

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT - FALL FACT SHEET NO. 17
Columbia River Compact
October 19, 2009

***Fisheries Under Consideration:* Non-Treaty Commercial Salmon**

Management guidelines, allocations, and run forecasts for the 2009 fall season were presented in Fall Fact Sheets #1(July 29, 2009) and # 11 (September 22, 2009)

- Coho passage at Bonneville Dam through October 18 totals 196,300 adults, compared to the preseason expectation of 160,100 adults. Passage is typically 92% by October 18.
- Coho returns to lower river facilities have generally been meeting or exceeding expectations. Tributary dam counts have been strong and some hatcheries are reporting very good returns to date. Some lower river hatcheries are not observing the returns expected to date, likely due to lack of rain until recently which should trigger migration into the facilities.
- TAC reviewed early and late coho stock status this morning (October 19) and reported that overall the run was tracking at or slightly ahead of expectations. TAC observed that the early stock return appears to be tracking slightly less than the preseason forecast of 466,700 fish, and that the late stock return appears to currently be tracking ahead of the preseason forecast of 236,600 fish. TAC indicated that hatchery return data is the limiting factor in providing a point estimate for an in season runsize update.

2009 Columbia River Coho Accounting				
	Expected	In Hand	Current Projection	Comment
Harvest¹	201,300	180,800	185,500	
Early	167,300	152,800	158,400	to date
Late	34,000	28,000	27,100	to date
Hatchery	310,200	114,100	266,400	
Early	184,300	81,700	113,100	
Late	125,900	32,400	153,300	
Bonneville	160,100	196,500	224,500	
Early	100,700	135,800	135,800	Complete
Late	59,400	60,700	88,700	
Tributary²	31,500	26,700	49,500	
Early	14,300	26,700	34,500	
Late	17,200	0	15,000	
Total Run	703,100	518,100	725,900	
Early	466,600	397,000	441,800	
Late	236,500	121,100	284,100	

1. Includes mainstem sport and commercial and Select Areas fisheries
 2. Includes tributary dam counts and sport catch

- Landings from late fall commercial fisheries total 5,700 Chinook, 40,250 coho and 1,650 white sturgeon.

<i>Non-Treaty Mainstem Commercial Landings –Late Fall 2009</i>					
Week	Date	Deliveries	Chinook	Coho	White Sturgeon
Wk 39	24-Sep	66	1,634	580	132
Wk 40	Sep 28, 29,30 Oct 1	Ave 72	2,896	38,725	441
Wk 41	Oct 4,7,8	Ave 41	963	880	641
Wk 42	Oct 13-14 (Z 4-5, 8")	7	187	21	36
	Oct 14 (Z 1-5, 9")	60	6	38	402
	Oct 15-16 (Z 4-5, 8")	9	99	81	20
Wk 43	Oct 18-19 (Z 4-5, 8")	15	333	91	96
Late Fall Total			6,113	40,428	1,775

- Based on inseason run estimates, updated ocean FRAM models, and projected landings, staff estimates 400 white sturgeon and 7,000 coho are available for harvest.

Summary of non-treaty commercial coho landings during week 43, 2001-2008.			
Year	Late Coho Run Size	Week 43 Landings	Comments
2001	416,100	4,634	5-day average
2002	204,300	3,617	2-day average
2003	180,800	1,321	10/19-20
2004	148,600	4,462	Ave. for 2+ days; 10/18-19 & 10/20; Z 1-5; no min.
2005	94,800	762	10/18; no min
2006	152,900	0	No coho target fishery
2007	124,500	3,161	Ave. for 10/23 and 10/25; Z1-3; 7 a-7p; 12-hr ea.
2008	172,800	492	10/22; 7 a-7p; 12-h; Z 1-3; no minimum
Ave	191,700	2,490	

- Coho catches from research occurring in the lower river (< river mile 30) dropped considerably today (10/19) compared to last week (10/12-14).

FISHERY RECOMMENDATIONS

<i>Late Fall Non-Indian Commercial Salmon Fishery</i>		
Season #1:	7 PM Tuesday, October 20 to 7 AM Wednesday, October 21, 2009 7 PM Thursday October 22 to 7 AM Friday, October 23, 2009 7 PM Sunday October 25 to 7 AM Monday October 26, 2009	(12 hours) (12 hours) (12 hours)
Area:	Zones 4-5	
Gear:	8-inch minimum mesh size and 9¾-inch maximum mesh size	
Season #2:	7 AM – 7 PM Wednesday October 21, 2009	(12 hours)
Area:	Zones 1-3	
Gear:	6-inch maximum mesh size; un-slackened floater gillnet	
Applicable to above fisheries		
Allowable Sales:	Salmon and white sturgeon. A maximum of 7 white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday) that the fishery is open. Limit applies to mainstem only. Select Areas remain closed to white sturgeon retention.	
Sanctuaries:	As applicable: Elokomina-A, Cowlitz, Kalama-A, Lewis-A, Sandy, and Washougal rivers.	
Additional Rules	24-hour Quick Reporting Rules will be in effect for Washington buyers. 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.	

- ✓ Estimated catch for Season #1 include 500 Chinook, 200 coho and 150 white sturgeon. Catch estimates for season #2 include 100 Chinook, 3,000-5,000 coho and 50 white sturgeon.
- ✓ Combined impacts (including the proposed fisheries) total approximately 19.5-19.7% for lower Columbia River coho (compared to the 20% limit). Impacts to ESA listed Chinook, steelhead, and chum are expected to remain well within the allowed limits.
- ✓ Based on declining effort and catch in the Zone 4-5 fisheries, staff will likely not recommend additional fisheries beyond those proposed today.

Future Compact Hearings

- Staff will review stock status and landing information as the data becomes available to determine the next Compact hearing date.