



**Columbia River**  
Honor. Protect. Restore.

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February 9, 2024

**TO:** FISHERMEN; TDP; WARDENS, CHIEF OF POLICE; SUPERINTENDENT; HOUSING; LAW & JUSTICE

**FROM:** FISH & WILDLIFE COMMITTEE:  
JEREMY TAKALA, CHAIRMAN;  
TERRY HEEMSAH SR., SECRETARY; TERRY RAMBLER-  
GOUDY, MEMBER;  
CASEYMAC WALLAHEE, MEMBER

**SUBJECT:** 2024 Commercial Sturgeon Setline Season

**CA:** 143-2024-2

The Yakama Nation Fish and Wildlife Committee hereby authorize a commercial **setline** season on the Columbia River. The following regulations are issued pursuant to Title 32.14 of the Revised Law and Order Code of the Yakama Nation. Authority to enforce these regulations is provided under Section 32.18.07 of the Code.

**AREA:** **Bonneville Pool**

**DATES:** 6am Saturday February 10 to 6pm Monday February 12, 2024. The fishery may be closed or extended until the sturgeon guidelines are met.

**GEAR:** Commercial fishing for sturgeon may be conducted with **Setlines Only**. All other gear shall be unlawful. As per Chapter 32.18.07 of the Revised Law and Order Code all gear is required to be marked with enrollment number.

**ALLOWABLE SALES:** The allowed sales will be salmon including steelhead, sturgeon, shad, walleye, carp, catfish, bass and yellowperch.

**AREA:** **The Dalles & John Day Pools**

**DATES:** 6am Tuesday February 13 to 6pm Tuesday February 20, 2024. The fishery may close or be extended on a weekly basis until sturgeon guidelines are met.

**GEAR:** Commercial fishing for sturgeon may be conducted with **Setlines Only**. All other gear shall be unlawful. As per

Chapter 32.18.07 of the Revised Law and Order Code all gear is required to be marked with enrollment number.

**ALLOWABLE SALES:** The allowed sales will be salmon including steelhead, sturgeon, shad, walleye, carp, catfish, bass and yellowperch.

**SANCTUARIES:** Commercial river mouth sanctuaries are not in effect during the sturgeon setline fishery. Fishing in closed waters of the Columbia River is a violation of Section 32.16.05 of the Code.

**PLATFORM/ H&L:** Sale for Platform/ H&L caught fish, *other than sturgeon*, in all three zone 6 pools will be open 6am Saturday February 10 to 6pm March 25, 2024. Sturgeon of legal size from a specific pool may be sold *only if caught with Set Line Gear* during open commercial periods for that pool. Legal size in the Bonneville Pool is from 38"- 54" inches fork length and in The Dalles and John Day pools is from 43"- 54" inches in fork length. Legal size limits apply to all sturgeon retained for subsistence.

**COMMERCIAL AND SUBSISTENCE SIZE LIMITS:** Pursuant to Title XXXII of the Revised Law and Order Code of the Yakama Nation, it shall be unlawful to retain sturgeon less than 38 inches or larger than 54 inches in Fork Length for any purpose in the Bonneville Pool and less than 43 inches or larger than 54 inches in The Dalles and John Day Pools. It shall be unlawful to contort, or mutilate sturgeon in any way to conform to size limits.

Sturgeon must be delivered to the buyer "in the round"; that is with fins, guts, scutes, and gills intact. This regulation is to provide an opportunity to obtain weight and age information necessary for management. At the point of sale, sturgeon may be "dressed" (fins, guts, scutes, etc. may be removed) even if a sampler is not available to obtain the information. The sale of sturgeon eggs is allowed for legally caught sturgeon after delivery "in the round".

If you have any fishing enforcement problems or need assistance or information, contact the Yakama Tribal Police/Game Wardens; Fisheries Department, or any member of the Fish and Wildlife Committee.

PLEASE WEAR YOUR LIFEJACKETS FOR SAFETY