

## Chinook Salmon research using sound in Cowichan Bay August thru October 2019

Researchers from the University of Victoria, BC Conservation foundation, Cowichan Tribes and Fisheries and Oceans Canada will be conducting research on behavior and mortality of Chinook Salmon as they return to the Cowichan River to spawn this fall. Two to three boats will be fishing using hook and line in the bay to capture salmon. Each salmon (15) will then have a tag attached to them and then will be released. These tags send a sound signal that allow us to track their movement in real time in the bay and understand mortality. There will also be hydrophones (underwater microphones) on the sea floor all around Cowichan bay to help track where Chinook Salmon are in the bay and record to noise from other sources. Additional salmon (~200) will be tagged with a PIT tag that allows researchers to assess in the river movements and mortality, expanding on previous work. Information collected during this study will help in understanding movements of Chinook Salmon when they are in the bay, time spent before moving up river, mortality of Chinook Salmon as they return to spawn, and behavioral changes when ships are in the bay. If you have questions or want more information, please contact Kelsie Murchy at [kmurchy23@gmail.com](mailto:kmurchy23@gmail.com), 715-642-2223 or Jamieson Atkinson at [jatkinson@bccf.com](mailto:jatkinson@bccf.com), 250-327-1155.