

A Fishing Excursion

AIM

To learn to recognize different types of salmon, both male and female, and describe their life cycle.

Salmon and other migratory fish come by the millions through the cold, clear mountain streams of the Northwest coast. These salmon return to the original spawning grounds they were born in to lay their eggs in the streams. Sometimes these salmon will travel over a thousand miles up the Columbia River and its tributaries to lay their eggs and then die. Shortly afterwards, after a few months when the newborn salmon reach the smolt age they begin to travel down the waterways to the sea where they will grow to maturity. When fully mature the salmon make a run for the freshwater streams again.

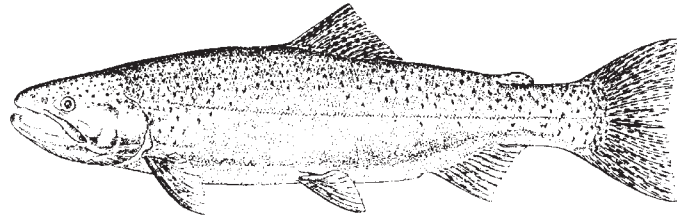


The male salmon develops a hooked jaw along this journey and both male and female go through color changes. A complex life cycle is completed and begins again.

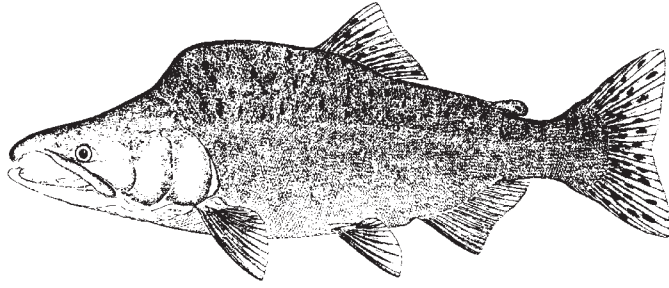
Salmon and steelhead are constantly being threatened by the hands of man. Agriculture uses water and produces flows in the streams that are often dirty, warm, and contaminated with chemical poisons harmful to fish and fish food. Logging destroys watersheds and spawning areas. Cities and industries pollute the rivers with waste. Dams and irrigation channels upset the patterns of water flow, change its temperatures and present barriers to fish that are impossible to jump or go around. Add to this list that commercial fishermen sometimes overharvest. The balance of nature is very sensitive.

1. Study the fish closely on the back of this card until you can recognize each one.
2. Cut the fish out and lay them face down in the stream (on the table).
3. To start the game, each player should catch two fish. If the fish are a matching pair (a male and female of the same variety), then keep those two fish. If not, throw one back in the stream face down.
4. Then take turns drawing one fish each turn until you have a pair you can keep. After each time you make a pair, draw two cards as on the first turn. Whoever has the most pairs when the stream is empty wins.

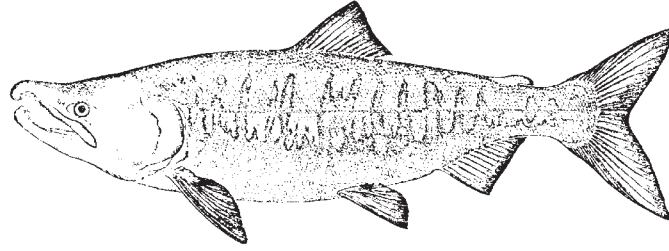
A FISHING EXCURSION 11-B



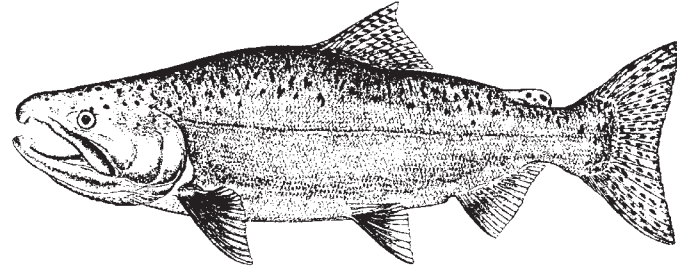
Steelhead
(Male)



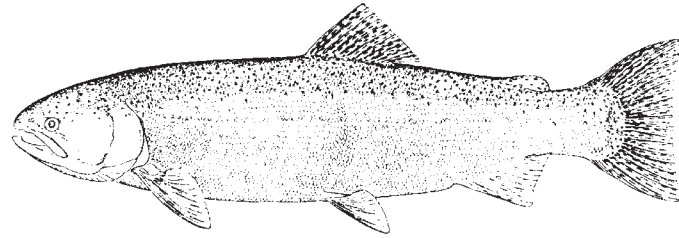
Pink Salmon or
Humpback (Male)



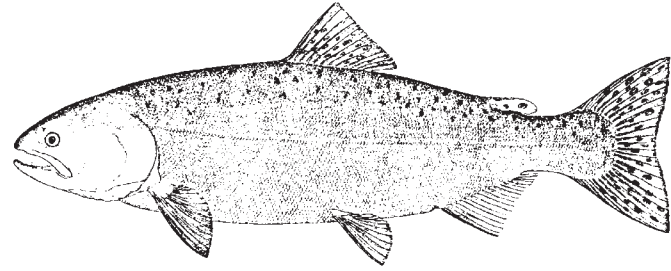
Chum or Dog
Salmon (Male)



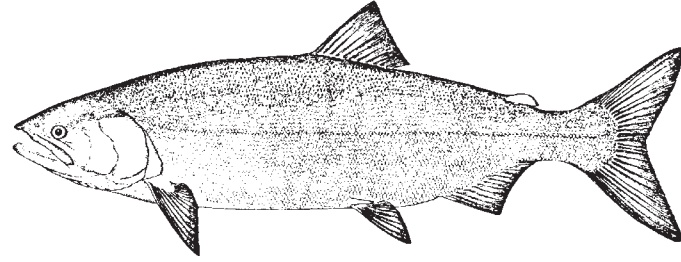
King Salmon or
Chinook (Male)



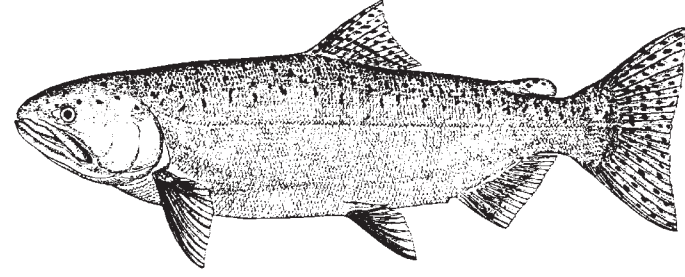
Steelhead
(Female)



Pink Salmon
(Female)



Chum or Dog
Salmon (Female)



King Salmon or
Chinook (Female)