

2023 Chief Joseph Dam Tailrace Colville Tribal Ceremonial and Subsistence Summer/Fall Chinook Fishery Regulations

Justification:

This fishery targets ESA-unlisted Upper Columbia River (UCR) summer/fall Chinook salmon. The run pre-season run forecast is sufficient to support tribal harvest for the 2023 season. This fishery is regulated to comply with CCT's yearly harvest allocation of summer Chinook, the CCT goals for summer Chinook conservation (hatchery broodstock and spawn escapement) and to avoid significant take of ESA-listed, threatened Upper Columbia River (UCR) steelhead. As such, this fishery may be closed or otherwise amended by the Colville Tribes' Director of Fish and Wildlife (Director) to comply with harvest allocations, broodstock and escapement needs and/or to protect ESA-listed UCR steelhead.

Fishery Period:

July 1, 2023 through September 30, 2023, unless closed by the Director. The fishery may be extended into October or subject to a change in authorized gear type depending on the level of incidental take of ESA-listed summer steelhead.

Fishery Location/Authorized Fishing Gear:

Fishing will be open for summer Chinook salmon on the mainstem Columbia River in the Chief Joseph Dam tailrace area. Fishing from, on, or within the Chief Joseph Hatchery, hatchery ladder and hatchery broodstock collection and holding facility is prohibited. Waters will be closed to boating from the dam downstream to the red boundary marker signs on both sides of the river near the Chief Joseph Hatchery. Please reference the concurrent access regulations promulgated by the United States Army Corps of Engineers for the same area.

North Bank (reservation side)

- **Chief Joseph Dam spillway to the point 150 yards upstream of the Hatchery Ladder** - snag fishing (including spears and gaffs), hook and line (bait allowed), hoop and hand dip nets. Fishing from the north bank area may be restricted due to unsafe conditions from dam spilling.
- **150 yards upstream of the hatchery ladder to Hwy. 17 Bridge**- Bait allowed. Hook and line (a simple line, attached to no more than two (2) single barbed hooks or a single triple-barbed hook). Hook size restricted to no greater than 4/0. Hoop and hand dip net allowed. Scaffolds and floating platforms priority fishing is given to hoop and hand dip nets. Snagging, spears and gaffs are prohibited.

South Bank (Corps side)

- **Chief Joseph Dam Spillway to mouth of Foster Creek**, - snag fishing (including gaffs) and hook and line (bait allowed). Spears prohibited.

Mouth of Foster Creek to the Hwy. 17 Bridge and Bridgeport WA.- snag fishing (including gaffs), hook and line (bait allowed), and hoop and hand dip nets. Spears prohibited.

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Access Requirements/Restrictions:

North Bank (reservation side)

- Tribal anglers must have their Tribal identification present when participating in this fishery
- Open 24-hours per day
- Dogs prohibited, except Service Dogs, if they are “in service”
- Firearms prohibited
- Illegal drugs prohibited. Alcohol and Marijuana products prohibited
- Swimming prohibited
- Boating prohibited from the dam downstream to the red, boundary marker signs near the Chief Joseph Hatchery

South Bank (Corps side)

- ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset, except no entry through security gates between 6:00 AM and 7:00 AM, Monday – Thursday. Times will be posted at the security station
- All fishers entering the Corps side must present valid, photo identification at the security station
- All vehicles and hand-carried items are subject to search. Anglers in possession of prohibited items will be denied entry
- Parking is allowed in the Commons Building parking area
- Traffic lanes must be kept clear. Coolers, chairs and other fishing equipment must be kept next to the railing
- Minors under the age of 18 must be supervised by a designated adult
- Dogs prohibited, except Service Dogs, if they are “in service”
- Firearms prohibited
- Illegal drugs prohibited. Alcohol and Marijuana products prohibited
- Swimming prohibited
- Boating prohibited from the dam downstream to the red, boundary marker signs adjacent to the Chief Joseph Hatchery.

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Special Regulations:

North Bank (reservation side)

Chief Joseph Dam spillway to the point 150 yards upstream of the Hatchery Ladder –

- Retention of wild Chinook (adipose fin present) allowed
- Retention of hatchery Chinook (adipose fin absent) allowed
- Release all Bull trout and sturgeon
- Steelhead retention allowed
- Sockeye salmon retention allowed
- Coho retention allowed
- Spears and gaffs allowed
- Tangle nets and gill nets prohibited
- All fishers will provide Tribal creel census clerks and authorized Fish & Wildlife personnel with catch information upon request

150 yards upstream of the hatchery ladder to Hwy. 17 Bridge

- Scaffolds and floating platforms priority given to hoop and dip net fishing
- Snagging, gaffing and spearing prohibited
- Tangle nets and gill nets prohibited
- Release all wild Chinook (adipose fin present)
- Retention of Coho and hatchery-origin Chinook (adipose fin absent) allowed, except release floy-tagged, radio-tagged and tail-punched fish
- Release all steelhead
- Release all Bull trout and sturgeon
- Sockeye salmon retention allowed, except release floy-tagged, radio-tagged and tail-punched sockeye
- All fishers will provide Tribal creel census clerks and authorized Fish & Wildlife personnel with catch information upon request

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Special Regulations (continued):

South Bank (Corps side)

Chief Joseph Dam Spillway to mouth of Foster Creek

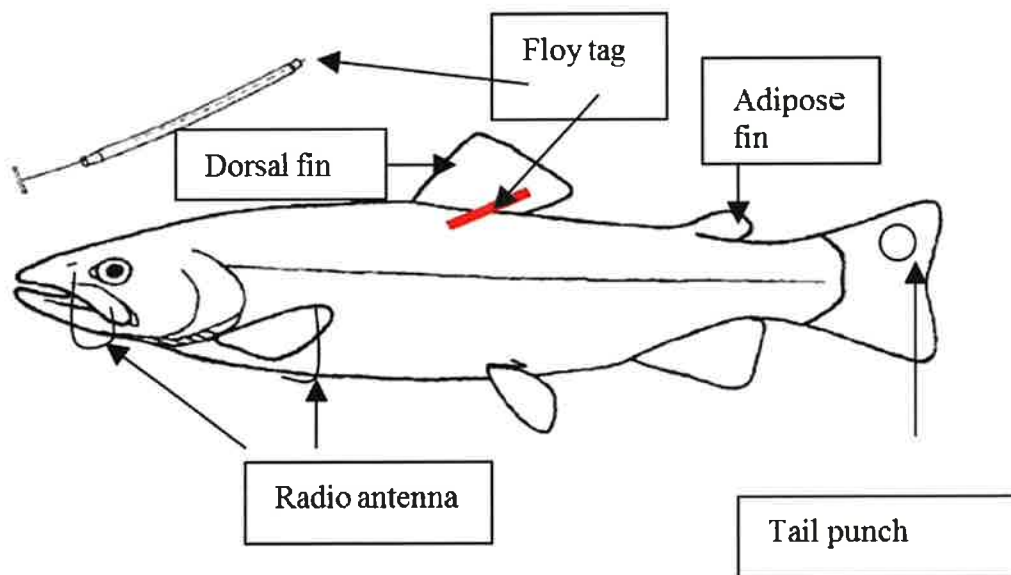
- Retention of wild Chinook (adipose fin present) allowed
- Retention of Coho and hatchery-origin Chinook (adipose fin absent) allowed
- Release all Bull trout and sturgeon
- Steelhead retention allowed
- Sockeye salmon retention allowed
- Tangle nets and gill nets prohibited
- Hoop and dip nets prohibited
- All fishers will provide Tribal creel census clerks and authorized Fish & Wildlife personnel with catch information upon request

Mouth of Foster Creek to Hwy. 17 Bridge and Bridgeport WA.

- Retention of wild Chinook (adipose fin present) allowed
- Retention of Coho allowed
- Retention of hatchery-origin Chinook (adipose fin absent) allowed
- Release all Bull trout and sturgeon
- Steelhead retention allowed
- Sockeye salmon retention allowed
- Tangle nets and gill nets prohibited
- All fishers will provide Tribal creel census clerks and authorized Fish & Wildlife personnel with catch information upon request

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MS-222 Warning: Floy-tagged, radio-tagged and tail-punched fish that are caught at the Chief Joseph Dam tailrace fishery between the dam and 150 yards upstream of the hatchery ladder and on the CORPS (south side of river) should not be released or eaten. Floy-tagged, radio-tagged and tail-punched fish that are caught at the Chief Joseph Dam tailrace fishery from 150 yards upstream of the hatchery ladder and Hwy. 17 Bridge should be released and not eaten. The difference in the release requirement by location is due to the inability to successfully release fish in the Chief Joseph Dam to 150 yards upstream from the hatchery ladder and on the CORPS side (south side of river) due to physical constraints of the fishery area. Floy tags and radio tags recovered from these salmon and steelhead should be turned in to the tribal creel clerk at Chief Joseph Dam or the Omak Fish & Wildlife office, 25B Mission Road (the old PSIS campus) or offices at the Chief Joseph Hatchery. Floy-tagged, radio-tagged and tail-punched fish are part of studies determining survival and migration patterns of Chinook, sockeye salmon and steelhead. It is unsafe to eat these fish because they are anesthetized with MS-222 (a known carcinogen to humans) in order implant the tags or otherwise conduct stock assessment research. They are identified with a colored, external floy tag located near the dorsal fin, radio antenna protruding from the mouth or body and/or a small hole (1/4 diameter) in the upper lobe of the tail. Any radio tags or floy-tags returned to the Omak Fish & Wildlife office should also include information on the date, location and method of capture.



In case of emergency:

Call 911

Please report illegal activity to:

CCT Tribal Police Dispatch

(509) 634-2472

USACE Chief Joseph Dam Security

(509) 686-5501 ext. 670

For additional information:

Salmon Harvest Biologist

(509) 634-1741

Anadromous Program Manager

(509) 978-8031

F&W Main Office – Nespelem

(509) 634-2110

Fish Passage Center Salmon Counts: http://www.fpc.org/currentdaily/HistFishTwo_7day-ytd_Adults.htm