

**COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION
 TRIBAL STAFF REPORT - SPRING FACT SHEET NO. 5
 Columbia River Compact/Joint State Hearing
 May 18, 2015**

<i>Fisheries under consideration:</i>
Treaty Commercial spring Chinook Gillnet fishery

STOCK STATUS

- Bonneville Dam passage through May 18 totals 187,360 adult Chinook. The U.S. v. Oregon Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met today to review the status of the upriver spring Chinook run and did not change the previous in-season run update of 250,000 adult fish to the Columbia River. TAC expects the Bonneville Dam count to total approximately 235,000 adults.

TREATY INDIAN FISHERIES

- Under current forecast run size the allowed harvest rate under the U.S. v. Oregon management agreement is 10% which equates to an allowed catch of 25,000.
- The preliminary treaty harvest to date along with expectations for the platform and hook and line fisheries through June 15 are shown in the table below.

Fishery	Chinook
Winter Gillnet	0
Spring C&S Permit Gillnet	8,047
Zone 6 Platform H&L Through 5/17	2,460
Zone 5 H&L	922
5/12-5/15 Commercial Gillnet	4,487
Subtotal to date	15,916
Expected Additional Zone 5 H&L	0
Expected Additional Z6 Platform H&L through 6/15	2,000
Expected Total All Gear to Date plus Platform H&L through 6/15	17,916
Allowed Catch (10% of 250,000)	25,000
Expected Available for planned fisheries	7,084
Predicted catch 5/19-22 Gillnet Fishery	4,000
Expected total catch	21,916
Expected Remaining After Planned Fisheries	3,084

- Effort in last week’s gillnet fishery was 365 nets.
- Additionally, the total steelhead catch to date is 80. At least one sockeye has also been harvested.
- Catches in the first gillnet fishery were lower than expected. Effort was somewhat less than expected, but low flows and low pool elevations along with sea lion predation in the Bonneville pool appear to have impacted catch rates.
- Commercial sales of Zone 6 platform and hook and line caught fish are ongoing and do not require Compact Action.

Treaty Indian Zone 6 Commercial Gillnet Fishery	
Season:	6:00 AM Tuesday May 19 through 6:00 PM Friday May 22. (3.5 days)
Area:	All of Zone 6
Gear:	Gillnets with no mesh restriction.
Allowable Sales:	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 kept for subsistence. Sturgeon from 38 to 54 inches fork length in the Bonneville Pool may be kept for subsistence. Sales of fish are allowed after the fishing period as long as they were landed during the open period.
Sanctuaries:	River mouth and dam closed areas applicable to gillnets in effect. The Spring Creek Hatchery sanctuary is not necessary this time of year.
Miscellaneous:	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.

- The expected catch in the proposed fishery is 4,000 Chinook along with fewer than 50 steelhead and possibly a very small number of sockeye.
- The tribes will continue to monitor and report catches from these fisheries and will conduct net counts by air during each week of commercial gillnet fishery.

ADDITIONAL HEARINGS

Depending on the outcome of this gillnet opening, the tribes may ask for a Compact on May 26.