

**OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT - FALL FACT SHEET NO. 17
Columbia River Compact
October 17, 2011**

Fisheries Under Consideration:	Non-Indian Mainstem Commercial
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Management guidelines, allocations, and preseason run forecasts for the 2011 fall season were presented in Fall Fact Sheet #1, dated July 28, 2011.

- TAC has reviewed salmonid stock status weekly and provided inseason run size forecasts. TAC's current projections include 335,700 URB Chinook and 260,000 early coho to the Columbia River mouth.
- TAC did not provide a coho update this week, but estimates indicate the early stock is tracking closer to 250,000 fish, and the late stock run is tracking close to, or less than, the preseason expectation of 102,300 fish.

- Based on the most recent model, an estimated 6,000 coho remain available for harvest; however, the early coho run is tracking about 95% of the latest in-season update. Although TAC has not officially downgraded the early coho run size, staff estimates about 4,000 coho are available for harvest.

2011 Non-Indian Mainstem Commercial Fall Season Landings (rounded)						
Date	Zone	Chinook	Coho	Sturgeon	Deliveries	
<i>Early Fall (August)</i>		25,300	1,750	1,251		
18-Sep	1-5	10,300	3,500	339	172	
19-Sep	4-5	5,900	1,800	91	106	
20-Sep	4-5	5,300	2,200	80	94	
28-Sep	1-5	2,300	800	405	115	
05-Oct	1-5	1,600	800	185	83	
13-Oct	1-3	400	1,900	13	79	
Oct 13-14	4-5	400	100	12	11	
<i>Late Fall (to date)</i>		26,200	11,100	1,125		
Total		51,500	12,850	3,501		

- A balance of 167 white sturgeon, or 5% of the 2011 commercial white sturgeon guideline, remain available for harvest.

Fishery Recommendations

<i>2011 Non-Indian Mainstem Commercial Late Fall Fishery</i>		
Season #1:	6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Wednesday October 19, 2011	(12 hours)
Area:	Zones 1-3	
Gear	Drift gillnets only. 6-inch maximum mesh size; un-slackened floater gillnet.	
Season #2	7:00 p.m. Tuesday Oct. 18 to 7:00 a.m. Wednesday Oct. 19, 2011	(12 hours)
Area:	Zones 4-5	
Gear:	Drift gillnets only. 8-inch minimum mesh size.	

Applies to both seasons:	
Sanctuaries:	Grays River, Elokommin-B, Cowlitz River, Kalama-B, Lewis-B, Washougal, and Sandy rivers.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon and white sturgeon. A maximum of 2 white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday). The white sturgeon possession and sales limit includes mainstem fisheries only. Sales of white sturgeon from fall Select Area fisheries is prohibited.
Additional Gear:	<p>Multi-net rule: Nets not specifically authorized for use in a fishery may be onboard the vessel if properly stored.</p> <p>Lighted buoys: Nets fished any time between official sunset and official sunrise must have lighted buoys on both ends of the net. If the net is attached to the boat, then one lighted buoy on the end of the net opposite the boat is required.</p>
Additional Rules:	24-hour Quick Reporting Rule will be in effect for Washington buyers.

- ✓ Catch estimates include 500 Chinook, 3,000 coho, and less than 50 white sturgeon.
- ✓ URB impacts from complete, ongoing, and proposed fisheries are estimated at 14.2%, compared to the 15% impact limit for non-Indian fisheries.
- ✓ LRH impacts from actual and projected catch are estimated at 36.7% compared to the 37% exploitation rate allowed.
- ✓ LCN coho impacts are projected to be less than the 15% exploitation rate guideline.

Future Hearings

Staff is not recommending a Compact hearing be scheduled at this time. Staff anticipates the proposed fisheries will likely conclude the 2011 fall season.