



## 2019 Non-Treaty Columbia River Summer/Fall Fishery Plan (June 7, 2019)

### Management Intent and Expectations for Summer Chinook and Sockeye Fisheries

- The preseason forecast for upper Columbia summer Chinook is 36,340 fish to the Columbia River. Under the *U.S v Oregon* Management Agreement the allowable harvest (including release mortality) for all non-treaty fisheries is 6,450 adult fish, of which about 890 are available for harvest (or release mortalities) in Columbia River fisheries.
- Based on the WDFW Upper Columbia Management Agreement, the available harvest for fisheries downstream of Priest Rapids Dam is 10% of the total allowed for in-river non-treaty fisheries.
- There is not sufficient harvestable allocation to cover any directed summer Chinook fisheries, outside of Colville and Wanapum subsistence fisheries. A portion of the allocation for WDFW recreational fisheries above Priest Rapids Dam has been re-allocated to cover indirect mortalities in recreational steelhead fisheries downstream of Priest Rapids Dam and commercial Select Area fisheries.
- The mainstem recreational fishery will be closed to summer Chinook retention (including jacks) but remain open to steelhead. The daily adult bag limit is two hatchery steelhead during June and one hatchery steelhead in July. Barbless hooks are not required when fishing for salmonids. The management guideline for summer Chinook release mortalities in recreational steelhead fisheries downstream of Priest Rapids Dam is 135 fish.
- The management guideline for the commercial fishery in 2019, including Select Areas, is about 25 summer Chinook.
- The preseason forecast for sockeye is 94,400 fish. Non-treaty fisheries downstream of the Snake River are managed for an impact limit of  $\leq 1\%$  of the run ( $\leq 944$  fish). Commission guidance allocates the harvestable share approximately 80% to recreational fisheries and the balance to commercial fisheries. Due to projected low returns (primarily Lake Wenatchee stock), retention of sockeye will be prohibited in recreational fisheries throughout the Columbia River.

### Management Intent for Fall Season Fisheries

- This fishery plan reflects the intent of the Washington and Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission policies/regulations and the management objective to optimize non-treaty commercial and recreational fisheries while remaining within the limitations of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Commission guidance allocates fall Chinook ESA impacts of no more than 70% recreational and no less than 30% commercial of the most constraining stock and allows the use of gillnets in Zones 4/5. In addition, the OR Policy limits use of commercial ESA impacts for alternative gears to 2% (6.7% of the 30%) of the most constraining stock.

- This fishery plan was developed during the 2019 Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) and North of Falcon (NOF) meetings in March and April, which included input from the Columbia River Advisory Groups and other members of the public.
- Management objectives for Columbia River fisheries include maximizing the harvest of fall Chinook and hatchery coho, while remaining within the limits for all ESA-listed stocks.
- The non-treaty fishery conservation responsibility for ESA-listed salmon and steelhead is shared between recreational and commercial fisheries.
  - The preseason forecast, after ocean fisheries, for Upriver Bright fall Chinook (URB) at the Columbia River mouth is 159,250 adult fish and includes 8,600 Snake River wild fall Chinook (SRW). Based on these forecasts, the allowed harvest rate (HR) limit on SRW Chinook for Columbia River non-treaty fisheries is 8.25%; however, preseason fishery modelling did not fully allocate the allowed HR due to SRW overages occurring in non-treaty fisheries the past two years. The HR anticipated for in-river fisheries occurring prior to an URB run-size update is 6.6%. The URB run-size update typically occurs in mid-September. Additional fishing opportunity is planned if the URB run-size is projected to meet or exceed preseason expectations.
- Based on the preseason forecast, the ESA impact for Lower Columbia River (LCR) wild tules is limited to a 38% exploitation rate (ER), which is shared between ocean and in-river fisheries. The total ER is expected to be 35.9%, with 27.8% ER for ocean fisheries and 8.1% for in-river fisheries.
- Total preseason shares of LCR tule impacts for Columbia River fisheries are expected to be 80% recreational and 20% commercial. Shares for URB/SRW impacts are expected to be ≤70% recreational and ≥30% commercial and are considered the more constraining stock.
- The preseason coho forecast is approximately 611,400 adults to the Columbia River. The ESA impact limitation for Lower Columbia River natural (LCN) coho is a 23.0% ER, which includes ocean and in-river fisheries. The total ER is expected to be 18.0%, with Columbia River fisheries accruing 4.2%, or 23% of the total.

#### Fall Preseason Fishery Expectations

- The fall fishery expectations outlined in this fishery plan are based on the Chinook Model Run “MR2019 - Preseason\_Buffer\_FINAL\_04-26-19 Chin2719.xlsx.
- Catch estimates are primarily based on stock-specific preseason abundance forecasts and prior-year stock-specific harvest rates.
- Given the reduced URB fall Chinook forecast and associated harvest rate, recreational fisheries cannot meet season objectives based on preseason modeling. Area-specific recreational Chinook retention seasons were based on recent-year (2013-2017) observed average URB harvest shares:
  - Buoy 10 – 30.4%
  - Rocky Point/Tongue Point to Lewis/Warrior Rock – 23.6%
  - Lewis/Warrior Rock to Bonneville – 37.7%
  - Bonneville Dam to Highway 395 – 8.3%
- In-season management decisions by the Columbia River Compact/Joint States for commercial and recreational fall-season fisheries will be based on the 2018-2027 *U.S. v. Oregon* Management Agreement, and the state commissions’ policies/regulations.

- Catch expectations (including release mortalities) for adult fall Chinook in mainstem fisheries (excluding tributary and Hanford recreational, and Select Area commercial fisheries) are 20,100 adults in recreational fisheries (68%) and 9,300 adults in commercial fisheries (32%), respectively.
- Harvest, season structures, and impacts accrued will be influenced by actual fall Chinook abundances and stock-specific harvest rates in each respective fishery.
- The upriver summer steelhead forecast is well below average and similar to 2017. To limit overall impacts on steelhead, retention closures are scheduled to occur in the mainstem Columbia River and lower reaches of select tributaries. Additionally, the daily bag limit for hatchery steelhead will be one fish effective July 1 and there will be a night-fishing closure in effect for salmonids.

Goals/expectations for fall recreational fisheries include:

- The Buoy 10 recreational fishery will begin on August 1 with a two salmon daily limit through August 20. The daily limit may not include more than one Chinook, and wild coho and all steelhead must be released.
  - From August 21-31, Chinook and steelhead retention is closed. The daily limit is two adult hatchery coho.
  - From September 1 through December 31, Chinook retention remains closed. The daily bag limit is two adult salmonids (hatchery steelhead and hatchery coho only), and may not include more than one steelhead.
  - Total harvest expectations include 13,490 Chinook, (1.45% URB/SRW harvest rate, 5.92% LCR wild ER), and up to 57,500 coho mortalities.
- The mainstem recreational fishery from the Rocky Point/Tongue Point line upstream to Bonneville Dam will be open August 1 through December 31, but Chinook retention seasons vary by river section based on area-specific sub-allocations for URB Chinook.
  - From the Rocky Point/Tongue Point line upstream to west Puget Island, Chinook retention will be allowed August 1 through August 20. The daily adult limit is one salmonid through August 20. Beginning August 21, Chinook retention closes but the daily adult limit will increase to two hatchery salmonids through December 31 (except all steelhead must be released in August).
  - From west Puget Island upstream to the Lewis River/Warrior Rock line, Chinook retention will be allowed August 1 through August 27. The daily adult limit is one salmonid through August 27. Beginning August 28, Chinook retention closes but the daily adult limit will increase to two hatchery salmonids through December 31 (except all steelhead must be released in August).
  - From the Lewis River/Warrior Rock line upstream to Bonneville Dam, the fishery will be open for Chinook retention August 1 through September 8 with a one adult salmonid daily limit. Beginning September 9, Chinook retention closes but the daily adult limit will increase to two hatchery salmonids through December 31 (except all steelhead must be released in August).
  - For all fisheries, the daily adult salmonid limit may not include more than one hatchery steelhead September 1 through December 31.
  - Harvest (including release mortality) expectations include 4,890 adult Chinook (2.43% URB/SRW harvest rate, 0.23% LCR wild ER).

- The mainstem recreational fishery from Bonneville Dam upstream to the Highway 395 Bridge in Pasco, Washington will begin on August 1 with a one salmonid daily adult limit. The fishery will be managed in-season based on actual catches and the URB run size. Based on the preseason URB forecast, this fishery will be managed for total of 2,770 adult Chinook mortalities. The daily adult salmonid limit may not include more than one hatchery steelhead in areas where steelhead is open to retention. The following areas are closed to steelhead retention during the specified periods:
  - Bonneville Dam upstream to John Day Dam August 1-31,
  - The Dalles Dam upstream to John Day Dam September 1-30,
  - John Day Dam upstream to McNary Dam September 1 through October 31,
  - McNary Dam upstream to Highway 395 at Pasco, Washington October 1 through November 31.
- During fall fisheries (August 1 through December 31) from Buoy 10 upstream to the OR/WA border (upstream of McNary Dam) each legal angler aboard a vessel may continue to deploy angling gear until the daily adult salmonid limit for all anglers aboard has been achieved.
- Barbless hooks are not required when fishing for salmonids.
- The dates, area restrictions, and catch expectations described above are based on preseason planning and input from the recreational fishing community. In-season events may change many of these expectations, including increasing the coho daily limit after the URB runsize update.

Goals/expectations for fall commercial fisheries include:

- The August (Early Fall) fishery is modeled to begin during the week of August 11-17 and is expected to continue into the week of August 25-August 31, with fishing periods 1-2 days per week, with Monday and Wednesday night openings expected. As with the recreational fisheries, URB fall Chinook are the most constraining stock. Fishery structure is expected to include 9-hour (9 PM – 6 AM) periods in Zones 4-5 with a 9-inch minimum mesh size. The harvest expectation includes 8,020 adult Chinook (1.90% SRW harvest rate; 1.01% LCR wild ER). Additional fishing period(s) with reduced area or hours may be considered to meet harvest guidelines.
- Commercial fisheries in September and October will be contingent on the results of the August fishery and in-season run size updates.
- Potential commercial periods in September would occur in the latter half of the month in Zones 4-5. Periods would likely be 10-hours (8 PM – 6 AM) with a 9-inch minimum mesh restriction. Commercial fishing periods targeting hatchery coho using 3.75-inch tangle nets may occur in October. The fishery would occur during daylight hours in Zones 1-3. Based on preseason forecasts, approximately 30,500 hatchery coho are expected to be harvested in commercial coho-directed fisheries. The adult Chinook incidental harvest expectation is 670 fish (0.26% SRW harvest rate; 0.11% LCR wild ER).
- The dates, areas, gear restrictions, and catch expectations described above are based on preseason planning and input from the commercial fishing industry. In-season events may change many of these expectations.

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

# Columbia River Fall Chinook Fishery Model Summary

Ocean Option: **Chin2719** 26-Apr-19  
 Columbia River Model Option: **Model** **2019 Final Preseason-Buffer - Chin2719**

**2019 Final Preseason-Buffer - Chin2719**

Management Guidelines				Non-Treaty Catch Sharing						
Goal/Guideline	SRW	Total URB		SRW - IMPACTS			Brights - Mainstem			
Harvest Rate	31.25%	25.01%	25.01%	Sport	Impact	Percent	Sport	Mortalities	Percent	Harvest
Non-Treaty	8.25%	<b>6.58%</b>	<b>6.58%</b>	Comm	5.77%	70%	Comm	11,900	70%	11,900
Treaty	23.0%	18.4%	18.4%		2.48%	30%		5,000	30%	5,000
<b>% of Harvestable Surplus</b>				<b>LRH - Impacts</b>			<b>Chinook - Mainstem</b>			
		<b>Total</b>		Sport	Impact	Percent	Sport	Mortalities	Percent	Harvest
Non-Treaty	50%	30%		Comm	6.45%	80%	Comm	20,100	68%	20,100
Treaty	50%	34%			1.60%	20%		9,300	32%	9,300
McNary Escapement	60,000	110,100		<b>SRW Pre-update IMPACTS</b>			<b>SRW% Set Aside</b>			
LRH Ocean/Inriver Exp. Rate	38%	35.81%			Impact	Percent	20%	Aggregate		
Non-Treaty Wild B Index Steelhead	2%	2%		Sport	4.57%	70%	21%	Sport		
Treaty Total B Index Steelhead	13%	13%		Comm	2.01%	30%	19%	Comm		
Upriver Coho to Bonneville Dam	50%	63%								
Lower Columbia Chum	5%	0.17%								

				Total	LRH	LRW	BPH	URB	LRB	PUB	SAB	SRW	LRH ER	SRW HR
<b>Ocean Harvest</b>				53,860	11,280	5,190	12,560	17,310	860	6,660				
<b>Columbia River Run</b>				349,680	55,090	14,110	48,420	159,250	7,910	61,810	3,100	8,600	8.0%	6.4%
				<b>2019 Fisheries</b>										
<b>Harvest Below Bonneville</b>				<b>Fishery Description</b>										
Zone 4-5 Wk 33			Aug 11-17	280	10	0	70	170	0	20	0	10	0.01%	0.11%
Zone 4-5 Wk 34			Aug 18-24	3,210	350	0	1,290	1,200	20	350	10	60	0.39%	0.75%
Zone 4-5 Wk 35			Aug 25-31	4,530	490	20	1,720	1,670	40	590	10	90	0.60%	1.05%
Sept Z 4-5 Wk38-Wk40		Placeholder	Sept 15-28	590	60	10	150	240	30	110	0	10	0.08%	0.15%
Oct Coho Tanglenet		October	Coho target	670	80	60	10	410	0	110	0	20	0.11%	0.26%
Select Areas			Full Season	6,240	4,050	0	260	270	0	90	1,580	10	0.40%	0.17%
Buoy 10 Kept + Morts	2 fish/1 CK	nMSF Aug 1-20	+Aug 20 coho*	13,490	4,520	430	3,350	2,310	80	620	1,100	120	5.92%	1.45%
TP to Lewis	1 fish/2 fish >8/27	nMSF Aug 1-27, CK clsd <Puget I. Aug 2		1,570	30	0	10	1,400	10	90	10	80	0.05%	0.88%
Lewis to Bonn	1 fish/2 fish >9/8	nMSF Aug 1-Sept 8	+Sept 8 coho	3,320	120	0	170	2,470	170	390	0	130	0.18%	1.55%
Tributary Sport	MSF		Full season	3,550	2,300	1,240	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.30%	0.00%
<b>Lower River Total</b>				<b>36,360</b>	<b>12,020</b>	<b>1,770</b>	<b>7,030</b>	<b>10,120</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>2,360</b>	<b>2,710</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>8.05%</b>	<b>6.36%</b>
Bonneville Dam Passage				228,610			36,880	149,130		42,600		8,050		
<b>Harvest Above Bonneville</b>														
Zone 6 - Bonn to Hwy 395	1 Salmonid			2,770				1,100		1,670		60		0.69%
Treaty Comm. and C&S			Average season	64,200			21,300	29,300		13,600		1,580		18.4%
Hanford Reach Sport			Average season	7,360				7,360				0		
McNary Dam Passage				110,070				110,070						
Lower Granite Dam Passage												6,453		
<b>Escapement</b>				43,070			15,580		7,550	27,330	27,330	390		
Hatchery				26,780			12,200			11,460	14,070	240		
Natural				16,290	12,340	3,380	110,070	7,550	15,870	15,870	150			
Hatchery Surplus				12,800			5,200			11,460	240			
Natural Surplus					5,608	2,080	50,070							