

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT: SUMMER FACT SHEET NO. 6b
Columbia River Compact/Joint State Hearing
July 17, 2013

Fisheries under review:	Lower River Recreational Non-Indian Commercial
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Stock status and management guidelines for 2013 summer season fisheries were presented in Summer Fact Sheet #1 (June 11, 2013).

Stock Status

- Through July 16, fish counts at Bonneville Dam include 53,900 adult summer Chinook and 178,600 sockeye.
- The *U.S. v Oregon* Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met July 15 to review salmon returns and updated the in-season run size forecasts to 65,000 upper Columbia summer Chinook and 179,000 sockeye to the Columbia River. Both of these estimates are less than pre-season, but improved over the estimates TAC provided last week.
- Based on updated in-season run size estimates and ESA limits and management agreements, a total of 13,770 adult summer Chinook and 1,790 sockeye (downstream of Hwy 395) are available for non- Indian Columbia River fisheries.

Non-Indian Fisheries

- The summer recreational fishery from the Astoria-Megler Bridge upstream to Bonneville Dam closed to adult hatchery Chinook and sockeye retention effective June 30, but remains open to hatchery steelhead retention. Through June 30, harvest estimates (kept plus release mortalities) include 2,084 Chinook and 538 sockeye. An additional 150 Chinook release mortalities are projected for July 1-31. Sockeye retention re-opened July 13 and is scheduled to continue through July 31.
- The recreational fishery in the area from Bonneville Dam upstream to Priest Rapids Dam is open June 16-July 31 with a two adult fish daily bag limit. Hatchery Chinook, hatchery steelhead and sockeye retention is allowed. Through July 7, harvest estimates (kept plus release mortalities) include 50 Chinook and 10 sockeye. Season total catch estimates include 200 Chinook and 100 sockeye.
- Two summer commercial fishing periods have occurred to date this season. Both periods were 8-hours long and used 8-inch (large mesh) gear. Landings from the July 15-16 period include 240 Chinook, 0 sockeye and 32 sturgeon. Season total landings include 1,954 Chinook, 149 sockeye and 340 sturgeon.

2013 Non-Indian Summer Chinook Catch Summary				
Fishery	Guideline*	Total Mortalities	% of Allocated	# fish remain
Commercial: Mainstem	1,964	1,954	99%	10
Recreational: Below Bonneville (<i>actual and proj.</i>)	1,956	2,234	114%	-278
Recreational: Bonn to PRD (<i>actual and proj.</i>)	445	200	45%	245
Totals Below Priest Rapids Dam	4,365	4,388	101%	-23
Recreational: Above PRD	4,376			
Tribal: Wanapum and Colville	5,029			
<i>*Guideline based on Col R mouth return of 65,000 upper Columbia adult summer Chinook</i>				

- Based on catch estimates and the allocation for fisheries downstream of Priest Rapids Dam, staff is not recommending any additional non-Indian fisheries.
- Season total estimates include 1,000 sockeye mortalities from non-Indian fisheries downstream of the Hwy 395 Bridge, which is 56% of the ESA impact allowed.
- Upper Columbia Chinook mortalities are expected to remain well within the non-Indian harvestable limits outlined under the U.S. v Oregon Agreement (17,538 fish for ocean and Columbia River fisheries).

FUTURE MEETINGS

- A Fall Compact hearing is scheduled for 10 AM Thursday July 25 to consider fall season commercial treaty Indian and non-Indian fisheries. The hearing will take place in the 3rd floor meeting room of the Wahkiakum County Courthouse in Cathlamet, Washington (64 Main Street).