

**OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT - FALL FACT SHEET NO. 13
Columbia River Compact
October 3, 2005**

<i>Fisheries Under Consideration:</i>	Non-Indian mainstem commercial
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MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Management guidelines, allocations, and run size forecasts for the 2005 fall season were presented in the 2005 Fall Fact Sheets #1 and #10.

STOCK STATUS

Steelhead and Fall Chinook

- Steelhead run sizes are estimated to be 95% of the pre season forecast for a total of 277,800 (Group A and Group B) steelhead at Bonneville Dam. Group A index includes 232,500 steelhead (54,500 wild) and Group B index includes 45,300 steelhead (8,900 wild).
- The TAC updated the Chinook river mouth run size to 584,500 adults. The Upriver Bright forecast increased slightly to 293,100 adults to the Columbia River mouth.

Fall Chinook Adult Returns to the Columbia River Mouth						
	2005		2005 TAC Update			
	2004	Preseason				
Stock	Return	Forecast	15-Sep	20-Sep	26-Sep	03-Oct
LRH	108,900	78,400	78,400	78,400	78,400	78,400
LRW	22,300	21,400	21,400	21,400	21,400	21,400
BPH	175,300	115,800	95,000	104,400	101,000	102,500
URB	363,500	354,600	280,000	280,000	283,200	293,100
MCB	121,900	89,700	76,700	78,700	76,500	77,600
SAB	7,100	11,500	11,500	11,500	11,500	11,500
Total	799,000	671,400	563,000	574,400	572,000	584,500

- Chinook returns to lower Columbia hatcheries continue to vary, but appear to be on track overall.

Coho

- Preseason expectations total 206,400 coho returning to the Columbia River mouth, including 178,200 early coho and 28,200 late coho.
- Bonneville Dam counts through September 29 total nearly 63,000 adult coho. The Bonneville Dam passage expectation of 60,300 coho has been achieved.
- Commercial landings have been greater than expected and hatchery returns are varied but appear to be on track.
- Sandy River wild coho passage over Marmot Dam typically peaks in October. Only 13 adults have passed Marmot Dam through September 30.

- Through September 22 a total of 398 adult early stock coho have passed Faraday Dam on the Clackamas River.

<i>2005 Early Stock Coho Returns</i>						
Escapement						
	Returns	As of:	Projected Total	Goal	Comments	
Grays H.	0	29-Sep	925	1,300	Too early, need rain	
Elochoman H.	137	29-Sep	753	800	Too early, need rain	
Kalama H.	66	29-Sep	535	500	Too early, need rain	
Toutle H.	1,730	29-Sep	11,533	800	meeting expectation	
Lewis H.	1,566	29-Sep	4,350	1,600	meeting expectation	
Total Washington	3,499		18,096			
Big Creek H.	1,600	20-Sep	NA	700	No coho held yet; fish in system	
Eagle Creek NFH	NA	--	NA	3,300	Fish in Clackamas	
Sandy H.	NA	--	NA	1,200	Fish in system	
Bonneville H.	16,500	28-Sep	NA	5,100	Goal achieved	
Total Oregon	15,200		NA	10,300		
Bonneville Dam	62,962	29-Sep	60,300	--		

FISHERY UPDATES

Recreational Fisheries

- The Buoy 10 fishery (Columbia mouth upstream to the Tongue Point/Rocky Point line) opened Aug 1 for Chinook and hatchery coho. The fishery closed for the retention of Chinook effective October 1, but remains open for hatchery steelhead and hatchery coho.
- Buoy 10 catch estimates through September 25 include 54,000 anglers, 9,200 Chinook and 6,900 coho. Preseason expectations included a Chinook catch of 12,400 (3,200 URBs) and 12,900 coho.
- The mainstem Columbia River from the Tongue Point/Rocky Point line upstream to Bonneville Dam opened for chinook and fin-clipped coho on August 1. Retention of Chinook was prohibited effective September 18, but the fishery remains open for hatchery coho and hatchery steelhead.
- Lower Columbia River catch estimates include 74,000 anglers, 17,500 Chinook and 420 coho kept. Preseason catch expectations included 16,600 Chinook (10,000 URBs) and 700 coho.
- The Zone 6 sport fishery opened August 1 from Bonneville Dam to Hwy. 395 near Pasco, Washington. Most fishing activity occurs near tributary mouths. Retention of Chinook was prohibited effective October 1, but the fishery remains open for coho and hatchery steelhead.
- The Zone 6 sport fishery harvested an estimated 1,000 Chinook prior to the closure. Preseason catch expectations included 1,700 Chinook (1,400 URBs) and 1,300 coho.

Non-Indian Mainstem Commercial Fisheries

- The early fall season consisted of eight fishing periods occurring during August 4-26 resulting in landings of 11,430 Chinook (3,924 URBs), 87 coho and 2,094 sturgeon.
- The late fall season is still under way, with six fishing periods occurring the first week of the fishery (September 19-25) and four fishing periods in place for the second week (September 26-Oct 2).
- Chinook landings to date were similar to expectations while coho landings were slightly above expectations:

<i>September Non-Indian Commercial Fishery Landings</i>						
Dates	Deliveries	Chinook	Coho	White Sturgeon	Green Sturgeon	
Sept 19	(Z 1-3) 146 ave.	3,747	13,426	89		2
Sept 19-21	(Z 3-5) 44 ave.	3,775	737	253		0
Sept 22	(Z 1-3) 153	1,938	5,727	269		7
Sept 22-23	(Z 3-5) 27	873	274	81		0
Sept 26	(Z 1-3) 147	998	2,948	823		6
Sept 26-27	(Z 3-5) 15	735	32	105		0
Sept 28	(Z 1-3) 112	753	2,630	616		4
Sept 28-29	(Z 3-5) 17	693	51	124		0
Total		13,512	25,825	2,360		19

Select Area Commercial Fisheries

- The Youngs Bay Select Area fishery is currently open seven days per week through the end of October and four nights per week in the other Select Areas.
- Landings to date are ahead of preseason expectations in Youngs Bay and Tongue Point, on track for Blind Slough, and behind for Deep River, with total Select Area landings consisting of 8,600 Chinook, 59,200 coho and 90 sturgeon.

Sturgeon Harvest

- Through September 30, 6,703 white sturgeon have been landed in mainstem and Select Area commercial fisheries leaving 1,480 (includes 183 from 2003-04) available for harvest during the remainder of 2005.

Treaty Indian Commercial Salmon Fishery

- Five weekly fishing periods were adopted in all of Zone 6 during August 22 through September 23. An additional 2.5 days of fishing took place between September 28-30.
- Projected treaty-Indian harvest rates to URB Chinook total 18.8%, or 82% of the Treaty Indian allocation.
- Projected treaty-Indian harvest rates to wild Group B steelhead total 11%, or 73% of the Treaty allocation.

<i>2005 Treaty-Indian Landings</i>					
Dates	Chinook	URB	Steelhead	Wild B	Coho
August Platform	520	492	3,399	198	0
Commercial					
Aug 22-26	3,859	362	1,218	74	11
Aug 31-Sep 3	10,035	6,253	930	65	72
Sep 7-10	36,628	23,156	1,507	91	883
Sep 13-17	37,996	16,775	2,776	291	1,350
Sep 19-23	16,927	8,192	2,333	291	1,514
Sep 28-30					
Commercial Total	105,445	54,738	8,764	812	3,830
Total	105,965	55,230	12,163	1,010	3,830

Impacts Summary

<i>Summary of Fishery Impacts During Fall of 2005</i>				
Fishery	Pre-Season	Chinook	URB Impacts	
	Chinook	Catch	No.	%
Treaty Indian Fisheries				
August C&S		520	492	0.17%
Commercial through Sep 30		105,445	54,738	18.68%
Treaty Indian Total		167,500	105,230	18.84%
Non-Indian Fisheries				
Buoy 10 Sport (Proj Total)	12,400	9,300	2,250	0.77%
LCR Sport through Sep 17	16,600	17,465	10,241	3.49%
Zone 6 Sport (Proj. Total)	1,700	1,020	800	0.27%
Sport Total	30,700	27,785	13,291	4.53%
Early August Commercial	5,800	4,707	90	0.03%
Mid-Late August Commercial	7,300	6,723	3,836	1.31%
Select Area Commercial (Proj. Total)	11,000	10,740	510	0.17%
September Chinook/Coho	20,300	13,512	3,791	1.29%
October Commercial Fisheries (Proj. Total)	700	9,420	2,670	0.91%
Commercial Total	45,100	45,102	10,897	3.72%
Non-Indian Total	75,800	72,887	24,188	8.25%
Remaining URB impacts				
URB run Size			293,100	

FISHERY PROPOSALS

<i>Recommendation</i>	
The Joint Staff recommends adoption of the following commercial salmon fishing periods for the mainstem Columbia River:	
Season:	2PM Wednesday October 5- 6AM Thursday October 6 (16 hours) 7PM Thursday October 6 to 5AM Friday October 7 (10 hours)
Area:	Zones 1-5
Sanctuaries:	Elokomin-A, Abernathy, Cowlitz, Kalama-A, Lewis-A, Sandy and Washougal rivers
Gear:	9¾-inch maximum mesh size 8-inch minimum beginning 7PM Thursday October 6
Allowable Sales:	Salmon and sturgeon. A maximum of 7 sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday) that the fishery is open.
Miscellaneous Rules:	Quick Reporting Rules will be in effect for Washington buyers.

- Expected catch includes 4,000 Chinook, 1,000 coho, and 500-700 white sturgeon.

Select Area Commercial

<i>Recommendation</i>
The Joint Staff recommends the sturgeon limit for all Select Areas be adjusted to match the sturgeon limit adopted for the mainstem commercial fisheries.

Future Compact Hearings

- A Columbia River Compact hearing is recommended for 1:00 PM, Monday October 10, 2005 via teleconference to discuss salmon stock status and consider additional non-Indian commercial fishing periods.