

Final Season Smelt Update

Tuesday – March 31, 2009

Conditions:

No reported effort by commercial or recreational fishers this past two weeks. No reports of significant bird and marine mammal activity associated with smelt concentrations in either the mainstem Columbia or the tributaries. WDFW staff did not test dip in the Cowlitz for the past two weeks. Cowlitz flows have been below median daily levels for the past two weeks. The Cowlitz River silted up on March 29th, but cleared up quickly. Water temperatures in the Columbia River and Cowlitz River have been conducive to smelt migration.

Catches:

Columbia River:

Sport: There were no reports of sport dipping this past two weeks.
Commercial: No reported landings for the past two weeks. Season total 5,551-lbs.

Cowlitz River:

Sport: There were no reports of sport dipping this past two weekends. Cumulative catch for this season is estimated to equal or exceed the commercial landings.
Commercial: No landings this past two weeks. Cumulative catch since January 3rd is 12,093-lbs.
Treaty Tribe: No C&S effort this past two weeks. Cumulative Ceremonial and Subsistence take is 3,500-lbs.

Note: This is the final report. Eulachon smelt fisheries in the Columbia Basin are closed tomorrow.
