

**OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT
SUMMER FACT SHEET NO. 1
June 10, 2009**

Fisheries under consideration:	Non-treaty commercial salmon Recreational steelhead below I-5 Bridge
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MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Management Agreements

- The 2008-2017 *U.S. v Oregon* Management Agreement (MA) provides specific fishery management guidelines for treaty and non-treaty summer Chinook and sockeye harvest.
- The Upper Columbia Management Agreement (UCMA) provides additional harvest and management guidelines for sharing of upper Columbia summer Chinook among non-treaty fisheries.

Summer Chinook

- Mainstem Columbia River Chinook fisheries occurring from June 16 through July 31 are managed based on an interim goal of 29,000 hatchery and natural origin adult upper Columbia summer Chinook, as measured at the Columbia River mouth.

2008-2017 Upper Columbia Summer Chinook Harvest Rate Schedule		
Run Size at River Mouth	Allowed Treaty Harvest	Allowed Non-Treaty Harvest
<5,000	5%	<100 Chinook
5,000-<16,000	5%	<200 Chinook
16,000-<29,000	1%	5%
29,000-<32,000	1%	5%-6%
32,000- <36,250 (125% of 29,000 goal)	1%	7%
36,250-50,000	50% of total harvestable ¹	
>50,000	50% of 75% of margin above 50,000 plus 10,500 ²	

¹The total number of harvestable fish is defined as the run size minus 29,000 for run sizes of 36,250 to 50,000.

²For the purposes of this Agreement, the total number of harvestable fish at run sizes greater than 50,000 is to be determined by the following formula: $(0.75 * (\text{runsize}-50,000)) + 21,000$.

2009 Non-treaty Summer Chinook Harvest Allocation

- Non-treaty fisheries include:
 - Colville and Wanapum tribal fisheries.
 - Recreational fisheries from Rocky Point/Tongue Point upstream to Chief Joseph Dam.
 - Commercial fisheries below Bonneville Dam (Zones 1-5).
- The allocation for 2009 non-treaty fisheries is based on the preseason run size forecast, the MA, the UCMA (including preseason negotiations with the Colville Tribe) and commission guidance. The Colville Tribe contributed a portion of their harvestable share (1,000 fish) to non-treaty fisheries, which is incorporated in the following table:

2009 Upper Columbia Summer Chinook Allocation		
Preseason Run Size		70,700
Available Treaty Harvest		18,263
Available Non-treaty Harvest		18,263
<i>Allocated above Priest Rapids Dam</i>		10,263
<i>Allocated below Priest Rapids Dam</i>		8,000
Recreational below Priest Rapids Dam	50%	4,000
<i>Below Bonneville Dam</i>		3,000
<i>Bonneville Dam to Priest Rapids Dam</i>		1,000
Commercial	50%	4,000

Sockeye

- The management goal for upper Columbia River sockeye is 65,000 fish at Priest Rapids Dam, which under average migration conditions requires passage of 75,000 fish over Bonneville Dam.
- The non-treaty ESA impact limit on listed sockeye is 1% of the run entering the Columbia River. The treaty Indian impact limit for 2009 is 7% (based on preseason forecast).

STOCK STATUS

Upriver Spring Chinook

- The Chinook count at Bonneville Dam through June 9 totals 133,519 adult fish. Harvest (including release mortalities) of upriver Chinook below Bonneville Dam is estimated at 22,200 fish. Only six counting days remain in the spring management period (Jan 1-June 15). The (5-year) average passage during June 10-16 is around 1,900 adults per day.
- The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met on June 8 and updated the inseason run forecast to an estimated 165,000 upriver spring Chinook at the river mouth. TAC also reviewed the Snake River returns, and estimated a return of 23,000 Snake River wild spring/summer Chinook to the Columbia River. These Snake River fish are included in the overall upriver spring Chinook forecast.

Upper Columbia Summer Chinook

- Upper Columbia summer Chinook are destined for areas above Priest Rapids Dam. Chinook passing Bonneville Dam during June 16 through July 31 are considered upper Columbia summer Chinook. These Chinook are not listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the population is considered healthy.
- The run is managed as a composite stock consisting of both hatchery and natural origin fish. Hatchery production uses an integrated broodstock management strategy, meaning that hatchery production originates from both wild and hatchery-origin fish.
- The 2009 forecast of 70,700 adults to the Columbia River mouth is 27% greater than the 2008 actual return of 55,500 adults. Overall, preseason forecasts have typically under-predicted the actual summer Chinook run.

- Based on the 2009 forecast, daily counts at Bonneville Dam are expected to average about 2,300 Chinook per day during June 16-30 and then steadily decrease to 500 fish per day by the end of July. Passage is typically 50% complete around July 1.

Summer Steelhead

- An estimated 351,800 upriver summer steelhead are expected to pass Bonneville Dam in 2009, which is similar to the 2008 passage of 355,100 fish.
- Upriver stocks of summer steelhead migrate above Bonneville Dam during April 1 through October 31. Summer steelhead passing Bonneville Dam prior to July 1 are considered Skamania stock, and steelhead passing between July 1 and October 31 are classified as either Group A or Group B fish.
- Steelhead passage at Bonneville Dam is low during June, but increases significantly during July. Passage of Group A and Group B steelhead is typically 25% complete by August 1.

Sockeye

- The 2009 sockeye forecast of 183,800 fish to the Columbia River mouth is similar to the 2008 return, but is greater than the 10-year average. The 2009 forecast includes 18,300 Wenatchee stock, 164,900 Okanogan stock, and 600 Snake River sockeye.
- Bonneville Dam passage through June 9 totals 3,169 sockeye. Passage is typically 50% complete by June 24 based on the recent 10-year average.

2009 SUMMER SEASON FISHERIES

- Non-Indian summer Chinook fisheries were discussed with constituents during the North of Falcon (NOF) and Pacific Fisheries Management Council (PFMC) meetings occurring in March and April. Seasons relating to Columbia River summer salmon fisheries are based on the results of these meetings, management agreements, preseason forecasts, and allocation guidelines.

2009 Recreational Fisheries

- Summer Chinook fisheries are scheduled from the Tongue Point–Rocky Point line upstream to Bonneville Dam during Monday June 22 – Sunday July 5. Recreational fisheries from Bonneville Dam upstream to Priest Rapids Dam are scheduled for Chinook retention during July 1-31. Recreational summer Chinook fisheries above Priest Rapids Dam begin July 1.
- The summer steelhead fishery from the I-5 Bridge upstream to the Hwy 395 Bridge is scheduled to open under permanent regulations on June 16. The fishery below the I-5 Bridge, which was scheduled to open on May 16 under permanent rules, was delayed by emergency in-season action due to concerns of upriver spring Chinook handle.

2009 Non-Indian Commercial Fisheries

- Fisheries will utilize large mesh (8" min.) gear to minimize incidental handle of steelhead. A total of 600 white sturgeon are allocated to the summer commercial season and weekly landing limits will be used to manage catches. Based on the summer Chinook harvest allocation, the fishery is likely to consist of 3-5 fishing periods.

FISHERY RECOMMENDATIONS

Recreational Steelhead Fishery below Bonneville Dam

Effective Friday June 12 through Monday June 15, 2009 allow the retention of sockeye, adipose fin-clipped steelhead and adipose fin clipped jack Chinook in the mainstem Columbia River from the Tongue Point/Rocky Point line upstream to the I-5 Bridge.

- The recommendation addresses the last 4 days of the spring season, and reinstates the delayed steelhead fishery (originally scheduled to begin May 16). Summer season fisheries scheduled to begin on June 16 remain in place as described in Oregon’s supplemental regulations and Washington’s “Fishing in Washington” 2009/2010 pamphlet.
- Based on past creel data, the estimated handle of upriver spring Chinook in the proposed steelhead fishery is 30 fish or 3 upriver mortalities (0.002% impact).
- Non-treaty impacts would total 98% of the 1.9% allowed if the fishery was adopted.

<i>Non-Indian Summer Chinook Commercial Fishery</i>	
Season:	7 PM Thursday June 18 to 7 AM Friday June 19, 2009 (12 hours) 7 PM Wednesday June 24 to 5 AM Thursday June 25, 2009 (10 hours) 7 PM Tuesday June 30 to 5 AM Wednesday July 1, 2008 (10 hours)
Area:	June 18 - 19 Zones 1-3, up to the Longview Bridge After June 20 Zones 1-5.
Sanctuaries:	Grays River, Elokomina-A, Cowlitz River, Kalama-A, Lewis-A, Washougal and Sandy Rivers as applicable.
Gear:	8-inch minimum mesh size.
Multi- Net Rule:	Multiple Net Rule: It will be legal to have onboard a commercial vessel more than one net provided the nets are of mesh size legal for the fishery, or the net has a minimum mesh size of 9 inches, and the length of any one net does not exceed 1,500 feet in length. Nets not specifically authorized for use in this fishery may be onboard the vessel if properly stored. A properly stored net is defined as a net on a drum that is fully covered by a tarp (canvas or plastic) and bound with a minimum of ten revolutions of rope with a diameter of 3/8 (0.375) inches or greater.
Allowable Sales:	Chinook, sockeye, coho, white sturgeon, and shad. A maximum of five white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday) that the fishery is open. The weekly sturgeon sales limit applies to mainstem and Select Area fisheries.
Additional:	June 18-19 – A 12-hour quick reporting rule is in effect for Washington buyers. After June 20 - A 24-hour quick reporting rule is in effect for Washington buyers.

- Allowable harvest is 4,000 Chinook. Catch expectations include 1,800-2,200 Chinook for the first period and 800-1,000 Chinook for the second period and less than 500 fish on the third period.
- Short weekly fisheries will restrict harvest and allow time to verify landings and estimate catch rates prior to future fishing periods.
- Nighttime fishing will minimize sport/commercial interactions.

- Effort is expected to range between 75-100 deliveries per period. A portion of the fleet will leave for Alaska fishing from mid- to late June.
- Fishing periods in the mainstem may conflict with Youngs Bay select area and ocean halibut seasons.
- Fishing periods may be rescinded or adjusted if catch exceeds management expectations.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- Depending on fishery and run performance, a Compact during the week of July 2-6 may be necessary to consider additional non-Indian commercial Chinook fisheries for the following week.
- The treaty tribes may request a Compact hearing during the week of June 22 to consider additional treaty Indian commercial periods.
- A fall Compact hearing is scheduled for July 29 in Astoria, Oregon.