

**OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**  
**JOINT STAFF REPORT - FALL FACT SHEET NO. 16**  
**Columbia River Compact**  
**October 20, 2005**

|   |
|---|
| <i>Fisheries Under Consideration:</i> <b>Non-Indian mainstem commercial</b> |
|---|

**MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES**

*Management guidelines, allocations, and run size forecasts for the 2005 fall season were presented in the 2005 Fall Fact Sheets #1, #10 and #17.*

**STOCK STATUS**

***Coho***

- Preseason expectations total 206,400 coho returning to the Columbia River mouth, including 178,200 early coho and 28,200 late coho.
- Bonneville Dam counts through October 18 total 79,600 adult coho. Total adult coho passage is about 91% complete by October 18.
- The Bonneville Dam passage goal for 2005 included 53,200 early coho and 7,100 late coho.
- Both early and late runs appear to be tracking ahead of pre-season forecast.
- Based on Bonneville Dam counts, hatchery escapement and fish-in-hand, in season run size estimates for early coho include about 220,000 fish and about 60,000 fish for late coho.
- Allowable ESA-impacts to wild lower Columbia River coho is limited to 6.5% for 2005.
- Impacts to date are estimated at 5.5%

***Early Coho***

- Bonneville Dam passage through Sept 30<sup>th</sup> included 63,600 coho, which is similar to the 10-year average of 61,500 early coho passage at Bonneville Dam.
- Hatcheries are on track to meet, or have met, the escapement goals.

| <i>2005 Early Stock Coho Returns</i> |                   |               |                              |                             |              |                       |                 |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
|                                      | <b>Escapement</b> |               |                              |                             |              |                       | <b>Comments</b> |
|                                      | <b>Returns</b>    | <b>As of:</b> | <b>Pre-season projection</b> | <b>In-season projection</b> | <b>Goal</b>  |                       |                 |
| <b>Grays H.</b>                      | 1000              | 19-Oct        | 925                          | 1,176                       | 1,300        | On track to meet goal |                 |
| <b>Elochoman H.</b>                  | 2,500             | 20-Oct        | 750                          | 4,167                       | 800          | On track to meet goal |                 |
| <b>Kalama H.</b>                     | 1480              | 19-Oct        | 1,800                        | 2,114                       | 500          | On track to meet goal |                 |
| <b>Toutle H.</b>                     | 5,600             | 19-Oct        | 6,950                        | 9,333                       | 800          | On track to meet goal |                 |
| <b>Lewis H.</b>                      | 18,400            | 19-Oct        | 5,050                        | 19,368                      | 1,600        | On track to meet goal |                 |
| <b><i>Total Washington</i></b>       | <b>28,980</b>     |               | <b>15,475</b>                | <b>36,159</b>               | <b>5,000</b> |                       |                 |

| <i>2005 Early Stock Coho Returns</i> |                |               |                              |                             |               |                                   |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Escapement</b>                    |                |               |                              |                             |               |                                   |
|                                      | <b>Returns</b> | <b>As of:</b> | <b>Pre-season projection</b> | <b>In-season projection</b> | <b>Goal</b>   | <b>Comments</b>                   |
| <b>Big Creek H.</b>                  | 4,586          | 17-Oct        |                              | NA                          | 700           | Goal achieved                     |
| <b>Eagle Creek NFH</b>               | 3,000          | 18-Oct        |                              | NA                          | 3,500         | On track to meet goal             |
| <b>Sandy H.</b>                      | 1,551          | 17-Oct        |                              | NA                          | 1,200         | Goal nearly achieved              |
| <b>Bonneville H.</b>                 | 21,890         | 17-Oct        |                              | NA                          | 5,100         | Goal achieved                     |
| <b>Total Oregon</b>                  | <b>31,027</b>  |               |                              | <b>NA</b>                   | <b>10,500</b> |                                   |
| <b>Bonneville Dam</b>                | 63,557         | 30-Sep        |                              | 53,200                      | --            | Goal achieved                     |
| <b>Marmot Dam (Sandy)</b>            | 310            | 17-Oct        |                              |                             |               | 2000-2004 average ~900 adults     |
| <b>Faraday Dam (Clackamas)</b>       | 821            | 18-Oct        |                              |                             |               | 2000-2004 average is 2,200 adults |

### *Late Coho*

- Beginning October 1, coho passing Bonneville Dam are considered late stock. Coho counts October 1-18 total 16,000 coho, which is greater than the 10-year average of 14,400 late coho.
- Bonneville Dam passage for late coho is typically 68% complete by October 18, ranging from 55%-78% between 1995-2004.
- Bonneville Dam passage of late coho is projected to range between 20,000 and 23,000 fish.
- Lower river hatcheries are beginning to see late coho return,. the Cowlitz hatchery continues to see very high returns and the Lewis facility is also seeing a higher-than-normal return through week 43.
- On average, returns to Cowlitz Hatchery are 15%-19% complete by week 43 (Oct 17-23), ranging between 1%-52% and the Lewis facility is typically 3% complete ranging from 0%-10%

| <i>2005 Late Stock Coho Returns</i> |                |               |                              |                             |              |                              |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Escapement</b>                   |                |               |                              |                             |              |                              |
|                                     | <b>Returns</b> | <b>As of:</b> | <b>Pre-season projection</b> | <b>In-season projection</b> | <b>Goal</b>  | <b>Comments</b>              |
| <b>Elochoman H.</b>                 |                | 20-Oct        | 280                          | 280                         | 837          | too early, begin in November |
| <b>Cowlitz H.</b>                   | 13,000         | 19-Oct        | 7,000                        | 23,000                      | 4,200        | Will achieve goal            |
| <b>Kalama H.</b>                    | 100            | 19-Oct        | 430                          | 650                         | 670          | too early                    |
| <b>Lewis H.</b>                     | 750            | 19-Oct        | 4,300                        | 4,700                       | 3,260        | returns look good            |
| <b>Washougal</b>                    | 100            | 19-Oct        | 780                          | 1,100                       | 750          | too early                    |
| <b>Total Washington</b>             | <b>13,950</b>  |               | <b>12,790</b>                | <b>29,730</b>               | <b>9,717</b> |                              |
| <b>NF Clackamas Dam</b>             |                |               |                              |                             |              |                              |
| <b>Bonneville Dam</b>               | 16,000         | 18-Oct        | 7,100                        | 23,000                      | --           | Goal achieved                |

## FISHERY UPDATES

### *Non-Indian Mainstem Commercial Fisheries*

- The early fall season resulted in landings of 11,430 Chinook (34% URBs), 87 coho and 2,094 sturgeon. Preseason expectations included 13,130 Chinook (26% URBs)
- September Chinook and coho fisheries resulted in landings of 13,600 Chinook (32% URBs), 25,900 coho and 2,400 sturgeon. Preseason expectations for September Chinook and coho fisheries included a harvest of 20,310 Chinook (51% URBs) and 25,000 coho.
- October fisheries have been reduced substantially in 2005 due to the low pre-season forecast of late coho. October pre-season expectations included 650 Chinook (31% URBs) and 2,000 coho.
- Based on CWT data analysis, the stock composition of the Chinook harvest during late fall has been comprised of fewer URB Chinook than anticipated.
- Through October 14, URBs have comprised 8% of the total October Chinook harvest (2,000 fish).

| <i>Late Fall Non-Indian Commercial Fishery Landings, 2005</i> |            |               |               |          |                |                |
|---|------------|---------------|---------------|----------|----------------|----------------|
| Dates   | Deliveries | Chinook       | Coho          | Chum     | White Sturgeon | Green Sturgeon |
| Sept 19-20 (Z 1-3; small mesh)                                | 295        | 3,772         | 13,486        |          | 89             | 2              |
| Sept 22 (Z 1-3; large mesh)                                   | 155        | 1,943         | 5,768         |          | 273            | 7              |
| Sept 19-23 (Z3-5; large mesh)                                 | 114        | 4,648         | 1,011         |          | 334            | 0              |
| <b>Wk 39</b>  |            | <b>10,363</b> | <b>20,265</b> |          | <b>696</b>     | <b>9</b>       |
| Sept 26-27  | 165        | 1,748         | 2,995         |          | 941            | 6              |
| Sept 28-29  | 131        | 1,507         | 2,651         |          | 762            | 4              |
| <b>Wk 40</b>  |            | <b>3,255</b>  | <b>5,646</b>  |          | <b>1,703</b>   | <b>10</b>      |
| Oct 5-6   | 132        | 1,191         | 4,394         |          | 123            | 0              |
| Oct 6-7   | 31         | 450           | 220           |          | 34             | 0              |
| <b>Wk 41</b>  |            | <b>1,641</b>  | <b>4,614</b>  |          | <b>157</b>     | <b>0</b>       |
| Oct 11-12   | 86         | 228           | 162           |          | 466            | 0              |
| Oct 13-14   | 54         | 125           | 83            |          | 261            | 1              |
| <b>Wk 42</b>  |            | <b>353</b>    | <b>245</b>    |          | <b>727</b>     | <b>1</b>       |
| Oct 18 (no mesh)  | 46         | 57            | 726           | 6        | 37             | 0              |
| Oct 18-20 (large mesh)  | na         | na            | na            |          | na             | na             |
| Oct 21-22 (large mesh)  | na         | na            | na            |          | na             | na             |
| <b>Wk 43</b>  |            | <b>57</b>     | <b>245</b>    | <b>6</b> | <b>37</b>      | <b>0</b>       |
| <b>Total</b>  |            | <b>15,669</b> | <b>31,496</b> | <b>6</b> | <b>3,332</b>   | <b>20</b>      |

### *Sturgeon Harvest*

- Through October 18, an estimated 7,690 white sturgeon have been landed in mainstem and Select Area commercial fisheries leaving 493 (includes 183 from 2003-04) available for harvest during the remainder of 2005.

## IMPACTS

| <i>Summary of Fishery Impacts During Fall of 2005</i> |                  |               |               |
|---|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Fishery   | Chinook<br>Catch | URB Impacts   |               |
|   |                  | No.           | %             |
| <b>Treaty Indian Fisheries</b>                        |                  |               |               |
| August C&S  | 563              | 492           | 0.17%         |
| Commercial  | 114,521          | 62,081        | 21.16%        |
| <b>Treaty Indian Total</b>                            | <b>115,084</b>   | <b>62,573</b> | <b>21.33%</b> |
| <b>Non-Indian Fisheries</b>                           |                  |               |               |
| Buoy 10 Sport (through Dec 31)                        | 9,230            | 2,260         | 0.77%         |
| LCR Sport (through Dec 31)                            | 17,500           | 10,410        | 3.55%         |
| Zone 6 Sport (Through Dec 31)                         | 1,100            | 930           | 0.32%         |
| <b>Sport Total</b>                                    | <b>27,830</b>    | <b>13,600</b> | <b>4.64%</b>  |
| Early August Commercial                               | 4,707            | 100           | 0.03%         |
| Mid-Late August Commercial                            | 6,723            | 3,830         | 1.31%         |
| Select Area Commercial (Through October)              | 10,740           | 520           | 0.18%         |
| September Chinook/Coho                                | 13,512           | 4,370         | 1.49%         |
| October Commercial Fisheries (Oct 3-14)               | 1,990            | 160           | 0.05%         |
| October Commercial Fisheries (Proj. Oct 17-23)        | 500              | 140           | 0.05%         |
| <b>Commercial Total</b>                               | <b>38,172</b>    | <b>9,120</b>  | <b>3.11%</b>  |
| <b>Non-Indian total impacts</b>                       | <b>66,002</b>    | <b>22,720</b> | <b>7.74%</b>  |

## FISHERY PROPOSALS

| <i>Recommendation</i>   |  |
|---|--|
| The Joint Staff recommends adoption of the following commercial salmon fishing periods for the mainstem Columbia River: |  |
| Season:   | 6PM Sunday Oct 23 to 6AM Tuesday Oct 25 36 hours<br>6PM Tuesday Oct 25 to 6AM Thursday Oct 27 36 hours<br>6PM Thursday Oct 27 to 6AM Friday Oct 28 12 hours  |
| Area:   | Zones 1-5  |
| Sanctuaries:  | Elokomin-B, Cowlitz, Kalama-B, Lewis-B, Sandy and Washougal rivers   |
| Gear:   | No minimum mesh in Zones 1-3<br>8-inch minimum mesh size in Zones 4-5  |
| Allowable Sales:  | Salmon and sturgeon. A maximum of 5 sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday) that the fishery is open. The sturgeon possession and sales limit includes both mainstem and Select Area fisheries. |
| Miscellaneous Rules:  | Quick Reporting Rules will be in effect for Washington buyers.   |

- Expected catch 700-1,500 Chinook, 2,000-3,000 coho and 350-400 sturgeon.

## Future Compact Hearings

- The staff is recommending a Joint State Hearing/Compact on Wednesday October 26 at 1:00 PM to discuss the on-going commercial and recreational sturgeon fisheries.