THE FOLLOWING COLUMBIA RIVER SEASONS WERE SET:

**2006 COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHERY**

**DATES:** 12:00 PM Noon, Thursday, February 23 through 6AM, Friday, February 24, 2006 (18 hours)

**AREA:** Mouth to Kelley Point, (Zone 1-4)

**SANCTUARIES:** Grays River, Elokin-B, Abernathy Creek, Cowlitz River, Kalama-B, and Lewis-B.

**GEAR:** 8-inch minimum and 9 ¾-inch maximum mesh size restriction. Use of monofilament nets is allowed. Net length not to exceed 150 fathoms.

**ALLOWABLE SALES:** Adipose fin-clipped Chinook salmon, sturgeon and shad.

**MISCELLANEOUS RULES:**

As a condition of fishing, owners or operators of commercial fishing vessels must cooperate with Department observers or observers collecting data for the Department, when notified by the observer of their intent to board the commercial vessel for observation and sampling during an open fishery.

Soak times, defined as time elapsed from when first mesh enters the water to when last mesh leaves the water, must not exceed 45 minutes.

Red corks are required at 25-fathom intervals and red corks must be in contrast to the corks used in the remainder of the net.

Use of recovery boxes will be required on all lethargic or bleeding salmon or steelhead.

Each participating vessel will be required to have 2 operable recovery boxes or one box with two chambers. Operable recovery boxes will require a flow of 16-20 gallons per minute to the box or each chamber. Each box shall be operating during any time that the net is being retrieved or picked.

Lighted buoys required on each end of nets being fished between sunset and sunrise.

**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 has put in place the "quick reporting required" clause for this season. Washington buyers are 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 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 1 via telephone.
- Notice to Fishers: Plan to call the "Hotline" Number on Monday and Wednesday afternoons to get the current fishing season.