

March 20, 2019

Columbia River and Tributary Fishery Reports

Updates: Mainstem and tributary:

Salmon/Steelhead:

- **Warrior Rock line upstream to Bonneville Dam: Effective March 1 through April 10;** Open for boat and bank fishing for adipose fin-clipped chinook, coho and steelhead from the Warrior Rock line to the Beacon Rock line, plus bank angling only from the Beacon Rock line upstream to the Bonneville Dam deadline.
- **Effective March 1 until further notice; Mainstem Columbia River waters downstream of the Warrior Rock line are closed to salmon, steelhead and shad fishing.**
 - See the 2018/2019 Washington Sport Fishing rules pamphlet for further mainstem Columbia River boundary line descriptions.
- **Above Bonneville Dam: Effective April 1 through May 5;** Tower Island power lines (approximately 6 miles below The Dalles Dam) upstream to Oregon/Washington border plus the Oregon and Washington banks between Bonneville Dam and the Tower Island power lines (except for those waters closed under permanent regulations) are open to salmon and steelhead fishing.

Sturgeon:

- White sturgeon retention is closed from Buoy 10 upstream to Bonneville Dam including adjacent tributaries and in The Dalles Pool but remains open for catch and release fishing only.
- Bonneville and John Day pools are open to the retention of white sturgeon until quotas are reached. See <https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/regulations/> for size, daily, and annual bag limit.

Fishery Reports:

Salmon/Steelhead:

Lower Columbia mainstem from Warrior Rock line to Bonneville Dam– 129 salmonid boats and 15 Washington bank rods were tallied during last Saturday's flight count.

Sturgeon:

Bonneville Pool- 8 bank anglers released 2 sublegal sturgeon. 6 boats/17 rods kept 3 legal sturgeon and released 26 sublegal sturgeon.

The Dalles Pool- Closed for retention. No report.

John Day Pool- 15 bank anglers released 1 sublegal sturgeon. 7 boats/13 rods had no catch.

Monthly Sturgeon Harvest estimates:												
	Jan	Feb	3-Mar	10-Mar	17-Mar	24-Mar	Apr	May	Totals:	%	As of	Guidelines:
Bonneville ¹	258	3	0	4					265	53.0%	10-Mar	500
The Dalles ²	78								78	57.8%	3-Mar	135
John Day	0	9							9	8.6%	3-Mar	105

¹ Due to the short season in Bonneville Pool, we will be providing weekly harvest estimates. We will continue to provide harvest estimates for the other pools on a monthly basis.

² The Dalles pool closed to retention effective January 7.

The Dalles and John Day harvest estimates are calculated monthly. All in-season estimates are preliminary.

Current month sampled sturgeon kept:												
	Jan	Feb	3-Mar	10-Mar	17-Mar	24-Mar	Apr	May	Totals:	%	As of	Guidelines:
Bonneville	54	1	0	3	3				61		17-Mar	
The Dalles	33								33		17-Mar	
John Day	0	2	0						2		17-Mar	

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

Walleye:

Bonneville Pool- 6 boats/12 rods kept 9 walleye.

The Dalles Pool- No anglers sampled.

John Day Pool- 63 boats/152 rods kept 75 walleye and released 68 walleye.

Bass:

John Day Pool- 1 boat/2 rod kept 1 bass and released 1 bass.

Salmon/Steelhead:

Columbia River Tributaries

Grays River – 2 bank anglers had no catch.

Elochoman River – 6 bank anglers released 2 steelhead.

Germany Creek – 2 bank anglers had no catch.

Cowlitz River – I-5 Br downstream: 42 bank rods kept 1 steelhead.

Above the I-5 Br: 38 bank rods released 3 steelhead. 48 boats/156 rods kept 26 steelhead and released 8 steelhead.

Last week, Tacoma Power employees recovered 20 winter-run steelhead adults during five days of operations at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

Tacoma Power employees released two winter-run steelhead adults into the Tilton River at Gust Backstrom in Morton and they released three winter-run steelhead adults into the Cispus River in Randle.

The remainder of the fish are being held at the hatchery for broodstock needs.

Kalama River – 29 bank anglers released 1 steelhead. 4 boats/11 rods kept 2 steelhead and released 1 steelhead.

Lewis River – 4 bank anglers had no catch.

East Fork Lewis River – 11 bank anglers had no catch.

❖ **Tributaries not listed: Creel checks not conducted.**

Catchable Trout Plants:

<u>Lake/Pond</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Fish/lb</u>	<u>Hatchery</u>
LK SACAJAWEA (COWL)	Mar 14, 2019	Rainbow	3,001	2.3	GOLDENDALE HATCHERY
SWOFFORD PD (LEWI)	Mar 14, 2019	Rainbow	2,750	2.8	MOSSYROCK HATCHERY
SWOFFORD PD (LEWI)	Mar 14, 2019	Rainbow	3,000	3.0	MOSSYROCK HATCHERY