

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT: FALL FACT SHEET #8
Columbia River Compact/Joint State Hearing
September 27, 2016

Fisheries under consideration:	Non-Indian mainstem commercial salmon
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Detailed information on stock status and management guidelines for the 2016 fall season were presented in Fall Factsheet #1 (July 27,2016).

- TAC met September 26 to update upriver salmon and steelhead returns. For the third consecutive week, TAC downgraded the fall Chinook return and currently estimates 729,200 adult fish will return to the Columbia River, including 432,300 upriver bright (URB) Chinook and 50,700 Bonneville Pool Hatchery (BPH) tule Chinook.
- The non-Indian commercial Late Fall fishery has consisted of two Zone 4-5 periods to-date (September 18 and September 22) with one Zone 1-5 period scheduled for September 28 (tomorrow night). Actual landings from Zone 4-5 periods are estimated at 11,622 Chinook, which was similar to expectations. Revised catch expectations for the upcoming September 28 Zone 1-5 period range from 2,000 to 2,400 Chinook.
- The reduced URB run size increased the accrued URB impacts for non-Indian fisheries.
- With the continued reductions in URB abundance, staff has determined it would be prudent to delay mainstem commercial fishing until there is more certainty in the URB run size.

<i>Recommendation: 2016 Non-Indian Mainstem Commercial Salmon Fishery</i>

Rescind the fishing period scheduled for 8 PM September 28 to 6 AM September 29 in Zones 1-5

- Rescinding the scheduled fishing period will help reduce the risk of exceeding the conservation threshold of 15.0% for URB Chinook.
- Given the current run size estimate, URB impacts remain available for Chinook- and Coho-directed fisheries during October, but any further reductions in the URB run size will require additional review.
- Season total URB impacts for completed, on-going, and planned fisheries, including this proposed action, are projected to reach 15.0%.

Future Hearings

- A hearing is scheduled for 11:00 a.m. Thursday September 29 via teleconference to consider treaty commercial fisheries, and review non-Indian commercial fisheries and ongoing recreational fisheries.