



July 30, 2026

Re: Skeena Steelhead Recreational Fishery Update – 2026 Season

As of July 29, 2026, the [Tyee Test Fishery](#)¹ data indicate that the run of Skeena River summer-run steelhead will be modest or abundant in 2026. The estimated abundance that has past Tyee as of July 29, 2026, is 16,700 (95% credible 12,800-20,900).

The threshold for Extreme Conservation Concern is 8,000 steelhead. There is a strong (>99%) probability the run has exceeded this minimum escapement.

The [Interim Skeena Steelhead Abundance Framework](#)² identifies August 15 as the deadline for a regulation recommendation. This date represents a balance between fisheries managers having sufficient data to support a reliable determination, and as early a date as possible for greater user group certainty. In years when abundance is higher, reliable determination is possible earlier than August 15. Based on current abundance estimates, the following decision has been made as of July 30, 2026:

- The fishery will proceed as normal; there is no expectation that major regulatory action (such as early closures) will be required to meet conservation objectives.
- This decision does not limit the use of specific time and area closures or emergency closures should local circumstances or changing conditions warrant. Please visit [Freshwater Fisheries Regulations](#)³ for in-season regulation updates.

Please observe steelhead conservation and best management practices such as "keeping steelhead wet".

The Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship will continue to work with First Nations in the Skeena watershed, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Conservation Officer Service and angling stakeholders to support steelhead conservation.

Mike Ramsay, Director of Provincial Fisheries Management
Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship

¹<https://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/northcoast-cotenord/skeenatyee-eng.html>

²https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/plants-animals-and-ecosystems/fish-fish-habitat/fishery-resources/region-6-skeena/skeena_steelhead_interim_recommendations_framework.pdf

³<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/sports-culture/recreation/fishing-hunting/fishing/fishing-regulations>