

Creel Survey

July 20, 2015

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met yesterday (Monday July 20) and provided an in-season forecast of 120,000 adult summer Chinook and 507,500 sockeye returning to the Columbia River. The summer Chinook forecast is the largest since at least 1960 and the sockeye forecast is the third largest on record. The preseason forecasts were 73,000 adult summer Chinook and 394,000 sockeye.

Fall salmon regulation changes scheduled to begin August 1

Like the past few years, anglers will be allowed to retain up to six hatchery adult coho on all tributaries to the lower Columbia River with hatchery programs. Those rivers include the Cispus, Cowlitz, Deep, Elochoman, Grays (including West Fork), Kalama, Lewis (including North Fork), Toutle (including Green and North Fork), Tilton, and Washougal rivers plus Lake Scanewa (Cowlitz Falls Reservoir).

Chinook retention is limited to marked hatchery fish on those river systems *except* Deep and Klickitat rivers plus Drano Lake where unmarked Chinook can be retained. Up to 3 adult Chinook may be retained on the Klickitat River and at Drano Lake. In addition, any coho, adipose fin clipped or not, may be retained there. Up to 6 adult coho may be retained on the Klickitat River and 3 adults at Drano Lake.

Grays (including West Fork) and Elochoman rivers – Open to fishing for fall salmon. Release wild Chinook, wild coho, and chum. Chinook with a clipped ventral fin may also be kept on the Grays River (including West Fork). Night closure, anti-snagging rule, stationary gear restrictions, and barbless hooks will be in effect on both rivers.

Green and Toutle (including North Fork) rivers – Open to fishing for fall salmon. The salmon daily limit will be 6 fish of which no more than 2 may be adult Chinook. Release wild Chinook, wild coho, and chum. Barbless hooks will be required.

Cowlitz River from the boundary markers at the mouth upstream to 400 feet or posted markers below the barrier dam: The salmon daily limit will be 6 fish of which no more than 2 may be adult Chinook. Release all salmon except hatchery Chinook and hatchery coho. Barbless hooks will be required for salmon, steelhead, and cutthroats.

Kalama River from boundary markers at the mouth upstream to 1,000 feet below the upper salmon hatchery fishway - Open to fishing for fall salmon. The salmon daily limit will be 6 fish of which no more than 2 may be adult Chinook. Release all salmon except hatchery Chinook and hatchery coho. Barbless hooks required.

Mainstem Lewis River (including North Fork up to the overhead powerlines below Merwin Dam) - Opens to fishing for fall salmon. The salmon daily limit is 6 fish of which no more than 2 may be adult Chinook. Release all salmon except hatchery Chinook and hatchery coho. Wild Chinook may be retained beginning September 16. Barbless hooks required.

Washougal River from the Mt. Norway Bridge upstream to the Salmon Falls Bridge – Open to fishing for fall salmon. The salmon daily limit will be 6 fish of which no more than 2 may be adult Chinook. Release wild Chinook, wild coho, and chum. Barbless hooks required.

This section of river is open to fishing daily from one hour before sunrise to 2 pm. Anti-snagging rule will be in effect. Only fish hooked inside the mouth may be retained. Barbless hooks required.

Camas Slough – Open to fishing for fall salmon. Only hatchery fall Chinook and hatchery coho may be retained. Anglers may fish with two poles with a Two-Pole Endorsement. Each angler aboard a vessel may deploy recreational salmon/steelhead gear until the daily salmonid limit for all anglers aboard has been achieved.

Wind River from mouth (boundary line/ markers) upstream to 400 feet below Shipherd Falls – The salmonid daily will be 6 fish of which no more than 2 may be adult salmon or hatchery steelhead or one of each. Release wild Chinook and wild coho.

Anti-snagging rule will be in effect from the Hwy. 14 Bridge upstream. Only fish hooked inside the mouth may be retained. Barbless hooks required.

Drano Lake – Open to fishing for fall salmon. The salmonid daily limit will be 6 fish of which no more than 3 adults may be retained of which no more than 2 may be hatchery steelhead.

Anti-snagging rule will be in effect. Barbless hooks required.

White Salmon River from mouth (Burlington-Northern Railroad Bridge) upstream to the county road bridge below the location of the former powerhouse - The salmonid daily will be 6 fish of which no more than 2 may be adult salmon or hatchery steelhead or one of each. Release wild Chinook and wild coho.

Klickitat River from mouth upstream to the Fisher Hill Bridge - The salmon daily limit will be 6 fish of which no more than 3 may be adult Chinook. In addition, up to 3 hatchery steelhead may be retained.

Night closure and anti-snagging rule will be in effect. When the anti-snagging rule is in effect, only fish hooked inside the mouth may be retained.

New for 2015: The mouth of the Klickitat River is defined as the Burlington-Northern Bridge. From the mouth to the Fisher Hill Bridge, barbed hooks may be used from September 1 through December 31.

Klickitat River from 400 feet upstream from #5 upstream to boundary markers below the Klickitat Salmon Hatchery - The salmon daily limit will be 6 fish of which no more than 3 may be adult Chinook. In addition, up to 3 hatchery steelhead may be retained. Barbless hooks required.

Buoy 10 – Will be open for Chinook and hatchery coho through September 7. Anglers will have a two-salmonid daily limit, only one of which may be a Chinook. Any Chinook (marked or unmarked) may be kept. From September 8-30, anglers will have a daily limit of up to 2 hatchery coho but must release all Chinook. Barbless required.

North Jetty – Open 7 days per week when Marine Area 1 or Buoy 10 areas are open for salmon. The daily limit and minimum size restrictions follow the most liberal regulations of either of these areas. **A saltwater or combination license is required to fish from the North Jetty.** Information and schedule for the North Jetty repairs is attached.

Boat anglers should be aware of Oregon's sport fishing closure at the mouth of Young's Bay that runs from August 1 through September 15 (see attached map).

From Buoy 10 upstream to the Oregon/Washington border - Each angler aboard a vessel may deploy recreational salmon/steelhead gear until the daily salmonid limit for all anglers aboard has been achieved.

The mainstem Columbia River from the Rocky Point/Tongue Point line upstream to the Hwy. 395 Bridge at Pasco - Fishing for fall Chinook and hatchery coho will open but sockeye will close.

From the Rocky Point/Tongue Point line upstream to the Warrior Rock line - Anglers will be allowed to retain one adult Chinook as part of their two adult salmonid daily limit. Wild Chinook must be released between September 8-14 and all Chinook must be released in that same section September 15-30. Barbless hooks required.

From the Warrior Rock light line upstream to the Steamboat Landing Dock in Washougal - Anglers may retain up to 2 adult Chinook per day. Barbless hooks required. **See attached map for Warrior Rock and Steamboat Dock boundary lines.**

From the Steamboat Landing Dock upstream to the Hwy. 395 Bridge in Pasco - Up to 3 adult Chinook may be retained per day. Barbless hooks required.

Bonneville Pool – Night closure will be in effect for salmon and steelhead through mid-October. Wild coho must be released from the Hood River Bridge downstream.

Bonneville Dam to McNary Dam – Anti-snagging rule will be in effect for salmon and steelhead from through mid-October. Barbless hooks required.

FISHING REPORT

Salmon/Steelhead

Cowlitz River – No report on angling success. Even with low water levels, anglers are reported still catching lots of salmon and steelhead.

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

- 208 spring Chinook salmon, 43 jacks, 155 mini-jacks, 463 summer steelhead.

During the past week Tacoma Power employees released:

- 140 spring Chinook adults and 41 jacks into the Cispus River near the mouth of Yellow Jacket Creek
- 283 recycled summer steelhead at the Interstate-5 boat launch.
- 172 spring Chinook mini-jacks into Riffe Lake at Mossyrock Park.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 3,060 cubic feet per second on Monday, July 20. Water visibility is 16 feet.

Kalama River – 33 bank anglers kept 6 steelhead and released 2 fish. 6 boat anglers kept 2 steelhead.

East Fork Lewis River from the top boat ramp upstream to 400 feet below Horseshoe Falls (except closures around the falls) – No effort for steelhead. This section of river is open to fishing daily from one hour before sunrise to 2 pm. Barbless hooks required. Closed to fishing for salmon at all times.

Lewis River (including North Fork) – Steelhead fishing has reportedly picked up a lot in the last week.

Washougal River from Mt. Norway Bridge upstream to the Salmon Falls Bridge – No effort for steelhead.

Wind River – Effort is light. No report on angling success.

Drano Lake – 22 boat anglers kept 1 adult Chinook and 2 steelhead plus released 2 adult Chinook and 12 steelhead.

Klickitat River – Many steelhead fishermen were reported having good success.

Lower Columbia mainstem below Bonneville Dam – Last week we sampled 1,212 salmonid anglers (including 236 boats) with 115 adult and 3 jack summer Chinook, 198 steelhead, and 9 sockeye. All but 2 of the adult Chinook were kept (though all could be legally retained). 57% of the adult Chinook sampled were ad clipped.

103 (52%) of the steelhead and all of the sockeye were kept.

Nearly 400 boats and Washington bank anglers were counted on the Saturday July 18 flight. Most of the boats were observed at the mouth of the Cowlitz (74) or Lewis (63) rivers.

Sturgeon

Lower Columbia mainstem from the Marker 82 line downstream – Last week we sampled 16 sturgeon anglers (including 5 boats) with 31 legals released.

Walleye

Lower Columbia mainstem below Bonneville Dam – In the Camas/Washougal area, last week we sampled 6 walleye boat anglers (6 boats) with 3 walleye kept and 8 released.

Trout

Merwin Reservoir was planted with 1,033 rainbow averaging over 5.5 each on July 13. No report on angling success.

2:30 PM

Month/Week	Salmonid											Chinook											
	Sec.	Bank Anglers	Kept Adults	Jacks	Released Adults	Jacks	Steelhead Kept	Rel.	Sockeye Kept	Rel.	Other	# Boats	Boat Anglers	Kept Adults	Jacks	Released Adults	Jacks	Steelhead Kept	Rel.	Sockeye Kept	Rel.	Other	
July 13-19																							
Bonneville	1	36	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0													
Camas/Washougal	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	45	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
	3	61	0	0	0	0	5	8	0	0													
Vancouver	4	81	6	0	0	0	2	5	0	0	17	40	5	0	0	0	2	7	0	0	0	0	0
Woodland	5	116	2	0	0	0	2	3	1	0	110	250	79	0	1	0	10	4	3	0	0	0	0
Kalama	6	104	10	0	0	0	5	2	0	0	37	91	5	2	1	0	6	8	2	0	0	0	0
Cowlitz	7										12	22	0	0	0	0	3	6	0	0	0	0	0
Longview	8	193	1	0	0	0	19	23	1	0	9	22	2	0	0	0	6	8	1	0	0	0	0
Cathlamet	9	55	1	0	0	0	8	6	0	0	18	49	0	0	0	0	21	2	0	0	0	0	0
private boats/bank charter	10	10	0	0	0	0	1	5	0	0	12	36	0	0	0	0	12	5	1	0	0	0	0
Total	10	657	21	0	0	0	42	55	2	0	236	555	92	3	2	0	61	40	7	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						CLOSED
Woodland	5					CLOSED						CLOSED
Kalama	6					CLOSED	3	8	13	30	1	CLOSED
Cowlitz	7					CLOSED						CLOSED
Longview	8	2	0	0	0	CLOSED	2	6	8	1	0	CLOSED
Cathlamet	9					CLOSED						CLOSED
	10					CLOSED						CLOSED
Deep River + Knappton boats	10					CLOSED						CLOSED
Cathlamet	10					CLOSED						CLOSED
Total	10	2	0	0	0	CLOSED	5	14	21	31	1	CLOSED

Walleye

	Sec.	Bank Anglers	Kept	Rel.	# Boats	Boat Anglers	Kept	Rel.
Bonneville	1							
Camas/Washougal	2				6	6	3	8
	3							
Vancouver	4							
Woodland	5							
Kalama	6							
Cowlitz	7							
Longview	8							
Cathlamet	9							
Chinook/Elochoman	10							
Total	10	0	0	0	6	6	3	8

Walleye

	Sec.	Bank Anglers	Kept	Rel.	# Boats	Boat Anglers	Kept	Rel.
Bonneville	1							
Camas/Washougal	2				2	2	0	0
	3							
Vancouver	4							
Woodland	5							
Kalama	6							
Cowlitz	7							
Longview	8							
Cathlamet	9							
Chinook/Elochoman	10							
Total	10	0	0	0	2	2	0	0



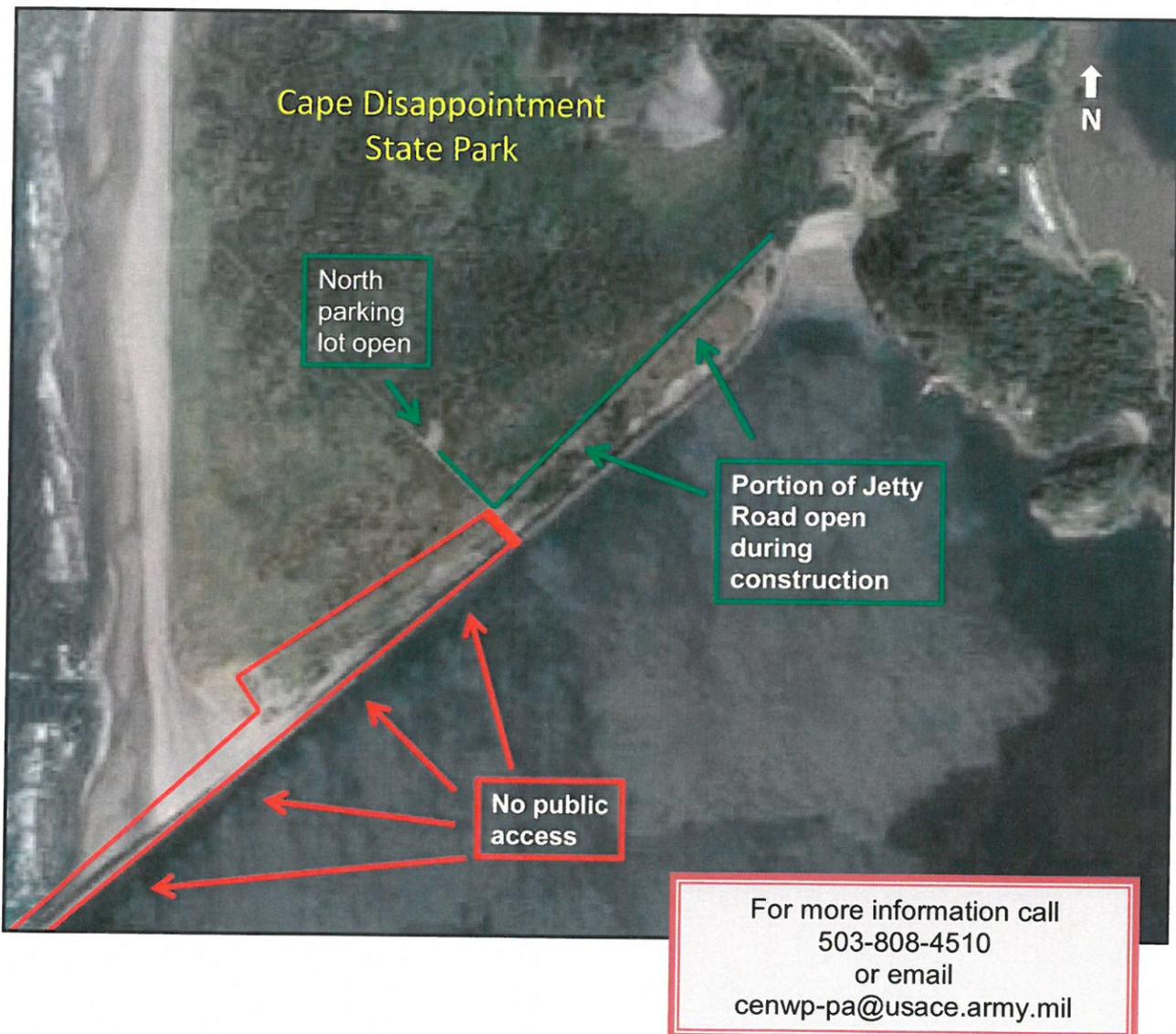
North Jetty repairs

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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MCR North Jetty construction zone off limits to the public April – October 2015

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers continues critical maintenance on the MCR jetty system. The North Jetty is an active construction zone through October 2015. A fence is in place around the site indicating the area is off limits to the general public.



U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – PORTLAND DISTRICT

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North Jetty repairs

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG®

Corps repairs Mouth of the Columbia River North Jetty

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers continues critical maintenance on the MCR jetty system. Areas near and on the North Jetty, inside Cape Disappointment State Park, Washington, are part of an active construction site through October 2015. A fence around the site indicates it is off limits to the general public.

Drivers and bicyclists on State Route 100 leading to Cape Disappointment are sharing the road with construction vehicles, including flat-bed trucks hauling jetty stones - each weighing up to 30 tons - from a quarry in northern Washington. The Washington Department of Transportation has lowered the speed limit to 25 miles per hour.



The MCR jetty system allows ships to transit the bar between the Pacific Ocean and the Columbia River in relative safety.

Construction schedule *(subject to change)*

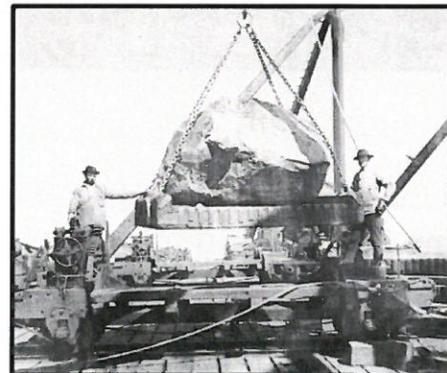
North Jetty critical repairs	April – October 2015
Jetty A rehabilitation	2015 - 2017
North Jetty rehabilitation	2017 - 2020
South Jetty rehabilitation	2017 - 2021

Cape Disappointment impacts

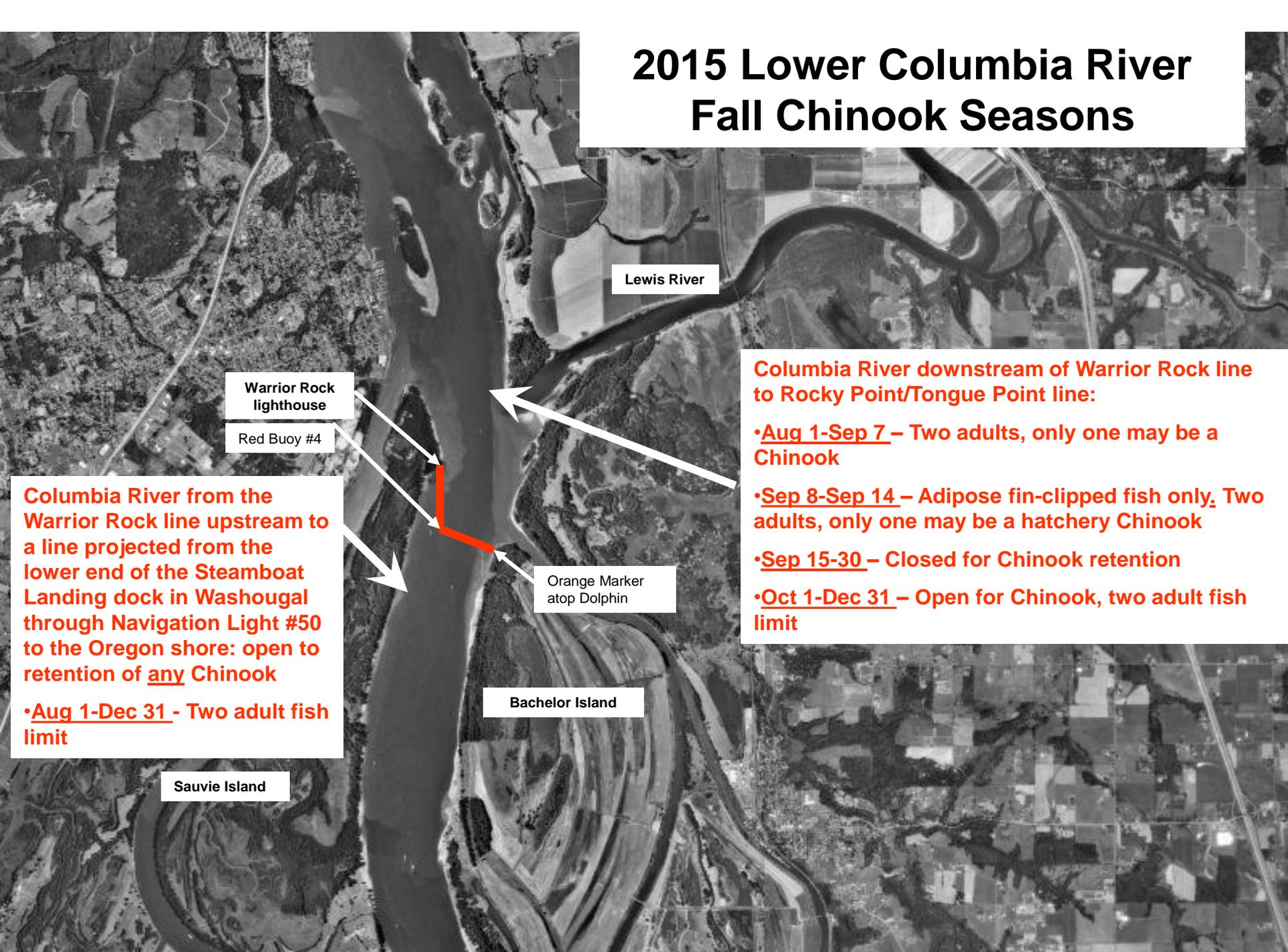
Park visitors should expect construction-related traffic, road closures and some traffic delays. The north parking lot remains open. Jetty Road west of the gravel road will be closed during construction-and part of the east parking lot will be closed to accommodate construction staging. A fence indicates the area is off limits to the general public. See map on reverse.



It's not unusual for waves to overtop coastal jetties; they can reach ten to 12 meters in height during winter storms. Design of the rubble mound structures hasn't changed in more than 100 years. They are resilient and self-healing by design; stones can move, yet remain stable and functional.



2015 Lower Columbia River Fall Chinook Seasons



Lewis River

Warrior Rock lighthouse
Red Buoy #4

Orange Marker atop Dolphin

Bachelor Island

Sauvie Island

Columbia River downstream of Warrior Rock line to Rocky Point/Tongue Point line:

- Aug 1-Sep 7 – Two adults, only one may be a Chinook
- Sep 8-Sep 14 – Adipose fin-clipped fish only. Two adults, only one may be a hatchery Chinook
- Sep 15-30 – Closed for Chinook retention
- Oct 1-Dec 31 – Open for Chinook, two adult fish limit

Columbia River from the Warrior Rock line upstream to a line projected from the lower end of the Steamboat Landing dock in Washougal through Navigation Light #50 to the Oregon shore: open to retention of any Chinook

- Aug 1-Dec 31 - Two adult fish limit

2015 Lower Columbia River Fall Chinook Seasons

15th Street - Washougal River Road Exit

Steamboat Landing Dock

Nav. Light #50

Oregon Shore

Columbia River from the lower end of the Steamboat Landing Dock in Washougal through Nav. Light #50 to Oregon shore upstream to Bonneville Dam: open to retention of any Chinook

•Aug 1-Dec 31 – Up to three adults, not more than two hatchery coho or hatchery steelhead in any combination

Columbia River from the Warrior Rock line upstream to the lower end of the Steamboat Landing Dock in Washougal through Nav. Light #50 to Oregon shore: open to retention of any Chinook

•Aug 1-Dec 31 - Two adult fish limit

