

March 6, 2019

Columbia River and Tributary Fishery Reports

Updates: Mainstem and tributary:

Salmon/Steelhead:

- **Warrior Rock line upstream to Bonneville Dam: Effective March 1 through April 10;** Open for boat and bank fishing for adipose fin-clipped chinook, coho and steelhead from the Warrior Rock line to the Beacon Rock line, plus bank angling only from the Beacon Rock line upstream to the Bonneville Dam deadline.
- **Effective March 1 until further notice; Mainstem Columbia River waters downstream of the Warrior Rock line are closed to salmon, steelhead and shad fishing.**
 - See the 2018/2019 Washington Sport Fishing rules pamphlet for further mainstem Columbia River boundary line descriptions.
- **Above Bonneville Dam: Effective April 1 through May 5;** Tower Island power lines (approximately 6 miles below The Dalles Dam) upstream to Oregon/Washington border plus the Oregon and Washington banks between Bonneville Dam and the Tower Island power lines (except for those waters closed under permanent regulations) are open to salmon and steelhead fishing.

Sturgeon:

- White sturgeon retention is closed from Buoy 10 upstream to Bonneville Dam including adjacent tributaries and in The Dalles Pool but remains open for catch and release fishing only.
- Bonneville and John Day pools are open to the retention of white sturgeon until quotas are reached. See <https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/regulations/> for size, daily, and annual bag limit.

Fishery Reports:

Salmon/Steelhead:

Lower Columbia mainstem from Bonneville Dam to Warrior Rock– 47 salmonid boats and 6 Washington bank rods were tallied during last Saturdays flight count.

Washington only creel checks: March 1-3, 2019

- Sec 3 (Vancouver) boat – 1 boat/2 salmonid anglers had no catch.
- Sec 4 (Vancouver) bank – 2 salmonid anglers had no catch.
- Sec 4 boat – 4 boats/ 6 salmonid angler had no catch.

John Day Pool – 1 bank angler had no catch.

Sturgeon:

Bonneville Pool- No anglers sampled.

The Dalles Pool- Closed for retention. No report.

John Day Pool- 8 bank anglers had no catch. 1 boat/4 rods had no catch.

Monthly Sturgeon Harvest estimates:												
	Jan	3-Feb	10-Feb	17-Feb	24-Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Totals:	%	As of	Guidelines:
Bonneville ¹	258	---	---	---					258	51.6%	Feb. 24	500
The Dalles ²	78								78	57.8%	Feb. 3	135
John Day	---	4							4	3.8%	Feb. 3	105

¹ Due to the short season in Bonneville Pool, we will be providing weekly harvest estimates. We will continue to provide harvest estimates for the other pools on a monthly basis.

² The Dalles pool closed to retention effective January 7.

The Dalles and John Day harvest estimates are calculated monthly. All in-season estimates are preliminary.

Current month sampled sturgeon kept:												
	Jan	Feb	3-Mar	10-Mar	17-Mar	Mar	Apr	May	Totals:	%	As of	Guidelines:
Bonneville	54	1	---						55		3-Mar	
The Dalles	33								33		3-Mar	
John Day	---	2	---						2		3-Mar	

Samplers generally observe from 10% - 25% of total harvest.

Walleye:

Bonneville Pool- 1 boat/3 rods kept 3 walleye.

The Dalles Pool- No anglers sampled.

John Day Pool- 11 boats/25 rods kept 9 walleye and released 8 walleye.

Salmon/Steelhead:

Columbia River Tributaries

Elochoman River – 6 bank anglers released 2 steelhead. 1 boat/2 rods kept 1 steelhead and released 2 steelhead.

Germany Creek – 6 bank anglers had no catch.

Cowlitz River – I-5 Br downstream: 106 bank rods kept 7 steelhead and released 2 steelhead.

Above the I-5 Br: 25 bank rods released 4 steelhead. 47 boats/137 rods kept 46 steelhead and released 3 steelhead.

Last week, Tacoma Power employees recovered 12 winter-run steelhead adults during five days of operations at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

Tacoma Power employees released three winter-run steelhead adults into the Tilton River at Gust Backstrom Park in Morton and one winter-run steelhead adult into the Cispus River near Randle.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 5,060 cubic feet per second on Monday, March 4. Water visibility is 10 feet and the water temperature is 41 F.

East Fork Lewis River – 16 bank anglers released 2 steelhead. 1 boat/1 rod had no catch.

Salmon Creek – 7 bank anglers had no catch.

❖ **Tributaries not listed: Creel checks not conducted.**

Catchable Trout Plants: No report on angling success.

Lake/Pond	Date	Species	Number	Fish per Pound	Hatchery	Notes
<u>KLINELINE PD (CLAR)</u> <i>Clark County - Region 5</i>	Feb 25, 2019	Rainbow	1,500	1.9	VANCOUVER HATCHERY	
<u>BATTLE GROUND LK (CLAR)</u> <i>Clark County - Region 5</i>	Mar 04, 2019	Rainbow	2,000	2.3	VANCOUVER HATCHERY	
<u>LACAMAS LK (CLAR)</u> <i>Clark County - Region 5</i>	Mar 04, 2019	Rainbow	4,000	1.9	VANCOUVER HATCHERY	

Smelt: Reports of smelt in showing up in the Lower Columbia and Cowlitz River.

Mainstem Columbia and all other Washington tributaries – Closed to sport fishing for smelt (eulachon).