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# Columbia River Fishery Notice

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Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

February 19, 2026

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## Joint State Action

The states of Oregon and Washington discussed the following recreational fisheries and took the following actions.

### ***Mainstem Columbia River Recreational Salmon/Steelhead Fisheries***

Permanent regulations regarding salmon and steelhead fisheries are currently in effect for the mainstem Columbia River from the mouth at Buoy 10 upstream to the OR/WA state line.

Effective March 1, 2026 (downstream of Bonneville Dam) and April 1, 2026 (upstream of Bonneville Dam) the permanent regulations are modified as follows:

#### **Downstream of Bonneville Dam**

- Dates: Sunday March 1 through Wednesday April 8 (39 days)
- Area: Buoy 10 line upstream to Beacon Rock plus only the Oregon and Washington banks from Beacon Rock upstream to the Bonneville Dam deadline.  
Legal upstream boat boundary defined as: A deadline marker on the Oregon bank (approximately four miles downstream from Bonneville Dam Powerhouse One) in a straight line through the western tip of Pierce Island to a deadline marker on the Washington bank at Beacon Rock.
- Daily bag limit: Two adult hatchery salmonids (Chinook or steelhead) per day, but only one may be a Chinook.  
Shad may also be retained.

#### **Bonneville Dam to Oregon/Washington State Line (upstream of McNary Dam)**

- Dates: Wednesday April 1 through Sunday April 26 **and** Saturday May 2 (27 days)
- Area: Tower Island power lines (approximately six miles downstream from The Dalles Dam) upstream to Oregon/Washington state line, plus only the Oregon and Washington banks from Bonneville Dam upstream to the Tower Island power lines.
- Daily bag limit: Two adult hatchery salmonids (Chinook or steelhead) per day, but only one may be a Chinook.

### ***Select Area Recreational Salmon/Steelhead Fisheries***

Modified the permanent regulations as follows:

Effective March 1 through June 15, 2026, on days when the mainstem Columbia River recreational fishery downstream of Bonneville Dam is open to retention of Chinook, the salmonid daily bag limit in Oregon and Washington Select Areas will be the same as mainstem Columbia River bag limits.

On days when the mainstem Columbia River recreational fishery downstream of Bonneville Dam is closed to Chinook retention, the permanent salmonid bag limit regulations for Select Areas apply.

## **Zone 6 Winter Recreational White Sturgeon Fisheries**

Adopted the following retention fishery:

### **The Dalles Pool** (The Dalles Dam upstream to John Day Dam)

- Dates: Sunday February 22 and Thursday February 26 (2 days)
- Area: Mainstem Columbia River from The Dalles Dam to John Day Dam, and all adjacent tributaries.
- Allowable Catch: White sturgeon
- Legal size: 43-inch minimum and 54-inch maximum fork length  
(Fork length is measured in a straight line from the tip of the nose to the fork in the caudal fin (tail) with the fish laying on its side on a flat surface, with the tape measure/ruler positioned flat under the fish).
- The daily bag limit is one fish. The annual bag limit is two fish (applicable to any/all sturgeon retention fisheries).

For all recreational sturgeon fisheries, the catch limits, seasonal sturgeon spawning sanctuary closures, and other restrictions in the 2026 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations book remain in effect the entire year, including catch and release angling allowed during periods closed to sturgeon retention.

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Current regulations are available at: <https://myodfw.com/recreation-report/fishing-report/columbia-zone>.

All other permanent regulations in the 2026 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations book remain in effect, including catch limits for jack salmon.

For information concerning these decisions see the February 19, 2026 Winter Fact Sheet No.6 at: [https://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/OSCRP/CRM/fact\\_sheets.asp](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/OSCRP/CRM/fact_sheets.asp).

## **Future Meetings**

A Compact hearing is scheduled for 10AM February 25, 2026 via teleconference to consider treaty Zone 6 commercial setline fisheries.