

**COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION  
 TRIBAL STAFF REPORT - WINTER FACT SHEET NO. 3  
 Columbia River Compact/Joint State Hearing  
 February 19, 2015**

<i><b>Fisheries under consideration:</b></i>
Treaty Indian winter fishery

**STOCK STATUS**

- Stock status and historic winter season harvest data were reported in the 2015 Sturgeon/Smelt Joint Staff Report referenced in Fact Sheet 2a.
- The 2015 treaty commercial sturgeon guidelines are 1,100 for the Bonneville Pool, 325 for The Dalles Pool and 1,000 for the John Day Pool.
- There is no specific harvest guideline for sturgeon retained for subsistence purposes. The five year average Zone 6 subsistence catch is 470.

**TREATY INDIAN FISHERIES**

- There was a setline fishery in January in all three Zone 6 reservoirs. Harvest estimates include 1 fish caught in the Bonneville Pool, zero fish in The Dalles Pool and 81 fish caught in the John Day Pool.
- Winter season gillnet fisheries began in The Dalles and John Day pools and were scheduled to end at 6:00 PM on Friday February 20. The Bonneville Pool winter gillnet fishery opens on Monday February 23.
- Catches through February 18 are shown in the table below.

Reservoir	January Setline	Winter Gill Net	Commercial Total	Guideline	Remaining
Bonneville	1	0	1	1,100	1,099
The Dalles	0	69	69	325	256
John Day	81	456	537	1,000	463
<b>Total</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>607</b>	<b>2,425</b>	

- The Dalles Pool fishery is 21% complete and the John Day Pool fishery is 54% complete.
- In 2013 and 2014, tribal staff estimate that the John Day Pool fishery was 75% and 77% complete by February 18. Landings this week have averaged approximately 39 fish per day so far which is slightly higher than the same week in 2013 and 2014. Tribal staff expect the catch per day in the John Day Pool fishery to continue to increase to approximately 70 fish per day which was observed in the final week of the 2014 fishery. In 2013 the highest weekly catch rates were 55 fish per day. Based on catch rates of approximately 70 fish per day, tribal staff expect that the John Day pool fishery would be approximately 960 fish on Tuesday February 24.
- Based on this projection the tribes have elected to extend both the John Day and The Dalles Pool fisheries until 6:00 PM on Tuesday February 24.

- The tribes expect that there will be a substantial number of fish remaining on The Dalles Pool harvest guideline which they expect to utilize in fisheries later on.
- The tribes propose no changes in the previously scheduled opening of the Bonneville Pool on February 23.

<b>Treaty Indian Winter Gillnet Fishery The Dalles and John Day Pools</b>	
<b>Season:</b>	Extend current opening until 6:00 p.m. Tuesday February 24
<b>Area:</b>	The Dalles and John Day Pools Only
<b>Gear:</b>	Gill nets (no mesh restriction on gillnets), hoop nets, dip bag nets, and rod and reel with hook and line.
<b>Allowable Sales:</b>	Salmon, steelhead, shad, carp, catfish, walleye, bass, and yellow perch. Sturgeon from 43 to 54 inches fork length in The Dalles and John Day Pools may be sold or kept for subsistence. Live release of all oversize and under-size sturgeon is required.
<b>Sanctuaries:</b>	River mouth and Dam sanctuaries remain in effect.
<b>Miscellaneous:</b>	Quick reporting required for all Washington Fish Buyers pursuant to WAC 220-69-240.14(d), and landings must be quick reported within 24-hours of completing the fish ticket.

### **ADDITIONAL HEARINGS**

The tribes will not need the previously requested Compact Hearing on Monday February 23. Depending on the progress of the Bonneville Pool fishery and any remaining available fish on the guidelines for the two upper pools, the tribes may request additional Compact hearings if additional fishery changes are needed.