



TO CONSERVE AND PROTECT

Conservation & Protection

Post Season Salmon Summary - 2020

Haida Gwaii Detachment

April 1ST – November 1ST

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North Coast Area - C&P - 2020 Post Season Salmon Summary

Detachment Narrative

The Islands are separated from the British Columbia mainland to the east by Hecate Strait. Vancouver Island lies to the south, across Queen Charlotte Sound, while the U.S. state of Alaska is to the north, across the disputed Dixon Entrance.

On Some of the Islands are protected under federal legislation as Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve and Haida Heritage Site, which is mostly Moresby Island and adjoining islands and islets (Gwaii Haanas is the Haida name for Moresby Island).

January 30th 1993 the Gwaii Haanas Marine Agreement was signed, as represented by the Minister of the Environment for Parks Canada and the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, the Haida Nation as represented by the Council of the Haida Nation “CHN”

This agreement created the “Gwaii Haanas National Marine Conservation Area Reserve of Canada” as described in Schedule 2 of the Canada National Marine Conservation Area Act. This agreement established the Archipelago Management Board (AMB) as a means for the Government of Canada as represented by DFO and Parks Canada and the CHN to work cooperatively in the planning, operation, management and use of Gwaii Haanas Marine Conservation Area Reserve.

- The Northern boundary of the detachment is the international border to Alaska.
- There are about 300 Salmon streams on the Islands. 100 of these are major systems (key streams). The largest of these are Yakoun, Deena, Pallant, Lagon, Salmon, Government, Awun-Ain. They provide for terminal fisheries for Chum, Pink, Coho, Sockeye, Chinook salmon, and Steelhead trout.
- The total Islands population is approximately 6,500. The main centers are Masset, Old Masset, Port Clements, Tlell, Skidegate, Queen Charlotte City, and Sandspit.
- There are two First Nation communities, Old Masset and Skidegate, with a population of about 3,500. The Council of Haida Nations (CHN) Fisheries Program is operating in co-operation with DFO on most fisheries issues.
- DFO office locations are in Masset and the Village of Queen Charlotte. Masset has one GT-05 Field Supervisor, two GT-04 Fishery Officers. The Village of Queen Charlotte City has one GT-05 Field Supervisor, one GT-04 Fishery Officer as well as the PM-05 Detachment Supervisor working from this location. Not all these positions are filled.

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- There is a significant recreational fishery on Haida Gwaii. Over 26 lodges and fish guiding companies can accommodate over 800-1000 vessels recreationally fishing in the HG Detachment area. This year with the Covid restrictions this fishery was reduced significantly.
- First Nations Fisheries include FSC for salmon, ground fish, prawns, crab, urchins, razor clams, etc. These activities are year round and include tidal and non-tidal waters. CSSP/Aquaculture activities are also on the increase. Recreational fisheries occur year round in tidal (Areas 1 and 2) as well as non-tidal waters. Primary species includes Chinook, Coho, razor clams, ground fish, prawns, crab, etc.
- Commercial fisheries operate throughout Areas 1 and 2 and include salmon (Sn/Gn/troll), urchins, geoduck, cucumbers, crab, prawn, ground fish (halibut/sablefish) and razor clams. Rockfish Conservation Areas (RCAs) and Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) are also patrolled.
- Habitat related activities include forestry (roads, foreshore, harvest activities and silviculture prescriptions), road development/maintenance, industrial and rural foreshore destruction.

Salmon Fisheries Enforcement

Commercial Fisheries

Troll

Northern Troll Decision Guidelines

Constraints

- Chinook will be managed in-season to meet the chinook annex of the PST.
- The troll fishery is also limited to by a domestic harvest rate ceiling of 3.2% of WCVI chinook.
- Dockside monitoring will be mandatory in ITQ fisheries.

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- A salmon head recovery program to recover fish with coded wire tags will be conducted.
- Coho will continue to be managed conservatively with adjustments based on in-season assessments.
- Barbless hooks and operating revival boxes are required for all fisheries.
- There will be non-retention of steelhead and sockeye.
- Additional measures may be implemented in recognition of weak salmon stocks.
- The main producers of sockeye in the north and central coast are the Skeena and Nass Rivers, and trollers at times intercept a small amount of these fish in Dixon Entrance as a by-catch to their directed fisheries on Coho, pink, and chinook however the retention of sockeye in the Area F troll fishery was not permitted in 2019.
- The Department has discussed various options for managing the Area F Troll to the maximum 3.2% WCVI chinook harvest rate in-season and approaches for 2020 did include DNA sampling and/or pre-season defined cautious management approaches.
- Area F troll consist of management areas 1 and 2 with approximately 240 licences and 140 vessels fishing those.
- The total allocation for the commercial chinook fishery in Area F was 88,400 Chinook

Recreational Fisheries

Tidal

- During the course of conducting patrols and investigations, infractions such as barbed hooks, fail to record species such as Chinook and Halibut and non-compliance with the packaging and transportation guidelines for halibut are still prevalent in the recreational fishery, however this issue is being addressed by pre-season lodge patrols and other normal pillar one activities. Overall compliance remains good.
- ***Non-Tidal***
 - Recreational salmon enforcement patrols continue to occur throughout the fall months. Fishery officer patrol efforts have been directed to focus on conservation occurrences and concerns.
 - Overall compliance remains good.

Lodges

- Haida Gwaii has 12 destinations, fly-in lodges and approximately 14 shore based fishing lodges and resorts operating in the detachment area. Activities this year were severely impacted by the Corona 19 virus and most operations did not open this year. Conflict occurred between local government and lodge operators.

First Nations Fisheries

Marine Fisheries

First Nation marine fisheries for salmon are varied and widespread. All gear types are used and all salmon species are targeted throughout the year.

Inland Fisheries

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Inland First Nation gill net fisheries occur on the Copper, Naden, Awun and Yakoun Rivers. Sockeye fishery openings were managed under the direction of and Haida FSC Advisory Committee. Target species are Sockeye, Chinook and Coho salmon. There is minimal salmon compliance issues associated with this fishery. Nets being left unattended and unchecked for long periods of time causes wastage. The fishing effort on these sockeye rivers is managed by the Haida. Joint patrols are done by Fishery Officers and Guardians.

Fishery Enforcement Activity Tracking System (FEATS)

Haida Gwaii Detachment Statistical Summary

Table 1: Comparison of Fishery Officer Enforcement effort on salmon fisheries from FEATS Data for the period from 2017 – 2020 – Haida Gwaii Detachment. Commercial Troll, Rec tidal and non-tidal, and UCAT Salmon

Year	Patrols	Patrol hours	FO hours	Vessels Checked	Vehicles Checked	Persons Checked	Gear Checked
2020	37	202	396	74	4	134	113
2019	33	111.50	210.50	70	5	231	73
2018	53	242	401	98	6	249	105
2017	63	345.75	580	171	27	940	366

C&P has taken a strategic approach and focused efforts on priorities such as Canadian Sanitary Shell Fish Programme (CSSP), stocks of concern (salmon) and on files that will have a major impact on the resource.

Pillar 1 (Public Education and Stewardship) Projects

- Remembrance Day celebration in Masset

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- Species at Risk Workshop thru the HG Marine Stewardship Group
- Tlell Fall Fair; interpretive touch tank.
- Hospital Days; parade, public relations.
- Detachment Supervisor and C&P Field Supervisors meet with Fishery Guardians on a regular basis (weekly) to address specific concerns and arrange joint C&P/Haida Guardian patrols.
- Joint vessel patrols conducted with Parks Canada and COS throughout the summer.
- C&P fishery officers continue to meet with all recreational lodges and resorts pre and post season. Officers perform pre-season as well as in-season inspections at the lodges. Inspections are sometimes done in coordination with provincial officials who are inspecting for compliance with provincial regulations.

Staffing

- The Haida Gwaii Detachment Supervisor position was vacant for most of the year with Officers deploying out and new officers deploying in to Masset and QCC. With two trainee officers left alone for a period of time this was a very challenging year as far as staffing was concerned and we look forward to a much more stable work force in 2021.



TO CONSERVE AND PROTECT

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SKEENA / NASS / COASTAL AREA 6

April 1ST – November 1ST

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North Coast Area - C&P - 2020 Post Season Salmon Summary

Detachment Narrative

The Skeena/ Nass / Coastal Area 6 Detachment encompass three distinct geographical areas, the Skeena River Watershed, the Nass River Watershed and Area 6, BC North Coast Area. The Detachment Supervisor is stationed in Terrace. For operational purposes the Detachment is divided into three field units.

The Terrace/New Aiyansh Field Unit

- This Field Unit covers a portion of the Skeena River and numerous tributaries from the Kasiks River upstream to Legate Creek. Population centers include Terrace, Thornhill, Usk, Rosswood, Kitselas and Kitsumkalum, and the watershed of the Nass River drainage and numerous tributaries, also including the town of Stewart BC (Canada/U.S. border). The area has a scattered population with the communities in: Greenville, Canyon City, New Aiyansh, Meziadin, Bell Irving and Stewart. First Nations fisheries include Inland Economic Opportunity Fisheries, FSC for salmon.
- Five Fishery Officers are assigned to this area; one Field Supervisor (GT05) and four Fishery Officers (GT04). Of the four, two officers were identified to deal with Canada's commitment related to the Nisga'a Treaty. Nisga'a Treaty implementation (FSC, Individual and Communal Sales Fisheries and ESSR), Gitanyow (FSC and ESSR) Interim Measures/Treaty and Gitsksan (FSC and overlap claims) are the primary focus related to First Nations activities. Recreation, both tidal and non-tidal opportunities are available year round (weather permitting), with concentrated efforts on Chinook, Coho, Steelhead, crab, ground fish, prawns etc. The area is vast and access to recreational opportunities is increasing. Habitat related activity includes forestry (roads, foreshore, harvest activities and silviculture prescriptions), mining, road development (Highways expansion) and residential expansion.

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The Kitimat Field Unit

- The Kitimat Field Unit includes the Kitimat River drainage and tributaries, Statistical Area 6 and numerous tributaries. Population centers include Kitimat, Haisla, Kemano and Hartley Bay. First Nations Fisheries include FSC for salmon, ground fish, prawns, crab, urchins etc. These activities are year round and include tidal and non-tidal waters. CSSP/Aquaculture activities are also on the increase. Proposed FSC harvest for bi-valves on a limited scale for First nations is underway. Recreational fisheries occur year round in tidal (Area 6) and non-tidal waters. Primary species include Chinook, Coho, Chum, ground fish, prawns, crab etc.
- Three Fishery Officers are assigned to this area; one Field Supervisor (GT05), one Fishery Officers (GT04) and one legacy funded Fishery Officer. Recreational fisheries are available year round (weather permitting), but are concentrated during the months of April to November. Chinook, Sockeye, Coho and Steelhead are the primary species targeted by fishers.
- Habitat related activities include forestry (roads, foreshore, harvest activities and silviculture), mining, pipeline development, road development/maintenance, industrial & rural expansion.
- Commercial fisheries operate through out Area 6 and include salmon (Seine / Gill Net / Troll), shellfish (urchins, cucumbers, crab, prawn, shrimp trawl, ground fish (halibut/sablefish). An average of 6 sport fish lodges and 25 shore based charter operator's work in Area 6 year round with peak activity from May to November. Area 6 also has Rockfish Conservation closed areas, CSSP issues and contamination closures.
- SARA and Aquatic invasive species will be a larger role in the area as priorities shift.

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The Smithers Field Unit

- The Smithers Field Unit encompasses a vast area. Currently there is one GT-05 and two GT-04 Fishery Officer for this unit.
- The Smithers area includes the Babine, Morice, Bulkley and Sustat River watersheds. This is the most geographically challenging area with in the detachment. The main center of population is Smithers and other communities include Telkwa, Houston, Burns Lake, Topley and Granisle. The main FN communities are Witset (Morice Town), Burns Lake, Takla, Tachet and Ft. Babine with a few other very small communities. Recreational effort focus on Sockeye, Chinook, Coho, and Steelhead. The Babine Lake Sockeye Fishery has been growing and will require further attention. Habitat related activity include forestry (roads, harvest activities and silviculture prescriptions), mining, road development (Highways expansion), agriculture and residential expansion. First Nations fisheries include Inland Economic Opportunity Fisheries, ESSR and FSC for salmon.
- This Field Unit also includes the Hazeltons which includes the Upper/Mid Skeena, Lower Babine and Lower Bulkley River watersheds and tributaries which include the Kispiox, Kitwanga, Kitsegukla and Suskwa Rivers. The area has a scattered population with Communities in Hazelton, South Hazelton, New Hazelton, Cedarvale, Gitanyow, Kitwanga, Kitsegukla, Hagwilget, Gitanmaax, Glen Vowell and Kispiox.

Salmon Fisheries Enforcement

Commercial Salmon Fisheries

Gill Net

- NIL

Seine

North Coast Area - C&P - 2020 Post Season Salmon Summary

- Fishery for pink salmon. Some occurrences for poor releases and one warning for prohibited species retention . 11 violations primarily FRC violations.

Troll

- Minimal effort on troll in area six due to vessel repair and Skeena River closure priority resourcing. Nothing significant to report on this fishery.

Recreational Fisheries

Tidal

- C&P efforts on this fishery were reduced to ensure Skeena Sockeye conservation efforts and chinook closures. 19 violations from patrols conducted in Area 6. Joint agency Hwy inspections were conducted thought the season and violations were processed were a mixture of inland and tidal violations.

Non-Tidal

- Increased patrol activity saw good compliance over all for closed area and species conservation objectives for Skeena and Nass water sheds due to good public education efforts. The increased effort in Non-tidal areas found 83 violations of a minor nature.

Charters

- Area 6 has on average 25 charter operators working out of Kitimat. This year saw below average activity due to covid.

Lodges

- For 2020 no floating recreational Lodges conducted operations in Area 6 due to covid.

First Nations Fisheries

Nisga'a

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- A small in river domestic fishery occurred this year. C&P worked with NLG resource enforcement staff on a regular basis patrolling the fisheries in the Treaty area as well as addressing occurrences of alleged illegal sales . No rec fishery in the area as the park, the boat ramps and communities were closed to visitors for the bulk of the season due to covid.

ESSR

- NIL

Inland Fisheries

- NIL

Fishery Enforcement Activity Tracking System (FEATS)

S.N.C. 6 Detachment Statistical Summary

Table 1: Comparison of Fishery Officer Enforcement effort on salmon fisheries from FEATS Data for 2017-2020 April 1-Nov 14th – SNC6 Detachment.

Year	Patrols	Patrol hours	FO hours	Vessels Checked	Vehicles Checked	Persons Checked	Gear Checked
2020	433	1482.0	2281.75	480	213	2445	388
2019	323	1506	2223.5	234	159	1575	543
2018	408	2039	2407.75	69	15	545	50
2017	350	2034.75	2538.0	263	225	1466	150

The statistical summary represents the activities described throughout the Post Season document. For 2020 there were significant patrol hours dedicated to Skeena Sockeye and Chinook conservation efforts. The total patrol work element hours range across the work elements UCAT Salmon/Rec Salmon/Aboriginal Special Licence/Aboriginal Salmon/Rec Salmon Tidal/Other Joint Forces.

Pillar 1 (Public Education and Stewardship) Projects

- Participation SFAB meetings.
- Foster working relationships with RCMP at the management and individual level and joint operations.
- Working with Community advisor on Salmonids in the class room program. Field assistance for collection.

Staffing

- In 2020, there were 10 fishery officer positions staffed in the Skeena/Nass/Coastal Area 6 Detachment but one position was vacant due to acting opportunity at RHQ. For 2020 we staffed a second Fishery Officer staffed in New Aiyansh.



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Bella Coola (Central Coast) Detachment

April 1st – November 1st

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North Coast Area - C&P - 2020 Post Season Salmon Summary

Detachment Narrative

- The Bella Coola (Central Coast) Detachment area consists of Pacific Fishery Management Areas 7 -10 (Area 7 – Bella Bella; Area 8 – Bella Coola; Area 9 – Rivers Inlet; Area 10 – Smith Inlet). It encompasses that portion of the Central Coast of British Columbia from Cape Caution in the south to Kitasoo Bay in the north, 130 nautical miles. The marine and land base together covers an area of approximately 52,000 square kilometers.
- There are 180 salmon streams, creeks and rivers in Areas 7-10. Of those, 29 would be considered significant salmon producers. Major systems would be the Roscoe and Kainet Rivers in area 7, Bella Coola, Atnarko, Dean, Kimsquit, Kwatna and Koeye Rivers in area 8, Chuckwalla, Kilbella, Wannock Rivers as well as the Owikeno Lake sockeye rivers in area 9, and the Docee River sockeye and chinook system in area 10. Commercial salmon fishing typically occurs from late May into mid-October annually. There is world class recreational salmon fishing the entire Central Coast, particularly in the Hakai Pass and Rivers Inlet areas, and on the Dean River.
- There are six small communities in Areas 7-10. They are Klemtu, Bella Bella, Bella Coola, Ocean Falls, Anahim Lake and Oweekeno. The total resident population is approximately 6500 people.
- There are six First Nations in the Detachment area - Kitasoo First Nation (pop. 500), Heiltsuk First Nation (pop. 2200), Nuxalk First Nation (pop. 1470), Ulkatcho First Nation (pop. 900), Wui'Kinuxv First Nation (pop. 280), and the Gwa'sala Nakwaxda'xw First Nation (pop. 980) which is based in Port Hardy. First Nations persons are actively involved in subsistence fisheries for many finfish and shellfish species, and form a large component of commercial salmon licence holders in the Central Coast. C&P fishery officers are increasingly engaged with the Coastal Guardian Watchmen network in the Central Coast. The CGW are employed by their First Nations and provide increased monitoring and ORR capacity in the vast Central Coast environment.
- There are now seven C&P fishery officer positions in the Bella Coola Detachment - one PM-05 Detachment Supervisor in Bella Coola, two GT-05 Field Supervisors, one in Bella Coola and one in Bella Bella, one GT-04 fishery officer in Bella Coola and two GT-04 fishery officers in Bella Bella.
- The Bella Coola Detachment also operates out of a field camp in Dawson's Landing (Rivers Inlet – Area 9) for a portion of the spring and summer months.

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The Bella Coola Detachment consists of two Field Unit offices and a seasonal field camp:

Bella Coola Field Unit – The Bella Coola Field Unit area of environmental enforcement responsibility is marine PFMA Area 8 and portions of non-tidal Management Unit 5. Bella Coola had staff arrive June 2020. A Field Supervisor and Fishery Officer position was filled.

Bella Bella Field Unit - The Bella Bella Field Unit area of environmental enforcement responsibility is marine PFMA Area 7 and the southernmost portions of Area 6. Bella Bella fishery officers also take the lead role in responding to issues and occurrences in marine Areas 9 and 10. Bella Bella has staffed up to 3 Fishery officers for 2020 one of which has taken on the role of Field Supervisor.

Dawsons Landing (Rivers Inlet) - In 2020, the Dawsons Landing field camp site was operational for the season.

Salmon Fisheries Enforcement

- The Commercial Fisheries were attended by the newly staffed offices and where required the NCA Marine Patrol Program assisted.

Gill Net

- Gillnet fisheries in the Central Coast this year saw a wide range of participation from 15 in June to 159 in July. Four fisheries occurred and C&P encountered 14 violations in commercial salmon during the patrol efforts. The violations were of a minor nature. There was unrest during most of these fisheries based on concerns for the spread of Covid 19. The RCMP were involved to make sure the peace was observed.

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Seine

- One fishery occurred and due to low abundance no further opportunities occurred.

Troll

- N/A

Recreational Fisheries

Tidal

- Covid 19 resulted in a late start for lodges which seem to equate to average rec activity in the area.
- Catches and effort varied by time and species with the MPP providing enforcement support and presence at times patrolling the recreational fishery on the Central Coast, including inspecting the recreational fishers in Rivers Inlet. Rec salmon saw 19 violations during the reporting period.

Non-Tidal

- 3 violations for non-tidal this year. Lots of high water and flooding hampered fishing efforts.

First Nations Fisheries

Marine Fisheries

North Coast Area - C&P - 2020 Post Season Salmon Summary

- First Nation marine fisheries for salmon are varied and widespread. All gear types are used and all salmon species are targeted throughout the year.

Inland Fisheries

- First Nation salmon fisheries occur on the Bella Coola River by members of the Nuxalk First Nation using drift and set gill nets. They target Chinook and Coho salmon with a small amount of effort directed at Chum salmon. The fishery is monitored by the First Nation Guardian Watchman program, and information on catches and biological samples are provided to Stock Assessment and Resource Management.

Unlicenced / Closed Area / Closed Time Patrols (UCAT)

- New staff to Bella Coola were able to target closed area patrols in both the Marine and inland.

Table 1: Comparison of Fishery Officer Enforcement effort on salmon fisheries from FEATS Data for the period from April 1st, through November 1th, 2017 - 2020 – Bella Coola Detachment.

Year	Patrols	Patrol hours	FO hours	Vessels Checked	Vehicles Checked	Persons Checked	Gear Checked
2020	114	304	521	356	14	533	413
2019	36	169.75	323.5	86	2	212	156
2018	182	823.75	1451.75	219	9	654	355
2017	113	407.0	766	181	4	499	404

North Coast Area - C&P - 2020 Post Season Salmon Summary

- Between April 1st, and November 1, 2020 these stats are an accumulation for the Central Coast work elements Comm Salmon Net, Aboriginal Salmon, Rec-Salmon (tidal), Rec Salmon NonTidal, UCAT salmon.

Highlights 2020:

- Three full time staff in Bella Bella and two full time arrived in Bella Coola in June.
- Reports of increased recreational effort in the Central Coast but covid did affect number of lodges having no or late start up.

Conservation & Protection Post Season Salmon Summary – 2020

Prince Rupert Detachment



TO CONSERVE AND PROTECT

April 1st – November 1st

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Detachment Narrative

- The Detachment area covers approximately 2 degrees latitude (120 miles) of the northern mainland coast, from the Canada/Alaska border to Hartley Bay. This area includes several hundred miles of shoreline and a large archipelago of islands and numerous passages.
- The detachment area includes the Skeena River (up to and including the Khyex River), the marine portion of the Nass River, and several smaller and medium sized rivers and tributaries.
- The detachment area currently includes the eastern portions of Hecate Strait and Dixon Entrance, which are highly valuable marine fish habitat and include numerous identified Rockfish Protection Areas.
- Prince Rupert is the major centre of the detachment area. The port of Prince Rupert is a significant fish landing port in British Columbia, where large numbers of fish landings occur year round. Several smaller communities are in the detachment area, including Port Edward and the First Nations communities of Lax Kw'alaams, Kitkatla, Metlakatla, and Gingolx. Many of these communities depend on marine resources.
- The detachment is located in a single office in downtown Prince Rupert. The 2020 compliment of C & P enforcement staff is six officers which includes the Detachment Supervisor, two Field Supervisors, and two trained Fishery Officers, and one new Fishery Officer working under the guidance of trained staff. This season the detachment was supported by the CCGC Nicola Goddard and the mid-shore Marine Patrol Program which resulted in an increased marine presence. The Marine Patrol Program had two new officers, who worked closely with General Duty when not assigned to the ship. The North Coast and specifically the Prince Rupert Detachment also was supported by an Intelligence officer who is assigned to the National Fisheries Intelligence Service.
- The management of most of the detachment's fisheries has become increasingly more complex in recent years. This has resulted in C&P taking on a larger auditing function to ensure catch record requirements and fish slip data are properly captured and submitted and that traceability exists within the fishery.
- Aerial Surveillance Program: fishery officer patrols Prince Rupert detachment area by air

Salmon Fisheries Enforcement

Commercial Fisheries

Gill Net

- There were 2 commercial salmon gillnet fishing days in Area 4 in 2020. Compliance inspections were conducted throughout the season with focus on reporting requirements, retention of prohibited species, and closed area patrols. There were very few fishing opportunities in 2020. Failing to hail into commercial fisheries and possession of prohibited species were violations encountered.
- No commercial gillnet fisheries in Areas 3 or 5 in 2020.

Seine

- There was only 1 Area 3 seine fishery in 2020.
- No commercial seine fisheries in Area 4 or 5 in 2020.
- Significant fine imposed on Captain for refusing Officers to board and assist with inspection. Sentencing transcript available at PR courthouse.

Troll

- The Prince Rupert detachment provided marine enforcement coverage for this fishery on an opportunistic basis. When possible, officers attended offloads to address head retention concerns.

Recreational Fisheries

Tidal

- In-season salmon species limit reductions were implemented this season to address lower returns of Skeena River chinook salmon. Chinook Salmon recreational limits were reduced from May 31st to July 14th, 2020 to one a day. In addition, the

North Coast Area - C&P - 2020 Post Season Salmon Summary

number of chinook salmon allowed to be caught and retained by recreational fishermen in the tidal waters of the entire pacific region was reduced to 10. Compliance inspections were conducted opportunistically and active investigations were conducted throughout the season where non-compliance was detected. There were few violations encountered during inspections involving salmon. Fishery Officers conducted both vessel and roadside checks of recreational fishers, harvesting salmon from areas 3-5. A landslide on that occurred on July 15th on Lachmach Road, significantly impacted access to the work channel area and curtailed marine fishing at the end of work channel

Non-Tidal

North Coast Area - C&P - 2020 Post Season Salmon Summary

- Recreational salmon in the Skeena River Watershed was closed to chinook fishing from May 21st to July 14th, 2020. This included closures of all rivers and lakes flowing into PFMA's 3 -5 for chinook salmon. Chum salmon was closed within the entire Skeena River watershed, and Coho Salmon retention limits were reduced to 2 a day, with only one allowed to be retained over 50cm's. Enforcement patrols occur on the Kloiya, and road checks on Highway 16. Patrols to these areas were on an opportunistic basis and later in the season. Prince Rupert General Duty committed less time in the non-tidal environment as they have in the past as efforts were focused on marine commercial activity.
- **Charters**
- There are many independent charter operators in the Prince Rupert Detachment area with a wide range of compliance histories. In 2015 it was noted that more work needed to be done within this group to ensure good stewardship was being modelled to clients. Since that time, there continues to be a range of enforcement concerns with this group but annual education presentations are attempting to improve this. Covid 19 played a significant impact on the amount of charter operators providing service within the waters around Prince Rupert.

Lodges

- There are 5 recreational fishing lodges in the Prince Rupert Detachment area. Covid 19 played a major factor in operations of fishing lodges in 2020. Only one lodge was open for a short duration in 2020.

First Nations Fisheries

Marine Fisheries

In response to low returns of salmon this season, the Department continued to work collaboratively with local First Nations to implement a cautious approach to Food, Social, and Ceremonial (FSC) harvests due to concerns about Skeena River sockeye returns. In total, the Prince Rupert Area has six First Nations Bands with communal Access to Areas 3, 4, and 5. Conservation and Protection conducted area vessel and aerial patrols ensuring only authorized First Nations were harvesting.

Fishery Enforcement Activity Tracking System (FEATS)

Prince Rupert Detachment Statistical Summary

Table 1: Comparison of Fishery Officer Enforcement effort on all salmon directed fisheries from FEATS Data for 2017-2020 – Prince Rupert Detachment (Patrol Activity Profile – All Work Elements).

Year	Patrols	Patrol hours	FO hours	Vessels Checked	Vehicles Checked	Persons Checked	Gear Checked
2020	32	172	225	147	18	207	82
2019	77	402.25	602.5	334	25	719	233
2018	66	354.0	632.75	375	5	682	300
2017	44	294	378.5	190	125	445	78

Salmon is only one aspect of the Prince Rupert C&P Detachment workload. In addition, groundfish, shellfish, invertebrate, Species at Risk (Abalone), marine mammals, herring, and the Canadian Sanitary Shellfish Program are monitored for compliance and enforcement where required. It is important to consider the Prince Rupert General Duty Detachment data in conjunction with the Marine Patrol Program data. During peak commercial harvest times, the MPP typically provides a supporting presence in the detachment area and augments marine enforcement effort.

During the season, officers also spend considerable time conducting office based compliance audits of FOS reporting and fish slips. This decreases total patrol hours but yields significant violations and provides an excellent tool for officers to target enforcement efforts where vessels demonstrate poor compliance.

Pillar 1 (Public Education and Stewardship) Projects

- Detachment and Field Supervisors meet with the local First Nation Fisheries Managers and addresses specific enforcement concerns.
- Fishery Officers participated in Joint Agency road checks with other Federal agencies in the Prince Rupert area.
- Fishery Officers continue to meet with all recreational lodges and SFAC representatives throughout the course of the year using virtual meeting options.

Major Case Audit

- Forensic Audit of Provincially licenced processor, within the Prince Rupert Area. Large scale audit utilizing Forensic investigative techniques, forensic accountants, and DNA analysis. Over 2500 samples of salmon were collected and submitted for DNA. DNA was able to identify species, number of fish (animals) present within the samples, and the River Drainage system the fish belonged to.

Staffing

- There were 3 field fishery officers and 1 fishery officer trainee in the Prince Rupert Detachment area in 2020. As well, the detachment was supported throughout the season by 1 Marine Patrol Program fishery officer, and 1 Fishery Officer Trainee who provided enforcement presence throughout the North Coast. Staffing is underway to fill current vacancies.

Conservation & Protection Post Season Salmon Summary - 2020

Marine Patrol Program

April 1st – November 1st



TO CONSERVE AND PROTECT

Detachment Commander position vacant

North Coast Area - C&P - 2020 Post Season Salmon Summary

Detachment Narrative

- The Captain Goddard MSM is one of two CCGC hero class mid-shore patrol vessels assigned to patrol the Pacific coast. Named to honour Captain Nichola Goddard who was killed in battle in 2006 and was posthumously awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, this vessel provides enforcement support to all coastal detachments in the north.
- Ship specifications:
 - Length of the ship is 43 meters
 - Beam of ship is 7 meters
 - top speed of 25 knots
 - 24 / 7 operational capabilities
 - 2 week at-sea endurance
 - capable of housing 5 Fishery Officers
- The North Coast Area includes Fishery Management Areas 1 -10 and extends north along the West Coast of British Columbia from Cape Caution to Stewart, as well as the Queen Charlotte Islands.
- The program structure is 7 officers which includes the detachment supervisor based out of Prince Rupert, 2 field supervisors and 4 fishery officers.
- MPP supports the land based North Coast Detachments and is tasked based on priorities.
- The Detachment operates on the mobile office principle where technological advances (satellite and cellular internet) have enabled officers to complete enforcement file work while on board the ship.
- Typically, the MSPV has a 60 day refit period providing for approximately 305 yearly patrol days.
- Over the past year all staff from the program either retired or deployed to other Areas in the Region. We are planning to staff all positions however this will take time. This year and in the mean time Officers from the local detachments will be seconded to man the vessel.

Salmon Fisheries Enforcement

Commercial Fisheries

Gill Net

- The MPP attended and provided enforcement coverage for various commercial salmon net fisheries in the north coast in 2020. Both the local general duty detachment and / or the Marine Patrol Program provided a C&P presence during most fisheries. Due to limited openings and low returns, a significant portion of patrols focused on ensuring closed area boundaries were adhered to. Due to high priorities for closures in the Prince Rupert area and staff shortages in the Central Coast, the Marine Patrol Platform spent the majority of the season providing support to these two areas. This platform provides a visible deterrence when working in an area but also can incorporate covert patrol work into their enforcement strategy.

Seine

- The Marine Patrol Program supported local detachments by providing enforcement coverage during seine fisheries using both overt and covert methods. Sorting practices continue to be a focus in this fishery and the aerial surveillance program provided support in ensuring sorting and handling practices were in compliance.

Troll

- The Marine Patrol Program patrolled during the troll fishery during the 2020 season, and no “significant” issues or trends were noted on the water. Reports were received of non-compliance for head-retention requirements but were addressed by land-based detachments.

Recreational Fisheries

Tidal

- Recreational salmon enforcement patrols continue to occur on an opportunistic basis throughout the summer months and some targeted operations were conducted where large-scale non-compliance was suspected. Violations such as prohibited gear (barbed hooks), over-possession, and fail to maintain catch records continue to be addressed with enforcement action.

Charters and Lodges

- There are many independent charter operators and fishing lodges throughout the North Coast area with a wide range of compliance histories. The MPP participated on a targeted multi-agency patrol which focused on the recreational charter community in the Prince Rupert area.

First Nations Fisheries

Marine Fisheries

- First Nation marine fisheries for salmon are varied and widespread. Conservation & Protection conduct regular inspections on First Nations salmon fisheries and work in-season with First Nation's fisheries managers to ensure departmental objectives are achieved while ensuring access to food, social, and ceremonial resources.

Fishery Enforcement Activity Tracking System (FEATS)

Marine Patrol Program Statistical Summary

Table 1: Comparison of Fishery Officer Enforcement effort on salmon fisheries from FEATS Data for 2017 - 2020 – Marine Patrol Program Detachment (Patrol Activity Profile – All Work Elements).

Year	Patrols	Patrol hours	FO hours	Vessels Checked	Vehicles Checked	Persons Checked	Gear Checked
2020	11	48	76	60	0	126	10
2019	39	216	246	131	6	281	41
2018	61	304	377	198	0	288	46
2017	206	983	1022	246	0	473	155

Salmon is only one aspect of the Marine Patrol Program’s Detachment workload. This past season was unique in that the north coast conducted a non-salmon enforcement exercise that occurred when salmon directed work would typically be conducted. Groundfish, shellfish, invertebrate, Species at Risk (Abalone), marine mammals, herring, and the Canadian Sanitary Shellfish Program continue to be areas where C&P directs its’ effort and resources. This year’s data should be considered in conjunction with the land based Detachments information as the commercial and area recreational fisheries were priorities for their programs as well.

Pillar 1 (Public Education and Stewardship) Projects

- Fishery Officers provide education at remote schools across the north coast.
- Fishery Officers conduct community visits throughout the North Coast including participation in Kincolith’s Reconciliation Walk.
- Fishery Officers contributed to Oceans Day with shoreline cleanup efforts.