
Columbia River Fishery Notice

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

March 1, 2022

Compact Action

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

Non-Treaty Fisheries

Mainstem Columbia River Commercial Smelt Fishery

- Modified the ongoing fishery to include the following:

Season: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 5 AM – 5 PM (12 hours) from March 2 through March 18 (8 periods)

Area: Zones 1–3

Gear: Gillnets only. Mesh size may not exceed two inches stretch measure. Nets may not exceed 1,500 feet in length along the cork line.

Allowable Sales: Smelt

Misc. Regulations: Multiple net rule in effect. 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.

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

24-hour quick reporting is 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:

Columbia River White Sturgeon Recreational Fisheries

Bonneville Pool (Bonneville Dam upstream to The Dalles Dam)

- Adopted the following retention fisheries:

Season: Wednesdays March 9 and March 16, 2022

2 days

Area: Mainstem Columbia River from Bonneville Dam to The Dalles Dam, and all adjacent tributaries.

Allowable Catch: Up to 675 white sturgeon.

Legal size: 38-inch minimum and 54-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 under the fish).

The daily bag limit is one fish. The annual bag limit is two fish (applicable to any/all 2022 retention fisheries).

The Dalles Pool (The Dalles Dam upstream to John Day Dam)

- Modified the ongoing retention fishery to include the following:

Season: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays March 2–30, 2022 13 days

Area: Mainstem Columbia River from The Dalles Dam to John Day Dam, and all adjacent tributaries.

Allowable Catch: Up to 190 white sturgeon.

Legal size: 43-inch minimum and 54-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 under the fish).

The daily bag limit is one fish. The annual bag limit is two fish (applicable to any/all 2022 retention fisheries).

For all recreational sturgeon fisheries, catch limits, seasonal sturgeon spawning sanctuary closures, and other restrictions in the 2022 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations pamphlet remain in effect the entire year, including catch and release angling allowed during periods closed to sturgeon retention.

Current regulations are available at:

<https://myodfw.com/recreation-report/fishing-report/columbia-zone>

FUTURE MEETINGS

- A Joint State hearing is scheduled for 2:00 PM March 30, 2022 via teleconference to consider the Estuary recreational white sturgeon fishery.
- For information concerning these decisions see the March 1, 2022 Winter Fact Sheet #6 at: http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/OSCRP/CRM/fact_sheets.asp