

COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION

TRIBAL STAFF REPORT SUMMER FACT SHEET NO. 2 June 22, 2007

Purpose: Consider Tribal Commercial Fishery Proposal

TRIBAL FISHERIES UPDATE

2006 Treaty Summer Season Fisheries

- At the pre-season forecast river mouth run size of 45,600 summer Chinook, the allowed total harvest rate agreed to in the 2005-7 Interim Management Agreement is 18.2% (a harvest of 8,300 summer Chinook).
- At the pre-season forecast river mouth run size of 27,300 sockeye, the allowed tribal harvest rate is 5% (a harvest of 1,365 sockeye)
- Through June 21, 6,651 summer Chinook and 9,179 sockeye have passed Bonneville Dam.

Harvest to Date

- The tribes do not have a platform catch update yet, but platform harvest of Chinook and Sockeye is assumed to be quite low so far.
- The preliminary catch update for the first gillnet fishery was 1,154 adult Chinook and 109 sockeye. Catches were lower than anticipated. Catches to date and projected harvest is shown in the table below.

2007 Summer Season Zone 6 Tribal Harvest						
				Adult Chinook	Sockeye	Steelhead
Platform	Catch Through			na	na	na
	Projected Total			600	875	na
Gillnet						
	Date	Days	Nets	Adult Chinook	Sockeye	Steelhead
	6/18-6/20	2.5	288	1,154	109	9
Projected	6/26-6/29	3.5	280	1,700	125	na
Projected	7/2-7/5	3.5	280	1,300	75	na
	Gillnet To Date	2.5		1,154	109	9
Projected	Gillnet Total	10		4,154	309	
Grand Total to date				1,154	109	9
Grand Total Projected Through proposed fisheries				4,754	1,184	

Fishery Recommendation

- The platform fishery is not expected to harvest more than about 500-600 Chinook and about 875 sockeye between June 15 and July 31. Whether or not these fish are used for commercial purposes is not expected to result in significant changes in the total catch. Most productive platform sites are assumed to be currently in use and will continue to be used whether or not fish are sold. Platform effort is not predicted to increase significantly.
- The tribal intent is to allow sale of platform caught fish throughout the summer and fall management period.

<i>Gillnet Fishery Recommendation</i>	
	The tribes will allow a commercial gillnet fishery targeting Upper Columbia Summer Chinook.
Dates:	6:00 AM Tuesday, June 26, 2007 to 6:00 PM Friday June 29, 2007 6:00 PM Tuesday, July 3, 2007 to 6:00 PM Friday, July 6, 2007
Area:	All of Zone 6
Gear:	There will be a 7” minimum mesh size restriction
Sanctuaries:	Standard river mouth and dam sanctuaries applicable to these gear types remain in effect. The Spring Creek Hatchery Sanctuary is not necessary this time of year.
Allowable Sales:	Chinook, coho, steelhead, walleye, carp, and shad may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sockeye may not be sold but may be retained for subsistence. Sturgeon may not be sold. Sturgeon between 4-5 feet in length in The Dalles and John Day pools may be retained for subsistence. Sturgeon between 45-60 inches in the Bonneville pool may also be retained for subsistence.

- The first gillnet opening had 288 nets which was slightly above the first opening in 2006. The tribes expect similar effort in the next two weeks based on previous summer season fisheries. The expected catch in the proposed openings is approximately 1,700-2,000 Chinook next week and 1,300-1,500 for the following week along with small numbers of sockeye and steelhead.
- The proposed tribal commercial fisheries are expected be well within the overall allowed summer season fishery impacts.
- Additionally, the Yakama Nation will continue to allow commercial sales of fish caught in their Zone 6 tributary fisheries be allowed when the tributary openings overlap with commercial sales openings (either gillnet and/or platform) in Zone 6. The allowed species for sale would coincide with the mainstem fisheries. The general fishing schedule for these tributaries is:

Tributary	Regularly Scheduled Opening	Allowed Commercial Sales
Big White Salmon River	Closed Sundays	Beginning 6 AM June 16 through 6 PM June 16 and then each weekly open 6:00 AM Mon. to 6 PM Saturday. (no fishing Sundays)
Klickitat River	Noon Tuesday to 6 PM Saturdays Through December 22	Beginning 6 AM June 16 through 6 PM June 16 and then each weekly opening Noon Tues. to 6 PM Saturday. (no fishing Sundays)

- No Compact action is necessary for the tributary fisheries.
- The tribes expect to propose additional summer season commercial gillnet fisheries at a later date. Future openings may be adjusted depending on catch rates and effort as well as run size updates.

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
June 22, 2007