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**Mcclellan, Barbara A (DFW)**

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**From:** Willapa Bay (DFW)  
**Sent:** Friday, August 23, 2024 9:14 AM  
**Subject:** 2024 Willapa Bay Fisheries Update - Week 33 Aug 12 - 18  
**Attachments:** 2024 WB Marine Area Recreational Catch Estimate Summary Draft 08.22.2024.pdf;  
Naselle Hatchery Adult CHK Summary 08.22.2024.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hello Everyone,

If you have any questions or comments regarding any of the information provided through these emails for the 2024 salmon season, please reply to this email and/or contact the regional staff directly at the Montesano office (360-249-4628).

### **Recreational Marine Area Fishery**

Since our update last week, there has been a significant increase in effort and catch for statistical week 33, August 12 – 18, 2024. The highest effort (in terms of vessels), number of anglers, and catch were all reported on the same day, Thursday, August 15. For week 33, the week started with early morning high tides but moved to an early afternoon high tide by the end of the weekend, however, there were small tidal exchanges between low and high tides. There were 85 hatchery Chinook salmon reported by staff caught in this statistical week from August 12 – 18 as well as four hatchery coho retained. There were also 27 natural origin Chinook released during this same week. (See *attachment: 2024 WB Marine Area Recreational Catch Estimate Summary Draft 08.22.2024.pdf*)

For this week August 19 – 25, there are minus tides at low water with large high tides and big tidal exchange between the two tides each day. Starting today August 23 through August 27 there will be a morning high tide, which is the most favorable for Willapa Bay marine area salmon fishing. Even though there are still some minus low water tides for the next few days, these next few days will likely be the most fishable tides for recreational salmon fishing in the month of August because of the tidal series.

If you are interested in any data collected by the Ocean Sampling Program for Ocean Areas 1- 4, you can find those data on our website at [Ocean sport salmon quota report | Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife](#)

### **Spawning Ground Surveys**

Staff started weekly stream surveys on August 1 below the weir in Nemah and Naselle rivers. We have observed roughly 208 live Chinook salmon staging in the Naselle River and 76 live Chinook staging in the Nemah River. At this point, we have not observed any spawning or redds in either of these river sections. Historically, Chinook salmon begin spawning in Willapa Bay rivers the middle of September.

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## **Hatchery Chinook Rack Returns**

### Naselle River Hatchery

To-date, 146 adult and 0 jack hatchery Chinook salmon have volunteered into the attraction channel and recruited into the hatchery. This is significantly lower than last year at this time, approximately 40.1% of last year at this point. There have also been ten unmarked, Chinook salmon that have volunteered into the hatchery to-date. Seven were male Chinook and three were female Chinook. All ten fish have been planted upstream above the hatchery. There has also been three male, and six female Chinook salmon mortalities reported in the Naselle Hatchery last week from August 1 – 22, 2024. These data will be updated in the next weekly in-season email. (See attachment: *Naselle Hatchery Adult CHK Summary 08.22.2024.pdf*)

### Nemah and Forks Creek hatcheries

To-date, no fall Chinook have entered Nemah or Forks Creek hatcheries.

## **Commercial Fishery**

The commercial fishery in Willapa Bay had a 12-hour opener on August 17 and August 21 at the south end of the bay using tangle net gear in Areas 2N, 2M, and 2R. Twenty boats participated in this fishery on August 17 and seven boats participated on August 21. There were 910 hatchery Chinook salmon, 11 coho, and 1 Chum landed from the fishery for both days combined. The fleet has accrued a total of 30 local, natural origin (NOR) Chinook impacts and combined, this is 7.1% of the preseason NOR Chinook impacts for the first two days of fishing this season.

There is a commercial opener scheduled this Saturday, August 24, in commercial areas 2N, 2M, and 2R using tangle net gear. An update from this opener will be provided in next week's weekly update email.

As always, in-season data is preliminary and subject to change.

All data provided through these weekly email updates for the months of August and September will be posted to the Willapa Bay Marine Area 2.1 Recreational Creel Monitoring page of our website listed below.

If you have any comments or questions specific to the information provided in these emails, please submit your comments to [WillapaBay@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:WillapaBay@dfw.wa.gov).

Additionally, if you know of anyone who might be interested in receiving these in-season update emails or any other information staff send out regarding Willapa Bay, please forward this email and have them reply to [WillapaBay@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:WillapaBay@dfw.wa.gov) stating they would like to be added to our email distribution list.

Thank you and Fish On! ><(((°> ><(((°>  
Barbara McClellan

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Online reference links you may be interested in:

Willapa Bay Marine Area 2.1 Recreational Creel Monitoring: [Willapa Bay Recreational Salmon Reports | Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife](#)

Willapa Bay and Grays Harbor (non-treaty) Commercial Salmon fisheries (Regulations and landed catch): [Commercial Willapa Bay and Grays Harbor Gillnet Salmon Fishery | Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife](#)

2024 Willapa Bay Marine Area Recreational Catch Estimate

updated 8/23/2024

CHK = Chinook  
AD = Adipose clipped (hatchery origin)  
UM = Unmarked (natural origin)

CPUE = Catch per unit effort  
Effort = An individual angler trip

Strata 1 - Mon - Thurs  
Strata 2 - Fri - Sun

June-July (Ocean 2 Rules)

Unmarked Chinook retention allowed

Mgmt Week	Expanded Data		Expanded Data - Chinook				Expanded Data - Coho				2 fish daily, only 1 Chinook allowed. No wild coho retention	Effective July 28, 2023. Friday and Saturdays, Release Chinook and wild coho.	
	# Boats	# Anglers	Estimated Total Chinook Kept	Total Chinook CPUE	Estimated Total UM Chinook Kept	Willapa Origin Chinook UM Impacts	Estimated Total AD Chinook Kept	Willapa Origin Chinook AD Impacts	Estimated Total Coho Kept	Total Coho CPUE			
26	4	8	2	0.333	1	0	1	0	0	0.000	0	0	June 24 - 30
27	17	37	2	0.054	0	0	2	1	11	0.297	1	10	July 1 - 7
28	11	23	2	0.087	0	0	2	1	5	0.217	0	5	July 8 - 14
29	23	44	4	0.091	0	0	4	1	11	0.250	3	8	July 15 - 21
30	50	116	33	0.284	13	4	20	6	24	0.207	0	24	July 22 - 28
31	11	25	4	0.160	1	0	3	1	1	0.040	0	1	July 29 - Aug 4
Season Total	116	251	47	0.187	15	5	32	10	52	0.207	4	48	

Starting in 2021, we switched to electronic data collection. The raw, actual data is now produced from the uploads each day and week. A copy of the raw data is now stored in the Rec Fishery Monitoring/year/Data folder. These data for the table below can be found in the Rec Fishery Monitoring/year/Data/Weekly data summaries. Choose the data that matches the stat week.

August and September				Boats and Anglers						Chinook Retained - Illegal to retain						Chinook Released					Marked Coho			Unmarked Coho			Total Coho								
Mgmt Week - see note below for raw data source	Dates	Strata	Strata Description	Actual Raw Data			Actual Raw Data			Expanded # Total Anglers	# CHK AD Kept	CHK AD CPUE Kept	Expanded # CHK AD Kept	# WB Origin CHK AD Impacts	# CHK UM Kept	CHK UM CPUE Kept	Expanded # CHK UM Kept	# CHK UM Released	CHK UM CPUE	Estimated Expanded CHK UM Encounters	Estimated Total CHK UM Impacts	# WB Origin CHK UM Impacts	# Coho AD Kept	Coho AD CPUE	Expanded # Coho AD Kept	# Coho UM Kept	Coho UM CPUE	Expanded # Coho UM Kept	Total Coho CPUE (AD+UM)	Total Expanded # Coho Kept (AD + UM)					
				# Boats Sampled	# Boats Not Sampled	# Total Boats	Expanded # Total Boats	Sample Rate	# Anglers Sampled																						# Anglers per boat				
32	8/5 - 8/8	1	Mon - Thur	82	8	90	186	48%	176	2.15	399	25	0.142	57	35	0	0.000	0	6	0.034	14	2	1	0	0.000	0	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0.000	0		
32	8/9 - 8/11	2	Fri - Sun	23	1	24	37	64%	43	1.87	70	4	0.093	6	4	0	0.000	0	0	0.000	0	0	0	0	0.000	0	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0.000	0		
33	8/12-8/15	1	Mon - Thur	101	6	107	228	47%	221	2.19	499	57	0.258	129	79	0	0.000	0	18	0.081	41	6	3	1	0.005	2	0	0.000	0	0.005	2	0.005	2		
33	8/16 - 8/18	2	Fri - Sun	94	4	98	157	63%	223	2.37	371	28	0.126	47	28	0	0.000	0	9	0.040	15	2	1	3	0.013	5	0	0.000	0	0.013	5	0.013	5		
34		1	Mon - Thur																																
34		2	Fri - Sun																																
35		1	Mon - Thur																																
35		2	Fri - Sun																																
36		1	Mon - Thur																																
36		2	Fri - Sun																																
37		1	Mon - Thur																																
37		2	Fri - Sun																																
38		1	Mon - Thur																																
38		2	Fri - Sun																																
39		1	Mon - Thur																																
39		2	Fri - Sun																																
40		1	Mon - Thur																																
40		2	Fri - Sat																																
TOTALS				300	19	319	608		663	2.21	1,339	114	0.172	238	146	0	0.000	0	33	0.050	69	10	6	4	0.006	7	0	0.000	0	0.006	7	0.006	7		

Naselle Hatchery Adult Chinook Rack Returns

Preliminary/DRAFT \*

8/22/2024

Red value = peak run timing

Year	2022						2023						2024 *						Average 2015-2023		
Origin	Hatchery			Natural			Hatchery			Natural			Hatchery			Natural			Stat week	Hatchery	Natural
Stat Week	Weekly Total	Cumulative	% Run Timing	Weekly Total	Cumulative	% Run Timing	Weekly Total	Cumulative	% Run Timing	Weekly Total	Cumulative	% Run Timing	Weekly Total	Cumulative	% Run Timing	Weekly Total	Cumulative	% Run Timing	Stat week	Hatchery	Natural
31	1	1	0%	0	0	0.0%	51	51	0%	3	3	0%	0	0		0	0		31	11	1
32	12	13	0%	0	0	0.0%	127	178	2%	5	8	1%	31	31	21%	4	4	40%	32	31	1
33	2	15	0%	0	0	0.0%	75	253	3%	3	11	2%	65	96	66%	3	7	70%	33	24	2
34	36	51	1%	6	6	1.0%	111	364	4%	7	18	3%	50	146	100%	3	10	100%	34	50	4
35	191	242	3%	17	23	3.7%	48	412	5%	8	26	4%							35	79	7
36	174	416	6%	15	38	6.0%	295	707	9%	15	41	6%							36	135	11
37	74	490	7%	11	49	7.8%	2	709	9%	0	41	6%							37	257	23
38	84	574	8%	6	55	8.7%	129	838	10%	3	44	6%							38	481	38
39	49	623	9%	2	57	9.0%	3,393	4231	51%	29	73	10%							39	1,181	40
40	608	1,231	18%	53	110	17.5%	1368	5599	67%	166	239	34%							40	564	99
41	2549	3,780	54%	152	262	41.6%	1326	6925	83%	277	516	74%							41	980	159
42	1696	5,476	79%	184	446	70.8%	1062	7987	96%	125	641	91%							42	866	154
43	619	6,095	88%	46	492	78.1%	169	8156	98%	45	686	98%							43	239	45
44	463	6,558	94%	88	580	92.1%	124	8280	100%	15	701	100%							44	173	28
45	207	6,765	97%	18	598	94.9%	9	8289	100%	1	702	100%							45	42	5
46	98	6,863	99%	31	629	99.8%	6	8295	100%	0	702	100%							46	20	4
47	76	6,939	100%	0	629	99.8%	0	8295	100%	0	702	100%							47	11	0
48	1	6,940	100%	0	629	99.8%	0	8295	100%	0	702	100%							48	0	0
49	4	6,944	100%	0	629	99.8%	0	8295	100%	0	702	100%							49	1	0
50	1	6,945	100%	1	630	100.0%	0	8295	100%	0	702	100%							50	1	0
51	1	6,946	100%	0	630		0	8295	100%	0	702	100%							51	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,946</b>			<b>630</b>			<b>8,295</b>			<b>702</b>			<b>146</b>			<b>10</b>			<b>Avg</b>	<b>5,092</b>	<b>620</b>

\* italics = partial week