

Creel Survey

October 29, 2012

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

Salmon/Steelhead

Cowlitz River – Bank anglers at the barrier dam are catching fall Chinook and coho though most of the fall Chinook were unmarked and released.

Kalama River – Bank anglers continue to catch a mix of fall Chinook, coho, and summer run steelhead. Most of the Chinook are dark and were released.

Lewis River – North Fork Lewis boat anglers are primarily catching fall Chinook while bank anglers are primarily catching coho though overall catch of coho is light.

Klickitat River – Bank anglers on the lower river are catching a mix of fall Chinook and coho.

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam – Last week we sampled 85 salmonid anglers (including 19 boats) with 1 adult fall Chinook, 1 steelhead, and 2 adult Coho. All the fish were kept.

Bonneville Pool – Boat anglers at the mouth of the Klickitat are catching coho.

The Dalles Pool – Anglers are catching some fall Chinook and summer run steelhead.

So far Washington hatchery returns of hatchery adult late stock coho are down substantially from the same time last year:

| <u>River</u> | <u>2011</u> | <u>2012</u> |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Cowlitz | 17,188 | 5,857 |
| Kalama | 972 | 204 |
| Lewis | 13,627 | 115 |
| Washougal | 400 | 117 |

Sturgeon

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam – The few anglers sampled from Camas/Washougal upstream in the current catch and release only fishery did well on legal size fish.

The Dalles Pool – Bank anglers are catching some legal.

A Columbia River Joint State Hearing has been scheduled for today (Monday, October 29) at 1:00 p.m. via teleconference to review the ongoing recreational sturgeon retention fishery in The Dalles Pool. Stay tuned.

Walleye

The Dalles Pool – The few boat anglers sampled last week had no catch.

Monthly Sturgeon Harvest estimates:

| | Jan - Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Totals: | % | As of | Guidelines: |
|------------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|-------|----------------------|-------------|
| Bonneville | 1,836 | closed | closed | closed | closed | 1,836 | 91.8% | Sep. 30 ¹ | 2,000 |
| The Dalles | 131 | 26 | 32 | 50 | | 239 | 79.7% | Sep. 30 | 300 |
| John Day | 471 | closed | closed | closed | closed | 471 | 94.2% | Sep. 30 ² | 500 |

¹ Bonneville Reservoir closed to sturgeon retention effective February 18. It re-opened June 15-16 and June 22-23 to finish the guideline.
² 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 | | |
|------------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-----|---------|
| Bonneville | 251 | closed | closed | closed | closed | 251 | Oct. 28 |
| The Dalles | 17 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 8 | 39 | Oct. 28 |
| John Day | 71 | closed | closed | closed | closed | 71 | Oct. 28 |

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

WDFW Mid-Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary ¹

October 22 - 28, 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 | | | | | | 26 | | | | | | | 225 | 251 |
| The Dalles Pool | 24 | 33 | | 4 | 2 | 17 | 1 | 2 | 2 | | | | 22 | 39 |
| John Day Pool | | | | | | 17 | | | | | | | 54 | 71 |
| Total | 24 | 33 | | 4 | 2 | 60 | 1 | 2 | 2 | | | | 301 | 361 |
| Salmonids | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Bank Anglers | | Rel | Kept | | 2012 Cum Leg Kept | Boats | Boat Anglers | | Rel | Kept | | 2012 Cum Leg Kept | Jacks Kept Week Cum |
| Bonneville Pool | | | | | | | 11 | 25 | | 1 | 17 | | | |
| Chinook | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | 1 |
| Coho | | | | | | | | | | | 17 | | | |
| Steelhead | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| The Dalles Pool | 3 | | | 1 | | 77 | 1 | 2 | | 1 | 1 | | 77 | 154 |
| Chinook | | | | | | 41 | | | | | | | 17 | 58 |
| Coho | | | | | | 3 | | | | | | | 6 | 9 |
| Steelhead | | | | | | 33 | | | | 1 | 1 | | 54 | 87 |
| 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 | |
| Bonneville Pool | | | | | | | | | | | | | 27 | 27 |
| The Dalles Pool | | | | | | 3 | 2 | 4 | | | | | 616 | 619 |
| John Day Pool | | | | | | | | | | | | | 339 | 339 |
| Bass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Reservoir | 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 |

¹ 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) | 229% | 22% | 185% | none |
| | Catch Per Unit Effort | 1.58 | 0.60 | none | none |
| | Harvest Per Unit Effort | 0.15 | 0.40 | 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 |

