

**OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**  
**JOINT STAFF REPORT - FALL FACTSHEET NO. 12a**  
**Columbia River Compact/ Joint State hearing**  
**October 23, 2014**

Fisheries under consideration:	Non-Indian mainstem commercial salmon
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*Detailed information on stock status and management guidelines for Columbia River fisheries are presented in Fall Factsheet #1, dated July 29, 2014.*

***Salmonid Stock Status***

- The 2014 Columbia River fall Chinook return is currently projected to reach 1,153,000 adult fish, including 658,100 URBs compared to the preseason forecast of 1,510,600 Chinook (919,000 URBs).
- The 2014 Bonneville Dam return of upriver summer steelhead (July-October) is currently projected to reach 305,000 fish including 45,000 Group B stock (9,900 wild).
- The 2014 Columbia River coho return is currently projected to reach 803,700 adult fish, compared to the preseason forecast of 638,300 coho.

***Non-Indian Commercial Fisheries***

- The Early Fall season consisted of three fishing periods per week in Zones 4-5 during August 3-29 and a final period on September 1. Catch included 47,700 Chinook, and 1,000 coho.
- The Late Fall season began September 14 and is currently scheduled to continue through October 24. The season has consisted of 1-3 periods per week in Zones 4-5. Catch is projected to total 49,500 Chinook and 6,600 coho for all periods.
- Mainstem coho-directed fishing periods began October 1. Fishing periods occur in Zones 1-3 using either the traditional 6-inch gear or 3¾-inch tanglenet gear. Fishing periods utilizing tanglenet gear are mark-selective for coho, requiring the release of unclipped coho.
  - A total of nine tanglenet fishing periods occurred between October 1 and October 21. Catch is projected to total 17,700 coho (4,100 released) and 2,100 Chinook.
  - Beginning October 9, fishing periods using traditional 6-inch gear are scheduled to occur 2-3 days per week through October 24. Catch is projected to total 26,000 coho and 1,600 Chinook.
- A pilot research seine fishery occurred during August 3 through September 24. The fishery was limited entry and individual fish quotas were assigned to each of the 10 permits issued. Landed catch includes 2,400 hatchery adult Chinook and 1,000 hatchery adult coho. Released fish include 4,600 unclipped adult Chinook and 2,300 unclipped adult coho
- Select Area commercial fisheries are ongoing and generally scheduled to continue through October. Catch of both Chinook and coho have exceeded expectations to date. Combined catch includes 24,200 Chinook and 164,200 coho through October 17.
- Based on actual and projected landings, salmon remain available for harvest in mainstem commercial fisheries.

**Recommendation – 2014 Non-Indian Mainstem Commercial Fisheries**

<b>Season #1:</b> <i>(Coho-directed)</i>	Open daily from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM Monday October 27 through Friday October 31, 2014	(5 Periods, 12 hours each)
Area:	Zones 1-3. Upper deadline defined as a straight line projected from the Warrior Rock Lighthouse on the Oregon shore easterly through the green navigation Buoy #1 and continuing to the Washington shore.	
Sanctuaries:	<b>Grays Bay</b> , Elokomin-A, Cowlitz River, Kalama-A and Lewis-A	
Gear:	Drift nets only. 6-inch maximum mesh. Unslackened floater drift net.	
<b>Season #2:</b> <i>(Chinook directed)</i>	Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights. October 26 through October 31, 2014 Open hours: 7 PM-7 AM	(3 periods, 12 hours each)
Area:	Zones 4-5. Lower deadline defined as a straight line projected from the Warrior Rock Lighthouse on the Oregon shore easterly through the green navigation Buoy #1 and continuing to the Washington shore	
Sanctuaries:	Washougal and Sandy Rivers	
Gear:	Drift gillnets only. 8-inch minimum mesh size restriction.	
<b>The following applies to both seasons:</b>		
Allowable Sales:	Salmon, except chum salmon may not be possessed or sold.	
Additional Rules:	<p><u>Multiple net rule in effect:</u> Nets not specifically authorized for use in this fishery may be onboard the 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><u>Lighted Buoys required:</u> 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</p> <p><u>24-hour quick reporting required</u> for Washington wholesale dealers, per WAC 220-69-240.</p>	

- Estimated catch include 4,000 coho and 500 Chinook.

**Non-Indian Fisheries ESA Impact Estimates**

- Impacts to lower Columbia natural (LCN) Chinook are currently projected at 41.0% compared to the allowed exploitation rate of 41.0% for ocean and in-river fisheries.
- Impacts to URB Chinook are projected to be 12.8% compared to the 15.0% ESA impact limit.
- Impacts to wild Group B steelhead are currently projected at 1.8% compared to the 2.0% ESA impact limit.
- Impacts to Lower Columbia River (LCR) coho are currently projected at 20.6% compared to the allowed exploitation rate of 22.5% for ocean and in-river fisheries.

**Future Meetings**

- Staff is not anticipating any Columbia River Compact hearings for the remainder of the 2014 fall season.