

**TRIBAL STAFF REPORT
SUMMER FACT SHEET No. 4
Columbia River Compact
July 6, 2006**

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

Treaty Indian Summer Season Fisheries

Currently the platform/hook and line fishery is open for sales and subsistence use in all of Zone 6. Sales of platform caught fish began on June 8. The platform expects to harvest about 1,000 summer Chinook and 800 sockeye over the summer management period (through July 31 assuming the platform fishery continues through the end of July). The summer season catch projections will be adjusted based on future catch updates.

On July 5 TAC downgraded the projection for summer Chinook to 87,000 and to 40,000 for sockeye. Based on the upgraded projections the tribes propose three additional gillnet fishing periods to start at 6 am Monday July 10 to 6 pm Thursday July 13; 6 am Monday July 17 to 6 pm Thursday July 20; and 6 am Monday July 24 to 6 pm Thursday July 27, 2006. The expected gillnet catch for these fishing periods is about 8,700 Chinook and 400 sockeye. With the estimated platform catch through July 31 and no additional gillnet fishing, the total Chinook harvest would be 22,183(25.5%) out of a total treaty guideline of 24,375. The sockeye harvest would be 1,939(4.8%) out of a treaty guideline of 2,000.

TABLE 1. Treaty Zone 6 Summer Season Harvest

Fishery	Dates	Nets	Chinook to date	Harvest Rate	Projected Chinook through 7/31	Harvest Rate	Sockeye to date	Harvest Rate	Projected Sockeye through 7/31	Harvest Rate	Steelhead to date	Projected Steelhead through 7/31
Platform	Through 7/16		304		1,000		260		800		80	1,350
Gillnet #1	6/20-6/22 2.5 days	271	2,618		2,618		134		134		30	30
Subtotal			2,922		3,618		194		1,134		110	1,380
Gillnet #2	6/27-6/29 2.5 days	270	4,365		4,365		295		295		50	50
Gillnet #3	7/3-7/7 4.5 days	270			5,200				300		50	100
Proposed Gillnet #4	7/10-7/13	270			4,000		230		230		40	40
Proposed Gillnet #5	7/17-7/20	270			3,000		120		120		60	60
Proposed Gillnet #6	7/24-7/27	270			2,000		60		60		80	80
Total			2,663	3.0%	22,183	25.5%	989	2.5%	1,939	4.8%	390	1,710

* Minimum mesh size restrictions of 7 inches to minimize sockeye catch.

Treaty Indian Commercial Fishery Proposal

<i>Recommendation</i>	
	Commercial Gillnet Fishery (3.5 days per week)
Dates:	6:00 AM Monday, July 10 until 6:00 PM Thursday, July 13 6:00 AM Monday, July 17 until 6:00 PM Thursday, July 20 6:00 AM Monday, July 24 until 6:00 PM Thursday, July 27
Area:	All of Zone 6
Gear:	7 inch minimum mesh size restriction for July 10 to July 13 8 inch minimum mesh size restriction for July 17 to July 27
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, coho, steelhead, walleye, carp, and shad may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sockeye may not be sold but may be retained for subsistence. 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.

- The tribes propose continuation of commercial sales of platform and hook and line caught fish that began on June 8 until further notice. The allowed sales would include Chinook, coho, steelhead, walleye, carp, and shad may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sockeye may not be sold, but may be retained for subsistence. 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. No Compact action is required.
- The Yakama Nation will continue to allow commercial sale of fish caught in their Zone 6 tributary fisheries that overlap with commercial Zone 6 periods. Sales were allowed beginning June 8 and will continue until further notice. No Compact Action is required for the ongoing tributary sales. The general fishing schedule for these tributaries is:

Tributary	Regularly Scheduled Opening	Allowed Commercial Sales
		Coincides with open sales for Zone 6 platform fishery
Big White Salmon River	Closed Sundays	Each weekly open 6:00 AM Mon. to 6 PM Saturday. (no fishing Sundays)
Klickitat River	Noon Tuesday to 6 PM Saturdays Through December 23	Each weekly opening Noon Tues. to 6 PM Saturday. (no fishing Sundays)