



Idaho Fish and Game

# E-Tagging & E-Creel



**E-Tagging: A better way to track your catch in Idaho**



## River Location Codes

### Snake River

- 1A ID/WA line to Blue Bridge
- 1B Blue Bridge to Salmon River
- 02 From Salmon River to Hells Canyon Dam
- 27 Hells Canyon Dam to Oxbow Dam

### Clearwater River

- 3A Downstream of Memorial Bridge
- 3B Memorial Bridge to Cherrylane Bridge
- 3C Cherrylane Bridge to Orofino Bridge
- 04 Upstream from Orofino Bridge
- 05 North Fork Clearwater River
- 06 Middle Fork Clearwater River
- 07 South Fork Clearwater River
- 08 Lochsa River

### Salmon River

- 10 Mouth to Upper Twin Bridge
- 11A Upper Twin Bridge to Timezone Bridge
- 11B Timezone Bridge to Shorts Creek
- 12 Shorts Creek to Vinegar Creek
- 13 Vinegar Creek to South Fork
- 14 South Fork to Middle Fork
- 15 Middle Fork to North Fork
- 16 North Fork to Lemhi River
- 17 Lemhi River to Pahsimeroi River
- 18 Pahsimeroi River to East Fork
- 19 Upstream from East Fork

Other

Anadromous Fisheries ~550 River Miles

| January   | February | March | April                        | May | June | July                | August | September   | October | November | December |
|-----------|----------|-------|------------------------------|-----|------|---------------------|--------|-------------|---------|----------|----------|
| Steelhead |          |       |                              |     |      | Steelhead           |        |             |         |          |          |
|           |          |       | Spring/Summer Chinook Salmon |     |      |                     |        |             |         |          |          |
|           |          |       |                              |     |      | Fall Chinook Salmon |        |             |         |          |          |
|           |          |       |                              |     |      |                     |        | Coho Salmon |         |          |          |

# E-Tag

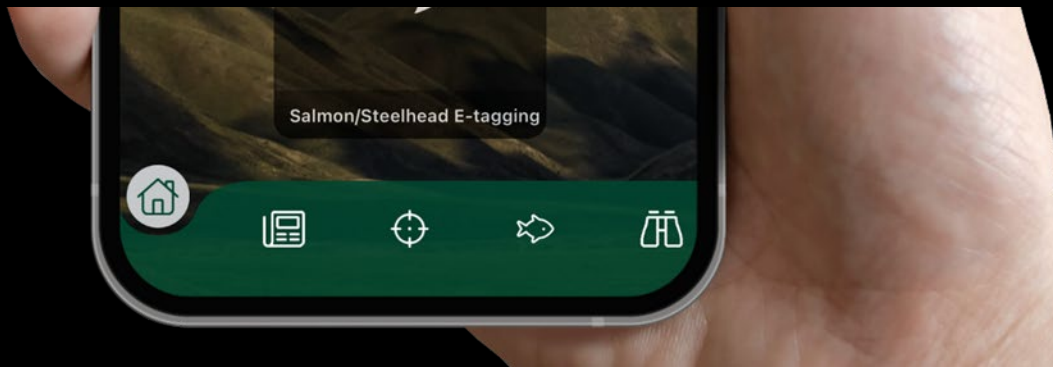


Why E-Tag?  
Primarily for angler convenience  
Fish Management efficiencies and estimate precision  
Eliminates effort estimates that are time consuming and increases accident risk (1/2-1/3 of shift is counting)

2021-2022 Began the process to establish E-Tagging/E-Creel

April 1, 2024-E-Tagging available to the public

April 25, 2024-E-Creel was implemented



# E-Creel

Harvest Monitor - Creel

Survey Info.

Date of Interview \* Tuesday, April 21, 2026

Name of Interviewer \*

River \*

Why E-Creel?  
Primarily for my sanity  
A busy week of creel required 20+ hrs of transcribing data  
Paired with E-Tag, near real-time pulse on the fishery

Geopoint  
GPS, select on map or hit the dot to record location

Shore or Boat? \* ☐ Shore ☐ Boat

Guided? \* ☐ Yes ☐ No

Idaho Resident? \* ☐ Yes ☐ No

License Type \*

Permit \* ☒ Steelhead ☒ Salmon

E-Tag Steelhead? \* ☐ Yes ☐ No

E-Tag Salmon? \* ☐ Yes ☐ No

Target Species \* ☐ Steelhead ☐ Chinook ☐ Coho ☐ Other

New Party? \* ☐ Yes ☐ No

Trip Complete? ☐ Complete

Hours  
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8 ☐ 9 ☐ 10  
☐ 11 ☐ 12 ☐ 13 ☐ 14 ☐ 15 ☐ 16 ☐ 17 ☐ 18 ☐ 19 ☐ 20  
☐ 21 ☐ 22 ☐ 23 ☐ 24

Half Hour

# Implementing E-Tagging/E-Creel

- 2024-Traditional creel and E-Tag estimates simultaneously for comparisons
  - Purchased E-tags-residents 21%, non-residents 29%
- 2025-Both methods continued
  - Purchased E-tags- residents 23% E-Tagging, non-residents 33%
- 2026-E-Tagging (few exceptions)
  - E-tagging rate (e-tagged harvest in creel/all harvest in creel) goal ~20%



# 2025 Spring Chinook

- Nearly all areas were estimated using E-tag
  - Exceptions were areas with low e-tag rates or delayed reporting concerns



# Rapid River 2025 Adult Chinook Salmon Harvest Summary

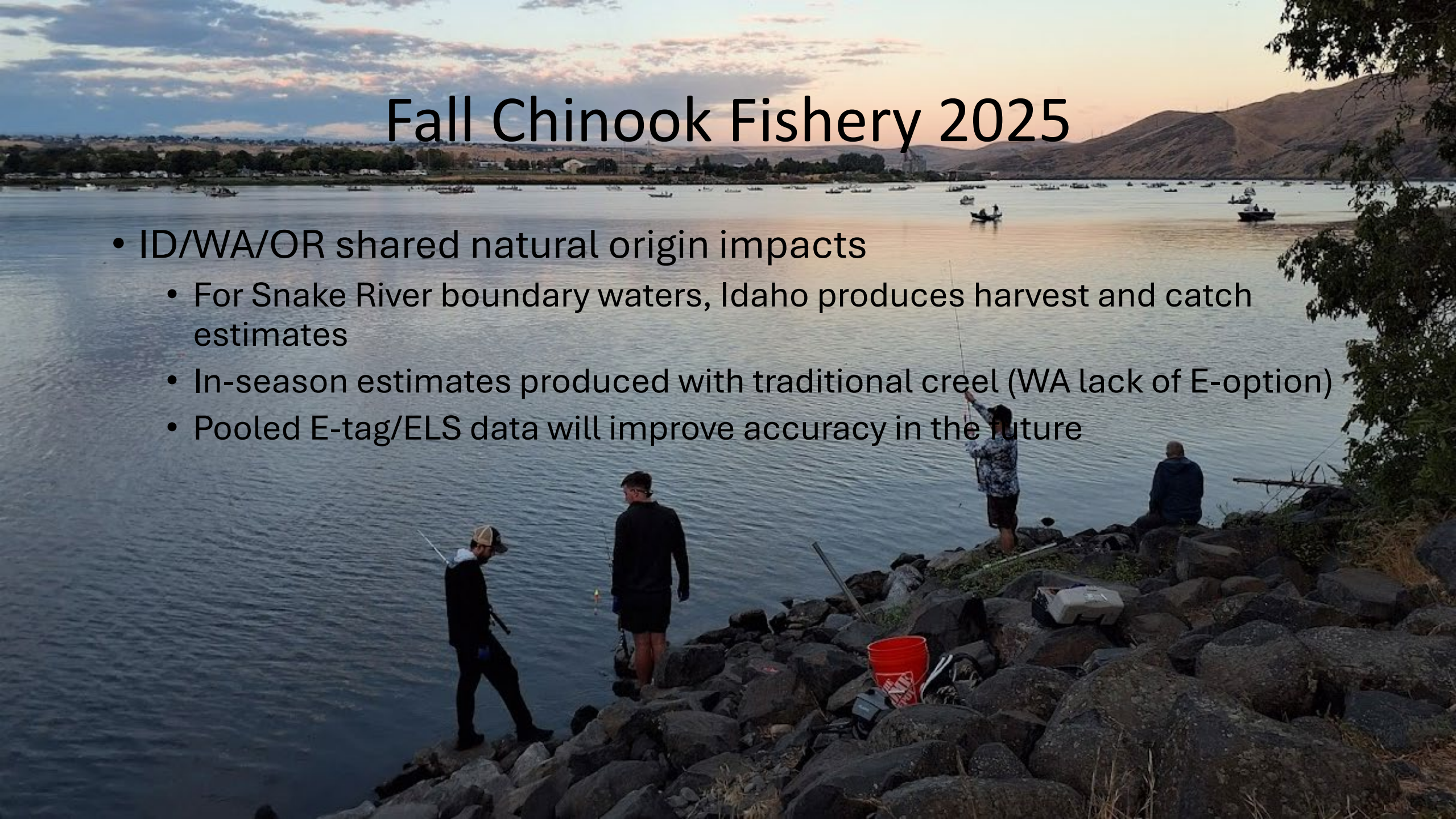
Harvest Share

1,621

| Harvest by River Location Code    |          |              |        |        |               |                |            |               |             |
|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------|--------|--------|---------------|----------------|------------|---------------|-------------|
| Date                              | Interval | Lower Salmon |        |        | Little salmon | Weekly Harvest | % of share | Harvest Share | Cumulative  |
|                                   |          | 10           | 11A    | 11B    | 20            |                |            | Remaining     | % harvested |
| April 26 - April 27               | 1        | 0            | 0      | 0      | 0             | 0              | 0.0%       | 1,621         | 0.0%        |
| May 1 - May 4                     | 2        | 0            | 0      | 0      | 0             | 0              | 0.0%       | 1,621         | 0.0%        |
| May 8 - May 11                    | 3        | 0            | 0      | 2      | 0             | 2              | 0.1%       | 1,619         | 0.1%        |
| May 15 - May 18                   | 4        | 3            | 0      | 2      | 0             | 5              | 0.3%       | 1,614         | 0.4%        |
| May 22 - May 25                   | 5        | 176          | 80     | 127    | 18            | 401            | 24.7%      | 1,213         | 25.2%       |
| May 29 - June 1                   | 6        | 0            | 50     | 62     | 8             | 120            | 7.4%       | 1,093         | 32.6%       |
| June 5 - June 8                   | 7        | 0            | 93     | 594    | 197           | 884            | 54.5%      | 209           | 87.1%       |
| June 12 - June 15                 | 8        | Closed       | Closed | Closed | 147           | 147            | 9.1%       | 62            | 96.2%       |
| June 19 - June 22                 | 9        |              |        |        | 162           | 162            | 10.0%      | (100)         | 106.2%      |
| June 26 - June 29                 | 10       |              |        |        | Closed        | 0              | 0.0%       | (100)         | 106.2%      |
| July 3 - July 6                   | 11       |              |        |        |               | 0              | 0.0%       | (100)         | 106.2%      |
| July 10 - July 13                 | 12       |              |        |        |               | 0              | 0.0%       | (100)         | 106.2%      |
| July 17 - July 20                 | 13       |              |        |        |               | 0              | 0.0%       | (100)         | 106.2%      |
| July 24 - July 27                 | 14       |              |        |        |               | 0              | 0.0%       | (100)         | 106.2%      |
| July 31 - Aug 3                   | 15       |              |        |        |               | 0              | 0.0%       | (100)         | 106.2%      |
| Aug 7 - Aug 10                    | 16       |              |        |        |               | 0              | 0.0%       | (100)         | 106.2%      |
| Total Catch and release mortality |          | 0.4          | 2.4    | 20.8   | 3.8           | 27.4           | 1.7%       | (127)         | 107.9%      |
| Total                             |          | 179          | 225    | 808    | 536           | 1,748          | 107.9%     | (127)         | 107.9%      |
| % of share                        |          | 11.1%        | 13.9%  | 49.8%  | 33.1%         |                |            |               |             |

# Fall Chinook Fishery 2025

- ID/WA/OR shared natural origin impacts
  - For Snake River boundary waters, Idaho produces harvest and catch estimates
  - In-season estimates produced with traditional creel (WA lack of E-option)
  - Pooled E-tag/ELS data will improve accuracy in the future



# Post Season Unclipped

## Take summary for adult **NATURAL** fall Chinook Salmon 2025

Natural run past LGD      **4,522** 

|                                       |            |       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|-------|------------|
|                                       | Total      | Snake | Clearwater |
| 5-year redd count rolling average (%) |            | 61%   | 39%        |
| Available take of natural fish        | <b>271</b> | 166   | 106        |

### Take summary on Snake River basin 2025 Adult **NATURAL** fall Chinook Salmon

| Date            | Snake Basin                                                                              |       |       |       |      |       | Clearwater Basin |      |      |      | Allocation of total impacts |               |               |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|------------------|------|------|------|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                 | LF                                                                                       | CL    | 1A    | 1B    | 2    | 10-12 | 3A               | 3B-C | 4    | 5    | Snake                       | Clearwater    | Total         |
| Aug 18 - Aug 24 |                                                                                          | 41.6  | 18.1  | 0.0   | 0.0  | 0.0   | 0.9              | 0.0  | 0.0  |      | 36                          | 24            | 61            |
| Aug 25 - Aug 31 |                                                                                          | 14.3  | 10.5  | 0.0   | 0.0  | 0.0   | 1.4              | 0.0  | 0.0  |      | 15                          | 11            | 26            |
| Sep 1 - Sep 7   | 0.4                                                                                      | 30.1  | 12.1  | 0.0   | 0.0  | 0.0   | 1.4              | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 26                          | 18            | 44            |
| Sep 8 - Sep 14  | 1.0                                                                                      | 27.0  | 32.0  | 1.0   | 0.0  | 0.0   | 5.8              | 0.4  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 38                          | 30            | 67            |
| Sep 15 - Sep 21 | 0.0                                                                                      | 11.9  | 10.7  | 0.0   | 0.0  | 0.0   | 1.2              | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 14                          | 10            | 24            |
| Sep 22 - Sep 28 | 0.0                                                                                      | 0.0   | 0.4   | 0.0   | 0.0  | 0.0   | 0.0              | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0                           | 0             | 0             |
| Sep 29 - Oct 5  | 0.4                                                                                      | 0.0   | 2.8   | 10.0  | 0.2  | 0.0   | 3.5              | 3.2  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 12                          | 8             | 20            |
| Oct 6 - Oct 12  | 0.2                                                                                      | 0.0   | 8.3   | 17.3  | 0.1  | 0.0   | 6.9              | 2.6  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 23                          | 13            | 35            |
| Oct 13 - Oct 19 | 2.0                                                                                      | 0.0   | 4.6   | 1.3   | 0.0  | 0.0   | 0.0              | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 5                           | 3             | 8             |
| Oct 20 - Oct 26 | 0.4                                                                                      |       | 0.0   | 0.3   | 0.0  | 0.0   | 0.0              |      | 0.0  | 0.4  | 0                           | 1             | 1             |
| Oct 27 - Oct 31 |                                                                                          |       | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.0  | 0.0   | 0.0              |      | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0                           | 0             | 0             |
| C & R Mortality | 2.1                                                                                      | 2.3   | 3.2   | 2.8   | 0.2  | 0.1   | 1.1              | 2.7  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 8                           | 7             | 14            |
| Total           | 6.5                                                                                      | 127.2 | 102.7 | 32.6  | 0.5  | 0.1   | 22.1             | 8.9  | 0.0  | 0.4  | <b>177</b>                  | <b>124</b>    | <b>301</b>    |
| % of total Take | 2.4%  | 46.9% | 37.9% | 12.0% | 0.2% | 0.0%  | 8.2%             | 3.3% | 0.0% | 0.1% | <b>107.2%</b>               | <b>116.9%</b> | <b>111.0%</b> |

# Post Season Unclipped E-tag

## Take summary for adult **NATURAL** fall Chinook Salmon 2025

Natural run past LGD      **4,522** 

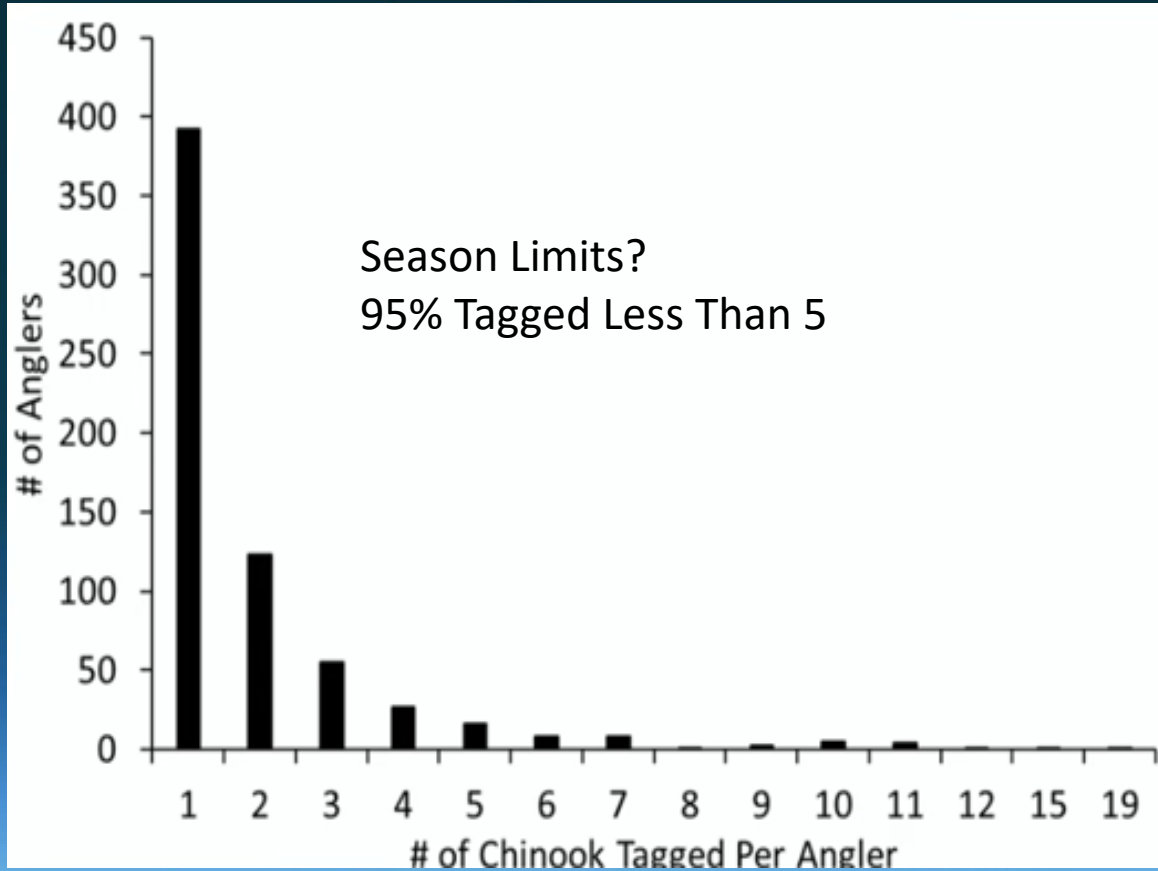
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|---------------------------------------|------------|-------|------------|
|                                       | Total      | Snake | Clearwater |
| 5-year redd count rolling average (%) |            | 61%   | 39%        |
| Available take of natural fish        | <b>271</b> | 166   | 106        |

### Take summary on Snake River basin 2025 Adult **NATURAL** fall Chinook Salmon

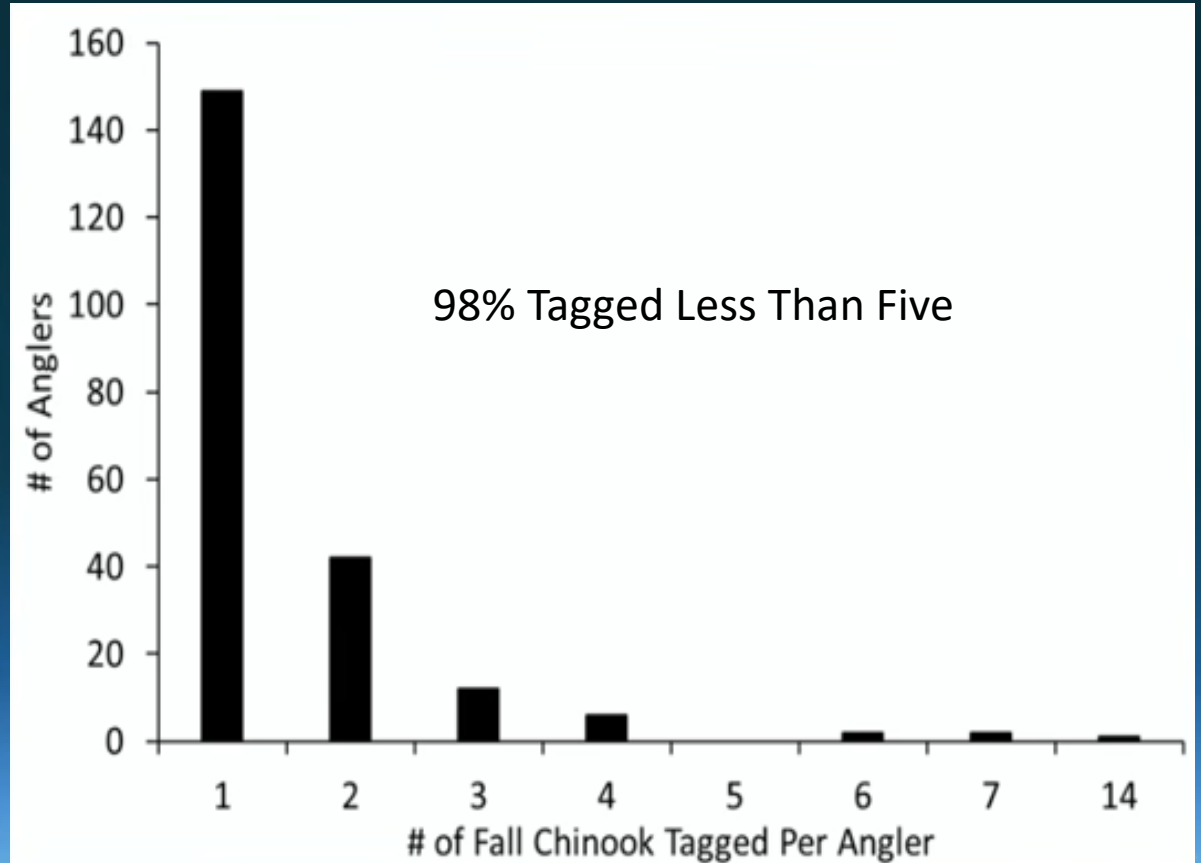
| Date            | Snake Basin                                                                              |       |       |      |      |       | Clearwater Basin |      |      |      | Allocation of total impacts |               |              |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|------|------|-------|------------------|------|------|------|-----------------------------|---------------|--------------|
|                 | LF                                                                                       | CL    | 1A    | 1B   | 2    | 10-12 | 3A               | 3B-C | 4    | 5    | Snake                       | Clearwater    | Total        |
| Aug 18 - Aug 24 |                                                                                          | 41.6  | 0.0   | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0   | 0.0              | 0.0  | 0.0  |      | 25                          | 16            | 42           |
| Aug 25 - Aug 31 |                                                                                          | 14.3  | 0.0   | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0   | 0.0              | 0.0  | 0.0  |      | 9                           | 6             | 14           |
| Sep 1 - Sep 7   | 0.4                                                                                      | 30.1  | 0.0   | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0   | 0.0              | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 19                          | 12            | 31           |
| Sep 8 - Sep 14  | 1.0                                                                                      | 27.0  | 0.0   | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0   | 0.0              | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 17                          | 11            | 28           |
| Sep 15 - Sep 21 | 0.0                                                                                      | 11.9  | 0.0   | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0   | 0.0              | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 7                           | 5             | 12           |
| Sep 22 - Sep 28 | 0.0                                                                                      | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0   | 0.0              | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0                           | 0             | 0            |
| Sep 29 - Oct 5  | 0.4                                                                                      | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0   | 0.0              | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0                           | 0             | 0            |
| Oct 6 - Oct 12  | 0.2                                                                                      | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0   | 0.0              | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0                           | 0             | 0            |
| Oct 13 - Oct 19 | 2.0                                                                                      | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0   | 0.0              | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 1                           | 1             | 2            |
| Oct 20 - Oct 26 | 0.4                                                                                      |       | 0.0   | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0   | 0.0              |      | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0                           | 0             | 0            |
| Oct 27 - Oct 31 |                                                                                          |       | 47.3  | 9.8  | 0.5  | 0.7   | 61.6             |      | 0.0  | 0.8  | 40                          | 81            | 121          |
| C & R Mortality | 2.1                                                                                      | 2.3   | 1.7   | 0.5  | 0.1  | 0.1   | 2.3              | 2.3  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 4                           | 7             | 11           |
| Total           | 6.5                                                                                      | 127.2 | 49.0  | 10.3 | 0.6  | 0.8   | 64.0             | 2.3  | 0.0  | 0.8  | <b>123</b>                  | <b>138</b>    | <b>261</b>   |
| % of total Take | 2.4%  | 46.9% | 18.1% | 3.8% | 0.2% | 0.3%  | 23.6%            | 0.8% | 0.0% | 0.3% | <b>74.4%</b>                | <b>130.7%</b> | <b>96.3%</b> |

# Chinook

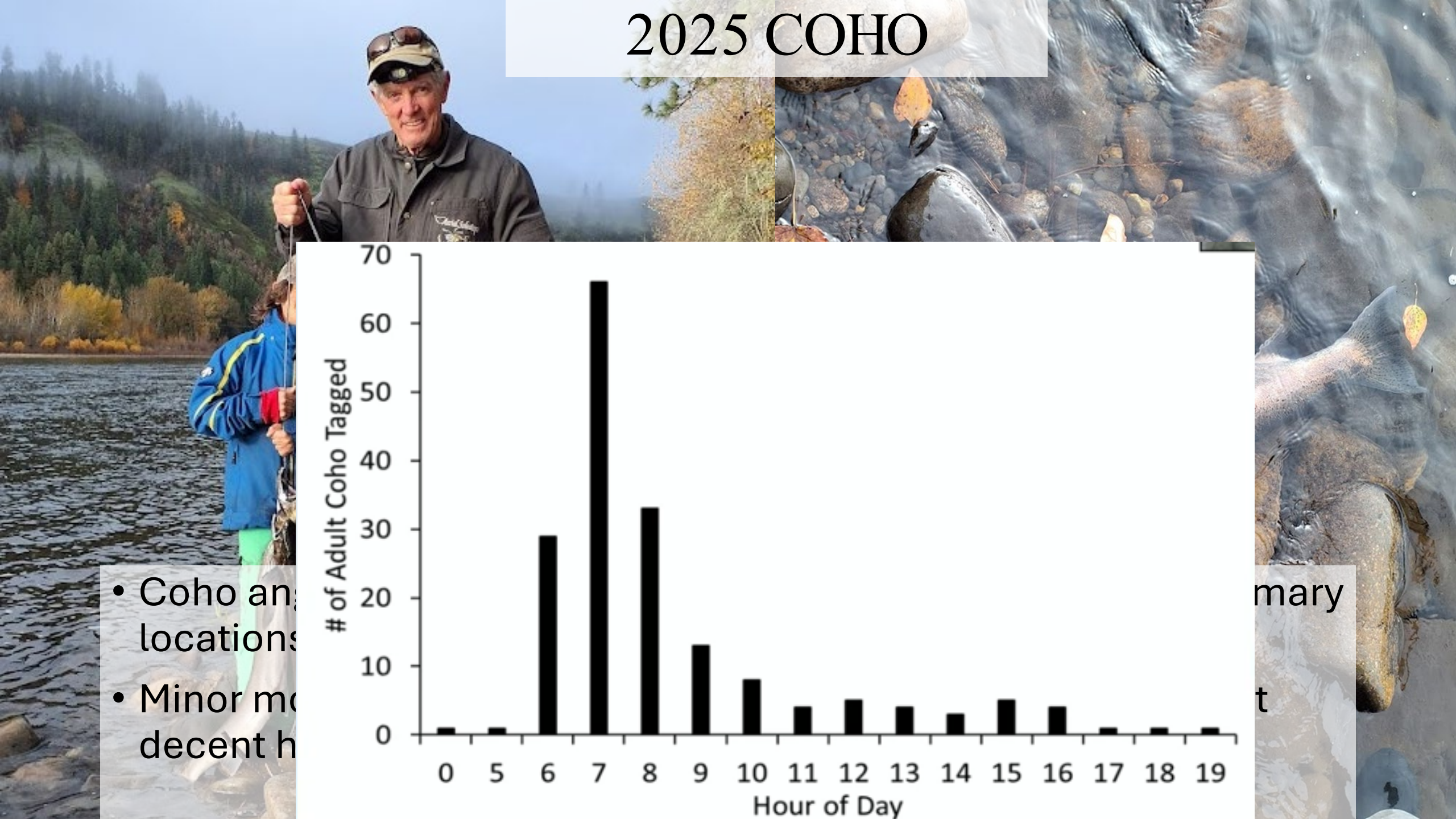
## Spring/Summer



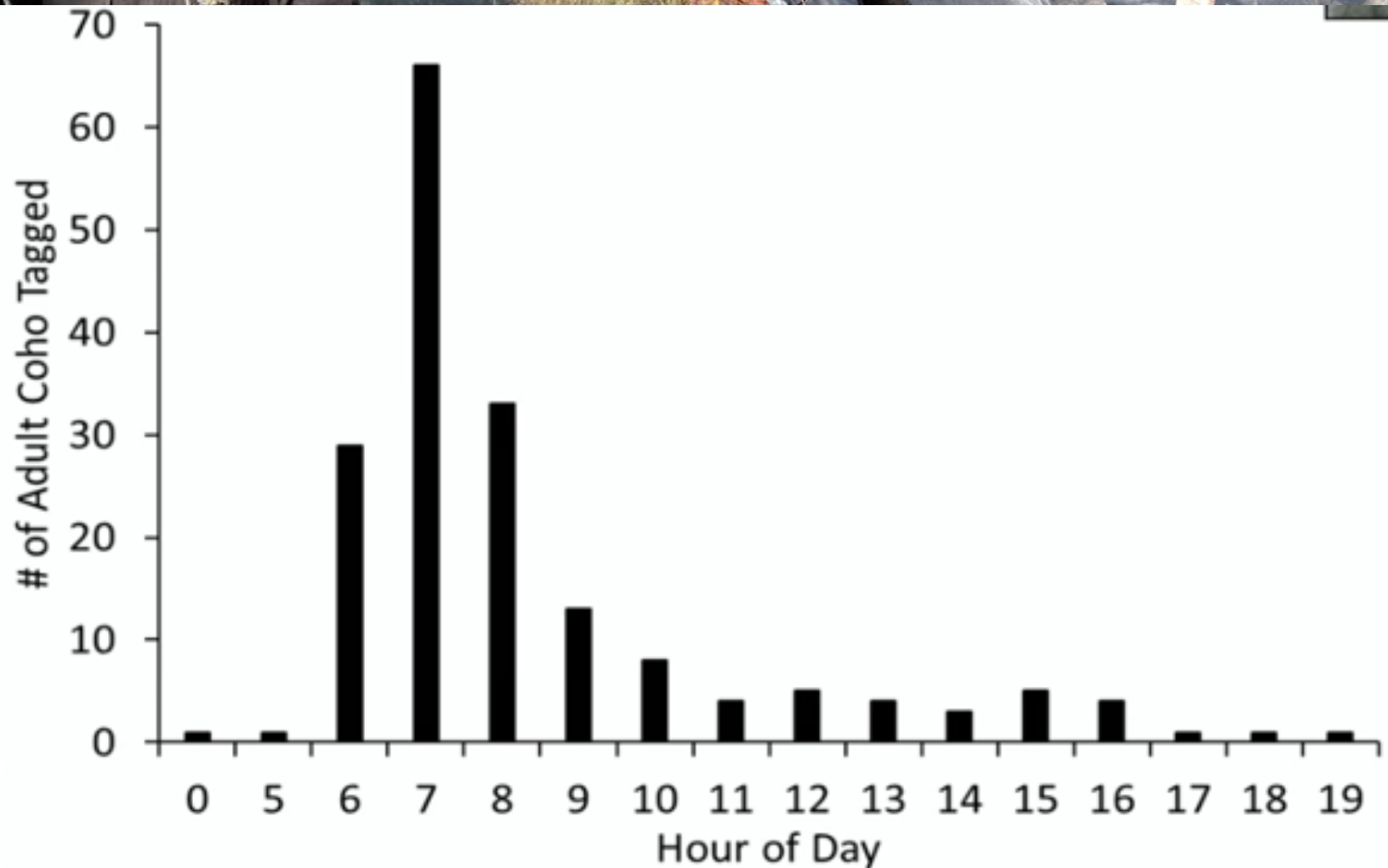
## Fall



# 2025 COHO



- Coho and locations
- Minor mo  
decent h



mary

t



# Positives of E-Tagging

Ease of tagging a fish. No more pen and knife needed.

Most users always have phone on hand and don't forget tag at home.

Reduces issuing duplicate tags.

No faded ink on permit

Generally, works offline

Can validate permit with another's phone.

I can see real time tagging data. Helps me plan my day when I see where fish are being caught. This was very beneficial in early parts of Season.

Can observe real-time e-tag submissions



