



Columbia River Salmon Fishery Policy Workgroup (CRW)

Public Comments received between July 28, 2020 through August 4, 2020

This is a compilation of comments received at through our online public comment portal after the Joint-State PRC was put on hold.

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 9:12:57 PM

Name	Mike Amodeo
Email	stlhdr23@gmail.com
Address	Washougal WASHINGTON
Comments	The Columbia River rwform was put in place to keep non-selective gill netting out of the main stem of the Columbia River. It needs to remain that way for the future health of our fisherues.
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 24.22.57.110 (United States) at 2020-07-29 00:12:54 on Chrome 84.0.4147.105
Entry ID: 184

From: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Barbara Baker](#); [Bob Kehoe](#); [Brad Smith](#); [Dave Graybill](#); [Donald McIsaac](#); [Anderson, James R \(DFW\)](#); [Larry Carpenter](#); [McBride, Tom A \(DFW\)](#); [Linville, Molly F \(DFW\)](#); [Thorburn, Kim M \(DFW\)](#)
Cc: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Gill Nets are Not the Answer
Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 7:48:55 AM
Attachments: [Columbia River Reforms.msg](#)

-----Original Message-----

From: Matthew Cebula <fishnnutz@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 8:37 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Gill Nets are Not the Answer

Dear WDFW Commissioners,

Please keep the gill nets out of the Columbia. Please give the fish a chance to recover. We need power so the damns need to stay. The seals and sea lions are still a huge problem as is the huge smolt kill off my birds and fish. The ocean conditions and high seas netting are also huge hurdles. The salmon and steelhead returns already have enough impacts, the one thing that can easily be controlled and will help our fish is to keep the gill nets out of the Columbia.

Public participation is important to the future of our fisheries. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to the Columbia River policy.

Increased gillnetting in the mainstem of the Columbia River is not the answer to saving our imperiled salmon and steelhead. Gill nets are significantly less capable of harvesting hatchery fish while releasing wild fish than other more selective methods. Perhaps more importantly, gill nets also encounter, snare and kill a wide variety of non-target species including steelhead, sockeye, birds and other wildlife.

Gill nets are not the answer. Please adhere to the initial key tenets of the policy and mandate the removal of gill nets from the lower mainstem Columbia River.

Sincerely,

Matthew Cebula
7601 Earling St NE
Olympia, WA 98506
fishnnutz@gmail.com

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 5:36:26 PM

Name	Terry Walters
Email	mzkjwx@comcat.net
Address	Vancouver Washington
Comments	I urge the Commissioners to reject the proposed revisions to Policy C-3620, and to implement the original bi-state reform agreement and policies as approved by both states. I also urge them to remove commercial non-treaty gillnet fisheries from the mainstem of the Columbia River, and to adhere to the recreational angling priorities in the original policy.
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 67.171.254.94 (United States) at 2020-07-28 20:36:23 on Chrome 83.0.4103.97
Entry ID: 183

From: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Barbara Baker](#); [Bob Kehoe](#); [Brad Smith](#); [Dave Graybill](#); [Donald McIsaac](#); [Anderson, James R \(DFW\)](#); [Larry Carpenter](#); [McBride, Tom A \(DFW\)](#); [Linville, Molly F \(DFW\)](#); [Thorburn, Kim M \(DFW\)](#)
Cc: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Don't go backwards on Columbia River fisheries
Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 2:15:34 PM
Attachments: [Gill Nets are Not the Answer.msg](#)
[Prioritize Selective Fisheries on the Columbia River.msg](#)
[Gill Nets are Not the Answer.msg](#)

-----Original Message-----

From: paul bronson <paul@bluelinemfg.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 1:08 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Don't go backwards on Columbia River fisheries

Dear WDFW Commissioners,

Thank you for allowing the public to comment on the draft Columbia River policy recently released by the Commission. I strongly oppose the proposed draft policy.

Nearly eight years ago, a bi-state compromise plan was developed to improve the selectivity of Columbia River fisheries, including transitioning gill net fisheries out of the mainstem lower Columbia River. An extensive review of this policy, conducted by WDFW staff, concluded that the basic architecture of the plan was solid but there were flaws with the agency's implementation.

Instead of going backward on the intent of the plan as proposed by this draft policy, I strongly urge you to use this opportunity to get the plan back on track and fulfill the intended promise - to mandate the adoption of selective fishing practices and remove gill nets from the lower mainstem Columbia River.

Sincerely,

paul bronson
505 W Bartlett Ave
Selah, WA 98942
paul@bluelinemfg.com

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 11:44:08 AM

Name	Lyle Cabe
Email	lecabe@msn.com
Address	Vancouver WA
Comments	<p>COLUMBIA RIVER POLICY</p> <p>Good afternoon, my name is Lyle Cabe and I have been a recreational fisherman in this great state for 70 years.</p> <p>This seems like Deja Vue, all over again to me. We have been working on this policy for a decade. There have been years of hard work put into the Columbia River Policy, and now two Commissioners want to turn back the calendar to the 1900s when there were plenty of fish for everyone. But now we have 13 ESA listed strains of fish to protect.</p> <p>All of you were appointed to this Commission to steward of the resources of this state. A few of you have worked on this policy for a long time, most have not. The proposals of the Working Group would be a giant step backwards in the conservation of fish in the Columbia River. Gillnets any time, any where is what they propose. I don't know who is passing the KoolAid around -- that gillnets are selective when fished but that is not factual. If they were selective why would the states of California, Alabama, Florida, and North Carolina be banning them because of bycatch? In the Columbia River, steelhead, sturgeon and wild salmon are an unintended catch and 44% die when brought aboard by the gills. Putting indiscriminate gillnets back into the Columbia is not protecting our fish.</p> <p>The current plan is a good plan, it protects the resource, but the implementation of it by WDFW staff has not worked very well. Just ask some of the senior staff that believe this.</p> <p>There have been areas of the plan that have worked well. Spring and Summer Chinook have been protected from gillnets for the past few years. But his has mostly occurred due to small runs that needed to be protected.</p> <p>The SAFE area program has been highly successful, but this is kept quiet by the gillnetters. Some years they have caught more fish in the SAFE areas than the sport fleet has in the main-stem of the Columbia. To help gillnetters, Sport fishers</p>

have been excluded from fishing areas close to SAFE areas so that these fish are not intercepted prior to getting caught in the gillnets. The SAFE area fish are taken from sport fisher hatchery numbers to subsidize the commercials. They make a ton of money in the SAFE areas: an example is in 2017 – 17,598 fish worth \$1.2 million vs 12,563 for sport fishers. A difference of over \$5000 fish. And they want to take more out of the main stem?? Really??

Two major areas of the policy that have not worked well is by-back and alternative methods.

The Washington legislature saw that by-back is a good thing and provided money for it. Unfortunately, Gov Inslee vetoed this. Hopefully if WA works with OR on by-back program he will allow this to happen.

Alternative methods did not work because the gillnetters said they don't like those methods, so WDFW dropped working on alternative methods. Pound nets are being developed in Cathlamet and the Oregon side of the river. There are alternative methods to gillnets.

I am opposed to the back-pedaling proposals of the Work Group, this is a good plan, it protects the resource, it just needs to be implemented.

Attachment

The message has been sent from 67.171.132.9 (United States) at 2020-07-29 14:44:06 on Chrome 84.0.4147.105
Entry ID: 187

From: [Charles Davis, I](#)
To: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Gill Nets are Not the Answer
Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 1:40:10 PM

Dear WDFW Commissioners,

Public participation is important to the future of our fisheries. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to the Columbia River policy.

Increased gillnetting in the mainstem of the Columbia River is not the answer to saving our imperiled salmon and steelhead. Gill nets are significantly less capable of harvesting hatchery fish while releasing wild fish than other more selective methods. Perhaps more importantly, gill nets also encounter, snare and kill a wide variety of non-target species including steelhead, sockeye, birds and other wildlife.

Gill nets are not the answer. Please adhere to the initial key tenets of the policy and mandate the removal of gill nets from the lower mainstem Columbia River.

Sincerely,

Charles Davis
12831 Robinhood Ln
Snohomish, WA 98290
charles.davis123@comcast.net

From: delonea@comcast.net
To: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Columbia River Reforms
Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 3:38:56 AM

Please keep gillnets off the mainstem Columbia. Please keep the Western Washington Pheasant Program.

Alan DeLone
Vancouver Wildlife League Member

From: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Barbara Baker](#); [Bob Kehoe](#); [Brad Smith](#); [Dave Graybill](#); [Donald McIsaac](#); [Anderson, James R \(DFW\)](#); [Larry Carpenter](#); [McBride, Tom A \(DFW\)](#); [Linville, Molly F \(DFW\)](#); [Thorburn, Kim M \(DFW\)](#)
Cc: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Comments on the Draft Columbia River Basin Salmon Management Policy C-3620
Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 9:51:40 AM
Attachments: [SRSRB C3620 Letter FW Commission 7-28-2020 approved.pdf](#)

Subject: Comments on the Draft Columbia River Basin Salmon Management Policy C-3620

Dear Chairman Carpenter and Director Susewind,

The Snake River Salmon Recovery Board appreciates the opportunity to comment on the draft Columbia River Basin Salmon Management Policy, Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission Policy C-3620, which has a companion Oregon policy – the Board offers their comments in the attached letter in advance of the Commission meeting this week when the Policy will be reviewed again.

If there are any questions please contact me. Thank you.

JOHN FOLTZ
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SNAKE RIVER SALMON RECOVERY BOARD
509-382-4115
JOHN@SNAKERIVERBOARD.ORG



410 B East Main
Dayton, WA 99328
phone: 509.382.4115
www.snakeriverboard.org

July 28, 2020

Kelly Susewind, Director
Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife
600 Capitol Way North
Olympia, WA 98501-1091

Larry Carpenter, Chair
Washington Fish & Wildlife Commission
600 Capitol Way North
Olympia, WA 98501-1091

Dear Mr. Susewind and Mr. Carpenter:

We appreciate the continued opportunity to participate in Washington's review of the draft Columbia River Policy-3620 and specifically appreciate the increased focus placed on recovery and conservation within the latest draft document. We also appreciate the identification of the Salmon Recovery Boards as an identified partner with which the Department will seek to work collaboratively in implementing policy guidelines and strategies. However, given the current state of Columbia River stocks, including spring Chinook and B-run steelhead, more is necessary for conservation when runs are low.

Additionally, the most recent proposal of an abundance-based spring Chinook harvest allocation, based upon the numbers that have been communicated, is the status quo or worse and does not address our concerns of fishing opportunity inequity within the recreational allocation. The proposed abundance based matrix provides no more fish for upriver fisheries. We would like to remind you of the current disparity of sport harvest for spring Chinook that currently takes place:

Current average sport harvest distribution, for 2001-2013:

- Below Bonneville: 87%
- Zone 6 (Bonneville to McNary Dam): 8%
- Snake River (WA only): 5%

Sales of the Columbia River Salmon/Steelhead Endorsement (CRSSE) for 2009-2013 are:

- Westside Counties: 63%
- Eastside Counties: 37%

We do not want to change from the current 80/20 recreational/commercial split, but rather shift a very small amount of lower river recreational harvest to the upper river recreational harvest. We have spent a great deal of time on this and have made no gains in upriver allocation nor specific conservation objectives beyond meeting ESA take criteria. While we manage runs to stay within ESA take limits, we have not adequately considered run timing within the seasonal runs themselves – we need to be more conservative for conservation purposes and for future fishing opportunity. We have worked with our partners in SE Washington to implement the state and

Voting Board Members: *Commissioner Todd Kimball, Larry Hooker, Don Jackson, Commissioner Mike Talbot, Roland Schirman, Commissioner Brian Shinn, Brad Johnson, Jerry Hendrickson, Commissioner Justin Dixon, Bill Bowles, Commissioner Michael Largent, Gary Ryan, Jon Jones, Confederated Tribe of Umatilla Indian Reservation*

federally approved recovery plan actions, specifically bringing habitat restoration and conservation work to fruition. How are we moving towards recovery and meeting hatchery brood stock and escapement needs upriver if we keep harvesting to the maximum possible numbers in low run years?

Given these thoughts and the current draft language, we propose the following:

1. Increase our focus and effort on predation, particularly sea lion predation of adult fish.
2. Set additional conservation measures for steelhead runs when temperatures are above 20 degrees Celsius, such as allowing for limited or no fisheries in the lower tributary and at confluence with the Columbia, in the six primary cold water tributary refuges as defined by the draft 2019 EPA Columbia River Cold Water Refuges Plan that occur in Washington (Cowlitz, Lewis, Wind, Little White Salmon, White Salmon, and Klickitat Rivers). Additionally, seek to work with Oregon to concurrently set additional conservation measures in the six primary cold-water tributary refuges occurring in Oregon (Sandy River, Tanner Creek, Eagle Creek, Herman Creek, Hood River and Deschutes River). Lastly, work with the appropriate groups to take the actions needed to protect and restore habitat in these primary cold water tributaries.
3. When forecasts for spring Chinook are less than 80,000, we propose no mixed stock fishery and only allowing terminal fisheries.
4. In years when the spring Chinook run is greater than 100,000, we propose that the PRC alternative 4B be utilized for Snake River fishery harvest allocation, providing a very small shift of lower river recreational allocation to the Snake River recreational allocation (5%). This equates to the previously proposed minimum of approximately 500 fish be set aside for the Snake River fishery, on top of any additional fish provided in the current allocations as run size goes up (this percentage is supported by WDFW staff as it is easier to account for as compared to shifting a discrete number of fish or impacts).
5. Work to provide greater conservation on the front end of the spring run by setting escapement targets throughout the run as a goal to manage towards at the same time that fisheries are prosecuted both for conservation and for hatchery broodstock needs. To do this, we recommend not removing the buffer post-run update.
6. Provide an additional allocation specifically for hatchery and wild escapement (reducing both commercial and recreational allocations) in low return years. An example could be 75% Recreational –15% Commercial – 10% Escapement at low abundances. We must meet current escapement and brood stock goals for conservation and mitigation hatchery production – these goals should be reviewed and refined if necessary. In the last two years, when we have had low spring Chinook returns, we have not met hatchery escapement goals upriver and have had to scramble for and transfer eggs across hatcheries, this can compromise genetics and increases the risk of loss during transport

and handling. We must meet escapement goals (see below) and hatchery broodstock needs, these provide for conservation and harvest opportunity for everyone.

7. Set escapement goals for conservation of key populations for recovery and define recovery as goals identified in state and federally approved recovery plans. Broad sense recovery goals are also relevant and needed to achieve healthy and harvestable levels.
8. Include an 80/20 split between recreational and lower Columbia River commercial fishing. We do not support the resumption of commercial gillnet fishing for summer Chinook, nor do we wish to see increased gillnet harvest of fall Chinook. Unused impacts should be directed to greater escapement, and not provide for additional commercial fisheries.

Lastly, please note that the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, a voting member of the Board and a sovereign nation and fisheries co-manager, abstains from this position letter and will weigh-in in the U.S. v. Oregon venue.

We appreciate your attention to this matter, and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Bill Bowles, Chair
Snake River Salmon Recovery Board

cc:

Mary Wahl, Chair, Oregon Fish & Wildlife Commission
Curt Melcher, Director, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Bill Tweit, Special Assistant to the Director, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Tucker Jones, Ocean Salmon and Columbia River Program Mgr., Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Casey Mitchell, Chairman, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission

Voting Board Members: *Commissioner Todd Kimball, Larry Hooker, Don Jackson, Commissioner Mike Talbot, Roland Schirman, Commissioner Brian Shinn, Brad Johnson, Jerry Hendrickson, Commissioner Justin Dixon, Bill Bowles, Commissioner Michael Largent, Gary Ryan, Jon Jones, Confederated Tribe of Umatilla Indian Reservation*

From: [James Grimes](#)
To: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Gill Nets are Not the Answer
Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 1:30:10 PM

Dear WDFW Commissioners,

Public participation is important to the future of our fisheries. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to the Columbia River policy.

Increased gillnetting in the mainstem of the Columbia River is not the answer to saving our imperiled salmon and steelhead. Gill nets are significantly less capable of harvesting hatchery fish while releasing wild fish than other more selective methods. Perhaps more importantly, gill nets also encounter, snare and kill a wide variety of non-target species including steelhead, sockeye, birds and other wildlife.

Gill nets are not the answer. Please adhere to the initial key tenets of the policy and mandate the removal of gill nets from the lower mainstem Columbia River.

Sincerely,

James Grimes
217 5th Ave N Apt B
Edmonds, WA 98020
avidsteelheader@gmail.com

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 1:39:56 AM

Name	Donald Hyde
Email	donhyde88@gmail.com
Address	Camas WA
Comments	<p>PLEASE do not allow commercial gillnetting on the mainstem Columbia River to continue. Our fisheries have been in peril for some time now, obviously, look at all the emergency closure just THIS YEAR. Our current fisheries cannot support NON SELECTIVE commercial fisheries. The mortality rate is just too high. How is it sensible public policy to require recreational anglers, public users of a public resource, to release wild spring and summer Chinook in order to meet conservation objectives, while simultaneously allowing non-treaty commercial gillnetters, who exploit public resources for private profit, to kill these wild fish? I fail to see how these recommendations are consistent with WDFW's newly-minted strategic plan goal of charting a "path for a new era." It literally makes zero sense. Please reconsider moving forward with this. I urge you to please to reject these proposed revisions to Policy C-3620, and to implement the original bi-state reform agreement and policies as approved by both states. I urge you to remove commercial non-treaty gillnet fisheries from the mainstem of the Columbia River and to adhere to the recreational angling priorities in the original policy. Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 174.204.196.73 (United States) at 2020-07-29 04:39:53 on iPhone unknown
Entry ID: 185

From: [Kloepfer, Nichole D \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Barbara Baker](#); [Bob Kehoe](#); [Brad Smith](#); [Dave Graybill](#); [Donald McIsaac](#); [Anderson, James R \(DFW\)](#); [Larry Carpenter](#); [McBride, Tom A \(DFW\)](#); [Linville, Molly F \(DFW\)](#); [Thorburn, Kim M \(DFW\)](#)
Cc: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Wahkiakum County - Support Letter
Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 9:21:01 AM
Attachments: [SKMBT829F9E20072909310.pdf](#)

From: Beth Johnson <johnsonb@co.wahkiakum.wa.us>
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 9:19 AM
To: Kloepfer, Nichole D (DFW) <Nichole.Kloepfer@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Wahkiakum County - Support Letter

Hello Nichole,

Please see the attached letter from the Board of Commissioners of Wahkiakum County. Would you be able to forward this on to the Commissioners?

Thanks!

Beth Johnson
Clerk of the Board
Wahkiakum Board of County Commissioners
P.O. Box 586
Cathlamet, WA 98612
360-795-8048

This e-mail is considered a public record subject to the Public Records Act and as such may be disclosed by Wahkiakum County to a third-party requestor.



Wahkiakum Board of County Commissioners

District No. 1 Commissioner: Mike Backman

District No. 2 Commissioner: Daniel L. Cothren, Chair

District No. 3 Commissioner: Gene Strong

P. O. Box 586
Cathlamet WA 98612
(360) 795-8048

July 28, 2020

Nichole Kloepper, Secretary
Nichole.Kloepper@dfw.wa.gov

Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission,
600 Capital Way N.,
Olympia, WA 98501.

Dear Commissioners,

The Wahkiakum Board of County Commissioners would like to go on record as supporting the reforms currently planned for Columbia River Harvest Policy C-3620. As a county on the banks of the Columbia River, commercial fishing has sustained our county for a century and a half, both in terms of gillnetting locally and income from other fisheries that our local fishermen participate in, such as Alaska gillnet and offshore fisheries. The mis-guided Policy has devastated our communities and caused a serious economic erosion in our county. Coincidentally, changes in management of the salmon resource have also diminished our recreational fisheries here, thus inflicting a double loss.

We recognize that other sectors of the State of Washington may be benefiting from recreational fisheries due to this policy, but their benefit has come at a very steep social and economic cost to our communities. We believe it is time to rebalance allocation of the salmon resource to provide opportunity again to our local fisheries, both commercial and recreational, and restore this economic mainstay that has long been a valued part of our heritage.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mike Backman'.

Mike Backman
County Commissioner

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Daniel L. Cothren'.

Daniel L. Cothren, Chair
County Commissioner

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gene Strong'.

Gene Strong
County Commissioner

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 1:45:02 PM

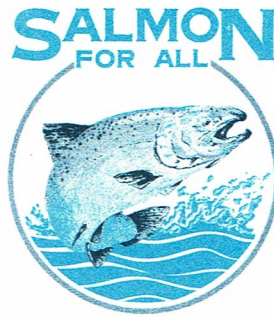
Name	Gary Johnson
Email	lk2thlite@aol.com
Address	724 Fowler Street Raymond WA
Comments	I oppose the 25% decrease in Recreational fishing on the Columbia so the Gill Nets can have more. Why do we pay the Columbia River Endorsement to fish less? You already cut back the Bouy Ten season! We damn tired of this reckless management and lack of Conservation. How many rivers are not meeting Escapement? Idaho runs going extinct as well as Eastern WA.
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 173.72.118.5 (United States) at 2020-07-29 16:44:58 on Chrome 84.0.4147.105
Entry ID: 188

From: [Kloepfer, Nichole D \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Barbara Baker](#); [Bob Kehoe](#); [Brad Smith](#); [Dave Graybill](#); [Donald McIsaac](#); [Anderson, James R \(DFW\)](#); [Larry Carpenter](#); [McBride, Tom A \(DFW\)](#); [Linville, Molly F \(DFW\)](#); [Thorburn, Kim M \(DFW\)](#)
Cc: [Director \(DFW\)](#); [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: ODFW Commission and Director letter
Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 2:52:28 PM
Attachments: [ODFW Commission07282020.pdf](#)
[ODFW Commission07282020_0001.pdf](#)
[OR Statute re CR Reform.pdf](#)

From: Irene Martin <i7846martin@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 2:47 PM
To: Kloepfer, Nichole D (DFW) <Nichole.Kloepfer@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Fwd: ODFW Commission and Director letter

Hello Nichole,
I've attached a letter from Salmon For All that has been sent to the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission and the Oregon DFW Director, Curt Melcher. Could you forward them to the Washington Commission and Director please? Thanks so much,
Irene Martin, Salmon for All Secretary pro tem



July 28, 2020.

Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,
4034 Fairview Industrial Dr. S.E.,
Salem, OR 97302.

Director Curt Melcher, ODFW,
4034 Fairview Industrial Dr., S.E.,
Salem, OR 97302.

Dear Director Melcher and Oregon Commissioners:

Salmon for All is a 501 (c) (6) organization of Columbia River commercial fishers, processors and associates, both in Washington and Oregon. We are writing today to provide information regarding S.B. 830, an Act that amended ORS 506.045, Section 3. We wish to emphasize the following points:

"It is the Policy of the State of Oregon that rules as a whole related to Columbia River fish management and reform that are adopted by the State Fish and Wildlife Commission...(b) Enhance the economic viability of Oregon's recreational and commercial fisheries and the communities that rely on these fisheries;...(2) "If economic, including commercial harvest...objectives related to Columbia River fish management and reform adopted by rule of the commission are not met, then by rule the commission must provide for adaptive management actions that are designed to efficiently achieve the respective economic, including commercial harvest...objectives, including but not limited to (a) modifying or halting the schedule and degree of shifts in harvests and impact allocations specified in rules of the commission as necessary to attain harvest objectives through improved harvest levels in either off-channel or mainstem fisheries within the context of naturally varying run sizes."

The U.S. Geological Survey adaptive management definition states: "Adaptive management combines management and monitoring, with the aim of updating knowledge and improving decision-making over time." The Commission is under a legal obligation to use adaptive management to correct issues and problems that have arisen due to the Columbia River fish management Policy put in place in 2012-2013. The legislation's goal was to enhance the economic viability of both recreational and commercial fishing. In the case of commercial fishing, that has not occurred in the 7 years this policy has been in place. The Columbia River Harvest Policy was an experiment in adaptive management. Gov. Kitzhaber put forward a number of principles, or assumptions, based on what he thought was right. Unfortunately, a number of them have turned out to be wrong. For example, it was assumed that SAFE areas could replace lost mainstem fisheries income by increasing production. Instead, increased production of young salmon has not resulted in increased numbers of adult fish returning and available for harvest. It was also assumed that the numbers of SAFE areas would increase. Despite experimentation, there are no new SAFE areas.

In the case of Select Areas, the catch of spring chinook in 2019 was the 2nd worst since 2000, with a catch of 3,134 fish, 27 percent of the 5-year and 10-year average. Select area coho catches for 2019 totaled 19,291, a far cry from the 10-year average of 56,644. Select Area fall chinook in 2019 was the second worst in 20 years at 3,369, with the ten-year average from 2008-2017 being 18,424 fish. To date

in 2020, winter/spring and summer chinook Select catches total 4,039 chinook, 37% of the recent 5-year average. These numbers do not produce meaningful economic returns to the commercial fishing fleet. The economic objectives of moving to an emphasis on Select Areas rather than the mainstem have not been met, thus triggering adaptive management strategies needful to attain harvest objectives.

S.B. 830 stated that adaptive management might include "additional fishery opportunities, seasons or selective fishing gear." There seems to be a misunderstanding about the purpose of the policy in some sectors, which was not to eliminate gillnet or commercial fishing, but to develop additional tools. ODFW addressed this issue in a Sept. 21, 2011 document, *Evaluations of Options for Increasing Commercial fishing Opportunity for and Harvest of Salmon in the Lower Columbia River*. The document states: "The intent [of alternative gear development] is not to replace gill nets as a method of commercial harvest but to provide managers and fishers additional options for increasing access to harvestable stocks and species of salmon..." Such gear would be implemented "**in addition to, not instead of**, the existing gill net fishery." The document also notes that expanded opportunity in the Select Areas "**would be in addition to not instead of** opportunity in the mainstem." (p.2) The Policy states explicitly that if harvest objectives are not met, then improved harvest levels "in either off-channel or mainstem fisheries" are a means to attain those harvest objectives. Section 3 (2) a).

There is more than adequate documentation of the economic plight of both Oregon and Washington gillnet fishers that the harvest policies in both states have caused. In November 2018 Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife issued "Comprehensive Evaluation of the Columbia River Basin Salmon Management Policy C-3620, 2013-2017." The Washington staff looked at both Oregon and Washington economic data and concluded: "The Policy has fallen short of most of its economic objectives. For the commercial fishery the combination of Select Area enhancements and implementation of alternative gears did not offset the losses in the mainstem fisheries." On April 20, 2020, Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Director provided Dr. Don McIsaac, Chair of the Columbia River Policy Review Committee for the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission, with analyses of economic issues regarding Select Area and mainstem fisheries. Pre-Policy, the mainstem commercial ex-vessel base value was established at \$3,210,479. Under current Oregon Policy, the mainstem value for 2020 is estimated at \$1,777,481, a loss of \$1,432,998. Select Areas pre-policy base was \$1,536,031. Under current Oregon policy, the estimate for 2020 is \$1,920,550, a gain of \$348,529. Net loss for the two fisheries is \$1,048,459. We point out that the predicted returns for the actual fishery which has just taken place is significantly less than the model predicted, due to downturns in returning adult run sizes. We also point out that for fishermen calculating profit/loss and time incurred in fishing, the Select Areas required longer periods of fishing time to extract the same amount of fish that could be taken in less time on the mainstem.

If you do not have these documents, please let us know and we will be happy to provide them for you. They present a grim picture of what has occurred to Oregon's Columbia River commercial fishery. We would appreciate your immediate attention to utilizing the adaptive management measures specified in the enabling legislation in order to restore these fisheries to economic viability. Please consider adding this to your workshop agenda for your Columbia River meeting on August 6th. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jim Wells, President



Steve Fick, Vice President

Enrolled
Senate Bill 830

Sponsored by Senators GIROD, MONROE, BATES; Senators BOQUIST, BURDICK, Representative KENNEMER

CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to fishing; creating new provisions; amending ORS 496.146, 506.045 and 509.230; repealing ORS 509.216; appropriating money; limiting expenditures; and declaring an emergency.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

FISHING GEAR

SECTION 1. ORS 509.216 is repealed.

SECTION 2. ORS 506.045 is amended to read:

506.045. There are excluded from the operation of ORS 506.129, 506.136, 507.030, 508.025, 508.285[,] **and** 509.025 (1), [*and 509.216,*] any Warm Springs, Umatilla, Yakima, Wasco, Tenino, Wyum and other Columbia River Indians affiliated with these tribes and entitled to enjoy fishing rights, who have not severed their tribal relations, in so far as it would conflict with any rights or privileges granted to such Indians under the terms of the treaties made by the United States with the Warm Springs Indians on June 25, 1855, and with the Umatilla and Yakima Indians on June 9, 1855.

SECTION 3. ORS 509.230 is amended to read:

509.230. (1) Subject to the conditions provided in this section[, *ORS 509.216*] and ORS chapter 513, it is unlawful to have in possession any food fish taken in the waters of the Pacific Ocean outside the territorial jurisdiction of this state by means of any fishing gear except as provided by law or rule of the State Fish and Wildlife Commission, for:

- (a) The purpose of commercially packing, canning or preserving the fish.
- (b) The manufacture of fish meal, fish oil or other fish products or by-products.
- (c) Sale as fresh fish for general consumption.
- (d) Bait.

(2) It is also unlawful to take any salmon for commercial purposes in any of the waters of the Pacific Ocean within the jurisdiction of this state or over which this state has concurrent jurisdiction by means of any fishing gear other than by "troll."

COLUMBIA RIVER FISH MANAGEMENT AND REFORM

SECTION 3a. (1) The Legislative Assembly finds that **it is the policy of the State of Oregon** that rules as a whole related to Columbia River fish management and reform that are adopted by the State Fish and Wildlife Commission:

- (a) Optimize overall economic benefits to this state;

(b) Enhance the economic viability of Oregon's recreational and commercial fisheries and the communities that rely on these fisheries;

(c) Contribute to native fish conservation and recovery;

(d) Promote orderly fishery management with the State of Washington; and

(e) Provide consistency with agreements made with Indian tribes pursuant to state or federal court orders.

(2) If economic, including commercial harvest, or conservation objectives related to Columbia River fish management and reform adopted by rule of the commission are not met, then by rule the commission must provide for adaptive management actions that are designed to efficiently achieve the respective economic, including commercial harvest, or conservation objectives, including but not limited to:

(a) Modifying or halting the schedule and degree of shifts in harvest and impact allocations specified in rules of the commission as necessary to attain harvest objectives through improved harvest levels in either off-channel or mainstem fisheries, within the context of naturally varying run sizes;

(b) Advancing additional fishery opportunities, seasons or selective fishing gear; or

(c) Improving hatchery fish production or the timing, size or location of hatchery fish releases.

(3) As part of the rules related to Columbia River fish management and reform, the commission shall establish a zone at the mouth of Youngs Bay in which recreational fishing, including recreational fishing taking place with guide boats, is prohibited in order to reduce the interception of hatchery fish returning to the off-channel commercial fishery in Youngs Bay. At least once every three years, the commission shall evaluate the impacts and effectiveness of this zone and make adjustments, including the removal of the prohibition described in this subsection, as necessary to meet the objectives described in subsection (1) of this section.

SECTION 3b. The State Fish and Wildlife Commission shall adopt rules establishing the zone at the mouth of Youngs Bay pursuant to section 3a (3) of this 2013 Act no later than February 1, 2014.

COLUMBIA RIVER FISHERIES TRANSITION SUPPORT

SECTION 4. (1) The State Department of Fish and Wildlife shall establish and implement a Columbia River fisheries transition program, using moneys in the Columbia River Fisheries Transition Fund established under section 5 of this 2013 Act, to provide grants to assist counties to implement county programs under which:

(a) Compensation is provided to individuals who hold vessel permits issued pursuant to ORS 508.775 to 508.796 and who provide documentation of economic harm resulting from restrictions related to Columbia River fish management and reform adopted by rule of the State Fish and Wildlife Commission; and

(b) Financial assistance is provided to individuals who hold vessel permits issued pursuant to ORS 508.775 to 508.796 and who demonstrate a history of recent landings under a permit issued pursuant to ORS 508.775 to 508.796, to help offset the cost to those individuals of fishing equipment required as a result of fishing gear changes caused by restrictions related to Columbia River fish management and reform adopted by rule of the commission.

(2) Subject to available funding in the Columbia River Fisheries Transition Fund, a county qualifies for a grant under the Columbia River fisheries transition program if the county:

(a) Establishes a county program to:

(A) Compensate individuals who hold vessel permits issued pursuant to ORS 508.775 to 508.796 and who provide documentation of economic harm resulting from restrictions related to Columbia River fish management and reform adopted by rule of the commission.

(B) Provide financial assistance to individuals who hold vessel permits issued pursuant to ORS 508.775 to 508.796 and who demonstrate a history of recent landings under a permit issued pursuant to ORS 508.775 to 508.796, to help offset the cost to those individuals of fishing equipment required as a result of fishing gear changes caused by restrictions related to Columbia River fish management and reform adopted by rule of the commission.

(b) Establishes a county advisory committee to oversee the county program, consisting of at least one member who is a county commissioner, two members who hold vessel permits issued pursuant to ORS 508.775 to 508.796 or who have expertise related to commercial fisheries and two members who are not employed in the commercial fishing industry and who represent the public interest in the equitable administration of public funds.

(c) Allows all individuals who hold vessel permits issued pursuant to ORS 508.775 to 508.796 to participate in the county program.

(3) As used in this section, "economic harm" means the reduction, unrelated to environmental and market variability or personal circumstances, in the annual income of an individual who holds a vessel permit issued pursuant to ORS 508.775 to 508.796 from fishing under the permit that is due to Columbia River fish management and reform adopted by rule of the commission.

SECTION 5. (1) The Columbia River Fisheries Transition Fund is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned by the Columbia River Fisheries Transition Fund shall be credited to the fund. Moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the State Fish and Wildlife Commission to carry out the provisions of section 4 of this 2013 Act.

(2) The commission may accept grants, donations, contributions or gifts from any source for deposit in the Columbia River Fisheries Transition Fund.

(3) The Columbia River Fisheries Transition Fund shall consist of:

(a) Moneys accepted by the commission pursuant to subsection (2) of this section.

(b) General Fund moneys appropriated to the Columbia River Fisheries Transition Fund by the Legislative Assembly.

SECTION 6. (1) Sections 4 and 5 of this 2013 Act are repealed on January 2, 2019.

(2) The Columbia River Fisheries Transition Fund established under section 5 of this 2013 Act is abolished January 2, 2019.

(3) Any unexpended moneys remaining in the Columbia River Fisheries Transition Fund on January 2, 2019, shall be transferred to the Columbia River Fisheries Enhancement Fund established under section 7 of this 2013 Act.

FISHERY ENHANCEMENT ON THE COLUMBIA RIVER

SECTION 7. (1) The Columbia River Fisheries Enhancement Fund is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned by the Columbia River Fisheries Enhancement Fund shall be credited to the fund. Moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the State Fish and Wildlife Commission to implement measures that enhance fisheries, optimize the economic benefits of fisheries and advance native fish conservation related to Columbia River fish management and reform adopted by rule of the commission.

(2) The commission may accept grants, donations, contributions or gifts from any source for deposit in the Columbia River Fisheries Enhancement Fund.

(3) The Columbia River Fisheries Enhancement Fund shall consist of:

(a) Moneys accepted by the commission pursuant to subsection (2) of this section.

(b) Fees collected by the commission under ORS 496.146 (23).

SECTION 8. (1) Section 7 of this 2013 Act is repealed on January 2, 2022.

(2) The Columbia River Fisheries Enhancement Fund established under section 7 of this 2013 Act is abolished January 2, 2022.

(3) Any unexpended moneys remaining in the Columbia River Fisheries Enhancement Fund on January 2, 2022, shall be transferred to the State Wildlife Fund.

SECTION 9. ORS 496.146 is amended to read:

496.146. In addition to any other duties or powers provided by law, the State Fish and Wildlife Commission:

(1) May accept, from whatever source, appropriations, gifts or grants of money or other property for the purposes of wildlife management, and use such money or property for wildlife management purposes.

(2) May sell or exchange property owned by the state and used for wildlife management purposes when the commission determines that such sale or exchange would be advantageous to the state wildlife policy and management programs.

(3) May acquire, introduce, propagate and stock wildlife species in such manner as the commission determines will carry out the state wildlife policy and management programs.

(4) May by rule authorize the issuance of such licenses, tags and permits for angling, taking, hunting and trapping and may prescribe such tagging and sealing procedures as the commission determines necessary to carry out the provisions of the wildlife laws or to obtain information for use in wildlife management. Permits issued pursuant to this subsection may include special hunting permits for a person and immediate family members of the person to hunt on land owned by that person in areas where permits for deer or elk are limited by quota. As used in this subsection, "immediate family members" means husband, wife, father, mother, brothers, sisters, sons, daughters, stepchildren and grandchildren. A landowner who is qualified to receive landowner preference tags from the commission may request two additional tags for providing public access and two additional tags for wildlife habitat programs. This request shall be made to the Access and Habitat Board with supporting evidence that the access is significant and the habitat programs benefit wildlife. The board may recommend that the commission grant the request. When a landowner is qualified under landowner preference rules adopted by the commission and receives a controlled hunt tag for that unit or a landowner preference tag for the landowner's property and does not use the tag during the regular season, the landowner may use that tag to take an antlerless animal, when approved by the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, to alleviate damage that is presently occurring to the landowner's property.

(5) May by rule prescribe procedures requiring the holder of any license, tag or permit issued pursuant to the wildlife laws to keep records and make reports concerning the time, manner and place of taking wildlife, the quantities taken and such other information as the commission determines necessary for proper enforcement of the wildlife laws or to obtain information for use in wildlife management.

(6) May establish special hunting and angling areas or seasons in which only persons less than 18 years of age or over 65 years of age are permitted to hunt or angle.

(7) May acquire by purchase, lease, agreement or gift real property and all appropriate interests therein for wildlife management and wildlife-oriented recreation purposes.

(8) May acquire by purchase, lease, agreement, gift, exercise of eminent domain or otherwise real property and all interests therein and establish, operate and maintain thereon public hunting areas.

(9) May establish and develop wildlife refuge and management areas and prescribe rules governing the use of such areas and the use of wildlife refuge and management areas established and developed pursuant to any other provision of law.

(10) May by rule prescribe fees for licenses, tags, permits and applications issued or required pursuant to the wildlife laws, and user charges for angling, hunting or other recreational uses of lands owned or managed by the commission, unless such fees or user charges are otherwise prescribed by law. Except for licenses issued pursuant to subsection (14) of this section, no fee or user charge prescribed by the commission pursuant to this subsection shall exceed \$100.

(11) May enter into contracts with any person or governmental agency for the development and encouragement of wildlife research and management programs and projects.

(12) May perform such acts as may be necessary for the establishment and implementation of cooperative wildlife management programs with agencies of the federal government.

(13) May offer and pay rewards for the arrest and conviction of any person who has violated any of the wildlife laws. No such reward shall exceed \$100 for any one arrest and conviction.

(14) May by rule prescribe fees for falconry licenses issued pursuant to the wildlife laws, unless such fees are otherwise prescribed by law. Fees prescribed by the commission pursuant to this subsection shall be based on actual or projected costs of administering falconry regulations and shall not exceed \$250.

(15) May establish special fishing and hunting seasons and bag limits applicable only to persons with disabilities.

(16) May adopt optimum populations for deer and elk consistent with ORS 496.012. These population levels shall be reviewed at least once every five years.

(17) Shall establish a preference system so that individuals who are unsuccessful in controlled hunt permit drawings for deer and elk hunting have reasonable assurance of success in those drawings in subsequent years. In establishing the preference system, the commission shall consider giving additional preference points to persons who have been issued a resident pioneer hunting license pursuant to ORS 497.102.

(18) May sell advertising in State Department of Fish and Wildlife publications, including annual hunting and angling regulation publications.

(19) May, notwithstanding the fees required by ORS 497.112, provide free hunting tags to an organization that sponsors hunting trips for terminally ill children.

(20) Shall, after consultation with the State Department of Agriculture, adopt rules prohibiting the use of the World Wide Web, other Internet protocols or broadcast or closed circuit media to remotely control a weapon for the purpose of hunting any game bird, wildlife, game mammal or other mammal. The rules may exempt the State Department of Fish and Wildlife or agents of the department from the prohibition.

(21) May adopt rules establishing a schedule of civil penalties, not to exceed \$6,500 per violation, for violations of provisions of the wildlife laws or rules adopted by the commission under the wildlife laws. Civil penalties established under this subsection must be imposed in the manner provided by ORS 183.745 and must be deposited in the State Wildlife Fund established under ORS 496.300.

(22) May by rule impose a surcharge not to exceed \$25 for the renewal of a hunting license on any person who fails to comply with mandatory hunting reporting requirements. Amounts collected as surcharges under this subsection must be deposited in the State Wildlife Fund established under ORS 496.300.

(23) May by rule establish annual and daily Columbia Basin salmon, steelhead and sturgeon recreational fishing endorsements with a fee not to exceed \$9.75 per annual license and \$1 per day per daily license. An endorsement is required to fish for salmon, steelhead or sturgeon in the Columbia Basin and is in addition to and not in lieu of angling licenses and tags required under the wildlife laws. Amounts collected as fees under this subsection must be deposited in the Columbia River Fisheries Enhancement Fund established under section 7 of this 2013 Act.

SECTION 10. ORS 496.146, as amended by section 9 of this 2013 Act, is amended to read:

496.146. In addition to any other duties or powers provided by law, the State Fish and Wildlife Commission:

(1) May accept, from whatever source, appropriations, gifts or grants of money or other property for the purposes of wildlife management, and use such money or property for wildlife management purposes.

(2) May sell or exchange property owned by the state and used for wildlife management purposes when the commission determines that such sale or exchange would be advantageous to the state wildlife policy and management programs.

(3) May acquire, introduce, propagate and stock wildlife species in such manner as the commission determines will carry out the state wildlife policy and management programs.

(4) May by rule authorize the issuance of such licenses, tags and permits for angling, taking, hunting and trapping and may prescribe such tagging and sealing procedures as the commission determines necessary to carry out the provisions of the wildlife laws or to obtain information for use in wildlife management. Permits issued pursuant to this subsection may include special hunting permits for a person and immediate family members of the person to hunt on land owned by that person in areas where permits for deer or elk are limited by quota. As used in this subsection, "immediate family members" means husband, wife, father, mother, brothers, sisters, sons, daughters, stepchildren and grandchildren. A landowner who is qualified to receive landowner preference tags from the commission may request two additional tags for providing public access and two additional tags for wildlife habitat programs. This request shall be made to the Access and Habitat Board with supporting evidence that the access is significant and the habitat programs benefit wildlife. The board may recommend that the commission grant the request. When a landowner is qualified under landowner preference rules adopted by the commission and receives a controlled hunt tag for that unit or a landowner preference tag for the landowner's property and does not use the tag during the regular season, the landowner may use that tag to take an antlerless animal, when approved by the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, to alleviate damage that is presently occurring to the landowner's property.

(5) May by rule prescribe procedures requiring the holder of any license, tag or permit issued pursuant to the wildlife laws to keep records and make reports concerning the time, manner and place of taking wildlife, the quantities taken and such other information as the commission determines necessary for proper enforcement of the wildlife laws or to obtain information for use in wildlife management.

(6) May establish special hunting and angling areas or seasons in which only persons less than 18 years of age or over 65 years of age are permitted to hunt or angle.

(7) May acquire by purchase, lease, agreement or gift real property and all appropriate interests therein for wildlife management and wildlife-oriented recreation purposes.

(8) May acquire by purchase, lease, agreement, gift, exercise of eminent domain or otherwise real property and all interests therein and establish, operate and maintain thereon public hunting areas.

(9) May establish and develop wildlife refuge and management areas and prescribe rules governing the use of such areas and the use of wildlife refuge and management areas established and developed pursuant to any other provision of law.

(10) May by rule prescribe fees for licenses, tags, permits and applications issued or required pursuant to the wildlife laws, and user charges for angling, hunting or other recreational uses of lands owned or managed by the commission, unless such fees or user charges are otherwise prescribed by law. Except for licenses issued pursuant to subsection (14) of this section, no fee or user charge prescribed by the commission pursuant to this subsection shall exceed \$100.

(11) May enter into contracts with any person or governmental agency for the development and encouragement of wildlife research and management programs and projects.

(12) May perform such acts as may be necessary for the establishment and implementation of cooperative wildlife management programs with agencies of the federal government.

(13) May offer and pay rewards for the arrest and conviction of any person who has violated any of the wildlife laws. No such reward shall exceed \$100 for any one arrest and conviction.

(14) May by rule prescribe fees for falconry licenses issued pursuant to the wildlife laws, unless such fees are otherwise prescribed by law. Fees prescribed by the commission pursuant to this subsection shall be based on actual or projected costs of administering falconry regulations and shall not exceed \$250.

(15) May establish special fishing and hunting seasons and bag limits applicable only to persons with disabilities.

(16) May adopt optimum populations for deer and elk consistent with ORS 496.012. These population levels shall be reviewed at least once every five years.

(17) Shall establish a preference system so that individuals who are unsuccessful in controlled hunt permit drawings for deer and elk hunting have reasonable assurance of success in those drawings in subsequent years. In establishing the preference system, the commission shall consider giving additional preference points to persons who have been issued a resident pioneer hunting license pursuant to ORS 497.102.

(18) May sell advertising in State Department of Fish and Wildlife publications, including annual hunting and angling regulation publications.

(19) May, notwithstanding the fees required by ORS 497.112, provide free hunting tags to an organization that sponsors hunting trips for terminally ill children.

(20) Shall, after consultation with the State Department of Agriculture, adopt rules prohibiting the use of the World Wide Web, other Internet protocols or broadcast or closed circuit media to remotely control a weapon for the purpose of hunting any game bird, wildlife, game mammal or other mammal. The rules may exempt the State Department of Fish and Wildlife or agents of the department from the prohibition.

(21) May adopt rules establishing a schedule of civil penalties, not to exceed \$6,500 per violation, for violations of provisions of the wildlife laws or rules adopted by the commission under the wildlife laws. Civil penalties established under this subsection must be imposed in the manner provided by ORS 183.745 and must be deposited in the State Wildlife Fund established under ORS 496.300.

(22) May by rule impose a surcharge not to exceed \$25 for the renewal of a hunting license on any person who fails to comply with mandatory hunting reporting requirements. Amounts collected as surcharges under this subsection must be deposited in the State Wildlife Fund established under ORS 496.300.

[(23) May by rule establish annual and daily Columbia Basin salmon, steelhead and sturgeon recreational fishing endorsements with a fee not to exceed \$9.75 per annual license and \$1 per day per daily license. An endorsement is required to fish for salmon, steelhead or sturgeon in the Columbia Basin and is in addition to and not in lieu of angling licenses and tags required under the wildlife laws. Amounts collected as fees under this subsection must be deposited in the Columbia River Fisheries Enhancement Fund established under section 7 of this 2013 Act.]

SECTION 11. The amendments to ORS 496.146 by section 10 of this 2013 Act become operative on January 2, 2022.

APPROPRIATION AND EXPENDITURE LIMITATION

SECTION 12. There is appropriated to the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2013, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$2,000,000 for purposes of carrying out the provisions of this 2013 Act.

SECTION 13. Notwithstanding any other law limiting expenditures, the amount of \$2,002,000 is established for the biennium beginning July 1, 2013, as the maximum limit for payment of expenses from fees, moneys or other revenues, including Miscellaneous Receipts, but excluding lottery funds and federal funds, collected or received by the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, for purposes of carrying out the provisions of this 2013 Act.

MISCELLANEOUS

SECTION 14. The unit captions used in this 2013 Act are provided only for the convenience of the reader and do not become part of the statutory law of this state or express any legislative intent in the enactment of this 2013 Act.

EMERGENCY

SECTION 15. This 2013 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2013 Act takes effect on its passage.

Passed by Senate July 7, 2013

.....
Robert Taylor, Secretary of Senate

.....
Peter Courtney, President of Senate

Passed by House July 8, 2013

.....
Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

Received by Governor:

.....M,....., 2013

Approved:

.....M,....., 2013

.....
John Kitzhaber, Governor

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

.....M,....., 2013

.....
Kate Brown, Secretary of State

From: [Dennis Mathison](#)
To: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Prioritize Selective Fisheries on the Columbia River
Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 1:40:09 PM

Dear WDFW Commissioners,

I have been fishing for over 55 years on the Columbia river you need to save the fish. Please save our fishing for our kids. We can do a better job now we can not wait save the fish.

Thank you for allowing the public to comment on this important issue.

A key guiding principle of the original Oregon-Washington Columbia River reforms was to prioritize selective recreational fisheries. After 8 years of failed implementation, one thing we have learned is that hook and line remains the best and most efficient form of selective fishing. It makes sense to prioritize recreational fishing in the Columbia River given the need for selective fisheries and WDFW's reliance on recreational license fees to help relieve budget shortfalls.

Please reject any changes to the policy that would allow mainstream gill net fisheries and instead adhere to the original objectives, which called for a prioritization of selective recreational fishing and no mainstream gillnetting.

Sincerely,

Dennis Mathison
5806 W Umatilla Ave
Kennewick, WA 99336
dixiedog6116@gmail.com

From: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Barbara Baker](#); [Bob Kehoe](#); [Brad Smith](#); [Dave Graybill](#); [Donald McIsaac](#); [Anderson, James R \(DFW\)](#); [Larry Carpenter](#); [McBride, Tom A \(DFW\)](#); [Linville, Molly F \(DFW\)](#); [Thorburn, Kim M \(DFW\)](#)
Cc: [Director \(DFW\)](#); [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: WA Fish and Wildlife Letter (Franklin Co.)
Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 2:17:59 PM
Attachments: [20200728 Letter to WDFW for upriver salmon harvest.pdf](#)

From: Karin Milham <kmilham@co.franklin.wa.us>
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 1:45 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Cc: Keith Johnson <kjohnson@co.franklin.wa.us>; DOR Franklin County Leg Authority 2 <rkoch@co.franklin.wa.us>; DOR Franklin County Leg Authority 3 <bpeck@co.franklin.wa.us>; DOR Franklin County Leg Authority 1 <cdidier@co.franklin.wa.us>
Subject: WA Fish and Wildlife Letter (Franklin Co.)

Hello Commission,

I have attached the letter from the Franklin County Commissioners. I have also mailed a paper copy for your records.

Best Regards,

Have a wonderful day!

Karin L. Milham, CMC
Clerk of the Board
Franklin County Board of Commissioners
1016 North 4th Avenue, Pasco, WA 99301
509-546-5856 www.co.franklin.wa.us



NOTICE: *This communication (including any attachments) may contain privileged or confidential information intended for a specific individual and purpose, and is protected by law. If you are not the intended recipient, you should delete this communication and any attachments and are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying or distribution of this communication, or the taking of any action based on it, is strictly prohibited. Thank you.*



Keith Johnson
County Administrator

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FRANKLIN COUNTY
WASHINGTON

BRAD PECK
District 1

ROBERT KOCH
District 2

CLINT DIDIER
District 3

July 28, 2020

Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission
PO Box 43200
Olympia, WA 98504-3200

Chairman Carpenter and Commissioners,

We are writing you on behalf of our Franklin County citizens to share our concerns about the recent policy recommendation from the WDFW Columbia River Fishery Policy Workgroup.

It is important for harvest management to allow more fish to return to natal spawning for both conservation and fisheries – rather than focusing on increased harvest in the lower Columbia River.

Eastern Washington citizens and conservation groups have worked for decades to restore habitat and support the conservation and recovery of ESA-listed salmon and steelhead populations. Those efforts have required great sacrifices along the way. To see those efforts largely ignored and undermined by policies that promote non-selective harvest on the lower Columbia River is clearly harmful to the resource we all support, and incredibly upsetting for anglers, businesses, and conservationists in Franklin County. The surest way to demoralize and undercut our citizens' support of conservation methods is to show you want their support, but don't have much regard for upriver migration and their access to the resource. The current Fishery Policy Workgroup proposal effectively sends exactly that message.

Integrating real harvest reforms is paramount to the recovery of our ESA-listed salmonids and critical to maintaining sustainable fishing opportunities utilizing selective fishing methods.

In order to support conservation, we ask the WDFW Commission to:

- Retain policies prohibiting non-treaty commercial fishing in the mainstem Columbia River for spring Chinook.
- Continue with the existing 80%/20% split between recreational and commercial fishing to ensure opportunities remain for mark-selective recreational fisheries above and below Bonneville Dam – fisheries that are an important tool in the management of returning hatchery fish.

- Retain the existing policy that any unused impacts allow for greater escapement and not be shifted to additional mainstem commercial gillnet fisheries. An excess fish that makes it above Bonneville Dam is not “wasted” as many in the commercial industry claim. These hold great value to upriver anglers and our watersheds.
- Avoid any changes to mainstem summer Chinook fisheries (i.e., allowing gillnet or other non-selective fisheries), as these could impact steelhead and meeting escapement goals for wild Chinook populations in the Upper Columbia.
- Come to a final decision on an equitable sharing of spring Chinook between recreational fisheries below and above Bonneville Dam.

Several Columbia River basin salmon and steelhead populations are facing serious conservation challenges. Now is not the time to abandon harvest reforms that are important to their conservation and recovery. We look forward to promoting conservation practices and partnering with WDFW in our shared goal to restore ESA-listed salmonid populations. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions. Our contact information is above.

Sincerely,



Chair Robert E. Koch



Pro Tem Brad Peck



Member Clint Didier

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 3:56:56 PM

Name	Ken Morgan
Email	kjmorgansr1@hotmail.com
Address	Vancouver Wa
Comments	WDFW the commissioners are on the take from commercial fisheries they never have cared about the sport fisheries, but they will take your money for licenses. to allow net in the Columbia River is a disgrace. we don\'t have many fish left and the want to give the nets the right to take as many fish left> The sportfishermen needs to stop buying the license.
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 73.67.234.160 (United States) at 2020-07-29 18:56:53 on Chrome 84.0.4147.89
Entry ID: 189

From: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Barbara Baker](#); [Bob Kehoe](#); [Brad Smith](#); [Dave Graybill](#); [Donald McIsaac](#); [Anderson, James R \(DFW\)](#); [Larry Carpenter](#); [McBride, Tom A \(DFW\)](#); [Linville, Molly F \(DFW\)](#); [Thorburn, Kim M \(DFW\)](#)
Cc: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Recreational fishing
Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 12:23:52 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Mike Mudgett <mhiball@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 12:04 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Recreational fishing

WDFW commission,

The proposed policy cuts recreational fishing opportunity by as much as 25%!

Gillnets and tangle nets pose a serious risk to wild up river spring chinook and by catch species like steel head.

The gillnet industry has benefited greatly from the increased hatchery production in the off channel fishing areas. In fact, 2017's off channel harvest of spring chinook was the most valuable on record, despite it being an average run. 2018, was another large SAFE area harvest "10,981 fish".

The 12,000+ spring chinook landed in the off channel gillnet fisheries in 2017 exceeded the number of spring chinook harvested in recreational fisheries above and below Bonneville dam.

The proposed policy would allow main stream gillnetting prior to a run update, before the agencies confirm the run is coming in as forecast-a highly irresponsible action.

The policies would put summer Chinook at risk to upriver fisheries in Eastern Washington and select fishery practices of the Colville nation.

Commercial gillnets are incapable of selectively harvesting hatchery summer Chinook and create high levels of bycatch, such as ESA – listed sockeye and steelhead.

Main stem gill netting in the fall would threaten by-catch species like the ESA-listed B run steel head.

GILL NETS THREATEN HATCHERY PRODUCTION AND WILD FISH

Mike Mudgett
Vancouver, WA

Sent from my iPhone

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2020 7:14:14 AM

Name	Paula Arms
Email	paula.arms@yahoo.com
Address	Castle Rock WA
Comments	<p>If the Commission continues to try to increase non-selective gillnetting on the Columbia Rive, you will succeed in completely destroying all of our beleaguered multi-species salmonid runs, and kill off the Southern Resident Killer Whales, and undermine every economic opportunity associated with the runs.</p> <p>There is no excuse for continuing to let the gill netting industry increase the brutal nonselective destruction of the salmon runs. Get and keep the nets out of the river.</p> <p>Regards, Paula Arms</p>
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 71.63.146.119 (United States) at 2020-07-30 10:14:10 on Safari 13.0.1
Entry ID: 190

From: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Barbara Baker](#); [Bob Kehoe](#); [Brad Smith](#); [Dave Graybill](#); [Donald McIsaac](#); [Anderson, James R \(DFW\)](#); [Larry Carpenter](#); [McBride, Tom A \(DFW\)](#); [Linville, Molly F \(DFW\)](#); [Thorburn, Kim M \(DFW\)](#)
Cc: [Director \(DFW\)](#); [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Testimony on WDFW Policy C-3620
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2020 7:46:12 AM
Attachments: [WDFW FWC Testimony Policy C-3620 TCA.pdf](#)

From: David Moskowitz <theconservationangler@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 5:33 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Cc: Warren, Ron R (DFW) <Ron.Warren@dfw.wa.gov>; Lothrop, Ryan L (DFW) <Ryan.Lothrop@dfw.wa.gov>; Pete Soverel <soverel@msn.com>
Subject: Testimony on WDFW Policy C-3620

Dear Chair Carpenter, Members of the Commission:
I have attached testimony regarding the Columbia Fishery Reforms being discussed as a review of WDFW Policy 3620.

I look forward to listening to the Commission's discussion of this policy over the next few days.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

David Moskowitz

David A. Moskowitz
Executive Director
971-235-8953 (Direct)
theconservationangler@gmail.com
www.theconservationangler.org



Conservation means fair and honest dealings with the future, usually at some cost to the immediate present. It is simply morality, with little to offset the glamour and quick material rewards of the North American deity, "Progress". Roderick Haig-Brown



Testimony on the WDFW Policy Review Committee Draft Recommendations for Policy C-3620

To: Larry Carpenter, Chair, Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission

Members of the Fish and Wildlife Commission

Fr: David Moskowitz, Executive Director

The Conservation Angler is a wild fish and rivers advocacy organization based in Edmonds, Washington.

Our comments on the Draft Recommendations for changes to the Columbia River Fisheries Management Reform discussed and advanced by the Policy Review Subcommittee will focus on the interconnected conservation issues implicated by what most consider as solely an allocation policy.

The related conservation issues triggered by the planning and implementation of Columbia River Fisheries Reform include, but are not limited to:

1. That the ocean and marine fisheries in Alaska and British Columbia disrupt age and stock structures for salmonids originating from the Columbia River Basin.
2. The Columbia River fishery remains a mixed-stock, non-selective fishery.
3. Current forecasting methodology and modeling provide an insufficiently accurate prediction of upcoming adult returns of steelhead and salmon to the Columbia. Further, the modeled forecast cannot be routinely updated in-season which can and does result in excess harvest.
4. Joint state fishery management must begin with a thorough analysis of wild escapement and productivity metrics while also accounting for juvenile survival and marine productivity.
5. Joint State Management cannot proceed without thorough and transparent Monitoring, Observation and Evaluation (MOE).
6. The fishery may only be authorized once the migratory pathways are secured by establishing Thermal Angling Sanctuaries at Cold Water Refugia sites.
7. All lower river fisheries, as currently structured, conflict with Recovery of ESA-Listed Wild Salmon and Wild Steelhead
8. Current management is failing because managers have failed to establish (and meet) River-Specific Management Criteria for spawning escapement by species and by watershed.
9. Hatchery production hurts wild fish by flooding the rearing habitat and attracting predators and cannot be accurately described as a conservation measure but simply as a fishery subsidy authorized inappropriately through mitigation agreements made prior to understanding the biological and ecological impacts of mass artificial production projects. This problem is only exacerbated by the release of many unmarked hatchery fish in some watersheds.
10. The failure to mark all hatchery-origin salmon and steelhead precludes management objectives to manage wild populations

Concurrence

TCA appreciated the PRC's discussion of this issue at your last meeting. However, we disagree with your conclusions that Washington must decide its plan before reaching agreement with Oregon. The Columbia River Compact that authorizes bi-state regulation is flawed because it does not provide for real co-management since Idaho is excluded and tribal co-managers are not participants.

The fishery management for the Columbia River needs a complete and thorough overhaul as the old structures do not account for massive changes to the river since adoption, nor are they nimble or resilient enough to provide the overall policy direction for the entire watershed.

Proceeding as planned will not solve the problems inherent in the system.

Alternative Gear

The only way the commercial fishery will persist is to diversify their portfolio of acceptable alternative gears. The states and tribes must go back to the drawing board to design, operate and evaluate the selectivity of various alternative gears and the specific mortality rates of each option.

The only way the sport fishery should be authorized is if their effort, encounter rates and impacts are better understood and more actively managed.

Sport fisheries should be designed and authorized to be less effective by restricting the time, manner, and location. The management goal should be aimed to provide opportunity. Fisheries are adaptive, complex, and constantly changing in response to management – rules governing human access to wild fish should be more restrictive and conservative across the board.

Bottomline: Both fisheries have too much power to impact the consistently low number of and migration timing for wild salmon and steelhead returning to the Columbia River.

Back to Buy Outs

The buy out concept was a high priority action in many early Columbia River salmon conservation strategies, and indeed, was an integral aspect of SB 830 in Oregon.

It appears to be missing from the discussion at this point – from a practical management perspective and from a political perspective.

Doomed to Collapse

Focusing on Policy Reform for C-3620 without conservation elements is akin to trying to sit on a one-legged stool. The Columbia River fishery management regime is being considered here without adequate relationships to conservation (in both fishery and hatchery management) and without a relationship to habitat protection and conservation.

The missing relationship to fishery management is clearly evident in two examples. First, habitat complexity for juvenile and adult salmonids alike is regularly removed by commercial fishers who annually, drag large wood, root balls and snags out of the fishing areas – this loss of habitat compounds productivity and survival issues for wild salmonids.

Second, there are intense sport fisheries permitted to occur within Cold Water Refugia in the Columbia River below Bonneville Dam at the Kalama, Cowlitz, Lewis and Sandy Rivers. These river mouth areas are already off-limits to commercial and tribal fisheries and should also be closed to sport angling. Implementing thermal angling sanctuaries would instill the refuge concept for wild fish and add a measure of “fair chase” to sport angling as exists in hunting.

Additionally, when salmon populations are low, applying the current harvest and exploitation rates that were developed for periods of abundance may actually have compounding impacts on wild salmonid productivity within natal spawning rivers as the number of fish of a particular species may have difficulty finding mates.

Fishery harvest models developed to avoid jeopardy do not automatically contribute to recovery.

Finally, climate changes and ocean productivity have changed – requiring a recalibration of productivity and survival models used by forecasters.

Mortality Rate science should be more transparent and inspire confidence

There is an almost complete lack of steelhead release mortality data for gill nets. TAC approved mortality rates are not based on gill net release mortality data from either WDFW or ODFW. Neither Oregon or Washington have accurately assessed release mortality through statistically adequate monitoring and observational efforts. The lack of science behind gill net release mortality hamstrings our collective understanding of the impacts that are crucial to ensuring that ESA-impacts are not exceeded in the Columbia River fisheries.

The same is true of efforts to observe and monitor the power of the recreational fishery (boat and bank). Additionally, Bi-state legislation requiring and limiting guide licenses and the use of logbooks are consistent with the Columbia River Compact and the need to apply equivalent legislation to the Columbia River fishery and ESA recovery plans.

In absence of credible monitoring, observation and evaluation, Washington and Oregon must proceed under a precautionary principle which requires open recognition of the critical uncertainties (which in this case are the existing mortality rates assigned to various fisheries), taking preventative action in the face of uncertainty, shifting the burden of proof to the proponents, exploring a wide range of alternatives to the possibly harmful activity, and increased citizen participation in decision making.

Conclusion

The Conservation Angler finds the recommendations of the Policy Review Committee to be out of order, lacking a sufficiently sound scientific basis, non-responsive to the Department’s own review of Policy C-3620 completed in 2018 and finally, inconsistent with Basin-wide efforts to recover ESA-listed wild steelhead and salmon populations.

Sincerely,

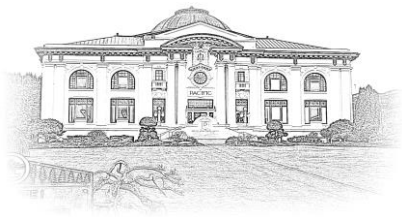
Delivered electronically

David A. Moskowitz

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2020 12:03:40 PM
Attachments: [Draft letter to WDFW Comm for July 31 mtg.docx.doc](#)

Name	Lisa Olsen
Email	lolsen@co.pacific.wa.us
Address	South Bend WA
Comments	Submitting for review for the 2:15 meeting tomorrow, July 31, regarding Columbia River Salmon policy.
Attachment	https://www.123formbuilder.com/upload_dld.php?fileid=8caa6394910092e16011f0da3c717c61

The message has been sent from 96.66.228.65 (United States) at 2020-07-30 15:03:34 on Chrome 84.0.4147.105
Entry ID: 191



Pacific County COMMISSIONERS

Lisa Olsen, District #1

July 30, 2020
Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission
PO Box 43200
Olympia, WA 98504-3200
Delivered electronically to Chair Carpenter and Commissioners
Re: Columbia River Salmon Policy C-3620

Dear Chair Carpenter, Commissioners and Director Sussewind,

I am writing to you today to encourage adoption of the changes being considered in the current Columbia River Salmon Policy (C-3620).

While not a solution, these changes would be a step in the right direction of restoring some semblance of balance between the sport and commercial salmon fisheries. If coupled with expanded hatchery production imagine the benefit to the fishery. The objectives of the current Columbia River Salmon Fishery Policy Review are to *"promote orderly fisheries (particularly in waters in which the states of OR and WA have concurrent jurisdiction), advance the conservation and recovery of wild salmon and steelhead, and maintain or enhance the economic wellbeing and stability of the fishing industry in the state"*.

The Conclusion of the Comprehensive Evaluation of this policy prepared by WDFW staff (Tweit, Lothrop and LeFleur) in October of 2018 stated that *"The large economic benefits for both commercial and recreational fisheries expected from the Policy were not observed during the implementation period. Commercial Select Area enhancements and alternative gear development have not replaced mainstem fisheries. Recreational fisheries have only seen marginal benefits to changes in allocations. The expectations in the development of the Policy were not met."*

At the risk of being blunt, I would suggest that it is time to set all politics and fear of reprisal aside and manage the resource in the truest essence of what that means; making decisions that reflect the best interest of the salmon runs and those who harvest them as the objectives of the policy state. If the science and logic are solid and the department and commission stand behind them they will stand the scrutiny.

As measured by almost any metric this policy and the Willapa Bay Salmon Policy (C-3622) have failed miserably. They were created and implemented by a much different commission, with a much different goal. I truly believe that this current commission has the best interest of the resource and those who harvest it, both commercial and sport, in mind. In true fishing parlance let's cut bait and try another tack. These policies have not resulted in the abundance of available fish for the sporting public they were supposed to and the commercial industry will not last much longer while the 'wheels of the Gods' continue to grind slowly and unproductively. Even before the disastrous economic effects of the last few months brought on by the COVID virus, the commercial fishing industry has been slowly starved to death. They are a vibrant and essential component to our rural way of life and economies and if there are enough fish for them there will be plenty for the sporting public. A true win/win scenario! So, let's get to it and set a course for success and let's do it sooner rather than later – when it may be too late for the resource and many of the harvesters.

Thank you for your consideration,

Lisa Olsen

CC: Rep. Jim Walsh
Rep. Brian Blake
Sen. Dean Takko

From: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Barbara Baker](#); [Bob Kehoe](#); [Brad Smith](#); [Dave Graybill](#); [Donald McIsaac](#); [Anderson, James R \(DFW\)](#); [Larry Carpenter](#); [McBride, Tom A \(DFW\)](#); [Linville, Molly F \(DFW\)](#); [Thorburn, Kim M \(DFW\)](#)
Cc: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Columbia River Policy - Remove gill nets from the main stem
Date: Friday, July 31, 2020 7:49:36 AM

From: Bryan Irwin <jbryanirwin@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 30, 2020 11:49 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Columbia River Policy - Remove gill nets from the main stem

Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Columbia River Policy. I'm a life-long resident of Washington and Oregon, and currently reside in Underwood, WA in the Columbia River gorge. I've been interested and actively involved in the management of Columbia River fisheries for over 25 years. I'm firmly opposed to the use of nontribal gillnets in the Columbia River. It's disappointing how long it has taken for WDFW/ODFW to start transitioning away from gillnet use on the Columbia River and it's shocking that your Commission is now considering reversing directions to allow increased gillnetting.

Prioritizing recreational fisheries and moving nonselective gillnets out of the main stem Columbia is the winning formula regardless if you are evaluating conservation concerns, socioeconomic factors, economic benefits to Washington citizens or WDFW funding. Because there's no logical or rational reasoning to defend gillnet use, the gillnet lobby (and a few less-informed recreational anglers who have been duped by them) rely on a few myths and misdirects to argue their case. I'd like to dispel three of those here:

Myth #1

"There's no conservation harm to gillnet use. A dead fish is a dead fish"

This is false on so many levels. For fisheries that are managed on a ESA impact arguably the same number of ESA-listed targeted fish are impacted (killed) in either fishery but gillnet fisheries have far higher by-catch including ESA-listed steelhead and are unable to harvest as many hatchery fish as selective recreational fisheries. According to NOAA guidelines, reducing the percentage of hatchery fish, compared to natural origin fish, is key to both conservation of

ESA-listed salmon and the continuation of critical hatchery programs. (See Myth #3!)

Myth #2

“Those that are against gillnet use are actually against commercial fishing and trying to kill the industry.”

Putting aside the motivation of those, like me, who oppose gillnets for a minute. This statement is untrue both because Columbia River gillnetting is neither analogous to “commercial fishing” nor does its economics qualify it as an “industry” under any reasonable definition. Columbia River gillnetting is a tiny fraction of 1% of Washington’s commercial fisheries. Its modification, or even elimination would not be noticed at all by the fish purchasing public. In the 5 years preceding the Policy (2007-2012) only 10 individual WA gillnetters grossed over \$20,000 and only one over \$30,000. The gross annual landings of the entire WA fleet was only \$862,000! These are the economics of a single moderately successful restaurant, not an “industry”. Furthermore, and most importantly, nobody is advocating for the elimination of this economically tiny fishery. The Policy appropriately relegates the gillnet fishery to the off channel areas where they still harvest significant numbers of salmon, in some cases more than the entire recreational fishery harvests in the main stem.

Myth #3

“We need gillnets to maintain hatchery production.”

This is the most recent and fantastical myth of the bunch because the exact opposite is true. Folks that either don’t understand the issue or are maliciously attempting to misconstrue it, are saying that because NOAA sets limits on the pHOS (percentage of hatchery origin spawners) that we need gillnets to remove these hatchery fish. However, because gillnets remove wild fish at the exact same rate as hatchery fish they do nothing to help with pHOS (remember what the “p” stands for). Gillnet use is a threat to hatchery production. Ways to improve pHOS included weirs, pound nets and best of all mark-selective recreational fisheries. The gillnet lobby often points to their one example of mark-selective fishing, spring tangle nets, as comparable to the benefits of recreational fishing. However, their best-case scenario 14.7% release mortality compared to recreational 10% (at most, probably overstated) is still nearly 50% higher! Would you invest your retirement account in a fund with a 50% lower yield?

It's time for the Commission to exhibit strong leadership and push this Policy across the finish line. It's the best for the fish, best for the economy and best for the consumer.

Sincerely,
Bryan Irwin

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Friday, July 31, 2020 8:46:08 AM

Name	Anthony McDonnell
Email	mcdonnell@frontier.com
Address	Moscow ID
Comments	<p>Dear Sirs,Ms,</p> <p>I recently learned that WDFW is considering restoring mainstem gillnetting throughout the lower Columbia River and I strongly object to this proposa. CCAWashington estimates that this action could reduce recreational fishing opportunities by as much as 25%. It seems like an insane idea to allow non-selective gill netting when our populations of salmon and steelhead are teetering on the brink of extinction. Please reconsider your actions in light of these circumstances.</p>
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 98.145.187.99 (United States) at 2020-07-31 11:46:05 on Chrome 84.0.4147.105
Entry ID: 193

From: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Barbara Baker](#); [Bob Kehoe](#); [Brad Smith](#); [Dave Graybill](#); [Donald McIsaac](#); [Anderson, James R \(DFW\)](#); [Larry Carpenter](#); [McBride, Tom A \(DFW\)](#); [Linville, Molly F \(DFW\)](#); [Thorburn, Kim M \(DFW\)](#)
Cc: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#); [Warren, Ron R \(DFW\)](#); [Lothrop, Ryan L \(DFW\)](#); [Tweit, William M \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Contact the Commission: Commission Meetings
Date: Friday, July 31, 2020 12:16:28 PM
Attachments: [7.31.20 cmts to WDFW re Col.R.Reforms.pdf](#)

From: Brian McLachlan <bamclachlan@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2020 11:16 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Contact the Commission: Commission Meetings

Name	Brian McLachlan
Email	bamclachlan@hotmail.com
Address	7310 SW Ashdale Drive Portland OR 97223
Subject	Commission Meetings
Message	Please accept the attached comments regarding proposed revisions to Columbia River non-treaty salmon fisheries policy. I wish to also align myself with comments previously submitted by the Association of NW Steelheaders. Thank you.
Attachment	https://www.123formbuilder.com/upload_dld.php?fileid=c1720fbb25c35fd52e566762ba4e8714

The message has been sent from 24.20.186.166 (United States) at 2020-07-31 14:15:30 on Chrome 84.0.4147.105
Entry ID: 2298

Brian McLachlan
Portland, Oregon
July 31, 2020

Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission
Submitted via <https://wdfw.wa.gov/about/commission/contact>

Re: Proposed revisions to Columbia River non-treaty salmon fisheries policy

Dear Commissioners:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments regarding proposed revisions to Columbia River non-treaty salmon fisheries policy. I hereby incorporate my prior testimony and written comments regarding this issue by reference.

I oppose the Columbia River Workgroup's (Workgroup) recommended policy revisions and I request that you reject them.

The proposed revisions are markedly flawed, and so was the process that produced them.

The flaws began with the composition, and associated political and policy agendas and biases, of the Commissioners appointed to the Workgroup, as well as to the preceding joint Policy Review Committee. These appointments largely pre-determined the trajectory and outcome of the process, and many of us accurately forecasted the results before the first meeting was even complete.

Unsurprisingly, this flawed composition produced a flawed recommendation that would, if enacted, dismantle key elements of the bi-state Columbia River Reform package, as embodied in Policy C-3620.

These flaws are due to failures to begin with the right objectives, to ask the right questions, and to employ the right technical analysis.

The proposed policy revisions are not required by your statutory mandate, but instead materially alter the language of the statute to favor commercial fisheries.

Nor do they serve your new strategic plan.

- The proposed revisions not only fail to forge a “path” to meet the challenges of “a new era”, but indeed seek to dismantle an existing reform path designed for that very purpose;
- Instead of “building passionate constituencies”, adoption of the proposed revisions would once again alienate your natural and long-term allies in the sportfishing community;
- Instead of “connecting people to nature and conservation through recreation”, the proposed revisions will result in the loss of thousands of recreational trips each year and the priceless experiences anglers would have had on those trips; and

- Instead of “delivering science that informs the most pressing management issues”, the Workgroup process failed to deliver the analysis required to make an informed allocation policy decision.

These flaws are born of outdated thinking and allegiance to entrenched private interests that commercially exploit public fishery resources for little or no net public benefits. But of course you wouldn't know that, because notwithstanding your stewardship duty to the public fisheries owned by the state of Washington and held in trust for the benefit of the people, you have failed to adequately assess whether the private commercial fishery produces any net positive public benefits at all after taking into account, among other costs, the publicly financed subsidies of management, enforcement, research, and select-area enhancement.

Instead, the revisions, and the process that produced them, represent a retreat to the dysfunction and inefficiency of a historical status quo rooted in the service of days long past.

The proposed re-visions are in fact a failure of vision, and a failure of sound public policy.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Best regards,

Brian McLachlan

From: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Barbara Baker](#); [Bob Kehoe](#); [Brad Smith](#); [Dave Graybill](#); [Donald McIsaac](#); [Anderson, James R \(DFW\)](#); [Larry Carpenter](#); [McBride, Tom A \(DFW\)](#); [Linville, Molly F \(DFW\)](#); [Thorburn, Kim M \(DFW\)](#)
Cc: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#); [Director \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Conservation Angler Comments on OR-WA Compact Action Yesterday
Date: Friday, July 31, 2020 7:51:25 AM
Attachments: [TCA Statement on Columbia River Compact Action 7-30-2020 \(2\).pdf](#)
[ActionNotice_nontreaty_30July2020.pdf](#)
[ActionNotice_treaty_30July2020.pdf](#)

From: David Moskowitz <theconservationangler@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2020 7:50 AM
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us; Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Conservation Angler Comments on OR-WA Compact Action Yesterday

Dear Commissioners,
Yesterday our organization participated in a Columbia River Compact hearing on commercial fisheries by tribal and non-tribal fishers.

Despite credible testimony from numerous parties, excessive fisheries were approved by staff without any credible monitoring and observation.

The attached Compact decisions and our comments provide just a small portion of the story behind some of the issues these decisions bring to light.

There are systemic problems in all fisheries in the Columbia River, and when compounded with massive hatchery production, they present a problem for salmon recovery efforts that defy the tinkering being considered.

David A. Moskowitz
Executive Director
971-235-8953 (Direct)
theconservationangler@gmail.com
www.theconservationangler.org



Conservation means fair and honest dealings with the future, usually at some cost to the immediate present. It is simply morality, with little to offset the glamour and quick material rewards of the North American deity, "Progress". Roderick Haig-Brown



Washington and Oregon Adopt Broad Commercial Fisheries in the Columbia River to The Detriment of Wild Steelhead and Wild Salmon

Today the Columbia River Compact - comprised of Oregon and Washington Fisheries Departments - approved a sweeping set of commercial fishery season authorizations in the Columbia River that will adversely impact wild steelhead, sturgeon, and wild fall chinook.

State officials adopted regulations allowing the sale of wild steelhead caught in tribal platforms from August 1 thru October 31 below Bonneville Dam, and above Bonneville thru the end of the year.

The states also authorized sale of wild steelhead caught in tribal fisheries in Drano Lake – a notorious fishing area in the pool of the Little White Salmon River adjacent to the Columbia where wild fish congregate in cold water refugia to escape the excessively warm Columbia River.

Wild Steelhead returning to the Columbia River in 2020 are predicted to number 34,700 fish – a number that is a mere 30% of the average return only a decade previously.

Columbia River fisheries typically target high numbers of hatchery steelhead, but hatchery returns have collapsed due to low survival generally, and during their ocean maturation period. Juvenile hatchery fish are also more susceptible to predation from birds and other fish.

Wild steelhead survive at higher rates and now outnumber the hatchery steelhead in the Columbia – and they will be caught in higher numbers in the commercial fisheries approved today.

Non-treaty commercial fishers were granted 7 fishing periods in the mainstem Columbia below Bonneville Dam despite the fact that the forecasted return of Columbia River fall chinook is less than half of the returns during 2015 and 2016 when 10 and 11 fishing days were authorized.

These mainstem, night-time commercial fisheries will be unmonitored for the third year in a row despite direction from NOAA Fisheries that these fisheries be regularly monitored. Steelhead are caught as bycatch in this fishery, yet no studies have ever been conducted to determine the total release mortality. Without monitoring using a science-based release mortality rate, actual impacts to steelhead populations could be much higher than agency projections.

Tribal commercial fishers use set-nets and gill nets in the Columbia to catch their Treaty-protected salmon allocations that include fall chinook and steelhead. The gill net fisheries are nighttime fisheries and are not regularly monitored. These non-selective fisheries impact imperiled wild B-run steelhead.

Treaty rights include the right to harvest steelhead including wild steelhead. State administrative regulations allow the state to authorize commercial sale of tribal-caught wild Columbia River steelhead – something prohibited in Oregon by citizen initiative in 1974.

Commercial harvest and sale of wild summer steelhead – listed under the Endangered Species Act since 1997 – particularly for wild B-run steelhead (with only slightly more than 1,000 expected to pass Bonneville Dam) may be “legal” but are not sustainable nor should they be allowed when there are more selective means available to this fishery which also is often unmonitored.

Contact: David Moskowitz * 3241 NE 73rd Ave * Portland, OR 97213 * (971-235-8953)
theconservationangler@gmail.com www.theconservationangler.org

COLUMBIA RIVER ACTION NOTICE

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

July 30, 2020

The following action was taken on treaty commercial fisheries:

2020 Treaty Indian Commercial Fishery – Zone 6 Platform and Hook and Line

Season:	12:01 AM August 1 through 6:00 PM December 31.
Area:	Zone 6
Gear:	Hoop nets/bag nets, dip nets, and rod and reel with hook and line.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon (any species), steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish, and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sturgeon from 38 to 54 inches fork length in the Bonneville Pool and sturgeon from 43 to 54 inches fork length in The Dalles and John Day Pools may be kept for subsistence purposes. Fish landed during the open periods are allowed to be sold after the period concludes.
Sanctuaries:	Standard sanctuaries in place for these gear types.
Additional:	24-hour quick reporting required for Washington buyers, pursuant to WAC 220-352-315 except that landings must be reported within 24-hours of completing the fish ticket.

2020 Yakama Nation Commercial Fisheries – Zone 6 Tributaries

Season:	12:01 AM August 1 through 6:00 PM December 31, and only during days and times open under lawfully enacted Yakama Nation tribal subsistence fishery regulations for enrolled Yakama Nation members.
Area:	Drano Lake and Klickitat River.
Gear:	Hoop nets/bag nets, dip nets, and rod and reel with hook and line. Gillnets may only be used in Drano Lake.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon (any species), steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish, and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sturgeon may not be sold. Sturgeon from 38 to 54 inches fork length may be kept for subsistence.
Additional:	24-hour quick reporting required for Washington buyers, pursuant to WAC 220-352-315 except that landings must be reported within 24-hours of completing the fish ticket.

2020 Treaty Indian Commercial Fishery – Downstream of Bonneville Dam: Platform and Hook and Line

Season:	12:01 AM August 1 through 11:59 PM October 31.
Area:	Area as defined in tribal/state MOUs/MOAs.
Participants:	Enrolled members of the Yakama, Warm Springs, Nez Perce, and Umatilla tribes when lawfully permitted by Treaty regulations under provisions of the agreements with the states of Oregon and Washington. Tribal members fishing below Bonneville Dam must carry an official tribal enrollment card.
Gear:	Hook and line and/or platform gear identified in tribal rules.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon (any species), steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish, and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sturgeon may not be retained in fisheries downstream of Bonneville Dam. Sales of fish are not authorized on COE property downstream of Bonneville Dam. Fish must be transported elsewhere for sale. Fish landed during the open periods are allowed to be sold after the period concludes.
Additional:	24-hour quick reporting required for Washington buyers, pursuant to WAC 220-352-315 except that landings must be reported within 24-hours of completing the fish ticket.

Future Meetings

The first fall season Compact Hearing is scheduled for Thursday August 13 at 2:30 PM via teleconference to consider treaty and non-treaty commercial fisheries.

COLUMBIA RIVER ACTION NOTICE

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

July 30, 2020

The following action was taken on non-treaty commercial mainstem fisheries:

<i>2020 Non-Treaty Mainstem Commercial Early Fall Fishery</i>	
Season:	Seven 9-hour fishing periods during August 10–31.
Week 33 (2 periods)	9 PM Monday August 10 to 6 AM Tuesday August 11 9 PM Wednesday August 12 to 6 AM Thursday August 13
Week 34 (2 periods)	9 PM Monday August 17 to 6 AM Tuesday August 18 9 PM Wednesday August 19 to 6 AM Thursday August 20
Week 35 (2 periods)	9 PM Monday August 24 to 6 AM Tuesday August 25 9 PM Wednesday August 26 to 6 AM Thursday August 27
Week 36 (1 period)	9 PM Monday August 31 to 6 AM Tuesday September 1
Area:	Zones 4-5. The deadline at the lower end of Zone 4 is defined as a straight line projected from the Warrior Rock Lighthouse on the Oregon shore easterly through the green navigation Buoy #1 and continuing to the Washington shore.
Sanctuaries:	Washougal and Sandy rivers.
Gear:	Drift gillnets only. 9-inch minimum mesh size restriction. Multiple net rule NOT in effect, which means nets not authorized for this fishery may not be onboard. Lighted buoys required.
Allowable Sales:	Chinook, Coho, and Pink salmon, shad, and white sturgeon. A maximum of five white sturgeon with a fork length of 44-50 inches may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday). This white sturgeon possession and sales limit applies to mainstem fisheries only.
Additional Rules:	24-hour quick reporting required for Washington buyers, pursuant to WAC 220-352-315. Oregon buyers are required to electronically submit fish receiving tickets pursuant to OAR 635-006-0210. Electronic fish tickets must be submitted within 24 hours of closure of the fishing period, or within 24 hours of landing for fishing periods lasting longer than 24 hours.

The following action was taken on treaty commercial select area fisheries:

Compact Action:

<i>2020 Select Area Fall Season - Blind Slough/Knappa Slough Fishery</i>	
Season:	Monday and Wednesday nights August 24 – 27 (2 nights) Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights from August 31– October 30 (36 nights) Open hours: 7 PM – 7 AM through September 4 and 6 PM – 10 AM thereafter.
Areas:	The Blind Slough Select Area is defined as waters of Blind Slough and Gnat Creek from a north-south line represented by regulatory markers at the mouth of Blind Slough upstream to a regulatory marker in Gnat Creek located approximately 0.5 miles southeasterly (upstream) of the Barendse Road Bridge. The Knappa Slough Select Area is defined as waters of Knappa Slough, Calendar Slough, and Big Creek Slough bounded to the north (upstream) by a line projecting from a regulatory marker on the eastern shore of Karlson Island to the northernmost regulatory marker at the mouth of Blind Slough and bounded to the west (downstream) by a line projecting southerly from a regulatory marker on the southwestern tip of Karlson Island through regulatory markers on the western tips of Minaker Island to a marker on the Oregon shore. The waters of Knappa Slough within a 100-foot radius of the railroad bridge crossing Big Creek are closed.
Gear:	Gillnets with a maximum mesh size restriction of 9¾-inch through September 6, and a 6-inch maximum thereafter. Maximum net length is 100 fathoms. There is no lead line weight limit and attachment of additional weight and anchors directly to the lead line is permitted. Nets not specifically authorized for use may be onboard a vessel if properly stored. A properly stored net is defined as a net on a drum that is fully covered by a tarp (canvas or plastic) and bound with a minimum of ten revolutions of rope with a diameter of 3/8 (0.375) inches or greater. Nets fished any time between official sunset and official sunrise must have lighted buoys on both ends of the net. If the net is attached to the boat, then one lighted buoy on the end of the net opposite the boat is required.
Allowable Sales:	Chinook, Coho, and Pink salmon, shad, and white sturgeon.
Additional Rules:	24-hour quick reporting required for Washington buyers, pursuant to WAC 220-352-315. Oregon buyers are required to electronically submit fish receiving tickets pursuant to OAR 635-006-0210. Electronic fish tickets must be submitted within 24 hours of closure of the fishing period, or within 24 hours of landing for fishing periods lasting longer than 24 hours.

2020 Select Area Fall Season - Tongue Point/South Channel Fishery

Season:	Monday and Wednesday nights August 24 – 27 (2 nights)
	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights from August 31 – October 30 (36 nights)
	Open hours: 7 PM – 7 AM through September 4 and 4 PM – 10 AM thereafter.
Areas:	<p>The Tongue Point Select Area is defined as waters of the Columbia River bounded by a line from a regulatory marker on the eastern shore of Tongue Point (midway between the red USCG light “2” at the tip of Tongue Point and the northern-most pier (#8) at the Tongue Point Job Corps facility) to the flashing green USCG light “3” on the rock jetty at the northwest tip of Mott Island, a line from a regulatory marker at the southeast end of Mott Island northeasterly to a regulatory marker on the northwest shore of Lois Island, and a line from a regulatory marker located on the Oregon shore approximately 300 yards northwest of the railroad bridge crossing the John Day River projecting easterly to a regulatory marker on the southwest shore of Lois Island.</p> <p>(i) If the marker on the eastern shore of Tongue Point is not in place, the downstream boundary is defined by a line projecting from a point (46°12'31.1"N latitude 123°45'34.0"W longitude) on the eastern shore of Tongue Point to the flashing green USCG light “3” on the rock jetty at the northwest tip of Mott Island.</p> <p>(ii) If the marker on the Oregon shore is not in place, the upstream boundary is defined by a line projecting from a point (46°10'57.7"N latitude 123°44'35.3"W longitude) on the Oregon shore approximately 300 yards northwest of the railroad bridge crossing the John Day River projecting easterly to a regulatory marker on Lois Island.</p> <p>The South Channel Area is defined as waters of the Columbia River bounded by a line from a regulatory marker on the Oregon shore at John Day Point projecting northeasterly to a regulatory marker on the southwest shore of Lois Island, and a line from a regulatory marker on Settler Point projecting northwesterly to the flashing red USCG light “10” then projecting westerly to the eastern tip of Burnside Island.</p>
Gear:	<p>Gillnets with a 6-inch maximum mesh size restriction. Maximum net length of 250 fathoms.</p> <p>In the Tongue Point Select Area, the lead line weight may not exceed two pounds per any one fathom; however, unstored gillnets legal for use in South Channel may be onboard.</p> <p>In the South Channel Select Area, there is no lead line weight limit and attachment of additional weight and anchors directly to the lead line is permitted.</p> <p>Nets not specifically authorized for use may be onboard a vessel if properly stored. A properly stored net is defined as a net on a drum that is fully covered by a tarp (canvas or plastic) and bound with a minimum of ten revolutions of rope with a diameter of 3/8 (0.375) inches or greater.</p> <p>Nets fished any time between official sunset and official sunrise must have lighted buoys on both ends of the net. If the net is attached to the boat, then one lighted buoy on the end of the net opposite the boat is required.</p>
Allowable Sales:	Chinook, Coho, and Pink salmon, shad, and white sturgeon.
Additional Rules:	<p>24-hour quick reporting required for Washington buyers, pursuant to WAC 220-352-315. Oregon buyers are required to electronically submit fish receiving tickets pursuant to OAR 635-006-0210. Electronic fish tickets must be submitted within 24 hours of closure of the fishing period, or within 24 hours of landing for fishing periods lasting longer than 24 hours.</p>

Washington Action:

2020 Select Area Fall Season - Deep River Fishery

Season:	Monday and Wednesday nights from September 28 – December 3 (20 nights) Open hours: 6 PM – 9 AM September 28 to October 29, and 5 PM – 8 AM thereafter.
Area:	The Deep River fishing area includes all waters from West Deep River Road Bridge at the town of Deep River downstream to the mouth defined by a line from USCG navigation marker #16 southwest to a marker on the Washington shore.
Gear:	Gillnets with a maximum mesh size restriction of 6-inches. Maximum net length is 100 fathoms. No weight restriction on leadline. Use of additional weights or anchors attached directly to the leadline is allowed. No nets can be tied off to stationary structures. Nets may not fully cross the navigation channel. It is unlawful to operate in any river, stream or channel any gillnet gear longer than three-fourths the width of the river, stream, or channel. “River, stream, or channel width” is defined as bank-to-bank, where the water meets the banks, regardless of the time of tide or the water level. This emergency provision shall supersede the permanent regulation and all other regulations that conflict with it. Nets not specifically authorized for use may be onboard the vessel if properly stored. A properly stored net is defined as a net on a drum that is fully covered by a tarp (canvas or plastic) and bound with a minimum of ten revolutions of rope with a diameter of 3/8 (0.375) inches or greater. Nets fished any time between official sunset and official sunrise must have lighted_buoys on both ends of the net. If the net is attached to the boat, then one lighted buoy on the end of the net opposite the boat is required.
Allowable Sales:	Chinook, Coho, and Pink salmon, shad, and white sturgeon.
Additional Rules:	24-hour quick reporting required for Washington buyers, pursuant to WAC 220-352-315. Oregon buyers are required to electronically submit fish receiving tickets pursuant to OAR 635-006-0210. Electronic fish tickets must be submitted within 24 hours of closure of the fishing period, or within 24 hours of landing for fishing periods lasting longer than 24 hours.

Oregon Action:

<i>2020 Select Area Fall Season - Youngs Bay Fishery</i>	
Season:	<p>7 PM Tuesday to 7 AM Thursday weekly from August 4 – 20 (Three 36-hr periods)</p> <p>Monday and Wednesday nights from August 24 – 27 (2 nights)</p> <p>Open hours: 7 PM – 7 AM</p> <p>7 PM Monday August 31 – 7 AM Friday September 4 (3.5 nights)</p> <p>7 PM Monday September 7 – noon Friday October 30 (53 days)</p>
Area:	<p>The Youngs Bay Select Area is defined as waters of Youngs Bay and Youngs River southeasterly of the Highway 101 Bridge upstream to the regulatory marker(s) at the confluence of the Klaskanine and Youngs rivers, including the Walluski River downstream of the Highway 202 Bridge, and the Lewis and Clark River north (downstream) of the overhead power lines approximately 500 feet south (upstream) of Barrett Slough:</p> <p>During the fall season, Youngs River upstream of the regulatory marker at Battle Creek Slough is closed. If the marker at Battle Creek Slough is not in place, the boundary is defined by a line projecting northeasterly from a point (46°6'35.6"N latitude 123°47'42.0"W longitude) on the southern bank of Youngs River immediately downstream of the mouth of Battle Creek Slough to a point (46°6'41.6"N latitude 123°47'36.9"W longitude) located on the northern bank of Youngs River.</p>
Gear:	<p>Gillnets with a maximum mesh size restriction of 9¾-inch through August 20, and a 6-inch maximum thereafter.</p> <p>Maximum net length of 250 fathoms and weight on leadline may not exceed two pounds in any one fathom. Use of additional weights or anchors attached directly to the leadline is allowed between markers located approximately 200 yards upstream of the mouth of the Walluski River and the upper deadline at Battle Creek Slough, in the lower Walluski River from the first dock near the mouth upstream to the Highway 202 Bridge, and in the Lewis and Clark River from the Alternate Highway 101 Bridge upstream to the overhead power lines approximately 500 feet southerly (upstream) of Barrett Slough.</p> <p>A red cork must be placed on the corkline every 25 fathoms as measured from the first mesh of the net. Red corks at 25-fathom intervals must be in color contrast to the corks used in the remainder of the net.</p> <p>Nets not specifically authorized for use may be onboard a vessel if properly stored. A properly stored net is defined as a net on a drum that is fully covered by a tarp (canvas or plastic) and bound with a minimum of ten revolutions of rope with a diameter of 3/8 (0.375) inches or greater.</p> <p>Nets fished any time between official sunset and official sunrise must have lighted buoys on both ends of the net. If the net is attached to the boat, then one lighted buoy on the end of the net opposite the boat is required.</p>
Allowable Sales:	Chinook, Coho, and Pink salmon, shad, and white sturgeon.
Additional Rules:	Oregon buyers are required to electronically submit fish receiving tickets pursuant to OAR 635-006-0210. Electronic fish tickets must be submitted within 24 hours of closure of the fishing period, or within 24 hours of landing for fishing periods lasting longer than 24 hours.

Future Meetings

A Compact Hearing is scheduled for Thursday August 13 30 at 2:30PM via teleconference to consider treaty commercial fisheries.

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Friday, July 31, 2020 8:24:14 AM

Name	mark poor
Email	markpoor77@yahoo.com
Address	150 clark creek lane longview wa
Comments	I\'m a sportsman that fishes the Columbia river system. I spend thousands of dollars to be able to catch 1 or 2 fish a year. This is ridiculous ! I\'m fed up with the system letting the damn indiscriminate gillnets in the river when our runs are so depleted. What does it take and more importantly who\'s on the take? Feel like selling my boat. Net till the last fish is gone and your jobs too. Sad!!!
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 75.164.56.38 (United States) at 2020-07-31 11:24:11 on Chrome 84.0.4147.105
Entry ID: 192

From: [Kloepfer, Nichole D \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Barbara Baker](#); [Bob Kehoe](#); [Brad Smith](#); [Dave Graybill](#); [Donald McIsaac](#); [Anderson, James R \(DFW\)](#); [Larry Carpenter](#); [McBride, Tom A \(DFW\)](#); [Linville, Molly F \(DFW\)](#); [Thorburn, Kim M \(DFW\)](#)
Cc: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Franklin County Letter - Columbia River Fishery Policy Workgroup
Date: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 12:43:33 PM
Attachments: [5pqcfnvt.e52.pdf](#)

Attached for review. Thanks!

From: Nisbet, Tina E (DFW) <Tina.Nisbet@dfw.wa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 12:28 PM
To: Kloepfer, Nichole D (DFW) <Nichole.Kloepfer@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Mail

Hi Nikki,

I checked the mail today and the attached letter came in for the Commission. The original is on your desk.

Tina



Keith Johnson
County Administrator

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FRANKLIN COUNTY
WASHINGTON

BRAD PECK
District 1

ROBERT KOCH
District 2

CLINT DIDIER
District 3

July 28, 2020

Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission
PO Box 43200
Olympia, WA 98504-3200

Chairman Carpenter and Commissioners,

We are writing you on behalf of our Franklin County citizens to share our concerns about the recent policy recommendation from the WDFW Columbia River Fishery Policy Workgroup.

It is important for harvest management to allow more fish to return to natal spawning for both conservation and fisheries – rather than focusing on increased harvest in the lower Columbia River.

Eastern Washington citizens and conservation groups have worked for decades to restore habitat and support the conservation and recovery of ESA-listed salmon and steelhead populations. Those efforts have required great sacrifices along the way. To see those efforts largely ignored and undermined by policies that promote non-selective harvest on the lower Columbia River is clearly harmful to the resource we all support, and incredibly upsetting for anglers, businesses, and conservationists in Franklin County. The surest way to demoralize and undercut our citizens' support of conservation methods is to show you want their support, but don't have much regard for upriver migration and their access to the resource. The current Fishery Policy Workgroup proposal effectively sends exactly that message.

Integrating real harvest reforms is paramount to the recovery of our ESA-listed salmonids and critical to maintaining sustainable fishing opportunities utilizing selective fishing methods.

In order to support conservation, we ask the WDFW Commission to:

- Retain policies prohibiting non-treaty commercial fishing in the mainstem Columbia River for spring Chinook.
- Continue with the existing 80%/20% split between recreational and commercial fishing to ensure opportunities remain for mark-selective recreational fisheries above and below Bonneville Dam – fisheries that are an important tool in the management of returning hatchery fish.

- Retain the existing policy that any unused impacts allow for greater escapement and not be shifted to additional mainstem commercial gillnet fisheries. An excess fish that makes it above Bonneville Dam is not “wasted” as many in the commercial industry claim. These hold great value to upriver anglers and our watersheds.
- Avoid any changes to mainstem summer Chinook fisheries (i.e., allowing gillnet or other non-selective fisheries), as these could impact steelhead and meeting escapement goals for wild Chinook populations in the Upper Columbia.
- Come to a final decision on an equitable sharing of spring Chinook between recreational fisheries below and above Bonneville Dam.

Several Columbia River basin salmon and steelhead populations are facing serious conservation challenges. Now is not the time to abandon harvest reforms that are important to their conservation and recovery. We look forward to promoting conservation practices and partnering with WDFW in our shared goal to restore ESA-listed salmonid populations. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions. Our contact information is above.

Sincerely,



Chair Robert E. Koch



Pro Tem Brad Peck



Member Clint Didier