



South Coast Creel Survey Bulletin #3 – July 2011

Overview:

This bulletin provides a monthly update on estimates of recreational fishing effort and fin fish catch in the marine waters of southern British Columbia (Pacific Fishery Management Areas 11 through 29 and 121 to 127). These estimates are generated from data collected by the DFO's South Coast Creel Survey. A brief overview of the survey, the study area and methods used to collect data and generate these estimates is provided in the first bulletin of 2011, available on the DFO *ExtraNet*:

http://www-ops2.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/xnet/content/salmon/sc_creelbulletins

*The estimates presented in this bulletin are based on **in-season data** and should be interpreted as **preliminary** and **subject to revision** as the data are finalized.*

Recreational Fishery Links:

It is your responsibility to know the current fishing regulations prior to fishing. A listing of recreational fishing regulations can be viewed at the Fisheries and Oceans Canada Pacific Region Recreational Fishery webpage:

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

In addition, Fisheries and Oceans fishery notices of in-season regulation updates can be viewed at:

<http://ops.info.pac.dfo.ca/fishman/fnotice/fnotice.htm>

Fishery Commentary:

Salmon

Recreational fishing was generally very good in the South Coast in the month of July. Chinook catches were higher in most areas with effort being up in some areas, average in most and down in some areas. Coho catches in the South Coast have been right around the long-term average.

Northeast Vancouver Island chinook catches were above average in July. Effort and chinook catch were up significantly around Port Hardy and in Campbell River. Weather was a factor earlier in the year in the northern areas of Vancouver Island but conditions have improved and effort and catches have both been higher than normal.

In southeast Vancouver Island catch and effort has been average in most areas for chinook and coho with the exception of the Nanaimo area which has experienced one of the best chinook fisheries in recent memory.

Southern Vancouver Island fishing effort has been lower in most areas with comments from the recreational fleet indicating it being a result of a higher Canadian dollar, high fuel prices, and less tourists fishing in the area. Catches have been average for the amount of effort, with the exception of the Swiftsure Bank area which has seen a higher effort than normal and a much higher chinook catches compared to the long-term average.

For the west coast of Vancouver Island chinook fishing has been good, especially in the Tofino and Ucluelet area. Effort is down from the five year average likely due to similar



South Coast Creel Survey Bulletin #3 – July 2011

circumstances being experienced in Southern Vancouver Island fisheries. Inshore fisheries that were strong early in the year are seeing more effort shift offshore. Anglers are now targeting migratory fish in offshore waters, as well as seeing more baitfish and salmon in offshore waters due to summer weather wind patterns and associated circulation patterns.

Nootka Sound fisheries in Area 25 were exceptional in the month of July. Effort has been approximately 30% higher in the combined inshore-offshore areas and the catch has been more than double the long-term average. The nearshore and inshore fisheries in 125 primarily target Conuma chinook, which are returning in strong numbers in 2011.

Kyuquot fisheries in Area 26/126 have also been reported to be strong, but effort has been reported to be lower due to less tourism and visitors to the Kyuquot area. Lodge manifests and logbook data analysis will not be finalised until post season, but reports indicate that chinook catch will likely be average or above average in this area.

Quatsino Sound and the offshore fisheries in 127 have had similar effort and catch in comparison to the long term average. Weather has been a factor in this area in the spring and some effort has been shifted inshore from the offshore waters due to tough fishing conditions.

Groundfish

Halibut catches have been lower in all South Coast areas with the exception of 124, and well below average in areas 12, 123 and 127. Industry comments have indicated this is due to several factors including: poor weather conditions experienced in the beginning of the fishing season, the uncertainty of the duration of the halibut season and when it may end, less effort due to the cost of fuel and the value of the Canadian dollar.

Lingcod catches have been higher in areas on the inside of Vancouver Island (12-17) and lower in all other South Coast areas (18-27) with total catches just slightly below average.

Rockfish catches have been average in some areas but most areas in the Southcoast have been below average.

Creel Survey Data:

A summary of survey statistics and preliminary recreation effort, measured in boat trips, by Pacific Fishery Management Area (PFMA) are presented in Table 1 (attached). A map of PFMA's is available in the 2011-2013 British Columbia Tidal Waters Sport Fishing Guide.

Recreational Catch Estimates:

A summary of preliminary kept and released catch estimates by PFMA for key salmon (Tables 2 and 3) and groundfish (Tables 4 and 5) species are attached. These tables are slightly modified from previous bulletins and track the cumulative kept and released catches of these key species as well as the 5-year average cumulative kept and release catch to allow comparison with recent catch trends. In addition, this months bulletin includes a breakdown of Aggregate Abundance and Individual Stock based



South Coast Creel Survey Bulletin #3 – July 2011

management breakdowns of Chinook retained catch (AABM and ISBM, respectively) for west coast fishing areas (Table 6). The cumulative catches reported in tables sum catch estimates through June and July. A map of PFMA's is available in the 2011-2013 British Columbia Tidal Waters Sport Fishing Guide.

Contacts:

For additional information on the South Coast Creel Survey Programs, please contact:

Johnstone Strait and North Island Surveys (PFMA's 11, 12, 27, & 127)

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West Coast Vancouver Island Survey (PFMA's 20 – 26 & 121 – 126)

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South Coast Creel Survey Bulletin #3 – July 2011

Table 1 Creel survey statistics (number of interviews and flights) and preliminary effort estimates (number of boat trips) by Pacific Fishery Management Area, July 2011.

Pacific Fishery Management Area (PFMA)	Number of Creel Interviews	Number of Effort Count Flights ¹	Effort			
			Estimate	%SE ²	Year to date ³	Year to date 5-yr. average ³
11	223	8	836	14%	1,063	612
12	800	8	7,332	7%	9,263	7,512
13	133	9	6,082	6%	8,088	7,621
14	89	9	1,939	9%	2,799	2,691
15	49	8	892	15%	1,081	913
16	56	9	648	10%	938	1,077
17	157	10	3,258	9%	4,688	3,383
18	64	10	994	9%	1,201	1,608
19	132	10	1,775	9%	3,018	3,293
20	1100	9	10,279	7%	13,212	15,443
21	4	8	36	50%	42	162
121	165	8	1,060	21%	1,218	988
23	469	10	7,657	9%	10,866	11,691
123	184	9	2,787	13%	3,488	4,659
24	123	9	393	18%	426	670
124	145	9	1,128	18%	1,992	1,281
25	197	9	7,269	24%	7,269	5,551
125	97	9	1,169	23%	1,169	855
26		Lodge Manifest & Logbook Data Only				
126		Lodge Manifest & Logbook Data Only				
27	408	8	1,333	14%	1,631	1,426
127	220	9	971	19%	1,221	1,934
28	42	10	1,902	10%	2,619	2,040
29	10	10	1,062	11%	1,788	992
Totals ⁴	4,867		60,800		79,081	76,402

¹ The number of flights where weather conditions allowed effort counts, not including on-water counts

² %SE is a measure of uncertainty; one Standard Error as a percentage of the estimate.

³ Cumulative effort to date (June + July) summed across periods where surveys are active

⁴ Individual flights cover multiple PFMA's, so an additive total is not appropriate



South Coast Creel Survey Bulletin #3 – July 2011

Table 2 Preliminary recreational kept catch estimates (number of fish) for key salmon species by Pacific Fishery Management Area (PFMA), July 2011. Percent standard error (%SE; one standard error as a percentage of the estimate), a measure of uncertainty, is indicated for estimates from PFMA's where they are calculated in-season.

Pacific Fishery Management Area (PFMA)	Chinook				Coho				Sockeye			
	Estimate	%SE	Year to date ¹	Year to date 5-yr. average ¹	Estimate	%SE	Year to date ¹	Year to date 5-yr. average ¹	Estimate	%SE	Year to date ¹	Year to date 5-yr. average ¹
11	2,340	15%	2,830	833	1,880	14%	1,939	272			0	0
12	4,548	9%	5,046	3,296	2,893	12%	2,907	2,578			0	25
13	3,205	21%	5,442	3,538	73	67%	73	100			0	9
14	280	22%	522	629	17	60%	17	25			0	0
15	151	43%	285	234			0	0			0	0
16	28	39%	42	87			0	0			0	0
17	516	21%	1,338	513			0	0			0	0
18	158	38%	158	175			0	0			0	0
19	338	28%	642	351	33	80%	33	5			0	0
20	5,880	8%	6,885	7,109	854	16%	877	1,499			0	82
21	11	127%	11	240	22	127%	22	30			0	0
121	5,213	10%	6,051	1,800	2,009	22%	2,160	1,610			0	10
23	4,926	10%	6,043	6,320	2,872	13%	2,962	2,420	18,580	14%	40,301	43,240
123	10,241	13%	12,135	10,690	1,690	20%	1,926	19,810			0	40
24	418	18%	446	340	707	14%	719	520			0	0
124	4,226	16%	6,830	2,960	563	24%	679	600			0	10
25	13,956	23%	13,956	5,520	6,651	14%	6,651	1,880			0	10
125	2,021	24%	2,021	1,070	1,143	32%	1,143	220			0	1,140
26 ²	361		464	660	99		105	460			0	0
126 ²	993		1,056	1,820	552		591	350			0	0
27	967	14%	1,311	954	3,556	14%	4,156	2,721			0	7
127	1,786	20%	2,070	2,994	625	25%	706	634			0	5
28	22	80%	22	115	73	58%	73	188			0	0
29	218	35%	637	44	5	70%	5	40			0	0
Kept Total³	62,803		76,244	52,292	26,317		27,742	35,961	18,580		40,301	44,578

¹ Cumulative kept to date (June + July) summed across periods where surveys are active - no June estimate for A25, A125

² Sum of currently received manifest and logbook reported catches, not a complete estimate of July catch

³ Including only those areas with in-season estimates this month.



South Coast Creel Survey Bulletin #3 – July 2011

Table 3 Preliminary recreational released catch estimates (number of fish) for key salmon species by Pacific Fishery Management Area (PFMA), July 2011. Percent standard error (%SE; one standard error as a percentage of the estimate), a measure of uncertainty, is indicated for estimates from PFMA's where they are calculated in-season.

Pacific Fishery Management Area (PFMA)	Chinook				Coho				Sockeye			
	Estimate	%SE	Year to date ¹	Year to date 5-yr. average ¹	Estimate	%SE	Year to date ¹	Year to date 5-yr. average ¹	Estimate	%SE	Year to date ¹	Year to date 5-yr. average ¹
11	632	19%	854	330	745	22%	753	136	14	53%	14	1
12	2,202	13%	2,466	5,096	1,769	15%	1,791	2,796	119	36%	119	74
13	2,939	26%	3,274	2,748	1,927	43%	1,927	728	696	67%	696	103
14	282	22%	678	889	103	44%	103	121			0	0
15	191	34%	219	424			0	7			0	0
16	38	40%	41	231			0	4			0	0
17	1,651	24%	2,489	789			31	37			0	0
18	236	38%	236	145			0	14			0	10
19	83	51%	185	122			0	45			0	2
20	2,606	15%	3,214	3,141	2,652	23%	2,674	3,502	681	26%	681	161
21			0	29			0	84			0	0
121	2,184	19%	2,452	530	2,493	26%	2,623	1,106			0	0
23	5,754	15%	6,365	5,610	3,705	19%	3,825	2,019	148	53%	706	2,292
123	8,482	16%	10,263	7,150	3,975	19%	4,159	7,932			0	5
24	287	22%	298	152	631	20%	633	398	18	89%	18	0
124	3,245	21%	4,167	1,895	1,413	24%	1,453	1,672			0	12
25	3,964	25%	3,964	2,665	3,945	18%	3,945	2,096	85	104%	85	2
125	884	36%	884	394	5,233	33%	5,233	798			0	0
26 ²	164		205	138	337	0%	343	343			0	0
126 ²	669		745	1,261	1,961	0%	2,062	766			0	0
27	304	21%	404	875	1,435	18%	1,655	2,112			0	5
127	127	40%	162	1,280	579	30%	652	2,526	23	83%	23	10
28	0		55	247			0	138			0	0
29	325	33%	569	257			0	48			0	0
Kept Total³	37,250		44,189	36,399	32,902		33,863	29,427	1,784		2,342	2,677

¹ Cumulative released to date (June + July) summed across periods where surveys are active

² Sum of currently received manifest and logbook reported catches, not a complete estimate of July catch

³ Including only those areas with in-season estimates this month.



South Coast Creel Survey Bulletin #3 – July 2011

Table 4 Preliminary recreational kept catch estimates (number of fish) for key groundfish species by Pacific Fishery Management Area (PFMA), July 2011. Percent standard error (%SE; one standard error as a percentage of the estimate), a measure of uncertainty, is indicated for estimates from PFMA's where they are calculated in-season.

Pacific Fishery Management Area (PFMA)	Halibut				Lingcod				Rockfishes ¹			
	Estimate	%SE	Year to date ²	Year to date 5-yr. average ²	Estimate	%SE	Year to date ²	Year to date 5-yr. average ²	Estimate	%SE	Year to date ²	Year to date 5-yr. average ²
11	943	13%	1,287	728	260	21%	372	323	777	13%	1,160	901
12	1,915	13%	2,360	1,883	297	25%	489	311	957	13%	1,484	1,310
13			40	49	201	45%	251	290	472	53%	512	236
14			9	4	646	34%	655	103	511	40%	511	131
15			0	0	312	53%	341	30	283	36%	334	78
16			0	2	135	23%	213	163	229	22%	399	363
17			0	0	344	26%	475	440	560	20%	646	894
18			0	0	92	42%	92	146	303	33%	303	323
19	275	42%	340	553	39	60%	91	112	246	38%	607	449
20	87	45%	255	366	136	36%	164	318	750	18%	1,201	1,616
21	11	127%	11	258			0	24			0	29
121	3,236	21%	3,620	4,887	263	30%	266	273	320	23%	352	461
23	251	37%	380	465	277	31%	306	420	1,326	25%	1,423	2,023
123	2,671	19%	3,479	7,806	379	32%	408	2,404	809	31%	872	2,828
24	75	44%	124	94	47	38%	181	106	131	20%	263	287
124	1,011	26%	2,002	1,247	12	67%	32	257	193	26%	261	782
25	225	31%	225	328	183	33%	183	391	624	37%	624	1,382
125	607	36%	607	906	966	33%	966	537	1,188	30%	1,188	1,146
26 ³	67		82	263	150		186	337	137		173	260
126 ³	540		591	1,123	1,076		1,155	816	375		432	669
27	331	21%	447	316	337	20%	453	374	1,095	23%	1,364	1,074
127	1,213	22%	1,665	2,059	3,167	21%	4,051	1,970	2,621	18%	3,163	2,869
28			0	0	73	58%	73	3			0	291
29			0	0	77	45%	86	1	234	39%	245	53
Kept Total³	13,459		17,525	23,337	9,470		11,492	10,147	14,142		17,515	20,454

¹ All rockfishes; including those not identified to species

² Cumulative kept to date (June + July) summed across periods where surveys are active

³ Sum of currently received manifest and logbook reported catches, not a complete estimate of July catch

⁴ Including only those areas with in-season estimates this month.



South Coast Creel Survey Bulletin #3 – July 2011

Table 5 Preliminary recreational released catch estimates (number of fish) for key groundfish species by Pacific Fishery Management Area (PFMA), July 2011. Percent standard error (%SE; one standard error as a percentage of the estimate), a measure of uncertainty, is indicated for estimates from PFMA's where they are calculated in-season.

Pacific Fishery Management Area (PFMA)	Halibut				Lingcod				Rockfishes ¹			
	Estimate	%SE	Year to date ²	Year to date 5-yr. average ²	Estimate	%SE	Year to date ²	Year to date 5-yr. average ²	Estimate	%SE	Year to date ²	Year to date 5-yr. average ²
11	159	33%	273	102	1,046	27%	1,166	192	397	24%	494	479
12	398	25%	534	291	623	20%	1,257	660	2,201	13%	3,644	3,049
13			0	5	202	40%	582	1,312			41	1,041
14			0	1	2,998	49%	3,162	768	177	57%	285	642
15			0	0	1,248	49%	1,299	343	266	59%	270	259
16			0	0	793	17%	1,078	1,005	430	21%	560	796
17			0	1	1,282	19%	2,132	2,306	1,492	21%	1,983	3,065
18			0	0	314	35%	432	856	686	34%	873	1,505
19			0	26	540	29%	975	1,450	631	26%	1,297	949
20	15	101%	92	68	866	19%	1,819	3,459	1,354	21%	2,404	2,422
21			0	27	67	127%	67	8			0	4
121	218	32%	322	286	81	55%	86	31			16	36
23	19	91%	79	14	439	41%	469	814	1,411	33%	1,445	908
123	83	49%	111	510	394	51%	491	559	145	42%	149	233
24	4	56%	7	11	43	53%	51	95	11	48%	15	244
124	48	58%	108	119	32	57%	70	282			0	276
25			0	55	370	41%	370	464	893	63%	893	943
125	33	65%	33	157	355	60%	355	209	481	67%	481	319
26 ³	23	0%	37	3	157	0%	174	100	98	0%	101	64
126 ³	304	0%	341	549	486	0%	536	0	217	0%	226	33
27	55	55%	95	28	108	34%	169	297	119	36%	170	656
127	141	43%	192	309	113	39%	142	487	132	42%	144	780
28			0	0				61			0	365
29			0	0	166	48%	237	10	98	39%	139	49
Kept Total ⁴	1,500		2,226	2,562	12,722		17,119	15,768	11,238		15,630	19,119

¹ All rockfishes; including those not identified to species

² Cumulative released to date (June + July) summed across periods where surveys are active

³ Sum of currently received manifest and logbook reported catches, not a complete estimate of July catch

⁴ Including only those areas with in-season estimates this month.



South Coast Creel Survey Bulletin #3 – July 2011

Table 6 Preliminary recreational kept Chinook catch estimates (number of fish) by Pacific Fishery Management Area (PFMA), July 2011, divided into Aggregate Abundance-based Management (AABM) and Individual Stock-based Management (ISBM) groupings.

Area	Region	AABM			ISBM		
		Estimate	Year to date ¹	Year to date 5-yr average ¹	Estimate	Year to date ¹	Year to date 5-yr average ¹
21	Nitinat	11	11	300	-	-	-
121	Swiftsure Bank	5,213	6,051	1,800	-	-	-
23 -1,2	Alberni Inlet	12	12	200	-	-	-
23 - 3 to 11	Barkley Sound	4,914	6,031	6,100	-	-	-
123	Offshore Barkley	10,241	12,135	10,700	-	-	-
24	Clayquot Sound	418	446	300	-	-	-
124	Offshore Clayquot	4,226	6,830	3,000	-	-	-
25	Nootka Snd. / Esperanza Inlet	-	-	-	13,956	13,956	5,500
125	Offshore Nootka	2,021	2,021	1,100	-	-	-
26 ²	Kyuquot Sound	-	-	-	361	464	700
126 ²	Offshore Kyuquot	993	1,056	1,800	-	-	-
27	Quatsino Sound	-	-	-	967	1,311	1,000
127	Offshore Quatsino	1,786	2,070	3,000	-	-	-
Total		29,835	36,662	28,300	15,285	15,732	7,200

¹ Cumulative kept to date (June + July) summed across periods where surveys are active

² Sum of currently received manifest and logbook reported catches, not a complete estimate of current catch