Washington Trollers Association

March 2011

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WTA Directors

Port Angeles:
Jeremy Brown *F/V Barcarole*
Mike Ziara *F/V Ocean Home*

Ilwaco:
Dick Good *F/V Pamela Jean*
Kim Reisbick *F/V High Hope*

Seattle:
Glen Aurdahl *F/V North Star*
Joel Kawahara *F/V Karolee*
Tony Rouff *F/V Dream Catcher*

Tacoma:
Jim Olson *F/V Cynthia T*
Steve Wilson *F/V Deep Threat*

Westport:
Doug Fricke *F/V Howard H*
Greg Mueller *F/V South Side*
Michael Baldwin *F/V Nellie M*

President's Message

The 2011 troll salmon season is shaping up with a one third reduction in chinook opportunity compared to what we had in 2010. Our total toll opportunity for the spring and summer should be in the area of a 35,000 chinook quota for the area North of Cape Falcon. Our delegation to the Vancouver PFMC March meeting was particularly frustrated by NMFS refusal to reconsider the allowed ocean harvest rate that last year was determined to be reduced this year to at least 37% regardless of the strength of this year's Lower Columbia River (LCR) Tule run. This year the LCR Tule run is up considerably. More of the details will be available at the Port meetings. The South of Falcon troll season looks considerably better this year primarily due to a prediction of 729,000 chinook abundance forecast for 2011 chinook run from the Sacramento River System. The South of Falcon troll season is scheduled to start on April 15.

The coho hatchery forecast for 2011 is slightly reduced from 2010, but the wild component of the run is stronger in 2011. The allowed coho harvest will be small and mostly limited to marked select coho only, however, because of the strong wild coho component, we may have a late all coho opportunity this year in late August. Please see the attached options for more details.

Since last season there has been **less** pressure from WDFW and NMFS to move the chinook troll fishery into a marked select fishery that is similar to the marked select coho fishery. This year there are no chinook marked select troll fisheries proposed, but please keep track of the percentage of marked select chinook that you catch for future season reference

The WTA Board has evaluated the "genetic stock identification" program (GSI) and thinks the program might be a long term means to avoid ESA listed stocks. Scott Blankenship at WDFW has obtained a grant to continue the GSI program for the 2011 season. The grant provides funds to pay the fishermen $5.50 for each sample taken. We will need salmon trollers working out of Westport, LaPush, and Neah Bay to help with the sample taking. Please contact Joe if you are willing to take samples for the Spring, Summer or both seasons. Again, big thanks to Jim Olson (Our PFMC rep) who led our crew of Joe Dazey, Steve Wilson, Dick Good, Kim Reisbick, Greg Mueller, Joel Kawahara and me at the March PFMC meeting. We are headed for San Mateo, CA the second week in April to finalize the 2011 season. Be sure and come to the port meetings or contact the Board Members directly to let your views known on how to best utilize the fish that we have available for 2011. We hope everyone can make it to a port meeting in your area. Also, if you are around Westport on March 28, at 7 PM, the PFMC will be taking comments on how to manage our fishery for 2011.

PFMC Report – Jim Olson

The first PFMC gave less fish than I had expected. The exploitation rate on lower river hatchery is set on 37%. This is down from 38% last year. We are currently looking at a troll quota of 35,000 to 40,000. We are still waiting for numbers to come from Canada and Alaska. We need to craft a season that best uses the fish that we have.

We will be doing the two North of Falcon meetings March 15 in Olympia and April 5th in Lynnwood. It helps to have a good showing of trollers at these meetings.

Come to the port meetings and tell your board members what you would like to see in a season. The port meetings and board meetings are open to all members.

I would like to thank all the trollers that came to Vancouver WA for the PFMC meeting. Your input makes my job easier.

PFMC Habitat Committee – Joel Kawahara

The Habitat Committee reviewed the Sacramento Fall Chinook Overfishing Assessment produced by the STT. HC added the existing EFH recommendations from the OCAP BIOP for Sacramento Fall Chinook. The Council added these recommendations to the Overfishing Assessment. The Council also proactively applied the Amendment 16 criteria for overfished stocks to the SRFC and decided they are recovered in this year. Watch out for more on this.

The HC presented a draft letter of comments on the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary Draft Management Plan to the Council. The Draft Management Plan does not have any elements of fish management and the majority of the comments concerned the information interface between the Council and the Sanctuary. The Council adopted this letter with minor edits and will forward to the Sanctuary.

HC produced comments on the NOAA Aquaculture policy that may be included in Council comments to NOAA and DoC. We did not like much about the Aquaculture policy. The Council initiative to move into Ecosystem Based Management is continuing with development of very high level concepts. Application to management appears years away.

Looking ahead, the April HC will have two hot items. The US Bureau of Reclamation will send a representative to discuss questions the Council posed concerning the CVPIA last year. The HC will also begin discussion on the ACOE National Standard for Levees that all but demands clear cutting every levee in the US so they can be visually inspected. The conflict with salmon EFH will be emphasis and HC will prepare EFH comments for the Council. Salmon EFH will be adopted for Council review; there does not appear to be anything that impacts management in this.

Safety at Sea – Tom Kelly

Safety at Sea-Are You Prepared

As we prepare to set sail for another Troll season off our Coast we should ask ourselves a few questions before we leave the dock so we and our loved ones whom we leave at home can be assured we are truly prepared for an emergency at sea. Here are a few you should be thinking about: Do you conduct regular safety drills on board your vessel and document them? Do you need a station bill for your vessel and/or do you know what a station bill is? In an emergency, could you manually deploy your life raft? By the way, manual deployment is the preferred method! Have you ever practiced donning your survival suit, and could you do so in less than one minute? Is everyone on board your vessel trained for an emergency including, for you bigger boats, fire training? Do you need a trained drill instructor aboard your vessel? Are you trained in C.P.R.? For some of us it is required. Do you possess all the necessary safety equipment because it is required or because you believe it can really save lives in an emergency? If you answered "NO" to any of these questions or are unsure, then my friend YOU are not prepared for an emergency at sea on board your vessel!

My dad has always told me that preparation is 90% of success, and to be honest, my preparation prior to this season was well short of adequate. After a routine boarding at sea by the Coast Guard last season and failing because of an out of date FCC station license, I was informed I also needed to take an Emergency Drill Instructor Workshop course, and in doing so learned that I needed to get my act together if I intended to survive an emergency at sea. The course was only one day located at Fisherman's Terminal in Seattle and was well worth the $125.00 it cost me as the information taught was invaluable. The course covered many aspects of emergencys experienced at sea, how to prepare for them, and how to conduct and document safety drills. If you are interested in entering the course they can be reached at NPFVOA Vessel safety program 1900 W Emerson, Suite 101, Seattle Wa. 98119, Phone #206-285-3383.

On a related note the Coast Guard has established a much more simplified "Commercial Fishing Vessel Examination Checklist" system so each and every vessel owner can determine what is required for his vessel depending on origin of registration, length of vessel and distance from shore where fishing effort will be concentrated. With these new "checklist's", there is no more ambiguity as to what is required for your vessel. I will have all these checklists at the next WTA Board meeting, or you can contact either me at kellytssj@hotmail.com, 206-914-1342, or Coast Guard Officer John Turner at John.A.Turner@uscg.mil, and we can e-mail or snail mail them directly to you.

Best of luck this year and as they say, "Let's be Safe out there!".

Port Meeting Schedule

Westport – March 20 at Ferry Boat Office, 7:00PM
Ilwaco – March 21 at the Port Office, 6:00PM
Seattle/Port Angeles/Tacoma – March 18, Nordby Room, Fisherman's Term., 7:00PM

PFMC Report – Steve Wilson

MANIPULATION

"Ex-ploi-ta-tion (n) 1. The use of something, esp. for profit. 2. The use or manipulation of another person for one's own advantage."
-Random House College Dictionary

Each year, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) receives from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) a "guidance letter" which summarizes the conservation needs for salmon listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). When Lower Columbia River Tule Chinook were first listed (1999), the harvest was restricted to 65% of the expected return. From 2002 to 2006, this exploitation rate was lowered to 49%. It was further reduced to 42% in 2007, 41% in 2008 and 38% in 2009 and 2010. This year, the NMFS mandated a 37% exploitation rate.
I have been told that for this coming season, every seven tenths (0.7) of one percent of the 37% rate is equivalent to 10,000 salmon…

At the PFMC meeting in Vancouver last week, Dr. Robert Kope, chair of the Salmon Technical Team (an advisory body of the PFMC) was asked by the Council what the actual, after the season exploitation rates were for the past two years. It was like E.F. Hutton was speaking. And his answer was indeed jaw-dropping: 36.6% in 2009 and 34.5% in 2010. Pressed further for an explanation, Dr. Kope said that the fish just weren't caught. Do you see the irony?
So the difference between the 38% restriction and the final outcomes is 1.4% in 2009 and 3.5% last year. How many fish does that amount to? How much taxable income did we NOT catch? Could your checkbook and the economies of our coastal communities have used that money?

Looking back at the definition above, I'm not wondering "what" is being exploited but "who" is being exploited… and "why." Will it ever turn around?

Upcoming WTA Board Meetings

Thursday, April 7, to discuss options for submittal to PFMC
The meeting wil be held at the Puyallup Nazarene Church, 1026 7th SW, Puyallup, WA 98371. You can get a map at the following link:

http://www.mapquest.com/maps?city=Puyallup&state=WA&address=1027+7th+Sw&zipcode=98371

There will be a light meal served at 6:00pm. The meeting starts at 6:30pm. Please let us know if you plan to attend by emailing jdazey@centurytel.net or calling (360) 638-1135 not later than the Tuesday preceding the meeting.

Trollers at PFMC – Steve Wilson

Whether it was the poor crabbing weather or the proximity of the Vancouver , Washington PFMC meeting, our WTA was well represented. In addition to the team mentioned in Doug's "President's Message," Guy Lutz (F/V Jessica A) participated in the Washington Delegation meeting on Tuesday and Richard Lyons (F/V Bertha J) was there for the final Council action on salmon late Wednesday afternoon.

On the way out, Richard made a comment that truly hit home. He said that anyone who thinks putting out these three options is easy and that we don't get enough fish really should go through one of these PFMC meetings. I think I said the same thing when I first went through the process.

Please make plans to make it to one of the Port meetings and let your opinion be heard.

Thanks again to all who helped.

WTA Hats and Mugs

Item	Number	Donation	Total
Blue Hat	_____	$20	_____
Green Hat	_____	$20	_____
Red Hat	_____	$20	_____
Tan w/ blue Bill	_____	$20	_____
WTA Mug	_____	$20	_____
		Total	_____

Mail to: WTA
PO Box 799
Kingston, WA 98346

Membership Renewal – Sue Dazey

Once each year you have a new opportunity to show your support for WTA, and our fishing community. By doing so, you give this organization the means to continue its ongoing efforts negotiating economically viable troll fishing seasons. If your time to renew is now, please take a moment to write that check.

The Board recently clarified WTA's renewal policy: If your current renewal date is within 12 months of your previous dues payment anniversary, the date will stay the same for next year. If it's over 12 months, you will start a new membership cycle, with the renewal due the month your check was received.

2011 Season Setting Meetings

North of Falcon 1
Tuesday, March 15, 9:00am - 3:00pm
General Administration Building Auditorium
Olympia, WA

North of Falcon 2
Tuesday, April 5. 9 a.m.- 5 p.m.
Embassy Suites Hotel
20610 44th Ave. West,
Lynnwood, WA

PFMC 2
April 9-14
San Mateo Marriott Hote
1770 South Amphlett Blvd
San Mateo, California.

WTA Associate Members

Anderson Attorney-at-Law, Paul Anderson	(206)467-0237
Ballard Sheet Metal Works, Inc., Custom Fabrication for Fishing and Processing, Seattle	(206)784-0545
Bayview Building Materials, Westport, WA bayview@comcast.net	
Co-Ho Enterprises, Ilwaco, WA coho@willapabay.org	
D & M Live Crab – Dave Wolfenbarger	(360)268-9319
Ecola Seafoods, Canon Beach, OR	
Englund Marine Supply Co. Complete Marine Service, Astoria & Westport	(360)268-9311
Harbor Marine Supply, Westport, WA	(360)268-9166
High Tide Seafoods, Buyer,Ernie Vail, owner; Port Angeles, Neah Bay, LaPush	(360)452-8488
Hingston, Phil, of Jones , Kushman, Hingston Certified Public Accountant, Seattle	(206)285-2777
Icicle Seafoods, Lew Warner, Dillingham, AK	(907) 842-5204
Ikes's Fish, W.H. & Kiyoko Kendall	(360)697-6781
J & G Marine Supply, Don and Harold Jacobson, Tacoma	(253)572-4217
Jessie's Ilwaco Fish Co., Inc.—Salmon Buyer; Pierre Marchand, owner/manager	(360)648-3773
Masco Petroleum, Westport,WA	(360) 537-9744
New Day Fisheries, Inc., Scott Kimmel, Port Townsend	(360)385-4600
Pacific Net and Twine, Ltd., Richmond, BC, Frank Nakashima, Mgr	(604)274-7328
Redden Net Co. (Steveston) Ltd., Richmond, BC, Canada	1(866)233-1422
Sampo Inc., Manufacturing 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	(360)733-0120
Seattle Marine and Fishing Supply, Co., Commercial Gear and Marine Hardware; Sea	(206)285-5010
Select Fish, Quality Buyer, 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
Ted's Red Apple Market, Serving Westport and the fishing fleet with their grocery needs	(360)268-9650
U.S. Seven Oceans, Inc, Jinkai Monofilament Trolling Line and Gear, Mukilteo, WA	(425)347-7770
United Trollers Fund, Phil Hingston, Mgr., Seattle, WA	(206)285-4341
Washington Crab Producers, Bottom fish , salmon, crab, shrimp – wholesale, retail, Westport	(360)268-9161
WESMAR—Western Marine Electronics, Woodinville, WA	(425)481-2296
Westport Diesel Service, Westport, WA	(360) 268-0669

WTA Retired Associate Members

Steve Spleen, Richard Haugen, Augie Roehr, Lloyd Gowdy, Karl Kollen, George Walden.

WTA Membership Application Form

☐ Yes, I would like to renew my WTA membership

Name _____ Boat Name _____ Size ____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone # _____ Cell # _____

Email _____

Troll Licenses (check all that apply) ☐ WA ☐ OR ☐ CA ☐ AK ☐ Albacore

Port of Registration: ◯ Ilwaco ◯ Port Angeles ◯ Seattle ◯ Tacoma ◯ Westport

☐ Fisherman's membership - $150 / yr from subscribing date

☐ Associate / Business / Retired membership - $50 / yr from subscribing date

☐ 1% Season donation included if not contributed through season buyer

☐ Additional donation to help us represent trollers with meetings, marketing, and season setting.

☐ I would like to receive my newsletter by email

Mail to: Washington Trollers Association, PO Box 799, Kingston, WA 98346

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