

April 2013
Newsletter



Created to enhance and protect an economically viable
Washington salmon troll fishery.

PFMC Troll Advisor Report by Jim Olson

The season has been set and it is time to start fishing. As I look back over the last few months it seems like time has flown by with all the meetings and calls.

A few things stand out like the good turnout of CTA members at the first meeting in Olympia for stock abundance and the high turnout at all the meetings. These are signs of a healthy association.

Our overall Chinook Quota will be 44,000 split 2/3 in the May/June and 1/3 taken in the July thru Sept time period. We will have guidelines of 8,700 in the May/June season and 6,100 in the July thru Sept season in area 3 and 4 this year. This is to save mid Hood Canal Chinook. Without these guidelines we would be fishing on 37,500 Chinook and have the same sub area guidelines.

I would like to thank all the people who responded to the mail survey that I sent out this spring. I have emailed the results to those who responded and gave an email address. These were shared with WDFW and used in setting the seasons.

New Logo

At our March meeting, members were shown four images with variations to the one shown above. Vice-President Geoff Lebon passed around papers displaying those images and invited those present to initial the one they preferred. The overwhelming choice was the one displayed above. Special thanks to those involved in the design process, particularly Yvonne DeShazo.

VERY IMPORTANT !

In the fine print with this season's catch regulations are the following two sentences:
"Vessels in possession of salmon north of the Queets River may not cross the Queets River line without first notifying WDFW at (360) 902-2739 with area fished, total Chinook, coho, and halibut catch aboard, and destination. Vessels in possession of salmon south of the Queets River may not cross the Queets River line without first notifying WDFW at (360) 902-2739 with area fished, total Chinook, coho, and halibut catch aboard, and destination."

Focus On: The PFMC Habitat Committee

by Joel Kawahara, Chair

The Pacific Fisheries Management Council's Habitat Committee

I'd like to introduce the Habitat Committee (HC) to the members of CTA. Those of you who are already familiar with HC, please bear with us. Starting at the top, the Magnuson - Stevens Fishery Conservation Act (MSA) is the law that enables NMFS management of the ocean fisheries. In the PFMC, these are Highly Migratory Species (albacore and others), Salmon, Groundfish, and Coastal Pelagics (sardines, anchovies and mackerel). Each of the species complexes has a Fisheries Management Plan, and each Fisheries Management Plan (FMP), and each FMP has designations of Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). The major job of the HC is to monitor the fishing and non-fishing impacts to EFH. We also, along with every other advisory body, look at issues on the PFMC agenda and comment where appropriate.

So what happens when someone or thing impacts EFH? The HC writes a letter that the council (for the most part) sends to the offending party outlining the impacts and the obligation of the offending party to rectify the situation. Sadly, the PFMC and HC do not have the authority to go in and fix habitat, we can only recommend others fix their messes.

The following list of things the HC examined this meeting is part of an ongoing monitoring effort. We don't see everything, and sometimes if it is a federal project, we miss the comment period because it takes PFMC action to OK a letter to send to anyone.

Getting to the April meeting . . .

The HC produced a draft letter requesting supplemental flows in the Klamath river this September to safeguard the expected large run of fall Chinook.

We provided comments to the PFMC regarding a "situation assessment of Columbia Basin salmon recovery" being conducted by NMFS. This is an examination by NMFS of the possibility of conducting stakeholder discussions that could lead to an agreement of salmon recovery that would allow a biological opinion to be implemented and not get sued by NGOs for being deficient in some aspect.

HC provided comments to the PFMC regarding an expansion of the sanctuary boundaries of the Cordell and Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuaries (in CA). We advised that we saw no adverse impacts to habitat, but we still had questions about what they were going to do.

HC provided comments regarding the re-negotiation of the Columbia River Treaty with Canada. The treaty governs the use of water stored in Canada that is released in the Columbia to be used for power that is provided to Canada (their water, our dams). We related the Columbia Treaty to water for salmon and alerted the PFMC there may be a need to comment.

HC advised the PFMC that the Northwest Power Planning and Conservation Council is calling for recommendations for amendments to their Fish and Wildlife Program.

The HC reviewed the Groundfish Essential Fish Habitat Synthesis report, part of the review process for west coast ground fish EFH. This is a multi year PFMC process that may result in re-definition of groundfish EFH.

Joel is available to answer questions regarding details of the HC and what it does to salmon habitat.

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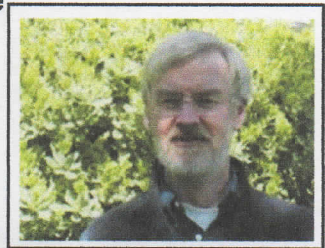
Lark Luncheon Latest-

Geoff Lebon has confirmed two blockbuster speakers for the 10th Annual Lark Luncheon on May 15th, hosted by award-winning Chef Jonathan Sundstrom.



In the tradition of ladies first, Irene Martin will bring her vast knowledge of commercial fishing, her success as an author, and first hand experience with allocation issues, particularly on the Columbia River to our audience.

With a Ph.D. in Fisheries from the U. of Washington, Peter Dygert leads the Harvest Management Branch of NOAA's Northwest Regional Fisheries, and represents NOAA on the PFMC. He will describe the management of our fisheries that protects the sustainability of our salmon.



Amy Grondin reports that invitations have been sent and seats are filling fast.



"the largest cormorant colony in Western North America is on East Sand Island in the Columbia River estuary"

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers website

Butch Smith, the chair of the PFMC Salmon Advisory Subpanel, hosted a discussion of these predacious birds during the April meeting in Portland. We heard a presentation by USACE spokesperson Sondra Ruckwardt that focused on the dilemma facing Butch every time he looks out his Ilwaco front room window: We have protected these birds too well and now they need to be managed. Their primary diet includes Columbia River basin salmonids listed under the Endangered Species Act. These double-crested cormorants have also been protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act since 1972. Tim Roth, from the U.S. Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, explained to the SAS audience that lethal and non-lethal means are considered in an Environmental Impact Statement now winding it's way through the process. The EIS draft is expected out this August. Nature seemed to intervene in 2011 when bald eagles, peregrine falcons, great horned owls and gulls found the eggs to be quite tasty. In the meantime, the birds eat an estimated one pound a day. An insightful web article by Cassandra Profita titled "Which kills more fish: Cormorants or dams?" reveals that "cormorants ate an estimated 20.5 million salmon and steelhead smolts last year ... up from 19.2 million in 2010." Clearly, the solution cannot be put off any longer.

"The Rookie Report: Impressions of the PFMC Experience"

by Ken Anderson

I was tasked to write a news article about my impressions about the PFMC processes in Portland OR. Some of our delegation told me I needed to wear a suit and tie. I thought about that for about a minute and said "That's not going to happen." None was needed except for the talking heads. Those in our delegation were Joel Kawahara, Steve Wilson, Dave Parker, and myself Ken Anderson. Jim Olson the Troll Advisor for Washington was there representing every troll license holder and their interests in the season setting process.

Impressions:

1. The good friendships our delegates have made over years of being involved in the PFMC process. I could see the trust and the careful selection of words as they spoke in the meeting rooms. This trust was carried over into the hallways, where the real business of the process takes place.
2. How complicated the PFMC process is to come up with the best season for both commercial salmon troll and sports fisherpersons. This season has two main stocks which control how many fish we can catch and where we get to harvest them. The first is Thompson River coho, which is a tributary of the Fraser River in Canada. The second stock is Mid Hood Canal fall wild Chinook. The catch impacts in the ocean caused a guideline fishery of 14,800 salmon divided 2/3 in May and June and 1/3 in our Summer season. This is to save about 1 salmon. Complicated, hard to understand, and sometimes seems unfair. This is the process we have. It mite seem slow but generally it works. Without redds in the river we have no ocean salmon.
3. How much our Fisheries Department understands the political significance of one sports group. This group is trying to switch our impacts from the ocean into the Columbia River. This would increase in river salmon catches and lower ocean harvest numbers. They worked to make sure our harvest number (44,000) Chinook came as close to our 41% harvest rate as they could make it. Good job!
4. How closely our delegation worked with the Washington, California, and Oregon sports and commercial trollers, and tribal interests to get the best season for all.
5. How much time and effort Joel and Jim spend of their own time working on our behalf. Joel is chairman of the Habitat Committee for the PFMC. If you have questions about river and ocean conditions that effect salmon survival, Joel might have the answer. Jim does a lot of his work behind the scenes, talking in hallways and on the phones working for our troll interests. His in-season conference calls with Fisheries help in making adjustments to our troll fishery. This allows us to maximize our quotas. Steve and Dave worked to support the whole effort and CTA interests. It is a team effort and we have a good team! Me, I am just a rookie. I learned a lot!!



Next year we need a new Rookie; it's not hard and is a lot of fun.

www.coastaltrollersassociation.com

April 2013

DRAFT

TABLE 1. Commercial troll management measures analyzed by the STT for non-Indian ocean salmon fisheries, 2013.
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A. SEASON ALTERNATIVE DESCRIPTIONS
North of Cape Falcon
Supplemental Management Information
1. Overall non-Indian TAC: 92,000 (non-mark-selective equivalent of 88,000) Chinook and 89,000 coho marked with a healed adipose fin clip (marked). 2. Non-Indian commercial troll TAC: 44,000 Chinook and 14,220 marked coho.
U.S./Canada Border to Cape Falcon <ul style="list-style-type: none">• May 1 through earlier of June 30 or 29,300 Chinook, no more than 8,700 of which may be caught in the area between the U.S.-Canada border and the Queets River. Seven days per week (C.1). All salmon except coho (C.4, C.7). Chinook minimum size limit of 28 inches total (B, C.1). Vessels in possession of salmon north of the Queets River may not cross the Queets River line without first notifying WDFW at 360-902-2739 with area fished, total Chinook and halibut catch aboard, and destination. Vessels in possession of salmon south of the Queets River may not cross the Queets River line without first notifying WDFW at 360-902-2739 with Area fished, total Chinook and halibut catch aboard, and destination. Cape Flattery, Mandatory Yelloweye Rockfish Conservation Area, and Columbia Control Zones closed (C.4, C.5, C.6). See compliance requirements (C.1) and gear restrictions and definitions (C.2, C.3). An inseason conference call will occur when it is projected that 21,975 Chinook have been landed overall, or 6,525 Chinook have been landed in the area between the U.S./Canada border and the Queets River, to consider modifying the open period to five days per week and adding landing and possession limits to ensure the guideline is not exceeded. Cape Flattery, Mandatory Yelloweye Rockfish Conservation Area, and Columbia Control Zones closed (C.5). Vessels must land and deliver their fish within 24 hours of any closure of this fishery. Under state law, vessels must report their catch on a state fish receiving ticket. Vessels fishing or in possession of salmon while fishing north of Leadbetter Point must land and deliver their fish within the area and north of Leadbetter Point. Vessels fishing or in possession of salmon while fishing south of Leadbetter Point must land and deliver their fish within the area and south of Leadbetter Point, except that Oregon permitted vessels may also land their fish in Garibaldi, Oregon. Oregon State regulations require all fishers landing salmon into Oregon from any fishery between Leadbetter Point, Washington and Cape Falcon, Oregon must notify ODFW within one hour of delivery or prior to transport away from the port of landing by either calling 541-867-0300 Ext. 271 or sending notification via e-mail to nfalcon.trollreport@state.or.us. Notification shall include vessel name and number, number of salmon by species, port of landing and location of delivery, and estimated time of delivery. Inseason actions may modify harvest guidelines in later fisheries to achieve or prevent exceeding the overall allowable troll harvest impacts.
U.S./Canada Border to Cape Falcon <ul style="list-style-type: none">• July 1 through earlier of September 17 or attainment of the quota of 14,700 Chinook, no more than 6,100 of which may be caught in the area between the U.S.-Canada border and the Queets River, or 14,220 marked coho (C.8.d) July 1-9 then Friday through Tuesday July 12-August 27 with a landing and possession limit of 50 Chinook and 40 coho per vessel per open period; Friday through Tuesday August 30-September 17 with a landing and possession limit of 20 Chinook and 60 coho per vessel per open period (C.1). Vessels in possession of salmon north of the Queets River may not cross the Queets River line without first notifying WDFW at (360)902-2739 with area fished, total Chinook, coho, and halibut catch aboard, and destination. Vessels in possession of salmon south of the Queets River may not cross the Queets River line without first notifying WDFW at (360)902-2739 with area fished, total Chinook, coho, and halibut catch aboard, and destination. No earlier than September 1, if at least 5,000 marked coho remain on the quota, inseason action may be considered to allow non-selective coho retention (C.8). All Salmon except no chum retention north of Cape Alava, Washington in August and September (C.7). Chinook minimum size limit of 28 inches total (B, C.1). All coho must be marked except as noted above (C.8.d). See compliance requirements (C.1) and gear restrictions and definitions (C.2, C.3). Mandatory Yelloweye Rockfish Conservation Area, Cape Flattery and Columbia Control Zones, and beginning August 9, Grays Harbor Control Zone Closed (C.5). Vessels must land and deliver their fish within 24 hours of any closure of this fishery. Vessels fishing or in possession of salmon while fishing north of Leadbetter Point must land and deliver their fish within the area and north of Leadbetter Point. Vessels fishing or in possession of salmon while fishing south of Leadbetter Point must land and deliver their fish within the area and south of Leadbetter Point. except that Oregon permitted vessels may also land their fish in Garibaldi, Oregon. Under state law, vessels must report their catch on a state fish receiving ticket. Oregon State regulations require all fishers landing salmon into Oregon from any fishery between Leadbetter Point, Washington and Cape Falcon, Oregon must notify ODFW within one hour of delivery or prior to transport away from the port of landing by either calling 541-867-0300 Ext. 271 or sending notification via e-mail to nfalcon.trollreport@state.or.us. Notification shall include vessel name and number, number of salmon by species, port of landing and location of delivery, and estimated time of delivery. Inseason actions may modify harvest guidelines in later fisheries to achieve or prevent exceeding the overall allowable troll harvest impacts.

SALMON

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- C.6. Notification When Unsafe Conditions Prevent Compliance with Regulations: If prevented by unsafe weather conditions or mechanical problems from meeting special management area landing restrictions, vessels must notify the U.S. Coast Guard and receive acknowledgment of such notification prior to leaving the area. This notification shall include the name of the vessel, port where delivery will be made, approximate amount of salmon (by species) on board, the estimated time of arrival, and the specific reason the vessel is not able to meet special management area landing restrictions.

In addition to contacting the U.S. Coast Guard, vessels fishing south of the Oregon/California border must notify CDFW within one hour of leaving the management area by calling 800-889-8346 and providing the same information as reported to the U.S. Coast Guard. All salmon must be offloaded within 24 hours of reaching port.

- C.7. Incidental Halibut Harvest: During authorized periods, the operator of a vessel that has been issued an incidental halibut harvest license may retain Pacific halibut caught incidentally in Area 2A while trolling for salmon. Halibut retained must be no less than 32 inches in total length, measured from the tip of the lower jaw with the mouth closed to the extreme end of the middle of the tail, and must be landed with the head on. License applications for incidental harvest must be obtained from the International Pacific Halibut Commission (phone: 206-634-1838). Applicants must apply prior to April 1, 2013 for 2013 permits and mid-March 2014 (exact date to be set by the IPHC in early 2014) for 2014 permits of each year. Incidental harvest is authorized only during May and June of the 2013 troll seasons and April, May, and June of the 2014 troll seasons and after June 30 in 2013 or 2014 if quota remains and if announced on the NMFS hotline (phone: 800-662-9825). ODFW, CDFW, and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) will monitor landings. If the landings are projected to exceed the 30,568 pound preseason allocation or the total Area 2A non-Indian commercial halibut allocation, NMFS will take inseason action to prohibit retention of halibut in the non-Indian salmon troll fishery.

Beginning May 1, 2013 through April 30, 2014, license holders may land or possess no more than one Pacific halibut per each three Chinook, except one Pacific halibut may be possessed or landed without meeting the ratio requirement, and no more than 15 halibut may be possessed or landed per trip. Pacific halibut retained must be no less than 32 inches in total length (with head on).

Incidental Pacific halibut catch regulations in the commercial salmon troll fishery adopted for 2013 will be in effect when incidental Pacific halibut retention opens on April 1, 2014 unless otherwise modified by inseason action.

- a. "C-shaped" yelloweye rockfish conservation area is an area to be voluntarily avoided for salmon trolling. NMFS and the Council request salmon trollers voluntarily avoid this area in order to protect yelloweye rockfish. The area is defined in the Pacific Council Halibut Catch Sharing Plan in the North Coast subarea (Washington marine area 3), with the following coordinates in the order listed:
48°18' N. lat.; 125°18' W. long.;
48°18' N. lat.; 124°59' W. long.;
48°11' N. lat.; 124°59' W. long.;
48°11' N. lat.; 125°11' W. long.;
48°04' N. lat.; 125°11' W. long.;
48°04' N. lat.; 124°59' W. long.;
48°00' N. lat.; 124°59' W. long.;
48°00' N. lat.; 125°18' W. long.
and connecting back to 48°18' N. lat.; 125°18' W. long.
- C.8. Inseason Management: In addition to standard inseason actions or modifications already noted under the season description, the following inseason guidance is provided to NMFS:
- Chinook remaining from the May through June non-Indian commercial troll harvest guideline north of Cape Falcon may be transferred to the July through September harvest guideline if the transfer would not result in exceeding preseason impact expectations on any stocks.
 - Chinook remaining from the June and/or July non-Indian commercial troll quotas in the Oregon KMZ may be transferred to the Chinook quota for the next open period if the transfer would not result in exceeding preseason impact expectations on any stocks.
 - Chinook remaining from the May, June and/or July non-Indian commercial troll quotas in the California KMZ may be transferred to the Chinook quota for the next open period if the transfer would not result in exceeding preseason impact expectations on any stocks.
 - NMFS may transfer fish between the recreational and commercial fisheries north of Cape Falcon if there is agreement among the areas' representatives on the Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS), and if the transfer would not result in exceeding preseason impact expectations on any stocks.
 - At the March 2014 meeting, the Council will consider inseason recommendations for special regulations for any experimental fisheries (proposals must meet Council protocol and be received in November 2013).
 - If retention of unmarked coho is permitted by inseason action, the allowable coho quota will be adjusted to ensure preseason projected impacts on all stocks is not exceeded.
 - Landing limits may be modified inseason to sustain season length and keep harvest within overall quotas.
- C.9. State Waters Fisheries: Consistent with Council management objectives:
- The State of Oregon may establish additional late-season fisheries in state waters.



Membership Application Form

Name _____	Boat Name _____	Size _____
Mailing Address _____		
City _____	State _____	Zip _____
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"/>	Tuna <input type="checkbox"/>	

Type of membership:

- Commercial Troll License Holders *Annual dues based on anniversary date* \$ 150
 - Associate membership *Annual dues based on anniversary date* \$ 100
(includes leased license holders)
 - Business membership *Annual dues based on anniversary date* \$ 50
 - Retired membership *Annual dues based on anniversary date* \$ 50
 - Crew Members *Annual dues based on anniversary date* \$ 50
 - 1% Season donation if not previously contributed _____
 - Donations specifically for the PMFC process costs _____
 - Donations specifically for promoting our product _____
 - Donations to cover general operating costs _____
- Total amount included with this application _____

Please mail your payment to:

Coastal Trollers Association
P.O. Box 586
Auburn, WA 98071-0586