

Creel Survey

December 31, 2012

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

Salmon/Steelhead

Cowlitz River – Anglers are primarily catch steelhead, mainly around the trout hatchery.

Last week Tacoma Power recovered 149 winter-run steelhead, 40 coho adults and 11 jacks during four days of operations at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

A total of nine winter-run steelhead, four coho adults and three jacks were released into the Tilton River at Gust Backstrom Park in Morton, ten coho adults, seven jacks and five winter-run steelhead into Lake Scanewa above Cowlitz Falls Dam at the Day Use Site, and two coho adults, one jack and two winter-run steelhead into the upper Cowlitz River at Packwood.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 10,200 cubic feet per second on Monday, December 31.

Kalama River – Fishing was slow the one day we sampled there last week.

Lewis River – Anglers are catching steelhead and some fall chinook, primarily from the North Fork around the salmon hatchery. Most of the chinook were released.

Flows below Merwin Dam are currently 6,520 cfs, about 15% lower than the long-term mean of 7,530 cfs for this date.

Washougal River – Boat anglers are doing better than bank anglers for steelhead though a lot of the fish were wild and were released.

Flows at Hathaway Park have dropped to about 800 cfs this morning.

Area	Bank # Rods	Chinook Kept		Chinook Rel.		Coho Kept		Coho Rel.		Steelhead		Other	Boat # Rods	Chinook Kept		Chinook Rel.		Coho Kept		Coho Rel.		Steelhead		Other	
		Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Kept	Rel.			Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Kept	Rel.		
Cowlitz River	111	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	27	2	1 cutt rel.	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	0
Kalama River	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Lewis River mainstem	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0													
North Fork	44	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	16	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Washougal River	93	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	5	0	103	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	17	0