
COLUMBIA RIVER ACTION NOTICE

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

March 13, 2024

The following action was taken:

2024 John Day Pool Recreational White Sturgeon Fishery

Effective 11:59 PM Thursday, March 14 the retention of sturgeon is prohibited in the mainstem Columbia River from John Day Dam upstream to McNary Dam (John Day Pool) and all adjacent tributaries.

2024 Mainstem Commercial Smelt Fishery

Season: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays (5 AM to 5 PM) March 18 through March 28 (6 periods)
Area: Zones 1-3
Gear: Gillnet only. Mesh size may not exceed two inches stretch measure. Nets may not exceed 1,500 feet in length along the cork line.

Allowable Sales: Smelt

Misc. Regulations: Multiple net rule in effect. Nets not specifically authorized for use in this fishery may be onboard the 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.

24-hour quick reporting required for Washington buyers, pursuant to WAC 220-352-315.

Oregon buyers are required to electronically submit fish receiving tickets 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

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