



## *Eulachon are returning to the Skeena River*

### FORECAST

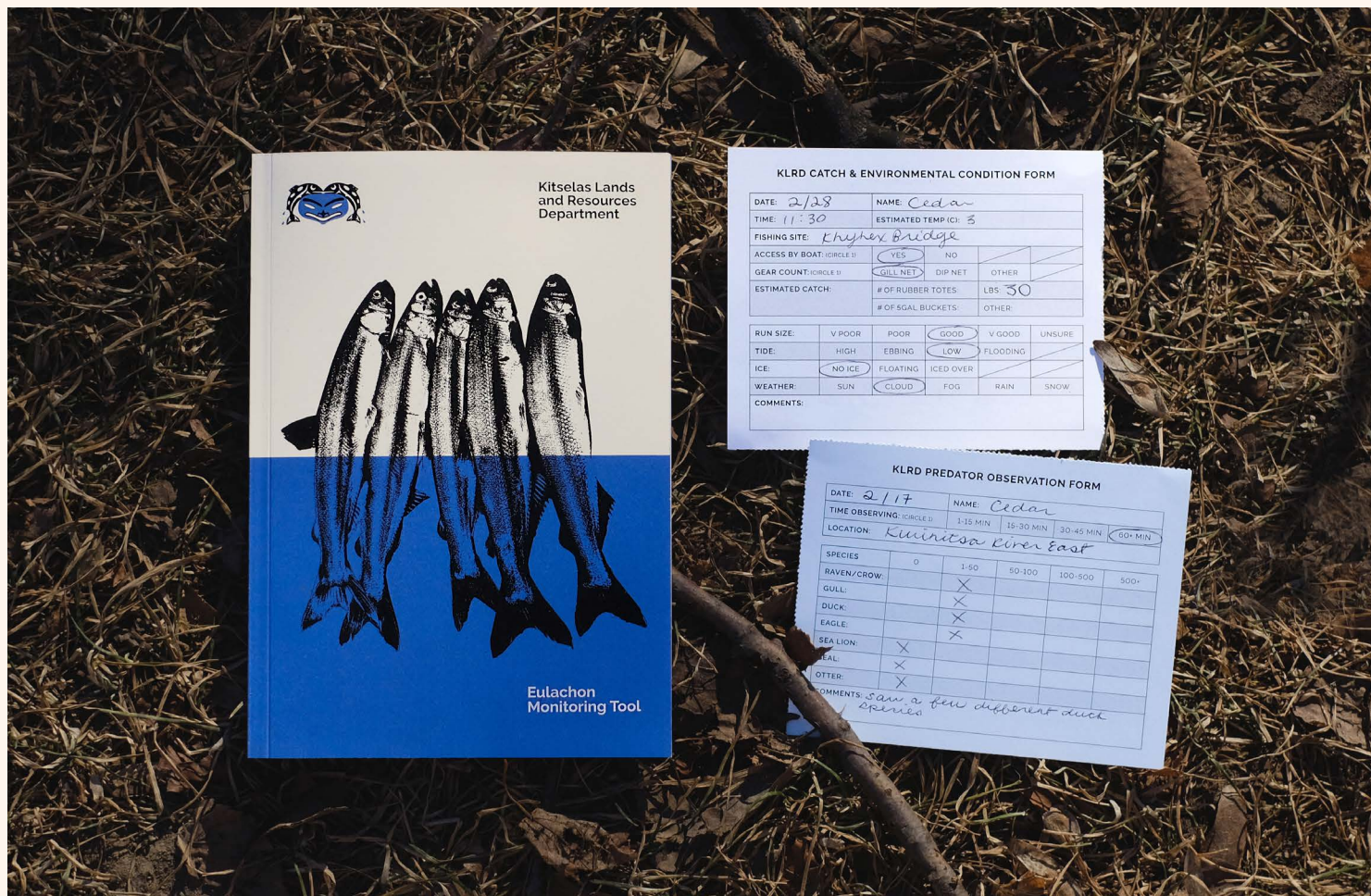
THE AVERAGE START OF THE SKEENA EULACHON (W̱AH) RUN HAS BEEN AROUND THE 3RD - 4TH WEEK OF FEBRUARY. EVEN THOUGH THE RIVER WAS ICE FREE AROUND THAT TIME LAST YEAR, EULACHON WERE NOT CAUGHT UNTIL WELL AFTER MARCH 1ST. THIS MEANS THAT THE 2021 RUN STARTED LATER THAN WHAT KLRD HAS SEEN RECENTLY, AND WE COULD EXPECT THE SAME IN 2022.

### *While Out Food Fishing*

Fishers last year reported having a much harder time catching Eulachon despite spending longer times on the river. Dip netting was more successful at night, while setting nets worked better during the daytime. If you plan to do your own Eulachon fishing this year, please:

- Make sure you have your band membership card with you.
- Report your estimated catch by phone or email at 250-641-7616 or [seniorRSO@kitselas.com](mailto:seniorRSO@kitselas.com), or by submitting a Eulachon Monitoring Tool catch form.
- Practice caution on the river, especially when it is icy!
- Do not leave nets in the water unattended. If you plan on leaving, please have your name and phone number visibly marked on your net.





## Eulachon Monitoring Tool

This year, KLRD is excited to launch the Eulachon Monitoring Tool. This tool is both an educational resource and monitoring tool for KFN community members to help collect important information about the Skeena River Eulachon run.

We encourage you to bring your Eulachon Monitoring Tool with you when you go out fishing! Complete the tearaway monitoring forms with your catch information and observation of predators.

The information collected with this monitoring tool will support KLRD's existing programs and help Kitselas to make informed fisheries management

and conservation decisions, so that this cultural and food resource can remain a part of Kitselas culture for generations to come. Community participation in monitoring the run is vital for protecting and sustaining this important species. We are relying on Kitselas community members to help us enhance the data KLRD is already collecting.

You can pick up a booklet or submit your completed monitoring forms by contacting the KLRD Senior Resource Stewardship Officer by phone at 250-641-7616 and by email at [seniorRSO@kitselas.com](mailto:seniorRSO@kitselas.com)