

Fish Run Info for the North Fork Lewis River

Chinook Salmon are the largest fish caught from the Lewis River. Every year chinook over 30 pounds are caught. The spring run starts in March and reaches it's peak in May. Some chinook are still available in June. The runs are starting to build up again after reaching a low period. Fall chinook begin entering the river in September and usually finish before the end of October.

Large runs of **Coho Salmon** enter the river in September, October and into November. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife biologists found a wild coho salmon carcass that may have exceeded 30 pounds. Joe Hymer of the Department of Fish and Wildlife said the coho was so large it looked like a chinook. The coho had a 38-inch total length. Washington's freshwater record coho, taken from the Quinault River in 2001, weighed 25.27 pounds and was 32.28 inches total length.

Steelhead are in the river every month of the year. July is probably the best summer month and January is probably the best winter month. Reservoirs above the three Dams hold **Kokanee** and **Rainbow Trout**. Some years there is a strong Smelt run. Just a few smelt entered the North Fork in 2004 and they went right back out.

Fishing regulations fluctuate based on how many fish are forecast and how many actually arrive. Some fishing is always available