed in the following sections:				
All waters in section "D" - Queen Charlotte Islands Watersheds unless otherwise stated below		Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
		Coho	Apr 01 - Oct 31	4 per day, only 1 over 50cm.
			Nov 01-Mar31	*No fishing for coho.*
		All	Jan 01-Dec 31	Single, barbless hook in tidal and non tidal portions of all streams.
Braverman River		Coho	Apr 01-Oct 31	4 per day, only 2 over 50 cm.

WATERS	SPECIFIC AREA	SPECIES	DATES	LIMITS/GEAR
Pallant Creek		All	Aug 01-Oct 31	*No fishing for salmon.*
	upstream of signs located 100m above fish counting fence	Coho	Apr 01-Oct 31	4 per day, only 2 over 50 cm.
Sheldens Creek	Upstream of boundary signs located at the Spur 19 Bridge site.	Coho	Jan 01-Dec 31	0 per day
Tlell River	Anglers should note that tidal water regulations apply to waters below tidal boundary sign located approx. 1.5km above Hwy. 16 Bridge. Refer to Section 6 of the IFMP.			
Yakoun River	Downstream of the 6 mile Bridge	Pink	Aug 01-Sep 30	2 per day
E. Other Mainland Watersheds- Section "A" applies if stream, specific area, time period, quotas or other species restrictions are not listed in the following sections:				
All waters in section "E" - Other Mainland Watersheds unless otherwise stated below		Coho	Nov 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for coho.*
All streams flowing into tidal water Area 5 (refer to the BC Tidal Waters Sport Fishing Guide for Area 5 description)		Coho	Jan 01- Dec 31	*No fishing for coho.*
		Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
All streams flowing into tidal water Area 6 unless stated below (refer to BC Tidal Waters Sport Fishing Guide for Area 6 description)		Coho	Jan 01- Oct 31	*Non-retention of coho.*
Bish Creek	Including tributaries	Coho	Jan 01- Dec 31	*No fishing for coho.*
Brim River	Including tributaries	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook*
Dala River	Including tributaries	All	Jan 01-Aug 15	*No fishing for salmon.*
			Oct 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for salmon.*
		Chinook, Sockeye, Pink, Chum	Aug 16-Sep 30	*No fishing for chinook, sockeye, pink, chum*
		Coho	Aug 16-Sep 30	4 per day only 1 over 50 cm.
Endako River		All	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for salmon.*
Giltoyees Creek		Coho	Aug 01-Sep 30	4 per day only 1 over 50 cm.
Illiance River (including tributaries)	Upstream of signs located near mouth of river	Coho	Sep 21-Dec 31	*No fishing for coho.*
Kemano River		Coho	Aug 01-Sep 30	4 per day only 2 over 50 cm
Khutze	Including tributaries	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook*
Khutzeymateen River	Including tributaries	All	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for salmon.*
Kildala River		Coho	Aug 01-Sep 30	4 per day only 1 over 50 cm. Monthly quota = 1 over 65cm
Kiltuish River	Including tributaries	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook*
Kincolith River	Upstream of white triangle boundary signs located at the Kincolith River Bridge.	Coho	Jan 01-Dec 31	4 per day, only 2 over 50 cm.
		Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*

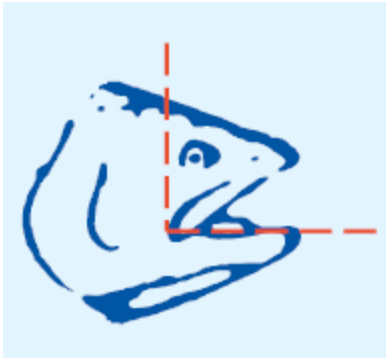
WATERS	SPECIFIC AREA	SPECIES	DATES	LIMITS/GEAR
Kitimat River (including tributaries)	On west bank between signs at Kitimat hatchery outfall	All	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for salmon.*
	Downstream of Highway # 37 bridge	Chinook	Apr 01-July 31	4 per day, only 1 over 65 cm.
			Aug 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
		Coho	Apr 01- Oct 31	4 per day, only 2 over 50 cm.
			Nov 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for coho.*
		Chum	Apr 01-Aug 31	2 per day
		Pink	Apr 01-Aug 31	2 per day
	Upstream of Highway # 37 bridge	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
		Coho	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for coho.*
Kitlope River		Coho	Aug 01-Sep 30	4 per day only 2 over 50 cm.
Kitsault River (including tributaries)		Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
	Upstream of signs located near mouth of river	Coho	Oct 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for coho.*
Kloiya River	Including tributaries	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
Kwinimass River (including tributaries)	upstream of lower bridge abutments	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
	downstream of lower bridge abutments	Coho	Jan 01-Dec 31	4 per day, only 2 over 50 cm.
		Chinook	Apr 01-Jul 09	4 per day, none over 65cm.
			Jul 10-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
Nakina River		Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	4 per day, only 2 over 65cm.
		Coho	Jan 01-Dec 31	4 per day, only 2 over 50cm.
Quaal River	Including tributaries	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook*
Rainy Creek		Chinook	Aug 15-Mar 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
		Coho	Aug 15-Mar 31	*No fishing for coho.*
Stikine River	Including tributaries	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	4 per day, only 2 over 65cm.
		Coho	Jan 01-Dec 31	4 per day, only 2 over 50cm.
Swift River	including tributaries	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	2 per day, only 1 over 65cm. Anglers may now fish this river with either a Yukon or BC angling licence.
Tahltan River	including tributaries	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	4 per day, only 2 over 65cm.
Taku River	including tributaries	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	4 per day, only 2 over 65cm.
		Coho	Jan 01-Dec 31	4 per day, only 2 over 50cm.
Tatsamenie Lake's outlet streams	between Tatsamenie L. and Tatsatua Creek	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	4 per day, only 2 over 65cm.
		Coho	Jan 01-Dec 31	4 per day, only 2 over 50cm.
Tatshenshini River (downstream of the BC/Yukon border)	including tributaries	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	2 per day, single barbless hook
		Coho	Jan 01-Dec 31	2 per day, single barbless hook
		Sockeye	Jan 01-Dec 31	2 per day, , single barbless hook

WATERS	SPECIFIC AREA	SPECIES	DATES	LIMITS/GEAR
Tatshenshini River (upstream of the BC/Yukon border – along the Haines Hwy.)	Blanchard River	Chinook	Jan 01-Jul 23	2 per day, , single barbless hook
			Jul 24-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook.*
		Coho	Jan 01-Dec 31	2 per day, , single barbless hook
		Sockeye	Jan 01-Dec 31	2 per day, , single barbless hook
	Kwatini Creek, Stanley Creek and Goat Creek	Chinook, Coho, Sockeye	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No Fishing for chinook, coho or sockeye.*
	Tatshenshini mainstem and all other tributaries	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	2 per day, single barbless hook
		Coho	Jan 01-Dec 31	2 per day, single barbless hook
		Sockeye	Jan 01-Dec 31	2 per day, single barbless hook
Wahoo River	Including tributaries	Chinook	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for chinook*
Weeanie River		Coho	Jan 01-Dec 31	*No fishing for coho.*
Wilauks Creek (including tributaries)	Upstream of signs located near mouth of creek	Coho	Sep 20-Dec 31	*No fishing for coho.*

Appendix 7. Chinook and coho head retention and delivery requirements.

1. Chinook and coho head retention requirements

Troll vessel masters that are freezing their catch at sea must retain all heads from all Chinook and Coho kept. As an alternative, the "snouts" from the heads of all Chinook and Coho that are kept must be retained. At minimum, the retained portion of each head must include the upper portion of the head extending from the tip of the snout to a cut travelling from the top of the head, passing one centimetre posterior (behind) the eye, and ending at the back corner of the mouth. There is no need to retain the lower jaw, or gill plates.



OR

2. Head delivery requirements

The vessel master shall ensure that all retained heads on board are offloaded at the first designated fish landing station at which Chinook and/or coho catch is offloaded. These heads must be enclosed in one or more closed containers each labelled with vessel name and VRN, the date heads delivered, the date of the first and last day of fishing on which the salmon represented by the delivered heads were caught, and the Management Area(s) in which those salmon were caught. Contact J O Thomas & Assoc. for sampling and collection details: phone toll-free 1-800-663-3344. Please call one day in advance of offload.

Appendix 8: 2008 Demonstration Project - Skeena River Sockeye Inland Fishery Management

The concept of the 2008 Inland Fishery Demonstration Project is to transfer the catch of a number of commercial gill net or seine licences to the inland portion of the Skeena River. DFO may contribute licences from the Allocation Transfer Program, but industry commercial licences may also be solicited through private ventures, with an arrangement between the First Nations and the licence holder.

The sockeye swim time from the commercial fishery to the Terrace area is approximately 1 week; from the commercial fishery to the mid-river area around Hazelton is 2 weeks; and from the commercial fishery to the Babine River weir is 3 weeks. This also roughly coincides with the interested First Nation groupings on the Skeena, with the Tsimshian at Terrace, the Gitxsan in the mid-river area, and the Lake Babine Nation at the Babine weir.

The shares allowed to be caught by the various groups would depend on the number of licences transferred to each area, and the average gill net catch in the commercial fishery, as determined from the Prince Rupert office in-season, based on hail and phone-in information. An annual licence will be issued to each First Nation to authorize fishing, but the quota will be issued by DFO in a weekly letter.

The existing commercial gill net fishery can keep sockeye and pink in Area 4. Coho, chum, and steelhead are mandatory release, and a request is made to all gill net fishers to release all live Chinook to the water with the least possible harm.

For the demonstration project, the intent would be to continue the selective methods that have been developed since the 1990s pilot sales fisheries. These include beach seine, fishwheel, dip net, and the Babine weir. Gill nets will not be allowed. Sockeye and pink may be retained, based on the weekly allocation issued by Prince Rupert DFO, and all other species would be returned to the water with the least possible harm.

All inland commercial sockeye and pink salmon will have to be checked through a compulsory landing station. All appropriate records are to be kept for proper monitoring and enforcement. No FSC fishing or retention will be allowed while participating in the Inland fishery.

This project is facilitated through the Skeena First Nations. The DFO contact for more information is Jim Steward at (250) 627-3421.

Management Scenarios

Week 1

This is the week of the first commercial fisheries targeting Skeena sockeye.

An allowable sockeye harvest rate will be set for this week. On average, 13% of the aggregate sockeye escapement enters the river during this week. Therefore, the weekly exploitation rate (ER) will be 3.4% (13% of the annual ER, which currently is expected to be 26%). Actual exploitation rate achieved will be estimated on a daily basis using the Skeena Management Model. Input into the Model is number of vessels fishing, the location they are fishing, and the date they are fishing. In 2008, this input will be number of vessels fishing in Area 4 plus number of licences transferred inland, to model the catch as if those licences were to be fishing on the coast. Put another way, the fish that would have been caught by the inland licences will be allowed to enter the river, to be available to that fishery in due course. Extra gill net days are possible this week depending on actual exploitation rate achieved after the one gill net day.

In the commercial fishing area, this is the peak week of Pinkut and Early Non-Babine stocks. In fish abundance, Pinkut stocks should be dominating.

Weekly allowable harvest rates are expected to be met, so no ESSR would be expected yet. However, abundance of Pinkut stocks could trigger an ESSR opportunity in later weeks in the Babine River. No ESSR opportunities will occur downstream of the Babine River confluence.

Week 2

There is expected to be at least one gill net day this week. Allowable weekly harvest rate will be calculated using the method described above.

Demonstration Project
A communal commercial licence will be issued by DFO to the appropriate First Nation to administrate. This communal commercial licence will be valid for the week, and the catch allowed will be specified on the licence. This amount will be determined in the following manner: Average catch in Area 4 of sockeye and pink during the previous week (Week 1) as determined in-season by the commercial fishery manager, times the number of licences that have been transferred to the Terrace area. This amount will be valid only for Week 2. If any of this amount is not caught in this week, then they will be forgone catch – they will not be available in the following week.

In the commercial fishing area, this is normally the peak week of Pinkut and Fulton stocks.

Weekly allowable harvest rates are expected to be met, so no ESSR would be expected yet. However, abundance of Pinkut stocks could trigger an ESSR opportunity in later weeks in the Babine River. There will be no ESSR fishery downstream of the Babine River confluence.

Week 3

There is expected to be at least one gill net day this week. This is also expected to be the first week of seine fishing on the north coast. Allowable weekly harvest rate will be calculated using the method described above.

This is normally the second peak week of the Fulton stock. Other stocks prevalent in the fishing area are Lower Non-Babine and Babine River stocks.

A communal commercial licence will be issued to the appropriate First Nation to administrate the Demonstration Project licences in the mid-river area. This communal commercial licence will be valid for all year, but the amounts allowed will be determined by DFO on a weekly basis. A letter of amendment will be issued every week from the Prince Rupert office, to specify the amount of sockeye and pink salmon allowed.

This amount will be determined in the following manner:

Demonstration Project
Terrace: Average catch in Area 4 of sockeye and pink in previous week, times the number of licences that have been transferred to the Terrace area. This amount will be valid only for Week 3. If any of this amount is not caught in this week, then they will be forgone catch – they will not be available in the following week.

Mid-River: Average catch in Area 4 of sockeye and pink in Week 1, times the number of licences that have been transferred to the mid-river area. This amount will be valid only for Week 3. If any of this amount is not caught in this week, then they will be forgone catch – they will not be available in the following week.

This is the earliest week that an ESSR could be considered in the Babine River upstream of the confluence with the Skeena (by the Gitxsan at Gisgegas). The sockeye entering the Babine will be the same stocks that

were fished in the commercial fishing area during Week 1. Once these sockeye enter the Babine, certain weak stocks such as the Bulkley / Morice and Kitwanga sockeye will no longer be present, and a slightly higher exploitation rate can be exerted on the remaining population, which will have a high Pinkut component.

Week 4

Allowable weekly harvest rate will be calculated and tracked using the method described above.

Total Canadian upper Skeena coho exploitation rate will be considered in any management decisions. In-season indications of coho abundance and calculations of expected escapement based on Alaskan catches should be known this week.

At least one day of a special selective gillnet fishery may take place this week. This fishery will be conducted in a smaller area than previously during the season, and will be intensively monitored. It will be limited to half length nets and short sets. Exploitation rates of this fishery on both sockeye and upper Skeena coho will be calculated on a daily basis.

A special selective seine fishery may take place this week. This fishery will be conducted in a smaller area than previously during the season, and will be intensively monitored. The special selective seine fishery will likely take place on a different day than the special selective gillnet fishery, to ensure adequate resources are available for monitoring and controlling both fisheries.

Additional fishing days could take place, depending on coho and sockeye exploitation rate calculations.

In fisheries this week, the intent is to harvest the tail end of the Fulton, and the second peak week of the Babine River sockeye stocks.

Of concern this week is upper Skeena coho, which will be increasing in abundance in the fishing area. Also of concern is the Late Non-Babine sockeye stock group, which are comprised of Kitsumkalum, Kitwanga, Bear and Zymoetz stocks.

In big pink years, very large catches can occur this week, especially by seine. Pinks are not a major consideration to determining fishing patterns until the first week of August. Pink test fish results normally show significant increases in escapements this week in odd years.

Chums are beginning to enter the Skeena River, as shown by a few being caught at the test fishery. The number of chum escaping to date is generally small. Coho indices to date are generally small and it is too early for them to give meaningful interpretation of the total run. This is the peak week of early timed steelhead stocks entering the Skeena River.

Demonstration Project:
Terrace: Average catch in Area 4 of sockeye and pink in previous week, times the number of licences that have been transferred to the Terrace area. This amount will be valid only for Week 4. If any of this amount is not caught in this week, then they will be forgone catch – they will not be available in the following week.

Mid-River: Average catch in Area 4 of sockeye and pink in Week 2, times the number of licences that have been transferred to the mid-river area. This amount will be valid only for Week 4. If any of this amount is not caught in this week, then they will be forgone catch – they will not be available in the following week.

Babine Weir: Average catch in Area 4 of sockeye and pink in Week 1, times the number of licences that have been transferred to the Babine weir area. This amount will be valid only for Week 4. If any of this

amount is not caught in this week, then they will be forgone catch – they will not be available in the following week.

This week there may be an ESSR fishery conducted in the Babine River, for the fish that were fished in the commercial fishing areas during Week 2 (Gitxsan at Gisgegas), and possibly an ESSR fishery at the Babine River weir for fish that were in the commercial fishing areas during Week 1 (Babine Lake First Nation).

Week 5

Allowable weekly harvest rate will be calculated and tracked using the method described above.

Total Canadian upper Skeena coho exploitation rate will be considered in any management decisions. In-season indications of coho abundance and calculations of expected escapement based on Alaskan catches should be known.

One day of a special selective gillnet fishery is possible this week. This fishery will be conducted in a small area, and will be intensively monitored. It will be limited to half length nets and short sets. Exploitation rates of this fishery on both sockeye and upper Skeena coho will be calculated on a daily basis.

A special selective seine fishery will likely take place this week. This fishery will be conducted in a smaller area than previously during the season, and will be intensively monitored. The special selective seine fishery will likely take place on a different day than the special selective gillnet fishery, to ensure adequate resources are available for monitoring and controlling both fisheries.

Additional fishing days could take place, depending on coho and sockeye exploitation rate calculations.

In fisheries this week, the intent is to harvest the last of the peak weeks of Fulton stocks. This is also the peak week of the Babine River sockeye stock. Significant numbers of pink salmon can also be harvested this week, particularly with seines.

Of concern this week is upper Skeena coho, which will be increasing in abundance in the fishing area. Also of concern is the Late Non-Babine sockeye stock group, which are comprised of Kitsumkalum, Kitwanga, Bear and Zymoetz stocks.

Chums continue to enter the Skeena River in low numbers, as shown by a few being caught at the test fishery. Coho escapements to date generally remain low but may begin to indicate the relative strength of the early timed stocks. This is the peak timing of the aggregate steelhead stocks entering the Skeena River.

Demonstration Project:
Terrace: Average catch in Area 4 of sockeye and pink in previous week, times the number of licences that have been transferred to the Terrace area. This amount will be valid only for Week 5. If any of this amount is not caught in this week, then they will be forgone catch – they will not be available in the following week.

Mid-River: Average catch in Area 4 of sockeye and pink in Week 3, times the number of licences that have been transferred to the mid-river area. This amount will be valid only for Week 5. If any of this amount is not caught in this week, then they will be forgone catch – they will not be available in the following week.

Babine Weir: Average catches in Area 4 of sockeye and pink in Week 2, times the number of licences that have been transferred to the Babine weir area. This amount will be valid only for Week 5. If any of this amount is not caught in this week, then they will be forgone catch – they will not be available in the following week.

ESSR:
This week could see ESSR fisheries in the Babine River and Weir, depending on weekly exploitation rates. This is the first week that fish start to show up at the Pinkut Creek facility, and an early ESSR is possible. Any ESSR fishery at both Pinkut and Fulton River facilities would be calculated in close consultation with the facility managers, and be based on observed surpluses.

Week 6

Allowable weekly harvest rate will be calculated and tracked using the method described above.

Total Canadian upper Skeena coho exploitation rate will be considered in any management decisions.

A special selective seine fishery will likely take place this week. This fishery will be conducted in a smaller area than previously during the season, and will be intensively monitored. The special selective seine fishery will likely take place on a different day than the special selective gillnet fishery, to ensure adequate resources are available for monitoring and controlling both fisheries.

A gillnet fishery may occur this week, depending on stock strength.

Additional fishing days could take place, depending on coho and sockeye exploitation rate calculations.

In fisheries this week, the intent is to harvest Babine River stocks. This is also a peak week of pink salmon harvest. Pink stocks should be the upper and middle Skeena stocks.

Of concern this week is upper Skeena coho. This is the peak week of these stocks migrating through the fishing area.

Chum test fish indices normally increase this week; however, the numbers are generally small. Coho escapements to date give an indication of the strength of the upper Skeena stocks. This week and the previous week are normally the peak weeks of summer run steelhead escapement.

Demonstration Project:
Terrace: Average catch in Area 4 of sockeye and pink, times the number of licences that have been transferred to the Terrace area. This amount will be valid only for Week 6. If any of this amount is not caught in this week, then they will be forgone catch – they will not be available in the following week.

Mid-River: Average catch in Area 4 of sockeye and pink in Week 4, times the number of licences that have been transferred to the mid-river area. This amount will be valid only for Week 6. If any of this amount is not caught in this week, then they will be forgone catch – they will not be available in the following week.

Babine Weir: Average catch in Area 4 of sockeye and pink in Week 3, times the number of licences that have been transferred to the Babine weir area. This amount will be valid only for Week 6. If any of this amount is not caught in this week, then they will be forgone catch – they will not be available in the following week.

ESSR
This week could see ESSR fisheries in the Babine River and at the weir, depending on weekly exploitation rates. This week could see significant harvests at Pinkut Creek and Fulton River spawning facilities. Surpluses at the spawning channels will be determined in close consultation with the facility managers, and be based on observed surpluses only.

Week 7

The intent of any fisheries this week would be to harvest Skeena River pink salmon.

A special selective seine fishery could take place this week. This fishery will be conducted in a small area, and will be intensively monitored.

Gillnet fisheries are unlikely for the remainder of the season.

Of concern this week is upper Skeena coho.

Demonstration Project:
Terrace: Average catch in Area 4 of sockeye and pink in previous week, times the number of licences that have been transferred to the Terrace area. This amount will be valid only for Week 7. If any of this amount is not caught in this week, then they will be forgone catch – they will not be available in the following week.

Mid-River: Average catch in Area 4 of sockeye and pink in Week 5, times the number of licences that have been transferred to the mid-river area. This amount will be valid only for Week 7. If any of this amount is not caught in this week, then they will be forgone catch – they will not be available in the following week.

Babine Weir: Average catches in Area 4 of sockeye and pink in Week 4, times the number of licences that have been transferred to the Babine weir area. This amount will be valid only for Week 7. If any of this amount is not caught in this week, then they will be forgone catch – they will not be available in the following week.

ESSR
Pinkut Creek harvest will likely be curtailed by mid-week due to quality concerns.

Week 8

The intent of any fisheries this week would be to harvest lower Skeena River pink salmon and to a lesser extent coastal pink stocks.

A special selective seine fishery could take place this week. This fishery will be conducted in a small area, and will be intensively monitored.

Of concern this week are upper Skeena coho, coastal pinks in some years, steelhead and chum.

Demonstration Project
Terrace: Demonstration fishery expected to be complete.

Mid-River: Average catch in Area 4 of sockeye and pink in Week 6, times the number of licences that have been transferred to the mid-river area. This amount will be valid only for Week 8. If any of this amount is not caught in this week, then they will be forgone catch – they will not be available in the following week.

Babine Weir: Average catch in Area 4 of sockeye and pink in Week 5, times the number of licences that have been transferred to the Babine weir area. This amount will be valid only for Week 8. If any of this amount is not caught in this week, then they will be forgone catch – they will not be available in the following week.

ESSR
This week could see significant harvests at Fulton River spawning facility. Fulton River harvest will likely be curtailed by the end of this week.

Week 9
Commercial fishery is expected to be closed.

Demonstration Project
Terrace: Demonstration fishery expected to be complete.

Mid-River: Demonstration Project expected to be complete.

Babine Weir: Although some fish may be available (based on the commercial catch of Week 6), quality concerns will likely spell the end of the Demonstration Project fishery.

ESSR: Although some fish may be available, quality concerns will likely spell the end of the fishery.

Appendix 9: Salmon Logbook Examples

SALMON GILLNET Logbook I.D. # **G** **Report Catch to: 1-(888) 387-0007** Record all catch in pieces **Page #**

Vessel Name:	VRN (CFV#):	Vessel Master Name:	[1] FIN:
Net Details	Type[2]: # Strands[3]: Length: (fathoms) Weedline Depth[4]: Hang Ratio: :1 Mesh Size[4]:		# Meshes:

Date Day	Date Mon	Mgmt. Area	Hours fished	# of sets	Sub-area(s)	[5] Kept or Released	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Chinook	Steel-head	Atlantic Dogfish	Sturg-eon	Birds	[6] Other Species
						Kept										
						Rel.										
Comments:												Observer on board? **Y** or **N**			Confirmation #:	
						Kept										
						Rel.										
Comments:												Observer on board? **Y** or **N**			Confirmation #:	
						Kept										
						Rel.										
Comments:												Observer on board? **Y** or **N**			Confirmation #:	
						Kept										
						Rel.										
Comments:												Observer on board? **Y** or **N**			Confirmation #:	
						Kept										
						Rel.										
Comments:												Observer on board? **Y** or **N**			Confirmation #:	
						Kept										
						Rel.										
Comments:												Observer on board? **Y** or **N**			Confirmation #:	

sample

1. Enter the vessel master's Fisher Identification Number.
2. **Net Types**: enter '*A*' for Alaska Twist, '*M*' for Multi Strand or '*C*' for Combination.
3. Enter number of strands if net is 'Alaska Twist' type mesh.
4. Give measurement units (*in* or *"* = inches, *cm* = centimeters, *mm* = millimeters).
5. **Kept** are species retained on board; **Released** are species returned to the ocean.
6. **Other Species**: M= Mackerel, L= Lingcod, H= Halibut, R= Rockfish. Identify marine mammals by species.

2006

SALMON SEINE Logbook I.D. # **S** **Report Catch to: 1-(888) 387-0007** Record daily catch in pieces **Page #**

Vessel Name: VRN (CFV#): Vessel Master Name: [1] FIN:

Date Day	Date Mon.	Mgmt. Area	Hours fished	# of sets	Sub-area(s)	[2] Kept or Released	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	*Adult* Chinook	[1] *Jack* Chinook	Steel-head	Atlantic	Birds	[3] Other Species
						Kept									X	
						Rel.										
Comments:												Observer on board? **Y** or			Confirmation #:	
						Kept									X	
						Rel.										
Comments:												Observer on board? **Y** or			Confirmation #:	
						Kept									X	
						Rel.										
Comments:												Observer on board? **Y** or			Confirmation #:	
						Kept									X	
						Rel.										
Comments:												Observer on board? **Y** or			Confirmation #:	

Offloading Information

Dates Fished First day Day	First day Month	Last day Day	Last day Month	# Days fished	Date offloaded Day	Date offloaded Month	Sockeye ☐ Pieces ☐ Lbs ☐ Kgs	Coho ☐ Pcs ☐ Lbs ☐ Kgs	Pink ☐ Pieces ☐ Lbs ☐ Kgs	Chum ☐ Pieces ☐ Lbs ☐ Kgs	Chinook ☐ Pieces ☐ Lbs ☐ Kgs	(Other) ☐ Pcs ☐ Lbs ☐ Kgs	Complete if catch pooled with that of another vessel: Received from:	Offloaded to:	Vessel
													☐	☐	Name:
Business and port offloaded to:								Fish slip #:			Offload #:				VRN (CFV#):
													☐	☐	Name:
Business and port offloaded to:								Fish slip #:			Offload #:				VRN (CFV#):

1. Enter the vessel master's Fisher Identification Number.
2. **Jack Chinook** are all chinook smaller than 67 cm fork length. Note that 67cm is approximately 26 inches.
3. **Kept** are species retained on board; **Released** are species returned to the ocean.
4. **Other Species**: M= Mackerel, L= Lingcod, H= Halibut, D= Dogfish, R=Rockfish. Identify marine mammals to species.

2006

Sample Sample

SALMON TROLL Logbook I.D. # **T** **Report Catch to: 1-(888) 387-0007** Record all catch in pieces **Page #**

Vessel Name:	VRN (CFV#):	Vessel Master Name:	[1] FIN:

Date Day	Date Mon	Mgmt. Area	Hours fished	Zone ☐ or Subarea ☐	Catch frozen or iced?	[2] Kept or Released	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	[3] Legal Sized Chinook	[3] Sublegal Sized Chinook	[4] Grilse	Atlantic	[5] Rockfish	[6] Other Species
					F or **I**	Kept										
Trip ID #:						Rel.										
Comments:													Observer on board? **Y** or **N**		Confirmation #:	
					F or **I**	Kept										
Trip ID #:						Rel.										
Comments:													Observer on board? **Y** or **N**		Confirmation #:	
					F or **I**	Kept										
Trip ID #:						Rel.										
Comments:													Observer on board? **Y** or **N**		Confirmation #:	
					F or **I**	Kept										
Trip ID #:						Rel.										
Comments:													Observer on board? **Y** or **N**		Confirmation #:	
					F or **I**	Kept										
Trip ID #:						Rel.										
Comments:													Observer on board? **Y** or **N**		Confirmation #:	
					F or **I**	Kept										
Trip ID #:						Rel.										
Comments:													Observer on board? **Y** or **N**		Confirmation #:	

Sample
Sample

1. Enter the vessel master's Fisher Identification Number.
2. **Kept** are species retained on board; **Released** are species returned to the ocean.
3. As defined in the applicable Fishery Notice.
4. **Grilse** are juvenile salmon under 30 cm.
5. If possible, rockfish are to be identified by species (using names in accompanying guide); if unsure of species, record as Unknown Rockfish.
6. Other Species: L=Lingcod, H=Halibut, D=Dogfish, M= Mackerel, S= Steelhead, B=Bird.

2006

R.D. PENHALL LTD. MADE IN VANCOUVER, CANADA
DUKSBAK WATERPROOF

Vessel Summary Log

Vessel/Lodge/Marina Name: Sounders Fishing Ltd. **Operator's Name:** Charlie Sound

Creel Area: 1 or 2 (Circle One)	Total Hrs. Fished	# of Anglers	Guided (Circle One)	Creel Sub Area	Fishing Location	Date: 21/07/2008
Gear Deployed | Gear Pulled (Please Circle am or pm)						DD MM YY YY
9 : 15 am pm | 4 : 07 am pm	6	5	YES / NO	11B	Chicken Coop (Halibut), Slingsby (Chinook).	Were You Interviewed Today (Please Circle One): Yes / No
: am pm | : am pm						

Salmon Catch	Kept Wild	Kept Hatchery Mark	Release (d) Wild	Release (d) Hatchery Mark	# Lost to Seals
Coho Undersized			0	0	0
Coho Adult	0	0	0	0	0
Chinook Undersized/ Sub-legal			1	0	0
Chinook Slot - Size Fishery	0	0	0	0	0
Chinook Adult Non-Slot Fishery	3	2	0	0	0
Pink					
Chum					
Sockeye					

Groundfish Catch	Kept	Rel.
Lingcod	0	0
Halibut	1	0
Black Rockfish	0	2
Yelloweye Rockfish	1	0
List Other Rockfish		
Tiger Rockfish	0	1
List Other Species		
Mackerel	0	5

Shellfish Catch	Pieces Kept
Prawns	0
Shrimp (lbs.)	0
Dungeness Crab	1
Rock Crab	3
List Others Shellfish	

Species (Chinook, Halibut and Lingcod only)	Length (cm)	Weight	Weight Units	Scale Book # (*Chinook Only)	Scale #	Sex M = Male F = Female	Flesh Color R = Red W = White M = Marbled	Hatchery Mark Y = Yes N = No U = Unknown
Chinook	65	10	lbs. / kg	55089	1	M / F	R / W / M	Y / N / U
Chinook	60	9	lbs. / kg	55089	2	M / F	R / W / M	Y / N / U
Chinook	45	5	lbs. / kg	55089	3	M / F	R / W / M	Y / N / U
Chinook	56	7	lbs. / kg	55089	4	M / F	R / W / M	Y / N / U
Chinook	78	19	lbs. / kg	55089	5	M / F	R / W / M	Y / N / U
Halibut	81	21	lbs. / kg			M / F	R / W / M	Y / N / U

Comments: 2 other guides out, 4 sporties. Halibut had eaten a China RF.

See back of page for definition of "Slot-Size Fishery", and scale and weight sampling instructions.

SAMPLE

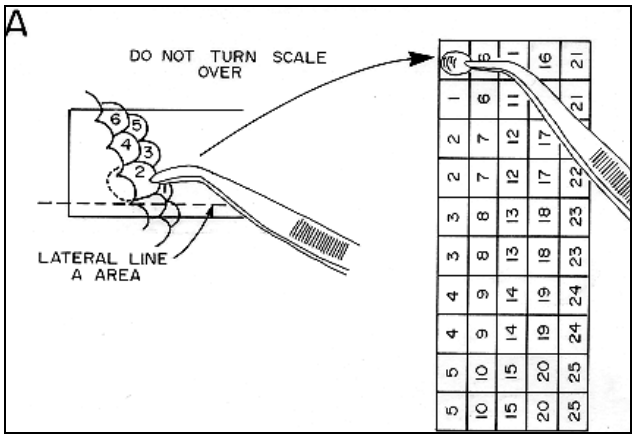
What is a Slot-Size Fishery?

A slot size fishery refers to a fishery with both a minimum and maximum size range for legal retention. In such a fishery, only those fish of a size within the "slot" may be retained. Refer to your sport fishing guide or visit www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/recfish for information regarding slot size limits by area.

Scale Retrieval and Mounting (Chinook only)

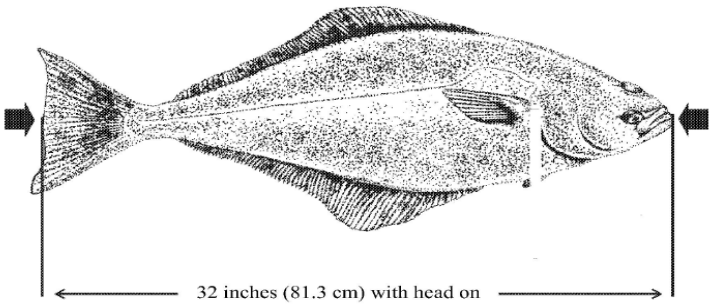
A total of 5 scales should be taken. Do not collect regenerate scales. If there are no good scales in the preferred area, take samples from an area in front of the preferred area. Refer to the scale book for an example of a regenerative scale and a diagram of the preferred sampling area.

1. Place the fish on its right side.
2. Scrape the preferred area clear of water and slime.
3. Remove the scale by grasping its exposed bottom edge with tweezers and pulling.
4. Check the scale for deformation or regeneration.
5. Centre the scale on the numbered square on the scale card so the side that faced out when the scale was attached to the fish faces out on the card (Do not turn scale over).
6. Firmly press the scale onto the scale book with a dry finger.



Use a new scale book only when the last book is filled. The scale card must be kept dry. Excessive moisture will dissolve the book's adhesive coating so it either covers the scale or is washed away so the scale cannot stick to the card. Fill out the back of the card in full. Use pencil and try to fill out the card before inserting any scales.

How to measure Halibut correctly:



*Halibut and all other fish must be measured while lying flat with the head on.

Weights

Weights must be taken before the fish are gutted, or an estimate of the intact weight must be made.