**Action #4 Information and monitoring**

***Action Goal: Demonstrate that relevant information is collected to support the harvest strategy***

**PI 1.2.3**

Ichthyologists from SakhRybVod and researchers from SakhNIRO collect monitoring data on the entry of spawners into watercourses to spawn. This is the first block of information necessary to make analysis and revision of the recommendations contained in the Pacific Salmon Fishery Strategy. During the season, teams were formed in all districts of the Sakhalin Region to collect such information. Reports on inspections of spawning grounds are submitted to SakhNIRO, where recommendations are developed for the Anadromous Fish Commission for making in-season operational decisions. Thus, based on data on the low escapement to watercourses with Pink Salmon coming from Kunashir Island, the Commission decided to establish a passing period for this species from August 23 to September 10. This decision actually imposed a ban on Pink Salmon fishing in Kunashir.

According to data posted on the website of the Ministry of Fisheries of the Sakhalin Region <https://fish.sakhalin.gov.ru/?page_id=19462>, escapement to the rivers of the Sakhalin Region with Pink Salmon spawners for September 04, 2023 had a mosaic character: in some areas it reaches 100 percent or more, and in some the entry of Pink Salmon into rivers is at the level of single fish. For Kunashir Island, the river escapement for Pink Salmon spawners is at the “zero” level (Table 1).

Table 1. Escapement to inspected spawning watercourses with Pink Salmon spawners in the Sakhalin-Kuril Basin for September, 04 2023 according to the Sakhalin branch of the FSBSI "VNIRO" (SakhNIRO)

| Watercourse | Spawning Ground Area, m² | Number of spawners, fish | River Escapement, % |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Stream Prozrachny | 8,160 | 28 | 0.2 |
| Golovnina | 840 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Belozerskaya | 1,440 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Stream Vodopadny | 620 | 8 | 0.6 |
| Stream Dachny the second | 170 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Stream Asin | 2,750 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Ilyushina | 21,000 | 680 | 1.6 |

The collection of data on Chum Salmon escapement to watercourses has just begun. To increase the number of surveys and their frequency, PCF Yuzhno-Kurilsky Ryibokombinat Co., Ltd. (YKRK) has involved additional scientists who will also collect data on the biology of Kunashir’s Chum Salmon.

The second important information item needed to support the Pacific Salmon Fishery Strategy is the collection of fishery statistics. For these purposes, fishing companies keep daily records of fish catch and transmit this data daily to the Sakhalin-Kuril Territorial Administration (SKTU). Based on primary information received from fishing companies, SakhNIRO scientists compare the actual catch data with forecast values, develop in-season operational recommendations, and the Commission has the right to introduce restrictions on fishing or, conversely, increase the volume or timing of catch in a particular area of the Sakhalin Region. Data on the catch of Pacific salmon are available on the website of the Association of Fishermen of Sakhalin Region

<https://fish-sakh.ru/vyilov/tihookeanskie-lososi/2023-god/>.

The Pink Salmon fishery in Kunashir was stopped on August 23, and on August 31, 2023 it was completed for the entire Sakhalin Region. The Chum Salmon fishery is entering its most active phase.

The information collected during the season will be presented in scientific reports in January 2024. The results of all ongoing research will be used as the basis for formulating the basic principles of Strategies for future years, as well as for developing decisions on fishery management in subsequent fishing seasons.

**List of literature and Internet resources**

Pink Salmon Spawner Escapement Data s for September 04, 2023

<https://fish.sakhalin.gov.ru/?page_id=19462>

Current daily catch information

<https://fish-sakh.ru/vyilov/tihookeanskie-lososi/2023-god/>

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