

## Yakima River / Hanford Reach Salmon Reports and Ringold Steelhead Reports

### **Hanford Reach Sport Fishery Update: October 23**

The number of anglers fishing the Hanford Reach continues to decline but the fishing continues to be very good with boats averaging almost 2 chinook per boat (8 angler hours per fish). WDFW staff interviewed anglers from 283 boats (682 anglers) and 66 bank anglers (Ringold access area) and sampled 445 adult chinook and 44 jacks. Based on the information collected, an estimated 1,156 adult chinook and 66 jacks were harvested this past week from 1,885 anglers.

Bank fishing at Ringold continues to be slow for chinook but steelhead fishing has picked up slightly. Staff interviewed 114 anglers fishing for steelhead at the Ringold Springs access area that reported 22 steelhead caught, an average of 14 hours of fishing per steelhead.

Through October 23, 16,553 adult chinook, 1,061 chinook jacks, and 31 coho have been harvested in the Hanford Reach from 43,130 angler trips.

The Columbia River from the Hwy 395 bridge upstream to the old Hanford townsite wooden powerline towers will remain open to fishing for salmon through October 31. The river is now closed to salmon fishing from the Hanford townsite upstream to Priest Rapids Dam and closed to all fishing from the Hanford townsite upstream to Vernita Bridge.

The annual “**King of the Reach**” broodstock collection project will be conducted this Friday, Saturday, and Sunday; October 28-30. All anglers are invited to participate.

WDFW in conjunction with Grant County Public Utility District and the Coastal Conservation Association of the Tri-cities is conducting the 5th Annual “**King of the Reach**” Project to collect live adult wild fall chinook by hook & line at the Vernita and White Bluffs boat launches. We are looking for anglers that are willing to commit to a day of fishing in the Hanford Reach to help us reach our collection goal of **400 live wild fall chinook**. These fish will be used for the production of 5.6 million fall chinook juvenile salmon to be released at Priest Rapids Hatchery in June of 2017.



Anglers need to register at the collection site each day prior to fishing, either at the Vernita or the White Bluffs (Wahluke) boat launch. Participants are welcome to fish for a few hours or all three days. Only anglers registered for the Project are allowed to fish this area of the Columbia River and no harvest is permitted in these closed waters. All adult wild fall chinook captured must be immediately transported alive back to the boat launch. Boats will need to be equipped with a live well or large ice chest that can be used as a holding area while

transporting the fish back to the launch. WDFW, GCPUD & the CCA will have volunteers at the boat launches to register anglers and collect your donated chinook. The event will be conducted on Friday & Saturday from 6:00am to 5pm and on Sunday from 6:00am to 1:00pm.

Participants are encouraged to register for the CCA "King of the Reach" derby. Derby entries are available at selected sporting goods stores or at [www.ccawashington.org/KingoftheReach](http://www.ccawashington.org/KingoftheReach).

If you have any questions about the project contact Paul Hoffarth, 509-545-2284 or [Paul.Hoffarth@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:Paul.Hoffarth@dfw.wa.gov).

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**2016 Hanford Reach Salmon and Steelhead Fishery**

Week Ending	Sampled						Estimated						Sampled				Harvest				Released			
	Sampled			Estimated			Chinook		Released		Sockeye	Coho	Chinook		Sockeye	Coho	Chinook		Sockeye	Coho				
	Boats	Anglers	Pole Hrs	Boats	Anglers	Hours	Adult	Jacks	Adult	Jacks	Adult	Adult	Adult	Jacks	Adult	Adult	Adult	Jacks	Adult	Adult				
Aug 7	2	3	13	14	102	171	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	7	0				
Aug 14	2	4	31	15	29	227	5	0	0	0	0	0	36	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Aug 21	18	37	153	157	343	1,377	2	0	0	0	1	0	17	0	9	9	0	0	9	0				
Aug 28	92	216	1,105	332	764	3,924	12	4	0	2	1	0	43	16	4	4	0	7	0	0				
Sep 4	226	584	2,839	649	1,658	8,102	39	6	0	1	0	0	112	17	0	0	0	3	0	0				
Sep 11	483	1,105	6,145	1,934	4,437	24,641	254	33	1	3	0	0	1,019	131	0	0	4	12	0	0				
Sep 18	893	2,257	13,585	2,725	6,718	40,707	840	64	18	2	1	1	2,548	193	0	3	52	6	3	3				
Sep 25	1,120	2,902	18,371	3,909	9,943	63,387	1,044	62	3	3	2	2	3,633	214	0	7	10	10	0	0				
Oct 2	976	2,561	16,331	3,214	8,217	52,916	1,061	69	9	2	1	1	3,483	224	0	3	30	7	0	0				
Oct 9	707	1,913	12,308	2,343	6,186	40,359	866	43	7	1	0	0	2,870	141	0	0	23	3	0	0				
Oct 16	393	991	6,333	1,112	2,848	18,032	576	21	14	2	0	2	1,633	59	0	6	37	3	0	0				
Oct 23	283	748	4,327	737	1,885	11,079	445	25	44	0	0	0	1,156	66	0	0	115	0	0	0				
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5,195</b>	<b>13,321</b>	<b>81,538</b>	<b>17,143</b>	<b>43,130</b>	<b>264,923</b>	<b>5,144</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>16,553</b>	<b>1,061</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>3</b>				