

HOTLINE

Recorded Friday September 9, 2011

The following is a brief summary of emergency and permanent sport fishing regulations for the lower mainstem Columbia River and its tributaries.

Complete information contained in this hotline message can be found in the 2011/2012 Fishing in Washington pamphlet or on the department's web site @ <http://wdfw.wa.gov/>.

SALMON/STEELHEAD

Buoy 10 to the Rocky Point/Tongue Point line - Through September 30, daily limit 2 hatchery coho or 2 hatchery steelhead or one of each. Release all salmon other than hatchery coho. Coho minimum length 16 inches.

The mainstem Columbia River from the Rocky Point/Tongue Point line upstream to Bonneville Dam - Open for chinook (adipose fin clipped or not) and hatchery coho through December 31. Beginning September 10, chinook retention will only be allowed upstream of the Lewis River, but up to two adult chinook may be retained. Up to 2 adult chinook may be retained downstream of the Lewis beginning October 1.

Mainstem Columbia from Bonneville Dam to McNary Dam - Through December, open for fall chinook, coho, and hatchery steelhead. Daily limit is 6 fish. Up to two may be adult salmon or hatchery steelhead or one of each. Any chinook, adipose fin clipped or not, may be retained. Wild coho must be released between Bonneville Dam and the Hood River Bridge. All other salmon must be released.

Entire Mainstem Columbia - Anglers may not possess in the field fish mutilated so that size, species or fin clip cannot be determined until the angler has reached their automobile or principle means of land transportation and has completed their daily angling.

Cowlitz River from boundary markers at mouth to 400 feet below Mayfield Dam powerhouse - Up to six hatchery adult coho may be retained. The salmon daily limit is 6 fish of which only 2 may be adult chinook. Only hatchery chinook and hatchery coho may be retained.

Lewis River – Effective September 10, 2011 through September 30, 2011 open to the retention of unclipped Chinook salmon. The salmon daily limit is 6 adults of which only 2 may be adult Chinook. Any Chinook (adipose fin clipped or not). Release all salmon other than Chinook and hatchery coho.

Wind and White Salmon rivers from mouth to Hwy. 14 Bridge - The daily limit follows the most liberal regulations of the adjacent mainstem Columbia or Wind and White Salmon Rivers when both the mainstem and tributary areas are open concurrently for salmon.

New Columbia River Salmon and Steelhead Endorsement - All anglers 15 or older fishing for salmon or steelhead on the Columbia River or its tributaries must have an endorsement *in addition to their fishing license*. All other seasons and limits apply. The endorsement is good for the entire license year (through March 31), costs \$8.75, and can be purchased at a licensed dealer or online.

STURGEON

Mainstem Columbia and its tributaries from Buoy 10 upstream to the Wauna powerlines – Catch-and-release fishing is permitted through the end of the year.

Mainstem Columbia River from the Wauna powerlines upstream to Bonneville Dam (including all adjacent Washington tributaries) – Except in the sturgeon spawning sanctuary described below, white sturgeon must be released through October 7. Beginning October 8, white sturgeon may be retained Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays only. Catch-and-release fishing is permitted on non-retention days.

Sturgeon Spawning Sanctuary: From Bonneville Dam downstream 9 miles to a line crossing the Columbia from Navigation Marker 82 on the Oregon shore through the upstream exposed end of Skamania Island, continuing in a straight line to a boundary marker on the Washington shore: CLOSED to fishing for STURGEON through August.

Bonneville Dam to McNary Dam (including all tributaries) - The retention of sturgeon in all three pools and tributaries is prohibited through the rest of the year. Catch-and-release fishing is permitted.

Thank you for calling the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Hotline.