

COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION
JOINT STAFF REPORT – SUMMER FACT SHEET NO. 2a
Columbia River Compact Hearing
June 30, 2022

Fisheries Under Consideration: Summer Treaty commercial gillnet

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 29, the five-day average outflow at Bonneville Dam is 396 kcfs compared to the five-year average of 248 kcfs.
- The current five-day average water temperature at Bonneville Dam forebay is 60.5°F compared to the five-year average of 64.4°F.
- The five-day average visibility at Bonneville Dam is 4.0 feet.

STOCK STATUS AND MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Upper Columbia Summer Chinook, Sockeye, and Steelhead

- Pre-season salmon and steelhead forecasts applicable to the summer management were presented in spring fact sheet #4a.

Upper Columbia Summer Chinook

- Upper Columbia Summer Chinook are counted at Bonneville Dam from June 16 through July 31. Chinook salmon passing Bonneville Dam or harvested during this time period are managed as Upper Columbia summer Chinook and 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. Harvest is 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. Based on 10-year average run timing the run at Bonneville would be expected to be 50% complete on June 30. Through June 29, the preliminary adult summer chinook count at Bonneville Dam is 37,016. The jack count is 5,185. Counts are preliminary at this time because the USACE is concerned there may have been some erroneous counts in recent days and is currently reviewing data to ensure counts are correct. At this time COE does not expect significant corrections to sockeye or chinook counts.

Sockeye

- Sockeye caught during any management period all count as part of the current year’s sockeye run. All sockeye in fisheries and dam counts are treated as adult fish. Through July 29, the preliminary total sockeye count at Bonneville Dam is 343,953 which is the highest count to date in the last ten years even without Monday’s count. Based on 10-year average run timing the run is expected to be 50% complete on June 26. The run may or may not have been 50% complete on that date.

Steelhead

- Steelhead passing Bonneville Dam from April 1 through June 30 or that are caught in this time period in the Bonneville Pool are considered upriver Skamania stock steelhead. Through June 29, there have been a total of 7,071 Skamania steelhead preliminarily counted at Bonneville Dam including 2,476 unclipped fish. The cumulative counts are higher than the pre-season forecasts.
- Steelhead passing Bonneville Dam from July 1 through October 31 are considered part of this year's A and B-Index steelhead run. Steelhead caught upstream of the Dalles Dam from January 1 through June 30 are considered part of the previous year's A and B-Index steelhead run.

Summer Management Limits

- TAC met on June 27 and upgraded the sockeye run size at the Columbia River mouth to 426,000 fish compared to the pre-season forecast of 198,700. TAC also upgraded the upper Columbia summer Chinook run size to 66,800 adults at the Columbia River mouth, compared to the pre-season forecast of 56,300 adults. TAC will continue to monitor and assess the sockeye and summer Chinook returns and will provide run size updates as warranted. TAC is scheduled to meet again next Tuesday July 5 and is expected to provide additional updates.
- Any sockeye harvested in mainstem fisheries downstream from the mouth of the Snake River count against the Sockeye harvest rate limit. Based on the current forecasts the harvest rate limit will be 7% for treaty fisheries and 1% for non-treaty fisheries downstream of the mouth of the Snake River. This equates to harvest limits of 29,820 and 4,260 respectively.
- Treaty and non-treaty summer Chinook impacts are shared equally. Both PFMC non-treaty ocean fisheries and in-river fisheries count as part of the non-treaty share. Based on current forecasts, both treaty and non-treaty fisheries expect to be allowed harvest of 19,755 fish each.
- 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.

SUMMER SEASON TREATY FISHERIES

Treaty Mainstem Summer Management Period Commercial Fisheries

- The treaty tribes allow commercial sales of platform and hook and line fish and expect sales to run continuously through the summer management period and into the fall.
- The treaty tribes began commercial gillnet fisheries on June 16.
- Fisheries have been modeled and projected catches are shown in Table 4 below. The model assumes average recent set net effort and 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. Historically, the summer model tends to over predict harvest early in the season which is viewed as a precautionary approach.

Table 1. Preliminary 2022 Summer Season Treaty Harvest and Projected Future Catches

2022 Treaty Indian Summer Season Fisheries									
Fishery					Adult Chinook	Harvest Rate	Sockeye	Harvest Rate	Steelhead
Spring season through 6/15					na		190	0.0%	na
Week	Gillnet Fisheries	Start	End	Effort (Set Nets)		0.0%		0.0%	
25	Preliminary	16-Jun	18-Jun	116	1,183	1.8%	435	0.1%	15
26	Preliminary	20-Jun	24-Jun	161	3,291	4.9%	2,932	0.7%	48
27	Projected	27-Jun	1-Jul	200	3,400	5.1%	4,000	0.9%	90
Subtotal Current fisheries					7,874	0	7,557	1.8%	153
28	Projected	4-Jul	8-Jul	220	3,100	4.6%	2,200	0.5%	180
29	Projected	11-Jul	15-Jul	220	2,200	3.3%	4,800	1.1%	380
Total					13,174	19.7%	14,557	3.4%	713
Allowed at Updated Forecast					19,755	29.6%	29,820	7.0%	
Remaining After Planned Fisheries					6,581	9.9%	15,263	3.6%	

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

- The modeled Chinook and sockeye remaining after these planned openings would be sufficient to keep the platform fishery open through the end of the summer management period. Based on the expected catches for the proposed fisheries, the overall treaty fishery would be within its allowed catches down to a run size of 47,500 Chinook and 205,900 sockeye.
- The tribes have adopted regulations for the Zone 6 platform and hook and line fishery consistent with the following plan. The tribes will authorize sales for fish caught after 6:00 AM on June 4 (Saturday) through July 31. Some tribal regulations may specify that the platform fishery allows commercial sales “until further notice”. The tribes expect to seek consistent state regulations authorizing platform sales at the first fall season Compact hearing to extend sales into the fall management period.
- The tribes may choose to open fisheries downstream of Bonneville Dam according to 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 in the summer management period. These catches are included in the total weekly projections. The catch downstream of Bonneville Dam is counted as part of the total tribal mainstem catch.

- The four Columbia River treaty tribes will adopt regulations consistent with the following:

<i>Recommendation: 2022 Summer Season Treaty Commercial Gillnet Fishery</i>		
Season	6:00 AM Monday July 4 to 6:00 PM Friday, July 8 6:00 AM Monday July 11 to 6:00 PM Friday, June 15	(4.5 days) (4.5 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” minimum mesh size restriction in the July 4-8 opening but no mesh restriction in the July 11-15 opening.	
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 is required for Washington wholesale dealers for all areas as provided in WAC 220-352-315, except that all landings from treaty fisheries described above must be 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 another Compact Hearing during the week of July 11 to consider additional commercial gillnet openings to begin on July 18 assuming sufficient impacts remain.

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT: SUMMER FACT SHEET NO. 2b
Columbia River Compact/Joint State Hearing
June 30, 2022

<i>Fisheries under consideration:</i>	Mainstem recreational salmonid
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RIVER CONDITIONS

- The river conditions are presented in Summer Fact Sheet #2a.

STOCK STATUS

- Bonneville Dam passage counts are available through June 26, but the states were informed by the USACE that counts for June 25-27 are currently under review. The *U.S. v. Oregon* Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) used the passage data that were available on June 27 to assess run sizes at their Monday meeting.

Upper Columbia Summer Chinook

- Upper Columbia summer Chinook pass Bonneville Dam during June 16 through July 31 destined for mainstem and tributary areas upstream of Priest Rapids Dam. Upper Columbia River Chinook populations are not listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the population is considered healthy.
- The 2022 preseason forecast of 56,300 adults to the Columbia River mouth is similar to the 2021 actual return (56,800), but less than the recent 10-year average return of 68,900 adults.
- Bonneville passage during June 16–26 totals 27,716 adult Chinook which is 119% of expected based on the preseason forecast and 5-year average run timing. The run is typically 50% complete by June 28 (5-year average).
- The *U.S. v. Oregon* Technical Advisory Committee met on Monday, June 27 and updated the summer Chinook return expectation to 66,800 Chinook at the Columbia River mouth. TAC’s next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, July 5.

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 26 a total of 5,926 upriver Skamania steelhead have passed Bonneville Dam, which is 107% of the 10-year average cumulative count to this date. The upriver Skamania run is typically about 79% complete by June 26. Passage of unclipped upriver Skamania steelhead totals 2,032 fish as of June 26, which is 99% 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 81,000 A-Index (28,100 wild) and 15,600 B-Index steelhead (1,900 wild). The expected aggregate return of 96,600 fish is 59% of the recent 10-year average.

Sockeye

- The preseason forecast is for a return of 198,700 sockeye to the Columbia River mouth. Through June 26, a total of 239,575 sockeye have been counted at Bonneville Dam which is the fourth highest cumulative count to date in the last ten years and 60% higher than the recent 10-year average. Based on 10-year average passage timing the run is 51% complete on June 26.
- The *U.S. v. Oregon* Technical Advisory Committee met on Monday, June 27 and reviewed sockeye passage to date. TAC updated the sockeye return expectation to 426,000 fish at the Columbia River mouth.

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.

2022 Upper Columbia Summer Chinook Allocations		
	Preseason	In-season
CR Run Size	56,346	66,800
Non-treaty Ocean Harvest	7,880	7,880
Total Abundance (w/ocean harvest)	64,226	74,680
Available Treaty Indian Harvest	15,835	19,755
Available Non-treaty Harvest (in-river)	15,835	19,755
Below Priest Rapids Dam Allocation	1,805	3,832
<i>Recreational below Bonneville</i>	<i>1,074</i>	<i>2,280</i>
<i>Recreational BON to PRD</i>	<i>190</i>	<i>402</i>
<i>Non-treaty Commercial</i>	<i>361</i>	<i>766</i>
<i>Unallocated Non-treaty (10%)</i>	<i>180</i>	<i>383</i>
Above Priest Rapids Dam Allocation	6,150	8,044
<i>Wanapum Non-treaty Tribal</i>	<i>94</i>	<i>215</i>
<i>Colville Non-treaty Tribal</i>	<i>3,075</i>	<i>4,022</i>
<i>Recreational PRD to Chief Joseph Dam</i>	<i>2,981</i>	<i>3,807</i>

Summer Steelhead

- The non-treaty ESA impact limit on wild A-/B-Index summer steelhead is 2% each in fisheries occurring from January through July.
- Due to the low projected returns for upriver summer steelhead, additional protective regulations have again been implemented in 2022 fisheries. For summer-season fisheries in the mainstem between the Astoria/Megler Bridge and the Highway 395 Bridge (near Pasco, WA), the daily bag limit may not include more than one hatchery steelhead.

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 Oregon and Washington policies for 2022 specific to allocation sharing of sockeye are not concurrent. This results in the non-treaty ESA impacts allocated as follows: 70% to recreational fisheries, 20% to commercial fisheries, with 10% unallocated. The impact limit on the Columbia River return of ESA-listed sockeye is 1% for non-treaty fisheries and 7% for treaty Indian fisheries.
- Lake Wenatchee sockeye are expected to meet the escapement goal (23,000) given the aggregate sockeye run-size update provided by TAC.

2022 NON-TREATY FISHERIES

Mainstem Columbia River Recreational Summer Chinook Fisheries

- The recreational summer Chinook fishery downstream of Bonneville Dam was open June 16-22 for hatchery Chinook and hatchery steelhead retention from the Astoria/Megler Bridge to

Bonneville Dam with 1,290 kept adult summer Chinook (475 released), 273 kept summer steelhead (135 released) and 834 sockeye released from 6,876 angler trips. Summer Chinook harvest rates during this fishery were slightly higher than preseason expectations.

- Beginning June 23, only hatchery steelhead and hatchery jack Chinook retention is allowed downstream of Bonneville Dam. Anglers released an additional 185 adult summer Chinook and 130 sockeye, and kept 230 summer steelhead (45 released) during June 23-26 from 1,518 angler trips.
- The recreational fishery from Bonneville Dam upstream to Highway 395 (Pasco, WA) opened June 16 for hatchery Chinook and hatchery steelhead retention and is scheduled to remain open through July 31. Salmonid effort and catch have been minimal with approximately 13 adult summer Chinook kept to date.
- The Hanford Reach recreational fishery opened to hatchery Chinook and sockeye retention June 16 and is scheduled to run through July 31 with the exception of a bank-only fishery occurring downstream of the I-182 Bridge that is scheduled to close on July 16. Anglers have kept 26 adult summer Chinook (9 released), 1,041 sockeye (5 released) through June 26 from 1,908 angler trips.
- The Wanapum Band (tribal) fishery has harvested one adult hatchery summer Chinook through June 24.
- Given the remaining balance on the summer Chinook allocation at the current run-size projection, there is potential for additional recreational angling opportunity downstream of Bonneville Dam. Additionally, the in-season run-size upgrade of sockeye allows for recreational harvest opportunity in mainstem fisheries downstream of Highway 395.

<i>Recommendations: 2022 Mainstem Columbia River Recreational Salmon Fishery</i>
Downstream of Bonneville Dam
<p>Season: July 1 through July 10</p> <p>Area: Astoria-Megler Bridge to Bonneville Dam</p> <p>Daily Bag Limit: Two adult salmonids (hatchery Chinook, hatchery steelhead, and sockeye) of which no more than one may be a steelhead. All previously adopted regulations remain in effect.</p>
Astoria-Megler Bridge upstream to Hwy. 395 Bridge at Pasco, WA
<p>Effective July 1 through July 31, for previously-adopted salmonid fisheries, the daily adult bag limit may include up to two sockeye. All sockeye are considered adults. All previously adopted regulations remain in effect including no more than one hatchery steelhead in the daily limit.</p>

- Catch projections for the recommended adult summer Chinook fishery downstream of Bonneville Dam are for a handle of approximately 1,270 fish with 760 kept. When combined with release mortalities from the prior summer-season and on-going steelhead/sockeye fisheries, the total summer Chinook mortality is expected to be 2,270 fish, and results in nearly 100% of the current sub-area allocation. Harvest from Bonneville Dam upstream to Priest Rapid Dam is expected to not exceed the allocation of 402 fish.
- Sockeye catch projections related to the staff recommendation are for a handle of approximately 1,180 fish with 830 kept. When combined with release mortalities from prior spring and summer fisheries downstream of Hwy. 395, the total sockeye mortality is expected to be 1,106 fish, or 37% of the available recreational allocation.
- Non-treaty summer Chinook and sockeye mortalities are summarized in the tables below:

Accounting of upper Columbia summer Chinook mortalities in 2022 in-river non-treaty fisheries						
Fishery	Summer Chinook Mortalities (k+r)			Current Allocation	Percent of Allocation	Balance
	Through June 26	Recommendation	Total Expected*			
<i>Comm. downstream of BON</i>	<i>na</i>	<i>na</i>	50	766	7%	716
Rec. downstream of BON	1,389	838	2,270	2,280	100%	10
Rec. BON - PRD	27	na	402	402	100%	0
<i>Rec. below PRD</i>	<i>1,416</i>		<i>2,672</i>	<i>2,682</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Unallocated subtotal below PRD**</i>				383		383
<i>Total below PRD</i>			<i>2,722</i>	<i>3,832</i>	<i>71%</i>	<i>1,109</i>
Rec. above PRD	27	na	3,807	3,807	100%	0
Colville and Wanapum tribal fisheries***	1	na	4,237	4,237	100%	0
<i>Total in-river non-treaty</i>	<i>1,444</i>		<i>10,716</i>	<i>11,875</i>	<i>90%</i>	<i>1,109</i>

* Total expected includes mortalities through June 26 plus the recommendation and release morts during steelhead/sockeye fisheries.

** Unallocated balance is a result of non-concurrent OR/WA Commission guidance.

*** Wanapum is open w/ 215 allocation. Colville has not fished yet.

Accounting of Sockeye mortalities in 2022 non-treaty fisheries						
Fishery	Sockeye Mortalities (k+r)			Current Allocation	Percent of Allocation	Balance
	Through June 26	Recommendation	Total Expected*			
<i>Comm. downstream of BON**</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>na</i>	43	852	5%	809
Rec. downstream of BON	201	750	971			
Rec. BON - Hwy 395	0	135	135			
<i>Recreational subtotal</i>	<i>201</i>	<i>885</i>	<i>1,106</i>	<i>2,982</i>	<i>37%</i>	<i>1,876</i>
<i>Unallocated subtotal***</i>				426		426
TOTAL	225		1,149	4,260	27%	3,111
Snake River ESA			0.27%	1.00%		

* Total expected includes mortalities June 26 through the recommendation date.

** Includes select area and spring tangle net mortalities.

*** Unallocated balance between OR/WA Commission guidance (non-concurrence) resulting in 10% difference between recreational/commercial.

- Impacts to other listed stocks, including steelhead, are expected to remain below ESA-take limitations. The total HRs on wild A-Index, and wild B-Index steelhead in non-treaty recreational fisheries occurring in July are expected to be 0.53% and 0.15%, respectively. Pre-season expectations were outlined in the 2022 Spring/Summer Joint Staff Report in the 2022 Winter, Spring, and Summer Season Expectations section.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- No additional Compact or Joint State hearings are scheduled at this time. The Joint Staff will monitor fisheries and recommend additional hearings as needed.