

BIG BAR LANDSLIDE UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 7, 2019



Incident Webpage



BC River Forecast

- Evidence from radio-tagging shows both Sockeye and Pink salmon are successfully swimming past the landslide. Hydroacoustic monitors indicate a high percentage of salmon—more than 85 percent—that arrive at the landslide are swimming through. This represents excellent progress in the achievement of the main goal: restoring natural passage for salmon.



Rock scalers have partly restored natural fish passage through the slide.

- More than 100,000 salmon have passed through the partly restored natural channel since August 31 following major rock manipulation. Prior to that date, less than 30,000 had swum through. Monitoring will be ongoing to track the progress of these fish, as well as those that follow them.
- While seining operations to capture fish for transport are not operational, due to the increased numbers of fish swimming through the passage, First Nations seining crews remain on standby to resume their efforts if needed. The entire incident team is prepared to begin transporting salmon again immediately should the need arise.



Lower water levels have made passage easier for salmon swimming upstream to spawn.

- Helicopter sluicing on the east wall of the canyon, which involves dropping water down the cliff to clear dangerous debris, was conducted yesterday. Rock scalers continue their work to make it safe to descend the wall to install anchor points to string a cable across the river. Having this in place will improve access for crews and equipment to the west side of the river. In the meantime, rock manipulation on the west bank to restore the passage continues.
- Crews on site spent yesterday cleaning and repairing equipment, conducting maintenance operations, and having a well-deserved break from capturing and transporting salmon.

FISH SWIMMING PAST THE LANDSLIDE

Daily total: 11,946

Total to date: 130,789



Canada