
COLUMBIA RIVER ACTION NOTICE

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

January 24, 2023

The following action was taken:

Recreational Fisheries

2023 The Dalles Pool Recreational White Sturgeon Fishery

Effective 11:59 PM Wednesday, January 25 the retention of sturgeon is prohibited in the mainstem Columbia River from The Dalles Dam upstream to John Day Dam (The Dalles Pool), and all adjacent tributaries.

2023 John Day Pool Recreational White Sturgeon Fishery

Effective 11:59 PM Sunday, January 29 the retention of sturgeon is prohibited in the mainstem Columbia River from John Day Dam upstream to McNary Dam (John Day Pool), and all adjacent tributaries.

Non-Treaty Commercial Fisheries

2023 Mainstem Commercial Smelt Fishery

Season:	Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays (5 AM to 5 PM) January 25 through March 16. 23 periods
Area:	Zones 1-3
Gear:	Gillnet only. Mesh size may not exceed two inches stretch measure. Nets may not exceed 1,500 feet in length along the cork line.
Allowable Sales:	Smelt
Misc. Regulations:	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. 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 more than 24 hours.

Treaty Commercial Fisheries

<i>2023 Treaty Indian Winter Season Commercial Gillnet Fishery</i>	
Season:	6 AM Wednesday February 1 to 6 PM Monday February 13 (12.5 days)
Area:	The John Day Pool only
Gear:	Gillnets with no minimum mesh size restriction
Sanctuaries:	Closed areas include standard closed standard dam and river mouth areas applicable to gillnet gear.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon (any species), steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish, and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sturgeon from 43 to 54 inches fork length in John Day Pool may be sold or kept for subsistence purposes. Fish landed during the open periods are allowed to be sold after the period concludes.
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>2023 Treaty Indian Winter Season Commercial Gillnet Fishery</i>	
Season:	6 AM Saturday February 4 to 6 PM Monday February 6 (2.5 days)
Area:	The Dalles Pool only
Gear:	Gillnets with no minimum mesh size restriction.
Sanctuaries:	Closed areas include standard closed standard dam and river mouth areas applicable to gillnet gear.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon (any species), steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish, and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sturgeon from 43 to 54 inches fork length in The Dalles may be sold or kept for subsistence purposes. Fish landed during the open periods are allowed to be sold after the period concludes.
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>2023 Treaty Indian Winter Platform and Hook and Line Fishery</i>	
Season:	6 AM Wednesday February 1 to 6 PM Saturday March 18
Area:	All of Zone 6
Gear:	Hoop Nets, Dip Nets, Hook and Line
Sanctuaries:	Closed areas include standard closed standard dam and river mouth areas applicable to platform and hook and line gear.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon (any species), steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish, and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sturgeon from 38 to 54 inches fork length in the Bonneville Pool and from 43 to 54 inches fork length in The Dalles and John Day Pools may be kept for subsistence purposes. Sturgeon within the legal-size limit and caught in the platform and hook and line fishery may only be sold only if caught during the open period and open Pool of an open gillnet fishery. Fish landed during the open periods are allowed to be sold after the period concludes.
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.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- A Compact Hearing is scheduled for 10 AM February 9, 2023 via teleconference to consider treaty commercial fisheries.
- A Compact Hearing is scheduled for 10 AM February 14, 2023 via teleconference to consider Select Area (winter-summer) and treaty commercial fisheries.
- A hybrid Joint State Hearing is scheduled for 10 AM February 22, 2023 to consider mainstem Columbia River recreational spring Chinook fisheries. The meeting will be held at the WDFW Ridgefield office (5525 S. 11th Street, Ridgefield, Washington 98642), and a teleconference call-in option will be available.