

COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION
JOINT STAFF REPORT: FALL FACT SHEET NO. 3
Columbia River Compact/Joint State Hearing
August 12, 2015

Fisheries under consideration:	Treaty commercial salmon
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Stock Status and Management Guidelines

Detailed stock status and management guidelines for 2015 fall season fisheries were presented in Fall Fact Sheet #1 (July 29, 2015).

- Through August 11, 11,805 adult fall Chinook and 510,244 sockeye have passed Bonneville Dam. The cumulative fall Chinook count is the second largest since 1989.
- A and B index steelhead counts since July 1 total 114,405. While the daily counts are close to average, the total count continues to be less than expected given average run timing and the pre-season forecasts.
- Through August 11, 37 adult coho have passed Bonneville Dam.

2015 Fall Season Fisheries

- Projected catches are shown in the table below. There may also be a minimal amount of sockeye caught through the remainder of the sockeye run. The overall sockeye catch is well below the 7% harvest rate limit.

2015 Treaty Indian Fall Season Fisheries (projected catches)					
Fishery	Expected Effort (Nets)	Total Adult Chinook	URB Chinook	Total Steelhead	B Steelhead
Platforms through 8/16 (projected)	na	700	600	2,500	60
Aug. 17-21 (4.5 days) projected	290	8,700	7,500	1,600	120
Aug 24-28 (4.5 days) projected	450	25,900	15,200	2,600	490
Aug. 31 -Sept. 5 (5.5 days) projected	570	56,600	28,600	3,300	610
Sept. 8-12 (4.5 days)	690	80,000	41,800	3,800	1,000
Subtotal		171,900	93,700	13,800	2,280
Allowed at Pre-season Forecast			155,496		8,220
Expected Harvest Rate by Sept 12			18%		6%
Remaining after Sept 12			61,796		5,940
Remaining Harvest Rate After Sept 12			12%		14%

- Treaty platform and hook and line fisheries are on-going for both subsistence and commercial purposes.
- Two tribes have open fisheries downstream of Bonneville. Catch and effort downstream of Bonneville has generally been very low. The tribes will continue to monitor this area and report any catch that occurs.
- The Zone 6 and downstream of Bonneville platform and hook and line fisheries along with Yakama Zone 6 tributary fisheries do not require Compact action at this time.
- Platform and hook and line harvest (above Bonneville Dam) will be included in each week's reported gillnet catch.

Tribal Fishery Plan

Treaty Commercial Salmon

- The four Columbia River treaty tribes have adopted the following regulations:

<i>2015 Treaty Indian Fall Commercial Gillnet Fishery</i>		
Season:	6 AM Monday August 17 to 6 PM Friday August 21, 2015 6 AM Monday August 24 to 6 PM Friday August 28, 2015 6 AM Monday August 31 to 6 PM Saturday September 5, 2015 6 AM Tuesday September 8 to 6 PM Saturday Sept. 12, 2015	(4.5 days) (4.5 days) (5.5 days) (4.5 days)
Area:	Zone 6	
Sanctuaries:	Standard river mouth and dam sanctuaries applicable to gillnet gear. The standard Spring Creek Hatchery sanctuary will also be in place.	
Gear:	Gill nets with an 8" minimum mesh restriction.	
Allowable Sales:	Salmon (all species), steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish, and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Fish landed during the open periods are allowed to be sold after the period concludes. Sturgeon may not be sold, but sturgeon from 43 to 54 inches fork length in The Dalles and John Day Pools and from 38 to 54 inches fork length in the Bonneville Pool may be kept for subsistence purposes.	
Additional:	24-hour quick reporting required for Washington buyers, pursuant to WAC 220-69-240 except that landings must be reported within 24-hours of completing the fish ticket. Electronic fish ticket submission for Oregon buyers pursuant to OAR 635-006-0210.	

- Total catch projections for August 1 through September 12 are 171,900 total adult Chinook and 93,700 URB Chinook. Additionally, 13,800 steelhead including 2,280 B Index steelhead are expected to be caught.
- The tribes will conduct an effort survey by air each week of commercial gillnet fishing and monitor and report catches weekly.

Future Meetings

- The tribes request a Compact Hearing during the week of September 8 to address additional commercial gillnet openings.