

Creel Survey

June 24, 2013

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

Note: Probably no report next week. However, as an added bonus for this week is a department photo of the 52 pound striped bass landed in the lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam on June 17. It was caught by a commercial fisher in the gorge. It weighed 52 pounds and had nearly 10 pounds of eggs but also an empty stomach.



Salmon/Steelhead

Cowlitz River – 57 bank anglers kept 1 hatchery steelhead and released 3 adult and 1 jack Chinook. 21 boat anglers kept 7 hatchery steelhead and released 1 adult Chinook. The fish caught were sampled between the hatcheries.

Last week Tacoma Power recovered 192 spring Chinook adults, 35 jacks, 136 mini-jacks, 173 summer-run steelhead and one cutthroat trout during five days of operations at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

During the past week Tacoma Power employees released 48 spring Chinook adults and seven jacks into Lake Scanewa above Cowlitz Falls Dam. They released 33 spring Chinook adults and 24 jacks into the Cispus River above the mouth of Yellow Jacket Creek, and released 143 spring Chinook mini-jacks into Riffe Lake at Mossyrock Park.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 5,210 cubic feet per second on Monday, June 24. Water visibility is 14 feet.

Lewis River – 4 boat anglers had no catch.

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam – Last week we sampled 2,022 salmonid anglers (including 382 boats) with 220 adult and 25 jack summer Chinook, 57 steelhead, and 24 sockeye.

128 (58%) of the adult Chinook were kept as were 43 (75%) of the steelhead and all but one of the sockeye (angler thought it was closed for retention).

Nearly 600 boats and just over 800 bank anglers were counted during the Saturday June 22 effort flight count.

A Joint State hearing is scheduled via teleconference for 2:00 PM Wednesday June 26, 2013 to review the lower Columbia recreational salmon fishery.

Sturgeon

Ports of Chinook and Ilwaco – Charter boat anglers averaged 2 legals released per rod, just after the retention closure.

Lower Columbia mainstem from the Wauna powerlines to the Marker 82 line – We sampled 32 sturgeon anglers (11 boats) with 5 legals released and 1 illegally kept.

The Dalles Pool – Boat anglers are catching some legals.

John Day Pool – Catches increased for boaters with one in every 5 anglers keeping a legal size fish.

A Joint State hearing is scheduled via teleconference for 2:00 PM Wednesday June 26, 2013 to review the John Day Pool recreational sturgeon fishery.

Walleye and Bass

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam – Boat anglers are catching some walleye between Vancouver and the Lewis River.

Bonneville Pool – Boat anglers are catching some bass.

The Dalles Pool – Boat anglers averaged better than a walleye kept/released per rod. They also caught some bass.

John Day Pool – Including fish released, boat anglers averaged over 11 bass and a walleye per every 6 rods. Bank anglers are also catching some bass.

Shad

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam – Effort, catch, and dam counts are declining. We sampled just under a 1,000 shad, an average of just under 2 fish per rod. During the Saturday June 22 effort flight count, a half dozen boats and 122 bank anglers were tallied.

“Only” 16,285 shad were counted at Bonneville Dam yesterday; over 3.6 million have been counted to date making it the 5th highest count since at least 1946 with more fish yet to come. The record is 5.4 million shad counted at Bonneville Dam in 2004.

Monthly Sturgeon Harvest estimates:							Totals:	%	As of	Guidelines:
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun				
Bonneville ¹	102	233	---	---			335	30.5%	Feb. 11 ²	1,100
The Dalles	9	32	13	8	7		69	23.0%	May 31	300
John Day	35	36	61	65	14		211	42.2%	May 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, with a balance of 765 sturgeon allocated for a summer retention season.

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	---			187	279	09-Jun
The Dalles	2	5	6	1	1	2	17	09-Jun
John Day	6	13	22	12	1	33	87	09-Jun

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

WDFW Mid-Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary ¹

June 17 - 23, 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	67	59		3	2	24	47	253	542	13	46	7	255	279
The Dalles Pool	9	4				3			3	2			14	17
John Day Pool	16	1				4	35	87	32	3	18	9	83	87
Total	92	64		3	4	31	82	340	577	18	64	16	352	383
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	2						1	2			1		1	
Chinook											1		1	
Coho														
Steelhead														
The Dalles Pool	34					60							17	77
Chinook						57							15	72
Coho														
Steelhead						3							2	5
John Day Pool	27		1	1		11	7	10					12	23
Chinook			1	1		10							6	16
Coho														
Steelhead						1							6	7
Walleye														
	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						12	4	13	4	15			201	213
John Day Pool	2					4	31	67	11				251	255
Bass														
	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2013 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2013 Cum Leg Kept	
Bonneville Pool			2				1	3	11				2	2
The Dalles Pool			1			25			2	3			134	159
John Day Pool	4	1				82	4	7	68	12			178	260

¹ Quantities include both Washington and Oregon samples.

		Sturgeon	Salmonids	Walleye	Bass
Bonneville	Effort (as a % of 6-week average)	237%	343%	none	300%
	Catch Per Unit Effort	2.10	0.25	none	4.33
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.15	0.25	none	none
The Dalles	Effort (as a % of 6-week average)	55%	314%	108%	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	1.11	none	1.46	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	none	none	1.15	none
John Day	Effort (as a % of 6-week average)	201%	274%	147%	43%
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.62	0.05	0.16	7.36
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.17	0.03	none	1.09

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Salmonid

Month/Week	Chinook										# Boats	Chinook										
	Bank	Kept	Released			Sockeye		Steelhead		Other		Kept	Released			Sockeye		Steelhead		Other		
Sec.	Anglers	Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Kept	Rel.	Kept	Rel.	Other	Boats	Anglers	Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Kept	Rel.	Kept	Rel.	Other	
Bonneville	1	316	29	5	31	1	0	0	0	0	5	10	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Camas/Washougal	2	59	2	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	42	79	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vancouver	4	202	15	1	4	0	1	0	1	0	62	116	9	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Woodland	5	244	9	1	3	3	2	1	1	0	108	238	15	1	19	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Kalama	6	173	8	0	7	1	2	0	0	0	90	210	18	1	8	0	2	0	0	0	1	0
Cowlitz	7										2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Longview	8	109	0	0	0	4	0	0	3	2	55	136	7	1	3	1	2	0	20	3	0	0
Cathlamet	9	67	3	0	2	0	10	0	7	3	9	16	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
private boats/bank charter	10	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	2	5	14	5	1	7	0	2	0	3	2	0	0
Total		1190	66	7	48	11	17	1	18	7	382	832	62	6	44	1	6	0	25	7		

Sturgeon

	Sec.	Bank					# Boats	Boat														
		Anglers	Sublegals	Legals	Oversize	Legals		Anglers	Sublegals	Legals	Oversize	Legals										
Bonneville	1																					
Camas/Washougal	2						2	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	3																					
Vancouver	4																					
Woodland	5						3	11	42	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kalama	6						3	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cowlitz	7																					
Longview	8						1	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cathlamet	9																					
Cathlamet	10	3	0	0	0	0	2	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deep River + Knappton boats	10																					
Knappton-Chinook bank	10																					
Total		3	0	0	0	0	11	29	53	5	2	0										

Shad

	Sec.	Bank			# Boats	Boat		
		Anglers	Kept	Rel.		Anglers	Kept	Rel.
Bonneville	1	464	910	9				
Camas/Washougal	2				2	4	0	0
	3							
Vancouver	4							
Woodland	5							
Kalama	6	2	0	0	2	6	0	0
Cowlitz	7							
Longview	8							
Cathlamet	9							
Chinook/Elochoman	10							
Total		466	910	9	4	10	0	0

Walleye

	Sec.	Bank			# Boats	Boat		
		Anglers	Kept	Rel.		Anglers	Kept	Rel.
Bonneville	1							
Camas/Washougal	2							
	3							
Vancouver	4				2	4	12	1
Woodland	5							
Kalama	6							
Cowlitz	7							
Longview	8							
Cathlamet	9							
Chinook/Elochoman	10							
Total		0	0	0	2	4	12	1

Preliminary WDFW sturgeon sport sampling summaries for the Ports of Chinook and Ilwaco June 17-20.

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June 17-20

Sturgeon

		<u>#</u> <u>Boats</u>	<u>#</u> <u>Anglers</u>	<u>Sublegals</u> <u>Rel.</u>	<u>Legals</u> <u>Rel.</u>	<u>Oversize</u> <u>Rel.</u>	<u>Legals</u> <u>Kept</u>
Ilwaco/Ft. Canby	Private	3	11	8	0	0	0
	Charter	10	91	64	1	32	48
Chinook	Private	17	45	11	1	7	14

Preliminary WDFW sturgeon sport sampling summaries for the Ports of Chinook and Ilwaco June 21-23.

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June 21-23

Sturgeon

		<u>#</u> <u>Boats</u>	<u>#</u> <u>Anglers</u>	<u>Sublegals</u> <u>Rel.</u>	<u>Legals</u> <u>Rel.</u>	<u>Oversize</u> <u>Rel.</u>	<u>Legals</u> <u>Kept</u>
Ilwaco/Ft. Canby	Private	1	3	1	0	0	CLOSED
	Charter	4	35	39	71	15	CLOSED
Chinook	Private	3	10	1	0	1	CLOSED