

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT: SPRING FACT SHEET NO. 5
Columbia River Compact/Joint State Hearing
June 7, 2013

<i>Fisheries under Consideration:</i> Recreational Salmon Treaty Commercial Platform/Hook and Line
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Stock status and management guidelines for 2013 Chinook fisheries were presented in Winter Fact Sheet #2 (January 30, 2013).

Stock Status and Management Guidelines

- Counts at Bonneville Dam total 92,861 adult upriver spring Chinook. Harvest from treaty and non-treaty fisheries (including release mortalities) downstream of Bonneville Dam totals 8,900 fish. Combined, a total of 101,761 adult upriver spring Chinook have been accounted for to date.
- The *U.S. v Oregon* Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) reviewed the status of the upriver spring Chinook return Yesterday (June 6). TAC updated the inseason forecast to a minimum of 115,000 adult upriver Chinook to the Columbia River mouth.
- Under the *U.S. v Oregon* Management Agreement, a river mouth return of 115,000 adult upriver fish allows for a wild impact rate of 1.7% and a catch balance limit of 9,545 upriver mortalities for non-Indian fisheries. There is an 8.3% total harvest rate for treaty fisheries which equates to an allowed catch of 9,545 upriver fish.

Non-Treaty Fishery update

- Four mainstem commercial spring Chinook salmon fishing periods have occurred to date in 2013. Combined landings total 1,915 adult spring Chinook. Kept and release mortalities of upriver Chinook is estimated at 1,474 fish, or 64% of the 2,314 allocated under catch balancing limitations at the updated run size. Combined commercial impacts to upriver spring Chinook are 0.583%, or 98% of the 0.595% allowed. Winter-spring white sturgeon landings total 282 fish, or 101% of the 280 fish allocated to winter-spring mainstem commercial fisheries.
- The lower Columbia River recreational fishery was open for Chinook retention through April 12 and reopened May 25. Catch estimates through Sunday June 2 total 5,761 kept and 1,710 released adult fish from 89,800 angler trips. Kept and release mortalities of upriver Chinook is estimated at 4,145 fish, or 85% of allocated. The projected total mortalities for upriver Chinook through June 15 for this fishery is 5,013, or 86% of the 5,849 fish available to this fishery at the updated run size.
- The recreational spring Chinook fishery from Bonneville Dam upstream to the Oregon/Washington border opened March 16 and closed effective May 6. Kept and release mortalities of upriver fish are estimated at 607 fish, or 78% of the 780 available at the updated run size.
- Snake River recreational fisheries (Washington waters) are currently closed. Kept and release mortalities are estimated at 342 fish, or 82% of the 416 available at the updated run size.

Non-Treaty Fishery Recommendations

- The Joint Staff recommends the following fishery modifications based on the updated run size and the remaining balance of upriver Chinook allocated to each fishery.

<i>2013 Mainstem Columbia River Spring Chinook Recreational Fisheries - Recommendation</i>	
Bonneville Dam to Oregon/Washington Border (Zone 6 Area)	
Season:	Saturday June 8 through Saturday June 15, 2013 (8 days)
Area:	Tower Island power lines (approximately 6 miles below The Dalles Dam) upstream to Oregon/Washington border, plus the Oregon and Washington banks between Bonneville Dam and the Tower Island power lines.
Daily Bag Limit:	Two adult salmonids per day, but only one may be a Chinook. Release sockeye. Only adipose fin-clipped fish may be kept. All other permanent regulations apply.
Misc. Regs:	For the mainstem Columbia River salmon and steelhead fishery from the Rocky Point/Tongue Point line upstream to OR/WA border, effective through June 15, it is unlawful when fishing from vessels which are less than 30 feet in length (substantiated by Coast Guard documentation or Marine Board registration) to totally remove from the water any salmon or steelhead required to be released.
Kept Catch:	135 kept Chinook

- The proposed fishery would provide some additional fishing opportunity prior to the beginning of the summer Chinook fishery which is scheduled to be open June 16-July 31.
- The proposal includes a one Chinook bag limit rather than two Chinook and sockeye retention would not be allowed until June 16.
- Modeling assumes 30 fish handled per open retention day.
- Considering catch estimates for the proposed season, the total upriver mortalities for this fishery through June 15 would be 751, or 96% of the 780 fish allocation.

<i>2013 Mainstem Columbia River Spring Chinook Recreational Fisheries - Recommendation</i>	
Downstream of Bonneville Dam	
Season:	Saturday June 8 through Saturday June 15, 2013 (8 days)
Area:	Extension of existing fishery to include boat angling from Beacon Rock upstream to the Bonneville Dam boat deadline.
Daily Bag Limit:	Two adult salmonids per day, but only one may be a Chinook. Release sockeye. Only adipose fin-clipped fish may be kept. All other permanent regulations apply.
	For the mainstem Columbia River salmon and steelhead fishery from the Rocky Point/Tongue Point line upstream to OR/WA border, effective through June 15, it is unlawful when fishing from vessels which are less than 30 feet in length (substantiated by Coast Guard documentation or Marine Board registration) to totally remove from the water any salmon or steelhead required to be released.

- Catch estimates for the proposed season is estimated to include 240 upriver Chinook mortalities, bringing the total projected mortality for upriver spring Chinook in recreational fisheries downstream of Bonneville Dam to 5,253, or 90% of allocated.
- Modeling assumes 50 upriver fish handled/day by boat anglers in this area.

Actual and Proposed Non-Indian Catch Balance

Summary of 2013 Non-treaty upriver Chinook catches _ preliminary						
Fishery	Upriver Catch (kept plus release mortalities)					
	Pre-Update Allocated (141.4 K)	Inseason Allocated (115 K)	In Hand	Projected	Total	% of allocated
Commercial						
Mainstem (actual)	1,222	2,314	1,474	0	1,474	64%
Select Area (ongoing)	148	173	165	30	195	113%
Recreational						
Below Bonneville (thru June 2)	4,934	5,849	4,145	1,108	5,253	90%
Bonn to OR/WA border	658	780	607	144	751	96%
Snake River (closed May 27)	351	416	342	0	342	82%
Wanapum Tribal (pending)	12	13	0	13	13	100%
Total Upriver Mortalities	7,325	9,545	6,733	1,295	8,028	84%

- Based on the actual, projected and proposed seasons an estimated 8,028 adult upriver spring Chinook mortalities would occur in non-Indian fisheries. This would require a run size of at least 108,500 adult upriver spring Chinook to the Columbia River mouth.

Treaty Fishery Update

- Treaty harvest to date is shown in the table below.

Fishery	Chinook
Winter Gillnet	0
Spring C&S Permit Gillnet (through 5/14)	4,175
Zone 6 Platform H&L	1,180
Zone 5 H&L	2,980
Total Platform H&L	4,160
Total To-Date	8,335
Allowed Catch (8.3% of 115,000)	9,545
Remaining	1,210

- There is an ongoing sturgeon setline fishery in the Dalles Pool. The preliminary catch total through June 5 is 13 fish. The fishery is scheduled to go through June 15.

Treaty Fishery Recommendation

- All four treaty tribes have decided on the following fishery based on the number of fish remaining available for harvest. This fishery runs continuously into the Summer Management Period.

<i>Treaty Zone 6 Platform and Hook and Line Fisheries</i>	
Date:	6:00 AM Saturday June 8 through 11:59 PM Wednesday June 31, 2013
Area:	Zone 6
Gear:	Hoopnets, Dipnets, Hook and Line
Allowed Sales	Chinook, sockeye, steelhead, shad, walleye, carp, catfish, bass, and yellow perch may be sold or kept for subsistence. For only the period between 6:00 AM June 8 and 11:59 PM June 15, sturgeon between 43-54 inches fork length harvested in The Dalles Pool downstream of the grain elevator at Rufus may be sold or kept for subsistence. At other times and in other areas, sturgeon between 43-54 inches fork length in The Dalles and John Day pools may be retained only for subsistence use. Sturgeon between 38-54 inches fork length in the Bonneville Pool may also be retained only for subsistence use.
Misc. Regs:	Sanctuaries applicable to these gear types apply
Note:	24-hour quick reporting required for Washington wholesale dealers, per WAC 220-69-240.

- The tribes will monitor and report the harvest in this fishery.
- The Yakama Nation has ongoing tributary fisheries that include commercial sales. The Compact does not need to take action with any Yakama tributary fisheries.
- At this time, the tribes have not chosen to fish downstream of Bonneville Dam, so the fishery downstream of Bonneville does not require Compact Action.

Future Hearing

- The Compact hearing is scheduled for 10:00 AM Tuesday June 11 to consider Treaty and non-Treaty commercial summer fishing periods.