



2023 Non-Treaty Columbia River Summer/Fall Fishery Plan

May 5, 2023

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 2023 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 the nonconcurrent guidance, staff is modeling both 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 85,400 fish to the Columbia River mouth. Under the MA, the allowable total fishing mortality (kept + release mortality) for all non-treaty fisheries (including ocean) is 25,765 adult fish, of which 20,446 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 37.1% of the total allowed for in-river non-treaty fisheries.
 - Summer Chinook (downstream of Priest Rapids Dam) allocations:
 - Recreational: 5,307 summer Chinook
 - Commercial: 1,516 summer Chinook
 - Unallocated: 758 summer Chinook

- The preseason forecast for sockeye is 234,500 fish. Non-treaty fisheries downstream of the Snake River are managed for an impact limit of $\leq 1\%$ of the run ($\leq 2,345$ 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 67,800 total fish and includes 2,100 wild Skamania, 17,300 wild A-Index, and 1,300 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%, 0.52%, and 0.15%, respectively, during the summer management season and 0.37% and 0.66% on wild A-Index and wild B-Index steelhead, respectively during the fall management period.
- The mainstem recreational fishery will be open June 16 through July 31 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 from the Astoria-Megler Bridge upstream to the Highway 395 Bridge. Below are the summer Chinook catch (total mortality – kept plus release mortality) expectations.
 - Astoria-Megler Bridge to Bonneville Dam: 4,900 summer Chinook.
 - Bonneville Dam to Priest Rapids Dam: 300 summer Chinook.
- Barbless hooks are required when fishing for salmonids in the mainstem Columbia from the mouth upstream to the Oregon-Washington state line upstream of McNary Dam.

Management Intent 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. 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 77,100 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 38.0% exploitation rate (ER), which is shared between ocean and in-river fisheries. The allowed ER is expected to be fully utilized, with a 28.6% ER expected in ocean fisheries (0.4% South of Falcon non-treaty, 9.4% NOF non-treaty, 2.2% NOF Treaty, 16.6% northern fisheries) and a 9.4% ER for in-river fisheries.
- Total 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 stock.
- The preseason forecast for Upriver Bright fall Chinook (URB) at the Columbia River mouth is 278,500 adult fish, which includes 13,300 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 $\leq 15.0\%$. The total URB and SRW HRs for Columbia River non-treaty fisheries are expected to be 13.5% and 12.0%, respectively.

- The preseason Coho forecast is 595,300 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 19.0%, with Columbia River fisheries accruing 4.6% ER or 20% 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 policy allows for the use of gillnets in Zones 4-5 only, and up to 2% of ESA impacts (i.e., 6.7% of the 30% commercial allocation) on the most constraining stock to be available for alternative gear commercial fisheries. Based on this guidance, staff is modeling commercial gillnet fisheries in Zones 4-5 only.
- 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.
- 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 2023.
 - 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 much lower than the allowed 2.0% on each stock during the fall management season due to significant fishery restrictions expected again in 2023.

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 *U.S. v. OR 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 103,900 adults, including 66,500 in recreational fisheries (64%) and 37,400 in commercial fisheries (36%).

- 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 2017–2022, and most similar to rules in place during 2022. 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. 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:

- 2023 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 Buoy 10 upstream to the OR/WA border (upstream of McNary Dam), 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 Oregon-Washington state line upstream of McNary Dam.
- From Buoy 10 upstream to west Puget Island, the recreational fishery will be open August 1–20, August 24–27, and August 30 – September 4 for adipose fin-clipped hatchery Chinook and hatchery Coho. Salmonid angling will be closed in this area during August 21–23 and August 28–29. The daily adult salmon limit is two fish but no more than one may be a Chinook. Wild Coho may not be retained at any time. Steelhead may not be retained from August 1 through October 31.
 - From September 5 through December 31, Chinook retention will be closed and the daily adult Coho limit will increase to three hatchery fish.
 - Total mortality (kept catch + release mortalities) expectations include 37,450 Chinook; approximately 46,000 Coho mortalities 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 at any time. 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, and October 1 through December 31 for hatchery Coho retention only. Salmonid angling is closed in this area from September 5–30.
 - Bachelor Island/Warrior Rock line upstream to Bonneville Dam is open from August 1 through September 14 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 15-30.

- Total mortality expectations for the area from west Puget Island upstream to Bonneville Dam include 22,730 adult Chinook.
- The mainstem recreational fishery from Bonneville Dam upstream to the Highway 395 Bridge in Pasco, WA will be open to Chinook and Coho retention from August 1 through October 15, and October 16 through December 31 for Coho retention only. 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 + release mortalities) include 6,300 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 Highway 395 at Pasco, WA from September 1 through December 31 (plus January through March 2024).

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 6 and is expected to continue into the week of August 27, with fishing periods occurring one to three nights per week. Fishery structure is expected to include eight, 9-hour (9pm – 6am) periods in Zones 4-5 with a 9-inch minimum mesh size. The landings expectation includes 30,220 adult Chinook.
- The Late Fall (mid/late September through October) Chinook-target fishery will likely begin the week of September 17, dependent on the remaining commercial share, updated URB run size, and impact limits. Fishery structure is expected to include about three, 10-hour (8pm–6am) periods in Zones 4-5 with an 8-inch minimum mesh restriction. A total of 5,310 adult Chinook and 6,500 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 17 and continue through October 31 with 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 44,300 hatchery Coho and 1,920 adult Chinook have been set aside for this fishery in pre-season modeling.
- Commercial pound net and seine fisheries are not expected to occur this fall.

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

Columbia River Fall Chinook Fishery Model Summary

Ocean Option: **Chin2023**
 Columbia River Model Option: **Model MR2023-Final Preseason 4-13-23**

MR2023-Final Preseason 4-13-23

Management Guidelines	Goal/Guideline	SRW	Total URB
Harvest Rate	45.00%	42.5%	43.5%
Non-Treaty	15.00%	12.0%	13.5%
Treaty	30.0%	30.6%	30.0%
% of Harvestable Surplus		Total	
Non-Treaty	50%	33%	
Treaty	50%	43%	
McNary Escapement	60,000	136,400	
LRH Ocean/Inriver Exp. Rate	38%	38.0%	
Non-Treaty Wild B Index Steelhead	2%	0.7%	
Treaty Total B Index Steelhead	13%	13%	
Upriver Coho to Bonneville Dam	50%	60%	
Lower Columbia Chum	5%	1.1%	

Non-Treaty Catch Sharing					
SRW - IMPACTS			Brights - Mainstem		
Sport	Impact	Percent	Sport	Mortalities	Percent
Comm	4.57%	38%	Comm	16,300	31%
Total	11.98%				
LRH - Impacts			Chinook - Mainstem		
Sport	Impact	Percent	Sport	Mortalities	Percent
Comm	2.83%	30%	Comm	37,400	36%
Total	9.41%				

			Total	LRH	LRW	BPH	URB	LRB	PUB	SAB	SRW	LRH ER	SRW HR
Ocean Harvest			74,350	13,880	2,480	27,300	25,640	400	4,650				
Columbia River Run			554,080	77,140	8,710	135,310	278,550	4,400	49,370	600	13,300	9.41%	11.90%
Harvest Below Bonneville		2023 Fishery Description											
Zone 4-5 Wk 32. Aug 6-12		1	410	30	0	140	220	0	10	0	10	0.02%	0.08%
Zone 4-5 Wk 33. Aug 13-19		2	1,100	80	0	410	560	0	30	0	30	0.07%	0.20%
Zone 4-5 Wk 34. Aug 20-26		2	9,870	910	0	5,210	3,230	40	480	0	150	0.68%	1.16%
Zone 4-5 Wk 35. Aug 27-Sep 2		3	18,840	1,450	0	11,420	4,500	140	1,330	0	210	1.13%	1.61%
Zone 4-5 Wk 36. Sep 3-9		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Zone 4-5 Wk 37. Sep 10-16		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Zone 4-5 Wk 38. Sep 17-23		<1	1,670	180	20	520	710	30	210	0	30	0.18%	0.26%
Zone 4-5 Wk 39. Sep 24-30		1	1,780	250	20	380	830	60	240	0	40	0.25%	0.30%
Zone 4-5 Wk 40-43 October		2	1,860	0	0	0	780	150	930	0	40	0.00%	0.28%
Fall Tanglenet Wk 40-44			1,920	110	50	10	1,560	10	170	0	70	0.10%	0.56%
Select Areas			4,240	2,810	0	830	340	10	100	150	20	0.40%	0.12%
Buoy 10 to WPI Kept + Morts	2 fish/1 CHF		37,450	14,150	260	8,560	8,520	70	3,240	240	200	3.21%	1.53%
WPI to Lewis	2 fish/1 CHF		10,400	1,510	450	230	5,870	150	1,720	0	370	1.40%	2.11%
Lewis to Bonn	2 fish/1 CHF		12,330	1,550	220	10	7,930	210	2,420	0	290	1.66%	2.85%
Tributary Sport	MSF		1,090	870	220	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.30%	0.00%
Lower River Total			102,950	23,890	1,240	27,720	35,050	870	10,890	390	1,470	9.41%	10.98%
Bonneville Dam Passage			374,060			93,610	243,500		36,950		11,830		
Harvest Above Bonneville													
Z6 - Bonn to Hwy 395	2 fish/1 CHF		6,300			800	2,570		2,930		120		0.92%
Treaty Comm. and C&S			170,690			75,770	83,560		11,350		4,060		30.0%
Hanford Reach Sport			8,780				8,780				0		
McNary Dam Passage			136,450				136,450						
Lower Granite Dam Passage											8,057		
Escapement				53,250	7,470	17,040		3,530	22,660	210			
Hatchery			32,060			14,560			8,510	150			
Natural			21,190	7,470	2,480	136,450		3,530	14,150	50			
Hatchery Surplus			17,150			7,560			(470)	(1,050)			
Natural Surplus				682	1,180	76,450							

2023 Pre-season Coho catch and impact summary

FRAM Run: bc-Coho2317_NOF

Catch Summary						
Fishery	Total Mortality	Unmarked morts (kept + rel. mort)			Marked Kept Catch	
		Early	Late	Total	Early	Late
Mainstem commercial	44,237	4,709	838	5,547	9,611	29,080
Youngs Bay	20,603	851	-	851	19,752	-
Blind/Knappa	9,426	805	-	805	8,620	-
Tongue Point	13,776	947	-	947	12,829	-
Deep River	2,348	-	96	96	-	2,252
LCR Sport Catch	2,603	173	29	201	791	1,611
B10 Catch	45,806	5,931	203	6,134	29,133	10,539
Ocean Catch	306,475	30,222	3,741	33,963	107,921	164,591
Sum	445,274	43,637	4,907	48,544	188,657	208,073
Exploitation Rates						
Fishery		Unmarked			Marked	
		Early	Late	Total	Early	Late
Lower Mainstem		0.89%	2.38%	1.45%	2.65%	6.84%
Upper Mainstem		0.81%	1.13%	0.93%	0.88%	0.71%
Select Areas		0.18%	0.04%	0.13%	15.11%	0.58%
B10 Sport		2.70%	0.83%	2.01%	10.68%	2.74%
LCR Sport		0.08%	0.12%	0.09%	0.29%	0.42%
Ocean		13.78%	15.35%	14.36%	39.58%	42.72%
Sum		18.44%	19.86%	19.0%	69.19%	54.01%

Columbia River mainstem and tributary summer steelhead regulation summary for the 2023-24 season.														
Water Body	June 16-June 30	July	August	September	October	November	December	Jan-March	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 salmonid angling closure periods below Bonneville Dam when fall Chinook retention closes.				
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 2. 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/Klickitat WA tributary lower reaches		Closed to angling for steelhead								Lower reaches restricted. Closure improved enforceability.				
Drano Lake		Closed to angling for steelhead								Closure improved enforceability.				
Deschutes River (OR) mouth bubble	Daily limit 1	Daily limit 1	Perm. Regs - closed to angling (7/15-9/15)			Defaults to MS CR				Combination of old perm. regulations (Herman/Eagle Cr. Closures, new permanent regulations, 2020 TAS), and intended MS regs by pool which affect these tribs.				
Eagle Cr. (OR) mouth bubble						Defaults to MS CR								
Herman Cr. (OR) Lagoon						Defaults to MS CR								
Herman Cr. (OR) mouth to RR bridge						Perm. Regs (closed to angling)		Perm. Regs (closed to angling)						
Eagle Cr. (OR) RR bridge to hatchery deadline						Perm. Regs (closed to angling)		Perm. Regs (closed to angling)						
Deschutes River (OR) lower reach (below Moody Rapids)						TBD								
John Day R (downstream of Tumwater Falls)						Daily limit 1		Closed to retention						
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.				
Permanent regulations														
NOF regulations														
A/B-Index SSTH catch accounting														