

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT - FALL FACT SHEET NO. 8
Columbia River Joint State Hearing
September 13, 2006

Fisheries under consideration:	Non-Indian mainstem Columbia River sport
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Management guidelines, allocations, and preseason run forecasts for the 2006 fall season were presented in the Fall Fact Sheet #1 (July 27, 2006)

STOCK STATUS

- Bonneville Dam counts of fall Chinook total 169,941 fish through September 12, including 146,500 brights and 23,430 tules. Based on the 10-year average, 68% of the brights and 77% of the tules are over by this date.
- The TAC updated the Upriver Bright (URB) fall Chinook forecast to 198,700 fish to the Columbia River mouth. The pre-season forecast was 249,050.

2006 FALL FISHERIES REVIEW

Buoy 10 Sport Fishery

- The Buoy 10 fishery (Columbia mouth upstream to the Tongue Point/Rocky Point line) opened August 1 for Chinook, adipose fin-clipped coho, and adipose fin-clipped steelhead. The daily salmon bag limit is two fish, of which one can be a Chinook.
- Through September 10 an estimated 38,000 anglers have kept 1,700 Chinook and 3,600 coho. Total season catch expectation is 1,800 Chinook.

Mainstem Sport Fishery

- Under permanent regulations, the Columbia River opened to summer steelhead angling May 16 below the I-5 Bridge and June 16 from the I-5 Bridge to the Hwy. 395 Bridge in Pasco, Washington.
- The mainstem Columbia River (from the Tongue Point/Rocky Point line upstream to Hwy. 395 Bridge at Pasco) opened for Chinook and coho on August 1. Non-adipose fin-clipped coho must be released between from the Tongue Point/Rocky Point line upstream to the Hood River Bridge. The daily salmon bag limit is two adults per day with only one Chinook per day allowed downstream of Bonneville Dam.
- Below Bonneville Dam Chinook catch:
 - August 1-September 10 (preliminary) = 12,500 fish
 - Through Friday September 15 (projected) = 14,500 fish
 - Through Sunday September 17 (projected) = 15,500 fish
- Mainstem sport above Bonneville Dam (projected):
 - Thru September 12 = 25% complete
 - Thru September 14 = 30% complete
 - Thru September 24 = 50% complete

2006 INSEASON Projected Impacts at Various Run Sizes			
	Chinook Catch	URB Allocation at Run Size	
		249,050	198,700
URB's Allocation (4.13% of run)		10,260	8,200
<i>B10</i>	1,800	440	440
<i>LCR</i>	14,500	8,900	8,900
<i>Z6</i>	700	430	350
Subtotal Sport Catch	17,000	9,770	9,690
Remaining URB Allocation		490	-1,490
Percent of Run		3.92%	4.87%
% of Sport Allocation Used		95%	117%

Joint Staff Recommendation

- Prohibit the retention of Chinook salmon in Columbia River recreational fisheries from Rocky Point/Tongue Point line to Bonneville Dam effective 12:01 AM Friday September 15, 2006.

Joint Staff Recommendation

- Prohibit the retention of Chinook salmon in Columbia River recreational fisheries from Bonneville Dam upstream to the Highway 395 bridge in Pasco, Washington effective 12:01 AM Saturday September 16, 2006.

- ✓ Considering the
 - In-season URB run size forecast,
 - In-season CWT data,
 - B10 and Zone 6 catch projections,
 - And the sport allocation of URB impacts,
- ✓ The mainstem LCR sport fishery will exceed the URB impact limit set aside for that fishery.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- A Compact hearing is scheduled for **9:30 a.m. Thursday September 14** to consider additional treaty Indian and late fall non-Indian commercial fishing periods. The meeting room is in the Council Chambers at Kalama City Hall, 320 N. 1st Street, Kalama, Washington 98625.