

Creel Survey

February 18, 2013

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

Salmon/Steelhead

Deep River from the mouth to town bridge – From March 1 through June 15, the daily limit for salmon may not include more than one hatchery adult Chinook during those days when the adjacent waters of the mainstem Columbia River are open to retention of spring Chinook.

Coal Creek (near Longview) – Feb. 28 is the last day to fish for steelhead and other game fish below the falls.

Cowlitz River – 20 bank anglers had no catch. 27 boat anglers kept 5 hatchery steelhead.

Last week Tacoma Power recovered ten winter-run steelhead during five days of operations at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

During the past week Tacoma Power employees released three steelhead into Lake Scanewa above Cowlitz Falls Dam at the Day Use Site.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 5,150 cubic feet per second on Tuesday, February 19. Water visibility is nine feet.

Washougal River – 75 bank anglers released 2 wild steelhead. 39 boat anglers released 1 hatchery and 6 wild steelhead.

Lower Columbia mainstem – Anglers are prospecting for spring Chinook with limited success. A fish was observed caught off Vancouver yesterday. There were 49 boats and 138 bank anglers observed during last Saturday's (Feb. 16) effort flight count.

For the mainstem Columbia River salmon and steelhead fishery from the Rocky Point/Tongue Point line upstream to OR/WA border – Through June 15, it is unlawful when fishing from vessels which are less than 30 feet in length (substantiated by Coast Guard documentation or Marine Board registration) to totally remove from the water any salmon or steelhead required to be released.

For those that may have missed it, the first spring Chinook of the year over was counted at Bonneville Dam on February 13.

The Dalles Pool – Bank and boat anglers are catching some steelhead

John Day Pool – Boat anglers are catching some steelhead.

Sturgeon

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam – Effort and catches are low. A total of 64 boats and half dozen bank anglers were counted last Saturday.

In January, an estimated 1,119 angler trips produced a measly 27 legals kept.

The Dalles Pool – Boat anglers are catching some legals. Slow for legal size fish from the bank.

John Day Pool – Boat anglers are catching a few legals.

Walleye and Bass

The Dalles Pool – Bank and boat anglers are catching walleye. No effort was observed for bass.

John Day Pool – Including fish released, boat anglers averaged just over a fish per every 3 rods. Light effort and no catch observed for bass.

Trout

Carlisle Lake (near Onalaska), **Davis Lake** (Lewis County), **Fort Borst Park Pond and Plummer Lake** (near Centralia), **Kidney Lake** (near North Bonneville), **Lake Scanewa** (Cowlitz Falls Reservoir), **Rowland Lakes** (near Lyle), and **Spearfish Lake** (near Dallesport) – Except for Lake Scanewa Lake, Feb. 28 is the last day to fish until the fourth Saturday in April (April 27) opener. Under existing permanent rules, Lake Scanewa is scheduled to reopen June 1.

Monthly Sturgeon Harvest estimates:							Totals:	%	As of	Guidelines:
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun			Feb. 11 ²	
Bonneville ¹	102	233					335	30.5%	Jan. 31	1,100
The Dalles	9						9	3.0%	Jan. 31	300
John Day	35						35	7.0%	Jan. 31	500

¹ 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.

² Bonneville Pool closed to retention effective February 11. It may re-open during the summer to finish the guideline.

Harvest estimates are calculated monthly. All in-season estimates are preliminary.

Current month sampled sturgeon kept:								
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun		
Bonneville	28	64					92	Feb. 17
The Dalles	2	4					6	Feb. 17
John Day	6	8					14	Feb. 17

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

WDFW Mid-Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary ¹

February 11 - 17, 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						4							88	92
The Dalles Pool	55	8			2	1	4	10	7	1			5	6
John Day Pool	26						33	84	6		2	1	14	14
Total	81	8			2	5	37	94	13	1	2	1	107	112
Salmonids														
	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 Cum
Bonneville Pool														
Chinook														
Coho														
Steelhead														
The Dalles Pool	6			2		2	1	3		2	1		1	3
Chinook														
Coho														
Steelhead				2		2				2	1		1	3
John Day Pool	4					1	4	8		3	1		5	6
Chinook														
Coho														
Steelhead						1				3	1		5	6
Walleye														
Reservoir	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2013 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2013 Cum Leg Kept	
Bonneville Pool													5	5
The Dalles Pool	3		5			6	3	7		4			12	18
John Day Pool							23	41	5	10			26	26
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							2	2						

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)	182%	96%	222%	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.28	0.56	0.90	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	none	0.33	0.90	none
John Day	Effort (as a % of 6-week average)	108%	83%	191%	600%
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.08	0.33	0.37	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.02	0.08	0.24	none

10:30 AM

Salmonid

Month/Week	Sec.	Chinook								# Boats	Chinook							
		Bank Anglers	Kept Adults	Jacks	Released Adults	Jacks	Steelhead Kept	Rel.	Other		Boat Anglers	Kept Adults	Jacks	Released Adults	Jacks	Steelhead Kept	Rel.	Other
Bonneville	1		CLOSED	CLOSED														
Camas/Washougal	2		CLOSED	CLOSED														
	3																	
Vancouver	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
Woodland	5																	
Kalama	6																	
Cowlitz	7																	
Longview	8																	
Cathlamet	9																	
private boats/bank charter	10																	
Total		3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									

Sturgeon

Month/Week	Sec.	Bank Anglers	Sublegals Rel.	Legals Rel.	Oversize Rel.	Legals Kept	# Boats	Boat Anglers	Sublegals Rel.	Legals Rel.	Oversize Rel.	Legals Kept
		Bonneville	1	3	0	0		0	0			
Camas/Washougal	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	8	0	0	0	0
	3											
Vancouver	4						2	4	0	0	0	0
Woodland	5											
Kalama	6											
Cowlitz	7											
Longview	8											
Cathlamet	9											
Chinook - Knappton bank	10											
Deep River + Knappton boats	10											
Cathlamet	10											
Total		4	0	0	0	0	5	12	0	0	0	0

Walleye

Month/Week	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	