

2018 SPRING CHINOOK SALMON FISHERIES PROPOSAL FOR SEASON SETTING

March 22, 2018

I. SEASONS – CHINOOK SALMON

A. Opening Dates

1. The following areas open to fishing for Chinook Salmon on April 28, 2018

Clearwater River Drainage

- Mainstem Clearwater River- From the Camas Prairie Railroad Bridge upstream to the mouth of the South Fork Clearwater River (see special restrictions regarding fishing from shore and watercraft).
- North Fork Clearwater - From the mouth upstream to Dworshak Dam excluding the perimeter of the Dworshak National Hatchery at Ahsahka (see special restrictions regarding angling from shore and watercraft).
- South Fork Clearwater River - From its mouth upstream to the confluence of American and Red rivers.
- Middle Fork Clearwater River - From the South Fork Clearwater River upstream to the confluence of the Lochsa and Selway rivers.

Salmon River Drainage

- Lower Salmon River- From the Rice Creek Bridge upstream to the uppermost boat ramp at Vinegar Creek (see special restrictions regarding fishing from watercraft).
- Little Salmon River - From the mouth upstream to the US Highway 95 Bridge near Smokey Boulder Road.

Snake River

- From the Dug Bar boat ramp upstream to Hells Canyon Dam.

B. Closing Dates

Areas will be closed by Closure Order signed by the Director of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

C. FISHING DAYS

Clearwater River Drainage

- Fishing for Chinook Salmon will open four (4) days per week, Thursday through Sunday.

Salmon River Drainage and Snake River Drainages

- Fishing for Chinook Salmon will be open seven (7) days per week.

D. FISHING HOURS

Fishing for Chinook Salmon is lawful only during the hours shown in the table below.

Dates:	Pacific Daylight Time		Mountain Daylight Time	
	Begin	End	Begin	End
April 28 to May 31	5:00 AM	9:00 PM	6:00 AM	10:00 PM
June 1 to July 31	4:30 AM	9:00 PM	5:30 AM	10:00 PM
July 31 to August 13	5:00 AM	9:00 PM	6:00 AM	10:00 PM

II. LIMITS

A. Daily and Possession Limits

Mainstem Clearwater River, North Fork Clearwater River, Middle Fork Clearwater River and South Fork Clearwater River.

- Daily = Four (4) Chinook Salmon, only one (1) may be an adult
- Possession = Twelve (12) Chinook Salmon, only three (3) may be adults

Salmon River, Little Salmon River and Snake River

- Daily = Four (4) Chinook Salmon, only two (2) may be adults
- Possession = Twelve (12) Chinook Salmon, only six (6) may be adults

B. Season Limit, Statewide

No person may take more than twenty (20) adult Spring or Summer Chinook Salmon statewide during 2018 salmon seasons occurring prior to August 13, 2018.

C. Definitions pertaining to limits

- Adult Chinook Salmon are defined as any Chinook Salmon greater than or equal to 24 inches in length.
- Jack Chinook Salmon are defined as any Chinook Salmon less than 24 inches in length.

III. SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

A. Clearwater River

1. Mainstem

Mainstem Clearwater River (Big Eddy near Lenore Rest Area): Fishing from any watercraft is prohibited from the posted downstream boundary at river mile 27.6 extending to the posted upstream boundary at river mile 28.0. Lenore Rest Area is located on US Highway 12 near milepost 28.

Fishing from the shoreline along the perimeter of Dworshak National Fish Hatchery is prohibited. Fishing is also prohibited in the area of the ladder to

the Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery (approximately 1 mile upstream of the Cherrylane Bridge) as delineated by posted boundaries approximately 100 yards upstream and downstream from the ladder, and extending into the river channel 50 yards.

2. North Fork

The mouth of the North Fork Clearwater River is defined as a straight line between the posted signs located at the Clearwater Hatchery outlet culvert on the west side and at the tip of land below the Dworshak Hatchery on the east side. Fishing from the shoreline or wading along the perimeter of Dworshak National Fish Hatchery is prohibited. Fishing from any watercraft or wading is prohibited between the posted line approximately 150 yards upstream from the mouth of the North Fork Clearwater River to the Ahsahka Highway 7 Bridge. When fishing from the Ahsahka Highway 7 Bridge, it is unlawful to take or attempt to take any fish downstream of the railroad bridge. Fishing from the railroad bridge is prohibited.

3. South Fork

Only single-pointed barbless hooks are allowed while fishing for salmon in the South Fork Clearwater River.

B. Lower and Little Salmon rivers

Fishing from any watercraft is prohibited within 30 yards of the west shoreline of the Salmon River from the Riggins City Park boat ramp upstream to a posted boundary approximately 50 yards upstream of the mouth of the Little Salmon River. Fishing from any watercraft is also prohibited in the Little Salmon River from the mouth upstream approximately 200 yards to a posted boundary.