



FACT SHEET

WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501-1091

Columbia River Compact Joint State Action Notices Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

January 28, 2005

THE FOLLOWING COLUMBIA RIVER REGULATIONS WERE SET:

2005 COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHERY:

- DATES:** Individual fishing periods will not exceed 24 hours during large mesh fishing periods and will not exceed 16 hours during small mesh fishing periods
- AREA:** Mouth to Kelley Point, (Zone 1-4) likely for majority of fishery
- SANCTUARIES:** Grays River, Elokomin -B, Abernathy Creek, Cowlitz River, Kalama-B, and Lewis-B.
- GEAR:** Net length not to exceed 150 fathoms, except for nets fitted with an excluder (175 fathoms).
- 9-inch minimum and 9 ³/₄-inch maximum mesh sizes during large mesh fishery.
- 4 ¹/₄ -inch maximum mesh size during tangle net fishery.
Use of monofilament prohibited with 4 ¹/₄-inch mesh.
- ALLOWABLE SALES:** Adipose fin-clipped chinook salmon and sturgeon. White sturgeon possession and sales restrictions to be determined based on gear and number of fish remaining on 2,000 fish guideline set for the winter sturgeon fishery.
- PARTICIPANTS:** Commercial River commercial fishers with appropriate licenses and legal gear that attended state-sponsored workshop concerning live captive commercial fishing techniques and possess a certificate that allows participation in the fishery.
- NEW REGULATION:** 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 their intent to board the commercial vessel for observation and sampling

during an open fishery.

MISCELLANEOUS RULES: Soak times, defined as time elapsed from when first mesh enters the water to when last mesh leaves the water, must not exceed 45 minutes.

Red corks are required at 25-fathom intervals and red corks must be in contrast to the corks used in the remainder of the net.

Use of recovery boxes will be required on all lethargic or bleeding salmonids.

Each participating vessel will be required to have 2 operable recovery boxes or one box with two chambers. Operable recovery boxes will require a flow of 16-20 gallons per minute to the box or each chamber. Each box shall be operating during any time that the net is being retrieved or picked.

Lighted buoys required on each end of nets being fished between sunset and sunrise. Optional use of a steelhead excluder panel hung between the cork line and the tangle net mesh. Excluder panel must be a minimum of 5' in depth and not exceed 10' in depth with a 12" minimum mesh size restriction in effect. Use of weedlines or droppers, used in smelt bobber nets, are allowed in place of a steelhead excluder panel. Weedlines or droppers must extend a minimum of 5' above the tangle net mesh. Net length can increase from 150 to 175 fathoms for nets constructed with a steelhead excluder panel, weedline, or droppers.

Quick Reporting Rule in effect for Washington wholesale dealers, WAC 220-69-240.

The next Compact hearing has been scheduled for 1:00 p.m. February 18, 2005 via telephone.

2005 Winter Season Commercial Fishing Plan

- Test Fishing occurs on Sunday. Ø Compact to occur Monday afternoon.
- Full fleet fishery may occur on Tuesdays, depending on results from test fishing on Sunday.
- Use Tuesday full fleet fishery as test fishery, or conduct test fishing on Tuesday.
- Compact to occur Wednesday afternoon.

- Full fleet fishery may occur Thursday depending on results from previous full fleet fishery or test fishing on Tuesday.

Notice to Fishers:

Plan to call the "Hotline" Number on Monday and Wednesday afternoons to get the current fishing season.

The hotline number is 360-902-2500

Press "1" for commercial and "2" for Columbia River.

THE FOLLOWING COLUMBIA RIVER SEASONS WERE SET:

2005 NON-INDIAN AREA 2S COMMERCIAL SHAD FISHERY

DATES: 3 PM. - 10 PM. Daily

May 16 -20 (5 days)

May 23-27 (5 days)

May 31-June 3 (4 days)

June 6-10 (5 days)

June 13-17 (5 days)

June 20-24 (5 days)

AREA: True north/south line through Light #50 near the mouth of the Sandy River upstream to the commercial fishing boundary near Beacon Rock.

GEAR: Single-wall, unslacked, floater gill net; 5 3/8" to 6 1/4" mesh size restrictions; 10-lb breaking strength; and the net may not exceed 150 fathoms in length nor 40 meshes in depth.

ALLOWABLE SALES: Only shad may be kept and sold. All salmon, steelhead, walleye, and sturgeon must be immediately returned to the water and those alive must be returned to the water unharmed.

2005 NON-INDIAN WASHOUGAL REEF COMMERCIAL SHAD FISHERY

DATES: 8 PM - 12 AM (midnight) daily

May 15-19 (5 days)

May 22-26 (5 days)

May 29- Jun 2 (5 days)

June 5-9 (5 days)

June 12-16 (5 days)

June 19-23 (5 days)

AREA: Waters of Zones 4-5 inside a line commencing at the white six-second equal-interval light approximately 3/4 miles east of the Washougal Woolen Mill pipeline and projected westerly to the Washougal blinker light, thence to the four-second blinker light on the east end of Lady Island, thence easterly and along the

shoreline of Lady Island to the State Highway 14 Bridge, thence easterly across the State Highway 14 Bridge to the mainland.

GEAR: Single-wall, unslackened, floater gill net; 5 3/8"-6 1/4" mesh size restrictions; and a 30-lb maximum breaking strength.

ALLOWABLE SALES: Only shad may be kept and sold. All salmon, steelhead, walleye, and sturgeon must be immediately returned to the water and those alive must be returned to the water unharmed.

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THE FOLLOWING COLUMBIA RIVER SEASONS WERE SET:

2005 SELECT AREA FISHERY, BLIND SLOUGH/KNAPPA SLOUGH:

DATES: 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. (12 hours) Saturday and Wednesday nights from February 16 through March 10 (7 nights)

7 p.m. to 7 a.m. (12 hours) Thursday night during April 21 through April 22 and Monday and Thursday nights during April 25- June 17 (17 nights)

AREA: Blind Slough area only open during winter season (thru March 10) and Blind Slough and Knappa Slough areas open during spring season.

GEAR: 7 1/4-inch minimum mesh size restriction during the winter season (thru March 10) and an 8-inch maximum mesh size restriction during the spring season.

ALLOWABLE SALES: Salmon, sturgeon, and shad. A maximum of 3 white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each open period.

2005 SELECT AREA FISHERY, DEEP RIVER:

DATES: 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. (12 hours). Thursday nights during April 21 through April 22

7 p.m. to 7 a.m. (12 hours). Monday and Thursday nights during April 25 through June 17 (17 nights)

AREA: Deep River fishing area from the markers at USCG navigation marker #16 upstream to the Highway 4 Bridge.

GEAR: 8-inch maximum mesh size restriction. Nets restricted to 100 fathoms in length with no weight restriction on leadline. No nets can be tied off to stationary structures. Nets may not fully cross navigation channel.

ALLOWABLE SALES: Salmon, sturgeon, and shad. A maximum of 3 white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each open

period.

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 agency staff. A sampling station will be established upstream of the Highway 4 Bridge at the upper pen site at Kato's dock

Quick Reporting Rule for Washington Buyers
WAC 220-69-240

WDFW has adopted rules that require commercial purchasers to report their landings by a specified time. This rule can be attached to any commercial season that is adopted, but is not in place unless specified. WDFW staff recommends that the "quick reporting required" clause be in place for this fishery. Washington buyers would be required to send a report of their landings to WDFW by 10AM on the day after the purchase date by either:

- a) FAX transmission to (360) 906-6776 or (360) 906-6777
- b) E-mail to crfishtickets@dfw.wa.gov
- c) Telephone to 1-866-791-1281

The next Compact hearing has been scheduled for 1:00 p.m. February 18, 2005 via telephone.

THE FOLLOWING COLUMBIA RIVER SEASONS WERE MODIFIED:
Treaty Indian Winter Season

DATES: 6:00 AM, February 1, 2005 through 6:00 PM, March 21, 2005

AREA: All of Zone 6

SANCTUARIES: Standard river mouth and dam sanctuaries in effect except no Spring Creek sanctuary.

GEAR: No mesh size restriction

ALLOWABLE SALES: Chinook salmon, steelhead, walleye, carp and shad. Sturgeon between 4-5 feet in length in The Dalles and John Day pools and between 45-60 inches in the Bonneville pool may be sold or retained for subsistence purposes.

MISCELLANEOUS RULES: Sale of platform caught fish is allowed during open commercial gillnet seasons

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