



6/30/23

**2023 CTUIR Emergency Tributary Regulations for
Spring/Summer Chinook Fisheries**

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Fish and Wildlife Code of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, the FWC has the authority to establish regulations for Umatilla ceremonial, subsistence, and commercial fisheries. Pursuant to that authority, the FWC adopted the following regulations:

Stream	Adult Projections		Treaty Harvest		Open/Closed Fishery Dates
	Hatchery	Natural	Hatchery	Natural	
Catherine Creek	524	239	0	0	6/01/23; Closed
Granite Creek	N/A	N/A	N/A	8	6/30/23; Closed
Imnaha River	954	350	100*	7*	4/25/23; Open
Lookingglass Creek	500	120	101*	10*	6/21/23; Closed
NF John Day River	ERS = <1,000		N/A	30	6/30/23; Closed
Minam River	N/A	573	N/A	30*	4/25/23; Open
Tucannon River	80	20	0	0	Closed
Umatilla River	ERS = >2,000		275		4/25/23; Open
Upper Grande Ronde	760	162	0	0	6/01/23; Closed
Wallowa/Lostine Rivers	544	262	54*	8*	6/30/23; Closed
Walla Walla River	ERS = <200		0	0	Closed
Wenaha River	N/A	715	N/A	41*	4/25/23; Open
Yakima River	ERS = 5,500		Adequate returns to support a fishery.		6/30/23; Closed

* Treaty harvest share

Acronyms:

ERS = Expected Run Size, which includes both hatchery and natural origin adult projections;

TBD = To Be Determined;

N/A = Not Applicable.

Notes:

Fishing for ESA-listed bull trout & Pacific Lamprey shall be closed on all listed streams at this time. Fishing for rainbow, mountain whitefish and all other resident fish year around is permitted under permanent regulation. Steelhead fishing is closed due to proximity of the spawning season and presence of kelts in the river systems.

In season run information:

The Snake Basin Coordination meeting occurs on a weekly basis to update in-season run estimates to Grande Ronde and Imnaha River subbasins. On June 27, co-managers updated the in-season expected returns to the Imnaha River and Wallowa/Lostine Rivers. Closed streams are not predicted to meet broodstock and/or escapement goals for that respective stream or where the harvest target has been reached.

IMNAHA RIVER FISHERY

Spring Chinook returns to the Imnaha River in 2023 are expected to be about 350 natural and 954 hatchery fish. Tribal fish harvest target of 7 natural and 100 hatchery fish have been set by the FWC. A joint CTUIR/NPT fishery will occur this year and the fish harvest targets are the total available fish for both tribes. The FWC may adjust the harvest target as additional in-season information becomes available. The shared Treaty harvest target may be reached prior to the second week in July due to the low harvest target and fishing effort.

SEASON & LOCATIONS: The area open to fishing by CTUIR tribal members will occur in the Imnaha River from the mouth up approximately 55 miles to below the fish weir near the mouth of Gumboot Creek. Primary spawning areas above the fish weir will remain closed to spring Chinook fishing. The Imnaha River fishery will occur seven days per week and continue until the harvest target has been met or until further notice.

MINAM RIVER FISHERY

Spring Chinook returns to the Minam River in 2023 are expected to be about 573 natural adult spring/summer Chinook. A fish harvest target of 30 natural fish has been identified by the Fish and Wildlife Commission. A joint CTUIR/NPT tribal fishery will occur this year.

SEASON & LOCATIONS: The area open to fishing by CTUIR tribal members will occur in the Minam River starting from the mouth (confluence with Wallowa River) to approximately 2.5 miles upstream. The Minam River will occur seven days per week and will continue until the harvest target has been reached or until further notice.

UMATILLA RIVER FISHERY

RUN STATUS: In-season adult returns to Threemile Dam are expected to not exceed 2,500 adults. The five year average is approximately 1,835 adult spring Chinook. Broodstock goals for the Umatilla River have been met and the Walla Walla River broodstock was taken at Threemile Dam. A total of 564 adults have been taken for broodstock at Threemile Dam facility and transported to the South Fork Walla Walla facility for holding and spawning.

SEASON: Open to spring Chinook season starting on April 25, 2023 and continues until the harvest target of 275 fish is met or until further notice. As of June 29, approximately 180 adult spring Chinook has been harvested by CTUIR tribal members.

LOCATION: Umatilla River and tributaries above the Hwy 30 bridge at Umatilla, except for natural production sanctuary areas above the reservation. Sanctuary areas closed to fishing are: 1) the upper mainstem Umatilla River and its tributaries above the upper reservation boundary (above mouth of Ryan Creek); and; 2) Meacham Creek and tributaries above the paved county road bridge about 1/2 mile up Meacham Creek from its mouth. *NOTE:* Above sanctuary areas are to protect salmon in the basins primary spawning habitat. Also, 200 foot area (markers posted) above and below the outlet of the Imaques-C-Mem-lni-Kem fish facility and all irrigation diversions dams/ladders will be closed to fishing.

WENAHA RIVER FISHERY

Spring Chinook returns to the Wenaha River in 2023 are expected to be about 715 natural adult spring/summer Chinook. A joint CTUIR/NPT tribal fishery will occur this year.

SEASON & LOCATIONS: The area open to fishing by CTUIR tribal members will occur in the Wenaha River starting from the mouth (confluence with Grande Ronde River) to approximately 2.5 miles upstream. The Wenaha River will occur seven days per week continue or until the harvest target of 41 has been reached.

NON-INDIAN TROUT FISHING CLOSURE ON UMATILLA INDIAN RESERVATION:

Non-Indian trout fishing in the Umatilla River and tributaries on the Umatilla Indian Reservation - except McKay Creek system - is CLOSED through September 15, 2023 to provide increased protection to spring Chinook.

FOR SAFETY CONCERNS: It shall be unlawful to take or attempt to take fish from within 25 feet above or below fishways (e.g. adult fish ladders at Threemile Dam, Cold Springs Dam, and Westland Dam, etc.). There shall be no trespassing/walking on/fishing from dam and/or hatchery facilities such as fish ladder, fish weir, etc.

VALUE OF HARVEST DATA:

Information on the tribal spring Chinook harvest and ability and success of spring Chinook to remain and spawn in these rivers are important to the Tribe. Tribal harvest monitors will be out monitoring catch and obtaining other biological data. The Fish and Wildlife Commission requests that tribal fishers cooperate with call-in catch reporting and in the field with tribal harvest monitors regarding catch information tagged fish, etc. This information will help provide a database which fishery managers can utilize for the enhancement of the ceded area populations. Also, the harvest monitor has the permission of the Fish and Wildlife Commission to notify tribal fishers when a specific target has been met. In this case, fishing in that stream would be closed immediately and a public notice would be posted the next work day. In addition, post-season interviews will be conducted following in late summer/early fall; specific to Northeast Oregon tributary harvest.

LANDOWNER PERMISSION:

Fishers are entitled to river access throughout the open river corridors but will need to first inquire with local landowners if private driveway or field access is desired. Any trespass issues resulting from lack of landowner coordination may impact future access opportunities. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Contacts/questions:

- (541) 429 – 7371 Corinne Sams, Chairperson, Fish and Wildlife Commission;
- (541) 429 – 7285 Jeremiah Bonifer, Fisheries Program Manager or;
- (541) 429 – 7277 Preston Bronson, Harvest Manager.

FWC COMMISSION APPROVAL:



FWC Chair

Date: 6/30/23



FWC Member

Date: 6/30/23