



South Coast Salmon

West Coast of Vancouver Island Stock Assessment

October 25, 2024: Escapement Bulletin #7 – all salmon species

Summary:

This bulletin details the current in-season escapement information for salmon returning to assessed river systems on the West Coast of Vancouver Island (WCVI) in 2024. The WCVI area extends from the San Juan River north to Quatsino Sound. Estimates reported here are preliminary and should be interpreted with caution.

Average Timing:

| Species | Arrival | Peak Count | Start of Spawning | Peak of Spawning | End of Spawning |
|------------------------|-----------|--------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Chinook | Early Sep | Early Oct | Late Sep | Early Oct | Late Oct |
| Coho | Early Sep | Late Oct | Late Oct | Mid Nov | Mid Dec |
| Chum | Late Sep | Mid-Late Oct | Early Oct | Mid Oct | Early Nov |
| Clemens Sockeye | Early Sep | Mid-Late Oct | Early Oct | Early Nov | Mid Nov |

Environmental Conditions:

Extended dry conditions through the summer and into September resulted in very low flows in many WCVI systems. These abnormally low water conditions impacted migration into many of the smaller and non-flow-controlled systems on the island until Sept 22nd. Significant rainfall that fell on September 22-25th, improved migration conditions in many WCVI streams. A second, rainfall event Sept 26-27th increased water levels significantly, particularly in the North, and delayed some surveys due to high water and poor visibility. Two more rain events in early October Oct 4-5th, and 7-8th brought in Chum and delayed some swims. A few dry days over Thanksgiving weekend allowed for a few surveys, but a further rain event, brought in another group of Chum and pushed river levels above good survey conditions, likely delaying some surveys. An atmospheric river hit the coast Oct 18-20 and dropped up to 300mm of rain on the coast and peaked rivers well beyond surveyable conditions, though many rivers have dropped back into surveyable conditions in the last couple of days. Real-time hydrometric data can be found at [VI Hydromets \(pacfish.ca\)](https://vi.hydromets.pacfish.ca) for WCVI Area monitored systems and others.

Operations:

Daily monitoring for the Somass (Area 23) system continues through video monitoring at the Sproat and Stamp fishways. Periodic visual surveys, mostly snorkel surveys, continue in most index systems with some delays due to recent high water and forecasted rain. Chum brood collection is underway. The San Juan fence has been removed and swims of the San Juan have started. The most recent Kaouk survey was cut short and did not include the lower river, so we'll have to wait for the next full swim to assess the Chum return there.

2024 Pre-season Expectations:

Chinook: Terminal Chinook returns of Conuma, Nitinat, and smaller WCVI indicator stocks are forecast to be above average in 2024. The forecast of aggregate terminal abundance (sum of all hatchery and wild indicator stocks, including RCH) is 244,000 adults (range: 141,000–345,000), significantly higher than the long-term average of 160,000 (1980–2022). The overall expected adult age composition of the WCVI aggregate terminal run is 23% age-3, 62% age-4, and 16% age-5, with an expected sex ratio of 44% female. Spawner levels in natural indicator streams in the Southwest Vancouver Island (SWVI) Conservation Unit (CU) remain below

* [BC Drought Information Portal - Drought Map | BC Drought Information Portal \(gov.bc.ca\)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov2/drought)

upper biological benchmarks with fewer than 100 spawners observed in some rivers in recent years. WCVI natural-origin Chinook therefore remains a stock of concern.

Coho: The outlook for WCVI Coho is based on the forecasted marine survival for both the Robertson Creek Hatchery (RBT) Coho and of Carnation Creek wild Coho. The two RBT indicators are forecasting “Critical” and “Moderate” marine survival statuses while the wild Carnation Creek indicator is forecasting an “Abundant” marine survival status. For management purposes in 2024, DFO will be using a “Moderate” status to guide the management regime of WCVI inshore fisheries. This is the same management regime used in 2023.

Pink: No formal forecast of pink populations on the West Coast of Vancouver Island.

Chum: For 2024, the forecasted Chum return to the WCVI ranges from 308,480 to 560,481 adult spawners. Forecasted abundances for each area are generally below the fishery reference points, but a few areas may see returns that permit limited fisheries.

Somass Sockeye: For 2024 fishery management purposes, the Area 23 Roundtable has agreed to begin fisheries in the “Moderate” zone (500000–700000 adult return) for early season harvest management. Henderson Lake Sockeye remain a constraining stock in the “Low” zone.

2024 Observations to Date: Chinook spawning is winding down and numbers are declining, the expected bump in Chum numbers has been observed in many systems, and Chum spawning is underway.

Escapement Monitoring Framework: There are records of spawning salmon populations in over 170 streams or rivers across the West Coast of Vancouver Island (DFO Statistical Areas 20 to 27, roughly Port Renfrew to Quatsino Sound). Indicator stocks are used to monitor the status of populations across the area. Many groups participate in the annual WCVI escapement survey, including First Nations, DFO-contracted survey crews and local stewardship groups. Where escapement counts or surveys are conducted, the estimates are classed to one of three categories:

1. True Abundance – Indicator Systems

Full quantitative escapement assessments of indicator streams or other complete escapement counts are classified as True Abundance; fish are counted as they move upstream past a fixed location. The type of count for these systems is cumulative. The number reported in the tables below is the total number of fish that have migrated past the fixed point enumeration site as of the count date. These are generally assessed through counting operations at fishways or fences, using video recordings or sonar counting systems (e.g. DIDSON), although mark-recapture is an alternative method. Some indicator stocks are marked (e.g. using coded-wire tags or thermally-marked otoliths) and recovery of marks in fisheries and escapement allows survival, distribution, and exploitation rate parameters to be estimated.

Estimate Classifications: Type-1, True, high resolution; Type-2, True, medium resolution

Planned Data Quality: Level 1 (High Quality)

True abundance estimates for Somass Chinook, Somass Sockeye, and Carnation Creek Coho are reported, as cumulative escapement to date, in these bulletins.

2. Relative Abundance – Intensive Monitoring

Estimates for most systems that are monitored for escapement are classified as relative abundance estimates, where a partial quantitative escapement assessment is conducted. The type of these survey assessments are periodic and include swim surveys, helicopter counts, bank or stream walks, tagging and index surveys. Methods are generally consistent from year to year, so relative change can be monitored. AUC estimates are calculated when the system was surveyed with good coverage of the population on a regular basis (from 4 to 10 surveys over the spawning season, covering the start, peak and end of the run) and PL+D estimates are used when the surveys are too far apart (longer than the expected survey life of the species for that system), or there are too few surveys to calculate an AUC.

Estimate Classifications: Type-3, Relative, high resolution; Type-4, Relative, medium resolution; Type-5, Relative, low resolution

Planned Data Quality: Level 2 (Medium or Mixed Quality) or Level 3 (Low Quality). Quality depends on the level of effort and timing relative to run timing of the species of interest.

All relative abundance systems are recorded here as the PL+D estimate up to and including the most recent survey (e.g. in-season data). The PL+D counts are only a minimum index of abundance as the final escapement estimates may be corrected for observer efficiency and estimated “survey life” of spawners (via AUC analyses).

Relative abundance estimates in hatchery systems are often monitored more closely than other systems, and may include a mixed survey type (e.g. True Abundance counts of fish entering the hatchery mixed with estimates for the river via swim surveys or overflights). Salmon returns to Nitinat, Conuma, and San Juan are in this category.

3. Presence/Absence – Extensive Monitoring

This category defines the estimate when only a partial count was available, and/or the count was not representative of the entire population or habitat. These are labelled as adults present, when one or more adults were observed, or none observed, when no fish were observed during a survey. These systems are not detailed in this bulletin. Estimate Classification: Type-6, Presence or Absence; Data Quality: Level 3

Data Quality: The WCVI escapement monitoring program results in escapement estimates of variable quality. While all the information is useful, not all estimates should be accorded the same weight in fisheries management decisions. The following guidelines were used to rank the escapement information presented in this bulletin:

Level 1 (High Quality) Estimates. These estimates are subject to quality control and peer review. Estimates of abundance are reliable and include an estimate of uncertainty.

Level 2 (Medium or Mixed Quality) Estimates. These estimates have some inherent shortcomings with regard to scientific quality (e.g. greater uncertainty, potential biases, etc.); however they are still useful for informing fishery management decisions.

Level 3 (Low Quality) Estimates. These estimates substantially fail to meet standards of scientific quality and therefore are of limited utility for informing fishery management decisions. However, the information is still used to monitor salmon distribution, consistency of patterns throughout the region, and checks on habitat changes.

Results:

In-season assessment results (raw (unexpanded), adult, peak live plus dead counts) for hatchery and non-hatchery systems are reported in Tables 1 to 5, for Chinook, Coho, Chum, Pink and Sockeye respectively. These tables include the type of survey, the group doing the surveys, total or peak count to date, week of last survey, and average escapement information. The 8 year average raw peak count is provided as well as the 12 year average historic escapements, corresponding to roughly two and three generations for most species, are also included in these tables where they are available. Averages are adult spawners. Eight year averages include years where surveys were conducted from 2016-2023. Twelve year averages include years where surveys were conducted from 2012-2023.

The data presented here are preliminary in-season observations and will be reviewed and finalized following the escapement season.

For more information Contact:
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Table 1 Chinook escapement counts to date for 2024 West Coast of Vancouver Island salmon surveys. Counts include adults only, no jacks. Somass Chinook escapement target is 21,000

| Area | System | Species | Survey Type/Count Type | Surveys conducted by | Week of last survey | # of Surveys | PL+D Count | Avg Raw Peak (8yr) | Avg Esc Est (12 yr) |
|------|-----------------------|---------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------|------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 20 | HARRIS CREEK | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | PFN | Oct 6-12 | 1 | 45 | 40 | 90 |
| 20 | LENS CREEK | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | PFN | Oct 6-12 | 1 | 15 | 20 | 40 |
| 20 | RENFREW CREEK | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | PFN | Oct 20-26 | 1 | 10 | 40 | 40 |
| 20 | SAN JUAN RIVER | Chinook | Mixed/PL+D | PFN/4Mile Crk | Oct 20-26 | 3 | 2,419 | 1,070 | 1,360 |
| 20 | GORDON RIVER | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | PFN | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 1 | 79 | 80 | 50 |
| 21 | KLAWA RIVER | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | HFN | Sep 22-28 | 2 | 0 | 0 | - |
| 22 | NITINAT RIVER | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | MCWright/Nitinat | Oct 6-12 | 4 | 7,296 | 11,830 | 13,560 |
| 23 | SOMASS SYSTEM | Chinook | Fence/Cumulative | Hup/StAD | Oct 13-19 | - | 41,853 | N/A | N/A |
| 23 | SARITA RIVER | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | HFN | Oct 6-12 | 8 | 3,502 | 1,710 | 1,990 |
| 23 | PACHENA RIVER | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | HFN | Sept 15-21 | 1 | 0 | - | - |
| 23 | TOQUAHT RIVER | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | TCES | Oct 6-12 | 2 | 125 | 80 | 150 |
| 23 | LITTLE TOQUAHT CREEK | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | TCES | Oct 6-12 | 1 | 0 | - | - |
| 23 | CLEMENS CREEK | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | Redd | Oct 20-26 | 8 | 61 | 30 | 50 |
| 23 | EFFINGHAM RIVER | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | TCES | Oct 20-26 | 2 | 22 | 20 | 20 |
| 23 | NAHMINT RIVER | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | Redd | Oct 13-19 | 6 | 884 | 390 | 460 |
| 24 | BEDWELL RIVER | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | TSES | Oct 6-12 | 4 | 115 | 310 | 460 |
| 24 | MEGIN RIVER | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | TSES | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 3 | 30 | 30 | 40 |
| 24 | MOYEHA RIVER | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | TSES/NTC/Ha'oom | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 4 | 100 | 90 | 90 |
| 24 | CYPRE RIVER | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | TSES | Oct 20-26 | 3 | 14 | 200 | 860 |
| 24 | SYDNEY RIVER | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | Redd | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 1 | 5 | 0 | - |
| 24 | WARN BAY CREEK | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | TSES | Oct 6-12 | 1 | 0 | 10 | 20 |
| 24 | TRANQUIL CREEK | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | TSES | Oct 20-26 | 4 | 50 | 100 | 220 |
| 24 | KENNEDY RIVER (UPPER) | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | Ha'oom | Sep 8-14 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 10 |
| 25 | CHUM CREEK | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | NFN | Oct 6-12 | 3 | 0 | 10 | 20 |
| 25 | LITTLE ZEBALLOS RIVER | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | EFN/Wildcoast | Sept 15-21 | 1 | 1 | 30 | 30 |
| 25 | ZEBALLOS RIVER | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | EFN/Wildcoast | Oct 20-26 | 2 | 127 | 170 | 240 |
| 25 | ESPINOSA CREEK | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | NFN | Oct 6-12 | 3 | 8 | 30 | 40 |
| 25 | HAMMOND CREEK | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | EFN/Wildcoast | Oct 20-26 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 24 | ESCALANTE RIVER | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | Redd | Oct 13-19 | 1 | 1 | 0 | - |
| 25 | BURMAN RIVER | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | MMFN | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 2 | 630 | 2,490 | 3,960 |
| 25 | CANTON CREEK | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | MMFN | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 3 | 95 | 1,560 | 2,340 |
| 25 | CONUMA RIVER | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | Ecofish/Conuma | Oct 20-26 | 5 | 22,266 | 12,700 | 18,490 |
| 25 | LEINER RIVER | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | Ecofish | Oct 20-26 | 6 | 402 | 740 | 800 |
| 25 | TAHSIS RIVER | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | Ecofish | Oct 20-26 | 5 | 161 | 690 | 690 |
| 25 | GOLD RIVER | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | Ecofish | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 4 | 4,317 | 4,630 | 3,620 |
| 26 | ARTLISH RIVER | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | KCFN | Oct 20-26 | 4 | 138 | 170 | 320 |
| 26 | KAOUK RIVER | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | KCFN | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 3 | 163 | 280 | 370 |
| 26 | MALKSOPE RIVER | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | KCFN | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 2 | 15 | 20 | 30 |
| 26 | TAHSISH RIVER | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | StAD/KCFN | Oct 13-19 | 5 | 1,488 | 710 | 890 |
| 27 | CAYEGHLE SYSTEM | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | Wildcoast/Quatsino | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 4 | 109 | 230 | 360 |
| 27 | MARBLE RIVER | Chinook | Periodic/PL+D | Wildcoast/Quatsino | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 4 | 1,164 | 1,680 | 2,970 |

Table 2 Coho escapement counts to date for 2024 West Coast of Vancouver Island salmon surveys. Counts include adults only, no jacks.

| Area | System | Species | Survey Type/Count Type | Surveys conducted by | Week of last survey | # of Surveys | PL+D Count | Avg Raw Peak (8yr) | Avg Esc Est (12 yr) |
|------|------------------------|---------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------|------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 20 | HARRIS CREEK | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | PFN | Oct 6-12 | 1 | 415 | 780 | 950 |
| 20 | LENS CREEK | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | PFN | Oct 6-12 | 1 | 10 | 450 | 600 |
| 20 | RENFREW CREEK | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | PFN | Oct 20-26 | 1 | 499 | 530 | 580 |
| 20 | SAN JUAN RIVER | Coho | Mixed/PL+D | PFN/4Mile Crk | Oct 20-26 | 3 | 1,911 | 2,110 | 3,580 |
| 20 | GORDON RIVER | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | PFN | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 1 | 547 | 800 | 720 |
| 21 | KLAWA RIVER | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | HFN | Sep 22-28 | 2 | 217 | 40 | 20 |
| 22 | NITINAT RIVER | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | MCWright/Nitinat | Oct 6-12 | 4 | 1,574 | 2,300 | 3,230 |
| 23 | SOMASS SYSTEM | Coho | Fence/Cumulative | Hup/StAD | Oct 13-19 | - | 18,226 | N/A | N/A |
| 23 | CARNATION CREEK | Coho | Fence/Cumulative | BC | Oct 20-26 | - | 75 | 80 | 100 |
| 23 | SARITA RIVER | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | HFN | Oct 6-12 | 8 | 265 | 240 | 560 |
| 23 | PACHENA RIVER | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | HFN | Sept 15-21 | 1 | 0 | 80 | 120 |
| 23 | Rousseau Creek | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | HFN | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 2 | 10 | 180 | - |
| 23 | TOQUAHT RIVER | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | TCES | Oct 6-12 | 2 | 106 | 480 | 640 |
| 23 | CAMPSITE CREEK | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | TCES | Oct 20-26 | 1 | 3 | 10 | - |
| 23 | LITTLE TOQUAHT CREEK | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | TCES | Oct 6-12 | 1 | 4 | 10 | 20 |
| 23 | TWIN RIVERS EAST CREEK | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | TCES | Oct 20-26 | 3 | 1 | 20 | 40 |
| 23 | CLEMENS CREEK | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | Redd | Oct 20-26 | 8 | 772 | 680 | 1,460 |
| 23 | EFFINGHAM RIVER | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | TCES | Oct 20-26 | 2 | 209 | 200 | 270 |
| 23 | NAHMINT RIVER | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | Redd | Oct 13-19 | 6 | 151 | 160 | 360 |
| 24 | BEDWELL RIVER | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | TSES | Oct 6-12 | 4 | 428 | 870 | 1,300 |
| 24 | MEGIN RIVER | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | TSES | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 3 | 920 | 810 | 1,140 |
| 24 | MOYEHA RIVER | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | TSES/NTC/Ha'oom | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 4 | 358 | 780 | 1,240 |
| 24 | CYPRE RIVER | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | TSES | Oct 20-26 | 3 | 619 | 700 | 970 |
| 24 | SYDNEY RIVER | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | Redd | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 1 | 57 | 120 | 400 |
| 24 | WARN BAY CREEK | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | TSES | Oct 6-12 | 1 | 21 | 30 | 40 |
| 24 | TRANQUIL CREEK | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | TSES | Oct 20-26 | 4 | 377 | 440 | 780 |
| 24 | FUNDY CREEK | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | TSES | Oct 6-12 | 1 | 0 | 0 | - |
| 24 | KENNEDY RIVER (UPPER) | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | Ha'oom | Sep 8-14 | 2 | 3 | 810 | 970 |
| 25 | CHUM CREEK | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | NFN | Oct 6-12 | 3 | 16 | 20 | 30 |
| 25 | LITTLE ZEBALLOS RIVER | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | EFN/Wildcoast | Sept 15-21 | 1 | 18 | 240 | 270 |
| 25 | ZEBALLOS RIVER | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | EFN/Wildcoast | Oct 20-26 | 2 | 35 | 270 | 350 |
| 25 | ELIZA CREEK | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | EFN/Wildcoast | Oct 20-26 | 2 | 5 | 10 | 10 |
| 25 | ESPINOSA CREEK | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | NFN | Oct 6-12 | 3 | 2 | 50 | 70 |
| 25 | HAMMOND CREEK | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | EFN/Wildcoast | Oct 20-26 | 2 | 21 | 20 | 20 |
| 24 | ESCALANTE RIVER | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | Redd | Oct 13-19 | 1 | 53 | 200 | - |
| 25 | BURMAN RIVER | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | MMFN | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 2 | 98 | 350 | 730 |
| 25 | CANTON CREEK | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | MMFN | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 3 | 261 | 310 | 460 |
| 25 | CONUMA RIVER | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | Ecofish/Conuma | Oct 20-26 | 5 | 1,301 | 1,990 | 2,800 |
| 25 | LEINER RIVER | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | Ecofish | Oct 20-26 | 6 | 225 | 570 | 860 |
| 25 | TAHSIS RIVER | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | Ecofish | Oct 20-26 | 5 | 674 | 740 | 1,200 |
| 25 | GOLD RIVER | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | Ecofish | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 4 | 919 | 1,440 | 2,600 |
| 26 | ARTLISH RIVER | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | KCFN | Oct 20-26 | 4 | 301 | 1,130 | 1,770 |
| 26 | KAOUK RIVER | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | KCFN | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 3 | 127 | 1,470 | 2,680 |
| 26 | MALKSOPE RIVER | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | KCFN | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 2 | 502 | 770 | 1,730 |
| 26 | TAHSISH RIVER | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | StAD/KCFN | Oct 13-19 | 5 | 1,370 | 1,800 | 3,170 |
| 27 | CAYEGHLE SYSTEM | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | Wildcoast/Quatsino | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 4 | 396 | 640 | 1,010 |
| 27 | MARBLE RIVER | Coho | Periodic/PL+D | Wildcoast/Quatsino | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 4 | 305 | 530 | 1,050 |

Table 3 Chum escapement counts to date for 2024 West Coast of Vancouver Island salmon surveys.

| Area | System | Species | Survey Type/Count Type | Surveys conducted by | Week of last survey | # of Surveys | PL+D Count | Avg Raw Peak (8yr) | Avg Esc Est (12 yr) |
|------|------------------------|---------|------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 20 | HARRIS CREEK | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | Barkley | Oct 6-12 | 1 | 0 | 10 | 10 |
| 20 | LENS CREEK | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | PFN | Oct 6-12 | 1 | 0 | 130 | 10 |
| 20 | RENFREW CREEK | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | PFN | Oct 20-26 | 1 | 130 | 100 | 200 |
| 20 | SAN JUAN RIVER | Chum | Mixed/PL+D | PFN/4Mile Crk | Oct 20-26 | 3 | 370 | 240 | 330 |
| 20 | GORDON RIVER | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | PFN | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 1 | 46 | 250 | 150 |
| 21 | KLAWA RIVER | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | HFN | Sep 22-28 | 2 | 1 | 0 | - |
| 22 | NITINAT RIVER | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | MCWright/Nitinat | Oct 6-12 | 4 | 55,932 | 38,010 | 116,870 |
| 23 | CARNATION CREEK | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | BC | Oct 20-26 | - | 81 | - | 30 |
| 23 | SARITA RIVER | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | HFN | Oct 6-12 | 8 | 7,581 | 5,640 | 7,040 |
| 23 | PACHENA RIVER | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | HFN | Sept 15-21 | 1 | 0 | 20 | 30 |
| 23 | Rousseau Creek | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | HFN | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 2 | 0 | 20 | - |
| 23 | TOQUAHT RIVER | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | TCES | Oct 6-12 | 2 | 15,411 | 3,010 | 3,180 |
| 23 | CAMPSITE CREEK | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | TCES | Oct 20-26 | 1 | 46 | 20 | - |
| 23 | LITTLE TOQUAHT CREEK | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | TCES | Oct 6-12 | 1 | 3,249 | 3,520 | 2,890 |
| 23 | TWIN RIVERS EAST CREEK | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | TCES | Oct 20-26 | 3 | 710 | 280 | 310 |
| 23 | CLEMENS CREEK | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | Redd | Oct 20-26 | 8 | 522 | 70 | 100 |
| 23 | EFFINGHAM RIVER | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | TCES | Oct 20-26 | 2 | 8,116 | 1,050 | 1,220 |
| 23 | NAHMINT RIVER | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | Redd | Oct 13-19 | 6 | 15,204 | 4,560 | 7,330 |
| 24 | BEDWELL RIVER | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | Clayoquot | Oct 6-12 | 4 | 3,985 | 1,700 | 2,790 |
| 24 | MEGIN RIVER | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 3 | 302 | 140 | 460 |
| 24 | MOYEHA RIVER | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | TSES/NTC/Ha'oom | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 4 | 1,355 | 1,370 | 1,810 |
| 24 | CYPRE RIVER | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | TSES | Oct 20-26 | 3 | 3,702 | 980 | 1,290 |
| 24 | SYDNEY RIVER | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | Redd | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 1 | 687 | 40 | 60 |
| 24 | WARN BAY CREEK | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | TSES | Oct 6-12 | 1 | 441 | 880 | 960 |
| 24 | TRANQUIL CREEK | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | TSES | Oct 20-26 | 4 | 7,180 | 2,560 | 6,150 |
| 24 | CONE CREEKS (2) | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | TSES | Oct 20-26 | 1 | 187 | 80 | 80 |
| 24 | FUNDY CREEK | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | TSES | Oct 6-12 | 1 | 14 | 0 | 0 |
| 24 | KENNEDY RIVER (UPPER) | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | Ha'oom | Sep 8-14 | 2 | 0 | 0 | - |
| 24 | Sharp Creek | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | TSES | Oct 20-26 | 1 | 148 | 80 | - |
| 24 | SUTTON MILL CREEK | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | TSES | Oct 6-12 | 1 | 43 | 40 | 30 |
| 25 | CHUM CREEK | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | Esperanza/ Nootka | Oct 6-12 | 3 | 143 | 1,020 | 1,350 |
| 25 | LITTLE ZEBALLOS RIVER | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | | Sept 15-21 | 1 | 5 | 930 | 1,800 |
| 25 | ZEBALLOS RIVER | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | | Oct 20-26 | 2 | 3,162 | 3,460 | 5,860 |
| 25 | ELIZA CREEK | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | EFN/Wildcoast | Oct 20-26 | 2 | 142 | 60 | 40 |
| 25 | ESPINOSA CREEK | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | NFN | Oct 6-12 | 3 | 153 | 1,400 | 1,330 |
| 25 | HAMMOND CREEK | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | EFN/Wildcoast | Oct 20-26 | 2 | 688 | 170 | 220 |
| 24 | ESCALANTE RIVER | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | Redd | Oct 13-19 | 1 | 150 | 20 | - |
| 25 | BURMAN RIVER | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | MMFN | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 2 | 1,063 | 2,080 | 3,840 |
| 25 | CANTON CREEK | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | MMFN | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 3 | 6,477 | 910 | 2,230 |
| 25 | CONUMA RIVER | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | Ecofish/Conuma | Oct 20-26 | 5 | 17,608 | 5,880 | 10,380 |
| 25 | LEINER RIVER | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | Ecofish | Oct 20-26 | 6 | 1,202 | 1,200 | 2,380 |
| 25 | TAHSIS RIVER | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | Ecofish | Oct 20-26 | 5 | 1,548 | 1,110 | 3,460 |
| 25 | GOLD RIVER | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | Ecofish | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 4 | 32 | 20 | - |
| 26 | ARTLISH RIVER | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | Kyuquot | Oct 20-26 | 4 | 5,234 | 2,970 | 4,220 |
| 26 | KAOUK RIVER | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | KCFN | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 3 | 103 | 1,710 | 4,980 |
| 26 | MALKSOPE RIVER | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | KCFN | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 2 | 2,704 | 1,450 | 4,960 |
| 26 | TAHSISH RIVER | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | StAD/KCFN | Oct 13-19 | 5 | 5,860 | 2,300 | 4,380 |
| 27 | CAYEGHLE SYSTEM | Chum | Periodic/PL+D | Wildcoast/Quatsino | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 4 | 1,710 | 2,450 | 7,330 |
| | | | | Quatsino | | | | | |

Table 4 Pink escapement counts to date for 2024 West Coast of Vancouver Island salmon surveys.

| Area | System | Species | Survey Type/Count Type | Surveys conducted by | Week of last survey | # of Surveys | PL+D Count | Avg Raw Peak (8yr) | Avg Esc Est (12 yr) |
|------|-----------------|---------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------|------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 20 | SAN JUAN RIVER | Pink | Mixed/PL+D | PFN/4Mile Crk | Oct 20-26 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 50 |
| 20 | GORDON RIVER | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | PFN | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 1 | 1 | 0 | - |
| 21 | KLANAWA RIVER | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | HFN | Sep 22-28 | 2 | 16 | - | - |
| 22 | NITINAT RIVER | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | MCWright/Nitinat | Oct 6-12 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 20 |
| 23 | SOMASS SYSTEM | Pink | Fence/Cumulative | Hup/StAD | Oct 13-19 | - | 1 | N/A | N/A |
| 23 | CARNATION CREEK | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | BC | Oct 20-26 | - | 0 | - | - |
| 23 | SARITA RIVER | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | HFN | Oct 6-12 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| 23 | PACHENA RIVER | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | HFN | Sept 15-21 | 1 | 0 | - | - |
| 23 | TOQUAHT RIVER | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | TCES | Oct 6-12 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 30 |
| 23 | CLEMENS CREEK | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | Redd | Oct 20-26 | 8 | 0 | 0 | - |
| 23 | NAHMINT RIVER | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | Redd | Oct 13-19 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 10 |
| 24 | BEDWELL RIVER | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | TSES | Oct 6-12 | 4 | 12 | 5 | 40 |
| 24 | MEGIN RIVER | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | TSES | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 20 |
| 24 | MOYEHA RIVER | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | TSES/NTC/Ha'oom | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 4 | 2 | 10 | 10 |
| 24 | CYPRE RIVER | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | TSES | Oct 20-26 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 10 |
| 24 | TRANQUIL CREEK | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | TSES | Oct 20-26 | 4 | 6 | 1 | - |
| 25 | ZEBALLOS RIVER | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | EFN/Wildcoast | Oct 20-26 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 60 |
| 25 | ESPINOSA CREEK | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | NFN | Oct 6-12 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| 24 | ESCALANTE RIVER | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | Redd | Oct 13-19 | 1 | 0 | 0 | - |
| 25 | BURMAN RIVER | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | MMFN | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 20 |
| 25 | CONUMA RIVER | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | Ecofish/Conuma | Oct 20-26 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 25 | LEINER RIVER | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | Ecofish | Oct 20-26 | 6 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| 25 | TAHSIS RIVER | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | Ecofish | Oct 20-26 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 25 | GOLD RIVER | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | Ecofish | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 4 | 0 | 10 | - |
| 26 | ARTLISH RIVER | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | KCFN | Oct 20-26 | 4 | 0 | 0 | - |
| 26 | KAOUK RIVER | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | KCFN | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| 26 | MALKSOPE RIVER | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | KCFN | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 2 | 0 | 0 | - |
| 26 | TAHSISH RIVER | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | StAD/KCFN | Oct 13-19 | 5 | 14 | 0 | 10 |
| 27 | CAYEGHLE SYSTEM | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | Wildcoast/Quatsino | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| 27 | MARBLE RIVER | Pink | Periodic/PL+D | Wildcoast/Quatsino | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 10 |

Table 5 Sockeye escapement counts to date for 2024 West Coast of Vancouver Island salmon surveys. Counts include adults only, no jacks

| Area | System | Species | Survey Type/Count Type | Surveys conducted by | Week of last survey | # of Surveys | PL+D Count | Avg Raw Peak (8yr) | Avg Esc Est (12 yr) |
|------|-----------------------|---------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------|------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 20 | RENFREW CREEK | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | PFN | Oct 20-26 | 1 | 8 | 10 | 20 |
| 20 | SAN JUAN RIVER | Sockeye | Mixed/PL+D | PFN/4Mile Crk | Oct 20-26 | 3 | 16 | 20 | 160 |
| 20 | GORDON RIVER | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | PFN | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 1 | 0 | 20 | 20 |
| 21 | KLANAWA RIVER | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | HFN | Sep 22-28 | 2 | 0 | 0 | - |
| 22 | NITINAT RIVER | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | MCWright/Nitinat | Oct 6-12 | 4 | 230 | 140 | 370 |
| 23 | SOMASS SYSTEM | Sockeye | Fence/Cumulative | Hup/StAD | Oct 13-19 | - | 393,823 | N/A | N/A |
| 23 | SARITA RIVER | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | HFN | Oct 6-12 | 8 | 14 | 20 | 40 |
| 23 | TOQUAHT RIVER | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | TCES | Oct 6-12 | 2 | 9 | 20 | 60 |
| 23 | CLEMENS CREEK | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | Redd | Oct 20-26 | 8 | 1,858 | 7,630 | 12,190 |
| 23 | EFFINGHAM RIVER | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | TCES | Oct 20-26 | 2 | 13 | 10 | - |
| 23 | NAHMINT RIVER | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | Redd | Oct 13-19 | 6 | 418 | 620 | 930 |
| 24 | BEDWELL RIVER | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | TSES | Oct 6-12 | 4 | 191 | 50 | 320 |
| 24 | MEGIN RIVER | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | TSES | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 3 | 1 | 1,120 | 1,180 |
| 24 | MOYEHA RIVER | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | TSES/NTC/Ha'oom | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 4 | 161 | 150 | 180 |
| 24 | CYPRE RIVER | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | TSES | Oct 20-26 | 3 | 15 | 10 | 40 |
| 24 | SYDNEY RIVER | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | Redd | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 1 | 8 | 20 | 30 |
| 24 | TRANQUIL CREEK | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | TSES | Oct 20-26 | 4 | 17 | 50 | 280 |
| 24 | KENNEDY RIVER (UPPER) | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | Ha'oom | Sep 8-14 | 2 | 3,000 | 2,010 | 2,800 |
| 25 | CHUM CREEK | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | NFN | Oct 6-12 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 25 | LITTLE ZEBALLOS RIVER | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | EFN/Wildcoast | Sept 15-21 | 1 | 1 | 30 | 40 |
| 25 | ZEBALLOS RIVER | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | EFN/Wildcoast | Oct 20-26 | 2 | 305 | 530 | 940 |
| 25 | ESPINOSA CREEK | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | NFN | Oct 6-12 | 3 | 6 | 10 | 20 |
| 25 | HAMMOND CREEK | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | EFN/Wildcoast | Oct 20-26 | 2 | 1 | 0 | - |
| 24 | ESCALANTE RIVER | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | Redd | Oct 13-19 | 1 | 6 | - | - |
| 25 | BURMAN RIVER | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | MMFN | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 2 | 32 | 310 | 610 |
| 25 | CANTON CREEK | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | MMFN | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 3 | 2 | 10 | 20 |
| 25 | CONUMA RIVER | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | Ecofish/Conuma | Oct 20-26 | 5 | 16 | 70 | 90 |
| 25 | LEINER RIVER | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | Ecofish | Oct 20-26 | 6 | 72 | 510 | 620 |
| 25 | TAHSIS RIVER | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | Ecofish | Oct 20-26 | 5 | 71 | 220 | 300 |
| 25 | GOLD RIVER | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | Ecofish | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 4 | 240 | 410 | - |
| 26 | ARTLISH RIVER | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | KCFN | Oct 20-26 | 4 | 0 | 10 | 10 |
| 26 | KAOUK RIVER | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | KCFN | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 3 | 7 | 20 | 40 |
| 26 | MALKSOPE RIVER | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | KCFN | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| 26 | TAHSISH RIVER | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | StAD/KCFN | Oct 13-19 | 5 | 33 | 20 | 60 |
| 27 | CAYEGHLE SYSTEM | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | Wildcoast/Quatsino | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 10 |
| 27 | MARBLE RIVER | Sockeye | Periodic/PL+D | Wildcoast/Quatsino | Sep 29- Oct 5 | 4 | 0 | 0 | - |

Table 6 Survey participants

Nitinat = Nitinat Hatchery Staff
Conuma = Conuma Hatchery Staff
Redd = Redd Fish Restoration Society
EFN = Ehattesaht First Nation
HFN = Huu-ay-aht First Nation
Hup = Hupacasath First Nation
StAD = DFO Stock Assessment Division
KCFN = Ka:'uy:'k't'h'/ Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nation
LGL = LGL Limited - Environmental Reseach Associates
MMFN = Mowachat/Muchalaht First Nation
NTC = Nuuchahnulth Tribal Council
PFN = Pacheedaht First Nation
4Mile Crk = 4 Mile Creek Enhancement Society
TSES = Tofino Salmon Enhancement Society
TCES = Thornton Creek Enhancement Society
MC Wright = MC Wright and Associates: Biological Consulting
TFN = Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation
MHSS = Maaqutusiis Hahoulthee Stewardship Society
Ha'oom = Ha'oom Fisheries Society
Ecofish = EcoFish Research Ltd.
NFN = Nuchatlaht First Nation