

Creel Survey

June 18, 2012

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

Salmon/Steelhead

South Fork Toutle River – Anglers are catching some hatchery summer run steelhead. However, most of the effort has shifted to the Green River.

Cowlitz River – Producing some summer run steelhead between the hatcheries and spring Chinook at the salmon hatchery.

Last week Tacoma Power recovered 205 spring Chinook adults, 41 jacks, two winter-run steelhead and 328 summer-run steelhead during five days of operations at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

During the past week Tacoma Power employees released 56 spring Chinook adults and 15 jacks at the Day Use Park in Lake Scanewa above Cowlitz Falls Dam, 43 spring Chinook adults and 15 jacks into the Cispus River above the mouth of Yellow Jacket Creek, and seven spring Chinook adults, five jacks and one winter-run steelhead into the upper Cowlitz River at Packwood.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 6,200 cubic feet per second on Monday, June 18.

Kalama and Lewis rivers – Effort and catches remain light. The Kalama remains closed to fishing for spring Chinook.

Wind River and Drano Lake – Effort and catch continues to below light at both locations. Two pole rule rescinded at both areas during the upcoming sturgeon retention season scheduled for June 22 and 23.

White Salmon River – Effort is very light on the lower river. No catch was observed.

Klickitat River – Anglers continue to catch some spring Chinook and steelhead.

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam – This past weekend we sampled 1,261 salmonid anglers (including 184 boats) with 135 adult and 13 jack summer Chinook, 62 steelhead, and 43 sockeye. 75 (56%) of the adult Chinook, 50 (81%) of the steelhead, and 41 (95%) of the sockeye were kept (though any sockeye may be retained).

What a difference one day and a little adult Chinook retention makes! There were 10X as many salmonid boats and bank anglers counted from last Friday (non adult Chinook retention) to Saturday. A total of 850 salmonid boats and 1,571 bank anglers were counted during the Saturday June 16 effort flight count.

The Dalles Pool – Bank anglers caught some hatchery summer Chinook.

John Day Pool – From Paul Hoffarth, WDFW Fish Biologist in Pasco -WDFW staff interviewed 34 boats (91 anglers) and 89 bank anglers over the weekend. Salmon harvest was estimated at 9 adult hatchery Chinook and 3 sockeye with 27 wild Chinook released.

Sturgeon

Lower Columbia mainstem from Marker 82 downstream – We also sampled 165 sturgeon anglers (including 50 boats) with 20 legals kept last weekend. All but one of the legals were kept by boat anglers. Over 200 private and 9 sturgeon boats were observed fishing for sturgeon in the estuary during last Saturday's effort flight count.

The ports of Chinook and Ilwaco sturgeon data will be available later this week.

Bonneville Pool – Boat anglers averaged just under a legal kept/released per every 2 rods. Bank anglers also caught some legals.

From Dennis Gilliland, WDFW Fish Biologist in Vancouver - We had 1,060 fish remaining on the Bonneville Pool sturgeon guideline when the season was closed on February 18. The preliminary sturgeon harvest estimate for June 15-16 in Bonneville Pool is 516 fish, leaving a remainder of 544 fish on the guideline for the June 22-23 fishery.

The Dalles Pool – Boat anglers caught some legals.

Walleye and Bass

Bonneville Pool – Boat anglers averaged just over 8 bass kept/released per rod. Bank anglers also caught some fish. No walleye anglers were found in the sample.

The Dalles Pool – Boat anglers averaged just over 1.5 walleye and 8 bass per rod when including fish released. Bank anglers were also catching some bass.

John Day Pool – Walleye and bass fishing is reported to be improving.

Trout

Battle Ground Lake – Planted with 4,200 rainbows averaging over ½ pound each today.

Klinline Pond – Planted with 2,590 catchable size rainbows June 7.

Goose Lake north of Carson – Planted with 1,000 browns averaging ¾ pound each June 12.

Rowland Lake near Lyle – Planted with 1,984 catchable size rainbows June 8.

Spearfish Lake near Dallesport – Planted with 2,000 catchable size and 10 broodstock rainbows averaging 10 pounds each June 8.

Shad

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam – Last weekend we sampled 367 shad anglers (including 11 boats) with 1,873 fish of which all but two were kept.

There were a few dozen boats and over 300 bank anglers fishing for shad last Saturday during the effort flight count. All the anglers were observed from Camas/Washougal upstream.

Yesterday over 176,000 shad were counted at Bonneville Dam. It was the season high daily count to date. Almost 1.6 million shad have been counted at the dam so far this year.

John Day Pool – Reported to be improving for shad.

Monthly Sturgeon Harvest estimates:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Totals:	%	As of	Guidelines:
Bonneville ¹	812	128	closed	closed	closed				940	47.0%	Feb. 17 ²	2,000
The Dalles	28	0	18	21	39				106	35.3%	May 31	300
John Day	75	63	50	145	138	closed			471	94.2%	May 31 ³	500

¹ 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.

² Bonneville Reservoir closed to sturgeon retention effective February 18. It will re-open June 15-16 and June 22-23 to finish the guideline.

³ 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	104 ^a			190	Jun. 17
The Dalles	5	0	1	3	4	2			15	Jun. 17
John Day	9	10	18	28	6	closed			71	Jun. 17

^a In sample harvest for Bonneville Reservoir June 15-16. 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 ¹

June 11 - 17, 2012

The following table is a summary of numbers of fish observed by samplers. Samplers generally observe from 10% - 25% of total harvest.

Sturgeon														Combined		
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	Leg Kept	Leg Kept	
Bonneville Pool	75	125		6	5	10	83	239	888	9	98	34	180	190		
The Dalles Pool	4	5				10	3	7	6		1	1	5	15		
John Day Pool						17							54	71		
Total	79	130		6	5	37	86	246	894	9	99	35	239	276		
	2	4														
Salmonids														Jacks Kept	Week	Cum
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	Leg Kept	Leg Kept	
Bonneville Pool						3										
Chinook						3										
Coho																
Steelhead																
The Dalles Pool	39			2		45							43	88		1
Chinook				2		35							9	44		1
Coho																
Steelhead						10							34	44		
John Day Pool						25							1	26		
Chinook						24								24		
Coho																
Steelhead						1							1	2		
Walleye																
Reservoir	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2012 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2012 Cum Leg Kept	Leg Kept	Leg Kept	
Bonneville Pool													27	27		
The Dalles Pool	2					2	5	14		22			498	500		
John Day Pool													278	278		
Bass																
Reservoir	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2012 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2012 Cum Leg Kept	Leg Kept	Leg Kept	
Bonneville Pool		2	2			2	3	6	48	1			2	4		
The Dalles Pool	5	8	6			19	3	6	43	8			44	63		
John Day Pool						9							97	106		

¹ Quantities include both Washington and Oregon samples.

		Sturgeon	Salmonids	Walleye	Bass
Bonneville	Effort (as a % of 6-week average)	600%	none	none	600%
	Catch Per Unit Effort	3.71	none	none	8.83
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.33	none	none	0.50
The Dalles	Effort (as a % of 6-week average)	38%	241%	97%	178%
	Catch Per Unit Effort	1.18	0.05	1.38	5.91
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.09	0.05	1.38	1.27
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

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Month/Week	Salmonid											# Boats	Boat Anglers	Chinook										
	Sec.	Bank Anglers	Kept Adults	Jacks	Released Adults	Jacks	Steelhead Kept	Rel.	Sockeye Kept	Rel.	Other			Jacks	Released Adults	Jacks	Steelhead Kept	Rel.	Sockeye Kept	Rel.	Other			
Bonneville	1	170	11	1	14	0	1	0	1	0	0	4	11	1	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Camas/Washougal	2	16	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	24	55	1	0	2	0	0	0	0				
	3											1	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0				
Vancouver	4	126	9	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	33	1	0	2	0	0	0	0				
Woodland	5	162	3	0	1	0	1	1	8	0	0	29	74	9	1	8	0	0	0	0				
Kalama	6	92	3	3	5	0	4	0	1	0	0	48	131	20	3	9	0	2	0	8				
Cowlitz	7	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	29	5	0	0	0	2	0	9				
Longview	8	185	1	1	1	2	18	6	12	1	0	54	121	9	0	7	1	16	4	1				
Cathlamet	9	30	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0													
private boats/bank charter	10	21	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0													
Total		804	29	5	32	3	30	8	22	1	0	184	457	46	4	28	1	20	4	19	1	0		

	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						2	5	24	0	0	0
Camas/Washougal	2						6	18	17	1	0	1
	3	2	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0
Vancouver	4											
Woodland	5						3	11	33	0	1	4
Kalama	6	1	2	0	0	0	10	25	28	0	1	3
Cowlitz	7						1	2	1	0	0	0
Longview	8	4	0	0	0	1	4	10	4	0	0	0
Cathlamet	9						1	4	10	2	1	2
Chinook - Knappton bank	10	9	0	0	0	0						
Knappton-Deep River ramps	10						22	72	25	4	1	9
Total		16	2	0	0	1	50	149	142	7	4	19

	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							
Total		0	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Shad							
	Sec.	Bank Anglers	Kept	Rel.	# Boats	Boat Anglers	Kept	Rel.
Bonneville	1	312	1748	0				
Camas/Washougal	2	28	65	0	8	23	38	2
	3				2	3	20	0
Vancouver	4							
Woodland	5				1	1	0	0
Kalama	6							
Cowlitz	7							
Longview	8							
Cathlamet	9							
Chinook/Elochoman	10							
Total		340	1813	0	11	27	58	2

