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July 6, 2022

### **MEMORANDUM**

**TO: Council Members**

**FROM: Patty O'Toole, Fish and Wildlife Division Director**

**SUBJECT: Spring Chinook Salmon Update**

- **2022 Return Update**

### **BACKGROUND:**

**Presenter:** Patty O'Toole

**Summary:** An update on the 2022 spring Chinook salmon return to the Columbia and Snake rivers will be provided.

**Relevance:** This information is relevant to the Council's Fish and Wildlife Program objectives and the strategy performance indicators. This is related to the March 2022 presentation on the forecast of salmon returns.

**Workplan:** Fish and Wildlife Division Work Plan for 2022; Program Planning and Policy; data and information management

**Background:**

In March the Council received its annual report on the 2021 spring chinook salmon return to the Columbia and Snake rivers, along with the forecast for the 2022 return. At that time the pre-season forecast was for 122,900 adult salmon above Bonneville Dam and for 49,370 (9,739 natural-origin and 39,631 hatchery) adult salmon at Lower Granite Dam.

The Council staff is pleased to report that the spring chinook salmon return to Bonneville dam exceeded both the preseason forecast and the ten-year return average for the return to Bonneville Dam and the spring/summer return to Lower Granite Dam in the Snake River. As a result, fishing opportunities were available in various locations in the basin. While some populations are experiencing an improved spring chinook salmon return, some populations remain low. Staff will provide more information at the Council meeting.

More Information:

- [Briefing](#) on Columbia River Basin salmon and steelhead returns for 2021 and forecasts for 2022
- [Joint State Staff Reports](#) - Columbia River joint state staff (Oregon and Washington) and tribal co-managers' postseason reports for salmon, steelhead, sturgeon, shad, and smelt for commercial, recreational and tribal fisheries.
- Columbia River DART: <http://www.cbr.washington.edu/dart>