

# OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

## JOINT STAFF REPORT WINTER FACT SHEET NO. 10 April 4, 2008

**Purpose:** Spring Chinook Recreational fisheries update and review

*Management guidelines and run forecasts for the 2008 spring season were presented in the Winter Fact Sheet #3 (February 15, 2008)*

- The upriver spring Chinook count through April 2 at Bonneville Dam totaled 241 spring Chinook. Based on the recent 10-year average, about 2% of the run has passed by April 2.
- Spring Chinook counts over Willamette Falls total 4 fish as of April 3.
- Run sizes cannot be updated until late April for upriver stock and early May for Willamette stock.
- Based on the upriver run size of 269,300 fish, the non-Indian ESA impact limit is 2.0% of the upriver run. Recreational fisheries below Bonneville Dam were allocated 0.89-0.99% of the 2.0% impact limit in an effort to achieve the April 30 objective.

### ***2008 Mainstem Spring Chinook Recreational Fishery***

- The mainstem Columbia River is currently scheduled to be open for retention of hatchery spring Chinook between Buoy 10 and the west towers on Hayden Island from March 24 through April 4 and in the area from the Hayden Island powerlines upstream to Bonneville Dam during March 16 through April 30. Retention of hatchery Chinook is also open from Bonneville Dam upstream to Priest Rapids Dam (with some area restrictions) during March 16 through May 10.
- From March 24-31, the area from Buoy 10 upstream to the Hayden Island powerlines accounted for 1,871 kept fish (310 released), compared to the March 24-31 catch expectation of about 1,000 fish kept. Stock composition based on VSI indicates 83% of the Chinook are of upriver origin, which is within expectations.
- Catch in the area from Hayden Island upstream to Bonneville Dam for March 16-31 was 2,573 fish (371 released), compared to the preseason expectation of about 2,000 fish kept.
- Through March 31, recreational fisheries below Bonneville Dam have used 0.17% impacts, or 17% of the maximum allowable impact for these fisheries.
- Based on projected catch rates and cumulative impacts to date, the sport fishery appears to be tracking similar to or slightly ahead of management expectations.

### **FUTURE MEETINGS**

- A Compact hearing is scheduled for 11:00 AM Monday, April 7, 2008 via teleconference to consider non-Indian Commercial fisheries.