

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT – SUMMER FACT SHEET
FINAL 2006 IN-SEASON SUMMARY
August 14, 2006

Stock Status

Upper Columbia Summer Chinook

- Upper Columbia summer Chinook pass Bonneville Dam during June 16 through July 31 and are destined for areas above Priest Rapids Dam.
- These Chinook are not listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the population is considered healthy. The population consists of both hatchery and natural origin fish.
- The 2006 pre-season forecast to the Columbia River mouth was 49,000 fish and was upgraded in-season to 87,000 fish. The preliminary final run size is estimated to be 78,600.
- Bonneville Dam counts of summer Chinook between June 16 and July 31 totaled 67,819 adults and 3,407 jacks.

Sockeye

- The pre-season forecast for sockeye was 31,100 fish and was upgraded in-season to 40,000 fish. The final in-season run size estimate by TAC was 37,000.
- Bonneville Dam counts for sockeye through August 8 total 37,013 fish.

Management Guidelines

- Harvestable summer Chinook are allocated through the *U.S. v Oregon* Management Agreement, the draft Upper Columbia Management agreement, and through Commission guidance.
- Sockeye were not available for harvest in non-Indian fisheries based on pre-season and in-season run size estimates and the *US v Oregon* Management Agreement.
- As part of the annual 8,000 sturgeon commercial guideline, 500 sturgeon were set aside for summer commercial fisheries.

Fisheries Review

Sport Fisheries below Priest Rapids Dam

- Summer Chinook sport fisheries were non-selective with a two Chinook bag limit and were open from the Tongue Point/Rocky Point line upstream to Priest Rapids Dam during June 16-July 31.
- Approximately 44,300 angler trips below Bonneville Dam resulted in an estimated 4,952 kept (3,360 in June and 1,592 in July) and 16 released Chinook, and 3,969 kept and 1,567 released steelhead. Catch rates averaged 0.18 Chinook/angler during June and 0.06 Chinook/angler during July.
- The preliminary catch estimate for fisheries above Bonneville Dam is less than 200 Chinook.

Non-Indian Commercial Fisheries

- A total of thirteen 10-12 hour fishing periods were conducted in Zones 1-5 with an 8-inch minimum mesh restriction. A limit of three sturgeon per week was in place throughout the season. Effective July 7, green sturgeon retention was prohibited in response to the new ESA listing.
- Landings for the season totaled 4,819 Chinook and 544 white sturgeon. The number of deliveries ranged from 20-86 per period. Chinook prices averaged \$2.48/lb (range \$2.00-\$3.50).

Treaty-Indian Commercial Fisheries

- 6 weekly periods ranging between 2 ½ - 4 ½ days/week took place between June 20 and July 27.
- Preliminary catch includes 16,318 Chinook, 1,345 steelhead, and 53 walleye.