

# Washington Trollers Association

March 2012

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### Attachment

Season Options

## WTA Directors

### President:

Doug Fricke *F/V Howard H*

### 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:

Jim Olson *F/V Cynthia T*

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:

Dick Good *F/V Pamela Jean*

### Secretary/Treasurer:

Glen Aurdahl *F/V North Star*

### Port Angeles:

Jeremy Brown *F/V Barcarole*  
Mike Ziara *F/V Ocean Home*

### Ilwaco:

Richard Lyons *F/V Bertha J*

### Seattle:

Joel Kawahara *F/V Karolee*  
Tony Rouff *F/V Dream Catcher*

### Tacoma:

Steve Wilson *F/V Deep Threat*

### Westport:

Greg Mueller *F/V South Side*  
Michael Baldwin *F/V Nellie M*

### Executive Directors:

Sue and Joe Dazey

## President's Message

The 2012 troll salmon season is shaping up with significantly more Chinook available North of Falcon this year. As many of you heard at the WTA annual meeting last fall, the PFMC has adopted a sliding scale of allowed ocean interception of Lower Columbia River Hatchery Tule (LCRH) stocks. The LCRH stock is the limiting stock the last few years for the ocean allowed harvest and last year the allowed ocean exploitation rate was 37% of the LCRH stock. This year with the predicted abundance of LCRH stocks is in excess of 100,000, and the allowed exploitation rate will be 41%. More of the details will be available in the attached coastal troll options and at the port meetings. The South of Falcon troll season looks considerably better this year primarily due to a prediction of over 800,000 abundance forecast for the 2012 Chinook run from the Sacramento River System and over 1,000,000 abundance forecast for the 2012 Chinook run from the Klamath River. The South of Falcon troll season is scheduled to start on April 1.

The Coho forecast for 2012 is slightly reduced from 2011. The allowed Coho harvest will be small and mostly limited to marked select Coho only. Please see the attached options for more details on how the 2012 Coho opportunity may be finalized.

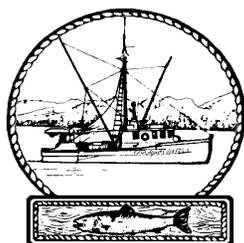
The WTA Board has evaluated the "genetic stock identification" program (GSI) and thinks the program might be a long term means to avoid ESA listed stocks. Joe Dazey, our WTA Co-Executive Director, is now the lead for the Washington GSI program. Working with WDFW and the other coastal states, they have obtained a federal grant to continue the program into 2012. We anticipate that considerably more funds will be available to pay the fishermen to collect samples in 2012. Please contact Joe if you are willing to take samples for the Spring, Summer or both seasons.

There has been considerable activity in the Legislature this last month. Thanks to the efforts of Ed Owens and others, it appears that an effort to move funds out of the Regional Fisheries Enhancement Fund to State hatchery operations has stalled, and both will continue reasonable funding. Also, at press time, the Legislature has passed legislation and sent to the governor's desk a bill that will finally give the coast a voice in how our coastal ocean and fisheries are managed.

Another current pressing issue is the draft federal EPA regulations that will require our size boats to account for basically **any discharge** off our vessels. I suggest that you review the proposed draft regulations at <http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/vessels/vgpermit.cfm> and send in comments.

This is the first year in 20 some years that I did not attend the PFMC meeting where the three season options are put together. Again, big thanks to Jim Olson (Our PFMC rep) and the others in his crew that gave up a week of their lives to sit through endless meetings to bring forth the 2012 season options. The 2012 season will be finalized in Seattle during the first week in April. 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 2012. Also, the PFMC meetings are all open and they take testimony where you can share your opinions on how to best finalize the 2012 season.

We hope everyone can make it to a port meeting in your area. Also, if you are around Westport on March 26, at 7 PM, the PFMC will be taking comments on how to manage our fishery for 2012.



## PFMC Report – Jim Olson

The first PFMC is over and we have returned with a fair package of alternatives.  
 Now the work begins to craft the three alternatives into one that will be adapted in the April PFMC in Seattle. You will have a chance to comment on these at the Westport hearing

and at port and board meetings.  
 At this time I would like to thank the crew that traveled to Sacramento and helped.  
 Be sure and attend your port meetings it is your chance for input to the board.

### Port Meeting Schedule

**Westport** – March 23 at Ferry Boat Office, 7:00PM  
**Ilwaco** – March 25 at the Port Office, 6:00PM  
**Seattle/Port Angeles/Tacoma** – March 21, Nordby Room, Fisherman's Term., 6:00PM

### Upcoming WTA Board Meeting

Thursday, March 29, to discuss options for submittal to PFMC  
 The meeting will 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>

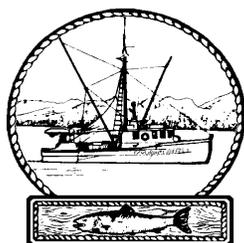
There will be a light meal served at 6:00pm. A **voluntary** contribution of \$5 is requested. The meeting starts at 6:30pm. Please let us know if you plan to attend by emailing [jdazey@centurytel.net](mailto:jdazey@centurytel.net) or calling (360) 638-1135 not later than the Tuesday preceding the meeting.

### *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	_____
		<b>Total</b>	<b>_____</b>

**Mail to:** WTA  
 PO Box 799  
 Kingston, WA 98346



## PFMC Report #2– Greg Mueller, Sue Dazey

*Ed Note: As is the WTA custom, the “newbies” at each PFMC are obligated to write a review of the experience. This year both Greg Mueller and Sue Dazey were in that position. Between them, we hope you get an idea of the process, and the experience.*

Our WTA representative to the Salmon Advisory Subpanel, Jim Olson, served as point man for a group of WTA members comprised of Joe and Sue Dazey, Steve Wilson, Mike Ziara, and Greg Mueller. Joel Kawahara was part of the group a portion of the time, however was busy using his expertise on the Habitat Committee, of which he is a member.

Prior to PFMC, the WTA Board and general membership gave the WTA representatives directions for crafting the three alternatives to be presented at these meetings. As part of the season-setting process, troll representatives develop these options which cover a range of possibilities that set total allowable harvest levels as determined by exploitation rates on critical stocks. Typically, one is “optimistic”, one represents a “middle ground” and one is “conservative”. Judging by the minimal amount of adjustments in the numbers presented, WTA did a good job of estimating realistic possibilities, with two of the three options within the required conservation guidelines (after having been run through the FRAM model). The one “optimistic” alternative was minimally adjusted to come very close to being acceptable and may be adjusted further.

By way of background, this process comprises a key task at the WTA board meeting preceding PFMC, and (as is the case with all WTA board meetings), is open to all members. It is important that our process gives everyone an opportunity to address interests and concerns and be represented in our alternatives. This process is obviously very

labor intensive, but is of critical importance to ensure that Washington trollers continue to have their time on the ocean. Supporting this effort is where a good deal of your dues goes every year, and you may be assured that it is money well-spent, and absolutely essential for us to stay on the ocean.

With multiple meetings concerning troll issues being conducted at the same time at PFMC, it is important to have enough interested bodies covering all meetings. After adoption the full Council, these go out for public comment until the next Council session, March 31 to April 6, at which time the alternatives and public comments will be reviewed, and the Model revisited. Ultimately a decision will be reached for all fisheries and seasons for 2012. Regarding halibut, nothing is final yet, however, after conferring with the Oregon representatives, compromise was tentatively agreed upon. (1 for free, 1 for 4 Chinook, with a 20 halibut landing limit per opening).

After working for five days with WDFW Director Phil Anderson and staff members, we had a positive feeling that we were working in a common direction. At sub-panel meetings they listened carefully, responded thoughtfully, and helped work through myriad details, all the while working with critical guidelines that limit their options, such as endangered species, escapement requirements, and interests of other fisheries.

We appreciate the opportunity to be a part of this group. We hope that our increased understanding of the PFMC process will result in our being more effective participants in WTA throughout the year.

Greg Mueller and Sue Dazey, 2012 PFMC Rookies

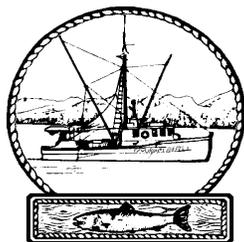
## Editor's Notes – Joe Dazey

It looks like there will be a GSI sampling program in place again in 2012. This year fishermen will be paid \$20/sample, a large increase over last year. I should mention that the fishermen who sampled last year seemed pleased with the increased income. There is still work to be done getting the budget finalized, liability insurance, the sampling kits in place, etc.. Let me know if you want to participate or would like more information.

I've gotten positive response to running articles on our associate members. There isn't one in this newsletter because

there were none submitted. If you know of an associate member you'd like to showcase in our newsletter, send me a paragraph or two describing the business or just send the name, and I'll contact them.

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.



## A Closer Look– Sue Dazey

The scope and depth of this process is impressive, but at the risk of oversimplifying the information given out in several phonebook-sized documents, it might help to look at the process as a giant Rubik's Cube. There are at least three main dimensions, each with a wealth of detailed historic and scientific information along with many strongly held ideas and personal interests. When PFMC convenes, it faces a Cube that might look a lot like one that's been unsuccessfully played with for a week or so. PFMC's job is to align the three dimensions to create viable seasons that satisfy all the regulations and at least tolerably satisfy all the interested players in all areas.

One dimension on this Cube might be pre-existing legal requirements which have to be met, such as the Magnuson-Stevens Act. There is also the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Endangered Species Act, the Pacific Salmon Treaty (Pacific Salmon Commission), and tribal treaties, to name a few. Specifics of all these are programmed into the PFMC computer program, (FRAM) and the final numbers must comply with all requirements.

A second dimension might be the interested parties, including tribes, commercial groups, and recreational groups. Each has its own gear groups and each one is out there competing for a body of fish that is never big enough to satisfy all. This is an aspect of the process that is competitive and full of intrigue, with substantial emotional tension.

The third dimension might be a combination of geographic areas, species involved, and time limits. Every group is constantly trying to manipulate these to its own benefit.

These variables span the US/Mexico border to Canada, with ocean areas and river systems, many of which have endangered species restrictions like the Klamath and Sacramento Rivers. Each species (Chinook, coho, chum, pinks, halibut and groundfish) has subspecies relative to spawning and migration areas, which complicates management even farther. Each is subject to stock abundance analysis, escapement requirements, and habitat impacts, to name a few variables.

So with all this, it's the job of the Council to assimilate requirements, information and wish lists for each dimension.

The first round, which we just did, got it close enough that it can be presented to the public for review and comment (happening now), with the understanding that there will be more fine tuning.

The protocol in this process is very formal, with suits and ties required of Council members when in session. It is very professionally conducted, and very organized. It reminded me very much of a session of Congress, with the exception that when the Council was in session, members were present, seated, and paying attention. Clearly, the stakes are high, and everyone takes it very seriously. The Council includes directors from Washington, Oregon, California and Idaho, plus scientists, PFMC facilitators (do the model, etc.), tribal representation and support staff.

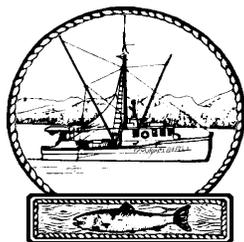
So, as the various components of our hypothetical Cube were being worked into place, there were also two other factors that came to the attention of the Council. First, according to forecast of the Sacramento coho run, it appears they will see a bumper crop far in excess of anything seen recently. This would be great, except it coincides with "dry" conditions in that river system that could prove disastrous in terms of a major fish kill. People are trying to figure out ways to mitigate that possibility, from finding water somewhere to add to the system, to modifying catch limits.

In addition, the topic of GSI sampling and research also came up numerous times. A specific request was made to allow non-retention sampling during closures in a number of ocean areas to fill some major GSI data voids. Having a comprehensive set of data about ocean stocks was seen to have a great deal of value. The Council had a positive response to this request and it appeared the numbers requested for sampling would be so small they would have little impact.

So, there we are until the next PFMC session. You can look over the current troll options as it stands now, understanding that this is the preliminary picture and is still subject to fine tuning. I hope this snapshot of the Council process helps make it all more understandable as we work toward our final season-setting process.

## Halibut

This is a reminder to those who might want to deliver halibut that the applications must be postmarked or faxed no later than 11:59 p.m. April 2, 2012.



## **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 <a href="mailto:bayview@comcast.net">bayview@comcast.net</a>	
D & M Live Crab – Dave Wolfenbarger	(360)268-9319
Dungeness Seaworks, Allen Richardson	(360) 460-7048
Englund Marine Supply Co. Complete Marine Service, Astoria & Westport	(360)268-9311
Evans Manufacturing – supplier of Talbot trolling floats	(360) 652-4200
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
Hungry Whale Enterprises Chevron Station and Deli – Berkley Barker	((560) 628-6323
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
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) 285 - 0765
Redden Net Co. (Steveston) Ltd., Richmond, BC, Canada	1(866)233-1422
Sampo Inc., Manufacturing Terminal Tackle/Fishing and Marine Supplies, Barneveld, NY	(315)896-2606
Sand Dollar Variety and Dollar Store, Rick Bridgemen, Westport	(360) 628-9650
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
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
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, Paul Johns, Geoff Grillo, Augie Roehr, Lloyd Gowdy, Karl Kollen, George Walden, Steve Norwood. Jerry Kelly, Bud Mathis, William Sipila

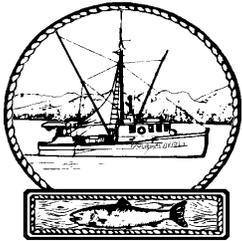
# WTA Membership Application Form

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)		
<input type="checkbox"/> WA	<input type="checkbox"/> OR	<input type="checkbox"/> CA
<input type="checkbox"/> AK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Albacore <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Port of Registration:	Ilwaco	Port Angeles
		Seattle
		Tacoma
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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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