

# COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION

## TRIBAL STAFF REPORT SUMMER FACT SHEET NO. 7 July 10, 2008

*Fisheries under consideration: Treaty-Indian Commercial*

### Run Sizes and Forecasts

- Sockeye passage at Bonneville Dam through July 9 totals 209,592 fish. Passage is typically 91% complete by July 9 based on the recent 10-year average.
- Summer Chinook passage at Bonneville Dam totals 39,855 adults during June 16-July 1. Passage is typically 69% complete by July 9 based on the recent 10-year average.
- The counting period for summer Chinook at Priest Rapids Dam is June 14 through August 13. Passage at Priest Rapids is 19,447 summer Chinook through July 6. Passage is typically 50% complete by July 8 based on the recent 10-year average.
- The sockeye count at Lower Monument Dam is 492 sockeye through July 8. The sockeye count at Lower Granite Dam is 408 through July 8. These counts are significantly higher than the previous record sockeye count since ESA listing of 337 at Lower Granite in 2000.
- TAC met July 9 and downgraded the summer Chinook run from the previous in-season estimate of 57,000 fish to 54,000 fish at the river mouth which is still greater than the pre-season forecast of 52,000.
- TAC also left the previously upgraded sockeye estimate at 230,000 sockeye at the river mouth.
- Based on the current in-season run chinook estimate (54,000 fish), treaty Indian and non-Indian fisheries are each allocated 12,000 fish. Based on the in-season sockeye estimate of 230,000

### Columbia River Fisheries

#### Treaty Indian Fisheries

- Three weekly treaty Indian commercial gillnet fishing periods have been adopted during June 23-July 10. Platform hook and line fisheries in Zone 6 have been ongoing since June 16. Yakama Nation tributary and below Bonneville Dam fisheries are also in place.
- Catch estimates from the June 23-25 commercial period include 2,833 summer Chinook, 89 steelhead, and 1,786 sockeye. Catch estimates for the second fishing period (July 1- 3) include 1,591 summer Chinook, 183 steelhead, and 1,448 sockeye.
- The catches from the ongoing opening are not available but because dam counts have dropped and effort is down from previous weeks, it is virtually certain that catches will be less than the second week's opening.
- Zone 6 Platform hook and line catch is estimated at 449 summer Chinook, 965 steelhead and 1800 sockeye through July 5. The platform catch during commercial gillnet openings is

included in those catch estimates. The projected harvest in the platform hook and line fishery is expected to be 600 chinook, 1,500 steelhead, and 2,500 sockeye through July 31.

2008 Summer Season Zone 6 Tribal Harvest						
				Adult		
				Chinook	Sockeye	Steelhead
<b>Platform</b>	Catch Through 7/5			449	1,800	965
	Projected Total 7/31			600	2,500	1500
<b>Gillnet</b>						
		Date	Days	Nets	Adult	
					Chinook	Sockeye
						Steelhead
		6/23-6/25	2.5	457	2,833	1,786
		7/1-7/3	2.5	416	1,591	1,448
Projected		7/8-7/10	2.5	306	1,200	1,000
Projected		7/15-7/17	2.5	~250	1000	1000
Projected		7/22-7/24	2.5	~200	1000	500
	Platform and Gillnet Through 7/5		5.0		4,873	5,034
	Projected Platform and Gillnet through 7/11		7.5		6,073	6,034
	Projected Gillnet Total 7/31		12.5		8,224	8,234

## Impacts

### Summer Chinook

- Treaty Indian harvest is projected to be close to 8,200 fish through July 24. Based on the in-season run size, there would be about 3,800 fish remaining for treaty harvest.

### Sockeye

- Total mortalities from treaty fisheries are projected to be also close 8,200 sockeye through July 24. Based on a total of 16,100 harvestable fish allowed under the ESA, there are about 6,700 sockeye available for additional Treaty harvest.

### Steelhead

- Based on landings and the preseason forecast, treaty Indian impacts are within the range of impacts for Group A steelhead seen since 2002.

## Recommendations

<i>Treaty Indian Gillnet Fishery</i>		
Dates:	6:00 AM Tuesday, July 15 to 6:00 PM Thursday, July 17, 2008	2.5 Days
	6:00 AM Tuesday, July 22 to 6:00 PM Thursday, July 24, 2008	2.5 Days
Area:	All of Zone 6	
Gear:	No minimum mesh size restriction	
Sanctuaries:	Standard river mouth and dam sanctuaries applicable to these gear types 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 42-60 inches in the Bonneville Pool may also be retained for subsistence.	
Additional	<b>24-hour</b> Quick reporting rule in effect for Washington buyers	
Expected catch	1,000 Chinook per week, 1,000 sockeye July 15-17, 500 sockeye July 22-24 and 1,000 steelhead per week.	

- The expected catches are well within the harvest limits in the U.S. v. Oregon 2008-2017 Management Agreement.

### Future Hearings

- The Treaty tribes may recommend future Compact hearings to set additional fisheries or modify fisheries as needed.
- 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 above Wauna. The tribes may also have early fall season fishery proposals at this hearing as well.