

**COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION
JOINT STAFF REPORT
FALL FACT SHEET NO. 15
October 6, 2011**

Fisheries under consideration:	Platform Hook and Line Fisheries Yakama Nation Tributary Fisheries Treaty Indian commercial sturgeon setline
--------------------------------	--

Platform Hook and Line Fisheries

- The Zone 6 treaty commercial mainstem gillnet salmon fishing is complete for the 2011 fall season. The tribes are proposing to discontinue sales of fish caught from the platform hook and line fishery in Zone 6, and in the area immediately downstream of Bonneville Dam.
- Yakama tributary fisheries are ongoing, and include the Little White Salmon River (Drano Lake), the White Salmon and Klickitat rivers. These fisheries require Compact action today, as the tribes are proposing to add the requirement of a permit to sell Chinook or Coho from these fisheries, and discontinue sales of steelhead in these fisheries. Steelhead will continue to be retained for subsistence purposes.
- Commercial sales of fish harvested in the Zone 6 and below Bonneville Dam platform and hook and line fishery are ongoing and require Compact action to discontinue sales. Subsistence fishing would remain open.

<i>2011 Treaty Indian Fall Season - Mainstem Platform and Hook and Line Fishery</i>
Effective 6:00 p.m. Saturday October 8: Discontinue sales of fish caught from the platform and hook and line fishery in Zone 6 (Bonneville upstream to McNary Dam) and in the area immediately downstream of Bonneville Dam, as described in each Tribes MOU/MOA.

<i>2011 Treaty Indian Fall Season – Yakama Nation Tributary Fishery</i>
Effective 6:00 p.m. Saturday October 8: : Discontinue sales of steelhead caught in Yakama Nation tributary fisheries, and require a Yakama Nation Permit to sell Chinook and Coho in Yakama Nation tributary fisheries consistent with Yakama Nation tribal regulations. Steelhead may be retained for subsistence.

Sturgeon Set Line Fishery

- The tribes conducted a setline fishery earlier this fall season to harvest white sturgeon remaining on the 2011 guideline. Catch was low and the guideline was not reached.

	2011 Treaty Zone 6 Sturgeon		
	Guideline	Harvest	Balance
Bonneville Pool	2,000	1,919	81
The Dalles Pool	1,000	388	612
John Day Pool	1,000	268	732

- The tribes propose to allow sales of sturgeon from a setline fishery in all three pools of Zone 6. The tribes project very low effort and catch. The fishery will be closed sooner if the any of the pool harvest guidelines are met prior to proposed closure date.
- The tribes are also proposing that legal-size sturgeon caught with platform/Hook and Line gear in Zone 6 may also be sold, as long as caught during the open set-line season proposed today. Only sturgeon sales would be allowed (no salmonids or other incidental catch).

<i>2011 Treaty Indian Fall Season Sturgeon Setline Fishery</i>	
Season	6 AM Monday October 10 to 6 PM Monday October 31, 2011 (21.5 days)
Area	Zone 6
Sanctuaries:	Standard river mouth and dam sanctuaries. The Spring Creek sanctuary is exempt for this gear type.
Gear:	Standard setline gear with hook size of 9/0 or greater. Fishers are encouraged to use circle hooks and avoid J hooks. Fishers are reminded that it is <u>unlawful</u> to use setline gear: with more than 100 hooks per set line, with treble hooks, without visible buoys attached, and with buoys that do not specify operator and tribal identification. Hoop nets, dip bag nets, and rod and reel with hook and line.
Allowable Sales:	Sturgeon. Sturgeon from 43 to 54 inches fork length in The Dalles and John Day Pools and from 38 to 54 inches fork length in the Bonneville Pool may be sold or kept for subsistence purposes. Sales of fish caught during open fishing periods are allowed after the end of the open period, as long as the fish were landed during the open period.
Additional:	24-hour quick reporting rule is in effect for Washington buyers. It is unlawful to sell, barter, or attempt to sell or barter sturgeon eggs that have been removed from the body cavity of a sturgeon prior to sale of the sturgeon to a wholesale dealer, or to sell or barter sturgeon eggs at retail. It is unlawful to deliver to a wholesale dealer any sturgeon that are not in the round with the head and tail intact.

- This proposal essentially re-opens the platform hook and line fishery in the mainstem Zone 6 area, but only for sales of legal-size sturgeon and only during the open period for the set line gear.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- The states of Oregon and Washington are proposing a hearing be scheduled for 11:00 a.m. Tuesday October 11, 2011 via teleconference to consider non-Indian mainstem commercial fisheries.