

Good Afternoon:

Since we were able to get fishing again on the Salmon and Clearwater rivers this past weekend I want to get a brief fishing report out for those locations as well as Hell's Canyon which remained open.

**Lower Salmon River and Little Salmon River:**

We did document limited fishing effort on both the mainstem Salmon (Time Zone Bridge to Short's Cr.) and Little Salmon rivers over the weekend. The Little Salmon had the most effort but overall fishing effort was still very limited. We did not document catch or harvest in either area. But, we did get an update from Rapid River hatchery that they collected an adult at their trap this past week on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. So, there are a few fish around but keep an eye on river flows as they will continue to influence fish movement and fishing conditions around Riggins.

**Clearwater River:**

We re-opened some areas of the Clearwater River to a limited jack only fishery on Saturday. Catch was limited to the lower river section between Camas Prairie Bridge and Arrow Bridge and the middle section from Orofino Bridge to Five Mile Boat Ramp. All told, we estimated over 800 hours of angling effort with six jacks harvested and twenty-four total adults caught and released. This resulted in catch rate estimates of around 28 hrs/fish caught and 141 hrs/jack harvested. Some of you have asked how catch and release of the adults affect our harvest share. Well in the case of last weekend, we caught and released nineteen AD-clipped adults out of the total twenty-four caught and released (only AD-clipped fish count towards the harvest share). We assume a 10% mortality on caught and released fish; therefore, the fish caught and released over the weekend resulted in 1.9 adults towards the harvest share. Actual mortality rate will be dependent on what fishing technique you use, where you are fishing, and how you handle your fish. So please go out and enjoy the jack fishery, but when handling the adult fish handle them with care.

**Hell's Canyon:**

Anglers continued to catch Chinook at Hell's Canyon Dam. Last week we documented an additional 24 adult salmon harvested which brings the season total to 37 adults and 1 jack harvested in this fishery. Catch rates this past week were 35 hrs/fish kept and no fish were released in the fishery the past week. We will continue to update the status of the Hell's Canyon trap as we learn more over the next couple of weeks.

As a reminder, the fisheries on the Lower Salmon, Little Salmon and Clearwater rivers will start again this Thursday as we move into the 4 day/week (Thursday – Sunday) schedule. Good luck out on the water, talk to you next week.

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