

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT: SUMMER FACT SHEET NO. 1
Columbia River Compact
June 9, 2016

Fisheries under consideration:	Treaty commercial salmon Non-Indian mainstem commercial salmon Select Area commercial salmon Lower Columbia River recreational salmon
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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>

STOCK STATUS

Upper Columbia Summer Chinook

- Upper Columbia summer Chinook pass Bonneville Dam during June 16 through July 31 destined for areas above Priest Rapids Dam. These Chinook are not listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the population is considered healthy.
- The 2016 forecast of 93,300 adults to the Columbia River is less than the 2015 return (126,900 adults) and greater (132%) than the 10-year average return of 70,800 adults.

Summer Steelhead

- Upriver stocks of summer steelhead migrate above Bonneville Dam during April 1 through October 31. Summer steelhead passing Bonneville Dam prior to July 1 are considered Skamania stock, and steelhead passing between July 1 and October 31 are classified as either Group A or Group B fish, depending on length.
- Summer steelhead handled in Columbia River fisheries below Bonneville Dam are considered lower river stock during May-June and upriver stock during July-October.
- A total of 256,200 upriver summer steelhead are expected to pass Bonneville Dam this year during July through October, which is 78% of the 10-year average of 329,800 fish. Lower river summer steelhead returns have averaged 62,500 fish over the past ten years.
- Bonneville Dam passage during April 1-June 7 totals 3,557 summer steelhead, which is similar to expectations (3,100 fish) based on the forecast and 10-year average run timing. The 50% passage date is around June 17 for this upriver Skamania stock.

Sockeye

- The 2016 forecast of 101,600 fish to the Columbia River is much less than the 2015 return (512,500 adults) and the 10-year average return of 290,200 adults. The forecast includes 57,800 Wenatchee stock, 41,700 Okanogan stock, and 2,100 Snake River stock.
- Bonneville Dam passage through June 7 totals 6,386 sockeye, which is much greater than expectations (500 fish) based on the forecast and 5-year average run timing. The average 50% passage date is June 27.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Management Agreements

- The 2008-2017 *U.S. v Oregon* Management Agreement (MA) provides specific fishery management guidelines for treaty Indian and non-Indian summer season fisheries.
- The Upper Columbia Management Agreement (UCMA) provides additional harvest and management guidelines for sharing of upper Columbia summer Chinook among non-Indian and non-treaty tribal fisheries.

Summer Chinook

- Mainstem Columbia River Chinook fisheries occurring from June 16 through July 31 are managed based on a minimum interim escapement goal of 29,000 hatchery and natural origin adult upper Columbia summer Chinook, as measured at the Columbia River mouth.
- Based on the preseason forecast and the harvest rate schedule in the MA, a total of 58,350 adult summer Chinook are available for harvest, and are to be shared equally between treaty and non-Indian fisheries (29,175 each).

Non-Indian Summer Chinook Harvest Allocation

- The non-Indian allocation includes the following fisheries:
 - Ocean fisheries south of Canada.
 - Recreational fisheries from Astoria/Megler Bridge upstream to Chief Joseph Dam.
 - Commercial fisheries below Bonneville Dam (Zones 1-5).
 - Colville and Wanapum tribal fisheries.
- Based on the preseason forecast and the UCMA, the portion of in-river harvestable fish allocated downstream of Priest Rapids Dam is 38.7%, equating to 8,775 adult fish. For 2016, Commission guidance allocates these fish 30% to commercial and 70% to recreational fisheries.

2016 Upper Columbia Summer Chinook Allocation	
Preseason Run Size	93,300
Non-Indian Ocean Harvest	6,500
Total Abundance (with ocean harvest)	99,800
Available Treaty Indian Harvest	29,175
Available Non-Indian Harvest (in-river)	22,675
Non-Indian Commercial	2,633
Recreational below Priest Rapids Dam	6,142
<i>Below Bonneville Dam</i>	5,221
<i>Bonneville Dam to Priest Rapids Dam</i>	920

Summer Steelhead

- The non-Indian ESA impact limit on wild summer steelhead is 2% during January through July. For non-Indian fisheries occurring during May and June below Bonneville Dam, wild steelhead impact rates have averaged less than 0.5%, and are expected to be similar for 2016 fisheries. Treaty Indian fisheries have no specified harvest rate limit on steelhead through July.

Sockeye

- The management goal for upper Columbia River sockeye is 65,000 fish at Priest Rapids Dam, which under average migration conditions requires passage of 75,000 fish over Bonneville Dam. The escapement goal for the Wenatchee River system is 23,000 sockeye.
- The impact limit on the Columbia River return of ESA-listed sockeye is 1% for non-Indian fisheries and 7% for treaty Indian fisheries. For 2016, Commission guidance allocates the non-Indian impacts 30% to commercial and 70% to recreational fisheries.

Treaty Fisheries

- Based on preseason forecasts and corresponding impact limits under the MA, treaty Indian fisheries are allocated 29,175 adult summer Chinook and 7,112 sockeye. Actual allowed catches will be based on actual run sizes. Steelhead harvest is expected to remain within recent year averages.
- Commercial gillnet openings are expected to occur weekly throughout the summer season. Effort is expected to be moderate the first few weeks of the season and decrease as the season progresses. The tribes will utilize a mesh size restriction for the first three periods and may continue mesh size limits if appropriate.
- The four Columbia River treaty tribes have adopted regulations consistent with the following:

<i>2016 Treaty Fishery - Summer Chinook Commercial Gillnet</i>		
Season	6 AM Thursday June 16 to 6 PM Saturday June 18 6 AM Monday June 20 to 6 PM Thursday June 23 6 AM Monday June 27 to 6 PM Thursday June 30	(2.5 days) (3.5 days) (3.5 days)
Area	Zone 6	
Sanctuaries:	Standard river mouth and dam sanctuaries applicable to gillnet gear, except the Spring Creek Hatchery sanctuary is not in effect.	
Gear:	Gill nets. 7-inch minimum mesh restriction	
Allowable Sales:	Salmon (any species), steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish, and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sturgeon may not be sold, but sturgeon from 38 to 54 inches fork length in the Bonneville Pool and sturgeon from 43 to 54 inches fork length in The Dalles and John Day Pools may be kept for subsistence purposes. Fish landed during the open periods are allowed to be sold after the period concludes.	
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.	

- Catch estimates total 19,500 Chinook and 4,900 sockeye for three weekly periods based on an effort of 325-370 nets weekly. Catch projections include both gillnet and platform/ hook & line during the three-week gillnet season. Steelhead harvest is normally very low in the beginning of the summer management period.

Week	Days	Predicted Set Nets	Predicted Chinook Catch	Predicted Sockeye Catch	Predicted Steelhead Catch
25	2.5	325	6,700	1,000	175
26	3.5	370	6,800	1,900	200
27	3.5	370	6,000	2,000	325
Total			19,500	4,900	700
Total Allowed			29,175	7,112	

- Catch and effort will be monitored to ensure the fishery remains within management limits. Effort will be monitored by aerial surveys each week. The tribes expect to set additional gillnet fishing time after these periods conclude.
- Zone 6 platform and hook and line fisheries are currently open for subsistence use only and will re-open for commercial use on June 16. The tribes plan on keeping the platform and hook and line fishery open for both subsistence and commercial use through the summer season. The four Columbia River treaty tribes have adopted regulations consistent with the following:

<i>2016 Treaty Fishery – Summer Season Commercial Platform and Hook and Line Zone 6</i>	
Season:	6:00 AM June 16 through 11:59 PM July 31.
Area:	Zone 6
Gear:	Hoop Nets/Bag Nets, Dip Nets, and rod and reel with hook and line.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon (any species), steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish, and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sturgeon may not be sold, but sturgeon from 38 to 54 inches fork length in the Bonneville Pool and sturgeon from 43 to 54 inches fork length in The Dalles and John Day Pools may be kept for subsistence purposes. Fish landed during the open periods are allowed to be sold after the period concludes.
Sanctuaries:	Standard sanctuaries in place for this gear type, except the Spring Creek Hatchery sanctuary is not in effect.
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.

- Yakama Nation tributary fisheries are scheduled to open at 6:00 AM June 16 consistent with Yakama regulations and are expected to continue through the summer season.

<i>2016 Yakama Nation Zone 6 Tributary Fisheries</i>	
Season:	Beginning 6:00 AM June 16 through 11:59 PM July 31, and only during those days and hours when the tributaries listed below are open under lawfully enacted Yakama Nation tribal subsistence fishery regulations for enrolled Yakama Nation members.
Area:	Wind River, Drano Lake, Icicle Creek, Klickitat River, and Yakima River
Gear:	Hoop Nets/Bag Nets, Dip Nets, and rod and reel with hook and line. Gillnets may only be used in Drano Lake.

Allowable Sales:	Salmon (any species), steelhead, shad, carp, catfish, walleye, bass, and yellow perch. Sturgeon from 38 to 54 inches fork length in the Bonneville Pool may be kept for subsistence. Sales of fish are allowed after the open period concludes, as long as the fish were landed during the open period.
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.

- During the summer season some tribes will open fisheries in the area below Bonneville Dam consistent with tribal regulations and MOUs/MOAs between the states and tribes. The harvest downstream of Bonneville is expected to be no more than 100 Chinook and 100 sockeye and very small numbers of steelhead. The catch downstream of Bonneville is counted as part of the total tribal mainstem catch.

<i>2016 Treaty Fishery - Summer Season Commercial Platform and Hook and Line Downstream of Bonneville Dam</i>	
Season	6:00 AM June 16 through 11:59 PM July 31 and only during days and times allowed under tribal rules.
Area	Area defined in tribal/state MOUs/MOAs.
Gear:	Hook and line and/or platform gear identified in tribal rules.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon (any species), steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish, and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sturgeon may not be retained in fisheries downstream of Bonneville Dam. Sales of fish are not authorized on COE property downstream of Bonneville Dam. Fish must be transported elsewhere for sale. Fish landed during the open periods are allowed to be sold after the period concludes
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.

Non-Indian Fisheries

Mainstem Columbia River Spring Chinook Fisheries

- Six mainstem commercial salmon fishing periods have occurred to date. Landings for the first five periods totaled 3,070 adult Chinook. Landings for the sixth period are not yet available. Actual and projected kept and release mortalities of upriver Chinook are expected to total 2,825 fish, or 94% of the current allocation of 2,999 fish.
- The mainstem commercial shad fishery is 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 scheduled to continue through June 15. Combined winter/spring season landings through June 3 total 6,330 Chinook. Upriver Chinook mortalities total 238 fish, or 86% of the current allocation of 276 fish.
- The lower Columbia River recreational Chinook fishery is scheduled to remain open through June 15 from the Tongue Point/Rocky Point line upstream to Bonneville Dam; however, the area upstream of Beacon Rock remains closed to boat angling for salmon/steelhead. Catch estimates through June 5 total 11,647 kept from 116,613 angler trips. Season total kept and

release mortalities of upriver Chinook is estimated at 8,938 fish, or 84% of the current allocation of 10,601 fish.

- Currently, the Columbia River is open from the Tongue Point/Rocky Point line upstream to Bonneville Dam for hatchery steelhead and hatchery jack Chinook and shad retention is open upstream of Buoy 10.
- The recreational Chinook fishery from Bonneville Dam upstream to the Oregon/Washington border is currently closed, having reached the harvest allocation guideline. Catch estimates total 1,446 kept from more than 6,700 angler trips. Kept and release mortalities of upriver Chinook is estimated at 1,480 fish, or 105% of the current allocation of 1,413 fish. This fishery is expected to remain closed until the summer season begins June 16.
- The recreational Chinook fishery on the Snake River (Washington waters) is currently closed; however the Little Goose area is scheduled to re-open for two days on June 12-13. Catch estimates to date total 1,258 kept adult fish. Kept and release mortalities of upriver Chinook in Snake River/Wanapum fisheries total 1,322 and are projected to reach the current allocation of 1,455 fish.

Mainstem Columbia River Summer Chinook Fisheries

- Non-Indian summer Chinook fisheries were discussed with Columbia River Advisory Group members in January and with constituents during the North of Falcon (NOF) and Pacific Fisheries Management Council (PFMC) meetings occurring in March and April. Summer salmon fisheries are based on the results of these meetings, management agreements, preseason forecasts, and allocation guidelines.
- Summer recreational fisheries are scheduled to be open from June 16 through July 31 from the Astoria-Megler Bridge upstream to Priest Rapids Dam. These fisheries are mark-selective for Chinook, allowing the retention of adipose fin-clipped hatchery Chinook only. The daily bag limit includes two hatchery adult Chinook. Sockeye may also be retained as part of the adult daily salmonid bag limit.
- Staff will monitor the progress of the recreational fisheries closely and may recommend adjustments to the fisheries as needed.
- Summer Chinook commercial fisheries utilize large mesh (8-inch minimum) gear and sanctuaries to minimize incidental steelhead handle.

Non-Treaty Fishery Recommendations

<i>Joint Staff Recommendation – 2016 Lower Columbia Recreational Salmon Fishery</i>
Effective Friday June 10 through June 15: the area from the Beacon Rock line upstream to Bonneville Dam boat deadline will be open to boat angling for salmon and steelhead.
The daily bag limit includes two adult salmonids per day, but only one may be a Chinook. Sockeye must be released. Only adipose fin-clipped salmon and steelhead may be kept. All other permanent regulations apply.

- The proposed season modification is expected to add 120 upriver mortalities.

<i>Joint Staff Recommendation: 2016 Non-Treaty Summer Chinook Commercial Fishery</i>		
Season:	9 PM Thursday June 16 to 5 AM Friday June 17	(8 hours)
Area:	Zones 1-5	
Sanctuaries:	Elokomin-A, Cowlitz River, Kalama-A, Lewis-A, Washougal and Sandy Rivers.	
Gear:	Drift gill nets. 8-inch minimum mesh size. 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:	Chinook, sockeye, and shad.	
Additional:	24-hour quick reporting required for Washington wholesale dealers. Oregon buyers are required to electronically submit fish receiving tickets. (pursuant to per WAC 220-69-240 and OAR 635-006-0210).	

- Effort is expected to be moderate at about 70 deliveries, with a catch expectation of 2,200 Chinook. Sockeye catch is expected to be minimal and well within the 305 fish allocated to commercial fisheries.
- The recommendation was developed based on discussions with constituents and the Columbia River Commercial Advisory Group during the North of Falcon process.

Select Area Fisheries

- The spring season in Blind Slough/Knappa Slough and Tongue Point is scheduled to close after June 14.
- Landings have remained relatively strong during the past two weeks with 60-90 Chinook landed per opener in Blind/Knappa Slough and 30-70 per opener in Tongue Point. Preliminary coded-wire tag analysis indicates 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:	Thursday June 16 – Friday June 17	(12 hours)
	Monday June 20 – Tuesday June 21	(12 hours)
	Thursday June 23 - Friday June 24	(12 hours)
	Open hours are from 7 PM to 7 AM.	
Area:	Blind Slough and Knappa Slough 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:	<p>9³/₄-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.</p> <p>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.</p>
Allowable Sales:	Salmon and shad. Retention and sale of sturgeon is prohibited.
Additional:	<p>Other permanent regulations including rules related to transportation and lighted buoys remain in effect.</p> <p>A 24-hour quick reporting rule is in effect for Washington buyers pursuant to WAC 220-69-240.</p>

<i>Joint Staff Recommendation: 2016 Tongue Point/South Channel Commercial Fishery</i>	
Season:	<p>Thursday June 16 – Friday June 17 (12 hours) Monday June 20 – Tuesday June 21 (12 hours)</p> <p>Open hours are from 7 PM to 7 AM.</p>
Area:	<p>The Tongue Point fishing area includes all waters bounded by a line extended from the upstream (southernmost) pier (#1) at the Tongue Point Job Corps facility through navigation marker #6 to Mott Island, a line from a marker at the southeast end of Mott Island northeasterly to a marker on the northwest tip of Lois Island, and a line from a marker on the southwest end of Lois Island westerly to a marker on the Oregon shore. The South Channel area includes all waters bounded by a line from a marker on John Day Point to a marker on the southwest end of Lois Island upstream to an upper boundary line from a marker on Settler Point northwesterly to the flashing red USCG marker #10, northwesterly to a marker on the eastern tip of Burnside Island defining the upstream terminus of South Channel.</p>
Gear:	<p>9³/₄-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.</p>
Allowable Sales:	Salmon and shad. Retention and sale of sturgeon is prohibited.
Miscellaneous Regulations:	<p>Other permanent regulations including rules related to transportation and lighted buoys remain in effect.</p> <p>24-hour Quick Reporting Rule in effect for Washington buyers.</p> <p>Oregon buyers are required to submit fish receiving tickets electronically pursuant to OAR 635-006-210.</p>

- 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 200-300 spring Chinook for the proposed season modifications.

Non-Treaty Catch Balance Summary

Summary of 2016 Non-Indian Upriver Chinook Mortalities - preliminary						
Upriver Catch (kept plus release mortalities)						
Non-Indian Fishery	in-Season Allocated (184.0 K)	In hand	Projected	Total	Balance	% Used
Mainstem (<i>proj. for Jun 6</i>)	2,999	2,559	266	2,825	174	94%
Select Area (<i>season total</i>)	276	238	29	267	9	97%
<i>Total</i>	<i>3,275</i>	<i>2,797</i>	<i>295</i>	<i>3,092</i>	<i>183</i>	<i>94%</i>
Below BON (<i>season total</i>)	10,601	8,938	1,370	10,308	293	97%
Bonn to OR/WA border	1,413	1,480	0	1,480	-67	105%
Snake River/Wanapum	1,455	1,322	130	1,452	3	100%
<i>Total</i>	<i>13,469</i>	<i>11,740</i>	<i>1,500</i>	<i>13,240</i>	<i>229</i>	<i>98%</i>
Grand Total	16,744	14,537	1,795	16,332	412	98%

- Impacts for combined non-Indian fisheries are projected to total 1.58% or 83% of the total 1.90% allowed.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- Additional Compact hearings addressing summer season fisheries will be scheduled as needed.