

**TRIBAL STAFF REPORT
 SPRING FACT SHEET No. 2
 Columbia River Compact**

May 7, 2004

Purpose: To consider treaty Indian commercial fishing options for the mainstem Columbia River.

Spring Chinook Stock Status

The pre-season forecast for upriver spring chinook was 360,700 at the river mouth. Counts at Bonneville Dam through May 6, total 130,372. The counts have been declining since last Sunday. The total mortality of upriver spring chinook in Zone 1-5 fisheries is approximately 24,800 making the total run size to date approximately 155,172.

TAC met on today and downgraded the run size to 164,400 at Bonneville and 189,200 at the river mouth. There are 25 days including today remaining in the month of May. In order to get to a count of 164,400 at Bonneville we need to get an average of 1,360 fish per day. TAC still is no longer assuming the run timing to be late.

Non Indian Fisheries at the current run size are estimated to have a 2.5% impact on upriver wild spring chinook. All non-Indian mainstem fisheries were closed as of Thursday evening. The lower Snake River Sport Fishery closes on Saturday.

Treaty Indian Spring Chinook Harvest to Date and Projected Impacts

At the updated Run Size the tribes are allowed a 9% harvest rate.

Fishery	Harvest	Impacts with Run Size = 189,200
Winter Season Platform	NA	~0
Winter Season Gillnet	2	0.0%
Spring Ceremonial Permits	8,066	4.3%
Platform Projection Through May 31.	900 (370 through 4/24)	0.5%
1 st Commercial Gillnet Opening 2.5 days.	3,200 (preliminary)	1.7%
Subtotal Impacts to date with platforms through May	12,170	6.4%
2 nd Commercial Gillnet Opening (5/11-5/14; 3.5 days)	3,100	1.6%
Projected Total Impacts	15,270	8.1%

Treaty Indian Commercial Fishery Proposal

<i>Recommendation</i>	
Season:	6:00 AM Tuesday May 11 to 6:00 PM Friday May 14 (Sale of Platform/Hook and Line caught fish allowed until 6PM Monday May 31)
Area:	All of Zone 6.
Gear:	There will be no mesh size restriction at this time.
Sanctuaries:	Standard river mouth and dam sanctuaries remain in effect. The Spring Creek Hatchery Sanctuary is not necessary this time of year.
Allowable Sales:	Chinook, steelhead, walleye, carp, and shad. Sturgeon may not be sold. Sturgeon between 4-5 feet in length in The Dalles and John Day pools may be retained for subsistence. Sturgeon between 45-60 inches in the Bonneville pool may also be retained for subsistence.
Miscellaneous Rules:	The quick reporting rule for Washington buyers will be in effect.

- Depending on the run size and harvest levels the tribes may take action discontinuing sales of platform/hook and line caught fish to ensure platforms are available for subsistence use through May 31.
- The Yakama Nation will allow commercial sale of fish caught in their Zone 6 tributary fisheries that overlap with this period. The general fishing schedule for these tributaries is:

Tributary	Regularly Scheduled Opening	Allowed Commercial Sales
Wind River	March 8 to June 26 Noon Mon to 6 PM Sat	Each weekly opening Noon Tues. May 11 to 6 PM Monday May 31. (no fishing Sundays)
Drano Lake	Tuesday Nights	Tuesday Nights May 11-12, May 18-19, and May 25-26.
Big White Salmon River	Closed Sundays	Each weekly opening 6:00 AM Tues. May 11 to 6 PM Monday May 31. (no fishing Sundays)
Klikitat River	April 6 to June 5 Noon Tue to 6 PM Sat	Each weekly opening Noon Tues. May 11 to 6 PM Monday May 31. (no fishing Sundays)

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
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