



## NEWS RELEASE

# Interpreters share the story of the Okanagan River's Sockeye salmon's 6000-km journey to the ocean and back

**September 30, 2025-** Did you know that the Okanagan River is the only remaining British Columbia Sockeye Salmon Spawning grounds in the Columbia watershed? Join interpreter Lee McFadyen to learn about the many salmon spawning enhancement projects along the Okanagan River and the fascinating life cycle of ocean-going fish. After the 2024 record Okanagan run, the 2025 run is naturally smaller, and further reduced by overly warm water temperatures. The successful return of the sockeye from near extirpation numbers to current healthy numbers, is a direct result of the ONA initiatives.

The Okanagan Similkameen Conservation Alliance (OSCA) and the Okanagan Nation Alliance are hosting two "Celebrate Our Salmon" open houses along the Okanagan River. The first open house is **Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup> 10am -12pm** at the **Okanagan River Restoration Initiative site just North of Oliver**. The second open house will also be on **Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup> 1:30pm-3:30pm** in **Penticton at the newly completed Okanagan Lake Fish Passage on the east side of the Dam** at the south outlet of Okanagan Lake.

Everyone is invited to celebrate the sockeye salmon returning after their challenging 6000-kilometre journey to the ocean and back.

The events run rain or shine. For more information contact Ella Braden at 250 809 6774 or [ecostudies@osca.org](mailto:ecostudies@osca.org).

**Oliver –Saturday, October 11th 10:00am to 12:00 pm**  
Okanagan River Restoration Site  
Parking at Oliver Visitors Centre, 6431 Station Street  
The site is an easy 1 km walk north along the bike and hike path. Wheelchair accessible.

**Penticton – Saturday, October 11th 1:30pm to 3:30pm**  
Okanagan Lake Fish Passage east of the Okanagan Lake Dam. Near the Rose Garden and Loco Landing Adventure Park. 75 Riverside Drive.



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