

Creel Survey

October 1-6, 2013

Contributed by Joe Hymer

Salmon/Steelhead

Mainstem Grays River from Hwy. 4 Bridge to South Fork and West Fork Grays from mouth to boundary markers 300 yards below the hatchery road bridge – Under permanent rules, closes to all fishing from Oct. 16-Nov. 30. These areas will reopen for hatchery salmon and hatchery steelhead beginning December 1.

Cowlitz River – Anglers are catching a mix of fall Chinook, coho, and sea run cutthroats. Quite a few coho jacks are in the catch.

Kalama River – Bank anglers are catching a mix of fall Chinook, coho, and steelhead. Most of the Chinook were released (wild or dark) while most of the coho caught were jacks.

Lewis River – On the North Fork, boat anglers are doing well for fall Chinook while bank anglers are mainly catching coho and some steelhead. Boat anglers on the mainstem Lewis are also catching some coho.

Colvin Creek to the overhead powerlines below Merwin Dam remains open to fishing through Tuesday October 15.

Washougal River – Winding down for fall Chinook but coho are reported to be present.

Klickitat River – Bank anglers on the lower river are catching good numbers of fall Chinook. Some coho are also appearing in the catch.

Yakima River – From Paul Hoffarth, WDFW Fish and Wildlife Biologist, Pasco - Flows rose above 5,000cfs for a couple of days this past week (Oct 2-3) but cleared and settled by the weekend. WDFW staff interviewed 148 anglers between September 30th and October 6. Anglers reported harvesting 38 adult Chinook, 5 jacks, and 1 coho. An estimated 268 adult fall Chinook, 39 jacks, and 7 coho were harvested this past week from 1,224 angler trips. Anglers averaged 1 salmon for every 7.6 hours fished.

For the season, 4,496 anglers trips have been taken and 995 adult Chinook, 165 Chinook jacks, and 7 coho have been harvested.

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam - During the first 6 days of October we sampled 389 salmonid anglers (including 103 boats) with 24 adult and 1 jack fall Chinook, 7 adult coho, and no steelhead.

Still some effort with 249 boats and 136 bank anglers observed during last Saturday's effort flight count.

Bonneville Pool – Limited sampling showed more coho than fall Chinook in the catch. Effort was heavy this weekend with 75 boats observed off the mouth of the Klickitat, 35 off the White Salmon, and 35 off Drano Lake last Saturday morning.

Under permanent rules, the night closure is lifted beginning Oct. 16.

The Dalles Pool – Boat anglers are catching some fall Chinook.

Effective Oct. 16, the anti-snagging rule is lifted from Bonneville Dam to McNary Dam.

Hanford Reach – From Paul Hoffarth, WDFW Fish and Wildlife Biologist, Pasco - Angler effort remained strong this past week with an estimated 7,714 angler trips for the week. Anglers averaged 2.5 Chinook per boat.

Staff interviewed anglers from 477 boats (1,191 boat anglers) and 382 bank anglers fishing for Chinook reporting a harvest of 1,099 adult Chinook and 107 jacks. Harvest for the week was estimated at 6,531 adult Chinook and 651 Chinook jacks.

For the season, 14,967 adult Chinook and 2,014 jacks have been harvested. The adult harvest breaks the previous record of 13,102 adults harvested set last year. There have been 27,958 angler trips for the fishery through October 6. The in-season run update for natural origin adult Hanford Reach fall Chinook returning to the Hanford Reach is 181,137 (updated Oct 1).

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met today, October 7, 2013 to review fall Chinook and steelhead run sizes. TAC did not change any of run projections. This is the last fall in-season TAC report

Current forecasts are:

Adult Fall Chinook to the Columbia River:

1,185,000 fish, including 832,500 Upriver Brights and 69,000 Bonneville Pool Hatchery stocks.

Upriver summer Steelhead to Bonneville Dam:

Group A 213,400 (88,800 wild)

Group B 10,700 (2,500 wild)

July 1- Oct 31 224,100 total

Sturgeon

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam – Effort is light during the current catch and release only fishery with only a single boat observed during last Saturday’s effort flight count. Some legals are being released by boat anglers in the Kalama area.

The Dalles Pool – Boat anglers released some legals though the pool remains open for retention.

Walleye and Bass

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam – Only a couple walleye boats were found in the Camas/Washougal area during last Saturday’s effort flight count. However, limited creel sampling showed anglers were doing pretty well for walleye there.

Washington lower Columbia tributaries and Bonneville Pool salmonid sport sampling summaries - Oct. 1-6.

Area	Bank # Rods	Chinook Kept		Chinook Rel.		Coho Kept		Coho Rel.		Steelhead		Other	Boat # Rods	Chinook Kept		Chinook Rel.		Coho Kept		Coho Rel.		Steelhead		Other	
		Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Kept	Rel.			Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Kept	Rel.		
Cowlitz River	56	6	0	8	0	8	9	0	13	0	0	1 cutt kept	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3 cutts kept
Kalama River	67	1	0	11	2	6	16	0	7	3	1	0													
Lewis River mainstem	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	
North Fork	105	0	0	0	0	7	2	1	1	3	0	0	47	39	2	5	0	7	6	2	0	0	0	0	
Washougal River	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0													
Klickitat River lower	47	57	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0													
Bonneville Pool													29	3	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	

Monthly Sturgeon Harvest estimates:														
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Totals:	%	As of	Guidelines:
Bonneville ¹	102	233	---	---	---	682	---	---	---	---	1,017	92.5%	Jun. 22	1,100
The Dalles	9	32	13	8	7	9	23	71	---	---	172	57.3%	31-Aug	300
John Day ²	35	36	61	65	14	296	---	---	---	---	507	101.4%	Jun. 29	500

¹ Bonneville Pool closed to retention effective June 22.

² John Day Pool closed to retention effective June 29.

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

Current month sampled sturgeon kept:														
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct				
Bonneville	28	64	---	---	---	187	---	---	---	---	279			6-Oct
The Dalles	2	5	6	1	1	2	6	21	11	---	55			6-Oct
John Day	6	13	22	12	1	41	---	---	---	---	95			6-Oct

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

WDFW Mid-Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary ¹

September 30 - October 6, 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						24							255	279	
The Dalles Pool						14	1	4	21	2			41	55	
John Day Pool						4							91	95	
Total						42	1	4	21	2			387	429	
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													1	1	
Chinook													1	1	
Coho															
Steelhead															
The Dalles Pool	1					68	13	28	5				448	516	45
Chinook						64			5				438	502	44
Coho													3	3	1
Steelhead						4							7	11	
John Day Pool						12							12	24	4
Chinook						11							6	17	4
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							303	315	
John Day Pool						4							257	261	
Bass															
	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2013 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2013 Cum Leg Kept		
Bonneville Pool													2	2	
The Dalles Pool						25							179	204	
John Day Pool						82							178	260	

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)	16%	20%	none	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	5.75	0.17	none	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	none	0.17	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

