

**OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT - FALL FACT SHEET NO. 9a
Columbia River Compact/Joint State hearing
September 21, 2007**

Fisheries under consideration:	Treaty Indian commercial salmon Non-Indian commercial salmon Non-Indian recreational salmon
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Management guidelines, allocations, and run forecasts for the 2007 fall season were presented in the Fall Fact Sheet #1 (July 26, 2007)

- Bonneville Dam adult Chinook passage through September 20 totals 115,455 fish, including 100,122 brights and 15,333 tules.
- TAC's September 21 updated run sizes include 115,000 URBs and 17,500 BPH at the Columbia River mouth.
- McNary Dam adult Chinook passage totals 28,178 fish. TAC estimated total passage of 46,000-49,000 adults.

NON-INDIAN FISHERIES

- Landings from the September 19 fishery include 62 Chinook, 108 coho and 1,432 white sturgeon. Landings for the September 20 fishery are estimated at 1,500 Chinook, 400 coho and 100 white sturgeon. An estimated 1,300 sturgeon remain available on the commercial guideline.
- Based on the inseason data, harvest from recreational mainstem fisheries (Buoy 10 upstream to Hwy 395) are estimated at 12,500 fish.

2007 Preliminary Non-Indian ESA- Impacts (Actual/Projected)							
Mainstem Harvest		Allocation Allowed		Impacts to Date		Remaining impacts	
		URB	LRH	URB	LRH	URB	LRH
Recreational	12,537	4.17%	2.8%	3.79%	3.4%	0.38%	-0.6%
Commercial	5,269	4.08%	2.5%	2.11%	1.1%	1.97%	1.4%
Total	17,806	8.25%	5.3%	5.89%	1.1%	2.35%	0.8%

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation for Fishery above Bonneville Dam
Allow retention of Chinook salmon in Columbia River recreational fisheries from Bonneville Dam upstream to the Highway 395 bridge in Pasco, Washington effective 12:01 AM Friday September 21, 2007.

- The Joint Staff reviewed Chinook catch and remaining URB impacts for the recreational fishery below Bonneville Dam and concluded that at this time there are not enough recreational URB impacts to re-open the area from the Lewis River upstream to the Bonneville Dam. Staff will continue to monitor the data and will review the possibility of opening that area at the 10:00 a.m. September 25 hearing.

Recommendation: 2007 Mainstem Commercial Salmon Fishery –Late Fall

Season:	7 AM –7 PM Monday September 24, 2007 (12 hours)
Area:	Zones 1- 3
Sanctuaries:	Large sanctuaries: Elokomin-B, Abernathy, Cowlitz, Kalama-B, Lewis B
Gear:	6 – inch maximum mesh size unslackened floater gillnet. It will be legal to have onboard a commercial vessel more than one net, as long as the nets are of legal size for the fishery, or the net has a minimum mesh size of 9 inches. The length of any one net cannot exceed 1,500 feet in length. 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.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon and white sturgeon. A maximum of 10 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. The weekly white sturgeon limit in Select Areas remains at 5 white sturgeon for each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday). Green sturgeon retention prohibited.
Misc. Rules:	5- hour Quick Reporting Rules will be in effect for Washington buyers.

- Estimated catch includes 800 Chinook, 6,000 coho and 1,200 white sturgeon.

2007 Preliminary Non-Indian ESA- Impacts (Actual/Projected)							
Mainstem Harvest		Allocation Allowed		Impacts to Date		Remaining impacts	
		URB	LRH	URB	LRH	URB	LRH
Recreational	12,846	4.17%	2.8%	4.01%	3.4%	0.16%	-0.6%
Commercial	8,580	4.08%	2.5%	3.04%	1.2%	1.04%	1.3%
Total	17,806	8.25%	5.3%	5.89%	4.6%	2.35%	0.7%

FUTURE MEETINGS

- A Columbia River Compact hearing has been scheduled via teleconference for 10:00 AM Tuesday September 25.
- The Joint Staff is recommending a Joint State hearing be scheduled via teleconference for 1:00 PM Wednesday September 26 to review the ongoing recreational sturgeon fishery.