

**OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT - FALL FACT SHEET NO. 3
Columbia River Compact
August 16, 2005**

Fisheries under consideration: Non-Treaty commercial salmon
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MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Management guidelines, allocations, and run forecasts for the 2005 fall season were presented in the Fall Fact Sheet #1 (July 28, 2005)

WATER CONDITIONS AND STOCK STATUS

- To date, Columbia River water temperatures during August are the warmest since 1998, averaging 72° F which exceeds both the recent 5-year (69.1) and 10-year (70.0) averages for August.
- Bonneville Dam counts during August 1-15 include 5,053 brights and 33 tules for a total count of 5,086 fall Chinook. The ten-year average (1994-2003) passage of brights for this period is 7,940 fish with passage 4% complete. The ten-year average (1994-2003) passage of tules is 89 fish, with passage 0.2% complete.

2005 FALL COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVIEW

Early August Non-Treaty Commercial Fishery

- The season consisted of four (7 PM-7 AM) fishing periods for the nights of August 4, 7, 9, and 11. Open areas included all of Zones 1-5 with an 8"-9¾ inch mesh restriction and a 5 sturgeon landing and possession limit per vessel, per calendar week (Sunday-Saturday).
- Preseason expectations were for a Chinook catch of 5,800 fish, including 810 URB's (6% of the 4.13% allocation), and <1,500 white sturgeon (2,600 allocated to August fisheries).
- Season landings of Chinook were 77% of expectations:

<i>Early August Commercial Fishery Landings, 2005</i>					
Date	Deliveries	Chinook	Coho	White Sturgeon	Green Sturgeon
Aug 4-5	106	420	1	346	9
Aug 7-8	105	1,180	2	335	11
Aug 9-10	124	1,424	4	283	2
Aug 11-12	104	1,436	16	138	3
Total		4,460	23	1,102	25

- Zone-specific landings for the season were distributed 88%, 10%, and 2% for Zones 1, 2, and 3-5 respectively.
- Based on visual stock calls, bright Chinook comprised 59% of the landed catch compared to the preseason expectation of 48%.
- Coded-wire tag data indicates brights actually comprised 41% of the landed catch. URB's represented 1.8% of the catch, compared to the preseason expectations 13.9% URB's.
- Impacts to URB's for early August are estimated at 0.023% of the predicted URB run, or 0.6% of the 4.13% commercial allocation.

Mid-August Non-Treaty Commercial Fishery

- At the August 11 hearing, the Compact adopted one, 12-hour (7 PM-7 AM) fishing period for August 14-15 in Zones 2-5.
- Preseason catch expectations were for 1,000 Chinook (including 170 URB's) and ≤400 white sturgeon.
- Actual landings were 348 Chinook and 442 white sturgeon. Visual stock calls for Oregon landings indicate bright stock comprised 71% of the landed catch.
- Landings for combined August fisheries to date are summarized in the following table:

<i>August Commercial Fishery Landings, 2005</i>					
Date	Deliveries	Chinook	Coho	White Sturgeon	Green Sturgeon
August 14-15	100	348	2	442	2
Early August	110 ave	4,460	23	1,102	25
Total		4,808	25	1,544	27

Mainstem Commercial Salmon Fishery

Joint Staff Recommendation	
Season:	7 PM Wednesday August 17 to 7 AM Thursday August 18 (12 hours)
Area:	Zones 2- 5
Sanctuaries:	Grays River, Elokomina-A, Cowlitz River, Kalama-A, and Lewis-A, Washougal and Sandy Rivers.
Gear:	8" minimum and 9¾" maximum mesh size restriction.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon and sturgeon. A maximum of 5 white or green sturgeon combined may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday) that the fishery is open. The 5 sturgeon possession and sales limit includes both mainstem and Select Area fisheries.
Expected Catch:	500-1,000 Chinook 350 white sturgeon <5 green sturgeon
Miscellaneous Rules:	Quick Reporting Rules will be in effect for Washington buyers.

- The proposed fishery is consistent with 2005 Fall Management Agreement and results of the North of Falcon process.
- This fishery provides additional opportunity to harvest Chinook while minimizing impacts to URB stock.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- A Columbia River Compact hearing is proposed for 1:00 PM Friday August 19, 2005 at the WDFW office at 2108 Grand Blvd, Vancouver, Washington to consider mainstem Columbia River non-Indian and treaty Indian commercial fishing seasons.