

## Wild and Wonderful BC Salmon

For those attending the Saturday Night GALA BANQUET and have chosen the Pan Seared Wild Salmon & Prawns Entrée, you are definitely in for a delectable surprise.

BC has five main species of salmon: Chinook, Chum, Coho, Pink, and Sockeye. Chinook salmon

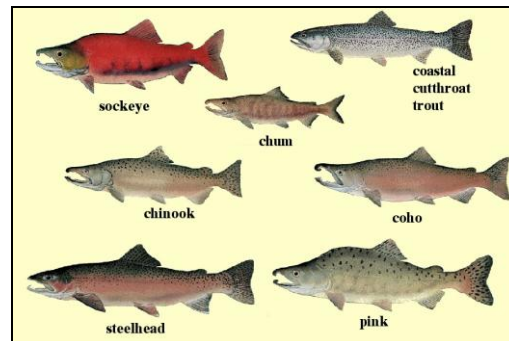


is the largest salmon, Pink salmon the smallest salmon in British Columbia's waters.

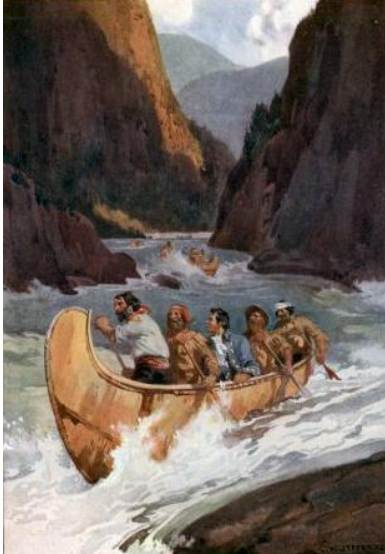
The salmon has long been at the heart of the culture and livelihood of coastal dwellers. Many people of the northern Pacific shore had a ceremony to honor the first return of the year. For many centuries, people caught salmon as they swam upriver to spawn.

All salmon spawn in fresh water, usually in streams. Many salmon, especially Pacific salmon spend their adult lives in the ocean, returning to their native streams to spawn. Unlike other salmonids, Pacific salmon die after spawning. They are famous for their ability to home precisely to their place of birth to spawn.

Many as “the greatest salmon river in the world” refer to the Fraser River. An enormous watershed consists of thousands and thousands of miles of healthy rivers and lakes, which are capable of producing and sustaining these large salmon runs that British Columbia is world renown.



The upper reaches of the Fraser River were first explored by [Sir Alexander Mackenzie](#) in 1793, and fully traced by Simon Fraser in 1808, who confirmed that it was not connected with the Columbia River. The [Vancouver Branch UELAC](#) has proven UE certification for the sons of these great explorers.



In 1828, [George Simpson](#) visited the river, mainly to examine [Fort Langley](#) and determine whether it would be suitable as the [Hudson's Bay Company's](#) main Pacific depot. Simpson had believed the Fraser River might be navigable throughout its length, even though Simon Fraser had described it as non-navigable. Simpson journeyed down the river and through the [Fraser Canyon](#) and later wrote, "I should consider the passage down, to be certain Death, in nine attempts out of ten. I shall therefore no longer talk about it as a navigable stream". His trip down the river convinced him that Fort Langley could not replace [Fort Vancouver](#) as the company's main depot on the Pacific coast.

Much of British Columbia's history has been bound to the Fraser, partly because it was the essential route between the Interior and the Lower Coast after the loss of the lands south of the 49th Parallel with the [Oregon Treaty](#) of 1846. It was the site of its first recorded settlements of Aboriginal people (see [Musqueam](#), [Sto:lo](#), [St'at'imc](#), [Secwepemc](#) and [Nlaka'pamux](#)), the route of multitudes of prospectors during the [Fraser Canyon Gold Rush](#) and the main vehicle of the province's early commerce and industry.

This river has been designated a [Canadian Heritage River](#) for its natural and human heritage.

For the fishing enthusiast amongst the attendees, the Chinook salmon has always been BC sport fishing's crown jewel. This trophy fish can tip the scales at more than 32kg/70lb. Also other species promise anglers the fight of their fishing lives.

“Wild salmon from British Columbia, Canada is one of the most spectacular seafood products in the world! Created and nourished by nature’s goodness, it has earned an international reputation as a premium quality, highly nutritious and delicious natural product.

Harvested for centuries along the west coast of Canada with the utmost skill, care and pride, wild BC salmon has become an integral part of BC’s environment, culture and economy. Today, the BC salmon fishermen and processors ship their prized catch to markets around the globe, and with their deep-rooted pride and commitment to the resource, wild BC salmon is sure to delight salmon lovers world-wide for generations to come!” Source: © 2014 British Columbia Salmon Marketing Council.

**Keep checking the Victoria Branch Web site for upcoming News on Conference 2015**

Please visit the Victoria Branch website at

<http://www.uelac.org/uelvictoria/UELAC-Conference-2015-Victoria-BC.htm>

Conference 2015 Planning Committee Victoria, BC

