

Creel Survey

January 30, 2012

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

Salmon/Steelhead

Cowlitz River – 11 bank anglers kept 6 steelhead and released 2 while 8 boat anglers kept 9. The fish were sampled at the trout hatchery.

Last week Tacoma Power recovered 146 winter-run steelhead, 75 coho adults and three jacks during five days of operation at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

During the past week Tacoma Power employees released 49 coho adults, one jack and 12 winter-run steelhead at the Lake Scanewa Day Use Site above Cowlitz Falls Dam, and 14 coho adults and 15 winter-run steelhead into the Tilton River at Gust Backstrom Park in Morton.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 9,800 cubic feet per second on Monday, January 30.

2011 – 2012 Upstream totals

Fall Chinook Adults		Upstream Transportation							
Week Ending	Total Returns	Tilton River		Lake Scanewa		Cowlitz @ Packwood		Cispus River	
		Hatchery	Natural	Hatchery	Natural	Hatchery	Natural	Hatchery	Natural
Season to date	16,816	2,233	4,273	4,684	0	1,770	1	1,215	6
20-Jan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Coho Adults		Upstream Transportation							
Week Ending	Total Returns	Tilton River		Lake Scanewa		Cowlitz @ Packwood		Cispus River	
		Hatchery	Natural	Hatchery	Natural	Hatchery	Natural	Hatchery	Natural
Season to date	48,240	6,191	2,011	6,833	7,041	4,927	155	1,944	489
20-Jan	133	0	23	18	75	0	0	0	0
Winter Steelhead Adults		Upstream Transportation							
Week Ending	Total Returns	Tilton River		Lake Scanewa		Cowlitz @ Packwood		Cispus River	
		Hatchery	Natural	Hatchery	Natural	Hatchery	Natural	Hatchery	Natural
Season to date	2,060	0	35	0	57	0	0	0	12
20-Jan	80	0	6	0	6	0	0	0	0

Washougal River – 67 bank anglers kept 5 steelhead and released 1 hatchery and 1 wild fish. 21 boat anglers kept 4 steelhead and released 11 wild fish.

The Dalles Pool – Including fish released, boat anglers averaged nearly 3 steelhead per rod. Nearly two-thirds of the fish were wild and had to be released. Fishing was slow from the bank.

Bonneville and John Day pools – No salmonid anglers were sampled.

Sturgeon

Lower Columbia mainstem from Wauna powerlines upstream to Bonneville Dam – The 4 bank and 3 boats/4 anglers sampled from Camas/Washougal upstream had no catch.

Bonneville Pool – Just under a third of the boat anglers sampled had kept/released a legal. No legals were found among the bank anglers sampled.

Through January 29, an estimated 805 legals had been kept. The 2011 guideline was 2,000 fish. The guidelines for 2012 have not been finalized yet.

The Dalles and John Day pools – Slow for legal size fish.

Walleye and Bass

Bonneville, The Dalles, and John Day pools – Only 1 boat fishing for walleye was sampled and it was in The Dalles Pool. The anglers had no catch. No effort was observed for bass in any of the three pools.

Trout

Horseshoe Lake in Woodland – Planted with 20 ten pound and 3,038 catchable size rainbows Jan. 24. No report on angling success.

Spearfish Lake near Dallesport – Planted with 12 ten pound and 162 five pound broodstock rainbows Jan. 23. No report on angling success.

Monthly Sturgeon Harvest estimates:

	08-Jan	15-Jan	22-Jan	29-Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Totals:	%	As of	Guidelines: ¹
Bonneville ²	589	104	44	68						805	40.3%	Jan. 29	2,000
The Dalles													300
John Day													500

¹ Guidelines for 2012 have not been finalized yet.
² Due to the high effort and harvest in Bonneville Pool, we are providing weekly harvest estimates. We will continue to provide harvest estimates for the other pools on a monthly basis.
Harvest estimates are calculated monthly. All in-season estimates are preliminary.

Current month sampled sturgeon kept:

	08-Jan	15-Jan	22-Jan	29-Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun		
Bonneville ³	21	18	12	15						66	Jan. 29
The Dalles	4	1	0	0						5	Jan. 29
John Day	6	3	0	0						9	Jan. 29

³ Bonneville weekly sample rate:
January 1-8 bank was low at 9% and boat was very low at 4% of estimated angler trips sampled, with a total of 4 "sampler days", and 1 of 4 weekend/holiday days sampled.
January 9-15 bank was 18% and boat was 19% of estimated angler trips sampled, with a total of 7 "sampler days", and 1 of 2 weekend/holiday days sampled.
January 16-22 bank was 33% and boat was 60% of estimated angler trips sampled, with a total of 7 "sampler days", and 3 of 3 weekend/holiday days sampled.
January 23-29 bank was 40% and boat was 32.5% of estimated angler trips sampled, with a total of 4.5 "sampler days", and 1 of 2 weekend/holiday days sampled.
Samplers generally observe from 10% - 25% of total harvest.

WDFW Mid-Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary ¹

January 23 - 29, 2012

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	2012 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Subs	Leg Rel	Leg Kept	Over-size	2012 Cum Leg Kept	Combined Leg Kept
Bonneville Pool	19	7				3	22	52	124	1	15		63	66
The Dalles Pool	17	3			1	3	8	20	15				2	5
John Day Pool	43						17	41	2				9	9
Total	79	10			1	6	47	113	141	1	15		74	80
Salmonids														
	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														
Chinook														
Coho														
Steelhead														
The Dalles Pool	15					3	6	13		23	13		16	19
Chinook														
Coho														
Steelhead						3				23	13		16	19
John Day Pool														
Chinook														
Coho														
Steelhead														
Walleye														
	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2012 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2012 Cum Leg Kept	
Bonneville Pool														
The Dalles Pool							1	4						
John Day Pool														
Bass														
	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2012 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2012 Cum Leg Kept	
Bonneville Pool														
The Dalles Pool														
John Day Pool														

¹ Quantities include both Washington and Oregon samples.

		Sturgeon	Salmonids	Walleye	Bass
Bonneville	Effort (as a % of 4-week average)	76%	none	none	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	2.07	none	none	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.21	none	none	none
The Dalles	Effort (as a % of 4-week average)	85%	129%	267%	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.51	1.29	none	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	none	0.46	none	none
John Day	Effort (as a % of 4-week average)	98%	none	none	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.02	none	none	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	none	none	none	none