

# Creel Survey

November 4, 2012

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

## Salmon/Steelhead

**Cowlitz River** – Anglers are catching fall Chinook (all released due to condition or wild) and Coho primarily near the salmon hatchery. Some sea run cutthroats and steelhead were caught around the trout hatchery. Lower river was high and turbid most of last week.

Last week Tacoma Power recovered 2,168 Coho adults, 867 jacks, 450 fall Chinook adults, 30 jacks, 175 summer-run steelhead, 49 cutthroat trout and one chum salmon adult during seven days of operations at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

During the past week Tacoma Power employees released 44 Coho adults and 19 jacks into Lake Scanewa above Cowlitz Falls Dam at the Day Use Site, 28 fall Chinook adults, 34 Coho adults and 32 jacks into the upper Cowlitz River at Packwood, and 639 Coho adults, 458 jacks and one fall Chinook adult into the Cispus River above the mouth of Yellow Jacket Creek.

A total of 982 Coho adults, 278 jacks, 313 fall Chinook adults, 26 jacks and four cutthroat trout were released into the Tilton River at Gust Backstrom Park in Morton during the week.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 5,970 cubic feet per second on Monday, November 5. Water visibility is 12 feet.

### 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
<b>Season to date</b>	<b>6,906</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>1,878</b>	<b>645</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,252</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>0</b>
3-Nov	450	223	123	0	0	28	0	1	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
<b>Season to date</b>	<b>10,367</b>	<b>3,364</b>	<b>857</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>1,001</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>224</b>
3-Nov	2,168	780	218	5	39	34	0	464	221

**Kalama River** – High and turbid most of last week. Even when river conditions improved, fishing success didn't.

**Lewis River** – Despite flows that reached 11,000 cfs last week, some boat anglers on the North Fork Lewis did well for hatchery Coho. Fishing from the bank near the salmon hatchery was generally slow.

Flows below Merwin Dam were down to 6,700 cfs as of yesterday.

**Washougal River** – Light effort though some Coho are being caught.

**Drano Lake** – Light effort and catch.

**Klickitat River**– Bank anglers on the lower river are catching Coho. Flows at Pitt are currently 1,30 cfs, exactly half of the high flows from last week.

**Bonneville Pool** – Boat anglers off the Klickitat are catching some Coho.

**The Dalles Pool** – Light effort and catch.

### **Sturgeon**

**The Dalles Pool** – Boat and bank anglers caught some legals the last three days of the retention season. Now catch-and-release only through the remainder of the year.

### **Walleye and Bass**

**The Dalles Pool** – Light effort and catch.

Monthly Sturgeon Harvest estimates:

	Jan - Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Totals:	%	As of	Guidelines:
Bonneville	1,836	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	1,836	91.8%	Oct. 31 <sup>1</sup>	2,000
The Dalles	131	26	32	50	24		263	87.7%	Oct. 31 <sup>2</sup>	300
John Day	471	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	471	94.2%	Oct. 31 <sup>3</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> The Dalles Reservoir closed to sturgeon retention effective November 4.  
<sup>3</sup> John Day Reservoir closed to sturgeon retention effective May 21.

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

Current month sampled sturgeon kept:

	Jan - Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov		
Bonneville	251	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	251	Nov. 4
The Dalles	17	5	3	6	8	7	46	Nov. 4
John Day	71	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	71	Nov. 4

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

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

October 29 - November 4, 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	32	70		4	4	21	7	20	72		3	6	25	46
John Day Pool						17							54	71
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>70</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>72</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>368</b>
<b>Salmonids</b>														
	Bank Anglers	Kept	Rel			2012 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Kept	Rel			2012 Cum Leg Kept	Jacks Kept Week Cum
Bonneville Pool								44	21	2				1
Chinook										1				
Coho									21					1
Steelhead										1				
The Dalles Pool	7		1			77	1	1					77	154
Chinook						41							17	58
Coho						3							6	9
Steelhead			1			33							54	87
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						3	1	3					616	619
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						40							60	100
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)	269%	71%	113%	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	3.06	0.13	none	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.13	none	none	none
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

