

**TRIBAL STAFF REPORT
SUMMER FACT SHEET No. 3
Columbia River Compact**

July 22, 2005

Purpose: To consider treaty Indian commercial fishing options for the mainstem Columbia River.

Summer Chinook and Sockeye Forecasts and Run Size

The summer management period runs from June 15 to July 31.

Dam Counts to date in the summer season have been good for Chinook and sockeye. Through July 21, 51,041 adult chinook, 71,760 sockeye, 50,574 summer steelhead have passed Bonneville. The sockeye count peaked on June 19 with a count of 4,102. Daily chinook counts for the last five days have averaged over 800. Over 51,134 summer chinook and over 69,898 sockeye have passed Priest Rapids Dam.

TAC met on July 14 and believes the chinook run is tracking at the preseason forecasts and updated the run size to 62,400. At this run size, under the Interim Management Agreement, the tribes would harvest no more than 15,150. TAC believes the sockeye run will come just the preseason forecast of 70,700. At this run size (runs >50,000) the tribes will manage for no more than a 7% harvest rate. This equates to an allowable catch of 4,949.

Treaty Indian Summer Season Fisheries and Harvest to Date

The C&S gillnet permit fishery was suspended on Friday, July 1. Catches are shown in Table 1.

Currently the platform/hook and line fishery is open for subsistence use in all of Zone 6. Sales of platform caught fish began on July 4. The platform harvest estimates are 900 summer Chinook and 1,700 sockeye over the summer management period (through July 31 assuming the platform fishery continues through the end of July). The summer season catch projections will be adjusted based on future catch updates. The preliminary platform catch update through July 2 is 100 summer chinook and 660 steelhead and 700 sockeye.

The first two gillnet openings harvested 3,792 chinook, 686 sockeye and 757 steelhead. The third opening (this week) is expected to catch 1,700 chinook, 400 sockeye, and 800 steelhead. The total summer season chinook harvest to date 6,400. With the estimated platform catch through July 31 and no additional gillnet fishing, the total harvest would be 6,800. The sockeye harvest rate to date is estimated to be 3.9%. Through July 31 with no additional gillnet fishing the harvest rate would be 4.2%.

Tribal staff estimate that a 4.5 day gillnet fishery next week would likely harvest no more than 1,700 chinook. The sockeye catch would likely be no more than 250. These harvest estimates are based on the performance of last year's fishery as well as previous year's sockeye fisheries.

TABLE 1. Treaty Zone 6 Summer Season Harvest

Fishery	Dates	Nets	Chinook to date	Chinook through 7/31	Sockeye to date	Sockeye through 7/31	Steelhead to date	Steelhead through 7/31
Platform	Through 7/16		210	600	1,680	1,900	1,350	na
C&S Gillnet permits *	6/15-6/29		650	completed	na	completed	na	completed
Gillnet #1	7/21-7/24	229	2,049		308		178	
Gillnet #2	7/11-7/14	282	1,743		378		579	
Projected Gillnet #3	7/18-7/22	212	1,700		400		800	
Subtotal			6,400	6,800	(3.9%) 2,770	(4.2%) 2,990	2,990	
Proposed Gillnet #4	7/25-7/30	250	1,700		250		1,000	
Total			8,100	8,500	3,020	3,240	3,990	

* C&S gillnet permit catches are preliminary. Minimum mesh size restrictions of 7 inches were in place, so sockeye catch will be minimal.

Treaty Indian Commercial Fishery Proposal

Recommendation	
Dates:	Commercial Gillnet Fishery (4.5 days) 6:00 AM Monday July 25 until 6:00 PM Friday July 29
Area:	All of Zone 6
Gear:	No minimum mesh size restriction
Sanctuaries:	Standard river mouth and dam sanctuaries remain in effect. The Spring Creek Hatchery Sanctuary is not necessary this time of year.
Allowable Sales:	Chinook, coho, sockeye, steelhead, walleye, carp, and shad may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sturgeon may not be sold. Sturgeon between 4-5 feet in length in The Dalles and John Day pools may be retained for subsistence. Sturgeon between 45-60 inches in the Bonneville pool may also be retained for subsistence.
Miscellaneous Rules:	The quick reporting rule for Washington buyers will be in effect.

- Additionally, the tribes propose to continuation commercial sales of platform and hook and line caught fish that began 6:00 AM Monday, July 4 until further notice. The allowed sales would include Chinook, coho, sockeye, steelhead, walleye, carp, and shad may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sturgeon may not be sold. Sturgeon between 4-5 feet in length in The Dalles and John Day pools may be retained for subsistence. Sturgeon between 45-60 inches in the Bonneville pool may also be retained for subsistence.
- The Yakama Nation will continue allow commercial sale of fish caught in their Zone 6 tributary fisheries that overlap with commercial Zone 6 periods. Sales were allowed beginning Monday July 4 and will continue until further notice. The general fishing schedule for these tributaries is (note: for the next two weeks, the Klickitat will allow sales beginning 6:00 AM Monday to coincided with the gillnet opening:

Tributary	Regularly Scheduled Opening	Allowed Commercial Sales
Big White Salmon River	Closed Sundays	Each weekly opening 6:00 AM Tues. to 6 PM Saturday. (no fishing Sundays) beginning July 4
Klickitat River	April 6 to Dec. 25 Noon Mondays through 6 PM Saturdays (Changed to 6:00 AM openings July 25)	Each weekly opening Noon Monday to 6 PM Saturday. (no fishing Sundays) beginning July 4. (Changed to 6:00 AM openings July 11 and July 18)

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
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