
Columbia River Fishery Notice

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

October 18, 2021

Compact Action

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

Non-Treaty Fisheries

Mainstem Late Fall Tangle Net Commercial Fishery

- Modified the on-going fishery to add the following periods:

Season:	4 AM to 10 PM Tuesday October 19	(18 hours)
	4 AM to 10 PM Thursday October 21	(18 hours)
	4 AM to 10 PM Tuesday October 26	(18 hours)
	4 AM to 10 PM Thursday October 28	(18 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: Elokomin-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 Sales: Salmon (except Chum), shad, and white sturgeon; all Coho must be adipose fin-clipped. A maximum of **six** white sturgeon with a fork length of 44-50 inches may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday). This white sturgeon possession and sales limit applies to mainstem fisheries only.

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.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- The Joint Staff will continue to monitor stock status and fisheries, but do not anticipate additional Compact/Joint Staff hearings during the fall management period.
- For information concerning these decisions see the October 18, 2021 Fall Fact Sheet #9 at: http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/OSCRP/CRM/fact_sheets.asp