

# Creel Survey

June 11, 2012

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

## Salmonid/Steelhead

**South Fork Toutle River** – Very slow for summer run steelhead. Only a few wild winter run steelhead were released last week.

**Cowlitz River** – Anglers are mainly catching spring Chinook, in particular around the salmon hatchery. Some steelhead are also being caught mainly between the hatcheries.

Last week Tacoma Power recovered 196 spring Chinook adults, 34 jacks, two winter-run steelhead and 91 summer-run steelhead during five days of operations at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

During the past week Tacoma Power employees released 74 spring Chinook adults, 23 jacks and one winter-run steelhead at the Day Use Park in Lake Scanewa above Cowlitz Falls Dam, six spring Chinook adults into the Cispus River above the mouth of Yellow Jacket Creek, and 13 spring Chinook adults into the upper Cowlitz River at Packwood.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 7,780 cubic feet per second on Monday, June 11. Water visibility is 10 feet.

**Kalama and Lewis rivers** – Light effort and catches. Kalama River is closed to fishing for spring Chinook.

**Washougal River** – Some summer run steelhead are being caught.

**Wind River and Drano Lake** – Effort and catch continues to below low at both locations. Two pole rule rescinded at both areas during the sturgeon retention season June 15, 16, 22, and 23.

**Klickitat River** – Bank anglers in the lower river are still catching some spring Chinook and summer run steelhead. Boat effort was light in the upper river last Saturday. Upper river is now open for hatchery adult Chinook.

**Lower Columbia mainstem from the I-5 Bridge downstream** – Last week we sampled 908 salmonid anglers (including 34 boats) with 47 adult and 4 jack spring Chinook, 106 steelhead, and 19 sockeye. All but one of the adult spring Chinook and 10 of the steelhead were released. Of the 45 known origin adult Chinook released, 28 (62%) were hatchery fish. The one adult Chinook kept was a large “jack”.

**Megler-Astoria Bridge upstream to Bonneville Dam** – Scheduled to reopen for hatchery adult Chinook retention June 16. Hatchery steelhead and sockeye may be retained from the I-5 Bridge upstream beginning the same day. Retention of hatchery adult Chinook and sockeye below Bonneville Dam is expected to be allowed through July 1.

**Bonneville Dam to Hwy. 395 Bridge at Pasco** – Scheduled to reopen to fishing for hatchery Chinook, hatchery steelhead, and sockeye beginning June 16.

## Sturgeon

**Ports of Chinook and Ilwaco** – Charter boat anglers averaged a legal kept 7.9 rods while the 75 private boat anglers sampled had kept only a couple legals. If an angler did catch a fish, there was a one in five chance it was a keeper. The odds were actually higher it would be an oversize fish that had to be released.

**Lower Columbia mainstem from the Chinook to Marker 82** – Last week we sampled 92 sturgeon anglers (including 28 boats) with 14 legals kept. Boat anglers kept all the legals.

**Mainstem Columbia and its tributaries from Bonneville Dam to The Dalles Dam** – Retention will be allowed June 15, 16, 22, and 23. The daily limit will be 1 fish, min. size 38” fork length and max. 54” fork length. Catch-and-release fishing is permitted on non-retention days.

**The Dalles Pool** – Slow for legal size fish. Through May, an estimated 106 (35%) of the 300 fish guideline had been taken.

### **Walleye and Bass**

**The Dalles Pool** – Including fish released, boat anglers averaged a walleye and 15 bass per rod. Bank anglers are also catching some bass.

### **Shad**

**Lower Columbia mainstem below Bonneville Dam** – Last week we sampled 188 shad anglers (including 23 boats) with 2,094 shad kept and 43 released, an average of nearly a dozen fish per rod.

Almost a million shad have been counted at Bonneville Dam to date. Last year just 73,500 fish had been counted by June 11. More fish have been counted at the dam each of the last five days than last year’s total to date.

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

June 4 - 10, 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						4							82	86		
The Dalles Pool	21	20				10	2	6	15			2	4	14		
John Day Pool						17							54	71		
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>20</b>				<b>31</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>15</b>			<b>2</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>171</b>		
<b>Salmonids</b>																
Reservoir	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	Combined Leg Kept	Jacks Kept Week	Jacks Kept Cum
Bonneville Pool																
Chinook																
Coho																
Steelhead																
The Dalles Pool						43							43	86		1
Chinook						33							9	42		1
Coho																
Steelhead						10							34	44		
John Day Pool						25							1	26		
Chinook						24								24		
Coho																
Steelhead						1							1	2		
<b>Walleye</b>																
Reservoir	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						2	8	25	1	29			476	478		
John Day Pool													278	278		
<b>Bass</b>																
Reservoir	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2012 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2012 Cum Leg Kept			
Bonneville Pool													1	1		
The Dalles Pool	3	2	3			13	1	2	26	4			36	49		
John Day Pool						9							97	106		

<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)	88%	none	170%	100%
	Catch Per Unit Effort	1.37	none	1.20	7.00
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	none	none	1.16	1.40
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											# Boats	Boat Anglers	Kept Adults	Chinook			Steelhead Kept	Rel.	Sockeye Kept	Rel.	Other
	Sec.	Bank Anglers	Kept Adults	Jacks	Released Adults	Jacks	Steelhead Kept	Rel.	Sockeye Kept	Rel.	Other				Released Adults	Jacks	Steelhead Kept					
Bonneville	1	CLOSED										CLOSED	CLOSED									
Camas/Washougal	2	CLOSED										CLOSED	CLOSED									
Vancouver	4	71	CLOSED	1	13	0	0	0	0	0		6	12	CLOSED	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Woodland	5	240	CLOSED	0	8	0	7	1	3	0	0	1	1	CLOSED	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kalama	6	70	CLOSED	2	3	0	1	3	0	0	0	1	1	CLOSED	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cowlitz	7		CLOSED											CLOSED								
Longview	8	273	CLOSED	0	7	0	35	5	9	0	0	17	33	CLOSED	0	6	0	10	0	1	0	0
Cathlamet	9	155	CLOSED	1	7	0	32	0	5	0	0	4	7	CLOSED	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
private boats/bank charter	10	35	CLOSED	0	1	0	9	0	0	0	0	5	10	CLOSED	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
	10		CLOSED											CLOSED								
<b>Total</b>		844	CLOSED	4	39	0	84	9	17	0	0	34	64	CLOSED	0	8	0	12	1	2	0	0

Month/Week	Sturgeon											# Boats	Boat Anglers	Sublegals Rel.	Legals Rel.	Oversize Rel.	Legals Kept
	Sec.	Bank Anglers	Sublegals Rel.	Legals Rel.	Oversize Rel.	Legals Kept	Sublegals Rel.	Legals Rel.	Oversize Rel.	Legals Kept							
Bonneville	1																
Camas/Washougal	2	6	0	0	0	0						2	5	3	1	0	0
Vancouver	4											5	15	14	0	0	1
Woodland	5	2	0	0	0	0						1	3	2	0	0	0
Kalama	6											3	8	17	0	0	3
Cowlitz	7																
Longview	8	2	0	0	0	0						4	6	9	0	0	0
Cathlamet	9											1	4	2	0	0	0
Chinook - Knappton bank	10	6	3	0	0	0											
Knappton-Deep River ramps	10											12	35	28	1	0	10
<b>Total</b>		16	3	0	0	0						28	76	75	2	0	14

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

Month/Week	Shad				# Boats	Boat Anglers	Kept	Rel.
	Sec.	Bank Anglers	Kept	Rel.				
Bonneville	1	125	1600	20	1	3	210	0
Camas/Washougal	2	8	9	0	7	21	174	6
Vancouver	3				3	6	25	0
Woodland	4				3	6	24	0
Kalama	5	2	0	0	2	4	20	6
Cowlitz	6				5	10	30	11
Longview	7							
Cathlamet	8				2	3	2	0
Chinook/Elochoman	9							
<b>Total</b>		135	1609	20	23	53	485	23



Preliminary WDFW sturgeon sport sampling summaries for the Ports of Chinook and Ilwaco June 4-10.

06/12/2011  
8:30 AM

June 4-10

**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>
Ilwaco/Ft. Canby	Private	12	39	3	0	0	0
	Charter	22	181	58	0	28	23
Chinook	Private	15	36	5	0	3	2