

COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION
TRIBAL STAFF REPORT
FALL FACT SHEET NO. 9b
September 21, 2007

Purpose:	Consider Tribal Commercial Fishery Proposal
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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. Preliminary estimates indicate the platform fishery has harvested about 189 adult fall Chinook (including 92 URB's) and 2,510 steelhead (including 64 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. 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.
- Gillnet harvests to date have been less than anticipated for Chinook although close for steelhead. Additionally, based on current CWT stock composition estimates, the URB impacts in the tribal fishery are below what would typically be expected for this time of year.
- Tule jack impacts (including "stubby" type jacks) have made up an unusually significant portion of the total harvest to date.
- The following table outlines the estimated harvest in the first four gillnet openings and the projected harvest in this week's opening. It also shows the projected harvest in the proposed opening next week for the tribal commercial gillnet fishery.

Fishery	Dates	Nets	Total Adult Chinook Catch	URB Catch	BPH Catch	URB Harvest Rate	Total Steelhead catch	Wild B Steelhead	Wild B Harvest Rate
Platform	Through 8/21		189	92	48	0.04%	2,510	64	0.97%
Gillnet #1	8/22-8/24	337	1,434	810	238	0.21%	1,143	29	0.44%
Gillnet #2	8/28-8/31	469	3,709	2,307	1,126	0.98%	1,525	65	0.99%
Gillnet #3	9/4-9/8	451	8,792	3,062	2,550	2.22%	1,795	96	1.45%
Gillnet #4	9/11-9/14	528	6,402	2,716	791	0.69%	2,037	134	2.03%
Projected Gillnet #5	9/17-9/21	486	5,208	2,385	702	0.61%	2,171	192	2.91%

Fishery	Dates	Nets	Total Adult Chinook Catch	URB Catch	BPH Catch	URB Harvest Rate	Total Steelhead catch	Wild B Steelhead	Wild B Harvest Rate
Subtotal for scheduled fisheries			25,734	11,372	5,455	9.89%	11,181	580	8.79%
Proposed Gillnet #6	9/25-9/28	450	3,212	2,025	189	0.16%	1,480	154	2.33%
Grand Total			28,946	13,397	5,644	11.65%	12,661	734	11.12%

- 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.
- Based on the pre season run size projections after this week's fishery the tribal fishery would have a 9.9% URB harvest rate and a 8.9% Wild B harvest rate.
- Based on updated run size projections and adjusting for this year's catch rates, after the next week of fishing, the tribal fishery would have a 11.7% URB harvest rate and a 11.1% Wild B harvest rate.

Fishery Proposal

<i>2007 Fall Season- Treaty Indian Commercial Gillnet Fishery</i>	
Dates:	6:00 AM Tuesday, September 25 until 6:00 PM Friday, September 28 (3.5 days)
Area:	All of Zone 6
Gear:	8 inch minimum mesh size restriction
Sanctuaries:	Standard river mouth and dam sanctuaries remain in effect. Including the Standard Spring Creek Hatchery Sanctuary.
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 continue to be 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.

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