

**OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
 JOINT STAFF REPORT - FALL FACT SHEET NO. 17
 Columbia River Compact/Joint State hearing
 October 16, 2007**

Fisheries under consideration:	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

- TAC met on October 9 and updated the Chinook run size to 243,700 Chinook, including 122,000 URBs (upgraded from 118,500). This compares to the preseason expectation of 347,500 Chinook, including 185,400 URBs.
- Lower Columbia River hatchery returns have not met expectations and remain an area of concern.

Coho

- Preseason forecasts included 293,700 early stock and 73,200 late stock for a total of 366,900 coho returning to the Columbia River mouth.
- TAC updated the coho run size to 308,000 fish, consisting of 220,000 early stock and 88,000 late stock.
- Early coho returns at Bonneville Dam and in the Select Areas are below expectations. In Washington tributaries, hatchery returns are slightly less than expected, but it appears broodstock needs will be met. Most Oregon tributaries appear to be at or above expectations for hatchery returns and dam passage. Overall, projections for the early run are declining.
- Information on late coho is just becoming available, however Bonneville Dam passage and Washington hatchery returns appear to be slightly greater than expectations. Overall, projections for the late run are increasing.

<i>2007 Lower River Adult Fall Chinook Hatchery Returns</i>						
Hatchery/Stock	Escapement			Broodstock Goal	Comments	
	Returns	As of:	Preseason Projected			In-season Projection
Elochoman LRH		08-Oct	1,300	0	1,300	Likely will not meet goal
Cowlitz LRH			3,600	0	2,600	
Toutle LRH			1,900	0	1,800	
Kalama LRH			3,400	0	2,400	
Washougal LRH			5,700	0	2,300	
Total WA LRH	0		15,900		10,400	
Big Creek LRH			2,400		3,000	Likely will not meet goal
Willamette LRH			NA		--	
Total OR LRH	0		2,400		3,000	
Youngs Bay SAB					--	
Klaskanine SAB					900	
Big Creek SAB					--	
Total SAB	0		0		900	
Bonneville BUB	6,300	Oct-15		8,400	4,700	Goals met

2007 Early Stock Coho Returns						
Escapement						
	Returns	As of:	Pre-season projection	In-season projection	Broodstock Goal	Comments
Grays H.	600	15-Oct	4,300	6,500	600	
Elochoman H.	300	3-Oct	4,200	2,900	420	
Kalama H.	300	3-Oct	5,000	2,400	700	
Toutle H.	7,500	14-Oct	16,000	16,300	350	
Lewis H.	16,500	15-Oct	28,300	18,200	900	behind
Total Washington	25,200		57,800	46,300	2,970	
Big Creek H.	284	Oct-8		5,200	525	On track Variable run, below avg
Willamette Falls	900	Oct-14		1,100	--	On track
Eagle Creek NFH	4,500	Oct-9		12,500		Met
Sandy H.	1,500	Oct-9		12,500	1,000	Met
Bonneville H.	30,800	Oct-15		36,700	6,100	Met
Total Oregon				68,000		
Bonneville Dam	62,200	30-Sep		62,200	--	Oct 1 = Late stock
Sandy R	350	Oct-8		1,300	--	Above 10y average
NF Clackamas Dam	1,870	Oct-12		3,900	--	Above 10y average

2007 Late Stock Coho Returns						
Escapement						
	Returns	As of:	Pre-season projection	In-season projection	Goal	Comments
Elochoman H.			850	850	450	
Cowlitz H.	5,500	Oct-10	18,800	51,800	2,700	
Kalama H.			1,900	1,900	300	
Lewis H.			8,200	8,200	2,000	
Washougal			2,550	2,550	2,450	
Total Washington			32,300	65,300	7,900	
NF Clackamas Dam	0	Oct-12		2,100	--	Nov 1 = Late stock
Bonneville Dam	9,461	Oct-14		18,000	--	Oct 1 = Late stock

NON-INDIAN COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

Fall Commercial Season

- Preseason expectations for the fall season commercial fisheries included a harvest of 19,750 Chinook, 26,300 coho and 5,565 white sturgeon from mainstem fisheries.
- Preseason expectations for the fall commercial season included harvest of 34,700 coho from the Select Areas.
- Reductions in both Chinook and coho run sizes have reduced the number of fish available for harvest. Catch to date has been below expectations, especially in the Select Areas where coho returns are 1/3 of expected (10,000 fish).

<i>Non-Indian Commercial Fishery Landings, Fall 2007</i>				
Dates	Deliveries	Chinook	Coho	White Sturgeon
August Totals	Ave 117	3,981	57	2,737
September Totals	Ave 105	4,368	8,331	1,984
October 1-7 (Wk 40)	Ave 70	1,860	7,375	750
Oct 10-11 (Z 1-5 7P-7A)	7	243	75	0
Oct 11 (Z 1-3 7A-7P)	122	277	5,545	0
Oct 11-12 (Z 1-5 7P-7A)	6	151	50	0
Oct 14,15,16 (Z 1-5,8") proj.		450	150	0
Mainstem Total		11,330	21,583	5,471
Select Areas	--	4,507	10,215	148

- The 2007 sturgeon guideline is 7,850 white sturgeon for the year, of which 400 are allocated to SAFE fisheries. Through October 8, an estimated 94 sturgeon remain available for mainstem fisheries and SAFE fisheries have met the guideline of 400 fish. Sturgeon retention is currently prohibited in commercial fisheries (mainstem and SAFE).
- CPUE data from Zones 1 and 2 has historically been used to update the late coho run size. The structure of the commercial fishery has changed in recent years, which has reduced the accuracy of abundance estimates based on historical data, but CPUE remains a valuable tool estimating coho abundance in season.

<i>Weekly Coho Landings in Mainstem Commercial Fisheries (Zones 1-5)</i>					
Year	Late Run Size	Week 40	Week 41	Week 42	Weeks 40-42
1999	112,900	10,100	6,500	15,300	31,800
2000	221,700	23,200	6,800	49,000	79,000
2001	400,400	40,200	13,300	51,900	105,400
2002	210,000	24,100	15,500	11,300	50,900
2003	173,700	26,700	28,900	21,800	77,400
2004	146,600	18,967	5,087	18,476	42,530
2005	97,200	5,646	4,605	291	10,542
2006	64,700	8,383	6,658	9,148	24,189
2007	88,000	7,375	5,670		

<i>Weekly Coho CPUE (Catch per Delivery) in Mainstem Commercial Fisheries*</i>					
Return Year	Late Stock Run Size**	Week 40 Sep 25-Oct 1	Week 41 Oct 2-8	Week 42 Oct 9-15	Weeks 40-42 Sep 25-Oct 15
1999	112,900	31.9	52.6	41.1	125.6
2000	221,700	65.5	55.4	109.3	230.2
2001	400,400	103.3	55.6	129.0	288
2002	210,000	140.8	109.0	47.0	296.8
2003	173,700	60.7	68.9	52.0	181.6
2004	146,600	41.5	19.0	44.2	104.7
2005	97,200	22.1	30.1	5.7	57.9
2006	64,700	44.0	30.3	44.3	118.6
2007	88,000	31.4	49.3		

*Includes Zones 1-2 only

** After Buoy 10

- CPUE data collected from the October 11 fishery and escapement data to date suggest that the late coho run size is tracking above the in-season forecast of 88,000 fish.

NON-INDIAN IMPACT SUMMARY

- Based on in-season run sizes, coho impacts through October 12 are estimated at 19.4 % (20% limit), of which 13.5% are from ocean fisheries, and 5.9% are from in-river fisheries (recreational, SAFE, and mainstem). An estimated 2-3,000 coho remain available for commercial harvest.

<i>2007 Coho Impact Summary-Actual and Projected</i>				
Fishery	To Date		Projected	
	Total Catch	Unmarked Impact	Total Catch	Unmarked Impact
Mainstem Commercial	21,433	5.02%	23,900	5.60%
SAFE Commercial	10,215	0.10%	10,538	0.10%
B10 Sport (complete)	8,300	0.70%	8,300	0.70%
LCR Sport	650	0.05%	1,250	0.06%
Ocean (all; complete)	168,290	13.54%	168,290	13.54%
	203,050	19.41%	212,278	20.00%

- Total non-Indian impacts to URB Chinook are expected to be 7.46% (8.25%) limit and the exploitation rate (ER) on LRH Chinook from ocean and in-river fisheries is expected to be 40.9% (limit of 42%). Chinook impacts are based on in-season run projections for URBs and preseason run projections for LRH.
- Non-Indian impacts to ESA listed upriver summer steelhead are expected to be less than the 2.0% limit, considering all actual and future fisheries.

Estimated Non-Indian Steelhead Kept and Release Mortalities			
Aug-Oct, 2007	Total Steelhead	Wild B	Wild B Impact rate
LCR Sport	5,280	71	0.88%
LCR Comm	573	23	0.28%
BON-PRD	18,695	31	0.38%
Non-Indian Total	24,548	125	1.54%

RECOMMENDATIONS

<i>2007 Late Fall Commercial Fishery</i>		
Chinook Directed Season:	7 PM Thursday October 18 through 7 AM Friday October 19 7 PM Sunday October 21 through 7 AM Monday October 22 7 PM Tuesday October 23 through 7 AM Wednesday October 24	(12 hours) (12 hours) (12 hours)
Area:	Zones 1-5	
Gear:	8-inch minimum and 9 ¾ - inch maximum mesh size	
Coho Directed Season:	12 noon through 6 PM Wednesday October 17	(6 hours)
Area	Zones 1-3	
Gear:	No minimum and 9 ¾ - inch maximum mesh size	
Applies to all fisheries listed above		
Sanctuaries:	Elokomin-A, Abernathy, Cowlitz, Kalama-A, Lewis-A, Sandy and Washougal rivers	
Allowable Sales:	Salmon only. White sturgeon may not be sold.	
Other Rules:	Nets not specifically authorized for use in the fishery may be onboard the vessel if properly stored. 24 hour Quick Reporting Rules will be in effect for Washington buyers.	

- Catch is estimated at 500 Chinook and 2,500 coho.
- If the proposed fisheries were adopted,
 - Coho impacts are estimated to be 20% total ER.
 - Chinook impacts are estimated to be 7.46% for URBs (8.25 limit) and 40.9% LRH (42% total ER)

FUTURE HEARINGS

- The Joint staff is not recommending a future hearing be scheduled at this time. Staff will continue to examine CPUE, escapement, and ocean fishery data and will recommend a future Compact if additional coho are available for harvest.