
COLUMBIA RIVER ACTION NOTICE

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

February 13, 2024

The following action was taken:

Select Area Commercial Fisheries

2024 Blind Slough and Knappa Slough Select Areas

Winter Season:

The winter Blind Slough and Knappa Slough seasons include 22 fishing periods from February 15 through April 12 as described below:

Blind Slough and Knappa Slough open:

7 PM to 7 AM Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights February 15 – March 22 (16 nights)

7 PM to 7 AM Monday and Thursday nights March 25 – April 12 (6 nights)

Spring Season:

The spring Blind Slough and Knappa Slough seasons include 31 fishing periods from April 16 through June 14 as described below:

Blind Slough and Knappa Slough open:

7 PM to 7 AM Tuesday and Thursday nights April 16 – 19 (2 nights)

7 PM to 7 AM Monday and Thursday nights April 22 – 26 (2 nights)

7 PM to 7 AM Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights April 29 – May 3 (3 nights)

7 PM to 7 AM Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights May 6 – June 14 (24 nights)

Summer Season:

The summer Blind Slough and Knappa Slough seasons include 15 fishing periods from June 17 through July 19 as described below:

Blind Slough and Knappa Slough open:

7 PM to 7 AM Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights June 17 – July 19 (15 nights)

Area:

The Blind Slough Select Area is defined as waters of Blind Slough and Gnat Creek from a north-south line represented by regulatory markers at the mouth of Blind Slough upstream to a regulatory marker in Gnat Creek located approximately 0.5 miles southeasterly (upstream) of the Barendse Road Bridge.

The Knappa Slough Select Area is defined as waters of Knappa Slough, Calendar Slough, and Big Creek Slough bounded to the north (upstream) by a line projecting from a regulatory marker on the eastern shore of Karlson Island to the northernmost regulatory marker at the mouth of Blind Slough and bounded to the west (downstream) by a line projecting southerly from a regulatory marker on the southwestern tip of Karlson Island through regulatory markers on the western tips of Minaker Island to a marker on the Oregon shore.

The waters of Knappa Slough within a 100-foot radius of the railroad bridge crossing Big Creek are closed.

Through May 3 the downstream (western) boundary in Knappa Slough is a north-south line projecting through the easternmost tip of Minaker Island and regulatory markers on Karlson Island and the Oregon shore.

Gear:	<p><u>Gear restrictions as follows:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winter season: 7-inch minimum mesh size restriction. • Spring and Summer seasons: 9¾-inch maximum mesh size restriction. • The maximum net length is 600 feet (100 fathoms). • There is no lead line weight limit and attachment of additional weight or anchors directly to the lead line is permitted. • Nets not specifically authorized for use may be onboard a vessel if properly stored. A properly stored net is defined as a net on a drum that is fully covered by a tarp (canvas or plastic) and bound with a minimum of ten revolutions of rope with a diameter of 3/8 (0.375) inches or greater.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon (except Chum) and shad.
Misc. Regulations:	<p>Permanent regulations related to transportation and lighted buoys remain in effect.</p> <p>24-hour quick reporting required for Washington buyers, pursuant to WAC 220-352-315. Oregon buyers are required to submit fish receiving tickets electronically pursuant to OAR 635-006-0210. Electronic fish tickets must be submitted within 24 hours of closure of the fishing period, or within 24 hours of landing for fishing periods lasting more than 24 hours.</p>

2024 Tongue Point/South Channel Select Areas

Winter Season:	<p>The winter Tongue Point and South Channel seasons include 22 fishing periods from February 15 through April 12 as described below:</p> <p><u>Tongue Point and South Channel open:</u> 7 PM to 7 AM Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights February 15 – March 8 (10 nights)</p> <p><u>Tongue Point open:</u> 8 PM to Midnight Sunday March 10 (4 hours) 9 PM Tuesday March 12 to 1 AM Wednesday March 13 (4 hours) 10:30 PM Thursday March 14 to 2:30 AM Friday March 15 (4 hours) 1:30 AM to 5:30 AM Monday March 18 (4 hours) 4 AM to 8 AM Wednesday March 20 (4 hours)</p> <p><u>South Channel open:</u> 7 PM to 7 AM Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights March 10 – March 22 (6 nights) 8 PM to Midnight Monday March 25 (4 hours) 9 PM Thursday March 28 to 1 AM Friday March 29 (4 hours) 8 PM to Midnight Monday April 1 (4 hours) 11 PM Thursday April 4 to 3 AM Friday April 5 (4 hours) 7:30 PM to 11:30 PM Monday April 8 (4 hours) 9:30 PM Thursday April 11 to 1:30 AM Friday April 12 (4 hours)</p>
Spring Season:	<p>The spring Tongue Point and South Channel seasons include 31 fishing periods from April 16 through June 14 as described below:</p> <p><u>South Channel open:</u> 9 PM Tuesday April 16 to 1 AM Wednesday April 17 (4 hours) 11 PM Thursday April 18 to 3 AM Friday April 19 (4 hours)</p>

Tongue Point and South Channel open:

7 PM to 7 AM Monday and Thursday nights April 22 – 26 (2 nights)

7 PM to 7 AM Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights April 29 – May 3 (3 nights)

7 PM to 7 AM Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights May 6 – June 14 (24 nights)

Summer Season:

The summer Tongue Point and South Channel seasons include 15 fishing periods from June 17 through July 19 as described below:

Tongue Point and South Channel open:

7 PM to 7 AM Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights June 17 – July 19 (15 nights)

Area:

The Tongue Point Winter-Spring Subarea is defined as waters of the Columbia River bounded by a line from the end of the southern-most pier (#1) at the Tongue Point Job Corps facility projecting in a straight line through flashing red USCG light “6” to the shore of Mott Island, a line from a regulatory marker at the southeast end of Mott Island northeasterly to a regulatory marker on the northwest shore of Lois Island, and a line from a regulatory marker located on the Oregon shore approximately 300 yards northwest of the railroad bridge crossing the John Day River projecting easterly to a regulatory marker on the southwest shore of Lois Island. If the marker on the Oregon shore is not in place, the upper boundary is defined by a line projecting easterly from a point (46°10'57.7"N latitude 123°44'35.3"W longitude) on the Oregon shore approximately 300 yards northwest of the railroad bridge crossing the John Day River to a regulatory marker on the southwest shore of Lois Island.

For summer fisheries, the open waters include the entire Tongue Point Select Area as described in OAR 635-042-0170(1)(a) and WAC 220-301-010 (11)(c). If the marker on the eastern shore of Tongue Point is not in place, the downstream boundary is defined by a line projecting from a point (46°12'31.1"N latitude 123°45'34.0"W longitude) on the eastern shore of Tongue Point to the flashing green USCG light “3” on the rock jetty at the northwest tip of Mott Island.

The South Channel Select Area is defined as waters of the Columbia River bounded by a line from a regulatory marker on the Oregon shore at John Day Point projecting northeasterly to a regulatory marker on the southwest shore of Lois Island, and a line from a regulatory marker on Settler Point projecting northwesterly to the flashing red USCG light “10” then projecting westerly to the eastern tip of Burnside Island.

Gear:

Gear restrictions as follows:

- Winter season: 7-inch minimum mesh size restriction
- Spring and Summer seasons: 9¾-inch maximum mesh size restriction
- The maximum net length is 1,500 feet (250 fathoms).
- In the Tongue Point winter-spring subarea and the Tongue Point Select Area, the lead line weight may not exceed two pounds per any one fathom.
- In the South Channel Select Area, there is no lead line weight limit and attachment of additional weight and anchors directly to the lead line is permitted.
- Nets not specifically authorized for use may be onboard a vessel if properly stored, however, unstored gillnets legal for use in South Channel may be onboard. A properly stored net is defined as a net on a drum that is fully covered by a tarp (canvas or plastic) and bound with a minimum of ten revolutions of rope with a diameter of 3/8 (0.375) inches or greater.

Allowable Sales: Salmon (except Chum) and shad.

Misc. Regulations: Permanent regulations related to transportation and lighted buoys remain in effect. 24-hour quick reporting required for Washington buyers, pursuant to WAC 220-352-315. Oregon buyers are required to submit fish receiving tickets electronically pursuant to OAR 635-006-0210. Electronic fish tickets must be submitted within 24 hours of closure of the fishing period, or within 24 hours of landing for fishing periods lasting more than 24 hours.

2024 Youngs Bay Select Area

Winter Season: The winter Youngs Bay season includes 22 fishing periods from February 15 through April 4 as described below:

Youngs Bay open:

6 AM to 6 PM (12 hours) Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday February 15 – 29 (9 periods)

6 AM to 6 PM (12 hours) Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday March 4 – 7 (3 periods)

7:30 AM to 11:30 AM Monday March 11 (4 hours)

9 AM to 1 PM Wednesday March 13 (4 hours)

10 AM to 2 PM Thursday March 14 (4 hours)

2:30 PM to 6:30 PM Monday March 18 (4 hours)

4:30 PM to 8:30 PM Wednesday March 20 (4 hours)

Upper Youngs Bay Area open:

5 PM to 9 PM Thursday March 21 (4 hours)

7 AM to 11 AM Monday March 25 (4 hours)

8:30 AM to 12:30 PM Thursday March 28 (4 hours)

Noon to 4 PM Monday April 1 (4 hours)

3:30 PM to 7:30 PM Thursday April 4 (4 hours)

Spring Season: The spring Youngs Bay season includes 12 fishing periods from April 18 through June 14 as described below:

Upper Youngs Bay Area open:

3:30 PM to 7:30 PM Thursday April 18 (4 hours)

6 PM to 10 PM Monday April 22 (4 hours)

Youngs Bay open:

7:30 AM to 11:30 AM Thursday April 25 (4 hours)

10:30 AM to 2:30 PM Monday April 29 (4 hours)

12:30 PM to 4:30 PM Wednesday May 1 (4 hours)

1:30 PM to 5:30 PM Thursday May 2 (4 hours)

6 AM Mondays – 9 AM Fridays from May 6 through June 14 (4+ continuous days/wk; 24 days total)

Summer Season:

The summer Youngs Bay season includes 7 fishing periods from June 17 through July 31 as described below:

6 AM Mondays – 9 AM Fridays from June 17 through July 19 (4+ continuous days/wk; 20 days total)

6 AM Tuesday July 23 – Noon Thursday July 25 (54 hours)

6 AM Tuesday July 30 – Noon Wednesday July 31 (30 hours)

Area:

The Youngs Bay Select Area is defined as waters of Youngs Bay and Youngs River southeasterly of the Highway 101 Bridge upstream to the regulatory marker(s) at the confluence of the Klaskanine and Youngs rivers, including the Walluski River downstream of the Highway 202 Bridge, and the Lewis and Clark River north (downstream) of the overhead power lines (approximately 500 feet south (upstream) of Barrett Slough). During the winter season, the upstream boundary in the Lewis and Clark River is the Alternate Highway 101 Bridge (Lewis and Clark Bridge).

The Upper Youngs Bay Area includes all waters within the Youngs Bay Select Area upstream of the old Youngs Bay Bridge.

Gear:

Gear restrictions as follows:

- Winter season: 7-inch minimum mesh size restriction
- Spring and Summer seasons: 9¾-inch maximum mesh size restriction
- The maximum net length is 1,500 feet (250 fathoms).
- Lead line weight may not exceed two pounds per any one fathom, except additional weights or anchors attached directly to the lead line is permitted in these areas:
 - Youngs River upstream of regulatory markers located approximately 200 yards southerly (upstream) of the mouth of the Walluski River.
 - In the lower Walluski River from the first dock near the mouth upstream to the Highway 202 Bridge.
 - In the Lewis and Clark River from the Alternate Highway 101 Bridge upstream to the overhead power lines (approximately 500 feet southerly (upstream) of Barrett Slough).
- A red cork must be placed on the corkline every 25 fathoms as measured from the first mesh of the net. Red corks at 25-fathom intervals must be in color contrast to the corks used in the remainder of the net.
- Nets not specifically authorized for use may be onboard a vessel if properly stored. A properly stored net is defined as a net on a drum that is fully covered by a tarp (canvas or plastic) and bound with a minimum of ten revolutions of rope with a diameter of 3/8 (0.375) inches or greater.

Allowable Sales:

Salmon (except Chum) and shad.

Misc. Regulations:

Permanent regulations related to transportation and lighted buoys remain in effect.

Oregon buyers are required to submit fish receiving tickets electronically pursuant to OAR 635-006-0210. Electronic fish tickets must be submitted within 24 hours of closure of the fishing period, or within 24 hours of landing for fishing periods lasting more than 24 hours.

2024 Deep River Select Area

Winter Season: The winter Deep River season includes 22 fishing periods from February 15 through April 12 as described below:

7 PM to 9 AM Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights February 15 – March 22 (16 nights)

7 PM to 9 AM Monday and Thursday nights March 25 – April 12 (6 nights)

Spring Season: The spring Deep River season includes 31 fishing periods from April 16 through June 14 as described below:

7 PM to 9 AM Tuesday and Thursday nights April 16 – 19 (2 nights)

7 PM to 9 AM Monday and Thursday nights April 22 – 26 (2 nights)

7 PM to 9 AM Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights April 29 – May 3 (3 nights)

7 PM to 9 AM Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights May 6 – June 14 (24 nights)

Area: From the mouth of Deep River defined as a line from USCG navigation marker #16 southwest to a marker on the Washington shore, upstream to the Highway 4 Bridge.

Gear restrictions as follows:

- Gear:**
- Winter season: 7-inch minimum mesh size restriction.
 - Spring season: 9¾-inch maximum mesh size restriction.
 - The maximum net length is 600 feet (100 fathoms).
 - There is no lead line weight limit and attachment of additional weight or anchors directly to the lead line is permitted.
 - Nets may not fully cross navigation channel. It is unlawful to operate in any river, stream or channel any gill net longer than three-fourths the width of the stream (WAC 220-354-010). It shall be unlawful in any area to use, operate, or carry aboard a commercial fishing vessel a licensed net or combination of such nets, whether fished singly or separately, in excess of the maximum lawful size or length prescribed for a single net in that area, except as otherwise provided for in the rules and regulations of the department rule (WAC 220-353-060).
 - Nets not specifically authorized for use may be onboard a vessel if properly stored. A properly stored net is defined as a net on a drum that is fully covered by a tarp (canvas or plastic) and bound with a minimum of ten revolutions of rope with a diameter of 3/8 (0.375) inches or greater.

Allowable Sales: Salmon (except Chum) and shad.

Misc. Regulations: Transportation or possession of fish outside the fishing area (except to the sampling station) is unlawful until WDFW staff has biologically sampled individual catches. After sampling, fishers will be issued a transportation permit by WDFW staff. Winter and Spring seasons: fishers are required to call 360-798-8098 to confirm the place and time of sampling. 24-hour quick reporting required for Washington buyers, pursuant to WAC 220-352-315. Oregon buyers are required to submit fish receiving tickets electronically pursuant to OAR 635-006-0210. Electronic fish tickets must be submitted within 24 hours of closure of the fishing period, or within 24 hours of landing for fishing periods lasting more than 24 hours.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- A hybrid Joint State Hearing is scheduled for 10 AM Wednesday February 21, 2024 to consider mainstem Columbia River recreational spring Chinook and Zone 6 recreational white sturgeon fisheries. The meeting will be held at the City of Vancouver Water Resources Education Center located at: 4600 SE Columbia Way, Vancouver, WA 98661. A teleconference call-in option will be available.