

States set the year's spring chinook, smelt seasons

VANCOUVER, Wash. — Fishery managers from Oregon and Washington set spring chinook salmon and smelt seasons for the Columbia River and some of its tributaries today during a joint state hearing in Vancouver.

The Columbia River spring chinook season is based on a forecast of 232,500 returning upriver spring chinook, compared to an actual return of 242,600 last year. The forecast provides for a fishery downstream of Bonneville Dam running through April 10 with an expected kept catch of about 11,500 spring chinook prior to a run update. The season for the lower Columbia below the I-5 Bridge opened Jan. 1 under permanent rules. The regulations adopted today will take effect March 1.

Above Bonneville, the states approved a 52-day chinook retention season starting on March 16 and continuing through May 6.

"We're experiencing some times of very good spring chinook fishing," said Chris

Kern, deputy administrator of Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's Fish Division. "This year's run represents some outstanding opportunity relative to where we've been in the past."

In a separate individual state action, ODFW announced it will again conduct a very limited recreational smelt fishery on the Sandy River, from 6 a.m. until noon March 7 and again March 15. Washington announced the Cowlitz River recreational smelt fishery will take place on Feb. 7 and Feb. 14, also from 6 a.m. until noon. This is the second time since 2011 that the states have allowed recreational smelt fishing since the fish were listed for protection under the Endangered Species Act.

The following is a summary of spring recreational fishing seasons, including those adopted at today's meeting.

CHINOOK SALMON
Columbia River from Buoy 10 to Bonneville Dam
 Prior to March 1, perma-

nent rules, as outlined in the 2015 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations, remain in effect.

From March 1 through April 10, boat fishing will be allowed seven days a week from Buoy 10 upstream to Beacon Rock. Bank fishing will be allowed during the same timeframe from Buoy 10 upstream to the Bonneville Dam deadline. The recreational fishery will be closed on March 24, March 31 and April 7 (Tuesdays) to allow for potential commercial fisheries. This fishery will be managed prior to a run update based on the available guideline of 10,318 upriver spring chinook and may be shortened or extended depending on catch and effort.

The daily bag limit will be two adipose fin-clipped adult salmon or steelhead in combination, of which no more than one may be a chinook. The rules also allow retention of up to five adipose fin-clipped jack salmon per day in Oregon.

Columbia River from

Bonneville Dam to the Oregon/Washington border

Effective March 16 through May 6, this area will be open to retention of adipose fin-clipped chinook. Fishing for salmon and steelhead from a boat between Bonneville Dam and the Tower Island power lines, approximately six miles downstream from The Dalles Dam, is prohibited. Bank fishing is allowed throughout this area.

This fishery will be managed to the available harvest guideline of 1,376 upriver spring chinook and may be shortened or extended depending on catch and effort.

The daily bag limit will be two adipose fin-clipped adult salmon or steelhead in combination, of which no more than one may be a chinook. The rules also allow retention of up to five adipose fin-clipped jack salmon per day in Oregon.

Select Areas
 Permanent fishing regulations for recreational harvest in Oregon waters within Youngs Bay and Blind

Slough/Knapa Slough are listed in the 2015 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations.

Based on today's action, effective March 1 through June 15, 2015 on days when the mainstem below Bonneville Dam is open to recreational chinook harvest, the daily salmonid bag limit will be the same as mainstem Columbia bag limits. On days the mainstem Columbia is closed to chinook retention, the permanent bag limits for Select Areas will apply.

Willamette River
 On the Willamette River, the spring chinook forecast is 55,400 fish. This is slightly more than last year's actual return of 51,800 and will allow for a full chinook retention season as described under permanent regulations.

The Willamette River remains open to retention of adipose fin-clipped adult chinook salmon and adipose fin-clipped steelhead seven days a week.

The bag limit on the Willamette below Willamette Falls is two adipose fin-clipped

adult salmon or steelhead in combination. Above the falls, two adipose fin-clipped adult salmon and an additional three adipose fin-clipped steelhead may be retained in the daily bag limit.

STEELHEAD/SHAD

Effective March 1 through May 15, the mainstem Columbia River will be open for retention of shad and adipose fin-clipped steelhead only during days and in areas open for retention of adipose fin-clipped spring chinook. Beginning May 16 permanent rules resume as listed in the 2015 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations.

SMELT

Effective March 7 and March 15, from 6 a.m. until noon the Sandy River will be open for retention of smelt. Bank only fishing is allowed, restricted to dip nets, and a bag limit of 10 pounds per person. Under Oregon fishing regulations anglers do not need a license to harvest smelt.

Cannon Beach Food Pantry open house set

CANNON BEACH — The Cannon Beach Food Pantry is holding an open house at its new location, Cannon Beach Elementary School, 268 Beaver St., from 4 to 6 p.m. Saturday.

The event, which will include light refreshments, is a "thank you" to everyone who donated to the organization and helped them relocate from the Cannon Beach Bible Church.

With its new home, the pantry will be able to continue its mission to feed hungry people in the community, said Molly Edison, the pantry manager.

World Kite Museum offers new workshops



Submitted photo
Kay Buesing, emeritus director of the World Kite Museum, examines an enormous kite of the type workshop participants will learn to make in February.

By ROBYN UNRUH
 For EO Media Group

LONG BEACH, Wash. — Long Beach Peninsula-based World Kite Museum is announcing major changes and upgrades, plus the first of its 2015 workshops.

The museum's facility upgrades include addition of the WKM Theater, an audiovisual media room that will better accommodate field trips and tour groups. In addition, there are updated and refreshed exhibits, including a new and complete collection of WSKF annual posters, as well as technology and crucial facility maintenance and upgrades.

This year for the first time, the museum will also oversee the Washington State International Kite Festival, as well as host a number of workshops and new annual fundraiser event.

Over President's Day Weekend, Feb. 14 through Feb. 16, Rod Beamguard will lead a workshop that will offer

enthusiasts the chance to build "Not A Peter Lynn kite, another design by John Freeman." This "mountainous" kite stands 8 feet tall and 6 feet wide, allowing builders to test their skills with appliqué work and a variety of color combinations.

New museum features will make their grand debut at "A Night at the 'Kite' Museum," March 7. The evening will include the grand unveiling of the complete Washington State International Kite Festival Annual Poster Collection and the Grand Opening of the WKM Theater. Up for auction will be specially designed kites embellished by local artists.

The museum will host Spring Break Family Fun March 22 through April 20.

Those wishing to contribute to the legacy of the World Kite Museum may do so at <http://bit.ly/1yR834u>

To learn more about the World Kite Museum, contact Holli Kemmer, development/events director, at 360-642-4020.

Police searching for Astoria man connected to multiple burglaries

By The Daily Astorian

Astoria Police are searching for Jesse Allan Pitts, 32, Astoria, a suspect in several burglaries who has a warrant out for his arrest for failing to appear in court.

Pitts was arrested in November for two counts of first-degree burglary after being seen in houses and porches around the 200 block of

West Duane Street, West Exchange Street and West Grand Avenue. Police said he has recently been seen in the same area known as the south slope neighborhoods.

In November, Police found Pitts in an attic at a vacant residence at 197 Hume Ave. He was arrested and booked without incident for a felony warrant and the two counts of burglary.



Jesse Pitts

Police learned from neighbors that the Hume Avenue

residence was only occupied part time, and would be a prime location for Pitts to break into.

Prior to Pitts' arrest, police received reports from part-time residents who found evidence that someone had been living inside their residence. In one case, police said, Pitts had broken through an interior wall. In another case, a resident came

face to face with Pitts in their basement.

Anyone who has seen Pitts is asked to contact local law enforcement and provide information about where he can be found.

Astoria Police can be contacted at (503) 325-4411. The current cases are being coordinated by Officer Matt Clausen. His email is mclausen@astoria.or.us

Public meetings

TODAY

Recreational Lands Planning and Advisory Committee, 1 to 3 p.m., fourth floor, 800 Exchange St.

MONDAY

Youngs River Lewis & Clark Water District Board, 6 p.m., 34583 U.S. Highway 101 Business.

dailyastorian.com

Lotteries

OREGON

Wednesday's Pick 4:

1 p.m.: 6-0-6-0

4 p.m.: 8-9-1-2

7 p.m.: 1-5-1-7

10 p.m.: 2-7-2-4

Wednesday's Mega-

bucks: 03-17-31-38-45-48

Estimated jackpot: \$8.5 million

Wednesday's Powerball:

12-24-35-36-49, Powerball:

1, Power Play: 5

Estimated jackpot: \$261 million

WASHINGTON

Wednesday's Daily

Game: 5-6-5

Wednesday's Hit 5: 05-

06-11-17-31

Estimated jackpot:

\$300,000

Wednesday's Keno: 05-12-

19-22-23-24-31-36-37-40-41-

44-48-51-58-60-61-63-71-73

Wednesday's Lotto: 09-

10-27-41-43-46

Estimated jackpot: \$3.7 million

Wednesday's Match 4:

01-02-09-16

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