

**OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
 JOINT STAFF REPORT - SUMMER FACT SHEET NO. 1
 Columbia River Compact
 June 14, 2007**

Fisheries under consideration:	Non-treaty commercial salmon
--------------------------------	------------------------------

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Interim Management Agreement

- The Interim Management Agreement titled "2005-2007 Interim Management Agreement for Upriver Chinook, Sockeye, Steelhead, Coho and White Sturgeon" provides specific fishery management guidelines for summer Chinook and sockeye.

Summer Chinook

- Mainstem Columbia River Chinook fisheries occurring from June 16 through July 31 will be managed based on the abundance of upper Columbia River summer Chinook destined for areas above Priest Rapids Dam.
- Upper Columbia summer Chinook will be managed based on an interim management goal of 29,000 hatchery and natural origin adults as measured at the Columbia River mouth. The following table shows the harvest framework:

<i>Upper Columbia Summer Chinook Fishery Framework</i>		
<i>Run Size at River Mouth</i>	<i>Allowed Treaty Harvest</i>	<i>Allowed Non-Treaty Harvest</i>
<5,000	5%	<100 Chinook
5,000-<16,000	%	<200 Chinook
16,000-<29,000	10%	5%
29,000-<32,000	10%	5-6%
32,000-<36,250	10%	7%
(125% of 29,000 goal)		
36,250-50,000	50% of total harvestable¹	50% of total harvestable¹
>50,000	50% of 75% of margin above 50,000 plus 10,500 ²	50% of 75% of margin above 50,000 plus 10,500 ²

¹ The total number of harvestable fish is defined as the run size minus 29,000 for run sizes of 36,250 to 50,000.

² The total number of harvestable fish at run sizes greater than 50,000 is to be determined by the following formula: $(0.75 * (runsize - 50,000)) + 21,000$.

- Based on the 2007 run forecast of 45,600 upper Columbia summer Chinook at the mouth of the Columbia River, the number of harvestable fish totals 16,600 which allows for 8,300 fish each for treaty Indian fisheries and combined non-treaty fisheries, including sport and tribal fisheries above McNary Dam.

Sockeye

- The management goal for upper Columbia River sockeye is 65,000 sockeye at Priest Rapids Dam, which under average migration conditions requires passage of 75,000 fish over Bonneville Dam.

Endangered Species Act (ESA)

- The states submitted a Biological Assessment to NMFS regarding fisheries covered in the "2005-2007 Interim Management Agreement for Upriver Chinook, Sockeye, Steelhead, Coho and White Sturgeon".
- During the summer season fishery (June 16 - July 31), ESA-listed stocks in the Columbia River include Snake River sockeye and wild summer steelhead. Upper Columbia summer Chinook are not listed under the ESA.
- The non-treaty ESA impact limit on listed sockeye is $\leq 1\%$ of the run entering the Columbia River. The treaty Indian impact limit is 5% of the river mouth run.
- The non-treaty ESA impact limit on wild summer steelhead is 2% from January through July.

2007 Non-treaty Summer Chinook Harvest Allocation

- Commission guidance and management objectives are in place through 2007.

Mainstem Columbia River Summer Chinook Allocation For Non-Indian Fisheries below Priest Rapids Dam, 2006-2007
Guiding Principles
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet the conservation requirements for summer Chinook, expressed as the escapement goal of 29,000 natural and hatchery spawners • Meet treaty /non-treaty sharing objectives in the 2005-2007 <i>U.S. v Oregon</i> Management Agreement. • Address Colville and Wanapum tribal subsistence and ceremonial harvest needs. • Provide recreational fishing opportunity above Priest Rapids Dam as the highest recreational fishery priority (WDFW).
Fisheries Management Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific structure of sport and commercial fisheries will be set by the Columbia River Compact on an annual basis to meet adopted allocation policies and fisheries objectives after annual run size forecasts are available. • Provide for in-season management flexibility to utilize the non-treaty summer Chinook harvest to meet the objective of both fisheries. • In shaping fisheries, consult with stake holders to recognize economic benefits of sport and commercial fisheries in the Columbia River
Recreational and Commercial Allocation of Summer Chinook Impacts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The allocation of available harvest downstream of the Priest Rapids Dam shall be 50% for the recreational fishery and 50% for the commercial fishery. The Commission recognizes that when allowable harvest is either very large or very small, adjustments may need to be made to the allocation based on the capabilities of each fleet.

- Non-treaty fisheries include:
 - Colville Tribal fisheries.
 - Wanapum Tribal fisheries.
 - Recreational fisheries from Rocky Pt./Tongue Pt. upstream to Chief Joseph Dam.
 - Commercial fisheries below Bonneville Dam (Zones 1-5).
- The allocation for 2007 non-treaty fisheries is based on the preseason run size forecast, the 2005-2007 *U.S. v Oregon* Management Agreement and is consistent with Commission guidance and management objectives:

2007 Upper Columbia Summer Chinook Allocation		
Preseason Run Size		45,600
Available Non Treaty Harvest		8,300
Colville / Wanapum Tribal fisheries	40%	3,300
Sport above PRD	20%	1,700
	60%	5,000
<i>Remaining</i>	40%	3,300
Sport below PRD	50%	1,650
Commercial	50%	1,650

- This allocation structure provides a majority (60%) of the allowable non-treaty harvest to the recreational and tribal fisheries occurring in the upper Columbia River.

STOCK STATUS

Upper Columbia Summer Chinook

- Upper Columbia summer Chinook pass Bonneville Dam during June 16 through July 31 and are destined for areas above Priest Rapids Dam. These Chinook are not listed under the ESA and the population is considered healthy.
- The 2007 forecast to the Columbia River mouth totals 45,600 fish, which is 60% of the 2006 actual return of 76,200 fish (compared to 49,000 forecasted in 2006). Overall, preseason forecasts have generally under-predicted the actual summer run.
- Daily passage over Bonneville dam is typically stable with no significant peak. Based on the 10-year average, daily counts are about 1,000 Chinook per day through mid-July and decrease to about 500 fish per day for the remainder of the season. Passage is typically 50% complete around July 1.
- The upper Columbia summer Chinook run is managed as a composite stock consisting of both hatchery and natural origin fish. Hatchery production uses an integrated broodstock management strategy, meaning that hatchery production originates from both wild and hatchery origin fish (which are 100% ad-clipped). Broodstock collection and natural spawning escapement goals have been exceeded annually since 1999.
- The integrated broodstock strategy, coupled with the relatively high representation of wild adults within the composite population, both in hatchery programs and on the natural spawning grounds, diminishes the need to fish selectively for hatchery origin adults.

Summer Steelhead

- An estimated 297,900 upriver summer steelhead are expected to pass Bonneville Dam in 2007, which is similar to the 2006 passage of 319,300 fish.
- Upriver stocks of summer steelhead migrate above Bonneville Dam during April 1 through October 31. Summer steelhead passing Bonneville Dam prior to July 1 are considered Skamania stock, and steelhead passing between July 1 and October 31 are classified as either Group A or Group B fish.
- Based on the recent 5-year average (2002-2006), steelhead passage at Bonneville Dam averages 400 fish per day during June and 2,650 fish in July. July through October (Group A/B) passage is 30% complete by August 1.

Sockeye

- An estimated 27,600 sockeye are expected to return to the Columbia River in 2007. The 2007 return includes 6,600 Wenatchee stock, 20,700 Okanogan stock and 300 Snake River sockeye.
- Bonneville Dam passage through June 11 totals 1,322 sockeye. Passage is typically 50% complete by June 23.
- Based on the preseason forecast and the management goal of 75,000 sockeye over Bonneville Dam, non-treaty fisheries for sockeye are not expected to occur in 2007, except for incidental impacts in ongoing fisheries (summer Chinook, shad).

2006 SUMMER SEASON FISHERIES

2006 Non-Treaty Sport Fisheries

- 2006 marked the fifth consecutive year a sport fishery allowing retention of adult Chinook was adopted downstream of McNary Dam during the summer season (June 16-July 31).
- Below Bonneville Dam, an estimated 43,800 anglers caught 4,900 adult summer Chinook. An estimated 300 additional Chinook were caught in the area from Bonneville Dam to Priest Rapids Dam. Preliminary catch estimates for the fishery above Priest Rapids Dam total 2,600 fish.

2006 Non-Treaty Commercial Fisheries

- Thirteen, 10-12 hour fishing periods took place between June 26 and July 31 in Zones 1-5 with an 8-inch minimum mesh size restriction. Allowable sales included Chinook, coho, sturgeon, and shad. Sale of green sturgeon was prohibited effective July 7, 2006.
- Landings included 4,800 Chinook and 544 white sturgeon. Deliveries ranged from 20-86 per period. A weekly landing limit of 3 sturgeon per week was in place the entire season.

2007 SUMMER SEASON FISHERIES

- Non-Indian summer Chinook fisheries were discussed with constituents during the North of Falcon (NOF) process and Pacific Fisheries Marine Council (PFMC) meetings occurring in March and April. Seasons relating to Columbia River summer salmon fisheries are based on the results of the NOF meetings, preseason forecasts and allocation guidelines.

2007 Non-treaty Sport fisheries

- Fisheries are scheduled from the Tongue Pt./Rocky Pt. line upstream to Bonneville Dam during June 16 - June 30, from Bonneville Dam upstream to Priest Rapids Dam during June 16 - July 31, and from Priest Rapids Dam to Chief Joseph Dam during July 1 - October 15.

2007 Non-treaty Commercial Fisheries

- Fisheries will most likely occur in Zones 1-5 with large mesh (8" min.) gear to avoid incidental handle of ESA-listed sockeye and steelhead. A total of 500 white sturgeon are allocated to the summer commercial season.

2007 Treaty Indian Commercial Fisheries

- Treaty Indian fisheries are allocated 8,300 summer Chinook based on the 2005-2007 Management Agreement.

FISHERY RECOMMENDATIONS

<i>Recommendation - Non-Indian Summer Chinook Commercial Fishery</i>	
Season:	7 PM Monday June 25 to 5 AM Tuesday June 26 (10 hours) 7 PM Monday July 2 to 5 AM Tuesday July 3 (10 hours) 7 PM Monday July 9 to 5 AM Tuesday July 10 (10 hours)
Area:	Zones 1-5.
Sanctuaries:	Grays River, Elokomina-A, Cowlitz River, Kalama-A, Lewis-A, Washougal and Sandy River.
Gear:	8-inch minimum mesh size.
Allowable Sales:	Chinook, coho, white sturgeon, and shad. All sockeye and steelhead must be released immediately. A maximum of five white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday) that the fishery is open. The sturgeon possession/ sales limit includes both mainstem and Select Area fisheries.
Expected Catch:	1,600 Chinook and 450-500 white sturgeon
Miscellaneous Regulations:	Quick reporting rule in effect for Washington buyers.

- Catch expectations include 800-900 Chinook for the first period, and 400-500 Chinook for subsequent periods, which are based on past fishery results and the 2007 pre-season forecast.
- Weekly, one-tide fisheries will restrict harvest and allow time to verify landings and estimate catch rates prior to future fishing periods.
- Nighttime fishing will minimize sport/commercial interactions. Consistent fishing periods each week will provide equal opportunity throughout the river.
- Effort is expected to range between 50-80 deliveries per period. A portion of the fleet will leave for Alaska fishing from mid- to late June.
- Fishing periods may have to be rescinded or adjusted if catch exceeds management expectations.

<i>Recommendation - Select Area Commercial Fisheries</i>
Adjust the white sturgeon retention limit in Select Area commercial fisheries to coincide with the mainstem limit.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- Additional hearings will occur as needed to modify ongoing fisheries or consider additional fishing opportunity.
- A Columbia River Compact hearing has been scheduled for 10 AM Thursday, July 26, 2007 located at the **Astoria Public Library, 450 10th Street in Astoria, Oregon**. The purpose of the hearing will be to review stock status of fall Chinook and consider non-Indian fall mainstem and Select Area commercial fisheries.