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# Columbia River Fishery Notice

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Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

January 27, 2016

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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 Commercial Smelt Fishery***

- Adopted a season as follows:

<b>Season:</b>	Mondays and Thursdays from 7 AM – 2 PM (7 hours) February 1 through February 25, 2016.
<b>Area:</b>	Zones 1–3.
<b>Gear:</b>	Gillnet only. Specifications per permanent regulations.
<b>Allowable Sales:</b>	Smelt
<b>Reporting Rules:</b>	Oregon buyers are required to submit fish receiving tickets electronically pursuant to OAR 635-006-0210.  24-hour quick reporting will be required for Washington wholesale dealers, per WAC 220-69-240.

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

- Endorsed the following 2016 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.
  - ✓ 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.

## **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 Monday February 8 – 6 AM Tuesday February 9	(24 hours)
6 AM – 6 PM Wednesday February 10	(12 hours)
6 AM Thursday February 11 – 6 AM Friday February 12	(24 hours)
6 AM Monday February 15 – 6 AM Tuesday February 16	(24 hours)
6 AM – 6 PM Wednesday February 17	(12 hours)
6 AM Thursday February 18 – 6 AM Friday February 19	(24 hours)
6 AM Monday February 22 – 6 AM Tuesday February 23	(24 hours)
6 AM – 6 PM Wednesday February 24	(12 hours)
6 AM Thursday February 25 – 6 AM Friday February 26	(24 hours)
6 AM Monday February 29 – 6 AM Tuesday March 1	(24 hours)
6 AM – 6 PM Wednesday March 2	(12 hours)
6 AM Thursday March 3 – 6 AM Friday March 4	(24 hours)
6 AM – midnight Monday March 7	(18 hours)
6 AM – 6 PM Wednesday March 9	(12 hours)
6 AM – 6 PM Thursday March 10	(12 hours)
Noon – 4 PM Monday March 14	( 4 hours)
2 PM – 6 PM Wednesday March 16	( 4 hours)
3 PM – 7 PM Thursday March 17	( 4 hours)
7 PM – 11 PM Monday March 21	( 4 hours)
8 PM – midnight Wednesday March 23	( 4 hours)
8 PM – midnight Thursday March 24	( 4 hours)
10 AM – 2 PM Monday March 28	( 4 hours)

#### **Spring Season**

7 PM – 11 PM Thursday April 21	(4 hours)
7 PM Tuesday April 26 – 7 AM Wednesday April 27	(12 hours)
7 PM Thursday April 28 – 7 AM Friday April 29	(12 hours)
4 PM Monday May 2 – 10 AM Tuesday May 3	(18 hours)
9 AM – 9 PM Wednesday May 4	(12 hours)
4 PM Thursday May 5 – 10 AM Friday May 6	(18 hours)
Noon Monday May 9 – noon Friday May 13	(4 days)
Noon Monday May 16 – noon Friday May 20	(4 days)
Noon Monday May 23 – noon Friday May 27	(4 days)
Noon Monday May 30 – noon Friday June 3	(4 days)
Noon Monday June 6 – noon Friday June 10	(4 days)
Noon Monday June 13 – noon Wednesday June 15	(2 days)

**Summer Season**

Noon Thursday June 16 – noon Friday June 17	(1 day)
Noon Monday June 20 – noon Friday June 24	(4 days)
Noon Monday June 27 – noon Friday July 1	(4 days)
Noon Monday July 4 – noon Thursday July 7	(3 days)
Noon Tuesday July 12 – noon Thursday July 14	(2 days)
Noon Tuesday July 19 – noon Thursday July 21	(2 days)
Noon Tuesday July 26 – noon Thursday July 28	(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:

<b>Tongue Point and South Channel</b>	Monday February 8 – Tuesday February 9	(1 night)
	Thursday February 11 – Friday February 12	(1 night)
	Monday February 15 – Tuesday February 16	(1 night)
	Thursday February 18 – Friday February 19	(1 night)
	Monday February 22 – Tuesday February 23	(1 night)
	Thursday February 25 – Friday February 26	(1 night)
	Monday February 29 – Tuesday March 1	(1 night)
	Thursday March 3 – Friday March 4	(1 night)
	Monday March 7 – Tuesday March 8	(1 night)
	Thursday March 10 – Friday March 11	(1 night)

### Spring Season

7 PM – 11 PM Thursday April 21 (4 hours)

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

Tuesday April 26 – Wednesday April 27	(1 night)
Thursday April 28 – Friday April 29	(1 night)
Monday May 2 – Tuesday May 3	(1 night)
Thursday May 5 – Friday May 6	(1 night)
Monday May 9 – Tuesday May 10	(1 night)
Thursday May 12 – Friday May 13	(1 night)
Monday May 16 – Tuesday May 17	(1 night)
Thursday May 19 – Friday May 20	(1 night)
Monday May 23 – Tuesday May 24	(1 night)
Thursday May 26 – Friday May 27	(1 night)
Monday May 30 – Tuesday May 31	(1 night)
Thursday June 2 – Friday June 3	(1 night)
Monday June 6 – Tuesday June 7	(1 night)
Thursday June 9 – Friday June 10	(1 night)
Monday June 13 – Tuesday June 14	(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 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 the eastern tip of 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:

<b>Blind Slough and Knappa Slough</b>	Monday February 8 – Tuesday February 9	(1 night)
	Wednesday February 10 – Thursday February 11	(1 night)
	Thursday February 11 – Friday February 12	(1 night)
	Monday February 15 – Tuesday February 16	(1 night)
	Wednesday February 17 – Thursday February 18	(1 night)
	Thursday February 18 – Friday February 19	(1 night)
	Monday February 22- Tuesday February 23	(1 night)
	Wednesday February 24 – Thursday February 25	(1 night)
	Thursday February 25 – Friday February 26	(1 night)
	Monday February 29 – Tuesday March 1	(1 night)
	Wednesday March 2 – Thursday March 3	(1 night)
	Thursday March 3 – Friday March 4	(1 night)
	Monday March 7 – Tuesday March 8	(1 night)
	Wednesday March 9 – Thursday March 10	(1 night)
	Thursday March 10 – Friday March 11	(1 night)
	Monday March 14 – Tuesday March 15	(1 night)
	Thursday March 17 – Friday March 18	(1 night)
	<b>Blind Slough only</b>	Monday March 21 – Tuesday March 22
Thursday March 24 – Friday March 25		(1 night)
Monday March 28 – Tuesday March 29		(1 night)

**Spring Season**

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

<b>Blind Slough and Knappa Slough</b>	Thursday April 21 – Friday April 22	(1 night)
	Tuesday April 26 – Wednesday April 27	(1 night)
	Thursday April 28 – Friday April 29	(1 night)
	Monday May 2 – Tuesday May 3	(1 night)
	Thursday May 5 – Friday May 6	(1 night)
	Monday May 9 – Tuesday May 10	(1 night)
	Thursday May 12 – Friday May 13	(1 night)
	Monday May 16 – Tuesday May 17	(1 night)
	Thursday May 19 – Friday May 20	(1 night)
	Monday May 23 – Tuesday May 24	(1 night)
	Thursday May 26 – Friday May 27	(1 night)
	Monday May 30 – Tuesday May 31	(1 night)
	Thursday June 2 – Friday June 3	(1 night)
	Monday June 6 – Tuesday June 7	(1 night)
	Thursday June 9 – Friday June 10	(1 night)
	Monday June 13 – Tuesday June 14	(1 night)

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

**Blind Slough:**

**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 2 – June 14** 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 8 – Tuesday February 9	(1 night)
Wednesday February 10 – Thursday February 11	(1 night)
Thursday February 11 – Friday February 12	(1 night)
Monday February 15 – Tuesday February 16	(1 night)
Wednesday February 17 – Thursday February 18	(1 night)
Thursday February 18 – Friday February 19	(1 night)
Monday February 22 – Tuesday February 23	(1 night)
Wednesday February 24 – Thursday February 25	(1 night)
Thursday February 25 – Friday February 26	(1 night)
Monday February 29 – Tuesday March 1	(1 night)
Wednesday March 2 – Thursday March 3	(1 night)
Thursday March 3 – Friday March 4	(1 night)
Monday March 7 – Tuesday March 8	(1 night)
Wednesday March 9 – Thursday March 10	(1 night)

Thursday March 10 – Friday March 11	(1 night)
Monday March 14 – Tuesday March 15	(1 night)
Thursday March 17 – Friday March 18	(1 night)
Monday March 21 – Tuesday March 22	(1 night)
Thursday March 24 – Friday March 25	(1 night)
Monday March 28 – Tuesday March 29	(1 night)

**Spring Season**

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

Tuesday April 19 – Wednesday April 20	(1 night)
Thursday April 21 – Friday April 22	(1 night)
Tuesday April 26 – Wednesday April 27	(1 night)
Thursday April 28 – Friday April 29	(1 night)
Monday May 2 – Tuesday May 3	(1 night)
Thursday May 5 – Friday May 6	(1 night)
Monday May 9 – Tuesday May 10	(1 night)
Thursday May 12 – Friday May 13	(1 night)
Monday May 16 – Tuesday May 17	(1 night)
Thursday May 19 – Friday May 20	(1 night)
Monday May 23 – Tuesday May 24	(1 night)
Thursday May 26 – Friday May 27	(1 night)
Monday May 30 – Tuesday May 31	(1 night)
Thursday June 2 – Friday June 3	(1 night)
Monday June 6 – Tuesday June 7	(1 night)
Thursday June 9 – Friday June 10	(1 night)
Monday June 13 – Tuesday June 14	(1 night)

**Area:** Deep River is open to fishing from the lower boundary line, at USCG navigation marker #16 southwest to a marker on the Washington shore, 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.

- **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.  
9<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>-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.

**Reporting Rules:** Oregon buyers are required to submit fish receiving tickets electronically pursuant to OAR 635-006-0210.

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

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## Treaty Indian Fisheries

### ***Winter Gillnet Commercial Fisheries***

- Allowed commercial sales of fish landed in the following fisheries:

**Season:** 6 AM Monday February 1 through 6 PM Saturday February 13, 2016.  
**Area:** The Dalles and John Day Pools.  
**Gear:** Gill nets (no mesh restriction).  
**Allowable Sales:** Sturgeon between 43-54 inches in fork length, salmon (all species), steelhead, shad, carp, catfish, walleye, bass, and yellow perch may be sold or retained for subsistence use.

### ***Platform and Hook and Line Fishery***

- Allowed commercial sales of fish landed in the following fisheries:

**Season:** 6 AM Monday February 1 through 6:00 PM Monday March 21, 2016.  
**Area:** All of Zone 6  
**Gear:** Hoop nets, dip nets, and rod and reel with hook and line.  
**Allowable Sales:** Salmon (all species), steelhead, shad, carp, catfish, walleye, bass, and yellow perch may be sold or retained for subsistence use.  
Sturgeon of legal size for that pool may be sold only if caught during open commercial gillnet periods for that pool.  
Sturgeon between 43-54 inches in fork length in The Dalles and John Day pools and sturgeon between 38-54 inches in fork length in Bonneville Pool may be kept for subsistence use.

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

**Sanctuaries:** Standard dam and river mouth sanctuaries applicable to the fisheries above 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:

### ***Bonneville Pool White Sturgeon Recreational Fishery***

- Effective 12:01 AM Monday February 8, 2016 the retention of white sturgeon in the mainstem Columbia River from Bonneville Dam upstream to The Dalles Dam including adjacent tributaries is prohibited.
- Catch limits and other restrictions in the 2016 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations pamphlet remain in effect the entire year, including catch and release angling allowed during periods closed to sturgeon retention.

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

- 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, 2016 (below Bonneville) and March 16, 2016 (above Bonneville) the permanent regulations have been modified as follows:

#### Downstream of Bonneville Dam

**Area:** Buoy 10 upstream to Beacon Rock (boat and bank) plus bank angling only from Beacon Rock upstream to Bonneville Dam deadline.

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 Tuesday March 1 – Saturday April 9, 2016. **Except** closed on the following Tuesdays: March 29 and April 5.

**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 angling only between Bonneville Dam and the Tower Island power lines.

**Dates:** Wednesday March 16 – Friday May 6, 2016.

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

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

All other permanent regulations remain in effect, including catch limits for jack salmon.

- 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 Wednesday March 16 through Sunday May 15, 2016, the mainstem Columbia River will be open for retention of adipose fin-clipped steelhead from Buoy 10 to the Highway 395 Bridge and shad from Buoy 10 to Bonneville Dam **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 Tuesday March 1 through Wednesday June 15, 2016, 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.

## **Washington Tributary Recreational Smelt Fisheries**

- The state of Washington adopted a smelt season as follows:

<b>Season:</b>	Saturday February 6, 2016 Open hours 7 AM to 1 PM (6 hours).
<b>Area:</b>	Cowlitz River (bank only).
<b>Gear:</b>	Dip net.
<b>Limit:</b>	10 pounds of smelt per person.

## **FUTURE MEETINGS**

- A Compact hearing is planned for Thursday February 11, 2016 via teleconference to consider additional winter treaty gillnet fisheries.
- A Joint State hearing is planned for Thursday April 7, 2016 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 27, 2016 Winter Fact Sheets #1a and #1b 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)