

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT - FALL FACT SHEET NO. 13a
Columbia River Compact/Joint State hearing
September 27, 2007

Fisheries under consideration:	Treaty-Indian commercial salmon Non-Indian commercial 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

Fall Chinook

- Bonneville Dam adult Chinook passage through September 26 totals 130,200 fish, including 114,700 brights and 15,500 tules.
- TAC's September 24 updated run sizes include 118,500 URBs and 17,000 BPH at the Columbia River mouth. Modeling suggests the URB run may be a little higher.
- McNary Dam adult Chinook passage totals 37,000 fish (Aug. 9- Sep. 25). Daily passage has significantly increased over the last few days. Passage is about 75% complete by September 25. TAC is reasonably confident that the escapement goal of 43,500 fish will be reached.
- The Spring Creek hatchery escapement goal of 4,000 females will not be met. An estimated 2,700 females are in the hatchery and daily returns are around 200-300 total fish a day.

Steelhead

- Bonneville Dam steelhead passage (Jul 1- Sep 26) totals 295,250 fish. Total passage (July-Oct) is generally 92% complete by September 26. The preseason forecast was 297,900 fish, including 241,500 Group A and 56,400 Group B fish.
- TAC's September 17 updated run sizes include 290,000 Group A fish (63,800 wild) and 22,000 Group B fish (6,600 wild).

Coho

- At Bonneville Dam, all coho passing through September are considered early stock coho. Bonneville Dam passage through September 26 totals 59,900 adults. Passage is about 93% complete. Preseason expectations totaled 79,200 early stock coho at Bonneville Dam. The 50% upriver coho escapement requirement under *US v Oregon* is expected to be met.

NON-INDIAN COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

<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")	162	950	4,270	88
Sep 26, Z 1-3 (6") prelim	120	850	3,300	130
Sep 27, Z 4-5 (8") proj	60	1,000	300	100
Season Total		8,627	8,381	4,600
<i>Non-Indian Commercial Fishery Sturgeon Landings, 2007</i>				
Select Areas (actual and projected)				400
Mainstem Winter-Fall (completed fisheries)				6,255
Projected/Preliminary Fisheries				
September 26, Z 1-3 7p-7a				130
September 27, Z 4-5 8p-6a (proj)				100
October 1, Z 1-3 7a-7p(proj)				100
October 3, Z 1-3 7a-7p (proj)				100
<u>October 4, Z 1-5 6a-6p (proj)</u>				<u>650</u>
		Subtotal		7,735
Remaining				115

RECOMMENDATIONS

<i>Late Fall Non-Indian Commercial Fishery</i>		
Target Coho	6 AM through 6 PM Monday October 1, 2007. 6 AM through 6 PM Wednesday October 3, 2007	(12 hours) (12 hours)
Area:	Zones 1-3	
Gear	6 – inch maximum mesh size unslackened floater gillnet	
Target Sturgeon	6 AM through 6 PM Thursday October 4, 2007	(12 hours)
Area:	Zones 1-5	
Gear:	9-inch minimum mesh size and 9¾-inch maximum mesh size	
The following regulations apply to all fisheries listed above:		
Sanctuaries:	As applicable: Elokomin-B, Abernathy, Cowlitz, Kalama-B, Lewis-B, Sandy, and Washougal rivers	
Allowable Sales:	Salmon and white sturgeon. A maximum of 7 white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday) that the fishery is open. Limit applies to mainstem only. The weekly white sturgeon limit in Select Areas remains at 5 white sturgeon for each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday).	
Miscellaneous Rules:	<p>Multiple Net Rule: 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, and the length of any one net does not exceed 1,500 feet in length.</p> <p>Nets not specifically authorized for use in the 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.</p> <p>24 hour Quick Reporting Rules will be in effect for Washington buyers. Buyers must report within 24 hours of each fishery closure</p>	

Catch estimates for proposed fisheries				
Target	Date	Chinook	Coho	W Stgn
Coho	01-Oct	300	4,000	100
Coho	03-Oct	300	4,000	100
White Sturgeon	04-Oct	100	300	650
Total		1,200	8,600	850

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	13,350	4.17%	2.78%	4.13%	3.37%	0.04%	-0.59%
Commercial	10,112	4.08%	2.56%	4.07%	1.36%	0.01%	1.20%
Total	23,462	8.25%	5.34%	8.19%	4.73%	0.06%	0.61%

- Chinook impacts include all proposed, potential and future fisheries and the associated impacts to Chinook for the fall season.

2007 Estimated Non-Indian steelhead Kept and Release Mortalities			
Aug-Oct	Total		Wild B
	Steelhead	Wild B	Impact rate
LCR sport	5,281	71	1.08%
LCR Comm.	529	21	0.32%
BON-PRD	18,695	31	0.47%
Non-Indian Total	24,504	123	1.87%

- Steelhead impacts include estimated steelhead handle and associated incidental impacts to wild steelhead occurring August through October.

2007 Preliminary Non-Indian Coho ESA- Impacts (thru Sep 24)			
Fishery	Columbia R. Catch	Total	Unmarked Only
		Catch	Catch/Mortality
SAFE		5,659	57
Mainstem		5,067	1,272
Buoy 10		6,296	641
MS sport		278	6
Columbia R. Catch			1,976
Columbia R. Impacts (ER)			1.70%
Ocean Impacts (ER)			12.3%
Total	Impacts (ER)	17,300	14.0%

- Impacts to listed coho to date are minimal, considering the limited amount of coho caught compared to the estimated 30,000 available for harvest.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- The Joint Staff is recommending a Compact hearing be scheduled via teleconference for 10:00 AM Wednesday October 3, 2007 to consider non-Indian fisheries.