

March 12, 2019

## Columbia River and Tributary Fishery Reports

**Updates: Mainstem and tributary:**

### Salmon/Steelhead:

- **Warrior Rock line upstream to Bonneville Dam: Effective March 1 through April 10;** Open for boat and bank fishing for adipose fin-clipped chinook, coho and steelhead from the Warrior Rock line to the Beacon Rock line, plus bank angling only from the Beacon Rock line upstream to the Bonneville Dam deadline.
- **Effective March 1 until further notice; Mainstem Columbia River waters downstream of the Warrior Rock line are closed to salmon, steelhead and shad fishing.**
  - See the 2018/2019 Washington Sport Fishing rules pamphlet for further mainstem Columbia River boundary line descriptions.
- **Above Bonneville Dam: Effective April 1 through May 5;** 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 (except for those waters closed under permanent regulations) are open to salmon and steelhead fishing.

### Sturgeon:

- White sturgeon retention is closed from Buoy 10 upstream to Bonneville Dam including adjacent tributaries and in The Dalles Pool but remains open for catch and release fishing only.
- Bonneville and John Day pools are open to the retention of white sturgeon until quotas are reached. See <https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/regulations/> for size, daily, and annual bag limit.

## Fishery Reports:

### Salmon/Steelhead:

**Lower Columbia mainstem from Warrior Rock line to Bonneville Dam**— 55 salmonid boats and 28 Washington bank rods were tallied during last Saturday's flight count.

**Lower Columbia Washington only creel checks:**

- Sec 3 (I-5 area) bank – 5 salmonid bank anglers had no catch.
- Sec 3 boat – 5 boats/14 salmonid anglers had no catch.
- Sec 4 (Vancouver) bank – 22 salmonid anglers had no catch.
- Sec 4 boat – 31 boats/ 65 salmonid angler had no catch.

**Sturgeon:**

**Bonneville Pool-** 7 bank anglers had no catch. 5 boats/14 rods kept 3 legal sturgeon and released 51 sublegal sturgeon.

**The Dalles Pool-** Closed for retention. No report.

**John Day Pool-** 15 bank anglers had no catch. 2 boats/6 rods had no catch.

Monthly Sturgeon Harvest estimates:												
	Jan	Feb	3-Mar	10-Mar	17-Mar	24-Mar	Apr	May	Totals:	%	As of	Guidelines:
Bonneville <sup>1</sup>	258	3	---	---					261	52.2%	3-Mar	500
The Dalles <sup>2</sup>	78								78	57.8%	3-Mar	135
John Day	---	9							9	8.6%	3-Mar	105

<sup>1</sup> Due to the short season in Bonneville Pool, we will be providing weekly harvest estimates. We will continue to provide harvest estimates for the other pools on a monthly basis.

<sup>2</sup> The Dalles pool closed to retention effective January 7.

The Dalles and John Day harvest estimates are calculated monthly. All in-season estimates are preliminary.

Current month sampled sturgeon kept:

	Jan	Feb	3-Mar	10-Mar	17-Mar	24-Mar	Apr	May		
Bonneville	54	1	3						58	10-Mar
The Dalles	33								33	10-Mar
John Day	---	2	---						2	10-Mar

Samplers generally observe from 10% - 25% of total harvest.

**Walleye:**

**Bonneville Pool-** 3 boats/6 rods kept 20 walleye.

**The Dalles Pool-** No anglers sampled.

**John Day Pool-** 11 boats/23 rods kept 26 walleye and released 3 walleye.

**Bass:**

**John Day Pool-** 1 boat/1 rod had no catch.

## **Salmon/Steelhead:**

### ***Columbia River Tributaries***

**Grays River** – 4 bank anglers had no catch.

**Elochoman River** – 2 bank anglers released 1 steelhead. 1 boat/3 rods released 1 steelhead.

**Cowlitz River – I-5 Br downstream:** 60 bank rods kept 1 steelhead. 4 boats/5 rods had no catch.

**Above the I-5 Br:** 17 bank rods released 3 steelhead. 31 boats/106 rods kept 22 steelhead and released 4 steelhead.

Last week, Tacoma Power employees recovered two winter-run steelhead adults during five days of operations at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

All of the fish collected last week were held at the hatchery for broodstock needs.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 5,160 cubic feet per second on Monday, March 11. Water visibility is 10 feet and the water temperature is 41 F. River flows could change at any time so boaters and anglers should remain alert for this possibility.

**Kalama River** – 32 bank anglers had no catch.

**Lewis River** – 5 bank anglers had no catch.

**East Fork Lewis River** – 2 bank anglers had no catch.

**Salmon Creek** – 9 bank anglers had no catch.

❖ **Tributaries not listed: Creel checks not conducted.**

## **Catchable Trout Plants:**

<u>Lake/Pond</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Fish/lb</u>	<u>Hatchery</u>
LEWIS CO PRK PD-s (LEWI)	Mar 07, 2019	Rainbow	2,000	2.5	MOSSYROCK HATCHERY
KlineLine PD (CLAR)	Mar 05, 2019	Rainbow	1,500	2.3	VANCOUVER HATCHERY
Lacamas LK (CLAR)	Mar 04, 2019	Rainbow	4,000	1.9	VANCOUVER HATCHERY