



Fishery Summaries for ECVI

- First Nations Fisheries
- Commercial Fisheries
- Recreational Fisheries





2024 South Coast First Nations Fisheries (ECVI)

Fishery Type	Fishing Area	SOCKEYE		COHO		PINK		CHUM		ISBM CHINOOK	
		Kept	Released	Kept	Released	Kept	Released	Kept	Released	Kept	Released
First Nations FSC and Treaty DU	Johnstone Strait	46	38	1,553	334	367	80	23,865	0	2,679	47
	Strait of Georgia	0	0	1,216	0	25	75	338	0	671	0
	TOTAL	46	38	2,769	334	392	155	24,203	0	3,350	47
Fishery Type	Fishing Area	SOCKEYE		COHO		PINK		CHUM		ISBM CHINOOK	
		Kept	Released	Kept	Released	Kept	Released	Kept	Released	Kept	Released
ESSR	Johnstone Strait	0	0	0	0	704,643	0	0	0	0	0
	Strait of Georgia	0	0	7,816	0	33,850	0	0*	0	6,905	0
	TOTAL	0	0	7,816	0	738,493	0	0	0	6,905	0

Note: ECVI FSC catch numbers are preliminary estimates.

*Anticipate ESSR Chum to be reported from Cowichan



Commercial Fishery – Inside Southern Chum

Johnstone Strait (JST) Mixed-Stock Chum Fisheries:

- Due to high test fishery catches and high probability of surpassing the 1.0 million Chum critical threshold, JST mixed-stock commercial Area B Seine and Area H Troll Chum fisheries proceeded in 2024.
- In 2021, as part of immediate conservative measures, the Minister announced several new commercial fishery closures to protect stocks of conservation concern. Area D Gill Net JST mixed-stock Chum fishery was included in these closures in 2024 for additional protection to Interior Fraser River Steelhead.



Commercial Fishery – Inside Southern Chum

JST Mixed Stock and SOG Terminal Chum Fishery Catches (preliminary):

Licence group	Fishing Area	Chum Kept	Chum Released
Area H Troll	JST (12, 13)	37,538	0
Area H Troll	MVI (17, 18, 19)	N/A	N/A
Area B Seine	JST (12, 13)	231,992	0
Area B Seine	MVI (17, 18, 19)	8,505	0
Area D Gill Net	MVI (14)	17,107	0
Area E Gill Net	MVI (17, 18, 19)	51,819	0
Demo Fisheries	MVI (17, 18, 19)	3,262	0
Total		346,940	0



Recreational Fishery - Chum

- Recreational fisheries for Chum in Southern BC marine waters are typically open year-round for full limits (4 per day).
- In 2024, given the expectations presented in the Preliminary 2024 Salmon Outlook, where South Coast systems are at Category 1 or 2, and not expected to reach their management targets; and the Lower Fraser Chum Outlook is at Category 2, the Department started the 2024 recreational salmon fisheries with Chum non-retention regulations in place across Southern BC.
- Non-retention measures for Chum were implemented on August 9, 2024.
- The Johnstone Strait test fishery indicated Chum abundance to permit fisheries in the fall of 2024.
- Recreational daily limits for Chum were increased to two (2) on October 5 and four (4) October 12 on the east coast of Vancouver Island in Areas 111, 11 to 20, Subareas 29-1 to 29-5 and 29-8 through March 31, 2025.



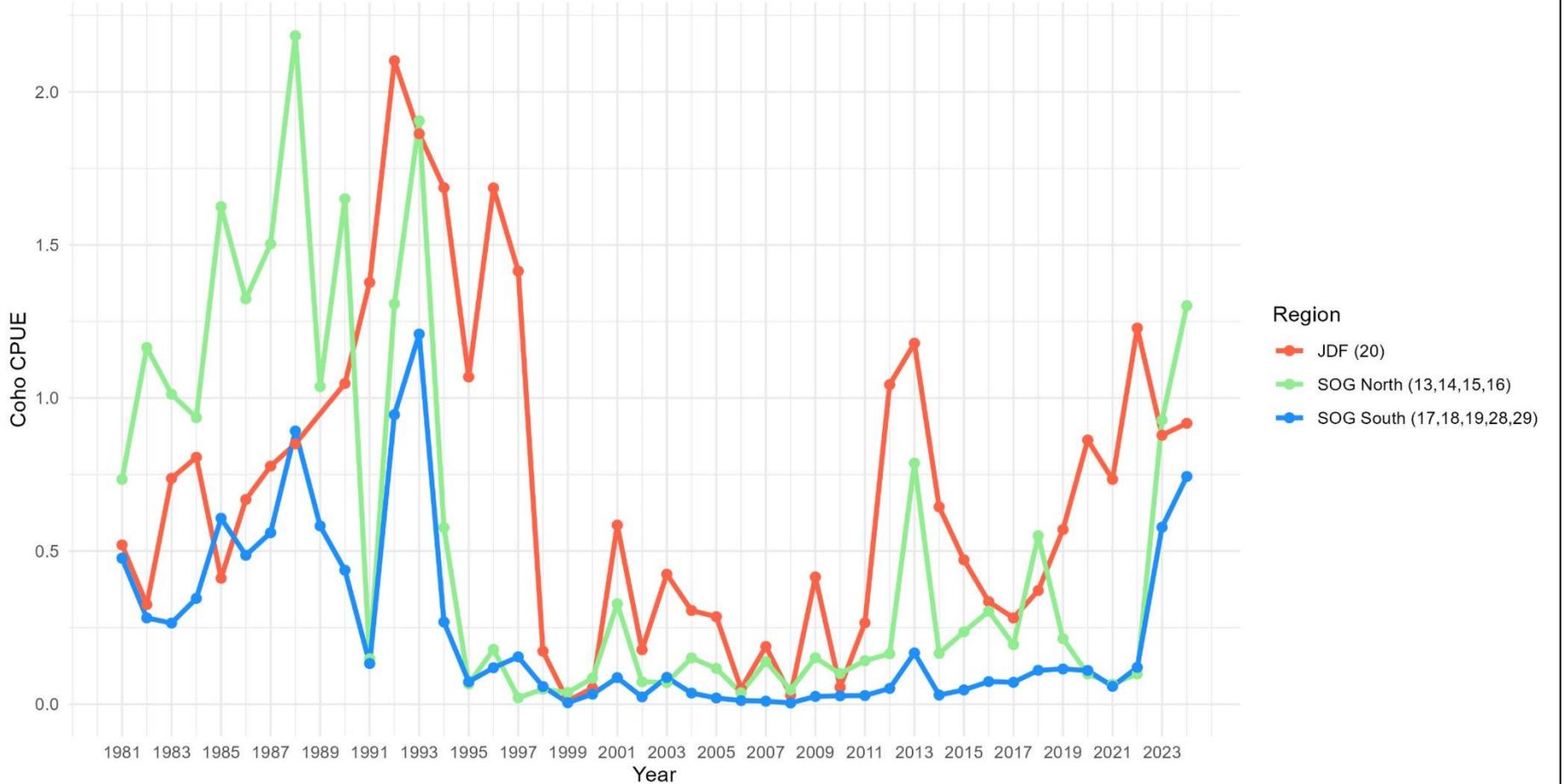
Recreational Fishery – Coho

- In 2024 ECVI recreational fisheries for Coho were primarily mark-selective fisheries.
- Opportunities for wild Coho retention were permitted in Johnstone Strait and Queen Charlotte Strait prior to August 1 and in some terminal areas where Interior Fraser Coho are not considered to be part of the catch.
- There was some wild retention permitted in Areas 13, 14, and 15 (excluding Subarea 15-1) from September 1 to 30 as part of an assessment fishery to further develop status information for Georgia Basin Coho.
- Assessment fishery catch estimated at 13,214 (SE: 1286) with a mark rate of 32.5%; 555 DNA samples (154 hatchery marked, 401 not marked), more still coming in.
- Recreational Coho catches in Georgia Strait were the highest since 1997 but still well below historic range. Marine distribution was similar to 2023 with more Coho in the SOG throughout season.



Recreational Fishery – Coho CPUE

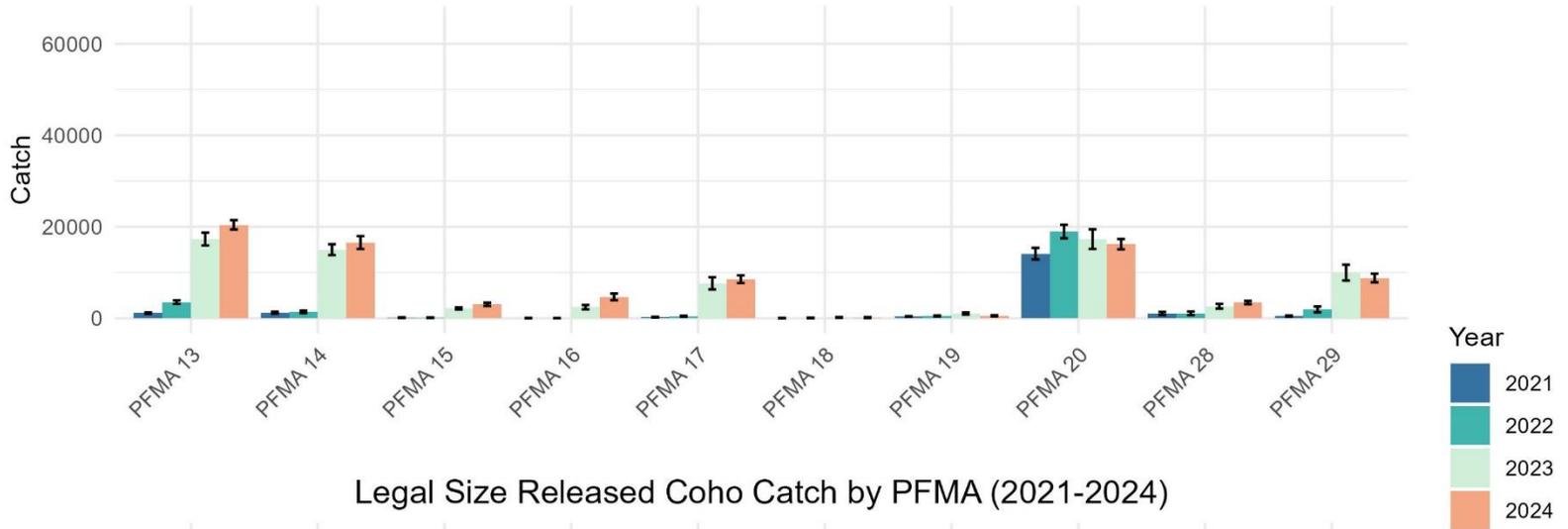
Legal Size Coho CPUE (Total Encounters) Over Time in the Strait of Georgia & Juan de Fuca (1981-2024)



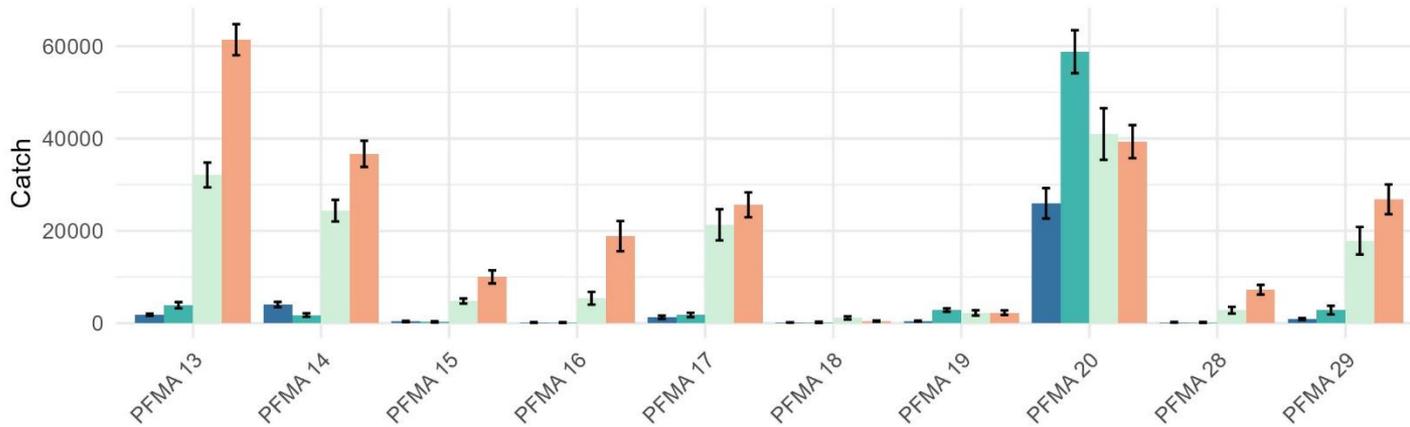


2024 ECVI Recreational Fisheries: Coho Catch

Kept Coho Catch by PFMA (2021-2024)



Legal Size Released Coho Catch by PFMA (2021-2024)





Recreational Fishery – Chinook Measures

Queen Charlotte and Johnstone Straits (Area 12)

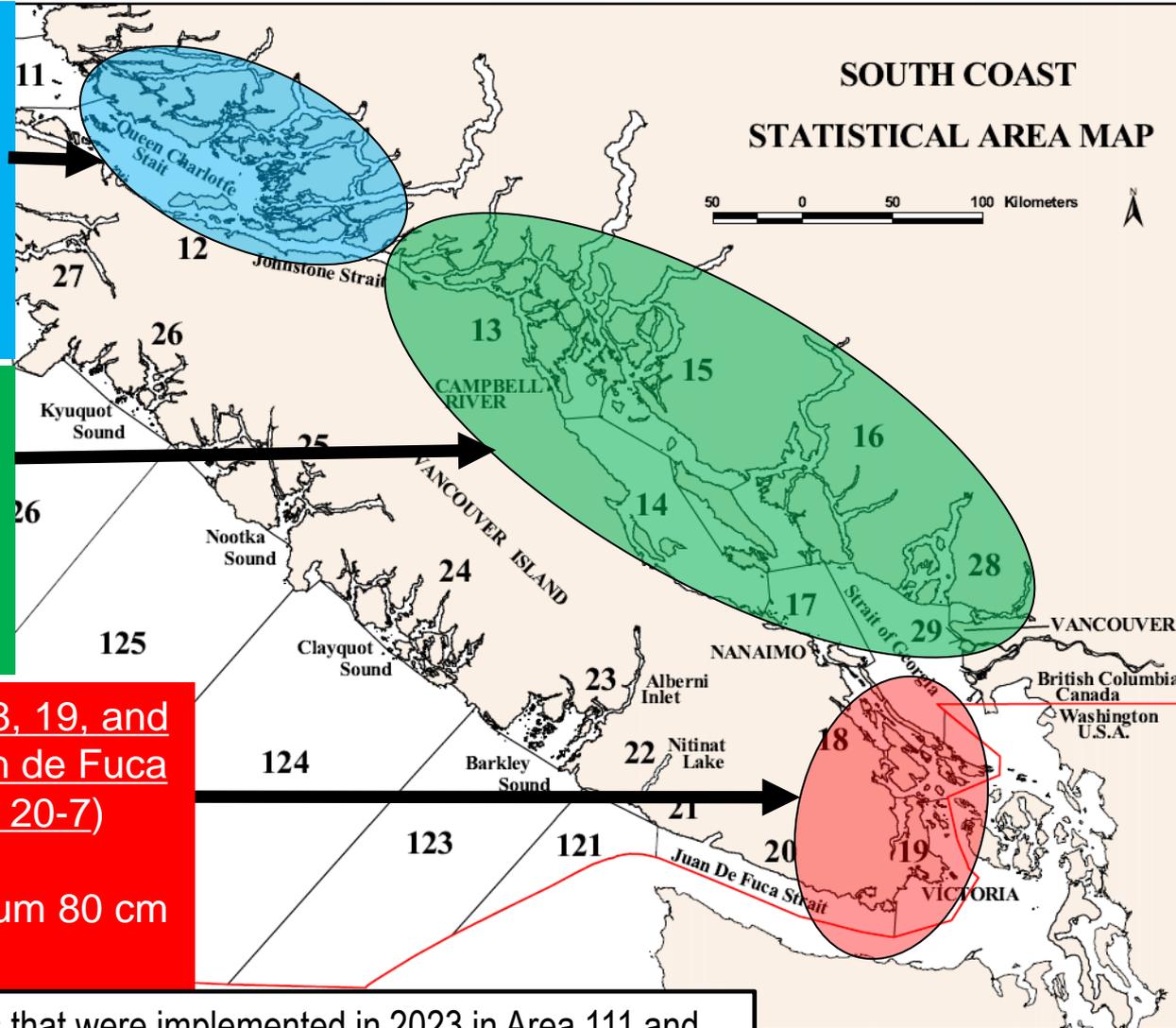
- Non-retention April 1 to July 14
- July 15 to Aug. 16, 1/day maximum 80 cm
- Aug. 17 to Aug. 31, 1/day
- Sept. 1 to Dec. 31, 2/day

Strait of Georgia – North (Areas 13-17, Subareas 29-1 to 29-2)

- Non-retention April 1 to July 14
- July 15 to Aug. 31, 1/ day maximum 80 cm
- Sept. 1 to Dec. 31, 2/day

Strait of Georgia – South (Areas 18, 19, and Subareas 29-3 to 29-5, 29-8); Juan de Fuca Strait – East (Subareas 20-3 to 20-7)

- Non-retention April 1 to July 31
- Aug. 1 to Aug. 31, 1/day maximum 80 cm
- Sept. 1 to Dec. 31, 2/day



Additional Chinook management measures that were implemented in 2023 in Area 111 and Subareas 20-1 and 20-2 (daily Chinook limit was set at 1 per day, maximum 80 cm, July 15 through July 31) continued in 2024.



Recreational Fishery – 2024 Chinook MSF

Mark Selective Fisheries

- Is a fishery in which regulations permit retention of marked fish and the full or partial release of unmarked fish.

Portions of Areas 12, 13, and 15

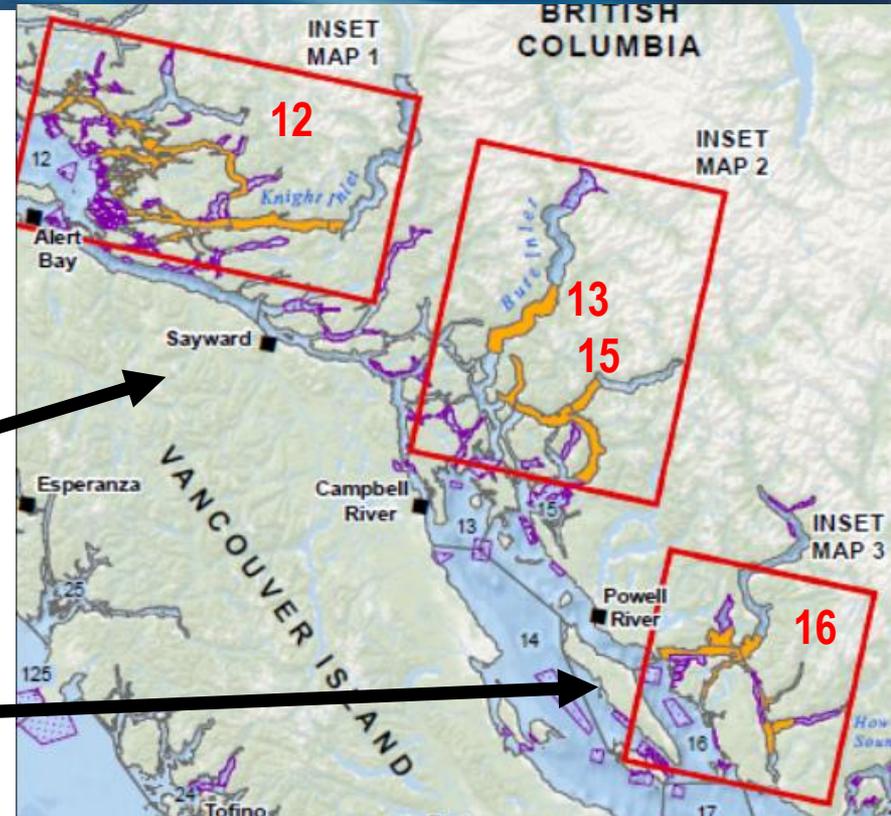
- April 1 to July 14, 1/day maximum 80 cm on unmarked Chinook

Portions of Area 16

- April 1 to July 14, 1/day hatchery marked only.

Portion of Subarea 20-5 (Beecher Bay)

- April 1 to July 31, 1/day, hatchery-marked only





Recreational Fishery – 2024 Chinook MSF

Subareas 17-6, 17-9

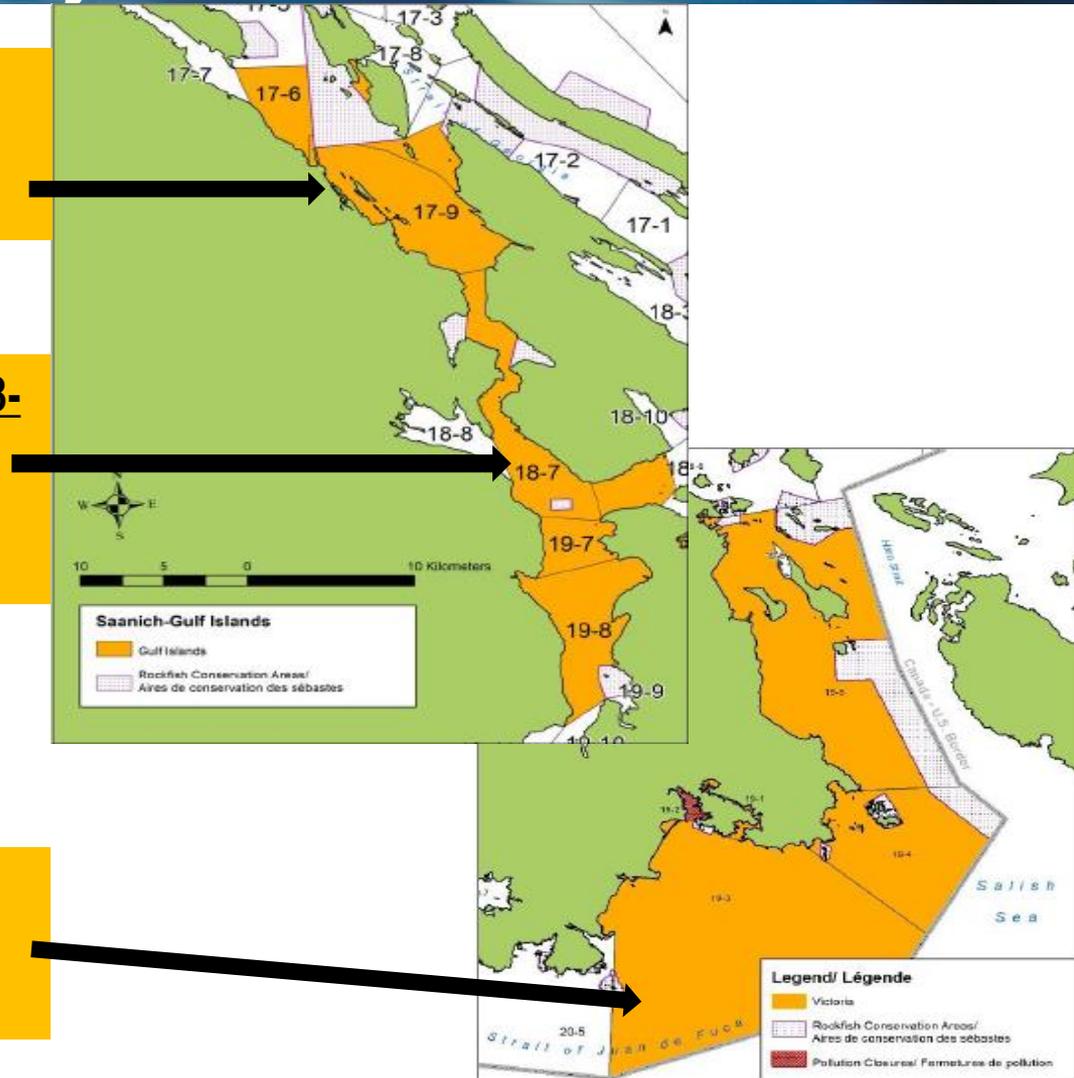
- April 1 to July 14, 1/day hatchery marked only.

Subareas 18-7, 19-7, 19-8 and portions of 18-6

- April 1 to July 31, 1/day hatchery marked only.

Subareas 19-1 and 19-3 to 19-6

- April 1 to May 31, 1/day hatchery marked only.





2024 Chinook Reference Fisheries in MSF Areas

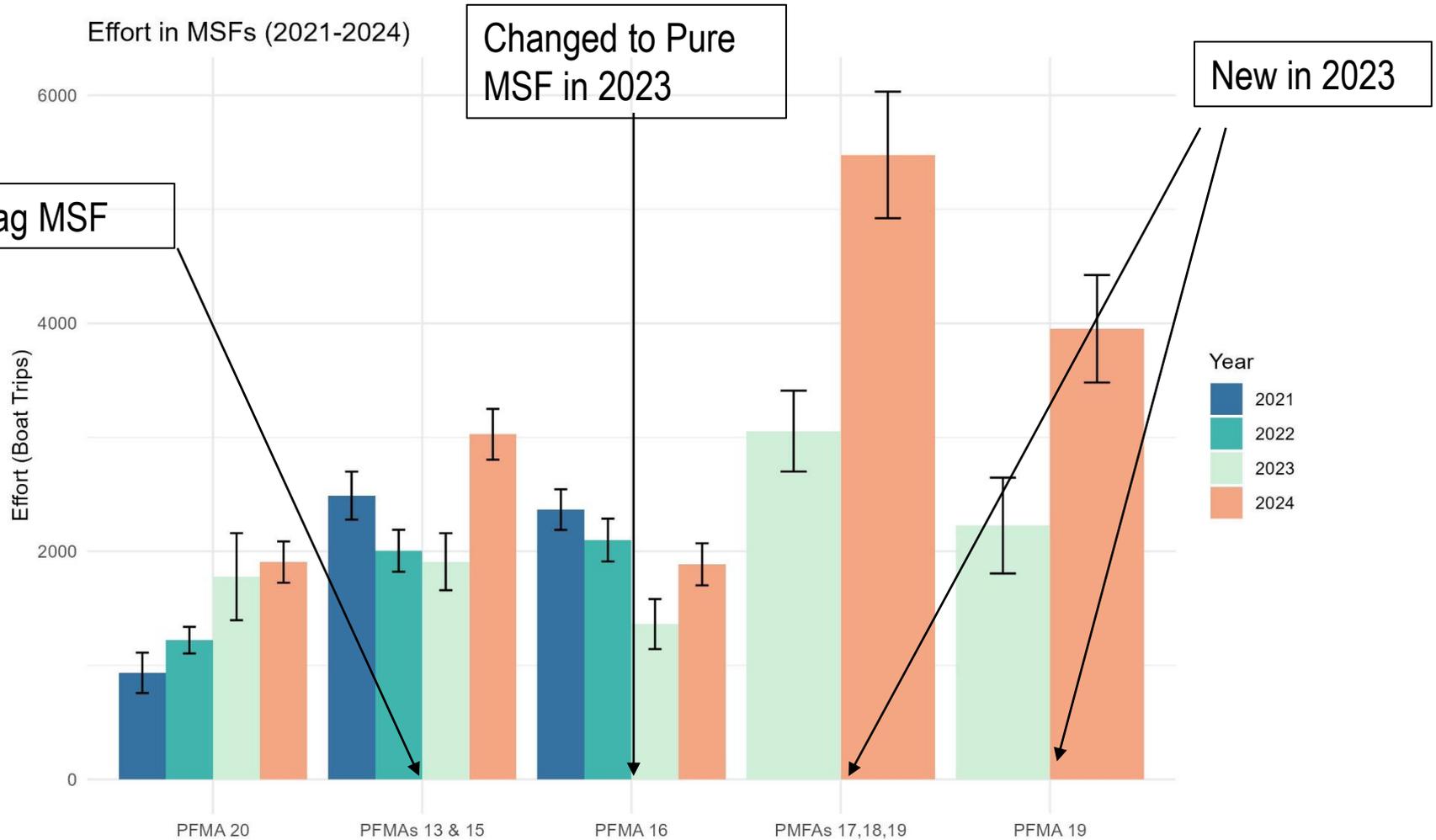
PFMA	PFMA Sub Areas	MSF Dates	Reference Fishery Sampling	Legal Samples	Sub-Legal Samples
13 and 15 (Bute and Toba Inlets)	13-19, 13-21 15-5 and 15-6	April 1 – July 14	June 4 – June 27 (24 boat days)	126	148
16 (Sechelt Inlet)	16-6, 16-7, 16-8, 16-9, 16-10, 16-11 16-12, 16-13	April 1 – July 14	May 1 – July 11 (31 boat days)	115	61
17	17-6, 17-9	April 1 – July 14	May 1 – July 14	128	607
18 and 19 (Gulf Is. /Saanich Inlet)	18-6*, 18-7, 18-10, 19-7, 19-8	April 1 – July 31 (*18-6 open area decreases June 1)	May 1 – July 31 (117 boat days)		
19 (Victoria/Haro Strait)	19-1, 19-3, 19-4, 19-5, 19-6	April 1 – May 31	April 2 – May 30 (63 boat days)	284	123
20 (Becher Bay)	Portion of 20-5	April 1 – July 31	April 2 – June 27 (39 boat days)	69	18

- 2023 reference fishery results available in data report published in DFO Library <https://science-catalogue.canada.ca/record=4125419~S6>
- Mark rates from 2024 results have been presented and released.
- GSI results for 2024 data will be available in spring 2025.





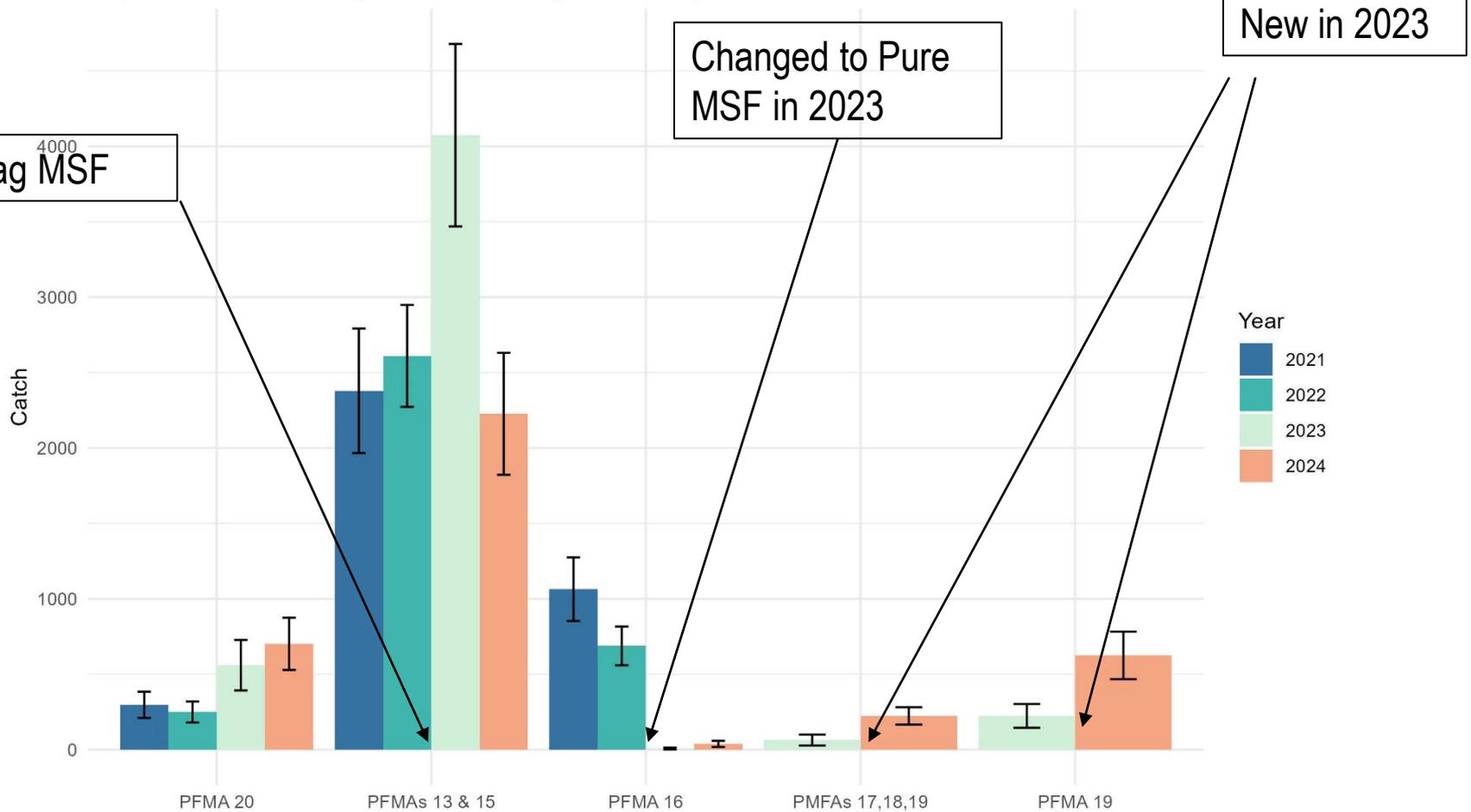
Preliminary Effort - 2024 MSFs





Preliminary Catch (Kept) - 2024 MSFs

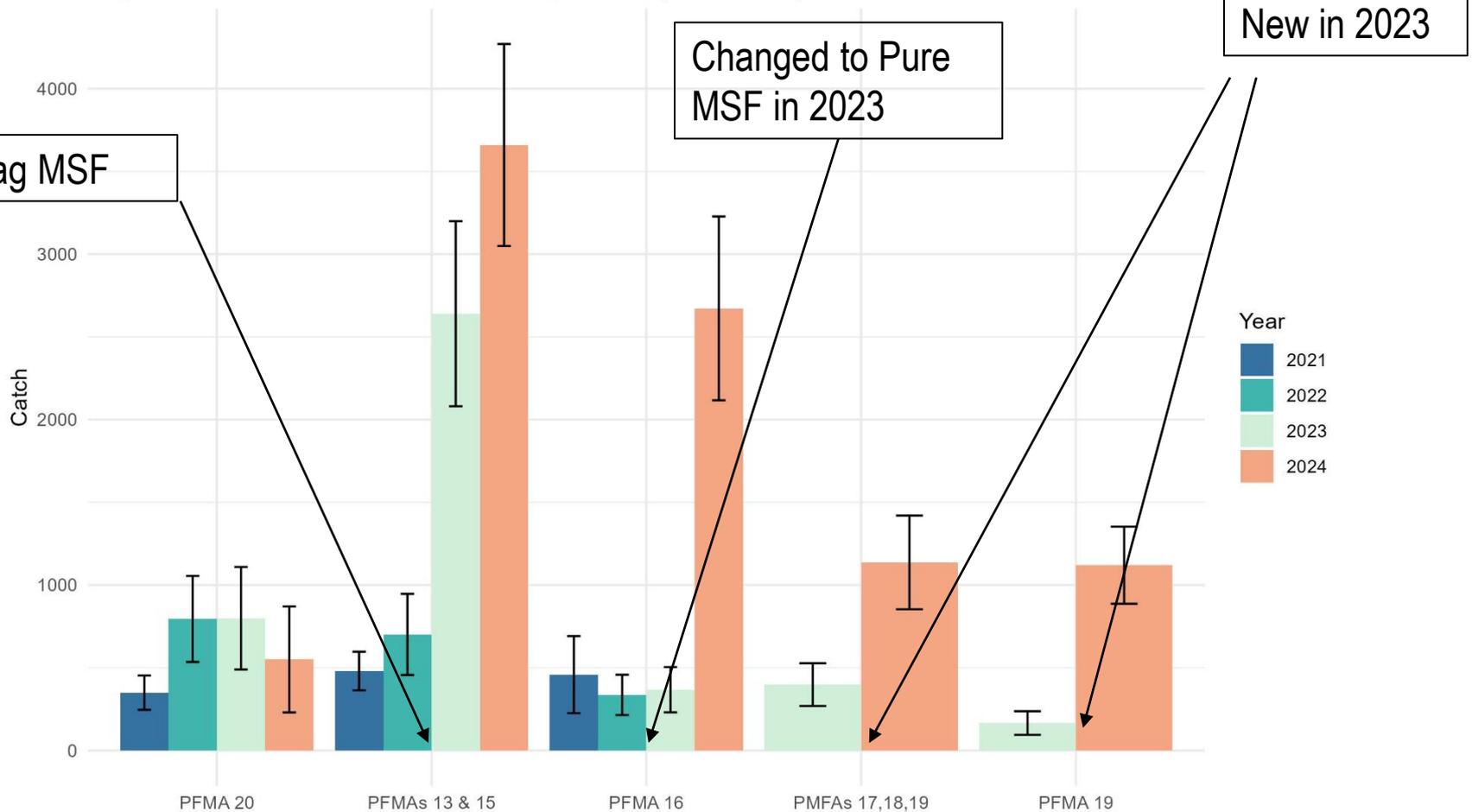
Kept Chinook Catch by Chinook MSF (2021-2024)





Preliminary Catch (Released) - 2024 MSFs

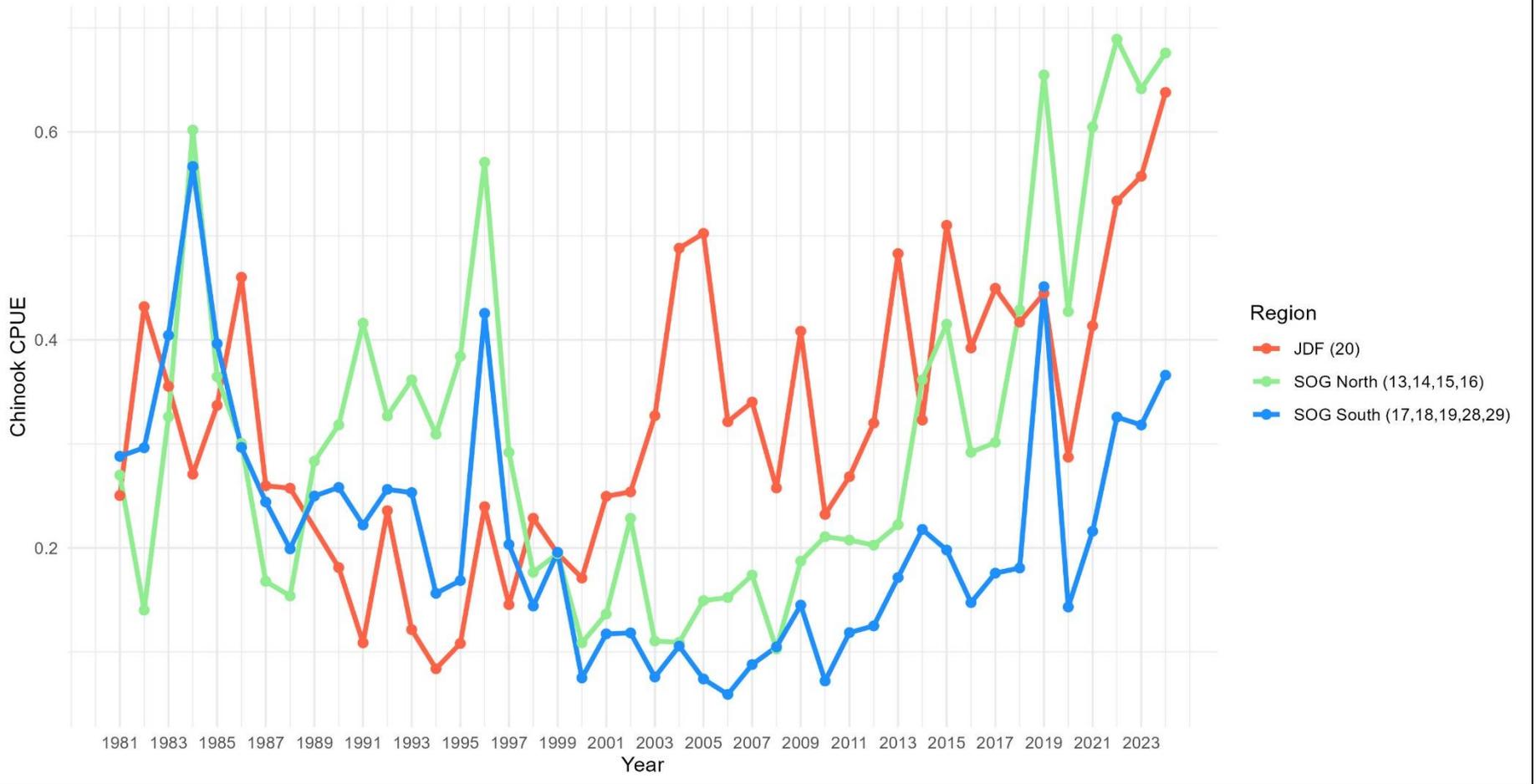
Legal Size Released Chinook Catch by PFMA (2022-2024)





2024 ECVI Recreational Fisheries: Chinook CPUE

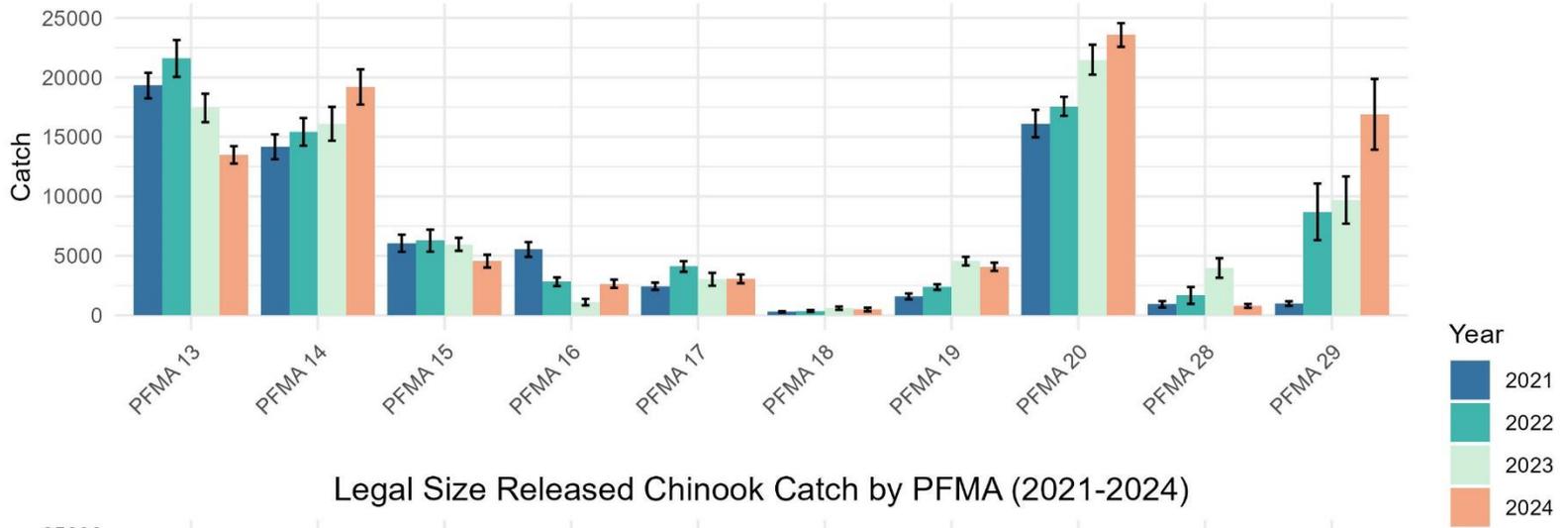
Legal Size Chinook CPUE (Total Encounters) Over Time in the Strait of Georgia & Juan de Fuca (1981-2024)



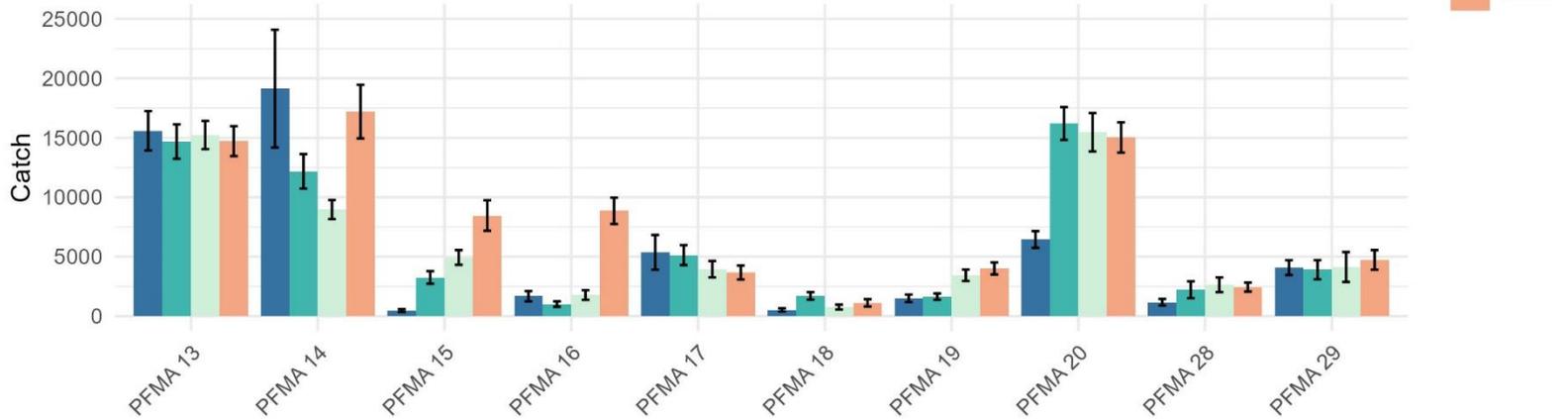


2024 ECVI Recreational Fisheries: Chinook Catch

Kept Chinook Catch by PFMA (2021-2024)



Legal Size Released Chinook Catch by PFMA (2021-2024)





2024 Recreational Preliminary Catch

2024

Fishing Area	Sockeye		Coho		Pink		Chum		Chinook ISBM	
	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel
Johnstone Strait (11-12)	-	10	5,087	11,223	3,763	14,739	-	-	10,114	9,631
Juan de Fuca (19-20)	-	152	13,797	40,227	45	82	23	-	19,499	32,670
Strait of Georgia (13-19, 28, 29)	61	234	65,614	215,781	10,248	10,235	198	475	61,577	147,680
Total	61	396	84,498	267,231	14,056	25,056	221	475	91,190	189,981

2023

Fishing Area	Sockeye		Coho		Pink		Chum		Chinook ISBM	
	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel
Johnstone Strait (11-12)	-	81	1,958	2,654	5,664	12,368	36	-	8,792	10,854
Juan de Fuca (19-20)	65	539	16,355	48,895	43,238	45,164	111	2	18,660	55,947
Strait of Georgia (13-19, 28, 29)	43	353	57,265	132,587	40,861	42,168	1,167	54	58,013	141,209
Total	108	973	75,578	184,136	89,763	99,700	1,314	56	85,465	208,010

Bold = increase from previous year



Additional Slides



First Nations FSC 2024 Fishery

- Marine FSC Fisheries were opened to retention of all salmon species for the duration of the season, except for Sockeye. Marine Nations receive annual licences, and individual species are closed by variation order when there are conservation concerns.
- Sockeye non-retention remained in place throughout the fishing season due to poor returns and to conserve Fraser River-bound stocks ([FN0494](#)).
 - 5 Week Early Stuart and early-timed Early Summer run Sockeye Window Closure
 - Areas 11-13, 17, 19-21: No Fraser Sockeye-directed fisheries before Aug 1 (GN, Tr, SN)
 - Areas 14 to 16: No Fraser Sockeye-directed fisheries before Aug 1 (GN, Tr), or Aug 15 (SN)
 - Areas 18 & 29: No Fraser Sockeye-directed fisheries before Aug 6
- Gear restrictions in place to conserve Sakinaw Sockeye
 - Areas 12 & 13 (JST) restricted to gill net and troll until July 25
 - Areas 14-16 (N-SOG) restricted to gill net and troll until Aug 15
- First Nations were encouraged to delay fisheries and to use selective FSC gear, where possible, when harvesting other salmon species, and to avoid harvesting from areas where Fraser Sockeye might be present.
- During the gear restrictions and 5-week Window Closures most FSC fisheries occurred using hook and line focusing on Chinook and Coho.
- Net fisheries in 2024 were primarily targeting Chum Salmon in the mixed stock and terminal areas.



Commercial Fishery – Inside Southern Chum

Pre-Season Fishery Plan for JST Mixed-Stock Chum Fisheries

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
			Notify US		[Green bar]	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Area 12 and 13 - 9 days/License						
				[Light green bar]		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
35 vessels (Areas 12/13: 10 hours)	35 vessels (Areas 12/13: 6 hours)	[Green bar]				
28	29	30	31			
[Green bar]						
				Purse Seine	Troll	Brown's Bay Derby





Commercial Fishery – Inside Southern Chum

JST Mixed-Stock Chum Fisheries:

Area B Seine

- First Opening: 10 hours **October 21**
(as planned)
 - 42 vessels
 - 151,714 Chum retained
- Second Opening: 10 hours **October 22**
(extended 4 hours)
 - 40 vessels
 - 80,278 Chum retained
- Total Catch: 231,992





Commercial Fishery – Inside Southern Chum

JST Mixed-Stock Chum Fisheries:

Area H Troll

- Boat day allocations:
 - 9 per licence
 - 180 fleet-wide
- Open **October 12 to October 31** (as planned)
 - 149 boat days fished
- Open **November 1 to November 9** (extended)
 - 6 boat days fished
- Total Catch: 37,538 Chum retained
- Total Effort: 155 boat days fished





Commercial Fishery – Inside Southern Chum

SOG Terminal Chum Fishery:

- Returns in 2024 were above escapement targets in some systems. Commercial fisheries occurred in SOG in 2024 in the following areas:
 - Area 14 – Gill net assessment fishery
 - Area 17 – Gill net, seine, and First Nations demonstration fisheries
 - Area 18 – Gill net, seine, and First Nations demonstration fisheries
 - Area 19 – Gill net, seine, and First Nations demonstration fisheries





Commercial Fishery – Inside Southern Chum

SOG Terminal Chum Fishery:

- Area 14 – Area D gill net assessment fishery
 - Limited-entry (10 vessels)
 - First opening: 50 hours **Oct 20 to 22** (8,371)
 - Second opening: 50 hours **Oct 27 to 29** (5,428)
 - Fishery was stood down at 14:00 Oct 27 due to strong winds. Fishery resumed Oct 28 and extended on Oct 29 to cover the lost hours.
 - Third opening: 50 hours **Nov 3 to 5** (3,308)
 - The fishery closed Nov 4 due to strong winds. Fishery reopened **Nov 5 to 6** for the remaining 34 hours.





Commercial Fishery – Inside Southern Chum

SOG Terminal Chum Fishery:

- Area 17:
 - Gill net initially opened Nov 5, closed Nov 13 (4,155)
 - Seine initially opened Nov 7, closed Nov 13 (0)
 - Snuneymuxw demonstration fishery opened Oct 31, concluded Nov 8 (1,660)
- Area 18:
 - Gill net initially opened Oct 31, closed Nov 25 (43,643)
 - Seine initially opened Nov 7, closed Nov 21 (4,030)
 - Cowichan Tribes demonstration fishery opened Oct 30, concluded Nov 8 (0)
- Area 19:
 - Gill net initially opened Nov 9, closed Nov 25 (4,606)
 - Seine initially opened Nov 9, closed Nov 19 (4,475)
 - W̱sáneć Nations demonstration fishery opened Nov 10, concluded Nov 14 (1,602)