

Creel Survey

March 23, 2015

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

Salmon/Steelhead

Cowlitz River – 42 boat anglers kept 36 steelhead and released 1. 32 bank anglers kept 6 adult spring Chinook and 9 steelhead plus released 1 steelhead. The steelhead were mainly caught around the trout hatchery; spring Chinook at the salmon hatchery.

- During five days of operations at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator, last week Tacoma Power recovered:
- 494 winter-run steelhead and two spring Chinook salmon.
- During the past week Tacoma Power employees released:
- 75 winter-run steelhead to the Tilton River at Gus Backstrom Park in Morton
- 15 steelhead adults and one spring Chinook into the Cispus River above Yellow Jacket Creek
- 15 steelhead adults and one spring Chinook into Lake Scanewa above Cowlitz Falls Dam.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 4,080 cubic feet per second on Monday, March 16. Water visibility is ten feet.

Wind River – A couple boats there daily with but no catch was observed.

Anglers are reminded Wind River from the Hwy. 14 Bridge upstream is closed to all fishing through March.

Drano Lake – No effort was observed.

Lower Columbia mainstem below Bonneville Dam – Effort is increasing but not so much on the catch. We sampled nearly twice as many anglers but about the same number of fish as the previous week.

Last week we sampled 1,709 salmonid anglers (including 563 boats) with 68 adult spring Chinook and 15 steelhead. 54 (79%) of the adult Chinook were kept. 73% of the adult Chinook were upriver origin based on Visual Stock Identification (VSI). 8 (53%) of the steelhead caught were kept.

Salmonid effort doubled from Thursday to Saturday. On Saturday, 889 boats and 676 bank anglers were tallied. Effort was spread throughout the river.

Reminder – The mainstem Columbia below Bonneville Dam will be closed to fishing for salmon, steelhead, and shad March 24, March 31, and April 7, 2015.

Bonneville Pool – Light effort and no catch was observed.

The Dalles Pool – Bank anglers are catching some spring Chinook and steelhead.

John Day Pool – Light effort and no catch was observed.

Sturgeon

Lower Columbia mainstem below Bonneville Dam – Light effort during the current catch-and-release fishery.

The Dalles Pool – Slow for legal size fish.

John Day Pool – Boat anglers are catching a few legals.

Walleye and Bass

The Dalles Pool – Boat anglers averaged just over 3 walleye and just under 6 bass per rod when including fish released. The majority of the walleye were kept.

John Day Pool – Including fish released, boat anglers averaged nearly 1.5 walleye per rod. Boat anglers were also catching some bass.

Trout

Recent plants of rainbows into SW WA waters. No report on angling success.

LEROY BURNS PD (WAHK)

Mar 16, 2015	Rainbow	2,000	2.05	GOLDENDALE HATCHERY
Mar 16, 2015	Rainbow	250	2.2	GOLDENDALE HATCHERY

LK SACAJAWEA (COWL)

Mar 17, 2015	Rainbow	1,849	2.05	GOLDENDALE HATCHERY
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KLINELINE PD (CLAR)

Mar 16, 2015	Rainbow	1,500	2	VANCOUVER HATCHERY
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This past week 20 fish went to Kress Lake: 17 adult Kalama integrated stock and 3 adult Early Winter stock.

Monthly Sturgeon Harvest estimates:													Totals:	%	As of	Guidelines:
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep							
Bonneville ¹	107	46	2									155	14.1%	Mar. 1	1,100	
The Dalles	20	14										34	34.0%	Feb. 28	100	
John Day	40	28										68	13.6%	Feb. 28	500	

¹ Bonneville Pool closed to sturgeon retention effective March 1. Dates for a potential summer fishery will be considered later.

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	22	12	1							35	Mar. 22
The Dalles	10	4	1							15	Mar. 22
John Day	6	6	3							15	Mar. 22

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

WDFW Mid-Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary ¹

March 16 - 22, 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						2							33	35
The Dalles Pool	10					3	7	17	17			1	12	15
John Day Pool	11					4	9	23	3		1		11	15
Total	21					9	16	40	20		1	1	56	65
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	Jacks Kept Week Cum
Bonneville Pool														
Chinook														
Coho														
Steelhead														
The Dalles Pool	18			2		2							2	4
Chinook				1		1								1
Coho														
Steelhead				1		1							2	3
John Day Pool	17					5	1	2					1	6
Chinook														
Coho														
Steelhead						5							1	6
Walleye														
	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2015 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2015 Cum Leg Kept	
Bonneville Pool														
The Dalles Pool	3					8	27	63	2	188			503	511
John Day Pool	2					8	35	62	12	77			440	448
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							2	3	15	2			4	4
John Day Pool							1	2	7	1			4	4

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)	70%	245%	134%	360%
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.67	0.11	2.88	5.67
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	none	0.11	2.85	0.67
John Day	Effort (as a % of 6-week average)	53%	112%	86%	150%
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.12	none	1.39	4.00
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.03	none	1.20	0.50

Preliminary Washington lower Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary
3/23/2015

11:30 AM

Month/Week	Salmonid									# Boats	Boat Anglers	Chinook					Steelhead Kept	Steelhead Rel.	Other
	Bank Anglers	Kept Adults	Jacks	Released Adults	Jacks	Steelhead Kept	Steelhead Rel.	Other	Kept Adults			Jacks	Released Adults	Jacks					
Bonneville	1	147	8	0	4	0	2	0	0	25	48	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Camas/Washougal	2	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	47	117	4	0	1	0	1	0	0	
Vancouver	4	137	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	126	260	8	0	3	0	0	0	0	
Woodland	5	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	93	224	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Kalama	6	34	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	84	183	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	
Cowlitz	7									4	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Longview	8	65	0	0	0	0	4	6	0	84	173	5	0	0	0	0	1	0	
Cathlamet	9	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
private boats/bank charter	10									94	218	16	0	3	0	0	0	0	
Total		459	8	0	6	0	7	6	0	563	1250	46	0	8	0	1	1	0	

	Sturgeon													
	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						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	1	2	0	0	0	0			

	Walleye							
	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	