



Nez Perce Tribe Fish and Wildlife Commission

2020 Fishing Season Regulation for the Snake River Basin & Subbasin

Pursuant to the Nez Perce Tribal Code Section 3-1-11, the Nez Perce Tribe Fish and Wildlife Commission has the authority to promulgate annual and seasonal hunting and fishing regulations and prescribe the manner and methods which may be used in taking fish and wildlife. Pursuant to that authority, the Nez Perce Fish and Wildlife Commission adopted the following fishing regulation for the Nez Perce Tribe.

Nez Perce Tribe

Fishing Season Regulation #NPTFWC 20-240

Snake River Basin Steelhead, Fall Chinook & Coho

Ceremonial & Subsistence Treaty Fisheries Fall Season Opening

Effective 6AM, August 28, 2020

Open until Closed

AREAS OPEN The following subbasins reflect key tributary areas where the Nez Perce Tribe will prioritize harvest based upon forecasted returns of Snake River Steelhead, Fall Chinook and Coho Salmon.

SNAKE RIVER STEELHEAD

The primary fishing areas Snake River steelhead include the following mainstem areas and tributaries of the: Tucannon River, Clearwater River (including Lochsa, Selway, and South Fork Clearwater rivers), Salmon River, Grande Ronde River, Imnaha River, and the mainstem Snake River, where steelhead are known to distribute and spawn.

SNAKE RIVER FALL CHINOOK

For Snake River fall Chinook the tribal fishery may occur from late August to middle of October, or when fish are available, and may occur at the following locations:

Mainstem Snake River from Lower Granite Dam upstream to Hells Canyon Dam on the mainstem of the Snake River (a fishery may occur downstream of Lower Granite Dam);

Tucannon River from mainstem Tucannon River from the Snake River confluence upstream to 60 feet below the adult trap at the Tucannon Fish Hatchery;

Mainstem Clearwater River from the mouth of the Clearwater River, confluence with mainstem Snake River, upstream to the Three Rivers area (confluence of Lochsa and Selway rivers);

Lower Grande Ronde fishing area may occur in the lower reach of the mainstem Grande Ronde River, from its confluence with the mainstem Snake River upstream to areas where fish typically migrate;

Lower Imnaha fishing area may occur in the lower reach of the mainstem Imnaha River, from its confluence with the mainstem Snake River upstream to areas where fish typically migrate;

Lower Salmon fishing area may occur in the lower reach of the mainstem Salmon River, from its confluence with the mainstem Snake River upstream to areas where fish typically migrate.

COHO SALMON

The primary fishing areas Coho salmon include the following mainstem areas and tributaries of the: Clearwater River (including Lapwai Creek, North Fork Clearwater River, and Clear Creek), and the mainstem Snake River, where Coho salmon are known to distribute and spawn.

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Tribal members are prohibited from fishing from, and directly on, fish weirs and traps that are operated in these rivers and areas where the weirs and traps are used and operated for salmon and steelhead management purposes.

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Season Length: Snake Basin treaty ceremonial and subsistence fishing seasons are “open until closed” by Tribal regulation. Nez Perce Tribe Fish and Wildlife Commission hereby authorizes the closure of tributary fisheries when one of the following conditions result: tributary-specific harvest goal is reached, wild spring and summer Chinook impact levels are attained, or natural spawning begins, whichever comes first.

Harvest Reporting: Tribal members participating in the treaty fishery are encouraged to regularly report their catch of any of these fish species to Nez Perce Tribe Department of Fisheries Resources Management Harvest Monitoring Program staff members. This will help in managing our fall season salmon and steelhead fisheries in a responsible and timely manner.

Gear Types and Fishing Methods: Fishing methods permitted for use by tribal members may include, but is not limited to, the following traditional fishing gear: gaff, dip net, hoopnet, bow, spear, scaffold, and hook and line.

A commercial fishing season is authorized in NPTFWC Regulation #20-241 with specific areas, gear types, periods, and requirements.

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All sections of the Nez Perce Tribal Code and other Nez Perce regulations applicable to this fishery remain in effect. Not complying with these regulations may be cause for civil or criminal penalties per the Tribal Code or NPT fishing regulations. Carry your Nez Perce Tribal Enrollment Card when fishing.

If you have fishing enforcement concerns, please contact the Nez Perce Tribe Department of Fisheries Resources Management Enforcement dispatch at 208-843-7143 or toll free 1-877-790-3474.

Respect the water and earth by putting litter in its place, and catch only what you can properly handle. Please help elders and others that cannot fish for themselves.

For additional information on Nez Perce Tribal regulations, please contact the Nez Perce Tribe Fish and Wildlife Commission at 208- 843-9376.

Respect the water and earth by putting litter in its place as in the Nimiipuu way.