

COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION
TRIBAL STAFF REPORT - FALL FACT SHEET NO. 6b
Columbia River Compact
September 14, 2016

Fisheries under consideration: Treaty Commercial Gillnet fishery

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 12, 2016). <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/crc/> or <http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/OSCRP/CRM/reports.asp>

STOCK STATUS

- The stock status and management guidelines were presented in summer Fall Fact Sheet #1.
- Updated dam count and run size information was presented in Fall Fact Sheet #6a.

2016 Treaty Indian Fisheries

- Based on the updated Columbia River mouth forecasts of 527,100 URB fall Chinook along with the pre-season forecast of 25,800 Group B-steelhead, the corresponding impact limits under the MA for treaty Indian fisheries are 158,130 adult upriver bright fall Chinook and 3,870 B steelhead. Actual allowed catches are based on actual, not forecast run sizes.
- The tribes are currently in the fourth weekly commercial gillnet fishery. Preliminary catches are available for the first three weeks along with a projection for the current week. The tribes have also modeled catches for a fishery next week. The preliminary and projected catches are shown in the table below.

2016 Treaty Indian Fall Season Fisheries (preliminary catches)					
Fishery	Expected Effort (Nets)	Total Adult Chinook	URB Chinook	Total Steelhead	B Steelhead
Platforms through 8/16	na	1,358	962	950	62
Aug. 22-26 (4.5 days)	423	9,361	8,171	725	88
Aug 29-Sep 2 (4.5 days)	454	20,138	17,606	673	97
Sep. 5 -Sept. 9 (4.5 days)	644	46,800	41,100	1,700	340
Sept. 12-16 (4.5 days) projected	703	43,200	39,400	2,200	600
Subtotal		120,857	107,239	6,248	1,187
Sept. 19-23 (4.5 days) projected	650	27,900	24,400	2,500	1,000
Total		148,757	131,639	8,748	2,187
Allowed at Pre-season Forecast			158,130		3,870
Expected Harvest Rate by Sept 16			20%		5%
Remaining after Sept 16			50,891		2,683
Remaining Harvest Rate After Sept 16			10%		15%
Projected after Sept 23			26,491		1,683
Remaining Harvest Rate After Sept 23			5.0%		6.5%

- The above table includes a small amount of harvest from bank fishing downstream of Bonneville totaling 230 Chinook, 230 steelhead, and 20 coho.
- The projected catch rates for this week and next week are based on recent year average harvest rates scaled to observed catch rates so far this fall. Platform and hook and line harvest is included in the weekly gillnet projections for weeks with gillnet fishing.
- These fisheries are similar in structure to recent years. The tribes expect that there will be remaining URB and B steelhead impacts after next week and that there will be at least one more fishing period the following week.
- The Spring Creek Hatchery has collected the total number of fish they need for broodstock, but will continue to collect some late timed fish to spawn. Because the broodstock needs will be met, the tribes are reducing the hatcher sanctuary.
- The four Columbia River treaty tribes have adopted regulations consistent with the following:

<i>2016 Treaty Indian Fall Commercial Gillnet Fishery</i>		
Season	6 AM Monday September 19 to 6 PM Friday September 23	(4.5 days)
Area	Zone 6	
Sanctuaries:	Closed areas in effect include standard dam and river mouth areas applicable to gillnet gear. including a 150-foot radius around the Spring Creek Hatchery ladder.	
Gear:	Gill nets. 8-inch minimum mesh restriction	
Allowable Sales:	Salmon (any species), steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sturgeon may not be sold, but sturgeon from 38 to 54 inches fork length in the Bonneville Pool and sturgeon from 43 to 54 inches fork length in The Dalles and John Day Pools and may be kept for subsistence purposes. 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.	

- Catch and effort will be monitored to ensure the fishery remains within management limits. Set-net effort will be monitored by aerial surveys each week. The tribes expect to set additional gillnet fishing time after this period.
- Zone 6 platform and hook and line fisheries have been open for both subsistence and commercial use and do not require Compact action nor do Yakama tributary fisheries.
- The tribes request a Compact Hearing Wednesday or Thursday September 21 or 22 to consider possible additional commercial gillnet openings.