

Creel Survey

October 25, 2016, 2016

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

Salmon/Steelhead

Cowlitz River – About the same as last week - mainly salmon being caught at the barrier dam and steelhead/sea-run cutthroats at the trout hatchery.

Last week Tacoma Power employees recovered 3,409 coho adults, 891 jacks, 469 fall Chinook adults, 37 jacks, 773 summer-run steelhead, two jacks, 58 cutthroat trout, and two spring Chinook adults in seven days of operations at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

During the past week, Tacoma Power employees released 543 coho adults and 260 coho jacks into the Cispus River upstream of the mouth of Yellow Jacket Creek near Randle, 585 coho adults and 195 coho jacks at Franklin Bridge in Packwood, and 855 coho adults, 106 coho jacks, 347 fall Chinook adults, 41 jacks and 11 cutthroat trout into the Tilton River located at Gust Backstrom Park in Morton.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 6,580 cubic feet per second on Monday, October 24. Visibility is at six feet and water temperature is 52 degrees F.

Columbia River Salmon and Steelhead Endorsement Creel Summary

BANK ANGLERS

River	Date Range	# Anglers	Steelhead			Chinook			coho		
			HOR Kept	HOR Rlsd	NOR Rlsd	HOR Kept	HOR Rlsd	NOR Rlsd	HOR Kept	HOR Rlsd	NOR Rlsd
Coweeman	NA										
Lewis, EF	10/17 - 10/23/16	7	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kalama	10/17 - 10/23/16	66	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	1
Bank Total		73	0	0	1	0	0	0	9	0	1

BOAT ANGLERS

River	Date Range	# Anglers	Steelhead			Chinook			coho		
			HOR Kept	HOR Rlsd	NOR Rlsd	HOR Kept	HOR Rlsd	NOR Rlsd	HOR Kept	HOR Rlsd	NOR Rlsd
Coweeman	NA										
Lewis, EF	10/17 - 10/23/16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kalama	10/17 - 10/23/16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Boat Total		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

Totals

Coweeman	NA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lewis, EF	10/17 - 10/23/16	7	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kalama	10/17 - 10/23/16	66	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	2

* 1 additional HOR jack coho released

Lewis River – Anglers are catching coho, mainly around the salmon hatchery. Boat anglers are also catching some Chinook. On the mainstem Lewis, effort and catches are generally light.

Flows at Ariel are currently a high 9,670 cfs, about 3.5 times the long-term average for this date.

Klickitat River – Sporadic good catches of coho reported on the lower river. Flows at Pitt are currently 1,220 cfs, about 1.6 times the long-term average for this date.

Buoy 10 upstream to the Hwy. 395 Bridge in Pasco – Closed to fishing for salmon and steelhead through the end of this year.

Hanford Reach - The number of anglers fishing the Hanford Reach continues to decline but the fishing continues to be very good with boats averaging almost 2 Chinook per boat (8 angler hours per fish). WDFW staff interviewed anglers from 283 boats (682 anglers) and 66 bank anglers (Ringold access area) and sampled 445 adult Chinook and 44 jacks. Based on the information collected, an estimated 1,156 adult Chinook and 66 jacks were harvested this past week from 1,885 anglers.

Bank fishing at Ringold continues to be slow for Chinook but steelhead fishing has picked up slightly. Staff interviewed 114 anglers fishing for steelhead at the Ringold Springs access area that reported 22 steelhead caught, an average of 14 hours of fishing per steelhead.

Through October 23, an estimated 16,553 adult Chinook, 1,061 Chinook jacks, and 31 coho have been harvested in the Hanford Reach from 43,130 angler trips.

The Columbia River from the Hwy. 395 Bridge upstream to the old Hanford townsite wooden powerline towers will remain open to fishing for salmon through October 31. The river is now closed to salmon fishing from the Old Hanford townsite wooden powerline towers upstream to Priest Rapids Dam and closed to all fishing from the Old Hanford townsite wooden powerline towers upstream to Vernita Bridge.

The annual **“King of the Reach”** broodstock collection project will be conducted this Friday, Saturday, and Sunday; October 28-30. All anglers are invited to participate.

WDFW in conjunction with Grant County Public Utility District and the Coastal Conservation Association of the Tri-cities is conducting the 5th Annual **“King of the Reach”** Project to collect live adult wild fall Chinook by hook & line at the Vernita and White Bluffs boat launches. We are looking for anglers that are willing to commit to a day of fishing in the Hanford Reach to help us reach our collection goal of **400 live wild fall Chinook**. These fish will be used for the production of 5.6 million fall Chinook juvenile salmon to be released at Priest Rapids Hatchery in June of 2017.



Anglers need to register at the collection site each day prior to fishing, either at the Vernita or the White Bluffs (Wahluke) boat launch. Participants are welcome to fish for a few hours or all three days. Only anglers registered for the Project are allowed to fish this area of the Columbia River and no harvest is permitted in these closed waters. All adult wild fall Chinook captured must be immediately transported alive back to the boat launch. Boats will need to be equipped with a live well or large ice chest that can be used as a holding area while transporting the fish back to the launch. WDFW, GCPUD & the CCA will have volunteers at the boat launches to register anglers and collect your donated Chinook. The event will be conducted on Friday & Saturday from 6:00am to 5pm and on Sunday from 6:00am to 1:00pm.

Participants are encouraged to register for the CCA "King of the Reach" derby. Derby entries are available at selected sporting goods stores or at www.ccawashington.org/KingoftheReach.

If you have any questions about the project contact Paul Hoffarth, 509-545-2284 or Paul.Hoffarth@dfw.wa.gov.

Area	Bank												Other	Boat											
	Anglers	Kept Adults	Chinook Jacks	Released Adults	Released Jacks	Steelhead Kept	Steelhead Rel.	Kept Adults	Kept Jacks	Released Adults	Released Jacks	Other		Anglers	Kept Adults	Chinook Jacks	Released Adults	Released Jacks	Steelhead Kept	Steelhead Rel.	Kept Adults	Kept Jacks	Released Adults	Released Jacks	Other
Cowlitz River	328	5	0	49	1	8	0	52	11	12	9	4 cutts kept	55	0	0	2	0	2	0	15	0	2	0	2 cutts kept	
Mainstem Lewis River	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
North Fork Lewis River	109	1	0	0	0	0	0	12	1	7	0	0	43	7	0	4	0	0	0	24	1	6	0	0	
Klickitat River	50	0	0	3	1	0	0	24	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	