

**OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**  
**JOINT STAFF REPORT - WINTER FACT SHEET NO. 2**  
**Columbia River Compact/Joint State Hearing**  
**February 8, 2011**

***Fisheries under consideration:***

- Non-treaty commercial salmon fishing plans and regulations
- Select Area commercial fisheries
- Non-treaty recreational salmon and sturgeon fisheries

**STOCK STATUS**

***Upriver Spring Chinook***

The upriver spring Chinook run is defined as all spring Chinook destined for areas above Bonneville Dam and Snake River summer Chinook. Chinook passing Bonneville Dam between January 1 and June 15 are considered upriver spring Chinook. Snake River wild spring/summer Chinook and upper Columbia wild spring Chinook are components of this run and are federally-listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Spring Chinook returning to other tributaries above Bonneville Dam are part of this run but are not ESA-listed. Based on the recent ten-year average, Bonneville Dam passage is usually 50% complete by May 4. Over the past ten years, runs have averaged around 223,000 adult fish (range 86,000 to 440,000).

***Willamette Spring Chinook***

Willamette River spring Chinook tend to return earlier and exhibit broader migration timing than upriver spring Chinook. Wild spring Chinook destined for portions of the Willamette River and its tributaries are ESA-listed. Over the past ten years, runs have averaged around 75,000 fish (range 27,000 to 143,000).

***Lower Columbia Spring Chinook***

Spring Chinook returning to the tributaries of the lower Columbia River are destined for the Cowlitz, Kalama, Lewis, and Sandy rivers and Select Areas. Wild components of this group are ESA-listed, with the exception of the Select Area fish. Over the past ten years, the combined return has averaged around 22,000 fish (range 10,000 to 40,000) in the tributaries and 7,500 fish (range 2,500 to 24,000) in Select Areas.

***Winter Steelhead***

The geographic range of winter steelhead includes all tributaries of the Columbia River upstream to Fifteen Mile Creek on the Oregon shore and the Klickitat River on the Washington shore. ESA-listed wild winter steelhead include populations from the Cowlitz River upstream to the uppermost range, and specific areas above Willamette Falls. All steelhead handled downstream of Bonneville Dam during November through April are considered to be winter steelhead. Over the past ten years, wild winter steelhead returns have averaged around 20,000 fish (range 11,000 to 33,000).

<i>Columbia River Mouth Salmon and Steelhead Returns - Actual and Forecasts**</i>					
			<b>2010 Forecast</b>	<b>2010 Return</b>	<b>2011 Forecast</b>
<b>Spring Chinook</b>	<b>Total Spring Chinook</b>		<b>559,900</b>	<b>470,850</b>	<b>331,800</b>
	Willamette		62,700	110,500	104,100
	Sandy		3,700	8,100	5,500
	Cowlitz*		12,500	8,900	6,600
	Kalama*		900	750	600
	Lewis*		6,000	2,800	3,400
	Select Areas		4,100	24,500	13,200
	<b>Lower River total</b>		<b>89,900</b>	<b>155,550</b>	<b>133,400</b>
	Wind*		14,000	10,000	4,900
	Drano Lake*		28,900	24,400	12,600
	Klickitat*		4,500	1,900	2,100
	Yakima*		16,600	11,000	10,300
	Upper Columbia	Total	57,300	38,100	22,400
	<i>Upper Columbia</i>	<i>Wild</i>	<i>5,700</i>	<i>3,100</i>	<i>2,000</i>
	Snake River	Total	272,000	169,800	91,100
	Spring/Summer				
	<i>Snake River</i>	<i>Wild</i>	<i>73,400</i>	<i>35,600</i>	<i>24,700</i>
	<b>Upriver Total</b>		<b>470,000</b>	<b>315,300</b>	<b>198,400</b>
<b>Summer Chinook</b>	<b>Upper Columbia</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>88,800</b>	<b>72,300</b>	<b>91,900</b>
<b>Sockeye</b>	Wenatchee		14,300	66,300	33,000
	Okanogan		110,300	318,900	126,800
	Snake River	<i>Wild</i>	<i>600</i>	<i>2,600</i>	<i>2,100</i>
	<b>Total Sockeye</b>		<b>125,200</b>	<b>387,900</b>	<b>161,900</b>
<b>Steelhead</b>					
<b>Winter</b>	Wild winter steelhead	Wild	20,100	19,000	15,200
<b>Upriver Summer</b> (to Bonneville Dam)	Upriver Skamania Index	<b>Total</b>	<b>16,400</b>	<b>29,300</b>	
		<i>Wild</i>	<i>3,300</i>	<i>10,400</i>	
	Group A-run Index	<b>Total</b>	<b>337,500</b>	<b>304,000</b>	
		<i>Wild</i>	<i>107,000</i>	<i>120,500</i>	
	Group B-run Index	<b>Total</b>	<b>99,100</b>	<b>77,100</b>	
		<i>Wild</i>	<i>14,300</i>	<i>22,400</i>	
	<b>Total Upriver Steelhead</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>453,000</b>	<b>410,400</b>	
		<i>Wild</i>	<i>124,600</i>	<i>153,300</i>	

\*Return to tributary mouth

\*\*Totals may not sum due to rounding

### **White Sturgeon**

Abundance estimates for white sturgeon in the lower Columbia River are derived mainly from annual mark/recapture studies. Angler success (CPUE) is also used as an index of population size. The abundance of legal-size fish (38-54 inches fork length (FL)) has declined from averages of 131,400 during 1998-2007 and 91,100 during 2008-2010, to 77,000 projected for 2011. Catch rates of sub-legal and legal-sized white sturgeon have also been declining recently. These trends, combined with increasing pinniped predation have resulted in harvest reductions.

## MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

### Salmon and steelhead

#### **2008-2017 U.S. v Oregon Management Agreement**

- The 2008-2017 U.S. v Oregon Management Agreement (MA) provides the treaty and non-treaty fishery harvest framework and harvest rate schedules for salmon and steelhead stocks destined for areas upstream of Bonneville Dam.
- The MA includes an abundance-based sliding scale harvest schedule for upriver spring Chinook. Based on the MA and the preseason forecast, impacts during 2011 are limited to 11% for all fisheries, with 1.9% for non-treaty fisheries and 9.1% for treaty Indian fisheries.
- Through implementation of the harvest schedule, the parties to U.S. v Oregon expect to achieve catch balancing, where the catch of upriver spring Chinook in treaty Indian and non-treaty fisheries is approximately equal.
- Fisheries will be managed to meet the catch balance provisions in the MA for upriver spring Chinook. Under these provisions, non-treaty fisheries will be managed to remain within the ESA allowed impacts, *and* be managed not to exceed the total allowable catch available for treaty fisheries. The following table is the harvest schedule from the MA and reflects the allowable catch and associated ESA impacts for treaty and non-treaty fisheries.

<b>Spring Management Period Harvest Rate Schedule</b>						
Total Upriver Run Size	SNAKE RIVER NATURAL Run Size	Treaty Harvest Rate	Treaty Catch Guideline	Non-Treaty Harvest Rate	Non-Treaty Mortality Guideline	Total Harvest Rate
<27,000	<2,700	5.0%		<0.5%		<5.5%
27,000	2,700	5.0%	1,350	0.5%	1,350	5.5%
33,000	3,300	5.0%	1,650	1.0%	1,650	6.0%
44,000	4,400	6.0%	2,640	1.0%	2,640	7.0%
55,000	5,500	7.0%	3,850	1.5%	3,850	8.5%
82,000	8,200	7.4%	6,068	1.6%	6,068	9.0%
109,000	10,900	8.3%	9,047	1.7%	9,047	10.0%
141,000	14,100	9.1%	12,831	1.9%	12,831	11.0%
217,000	21,700	10.0%	21,700	2.0%	21,700	12.0%
271,000	27,100	10.8%	29,268	2.2%	29,268	13.0%
326,000	32,600	11.7%	38,142	2.3%	38,142	14.0%
380,000	38,000	12.5%	47,500	2.5%	47,500	15.0%
434,000	43,400	13.4%	58,156	2.6%	58,156	16.0%
488,000	48,800	14.3%	69,784	2.7%	69,784	17.0%

- The MA also specifies that non-treaty fisheries occurring prior to a run size update will be managed for a run size that is at least 30% less than the forecasted run size.
- A run size of 138,880 is 30% less than the preseason forecast of 198,400 upriver fish, and equates to an allowable harvest of 11,527 upriver fish. Non-treaty fisheries will be managed for this number prior to a run size update.

### ***Endangered Species Act***

- A Biological Opinion (BO) based upon the management actions outlined in the 2008-2017 MA was issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in 2008.
- Impacts to wild winter steelhead are limited to 2% for all mainstem Columbia River non-Indian fisheries.

### ***Willamette Spring Chinook Management***

- The Willamette River Fisheries Management Evaluation Plan (FMEP) limits freshwater fishery impacts on wild Willamette River spring Chinook to <15%.
- The Willamette River FMEP includes a sliding scale for escapement goals based on abundance of hatchery fish and determines allocation of surplus hatchery spring Chinook to recreational and commercial fisheries downstream of Willamette Falls. The escapement goals are also intended to allow for full recreational fisheries in the upper Willamette River.
- Based on the FMEP and an expected return of 83,300 hatchery Willamette River spring Chinook (46,400 fish surplus above the FMEP escapement goal of 36,900 hatchery fish) the harvestable surplus is allocated 70% for recreational fisheries downstream of Willamette Falls (including the mainstem Columbia River) and 30% to commercial fisheries (including Select Areas).

### **2011 Spring Chinook Management**

- The Washington and Oregon Fish and Wildlife commissions have provided guidance on spring Chinook management. This direction combined with catch balance provisions in the *U.S. v Oregon* MA, result in the following limitations for 2011:
  1. Non-treaty fisheries will be managed for a 30% run size buffer prior to the run update as specified in the MA.
  2. **Prior to the run update**, allocation of upriver fish including release mortalities will be:
    - a. 7,750 fish for the recreational fishery below Bonneville Dam
    - b. 1,050 fish for the recreational fishery from Bonneville Dam to the OR/WA state line
    - c. 600 fish for recreational fisheries in the Snake River
    - d. 1,900 fish for the mainstem commercial fishery
    - e. 200 fish for Select Area commercial fisheries

### **2011 Sturgeon Management**

- The Commissions have provided policy guidance for 2011-13 white sturgeon fisheries.
- The 2011-2013 white sturgeon annual harvest guideline will be 17,000 fish or less, depending on legal-size abundance. The 2011 guideline will be 17,000 which represents a reduction of nearly 30% from 2010 (24,000 guideline), and a 58% reduction from the 2003-2009 guideline of 40,000.
- In 2010, a harvest guideline of 3,600 fish for the lower Willamette River was established and will carry over to 2011, adjusted to the 17,000 harvest guideline. The 2011 harvest guideline of 2,550 fish includes a baseline harvest of 520 fish. The balance of 2,030 is counted against the above Wauna recreational guideline.

- The below Bonneville Dam and Willamette sturgeon fishing sanctuaries remain unchanged in both time and area from 2010. The area known as the Oregon City Wall on the Willamette River is permanently closed to all bank angling. Sand Island Slough near Rooster Rock is also closed to angling through at least April 30.

<i>Major Tenets of 2011 Sturgeon Fishery Management</i>	
✓	Sturgeon fisheries will be managed for a harvestable number of 17,000 white sturgeon.
✓	The harvestable number is allocated 80% (13,600 fish) recreational and 20% (3,400 fish) commercial.
✓	Recreational harvest will be allocated 60% to the area below Wauna powerlines and 40% to the area above Wauna powerlines.
✓	The lower Willamette River fishery will be managed to a specific guideline.
✓	Commercial size limit is 43–54 “ FL Recreational size limit is 38–54” FL (41-54 during spring/summer portion of the below Wauna fishery).

<b>Lower Columbia River White Sturgeon Harvest Guidelines by Fishery</b>			
	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Estimated Legal Abundance	87,000	85,000	77,000 <sup>a</sup>
Annual Harvest Guideline	40,000	24,000	17,000
Commercial (20%)	8,000	4,800	3,400
Recreational (80%)	32,000	19,200	13,600
Estuary (41-54” FL) <sup>b</sup>	16,000	9,600	6,800
Above Wauna		4,835	3,410
L. Willamette	12,800 <sup>c</sup>	3,600	2,550

<sup>a</sup> Projected abundance from 2010 preliminary population estimates.

<sup>b</sup> Estuary guidelines are converted from 38-54 inch equivalents due to the different slot limit.

<sup>c</sup> 2009 includes Willamette harvest above baseline within the above Wauna guideline.

- The Joint Staff met with the Columbia River Commercial Advisory Group (CRCAG) to solicit input for 2011 sturgeon season sub-allocations.

<i>Protocol For Management of White Sturgeon Retention in Commercial Fisheries During 2011.</i>																	
✓	Manage for a commercial harvest of 3,400 white sturgeon																
✓	Commercial fisheries should be managed to provide some level of white sturgeon harvest in each season																
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Fishery/Season</th> <th># Allocated</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Winter Sturgeon</td> <td>400</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Winter/Spring Salmon</td> <td>400</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Summer</td> <td>400</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Early Fall (August)</td> <td>1,300</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Late Fall (Sep-Oct)</td> <td>700</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Select Areas</td> <td>200</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>3,400</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Fishery/Season	# Allocated	Winter Sturgeon	400	Winter/Spring Salmon	400	Summer	400	Early Fall (August)	1,300	Late Fall (Sep-Oct)	700	Select Areas	200	<b>Total</b>	<b>3,400</b>
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✓	Allow some level of incidental sturgeon harvest to occur during all mainstem target salmon seasons.																
✓	Conduct limited target sturgeon fisheries during winter if feasible.																
✓	Adopt white sturgeon possession and landing limits if necessary to remain within season-specific catch expectations or to provide white sturgeon for harvest during subsequent salmon seasons.																

## NON-TREATY FISHERIES

### *2011 Winter Sturgeon Commercial Fishery*

- On December 17, 2010 the Compact adopted four 24-hour commercial fishing periods during January 18 through February 9. The fishery was conducted in Zones 1-5 with a 9-inch minimum mesh size. Landing limits were set at ten white sturgeon per week/vessel.
- Landings and deliveries through the first three periods were low, with only 40 white sturgeon and 12 Chinook landed. Deliveries have ranged from 6 to 9 per opener. High river levels during the first two periods and high gorge winds on the third period may have affected fishing effort and landings.

### *Winter/Spring Salmon Commercial Fishery*

- Since 2004, a commercial fishing plan has been developed in cooperation with the CRCAG to maximize the catch of hatchery spring Chinook and minimize handle of ESA-listed upriver spring/summer Chinook and wild winter steelhead.
- The Joint Staff will use the fishing plan as a guideline for managing the upcoming winter/spring season.
- The Joint Staff met with the CRCAG to solicit input for potential 2011 spring salmon seasons. Based on the preseason forecast, around 13,900 hatchery Willamette spring Chinook and 1,900 upriver fish are available for commercial harvest prior to an upriver run size update. The group expressed interest in initiating commercial periods early in the season, when the proportion of Willamette origin Chinook in the catch is likely to be highest.

#### ***2011 Winter/Spring Pre-Season Commercial Fishing Plan***

- ✓ Manage mainstem commercial fisheries to remain within commission allocation and catch balancing guidelines.
- ✓ Test fishing is expected to occur on Sundays (or Tuesdays) beginning as early as February 22.
- ✓ Compact hearings to occur on Mondays (and possibly Wednesdays) if test fishing results are positive.
- ✓ Full fleet fisheries are expected to occur on Tuesdays and /or Thursdays of each week, but may be scheduled on other days in order to maintain flexibility in developing fishing seasons. Results from Tuesday fisheries will determine whether fishing occurs on Thursdays.
- ✓ Fisheries may be conducted during daylight and nighttime hours; however, fisheries will likely occur at night to minimize conflicts between user groups.
- ✓ Fisheries may occur in Zones 1-5.
- ✓ Based on test fishing results, fishing periods could begin in late February using large mesh gear, transitioning to tangle nets by mid-late March, depending primarily on steelhead abundance.
- ✓ Additional fishing periods are expected after run size updates are available.
- ✓ Test fishing may continue throughout the winter/spring season to collect biological data and maintain historic test fishing databases.

- In addition to the fishing plan, a set of general regulations are announced prior to the onset of the spring season. The regulations reflect management intent and allow commercial fishers to prepare for the upcoming season. These regulations are identical to those used in recent years and will be in place for the 2011 winter/spring season.

<b><i>2011 Commercial Spring Chinook Fishery Regulations</i></b>	
<b>Season:</b>	Individual fishing periods will not exceed 24 hours in length.
<b>Area:</b>	Zones 1-5. Upper boundary to be determined.
<b>Sanctuaries:</b>	As applicable. Grays River, Elochoman-B, Abernathy Creek, Cowlitz River, Kalama-B, and Lewis-B, Sandy and Washougal sanctuaries.
<b>Allowable Sales:</b>	Adipose fin-clipped Chinook salmon, white sturgeon, and shad.
<b>Participants:</b>	Licensed Columbia River commercial fishers that have completed the required state-sponsored workshop concerning live capture commercial fishing techniques. At least one fisher on each boat must have live capture certification.
<b>Gear:</b>	<p>4¼” maximum mesh size during tangle net fishery or 8” minimum mesh size during large mesh fishery.</p> <p>Monofilament gill nets are not allowed for 4¼” mesh tangle net fisheries.</p> <p>Nets that are fished at any time between official sunset and official sunrise must have <b>lighted buoys</b> 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.</p> <p>There are no restrictions on the use of slackers or stringers to slacken the net vertically. There are no restrictions on the hang ratio. The hang ratio is used to horizontally add slack to the net and is determined by the length of the web per length of the corkline.</p> <p><b>Net length not to exceed 150 fathoms</b>, except under the following conditions: An optional use of a steelhead excluder panel of mesh may be hung between the corkline and the 4¼” maximum mesh size tangle net. The excluder panel web must be a minimum mesh size of 12” stretched measure when taut under hand tension. Monofilament mesh is allowed for the excluder panel only. The excluder panel must be a minimum of five feet in depth and must not exceed ten feet in depth as measured from the corkline to the upper margin of the tangle net mesh as the net hangs naturally from a taut corkline. Weedlines or droppers (bobber type) may be used in place of the steelhead excluder panel. A weedline-type excluder means the net is suspended below the corkline by lines of no less than five feet in length between the corkline and the upper margin of the tangle net. A dropper-type excluder means the entire net is suspended below the surface of the water by lines of no less than five feet in length extending from individual surface floats to a submersed corkline. The corkline cannot be capable of floating the net in its entirety (including the leadline) independent of the attached floats. Weedlines or droppers, must extend a minimum of five feet above the 4¼” maximum mesh size tangle net. Tangle nets constructed with a steelhead excluder panel, weedlines, or droppers, may extend to a maximum length of 175 fathoms. Tangle nets constructed with a steelhead excluder panel, weedlines, or droppers must have two red corks at each end of the net, as well as the red corks required under miscellaneous regulations.</p>
<b>Miscellaneous Regulations:</b>	<p><b>Soak times</b>, defined as the time elapsed from when the first of the gill net web is deployed into the water until the gill net web is fully retrieved from the water, must not exceed 45 minutes.</p> <p><b>Red corks</b> are required at 25 fathom intervals, and red corks must be in contrast to the corks used in the remainder of the net.</p> <p><b>Recovery Box:</b> Each boat will be required to have two operable recovery boxes or one box with two chambers, on board. Each chamber of the recovery box(es) must include an operating water pumping system capable of delivering a minimum flow of 16 gallons per minute, not to</p>

exceed 20 gallons per minute of freshwater per chamber. Each box and chamber and associated pump shall be operating during any time that the net is being retrieved or picked. Each chamber of the recovery box must meet the following dimensions as measured from within the box; the inside length measurement must be at or within 39 ½ inches to 48 inches, the inside width measurements must be at or within 8 to 10 inches, and the inside height measurement must be at or within 14 to 16 inches.

Each chamber of the recovery box must include a water inlet hole between ¾ inch and 1 inch in diameter, centered horizontally across the door or end wall of the chamber and 1¼ inches from the floor of the chamber. Each chamber of the recovery box must include a water outlet hole that is at least 1½ inches in diameter located on either the same or opposite end as the inlet. The center of the outlet hole must be located a minimum of 12 inches above the floor of the box or chamber. The fisher must demonstrate to WDFW and ODFW employees, fish and wildlife enforcement officers, or other peace officers, upon request, that the pumping system is delivering the proper volume of fresh river water into each chamber.

All non-legal sturgeon, non-adipose fin-clipped salmon, and steelhead must be released immediately to the river with care and with the least possible injury to the fish, or placed into an operating recovery box.

Any fish that is bleeding or lethargic 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.

At least 24-hour **quick reporting** will be required for Washington wholesale dealers, per WAC 220-69-240.

**Observer program:** As a condition of fishing, owners or operators of commercial fishing vessels must cooperate with department observers or observers collecting data for the department, when notified by the observer of his or her intent to board the commercial vessel for observation and sampling during an open fishery.

### ***2011 Tributary Spring Chinook Fisheries***

- No changes to permanent regulations are recommended for spring Chinook recreational fisheries in the Sandy, Clackamas, and Willamette rivers.
- Washington tributary seasons are in the Fishing in Washington pamphlet and are the same as in 2010.

### ***2011 Mainstem Spring Chinook Recreational Fishery***

- Staff has presented two options for the recreational fishery downstream of Bonneville Dam based on the management objectives adopted by the commissions, input from the Columbia River Recreational Advisory Group (CRRAG) and public comments.
- Staff has also provided a recommendation for the recreational fishery between Bonneville Dam and the Oregon/Washington border based on an available catch (kept plus release mortalities) of 1,050 upriver stock Chinook for use prior to a run-size update.
- Although a key management goal is to minimize the need for in-season emergency action, due to the dynamic nature of fisheries and fish runs, none of the options presented *guarantee* that in-season action will not be necessary to remain within ESA limitations and/or catch balancing requirements.
- The Columbia River downstream of the I-5 Bridge is currently open under permanent regulations for hatchery salmon and steelhead through March 31.

**2011 Mainstem Columbia River Spring Chinook Recreational Fishery- Staff Options**

**Downstream of Bonneville Dam**

**Option 1:**

**Buoy 10 upstream to Rooster Rock (boat and bank) plus bank angling only from Rooster Rock upstream to Bonneville Dam, 7 days per week, March 1 – April 4, 2011.**

Legal upstream boundary would be defined as “A true North/South line projected from Rooster Rock on the Oregon shore to the Washington shoreline.”

Total angler trips = 85,300 (35 retention days) Expected kept catch = 10,100 fish (all stocks)

Note:

If the upstream boat angling boundary was extended to Beacon Rock, the expected duration of the fishery would be reduced to April 3. Legal upstream boundary would be defined as “A deadline marker on the Oregon bank (approximately four miles downstream from Bonneville Dam Powerhouse 1) in a straight line through the western tip of Pierce Island, to a deadline marker on the Washington bank at Beacon Rock.”

**Option 2:**

**Buoy 10 upstream to I-5 Bridge, 7 days per week, March 1 – April 6, 2011.**

**(No angling upstream of I-5 Bridge)**

Total angler trips = 94,900 (37 retention days) Expected kept catch = 11,000 fish (all stocks)

Catch limit below Bonneville Dam: Two adult salmonids per day, but only one may be a Chinook.

Only adipose fin-clipped fish may be kept. All other permanent regulations apply.

**Bonneville Dam to Oregon/Washington Border**

Date: March 16 – April 24, 2011

Area: Tower Island power lines (approximately 6 miles below The Dalles Dam) upstream to Oregon/Washington border plus the Oregon and Washington banks between Bonneville Dam and the Tower Island power lines.

Catch limit above Bonneville Dam: Two adult Chinook or steelhead per day or one of each.

Only adipose fin-clipped fish may be kept. All other permanent regulations apply.

**Additional regulations for both fisheries above:**

- For the mainstem Columbia River salmon and steelhead fishery from the Rocky Point/Tongue Point line upstream to OR/WA border, effective February 15 through June 15, it is unlawful when fishing from vessels which are less than 30 feet in length (substantiated by Coast Guard documentation or Marine Board registration) to totally remove from the water any salmon or steelhead required to be released.
- In Washington, on the mainstem Columbia River below Bonneville Dam, anglers may not possess in the field fish mutilated so that size, species or fin clip cannot be determined until the angler has reached their automobile or principle means of land transportation and has completed their daily angling.

- ✓ The fishery options are consistent with policy guidance provided by the Oregon and Washington Fish and Wildlife commissions.
- ✓ Staff modeled many different lower river season scenarios based on input from the public and the CRRAG. Modeled seasons were discussed with the CRRAG to identify preferred options. No models resulted in a season that extends into the typical in-season run size update timeframe (late April–early May).

- ✓ Option 1 provides for opportunity spread throughout a larger geographic area and was the preferred option of the CRRAG. This option also provides for bank angling access upstream to Bonneville Dam.
  - Under Option 1, the location of the upper boat angling boundary can effect the duration of the season.
- ✓ Option 2 provides for a slightly longer season with more angler trips and increased kept catch but reduces the fishing area available.
- ✓ Both lower river options are within the 7,600 upriver fish (kept plus release mortalities) available for recreational fisheries downstream of Bonneville Dam prior to a run update.
- ✓ The similarity of the two options is because both end in early April, before catch rates peak and effort within the fishery begins to shift upstream.
- ✓ The recommendation for the recreational fishery between Bonneville Dam and the OR/WA border is based on recent year catches and expected passage (10-year average) over Bonneville Dam during the proposed fishery dates. Staff is estimating that the harvest guideline available for this area will be achieved on or around April 24, and have recommended the closure date accordingly.
- ✓ Staff discussed the need to plan for potential post-run-update fisheries with the CRRAG and plans to follow up again with the group in mid-April.
- ✓ Fisheries will be monitored and may be modified in response to fishery performance.

***2011 Mainstem Steelhead and Shad Recreational Fishery***

- Under permanent regulations, the mainstem Columbia River is open for hatchery steelhead from Buoy 10 to the Highway 395 Bridge at Pasco during January 1– March 31. Beginning April 1 steelhead angling is prohibited downstream of the I-5 Bridge through May 15, and upstream of the I-5 Bridge through June 15.
- Under permanent regulations, the Columbia River is open for shad angling all year upstream of Bonneville Dam and January 1-March 31 and May 16-December 31 downstream.

<b><i>Retention of Hatchery Steelhead and Shad During Open Spring Chinook Seasons Through May 15 – Staff Recommendation</i></b>
Effective March 1-May 15, 2011, the mainstem Columbia River will be open for retention of adipose fin-clipped steelhead and shad <b>ONLY</b> during days and seasons open for retention of adipose fin-clipped spring Chinook.

- Beginning May 16 permanent rules resume; hatchery steelhead retention is allowed from the Tongue-Rocky Point line upstream to the I-5 Bridge and shad retention is allowed river-wide.

***Recreational Sturgeon Seasons***

- Staff has presented options for recreational sturgeon fisheries downstream of Bonneville Dam based on guidance provided by the commissions, input from the CRRAG, and public comments.
- The table below shows the 2010 seasons and harvest, and the 2011 guidelines.

<b>Columbia River White Sturgeon Recreational Fishery</b>			
	Below Wauna	Above Wauna	L. Willamette
2010 Guideline	9,600	4,835	3,600
2010 Season	1/1-4/30; 5/22-7/11; 7/15-8/1	1/1-7/31 10/1-12/31	1/1-3/31 11/4-6
2010 Retention Days	188	132	41
2010 Kept Catch	6,491	4,825	3,511
<b>2011 Guideline</b>	<b>6,800</b>	<b>3,410</b>	<b>2,550</b>

Above Wauna Power lines

- In recent years the season above Wauna has generally been a three-day-per-week fishery with no retention during August and September. Beginning May 1 spawning sanctuaries take effect, reducing the area open for sturgeon angling.
- The 2011 guideline is about 1,400 fish less than the actual catch in 2010. Last year, about 900 fish were landed in Sand Island Slough, which is currently closed. The 500 fish difference mitigates the amount of season adjustment needed to remain within the new guideline.

<b>2011 Sturgeon Recreational Fishery for Above Wauna – Staff Options</b>	
<b>Area:</b>	Mainstem Columbia River from the Wauna powerlines upstream to Bonneville Dam, and all adjacent Washington tributaries, <b>EXCLUDING the lower Willamette River upstream to Willamette Falls, including Multnomah Channel and Gilbert River</b>
<b>Retention Seasons:</b>	Option 1: January 1 – July 31 and October 1 until guideline is met Retention allowed Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays only  Option 2: January 1 - July 31 and October 13 – December 31, 2011 Retention allowed Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays only  Catch-and-release fishing is allowed on non-retention days.
<b>Other restrictions:</b>	Retention of green sturgeon prohibited as per permanent regulations 38-inch minimum fork length and 54-inch maximum fork length Closed to angling for sturgeon from May 1 to August 31 from Bonneville Dam downstream to a line crossing the Columbia River from Navigation Marker 82 on the Oregon shore through the upstream exposed end of Skamania Island, continuing in a straight line to a marker on the Washington shore.
<b>Expected kept catch:</b>	Option 1: 3,400 kept (est. retention days: Jan-Jul=91; Oct-Dec=12; Sum=103) Option 2: 3,250 kept (est. retention days: Jan-Jul=91; Oct-Dec=36; Sum=127)

- These proposals are consistent with 2011 white sturgeon management protocols and reflect discussions with the CRRAG.
- Both options are intended to split the available guideline of 3,410 fish equally between the January-July and October-December seasons.

- ✓ Since October catches typically exceed the 1,700 fish likely available for the fall component of this fishery, Option 1 would likely require an emergency closure in late October to remain within the annual guideline for this fishery.
- ✓ Under Option 2, the start date of the October retention season is postponed in order to allow the fishery to continue through December with less chance of needing in-season action.

Below Wauna Power lines (Estuary)

- In recent years, the estuary white sturgeon retention season has generally been open seven days/week during January through April, followed by a short closure in early May, with a second retention season occurring from the second Saturday in May into June or early July.
- When the fishery re-opens in May, the minimum fork length increases from 38 inches to 41 inches. This harvest management tool was first implemented in 2004 at industry request to extend the duration of fishery by reducing the number of fish retained. This narrower slot limit requires a reduction of the allowable guideline to maintain appropriate harvest rates.
- The vast majority of the catch and effort in this fishery occurs in May through June/July. Catch during January through April has been less than 100 fish annually since 2004.
- Catch and effort has been less than expected in the past two years, allowing for season extensions into the summer months of July and August.
- The 2011 guideline of 6,800 is similar to the actual harvest in 2010 (6,500), so the season structure may not need to be adjusted in order to remain within the 2011 harvest guideline.

<i><b>2011 Sturgeon Recreational Fishery for Below Wauna – Staff Recommendation</b></i>	
<b>Area:</b>	Mainstem Columbia River from the Wauna powerlines downstream to the mouth at Buoy 10, including Youngs Bay, and all adjacent Washington tributaries
<b>Retention Seasons:</b>	January 1 – April 30; May 14 – June 26, and July 1-4 Catch-and-release fishing is allowed on non-retention days.
<b>Other restrictions:</b>	38-inch minimum fork length during January 1 through April 30 41-inch minimum fork length during May through remainder of season 54-inch maximum fork length in effect throughout season Retention of green sturgeon prohibited as per permanent regulations
<b>Expected kept catch:</b>	6,100 white sturgeon

- The proposed season is consistent with 2011 white sturgeon management protocols and consistent with the CRRAG proposal.
- Predicting the 2011 catch is confounded by the substantial drop in both angler effort and catch rates from 2009 to 2010 (60%). For example, to remain within the 2011 estuary guideline of 6,800, catch-per-day for the proposed season could range from 78% of what was observed in 2009 to as high as 200% of 2010.

- The expected catch of 6,100 fish which is based on the average catch rate during 2009-2010 (and adjusted for legal abundance), may be conservative. The expected guideline balance of 700 fish could be significantly higher if catch rates in 2011 resemble 2010.

***Zone 6 Recreational Sturgeon Fishery Update***

- The Sturgeon Management Task Force met in late January and recommended the following recreational harvest guidelines for the Zone 6 area (Bonneville Dam to McNary Dam):
  - Bonneville Pool – increase from 1,400 fish to 2,000 fish annually.
  - The Dalles Pool – no change; 300 fish annually.
  - John Day Pool – increase from 165 fish to 500 fish annually.
- Despite a second consecutive increase in the annual quota for the Bonneville Pool fishery, relatively high angler effort combined with high catch rates are quickly consuming the harvest quota. Staff is estimating that the new 2,000 fish guideline will be reached by February 18.

<b><i>Zone 6 Recreational Sturgeon Fisheries – Recommendation</i></b>
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Close the Bonneville Pool recreational sturgeon fishery to retention effective 12:01 AM Saturday, February 19, 2011.
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- Catches to date in The Dalles Pool are well within guidelines. In 2010, this fishery closed on May 6.
- In recent weeks, the fishery in the John Day Pool has experienced high effort and catch, and may reach the 500 fish guideline by late February/early March if this pattern continues.
- Staff will continue to monitor and update the catch projections for the John Day Pool fishery and will request a hearing to close retention in this area when necessary.

## SELECT AREA FISHERIES

- Select Area commercial fisheries targeting spring Chinook have occurred in Youngs Bay since 1992, in Blind Slough since 1998, and in Deep River since 2003. Beginning in 2008, pre-season test fishing and subsequent full-fleet commercial test fisheries have occurred in Tongue Point; these have been the only spring season commercial fishing opportunities in Tongue Point since 2003.
- Select Area fisheries target spring Chinook during the winter and spring seasons (mid-February through mid-June) and both spring Chinook and Select Area Bright (SAB) fall Chinook during the summer season (mid-June through July).
- Harvest of Chinook in 2010 winter, spring, and summer Select Area fisheries totaled 24,892 fish (24,467 spring Chinook), which was a new record high, doubling the previous record of 11,699 harvested in 2002.
- Based on visual stock identification (VSI) and coded-wire-tag (CWT) recoveries, catch in winter, spring, and summer Select Area commercial fisheries has been comprised of 88.6% SAFE-produced Chinook, 6.8% lower river spring Chinook, 4.3% upriver spring Chinook, and 0.3% upper Columbia summer Chinook stocks during 2006–2010.
- Between 2002–2009, ESA-impacts to upriver spring Chinook in Select Area commercial fisheries have ranged between 0.012% and 0.210% and have averaged 0.109%; however, fishing opportunity was constrained in some years due to in-season management action taken to ensure non-Treaty fishery impacts to upriver stocks were not exceeded. The 2010 impact rate to upriver spring Chinook was 0.468% (312% of the 0.150% allocation for Select Area commercial fisheries).
- Recreational harvest of spring Chinook in Select Areas ranged between 25 and 1,100 fish during 1999–2009. A formal estimate of recreational catch was not made for 2010 spring Chinook fisheries due to limited resources. Based on anecdotal information it is estimated that the 2010 recreational harvest was 1,250 spring Chinook.
- Options for 2011 winter, spring, and summer Select Area fisheries were developed based on input received during a public meeting held January 24, 2011 in Astoria and subsequent discussions with commercial fishers and fish processors.
- Guidance from the Oregon and Washington Fish and Wildlife commissions is to manage Select Area commercial fisheries at an upriver spring Chinook impact guideline of 0.150%. Select Area catch of upriver stocks is included in the total catch for catch balancing under the *US v Oregon* MA.

### ***Blind Slough/Knappa Slough Commercial Fishery***

- Concurrent jurisdiction waters extend downstream from the Railroad Bridge in Blind Slough and encompass all of Knappa Slough and require Compact action.
- Oregon State waters extend upstream from the Railroad Bridge and require Oregon State action.

<b><i>Blind Slough/Knappa Slough Select Area - Recommendation</i></b>	
Winter Season:	Sunday and Thursday nights from February 13 through March 18 (10 nights), Sunday nights from March 20 through April 4 (3 nights) Open hours are from 7 PM to 7 AM (12 hours)
Spring Season:	Monday and Thursday nights from April 18 through June 10 (16 nights). Open hours are 7 PM to 7 AM (12 hours).
Area:	Blind Slough area only open during winter season and both Blind Slough and Knappa Slough areas open during spring season.  From May 2 through June 10, the lower boundary of the Knappa Slough fishing area is extended downstream to boundary lines defined by markers on the west end of Minaker Island to markers on Karlson Island and the Oregon shore (fall boundary).
Gear:	A 7-inch minimum mesh size restriction during the winter season and a 9¾-inch maximum mesh size restriction during the spring season.  Nets restricted to 100 fathoms in length with no weight restriction on leadline. Use of additional weights or anchors attached directly to the leadline is allowed.  Nets that are fished at any time between official sunset and official sunrise must have <b>lighted buoys</b> 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.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon, white sturgeon, and shad. A maximum of 2 white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday).
Miscellaneous Regulations:	Permanent transportation regulations will be in effect. <b>24-hour Quick Reporting Rule in effect for Washington buyers</b>

- ✓ Additional winter fishing periods in Blind Slough between March 13 and April 4 will provide access to locally returning spring Chinook with minimal risk of increasing impacts to upriver stocks.
- ✓ Fishing seasons are generally concurrent with the other Select Areas to minimize congestion in the fishing sites.

***Tongue Point/South Channel Full-Fleet Commercial Test Fishery***

- All waters in the Tongue Point/South Channel Select Area are under concurrent Oregon and Washington jurisdiction and require Compact action.

<b><i>Tongue Point/South Channel Select Area - Recommendation</i></b>	
Spring Season:	Monday and Thursday nights from April 25 through June 10 (14 nights). Open hours are 7 PM to 7 AM (12 hours).
Area:	The spring season Tongue Point fishing area includes all waters bounded by a line extended from the upstream (southern most) pier (#1) at the Tongue Point Job Corps facility through navigation marker #6 to Mott Island (new spring lower deadline), a line from a marker at the southeast end of Mott Island northeasterly to a marker on the northwest tip of Lois Island, and a line from a marker on the southwest end of Lois Island westerly to a marker on the Oregon shore.  The South Channel area includes all waters bounded by a line from a marker on John Day Point through the green USCG buoy #7 to a marker on the southwest end of Lois Island upstream to an upper boundary line from a marker on Settler Point northwesterly to the flashing red USCG marker #10, northwesterly to a marker on Burnside Island defining the

	upstream terminus of South Channel.
Gear:	<p>In the Tongue Point fishing area, gear restricted to a 9¾-inch maximum mesh size, maximum net length of 250 fathoms, and weight not to exceed two pounds on any one fathom.</p> <p>In the South Channel fishing area, gear restricted to a 9¾-inch maximum mesh size, maximum net length of 100 fathoms, and no weight restriction on leadline. Use of additional weights or anchors attached directly to the leadline is allowed.</p> <p>Nets that are fished at any time between official sunset and official sunrise must have <b>lighted buoys</b> 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.</p>
Allowable Sales:	Salmon, white sturgeon, and shad. A maximum of 2 white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday).
Miscellaneous Regulations:	<p><b>During April 25 through May 20, transportation or possession of fish outside the fishing area is unlawful (except while in transit to ODFW sampling station) until ODFW staff has biologically sampled individual catches. A sampling station, site to be determined prior to April 25, will be established near the Tongue Point fishing area.</b> After sampling, fishers will be issued a transportation permit by agency staff.</p> <p>Fishers will be able to confirm the location of the sampling station by calling 503-428-0518.</p> <p>Beginning May 23, fishers are required to call 503-428-0518 and leave a message including name, catch, and where and when the fish will be sold.</p> <p><b>24-hour Quick Reporting Rule in effect for Washington buyers</b></p>

- ✓ Test fishing will be conducted during the week prior to the recommended opener in order to gauge whether the proposed start date should be postponed.
- ✓ Staff intend to closely monitor the stock composition of Chinook landed in this fishery and will propose modifications to season structure (including closure) if needed.
- ✓ Although staff anticipates catches in the proposed fishery will be limited given recent releases, it will provide additional information on the potential to re-establish this site as a spring Chinook fishery.
- ✓ Given the new lower deadline, which functioned well in the limited 2008–2010 full-fleet test fisheries, and the delayed season opening, staff believes impacts to non-target stocks will be minimal. Impacts to upriver spring Chinook during the 2008 full-fleet test fishery totaled 18 fish (0.010%), 37 fish (0.022%) in 2009, and 75 fish (0.024%) in 2010.
- ✓ Fishing seasons are generally concurrent with Youngs Bay, Blind Slough, and Deep River periods to minimize congestion in the fishing areas.

***Deep River Commercial Fishery***

- Concurrent jurisdiction waters extend downstream from the Highway 4 Bridge and require Compact action.

<b><i>Recommendation - Deep River Select Area</i></b>	
Winter Season:	<p>Sunday and Wednesday nights from February 13 through March 21 (11 nights).</p> <p>Sunday nights of March 27 and April 4 (2 nights), in reduced fishing area as detailed in area description.</p> <p>Open hours are from 7 PM to 7 AM (12 hours)</p>
Spring Season:	Sunday and Wednesday nights from April 17 through June 9 (16 nights).

	Open hours are 7 PM to 7 AM (12 hours).
Area:	Deep River fishing area extends from the markers at USCG navigation marker #16 upstream to the Highway 4 Bridge (all concurrent water). Reduced Deep River fishing area extends from the Oneida Road boat ramp (approx. one-half mile up Deep River from navigation marker 16) upstream to the Highway 4 Bridge (all concurrent water).
Gear:	7-inch minimum mesh size restriction during the winter season and a 9¾-inch maximum mesh size restriction during the spring seasons.  Nets restricted to 100 fathoms in length with no weight restriction on leadline. Use of additional weights or anchors attached directly to the leadline is allowed. Nets cannot be tied off to stationary structures. Nets may not fully cross navigation channel. It is unlawful to operate in any river, stream or channel any gill net longer than three-fourths the width of the stream (WAC 220-20-015 (1)). It shall be unlawful in any area to use, operate, or carry aboard a commercial fishing vessel a licensed net or combination of such nets, whether fished singly or separately, in excess of the maximum lawful size or length prescribed for a single net in that area, except as otherwise provided for in the rules and regulations of the department WAC 220-20-010 (17). Nets (or parts of nets) not specifically authorized for use in these areas may be onboard a 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.  Nets that are fished at any time between official sunset and official sunrise must have <b>lighted buoys</b> 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.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon, white sturgeon, and shad. A maximum of 2 white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday).
Miscellaneous Regulations:	Transportation or possession of fish outside the fishing area (except to the sampling station) is unlawful until WDFW staff has biologically sampled individual catches. After sampling, fishers will be issued a transportation permit by WDFW staff. During the winter season fishers are required to call 360-795-0319 for information on the place and time of sampling. In the spring season a sampling station will be established about 2 miles downstream of the Highway 4 Bridge near Stephan's dock.  <b>24-hour Quick Reporting Rule in effect for Washington buyers</b>

- ✓ Additional fishing periods during the early portion of the winter season provide access to locally returning spring Chinook with minimal risk of impacts to upriver stocks, based on the results of additional periods included in the winter season in 2009 and 2010.
- ✓ Some fishing periods in the winter and spring seasons are recommended as non-concurrent with the other Select Area fishing sites to encourage participation at the Deep River site.
- ✓ Night fishing periods and weekend closures during the winter and spring season will minimize interactions with recreational anglers.
- ✓ The reduced fishing area (excludes lower one-half mile of Deep River) recommended for the final two winter fishing periods reduces potential for harvest of upriver stocks. It also provides useful data on the actual degree to which the reduced area provides increased conservation benefits and/or reduces harvest success. The reduced fishing area could be applied to additional fishing periods as needed based on data from daily in-season monitoring of stock composition for all Deep River harvest.

## *Youngs Bay Commercial Fishery*

- All waters in Youngs Bay are Oregon State waters and require Oregon State action.
- The entire Youngs Bay Select Area is open to either Oregon or Washington fishers who possess valid licenses (fishing and boat) issued by either state. Per permanent rule, all landings from Youngs Bay must be delivered to an Oregon licensed buyer.

<b><i>Youngs Bay Select Area - Recommendation</i></b>	
Winter Season:	<p><u>Entire bay:</u> Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights from February 13 – March 11 (12 nights) Open hours are from noon to 6 AM (18 hours).</p> <p><u>Upstream of Old Youngs Bay Bridge:</u> Monday March 14 and Thursday March 17 (2 days) Open hours are from 2 PM to 8 PM (6 hours)</p>
Spring Season:	<p><u>Entire bay:</u> Monday April 18 and Thursday April 21 (2 days) Open hours are from 6 PM to midnight (6 hours)</p> <p>6 PM Monday April 25 - noon Tuesday April 26 (18 hours) 6 PM Thursday April 28 - noon Friday April 29 (18 hours)</p> <p>6 PM Sunday May 1 - noon Monday May 2 (18 hours) 6 PM Tuesday May 3 - noon Wednesday May 4 (18 hours) 6 PM Thursday May 5 - noon Friday May 6 (18 hours)</p> <p>Noon Monday May 9 - noon Friday May 13 (4 days) Noon Monday May 16 - noon Friday May 20 (4 days) Noon Monday May 23 - noon Friday May 27 (4 days) Noon Monday May 30 - noon Friday June 3 (4 days) Noon Monday June 6 - noon Friday June 10 (4 days)</p>
Summer Season:	<p><u>Entire bay:</u> Wednesdays through Fridays weekly from June 15 to July 29 (14 days). Open hours are from 6 AM Wednesday to 6 AM Friday</p>
Area:	<p><u>February 13 through March 11 and April 18 through July 29:</u> Youngs Bay fishing area with upper boundary at the confluence of the Youngs and Klaskanine rivers.</p> <p><u>March 14 through March 17</u> Old Youngs Bay Bridge upstream to the confluence of the Youngs and Klaskanine rivers.</p>
Gear:	<p>A 7-inch minimum mesh size restriction during the winter season and a 9¼-inch maximum mesh size restriction during the spring and summer seasons.</p> <p>Maximum net length of 250 fathoms and weight on leadline not to exceed two pounds in any one fathom. Red corks are required at 25-fathom intervals and red corks must be in contrast to corks used in the remainder of the net.</p> <p>Use of additional weights or anchors attached directly to the leadline is allowed upstream of markers located approximately 200 yards upstream of the mouth of the Walluski River.</p> <p>Nets that are fished at any time between official sunset and official sunrise must have <b>lighted buoys</b> on both ends of the net unless the net is attached to the boat. If the net is attached to</p>

	the boat, then one lighted buoy on the opposite end of the net from the boat is required.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon, white sturgeon, and shad. A maximum of 2 white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday).
Miscellaneous Regulations:	Permanent transportation rules will be in effect.

- ✓ Staff worked with industry to develop a conservative approach for 2011 winter and spring seasons which provides increased opportunity in the winter to access the expected strong return of early-migrating age-5 spring Chinook while minimizing the risk of encountering upriver stocks during the late winter and early spring timeframes.
  - Additional winter fishing periods in mid-March with a reduced area provide harvest opportunity, while minimizing impacts to upriver stocks that may be in the lower bay during this timeframe.
  - The 27-day spring fishery consisting of progressively increasing fishing time is designed to maximize harvest of local stocks while minimizing impacts to non-local stocks.
- ✓ As with all Select Area winter, spring, and summer fisheries, landings will be monitored weekly to determine stock composition. In-season modifications to fishing periods may occur to maximize harvest while minimizing impacts to non-target stocks.
- ✓ Spring fishing periods are generally concurrent with other Select Areas to minimize congestion in fishing areas.
- ✓ The 14-day summer fishery provides harvest opportunity on remaining local spring Chinook and early returning Select Area bright (SAB) stock fall Chinook while allowing for SAB broodstock escapement.

### ***Select Area Recreational Fisheries***

- Permanent angling regulations for Oregon waters within the Select Areas of Youngs Bay and Blind Slough/Knappa Slough are listed in the 2011 Oregon Recreational Fishing Regulations booklet. These waters are open year-round to Chinook salmon (fin-clipped only during January 1-July 31), adipose fin-clipped steelhead, and adipose fin-clipped coho except for some tributary closures.
- Permanent Washington recreational fishing rules list waters of Deep River from the mouth to the town bridge open to Chinook salmon (fin-clipped only during January 1-July 31), fin-clipped steelhead, and adipose fin-clipped coho the entire year.
- In order to ease enforcement of co-occurring recreational fisheries in Select Areas and the mainstem Columbia River, the Joint Staff recommends that bag limits in Select Area recreational fisheries be modified to match those of the mainstem when the fisheries are open concurrently.

**Select Area Recreational Fisheries - Recommendation**

Effective March 1 – June 15, 2011:

On days when the mainstem Columbia River recreational fishery below Bonneville Dam is open to retention of Chinook, the salmonid daily bag limit in Oregon and Washington Select Areas will be the same as mainstem Columbia River bag limits.

On days when the mainstem Columbia River fishery is closed to Chinook retention, permanent salmonid bag limit regulations apply.

**Issues Requiring Compact/Joint State Consideration**

**Compact**

- Non-treaty commercial salmon fishing plan & gear regulations – Compact Endorsement (pages 6-8)
- Blind Slough/Knappa Slough commercial fisheries – Compact and Oregon State Action (page 15)
- Tongue Point Select Area commercial fisheries – Compact Action (page 15-16)
- Deep River Select Area commercial fisheries – Compact Action (page 16-17)

**Joint States**

- Spring Chinook recreational fishing season – Joint State Action (page 9)
- Shad and hatchery steelhead retention – Joint State Action (page 10)
- Recreational white sturgeon fisheries above Wauna Powerlines – Joint State Action (page 11)
- Recreational white sturgeon fisheries below Wauna Powerlines – Joint State Action (page 12)
- Recreational white sturgeon fisheries in Zone 6 (Bonneville Pool) – Joint State Action (page 13)
- Select Area recreational fisheries – Joint State Action (page 20)

**Oregon Only**

- Lower Willamette recreational white sturgeon fishery – Announce Oregon State Action
- Youngs Bay Select Area fisheries – Announce Oregon State Action (page 18-19)

**FUTURE MEETINGS**

- The Joint Staff is not recommending any additional Compact hearings at this time.
- A Compact hearing may be needed late next week to review ongoing treaty Indian fisheries and a Joint State hearing may be necessary to modify recreational sturgeon fisheries in the John Day Pool. A Compact hearing may be needed on Wednesday, February 23, dependent upon test fishing schedule/results.