

M.E.S.S.S. Report - Rotation 2
Mainland Enhancement of Salmonoid Species Society
DFO Area 12 Stock Assessment 2026

Enumeration Period: August 26, 2026 - September 01, 2026

Stream Technicians: Robert Humenny, Leila Krichel

1a. 2026 Stream Escapement and Biosample Data

Table 1. Area 12 systems escapement and biosample data. Non-bold numbers represent observed salmon counts. Bold numbers represent estimates factoring in observer efficiency. Abbreviations: Pink (PK), Chum (CM), Coho (CO), Jacks (JK), Sockeye (SK), 20 minute estuary survey (jumpers observed / school size of salmon). ***pH metre may be faulty--will be re-calibrated for the next rotation.**

Stream	Date	PK	CM	CO	JK	SK	Morts (PK/CM/CO)	20 Min (jumpers / school size)	Air Temp	H2O Temp	pH	DO mg/L
Hada	Aug. 27	35701 / 37823	115 / 159	12 / 20	1 / 1	4 / 6	358 / 11 / 0	1 / 1000+	17.6	14.2	6.5	94.0
Wahkana	Aug. 27	0	0	0	0	0	0 / 0 / 0	2 / 100+	17.5	13.1	7.4	134.3
Viner	Sept. 01	173 / 229	10 / 14	4 / 5	0	2 / 2	1 / 0 / 0	3 / 2	14.9	14.6	8.06	137.0
Shoal	Aug. 26	0	0	0	0	0	0 / 0 / 0	49 / 200+	17.5	14.2	7.64	128.6
Scott Cove	Aug. 26			0	0			254 / NA	18.8	18.2	6.26	114.6
Maple	Aug. 30	0	0	0	0	0	0 / 0 / 0	4 / 50	15.8	12.8	10.5	139.0
Carriden	Aug. 31	865 / 1581	0	0	0	0	563 / 0 / 0	205 / 1000+	17.1	17.7	10.5	122.0
Embley	Aug. 29	12672 / 17145	0	0	0	0	34 / 0 / 0	516 / 1000+	14	17.3	8.0	121.5
Gilford	Aug. 30	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	14 / NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Simoom	Sept. 01	0	0	0	0	0	0 / 0 / 0	1 / NA	15.4	13.6	7.9	137.1

2. Rotation Highlights

Weather:

- Foggy mornings, often clearing around noon or early afternoon.
- Heavy rainfall throughout the rotation, except for the first day.

Water Levels/Quality:

- Viner flooded due to rain but drained by the end of the rotation.

Visibility:

- Adequate visibility

Notes:

- Active logging in Scott Cove and Shoal creeks.
- Lots of fish holding in Scott Cove, Shoal, Hada, Carriden, and Embley estuaries.
- Flash floods in Viner due to heavy rainfall. Re-surveyed at the end of the rotation after the river drained out.

Shoal Harbour Creek

August 26, 2026

Enumerated by Rob Humenny, Leila Krichel



Photo 1: Continued low water in Shoal Creek.

Photo 2: Grizzly print on the bank.

Estuary Survey

- 49 jumpers, school of a couple hundred salmon in the estuary
- Salmon adjacent species: 20 seagulls, 3 crows

River Notes

- Fish staging in estuary, likely waiting for rainfall before they move upstream. Lots of rainfall after we surveyed the creek--hopefully will see fish in the stream next rotation.
- No signs of adult salmon in the river, but some bear tracks along the banks (including a grizzly track!).

Shoal Harbour Creek

August 26, 2026

Enumerated by Rob Humenny, Leila Krichel

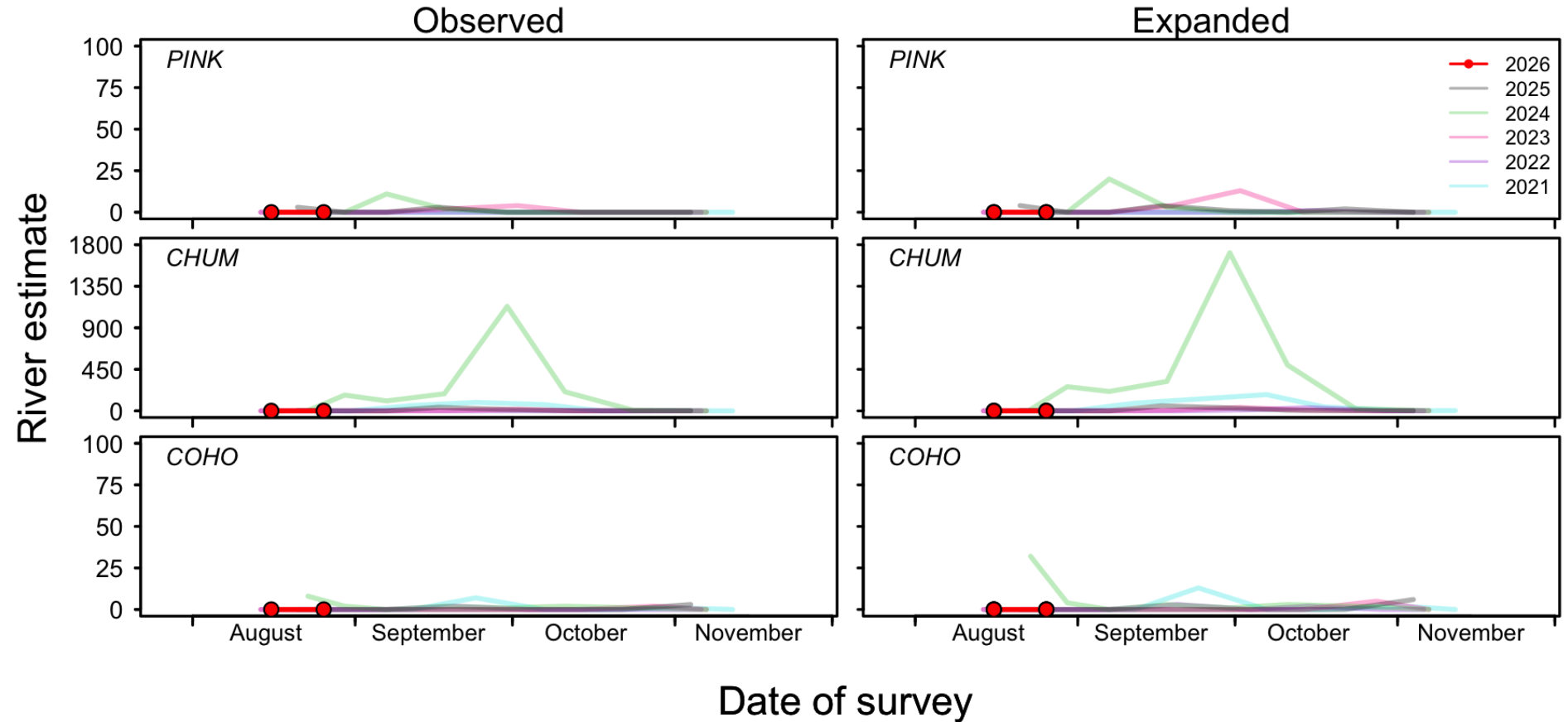


Figure: First column shows observed counts of each salmon species in Shoal Creek. The second column shows the expanded count after accounting for observer efficiency, morts, and jacks. Coloured lines represent observations in the last five years over the entire season and the red data points are observations up to date from this year. Note the different y-axis scales for each species.

Scott Cove Creek

August 26, 2026

Enumerated by Rob Humenny, Leila Krichel



Photo 1: View of biosample upstream of waterfall #1.

Photo 2: Black bear at waterfall #2.

Estuary Survey

- 254 jumpers in the estuary
- Salmon adjacent species: 1 black bear, 2 kingfishers, 50 gulls

River Notes

- Low water levels in the creek and no fish were spotted jumping at the waterfall. But lots of fish appear to be staging in the estuary and black bear looking for fish at waterfall #2.
- Active logging occurring nearby

Hada River

August 27, 2026

Enumerated by Rob Humenny, Leila Krichel, Magali Holt-Lachance (Salmon Coast Field Station)



Photo 1: Chum mort on river bank.



Photo 2: Large school below the waterfall in segment 3.

Estuary Survey

- 1 jumper, school of 1000+ pink waiting in the estuary
- Salmon adjacent species: 3 humpback whales, 1 seal, 2 eagles, 1 heron, 60 gulls, 3 ravens

River Notes

- Some overnight rain--water levels slightly higher than the previous week.
- Lots of fish holding in pool below waterfall (segment 3) and in biosample pool (segment 2)
- Some chum in segment 2 appear to be getting ready to spawn.

Hada River

August 27, 2026

Enumerated by Rob Humenny, Leila Krichel, Magali Holt-Lachance (Salmon Coast Field Station)

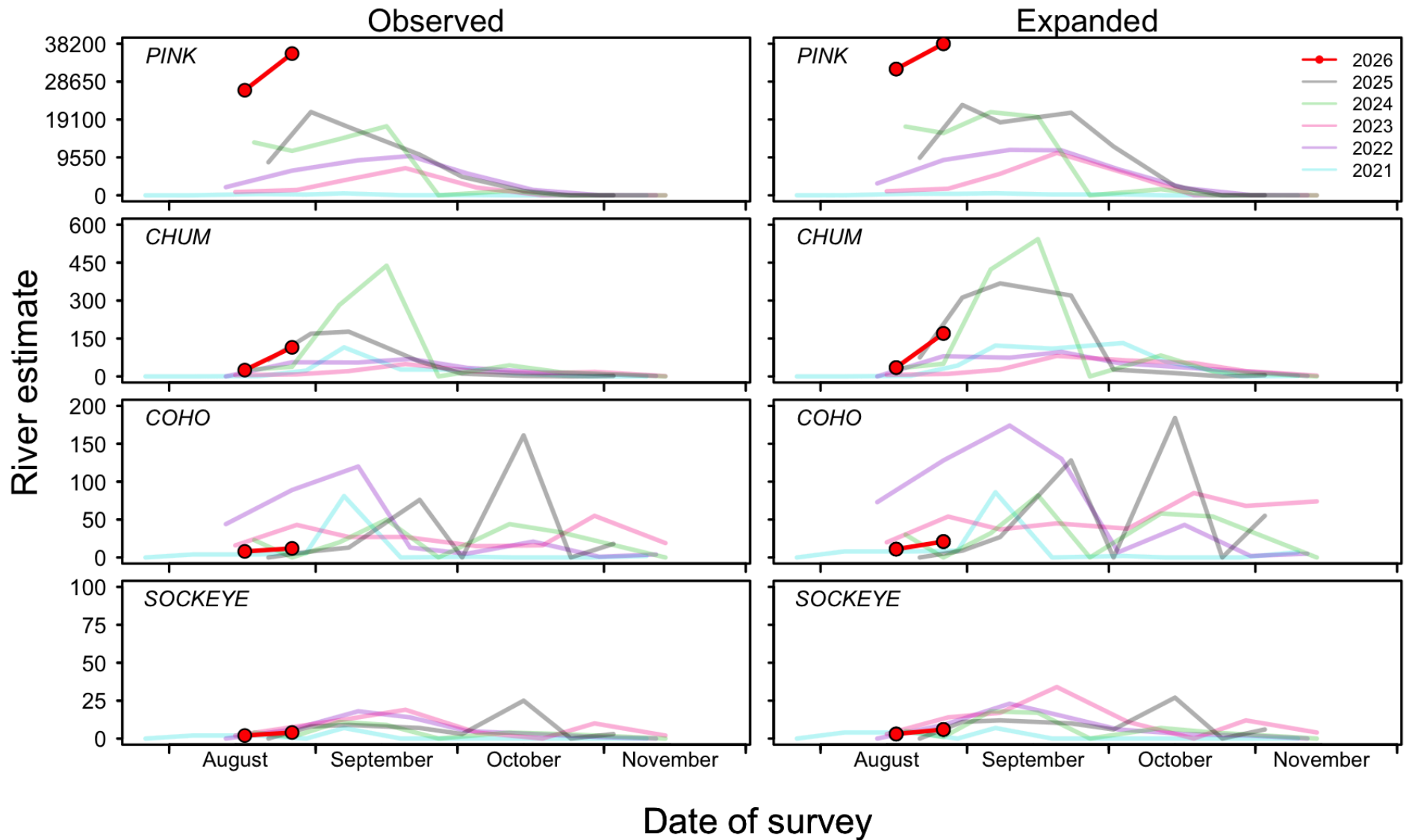


Figure: First column shows observed counts of each salmon species in Hada River. The second column shows the expanded count after accounting for observer efficiency, morts, and jacks. Coloured lines represent observations in the last five years over the entire season and the red data points are observations up to date from this year. Note the different y-axis scales for each species.

Wahkana River

August 27, 2026

Enumerated by Rob Humenny, Leila Krichel, Magali Holt-Lachance (Salmon Coast Field Station)



Photo 1: Wahkana lake.

Estuary Survey

- 2 jumpers, school of 100+ salmon, likely pink, holding in estuary
- Salmon adjacent species: 1 seal, 1 kingfisher

River Notes

- Surveyed all three segments, up to Wahkana lake and the waterfall at the end of the side stream. No fish present, but we brushed the river up to the lake.

Wahkana River

August 27, 2026

Enumerated by Rob Humenny, Leila Krichel, Magali Holt-Lachance (Salmon Coast Field Station)

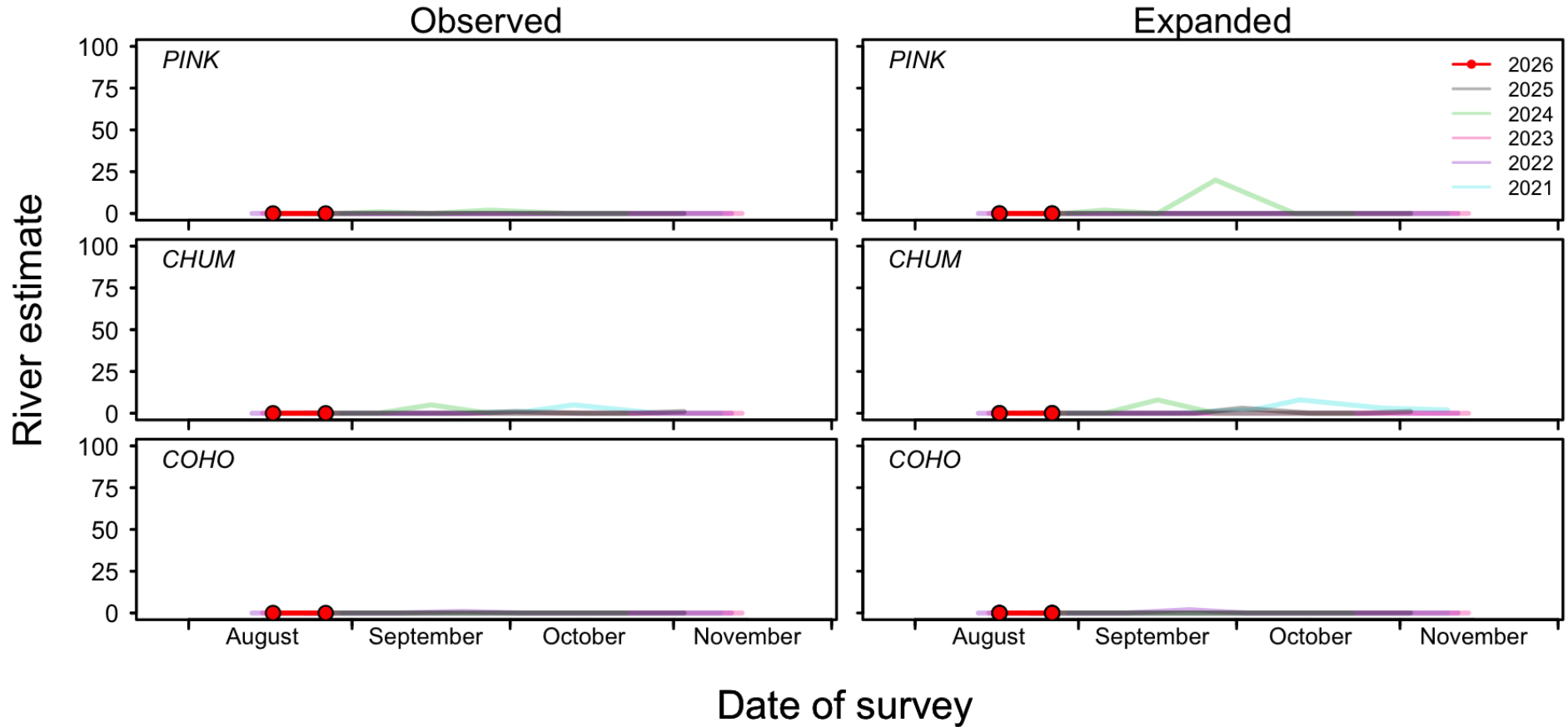


Figure: First column shows observed counts of each salmon species in Wahkana River. The second column shows the expanded count after accounting for observer efficiency, morts, and jacks. Coloured lines represent observations in the last five years over the entire season and the red data points are observations up to date from this year.

Viner River

September 01, 2026

Enumerated by Rob Humenny, Leila Krichel, Kyle Miller (Salmon Coast Field Station)



Photo 1: Segment 1 in Viner.

Estuary Survey

- 3 jumpers
- Salmon adjacent species: 1 kingfisher, 1 merganser, 3 jumpers

River Notes

- Initially visited Viner on August 28th but the river was unsurveyable due to flooding from recent rain. Came back when the river drained out a few days later.
- Starting to see pinks and some chum.

Viner River

September 01, 2026

Enumerated by Rob Humenny, Leila Krichel

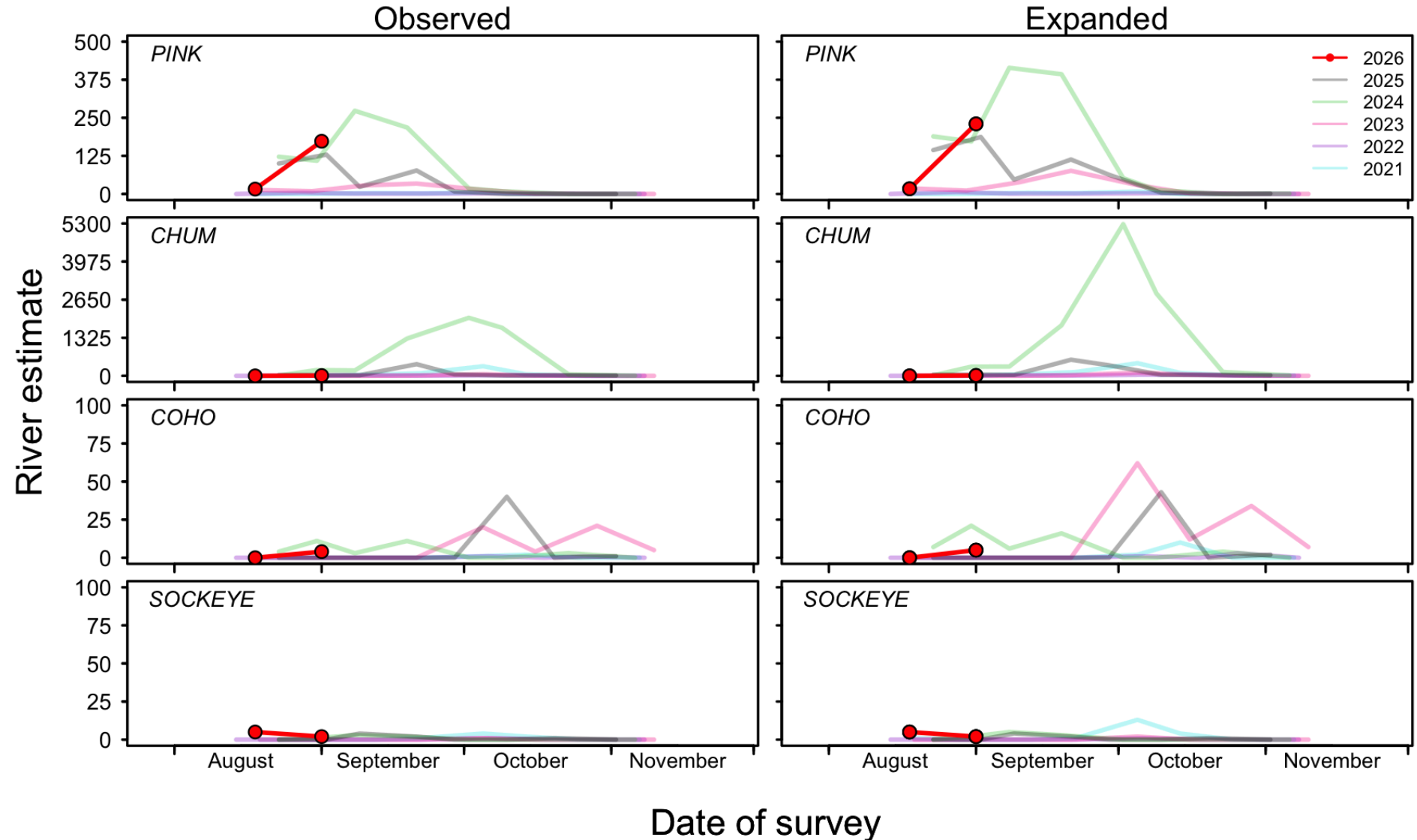


Figure: First column shows observed counts of each salmon species in Viner River. The second column shows the expanded count after accounting for observer efficiency, morts, and jacks. Coloured lines represent observations in the last five years over the entire season and the red data points are observations up to date from this year. Note the different y-axis scales for each species.

Carriden Creek

August 31, 2026

Enumerated by Rob Humenny, Leila Krichel



Photo 1: Dense school of pink salmon right before log jam at 600m.

Photo 2: Pink salmon morts on the river bank.

Estuary Survey

- 205 jumpers, 7 pink morts, 1000+ pink salmon holding in the estuary
- Salmon adjacent species: 2 eagles, 2 herons, 50 gulls, 5 vultures

River Notes

- Lots of pink morts scattered throughout first 600m of the river.
- Not much spawning area in the river.
- High pink counts may be strays coming from Embley
- Fish did not go beyond the large log jam before the biosample pool (~600m up the creek).

Carriden Creek

August 31, 2026

Enumerated by Rob Humenny, Leila Krichel

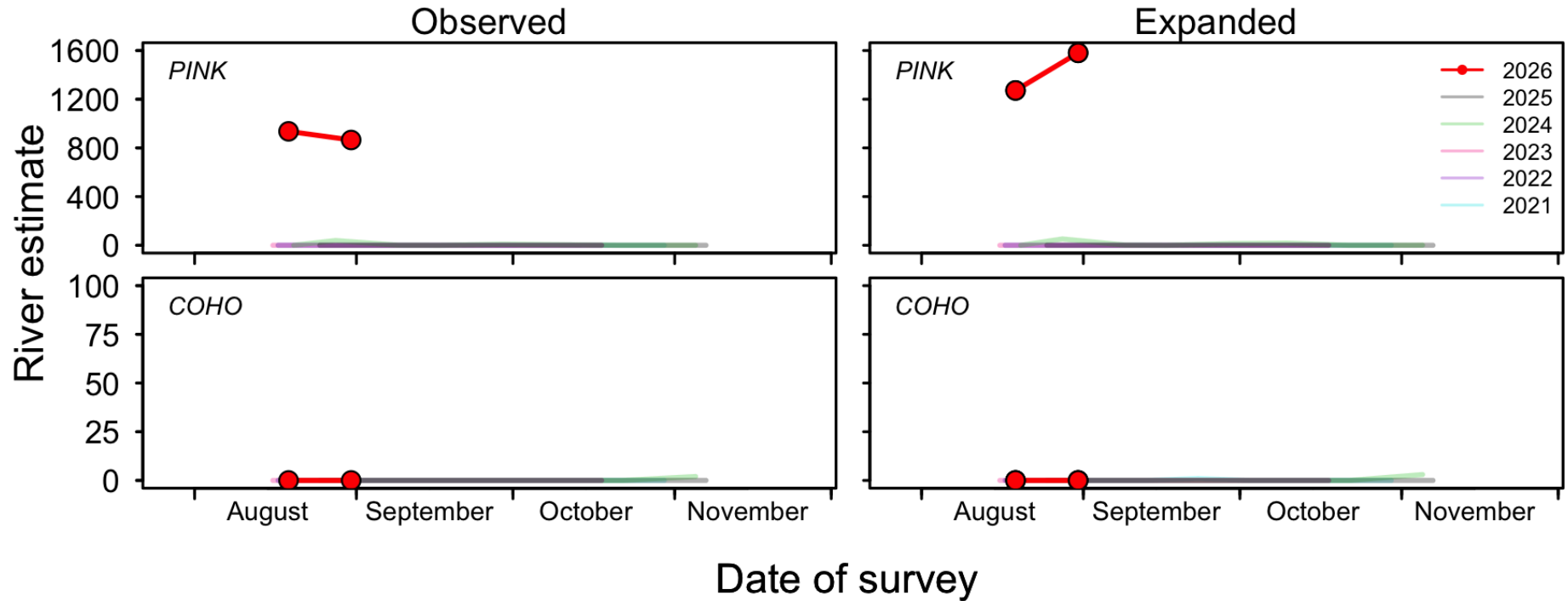


Figure: First column shows observed counts of each salmon species in Carriden Creek. The second column shows the expanded count after accounting for observer efficiency, morts, and jacks. Coloured lines represent observations in the last five years over the entire season and the red data points are observations up to date from this year. Note the different y-axis scales for each species.

Embley River

August 29, 2026

Enumerated by Rob Humenny, Leila Krichel, Callum & Stu Tait (Salmon Coast Field Station)



Photo 1: Fish at Embley.

Estuary Survey

- Thousands of pink salmon holding in the estuary. 516 jumpers in 20 minutes.
- Salmon adjacent species: 2 eagles, 12 mergansers, 40 gulls

River Notes

- Pinks throughout the river. Largest schools were located in segment 3 and 6. Thousands of fish in segment 6--fish holding almost all the way up to Huaskin lake (about 4000m from the estuary).
- Fish have not started spawning yet.

Embley River

August 29, 2026

Enumerated by Rob Humenny, Leila Krichel

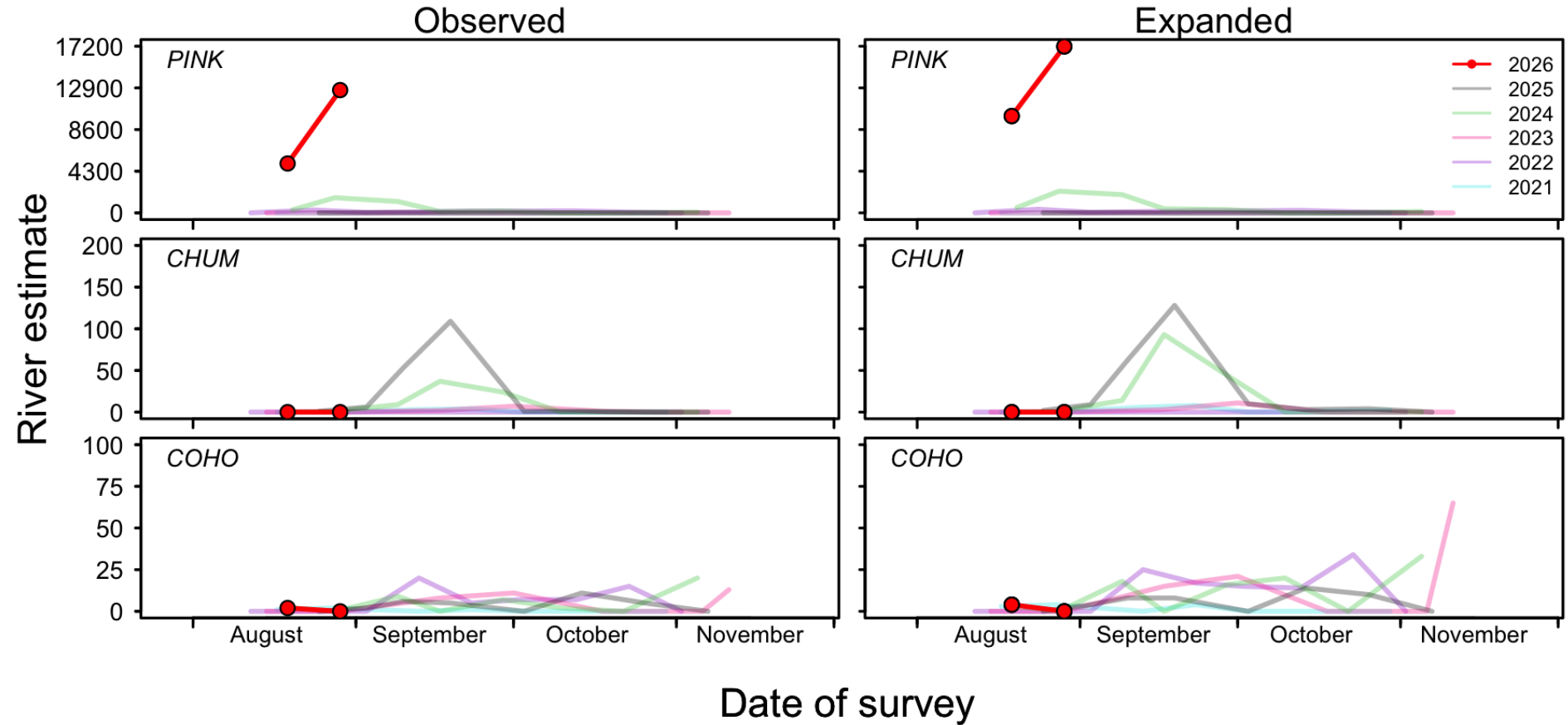
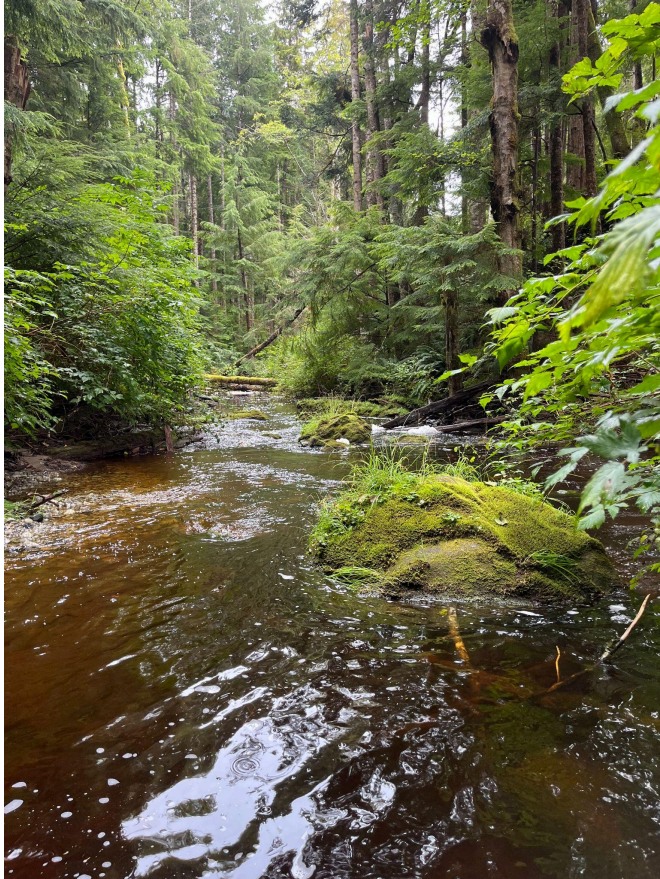


Figure: First column shows observed counts of each salmon species in Embley River. The second column shows the expanded count after accounting for observer efficiency, morts, and jacks. Coloured lines represent observations in the last five years over the entire season and the red data points are observations up to date from this year. Note the different y-axis scales for each species.

Maple Cove Creek

August 30, 2026

Enumerated by Rob Humenny, Leila Krichel



Photos 1: Segment 1.

Photo 2: Segment 2.

Estuary Survey

- 4 jumpers, school of ~50 pink salmon
- Salmon adjacent species: 6 gulls

River Notes

- Some fry but no signs of adult fish.

Maple Cove Creek

August 30, 2026

Enumerated by Rob Humenny, Leila Krichel

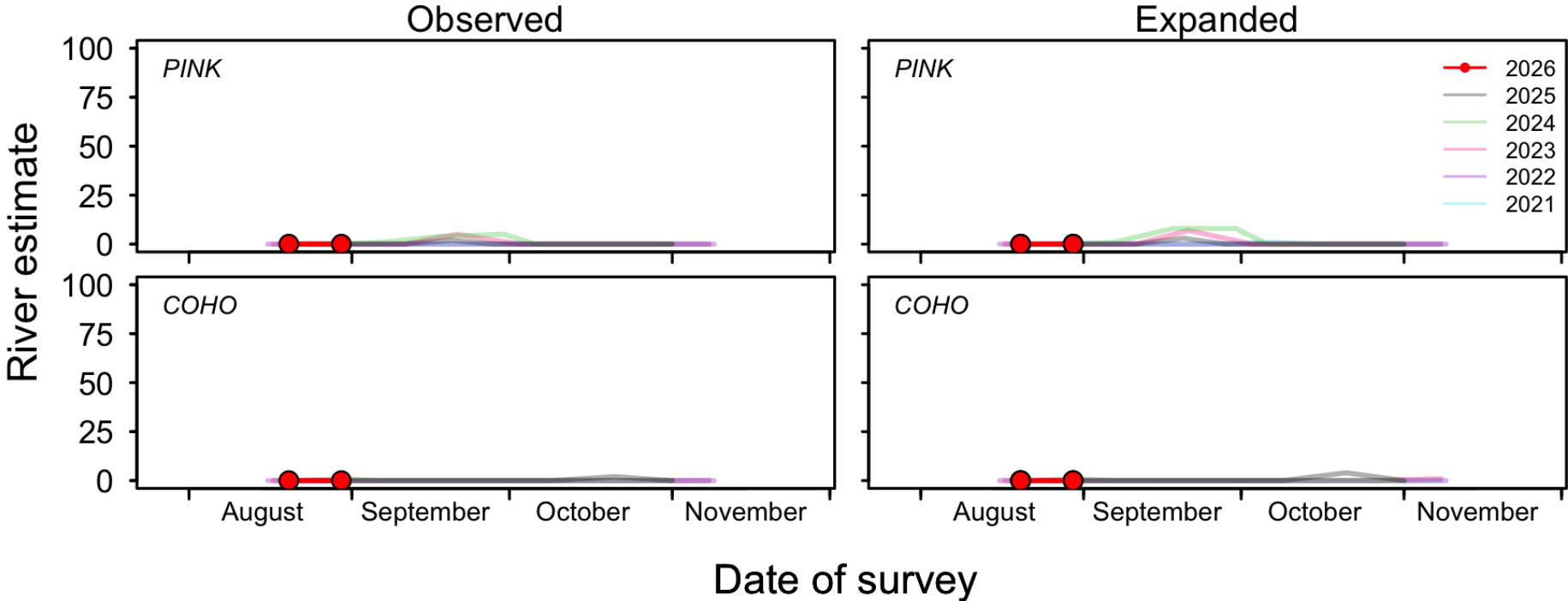


Figure: First column shows observed counts of each salmon species in Maple Cove creek. The second column shows the expanded count after accounting for observer efficiency, morts, and jacks. Coloured lines represent observations in the last five years over the entire season and the red data points are observations up to date from this year.

Gilford Creek

August 30, 2026

Enumerated by Rob Humenny, Leila Krichel

Estuary Survey

- 14 jumpers
- Salmon adjacent species: 1 black bear, 1 eagle, 1 kingfisher, 1 raven

River Notes

- Did not walk the creek due to time constraints.

Simoom Creek

September 01, 2026

Enumerated by Rob Humenny, Leila Krichel

Estuary Survey

- 1 jumper
- Salmon adjacent species: none!

River Notes

- Some fry but no signs of adult fish.