

COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION
TRIBAL STAFF REPORT - FALL FACT SHEET NO. 3
Columbia River Compact
September 6, 2017

Fisheries Under Consideration:	Treaty Commercial Gillnet
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Detailed information on stock status and management guidelines for Columbia River fisheries are presented in Joint Staff Reports, which are produced annually and available on-line. The most recent relevant report is the 2016 Fall Report (July 12, 2016). <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/crc/> or <http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/OSCRP/CRM/reports.asp>

STOCK STATUS

Run Size forecasts and stock descriptions are shown in Fact Sheet #1

Fall Chinook

- Through September 3, there were 50,932 adult bright fall chinook and 8,706 adult tules (plus 2,608 jack tules that measure just over adult size). Both the bright and tule runs are tracking behind expectations for a normally timed run, but a late timed run may be closer to the forecast run size. TAC expects to update the chinook run size on September 11.

Upriver Summer Steelhead

- Through September 3, there were 73,888 A and B-Index steelhead counted at Bonneville. TAC updated the steelhead run size on Aug 28 as shown in the table below and did not change the forecast on September 5. It is too early to update the B steelhead run size reliably.

Stock Group	Pre-season	14-Aug	28-Aug	5-Sep
A-Index Total	112,100	54,000	97,100	no change
Hatchery A Index	79,100	33,000	68,100	no change
Natural Origin A Index	33,000	21,000	29,000	no change
B-Index Total	7,300	no update	no update	no update
Hatchery B Index	6,200	no update	no update	no update
Natural Origin B Index	1,100	no update	no update	no update

- Dam counts for September 4 have not been posted, but are expected to be available within a few days. There were no dam counts at Bonneville Dam made on Septemeber 5 due to the fire and there will be none made today.

Coho

- Through September 3 there have been 3,119 adult coho counted at Bonneville Dam. Counts to date are lower than expected.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Salmon/Steelhead

- The "2008-2017 U.S. v Oregon Management Agreement" (MA) provides specific fishery management guidelines for fall Chinook, steelhead, and coho.
 - The allowable impact rate for combined treaty Indian and non-treaty fisheries is 45% of the URB run based on preseason forecasts (URB stock is the surrogate for SRW Chinook). This impact limit is allocated 30% for treaty Indian fisheries and 15% for non-treaty fisheries based on the pre-season forecasts.
 - The escapement goal at Spring Creek Hatchery is 7,000 adult fall Chinook (BPH stock).
 - The management goal for adult fall Chinook at McNary Dam is 60,000 fish.
 - The allowable impact to wild summer steelhead (A-Index and B-Index) during the fall season is 2% for non-treaty fisheries.
 - Based on the pre-season forecast, the treaty Indian impacts are limited to 13% of the total B-Index steelhead.
 - The goal for upriver coho passage at Bonneville Dam is 50% of the ocean abundance.
 - Fisheries are managed based on actual run sizes, not just pre-season forecasts.

2017 TREATY FISHERIES

- 2017 tribal sturgeon catches are shown in the table below. There are 157 sturgeon remaining in the Bonneville Pool and 136 sturgeon remaining in the John Day Pool.

2017 Treaty Indian Fall Season Fisheries						
Fishery	Set Net Count	Total Adult Chinook	URB Chinook	Total Steelhead	B Steelhead	Coho
Platforms through 8/21	--	572	500	390	20	0
Aug 21-25 (4.5 days) preliminary	255	4,065	2,171	674	40	7
Aug 28-Sept 1 (4.5 days) preliminary	430	9,913	6,046	582	10	9
Sept 4-8 (4.5 days) projected	500	33,100	9,800	900	100	
Sep 11-15 (4.5 days) projected	640	52,600	16,000	1,170	210	
Total through 9/15		100,250	34,517	3,716	380	16
Late Fall Platforms						
Total		100,250	34,517	3,716	380	16
Allowed at updated run size			82,563		949	
Expected Harvest Rate by sept 15			12.5%		5.2%	
Remaining after Sept 15			48,046		569	
Remaining Harvest Rate After Sept 15			17.5%		7.8%	

- Catches for the platform and hook and line fishery in weeks with commercial gillnet fisheries is included in the total catches for those weeks. A net flight for this week has not been done yet due to the fire and may be able to be done Thursday or Friday.
- Chinook stock composition for week 34 is passed on preliminary CWT data and for week 35 is based on skin color calls and forecast ratios at Bonneville.
- The four Columbia River treaty tribes will adopt regulations consistent with the following:

<i>2017 Treaty Indian Fall Season Commercial Gillnet Fishery</i>		
Season	6 AM Monday September 11 to 6 PM Friday, September 15	(4.5 days)
Area	Zone 6	
Sanctuaries:	Standard river mouth and dam closed areas applicable to gillnet gear, including the Standard Spring Creek Hatchery Sanctuary.	
Gear:	Set and Drift Gill nets with a 8” minimum mesh size restriction	
Allowable Sales:	Salmon (any species), steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Fish landed during the open periods are allowed to be sold after the period concludes. Sturgeon may not be sold, but sturgeon from 38 to 54 inches fork length in the Bonneville Pool and sturgeon from 43 to 54 inches fork length in The Dalles and John Day Pools and may be kept for subsistence purposes.	
Additional:	24-hour quick reporting is required as provided in WAC 220-352-180, for Washington wholesale dealers for all areas, except that all landings from treaty fisheries described above must be reported within 24-hours of completing the fish ticket.	

- Catch and effort will be monitored to ensure the tribal fisheries remains within management limits. Set net counts will be made by air for each week of commercial gillnet fishing.
- Based on expected catches through September 15, the treaty fishery would be within its allowed limits for run sizes as low as 150,000 URBs and 2,900 B steelhead.
- Platform and hook and line fisheries, fisheries downstream of Bonneville, and Yakama Nation tributary fisheries do not require compact action at this time.
- The tribes request a Compact Hearing on Wednesday September 13 or Thursday September 14 to consider possible additional fisheries.