

COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION

TRIBAL STAFF REPORT FALL FACT SHEET NO. 2b August 15, 2007

Purpose:

Consider Tribal Commercial Fishery Proposal

TREATY INDIAN FISHERIES

- Based on the 2005-2007 Interim Management Agreement in U.S. v. Oregon, the fall season tribal fishery has a 23.04% harvest rate on URB Chinook and a 15% harvest rate on Wild B Index Steelhead.
- The platform/hook and line fishery is open for sales and subsistence use in all of Zone 6 beginning August 1. The platform fishery expects to harvest about 150 fall Chinook and 2,000 steelhead (including 70 wild B steelhead) over the first part of the fall management period (through August 21).
- The Yakama Nation will continue allow commercial sale of fish caught in their Zone 6 tributary fisheries that overlap with commercial Zone 6 periods. Sales were allowed beginning August 1 and will continue until further notice. The general fishing schedule for these tributaries is:

<i>Tributary</i>	<i>Regularly Scheduled Opening</i>	<i>Allowed Commercial Sales</i>
Big White Salmon River	Closed Sundays	Weekly: 6:00 AM Mon. to 6 PM Saturday (no fishing Sundays)
Klickitat River	Noon Tuesday to 6 PM Saturdays through December 22	Weekly: Noon Tues. to 6 PM Saturday (no fishing Sundays)
Drano Lake	TBD	TBD

Since the sales are allowed in the Zone 6 platform fishery on an on-going basis, sales would be allowed in these tributaries whenever they are open.

- The sturgeon setline fishery in the John Day Pool is expected to close on August 18. A catch update is not available at this time.
- The following table outlines the projected harvest in the proposed first three openings of the tribal commercial gillnet fishery.

Fishery	Dates	Nets	Projected Total Chinook	Projected URB Chinook	Projected Total URB Harvest Rate	Projected total steelhead	Projected Wild B Steelhead	Projected Total Wild B Harvest Rate
Platform	Through 8/21		150	150	0.08%	2,000	70	0.65%

Fishery	Dates	Nets	Projected Total Chinook	Projected URB Chinook	Projected Total URB Harvest Rate	Projected total steelhead	Projected Wild B Steelhead	Projected Total Wild B Harvest Rate
Proposed Gillnet #1	8/22-8/24	350	5,677	4,482	2.42%	1,547	79	0.73%
Proposed Gillnet #2	8/28-8/31	400	13,095	8,895	4.80%	2,429	221	2.05%
Proposed Gillnet #3	9/4-9/8	500	19,486	13,274	7.17%	3,377	240	2.22%
Total				26,801	14.47%		610	5.65%

- Projected catches are modeled using historic weekly harvest rates. Effort (number of nets) is predicted using recent years' data.
- A minimum mesh size restriction of 8 inches beginning September 1 is intended to minimize steelhead catch.

Fishery Proposal

<i>2007 Fall Season- Treaty Indian Commercial Gillnet Fishery</i>		
Dates:	6:00 AM Wednesday, August 22 until 6:00 PM Friday, August 24 6:00 AM Tuesday, August 28 until 6:00 PM Friday, August 31. 6:00 AM Tuesday, September 4 until 6:00 PM Saturday, September 8	(2.5 days) (3.5 days) (4.5 days)
Area:	All of Zone 6	
Gear:	No Mesh Restriction through August 31, 8 inch minimum mesh size restriction thereafter	
Sanctuaries:	Standard river mouth and dam sanctuaries remain in effect.	
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.	
Miscellaneous Rules:	24-hour quick reporting rule for Washington buyers will be in effect.	

- A weekly net flight will be done to measure fishing effort. Tribal monitors are in place to estimate total catches. State staff will be collecting CWT's and other biological data. Harvest estimates and stock composition estimates will be reported to and reviewed by TAC.
- The tribes expect to be able to continue commercial fisheries after September 8.

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