
Columbia River Fishery Notice

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

January 23, 2024

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

- Adopted a season as follows:

Season: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from January 24 through March 14, 2024 (23 periods). Open hours are 5 AM to 5 PM (12 hours)

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. 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 more than 24 hours.

24-hour quick reporting required for Washington buyers, pursuant to WAC 220-352-315.

For information concerning these decisions see the January 23, 2024 Winter Fact Sheet No.3 at: https://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/OSCRP/CRM/fact_sheets.asp.

Future Meetings

- A Compact hearing is scheduled for 10 AM February 13, 2024 via teleconference to consider Select Area (winter, spring, and summer seasons) and treaty commercial fisheries.
- A hybrid Joint State hearing is scheduled for 10 AM February 21, 2024 to consider mainstem Columbia River recreational spring Chinook fisheries. The hearing will be held at the City of Vancouver Water Resources Education Center located at: 4600 SE Columbia Way, Vancouver, WA 98661. A teleconference call-in option will be available.