

**OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT - FALL FACT SHEET NO. 14
Columbia River Compact
October 11, 2006**

<i>Fisheries Under Consideration:</i>	Non-Indian Mainstem Commercial Columbia River Recreational
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MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Management guidelines, allocations, and run size forecasts for the 2006 fall season were presented in the 2006 Fall Fact Sheets #1 and #9

STOCK STATUS

Fall Chinook

- On October 10, the TAC updated the Chinook river mouth run size to 421,400 adults. The Upriver Bright forecast increased slightly to 225,900 adults.

<i>Fall Chinook Adult Returns to the Columbia River Mouth</i>							
	2005	2006 Preseason	2006 TAC Update				
Stock	Return	Forecast	15-Sep	20-Sep	26-Sep	02-Oct	10-Oct
LRH	78,200	57,500	57,500	57,500	57,500	57,500	57,500
LRW	16,800	16,600	16,600	16,600	16,600	16,600	16,600
BPH	93,100	51,800	36,800	38,600	34,700	34,600	35,600
URB	268,700	249,050	198,700	206,600	208,300	221,800	225,900
MCB	98,000	86,600	73,400	75,600	61,600	69,500	73,400
SAB	6,600	12,400	12,400	12,400	12,400	12,400	12,400
Total	561,400	473,950	395,400	407,300	391,100	412,400	421,400

- Chinook returns to lower Columbia hatcheries have been less than expected, with the Elochoman and Kalama hatcheries struggling to meet broodstock needs.

<i>2006 Lower River Adult Fall Chinook Hatchery Returns</i>						
Hatchery/Stock	Returns	As of:	Preseason Projected	In-season Projection	Hatchery Goal	Comments
Elochoman LRH	850	27-Sep	900	1,100	1,400	Behind on Broodstock
Cowlitz LRH	2,500	04-Oct	2,800	3,800	2,700	Tracking to meet Broodstock
Toutle LRH	1,660	04-Oct	2,500	2,100	1,600	Tracking to meet Broodstock
Kalama LRH	2,730	04-Oct	2,800	2,800	2,700	Behind on Broodstock
Washougal LRH	1,100	27-Sep	5,700	5,700	2,500	Too early
Total WA LRH	8,840		14,700	15,500	10,900	
Willamette Falls LRH	1,780	04-Oct				
Big Creek LRH	1,970	09-Oct	4,000		3,000	
Total OR LRH	3,750		4,000		3,000	
Total SAB	3,630	Sep 27	6,100		1,500	
Bonneville BUB	10,400	Oct 9		13,000	5,750	

Coho

- The 2006 preseason run size forecast totaled 256,600 adults, including 189,900 early stock and 66,700 late stock.

- Coho harvest in ocean fisheries was less than expected, resulting in a larger return of coho to the Columbia River mouth, assuming the preseason forecast was accurate.
- With the conclusion of ocean fisheries, the Columbia River run is now expected to include 208,500 early and 83,500 late stock for a total of 292,000 coho.

2006 Early Stock Coho Returns						
Escapement						
	Returns	As of:	Pre-season projection	In-season projection	Broodstock Goal	Comments
Grays H.	300	03-Oct	2,050	2,050	600	Too early
Elochoman H.	300	27-Sep	1,800	1,800	400	less than normal
Kalama H.	180	04-Oct	3,250	600	700	less than normal
Toutle H.	50	04-Oct	12,700		400	less than normal
Lewis H.	12,340	04-Oct	13,400	13,400	900	Looks positive
Total Washington	13,170		33,200		3,000	
Big Creek H.	350	09-Oct		NA	700	less than normal
Willamette Falls	450	21-Sep				Appear on target
Eagle Creek NFH	225	25-Sep		NA	3,500	
Sandy H.	150	27-Sep		NA	1,200	Fish in system
Bonneville H.	26,150	30-Sep		NA	5,100	
Total Oregon	27,325		29,000	NA	10,500	
Bonneville Dam	65,400	30-Sep	65,600	65,400	--	Early stock counts end Oct. 1
Marmot Dam (Sandy)	75	22-Sep				5-yr average ~900 adults
Faraday Dam (Clackamas)	600	25-Sep				5-yr average is 2,000 adults

2006 Late Stock Coho Returns						
Escapement						
	Returns	As of:	Pre-season projection	In-season projection	Goal	Comments
Elochoman H.	0		600		450	
Cowlitz H.	7400	07-Oct	17,000	18%	2,700	Cowlitz typically represents ~50-55% of total WA LCR hatchery returns.
Kalama H.			17,000		350	
Lewis H.			9,800		4,000	
Washougal			1,800		600	
Total Washington	4,540		46,200	0	8,100	
NF Clackamas Dam						Late stock counts start Nov. 1
Bonneville Dam	12,500	Oct 9	16,403	28,400	--	Late stock counts start Oct. 1

FISHERY UPDATES

Recreational Fisheries

- The Buoy 10 fishery (Columbia mouth upstream to the Tongue Point/Rocky Point line) opened Aug 1 for Chinook and hatchery coho. Season catch estimates include 1,725 Chinook and 3,700 coho from 39,500 angler trips.
- The mainstem Columbia River from the Tongue Point/Rocky Point line upstream to Bonneville Dam opened for Chinook and fin-clipped coho on August 1. Retention of Chinook was prohibited effective September 14, but the fishery remains open for hatchery coho and hatchery steelhead. Catch estimates include 13,200 Chinook and 900 coho from 86,900 angler trips. An estimated 500 additional Chinook and 200 coho would be needed to reopen the fishery.
- The Zone 6 sport fishery opened August 1 from Bonneville Dam to Hwy. 395 near Pasco, Washington. Most fishing activity occurs near tributary mouths. Retention of Chinook was prohibited during September 15-29, but the fishery remained open for coho and hatchery steelhead. Season catch estimates include 600 Chinook.

Non-Indian Mainstem Commercial Fisheries

- The Early Fall fishing season consisted of eight fishing periods occurred from August 2-25. An 8-inch minimum mesh size restriction was in place and a weekly landing limit of seven white sturgeon was maintained throughout the season.
- Preseason expectations for September Chinook and coho fisheries included a harvest of 12,600 Chinook (6,160 URBs) and 6,000 coho. October expectations included 2,200 Chinook (820 URBs) and 12,800 coho
- The late fall season is currently under way, with 7 fishing periods occurring between September 19-October 9.

<i>Non-Indian Commercial Fishery Landings, Fall 2006</i>				
Dates	Deliveries	Chinook	Coho	White Sturgeon
Early Fall Fisheries	Ave 125	10,740	830	1900
Late Fall Fisheries	Ave 100	13,620	26,580	1,890
Sep 19, Z 1-5 (8")	161	6,800	2,500	700
Sep 25, Z 1-5 (9")	95	300	600	600
Sep 27, Z 1-3 (6")	123	1120	7400	50
Sep 27, Z 4-5 (8")	27	1600	400	30
Oct 2-3, Z 1-3 (no min)	196	900	6200	550
Oct 2-3, Z 4-5 (8")	21	1540	330	100
Oct 8-9, Z 1-5 (no min)	227	1360	9150	560
Season Total		24,360	27,410	3,790
<i>September Totals</i>		<i>9,820</i>	<i>10,900</i>	<i>1,380</i>
<i>October Totals</i>		<i>3,800</i>	<i>15,680</i>	<i>1,210</i>

Select Area Commercial Fisheries

- The Youngs Bay Select Area fishery is currently open seven days per week and the other Select Areas are open four nights per week through the end of October.
- Select Area landings to date are tracking below preseason expectations. Total landings for all Select Areas from August 3 through October 5 include 5,800 Chinook, 36,000 coho and 150 white sturgeon.

Sturgeon Harvest

- Through October 9, a total of 7,433 white sturgeon have been landed in commercial fisheries (including Select Areas), leaving 570 available for harvest in 2006.

Treaty Indian Commercial Salmon Fishery

- Preseason catch expectations for treaty Indian fisheries totaled 88,300 Chinook including 57,400 URBs.
- Seven weekly fishing periods have taken place during August 21 through October 6.

<i>2006 Total Treaty-Indian Landings</i>					
Dates	Chinook	URB	Steelhead	Wild B	Coho
August Platform	400	300	1,400	10	10
Commercial					
Aug 21-24	1,700	1500	1,300	35	100
Aug 28-Sep 1	7,100	4,200	1500	40	300
Sep 5-9	17,300	8,400	2,800	130	900
Sep 11-15	17,600	8,300	3,100	230	1,500
Sep 18-22	15,600	6,700	3,400	275	1,800
Sep 25-29	14,500	10,800	4,000	245	1,800
Oct 3-6 (projected)	8,300	5,800	4,000	174	
Late Fall Subsistence (proj.)	100	100			
Commercial Total	82,100	45,700	20,100	1,129	6,400
Total	82,600	46,100	21,500	1,139	6,410

- Sales of platform and hook & line caught fish are ongoing, as well as sales of subsistence fish caught in the tributary fisheries (including Drano Lake) that are regulated by Yakama Nation.

Impacts Summary

2006 Fall Fishery Impacts Summary				
Fishery	Chinook Catch	URB Impacts		
		No.	%	
Treaty Indian Fisheries				
August C&S + Proj. Late Fall Subsistence	460	419		
Commercial through Sep 22	59,325	29,075		
Commercial Sep 25-29 (Proj. Total)	14,500	10,800		
Commercial Oct 2-6 (Proj. Total)	8,300	5,800		
Treaty Indian Total	82,585	46,094		20.40%
Non-Indian Fisheries				
Buoy 10 Sport (Proj. Season Total)	1,725	870		
LCR Sport (through Sep 14)	13,200	8,120		
Zone 6 Sport (proj season total)	600	320		
<i>Sport Total</i>	<i>15,525</i>	<i>9,310</i>		<i>4.12%</i>
Early Fall Commercial	10,728	2,480		
Select Area Commercial (Proj. Total)	4,100	50		
September Commercial Fisheries- Wk 39+40	9,785	4,390		
October Commercial Fisheries -Wk 41-42	3,824	1,110		
October Commercial Fisheries -Wk 43 (projected)	3,640	1300		
<i>Commercial Total</i>	<i>32,077</i>	<i>9,330</i>		<i>4.13%</i>
Non-Treaty Total	47,602	18,640		8.25%
Non-Treaty Total Impact Limit				8.25%
	<i>Sport</i>			<i>50%</i>
	<i>Commercial</i>			<i>50%</i>
Treaty Indian Total Impact Limit				23.04%
URB run Size				225,900

- Treaty Indian impacts to Wild B steelhead are estimated at 12.3% compared to the 15% limit.
- The non-Indian exploitation rate to the ESA-listed LRH component is projected to be 48.2% compared to the guideline of 49%.
- The projected exploitation rates on Columbia River coho are estimated at 13.8% for early coho and 14.9% for late coho.
- The harvest rate on Oregon State-listed wild coho is projected at 7.8%

FISHERY PROPOSALS

<i>Recommendation</i>	
Season:	7 PM Monday October 16 through- 7 PM Tuesday October 17 (12 hours)
Area:	Zones 1-5
Sanctuaries:	Elokomin-A, Abernathy, Cowlitz, Kalama-A, Lewis-A, Sandy and Washougal rivers
Gear:	9-inch minimum and 9 ¾ - inch maximum mesh size
Allowable Sales:	Salmon and sturgeon. A maximum of 8 white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday) that the fishery is open. Green sturgeon retention prohibited.
Other Rules:	Quick Reporting Rules will be in effect for Washington buyers.
Expected Catch:	Sturgeon: 500 Chinook: 1,000 Coho: <200

<i>Recommendation</i>
The Joint Staff recommends re-opening the Columbia River from the Tongue Point/ Rocky Point line upstream to Bonneville Dam for the retention of Chinook under permanent regulations effective 12:01 AM Friday October 13, 2006.

Future Compact Hearings

- The joint staff is not recommending a Compact hearing at this time, but will continue to monitor the ongoing fisheries and review salmon stock status.