

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT - FALL FACT SHEET NO. 3
Columbia River Compact/Joint State hearing
August 27, 2007

Fisheries under consideration: Non-Indian recreational salmon
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Management guidelines, allocations, and run forecasts for the 2007 fall season were presented in the Fall Fact Sheet #1 (July 26, 2007)

STOCK STATUS

- Passage of fall Chinook at Bonneville Dam through August 26 totals 22,438 adults, which is comparable 2007 preseason expectations of 25,500 fish to date. Typically the run is 50% complete around September 7.

NON-INDIAN FISHERIES

2007 Non-Indian Commercial Fishery

- Landings from the Early August fishery were 2,285 Chinook and 2,646 white sturgeon. Stock composition based on CWTs indicated 50% of the catch were URBs, compared to the preseason expectation of 11%.
- Landings from the August 23-24 fishery totaled 1,700 Chinook of the 1,900 Chinook remaining in the commercial allocation for August. No additional commercial openings are scheduled in August.

<i>Early Fall Commercial Fishery Landings, 2007</i>				
Date	Deliveries	Chinook	Coho	White Sturgeon
Aug. 2-3 (Z 1-5) 9" mesh	108	390	0	938
Aug. 6-7 (Z 1-5) 9" mesh	139	732	3	1,104
Aug. 9-10 (Z 1-5) 9" mesh	133	1,163	11	604
Early August Total		2,285	14	2,646
August 23-24, 2007	89	1,696	43	91
Total August fisheries		3,981	57	2,737

2007 Non-Indian Recreational Fisheries- Lower Columbia River

- The mainstem Columbia River (from the Tongue Point/Rocky Point line upstream to Hwy. 395 Bridge at Pasco) opened for Chinook and coho on August 1. Chinook retention is prohibited below the Lewis River during September 5-30. Non-adipose fin-clipped coho must be released from the Tongue Point/Rocky Point line upstream to the Hood River Bridge. The daily salmon bag limit is two adults per day with only one Chinook per day allowed downstream of Bonneville Dam.

- Preseason catch estimates for this fishery include 10,800 Chinook and 1,000 coho.
- Catch rates have been increasing as anticipated since mid-August, as the Chinook run progresses. Catch rates for all sampling sections combined were 0.24 Chinook/boat last week.
- The fishery will continue as scheduled until impact limits set for this fishery are reached.

2007 Non-Indian Recreational Fisheries-Buoy 10

- The Buoy 10 fishery (Columbia mouth upstream to the Tongue Point/Rocky Point line) opened August 1 for adipose fin-clipped coho and adipose fin-clipped steelhead. Chinook retention is allowed during August 22 through September 3. The daily salmon bag limit is two fish, of which one can be a Chinook.
- Preseason catch expectations include 3,800 adult Chinook and 12,000 coho. An estimated 800 URB Chinook and 900 LRH Chinook are expected in the catch. The fishery is constrained by the reduced ESA limit for LRH Chinook for 2007.
- Generally, jacks and stray adults comprise about 15% of total Chinook catch, therefore the actual in season catch guideline is about 4,300 Chinook total.
- Impacts allocated to this fishery include 0.45% URB (11% of sport allocation) and 1.0% LRH (40% of sport allocation).
- To date, catch rates for Chinook in the Buoy 10 fishery have been similar to the same period in past years. Chinook catch rates were highest during August 22-23 (0.30 Chinook/angler), but declined to 0.10 Chinook/angler on Sunday August 26.
- During August 22-26, an estimated 10,900 anglers have kept 2,300 Chinook and 1,700 coho. The total Chinook catch is 60% of the allocation for this fishery.
- CWT data for this fishery is not available.
- About 300 Chinook of the Buoy 10 guideline should be preserved to account for catch-and-release mortality for the remainder of the coho retention fishery at Buoy 10.

2007 Catch Estimates and projections for Buoy 10					
Date		Estimated Anglers	Daily Mortality at CPUE		
			0.10	0.15	0.23
Mon	8/27	1,500	156	233	358
Tues	8/28	1,500	156	233	358
Wed	8/29	1,500	156	233	358
Thurs	8/30	1,500	156	233	358
Fri	8/31	2,500	259	389	596
Sat	9/1	2,500	284	426	654
Sun	9/2	2,500	284	426	654
Mon	9/3	2,500	284	426	654
Proj. Catch Aug 27- Sep 3		16,000	1,735	2,599	3,990
<i>Est Catch Aug 1-26</i>		<i>14,200</i>	<i>2,380</i>	<i>2,380</i>	<i>2,380</i>
Totals through Sep 3		30,200	4,100	4,980	6,370
Proj Close Date			03-Sep	02-Sep	31-Aug
ChF catch (K+Rel mort)			4,100	4,500	4,500

- Based on the catch rates that staff modeled, it appears the fishery can continue at least through Friday August 31.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- The Joint Staff recommends a joint state hearing be scheduled for 3:00 PM Wednesday, August 29 to review ongoing fisheries and consider modifications for the Buoy 10 fishery if necessary.
- A Columbia River Compact hearing is scheduled for 1 PM Thursday September 6, 2007 to consider additional treaty Indian commercial fishing periods.
- A Columbia River Compact hearing is scheduled for 10 AM Thursday September 13, 2007 to consider commercial fishing periods for the late fall season expected to begin the week of September 17. Location to be announced at a later date.