



2024 Columbia River Summer/Fall Non-Treaty Fishery Plan

May 23, 2024

Fishing regulations may be modified from what is described in this document based on in-season run size updates and in-season catch estimates.

This fishery plan was developed during the 2024 Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) and North of Falcon (NOF) meetings in March and April, which included input from the public and members of the Columbia River recreational and commercial fishery advisory groups.

This fishery plan reflects the intent of current policies and/or regulations of the Oregon and Washington Fish and Wildlife Commissions and the management objective to optimize harvest in non-treaty commercial and recreational fisheries while remaining within the limitations of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the *U.S. v Oregon* Management Agreement (MA).

Management Intent and Expectations for Summer Chinook and Sockeye Fisheries

- Oregon and Washington policy guidance regarding allocations of summer Chinook and sockeye harvest impacts for commercial and recreational fisheries is not concurrent for either species. Due to nonconcurrent guidance, staff is modeling summer Chinook and sockeye fisheries with an ESA-impact allocation of 70% recreational and 20% commercial, leaving the balance (10%) unallocated.
- Policy guidance regarding allowable commercial gears for summer Chinook is also non-concurrent. Oregon rules do not allow use of gillnets for summer season mainstem commercial fisheries, but the Washington policy does. No other viable gears are currently available to the commercial fleet; therefore, no non-treaty commercial fishery is expected to occur this summer.
- The preseason forecast for upper Columbia summer Chinook is 52,600 fish to the Columbia River mouth. Under terms of the MA, the allowable total fishing mortality (kept + release mortality) for all non-treaty fisheries (including ocean) is 13,411 adult fish, of which 8,281 are available for in-river fisheries.
 - Based on WDFW's Upper Columbia Management Agreement, the available harvest allocation for summer Chinook fisheries downstream of Priest Rapids Dam is 15.3% of the total allowed for in-river non-treaty fisheries.
 - Summer Chinook allocations (mortalities) for fisheries downstream of Priest Rapids Dam:
 - Recreational: 885
 - Astoria-Megler Bridge to Bonneville Dam: 752
 - Bonneville Dam to Priest Rapids Dam: 133
 - Commercial: 253
 - Unallocated: 126

- The preseason forecast for sockeye is 401,700 fish. Non-treaty fisheries downstream of the Snake River are managed for an impact limit of $\leq 1\%$ of the run ($\leq 4,017$ fish). Sockeye retention will be allowed in the salmonid daily bag limit beginning June 16.
- The preseason forecast for upriver summer steelhead (upriver Skamania Index, A-Index, and B-Index management stocks) is 126,200 total fish and includes 1,800 wild Skamania, 32,400 wild A-Index, and 4,000 wild B-Index fish. The total harvest rate (HR) on wild upriver Skamania, wild A-Index, and wild B-Index steelhead in non-treaty fisheries is expected to be 0.01%, 0.58%, and 0.11%, respectively, during the summer management season as compared to the ESA limit of 2% for each stock.
- The mainstem recreational fishery will be open on June 16 for hatchery summer Chinook (including jacks), hatchery steelhead, and sockeye retention. The daily bag limit will be two adult salmonids, of which no more than one may be a steelhead; all sockeye are considered adults. All wild Chinook and wild steelhead must be released. Adult hatchery Chinook retention will be allowed June 16-19 from the Astoria-Megler Bridge to Bonneville Dam and June 16-30 from Bonneville Dam to Priest Rapids Dam. Retention of sockeye and hatchery steelhead will remain open through July 31 from the Astoria-Megler Bridge upstream to the Highway 395 Bridge in Pasco, WA (upstream of McNary Dam).
- Barbless hooks are required when fishing for salmonids in the mainstem Columbia from the mouth upstream to the Highway 395 Bridge.

Management Intent and Expectations for Fall Season Fisheries

- The non-treaty fishery conservation responsibility for ESA-listed salmon and steelhead is shared between recreational and commercial fisheries.
- Commission guidance regarding allocation of fall Chinook is concurrent this year. Guidance in both states allocates ESA impacts to the most constraining fall Chinook stock as no more than 70% to recreational fisheries and no less than 30% to commercial fisheries.
- The preseason forecast of Lower River Hatchery fall Chinook (LRH) is 85,500 adults to the Columbia River mouth. Based on this forecast, the ESA impact for Lower Columbia River (LCR) wild tule Chinook is limited to a 41.0% exploitation rate (ER), which is shared between ocean and in-river fisheries. The total ER is expected to be 40.2%, with Columbia River fisheries accruing 10.5% ER or 26% of the total, along with a 29.7% ER expected in ocean fisheries (1.0% South of Falcon non-treaty, 10.4% NOF non-treaty, 2.1% NOF Treaty, 16.2% northern fisheries, e.g., Alaska/Canada).
- Total modeled preseason shares of LCR Chinook ESA-impacts for Columbia River fisheries are 70% recreational and 30% commercial, which is consistent with Commission guidance regarding allocation of the most constraining Chinook stock.
- The preseason forecast for Upriver Bright fall Chinook (URB) at the Columbia River mouth is 261,800 adult fish, which includes 9,300 Snake River wild fall Chinook (SRW). Based on these forecasts, the allowed HR limit on URB and SRW Chinook for Columbia River non-treaty fisheries is 15.0% on each. The total URB and SRW HRs for Columbia River non-treaty fisheries are expected to be 15.0% and 13.0%, respectively.

- The preseason Coho forecast is 279,900 adults to the Columbia River mouth. The ESA-impact ER limit for Lower Columbia River natural Coho (LCN) is 23.0%, which includes both ocean and in-river fisheries. The total ER is expected to be 23.0%, with Columbia River fisheries accruing 7.7% ER or 33% of the total allowed.
- Washington’s policy for non-treaty commercial fisheries allows for the use of gillnets in any commercial fishing zone downstream of Bonneville Dam. Oregon’s rules allow for the use of gillnets in Zones 4-5 only. Therefore, staff is modeling commercial mainstem gillnet fisheries in Zones 4-5 only.
- Oregon rules provide for up to 2% of ESA impacts of the most constraining stock to be available for alternative gear commercial fisheries and includes an expectation that the Department shall approve alternative gears for use. Washington policy supports the development and implementation of alternative gear commercial fisheries; additionally, an Emerging Commercial Fishery designation has been made by the WDFW Director to evaluate these gears for potential legalization. Therefore, the two states have set aside 2% ESA impacts of the non-treaty share for the most constraining stocks for use in alternative gear commercial fisheries; these impacts are considered part of the commercial share where numerical commercial allocation exists.
- Current OR/WA policy guidance regarding allowable Coho-directed commercial gears is not concurrent. Oregon rules do not allow use of 6-inch gillnets for Coho-directed fisheries while Washington does. Therefore, no 6-inch gillnet fishery is expected to occur in 2024.
- Guidance for fall-season recreational fishery objectives is not concurrent. The Oregon rules provide the guidance shown below, while the WA policy does not provide any guidance on season structure. These recreational fishery season objectives are not expected to be achievable in 2024.
 - Buoy 10: August 1 through Labor Day (34 days; assuming Labor Day is September 3).
 - Tongue Point to Warrior Rock: August 1 through September 7 as non-mark selective (non-MSF) and an additional week of mark-selective (MSF) September 8-14 (45 days).
 - Warrior Rock to Bonneville Dam: August 1 through October 31 (92 days).
 - If established objectives for mainstem recreational fisheries are predicted to be met, additional opportunity for mainstem commercial fisheries shall be provided.
- The total HR on wild A-Index and wild B-Index steelhead in non-treaty fall-season fisheries is expected to be 0.42% and 0.77%, respectively, during the fall management period as compared to the ESA limit of 2% for each stock.

Fall Preseason Fishery Expectations

- The fall fishery expectations outlined in this fishery plan are based on preseason Chinook and Coho model runs that are summarized in “Columbia River Fall Chinook Fishery Model Summary” and “Pre-season Coho catch and impact summary” tables below. These tables also provide each individual fishery’s catch expectation and associated impacts (i.e., HR or ER).
- Chinook catch expectations are primarily based on stock-specific preseason abundance forecasts and prior-year stock-specific harvest rates.

- Season structures are based upon achieving the recreational/commercial allocation sharing for the most constraining stock.
- In-season management decisions for non-treaty commercial and recreational fall-season fisheries will be based on the MA, ESA-impact limits, the state commissions' policies/rules, and this preseason plan.
- Catch expectations for adult fall Chinook in mainstem fisheries (i.e., excluding tributary and Hanford Reach recreational, and Select Area commercial fisheries) total 107,400 adults, including 70,500 in recreational fisheries (66%) and 36,900 in commercial fisheries (34%).
- Harvest, season structures, and ESA impacts accrued will be influenced by in-season fall Chinook abundances and stock-specific harvest rates in each respective fishery.
- Steelhead fishery regulations will be similar to regulations enacted during 2017-2023, and most similar to rules in place during 2022-2023; see included table summarizing expected steelhead regulations for 2024. Daily bag limits are reduced in recreational fisheries in addition to retention and/or angling closures for the mainstem Columbia River and lower reaches of select tributaries. New this year is the expectation that the John Day Arm will be closed to salmon/steelhead angling and retention beginning September 1. Commercial fisheries will be structured with respect to gear, area, and time to reduce steelhead handle and avoid peak B-Index steelhead abundance.

Goals/expectations for fall recreational fisheries include:

- 2024 fall Chinook recreational fisheries were developed to reduce risk of in-season closures, aide in catch/stock estimation for in-season management, minimize effort shift, and limit additional regulation complexity.
- The dates, area restrictions, and catch expectations described are based on preseason planning and input from the recreational fishing community. Actual catches and stock composition of the catch will be monitored in-season, and fisheries may be adjusted accordingly with short notice (e.g., less than 24 hours). Any additional Chinook and Coho retention opportunities will be considered in-season.
- During fall fisheries (August 1 through December 31) from the mouth upstream to the Highway 395 Bridge, each legal angler aboard a vessel may continue to deploy angling gear until the daily adult salmonid limit for all anglers aboard has been achieved.
- Barbless hooks are required when fishing for salmonids in the mainstem Columbia from the mouth upstream to the Highway 395 Bridge.

- From Buoy 10 upstream to west Puget Island, the recreational fishery will be open August 1-29 for adipose fin-clipped hatchery Chinook and hatchery Coho, and August 30 through September 3 for Chinook and hatchery Coho. The daily adult salmon limit is two fish but no more than one may be a Chinook. Wild Coho may not be retained, and steelhead may not be retained from August 1 through October 31.
 - From September 4 through December 31, retention of adult hatchery Coho is allowed but Chinook retention will be closed.
 - Total mortality (kept catch plus release mortalities) expectations include 39,570 Chinook and 29,000 Coho are available to this fishery.

- The mainstem recreational fishery from the west Puget Island line upstream to Bonneville Dam varies by river section. The daily adult bag limit is two salmonids but no more than one adult Chinook when open. Wild Coho may not be retained, and steelhead may not be retained from August 1 through October 31.
 - West Puget Island line upstream to the Bachelor Island/Warrior Rock line is open from August 1 through September 4 for Chinook and hatchery Coho retention, September 5-11 for hatchery Chinook and hatchery Coho retention, and October 1 through December 31 for hatchery Coho retention only. Salmonid angling is closed in this area from September 12-30.
 - Bachelor Island/Warrior Rock line upstream to Bonneville Dam is open from August 1 through September 15 for Chinook and hatchery Coho retention, and October 1 through December 31 for hatchery Coho retention only. Salmonid angling is closed in this area from September 16-30.
 - Total mortality expectations for the area from west Puget Island upstream to Bonneville Dam include 24,980 adult Chinook.

- The mainstem recreational fishery from Bonneville Dam upstream to the Highway 395 Bridge will be open to Chinook and Coho retention from August 1 through September 15, and October 1 through December 31 for Coho retention only. Salmonid angling is closed in this area from September 16-30. The daily adult bag limit is two salmonids with no more than one being a Chinook; wild Coho caught downstream of the Hood River Bridge must be released. Total mortality expectations (kept catch plus release mortalities) include 5,950 adult Chinook.
 - In this area, steelhead retention will be closed as follows (for more detail see steelhead regulation table below):
 - Bonneville Dam upstream to The Dalles Dam from August 1 through October 31.
 - The Dalles Dam upstream to the Highway 395 Bridge from September 1 through December 31.

Goals/expectations for fall commercial fisheries include:

- The dates, areas, gear restrictions, and catch expectations described are based on preseason planning and input from the commercial fishing industry. In-season events may change some of these expectations. Additional fishing periods, potentially with modified hours, may be considered in-season to meet harvest guidelines.
- The August (Early Fall) Chinook-target fishery is modeled to begin the week of August 4 and is expected to continue into the week of August 25, with fishing periods occurring one to three nights per week. Fishery structure is expected to include nine, 9-hour (9pm – 6am) periods in Zones 4-5 with a 9-inch minimum mesh size. The landings expectation includes 29,320 adult Chinook.
- The Late Fall (mid/late September through October) Chinook-target fishery will likely begin the week of September 15, dependent on the remaining commercial share, updated URB run size, and impact limits. This fishery would include 10-hour (8pm–6am) periods in Zones 4-5 with an 8-inch minimum mesh restriction. A total of 1,590 adult Chinook and 3,800 Coho have been set aside for this fishery in pre-season modeling.
- Commercial fishing periods targeting hatchery Coho using 3.75-inch multifilament tangle nets are expected to begin as early as the week of September 15 and continue through October 31 with up to five fishing periods per week (Mon–Fri) from 4am–10pm in Zones 1-3, but closing at 6pm on Fridays per industry request. Up to 4,700 hatchery Coho and 2,000 adult Chinook have been set aside for this fishery in pre-season modeling.
- A limited entry alternative gear commercial fishery targeting hatchery Chinook and hatchery Coho in Zones 1-3 is expected to begin no earlier than August 8 and may continue through mid-October. Participants for the fishery were selected by lottery; expected gears include up to 3 pound nets and 3 seines (combination of beach and purse). Up to 2,600 hatchery Coho and 3,500 hatchery adult Chinook have been set aside for this fishery.

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

Columbia River Fall Chinook Fishery Model Summary

Ocean Option: Chin2724
 Columbia River Model Option: Model MR2024-Final Preseason 5-23-24

MR2024-Final Preseason 5-23-24

Management Guidelines	Goal/Guideline	SRW	Total URB
Harvest Rate	45.00%	43.8%	45.0%
Non-Treaty	15.00%	13.0%	15.0%
Treaty	30.0%	30.8%	30.0%
% of Harvestable Surplus		Total	
Non-Treaty	50%	34%	
Treaty	50%	42%	
McNary Escapement	60,000	121,600	
LRH Ocean/Inriver Exp. Rate	41%	40.2%	
Non-Treaty Wild B Index Steelhead	2%	0.8%	
Treaty Total B Index Steelhead	15%	15%	
Upriver Coho to Bonneville Dam	50%	58%	
Lower Columbia Chum	5%	1.1%	

Non-Treaty Catch Sharing					
SRW - IMPACTS			Brights - Mainstem		
	Impact	Percent		Mortalities	Percent
Sport	8.8%	68%	Sport	39,100	73%
Comm	4.2%	32%	Comm	14,500	27%
Total	13.0%				
LRH - Impacts			Chinook - Mainstem		
	Impact	Percent		Mortalities	Percent
Sport	7.4%	70%	Sport	70,500	66%
Comm	3.2%	30%	Comm	36,900	34%
Total	10.5%				

Ocean Harvest	Total	LRH	LRW	BPH	URB	LRB	PUB	SAB	SRW	LRH ER	SRW HR	
Columbia River Run	551,780	85,480	10,530	129,360	261,780	2,430	61,900	300	9,300	10.55%	12.98%	
Harvest Below Bonneville	2024 Fishery Description											
Zone 4-5 Wk 32. Aug 4-10	1	380	30	0	120	220	0	20	0	10	0.02%	0.08%
Zone 4-5 Wk 33. Aug 11-17	2	1,060	150	0	370	510	0	30	0	20	0.12%	0.19%
Zone 4-5 Wk 34. Aug 18-24	3	11,980	1,180	0	6,560	3,500	20	720	0	120	0.80%	1.34%
Zone 4-5 Wk 35. Aug 25-31	3	15,900	1,390	0	9,280	3,690	70	1,470	0	130	1.00%	1.41%
Zone 4-5 Wk 36. Sep 1-7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Zone 4-5 Wk 37. Sep 8-14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Zone 4-5 Wk 38. Sep 15-21	<1	1,590	320	40	510	530	10	190	0	20	0.29%	0.20%
Zone 4-5 Wk 39. Sep 22-28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Zone 4-5 Wk 40. Sep 29-Oct 5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Zone 4-5 Wk 41-43; Oct 6-26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Fall Tanglenet Wk 38-44		2,000	430	50	10	1,410	0	90	0	50	0.35%	0.54%
Alternative Gear - Seine/Pound Net	MSF	4,010	1,030	10	1,100	760	10	1,100	0	15	0.20%	0.16%
Select Areas		5,010	3,400	0	690	710	0	110	110	30	0.40%	0.27%
Buoy 10 to WPI Kept + Morts	2 fish/1 CHF	39,570	17,050	100	7,110	9,850	50	2,650	300	190	4.20%	2.06%
WPI to Lewis	2 fish/1 CHF	12,290	2,080	120	210	6,800	70	2,450	0	210	1.23%	2.26%
Lewis to Bonn	2 fish/1 CHF	12,690	1,770	0	0	7,930	120	2,860	0	280	1.67%	3.03%
Tributary Sport	MSF	1,210	910	300	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.27%	0.00%
Lower River Total		107,680	29,040	620	25,130	35,530	360	11,410	410	1,070	10.5%	11.5%
Bonneville Dam Passage		369,520			94,020	226,240		49,250		8,230		
Harvest Above Bonneville												
Z6 - Bonn to Hwy 395	2 fish/1 CHF	5,950			210	3,740		2,010		130		1.43%
Treaty Comm. and C&S		165,210			72,440	78,530		14,240		2,860		30.0%
Hanford Reach Sport		7,820				7,820				0		
McNary Dam Passage		121,630				121,630						
Lower Granite Dam Passage										5,623		
Escapement		55,750	9,900	21,380		2,070	33,000	(110)				
Hatchery		33,980		15,110			12,580	(90)				
Natural		21,780	9,900	6,260	121,630	2,070	20,420	(20)				
Hatchery Surplus		19,780		8,110			3,600	(1,290)				
Natural Surplus			3,018	4,960	61,630							

2024 Pre-season Coho catch and impact summary

FRAM Run: bc-Coho2420_SOF2

Catch Summary

Fishery	Total Mortality	Unmarked morts (kept + rel. mort)			Marked Kept Catch	
		Early	Late	Total	Early	Late
Tangle Net	11,713	1,341	880	2,220	3,320	6,173
Zone 4/5 Gillnet	4,350	1,878	518	2,395	1,097	857
Alternative Gear	5,797	2,624	617	3,241	1,534	1,022
Youngs Bay	15,190	627	-	627	14,563	-
Blind/Knappa	6,932	592	-	592	6,340	-
Tongue Point	3,653	251	-	251	3,402	-
Deep River	5,124	-	210	210	-	4,915
Buoy 10	29,107	5,315	616	5,931	18,265	4,911
Lower Columbia River	3,250	272	220	492	836	1,921
Ocean	127,733	18,095	8,106	26,201	45,287	56,245
Sum	212,850	30,995	11,167	42,162	94,644	76,044

Exploitation Rates

Fishery	Unmarked			Marked	
	Early	Late	Total	Early	Late
Mainstem	2.35%	3.07%	2.68%	4.07%	5.69%
Alternative Gear	2.07%	1.26%	1.70%	1.41%	0.83%
Select Areas	0.16%	0.05%	0.11%	22.37%	3.97%
B10 Sport	4.20%	1.26%	2.85%	16.81%	3.97%
LCR Sport	0.21%	0.45%	0.32%	0.77%	1.55%
Ocean	14.30%	16.61%	15.36%	41.68%	45.48%
Sum	23.30%	22.70%	23.0%	87.10%	61.50%

Columbia River mainstem and tributary summer steelhead regulation summary for 2024.									
Water Body	June 16-June 30	July	August	September	October	November	December	Comments	
Columbia River mainstem									
Below I-5 Bridge	Daily limit 1	Daily limit 1	Closed to retention			Perm. Regs (Daily limit 2)		Some periods of salmon/steelhead angling closures when salmon retention is closed.	
I5-Bridge to Bonneville Dam		Daily limit 1	Closed to retention						
Bonneville Dam to The Dalles Dam		Daily limit 1	Closed to retention						
The Dalles Dam to John Day Dam		Daily limit 1		Closed to retention					
John Day Dam to McNary Dam		Daily limit 1		Closed to retention					
McNary Dam to Hwy 395 bridge in Pasco		Daily limit 1		Closed to retention					
Hwy 395 bridge in Pasco to Priest Rapids Dam	Perm. Regs (Closed to angling for steelhead)				Daily limit 1. Ringold Springs Hatchery only (ADRV).		Dependent upon actual UCR and RSH returns. Fishery through 3/31 (Bank 4/1-15). Permanent night closure.		
Columbia River tributaries									
Wind/White Salmon (WA) tributary lower reaches	Perm. Regs (Daily limit 2)	Closed to angling for steelhead				Perm. Regs (Daily limit: 3 Wind R; 2 White Salmon R)		Lower reaches restricted. Closure improved enforceability.	
Drano Lake (WA)						Daily limit 1		Closure improved enforceability.	
Klickitat (WA) tributary lower reaches	Perm. Regs (Daily limit 3)					Perm. Regs (Daily limit 3)		Lower reaches restricted. Closure improved enforceability.	
Deschutes River (OR) mouth	Daily limit 1	Thermal Angling Sanctuary Regs closed to angling (7/15-9/15)			Perm. Regs (defaults to adjacent mainstem Col R.)			Combination of old perm. regulations (Herman/Eagle Cr. Closures, new permanent regulations, 2020 TAS), and intended MS regs by pool which affect these tribs. Note: Herman Cr. Youth and <u>Disabled Angler Angling Area</u> not included; see permanent regulations for this area.	
Eagle Cr. (OR) mouth	Perm. Regs (defaults to adjacent mainstem Col R.)								Perm. Regs (closed to angling)
Herman Cr. (OR) Lagoon									
Herman Cr. (OR) mouth to RR bridge									
Eagle Cr. (OR) RR bridge to hatchery deadline	Daily limit 1				Perm. Regs (Daily limit 3)				
Deschutes River (OR) lower reach (below Moody Rapids)					Perm. Regs (Daily limit 3)				
John Day R (downstream of Tumwater Falls)					Closed to salmon/steelhead angling				
Snake River									
Mouth upstream to Couse Creek boat ramp	Perm. Regs (Closed to steelhead retention)			TBD e-rule published by Sept 1			Managed By E-reg. Proposed limits may change to be concurrent with Idaho.		
Couse Creek boat ramp upstream to WA/OR/ID stateline	Perm. Regs (Closed to steelhead retention)			TBD e-rule published by Sept 1			Limits may change to be concurrent with Idaho.		