



# News of the Washington Trollers Association

March 2019

## REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This newsletter and update will focus on the forecast meeting of February 27th and the Board meeting of March 2nd. At the Board meeting, those in attendance discussed the type of salmon troll season they need to be profitable, taking into account the forecast of what the fleet will have to harvest.

The Washington Trollers Association strives to represent its membership in the most professional manner possible by developing a positive line of communication and working relationships with our ocean managers, both state and federal, plus the alliances WTA has made and continues to develop. WTA strives to increase the salmon resource and not steal fish from other user groups.

As most of WTA's membership already knows, I was appointed to serve on the Salmon Advisory Subpanel, a standing committee of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC.) I am replacing Jim Olson, who served honorably in that position for about 21 years. It is my hope that I can carry on in his tradition and represent the North of Falcon salmon troll fleet with distinction. The bottom line is: we are a for-profit industry and need to have a pathway to profitability.

I will be in Vancouver, WA, for the first round of North of Falcon meetings beginning March 6th. Watch your email for frequent updates from the meetings. As always, your comments and questions are appreciated.

*- Greg Mueller, President and Executive Director*

## WTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### President

Greg Mueller

### 1st Vice President

Jonathan Moore, F/V Ocean Belle

### 2nd Vice President

Kim Reisbick, F/V High Hope

### Ilwaco

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

### Port Angeles

Joe Cammack, F/V Rose Marie  
Kory Murphy, F/V Pamela Jean  
Jonathan Moore, F/V Ocean Belle

### 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

Mary Toal

### EMAIL:

WASHINGTONTROLLERS@GMAIL.COM

## FORECAST MEETING 2019

The forecast meeting was held at the Lacey Community Center on February 27, 2019. The news was not positive as far as the salmon trollers' bread-and-butter, Chinook. The Chinook forecast for 2019 is 340,000 which is less than the 365,000 forecast for 2018. However, the 2019 Chinook forecast is 50,000 more than the actual return in 2018. The areas of concern, that is runs of concern restricting the troll fishery, are summer Chinook into the Columbia River and, again, mid-Hood Canal Chinook.

At the present time, there is no telling what effect the Summer Chinook problem might have on our troll fishery as they have not been a limiting factor since back in the 1990's, but are harvested in the spring troll fishery, especially in area 2! This is going to be a troll season where all facets will have to come together — the projected lessened Chinook availability number, the vastly increased Coho harvest, and the halibut poundage which has also been increased — to have a profitable season.

As the stocks of concern are analyzed and the pluses and minuses are added up, this appears to be shaping up to be a season where one will have to put everything into the mix to show a profit. Hopefully, things will rebound in 2020, as ocean conditions have improved markedly. With WTA members Doug Fricke, Ryan Johnson, Kory Murphy, Jim Roehr, Dan Urekar and his wife, and two of WTA's Oregon members, Guy Lutz and John Alto in attendance, WTA had an imposing presence. Thank you to those members who went the extra mile and attended the forecast meeting!

If you are interested in more details from the forecast meeting, please check out the WDFW web site where you will find video of some of the meetings. The Department will also be posting updates during the season setting process. <https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/northfalcon/> They will also be posting on Facebook and Twitter, if you are so inclined.

## LEGISLATIVE SEAFOOD DAY

After a year's worth of planning by the Coastal Coalition of Fisheries (CCF) and individual members (including WTA), a Legislative Seafood Day in the Washington State capitol building became a reality on February 25th. Thanks to the extensive planning of CCF Executive Director Dale Beasley, the seafood organization of Mike Cornman, Westport Seafood, Inc., and the creativity of Westport Marina Manager Molly Bold, plus the rest of those involved in the legwork and planning, this inaugural function came off about as well as one could hope. WTA's Board voted to donate \$500 to the event and with Ryan Johnson (F/V Dove) and me in attendance to spread our message of the importance of the fishing industry to the coastal communities, this was anything but a free meal for those who attended. While the legislators and staff were dining on our seafood they had to listen to the message from the harvesters and processors. This was money extremely well spent! Of all the seafood served, troll caught salmon, smoked by Westport Seafood, was the first seafood to run out, and we planned for 300 attendees. There were rave reviews on Merino's clam chowder, oysters on the half shell and, of course, our Dungeness crab. We will need even more donations of troll-caught salmon for next year's Legislative Seafood Day, scheduled for February 24, 2020 in the Columbia Room of the capitol building. Those who want to donate can contact me or Mike Cornman at Westport Seafood; he will store our fish. Personally, it is difficult to describe the pride I feel on the success of this extremely complex project and the fact that our troll salmon was so well accepted. Again, donations for the 2020 event will be accepted with gratitude.—Greg

## DISASTER RELIEF

Not much to report here, unfortunately. The money is still stuck in the workings of NOAA Fisheries with no movement in sight. President Trump at one time thought he was going to raid the disaster relief fund to build his border wall. Fortunately, a handful of Congressional Senators stepped forward with legislation to block his pathway to that money. On March 11th it will be three years since Butch Smith and I informed WDFW that 2016 would qualify as a disaster relief season, and there is still no relief in sight. In 2008, the last Disaster Relief season, the affected parties had money in hand by October of that same year.

As of this writing, there has been no Disaster Relief money disbursed to any claimant on the West Coast, including the Alaska Pink Fishery or the California Dungeness fishery because of domoic acid problems.

As there are no definitive answers to the questions we have asked regarding the stalling of the funding, Butch and I have thought it best to wait for resolution before the next round of Disaster Relief requests are filed.

## NEW PORT REPRESENTATION ON THE WTA BOARD

It is always encouraging to welcome new Port representatives to the WTA Board of Directors. These new Board members are active fishermen and have a vested interest in the salmon troll industry. Kory Murphy and Joe Cammack have the enthusiasm and knowledge that will drive this association forward.

There has been the belief by some that members in areas 3-4 have had no representation. Nothing could be farther from the truth! As Areas 3-4 are plagued with Puget Sound Chinook and Coho impact problems, and will be for the foreseeable future, more time is devoted to solving those problems and carving out a profitable fishery in Areas 3-4 than the other biological areas combined! Thank you to Joe and Kory for stepping forward and representing the salmon troll industry in Areas 3-4.

Joe and Kory have been actively seeking out new or returning WTA members in Port Angeles, and we appreciate that effort on behalf of WTA.

## WTA DUES

WTA continues to accept dues payments for 2019. Paying your dues each year enables WTA to continue to represent your best interests at the local, state and national levels.

If you are unsure as to your dues status, please be in touch with Mary Toal 206-227-6938 or [washingtontrollers@gmail.com](mailto:washingtontrollers@gmail.com).

## WTA ASSOCIATE MEMBERS – 2018-2019

We thank the following businesses for their support. Please support them!

Ballard Sheet Metal Works, Inc. (Custom Fabrication for Fishing & Processing), Seattle	206-784-0545
Bill's Lead Balls, Bill Murray	360-262-9695
Boat Seafoods, Doug & Barb Fricke	360-580-3027
Caterpillar Marine Engines, Chris Downes	206-818-7546
D&M Live Crab, Dave Wolfenbarger	360-268-9319
Englund Marine Supply Co. (Complete Marine Service), Astoria , Ilwaco & Westport	360-268-9811
F/V Snapper Products	360-268-0294
Susan Gihlstrom, Dave Johnson Insurance (boat insurance), Aberdeen <b>*NEW*</b>	360-533-1741
Hightide Seafoods, Inc., Port Angeles	360-452-8488
Hingston Miller Hingston, PLLC, CPA; Phil Hingston, Seattle	206-285-4341
J&G Marine Supply, Don & Harold Jacobson, Tacoma	253-572-4217
Jolly Roger Seafood (Buyer of Crab, Salmon & Albacore), Sonny Peterson	360-593-0108
Lutz Seafood, Newport, OR	503-267-1125
MASCO Petroleum, Westport	360-537-9744
Mullavey, Prout, Grenley and Foe; Daniel Foe	206-789-2511
New Day Fisheries, Inc., Scott Kimmel, Port Townsend	360-384-4600
Pacific Fishing Magazine	206-324-5644
Pacific Net and Twine, Ltd., Frank Nakashima, Mgr., Richmond, BC	604-274-7238
Pacific Seafood/Washington Crab Producers (Bottom Fish, Salmon, Crab, Shrimp), Westport	360-268-9161
Philips Publishing – Fisherman's News	206-284-8285
Seafood Producers Cooperative, Bellingham & Sitka	360-733-0120
Seattle Marine and Fishing Supply Co. (Commercial Gear & Marine Hardware)	206-285-5010
Shipwrights Co-op, Port Townsend	360-385-6138
Silver Horde (Gold Star Sports & Commercial Fishing Lures & Supplies), Lynnwood	425-778-2640
South Bend Products (Fish Buyer)	360-875-6570
US Seven Oceans Inc. (Jinkai Monofilament Troller Line & Gear), Mukilteo	425-347-7770
United Trollers Fund, Phil Hingston, Manager	206-285-4341
Wesmar Western Marine	425-481-2296
Westport Seafood, Inc.	360-268-0133

### WTA MERCHANDISE – SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

To order yours, complete this form and mail it to WTA along with your check (payable to WTA). Mary Toal will contact you regarding delivery arrangements.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

ITEMS:	QUANTITY:	COST:
Navy Blue hat (adjustable) <b>NEW!</b>		\$20
Tan hat (adjustable) <b>NEW!</b>		\$20
WTA mug (travel-mug style) <b>NEW!</b>		\$20
Black Hooded sweatshirt – heavy weight (M, L, XL-3XL)		\$50
<b>WTA Hat and Mug Combo. Buy both for the discounted price.</b>		<b>\$35</b>
Gray Hooded sweatshirt – light weight (M, L, XL, 2XL)		\$40
<b>NEW!</b> WTA Logo Jacket – two styles to choose from, fleece-lined “Bomber” or hooded Rain jacket. Mary Toal has samples available for sizing.		\$100 (custom-ordered)

Quantities limited to stock on hand.  
All proceeds benefit the work of the Washington Trollers Association.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

March 6-12	<b>PFMC Meetings</b> , Vancouver, WA
March 19	<b>North of Falcon</b> , DSHS Building, Olympia, 9-3
March 20	<b>Westport Marina Users’ Meeting</b> , McCausland Hall, Westport, 10 a.m.
March 22	<b>Ilwaco Port Meeting</b> (contact Kim Reisbick)
March 23	<b>Westport Port Meeting and WTA Board Meeting</b> , Ocean Spray Resort, Grayland, 9-1 (all members are encouraged to attend)
March 25	<b>Public Hearing</b> , Chateau Westport, 7 p.m.
March 26	<b>Grays Harbor Fisheries Discussion</b> , Montesano City Hall, 6-8 p.m.
March 28	<b>Columbia River &amp; Ocean Fisheries Discussion</b> , Region 5 HQ, Ridgefield, 10-3
April 3	<b>North of Falcon</b> , Lynnwood Embassy Suites. 9:30-5
April 11-16	<b>PFMC Meetings</b> , Rohnert Park, CA

WTA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION & MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Boat Name & Size \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Troll License(s) - Circle at that apply: WA OR CA AK ALBACORE

Port of Registration: ILWACO PORT ANGELES WESTPORT

New Membership  Membership Renewal

**Annual Membership Rates (full calendar year):** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Individual Membership \$250 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Business Associate \$75 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Combined Individual and Business \$300 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Retired \$50 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**One-percent (1%) Season donation**, if not contributed through buyer

**Additional donation** to help us represent trollers at meetings, with marketing, and in season-setting \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to receive my newsletter via email.  \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like a subscription to *Fisherman's News*  OR *Pacific Fishing*  \$ \_\_\_\_\_

OR BOTH  add \$12 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED:**

**Please complete this form and return it with your check payable to WTA, and mail to PO Box 1821, Westport WA 98595.**

**WASHINGTON TROLLERS  
ASSOCIATION**

PO Box 1821  
Westport WA 98595

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE