

COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION
TRIBAL STAFF REPORT - FALL FACT SHEET NO. 1a
Columbia River Compact/Joint State Hearing
July 27, 2016

Fisheries Under Consideration: Treaty commercial sturgeon set line

Detailed information on stock status and management guidelines for Columbia River fisheries are presented in Joint Staff Reports, which are produced annually and available on-line. The most recent report is the 2016 Fall Report (July, 2016). <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/crc/> or <http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/OSCRP/CRM/reports.asp>

- The 2016 Zone 6 sturgeon harvest guidelines for Treaty fisheries are 325 fish each for the Bonneville and The Dalles pools and 1,000 fish for the John Day pool.
- 2016 tribal sturgeon catches are shown in the table below. There are 223 sturgeon remaining in the Bonneville Pool.

Reservoir	January Setline	Winter Gill Net	Commercial Total	Guideline	Remaining
Bonneville	0	0	102	325	223
The Dalles	0	258	258	325	67
John Day	49	689	738	1,000	262
Total	49	1,049	1,098	1,650	

- The four Columbia River treaty tribes have adopted regulations consistent with the following:

<i>2016 Treaty Indian Commercial Sturgeon Setline Fishery</i>	
Season	6 AM Monday August 1 to 6 PM Saturday August 13
Area	Bonneville Pool Only
Sanctuaries:	Standard river mouth and dam closed areas applicable to setline gear
Gear:	Setline Gear. Fishers are encouraged to use circle hooks and avoid J-hooks. It is unlawful to use setline gear with more than 100 hooks per set line, with hooks less than the minimum size of 9/0, with treble hooks, without visible buoys attached, and with buoys that do not specify operator and tribal identification.
Allowable Sales:	Sturgeon from 38 to 54 inches fork length in the Bonneville Pool may be sold or kept for subsistence purposes. Sturgeon within the legal size limit and caught in the platform and hook and line fishery, or Yakama Nation tributary fisheries may only be sold if caught during the open period and open area of the set line fishery. Fish landed during the open periods are allowed to be sold after the period concludes.
Additional:	24-hour quick reporting required for Washington buyers, pursuant to WAC 220-69-240 except that landings must be reported within 24-hours of completing the fish ticket. It is unlawful to sell, barter, or attempt to sell or barter sturgeon eggs that have been removed from the body cavity of a sturgeon prior to sale of the sturgeon to a wholesale dealer licensed, or to sell or barter sturgeon eggs at retail. It is unlawful to deliver to a wholesale dealer any sturgeon that are not in the round with the head and tail intact.

- The tribes expect low effort and moderate catch in the proposed setline fishery and anticipate that based previous early August sturgeon fisheries, the catch will be less than the 223 fish available.
- Catch and effort will be monitored to ensure the tribal fisheries remains within management limits.
- The recommendations provided in Fall Fact Sheet #1 should be revised to allow the sales of legal size sturgeon caught in Zone 6 and Yakama Nation tributary fisheries if caught during the open period and open area of the set line fishery.
- In addition, the tribes have decided to allow commercial sales of Zone 6 platform/hook and line fish through 6 PM December 31 instead of October 31 as stated in Fall Factsheet #1. The Yakama Nation will also allow sales for their tributary fisheries through 6 PM December 31. Sales will be ended earlier if needed to keep harvest impacts to within allowed limits. The fisheries downstream of Bonneville are not expected to be open beyond October 31.
- The tribes expect to present the first fall season commercial gillnet fisheries at the Compact Hearing on August 9.