

### **Coho season – marine areas (UPDATED)**

Salmon forecasts indicate Puget Sound coho stocks are expected to be low in several rivers, including the Skagit, Stillaguamish and Snohomish. WDFW likely will need to restrict fisheries to protect the limited number of wild coho returning this year. The department is looking at various options to ensure enough coho return to spawn while still providing fishing opportunities. Those options include:

- Allowing anglers to keep only hatchery coho in areas where wild fish retention was previously permitted.
- Closing or shortening the length of various Puget Sound marine area fisheries, including **closing Marine Areas 8-1 and 8-2 from August through October.**
- Altering daily limits.
- Implementing catch-and-release fisheries.

Peak months for returning coho are September through October. WDFW is seeking input on ways to prioritize fisheries during those months to protect coho while still offering limited opportunities.