

**JOINT STAFF REPORT
SUMMER CHINOOK FACT SHEET
Joint State Hearing
May 28, 2003**

<p>Purpose: To review summer chinook salmon stock status and consider fishing options in the mainstem Columbia River.</p> <p>TAC: This Fact Sheet was not reviewed by the TAC.</p>
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MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Endangered Species Act (ESA)

- Fisheries being considered at this Compact are addressed in a Section 7/10 Application outlining proposed non-Indian fisheries that the states of Washington and Oregon submitted to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on November 3, 2000.

Interim Management Agreement

- An Interim Management Agreement covering fisheries for upriver spring chinook, summer chinook, and sockeye is in effect for 2001-2003.
- The Interim Management Agreement requires that non-Indian combined commercial and recreational fishery impacts on listed summer chinook not exceed 1% of the run to the Columbia River mouth.
- The Interim Management Agreement provides for an interim upriver summer chinook escapement goal of 85,000 adults at Bonneville Dam.

Non-Indian Upriver Impact Allocation

- No formal plan is in effect for allocating non-Indian impacts between commercial and recreational fisheries.

STOCK STATUS

Upriver Spring Chinook

- The preseason forecast was for a return of 145,400 upriver spring chinook to the Columbia River mouth.
- The TAC met on Wednesday, May 21 and upgraded the upriver spring chinook run size expectation to 203,000 adults to the Columbia River mouth.

Upriver Summer Chinook

- The preseason forecast is for a return of 87,600 adults to the Columbia River mouth.
- Upriver summer chinook pass Bonneville Dam during the months of June and July with no discernable peak in abundance.
- Run size updates could occur as early as late June.

2002 SUMMER CHINOOK RETURN

Stock Status

- The preseason expectation was for a return of 77,000 adults to the Columbia River mouth.
- The actual return greatly exceeded the preseason expectation of 129,000 adults entering the Columbia River.

Sport Fishery

- The ongoing summer steelhead sport fishery in the mainstem Columbia River was modified to allow the retention of adipose fin-clipped chinook during June 28 through July 31. These chinook retention regulations were initially in effect downstream of Bonneville Dam and were subsequently expanded to include the entire river downstream of the Oregon/Washington border effective July 9.
- The summer chinook fishery produced catches of 1,352 adults kept (59%) and 945 adults released (41%) in addition to the 1,138 adults released during the summer steelhead fishery prior to June 28.
- Impacts to upriver summer chinook totaled 0.27%, including a 0.09% impact prior to June 28 and a 0.18% impact thereafter.

Non-Indian Commercial Fisheries

- Impacts to upriver summer chinook from commercial fisheries are limited incidental impacts associated with fisheries targeting local spring and SAB fall chinook in Select Areas and shad in Area 2S.
- During 2002, the impact to upriver summer chinook totalled 0.06% in all non-Indian commercial fisheries combined. A total of 0.04% impact occurred in Select Area chinook fisheries and 0.02% impact occurred in the Area 2S shad fishery.

FISHERY RECOMENDATION

Summer Chinook Sport Fishery

<i>Recommendation</i>	
•	The Joint Staff recommends modifying the ongoing summer steelhead fishery to allow the retention of adipose fin-clipped adult chinook as follows: Season: June 16 - July 31 Area: From the Tongue Point/Rocky Point line upstream to the Highway 395 Bridge near Pasco, Washington.
Expected chinook catch:	2,000-3,500 handled 1,000-2,000 kept
Expected impact rate:	0.23%-0.40%

- ✓ The proposed fishery provides sport fishing opportunity to harvest surplus hatchery summer chinook while limiting impacts to listed species.
- ✓ The proposed fishery provides chinook retention opportunity for entire river.
- ✓ The start date of chinook retention is consistent with opening date for steelhead fishery above the I-5 Bridge.

- ✓ Open area is consistent with open fishing area for the ongoing steelhead fishery.
- ✓ The expected mark rate of 50%-60% is adequate for prosecuting a selective fishery.
- ✓ The preseason run size of 87,600 adults exceeds the escapement goal of 85,000 adults, thereby resulting in a 2,600 adult summer chinook harvestable surplus.
- ✓ Aggregate impact rate of 0.6% from all non-Indian fisheries combined (0.4% from the summer chinook fishery, 0.1% from the summer steelhead fishery, and 0.1% from commercial fisheries) will remain within the 1% impact limit allocated to non-Indian fisheries.
- ✓ Summer chinook run size updates in late June and early July will allow for fishery modifications as needed.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- Additional hearings will occur as needed to modify ongoing fisheries.
- A Columbia River Compact hearing has been scheduled for 10 AM Wednesday, July 30, 2003 at the Commission room in the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife headquarters office located at 2501 SW First Avenue, Portland, Oregon for the purposes of considering commercial fishing seasons in the mainstem Columbia River during early August and in Select Areas during August through October.
- A Columbia River Compact hearing has been scheduled for 10 AM Tuesday, August 12, 2003 at the Water Resources Education Center located at 4600 SE Columbia Way, Vancouver, Washington for the purposes of reviewing salmon, steelhead, and sturgeon stock status and considering August 2S commercial fishing seasons in the mainstem Columbia River.
- A Columbia River Compact hearing has been scheduled for 10 AM Friday, August 22, 2003 at the Water Resources Education Center located at 4600 SE Columbia Way, Vancouver, Washington for the purposes of reviewing salmon, steelhead, and sturgeon stock status and considering August 2S and treaty Indian commercial fishing seasons in the mainstem Columbia River.

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
May 28, 2003