
COLUMBIA RIVER ACTION NOTICE

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

September 7, 2023

The following actions were taken:

Treaty

2023 Treaty Indian Commercial Gillnet Fishery

Seasons:	6:00 AM Monday September 11 through 6:00 PM Friday September 15 (4.5 days) 6:00 AM Monday September 18 through 6:00 PM Friday September 22 (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 sanctuaries applicable to gillnet gear. The standard 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.

Recreational

2023 Buoy 10 Recreational Salmon Fishery

Effective 12:01 AM September 8 through December 31, retention of Chinook and hatchery Coho is allowed in the mainstem Columbia River from the Buoy 10 line upstream to west Puget Island. The daily adult bag limit is three salmon, of which only one may be a Chinook. All other previously adopted and permanent regulations remain in effect.

Commercial

2023 Non-Treaty Late Fall Tangle Net Commercial Fishery

Season:	4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Monday September 18 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Wednesday September 20 4:00 AM to 6:00 PM Friday September 22 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Monday September 25 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Tuesday September 26 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Wednesday September 27 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Thursday September 28 4:00 AM to 6:00 PM Friday September 29 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Monday October 2 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Tuesday October 3 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Wednesday October 4 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Thursday October 5 4:00 AM to 6:00 PM Friday October 6 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Monday October 9 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Tuesday October 10 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Wednesday October 11 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Thursday October 12 4:00 AM to 6:00 PM Friday October 13 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Monday October 16 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Tuesday October 17 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Wednesday October 18 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Thursday October 19 4:00 AM to 6:00 PM Friday October 20 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Monday October 23 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Tuesday October 24 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Wednesday October 25 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM Thursday October 26 4:00 AM to 6:00 PM Friday October 27	Twenty-eight periods (Monday through Thursday 18 hrs each) (Friday 14hrs)
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 <u>prohibited</u> . Rip lines are allowed providing they do not vertically slacken the net.	
Allowable Sales:	Salmon (except chum) and shad; all Coho must be adipose fin-clipped.	

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 1 PM Wednesday September 20, 2023 to consider Treaty Indian commercial gillnet fisheries. The Joint Staff will monitor fisheries and recommend additional hearings as necessary.