

**OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**  
**JOINT STAFF REPORT – SUMMER FACT SHEET**  
**2008 IN-SEASON SUMMARY**  
**PRELIMINARY DATA**  
**August 15, 2008**

**Stock Status**

***Upper Columbia Summer Chinook***

- Upper Columbia summer Chinook pass Bonneville Dam during June 16 through July 31 and are destined for areas above Priest Rapids Dam.
- These Chinook are not listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the population is considered healthy. The population consists of both hatchery and natural origin fish.
- In-season run size estimates total 54,000 adult fish.
- Bonneville Dam counts of summer Chinook between June 16 and July 31 totaled 51,963 adults and 6,821 jacks. The 2008 jack count is similar to the recent 10-year average count of 7,100 jacks.

***Sockeye***

- The preseason forecast for sockeye was 75,600 fish and was updated in-season to 230,000 fish. The preliminary run size is estimated to be 215,000 sockeye at the river mouth (largest return since 1955).
- Through August 5, sockeye counts at Bonneville and Lower Granite dams are 213,564 and 859 fish, respectively.

**Management Guidelines**

- Harvestable summer Chinook are allocated through the *U.S. v Oregon* Management Agreement, the draft Upper Columbia Management agreement, and through Commission guidance.
- Based on the preseason forecast, 11,250 Chinook were allocated each to treaty Indians and to non-Indians. Of the non-Indian allocation, fisheries above Priest Rapids Dam were allocated 70% (7,875 fish) and the remaining 3,375 fish were split 50/50 between commercial fisheries (1,688) and sport (1,687) fisheries below Priest Rapids Dam.
- Commercial fisheries were allocated 500 of the annual 8,000 sturgeon commercial guideline.
- Non-Indian sockeye fisheries were not anticipated for 2008 based on preseason estimates and the *US v Oregon* Management Agreement.

**Fisheries Review**

***Sport Fisheries below Priest Rapids Dam***

- Summer Chinook sport fisheries were non-selective with a one Chinook bag limit and were open from the Tongue Point/Rocky Point line upstream to Bonneville Dam during June 21-28, and from Bonneville Dam to McNary Dam during June 16-July 1
- Approximately 30,500 angler trips below Bonneville Dam resulted in an estimated 2,050 kept Chinook (1,200 fish guideline) and 450 kept sockeye.
- The preliminary catch estimate for fisheries between Bonneville Dam and McNary Dam is 800 Chinook (500 fish guideline). The season was closed prior to the July 31 scheduled closure date, as the guideline for that area had been exceeded.

### ***Non-Indian Commercial Fisheries***

- A total of three, 10-hour fishing periods were conducted in Zones 1-5 during June 24-July 8 with an 8-inch minimum mesh restriction. A limit of five white sturgeon per week was in place throughout the season.
- Landings for the season totaled 1,368 Chinook (1,700 fish guideline), 83 sockeye, and 523 white sturgeon. The number of deliveries ranged from 55-92 per period.
- One sockeye directed fishery occurred in the 2S Area on June 30. The fishery was a six-hour daylight fishery with a 4½-inch maximum mesh size. A total of 2 Chinook jacks, 213 sockeye, and 0 white sturgeon were landed during this fishery from two deliveries.
- Ex-vessel prices (per pound landed) averaged \$3.00 for Chinook, \$1.71 for sockeye and \$2.72 for sturgeon.
- The summer Select Area commercial fisheries in Youngs Bay consisted of one fishing period (36-48 hours) each week from June 18-July 31. Landings for this fishery included 1,008 Chinook and 0 white sturgeon (retention prohibited effective June 4). The ex-vessel price for Chinook averaged \$3.55 per pound.

### ***Treaty Indian Commercial Fisheries***

- Six weekly (2.5 days to 3.5 days) commercial gillnet fishing periods were conducted during June 23 through July 31. Landings included 8,400 Chinook, 3,500 sockeye, and 2,200 steelhead. Weekly effort counts ranged from a high of 457 nets during the first week and gradually decreased to 150 by the end of the season.
- Platform/hook and line fisheries occurred throughout the summer season in the mainstem Columbia River. Commercial sales were allowed and landings included 700 Chinook, 5,500 sockeye and 1,000 steelhead. Yakama Nation tributary and below Bonneville Dam fisheries also occurred. Minimal effort was observed in the area below Bonneville Dam. Landings from Yakama Nation fisheries were too preliminary to report.
- Ex-vessel prices averaged \$3.59 for Chinook, \$1.07 for sockeye and \$1.00 for steelhead.

### **Summary of ESA Impacts**

- Non-Indian wild summer steelhead impacts are estimated at 0.1%, compared to the 2% limit.
- Non-Indian sockeye impacts are estimated at 0.40%, compared to the 1.0% limit.
- Treaty Indian impacts to wild summer steelhead are estimated to have been within historical levels.
- Treaty-Indian sockeye impacts are estimated at 4%, compared to the 7% limit.

*Oregon and Washington  
Departments of Fish and Wildlife*