



South Coast Assessment Bulletin September 2024 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 2024, 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 2024.

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			%	1713	1528
111	No Survey This Month			%	807	704
12	No Survey This Month			%	6055	7517
13	256	7	3105	10%	22891	20521
14	239	8	4556	18%	21722	17959
15	112	8	613	17%	7835	6204
16	16	8	753	15%	8238	7715
17	123	8	1876	11%	12103	9259
18	39	8	858	10%	5186	3521
19	172	8	2156	13%	9375	8791
20	483	12	6476	12%	27938	27893
21	No Survey This Month	9		100%	356	502
121	10	9	38	45%	1377	1993
23	170	9	3883	17%	32475	24701
123	65	11	689	22%	5833	6552
24	61	9	267	27%	1679	981
124	86	10	290	28%	3226	2618
25	No Survey This Month			%	8667	9786
125	No Survey This Month			%	3228	2802
26	No Survey This Month			%	2000	3126
126	No Survey This Month			%	2372	2525
27	No Survey This Month			%	3094	3830
127	No Survey This Month			%	2333	1713
28	84	8	1103	10%	5438	5477
29	178	9	7440	17%	13951	11547
Total ⁴	2094		34103	6%	209892	189765

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 2024) 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 2024. 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	1560	15%	13373	17857	6049	9%	20430	4606				
14	3649	18%	19199	12784	6490	18%	16549	4455				
15	314	23%	4344	4574	676	17%	3037	604				
16	239	28%	2587	2599	159	25%	4663	582				
17	203	28%	3039	2585	698	23%	8540	2110				
18												
19	830	21%	3086	1942	355	27%	543	377				
20	2933	14%	23266	16714	6927	10%	16191	13325				
21												
121												
23	2202	28%	24604	24540	1303	24%	12455	8838				
123	818	43%	10982	13812	325	45%	5559	4139				
24					592	26%	2952	1283				
124												
25												
125												
26												
126												
27												
127												
28	342	26%	786	1580	215	31%	3425	1138				
29	15715	19%	16896	6432	2611	24%	8790	2827				
Kept Total ²	28805	11%	122162	105419	26400	6%	103134	44284	0		0	0

¹Cumulative kept catch (from June 2024) 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 2024. 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	4375	14%	33603	43739	5756	14%	63137	11663				
14	7203	21%	37937	36662	8302	23%	45157	12006				
15	761	27%	14384	12746	918	26%	10448	1867				
16	635	23%	13007	8146	729	28%	20834	1733				
17	3455	33%	16600	24854	5026	16%	35725	7612				
18	428	24%	2433	2503	227	31%	562	679				
19	1475	28%	4175	4232	1807	26%	2370	1757				
20	2660	25%	30851	38349	23579	13%	44343	42843				
21												
121	0		297	1074	25	66%	4508	5032				
23	2855	30%	60278	35644	51	57%	3197	3933	0		3394	1667
123	365	56%	8494	10049	619	51%	12235	9088				
24	13	125%	214	377	16	68%	118	280				
124	0		2678	1309	41	120%	2332	1304				
25												
125												
26												
126												
27												
127												
28	476	47%	4107	1854	1305	24%	7941	841	64	82%	64	110
29	6350	19%	14019	12715	12241	21%	31471	6763	50	88%	50	553
Released Total ²	31051	8%	243077	234253	60642	8%	284378	107401	114	60%	3508	2330

¹Cumulative released catch (from June 2024) 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 2024. 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		18	37	417	29%	3546	2822	142	45%	1809	2423
14	9	113%	38	9	3	70%	480	686	460	43%	1975	1170
15	0		0	26	8	79%	170	487	60	51%	357	525
16	0		0	28	34	68%	590	1205	175	30%	695	2123
17	0		0	0	187	44%	1530	713	642	48%	1815	1466
18	0		0	4	147	24%	1109	397	289	22%	1835	915
19	93	53%	476	691	109	40%	636	407	301	33%	2764	1912
20	90	84%	316	333	1213	27%	2839	1663	1835	21%	6923	5457
21												
121	11	67%	3081	5142	214	49%	753	785	294	52%	781	1198
23	0		244	119	212	50%	1936	1307	277	33%	3324	2797
123	622	49%	5244	6061	817	43%	2631	1681	428	52%	3118	3078
24	0		0	33	2	101%	154	145	85	78%	407	302
124	341	49%	3526	1578	229	54%	2736	1831	120	39%	1367	1319
25												
125												
26												
126												
27												
127												
28	0		0	2	0		0	10	0		0	34
29	0		0	1	76	41%	528	488	137	36%	457	740
Kept Total ³	1166	31%	12943	14064	3668	15%	19638	14627	5245	12%	27627	25459

¹ All rockfishes including those not identified to species.

² Cumulative kept catch (from June 2024) 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 2024. Percent standard error (%SE; one standard error as a percentage of the estimate), a measure of uncertainty, is indicated for estimates from PFMAs 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	31	1303	23%	9290	7464	328	30%	3728	4203
14	0		0	7	66	52%	989	3030	893	30%	3752	5466
15	0		13	2	163	48%	2212	1422	212	48%	2034	1638
16	0		18	0	568	64%	2560	2511	251	35%	2920	4470
17	0		0	10	368	43%	1306	1718	310	31%	1393	2601
18	0		0	16	472	21%	2897	1701	520	22%	2625	1442
19	0		7	110	1157	30%	4854	4824	618	31%	3454	3051
20	0		22	64	916	31%	4039	4828	1745	30%	6660	5241
21												
121	0		223	398	282	69%	455	204	246	79%	274	336
23	0		49	17	86	54%	2320	1891	537	42%	6322	2959
123	1	153%	1304	795	413	42%	2157	1557	185	51%	1757	1587
24	0		0	1	0		31	71	0		96	308
124	8	81%	683	228	29	116%	823	625	37	54%	502	678
25												
125												
26												
126												
27												
127												
28	0		0	0	0		16	54	0		2	79
29	0		0	4	205	37%	564	854	329	38%	504	687
Released Total ³	9	71%	2319	1683	6028	12%	34513	32754	6211	12%	36023	34746

¹ All rockfishes including those not identified to species.

² Cumulative released catch (from June 2024) 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 2024, 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	3218	2950	0	0	0
123	Offshore Barkley	460	7411	7750	357	3572	6050
124	Offshore Clayoquot	0	6061	2550	0	761	1000
125	Offshore Nootka	0	1916	1550	0	2031	1650
126	Offshore Kyuquot	0	1430	1350	0	0	150
127	Offshore Quatsino	0	2742	1400	0	384	300
20 (West)	Juan de Fuca	0	0	0	1104	7670	6700
21	Nitinat	0	1418	900	0	0	500
23-1,2	Alberni Inlet	0	0	150	508	3402	6950
23-3 to 11	Barkley Sound	0	9877	7000	1694	11326	10550
24	Clayoquot Sound	0	365	450	0	0	200
25	Nootka Snd. / Esperanza Inlet	0	2017	1100	0	12975	9200
26	Kyuquot Sound	0	1213	1100	0	2864	4050
27	Quatsino Sound	0	1514	950	0	2064	2150
Total		460	39182	29200	3663	47049	49450

¹Cumulative kept catch (from June 2024) to date summed across periods where surveys are active.

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