

**Columbia River Basin Salmon Fishery Management Policy Review**  
**Staff Suggestions for OR/WA Commission Subgroup on Concurrency during 2019**

The following staff suggestions are for discussion purposes only, and are intended to provide a foundation for WA Commissioners discussion for providing guidance to WA members of subgroup. Preliminary forecast information for 2019 is attached.

**Policy Positions Currently Not Concurrent**  
 (from November 1 Joint Staff Presentation)

<b>Fishery</b>	<b>Policy Area</b>	<b>Current Positions</b>	<b>Options for Concurrency</b>	<b>Need to Address for 2019</b>
Spring Chinook	Mainstem Commercial Fishing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WA: no mainstem commercial fishing allowed</li> <li>• OR: tangle-net season allowed after a run-size update for the Upriver Run</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Either the WA or OR policy</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has not been a major problem in first 5 years.</li> <li>• Low run size forecast in 2019.</li> </ul>
Spring Chinook	Unused Upriver Run Impacts from the 20% Commercial Fishery Allocation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OR: allocated 100% to increased spawning escapement</li> <li>• WA: no restrictions on allocation within the sport fishery options</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Either OR or WA policy</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low potential for conflict, default is OR position</li> </ul>
Summer Chinook	Unused Upriver Run Impacts from the 20% Commercial Fishery Allocation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WA: can be used in sport fisheries upstream of Bonneville Dam or transferred to increased spawning escapement</li> <li>• OR: allocated 100% to increased spawning escapement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Either WA or OR policy</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low potential for conflict in 2019 due to very low run forecast, default is WA position.</li> </ul>
Fall Chinook	Allocation of Constraining Impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OR: sport/commercial at 70/30</li> <li>• WA: sport/commercial at <math>\leq 80/\geq 20</math></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WA allocation</li> <li>• OR allocation</li> <li>• Consensus position</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High potential for conflict, Directors have typically conferred and split the difference.</li> </ul>

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Fall Chinook	Allowable Commercial Fishing Gear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WA: gillnets not allowed</li> <li>• OR: gillnets allowed; 2% allocated to alternative gears</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Either OR or WA policy</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High potential for conflict. Moderate URB forecast and low tule forecast could result in significant numbers of harvestable URB in Zones 4/5.</li> </ul>
Coho	N/A	Policies concurrent		
Steelhead	N/A	Policies concurrent		

**Other Policy or Regulatory Changes for 2019**

(from Commissioner discussions)

Element	Options for 2019
Barbless Hooks Requirement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make barbless hooks voluntary; barbed hooks allowed</li> <li>• Maintain barbless hook requirement</li> </ul>
Youngs Bay Sport Fishing Sanctuary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove Sanctuary</li> <li>• Retain Sanctuary</li> </ul>
Other ?	

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**Tasking for staff work for first meeting of OR/WA Commission Subgroup:**

Task staff to work with ODFW staff in analysis of four options for addressing lack of concurrency of fall chinook policies, as fall chinook has highest potential for conflict between WA and OR in near term. Options are: status quo (remain non-concurrent), adopt WA policy (already analyzed when policy was adopted, but analysis could be updated), adopt OR policy, adopt a new policy that splits allocation between WA and OR and provides for continued use of GN under certain conditions (need Commission guidance on parameters for this option).

Task staff to work with ODFW staff to update analysis of barbless hook use and effectiveness and with analysis of effects of removing the Youngs Bay Sport Fishing Sanctuary.

**COLUMBIA RIVER FALL CHINOOK  
2018 PRELIMINARY RETURNS AND  
OUTLOOK FOR 2019**

2018 Preliminary Returns

- Adult fall Chinook returns were predicted to be 376,000 fish.
- Preliminary returns are about 75% of the forecast.
- Bright jack returns appear to be improved over 2017. Tule jack returns appear to be similar to 2017.

2019 Outlook

- Bright stocks should be similar to 2018 preliminary return.
- Tule stocks should be less than the recent 10-year average.
- Ocean conditions have been poor for the last several years, and will likely contribute again to reduced returns.

Columbia River Coho

- 2018 preliminary return is about 35% of the preseason forecast of 213,600.
- Jack returns to the Columbia River are improved over recent years and are about 50% greater than the recent 10-year average.

Tule Stocks

LRH – Lower River Hatchery stock

BPH – Bonneville Pool Hatchery stock

Bright Stocks

URB – Upriver Bright stock

PUB – Pool Upriver Bright stock

BUB – Bonneville Bright stock

LRW – Lower River Wild stock

SAB – Select Area Bright stock

*December 10, 2018*

*Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife*

*Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife*

***Columbia River Adult Salmon Returns: Actual and Forecasted***<sup>\*</sup>

		<b>2018 Forecast</b>	<b>2018 Return</b>	<b>2019 Forecast</b>
<b>Spring Chinook</b>	<b>Total Spring Chinook</b>	<b>248,520</b>	<b>176,642</b>	<b>157,500</b>
	Willamette River	53,820	37,441	40,200
	Sandy River	5,400	4,733	5,500
	Select Areas <sup>**</sup>	12,300	9,887	8,200
	Cowlitz River	5,150	4,000 <sup>†</sup>	1,300
	Kalama River	1,450	2,300 <sup>†</sup>	1,400
	Lewis River	3,700	3,200 <sup>†</sup>	1,600
	<b>Lower River Total</b>	<b>81,820</b>	<b>61,561</b>	<b>58,200</b>
	Wind River <sup>**</sup>	5,300	3,109	n/a
	Drano Lake/Little White Salmon River <sup>**</sup>	10,200	7,352	n/a
	Hood River <sup>**</sup>	2,500	2,026	2,300
	<i>Hood River wild</i> <sup>**</sup>	<i>120</i>	<i>--</i>	<i>--</i>
	Klickitat River <sup>**</sup>	1,990	667	n/a
	Yakima River <sup>**</sup>	7,000	3,155	3,000
	Umatilla River <sup>**</sup>	6,300	3,257	n/a
	<b>Mid-Columbia total (by subtraction)</b>	<b>39,200</b>	<b>34,641</b>	<b>40,000</b>
	Upper Columbia (total)	20,100	12,844	11,200
	<i>Upper Columbia wild</i>	<i>3,400</i>	<i>1,977</i>	<i>2,100</i>
	Snake River Spring/Summer (total) <sup>***</sup>	107,400	67,596	48,100
	<i>Snake River wild</i> <sup>***</sup>	<i>18,500</i>	<i>11,339</i>	<i>8,200</i>
	<b>Upriver Total</b>	<b>166,700</b>	<b>115,081</b>	<b>99,300</b>
<b>Summer Chinook</b>	<b>Upper Columbia</b>	<b>67,300</b>	<b>42,120</b>	<b>35,900</b>
<b>Sockeye</b>	<b>Total Sockeye</b>	<b>99,000</b>	<b>210,915</b>	<b>94,400</b>
	Wenatchee	25,700	--	18,300
	Okanogan	72,600	--	74,500
	Yakima	50	--	1,300
	Deschutes	50	--	100
	Snake River	600	297	200

\* Components may not sum to totals shown since individual forecasts are not available for all upriver spring Chinook tributaries. Wild components are included in the stock total.

\*\* Return to tributary mouth.

\*\*\* 2018 return is based on standard TAC run reconstruction methodology.

† 2018 returns to the Cowlitz, Kalama, and Lewis rivers are to the tributary mouth and are not directly comparable to the forecasts. These values will be updated when estimates for return to the Columbia River mouth are available.

12/7/2018