

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

**JOINT STAFF REPORT
WINTER FACT SHEET NO. 7
Columbia River Compact
March 13, 2006**

Fisheries under consideration: Non-Indian commercial salmon

Management guidelines and run forecasts for the 2006 spring season were presented in the Winter Fact Sheet #2 (January 26, 2006)

Chinook and Steelhead During 2006 Winter Fishery										
Fishing Period	Gear	Del	Chinook Kept			Chinook Released			Sthd Handle	
			Total Kept	Upriver Stock	L River Stock	Total Rel	Upriver Stock	L River Stock	Wild Winter	White Sturgeon
Sturgeon Season	9"	74	39	0	39	5	0	5	0	288
Feb 23-24 (24 hr) + Mar 2-3 (24 hr)	8"	86	239	21	218	10	4	6	14	36
Mar 7-8 (24 hr) + Mar 9-10 (18 hrs)	8"	124	363	71	292	52	27	25	17	20
Total		286	641	92	549	67	31	36	31	344

- Non-Indian upriver spring Chinook mainstem impacts to date are estimated to be 0.053%, or 9.72% of the 0.545% mainstem commercial impact guideline. Impacts to wild winter steelhead are 0.058%, or 2.90% of the 2.00% limit.
- SAFE fisheries have landed an estimated 38 Chinook and 3 sturgeon through March 9. All landings are from Youngs Bay. A total of 2 upriver Chinook have been observed, resulting in impacts of .002%, or 2% of the 0.100% allocated to Select Areas
- Upriver spring Chinook impacts combined total 0.055%, or 8.53% of the 0.645% allocated to commercial fisheries.

2006 Spring Chinook Commercial Fishery -- Preliminary Observation Data																							
Fishery	Date	Mesh Size (Inches)	# Drifts	Lower R.			UpRiver			No VSI			Total Chinook	Ratio			Total Steelhead	Steelhead				Upriver Chinook	Marked Chinook
				Clipped	No Clip	Unk	Clipped	No Clip	Unk	Clipped	No Clip	Unk		Chinook/Drift	Sthd/Drift	Chinook /Sthd		Clipped	No Clip	Unk	DNA count		
Full Fleet	Feb 23-24	8-9	25	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0.1	0.1	1.0	2	1	1	0	1	0%	100%
Test	Feb 28-29	4.25	13	4	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	6	0.5	0.9	0.5	12	6	6	0	6	33%	100%
Full Fleet	Mar 2-3	8-9	43	13	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	17	0.4	0.0	17.0	1	1	0	0	0	6%	94%
Test	Mar 5	4.25	14	5	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	7	0.5	0.4	1.4	5	3	2	0	1	14%	86%
Full Fleet	Mar 7-8	8-9	36	2	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	6	0.2	0.1	3.0	2	1	1	0	1	50%	67%
Full Fleet	Mar 9-10	8-9	33	16	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	18	0.5	0.0	18.0	1	1	0	0	0	6%	94%
Test	Mar 12	4.25	12	2	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	8	0.7	1.3	0.5	15	8	7	0	6	25%	50%

Recommendation

Season:	12:00 (noon) Tuesday March 14 through 6 AM Wednesday March 15, 2006 (18 hours)
Area:	Zones 1-4, upstream to Kelley Point.
Sanctuaries:	Grays River, Elokom-B, Abernathy Creek, Cowlitz River, Kalama-B, and Lewis-B.
Gear:	8" minimum and 9 ³ / ₄ " maximum mesh size restriction. Use of monofilament nets is allowed.
Allowable Sales:	Adipose fin-clipped Chinook salmon, sturgeon, and shad
Participants:	Columbia River commercial fishers with appropriate licenses and legal gear that attended a state-sponsored workshop concerning live capture commercial fishing techniques.
Miscellaneous Regulations:	Regulations were adopted at January 26, 2006 Compact, which include: Use of recovery boxes, limited soak times, red corks, net length restrictions and lighted buoy requirements. Cooperation of vessel operators to allow state monitors onboard to observe and collect data is also required. Quick Reporting Rule for Washington buyers.

- Chinook landings for the proposed fishing period are estimated at 500-700 Chinook, and the catch is expected to be 75%-80% lower river stock.
- Expected additional upriver spring Chinook impacts are $\leq 0.14\%$.
- Expected additional wild winter steelhead impacts are $\leq 0.06\%$.
- Total impacts would be 36% of the 0.545 for mainstem upriver Chinook and 6% of the 2.00% steelhead impacts

FUTURE MEETINGS

- The Joint Staff is recommending a Compact hearing be scheduled for 2:00 PM Wednesday March 15 via teleconference to discuss additional salmon fishing periods and to consider modifying the mainstem smelt commercial fishery scheduled for Thursday.