

**OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**  
**JOINT STAFF REPORT – FALL FACT SHEET NO. 4**  
**September 9, 2010**

Fisheries under consideration:	Treaty Indian commercial gillnet Select Area commercial sturgeon Non-Indian fisheries update
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*Management guidelines, allocations, and run forecasts for the 2009 fall season were presented in the Fall Fact Sheet #1(July 29, 2009)*

***Stock Status***

- Fall Chinook passage at Bonneville Dam during August 1 through September 8 totals 232,582 adults, including 153,971 bright stock and 78,611 tule stock. Adult Chinook passage is typically 50% complete by this time.
- Fall Chinook passage at Lower Granite Dam during August 18 through September 8 total 6,483 adults. Counts are tracking at levels above 2009 when the Snake River wild (SRW) run size at the Columbia River mouth was 4,100 fish. The 2010 forecast for SRW is 5,300 adults.
- Summer steelhead passage at Bonneville Dam during July 1 through September 8 totals 323,392 fish. Total passage is near 80% complete by September 9.
- Coho passage through September 8 totals 24,712 adults. A total of 82,900 adult coho are expected to pass Bonneville Dam in 2010. Passage is typically 50% complete on September 15.
- TAC met on September 8 to review Chinook and steelhead stock status. TAC concluded that the timing of fall Chinook at Bonneville Dam appears to be similar to the 10-year average. TAC preliminarily updated the Upriver Bright (URB) river mouth run size to 295,800 fish versus the 319,200 preseason forecast. The Bonneville Pool Hatchery (BPH) tule stock was downgraded from the preseason forecast of 162,900 adults to 141,000 adults at the Columbia River mouth.
- TAC also reviewed summer steelhead passage at Bonneville Dam and updated the Group A component to 325,000 steelhead (337,500 preseason). TAC did not update the Group B component.
- Escapement to Spring Creek Hatchery through September 8 includes 5,400 males, 6,500 females, and 900 jack Chinook.

**TREATY INDIAN FISHERIES**

- The first of three weekly commercial fall gillnet fishing periods began on August 23. The third weekly period is currently underway and scheduled to conclude on the evening of September 10, although the tribes will propose extending it through 6:00 PM Saturday September 11. Platform hook and line fisheries have been ongoing for both subsistence and commercial purposes since August 1.

- Coded – wire tag (CWT) data indicates the stock composition is within expectations, with harvest consisting of 66% URBs and 34% BPH stock
- CWT data for the second week (Aug 30-Sep 3) is incomplete. The stock composition from the Aug. 23-26 was applied to the Aug 30-Sep 3 harvest until updated CWT data is available.
- The expected catch from this week’s fishery (Sep 7-11) is based on the Zone 6 fishery model.

2010 Fall Season Treaty Mainstem Fishery Impacts									
Date	# of Days	Net	Total Chinook	URB	MCB	BPH (Tule)	Steelhead	Group A	Group B
Platform, hook & line	Aug 1-22		390	327	24	39	3,770	1,933	1,837
Gillnet Aug 23- 26	3.5	441	5,869	3,572	265	2,032	2,566	2,276	290
Gillnet Aug 30- Sep 3	4.5	593	28,657	17,443	1,294	9,920	5,015	4,269	746
Gillnet Sep 7-11 (projected)	3.5	683	34,526	25,718	2,320	12,241	5,070	4,098	973
Subtotal			69,442	47,060	3,903	24,232	16,421	12,576	3,846
Impacts									
URB		15.9%							
Group B		4%							

- Based on run-size forecasts (pre- and in-season) and treaty harvest (actual and projected) through September 11, URB impacts and Group B steelhead impacts are both well within treaty ESA limits.
- The tribes will make two recommendations. One is to extend this week’s commercial gillnet fishery by 24 hours. The tribes propose closing the fishery at 6:00 PM on Saturday September 11. The purpose of this extension is to allow more fishing time near the peak of the Chinook run.
- The second recommendation is the following commercial gillnet fishery for next week.

<i>Recommendation - Treaty Indian Gillnet Fishery</i>		
Dates:	6:00 AM Monday, September 13 to 6:00 PM Friday, September 17	4.5 days
Area:	Zone 6	
Gear:	Gillnet. No minimum mesh size restriction.	
Sanctuaries:	Standard river mouth and dam sanctuaries applicable to these gear types remain in effect. The small Spring Creek Hatchery Sanctuary will remain in effect.	
Allowable Sales:	Salmon steelhead, walleye, shad, yellow perch, catfish, bass and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sturgeon may not be sold. Sturgeon between 43-54 inches in fork length in The Dalles and John Day pools and between 38-54 inches in fork length in the Bonneville Pool may be retained for subsistence.	
Note:	24-hour Quick reporting rule in effect for Washington buyers	

- Catch expectation for this weekly period includes 31,900 Chinook (19,800 URBs) and 6,000 steelhead (1,500 Group B).
- Total fishery impacts (including complete, ongoing and proposed fisheries) are projected to total 22.6% for URBs and 5.4% for Group B steelhead. These impact calculations are based on updated run size estimates for URB’s and pre-season estimates for B steelhead.

- Impact rates are expected to remain within the treaty harvest rate limits for runs of at least 268,000 URB Chinook and 35,000 Group B steelhead.

## **NON-INDIAN FISHERIES**

### ***Buoy 10 Recreational Fishery***

- The Buoy 10 fishery remains open for fin-clipped coho and steelhead. Chinook retention closed as scheduled effective September 1.
- Through September 8, an estimated 48,000 anglers kept 6,900 Chinook and 9,000 hatchery coho compared to the preseason catch expectation of 12,500 Chinook and 11,900 hatchery coho. Catch and effort typically wanes after the Labor Day weekend, and the fishery is expected to continue as scheduled.
- Chinook stock composition consisted of 16% URBs and 51% LRH compared to the preseason expectations of 18% URBs and 23% LRH.

### ***Mainstem Recreational Fishery***

- This fishery opened August 1 for Chinook and hatchery coho retention from Tongue Point/Rocky Point upstream to Bonneville Dam. Chinook retention is scheduled to close downstream of the Lewis River effective September 12.
- The estimated kept catch of adult Chinook during August 1 through September 5 is 8,200 fish.
- Based on current projections, the season total kept Chinook catch is expected to be similar to preseason expectations.

### ***August Non-Indian Commercial Fisheries***

- Seven commercial fishing periods were conducted during August. All periods included a 9-inch minimum mesh size restriction. Area restrictions increased as the August fishery progressed. Landings from August fisheries totaled 22,525 Chinook, 472 coho, and 1,875 white sturgeon.
- Adult Chinook stock composition consisted of 44% URBs and 28% LRH compared to the preseason expectations of 26% URBs and 20% LRH.
- A total of approximately 1,775 white sturgeon remain available for commercial harvest in 2010.

### ***Select Area Commercial Fisheries***

- Select area fisheries have been ongoing since August 1. Preseason catch expectations for all Select Areas for the 2010 fall season were 12,000 Chinook and 42,700 coho. A total of 300 white sturgeon were allocated to the 2010 Select Area fisheries. The weekly sturgeon landing limit for the fall season has been two fish.
- Chinook landings in Youngs Bay have been less than expected while landings in Blind/Knappa sloughs are greater than expected.

- Combined Select Area landings through September 8 include 14,000 Chinook, 22,400 coho, and 324 white sturgeon.
- Through September 8, a total of 1,015 fall Chinook females have been collected at Big Creek Hatchery compared to the escapement goal of about 1,500 females.

***Recommendation - 2010 Select Area Commercial Fishery***

Prohibit sales/retention of white sturgeon in Select Area commercial fisheries effective 11:59 PM Saturday September 11, 2010

***Non-Treaty Fishery Update***

<b>2010 Fall Non-Treaty Chinook Harvest Summary</b>							
	<u>Total Catch</u>		<u>URB Catch</u>		<u>LRH Catch</u>		<b>Comments</b>
	Preseason	Inseason	Preseason	Inseason	Preseason	Inseason	
Buoy 10	12,470	6,900	2,280	1,110	2,910	3,530	Completed
Mainstem Sport	17,160	17,050	10,420	9,680	2,120	1,880	In Progress
Zone 6 Sport	2,480	2,320	1,810	1,680	NA	NA	In Progress
<b>Total Mainstem Sport</b>	<b>32,110</b>	<b>26,270</b>	<b>14,510</b>	<b>12,470</b>	<b>5,030</b>	<b>5,410</b>	
August Commercial	19,440	22,520	5,100	9,850	3,820	5,210	Completed
*September Commercial	17,380	3,600	5,900	1,200	940	300	Planned
*October Coho Commercial	1,310	1,340	470	570	0	50	Planned
<b>Total Mainstem Commercial</b>	<b>38,130</b>	<b>27,460</b>	<b>11,470</b>	<b>11,620</b>	<b>4,760</b>	<b>5,560</b>	
Select Areas Commercial			360	330	NA	NA	In Progress
<b>Non-Treaty Total</b>	<b>70,240</b>	<b>53,730</b>	<b>26,340</b>	<b>24,420</b>	<b>9,790</b>	<b>10,970</b>	

\*Example scenario that would allow non-treaty fisheries to maximize use of currently available URB impacts assuming additional LRH impacts become available and are allocated based on preseason sharing.

- Based on the in-season run size of 295,800 URBs, a total of 24,400 URBs are available for harvest in non-Indian mainstem fisheries, compared to 26,300 expected based on the preseason forecast.
- Based on the preseason run size of 85,600 LRH and preseason ocean fisheries, a total of 9,790 LRH are available for harvest in mainstem fisheries.
- The total Chinook harvest in ocean fisheries is anticipated to be less than the preseason expectation; therefore some additional LRH impacts may be available when ocean fisheries are complete.

**FUTURE MEETINGS**

- The Joint staff recommends a Compact hearing via teleconference at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 16 to consider treaty Indian and update non-Indian fisheries.