Guide Licenses for Columbia River Recreational Fisheries

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Presentation Outline

- Licensing authority and limitations by State
- History of guide license numbers
- Guide boat catch
- Commissioner’s Discussion
Licensing Authority and Limitations
Washington

- Charter Licenses are required to operate in Puget Sound, Grays Harbor, Willapa Bay, Pacific Ocean, Lake Washington or the Columbia River below the Longview Bridge.

- Salmon Charter License
  - Limited entry since 1970’s
  - Authorized to fish for salmon, other food fish or shellfish

- Non-salmon Charter License
  - Authorized to fish for shellfish and food fish other than salmon or albacore tuna
Licensing Authority and Limitations Washington

- Food Fish Guide License
  - Required to fish for food fish species excluding areas covered by the Salmon Charter License.

- Game Fish Guide License
  - Required to fish for game fish species in State waters

- Fishing Guide Combination License
  - Authorized in 2016 with same limitations for food fish guide license
Licensing Authority and Limitations
Oregon

- Licensing in Oregon is managed under authority of the Oregon State Marine Board.
- OSMB registers Charter’s and Outfitter Guides.
- Within Outfitter Guides there are specific registrations for “fishing guides” – no distinctions are made in Oregon for species/species groups.
- Registrations are organized based upon number of passengers and types of inspection and operations (USCG) licensing required.

Joint Washington and Oregon Commission Meeting; Information subject to changes and amendments over time
November 1, 2018
Licensing Authority and Limitations
Oregon

- As of 2014:
  - Oregon Charter is a vessel that carries 7 or more paying passengers.
  - Oregon Outfitter Guide is an operator that carries 6 or fewer paying passengers on their vessel.
- Oregon requires a “Charter Guide” decal for any guide vessels operating in the Columbia River downstream of the Longview Bridge and in the Pacific Ocean.
- Oregon Outfitter Guides provide a list of geographical areas they offer services in to OSMB when they apply (non-regulatory).
- None of the licensing information allows 100% specificity to “Columbia River” guides.
History of License Sales Washington

- Figure shows active Salmon Charter licenses (142 licenses)
- 2017 Guide Survey indicated 38.3% guided on Columbia River (554 licenses)
History of Licenses Sales Washington

Food Fish Guides

Game Fish Guides

Combination

Food Fish Guide Resident

Game Fish Guide Resident

Combination Guide Resident

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History of License Sales Oregon

- Definition of Charter changed in 2014
- Assume 67 of post-2014 definition “Charters” were present in pre-2014 period (yellow)
- Remainder of Charter prior to 2014 assigned to “Guides operating under pre-2014 Oregon Charter License” (orange)
- MAXIMUM number of guides certified to operate in LCR and ocean
- ~519 of 1,159 registrations
History of License Sales Oregon

- Resident/non-resident Oregon Fishing Guide registrations
- “Statewide” - all registrations; (N = 1,159)
- “LCR” – registrations specifying L Columbia River as an area of operations; (N = 227)
- 220 listed “Pacific Ocean”
- Registrants can and do list multiple areas within a year

![Bar chart showing registration distributions by state and area]
History of Guide Boat Catch
Columbia River

- Washington and Oregon don’t require reporting of guide effort and catch directly
- Effort and catch estimated using creel survey
- Washington considering guide logbooks to collect this information

Questions/Commissioner’s Discussion