

Creel Survey

March 23, 2010

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

Salmon/Steelhead

Cowlitz River – Anglers are catching steelhead along with some spring chinook and sea run cutthroats.

Last week, Tacoma Power recovered 339 winter-run steelhead and 11 spring Chinook adults during five days of operation at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator. During the week Tacoma Power employees released 16 winter-run steelhead into the Tilton River at Gust Backstrom Park in Morton and 45 winter-run steelhead and ten spring Chinook adults into Lake Scanewa behind Cowlitz Falls Dam.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 5,090 cubic feet per second on Monday, March 22. Flows will likely be reduced to 4,000 cubic feet per second by the end of the week. Water visibility is ten feet.

Kalama River – Anglers are catching steelhead.

Lewis River – Light effort and no catch was observed.

Wind River – Bonneville Pool level is very low making it difficult to launch boats. It's expected to remain this low at least through April 3rd as the US COE is performing maintenance.

Drano Lake – Light effort and no catch was observed.

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam – Last week we sampled 2,909 boat anglers (1,268 boats) with 315 adult chinook and 10 steelhead. In addition, we sampled 471 bank anglers with 5 adult chinook and 3 steelhead. Overall, 85% of the adult Chinook and 92% of the steelhead caught were kept. Of the 260 adult chinook sampled, 59% were upriver stock based on Visual Stock Identification (VSI).

Effort was up substantially from the previous weekend with 1,634 boats and 824 bank anglers counted during last Saturday's March 20 flight. At the same time last year, just over 1,400 boats and nearly 500 bank anglers were counted from Buoy 10 upstream to Bonneville Dam.

The Dalles Pool – Boat anglers are catching some steelhead.

Sturgeon

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam – Slow for legal size fish. Effort remains fairly light with 55 boats and 37 bank anglers counted during Saturday's flight.

The Dalles Pool – Boat anglers are catching some legals. Fishing is slow from the bank.

Walleye and Bass

The Dalles Pool – Including fish released, bank and boat anglers averaged just over 0.6 walleye per rod. Some bass were also being caught by boat anglers.

Trout

Kliline Pond – Bank anglers averaged 2.8 rainbows per rod during creel checks last week. Planted with 1,500 half-pound plus rainbows March 15.

Lake Sacajawea in Longview – Planted with 4,300 catchable size rainbows March 15.

Leroy Burns Pond in Wahkiakum County – Planted with 3,022 catchable size rainbows March 16.

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								121	40.3%	Feb. 28	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							32		Mar. 21
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

March 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						15							122	137
The Dalles Pool	29	1				6	10	22	49		1	2	26	32
John Day Pool													31	31
Total	29	1				21	10	22	49		1	2	179	200

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	Jacks Kept Cum
Bonneville Pool															
Chinook															
Coho															
Steelhead															
The Dalles Pool	10					8	2	4		5	2		35	43	
Chinook															
Coho															
Steelhead						8				5	2		35	43	
John Day Pool						4							7	11	
Chinook															
Coho															
Steelhead						4							7	11	

Walleye	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept	2010 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept	2010 Cum Leg Kept
Bonneville Pool									
The Dalles Pool	3		2	6	9	15	3	6	6
John Day Pool									

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	1				1	1	2		
John Day Pool									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)	91%	83%	85%	300%
	Catch Per Unit Effort	1.04	0.50	0.61	1.00
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.02	0.14	0.44	none
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

Washington Southwest Washington lakes sport sampling summaries - March 15-21.

Area

Anglers

Catch

Klinline Pond

20 bank with 56 rainbows kept.