

Creel Survey

March 24, 2014

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)



Salmon/Steelhead

Cowlitz River – 161 boat anglers kept 115 steelhead and released 3. 122 bank anglers kept 3 and released 1 spring Chinook and kept 25 and released 2 steelhead. Boat anglers were mainly catching fish by the trout hatchery while bank catch was more spread throughout the river.

Last week Tacoma Power recovered 335 winter-run steelhead and one spring Chinook during five days of operations at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator. During the past week Tacoma Power employees released 37 steelhead into the Tilton River at Gust Backstrom Park in Morton and the spring Chinook salmon into Lake Scanewa above Cowlitz Falls Dam.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 10,100 cubic feet per second on Monday, March 24. Water visibility is seven feet.

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

Lewis River – 5 bank anglers had no catch. On the North Fork Lewis, 2 bank anglers released 1 steelhead. Both remain closed for spring Chinook.

Wind River and Drano Lake – No effort observed on the Sun. March 16 opener.

Lower Columbia mainstem below Bonneville Dam - Last week we sampled 1,360 salmonid anglers (including 447 boats) with 8 adult spring Chinook and 3 steelhead. 7 (87%) of the Chinook were kept. Based on Visual Stock Identification, half the catch was lower river and the other half upriver stock. All the steelhead were wild and released.

Salmonid effort picked up and spread out in the mainstem Columbia. However, more boats were counted in the Willamette (486) than the Columbia (458) during last Saturday's flight.

Bonneville Pool – No effort observed on the Sun. March 16 opener.

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

Sturgeon

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam - Catch-and-release sturgeon fishing in the Woodland area was very good. Effort is light.

The Dalles and John Day pools – Bank and boat anglers are catching some legals in both pools.

Walleye and Bass

The Dalles Pool – Boat anglers averaged over a walleye kept/released per rod.

John Day Pool – Boat anglers are catching some bass and walleye.

Trout

Klineline Pond – Planted with 2,000 nearly half-pound browns March 19. 30 bank anglers kept 25 browns and 8 rainbows and released 9 browns. Anglers are catching the fish in the swimming area.

Lacamas Lake near Camas – Planted with 5,000 nearly half-pound browns March 19. No report on angling success.

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. 23	
The Dalles	4		10							14		Mar. 23	
John Day	3	5	30							38		Mar. 23	

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

WDFW Mid-Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary ¹

March 17 - 23, 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	32	13		1		2	17	53	87	1	5		12	14
John Day Pool	78	11		6	1	15	35	84	49	2	11	1	23	38
Total	110	24		7	1	31	52	137	136	3	16	1	106	137

Salmonids														
Reservoir	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	Jacks Kept Week Cum
Bonneville Pool														
Chinook														
Coho														
Steelhead														
The Dalles Pool	8					1							5	6
Chinook														
Coho														
Steelhead						1							5	6
John Day Pool													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	2					5	34	84	17	76			214	219
John Day Pool							21	47	7	1			91	91

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	2													
John Day Pool							9	16	27					

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)	218%	192%	243%	600%
	Catch Per Unit Effort	1.26	none	1.08	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.07	none	0.88	none
John Day	Effort (as a % of 6-week average)	206%	none	168%	533%
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.50	none	0.17	1.69
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.10	none	0.02	none

Preliminary Washington lower Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary
3/25/2014

8:30 AM

Month/Week	Salmonid									# Boats	Boat Anglers	Chinook							
	Sec.	Bank Anglers	Kept Adults	Jacks	Released Adults	Jacks	Steelhead Kept	Rel.	Other			Kept Adults	Jacks	Released Adults	Jacks	Steelhead Kept	Rel.	Other	
Bonneville	1	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	[REDACTED]	13	25	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Camas/Washougal	2	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		35	86	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	3										103	201	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vancouver	4	96	0	0	0	0	0	1	0		46	105	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Woodland	5	85	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		64	142	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Kalama	6	42	0	0	0	0	0	1	0		1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cowlitz	7										116	251	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Longview	8	93	0	0	0	0	0	1	0		42	93	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cathlamet	9	38	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		27	57	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
private boats/bank charter	10	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0										
Total		397	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	447	963	7	0	1	0	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	
Bonneville	1					CLOSED						CLOSED	
Camas/Washougal	2					CLOSED						CLOSED	
	3					CLOSED						CLOSED	
Vancouver	4					CLOSED	1	2	0	0	0	CLOSED	
Woodland	5					CLOSED	1	5	22	5	0	CLOSED	
Kalama	6					CLOSED						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	2	7	22	5	0	CLOSED	

	Walleye							
	Sec.	Bank Anglers	Kept	Rel.	# Boats	Boat Anglers	Kept	Rel.
Bonneville	1							
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	0