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# Columbia River Fishery Notice

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Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

May 26, 2015

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## Compact Action

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

### Non-Indian Fisheries

#### ***Mainstem Columbia River Spring Commercial Salmon Fishery***

- Adopted a season as follows:

**Season:** 7:00 PM Wednesday May 27 to 5:00 AM Thursday May 28, 2015 (10 hours)

**Area:** Zones 1-5.

**Sanctuaries:** Grays River, Elochoman-B, Cowlitz River, Kalama-B, Lewis-B, Sandy, and Washougal sanctuaries in effect.

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

**Participants:** Licensed Columbia River commercial fishers that have completed the required state-sponsored workshop concerning live capture commercial fishing techniques. At least one fisher on each boat must have live capture certification.

**Gear:** Drift nets only. 8-inch minimum mesh size. Net length not to exceed 150 fathoms.

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.

Nets that are fished at any time between official sunset and official sunrise must have lighted buoys on both ends of the net unless the net is attached to the boat. If the net is attached to the boat, then one lighted buoy on the opposite end of the net from the boat is required.

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.

**Miscellaneous Regulations:** Soak times, defined as the time elapsed from when the first of the gill net web is deployed into the water until the gill net web is fully retrieved from the water, must not exceed 45 minutes.

Recovery Box: Each boat will be required to have two operable recovery boxes or one box with two chambers, on board. Each chamber of the recovery box(es) must include an operating water

pumping system capable of delivering a minimum flow of 16 gallons per minute, not to exceed 20 gallons per minute of freshwater per chamber. Each box and chamber and associated pump shall be operating during any time that the net is being retrieved or picked. Each chamber of the recovery box must meet the following dimensions as measured from within the box; the inside length measurement must be at or within 39½ inches to 48 inches, the inside width measurements must be at or within 8 to 10 inches, and the inside height measurement must be at or within 14 to 16 inches.

Each chamber of the recovery box must include a water inlet hole between ¾ inch and 1 inch in diameter, centered horizontally across the door or end wall of the chamber and 1¾ inches from the floor of the chamber. Each chamber of the recovery box must include a water outlet hole that is a least 1½ inches in diameter located on either the same or opposite end as the inlet. The center of the outlet hole must be located a minimum of 12 inches above the floor of the box or chamber.

The fisher must demonstrate to WDFW and ODFW employees, fish and wildlife enforcement officers, or other peace officers, upon request, that the pumping system is delivering the proper volume of fresh river water into each chamber.

All sturgeon, non-adipose fin-clipped salmon, and steelhead must be released immediately to the river with care and with the least possible injury to the fish, or placed into an operating recovery box.

Any salmonid that is bleeding or lethargic must be placed in the recovery box prior to being released. All fish placed in recovery boxes must be released to the river prior to landing or docking.

24-hour quick reporting is required for Washington wholesale dealers, per WAC 220-69-240.

Observer program: As a condition of fishing, 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 his or her intent to board the commercial vessel for observation and sampling during an open fishery. Additionally, cooperation with department personnel prior to a fishing period is expected.

## **Treaty Indian Fisheries**

**Allowed commercial sales of fish landed in the following fishery:**

### ***Spring Commercial Salmon***

Season: 6:00 AM Wednesday May 27 to 6:00 PM Saturday May 30, (3½ days)  
2015  
Area: All of Zone 6.

Sanctuaries:	All standard river mouth and dam sanctuaries applicable to gillnet gear, except the Spring Creek Hatchery sanctuary will not be in effect.
Gear:	Gill nets. No mesh restriction.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon, steelhead, shad, carp, catfish, walleye, bass, and yellow perch may be sold or retained for subsistence purposes.  Sturgeon may not be sold. Sturgeon between 43-54 inches fork length harvested in The Dalles or John Day Pools and sturgeon between 38-54 inches fork length within the Bonneville Pool may be kept for subsistence purposes.  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.

## Oregon State Action

The state of Oregon took the following actions:

### *Youngs Bay Commercial Salmon Fishery (Zone 7)*

- Retention and sale of **non**-adipose fin-clipped Chinook from Youngs Bay is prohibited from 7:00 PM Wednesday May 27 through 12:00 PM (noon) Thursday May 28, 2015.

## Joint State Action

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

### *Mainstem Columbia River Recreational Spring Chinook Fishery*

- Modified the following recreational fishery downstream of Bonneville Dam. Modification in bold.

**Area:** Modified the ongoing fishery to include boat angling from Beacon Rock upstream to the Bonneville Dam boat deadline.

**Dates:** Saturday May 30 through Monday June 15, 2015.

**Catch Limits:** Two adult adipose fin-clipped salmonids per day, only one of which may be a Chinook. All sockeye must be released.

- Adopted the following recreational fishery upstream of Bonneville Dam:

**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:** Thursday May 28 through Monday June 15, 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 above.**

**Additional Regulations:** Anglers fishing for salmon, steelhead or sturgeon in the Columbia River and its tributaries are 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.

### ***White Sturgeon Recreational Fisheries***

#### **John Day Pool (John Day Dam to McNary Dam)**

- Effective Wednesday June 3, 2015 the retention of white sturgeon in the John Day Pool and tributaries is prohibited.
- White sturgeon fishing is prohibited from May 1 through July 31 in the sturgeon spawning sanctuary from the McNary Dam downstream to the I-82 Bridge.
- For all recreational sturgeon fisheries, catch limits and other restrictions in the 2015 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations pamphlet remain in effect the entire year, including catch and release angling allowed during periods closed to sturgeon retention.

## **FUTURE MEETINGS**

- No additional Compact/Joint State hearings are currently scheduled. The Columbia River treaty tribes have requested a hearing for Monday June 1, 2015.
- For information concerning these decisions see the May 26, 2015 Spring Fact Sheets #6a and #6b at: [http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/OSCRP/CRM/fact\\_sheets.asp](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/OSCRP/CRM/fact_sheets.asp)