



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 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.

In-Season Update:

2025 T̓silhqot'in Fisheries:

Reminder of the **2025 T̓silhqot'in Fisheries Plan** approved by the TNG Council of Chiefs:

- Ts'eman (sockeye) and Dandzex (pink) harvest began today (August 13) in the Chilko/Chilcotin mainstem and the Fraser River.
- **Please do not fish in the Chežqox (Little Chilcotin) for the full season**, except for the junction area with the Chilko. This protects critically endangered Chežqox Jaš by allowing them to return to their spawning grounds to support their recovery.
- Please see applicable requested voluntary protection measure in the box below.

We hope you're enjoying the 2025 salmon season! We're happy to see people on the river successfully catching Jaš, Ts'eman and Dandzex in the Chilcotin and the Fraser!

Please see the August 13, 2025 Fisheries Notice attached on page 3.



2025 Applicable Voluntary Protection Measure:

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

Please do not fish for Jaš in the Chežqox (Little Chilcotin) system above the Chilko / Chilcotin junction **for the full fishing season**.

Approved by the T̓silhqot'in Council of Chiefs June 17, 2025

FISHERIES TEAM

RANDY BILLYBOY

Fisheries Manager

MICHELLE TUNG

Fisheries Strategy Lead

PETE NICKLIN

Fisheries Biologist

LEONARD ENGLISH

Fisheries Coordinator

WINSTON BAMBRICK

Jr. Hatchery Manager

GERALD WILLIAM

Sr. Fisheries Technician

HAYDEN GRINDER

Fisheries Technician

ALICIA WILLIAM

Fisheries Technician

EVANS STUMP

Hatchery/Fisheries Tech.

ANDREA STERLING

Biologist

AIMEE ARSENAULT

Communications

For questions please contact TNG Fisheries Manager Randy Billyboy:

Email:
rbillyboy@tsilhqotin.ca
Tel: 250-392-3918

Ts'eman (Sockeye) Update – good news!

- Chilko Ts'eman are now in the Chilko and Chilcotin Rivers, and the ocean return numbers are really good news!
- Almost all Fraser River Ts'eman populations are confirmed to be returning in better numbers than predicted by pre-season forecasts.
- Ocean assessment fisheries have been very strong over the past few days, indicating many more Ts'eman are on the way to the Chilko and other parts of the Fraser watershed.
- Dandzex (pink salmon) are also showing up in ocean fisheries and the lower parts of the Fraser River, and are tracking at a similar level to the record-high pre-season forecast.
- We are starting to see many more salmon pass by the Hanceville SONAR, and the fish are in excellent condition. We expect these numbers to continue to climb rapidly as the main part of the Chilko Ts'eman run enters the Chilko over the next couple of weeks.

Scenes from the Field:

Chilko SONAR:

Winston Bambrick of TNG Fisheries worked with DFO technicians to complete installation of the Chilko SONAR on August 6 to count Chilko Ts'eman returning to their spawning grounds in the Chilko system. This project is a DFO – TNG Fisheries partnership.

Winston and DFO technicians completing installation of the Chilko SONAR.



Chilko Jaš Mark Recapture Program:

The mark recapture program for Chilko Jaš stock assessment gives us critical information about the numbers and health of Chilko Jaš returning to spawn in 2025. This project is a DFO – TNG Fisheries partnership.



*Top: Hayden (left) and Winston (right) with captured Jaš which will be marked, measured and released back into the river to spawn.
Above: Winston and Spencer Beauchamp of DFO angling for Jaš.
Right: A captured Jaš being measured and marked before release back into the river.*

For more information about the TNG Fisheries Program, visit the TNG Fisheries page on the TNG website at www.tsilhqotin.ca/our-territory/fisheries

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



Tsilhqot'in
NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

2025 FISHERIES NOTICE

August 13, 2025

The Chilcotin/Chilko Mainstem is open for Jaê(Chinook), Ts'eman (sockeye) and Dandzex (pink) fisheries until the end of the 2025 fishing season.

The Fraser River is open for Ts'eman (sockeye) and Dandzex (pink) fisheries until the end of the 2025 fishing season.

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Jaê Reminder for the Cheêqox (Little Chilcotin River):

The Tsilhqot'in Council of Chiefs requests **voluntary compliance** with limited measures to protect early timed Jaê (Chinook) populations that are at **high risk of extinction**.

Please do not fish for Jaê in the Cheêqox system above the Chilko/Chilcotin junction for the full fishing season.

We can all help protect our at-risk Jaê and Ts'eman populations for the future by allowing them to safely return to their spawning grounds.

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*Dates may be adjusted in-season as more information becomes available.
Under extreme circumstances, emergency conservation measures may be implemented.*

Approved by Tsilhqot'in Nation Council of Chiefs, June 17, 2025

