
Columbia River Action Notice

Compact Action

Joint State Action

Oregon State Action

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

May 15, 2006

The Columbia River Compact agencies of Oregon and Washington met today to review spring Chinook stock status and took the following actions:

Non-Indian Fisheries

Spring Commercial Salmon Fishery

- Adopted a non-Indian commercial salmon season as follows:

Season: 2 PM to midnight Tuesday May 16 (10 hrs)

Area: Mouth to Kelley Point (Zones 1 - 4).

Sanctuaries: Grays River, Elokom-B, Abernathy Creek, Cowlitz River, Kalama-B, and Lewis-B sanctuaries will be in effect.

Gear: 8" minimum and 9-¾" maximum mesh size restrictions in effect.
Net length not to exceed 150 fathoms.
Use of monofilament nets is allowed.

Allowable Sales: Adipose fin-clipped Chinook salmon, sturgeon, and shad.

A maximum of eight green or white sturgeon in the aggregate may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday) of the open fishing period. Maximum green sturgeon size limit is 60". The eight sturgeon possession and sales limit includes both mainstem and Select Area fisheries.

Participants: Columbia River commercial fishers with appropriate licenses and legal gear that attended a state-sponsored workshop concerning live capture commercial fishing techniques and possess a certificate that allows participation in this fishery.

Owners or operators of commercial fishing vessels must cooperate with Department observers or observers collecting data for the Department, when notified by the observer of their intent to board the commercial vessel for observation and sampling during an open fishery.

Miscellaneous Regulations: As adopted at January 26, 2006 Compact hearing:

Soak times, defined as time elapsed from when the first mesh enters the water to when the last mesh leaves the water, must not exceed 45 minutes.

Miscellaneous Regulations continued:

Red corks are required at 25-fathom intervals and red corks must be in contrast to the corks used in the remainder of the net.

Use of recovery boxes will be required on all lethargic or bleeding salmon or steelhead.

Each vessel participating in this fishery is required to have two operable recovery boxes or one box with two chambers in place. Operable recovery boxes require a flow of 16-20 gallons per minute to each chamber of the box(es). Each box must be operating during any time that the net is being retrieved or picked.

Lighted buoys are required on each end of nets being fished between sunset and sunrise.

Washington Reporting Rule

WDFW adopted a regulation requiring all Washington wholesale buyers purchasing fish from commercial fisheries to send a report of their landings to WDFW by 10 AM on the day after the purchase date via either:

- a. Fax transmission to (360) 906-6776 or (360) 906-6777
- b. E-mail to crfishtickets@dfw.wa.gov
- c. Telephone to 1-866-791-1281

Joint State Action

In joint Oregon and Washington state action the states discussed the following mainstem Columbia sport fisheries and took the following actions:

Non-Indian Sport Fisheries

Mainstem Columbia River Spring Chinook Sport Fishery

- Modified the ongoing sport salmon season as follows:

Area: Tongue Point upstream to the Bonneville Dam.

Dates: May 17 – June 15, 2006 or until guideline is reached.

Catch Restrictions: **Oregon:** Two adult adipose fin-clipped Chinook salmon or adipose fin-clipped steelhead may be retained per day.

Washington: Two adult adipose fin-clipped Chinook salmon **and** two adipose fin-clipped steelhead may be retained per day.

All non-adipose fin-clipped Chinook salmon and non-adipose fin-clipped steelhead must be released immediately unharmed.

Catch limits for jacks remain in effect as per permanent regulations.

Miscellaneous Regulations: For the mainstem Columbia River salmon and steelhead fishery upstream of the Rocky Point/Tongue Point line to McNary Dam effective during May 17 through June 15, 2006 "It is unlawful when fishing from vessels which are less than 30 feet in length, substantiated by Coast Guard documentation or Marine Board registration, to totally remove from the water any salmon or steelhead required to be released".

Oregon State Action

The state of Oregon took the following actions:

Non-Indian Commercial Fisheries

Youngs Bay Select Area (Zone 7) Commercial Salmon Fisheries

- Open waters in Youngs Bay are under Oregon State jurisdiction.
- Modified the ongoing commercial salmon seasons as follows:
 - **Retention of non-adipose fin-clipped spring Chinook is prohibited from 2 PM Tuesday May 16 through May 21, 2006**

FUTURE MEETINGS

- A Columbia River Compact hearing is scheduled for 9:00 AM Thursday May 18, 2006 via teleconference to review spring Chinook stock status and consider additional commercial fishing periods.
- For information concerning these decisions see May 15, 2006 Spring Fact Sheet #2. http://www.dfw.state.or.us/OSCRP/CRM/FS/06/06_may_15fact.pdf
- Recorded Sport Fishery Updates and Action Notices can be accessed by calling (503) 657-2000 ext. 392.
- Recorded Columbia River "Mainstem" Commercial Fishery Updates and Action Notices can be accessed by calling (503) 657-2000 ext. 391.
- Recorded lower Columbia River "Select Area" Commercial Fishery Updates and Action Notices can be accessed by calling (503) 657-2000 ext. 396.

Note: Joint Staff Reports, Fact Sheets, and Columbia River Action Notices are also available through the Internet at: <http://www.dfw.state.or.us/ODFWhtml/InfoCntrFish/InterFish/Index.html>