

Creel Survey

October 15, 2013

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Salmon/Steelhead

Cowlitz River – Anglers in the upper river are catching fall Chinook and coho while those on the lower river are primarily catching coho. Sea run cutthroats are mostly being caught around the trout hatchery.

Last week Tacoma Power recovered 2,313 fall Chinook adults, 68 jacks, 2,482 coho salmon, 2,287 coho jacks, 125 summer-run steelhead, 1,285 cutthroat trout and four pink salmon during seven days of operations at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

During the past week Tacoma Power employees released 664 fall Chinook adults, 18 jacks, 1,639 coho adults, 1,988 coho jacks and six cutthroat trout into the Tilton River at Gust Backstrom Park in Morton, 1,355 fall Chinook adults, 53 jacks, 50 coho adults and 39 jacks into the upper Cowlitz River at the Skate Creek Bridge in Packwood, and 692 coho adults and 337 jacks into Lake Scanewa behind Cowlitz Falls Dam. The pink salmon were recycled downstream to the lower Cowlitz River.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 5,850 cubic feet per second on Monday, October 7. Water visibility is six feet.

Kalama River – Bank anglers are catching a mix of fall Chinook, coho, and some steelhead.

Lewis River – Anglers on the mainstem Lewis are primarily catching coho. On the North Fork, bank anglers are mainly catching coho jacks while boat anglers are mostly catching Chinook.

Drano Lake – Boat anglers are catching fall Chinook.

Klickitat River – Bank anglers below Fisher Hill Bridge averaged 1.5 adult Chinook per rod when including fish released. Boat anglers in the lower river are catching a mixture of fall Chinook and coho.

Effort was heavy this past Saturday morning with around 100 vehicles observed from Fisher Hill Bridge downstream to the campground.

Yakima River – From Paul Hoffarth, WDFW Fish and Wildlife Biologist in Pasco - WDFW staff interviewed 185 anglers between October 7th and 13th. Anglers reported harvesting 86 adult Chinook, 14 jacks, and 7 coho. An estimated 662 adult fall Chinook, 148 jacks, and 76 coho were harvested this past week from 1,657 angler trips. Anglers averaged 1 salmon for every 4.4 hours fished.

For the season, 5,942 anglers trips have been taken and 995 adult Chinook, 313 Chinook jacks, and 83 coho have been harvested.

Oct. 22 is the last scheduled day of the salmon fishery.

Lower Columbia mainstem below Bonneville Dam – Effort and catch is waning. However, some adult Chinook and coho continue to be caught.

Bonneville Pool – Boat anglers averaged over 1.5 fish per rod when including fish released. Coho catch is increasing.

Effort off the Klickitat was heavy this past weekend with 70 boats on Saturday and 85 on Sunday.

The Dalles Pool – Boat anglers are catching some Chinook and steelhead.

Hanford Reach – From Paul Hoffarth, WDFW Fish and Wildlife Biologist in Pasco - The number of boats on the water in the Hanford Reach dropped a bit this past week compared to the two weeks prior. There were an estimated 5,123 angler trips for the week. Anglers averaged 2.2 Chinook per boat and 20 hours for each Chinook caught from the bank.

Staff interviewed anglers from 572 boats (1,309 boat anglers) and 227 bank anglers fishing for Chinook reporting a harvest of 1,221 adult Chinook and 102 jacks. Harvest for the week was estimated at 4,357 adult Chinook and 357 Chinook jacks.

For the season, 19,313 adult Chinook and 2,365 jacks have been harvested. The adult harvest breaks the previous record of 13,102 adults harvested set last year. There have been 33,081 angler trips for the fishery through October 13. The in-season run update for natural origin adult Hanford Reach fall Chinook returning to the Hanford Reach is 136,902 (updated Oct 7).

Under permanent rules, Oct. 22 is the last day of the salmon fishery from the old Hanford townsite wooden powerline towers to upstream to Wanapum Dam.

Sturgeon

Lower Columbia mainstem below Bonneville Dam – Not much effort during the catch and release fishery though some legals are being caught.

The Dalles Pool – Boat anglers are catching some legals. Through September, an estimated 224 (74.7%) of the 300 fish guideline had been taken.

Walleye and Bass

Lower Columbia mainstem below Bonneville Dam – Some walleye were reported being caught though none were found in our small sample.

The Dalles Pool – Boat anglers are catching some bass. No walleye anglers were sampled.

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	52	---	224	74.7%	Sep 30	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	13-Oct
The Dalles	2	5	6	1	1	2	6	21	11	7	62	13-Oct
John Day	6	13	22	12	1	41	---	---	---	---	95	13-Oct

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

WDFW Mid-Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary ¹

October 7 - 13, 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	8	12				14	10	30	69		7	1	48	62	
John Day Pool						4							91	95	
Total	8	12				42	10	30	69		7	1	394	436	
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	5					68	4	8	1		1		450	518	45
Chinook						64			1				439	503	44
Coho													3	3	1
Steelhead						4					1		8	12	
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	1					25	1	2	2				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)	197%	11%	none	100%
	Catch Per Unit Effort	2.34	0.15	none	0.67
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.18	0.15	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

Washington lower Columbia tributaries and Bonneville Pool salmonid sport sampling summaries - Oct. 7-13.

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	291	12	0	38	2	68	20	37	74	1	0	42 cutts kept 2 cutts released 1 pink released	39	0	0	8	0	7	4	1	0	0	0	2 cutts kept
Kalama River	74	9	0	14	2	15	20	1	3	3	0	0												
Lewis River mainstem	18	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	0	0	0	0
North Fork	105	0	0	0	0	0	28	0	2	1	0	0	86	58	14	2	9	13	6	3	16	1	0	0
Drano Lake													10	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Klickitat River lower	42	48	2	15	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	5	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bonneville Pool													53	35	0	17	0	30	0	0	0	0	0	0