February 18, 2005

THE FOLLOWING COLUMBIA RIVER SEASONS WERE SET:
TREATY INDIAN COMMERCIAL GILLNET FISHERY

DATES: 6AM Tuesday Feb. 22 through 6AM Wednesday Feb. 23, 2005 (24 hours)
         6AM Thursday Feb. 24 through 6AM Friday Feb. 25, 2005 (24 hours)

AREA: Zones 1-5

SANCTUARIES: Sandy River Spring Creek Hatchery Sanctuary - within a radius of 150 feet of the Spring Creek Hatchery fishway.

GEAR: 9" minimum and 9 3/4" maximum size restrictions

ALLOWABLE SALES: Sturgeon sales are not allowed.

MISCELLANEOUS RULES:

Quick Reporting Rule for Washington Buyers. WAC 220-69-240

WDFW has adopted rules that require commercial purchasers to report their landings by a specified time. This rule can be attached to any commercial season that is adopted, but is not in place unless specified. WDFW staff recommends that the "quick reporting required" clause be in place for this fishery. Washington buyers would be required to send a report of their landings to WDFW by 10AM on the day after the purchase date by either:

a) FAX transmission to (360) 906-6776 or (360) 906-6777
b) E-mail to crfishtickets@dfw.wa.gov
c) Telephone to 1-866-791-1281

-The next Compact hearing has been scheduled for Wednesday, February 23rd at 2 PM via telephone to consider modification of the smelt fishery and review the ongoing sturgeon fishery.
Test fishing is expected to occur on Sunday, February 27, with the first potential salmon fishing period to begin on Tuesday, March 1st.

A Compact hearing may occur on Monday, February 28th at 2 PM via telephone to review test-fishing results and consider a commercial period for Tuesday, March 1st. If test-fishing results are not conducive to setting a fishery, a February 28th Compact will not occur.

Check Hotline for the most recent information (360) 902-2500 on commercial fishing seasons.

Further updates will be posted on the hotline as soon as they become available.