

# Upper Columbia & Snake Rivers NOF (aka NE of McNary) 2020 Salmon & Steelhead Seasons

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# Meeting Outline

- Welcome & Staff introductions
- NOF/PFMC Meeting Schedule & Commenting
- Salmon & Steelhead Harvest Management Jurisdictions
- Forecast & Returns
- 2019 Fishery Summaries
- 2020 Forecasts & Proposed Seasons



# 2020 NOF/PRMC Schedule

- NOF meetings changed to virtual meetings due to COVID-19 outbreak beginning March 16
- March 30: Upper Columbia & Snake River Basins (merged; recorded presentation)
- March 31: Puget Sound, Coast, and Ocean (2nd meeting)
- April 1: Lower Columbia River & Ocean (2nd meeting)
- April 3 to 10: Final Pacific Fishery Management Council (2nd meeting)





## Fishing & Shellfishing

# 2020 North of Falcon public meeting schedule

[Fishing regulations](#)

[Shellfishing regulations](#)

[Places to go fishing](#)

[Fishing and stocking reports](#)

[Fishing & shellfishing](#)

**Notice:** Effective March 16, 2020, all in-person public meetings will be moved to an online or phone-based platform due to concerns about COVID-19/coronavirus. WDFW will provide updated information on scheduling, along with ways to observe these meetings and provide public comment, as it becomes available. For additional information, see [the news release](#).

Several advisory groups that provide input to WDFW on salmon management meet throughout the North of Falcon process. More information on those groups – including meeting schedules and advisory group rosters – can be found on the [advisory group homepage](#).



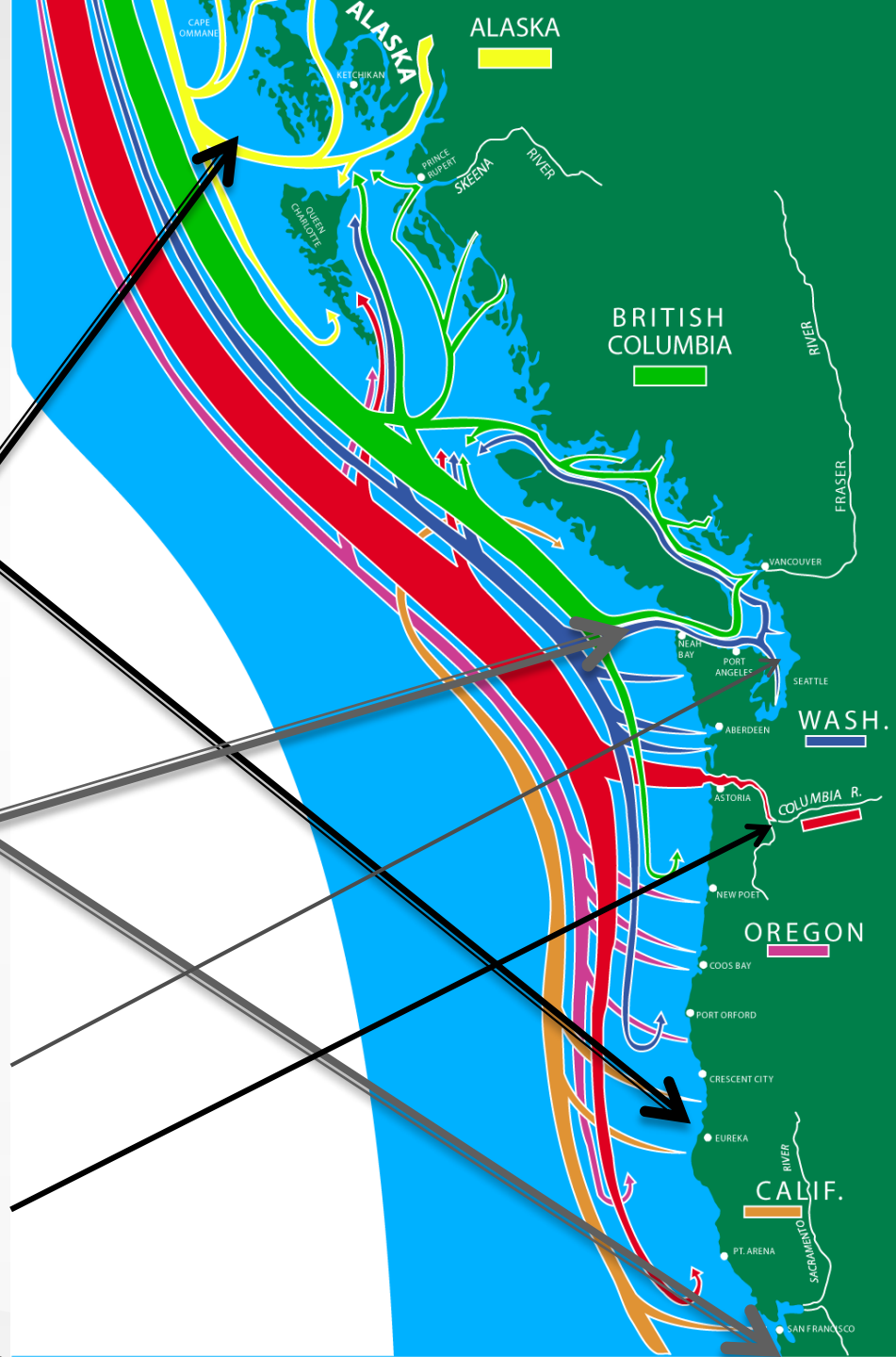
# Complex, multi-jurisdictional processes

Pacific Salmon Treaty

Pacific Fishery Management Council

U.S. v Washington

U.S. v Oregon



# Jurisdictions

- **Pacific Salmon Treaty**: An agreement between the U.S. and Canada to carry out their fisheries and enhancement programs on transboundary salmon stocks to prevent over-fishing and ensure that both countries receive equal benefits of salmon originating in their waters. Governed by the Pacific Salmon Commission comprised of representatives from Canada, AK, CA, ID, OR, and WA.
- **Pacific Fishery Management Council**: One of eight fishery management councils established by the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976. The Council has jurisdiction over the U.S. West Coast Exclusive Economic Zone (3-200 miles offshore) and manages commercial, recreational and tribal fisheries for about 119 species of salmon, groundfish, coastal pelagic species, and highly migratory species in Federal waters.



# Jurisdictions

- ***U.S. v Washington***. Commonly known as the Boldt Decision. A court decision that reaffirmed the reserved right of WA Treaty Tribes to harvest salmon and steelhead alongside (aka 50/50 sharing of harvestable fish) the state as co-managers. Covers inland marine (e.g., Puget Sound) and freshwater lakes/rivers. Direct tie to the PFCM for setting ocean seasons which directly affect inland fisheries.
- ***U.S. v Oregon***. A federal court proceeding issued in 1969 that enforces the fishing rights of Columbia River treaty tribes (Yakama, Nez Perce, Umatilla, and Warm Springs). The associated management plan details salmon and steelhead allocations between treaty and non-treaty fishers. *U.S. v Oregon* Management Agreement (2018-2027) provides treaty/non-treaty allocations and ESA limits.



# Jurisdictions

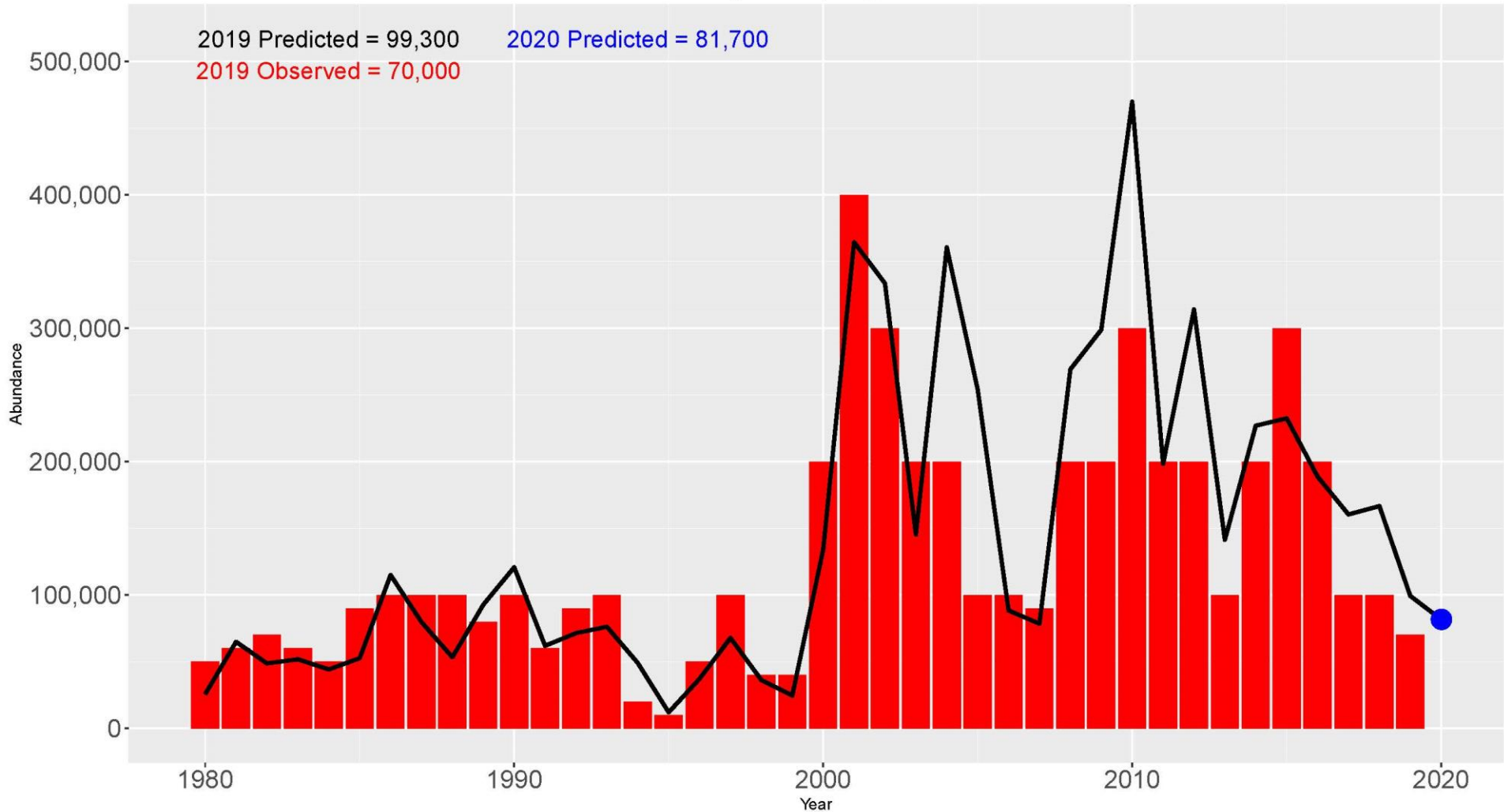
- Other Jurisdictions:
  - **WDFW & ODFW Policies**-Columbia River policies that detail non-treaty salmon and steelhead allocations between recreational and commercial and lower and upper river fisheries.
  - **Wanapum Band RCW**-WA state law established in 1939 requiring the state to reserve an allocation of salmon to the Wanapum Band for C&S purposes.
  - **WDFW-CCT Share Agreement**-A formal agreement between WDFW and CCT that reserves an allocation of salmon and steelhead to the Colville Confederated Tribes for C&S purposes
  - **ESA**-Due to the year-round presence of ESA-listed salmon and steelhead (juveniles+adults), WDFW must have federal government coverage to conduct fisheries. Allowable ESA impacts provide 'no jeopardy' to recovering stocks. Several permits throughout Columbia River do have creel survey requirements.





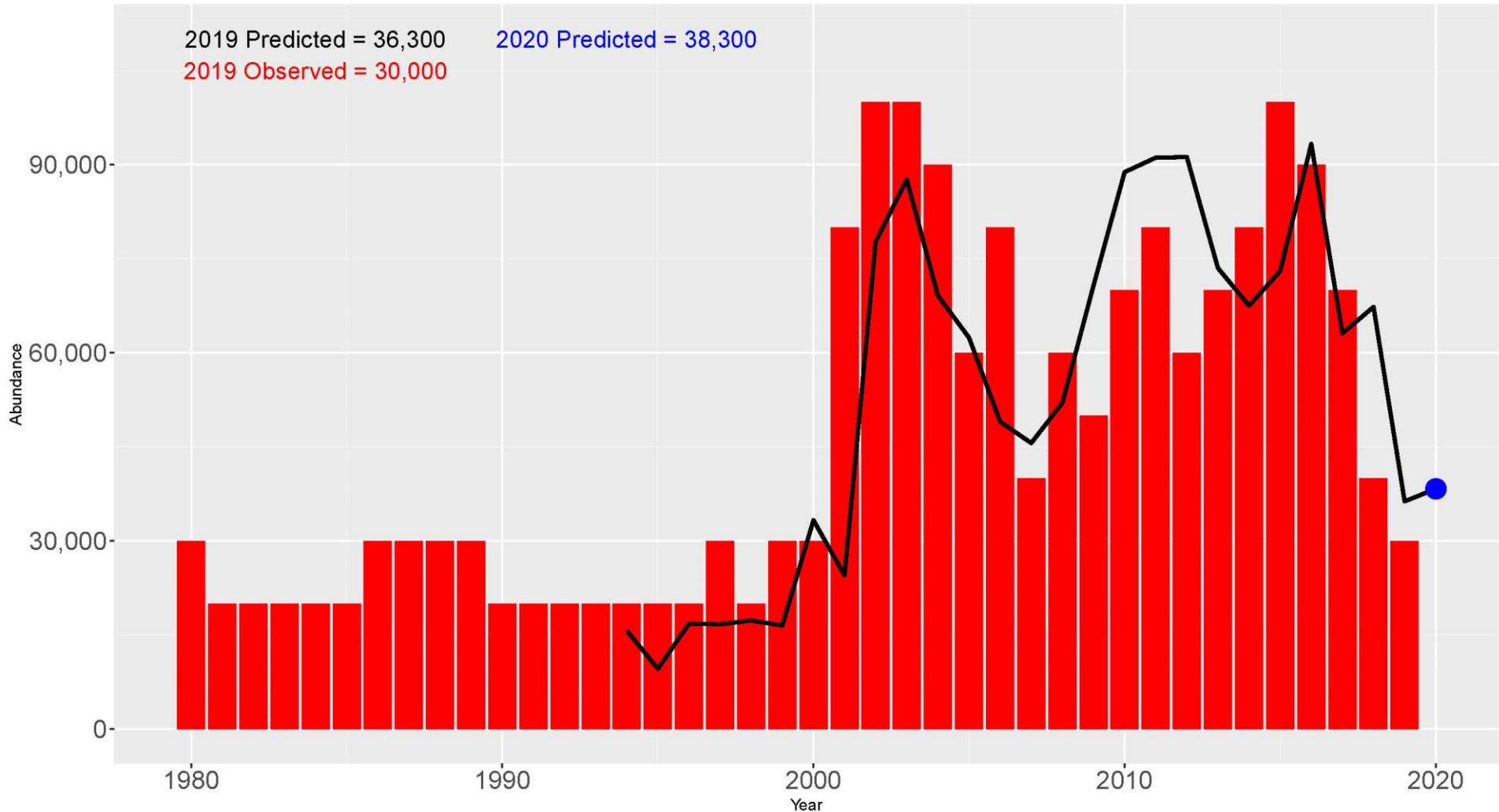
# Forecasts & Returns

Total Upriver Spring Chinook



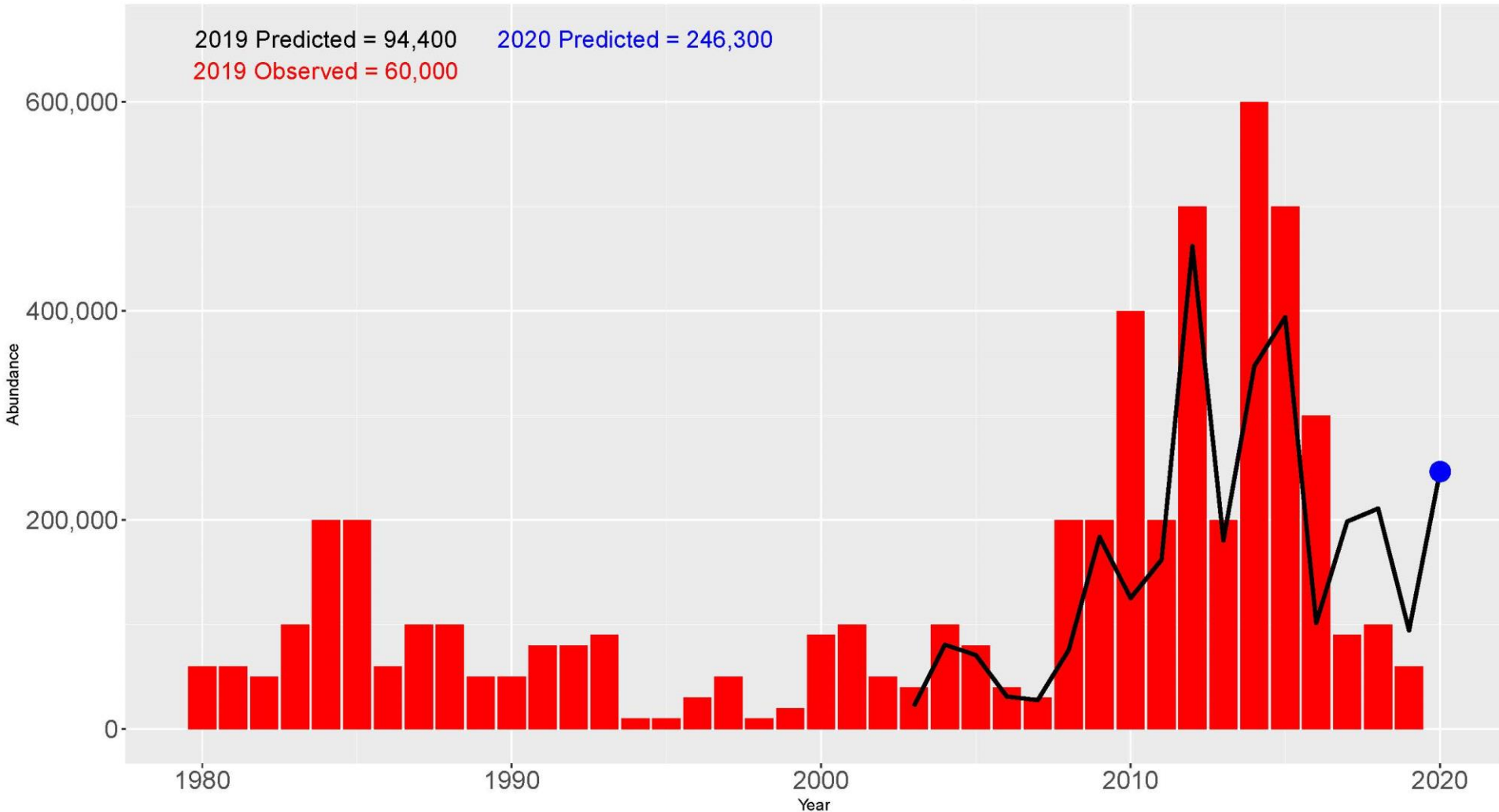
# Forecasts & Returns

Total Upper Columbia Summer Chinook



# Forecasts & Returns

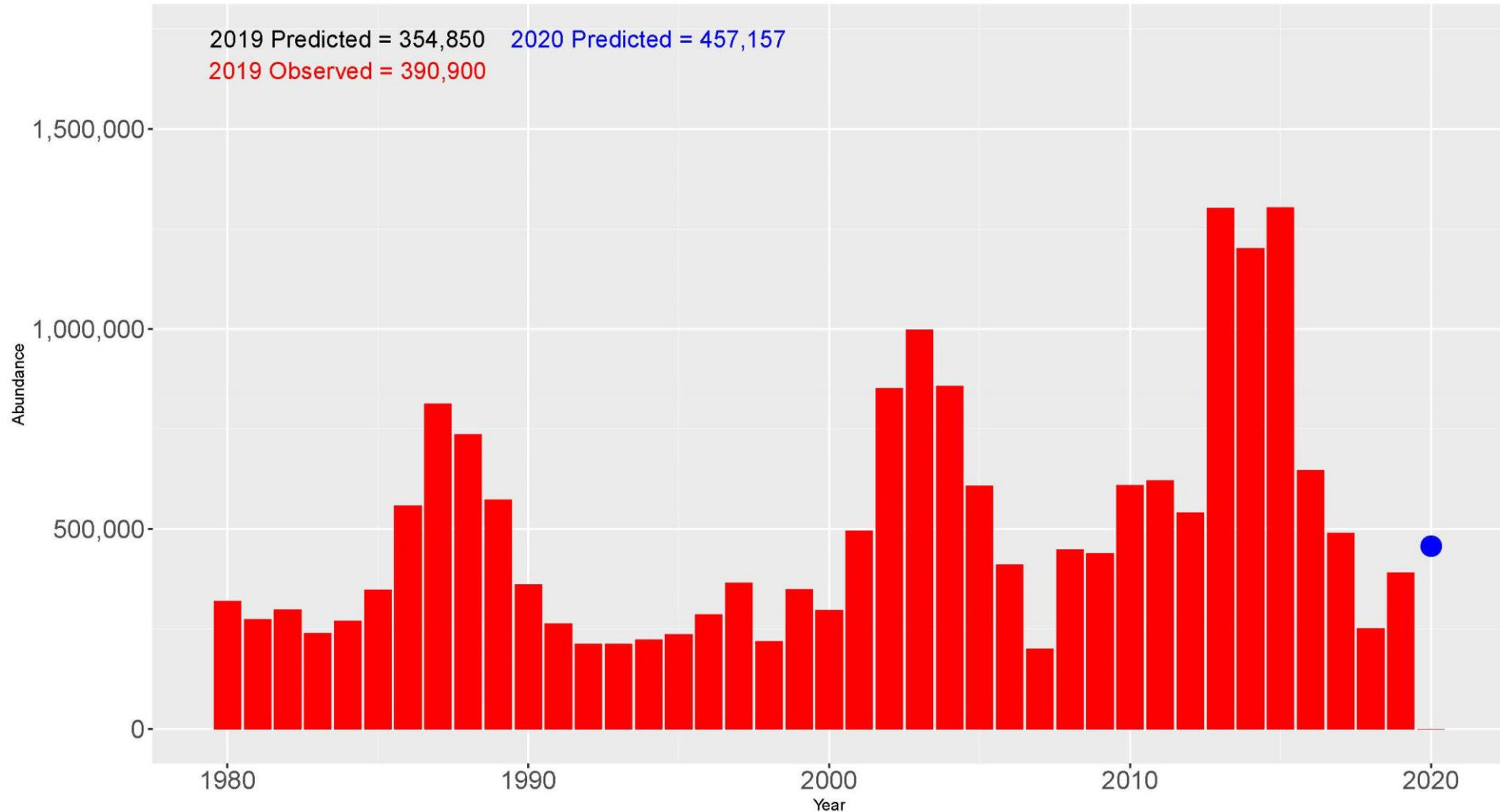
Total ` Columbia River Sockeye



# Forecasts & Returns

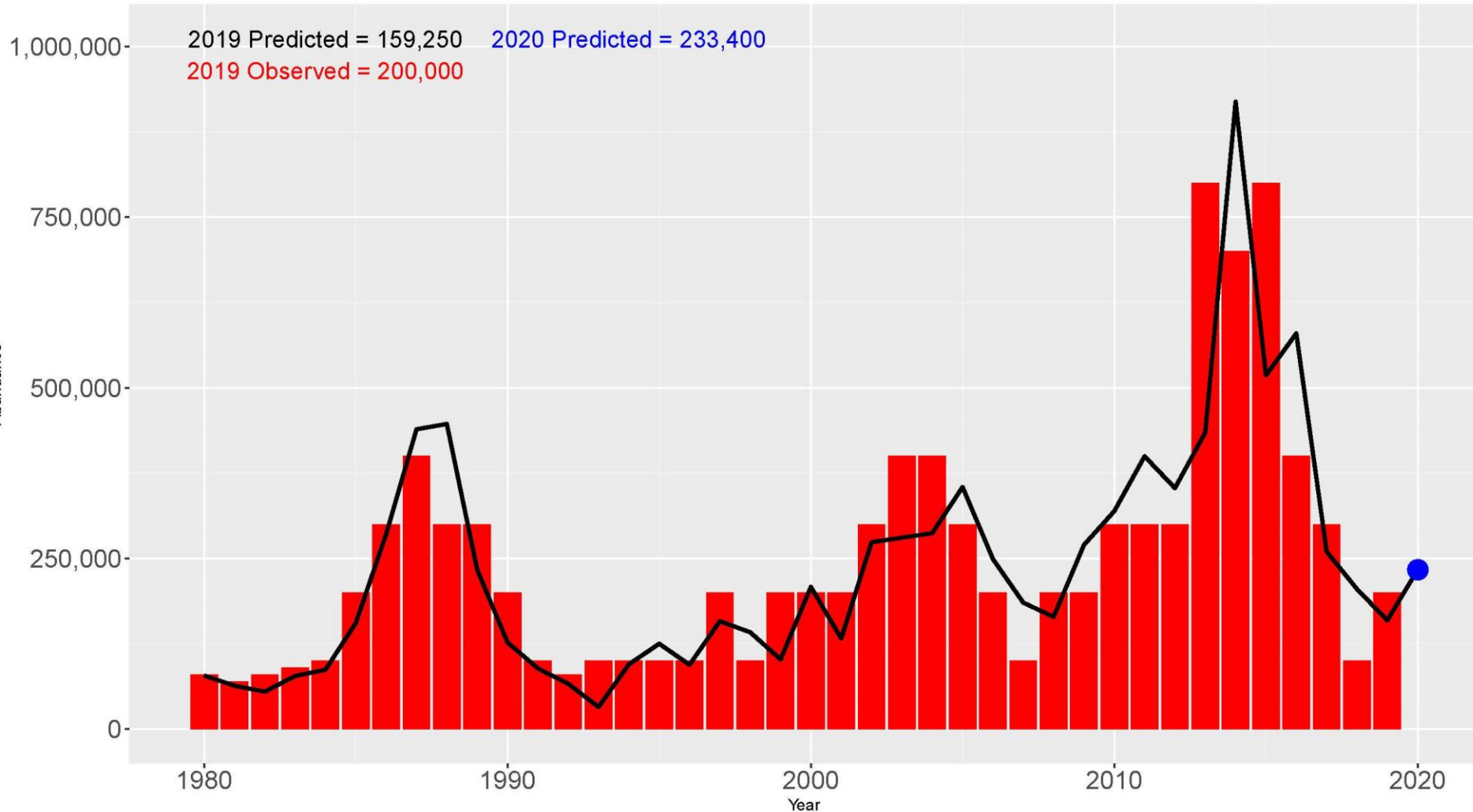
Fall Chinook

2019 Predicted = 354,850    2020 Predicted = 457,157  
2019 Observed = 390,900



# Forecasts & Returns

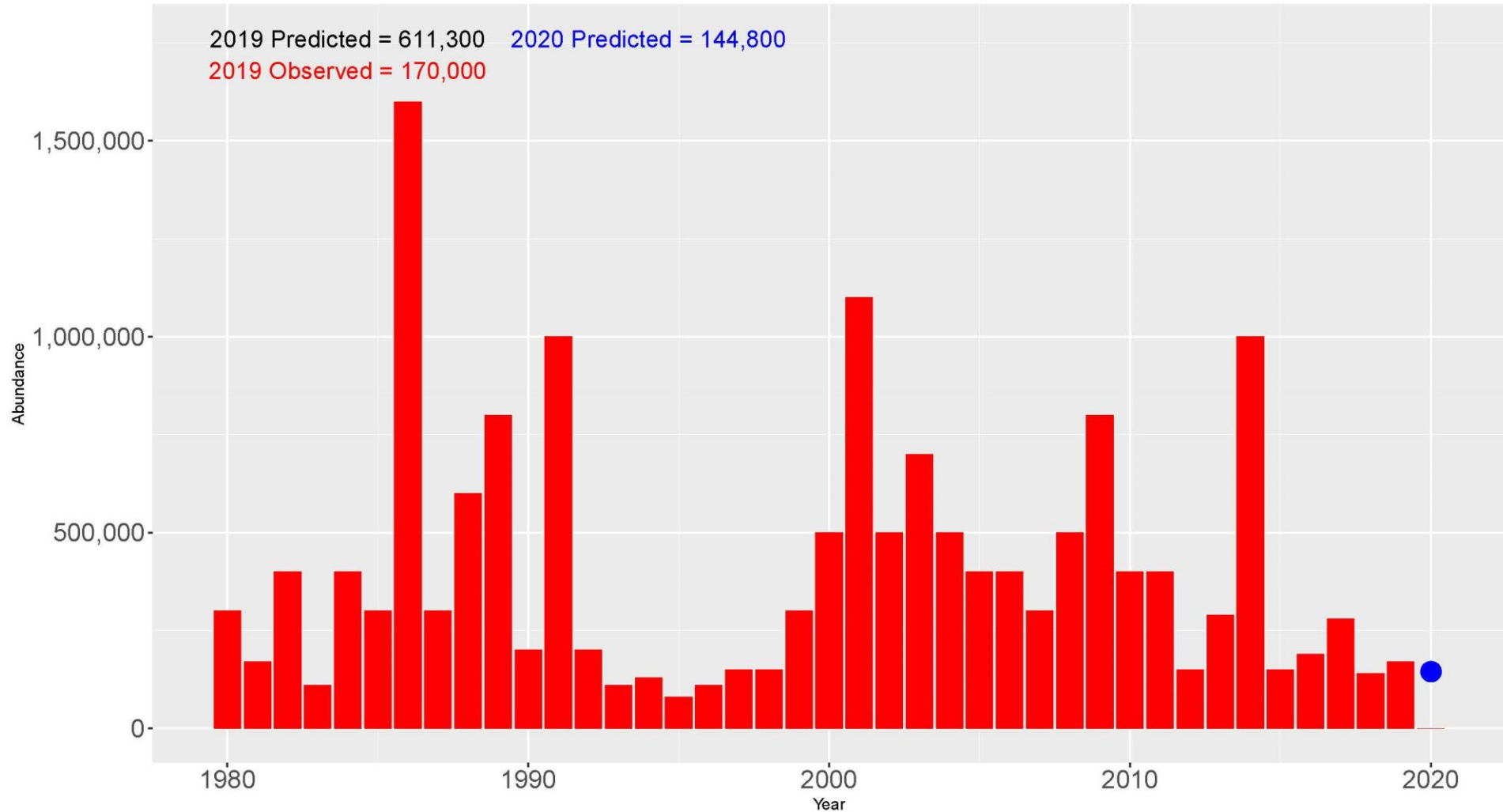
Total URB Fall Chinook



# Forecasts & Returns

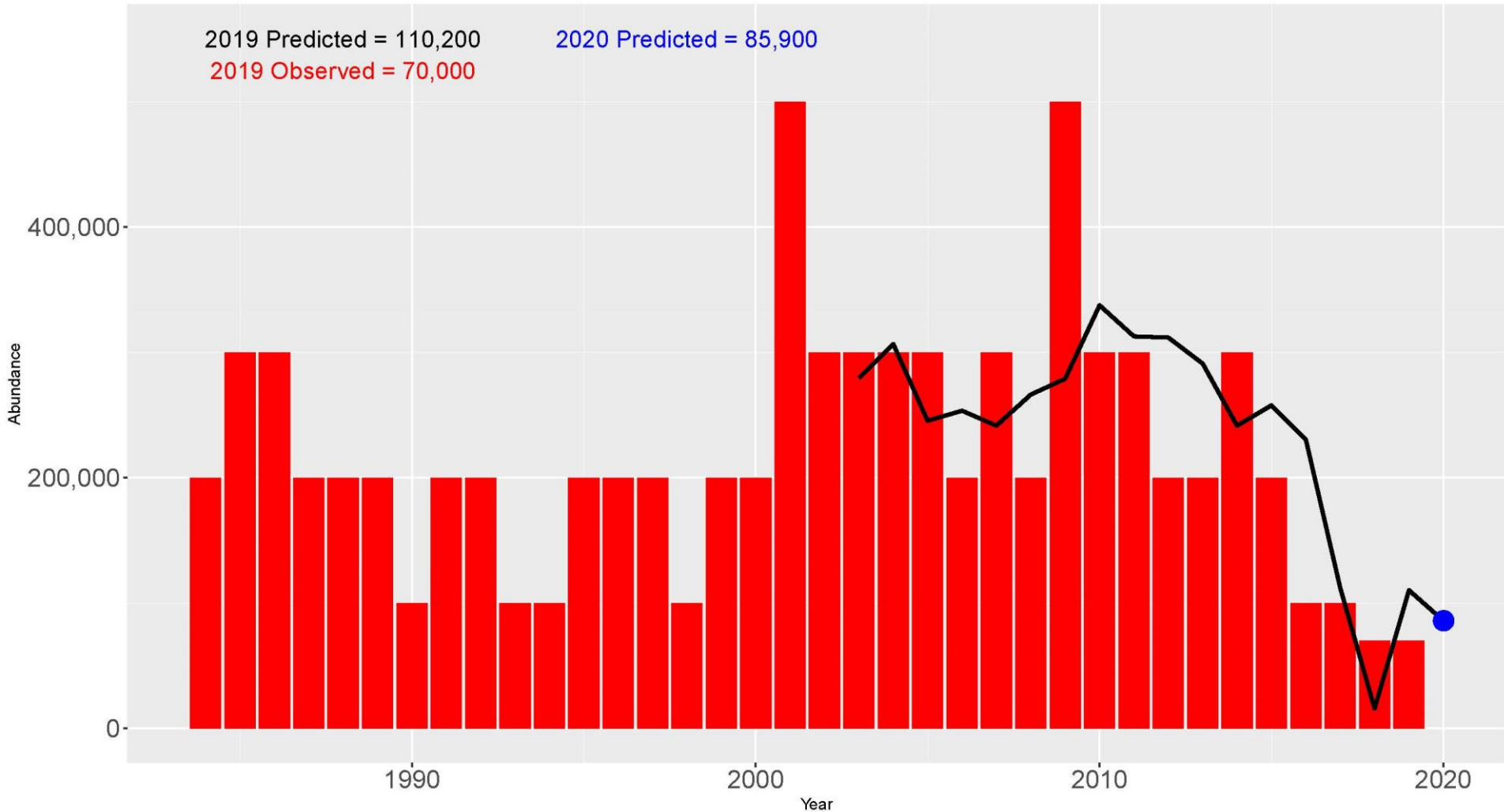
Columbia River Coho

2019 Predicted = 611,300    2020 Predicted = 144,800  
2019 Observed = 170,000



# Forecasts & Returns

Total A-Index Summer Steelhead

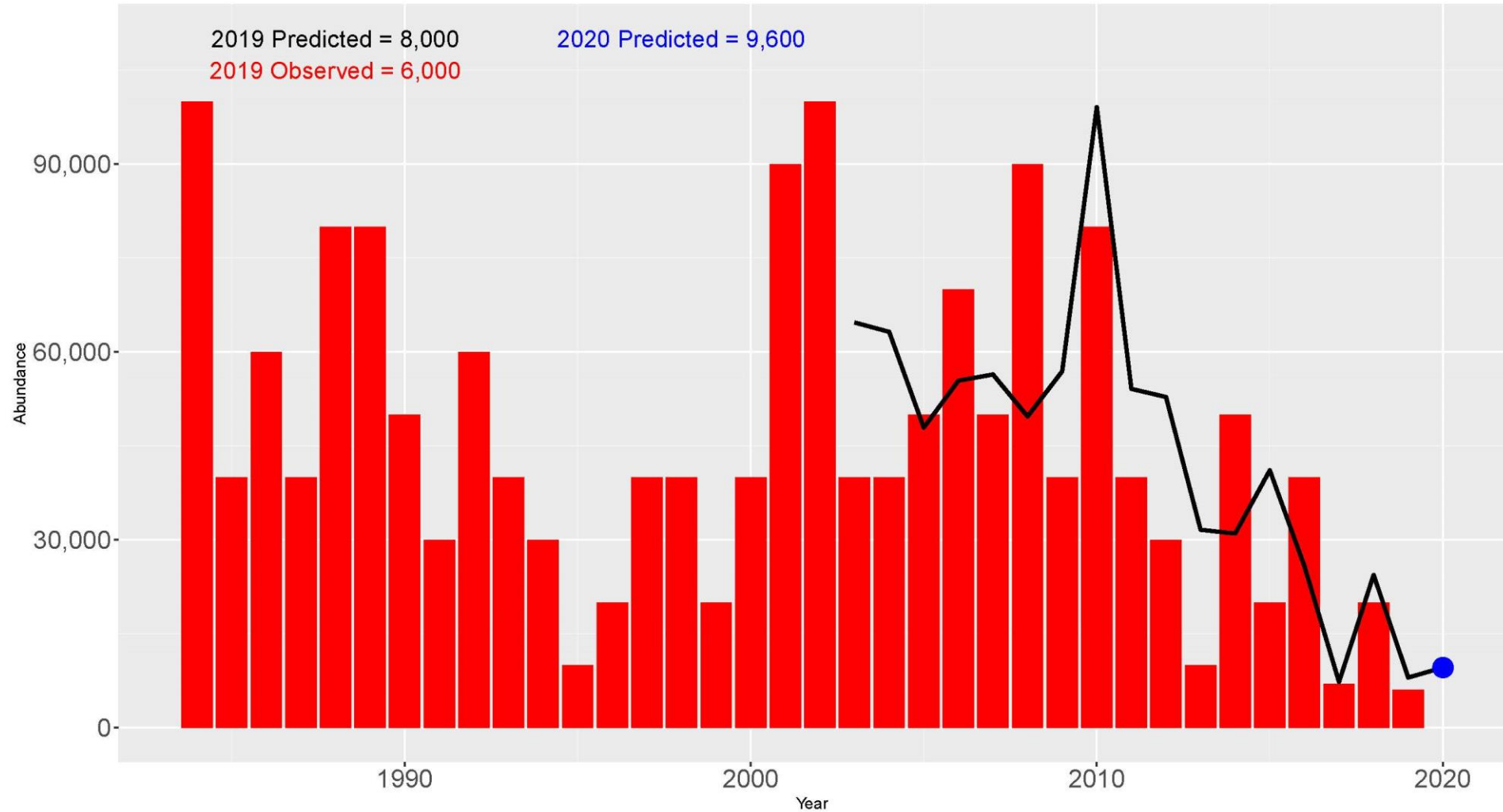


# Forecasts & Returns

Total B-Index Summer Steelhead

2019 Predicted = 8,000  
2019 Observed = 6,000

2020 Predicted = 9,600





# Forecasts & Returns





# Forecasts & Returns

<i>Ecosystem Indicators</i>	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
PDO (Sum Dec-March)	19	6	3	13	7	21	12	17	14	9	5	1	16	4	2	8	10	22	20	18	11	15
PDO (Sum May-Sept)	10	4	6	5	11	17	16	18	12	14	2	9	7	3	1	8	20	22	21	15	13	19
ONI (Average Jan-June)	21	1	1	7	14	16	15	17	9	12	3	11	18	4	6	8	10	19	22	13	5	20
SST NDBC buoys (°C; May-Sept)	17	6	8	4	5	11	22	12	2	14	1	10	3	7	9	16	20	19	18	13	15	21
Upper 20 m T (°C; Nov-Mar)	21	11	8	10	6	15	16	13	12	5	1	9	18	4	3	7	2	22	20	19	14	17
Upper 20 m T (°C; May-Sept)	16	11	13	4	1	3	22	19	8	10	2	5	17	7	6	18	20	9	14	12	15	21
Deep temperature (°C; May-Sept)	22	6	8	4	1	10	12	16	11	5	2	7	14	9	3	15	21	19	13	18	20	17
Deep salinity (May-Sept)	21	3	11	4	5	18	19	12	7	1	2	16	20	15	14	13	22	17	9	8	6	10
Copepod richness anom. (no. species; May-Sept)	20	2	1	7	6	15	14	19	16	10	8	9	18	4	5	3	11	21	22	17	13	12
N. copepod biomass anom. (mgC m <sup>-3</sup> ; May-Sept)	20	15	11	12	4	17	14	21	16	13	7	10	9	1	3	5	6	18	22	19	8	2
S. copepod biomass anom. (mgC m <sup>-3</sup> ; May-Sept)	22	2	5	4	3	15	16	21	14	10	1	7	17	9	8	6	11	19	20	18	13	12
Biological transition (day of year)	19	11	6	7	8	15	12	20	14	3	1	2	17	4	9	5	10	21	21	18	13	15
Nearshore Ichthyoplankton Log(mgC 1,000 m <sup>-3</sup> ; Jan-Mar)	17	4	11	6	1	21	22	16	8	18	3	13	2	7	5	10	19	14	15	12	9	20
Nearshore & offshore Ichthyoplankton community index (PCO axis 1 scores; Jan-Mar)	11	6	5	9	8	13	16	20	1	14	3	12	15	4	2	7	10	18	21	22	17	19
Chinook salmon juvenile catches (no. km <sup>-2</sup> ; June)	20	4	5	17	8	12	18	21	13	11	1	6	7	16	2	3	10	14	19	22	15	9
Coho salmon juvenile catches (no. km <sup>-2</sup> ; June)	20	8	14	6	7	3	17	21	18	4	5	10	11	16	19	1	13	9	15	22	2	12
Mean of ranks	18.5	6.3	7.3	7.4	5.9	13.9	16.4	17.7	10.9	9.6	2.9	8.6	13.1	7.1	6.1	8.3	13.4	17.7	18.3	16.6	11.8	15.1
Rank of the mean rank	22	4	6	7	2	15	17	19	11	10	1	9	13	5	3	8	14	19	21	18	12	16
<i>Ecosystem Indicators not included in the mean of ranks or statistical analyses</i>																						
Physical Spring Trans. UI based (day of year)	3	7	21	18	4	13	16	22	13	1	6	2	8	11	19	9	20	10	5	17	11	13
Physical Spring Trans. Hydrographic (day of year)	21	3	13	8	5	12	15	22	6	9	1	9	19	3	11	2	17	7	18	20	15	14
Upwelling Anomaly (April-May)	11	3	18	7	10	15	14	22	11	5	8	9	16	18	16	13	20	1	2	21	6	4
Length of Upwelling Season UI based (days)	6	2	20	13	1	15	11	22	5	3	9	3	17	19	17	16	21	12	8	14	7	10
Copepod Community Index (MDS axis 1 scores; May-Sept)	21	3	5	8	2	16	14	20	17	10	1	7	13	9	6	4	11	19	22	18	12	15



# 2019 Fishery Summaries

Stock	Area	Season
Upriver Spring Chinook	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Yakima</li> <li>2. Snake</li> <li>3. Icicle</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Closed</li> <li>2. May 11-May 27*</li> <li>3. Jun 16-Jul 31</li> </ol>
UCR Summer Chinook	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hanford Reach</li> <li>2. Rocky Reach</li> <li>3. Brewster Pool</li> <li>4. Entiat</li> <li>5. Chelan</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Closed</li> <li>2. Jul 16-Oct 15</li> <li>3. Aug 1-Oct 15</li> <li>4. Jul 16-Sep 30</li> <li>5. July 16-Oct 15</li> </ol>
Sockeye	Closed	Closed
Upriver Summer Steelhead	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hanford Reach</li> <li>2. Snake</li> <li>3. Upper Columbia</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Closed</li> <li>2. Aug 1-Mar 31</li> <li>3. Closed</li> </ol>
URB Fall Chinook	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hanford Reach</li> <li>2. Snake</li> <li>3. Priest Rapids</li> <li>4. Wanapum</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Aug 16-Oct 31</li> <li>2. Aug 24-Oct 31*</li> <li>3. Sep 1-Oct 15</li> <li>4. Sep 1-Oct 15</li> </ol>



# 2020 Forecasts & Proposed Seasons

- Very similar season structure as 2018 & 2019

Stock	Forecast	Comments
Upriver Spring Chinook	81,700	43% of 10-year average; Snake (56,400), Yakima (2,810), Icicle (TBD; ~1/2 of broodstock requirements)
Upper Columbia Summer Chinook	38,300	29,000 escapement goal to Col. River mouth
Sockeye	246,300	Okanogan (201,800), Lake Wenatchee (39,400)
Upriver Bright Fall Chinook	233,400	Hanford Reach (92,700; ~65,000 natural origin), Snake (29,800)



# 2020 Forecasts & Proposed Seasons

## ▪ **Below Bonneville**

- Spring Chinook: 54,100 lower river forecast. Open above Lewis River only, and switches to a 3 days/week beginning April. 1 salmon limit. *\*Temporarily closed due to COVID-19\**
- Summer Chinook: No directed fishery, release mortalities for possible steelhead/sockeye fishery.
- Sockeye: Intent is to plan fisheries based on larger forecast, and manage in-season (e.g., run size increases or decreases). Wenatchee returns were below escapement goal the previous two years, and are above the goal for 2020.
- Fall Chinook: 79,600 lower river forecast; Upriver Bright/Snake River Wild fall chinook forecast expected to limit fisheries. Planning to manage to lower harvest rate (8.25% for runs below 200,000) prior to the run update, as the forecast allows for up to 15% harvest rate.
- Coho: Low forecast expected to provide limited harvest opportunities. Most harvest occurs in Buoy 10.
- Other: Barbless hooks required.



# 2020 Forecasts & Proposed Seasons

- **Bonneville upstream to Hwy 395 at Pasco (Zone 6)**
  - Spring Chinook: April 1 through May 5. Tributaries align with mainstem with a 1 salmon limit. *\*Temporarily closed due to COVID-19\**
  - Summer Chinook: No directed fishery, release mortalities for potential steelhead/sockeye fishery.
  - Sockeye: Intent is to plan fisheries based on larger forecast, and manage in-season (e.g., run size increases or decreases). Wenatchee returns were below escapement goal the previous two years, and are above the goal for 2020.
  - Fall Chinook: Upriver Bright/Snake River Wild fall chinook forecast expected to limit fisheries. Planning to manage to lower harvest rate (8.25% for runs below 200,000) prior to the run update, as the forecast allows for up to 15% harvest rate. Expected to have a 1 adult salmon limit, when open.
  - Coho: Low forecast expected to limited harvest opportunity.
  - Other: Barbless hooks required upstream to OR/WA state line.



# 2020 Forecasts & Proposed Seasons

## ■ **Region 3 (McNary to Priest Rapids)**

### ■ Spring Chinook:

- Yakima River
- Closed pre-season
- Pre-season forecast too low for a fishery
- Will be monitored in-season

### ■ Summer Chinook:

- McNary to Priest Rapids Dam
- Closed pre-season
- Forecast too low for fishery

### ■ Sockeye:

- Intent is to plan fisheries based on larger forecast, and manage in-season (e.g., run size increases or decreases). Wenatchee returns were below escapement goal the previous two years, and are above the goal for 2020.



# 2020 Forecasts & Proposed Seasons

## ▪ **Region 3 (continued)**

### ▪ Fall Chinook:

#### ▪ Hanford Reach:

- Hwy 395 Br. To Old Hanford townsite wooden powerline towers (534 & 535), August 16 to October 31
- Old Hanford townsite wooden powerline towers to Priest Rapids Dam (536), August 16 to October 15
- Both areas with daily limit 6 salmon. Up to 2 adults may be retained.
- Use of two poles is permitted with endorsement.
- Barbed hooks allowed.

#### ▪ Yakima River:

- Closed pre-season
- Pre-season forecast for chinook (and coho) too low for a fishery
- Will be monitored in-season

### ▪ Ringold Steelhead:

- Open October 1
- One hatchery steelhead limit (only ADRV)





# 2020 Forecasts & Proposed Seasons

- **Region 2 (Priest Rapids to Chief Joseph)**
  - Spring Chinook:
    - Icicle & Wenatchee Rivers
    - Closed pre-season
    - Pre-season forecast is too low for a fishery
    - Icicle River forecast to be ~1/2 of broodstock needs
  - Summer Chinook:
    - TBD
    - Monitor passage over Priest Rapids
    - Any potential seasons will look similar/same as 2018 and 2019 (Rocky Reach Pool & Brewster Pool)
    - Daily limit 6, Up to 2 adults, release wild adult chinook and coho
    - Use of two poles permitted with endorsement.
    - Barbed hooks allowed



# 2020 Forecasts & Proposed Seasons

## ▪ **Region 2 (continued)**

### ▪ Sockeye:

- Intent is to plan fisheries based on larger forecast, and manage in-season (e.g., run size increases or decreases). Wenatchee returns were below escapement goal the previous two years, and are above the goal for 2020.

### ▪ Fall Chinook:

- Priest Rapids and Wanapum Pools
- Both pools open September 1 through October 15
- Daily limit 6 salmon. Up to 2 adults may be retained. Release all salmon other than chinook.
- Use of two poles is permitted with endorsement.
- Barbed hooks allowed.



# 2020 Forecasts & Proposed Seasons

## ▪ **Region 1 (Snake River Basin)**

- Spring Chinook: Plan to open Little Goose and Clarkston areas for two days/week (Sat. and Sun.)
  - Estimate opening in Early May (2nd or 9th) depending on run timing
  - Both areas daily limit 6 salmon, only one adult may be retained
- Fall Chinook: Based on the preseason forecast we plan to at least open a mark selective fishery. We are currently working with co-managers to establish seasons and limits under the new Snake River FMEP. Season structure and length may be affected by low steelhead returns.



# 2020 Forecasts & Proposed Seasons

## Summer Steelhead:

- 2017 and 2019 fishery limitations were based on low B-run forecasts. Fisheries were structured on rolling block closure to be protective of fish as they progressed upstream, focused on B-run fish.
- 2020 - Exceptionally low A-run and B-run forecasts. A-runs one of the lowest forecasts on record. B-runs slightly higher forecast than 2019.
- Unique to 2020, hatchery escapement concerns for both A-run and B-run, and basin wide concerns with A-run hatchery and wild escapements.



# 2020 Forecasts & Proposed Seasons

## Proposed Season Structure for 2020:

- Rolling block closures (e.g., 2017 and 2019) from mouth of the Columbia beginning in August continuing upstream. Consideration for the mainstem to remain closed for the most to the entirety of the run (~July-March in some areas). Night closure.
- Tributary mouths (e.g., Drano Lake) will be closed similarly to the mainstem rolling block closure early summer to fishing for steelhead (no catch and release). Night closure.
- Expect no open fishing or abbreviated seasons on the Snake River and tributaries.
- Do not expect to fish the upper Columbia River and tributaries above Priest Rapids Dam.
- Abbreviated harvest limits in areas that are open, expect 1 fish limits. If actual return is lower than anticipated there may be only catch and release opportunity offered (e.g., mainstem Snake River above Clarkston).



Please submit comments here:

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/management/north-falcon/public-input>

Regional contact numbers:

Region 1, (509) 892-1001

Region 2, (509) 754-4624

Region 3, (509) 575-2740

