

# Creel Survey

February 4, 2013

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

## Salmon/Steelhead

**Cowlitz River** – No report on angling success is currently available.

Last week Tacoma Power recovered six winter-run steelhead, 17 coho adults and four jacks during five days of operations at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

During the past week Tacoma Power employees released four coho adults, four jacks, one winter-run steelhead and one cutthroat trout into Lake Scanewa above Cowlitz Falls Dam at the Day Use Site and two coho adults and one winter-run steelhead into the Tilton River at Gust Backstrom Park in Morton.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 5,050 cubic feet per second on Monday, February 4. Water visibility is nine feet.

**Washougal River** – 13 boat anglers kept 4 hatchery steelhead and released 1. 38 bank anglers kept 2 hatchery steelhead and released 11 wild fish.

**Lower Columbia mainstem below Bonneville Dam** – 1 bank angler at Vancouver had no catch.

**Bonneville Pool** – No effort observed for steelhead.

**The Dalles Pool** – Anglers are catching some steelhead but all fish sampled were wild and had to be released.

**John Day Pool** – Boat anglers are catching some steelhead. No catch was observed from the bank.

**Hanford Reach** – From Paul Hoffarth, WDFW Fish Biologist in Pasco - An estimated 30 steelhead were caught and 22 steelhead were harvested in January. This was one of the lowest catch/harvests reported in recent years. WDFW staff interviewed 85 anglers in January, 28% of the effort. Anglers averaged 130 hours per fish caught from the bank and 15 hours per fish by boat.

For the fishery that started October 744 steelhead have been caught with 378 fish harvested.

## Sturgeon

**Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam** – 3 bank anglers just below Bonneville Dam had no catch as did 2 boats/4 anglers at Kalama.

**Bonneville Pool** – Effort and catch both increased last week. Including fish released, boat anglers averaged a legal per every 3 rods. No legal were observed kept by bank anglers.

Through Jan. 27, an estimated 90 (8%) of the 1,100 fish guideline had been taken. Retention in the winter season remains open through Sunday Feb. 10.

**The Dalles Pool** – The few boat anglers sampled did well for legal size fish. Fishing was slow from the bank.

**John Day Pool** – Boat anglers are catching some legal. Fishing is slow from the bank.

## **Walleye and Bass**

**Bonneville and The Dalles pools** – Not much effort in either pool but walleye are being caught by boat anglers.

**John Day Pool** – Including fish released, boat anglers averaged a walleye caught per every 2 boats.

Monthly Sturgeon Harvest estimates:								Totals:	%	As of	Guidelines:
	Jan 1-27	4-Feb	11-Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun			Jan. 28	
Bonneville <sup>1</sup>	90							90	8.2%		1,100
The Dalles											300
John Day											500

<sup>1</sup> Due to the short season 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:									
	Jan 1-27	4-Feb	11-Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun		
Bonneville	24	33						57	Feb. 4
The Dalles	2	2						4	Feb. 4
John Day	6	3						9	Feb. 4

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

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

January 28 - February 3, 2013

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	2013 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Subs	Leg Rel	Leg Kept	Over-size	2013 Cum Leg Kept	Combined Leg Kept
Bonneville Pool	56	9					48	135	473	11	33	2	57	57
The Dalles Pool	14	1				1	1	3	10		2	1	3	4
John Day Pool	54	1					37	80	12		3	4	9	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>11</b>				<b>1</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>70</b>

  

Salmonids															
Reservoir	Bank Anglers	Wild Kept	Wild Rel	Hat Kept	Hat Rel	2013 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Wild Kept	Wild Rel	Hat Kept	Hat Rel	2013 Cum Leg Kept	Jacks Kept Week	Jacks Kept Cum
Bonneville Pool															
Chinook															
Coho															
Steelhead															
The Dalles Pool	15		1				1	2		3					
Chinook															
Coho															
Steelhead			1							3					
John Day Pool	9					1	4	9		4		1	2	3	
Chinook															
Coho															
Steelhead						1				4		1	2	3	

  

Walleye									
Reservoir	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept	2013 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept	2013 Cum Leg Kept
Bonneville Pool					1	1		3	5
The Dalles Pool				1	2	3	1	2	4
John Day Pool					18	31	3	6	13

  

Bass									
Reservoir	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept	2013 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept	2013 Cum Leg Kept
Bonneville Pool									
The Dalles Pool									
John Day Pool							1		

<sup>1</sup> Quantities include both Washington and Oregon samples.

		Sturgeon	Salmonids	Walleye	Bass
Bonneville	Effort (as a % of 5-week average)	164%	none	71%	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	2.76	none	3.00	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.17	none	3.00	none
The Dalles	Effort (as a % of 5-week average)	52%	236%	167%	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.82	0.24	1.00	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.12	none	0.67	none
John Day	Effort (as a % of 5-week average)	139%	170%	282%	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.15	0.28	0.29	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.02	none	0.19	none