COLUMBIA RIVER INTER TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION JOINT STAFF REPORT: FALL FACT SHEET NO. 13

Columbia River Compact November 25, 2014

Fisheries under consideration: Treaty Indian commercial sturgeon setline

Stock Status and Management Guidelines

- The treaty commercial sturgeon harvest guideline for The Dalles Pool is 1,000 fish.
- The states and tribes will be reviewing updated stock assessment data in early 2015 and could modify the 2015 treaty commercial and sport harvest guidelines if warranted.

2014 Treaty-Indian Fisheries

2014 Fall Sturgeon Set line Fishery

- Only 345 sturgeon were harvested in 2014 winter season tribal commercial fisheries in The Dalles Pool. The 2014 commercial harvest guideline is 1,000. There were 655 fish remaining on the harvest guideline at the end of the winter season.
- The tribes established a late fall setline fishery that began on October 27 and was scheduled to close at 6:00 PM on Saturday November 29.
- Harvest through November 24 was only 15 sturgeon.
- Effort was lower than anticipated, but fishers are interested in continuing the fishery. The tribes have decided to extend commercial setline fishery in The Dalles Pool to target some of these remaining fish as stated in the following:

2014 Treaty-Indian Commercial Sturgeon Setline Fishery - The Dalles Pool

Effective immediately – extend the ongoing season through 11:59 p.m. December 31, 2014.

- All regulations previously adopted remain in place.
- This action would continue the fishery until permanent regulations take effect on January
- Assuming effort remains light in this fishery, the tribes anticipate less than 25 additional sturgeon would be harvested in this fishery through the remainder of 2014 and the total commercial catch in The Dalles pool for 2014 will be substantially less than the allowed catch under the agreed to harvest guideline.
- A commercial set line fishery begins in each of the three Zone 6 pools on January 1. Effort is normally light in this fishery.
- Winter setline fisheries are a popular fishery among certain treaty fishers. Income from these fisheries can be important during a time of year with less commercial fishing activity.