

# COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION

## TRIBAL STAFF REPORT SUMMER FACT SHEET NO. 8 July 24, 2008

*Fisheries under consideration: Treaty-Indian Commercial*

### Run Sizes and Forecasts

- Sockeye passage at Bonneville Dam through July 23 totals 213,416 fish. Passage is typically 99% complete by July 23 based on the recent 10-year average.
- Summer Chinook passage at Bonneville Dam totals 49,216 adults during June 16-July 23. Passage is typically 90% complete by July 23 based on the recent 10-year average.
- The counting period for summer Chinook at Priest Rapids Dam is June 14 through August 13. Passage at Priest Rapids is 30,035 summer Chinook through July 20.
- The sockeye count at Lower Granite Dam is 814 through July 23. These counts are significantly higher than the previous record sockeye count since ESA listing of 337 at Lower Granite in 2000 and are higher than any annual count at any Snake River project since 1969.
- TAC met July 9 and downgraded the summer Chinook run from the previous in-season estimate of 57,000 fish to 54,000 fish at the river mouth which is still greater than the pre-season forecast of 52,000. Counts have dropped somewhat and the run may be closer to 52,000.
- TAC also left the previously upgraded sockeye estimate at 230,000 sockeye at the river mouth. The run is tracking closer to approximately 215,000 at the river mouth.
- Based on the current in-season run Chinook estimate (54,000 fish), treaty Indian and non-Indian fisheries are each allocated 12,000 fish. At 52,000, the allowed harvest would be 11,250. Based on a 215,000 sockeye run size estimate, the allowed harvest is 15,050 (7%).

### Columbia River Fisheries

#### Treaty Indian Fisheries

- Five weekly treaty Indian commercial gillnet fishing periods have been adopted during June 23-July 24. Platform hook and line fisheries in Zone 6 have been ongoing since June 16. Yakama Nation tributary and below Bonneville Dam fisheries are also in place.
- Catch estimates are shown in the table below. Projections are included for this week's fishery and for the proposed fishery for next week.
- The preliminary Zone 6 platform hook and line catch is estimated at 449 summer Chinook, 965 steelhead and 3,200 sockeye through July 5. The platform catch during commercial gillnet openings is included in those catch estimates. The projected harvest in the platform hook and line fishery is expected to be 600 Chinook, 1,500 steelhead, and 3,250 sockeye through July 31.

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**2008 Summer Season Zone 6 Tribal Harvest**

Platform	Catch Through 7/20 Projected Total 7/31	Adult	Sockeye	Steelhead
		Chinook		
		449	3,200	965
		600	3,250	1500

**Gillnet**

	Date	Days	Nets	Adult	Sockeye	Steelhead
				Chinook		
	6/23-6/25	2.5	457	2,833	1,786	89
	7/1-7/3	2.5	416	1,591	1,448	183
	7/8-7/10	2.5	306	951	232	428
	7/15-7/17	2.5	251	1639	34	560
Projected	7/22-7/24	2.5	154	1000	30	1000
Projected	7/28-7/31	3.5	~150	1000	25	1000
Platform and Gillnet Through 7/17		10.0		7,463	6,700	2,225
Projected Platform and Gillnet through 7/24		12.5		8,463	6,730	3,225
Projected Gillnet Total 7/31		16.0		9,614	6,805	4,760

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**Impacts**

Summer Chinook

- Treaty Indian harvest is projected to be close to 8,500 fish through July 24. Based on the 54,000 run size, there would be about 3,500 fish remaining for treaty harvest. Based on a 52,000 run size, there would be about 2,750 fish remaining for treaty harvest.

Sockeye

- Total mortalities from treaty fisheries are projected to be also close 6,730 sockeye through July 24. Based on a total of 15,050 harvestable fish allowed under the ESA, there are about 8,300 sockeye available for additional Treaty harvest.

Steelhead

- Based on landings and the preseason forecast, treaty Indian impacts are within the range of impacts for Group A steelhead seen since 2002.

## Recommendations

<i>Treaty Indian Gillnet Fishery</i>		
Dates:	6:00 AM Monday, July 28 to 6:00 PM Thursday, July 31, 2008	3.5 Days
Area:	All of Zone 6	
Gear:	No minimum mesh size restriction	
Sanctuaries:	Standard river mouth and dam sanctuaries applicable to these gear types remain in effect. The Spring Creek Hatchery Sanctuary is not necessary this time of year.	
Allowable Sales:	Chinook, coho, sockeye, steelhead, walleye, carp, and shad may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sturgeon may not be sold. Sturgeon between 4-5 feet in length in The Dalles and John Day pools may be retained for subsistence. Sturgeon between 42-60 inches in the Bonneville Pool may also be retained for subsistence.	
Additional	<b>24-hour</b> Quick reporting rule in effect for Washington buyers	
Expected catch	1,000 Chinook, minimal sockeye and approximately 1,000 steelhead.	

- The expected catches are well within the harvest limits in the U.S. v. Oregon 2008-2017 Management Agreement.

## Future Hearings

- The Treaty tribes may recommend a future Compact hearing to set fall season fisheries that may begin the week of August 18.