

**OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
 JOINT STAFF REPORT - FALL FACT SHEET NO. 7
 Columbia River Compact/Joint State Hearing
 September 2, 2015**

Fisheries Under Consideration: Non-Indian Commercial Seine

Detailed information on stock status and management guidelines for the 2015 fall season were presented in Fall Factsheet #1 (July 29, 2015)

- As part of the North of Falcon negotiations, a total of 10% (0.26%) of the impacts for ESA-listed wild tule fall Chinook available to the commercial fisheries (2.6%) have been allocated to 2015 Columbia River commercial seine fisheries.
- Details on the 2015 season can be found in Factsheet #2 dated August 11, 2015
- Currently all four purse seine permits are filled and three of the six beach seine permits are filled. The 2015 Columbia River commercial seine fishery is ongoing and scheduled to continue through September 30. During August 31-September 10, seine fisheries are open 3-4 days per week; during September 14-30, fishing is open two days per week.
- The seine fisheries are just now getting underway; four commercial seine periods have occurred to date (August 24-September 1). Kept catch totals less than 50 Chinook from 1-2 purse seine and 1 beach seine fishers.
- Given that peak Chinook abundance is expected to occur during the first two weeks of September, this timeframe should provide the best opportunity for fishers to access their IFQs. Staff is recommending the addition of two fishing periods to the schedule currently in place.

<i>Recommendation: 2015 Non-Indian Mainstem Commercial Fishery</i>	
Participants:	Those individuals possessing a 2015 seine permit issued by Washington or Oregon (Emerging Fishery license and Experimental Fishery Permit in WA, Experimental Gear Permit in OR). Permit holder/designated fisher must be present during fishing operations and have applicable permits/licenses in possession.
Season:	6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Friday September 4 (14hours) 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Friday September 11 (14 hours)
Area:	Mainstem Columbia River in Zones 2-3 plus upper Zone 4. Lower boundary for seine fishing in Zone 4 is described as a line from USCG light #10 "Red" on the Oregon shore at Henrici Landing across to a wing jetty on the Washington shore at river mile 90.25).
Sanctuaries:	Elokomin-B, Cowlitz, Kalama-B, Lewis-B, Sandy and Washougal Rivers, and Select Area commercial fishing sites.

Gear:	<p>Beach seine or purse seine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Only one seine net is allowed per (primary) vessel. - Mesh size restricted to a 3.5-inch maximum (inside of knot to outside of knot using hand tension stretched measure). - Net material to consist of 3-strand nylon, twine size \geq#12. - Seines may include a bunt of 1.0-2.0 inch knotless mesh. - Net length not to exceed 200 fathoms (NOT including associated lead nets). Net depth not to exceed 200 meshes (approximately 50 feet). - No restrictions on corkline, leadline, or use of stringers and slackers. - A chafing strip panel consisting of non-monofilament webbing (such as nylon seine web or polyethylene trawl web) is allowed on bottom of net; maximum panel depth is 5 feet. Chafing mesh not to exceed 3.5-inch stretched measure for beach seines and 5-inch stretched measure for purse seines. There are no restrictions associated with hangings used to connect the net to the chafing panel or the net or chafing panel to the leadline or corkline. - Red corks are required at 25-fathom intervals and red corks must be in contrast to the corks used in the remainder of the net. <p>Lead net (optional):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Only one lead net is allowed per fishing operation. - Lead nets may not exceed 100 fathoms in length. Lead nets may be constructed of 3-strand nylon webbing, twine size \geq#12, \leq3.5-inch mesh size (inside of knot to outside of knot using hand tension stretched measure) <u>OR</u> nylon or cotton webbing with mesh size \geq14-inches. Lead nets may not be vertically slackened. - Seine net and lead net may not be connected. - Lead nets must be retrieved daily.
Allowable Sales:	Subject to IFQs as defined on individual permits. Adipose or left ventral fin-clipped Chinook, adipose-clipped Coho, Pink, and Sockeye salmon and shad. All legal salmon caught must be kept and sold.
Handling/Sorting:	Hand sorting or use of a knotless dip net is required when sorting fish. All fish must be sorted and/or released prior to removing entire seine from water. Dry sorting not permitted.
Sort time:	<p>Not to exceed 75 minutes.</p> <p>Beach seine - defined as the elapsed time from when the outer towed end of the net first contacts the shore or block until the net is emptied of fish.</p> <p>Purse Seine - defined as the elapsed time from when all rings are pursed and out of the water until the net is emptied of fish.</p>
Observer Program:	Mandatory.
Catch Reporting:	<p>24-hour quick reporting required for Washington buyers, pursuant to WAC 220-69-240.</p> <p>Electronic fish ticket submission required for Oregon buyers pursuant to OAR 635-006-0210.</p>

- The recommendation will provide additional opportunity for the permit holders to access the allowed catch.
- The fishery is expected to remain within the ESA impact allocation for seine fisheries.
- Staff is recommending a hearing be scheduled for 10:00 a.m. Thursday September 10 via teleconference to consider treaty and non-Indian commercial fisheries and review ongoing recreational fisheries.