

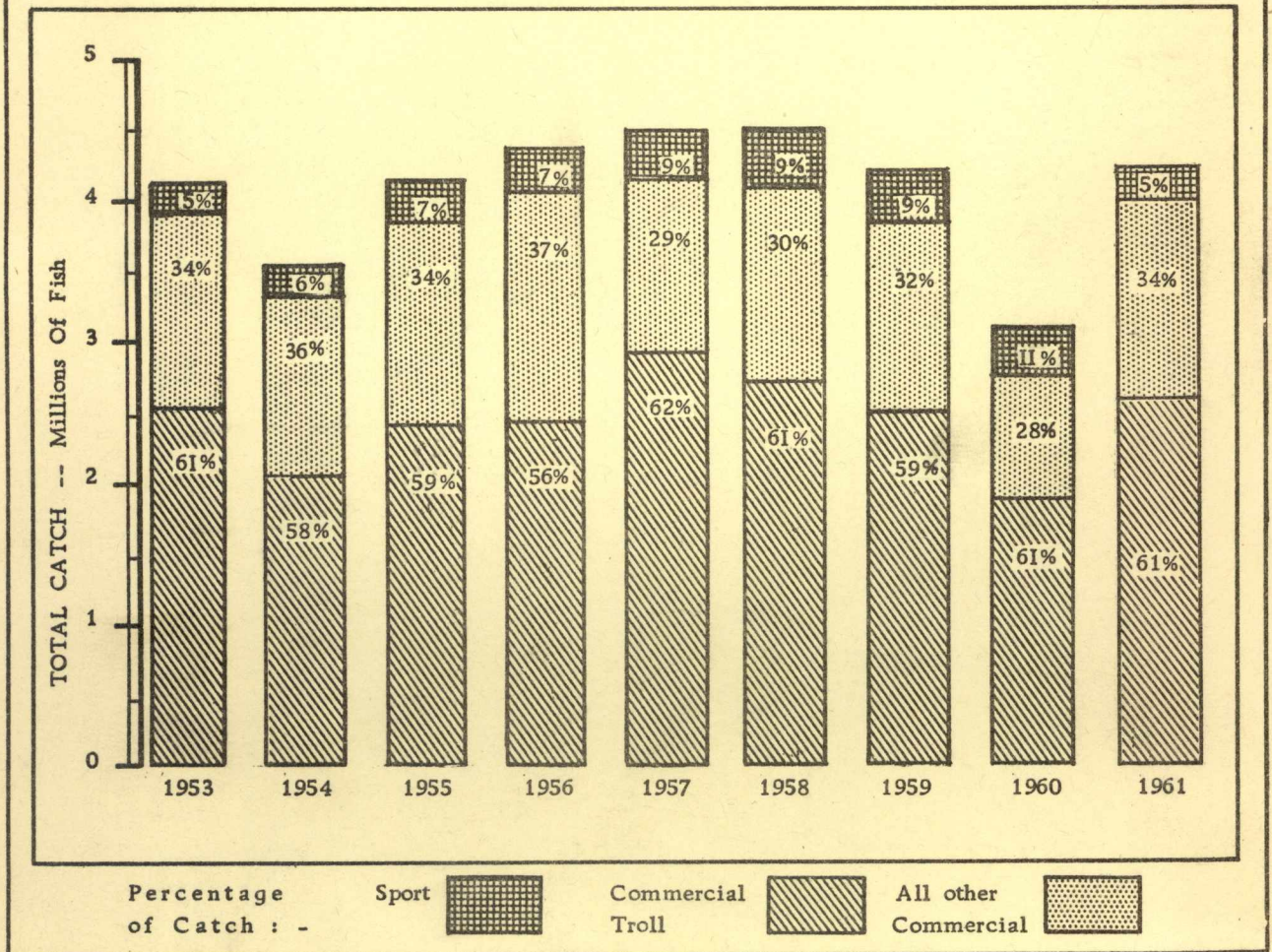
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# STATISTICS ON SALMON SPORT FISHING IN THE TIDAL WATERS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA 1961

PERCENTAGE DIVISION OF THE CATCH OF SPRING SALMON, JACKS  
AND COHO BETWEEN SPORT & COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN 1953 - 1961  
(Sport Catch Includes Grilse)



Department of Fisheries of Canada  
Pacific Area

73735  
30/4/62

## FOREWORD:

This is the ninth year for which tidal sport fishing statistics for British Columbia have been published by the Department of Fisheries of Canada. The first report was issued in 1956 and consolidated the information for the years 1953-1955. Thereafter, it has been published on an annual basis.

Since 1953, participation of residents and tourists in the tidal sport fishery has shown a steady increase. Subject to the availability of salmon, the catch by sports fishermen has essentially followed the same trend. Although the number of salmon taken by sport fishermen is small in relation to the commercial catch of all salmon in the province, nevertheless for two species--springs and coho--the sport catch in the main sport fishing areas of the Strait of Georgia has reached the level where it must be considered as a factor in the management of the resource.

Compared with the methods of compilation of commercial salmon catch statistics, the derivation of sport catch statistics presents problems. The commercial catch of salmon is tabulated from mandatory duplicate sales slips which are turned in to the Department covering all sales by commercially licensed fishermen. This duplicate sales slip system was instituted in 1951 but has a background of development of many years of recognition of the fact that salmon stocks are vulnerable, and that the perpetuation and future expansion of the resource is dependent on proper management based on the most accurate statistics available. By contrast, sport fishermen have been permitted to fish with a minimum of restriction and regulations in all tidal waters as long as conservation and development requirements have not been affected. Accordingly, the information on the catch and effort by sport fishermen has been derived and estimated in a number of ways and is largely dependent on continuing refinement and development of sampling techniques as the sport fishing effort and catch continues to grow.

The Parliament of Canada annually provides funds for the conservation and development of stocks of fish that are important to both the commercial and the sport fishery throughout all of the tidal waters of the province. These funds cover the work in management, protection and development by the Department. They also provide for related research work carried out by the Fisheries Research Board of Canada. In matters of mutual interest liaison is maintained with the Provincial Department of Recreation and Conservation.

The growing importance of salmon sport fishing as a major recreational outlet is readily apparent. In recognition of this and in response to continuing requests for catch information the Department issues a weekly Sport Fish Bulletin, which provides a brief topical outline of catch and effort in the principal sport fishing areas during the sport fishing season. This is based on regular reports compiled by resident Fishery Officers. In 1961 another publication, the "Guide to Sport Fishing Regulations in the Tidal Waters of British Columbia" was issued for the convenience of the public.

During the year, regular monthly reports are made by Fishery Officers providing current information on effort and catch in each of the statistical areas in coastal waters. These reports are augmented by information received from boat rental operators, fishing lodges and other sport fishing establishments. In addition, a number of surveys are carried out each year during which questionnaires are issued to tidal sport fishermen. The results of two of these surveys are summarized in this report:

Appendix I - General Sport Fish Survey of August 6, 1961.

Appendix II - Fraser River Bar Fishery Survey - Oct. 15, 1961.

The co-operation of boat rental operators, proprietors and managers of fishing lodges, charter boats and other sport fishing establishments is gratefully acknowledged. This continuing co-operation is an essential aid to resident Fishery Officers in compiling and assessing sport fishing effort and catch in each of the areas.

In addition, sport fishermen maintained their excellent record of co-operation in filling in and returning questionnaires during 1961. This type of continued co-operation is vital in insuring that management decisions can be made on the basis of the best information from all concerned.

This annual report was compiled and analyzed by A.L.W. Tuomi, Economist in the Economics Branch, working in close consultation with Fishery Officers in each of the various statistical areas.

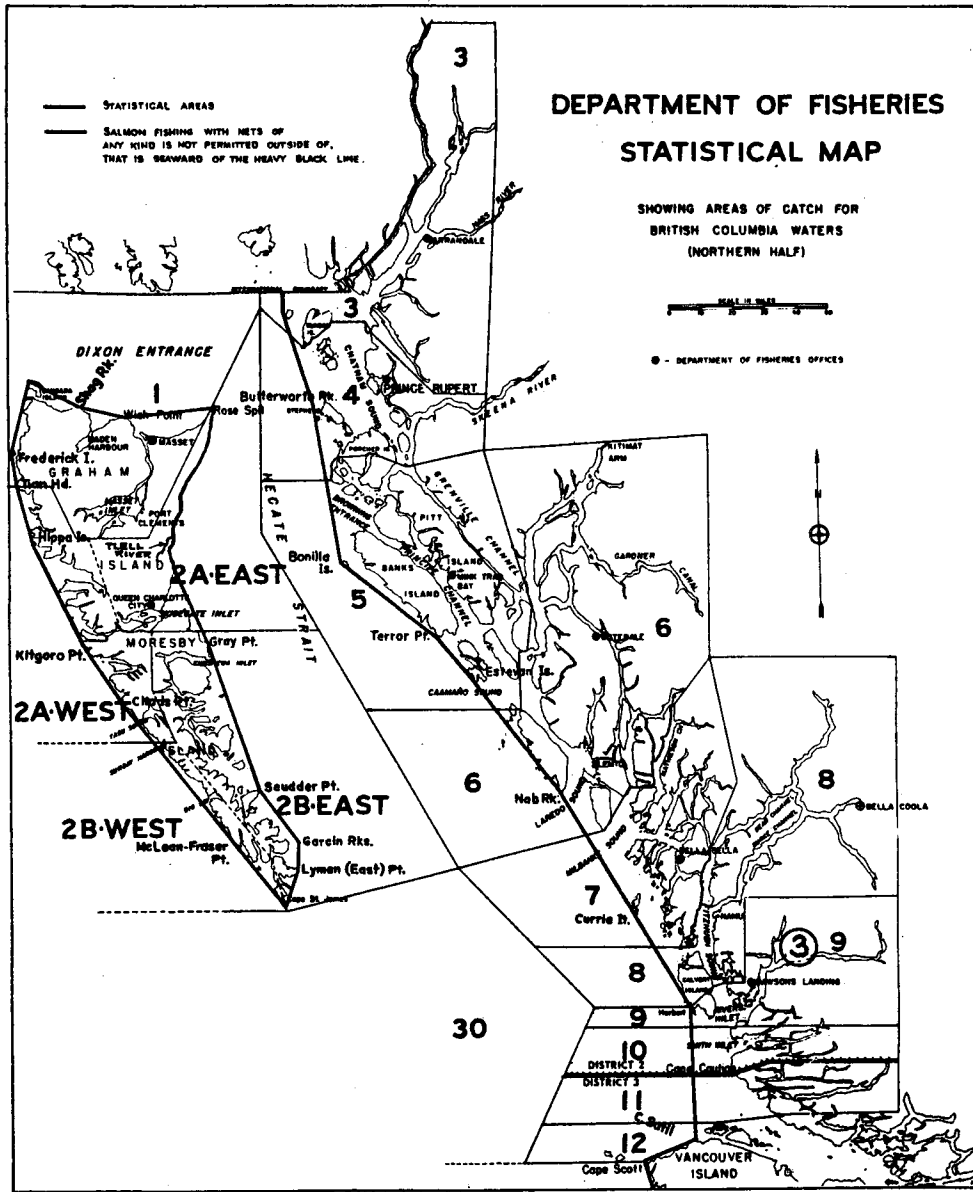
Department of Fisheries of Canada  
1155 Robson Street  
Vancouver 5, B. C.

March 31, 1962.

W. R. Hourston  
Director, Pacific Area

Blake A. Campbell  
Chief, Economics Branch

# SALMON SPORT FISHING MAP OF THE TIDAL WATERS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



Showing the statistical areas of catch for commercial fishing, which are also used as the basis of reporting for sport fishing, except for the following changes as marked on the map by arrows, and described below:

- (a) All of North Saanich, and Saanich Inlet to the south of Mill Bay is included in area 19.
- (b) Area 15 includes Westview and that part of area 16 as marked on the map.

## SPECIAL SALMON ANGLING LICENCE AREAS

- (1) Phillips Arm, in area 13
- (2) Gold & Burman Rivers, in area 25
- (3) Rivers Inlet, in area 9

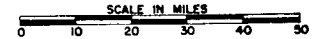
# DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES

## STATISTICAL MAP

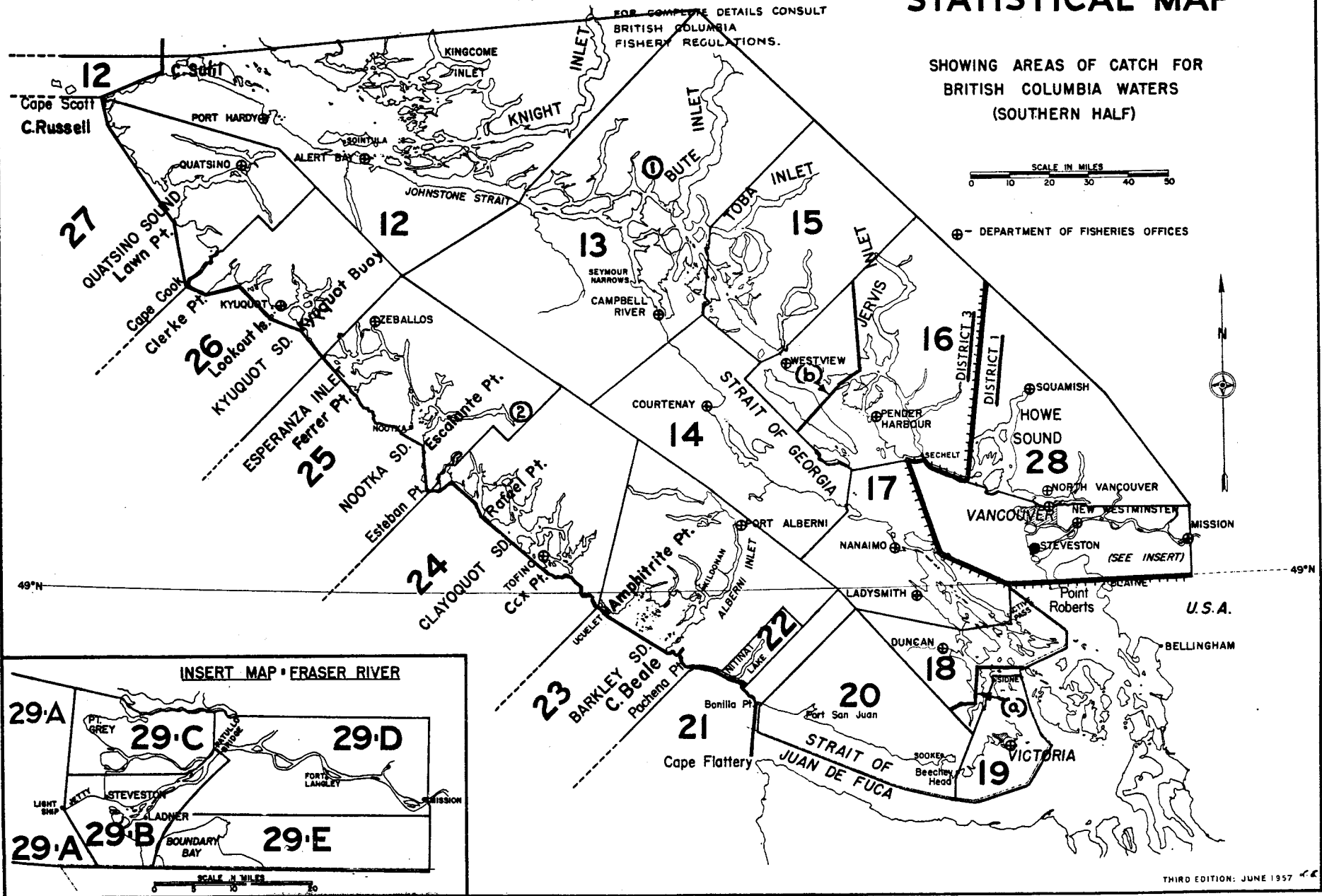
— STATISTICAL AREAS  
 — SALMON FISHING WITH NETS OF ANY KIND IS NOT PERMITTED OUTSIDE OF, THAT IS SEAWARD OF THE HEAVY BLACK LINE.

FOR COMPLETE DETAILS CONSULT BRITISH COLUMBIA FISHERY REGULATIONS.

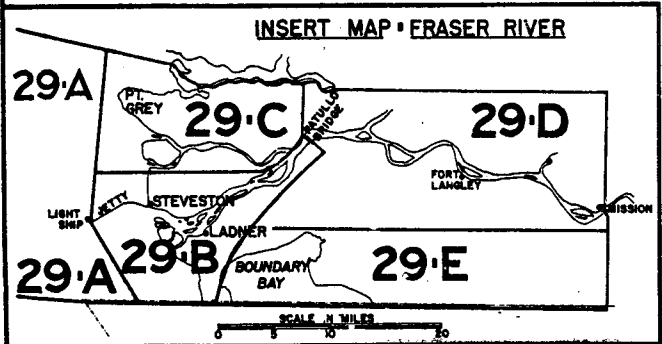
SHOWING AREAS OF CATCH FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA WATERS (SOUTHERN HALF)



⊕ DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES OFFICES



INSERT MAP - FRASER RIVER



S U M M A R Y

For the third consecutive year, the sport catch of salmon and grilse in the tidal waters of British Columbia showed a drop but compared to the decline of the two previous years the drop in the 1961 catch was drastic. A total of 250,375 salmon and grilse was landed, a drop of 81,050 or 24.5% as compared to 1960. This brought the total catch to the lowest level recorded since 1953 and 1954, the first two years for which tidal sport catch statistics were compiled and published in the present form of report.

The catch of spring salmon and jack spring showed a decline of 5,150 from 1960, bringing the catch to 40,625, the lowest level on record, while the drop in coho of 18,725 from high level of 1960 brought the coho catch to the lowest it has been since 1956. However, it was a pink salmon cycle year in southern waters, and even though the catch of 26,450 was 10,375 less than in the previous cycle year of 1959, the availability and catch of pink salmon served to keep the overall sport catch of mature salmon at 146,025, actually an increase over the comparable figure of 144,225 taken in 1960.

The most pronounced numerical change in the sport catch was the drastic reduction in the landings of grilse with an estimated 104,350 taken, a drop of 82,850 or 44.3% from 1960, and a reduction to less than half the peak-year catch of 1958. The 1961 grilse catch was the lowest since 1953 and undoubtedly reflected the fact that the minimum legal length of salmon grilse that could be legally taken and retained was raised from 8" to 12" on August 24, 1960. This change had its first full year of impact on grilse landings in 1961. The grilse catch was made up of an estimated 26% spring grilse and 74% coho grilse.

TABLE 1. COMPARISON OF SPORT & COMMERCIAL SALMON CATCH BY YEARS  
(Numbers of Fish)

|   | Average<br>1953-1960                  | 1957             | 1958             | 1959             | 1960             | 1961             | % change<br>from 1960 |
|---|---------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>SPORT CATCH</b>  |                                       |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                       |
| Springs & Jacks   | 63 271                                | 93 450           | 88 725           | 65 550           | 45 775           | 40 625           | - 11.2                |
| Coho  | 82 116                                | 126 475          | 96 125           | 90 050           | 97 625           | 78 900           | - 19.2                |
| Grilse  | 164 518                               | 166 150          | 220 600          | 203 950          | 187 200          | 104 350          | - 44.3                |
| Pinks   | (Not avail-<br>able for<br>all years) | 10 150           | 3 100            | 36 825           | 825              | 26 450           | +3106.1               |
| Sockeye   |                                       | --               | 350              | --               | --               | 50               | --                    |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>309 905</b>                        | <b>396 225</b>   | <b>408 900</b>   | <b>396 375</b>   | <b>331 425</b>   | <b>250 375</b>   | <b>- 24.5</b>         |
| <b>COMMERCIAL CATCH<br/>(by all gears)</b>  |                                       |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                       |
| Springs & Jacks   | 930 687                               | 938 600          | 1 068 700        | 948 300          | 745 200          | 685 300          | - 8.0                 |
| Coho  | 2 801 413                             | 3 136 700        | 2 989 500        | 2 896 900        | 2 030 100        | 3 297 300        | + 62.4                |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>3 732 100</b>                      | <b>4 075 300</b> | <b>4 058 200</b> | <b>3 845 200</b> | <b>2 775 300</b> | <b>3 982 600</b> | <b>+ 43.5</b>         |
| <b>COMBINED TOTAL of<br/>above - Sport &amp; Com-<br/>mercial Catch (Exclud-<br/>ing Pinks &amp; Sockeye)</b> | <b>4 042 005</b>                      | <b>4 461 375</b> | <b>4 463 650</b> | <b>4 204 750</b> | <b>3 105 900</b> | <b>4 206 475</b> | <b>+ 35.4</b>         |
| <b>SPORT CATCH as a<br/>percent of above com-<br/>bined catch</b>   | <b>7.7</b>                            | <b>8.6</b>       | <b>9.1</b>       | <b>8.6</b>       | <b>10.6</b>      | <b>5.3</b>       |                       |

**SUMMARY OF SPORT FISHING CATCHES BY AREA IN BRITISH COLUMBIA**  
**1961 CATCH COMPARED WITH 1953 - 1960 AVERAGE**

| AREA<br>(See map for area boundaries)      | SPRINGS & JACKS    |        |             | COHO               |        |             | GRILSE             |         |             |
|--|--------------------|--------|-------------|--------------------|--------|-------------|--------------------|---------|-------------|
|  | Average<br>1953-60 | 1961   | %<br>Change | Average<br>1953-60 | 1961   | %<br>Change | Average<br>1953-60 | 1961    | %<br>Change |
| 9. RIVERS INLET                            | 494                | 100    | -80         | 38                 | 25     | -34         |                    |         |             |
| 11-12. ALERT BAY                           | 1 269              | 425    | -67         | 1 138              | 200    | -82         | 350 (1)            | 350     | --          |
| 13. CAMPBELL RIVER                         | 4 137              | 3 050  | -26         | 13 819             | 19 900 | +44         | 2 138              | 4 200   | + 96        |
| 14. COMOX-COURTENAY                        | 8 553              | 4 100  | -52         | 28 809             | 21 975 | -24         | 27 756             | 21 000  | - 24        |
| 15. WESTVIEW                               | 1 928              | 425    | -78         | 2 700              | 1 825  | -32         | 2 325              | 1 800   | - 23        |
| 16. PENDER HARBOUR                         | 3 887              | 900    | -77         | 4 966              | 5 900  | +19         | 7 906              | 3 050   | - 61        |
| 17. NANAIMO                                | 2 669              | 1 400  | -48         | 2 884              | 2 825  | - 2         | 18 166             | 10 400  | - 43        |
| 18. COWICHAN BAY &<br>MILL BAY AREA        | 6 569              | 3 675  | -44         | 4 569              | 3 900  | -15         | 13 500             | 5 650   | - 58        |
| 19-20 VICTORIA-SAANICH                     | 11 416             | 13 475 | +18         | 9 406              | 6 650  | -29         | 49 769             | 28 450  | - 43        |
| 23. BARKLEY SOUND                          | 1 334              | 1 725  | +29         | 481                | 275    | -43         |                    |         |             |
| 25. NOOTKA                                 | 643                | 825    | +28         | 125                | 225    | +80         | 100 (1)            | 150     | + 50        |
| 28-29 VANCOUVER-HOWE<br>SOUND-FRASER RIVER | 18 856             | 9 475  | -50         | 10 181             | 12 975 | +27         | 41 313             | 28 150  | - 32        |
| OTHER AREAS                                | 1 516              | 1 050  | -31         | 3 000              | 2 225  | -26         | 1 195 (1)          | 1 150   | - 4         |
|  | 63 271             | 40 625 | -36         | 82 116             | 78 900 | - 4         | 164 518            | 104 350 | - 37        |

(1) Average - 1956 - 1960

**SPORT CATCH OF SPRING SALMON IN SPECIAL SALMON ANGLING LICENCE AREAS**

|                      | <u>1953</u> | <u>1954</u> | <u>1955</u> | <u>1956</u> | <u>1957</u> | <u>1958</u> | <u>1959</u> | <u>1960</u> | <u>1961</u> |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| RIVERS INLET         | 497         | 998         | 1 014       | 245         | 278         | 157         | 84          | 67          | 65          |
| PHILLIPS ARM         | 103         | 101         | 95          | 89          | 66          | 94          | 56          | 25          | 29          |
| GOLD & BURMAN RIVERS | --          | --          | 317         | 433         | 206         | 116         | 212         | 170         | 337         |

Commercial salmon catch statistics in 1961 showed that the catch of spring salmon was at the lowest level in the last ten years, while the coho catch for the province was up by 62.4% over 1960 and was the highest since 1951. However, in the Strait of Georgia where most of the sport fishing is carried on, both commercial and sport catches of coho were lower than in 1960.

The increase in the commercial catch of coho, arising from areas other than in the Strait of Georgia, coupled with the lower sport catch, resulted in a drop to 5.3% in the sport fish percentage share of the combined sport and commercial catch of springs and coho for 1961. This is the lowest level since 1953 and is in contrast to the high of 10.6% in 1960. (This is shown in Table 1).

The sport catch of salmon and grilse was worth approximately \$235,000.00 based on the commercial landed value by species for an estimated 975,000 pounds of fish.

When compared to the catch average of the previous 8 years, as shown in Table 2, the 1961 catch of springs and jacks showed a decline of 36%, with most areas sharing in the drop. The coho catch was variable with a net 4% drop, while grilse was down 37%, reflecting the reduction in the 1961 catch.

In the principal sport fishing areas of the Strait of Georgia, sport fishermen maintained their share of the catch of springs and coho taking 33.4% of the combined sport and commercial troll landings of these species as compared with 35% in 1960. This was not surprising considering that both commercial trollers and sport fishermen fish essentially the same stocks.

Table 3 shows the relative importance of the sport fish catch and the commercial troll catch in the Strait of Georgia.

TABLE 3  
COMPARISON OF COMMERCIAL TROLL CATCH & SPORT CATCH OF SALMON IN THE STRAIT OF GEORGIA 1953 - 1961 (Areas 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, and District 1, Areas 28, 29 A B & C)

|                    | Average 1953 - 1960                 |                  |                                      | 1960                                |   |                                      | 1961                                |   |                                      |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
|                    | Comm-<br>ercial<br>Troll<br>Numbers | Sport<br>Numbers | Sport as<br>percent<br>of total<br>% | Comm-<br>ercial<br>Troll<br>Numbers | Sport (in-<br>cluding<br>Grilse)<br>Numbers | Sport as<br>percent of<br>total<br>% | Comm-<br>ercial<br>Troll<br>Numbers | Sport (in-<br>cluding<br>Grilse)<br>Numbers | Sport as<br>percent of<br>total<br>% |
| Springs<br>& Jacks | 126 050                             | 58 025           | 31.5                                 | 102 800                             | 83 450                                      | 44.8                                 | 117 500                             | 63 050                                      | 34.9                                 |
| Coho               | 358 500                             | 77 325           | 17.7                                 | 492 700                             | 237 825                                     | 37.7                                 | 312 400                             | 152 100                                     | 32.7                                 |
| Grilse             |                                     | 160 750*         |                                      |                                     |   |                                      |                                     |   |                                      |
| <b>TOTAL</b>       | <b>484 550</b>                      | <b>296 100</b>   | <b>37.9</b>                          | <b>595 500</b>                      | <b>321 275</b>                              | <b>35.0</b>                          | <b>429 900</b>                      | <b>215 150</b>                              | <b>33.4</b>                          |

\* Breakdown by species not available, prior to 1959.

Table 4 gives the actual catch in these areas showing the number caught by sport fishermen, commercial trollers and commercial fishermen using other gear.

**TABLE 4**  
**DIVISION OF CATCH BY SPECIES IN THE STRAIT OF GEORGIA**  
**BETWEEN SPORT AND COMMERCIAL GEAR IN 1961 (Numbers of fish)**  
 (The sport catch includes the grilse catch by species)

| AREA           | Springs & Jacks |                               |                                     | Coho & Bluebacks |                               |                                     | Pinks         |                               |                                     |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|                | Sport           | Commer-<br>cial troll<br>only | Commer-<br>cial - all<br>other gear | Sport            | Commer-<br>cial troll<br>only | Commer-<br>cial - all<br>other gear | Sport         | Commer-<br>cial troll<br>only | Commer-<br>cial - all<br>other gear |
| 13             | 3 650           | 18 900                        | 6 000                               | 23 500           | 71 700                        | 48 400                              | 1 000         | 3 300                         | 261 900                             |
| 14             | 8 000           | 19 800                        | 1 200                               | 39 075           | 100 600                       | 5 000                               | 425           | 900                           | 100                                 |
| 15             | 625             | 12 000                        | 1 300                               | 3 425            | 19 000                        | 1 400                               | --            | 300                           | 1 500                               |
| 16             | 1 200           | 13 300                        | 3 700                               | 8 650            | 56 400                        | 7 000                               | 250           | 8 600                         | 96 500                              |
| 17             | 3 200           | 38 200                        | 600                                 | 11 425           | 54 300                        | 2 300                               | 50            | 16 500                        | 300                                 |
| 18             | 5 975           | 1 400                         | 200                                 | 7 250            | 300                           | 4 100                               | --            | --                            | 100                                 |
| 19-20          | 22 025          | 5 200                         | 30 700                              | 26 550           | 10 200                        | 457 700                             | 3 750         | 8 600                         | 341 100                             |
| Dist. 1        | 18 375          | 8 700                         | 89 100                              | 32 225           | 200                           | 32 200                              | 20 025        | 7 400                         | 109 200                             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>63 050</b>   | <b>117 500</b>                | <b>132 800</b>                      | <b>152 100</b>   | <b>312 700</b>                | <b>558 100</b>                      | <b>25 500</b> | <b>45 600</b>                 | <b>810 700</b>                      |
| <b>Percent</b> | <b>20.1</b>     | <b>37.5</b>                   | <b>42.4</b>                         | <b>14.8</b>      | <b>30.6</b>                   | <b>54.6</b>                         | <b>2.9</b>    | <b>5.2</b>                    | <b>91.9</b>                         |

The effect of the decline in the 1961 sport catch in relation to the commercial troll and net landings is shown in Table 5 which shows the overall catch and how it was shared for the years 1953 to 1961. This is shown graphically on the cover.

**TABLE 5**  
**DIVISION OF CATCH OF SPRINGS, JACKS & COHO IN BRITISH COLUMBIA**  
**BETWEEN SPORT FISHERMEN, COMMERCIAL TROLLERS,**  
**& ALL OTHER COMMERCIAL GEAR - 1953 - 1961**

| YEAR           | SPRINGS & JACKS<br>(excluding Grilse) |                         |                          |                        | COHO<br>(excluding Grilse)         |                         |                          |                        | SPRINGS, JACKS & COHO<br>(including sport-caught Grilse) |                         |                          |                        |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
|                | Catch<br>No. of<br>Fish<br>(000)'s    | % Taken by:             |                          |                        | Catch<br>No. of<br>Fish<br>(000)'s | % Taken by:             |                          |                        | Catch<br>No. of<br>Fish<br>(000)'s                       | % Taken by:             |                          |                        |
|                |                                       | Sport<br>Fisher-<br>men | Comm-<br>ercial<br>Troll | Other<br>Comm.<br>Gear |                                    | Sport<br>Fisher-<br>men | Comm-<br>ercial<br>Troll | Other<br>Comm.<br>Gear |  | Sport<br>Fisher-<br>men | Comm-<br>ercial<br>Troll | Other<br>Comm.<br>Gear |
| 1953           | 1 066                                 | 4.8                     | 66.0                     | 29.2                   | 2 956                              | 2.1                     | 61.0                     | 36.9                   | 4 112  | 5.0                     | 60.9                     | 34.1                   |
| 1954           | 919                                   | 4.7                     | 62.7                     | 32.6                   | 2 481                              | 1.4                     | 59.8                     | 38.8                   | 3 531  | 5.9                     | 58.3                     | 35.8                   |
| 1955           | 925                                   | 5.8                     | 63.4                     | 30.8                   | 3 048                              | 2.6                     | 60.0                     | 37.4                   | 4 115  | 6.6                     | 58.7                     | 34.7                   |
| 1956           | 1 047                                 | 6.1                     | 70.0                     | 23.9                   | 3 121                              | 2.3                     | 54.3                     | 43.4                   | 4 337  | 7.0                     | 56.0                     | 37.0                   |
| 1957           | 1 032                                 | 9.1                     | 70.2                     | 20.7                   | 3 263                              | 3.9                     | 62.6                     | 33.5                   | 4 461  | 8.6                     | 62.0                     | 29.4                   |
| 1958           | 1 157                                 | 7.7                     | 63.0                     | 29.3                   | 3 086                              | 3.1                     | 64.4                     | 32.5                   | 4 464  | 9.1                     | 60.9                     | 30.0                   |
| 1959           | 1 014                                 | 6.5                     | 64.5                     | 29.0                   | 2 987                              | 3.0                     | 62.1                     | 34.9                   | 4 205  | 8.6                     | 59.6                     | 31.8                   |
| 1960           | 791                                   | 5.8                     | 62.6                     | 31.6                   | 2 128                              | 4.6                     | 66.4                     | 29.0                   | 3 106  | 10.6                    | 61.4                     | 28.0                   |
| 1961           | 726                                   | 5.6                     | 64.1                     | 30.3                   | 3 376                              | 2.3                     | 62.6                     | 35.1                   | 4 206  | 5.3                     | 61.3                     | 33.4                   |
| <b>Average</b> | <b>964</b>                            | <b>6.3</b>              | <b>65.3</b>              | <b>28.4</b>            | <b>2 938</b>                       | <b>2.8</b>              | <b>61.3</b>              | <b>35.9</b>            | <b>4 060</b>   | <b>7.4</b>              | <b>59.9</b>              | <b>32.7</b>            |

SPORT FISHING EFFORT

Tidal sport fishing effort for the province showed a small increase during the year, primarily as a result of the stimulus of the better salmon fishing in Vancouver - Howe Sound, which brought a 29% rise in fishing effort for that area. This is shown in Table 6, which shows the total of salmon and grilse caught in principal sport fishing areas and the corresponding estimate of the boat days of effort that made the catch. The catch per boat day is calculated on the basis of these estimates.

The information on sport fishing effort in boat days is of necessity estimated and derived from many sources as outlined in the first publication of this table in the 1960 report. The information, however, does reflect trends and, accordingly, continued attention is being directed to improving the techniques of estimating effort on the basis of existing sources of information.

TABLE 6

SPORT CATCH OF SALMON PER BOAT DAY - 1961

|                       | TOTAL CATCH (No. of Fish) |        |                            | TOTAL *<br>BOAT<br>DAYS | CATCH PER BOAT DAY OF:  |        |                               |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|--------|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|-------------------------------|
|                       | Salmon<br>(All Species)   | Grilse | Total Salmon<br>and Grilse |                         | Salmon<br>(All Species) | Grilse | Salmon and<br>Grilse combined |
| District 1            | 40 375                    | 16 850 | 57 225                     | 58 825                  | .68                     | .29    | .97                           |
| District 2            | 3 075                     | 875    | 3 950                      | 3 750                   | .82                     | .23    | 1.05                          |
| District 3:           |                           |        |                            |                         |                         |        |                               |
| Area 13               | 23 950                    | 4 200  | 28 150                     | 22 800                  | 1.05                    | .18    | 1.23                          |
| 14                    | 26 500                    | 21 000 | 47 500                     | 36 225                  | .73                     | .58    | 1.31                          |
| 15                    | 2 250                     | 1 800  | 4 050                      | 2 675                   | .84                     | .67    | 1.51                          |
| 16                    | 7 050                     | 3 050  | 10 100                     | 6 285                   | 1.12                    | .49    | 1.61                          |
| 17                    | 4 275                     | 10 400 | 14 675                     | 9 050                   | .47                     | 1.15   | 1.62                          |
| 18                    | 7 575                     | 5 650  | 13 225                     | 19 250                  | .39                     | .30    | .69                           |
| 19-20                 | 23 900                    | 28 450 | 52 350                     | 44 825                  | .53                     | .64    | 1.17                          |
| 21-23                 | 2 000                     | --     | 2 000                      | 4 975                   | .40                     | --     | .40                           |
| 11,12,24,<br>25,26,27 | 2 975                     | 775    | 3 750                      | 4 525                   | .66                     | .17    | .83                           |
| TOTAL<br>District 3   | 100 475                   | 75 325 | 175 800                    | 150 610                 | .67                     | .50    | 1.17                          |
| TOTAL                 | 143 925                   | 93 050 | 236 975                    | 213 185                 | .67                     | .44    | 1.11                          |

\* Includes effort by both privately-owned boats and rental boats; also includes fisherman days of effort from wharves, docks, shoreline fishing, etc., converted to boat days for all areas except District 1 where the Fraser River bar fishing effort and catch is excluded.

PROTECTION REGULATIONS - 1 9 6 1

On March 31, 1961, a small folder "Guide to Sport Fishing Regulations in the Tidal Waters of British Columbia" was issued for the convenience of the public. This publication consolidated pertinent sport fishing regulations at the time of release, and with one exception applied to year end. The exception was the rescinding by public notice on October 31, 1961 of the closure for taking butter clams in the area in the Strait of Georgia northward of a line connecting Gartley Point at the entrance to Comox Bay and Lund on the mainland.

A number of special closures, as well as other regulations relating to the tidal sport fishery are summarized below.

SPECIAL CLOSURES:

| <u>AREA CLOSED</u>  | <u>PERIOD CLOSED</u> | <u>PURPOSE</u>                       |
|---|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| - Waters of Queen Charlotte Strait off the Keogh and Cluxewe Rivers | Aug. 26 - Sept. 1    | Conservation of pink salmon          |
| - Tidal portion of Phillips River.                                  | July 21 - Aug. 31    | Conservation of spring salmon        |
| - Waters of Campbell River from Elk Falls to its mouth              | Sept. 14 - Oct. 31   | Conservation of spring salmon        |
| - Comox Harbour and the tidal portion of Courtenay River.           | Sept. 4 - Oct. 20    | Conservation of spring salmon        |
| - Portion of Alberni Inlet and tidal waters of Somass River.        | Oct. 1 - Dec. 31     | Conservation of spring & coho salmon |
| - Nahmint Bay & tidal waters of Nahmint River.                      | Sept. 17 - Dec. 31   | Conservation of spring salmon        |
| - Portion of Sarita (Numukamis) Bay.                                | Sept. 1 - Dec. 31    | Conservation of spring salmon        |
| - Portion of Cowichan Bay.  | Sept. 4 - Oct. 4     | Conservation of spring salmon        |
| - Tidal waters of Sooke River.                                      | Sept. 17 - Dec. 15   | Conservation of spring salmon        |
| - Portion of Muchalat Inlet.  | Aug. 27 - Dec. 31    | Conservation of spring salmon        |
| - Portion of Varney Bay & Rupert Inlet.                             | July 31 - Dec. 31    | Conservation of spring & coho salmon |
| - Tidal waters of Seymour River.                                    | Aug. 28 - Sep. 11    | Conservation of pink salmon          |

RIVERS INLET - AREA 9

In the special salmon angling licence area at the head of Rivers Inlet a total of 65 spring salmon were taken during the special licence season of July 20th to September 15th. The catch figure was practically unchanged from 1960, but the total number of licencees issued dropped almost a third from 323 to 228. Only 14 of the licencees were local residents, 107 were from the United States, and 100 were B. C. sport fishermen from the larger population centers in the lower coastal region of the province. Of the remaining seven, 3 were from Europe and 4 were Canadians from other provinces.

Fishing was relatively poor in July but the largest "tyee" of the year for the province, a 76 pounder, was among the 4 springs landed before the end of the month. This was the largest spring salmon taken since 1956, and compares favourably with the largest recorded for these waters, an 82 pounder taken in 1951. The best catches were made during the week ending August 5th with a total of 50 springs landed. Fishing ended about August 12, with the overall catch summary for the season showing that 49 (76%) of the springs weighed 30 pounds or over, with 22% weighing 50 pounds or over in weight. The second and third largest fish weighed 70 pounds and 66 pounds respectively. A resume of special angling licence catches is given below.

| YEAR | Number of Licencees Issued | Number of Springs Caught | Average Weight lbs. | Weight of heaviest fish lbs. |
|------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| 1956 | 916                        | 245                      | 43.8                | 77.5                         |
| 1957 | 398                        | 278                      | 35.3                | 71.5                         |
| 1958 | 330                        | 157                      | 41.5                | 69.5                         |
| 1959 | 353                        | 84                       | 40.3                | 74.0                         |
| 1960 | 323                        | 67                       | 42.0                | 71.0                         |
| 1961 | 228                        | 65                       | 40.9                | 76.0                         |

Fishing effort by local residents elsewhere in the area was light with the total catch, including the above special area catch, shown in the table below.

SALMON CATCH BY MONTHS

|                  | Springs    | Average Weight | Jacks      | Coho      | Average Weight | Pinks     |
|------------------|------------|----------------|------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|
| January to April | Few        |                |            |           |                |           |
| May              | Few        |                |            |           |                |           |
| June             | Few        |                |            |           |                |           |
| July             | 75         | 37             |            |           |                |           |
| August           | 25         | 36             | Few        | Few       |                | 25        |
| September        | Few        |                |            | 25        | 12             |           |
| October          | Few        |                |            | Few       |                |           |
| November         | -          |                |            |           |                |           |
| December         | -          |                |            |           |                |           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>     | <b>100</b> |                | <b>Few</b> | <b>25</b> |                | <b>25</b> |

PORT HARDY - ALERT BAY

(Areas 11 and 12)

Local residents carried out a sporadic weekend sport fishery for spring salmon during the early months of the year in the vicinity of Port Hardy. In March coho grilse schooled at the entrance to Baronet Passage and attracted local enthusiasts. The major effort, however, was carried out during the peak summer months of June through to September. The total catch for the area was made up of 350 springs, 75 jacks, 200 coho, 900 pink salmon and 350 grilse.

Hardy Bay, Baronet Passage and a few other points along the mainland shoreline provided most of the catch. The mouth of the Nimpkish River produced the best fishing for spring salmon, while fishing off the mouth of the Keogh River yielded a peak of 700 pink salmon in August. The spring salmon in August and September averaged between 30 - 35 pounds and the pink salmon weighing about 6 pounds.

With the advent of unfavourable weather early in October sport fishing practically stopped for the balance of the year.

SALMON CATCH BY MONTHS

|              | <u>Springs</u> | <u>Av. Wt.</u> | <u>Jacks</u> | <u>Coho</u> | <u>Av. Wt.</u> | <u>Grilse</u> | <u>Pinks</u> |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Jan. to Apr. | 25             | 8              |              |             |                | 300           |              |
| May          | 25             | 13             |              |             |                | 50            |              |
| June         | 150            | 10             |              | 100         | 5              |               |              |
| July         | 100            | 9              | 25           | 25          | 5              |               | 50           |
| August       | 25             | 30             | 25           | 25          | 7              | Few           | 700          |
| September    | 25             | 35             | 25           | 25          |                | Few           | 150          |
| October      | Few            |                |              | 25          | 9              |               |              |
| November     |                |                |              |             |                |               |              |
| December     | Few            |                |              |             |                |               |              |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>350</b>     |                | <b>75</b>    | <b>200</b>  |                | <b>350</b>    | <b>900</b>   |

CAMPBELL RIVER - DISCOVERY PASSAGE (AREA 13)

The catch of 19,900 coho taken by sport fishermen in 1961 was the second highest sport catch of coho in this area since records were first compiled in 1953. This catch also represents an increase of 3,650 over the coho catch of 1960.

The catch of spring salmon on the other hand declined slightly, 2,500 being taken as compared to a catch of 2,875 in 1960. More jack springs were caught, however, with 550 taken as compared to 150 the previous year.

Coho grilse were in plentiful supply during a large part of the 1961 season, particularly in the waters off Cape Mudge and Butlers Point, with the catch of 4,200 coho and spring grilse being the highest catch of grilse on record. This was also a pink salmon cycle year with a record 1,000 taken by sport fishermen, twice the catch of the cycle year of 1959.

Despite a good showing of 3 - 4 pound "bluebacks" (coho), particularly in the vicinity of Stuart Island in May, interest was limited until the start of the peak period for effort and catch which extended from June through to the Labour Day holiday.

Peak catches of both spring and coho were made in July in the waters of Discovery Passage, the Strait of Georgia adjacent to Cape Mudge and Butlers Point, and in the vicinity of the Yuculta Rapids. Some 6,880 boat trips resulted in an estimated catch of 1,150 springs and 9,250 coho.

The peak effort, however, occurred in August when an estimated 8,700 boat trips were made. Effort at this time was chiefly concentrated on the well-known Campbell River run of large spring salmon, or "tyee" which average 35 - 40 lbs. in weight. The largest recorded salmon of the 1961 season was a 65 lb. spring, taken on August 14th from the Tyee Pool at the mouth of the Campbell River.

Salmon catches in the special salmon angling licence area of Phillips Arm dropped to a new low in 1961 with only 29 spring salmon taken. A total of 232 vessels visited the Arm during the special licence period of June 1st to October 31st, with 482 licences issued to personnel of the visiting vessels.

SALMON CATCH BY MONTHS

|              | <u>Springs</u> | <u>Av. Wt.</u> | <u>Jacks</u> | <u>Coho</u>   | <u>Av. Wt.</u> | <u>Grilse</u> | <u>Pinks</u> |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Jan. to Apr. | 75             | 8              | 25           |               |                | 350           |              |
| May          | 100            | 7              | 75           | 550           | 3              | 100           |              |
| June         | 200            | 10             | 75           | 2 525         | 4              | 200           |              |
| July         | 1 150          | 13             | 150          | 9 250         | 5              | 1 000         | 275          |
| August       | 875            | 18             | 125          | 4 675         | 6              | 1 600         | 625          |
| September    | 75             | 15             | 75           | 2 700         | 6              | 650           | 100          |
| October      | Few            | -              | Few          | 200           | 8              | 50            |              |
| November     | 25             | 14             | 25           |               |                | 200           |              |
| December     | Few            | -              |              |               |                | 50            |              |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>2 500</b>   |                | <b>550</b>   | <b>19 900</b> |                | <b>4 200</b>  | <b>1 000</b> |

**SHELTER POINT TO DORCAS POINT - (AREA 14)**  
 (Including the waters off Northwest Bay, French Creek, Qualicum Beach,  
 Comox-Courtenay and Oyster Bay)

With the exception of pink salmon, the sport catch of all species of salmon in this area showed a drastic drop with all but spring salmon declining more than 50% as compared with 1960. The take of spring salmon dropped from 2,725 to 1,750, jacks from 4,925 to 2,350, coho from 47,400 to 21,975 and grilse from 45,350 to 21,000. The minor catch of pink salmon rose from 275 to 425. The catch of springs and jack springs was the lowest since 1955. The catch of coho and of grilse was down by about 25% in relation to the previous 8-year average, but the current year catch of coho and grilse suffers in direct comparison to the 1960 catch which was the second highest on record. Fishing effort reflected the variable availability of salmon and dropped by about a third from 1960, with an estimated 35,800 boat trips made in the area during the year.

Sport fishermen landed about 125 spring salmon during the first three months of the year. Dock fishermen caught a few in Comox Harbour but the bulk of the catch was taken from boats in both Comox Harbour and from Lambert Channel.

Coho grilse moved into the Northwest Bay-Nuttal Bay region late in March and although limit catches were fairly common in May and June, the coho and coho grilse were neither as large or as abundant as they were in 1960. Grilse catches also declined as a result of a full year's operation of the 12" minimum length limit first introduced in August, 1960. Fishing effort increased to a seasonal high in July with some 12,000 boat days reported but hot weather and spotty fishing reduced catch returns in comparison to 1960. Large spring salmon or "tyee" started to show in Comox Harbour late in July and about 100 springs ranging from 25 - 60 pounds were landed with the largest one weighed in at 60 pounds. The Bay was closed to sport fishing in the interests of conservation on September 4th. Coho in the Cape Lazo region also reached a good size with some of them in the 17 pound weight range. The largest one was weighed in at 20 pounds 10 ounces.

Weather conditions were unsettled in October and November and sport fishing effort and catch dropped off sharply. A few springs off Big Qualicum River, and grilse around Northwest Bay provided the balance of the limited sport fishery interest to year end.

SALMON CATCH BY MONTHS

|              | <u>Springs</u> | <u>Av. Wt.</u> | <u>Jacks</u> | <u>Coho</u>   | <u>Av. Wt.</u> | <u>Grilse</u> | <u>Pinks</u> |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Jan. to Apr. | 125            | 8              | 125          | 900           | 3              | 2 000         |              |
| May          | 100            | 8              | 50           | 1 250         | 4              | 2 700         |              |
| June         | 150            | 9              | 250          | 3 200         | 4              | 2 200         | 25           |
| July         | 550            | 8              | 900          | 11 050        | 5.5            | 5 250         | 25           |
| August       | 450            | 8              | 550          | 3 450         | 5              | 3 550         | 175          |
| September    | 325            | 8              | 350          | 2 000         | 5.5            | 4 800         | 200          |
| October      | 25             | 8              | 75           | 100           | 8              | 350           |              |
| November     | Few            | 8              | 25           | 25            | 8              | 50            |              |
| December     | 25             | 8              | 25           |               |                | 100           |              |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>1 750</b>   |                | <b>2 350</b> | <b>21 975</b> |                | <b>21 000</b> | <b>425</b>   |

WESTVIEW - POWELL RIVER (AREA 15)

Both effort and catch in this area showed a drop as compared to 1960. An estimated 2,600 boat trips were made during the year, about 1,100 less than in 1960, with total catch dropping to 350 springs, 75 jacks, 1,825 coho, 1,800 grilse and a few pink salmon. This compares with the 800 springs, 250 jacks, 2,300 coho and 4,200 grilse taken in 1960.

Fishing got off to a slow start during the early months of the year with very little activity reported until the advent of warmer weather about the middle of May. Early in June, coho and coho grilse appeared in improved supply in the area and provided fishermen with some good catches off Westview, Powell River, Harwood Island, Texada Island, and from Grief Point to Scotch Fir Point. The supply of coho and coho grilse continued to improve through July and August but fish seemingly were not biting as well, even though the effort showed a substantial increase to a peak of some 1,000 boat trips in July.

For about 3 weeks, starting at mid-July, many fishermen came by small boats from Vancouver Island to fish for large white springs at the head of Bute Inlet. About 75 white springs were taken ranging from 20 - 50 pounds in weight.

Windy weather hampered operations during the normally good fishing months of August and September, and catch showed a corresponding drop. These adverse weather factors continued and were intensified during the late fall months, and only the hardier enthusiasts continued to fish, mostly for springs in the waters off the breakwater ships at Powell River.

SALMON CATCH BY MONTHS

|              | <u>Springs</u> | <u>Av. Wt.</u> | <u>Jacks</u> | <u>Coho</u>  | <u>Av. Wt.</u> | <u>Grilse</u> | <u>Pinks</u> |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Jan. to Apr. | 50             | 6              |              |              |                | 100           |              |
| May          | 25             | 8              |              | 75           | 3              | 350           |              |
| June         | 25             | 8              |              | 175          | 3              | 400           |              |
| July         | 100            | 18             | 50           | 800          | 3              | 450           |              |
| August       | 50             | 6              | 25           | 675          | 3              | 450           | Few          |
| September    | 25             | 6              |              | 75           | 4              | 50            |              |
| October      | 25             | 6              |              | 25           | 4              |               |              |
| November     | 25             | 6              |              |              |                |               |              |
| December     | 25             | 8              |              |              |                |               |              |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>350</b>     |                | <b>75</b>    | <b>1 825</b> |                | <b>1 800</b>  | <b>Few</b>   |

PENDER HARBOUR - SECHELT (AREA 16)

The sport catch in this area was made up of 750 springs, 150 jack springs, 5,900 coho, 250 pink salmon, and 3,050 grilse as compared with the 1960 catch of 1,625 springs, 200 jacks, 5,100 coho and 12,050 grilse. The catch of 750 spring salmon was the lowest on record while the catch of grilse showed a sharp drop largely as the result of the 12" size limit and the prevalence of undersize fish among the available stocks of grilse. The catch of 250 pink salmon was less than half of the cycle year catch of 575 taken in 1959.

During the early month of the year a few winter springs, ranging as high as 21 pounds, were taken in Pender Harbour, but only a limited interest was shown until "bluebacks" (coho) moved into the area toward the end of April.

Better weather, continuing stocks of "bluebacks", and an improvement in the availability of spring salmon all contributed to an increase in sport fishing effort in May. Porpoise Bay in Sechelt Inlet, Thormanby and Lasqueti Islands, and the Pender Harbour region, were all popular during this period. More non-resident vessels, including American pleasure craft, fished the Thormanby Island region during the year. Top award at a Pender Harbour salmon derby was won with a 41 pound "tyee".

July and August were the peak months of sport fishing activity with some 4,000 boat trips made during these two months. Effort ranged throughout the area with large spring salmon taken up mainland inlets, coho and coho grilse around the Thormanby Islands, and at the south end of Texada and Lasqueti Islands. Spring salmon were landed in varying numbers around Pender Harbour. Catches of springs dropped sharply in August while coho increased in availability, particularly in the southern portion of the area. Fishing continued in this vein until the tourist traffic dropped off in September and cooler weather and declining fish stocks discouraged effort. Fishing also eased off due to an increasing number of small undersize grilse around the Thormanby Islands. A 17 pound coho was taken near Pender Harbour in August.

Poor weather and a scarcity of fish resulted in a limited fishing effort during the balance of the year.

SALMON CATCH BY MONTHS

|              | <u>Springs</u> | <u>Av. Wt.</u> | <u>Jacks</u> | <u>Coho</u>  | <u>Av. Wt.</u> | <u>Grilse</u> | <u>Pink</u> |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|-------------|
| Jan. to Apr. | 75             | 10             |              |              |                | 350           |             |
| May          | 75             | 8              | 50           | 275          | 3              | 500           |             |
| June         | 125            | 12             | 25           | 225          | 4              | 100           |             |
| July         | 325            | 12             | 25           | 1 850        | 4              | 650           | 150         |
| August       | 100            | 18             | 50           | 2 400        | 5              | 850           | 100         |
| September    | 25             | 8              |              | 1 150        | 6              | 600           | Few         |
| October      | 25             | 8              | Few          | Few          | 5              |               |             |
| November     | Few            | 5              |              |              |                |               |             |
| December     | Few            | 6              |              |              |                |               |             |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>750</b>     |                | <b>150</b>   | <b>5 900</b> |                | <b>3 050</b>  | <b>250</b>  |

NANAIMO - LADYSMITH - CROFTON (AREA 17).

The estimated sport catch for this area was made up of 500 springs, 900 jack springs, 2,825 coho, 50 pink salmon and 10,400 grilse. Compared to 1960, the catch of coho and grilse dropped by more than 50%. The drop in grilse was largely a result of smaller stocks and the 12" minimum size limit, while the coho catch although about average as compared with previous years, did not compare with the record high catch of coho taken in 1960.

Coho grilse at the southern end of the area around Crofton and Chemainus provided most of the sport fishing interest during the first three months of the year with close to 1,600 grilse landed during this period. Toward the end of March, grilse began to appear further northward, and by the end of April fishing effort was widespread throughout the area. By May it was apparent that the stocks of coho grilse, although widely distributed in the Strait of Georgia, were not as abundant as they were in 1960, with only about 1,150 taken during the month as compared to 5,000 in May, 1960.

Variable catch returns and poor weather on a number of weekends hampered fishermen in more exposed waters during June and July. Coho and coho grilse in comparison to 1960 were in poor supply with only springs and jack springs around Tent Island showing a slight improvement. The numbers of grilse increased in August, the peak month of fishing effort, but many of the grilse were below the 12" size limit. This factor, together with rough waters, reduced catch and general interest in sport fishing even though some 2,100 fisherman days were reported for the month. Variable fishing returns continued into September with coho grilse providing much of the catch. A trend to "mooching" was noted in the Thrasher Rock area.

Fishing in open waters dropped off almost completely in October and interest did not revive until grilse and a few spring salmon were taken in the usual winter fishery in Osborne Bay and around Crofton.

SALMON CATCH BY MONTHS

|              | <u>Springs</u> | <u>Av. Wt.</u> | <u>Jacks</u> | <u>Coho</u>  | <u>Av. Wt.</u> | <u>Grilse</u> | <u>Pinks</u> |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Jan. to Apr. | 100            | 8              | 150          | --           | 3              | 4 100         |              |
| May          | 50             | 8              | 25           | 150          | 3              | 1 150         |              |
| June         | 150            | 8              | 50           | 375          | 4              | 650           |              |
| July         | 100            | 9              | 250          | 750          | 4              | 850           | 25           |
| August       | 25             | 10             | 150          | 1 100        | 4              | 1 050         | 25           |
| September    | 25             | 8              | 225          | 350          | 5              | 750           |              |
| October      | Few            | 6              | 25           | 50           | 5              | 400           |              |
| November     | 25             | 8              | 25           | 25           | 4              | 800           |              |
| December     | 25             | 8              | Few          | 25           | 4              | 650           |              |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>500</b>     |                | <b>900</b>   | <b>2 825</b> |                | <b>10 400</b> | <b>50</b>    |

COWICHAN BAY & MILL BAY AREA OF SAANICH INLET  
(AREA 18)

With the exception of a small increase in the catch of both springs and coho the total catch of salmon in this area made up of 1,975 spring salmon, 1,700 jack springs and 3,900 coho, shows little change from 1960. The catch of grilse dropped from 8,350 to 5,650 with most of this resulting from a reduced catch at Mill Bay where available stocks of grilse were often undersized.

Apart from an intermittent fishery for grilse in January and February, very little effort took place during the first few months of the year. Interest picked up with the advent of favourable weather late in May, but fishing effort was scattered and returns were spotty until toward the end of July. At that time, fishermen began to take a few larger spring salmon in Cowichan Bay as well as grilse, jack spring, coho and spring salmon from both the Gulf Islands and from Mill Bay.

August was the peak month of activity with over 6,000 boat trips reported for the entire area. Spring salmon was the prime attraction with some 900 landed in Cowichan Bay. They averaged 17 pounds and ranged up to the 39 pound 5 ounce "tyee" that took first prize in the Cowichan Bay Salmon Club Spring Salmon Ladder Derby. In order to protect spawning stocks of spring salmon, a closure of a portion of Cowichan Bay was put into effect on September 4th. Even as spring salmon moved up river the first of the coho run was starting to show and by the end of September coho were appearing in quantity. The coho, weighing an average of 10 pounds, were in good supply and continued to provide good fishing returns until late in October, with some 2,350 taken as compared to 1,750 for October, 1960.

A few coho were taken in Cowichan Bay and in Mill Bay early in November, but poor weather conditions and the end of the coho run reduced fishing interest to a low seasonal level. A light grilse fishery provided a limited interest in December.

SALMON CATCH BY MONTHS

|              | <u>Springs</u> | <u>Av. Wt.</u> | <u>Jacks</u> | <u>Coho</u>  | <u>Av. Wt.</u> | <u>Grilse</u> | <u>Pink</u> |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|-------------|
| Jan. to Apr. | 125            | 7              | 150          | 25           | 3              | 650           |             |
| May          | 25             | 6              | 25           | 25           | 4              | 100           |             |
| June         | 25             | 8              | 75           | 25           | 4              | 200           |             |
| July         | 350            | 12             | 575          | 250          | 4              | 900           |             |
| August       | 1 125          | 15             | 525          | 200          | 5              | 1 150         | Few         |
| September    | 225            | 18             | 225          | 550          | 8              | 1 450         |             |
| October      | 50             | 8              | 75           | 2 550        | 10             | 650           |             |
| November     | 25             | 6              | 25           | 275          | 11             | 300           |             |
| December     | 25             | 6              | 25           |              |                | 250           |             |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>1 975</b>   |                | <b>1 700</b> | <b>3 900</b> |                | <b>5 650</b>  |             |

VICTORIA, SOOKE, EAST SHORELINE OF SAANICH & ALL SAANICH  
INLET SOUTH OF BAMBERTON (AREA 19 - 20)

The sport catch of grilse in this area showed a drop of close to 50% while the catch of coho was almost double the low catch taken in 1960. It was also a pink salmon year but the catch was only about a quarter of the previous cycle year catch of 1959. The total catch consisted of 5,175 springs, 8,300 jacks, 6,650 coho, 3,750 pinks and 28,450 grilse. Fishing effort showed a substantial increase, rising to 44,825 boat days.

Supplies of large grilse and periods of good weather attracted enthusiasts to the protected waters of Saanich Inlet during January and February. Catches declined and poor weather conditions prevailed until late in March but interest in fishing was maintained. With the appearance of coho in May, and improved spring salmon catches, effort started to climb again up to the peak month of July when an estimated 7,800 boat trips was reported. All species were in fair supply in July, particularly at the southern end of the Inlet. Both effort and catch started to decline in September. In late October appreciable supplies of winter grilse weighing close to 2 pounds appeared and continued to provide intermittently good fishing interest up to the year end. The catch of coho in Saanich Inlet increased in 1961, but the most pronounced change was the drop in the catch of grilse with most of this attributed to the 12" minimum size limit for grilse, first introduced in August, 1960.

Fishing off Victoria provided good catches early in January, but poor weather and spotty fishing characterized February and March. Effort increased in May, but returns were light until spring salmon started to appear in quantity at Beechey Head. Spring salmon continued to provide the bulk of June landings around Oak Bay even though the best catches were made between Sooke and Pedder Bay. Effort increased sharply in July with some 700 spring salmon and 1,000 pink salmon taken by an estimated 4,260 boat trips made during the month. Pink salmon and coho increased in abundance during August providing sport fishing interest that extended into early September when catches showed a sharp reduction. After this interest dropped, effort declined to a seasonal low in November. Spring salmon attracted the interest of hardier enthusiasts toward year end.

SALMON CATCH BY MONTHS

|              | <u>Springs</u> | <u>Av. Wt.</u> | <u>Jacks</u> | <u>Coho</u>  | <u>Av. Wt.</u> | <u>Grilse</u> | <u>Pinks</u> |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Jan. to Apr. | 675            | 10             | 975          | --           |                | 10 100        |              |
| May          | 275            | 10             | 575          | 150          | 3              | 1 800         |              |
| June         | 625            | 11             | 1 050        | 175          | 4              | 1 000         |              |
| July         | 1 725          | 11             | 3 300        | 2 175        | 4              | 3 350         | 1 000        |
| August       | 1 300          | 9              | 1 800        | 3 225        | 6              | 3 250         | 2 500        |
| September    | 125            | 8              | 275          | 625          | 7              | 1 450         | 250          |
| October      | 175            | 9              | 125          | 300          | 7              | 2 750         |              |
| November     | 100            | 9              | 75           | Few          |                | 2 700         |              |
| December     | 175            | 10             | 125          | --           |                | 2 050         |              |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>5 175</b>   |                | <b>8 300</b> | <b>6 650</b> |                | <b>28 450</b> | <b>3 750</b> |

PORT ALBERNI - ALBERNI INLET  
(Areas 21, 22, 23)

Sport fishermen caught a total of 1,375 spring salmon in this area during the year, an increase of 175 over the 1960 catch. Ranging in weight from 10 to 54 pounds and averaging 30 pounds, these large spring salmon overshadowed the catch of other species, both in numbers and importance. The catch of other species also increased with 350 jack springs and 275 coho taken as compared with the 1960 catch of 150 jacks and 225 coho.

Sport fishing in this area is primarily conducted at Port Alberni, along Alberni Inlet, at Nahmint Bay, and to a lesser degree in Trevor Channel near Bamfield. There is also a small fishery at Uchucklesit Inlet and Toquart Bay. This season salmon held further down Alberni Inlet than usual, with less fishing at Port Alberni and along the 12 miles of Alberni Inlet to Nahmint Bay. Following the usual pattern, fishing commenced late in July, but only a few springs were caught. In August sports fishermen made some 1,950 boat trips and landed over 400 large springs, mostly in Alberni Inlet. Effort was heavier in September, and approximately 2,725 boat trips were made, for a catch of close to 900 spring salmon, or more than double the August catch. Nahmint Bay was closed on September 17th to allow the required escapement to Nahmint River, a preferred spawning ground for these valuable "tyee" salmon. Port Alberni Harbour was closed on October 1st to afford the necessary protection to the large, ripening spring salmon idling at the Somass River mouth awaiting the most favourable time and conditions to ascend to their spawning grounds. While the larger portion of Alberni Inlet remains open to sports fishing following the Harbour closure, sports fishermen generally concede the Inlet to the spawning stock of salmon after the end of September.

Some good fishing was enjoyed in Trevor Channel off Bamfield, but the effort by sportsmen was light. The catch included coho and springs.

SALMON CATCH BY MONTHS

|              | <u>Springs</u> | <u>Av. Wt</u> | <u>Jacks</u> | <u>Coho</u> | <u>Av. Wt.</u> |
|--------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|
| Jan. to Apr. |                |               |              |             |                |
| May          |                |               |              |             |                |
| June         |                |               |              | Few         |                |
| July         | Few            | 30            |              | Few         |                |
| August       | 450            | 30            | 100          | 75          | 8              |
| September    | 900            | 30            | 250          | 175         | 8              |
| October      | 25             | 25            | Few          | 25          | 10             |
| November     |                |               |              |             |                |
| December     |                |               |              |             |                |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>1 375</b>   |               | <b>350</b>   | <b>275</b>  |                |

**NOOTKA SOUND - ZEBALLOS - GOLD & BURMAN RIVERS  
(Area 25)**

The average catch of salmon in the special angling licence area of Gold & Burman Rivers rose to almost 1 1/2 fish per licensee as compared with just under 1 fish per license holder in 1960. Both effort and catch showing an increase with 230 licenses taken out during the special angling season (June 1 to October 31) as compared with 178 in 1960, while the catch climbed to 337 salmon compared to the 170 spring salmon in 1960. There were proportionately more small springs, however, with the average weight of springs dropping from 29 pounds down to 19 1/2 even though 113 or a third of the fish were 30 pounds and over in weight and the largest fish were weighed in at 55, 53 and 50 pounds, compared to the 50 pound "tyee" that took top honors the previous year.

The number of licensees increased by 52 with most of this due to the increase in number of U.S. sport fishermen which rose from 9 in 1960 to 52 in 1961. The special angling license area was closed to sport fishing on August 27.

**GOLD & BURMAN RIVERS SPECIAL LICENSE AREA CATCH BY WEEKS**

| Week Ending | Number of Springs<br>landed | Number of Springs<br>30 pounds & over |
|-------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| July 22     | 3                           | -                                     |
| July 29     | 22                          | 7                                     |
| Aug. 5      | 43                          | 18                                    |
| Aug. 12     | 116                         | 29                                    |
| Aug. 19     | 53                          | 21                                    |
| Aug. 26     | 80                          | 31                                    |
| Sept 2      | 20                          | 7                                     |
|             | <u>337</u>                  | <u>113</u>                            |

Elsewhere in the area effort was limited. In May, a few springs averaging about 12 pounds were taken out of Tahsis Narrows and from Mooyah Bay. Fishermen went further afield in the succeeding month taking coho off Nootka, and from the vicinity of Zeballos, but Tahsis Narrows continued to provide most of the interest. The summary of the catch for the entire area is shown below.

**SALMON CATCH BY MONTHS**

|              | <u>Springs</u> | <u>Av. Wt.</u> | <u>Jacks</u> | <u>Coho</u> | <u>Av. Wt.</u> | <u>Grilse</u> |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|
| Jan. to Apr. | Few            | -              |              |             |                | 50            |
| May          | 25             | 12             |              |             |                | 50            |
| June         | 25             | 11             |              |             |                |               |
| July         | 150            | 20             | 50           | 25          | 6              |               |
| August       | 350            | 19             | 100          | 75          | 7              | 50            |
| September    | 100            | 8              |              | 50          | 5              |               |
| October      | Few            |                | 25           | 75          |                |               |
| November     |                |                |              |             |                |               |
| December     |                |                |              |             |                |               |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>650</b>     |                | <b>175</b>   | <b>225</b>  |                | <b>150</b>    |

VANCOUVER - HOWE SOUND - FRASER RIVER (DISTRICT 1)

This was a pink salmon year and sport fishermen caught a total of 20,025 as compared with 18,800 taken during the previous cycle year of 1959. Coho also returned in volume with 12,975 taken, the best catch reported since 1958. The catch of spring salmon continuing practically unchanged from the low level experienced in 1960. The catch was made up of 3,725 springs, 5,750 jacks, 12,975 coho, 20,025 pink salmon and 28,150 grilse.

"Mooching" for spring salmon in the Horseshoe Bay area was the main fishing activity during the early months of 1961. Activity increased in April and by the end of the month springs and jack springs were being taken in English Bay, Ambleside, Horseshoe Bay and along the southern shore of Bowen Island with best catches in the area from Horseshoe Bay to Sunset Beach in Howe Sound.

In May, catches were generally light with spring salmon below average in abundance. The normal seasonal decline occurred during the month of June and combined with discoloration from the Fraser River runoff produced very poor catches. In early July fishing improved with springs, jack springs and coho taken off the south shore of Bowen Island. Large springs in the 30 to 40 pound class, bound for the Squamish River system, also appeared in the Britannia Beach area. Coho fishing continued to provide good returns throughout the month, particularly in the outside waters of Howe Sound and off the mouth of the Capilano River at Ambleside. By the end of the month pinks were showing up in abundance and good catches were taken.

Fishing activity in lower Howe Sound, Ambleside, and off the mouth of the Indian River reached its peak in August, with the bulk of the catch made up of pink salmon bound for Indian River and to the Squamish River system. The Britannia Beach fishery for large springs tapered off by mid-August. Pink catches dropped off at the end of the month as the runs migrated to their parent streams, while coho catches improved with the arrival of fresh runs. In early September, coho fishing was at its best with catches being taken at Roberts Creek, Gower Point, Salmon Rock and the south shore of Bowen Island. Point Grey also produced coho and jack springs. Grilse were present in large numbers during the month. However, the majority were under legal size.

On the tidal section of the Fraser River extending up to the Mission bridge, sport fishing on the bars reached its peak in October with the bulk of the catch made up of grilse (coho jacks).

SALMON CATCHES BY MONTHS

|              | <u>Springs</u> | <u>Av. Wt.</u> | <u>Jacks</u> | <u>Coho</u>   | <u>Av. Wt.</u> | <u>Grilse</u> | <u>Pinks</u>  |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Jan. to Apr. | 400            | 7              | 500          | Few           |                | 1 200         |               |
| May          | 475            | 7              | 425          | 25            | 3              | 450           |               |
| June         | 325            | 7              | 700          | 25            | 4              | 400           | Few           |
| July         | 1 200          | 9              | 1 375        | 2 325         | 5              | 3 100         | 2 650         |
| August       | 800            | 8              | 1 425        | 6 950         | 6              | 3 700         | 16 950        |
| September    | 325            | 9              | 875          | 2 475         | 6              | 6 200         | 425           |
| October      | 100            | 9              | 300          | 1 150         | 7              | 11 800        |               |
| November     | 50             | 7              | 75           | 25            | 5              | 950           |               |
| December     | 50             | 7              | 75           |               |                | 350           |               |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>3 725</b>   |                | <b>5 750</b> | <b>12 975</b> |                | <b>28 150</b> | <b>20 025</b> |

## O T H E R   A R E A S

On the west coast of Vancouver Island and along the mainland coastline to the north of Bute Inlet the tidal sport fishery is of relatively minor importance in relation to the sport fishery in the Strait of Georgia, or as compared to the important commercial salmon fishery that flourishes in these sparsely populated sections of the British Columbia coastline. A few localities, such as Rivers Inlet, provide such outstanding sport fishing as to attract both resident and many non-resident, including Americans, despite transportation and other problems of isolation, but these are the exception. A brief review of the 1961 sport fishery in these areas is given below.

### WEST COAST VANCOUVER ISLAND (Areas 24, 26 and 27)

An increased number of non-residents fished the protected waters around Tofino in 1961 as a result of improved road access from Port Alberni. Fish, however, were not plentiful during the tourist season, with most of the catch in this region taken throughout the year by local Indians for food. The total catch in Area 24 was made up of 100 springs and jacks, 150 coho, and 250 coho grilse.

In the upper west coast, sport fishermen on a few passing boats tried their luck in the waters off Kyuquot but weather conditions were unfavourable at that time and the catch returns were light. The few local enthusiasts, both in Kyuquot and in Quatsino Sound, had only sporadic success during the year. The small overall catch showed a few more coho taken than in the previous year.

### QUEEN CHARLOTTE ISLANDS (Areas 1 and 2)

Most of the salmon sport fishing at the northern end of Graham Island was carried out from wharves, docks and in the estuarial zones of rivers emptying into Masset Inlet and into McIntyre Bay. Coho and coho jack made up the bulk of this catch. Approximately 150 coho averaging close to 10 pounds were taken, together with coho jacks and a few springs and pink salmon. Beginning in mid-August coho in the Tlell River attracted many enthusiasts with some 800 coho and 250 coho grilse taken before heavy rains discouraged effort in October. The coho averaged over 10 pounds and ranged up to a high of 20 pounds. About a quarter of the fishermen were from the United States. The weather was also a factor in the coho fishery at Copper Bay on Moresby Island, with about 275 coho and 50 coho grilse taken in October. About 225 coho and 50 coho grilse were landed in September. These coho averaged about 15 pounds but many were in the 17 - 18 pound range, with the largest one weighed in at 21 pounds 7 ounces.

### PRINCE RUPERT (Area 4)

Spring salmon averaging about 18 pounds appeared in the Prince Rupert harbour area about the middle of January and provided sport for local fishermen until early June. The best catches were made in early March, April and May, with effort spreading out to include Metlakatla Pass, Hunts Inlet and the entrance to Tucks Pass. A 38 pounder was landed in March, but the largest spring salmon weighing 48 pounds 2 ounces, was taken in the first week of May from Prince Rupert harbour. A few coho were taken in July, August and September with the overall catch for the area consisting of some 150 springs and 50 coho.

OTHER AREAS .....continued

KITIMAT - BUTEDALE (Area 6)

Starting in February there was an intermittent effort carried out for spring salmon at Kitimat and round Kemano and later at Fishtrap Bay. About 100 springs were taken up to the end of April. Spring salmon continued to provide most of the interest during the year, although coho were also taken during July and August, the peak months of fishing effort and catch. During these months much of the catch was taken in the tidal water section of the Kitimat River. The estimated total catch was made up of 300 springs and 150 coho.

BELLA BELLA, OCEAN FALLS, BELLA COOLA (Areas 7 and 8)

Coho moving into Gullchuck Harbour (Kajudis Harbour) late in July provided most of the limited sport fishing interest in this area up to late August. In September and October fishermen from Ocean Falls and Bella Bella found larger coho in Roscoe Inlet, with a 17 pounder caught off the mouth of the Noota River.

Ocean falls fishermen also had some success with spring salmon in the harbour area early in the year, with catches increasing until June when about 100 springs averaging 18 pounds were taken. Later in the year, Jenny Bay and Wallace Bay were the most productive areas. Coho appeared in July with about 100, averaging slightly over 10 pounds, taken in Jenny Inlet, Frenchmen's Creek, Cousins Inlet and lower Dean Channel.

NASS RIVER, GRENVILLE-PRINCIPE, SMITH INLET (Areas 3, 5 and 10)

At the upper end of Portland Canal local residents from Stewart fished off the mouth of the Bear River taking a few spring salmon during the early months of the year. The usual coho fishery in October and November did not materialize due to high waters. In Area 5, Grenville Channel - Principe Channel, the limited sport fishery was almost exclusively a food fishery by local Indians. Further to the south in Area 10, Wyclese Lagoon was the site of a small sport fishery. A few spring salmon averaging 35 pounds, and coho in the 8 - 10 pound bracket made up the light catch.

A P P E N D I X I

GENERAL SPORT FISH SURVEY - AUGUST 6, 1961.

INTRODUCTION

General one-day surveys covering tidal sport fishing activity in the major coastal sport fishing regions of British Columbia have been carried out since 1957. The 1961 survey was carried out on Sunday, August 6, so as to provide an opportunity to sample sport fishing activity during a representative weekend day during the peak sport fishing month of the year. These surveys provide a cross section of tidal sport fishing effort and catch, and supplement various estimates of effort and catch obtained from other sources. They also provide valuable information on the trends in the recreational utilization of the salmon fishery of the southern coastal waters of British Columbia.

ORGANIZATION AND SCOPE

The 1961 survey was similar to those conducted in previous years and included:

- (1) An aerial boat count of sport fishing boats in all areas except Area 21-23, Port Alberni, where the survey was delayed until August 27th so as to coincide with the early stages of the annual "tyee" fishing season in Alberni Inlet.
- (2) Departmental personnel issued a total of 1,027 questionnaires on a random basis to persons who fished on the survey day. The name and address of all persons receiving questionnaires was recorded, with only one person in a boat receiving a questionnaire.
- (3) Boat rental operators co-operated with Fishery Officers and provided information on effort and catch by fishermen renting boats on the survey day.
- (4) Resident Fishery Officers prepared and compiled special reports assessing and estimating the sport fishing effort and catch in their area.

QUESTIONNAIRE ISSUE AND RETURNS

A total of 952 questionnaires were issued on August 6th and a further 75 were issued in Port Alberni on August 27th for a total of 1,027. Questionnaires were returned by 45% of the sport fishermen within 10 days. At that time, a reminder was mailed out to the persons who had not sent in their questionnaires, bringing in an additional 30%. The overall average was a 75% return with the response by areas ranging from a low of 60% in Area 16 to a high of 90% in Area 15.

ESTIMATE OF BOAT TRIPS ON THE SURVEY DAY & SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS BY AREA

A total of 1,933 boats were counted from the air during the first flight which began in Nanaimo at 5:45 A.M. and covered the Vancouver Island shoreline north to Discovery Passage and then doubled back south along the mainland to Howe Sound, across to Victoria and Sooke, and terminating at Nanaimo at 11:45 A.M. The second flight was made in the afternoon and evening which retraced most of the previous flight and resulted in a count of 1,018 sport fishing boats. No aerial count was made in Area 21 - 23.

In addition to the aerial count and the estimate of effort by Fishery Officers, individuals were asked on their questionnaires to state the time that they started and stopped fishing. This information tabulated and graphed served as an aid in compiling and correlating information from all sources for an overall estimate of 3,950 sport fishing boat trips made in the areas covered on the August 6th survey day.

Out of the 774 questionnaires returned, 35 or 4 1/2% could not be used, leaving a total of 739 available for analysis, with 148 of these representing information from persons using rental boats and 591 from persons who either owned or were on privately owned boats on the survey day. The size of the sample in each area in relation to the estimated boat trips for the survey day is shown in Table I.

TABLE 1  
SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS BY AREA

| AREA              | No. of Quest. | Estimated Boat Trips on survey day | Sample as % of Total Trips | Av. No. persons per boat | Av. No. of Hours Fished per boat | Percentage distribution of sample by home address on Questionnaire |              |        |                  |            |
|-------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--------------|--------|------------------|------------|
|                   |               |                                    |                            |                          |                                  | Within Area %  | Other B.C. % | U.S. % | Other Canadian % | Not Used % |
| 13                | 104           | 305                                | 34                         | 2.4                      | 4.9                              | 36   | 14           | 46     | 3                | 1          |
| 14                | 127           | 540                                | 24                         | 2.2                      | 4.2                              | 73   | 14           | 10     | 1                | 2          |
| 15                | 28            | 65                                 | 43                         | 2.3                      | 4.0                              | 89   | --           | 4      | -                | 7          |
| 16                | 28            | 160                                | 17                         | 2.9                      | 5.7                              | 7  | 82           | 11     | -                | -          |
| 17                | 73            | 230                                | 32                         | 2.8                      | 3.6                              | 77   | 13           | 7      | -                | 3          |
| 18                | 47            | 250                                | 19                         | 2.2                      | 4.1                              | 89   | 2            | 5      | 2                | 2          |
| *19A              | 45            | 425                                | 11                         | 2.7                      | 5.0                              | 98   | 2            | -      | -                | -          |
| *19B-20           | 72            | 500                                | 14                         | 2.1                      | 5.0                              | 94   | --           | -      | -                | 6          |
| Dist. 1           | 169           | 1 475                              | 11                         | 2.4                      | 4.7                              | 95   | 4            | -      | -                | 1          |
| Sub-Total         | 693           | 3 950                              | 18                         | 2.4                      | 4.5                              |  |              |        |                  |            |
| 21-23 (Aug 27/61) | 46            | 150                                | 31                         | 2.3                      | 5.1                              | 78   | 11           | 7      |                  | 4          |
| TOTAL             | 739           | 4 100                              | 18                         | 2.4                      | 4.6                              |  |              |        |                  |            |

\* 19A: refers to Saanich Inlet; 19B - 20: refers to Victoria - Sooke

Local fishermen living within each of the statistical areas made up three-quarters of the fishermen in all but two areas. In Area 16 most of the fishermen were from the Vancouver area, while in Area 13 the single largest group was made up of U.S. sport fishermen who made up 46% of the total. Local inhabitants made up only about a third of the total sport fishermen in this area on the survey day.

CATCH RESULTS

Coho fishing in Area 16 provided the best catch returns followed by the combined catch of coho and pink salmon in Area 19B - 20, District I, and Area 13. The best catch returns for the day were reported from the waters north-west of the Thormanby Islands and from around Lasqueti Island. Some of the fishermen in this region reported near limit catches.

In comparison to the catch per boat day during the 1960 survey, the catch of grilse in Table 2 shows a sharp drop.

No consistent relationship prevailed in the comparative catch success of private versus rental boat fishermen.

TABLE 2. AVERAGE CATCH OF SALMON & GRILSE PER BOAT, AUGUST 6, 1961 (\* August 27 for Area 21 - 23)

| AREA                    | CATCH OF SALMON           |                        |                        |                        |                                | Catch of salmon<br>grilse<br>3 lbs. and<br>under | Average<br>catch of<br>salmon &<br>grilse per<br>boat day |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|
|                         | Springs<br>over<br>5 lbs. | Jacks<br>3 - 5<br>lbs. | Coho<br>over<br>3 lbs. | Pink<br>over<br>3 lbs. | Total<br>Salmon<br>over 3 lbs. |  |   |
| 13 CAMPBELL RIVER       | .18                       | .03                    | .90                    | .02                    | 1.13                           | .59  | 1.72  |
| 14 COMOX-COURTENAY      | .10                       | .10                    | .43                    | .02                    | .65                            | .32  | .97   |
| 15 WESTVIEW             | .07                       | -                      | .31                    | --                     | .38                            | .46  | .84   |
| 16 PENDER HARBOUR       | .44                       | .06                    | 3.08                   | .22                    | 3.80                           | 1.37   | 5.17  |
| 17 NANAIMO              | .04                       | .11                    | .33                    | --                     | .48                            | 1.11   | 1.59  |
| 18 COWICHAN BAY         | .26                       | .04                    | --                     | --                     | .30                            | .04  | .34   |
| 19A SAANICH INLET       | .16                       | .26                    | .17                    | --                     | .59                            | .40  | .99   |
| 19B-20 VICTORIA-SOOKE   | .28                       | .07                    | .35                    | .46                    | 1.16                           | .37  | 1.53  |
| *21-23 PORT ALBERNI     | .33                       | .07                    | .13                    | --                     | .53                            | --   | .53   |
| Dist. 1 VANC-HOWE SOUND | .13                       | .09                    | .41                    | .33                    | .96                            | .46  | 1.42  |

Table 5 further bears out the catch success in Area 16, with only 21% of the boats in that area reported as having no catch of salmon or grilse on the survey day. This contrasts with a 74% nil catch in Area 18. In Area 16, 43% of the 28 boats from which questionnaire information was received brought in 5 or more fish accounting for 84% of the total catch in the sample group for that area.

TABLE 3 QUESTIONNAIRES GROUPED BY THE NUMBER OF FISH CAUGHT PER BOAT SHOWING THE PERCENTAGE OF BOATS AND CATCH IN EACH OF THESE GROUPS

| AREA    | PERCENTAGE GROUPING BY NUMBER OF FISH CAUGHT PER BOAT |            |           |            |           |                |           |
|---------|---|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|
|         | No Catch  | 1 - 2 fish |           | 3 - 4 fish |           | 5 or more fish |           |
|         | % of Boats  | % of Boats | % of Fish | % of Boats | % of Fish | % of Boats     | % of Fish |
| 13      | 44  | 34         | 24        | 11         | 24        | 11             | 52        |
| 14      | 54  | 32         | 43        | 11         | 43        | 3              | 14        |
| 15      | 54  | 39         | 54        | --         | --        | 7              | 46        |
| 16      | 21  | 14         | 3         | 22         | 13        | 43             | 84        |
| 17      | 48  | 28         | 25        | 15         | 31        | 9              | 44        |
| 18      | 74  | 26         | 100       | --         | --        | --             | --        |
| 19A     | 56  | 36         | 49        | 4          | 14        | 4              | 37        |
| 19B     | 32  | 46         | 39        | 18         | 39        | 4              | 22        |
| 21-23   | 70  | 24         | 46        | 4          | 27        | 2              | 27        |
| Dist. 1 | 50  | 27         | 28        | 17         | 41        | 6              | 31        |

ESTIMATE OF TOTAL CATCH FOR THE DAY

Based on information given on questionnaires and from all other related sources, approximately 9,480 sport fishermen caught an estimated 630 spring salmon, 385 jack spring, 1,690 coho, 750 pink salmon and 1,800 salmon grilse. This catch was taken during the course an estimated 3,950 boat trips made on August 6th.

SURVEY LIMITATIONS

The primary consideration in a one-day survey of this type is to ensure that the sample of questionnaires is representative of all effort and catch that took place during the course of the day. This presented problems during this survey due to the widespread nature of effort, as well as due to the changing pattern of effort as influenced by weather and by variability in catch success between adjoining areas. Primary reliance was placed on issuing sufficient questionnaires at larger moorages and rentals so that an adequate basis could be established for interpolation of data.

TABLE 1  
QUESTIONNAIRES GROUPED BY THE NUMBER OF BOATS AND CATCH  
PER BOAT SHOWING THE PERCENTAGE OF BOATS AND CATCH  
ON EACH OF 10 PERCENTAGES

| No. of boats | 1-2 boats    |            | 3-4 boats    |            | 5 or more boats |            |
|--------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|-----------------|------------|
|              | No. of boats | % of total | No. of boats | % of total | No. of boats    | % of total |
| 10           | 10           | 25         | 11           | 28         | 12              | 30         |
| 14           | 14           | 35         | 15           | 38         | 16              | 40         |
| 18           | 18           | 45         | 19           | 48         | 20              | 50         |
| 22           | 22           | 55         | 23           | 58         | 24              | 60         |
| 26           | 26           | 65         | 27           | 68         | 28              | 70         |
| 30           | 30           | 75         | 31           | 78         | 32              | 80         |
| 34           | 34           | 85         | 35           | 88         | 36              | 90         |
| 38           | 38           | 95         | 39           | 98         | 40              | 100        |
| 42           | 42           | 100        | 43           | 100        | 44              | 100        |
| 46           | 46           | 100        | 47           | 100        | 48              | 100        |
| 50           | 50           | 100        | 51           | 100        | 52              | 100        |

APPENDIX II

FRASER RIVER BAR FISHERY SURVEY - OCTOBER 15, 1961

During the fall months the banks and sand bars of the Fraser River are the site of an extensive sport fishery. Although fishing is carried on year round most of the effort takes place in September and October and accordingly the 1961 survey was carried out on October 15. A total of 180 questionnaires were issued to sport fishermen along the tidal section of the river which extends upstream to the tidal boundary at the Mission Bridge. A third of the questionnaires were returned within 10 days and at that time a reminder letter was sent which brought in an additional response for a total return of 133 or 74%. An estimated 1,000 persons fished this section of the river during the day.

Half of the people providing information were out on the rivers edge by 6 AM with over 75% of the fishermen continuing their activity from 9 AM to 4 PM. The catch averaged .85 fish per person with jack coho accounting for over half the catch. As usual a few fishermen caught most of the fish with 13% of the fishermen accounting for 49% of the catch of salmon. No salmon were reported by 67% of the sample.

The bar fishery was the only fishing carried out in 1961 by 45% of the fishermen in the sample. Another 19% reported that they had fished in open ocean waters and in non tidal waters as well. The remaining 36% reported fishing in either ocean or non tidal waters in addition to their bar fishing.

The 1,000 sport fishermen along the river caught an estimated 690 jack coho during the day with this total including a minor percentage of jack springs. Only a few coho weighing over 3 pounds were landed.