

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT: SPRING FACT SHEET NO. 2
Columbia River Compact/ Joint State Hearing
April 27, 2016

Fisheries under Consideration: Zone 6 recreational sturgeon – The Dalles Pool

Zone 6 Recreational Sturgeon Fishery

- Under permanent rule, the 2016 Zone 6 (Bonneville Dam upstream to McNary Dam) recreational white sturgeon fisheries opened for retention effective January 1. The fishery in Bonneville Pool has a split winter/summer season. The winter season closed to retention on February 8. The other fisheries remain open until the annual guideline for each pool is met. Fishery status for all pools are as follows:

2016 Recreational Sturgeon Harvest in Zone 6				
	Guideline	Catch ¹	Balance	Season
Bonneville Pool	325	157	168	Closed
The Dalles Pool	100	96	4	Ongoing
John Day Pool	500	180	320	Ongoing

¹ Catch for Bonneville Pool through February 7, and The Dalles and John Day pools through April 24.

- In John Day Pool catch has been slow and 64% of the quota remains available.
- In Bonneville Pool, kept catch during the 2016 winter season was 157 fish, leaving a balance of 168 sturgeon for a two-day (June 18 and July1) summer retention season.
- Catch in The Dalles Pool was good during January then slowed in February and March and remained at zero fish per week from March 28 through April 17.
- Catch improved substantially last week to 14 fish, bringing the season total to 96 fish harvested or 96% of the 100-fish annual guideline for The Dalles Pool.
- Considering the small balance of harvestable sturgeon remaining on The Dalles Pool guideline, staff proposes the following season recommendation:

Staff Recommendation: 2016 The Dalles Pool Recreational White Sturgeon Fishery
 Effective 12:01 AM Saturday April 30, 2016, close The Dalles Pool and adjacent tributaries to white sturgeon retention.

- The proposed Friday night closure allows for adequate time to notify the public of the closure.

Future Hearings

- No additional Compact/Joint State hearings are currently scheduled.
- The Joint Staff will continue to monitor fisheries and recommend additional hearings as needed.