

Creel Survey

April 1, 2014

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

Salmon/Steelhead

Cowlitz River – 79 boat anglers kept 1 spring Chinook and 54 steelhead. 144 bank anglers kept 4 and released 1 spring Chinook plus kept 24 and released 2 steelhead.

Last week Tacoma Power recovered 315 winter-run steelhead during five days of operations at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator. During the past week Tacoma Power employees released 29 steelhead into the Tilton River at Gust Backstrom Park in Morton and two steelhead into Lake Scanewa above Cowlitz Falls Dam.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 8,540 cubic feet per second on Monday, March 31. Water visibility is eight feet.

Kalama River – 8 boat anglers kept 3 and released 5 steelhead. 10 bank anglers kept 1 steelhead. Remains closed for spring Chinook.

Lewis River – 2 bank anglers had no catch. Remains closed for spring Chinook.

Wind River and Drano Lake – No effort.

Wind River – The area from railroad bridge upstream to Shipherd Falls opened for hatchery spring Chinook and hatchery steelhead April 1. Above Shipherd Falls opens May 1.

Klickitat River from the mouth to Fisher Hill Bridge – From April 2 through May 31, open to fishing for hatchery spring chinook and hatchery steelhead Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays only. The daily limit will be 2 hatchery Chinook or 2 hatchery steelhead or one of each.

Lower Columbia mainstem below Bonneville Dam – Last week we sampled 1,378 salmonid anglers (including 471 boats) with 122 adult spring Chinook and 2 steelhead. 103 (84%) of the Chinook were kept. 72% of the catch was upriver stock based on Visual Stock Identification.

More salmonid boats in the mainstem Columbia (695) than the Willamette (77) last Saturday. There were also nearly 900 bank anglers tallied on the lower Columbia last Saturday.

The Dalles and John Day pools – Little to no effort. No catch was observed.

Hanford Reach - Steelhead fishing picked up in March in the Hanford Reach after a slow winter. Anglers caught 512 steelhead and retained 398 hatchery steelhead. Anglers donated 111 hatchery steelhead to WDFW to support the Ringold Springs and Wells Hatcheries Programs. Anglers averaged 13 hours per steelhead from the bank and just over 6 hours per steelhead by boat.

Effective April 1 through April 15, this fishery will only be open for bank angling at the WDFW Ringold Access area.

For the fishery, October through March, a total of 1,197 steelhead have been caught and 723 hatchery steelhead harvested.

Sturgeon

Lower Columbia mainstem below Bonneville Dam – Light effort in the current catch-and-release fishery.

The Dalles Pool – Boat anglers are catching some legals.

John Day Pool – Boat and bank anglers are catching some legals.

Walleye and Bass

The Dalles and John Day pools – Including fish released, boat anglers averaged nearly a walleye per rod in both pools. Boat anglers are also catching some bass in John Day Pool.

Trout

Battle Ground Lake – 1,500 half-pound rainbows March 24 . No report on angling success.

Smelt

Oregon Coast – In the last month Coos Bay fish staff have had confirmed/pictures of eulachon from the Tenmile, Coos, and Coquille basins. The specimens and/or pictures were identified by local staff and confirmed by Dr. Doug Markle (retired OSU prof.).

Monthly Sturgeon Harvest estimates:													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Totals:	%	As of	Guidelines:
Bonneville ¹	163	27	51							241	21.9%	Mar. 10	1,100
The Dalles	12									12	4.0%	Feb. 28	300
John Day	10	14								24	4.8%	Feb. 28	500

¹ Due to the short season in Bonneville Pool, we will be providing weekly harvest estimates. We will continue to provide harvest estimates for the other pools on a monthly basis. Bonneville Pool was closed to retention January 20-31 and February 18-23.
The winter fishery in Bonneville Pool closed to retention effective March 10. The fishery may re-open during the summer to catch the remainder of the guideline.

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		
Bonneville	58	14	13							85	Mar. 30
The Dalles	4		12							16	Mar. 30
John Day	3	5	39							47	Mar. 30

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

WDFW Mid-Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary ¹

March 24 - 30, 2014

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	2014 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Subs	Leg Rel	Leg Kept	Over-size	2014 Cum Leg Kept	Combined Leg Kept	
Bonneville Pool						14							71	85	
The Dalles Pool	11	2				2	11	35	38		2	1	14	16	
John Day Pool	38	8		1	5	16	22	58	26	2	7	3	31	47	
Total	49	10		1	5	32	33	93	64	2	9	4	116	148	
Salmonids															
	Bank Anglers	Wild Kept	Wild Rel	Hat Kept	Hat Rel	2014 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Wild Kept	Wild Rel	Hat Kept	Hat Rel	2014 Cum Leg Kept	Combined Leg Kept	Jacks Kept Week Cum
Bonneville Pool															
Chinook															
Coho															
Steelhead															
The Dalles Pool	12					1							5	6	
Chinook															
Coho															
Steelhead						1							5	6	
John Day Pool	1												4	4	
Chinook															
Coho															
Steelhead													4	4	
Walleye															
Reservoir	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2014 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2014 Cum Leg Kept		
Bonneville Pool															
The Dalles Pool	1					5	16	47	16	29			243	248	
John Day Pool							25	48	23	20			111	111	
Bass															
Reservoir	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2014 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2014 Cum Leg Kept		
Bonneville Pool															
The Dalles Pool		1													
John Day Pool							1	2	4						

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)	105%	195%	112%	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.93	none	0.94	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.04	none	0.60	none
John Day	Effort (as a % of 6-week average)	114%	200%	142%	60%
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.54	none	0.90	2.00
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.08	none	0.42	none

Preliminary Washington lower Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary
4/1/2014

10:00 AM

Salmonid

Month/Week	Sec.	Bank Anglers	Chinook			Steelhead			Other	# Boats	Boat Anglers	Chinook			Steelhead			Other
			Kept Adults	Released Jacks	Released Adults	Kept	Released Jacks	Released Adults				Kept	Released Jacks	Released Adults				
Bonneville	1	176	28	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Camas/Washougal	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	3								52	127	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Vancouver	4	35	1	0	0	0	0	0	56	114	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Woodland	5	36	0	0	0	0	0	0	57	128	24	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Kalama	6	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	88	207	12	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
Cowlitz	7								1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Longview	8	33	0	0	0	0	0	1	123	264	20	0	3	0	1	0	0	0
Cathlamet	9	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
private boats/bank charter	10	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	68	161	15	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Total		321	29	0	7	0	0	1	471	1057	74	0	12	0	1	0	0	0

Sturgeon

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

Walleye

	Sec.	Bank Anglers	Kept	Rel.	# Boats	Boat Anglers	Kept	Rel.
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	