

TRIBAL STAFF REPORT - SPRING FACT SHEET NO. 6a
Columbia River Compact
May 10, 2010

Fisheries under consideration: Treaty Commercial Fisheries

Tribal Fisheries

- No Chinook were harvested in the tribal winter gillnet fishery.
- Tribal ceremonial permit fishing has been occurring since late March. Ceremonial permit fishing concluded last weekend. The preliminary total ceremonial permit catch for all tribes is 8,600.
- Platform and hook and line fishing for subsistence purposes has been occurring both in Zone 6 and below Bonneville Dam. The harvest to date includes 4,390 Chinook. Of this catch 3010 Chinook have been harvested downstream of Bonneville Dam. The tribes expect that an additional 3,000 fish may be caught in the platform and hook and line fishery through June 16.
- Tribal fisheries will be managed based on the harvest rate schedule in the 2008-2017 U.S. v. Oregon Management Agreement.
- Based on the updated 350,000 run size the allowed tribal catch would be 40,950 (11.7% harvest rate)
- The tribes have elected to propose their initial commercial fisheries based on a 300,000 run size until TAC updates the actual run.
 - Reserving 3,000 fish for future platform and hook and line fisheries through June 15 and accounting for a ceremonial permit harvest of 8,600 and 14,787 fish in the previous gillnet opening leaves 10,100 available for a gillnet fishery this week.
- The tribes propose a 3.5 day fishery with an estimated catch of 10,100 Chinook.
- The projected total harvest at the end of this week is approximately 37,900. This harvest is within the total allowable catch at a 350,000 run size.
- If necessary the tribes could restrict the below Bonneville fishery which would reduce the expected harvest in the overall platform and hook and line fishery.
- The tribes expect that this will be the final commercial gillnet fishery for this spring season. Sales of platform and hook and line fish will continue as previously scheduled.

Staff Recommendation – Zone 6 Commercial Gillnet Fisheries

COMMERCIAL GILLNET SEASON

AREA: All of Zone 6

DATES: 6:00 AM Tuesday May 11, 2010 through 6:00 PM Friday May 14 (3.5 days).

GEAR: There will be no minimum mesh size restriction.

ALLOWABLE SALES: Chinook, steelhead, walleye, shad, yellow perch, bass, and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sturgeon may not be sold, but sturgeon from 43 to 54 inches fork length in The Dalles and John Day Pools and from 38 to 54 inches total length in the Bonneville Pool may be kept for subsistence purposes. Sales of fish caught during the open period for gillnet fishing are allowed after the end of the open period as long as the fish were landed during the open period.

SANCTUARIES: All standard river mouth and dam sanctuaries shall remain in effect, with the exception of the Spring Creek Hatchery sanctuary, which is not necessary this time of year.

The quick reporting rule is in effect for Washington commercial fish buyers.

- The tribes do not propose any change in platform and hook and line fishing or in Yakama Nation tributary fisheries.
- The tribes will monitor and report harvests
- A net flight will occur during each commercial gillnet opening to estimate the fishing effort.