



Fraser Salmon Bulletin No: 2024-1

Date: June 6, 2024

This is the first Fraser Salmon Bulletin for the 2024 season. These bulletins will be provided every two to four weeks until mid-October. The purpose of this bulletin is to provide you with the links and information to keep yourself up to date on in-season fishing information.

Fraser Chinook

The Albion Chinook test fishery has operated since 1981 on the lower Fraser River at Albion, BC (near Fort Langley). The test fishery is conducted with a drifted gill net at a specific site near the old Albion ferry crossing. On each day of operation, the boat fishes two sets, timed to coincide with the daily high tide.

The Chinook test fishery uses two different nets which fish on alternating days: the "standard" Chinook net, which is constructed using eight-inch mesh; and a "multi-panel" net, which consists of panels of six-, seven-, eight-, and nine-inch mesh. Both gill nets are 200 fathoms long. The purpose of the multi-panel net is to ensure representative sampling of Chinook passing through the lower Fraser River, due to the wide range of body sizes observed in Fraser River Chinook stocks.

Albion test fishery data largely consist of a long-term series of catch data that provides important information on run timing and stock composition of Chinook salmon migrating up the Fraser River. This information is currently used in post-season analysis to parse out the catch in various fisheries by stock grouping (i.e., Management Unit). Albion catch per unit effort (CPUE) data are used in-season to estimate the total return of Fraser Spring and Summer 5₂ Chinook to the mouth of the Fraser River with a linear regression model of historical CPUEs and run sizes.

In 2024, the Albion test fishery commenced on April 21 and will collect Chinook data daily until August 31. After August 31, the test fishery alternates fishing the standard (8" mesh) Chinook gill net with a smaller mesh (6 ¾") gill net designed to assess the return of Chum Salmon to the Fraser River. The test fishery stops fishing with the standard Chinook gill net after October 20.

2024 Albion Chinook Catch – [Link to online Albion information.](#)

For 2024, Albion run size updates for the Spring and Summer 5₂ management units (MUs) are provided for information purposes only and will not be used in-season to adjust management measures given conservation concerns.

In mid-June, a memo outlining the technical details of the final in-season run size estimate for these MUs will be provided separately and posted in a fishery notice.

2024 Management Measures:

Below are links to fishery notices announcing 2024 management measures for Fraser River Chinook salmon. Fishing for salmon is closed at the mouth of the Fraser River and in the Fraser River tidal and non-tidal waters effective January 1 each year. Details are at the DFO [Area 29 Salmon webpage](#).

[FN1316](#) – announced January 1 management measures in other South Coast waters.

[FN0141](#) – announced March 1 management measures in portions of Areas 19 and 20.

[FN0288](#) – provided details on recreational management measures that commenced on April 1, 2024.

[FN0290](#) – outlines management measures to protect Chinook in Areas 28 and 29.

[FN0291](#) – provided details on mark selective fisheries in portions of Areas 12, 13 and 15 to 20.

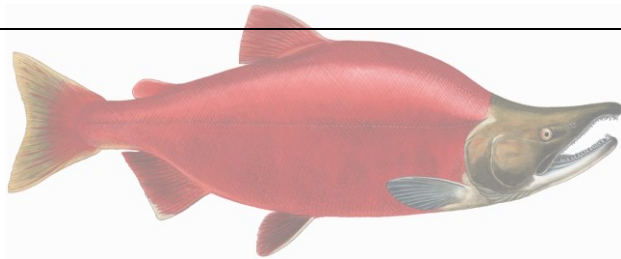
Fraser Sockeye

Fraser Panel and other in-season Meetings:

- Fraser Panel in-season meetings are planned to commence on July 12, 2024. Information on how to listen in to these meetings will be provided in a subsequent bulletin.
- Fishery notices are released weekly during the sockeye season to provide updates on the status of the sockeye runs. To sign up to have Fishery Notices sent to your email, please click [here](#).

In-season teleconferences between DFO and First Nation take place during the fishing season. The table below gives some initial information on proposed dates/times. Invites and dial in numbers / MS Teams links will be sent out closer to the initial meeting date:

Fishing area	Day/Time	First Meeting
Fraser River and tributaries - downstream of Sawmill Creek, and Fraser River mouth	TBD	TBD
Fraser River and tributaries - upstream of Sawmill Creek	Wednesdays @ 10:00 am	July 17, 2024
Marine waters	Wednesdays @ 11:00 am	July 17, 2024



Fraser Sockeye test fishing schedule

Test fishing schedule:

Panel approved test fishing schedule for 2024:

Test Fishery	Agreed Schedule	
	Start	End
Area 20 gillnet	Not operated for 2024	
Area 20 purse seine	July 15	August 5
Brownsville Bar	July 8	August 25
Whonnock gillnet	June 28	September 10
Area 7 reefnet	10 observation days	
Area 12 round island gillnet	Not operated for 2024	
Area 12 Blinkhorn purse seine	July 14	August 4
Qualark gillnet	July 18	September 6

FSC In-river Management Actions:

Area	Management Actions/Opening
Below Port Mann Bridge Port Mann to Sawmill Creek	Consideration for Limited Participation licences only targeting 3 Chinook for unplanned events only and 1 ceremony of their choice for each community. No communal opportunities until further notice
Sawmill Creek to Texas, including Thompson d/s Bonaparte	No fisheries licensed at this time.
Texas to Deadman	No fisheries licensed at this time.
Deadman to Naver (includes tribs)	No fisheries licensed at this time.
Upstream of Naver Confluence (includes tribs)	No fisheries licensed at this time.
Thompson u/s of Bonaparte and tribs	No fisheries licensed at this time.

Catch Information

If you are looking for updates to catch information, the most current catch reports are available online at:

<http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/fraser/index-eng.html>

To receive a weekly harvest report for the fishing areas upstream of Sawmill Creek, please contact Cynthia Breau (Cynthia.breau@dfo-mpo.gc.ca) tel: (250) 256-2652 to be added to her mailing list.

South Coast Sport Catch Bulletin – to be added to the distribution list, please contact Aswea Porter (Aswea.Porter@dfo-mpo.gc.ca). These are produced monthly from June to September.



Please phone the Observe Record Report line at **1-800-465-4336** if you encounter any non-authorized fishing activity taking place