

COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION
JOINT STAFF REPORT - WINTER FACT SHEET NO. 5
Columbia River Compact
March 5, 2012

Fisheries under consideration: -Treaty Indian winter gillnet fishery

- Under permanent regulations, a winter gillnet fishery is open in Zone 6 from noon February 1 to 6:00 p.m. March 21. Allowable sales currently include sturgeon, steelhead as well as miscellaneous non-native fish caught with gillnets and with platform/hook & line gear within the Zone 6 area as well as the area downstream of Bonneville Dam during times these fisheries are open under the terms of agreements with the states. The John Day pool fishery has already closed.
- The Bonneville Pool has been scheduled for closure in the Winter Gillnet Fishery, at 6 PM Monday March 5.
- Harvest in 2012 Tribal Winter season fisheries has not been updated beyond the numbers in Fact Sheet #4.
- High winds are occurring in the Bonneville Pool. CRITFC weather forecasts predict wind gusts in the Bonneville Pool on Monday afternoon and early evening of up to 30 at Cascade Locks, 40 miles per hour near Hood River and gusts up to 50 miles per hour near The Dalles. Sustained winds are forecasted between 15-20 mph in Cascade Locks up to 20-25 mph near The Dalles. The wind in the Bonneville Pool area is expected to decrease to 5-15 mph by Tuesday.
- The tribes are proposing to extend the winter gillnet fishery in the Bonneville Pool based on due to dangerous fishing conditions. The tribes report some fishing gear has been removed from the Bonneville Pool, but fishers will not be able to retrieve all gear safely by the 6:00 PM closure today.

Recommendation: Treaty Indian Winter Gillnet Fishery in Bonneville Pool

Rescind the closure in Bonneville Pool scheduled for 6:00pm Monday March 5, 2012. Effective 12:00 noon Tuesday March 6, 2012: The winter gillnet fishery in Bonneville Pool will close.

- The platform and hook and line fishery in the Bonneville Pool will remain open for subsistence use. Sturgeon between 38-54 inches in fork length in the Bonneville Pool may be kept for subsistence purposes only.