

Columbia River

2024 Adult Returns and 2025 Expectations

December 20, 2024

(all information is preliminary and subject to change)

	2024 Results	2025 Expectations
Willamette Spring Chinook	48,800 forecasted adult return to CR (19% wild) 37,737 actual adult return (77% of forecast; 26% wild) 1,161 jack return (70% of 5-yr avg. of 1,662 jacks) 36,254 adult return to Willamette R 21,989 adult/603 jack count at Willamette Falls 8,971 total return (8,481 adult) to Clackamas R	51,200 CR adult return, including 36,600 hatchery-origin fish +1,800 jacks 9,800 adults to Clackamas R
Sandy River	7,700 forecasted adult CR return; 5,358 adult CR return	7,300 CR return
Cowlitz River	4,700 forecasted adult CR return vs. 8,983 actual to CR	13,700 CR return
Kalama River	1,900 forecasted adult CR return vs. 2,474 actual to CR	3,000 CR return
Lewis River	3,400 forecasted adult CR return vs. 2,722 actual to CR	3,200 CR return
Wind River	4,200 forecasted adult tributary return vs. 4,604 actual	4,900 to tributary
Drano (LWS)	5,300 forecasted adult tributary return vs. 7,863 actual	7,600 to tributary
Klickitat	1,300 forecasted adult tributary return vs. 491 actual	1,200 to tributary
Upriver Spring Chinook	121,000 forecasted adult return 116,332 actual (96% of forecast) 16,063 jacks @BON (98% of 10-yr avg.)	122,500 forecasted ~88% of 10-yr avg. return
Upper Columbia Summer Chinook	52,600 forecasted adult return 42,511 actual (81% of forecast; 61% of 10-yr avg. return) 6,908 BON jacks (74% of 10-yr avg.) Adult mark rate ~74% @ BON	38,000 forecasted 29,000 escapement goal (at CR mouth)
Sockeye	401,700 forecasted adult return 761,682 actual (190% of forecast)	350,200 total CR return 3,100 Snake R stock
Upriver Summer Steelhead	126,200 forecasted return at BON 179,154 @ BON (142% of forecast; 76% of 20-yr avg. return)	TBD
Bright Fall Chinook	336,900 forecasted adult return Preliminary return higher than forecast	TBD
Tule Fall Chinook	214,800 forecasted adult return Preliminary BPH return similar to forecast. LRH - TBD	TBD
Coho	279,900 forecasted adult return	TBD
Shad	3.2 million minimum run vs. 10-yr avg. of 4.7 million	TBD
Smelt	2024 spawning stock biomass return ~10.4 million pounds, higher than 10-year average of 8.6 million pounds.	Run expected to be less than 2024 and likely lower than 10-year average return
White Sturgeon (Lower Columbia River)	TBD - Stock assessment analyses to be completed in late December 2024.	TBD

White Sturgeon (BON-MCN reservoirs)	Stock assessment done for Bonneville Pool in 2024. Results expected in January 2025.	Stock assessment work will be done in John Day Pool.
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Recreational Fisheries

	2024 Results	2025 Expectations
Spring Season downstream of BON	<p>Chinook open: Jan–Feb: B10–I-5 Bridge, perm. regs (7 d/wk, 2 adult hatchery Chinook bag) Mar 1 – Apr 11: B10–BON, bank only from Beacon R to BON; 2 adult fish/1 hatchery Chinook bag May 17-19, 24-27, and Jun 1-15: TP–BON; through Jun 7 bank only from Beacon R to BON; 2 fish/1 hatchery Chinook bag</p> <p>Steelhead opened May 16 downstream of the I-5 Bridge per perm. regs. Hatchery steelhead also open when/where Chinook open.</p> <p>73,976 angler trips 5,705 adult Chinook kept (1,100 rel) 2,762 STH kept (634 rel); 224 sockeye rel</p>	Season TBD
Spring Season upstream of BON	<p>Chinook open: Apr 1-29 and Jun 8-15: BON–OR/WA state line (upstream of MCN), bank only from BON to Tower Is. power lines; 2 adult fish/1 hatchery Chinook bag</p> <p>5,001 angler trips; 1,463 adult Chinook kept (217 rel), no STH handled, 83 sockeye rel</p>	Season TBD
Spring Season lower Snake River (WA waters)	IH section open May 8-9; LGO open May 7, 10; ~1,000 angler trips; 784 adult Chinook kept (77 wild and zero hatchery rel)	Season TBD
Summer Season	<p>Chinook open Jun 16-19, STH & SOK open Jun 16-27: Astoria Br. to BON; 2 adult fish/1 STH bag (hatchery Chinook and STH only) Jun 28–Jul 31: 1 hatchery STH/hatchery Chinook jacks open 34,996 angler trips 798 adult Chinook kept (670 rel) 4,143 SOK kept (400 rel) 3,957 STH kept (2,860 rel)</p>	Season TBD at NOF/PFMC
Summer Season BON to Hwy 395 Br. (Pasco, WA)	<p>Chinook open Jun 16-30, STH & SOK open Jun 16-27 2 adult fish/1 STH bag (hatchery Chinook and STH only); Jun 28-30, 2 fish/1 STH bag (hatchery Chinook and STH only); Jul 1-31, 1 hatchery STH/hatchery Chinook jacks open 2,161 angler trips 20 adult Chinook (24 jks), 485 SOK, 0 STH kept 22 adult Chinook, 126 SOK, 21 STH released</p>	Season TBD at NOF/PFMC
Summer Season Hwy 395 Br. to PRD	<p>Chinook/SOK open Jun 16–Jul 2; SOK open Jul 3–Aug 15; 2 hatchery Chinook, 4 SOK STH closed 12,660 angler trips; 94 adult Chinook, 7,372 SOK kept 30 Chinook, 11 SOK, 59 STH released (H+W)</p>	Season TBD at NOF/PFMC

Summer Season Upstream of PRD	Chinook open with MSF regs in various locations (including tribbs), Jul 1–Aug 15, 2 hatchery Chinook and 4 SOK; Aug 16–Sep 26, 4 SOK, Sep 27–Oct 15 (SOK, Chinook, Coho) 42,687 angler trips; 3,320 adult Chinook, 89,905 SOK kept 574 Chinook, 38 SOK, 74 STH released	Season TBD at NOF/PFMC
Fall Season Buoy 10 to WPI	Chinook open Aug 1–Sep 3, 2 fish/1 CHF, Sep 12–Dec 31, (Aug 1-29 MSF); Sep 4-11, 2 Coho; Sep 12–Oct 31, 3 fish/1 CHF; Nov 1–Dec 31, 2 fish/1 CHF STH retention closed Aug–Oct Total angler trips 101,200 (MSF=70,100, nMSF=31,100) 18,394 Chinook kept – 11 th highest since 1982 (17,524 rel) 34,937 Coho kept (20,248 rel)	Season TBD at NOF/PFMC
Fall Season LCR	Chinook and Coho open WPI - Warrior R. Aug 1–Sep 4 nMSF; Sep 5-11 MSF; Sep 20–Dec 31 nMSF; 2 fish/1 CHF; closed Sep 12-19 (8d) Warrior R. - BON: Aug 1–Dec 31 nMSF; 2 fish/1 CHF STH retention closed Aug–Oct 117,900 angler trips Aug–Oct; highest since 2016 (8 th highest since 1980) 31,850 adult Chinook kept; highest since 2014 (3 rd highest since 1980), 3 rd highest CPUE; 4,376 rel (2,389 during MSF) 6,135 Coho kept (highest on record); 2,506 rel 0 STH kept (1,215 rel)	Season TBD at NOF/PFMC
Fall Season BON – Hwy 395	Chinook and Coho open Aug 1–Dec 31, 2 fish/1 CHF bag; STH closed Aug–Oct BON Pool and Sep–Oct TD/JD/MN pools 44,507 angler trips Aug–Dec 31; 11,213 adult Chinook kept (2 nd highest since 2015), 3,572 rel 5,186 Coho kept (787 rel); 13 hatchery STH kept (300 rel)	Season TBD at NOF/PFMC
Fall Season Hanford Reach	Fall Chinook open Aug 16–Dec 31; 6 fish/1 adult 22,200 angler trips 10,197 adult and 938 jack Chinook kept; 102 Coho kept	Season TBD at NOF/PFMC
Sturgeon LCR	No retention fishery in 2024.	TBD
Sturgeon BON-McNary	BO Pool: Jan 1 & 3 (M/W/Sa schedule); 692 kept (103% of guideline) TD Pool: Jan 1 & 3, Feb 14 & 18 (M/W/Sa schedule); 271 kept (99% of guideline) JD Pool: Jan 1–Mar 14, 96 kept (91% of guideline)	BO Pool: Jan 1-29 (W/Sa) TD Pool: Jan 1-29 (W/Sa) JD Pool: opens Jan 1 (perm rule)
Shad	LCR: 16,277 angler trips; 140,357 kept, 6,009 rel Lower Willamette R: 4,436 trips; 13,533 kept, 2,589 rel	Large abundance No changes to fishery
Smelt	Cowlitz R open for two days during 2024: February 15 (52,496 pounds landed) and March 5 (1,178 pounds landed). No fishery in Sandy R. during 2024.	TBD

Commercial Fisheries

	2024 Results	2025 Expectations
Columbia River mainstem		
Spring Season	One 12-hour period in Zones 1-5 on May 20 with tangle net gear and other standard live capture regulations; vessel landing limit in place. 42 marked CHS adults landed, estimated 17 unmarked released; 14 deliveries Additional periods recommended but not adopted	TBD
Summer Season	No fishery	TBD
August (Early Fall Season)	Zones 4-5; Aug 7-30, 9 periods, 9 hrs each; 9-inch min. mesh gillnet 17–63 deliveries per period 28,002 Chinook, 2,045 coho	TBD at NOF/PFMC; will be adopted at July Compact hearing
September/October (Late Fall Season)	Zones 1-3; Sep 16 – Oct 31, 33 periods ; tangle net gear and other standard live capture regulations 0–21 deliveries/period 5,101 marked coho and 1,345 Chinook landed; 2,559 unmarked coho released Zones 4-5; Sep 12 – Nov 1, 21 periods, 10-12 hrs each; 8-inch min. mesh gillnet 0–43 deliveries per period 17,235 Chinook, 1,742 coho	TBD at NOF/PFMC; tangle net fishery potentially adopted at July Compact hearing
Fall Season – Alternative Gear	Zones 1-3; Aug 8 – Oct 31, 60 periods, three selected fishers using seines only (beach/purse) with live capture regulations 88 kept marked Chinook and 11 marked coho landed; 39 unmarked Chinook, 11 unmarked coho, 16 steelhead, and 1 sturgeon released	TBD at NOF/PFMC; will be adopted at July Compact hearing
Shad	Area 2S fishery open 5/10 – 6/20 (perm regs) No landings or effort reported	Area 2S fishery (perm regs)
Smelt	Zones 1-3; Jan 24 – Mar 28; 29 periods, 12 hrs each 11,768 lbs landed	2025 Eulachon abundance expected to be less than 2024
Select Areas		
Winter/Spring	Above avg. season (164% of 5-yr avg.) Winter – 1,306 Chinook Spring – 11,131 Chinook, 9 Sockeye, 1 Coho	16,600 Select Area-origin spring Chinook forecasted vs 15,953 actual return in 2024 Season TBD (likely similar to 2024)
Summer	Above avg. season (161 of 5-yr avg.) 4,620 Chinook, 77 Sockeye	Season TBD (likely similar to 2024)
Fall	Above avg. season 11,561 Chinook (227% of 5-yr. avg.) 61,241 Coho (107% of 5-yr avg.)	Season TBD (structure expected to be similar to 2024)

2025 Columbia River Process Schedule (Preliminary Draft – Dates and Times are Tentative)

Jan 14	Columbia River Recreational Advisor Group Meeting • Sturgeon, smelt	WDFW - Ridgefield
Jan 14	Columbia River Commercial Advisor Group Meeting • Sturgeon, smelt	Rainier City Hall
Jan 16 10a - tentative	Columbia River Compact Hearing • Smelt, Treaty Winter Gillnet	Teleconference
TBD	Select Area Commercial Fisheries Public Meeting • 2024 results; 2025 season structure discussion	TBD
Feb 10 10a - tentative	Columbia River Compact Hearing • Select Area commercial, Treaty	Teleconference
Feb 10	Columbia River Recreational Advisor Group Meeting Spring Chinook	TBD
Feb 19 10a - tentative	Columbia River Joint State Hearing • Recreational Spring Chinook	TBD
TBD	Columbia River Commercial Advisor Group Meeting • TBD	TBD
TBD	NOF Forecast (WDFW) public meeting 2025 forecasts and fishing opportunities	TBD
Mar 5-11	Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) • Adopt initial 2025 ocean salmon options for public review	Vancouver, WA
TBD	Columbia River Recreational Advisor Group Meeting • NOF prep	TBD
Apr 3 - tentative	2025 Columbia River North of Falcon public meeting	WDFW - Ridgefield
TBD	Northeast of McNary (WDFW) – North of Falcon	TBD
TBD	PFMC Public Options Hearings Public input on 2025 season options	TBD
Apr 9-15	PFMC • Adopt 2025 final ocean salmon fishery regulations	San Jose, CA