



IN-SEASON ADJUSTMENT TO THE YUROK TRIBAL FISHING RIGHTS ORDINANCE

NUMBER: 2013-01

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 31, 2013 through July 27, 2013

SUBJECT: Sturgeon and Spring Chinook Conservation Regulations

The Yurok Tribal Council is concerned that Klamath River sturgeon may be in decline and that the abundance of wild spring Chinook (primarily the Salmon and South Fork Trinity River populations) has been extremely low during recent years. Therefore, the Council has adopted the following regulations as conservation measures:

1. No fishing, except angling, will be allowed from Monday at 9:00 a.m. through Thursday at 9:00 a.m., except for Memorial Day, when the fishery will remain open until 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday May 28. PENALTY – 1st offense, loss of fish and gear, gear to be returned with payment of \$100 fine. 2nd offense, permanent loss of gear and fish, \$500 fine. 3rd offense, same as second plus suspension of fishing rights for one year.
2. Sturgeon shall not be sold or bartered¹. Spring chinook may not be sold to anyone. Tribal members may only barter up to 10 spring Chinook salmon per week (defined as Sunday through Saturday) with other Yurok Tribal members and other Indians². PENALTY – permanent loss of gear and fish, including vehicles and boats used for transporting fish for illegal sale, and suspension of fishing rights for three years.
3. Sturgeon shall not be held live in water, except while the Fisher is tending their net or processing fish on site. Sturgeon found in this condition will be released if they appear to be healthy enough to survive, otherwise they will be confiscated and distributed to elders. PENALTY – 1st offense, permanent loss of gear and fish, \$500 fine. 2nd offense, permanent loss of gear and fish, \$1000 fine, and suspension of fishing rights for one year.
4. All green sturgeon greater than 6 feet in total length (along the top of the fish, from the tip of the nose to tip of the tail) shall be released. PENALTY – same as for item 3.
5. No fishing will be permitted within 500 feet below Coon Creek Falls. PENALTY – same as for item 1.
6. No individual can harvest more than one sturgeon per day. Therefore, each Fisher can transport no more than one sturgeon at a time, unless they have a valid transportation permit(s) that was issued on the day(s) the sturgeon were harvested. PENALTY – same as for item 3.
7. All salmon and steelhead must have the dorsal fin removed to within ½ inch of the back. Fins must be clipped within 15 minutes of first handling of the fish, and prior to gutting/cleaning the fish or transporting the fish. PENALTY – 1st offense, loss of fish and gear, gear to be returned with payment of \$100 fine. 2nd offense, permanent loss of gear and fish, \$250 fine. 3rd offense, permanent loss of gear and fish, \$500 fine and suspension of fishing rights for one year.
8. Penalties for violation of this inseason adjustment shall be mandatory as specified above. Unless otherwise specified, gear is defined as nets and anchors. 2nd and 3rd offenses must be within one year of 1st offense.

Thomas O'Rourke, Chairperson
Yurok Tribal Council

3-22-13

Date

¹ Pursuant to the Yurok Tribal Fishing Rights Ordinance, "barter" is defined as "the exchange of goods or productive services for other goods or productive services without the use of money". Bartered fish may not subsequently be sold.

² "other Indians" must have a tribal ID from a federally recognized Indian tribe.