

Yakima River / Hanford Reach Salmon Reports and Ringold Steelhead Reports

Hanford Reach Steelhead Sport Fishery: February Summary

During the month of February anglers landed 272 steelhead and harvested 214 hatchery steelhead in the Hanford Reach sport fishery. WDFW estimates 872 anglers fished in February and 5,139 anglers since the fishery opened on October 1. WDFW staff interviewed 186 anglers in January, 21% of the estimated anglers fishing in the Reach during the month. Anglers are averaging a steelhead for every 12 hours of fishing, with boat anglers averaging 9 hours/fish compared to bank anglers at 12 hours/fish. Catch per angler hour improved in February. This season, 84% of the fish caught during the fishery have been hatchery origin adipose clipped fish. The majority of the fish harvested during this year's fishery originated from Ringold Springs Hatchery (adipose + right ventral fin clipped).

An estimated 1,363 hatchery steelhead have been harvested since the fishery opened on October 1. Total catch including fish released is 1,784 steelhead. Ringold Springs Hatchery staff collected and transported all the hatchery steelhead captured at the trap this fall and released them back into the river in the Tri-cities to give anglers another opportunity to catch these returning adults. These "recycled" fish are marked (caudal clipped) prior to release. Of the 1,363 fish harvested since October 1, 271 (20%) were previously captured at the trap and released.

Catch and harvest during this year's fall/winter steelhead fishery has been the best in the past three years. Fish begin returning to the hatchery in large numbers in early March preparing for the spring spawn. Some of the best steelhead fishing in this fishery is in March.

WDFW is conducting the **2nd Annual Angler Broodstock Collection Project** to collect live adult hatchery-origin steelhead by hook-and-line at the Ringold Access site in the Hanford Reach. WDFW will be collecting steelhead on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, March 20-22, from 7:00am to 4:30pm each day. These fish will be used for broodstock at Ringold Springs Hatchery. The juveniles hatched and reared from these adults will be released into the Columbia River at Ringold in the spring of 2016. We are looking for anglers that are willing to donate their catch to help us reach our collection goal of **200 live hatchery steelhead**. Anglers may fish from the bank or by boat. WDFW will have staff at the Ringold boat launch and patrolling the shorelines to collect your donated steelhead each day. Contact Paul Hoffarth at 509-545-2284 or by email at Paul.Hoffarth@dfw.wa.gov for more details.

2014-15 Hanford Reach Steelhead Fishery

	Sampled							Catch & Harvest									Sampled										
	Estimated			Boats	Anglers	Pole Hrs	% Sampled	Total		AD+RV		AD		Un-marked		Recycle	Total			ADRV		AD		NM		Recycle	
	Boats	Anglers	Hours					Catch	Harvest	Catch	Harvest	Catch	Harvest	Hatchery	Wild	Harvest	Total	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Kept	Rel	Harvest	
October	198	1,027	4,168	68	472	1,859	45.9%	404	288	253	244	71	44	21	60	8	163	116	47	97	4	19	11	0	32	3	
November	204	1,317	4,775	38	344	1,163	26.1%	528	448	479	443	4	4	12	33	109	124	106	18	105	8	1	0	0	10	26	
December	173	1,000	3,326	23	185	572	18.5%	292	227	253	227	4	0	9	26	74	48	35	13	35	6	0	1	0	6	13	
January	250	923	3,276	28	145	469	15.7%	286	186	185	178	9	9	24	68	18	36	23	13	22	2	1	0	0	11	2	
February	146	872	3,060	26	186	641	21.3%	272	214	215	189	32	26	7	19	62	53	42	11	37	5	5	1	0	5	13	
Totals	970	5,139	18,604	183	1,332	4,703	25.9%	1,784	1,363	1,385	1,280	120	83	73	206	271	424	322	102	296	25	26	13	0	64	57	
								% of Catch		76%				4%		12%		20%									
Boat Fishery																											
October	198	379	1,960	68	132	699	34.9%	171	96	76	73	34	22	16	45	0	62	34	28	25	1	9	4	0	23	0	
November	204	386	2,088	38	73	380	18.9%	231	184	191	179	4	4	9	27	35	45	36	9	35	2	1	0	0	7	6	
December	173	458	1,983	23	61	264	13.3%	210	180	188	180	0	0	6	17	45	28	24	4	24	1	0	0	0	3	6	
January	250	580	2,441	28	65	274	11.2%	259	170	161	161	9	9	23	66	18	29	19	10	18	0	1	0	0	10	2	
February	146	393	1,564	26	70	279	17.8%	174	151	140	135	17	17	4	12	34	31	27	4	24	1	3	0	0	3	6	
Totals	970	2,196	10,035	183	401	1,896	18.3%	1,045	781	756	728	64	52	59	167	131	195	140	55	126	5	14	4	0	46	20	
								% of Catch		75%				6%		16%		17%									
Bank Fishery																											
October		649	2,207		340	1,160	52.4%	233	192	177	171	37	22	5	14	8	101	82	19	72	3	10	7	0	9	3	
November		931	2,687		271	782	29.1%	297	264	288	264	0	0	2	7	74	79	70	9	70	6	0	0	0	3	20	
December		541	1,344		124	308	22.9%	82	46	65	46	4	0	3	9	29	20	11	9	11	5	0	1	0	3	7	
January		343	836		80	195	23.4%	28	17	24	17	0	0	1	3	0	7	4	3	4	2	0	0	0	1	0	
February		480	1,496		116	362	24.2%	99	63	75	54	15	9	2	7	28	22	15	7	13	4	2	1	0	2	7	
Totals		2,943	8,569		931	2,807	31.6%	738	582	629	552	56	30	14	39	140	229	182	47	170	20	12	9	0	18	37	
								% of Catch		79%				2%		5%		24%									

ADRV- Adipose + right ventral fin clipped (Ringold origin)

AD - Adipose clipped

Un-marked - no marks, no fin clips (wild + unmarked hatchery)

Recycled - all steelhead captured at the Ringold Springs Hatchery trap are caudal clipped, transported and released in the tri-cities

Hours/Steelhead

October	11
November	9
December	12
January	13
February	12

Boat Fishery	
October	11
November	8
December	9
January	9
February	9

Bank Fishery	
October	11
November	10
December	15
January	28
February	16