# 2017 Salmon Season Setting
# NORTH of FALCON

## 2017 Puget Sound Salmon Forecasts: Sockeye, Chum and Pink

### Sockeye

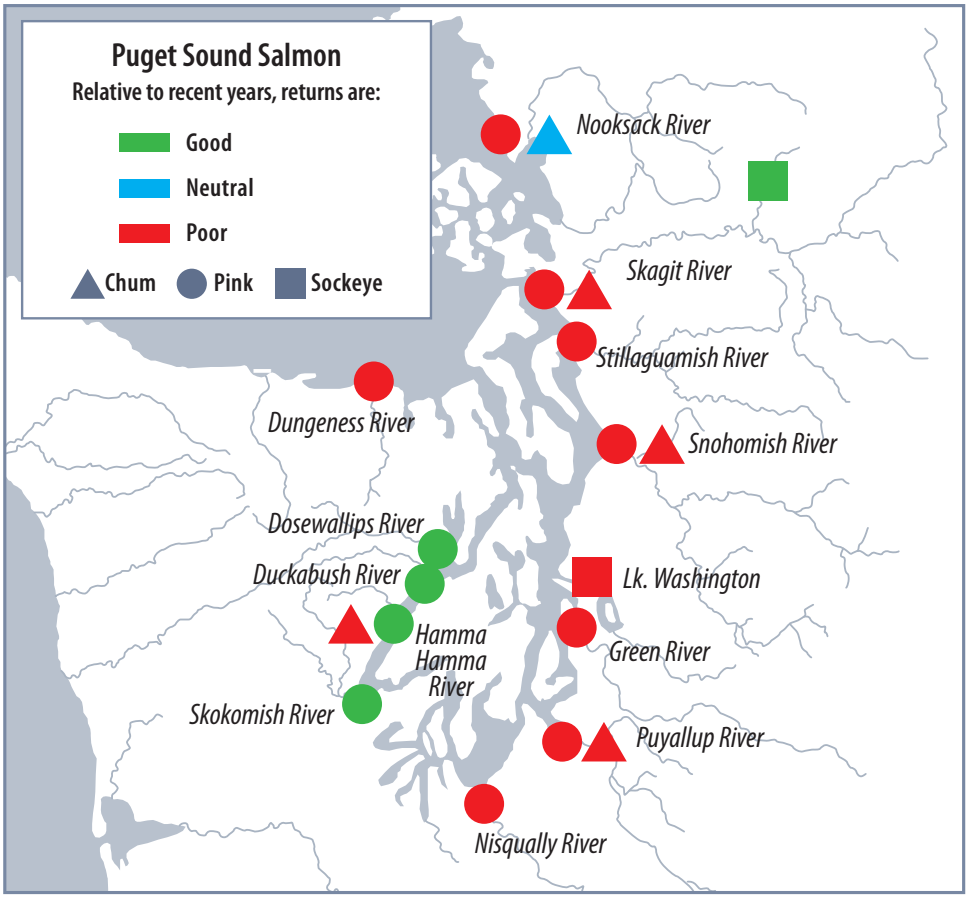
- The forecast for Baker Lake sockeye is 47,000 fish, which is about 25 percent above the recent five year average.
- A fishery is unlikely in Lake Washington, where only 77,300 sockeye are expected to return this year, continuing about a decade of poor returns.

### Chum

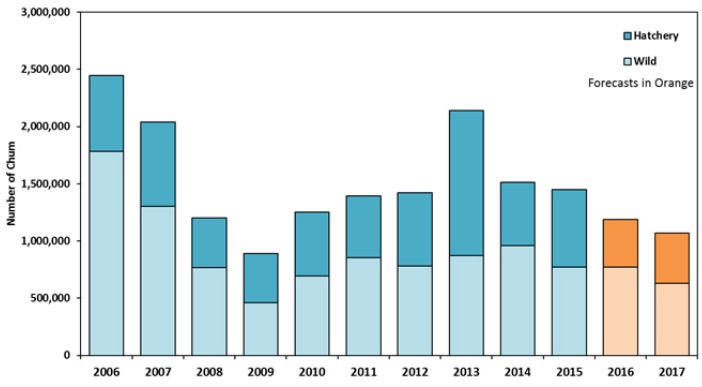
- The overall forecast for Puget Sound wild chum is down 32 percent from the recent 10 year average and the hatchery chum forecast is down 33 percent.
- The major areas that support fisheries are Hood Canal and South Sound. The Hood Canal forecast is about 493,000 and the forecast for South Sound is 433,000. Both are down about 30 percent from the 10 year average.
- Several rivers, including the Skagit, Stillaguamish, and Snohomish, are expected to have very low returns of chum, similar to the last several years.

### Pink

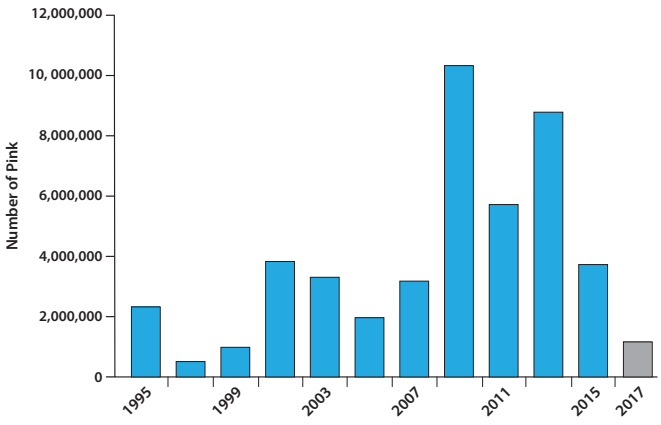
- The total forecast for Puget Sound pink salmon is 1.15 million, which is 82 percent lower than the previous 10-year period.




- Some rivers, such as the Skagit, Stillaguamish and Dungeness , are not forecast to meet escapement goals.
- The low number of pink salmon returning is likely due to poor conditions in Puget Sound rivers in 2015 and marine areas in 2016.




**Previous chum returns and forecasts**




**Previous pink returns and forecasts**

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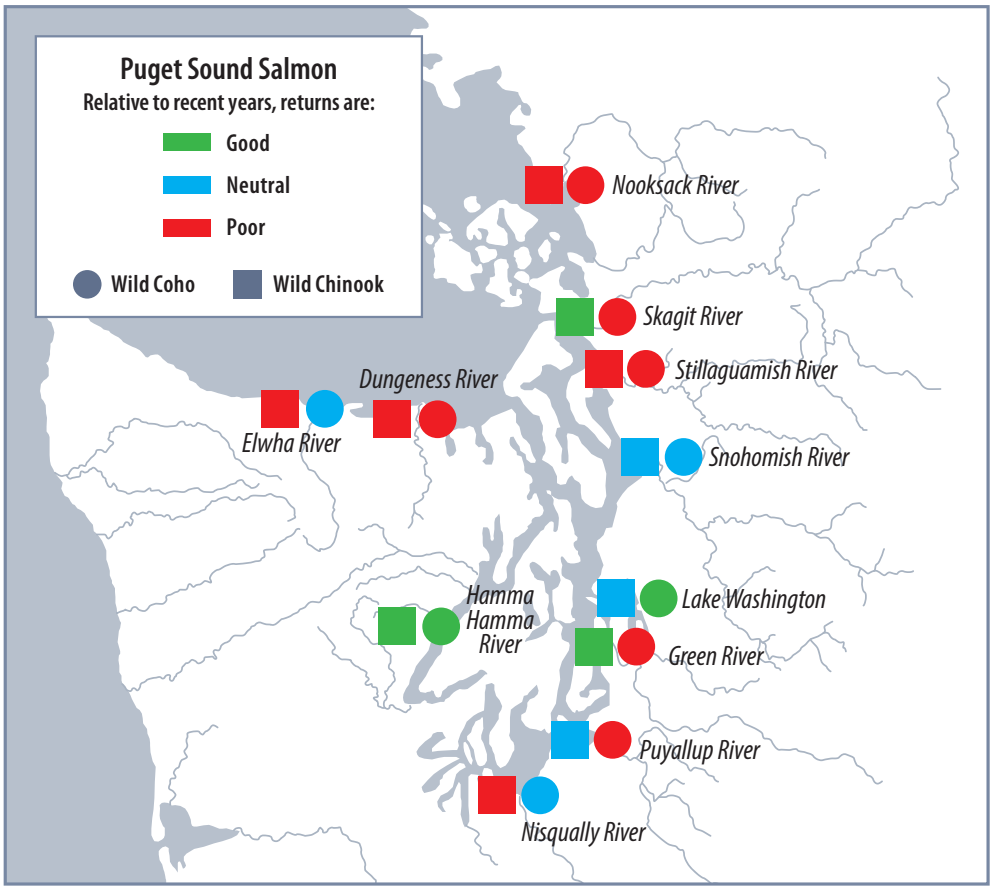
## 2017 Puget Sound Salmon Forecasts: Coho and Chinook

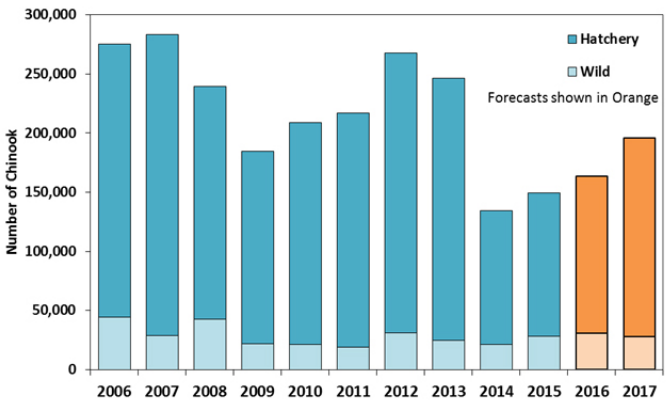
### Chinook

- The forecast of 166,235 hatchery chinook is up 27 percent from the 2016 forecast and is very close to the recent five-year average.
- The return of wild chinook is expected to be 27,918, which is down 10 percent from the 2016 forecast. Returns of wild chinook will constrain fisheries – including those targeting hatchery fish – in some areas.

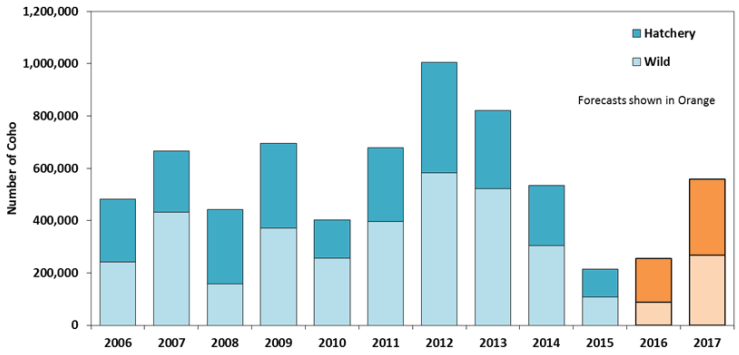
### Coho

- Puget Sound wild coho are up considerably over 2016, when wild coho were forecast to return in historically low numbers. This year's return is similar to the 10-year average.
- Skagit and Stillaguamish coho are expected to return in very low numbers, which will mean fishing will be limited in those areas.
- The forecast for Puget Sound hatchery coho is up 73 percent over last year.




**Puget Sound hatchery vs wild chinook forecasts and recent returns.**




**Puget Sound coho returns with forecasts**

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