

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

JOINT STAFF REPORT SUMMER FACT SHEET NO. 6 July 8, 2008

Fisheries under consideration: Recreational sturgeon fishing in Bonneville Reservoir

- A 700 white sturgeon harvest guideline is in effect for the recreational fishery in Bonneville Reservoir for 2008.
- The Bonneville Reservoir white sturgeon sport harvest, from January 1 through July 6, 2008, is estimated to be 786 (Table 1).
- Of the estimated harvest of 786 fish, 80 sturgeon were sampled in the creel (10.2%).

Table 1. Sample data and estimated harvest for The Dalles Reservoir, 2008.

Month	Sample rate	Average # of fish in-sample	Harvest estimate	Cumulative harvest
January	0.07	0.5	30	30
February	0.19	1.7	36	66
March	0.21	2.5	52	118
April	0.24	0.9	17	135
May	0.11	4.3	165	300
June	0.14	4.2	124	424
July 1-6	0.05	19.0	362	786

Columbia River Sturgeon Fisheries Above Bonneville Dam

Non-Indian Fisheries

Recreational Fisheries

- Recreational sturgeon fishing closed to retention in The Dalles Reservoir on March 15, with the guideline being exceeded by 28 fish (128%)
- Recreational sturgeon fishing closed to retention in the John Day Reservoir on March 26, with the guideline being exceeded by 10 fish (106%)
- If the final catch estimate for Bonneville Reservoir is 786 sturgeon, the recreational fishery will have exceeded the guideline by 86 fish (112%)

Recommendations

Recreational Sturgeon Fishery in Bonneville Reservoir

Staff recommends closing recreational fisheries in Bonneville Reservoir to retention of white sturgeon effective 12:01 am Saturday, July 12, 2008

- This fishery is projected to exceed the allowable quota by at least 86 fish prior to July 12.

- The suggested closure date will allow 72 hours to notify the public of the closure.

Future Hearings

- A Compact hearing for Thursday July 10, 2008 via teleconference to discuss additional commercial fishing periods.
- A Compact hearing is scheduled for July 22, 2008 at 10 AM via teleconference to consider fall Select Area fisheries, early fall mainstem commercial fisheries, and the recreational sturgeon fishery between the Wauna Powerlines and Bonneville Dam.