

**TRIBAL STAFF REPORT
SUMMER FACT SHEET No. 1
Columbia River Compact**

June 30, 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 June 29, 24,850 adult chinook, 43,571 sockeye, 11,345 Skamania steelhead have passed Bonneville. The June 19 sockeye count at Bonneville was 4,102 which is the peak count to date. Daily chinook counts for the last five days have been over 1,600. Over 22,000 summer chinook have passed Priest Rapids Dam.

TAC met on June 27 and believes the chinook and sockeye runs are tracking at or just below the preseason forecasts, but did not update the runs with a point estimate. The pre-season forecast for sockeye is 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.

The pre-season forecast for summer Chinook is 62,400. At this run size, under the Interim Management Agreement, the tribes would harvest no more than 15,150.

Treaty Indian Summer Season Fisheries and Harvest to Date

Currently the platform/hook and line fishery is open for subsistence use in all of Zone 6.

There is an ongoing C&S gillnet permit fishery that will be suspended on Friday, July 1. Catches are shown in Table 1.

The platform harvest estimates are 1,500 summer Chinook and 2,000 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 June 25 is 60 summer chinook and 360 steelhead and 370 sockeye.

The total Summer season chinook harvest to date is 610. With the estimated platform catch through July 31, the total harvest would be 2,050. The sockeye harvest rate to date is estimated to be <1%. Through July 31 the harvest rate would be < 3.0%.

Tribal staff estimate that a 2.5 day gillnet fishery this week would likely harvest no more than 2,500 chinook. The sockeye catch would likely be no more than 2,500 also. 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 6/25		60	1,500	370	2,000	360	na
C&S Gillnet permits *	6/15-6/29		550	Will be completed	na	Will be completed	na	Will be completed
Subtotal			610	2,050	(<1%) ~400	~2,400	360	
Proposed Gillnet #1	7/21-7/24	~300	2,500		2,500		400	
Total			3,110	4,550	(4.1%) 2,900	(6.9%) 4,900	760	

* 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 (2.5 days) 6:00 AM Tuesday July 5 until 6:00 PM Thursday July 7
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 allow commercial sales of platform and hook and line caught fish beginning 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 allow commercial sale of fish caught in their Zone 6 tributary fisheries that overlap with commercial Zone 6 periods. Sales would be allowed beginning Monday July 4 and continue until further notice. The general fishing schedule for these tributaries is:

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	Each weekly opening Noon Monday to 6 PM Saturday. (no fishing Sundays) beginning July 4

The tribes will request a Compact Hearing on Friday July 8 to consider additional tribal commercial fisheries.

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
June 30, 2005