
Columbia River Fishery Notice

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

May 18, 2016

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 Tuesday May 24 to 7:00 AM Wednesday May 25, 2016 (12 hours)

Area: Zones 1-5.

Sanctuaries: Grays River, Elokommin-B, Abernathy Creek, 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; pumps must continue to run until the net is fully retrieved and completely on board the vessel. Pumps shall continue to run whenever a fish is in the recovery box. 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 at 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 non-legal 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.

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.

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.

Oregon State Action

The state of Oregon took the following action:

Youngs Bay Commercial Salmon Fishery (Zone 7)

- Retention and sales of **non**-adipose fin-clipped Chinook from Youngs Bay is prohibited from 7:00 PM Tuesday May 24 through 12:00 PM (noon) Wednesday May 25, 2016.

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

- Adopted the following recreational fishery downstream of Bonneville Dam:

Area: **Tongue Point/Rocky Point line** upstream to Beacon Rock (boat and bank) plus bank angling only from Beacon Rock upstream to the 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 Friday May 20 through Sunday May 22, 2016.

Catch Two adult salmonids per day, only one of which may be a Chinook.

Limits: Retention of jacks is allowed. All sockeye must be released.

Only adipose fin-clipped fish may be kept.

Additional Regulations: 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.

- All other permanent regulations in the 2016 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations pamphlet remain in effect, including catch limits for jack salmon.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- No Compact/Joint State hearings have been scheduled at this time.

For information concerning these decisions see the May 18, 2016 Spring Fact Sheet #5 at:
http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/OSCRP/CRM/fact_sheets.asp