

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT: SPRING FACT SHEET NO. 3
Columbia River Compact/Joint State Hearing
May 5, 2016

Fisheries under Consideration: Zone 6 recreational salmon

Stock status and management guidelines for 2016 Chinook fisheries were presented in Winter Fact Sheet #1a (January 27, 2016).

- Current outflow at Bonneville Dam is 255 kcfs which is lower than the 5-year average of 271 kcfs. Water temperature currently measures 54° F which is higher than the average of 52° F. Visibility is about five feet which is slightly clearer than average.
- Bonneville Dam passage through May 4 totals 76,923 adult Chinook. The *U.S. v. Oregon* Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met on May 2 to review the status of the upriver spring Chinook run but did not provide an in-season run update. TAC will review the run again on Monday May 9.

Non-Indian Fishery Update

- Two mainstem commercial salmon fishing periods have occurred to date (19 hours total). Landings totaled 1,490 adult Chinook. Kept and release mortalities of upriver Chinook is estimated at 1,143 fish, or 94% of the current allocation of 1,222 fish.
- Mainstem commercial shad fisheries will be open under permanent regulations in Area 2S from 3 PM to 10 PM daily Monday through Friday from May 10 through June 20 (except on the observed Memorial Day holiday).
- Select Area fisheries are ongoing and expected to continue through June 15. Combined winter/spring season landings through May 3 total 2,603 Chinook. Upriver Chinook mortalities total 95 fish, or 48% of the current allocation of 198 fish.
- The lower Columbia River recreational Chinook fishery was open from January 1 through April 8. Catch estimates total 10,114 kept from 85,626 angler trips. Kept and release mortalities of upriver Chinook is estimated at 7,642 fish, or 102% of the current allocation of 7,515 fish.
- The lower Columbia River from the Tongue Point/Rocky Point line upstream to the I-5 Bridge will open May 16 for hatchery steelhead and hatchery jack Chinook. Shad retention opens May 16 from Buoy 10 upstream to Bonneville Dam under permanent regulations.
- The recreational Chinook fishery from Bonneville Dam upstream to the Oregon/Washington border is scheduled to be open through May 6. Catch estimates through Sunday May 1 total 133 kept adult fish. Kept and release mortalities of upriver Chinook is estimated at 139 fish. Catch projections for May 2-6 total 563 additional kept and release mortalities. The season total is estimated at 701 fish, or 70% of the current allocation of 1,002 fish.
- The recreational fisheries on the Snake River (Washington waters) are open on a days-per-week basis in three sections of the river. The fisheries are ongoing until the harvest allocation is met. Catch estimates through May 2 total 80 kept adult fish. Kept and release

mortalities of upriver Chinook is estimated at 82 fish or 8% of the current allocation of 1,005 fish.

Non-Indian Recreational - Bonneville to OR/WA border:

- An estimated 301 upriver mortalities remain available for this fishery.

<i>2016 Mainstem Columbia River Spring Chinook Recreational Fisheries</i>	
Upstream of Bonneville Dam	
Season:	Extend the current season through Sunday May 8, 2016 (2 additional days)
Area:	Tower Island power lines (approximately 6 miles below The Dalles Dam) upstream to Oregon/Washington border, plus the Oregon and Washington banks between Bonneville Dam and the Tower Island power lines.
Daily Bag Limit:	Two adult salmonids per day, but only one may be a Chinook. Only adipose fin-clipped fish may be kept. All other permanent regulations apply.

- Catch estimates total 292 adult kept (plus release mortalities). This would bring the season total projection up to 993 fish, or 99% of the current allocation of 1,002 fish.
- The proposed fishery extension will provide an additional weekend of recreational opportunity and fits within the Bonneville-OR/WA border sub-allocation.
- If additional fish become available due to a run update or lower than projected catches, staff would likely reserve these fish until the fishery could be re-opened and continue through June 15.

Future Hearing

- The Joint Staff may recommend a hearing as early as Tuesday May 10 to review stock status and non-Indian fisheries.