



Media Release
July 25, 2019

Wet'suwet'en Territories: Wet'suwet'en Chiefs decided to act on conservation of sockeye, as returns to the Skeena are below conservation level of 400,000. The Wet'suwet'en Hereditary Chiefs ask the Wet'suwet'en to stop harvesting sockeye effective Sunday, July 28, 2019. It's a difficult decision – but one that must be made for the future of sockeye. The impact can be minimized by switching to other salmon species such as Chinook, Coho, Steelhead and Pink. The Wet'suwet'en request all neighbouring nations to support this decision by not fishing sockeye.

It's expected that Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) will close all recreational fishery for all species of salmon in the Skeena watershed, effective Friday, July 26, 2019. The Minister of DFO is expected to make an announcement today. The recreational closure should allow the Wet'suwet'en to catch additional salmon to be harvested for FSC (Food, Social and Ceremonial), and won't be competing with recreational fishers for the same salmon.

Spokesperson on behalf of Wet'suwet'en – Chief Na'Moks
(John Ridsdale) Contact number: 250-643-0771

Technical Spokesperson on behalf of Office of the Wet'suwet'en
Walter Joseph Contact number: 250-847-3630