



South Coast Assessment Bulletin
June 2025 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 (PFMA) 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 2025 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 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.

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 PFMA, 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, June 2025.

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	38	5	397	18%	397	347
111	28	5	299	69%	299	264
12	95	6	283	31%	283	526
13	181	8	2747	18%	2747	1742
14	177	8	4284	24%	4284	1838
15	70	8	1496	15%	1496	1248
16	47	8	1948	25%	1948	1336
17	186	7	3176	19%	3176	1469
18	34	8	1167	15%	1167	863
19	127	9	1808	14%	1808	1262
20	420	13	2405	9%	2405	2082
21	146	9	224	24%	224	248
121	126	9	237	18%	237	360
23	378	9	5759	12%	5759	3929
123	135	9	777	18%	777	457
24	32	9	273	19%	273	271
124	72	9	659	16%	659	394
25	78	8	812	16%	812	820
125	30	8	939	25%	939	786
26	Insufficient Data	5		%		522
126	Insufficient Data	4		%		301
27	139	7	1227	10%	1227	774
127	77	7	311	35%	311	297
28	37	7	1335	11%	1335	847
29	53	7	3045	17%	3045	1325
Total ⁴	2719		35608	5%	35608	24308

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 2025) 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), June 2025. 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)	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	1052	18%	1052	871								
111	1405	51%	1405	804								
12												
13	1047	32%	1047	589	3930	27%	3930	597				
14					8143	25%	8143	1143				
15	1915	27%	1915	1647	128	36%	128	179				
16					291	58%	291	504				
17					5427	23%	5427	693				
18					113	75%	113	13				
19												
20	804	21%	804	147	374	30%	374	893				
21	1260	19%	1260	603								
121												
23	4366	10%	4366	3196	1197	15%	1197	756	8979	25%	8979	7104
123	691	23%	691	411								
24	349	31%	349	221	153	37%	153	31				
124	225	25%	225	242								
25	1888	19%	1888	1354	497	25%	497	466				
125	1317	35%	1317	1195	192	70%	192	459				
26												
126												
27	2026	13%	2026	1103	553	16%	553	408				
127	115	36%	115	105								
28					1705	19%	1705	335				
29					4055	22%	4055	750				
Kept Total ²	18460	7%	18460	12488	26758	11%	26758	7227	8979	25%	8979	7104

¹Cumulative kept catch (from June 2025) 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), June 2025. 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	453	32%	453	249	0		0	3				
111	157	113%	157	171	0		0	0				
12	232	31%	232	392	18	32%	18	45				
13	6133	17%	6133	5115	8149	27%	8149	2529	20	107%	20	
14	6553	19%	6553	6732	17253	27%	17253	3642	0		0	
15	7791	24%	7791	4613	483	27%	483	675				
16	1936	39%	1936	1125	2384	39%	2384	1090				
17	5155	16%	5155	2925	10314	21%	10314	2177				
18	1558	29%	1558	259	363	64%	363	46				
19	731	30%	731	230	22	68%	22	64				
20	3542	14%	3542	1929	947	23%	947	2610				
21	534	26%	534	148	29	46%	29	3				
121	0		0	8	36	43%	36	49				
23	10567	12%	10567	11731	675	30%	675	298	713	43%	713	604
123	770	35%	770	450	90	80%	90	138				
24	214	34%	214	111	31	86%	31	11				
124	42	44%	42	83	5	96%	5	8				
25	1927	41%	1927	2672	270	43%	270	305				
125	1391	53%	1391	2562	174	130%	174	409				
26												
126												
27	847	27%	847	686	243	31%	243	156				
127	12	86%	12	64								
28	2413	19%	2413	883	4415	21%	4415	606				
29	5509	23%	5509	2376	10672	23%	10672	1512				
Released Total ²	58467	6%	58467	45514	56573	11%	56573	16376	733	42%	733	604

¹Cumulative released catch (from June 2025) 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), June 2025. 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 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	223	57%	223	225	376	23%	376	503	822	30%	822	547
111	221	69%	221	140	270	68%	270	221	589	59%	589	696
12	55	62%	55	181	132	66%	132	181	173	37%	173	353
13	0		0	8	274	32%	274	340	430	39%	430	391
14	22	110%	22	0	142	127%	142	159	106	44%	106	137
15	0		0	10	247	46%	247	257	156	93%	156	153
16	0		0	22	24	70%	24	184	233	53%	233	359
17	0		0	0	339	33%	339	283	154	37%	154	254
18	0		0	0	181	36%	181	121	220	42%	220	315
19	166	59%	166	209	253	29%	253	100	477	26%	477	433
20	134	33%	134	103	113	35%	113	305	670	17%	670	960
21	29	42%	29	35	58	44%	58	53	149	23%	149	151
121	651	18%	651	1197	81	31%	81	130	71	27%	71	254
23	12	103%	12	55	560	19%	560	333	1115	19%	1115	652
123	482	31%	482	420	621	35%	621	231	477	27%	477	401
24	2	108%	2	18	15	81%	15	36	118	61%	118	184
124	471	37%	471	467	138	89%	138	322	208	44%	208	335
25	45	57%	45	125	276	57%	276	244	111	51%	111	359
125	323	84%	323	351	1643	38%	1643	1163	561	27%	561	665
26												
126												
27	238	27%	238	130	723	23%	723	544	704	20%	704	565
127	168	50%	168	259	1174	38%	1174	956	446	29%	446	542
28	0		0	2	0		0	1	0		0	10
29	0		0	1	91	91%	91	196	43	91%	43	258
Kept Total ³	3242	14%	3242	3958	7731	12%	7731	6863	8033	8%	8033	8974

¹ All rockfishes including those not identified to species.

² Cumulative kept catch (from June 2025) 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), June 2025. 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	15	74%	15	62	155	27%	155	239	303	31%	303	319
111	1		1	33	110	111%	110	298	236	88%	236	431
12	17	100%	17	36	58	48%	58	151	328	39%	328	769
13	0		0	1	918	24%	918	1590	461	42%	461	865
14	0		0	0	415	68%	415	437	403	52%	403	622
15	0		0	0	214	36%	214	665	509	50%	509	556
16	0		0	0	289	47%	289	497	697	30%	697	617
17	0		0	2	803	26%	803	566	431	30%	431	549
18	0		0	0	589	36%	589	307	1061	41%	1061	447
19	95	61%	95	19	784	30%	784	1272	1199	28%	1199	644
20	112	50%	112	25	719	32%	719	956	939	26%	939	1089
21	0		0	4	52	57%	52	36	40	40%	40	45
121	232	20%	232	243	24	46%	24	38	38	31%	38	82
23	18	105%	18	12	552	28%	552	658	994	23%	994	688
123	326	47%	326	78	893	36%	893	357	597	28%	597	154
24	2	108%	2	0	0		0	9	21	69%	21	399
124	34	86%	34	178	7	133%	7	100	105	70%	105	162
25	15	120%	15	11	149	55%	149	175	384	95%	384	232
125	0		0	67	587	36%	587	944	536	52%	536	872
26												
126												
27	38	76%	38	38	400	34%	400	262	1077	20%	1077	463
127	103	76%	103	46	275	34%	275	333	427	35%	427	491
28	0		0	0	0		0	8	9	79%	9	77
29	0		0	0	316	59%	316	292	121	75%	121	208
Released Total ³	1008	20%	1008	855	8309	9%	8309	10190	10916	9%	10916	10781

¹ All rockfishes including those not identified to species.

² Cumulative released catch (from June 2025) 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), June 2025, 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	0	0	0	0	0
123	Offshore Barkley	691	691	400	0	0	0
124	Offshore Clayoquot	225	225	350	0	0	0
125	Offshore Nootka	1317	1317	1450	0	0	0
126	Offshore Kyuquot	0	0	0	0	0	0
127	Offshore Quatsino	115	115	200	0	0	0
20 (West)	Juan de Fuca	0	0	0	0	0	0
21	Nitinat	1260	1260	600	0	0	0
23-1,2	Alberni Inlet	0	0	150	0	0	0
23-3 to 11	Barkley Sound	4331	4331	3150	0	0	0
24	Clayoquot Sound	349	349	200	0	0	0
25	Nootka Snd. / Esperanza Inlet	1888	1888	1350	0	0	0
26	Kyuquot Sound	0	0	1200	0	0	0
27	Quatsino Sound	2026	2026	1100	0	0	0
Total		12202	12202	10150	0	0	0

¹Cumulative kept catch (from June 2025) to date summed across periods where surveys are active.

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