

Creel Survey

February 16, 2015

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

Salmon/Steelhead

Cowlitz River – 8 boat anglers kept 4 steelhead. 12 bank anglers had no catch.

Kress Lake – This past week 20 adult Early Winter and 17 Kalama Hatchery Steelhead were planted into Kress Lake for a total of 37 steelhead. No report on angling success.

Lower Columbia from the I-5 Bridge downstream – No report on angling success. 26 salmonid boats and 54 Oregon and 32 Washington bank anglers were counted during the Sat. Feb. 14 effort flight count.

Effective March 1 – June 15, on days when the mainstem Columbia River recreational fishery below Bonneville Dam is open to retention of Chinook, the salmonid daily bag limit in Deep River will be the same as mainstem Columbia River bag limits. On days when the mainstem Columbia River fishery is closed to Chinook retention, the permanent salmonid bag limit regulations for Deep River apply.

Effective March 1– May 15, the mainstem Columbia River will be open for retention of adipose fin-clipped steelhead and shad ONLY during days and in areas open for retention of adipose fin-clipped spring Chinook.

Mainstem Columbia from Buoy 10 upstream to the I-5 Bridge – Open to fishing for hatchery Chinook and hatchery steelhead through April 10 (except closed Tuesdays March 24, March 31, and April 7). Effective March 1, the adult salmonid limit will be 2 fish of which no more than one may be a hatchery Chinook.

Mainstem Columbia from the I-5 Bridge upstream to Bonneville Dam – Effective March 1 through April 10 (except closed Tuesdays March 24, March 31, and April 7), open to fishing for hatchery Chinook and hatchery steelhead. No boats (bank only) from Beacon Rock upstream. The adult salmonid limit will be 2 fish of which no more than one may be a hatchery Chinook.

Bonneville Pool – No effort observed for salmonids.

The Dalles Pool – Bank and boat anglers are catching some steelhead though most of the fish were wild and had to be released.

John Day Pool – Bank anglers are catching some steelhead.

Sturgeon

Bonneville Pool – Boat anglers are catching some legals. Through February 8, an estimated 115 (10.5%) of the 1,100 fish guideline had been taken. Sturgeon may be retained through March 1.

The Dalles Pool – Boat anglers are catching some legals here too.

John Day Pool – Bank anglers are catching some legals.

Walleye and Bass

Bonneville Pool – Light effort and catch for walleye. No effort observed for bass.

The Dalles Pool – Bank and boat anglers are catching some walleye. Including fish released, anglers averaged just over ½ fish per rod. No effort observed for bass.

John Day Pool – Boat anglers did well for walleye, averaging over 2 fish per rod when including fish released. No effort was observed for bass.

Smelt

Cowlitz River – Effort was higher but catches were lower during the Feb. 14 fishery. The Cowlitz is now closed to fishing for smelt.

Short recap of this year's 2-day season:

- More people than last year
- About the same harvest in first day as for the two days last year

Monthly Sturgeon Harvest estimates:													
	Jan	1-Feb	8-Feb	15-Feb	22-Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Totals:	%	As of	Guidelines:
Bonneville ¹	107	0	8							115	10.5%	Feb. 8	1,100
The Dalles	20									20	20.0%	Feb. 1	100
John Day	40									40	8.0%	Feb. 1	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.

Harvest estimates are calculated monthly. All in-season estimates are preliminary.

Current month sampled sturgeon kept:													
	Jan	1-Feb	8-Feb	15-Feb	22-Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun				
Bonneville	22	0	3	5						30		Feb. 15	
The Dalles	10	0	0	2						12		Feb. 15	
John Day	6	1	0	2						9		Feb. 15	

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

WDFW Mid-Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary ¹

February 9 - 15, 2015

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	2015 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Subs	Leg Rel	Leg Kept	Over-size	2015 Cum Leg Kept	Combined Leg Kept	
Bonneville Pool	38	19			1	1	25	59	156		5		29	30	
The Dalles Pool	32					2	7	17	8		2		10	12	
John Day Pool	56	13	2	2	1	3	10	21	2			2	6	9	
Total	126	32	2	2	2	6	42	97	166		7	2	45	51	
Salmonids															
	Bank Anglers	Wild Kept	Wild Rel	Hat Kept	Hat Rel	2015 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Wild Kept	Wild Rel	Hat Kept	Hat Rel	2015 Cum Leg Kept	Combined Leg Kept	Jacks Kept Week Cum
Bonneville Pool															
Chinook															
Coho															
Steelhead															
The Dalles Pool	5		2				7	7		6	2		2	2	
Chinook															
Coho															
Steelhead			2							6	2		2	2	
John Day Pool	16		1			2							1	3	
Chinook															
Coho															
Steelhead			1			2							1	3	
Walleye															
	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2015 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2015 Cum Leg Kept		
Bonneville Pool							1	3							
The Dalles Pool	6	1	3			3	30	71	12	39			50	53	
John Day Pool							20	40	17	78			122	122	
Bass															
	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2015 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2015 Cum Leg Kept		
Bonneville Pool															
The Dalles Pool															
John Day Pool															

¹ Quantities include both Washington and Oregon samples.

		Sturgeon	Salmonids	Walleye	Bass
Bonneville	Effort (as a % of 6-week average)	91%	none	180%	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	1.87	none	none	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.05	none	none	none
The Dalles	Effort (as a % of 6-week average)	146%	80%	444%	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.20	0.83	0.71	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.04	0.17	0.55	none
John Day	Effort (as a % of 6-week average)	112%	84%	312%	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.29	0.06	2.38	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.03	none	1.95	none