

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT - FALL FACT SHEET NO. 1
Columbia River Compact
July 27, 2006

<i>Fisheries Under Consideration:</i>	Non-Indian Commercial Mainstem Treaty Indian Setline Sturgeon and Platform Sales Non-Indian Select Areas
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STOCK STATUS

Summer Chinook

- TAC met July 25 and updated the summer Chinook run to 78,600 fish at the Columbia River mouth, compared to the preseason forecast of 49,000 Chinook.

Sockeye

- TAC met July 25 and updated the sockeye run to 37,000 fish at the Columbia River mouth, compared to the preseason forecast of 31,100 sockeye.

Fall Salmon

- Fall Chinook salmon returns are expected to be 473,900 adults, comprised of 364,600 brights (77%) and 109,300 tules (23%).

Summary of 2005 Actual and Current 2006 Forecasts of Adult Salmon and Steelhead Returns to the Columbia River			
Species, stock	2005 Return ¹	2006 Forecast ¹	Comments
Fall Chinook	561,400	473,900	Over-all good return, although most components are down from recent years
Lower river hatchery (LRH)	78,200	57,500	Good return, less than 10-year average
Lower river wild (LRW)	16,800	16,600	Good return, similar to 10-year average
Bonneville pool hatchery (BPH)	93,100	51,800	Strong return, less than 10-year average
Upriver bright (URB)	268,700	249,100	Strong return, similar to 10-year average
Mid-Columbia bright (MCB)	98,000	86,600	Good return, similar to 10-year average
Bonneville upriver bright (BUB)	50,700	26,200	
Lower river bright (LRB)	2,000	2,900	
Pool upriver bright (PUB)	45,300	57,500	
Select area bright (SAB)	6,600	12,400	Strong return, greater than 10-year average
Upriver summer steelhead	312,500	312,600	Good return, similar to 10-year average
Skamania index (May 1 - June 30)	12,000	15,100	3,100 wild
A-run index (length <78cm)	251,600	246,600	62,600 wild
B-run index (length ≥78cm)	48,900	50,900	10,300 wild
Coho	346,800	256,600	Less than 10-year average
Early stock	248,700	189,900	
Late stock	98,100	66,700	Poor return

¹ Columbia River mouth return, except summer steelhead is Bonneville Dam return.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Salmon

- The "2005-2007 Interim Management Agreement for Upriver Chinook, Sockeye, Steelhead, Coho and White Sturgeon" provides specific fishery management guidelines for fall season fisheries under *U.S. v Oregon*.
- The TAC submitted a Biological Assessment (BA) to NMFS regarding fisheries covered in the "2005-2007 Interim Management Agreement for Upriver Chinook, Sockeye, Steelhead, Coho and White Sturgeon" and supplemental BA's for coho and green sturgeon.
- The 2005-2007 Management Agreement provides that the 31.29% Upriver Bright (URB) impact rate is allocated 23.04% for treaty Indian fisheries and 8.25% for non-Indian fisheries.
- Non-Indian fisheries occurring during August will be managed in accordance with the "2006 Non-Indian Columbia River Fall Fishery Chinook Allocation Agreement" completed through the North of Falcon negotiation process.

Excerpts From the 2006 Non-Indian Columbia River Fall Fishery Chinook Allocation Agreement

- ✓ URB fall Chinook impacts in fisheries downstream of the Snake River are allocated preseason at **50% (4.125%) to the sport fishery and 50% (4.125%) to the commercial fishery**. The Columbia River Compact/Joint States will use this URB impact allocation as guidance for making in-season management decisions concerning the Columbia River sport and commercial fisheries. Actual URB impacts in the fisheries may differ from preseason estimates based on fishery catches, stock composition, and run size updates. The *U. S. v. Oregon* TAC will update the URB run size beginning in mid-September.
- ✓ Expectations for the commercial fishery include:
 - An early to mid-August salmon fishery during the first two weeks of August (modeled dates were **August 3, 8, 10, or August 3, 7, 9**). May have to move the lower Boundary to Zone 2 or the Astoria-Megler Bridge. Mesh size is 8-inch minimum and area is Zones 1-5. Goal is to have all five Zones open during this fishery. URB allocation for this fishery is 0.19% (5% of the total commercial impacts). **Total catch expectation is 4,100 Chinook.**
 - The mid-August salmon fishery is expected to occur during **the week of August 14th** (modeled dates were **August 13, 14, 17**). Mesh size is 8-inch minimum. Area is Zone 1 above the Astoria-Megler Bridge if possible on August 13, and Zone 2 or Zone 3 through Zone 5 after that. The URB allocation for this fishery is 0.27% (7% of the total commercial impacts). **Total catch expectation is 4,100 Chinook.**
 - The late August fishery is expected to occur beginning the **week of August 20 or August 27**. Mesh size is **9-inch** minimum and area is Zones 4-5. The URB allocation for this fishery is 0.56% (14% of the total commercial impact). **Total catch expectation is 3,600 Chinook.**
 - The late fall fishery is to begin the week of September 17. Catch expectation for all late fall fisheries is 14,900 Chinook. The URB allocation for this fishery is 2.80% (68% of the total commercial impact). Coho harvest is expected to include 5,800 coho harvested during September and 12,900 coho for October fisheries.

- Based on preseason run size forecasts and North of Falcon negotiations, the catch allocation for commercial fisheries occurring during August is 11,800 Chinook, including 2,500 URBs.

Sturgeon

- The harvestable number of 40,000 white sturgeon is to be allocated 80% (32,000 fish) sport and 20% (8,000 fish) commercial with specific size limits in place for both user groups.

- At the December 15, 2005 hearing the Compact adopted protocol regarding white sturgeon retention in Columbia River commercial fisheries during 2006.

<i>Protocol For Management of White Sturgeon Retention in Commercial Fisheries During 2006</i>
<p>Fisheries should be managed for white sturgeon catch expectations of 1,800 for the winter-spring timeframe (January-June 15) with 1,600 for winter sturgeon and 200 for winter salmon, 500 for the summer timeframe (June 16-July 31) with an additional 300 maximum rollover from any remaining winter-spring allocation, 2,000 for the early fall timeframe (August) with an additional rollover of any remaining allocation from winter-summer, and 3,300 for the late fall timeframe (September-October).</p> <p>Landings during SAFE fisheries are not to exceed 400 white sturgeon for the entire year with winter/spring/summer fisheries not to exceed 300.</p> <p>Allow some level of incidental sturgeon harvest to occur during all target salmon seasons.</p> <p>Conduct limited target sturgeon fisheries during winter timeframe if feasible.</p> <p>Conduct target sturgeon fisheries during October if necessary to access commercial allocation.</p> <p>Adopt white sturgeon possession and landing limits if necessary to remain within season specific catch expectation or to provide white sturgeon for harvest during subsequent salmon seasons.</p> <p>Joint Staff will conduct an annual post-season evaluation of white sturgeon with industry.</p>

2006 FISHERIES REVIEW

Non-Indian Commercial Sturgeon

- Landings of 1,939 white sturgeon during the 2006 winter/spring mainstem fisheries were greater than the 1,800 allocation established in the white sturgeon management protocol.
- Summer season landings through July 20 totaled 385 white sturgeon, and the projected season total is not expected to exceed the 500 fish summer allocation.
- Sturgeon retention in SAFE (Youngs Bay) fisheries was prohibited effective June 28 as harvest had slightly exceeded the guideline. SAFE fisheries landed 317 fish compared to the 300 fish allocation for the winter/spring/summer seasons. A total of 83 fish remain for harvest in 2006 fall Select Areas fisheries.
- Harvest of green sturgeon in all commercial fisheries was prohibited effective July 7, 2006.

<i>2006 Lower Columbia River Commercial White Sturgeon Catch Summary</i>			
Fishery	Guideline	Commercial Allocation =	Catch
Mainstem Winter/ Spring Gillnet	1,800		1,939
Mainstem Summer Gillnet	500	(proj. total)	465
Select Area Gillnet	400		317
August Gillnet	2,000		0
Mainstem Late Fall Gillnet	3,300		0
		Cumulative Catch to Date =	2,721
		Quota Remaining =	5,279

Treaty Indian Commercial Sturgeon

- Under permanent Compact rules the commercial sturgeon setline fishery was open January 1-31, 2006
- Setline fisheries in Zone 6 have harvested 63% of the annual sturgeon harvest guideline.

2006 Treaty Indian Sturgeon Commercial Harvest			
Pool	Catch	Guideline	Remaining
Bonneville	115	400	285
The Dalles	388	550	162
John Day	312	335	23
Total	815	1,285	470

Summer Chinook Sport Fishery

- Summer Chinook sport fisheries are non-selective and are scheduled from the Tongue Pt./Rocky Pt. line upstream to Priest Rapids Dam during June 16-July 31, and from Priest Rapids Dam to Chief Joseph Dam during July 1 through October 15.
- The estimated catch through Sunday, July 23 below Bonneville Dam is 4,872 Chinook kept.
- Total sport catch below Priest Rapids Dam projected through July 31 is about 5,200 Chinook.

Non-Indian Commercial Summer Chinook Fishery

- During the 2006 summer Chinook season, twelve, 10-12 hour fishing periods were adopted from June 23-July 27 in Zones 1-5. Regulations included an 8-inch minimum mesh restriction and a three sturgeon/vessel/week landing limit.
- Preliminary landings through July 20 include 3,958 Chinook, and 385 white sturgeon. Catch projections for the remaining three fishing periods (June 23, 24, 27) are 600 Chinook and 80 white sturgeon for a projected season total of 4,600 Chinook and 465 white sturgeon.

RECOMMENDATIONS

<i>Non-Indian Mainstem Fall Salmon Fishery</i>		
Season:	7 PM Thursday August 3 to 7 AM Friday August 4 7 PM Monday August 7 to 7 AM Tuesday August 8 7 PM Wednesday August 9 to 7 AM Thursday August 10	(12 hours) (12 hours) (12 hours)
Area:	Zones 1- 5	
Sanctuaries:	Grays River, Elokomin-A, Cowlitz River, Kalama-A, and Lewis-A, Washougal and Sandy Rivers.	
Gear:	8" minimum and 9¾" maximum mesh size restriction.	
Allowable Sales:	Salmon and sturgeon. A maximum of 5 white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday) that the fishery is open. The sturgeon possession and sales limit includes both mainstem and Select Area fisheries. Green sturgeon retention is prohibited.	
Expected Catch:	4,100 Chinook 1,000 white sturgeon	
Miscellaneous Rules:	Quick Reporting Rules will be in effect for Washington buyers.	

- ✓ The proposed fishery:
 - Is consistent with the 2006 Fall Management Agreement and results of North of Falcon negotiation process.

- Provides access to tule fall Chinook in the lower river when the fish are in a more marketable condition. About 40% is expected to be tule (LRH and BPH) stock.
- Provides opportunity to harvest Chinook with minimal impacts to the URB stock.
- ✓ The open area of Zones 1-5 provides opportunity throughout the commercial fishing area.
- ✓ The proposed weekly sturgeon retention regulation is consistent with the white sturgeon protocol and should maintain total sturgeon landings within the 2,000 fish allocation for August fisheries.
- ✓ Closed days between fishing periods allow for fishery checkpoints to update and modify the fishery as needed.

<i>Treaty Indian Platform/Hook and Line Fishery</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue the sale of platform and hook-and-line caught chinook and steelhead as follows: 	
Season	12:01 AM Tuesday August 1 until further notice.
Area:	All of Zone 6.
Sanctuaries:	Standard river mouth and dam sanctuaries applicable to these gear types are in effect.
Gear:	Hoopnets, dipnets, and hook-and-line.
Allowable Sales:	Chinook, coho, steelhead, walleye, carp and shad. Sockeye may not be sold, but may be kept for subsistence use. Sturgeon may not be sold except during open sturgeon setline fishing periods in Bonneville and The Dalles pools. Sturgeon between 48-60 inches in The Dalles and John Day pools, and sturgeon between 45-60 inches in the Bonneville Pool may be kept for subsistence use.
Miscellaneous Rules:	Fish caught during Yakama Nation's scheduled open tributary fishing periods in the Klickitat and White Salmon rivers may be sold when the sale of platform and hook-and-line fish is allowed.
Quick Reporting Rules will be in effect for Washington buyers.	

<i>Treaty Indian Sturgeon Setline Fishery</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt the following setline sturgeon fishery: 	
Season	6 AM Monday July 31 through 6 PM Tuesday August 15 (or when guidelines are met)
Area:	Bonneville and The Dalles pools
Sanctuaries:	Standard sanctuaries applicable to this gear type are in effect.
Gear:	Setlines with a minimum hook size of 9/0. Fishers are encouraged to use circle hooks and avoid J-hooks.
Allowable Sales:	Sturgeon between 45-60 inches in length in Bonneville Pool and 48-60 inches in The Dalles Pool may be sold or kept for subsistence use. Platform hook and line caught sturgeon between 45-60 inches in length in Bonneville Pool and 48-60 inches in The Dalles Pool may be sold during the open setline fishery. John Day Pool remains closed, but sturgeon between 48-60" in John Day Pool may be kept only for subsistence purposes.
Miscellaneous Rules:	Quick Reporting Rules will be in effect for Washington buyers.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- The Joint Staff recommends a Compact hearing be held on Thursday August 10 via teleconference to consider non-Indian commercial fishing periods during the week of August 14.
- An additional Compact hearing could be scheduled for Thursday August 17 to consider non-Indian and treaty Indian commercial fishing seasons beginning the week of August 20 or the week of August 27.

2006 FALL SELECT AREA FISHERIES

Management Considerations and Expected Returns

Salmon Management

- Select Area fishery impacts on non-local and listed Columbia River salmon and steelhead are addressed in the BA for fisheries covered in the "2005-2007 Interim Management Agreement for Upriver Chinook, Sockeye, Steelhead, Coho and White Sturgeon".
- Select Area bright (SAB) fall Chinook escapement requirements include 300 females to maintain the broodstock program (recently transferred to CEDC's S.F. Klaskanine Hatchery) and 600-900 females for full production.
- Big Creek Hatchery needs approximately 3,000 fall Chinook (LRH) to achieve a minimum broodstock goal of 1,500 females. This requires an escapement of about 4,000 fish to the mouth of Big Creek as instream mortalities and natural spawn can exceed 1,000 fish.

Sturgeon Allocation

- Sturgeon landings will be managed in accordance with protocol adopted at the December 15, 2005 Compact hearing (described above).
 - ✓ Weekly landing limits will apply to both mainstem and Select Area fisheries.
 - ✓ Given the current balance of 83 white sturgeon available for harvest in SAFE fall fisheries, in-season action may be required to maintain harvest within the 400 fish annual SAFE guideline.

Expected Returns

- Average coho returns are expected for Blind Slough and Deep River in 2006. Returns to Youngs Bay and Tongue Point are predicted to be below average due to decreased releases at these sites since 2004 and 2005, respectively.
- The 2006 predicted SAB fall Chinook return continues the recent trend of

<i>Salmon Returns to Select Area Fishing Sites During Fall of 2006</i>		
Select Area	Expected Adult Return To Select Areas	Harvest Potential
Youngs Bay	28,000 early coho 6,000 SAB fall Chinook	28,000 ≤4,800
Big Creek Hatchery	4,000 tule fall Chinook	≤ 1,000
Tongue Point	5,000 early coho	5,000
Blind Slough	2,500 early coho	2,500
Deep River	2,500 early coho	2,500

high returns; however, landings of SABs in Select Area fisheries and egg collections at Klaskanine Hatchery have generally not achieved preseason goals.

- Based on the preseason forecast and a season structure similar to 2005, tule fall Chinook returns to Big Creek Hatchery are expected to be ~1,500 fish below the hatchery escapement goal of 3,000 adults. Proposed season modifications should result in approximately 4,000 adult fish returning.

Past Fisheries and Management

Big Creek Fishery

- The Big Creek terminal fishery occurs intermittently when stock abundance allows.
- Past fisheries have had minor impacts on non-local stocks.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Chinook</u>	<u>Coho</u>	<u>W. Sturgeon</u>
1983	1,200	6	11
1987	14,700	746	3
1988	9,200	172	1
1996	3,400	143	25
1997	2,000	55	20
2002	Included in Blind Slough Landings (2,760 CHF)		
2003	Included in Blind Slough Landings (1,903 CHF)		
2004	Included in Blind Slough Landings (6,235 CHF)		
2005	Included in Blind Slough Landings (2,124 CHF)		

Youngs Bay Fishery

- The fishery has occurred annually since 1962, but has increased in importance since 1975 with involvement of the CEDC Fisheries Project that pioneered the net-pen acclimation program, and establishment of the BPA-funded Select Area Fisheries (SAFE) Project in 1993.
- Fall SAFE fisheries target net-pen produced coho with a 100% harvest goal and provide moderate harvest opportunity for SAB fall Chinook while allowing adequate escapement to Klaskanine Hatchery for broodstock needs.
- Impacts to non-local stocks have typically been low in this fishery.
- Since 1993, commercial fishing periods prior to late August have been limited to increase escapement of SAB fall Chinook to Klaskanine Hatchery while also providing recreational fishing opportunity in the upper Youngs Bay area.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Chinook</u>	<u>Coho</u>	<u>Chum</u>	<u>W. Sturgeon</u>
1996	62	1,439	15,783	3	85
1997	66	1,726	13,649	2	76
1998	64	1,225	20,121	2	102
1999	59	1,589	15,911	2	99
2000	61	1,744	33,214	1	88
2001	62	2,040	25,469	1	21
2002	66	3,774	51,859	0	96
2003	63	4,271	91,425	0	45
2004	66	3,890	34,613	1	23
2005	63	4,289	42,361	1	37

Other Select Area Fisheries

- Fisheries in Tongue Point/South Channel, Blind Slough/Knappa Slough, and Deep River were established in 1996 as part of the SAFE Project and are intended to allow for 100% harvest of net-pen produced coho salmon. The Steamboat Slough fishery was initiated in 2000.
- 2005 was the last fishing season in Steamboat Slough since coho releases were terminated at this site in 2004 (2002 brood).

<i>Landings During Fall Seasons in Other Select Area Fishing Sites, 1996-2005</i>					
		<u>Coho</u>	<u>Chinook</u>	<u>Chum</u>	<u>W. Sturgeon</u>
<u>1996</u>	Tongue Point	1,955	50	0	-
	Blind Slough	2,301	82	2	-
	Deep River	2,240	35	0	-
<u>1997</u>	Tongue Point	861	180	1	-
	Blind Slough	1,605	32	0	-
	Deep River	821	149	1	-
<u>1998</u>	Tongue Point	3,398	431	1	68
	Blind Slough	615	95	0	1
<u>1999</u>	Tongue Point	3,659	339	0	106
	Blind Slough	1,958	167	0	4
	Deep River	1,426	48	2	0
<u>2000</u>	Tongue Point	10,731	253	0	59
	Blind Slough	3,398	132	0	9
	Deep River	14,039	109	1	0
	Steamboat Slough	463	78	0	1
<u>2001</u>	Tongue Point	2,021	116	0	0
	Blind Slough	3,764	793	0	0
	Deep River	2,491	149	0	0
	Steamboat Slough	26	0	0	0
<u>2002</u>	Tongue Point	15,560	1,708	0	202
	Blind Slough	1,449	2,760	0	33
	Deep River	303	145	1	3
	Steamboat Slough	105	183	0	0
<u>2003</u>	Tongue Point	15,598	2,451	0	97
	Blind Slough	3,816	1,903	0	28
	Deep River	3,333	168	0	3
	Steamboat Slough	107	44	0	0
<u>2004</u>	Tongue Point	10,196	2,124	0	33
	Blind Slough	1,355	6,235	0	59
	Deep River	5,780	400	0	2
	Steamboat Slough	0	0	0	0
<u>2005</u>	Tongue Point	19,083	1,919	0	29
	Blind Slough	1,777	2,124	0	0
	Deep River	2,586	364	0	8
	Steamboat Slough	0	0	0	0

- Catch composition in these fisheries includes relatively low levels of non-local coho with limited impacts to non-local fall Chinook and chum.
- Sturgeon sales in other Select Areas were not allowed prior to 1998.

Fishery Proposals

- A public meeting was held July 20 in Astoria prior to developing fall SAFE fishery proposals; however, regulations and season structure proposed in 2006 are generally consistent with those adopted since 2001.
- General considerations for 2006 SAFE fall fisheries include:
 - ✓ As occurred during 1996-2003, all SAFE fishing areas (except Youngs Bay) will open for coho-directed fisheries following Labor Day with similar fishing days and hours to reduce congestion.
 - ✓ An 8-inch maximum mesh restriction in Youngs Bay during most of August will focus harvest on SAB fall Chinook. A 6-inch maximum mesh size restriction is required in all areas during late August through October to target coho and reduce handle of white sturgeon and Chinook salmon.
 - ✓ Modest (30-36 hour) weekly fishing periods in Youngs Bay during most of August combined with downstream relocation of the upper fishing boundary to Battle Creek Slough (August-October) will allow for harvest of SAB fall Chinook while permitting necessary hatchery escapement.
 - ✓ Continuous fishing opportunity in Youngs Bay from early September through October will maximize harvest of larger coho returns at this site. Weekend closures and primarily nighttime fishing periods through mid-September are planned in all other Select Areas to minimize interaction with recreational boaters.

Big Creek Fishery

- Returns of tule fall Chinook to Big Creek Hatchery are anticipated to be lower than in recent years; therefore, a target Chinook fishery in Knappa Slough during August is not planned for 2006.
- Initiating fishing periods after Labor Day and postponing expanded hours for fisheries in Tongue Point/South Channel and in Blind/Knappa Slough will provide an additional conservation measure for Big Creek fall Chinook.

Tongue Point/South Channel Fishery

- All waters in this fishing area are concurrent jurisdiction waters and require Compact action.
- A license from either Oregon or Washington is required to participate in this fishery.

<i>Joint Staff Recommendation for Tongue Point/South Channel Fishery</i>	
Season:	<p>Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights from September 5 through September 15 (6 nights) <u>and</u> Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights from September 18 through October 27 (24 nights)</p> <p>Open 7 PM – 7 AM (12 hours) from September 5 through September 22 and 4 PM – 8 AM (16 hours) thereafter.</p>
Areas:	<p>Tongue Point and South Channel areas open entire season.</p> <p>The Tongue Point fishing area includes all waters bounded by a line from a marker midway between the red USCG navigation light #2 at the tip of Tongue Point and the downstream (northern most) pier (#8) at the Tongue Point Job Corps facility, to the flashing green USCG navigation light #3 on the rock jetty at the west end of Mott Island, a line from a marker at the southeast end of Mott Island northeasterly to a marker on the northwest tip of Lois Island, and a line from a marker on the southwest end of Lois Island westerly to a marker on the Oregon shore.</p> <p>The South Channel area includes all waters bounded by a line from a marker on John Day Point through the green USCG buoy #7 to a marker on the southwest end of Lois Island upstream to an upper boundary line from a marker on Settler Point northwesterly to the flashing red USCG marker #10, northwesterly to a marker on Burnside Island defining the upstream terminus of South Channel.</p>
Gear:	<p>In the Tongue Point fishing area, restrict gear to 6-inch maximum mesh size, maximum length of 250 fathoms, and weight not to exceed two pounds in any one fathom.</p> <p>In the South Channel fishing area, restrict gear to 6-inch maximum mesh size, maximum net length of 100 fathoms, and no weight restriction on leadline. Use of additional weights or anchors attached directly to the leadline is allowed.</p> <p>Participants in the Tongue Point fishery may have stored onboard their boats gill nets with leadline in excess of two pounds per any one fathom.</p>
Allowable Sales:	<p>Salmon and sturgeon. A maximum of five white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each vessel participating each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday). The sturgeon possession and sales limit includes mainstem and Select Area fisheries.</p> <p>Green sturgeon harvest is prohibited</p>
Miscellaneous Regulations:	<p>Special transportation permits are not required to take fish outside the fishing area. Permanent transportation rules are in effect.</p>

- ✓ South Channel is open concurrent with the Tongue Point fishing area throughout the season to reduce congestion and maximize harvest of net-pen produced coho.
- ✓ Fishing periods during late September through October open earlier to provide additional daylight fishing opportunities as previously requested by industry.

Blind Slough/Knappa Slough Fishery

- Concurrent jurisdiction waters extend downstream from the Railroad Bridge in Blind Slough and encompass all of Knappa Slough and require Compact action.
- Oregon State waters extend upstream from the Railroad Bridge in Blind Slough and require Oregon State action.
- An Oregon license is required in Oregon State waters and either an Oregon or Washington license is required in concurrent jurisdiction waters.

<i>Joint Staff Recommendation for Blind Slough/Knappa Slough Fishery</i>	
Season:	Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights from September 5 through September 15 (6 nights) <u>and</u> Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights from September 18 through October 27 (24 nights) Open 7 PM – 7 AM (12 hours) from September 5 through September 22 and 6 PM - 8 AM (14 hours) thereafter.
Areas:	The Blind Slough fishing area includes all waters from markers at the mouth of Gnat Creek located approximately ½-mile upstream of the county road bridge, downstream to markers at the mouth of Blind Slough. The Knappa Slough fishing area includes all waters bounded by a line from the north marker at the mouth of Blind Slough, westerly to a marker on Karlson Island, downstream to boundary lines defined by markers on the west end of Minaker Island to markers on Karlson Island and the Oregon shore. An area closure of about a 100’ radius at the mouth of Big Creek is defined by markers.
Gear:	In both fishing areas, restrict gear to a 6-inch maximum mesh size, maximum net length of 100 fathoms, and no weight restriction on leadline. Use of additional weights or anchors attached directly to the leadline is allowed.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon and sturgeon. A maximum of five white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each vessel participating each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday). The sturgeon possession and sales limit includes mainstem and Select Area fisheries. Green sturgeon harvest is prohibited
Miscellaneous Regulations:	Special transportation permits are not required to take fish outside the fishing area. Permanent transportation rules are in effect.

- ✓ Season modifications should result in adequate Chinook escapement to Big Creek Hatchery; however, in-season action may be required to delay the opening in Knappa Slough if landings in mainstem commercial and recreational fisheries are tracking lower than preseason expectations.
- ✓ Historic nighttime fishing periods (expanded after late September) minimize potential interaction with sport fishers at the mouth of Big Creek and recreational boaters launching from Blind Slough.
- ✓ The 6-inch maximum mesh size restriction will focus the fishery on coho and reduce Chinook harvest.

Deep River Fishery

- Concurrent jurisdiction waters extend downstream from the Highway #4 Bridge and require Compact action.
- Washington state waters extend upstream from the Highway #4 Bridge and require Washington state action.
- A Washington license is required in Washington state waters and either a Washington or Oregon license is required in concurrent jurisdiction waters.

<i>Joint Staff Recommendation for Deep River Fishery</i>	
Season:	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights from September 4 through October 27 (32 nights) Open 7 PM – 7 AM (12 hours) from September 4 through September 22 and 4 PM – 8 AM (16 hours) thereafter.
Area:	The Deep River fishing area includes all waters downstream of the town of Deep River to the mouth defined by a line from USCG navigation marker #16 southwest to a marker on the Washington shore.
Gear:	Restrict gear to 6-inch maximum mesh size, maximum net length of 100 fathoms, and no weight restriction on leadline. Use of additional weights or anchors attached directly to the leadline is allowed. No nets can be tied off to stationary structures. Nets may not fully cross the navigation channel.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon and sturgeon. A maximum of five white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each vessel participating each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday). The sturgeon possession and sales limit includes mainstem and Select Area fisheries. Green sturgeon harvest is prohibited
Miscellaneous Regulations:	Special transportation rules are not required to take fish outside the fishing area. Permanent transportation rules are in effect.

- ✓ Four fishing periods per week throughout the season as requested by industry should increase effort and harvest potential.
- ✓ Proposed fishing hours are concurrent with Tongue Point/South Channel.

Youngs Bay Fishery

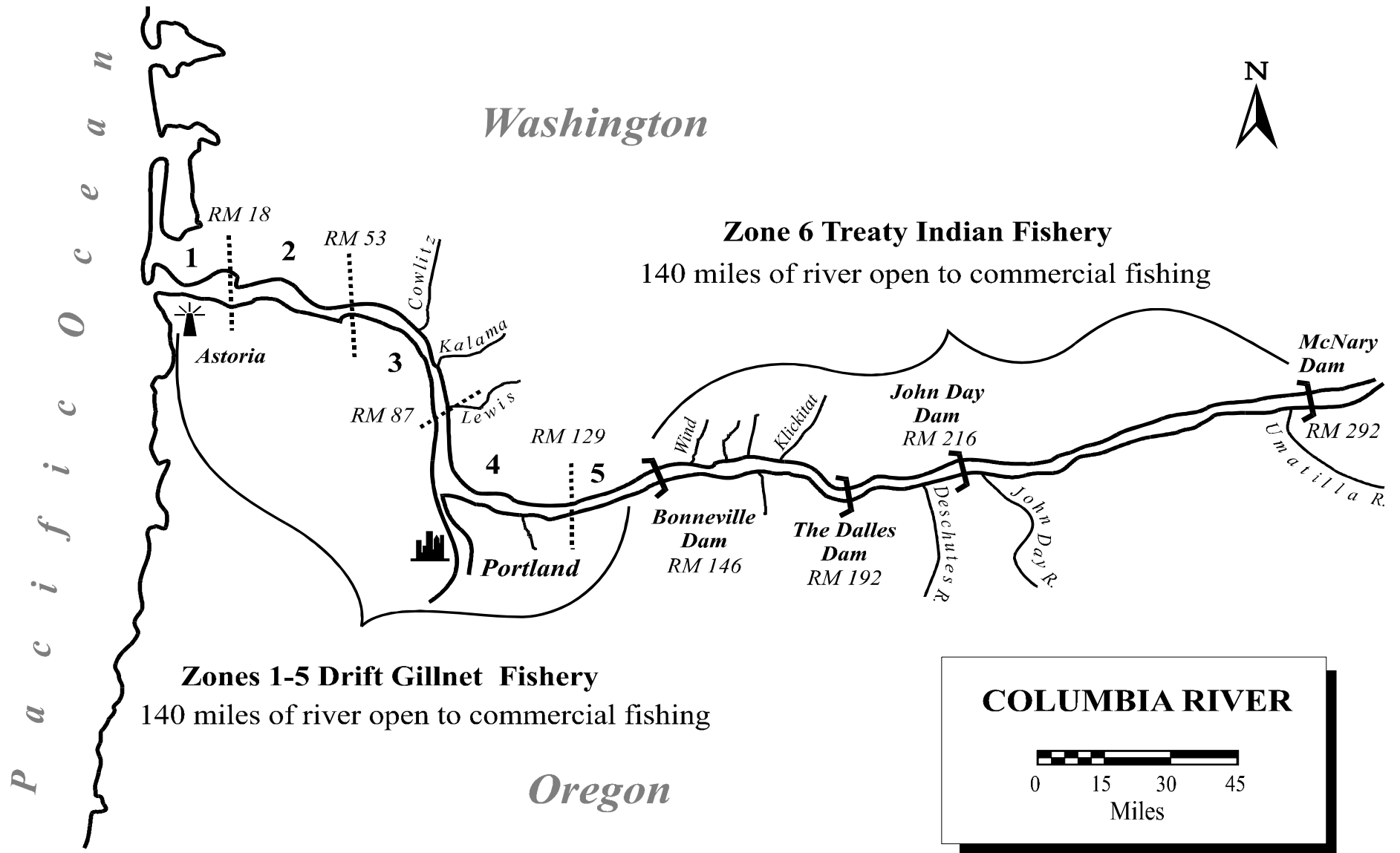
- All waters in this fishing area are Oregon State waters and require Oregon State action.
- An Oregon license is required to participate in this fishery.

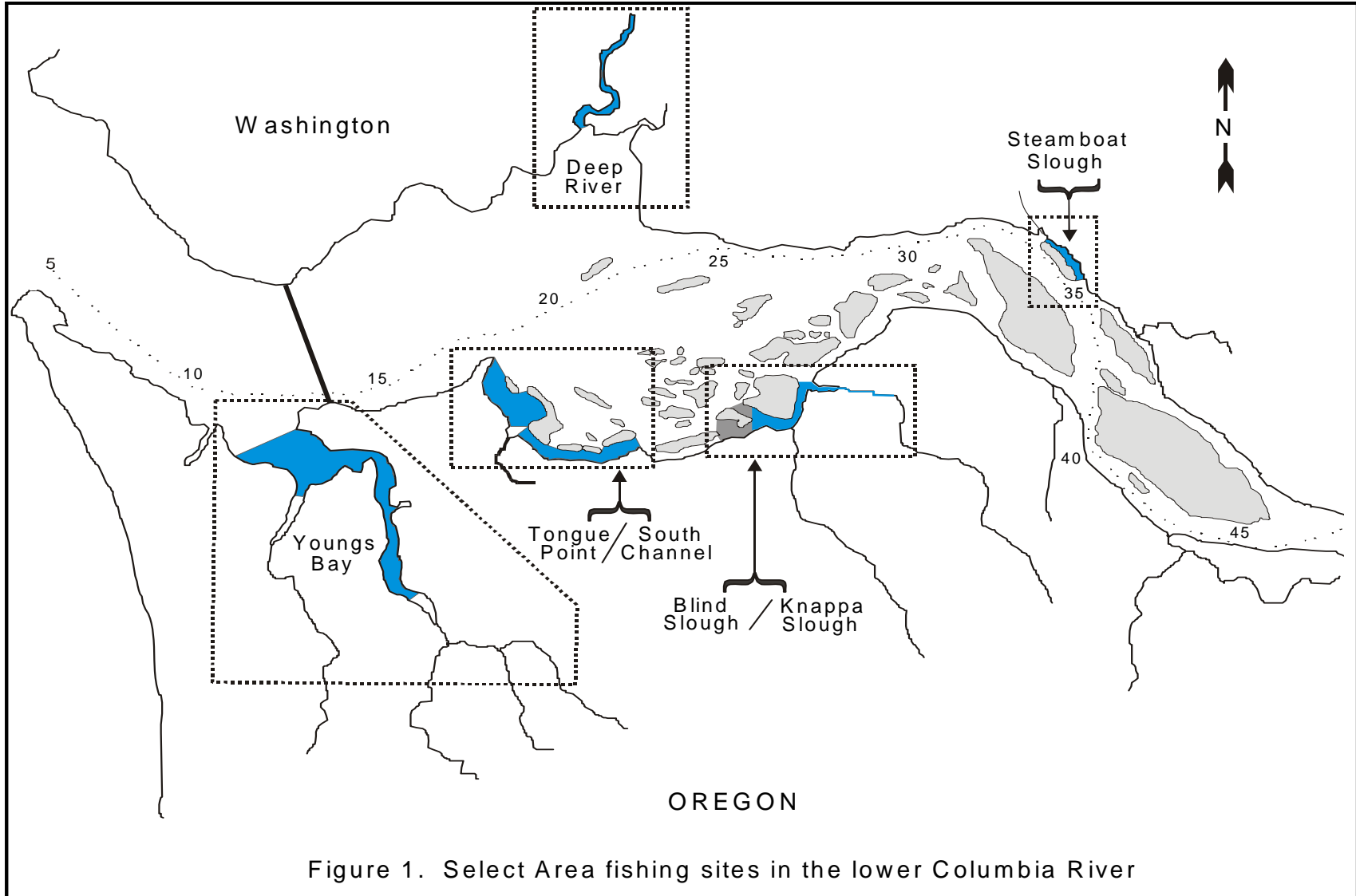
<i>Staff Recommendation for Youngs Bay Fishery</i>	
Season:	6 AM Wednesday August 2 to 6 PM Thursday August 3 (36 hours) 6 AM Wednesday August 9 to 6 PM Thursday August 10 (36 hours) 6 AM Wednesday August 16 to noon Thursday August 17 (30 hours) 6 AM Wednesday August 23 to noon Thursday August 24 (30 hours) 6 AM Tuesday August 29 to 6 AM Friday September 1 (3 days) 7 PM Tuesday September 5 - noon Tuesday October 31 (56 days)
Area:	The Youngs Bay fishing area includes all waters from the new Highway 101 Bridge upstream to the upper boundary markers at Battle Creek Slough; except for closed waters southerly of the alternate Highway 101 Bridge (Lewis and Clark River).
Gear:	8-inch maximum mesh size restriction through August 24 and 6-inch maximum mesh size restriction thereafter. Restrict net to maximum length of 250 fathoms and weight on leadline not to exceed two pounds in any one fathom. Use of additional weights or anchors attached directly to the leadline is not allowed in Youngs Bay during fall seasons. Red corks are required at 25-fathom intervals and red corks must be in contrast to corks used in the remainder of the net.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon and sturgeon. A maximum of five white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each vessel participating each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday). The sturgeon possession and sales limit includes mainstem and Select Area fisheries. Green sturgeon harvest is prohibited
Miscellaneous Regulations:	Special transportation rules are not required to take fish outside the fishing area. Permanent transportation rules are in effect.

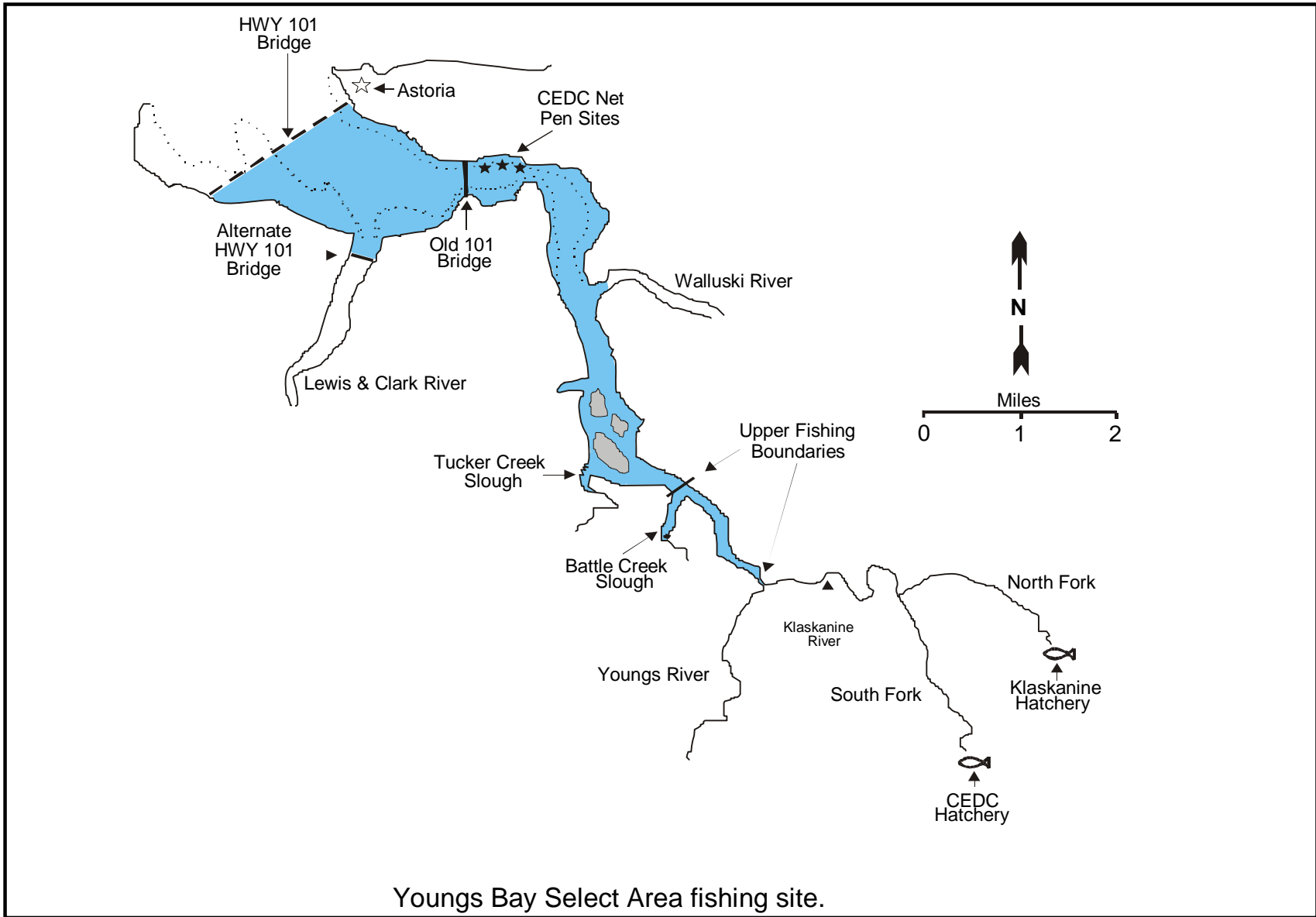
- ✓ Youngs Bay August fishing periods are designed to provide some commercial harvest opportunity on SAB fall Chinook while allowing for escapement to Klaskanine Hatchery and tidewater recreational fisheries.
- ✓ Lowering the upper fishing boundary to Battle Creek Slough is intended to protect SAB fall Chinook destined for Klaskanine Hatchery.
- ✓ Similar to 2005, the first two fishing periods in August are extended (+6 hours) to allow some additional harvest opportunity early in the season per industry request.
- ✓ The 3-day fishing period during the week prior to Labor Day weekend provides a reasonable harvest opportunity when abundance of local stocks are increasing, and facilitates direct marketing of fish to the general public during the holiday weekend.
- ✓ Per industry request, the 7 PM start time on September 5 maintains concurrent openings among all Select Areas.
- ✓ Continuous fishing after Labor Day in Youngs Bay is intended to maximize harvest of net-pen produced coho.
- ✓ The 8-inch maximum mesh size restriction targets the fishery on Chinook during most of August and the 6-inch maximum mesh size restriction targets the fishery on coho as their abundance begins to peak.

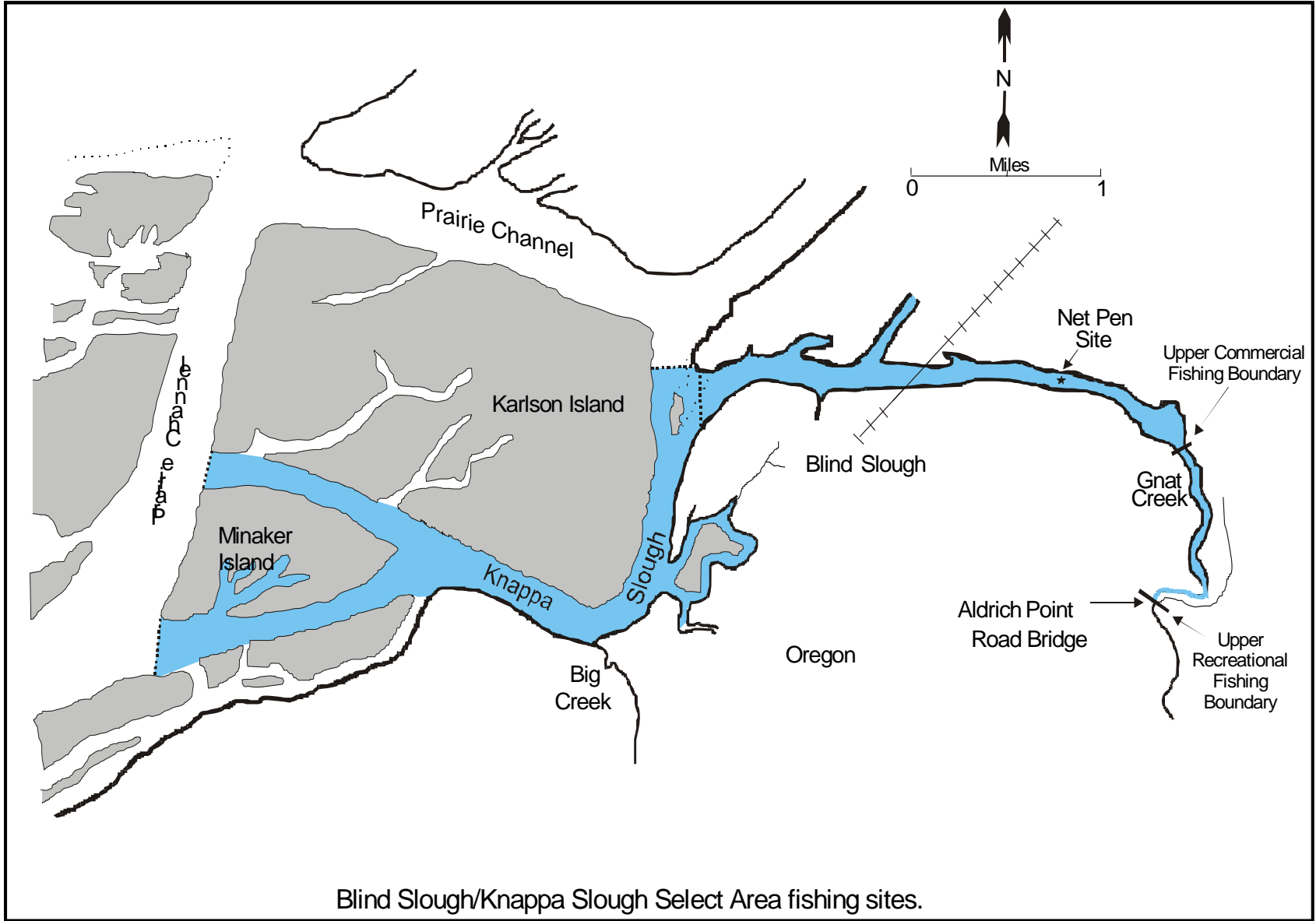
Select Area Sport Fisheries

- As per permanent regulations, Youngs Bay, Tongue Point/Sough Channel, and Blind Slough/Knappa Slough Select Areas are open the entire year for retention of Chinook and adipose fin-clipped coho with a two fish bag limit in any combination. Chinook retained during January 31 – July 31 must be fin-clipped in Youngs Bay and associated tributaries, and adipose fin-clipped in other Select Areas and tributaries.
- As per permanent regulations listed in 2006-07 Washington State Sport Fishing Rules pamphlet, the Deep River and Steamboat Slough Select Areas are open for salmon August 1-December 31. See site-specific regulations for season dates and bag limits.
- Since 2005, the North Fork Klaskanine River is closed to angling upstream of the Olney Lane Bridge during September 1-October 15 to protect migrating SAB broodstock.

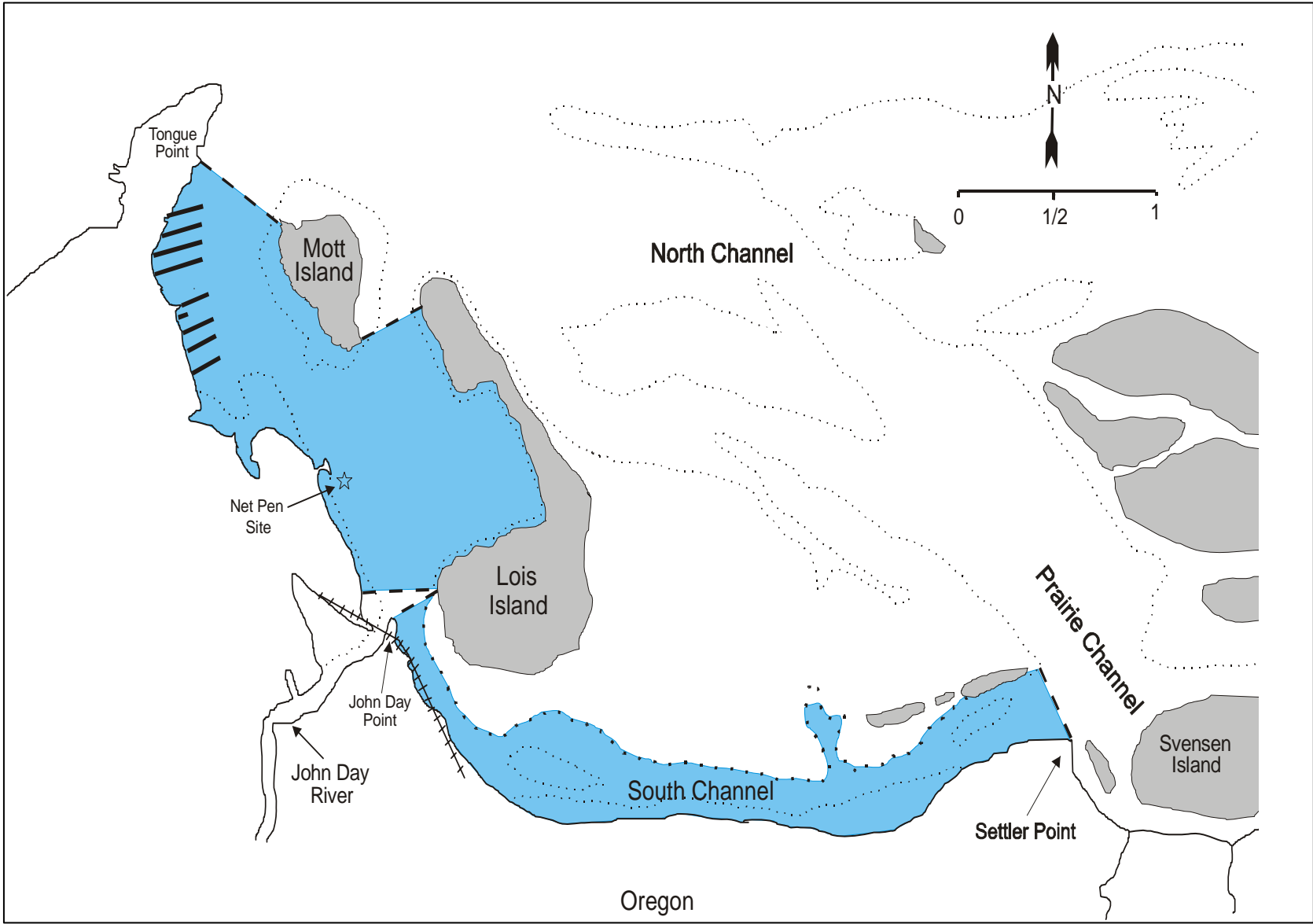








Blind Slough/Knappa Slough Select Area fishing sites.



Tongue Point/ South Channel Select Area Fishing Sites

