

Columbia River – Considerations for 2019 Fisheries
March 26, 2019

Fall Chinook Fisheries

Preliminary modelling for recreational fisheries based on an approximate 10% SRW/URB impact buffer are presented below:

Preliminary 2019 Fall Recreational Fishery Modelling					
	BUOY 10			LCR	
	1	2	3	TP-WR	WR-BONN
Chinook/August Season	Aug 1-15 nMSF; Aug 16-31 MSF	Aug 1-15 MSF; Aug 16-24 (9d) nMSF;	Aug 1-22 nMSF	Aug 1 - Aug 25	Aug 1 -Sept 10
Bag	2 fish/1 CHF	1 Salmonid	1 Salmonid	1 Salmonid	1 Salmonid
Sept-Oct Season	Sept 1-Oct 31	Aug 25-Oct 31	Aug 23-Oct 31	Aug 26-Oct 31	Sept 11-Oct 31
Bag	2-3 fish/ 0 CHF	2-3 fish/ 0 CHF	2-3 fish/ 0 CHF	2 fish/ 0 CHF	2 fish/ 0 CHF
Additional		Area from TP line to west Puget Isl. closed to CHF retention effective Aug 25	Area from TP line to west Puget Isl. closed to CHF retention effective Aug 23		

- **All options are preliminary.** Staff will complete additional review of all scenarios.
 - All Buoy 10 options include a URB Chinook set-aside (release mortalities) for Coho-directed opportunity.
 - To help avoid the substantial SRW impact overage that occurred in the TP-Warrior Rock area in 2018 (which partially resulted from effort shift from Buoy 10 to above the Tongue Point line), staff modelled several fishery options that included Chinook retention closing in the area from Tongue Point/Rocky Point line upstream to the west end of Puget Island, when Buoy 10 closes to Chinook retention.
 - Sub-allocations of the recreational URB harvest share for Buoy 10 and the TP-Warrior Rock were revised slightly from 2018.
 - Recreational fall Chinook fisheries from Bonneville to McNary Dam will open August 1 and be managed in-season based on an 8.3% URB sub-allocation and the URB run size.

Upriver Summer Steelhead Fisheries

- Given the poor expected return for upriver summer steelhead, fishery restrictions similar to those enacted in 2017 may likely be considered, for example:
 - Daily bag limit may not include more than one hatchery steelhead
 - Night fishing closures
 - Rolling 1-2 month steelhead retention closures for mainstem and some tributary recreational fisheries

- August: Buoy 10 to The Dalles Dam
- September: The Dalles Dam to John Day Dam
- September and October: John Day Dam to McNary Dam
- October and November: McNary Dam to Hwy 395 Bridge (Pasco)

2019 Steelhead Fisheries – options

Columbia River mainstem – Low A and B-index steelhead forecasts will cause rolling block closures similar to 2017.

- **Bonneville Dam to The Dalles Dam**
 - through June: Daily limit 2, when open
 - July: Daily limit 1, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead
 - August: Closed to retention, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead
 - September+: Daily limit 1, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead
- **The Dalles Dam to John Day Dam**
 - through June: Daily limit 2, when open
 - July–August: Daily limit 1, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead
 - September: Closed to retention, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead
 - October+: Daily limit 1, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead

2019 Steelhead Fisheries – options

- **John Day Dam to McNary Dam**
 - through June: Daily limit 2, when open
 - July–August: Daily limit 1, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead
 - September–October: Closed to retention, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead
 - November+: Daily limit 1, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead
- **McNary Dam to 395 Bridge in Pasco**
 - through June: Daily limit 2, when open
 - July–September: Daily limit 1, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead
 - October–November: Closed to retention, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead
 - December+: Daily limit 1, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead
- **395 Bridge in Pasco upstream**
 - Ringold Area fishery under consideration

2019 Steelhead Fisheries – options

Columbia River Below Bonneville Tributaries

- Cowlitz River (downstream of Lexington Drive/Sparks Road bridge)
- Lewis River (downstream of the confluence with the East Fork Lewis River)
 - **July:** Daily limit 1, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead
 - **August:** Closed to retention, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead
 - **September+:** Daily limit 1 or 2, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead

2019 Steelhead Fisheries – options

Columbia River Above Bonneville Tributaries

- Wind River (downstream of Shipherd Falls)
- Drano Lake
- White Salmon River (downstream of the county road bridge)
- Klickitat River (downstream of Fisher Hill bridge)
 - **July:** Daily limit 1, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead
 - **August:** Closed to retention, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead
 - **September+:** Daily limit 1, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead, Drano closed to retention during September.

2019 Steelhead Fisheries – options

Snake River

- ▶ **Mouth to Couse Creek boat ramp**
 - August 1 – March 31: Daily limit 1, must be less than 28 inches in length.
- ▶ **Couse Creek boat ramp to WA/ID/OR state line**
 - August 1 – March 31: Daily limit 1

2019 Steelhead Fisheries – options

Other options

- ▶ Release all steelhead 28 inches in length or longer
- ▶ Closed to salmon/steelhead fishing in time/area instead of non-retention when salmon are not present
- ▶ Extend length and area of non-retention blocks
- ▶ Closed at night to all fishing