

COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION

TRIBAL STAFF REPORT FALL FACT SHEET NO. 17b October 16, 2007

Purpose:

Consider Tribal Commercial Fishery Proposal

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.
- Final stock composition estimates from the fall season tribal fishery are not complete yet, but with catches to date, the current estimate of the URB harvest rate in tribal fisheries is only 15.5%. The current wild B steelhead harvest rate based on the updated wild B run size estimate has dropped to 11.3% in the Zone 6 fishery with 1.5% reserved for tributary fisheries in the Snake Basin. Therefore the tribal fishery is currently well within its harvest rate limits.
- The platform/hook and line fishery is has been open for sales and subsistence use in all of Zone 6 since August 1. The tribes propose discontinuing sales of platform/hook and line caught fish in Zone 6. The platform fishery will remain open for subsistence use.
- The Yakama Nation will continue allow commercial sale of fish caught in their Zone 6 tributary fisheries. Sales will continue to be allowed during the weekly open periods for the Klickitat and Big White Salmon Rivers.
- The tribes intend to issue a small number of subsistence gillnet permits in Zone 6. Expected harvest will be less than 500 total Chinook and 600 total steelhead. These harvests will be within the allowed remaining harvest limits for the tribal fishery.

Fishery Proposal

The tribes will discontinue sales of platform and hook and line caught fish in the Zone 6 platform fishery as of Saturday, October 20 at 6:00 PM. The platform fishery will remain open for subsistence use. All other regulations remain the same.

The Yakama Nation will continue to allow sales of Chinook and Coho only in its Zone 6 tributary fisheries in the Klickitat and Big White Salmon Rivers. Sales will be allowed during the regularly scheduled openings which are noon Tuesdays through 6:00 PM Saturdays for the Klickitat and 6:00 AM Mondays through 6:00 PM Saturdays for the Big White Salmon Rivers. Chinook and Coho that are sold outside a 1-mile radius from the Klickitat Falls may be sold by Yakama Nation Transfer Permit only.

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