



South Coast Assessment Bulletin September 2023 Creel Survey Update Recreational Fishery South Coast Tidal Waters

Overview:

This bulletin provides a monthly update on estimates of recreational fin-fishing effort and catch in the marine waters of southern British Columbia, within Pacific Fishery Management Areas 11 - 29, 111, and 121 - 127. These estimates are generated from data collected by the DFO's South Coast Creel Survey. An overview of the survey, the study area, and methods used to collect data and generate these estimates is provided in the first bulletin of 2023, available on the Federal Science Library catalogue:

<http://science-libraries.canada.ca/eng/home/>

The search term 'South Coast assessment bulletin, creel survey' is helpful to find the bulletins.

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 the responsibility of all fishers to be familiar with the current regulations prior to fishing. Information on regulations and management measures in place can be accessed from the Fisheries and Oceans Canada Pacific Region Recreational Fishery webpage:

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

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

<http://notices.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fns-sap/index-eng.cfm>

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. Maps identifying the PFMA's are available by following the link provided above to the Fisheries and Oceans Canada Pacific Region Recreational Fishery webpage.

Cumulative totals are calculated from June to September inclusive.

Recreational Catch Estimates:

Summaries of preliminary kept and released catch estimates for key species by PFMA are presented in Tables 2 through 5. Table 6 presents kept Chinook catch estimates by Pacific Fishery Management Area, divided into Aggregate Abundance-based Management (AABM) and Individual Stock-based Management (ISBM) groupings.

Note:

As of March 2022, catch and effort estimates for the creel sub-areas within the management corridor along the west coast of Vancouver Island (i.e. 1 nm seaward from the surfline, from Barkley to Quatsino) are included as part of the associated offshore PFMA, with the exception of Chinook AABM/ISBM catch estimates (Table 6) as per the Pacific Salmon Treaty.

During overflights in PFMA's 24, 124, 25, and 125, Five Nations vessels are indistinguishable from sport vessels. Current in-season estimates are not adjusted to remove Five Nations effort.

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Table 1: Creel survey statistics (number of interviews and flights) and preliminary effort estimates (number of boat trips) by Pacific Fishery Management Area, September 2023.

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 avg
11	No Survey This Month			%	1625	1613
111	No Survey This Month			%	234	660
12	No Survey This Month			%	5084	9724
13	112	8	3571	14%	21198	22214
14	152	8	5905	11%	17120	17747
15		8	838	15%	5475	6817
16	11	8	947	15%	5835	8216
17	133	8	2120	14%	10638	8713
18	52	8	967	13%	3769	3527
19	226	8	2941	23%	9718	9259
20	417	13	6474	27%	28413	28921
21	No Survey This Month	9		%	229	595
121	10	10	91	28%	1668	2394
23	383	13	4785	17%	28201	23759
123	88	13	826	22%	6737	6836
24	104	9	306	15%	1176	1123
124	70	10	346	24%	3120	2946
25	No Survey This Month			%	7796	10401
125	No Survey This Month			%	3647	2684
26	No Survey This Month			%	2545	3250
126	No Survey This Month			%	2677	2404
27	No Survey This Month			%	3453	3892
127	No Survey This Month			%	2183	1594
28	73	8	2248	16%	7837	4967
29	69	8	6111	19%	14049	13573
Total ⁴	1900		38476	7%	194427	197829

¹ The number of flights where weather conditions allowed effort counts.

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

³ Cumulative effort (from June 2023) to date summed across periods where surveys are active.

⁴ Individual flights cover multiple PFMAs, so an additive total is not appropriate.

Table 2: Preliminary recreational kept catch estimates (number of fish) for key salmon species by Pacific Fishery Management Area (PFMA), September 2023. 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												
111												
12												
13	3408	18%	19204	19308	6563	15%	17824	2556				
14	5602	18%	14744	11285	5983	13%	14482	2708				
15	1114	19%	5582	4479	583	16%	2451	263				
16	124	54%	998	3096	570	28%	2420	219				
17	399	27%	2941	2443	735	23%	7842	1050				
18	188	32%	461	293								
19	908	23%	3618	1733	436	42%	801	279				
20	3827	24%	20883	17387	4683	33%	13610	12512				
21												
121												
23	4272	18%	31333	22227	3103	17%	11250	7804				
123	1525	26%	14005	14422	413	33%	2956	5807				
24					723	19%	1128	1276				
124	162	40%	5516	3711								
25												
125												
26												
126												
27												
127												
28	1974	32%	3691	921	396	38%	2672	797				
29	7897	24%	8962	5260	1583	42%	9745	1301				
Kept Total ²	31400	9%	131938	106565	25771	9%	87181	36572	0		0	0

¹Cumulative kept catch (from June 2023) to date summed across periods where surveys are active.

²Including only those areas with in-season estimates this month.

Table 3: Preliminary recreational released catch estimates (number of fish) for key salmon species by Pacific Fishery Management Area (PFMA), September 2023. 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												
111												
12												
13	7341	20%	42875	41625	6267	25%	40248	11983				
14	7547	21%	27350	34087	4984	19%	27147	10868				
15	1261	21%	10012	10893	468	21%	6375	1106				
16	198	61%	3212	7495	1218	31%	6370	1619				
17	4890	22%	21329	22058	4194	22%	25991	3865				
18	2073	26%	4725	1637	1153	25%	2069	283				
19	2183	25%	6508	3513	1626	33%	2447	1420				
20	8112	33%	55577	35716	16567	30%	46770	38165	71	125%	536	330
21												
121	4	108%	481	1291	23	95%	1072	6136				
23	2379	25%	39914	36414	694	32%	3857	3664	7	118%	1838	1370
123	656	47%	8077	11686	365	40%	6031	12670				
24	36	58%	321	371	269	33%	370	265				
124	20	69%	1807	1356	177	86%	3049	1191				
25												
125												
26												
126												
27												
127												
28	379	30%	2030	1501	456	36%	2852	360				
29	4620	31%	12133	11017	2426	35%	21671	3158	182	113%	184	558
Released Total ²	41699	10%	236351	220660	40887	14%	196319	96753	260	86%	2558	2258

¹Cumulative released catch (from June 2023) to date summed across periods where surveys are active.

²Including only those areas with in-season estimates this month.

Table 4: Preliminary recreational kept catch estimates (number of fish) for key groundfish species by Pacific Fishery Management Area (PFMA), September 2023. 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												
111												
12												
13	0		0	33	434	32%	4373	2749	360	43%	2770	2300
14	0		26	14	354	52%	841	650	466	47%	1127	1090
15	0		20	27	34	50%	370	586	58	64%	395	665
16	0		54	22	21	107%	1010	1288	289	30%	1469	2237
17	0		0	0	224	38%	871	623	83	46%	1447	1526
18	0		0	5	77	40%	412	401	100	32%	791	870
19	117	50%	597	680	195	37%	464	400	498	25%	1940	1799
20	93	52%	233	296	359	41%	1750	1417	836	25%	3684	5553
21												
121	13	80%	4343	5708	69	66%	1057	744	14	57%	1700	1568
23	0		70	105	490	66%	1904	1212	770	34%	3985	2913
123	980	48%	8154	5314	764	41%	2932	1277	389	35%	4255	2751
24	0		19	35	4	99%	129	181	71	62%	313	420
124	115	50%	2216	1373	599	50%	4241	1352	307	37%	2190	1439
25												
125												
26												
126												
27												
127												
28	0		0	2	15	170%	79	2	0		0	34
29	0		0	1	54	46%	515	495	7	71%	197	779
Kept Total ³	1318	36%	15732	13615	3693	17%	20948	13377	4248	12%	26263	25944

¹ All rockfishes including those not identified to species.

² Cumulative kept catch (from June 2023) to date summed across periods where surveys are active.

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

Table 5: Preliminary recreational released catch estimates (number of fish) for key groundfish species by Pacific Fishery Management Area (PFMA), September 2023. 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 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 ¹
11												
111												
12												
13	0		0	27	1144	32%	8742	6728	891	30%	5878	4429
14	0		0	36	243	69%	758	3093	987	52%	2062	5748
15	0		0	2	121	49%	1208	1279	168	32%	1297	2428
16	0		0	0	124	54%	1300	2337	124	54%	2211	5151
17	0		34	2	619	27%	2114	1609	568	33%	1633	2722
18	0		0	19	181	39%	1217	1598	87	30%	938	1620
19	2	118%	142	154	1754	32%	5349	4355	787	36%	2480	3284
20	0		44	68	940	34%	3558	4857	781	27%	4365	5781
21												
121	27	91%	1223	187	10	108%	292	183	6	77%	615	241
23	0		16	25	738	56%	3161	1741	1682	58%	5810	2890
123	220	73%	1642	615	422	43%	3289	1140	283	38%	2202	1688
24	0		0	1	4	99%	18	68	51	107%	165	303
124	10	80%	234	207	344	59%	1582	364	209	35%	835	642
25												
125												
26												
126												
27												
127												
28	0		0	0	90	61%	90	46	0		0	79
29	0		0	5	67	37%	893	907	77	39%	1055	643
Released Total ³	259	63%	3335	1348	6801	14%	33571	30305	6701	18%	31546	37649

¹ All rockfishes including those not identified to species.

² Cumulative released catch (from June 2023) to date summed across periods where surveys are active.

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

Table 6: Preliminary recreational kept Chinook catch estimates (number of fish) by Pacific Fishery Management Area (PFMA), September 2023, 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 ²	Estimate	Year to date ¹	Year to date 5-yr. average ²
121	Swiftsure Bank	0	1356	4500	0	0	0
123	Offshore Barkley	233	5045	9800	1292	8961	4600
124	Offshore Clayoquot	0	4393	2550	103	1124	1150
125	Offshore Nootka	0	3423	1200	0	1593	1500
126	Offshore Kyuquot	0	2715	1450	0	0	200
127	Offshore Quatsino	0	2915	1000	0	340	300
20 (West)	Juan de Fuca	0	0	0	331	7070	6600
21	Nitinat	0	565	1000	0	0	450
23-1,2	Alberni Inlet	0	0	150	766	7630	6050
23-3 to 11	Barkley Sound	0	6596	7250	3506	17076	8850
24	Clayoquot Sound	0	900	350	0	0	200
25	Nootka Snd. / Esperanza Inlet	0	606	1150	0	8605	9250
26	Kyuquot Sound	0	597	1200	0	3708	4150
27	Quatsino Sound	0	1474	750	0	2505	2150
Total		233	30585	32350	5998	58612	45450

¹Cumulative kept catch (from June 2023) to date summed across periods where surveys are active.

²Cumulative kept catch 5-year averages have been rounded to the nearest 50 fish.