

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT: FALL FACT SHEET #12a
Columbia River Compact/Joint State Hearing
October 19, 2016

Fisheries under consideration:	Mainstem recreational salmon
--------------------------------	------------------------------

Detailed information on stock status and management guidelines for the 2016 fall season were presented in Fall Factsheet #1 (July 27, 2016).

Stock Status

- Passage at Bonneville Dam since August 1 totals 436,139 adult fall Chinook. Daily passage has dropped to several hundred adults and the run appears to be nearing completion. The *U.S. v OR* Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met October 17 to review upriver salmon and steelhead returns and again downgraded the fall Chinook return. Given pre-season forecasted abundance of lower river stocks and the current in-season projection for upriver stocks, TAC now estimates 701,100 adult fish will return to the Columbia River, including 412,700 upriver bright (URB) Chinook (71% of pre-season forecast) and 45,200 Bonneville Pool Hatchery (BPH) tule Chinook (45% of pre-season forecast).
- Passage at Bonneville Dam since July 1 totals 170,436 upriver summer steelhead. TAC currently estimates a steelhead run of 171,200 fish to Bonneville Dam, which is less than the preseason forecast of 256,200 fish. The in-season forecast includes 129,200 Group A stock (including 31,900 wild) and 42,000 Group B stock (including 6,400 wild).
- Bonneville Dam passage of early stock Coho totaled 29,908 adult fish, which was less than the pre-season expectation of 47,200 fish. The late stock component is also tracking below expectations; TAC provided an in-season projection of 15,000 adults expected to pass Bonneville Dam (compared to the pre-season forecast of 37,100 adults).

Non-Treaty Fisheries

- The *U.S. v OR* Management Agreement allows for a 15% harvest rate on URB fall Chinook in non-treaty fisheries.
- Given the current run size forecasts and accrued URB impacts for completed and on-going fisheries, staff estimates the non-treaty URB harvest rate will reach 15.46% (15.32% impact rate on SRW).
- On-going non-treaty fisheries include mainstem recreational fisheries above and below Bonneville Dam and commercial fisheries in the Select Areas. The Select Area fisheries are scheduled to close at the end of October; staff does not expect these fisheries to accrue any additional URB mortalities. Chinook catch in recreational fisheries during late October through December is minimal but will include some URBs. Therefore, staff is recommending retention regulations be modified to further reduce accrual of URB impacts.

Recommendation: 2016 Mainstem Recreational Salmon Fishery

Effective Saturday October 22 – Saturday December 31, retention of Chinook is prohibited from Buoy 10 to the Highway 395 Bridge near Pasco, WA.

- Minor numbers of Chinook may be handled in on-going target Coho and steelhead fisheries upstream of Bonneville Dam.

Future Hearings

- No future hearings are currently scheduled.