

**OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT: SPRING FACT SHEET NO. 1
Columbia River Compact/ Joint State Hearing
April 19, 2016**

<i>Fisheries under Consideration:</i> Select Area commercial fisheries

Stock status and management guidelines for 2016 Chinook fisheries were presented in Winter Fact Sheet #1a (January 27, 2016).

- Adult Chinook passage at Bonneville Dam through April 18 totals 5,183 fish. Based on the pre-season forecast and 5-year average timing, about 7,300 fish would be expected at Bonneville Dam by this date. The (5-yr ave) 50% passage date at Bonneville Dam is May 7.
- Current outflow at Bonneville Dam is 327 kcfs which is higher than the 5-year average of 246 kcfs. Water temperature currently measures 52° F which is higher than average of 49° F. Visibility is about four feet which is similar to average.
- From the commercial allocation of ESA impacts to upriver spring Chinook, a fixed allocation of 0.15% has been allotted to Select Area commercial fisheries (unchanged since 2008).
- 2016 winter, spring and summer Select Area commercial seasons were set at the Compact hearing on January 27. The schedule included expanded winter fishing periods/hours.

Upriver Spring Chinook ESA limits and # of mortalities allowed for Commercial fisheries in 2016				
	Total Allowed		Pre-Update	
	ESA	# Fish	ESA	# Fish
Mainstem	0.420%	3,077	0.192%	1,222
Select Areas	0.150%	283	0.150%	198
Commercial Total	0.570%	3,360	0.342%	1,420
- The number of upriver Chinook mortalities allocated to this fishery prior to a run update is 198 adult fish. If the run reaches the pre-season forecast, a total of 283 upriver mortalities would be allowed.
- The Select Area commercial winter season concluded April 10. Landings totaled 1,369 Chinook and included 83 upriver stock spring Chinook (42% of the pre-update allocation).
- The spring season is scheduled to begin Tuesday April 19 in Deep River, and Thursday April 21 in the other sites.
- Given the limited balance of upriver mortalities allocated to Select Area commercial fisheries (115 fish), staff recommends that the previously adopted fishing periods be modified to efficiently utilize the remaining upriver allocation by minimizing interception of upriver spring Chinook in early spring-season fisheries.
- Staff recommendations are included below with modifications from planned fisheries indicated in bold.

Staff Recommendation: Select Area Commercial Fisheries

Compact Action:

Tongue Point/South Channel: Modify the fishing periods currently scheduled to occur during April 21 through May 3, 2016.

- Thursday April 21: 8 PM to Midnight (4 hrs); South Channel Area only
- Tuesday April 26: 9 PM to 1 AM (4 hrs); Tongue Point/S. Channel areas open
- Thursday April 28: 11 AM to 3 PM (4 hrs); Tongue Point/S. Channel areas open
- Monday May 2: 3 PM to 9 PM (6 hrs); Tongue Point/S. Channel areas open

Knappa Slough and lower Blind Slough (*downstream of Railroad Bridge*): Modify the fishing periods currently scheduled to occur during April 21 through April 27, 2016.

- Thursday April 21: 8 PM to Midnight (4 hrs); Blind and Knappa Slough areas open
- Tuesday April 26: 9 PM to 1 AM (4 hrs); Blind and Knappa Slough areas open

Oregon State Action:

Youngs Bay: Modify the fishing periods currently scheduled to occur during April 21 through May 3, 2016.

- Thursday April 21: 7 PM to 11 PM (4 hrs); upstream of Old Youngs Bay Bridge and the lower Lewis and Clark River from the alternate Highway 101 Bridge upstream to the overhead power lines immediately upstream of Barret Slough.
- Tuesday April 26: 8 PM to Midnight (4 hrs); upstream of Old Youngs Bay Bridge and the lower Lewis and Clark River from the alternate Highway 101 Bridge upstream to the overhead power lines immediately upstream of Barret Slough.
- Thursday April 28: 11 AM to 3 PM (4 hrs); entire Youngs Bay
- Monday May 2: 3 PM to 9 PM (6 hrs); entire Youngs Bay

Upper Blind Slough (*upstream of Railroad Bridge*): Modify the fishing periods currently scheduled to occur during April 21 through April 27, 2016.

- Adopt same season modifications proposed above for concurrent waters in Knappa and Blind Slough.

All other rules pertaining to 2016 Select Area commercial fisheries remain in effect.

- The recommendations would allow restricted fishing opportunity in each of the Select Area sites with reduced areas and hours through late April/early May.
- Based on recent communication with industry, opinions are mixed between the proposed approach or delaying all fishing until next week.

Future Hearings

- No Compact/Joint State hearings are currently scheduled. The Joint Staff will continue to monitor fisheries and recommend additional hearings if needed.