

Creel Survey

February 17, 2016

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

Salmon/Steelhead

Cowlitz River – 8 boat anglers kept 1 hatchery winter run steelhead. 27 bank anglers kept 2 hatchery winter run steelhead.

Last week Tacoma Power recovered 79 winter run steelhead and **two spring Chinook adults** during five days of operations at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

During the past week Tacoma Power employees released 29 winter-run steelhead adults into the Tilton River at Gust Backstrom Park in Morton. They also released nine winter-run steelhead and one spring Chinook adult into Lake Scanewa at Cowlitz Falls Dam. Six winter-run steelhead and one spring Chinook adult was released into the Cispus River near the mouth of Yellow Jacket Creek.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 14,400 cubic feet per second on Tuesday, February 16. Water visibility is four feet.

Lower Columbia mainstem from the I-5 Bridge downstream – 21 bank anglers kept 2 hatchery steelhead. 7 boat anglers (5 boats) had no catch. Both WA and OR have yet to sample their first spring Chinook of the year.

A few more anglers are beginning to prospect for spring Chinook with 31 boats and 137 bank anglers observed during last Saturday's (Feb. 13) effort flight count.

The Dalles Pool – Boat and bank anglers are catching some steelhead.

John Day Pool- Boat anglers are catching some steelhead.

Adult Chinook were counted at Bonneville Dam on Feb. 10 and 12.

2016 Summary of Select Area <u>Winter</u> Commercial Landings			
			<i>Preliminary landings as of : February 12, 2016</i>
		Spring Chinook	
Youngs Bay		8	
Tongue Point/South Channel		3	
Blind Slough & Knappa Slough <small>(combined total)</small>		2	
Deep River		2	
<i>Select Area Winter Totals</i>		15	

Sturgeon

The Dalles Pool – Boat anglers are catching some legals.

John Day Pool – No legal fish were found in the sample last week.

Walleye and Bass

The Dalles Pool – including fish released, boat anglers averaged just over 2 walleye per rod. Bank anglers were also catching some fish.

John Day Pool - Boat anglers averaged just over a walleye per rod when including fish released. A couple bass were also incidentally caught.

Monthly Sturgeon Harvest estimates:													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Totals:	%	As of	Guidelines:	
Bonneville ¹	113	44							157	48.3%	Feb. 7	325	
The Dalles	49								49	49.0%	Jan. 31	100	
John Day	26								26	5.2%	Jan. 31	500	

¹ Bonneville Pool closed to sturgeon retention effective February 8. 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		
Bonneville	51	12							63	Feb. 14
The Dalles	26	6							32	Feb. 14
John Day	10	1							11	Feb. 14

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

WDFW Mid-Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary ¹

February 8 - 14, 2016

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	2016 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Subs	Leg Rel	Leg Kept	Over-size	2016 Cum Leg Kept	Combined Leg Kept
Bonneville Pool													63	63
The Dalles Pool	34	1			1	1	28	78	69		3	3	31	32
John Day Pool	12						16	39	5			1	11	11
Total	46	1			1	1	44	117	74		3	4	105	106
Salmonids														
	Bank Anglers	Wild Kept	Wild Rel	Hat Kept	Hat Rel	2016 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Wild Kept	Wild Rel	Hat Kept	Hat Rel	2016 Cum Leg Kept	Jacks Kept Week Cum
Bonneville Pool														
Chinook														
Coho														
Steelhead														
The Dalles Pool	7		1	1		1	3	6				1	8	9
Chinook														
Coho														
Steelhead			1	1		1						1	8	9
John Day Pool	2						3	7		4	1		2	2
Chinook														
Coho														
Steelhead										4	1		2	2
Walleye														
	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2016 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2016 Cum Leg Kept	
Bonneville Pool														
The Dalles Pool	3		2			11	35	68	13	128			249	260
John Day Pool							16	25	20	9			49	49
Bass														
	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2016 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2016 Cum Leg Kept	
Bonneville Pool														
The Dalles Pool	1								2					
John Day Pool														

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)	193%	166%	328%	100%
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.69	0.23	2.01	2.00
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.03	0.08	1.83	none
John Day	Effort (as a % of 6-week average)	89%	77%	94%	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.12	0.56	1.16	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	none	0.11	0.36	none