

Creel Survey

May 2, 2016

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

For those that may have missed it, yesterday's adult spring Chinook count at Bonneville Dam was 10,155 fish.

Salmon/Steelhead

Cowlitz River – Best catches are still between the hatcheries though most of the catch was sampled at the barrier dam. Winter run steelhead catch was down but the first summer run of the season was found in the creel sample and in the hatchery returns last week.

Last week Tacoma Power recovered 493 winter run steelhead, **nine summer-run steelhead**, 793 spring Chinook adults and 47 spring Chinook jacks during five days of operations at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

During the past week Tacoma Power employees released nine winter-run steelhead adults and into the Tilton River at Gust Backstrom Park in Morton, 244 spring Chinook, ten spring Chinook jacks and five winter-run steelhead into Lake Scanewa above Cowlitz Falls Dam, and 211 spring Chinook adults, 15 jacks and 26 winter-run steelhead adults into the Cispus River near the mouth of Yellow Jacket Creek. In addition, they released 185 spring Chinook adults and 11 jacks at Franklin Bridge in Packwood.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 6,280 cubic feet per second on Monday, May 2.

Lewis River – Little to no effort during the current hatchery steelhead season. The first 9 hatchery summer run steelhead of the year returned to the Merwin Dam trap last week.

Flows at Merwin Dam are about half the long-term mean (2,780 cfs today vs 5,530 cfs long term) for this date.

Wind River and Drano Lake – Both are producing a hatchery adult spring Chinook kept per about every 4.5 boat rods. Bank anglers at the mouth of the Wind are catching spring Chinook while those at Drano also caught a couple summer run steelhead. Effort is becoming heavy at both spots with a 100 or more boats at times.

Klickitat River – Catch and effort is beginning to increase. Flows are Pitt were 2,840 cfs today, about 25% higher than the long term mean for this date.

Bonneville Pool – Bank anglers at the mouth of Drano are catching a few spring Chinook.

The Dalles and John Day pools – Boat and bank anglers are catching some spring Chinook but it's far from hot (other than maybe the weather). Effort is fairly heavy just below John Day Dam with ~60 boats and 52 bank anglers mixed in with the ~100 tribal rods there yesterday above the Hwy. 97 Bridge yesterday.

The mainstem Columbia from Bonneville Dam to the WA/OR border is scheduled to remain open for hatchery Chinook and hatchery steelhead through Fri. May 6.

Sturgeon

The Dalles Pool – Now closed for retention.

John Day Pool – Boat anglers are catching some legals.

Walleye and Bass

The Dalles Pool – Including fish released, boat anglers averaged 3.5 walleye and 7 bass per rod. Bank anglers were also catching some bass.

John Day Pool – Boat anglers averaged just over 4 walleye and nearly 9 bass per rod when including fish released. Bank anglers were also catching some walleye.

Trout

Last week’s releases of hatchery rainbows and cutthroats. No report on angling success.

Lake/Pond	Date	Species	Number	Fish per Pound	Hatchery	Notes
<u>BATTLE GROUND LK (CLAR)</u> <i>Clark County - Region 5</i>	Apr 25, 2016	Cutthroat	2,000	2.6	SKAMANIA HATCHERY	
<u>HORSETHIEF LK (KLIC)</u> <i>Klickitat County - Region 5</i>	Apr 25, 2016	Rainbow	2,795	2.15	GOLDENDALE HATCHERY	
<u>KLINELINE PD (CLAR)</u> <i>Clark County - Region 5</i>	Apr 25, 2016	Cutthroat	2,000	2.6	SKAMANIA HATCHERY	
<u>ROWLAND LK (KLIC)</u> <i>Klickitat County - Region 5</i>	Apr 25, 2016	Rainbow	3,055	2.15	GOLDENDALE HATCHERY	
<u>SPEARFISH LK (KLIC)</u> <i>Klickitat County - Region 5</i>	Apr 25, 2016	Rainbow	3,548	2.15	GOLDENDALE HATCHERY	

Monthly Sturgeon Harvest estimates:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Totals:	%	As of	Guidelines:
Bonneville ¹	113	44	---						157	48.3%	Mar. 31	325
The Dalles ²	49	19	14						82	82.0%	Mar. 31	100
John Day	26	17	28						71	14.2%	Mar. 31	500

¹ Bonneville Pool closed to sturgeon retention effective February 8. Dates for a potential summer fishery will be considered later.

² The Dalles Pool closed to sturgeon retention effective April 30.

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	May. 1
The Dalles	26	11	3	2					42	May. 1
John Day	10	4	7	32					53	May. 1

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

WDFW Mid-Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary ¹

April 25 - May 1, 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														
The Dalles Pool	1					1					1	1	41	42
John Day Pool	7	1				1	18	46	24		9	9	52	53
Total	8	1				2	18	46	24	1	9	10	156	158
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				3										
Coho				3										
Steelhead														
The Dalles Pool														
Chinook	94		4	8		15	30	82		3	9		17	32
Coho			4	8		14				3	9		9	23
Steelhead						1							8	9
John Day Pool														
Chinook	65		1	3		6	38	87		3			5	11
Coho			1	3		4				3			3	7
Steelhead						2							2	4
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						14	6	13	14	32			2173	2187
John Day Pool	2		1			24	16	34	84	58			1769	1793
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		1			2	2	4	18	9			103	105
John Day Pool							7	14	101	23			157	157

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)	4%	162%	17%	16%
	Catch Per Unit Effort	2.00	0.15	5.13	20.00
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	none	0.11	3.38	2.00
John Day	Effort (as a % of 6-week average)	101%	270%	29%	64%
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.81	0.05	3.97	8.86
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.17	0.02	1.64	1.64

