

Creel Survey

August 3, 2015

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

Salmon/Steelhead

Cowlitz River – No report on angling success. During five days of operations at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator, last week Tacoma Power recovered:

- 408 spring Chinook salmon, 74 jacks, 104 mini-jacks, one fall Chinook jack, and 1,033 summer steelhead.

During the past week Tacoma Power employees released:

- 357 spring Chinook adults, 62 jacks, and one fall Chinook jack into the Cispus River near the mouth of Yellow Jacket Creek;
- Floy-tagged and recycled 749 summer steelhead at the Interstate-5 boat launch.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 2,960 cubic feet per second on Monday, August 3. Water visibility is 15 feet.

Wind River – Light effort. Some summer run steelhead are being caught.

Drano Lake – Including fish released, boat anglers averaged nearly 1.3 steelhead per rod. The downside is nearly ¾ of the fish were wild and had to be released. Some Chinook (possibly stray summer fish) are being caught now that any Chinook may be retained.

- 51 boat trailers were counted here last Saturday morning.

Buoy 10 – Started off strong last weekend with nearly 2 coho kept per boat average. A couple dozen fall Chinook were checked each day.

BONUS FACTOID – It was the best Buoy 10 opener since 2001 when anglers averaged nearly 2/3 of a coho per rod. It should be noted 1.1 million coho returned that year. This year's preseason forecast is 539,600 fish.

Daily sampling summaries can be found at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/creel/buoy10/>.

Lower Columbia mainstem below Bonneville Dam – The last two days we sampled 351 salmonid anglers (including 53 boats) with 9 adult fall Chinook and 61 steelhead. All of the adult Chinook and 37 (61%) of the steelhead were kept.

Not including Buoy 10, effort was modest with 235 boats and 472 bank anglers tallied during last Saturday's effort flight count. About ¼ of the boats were observed at the mouth of the Cowlitz.

Bonneville and The Dalles pools – Boat anglers are catching some steelhead. Last Friday, the largest concentration of boats (14) were found at the mouth of the Deschutes. A handful or less boats were at the mouths of the Little White Salmon and White Salmon rivers.

Sturgeon

Lower Columbia mainstem from the Marker 82 line downstream – We sampled 6 sturgeon anglers (2 boats) with 12 legals released. Only a handful of boats were counted during last Saturday's effort flight count.

Walleye and Bass

Lower Columbia mainstem below Bonneville Dam – We did not sample any walleye anglers last week.

The Dalles Pool – 2 boat anglers released 6 bass.

Washington lower Columbia tributaries plus Bonneville and The Dalles pools salmonid sport sampling summaries - July 27-Aug. 2.

Area	Bank Anglers	Chinook Kept		Chinook Rel.		Steelhead		Other	Boat Anglers	Chinook Kept		Chinook Rel.		Steelhead		Other
		Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Kept	Rel.			Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Kept	Rel.	
Wind River	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
Drano Lake	7	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	190	17	0	1	1	65	177	1 sockeye rel.
Bonneville Pool									13	0	0	0	0	1	2	0
The Dalles Pool	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	1	1	0

Washington Buoy 10 Creel Sampling Summaries - 2015

Date	Number of Boats	Number of Anglers	Chinook Kept	Coho Kept	Comments
1-Aug	87	249	23	168	Opening day
2-Aug	76	207	25	134	
3-Aug					