



2015 Non-Indian Columbia River Summer/Fall Fishery Allocation Agreement May 8, 2015

Management Intent for Summer and Fall Season Fisheries

- This agreement reflects the intent of the Washington and Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission policies and the management objective to optimize non-Indian commercial and recreational fisheries while remaining within the limitations of the Endangered Species Act (ESA).
- This agreement was developed during the March and April 2015 Pacific Fisheries Management Council and North of Falcon meetings, which included input from the public and commercial and recreational fishery representatives.
- Management objectives for Columbia River fisheries include maximizing the harvest of healthy stocks of fall Chinook and hatchery Coho, while remaining within the limits for all ESA-listed stocks.
- The non-Indian conservation responsibility for ESA-listed salmon and steelhead is shared between recreational and commercial fisheries.
- The preseason forecast, after ocean fisheries, for Upriver Bright fall Chinook (URB) at the Columbia River mouth is 518,300 adult fish and includes 20,900 Snake River wild fall Chinook (SRW). Based on these forecasts, the ESA limit on SRW Chinook is 15% for Columbia River non-Indian fisheries.
- For 2015, the most constraining fall Chinook stock is lower Columbia River wild/natural tule Chinook (LCR tule). The Lower River Hatchery (LRH) stock is the surrogate for LCR tules. The ESA limitation is a 41% exploitation rate (ER) for both ocean and Columbia River fisheries; however, guidance for the 2015 fisheries is 40%. Columbia River fisheries were modeled with an 8.7% ER (22% of the total).
- Preseason shares of LCR tule impacts for Columbia River fisheries are expected to be 70% recreational and 30% commercial. Shares for URB/SRW impacts are expected to be 55% recreational and 45% commercial.
- The preseason Coho forecast is 539,600 adults to the Columbia River (nearly 800,000 ocean abundance). The ESA limitation for Lower Columbia River wild/natural (LCN) Coho is a 23% ER under the new matrix implemented in 2015. The ER from Columbia River fisheries is expected to be 9.4%, or 41% of the total allowed.

Preseason Fishery Expectations

- The fall fishery expectations outlined in this agreement are based on the Chinook Model Run "MR2015-Final Preseason".
- Catch estimates are primarily based on stock-specific preseason abundance forecasts and past stock-specific harvest rates.
- For Columbia River recreational and commercial fall-season fisheries, the Columbia River Compact/Joint States will use the expected preseason shares of LCR and URB-Chinook and LCN Coho impacts for each fishery combined with the state commissions policy objectives and the *U.S. v. Oregon* Management Agreement as the primary guidance for making in-season management decisions.
- Preseason catch expectations for adult fall Chinook in mainstem fisheries (excluding tributary recreational and commercial Select Area Fisheries) are 74,100 fish in recreational fisheries (50%) and 74,600 adults in commercial fisheries (50%).
- Harvest, season structures, and impacts accrued will be influenced by actual fall Chinook abundances and stock-specific harvest rates by each respective fishery.

Goals/expectations for the recreational fishery include:

- The Buoy 10 recreational fishery will begin on August 1 with a two fish/one Chinook daily limit through September 7 (Labor Day).
 - o From September 8 through September 30, Chinook retention is closed.
 - o From October 1 through December 31, the daily limit will be two fish/two Chinook.
 - o In-season considerations will include the potential for a Chinook mark-selective fishery (MSF) during all or part of the scheduled Chinook non-retention period (Sept. 8-30). Any decision to extend the fishery beyond policy objectives will be made in season and will take into account fishery performance to-date.
 - Harvest (including release mortality) expectations include 34,800 Chinook
 (4.1% LCR Wild ER) and 45,800 hatchery Coho (6,900 unmarked mortalities).
- The mainstem recreational fishery from the Rocky Point/Tongue Point line upstream to Bonneville Dam will be open August 1 through December 31 but Chinook retention seasons and bag limits vary by river section with the intent of maximizing opportunity while minimizing impacts to LCR tule Chinook.
 - o From the Rocky Point/Tongue Point line upstream to the Lewis River/Warrior Rock line, Chinook retention is allowed August 1 through September 7 followed by a Chinook MSF (adipose fin clip) period from September 8 - 14. The daily limit for both fisheries is two fish/one Chinook. Beginning October 1, Chinook retention will reopen with a two fish/two Chinook daily limit.
 - From the Lewis River/Warrior Rock line upstream to the lower end of the Steamboat Landing dock near Washougal, WA, the fishery will be open for Chinook retention August 1 through December 31 with a two fish/two Chinook daily limit.

- From Steamboat Landing upstream to Bonneville Dam, the fishery will be open for Chinook retention August1 through December 31 with a three fish/three Chinook daily limit.
- Harvest (including release mortality) expectations include 30,200 adult Chinook (2.0% LCR Wild ER) and 3,200 adult hatchery Coho.
- The mainstem recreational fishery from Bonneville Dam upstream to the Highway 395 Bridge in Pasco, Washington will begin on August 1 with a three fish/three Chinook daily limit through December 31. The kept catch expectation is 9,000 adult Chinook.
- To maximize opportunity, recreational fisheries are expected to remain open for hatchery coho and hatchery steelhead August 1 through December 31 throughout the river, including times and areas closed to Chinook retention.
- During all fall fisheries (August 1 through December 31) from Buoy 10 upstream to the OR/WA border (upstream of McNary Dam) each legal angler aboard a vessel may continue to deploy angling gear until the daily adult salmonid bag limit for all anglers aboard has been achieved.
- The dates, area restrictions, and catch expectations described above are based on preseason planning and input from the recreational fishing community. In-season events may change many of these expectations.

Goals/expectations for the commercial fishery include:

- The August (Early Fall) fishery is modeled to begin the week of August 9 and is expected to continue through the end of August, with fishing periods of two to three days per week. Fishery structure is expected to include 9-hour (9 PM-6 AM) periods in Zones 4-5 with a 9-inch minimum mesh size. The catch expectation is 47,500 adult Chinook (1.7% LCR Wild ER). Additional fishing period(s) with reduced area or hours may be considered in early September to meet harvest guidelines.
- The Late Fall fishery is expected to begin the week of September 13 in Zones 4-5 with 8-inch or 9-inch minimum mesh. The catch expectation is 19,100 adult Chinook (0.6% LCR Wild ER).
- Coho-directed fishing periods using 3.75- inch tangle nets (MSF) are expected to occur throughout October. Fishing periods using conventional 6-inch maximum mesh nets are expected to begin in late September/early October (if impacts allow) and continue through October. As in past years, target Coho fisheries will likely occur during daylight hours in Zones 1-3. Based on preseason forecasts, up to 51,600 Coho may be available for commercial mainstem fisheries. The interim tangle net release mortality rate will be 30% for unclipped adult Coho.
- Limited commercial beach and purse seine fisheries are also expected to occur in Zones 2-4 during the fall of 2015. Season structure will be determined in-season through the Columbia River Compact. Preseason modeling set aside 10% (0.3%) of the LCR Wild impacts available to commercial fisheries. The kept catch expectation is around 5,000 adult Chinook.
- A limited beach and purse seine research fishery is expected to occur in Zone 5. Associated impacts would fall under research impacts.

- The dates, areas, gear restrictions, and catch expectations described above are based on preseason planning and input from the commercial fishing industry. In-season events may change many of these expectations.
- Sturgeon harvest will be prohibited, consistent with the policies adopted by the Fish and Wildlife Commissions of both Washington and Oregon.

Summer Chinook and Sockeye Fishery Expectations:

- The preseason forecast for upper Columbia summer Chinook is 73,000 fish to the Columbia River. The ocean harvest in non-Indian fisheries south of the U.S./Canada border is modeled at 5,000 fish. Based on an escapement goal of 29,000 adult fish to the Columbia River mouth and the *U.S v Oregon* Management Agreement, the allowable harvest (including release mortality) for all non-Indian fisheries in the Columbia River is 21,000 fish.
- Based on the WDFW Upper Columbia Management Agreement, the available harvest for fisheries downstream from Priest Rapids Dam is 5,500 Chinook (34.3% of available in-river). Commission guidance allocates the harvestable share 70% recreational and 30% commercial in 2015.
- The mainstem recreational fishery from the Astoria-Megler Bridge upstream to Bonneville Dam will be open from June 16 through July 6 for hatchery summer Chinook, with a two fish/two Chinook daily limit. The management guideline for this fishery is 3,200 summer Chinook. Staff will monitor the fishery in-season and potentially recommend modifications to the July portion of the fishery (which may include extending the season or allowing the retention of any Chinook).
- The mainstem recreational fishery from Bonneville Dam upstream to Priest Rapids Dam will be open from June 16 through July 31 for hatchery summer Chinook, with a two fish/two Chinook daily limit. The management guideline for this fishery is 600 summer Chinook.
- The commercial fishery downstream from Bonneville Dam may open as early as June 17. Additional fishing periods may occur later, depending on catch and run status. The management guideline for this fishery is 1,600 summer Chinook.
- The preseason forecast for sockeye is 394,000 fish. Non-Indian fisheries downstream of the Snake River are managed for an impact limit of ≤1% of the run, (~3,900 fish). Retention of sockeye will be allowed during recreational and commercial summer Chinook fisheries.

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Columbia River Fall Chinook Fishery Model Summary

Ocean Option:

Columbia River Model Option:

Option 1 April R. Park

Model MR2015-Final Pre-Season

8-May-15 2:50 PM

2015 Final Pre-Season

Management Guidelines	/Guideline	SRW	Total URB
Harvest Rate	45.0%	42.69%	42.92%
Non-Indian	15.0%	12.58%	12.92%
Treaty Indian	30.0%	30.12%	30.00%
% of Harvestable Surplus		Total	
Non-Indian	50%	28%	1
Treaty Indian	50%	38%	
McNary Escapement	60,000	249,400	
LRH Ocean/Inriver Exp. Rate	41%	40.0%	
Non-Indian Wild B Index Steelhead	2%	1.9%	
Commercial Wild B Impact	NA	0.54%	
Treaty Indian Total B Index Steelhead	20%	20%	
Upriver Coho to Bonneville Dam	50%	65%	
Lower Columbia Chum	5%	1.4%	

21/2/19		Non-Ind	ian Catch Sh	aring		MARKET IN				
SR	W - IMPAC	CTS	Brights - Mainstem							
	Impact	Percent		Mortalities	Percent	Harvest				
Sport	6.83%	55%	Sport	52,700	57%	40,900				
Comm	5.62%	45%	Comm	39,400	43%	38,500				
L	RH - Impac	ets		Chinook - N	Mainstem					
	Impact	Percent		Mortalities	Percent	Harvest				
Sport	6.09%	70%	Sport	74,100	50%	59,800				
Comm	2.61%	30%	Comm	74,600	50%	73,400				

Ocean Harvest			Total 152,150	LRH 42,790	LRW 1,040	BPH 86,900	URB 17,210	BUB 1,020	LRB 40	PUB 3,150	SAB	SRW	LRH ER	SRW
Columbia River Run			925,340	96,760	19,350	163,890	518,320	25,220	1,370	88,130	12,180	20,900	8.7%	
Harvest Below Bonneville		Fishery Description												
Aug 3 Week 32	0.0 days	Week of Aug 2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0
Aug 10 Week 33	2.4 days	Week of Aug 9	3,130	80	0	1,110	1,750	20	0	130	30	70	0.1%	0.3
Aug 17 Week 34	2.0 days	Week of Aug 16	4,900	430	0	1.960	2.240	40	0	180	40	90	0.3%	0.4
Aug 24 Week 35	3.0 days	Week of Aug 23	32,950	1,800	0	16,880	11,330	630	30	2,160	110	460	1.1%	2.2
L. August/E. Sep	5.0 hours	Week of Aug 30	6,550	380	0	3,200	2,360	130	10	450	20	100	0.2%	0.5
Sept/Oct Z4-5	3.0 days	Week of Sept 13	19,130	920	810	4,550	9,280	1.180	50	2.340	0	380	0.6%	1.8
Seine Fishery	•	Aug -Sep	6,220	1,250	70	2,520	1,620	220	0	430	100	40	0.3%	0.2
October Coho/Chinook	Week of Oct 11	Coho target	1,130	30	130	10	580	240	10	130	0	20	0.0%	0.1
October Tanglenet	Sept 27-Oct 10	Coho target	540	10	60	0	280	110	10	60	0	10	0.0%	0.1
Select Areas		Average season	16,550	8,200	0	730	870	130	0	330	6,270	40	0.0%	0.1
Buoy 10 Kept + Morts		Thru Sept 7	34,840	5,640	220	8,500	12,260	700	40	1,150	3,550	490	4.1%	2.4
TP to Lewis	Plus 1 wk MSF	Thru Sept 7	19,380	3,510	0	540	12,750	470	20	2,000	100	460	1.7%	2.2
Lewis to Bonn		Aug 1-Dec 31	10,820	350	0	60	8,520	480	30	1,390	0	340	0.3%	1.6
Tributary Sport		Full season	10,100	7,210	2,900	0	0,020	0	0	1,550	0	0	0.0%	0.0
Lower River Total		,	166,250	29,800	4,190	40,060	63,850	4,340	200	10,770	10,240	2,500	8.7%	11.989
Bonneville Dam Passage			648,980			117,410	454,470	5,770		71,320		18,400		
Harvest Above Bonneville														
Zone 6 - Bonn to Hwy 395		Average season	9.040				3,110	10		5,920		130		0.6
Treaty Comm. and C&S		Average season	286,650			91,960	155,500	2,930		36,270		6,290		30.0
Hanford Reach Sport		Average season	14,780			- 1,000	14,780	2,000		00,210		0,230		50.0
McNary Dam Passage Lower Granite Dam Passage			249,370				249,370							
Lower Granite Daili Fassage														
Escapement				66,950		25,460		15,100		29,130	2,060			
Hatchery				37,140		18,960		14,040		20,110	1,190			
Natural				29,810	15,160	6,490	249,370	1,060	1,170	18,760	870			
Hatchery Surplus				22,510		11,960		14,040		8,370	290			
Natural Surplus					7,140		189,370							