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From: Willapa Bay (DFW)
Sent: Thursday, September 12, 2024 8:39 AM
Subject: 2024 Willapa Bay Fisheries Update - week 36 - Sept 2 - 8
Attachments: 2024 WB Marine Area Recreational Catch Estimate Summary Draft 09.11.2024.pdf; Naselle Hatchery Adult CHK Summary 09.11.2024.pdf; 2024 WB Hatchery Chinook Eggtake Draft 09.11.2024.pdf

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 last update, there has been a decrease in effort (by 35%) and catch (by 79%) of Chinook for statistical week 36, Sept 2 - 8, 2024, compared to the previous week. The highest effort (in terms of vessels) and number of anglers were reported on Labor Day, Monday, Sept 2 however, the highest hatchery Chinook catch was reported on Saturday, Sept. 7. At this point in the fishery, we are starting to see more coho caught in the fishery than Chinook. There were 29 hatchery Chinook salmon and 125 coho reported by staff caught in this statistical week from Sept 2 - 8 at the Tokeland and South Bend dock locations. There were no unmarked Chinook landed and 20 natural origin (NOR) Chinook encountered then released from the fishery during this same week. Currently, the marine recreational salmon fishery has accrued 33 NOR Chinook impacts. That is 59.7% of the preseason expected natural origin Chinook impacts for the season. (*See attachment: 2024 WB Marine Area Recreational Catch Estimate Summary Draft 09.11.2024.pdf*)

As we move into the middle of September, angler effort is expected to continue to decline in the northern area of Willapa harbor for the marine area recreational fishery, and anglers will likely start to move upstream into freshwater as the fish move into those areas.

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 have continued walking stream surveys below the weir in Nemah and Naselle rivers since August 1st. This week, staff have observed approximately 1,445 live Chinook salmon staging in the Naselle River in the section below the weir, but no live coho have been observed at this point. There still has not been any spawning or redds observed in that same section of Naselle River to-date. There were approximately 998 live Chinook staging in the Nemah River below the weir, but no live coho have been observed at this point. The first two Chinook redds were found this week in the Nemah River in the section below the hatchery. Five Chinook carcasses were recovered this week in the Naselle River below the weir and 29 Chinook carcasses were recovered in the Nemah River below the weir.

As of this week, staff began spawner surveys in the Lower Willapa River, Lower Trap Creek, and Middle Naselle River. No activity was observed in any of these new surveys this week. Historically, Chinook salmon begin spawning in Willapa Bay rivers the middle of September, so we should start to see more spawning and redds in systems throughout the Willapa Bay basin as we move through the second half of September.

Hatchery Chinook Rack Returns

Naselle River Hatchery

To-date, 389 adult and 10 jack hatchery Chinook salmon have volunteered into the attraction channel and recruited into the hatchery. This is approximately 55.0% of where we were last year at this same time (week 36). There have been 30 unmarked, Chinook salmon that have volunteered into the hatchery to-date, 17 male Chinook and 13 female Chinook. All 30 unmarked fish have been planted upstream above the hatchery. There has also been 11 male and 19 female Chinook salmon mortalities reported in the Naselle Hatchery from August 1 – Sept 9, 2024. Chinook spawning at the Naselle and Nemah hatcheries will begin the week of Sept 23rd. These data will be updated in the next weekly in-season email.

(See attachment: Naselle Hatchery Adult CHK Summary 09.11.2024.pdf AND 2024 WB Hatchery Chinook Eggtake Draft 09.11.2024.pdf)

Nemah and Forks Creek hatcheries

To-date, no fall Chinook have entered Nemah or Forks Creek hatcheries. The pond at Nemah Hatchery was watered up on Sept 10 (Tuesday this week), and the ladder opened for fish to volunteer into the pond from the river.

Commercial Fishery

The commercial salmon fishery in Willapa Bay was closed from September 1 – 7 for salmon fishing in all areas.

There was a 12-hour opener on September 9th since our last weekly email at the south end of the bay using tangle net gear in Areas 2N and 2R. Effort and catch were low compared to the preseason projections. There were 177 hatchery Chinook salmon (40.5% of preseason estimates for the week) and 278 coho (39.4% of preseason estimates for the week) landed from the fishery on this one day opener. The fleet has accrued a total of 74 local, natural origin (NOR) Chinook impacts to-date for the season, 18.0% of the preseason NOR Chinook estimated impacts to this point of the salmon season.

This week, there is one last 12-hour opener scheduled in the south end of the bay using tangle net gear in Areas 2N, 2M, and 2R on Thursday, Sept 12th.

Starting this Sunday, September 15, the north bay commercial fishing areas 2T and 2U will open for salmon fishing.

An update from these openers 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. 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 stating they would like to be added to our email distribution list.

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

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 9/11/2024

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				Notes	Retention Period	
	# 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	Estimated Total UM Coho Kept	Estimated Total AD Coho Kept			
26	4	6	2	0.333	1	0	1	0	0	0.000	0	0	2 fish daily, only 1 Chinook allowed. No wild coho retention	Effective July 28, 2023, Friday and Saturdays, Release Chinook and wild coho.	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		
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		
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		
34	8/19 - 8/22	1	Mon - Thur	47	6	53	115	46%	109	2.32	267	23	0.211	56	34	0	0.000	0	5	0.046	12	2	1	1	0.009	2	1	0.043	2	0.018	5		
34	8/23 - 8/25	2	Fri - Sun	148	17	165	269	61%	334	2.26	607	56	0.168	102	62	1	0.003	2	25	0.075	45	6	4	19	0.057	35	3	0.054	5	0.066	40		
35	8/26 - 8/29	1	Mon - Thur	139	10	149	328	45%	288	2.07	679	82	0.285	193	118	1	0.003	2	21	0.073	50	7	4	15	0.052	35	7	0.085	17	0.076	52		
35	8/30 - 9/1	2	Fri - Sun	163	41	204	337	61%	382	2.34	789	58	0.152	120	73	1	0.003	2	24	0.063	50	7	4	36	0.094	74	12	0.207	25	0.126	99		
36	9/2 - 9/5	1	Mon - Thur	108	1	109	237	46%	233	2.16	511	8	0.034	18	11	0	0.000	0	14	0.060	31	4	3	40	0.172	88	13	1.625	28	0.227	116		
36	9/6 - 9/8	2	Fri - Sun	87	6	93	151	61%	188	2.16	327	21	0.112	37	22	0	0.000	0	6	0.032	10	1	1	58	0.309	101	14	0.667	24	0.383	125		
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				992	100	1,092	2,044		2,197	2.21	4,519	362	0.165	764	467	3	0.001	6	128	0.058	267	37	23	173	0.079	343	50	0.023	102	0.102	445		

2024 Willapa Bay Origin PreSeason Recreational Data

Preliminary/Draft
Updated 9/11/2024

Willapa Bay Natural-Origin Fall Chinook							Willapa Bay Hatchery-Origin Fall Chinook				
Mgmt Wk	Date	Harvest Rate Proportions	Preseason Prediction		In-season Estimate		Harvest Rate Proportions	Preseason Prediction		In-season Estimate	
			NOR	Cumulative Total	WB Origin	Cumulative Total		HOR	Cumulative Total	WB Origin	Cumulative Total
26/27	June 24 - July 7	0.0164	1	1	0	0	0.0048	3	3	1	1
28	July 8 - 14	0.0040	0	1	0	0	0.0056	4	7	1	1
29	July 15 - 21	0.0300	2	3	0	0	0.0037	2	9	1	2
30	July 22 - 28	0.0593	3	6	4	4	0.0291	18	27	6	9
31	July 29 - Aug 4	0.0270	2	8	0	4	0.0184	12	39	1	10
32	Aug 5 - 11	0.0356	2	10	1	5	0.0978	63	102	39	48
33	Aug 12 - 18	0.0843	5	14	5	10	0.1236	78	181	107	155
34	Aug 19 - 25	0.1782	10	24	7	17	0.2031	129	310	97	252
35	Aug 26 - Sept 1	0.2499	14	38	13	30	0.2699	171	481	191	443
36	Sept 2 - 8	0.1883	11	49	4	33	0.1589	101	582	33	476
37	Sept 9 - 15	0.1064	6	55	0	33	0.0749	48	629	0	476
38	Sept 16 - 22	0.0205	1	56	0	33	0.0075	5	634	0	476
39	Sept 23 - 29	0.0000	0	56	0	33	0.0005	1	635	0	476
40	30-Sep	0.0000	0	56	0	33	0.0000	0	635	0	476
			56		33	0.597				476	0.750

Naselle Hatchery Adult Chinook Rack Returns

Preliminary/DRAFT *

9/11/2024

Red value = peak run timing

Year	2022						2023						2024 *						Average 2015-2023		
	Hatchery			Natural			Hatchery			Natural			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
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%	35	35	9%	4	4	13%	32	31	1
33	2	15	0%	0	0	0.0%	75	253	3%	3	11	2%	83	118	30%	6	10	33%	33	24	2
34	36	51	1%	6	6	1.0%	111	364	4%	7	18	3%	156	274	70%	12	22	73%	34	50	4
35	191	242	3%	17	23	3.7%	48	412	5%	8	26	4%	66	340	87%	7	29	97%	35	79	7
36	174	416	6%	15	38	6.0%	295	707	9%	15	41	6%	49	389	100%	1	30	100%	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
Total	6,946			630			8,295			702			389			30			Avg	5,092	620

* italics = partial week

2024 Willapa Bay CHINOOK Broodstock Summary

FishBooks updated 9/11/2024
preliminary/draft

As of 09/09/2024

Naselle Hatchery

Program Release	10% add'l for mortality	Total eggs needed	Fecundity # eggs/female	# of Females Needed	# Females Spawned to-date	# Females still needed	# Adults On-hand at the facility (males & females combined)	# Eggs on Hand	Mortalities (prior to spawning)			Surplus to-date (prior to spawning)		
									Males	Females	Jacks	Males	Females	Jacks
5,000,000	500,000	5,500,000	3,000	1,833	0	1,833	0	0	11	19	0	0	0	0
									Total	30		Total	0	
									Hatchery Wild	30 0		Hatchery Wild		

Nemah Hatchery

Program Release	10% add'l for mortality	Total eggs needed	Fecundity # eggs/female	# of Females Needed	# Females Spawned to-date	# Females still needed	# Adults On-hand at the facility (males & females combined)	# Eggs on Hand	Mortalities (prior to spawning)			Surplus to-date (prior to spawning)		
									Males	Females	Jacks	Males	Females	Jacks
3,300,000	330,000	3,630,000	3,000	1,210	0	1,210	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
									Total	0		Total	0	
									Hatchery Wild			Hatchery Wild		

Forks Creek Hatchery

Program Release	10% add'l for mortality	Total eggs needed	Fecundity # eggs/female	# of Females Needed	# Females Spawned to-date	# Females still needed	# Adults On-hand at the facility (males & females combined)	# Eggs on Hand	Mortalities (prior to spawning)			Surplus to-date (prior to spawning)		
									Males	Females	Jacks	Males	Females	Jacks
400,000	40,000	440,000	3,000	147	0	147	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
									Total	0		Total	0	
									Hatchery Wild			Hatchery Wild		