

**OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
 JOINT STAFF REPORT: FALL FACT SHEET NO. 11
 Columbia River Compact/Joint State Hearing
 October 29, 2012**

Fisheries under consideration or review:	Recreational sturgeon in The Dalles Pool Youngs Bay and tributary recreational fisheries
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Recreational White Sturgeon Fishery in Bonneville Pool

- Under permanent rule, the 2012 Zone 6 (Bonneville Dam upstream to McNary Dam) recreational white sturgeon fisheries opened for retention effective January 1. The fisheries remain open until the annual guideline for each pool is met. Fishery status for all pools through October 28 are as follows:

2012 Recreational Sturgeon Harvest in Zone 6				
	Guideline	Catch	Balance	Season
Bonneville Pool	2,000	1,836	164	Closed
The Dalles Pool	300	263	37	Ongoing
John Day Pool	500	471	29	Closed

- The retention season in The Dalles Pool currently remains open 3 days per week, (Thursday – Saturday) with catch rates generally less than expected. In 2011, The Dalles Pool closed on July 30.
- Through October 28, The Dalles Pool fishery has reached 88% of the available guideline. Catch rates (and effort) have been highly variable, but have recently improved with effort and harvest twice the 6-week average.
- The long range weather forecast indicates that weather should be favorable for fishing this coming weekend. If the recent catch and effort rates continue, the balance of the guideline (37 fish) is expected to be reached by Saturday November 10; however, if catch and effort improve, the fishery may exceed the guideline prior to this date.
- Considering the minimal balance of harvestable sturgeon on the guideline and potential catch rates, staff proposes the following season recommendation:

<i>Recreational White Sturgeon Fishery – The Dalles Pool</i>
Effective 12:01 AM Sunday, November 4, 2012: Prohibit retention of white sturgeon in The Dalles Pool and adjacent tributaries through December 31, 2012.

Youngs Bay/Tributary Recreational Fisheries (Oregon)

- Due to concerns regarding poor returns of Select Area Bright fall Chinook to hatcheries in the Youngs Bay (Oregon) drainage, ODFW recently announced an emergency salmon and steelhead fishing closure effective October 13 through November 16, 2012 for parts of Youngs Bay, Youngs River and the Klaskanine rivers.
- Recent rains have triggered upstream passage of broodstock which were holding in tidewater. Returns have been good and the target egg goal is expected to be met.
- Therefore, ODFW is intending to re-open angling for salmon and steelhead as per permanent regulations effective 12:01 AM Wednesday October 31.