

Northwest Oregon and Washington's most complete and accurate fishing forecast

Forecasting for the fishing week of **July 1st – July 7th, 2005**

Oregon Fisheries Update: Do you know how to fish sturgeon? The best advice we can give you is head to our technical reports page and check out report #3. This detailed report will give you the best clues on how to maximize your efforts while in pursuit of Columbia River estuary sturgeon. These reports and several more are available at:

<http://www.theguidesforecast.com/techrpt.shtml>.

The **sturgeon fishing in the lower Columbia** remains challenging for most anglers. The recent gillnet opener coupled with warmer water temperatures is having a profound effect on angler success rates. It likely won't get any better over the 3 day holiday weekend. The best fishing remains upstream of Tongue Point although anglers willing to battle crab and trash fish are finding a few more large keepers below the bridge.

Keeper fishing in the gorge is slowing down and so is oversize fishing. The shad run is winding down but it still remains the best bait for the oversized fish.

Salmon fishing in the **gorge** has recently picked up as we enter the peak week of fishing in this area. Fewer gillnets are working this water allowing for better opportunities for deep water spinner plunkers. Bank anglers are catching fish in this area as well.

With a decent run of **summer chinook** following the disappointing springer showing, the decision to allow sports anglers to keep chinook, fin-clipped or not, from the Columbia starting July 1st is official.

Poor tides this week for lower river salmon and steelhead plunkers. Fishing shouldn't be any good.

Chinook continues to wind down on the North Coast but Three Rivers on the **Nestucca system** will remain open to salmon through July 10th. Although the run was running a bit late this year, it appears to have been a good one for north coast anglers.

Bottom fishing is excellent out of central and southern ports. Offshore coho is spotty but chinook trollers in the ocean have been doing well on the South coast.

Umpqua anglers are taking springers and summer steelhead. Shad and smallmouth fishing is good.

The **lower Rogue** is producing some springers as the season winds down and thoughts arise of Fall fish in the Bay.

The **Lower Willamette** continues to reward shad anglers but this run will wrap up in July. The Clackamas River remains slow, the Sandy fair. North Santiam steelheaders are hopeful for a good season but it hasn't started yet.

Ocean **salmon** fishing north of Cape Falcon opens on July 3rd. Results are not expected to be very impressive with the low prediction of hatchery coho this year. Anglers will likely have to search for fish and limits are not very likely. A light westerly breeze is forecasted for the weekend.

The entire Oregon coast remains **closed to razor clams** due to high levels of the naturally-occurring biotoxin, domoic acid.

Trout were stocked this week in Trillium Lake, Estacada Lake, Faraday Lake, North Fork Reservoir, Blue River, Breitenbush River, Carmen Reservoir, Badger Lake, Horseshoe Lake, Lost Lake, Olallie Lake, Campbell Lake, Big Cultus Lake Deadhorse Lake, East Lake, North and South Twin Lakes, Century Gravel Pit, Deschutes River, Lake of the Woods, Ochoco Creek, Sprague Gravel Pit, Three Creeks Lake, Walton Lake, Devils Lake, Fall River, Shevlin Pond and Spring Creek.

Washington Fisheries Update: In the mid-river, sturgeon fishing for oversize remains good using fresh shad. Walleye fishing is picking up below McNary dam, using worm harness'. Bass fishing is slowing down considerably as they are going deep, 25ft to 30ft.

Snake River sturgeon have been running large but bass fishing is slowing down as well.

Olympic Peninsula salmon fishing is dropping off although Hoh River fishing should begin to pick up as the summer Chinook begin running in July.

NW Washington – Charter Captain Mike Jamboretz (425.788.5955) has continued to catch his boat's limit of halibut daily in Canadian waters and catching lingcod as well. Some halibut have been in the 40 pound range and the fishing continues to be consistently good. Fishing for salmon starts tomorrow (7/1/05).

Cowlitz – Pro Guide Bob Barthlow (509.697.7125) tells us that he fished the mouth of the Cowlitz, inside the dredge on 2 days this week. We were anchored up with red bead w/ brass blade spinners and red U-20 Flatfish off a dropper. On the out going tide the 2 days we boated 4 Summer Chinook, w/ 3 keepers 12#-22# and 3 hatchery steelhead 6#-11#.

Soapbox Update: Sportsmen's river rights are in jeopardy! Two senate bills, SB 1028 and SB 1066 threaten to keep us off waters that we now have use of. Find out more and how to fight it at: www.oregonriverrights.com

Columbia River Fishing Report – Pro guide Jody Mather reports, "In the Astoria area, sturgeon fishing in the Lower Columbia River continues to be difficult due to the large number of crabs and flounder in the river. Couple this with the gillnets being in once a week and getting that expected limit is a tough order. Don't be fooled though, the fish are here and they can be caught with some perseverance and hard work. Bring lots of bait and don't be afraid to move."

I couldn't have said it better myself. It seems, since the gillnets went in on the lower Columbia River, success rates have dropped off dramatically in the Astoria area. Not only have keepers been hard to find but shakers are a bit of a rare occurrence in itself. Many guides are putting in a full days effort coming up with 1 to 3 keepers and a small handful of shakers. It is the most challenging sturgeon fishing I have ever witnessed in the lower Columbia since I have been guiding down here the last 9 years! Effort has dropped off and a recent press release indicates an extension is in order due to the fact anglers are far from attaining the quota.

Pro guide Jay Daly (503-341-9571) reports on his recent success and OR/WA Compact actions. Jay says, "My people did well over my last string of trips for sturgeon. Fishing can be spotty but our results have been consistent. The state's fish checkers catch average has been one sturgeon per boat at the John Day ramp and we are doing much better than that average using anchovies and squid. Attached is a photo of Dave Atkinson , Nick Jacobson, Randy Polzel, Terry McMahan and Buddy Rivers. We enjoyed a great trip last Friday. The state is expanding the

sturgeon season since the catch quota is filling slower than normal. The OR-WA Fisheries Compact approved an extension of the recreational sport sturgeon fishery. Anglers through July 10 are allowed to retain sturgeon while fishing the Columbia, from Wauna Powerlines downstream to Buoy 10, including Young's Bay. Retention is prohibited July 11-14, and allowed again July 15-17. A 45-inch size minimum is in effect. Usually the season closes July fourth. That's good news as the fishing has been improving as of late and should provide some great opportunities for ocean fresh sturgeon that have been showing up in greater numbers lately. Give me a call to fish the July 15-17 re-opener for sturgeon it should be great with the break in angling pressure! Those dates are currently open."

The Compact Made a surprising move and decided to allow retention of non-clipped summer Chinook upstream from Tongue Point for the first time since reopening it just a few years ago. This will allow more really big Chinook to 40# to go home with people. I have some great places to pursue these fish. If you're interested, I'm your guide.

In other action. the ODFW announced that sturgeon fishing from Wauna Powerlines upstream to Beacon Rock will be extended to July 31, 2005. The retention fishery for sturgeon has closed above The Dalles Dam to the John Day Dam.

For most anglers, some of the best sturgeon fishing is taking place upstream of Tongue Point. As Jody mentioned, persistent (and lucky) anglers are finding success below the bridge but not without going through a lot of bait to do it. Sand shrimp action is picking up some and large schools of baitfish seem to again be present above Tongue Point causing many of us to believe the fish are off the bite as we try and compete for hungry fish. They sure seem to be present if our fish finders are accurate.

Upriver, sturgeon success has dropped off for keepers but **pro guide Dan Ponciano (360-607-8511)** states action is still fair. Dan landed 2 large oversize fish on 6/29 using fresh shad and has been averaging between 3 and 5 chances/day. Shad strips and smelt are still tricking the keepers but action has slowed dramatically from previous weeks.

Salmon fishing in the area is hit or miss. Late last week, action was slow but picked up on Monday. Dam counts indicate the run may actually come to fruition and as pro guide Jay Daly pointed out previously, the summer Chinook fishery opens up to non-selective status starting July 1st. Despite the quality tide series we are now coming off of, poor fishing was the rule for lower river anglers over the weekend. The best boat check came from the Portland to Longview stretch with almost a fish every 5 boats (counting released wild fish). Some beach anglers fared ok from the Portland to Longview stretch and Bonneville counts indicate we are indeed coming into the peak season for steelhead. Bonneville is now passing between 600 and 700 steelhead/day.

The traditional Buoy 10 coho fishery ocean opener is July 3rd with the Columbia River opening August 1st.

The Guide's Forecast – Starting with sturgeon, the outlook isn't any better for anglers in the estuary. Keepers are hard to come by. The fish seem to be running scared or they are too full of food to be interested in any offerings from anglers. There used to be a day when the 4th of July weekend provided some great action for sturgeon anglers on the coast but that will not be the case this weekend. An angler's best choice will likely be the water upstream of Tongue Point. The shallow water will become increasingly harder to draw results from as poor tide exchanges will keep many fish deep and the fish that are feeding shallow will be lethargic biters. Anglers should consider fishing the deeper water along the green line in search of the larger fish. The water from the mouth of the Skipanon through the town of Astoria will produce lots of trash fish and crabs but keepers are also available there. For Tongue Point anglers, shakers will be plentiful and

keepers may be challenging to find as a great deal of gill-netter activity has taken place here on the last 2 openers. Nearly 300 keepers were culled from the area on the first opener and the numbers are still out from the second one.

In the July 28th meeting mentioned above, it was also decided to extend the estuary sturgeon season from its original July 5th closure to July 10th. This area, which includes the waters from Wauna Powerlines to the mouth of the Columbia at Buoy 10, will then be closed from July 11th through the 14th, re-open on Friday, July 15th and close for the season on Sunday, July 17th.

Upriver, sturgeon in the gorge will likely continue to drop off for keepers as many have been culled from the waters in the gorge in recent months. Oversize action may begin to taper as the fish have been well cared for in this run of over 5 million fish. They may begin to suffer from overstuffing, like our keepers in the estuary. Fresh shad will continue to produce the best results but they are getting harder to come by towards the end of this run.

Salmon fishing should come into its peak this week for Bonneville anglers. Fish that entered the river from the last tide series will be staging at Bonneville this week and action should be good. Small spinners continue to be the best bet using metallic colors when the sun is shining and solid colors in the morning and during cloud covered days. The deep water at the Oak Tree Hole and 11 to 18 foot of water near the shad rack are the most consistent producers.

A weak tide series will make lower river plunking poor this week so I recommend anglers hold off until the following week for any big expenditure of effort.

Ocean salmon fishing out of Astoria opens up on Sunday, July 3rd but I am anticipating low effort and low catches. Some reports of fair commercial troll catches are encouraging however and large coho seem to be present in small numbers. Anglers will likely have to travel some distance to find decent numbers but don't expect great results this early in the season. Fish are typically small this early in the year as well. Bottom fishing off of the south and sunken jetty may provide an excellent alternative however as the tide exchanges will afford some easy limits.

Willamette, McKenzie & Santiam Rivers Fishing Report – Daily spring chinook counts at Willamette Falls have remained fairly steady since the first of June, averaging around 240 a day. While the peak of the run passed six weeks ago, springers remain available to late-season, diehard hardware-soakers. Year-to-date as of the latest data on June 27th, 33,346 spring chinook have been counted.

Summer steelhead are also making their way from the lower Willamette upstream at the rate of a couple of hundred a day with counts pushing the 10,000 mark for 2005. The flow at the Falls is moderating as water temperatures climb into the sixties. Visibility is five feet.

The North Santiam is producing a few summer steelhead on bobber 'n' jig, but it is slow overall. Hopefully, this fishery will turn on soon. This has been a stellar destination for steelies in years past but has produced only lackluster results the last couple of seasons.

The Guide's Forecast – The Willamette at Oregon City and the lower Clackamas River will continue to put out shad by the score over the next week. It's not going to last forever. As a matter of historical fact, it's not going to last through July, so if you want the best crab and oversized sturgeon bait available, get yours now.

Try someplace other than the Santiam this week unless your main goal is solitude.

Clackamas and Sandy River Fishing Reports – Steelheading has been good on the Sandy River with best results coming to early-risers who are on the water at first light. Go figure. 'Sounds just like summer steelheading. A few decent spring chinook are in the mix, so be prepared for either or both.

The Guide's Forecast – Drift sand shrimp, throw spinners or use bobber and eggs on the Sandy River this week and use a stealthy approach. Early mornings offer the best odds of success.

The Clackamas will continue to produce decent catches of the prolific shad, but there's no reason to expect a bounty of chinook or steelhead. Here are some statistics on the springer catches from earlier in the season:

http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish_counts/05_chs_clack_catch.htm

North Coast District Fishing Report – Spring Chinook fishing is beginning to wind down as the bulk of the hatchery fish have moved upriver. **Avid angler Steve Salveson** reported good success last week in the Wilson River using lighter line (12 pound test) and awesomely cured eggs. Steve reported releasing one fish close to 30 pounds!

Reports of sporadic ocean fishing for Chinook is also coming out of Garibaldi. One group of 2 anglers reported retaining 3 Chinook in the 18 to 22 pound range fishing in about 180 foot of water off of Garibaldi. They also reported some commercial boats doing fairly well too using hoochies and flashers down deep.

Summer steelhead fishing and cutthroat fishing is also an option on north coast rivers. All trout must be released unharmed of course and angler may retain 2 adipose clipped steelhead or salmon from the Trask, Wilson and Nestucca Rivers. The Three Rivers spring Chinook fishery has been extended through July 10th because the hatchery has met its egg taking requirements.

Crabbing remains best in the ocean out of Garibaldi but fair in Tillamook and Netarts Bays.

The Guide's Forecast – Low water tactics will be necessary to trick wary salmon and steelhead into biting on the low and clear North Coast streams. Three Rivers may be one of the better bets but portions of the lower Trask and Wilson will also be holding fish but weaker tides may make it difficult to find biting fish.

The ocean also opens out of Garibaldi on Sunday, July 3rd. With predicted hatchery coho numbers down a third from last year, the opener should not be impressive for anglers. The best bet is to target Chinook down deep using downriggers or divers in 160 to 200 foot of water with flashers and hoochies. Large, plug cut herring may also take some quality Chinook.

Winds are forecasted to be 10 to 15 out of the west all weekend but wind waves may make for friendly enough seas for the opener. None-the-less, practice EXTREME caution when crossing the bar and fishing in the ocean. Make sure all your vessels gear is up to date and working!

Central & South Coast Reports – Bottom fishing out of Depoe Bay and Newport has been terrific this year. Ling cod are showing up consistently along with rockfish and the occasional cabezon. The coho angling is improving. Trolling for chinook has been spotty but persistence has paid off with large fish for many.

Pro Guide Bill Kremers (541-754-6411) adds this: "this pass week fished out of Depoe with mixed results. Coho fishing is still slow, primarily because of the warm water. We found that the deeper we trolled, the better the fishing. The good news is that the fishing for lings is excellent.

Our biggest ling was a 42 inch monster. My suggestion is that if you cannot find the salmon, switch to bottom fishing."

Yaquina Bay has been fair for crabbing but the number of legals has fallen off. Expect to see numerous red rock crab in nets, but some folks like those things.

While the spring all-depth halibut quota was thought originally to have filled, it turns out the 40,000 pounds or nearly 40% remain available to sport anglers. Take your shot at them this weekend, June 30 through July 2. Officials believe this may wrap it up, but if fish remain available after the holiday foray, July 14th through 16th would be the next opportunities.

Hardy offshore anglers with the right equipment and know-how are hitting tuna 45 to 50 miles offshore out of Depoe Bay.

Summer steelhead fishing is improving on the North Umpqua. Smallmouth bass is a rewarding pursuit on the South Fork while shad fishing is still worthwhile on the mainstem and a quite sporting on fly-fishing gear.

Shad are also being taken in good number on the Coos, Coquille and Mallacoma Rivers. A few stripers have fallen to anglers trying for them at first light low on the Coos and Coquille Rivers.

Offshore salmon fishing has been good for the few who have tried out of Winchester Bay. Conditions were good over the weekend but interest seems low. Both chinook and coho are cooperating with trollers.

The spring chinook fishery on the Rogue River is considered to be winding down now although anglers have been catching fish from the top of tidewater to Agness and from there down to Rogue Bay with the best catches occurring at first light. Two chinook per day is the limit, one of which may be wild above Whiskey Creek. Upper river summer steelheading remains spotty with counts at Gold Ray Dam low.

Fall chinook will be making an appearance Rogue Bay in a few weeks. When the water temperature in the river climbs into the low 70s, chinook will stay in the bay, creating a hot opportunity for trollers dragging the Rogue River Rig, a harness for baitfish with a spinner at the nose. Anchovy is a local favorite and August is prime-time although a few nice chinook are invariably landed in July.

Central and Eastern Oregon – Subscriber and reliable reporter '**Dobe**' chimes in again this week, "Last week, the 20th, I drove over to Brownlee Res for a little crappie fishing. In a nutshell, the crappie fishing sucked. Five of us with two boats fished thru Wednesday morning and didn't get one crappie. People staying out all day would maybe get 2-3 fish for a days effort. The only ones having any luck were the die hards that stayed out all night, which would normally result in a whole bucket full, were coming in with 10-12. The cat fishing was a bit better as we took several in the 3lb to 9 lb range. Bobber and worms, worms or morman crickets on the bottom. Both methods seemed to produce equally well. Tuesday afternoon the temp in my camper hit 104 degrees and my friend, who had an outdoor thermometer, recorded 122 degrees in the sun. The temp, coupled with the poor fishing, was enough to prompt us to drag up Tues PM and move over to Bully Creek Res where we traded 100 degree plus temps for 35 mph winds. The fishing at Bully Creek was just as poor, reported by people who had been there for a week plus, so we didn't even put my boat in the water and headed for home Wed AM. The fishing around La Pine has been fair to spotty. Seems like everything is upside down this year. Might be time to approach fishing from a whole new prospective. Weather here is supposed to be nice for the 4th of July holiday."

Northwest Trout – Timothy Lake is producing rainbows a foot long or better to trollers with limits a good possibility to those who start early and stay at it. Crawfish are abundant here. Catches will remain good through July.

We also heard from **Pro Guide Bill Kremers (541-754-6411)** who wrote, "Fished Green Peter on Sunday for kokanee. The kokanee are biggest I have seen for Green Peter. We had our best luck trolling between 45 and 60 feet with spinners tipped with white corn. Two spots to fish are by the dam and also around the island by the Quartzville Arm."

No trout stocking took place this week in the Northwest Zone and only a few Willamette Zone water were planted. Among them, Trillium Lake, Estacada Lake, Faraday Lake, North Fork Reservoir, Blue River, Breitenbush River and Carmen Reservoir received rainbows.

The Deschutes watershed was well-traveled by ODFW tank trucks this week as the following waters were planted: Badger Lake, Horseshoe Lake, Lost Lake, Olallie Lake, Campbell Lake, Big Cultus Lake Deadhorse Lake, East Lake, North and South Twin Lakes, Century Gravel Pit, Deschutes River, Lake of the Woods, Ochoco Creek, Sprague Gravel Pit, Three Creeks Lake, Walton Lake, Devils Lake, Fall River, Shevlin Pond and Spring Creek.

SW Washington – In the estuary, charter boat anglers averaged 0.39 legals kept per rod while private boat anglers averaged 0.16 per rod. Last year during the same period charter boat anglers averaged 0.85 legal white sturgeon kept per rod while private boat anglers averaged 0.21 per rod. 374 private and 26 charter boats were counted during the Sunday June 26 flight. On Sunday June 27, 2004, a total of 313 private and 21 charters were counted.

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam - WDFW sampled 862 salmonid anglers with 72 Chinook kept/released. Boat anglers averaged a Chinook per every 10.1 rods based on completed trips while bank anglers averaged one per every 13.6 rods based mainly on incomplete trips. Overall, 49% of the Chinook caught were hatchery fish. One of the highest catch rates was at Kalama Bar. Bank anglers have been arriving as early as 2:30 AM to reserve a spot.

Summer steelhead angling is best from Longview downstream. Bank anglers in the Cathlamet area had highest catch rates, a fish for every 3 rods based on mainly incomplete trips.

Pro Guide Pete Grace (888-688-4386) said that the sturgeon fishing is slowing hand in hand with the shad. Saturday they got 4 salmon on 2 rods at Bonneville. The majority of the catch has been native so many are being released.

The Guide's Forecast – For sturgeon, fish on the flats at Multnomah Falls with good smelt bait, at 30 feet. Salmon fishing from the boat with hardware at 20 to 25 feet or off the bank with sand shrimp and spinners or 3 to 4 inch pink worms in the rivers.

Bonneville Pool - Light salmonid effort. Most effort is for Northern Pike Minnow, walleye, and oversized sturgeon.

The Dalles Pool - Bank anglers averaged a Chinook kept/released per every 7 rods. Half the Chinook caught were hatchery fish. No boats were sampled.

John Day Pool - Bank anglers are catching some Chinook. Light boat effort.

Mid Columbia River- Pro guide Jeff Knott (509-366-4052) reports, "Fishing for oversized sturgeon still holding strong, with shad as bait, partial or whole. Shad fishing is holding up good with the best lure to use being silver and orange Dick Nites off divers. Walleye is picking up below McNary dam, using worm harness'. Bass fishing is slowing down considerably as they are going deep, 25ft to 30ft.

Sturgeon -

Deep River/Knappton ramps - Boat anglers averaged 0.43 legals kept per rod based on completed trips.

The Joint State Hearing will also discuss the on-going sturgeon sport fishery in the Columbia estuary. See Oregon report for revised estuary season.

Wauna Powerlines upstream to Beacon Rock - Some legals are being caught throughout the river. Overall, boat anglers averaged a legal kept per every 12.8 rods based on completed trips.

The Dalles Pool - Closed to sturgeon retention through the end of the year. Catch and release angling is allowed.

John Day Pool - Boat anglers are catching some legals. Fishing is slow from the bank.

Around the Sound

Date	Site	Boats	Anglers	Chinook	Rock-fish	Species	Other #
6/25	Armeni Ramp	10	21	3	0	Flatfish-general	22
6/26	Armeni Ramp	11	25	4	0		0
6/25	Bellingham Rmp	1	3	0	3		0
6/25	Coronet Bay Pblc Rmp	5	12	0	1	Kelp greenling	9
6/26	Coronet Bay Pblc Rmp	2	5	0	4	Kelp greenling	6
6/20	Des Moines Slings	3	7	0	1	Flatfish-general	3
6/24	Everett Ramp	35	67	2	0	Flatfish-general	44
6/25	Everett Ramp	38	81	1	1	Cabezon	1
6/26	Everett Ramp	32	62	2	0		0
6/20	Gig Harbor Rmp	2	5	0	0		0
6/25	Gig Harbor Rmp	12	21	1	0		0
6/25	Mukilteo Ramp	4	8	0	0	Flatfish-general	11
6/24	Narrows Marina	2	3	1	0		0
6/26	Olsons Resort	14	35	0	16	Halibut	3
6/26	Olsons Resort (Area 4)	1	1	0	10		0
6/20	Pt Defiance Bths	4	6	2	0		0
6/20	Pt Defiance Bths	17	27	2	0		0
6/26	Pt Defiance Bths	6	15	1	0		0
6/20	Pt Defiance Rmp	13	25	4	0		0
6/20	Pt Defiance Rmp	9	13	0	0		0

6/22	Redondo Rmp	2	4	0	0		0
6/25	Redondo Rmp	9	21	0	0		0
6/26	Shilshole Ramp	3	5	0	0		0
6/26	Van Rippers Resort	6	11	0	3	Halibut	2
6/26	Van Rippers Resort (Area 4B)	1	2	0	0		0
6/21	Washington Pk Launch Rmp	1	1	0	0		0
6/26	Washington Pk Launch Rmp	0	4	0	0		0

Trout Stocking

Date – Fish – Number - Fish per pound - Hatchery

Lake Chelan

Jun 20	Cutthroat	9,000	5.00	Chelan
Jun 21	Cutthroat	8,820	4.20	Chelan
Jun 21	Cutthroat	2,875	5.00	Chelan

Lewis County

Chambers Lake

Jun 20	Brown trout	400	2.00	Mossyrock
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Long Lake

Jun 21	Brown trout	400	2.00	Mossyrock
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Skate Creek

Jun 22	Rainbow	3,360	2.80	Mossyrock
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Tilton River

Jun 22	Rainbow	3,360	2.80	Mossyrock
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Grays Harbor County

Mill Creek Pond

Jun 17	Rainbow	111	0.25	Lake Aberdeen
Jun 17	Rainbow	1,000	1.50	Lake Aberdeen

Grays Harbor County

Mill Creek Pond

Jun 17	Rainbow	111	0.25	Lake Aberdeen
Jun 17	Rainbow	1,000	1.50	Lake Aberdeen

Blue Lake

Jun 15	Rainbow	663	1.70	Tucannon
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Rainbow Lake

Jun 11	Rainbow	2,562	1.80	Tucannon
Jun 17	Rainbow	255	1.70	Tucannon

Dog Lake

Jun 14	Rainbow	620	1.00	Naches
Jun 14	Rainbow	1,218	2.80	Naches

Firing Center Pond

Jun 20	Rainbow	587	2.50	Naches
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Battleground Lake

Jun 09	Rainbow	2,000	1.30	Vancouver
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Klineline Pond

Jun 10	Rainbow	2,000	1.30	Vancouver
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Icehouse Lake

Jun 10	Rainbow	2,400	1.30	Vancouver
Kidney Lake				
Jun 10	Rainbow	2,000	1.30	Vancouver
Lake Sylvia				
Jun 10	Rainbow	1,000	1.90	Lake Aberdeen
Mill Creek Pond				
Jun 17	Rainbow	111	0.25	Lake Aberdeen
Jun 17	Rainbow	1,000	1.50	Lake Aberdeen
Vance Creek Pond #1				
Jun 10	Rainbow	500	1.90	Lake Aberdeen
Vance Creek Pond #2				
Jun 10	Rainbow	500	1.90	Lake Aberdeen
Longs Pond				
Jun 15	Rainbow	300	2.30	Puyallup

Snake River – Pat Long (509.751.0410) tells TGF he has been out fishing for sturgeon and bass. Things are going well with the sturgeon fishing on the lower snake with several caught over 8 feet and the bass fishing has been slow with fish at 1 to 1.5 pounds.

The Guide's Forecast – fishing for sturgeon should continue to be good but the boat traffic over the holiday will make things more difficult. Bass fishing will continue to be slow until August.

Olympic Peninsula – Pat Graham (360.374.5313) said that the Sol Duc is slowing down for springers and on the Hoh, things are OK for summer Coho and sockeye and open Wed. – Sun. The water has been low and clear.

The Guide's Forecast – Fishing should improve in coming weeks.

NW Washington – Charter Captain Mike Jamboretz (425.788.5955) has continued to catch his boat's limit of halibut daily in Canadian waters and catching lingcod as well. Some halibut have been in the 40 pound range and the fishing continues to be consistently good.

The Guide's Forecast – Halibut fishing should continue to be good in the Canadian water. You can get your licenses on line at -

<http://www-ops2.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/elic/index.cfm?pg=welcome&lang=en&tid=3&StopCookieTest=1>

Salmon season starts Friday, July 1st and Mike believes that the year will be good. He has seen fish rolling at Umatilla Reef and the trollers have been doing well. From what Mike has seen, he expects to see chinook caught in the mid 20 pound range and coho in the 6 to 7 pound range.

Cowlitz – Pro Guide Bob Barthlow (509.697.7125) sends TGF this information - We fished the mouth of the Cowlitz, inside the dredge on 2 days this week. We were anchored up with red bead w/ brass blade spinners and red U-20 Flatfish off a dropper. On the out going tide the 2 days we boated 4 Summer Chinook, w/ 3 keepers 12#-22# and 3 hatchery steelhead 6#-11#.

Starting July 1st on the CR, you can keep clipped and non clipped Summer Chinooks. We side drifted the Cowlitz below Blue creek two days, it's slow but has picked up a little for us, catching 2-3 hatchery Summer Steelhead on side drifted corkies and yarn each day.

The Guide's Forecast - Look for the Cowlitz river to improve a little more the next two weeks, as this years smaller run builds. The mouth of the Cowlitz should fish pretty steady through the month of July.

Reader Email

This week, Keith A. wrote via the contact form at the TGF website, "Hi ! Been fishing the upper Willamette up to Dexter Dam 30 yrs. You say good run for Willamette. The real story is very poor spring run. Its over before it started, very poor for springer run. I am a very good fisherman. For 2004 great run return at the dam. This year a waste of time! Very, very poor, where did the four& five year old fish go.75%of the fish that are there are steelhead ! Need some feedback PLEASE.THANKS "

While we couldn't find any reference to claiming this year's spring chinook run "good", we found several comparative (and rather dismal) statistics. Michael Teague, who writes the Willamette section, frequently takes a good-natured jab at the predictions while in fact, none of us can know what combination of factors (dry early winter, cold water, el Nino) contributed to the lousy numbers on both the Willamette and Columbia River this year.

Currently, the YTD counts at the Falls are 33,346 (as of June 27th) while the run prediction remains 116,900. That isn't good.

You may have read about some good fishing which has occurred in spurts and fits as pods of fish move through. We have had reports of decent catches at the height of the run from the lower Willamette and occasionally from the South Santiam, but these have been the exception, not the rule. Please forgive us (and me, Michael Teague) if we gave any other impression.

Here are the stats:

http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish_counts/05_chs_will_catch.htm

Have a safe, fun and fishy Fourth of July holiday. Share stories and photos by Email to The Guide's Forecast!

Write to the TGF staff:

Bob Rees: brees@pacifier.com

Doug Rees: drees@TheGuidesForecast.com

Michael Teague: SailCat@TheGuidesForecast.com

Random Links

Track down the details on that fishy critter here (thanx to Kaptn Ken for the link):

<http://www.fishbase.org/search.cfm>

Track the ocean salmon fishery:

<http://www.dfw.state.or.us/MRP/salmon/sofspt.html>

Taki Too Update:

<http://www.oregonlive.com/news/oregonian/index.ssf?/base/news/1117879921162450.xml&coll=7>

10 Dumb Boating Mistakes You Don't Want to Make:

<http://www.lawboat.com/news.asp?ID=296>

Fish whopper: 646 pounds a freshwater record:

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/8404622/>

Weekly Quote – "John Harder (of Orvis) tells me that though Orvis gets frequent requests for hackle necks with size 20 to 28 hackles on them, the company receives so few orders for hooks in those sizes that it's hardly worth keeping them in stock. His opinion is that precious few people actually get around to tying up many size 24s compared to the attention those small flies get in the magazines." - Paul Schullery in [American Fly Fishing](#)

GOOD LUCK!