### **Fish Advisory**

#### **Upper Columbia River/Lake Roosevelt**

Fish are nutritious, high in protein, and rich in omega-3 fatty acids.

Fish are part of a healthy diet, but certain types of fish in the upper Columbia River contain chemicals (mercury and PCBs) that can harm your health.

To gain the health benefits and reduce the health risks from chemicals found in fish, choose fish low in contaminants from the upper Columbia River (see table).

#### Babies and children are most at-risk.

Women who are or might become pregnant, nursing mothers, and children should follow all of this advisory.



#### **Preparing Fish the Healthy Way**

Fish are part of a healthy diet.

Following these tips will reduce the amount of chemical contaminants you eat (like PCBs) that collect in the fat of fish.

Mercury cannot be reduced; it builds up in fish meat (the fillet).

- Before cooking remove the skin, fat, and internal organs.
- Eat younger and smaller fish (within legal limits).
- Eat a variety of fish.



A serving is about the size and thickness of your hand. Give children smaller servings.

## **Questions?**

Washington State Department of Health Toll Free: 1-877-485-7316 www.doh.wa.gov/fish

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### Eat Fish, Be Smart, Choose Wisely



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