

Taku Salmon Fisheries Management and Stock Assessment Update: June 4, 2010.

Canadian Fisheries:

Commercial

Commercial fishing commenced at an assessment level the last week of April and increased to a normal (directed) level after 3.5 weeks. Catches are compared with those from directed fisheries which took place in 2005, 2006 and 2009.

This week, statistical week (SW) 23, starting Sunday May 30) was posted for three days, based on a guideline set pre-week of 911 fish. The first two days saw catches of about 350 fish; the third, about 400. The fishery closed as scheduled with a total catch of 1,087 fish. Water levels appeared to have peaked, and were either dropping slightly or remaining static for the opening. The average number of licences fishing was ten.

Catch per unit effort (CPUE) was 36 fish per boat-day (fbd), compared to the 2005-06&09 average of 26 fbd. For comparison, border passage for these years averaged 42,000 fish. Until now, CPUE has been slightly below average in 2010.

The third joint Canada/U.S. inseason abundance estimate was made after day 3 (Wednesday). The mark-recapture estimate of the in-river run (i.e. border passage) to date is 25,500 fish. Using this, adding the US sport catch through the previous week (744 fish), and expanding by average estimated run timing (62%) gives a terminal run projection of 42,500 fish, consistent with last week's projections and the pre-season forecast. The allowable catches (ACs) associated with this run size are 6,500 and 4,200 fish for Canada and the U.S., respectively. These ACs are based on the revised interim spawning escapement goal of 25,500 fish. In addition, Canada and the U.S. are allocated base level catches of 1,500 and 3,500 fish, respectively. Canada has harvested a total of 3,170 fish to date. Based on this run assessment, a total of 22,000 fish have escaped to spawning areas.

The fishery for next week (SW 24, starting Sunday June 6) will open on two days.

First Nations – Food Social and Ceremonial (FSC) Fishery

Species	Catch To Date	Season Total	
	2010	2009	10 yr. Avg.
Chinook	66	202	157
Sockeye	-	106	160
Coho	-	154	323

No additional catches reported this week.

U.S. Fisheries, District 11:

The D11 gillnet fishery is not scheduled to open again next week, as the weekly guideline associated with the AC noted above is considered to be unmanageably small. The estimated sport catch through last week is 744 fish. The sport fishery has the following limits as long as an AC exists.

Regulation	If AC exists
Taku Inlet north of Cooper Point	Open
Resident daily bag limit (daily/possession)	3/3
Non-resident daily bag limit (May/remainder of year)	2/2
Non-resident annual limit	5
Number of rods an angler can fish (spring & summer)	2

More information on Alaskan fisheries can be accessed on the internet at [2010 Inseason Alaska Salmon Summary: Division of Commercial Fisheries - Alaska Department of Fish and Game.](#)

Index Catches – Canyon Island

Species	Count		
	2010	2009	10 yr Avg.
Chinook	349	518	531
Sockeye	-	-	-
Coho	-	-	-
Pink	-	-	-
Chum	-	-	-

Fishwheel catches have been about 50% of average for the past week. The standard netting has ceased; some supplementary netting is still taking place (currently at Flannigan Slough), with 394 fish caught to date.

Taku Smolt Coded Wire Tagging

Species	To Date	Total
	2010	10 yr. Avg
Chinook	30,000	28,000
Coho	23,000	30,000

Catches dropped to almost 0 so project terminated about one week ahead of schedule. Both chinook and coho were below respective targets of 40,000 and 30,000.

Tatsamenie Lake Smolt Enumeration Program

Fyke-net is fishing efficiently but catches have dropped off slightly. It is too early to project run.

Please note that these updates are posted on the Fisheries and Oceans Canada website on the [Yukon/Transboundary Fisheries Management Homepage](#).