

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT: Spring Fact Sheet #6
May 10, 2010

<i>Fisheries under Consideration:</i> Select Area commercial salmon seasons
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Stock Status

- Bonneville Dam passage of Chinook through May 9 totals 194,901 adults. This is the highest cumulative count to date since 2002 and the 3rd highest count to date (1977-current).
- The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met today and determined the upriver run will likely be about 350,000 adults (range 330,000-370,000).
- TAC will continue to meet at least weekly to review passage at Bonneville Dam.

Select Area Commercial Fisheries

- Due to a higher than anticipated catch of upriver stock spring Chinook at the start of the spring fisheries, Select Area commercial fisheries were closed effective April 19.
- Limited SAFE commercial fisheries were adopted for May 4-7 in order to allow access to abundant local stock while minimizing the potential for upriver catch.
- Results of the modified SAFE fisheries were very good with high catches of local stocks and few upriver fish observed.
- In Youngs Bay, 5,191 spring Chinook were landed during the two, 4-hour fishing periods on May 5 and 7 with zero upriver stock (based on VSI) observed in the sampled catch. In Blind/Knappa Slough, 587 Chinook were landed during May 4-7 with 1% (6 fish) being of upriver origin. In Tongue Point, 210 Chinook were landed on May 6 with a 1% upriver rate (3 fish). In Deep River, 15 Chinook were landed with zero upriver fish observed.
- Combined Select Area commercial landings of 14,842 Chinook to date are the highest ever observed. Area-specific landings include 12,227 in Youngs Bay, 1,838 in Blind/Knappa sloughs, 363 in Tongue Point, and 414 in Deep River.
- Based on last weeks results, the Joint Staff recommends that Select Area commercial fisheries resume according to the schedule previously adopted at the February 18, 2010 Compact.

Blind Slough/Knappa Slough Commercial Fishery

- Concurrent jurisdiction waters extend downstream from the Railroad Bridge in Blind Slough and encompass all of Knappa Slough and require Compact action.
- Oregon State waters extend upstream from the Railroad Bridge and require Oregon State action.

<i>Recommendation - Blind Slough/Knappa Slough Select Area</i>	
Spring Season:	7 PM Tuesday May 11 through 7 AM Wednesday May 12, 2010 (1 night) and Monday and Thursday nights from May 13 through June 11 (9 nights). Open hours are 7 PM to 7 AM (12 hours).
Area:	Blind Slough and Knappa Slough areas open during spring season. From May 11 through June 11, the lower boundary of the Knappa Slough fishing area is extended downstream to boundary lines defined by markers on the west end of Minaker Island to markers on Karlson Island and the Oregon shore (fall boundary).
Gear:	9³/₄-inch maximum mesh size restriction during the spring season. Nets restricted to 100 fathoms in length with no weight restriction on leadline. Use of additional weights or anchors attached directly to the leadline is allowed.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon, white sturgeon, and shad. A maximum of 5 white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday).
Miscellaneous Regulations:	Permanent transportation regulations will be in effect. 24-hour Quick Reporting Rule in effect for Washington buyers

Tongue Point/South Channel Full-Fleet Commercial Test Fishery

- All waters in the Tongue Point/South Channel Select Area are under concurrent Oregon and Washington jurisdiction and require Compact action.

<i>Recommendation - Tongue Point/South Channel Select Area</i>	
Spring Season:	7 PM Tuesday May 11 through 7 AM Wednesday May 12, 2010 (1 night) and Monday and Thursday nights from May 13 through June 11 (9 nights). Open hours are 7 PM to 7 AM (12 hours).
Area:	The spring season Tongue Point fishing area includes all waters bounded by a line extended from the upstream (southern most) pier (#1) at the Tongue Point Job Corps facility through navigation marker #6 to Mott Island (new spring lower deadline), a line from a marker at the southeast end of Mott Island northeasterly to a marker on the northwest tip of Lois Island, and a line from a marker on the southwest end of Lois Island westerly to a marker on the Oregon shore. The South Channel area includes all waters bounded by a line from a marker on John Day Point through the green USCG buoy #7 to a marker on the southwest end of Lois Island upstream to an upper boundary line from a

	marker on Settler Point northwesterly to the flashing red USCG marker #10, northwesterly to a marker on Burnside Island defining the upstream terminus of South Channel.
Gear:	In the Tongue Point fishing area, gear restricted to a 9¾-inch maximum mesh size, maximum net length of 250 fathoms, and weight not to exceed two pounds on any one fathom. In the South Channel fishing area, gear restricted to a 9¾-inch maximum mesh size, maximum net length of 100 fathoms, and no weight restriction on leadline. Use of additional weights or anchors attached directly to the leadline is allowed.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon, white sturgeon, and shad. A maximum of 5 white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday).
Miscellaneous Regulations:	Through May 14, transportation or possession of fish outside the fishing area is unlawful until ODFW staff has biologically sampled individual catches at a sampling station established at the MERTS dock. After sampling, fishers will be issued a transportation permit by agency staff. Beginning May 17, fishers are required to call 503-428-0518 and leave a message including name, catch, and where and when the fish will be sold. 24-hour Quick Reporting Rule in effect for Washington buyers

Deep River Commercial Fishery

- Concurrent jurisdiction waters extend downstream from the Highway 4 Bridge and require Compact action.

<i>Recommendation - Deep River Select Area</i>	
Spring Season:	Sunday and Wednesday nights from May 12 through June 10 (9 nights). Open hours are 7 PM to 7 AM (12 hours).
Area:	Deep River fishing area from the markers at USCG navigation marker #16 upstream to the Highway 4 Bridge (all concurrent water)
Gear:	9¾-inch maximum mesh size restriction during the spring seasons. Nets restricted to 100 fathoms in length with no weight restriction on leadline. Use of additional weights or anchors attached directly to the leadline is allowed. Nets cannot be tied off to stationary structures. Nets may not fully cross navigation channel.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon, white sturgeon, and shad. A maximum of 5 white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday).
Miscellaneous Regulations:	Transportation or possession of fish outside the fishing area (except to the sampling station) is unlawful until WDFW staff has biologically sampled individual catches. After sampling, fishers will be issued a transportation

permit by agency staff. A sampling station will be set up at the boat ramp off of Miller Point Road on the east bank of Deep River slough.

24-hour Quick Reporting Rule in effect for Washington buyers

Youngs Bay Commercial Fishery

- All waters in Youngs Bay are Oregon State waters and require Oregon State action.
- Effective February 13, 2008, non-resident commercial fishing and boat licenses are not required of Washington fishers participating in Youngs Bay commercial fisheries. A valid fishing and boat license issued by the state of Washington will be considered adequate for participation in this fishery. The open area for non-resident commercial fishers includes all areas open for commercial fishing. Per permanent rule, all landings from Youngs Bay must be delivered to an Oregon licensed buyer.

<i>Recommendation – Youngs Bay Select Area</i>	
Spring Season:	7 PM Tuesday May 11 through noon Friday May 14 (3 days) Noon Monday May 17 - noon Friday May 21 (4 days) Noon Monday May 24 - noon Friday May 28 (4 days) Noon Monday May 31 - noon Friday June 4 (4 days) Noon Monday June 7 - noon Friday June 11 (4 days)
Area:	Youngs Bay fishing area with upper boundary at a line from the posted sign on the shore of the Youngs River to the point of land at the confluence of the Youngs and Klaskanine rivers to the posted sign on the shore of the Klaskanine River.
Gear:	9¾-inch maximum mesh size restriction. Maximum net length of 250 fathoms and weight on leadline not to exceed two pounds in any one fathom. Red corks are required at 25-fathom intervals and red corks must be in contrast to corks used in the remainder of the net. Use of additional weights or anchors attached directly to the leadline is allowed upstream of markers located approximately 200 yards upstream of the mouth of the Walluski River.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon, white sturgeon, and shad. A maximum of 5 white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday).
Miscellaneous Regulations:	Permanent transportation rules will be in effect.

- Based on the full fisheries proposed, the upriver rate may increase some from what was observed in week 19 (last week), but should remain within allowable limits. From 2000-2008, total upriver catch in Select Areas during weeks 20 (current week) through the remainder of the spring season has averaged 42 fish (range 3 to 104).

2010 Non-Treaty Spring Fisheries Summary	
Fishery	Total Upriver Chinook (kept and release Mortalities)
SAFE	1,297
MS Commercial	7,506
LCR Sport total	23,533
Z6 Sport through 5/9	3,398
SR/UC Sport through 5/9	899
	36,633

Future Hearings

- No additional Compacts are currently scheduled.