



FACT SHEET

WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501-1091

Columbia River Compact/ Joint State Action Notice Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

February 6, 2003

THE FOLLOWING COLUMBIA RIVER SEASONS WERE SET:

Non-Indian Commercial Shad Fishery:

SEASON: 3:00 PM to 10:00 PM Daily

May 19 - 23 (5 days)
May 27 - 30 (4 days)
June 2 - 6 (5 days)
June 9 - 13 (5 days)
June 16 - 20 (5 days)
June 23 - 27 (5 days)

AREA: True north/south line through Light #50 near the mouth of the Sandy River upstream to the commercial fishing boundary near Beacon Rock.

GEAR: Single-wall, unslackened, floater gill net; 5-3/8" to 6-1/4" mesh size restrictions; 10-lb breaking strength; and the net may not exceed 150 fathoms in length nor 40 meshes in depth.

ALLOWABLE SALE: Only shad may be kept and sold. All salmon, walleye, and sturgeon must be immediately returned to the water and those alive must be returned to the water unharmed.

THE FOLLOWING COLUMBIA RIVER SEASONS WERE SET:

Non-Indian Select Areas Fishery: Tongue Point/South Channel Commercial Fishery

AREA: Tongue Point and South Channel areas

SEASON: Thursday nights during April 17 through April 25 and Tuesday and Thursday nights during April 29 through June 13 (16 nights).
Open hours are 7 PM to 7 AM (12 hours).

GEAR: In the Tongue Point fishing area gear is restricted to 8-inch maximum mesh size, maximum net length of 250 fathoms, and weight of leadline not to exceed two pounds on any one fathom.

In the South Channel fishing area gear is restricted to 8-inch maximum mesh size, maximum net length of 100 fathoms, and no weight restriction on leadline. Participants in the Tongue Point fishery may have stored onboard their boat, gill nets with leadline in excess of two pounds per any one fathom.

ALLOWABLE SALE: Salmon, sturgeon, and shad.

MISCELLANEOUS REGULATIONS: Special transportation permits would not be required to take fish outside the fishing area. Permanent transportation rules would be in effect.

THE FOLLOWING COLUMBIA RIVER SEASONS WERE REVISED:

Blind Slough/Knappa Slough Commercial Fishery

WINTER SEASON: Saturday nights from February 15 through March 2 (3 nights).
Open hours are from 7 PM to 7 AM (12 hours).

SPRING SEASON: Thursday nights during April 17 through April 25 and Tuesday and Thursday nights during April 29 through June 13. (16 nights).
Open hours are 7 PM to 7 AM (12 hours).

AREA: Blind Slough area only open during winter season and Blind Slough and Knappa Slough areas open during spring season.

GEAR: A 7-1/4 inch minimum mesh size restriction during the winter season and an 8-inch maximum mesh size restriction during the spring season.

ALLOWABLE SALES: Salmon, sturgeon, and shad. During the winter season a maximum of 3 white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each open period.

MISCELLANEOUS REGULATIONS: Special transportation permits would not be required to take fish outside the fishing area. Permanent transportation rules would be in effect.

THE FOLLOWING COLUMBIA RIVER SEASONS WERE SET:

Non-Indian Commercial Salmon Demonstration Fishery

- DATES: 5:00 AM - 9:00 PM Monday, February 17 (16 hours)
5:00 AM - 9:00 PM Wednesday, February 19 (16 hours)
5:00 AM - 9:00 PM Friday, February 21 (16 hours)
5:00 AM - 9:00 PM Monday, February 24 (16 hours)
5:00 AM - 9:00 PM Wednesday, February 26 (16 hours)
5:00 AM - 9:00 PM Friday, February 28 (16 hours)
- AREA: Mouth upstream to Kelly Point (Zones 1 - 4).
- SANCTUARIES: Grays River, Gnat Creek, Elokomina-A, Abernathy Creek, Cowlitz River, Kalama -A, Lewis-A sanctuaries.
- GEAR: Net length not to exceed 150 fathoms. 8 inch minimum mesh size restriction.
- ALLOWABLE SALE: Adipose fin-clipped chinook salmon and sturgeon. A maximum of 3 white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each period.
- PARTICIPANTS: Columbia River commercial fishers with appropriate licenses and legal gear that attended a state-sponsored workshop concerning live captive commercial fishing techniques and possess a certificate that allows participation in this fishery.
- MISCELLANEOUS REGULATIONS: Soak times, defined as time elapsed from when first mesh enters the water to when last mesh leaves the water, must not exceed 45 minutes. Red corks are required at 25 fathom intervals and red corks must be in contrast to the corks used in the remainder of the net. Use of recovery boxes will be required on all lethargic or bleeding fish. Each participant will be required to have 2 operable recovery boxes or one box with two chambers in place to participate in fishery. Operable recovery boxes will require a flow of 16-20 gallons per minute to the box or each chamber.

Quick Reporting Rule for Washington Buyers

WDFW has adopted rules that require commercial purchasers to report their landings by a specified time. This rule can be attached to any commercial season that is adopted, but is not in place unless specified. WDFW staff recommends that the "quick reporting required" clause be in place for this fishery. Washington buyers would be required to send a report of their landings to WDFW by 10AM on the day after the purchase date by either:

- a) FAX transmission to (360) 906-6776 or (360) 906-6777
- b) E-mail to crfishtickets@dfw.wa.gov
- c) Telephone to 1-866-791-1281

THE FOLLOWING COLUMBIA RIVER SEASONS WERE REVISED:

2003 MAINSTEM SPRING CHINOOK SPORT FISHERY

DATES:	January 1 - May 15, 2003 below I-5 Bridge. February 15 - May 15, 2003 from I-5 Bridge upstream to Bonneville Dam and from Tower Island power lines (approximately 6 miles below the Dalles Dam) upstream to McNary Dam plus the Oregon bank between Bonneville Dam and the Tower Island power lines
AREA:	Columbia River mouth at Buoy 10 to McNary Dam (not including Bonneville Pool)
ALLOWABLE CATCH:	6 adipose fin-clipped Chinook, no more than 2 adults per day.
MISCELLANEOUS REGULATIONS:	The fishery will be closed prior to May 15 if the allocation is met before that date. Steelhead and shad fishing will be open concurrent with the spring chinook season.

NEXT COMPACT HEARING

- The next Compact is scheduled for Tuesday, March 4, 2003 at 10 AM at the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife headquarters commission room, located at 2501 SW First Avenue, Portland, Oregon to consider commercial fishing seasons for salmon, steelhead, sturgeon, and smelt.
 - Additional Compact hearings will be held as needed to modify ongoing fisheries.
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