

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT - SUMMER FACT SHEET NO. 1
Columbia River Compact/Joint State Hearing
June 22, 2022

<i>Fisheries under consideration:</i>	Select Area commercial
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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 online. The most recent report is the 2022 Spring Chinook, Summer Chinook, Sockeye, Steelhead and Other Species Report (February 2, 2022) available at:

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/management/columbia-river/reports> and <https://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/OSCRP/CRM/jsmreports.asp>

RIVER CONDITIONS

- As of June 21, the five-day average outflow at Bonneville Dam is 438 kcfs compared to the five-year average of 246 kcfs. The current five-day average water temperature at Bonneville Dam is 57°F compared to the five-year average of 61°F. The five-day average visibility at Bonneville Dam is 2.7 feet compared to the five-year average of 5.0 feet.

STOCK STATUS

Upper Columbia Summer Chinook

- Chinook passing Bonneville Dam from June 16 through July 31, or harvested during this period, are managed as upper Columbia summer Chinook. Upper Columbia River summer Chinook populations are not ESA listed. These fish are destined for mainstem and tributary areas from the Yakima River upstream to the Okanagan River as well as Chief Joseph Hatchery.
- The 2022 forecast for summer Chinook is 56,300 adult fish. Through June 20, a total of 8,706 adult summer Chinook have passed Bonneville Dam. Based on the recent 10-year average run timing the return to Bonneville Dam is 50% complete by June 29. The jack count to date is 1,740 fish.

Summer Steelhead

- Steelhead passing Bonneville Dam between April 1 and June 30 (including Bonneville Pool harvest during this timeframe) are considered upriver Skamania-stock steelhead. Steelhead caught in the lower Columbia from May 1 to June 30 are counted as lower river Skamania stock steelhead. The preseason forecast is for a return of 3,100 total upriver Skamania summer steelhead, including 1,600 wild fish.
- Through June 20 a total of 3,019 upriver Skamania steelhead have passed Bonneville Dam, which is 75% of the 10-year average cumulative count to this date. The upriver Skamania run is typically about 57% complete by June 20. Passage of unclipped upriver Skamania steelhead totals 1,395 fish as of June 20, which is 2% higher than the 10-year average through this date.

- Steelhead passing Bonneville Dam from July 1 through October 31 are considered part of this year's A- and B-Index steelhead run. The preseason forecast is for a return of 96,600 A-/B-Index steelhead, which would be the second highest return since 2018.

Sockeye

- The preseason forecast is for a return of 198,700 sockeye. Through June 20, a total of 61,048 sockeye have been counted at Bonneville Dam which is the fourth highest count to date in the last ten years and is very similar to the recent 10-year average. Based on 10-year average passage timing the run is about 22% complete on June 20 and 50% complete by June 26.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Management Agreements

- The 2018-2027 *U.S. v Oregon* Management Agreement (MA) provides specific fishery management guidelines for treaty Indian and non-treaty summer season fisheries.
- Washington's Upper Columbia Management Agreement (UCMA) provides additional harvest and management guidelines for sharing of upper Columbia summer Chinook among non-treaty recreational and commercial fisheries and non-treaty tribal fisheries.

Summer Chinook

- Mainstem Columbia River Chinook fisheries occurring from June 16 through July 31 are managed based on an escapement goal of 29,000 hatchery- and natural-origin adult upper Columbia summer Chinook, as measured at the Columbia River mouth.
- The Oregon and Washington policies for 2022 specific to commercial-recreational allocation sharing of harvestable summer Chinook are not concurrent. This results in the harvestable surplus available to non-treaty fisheries downstream of Priest Rapids Dam being allocated 70% to recreational fisheries, 20% to commercial fisheries, with 10% unallocated.
- The non-treaty allocation includes the following fisheries:
 - Ocean fisheries south of Canada.
 - Recreational fisheries from the Astoria/Megler Bridge upstream to Chief Joseph Dam.
 - Commercial fisheries downstream of Bonneville Dam (Zones 1-5).
 - Colville and Wanapum tribal fisheries.

Sockeye

- The management goal for upper Columbia River sockeye is 65,000 fish at PRD, which typically 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-treaty fisheries and 7% for treaty Indian fisheries.

2022 NON-TREATY FISHERIES

Select Area Commercial Fisheries

- Combined Select Area winter/spring-season landings total 11,686 Chinook and 156 white sturgeon. Chinook landings are over 2½ times higher than catch last year and about 90% higher than the recent five-year average harvest.

- Summer-season periods began on June 16 in the Youngs Bay, Tongue Point/South Channel, and Blind Slough/Knappa Slough sites. Landings in the initial summer periods for these sites total 349 Chinook and 10 white sturgeon.
- Ex-vessel price for Chinook is averaging \$5.00/pound. White sturgeon prices remain stable averaging \$3.50/pound.
- Chinook harvest has been high through the end of the spring season and in the first summer-season period. Fishers have expressed interest in additional fishing time for the summer season.
- Staff recommends additional fishing time to allow for harvest of late-returning spring Chinook while prices remain good.

Blind Slough/Knappa Slough Select Areas

- 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 action.

Joint Staff Recommendation: 2022 Blind Slough/Knappa Slough Commercial Fishery

Modify the hours for the previously adopted summer-season fishing periods for Blind Slough and Knappa Slough as follows:

- 6 PM Thursday June 23 to 10 AM Friday June 24 (16 hours)
- 6 PM Monday June 27 to 10 AM Tuesday June 28 (16 hours)
- 6 PM Thursday June 30 to 10 AM Friday July 1 (16 hours)
- 6 PM Monday July 4 to 10 AM Tuesday July 5 (16 hours)
- 6 PM Thursday July 7 to 10 AM Friday July 8 (16 hours)
- 6 PM Monday July 11 to 10 AM Tuesday July 12 (16 hours)
- 6 PM Thursday July 14 to 10 AM Friday July 15 (16 hours)

Adopt the following summer-season fishing periods for Blind Slough and Knappa Slough as follows:

- 6 PM Wednesday June 22 to 10 AM Thursday June 23 (16 hours)
- 6 PM Wednesday June 29 to 10 AM Thursday June 30 (16 hours)
- 6 PM Wednesday July 6 to 10 AM Thursday July 7 (16 hours)
- 6 PM Wednesday July 13 to 10 AM Thursday July 14 (16 hours)

All other previously adopted regulations for these seasons and sites remain in effect.

Tongue Point/South Channel Select Areas

Joint Staff Recommendation: 2022 Tongue Point/South Channel Commercial Fishery

Modify the hours for the previously adopted summer-season fishing periods for Tongue Point and South Channel as follows:

- 6 PM Thursday June 23 to 10 AM Friday June 24 (16 hours)
- 6 PM Monday June 27 to 10 AM Tuesday June 28 (16 hours)
- 6 PM Thursday June 30 to 10 AM Friday July 1 (16 hours)
- 6 PM Monday July 4 to 10 AM Tuesday July 5 (16 hours)
- 6 PM Thursday July 7 to 10 AM Friday July 8 (16 hours)
- 6 PM Monday July 11 to 10 AM Tuesday July 12 (16 hours)
- 6 PM Thursday July 14 to 10 AM Friday July 15 (16 hours)

Adopt the following summer-season fishing periods for Tongue Point and South Channel as follows:

- 6 PM Wednesday June 22 to 10 AM Thursday June 23 (16 hours)
- 6 PM Wednesday June 29 to 10 AM Thursday June 30 (16 hours)
- 6 PM Wednesday July 6 to 10 AM Thursday July 7 (16 hours)
- 6 PM Wednesday July 13 to 10 AM Thursday July 14 (16 hours)

All other previously adopted regulations for these seasons and sites remain in effect.

- The recommendation expands the fishing time for seven periods and adds four additional periods in Tongue Point/South Channel and Blind Slough/Knappa Slough summer-season fisheries.
- These season extensions would provide additional access to late-returning Select Area spring Chinook which are still present in the fishing areas, as well as some opportunity to access the Select Area commercial white sturgeon sub-allocation.
- These season modifications do not change the expected Select Area fishery impacts to sockeye or A-Index and B-Index steelhead outlined in the 2022 spring Joint Staff Report (0.01%, 0.01%, 0.01%, respectively). The expected total harvest of summer Chinook in combined Select Area summer fisheries is approximately 50 fish.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- A Compact hearing is scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday June 28, 2022 via teleconference to consider the summer Treaty commercial gillnet fishery.