



# TNG FISHERIES

*The latest information important to T̓silhqot'in fish and fishing activities*

This is the TNG Fisheries in-season bulletin that is released weekly throughout the salmon season from mid-July to mid-September to provide updates on the the state of T̓silhqot'in fisheries and work in the field. These bulletins are publicly available on the TNG Facebook page and on the TNG website at [www.tsilhqotin.ca/our-territory/fisheries/communications](http://www.tsilhqotin.ca/our-territory/fisheries/communications).

## In-Season Update:

### 2025 T̓silhqot'in Fisheries:

- TNG Fisheries anticipates a better return of both Ja̓s (Chinook) and Ts'eman (sockeye) than in the past few years that will support traditional fisheries on both the Chilcotin and Fraser River mainstems.
- Per the 2025 T̓silhqot'in fishing plan, Ja̓s harvest began on July 18 and is now underway.
- Fishers are currently being asked to release Ts'eman until Aug 14. Please see all requested voluntary measures to protect our weakest salmon populations for the future in the box below.
- Catch monitors are now at fishing sites collecting critical information to help us understand the condition of fish, number of fishers, fishing site use, and overall numbers of Ja̓s harvested. This information is important for future fishery recommendations to advocate for the fish and the fisheries.

### Ts'eman Update:

- The 2025 season is off to a good start with encouraging ocean return numbers for Early Stuart Ts'eman, the earliest returning Ts'eman populations in the Fraser.
- The first of the Chilko Ts'eman have just started to show up in ocean and Lower Fraser River test fisheries. We expect increasing numbers of Chilko Ts'eman over the next few weeks as they continue to enter the Fraser River on their way to their spawning grounds in T̓silhqot'in Territory.

### 2025 Voluntary protection measures:

The T̓silhqot'in Council of Chiefs requests voluntary compliance with limited measures to protect early timed Ja̓s (Chinook) and Ts'eman (sockeye) populations at high risk of extinction.

1. Please release Ja̓s (Chinook) until Friday, July 18, 2025.
2. Please release Ts'eman (sockeye) until Thursday, August 14, 2025.
3. Please do not fish for Ja̓s in the Che̓zqox (Little Chilcotin) system above the Chilko / Chilcotin junction for the full fishing season.

## FISHERIES TEAM

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Moving forward, we will be updating our understanding of salmon returns throughout the season based on in-season technical information. From late June to the end of September, we conduct detailed monitoring and analysis of in-season information from the ocean to the spawning grounds, and report on this information through these weekly in-season fisheries bulletins.

**CLICK HERE** for more info on how TNG Fisheries collects in-season information

## Scenes from the Field:

### Upper Chilcotin Chinook Emergency Enhancement Brood Stock Collection:

TNG Fisheries has successfully completed brood stock collection for emergency conservation enhancement of critically endangered Upper Chilcotin Jaš. Thank you to our partners Ecofish, DFO, and the Upper Fraser Fisheries Conservation Alliance (UFFCA) for working with us to make this our most successful year yet!

4 female and 4 male Chinook were captured and transferred to the Quesnel River Research Centre (QRRC), our partner conservation hatchery operated by the UFFCA. The baby Jaš will be raised in the hatchery and released back into the Upper Chilcotin in 2026 to provide a critical boost for the recovery of this endangered population.

TNG has led emergency conservation enhancement activities for our most vulnerable salmon populations since 2020, in partnership with the Upper Fraser Fisheries Conservation Alliance (UFFCA) and DFO.



#### Photos from left:

1. Winston Bambrick, Hayden Grinder, and Leonard English (TNG Fisheries) working with Shawn Harry and Jimmy Harry (TNG Rangers), Tyler Thibault (DFO) and Hailey Karran (UFFCA summer student) to install the Upper Chilcotin Jaš emergency enhancement brood collection fence and trap.
2. The newly installed fence and trap.
3. Winston preparing to place an adult Jaš into the brood collection holding tube to await transport to QRRC hatchery.
4. Winston moving an Upper Chilcotin Jaš from the trap to the brood collection holding tube in the early morning hours.

## TNG FISHERIES WEEKLY BULLETINS

For weekly updates on the status of T̓silhqot̓in salmon stocks, fisheries, and TNG Fisheries Department activities, please see our weekly fisheries bulletins, along with more information about the TNG Fisheries Program, at [www.tsilhqotin.ca/our-territory/fisheries](http://www.tsilhqotin.ca/our-territory/fisheries) and on the TNG Facebook page.

For questions please contact TNG Fisheries Manager Randy Billyboy: [rbillyboy@tsilhqotin.ca](mailto:rbillyboy@tsilhqotin.ca) / 250-392-3918