



## ***Columbia River Salmon Fishery Policy Workgroup (CRW)***

### **Public Comments received between August 5, 2020 through August 18, 2020**

This is a compilation of comments received at through our online public comment portal after the Joint-State PRC was put on hold.

**From:** [123ContactForm](#)  
**To:** [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)  
**Subject:** Contact the Policy Review Workgroup  
**Date:** Sunday, August 9, 2020 1:04:30 PM

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<b>Name</b>	Mark Moody
<b>Email</b>	moodymw@gmail.com
<b>Address</b>	Hoquiam Washington
<b>Comments</b>	I am opposed to any increases of commercial fishing over recreational because the commercial fishery does not pay enough for the share of fish that they get. The recreational fishers in this state deserve better representation. It is getting to the point to where I should not even buy a license any more because there are not enough fish. In large part, this is due to commercial and tribal harvest. However, the recreational anglers are footing the bill.
<b>Attachment</b>	

The message has been sent from 73.83.48.189 (United States) at 2020-08-09 16:04:27 on Chrome 84.0.4147.105  
Entry ID: 194

**From:** [Commission \(DFW\)](#)  
**To:** [Barbara Baker](#); [Bob Kehoe](#); [Brad Smith](#); [Dave Graybill](#); [Donald McIsaac](#); [Anderson, James R \(DFW\)](#); [Larry Carpenter](#); [McBride, Tom A \(DFW\)](#); [Linville, Molly F \(DFW\)](#); [Thorburn, Kim M \(DFW\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Columbia river gill nets.  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 12, 2020 10:11:24 AM

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**From:** C Now <cezar5691@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 12, 2020 9:22 AM  
**To:** Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>  
**Subject:** Columbia river gill nets.

I am a life long fisherman. Over the last 35 years I have seen mismanagement of our fisheries get worse and worse. Gill nets do not discriminate between wild and hatchery chinook, steelhead or coho. Please be respectful and intelligent in your approach to managing the Columbia river. Anglers are an important part of our fisheries management, please don't take any more of our opportunities away in favor of environmentally damaging gill nets.

Sincerely  
Cezary Nowowiejski  
5098685691

**From:** [Commission \(DFW\)](#)  
**To:** [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: RE: Camas/Washougal area Columbia River Fall Chinook fi  
**Date:** Thursday, August 13, 2020 10:28:32 AM

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**From:** jamie watts <bluefox171@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 12, 2020 7:45 PM  
**To:** FISHPGM (DFW) <FISHPGM@dfw.wa.gov>; Lothrop, Ryan L (DFW) <Ryan.Lothrop@dfw.wa.gov>; Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: RE: Camas/Washougal area Columbia River Fall Chinook fi

Ryan, thank you for the reply. And I would love to talk to you in person. And again, I understand the reason for shortened seasons. But I still can't grasp this seasons approach. We went with the 3 day a week approach to go one week later in the season, but the reality of the situation is, we are only getting 3 days later into the season, and giving up 19 days of our August. 19 for 3. I consistently catch fish from August 12th on.

We had 8 days of September in '19, and 12 days of September in '18. All that and still had 31 days of August, this year, only 3 days in September, but giving up 19 days of our August. So less and less, actually way less. So by all rights, we lost 19 days of our August for considerably less. We litteralywent the 3 day a week approach for 5 days less of a season. And 24 days less in all.

It hit home today, as my wife and I were pulling into the port after a day of boating to see the gill netters launching their boats. I commercial fished for a living from 2004-2015, so I am not anti commercial fishing. But, i am 100% anti commercial fishing if said fishery has to close a sport scratch fishery in order for said commercial fishery.

Jamie Watts 1-360-903-2347

----- Original Message -----

From: "Lothrop, Ryan L (DFW)" <[Ryan.Lothrop@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:Ryan.Lothrop@dfw.wa.gov)>  
To: "[bluefox171@comcast.net](mailto:bluefox171@comcast.net)" <[bluefox171@comcast.net](mailto:bluefox171@comcast.net)>  
Date: 08/10/2020 3:57 PM  
Subject: RE: Camas/Washougal area Columbia River Fall Chinook fi

Jaimie,

I realize you left a voicemail with me as well. So if you'd like to talk about the 3-day approach, we can definitely schedule some time.

Ryan Lothrop  
Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

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**From:** Lothrop, Ryan L (DFW)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 10, 2020 9:07 AM

**To:** 'bluefox171@comcast.net' <[bluefox171@comcast.net](mailto:bluefox171@comcast.net)>

**Cc:** FISHPGM (DFW) <[FISHPGM@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:FISHPGM@dfw.wa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Camas/Washougal area Columbia River Fall Chinook fi

Good morning Jamie,

Thanks for reaching out to the agency on your question about the Columbia River fall Chinook fishery. The most compelling reason for the decrease in opportunity is based on the changing run sizes, as the years around 2015 had some of the largest runs in decades, and the last two years have been some of the lowest run sizes.

There are several factors that lead to this year's fishery structure. But first I wanted to let you know of the public process to develop the fall fishing plan that occurs at North of Falcon. These are open to the public and this is where the constraints for the upcoming year's fisheries are shared to seek input on how to set a season given the limitations at hand. These meetings occur during March/April every year, and for this year's proposal, there was support for fishing 3 days a week in order to fish one week later into the season (<https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/management/north-falcon>).

Here is the fall pre-season plan which lays out the challenge and limitation for each fishery ([https://wdfw.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2020-05/2020\\_wdfw-odfw\\_columbiariver\\_fisheryplan\\_final.pdf](https://wdfw.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2020-05/2020_wdfw-odfw_columbiariver_fisheryplan_final.pdf)). You will notice that all of the fisheries have a split season approach, and this is an excerpt from the plan, "The preseason forecast, after ocean fisheries, for Upriver Bright fall Chinook (URB) at the Columbia River mouth is 227,570 adult fish and includes 10,900 Snake River wild fall Chinook (SRW). Based on these forecasts, the allowed harvest rate (HR) limit on URB and SRW Chinook for Columbia River non-treaty fisheries is 15%. However, due to non-treaty fisheries exceeding allowed harvest rates in recent years, and the breakpoint in the harvest rate schedule being well within the margin of historical forecast error, a conservative approach to preseason fishery planning has been employed. All fisheries incorporate a split-season structure which limits the combined non-treaty URB/SRW HR to 8.25% prior to an in-season run-size update. The initial URB run-size update typically occurs in mid-September. Additional fishing opportunity is planned to access the full 15% harvest rate if the URB runsize is projected to be at least 200,000 adults in-season." For your fishery area, you will notice that the fishery re-opens on September 23 and is dependent on the run size. So if the run comes in at forecast, the fishery will re-open on (or possibly earlier) to allow for more Chinook fishing.

I realize this doesn't likely address your frustrations, but I hope that by providing you the backstory so you can engage in future fishery discussions will be helpful in providing the best opportunities giving the run sizes, catch rates, ESA constrains, etc.

Ryan Lothrop

Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

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**From:** jamie watts <[bluefox171@comcast.net](mailto:bluefox171@comcast.net)>

**Sent:** Thursday, August 6, 2020 7:00 PM

**To:** Commission (DFW) <[COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov)>

**Subject:** Camas/Washougal area Columbia River Fall Chinook fi

2017- prior, More times than not, we Had 100+ days to fall Chinook fish out of camas/Washougal on the Columbia. 2018 we had 45 days, 2019 we had 39 days, now in 2020 we are only getting 15 days, and weekend only. That is a huge disparity.

I fished all 45 days of '18 and all 39 days of '19.

I took the limited amount of days in stride cause I still had the August scratch fishery. So even though we only had 8 days of the good September fishing, we were able to scratch for a month in August. Slow, yes, but atleast we were able to get the lines wet, and catch some fish.

This year on the other hand, not only are we only getting 3 days of September, BUT, our August scratch fishery has basically been took away as well. 19 of the 31 days of August are gone. Leaving us 12 "weekend" crowded days. Talk about a double whammy. We litteraly lost our September, AND our scratch fishery. So many people are not OK with this.

I am respectfully asking for some answers of why we lost our month of August. Also, I would like to know what I can do in the future, as in what meetings to attend, call in, etc. etc. to hopefully help prevent this from happening in the future. So many people that fish this area only, ridgefield up, basically just had our season ripped from us.

Thank you if you read this far.

Jamie Watts 360-903-2347

**From:** [123ContactForm](#)  
**To:** [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)  
**Subject:** Contact the Policy Review Workgroup  
**Date:** Thursday, August 13, 2020 9:33:47 AM

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<b>Name</b>	Randy Schmitt
<b>Email</b>	randy.schmitt1@gmail.com
<b>Address</b>	182 black crow way Washougal Washington
<b>Comments</b>	<p>WDFW Commissioner's Please Increase the Commercial Salmon harvest quota for the Columbia River and pass the work group recommendations. I have not been able to purchase fresh local spring salmon from our local fish market for years. This is not fair to myself and the general public who pays a lot of tax dollars. Please do your part in providing salmon to the general public and increase the commercial harvest. Thanks</p>
<b>Attachment</b>	

The message has been sent from 174.204.197.251 (United States) at 2020-08-13 12:33:18 on iPhone 13.1.2  
Entry ID: 196

**From:** [123ContactForm](#)  
**To:** [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)  
**Subject:** Contact the Policy Review Workgroup  
**Date:** Thursday, August 13, 2020 9:13:04 AM

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<b>Name</b>	John Siple
<b>Email</b>	siple0954@msn.com
<b>Address</b>	30104 NE 15th Street Washougal Washington
<b>Comments</b>	<p>Dear Wdfw Commissioners, Please pass what the Columbia River Work group has proposed. Myself and the general public who does not Sport fish has the right to purchase salmon that our tax dollars have paid for. People in Washington enjoy eating fresh salmon purchased at local fish markets like Pike Place market. Taking this food source away from the general public is no an option. Gillnets do an excellent job at catching only the King Salmon that we like to purchase to feed our family. Thanks</p>
<b>Attachment</b>	

The message has been sent from 174.204.197.251 (United States) at 2020-08-13 12:13:00 on iPhone 13.1.2  
Entry ID: 195



**From:** [Commission \(DFW\)](#)  
**To:** [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Contact the Commission: Fishing / Shellfishing  
**Date:** Monday, August 17, 2020 7:46:13 AM

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**From:** Terry Sheely <[tsheely@tnscommunications.net](mailto:tsheely@tnscommunications.net)>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 14, 2020 11:14 AM  
**To:** Commission (DFW) <[COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Contact the Commission: Fishing / Shellfishing

<b>Name</b>	Terry Sheely
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:tsheely@tnscommunications.net">tsheely@tnscommunications.net</a>
<b>Address</b>	PO Box 86 Black Diamond Washington 98010
<b>Subject</b>	Fishing / Shellfishing
<b>Message</b>	<p>The people of Washington and Oregon, thru their respective legislatures, voted to reform Columbia River salmon management and to maintain the industrial gillnet harvest by enhancing selective fisheries specifically for commercial netting in off-channel areas, simultaneously reducing the incidental kill of ESA listed and wild salmon, steelhead and sturgeon in the mainstem. If you allow mainstem gillnetting then there will be a movement to eliminate the off-channel enhancement areas set aside for industrial netters. The people have spoken. Your job, as representatives, is to see that the 2013 salmon reforms are continued and that every effort is made to protect our public resource from private non-selective mortality impacts. If gillnets were a sound conservation step to salmon recovery they would be in every salmon river in the country. That the Columbia stands alone is evidence that gillnets and salmon conservation cannot co-exist.</p> <p>Reject efforts to undermine the Salmon Reforms and carry-out the will of the majority.</p>
<b>Attachment</b>	

The message has been sent from 73.225.28.135 (United States) at 2020-08-14 14:13:35 on Chrome 84.0.4147.125  
Entry ID: 2329

**From:** [Commission \(DFW\)](#)  
**To:** [Barbara Baker](#); [Bob Kehoe](#); [Brad Smith](#); [Dave Graybill](#); [Donald McIsaac](#); [Anderson, James R \(DFW\)](#); [Larry Carpenter](#); [McBride, Tom A \(DFW\)](#); [Linville, Molly F \(DFW\)](#); [Thorburn, Kim M \(DFW\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Updated Action Notice August 13, 2020 Columbia River Compact  
**Date:** Monday, August 17, 2020 8:01:42 AM

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**From:** Dennis Harman <drharman5@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Monday, August 17, 2020 7:56 AM

**To:** FISHPGM (DFW) <FISHPGM@dfw.wa.gov>; Assistant Director, Fish Program (DFW) <FishProgram.AssistantDirector@dfw.wa.gov>; Director (DFW) <director@dfw.wa.gov>; Rules Coordinator (DFW) <Rules.Coordinator@dfw.wa.gov>; Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>; CCA Washington <info@ccapnw.org>; P.S.A. Ron Garner <RGARNER755@aol.com>; The\_Reel\_News <thereelnews@comcast.net>; FRIENDS OF THE COWLITZ <friendsofthecowlitz@tds.net>; Cantwell, Maria <maria\_cantwell@cantwell.senate.gov>; Twin Harbors assn-T.Hamilton <THFWA@comcast.net>; Denny Heck <WA10DHIMA@mail.house.gov>; Stokesbary, Drew <drew.stokesbary@leg.wa.gov>; Fortunato, Phil <phil.fortunato@leg.wa.gov>; Marlisa Williams Dugan <fishthenemah@comcast.net>; Greg King <papagreg55@gmail.com>; Irwin, Morgan <morgan.irwin@leg.wa.gov>; Northwest Sportsman Mag <info@nwsportsmanmag.com>; Puget Sound Anglers SOF <sof.psa@hotmail.com>

**Subject:** Re: Updated Action Notice August 13, 2020 Columbia River Compact

I APPLAUD YOUR DECISION TO REDUCE KILL NETS GAUGE SIZE TO 8"....**BUT IT IS STILL TO LARGE TO SAVE THE LARGER, MORE GENETICALLY SUPERIOR 4-5-6 YEAR OLD FISH FROM DESTRUCTION!!!! YOU ALLOW TARGETING LARGER FISH FOR PROFIT ONLY...IT IS DISGRACEFUL...**WE NEED TO SAVE THESE SUPERIOR FISH FOR OUR FUTURE GENERATIONS....NOT FOR SHORT TERM, GREED...SLOT LIMITS SHOULD BE IN PLACE FOR FISHERMAN TO INSURE THE LARGER FISH GET TO THE HATCHERIES FOR REPRODUCTION...**KILL NET GAUGE SHOULD BE BETWEEN 5 AND 6 INCHES...MAXIMUM...TO PROTECT LARGER FISH...THIS MUST BE DONE IMMEDIATELY..**  
**SAVE OUR WORLD FAMOUS, STEELHEAD AND SALMON NOW!!!! SIZE DOES MATTER...**

SINCERELY,

DENNIS HARMAN

REEL RIVER FISHERS OF WASHINGTON

ADVOCATE FOR SUBSISTENCE, CULTURAL, SPIRITUAL, AND **ALL HISTORIC FISHERS OF WASHINGTON**

On Thu, Aug 13, 2020 at 5:51 PM WDFW Fish Program <[do.not.reply@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:do.not.reply@dfw.wa.gov)> wrote:

## **COLUMBIA RIVER FISHERY NOTICE**

**Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife**

**600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501-1091**

**<https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/management/columbia-river>**

Attached is the corrected notice of action taken at today's Columbia River Compact. Corrects future meeting information.

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This message has been sent to the Columbia River Fishery Notice mailing list.  
To UNSUBSCRIBE from this mailing list: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/lists/unsubscribe.html> or  
send a blank email to [leave-772192-8849783.34c805674d4bd38d81c57fff1a32a4c3@maillists.dfw.wa.gov](mailto:leave-772192-8849783.34c805674d4bd38d81c57fff1a32a4c3@maillists.dfw.wa.gov)

**From:** [Commission \(DFW\)](#)  
**To:** [Barbara Baker](#); [Bob Kehoe](#); [Brad Smith](#); [Dave Graybill](#); [Donald McIsaac](#); [Anderson, James R \(DFW\)](#); [Larry Carpenter](#); [McBride, Tom A \(DFW\)](#); [Linville, Molly F \(DFW\)](#); [Thorburn, Kim M \(DFW\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Salmon Going Extinct  
**Date:** Monday, August 17, 2020 7:58:58 AM

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**From:** lk2thlite@aol.com <lk2thlite@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 16, 2020 5:55 PM  
**To:** Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>  
**Subject:** Salmon Going Extinct

[https://www.facebook.com/169556639767677/posts/3295751127148197/?substory\\_index=0](https://www.facebook.com/169556639767677/posts/3295751127148197/?substory_index=0)

Please read this ongoing issue in the Columbia and Snake.

I am opposed to a increased Commercial fishing quota while salmon are going Extinct in these water tempatures! It doesn't make any sense. Gill nets do not protect ESA listed fish.

If salmon are not put ahead of people at this point then say good by to one of the largest salmon runs in the world.

I look forward to your response even though it won't happen.

Sincerely


Gary Johnson

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 **Save Our Wild Salmon**  
18 hrs ·












Water temperatures in the Columbia River Basin have continued to rise above 68 degrees thus leaving an inhabitable river for many fish species. Check out our Hot Water Reports for more info!  
<https://www.wildsalmon.org/news-and-media/sos-blog.html>






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**From:** [Commission \(DFW\)](#)  
**To:** [Barbara Baker](#); [Bob Kehoe](#); [Brad Smith](#); [Dave Graybill](#); [Donald McIsaac](#); [Anderson, James R \(DFW\)](#); [Larry Carpenter](#); [McBride, Tom A \(DFW\)](#); [Linville, Molly F \(DFW\)](#); [Thorburn, Kim M \(DFW\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Contact the Commission: Questions for Commission Staff  
**Date:** Monday, August 17, 2020 12:39:40 PM

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**From:** Robert Millhollen <[bmillhollen06@comcast.net](mailto:bmillhollen06@comcast.net)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 17, 2020 11:20 AM  
**To:** Commission (DFW) <[COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Contact the Commission: Questions for Commission Staff

<b>Name</b>	Robert Millhollen
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:bmillhollen06@comcast.net">bmillhollen06@comcast.net</a>
<b>Address</b>	1207 NW 104th st. Vancouver Washington 98685
<b>Subject</b>	Questions for Commission Staff
<b>Message</b>	<p>2019, you let the gill nets back on Columbia River ,they were in river in October,prime coho time. Lewis river was put into an emergency closure due to lack of fish ! Gee I wonder where they went ! Great job guys and girls! Now your letting them back on river this year ! You people need to be replaced before OUR fish are ALL gone ! I\'m sitting here shaking as I\'m writing this, a bit upset , I will do my best to see you all replaced ! This action is totally insane ! Someone must be getting some under the table money .</p>
<b>Attachment</b>	

The message has been sent from 174.204.213.135 (United States) at 2020-08-17 14:19:43 on Chrome  
84.0.4147.125  
Entry ID: 2333