

**COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION
 TRIBAL STAFF REPORT - SPRING FACT SHEET NO. 7b
 Columbia River Compact/Joint State Hearing
 June 1, 2015**

<i>Fisheries under consideration:</i>
Treaty Commercial spring Chinook Gillnet fishery

STOCK STATUS

- Run size information was presented in Fact Sheet #7a.

TREATY INDIAN FISHERIES

- Under current forecast run size the allowed harvest rate under the U.S. v. Oregon management agreement is 10.8% which equates to an allowed catch of 29,268.
- The preliminary treaty harvest to date along with expectations for the platform and hook and line fisheries through June 15 are shown in the table below.

Fishery	Chinook
Winter Gillnet	0
Spring C&S Permit Gillnet	8,047
Zone 6 Platform H&L Through 5/17	2,490
Zone 5 H&L	922
5/12-5/15 Commercial Gillnet 365 nets	4,005
5/19-5/22 Commercial Gillnet 317 nets	3,398
5/27-5/30 Commercial Gillnet 323 nets	3,257
Subtotal to date	22,119
Expected Additional Zone 5 H&L	0
Expected Additional Z6 Platform H&L through 6/15	400
Expected total Permit, Platform H&L through 6/15 and Gillnet	22,519
Allowed Catch (10.8% of 275,000)	29,268
Expected Available for planned fisheries	6,749
Predicted catch 6/2-5 Gillnet Fishery	3,600
Expected total catch	26,119
Expected Remaining After Planned Fisheries	3,149

- Platform catches for after May 17 are included in the weekly gillnet estimates.
- Effort in last week's gillnet fishery was 323 nets.

- Additionally, the total steelhead catch to date is approximately 138. A very small number of sockeye have also been harvested.
- Catch rates continue to be somewhat less than expected. Low pool elevations and low flows may have influenced catch rates. Sea lions continue to be present in the Bonneville Pool. Fishery modeling suggests catch rates should increase this week based on historic patterns.
- Commercial sales of Zone 6 platform and hook and line caught fish are ongoing and do not require Compact Action.

Treaty Indian Zone 6 Commercial Gillnet Fishery	
Season:	6:00 AM Tuesday June 2 through 6:00 PM Friday June 5. (3.5 days)
Area:	All of Zone 6
Gear:	Gillnets with no mesh restriction.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon, steelhead, shad, carp, catfish, walleye, bass, and yellow perch. Sturgeon from 43 to 54 inches fork length in The Dalles and John Day Pools may be kept for subsistence. Sales of fish are allowed after the fishing period as long as they were landed during the open period. Sturgeon from 38 to 54 inches fork length in the Bonneville Pool may be kept for subsistence.
Sanctuaries:	River mouth and dam closed areas applicable to gillnets in effect. The Spring Creek Hatchery sanctuary is not necessary this time of year.
Miscellaneous:	Quick reporting required for all Washington Fish Buyers pursuant to WAC 220-69-240.14(d), and landings must be quick reported within 24-hours of completing the fish ticket.

- The expected catch in the proposed fishery is 3,600 Chinook along with fewer than 40 steelhead and a small number of sockeye assuming 320 nets.
- With over 6,000 fish remaining available to catch, the planned fishery is well within the allowed catch. Even if the run came in less than 271,000 and the allowed harvest rate were 10%, there would still be fish available. If the run were 269,000, there would be over 4,000 fish available and the planned fishery would still be within the allowed harvest limit.
- The tribes will continue to monitor and report catches from these fisheries and will conduct net counts by air during each week of commercial gillnet fishery.
- At this time another commercial gillnet opening next week seems likely.

ADDITIONAL HEARINGS

Depending on the counts in the next few days and the final catch estimates for last week, the tribes may request another Compact Hearing on Thursday June 4, so that a gillnet opening could possibly be set to open on Monday June 8.