

**JOINT STAFF/TAC REPORT  
FALL FACT SHEET NO. 3  
Columbia River Compact  
August 15, 2002**

<b>PURPOSE:</b>	Review salmon, steelhead, and sturgeon stock status and consider treaty Indian and non-Indian fishing options.
<b>TAC:</b>	The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) reviewed the fall Compact report.

## Management Guidelines

### *Endangered Species Act*

<i>Listed Salmon and Steelhead of the Columbia Basin Present During August 1-December 31</i>		
Species - ESU	Designation	Effective Date
<u><i>Federally Listed Species</i></u>		
<b><u>Chinook</u></b>		
<i>Snake River Fall</i>	Threatened	May 22, 1992
<i>Lower Columbia R. Spring/Fall</i>	Threatened	May 24, 1999
<b><u>Chum</u></b>		
<i>Columbia River</i>	Threatened	May 24, 1999
<b><u>Steelhead</u></b>		
<i>Snake River</i>	Threatened	October 17, 1997
<i>Upper Columbia River</i>	Endangered	October 17, 1997
<i>Middle Columbia River</i>	Threatened	May 24, 1999
<i>Lower Columbia River</i>	Threatened	May 18, 1998
<u><i>Oregon State Listed Species</i></u>		
<b><u>Coho</u></b>		
<i>Lower Columbia</i>	Endangered	July 16, 1999

- Coho salmon in the lower Columbia ESU are currently under review for listing under the Federal ESA.
- A combined treaty Indian and non-Indian Biological Assessment concerning fall fisheries has been submitted to the NMFS but a Biological Opinion had not been received at the time this Fact Sheet was completed.
- The NMFS has issued a Section 7 consultation letter covering fisheries occurring prior to August 16, 2002 and expects to complete a Biological Opinion prior to August 16, 2002.

### *2002 Management Agreement*

- The states and tribes reached an agreement for management of 2002 fall fisheries. The 2002 Management Agreement allocates the 31.29% URB harvest rate 8.25% to non-Indian fisheries and 23.04% to treaty Indian fisheries.
- Non-Indian fisheries occurring during August will be managed in accordance with the "2002 Non-Indian Columbia River Fall Chinook Allocation Agreement" completed through the North of Falcon negotiation process.

*Excerpts From the 2002 Non-Indian Columbia River Fall Chinook Allocation Agreement*

- ✓ URB fall chinook impacts in fisheries downstream of the Snake River are allocated pre-season at 4.36% to the sport fishery and 3.89% to the commercial fishery. The Columbia River Compact will use this URB impact allocation as guidance for making in-season management decisions concerning the Columbia River sport and commercial fisheries. Actual URB impacts in the fisheries may differ from pre-season estimates based on actual fishery catches, stock composition, and run-size updates. The *U. S. v. Oregon* TAC will update the URB run-size beginning in mid-September.
- ✓ The Buoy 10 sport fishery is modeled at 90% of the chinook catch estimated for a full fishery to the end of the year (with a two fish daily limit) which is expected to deliver enough chinook to continue the fishery through Labor Day. URB impacts with this fishery are projected to be 1.70%; or 39% of the total sport impacts of 4.36%.
- ✓ The mainstem sport fishery below McNary Dam is modeled at 95% of the chinook catch estimated for a full fishery to the end of the year (with a two fish daily limit), which is expected to provide enough chinook to continue the fishery through September, unless the mid-September URB run size and fishery updates indicate this fishery cannot continue past mid-September. URB impacts associated with this fishery are 2.66%; or 61% of the total sport impacts of 4.36%. For 2003 fall fishery discussions, the mainstem sport fishery will begin at 100%.
- ✓ Expectations for the commercial fishery include:
  - An early August salmon fishery up to four nights during the first week of August with potential for fishing during the early part of the second week of August in Zones 2 and 3 only. During the first week of August, the open area will include Zone 1 upstream to Longview Bridge and an 8-inch minimum mesh restriction. Projected catch is 16,800 salmon. Chinook/URB impacts not used in this fishery will transfer to August Zone 4-5 fishery.
  - Late August Zone 4-5 fishery during the last two week of August. Fishing is expected to occur 2-3 nights per each week with breaks in between fishing days. This fishery will not occur past August 29. Mesh size is 9-inch minimum. Chinook/URB impacts not used in this fishery will transfer to September fisheries. Expected catch is 8,300 chinook plus any transfers from the early August commercial fishery.

- Non-Indian fall fisheries will be managed not to exceed a total impact rate (including ocean and Columbia River fisheries) of 49% on LRH (Coweeman) fall chinook.
- Ocean and lower river fisheries will be managed to provide for a Bonneville Dam escapement of at least 50% of the upriver coho salmon return.
- Combined ocean and freshwater fisheries will be managed to limit impacts on wild coho destined for Oregon tributaries to no more than 14% based on the 2002 Incidental Take Permit issued by the OFWC. Freshwater fisheries will be managed not to exceed a 5% impact rate on Oregon state-listed coho and the impact rate is expected to be 3% based on preseason fishery expectations.
- Non-Indian fisheries will be managed for an impact rate not to exceed 5% for Columbia River chum salmon.
- Treaty Indian fall fisheries for 2002 will be managed to not exceed a 23.04% impact rate on URB fall chinook and 15% on wild Group B Index steelhead in accordance with the Fall Season Management Agreement.
- Salmon management guidelines are more fully outlined on page 18 of the "Joint Staff Report Concerning the 2002 In-River Commercial Harvest of Columbia River Fall Chinook Salmon, Summer Steelhead, Coho Salmon, and Sturgeon".

### ***Lower Columbia River Sturgeon Allocation***

- Sturgeon fisheries between the Columbia River mouth and Bonneville Dam during 2000-2002 are guided by a Sturgeon Fishery Management Agreement signed by the ODFW and WDFW Directors in March 2000.

<b><i>Major Tenets of the Joint State Agreement on 2000-2002 Columbia River Sturgeon Fishery Management</i></b>	
✓	Management based on optimum sustained yield approach.
✓	Absent significant update, annual harvestable number is 50,000.
✓	Harvestable number may be adjusted if there is a significant population update resulting from new biological information, new analytical/theoretical approach, or a substantial change in harvest impacts outside of the Columbia Basin.
✓	Allocates white sturgeon harvestable number 80% sport (40,000) and 20% commercial (10,000).
✓	Sport and commercial seasons will be modified as necessary to ensure that average catch during the three-year period (2000-2002) does not exceed fishery specific harvestable number.
✓	Commercial target seasons are allowed as necessary to access allocation and maximize economic benefit consistent with conservation objectives for other species.
✓	Green sturgeon may be taken during white sturgeon commercial seasons but green sturgeon-only commercial seasons are not allowed and green sturgeon catch rate is not to exceed historical rates.
✓	Commercial size limits are 48"-60" for white sturgeon and 48"-66" for green sturgeon.
✓	Recreational size limit for white and green sturgeon is 42"-60" with one fish daily limit, ten fish annual (per calendar year) limit, and barbless hooks required.

- 2002 represents the final year of the current 3-year Joint State Agreement on Sturgeon Fishery Management.
- Recent sturgeon population estimates have not increased as expected which will likely result in a reduced white sturgeon harvestable number for the next agreement.
- At the December 12, 2001 hearing the Compact adopted the following fishery management protocol for 2002 sturgeon fisheries in the lower Columbia River.

<b><i>Sturgeon Fishery Management Protocol For 2002</i></b>	
✓	Overages during 2000 and 2001 will be applied to currently adopted 2002 catch guidelines.
✓	Sport and commercial fisheries will be managed to less than the maximum catch guideline for 2002 as a management buffer. Reduction will be 2,000 for sport and 500 for commercial.
✓	Based on the December 12, 2001 catch update 2002 sport fisheries would be managed for a catch target of 36,500 not to exceed 38,500 and commercial fisheries would be managed for a catch target of 9,200 not to exceed 9,700.
✓	2002 catch guidelines may be further modified as 2001 catches are updated.

- Based on the most recent catch updates the sport catch guideline remains at 36,500 not to exceed 38,500 and the commercial catch guideline is 9,300 not to exceed 9,800.

### ***Zone 6 Sturgeon Allocation***

- The Sturgeon Management Task Force (SMTF) develops management goals and guidelines for both treaty Indian and non-Indian fisheries in the Zone 6 management area based on current stock assessment data.
- The goals and catch guidelines for 2002 are the same as those adopted for 2001 fisheries, except for the John Day Pool where the guidelines were reduced from 560 to 165 for sport fisheries and from 1,160 to 335 for treaty Indian commercial fisheries.

- Recreational catch guidelines are: 1,520 for Bonneville Pool; 700 for The Dalles Pool; and 165 for John Day Pool.
- Treaty Indian commercial catch guidelines are 1,300 for Bonneville Pool; 1,100 for the Dalles Pool; and 335 for John Day Pool.
- The SMTF expects the treaty Indian subsistence sturgeon catch to be 300 fish or less.

## Water Conditions

### *Flow Updates*

- Flows have been above average this summer with flow measured at Bonneville Dam ranging between 160 kcfs and 315 kcfs during July.
- Flows remained above average during August with flows measured at Bonneville Dam ranging between 145 kcfs and 185 kcfs.

### *Temperature Updates*

- Water temperatures, as measured at Bonneville Dam, typically increase rapidly through the month of July to a peak during the first half of August. Subsequently temperatures typically decline slowly during the last half of August and early September.
- Water temperatures have been below recent year averages during the month of July with temperature measured at Bonneville Dam not exceeding 68°F for the month.
- Water temperatures at Bonneville Dam remained stable at 68-69°F during the first thirteen days of August.

## Stock Status

### *Spring/Summer Updates*

<i>Preseason Forecasts and Preliminary Returns of Spring Chinook, Summer Chinook, and Sockeye Salmon Returning to the Columbia River in 2002</i>			
Stock	Preseason Forecast	Preliminary 2002 Return	Comments
<b>Spring Chinook</b>			
Willamette	73,800	115,000	Fourth largest since 1946.
Sandy	4,300	--	2,083 adults passed Marmot Dam through August 12.
Cowlitz	3,100	3,100	On track with preseason predication.
Kalama	1,600	2,400	Larger than predicated.
Lewis	2,000	3,000	Larger than predicated.
Upriver	333,700	294,900	Second largest return on record (since 1938).
Snake River Wild	44,900	NA	
Upper Columbia Wild	5,100	NA	
<b>Summer Chinook</b>			
Upriver	77,700	129,000	Largest return since 1960.
Snake River Wild	6,600	--	Likely greater than forecast.
<b>Sockeye</b>			
Upriver	41,200	50,000	Half of 2000 and 2001 returns.
Wenatchee	14,000	34,700	
Okanogan	27,200	15,300	
Snake River	26	NA	52 sockeye counted at lower Granite Dam.

<i>Summary of Columbia River Salmon and Steelhead Returns in 2001 and Forecasts For 2002.</i>			
<b>Species, stock</b>	2001 Return <sup>1</sup>	2002 Forecast <sup>1</sup>	Comments
<b>Fall chinook</b>	<b>548,800</b>	<b>659,800</b>	<b>Third largest since 1948</b>
Upriver bright (URB)	232,600	273,800	Largest since 1988
Snake River wild (SRW)	NA	NA	
Mid-Columbia bright (MCB)	75,300	91,800	Largest since 1989
Bonneville upriver bright (BUB)	42,100	45,700	
Pool upriver bright (PUB)	33,200	46,100	
Lower river bright (LRB)	1,000	1,900	Formerly a component of the BUB stock
Bonneville pool hatchery (BPH)	125,000	136,000	Largest since 1976
Lower river hatchery (LRH)	94,300	133,000	Largest since 1988
Lower river wild (LRW)	15,700	18,300	Largest since 1991
Select area bright (SAB)	4,900	5,000	Larger than recent 5-year average
<b>Upriver summer steelhead</b>	<b>630,200</b>	<b>447,800</b>	<b>Second largest on record</b>
Skamania index (May 1 - June 30)	28,700	17,400	Only includes fish prior to July 1
A-run index (length <78cm)	515,100	369,700	Only includes fish after June 30
A-run index wild (length <78cm)	137,200	105,000	Third largest since 1984
B-run index (length ≥78cm)	86,400	60,600	Includes only fish after June 30
B-run index wild (length ≥78cm)	12,000	21,600	Largest since 1984.
<b>Coho</b>	<b>1,078,600</b>	<b>171,600</b>	<b>Smallest since 1998</b>
Early stock	672,700	112,700	Smallest since 1997
Late stock	405,900	58,900	Smallest since 1998

<sup>1</sup> Columbia River mouth return, except summer steelhead is Bonneville Dam return.

### **Summer Steelhead**

- The Skamania index return exceeded the preseason forecast of 17,400, which included 11,300 hatchery fish and 6,200 wild fish.
- A total of 24,980 summer steelhead passed Bonneville Dam during April 1-June 30 (Skamania index) which was slightly less than the record large return of 28,700 in 2001.
- Based on sampling data at Bonneville Dam the Skamania index return of 24,980 was comprised of 15,313 (61%) hatchery fish and 9,667 (39%) wild fish.

<b>Summer Steelhead Dam Counts</b>						
		August 13	Cumulative Total Through August 13			
		Daily	2002	2001	2000	1999
Bonneville	Skamania Index	--	25,000	28,700	16,600	7,200
	Group A Index	6,700	195,000	328,122	116,029	80,207
	Group B Index	387	10,400	5,753	2,338	1,461
<b>Total</b>		<b>7,087</b>	<b>230,400</b>	<b>362,575</b>	<b>134,967</b>	<b>88,868</b>
The Dalles		2,700	105,872	167,483	49,769	50,838
John Day		2,500	71,886	96,024	32,843	35,893
McNary		1,345	49,357	83,945	25,178	17,847
Ice Harbor		379	17,427	37,357	11,156	8,258
Lower Granite		242	8,024	11,658	4,288	2,353
Priest Rapids		100	5,130	10,272	3,572	1,484

- To date 46% of the steelhead passing Bonneville Dam have passed The Dalles Dam, which is 128% of the recent 10-year average of 36%.
- Group A index passage is tracking similar to preseason expectations while Group B index passage to date is stronger than expected. Based on the recent 10-year average 51% of the Group A index and 7% of the Group B index runs pass Bonneville Dam prior to August 14.
- Returns of wild summer steelhead have been strong to date with wild fish representing 30-54% of summer steelhead passing Bonneville Dam during July 1- August 4. Group A index wild summer steelhead abundance typically peaks in late July with 48% of the wild Group A index and 12% of the wild Group B index fish passing Bonneville Dam prior to August 5.
- Since July 1 summer steelhead counts at Bonneville Dam have been comprised of 95% Group A index fish and 5% Group B index fish. Abundance of Group B index steelhead typically peaks in September.
- Sampling at Priest Rapids Dam began in mid-July and through August 1 wild fish have comprised 29% of the passage over Priest Rapids Dam.

<i>Upriver Summer Steelhead Returns to Bonneville Dam</i>										
Year	Group A Index (<78 cm)					Group B Index (>=78 cm)				
	Number		Number		Total	Number		Number		Total
	Wild	%	Hatchery	%		Wild	%	Hatchery	%	
1984	52,500	27	143,200	73	195,700	13,800	14	84,200	86	98,000
1985	51,900	18	229,600	82	281,500	13,000	32	27,900	68	40,900
1986	56,600	20	230,900	80	287,500	10,000	16	54,000	84	64,000
1987	106,700	45	131,600	55	238,300	14,000	31	31,000	69	45,000
1988	64,300	37	108,800	63	173,100	17,700	22	63,900	78	81,600
1989	57,500	30	135,600	70	193,100	12,400	16	65,200	84	77,600
1990	27,100	23	88,500	77	115,600	8,800	19	38,400	81	47,200
1991	60,300	26	173,800	74	234,100	6,200	22	22,100	78	28,300
1992	44,300	18	197,200	82	241,500	12,700	22	44,800	78	57,500
1993	28,700	21	108,000	79	136,700	4,400	12	31,800	88	36,200
1994	21,200	18	99,800	82	121,000	5,200	19	22,300	81	27,500
1995	26,000	14	154,000	86	180,000	1,900	14	11,300	86	13,200
1996	25,700	15	148,700	85	174,400	3,900	21	14,900	79	18,800
1997	30,900	15	177,300	85	208,200	3,900	11	32,800	89	36,700
1998	34,800	26	99,900	74	134,700	3,400	9	36,900	91	40,300
1999	56,600	32	119,900	68	176,500	3,700	17	18,400	83	22,100
2000	63,600	29	153,100	71	216,700	8,400	21	32,500	79	40,900
2001	137,200	27	377,900	73	515,100	12,000	14	74,300	86	86,400
<b>2002 Proj.</b>	<b>105,000</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>264,700</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>369,700</b>	<b>21,600</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>39,000</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>60,600</b>

- A return of 369,700 Group A index summer steelhead to the Columbia River would represent the second largest return since at least 1984 and a return of 60,600 Group B index summer steelhead would be the second largest return since 1989. The TAC has not updated the summer steelhead run size forecasts at this time.

### ***Fall Chinook***

- Fall chinook typically enter the Columbia River in mid-August with abundance at Bonneville Dam peaking during the first half of September.
- Fall chinook counting at Bonneville Dam begins on August 1 and typically 2-5% of the fall chinook run passes Bonneville Dam prior to August 14.

- Through August 13 an estimated 9,228 adult fall chinook have passed Bonneville Dam as compared to the recent ten-year average of 5,579 adults.
- Observation of fall chinook at Bonneville Dam to determine tule/bright stock separation will begin on August 15.

## **Fishery Updates**

### ***Buoy 10 Sport Fishery***

- The Buoy 10 fishery (from the mouth upstream to the Tongue Point/Rocky Point line) opened August 1 for chinook, adipose fin-clipped coho, and adipose fin-clipped steelhead. Daily salmon bag limit is two fish.
- Coho fishing started off very slow with catch rates of less than 0.10 coho per rod during the first thirteen days of the fishery.
- Catch rates during the first half of August typically range between 0.1 and 0.5 coho per rod.
- As is typical, chinook fishing began slowly with catch rates of 0.02-0.08 chinook per rod through the first seven days of August. Chinook fishing improved during August 9-13 with catch rates ranging between 0.16 and 0.23 chinook per rod.
- Stock composition analysis for chinook catch will occur inseason.

### ***Mainstem and Tributary Sport Fisheries***

- Under permanent regulations the Columbia River opened to summer steelhead angling May 16 below the I-5 Bridge and June 16 from the I-5 Bridge to the Hwy. 395 Bridge in Pasco, Washington. Anglers were allowed to keep adipose fin-clipped summer chinook during June 28-July 31, 2002.
- After the retention of summer chinook was allowed, boat angler effort increased almost 400% for the first two weeks of the fishery and bank angler effort increased 100%. Overall salmonid effort for May 16-July 31 was a record high and almost 60% higher than 2001 (record large steelhead return).
- Wild steelhead handle during July totaled 2,400 fish released which is the third highest total for July since the fishery became selective in 1984. The total for kept hatchery fish of 3,900 was the second highest since 1986. During May 16-July 31, 2002 lower Columbia River salmonid anglers made 59,900 angler trips and caught 10,900 steelhead (7,900 hatchery fish kept and 3,000 wild fish released) and 3,433 summer chinook (1,350 kept and 2,083 released).
- The mainstem Columbia River (from the Tongue Point/Rocky Point line upstream to Hwy 395 Bridge at Pasco) opened for chinook and coho on August 1. Nonadipose fin-clipped coho must be released downstream from Bonneville Dam. The daily salmon bag limit is two adults per day.
- During August 1-12, ODFW and WDFW personnel checked 2,800 salmon anglers on the lower Columbia with catches of 40 fall chinook adults, 500 hatchery steelhead kept, and 300 wild steelhead released.
- The total adult chinook catch through August 12 is estimated to be about 200 fish.
- Chinook fishing in the near future is expected to remain slow with no increase in CPUE observed this week and unfavorable fishing tides until the weekend.
- Oregon tributaries generally opened August 1 for chinook as per permanent regulations. The lower Clackamas River opened August 1 and the Sandy River opens September 1 for adipose fin-clipped coho through October 31. In several other Oregon tributaries below Bonneville Dam coho angling is allowed, but only adipose fin-clipped coho may be kept.

- Most Washington tributaries opened August 1 for fall chinook and adipose fin-clipped coho.
- The retention of sturgeon in the Columbia River below Bonneville Dam, including Youngs Bay, by boat and bank anglers was disallowed every Sunday and Monday during March 3-May 13 and all days during July 25-September 30.

<i>Sturgeon Catch and Effort Through July in the Lower Columbia River Sport Fishery, 1994-2002</i>				
<u>Year</u>	<u>Angler Trips</u>	<u>Legals Kept</u>	<u>CPUE Kept/Trip</u>	<u>Regulation Enacted</u>
2002	141,400	36,200	0.256	One fish bag all year, retention prohibited Sunday and Monday during March 3-May 13 and all days during July 25-September 30.
2001	147,900	33,900	0.229	One fish bag all year, retention prohibited entire river during August and September.
2000	145,500	28,200	0.194	One fish bag all year, retention prohibited in estuary during April.
1999	137,700	28,500	0.207	One fish bag all year.
1998	151,000	31,200	0.207	One fish bag all year.
1997	145,600	27,300	0.187	One fish bag all year.
1996	135,200	32,100	0.237	Two fish bag (1 & 1 rule) prior to 4/1/96 and one fish bag thereafter.
1995	166,600	39,400	0.237	Two fish bag (1 & 1 rule) all year, fishery closed early.
1994	114,300	17,900	0.157	Two fish bag (1 & 1 rule) all year.

- Effort steadily increased from March through June with angler trips in March of 2002 being 50% of the recent five-year average and angler trips in June being 121% of the recent five-year average.
- Angler trips in July of 2002 were similar to the recent five-year average.
- Catch in the lower Columbia sport fishery during May and June was excellent with catches of 5,800 white surgeon in May and 13,800 white sturgeon in June.
- Fishing in July remained strong with a catch of 9,600 white surgeon through July 24.

<i>Sturgeon Catch to Date and Guidelines for 2002</i>				
	Catch to Date	Guideline	Comments	
<b>Lower Columbia</b>				
<b>Non-Indian</b>				
Commercial	4,800	9,300-9,800	Catch estimate through August 12, 4,500-5,000 remain on guideline.	
Sport	36,300	36,500-38,500	Catch estimate through July. 200-2,200 remain on guideline.	
<b>Zone 6</b>				
<b>Treaty Indian Commercial</b>				
Bonneville	288	1,300	Catch estimate through August 11. Setline season to close August 17.	
The Dalles	967	1,100	Closed March 15.	
John Day	311	335	Catch estimate through August 11. Setline season to close August 17.	
Commercial Total	1,566	2,735		
Treaty Indian Subsistence	NA	300		
Total Treaty Indian	1,566	3,035		
<b>Non-Indian Sport</b>				
Bonneville	1,111	1,520	Catch estimate through July 28. Closed August 5.	
The Dalles	715	700	Closed July 13.	
John Day	129	165	Catch estimate through July 28. Will close August 24.	
Total Non-Indian	1,955	2,385		

### ***August Non-Indian Commercial Fisheries***

- Early August fisheries consisted of five 12-hour nightly fishing periods (7 pm-7 am) occurring between August 4 and August 12.
- Preseason catch estimates for early August fisheries included up to 16,800 chinook (2,700 URB's) and zero sturgeon. Preseason fishery plans prohibited sturgeon possession and sales during all August fisheries to support sturgeon retention in salmon and target sturgeon fisheries anticipated to occur during September and October.
- Based on public testimony at the August 2 Compact hearing a vessel landing and possession limit of five white sturgeon per vessel per fishing period was adopted for the first three fishing periods. White sturgeon possession and sales were prohibited during the final two fishing periods and green sturgeon possession and sales were prohibited during all five fishing periods.
- In conjunction with the vessel limit, the Compact provided guidance that August commercial fisheries be managed for a catch of 2,000 white sturgeon.

<b><i>Non-Indian Mainstem Commercial Fishery Update</i></b>						
Species	Aug 4-5	Aug 6-7	Aug 8-9	Aug 9-10	Aug 11-12	Total
Chinook	940	1,723	2,843	1,416	1,025	7,947
Coho	0	0	3	0	3	6
Chum	0	0	0	0	0	0
W. Sturgeon	416	480	477	0	0	1,373

- Effort during the first fishing three periods was 125-135 boats participating while effort during the last two fishing periods dropped by half with 55-60 boats participating.
- An estimated 7,900 chinook during early August seasons were landed. Based on visual stock identification and fin clips, the 7,900 chinook catch was comprised of 3,500 tules (44%), 900 SAB's (12%), and 3,500 other brights (44%).
- CWT analysis for early August fisheries will be completed prior to the last week of August.
- The Youngs Bay Select Area fishery is open noon Wednesday-6 pm Thursday throughout the month of August (four fishing periods). Landings for the first fishing period totaled 485 chinook, 1 coho, and 19 white sturgeon.
- Based on LV fin clips SAB stock comprised 94% (152 fish sampled) of the fall chinook landed in Youngs Bay during the first fishing period.

### ***Non-Indian Commercial White Sturgeon Allocation***

- Based on landings to date an estimated 4,500-5,000 white sturgeon remain on the 9,300-9,800 fish annual catch guideline and 600 white sturgeon remain on the 2,000 fish August catch guideline.
- October white sturgeon landings in 2000 were comprised of 900 fish in coho directed fisheries and 4,200 fish in target sturgeon fisheries. Sturgeon retention was prohibited during October 2001.

<b><i>Non-Indian Commercial White Sturgeon Catch Update, 2000-2002</i></b>			
Season	2000	2001	2002
Winter Mainstem	2,261	3,059	2,794
Winter/Spring/Summer Select Area	535	486	631
Sockeye	0	4	0
Early August	2,489	4,721	1,373
Late August	301	1,019	--
Fall Select Area	157	21	19
Late Fall Mainstem	5,127	0	--
<b>Total to Date</b>	<b>10,870</b>	<b>9,310</b>	<b>4,817</b>

- Preseason plans included no sturgeon retention during August to allow flexibility in shaping September and October fisheries and allowing opportunity for October target sturgeon seasons to occur. Based on landings to date, preseason sturgeon fishery expectations are no longer appropriate and fall season sturgeon fisheries will need to be discussed at a future Compact hearing.

## Fishery Proposals

### *Non-Indian Commercial Salmon Fishery*

- Preseason catch estimates for August fisheries included up to 16,800 chinook (2,700 URB's) for early August fisheries and 8,300 chinook (2,800 URB's) for late August fisheries. URB impacts and associated catch, not used during early August commercial fisheries would transfer to late August fisheries.
- Preseason catch estimates for all non-Indian commercial fisheries occurring during the month of August was expected to total 25,000 chinook, including 5,400 URB's.

<i>Recommendation</i>	
The Joint Staff recommends adoption of the following commercial salmon fishing periods:	
Season:	8 PM Monday August 19 to 6 AM Tuesday August 20 (10 hours). 8 PM Thursday August 22 to 6 AM Friday August 23 (10 hours). 8 PM Monday August 26 to 6 AM Tuesday August 27 (10 hours). 8 PM Wednesday August 28 to 6 AM Thursday August 29 (10 hours).
Area:	I-205 Bridge upstream to Beacon Rock.
Sanctuaries:	Sandy and Washougal River sanctuaries.
Gear:	9" minimum and 9-3/4" maximum mesh size restrictions.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon and white sturgeon.  <b>A maximum of five white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each of the open fishing periods. The possession or sale of green sturgeon is prohibited.</b>
Expected Catch:	4,000-8,000 chinook. 600 white sturgeon
Miscellaneous:	Quick Reporting Rule in effect for Washington buyers.

- ✓ Proposed fishery is consistent with Fall Management Agreement and results of North of Falcon negotiation process.
- ✓ Closed days between open fishing periods are intended to increase participation and allow for fishery modifications to occur as needed.
- ✓ Nighttime fishing will reduce congestion and minimize conflicts with recreational anglers.
- ✓ Expansion to areas downstream to the I-205 Bridge (in effect since 2000) will reduce congestion.
- ✓ Based on past monitoring results (94 drifts) 9-inch minimum mesh size regulation has been highly effective at reducing steelhead handle during the August timeframe.

### *Treaty Indian Fishery Proposals*

- The tribes may propose commercial fishery openings at this hearing.

### **Future Compact Hearings**

- The Joint Staff recommends that the next Compact hearing be scheduled for 1 PM Thursday September 12 at the Commission room in the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Headquarters office located at 2501 SW First Avenue, Portland, Oregon for the purpose of reviewing salmon and steelhead stock status, reviewing fisheries, and considering commercial fishing options.
- Additional inseason emergency Compacts will occur as needed to modify ongoing fisheries.

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife  
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