

**OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT - FALL FACT SHEET NO. 12
Columbia River Compact
September 29, 2006**

Fisheries Under Consideration: Non-Treaty Commercial Fisheries
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MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Management guidelines, allocations, and run size forecasts for the 2006 fall season were presented in the 2006 Fall Fact Sheets #1 and #9

STOCK STATUS

Summer Steelhead

- Based on counts through September 25, the TAC upgraded Group A and Group B steelhead run sizes to 258,400 Group A (including 65,600 wild) and 53,300 Group B (including 10,800 wild) for a total of 311,700 summer steelhead passing Bonneville Dam.

Fall Chinook

- TAC has updated the river mouth run size to 391,100 adults, including 208,300 URBs.

Fall Chinook Adult Returns to the Columbia River Mouth					
	2005	2006	2006 TAC Update		
Stock	Return	Preseason Forecast	15-Sep	20-Sep	26-Sep
LRH	78,200	57,500	57,500	57,500	57,500
LRW	16,800	16,600	16,600	16,600	16,600
BPH	93,100	51,800	36,800	38,600	34,700
URB	268,700	249,050	198,700	206,600	208,300
MCB	98,000	86,600	73,400	75,600	61,600
SAB	6,600	12,400	12,400	12,400	12,400
Total	561,400	473,950	395,400	407,300	391,100

- Lower Columbia hatchery returns to date have been less than expected, base on preseason projections. Large sanctuaries are in effect to allow more fish to escape to the tributaries.

2006 Lower River Adult Fall Chinook Hatchery Returns						
Hatchery/Stock	Returns	As of:	Preseason Projected	In-season Projection	Hatchery Goal	Comments
*Elochoman LRH	850	27-Sep	900	1,100	1,400	Behind on Broodstock
Cowlitz LRH	1,700	27-Sep	2,800	5,300	2,700	On Track
*Toutle LRH	950	27-Sep	2,500	2,300	1,600	On Track
Kalama LRH	2,300	27-Sep	2,800	2,700	2,700	Behind on Broodstock
Washougal LRH	1,100	27-Sep	5,700		2,500	Too early
Total WA LRH	6,900		14,700	11,400	10,900	
<i>*Actual hatchery goals are ~200 fish more due to mortality/fecundity rates</i>						
Willamette Falls LRH	650	21-Sep				
Big Creek LRH	1,800	25-Sep	1,508		3,000	
Total OR LRH	1,800		4,000		3,000	
Total SAB	3,630		6,100		1,500	
Bonneville BUB	8,300	26-Sep			5,750	

Early Stock Coho

- Bonneville Dam counts through September 27 total 61,500 adult coho. Passage at Bonneville Dam is typically 95% complete by September 27.
- Commercial coho landings have been within catch expectations, and hatchery returns are varied, but appear to be on track.

2006 Early Stock Coho Returns						
	Escapement					Comments
	Returns	As of:	Pre-season projection	In-season projection	Broodstock Goal	
Grays H.	0	27-Sep	2,050	0%	600	Too early
Elochoman H.	300	27-Sep	1,800	4%	400	Too early
Kalama H.	75	27-Sep	3,250	4%	700	Too early
Toutle H.	50	27-Sep	12,700	14%	400	Too early
Lewis H.	8,550	27-Sep	13,400	23%	900	Looks positive
Total Washington	8,975		33,200	0	3,000	
Big Creek H.	350	25-Sep		NA	700	Appear on target
Willamette Falls	450	21-Sep				Appear on target
Eagle Creek NFH	225	25-Sep		NA	3,500	
Sandy H.	150	27-Sep		NA	1,200	Fish in system
Bonneville H.	26,150	26-Sep		NA	5,100	On target
Total Oregon	27,325		0	NA	10,500	
Bonneville Dam	61,500	27-Sep	65,600	64,700	--	Early stock counts end Oct. 1
Marmot Dam (Sandy)	75	22-Sep				5-yr average ~900 adults, peaks in October
Faraday Dam (Clackamas)	600	25-Sep				5-yr average is 2,000 adults

FISHERY UPDATES

Non-Treaty Commercial Fisheries

- The Early Fall fishing season consisted of eight fishing periods occurred from August 2-25. An 8-inch minimum mesh size restriction was in place and a weekly landing limit of seven white sturgeon was maintained throughout the season.
- The Late Fall fishing season began September 19 with a target Chinook fishing period in all of Zones 1-5. Three additional fishing periods have occurred since, targeting white sturgeon, coho and Chinook, respectively. The sturgeon weekly landing limit was eight white sturgeon.

Non-Treaty Commercial Fishery Landings, Fall 2006				
Dates	Deliveries	Chinook	Coho	White Sturgeon
Early Fall Fisheries	<i>Ave 125</i>	<i>10,740</i>	<i>830</i>	<i>1,900</i>
Late Fall Fisheries	<i>Ave 963</i>	<i>9,600</i>	<i>10,800</i>	<i>1,375</i>
Sep 19, Z 1-5 (8")	161	6,800	2,500	700
Sep 25, Z 1-5 (9")	95	300	600	600
Sep 27, Z 1-3 (6")	122	1,000	7,300	50
Sep 27, Z 4-5 (8")	25	1,500	400	25
Season Total	528	20,340	11,630	3,275

Select Area Commercial Fisheries

- The Youngs Bay Select Area fishery is currently open seven days per week and the other Select Areas are open four nights per week through the end of October.
- Select Area landings to date are tracking below preseason expectations. Total landings for all Select Areas from August 3 through September 25 include 4,191 Chinook, 31,967 coho and 87 white sturgeon.

Sturgeon Harvest

- Through September 27, a total of 6,164 white sturgeon have been landed in commercial fisheries (including Select Areas), leaving 1,836 available for harvest.

Treaty Indian Commercial Salmon Fishery

- Preseason catch expectations for treaty Indian fisheries totaled 88,300 Chinook including 57,400 URBs.
- Five weekly fishing periods have taken place during August 21 through September 22.
- An additional week of fishing is ongoing for September 25-29 and a seventh week of fishing is in place for Oct 3-6.

2006 Total Treaty Landings					
Dates	Chinook	URB	Steelhead	Wild B	Coho
August Platform	400	300	1,400	10	10
Expected Late Fall Subsistence	100	100	400	200	
Commercial					
Aug 21-24	1,700	1500	1,300	35	100
Aug 28-Sep 1	7,100	4,200	1500	40	300
Sep 5-9	17,300	8,400	2,800	130	900
Sep 11-15	17,600	8,300	3,100	230	1,500
Sep 18-22	15,600	6,700	3,400	275	1,800
Sep 25-29 (Projected)	14,500	10,800	4,000	245	1,800
Commercial Total	73,800	39,900	16,100	955	6,400
Total	74,300	40,300	17,900	1,165	6,410

Combined URB Impacts

2006 Fall Fishery Impacts Summary			
Fishery	Chinook Catch	URB Impacts	
		Number	%
Treaty Indian Fisheries			
August C&S	460	419	0.15%
Commercial through Sep 22	59,325	29,075	13.96%
Commercial Sep 25-29 (Proj. Total)	14,500	10,800	5.18%
Commercial Oct 2-6 (Proj. Total)	8,300	5,800	2.78%
Treaty Indian Total	82,585	46,094	22.13%
Non-Treaty Fisheries			
Buoy 10 Sport (Proj. Season Total)	1,725	870	
LCR Sport (through Sep 14)	13,800	8,486	
Zone 6 Sport (through Sep 14)	190	110	
<i>Sport Total</i>	<i>15,715</i>	<i>9,466</i>	<i>4.54%</i>
Early Fall Commercial	10,728	2,470	
Select Area Commercial (Proj. Total)	4,100	49	
September Commercial Fisheries- Wk 39	6,556	2,845	
September Commercial Fisheries- Wk 40 (Proj.)	2,755	1,204	
October Commercial Fisheries (Proj.)	3,026	1,160	
<i>Commercial Total</i>	<i>27,165</i>	<i>7,729</i>	<i>3.71%</i>
Non-Treaty Total	42,880	17,195	8.25%
Non-Treaty Total Impact Limit			8.25%
Treaty Indian Total Impact Limit			23.04%
URB run Size		208,300	

- The exploitation rate to the ESA-listed LRH component is projected to be 47.8% compared to the guideline of 49%.

FISHERY PROPOSALS

October Non-Treaty Commercial Salmon Fishery

<i>Recommendation</i>	
Season:	7 AM Monday October 2 to 7 AM Tuesday October 3, 2006 (24 hours)
Area:	Zones 1-5
Sanctuaries:	Large sanctuaries: Elokomin-B, Abernathy, Cowlitz, Kalama-B, Lewis B, Sandy and Washougal rivers
Gear:	No minimum mesh size in Zones 1-3 8" minimum mesh size in Zones 4-5
Allowable Sales:	Salmon and sturgeon. A maximum of 8 white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday) that the fishery is open. Green sturgeon retention prohibited.
Miscellaneous Rules:	Quick Reporting Rules will be in effect for Washington buyers.
Expected Catch:	Coho: 5,000 Chinook: 2,400

- ✓ The Joint Staff is expecting to propose another 24-hour fishing period as described above for Thursday October 5 at the next Compact hearing.

Future Compact Hearings

- The Joint Staff is recommending that a Columbia River Compact hearing be scheduled for 1:00 p.m. Wednesday October 4, 2006 via teleconference.