

February 12, 2018
Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

Salmon/Steelhead

A Joint State/Compact hearing to consider recreational fisheries for Spring Chinook is scheduled for 10am February 21, 2018 at the Portland Airport Shilo Inn (11707 NE Airport Way).

Cowlitz River – From the I-5 Br. downstream: 35 bank rods kept 1 steelhead. Upstream from the I-5 Br: 22 bank anglers released 1 steelhead and 1 adult coho. 14 boats/40 rods kept **1 adult spring Chinook** and 8 steelhead and released 1 steelhead and 1 cutthroat.

Lower Columbia mainstem from the I-5 Br. downstream – Water looks prime for salmon fishing but just 18 boats and 73 bank rods were tallied during last Saturday's flight.

Washington only creel checks:

- Sec. 4 (Vancouver) bank – 2 salmonid anglers had no catch.
- Sec. 5 (Woodland) bank – 9 salmonid anglers had no catch.
- Sec. 6 (Kalama) bank – 2 salmonid anglers had no catch.
- Sec. 8 (Longview) bank – 2 salmonid anglers released 1 steelhead.
- Sec. 8 boat – 1 boat/1 salmonid angler had no catch.
- Sec. 9 (Cathlamet) bank – 1 salmonid angler had no catch.

John Day Pool – No effort was observed for steelhead.

Sturgeon

John Day Pool – Closed for sturgeon retention through the rest of this year.

Walleye and Bass

John Day Pool – Boat anglers averaged over 3 walleye kept/released per rod.

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
BATTLE GROUND LK (CLAR) <i>Clark County - Region 5</i>	Feb 05, 2018	Rainbow	1,500	1.9	VANCOUVER HATCHERY	
KLINELINE PD (CLAR) <i>Clark County - Region 5</i>	Feb 05, 2018	Rainbow	1,500	1.9	VANCOUVER HATCHERY	

Smelt

Not much sign of smelt during the lower Columbia mainstem sport effort flight last Saturday. There were a few seals from Wallace Is. to Rice Is. but no sea lions and no bird activity except for few gulls following an outbound ship.

All waters within the state of Washington remain closed to fishing for Columbia River smelt (eulachon).

Monthly Sturgeon Harvest estimates:

	Jan	Feb	Totals:	%	As of	Guidelines:
Bonneville ¹	203	24	227	69.8%	Feb. 4	325
The Dalles ²	79	---	79	58.5%	Feb. 4	135
John Day ³	64	2	66	62.9%	Feb. 4	105

¹ Bonneville Pool closed to retention effective February 4.

² The Dalles Pool closed to retention effective January 20.

³ John Day Pool closed to retention effective February 12.

Harvest estimates are calculated monthly. All in-season estimates are preliminary.

Current month sampled sturgeon kept:

	Jan	Feb		
Bonneville	42	3	45	Feb. 11
The Dalles	21	---	21	Feb. 11
John Day	15	2	17	Feb. 11

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

WDFW Mid-Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary¹

February 5-11, 2018

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	2018 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Subs	Leg Rel	Leg Kept	Over-size	2018 Cum Leg Kept	Combined Leg Kept
Bonneville Pool						1							44	45
The Dalles Pool						1							20	21
John Day Pool	53	3				2	41	96	19		2	2	15	17
Total	53	3				4	41	96	19		2	2	79	83

Salmonids

	Bank Anglers	Wild Kept	Wild Rel	Hat Kept	Hat Rel	2018 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Wild Kept	Wild Rel	Hat Kept	Hat Rel	2018 Cum Leg Kept	Combined Leg Kept
Bonneville Pool														
Adults	Chinook													
	Coho													
	Steelhead													
Jacks	Chinook													
	Coho													
The Dalles Pool														
Adults	Chinook													
	Coho													
	Steelhead													
Jacks	Chinook													
	Coho													
John Day Pool														
Adults	Chinook													
	Coho													
	Steelhead													
Jacks	Chinook													
	Coho													

Walleye

	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept	2018 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept	2018 Cum Leg Kept	Combined Leg Kept
Bonneville Pool									32	32
The Dalles Pool				5					46	51
John Day Pool	2		6	6	52	104	70	250	432	438

Bass

	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept	2018 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept	2018 Cum Leg Kept	Combined Leg Kept
Bonneville Pool									2	2
The Dalles Pool									1	1
John Day Pool								1	5	5

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)	none	none	none	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	none	none	none	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	none	none	none	none
John Day	Effort (as a % of 6-week average)	154%	none	255%	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.17	none	3.08	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.01	none	2.42	none