

**OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT –
SUMMER FACT SHEET NO. 1
June 12, 2008**

Fisheries under consideration:	Non-Indian commercial salmon Treaty Indian commercial salmon Recreational steelhead fishery below I-5 Bridge
--------------------------------	--

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Management Agreements

- The current 2008-2017 *U.S. v Oregon* Management Agreement (2008-2017 MA) provides specific fishery management guidelines for Treaty Indian and non-treaty Indian summer Chinook and sockeye harvest.
- The Upper Columbia Management Agreement (UCMA) provides additional harvest and management guidelines for sharing of upper Columbia summer Chinook among non-Treaty Indian fisheries.

Summer Chinook

- Mainstem Columbia River Chinook fisheries occurring from June 16 through July 31 will be managed based on an interim goal of 29,000 hatchery and natural origin adult summer Chinook destined for areas above Priest Rapids Dam, as measured at the Columbia River mouth.
- The following table shows the harvest framework from the 2008-2017 MA:

2008-2017 Upper Columbia Summer Chinook Harvest Rate Schedule		
Run Size at River Mouth	Allowed Treaty Harvest	Allowed Non-Treaty Harvest
<5,000	0.05	<100 Chinook
5,000-<16,000	0.05	<200 Chinook
16,000-<29,000	0.1	0.05
29,000-<32,000	0.1	5-6%
32,000- <36,250 (125% of 29,000 goal)	0.1	0.07
36,250-50,000	50% of total harvestable ¹	50% of total harvestable ¹
>50,000	50% of 75% of margin above 50,000 plus 10,500 ²	50% of 75% of margin above 50,000 plus 10,500 ²

¹The total number of harvestable fish is defined as the run size minus 29,000 for run sizes of 36,250 to 50,000.

²For the purposes of this Agreement, the total number of harvestable fish at run sizes greater than 50,000 is to be determined by the following formula: $(0.75 * (\text{runsize}-50,000)) + 21,000$.

- Based on the 2008 run forecast of 52,000 upper Columbia summer Chinook at the mouth of the Columbia River, the number of harvestable fish totals 22,500, which allows for 11,250 fish each for treaty Indian fisheries and combined non-treaty fisheries, which includes commercial, recreational, and non-treaty tribal fisheries above McNary Dam.

Sockeye

- The management goal for upper Columbia River sockeye is 65,000 sockeye at Priest Rapids Dam, which under average migration conditions requires passage of 75,000 fish over Bonneville Dam.

Endangered Species Act (ESA)

- The states submitted a Biological Assessment to NMFS regarding fisheries covered in 2008-2017 Management Agreement and the Biological Opinion has been completed and approved by NMFS.
- During the summer season fishery (June 16 - July 31), ESA-listed stocks in the Columbia River include Snake River sockeye and wild summer steelhead. Upper Columbia summer Chinook are not listed under the ESA.
- The non-treaty ESA impact limit on listed sockeye is 1% of the run entering the Columbia River. The treaty Indian impact limit ranges from 5% – 7% (dependant on run size).
- During the winter/spring and summer seasons the non-treaty ESA impact limit on wild summer steelhead is 2% and the treaty Indian impact limit ranges from 13% – 20% (dependant on run size).

2008 Non-treaty Summer Chinook Harvest Allocation

- Non-treaty fisheries include:
 - Colville and Wanapum non-treaty tribal fisheries.
 - Recreational fisheries from Rocky Pt./Tongue Pt. upstream to Chief Joseph Dam.
 - Commercial fisheries below Bonneville Dam (Zones 1-5).
- The allocation for 2008 non-treaty fisheries is based on the preseason run size forecast, the 2008-2017 MA, the UCMA (including preseason negotiations with the Colville Tribe) and Commission guidance:

2008 Upper Columbia Summer Chinook Allocation		
Preseason Run Size		52,000
Available Treaty-Indian harvest		11,250
Available Non Treaty Harvest		11,250
<i>Non-Treaty Indian Harvest Allocation</i>		
Allocated above Priest Rapids Dam	70%	7,875
Allocated below Priest Rapids Dam (<PRD)	30%	3,375
Recreational <PRD	50%	1,688
Below BONN portion		<1,200
Commercial <BONN	50%	1,687

STOCK STATUS

Upper Columbia Summer Chinook

- Upper Columbia summer Chinook are destined for areas above Priest Rapids Dam. Chinook passing Bonneville Dam during June 16 through July 31 are considered to be upper Columbia summer Chinook. These Chinook are not listed under the ESA and the population is considered healthy.
- The 2008 forecast to the Columbia River mouth totals 52,000 fish, which is slightly greater than the 2007 return. Overall, preseason forecasts have generally under-predicted the actual summer run.
- The upper Columbia summer Chinook run is managed as a composite stock consisting of both hatchery and natural origin fish. Hatchery production uses an integrated broodstock management strategy, meaning that hatchery production originates from both wild and hatchery-origin fish (which are 100% ad-clipped). Broodstock collection and natural spawning escapement goals have been exceeded annually since 1999.
- The integrated broodstock strategy, coupled with the relatively high representation of wild adults within the composite population, both in hatchery programs and on the natural spawning grounds, diminishes the need to fish selectively for hatchery origin adults.
- Daily passage over Bonneville dam is typically stable with no significant peak. Passage is typically 50% complete around July 1.
- Based on the 2008 forecast, daily counts are expected to average about 1,500 Chinook per day during June 16-30, then steadily decrease from 1,000 fish to 500 fish per day through July.

Summer Steelhead

- An estimated 326,400 upriver summer steelhead are expected to pass Bonneville Dam in 2008, which is similar to the 2007 passage of 319,400 fish.
- Upriver stocks of summer steelhead migrate above Bonneville Dam during April 1 through October 31. Summer steelhead passing Bonneville Dam prior to July 1 are considered Skamania stock, and steelhead passing between July 1 and October 31 are classified as either Group A or Group B fish.
- Steelhead passage at Bonneville Dam is minor during June, but increases significantly during July. Passage of Group A and Group B steelhead is typically 25% complete by August 1.

Sockeye

- An estimated 75,600 sockeye are expected to return to the Columbia River in 2008. The 2008 return includes 13,700 Wenatchee stock, 61,200 Okanogan stock, and 700 Snake River sockeye.
- Bonneville Dam passage through June 9 totals 3,004 sockeye. Passage is typically 50% complete by June 24 based on the recent 10-year average.
- Based on the preseason forecast and the management goal of 75,000 sockeye over Bonneville Dam, non-treaty fisheries targeting sockeye are not expected to occur in 2008.

2007 SUMMER SEASON SUMMARY

- A total of 8,300 Chinook were allocated each to treaty Indian and non-treaty Indian fisheries in 2007.
- Based on the 2007 preseason forecast and negotiations with non-treaty tribes above Priest Rapids Dam, a total of 1,650 fish were available for each fishery (commercial and recreational below Priest Rapids Dam). The 2007 fisheries were not mark-selective, allowing for retention of both adipose fin clipped and non-clipped fish. Recreational fisheries had a two-fish bag limit.
- In season runsize updates indicated that the run would most likely be less than the forecast, which resulted in a reduction in the number of fish available for harvest.
- In season management action was necessary in non-Indian fisheries downstream of Priest Rapids Dam. The recreational fishery from Bonneville Dam to Priest Rapids Dam closed on July 2, rather than the scheduled closure date of July 31, and one of the three commercial periods adopted for the 2007 season was rescinded.
- Treaty Indian fisheries allowed sales of platform hook and line caught fish throughout the season, and conducted three weekly periods of commercial gillnet fishing.

2007 Non-Indian fisheries

- Below Bonneville Dam, an estimated 23,700 anglers caught 2,200 adult summer Chinook during June 16-30. Catch from this fishery was (30%) higher than preseason expectations.
- The fishery from Bonneville Dam to Priest Rapids Dam was closed early (July 2), with less than 100 adult Chinook kept above Bonneville Dam.
- Two commercial fisheries took place in Zones 1-5 with 8-inch gear. A weekly limit of 5 white sturgeon per boat was in place for both periods. Deliveries were 77 and 98 for the first and second periods. Landings included 1,122 Chinook and 414 sturgeon.

2007 Treaty Fisheries

- During the 2007 summer season, three weekly periods ranging from 2½ to 3½ days/week took place between June 18 and July 6. Commercial landings totaled 4,564 Chinook, 226 steelhead, and 244 sockeye.
- Platform and hook and line fisheries also occurred in the mainstem and in the White Salmon and Klickitat rivers. Sales of these fish were allowed through out the summer season. Catch includes 811 Chinook, 813 steelhead, and 1,170 sockeye.

2008 SUMMER SEASON FISHERIES

- Non-Indian summer Chinook fisheries were discussed with constituents during the North of Falcon (NOF) process and Pacific Fisheries Marine Council (PFMC) meetings occurring in March and April. Seasons relating to Columbia River summer salmon fisheries are based on the results of the NOF meetings, management agreements, preseason forecasts, and allocation guidelines.

2008 Recreational Fisheries

- Summer Chinook fisheries are scheduled from the Tongue Pt./Rocky Pt. line upstream to Bonneville Dam during June 21 - June 28, and from Bonneville Dam upstream to Priest Rapids Dam during June 16 - July 31. Recreational fisheries above Priest Rapids Dam begin July 1.
- The summer steelhead fishery from the I-5 Bridge upstream to the Hwy 395 Bridge is scheduled to open under permanent regulations on June 16. The fishery below the I-5 Bridge, which was scheduled to open on May 16 under permanent rules, was delayed by emergency in-season action due to concerns of upriver spring Chinook handle.

2008 Non-Indian Commercial Fisheries

- Fisheries will most likely occur in Zones 1-5 and will utilize large mesh (8" min.) gear to avoid incidental handle of sockeye and steelhead. A total of 500 white sturgeon are allocated to the summer commercial season.

2008 Treaty Indian Commercial Fisheries

- Treaty Indian fisheries are allocated 11,250 summer Chinook based on the 2008-2017 MA.

FISHERY RECOMMENDATIONS

<i>Recommendation: Recreational Steelhead Fishery below Bonneville Dam</i>	
The Joint Staff is recommending that the mainstem Columbia River open below the I-5 Bridge for adipose fin-clipped steelhead effective 12:01 AM June 16, 2008.	

<i>Recommendation - Non-Indian Summer Chinook Commercial Fishery</i>	
Season:	7 PM Tuesday June 24 to 5 AM Wednesday June 25, 2008 (10 hours) 7 PM Tuesday July 1 to 5 AM Wednesday July 2, 2008 (10 hours)
Area:	Zones 1-5.
Sanctuaries:	Grays River, Elokomina-A, Cowlitz River, Kalama-A, Lewis-A, Washougal and Sandy River.
Gear:	8-inch minimum mesh size.
Multi- Net Rule:	Multiple Net Rule: It will be legal to have onboard a commercial vessel more than one net provided the nets are of mesh size legal for the fishery, or the net has a minimum mesh size of 9 inches, and the length of any one net does not exceed 1,500 feet in length. Nets not specifically authorized for use in this fishery may be onboard the vessel if properly stored. A properly stored net is defined as a net on a drum that is fully covered by a tarp (canvas or plastic) and bound with a minimum of ten revolutions of rope with a diameter of 3/8 (0.375) inches or greater.
Allowable Sales:	Chinook, coho, white sturgeon, and shad. All sockeye and steelhead must be released immediately. A maximum of five white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday) that the fishery is open.
Expected Catch:	1,600 Chinook and 450-500 white sturgeon
Additional:	24-hour quick reporting rule in effect for Washington buyers.

- Catch expectations include 800-1,100 Chinook for the first period, and 500-600 Chinook for subsequent periods, based on past fishery results and the 2008 preseason forecast.
- Weekly, one-tide fisheries will restrict harvest and allow time to verify landings and estimate catch rates prior to future fishing periods.
- Nighttime fishing will minimize sport/commercial interactions. Consistent fishing periods each week will provide equal opportunity throughout the river.
- Effort is expected to range between 75-100 deliveries per period. A portion of the fleet will leave for Alaska fishing from mid- to late June.
- Fishing periods may be rescinded or adjusted if catch exceeds management expectations.

Treaty Fishery Recommendation

<i>Platform Hook and Line Fishery Recommendation</i>	
Dates:	6:00 AM Monday June 16, 2008 until further notice.
Area:	All of Zone 6
Gear:	Hoop Nets, Dip Nets and hook and line
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, steelhead, walleye, carp, and shad may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sockeye may not be sold but may be 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	24-hour Quick reporting rule in effect for Washington buyers

- The platform fishery is not expected to harvest more than about 780 Chinook (based on a 5 year 1.5% average harvest rate) and about 3,400 sockeye (based on the recent year highest harvest rate of 4.5%) between June 16 and July 31. Most productive platform sites are assumed to be currently in use and will continue to be used whether or not fish are sold. Platform effort is not predicted to increase significantly.
- The tribal intent is to allow sale of platform caught fish throughout the summer and fall management period.

<i>Treaty Indian Gillnet Fishery Recommendation</i>	
Dates:	6:00 AM Monday, June 23 to 6:00 PM Wednesday, June 25, 2008 2.5 Days
Area:	All of Zone 6
Gear:	7" 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, steelhead, walleye, carp, and shad may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sockeye may not be sold but may be 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	24-hour Quick reporting rule in effect for Washington buyers

- The first gillnet opening may have an effort of around 450 nets based on this spring’s high effort. High effort is likely related to high prices. The expected catch is approximately 3,500 Chinook based on doubling the harvest rate of 3.4% seen in the first week’s fishery in 2006 and 2007. The catch may be as high as 6,200 based on doubling the highest harvest rate observed in any week in the past two years. The tribes expect only very small numbers of sockeye and steelhead to be harvested under any circumstance. The seven-inch minimum mesh size has done well to minimize sockeye handle in the past few years when it has been used. The tribes expect to harvest no more than about 200-300 sockeye in the first gillnet opening. There are still relatively low numbers of steelhead in Zone 6 and the tribes expect to harvest no more than approximately 200 steelhead.
- The tribes may choose to allow the sale of sockeye at a later date depending on the run size and subsistence catches.
- The proposed tribal commercial fisheries are expected be well within the overall allowed summer season fishery impacts.
- Additionally, the Yakama Nation will propose that commercial sales of fish caught in their Zone 6 tributary fisheries be allowed when the tributary openings overlap with either commercial openings for gillnet or platform gear in Zone 6. The allowed species for sale would coincide with the mainstem fisheries. The general fishing schedule for these tributaries is:

Tributary	Regularly Scheduled Opening	Allowed Commercial Sales
Wind River	Noon Monday to 6 PM Saturday Through June 28.	Noon Mon. to 6 PM Saturday (no fishing Sundays)
White Salmon River	Closed Sundays	6:00 AM Mon. to 6 PM Saturday (no fishing Sundays)
Klickitat River	Noon Wednesday to 6 PM Saturdays Through late December (The fishery was extended through June and normally re-opens in July)	Noon Wed. to 6 PM Saturday (no fishing Sundays)

FUTURE MEETINGS

- Additional hearings will occur as needed to modify ongoing fisheries or consider additional fishing opportunity.
- The treaty tribes may request a Compact hearing June 27 to consider additional treaty Indian commercial periods for the week of June 30 and July 7