

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT: SUMMER FACT SHEET NO. 2
Columbia River Compact/Joint State Hearing
June 22, 2016

Fisheries under consideration:	Bonneville Pool recreational white sturgeon Select Area commercial salmon
--------------------------------	--

Detailed information on stock status and management guidelines for Columbia River fisheries are presented in Joint Staff Reports, which are produced annually and available on-line. The most recent report is the 2016 Winter Spring Summer Report (January 20, 2016). <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/crc/> or <http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/OSCRP/CRM/reports.asp>

Zone 6 Recreational Sturgeon Fishery

- Under permanent rule, the 2016 Zone 6 (Bonneville Dam upstream to McNary Dam) recreational white sturgeon fisheries open for retention on January 1 and continue until the harvest guideline for each individual pool is met. However, the fishery in Bonneville Pool fishery is managed for a split winter/summer season.
- The 2016 Bonneville Pool winter season closed to retention on February 8 with 157 white sturgeon harvested from the 325-fish guideline. In April, the States adopted a summer season consisting of two retention days (June 18 and July 1) to access the balance of 168 white sturgeon remaining on the harvest guideline.
- Harvest projections for the two days included around 100 fish for June 18 and around 50 for July 1. The split season of two retention days two weeks apart allowed staff to monitor the fishery as it progressed and recommend any changes if needed.
- Actual harvest for the June 18 retention day is currently estimated at 185 white sturgeon.

2016 Preliminary Recreational Sturgeon Harvest in Zone 6				
	Guideline	Catch	Balance	Season
Bonneville Pool	325	342	-17	Winter + Summer (6/18)
The Dalles Pool	100	96	4	Closed April 30
John Day Pool	500	537	-37	Closed May 29

- Harvest from June 18 combined with winter season harvest of 157 brings the total to 342 fish, compared to the 325 fish guideline for his pool.

Joint Staff Recommendation: 2016 Bonneville Pool Recreational White Sturgeon Fishery
 Rescind the white sturgeon retention period scheduled for July 1 in Mainstem Columbia River from Bonneville Dam upstream to The Dalles Dam, including adjacent tributaries.

- Catch and release continues to be allowed, except angling for sturgeon is prohibited through July from The Dalles Dam downstream 1.8 miles to a line from the east (upstream) dock at the Port of The Dalles boat ramp straight across to a marker on the Washington shore.

Select Area Fisheries

- The spring seasons in Blind Slough/Knappa Slough and Tongue Point/South Channel were recently extended past the original scheduled closure date (June 14). Three additional periods were added to the Blind Slough/Knappa Slough fishery and two added to the Tongue Point/South Channel fishery.
- Landings have remained good during the past week with approximately 60-75 Chinook landed per opener in Blind/Knappa Slough and 55 during the Monday night period in the Tongue Point/South Channel site. Preliminary mark rate data and coded-wire tag analysis indicate the fish being harvested are primarily of Select Area origin.
- Concurrent jurisdiction waters extend downstream from the Railroad Bridge in Blind Slough and encompass all of Knappa Slough and require Compact action. Oregon State waters extend upstream of the Railroad Bridge and require Oregon State action.

<i>Joint Staff Recommendation: 2016 Blind Slough/Knappa Slough Commercial Fishery</i>	
Season:	Monday June 27 – Tuesday June 28
Area:	Open hours are from 7 PM to 7 AM (12 hours). Blind Slough and Knappa Slough fishing areas are open. The lower boundary of the Knappa Slough fishing area is defined by markers on the west end of Minaker Island to markers on Karlson Island and the Oregon shore (fall boundary).
Gear:	9¾-inch maximum mesh size restriction Nets restricted to 100 fathoms in length with no weight restriction on leadline. Use of additional weights and/or anchors attached directly to the leadline is allowed. Multiple net rule in place: Nets not specifically authorized for use in this fishery may be onboard the 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:	Salmon and shad.
Miscellaneous Regulations:	Other permanent regulations including rules related to transportation and lighted buoys remain in effect. Oregon buyers are required to submit fish receiving tickets electronically pursuant to OAR 635-006-210. The 24-hour Quick Reporting Rule is in effect for Washington buyers pursuant to WAC 220-69-240.

Joint Staff Recommendation: 2016 Tongue Point/South Channel Commercial Fishery

Season:	Thursday June 23 – Friday June 24 Monday June 27 – Tuesday June 28 Open hours are from 7 PM to 7 AM (12 hours).
Area:	Tongue Point and South Channel fishing areas are open.
Gear:	9¾-inch maximum mesh size restriction In the Tongue Point fishing area, gear restricted to a maximum net length of 250 fathoms and weight not to exceed two pounds on any one fathom. In the South Channel fishing area, gear restricted to a maximum net length of 250 fathoms and no weight restriction on leadline. Use of additional weights and/or anchors attached directly to the leadline is allowed. 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:	Salmon and shad.
Miscellaneous Regulations:	Other permanent regulations including rules related to transportation and lighted buoys remain in effect. Oregon buyers are required to submit fish receiving tickets electronically pursuant to OAR 635-006-210. The 24-hour Quick Reporting Rule is in effect for Washington buyers pursuant to WAC 220-69-240.

- These season extensions will allow access to late-returning Select Area spring Chinook which are still present in the fishing area.
- The catch expectation is about 100 Chinook for the proposed season modifications.

Future Meetings

- A Compact Hearing is scheduled for 11 AM June 30 via teleconference to consider treaty commercial fisheries.