

**COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION**  
**JOINT STAFF REPORT – SUMMER FACT SHEET NO. 3a**  
**Columbia River Compact Hearing**  
**July 13, 2022**

Fisheries Under Consideration: Summer Treaty commercial gillnet
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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 July 11, the recent five-day average outflow at Bonneville Dam is 268 kcfs compared to the five-year average of 182 kcfs.
- The current five-day average water temperature at Bonneville Dam forebay is 65.1°F compared to the five-year average of 66.8°F.
- The five-day average visibility at Bonneville Dam is 5.0 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 July 11, the adult summer chinook count at Bonneville Dam is 63,395. The jack count is 8,453.

***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 11, the sockeye count at Bonneville Dam is 591,134 which is the highest count to date since the construction of Bonneville Dam. 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 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. From July 1 through July 11, there were 9,959 steelhead counted at Bonneville including 4,107 unclipped fish.

### ***Summer Management Limits***

- TAC met on July 11 and downgraded the sockeye run size at the Columbia River mouth to 636,500 fish compared to their July 5 update of 656,000. The run is still significantly higher than the pre-season forecast of 198,700. TAC also upgraded the upper Columbia summer Chinook run size to 82,300 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 Monday, July 18.
- 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 Monday July 18 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 44,555 and 6,560 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 22,386 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 1 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**

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

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)					
25	Preliminary	16-Jun	18-Jun	134	1,331	1.6%	435	0.1%	15
26	Preliminary	20-Jun	24-Jun	190	3,354	4.1%	3,255	0.5%	48
27	Preliminary	27-Jun	1-Jul	200	4,682	5.7%	10,386	1.6%	141
28	Preliminary	4-Jul	8-Jul	215	2,495	3.0%	6,123	1.0%	376
29	Projected	11-Jul	15-Jul	217	2,600	3.2%	8,500	1.3%	940
Subtotal Current fisheries					14,462	17.6%	28,889	4.5%	1,520
30	Projected	18-Jul	21-Jul	220	2,200	2.7%	2,800	0.4%	400
31	Projected	25-Jul	28-Jul	200	1,800	2.2%	600	0.1%	190
Total					18,462	22.4%	32,289	5.1%	2,110
<b>Allowed at Updated Forecast</b>					<b>25,568</b>	<b>31.1%</b>	<b>44,555</b>	<b>7.0%</b>	
Remaining After Planned Fisheries					7,106	8.6%	12,266	1.9%	

- 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 64,500 Chinook and 465,600 sockeye.
- Some tribes have chosen to open fisheries downstream of Bonneville Dam according to agreements with the states of Oregon and Washington. The harvest downstream of Bonneville is 11 Chinook and 210 sockeye and 0 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:

<b><i>Recommendation: 2022 Summer Season Treaty Commercial Gillnet Fishery</i></b>		
<b>Season</b>	6:00 AM Monday July 18 to 6:00 PM Thursday, July 21	(3.5 days)
	6:00 AM Monday July 25 to 6:00 PM Thursday, July 28	(3.5 days)
<b>Area</b>	Zone 6	
<b>Sanctuaries:</b>	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.	
<b>Gear:</b>	Set and Drift Gill nets with no mesh size restriction.	
<b>Allowable Sales:</b>	Salmon (any species), steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Fish landed during the open periods are allowed to be sold after the period concludes. 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.	
<b>Additional:</b>	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 do not expect to need another Compact to address the summer management period fisheries at this time.

**OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**  
**JOINT STAFF REPORT: SUMMER FACT SHEET NO. 3b**  
**Columbia River Compact/Joint State Hearing**  
**July 13, 2022**

<b><i>Fisheries under consideration:</i></b>	Mainstem recreational salmon downstream of Bonneville Dam
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**RIVER CONDITIONS**

- As of July 12, the five-day average outflow at Bonneville Dam is 268 kcfs compared to the five-year average of 178 kcfs. The current five-day average water temperature at Bonneville Dam is 64°F compared to the five-year average of 67°F. The five-day average visibility at Bonneville Dam is 5.0 feet compared to the five-year average of 5.9 feet.

**STOCK STATUS**

***Upper Columbia Summer Chinook***

- The 2022 preseason forecast of 56,300 adult upper Columbia summer Chinook 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 through July 11 totals 63,395 adult Chinook which is 146% of expected based on the preseason forecast and 5-year average run timing. The run is typically 79% complete by July 11 (5-year average).
- The *U.S. v. Oregon* Technical Advisory Committee met on Monday, July 11 and updated the summer Chinook return expectation to 82,300 Chinook at the Columbia River mouth. TAC’s next scheduled meeting is Monday, July 18.

***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 was for a return of 3,100 total upriver Skamania summer steelhead, including 1,600 wild fish. The 2022 upriver Skamania-stock steelhead Bonneville Dam passage total was 8,190 including 2,943 unclipped fish.
- 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.

- Through July 11 a total of 9,959 A-/B-Index summer steelhead have passed Bonneville Dam, which is 133% of the 10-year average cumulative count to this date. The A-/B-Index run is typically about 5% complete by July 11. Passage of unclipped A-/B-Index steelhead totals 4,107 fish as of July 11, which is 102% the 10-year average through this date.

**Sockeye**

- The preseason forecast was for a return of 198,700 sockeye to the Columbia River mouth. Through July 11, a total of 591,134 sockeye have been counted at Bonneville Dam which is the highest cumulative count to date since the project was constructed in 1938 and 209% higher than the recent 10-year average. Based on 10-year average passage timing the run is 94% complete on July 11.
- The *U.S. v. Oregon* Technical Advisory Committee met on Monday, July 11 and reviewed sockeye passage to date. TAC updated the sockeye return expectation to 636,500 fish at the Columbia River mouth; this represents a slight downgrade from the expectation provided the prior week.

**MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES**

**Summer Chinook**

- Management guidelines, Oregon and Washington allocation policies, and escapement goals were presented in Summer Fact Sheets #1 and #2b.
- Given the current run size expectation, management guidelines, and state policies, the fishery specific allocations are as follows:

<b>2022 Upper Columbia Summer Chinook Allocations</b>		
	<b>Preseason</b>	<b>In-season</b>
CR Run Size	56,346	82,300
Non-treaty Ocean Harvest	7,880	7,880
Total Abundance (w/ocean harvest)	64,226	90,180
Available Treaty Indian Harvest	15,835	25,568
Available Non-treaty Harvest (in-river)	15,835	6,449
Below Priest Rapids Dam Allocation	<b>1,805</b>	<b>6,449</b>
<i>Recreational below Bonneville</i>	1,074	3,837
<i>Recreational BON to PRD</i>	190	677
<i>Non-treaty Commercial</i>	361	1,290
<i>Unallocated Non-treaty (10%)</i>	180	645
Above Priest Rapids Dam Allocation	<b>6,150</b>	<b>11,239</b>
<i>Wanapum Non-treaty Tribal</i>	94	329
<i>Colville Non-treaty Tribal</i>	3,075	6,181
<i>Recreational PRD to Chief Joseph Dam</i>	2,981	4,728

### ***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***

- Management guidelines, Oregon and Washington allocation policies, and escapement goals were presented in Summer Fact Sheets #1 and #2b.

## **2022 NON-TREATY FISHERIES**

### ***Mainstem Columbia River Recreational Summer Chinook Fisheries***

- The recreational summer fishery downstream of Bonneville Dam to the Astoria-Megler Bridge was open June 16-22 for hatchery Chinook and hatchery steelhead retention with a two-fish/one-steelhead daily adult bag limit. From June 23-30 adult Chinook retention was prohibited but the fishery remained open for hatchery jack Chinook and hatchery steelhead retention. Beginning July 1, hatchery adult summer Chinook and sockeye retention was allowed within the adult daily bag limit. Through July 10, anglers have kept 2,531 adult summer Chinook (1,501 released), 706 sockeye (1,695 released), and 2,381 summer steelhead (929 released) from 20,272 angler trips.
- The recreational summer Chinook retention fishery downstream of Bonneville Dam is currently scheduled to remain open through July 13. Catch projections for July 11-13 include 205 kept adult summer Chinook (81 released), 115 sockeye (13 released), and 207 summer steelhead (94 released).
- The recreational fishery from Bonneville Dam upstream to Highway 395 (Pasco, WA) opened June 16 for hatchery Chinook and hatchery steelhead retention with sockeye retention allowed beginning July 1 and is scheduled to remain open through July 31. Salmonid effort and catch have been minimal with approximately 62 kept adult summer Chinook (53 released), 80 sockeye (seven released), and four summer steelhead released through July 10 from about 500 angler trips.
- The Hanford Reach recreational fishery opened to hatchery Chinook and sockeye retention June 16 and is scheduled to run through August 15 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 166 adult summer Chinook (45 released), 7,015 sockeye (5 released), with no steelhead handled through July 10 from approximately 11,000 angler trips.
- The Wanapum Band (tribal) fishery has harvested one adult hatchery summer Chinook and 45 sockeye through July 10.
- Catch estimates from the recreational fishery upstream of Priest Rapids Dam and the Colville tribal fishery are unavailable at this time.

- Given the remaining balance on the summer Chinook allocation at the current run-size projection, the Joint Staff recommend additional recreational retention opportunity in the fishery downstream of Bonneville Dam.

<b><i>Recommendation: 2022 Mainstem Columbia River Recreational Salmon Fishery</i></b>
<b>Downstream of Bonneville Dam</b>
<b>Season:</b> July 14 through July 31
<b>Area:</b> Astoria-Megler Bridge to Bonneville Dam
<b>Daily Bag Limit:</b> 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.

- Catch expectations for the recommended adult summer Chinook fishery extension downstream of Bonneville Dam are for a handle of 1,041 fish with 622 kept. When combined with estimated and projected mortalities through July 13, the total summer Chinook mortality for the summer recreational fishery downstream of Bonneville Dam is expected to total 3,658 adults, and results in 95% of the current sub-area 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 July 10	Recommendation	Total Expected*			
<i>Comm. downstream of BON</i>	<i>na</i>	<i>na</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>1,290</i>	<i>4%</i>	<i>1,240</i>
Rec. downstream of BON	2,756	685	3,658	3,837	95%	179
Rec. BON - PRD	243	na	410	677	61%	267
<i>Rec. below PRD</i>	<i>2,999</i>		<i>4,068</i>	<i>4,514</i>	<i>90%</i>	<i>447</i>
<i>Unallocated subtotal below PRD**</i>				<i>645</i>		<i>645</i>
<i>Total below PRD</i>			<i>4,118</i>	<i>6,449</i>	<i>64%</i>	<i>2,331</i>
Rec. above PRD	0	na	4,728	4,728	100%	0
Colville and Wanapum tribal fisheries***	1	na	6,510	6,510	100%	0
<i>Total in-river non-treaty</i>	<i>3,000</i>		<i>15,306</i>	<i>17,687</i>	<i>87%</i>	<i>2,331</i>

\* Total expected includes mortalities through July 13 and release mortalities during steelhead/sockeye fisheries.

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

\*\*\* Wanapum is open w/ 329 allocation.



Accounting of Sockeye mortalities in 2022 non-treaty fisheries						
Fishery	Sockeye Mortalities (k+r)			Current Allocation	Percent of Allocation	Balance
	Through July 10	Recommendation	Total Expected*			
<i>Comm. downstream of BON**</i>	25	na	27	1,273	2%	1,246
Rec. downstream of BON	960	na	1,031			
Rec. BON - Hwy 395	81	na	97			
<i>Recreational subtotal</i>	<i>1,041</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>1,128</i>	<i>4,456</i>	<i>25%</i>	<i>3,328</i>
<i>Unallocated subtotal***</i>				<i>637</i>		<i>637</i>
TOTAL	1,066		1,155	6,365	18%	5,210
Snake River ESA			0.18%	1.00%		

\* Total expected includes mortalities July 11-31.

\*\* 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**

- A Compact Hearing is scheduled for 10:00 AM, Wednesday July 27 to consider fall season Treaty and non-Treaty commercial fisheries. The Joint Staff will monitor fisheries and recommend additional hearings as needed.