

Creel Survey

July 4, 2010

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

Salmon/Steelhead

Cowlitz River – 21 boat anglers sampled at Blue Creek kept 8 steelhead while 2 bank anglers had no catch.

Last week, Tacoma Power recovered 726 summer-run steelhead, 360 spring Chinook adults, 51 jacks, 107 mini-jacks and one sockeye salmon during five days of operation at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator. The sockeye salmon was the same fish that returned to the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator three times last week. The fish was recycled downstream to the Massey Bar boat launch on the Cowlitz River.

Tacoma Power employees released 155 spring Chinook adults and 46 jacks into the upper Cowlitz River at the Day Use Park in Lake Scanewa above Cowlitz Falls Dam during the week.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 4,740 cubic feet per second on Tuesday, July 6. Water visibility is 16 feet.

Lewis River – At the mouth, 2 boat anglers sampled had kept 1 steelhead.

Drano Lake and the White Salmon River – New for 2010 – Both remain open for hatchery Chinook in July.

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam – During the first four days of July we sampled 989 bank anglers with 33 adult and 8 jack summer Chinook, 124 steelhead, and 8 sockeye. In addition we sampled 310 boat anglers (136 boats) with 21 adult and 1 jack summer Chinook, 30 steelhead, and no sockeye. Overall, 65% of the adult Chinook and 69% of the steelhead were kept.

Salmonid effort on Saturday July 3rd was heavy with nearly 400 boats and over 1,100 bank anglers counted during the flight. Over 700 of the bank anglers were counted on the Washington shore.

Flows at Bonneville Dam are currently around 200,000 cfs or about half of the peak found in mid June.

The Dalles Pool – Bank anglers averaged an adult Chinook per every 12.4 rods when including fish released. Light effort/catch from boats. 78% of the adult Chinook caught were kept.

Upriver Spring Chinook

The pre-season forecast was 470,000 adult upriver fish. The preliminary final run size estimate is 315,100 adults (67% of forecast).

Willamette Spring Chinook

The pre-season forecast for Willamette spring Chinook was 62,700 fish (adults and jacks). To

date, 85,800 Willamette spring Chinook can be accounted for from fisheries and passage. The spring Chinook counting period at Willamette Falls continues through August 15.

Sockeye

Every day adds to the new record return of sockeye to the Columbia River. Through July 5, just over 346,000 sockeye have been counted at Bonneville Dam (and that count does not include any sport catch below the dam). The old record return, as measured when Bonneville Dam was completed in 1938, was 335,300 fish in 1947.

Sturgeon

Below the Wauna powerlines – Since July 1, catch rates for legal size fish improved for charter boat anglers but declined for private boaters last week. Forty-one percent of the charter boat anglers took home a legal size fish while private boaters averaged one per every 11.2 rods. If an angler is lucky enough to catch a fish, there was a 27% chance it would be legal size.

Considering it was a holiday weekend, sturgeon effort in the estuary was relatively light with nearly 200 private boats and 7 charters counted during last Saturday's flight.

Scheduled to remain open for white sturgeon retention through July 11. The cumulative catch through July 11 may reach 3,700 fish. The catch guideline for the season is 9,600. Fishery managers will review the catch data after July 11 to determine if additional fishing opportunity is available under the catch guideline.

Wauna powerlines to Marker 82 – Some legals were caught by boat anglers in the Longview-Kalama area. During last Saturday's flight, just under a hundred boats were counted.

Walleye and Bass

The Dalles Pool – Boat anglers averaged a walleye per rod when including fish released. They also caught some bass.

Trout

Mayfield Lake – Expected to be planted with 10,000 catchable size rainbows in July.

Tilton River and Skate Creek – Both are expected to be planted with nearly 9,400 catchable size rainbows in July.

Goose Lake north of Carson – Has been planted with 5,500 catchable size brown trout and 6,000 catchable size cutthroats since mid June.

Shad

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam – Effort and catch is waning. Bank anglers just below Bonneville Dam averaged 1.5 fish per rod. Just 4 boats and 19 bank anglers were counted from the dam downstream during last Saturday's flight.

WDFW Mid-Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary

June 28-July 4, 2010

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

Sturgeon

Reservoir	Bank Anglers	Subs	Leg Rel	Leg Kept	Over-size	Boats	Boat Anglers	Subs	Leg Rel	Leg Kept	Over-size
Bonneville Pool				CLOSED						CLOSED	
The Dalles Pool	2			CLOSED						CLOSED	
John Day Pool				CLOSED						CLOSED	
Total											

Salmonids	Bank Anglers	Wild Kept	Wild Rel	Hat Kept	Hat Rel	Boats	Boat Anglers	Wild Kept	Wild Rel	Hat Kept	Hat Rel
Bonneville Pool											
Chinook											
Steelhead											
The Dalles Pool	112		2	7		2	2				Jacks kept
Chinook			2	7							
Steelhead											
John Day Pool											
Chinook											
Steelhead											

Walleye	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept
Bonneville Pool							
The Dalles Pool				7	12	5	6
John Day Pool							

Bass	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept
Bonneville Pool							
The Dalles Pool				1	2		4
John Day Pool							

Shad	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept
Bonneville Pool							
The Dalles Pool	4						
John Day Pool							

Preliminary WDFW sturgeon sport sampling summaries the ports of Chinook and Ilwaco July 1-5.

07/06/2010

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July 1-5

Sturgeon

		<u>#</u>	<u>Boat</u>	<u>Sublegals</u>	<u>Legals</u>	<u>Oversize</u>	<u>Legals</u>
		<u>Boats</u>	<u>Anglers</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Kept</u>
Fort Canby	Private	1	2	0	0	0	0
Ilwaco	Private	33	110	11	0	2	7
	Charter	10	83	104	6	12	34
Chinook	Private	62	163	22	0	4	16
	Charter						