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From: Willapa Bay (DFW)
Sent: Friday, September 20, 2024 10:41 AM
Subject: 2024 Willapa Bay fisheries update -week 37 - Sept 9 - 15
Attachments: 2024 WB Marine Area Recreational Catch Estimate Summary Draft 09.18.2024.pdf; Naselle Hatchery Adult CHK Summary 09.18.2024.pdf; 2024 WB Hatchery Chinook Eggtake Draft 09.18.2024.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

There continues to be a decrease in effort in terms of vessels fishing (by 34.9%) and catch (by 20.7%) of hatchery Chinook for statistical week 37, Sept 9 - 15, 2024, compared to the previous week. The highest effort (in terms of vessels), number of anglers, and total coho catch were reported on Friday, Sept 13, however, the highest hatchery Chinook catch was reported on Tuesday, Sept. 10. The fishery is catching more coho than Chinook now that it is the middle of September. There were 23 hatchery Chinook salmon and 151 coho reported by staff caught in this statistical week from Sept 9 - 15 at the Tokeland and South Bend dock locations. There were no unmarked Chinook landed during last week and 22 natural origin (NOR) Chinook encountered then released from the fishery during this same week. Currently, the marine recreational salmon fishery has accrued 37 NOR Chinook impacts, or 66.7% of the preseason expected natural origin Chinook impacts for the season. (See attachment: 2024 WB Marine Area Recreational Catch Estimate Summary Draft 09.18.2024.pdf)

As we move further into 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 continue 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

Stream surveys in the Willapa Bay basin are starting to pick up in most areas. This week, staff have observed approximately 3,350 live Chinook salmon staging in the Naselle River in the section below the weir, and 12 Chinook carcasses were found. Coho have now moved up into the rivers as well. Staff observed 93 live coho staging in the Naselle River in the section below the weir, but no coho redds or carcasses have been discovered. The first two Chinook redds have been found in the Naselle River this week in the section below the hatchery.

There were approximately 3,284 live Chinook staging in the Nemah River below the weir. Seven new Chinook redds were found this week, and 60 Chinook carcasses were recovered this week in the Nemah River below the weir at the hatchery.

Since our last update, staff have begun various other salmon spawner surveys in the Lower Willapa River, Lower Trap Creek, Lower South Fork Willapa River, and Middle Naselle River. A few live Chinook and coho have been observed in several of these systems as of this week. At this point, one Chinook redd has been observed in only Lower South Fork Willapa River. Historically, Chinook salmon begin spawning in Willapa Bay rivers the middle of September, so we will be seeing more spawning and redds in systems throughout the Willapa Bay basin moving forward.

Hatchery Chinook Rack Returns

Naselle River Hatchery

To-date, 1,175 adult and 10 jack hatchery Chinook salmon have volunteered into the attraction channel and recruited into the hatchery. 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 130 Chinook mortalities, 37 male, 88 female, and five jack Chinook, reported in the Naselle Hatchery from August 1 – Sept 18, 2024. Chinook spawning at the Naselle Hatchery will begin next week. These data will be updated in the next weekly in-season email. (See *attachment: Naselle Hatchery Adult CHK Summary 09.18.2024.pdf AND 2024 WB Hatchery Chinook Eggtake Draft 09.11.2024.pdf*)

Nemah Hatchery

Nemah Hatchery has had 425 adult and 0 jack hatchery Chinook salmon recruit into the hatchery in the last week. There have also been three mortalities, 2 males and 1 female. Chinook spawning will begin next week.

Forks Creek Hatchery

To-date, no fall Chinook have entered the Forks Creek Hatchery.

Commercial Fishery

The commercial fishery opened Sunday, Sept 15 in the north bay commercial salmon fishing areas 2T and 2U along with the south bay areas that have been salmon fishing for the last few weeks. As we move into the second half of September, each commercial area has a different number of days scheduled for this week.

Effort was as expected but catch was below expectations compared to the preseason projections. There were 276 hatchery Chinook salmon (31.8% of preseason estimates for the week) and 3886 coho (40.1% of preseason estimates for the week) landed for the week through Sept. 17. In total, the fleet has accrued a total of 123 local, natural origin (NOR) Chinook impacts to-date for the season, or 29.8% of the preseason NOR Chinook estimated impacts at this point of the salmon season.

Seven chum have been landed in the commercial fishery to-date.

Due to low natural origin Chinook impacts accrued to-date and the early run timing of coho, the Department has modified the commercial fishery for September 20, 2024 only via emergency regulation by opening Area 2M to commercial salmon fishing and changing fishing gears in Area 2U from tangle net gear to small mesh gillnet one day early. The Department is actively monitoring each day in the commercial fishery and analyzing data as it comes in.

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 9/19/2024

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.	Date Range
	# 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	June 24 - 30 July 1 - 7 July 8 - 14 July 15 - 21 July 22 - 28 July 29 - Aug 4		
27	17	37	2	0.054	0	0	2	1	11	0.297	1	10			
28	11	23	2	0.087	0	0	2	1	5	0.217	0	5			
29	23	44	4	0.091	0	0	4	1	11	0.250	3	8			
30	50	116	33	0.284	13	4	20	6	24	0.207	0	24			
31	11	25	4	0.160	1	0	3	1	1	0.040	0	1			
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	
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	9/9-9/12	1	Mon - Thur	55	9	64	136	47%	107	1.95	264	18	0.168	44	27	0	0.000	0	11	0.103	27	4	2	60	0.561	148	15	0.833	37	0.701	185	
37	9/13-9/15	2	Fri - Sun	72	2	74	118	63%	149	2.07	244	5	0.034	8	5	0	0.000	0	11	0.074	18	3	2	53	0.356	87	23	4.600	38	0.510	124	
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				1,119	111	1,230	2,298		2,453	2.19	5,027	385	0.157	816	499	3	0.001	6	150	0.061	312	44	27	286	0.117	577	88	0.036	177	0.152	754	

2024 Willapa Bay Origin PreSeason Recreational Data

Preliminary/Draft
Updated 9/19/2024

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	4	37	0.0749	48	629	32	508
38	Sept 16 - 22	0.0205	1	56	0	37	0.0075	5	634	0	508
39	Sept 23 - 29	0.0000	0	56	0	37	0.0005	1	635	0	508
40	30-Sep	0.0000	0	56	0	37	0.0000	0	635	0	508
			56		37	0.666				508	0.801

Naselle Hatchery Adult Chinook Rack Returns

Preliminary/DRAFT *

9/19/2024

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	3%	4	4	11%	32	31	1
33	2	15	0%	0	0	0.0%	75	253	3%	3	11	2%	83	118	10%	6	10	28%	33	24	2
34	36	51	1%	6	6	1.0%	111	364	4%	7	18	3%	156	274	24%	12	22	61%	34	50	4
35	191	242	3%	17	23	3.7%	48	412	5%	8	26	4%	66	340	30%	7	29	81%	35	79	7
36	174	416	6%	15	38	6.0%	295	707	9%	15	41	6%	49	389	34%	1	30	83%	36	135	11
37	74	490	7%	11	49	7.8%	2	709	9%	0	41	6%	550	939	82%	0	30	83%	37	257	23
38	84	574	8%	6	55	8.7%	129	838	10%	3	44	6%	200	1139	100%	6	36	100%	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			1,139			36			Avg	5,092	620

* italics = partial week

2024 Willapa Bay CHINOOK Broodstock Summary

FishBooks updated 9/20/2024
preliminary/draft

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	1020	0	37	88	5	0	0	0
									Total	130		Total	0	
									Hatchery	30		Hatchery		
									Wild	0		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	422	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
									Total	3		Total	0	
									Hatchery			Hatchery		
									Wild			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			Hatchery		
									Wild			Wild		