
Columbia River Fishery Notice

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

February 19, 2020

Compact Action

The Columbia River Compact agencies of Oregon and Washington met today and took the following action:

Treaty Indian Fisheries

Winter Season Commercial Gillnet Fishery

- Allowed commercial sales of fish landed in the following fisheries:

Season: 6 AM Thursday February 20 through 6 PM Monday February 24 (4.5 days)

Area: John Day Pool

Sanctuaries: Standard dam and river mouth areas applicable to gillnet gear are in effect.

Gear: Gillnets (no minimum mesh restriction)

Allowable Sales: Salmon (all species), steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish, and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence use.

Sturgeon from 43 to 54 inches fork length may be sold or kept for subsistence purposes.

Fish landed during the open commercial period may be sold after the period concludes.

Washington Reporting Rule: 24-hour quick reporting required for Washington wholesale dealers, per WAC 220-352-315 except landings must be reported within 24-hours of completing the fish ticket.

Joint State Action

The states of Oregon and Washington discussed the following recreational fisheries and took the following actions:

Mainstem Columbia River Spring Chinook Recreational Fisheries

- The mainstem Columbia River from the mouth at Buoy 10 upstream to the I-5 Bridge is currently open for hatchery salmon and hatchery steelhead under permanent regulations.
- The mainstem Columbia River from the I-5 Bridge upstream to the Highway 395 Bridge at Pasco, WA is currently open for hatchery steelhead under permanent regulations.

- Effective March 1, 2020 (below Bonneville) and April 1, 2020 (above Bonneville) the permanent regulations are modified as follows:

Downstream of Bonneville Dam

- Dates: Sunday March 1 – Tuesday March 31, 2020
and
Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays (3 days per week), beginning Thursday April 2, 2020 and continuing until the upriver spring Chinook guideline for this fishery is projected to be met.
- Area: Warrior Rock line upstream to Beacon Rock (boat and bank) plus bank angling only from Beacon Rock upstream to the Bonneville Dam deadline.

Legal downstream boundary defined as: A line from the Warrior Rock lighthouse on the Oregon shore to red USCG buoy #4, then to the piling dolphin on the lower end of Bachelor Island (Warrior Rock line).

Legal upstream boat boundary defined as: A deadline marker on the Oregon bank (approximately four miles downstream from Bonneville Dam Powerhouse One) in a straight line through the western tip of Pierce Island to a deadline marker on the Washington bank at Beacon Rock.
- Catch Limits: Two adult hatchery salmonids (Chinook or steelhead only) per day, only one of which may be a Chinook. Shad may also be retained.
- Additional Regulations: Angling for, and retention of, steelhead, salmon, and shad is prohibited from the Warrior Rock line downstream to Buoy 10.

Bonneville Dam to Oregon/Washington Border

- Dates: Wednesday April 1 – Tuesday May 5, 2020.
- Area: Tower Island powerlines (approximately 6 miles below The Dalles Dam) upstream to Oregon/Washington border plus bank angling only between Bonneville Dam and the Tower Island power lines.
- Catch Limits: Two adult hatchery salmonids (Chinook or steelhead only) per day, only one of which may be a Chinook.
- Current regulations are available at:
<https://myodfw.com/recreation-report/fishing-report/columbia-zone>
 - All other permanent regulations in the 2020 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations pamphlet remain in effect, including catch limits for jack salmon.
 - Season modifications may be required to remain within harvest guidelines.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- The tribes may request a Compact hearing on Wednesday, February 26, 2020 to consider additional commercial fisheries. A Compact hearing is currently scheduled for 10 AM on April 15, 2020 via teleconference to consider recreational spring Chinook fisheries. The Joint Staff will continue to review available information and recommend additional hearings as needed.
- For information concerning these decisions see the February 19, 2020 Winter Fact Sheets #3a &3b at: http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/OSCRP/CRM/fact_sheets.asp