

**OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT - WINTER FACT SHEET NO. 2a
Columbia River Compact/Joint State Hearing**

January 29, 2014

Fisheries under consideration:

- Non-Indian commercial salmon fishing plan and regulations
- Select Area commercial and recreational fisheries
- Recreational salmon fisheries
- Recreational sturgeon fishery – Bonneville Pool

Detailed information on stock status and management guidelines for Columbia River fisheries are presented in Joint Staff Reports, which are produced annually and available on-line. The most recent reports are the 2014 Sturgeon/Smelt Report (January 21, 2014) and the 2014 Winter Spring Summer Report (January 22, 2014). <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/crc/> or <http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/OSCRP/CRM/reports.asp>

STOCK STATUS

Upriver Spring Chinook

The upriver spring Chinook run is defined as all spring Chinook destined for areas above Bonneville Dam and Snake River summer Chinook. Chinook passing Bonneville Dam between January 1 and June 15 are managed as upriver spring Chinook. Snake River wild spring/summer Chinook and upper Columbia wild spring Chinook are components of this run and are federally-listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Spring Chinook returning to other tributaries above Bonneville Dam are part of this run but are not ESA-listed. Based on the recent ten-year average, Bonneville Dam passage is usually 50% complete by May 7. Over the past ten years, adult runs have averaged around 176,000 (range 86,000 to 315,000).

Willamette Spring Chinook

Willamette River spring Chinook exhibit broader migration timing than upriver spring Chinook. Wild spring Chinook destined for portions of the Willamette River and its tributaries are ESA-listed. Over the past ten years, runs (adults and jacks) have averaged around 67,000 fish (range 27,000 to 143,000).

Lower Columbia Spring Chinook

Spring Chinook returning to the tributaries of the lower Columbia River are destined for the Cowlitz, Kalama, Lewis, and Sandy rivers and the Select Areas. Wild components of this group are ESA-listed, with the exception of the Select Area fish. Over the past ten years, the combined adult return of these lower river stocks has averaged around 21,000 fish (range 10,000 to 41,000) in the tributaries and 9,200 fish (range 2,600 to 26,000) in Select Areas.

Winter Steelhead

The geographic range of winter steelhead includes all tributaries of the Columbia River upstream to Fifteen Mile Creek on the Oregon shore and the Klickitat River on the Washington shore. Wild populations from the Cowlitz River upstream to Fifteen Mile Creek and from specific areas above Willamette Falls are ESA-listed. Steelhead handled downstream of Bonneville Dam during November through April are managed as winter steelhead. Over the past ten years, wild winter steelhead returns have averaged around 17,000 fish (range 12,000 to 30,000).

<i>Columbia River Mouth Fish Returns Actual and Forecasts**</i>					
			2013 Forecast	2013 Return	2014 Forecast
Spring Chinook	Total Spring Chinook		225,000	195,200	308,000
	Willamette		59,800	47,300	58,700
	Sandy		6,100	5,700	5,500
	Cowlitz*		5,500	9,500	7,800
	Kalama*		700	1,000	500
	Lewis*		1,600	1,600	1,100
	Select Areas		9,900	7,000	7,400
	Lower River total		83,600	72,100	81,000
	Wind*		3,000	3,600	8,500
	Drano Lake*		4,900	7,300	13,100
	Klickitat*		2,200	1,800	2,500
	Yakima*		7,300	7,100	9,100
	Upper Columbia	Total	14,300	18,000	24,100
	<i>Upper Columbia</i>	<i>Wild</i>	<i>1,600</i>	<i>3,600</i>	<i>3,700</i>
	Snake River Spring/Summer	Total	58,200	67,300	125,000
	<i>Snake River</i>	<i>Wild</i>	<i>18,900</i>	<i>21,900</i>	<i>42,200</i>
	Upriver Total		141,400	123,100	227,000
Summer Chinook	Upper Columbia	Total	73,500	67,600	67,500
Sockeye	Wenatchee		44,600	36,000	63,400
	Okanogan		134,500	149,000	282,500
	Snake River	<i>Wild</i>	<i>1,250</i>	<i>1,100</i>	<i>1,200</i>
	Total Sockeye		180,500	186,100	347,100
Steelhead	Winter	Wild	15,700	15,600	16,100
Steelhead	Upriver Summer	Total	339,200	231,300	
		<i>Wild</i>	<i>96,700</i>		

*Return to tributary mouth **Totals may not sum due to rounding

Jan. 15, 2014

Zone 6 White Sturgeon

Abundance of white sturgeon populations in each of the three Zone 6 reservoirs (between Bonneville and McNary dams) is estimated every three years to monitor the effects of hydro-system operations and fishery management strategies. Mark-recapture population estimates are derived using directed sampling with gill nets and setlines. Significant harvest reductions were enacted beginning in 1988 and populations in all three reservoirs have increased as a result of reduced catch and other mitigation efforts. The most recent assessments estimated the abundance of legal-size sturgeon to be 2,730 fish in The Dalles Reservoir (2011), 14,210 fish in Bonneville Reservoir (2012), and 9,620 fish in John Day Reservoir (2013).

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

2008-2017 U.S. v Oregon Management Agreement

- The 2008-2017 *U.S. v Oregon* Management Agreement (MA) provides the treaty Indian and non-Indian fishery harvest frameworks and harvest rate schedules for salmon and steelhead stocks destined for areas upstream of Bonneville Dam.
- The MA includes an abundance-based sliding scale harvest schedule for upriver spring Chinook. Based on the MA and the preseason forecast, ESA impacts for 2014 fisheries are limited to 12%, with 2% for non-Indian fisheries and 10% for treaty Indian fisheries.
- Fisheries will also be managed to meet the catch balance provision in the MA for upriver spring Chinook which requires upriver mortalities in non-Indian fisheries to not exceed the total allowable catch available for treaty Indian fisheries. The following table is derived from the harvest schedule within the MA and reflects the allowable catch and associated ESA impacts for treaty Indian and non-Indian fisheries.

Spring Management Period Harvest Rate Schedule						
Total Upriver Run Size	SNAKE RIVER Natural Run Size	Treaty Indian Harvest Rate	Treaty Indian Catch Guideline	Non-Indian Harvest Rate	Non-Indian Mortality Guideline	Total Harvest Rate
82,000	8,200	7.4%	6,068	1.6%	6,068	9.0%
109,000	10,900	8.3%	9,047	1.7%	9,047	10.0%
141,000	14,100	9.1%	12,831	1.9%	12,831	11.0%
217,000	21,700	10.0%	21,700	2.0%	21,700	12.0%
271,000	27,100	10.8%	29,268	2.2%	29,268	13.0%
326,000	32,600	11.7%	38,142	2.3%	38,142	14.0%
380,000	38,000	12.5%	47,500	2.5%	47,500	15.0%
434,000	43,400	13.4%	58,156	2.6%	58,156	16.0%
488,000	48,800	14.3%	69,784	2.7%	69,784	17.0%

- The MA also specifies non-Indian fisheries occurring prior to a run size update be managed for a run size that is at least 30% less than the predicted upriver spring Chinook run size.
- A 30% reduction to the preseason forecast equates to a run size of 158,900 fish, which allows for an ESA limit of 1.9% and an allowable harvest (kept plus release mortalities) of 14,460 upriver spring Chinook for non-Indian fisheries prior to a run size update.

Endangered Species Act

- A Biological Opinion (BO) based upon the management actions outlined in the MA was issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in 2008.
- Impacts to wild winter steelhead are limited to 2% for all mainstem Columbia River non-Indian fisheries.
- Impacts to eulachon and green sturgeon are expected to be minimal for all mainstem Columbia River non-Indian salmon fisheries.

Willamette Spring Chinook Management

- The Willamette River Fisheries Management Evaluation Plan (FMEP) limits freshwater fishery impacts on wild Willamette River spring Chinook to <15%.
- The Willamette River FMEP includes a sliding scale for escapement goals based on abundance of hatchery fish which determines the allocation of surplus hatchery spring Chinook to recreational and commercial fisheries downstream of Willamette Falls. The escapement goals are also intended to allow for full recreational fisheries in the upper Willamette River.
- Based on FMEP guidance, an expected return of 46,200 hatchery spring Chinook and the FMEP escapement goal of 25,300 hatchery fish, the harvestable surplus totals 20,900 hatchery fish. This surplus is allocated 80% (16,700) for recreational fisheries downstream of Willamette Falls (including the mainstem Columbia River) and 20% (4,200) to commercial fisheries (including Select Areas).

2014 Spring Chinook Management

- The Washington and Oregon Fish and Wildlife commissions (Commissions) have provided guidance on spring Chinook management. For 2014, allowed ESA impacts to upriver spring Chinook will be allocated 70% to recreational fisheries and 30% to commercial fisheries. This direction combined with catch balance provisions in the MA, result in the following guidelines:

Prior to the run update, allocation of upriver fish (including release mortalities) for non-Indian fisheries will be:

- 10,157 fish for the recreational fishery below Bonneville Dam
- 1,354 fish for the recreational fishery from Bonneville Dam to the OR/WA state line.
- 976 fish for recreational fisheries in the Snake River/Upper Columbia
- 1,735 fish for the mainstem commercial fishery
- 238 fish for Select Area commercial fisheries

Zone 6 White Sturgeon

- The Sturgeon Management Task Force (SMTF) will meet in February to discuss and develop management recommendations for 2014 Zone 6 white sturgeon fisheries, including potential modifications to harvest guidelines based on updated population assessments. In the interim, the 2013 recreational fishery harvest guidelines remain in effect:

<i>Interim 2014 Zone 6 Recreational Sturgeon Harvest Guidelines</i>		
Bonneville Pool	The Dalles Pool	John Day Pool
1,100	300	500

- Under permanent rule, Zone 6 (Bonneville Dam upstream to McNary Dam) recreational white sturgeon fisheries open annually for retention effective January 1. Since 2011, the Bonneville Pool fishery has been managed to provide retention opportunity during winter and summer seasons, with the guideline being shared ~ 50/50 between winter and summer seasons.

2014 NON-INDIAN FISHERIES

Zone 6 Recreational White Sturgeon Fisheries

Bonneville Pool

- Managers met on December 11, 2013 and set a January 20 closure date for the 2014 winter retention period in Bonneville Pool. The summer retention season is expected to begin in June.
- Bonneville Pool catch during January 1-19 was only 247 fish, which is less than half of the 550-600 fish allocated to the winter season from the total expected guideline of 1,100 fish.
- Staff is proposing the following addition to the winter season for Bonneville Pool:

<i>2014 Bonneville Pool Winter Recreational White Sturgeon Fishery - Staff Recommendation:</i>	
Season:	Saturday February 1 through Monday February 17, 2014
Area:	Mainstem Columbia River from Bonneville Dam upstream to The Dalles Dam, including adjacent tributaries.
Allowable Catch:	White sturgeon between 38-inches and 54-inches fork length.

- In order to achieve a split season, staff's intent is to manage the winter season for a harvest of approximately 550-600 fish or a February 17 end date, whichever comes first. Staff will monitor the fishery as it progresses and provide updates as needed.
- Any changes to the current Bonneville Pool harvest guideline from the SMTF will be reflected in the summer season structure. Staff does not anticipate a change to the guideline.
- Staff anticipates re-opening Bonneville Pool for a summer retention season during June 2014 if sufficient quota remains available. This summer fishery and a May-July spawning sanctuary downstream of The Dalles Dam will likely be proposed in March or April of 2014.

Mainstem Columbia River Spring Chinook Recreational Fisheries

- The Columbia River downstream of the I-5 Bridge is currently open under permanent regulations for hatchery salmon and steelhead through March 31.
- The Columbia River from Bonneville Dam upstream to the Hwy 395 Bridge is currently open under permanent regulations for hatchery steelhead through March 31.
- Staff modeled several lower river spring Chinook season scenarios for 2014 based on past input from the public and the Columbia River Recreational Advisory Group (CRRAG). Modeled seasons were discussed with the CRRAG to identify preferred options. None of the modeled seasons extended into the run size update timeframe of early May.

2014 Mainstem Columbia River Spring Chinook Recreational Fisheries - Recommendations	
Downstream of Bonneville Dam	
Season	Saturday March 1 through Monday April 7, 2014, <u>except closed</u> March 25 and April 1 (Tuesdays) 36 retention days
Area:	Buoy 10 upstream to Beacon Rock (boat and bank) plus bank angling only from Beacon Rock upstream to the Bonneville Dam deadline. Legal upstream boundary defined as: “A deadline marker on the Oregon bank (approximately four miles downstream from Bonneville Dam Powerhouse 1) in a straight line through the western tip of Pierce Island to a deadline marker on the Washington bank at Beacon Rock.”
Daily Bag Limit:	Two adult salmonids per day, but only one may be a Chinook. Only adipose fin-clipped fish may be kept. All other permanent regulations apply.
Kept Catch:	12,400 adult Chinook (all stocks) from 106,000 angler trips.
Bonneville Dam to Oregon/Washington Border	
Season:	Sunday March 16 through Friday May 9, 2014 55 retention 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 <u>one</u> may be a Chinook. Only adipose fin-clipped fish may be kept. All other permanent regulations apply.
Kept Catch:	1,325 adult Chinook.

- Fishery recommendations were developed to remain within and comply with:
 - ✓ Impact limits for species listed under the ESA.
 - ✓ Buffers and catch balance provisions outlined in the MA.
 - ✓ Policy guidance and management objectives provided by the Commissions.
- Of the various season scenarios reviewed by the CRRAG, the proposed season received the strongest support, including some support for the concept of closed days to accommodate the commercial fishery.
- The season for the Zone 6 fishery is based on the available pre-update allocation and estimated catch rates.
- The proposed change to a one-Chinook daily bag limit in Zone 6 has been discussed and supported by anglers, the ad-hoc group, and some members of the CRRAG. Implementing a one-fish bag extends the season a few days and the proposed end date would be closer to the runsize update time frame.
- Although a key management goal is to minimize the need for in-season emergency action, due to the dynamic nature of fisheries and fish runs, none of the seasons recommended

guarantee that in-season action will not be necessary in order to remain within ESA limits and/or catch balancing requirements.

- Similar to last year, staff will schedule a Joint State hearing in early April to review the ongoing lower Columbia recreational spring Chinook fishery and consider an extension if enough fish remain available. If needed, Tuesday April 8 would be reserved for a commercial fishing period.

Mainstem Steelhead and Shad Recreational Fishery

- Under permanent regulations, the Columbia River from Buoy 10 upstream to the Highway 395 Bridge at Pasco, WA closes to steelhead retention April 1. The area downstream of the I-5 Bridge re-opens May 16 and the area upstream of the I-5 Bridge re-opens June 16.
- Under permanent regulations, the Columbia River is open for shad angling all year, except closed downstream of Bonneville Dam from April 1 through May 15.

<i>Retention of Hatchery Steelhead and Shad During Spring Chinook Seasons – Staff Recommendation</i>

Effective March 1-May 15, 2014, the mainstem Columbia River will be open for retention of adipose fin-clipped steelhead and shad ONLY during days and in areas open for retention of adipose fin-clipped spring Chinook.

- Beginning May 16 permanent rules resume; hatchery steelhead retention is allowed from the Tongue-Rocky Point line upstream to the I-5 Bridge and shad retention is allowed river-wide.

Tributary Spring Chinook Fisheries Downstream of Bonneville Dam

- No changes to permanent regulations are recommended for spring Chinook recreational fisheries in the Sandy, Clackamas, and Willamette rivers.
- Washington tributary seasons are in the current Fishing in Washington pamphlet and are currently the same as in 2013. Daily bag limits remain reduced in the Kalama and Lewis rivers.

Mainstem Columbia River Winter/Spring Salmon Commercial Fishery

- Since 2004, a commercial fishing plan has been developed in cooperation with the Columbia River Commercial Advisor Group (CRCAG) to maximize the catch of hatchery spring Chinook and minimize handle of ESA-listed upriver spring/summer Chinook and wild winter steelhead.
- The Joint Staff will use the fishing plan as a guideline for managing the upcoming winter/spring season.
- The Joint Staff met with the CRCAG to solicit input for potential 2014 spring salmon seasons. Based on the preseason forecasts, 4,200 Willamette hatchery spring Chinook and around 1,700 upriver spring Chinook are available for commercial harvest prior to a run size update. The upriver allocation will limit potential commercial harvest of Willamette spring Chinook. Prior to a runsize update, staff expects only one or two fishing periods will occur.

2014 Winter/Spring Pre-Season Commercial Chinook Fishing Plan

- ✓ Manage mainstem commercial fisheries to remain within commission allocation and catch balancing guidelines.
- ✓ Test fishing is expected to occur on Sundays or Tuesdays beginning in mid-March.
- ✓ Compact hearings to occur on Mondays (and/or Wednesdays), if test fishing results are positive.
- ✓ Full fleet fisheries are expected to occur on Tuesdays (and/or Thursdays) of each week, but may be scheduled on other days in order to maintain flexibility in developing fishing seasons. Results from Tuesday fisheries will determine whether fishing occurs on Thursdays.
- ✓ Fisheries may be conducted during daylight and nighttime hours, dependent upon water conditions and to minimize conflicts between user groups.
- ✓ Fisheries may occur in Zones 1-5.
- ✓ Based on test fishing results, fishing periods could begin by late March, primarily depending on steelhead abundance.
- ✓ Only tanglenet gear will be used (4¼-inch mesh).
- ✓ Additional fishing periods may occur after run size updates are available.
- ✓ Test fishing may continue throughout the winter/spring season to collect biological data and maintain historic test fishing databases.

- In addition to the fishing plan, a set of general regulations are announced prior to the onset of the spring season. The regulations reflect management intent and allow commercial fishers to prepare for the upcoming season. These regulations are nearly identical to those used in recent years and will be in place for the 2014 winter/spring season.

2014 Commercial Spring Chinook Fishery Regulations

Season:	Individual fishing periods will not exceed 24 hours in length.
Area:	Zones 1-5. Actual upper boundary to be determined in-season.
Sanctuaries:	As applicable. Grays River, Elochoman-B, Abernathy Creek, Cowlitz River, Kalama-B, and Lewis-B, Sandy and Washougal sanctuaries.
Allowable Sales:	Adipose fin-clipped Chinook salmon and shad.
Participants:	Licensed Columbia River commercial fishers that have completed the required state-sponsored workshop concerning live capture commercial fishing techniques. At least one fisher on each boat must have live capture certification.
Gear:	Single-wall multi-filament net only. Monofilament tangle nets are not allowed. 4¼-inch maximum mesh size (tangle net). Mesh size is determined by placing three consecutive meshes under hand tension and the measurement is taken from the inside of one vertical knot to the outside of the opposite vertical knot of the center mesh. Hand tension means sufficient linear tension to draw opposing knots of meshes into contact There are no restrictions on the use of slackers or stringers to slacken the net vertically. There are no restrictions on the hang ratio. The hang ratio is used to add horizontal slack to the net and is determined by the length of the web per length of the corkline.

Red corks are required at 25-fathom intervals, and red corks must be in contrast to the corks used in the remainder of the net.

Nets that are fished at any time between official sunset and official sunrise must have **lighted buoys** on both ends of the net unless the net is attached to the boat. If the net is attached to the boat, then one lighted buoy on the opposite end of the net from the boat is required.

Net length not to exceed 150 fathoms, except under the following conditions:

Tangle nets constructed with a steelhead excluder panel, weedlines, or droppers, may extend to a maximum length of **175 fathoms**.

An optional use of a steelhead excluder panel of mesh may be hung between the corkline and the 4¼-inch maximum mesh size tangle net. The excluder panel web must be a minimum mesh size of 12-inch stretched measure when taut under hand tension. Monofilament mesh is allowed for the excluder panel only. The excluder panel must be a minimum of five feet in depth and must not exceed ten feet in depth as measured from the corkline to the upper margin of the tangle net mesh as the net hangs naturally from a taut corkline. Weedlines or droppers (bobber type) may be used in place of the steelhead excluder panel. A weedline-type excluder means the net is suspended below the corkline by lines of no less than five feet in length between the corkline and the upper margin of the tangle net. A dropper-type excluder means the entire net is suspended below the surface of the water by lines of no less than five feet in length extending from individual surface floats to a submersed corkline. The corkline cannot be capable of floating the net in its entirety (including the leadline) independent of the attached floats. Weedlines or droppers must extend a minimum of five feet above the 4¼-inch maximum mesh size tangle net. Tangle nets constructed with a steelhead excluder panel, weedlines, or droppers must have **two red corks** at each end of the net, as well as the red corks required under miscellaneous regulations.

Miscellaneous Regulations:

Soak times, defined as the time elapsed from when the first of the gill net web is deployed into the water until the gill net web is fully retrieved from the water, must not exceed 45 minutes.

Recovery Box: Each boat will be required to have two operable recovery boxes or one box with two chambers, on board. Each chamber of the recovery box(es) must include an operating water pumping system capable of delivering a minimum flow of 16 gallons per minute, not to exceed 20 gallons per minute of freshwater per chamber. Each box and chamber and associated pump shall be operating during any time that the net is being retrieved or picked. Each chamber of the recovery box must meet the following dimensions as measured from within the box; the inside length measurement must be at or within 39½ inches to 48 inches, the inside width measurements must be at or within 8 to 10 inches, and the inside height measurement must be at or within 14 to 16 inches.

Each chamber of the recovery box must include a water inlet hole between ¾ inch and 1 inch in diameter, centered horizontally across the door or end wall of the chamber and 1¾ inches from the floor of the chamber. Each chamber of the recovery box must include a water outlet hole that is a least 1½ inches in diameter located on either the same or opposite end as the inlet. The center of the outlet hole must be located a minimum of 12 inches above the floor of the box or chamber.

The fisher must demonstrate to WDFW and ODFW employees, fish and wildlife enforcement officers, or other peace officers, upon request, that the pumping system is

delivering the proper volume of fresh river water into each chamber.

All sturgeon, non-adipose fin-clipped salmon, and steelhead must be released immediately to the river with care and with the least possible injury to the fish, or placed into an operating recovery box.

Any salmonid that is bleeding or lethargic must be placed in the recovery box prior to being released. All fish placed in recovery boxes must be released to the river prior to landing or docking.

At least 24-hour **Quick Reporting** will be required for Washington wholesale dealers, per WAC 220-69-240.

Observer program: As a condition of fishing, owners or operators of commercial fishing vessels must cooperate with department observers or observers collecting data for the department, when notified by the observer of his or her intent to board the commercial vessel for observation and sampling during an open fishery. Additionally, cooperation with department personal or observers prior to an open fishery is expected.

Select Area Fisheries

- Select Area fisheries target spring Chinook during the winter and spring seasons (mid-February through mid-June) and both spring Chinook and Select Area Bright (SAB) fall Chinook during the summer season (mid-June through July).
- Over the past five years (2009–2013), catch in winter, spring, and summer Select Area commercial fisheries has averaged 11,700 Chinook annually, with 86% of the catch originating from Select Area sites. Excluding the exceptionally high catch in 2010, the average harvest is about 8,400 fish.
- From the commercial allocation of ESA-impacts to upriver spring Chinook, a fixed allocation of 0.15% has been allotted to Select Area commercial fisheries (unchanged since 2008).
- Recreational harvest of spring Chinook in Select Areas averaged 540 fish (range 100–1,967) during 2004–2013.
- Recommendations for 2014 winter, spring, and summer Select Area fisheries were developed based on input received during a public meeting held January 8, 2014 in Astoria and subsequent discussions with commercial fishers.

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>2014 Blind Slough/Knappa Slough Select Area - Recommendation</i>	
Winter Season:	Monday and Thursday nights from February 10 through April 1 (15 nights) Open hours are from 7 PM to 7 AM (12 hours)
Spring Season:	Thursday night April 17, Tuesday night April 22, <u>and</u> Monday and Thursday nights from April 24 through June 13 (17 nights). Open hours are 7 PM to 7 AM (12 hours).
Area:	Winter season: Blind Slough <u>and Knappa Slough</u> are open through March 14, and only Blind Slough area open March 17 through April 1. Spring season: Blind Slough and Knappa Slough areas are open. From May 1 through June 13, 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:	<u>Winter season:</u> 7-inch minimum mesh size restriction <u>Spring season:</u> 9 ³ / ₄ -inch maximum mesh size restriction Nets restricted to 100 fathoms in length with no weight restriction on leadline. Use of additional weights and/or anchors attached directly to the leadline is allowed. Nets not specifically authorized for use in these areas may be onboard a vessel if properly stored. A properly stored net is defined as a net on a drum that is fully covered by a tarp (canvas or plastic) and bound with a minimum of ten revolutions of rope with a diameter of 3/8 (0.375) inches or greater.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon and shad. Retention and sale of sturgeon is prohibited.
Miscellaneous Regulations:	Other permanent regulations including rules related to transportation and lighted buoys remain in effect. 24-hour Quick Reporting Rule in effect for Washington buyers Observer program: As a condition of fishing, owners or operators of commercial fishing vessels must cooperate with department observers or observers collecting data for the department, when notified by the observer of his or her intent to board the commercial vessel for observation and sampling during an open fishery. Additionally, cooperation with department personal or observers prior to an open fishery is expected.

- ✓ Beginning in 2013 the opening of Knappa Slough during the winter season timeframe is intended to provide information about catch composition and abundance. This enhanced opportunity should pose minimal risk of accruing significant impacts to upriver stocks.
- ✓ An observer program will be initiated for the winter Knappa Slough fishery to further assess presence of non-local stocks occurring in the catch.
- ✓ Similar to prior years, the additional winter fishing periods in Blind Slough provides additional access to locally returning spring Chinook with minimal risk of increasing impacts to upriver stocks.

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>2014 Tongue Point/South Channel Select Area – Staff Recommendation</i>	
Winter Season:	Monday and Thursday nights from February 10 through March 14 (10 nights). Open hours are 7 PM to 7 AM (12 hours).
Spring Season:	Monday and Thursday nights from April 24 through June 13 (15 nights). Open hours are 7 PM to 7 AM (12 hours).
Area:	The winter and spring season Tongue Point fishing area includes all waters bounded by a line extended from the upstream (southernmost) 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:	<u>Winter season:</u> 7-inch minimum mesh size restriction <u>Spring season:</u> 9¾-inch maximum mesh size restriction In the Tongue Point fishing area, gear restricted to a 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 maximum net length of 250 fathoms and no weight restriction on leadline. Use of additional weights and/or anchors attached directly to the leadline is allowed. Nets not specifically authorized for use in these areas may be onboard a vessel if properly stored. A properly stored net is defined as a net on a drum that is fully covered by a tarp (canvas or plastic) and bound with a minimum of ten revolutions of rope with a diameter of 3/8 (0.375) inches or greater.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon and shad. Retention and sale of sturgeon is prohibited.
Miscellaneous Regulations:	Other permanent regulations including rules related to transportation and lighted buoys remain in effect. 24-hour Quick Reporting Rule in effect for Washington buyers. Observer program: As a condition of fishing, owners or operators of commercial fishing vessels must cooperate with department observers or observers collecting data for the department, when notified by the observer of his or her intent to board the commercial vessel for observation and sampling during an open fishery. Additionally, cooperation with department personal or observers prior to an open fishery is expected.

- ✓ Similar to 2013, the winter season in is intended to provide information about catch composition and abundance during that timeframe. This enhanced opportunity should pose minimal risk of accruing significant impacts to upriver stocks.
- ✓ An observer program will be initiated for the winter portion of this fishery to further assess presence of non-local stocks occurring in the catch.

Deep River Commercial Fishery

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

<i>2014 Deep River Select Area- Staff Recommendation</i>	
Winter Season:	Monday and Thursday nights from February 10 through April 1 (15 nights). Open hours are 7 PM to 7 AM (12 hours)
Spring Season:	Thursday night April 17, Tuesday night April 22, <u>and</u> Monday and Thursday nights from April 24 through June 13 (17 nights). Open hours are 7 PM to 7 AM (12 hours).
Area:	From the markers at USCG navigation marker #16 upstream to the Highway 4 Bridge
Gear:	<u>Winter season:</u> 7-inch minimum mesh size restriction <u>Spring season:</u> 9¾-inch maximum mesh size restriction. Nets restricted to 100 fathoms in length with no weight restriction on leadline. Use of additional weights and/or anchors attached directly to the leadline is allowed. Nets cannot be tied off to stationary structures. Nets may not fully cross navigation channel. It is unlawful to operate in any river, stream or channel any gill net longer than three-fourths the width of the stream (WAC 220-20-015 (1)). It shall be unlawful in any area to use, operate, or carry aboard a commercial fishing vessel a licensed net or combination of such nets, whether fished singly or separately, in excess of the maximum lawful size or length prescribed for a single net in that area, except as otherwise provided for in the rules and regulations of the department WAC 220-20-010 (17). Nets not specifically authorized for use in these areas may be onboard a vessel if properly stored. A properly stored net is defined as a net on a drum that is fully covered by a tarp (canvas or plastic) and bound with a minimum of ten revolutions of rope with a diameter of 3/8 (0.375) inches or greater. Lighted buoys required.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon and shad. Retention and sale of sturgeon is prohibited.
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 WDFW staff. <u>Winter season:</u> fishers are required to call 360-795-0319 to confirm the place and time of sampling. <u>Spring season:</u> a sampling station will be established at WDFW's Oneida Road boat ramp, about 0.5 miles upstream of the Deep River area downstream boundary (USCG navigation marker #16). 24-hour Quick Reporting Rule in effect for Washington buyers

- ✓ Additional fishing periods during the late portion of the winter season provide access to locally returning spring Chinook with minimal risk of impacts to upriver stocks.

Youngs Bay Commercial Fishery

- All waters in Youngs Bay are Oregon State waters and require Oregon State action.
- The entire Youngs Bay Select Area is open to either Oregon or Washington fishers who possess valid licenses (fishing and boat) issued by either state. Per permanent rule, all landings from Youngs Bay must be delivered to an Oregon licensed buyer.

<i>2014 Youngs Bay Select Area – Staff Recommendation</i>	
Winter Season:	<p>Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from February 10 – March 7 (12 days) Open hours are from 6 AM to Midnight (18 hours) on Mondays and Thursdays, and 6 AM to 6 PM (12 hours) on Wednesdays. and Monday March 10 from 3:30 PM to 7:30 PM (4 hours) Wednesday March 12 from 5 PM to 9 PM (4 hours) Thursday March 13 from 6 PM to 10 PM (4 hours) Monday March 17 from 8 PM to Midnight (4 hours) Wednesday March 19 from 9 AM to 1 PM (4 hours) Thursday night March 20 from 9 PM to 1 AM March 21 (4 hours) Monday March 24 from 2 PM to 6 PM (4 hours) Wednesday March 26 from 4 PM to 8 PM (4 hours)</p>
Spring Season:	<p>Thursday April 17 from 6 PM to Midnight (6 hours) Tuesday April 22 from 6 AM to 6 PM (12 hours) Thursday night April 24 from 7 PM to 7 AM April 25 (12 hours), and Monday April 28 from 6 AM to 6 PM (12 hours) Wednesday April 30 from 6 AM to 6 PM (12 hours) Thursday May 1 from 6 AM to 6 PM (12 hours) Monday May 5 from 6 AM to Midnight (18 hours) Wednesday May 7 from 6 AM to 6 PM (12 hours) Thursday May 8 from 6 AM to Midnight (18 hours) and Noon Monday through Noon Friday (4 days/week) from May 12 – June 13 (20 days)</p>
Summer Season:	<p>Noon Monday through Noon Friday (4 days/week) from June 16 – July 4 (12 days) Noon Monday July 7 to Noon Thursday July 10 (3 days), and Noon Tuesday through Noon Thursday (48 hours/week) from July 15 – July 31 (6 days)</p>
Area:	<p>Entire Youngs Bay fishing area: The waters of Youngs Bay from the Highway 101 Bridge upstream to the upper boundary markers at the confluence of the Klaskanine and Youngs rivers <u>including the lower Walluski River upstream to the Highway 202 Bridge</u>. During the winter season, those waters southerly of the alternate Highway 101 Bridge (Lewis and Clark River) are closed. During the spring and summer seasons, the Youngs Bay fishing area includes the <u>lower Lewis and Clark River upstream to the overhead power lines immediately upstream of Barrett Slough</u>.</p>

Gear:	<p>Winter season: 7-inch minimum mesh size restriction</p> <p>Spring/Summer season: 9¾-inch maximum mesh size restriction</p> <p>Maximum net length of 250 fathoms and weight on leadline not to exceed two pounds in any one fathom.</p> <p>Nets not specifically authorized for use in these areas may be onboard a vessel if properly stored. A properly stored net is defined as a net on a drum that is fully covered by a tarp (canvas or plastic) and bound with a minimum of ten revolutions of rope with a diameter of 3/8 (0.375) inches or greater.</p> <p>Red corks are required at 25-fathom intervals and red corks must be in contrast to corks used in the remainder of the net.</p> <p>Use of additional weights and/or anchors attached directly to the leadline is allowed upstream of markers located approximately 200 yards upstream of the mouth of the Walluski River.</p>
Allowable Sales:	Salmon and shad. Retention and sale of sturgeon is prohibited.
Miscellaneous Regulations:	Permanent regulations including rules related to transportation and lighted buoys remain in effect.

- ✓ Staff worked with industry to provide increased opportunity in the winter while minimizing the risk of encountering upriver stocks during the late winter and early spring timeframes.
 - Additional winter fishing periods with reduced hours in March provide harvest opportunity, while minimizing impacts to upriver stocks.
 - The 29-day spring fishery consisting of progressively increasing fishing time should maximize harvest of local stocks while minimizing impacts to non-local stocks.
 - The modified boundaries (underlined above) initiated in Fall 2013 clarify the Walluski River fishing boundary and extends opportunity into the lower Lewis and Clark River during the spring and summer seasons to provide additional opportunity to harvest stray spring and SAB Chinook.
- ✓ Unlike previous years when concurrent fishing periods among all sites was the goal, the majority of the fishing periods in Youngs Bay are scheduled primarily during daylight hours with industry support.
- ✓ The expanded 21-day summer fishery provides significant additional harvest opportunity on late spring Chinook and early returning SAB stock fall Chinook while allowing for SAB broodstock escapement.

Select Area Recreational Fisheries

- Permanent angling regulations for Oregon waters within the Select Areas of Youngs Bay and Blind Slough/Knappa Slough are listed in the 2014 Oregon Recreational Fishing Regulations booklet. These waters are open year-round to Chinook salmon (fin-clipped only during January 1–July 31), adipose fin-clipped steelhead, and adipose fin-clipped coho except for some seasonal tributary closures.
- Permanent Washington recreational fishing rules list waters of Deep River from the mouth to the town bridge are open to Chinook salmon (fin-clipped only during January 1–July 31), fin-clipped steelhead, and adipose fin-clipped coho the entire year.
- In order to ease enforcement of co-occurring recreational fisheries in Select Areas and the mainstem Columbia River, staff recommends that bag limits in Select Area recreational fisheries be modified to match those of the mainstem when the fisheries are open concurrently.

<i>2014 Select Area Recreational Fisheries - Recommendation</i>
<p>Effective March 1 – June 15, 2014:</p> <p>On days when the mainstem Columbia River recreational fishery below Bonneville Dam is open to retention of Chinook, the salmonid daily bag limit in Oregon and Washington Select Areas will be the same as mainstem Columbia River bag limits.</p> <p>On days when the mainstem Columbia River fishery is <u>closed</u> to Chinook retention, the permanent salmonid bag limit regulations for Select Areas apply.</p>

FUTURE MEETINGS

- The Joint Staff is not recommending any additional Compact hearings at this time.

<i>Issues Requiring Compact/Joint State Consideration</i>		
	Page(s)	Action
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Indian commercial salmon fishing plan & gear regulations	8-10	Compact
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blind/Knappa Slough Select Area commercial fisheries	11	Compact and Oregon State
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tongue Point/South Channel Select Area commercial fisheries	12	Compact
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deep River Select Area commercial fisheries	13	Compact
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Youngs Bay Select Area fisheries	14-15	Oregon State
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bonneville Pool Recreational Sturgeon	5	Joint State
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spring Chinook recreational fishing seasons	6	Joint State
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shad and hatchery steelhead retention	7	Joint State
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Select Area recreational fisheries	16	Joint State