COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION
JOINT STAFF REPORT: SUMMER FACT SHEET NO. 1
Columbia River Compact/Joint State Hearing
June 12, 2019

Fisheries under consideration**:**	Treaty 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 2019 Joint Staff Report: Stock Status and Fisheries for Spring Chinook, Summer Chinook, Sockeye, Steelhead, and Other Species (February 8, 2019).
http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/OSCRP/CRM/reports.asp or
https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/management/columbia-river/reports. An updated fall Joint Staff Report is expected in late July.

STOCK STATUS AND MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

- Pre-season salmon and steelhead forecasts applicable to the summer management period are shown in the table below. Chinook and sockeye forecasts are to the Columbia River mouth and steelhead forecasts are to Bonneville Dam.

Columbia River Adult Salmonid Returns: Actual and Forecasted*

		2018 Forecast	2018 Return	2019 Forecast
Summer Chinook	**Upper Columbia (to River Mouth)**	**67,300**	**42,120**	**36,300**
Sockeye	**Total Sockeye (to River Mouth)**	**99,000**	**210,915**	**94,400**
	Wenatchee	25,700	18,887	18,300
	Okanogan	72,600	190,304	74,500
	Yakima	50	1,338	1,300
	Deschutes	50	89	100
	Snake River	600	297	200
Summer Steelhead	**Total Upriver Steelhead**	**190,350**	**100,483**	**126,950**
(to Bonneville Dam)	Upriver Skamania Index (total)	7,950	6,483	8,750
	(natural origin)	*3,000*	*2,595*	*3,200*
	A-Index (total)	158,000	69,338	110,200
	(natural origin)	*44,800*	*21,725*	*33,900*
	B-Index (total)	24,400	24,662	8,000
	(natural origin)	*3,400*	*2,382*	*950*

- The summer management period runs from June 16 through July 31. Chinook salmon passing Bonneville Dam or harvested during this time period are managed as Upper Columbia summer Chinook. The sockeye run size includes any Columbia River sockeye no matter when it returns or passes Bonneville Dam. The upriver Skamania steelhead run includes steelhead passing Bonneville between April 1 and June 30. A-Index and B-Index steelhead include steelhead passing Bonneville between July 1 and October 31. Steelhead harvested in the Bonneville Pool between April 1 and June 30 are considered to be Skamania stock steelhead. Steelhead harvested upstream of The Dalles Dam prior to July 1 are considered to be part of the 2018-19 A- and B-Index run. Steelhead harvested in Zone 6 in July are considered to be part of the 2019-20 A- and B-Index run.

- Based on the current forecasts according to the *U.S. v. Oregon* Management Agreement, treaty Indian fisheries are allocated 6,450 adult summer Chinook and 6,608 sockeye. There is no specific harvest rate limit for steelhead in summer season treaty fisheries, but harvest of steelhead is low in the summer and is expected to remain within recent average rates. TAC will begin to update run sizes in late June or early July. Actual allowed fishery impacts are based on actual not forecast run sizes. Actual allowed catches will be determined in-season.
- Through June 10, there have been a total of 1,185 Skamania steelhead counted at Bonneville including 480 unclipped fish. Based on the 10-year average timing, the total run would normally be about 30% complete and the unclipped run would be about 26% complete at Bonneville on June 10. While TAC has not yet reviewed the Skamania run size, the total run and unclipped run are tracking less than forecast based on average timing.

SUMMER SEASON COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

Treaty Mainstem Summer Management Period Commercial Fisheries

- The treaty tribes plan to issue ceremonial gillnet permits the week of June 17 before commercial openings begin.
- The treaty tribes plan to allow commercial sales of platform and hook and line fish on June 24 and expect sales to run continuously through the summer management period and into the fall.
- The treaty tribes will begin commercial gillnet fisheries on June 24. The tribes plan to authorize one gillnet opening to provide opportunity to meet to schedule additional openings.
- Fisheries have been modeled and projected catches are shown in the table below. The model assumes average recent set net effort along with average weekly harvest rates. The model will be adjusted to account for actual fishery performance as the season progresses. The projected catches for weeks with commercial gillnet fisheries include the expected catch in the platform and hook and line fishery for those weeks.

2019 Treaty Indian Summer Season Fisheries (projected harvest)				
Fishery	Effort (Set Nets)	Chinook	Sockeye	Steelhead
Gillnet fisheries				
Week 26 Jun 24-26 (2 nights)	330	2,433	1,559	184
Projected Platform Catch through July 31		522	1,812	600
Subtotal through 6/29		2,955	3,371	784
Allowed at Pre-season Forecast		6,450	6,608	
Remaining		3,495	3,237	

Note: projected catches for statistical weeks with gillnet fisheries include platform and hook and line catch for those weeks.

2019 Treaty Indian Commercial Gillnet Fishery		
Season	6 AM Monday June 24 to 6 PM Wednesday June 26	(2.5 days)
Area	Zone 6	
Sanctuaries:	Standard river mouth and dam closed areas applicable to gillnet gear, except the Spring Creek Hatchery sanctuary is not in effect during the summer management period.	
Gear:	Set and Drift Gill nets with a 7-inch minimum mesh size 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 and 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 220-352-315 except that landings must be reported within 24-hours of completing the fish ticket.	

- Additionally, the tribes have adopted regulations for the Zone 6 platform and hook and line fishery consistent with the following box. Individual tribes may choose to authorize sales beginning on June 24. Some tribal regulations may specify that the platform fishery allows commercial sales "until further notice". The tribes expect to seek consistent state regulations authorizing sales at the first fall season Compact hearing to extend sales into the fall management period.

2019 Treaty Indian Summer Season Commercial Platform and Hook and Line Zone 6	
Season:	6:00 AM June 24 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 may be sold or kept for subsistence. Shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish and carp may also 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 and 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:	Quick reporting required for all Washington Fish Buyers pursuant to WAC 220-352-315, and landings must be quick reported within 24-hours of completing the fish ticket.

- The tribes may choose to open fisheries downstream of Bonneville Dam consistent with agreements with the states of Oregon and Washington. The harvest downstream of Bonneville is expected to be no more than 50 Chinook and 100 sockeye and very small numbers of

steelhead, and these catches are included in the platform and hook and line projections. The catch downstream of Bonneville Dam is counted as part of the total tribal mainstem catch.

2019 Treaty Fishery - Summer Season Commercial Platform and Hook and Line Downstream of Bonneville Dam	
Season	6:00 AM June 24 through 11:59 PM July 31 and only during days and times opened 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 220-352-315 except that landings must be reported within 24-hours of completing the fish ticket. COE property at Bonneville Dam has no public trash service and fishers and any other visitors need to remove any trash with them.

- The Yakama Nation will allow commercial sales of its Zone 6 tributary fisheries for fish caught during open tributary fishing periods which overlap with open sales periods for the mainstem. These are as follows:

2019 Yakama Nation Zone 6 Tributary Fisheries	
Season:	Beginning 6:00 AM June 24 until further notice, 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 and Klickitat 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:	Quick reporting required for all Washington Fish Buyers pursuant to WAC 220-352-315, and landings must be quick reported within 24-hours of completing the fish ticket.

- Catch and effort will be monitored to ensure the fishery remains within management limits. Total catch is determined through a tribal creel program. Fish ticket data are used as a supplement to the creel program. Set net effort will be monitored by aerial surveys each week. Drift net effort is estimated through the creel monitoring program. Catches for the platform fishery are typically summed with and reported with gillnet catches for any week with a commercial gillnet opening. Any harvest downstream of Bonneville Dam is part of the total allowed catch for any species. Tributary harvest is managed under separate limits.

- Treaty commercial fishing provides important economic benefits to tribal members and their families as well as to communities along the river and on reservations.

Future Meetings

- The tribes request a Compact Hearing on June 27 to consider additional commercial fishing periods.