

COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION
TRIBAL STAFF REPORT: SPRING FACT SHEET NO. 6
Columbia River Compact
June 2, 2014

Fisheries under Consideration: Treaty mainstem commercial salmon

Stock status and management guidelines for 2014 Spring Chinook fisheries were presented in Winter Fact Sheet #2 (January 29, 2014).

Stock Status and Management Guidelines

- Bonneville Dam passage through June 1 totals 190,224 adult Chinook. Based on the 10-year average, passage is typically 82% complete by this date. Daily counts have been above the recent 10 year average counts for the past two weeks.
- The *U.S. v. Oregon* Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) upgraded the in-season run size this morning to 234,000 adult upriver Chinook. The spring management period continues through June 15.
- Under the *U.S. v. Oregon* Management Agreement, this run size allows for an harvest rate of 10.0% for treaty fisheries which equates to an allowed catch of 23,400 adult chinook.

Treaty Fisheries Update

- The Columbia River treaty tribes have finished their ceremonial permit fishing. Preliminary catch estimates total 6,127 adult Chinook.
- Commercial sales in the Zone 6 platform and hook & line fishery opened on May 6 and are expected to continue until July 31. The catch estimate through May 17 was 5,340 adult Chinook. After this date the platform catch has been included in the weekly gillnet totals.
- The preliminary landings for the first two gillnet openings were 3,288 and 3,959 adult chinook respectively. There were 376 nets counted the first week and only 244 were counted the second week on the second morning of the fishery. However, due to high winds on the first day of fishing, tribal staff estimates that the total number of nets put out was approximately 35% higher and adjusted the net count up to 329.
- The area immediately downstream of Bonneville Dam is currently closed for treaty Indian fishing under tribal regulations. If lawfully enacted tribal regulations are adopted to open the area (in accordance with each tribal MOU/MOA), the Compact has rules in place to allow sales consistent with tribal rules/MOU/MOAs.
- Total catch of upriver spring Chinook to date plus expected platform catch for next week totals 18,914 fish, or 81% of allowed at the predicted 234,000 run size. The table below shows a summary of the spring harvest. Tribal fisheries have harvested less than 150 steelhead to date which is typical for this time of year.

Fishery	Chinook
Winter Gillnet	0
Spring C&S Permit Gillnet	6,127
Zone 6 Platform H&L Through 5/17	5,340
Zone 5 H&L	0
Expected Additional Z6 Platform H&L through 6/15	200
Expected total Platform H&L through 6/15	5,540
Gillnet #1 5/20-22 (with platforms)	3,288
Gillnet #2 5/28-31 (with platforms)	3,959
Total To-date with expected additional platform catch	18,914
Expected Gillnet #3 Catch 6/3-6/6	4,000
Allowed Catch (10% of 234,000)	23,400
Remaining	486

- The Yakama Nation Zone 6 tributary fisheries are ongoing and sales are allowed when authorized through Yakama Nation tribal regulations. Catch from these fisheries through May 31 is shown in the table below.

Fishery	Catch through	Adult	
		Chinook	Steelhead
Klickitat	31-May	412	21
Wind	31-May	275	0
Drano	31-May	3,180	5

- Based on the number of fish remaining available for the tribal mainstem fisheries, the tribes have decided to allow another commercial gillnet fishery to access the remaining fish.

Tribal Fishery Plan

<i>2014 Treaty Spring Gillnet Commercial Fishery</i>	
Area:	Zone 6 (Bonneville Dam upstream to McNary Dam)
Season:	6:00 a.m. Tuesday June 3 until 6:00 p.m. Friday June 6, 2014 (3.5 days)
Allowable Sales:	Salmon, steelhead, shad, walleye, carp, catfish, bass, and yellow perch may be sold or kept for subsistence. Sturgeon between 43-54 inches fork length harvested in The Dalles or John Day Pools and sturgeon between 38-54 inches fork length in the Bonneville pool may not be sold but may be kept for subsistence.
Gear:	Gill nets. No mesh restriction
Sanctuaries:	Standard dam and river mouth sanctuaries in effect for this gear type except for the Spring Creek Hatchery sanctuary which is not necessary this time of year.
Miscellaneous:	24-hour quick reporting required for Washington wholesale dealers, pursuant to WAC 220-69-240, except landings must be reported within 24-hours of completing the fish ticket.

- The tribes predict that the catch in a 3.5 day gillnet fishery this week will be approximately 4,000 chinook based on similar effort to the past two weeks.
- At the current run size estimate, this will leave just under 500 fish remaining available to harvest.
- The tribes will continue monitor and report harvest. Aerial surveys will be conducted to count nets to determine fishing effort for every commercial gillnet fishing period.
- The tribes expect that consumer demand for these spring chinook will continue be high and that the fishery will continue provide important economic benefits to tribal fishers, tribal communities and the communities along the Columbia River in the Zone 6 area.
- The tribes do not expect to need an additional Compact Hearing prior to the Hearing on June 11 for summer season fisheries.
- The change in the 24-hour quick report will pertain to all sales to Washington wholesale dealers (Mainstem gillnet, mainstem platform hook and line, and tributary fisheries).

Quick Reporting Rule – Mainstem Platform Hook & Line and Tributary

For all treaty Columbia River mainstem platform hook and line and tributary fisheries
Effective 6 a.m. June 3 until further notice:

The 24-hour quick reporting required for Washington wholesale dealers, pursuant to WAC 220-69-240, **except** landings must be reported within 24-hours of completing the fish ticket