

April 23, 2018

Contributed by Joe Hymer

**BONUS FACTOID – The 551 adult spring Chinook counted at Bonneville Dam through April 22<sup>nd</sup> are the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest on record. The record low are the 427 adults counted through April 22, 2006. However, over 126,000 spring Chinook were tallied crossing the dam by the end of that season (June 15, 2006).**

## **Salmon/Steelhead**

**Cowlitz River** – From the I-5 Bridge downstream: 143 bank rods kept 1 adult spring Chinook and 6 steelhead and released 1 steelhead. 18 boat rods kept 2 adult spring Chinook. Above the I-5 Bridge: 195 bank rods kept 7 adult spring Chinook and 22 steelhead and released 2 steelhead. 91 boat rods kept 3 adult and 1 jack spring Chinook and 20 steelhead and released 1 steelhead.

Last week, Tacoma Power employees recovered 629 winter-run steelhead and 90 spring Chinook adults and two jacks during five days of operations at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

During the past week, Tacoma Power employees released eight winter-run steelhead into the Tilton River at Gust Backstrom Park in Morton and they released 66 winter-run steelhead and 23 spring Chinook adults into the Cispus River, near Yellow Jacket Creek.

Tacoma Power also released 14 winter-run steelhead and 20 spring Chinook adults into Lake Scanewa near Randle.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 6,280 cubic feet per second (cfs) on Monday, April 23. Water visibility is five feet and the water temperature is 42.8 degrees F.

**Bank anglers should note the south side of the river from Mill Creek to the Barrier Dam is closed to all fishing from May 1 through June 15 per permanent regulations.**

**Kalama River** – 29 bank anglers kept 1 adult spring Chinook and released 5 steelhead. 10 boat anglers kept 1 adult spring Chinook and released 3 steelhead.

**Lewis River mainstem** – 39 bank rods kept 1 adult spring Chinook. 16 boat rods kept 1 adult spring Chinook and released 1 adult spring Chinook.

**North Fork Lewis River** – 56 bank rods kept 1 adult spring Chinook 43 boat rods kept 7 adult spring Chinook and released 1 steelhead.

**Under current permanent rules, the Lewis (including North Fork) closes for spring Chinook effective May 1. Also, the area from Johnson Creek upstream to the dam is closed to all fishing during the month of May.**

**Wind River** – 12 boat anglers had no catch.

**Effective May 1 through June 30, from the mouth to the Hwy. 14 Bridge** each angler aboard a vessel may deploy SALMON/STEELHEAD angling gear until the daily SALMON/STEELHEAD limit for all anglers aboard has been achieved. In addition, anglers with a Two-Pole Endorsement may fish for salmon and steelhead with two poles during the same period.

Beginning May 1, anti-snagging rule will be in effect from the Hwy. 14 Bridge upstream. When the anti-snagging rule is in effect, only fish hooked inside the mouth may be retained.

**Wind River from 100 feet above Shipherd Falls upstream to boundary markers approximately 800 yards downstream from Carson National Fish Hatchery (except closed 400 feet below to 100 feet above the Coffey Dam)** –From May 1 through June 30, the salmon and steelhead daily limit will be a total of 2 chinook or hatchery steelhead or one of each. Unmarked chinook may be retained in this section of the Wind. Night closure and anti-snagging rule will be in effect. Only fish hooked inside the mouth may be retained.

**Drano Lake** –2 bank anglers had no catch. 57 boat anglers kept 8 adult spring Chinook

**Effective May 1 through June 30, each angler aboard a vessel may deploy SALMON/STEELHEAD angling gear until the daily SALMON/STEELHEAD limit for all anglers aboard has been achieved.** In addition, anglers with a Two-Pole Endorsement may fish for salmon and steelhead with two poles during the same period.

**Klickitat River** – 5 bank anglers had no catch.

## Sturgeon

**Lower Columbia mainstem below Bonneville Dam** - All fishing for sturgeon will be closed from May 1 through Aug. 31 in the sturgeon sanctuary from Bonneville Dam downstream 9 miles to a line crossing the Columbia River from navigation Marker 82 on the Oregon shore westerly to the boundary marker on the Washington shore upstream of Fir Point.

**Bonneville Pool** – Angling for sturgeon will be prohibited from May 1 through July 31 between The Dalles Dam downstream 1.8 miles to a line from the east (upstream) dock at the Port of The Dalles boat ramp straight across to a marker on the Washington shore.

**The Dalles Pool** –Under permanent rules to protect spawning fish, closed to fishing for sturgeon from John Day Dam downstream 2.4 miles to the west end of the grain silo at Rufus Oregon May 1 through July 31.

**John Day Pool** – Under permanent rules to protect spawning fish, closed to fishing for sturgeon from McNary Dam downstream 1.5 miles to Hwy. 82 (Hwy. 395) Bridge May 1 through July 31.

## Trout

Recent plants of catchable size rainbows into SW WA waters. No report on angling success.

Lake/Pond	Date	Species	Number	Fish per Pound	Hatchery	Notes
<a href="#">KRESS LK (COWL)</a> <i>Cowlitz County - Region 5</i>	Apr 16, 2018	Rainbow	3,361	2.31	GOLDENDALE HATCHERY	
<a href="#">BATTLE GROUND LK (CLAR)</a> <i>Clark County - Region 5</i>	Apr 17, 2018	Rainbow	3,000	1.45	VANCOUVER HATCHERY	

Tacoma Power released 3,600 rainbow trout into South Lewis County Park Pond.