

Creel Survey

April 26, 2010

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

Salmon/Steelhead

Cowlitz River – Spring chinook and steelhead are being caught, primarily from the trout hatchery to the barrier dam. The first 14 hatchery summer run steelhead of the season were trapped at Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery last week.

Flows have been steady at 3,540 cfs (except for the weekly flushing flow). A total of 1,280 spring chinook adults have returned to the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator as of April 23. The 13 year average cumulative total to date is 6.97% of the run (range 1.1 ~ 12.8). Using average run timing returns to date would convert to a run size of 18,364 to the separator. The pre-season forecast was 12,500 adults returning to the Cowlitz in 2010.

Kalama River – Both spring chinook and steelhead are being caught.

Lewis River – Some spring chinook and steelhead are being caught in the North Fork; light effort and catch on the mainstem Lewis.

Flows below Merwin Dam were 4,200 cfs today which is slightly less than the long-term mean of 5,100 for this date.

Wind River – Overall one in every three boat anglers caught a spring chinook. Some fish are being caught by bank anglers at the mouth and in the gorge.

There have been a total of 81 detections of Carson National Fish Hatchery (CNFH) Integrated Transponder (PIT) tagged adult spring Chinook at Bonneville Dam as of April 21. Applying the juvenile tag rate from CNFH produces an estimate of 6,282 CNFH chinook over Bonneville Dam through April 21.

The final CNFH run size projections at Bonneville Dam, using early and average timing data from 2000-2009, are 10,593 and 21,547, respectively. The pre-season forecast was 14,000 adults returning to the Wind in 2010.

There have been 80 spring chinook passed at Shipherd Falls through April 21.

For more information about PIT Tag observations, see http://www.cbr.washington.edu/dart/pit_obs_adult_obs_de.html.

CNFH daily counts will be available beginning May 1 via web site and phone. Web site address is <http://www.fws.gov/gorgefish/carson/index.html>. Main office number is 509 427 5905.

Wind River from 100 feet above Shipherd Falls upstream to boundary markers approximately 800 yards downstream from Carson National Fish Hatchery (except closed 400 feet below to 100 feet above the Coffey Dam) – From May 1 through June 30, the salmon and steelhead daily limits will be a total of 2 chinook or hatchery steelhead or one of each. Unmarked chinook may be retained in this section of the Wind. Night closure and anti-snag rule will be in effect. Only fish hooked inside the mouth may be retained.

Drano Lake – About 40% of the bank and boat anglers at Drano Lake had caught a spring chinook when sampled last week. About 120 boats observed here last Saturday (April 24) around noon.

There have been a total of 108 detections of Little White Salmon National Fish Hatchery (LWSNFH) PIT tagged spring Chinook at Bonneville Dam as of April 25. Applying the juvenile tag rate from LWSNFH produces an estimate of 6,756 LWSNFH adult chinook over Bonneville through April 25.

The pre-season forecast was 28,900 adults returning to Drano Lake in 2010.

White Salmon River – Spring chinook are no longer released here but there have been sporadic catches of stray fish based on angler reports.

Klickitat River – Some spring chinook are being caught by bank anglers from the Fisher Hill Bridge downstream.

The first few spring Chinook of the year have been counted at the Lyle Falls adult trap. Trap counts will be updated starting this week on the Yakama Indian Nation website at http://www.ykfp.org/klickitat/Data_lyleadulttrap.htm.

Flow at Pitt were 2,250 cfs today which is close to the long-term mean of 2,330 for this date.

Bonneville Pool – Bank anglers just outside of Drano Lake are catching some spring chinook.

The Dalles Pool – Including fish released, just over one in every 3 bank anglers kept/released a spring chinook while about one in six boat anglers had caught a fish. Overall 78% of the fish caught were kept.

John Day Pool – From Paul Hoffarth, WDFW District 4 Fish Biologist in Pasco: For the week of April 19-25, an estimated 549 adult hatchery chinook were harvested and 138 wild chinook were released. The majority of the harvest were retained by bank anglers fishing the Oregon shore. WDFW staff interviewed 336 salmon anglers this past week and sampled 85 hatchery chinook. For the season, an estimated 748 adult hatchery chinook have been harvested and 154 wild chinook were released.

Upriver spring chinook run size update:

- Bonneville Dam passage of adult Chinook through April 25 totals 95,512. This is the highest cumulative count to date since 2003 and the 3th highest count to date since 1977.
- With the total Bonneville count plus upriver impacts in treaty and non-treaty fishing below Bonneville Dam, 129,679 upriver spring Chinook can be accounted for.
- The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met today and says it is still too early to update the run size. TAC will be meeting regularly to review dam counts and harvest data.

Sturgeon

Lower Columbia from Bonneville Dam downstream – Effort and catches remain light except in the gorge. A total of 123 boats and 200 bank anglers were counted during the Saturday April 24 flight. Just under half the boats and over three-quarters of the bank anglers were found in the gorge.

Lower Columbia from the mouth to the Wauna powerlines - White sturgeon may be retained daily through April and from May 22 through June 26. Daily limit 1. Maximum size is 54" fork length. Through April, minimum size is 38" fork length. Effective May 22, the minimum size will be 41" fork length. Catch-and-release fishing is allowed during non-retention days.

From Bonneville Dam downstream 9 miles to a line crossing the Columbia from Navigation Marker 82 on the Oregon shore through the upstream exposed end of Skamania Island, continuing in a

straight line to a boundary marker on the Washington shore: CLOSED to fishing for STURGEON May 1-Aug. 31.

The Dalles Pool – Boat anglers averaged a legal per every 2 rods when including fish released. Bank angling was slow for legal size fish.

From John Day Dam downstream 5.4 miles to the west end of the grain silo at Rufus, Oregon: CLOSED to fishing for STURGEON May 1-July 31.

John Day Dam to McNary Dam (including all tributaries) – The retention of sturgeon is prohibited through the rest of the year. Catch-and-release fishing is permitted. From McNary Dam downstream 1.5 miles to Hwy. 82 (Hwy. 395) Bridge: **CLOSED to fishing for STURGEON May 1-July 31.**

Walleye and Bass

The Dalles Pool – Boat anglers averaged 1.3 walleye per rod while bank anglers averaged 2.6 bass per rod when including fish released.

John Day Pool – Few boat anglers sampled and those that were sampled had no catch.

Trout

Klineline Pond – 47 bank anglers kept 58 catchable size and 1 brood stock rainbow and released 19 catchable size rainbows. Planted with 2,000 rainbows averaging 2/3 pound each and 256 averaging 1.5 pounds each last week.

Klineline Pond fishing closure for Hooked on Fishing Event

Action: Closes Klineline Pond to fishing by the public one day prior to the fishing event as well as the day of the event.

Effective date:

- April 30 – 12:01 a.m., entire pond closed to public fishing
- May 1 – Pond open to participants in the Hooked on Fishing event.
- May 2 – Pond opens to the public

Monthly Sturgeon Harvest estimates:													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Totals:	%	As of	Guidelines:
Bonneville	390	1005								1,395	99.6%	Feb. 20	1,400
The Dalles	87	34	33							154	51.3%	Mar. 31	300
John Day	41	118								159	96.4%	Feb. 28	165

Current month sampled sturgeon kept:												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep			
Bonneville	34	103								137		Feb. 20 ¹
The Dalles	20	6	6	16						48		Apr. 25
John Day	4	27								31		Feb. 28 ¹

¹ Pool closed to sturgeon retention.

Harvest estimates are updated monthly. All in-season estimates are preliminary. Samplers generally observe from 10% - 25% of total harvest.

WDFW Mid-Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary ¹

April 19 - 25, 2010

The following table is a summary of numbers of fish observed by samplers.

Samplers generally observe from 10% - 25% of total harvest.

Sturgeon														
Reservoir	Bank Anglers	Subs	Leg Rel	Leg Kept	Over-size	2010 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Subs	Leg Rel	Leg Kept	Over-size	2010 Cum Leg Kept	Combined Leg Kept
Bonneville Pool						15							122	137
The Dalles Pool	18	5				6	10	21	79	3	7	5	42	48
John Day Pool							4	8	8	4	4	3	31	31
Total	18	5				21	10	21	79	3	7	5	195	216

Salmonids														
Reservoir	Bank Anglers	Wild Kept	Wild Rel	Hat Kept	Hat Rel	2010 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Wild Kept	Wild Rel	Hat Kept	Hat Rel	2010 Cum Leg Kept	Jacks Kept Week Cum
Bonneville Pool	22			6		10								10
Chinook				6		10								10
Coho														
Steelhead														
The Dalles Pool	260		18	71		125	48	111		6	13		49	174
Chinook			18	71		117				6	13		13	130
Coho														
Steelhead						8							36	44
John Day Pool						4							7	11
Chinook														
Coho														
Steelhead						4							7	11

Walleye														
Reservoir	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept		2010 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept		2010 Cum Leg Kept			
Bonneville Pool											3		3	
The Dalles Pool					6	8	27	6	30		194		200	
John Day Pool						3	5				38		38	

Bass														
Reservoir	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept		2010 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept		2010 Cum Leg Kept			
Bonneville Pool														
The Dalles Pool	8	3	18		18	3	8	3			5		23	
John Day Pool											3		3	

¹ Quantities include both Washington and Oregon samples.

		Sturgeon	Salmonids	Walleye	Bass
Bonneville	Effort (% of 6-week average)	none	none	none	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	none	none	none	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	none	none	none	none
The Dalles	Effort (% of 6-week average)	86%	325%	129%	480%
	Catch Per Unit Effort	2.54	0.29	1.33	1.50
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.18	0.23	1.11	1.13
John Day	Effort (% of 6-week average)	none	none	none	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	none	none	none	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	none	none	none	none

Lower Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary

04/26/2010

11:00 AM

Salmonid

Month/Week	Bank	Chinook					Steelhead					Chinook						
		Kept	Released	Released	Released	Released	Kept	Rel.	Other	Kept	Released	Released	Released	Released	Released			
	Sec.	Anglers	Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Kept	Rel.	Other	# Boats	Boat Anglers	Kept	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Kept	Rel.	Other
Bonneville	1	CLOSED								CLOSED								
Camas/Washougal	2	CLOSED								CLOSED								
	3	CLOSED								CLOSED								
Vancouver	4	CLOSED								CLOSED								
	5	CLOSED								CLOSED								
Kalama	6	CLOSED								CLOSED								
Cowlitz	7	CLOSED								CLOSED								
Longview	8	CLOSED								CLOSED								
Cathlamet	9	CLOSED								CLOSED								
private boats/bank charter	10	CLOSED								CLOSED								
Total		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Sturgeon

	Sec.	Bank Anglers	Sublegals Rel.	Legals Rel.	Oversize Rel.	Legals Kept	# Boats	Boat Anglers	Sublegals Rel.	Legals Rel.	Oversize Rel.	Legals Kept
Camas/Washougal	2	9	4	0	0	0	2	3	0	0	0	0
	3						1	2	0	0	0	0
Vancouver	4											
Woodland	5						3	8	26	0	0	1
Kalama	6						3	6	17	0	0	0
Cowlitz	7						2	4	0	0	0	0
Longview	8	18	0	0	0	0	7	12	3	0	0	0
Cathlamet charter	9											
Cathlamet	10											
Total		36	4	0	0	0	23	42	54	0	0	1

Walleye

	Sec.	Bank Anglers	Kept	Rel.	# Boats	Boat Anglers	Kept	Rel.
Camas/Washougal	2							
	3							
Vancouver	4							
Woodland	5							
Kalama	6							
Cowlitz	7							
Longview	8							
Cathlamet	9							
Chinook/Elochoman	10							
Total		0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Washington Southwest Washington lakes sport sampling summaries - April 19-25.

<u>Area</u>	<u>Anglers</u>	<u>Catch</u>
Klineline Pond	47 with	58 catchable size and 1 brood stock rainbow kept plus 19 catchable size rainbows released