

Creel Survey

July 25, 2011

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

Salmon/Steelhead

Cowlitz River – No report on angling success.

Last week Tacoma Power recovered 47 spring chinook adults, 23 jacks, 65 mini-jacks, 610 summer-run steelhead and one sea-run cutthroat trout during five days of operation at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

During the past week Tacoma Power employees released one spring chinook adult, 22 jacks and one sea-run cutthroat trout into the upper Cowlitz River at the Lake Scanewa Day Use Park and 62 spring chinook mini-jacks into Riffe Lake at Mossyrock Park.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 6,660 cubic feet per second on Monday morning, July 25. Water visibility is 13 feet.

Grays (including West Fork) and Elochoman rivers – Beginning August 1, night closure, anti-snagging rule, and stationary gear restrictions will be in effect.

Green, Kalama, Lewis (including North Fork), Toutle (including North Fork), and Washougal rivers – Open to fishing for salmon beginning August 1. Hatchery fall chinook and hatchery coho may be retained.

Cispus, upper Cowlitz, Deep, and Klickitat rivers plus Lake Scanewa – Effective August 1, any chinook may be retained. On the lower Klickitat, anti-snagging rule will be in effect August 1.

Lower Wind – Opens to fishing for salmon August 1. Anti-snagging rule will be in effect.

Drano Lake – Reverts back to a 2 adult salmon daily limit beginning August 1. Hatchery chinook and hatchery coho may be retained. Anti-snagging rule will be in effect.

Buoy 10– Will be open for chinook and hatchery coho Aug. 1-28. Anglers will have a two-salmonid daily limit, only one of which may be a chinook. From Aug. 29 through Dec. 31, anglers will have a daily limit of two hatchery coho or hatchery steelhead or one of each, but must release chinook.

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam – Last week we sampled nearly 2,000 salmonid anglers (including 152 boats) with 18 adult and 13 jack summer chinook, 640 steelhead, and no sockeye. Most of the jacks were kept as were just over half of the steelhead. All of the adult chinook were released as required. Interestingly, bank anglers still reported more wild steelhead released than kept while boat anglers reported just the opposite.

It's possible we may be seeing a record number of wild and hatchery steelhead handled for the month of July. To date, Washington alone has sampled almost 1,600 fish. Assuming a 10% sample rate, then 16,000 fish would have been handled with still a week to go. 45% of the fish we've sampled in July have been wild. The record is 16,000 fish handled in July 2009. Stay tuned!

The mainstem Columbia River from the Rocky Point/Tongue Point line upstream to Bonneville Dam will be open for chinook (adipose fin clipped or not) and hatchery coho Aug. 1 through Dec. 31. Anglers will be allowed to retain one adult chinook as part of their two adult salmonid daily limit through Sept. 9. Beginning Sept. 10, chinook retention will only be allowed upstream of the Lewis River, but up to two adult chinook may be retained. Up to 2 adult chinook may be retained downstream of the Lewis beginning October 1.

Bonneville Pool – No report on angling success. Anti-snagging rule and night closure will be in effect for salmon and steelhead beginning August 1.

The Dalles Pool – Bank anglers are catching some summer chinook and steelhead. Anti-snagging rule will be in effect for salmon and steelhead beginning Aug. 1.

John Day Pool – From Paul Hoffarth, WDFW District 4 Fish Biologist, Pasco: No chinook or steelhead were harvested this past week in the John Day Pool. Effort continues to be light. There were an estimated 49 angler trips for the week. For the fishery that began June 16, an estimated 27 adult hatchery summer chinook and 33 hatchery jacks have been harvested.

Anti-snagging rule for salmon and steelhead will be in effect beginning August 1.

Bonneville Dam to Priest Rapids Dam – Effective August 1, any chinook, adipose fin clipped or not, may be retained.

Sturgeon

Lower Columbia from the mouth upstream to the Navigation Marker #82 line – We sampled legals kept by bank and boat anglers from Longview to Cathlamet.

Including fish released, private boat anglers at Deep River/Knappton and ports of Chinook and Ilwaco averaged a legal per every 3.7 rods while charter boat anglers averaged just over 0.7 fish per rod. Boat anglers also released a few green sturgeon. No legals were observed caught by bank anglers. Overall, If an angler catches a white sturgeon in estuary there was nearly a 40% chance it would be a keeper.

The Dalles Pool – Boat anglers are catching some legals. Sturgeon may be retained through July 29.

John Day Pool– (9 boats/18 anglers caught 11 sturgeon (**Catch & Release Only**)).

Walleye and Bass

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam– A few more boat anglers from Camas/Washougal to Kalama with some fish being caught.

The Dalles Pool – Boat anglers averaged nearly 3 walleye kept and over 5 bass kept/released per rod.

John Day Pool – Walleye fishing was excellent this past week. 33 boats/73 anglers caught 171 walleye. 5 boats/9 anglers caught 5 bass.

Shad

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam – Bank anglers just below Bonneville Dam continue to catch a few shad. Effort is very light.

John Day Pool – The numbers of shad passing McNary Dam has dropped off dramatically but anglers are still catching a few at Plymouth Island. 13 boats/27 anglers caught 106 shad.

Trout

Goose Lake north of Carson – No report on angling success. Planted with 6,200 browns, 6,000 cutthroats, and 500 rainbows one-half pound and larger since the end of June.

Monthly Sturgeon Harvest estimates:											Totals:	%	As of	Guidelines:
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep					
Bonneville ¹	1040	587									1,627	81.4%	Jun. 30	2,000
The Dalles ²	65	6	16	27	24	3					141	47.0%	Jun. 30	300
John Day	187	90	163	92							532	106.4%	Jun. 30	500

Current month sampled sturgeon kept:												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep			
Bonneville ¹	145	71					51				267	Jul. 24
The Dalles ²	11	1	5	5	3	1	12				38	Jul. 24
John Day	37	10	29	15							91	Jul. 24

¹ Bonneville Pool closed to sturgeon retention Feb 19. Re-opened June 30-July 2 and July 7-8. Closed July 9.

² John Day Pool closed to sturgeon retention April 10.

Harvest estimates are updated monthly. All in-season estimates are preliminary. Samplers generally observe from 10% - 25% of total harvest.

7/26/11 12:00 AM

WDFW Mid-Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary ¹

July 18 - 24, 2011

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	2011 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Subs	Leg Rel	Leg Kept	Over-size	2011 Cum Leg Kept	Combined Leg Kept
Bonneville Pool						33							234	267
The Dalles Pool	25	21			3	18	2	4	19		1	2	20	38
John Day Pool						20							71	91
Total	25	21			3	71	2	4	19		1	2	325	396

Salmonids															Jacks Kept	Cum
Reservoir	Bank Anglers	Wild Kept	Wild Rel	Hat Kept	Hat Rel	2011 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Wild Kept	Wild Rel	Hat Kept	Hat Rel	2011 Cum Leg Kept		Week	Cum
Bonneville Pool													2	2		
Chinook																
Coho																
Steelhead													2	2		
The Dalles Pool	66		3	12		128	4	10					32	160	1	63
Chinook				6		111							24	135	1	63
Coho																
Steelhead			3	6		17							8	25		
John Day Pool						7							8	15		
Chinook																
Coho																
Steelhead						7							8	15		

Walleye														
Reservoir	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2011 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2011 Cum Leg Kept	
Bonneville Pool													5	5
The Dalles Pool						7	8	21		58			1369	1376
John Day Pool													179	179

Bass														
Reservoir	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2011 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2011 Cum Leg Kept	
Bonneville Pool						1							23	24
The Dalles Pool	1		1			49	3	6	25	6			57	106
John Day Pool													2	2

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)	75%	106%	119%	70%
	Catch Per Unit Effort	1.59	0.21	2.76	4.57
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.03	0.17	2.76	1.00
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

10:00 AM

Month/Week	Salmonid										#	Chinook										
	Bank	Kept	Chinook			Released	Steelhead	Sockeye		Other		Boats	Boat	Kept	Chinook			Released	Steelhead	Sockeye		Other
July 18-24	Sec.	Anglers	Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Kept	Rel.	Kept	Rel.	Boats	Anglers	Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Kept	Rel.	Kept	Rel.	Other	
Bonneville	1	217	CLOSED	1	4	0	40	90	CLOSED	0	8	17	CLOSED	0	0	0	0	0	4	CLOSED	0	0
Camas/Washougal	2	26	CLOSED	2	0	0	4	0	CLOSED	0	12	19	CLOSED	0	2	0	1	5	CLOSED	0	0	
	3	2	CLOSED	0	0	0	0	0	CLOSED	0	1	2	CLOSED	0	0	0	0	0	CLOSED	0	0	
Vancouver	4	200	CLOSED	2	1	0	23	32	CLOSED	0	26	48	CLOSED	0	1	0	2	10	CLOSED	0	0	
Woodland	5	176	CLOSED	2	0	1	17	13	CLOSED	0	7	15	CLOSED	0	0	0	2	2	CLOSED	0	0	
Kalama	6	258	CLOSED	0	4	0	32	44	CLOSED	0	32	75	CLOSED	1	5	0	19	10	CLOSED	0	0	
Cowlitz	7		CLOSED						CLOSED				CLOSED						CLOSED			
Longview	8	546	CLOSED	1	0	0	88	58	CLOSED	0	53	116	CLOSED	0	0	0	32	20	CLOSED	0	0	
Cathlamet	9	86	CLOSED	1	0	0	17	12	CLOSED	0	12	25	CLOSED	0	0	0	3	3	CLOSED	0	0	
private boats/bank charter	10	109	CLOSED	0	0	0	11	2	CLOSED	0	9	27	CLOSED	1	1	1	32	16	CLOSED	0	0	
	10		CLOSED						CLOSED				CLOSED						CLOSED			
Total		1620	CLOSED	9	9	1	232	251	CLOSED	0	152	327	CLOSED	2	9	1	91	66	CLOSED	0	0	

Month/Week	Sturgeon										
	Bank	Sublegals	Legals	Oversize	Legals	#	Boat	Sublegals	Legals	Oversize	Legals
Sec.	Anglers	Rel.	Rel.	Rel.	Kept	Boats	Anglers	Rel.	Rel.	Rel.	Kept
Bonneville	1	CLOSED				1	3	2	0	0	0
Camas/Washougal	2	11	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
	3					1	1	0	0	0	0
Vancouver	4	3	1	0	0	2	4	4	0	0	0
Woodland	5	7	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0
Kalama	6					4	14	16	0	1	0
Cowlitz	7										
Longview	8	22	3	0	1	2	12	20	37	0	2
Cathlamet	9	1	0	0	0	1					
Cathlamet	10	2	0	0	0	1	2	7	0	0	4
Total		46	4	0	1	4	24	52	59	0	6

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

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

Preliminary WDFW sturgeon sport sampling summaries for below Wauna July 18-24.

07/25/2011

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July 18-24

Sturgeon

		<u>#</u> <u>Boats</u>	<u>#</u> <u>Anglers</u>	<u>Sublegals</u> <u>Rel.</u>	<u>Legals</u> <u>Rel.</u>	<u>Oversize</u> <u>Rel.</u>	<u>Legals</u> <u>Kept</u>	<u>Green</u> <u>Rel.</u>
Ports of Chinook/Ilwaco	Private	118	317	90	3	32	65	
	Charter	9	64	34	7	22	38	
Knappton/Deep River	Private	36	95	63	3	11	41	2
Chinook-Knappton	Bank		14	0	0	0	0	0