

## Creel Survey

October 6, 2014

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

### Salmon/Steelhead

**Mainstem Grays River from the 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** – Boat anglers are primarily catching coho from the I-5 Bridge downstream while bank anglers at the barrier dam are catching coho and fall Chinook plus summer run steelhead at the trout hatchery.

During five days of operations at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator, last week Tacoma Power recovered:

- 271 summer-run steelhead
- 1,301 fall Chinook adults and 85 jacks
- 7,884 coho adults
- 775 coho jacks
- 60 sea-run cutthroat trout

During the past week Tacoma Power employees released:

- 1,184 coho adults and 64 jacks into Lake Scanewa
- 252 coho adults and 20 jacks into the Cispus River above the mouth of Yellow Jacket Creek
- 553 fall Chinook adults, 55 jacks; 507 coho adults, 24 jacks and eight cutthroat trout into the Tilton River at Gust Backstrom Park in Morton
- 306 fall Chinook adults and nine jacks; 688 coho adults and 40 jacks at Franklin Bridge in Packwood
- One cutthroat trout was released in the upper Cowlitz River basin

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 4,220 cubic feet per second on Monday, September 29.

**Kalama River** – Bank anglers on the lower river did well on coho though nearly half the fish were released.

**Lewis River** – North Fork Lewis bank anglers are primarily catching coho and a few fall Chinook.

**Washougal River** – Light effort and catch on the lower river.

**Drano Lake** – No report on angling success. Drano Lake is closed to all fishing from 6 p.m. Tuesdays to 6 p.m. Wednesdays in October.

**Buoy 10** – The creel census program may have concluded for the year. Bank anglers off the North Jetty are reported to be doing well on coho as are boats around the bridge. Angler participation is pretty high for this time of the year.

Anglers should also be aware that portions of the North Jetty at the mouth of the river will be closed for construction work in October. See the [public notice](#) on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers website for more information.

**Lower Columbia mainstem below Bonneville Dam** – During the first 5 days of October we sampled 215 salmonid anglers (including 46 boats) with 35 adult and 7 jack fall Chinook, 24 adult and 1 jack coho and no steelhead.

34 (97%) of the adult Chinook caught were kept although it was legal to retain all fish (angler thought it was mark selective). 21 (87%) of the adult coho caught were kept. We did not sample any steelhead.

Still pretty high effort with over 300 boats and 200 bank anglers counted during the Saturday October 4<sup>th</sup> flight. The majority of the effort was from the Cowlitz River upstream.

**Bonneville Dam to McNary Dam** – No report on angling success. Effective Oct. 16, the anti-snagging rule is lifted. In addition, the night closure in Bonneville Pool is removed the same day.



