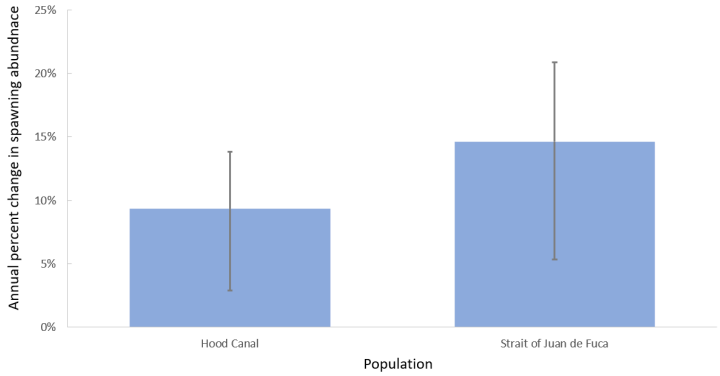
PUGET SOUND
VITAL SIGNS

INDICATOR

NUMBER OF NATURAL-ORIGIN SUMMER CHUM SALMON ON SPAWNING GROUNDS

This indicator evaluates the abundance and trend of the 2 Hood Canal summer-run chum salmon populations by measuring the number of natural-origin adult fish on the spawning grounds. Abundance estimates here do not include hatchery-origin fish or fish taken in harvest or by predators like orcas. The indicator is intended to reflect the goal of achieving wild population recovery of Hood Canal summer chum, which are federally listed as threatened.



Annual percent change in Hood Canal summer chum salmon population spawner abundance from 1999 to 2023. The lines show the 25th to 75th Credibility Intervals (CIs). These represent a range of values the true annual percent change likely falls within.

Key Vital Sign Indicator Results

• The abundance of both populations of Hood Canal summer chum salmon has increased since they were listed as threatened under the ESA in 1999. Therefore, our conclusion about progress of the Hood Canal summer chum populations is “getting better.”

• The recent 5-year abundance geomean for the Hood Canal summer chum population is 73% of the low productivity recovery planning targets for abundance adopted by NOAA Fisheries. The Strait of Juan de Fuca summer chum population is 99% of the low productivity target. Given the recent population abundance trends, both populations are expected to be at or above their targets soon.

CONTRIBUTING PARTNERS

Washington Department of FISH & WILDLIFE

Indicator Trend

GETTING BETTER

Target

No targets are currently set for this indicator.

Data Source

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), Salmon Population Indicators (SPi) abundance data

Northwest Fisheries Science Center. 2015. Status review update for Pacific salmon and steelhead listed under the Endangered Species Act: Pacific Northwest.

Northwest Fisheries Science Center. 2022. Biological Viability Assessment Update for Pacific Salmon and Steelhead Listed Under the Endangered Species Act: Pacific Northwest.

Vital Sign Indicator Reporter

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Indicator Details

Click below for more information about this indicator, including Maps, Charts, Indicator Importance, Methods, Interpretation of Results, and Additional Resources.

Complete Indicator Report

Last Updated

01/22/2025