

Creel Survey

August 8, 2011

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

Salmon/Steelhead

Cowlitz River – 11 bank anglers at Blue Creek kept 1 steelhead while 2 boat anglers near the mouth kept 1 adult fall chinook.

Last week Tacoma Power recovered 35 spring chinook adults, 31 jacks, 45 mini-jacks, 767 summer-run steelhead, three sea-run cutthroat and one fall chinook adult (the first of the season) during five days of operation at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

During the past week Tacoma Power employees released 12 spring chinook adults and 16 jacks into the upper Cowlitz River at the Lake Scanewa Day Use Park, 13 spring chinook adults and 14 jacks into the Cispus River near the mouth of Yellow Jacket Creek, and 72 spring chinook mini-jacks into Riffe Lake at Mossyrock Park. Also during the week they released two sea-run cutthroat into the Tilton River at Gust Backstrom Park in Morton and one sea-run cutthroat and one summer-run steelhead into the Cowlitz River at the Barrier Dam boat launch.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 4,760 cubic feet per second on Monday morning, August 8. Water visibility is 13 feet.

North Fork Lewis River – 19 bank anglers kept 4 steelhead.

Drano Lake – Effort and catch is beginning to increase. 41 boat anglers kept 18 steelhead and released 20. Boat counts increased from 25 on Friday morning to 45 on Saturday.

Buoy 10 – Some fall chinook and a few coho are being caught. Effort remains relatively light.

WA daily creel sampling summaries are available @ <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/creel/buoy10/>.

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam – Last week we sampled 2,445 salmonid anglers (including 214 boats) with 23 adult and 5 jack fall chinook, 775 steelhead, and no coho. 448 (58%) of the steelhead were kept. Most of the fall chinook were kept though a few were “small” jacks or tule adults were released.

Nearly 1,000 salmonid bank anglers and 400 boats were observed on the lower Columbia mainstem last Saturday (Aug. 6).

Bonneville Pool – 42 boat anglers kept 55 steelhead and released 36. Most of the effort was off Drano Lake and the White Salmon River.

Sturgeon

Lower Columbia from the mouth to the Navigation Marker 82 line – We only sampled 1 angler last week during the current catch-and-release only fishery.

During last Saturday’s effort flight count, sturgeon effort was just a dozen and a half for both boats and bank anglers.

Walleye

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam – Some walleye were kept by boat anglers in the Camas/Washougal area.

Ten walleye boats were counted from Camas/Washougal upstream to the gorge during last Saturday's effort flight count.

Trout

Last week's report stated Swift Power Canal was planted with 1,700 rainbows averaging five pounds each and 1,416 averaging 1.5 pounds each on July 18. Actually, those fish were released into Swift Reservoir.

Washington Buoy 10 Creel Sampling Summaries - 2011

Date	Number of Boats	Number of Anglers	Chinook Kept	Coho Kept	Comments
01-Aug	15	35	0	0	Opening Day
02-Aug	9	24	0	0	
03-Aug	6	14	0	0	17 boats counted during effort flight count.
04-Aug	7	13	0	0	
05-Aug	2	5	0	0	
06-Aug	17	37	4	0	36 boats counted from just below br. to Tongue Pt.
07-Aug	17	40	2	1	