

**TRIBAL STAFF REPORT  
SUMMER FACT SHEET No. 2  
Columbia River Compact**

**July 8, 2005**

**Purpose:** To consider treaty Indian commercial fishing options for the mainstem Columbia River.

***Summer Chinook and Sockeye Forecasts and Run Size***

The summer management period runs from June 15 to July 31.

Dam Counts to date in the summer season have been good for Chinook and sockeye. Through July 7, 38,554 adult chinook, 64,475 sockeye, 21,204 summer steelhead have passed Bonneville. The sockeye count peaked on June 19 with a count of 4,102. Daily chinook counts for the last five days have been over 1,400. Over 35,000 summer chinook and over 41,000 sockeye have passed Priest Rapids Dam.

TAC met on July 7 and believes the chinook run is tracking just below the preseason forecasts and updated the run size to 60,000. At this run size, under the Interim Management Agreement, the tribes would harvest no more than 14,250. TAC believes the sockeye run should come in at the preseason forecast of 70,700. At this run size (runs >50,000) the tribes will manage for no more than a 7% harvest rate. This equates to an allowable catch of 4,949.

***Treaty Indian Summer Season Fisheries and Harvest to Date***

The C&S gillnet permit fishery was suspended on Friday, July 1. Catches are shown in Table 1.

Currently the platform/hook and line fishery is open for subsistence use in all of Zone 6. Sales of platform caught fish began on July 4. The platform harvest estimates are 900 summer Chinook and 1,700 sockeye over the summer management period (through July 31 assuming the platform fishery continues through the end of July). The summer season catch projections will be adjusted based on future catch updates. The preliminary platform catch update through July 2 is 100 summer chinook and 660 steelhead and 700 sockeye.

The first gillnet opening harvested 2,049 chinook, 500 sockeye and 178 steelhead. The total summer season chinook harvest to date 2,799. With the estimated platform catch through July 31 and no additional gillnet fishing, the total harvest would be 3,600. The sockeye harvest rate to date is estimated to be 1.4%. Through July 31 with no additional gillnet fishing the harvest rate would be 2.8%.

Tribal staff estimate that a 3.5 day gillnet fishery next week would likely harvest no more than 2,500 chinook. The sockeye catch would likely be no more than 1,000. These harvest estimates are based on the performance of last year's fishery as well as previous year's sockeye fisheries.

TABLE 1. Treaty Zone 6 Summer Season Harvest

Fishery	Dates	Nets	Chinook to date	Chinook through 7/31	Sockeye to date	Sockeye through 7/31	Steelhead to date	Steelhead through 7/31
Platform	Through 7/2		100	900	700	1,700	660	na
C&S Gillnet permits *	6/15-6/29		650	completed	na	completed	na	completed
Gillnet #1	7/21-7/24	229	2,049		500		178	
Subtotal			2,799	3,600	(1.4%) -1,008	(3.1%) -2,200	838	
Proposed Gillnet #2	7/11-7/14	~250	2,500		500		400	
Proposed Gillnet #3	7/18-7/22	~250	2,000		400		500	
Total			7,300	8,100	(2.7%) 1,910	(4.4%) 3,100	1,738	

\* C&S gillnet permit catches are preliminary. Minimum mesh size restrictions of 7 inches were in place, so sockeye catch will be minimal.

**Treaty Indian Commercial Fishery Proposal**

<b>Recommendation</b>	
Dates:	Two Commercial Gillnet Fisheries (3.5 days and 4.5 days) 6:00 AM Monday July 11 until 6:00 PM Thursday July 14 6:00 AM Monday July 18 until 6:00 PM Friday July 22
Area:	All of Zone 6
Gear:	No minimum mesh size restriction
Sanctuaries:	Standard river mouth and dam sanctuaries remain in effect. The Spring Creek Hatchery Sanctuary is not necessary this time of year.
Allowable Sales:	Chinook, coho, sockeye, 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 45-60 inches in the Bonneville pool may also be retained for subsistence.
Miscellaneous Rules:	The quick reporting rule for Washington buyers will be in effect.

- Additionally, the tribes propose to continuation commercial sales of platform and hook and line caught fish that began 6:00 AM Monday, July 4 until further notice. The allowed sales would include Chinook, coho, sockeye, 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 45-60 inches in the Bonneville pool may also be retained for subsistence.
- The Yakama Nation will continue allow commercial sale of fish caught in their Zone 6 tributary fisheries that overlap with commercial Zone 6 periods. Sales were allowed beginning Monday July 4 and will continue until further notice. The general fishing schedule for these tributaries is (note: for the next two weeks, the Klickitat will allow sales beginning 6:00 AM Monday to coincided with the gillnet opening:

<b>Tributary</b>	<b>Regularly Scheduled Opening</b>	<b>Allowed Commercial Sales</b>
Big White Salmon River	Closed Sundays	Each weekly opening 6:00 AM Tues. to 6 PM Saturday. (no fishing Sundays) beginning July 4
Klickitat River	April 6 to Dec. 25 Noon Mondays through 6 PM Saturdays (Changed to 6:00 AM openings July 11 and July 18)	Each weekly opening Noon Monday to 6 PM Saturday. (no fishing Sundays) beginning July 4. (Changed to 6:00 AM openings July 11 and July 18)

The tribes will request a Compact Hearing on Friday July 22 to consider additional tribal commercial fisheries.

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission  
July 8, 2005