
Columbia River Fishery Notice

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

January 28, 2015

Compact Action

The Columbia River Compact agencies of Oregon and Washington met today and took the following actions:

Non-Indian Fisheries

Mainstem Columbia River Commercial Smelt Fishery

- Adopted a season as follows:

Season: Mondays and Thursdays from 7 AM – 2 PM (7 hrs)
February 2 through February 26, 2015.

Area: Zones 1–3.

Gear: Gillnet only. Specifications per permanent regulations.

Allowable Sales: Smelt

Washington Reporting Rule: 24-hour quick reporting will be required for Washington wholesale dealers, per WAC 220-69-240.

Mainstem Columbia River Winter/Spring Commercial Salmon Fishery

- Endorsed the following 2015 Winter/Spring Pre-Season Commercial Chinook Fishing Plan:
 - ✓ Manage mainstem commercial fisheries to remain within commission allocation and catch balancing guidelines.
 - ✓ Test fishing is expected to occur on Sundays and/or Tuesdays beginning in mid-March.
 - ✓ Compact hearings to occur on Mondays and/or Wednesdays, if test fishing results are positive.
 - ✓ Full fleet fisheries are expected to occur on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays of each week, but may be scheduled on other days in order to maintain flexibility in developing fishing seasons. Results from Tuesday fisheries will determine whether fishing occurs on Thursdays.
 - ✓ Fisheries may be conducted during daylight and nighttime hours, dependent upon water conditions and to minimize conflicts between user groups.
 - ✓ Fisheries may occur in Zones 1-5.
 - ✓ Based on test fishing results, fishing periods could begin by late March, primarily depending on steelhead abundance.
 - ✓ Only tangle net gear will be used (4¼-inch maximum mesh size) unless adaptive management is initiated.
 - ✓ Additional fishing periods may occur after run size updates are available.
 - ✓ Test fishing may continue throughout the winter/spring season to collect biological data and maintain historic test fishing databases.

Select Area Fisheries

- The following fisheries were adopted by Compact action in concurrent OR/WA jurisdiction waters and by the state of Oregon or Washington in state waters.

Youngs Bay Commercial Salmon Fishery (Zone 7)

- Adopted seasons as follows:

Winter Season

6 AM – midnight Monday February 9	(18 hours)
6 AM – 6 PM Wednesday February 11	(12 hours)
6 AM – midnight Thursday February 12	(18 hours)
6 AM – midnight Monday February 16	(18 hours)
6 AM – 6 PM Wednesday February 18	(12 hours)
6 AM – midnight Thursday February 19	(18 hours)
6 AM – midnight Monday February 23	(18 hours)
6 AM – 6 PM Wednesday February 25	(12 hours)
6 AM – midnight Thursday February 26	(18 hours)
6 AM – midnight Monday March 2	(18 hours)
6 AM – 6 PM Wednesday March 4	(12 hours)
6 AM – midnight Thursday March 5	(18 hours)
9 AM – 1 PM Monday March 9	(4 hours)
11 AM – 3 PM Wednesday March 11	(4 hours)
12 PM – 4 PM Thursday March 12	(4 hours)
4 PM – 8 PM Monday March 16	(4 hours)
6 PM – 10 PM Wednesday March 18	(4 hours)
7 PM – 11 PM Thursday March 19	(4 hours)
9 AM – 1 PM Monday March 23	(4 hours)
11 AM – 3 PM Wednesday March 25	(4 hours)
12 PM – 4 PM Thursday March 26	(4 hours)
10 AM – 2 PM Monday March 30	(4 hours)

Spring Season

8 PM – midnight Tuesday April 21	(4 hours)
9 PM Thursday April 23 – 3 AM Friday April 24	(6 hours)
7 PM Tuesday April 28 – 7 AM Wednesday April 29	(12 hours)
7 PM Thursday April 30 – 7 AM Friday May 1	(12 hours)
9 AM Monday May 4 – 3 AM Tuesday May 5	(18 hours)
9 AM – 9 PM Wednesday May 6	(12 hours)
9 AM Thursday May 7 – 3 AM Friday May 8	(18 hours)
Noon Monday May 11 – noon Friday May 15	(4 days)
Noon Monday May 18 – noon Friday May 22	(4 days)
Noon Monday May 25 – noon Friday May 29	(4 days)
Noon Monday June 1 – noon Friday June 5	(4 days)
Noon Monday June 8 – noon Friday June 12	(4 days)

Summer Season

Noon Tuesday June 16 – noon Friday June 19	(3 days)
Noon Monday June 22 – noon Friday June 26	(4 days)
Noon Monday June 29 – noon Friday July 3	(4 days)
Noon Monday July 6 – noon Thursday July 9	(3 days)
Noon Tuesday July 14 – noon Thursday July 16	(2 days)
Noon Tuesday July 21 – noon Thursday July 23	(2 days)
Noon Tuesday July 28 – noon Thursday July 30	(2 days)

Area: The waters of Youngs Bay from the Highway 101 Bridge upstream to the upper boundary markers at the confluence of the Klaskanine and Youngs rivers including the lower Walluski River upstream to the Highway 202 Bridge. During the winter season, those waters southerly of the alternate Highway 101 Bridge (Lewis and Clark River) are closed. During the spring and summer seasons, the Youngs Bay fishing area includes the lower Lewis and Clark River upstream to the overhead power lines immediately upstream of Barrett Slough.

Net restricted to maximum length of 250 fathoms and weight on leadline not to exceed two pounds in any one fathom.

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

Use of additional weights and/or anchors attached directly to the leadline is allowed upstream of markers located approximately 200 yards upstream of the mouth of the Walluski River and in the Lewis and Clark River upstream of the alternate Highway 101 Bridge.

Miscellaneous Regulations: Permanent regulations including rules related to transportation and lighted buoys remain in effect.

Tongue Point/South Channel Commercial Salmon Fishery (Zone 71)

- Adopted seasons as follows:

Winter Season

Open 7 PM to 7 AM (12 hours) on the following nights:

Tongue Point and South Channel	Monday February 9 – Tuesday February 10	(1 night)
	Thursday February 12 – Friday February 13	(1 night)
	Monday February 16 – Tuesday February 17	(1 night)
	Thursday February 19 – Friday February 20	(1 night)
	Monday February 23 – Tuesday February 24	(1 night)
	Thursday February 26 – Friday February 27	(1 night)
	Monday March 2 – Tuesday March 3	(1 night)
	Thursday March 5 – Friday March 6	(1 night)
	Monday March 9 – Tuesday March 10	(1 night)
	Thursday March 12 – Friday March 13	(1 night)

Spring Season

8 PM – midnight Tuesday April 21 (4 hours)

9 PM Thursday April 23 – 3 AM Friday April 24 (6 hours)

Open 7 PM to 7 AM (12 hours) on the following nights:

Tuesday April 28 – Wednesday April 29 (1 night)

Thursday April 30 – Friday May 1 (1 night)

Monday May 4 – Tuesday May 5 (1 night)

Thursday May 7 – Friday May 8 (1 night)

Monday May 11 – Tuesday May 12 (1 night)

Thursday May 14 – Friday May 15 (1 night)

Monday May 18 – Tuesday May 19 (1 night)

Thursday May 21 – Friday May 22 (1 night)

Monday May 25 – Tuesday May 26 (1 night)

Thursday May 28 – Friday May 29 (1 night)

Monday June 1 – Tuesday June 2 (1 night)

Thursday June 4 – Friday June 5 (1 night)

Monday June 8 – Tuesday June 9 (1 night)

Thursday June 11 – Friday June 12 (1 night)

Area: The winter and spring season Tongue Point fishing area includes all waters bounded by a line extended from the upstream (southernmost) pier (#1) at the Tongue Point Job Corps facility through navigation marker #6 to Mott Island, a line from a marker at the southeast end of Mott Island northeasterly to a marker on the northwest tip of Lois Island, and a line from a marker on the southwest end of Lois Island westerly to a marker on the Oregon shore.

Tongue Point:

South Channel: The South Channel area includes all waters bounded by a line from a marker on John Day Point through the green USCG buoy #7 to a marker on the southwest end of Lois Island upstream to an upper boundary line from a marker on Settler Point northwesterly to the flashing red USCG marker #10, northwesterly to a marker on Burnside Island defining the upstream terminus of South Channel.

Tongue Point: Net restricted to maximum length of 250 fathoms and weight on leadline not to exceed two pounds in any one fathom.

South Channel: Nets restricted to maximum length of 250 fathoms with no weight restriction on leadline. Use of additional weights and/or anchors attached directly to the leadline is allowed.

Miscellaneous Regulations: Permanent regulations including rules related to transportation and lighted buoys remain in effect.

Blind Slough (Zone 74) and Knappa Slough (Zone 73) Commercial Salmon Fishery

- Adopted seasons as follows:

Winter Season

Open 7 PM to 7 AM (12 hours) on the following nights:

Blind Slough and Knappa Slough	Monday February 9 – Tuesday February 10	(1 night)	
	Thursday February 12 – Friday February 13	(1 night)	
	Monday February 16 – Tuesday February 17	(1 night)	
	Thursday February 19 – Friday February 20	(1 night)	
	Monday February 23- Tuesday February 24	(1 night)	
	Thursday February 26 – Friday February 27	(1 night)	
	Monday March 2 – Tuesday March 3	(1 night)	
	Thursday March 5 – Friday March 6	(1 night)	
	Monday March 9 – Tuesday March 10	(1 night)	
	Thursday March 12 – Friday March 13	(1 night)	
	Monday March 16 – Tuesday March 17	(1 night)	
	Thursday March 19 – Friday March 20	(1 night)	
	Blind Slough only	Monday March 23 – Tuesday March 24	(1 night)
		Thursday March 26 – Friday March 27	(1 night)
Monday March 30 – Tuesday March 31		(1 night)	

Spring Season

Open 7 PM to 7 AM (12 hours) on the following nights:

Blind Slough and Knappa Slough	Tuesday April 21 – Wednesday April 22	(1 night)
	Thursday April 23 – Friday April 24	(1 night)
	Tuesday April 28 – Wednesday April 29	(1 night)
	Thursday April 30 – Friday May 1	(1 night)
	Monday May 4 – Tuesday May 5	(1 night)
	Thursday May 7 – Friday May 8	(1 night)
	Monday May 11 – Tuesday May 12	(1 night)
	Thursday May 14 – Friday May 15	(1 night)
	Monday May 18 – Tuesday May 19	(1 night)
	Thursday May 21 – Friday May 22	(1 night)
	Monday May 25 – Tuesday May 26	(1 night)
	Thursday May 28 – Friday May 29	(1 night)
	Monday June 1 – Tuesday June 2	(1 night)
	Thursday June 4 – Friday June 5	(1 night)
	Monday June 8 – Tuesday June 9	(1 night)
	Thursday June 11 – Friday June 12	(1 night)

Area: Open waters extend from markers at the mouth of Blind Slough
Blind Slough: upstream to markers at the mouth of Gnat Creek which is located approximately ½ mile upstream of the county road bridge.

Knappa Slough: Open to fishing in all waters bounded by a line from the northerly most marker at the mouth of Blind Slough westerly to a marker on Karlson Island downstream to a north-south line defined by a marker on the eastern end of Minaker Island to markers on Karlson Island and the Oregon shore.

May 4 – June 12 the lower boundary of the Knappa Slough fishing area is extended downstream to boundary lines defined by markers on the west end of Minaker Island to markers on Karlson Island and the Oregon shore (fall boundary).

Nets restricted to maximum length of 100 fathoms with no weight restriction on leadline. Use of additional weights and/or anchors attached directly to the leadline is allowed.

Miscellaneous Regulations: Permanent regulations including rules related to transportation and lighted buoys remain in effect.

Note: New catch reporting codes have been established for Blind Slough and Knappa Slough to facilitate separation of landings and sampling for winter and spring fisheries.

In accordance with OAR 635-006-0210(2)(h) and WACs 220-69-230(1)(i) and 220-22-010(9)(a-b), commercial fishers are expected, and fish dealers are required, to report landings for winter-spring fisheries in Knappa and Blind Slough separately.

Fish dealers are requested to keep harvest from these two sites separate to aid in sampling.

Deep River Commercial Salmon Fishery (Zone 80)

- Adopted seasons as follows:

Winter Season

Open 7 PM to 7 AM (12 hours) on the following nights:

Monday February 9 – Tuesday February 10	(1 night)
Thursday February 12 – Friday February 13	(1 night)
Monday February 16 – Tuesday February 17	(1 night)
Thursday February 19 – Friday February 20	(1 night)
Monday February 23 – Tuesday February 24	(1 night)
Thursday February 26 – Friday February 27	(1 night)
Monday March 2 – Tuesday March 3	(1 night)
Thursday March 5 – Friday March 6	(1 night)
Monday March 9 – Tuesday March 10	(1 night)
Thursday March 12 – Friday March 13	(1 night)
Monday March 16 – Tuesday March 17	(1 night)
Thursday March 19 – Friday March 20	(1 night)
Monday March 23 – Tuesday March 24	(1 night)
Thursday March 26 – Friday March 27	(1 night)
Monday March 30 – Tuesday March 31	(1 night)

Spring Season

Open 7 PM to 7 AM (12 hours) on the following nights:

Thursday April 16 – Friday April 17	(1 night)
Tuesday April 21 – Wednesday April 22	(1 night)
Thursday April 23 – Friday April 24	(1 night)
Tuesday April 28 – Wednesday April 29	(1 night)
Thursday April 30 – Friday May 1	(1 night)
Monday May 4 – Tuesday May 5	(1 night)
Thursday May 7 – Friday May 8	(1 night)
Monday May 11 – Tuesday May 12	(1 night)
Thursday May 14 – Friday May 15	(1 night)
Monday May 18 – Tuesday May 19	(1 night)
Thursday May 21 – Friday May 22	(1 night)
Monday May 25 – Tuesday May 26	(1 night)
Thursday May 28 – Friday May 29	(1 night)
Monday June 1 – Tuesday June 2	(1 night)
Thursday June 4 – Friday June 5	(1 night)
Monday June 8 – Tuesday June 9	(1 night)
Thursday June 11 – Friday June 12	(1 night)

Area: Deep River is open to fishing from the markers at USCG navigation marker #16 upstream to the Highway 4 Bridge.

Gear: Net restricted to a maximum length of 100 fathoms and no weight restriction on leadline. Use of additional weights and/or anchors attached directly to the leadline is allowed. Nets are not allowed to be tied off of any stationary structures. Nets are not allowed to fully cross the navigation channel. It is unlawful to operate in any river, stream or channel any gill net longer than three-fourths the width of the stream (WAC 220-20-015 (1)).

It shall be unlawful in any area to use, operate, or carry aboard a commercial fishing vessel a licensed net or combination of such nets, whether fished singly or separately, in excess of the maximum lawful size or length prescribed for a single net in that area, except as otherwise provided for in the rules and regulations of the department WAC 220-20-010 (17).

Miscellaneous Regulations: Transportation or possession of fish outside the fishing area (except to the sampling station) is unlawful until WDFW staff has biologically sampled individual catches. After sampling, fishers will be issued a transportation permit by WDFW staff.

During the winter season fishers are required to call 360-795-0319 for the location and time of sampling.

During the spring season a sampling station will be established at WDFW's Oneida Road boat ramp, 0.5 miles upstream of the Deep River area downstream boundary (USCG navigation marker #16).

Permanent regulations including rules related to lighted buoys remain in effect.

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- **The following Gear, Allowable Sales and Washington Reporting Rule applies to all Select Area commercial seasons adopted above.**

Gear: 7-inch minimum mesh size restriction is in effect during the winter season.

9³/₄-inch maximum mesh size restriction is in effect during the spring and summer seasons.

Nets not specifically authorized for use in these areas may be onboard a vessel if properly stored. A properly stored net is defined as a net on a drum that is fully covered by a tarp (canvas or plastic) and bound with a minimum of ten revolutions of rope with a diameter of 3/8 (0.375) inches or greater.

Allowable Sales: Salmon and shad. Retention and sale of sturgeon is prohibited.

Washington Reporting Rule 24-hour quick reporting will be required for Washington wholesale dealers, per WAC 220-69-240.

Treaty Indian Fisheries

Platform and Hook and Line Fishery

- Adopted a season as follows:

Season: 6 AM Monday February 2 through 5:59 AM Monday February 23, 2015.
Area: Bonneville Pool.
Gear: Hoop nets, dip bag nets, and rod and reel with hook and line.
Allowable Sales: Salmon, steelhead, shad, carp, catfish, walleye, bass, and yellow perch. Sturgeon between 38-54 inches in fork length may not be sold but may be kept for subsistence purposes. Live release of all oversize and undersize sturgeon is required.

Winter Gillnet Commercial Fisheries

- Adopted a season as follows:

Season: 6 AM Monday February 23 through 6 PM Saturday March 21, 2015.
Area: Bonneville Pool.
Gear: Gill nets (no mesh restriction), hoop nets, dip bag nets, and rod and reel with hook and line.
Allowable Sales: Salmon, steelhead, shad, carp, catfish, walleye, bass, and yellow perch. Sturgeon between 38-54 inches in fork length may be sold or retained for subsistence purposes. Live release of all oversize and undersize sturgeon is required.

- Adopted a season as follows:

Season: 6 AM Monday February 2 through 6 PM Friday February 20, 2015.
Area: The Dalles and John Day Pools.
Gear: Gill nets (no mesh restriction), hoop nets, dip bag nets, and rod and reel with hook and line.
Allowable Sales: Salmon, steelhead, shad, carp, catfish, walleye, bass, and yellow perch. Sturgeon between 43-54 inches in fork length may be sold or retained for subsistence purposes. Live release of all oversize and undersize sturgeon is required.

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- **The following Sanctuaries, Allowable Sales, and Washington Reporting Rule applies to all Treaty Indian seasons adopted above:**

Sanctuaries: All standard dam and river mouth sanctuaries are in effect.
Allowable Sales: Fish landed during an open commercial period may be sold after the period concludes.
Washington Reporting Rule: 24-hour quick reporting required for Washington wholesale dealers, per WAC 220-69-240. Landings must be reported within 24-hours of completing the fish ticket.

Joint State Action

The states of Oregon and Washington discussed the following recreational fisheries and took the following actions:

Mainstem Columbia River Recreational Spring Chinook Fishery

- The mainstem Columbia River from the mouth at Buoy 10 upstream to the I-5 Bridge is currently open under permanent regulations.
- Effective March 1, 2015 the permanent regulations have been modified as follows:

Downstream of Bonneville Dam

- Area:** Buoy 10 upstream to Beacon Rock (boat and bank) plus bank only from Beacon Rock upstream to Bonneville Dam.
Legal upstream boat boundary defined as: “A deadline marker on the Oregon bank (approximately four miles downstream from Bonneville Dam Powerhouse One) in a straight line through the western tip of Pierce Island to a deadline marker on the Washington bank at Beacon Rock.”
- Dates:** Open Sunday March 1 – Friday April 10, 2015. Closed to salmon and steelhead angling on the following Tuesdays: March 24, March 31, and April 7.
- Catch Limits:** Two adult adipose fin-clipped salmonids per day, only one of which may be a Chinook.

Bonneville Dam to Oregon/Washington Border

- Area:** Tower Island powerlines (approximately 6 miles below The Dalles Dam) upstream to Oregon/Washington border plus bank only between Bonneville Dam and the Tower Island power lines.
- Dates:** Monday March 16 – Wednesday May 6, 2015.
- Catch Limits:** Two adult adipose fin-clipped salmonids per day, only one of which may be a Chinook.

The following additional regulations apply to both mainstem recreational fisheries adopted above.

Anglers fishing for salmon, steelhead or sturgeon in the Columbia River and its tributaries will be required to have a Columbia River Basin endorsement. See a [map of the Basin and get more information](#).

All other permanent regulations remain in effect, including catch limits for jacks and the use of barbless hooks when fishing for salmon, steelhead, or trout.

- Season modifications may be required to remain within harvest guidelines.

Mainstem Columbia River Recreational Steelhead and Shad Fishery

- Modified the permanent regulations as follows:

Effective Sunday March 1 through Friday May 15, 2015, the mainstem Columbia River will be open for retention of adipose fin-clipped steelhead and shad only during days and in areas open for retention of adipose fin-clipped spring Chinook.

Select Area Recreational Salmon Fisheries

- Modified the permanent regulations as follows:

Effective Sunday March 1 through Monday June 15, 2015, on days when the mainstem Columbia River recreational fishery below Bonneville Dam is open to retention of Chinook, the salmonid daily bag limit in Oregon and Washington Select Areas will be the same as mainstem Columbia River bag limits.

On days when the mainstem Columbia River fishery is closed to Chinook retention, permanent salmonid bag limit regulations for Select Areas apply.

Oregon Tributary Recreational Smelt Fishery

- Adopted a smelt season as follows:

Season: Saturday March 7 and Sunday March 15, 2015.
Open hours 6 AM to noon.
Area: Sandy River (bank only).
Gear: Dip net.
Limit: 10 pounds per person.

Washington Tributary Recreational Smelt Fisheries

- Adopted a smelt season as follows:

Season: Saturday February 7 and Saturday February 14, 2015
Open hours 6 AM to noon.
Area: Cowlitz River (bank only).
Gear: Dip net.
Limit: 10 pounds per person.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- A Compact hearing is scheduled for 1 PM Monday February 23, 2015 via teleconference to consider additional winter gillnet openings in The Dalles and John Day pools.
- A Joint State hearing is scheduled for Tuesday April 7, 2015 via teleconference to review salmon and steelhead stock status and consider recreational fishing seasons in the Columbia River.
- For information concerning these decisions see the January 28, 2015 Winter Fact Sheets #2a and 2b at: http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/OSCRP/CRM/fact_sheets.asp