
CHAPTER IV FRASER RIVER AND PUGET SOUND PINK SALMON ASSESSMENTS

Two major stocks of pink salmon contribute to Council ocean fisheries during odd-numbered years, Fraser River and Puget Sound. The more abundant of the two runs originates from the Fraser River in British Columbia, Canada. Table IV-1 provides a summary of recent run sizes.

The 2003 pink salmon abundance projections for the Fraser and Puget Sound stocks are 17.3 million and 2.3 million, respectively. The 2001 run size of Fraser pinks is estimated at 21.20 million, compared to the forecast of 5.47 million. The 2001 estimated run size for Puget Sound pinks is 3.5 million compared to the forecast run size of 2.92 million.

Fraser River and Puget Sound pink runs occur in significant numbers only in odd-numbered years.

TABLE IV-1. Estimated annual **run sizes** (odd numbered years 1977-2003) for Fraser River and Puget Sound **pink salmon** in millions of salmon.

Year	Puget Sound ^{a/}	Fraser River ^{b/}
1977	0.88	8.21
1979	1.32	14.40
1981	0.50	18.69
1983	1.01	15.35
1985	1.76	19.10
1987	1.57	7.17
1989	1.93	16.63
1991	1.09	22.33
1993	1.06	17.01
1995 ^{c/}	2.11	12.88
1997 ^{c/}	0.44	8.20
1999 ^{c/}	0.95	3.59
2001 ^{c/}	3.50	21.19
2003 ^{c/}	2.30	17.30

a/ Total Puget Sound run size includes stocks other than Puget Sound pink stocks.

b/ Total run size.

c/ Preliminary estimate. Likely to be adjusted when genetic stock identification (GSI) bias correction methodologies are finalized.