

Hi everybody!

I know many of you love keeping tabs of fish count over the dams, but did you realize that Coho Salmon counts picked up considerably after about September 9. The run of Coho Salmon over Bonneville Dam is now winding down, and we estimate that over 8,000 of these fish are destined for the Clearwater River drainage in Idaho. We expect around 3,500 of these fish will eventually make it to Idaho which is enough to meet hatchery brood needs and provide a little fishing opportunity. For this reason, our Commission met on Oct 2 and set a fishing season for Coho Salmon in the Clearwater River drainage. Some key points about this fishery are as follows:

- The seasons will start this Saturday on October 7 and run through November 19 or until further notice.
- Coho Salmon fishing will be allowed on the Mainstem Clearwater River, the North Fork Clearwater River downstream of Dworshak Dam, and the Middle Fork Clearwater River downstream of Clear Creek.
- Fishing will be allowed 7 days a week and 24-hours a day during the designated season and locations.
- Bag limits will be two Coho Salmon daily, six in possession, and 10 during the 2017 season. Anglers must have valid salmon permit to fish for Coho Salmon.
- You can keep a Coho Salmon with or without an adipose fin.

For more details on the Coho Salmon season, please visit our website [https://idfg.idaho.gov/sites/default/files/coho\\_rules\\_2017.pdf](https://idfg.idaho.gov/sites/default/files/coho_rules_2017.pdf).

If you plan to fish for Coho Salmon please be aware that you may also encounter steelhead or fall Chinook Salmon. These fishes have very different rules than we have for Coho Salmon. As such, it is important that you know how to identify these different fishes and know what the rules are for each. A guide that can be helpful in differentiating between these fishes can be found on the IDFG website <https://idfg.idaho.gov/fish/coho-salmon>.

If you plan to fish for Coho Salmon, don't expect red hot fishing. This year's run is not huge, but there are some beautiful looking fish out there that most people would love to put on the grill.



I hope you are all having a great fall. Good luck fishing!

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