
Columbia River Fishery Notice

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

September 23, 2020

Compact Action

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

Non-Treaty Fisheries

Mainstem Commercial Late Fall Fishery

- Adopted a season as follows:

Season: 8 PM Thursday September 24 to 6 AM Friday September 25 (1 night)
 8 PM Wednesday September 30 to 6 AM Thursday October 1 (1 night)

Area: Zones 4-5. The deadline at the lower end of Zone 4 is defined as a straight line projected from the Warrior Rock Lighthouse on the Oregon shore easterly through the green navigation Buoy #1 and continuing to the Washington shore.

Sanctuaries: Washougal and Sandy river sanctuaries are in effect.

Gear: Drift gillnets only.
 8-inch minimum mesh size restriction.

Multiple net rule in effect beginning September 30 which means nets not specifically authorized for the fishery may be onboard the 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. Lighted buoys required.

Allowable Sales: Salmon (except chum) and shad. **Sturgeon may not be possessed or sold.**

Reporting Rules: Oregon buyers are required to submit fish receiving tickets electronically pursuant to OAR 635-006-0210. Electronic fish tickets must be submitted within 24 hours of closure of the fishing period, or within 24 hours of landing for fishing periods lasting longer than 24 hours.

24-hour quick reporting required for Washington wholesale dealers, per WAC 220-352-315.

Non-Treaty Fisheries

Mainstem Commercial Coho Tangle Net Fishery

- Adopted a season as follows:

Season:	5 AM to 6 PM Wednesday September 30	(13 hours)
	5 AM to 6 PM Friday October 2	(13 hours)
	5 AM to 6 PM Monday October 5	(13 hours)
	5 AM to 6 PM Wednesday October 7	(13 hours)
	5 AM to 6 PM Friday October 9	(13 hours)
	5 AM to 6 PM Monday October 12	(13 hours)
	5 AM to 6 PM Wednesday October 14	(13 hours)
	5 AM to 6 PM Friday October 16	(13 hours)
	5 AM to 6 PM Monday October 19	(13 hours)
	5 AM to 6 PM Wednesday October 21	(13 hours)
	5 AM to 6 PM Friday October 23	(13 hours)

Area: Zones 1-3. Upper deadline defined as a straight line projected from the Warrior Rock Lighthouse on the Oregon shore easterly through the green navigation Buoy #1 and continuing to the Washington shore.

Sanctuaries: Elokomina-A, Cowlitz River, Kalama-A, and Lewis-A sanctuaries are in effect.

Gear: Drift nets only. 3³/₄-inch maximum mesh size restriction. Unslackened, single-wall, multi-filament floater nets only. Monofilament nets are not allowed. Net length not to exceed 150 fathoms.

A red cork must be placed on the corkline every 25 fathoms as measured from the first mesh of the net. Red corks at 25-fathom intervals must be in color contrast to the corks used in the remainder of the net.

There are no restrictions on the hang ratio. The hang ratio is used to horizontally add slack to the net. The hang ratio is determined by the length of the web per length of the corkline.

The use of slackers or stringers to slacken the net vertically is prohibited. Rip lines are allowed providing they do not vertically slacken the net.

Allowable: Salmon (except Chum) and shad; all coho must be adipose fin-clipped.
Sturgeon may not be possessed or sold.

Additional Regulations: Regulations typically in place for mark-selective commercial fisheries are in effect, including but not limited to: net length, use of recovery boxes, limited soak times, red corks, tangle-net certification, etc.

Soak times are defined as the time elapsed from when the first mesh of the net is deployed into the water until the last mesh of the net is fully retrieved from the water, must not exceed 30 minutes.

Recovery Box: Each boat will be required to have on board two operable recovery boxes or one box with two chambers that meet the flow and size requirements standard for winter/spring fisheries.

Each box and chamber and associated pump shall be operating during any time that the net is being retrieved or picked. All non-legal fish 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. All non-legal salmon and all steelhead that are bleeding, in lethargic condition, or appearing lifeless 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.

Measuring mesh size is determined by placing three consecutive meshes under hand tension and the measurement is taken from the inside of one knot to the inside of the opposite knot of the center mesh. Hand tension means sufficient linear tension to draw opposing knots of meshes into contact.

Live Capture workshop: Only licensed Columbia River commercial fishers that have completed the required state-sponsored workshop concerning live capture commercial fishing techniques may participate in this fishery. At least one fisher on each boat must have live capture certification.

Additional
Rules:

Multiple net rule in effect, which means nets not specifically authorized for use in this fishery may be onboard the 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.

Lighted Buoys: 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.

Reporting
Rules:

Oregon buyers are required to submit fish receiving tickets electronically pursuant to OAR 635-006-0210. Electronic fish tickets must be submitted within 24 hours of closure of the fishing period, or within 24 hours of landing for fishing periods lasting longer than 24 hours.

24-hour quick reporting will be required for Washington wholesale dealers, per WAC 220-352-315.

Joint State Action

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

Recreational White Sturgeon Fisheries

- Adopted a retention season as follows:

Wauna Powerlines to Bonneville Dam Fishery

Season:	Saturday September 26, 2020	1 day
	Tuesday September 29, 2020	1 day
	Saturday October 3, 2020	1 day
Area:	Mainstem Columbia River from the Wauna powerlines (river mile 40) upstream to Bonneville Dam, including the Cowlitz River.	
Allowable Catch:	Up to 484 legal-sized white sturgeon. Legal size: 44-inch minimum and 50-inch maximum fork length. (Fork length is measured in a straight line from the tip of the nose to the fork in the caudal fin (tail) with the fish laying on its side on a flat surface, with the tape measure/ruler positioned flat <u>under</u> the fish). Daily bag limit is one fish. The annual bag limit is two fish (applicable to any/all 2020 retention fisheries). Retention of green sturgeon is prohibited.	
Additional Regulations:	All other permanent regulations in the 2020 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations pamphlet remain in effect.	

FUTURE MEETINGS

- A Compact Hearing is scheduled for 10 AM Thursday September 24, 2020 to consider additional treaty commercial fisheries. A Compact Hearing is also scheduled for 10 AM Tuesday October 6, 2020 to consider additional non-treaty commercial fisheries.
- The Joint Staff will announce additional hearings as needed.
- For information concerning these decisions see the September 23, 2020 Fall Fact Sheet #9 at: http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/OSCRP/CRM/fact_sheets.asp