

# COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION

## TRIBAL STAFF REPORT WINTER FACT SHEET NO. 2A February 8, 2011

**Purpose:** Consider Tribal Winter Commercial Gillnet Fishery

### ZONE 6 STURGEON FISHERIES

- There is an ongoing sturgeon gillnet fishery in Zone 6 from February 1 through no later than March 21.
- The treaty commercial sturgeon harvest guidelines in Zone 6 are 2,000 in the Bonneville Pool, 1,000 in The Dalles Pool, and 1,000 in the John Day Pool. These are consistent with recommendations of the Sturgeon Management Task Force which met on January 18 to review current stock assessment data.
- The Compact previously acted on a tribal proposal to limit the Bonneville Pool to a three night per week fishery. This week's fishery is set for Monday through Thursday.
- Catches in the first week of the Bonneville Pool are less than what the tribes were expecting.
- Harvest to date is shown in the table below:

	Bonneville Pool	The Dalles Pool	John Day Pool	Total
January Setline	61	2	0	65
February Gillnet to date	61	13	12	86
Subtotal	122	15	12	151
Commercial Harvest Guideline	2,000	1,000	1,000	4,000
Remaining	1,878	985	988	3,849

### Fishery Proposal

- The tribes propose a modification to the Bonneville Pool Fishery.
- The tribes propose extending the fishery to a seven day per week fishery.
- The purpose of the change is to allow more flexibility for tribal fishers.
- A benefit of the change will to make fishery enforcement easier.
- Tribal and state staff will need to work closely to monitor the catch in the fishery and the tribes may need to recommend a closure if catch rates indicate the fishery will reach the harvest guideline prior to March 21.

**Staff Recommendation – Bonneville Pool Fishery**

A commercial gillnet fishery will be allowed in the Bonneville Pool continuing past the currently scheduled 6:00 PM closure on Thursday February and will be open seven days per week the same as The Dalles and John Day Pool fisheries are currently scheduled. The Bonneville Pool gillnet fishery will end no later than 6:00 PM March 21, but may be closed earlier if the commercial harvest guideline is reached. There will be no mesh restriction. The allowed sales include: Chinook, steelhead, walleye, shad, yellow perch, catfish, bass, and carp as well as sturgeon between 38"-54" fork length.

- The tribes will have catch monitors in place for the fishery and will be prepared to meet to make fishery modifications if necessary based on catch information.

*Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission*

*February 8, 2011*