

**OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**  
**JOINT STAFF REPORT - FALL FACT SHEET NO. 15**  
**Columbia River Compact**  
**October 17, 2005**

<i>Fisheries Under Consideration:</i>	<b>Non-Indian mainstem commercial Columbia River recreational fisheries</b>
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**MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES**

*Management guidelines, allocations, and run size forecasts for the 2005 fall season were presented in the 2005 Fall Fact Sheets #1 and #10.*

**STOCK STATUS**

***Steelhead and Fall Chinook***

- The in-season steelhead run size for Group A and B index totals 295,800 steelhead compared to the pre-season forecast of 293,300 steelhead at Bonneville Dam. The in-season run-size includes 247,600 Group A index (58,000 wild) and 48,200 Group B index (9,500 wild).
- The in-season Chinook river mouth run size totals 584,800 adults, including 293,400 Upriver Brights (URBs). The preseason runsize totaled 671,400 Chinook adults including 354,600 URBs.

***Coho***

- Preseason expectations total 206,400 coho returning to the Columbia River mouth, including 178,200 early coho and 28,200 late coho.
- Both early and late runs appear to be tracking ahead of pre-season forecast.

***Bonneville Dam***

- Bonneville Dam counts through October 13 total 75,700 adult coho. Total adult coho passage is about 85% complete by October 13.
- The Bonneville Dam passage goal for 2005 included 53,200 early coho and 7,100 late coho.
- Beginning October 1, coho passing Bonneville Dam are considered late stock. Coho counts October 1-13 total over 12,100 coho. Passage for late coho is typically 48% complete by October 13, ranging from 16%-60% between 1983-2004.
- Projected late coho passage based on 5-yr average timing is 25,200 fish. Conservative estimates are 20,200 (based on 60% passage).

***Hatchery Escapement***

- Cowlitz Hatchery is the only facility with significant late coho returns to date.
- On average, returns to Cowlitz Hatchery are 8%-10% complete, ranging between 1%-39% by week 42 (Oct 10-16).

- The Cowlitz Hatchery typically represents 51%-57% of total hatchery escapement, ranging between 30%-72%. A conservative escapement for Cowlitz Hatchery estimate is 23,000 coho.

<i>2005 Late Stock Coho Returns</i>						
Escapement						
	Returns	As of:	Pre-season projection	In-season projection	Goal	Comments
<b>Elochoman H.</b>			280		837	short of goal, based on pre-season
<b>Cowlitz H.</b>	9,235	12-Oct	7,000	36,940	4,200	Will achieve goal
<b>Kalama H.</b>			430		670	short of goal, based on pre-season
<b>Lewis H.</b>	89	12-Oct	4,300		3,260	Too early
<b>Washougal</b>	50	12-Oct	780		750	short of goal, based on pre-season
<b>Total Washington</b>	<b>9,374</b>		<b>12,790</b>		<b>9,717</b>	
<b>Bonneville Dam</b>	12,100	13-Oct	7,100	--	--	Goal achieved

<i>2005 Early Stock Coho Returns</i>						
Escapement						
	Returns	As of:	Pre-season projection	In-season projection	Goal	Comments
<b>Grays H.</b>	800	12-Oct	925	1,000	1,300	On track to meet goal
<b>Elochoman H.</b>	1,180	12-Oct	750	2,360	800	On track to meet goal
<b>Kalama H.</b>	845	12-Oct	1,800	1,690	500	On track to meet goal
<b>Toutle H.</b>	2,617	12-Oct	6,950	5,234	800	On track to meet goal
<b>Lewis H.</b>	15,388	12-Oct	5,050	20,517	1,600	On track to meet goal
<b>Total Washington</b>	<b>20,830</b>		<b>15,475</b>	<b>30,801</b>	<b>5,000</b>	
<b>Big Creek H.</b>	1,659	05-Oct		NA	700	
<b>Eagle Creek NFH</b>	2,000	07-Oct		NA	3,300	
<b>Sandy H.</b>	0	03-Oct		NA	1,200	Fish in system
<b>Bonneville H.</b>	16,658	06-Oct		NA	5,100	Goal achieved
<b>Total Oregon</b>	<b>20,317</b>			<b>NA</b>	<b>10,300</b>	
<b>Bonneville Dam</b>	63,557	30-Sep		53,200	--	Goal achieved

## FISHERY UPDATES

### *Non-Indian Mainstem Commercial Fisheries*

- The early fall season resulted in landings of 11,430 Chinook (3,934 URBs), 87 coho and 2,094 sturgeon. Preseason expectations included 13,130 Chinook (3,470 URBs)
- September Chinook and coho fisheries resulted in landings of 13,600 Chinook (4,330 URBs), 25,900 coho and 2,400 sturgeon. Preseason expectations for September Chinook and coho fisheries included a harvest of 20,310 Chinook (10,330 URBs) and 25,000 coho.
- October fisheries have been reduced substantially in 2005 due to the low forecast of late coho. October pre-season expectations included 650 Chinook (200 URBs) and 2,000 coho.

<i>Late Fall Non-Indian Commercial Fishery Landings, 2005</i>						
Dates	Deliveries	Chinook	Coho	White	Green	
				Sturgeon	Sturgeon	
Sept 19-20 (Z 1-3; small mesh)	295	3,772	13,486	89	2	
Sept 22 (Z 1-3; large mesh)	155	1,943	5,768	273	7	
Sept 19-23 (Z3-5; large mesh)	114	4,648	1,011	334	0	
<b>Wk 39</b>		<b>10,363</b>	<b>20,265</b>	<b>696</b>	<b>9</b>	
Sept 26-27	165	1,748	2,995	941	6	
Sept 28-29	131	1,507	2,651	762	4	
<b>Wk 40</b>		<b>3,255</b>	<b>5,646</b>	<b>1,703</b>	<b>10</b>	
Oct 5-6	132	1,191	4,394	123	0	
Oct 6-7	31	450	220	34		
<b>Wk 41</b>		<b>1,641</b>	<b>4,614</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>0</b>	
Oct 11-12	86	228	162	466	0	
Oct 13-14	54	125	83	261	1	
<b>Wk 42</b>		<b>353</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>727</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Total</b>		<b>15,612</b>	<b>30,770</b>	<b>3,283</b>	<b>20</b>	

### *Sturgeon Harvest*

- Through October 14, 7,640 white sturgeon have been landed in mainstem and Select Area commercial fisheries leaving 543 (includes 183 from 2003-04) available for harvest during the remainder of 2005.

## **Impacts Summary**

<i>Summary of Fishery Impacts During Fall of 2005</i>			
Fishery	Chinook Catch	URB Impacts	
		No.	%
<b>Treaty Indian Fisheries</b>			
August C&S	563	492	0.17%
Commercial	114,521	62,081	21.16%
<b>Treaty Indian Total</b>	<b>115,084</b>	<b>62,573</b>	<b>21.33%</b>
<b>Non-Indian Fisheries</b>			
Buoy 10 Sport	9,210	2,260	0.77%
LCR Sport (Projected)	17,700	10,440	3.56%
Zone 6 Sport (Projected)	1,300	1,100	0.37%
<b>Sport Total</b>	<b>28,210</b>	<b>13,800</b>	<b>4.70%</b>
Early August Commercial	4,707	100	0.03%
Mid-Late August Commercial	6,723	3,830	1.31%
Select Area Commercial (Proj. Total)	10,740	520	0.18%
September Chinook/Coho	13,512	4,370	1.49%
October Commercial Fisheries (Oct 3-14)	1,990	160	0.05%
October Commercial Fisheries (Proj. Oct 10-16)	5,100	1,425	0.49%
<b>Commercial Total</b>	<b>42,772</b>	<b>10,405</b>	<b>3.55%</b>
<b>Non-Indian Total</b>	<b>70,982</b>	<b>24,205</b>	<b>8.25%</b>
<b>URB run Size</b>		<b>293,400</b>	

## FISHERY PROPOSALS

<i>Recommendation</i>	
The Joint Staff recommends adoption of the following commercial salmon fishing periods for the mainstem Columbia River:	
Season:	8AM-6PM Tuesday Oct 18 8PM Tuesday Oct 18 to 5AM Wednesday October 19 8PM Wednesday Oct 19 to 5AM Thursday Oct 20 8PM Friday October 21 to 5AM Saturday October 22
Area:	Zones 1-5
Sanctuaries:	Elokomin- <b>B</b> , Abernathy, Cowlitz, Kalama- <b>B</b> , Lewis- <b>B</b> , Sandy and Washougal rivers
Gear:	8-Inch minimum <b>EXCEPT</b> No minimum mesh size 8AM-6PM Tuesday Oct 18
Allowable Sales:	Salmon and sturgeon. A maximum of 5sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday) that the fishery is open. The sturgeon possession and sales limit includes both mainstem and Select Area fisheries.
Miscellaneous Rules:	Quick Reporting Rules will be in effect for Washington buyers.

- Expected catch 2,000 Chinook, 4,000 coho and 500 sturgeon.

<i>Recommendation</i>
The Joint Staff recommends re-opening the Columbia River from Buoy 10 upstream to the Hwy 395 Bridge for the retention of Chinook under permanent regulations effective 12:01 AM Thursday October 20,2005.

### Future Compact Hearings

- The staff is recommending no additional hearings at this time, but will continue to monitor both sport and commercial fisheries.