

Creel Survey

May 9, 2010

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

Salmon/Steelhead

Cowlitz River – Anglers are catching a mix of spring chinook and steelhead.

Last week Tacoma Power recovered 545 winter-run steelhead, 35 summer-run steelhead, 288 spring Chinook adults and 24 jacks during five days of operation at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

Tacoma Power employees released 81 spring Chinook adults, twelve jacks, and five winter-run steelhead into Lake Scanewa at the Day Use Park above Cowlitz Falls Dam and 110 spring Chinook adults, 14 jacks, and two winter-run steelhead into the upper Cowlitz River at Skate Creek Bridge in Packwood, Washington.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 3,540 cubic feet per second on Monday, May 10. Water visibility is ten feet.

Kalama River – Anglers are catching a mix of spring chinook and steelhead.

Lewis River – Generally light effort and catch. Most of the catch has been summer run steelhead.

Wind River – Just over 40% of the boat anglers had caught a spring chinook last week. Bank angling, including in the gorge, was slow.

Drano Lake – Just over half the boat anglers caught a spring chinook last week. Bank anglers averaged a fish per every 3.5 rods. Effort has been heavy, especially on Thursdays.

Klickitat River – Bank anglers from Fisher Hill Bridge downstream are catching a mix of spring chinook and summer run steelhead.

Yakima River - From Paul Hoffarth, WDFW District 4 Fish Biologist in Pasco WA: An estimated 20 hatchery spring chinook were harvested in the lower Yakima River this week. In addition, 8 wild chinook were caught and released. Anglers averaged 39 hours per chinook.

Ringold – From Paul Hoffarth, WDFW District 4 Fish Biologist in Pasco WA: An estimated 225 adult hatchery spring chinook were harvested at Ringold for the week of May 3-9. An estimated 44 wild chinook were caught and released. WDFW staff interviewed 166 anglers, 18% of the effort during the week. Anglers averaged one chinook for 17 hours of fishing. For the season, 301 hatchery steelhead have been harvested.

Upriver run size update:

- Bonneville Dam passage of Chinook through May 9 totals 194,901 adults. This is the highest cumulative count to date since 2002 and the 3rd highest count to date (1977-current).
- The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met today and determined the upriver run will likely be about 350,000 adults (range 330,000-370,000).
- TAC will continue to meet at least weekly to review passage at Bonneville Dam.

Sturgeon

Lower Columbia from the Wauna powerlines to the Marker 82 line – Catch of legal size fish is increasing though effort remains similar to past weeks. Just over 100 boats and 62 bank anglers were counted during the Saturday May 8 flight.

Walleye and Bass

The Dalles Pool – Boat anglers are catching some of both species.

Trout

Plants of rainbows into SW Washington waters last week:

- **Fort Borst Park Pond near Centralia** – 2,019 catchable size rainbows
- **Lewis Co. Park Pond near Toledo** – 580 Triploid Trophy Trout averaging 1.5 pounds each
- **Lake Sacajawea in Longview** – 2,222 catchable size rainbows

| Monthly Sturgeon Harvest estimates: | | | | | | | | | | | Totals: | % | As of | Guidelines: |
|-------------------------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--|---------|-------|---------|-------------|
| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | | | | | |
| Bonneville | 390 | 1005 | | | | | | | | | 1,395 | 99.6% | Feb. 20 | 1,400 |
| The Dalles | 87 | 34 | 33 | 108 | | | | | | | 262 | 87.3% | Apr. 30 | 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 |
| The Dalles | 20 | 6 | 6 | 16 | | | | | | | 48 | May 9 |
| John Day | 4 | 27 | | | | | | | | | 31 | Feb. 28 |

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

May 3 - 9, 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 | | 2 | | | | 6 | 3 | 6 | 6 | | | | 42 | 48 |
| John Day Pool | | | | | | | | | | | | | 31 | 31 |
| Total | | 2 | | | | 21 | 3 | 6 | 6 | | | | 195 | 216 |

| Salmonids | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Jacks Kept Week | Jacks Kept Cum |
|-----------------|--------------|-----------|----------|----------|---------|-------------------|-------|--------------|-----------|----------|----------|---------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 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 | Combined Leg Kept | | |
| Bonneville Pool | 83 | | | 45 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chinook | | | | 45 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Coho | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Steelhead | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| The Dalles Pool | 77 | | 11 | 24 | | 178 | 11 | 24 | | 4 | 5 | | 58 | 236 | 1 | 1 |
| Chinook | | | 11 | 24 | | 170 | | | | 4 | 5 | | 22 | 192 | 1 | 1 |
| Coho | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Steelhead | | | | | | 8 | | | | | | | 36 | 44 | | |
| John Day Pool | 169 | | 19 | 59 | | | 99 | 227 | | 23 | 46 | | | | 4 | |
| Chinook | | | 19 | 59 | | | | | | 23 | 46 | | | | 4 | |
| Coho | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Steelhead | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| Walleye | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|-----|----------|--|-------------------|-------|--------------|-----|----------|--|-------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| Reservoir | Bank Anglers | Rel | Leg Kept | | 2010 Cum Leg Kept | Boats | Boat Anglers | Rel | Leg Kept | | 2010 Cum Leg Kept | Combined Leg Kept | | |
| Bonneville Pool | | | | | | | | | | | 3 | 3 | | |
| The Dalles Pool | | | | | 6 | 3 | 4 | | 4 | | 206 | 212 | | |
| John Day Pool | | | | | | | | | | | 38 | 38 | | |

| Bass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|-----|----------|--|-------------------|-------|--------------|-----|----------|--|-------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| Reservoir | Bank Anglers | Rel | Leg Kept | | 2010 Cum Leg Kept | Boats | Boat Anglers | Rel | Leg Kept | | 2010 Cum Leg Kept | Combined Leg Kept | | |
| Bonneville Pool | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| The Dalles Pool | 3 | | | | 19 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 3 | | 8 | 27 | | |
| 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) | 20% | 30% | 11% | 32% |
| | Catch Per Unit Effort | 1.33 | 0.51 | 1.00 | none |
| | Harvest Per Unit Effort | none | 0.38 | 1.00 | 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 - May 3-9.

Area

Anglers

Catch

No report.