

**OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**  
**JOINT STAFF REPORT - WINTER FACT SHEET NO. 9**  
**Columbia River Compact/Joint State Hearing**  
**April 1, 2019**

**Fisheries Under Consideration: Select Area Commercial Fisheries**

*Detailed information on stock status and management guidelines for Columbia River fisheries are presented in Joint Staff Reports, which are produced annually and available on-line. The most recent reports are the 2019 Sturgeon/Smelt Report (January 18, 2019) and the 2019 spring/summer report for Chinook, sockeye, steelhead and other species (February 8, 2019). Links to the on-line reports are: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/crc/> and <http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/OSCRP/CRM/reports.asp>*

***Select Area Commercial Spring Chinook Fisheries***

- Combined Select Area winter-season landings through March 31 total 335 Chinook, or 58% of the recent 5-year average harvest of 579 spring Chinook through week 13.
- Winter season fishing periods continue in Oregon Select Area sites through April 12, and spring fisheries open April 18. Due to lack of spring Chinook returns in 2019, the Deep River Select Area fishery is not open.
- Ex-vessel price remains high, with an average ex-vessel value last week of over \$15.00/pound.
- As typical for this time of year, Select Area commercial fisheries are currently restricted to upper Youngs Bay, South Channel, and Blind Slough (beginning April 4). Additionally, Youngs Bay and South Channel are open under reduced hours.
- Commercial fishers have requested some limited fishing opportunity in Knappa Slough, which is open to recreational fishing 7-days/week.
- An estimated 64 upriver spring Chinook mortalities have been accrued in winter Select Area fisheries, which is approximately 20% of the total non-treaty commercial allocation. Six upriver spring Chinook mortalities have been accrued in the Blind/Knappa Slough fishery during the winter season.
- Given the current accrual of upriver spring Chinook mortalities for winter Select Area fisheries, staff believes some additional fishing time can be provided in Knappa Slough without affecting the planned spring fishing schedule.

***Recommendation: 2019 Select Area Commercial Fisheries***

**Adopt** the following winter season periods for Knappa Slough (Zone 73):

- 8 PM to midnight Thursday April 4 (4 hours)
- 10 PM Monday April 8 to 2 AM Tuesday April 9 (4 hours)
- Midnight to 4 AM Friday April 12 (4 hours)

All other previously adopted regulations for this site remain in effect.

- Considering current below average mainstem Columbia River flows, the geographic location of the Knappa Slough fishery, and the proposed short tide-based periods, staff anticipates

interception of non-local salmonids will be minimal for the proposed recommendation.

#### **FUTURE MEETINGS**

- No additional Compact or Joint State hearings are scheduled at this time. The Joint Staff will monitor fisheries and recommend additional hearings as needed.