

**JOINT STAFF REPORT
SEASON SUMMARY FACT SHEET
Non-Indian Tangle Net Demonstration Fishery**

Purpose: To review ongoing commercial fisheries and consider commercial fishing options in the mainstem Columbia River.

TAC: Data included in this Fact Sheet has been reviewed by the TAC.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Endangered Species Act (ESA)

- Fisheries being considered at this Compact are addressed in a Section 7/10 Application outlining proposed non-Indian fisheries that the states of Washington and Oregon submitted to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on November 3, 2000.
- The ESA limits aggregate fishery impacts to $\leq 2\%$ for listed wild steelhead and $\leq 6\%$ for listed hatchery steelhead.

Interim Management Agreement

- An Interim Management Agreement covering fisheries for upriver spring chinook, summer chinook, and sockeye is in effect for 2001-2003.
- The Interim Management Agreement includes a sliding scale spring chinook harvest matrix for 2001-2005 and allocates upriver impacts between non-Indian and treaty Indian fisheries for 2001-2003.
- Based on pre-season run size forecasts the Interim Management Agreement limits impacts to listed upriver spring chinook to $\leq 2\%$ for non-Indian fisheries and $\leq 12\%$ for treaty Indian fisheries in 2002.

Non-Indian Upriver Impact Allocation

- Non-Indian fisheries will be managed in accordance with the guiding principles, fishery management objectives, and impact sharing matrix adopted by the Oregon and Washington Fish and Wildlife Commissions and the Columbia River Compact.

Excerpts From Mainstem Columbia River Spring Chinook Allocation For Non-Indian Fisheries 2002-2003

Fisheries Management Objectives

- Manage the mainstem Columbia River commercial fishery to attain the commercial allocation of Willamette spring chinook.
- Manage non-Indian upriver spring chinook impacts to provide for equitable sport and commercial hatchery spring chinook harvest opportunity in the mainstem Columbia River downstream of McNary Dam.
- Maximize the economic benefits of spring chinook harvested by the commercial fishery by focusing the majority of the commercial fishing effort early in the spring chinook season in years where there is sufficient Willamette spring chinook abundance. Commercial fishing later in the season would be dependent on remaining commercial upriver spring chinook impact allocation and would be structured to minimize effects on the sport fishery.
- Maximize sport fishing opportunity during late March through April, *and extending into May if possible*,¹ to provide angler opportunity during the period of peak spring chinook abundance. *Recognize associated economic benefits after mid-March*.² The number of recreational fishing days in April will depend on the annual abundance of upriver spring chinook, fishing conditions, and the level of effort.

^{1.} Additional language endorsed by WFWC.

^{2.} Additional language endorsed by OFWC.

- Based on preseason run size forecasts the impacts sharing matrix allocates the non-Indian upriver impact limit 60% for mainstem sport fisheries (1.02% impact rate) and 40% for mainstem commercial fisheries (0.68% impact rate).


Willamette Spring Chinook Management

- The Fisheries Management and Evaluation Plan (FMEP) for Willamette spring chinook limits impacts for all freshwater fisheries in 2002 to $\leq 15\%$ on wild Willamette River spring chinook.
- For 2002 the Willamette River Basin Fish Management Plan (WFMP) allocates surplus hatchery Willamette River spring chinook 73% for sport fisheries and 27% for commercial fisheries.
- Based on the preseason run size forecast the WFMP allocates 9,700 surplus hatchery Willamette spring chinook to mainstem commercial fisheries in 2002.

FISHERY RESULTS

Non-Indian Salmon Commercial Tangle Net Demonstration Fishery

- The initial six 14-hour daylight fishing periods in all of Zones 1-5 were adopted at the January 31, 2002 Compact hearing.
- Additional fishing periods were adopted at Compact hearings occurring on March 7, March 19, March 22, and March 26.

Winter Salmon Season							
	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
FEB	24	5 AM-7 PM 25	26	5 AM-7 PM 27	28	5 AM-7 PM 1	2
MAR	3	5 AM-7 PM 4	5	5 AM-7 PM 6	7	5 AM-7 PM 8	9
A	6 PM 10	6 PM 11	6 PM 12	6 PM 13	6 PM 14	6 PM 15	16
R	6 PM 17	6 PM 18	6 PM 19	6 PM 20 21 22			23
C	5 AM 24	9 PM 25	6 PM 26	9 AM 27	28	29	30
H	31						
Adopted Fishing Periods: 							

- Landings slowly increased during the first eight fishing periods (February 25-March 13) with marked chinook catches ranging between 140 (February 25) and 436 (March 10-11) and averaging 268.

- Catches during the ninth and tenth fishing periods (March 14-18) increased with marked chinook landings of 1,301 and 1,541, respectively.
- During the 72-hour fishing period of March 19-22 landings totalled 4,084 marked spring chinook and averaged 1,361 marked chinook per 24 hours.
- Catches increased during the final two fishing periods with 2,643 marked chinook kept during the 28-hour fishing period on March 24-25 and 2,943 marked chinook landed during the 15-hour fishing period on March 26-27.
- For the season an estimated 84 white sturgeon were landed in this fishery.
- Staff monitored a total of 316 boats and 806 drifts in this fishery and documented the condition at release for 404 unmarked chinook and 792 steelhead.
- Based on monitoring results for the season the immediate mortality rate for unmarked chinook was 0.7% and 89% of the chinook were released in condition 1 (vigorous, not bleeding).
- The mark rate for chinook ranged between 42%-72% and averaged 50% for the season.

<i>Chinook Catches and Impact Rates</i>									
Fishing Period	Chinook Kept				Chinook Released				
	Total	Upriver Stock	Willamette River Stock	Other Lower River Stock	Total	Upriver Stock	Other Lower River Stocks	Upriver Impacts	
Jan 7-Feb 15	154	19	115	20	54	25	29	0.007%	
Feb 25-Mar 1	538	175	311	52	414	317	97	0.015%	
March 4-8	764	302	386	76	558	426	132	0.022%	
March 10-15	2,139	1,037	897	205	2,165	1,690	475	0.082%	
March 17-22	5,625	3,417	1,824	384	5,708	4,967	741	0.251%	
March 24-25	2,634	1,489	955	190	3,045	2,623	422	0.123%	
March 26-27	2,943	2,051	744	148	3,031	2,779	253	0.145%	
Season Totals	14,797	8,490	5,232	1,075	14,975	12,827	2,149	0.645%	

- Through the first four fishing periods (February 25-March 4) the steelhead:chinook ratio ranged between 2.2:1 and 3.0:1 and averaged 2.5:1.
- Seven fishing periods that occurred during March 6 through March 20 during which steelhead:chinook ratios ranged between 0.4:1 and 1.8:1 and averaged 0.9:1.
- During the final three fishing periods from March 21 through March 27 the steelhead:chinook ratio was 0.4:1 for all three periods.
- The steelhead mark rate fluctuated between 30% and 50% except for the 4th and 5th fishing periods when mark rates of 27% and 20% were observed. For the season a mark rate of 40% was observed.
- The steelhead handle for the season was 21,600 steelhead of which 12,960 (60%) were unmarked and 8,640 (40%) were marked.
- Staff believes some steelhead were handled more than once.
- Based on monitoring results the immediate mortality rate for steelhead was 2.0% which produces an immediate mortality estimate of 260 unmarked steelhead.
- For the season 84% of the steelhead handled in this demonstration fishery were released in condition 1 (vigorous, not bleeding).

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
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