

LOWER COLUMBIA – BONNEVILLE BRIGHT FALL CHINOOK

This stock was not identified in the 1992 SASSI.

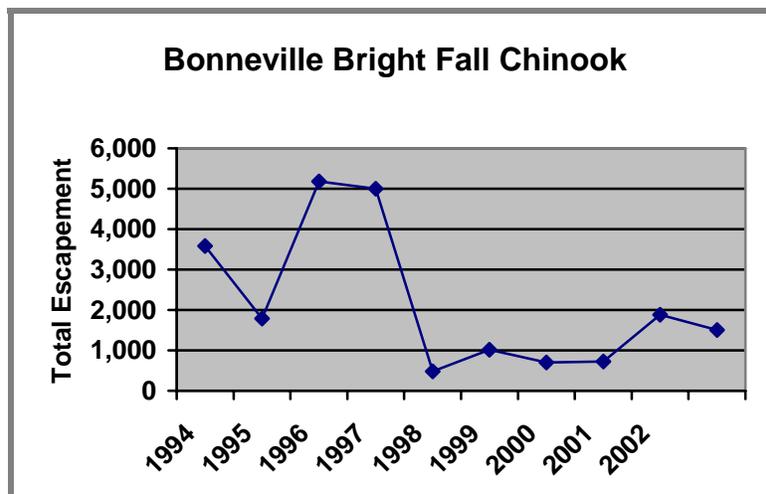
STOCK STATUS

1992 STATUS Not Rated	2002 STATUS Unknown
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STOCK STATUS RATING DATA

USEFULNESS FOR RATING STOCK STATUS: Fair

YEAR	TOTAL ESCAPEMENT
1994	3,585
1995	1,787
1996	5,181
1997	5,000
1998	477
1999	1,012
2000	704
2001	722
2002	1,881
2003	1,503



Data are total escapement estimates expanded from redd counts from the downstream end of Pierce Island (RM 141) to the upstream end of Ives Island (RM143), including areas around Pierce and Ives islands, Hamilton Slough and the Washington shoreline between Duncan and Hamilton creeks.

Stock status is rated **Unknown** in 2002. WDFW biologists do not yet know what range of production to expect from the freshwater habitat used for spawning. Freshwater spawning habitat availability depends on the spill regime at Bonneville Dam.

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STOCK DEFINITION

Bonneville fall Chinook were identified as a stock based on their distinct spawning distribution.

SPAWNING DISTRIBUTION: Spawning occurs in the mainstem Columbia River on both the Washington and Oregon sides of the river. In Washington, most spawning occurs from the upstream end of Pierce Island to the downstream end of Ives Island and along the Washington shore in Hamilton Slough and between the mouths of Duncan Creek and Hardy Creek.

SPAWNING TIMING: Spawning generally occurs from mid-October to late November.

GENETIC ANALYSIS: Allozyme analysis has shown that Bonneville fall Chinook are genetically distinct from other Columbia River bright fall Chinook stocks although they resemble up-river “bright” fall Chinook maintained at the Little White Salmon National Fish Hatchery, Bonneville Hatchery (Oregon) and Yakima bright fall Chinook (Marshall 1998).

STOCK ORIGIN

This is a stock of **unknown** origin with **wild** production. When the stock was discovered in 1994, WDFW staff speculated that it was composed of strays from the nearby Bonneville Hatchery. However, between 1994 and 1998, only six of the 2,246 carcasses sampled for coded-wire tags came from Bonneville Hatchery (WDFW and ODFW 1998). Genetic analysis indicates that the stock is distinct from up-river bright fall Chinook and has not been significantly influenced by any other lower Columbia River Chinook stocks, so origin remains unknown.