

**OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT - FALL FACT SHEET NO. 10-REVISED
Columbia River Compact/Joint State Hearing
September 25, 2007**

<i>Fisheries Under Consideration:</i>	Non-Treaty Commercial Fisheries
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MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Management guidelines, allocations, and run size forecasts for the 2007 fall season were presented in the 2007 Fall Fact Sheets #1

STOCK STATUS

Fall Chinook

- TAC has updated the river mouth run size to 237,100 adults, including 118,500 URBs.

Fall Chinook Adult Returns to the Columbia River Mouth						
	2006	2007	2007 TAC Update			
Stock	Return	Preseason Forecast	12-Sep	17-Sep	21-Sep	24-Sep
LRH	58,300	54,400	54,400	54,400	54,400	54,400
LRW	18,100	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
BPH	27,900	21,300	21,300	17,500	17,500	17,500
URB	230,400	185,200	121,000	105,000	115,000	118,500
MCB	80,400	69,100	69,100	50,500	31,700	29,200
SAB	7,200	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500
Total	422,300	347,500	283,300	244,900	236,100	237,100

- The McNary Dam counts August 9 through September 23 total 31,490 adult fall Chinook. Passage is typically 50% complete around September 15. The escapement goal has been achieved for about the last 20 years. The current escapement goal is 43,500 adults.
- Returns to Spring Creek Hatchery through September 22 total 11,000 Chinook, including 1,900 males, 2,300 females, and 6,800 jacks (goal: 4,000 females).
- Lower Columbia hatchery returns to date have been less than expected, base on preseason projections. Large river mouth sanctuaries are in effect to allow more fish to escape to the tributaries.
 - Elochoman- highest concern, 59% of broodstock, past peak return week.
 - Kalama – slightly behind. 93% of goal, near end of collection schedule.
 - Cowlitz – tracking behind. 72% of goal. Later timed run, may catch up.
 - Toutle – way behind. 11% of goal. Low water may be delaying fish.
 - Washougal – too early but appears on track, pulse of fish last week.

Early Stock Coho

- Bonneville Dam counts through September 23 total 61,500 adult coho. Passage of early coho at Bonneville Dam is typically 88% complete by September 23.

FISHERY UPDATES

Non-Treaty Commercial Fisheries

- The Early Fall fishing season consisted of four fishing periods occurred from August 2-24. A 9-inch minimum mesh size restriction was in place.
- The Late Fall fishing season began September 19 with a target Sturgeon fishing period in all of Zones 1-5. Two additional fishing periods have occurred since, targeting Chinook and coho respectively. The sturgeon weekly landing limit was 10 white sturgeon.

<i>Non-Indian Commercial Fishery Landings, Fall 2007</i>				
Dates	Deliveries	Chinook	Coho	White Sturgeon
August Totals	Ave 117	3,981	57	2,737
Sep 19, Z 1-5 (9")	148	42	56	1,457
Sep 21, Z 4-5 (8")	57	1,804	398	88
Sep 24, Z 1-3 (6")	145	910	4,455	99
Season Total		6,737	4,966	4,381

Select Area Commercial Fisheries

- Total landings for all Select Areas from August 1 through September 21 include 4,109 Chinook, 5,456 coho and 66 white sturgeon. Chinook catch has been within expectations, but coho catch is well below expectations.

Sturgeon Harvest

- Through September 24, a total of 6,591 white sturgeon have been landed in commercial fisheries (including Select Areas), leaving 1,184 available for harvest in mainstem.

Non-Indian Impacts

2007 Preliminary Non-Indian ESA- Impacts (Actual/Projected)							
Mainstem Harvest		Allocation Allowed		Impacts to Date		Remaining impacts	
		URB	LRH	URB	LRH	URB	LRH
Recreational	12,860	4.17%	2.78%	3.90%	3.36%	0.27%	-0.58%
Commercial	6,750	4.08%	2.56%	2.89%	1.05%	1.19%	1.51%
Total	19,610	8.25%	5.34%	6.79%	4.41%	1.46%	0.93%

RECOMMENDATIONS

Non-Indian Commercial Salmon Fishery

<i>Late Fall Non-Indian Commercial Fishery</i>	
Season:	7 AM –7 PM Wednesday September 26, 2007 (12 hours)
Area:	Zones 1-3
Sanctuaries:	Large sanctuaries: Elokomin-B, Abernathy, Cowlitz, Kalama-B, Lewis B
Gear:	6 – inch maximum mesh size unslackened floater gillnet. It will be legal to have onboard a commercial vessel more than one net, as long as the nets are of legal size for the fishery, or the net has a minimum mesh size of 9 inches. The length of any one net cannot exceed 1,500 feet in length. Nets not specifically authorized for use in this fishery may be onboard the vessel if properly stored. A properly stored net is defined as a net on a drum that is fully covered by a tarp (canvas or plastic) and bound with a minimum of ten revolutions of rope with a diameter of 3/8 (0.375) inches or greater.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon and sturgeon. A maximum of 10 white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday) that the fishery is open. Green sturgeon retention prohibited.
Miscellaneous Rules:	12 hr Quick Reporting Rules will be in effect for Washington buyers.

- ✓ Expected catch: 3,500 coho, 600 Chinook and 50 white sturgeon.
- ✓ Staff will continue to review and update catch and impact data, and may propose additional fisheries at Wednesday hearing.

Future Compact Hearings

- A Joint State hearing is scheduled via teleconference for 1:00 PM Wednesday September 26 to review the ongoing recreational sturgeon fishery and additional commercial fishing periods.
- The Joint Staff is recommending a hearing via teleconference for 1:00 PM Thursday September 27 to consider treaty Indian fisheries.