

A sunset over a body of water. The sky is filled with warm, orange and yellow hues. In the foreground, a small boat with a tall mast is silhouetted against the water. The sun is visible on the right side of the horizon, creating a bright glow.

QCI/Haida Gwaii Post Season Review

Victor Fradette
Resource Management

Net Fishery Summary - Area 1

Pink

- No net fisheries, surplus harvest opportunities occur only during even years.

Chum

- Gillnet only opportunities provided during 4 days mid September in McIntyre Bay to assess strength of chum salmon migrating into Masset Sound/Inlet. No effort.
- Escapements far below desired target levels.

Net Fishery Summary - Area 2 East

Pink

- No net fisheries, surplus harvest opportunities occur only during even years.

Chum (enhanced)

- Gillnet only opportunities to assess the strength of enhanced Pallant Cr. chums migrating into Cumshewa Inlet occurred September 11 & 12, and 17 & 18.
- These fisheries began one week later than in previous years. This was in response to lower than anticipated returns over recent years.
- A minor surplus harvest opportunity was provided for gillnets only on October 9 & 10.

Net Fishery Summary - Area 2 East (continued)

Chum (enhanced)

- Fleet size ranged from 19 vessels during the stock assessment openings in September to 14 gillnets during the surplus harvest opportunity in October.
- The fishery was serviced by one packer cash buying as well as Omega Packers offloading at Skidegate Landing and Albion/Codfather offloading in Queen Charlotte.
- Approximately 21,000 chum were harvested by gillnets.
- There were no seine fisheries in Cumshewa Inlet.
- Cost recovery harvests occurred September 21 and 22 for approximately 9,600 chum. Results did not indicate a potential surplus of chum in Cumshewa Inlet at the time.

Net Fishery Summary - Area 2 East (continued)

Chum (wild)

- There were no opportunities to harvest wild stock chum salmon in Area 2 East during the 2005 terminal season.
- Chum escapements were very poor in East Skidegate Inlet.
- In Selwyn Inlet, chum returns were near target in Lagoon Creek but less than half of target in most other streams.
- Chum returns were less than half of target to streams in Darwin Sound.
- In Juan Perez Sd. and Skincuttle In. chum escapements were much more abundant than in recent years indicating that stocks may be recovering in the lower south Moresby Island systems.

Net Fishery Summary - Area 2 West

Pink

- No net fisheries, surplus harvest opportunities occur only during even years.

Chum

- Harvest opportunities occurred in Tasu Sound with gillnets only on September 17 & 18, and for both gillnets and seines on September 24 & 25.
- The total gillnet harvest was just over 18,000 chum.
- The total seine harvest was approximately 66,000 chum.

Net Fishery Summary – Area 2 West

Tasu Sound Chum – continued

- Non-retention of coho was in effect.
- The fishery on September 17 & 18 resulted in only 6 coho encounters.
- The fishery on September 24 & 25 resulted in approximately 1,000 coho encounters.
- Additional fishing opportunities were not considered mostly due to concerns regarding coho encounters and mortalities.
- There were no other terminal chum salmon surpluses identified throughout Area 2 West.

FSC Review

Area 1

- Sockeye - 567 terminal (Yakoun, Awun & Naden)
 - Very poor returns resulting in minimal harvest opportunities.
- Sockeye - 8,000 interception (Langara)
- Coho - 950 interception
- Pink - 1,000 interception
- Chum - 100 interception
- Chinook - 1730 interception

FSC Review

Area 2 East & 2 West

- Sockeye - 123 terminal (Copper)
 - There was no community fishery, harvest was for biological sampling.
- Sockeye - 5,000 interception (Rennell Sound)
- Coho - 500 interception & 50 terminal
- Pink - 0
- Chum - 50 interception
- Chinook - 700 interception

2005 QUEEN CHARLOTTE ISLANDS RECREATIONAL SALMON HARVEST

AREA 1: 100 sockeye	AREA 2E: 0 sockeye	AREA 2W: 20 sockeye
34,000 coho	1,000 coho	16,500 coho
1,400 pink	30 pink	310 pink
600 chum	30 chum	170 chum
44,800 chinook	1,000 chinook	23,000 chinook

QCI TOTAL CATCH ESTIMATES: 120 sockeye
51,500 coho
1,740 pink
800 chum
68,800 chinook

Note: The chinook harvest decreased by approximately 7% during the 2005 season in comparison to the 2004 season.

Angling effort appears to have increased by approximately 5% during the 2005 season in comparison to the 2004 season.

QCI RECREATIONAL CATCH SUMMARY (salmon only)(includes lodges, charter operators, and independent sport fishery)

YEAR	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Chinook
1999	50	4,200	3,900	220	25,800
2000	40	10,450	4,750	1,320	22,100
2001	35	51,150	4,100	950	30,200
2002	45	42,200	1,880	520	47,100
2003	10	45,600	2,070	660	54,300
2004	130	53,500	1,180	1,970	74,000
2005	120	51,500	1,740	800	68,800
Average	54	36,343	2,246	889	42,357

QCI RECREATIONAL CHINOOK AND COHO RETENTION (1999-2005)

