

Washington Trollers Association

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Issue 1~February 2006

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New Members 2005

- Larry Engbloom
F/V Mystery Maid
- Gerald Hall
F/V Deirdre
- Monty Marks
F/V Mar Brett
- Dave Parker
- Kris Samuelson
F/V Dos Ninos
- Daniel Sprouffske
F/V WN6984KW
- Dave Stevens
F/V Sonja
- Mike Watson
F/V Sleipner

WELCOME ABOARD

President's Message

By Doug Fricke F/V Howard H

This winter has been as busy as usual in trying to defend our opportunity harvest salmon. There has been an unusual attack on all of the harvest community to include commercial, sports and tribal fisheries. The Bush Administration and some of our local Congressmen, Rep. Dicks and Rep. Baird came down particularly hard on harvest and hatcheries portraying that reductions in each are the only way to save salmon. We feel the scientific evidence they are using is very biased and does not support their presentations. We were very lucky that Joel Kawahara had time to put together a paper that will help refute the detrimental proposals. Steve Wilson wrote a letter contesting the Bush Administration proposal to reduce harvest and hatcheries.

Basically, we have been reducing harvest and modifying hatcheries for 20 years and the real problems are in the river where 80% of the stock mortality occurs. Another low light this winter is an analysis of the Coweeman run in the Columbia River where one of the scientists indicated harvest was exceeding their allowed impacts by several percent in the last four years. Joe Dazey wrote a paper and made a graph showing that even with the analysis that was done, the actual adult returns to the spawning grounds exceeded the escapement spawning goal in two of the last three years and show an increasing trend over the last 12 years. Anyone that wants copies of these papers can get them by calling or e-mailing

Debbie Saul; dsaul@centurytel.net

How all of these issues are going to effect the 2006 season is really unknown. The early projections for the Chinook runs to the Columbia River are down a little from last year. Jim Olson has been warning everyone to look for a significant reduction in the 2006 season opportunities. From what we hear from Oregon and California, the Klamath appears to be down this year again. The big debate that we hear from Oregon is whether to have their season opportunity in the spring and fall like last year or to have more of it in the mid summer (July and August) period.

At the January Board meeting, the board decided to continue the troll salmon marketing campaign with the Makah Nation. Jeremy Brown is working with Amy Grondin to put together a program for 2006. Anyone with ideas should contact Jeremy. The Board decided not to continue with the ling cod incidental landing request for the 2007/2008 management cycle. (There is a separate report on ling cod.)

WDFW will be presenting the annual stock status in late February and then Jim Olson and crew will be attending the PFMC meeting in Seattle in the first full week of March to put together the 2006 options. Anyone with opinions or the desire to participate is welcome.

November PFMC Report

by Doug Fricke F/V Howard H

WTA BOARD MEMBERS

Port Angeles:

Jeremy Brown FV Barcarole

Ilwaco:

Dick Good FV Pamela Jean

Seattle:

Glen Aurdahl FV North Star

Joel Kawahara FV Karo Lee

Mike Ziara FV Ocean Home

Vacancy

Vacancy

Tacoma:

Jim Olson FV Cynthia T

Steve Wilson FV Deep Threat

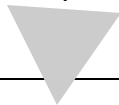
Westport:

Doug Fricke FV Howard H

Jim Spooner FV Fram

Greg Mueller FV Grace Ann

Chris Cameron FV Gallows



NEW CONTACT INFORMATION



**Washington Trollers
Association**

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dsaul@centurytel.net

Contact: Debbie Saul



I was at the November PFMC meeting in San Diego primarily to work on tuna concerns. However, by going a few days early, I did have time to work on troll salmon issues. This was the cutoff meeting for WTA to get consideration for a lingcod landing allowance with our troll salmon if we wanted a chance for the opportunity in 2007/2008. Another big issue for final decision was the expansion of vessels required to install and use Vessel Monitoring Units(VMS). The PFMC recognizes the advice of the Groundfish Advisory Panel (GAP) which does not have a salmon troll representative. It is really difficult to get the salmon trollers views understood by the GAP members when we do not have a representative on the group. Kathy Fosmark gave it a good try, but couldn't quite get through. Thanks Kathy. Also, Ray Monroe was there for the Oregon Salmon Commission, but he ran into some of the same frustrations as I did. Some other problems that we had to deal with are that the Yelloweye and Canary rockfish harvest allowance is reduced in 2007/2008 which will cause some of the groundfish fisheries to take further reductions. We could not get the others to understand that the little allowance of lingcod we are asking for is not enough economic incentive to encourage targeting on lingcod. More confusion was caused by the fact that south of the Columbia river there is an open area inside the Rockfish Conservation Area(RCA) that salmon trollers could legally take an open access allocation of lingcod while fishing for salmon. Because the RCA goes from the beach to 100 fathoms north of the Columbia, the Washington Trollers do not have that opportunity.

Well, back to the issue of requiring VMS. After three days of discussion and heated debate, a compromise proposal went to the PFMC that would have excluded salmon

trollers from the requirement to install VMS units. However, at the final decision time, the enforcement consultants made an impassioned plea that they could not enforce the compromise proposal and the PFMC decided to require all vessels landing groundfish (excluding halibut) to have a VMS unit installed and operating to include the troller yellowtail landing allowance. Therefore, if you want to land the troll yellowtail landing allowance, you will be required to install a VMS unit. This may not be all bad as I think it may help get us disconnected from open access fisheries; and dealt with as a salmon troll fishery which does not target groundfish. This result makes no sense to me as we can land the yellowtail landing allowance that is legally encountered in the RCA which means that the VMS showing we were fishing in the RCA is meaningless!! Incidentally, the VMS requirement doesn't start until Jan. 2007.

On the request for the salmon troll lingcod allowance. We couldn't convince the GAP that we wouldn't target lingcod. However we were able to convince WA representatives lead by Phil Anderson and others that we should have the opportunity to show the PFMC that we will in fact not target lingcod when it is required to be associated with a salmon harvest and capped in the range of 200 pounds per month. This amount would be less than the open access landing allowance. I think our two year history with the allowed landing allowance of yellowtail should show it is not worth spending time targeting on lingcod when you can be looking for salmon at three times the value. The big challenge is to convince the managers that this will not lead to additional yelloweye and canary impacts. The next review is in April and the final decision is in June 2006.



COLUMBIA RIVER FALL CHINOOK 2006 PRESEASON FORECASTS

Stock Group	2006 February Forecasts	2005 Actual Returns	2005 February Forecasts
Lower River Hatchery - LRH	55,800	78,300	74,100
Lower River Wild - LRW	16,600	16,800	20,200
Bonneville Pool Hatchery - BPH	50,000	93,100	114,100
Upriver Bright - URB	253,900	268,700	352,200
Bonneville Upriver Bright - BUB	29,700	52,700	47,100
Pool Upriver Bright - PUB	58,600	45,300	42,300
Columbia River Total	464,600	554,900	650,000

2006 Forecasts

LRH - About half of recent five year average, and less than the ten year average.

LRW - Similar to last year's return. Similar to the ten year average.

BPH - About half of last years return and one half of the ten year average.

URB - Strong return. Similar to last year's actual return. Slightly greater than recent ten year average.

BUB - About half of last year's actual return. Slightly less than the recent 10 year average.

PUB - Good return. Greater than 10-year average.

Total forecast of 464,600 Columbia River fall chinook is similar to the recent 10-year average return.

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
U.S. v Oregon Technical Advisory Committee Sub-group

Ling Cod Landing Allowance

In mid December, after the November PFMC meeting where WDFW had supported consideration of allowing an incidental landing allowance of ling cod for salmon trollers, myself, Jim Olson, Dick Good, and Steve Wilson (sorry if I missed someone else that was there) met with WDFW staff to discuss the incidental landing allowance. It became obvious as the meeting progressed that ling cod was not the issue, but whether this would lead to more encounters of Canary or Yellow eye rockfish with troll gear. Depending on an outcome of a study this winter, the Canary and Yellow eye bycatch mortality will either be slightly reduced or possibly dramatically reduced. This will likely lead to further reductions in the groundfish directed fisheries that have bycatch of Canary and Yellow eye. This situation may

even lead to some type of additional restrictions for the troll fleet that might include gear modifications or area closures. It is really a serious concern, particularly in light of the groundfish lawsuits by the environmental community the last few years.

Besides the above, we failed to convince our own WDFW staff that even at a one ling cod to twenty salmon with a 200 pound per month limit that salmon trollers would not be encouraged to target ling cod. Rather than expend more energy on a losing issue, we advised the Board that it is best not to pursue a ling cod incidental landing allowance in 2007/2008 and to re-evaluate the situation for the 2009/2010 management cycle.

1% Totals for 2005

\$12,979.73

**Thank you to all who
contributed!**

**Fish and Wildlife
Commission
Upcoming Meetings**

April 7-8

Olympia

- Bottomfish Tag (decision)
- Puget Sound rockfish conservation plan update (briefing)

www.wdfw.wa.gov

MARINE REFRIDGERATION WORKSHOP

Saturday, March 11
Saturday, April 29
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Class fee \$20
Pre-registration required

The workshop will be held at Integrated Marine Systems, Inc., at the Port of Port Townsend.

FIRST AID COURSE

U.S. Coast Guard-approved **First Aid At Sea Course** for commercial fishermen and recreational boaters. The course will be held at the Fishermen's Terminal in Seattle on:

Saturday, March 25th
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Class fee: \$80

Subjects to be covers: CPR, Patient Assessment, Hypothermia, Coldwater Near Drowning, First Aid Kits, Burns, and Trauma

Space is limited, **pre-registration is advised.**

To register or for more information on these courses, contact:

Sarah Fiskén
(206)543-1225
sfiskén@u.washington.edu
OR

Register Online with Sea Grant
wsg.washington.edu/education/mttworkshops.html



3716 Brooklyn Ave. NE
Seattle, WA 98105-6716

PFMC 2006 March Meetings

The Pacific Fishery Management Council and its advisory entities will meet:

March 5 -10
Marriott Hotel
In Sea Tac
3201 S. 176th Street
Seattle, WA

They will be addressing issues related to salmon, Pacific halibut, coastal pelagic species, groundfish, highly migratory species, marine protected areas and essential fish habitat. All meetings are open to the public, except a closed session to be held from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. on

Monday, March 6, to discuss litigation and personnel matters.

Public hearings will be held on **March 27, 2006**, to receive comments on the proposed ocean salmon fishery management options adopted by the Council. The public hearings in Washington will begin at **7 pm** on the date and at the location specified below:

Chateau Westport
Beach Room
710 W. Hancock
Westport, WA
98595

WTA Loses A Long Standing Member

Louis John Miller, one of the oldest standing members of the WTA was laid to rest on November 28, 2005. The 81 year old lived and fished in Westport, WA for 53 years. His love of the ocean prompted him to leave his families dairy farm in Wisconsin and move to

Westport in 1947. He became a commercial fisherman and fished for crab, salmon, and tuna. At the age of 75, Louis reluctantly sold his boat and retired. He was known as a man of strong principles among fishermen. He will be missed. He is survived by

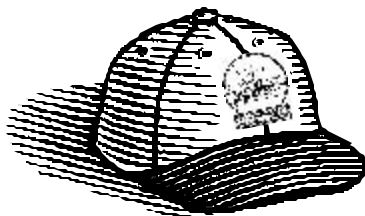
his wife Delores; two sons, Robert and Russell, and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



Need a new embroidered WTA cap? We have navy blue caps in-stock

A donation of \$20/1 cap or \$35/2 caps suggested. Will ship ASAP!

Please send donation to:



WTA
P.O. Box 2185
Westport, WA 98595



Salmon Websites and Hotlines

- **Ocean salmon hotline** (National Marine Fisheries Service): (800) 662-9825 or (206) 526-666
[NWR Salmon Fishery Regulations Website](http://www.nwr.gov/SalmonFisheryRegulationsWebsite)
- **California fishing hotline** (California Dept. of Fish and Game): (707) 576-3429
http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/index_regs.html
- **Oregon fishing hotline** (Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife): (503) 947-6000
<http://www.dfw.state.or.us/OSCRP/main.html>
- **Washington fishing hotline** (Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife): (360) 902-2500
https://fortress.wa.gov/dfw/erules/efishrules/rules_current_order_by_date.j

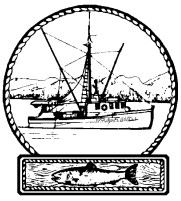
Preseason Report I Stock Abundance Analysis for 2006 Ocean Salmon Fisheries is available on the Council's website at:
<http://www.pcouncil.org/salmon/salprel06/salprel06.html>

2006 WTA ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND LOYALTY TO OUR INDUSTRY

Anderson Attorney -at-Law, Paul Anderson, Seattle	(206)467-0237
Ballard Sheet Metal Works, Inc., Custom Fabrication for Fishing and Processing, Seattle	Fax (206)781-0118 (206)784-0545
Boat Seafoods, Stine Fricke Buyer/Manager, Aberdeen/Westport	(360)533-2069
D & M Live Crab, Salmon Buyer: Dave Wolfenberger, Westport	(360)268-9319
Dyno Battery Co., Mfg. Electric Storage Batteries Seattle	(206)283-7450
Englund Marine Supply Co. Complete Marine Service, Astoria & Westport	1(800)228-7051, (541)325-4341 (360)268-9311
FISHERMAN'S NEWS, [Philips Publications] Fisherman's Terminal, Seattle	1(800)258-8609 (206)282-7545
Geoff Grillo, Advantage Charters, Westport	(360)268-9574
Hatch and Kirk, Heavy Duty Engine Specialists; Diesel Marine Parts Specialists; Seattle	Fax (206)782-6482 (206)783-2766
High Tide Seafoods, Buyer, Jim Shefler, owner; Port Angeles, Neah Bay, LaPush	Fax: (360)452-6710 (360)452-8488
Hingston, Phil, of Jones, Kushman, Hingston Certified Public Accountant, Seattle	Fax: (206)284-4525 (206)285-2777
Howard Moe Enterprises, Inc. Little Hoquiam Boats	(360)538-1622
Jessie's Ilwaco Fish Co., Inc.—Salmon Buyer; Pierre Marchand, owner/manager	Fax (360)642-3362 (360)648-3773
J & G Marine Supply, Don and Harold Jacobson, Tacoma	1(800)381-4217 (253)572-4217
Luhr Jensen and Sons: A Heritage of Quality Fishing Lures since 1932, Hood River, OR www.luhrjensen.com	(541)386-3811
James Merrin, Ferrier, Elma (Grays Harbor Vicinity)	(360)482-2464
New Day Fisheries, Inc., Scott Kimmel, Port Townsend	Fax: (360)385-6455 (360)385-4600
PACIFIC FISHING Magazine, Jon Holland, Editor www.pfmag.com	Fax: (206)324-8939 (206)709-1840
Pacific Net and Twine, Ltd., Richmond, BC, Frank Nakashima, Mgr	1(800)895-GEAR (604)274-7328
Redden Net Co. (Steveston) Ltd., Richmond, BC, Canada	Fax: (604)274-9068 1(866)233-1422
Sampo Inc., Manufacturers of Terminal Tackle/Fishing and Marine Supplies, Barneveld, New York	(315)896-2606
Schiewe Marine Supply, Commercial Fishing Supplies, Newport, Oregon	(514)265-7382
Seafood Producers Cooperative, Bellingham, Sitka	[WA] Fax: (360)733-0513 (360)733-0120
Seattle Marine and Fishing Supply, Co., Commercial Gear and Marine Hardware; Sea	(206)285-5010
Select Fish, Quality Buyer, Scott Barton, Airport Way in Seattle	(206)767-2642
Sid's Super Market, serving Seaview, Long Beach and Ilwaco, WA	(360)642-3737
Silver Horde—Gold Star Sports and Commercial Fishing Lures and Supplies, Lynnwood, WA	(425)778-2640
South Bend Packers, Russell Raymond, owner/manager—salmon buyer	(360)875-6570
Stanto Enterprises, Stainless Products for the Troller, Westport, WA	(360)268-0342
Star Video, Bill Berger, President, Port Angeles, WA	Fax: (360)452-8499 (360)452-8575
Ted's Red Apple Market, Serving Westport and the fishing fleet with their grocery needs, WA	(360)268-9650
U.S. Seven Oceans, Inc, Jinkai Monofilament Trolling Line and Gear, Mukilteo, WA	1(800)346-2228 (425)347-7770
United Trollers Fund, Phil Hingston, Mgr., Seattle, WA	(206)285-4341
Washington Crab Producers, Bottom fish fillets, salmon, crab, shrimp, Seafoods-Wholesale-Retail, Westport, WA	(360)268-9161
WESMAR—Western Marine Electronics, Woodinville, WA	Fax: (425)486-0909 (425)481-2296

Individual Associate Members (some retired): Rick Andries, Richard Haugen, Ron Wawworth, Diane Jones, Louis Miller, Ragnar Nergaard, Augie Roehr, Sandy Sanquist, Sig Sela, Harm VanSlyke, and Jack Warren.



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Contact: Debbie Saul

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM
Washington Trollers Association**

Yes—I would like to renew my WTA membership

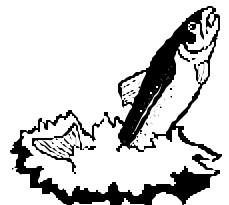
* **Name** _____ **Boat Name** _____ **Size** _____
Street Address/P.O. Box _____ **Apt.#** _____
City _____ **State** _____ **Zip Code** _____
Phone Number _____ **Cell Phone** _____

* **E-mail Address** _____

* **Troll Licenses : (Check all that apply)** WA OR CA AK

* **Port of Registration** Ilwaco Tacoma Westport Seattle Port Angeles

- Fishermen's Membership—\$150/year from subscribing date
- Associate Membership—\$50/year for retired fishermen
- Business Membership—\$50/year from subscribing date
- 1% season donation included if not contributed through season buyer
- Meeting/Marketing Fund donation, (i.e. PFMC, N of Falcon process) - \$100 year/additional suggested to help us with our marketing endeavors and representation of our industry in the processes.
- I would like to receive my WTA newsletter via e-mail



MAIL TO: Washington Trollers Association; P.O. Box 2185. Westport WA 98595