



# FACT SHEET

WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501-1091

February 25, 2000

## Joint Staff Report Winter Fact Sheet No. 5

Columbia River Compact

Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife / Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

Purpose: To consider commercial fishing seasons in the mainstem Columbia River

### NON-INDIAN FISHERIES

#### Non-Indian Commercial Sturgeon/Salmon Fishery



*Zones 1-5, sales of salmon and sturgeon allowed, 8" minimum and 9-3/4" maximum mesh size restrictions below Kelley Point and 9" minimum and 9-3/4" maximum mesh size restrictions above Kelley Point. Sanctuaries: Grays, Elokomin-A, Cowlitz, Kalama-A, Lewis-A, Gnat Creek, Washougal, and Sandy rivers.*

- Fishery is designed to access the 1,200 Willamette spring chinook allocated to mainstem commercial fisheries by the OFWC.
- Catches to date have been less than expected.
- Through February 22 zero salmon have been caught above Kelley Point.
- Effort to date has been low with 30-50 fishers participating.

2000 Commercial Salmon and Sturgeon Landings			
Time Period	Chinook	White Sturgeon	Green Sturgeon
Jan 10-Feb 11	14	1,215	0
Feb 13-14	22	66	0
Feb 15-16	22	110	0
Feb. 17-18	32	214	0
Feb. 20-22	114	342	0
Feb 24-25 (proj)	50	150	0

- VSI analyses indicates that the salmon catch was comprised of 4% upriver fish during February 13-18 and 13% upriver fish during February 20-22.

Total to date	254	2,097	0
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- An estimated 24 upriver spring chinook have been landed to date and the impact rate on the SRW run is estimated to be 0.02%.
- 8" minimum mesh size restriction below Kelley Point effectively targets spring chinook and limits impacts on listed winter steelhead.
- 9" minimum mesh size restriction above Kelley Point effectively targets sturgeon and minimizes impacts on listed upriver spring chinook.

Joint Staff Recommendation	
Season:	6 PM Sunday February 27, 2000 - 6 PM Tuesday February 29, 2000.
Sanctuaries:	Grays River, Elokommin-A, Cowlitz River, Kalama-A, Lewis-A, Gnat Creek, Washougal River, and Sandy River.
Areas:	Zones 1-5
Gear:	8" minimum and 9-3/4" maximum mesh size restrictions below Kelley Point. 9" minimum and 9-3/4" maximum mesh size restrictions above Kelley Point.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon and sturgeon.
Expected Catch:	400-1,100 spring chinook 60-165 upriver spring chinook 200-300 white sturgeon



- An estimated one spring chinook and one white sturgeon were landed during the first period of the Young's Bay winter fishery.
- Effort was low with less than ten boats participating in this fishery.

#### NEXT COMPACT HEARING

- The next Compact hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, February 29, 2000 at 10 am at Oregon

Department of Fish and Wildlife headquarters commission room, 2501 SW First Avenue, Portland, Oregon to review salmon, sturgeon and smelt stock status and consider commercial fishing seasons in the mainstem Columbia River.

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife  
February 25, 2000