

**OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT: SPRING FACT SHEET NO. 9
Columbia River Compact/Joint State Hearing
June 9, 2015**

Fisheries under Consideration: Mainstem commercial salmon
Youngs Bay commercial salmon

Stock status and management guidelines for 2015 Chinook fisheries were presented in Winter Fact Sheet #2a (January 28, 2015).

- Bonneville Dam passage through June 8 totals 242,100 adult Chinook and 559,600 shad. Recent daily counts are around 3,000 Chinook per day and 50,000 shad per day.
- The *U.S. v. Oregon* Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) has provided an in-season run update of 282,000 adult upriver Chinook to the Columbia River. Under a run of this size, non-Indian fisheries are allowed a 2.20% ESA limit and a 30,456 catch balance limit
- Non-Indian spring Chinook fisheries currently in place include recreational fisheries from the Tongue point/Rocky Point line upstream to the OR/WA border and in the Snake River (two adult Chinook bag limit river-wide) and the Select Area commercial fisheries.
- Non-Indian combined totals from actual and projected catch for the season include a 1.7% ESA impact (77% of allowed) and a catch balance total of 25,973 upriver adult Chinook mortalities (85% of allowed).
- Commercial fisheries have a balance of about 900 upriver mortalities remaining on the commercial allocation.

<i>Joint Staff Recommendations- 2015 Non-Indian Salmon Commercial Fishery</i>	
Season:	7:00 P.M. Wednesday June 10 to 5:00 A.M. Thursday June 11, 2015 (10 hours)
Area:	Zones 1-5
Sanctuaries:	Grays River, Elochoman-B, Cowlitz River, Kalama-B, Lewis-B, Sandy, and Washougal.
Gear	Drift nets only. 8-inch minimum mesh size restriction. Net length not to exceed 150 fathoms. <u>Red corks are required</u> at 25-fathom intervals, and red corks must be in contrast to the corks used in the remainder of the net. <u>Multiple net rule in place:</u> 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:	Adipose fin-clipped Chinook salmon, and shad.
Regulations:	Soak times are defined as the time elapsed from when the first of the gillnet web is deployed into the water until the gillnet web is fully retrieved from the water, must not exceed 45 minutes. Recovery Box: Each boat will be required to have on board two operable recovery boxes or one box with two chambers. 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 in recovery boxes must be released to the river prior to landing or docking.

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 the fishery. In addition, cooperation with department personnel prior to a fishing period is expected.

Live Capture workshop: Only licensed Columbia River commercial fishers that have completed the required state-sponsored workshop concerning live-capture commercial fishing techniques may participate in this fishery. At least one fisher on each boat must have live- capture certification.

Lighted Buoys: 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.

24-hour quick reporting is in effect for Washington buyers (WAC 220-69-240(14)(d)).

- The catch estimate is about 650 hatchery Chinook kept based on an expected 50 deliveries.
- The proposed mainstem fishery avoids conflict with the Monday/Thursday night fisheries in most Select Areas, except Youngs Bay where staff recommends the following action:

Youngs Bay Select Area Commercial Fishery- Oregon State Staff Recommendation

Retention and sale of **non**-adipose fin-clipped Chinook from Youngs Bay is prohibited from 7:00 PM Wednesday June 10 through noon Thursday June 11, 2015.

- Non-Indian fisheries are projected to use 88% of the allowed catch balance and 84% of the allowed ESA limit and for the entire winter/spring season.

Summary of 2015 Non-Indian Upriver Chinook ESA - preliminary						
Non-Indian	Inseason Allocated (282 K)	Season total proj.	Proposed	Total	Balance	% Used
Commercial	6,249	5,344	696	6,040	209	97%
Sport	24,207	20,629	0	20,629	3,578	85%
Non-Indian Total	30,456	25,973	696	26,669	3,787	88%
Summary of 2015 Non-Indian Upriver Chinook ESA - preliminary						
Non-Indian	Inseason Allocated (282 K)	Season total proj.	Proposed	Total	Balance	% Used
Commercial	0.660%	0.722%	0.150%	0.872%	-0.212%	132%
Sport	1.540%	0.975%	0.000%	0.975%	0.565%	63%
Non-Indian Total	2.200%	1.697%	0.150%	1.847%	0.353%	84%

Future Hearings

- A Compact hearing is scheduled via teleconference for 10:00 AM Wednesday June 10 to consider non-Indian and treaty summer Chinook commercial fishing periods and additional spring season treaty commercial fishing period.