
Columbia River Fishery Notice

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

September 23, 2026

Compact Action

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

Treaty Indian Fisheries

Allowed commercial sales of fish landed in the following fishery:

Zone 6 Commercial Fall Gillnet Fishery

Season:	6 AM Monday September 28 through 6 PM Wednesday September 30 (2.5 days)
Area:	Zone 6
Sanctuaries:	All standard river mouth and dam sanctuaries applicable to gillnet gear are in effect, including the smaller Spring Creek Hatchery sanctuary (150-foot radius around the fishway).
Gear:	Set and drift gillnets with an 8-inch minimum mesh size
Allowable Sales:	Salmon (all species), steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish, and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Fish landed during open fishing periods may be sold after the period concludes. Sturgeon may not be sold. Sturgeon between 38-54 inches in fork length in Bonneville Pool and sturgeon between 43-54 inches in fork length in The Dalles and John Day pools may be kept for subsistence use.
Reporting Rules:	Oregon buyers are required to electronically submit fish receiving tickets pursuant to OAR 635-006-0210. 24-hour quick reporting required for Washington buyers, pursuant to WAC 220-352-315 except that landings must be reported within 24-hours of completing the fish ticket.

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	(10 hours)
	8 PM Sunday September 27 to 6 AM Monday September 28	(10 hours)
	8 PM Tuesday September 29 to 6 AM Wednesday September 30	(10 hours)

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-mouth sanctuaries are in effect.
Gear:	Drift gillnets only. 8-inch minimum mesh size restriction. Multiple net rule in effect, 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.
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 longer than 24 hours. 24-hour quick reporting required for Washington buyers, pursuant to WAC 220-352-315.

Joint State Action

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

Mainstem Columbia River Recreational Salmon Fisheries

Buoy 10 to west Puget Island

- Effective Saturday, September 26 and Sunday, September 27, retention of Chinook is allowed in the daily bag limit for the mainstem Columbia River from the Buoy 10 line upstream to the west Puget Island line. The daily adult bag limit is three salmon (Chinook or hatchery coho) but only one may be a Chinook.

West Puget Island line to the Highway 395 Bridge (near Pasco, WA)

- Effective Saturday, September 26 and Sunday, September 27, retention of Chinook and coho is allowed in the mainstem Columbia River from the west Puget Island line upstream to the Highway 395 Bridge near Pasco, WA. The daily adult bag limit is two salmon (Chinook or coho) but only one may be a Chinook.
- Effective Monday, September 28 through Wednesday, September 30, retention of coho is allowed from the west Puget Island line upstream to the Highway 395 Bridge near Pasco, WA. The daily adult bag limit is two coho.

All other previously-adopted regulations, including relevant permanent regulations in the 2026 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations book, remain in effect for these fisheries.

Updated regulations are available at: <https://myodfw.com/recreation-report/fishing-report/columbia-zone>.

For information concerning these decisions see the September 23, 2026 Fall Fact Sheets No.6a & 6b at: https://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/OSCRP/CRM/fact_sheets.asp.

Future Meetings

No Compact or Joint State hearings are scheduled at this time. Joint staff will monitor fisheries and recommend additional hearings as necessary.