

Creel Survey

July 25, 2016, 2016

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Salmon/Steelhead

2016 Columbia River Forecasts

- **Fall Chinook**

The forecast for the 2016 fall Chinook adult return to the Columbia River totals 960,200 fish which would be another strong return. The forecast is 74% of the 2015 actual return (1,305,500) and 136% of the 2006-2015 average return (705,600). Bright stocks represent 75% of the total forecast.

- **Coho**

The 2016 forecast for the Columbia River Coho return is for a return of 322,600 adults, which includes 132,900 early stock and 189,700 late stock. The forecast is 73% of the 2006-2015 average of 441,400 fish.

Tributary regulations that take effect August 1:

Grays and Elochoman river – The salmon daily limit will be 6 fish of which no more than 2 may be adults. Only hatchery Chinook and hatchery coho may be retained.

Night closure, anti-snagging rule, and stationary gear restriction will be in effect. When the anti-snagging rule is in effect, only fish hooked inside the mouth may be retained. Barbless hooks must be used. On the Grays River (including West, East, and South forks), all Chinook must be adipose and/or ventral fin clipped to be retained.

Green and South Fork Toutle river – The salmon daily limit will be 6 fish of which no more than 2 may be adults. Only hatchery Chinook and hatchery coho may be retained. Barbless hooks must be used.

Mainstem Lewis River (including North Fork up to the overhead powerlines below Merwin Dam) – Will be open to fishing for hatchery Chinook and hatchery coho; all other salmon must be released. The salmon daily limit will be 6 fish of which no more than 2 may be adults.

Wild Chinook may be retained beginning the fourth Sat. in September (September 24 this year).

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 coho. Release wild Chinook from the Hwy. 14 Bridge upstream. Release all other salmon.

Drano Lake – The salmonid daily limit will be 6 fish of which no more than 3 adults may be retained of which only 2 may be hatchery steelhead.

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

White Salmon River from the county road bridge upstream to 400 feet below Big Brother Falls– The salmonid daily will be 6 fish of which no more than 3 may be hatchery salmon or hatchery steelhead of which only 2 may be salmon. For salmon, only hatchery Chinook and hatchery coho may be retained.

Klickitat River from the mouth (Burlington Northern Railroad Bridge) upstream to the Fisher Hill Bridge and 400 feet upstream from #5 upstream to boundary markers below the Klickitat Salmon Hatchery – The salmon daily limit will be 6 fish. Up to 3 may be adults may be retained of which only 2 may be coho.

Creel checks

Cowlitz River – 59 boat anglers kept 30 steelhead and released 2 fish. 33 bank anglers kept 2 adult spring Chinook and 2 steelhead. Almost all of the steelhead were sampled at the trout hatchery and both of the spring Chinook at the barrier dam.

Last week Tacoma Power employees recovered 425 spring Chinook adults, 86 jacks, 32 mini-jacks, 797 summer-run steelhead, and two cutthroat trout during five days of operations at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

During the past week Tacoma Power employees released 133 spring Chinook adults and 40 spring Chinook jacks into the Cispus River upstream of the mouth of Yellow Jacket Creek near Randle and 213 spring Chinook adults and 33 spring Chinook jacks at Franklin Bridge in Packwood.

Since June 15, Tacoma Power employees have floy-tagged and recycled 1,612 summer-run steelhead to the I-5 bridge boat launch. A total of 402 (25%) of the recycled steelhead have either been reported as harvested or returned back to the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 3,430 cubic feet per second on Monday, July 25. Visibility is at 14 feet.

Effective August 1, barbless hooks must be used.

Drano Lake – Boat anglers averaged just over a steelhead kept/released per rod and bank anglers were catching some fish too. Nice fish up to 13 pounds. About 40 boats here last Sunday morning.

22 bank anglers kept 5 steelhead and released 3 fish. 151 boat anglers kept 1 adult Chinook and 100 steelhead and released 67 steelhead.

Lower Columbia mainstem below Bonneville Dam – Last week we sampled 1,984 salmonid anglers (including 259 boats) with 64 adult and 5 jack summer Chinook, 304 steelhead, and 11 sockeye. 28 (44%) of the adult Chinook, 184 (61%) of the steelhead, and all but 2 (82%) of the sockeye were kept though all were legal to keep. The majority of the steelhead catch were caught from the Lewis downstream.

Effort remains pretty constant with nearly 300 boats and over 600 bank anglers observed during the weekend flight counts. Thought effort was scattered throughout the river, the largest concentration of boats was off the mouth of the Cowlitz.

Bonneville Pool – 3 boat anglers had no catch.

Sturgeon

Lower Columbia mainstem from the Marker 82 line downstream – We sampled 24 sturgeon anglers (including 7 boats) with 43 legals released. Legals were sampled from Woodland to Cathlamet.

Walleye

Lower Columbia mainstem below Bonneville Dam – We sampled 24 walleye anglers (15 boats) with 22 fish kept and 1 released. The walleye were caught in the Camas/Washougal and Woodland areas.

Trout

Tacoma Power also released 4,000 rainbow trout into Mayfield Lake (no report on angling success). This week they will release 4,000 more rainbows into the lake.

Preliminary Washington lower Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary
7/25/2016

1:30 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 18-24, 2016																							
Bonneville	1	75	3	0	1	0	2	14	0	0		2	4	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0		
Camas/Washougal	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		21	36	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0		
	3	42	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0		6	14	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0		
Vancouver	4	186	6	0	6	1	5	5	0	0		43	86	0	0	6	1	2	4	0	2		
Woodland	5	368	1	0	2	1	19	28	2	0		36	85	1	1	1	0	3	0	1	0		
Kalama	6	325	13	0	14	0	9	6	1	0		38	82	2	0	1	0	3	4	0	0		
Cowlitz	7											7	17	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0		
Longview	8	302	0	0	0	0	38	12	3	0		53	128	0	0	2	0	35	19	0	0		
Cathlamet	9	87	0	0	0	0	8	6	0	0		35	80	1	0	0	1	36	9	2	0		
private boats/bank charter	10	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		18	49	1	0	1	0	20	8	0	0		
Total	10	1,403	23	0	23	2	83	72	6	0		259	581	5	1	13	2	101	48	3	2	0	

Month/Week	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	1	2	3	0	0	CLOSED	
	3					CLOSED						CLOSED	
Vancouver	4					CLOSED						CLOSED	
Woodland	5					CLOSED	1	6	10	6	1	CLOSED	
Kalama	6					CLOSED	1	4	5	1	1	CLOSED	
Cowlitz	7					CLOSED						CLOSED	
Longview	8					CLOSED	2	6	6	6	0	CLOSED	
Cathlamet	9					CLOSED	1	2	2	0	0	CLOSED	
	10					CLOSED	1	4	10	30	3	CLOSED	
Deep River + Knappton boats	10					CLOSED						CLOSED	
Total	10	0	0	0	0	CLOSED	7	24	36	43	5	CLOSED	

Month/Week	Walleye							
	Sec.	Bank Anglers	Kept	Rel.	# Boats	Boat Anglers	Kept	Rel.
Bonneville	1							
Camas/Washougal	2				13	21	20	0
	3							
Vancouver	4							
Woodland	5				1	2	2	1
Kalama	6				1	1	0	0
Cowlitz	7							
Longview	8							
Cathlamet	9							
Chinook/Elochoman	10							
Total	10	0	0	0	15	24	22	1