

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT: SUMMER FACT SHEET NO. 6
Columbia River Joint State Hearing
July 7, 2011

Fisheries under consideration:	Recreational sturgeon in Bonneville Pool
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- Under permanent rule, the 2011 Zone 6 (Bonneville Dam upstream to McNary Dam) recreational white sturgeon fisheries opened for retention effective January 1. The fisheries in each pool remain open until the annual guideline for the pool is met.
 - In Bonneville Pool, catch rates and effort were higher than normal, and the fishery closed effective February 19. Once catch data was finalized, a balance of 373 fish remained on the 2,000-fish guideline.
 - The Dalles pool remains open and catch estimates through July 3 total 169 fish compared to the 300-fish guideline.
 - The John Day pool closed April 10, with a catch of 532 compared to the 500-fish guideline.
- On June 23, the states opened the Bonneville Pool for white sturgeon retention on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from June 30 through July 9, 2011. Staff recognized that estimating catch and effort for this fishery would be difficult and projected catch at 50-60 fish per day.
- Preliminary catch estimates from the first 3-day opener (June 30- July 2) total 413 kept sturgeon, which is more than twice the amount expected. This catch brings the season total to 2,040 fish.
- The final 3-day season is scheduled for July 7-9 (this Thursday, Friday and Saturday).

<i>Staff Recommendation: Recreational White Sturgeon Fishery – Bonneville Pool</i>
Close the Bonneville Pool for white sturgeon retention effective Saturday July 9, 2011.

- Closing the fishery on Saturday is the soonest action can be taken and still allow the agencies to provide at least 24-hour notice to anglers.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- A Joint State hearing is scheduled for 2 PM Wednesday July 13 via teleconference to update the status of the recreational sturgeon fishery below Wauna powerlines.
- A Compact to consider August mainstem (Treaty and non-Treaty) and fall Select Area commercial fisheries is scheduled for 10 AM July 28 at the Holiday Inn (204 West Marine Dr.) in Astoria, Oregon.