

Creel Survey

March 25, 2013

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

Salmon/Steelhead

Cowlitz River – 55 bank anglers with 2 steelhead kept and 1 released. 33 boat anglers with 1 steelhead kept.

Last week Tacoma Power recovered 318 winter-run steelhead and two spring Chinook salmon during five days of operations at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

During the past week Tacoma Power employees released 57 steelhead and two spring Chinook salmon into Lake Scanewa above Cowlitz Falls Dam at the Day Use Site and 63 steelhead into the Tilton River at Gust Backstrom Park in Morton.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 10,300 cubic feet per second on Monday, March 25.

Kalama River – 3 bank anglers with 1 steelhead released. Remains closed for Chinook until further notice.

Drano Lake – 1 bank angler had no catch. 3 and 0 boats were counted there last Saturday and Sunday morning, respectively.

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam – Last week we sampled 2,209 salmonid anglers (including 795 boats) with 104 adult spring Chinook and 2 steelhead. 80 (77%) of the adult Chinook and half the steelhead caught were kept. Chinook are being caught by bank anglers just below Bonneville Dam.

We CWT sampled 63 (79%) of the adult Chinook plus the one steelhead kept. 50 (79%) of the adult Chinook sampled were upriver stock based on Visual Stock Identification.

Last Saturday's salmonid effort was half or less of the same time last year (657 v 1,217 boats and 335 v 885 bank in 2013 and 2012, respectively).

The Dalles and John Day pools – Effort and catches are light.

Sturgeon

Lower Columbia mainstem below Bonneville Dam – Effort and catch remains light.

The Dalles and John Day pools – Boat anglers are catching some legals.

Walleye and Bass

The Dalles Pool – Including fish released, boat anglers averaged ½ walleye per rod. Some walleye were also being caught by bank anglers. No effort was observed for bass.

John Day Pool – Boat anglers averaged 2 bass per rod and a walleye kept/released per every 5 rods.

Trout

Leroy Burns Pond in Wahkiakum County – Planted with 2,448 catchable size rainbows March 12. No report on angling success.

Horseshoe Lake in Woodland – Planted with 340 rainbows averaging 2 pounds each March 19. No report on angling success.

Klineline Pond – Planted with 1,000 nearly half-pound browns March 18. Again, no report on angling success.

| 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 | | | | | 41 | 13.7% | Feb. 28 | 300 |
| John Day | 35 | 36 | | | | | 71 | 14.2% | Feb. 28 | 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 | --- | | | | 92 | Mar. 24 |
| The Dalles | 2 | 5 | 6 | | | | 13 | Mar. 24 |
| John Day | 6 | 13 | 14 | | | | 33 | Mar. 24 |

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

WDFW Mid-Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary ¹

March 18 - 24, 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 | 24 | 6 | | | | 1 | 13 | 38 | 69 | | 1 | 1 | 12 | 13 |
| John Day Pool | 25 | 2 | | | | 1 | 17 | 38 | 24 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 32 | 33 |
| Total | 49 | 8 | | | | 6 | 30 | 76 | 93 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 132 | 138 |
| 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 | 17 | | | | | 3 | | | | | | | 2 | 5 |
| Chinook | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Coho | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Steelhead | | | | | | 3 | | | | | | | 2 | 5 |
| John Day Pool | 7 | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | 6 | 7 |
| Chinook | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Coho | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Steelhead | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | 6 | 7 |
| Walleye | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 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 | 6 | | 2 | | | 12 | 18 | 54 | 2 | 26 | | | | 12 |
| John Day Pool | | | | | | | 30 | 62 | 6 | 6 | | | | |
| 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 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| John Day Pool | | | | | | | 3 | 5 | 5 | 7 | | | 8 | 8 |

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) | 127% | 222% | 197% | none |
| | Catch Per Unit Effort | 1.24 | none | 0.50 | none |
| | Harvest Per Unit Effort | 0.02 | none | 0.47 | none |
| John Day | Effort (as a % of 6-week average) | 77% | 67% | 126% | 115% |
| | Catch Per Unit Effort | 0.56 | none | 0.19 | 2.40 |
| | Harvest Per Unit Effort | 0.05 | none | 0.10 | 1.40 |

