

## **Creel Survey**

**February 21, 2010**

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

### **Salmon/Steelhead**

**Coal Creek (near Longview)** - Feb. 28 is the last day to fish for steelhead and other game fish below the falls.

Cowlitz River - Steelhead fishing improved last week. Lots of rumors that anglers have heard from other anglers that people have caught a springer or two though none have been found in the creel sample yet. **The first spring Chinook of the year returned to the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator today!**

Last week 50 bank anglers kept 5 steelhead and released 1 while 27 boat anglers kept 6 and released 1.

**Lower Columbia mainstem from the I-5 bridge downstream** – We sampled our first spring Chinook of the season last week. The fish was caught in the Longview area.

Spring-like weather and reports of some fish being caught resulted in higher effort this past weekend with almost 200 boats and 175 bank anglers counted during the Saturday Feb. 20 flight.

**Bonneville Pool** – No effort for steelhead was observed.

**The Dalles Pool** – Low effort though anglers are catching steelhead though most were wild fish that had to be released.

**John Day Pool** – Boat anglers are catching some wild steelhead that had to be released. No catch was observed from the bank.

### **Sturgeon**

**Lower Columbia mainstem from the Wauna powerlines to Bonneville Dam** – Boat anglers around Kalama were catching some legals; slow on other areas of the river.

**Bonneville Pool** – Now catch and release through the end of the year.

**The Dalles Pool** – Boat anglers are catching some legals. Slow from the bank.

**John Day Pool** – Boat anglers averaged a legal kept/released per every 9 rods. Slow from the bank. Effective March 1, 2010 through the end of the year, the retention of sturgeon will be prohibited. Catch-and-release fishing will be allowed.

### **Walleye and Bass**

**Bonneville Pool** – Boat anglers are catching some walleye; no effort observed for bass.

**The Dalles Pool** – Boat anglers averaged over a walleye kept/released per every 2 rods. Bank anglers were also catching some fish. No effort observed for bass.

**John Day Pool** – Boat anglers are catching some walleye. No effort observed for bass.

### **Trout**

**Horseshoe Lake in Woodland** – No report on angling success. Planted with 30 four-pound and 297 half-pound rainbows Feb. 16.

Rowland Lake near Lyle – No report on angling success. Planted with 31 four-pound and 292 half-pound rainbows Feb. 17. However, Feb. 28 is the last day to fish.

**Carlisle Lake** (near Onalaska), **Davis Lake** (Lewis County), **Fort Borst Park Pond and Plummer Lake** (near Centralia), **Kidney Lake** (near North Bonneville), **Scanewa Lake** (Cowlitz Falls Reservoir), **Northwestern Reservoir** (on the White Salmon River), and **Spearfish Lake** (near Dallesport) - Feb. 28 is the last day to fish.

### **Smelt**

**Cowlitz River** – No smelt were observed or reported caught Saturday Feb. 20. Next Saturday Feb. 27 is the last day to fish for smelt in the Cowlitz.

Monthly Sturgeon Harvest estimates:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Guidelines:	%	As of
Bonneville	390									1,400	28%	Jan. 31
The Dalles	87									300	29%	Jan. 31
John Day	41									165	25%	Jan. 31

Current month sampled sturgeon kept:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	
Bonneville	34	103								Feb. 21
The Dalles	20	6								Feb. 21
John Day	4	22								Feb. 21

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 <sup>1</sup>

February 15 - 21, 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	46	11				15	32	100	186	8	30		122	137
The Dalles Pool	33	2				6	16	37	46		3		20	26
John Day Pool	26						38	98	39	1	10	5	26	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>13</b>				<b>21</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>189</b>

Salmonids	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															
Chinook															
Coho															
Steelhead															
The Dalles Pool	7		1	1		6	2	3		4	1		27	33	
Chinook															
Coho															
Steelhead			1	1		6				4	1		27	33	
John Day Pool	10					4	3	8		5			7	11	
Chinook															
Coho															
Steelhead						4				5			7	11	

Walleye	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept	2010 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept	2010 Cum Leg Kept
Bonneville Pool					2	5		1	3
The Dalles Pool	7		1	2	10	22	1	12	35
John Day Pool					13	26		1	26

Bass	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept	2010 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept	2010 Cum Leg Kept
Bonneville Pool									
The Dalles Pool									
John Day Pool									3

<sup>1</sup> Quantities include both Washington and Oregon samples.

		Sturgeon	Salmonids	Walleye	Bass
Bonneville	Effort (% of 6-week average)	157%	none	273%	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	1.61	none	0.20	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.21	none	0.20	none
The Dalles	Effort (% of 6-week average)	121%	64%	281%	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.73	0.70	0.48	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.04	0.20	0.45	none
John Day	Effort (% of 6-week average)	171%	148%	151%	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.44	0.28	0.04	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.08	none	0.04	none

Lower Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary

02/22/2010

noon

**Salmonid**

Month/Week	Sec.	Chinook							Steelhead	Other	# Boats	Chinook					Steelhead	Other
		Bank Anglers	Kept Adults	Released Jacks	Released Adults	Released Jacks	Kept	Rel.				Boat Anglers	Kept Adults	Released Jacks	Released Adults	Released Jacks		
Bonneville	1		CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED												
Camas/Washougal	2		CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED												
	3									2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vancouver	4									4	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Woodland	5	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kalama	6	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cowlitz	7																	
Longview	8									6	11	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cathlamet	9																	
private boats/bank charter	10																	
<b>Total</b>		7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19	39	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Sturgeon**

Month/Week	Sec.	Bank Anglers	Sublegals		Legals		Oversize	Legals	# Boats	Boat		Sublegals	Legals	Oversize	Legals
			Rel.	Kept	Rel.	Kept				Anglers	Rel.				
Bonneville	1	3	0	0	0	0	0								
Camas/Washougal	2														
	3														
Vancouver	4							3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Woodland	5														
Kalama	6							3	8	6	0	0	0	0	2
Cowlitz	7														
Longview	8							3	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cathlamet	9														
charter	10														
Cathlamet	10														
<b>Total</b>		3	0	0	0	0	0	9	17	6	0	0	0	0	2

**Walleye**

Month/Week	Sec.	Bank Anglers	Kept	Rel.	# Boats	Boat		Rel.
						Anglers	Kept	
Bonneville	1							
Camas/Washougal	2							
	3							
Vancouver	4							
Woodland	5							
Kalama	6							
Cowlitz	7							
Longview	8							
Cathlamet	9							
Chinook/Elochoman	10							
<b>Total</b>		0	0	0	0	0	0	0