

**OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT
WINTER FACT SHEET NO. 4**

**Columbia River Compact
February 26, 2007**

Fisheries under consideration: Non-Indian commercial fisheries

*Management guidelines and run forecasts for the 2007 spring season
were presented in the Winter Fact Sheet #2 (January 25, 2007)*

- 2007 non-treaty spring Chinook fisheries are limited to upriver spring Chinook impacts of 1.35% (1.5% with a 10% buffer). This limit is allocated 57% to recreational fisheries and 43% to commercial fisheries. With the management buffer in place for both fisheries, the mainstem commercial fishery will be allowed impacts 0.480% of the upriver spring Chinook run.

2007 Winter Sturgeon Fisheries

- The winter commercial sturgeon fishery concluded on February 23 with landings of 1,424 white sturgeon and 194 spring Chinook. A total of 376 fish remain available for harvest from the 1,800 sturgeon winter/spring guideline.
- Based on VSI sampling of spring Chinook (45% sample rate), 44% were of upriver origin.

2007 Winter Salmon Fisheries

- Test fishing was conducted on Sunday, February 25 in Zones 2 and 3 with a 4¼” mesh net.

2007 Spring Chinook Commercial Fishery -- Preliminary Observation Data																				
Fishery	Date	Mesh Size	# Drifts	Lower R.			UpRiver			No VSI			% Upriver	Total Chinook	Chk /Sthd	Total Steelhead	Steelhead			
				Clipped	No Clip	Unknown	Clipped	No Clip	Unknown	Clipped	No Clip	Unknown					Clipped	No Clip	Unknown	DNA count
Test	25-Feb	4¼”	14	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	4	.8	5	2	3	0	3

- Based on the increased number of upriver fish in the Chinook landings, and results of recent test fishing, the Joint Staff is not recommending a fishing period at this time and proposes to test fish again Sunday March 4.
 - Based on the preseason forecast and impact guideline (buffered at 0.481%), the Joint Staff estimates that the total season harvest would be about 3,100 Chinook if only tangle nets were used, compared to about 1,500 Chinook if only large mesh nets (8-inch) was used.
 - Based on average catch and mark rates, an estimated six days of tangle net fishing could occur prior to reaching the wild steelhead impact guideline.

2007 Summary of Upriver Spring Chinook ESA Impacts from Non- Indian Fisheries					
Non-Indian Fisheries	Preseason	To Date	Proposed	Total	Remaining
Mainstem	0.480	0.054	0.000	0.054	0.426
SAFE	0.100	0.004	0.096	0.004	0.096
Commercial Total	0.580	0.058	0.096	0.058	0.522

Future Hearings

- The Joint Staff is recommending a Compact hearing (via telephone) be scheduled for 2:00 PM Monday March 5 to consider a commercial fishing period for Tuesday, March 6.