

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT: WINTER/SPRING FISHERY UPDATE #2
April 16, 2013

Stock Status

- *Passage of Chinook at Bonneville Dam through April 15 totals 1,779 adults.*
- *The U.S. v. Oregon Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) will begin meeting April 22 to review status of the upriver spring Chinook run on a weekly basis.*

Non-Treaty Fishery Update

- A 9-hour mainstem commercial salmon fishing period (9 adult Chinook/vessel landing limit) occurred on April 9. Landings included 982 adult Chinook and 6 white sturgeon from 128 deliveries. Of the kept Chinook, 67% were of upriver origin. Total upriver mortalities (kept plus release) is estimated at 690 fish, or 56% of the 1,222 fish available prior to a run update.
- Winter season Select Area fisheries concluded April 2. Combined landings total 638 Chinook and 17 white sturgeon. Harvest of upriver spring Chinook is estimated at 26 fish (4% of the catch). Most Select Area sites are scheduled to re-open for the spring season starting this Thursday (April 18).
- The recreational spring Chinook fishery downstream of Bonneville Dam was open through April 12. Effort in April was similar to expectations but both angler catch rates and the proportion of upriver fish in the catch were less than modeled in-season. The estimated catch for the season is 5,123 kept adult fish (1,203 released) from 75,736 angler trips. Of the kept Chinook, 67% were of upriver origin. Season total kept and release mortalities of upriver fish are estimated at 3,539 fish, or 72% of the 4,934 available prior to a run update.
- The recreational fishery from Bonneville Dam upstream to the Oregon/Washington border opened March 16 and is currently scheduled to close effective May 6. Kept and released mortalities are estimated at 21 adult fish. Staff will continue to monitor this fishery and may request a Joint State hearing in early May if warranted.
- Snake River recreational fisheries (Washington waters) do not open until late April. The pre-season allocation for Snake River and Upper Columbia River fisheries is 363 Chinook.
- The total upriver catch (kept and release mortalities) in all non-treaty fisheries to date is 4,276 fish. A final upriver run size of 61,100 (43% of forecast) is required to remain within catch balance limitations for actual fisheries through April 14.

Preliminary summary of 2013 Non-treaty upriver Chinook catches (Pre-Update)				
Fishery	Upriver Mortalities			
	Allocated	Actual	Available/ Planned	Total
Mainstem commercial (actual for April 9 fishery)	1,222	690	532	1,222
Select Area commercial (actual thru 4/2; planned thru 6/15)	148	26	122	148
Below Bonneville recreational (actual thru 4/12)	4,934	3,539	1,395	4,934
Bonn to OR/WA border recreational (actual thru April 7)	658	21	637	658
Snake River recreational	351	0	351	351
Wanapum Tribal	12	0	12	12
Total	7,325	4,276	3,049	7,325

Does not include minimal impacts for planned non-target fisheries (shad commercial and LCR mainstem recreational steelhead).

Future Meetings

- *Staff is not proposing any hearings at this time; however, test fishing will be conducted on Sunday April 21 and TAC will meet Monday April 22. Staff will review new information and provide another update or request a hearing early next week.*