

# Creel Survey

August 6, 2012

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

## Salmon/Steelhead

**Cowlitz River** – Anglers are catching some adult Chinook and summer run steelhead, mainly between the hatcheries.

Last week Tacoma Power recovered 950 summer-run steelhead, 274 spring Chinook adults, 28 jacks, 44 mini-jacks, **one fall Chinook adult**, one sockeye salmon, and one sea-run cutthroat trout during five days of operations at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

During the past week Tacoma Power employees released 114 spring Chinook adults and 11 jacks at the Day Use Park in Lake Scanewa above Cowlitz Falls Dam, 72 spring Chinook adults, eight jacks, and one cutthroat into the upper Cowlitz River at Packwood and 58 spring Chinook mini-jacks into Riffe Lake at the Mossyrock Park boat launch.

A total of 79 summer-run steelhead and five sockeye salmon adults were transported to the lower Cowlitz River and released at the Interstate-5 boat launch, and one summer-run steelhead and one sockeye salmon were recycled to the Barrier Dam during the week.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 3,180 cubic feet per second on Monday, July 30.

**Wind River** – Effort was light last Saturday morning. No report on angling success.

**Drano Lake** – Anglers are catching summer run steelhead. 48 boats were counted here last Saturday morning.

**White Salmon River** – Bank anglers are catching some summer run steelhead in the White Salmon but the best success have been observed in the mainstem Columbia just west of the mouth.

**Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam** – During the first five days of August we sampled 2,090 salmonid anglers (including 241 boats) with 523 steelhead, 24 adult and 6 jack fall Chinook, and no sockeye or coho. 296 (54%) of the steelhead were kept. All of the adult Chinook were kept as were 4 (67%) of the jack Chinook though all were legal to be retained.

Salmonid effort remains highest off the Washington bank with over 800 anglers counted during last Saturday's effort flight count. There was also just over 400 salmonid boats observed during the flight.

**Bonneville Pool** – Boat anglers off the mouths of Drano Lake and the White Salmon River are catching summer run steelhead. There were 20 boats outside Drano and a dozen off the White Salmon last Saturday morning.

**The Dalles Pool** – Bank and boat anglers are catching summer run steelhead though most of the fish were wild and had to be released.

## Sturgeon

**Lower Columbia mainstem from the mouth to Marker 82** - Only a handful of sturgeon boats during the current catch-and-release only fishery.

**The Dalles Pool** – Bank anglers released some legals. The handful of boats sampled had only released sublegals and oversize fish.

## **Walleye and Bass**

**The Dalles Pool** – Boat anglers averaged just over a walleye kept per rod. The couple bass boats sampled had released an average of 45 fish per boat. Bank anglers are also catching some walleye and bass.

Monthly Sturgeon Harvest estimates:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Totals:	%	As of	Guidelines:
Bonneville	812	128	closed	closed	closed	896	closed		1,836	91.8%	Jun. 30 <sup>1</sup>	2,000
The Dalles	28	0	18	21	39	25			131	43.7%	Jun. 30	300
John Day	75	63	50	145	138	closed	closed		471	94.2%	Jun. 30 <sup>2</sup>	500

<sup>1</sup> Bonneville Reservoir closed to sturgeon retention effective February 18. It re-opened June 15-16 and June 22-23 to finish the guideline.  
<sup>2</sup> John Day Reservoir closed to sturgeon retention effective May 21. The expansion for May is high because sample rate was low (bank was 6.5% and boat was 6.2% of estimated angler trips sampled, with a total of 11 "sampler days").

Harvest estimates are calculated monthly. All in-season estimates are preliminary, and subject to update.

Current month sampled sturgeon kept:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug		
Bonneville	66	20	closed	closed	closed	165 <sup>a</sup>	closed		251	Aug. 5
The Dalles	5	0	1	3	4	4	5		22	Aug. 5
John Day	9	10	18	28	6	closed	closed		71	Aug. 5

<sup>a</sup> In sample harvest for Bonneville Pool June 15-16 was 104. Sample rate was much higher than usual at 5.5 sampler days for the 2 day fishery.

Samplers generally observe from 10% - 25% of total harvest.

### WDFW Mid-Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary <sup>1</sup>

July 30 - August 5, 2012

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

Samplers generally observe from 10% - 25% of total harvest.

<b>Sturgeon</b>														
Reservoir	Bank Anglers	Subs	Leg Rel	Leg Kept	Over-size	2012 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Subs	Leg Rel	Leg Kept	Over-size	2012 Cum Leg Kept	Combined Leg Kept
Bonneville Pool						26							225	251
The Dalles Pool	2	15	2			10	5	14	37			2	12	22
John Day Pool						17							54	71
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2</b>			<b>53</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>37</b>			<b>2</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>344</b>
<b>Salmonids</b>														
	Bank Anglers	Wild Kept	Wild Rel	Hat Kept	Hat Rel	2012 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Wild Kept	Wild Rel	Hat Kept	Hat Rel	2012 Cum Leg Kept	Jacks Kept Week Cum
Bonneville Pool							6	11		3	2			
Chinook														
Coho										3	2			
Steelhead														
The Dalles Pool	71		24	7		72	4	8		4	1		44	116
Chinook						40							9	49
Coho						1								1
Steelhead			24	7		31				4	1		35	66
John Day Pool						25							1	26
Chinook						24								24
Coho														
Steelhead						1							1	2
<b>Walleye</b>														
	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2012 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2012 Cum Leg Kept	
Bonneville Pool													27	27
The Dalles Pool	1		1			3	6	14		17			603	606
John Day Pool													339	339
<b>Bass</b>														
	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2012 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2012 Cum Leg Kept	
Bonneville Pool						2							2	4
The Dalles Pool	3	12	3			33	2	4	90				53	86
John Day Pool						9							103	112

<sup>1</sup> Quantities include both Washington and Oregon samples.

		Sturgeon	Salmonids	Walleye	Bass
Bonneville	Effort (as a % 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 (as a % of 6-week average)	69%	190%	143%	150%
	Catch Per Unit Effort	3.50	0.46	1.20	15.00
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	none	0.10	1.20	0.43
John Day	Effort (as a % of 6-week average)	none	none	none	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	none	none	none	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	none	none	none	none

10:30 AM

Month/Week	Salmonid																										
	Sec.	Bank Anglers	Kept Adults	Chinook Jacks	Released Adults	Jacks	Kept Adults	Jacks	Coho Released Adults	Jacks	Steelhead Kept	Rel.	Other	# Boats	Boat Anglers	Kept Adults	Chinook Jacks	Released Adults	Jacks	Kept Adults	Jacks	Coho Released Adults	Jacks	Steelhead Kept	Rel.	Other	
Aug. 1-5	1	326	9	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	95	99															
Bonneville	2	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		5	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
Camas/Washougal	3	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0		1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vancouver	4	266	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	24		34	69	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0
Woodland	5	224	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	13	10		37	74	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0
Kalama	6	281	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	22		38	85	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	4	0	
Cowlitz	7													14	32	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0
Longview	8	335	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	39	25		88	196	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	47	21	0	
Cathlamet	9	70	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	1		16	38	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	6	0	
private boats/bank charter	10	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	3		8	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	3	0	
<b>Total</b>		1566	20	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	208	184		241	524	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	88	43	

	Sturgeon												
	Sec.	Bank Anglers	Sublegals Rel.	Legals Rel.	Oversize Rel.	Legals Kept	# Boats	Boat Anglers	Sublegals Rel.	Legals Rel.	Oversize Rel.	Legals Kept	
Bonneville	1					CLOSED						CLOSED	
Camas/Washougal	2					CLOSED	1	3	0	0	0	CLOSED	
	3					CLOSED						CLOSED	
Vancouver	4					CLOSED						CLOSED	
Woodland	5					CLOSED						CLOSED	
Kalama	6					CLOSED	1	2	1	0	0	CLOSED	
Cowlitz	7					CLOSED						CLOSED	
Longview	8					CLOSED	1	4	0	0	0	CLOSED	
Cathlamet	9					CLOSED						CLOSED	
Cathlamet	10					CLOSED						CLOSED	
Chinook - Knappton bank	10					CLOSED						CLOSED	
Knappton-Deep River ramps	10					CLOSED						CLOSED	
<b>Total</b>		0	0	0	0	CLOSED	3	9	1	0	0	CLOSED	

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

