

**TRIBAL STAFF REPORT
SUMMER FACT SHEET No. 3
Columbia River Compact
June 30, 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 1,000 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 June 29 TAC updated the projection for summer Chinook to 93,000 and to 40,000 for sockeye. Based on the upgraded projections the tribes propose modifying next week's fishing period to start at 6 am Monday July 3. The expected gillnet catch for modified fishing period is about 5,200 Chinook and 300 sockeye. With the estimated platform catch through July 31 and no additional gillnet fishing, the total Chinook harvest would be 11,418(12.3%) out of a total treaty guideline of 26,625. The sockeye harvest would be 1,584(4.0%) 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		45		1,000		60		1,000		40	1,350
Gillnet #1	6/20-6/22 2.5 days	271	2,618		2,618		134		134		30	30
Subtotal			2,663		3,618		194		1,134		70	1,380
Gillnet #2	6/27-6/29 2.5 days	270			2,600				150			50
Proposed Gillnet #3	7/3-7/7 4.5 days	270			5,200				300			100
Total			2,663	3.0%	11,418	12.3%	194	0.5%	1,584	4.0%	170	1,530

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

Treaty Indian Commercial Fishery Proposal

Recommendation	
	Commercial Gillnet Fishery (4.5 days per week)
Dates:	6:00 AM Monday, July 3 until 6:00 PM Friday, July 7
Area:	All of Zone 6
Gear:	7 inch minimum mesh size restriction
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)