
COLUMBIA RIVER ACTION NOTICE

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

September 22, 2021

The following Compact action was taken:

| <i>2021 Treaty Indian Commercial Gillnet Fishery</i> | |
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| Seasons: | 6:00 AM Monday September 27 through 6:00 PM Friday October 1 (4.5 days) |
| Area: | Zone 6 |
| Gear: | Set and Drift Gillnets with an 8-inch minimum mesh size. |
| Allowable Sales: | Salmon (any species), steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish, and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Fish landed during the open periods are allowed to be sold after the period concludes. Sturgeon from 38 to 54 inches fork length in the Bonneville Pool and sturgeon from 43 to 54 inches fork length in The Dalles and John Day pools may be kept for subsistence purposes. |
| Sanctuaries: | Standard closed areas applicable to gillnet gear. The Spring Creek Hatchery Sanctuary is reduced to a 150-foot radius around the hatchery ladder. |
| Additional: | 24-hour quick reporting required for Washington buyers, pursuant to WAC 220-352-315 except that landings must be reported within 24-hours of completing the fish ticket. |

| <i>2021 Non-Treaty Zone 4-5 Mainstem Commercial Fishery</i> | |
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| Season: | 8 PM Sunday September 26 through 6 AM Monday September 27 (Week 40) 1 night 8 PM Wednesday September 29 through 6 AM Thursday September 30 (Week 40) 1 night |
| Area: | Zones 4-5. The deadline at the lower end of Zone 4 is defined as a straight line projected from the Warrior Rock Lighthouse on the Oregon shore easterly through the green navigation Buoy #1 and continuing to the Washington shore. |
| Sanctuaries: | Washougal and Sandy rivers |
| Gear: | Drift gillnets only. 8-inch minimum mesh size restriction. Multiple net rule in effect which means nets not specifically authorized for the fishery may be onboard the vessel if properly stored. A properly stored net is defined as a net on a drum that is fully covered by a tarp (canvas or plastic) and bound with a minimum of ten revolutions of rope with a diameter of 3/8 (0.375) inches or greater. Lighted buoys required. |
| Allowable Sales: | Salmon (except chum), shad, and white sturgeon. A maximum of six white sturgeon with a fork length of 44-50 inches may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday). This white sturgeon possession and sales limit applies to mainstem fisheries only. |

Additional: 24-hour quick reporting required for Washington buyers, pursuant to WAC 220-352-315. Oregon buyers are required to electronically submit fish receiving tickets pursuant to OAR 635-006-0210. Electronic fish tickets must be submitted within 24 hours of closure of the fishing period, or within 24 hours of landing for fishing periods lasting longer than 24 hours.

2021 Non-Treaty Late Fall Tangle Net Commercial Fishery

Season: 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Monday September 27 (Monday and Wednesday 18 hrs each)
 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Wednesday September 29 (Friday 14hrs)
 4:00 AM to 6:00 PM Friday October 1

 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Monday October 4
 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Wednesday October 6
 4:00 AM to 6:00 PM Friday October 8

 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Monday October 11
 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Wednesday October 13
 4:00 AM to 6:00 PM Friday October 15

 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Monday October 18
 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Wednesday October 20
 4:00 AM to 6:00 PM Friday October 22

 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Monday October 25
 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Wednesday October 27
 4:00 AM to 6:00 PM Friday October 29

Area: Zones 1-3. Upper deadline defined as a straight line projected from the Warrior Rock Lighthouse on the Oregon shore easterly through the green navigation Buoy #1 and continuing to the Washington shore.

Sanctuaries: Elokomin-A, Cowlitz River, Kalama-A and Lewis-A

Gear: Drift nets only. Maximum mesh size is 3-3/4 inches. Unslackened, single-wall, multi-filament floater nets only. Monofilament nets are not allowed.
 Net length not to exceed 150 fathoms.
 A red cork must be placed on the corkline every 25 fathoms as measured from the first mesh of the net. Red corks at 25-fathom intervals must be in color contrast to the corks used in the remainder of the net.
 There are no restrictions on the hang ratio. The hang ratio is used to horizontally add slack to the net. The hang ratio is determined by the length of the web per length of the corkline. The use of slackers or stringers to slacken the net vertically is prohibited. Rip lines are allowed providing they do not vertically slacken the net.

Allowable Sales: Salmon (except chum), shad, and white sturgeon; all Coho must be adipose fin-clipped. A maximum of six white sturgeon with a fork length of 44-50 inches may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday). This white sturgeon possession and sales limit applies to mainstem fisheries only.

Regulations: Regulations typically in place for mark-selective commercial fisheries are in effect, including but not limited to: net length, use of recovery boxes, limited soak times, red corks, tangle-net certification, etc.

Soak times, defined as the time elapsed from when the first of the web is deployed into the water until the web is fully retrieved from the water, must not exceed 30 minutes.

Recovery Box: Each boat will be required to have on board two operable recovery boxes or one box with two chambers that meet the flow and size requirements standard for the winter/spring season. Each box and chamber and associated pump shall be operating during any time that the net is being retrieved or picked. All non-legal fish must be released immediately unharmed to the river or placed into an operating recovery box. All non-legal salmon and all steelhead that are bleeding, lethargic or appear lifeless must be placed in the recovery box prior to being released. All fish placed in recovery boxes must be released to the river prior to landing or docking.

Measuring mesh size: Mesh size is determined by placing three consecutive meshes under hand tension and the measurement is taken from the inside of one knot to the inside of the opposite knot of the center mesh. Hand tension means sufficient linear tension to draw opposing knots of meshes into contact.

Live Capture workshop: Only licensed Columbia River commercial fishers that have completed the required state-sponsored workshop concerning live capture commercial fishing techniques may participate in this fishery. At least one fisher on each boat must have live capture certification.

Additional Rules:

Multiple net rule in effect: Nets not specifically authorized for use in this fishery may be onboard the vessel if properly stored. A properly stored net is defined as a net on a drum that is fully covered by a tarp (canvas or plastic) and bound with a minimum of ten revolutions of rope with a diameter of 3/8 (0.375) inches or greater.

Lighted Buoys: Nets that are fished at any time between official sunset and official sunrise must have lighted buoys on both ends of the net unless the net is attached to the boat. If the net is attached to the boat, then one lighted buoy on the opposite end of the net from the boat is required.

24-hour quick reporting required is for Washington wholesale dealers, per WAC 220-352-315. Oregon buyers are required to electronically submit fish receiving tickets pursuant to OAR 635-006-0210. Electronic fish tickets must be submitted within 24 hours of closure of the fishing period, or within 24 hours of landing for fishing periods lasting longer than 24 hours.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- A Compact hearing is scheduled for 11:00 AM Wednesday September 29, 2021 via teleconference to consider additional non-treaty commercial and recreational fisheries. Additional treaty Indian commercial gillnet fisheries may also be considered.