

COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION

TRIBAL STAFF REPORT SPRING FACT SHEET NO. 4 (revised) May 1, 2008

Purpose: Consider Tribal Commercial Fishery Proposal

TRIBAL FISHERIES UPDATE

2008 Treaty Spring Season Fisheries

- TAC recently stated they do not believe the upriver spring Chinook and Snake River summer Chinook run size will be greater than 200,000 at the river mouth. At this run size, based on the 2008-2017 Management Agreement, the tribal fishery will manage for a 9.1% harvest rate or 18,200 spring Chinook.
- The tribes expect to discontinue ceremonial gillnet fisheries by the end of the day on Saturday May 3.

Preliminary harvest to date:

| | | |
|------------------------------------|--------|-------------------------|
| Permit Gillnet | 7,500 | Predicted through May 3 |
| Platform Hook and line | 1,000 | Estimated through May 3 |
| Expected Gillnet Catch | 5,000 | Predicted for May 5-8 |
| Expected subtotal | 13,500 | Expected through May 8 |
| Allowed | 18,200 | Based on 200K run size |
| Remaining | 4,700 | |
| Additional expected platform Catch | 2,000 | For May 8-June 15 |
| Buffer | 2,700 | |

Fishery Recommendation

| <i>Platform Hook and Line Fishery Recommendation</i> | |
|--|---|
| Dates: | The tribes will allow the sale of platform and hook and line caught fish. 6:00 AM Monday May 5, 2008 until further notice. |
| Area: | All of Zone 6. |
| Gear: | Hoop Nets, Dip Nets and hook and line |
| Sanctuaries: | Standard river mouth and dam sanctuaries applicable to these gear types remain in effect. The Spring Creek Hatchery Sanctuary is not necessary this time of year. |
| Allowable Sales: | Chinook, steelhead, walleye, carp, and shad may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sturgeon may not be sold. Sturgeon between 4-5 feet in length in The Dalles and John Day pools may be retained for subsistence. Sturgeon between 42-60 inches in the Bonneville pool may also be retained for subsistence. |
| Additional | 24-hour Quick reporting rule in effect for Washington buyers |

- The platform fishery is not expected to harvest more than about 3,000 total Chinook and prior to June 15. Whether or not these fish are used for commercial purposes is not expected

to result in significant changes in the total catch. Most productive platform sites are assumed to be currently in use and will continue to be used whether or not fish are sold. Platform effort is not predicted to increase significantly.

- The tribal intent is to allow sale of platform caught fish throughout the spring, summer, and fall management period (unless tribes decide to implement any additional permit gillnet fisheries).

| <i>Gillnet Fishery Recommendation</i> | |
|--|---|
| Dates: | The tribes will allow a commercial gillnet fishery targeting Spring Chinook. 6:00 AM Monday, May 5, 2008 to 6:00 PM Thursday, May 8, 2008 |
| Area: | All of Zone 6 |
| Gear: | There will be no minimum mesh size restriction |
| Sanctuaries: | Standard river mouth and dam sanctuaries applicable to these gear types remain in effect. The Spring Creek Hatchery Sanctuary is not necessary this time of year. |
| Allowable Sales: | Chinook, steelhead, walleye, carp, and shad may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sturgeon may not be sold. Sturgeon between 4-5 feet in length in The Dalles and John Day pools may be retained for subsistence. Sturgeon between 42-60 inches in the Bonneville pool may also be retained for subsistence. |
| Additional | 24-hour Quick reporting rule in effect for Washington buyers |

- The first gillnet opening may have an effort of around 250 nets based on previous spring season fisheries. The expected catch is approximately 5,000 Chinook and only very small numbers of steelhead.
- The proposed tribal commercial fisheries are expected to be well within the overall allowed spring season fishery impacts.
- Additionally, the Yakama Nation will propose that commercial sales of fish caught in their Zone 6 tributary fisheries be allowed when the tributary openings overlap with commercial openings in Zone 6. The allowed species for sale would coincide with the mainstem fisheries. The general fishing schedule for these tributaries is:

| Tributary | Regularly Scheduled Opening | Allowed Commercial Sales |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Wind River | Noon Monday to 6 PM Saturday Through June 28. | Beginning 6 AM May 5 through 6 PM May 10 and then each weekly opening Noon Mon. to 6 PM Saturday. (no fishing Sundays) |
| Big White Salmon River | Closed Sundays | Beginning 6 AM May 5 through 6 PM May 10 and then each weekly open 6:00 AM Mon. to 6 PM Saturday. (no fishing Sundays) |
| Klickitat River | Noon Wednesday to 6 PM Saturdays Through May 31 | Beginning 6 AM May 7 through 6 PM May 10 and then each weekly opening Noon Wed. to 6 PM Saturday. (no fishing Sundays) |
| Drano Lake/Little White Salmon | 9:00 PM Tuesday May 6 through Noon Wednesday May 7 | 9:00 PM Each Tuesday through 9:00 PM Wednesday through June 11. |

- The Washington Quick Reporting Rule is in effect for Washington Commercial Buyers

- The tribes may propose additional spring season commercial gillnet fisheries at a later date. Future openings will be dependant on catch rates and effort as well as run size updates.

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission

May 1, 2008