

Creel Survey

June 8, 2014

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

Salmon/Steelhead

Cowlitz River – Good success for adult and jack spring Chinook between the hatcheries. Effective June 16, bank anglers may fish the south side of the river from Mill Creek to 400 feet or the posted markers below the barrier dam.

Last week Tacoma Power recovered 118 spring Chinook adults, 65 jacks, 45 summer-run steelhead and seven winter-run steelhead during five days of operations at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

During the past week Tacoma Power employees released nine spring Chinook adults and 21 jacks into Lake Scanewa above Cowlitz Falls Dam and three spring Chinook adults and three jacks into the Cispus River above the mouth of Yellow Jacket Creek.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 5,080 cubic feet per second on Monday, June 9.

Kalama River – Generally light effort and catch. Adult spring Chinook return as of **6/8/14** is **358** adults including **14** wild origin and **79** Lewis stock. The hatchery escapement goal is about 400 adults.

Lewis River – Some steelhead are being caught around the salmon hatchery.

Adult spring Chinook return as of **6/8/14** is **876** adults including **16** wild origin. River flow was about 2,700 cfs. the past week. The hatchery escapement goal is about 1,300 adults.

Wind River – Effort is light but some spring Chinook are still being caught in the upper river.

Drano Lake – Effort and catches are very light.

Klickitat River – Some spring Chinook are still being caught in the lower river.

Lower Columbia mainstem below Bonneville Dam – Last week we sampled 1,169 salmonid anglers (including 200 boats) with 154 adult and 21 jack spring Chinook, 46 steelhead, and 3 sockeye. 65 (42%) of the adult Chinook were kept. 50 (77%) of the adult Chinook kept were sampled. 29 (58%) of the catch was upriver stock based on Visual Stock Identification (VSI).

37 (80%) of the steelhead caught were kept. All the sockeye were released as required.

The U.S. v. Oregon Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) upgraded the in-season run size this morning to 243,000 adult upriver Chinook. The spring management period continues through June 15.

The 2014 forecast for Upper Columbia summer Chinook is 67,500 adults to the Columbia River mouth. The overall return is expected to include 43,000 Age-4 fish (64%) and 23,600 Age-5 fish (35%). If accurate, this projection would represent the 7th highest return since 1980 and 107% of the average return observed over the past decade.

Over 1/3 million sockeye are expected to return to the mouth of the Columbia this year.

Mainstem Columbia from Megler-Astoria Bridge upstream to the Hwy. 395 Bridge in Pasco – Effective June 16, the salmonid daily limit will be 6 fish of which no more than 2 may be adult salmon or hatchery steelhead or one of each. Up to 2 of the adults may be hatchery adult Chinook or sockeye. Release all wild Chinook. Below Bonneville Dam, hatchery adult Chinook and sockeye may only be retained through June 30.

Bonneville Pool – No effort was observed on the Washington shore or boats below The Dalles Dam.

The Dalles Dam – Bank anglers are catching some spring Chinook but generally slow overall.

John Day Pool – Boat anglers are catching some spring Chinook but effort and catches are light.

Sturgeon

Lower Columbia mainstem from the Marker 82 line downstream – Effort and catch remains light during the current catch and release only fishery.

Bonneville Dam to The Dalles Dam including adjoining tributaries – Currently catch-and-release fishing only. Sturgeon retention will be allowed June 13-14 and June 20-21. The daily limit will be 1 fish, min. size 38” fork length and max. 54” fork length. 859 fish of the 1,100 annual guideline are available for harvest.

Angling for sturgeon is prohibited through July 31 between The Dalles Dam downstream 1.8 miles to a line from the east (upstream) dock at the Port of The Dalles boat ramp straight across to a marker on the Washington shore.

The Dalles Dam – Slow for legal size fish. Through May, an estimated 71 (23.7%) of the 300 fish annual guideline had been taken.

John Day Pool – Boat anglers are catching some legals. Effective June 14, all sturgeon must be released. Catch and release fishing will be allowed.

Walleye and Bass

The Dalles Pool – Remains good for walleye with boat anglers averaging nearly 3 fish per rod when including fish released. Boat and bank anglers are catching some bass.

John Day Pool – Including fish released, boat anglers averaged over 2 walleye and 5 bass per rod.

Trout

Recent releases of catchable size rainbows:

[BOWMAN CR 30.0068](#)

Jun 03, 2014	Rainbow	1,108	2.3	Goldendale Hatchery
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[KLINELINE PD \(CLAR\)](#)

Jun 02, 2014	Rainbow	1,611	2.37	Goldendale Hatchery
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[ROWLAND LK \(KLIC\)](#)

Jun 03, 2014	Rainbow	1,605	2.3	Goldendale Hatchery
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<u>SWIFT RES (SKAM)</u>				
Jun 02, 2014	Rainbow	52,080	2.5	Speelyai Hatchery
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Shad

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam – Last week we sampled 521 shad anglers (including 19 boats) with 1,386 shad kept and 17 released for an average of nearly 3 fish per rod based on mainly incomplete trips.

Yesterday's count at Bonneville Dam was the highest of the season at nearly 170,000 fish. Over 1.3 million shad have been tallied to date. The recent ten year average is 870,000 fish.

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%	May 31	1,100
The Dalles	12	0	35	24	0					71	23.7%	May 31	300
John Day ²	10	14	133	110	161					428	85.6%	May 31	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 is scheduled to re-open June 13-14 and June 20-21 to catch the remainder of the guideline.

² After additional review of data, the April estimate for John Day Pool has been revised.

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	Jun 8
The Dalles	4	0	12	3	0					19	Jun 8
John Day	3	5	42	18	18	5				91	Jun 8

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

WDFW Mid-Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary ¹

June 2 - 8, 2014

The following table is a summary of numbers of fish observed by samplers.

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

Sturgeon														Jacks Kept		
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	Week	Cum
Bonneville Pool						14							71	85		
The Dalles Pool	12	3				3	1	2	9				16	19		
John Day Pool	2					19	27	71	44	3	5	3	72	91		
Total	14	3				36	28	73	53	3	5	3	159	195		
Salmonids														Jacks Kept		
	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		Week	Cum
Bonneville Pool																
Chinook																
Coho																
Steelhead																
The Dalles Pool	43			1		78	6	12					51	129		9
Chinook				1		77							46	123		9
Coho																
Steelhead						1							5	6		
John Day Pool	18					41	8	14			1		45	86	1	10
Chinook						41					1		41	82	1	10
Coho																
Steelhead													4	4		
Walleye																
	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2014 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2014 Cum Leg Kept			
Bonneville Pool																
The Dalles Pool						7	12	28	13	70			492	499		
John Day Pool							30	61	50	91			397	397		
Bass																
	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2014 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2014 Cum Leg Kept			
Bonneville Pool																
The Dalles Pool	9	7	1			1	1	2	5	5			88	89		
John Day Pool	1					15	5	11	29	31			90	105		

¹ Quantities include both Washington and Oregon samples.

	Sturgeon	Salmonids	Walleye	Bass
Bonneville	Effort (as a % of 6-week average)	none	none	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	none	none	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	none	none	none
The Dalles	Effort (as a % of 6-week average)	72%	60%	157%
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.86	0.02	2.96
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	none	0.02	2.50
John Day	Effort (as a % of 6-week average)	193%	44%	161%
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.75	0.03	2.31
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.07	0.03	1.49

