

## Creel Survey

December 20, 2010  
Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

### Salmon/Steelhead

**Deep River - By permanent regulation, the salmon daily limit reverts back to no more than 2 adults beginning Jan. 1. In addition, all chinook must be adipose fin clipped to be kept.**

**Cowlitz River** – Some coho continue to be caught at the salmon hatchery while steelhead are being caught at the trout hatchery.

Last week, Tacoma Power recovered 2,838 coho adults, 45 jacks, one fall Chinook adult, 295 winter-run steelhead and eight sea-run cutthroat trout during five days of operation at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

During the past week Tacoma Power employees released 339 coho adults and eight jacks into Lake Scanewa, 405 coho adults, seven jacks and three winter-run steelhead in the Cispus River above the mouth of Yellowjacket Creek, 561 coho adults, eleven jacks and five winter-run steelhead into the upper Cowlitz River at the Skate Creek Bridge in Packwood, and 150 coho adults, nine jacks, four winter-run steelhead and two cutthroat trout into the Tilton River at Gust Backstrom Park in Morton.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 9,880 cubic feet per second on Monday, December 20. Water visibility is three feet.

**By permanent regulation on the lower Cowlitz, the salmon daily limit reverts back to no more than 2 adults beginning Jan. 1. Only hatchery chinook and hatchery coho may be retained. Also, Mill Creek near the salmon hatchery closed to all fishing the same day.**

**Kalama River** – No catch observed there yesterday. River conditions were less than optimal.

**By permanent regulation, the salmon daily limit will be 6 hatchery chinook of which no more than 1 may be a adult beginning Jan. 1.**

**Lewis River** – Anglers are catching some steelhead on the mainstem and the north fork. Flows below Merwin Dam are currently near the long term mean of 8,230 cfs for this date.

**By permanent regulation, the salmon daily limit will be 6 hatchery chinook of which no more than 1 may be a adult beginning Jan. 1.**

**Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam** - We sampled 8 bank and 4 boat anglers (2 boats) with no catch.

**Under permanent regulations from I-5 Bridge downstream to Buoy 10 release all salmon other than hatchery chinook beginning January 1.**

**Under permanent rules, Dec. 31 is the last day to fish for salmon on the mainstem Columbia from the I-5 Bridge to the Hwy. 395 Bridge at Pasco and the Elochoman, Grays, Tilton, and Washougal rivers plus Drano and Mayfield lakes.**

## **Sturgeon**

**Until further notice, recreational sturgeon fisheries will continue as scheduled under permanent regulations.** Fishery managers from Washington and Oregon are scheduled to meet Feb. 8 to consider changes to current catch quotas.

**Lower Columbia mainstem and its tributaries from Buoy 10 to the Wauna powerlines** – White sturgeon may be retained daily beginning Jan. 1. Daily limit 1, minimum size 38" fork length and maximum size 54" fork length.

**Lower Columbia mainstem and its tributaries from the Wauna powerlines to Bonneville Dam** – We sampled 11 bank anglers from Longview to Bonneville Dam with no catch, not even a sublegal released.

Except for area described below, remains open for white sturgeon retention Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays only. Daily limit 1, minimum size 38" fork length and maximum size 54" fork length.

<b>2011 Recreational Sturgeon (Above Wauna Powerlines)_minor area closure</b>
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Effective January 1 through April 30, angling for all species is prohibited from a line between the upstream end of Sand Island (upstream from Rooster Rock) and a marker on the Oregon shoreline, downstream to a line between the lower end of Sand Island and a marker on the Oregon shoreline.
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**Bonneville Dam to McNary Dam** – Sturgeon may be retained beginning Jan. 1. In Bonneville Pool, the daily limit is 1 fish, minimum size 38" fork length and maximum 54" fork length. From The Dalles Dam to McNary Dam, the daily limit is 1 fish, minimum size 43" fork length and maximum size 54" fork length. Ending date for all pools depends upon when the individual guidelines are met.

Lower Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary  
12/20/2010

10:00 AM

Month/Week Dec. 13-19	Sec.	Bank	Chinook		Coho		Coho		Steelhead	Rel.	Other	#	Boat	Chinook		Coho		Coho		Steelhead	Rel.	Other	
			Kept	Jacks	Kept	Jacks	Released	Jacks						Kept	Adults	Jacks	Released	Jacks	Kept				Rel.
Bonneville	1																						
Camas/Washougal	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0													
Vancouver	3																						
Woodland	4																						
Kalama	5	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cowlitz	6																						
Longview	7																						
Cathlamet	8	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0													
Rocky Point-Cathlamet	9																						
<b>Total</b>	10		8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Month/Week Dec. 13-19	Sec.	Bank	Sublegals		Legals		Oversize		Legals	#	Boat	Sublegals	Legals	Oversize	Legals
			Kept	Rel.	Kept	Rel.	Kept	Rel.							
Bonneville	1		4	0	0	0	0	0							
Camas/Washougal	2														
Vancouver	3														
Woodland	4														
Kalama	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0							
Cowlitz	6														
Longview	7														
Cathlamet	8	6	0	0	0	0	0	0							
Cathlamet	9														
Cathlamet	10														
Knappton/Deep River ramps	10														
Chinook-Knapptor	10														
<b>Total</b>	10		11	0	0	0	0	0							

Month/Week Dec. 13-19	Sec.	Bank	Sublegals		Legals		Oversize		Legals	#	Boat	Sublegals	Legals	Oversize	Legals
			Kept	Rel.	Kept	Rel.	Kept	Rel.							
Bonneville	1														
Camas/Washougal	2														
Vancouver	3														
Woodland	4														
Kalama	5														
Cowlitz	6														
Longview	7														
Cathlamet	8														
Chinook/Elochomar	9														
<b>Total</b>	10		0	0	0	0	0	0							

Washington lower Columbia tributaries and Bonneville Pool salmonid sport sampling summaries - Dec. 13-19.

Area	Bank Anglers	Chinook Kept		Chinook Rel.		Coho Kept		Coho Rel.		Steelhead		Other	Boat Anglers	Chinook Kept		Chinook Rel.		Coho Kept		Coho Rel.		Steelhead		Other
		Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Kept	Rel.			Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Kept	Rel.	
Cowlitz River	127	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	20	0	0	124	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	24	1	0
Kalama River	19	CLOSED	CLOSED	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	CLOSED	CLOSED	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lewis River mainstem	9	CLOSED	CLOSED	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	9	CLOSED	CLOSED	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
North Fork	33	CLOSED	CLOSED	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	9	CLOSED	CLOSED	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0