
Columbia River Fishery Notice

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

September 7, 2023

Compact Action

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

Treaty Indian Fisheries

Zone 6 Commercial Gillnet Fishery

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

Season: 6 AM Monday September 11 to 6 PM Friday September 15 (4.5 days)

6 AM Monday September 18 to 6 PM Friday September 22 (4.5 days)

Area: Zone 6

Sanctuaries: Standard river mouth and dam closed areas applicable to gillnet gear in effect, except that the Spring Creek Hatchery sanctuary is the smaller 150-foot radius around the hatchery ladder.

Gear: Set and drift gillnets with an 8-inch minimum mesh size restriction.

Allowable Sales: Salmon (all species), steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish, and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence.

Sturgeon may not be sold, but sturgeon from 38 to 54 inches in fork length in the Bonneville Pool and sturgeon from 43 to 54 inches in fork length in The Dalles and John Day pools may be kept for subsistence purposes.

Fish landed during open fishing periods may be sold after the period concludes.

Washington Reporting Rule: 24-hour quick reporting required for Washington buyers, pursuant to WAC 220-352-315, except landings must be reported within 24-hours of completing the fish ticket.

Non-Treaty Fisheries

Mainstem Late Fall Tangle Net Commercial Fishery

- Adopted a season as follows:

Season:	4 AM to 10 PM Monday September 18	18 Hours
	4 AM to 10 PM Wednesday September 20	18 Hours
	4 AM to 6 PM Friday September 22	14 Hours
	4 AM to 10 PM Monday September 25	18 Hours
	4 AM to 10 PM Tuesday September 26	18 Hours
	4 AM to 10 PM Wednesday September 27	18 Hours
	4 AM to 10 PM Thursday September 28	18 Hours
	4 AM to 6 PM Friday September 29	14 Hours
	4 AM to 10 PM Monday October 2	18 Hours
	4 AM to 10 PM Tuesday October 3	18 Hours
	4 AM to 10 PM Wednesday October 4	18 Hours
	4 AM to 10 PM Thursday October 5	18 Hours
	4 AM to 6 PM Friday October 6	14 Hours
	4 AM to 10 PM Monday October 9	18 Hours
	4 AM to 10 PM Tuesday October 10	18 Hours
	4 AM to 10 PM Wednesday October 11	18 Hours
	4 AM to 10 PM Thursday October 12	18 Hours
	4 AM to 6 PM Friday October 13	14 Hours
	4 AM to 10 PM Monday October 16	18 Hours
	4 AM to 10 PM Tuesday October 17	18 Hours
	4 AM to 10 PM Wednesday October 18	18 Hours
	4 AM to 10 PM Thursday October 19	18 Hours
	4 AM to 6 PM Friday October 20	14 Hours
	4 AM to 10 PM Monday October 23	18 Hours
	4 AM to 10 PM Tuesday October 24	18 Hours
	4 AM to 10 PM Wednesday October 25	18 Hours
	4 AM to 10 PM Thursday October 26	18 Hours
	4 AM to 6 PM Friday October 27	14 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	
Gear:	Drift nets only. Maximum mesh size is 3¾-inches. 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) and shad; all Coho must be adipose fin-clipped.

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 time: Soak time, 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: 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: 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:

Mainstem Columbia River Recreational Salmon Fishery

Buoy 10 upstream to west Puget Island

- Effective 12:01 AM Friday September 8 through Sunday December 31, retention of Chinook and hatchery Coho salmon is allowed in the mainstem Columbia River from the Buoy 10 line upstream to the west Puget Island line. The daily adult bag limit is three salmon, of which only one may be a Chinook. All other previously-adopted and permanent regulations remain in effect.
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FUTURE MEETINGS

- A Compact hearing is scheduled for 1:00 PM Wednesday September 20, 2023 via teleconference to consider the Treaty Indian commercial gillnet fishery.
- For information concerning these decisions see the September 7, 2023 Fall Fact Sheets No.5a & No.5b at: https://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/OSCRP/CRM/fact_sheets.asp.