

Washington Trollers Association

April 2016

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www.washingtontrollers.org

PRESIDENT'S/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE AND INSIGHT

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Attachment

2016 Troll Season Regulations

WTA Directors

President:

Greg Mueller

1st Vice President:

Jonathan Moore *F/V Ocean Belle*

2nd Vice President:

Kim Reisbick *F/V High Hope*

Secretary/Treasurer:

Mike Ziara *F/V Ocean Home*

Ilwaco:

Richard Lyons *F/V Bertha J*
Kim Reisbick *F/V High Hope*
John Alto *F/V Spring Persuader*

Port Angeles:

Mike Ziara *F/V Ocean Home*
Jonathon Moore *F/V Ocean Belle*
Geoff Lebon *F/V Halmia*

Westport:

Greg Mueller
Doug Fricke *F/V Howard H*
Butch Henry *F/V Evening*
Ryan Johnson *F/V Dove*

Executive Director:

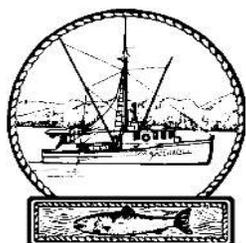
Greg Mueller

Executive Secretary/Editor:

Adrienne Jones

As the Roman saying goes, "all good things must come to an end," the cycle of good salmon troll seasons off the Washington coast came to an abrupt end with the gavel coming down on the PFMC process in Vancouver, Washington, on April 14, 2016. A fairly robust Chinook forecast coupled with one of the smallest expected returns of coho to the North Coast rivers and Puget Sound in recent memory made for a challenging season setting process. The problems arose in having to lessen impacts on Queets and Quillayute River coho and then having enough coho to prosecute our Chinook fishery. The balancing act came in paring down the Chinook number to accommodate for the mortality on the very low coho forecast. With the soon to be retired Doug Milward and Wendy Begehely, our ocean troll managers, providing guidance, we were able to work through the problems and salvage a Chinook only season. A May thru two weeks in June for 14,000 Chinook and a 40 fish landing limit will make for a challenging spring. The summer season with 21,000 Chinook to catch in 29 days, weather permitting, is another story. Depending on effort, the landing limit will have to be increased to have any chance in harvesting our total allowable catch. There should be money to be made during the summer season. The incidental take of halibut in the troll fishery of 34,123 pounds, is an increase of 5,100 pounds over 2015 and can be harvested at a 1 for free, 1 for 3 Chinook with a 20 halibut landing limit. The determining factor in our halibut allocation is having enough Chinook to harvest the halibut number. The ocean users usually have the problems worked out and a final option on the table in about 4 days, however, because of the Puget Sound problems and uncertainty over Queets River coho impacts, this year it took a full 7days. While not the season we had expected with a similar Chinook forecast as last year, it could have been a whole lot worse as the zero option was a very real possibility. That would have meant NO fishing North of Cape Falcon and that possibility was staring the ocean users in the face until the gavel came down, ending the final session. Because the Treaty Tribes and the sporties could not come to an agreement on coho conservation goals, Puget Sound is dealing with the zero option. Thank you to WTA members Don Powers, Richard Lyons, Rich Toal, Dave Parker, and Jeff Peterson for participating in this years PFMC process. Thank you to Wendy Begehely and a final time to Doug Milward and the rest of WDF&W staff for their hard work and efforts during some very difficult times.

Thank you for your support, Greg Mueller

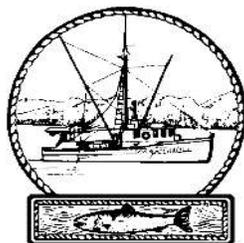


POLITICS AND WTA 2016

When WTA's political agenda is discussed in either newsletter form or during general meetings, it becomes easy to tell the subject does not interest the general membership. However, this is where the game is played. Your dues money goes to pay WTA's membership in the Coastal Coalition of Fisheries, which provides us with a lobbyist in Olympia and Washington D.C. These lobbyists stay on top of issues that directly affect the commercial fishing industry. WTA is in constant contact with our lobbyists and in fact, I am on the legislative committee keeping on top of issues of concern. WTA is recognized at the federal and state level. No other Salmon troll association can make that statement. WTA has been invited to Washington D.C. to testify on the Magnuson Stevens Re-authorization bill in Congress and to lobby for GSI funding. At the state level, WTA has been invited to testify in front of Chairman Kirk Pearson and his Senate Natural Resources Committee. WTA is on a first name basis with Rep. Brian Blake, Chair of the House Fish and Wildlife Committee. The list goes on, and it is especially gratifying, considering the amount of hard work that has gone on thru the years to be recognized as a leader in representing our membership. WTA no longer has to call our representatives, they now contact WTA to arrange meetings. Some of our representatives that need to be recognized for being highly responsive to our concerns, on the federal level; Sen. Murray and staff, Sen. Cantwell and staff, Congressman Kilmer and staff, on the state level,; Sen. Kirk Pearson and committee, Rep. Brian Blake and Committee. There are more, of course, as that is just to name the main players. Please remember those names, when November rolls around.

WTA Hats and Mugs

	<u>Item</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Donation</u>	<u>Total</u>
	Blue Hat	_____	\$20	_____
	Green Hat	_____	\$20	_____
	Red Hat	_____	\$20	_____
	Tan w/ blue Bill	_____	\$20	_____
	WTA Mug	_____	\$20	_____
	WTA Spoons	_____		_____



Support WTA's Associate Members

As WTA members prepare for the upcoming salmon troll season don't forget to put our Associate Members at the top of your list when making purchases for repairs , gearing up or selling your product. WTA has an impressive list of long time business members who support WTA and our industry not only monetarily but also in the political arena.

It is important to make a priority in supporting those businesses that support WTA and our industry.

Adrienne and myself will be working to update the associate list into a directory of services provided by our business members in the various ports so if you come into a port and say, need a machinist or a welder, WTA' s Associate Membership list will provide you with a name and contact number along with services provided.

PREFERRED FISH PROCESSERS FOR THE 2016 SALMON TROLL SEASON

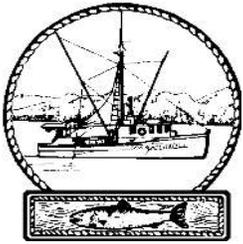
The following are Associate Members and preferred buyers of WTA members troll caught fish throughout the 2016 salmon season

1. Neah Bay; Harmony Seafoods, Patricia Balderson, ph. (360) 640-2041, Participates and matches WTA's 1% program
2. Westport; Washington Crab Producers, Gary Stobson, ph. (360) 310-0181, Participates and matches WTA's 1% program
3. Westport, South Bend Products, (Sonny Peterson at Jolly Roger handles the unloading), ph. (360) 593-0108, Participates and matches WTA's 1% program
4. Ilwaco, Jessie's Ilwaco Fish Co., Pierre Marchand owner, ph. (360) 648-3773, Participates and matches WTA's 1% program
5. Ilwaco, Ilwaco Landing, Mike, ph. (360) 244-2175, Participates in the 1% program and might match

Other fish buyers;

1. LaPush; High Tide Seafoods, ph. (360) 452- 8488

There has been much effort put into securing the processors participation in our 1% program which has been a major in funding source for WTA's political and PFMC involvement in the past. That is where the game is played. WTA needs to have good representation and presence at the table. Like we say, "If you are not at the table, your fishery will be on the table." The money goes into our general fund which enables WTA to have proper representation at those meetings. WTA needs a strong war chest as there are major issues on the horizon as sport priority, that could rear it's ugly head at any time. Let's show the same amount of enthusiasm that the processors have shown in supporting the 1% program and tell them, "if you're matching I'm participating!" Don't wait to be asked, remember, a 1% donation from WTA members equals 2% into WTA's treasury once the processors match. Let's revive this funding source and get some enthusiasm behind this program!



April 2016

OREGON'S 2016 SALMON TROLL SEASON

Oregon's troll season opened April 8 to a couple of days of fishing before a front mover thru the area. Fishermen found a few fish when they got back out, when another front drove them back into port. What the trollers did find was record high demand for their product which led to record prices, in the \$11.00 range paid by the processors. Weather is the determining factor as far as having a successful March or April season.

WTA AND WDF&W ENFORCEMENT

WTA has developed a very good working relationship with the enforcement arm of WDF&W. WTA's and Enforcement's line of communication is open and if you have any concern or issues with existing law or regulations you can contact me and I will get them clarified. Deputy Director Mike Cenci and Caption Dan Chadwick were instrumental in correcting the issue last season with having salmon and albacore tuna aboard your vessel at the same time. Enforcement is a positive influence on our industry.

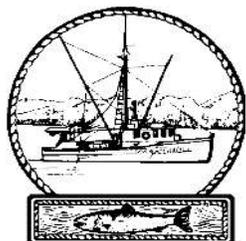
WTA Directors and Officers 2016

With the Bylaw change that took place at the January board meeting WTA was able to elect an additional port director for Port Angeles, Westport, & Ilwaco. The additional directors were elected by the board. Each port held individual meetings in March and elected to keep the same directors for the 2016 term. A motion was made at the April board meeting to re-elect the current Officers for the 2016 term. The 2016 Directors and Officers are listed on the front page.

A Special Thank You

I would personally like to thank each and every one of you for the opportunity to work with WTA. I appreciate everyone's patients as this is a little bit of a learning curve for me learning about the trolling industry. If you see Greg make sure to tell him Thank you for all he has done. It is pretty amazing what he does to represent the Trollers Association and the countless hours that he dedicates to make sure we have a fishery. I have gained a ton of knowledge from him this year and look forward to working with him on various projects ahead.

Adrienne



PFMC

Hello Washington Trollers,

Below you will find the Final draft from Greg from Vancouver PFMC.

A Special thank you to WTA members, Don Powers, Richard Lyons, Joe Cammack, Jeff Peterson, Dave Parker, Rich Toal, and anyone else I might have missed, for their participation in the Vancouver PFMC process. It helps to have your presence at these meetings.

All, my apologies for the delay in getting this information to the fleet, however, having spent 8 days working on nothing but fish politics, and that includes the retirement party for long time WDF&W ocean manger, Doug Milward, you will probably agree, a break from the political agenda was probably in order.

Adrienne will include the final North of Cape Falcon regulations as adopted by the Pacific Fisheries Management Council, before the gavel came down late Thursday afternoon.

THE WHY AND HOW THINGS TURNED OUT THE WAY THE DID

Until Wednesday morning, WDF&W, and the ocean stakeholders had been working on a season with no target number that the Quinault fishery manager would accept for coho escapement and mortality for the critical stock this year, Queets coho. That all changed Wednesday, when WDF&W salmon program manager, Ron Warren, reached an agreement with the Quinaults of a escapement goal of 2,900 coho into the Queets and to reduce coho impacts by another 44 fish. Rather than take the path the Puget Sound sporties took and fight the Treaty Tribes requests for changes to their fishing regimes, which resulted in the ZERO fishing option for Puget Sound, the ocean stakeholders took the can do attitude and the higher road. With the help from the State and leadership from the Salmon Advisory Sub-panel Chairman, Butch Smith of Coho Charters, Ilwaco, we went to work to solve the problem. The State helped out by closing the in river sporty coho fishery and that saved 18 Queets coho. ODF&W donated 6 impacts from South of Cape Falcon. The 20 remaining impacts were split between ocean sport and troll. With the two week closures in June, July and August, we were able to gain 5,000 Chinook to our total allowable catch, making the spring 14,000 Chinook and the summer season 21,000. The goal was to balance the Chinook TAC against the allowable Queets River coho impacts and escapement number. The Queets was not the only stock of concern as all the North Coast rivers are facing alarmingly low coho returns. In fact, after reviewing coho returns to the Quillayute River and noting it's failure to meet coho escapement goals three years in a row, NOAA Fisheries put us on notice that we were on the verge of an "over fished" determination, which would put us under a ridged, Federally controlled rebuilding regime which would be tough to live with. Reducing Queets impacts also helped the Quillayute system coho.

Granted this is not the out come we had hoped for, however, given the fairly robust Chinook forecast coupled with some of the lowest coho numbers on record created an unusual situation that had the ocean was boxed into a corner. There is money to be made this troll season, especially in the summer as 21,000 Chinook compares favorably with last season and with only 29 days to harvest our TAC, the landing limits will have to be liberalized .

Any questions or comments, forward to Greg Mueller at gregmueller@centurylink.net or cell (253) 381-9713

[See Attachment of the Final Draft from PFMC](#)

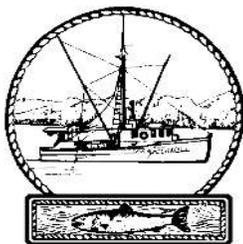
Representing WTA

The following is a list of important meetings that WTA membership was represented with prepared input on the issues our industry and the salmon resource.

1. March 21; North of Cape Falcon meeting with the ocean users and WDF&W, Olympia
2. March 23, 25, 30; Over saw port elections in Westport, Ilwaco and Port Angles
3. March 28; Was interviewed by TV channel TVW in Westport, on the 2016 ocean season. The interview can be viewed at TVW.com , April 16.
4. March 28; Presented comments on the options to the PFMC at the Chateau Westport. Great turnout!
5. April 6; North of Falcon meeting with the ocean users and the WDF&W, Olympia
6. April 7-14; Adoption of the final option, Vancouver, WA.
7. April 26; 4hr. meeting with the Governor in Montesano on various issues pertaining to the coastal salmon industry. The meeting was made possible by Rep. Brian Blake and Butch Smith

8. April 28; Coastal Coalition of Fisheries meeting, Ilwaco

There will be more meetings and of course the in season management conference calls during the following months that WTA will actively participate in. WTA strives to give it's membership the best representation possible.



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
Blue Sea Inc. Jerry Lowe	
Bill's Lead Balls – Bill Murray, cannonballs, Napavine	(360) 219-3996
Boat Seafoods – Doug & Barb Fricke	(360) 580-3027
Bower, Harrison P. - crew member	(206) 328-5807
D & M Live Crab – Dave Wolfenbarger	(360)268-9319
D & R Machine -Dennis Rush, Gurdy rebuilding and machine work	(503) 741-0194
Dave's Diesel Repair – Dave Wall	(360)268-6348
Dungeness Seaworks, Allen Richardson	(360) 460-7048
Englund Marine Supply Co. Complete Marine Service, Astoria & Westport	(360)268-9311
Evans Manufacturing – suppliers of Talbor troll floats	(360) 652-4200
F/V Snapper Products	(360) 268-0294
Hanson Fish Company – Chris Hanson, F/V Carpe Diem	
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 Hingston Fletcher & Associates PLLC, CPA, Seattle	(206) 285-2777
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
Jolly Roger Seafood, Sonny Peterson – buyer of crab, salmon, and albacore	(360) 593-0108
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
Pacific Seafood/Washington Crab Producers, Bottom fish , salmon, crab, shrimp – Westport	(360) 268-9161
Philips Publishing – Fisherman's News	206-284-8285
Sampo Inc., Manufacturing Terminal Tackle/Fishing and Marine Supplies, Barneveld, NY	(315) 896-2606
SAW Trolling Wre– St anley West, flexible Troll wire	(530)305-4480
Seafood Producers Cooperative, Bellingham, Sitka	(360) 733-0120
Seattle Marine and Fishing Supply, Co., Commercial Gear and Marine Hardware; Sea	(206) 285-5010
Silver Horde—Gold Star Sports and Commercial Fishing Lures and Supplies, Lynnwood, WA	(425) 778-2640
South Bend Products – Fish buyer	(360) 875-6570
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
WESMAR—Western Marine Electronics, Woodinville, WA	(425) 481-2296
WFM Select Fish, Quality Buyer, Airport Way in Seattle	(206) 767-2642

WTA Retired Associate Members

Steve Spleen, Gary Aubertin, Steve Norwood. Bill Sipila, Larry Dean, Dave Greenidge, Richard Ramsey, Bill Wilson, Joe Dazey, Gary Colby, Steve Newell, George Walden

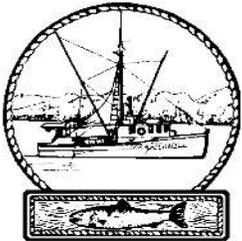
WTA Membership Application Form

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 <input type="checkbox"/>	OR <input type="checkbox"/>	CA <input type="checkbox"/>	AK <input type="checkbox"/>	Albacore <input type="checkbox"/>
Port of Registration:	Ilwaco <input type="radio"/>	Port Angeles <input type="radio"/>	Westport <input type="radio"/>		

- Fisherman's membership - \$250 / year January through December
 - Business Associate - \$75 Combined Bus/Member - \$300 Retired - \$50
 - 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.
- Subscription: Fisherman's News or Pacific Fishing or Both (add \$7)

Mail to: Washington Trollers Association, PO Box 1821, Westport WA 98595



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