

**Columbia River Recreational Advisor Group Meeting
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
17330 SE Evelyn St, Clackamas, OR
4:00 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. February 13, 2018**

AGENDA

Columbia River Recreational Advisor Group (CRRAG) Meeting	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome and Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Advisor Group members and Agency staff 	(5 minutes)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring Chinook Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2017 returns and 2018 forecasts ○ Summary of management guidelines ○ 2017 fisheries ○ 2018 preseason management guidelines ○ 2018 season modeling 	(80 minutes)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer Chinook Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2017 fisheries ○ 2018 preliminary outlook 	(15 minutes)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic requests from Advisors post-January meeting) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Night fishing ○ White sturgeon 	(10 minutes)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ March 14 – CRRAG: WA Columbia River policy review ○ March 19 – Columbia River North of Falcon public meeting 	(10 minutes)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General discussion 	(15 minutes)

<i>Columbia River Adult Salmon Returns: Actual and Forecasted*</i>				
		2017 Forecast	2017 Return	2018 Forecast
Spring Chinook	Total Spring Chinook	227,890	208,805	248,520
	Willamette River	38,090	50,774	53,820
	Sandy River**	3,600	8,100	5,400
	Select Areas**	4,900	15,210	12,300
	Cowlitz River**	17,100	14,000	5,150
	Kalama River**	3,100	2,500	1,450
	Lewis River**	700	2,400	3,700
	Lower River Total	67,490	92,284	81,020
	Wind River**	3,600	5,400	5,300
	Drano Lake**	7,500	8,900	10,200
	Hood River**	--	--	2,500
	<i>Hood River wild**</i>	--	--	<i>120</i>
	Klickitat River**	2,100	2,281	1,990
	Yakima River**	5,510	5,660	7,000
	Umatilla River**	3,340	4,512	6,300
	Mid-Columbia total (by subtraction)	45,300	52,707	39,200
	Upper Columbia (total)	19,300	11,166	20,100
	<i>Upper Columbia wild</i>	<i>3,700</i>	<i>2,514</i>	<i>3,400</i>
	Snake River Spring/Summer (total)***	95,800	51,948	107,400
	<i>Snake River wild***</i>	<i>15,100</i>	<i>6,261</i>	<i>18,500</i>
	Upriver Total	160,400	115,821	166,700
Summer Chinook	Upper Columbia	63,100	68,204	67,300
Sockeye	Total Sockeye	198,500	88,263	99,000
	Wenatchee	54,200	34,861	25,700
	Okanogan	137,900	52,272	72,600
	Yakima	4,000	619	50
	Deschutes	1,000	66	50
	Snake River	1,400	445	600
<p>* Components may not sum to totals shown since individual forecasts are not available for all upriver spring Chinook tributaries. Wild components are included in the stock total.</p> <p>** Return to tributary mouth (except that 2018 forecasts for Sandy, Cowlitz, Kalama, and Lewis rivers are at the Columbia River mouth).</p> <p>*** 2017 return is based on standard TAC run reconstruction methodology.</p>				
12/18/2017				

Spring Chinook

Spring Chinook Management Guidelines

- The 2018-2027 *U.S. v Oregon* Management Agreement (MA) provides the treaty Indian and non-treaty fishery harvest frameworks and harvest rate schedules for salmon and steelhead stocks destined for areas upstream of Bonneville Dam.
- Fisheries are also managed to meet the catch balance provision in the MA for upriver spring Chinook which requires mortalities in non-treaty fisheries not exceed the total allowable catch available for treaty Indian fisheries. The following table is derived from the harvest schedule within the MA and reflects the allowable catch and associated ESA impacts for treaty Indian and non-treaty fisheries.

Spring Management Period Harvest Rate Schedule						
Total Upriver Run Size	Snake River Natural Run Size	Treaty Indian Harvest Rate	Treaty Indian Catch Guideline	Non-Treaty Harvest Rate	Non-Treaty Mortality Guideline	Total Harvest Rate
82,000	8,200	7.4%	6,068	1.6%	6,068	9.0%
109,000	10,900	8.3%	9,047	1.7%	9,047	10.0%
141,000	14,100	9.1%	12,831	1.9%	12,831	11.0%
217,000	21,700	10.0%	21,700	2.0%	21,700	12.0%
271,000	27,100	10.8%	29,268	2.2%	29,268	13.0%
326,000	32,600	11.7%	38,142	2.3%	38,142	14.0%
380,000	38,000	12.5%	47,500	2.5%	47,500	15.0%
434,000	43,400	13.4%	58,156	2.6%	58,156	16.0%
488,000	48,800	14.3%	69,784	2.7%	69,784	17.0%

- The MA also specifies non-treaty and treaty fisheries occurring prior to a run size update be managed for a run size that is at least 30% less than the predicted upriver spring Chinook run size.
- Commission guidance is consistent regarding 1) allocation of ESA impacts for 2018 commercial and recreational fisheries (80% sport and 20% commercial), and 2) Select Area commercial impact allocations are not subject to the *U.S. v OR* run-size buffer provision.

2017 Mainstem Recreational Season

Downstream from Bonneville Dam

Season: Permanent regulations were in effect January 1 through February 28 which allow Chinook retention from Buoy 10 to the I-5 Bridge. On February 23, the states adopted a March 1–April 6 season for the lower Columbia River between Buoy 10 and Beacon Rock, plus the Oregon and Washington banks between Beacon Rock and Bonneville Dam based on a pre-update allocation of 6,905 upriver mortalities. A closure around the mouth of the Lewis River (RM 87) was implemented since the Lewis run size forecast was less than the hatchery escapement goal. The two-fish daily bag limit was modified to one adult spring Chinook between Buoy 10 and Bonneville Dam effective March 1. Record rainfall and above average snowpack in early 2017 produced poor angling conditions and very low effort through March. Joint State hearings held in late March through mid-April extended the season to include April 7-10, 13-17, and 20-23 to allow additional opportunity as angling conditions improved. In-season,

the upriver spring Chinook run size was downgraded from the pre-season forecast and did not provide for any additional opportunity after these extensions.

Harvest/Angler Effort: The 63,300 angler trips in 2017 was the lowest since 2000 and produced a total catch of 9,990 adult spring Chinook (9,047 kept and 943 released) and 250 winter steelhead (137 kept and 113 released). The catch rate averaged one adult spring Chinook kept for every 14 angler trips.

Bonneville Dam upstream to Oregon/Washington Border

Season: The 2017 fishery opened under mark-selective regulations on March 16 and continued through May 5 with a daily bag limit of one fish. A total of 921 upriver spring Chinook (kept + release mortalities) were allocated prior to a run size update. Although effort and catch was very low through early May due to water conditions and the late return, the states were unable to extend the season due to passage being well below expectations and the harvest already accrued in the recreational fishery downstream of Bonneville Dam.

Harvest/Angler Effort: Season total catch estimates for adult Chinook include 15 kept and 27 released from approximately 1,150 angler trips in the area between Bonneville and McNary dams, resulting in 1 Chinook kept for every 77 angler trips. No Chinook harvest was observed in the area upstream of McNary Dam. The estimated catch was the lowest since spring Chinook fisheries were reestablished in the area upstream of Bonneville Dam in 2002.

Snake River upstream to Washington/Idaho Border

Season: The fishery was initially open in three sections of the Snake River in Washington waters. Each section was open two days per week with an initial adult daily limit of one hatchery Chinook. In 2017, prior to a run size update, 863 Chinook mortalities (kept plus release mortalities) were set aside for this fishery. On May 15, the run was downgraded from the 160,400 (preseason) and all sections of the Snake River were subsequently closed.

Harvest/Angler Effort: Season total catch estimates for adult Chinook included 65 kept and 8 released fish from about 5,800 angler hours, which represents the lowest catch since 2002.

POST Season ALLOWED Catch Balance for Adult Upriver Spring Chinook in Non-Indian Fisheries^{1,2}						
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Mainstem salmon Winter/Spring	4,454	2,439	4,547	5,942	3,046	0
SAFE Commercial Winter/Spring	305	185	364	433	282	≤347
Commercial Total	4,759	2,624	4,911	6,375	3,328	347
Lower Columbia Rec (below Bonn)	11,260	6,168	15,682	19,316	10,792	6,334
Bonneville to McNary Rec	1,340	822	2,091	2,615	1,439	845
Snake River Spt/Wanapum Tribal	1,120	603	1,574	2,904	1,533	582
Recreational Total	13,720	7,593	19,347	24,835	13,764	7,760
Total allowed	18,479	10,217	24,258	31,210	17,091	8,107

POST Season ACTUAL Catch Balance for Adult Upriver Spring Chinook in Non-Indian Fisheries^{1,2}						
	2012	2013	2014	2015³	2016³	2017
Mainstem salmon Winter/Spring	4,276	1,498	3,364	5,724	2,954	0
SAFE Commercial Winter/Spring	329	259	257	804	331	463
Commercial Total	4,605	1,757	3,621	6,528	3,285	463
Lower Columbia Rec (below Bonn)	10,427	5,343	13,572	15,689	10,167	7,198
Bonneville to McNary Rec	886	613	2,231	1,696	1,480	18
Snake River Spt/Wanapum Tribal	2,384	374	1,546	1,996	1,397	101
Recreational Total	13,697	6,330	17,349	19,381	13,043	7,316
Total take	18,302	8,087	20,970	25,909	16,328	7,779

1. Includes release mortalities

2. All data subject to change, recent year data preliminary

3. Towards the end of the season, some unused ESA/CB allocations available for non-treaty fisheries were shifted to Snake River sport and mainstem commercial fisheries to gain access to harvestable fish.

2018 Mainstem Recreational - preseason management guidelines

- Based on the MA and the preseason forecast of 166,700 upriver spring Chinook, ESA impacts for 2018 fisheries are limited to 11%, with 1.9% for non-treaty fisheries and 9.1% for treaty Indian fisheries.
- To allow for uncertainty in the preseason forecast, the MA requires a 30% reduction from the forecast (i.e. a run-size buffer) to start the season, which equates to 116,690 upriver spring Chinook. At this run size, the MA allows for a non-treaty ESA limit of 1.7%, or an allowable harvest (kept plus release mortalities) of 9,685 fish prior to a run size update, of which 9,052 are allocated to recreational fisheries.

2018 Spring Chinook Preseason Management Guidelines			
	2017	2018	Difference
Upriver forecast (adults)	160,400	166,700	6,300
ESA Impact rate	1.90%	1.90%	0
Willamette forecast (adults)	38,100	53,800	15,700

Commission Guidance (Allocation/Buffer)

Sport allocation*	80%	80%	0
Commercial allocation	20%	20%	0

U.S. v OR Catch Balance

30% Buffered Run	112,280	116,690	4,410
ESA Impact rate	1.70%	1.70%	0

Catch Balance Available Pre-update 9,319

Sport Fisheries (LCR, Z6, Snake)	8,709	9,032	323
Commercial Mainstem	TBD	TBD	
Commercial Select Area	≤610	≤633	23

*Commission guidance further sub-divides the sport allocation 75% to fisheries <Bonneville, 10% to fisheries between Bonn-OR/WA border, and 15% to Snake River sport and Wanapum tribal fisheries.

2018 LCR Spring recreational season preliminary considerations

- Weekly mainstem test fishing is expected to begin March 18 (4 days total 3/18-4/8).
- Manage for 7,157 total upriver spring Chinook mortalities pre run update (6,905 in 2017).
- Translates to about 8,400 total adult Chinook kept (all stocks).

2018 Model Output for Spring Chinook Recreational Fisheries below Bonneville.											
Run #	Description	Last Retention Day		March Days	April Days	Total Days March +April	Angler Trips	Upriver (UR)		Kept Catch	Comments
		Below I-5	Above I-5					Used	Balance		
1	Buoy 10 to Beacon Rk 7 d/wk + Bank to Bonn.	7-Apr	7-Apr	31	7	38	78,800	6,684	473	8,400	One additional day (Sunday 4/8) = over by 266 UR
2	Buoy 10 to Beacon Rk + Bank to Bonn. 7 d/wk thru Apr. 1, then Wed and Sat	11-Apr	11-Apr	31	4	35	79,800	6,897	260	8,640	One additional day (Saturday 4/14) = over by 528 UR
3	Buoy 10 to Beacon Rk + Bank to Bonn. 7 d/wk beginning Apr. 1	12-Apr	12-Apr	0	12	12	52,300	7,244	-87	8,430	over by 87 UR
Upriver Fish Available Pre-Update to LCR:								7,157			
Notes/Comments											
1) Model Run #1 is the general approach used for the past seven years (2011 - 2017). Runs #2-3 provided for informational purposes.											
2) Model run assumes no Tuesday closures											
3) Base model assumes 1 fish daily bag limit and good water conditions											
4) Base model uses 2016 effort for March and April, 2009 observed CPUEs for March (both areas), an average of 2013 and 2016 CPUEs for April below Kelley Point, and uses 2016 CPUE for April above Kelley Point.											
5) Assumed Upriver Stock Composition below Kelley Point at 60% in March and 75% in April											
6) Assumed mark rates: 83% for Upriver stock, 80% for Willamette stock											
7) Staff will monitor catches in-season. Intent is to allow fishery to run through proposed closure day if fishery is tracking within expectations; fishery checkpoint would occur on or about April 11, if sufficient balance remains staff will consider additional opportunity at that time.											

2018 BON-S/L Spring recreational season preliminary considerations

- Manage for 954 total mortalities pre run update (921 in 2017).
- Modeling indicates March 16-May 6 retention season (1 fish daily bag).
- Run update typically not available until early/mid-May.

Season scenarios for the BON-S/L recreational spring Chinook fishery, 2018						
Scenario	Dates	Days	May Wkend days	Kept	Morts	% of CB
1	3/16-5/6	52	2	876	898	94%
2*	4/16-5/8	23	2	937	961	101%
3*	5/1-10	10	2	930	954	100%

* Assumed 15% additional kept/day in May due to condensed fishery/effort and assumed LCR effort shift

2018 Snake River Spring recreational season preliminary considerations

- Manage for 920 total mortalities pre run update (863 in 2017).
- Snake River fishery managers to determine season.
- Fishery typically opens in late April on a days-per-week basis in up to four areas.

Summer Chinook

2017 Recreational Seasons

- Downstream of Bonneville Dam: Season open June 16-30 and July 7-31. Regulations included hatchery Chinook only with a 2-fish daily bag limit. Harvest totaled 3,516 adult Chinook kept (2,248 released) from 41,595 angler trips. Season total mortalities were 119% of allocated based on the final run size.
- Bonneville Dam upstream to Priest Rapids Dam: Season open June 16 through July 31. Regulations included hatchery Chinook only with a 2-fish daily bag limit. Harvest from Bonneville Dam upstream to the OR/WA border totaled 248 kept adult Chinook kept (94 released) from 5,173 angler trips. Season total mortalities were 46% of allocated based on the final run size.

2018 Summer recreational season preliminary considerations

- Both WFWC/OFWC decisions allocate the harvestable surplus of summer Chinook downstream of PRD at 80%-20% sport-commercial.
- Both WFWC/OFWC decisions anticipate any unused commercial allocation will be transferred to escapement, or to recreational fisheries upstream of Bonneville Dam (WFWC only).
- Manage for ~4,500 total mortalities below PRD (sport and commercial). Sub-allocations for recreational fisheries downstream of Bonneville Dam and Bonneville to PRD are approximately 3,100 and 540, respectively.
- Run update typically not available until around July 1.
- Season structure will be determined during North of Falcon meetings and discussions.

Night Fishing

- Permanent regulations regarding night fishing differ between OR and WA.
- Both states are under-going statewide angling rule simplification.
- WA process occurring in 2018-19
 - Synchronizing WA/OR night fishing regulations may be considered.
- OR process occurring in 2017-18

Summary of typical permanent Columbia River night fishing regulations.

Columbia River Section	WA ^{1,2}	OR ¹
LCR below Bonneville	Open (except sturgeon)*	Unlawful to angle for or retain salmon, steelhead, shad, sturgeon, trout, or whitefish except during daylight hours
Bonneville - Dalles	Open (except sturgeon)* Night closure Aug 1- Oct 15	
The Dalles - McNary	Open (except sturgeon)*	
McNary to OR/WA state-line	Open (except sturgeon)*	Salmon/steelhead angling allowed 24 hours/day during retention seasons
OR/WA state-line to Highway 395 (Pasco)	Open (except sturgeon)*	NA
<p>¹ In 2017, WA and OR implemented temporary rules for June 16-October 27 prohibiting night angling for all species except for anglers enrolled in the NPM Sport-Reward program targeting Pikeminnow. Effective October 28-December 31, rules were aligned to match the OR permanent night fishing regulation which allows night angling for species like walleye and catfish.</p>		
<p>²WAC 220-312-06000V (2017): Mainstem Columbia to Old Hanford Power lines - Effective October 28, 2017 through December 31, 2017, it is unlawful to angle for or retain salmon, steelhead, shad, sturgeon, trout or whitefish except during daylight hours.</p>		

2017 Fisheries Summary (Preliminary)

2017 Lower Columbia River Spring, Summer, and Fall Salmon Chinook Fisheries Summary.																
Time Period	Area	Species Allowed	Salmonid Anglers	Adult Chin. Kept	Adult Chin. Rel'd	Jack Chin. Kept	Jack Chin. Rel.	Total Sthd Kept	Total Sthd Rel'd	Adult Coho Kept	Adult Coho Rel.	Jack Coho Kept	Jack Coho Rel.	Sockeye Kept	Sockeye Rel'd	
Feb	Buoy 10 to I-5	ChS, StW	1,892	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Closed	0	
March	LCR	ChS, StW	10,120	53	6	0	0	18	43	0	0	0	0	Closed	0	
April 1-10, 13-17, 20-23	LCR	ChS, StW	51,291	8,994	937	175	10	119	70	Closed	0	Closed	0	Closed	0	
May 1-31	TP-Bonn.	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	0	Closed	0	Closed	0	
June 1-15	TP-Bonn.	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	0	Closed	0	Closed	0	
ChS Totals	(February 1-June 15) 1/		63,303	9,047	943	175	10	137	113	0	0	0	0	0	0	
June 16-30	Astoria Br-Bo	ChR, StS, Sok	23,438	2,864	1,521	270	65	401	85	Closed	0	Closed	0	243	71	
July 1-6	Astoria Br-Bo	StS, Sok	2,100	0	84	2	0	115	69	Closed	0	Closed	0	17	0	
July 7-31	Astoria Br-Bo	ChR, StS, Sok	16,057	652	643	78	29	923	888	Closed	5	Closed	0	4	0	
ChR Totals	(June 16-July 31) 2/		41,595	3,516	2,248	350	94	1,439	1,042	0	5	0	0	264	71	
Spring/Summer Totals			104,898	12,563	3,191	525	104	1,576	1,155	0	5	0	0	264	71	
Aug	TP-Bonn	ChF, Co	27,724	3,775	114	236	79	9	732	329	130	0	6	0	0	
Sep	TP-Bonn	ChF, StS, Co	64,534	17,406	2,659	1,137	181	194	133	1,077	877	22	6	0	0	
Oct	TP-Bonn	ChF, StS, Co	22,463	4,957	73	328	35	34	16	1,708	481	40	40	0	0	
ChF Total	(August 1-October 31) 3/		114,721	26,138	2,846	1,701	295	237	881	3,114	1,488	62	52	0	0	
LCR Sp, Su, Fall Total			219,619	38,701	6,037	2,226	399	1,813	2,036	3,114	1,493	62	52	264	71	
OR Buoy 10	B10-TP		61,898	21,530	4,611	0	0	3	65	11,974	7,645	0	0	0	0	
WN Buoy 10	B10-TP		31,649	6,868	1,588	0	0	0	0	6,860	5,148	0	0	0	0	
Buoy 10 Total	(August 1-October 8) 4/		93,547	28,398	6,199	0	0	3	65	18,834	12,793	0	0	0	0	
Mainstem/Buoy 10 Total			313,166	67,099	12,236	2,226	399	1,816	2,101	21,948	14,286	62	52	264	71	

2017 Zone 6 (Bonneville-McNary Dam) Spring, Summer, and Fall Fisheries Summary.														
Area	Creel Timeframe	Target Species	Salmonid Anglers	Adult Chin. Kept	Adult Chin. Rel'd	Jack Chin. Kept	Total Sthd Kept	Total Sthd Rel'd	Adult Coho Kept	Adult Coho Rel.	Jack Coho Kept	Sockeye Kept	Sockeye Rel'd	
Bonneville		ChS, Sth	223	8	18	18	0	9	0	0	Closed	Closed	27	
The Dalles			609	7	9	0	0	0	0	0	Closed	Closed	0	
John Day			317	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	Closed	Closed	0	
ChS Totals	(April 8-June 15) 1/		1,149	15	27	20	0	9	0	0	0	0	27	
Bonneville		ChR, Sth, Sok	783	32	3	0	56	216	Closed	0	Closed	3	18	
The Dalles			932	15	0	25	0	0	Closed	0	Closed	0	0	
John Day			852	86	16	32	0	0	Closed	0	Closed	0	0	
ChR Totals	(June 16-July 31) 2/		2,567	133	19	57	56	216	0	0	0	3	18	
Spring/Summer Totals			3,716	148	46	77	56	225	0	0	0	3	45	
Bonneville		ChF, Co, Sth	11,720	3,813	639	555	77	85	1,301	166	18	Closed	0	
The Dalles			4,467	1,582	67	242	0	20	29	0	6	Closed	0	
John Day			4,996	428	3	179	65	107	468	0	0	Closed	0	
ChF Total	(August 1-December 20) 3/		21,183	5,823	709	976	142	212	1,798	166	24	0	0	
Z6 Sp, Su, Fall Total			24,899	5,971	755	1,053	198	437	1,798	166	24	3	45	
1/ Retention of hatchery steelhead allowed January 1-May 5 and hatchery spring Chinook allowed March 16-May 5.														
2/ Hatchery summer Chinook, hatchery summer steelhead, and sockeye retention open June 16-July 31. Night angling prohibited. Steelhead bag was 1 fish/day.														
3/ Fall Chinook, coho (hatchery only below Hood R Bridge), and hatchery steelhead open August 1-December 31. Except no steelhead retention during August in BO Pool, during September in TD Pool, and September-October in JD Pool. Night angling prohibited. Steelhead bag limit was 1 fish/day when retention allowed.														