



Columbia River Salmon Fishery Policy Workgroup (CRW)

**Public Comments received between
Noon on July 20, 2020 through July 28, 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: [Kloepfer, Nichole D \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Larry Carpenter](#); [Bob Kehoe](#); [Brad Smith](#); [Dave Graybill](#); [Donald McIsaac](#); [Anderson, James R \(DFW\)](#); [Thorburn, Kim M \(DFW\)](#); [Barbara Baker](#); [Linville, Molly F \(DFW\)](#)
Cc: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#); [Lothrop, Ryan L \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Fwd: Columbia River Fisheries Management Reform
Date: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 10:48:26 AM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: larry carpenter <lc3896@gmail.com>
Date: July 21, 2020 at 10:26:51 AM PDT
To: "Kloepfer, Nichole D (DFW)" <Nichole.Kloepfer@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Fwd: **Columbia River Fisheries Management Reform**

Please distribute to the entire Commission. Thanks

Larry

----- Forwarded message -----

From: DAN DAVIS <dcdavis4@comcast.net>
Date: Tue, Jul 21, 2020, 10:25 AM
Subject: Columbia River Fisheries Management Reform
To: Lc3896@gmail.com <Lc3896@gmail.com>, fishpgm@dfw.wa.gov <fishpgm@dfw.wa.gov>

Larry Carpenter

Chairman Fish and Wildlife Commission

Dear Commissioner Carpenter,

I'm contacting you regarding recent news reports that members of the commission are considering permanently reversing the 2013 commitment to ban gillnetting on the mainstream Columbia river. I strongly disagree with any attempt to reverse this decision.

I, like many sports fisherman am concerned by what I perceive as the ongoing favoritism of the commercial fishing industry at our expense. I'm truly puzzled why eliminating the mainstream gillnetting ban would even be considered at a time when we are regularly told that salmon, steelhead and sturgeon fisheries are in decline?

From October to December of 2019 public comments were submitted in response to the Joint State Columbia River Salmon Policy Review. The resulting 384 page document includes hundreds of comments and signatures from individuals and organizations that strongly disagree with the attempt by the commission to renege on your 2013 commitment to remove gillnets from the mainstream of the Columbia River.

A December 2008 report of Non Treaty Commercial and Recreation Fishing in Washington prepared for F&W, noted that the economic value of recreational fishing in the state has more than 10 times the value of commercial fishing. Despite this huge difference in impact the commission seems to regularly rule for commercial interests.

It is inconceivable to me how the commission can cavalierly ignore your own studies and the sports anglers who pay the vast majority of fees used to support fishery programs. The commission's actions have already cost you the ability to levy the Columbia River "management" fee and increase license fees and resulted in budget shortfalls and subsequent requests to the Washington legislature for addition funding to cover the shortfall.

You are allowing the commercial netters to do major damage to fish runs and then telling the sportsmen we can't fish because the runs are decimated?? We have to use barbless hooks for clipped salmon or steelhead while we watch commercials indiscriminately catch and kill hundreds of fish regardless of type or markings. You allowed commercial seasons for sturgeon on the lower Columbia now the people who catch one or two fish with hooks and lines don't get any season because you say there aren't enough fish to support a sports season? Most of the anglers I know are simply disgusted as they see these policies and others like them perpetuated throughout the state.

How can anyone make sense of the millions being spent on environmental improvements & programs to try to save these runs so you can allow commercial nets in our rivers destroy them ??

I hope the commissioners come to their senses and live up to the agreement to get the commercial nets out of the mainstream of the Columbia. It would be even better if they were gone altogether from the Columbia and the Chehalis. If not maybe it's time for you to start charging the commercials for their fair share costs of the resource. Instead of a few commercial fishermen paying \$500K for licenses that give them 20% of the fish, they need to be paying at least their 20% of the program costs. If they start paying \$5 or \$10 million a year for licenses instead of \$500K maybe things will change.

Dan Davis

Olympia, WA

From: [Kloepfer, Nichole D \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#); [Lothrop, Ryan L \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: written testimony for July 21 Columbia River Workgroup
Date: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 8:41:00 AM
Attachments: [WFC to FWC - Policy 3620.pdf](#)

From: Commission (DFW)
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 7:23 AM
To: Barbara Baker <bbakerwdfw@gmail.com>; Bob Kehoe <rfd@psvoa.org>; Brad Smith <bradley.smith@wwu.edu>; Dave Graybill <fishboy@nwi.net>; Donald McIsaac <donald.mcisaac@dma-consulting.net>; Jim Anderson (James.Anderson@dfw.wa.gov) <James.Anderson@dfw.wa.gov>; Larry Carpenter <lc3896@gmail.com>; McBride, Tom A (DFW) <Tom.McBride@dfw.wa.gov>; Molly Linville (Molly.Linville@dfw.wa.gov) <Molly.Linville@dfw.wa.gov>; Thorburn, Kim M (DFW) <Kim.Thorburn@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: FW: written testimony for July 21 Columbia River Workgroup

From: Jamie Glasgow <jamie@wildfishconservancy.org>
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2020 9:02 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Cc: Kurt Beardslee <kurt@wildfishconservancy.org>
Subject: written testimony for July 21 Columbia River Workgroup

Hello Nikki,

Please share the attached written testimony with the full Commission ahead of the 7/21 CR Workgroup meeting. Let me know if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Thank you for your help,

Jamie Glasgow

Wild Fish Conservancy
www.wildfishconservancy.org
206.310.9302 (mobile)

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Wild Fish Conservancy

N O R T H W E S T

S C I E N C E E D U C A T I O N A D V O C A C Y

July 20, 2020

WA Fish and Wildlife Commission
Post Office Box 43200
Olympia, WA 98504-3200

Re: Proposed changes to FWC Policy c-3620

Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of Wild Fish Conservancy (WFC), I strongly encourage you to maintain policy c-3620's original intent and commitment to mark-selective recreational and commercial fisheries. Now is not the time to turn away from salmon conservation measures that reduce hatchery impacts on ESA recovery efforts.

As a science-based non-profit conservation organization, our staff has partnered with the WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) to research alternative gears such as fish traps (pound nets) in the Columbia River. We understand the great importance of mark-selective fishing for reducing the fishery, genetic, and ecological threats hatchery production poses to Endangered Species Act (ESA)-listed wild salmonid populations (Tuohy et al. 2019; <https://doi.org/10.1002/fsh.10292>). The Commission acknowledged the need to transition to alternative selective-fishing gear in policies 3619 and 3620, and it is no less today—WDFW science staff reiterated this need in their Review of Hatchery Reform Science (2020).

We would further like to draw to your attention the fact that gill net release mortality impacts currently remain unstudied and unknown for critical bycatch stocks such as ESA-listed wild steelhead. As we have conducted our selective gear research and navigated the peer-review process, we have gained insight into the U.S. v. OR Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) gear mortality review process and observed unequivocally that currently approved steelhead mortality rates for gill nets are based on assumptions, with no grounding in gill net release mortality data or sound science (ODFW and WDFW 2018). The potential consequence of this oversight failure is that unstudied gill net ESA impacts may be substantially greater than currently assumed, resulting in an unfair evaluation of the relative benefits that alternative gears provide to salmon and steelhead recovery on the Columbia.

Regardless of whether the Commission accepts TAC's unfounded commercial gill net mortality rate assumptions, the benefits of mark-selective fishing for improved targeting of hatchery fishes cannot be overlooked. Back-tracking on your commitment to mark-selective fisheries in the mainstem Columbia River will likely increase escapement of hatchery fishes to wild salmonid spawning grounds, with measurable impacts to the reproductive success and survival of future wild populations (Chilcote et al. 2011; Christie et al. 2013). Furthermore, a shift back to mainstem non-

selective fisheries will result in mixed-stock harvest of more wild-origin fishes of both ESA-listed and unlisted populations – including non-target species like steelhead.

Selective gears have shown considerable progress in recent years, with modified fish traps achieving near 100% bycatch survival rates (Tuohy et al. 2020). With hatchery production expected to increase to support ESA-listed killer whales, now is not the time to give up on selective fisheries that remain one of the only means to address genetic and ecological threats to ESA-listed wild salmon from hatchery production while minimizing bycatch mortality impacts.

Thank you for your consideration of our request to remain committed to a transition to mark-selective fisheries that benefits fishers and wild salmon and steelhead populations of the Columbia River Basin. We would really appreciate the opportunity to further discuss our research in the lower Columbia River before the July 31 Commission meeting. Please let me know your availability and I will clear my schedule for that conversation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kurt Beardslee", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kurt Beardslee, Executive Director
Wild Fish Conservancy
Kurt@wildfishconservancy.org; 206/310-9301

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 \(DFW\)](#); [Lothrop, Ryan L \(DFW\)](#); [Tweit, William M \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Points of Clarification on Commission Discussion
Date: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 1:50:19 PM

From: David Moskowitz <theconservationangler@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 11:29 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Points of Clarification on Commission Discussion

First, there is a big difference between fisheries managed to avoid ESA-Jeopardy verses actually contributing to recovery of wild stocks in multiple watersheds throughout the Snake and Columbia. That is the reason this "allocation" policy cannot be viewed without a conservation lens.

As to the graphs on CR salmon and steelhead returns, a few points:

1. Spring Chinook - it is likely that the tail-end of the 2020 spring chinook run was composed of summer chinook, so the return number may not be so close to the forecast.
2. Most of the graphs for salmon combine hatchery and wild fish - so the big numbers are masking the true abundance of wild fish.
3. Upper Columbia sockeye recovery has occurred in the absence of extensive hatchery and harvest pressures in their natal subbasins. It must be compared to large hatchery programs in the Snake.
4. The steelhead returns graph shows the low number of wild fish which are even lower for the years not on the graph.
5. The overall CR fall chinook return needs to be clarified - were those numbers at the Columbia River mouth, or does it represent passage at Bonneville? There are many hatchery fish in the return, though the upriver bright component of the run is natural-origin from the Hanford Reach. The aggregation of stocks also paints an inaccurate picture of the health of the various river-specific chinook in various watersheds.
6. The Snake River Fall chinook generally face fewer limiting factors due to their shorter life history in freshwater - so they generally will be in larger numbers than spring chinook. There are also many unclipped fall chinook smolts released which seem to be unaccounted for (as is the case with Snake River summer steelhead).

Thank you for considering these issues.

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

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 12:17:14 PM

Name	Gregory King
Email	papagreg55@gmail.com
Address	Toledo WA
Comments	<p>I'll start by saying this policy is the straight results of the failed measure 81 in Oregon. Were the votes of Oregon were rejecting the removal of gill nets from the Columbia river 67 to 33. Knowing that measure 81 was going to failure. Out of state special interest groups like CCA. With the help of NSIA and Northwest Steelheader's. Rush to the Oregon Governor Kitzhaber office to devise a plan to kill commercial fisheries in the Columbia river. So basically this policy was shoved down the throats of all Washingtonians. So how much money has this policy cost Washington state? Just so these three group can push their greedy agenda. Killing a commercial fishery on the Columbia river could be a death blow to sport fishing on the Columbia river. Because it is a federal mandate that the state of Washington control pHOS numbers. And at this point gill nets are the only tool in the tool box to control pHOS. Because NOAA fisheries has stated sports can't control pHOS on it own. And not controlling pHOS could be devastating to hatchery production on the Columbia river and a death blow to sports fishing. Well federal and state hatchery funding be reduce do to a lack of a commercial fisheries on the Columbia river? And let's not forget about the public outrage that could happen. If the public is cut out of there part of the public resource. That we all enjoy in Washington state called Salmon. 90% of the population in Washington is the non-fishing public that pays their taxes and power bills. And how about our coastal communities that depend on commercial fishing and logging. Killing coastal communities would be devastating not only to the communities, but to the state of Washington as well. I'll close with this for now. If we are ever going to fix this mess. Will need to bring the adults to the table. And not the out of state special interest groups that divide us sports, commercial and tribal fishermen . So we can work on the real problems in Washington. Like the lack of hatchery production. The controlling of predation from pinniped's and avian's. And improvements on habitat and creating opportunity for all sports, commercial and tribal fishermen.</p> <p>Sincerely Greg King</p>

President of Puget Sound Anglers
Lower Columbia River Chapter
360-749-4523

Attachment

The message has been sent from 199.15.216.53 (United States) at 2020-07-21 15:17:10 on
Chrome 84.0.4147.89
Entry ID: 152

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Thursday, July 23, 2020 5:44:09 PM

Name	Margaret Lopic
Email	mlopic@cascadenetworks.net
Address	Longview WA
Comments	I would appreciate it if you made your rules fair for the non-fishing public. We want to be able to buy local salmon throughout the year. Salmon is food, not game. I don't think it will hurt the salmon recovery process if you approve the current proposed revisions to the Columbia River Salmon Management Policy C-3620. So please vote to approve them.
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 209.34.141.122 (United States) at 2020-07-23 20:44:06 on Chrome 84.0.4147.89
Entry ID: 153

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Friday, July 24, 2020 12:07:48 PM
Attachments: [Lower_Columbia_River_Conservation_Concerns.pdf](#)

Name Harry Barber

Email hab30a@netzero.net

Address 1417 SE Washougal River Road Washougal

Comments On numerous occasions I have alerted the Commission to concerns about bycatch in lower Columbia River gillnet fisheries. Attached is a document that I've previously submitted to the Commission.

The available information simply does not support the emphatic claims that gillnets are selective in the mainstem. Restoring year-round mainstem gillnetting will harm steelhead, Sockeye, and Sturgeon.

I urge the Commission not to approve the draft policy proposed by Commissioners McIsaac and Kehoe. Consider the following:

WDFW/ODFW have never done a capture and release study of steelhead caught in gillnets to determine the release mortality rate. These studies have been required of seines and pound nets. These studies have been botched by WDFW and/or interpreted by the US v. Oregon Technical Advisory Committee to result in high release mortality rates for steelhead -- effectively blocking the use of this gear. And yet gillnets are considered selective without any actual equivalent study? How can the Department defend this double standard?

Industry claims that steelhead "swim right through" large mesh gillnets are not supported by recent monitoring. Look at the Sockeye bycatch in the 2010 summer gill net fishery which was monitored by ODFW. The monitoring results showed that 144 Chinook were retained and 20 sockeye were released. Sockeye are small fish (often smaller than steelhead), averaging less than three pounds yet they were caught in a large mesh gill net fishery. Looking at the ratio of 20 sockeye per 144 chinook, and a total retention of 4,786 chinook, we estimate that 664 sockeye were caught and released. Sockeye are ESA listed. I am unaware of any release mortality rate studies done for Sockeye in Columbia River gillnet fisheries.

According to WDFW (https://wdfw.wa.gov/sites/default/files/about/commission/meetings/2018/11/nov0118_16_additional_info_on_cr_basin_salmon_management_policy.pdf - table E), traditional gillnet fisheries have only been monitored in 6 seasons over 24 years. Using a conservative estimate of 2 seasons/year -- that's 48 gillnet seasons. Monitored 6 out of 48 seasons (12.5%). The summer Chinook has been monitored once (2010) since it started in the 2000's. All of these fisheries are conducted with ESA-listed species present. How is this adequate?

Attachmenthttps://www.123formbuilder.com/upload_dld.php?fileid=899e0c4f3fc695394124d2217439e12d

The message has been sent from 76.121.76.39 (United States) at 2020-07-24 15:07:44 on Internet Explorer 11.0
Entry ID: 155

BYCATCH IN LCR GILLNET FISHERIES

3

Data from a number of sources reveals alarming levels of bycatch discarded from LCR gillnet fisheries. Both the number of species impacted and the number of non target fish discarded are cause for concern and for careful, consistent monitoring. If given the attention we believe this information deserves, managers would have clear proof of the need to eliminate gillnets and tangle nets from the main stem of the Columbia River downstream of Bonneville Dam.

Ashbrook Tangle Net Study

This study took place in 2002 using 4.5 inch tangle nets from April 1 to May 21 in locations from 7 to 20 miles below Bonneville Dam.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Number Caught In Tangle Net</u>
Chinook	1,218
Shad	397
Pike Minnow	86
Sturgeon	494
Sucker	203
<u>Other</u>	<u>33</u>
Total	1,213

The target fish (Chinook) catch was 1,218 and the discarded bycatch totaled 1,213, for about a 1 to 1 ratio. The author stated that "many small fish that dwell in the Columbia River can pass through large mesh gillnets but would be captured in the small mesh tangle net." The author also stated that "the relationship

between the increased number of non-salmonids and increased mortality may be an important factor in a tangle net fishery because the time needed to extract bycatch may increase the immediate mortality of salmonids.”

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The number of sturgeon discarded is also a major concern, especially because of the potential stress of repeated capture on gravid broodstock.

Bycatch Estimates From Observer Data 2010 Summer Chinook Gillnet Fishery

<u>Species</u>	<u>Discarded Bycatch</u>	<u>Retained Catch</u>
Chinook	0	144
Sublegal Sturgeon	143	0
Legal Sturgeon	?	62
Oversize Sturgeon	20	0
Green Sturgeon	7	0
Steelhead	9	0
Sockeye	20	0
Totals	199	206

This summer Chinook gillnet fishery demonstrated an unacceptably high level of discarded bycatch – 97% of the retained catch. Considering that 4,786 summer Chinook were retained in this two day fishery, the discarded bycatch could have been over 4,600 fish. This is totally unacceptable and unnecessary.

2012 Fall Columbia River Commercial Fisheries By Catch Observation Study.

Quoting from page 6 of the Report _ " Based on the combination of data from the 20 onboard observation periods and the Fish Ticket Landing Totals, we estimate that approximately 2,100 steelhead and 5,500(3,543 sublegal, 1,179 legal, and 747 over-legal) white sturgeon were handled and released over the course of 24 fishery openers of the fall 2012 commercial season." A total of 88 trips and 437 drifts were observed. Their estimated by catch of 7,600 sturgeon and steelhead represents 20.6 percent of the retained chinook catch(36,800).

We feel that it is imperative for the Commission to be fully informed as to the magnitude of by catch in the gillnet fisheries.

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: Time for a change
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 9:06:45 AM

From: rick bennett <ricob74@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 11:58 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Time for a change

Come November you will be under a lawsuit stating that you intended to take the position of commercial gillnetting, thereby being responsible for destroying endangered salminoids on the Columbia River.

The other chance you have is to end this now. We have five attorneys, 3 state representatives and 2 state senators so far that will press this and other criminal acts your administration are directly involved in.

Just don't think that you will only get fired.

You are going to headline the lawsuit.

Too late to fix it.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

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 netting opposition
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:19:19 AM

From: Gerald Bosh <gbosh@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 5:02 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Gill netting opposition

Commissioners:

PLEASE listen to the recreational fisherpersons who buy the fishing license that makes the Department of Fishing & Hunting possible and allows people to be employed who care for outdoor recreation. Anyone who is a sincerely fisherperson has told you for many, many years that we don't want gill netting on the Columbia River. Our license fees and the taxes we pay on fishing equipment is what allows the hatcheries to supplement the natural reproduction of a fish and wildlife. Gill netting, in the Columbia River, kills more fish than they harvest for the markets. They don't discriminate between a hatchery or wild salmon. Why should we be providing salmon and steelhead for those who chose to buy from local markets rather than spend money for licenses and the taxes on fishing equipment that is needed to fish? If, Fish and Wildlife, would increase the reproduction of Salmon & Steelhead we could think about sharing the increase with gill netters on the Columbia. The Commission needs to share the production of salmon & steelhead rather than decreasing the creel limits or fishing time allowed for fisherperson. Gill netting is a dying part-time occupation and should not be encourage at the expense of a recreational outdoor adventure.
Gerry Bosh

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 on the Columbia
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:08:30 AM

From: Ed Chapman <edchaphome@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 2:35 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Gill nets on the Columbia

Please, please abandon your policy of allowing gill net killing of many fish species on the Columbia. Gill nets are not selective. What you need to do is eliminate the sea lions, seals and cormorants to improve salmon survival both entering and leaving the CR systems. The Orca whales could be saved by doing these three things. Seal populations in Puget Sound and the Straights of Juan de Fuca need to be drastically reduced too. These critters have no predators except for the occasional visits by Norther Orcas.

Respectively,

Paul Chapman
with over 60 years of fishing in Washington

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Friday, July 24, 2020 3:19:33 PM

Name	Jordan Charron
Email	fishoncharron@gmail.com
Address	Kennewick WA
Comments	<p>Cutting back fishing opportunities by 25% is not going to be a good thing. You will not get any of my money at that point. I haven't caught a steelhead in over 4 years, because there is either no fish or no season. I feel dfw is doing a very poor job of managing fish and wild life. I feel like you guys need to talk to a state that has good hunting and fishing, like Utha or Idaho and get some pointers on how to do your jobs. We need more fish hatcheries if you guys haven't noticed salmon and steelhead fisheries will be gone without them. The steelhead fishery has been down drain for awhile now so let's go ahead and get the columbia river fishing again, so my kids can enjoy life the way we have gotten to up until the last 5 years or so.</p>
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 166.181.253.26 (United States) at 2020-07-24 18:19:26 on Chrome 83.0.4103.106
Entry ID: 163

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Friday, July 24, 2020 2:45:09 PM

Name	Steven Christensen
Email	troll4fish@comcast.net
Address	Bremerton WA
Comments	Don\'t cut recreational fishing on the Columbia River. Spots fishing brings in money, dollar for dollar than commercial fishing, which has already been proven by several studies nation wide. By allowing commercial fishermen to keep gill netting, you are essentially killing the runs, as we have diminished runs already, even with the data you\'ve obtained yourselves.
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 76.28.189.251 (United States) at 2020-07-24 17:45:06 on Chrome 84.0.4147.89
Entry ID: 162

From: [Kloepfer, Nichole D \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Fwd: WDFW hosts online public meeting to hear input on fish passage and screening law
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 2:35:37 PM

Here is another one that went through the wrong program.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Kloepfer, Nichole D (DFW)" <Nichole.Kloepfer@dfw.wa.gov>
Date: July 27, 2020 at 1:28:42 PM PDT
To: "FishPassageRules (DFW)" <FishPassageRules@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: RE: WDFW hosts online public meeting to hear input on fish passage and screening law

Thank you!

From: FishPassageRules (DFW) <FishPassageRules@dfw.wa.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 1:05 PM
To: Kloepfer, Nichole D (DFW) <Nichole.Kloepfer@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: FW: WDFW hosts online public meeting to hear input on fish passage and screening law

Hi Nikki,

Can you review and share a response? It seems to be more pertinent to your area.

Thanks,

Gabrielle Stilwater

(she/her/hers)

HABITAT PROGRAM - DEPARTMENT OF FISH & WILDLIFE

(564) 999-0768

From: DAN DAVIS <dcdavis4@msn.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 12:45 PM
To: FishPassageRules (DFW) <FishPassageRules@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: WDFW hosts online public meeting to hear input on fish passage and screening law

And at the same time the commission is considering renegeing on its 2013

agreement to remove gillnets from the mainstream of the Columbia River???
How many millions of dollars have to be wasted before you get the gillnets out of
our rivers???

Dan Davis
Olympia WA

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Saturday, July 25, 2020 8:08:38 AM

Name	jim deatherage
Email	sonshine1964@hotmail.com
Address	Kennewick WA
Comments	<p>If you were a \"betting salmon\" or man, and faced the following wager, where would you put your money? WILL A SALMON SMOLT MAKE THE WHOLE TRIP SUCCESSFULLY? YES OR NO?</p> <p>A salmon smolt heads for the ocean facing predatory birds and fish, and several dams to get there, hoping for proper water. In the ocean, more predators and the fickleness of ocean conditions come into play. Reentering the Columbia, the salmon faces gill nets from commercial and Indian groups, literally smothering the river. Sea lions greet them at the mouth of the river and follow them upstream to Bonneville Dam where the predators feast on them. Dams provide fish ladders for their return trip...too often with sea lions sitting on the steps, hungry as hell. Dam after dam and more and more nets seem all they encounter. Occasionally, a few that are left fall victim to some recreational fisherman, and some finally make it home to spawn and hopefully continue the cycle.</p> <p>So, do the math and wager appropriately...many of the factors making you vote against the salmon\'s successful journey can be controlled, especially removing nets from the river. Pay the gill netters what they\'ve earned on average for the last five years and don\'t let them fish. Pay the Indians to only catch ceremonial fish and compensate them for lost revenue they experienced from not being able to sell OUR resource for financial gain. Consider it a \"bargain\" compared to the vast amount of money wasted on studies and such. Seems bright individuals on these commissions could craft a plan that is fair for all concerned, including the salmon. Thanks.</p>
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 71.80.144.110 (United States) at 2020-07-25 11:08:34 on Chrome 84.0.4147.89
Entry ID: 167

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 fishing
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:21:27 AM

Please let me know if a Commissioner can respond. I will reply that I have received. Thank you!

From: ddeibert841@frontier.com <ddeibert841@frontier.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 7:01 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>; James R. Pelley <jrpelleyllc@yahoo.com>; Scott Stiegler <js.stiegler@gmail.com>; Tyson Deibert <td307lob@gmail.com>; John Schnieder <johns@olympen.com>; lance brown <basketball50@live.com>; Shel Neufeld <shel@neufeld.org>; Maribeth Darst <maribethdarst1966@gmail.com>; Albert Traxinger <traxfam@hotmail.com>; Dan Deibert <dand53@msn.com>; Holly Burton <moonon2u@hotmail.com>; Dennis Nancy Carlson <dennan_c@hotmail.com>; Jerrie Smith <jerriesmith52@gmail.com>; bob ketchem <ketchumifucan60@gmail.com>
Subject: Columbia river fishing

Dear commissioners

Both my wife and I are opposed to decreasing fishing opportunities, and increasing the commercial gillnet fishing on the Columbia river. A deal was made a few years back to get the nets out of the Columbia and money was spent to allow them to fish in the side channels. The wdfw has blatantly not lived up to that deal. It is time to hold the director of WDFW up to that commitment. And it is up to you to make sure that commitment is held up. READ THE WDFW MISSION STATEMENT.

Sincerely

Dennis and Sandra Deibert.

P S We would like one of you to respond back about our concerns on this matter.

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: Reduction of recreational use vs increase gillnetting
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:06:16 AM
Attachments: [21572_2020CRTalkingPoints.pdf](#)

From: Steve Emrich <ldswebman@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 12:46 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Reduction of recreational use vs increase gillnetting

http://centralpt.com/upload/560/Advocacy/2020/21572_2020CRTalkingPoints.pdf

Sent from my iPhone



Background

The WDFW Commission is considering a policy to reduce recreational fishing opportunity in the Columbia River Basin in exchange for increased mainstem gillnetting. Depending on the season, **the proposed policy cuts recreational fishing opportunity by as much as 25%**! Reducing selective recreational fishing and increasing non-selective gillnetting is a bad idea.

The proposed policy would restore year-round gillnetting to the mainstem Columbia River, which has not occurred since 2016 under the bi-state Columbia River reforms and comes at a time when salmon and steelhead runs are struggling.

Spring Chinook

Proposed policy would restore mainstem gillnetting and reduce recreational fishing opportunity across the Columbia River Basin by up to 20%.

- Gillnets and tangle gillnets pose a serious risk to wild upriver spring Chinook and bycatch species like steelhead.
- The gill net 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-plus spring Chinook landed in the off-channel gill net fisheries in 2017 exceeded the number of spring Chinook harvested in recreational fisheries above and below Bonneville Dam.
- The proposed policy would allow mainstem gillnetting prior to a run update, before the agencies confirm the run is coming in as forecast - a highly irresponsible action.

Summer Chinook

Proposed policy would restore mainstem gillnetting and reduce recreational fishing opportunity by up to 25%.

- Summer Chinook have been prioritized for upriver fisheries in Eastern Washington, including the selective fishing practices of the Colville Nation.
- The recreational summer Chinook fishery is being managed as a mark-selective fishery to help meet escapement goals for wild Chinook to the spawning grounds, which are not being met in some upriver tributaries. WDFW staff recently spoke to the importance of this mark-select fishery.
- Commercial gill nets are incapable of selectively harvesting hatchery summer Chinook and create high levels of by-catch such as ESA-listed sockeye and steelhead.

Fall Chinook

Proposed policy would restore mainstem gillnetting throughout the lower Columbia River (it is currently limited to Zones 4 and 5).

- The fall mainstem gillnet fishery threatens bycatch species like ESA-listed B-run steelhead.
- WDFW claims that fall mainstem gillnetting is selective but has never conducted an actual release mortality study for steelhead.
- Instead, WDFW used non-scientific data to reduce the release mortality rate assigned to gillnets for steelhead – allowing the gillnet fleet to kill up to 35% more steelhead.
- Contrary to claims by WDFW, the gillnet fleet does not help “mop up” hatchery tulle fall Chinook in the lower Columbia River because they are unable to fish selectively.

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Friday, July 24, 2020 12:30:14 PM

Name	Rick Haddock
Email	haddockr@fbrrealty.com
Address	Woodland Wa
Comments	<p>Do not reduce sports caught fishing opportunities in favor of gillnets.</p> <p>The economics for a sports caught fish is much greater than commercially caught fish. With such limited opportunities that WDFW offer sportsman and the limited amount of fish returning this year, common sense would demand giving the sportsman a chance to fish.</p>
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 74.93.188.10 (United States) at 2020-07-24 15:30:11 on Chrome 84.0.4147.89
Entry ID: 158

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: No on increased gillnetting on the Columbia River
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 9:06:27 AM

From: jerry han <jerryhandds@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 11:50 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: No on increased gillnetting on the Columbia River

Dear WDFW commissioners,

Please do not increase gillnetting allocations on the Columbia River. Short and sweet. Thanks.

Jerry Han

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Friday, July 24, 2020 11:42:03 AM

Name	Stacey Hartman
Email	shartman@cbm-wa.com
Address	Tenino Wasington
Comments	I own property in Alaska in Soldotna. The fishing is affected significantly by commercial fishing as well as set nets. If you don't manage the resorce so it grows you will be facing the same thing the Kenia is. It is closed do to lack of escapement. Please don't allow commercial netting. Do it for the Orca's if not the conservationist we buy fishing licenses.
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 192.132.61.162 (United States) at 2020-07-24 14:41:59 on Firefox 78.0
Entry ID: 154

From: [Paul Hemming](#)
To: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Gill netting expansion
Date: Friday, July 24, 2020 7:46:07 PM

Please do not reduce recreational fishing in favor of Gill netting. Recreational fishing will bring in far more revenue and benefit many more people.

Ban gill netting.

Paul Hemming

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

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 Fishing
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:07:15 AM

From: David T Johnson <dave_dorothy@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 2:21 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Cc: Bill Welch <bwelch34@earthlink.net>
Subject: Columbia Fishing

Dear Commissioners

It appears the commission is again poised to favor gill netters over Sport Fishermen. I used to blame members of the old Oregon Fish Commission for favoring gill netters and expanding their seasons. Now I blame you.

I live between three dead rivers. When I moved back here I bought a boat for the Columbia and the ocean. I later bought a boat for the Lewis and the Cowlitz currently "dead rivers". Fishing was good back then. I sold my Lewis River boat last year. The fishing for salmon and steelhead is in the toilet along with your politics. I don't know how much longer I can justify keeping my 2006 Hewes Sea Runner. I have a shop full of fishing poles and gear I bought supporting the local sporting goods stores and the WA tax system. The gear is mostly idle and I'm not buying any more. It's the sportsmen who pay your bills. If you continue to favor gill netters you'll be broke and the Great Northwest will no longer be great.

The hatcheries run by WDFW around here are an absolute failure. The current emphasis on returning fish to repopulate streams above the dams and fin clipping fish is not working. Year over year the fish returns following that policy have dwindled to a point the rivers are no longer open for fishing. I understand the oceans are not healthy and the orca's are starving. The hatcheries should be sending juvenile fish to the ocean...lots of fish. I have no hope your current policies will bring back fishing in my lifetime.

Disgusted

David T, Johnson

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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: Opposed Recreational Reduction on Columbia
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:08:31 AM

From: lk2thlite@aol.com <lk2thlite@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 2:39 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Opposed Recreational Reduction on Columbia

Dear Commissioner's

I am opposed to a reduction of 25% to Recreational fishing on the Columbia River. We are seeing the affects having Gill Netter's on the Commission obviously! Once again fisheries on the backs the Recreational fisheries and their wallets. Paying the Columbia River Endorsement for the Gill nets to fish. We are damn tired of these decisions and proposals! Gill Nets are not selective and are destroying ESA and upriver fisheries. Going Extinct in Idaho because of your decisions. I hope the pro gill net Commissioner's are enjoying these messages!

Getting rid of the Commission is probably the next best move since extinction instead of conservation is what you support!

Gary L Johnson
P.O. Box 816 Raymond, WA 98577 (360) 942-2141 home

From: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Gill netting the Columbia
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:22:23 AM

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

From: Terry Kelly <terrykelly@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 7:17 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Gill netting the Columbia

Commercial fishing is ruining our salmon runs. Gill netting on the Columbia is like a dagger into the heart of the northwest. Make it stop! It's on you!
Terry Kelly. Indianola Washington.

Sent from my iPad

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 in the Columbia
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:10:01 AM

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

From: Mike Kirk <mike-kirk@embarqmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 4:23 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: gill nets in the Columbia

Members of the Commission: it saddens me to see the continuing decline of the Columbia salmon fisheries and I wish to provide my support as a recreational fisher to the program in which gill nets are lessened, not increased. More fish should be produced in hatcheries and more wild fish need to hit the gravel. Policies that divvy out the last fish are short sighted. Obviously the policies of the past haven't worked as the numbers of Chinook and Coho in the Columbia are pale shadows of their former level of abundance. I recognize the complexities involved are not simple but feel certain that increasing abundance should be the goal and increasing use of gill nets runs counter to that goal. Thank you for considering that input.

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Friday, July 24, 2020 12:12:01 PM

Name	Kyle Klemm
Email	klemmer37@gmail.com
Address	Everett Washington
Comments	Keep gill nets off of the main stem Columbia River. The fishery has taken a steep decline in the last 10 years due to the miss management of gill nets, hatchery closures and out of control predators on smolt and fry. I feel lie te recreational sport fishery is the only one that cares anymore and the recreational fisherman and women have taken short end of it over and over. I want this fishery around to share with my future grandkids and hope it is restored to its past glory. The first step is to keep gill nets off of the main-stem of the Columbia River.
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 174.127.146.66 (United States) at 2020-07-24 15:11:58 on iPhone 13.1.1
Entry ID: 156

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 Fishery Policy Review - I'm opposed to gill and tangle netting on the Columbia River
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:08:33 AM

From: Jeff Layton | Grabflies <grabfly@grabflies.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 3:56 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Columbia River Fishery Policy Review - I'm opposed to gill and tangle netting on the Columbia River

Columbia River Fishery Policy Review (Public Review Draft of Policy C-3620 Revisions) – I am opposed to all gill and tangle netting on the Columbia River.

Gill Netting does not advance the conservation and recovery of wild salmon and steelhead on the Columbia River. I won't know why this old policy of allowing or advocating for gill netting on the Columbia River continues to be raised when science clearly shows that **gillnets and tangle gillnets pose a serious risk to wild upriver spring Chinook and by-catch species like steelhead?**

Recreational fishing with the use of barbless hooks allows for the release of wild fish on the Columbia River, and brings in more revenue to Washington and Oregon States than a kill fishery like gill and tangle nets.

Sincerely Jeff Layton
3311 Canyon Creek RD
Washougal Washington 98671
JeffLayton@grabflies.com

From: [LARRY MADDEN](#)
To: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Columbia Gill nets
Date: Friday, July 24, 2020 8:44:16 PM

Sirs, The Puget Sound, especially in the south, is already a Salmon wasteland due to WDFW policies. And now they want to do the same to the Columbia River. I have fished all over Washington for 60 years. It breaks my heart to see what the WDFW has done to our state.. Maybe you should just turn control over to the Tribes. They will increase Hatchery production. Course they will allocate all the fish to themselves. Just do something right for a change.

Sincerely,
Lawrence W. Madden

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Friday, July 24, 2020 8:55:45 PM

Name	Gene Martini
Email	ggmh206@aol.com
Address	longview, washington Washington
Comments	Who pays your salary? The recreational fisherman! Quit being a suckee of the commercial fish mongers.
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 67.189.84.165 (United States) at 2020-07-24 23:55:38 on Internet Explorer 11.0
Entry ID: 165

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 Gill Nets
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 9:07:45 AM

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

From: Jeff Miller <jmill2003@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 12:03 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Columbia River Gill Nets

Are you proposing cutting recreational fishing to allow for an in resin gill netting on the Columbia River?
How will increased non discriminatory gill nets help our dwindling fish population.
Can you help me understand the logic behind this proposal.

Thank you,
Jeff Miller

Sent from my iPhone

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Friday, July 24, 2020 6:40:35 PM

Name	Chris Nelsen
Email	Pkmster007@yahoo.com
Address	655 4th st ne b103 East Wenatchee Washington
Comments	Where are we at in allowing steelhead to make it to the upper Columbia again. We had a great sport fishery prior to gill netting on the lower Columbia. This was an terrible miss management of a resource. Shut down gill netting and a low the run a chance. Thankyou chris
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 107.77.205.189 (United States) at 2020-07-24 21:40:32 on Chrome 81.0.4044.138
Entry ID: 164

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Friday, July 24, 2020 9:48:12 PM

Name	Pete Parker
Email	petep1@yahoo.com
Address	Bremerton WA.
Comments	Seriously? I have never seen a department of government so intent on providing special interest groups at the expense of dedicated individuals working to save a vanishing resource! Your department is a disgrace and needs to be completely reorganized! Gill netting is bad enough with the tribes doing it but your decisions to further erode this resource is a crime!
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 174.21.24.17 (United States) at 2020-07-25 00:48:09 on Safari 13.1.1
Entry ID: 166

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: Monday, July 27, 2020 9:06:57 AM

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

From: Jeannette Requa <jnet@windermere.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 12:02 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Recreational fishing

To whom it may concern,

I have lived in the Puget Sound Region all my life and have fished for over 50 years. I have personally witnessed every year gillnetters Destroy our fishery by netting the wrong species to too small fish they toss back mostly dead or almost dead. They have destroyed Puget Sounds fishing.

When it comes time to decide whether to allow sports fishing or gill netting there should not even be a question. Sport fishing should prevail. Not only is it the citizens right, but it's the health of our dismissing fishing runs. By catch is destroying fisheries all over out area.

As a native Washingtonian, avid fisherperson, conservationist and an advocate of our waters, please please, please, do not take away the recreational fishing and allow more gill netting. From the Columbia river to the Canadian border, inland to Puget sound, our fishing grounds need to be saved and recreational fishing is our right and should be preserved.

Sincerely,
Jeannette Requa

From: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Reduced recreational fishing
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:19:50 AM

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

From: Jim Roberts <jim_roberts@frontier.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 5:24 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Reduced recreational fishing

Get the damn gill nets out of the Columbia River and do not reduce recreational fishing one iota!!! How can you with a clear conscience allow ANY commercial fishing when our Salmon and Steelhead runs are threatened! Ban all commercial fishing for Salmon period! That's the first thing that should have gone away years ago, I realize you could care less about us sportsman and cow-tow to the special interest groups, but this has gone to far!!! We need sportsman to run the WDFW not some gum shoe politicians who are appointed! Again and I can't emphasize this enough, Get The Nets out of our River!

Sent from my iPhone

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: Public Review Draft of Policy C-3620 Revisions
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:22:43 AM

From: Dave Robinson <flyguy3642@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 7:21 PM
To: Jeff Layton | Grabflies <grabfly@grabflies.com>
Cc: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Re: Public Review Draft of Policy C-3620 Revisions

I second this. Hard to deny facts and numbers.
Dave Robinson

On Fri, Jul 24, 2020, 7:10 PM Jeff Layton | Grabflies <grabfly@grabflies.com> wrote:

Columbia River Fishery Policy Review (Public Review Draft of Policy C-3620 Revisions) – I am opposed to all gill and tangle netting on the Columbia River.

Gill Netting does not advance the conservation and recovery of wild salmon and steelhead on the Columbia River. I want to know why this old policy of allowing or advocating for gill netting on the Columbia River continues to be raised when science clearly shows that gillnets and tangle gillnets pose a serious risk to wild upriver spring Chinook and by-catch species like steelhead?

Recreational fishing with the use of barbless hooks allows for the release of wild fish on the Columbia River, and brings in more revenue to Washington and Oregon States than a kill fishery like gill and tangle nets

Sincerely Jeff Layton
JeffLayton@grabflies.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: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Eliminate mainstream gillnetting on the Columbia River
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:20:29 AM

From: PHIL SCHLECHT <floydster1@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 5:48 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Eliminate mainstream gillnetting on the Columbia River

Background

You, the WDFW Commission is considering a policy to reduce recreational fishing opportunity in the Columbia River Basin in exchange for increased mainstem gillnetting. Depending on the season, the proposed policy cuts recreational fishing opportunity by as much as 25%! Reducing selective recreational fishing and increasing non-selective gillnetting is a bad idea.

Your proposed policy would restore year-round gillnetting to the mainstem Columbia River, which has not occurred since 2016 under the bi-state Columbia River reforms and comes at a time when salmon and steelhead runs are struggling.

Spring Chinook

Proposed policy would restore mainstem gillnetting and reduce recreational fishing opportunity across the Columbia River Basin by up to 20%.

- Gillnets and tangle gillnets pose a serious risk to wild upriver spring Chinook and bycatch species like steelhead.
- The gill net 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-plus spring Chinook landed in the off-channel gill net fisheries in 2017 exceeded the number of spring Chinook harvested in recreational fisheries above and below Bonneville Dam.
- The proposed policy would allow mainstem gillnetting prior to a run update, before the agencies confirm the run is coming in as forecast - a highly irresponsible action.

Summer Chinook

Proposed policy would restore mainstem gillnetting and reduce recreational fishing opportunity by up to 25%.

- Summer Chinook have been prioritized for upriver fisheries in Eastern Washington, including the selective fishing practices of the Colville Nation.
- The recreational summer Chinook fishery is being managed as a mark-selective fishery to help meet escapement goals for wild Chinook to the spawning grounds, which are not being met in some upriver tributaries. WDFW staff recently spoke to the importance of this mark-select fishery.
- Commercial gill nets are incapable of selectively harvesting hatchery summer Chinook and create high levels of by-catch such as ESA-listed sockeye and steelhead.

Fall Chinook

Proposed policy would restore mainstem gillnetting throughout the lower Columbia River (it is currently limited to Zones 4 and 5).

- The fall mainstem gillnet fishery threatens bycatch species like ESA-listed B-run steelhead.
- WDFW claims that fall mainstem gillnetting is selective but has never conducted an actual release mortality study for steelhead.
- Instead, WDFW used non-scientific data to reduce the release mortality rate assigned to gillnets for steelhead – allowing the gillnet fleet to kill up to 35% more steelhead.
- Contrary to claims by WDFW, the gillnet fleet does not help “mop up” hatchery tule fall Chinook in the lower Columbia River because they are unable to fish selectively.

Thank you for accepting my input

Phil Schlecht

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: Gillnetting
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 9:07:15 AM

From: Scott Schoenberg <sschoenberg59@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 11:59 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Gillnetting

Please stop gill netting completely in lower Columbia. Enough damage to salmon runs has been done already.

Thank you

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Friday, July 24, 2020 1:12:16 PM

Name	Michael Smith
Email	msmithmarin@gmail.com
Address	12800 NE Salmon Crk Ave #109 Wa
Comments	Please do not cut back on Columbia River bank fishing, reintroduce barbed hooks and increase hatchery production.
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 174.204.214.155 (United States) at 2020-07-24 16:12:14 on iPhone 13.1.1
Entry ID: 161

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: BAN GILLNETTING IN WASHINGTON
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 9:08:12 AM

From: digits@uw.edu <digits@uw.edu>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 12:37 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: BAN GILLNETTING IN WASHINGTON

Dear WDFW Commission,

I oppose a proposed **WDFW policy that will reduce recreational fishing opportunity** on the Columbia River in exchange for increased mainstem gill netting. Depending on the season, this policy cuts recreational fishing opportunity by as much as 25%.

Thanks,

Joe Stephanson

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 gill netting
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:20:03 AM

From: Walter Stokman <wastokman@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 5:39 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Columbia river gill netting

Commissioners,

Gill netting anywhere, but especially on the Columbia River is a poor choice of commercial fishing. The fishery is not selective, no matter how people try to spin the facts. Gill netting will always have a by catch. The Columbia river has too many species of fish to harvest them using gill nets. Not only do other species of fish get caught, but also birds, mammals and crustaceans.

Instead of gill netting allow a commercial fisher to use multiple rods, exchange their gill net license for a guide license or use fish wheels that are manned. Any fish coming down the slide is immediately selected for harvest or returned to the river.

Commercial fishers on the Columbia river do not contribute to funding WDFW at the same high rate as all recreational fishers do. It is time to eliminate gill nets and turn the river over to recreational fishers.

Respectfully,
Walter Stokman

From: DTakami@aol.com
To: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Do NOT Increase Gill-netting at the Expense of Us Recreational Fishermen!
Date: Friday, July 24, 2020 10:49:14 PM

I implore the WDFW to stop plans to increase gill-netting on the Columbia River. We sport fishermen follow the rules laid down to protect fish populations and I have personally released big wild Kings when their killing was prohibited. Now you are considering increases in non-selective gill-netting? That is a direct rebuke to all the care that we recreational people take in obeying the rules in effect.

I host an annual fishing trip for my West Point classmates who come from all over the country to fish and enjoy eachother's camaraderie. Many like me have served recent combat tours. The way things are going, I can foresee in the near future the salmon populations and limits not warranting the travel to our Pacific Northwest to enjoy our unique sport.

V/R,

Donald K Takami
COL-retired

From: [hotrod4401](#)
To: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Gill Net Use on the Main Stream Columbia River
Date: Friday, July 24, 2020 8:45:32 PM

Please do not allow the use of nonselective fishing methods that harm endangered species as well as cause overfishing of the targetted salmon. Nearly every nation has stopped this practice due to evidence of severely damaged fish runs. Please adhere to previous commitments, proven by science, to stop gill net use on the Columbia River.

Rodney Thorne
Washington State Resident and fishing enthusiast.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy Tablet

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Friday, July 24, 2020 12:14:18 PM

Name	Todd Thorndike
Email	Toddthorndike@gmail.com
Address	Mount Vernon WA
Comments	pleast protect sports fishing on the Columbia over gill netting. Gill netting is not a sound management tool as it targets and heavily hits individual runs returning and is profit over public access to our limited resource. My children have a right to those historical runs over some for profit net. The sports fishing does not heavily impact individual runs, as it is catch over a season. Thank you for your consideration. Todd Thorndike, Mount Vernon
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 172.92.195.24 (United States) at 2020-07-24 15:14:00 on Chrome 84.0.4147.89
Entry ID: 157

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 Netting on the Columbia
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 9:07:59 AM

From: ken.warnecke@frontier.com <ken.warnecke@frontier.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 12:05 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Gill Netting on the Columbia

Dear sir.

As a sports fisherman I am deeply disturbed that you are even considering allowing gill netting on one of the best salmon river for returns.

It is bad enough the tribes and seals take over 25% of the return but to allow even more to be taken is irresponsible.

Please consider NOT allowing gill netting on the Columbia.

Regards.

Ken

From: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Giving our fish to the gillnetters
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:08:32 AM

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

From: warrenhazen@gmail.com <warrenhazen@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 3:52 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Giving our fish to the gillnetters

I can't believe that the Washington state fish and wildlife game commission would even consider giving more fish to the gillnetters for what few gillnetters In the state of Washington you really know how to upset the taxpayers the sports fisherman dumped millions of tax dollars and license into our salmon and steelhead runs how dare you give those fish to the gillnetters that hardly paid anything and license fees to the hatcheries. I'm asking you as an outdoorsman a sports fisherman and a tax Payer please do not give our fish to the gillnetters Sent from my iPhone

From: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Lost sport fishing opportunities.
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:18:27 AM

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

From: john wenzen <mogambow@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 4:33 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Cc: john burns <jwburns1940@yahoo.com>
Subject: Lost sport fishing opportunities.

I'm 90 years old, I came to this State because of the great hunting and fishing opportunities, unreasonable hunting permits, steelhead and salmon fishing gone to HELL, rape of the Columbia River and so is the rest of this State going to hell. I saw the best of it !!! Audios, Good Bye and Go to Hell!

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 Netting on the Columbia
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:07:00 AM

From: Norm Wurzer <northseekr@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 1:14 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Gill Netting on the Columbia

How can you justify allotting more gill netting with the sports fishers 12 times the amount of dollars to fish preservation and to the local economy??? With all due respect your decisions are killing the golden cow that feeds fish preservation and continued funding!

Norm Wurzer

503-701-5559

From: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Gill nets
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 11:04:18 AM

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

From: Charles Ballard <cvbpmb@aol.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 25, 2020 9:47 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Gill nets

To All: The use of gill nets is unacceptable period!

They are killing the wild fish runs ! The numbers of surviving fish gets reduced each year and until the snake river dams are taken out this gill net plan will kill the final runs. I dont know if you will have a commission in the future because your bad decisions will put you out of this job , “nothing to manage.”

USE YOUR HEADS get out of the politics that only support gill netting and save the resource. BE BOLD !

Chuck Ballard

Sent from my iPhone

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
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 9:56:14 AM

From: EARL E BETTS <EARLEBETTS@msn.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 25, 2020 7:19 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Columbia River

Commission Members,

I urge you to vote against returning non tribal commercial gill nets to the Columbia River. Gill nets are non selective and kill ESA listed salmon, steelhead and many other types of marine wildlife. With our salmon and steelhead runs at all time lows it makes no sense to allow commercial gill nets back into the Columbia River. If you do vote to return gill nets to the river, I strongly urge you to also require all commercial boats have a monitor on board to count and record all non targeted species/by catch that are caught/killed in the nets.

Earl Betts
32513 112th Pl SE
Auburn, Wa. 98092

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 IN THE MAINSTEM
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:26:13 AM

From: bielas2629@comcast.net <bielas2629@comcast.net>

Sent: Saturday, July 25, 2020 11:34 AM

To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>

Subject: GILL NETS IN THE MAINSTEM

It is hard to believe we are still having this conversation. Off channel areas in 2017 and 18 have exceeded the # of spring chinook harvested by recreational fisherman above and below Bonneville Dam. The summer chinook fishery is a mark-selective fishery. Escapement goals for wild chinook to the spawning grounds are not being met in some upriver tributaries. Commercial gill nets are incapable of selectively harvesting and the by catch levels of sockeye and steelhead are very high. The fall MAINSTEM gillnet fishery threatens bycatch of B-run steelhead. WDFW used non-scientific data to reduce the release mortality rate allowing the gillnet fleet to kill up to 35% more steelhead. What more is there to talk about. Not only that but the sport fishing Industry has far more benefits for the economy. WE HAD A DEAL IN THE PAST .WHAT THE HELL.

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: Monday, July 27, 2020 11:03:43 AM

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

From: Randy Brosius <searunner20@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 25, 2020 11:15 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Recreational fishing

To whom it may concern,

My name is Randy Brosius and my family has been fishing since I was a child. I currently own two vessels and spend an amazing amount of money on the resource. In order to fish the ocean and the rivers I had to pay an incredible amount of money on gear and sporting goods.

I actually owned property in Long Beach Washington for the sole purpose of fishing. I don't believe people understand how much all the recreational sport fishing industry brings to the economy.

It baffles me to think here we are again allowing nuts in a river that was once iconic and booming. The miss management of this river based on gillnetting has produced the situation we are in today. I cannot believe you are allowing gillnets to go in this river. It's time to realize it's 2020. All past practice has lead us to a point where killer whales are actually starving. I believe sport fisheries with seas or take a backseat to fishing if it meant bringing back the runs. However, as long as you allow gillnets in the Columbia river we are going to follow the same path that we've been on. That path is extinction. Please represent the iconic salmon and the people who pay so much to take their family out and enjoy the Northwest.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Randy Brosius

Sent from my iPhone

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Saturday, July 25, 2020 10:50:03 AM

Name	Mitchell Bukzin
Email	mjb999@verizon.net
Address	Woodbridge Virginia
Comments	I cannot understand why the commission wants to decrease recreational fishing by allowing more gill netting on the Columbia River. I visit Washington to fish with a friend and to decrease the fish in the river by indiscriminate, species destructive gill netting is just greedy and stupid. Why should I fly across the country to see an empty river? Please severely limit gill netting in ANY river in the state especially the Columbia.
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 108.31.59.192 (United States) at 2020-07-25 13:50:00 on Chrome 84.0.4147.89
Entry ID: 169

From: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Why should I buy a license?
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 11:14:12 AM
Attachments: [It is BAD POLICY to increase Mainstem Columbia River Gillnetting.msg](#)
[Reduced sport catch.msg](#)
[Nets on Columbia.msg](#)
[Columbia River gill netting .msg](#)

From: Ken Cox <gotzem@msn.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 25, 2020 6:49 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Why should I buy a license?

Every time we "think" we have a decent fishing season, you people decide to give it away to the gillnetters! Why are you so blind? Can't you see that it "rapes" the river? Try fishing the day after those boats have been allowed to net. You won't catch a thing , just like the rest of us who pay for a license. We're going to rebel soon and nobody will buy a license. Then where will you be?

Ken Cox

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: Its time to end the battle on the Columbia River
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 9:57:01 AM

From: jofishn <jofishn@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, July 25, 2020 4:25 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Its time to end the battle on the Columbia River

Why does WDFW, and ODF continue to allow any gill net fishing on the Delicate. And endangered species of Salmon in both states waters.
I propose all commercial cease on the Columbia River, and allow recreation as is stated. This will allow escapement to the graves and start the task of Rebuilding the threatened. And ESA act.
Plus it will provide more salmon for the Orcas that swim off both states shores.
It's time to bite the bullet and all commercial fishing above the US HIGHWAY 101 BRIDGE for both states.

Joe Durham
Aberdeen, WA.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

From: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Columbia River mainstem gill netting
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 11:04:38 AM

From: Isaac Fu <isaacfu@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 25, 2020 8:05 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Columbia River mainstem gill netting

Please do not vote in favor of increasing unselective gillnetting at the expense of reducing selective recreational fishing. The commission has always supported native fish which have the strongest genetics and to allow for unselective gill netting of these native species is disingenuous. Selective fishing by recreational fishermen and women allows for far less impact on the native fish and the important naturally selected genetic propagation component that these fish provide for the survivability of future generations of fish.

Thank you,
Isaac Fu

From: [Gerry Glem](#)
To: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
Date: Saturday, July 25, 2020 7:21:23 AM

NO GILLNETS IN THE COLUMBIA RIVER EVER!



Virus-free. www.avast.com

From: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Gillnetting the Columbia
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 11:15:27 AM
Attachments: [Do NOT Increase Gill-netting at the Expense of Us Recreational Fishermen!.msg](#)
[Gill Net Use on the Main Stream Columbia River.msg](#)
[Columbia Gill nets.msg](#)
[Gill netting expansion.msg](#)

From: David Jacober <jacoberd@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 25, 2020 12:03 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Gillnetting the Columbia

I am opposed to your allowing gillnetting on the Columbia at the expense of recreational fishing, Orcas, and just plain bad management practices. DFW is doing a poor job of serving the people of this state.

David L Jacober
16600 25th Ave NE #148
Marysville, Wa. 98271

425-418-2490

From: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Columbia River Gillnetting
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:25:58 AM

From: meslloyd Lloyd <meslloyd@msn.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 25, 2020 12:56 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Columbia River Gillnetting

Please reject any proposals to allow gillnetting on the mainstream Columbia River. The Columbia River Salmon and Steelhead runs have declined to the point where some runs are so endangered that no recreation fishing is being allowed on them, and recreational fishing opportunities on other runs have been substantially reduced. Any further restrictions or declining populations and I and many of my fishing friends and family will no longer be buying fishing licenses as often. Thank you for listening to my concerns about sharing these fish fairly between recreational, commercial and tribal fishermen.

Sincerely,
David Lloyd
360 582-3071

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Saturday, July 25, 2020 12:53:11 PM

Name	Garry Lowry
Email	rllowry@tds.net
Address	13108-A NW 8th Way WA
Comments	<p>The Columbia River is a selective fishery. Common sense dictates that NO gillnets should be in the river as they are not selective!</p> <p>Use your heads. You can't protect endangered species using gillnets. Keep in mind also, that these fish migrate to Canadian rivers and as such are the main food of the orcas in and near that migration route. The orcas are struggling because you have not protected these salmon runs from the gillnets.</p>
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 67.189.11.116 (United States) at 2020-07-25 15:53:08 on iPhone 12.1.2
Entry ID: 171

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: Proposed change to recreational and commercial fishing on the Columbia river.
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:00:43 AM

From: Fred MacKenzie <frmackenz@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 25, 2020 1:45 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Proposed change to recreational and commercial fishing on the Columbia river.

My wife and I care about the future of our fisheries and understands that reducing selective recreational fishing and increasing non-selective gill netting is a really bad idea.

The proposed policy would restore year-round gillnetting to the mainstem Columbia River, which has not occurred since 2016 under the bi-state Columbia River reforms and comes at a time when salmon and steelhead runs are struggling. Spring Chinook Proposed policy would restore mainstem gillnetting and reduce recreational fishing opportunity across the Columbia River Basin by up to 20%. • Gillnets and tangle gillnets pose a serious risk to wild upriver spring Chinook and bycatch species like steelhead. • The gill net 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-plus spring Chinook landed in the off-channel gill net fisheries in 2017 exceeded the number of spring Chinook harvested in recreational fisheries above and below Bonneville Dam. • The proposed policy would allow mainstem gillnetting prior to a run update, before the agencies confirm the run is coming in as forecast - a

highly irresponsible action. Summer Chinook Proposed policy would restore mainstem gillnetting and reduce recreational fishing opportunity by up to 25%. • Summer Chinook have been prioritized for upriver fisheries in Eastern Washington, including the selective fishing practices of the Colville Nation. • The recreational summer Chinook fishery is being managed as a mark-selective fishery to help meet escapement goals for wild Chinook to the spawning grounds, which are not being met in some upriver tributaries. WDFW staff recently spoke to the importance of this mark-select fishery. • Commercial gill nets are incapable of selectively harvesting hatchery summer Chinook and create high levels of by-catch such as ESA-listed sockeye and steelhead. Fall Chinook Proposed policy would restore mainstem gillnetting throughout the lower Columbia River (it is currently limited to Zones 4 and 5). • The fall mainstem gillnet fishery threatens bycatch species like ESA-listed B-run steelhead. • WDFW claims that fall mainstem gillnetting is selective but has never conducted an actual release mortality study for steelhead. • Instead, WDFW used non-scientific data to reduce the release mortality rate assigned to gillnets for steelhead – allowing the gillnet fleet to kill up to 35% more steelhead. • Contrary to claims by WDFW, the gillnet fleet does not help “mop up” hatchery tule fall Chinook in the lower Columbia River because they are unable to fish selectively.

Please do not adapt these changes as they are bad for salmon restoration throughout the Columbia river.

Thank you,
Fred & Teresa MacKenzie

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: Fisheries
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 9:56:02 AM

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

From: Tim McLean <ugotmclean@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 25, 2020 7:44 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Fisheries

Please stop wasting our fish on pacifying the Gill net industry. I completely oppose the way our fisheries are managed. A 25% reduction on recreational sport fishing. The WDFW has become the COVID equivalent to sound fisheries management. And by the way, the difference between hatchery and native steelhead and Salmon is nothing !! Hatcheries haven't ever made a fish, that design process is credited to someone much smarter. They simply run water over eggs and throw fish food pellets at fingerlings. Tim McLean
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: gill nets
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 11:08:42 AM
Attachments: [It time you wake up and do the right things And get the hatcheries running at full capacity and stop gillnetting to give And get recreational fishing a priority.msg](#)
[Untitled.msg](#)
[Gill Nets.msg](#)

I've been trying to send in groups..my email is a nightmare today, I don't know if it's the connection or what.

Thanks for your patience!

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

From: Michael Miller <pintailsprig1@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Saturday, July 25, 2020 10:03 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: gill nets

I am opposed to the use of gill nets of any kind, let alone nonselective ones, on the Columbia River. Please support sport fishing of salmon on the Columbia instead! Thank you. Michael Miller, Spokane WA.

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Saturday, July 25, 2020 11:36:48 AM

Name	Tim Moore
Email	40@q.com
Address	Battle Ground WA
Comments	you need to take the nets out of the river as was the plan a few years ago.
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 71.34.92.211 (United States) at 2020-07-25 14:36:44 on Chrome 81.0.4044.141
Entry ID: 170

From: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Gill Netting
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 11:03:55 AM

From: Ken Munroe <munroecent@aol.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 25, 2020 8:40 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Gill Netting

Gill netting the main stream of the Columbia is wrong on so many levels. First it kills fish from endangered runs, taken as by catch. second it takes away recreational fishing opportunities, recreational fishing is the economical engine that powers both Washington and Oregon's hatchery programs as well as many costal communities. In addition Gill netting violates the existing agreement that has had recreational fishermen paying \$10 extra to fish the Columbia for the last decade. That money was ear marked for gill net license buy back. you never let that happen. Returning gill nets makes no environmental sense, no economical sense and stabs 200,000 recreational fishermen in the back for the sake of a few gill netter's with powerful friends.

From: [Mark Poor](#)
To: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Nets on Columbia
Date: Saturday, July 25, 2020 6:20:44 AM

Please re-evaluate the commercial netting on the Columbia. Times have changed! They can no longer make a living by fishing this river anyway, it's time they hang it up! Let them buy fishing poles and fish with the sportsman! This situation is ridiculous to say the least. In the past I've had to change careers, maybe they should too!

Thank you,
Mark Poor.

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
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 9:55:42 AM

From: James Posthumus <jcp1952@live.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 25, 2020 8:06 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Gill nets

You should take ALL gill nets out of the Columbia river. They Don't belong in the river Period. The Indians are taking Way to many fish as it is when they leave their nets in 24/7 every 1/4 mile from dam to dam on Both sides of the river. It should be they get one net and if they want more they can use the platforms they have set up all along the river. I know one who's cousin fishes for springers and Brags about how he only marks down 1 out of 20 that he catches. How can you keep track when you let them police themselves? Do you realize how many do the same thing ALL of them do. It's time that the river gets back to how it used to be. The runs are so small into the tributaries that you even have to shut them down. How long is it going to be until there aren't Anymore fish at all. Not to mention all the bass, sturgeon, and steel-head that get taken. they just leave the bass and other fish on the bank or throw them back in the water. if you drive down the boat launches on the Washington side up towards Arlington you will see the piles of them. Last year there was a female small-mouth that would have been a state record Full of eggs laying in a pile of about 50 fish all rotting in the sun. Thank you very much.

From: [david.rodriguez](#)
To: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Reduced sport catch
Date: Saturday, July 25, 2020 6:33:42 AM

Please do not have gill net fishing on the Columbia. Especially when the sports catch gets reduced due to it. It's a shame to see what's happening to our salmon, and steelhead fishing. I've been a recreational, and com fisherman all my life. There is no doubt in my mind these days that things are one sided toward the comm favor. IMO that's unexceptable. Sports fishing is selective, and better for the economy. The Gillnet fishing on the Columbia is a hobby fishery. Those guys have other jobs or make their living in Alaska. Shut those guys down on the Columbia pls.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Schmidt, Jason](#)
To: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Columbia River gill netting
Date: Saturday, July 25, 2020 5:56:00 AM

Hello,

Please do not allow gill netting to return to the main stem Columbia River- especially at the expense of recreational fishing!!!

Thanks,

Jason Schmidt

Sent from my iPhone

From: [William T. Smith](#)
To: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: It time you wake up and do the right things And get the hatcheries running at full capacity and stop gillnetting to give And get recreational fishing a priority
Date: Saturday, July 25, 2020 7:23:30 AM

Sent from my iPhone

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Saturday, July 25, 2020 4:51:50 PM

Name	Janice Stixrud
Email	jstixrud@gmail.com
Address	Longview WA
Comments	Please make your rules fair for all people who want to eat salmon throughout the year, not just for those who are sport fishing. Even though I live only a few miles from the Columbia, because I do not fish, I don't have access to eating fish from our river. Salmon is food, not game. I don't think it will hurt the salmon recovery process if you approve the current proposed revisions of the Columbia River Salmon Management Policy C-3620. So please vote to approve it.
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 71.63.214.39 (United States) at 2020-07-25 19:51:47 on Chrome 83.0.4103.116
Entry ID: 172

From: [Mick Talbot](#)
To: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: It is BAD POLICY to increase Mainstem Columbia River Gillnetting
Date: Saturday, July 25, 2020 6:45:18 AM

I am against increasing mainstem Columbia river gillnetting because contrary to any argument that it can be selective it is not and will adversely impact endangered as well as recently improving runs of anadromous fish. Mainstem gillnetting also impacts hatchery production and wild stock due to the by-catch that cannot be controlled.

Mick Talbot, Washington State resident for 71 years, proud and protective of our Columbia River fish runs.

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Saturday, July 25, 2020 10:04:18 AM

Name	Harold Thompson
Email	bigboattwo@msn.com
Address	13661 E Marina Drive, Unit 201 Colorado
Comments	<p>The money is in sport salmon fishing. Follow the money!</p> <p>But, more importantly sport fishing is selective fish harvesting process and is relatively easy to monitor and control. Whereas, harvesting fish with gillnets is a non-selective process, and one that is difficult to monitor and control. In this time of declining Salmon numbers, gillnet harvest on inland waters CAN NOT be justified and SHOULD NOT BE allowed.</p> <p>Please manage the NW Salmon fishery so that future generations will have the thrill of landing a majestic Salmon on the Columbia River. Don't let your legacy be that of the managers of the English and Irish Salmon Fishery!</p> <p>Sincerely, Harold Wade Thompson Anh Out of State Salmon Sport Fishing Enthusiast!</p>
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 159.65.172.144 (United States) at 2020-07-25 13:04:15 on Chrome 84.0.4147.89
Entry ID: 168

From: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Gill Nets in the Columbia River
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 11:04:28 AM

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

From: DORIS L TIEDER <jwdltieder@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, July 25, 2020 8:33 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Gill Nets in the Columbia River

Please do not go back to allowing gill nets in the Columbia. The struggling salmon populations need your help.

Sent from Xfinity Connect Application

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Saturday, July 25, 2020 5:07:53 PM

Name	Joseph TWOGOOD
Email	twogoodsatpa@olypen.com
Address	Port Angeles Washington
Comments	PLEASE DO NOT MAKE RECREATIONAL FISHING CUT BACKS ON THE COLUMBIA RIVER. GET THE GILLNETS OFF THE RIVER SO MORE FISH CAN SPAWN AND GIVE EVERYBODY MORE FISH.
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 174.21.189.27 (United States) at 2020-07-25 20:07:48 on Chrome 79.0.3945.136
Entry ID: 173

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 \(DFW\)](#); [Lothrop, Ryan L \(DFW\)](#); [Tweit, William M \(DFW\)](#); [Director \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Gill Netting Facts
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 7:48:55 AM

From: Steve Wilkening <swilkening.wa@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 25, 2020 7:57 AM
To: Kloepfer, Nichole D (DFW) <Nichole.Kloepfer@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Gill Netting Facts

Our Northwest salmon populations are so important to our State and others States economy, businesses and State revenue income that management of this resource requires smart decisions. I would like to see the WDFW Committee of the State of Washington along with the CCA of Washington help look at what I personal experienced at the Salmon Day event at the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery. It was so amazing and the results were overwhelming. Here is what I witness: . Lets get with the real problem. We hear funding issues, closing of hatcheries, and so on. I personal witness on the Sammamish Slough at the Issaquah Hatchery on a lunch time break . Before I started to eat lunch at the hatchery, I was totally amazed as there was salmon everywhere. People all over a small bridge, pointing at Salmon working there way up steam to do what they do best. Local school buses with kids everywhere witnessing God's gift to us. Returning Salmon bring more salmon to us and keeping there life's duty in tack. What a gift. There were so many salmon from Kings and Silvers I had to ask a hatchery employee what happened as I have never seen this many fish since I was a small boy 60 years ago. He said they were going to close the hatchery and cancel Salmon days for the town due to the escapement for the hatchery was just about dead to sustain the demand keeping the hatchery open. That means NO FISH everyone. The employee told me how this happened to have some many fish return. They asked the local tribes to remove their GILL NETS from Lake Washington and Lake Sammamish. They did. I saw the hatchery employees gathering salmon in the fish pond area, loading them up in a fish truck and trucking them up stream and to another stream to hatch and increase more salmon and bring back another stream. Then here is what I saw next. The hatchery empolyee's loading SURPLUS salmon in a large plastic tub. They counted 125 salmon and I asked where are they going? They were taking the surplus nice salmon the hatchery could not handle to the local tribes of that area. MAN! What a concept. NO Gill NETS in the rivers. Surplus fish to bring back health runs for everyone. Gill nets have to go and managing predators are even more we can do everywhere. All I can say is join your States (CCA) Coastal Conservation Association in your local area. Get with people. Face the truth head on.... I believe we need to change how GILL NETS are a killer to salmon and steelhead recovery. We need to change how we fish and how we manage. It is not about rights. Rights can be manage completely different and have more positive results benefiting everyone. Thank you for your time to listen: Washington State Long time fisherman.. CCA Life time Member Steve Wilkening

ONE MORE THING

Transparency. WOW... Someone's needs are greater than another? The fish have no say in this. WOW. It can't be one way as the gill nets are destroying our fisheries everywhere. This isn't about RIGHTS it is about conservation of our fishery restore. The sooner everyone wakes up and realizes the fish are going away and take their greedy ideas for money and fraud and throw it in the toilet, then and only then will TRANSPARENCY work for the better of FISH, SPORTSMAN, and commercial take. We all have to give and take and the gill nets are the problem.

Totally conservation on all our fishing,hunting,lands, and hatcheries. Taking in concern the importance of sound management that protects our fisheries and game and willing to accept change that benefits those important resources. Number one goal: Working closely with NOAA and CCA personal to assure conservation is first, proper escapement of our fisheries are the most important issues...

--

--

Steve
CPM INC.

From: [WAYNE WOOD](#)
To: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Gill Nets
Date: Saturday, July 25, 2020 7:12:44 AM

I am ask that gill nets not be put on the Columbia River.

Thank you
Wayne

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: Sports fisheries vs gillnet and your pour choices
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:25:10 AM

From: Ken Youker <ken.youker@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 25, 2020 2:10 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Sports fisheries vs gillnet and your pour choices

You are stewards of a great resource that has been around for millions of years that needs protection yet you still don't get it

One would think that you would realize that you are working for the people of the state of Washington including recreation, manufacturing, retail goods, tourism and food supply for the voters who pay you. (Oops, that may or may not be true of some of you). I know a lot of people who could but very few who would justify spending \$10 a pound for crab and 15 to 20 or \$30 or even \$40 for Columbia River chinook salmon and not to mention many strains of seafood, because most of our resource goes over seas anyway

How moronic is some of you wanting to put the gillnetters back in the main stream of the Columbia river. Keep the gillnetters in their lane "off channel" and we will be fine. Or, no one will get to fish

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

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 netting on main stem of Columbia River
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 9:53:34 AM

From: Lori Bangs <troylori.bangs@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 26, 2020 9:47 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Gill netting on main stem of Columbia River

Dear Sir,

As a lifelong sport fisherman and lifelong supporter of both WDFW and ODFW with both my tax dollars and license fees, I am astonished that you would even consider putting gill nets back into the main stem of the Columbia River. It is a proven fact that they're nonselective and catch not only wild salmon, steelhead, and sturgeon. This is grievous collateral damage.

The Columbia River has been struggling these past years with weak runs and this proposal seems totally against the health and longevity of our fishing program. Furthermore, the off channel gill-netting areas have proven a wise choice.

Sportfishermen put a lot of money into the economy but given the shortened seasons, poor runs, and current proposal, it is hardly worth it to purchase a license any longer.

Sincerely,

Troy Bangs

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 threaten hatchery production and wild fish
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 9:53:49 AM

From: jim birrell <jimsbirrell@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 26, 2020 9:42 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: gill nets threaten hatchery production and wild fish

No more gill net access to main stem Columbia salmon and steelhead.....enough is enough....PLEASE!

Non-selective gill nets can limit hatchery production due to bycatch and depletion of wild stocks. As a result, recreational fisheries are diminished and hatchery production cuts can occur when wild salmon returns on spawning grounds become too low compared to hatchery fish spawning in the wild. By removing non-selective gill nets and utilizing mark-selective sport fisheries, it is possible that hatchery production can actually be increased without negative impacts on wild fish.

Thank you for your time and ongoing stewardship of these valuable resources.

Jim Birrell

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Sunday, July 26, 2020 1:06:34 PM

Name	Scott Harrison
Email	hairballz57@yahoo.com
Address	Vancouver Washington
Comments	Heck, if you want to increase gillnetting then might as welwell reintroduce fish wheels and dynamite! I\'m gonna quit buying a license and sell all my gear.
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 73.240.35.38 (United States) at 2020-07-26 16:06:32 on Chrome 79.0.3945.136
Entry ID: 178

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Sunday, July 26, 2020 7:35:49 PM

Name	Mike Kalahar
Email	freedrum4@yahoo.com
Address	Marysville WA
Comments	The economies of lower river depend on subsistent fisherman (I don\'t like to be called a "recreational" fisherman). Many of theses small towns have been hit by reduced seasons in the lower river. In years of good returns, the economic benefit to the small towns will be reduced, the conservation on our salmon will be reduced and the amount of salmon going outside our region will increase if this amendment is passed.
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 24.16.94.33 (United States) at 2020-07-26 22:35:42 on Internet Explorer 11.0
Entry ID: 180

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Sunday, July 26, 2020 10:10:39 AM

Name	Richard Kinnaman
Email	dayislandorv@aol.com
Address	University Place WA
Comments	It was mentioned that me(we) recreational fishers were not smart enough to understand the North of Falcon process. I guess one of thoughts meetings was held in CA, a long ways away from us. I have 3 college degrees, BS in Geology at UPS, BD at UPS, and a Majors in Physical Sciences at U. of Rochester. I guess I might not be able to understand the very complex data! Gill nets kill all species of fish! Gill netting in the main stream of the Columbia is not conservation of native fish!! I think it\'s very simple "follow the money"! Dick K.
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 174.238.143.115 (United States) at 2020-07-26 13:10:35 on Chrome 84.0.4147.89
Entry ID: 177

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Sunday, July 26, 2020 5:35:25 PM

Name	Greg Lopic
Email	glopic7405@gmail.com
Address	Longview WA
Comments	<p>Dear commission members, I am no longer a sports fisherman and have never been commercial. However, I am a LOVER of locally caught salmon which have become less and less available over the past couple of years. The restrictions on where commercial operation can occur and the type of equipment used combined with fewer days on the water have resulted in this shortage. At the same time the Willow Grove boat launch is frequently filled to capacity with sports fishing trailers. I believe the balance has swung too far towards the sports industry and I would hope that you will give serious consideration to the current proposals to help rebalance (PC-3620). I'll be thanking you in years to come if I find more locally caught salmon in my plate, Greg Lopic</p>
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 209.34.141.122 (United States) at 2020-07-26 20:35:21 on Chrome 84.0.4147.89
Entry ID: 179

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Sunday, July 26, 2020 12:01:41 AM

Name	David Lee
Email	harlee102@gmail.com
Address	Everett WASHINGTON
Comments	I already don't get any fishing in, this would pretty much cancel it totally
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 67.183.234.170 (United States) at 2020-07-26 03:01:37 on Chrome 84.0.4147.89
Entry ID: 174

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 \(DFW\)](#); [Lothrop, Ryan L \(DFW\)](#); [Tweit, William M \(DFW\)](#); [Director \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Letter to Commission re mortality rates
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 7:46:30 AM
Attachments: [Washington Fish and Wildlife Commissioners steelhead letter.docx](#)
[Steelhead07262020.pdf](#)

From: Irene Martin <i7846martin@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, July 26, 2020 6:13 AM

To: Kloepfer, Nichole D (DFW) <Nichole.Kloepfer@dfw.wa.gov>; Susewind, Kelly (DFW) <Kelly.Susewind@dfw.wa.gov>; Tweit, William M (DFW) <William.Tweit@dfw.wa.gov>; Lothrop, Ryan L (DFW) <Ryan.Lothrop@dfw.wa.gov>; Warren, Ron R (DFW) <Ron.Warren@dfw.wa.gov>; Blake, Brian <brian.blake@leg.wa.gov>

Subject: Letter to Commission re mortality rates

Dear Nichole,

I've attached a letter from Kent regarding steelhead mortality rates, and would appreciate it if you would send it out to the Commissioners. I think I've taken care of everyone else. Thanks so much.

Best to you,

Irene

P.O. Box 83,
Skamokawa, WA 98647.

July 26, 2020.

Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission,
600 Capitol Way N.,
Olympia, WA 9804.

Dear Washington Fish and Wildlife Commissioners,

At the July 21 Policy C-3620 Review committee meeting, the question arose over wild steelhead release mortality rates for the June/July summer chinook fishery using 8 inch mesh size gillnet, and the fall August/September Zone 4-5 chinook fishery using 9 inch mesh size. Staff reported that the release mortality rates of 8 inch and 9 inch gear were 44% and 38% respectively.

Once again, staff left out the rest of the story. The mortality rates are a function of the handle or encounter rate. The strategies of when you fish, where you fish and the gear size you fish were not mentioned, even though they are profoundly relevant. Selective harvest is ultimately about actual numbers of dead fish, not percentages.

As you can see in the attached document, I requested from Oregon staff the estimated number of non-target wild, primarily A-index steelhead handled for the 8 inch summer chinook June/July fishery and the fall 9 inch primarily B-index steelhead for August/September. Long story short is that with the 8 inch gear, 44% of the 194 A-index steelhead handled over the three years is a small fraction of 10% of the 6,616 handled and estimated mortality in the sport fishery. Similarly, with B-index steelhead using 9 inch mesh size, the 38% of 19 wild fish is a fraction of the 10% sport mortality of 388 fish. Basically, most steelhead pass through the large mesh size and are thus not caught, which is selectivity.

It has been a disservice to the alternative gear dialogue that the euphoria over low release-mortality rates in terms of percentages has masked the sheer volume of fish handled that has increased the number of dead, non-target, often wild fish. Our fishermen see this pitfall clearly, and for them, it explains why WDFW has never proposed actual numbers of salmonids available for harvest with alternative gear. Alternative gears, at least the ones tested to date, are going to leave more dead non-target fish in their wake than the current use of gillnets.

I may be reached at 360-795-3920 if you have questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kent Martin



Irene Martin <i7846martin@gmail.com>

handle of wild A/B summer steelhead

1 message

John North <John.A.North@state.or.us>
To: Irene Martin <i7846martin@gmail.com>

Thu, Jul 23, 2020 at 4:17 PM

Kent/Irene;

Per your phone request, here is a summary of the estimated handle of wild A- and B-Index summer steelhead in recreational and commercial fisheries (for the areas described) for 2017-19. As you are aware, ESA impacts are a product of the handle and release mortality rate, so a fishery with a lower release mortality rate may actually accrue more ESA impacts (than a fishery with a higher release mortality rate) if the handle is high (and vice versa)

Estimated handle of upriver wild summer steelhead (A/B-Index stocks), 2017-2019.

Wild A-Index handle

Year	Recreational *	Commercial **	Total	Sport %	Commercial %
2019	1603	62	1665	96%	4%
2018	2639	62	2700	98%	2%
2017	2374	70	2444	97%	3%
SUM	6616	194	6809	97%	3%

Wild B-Index handle

Year	Recreational *	Commercial **	Total	Sport %	Commercial %
2019	92	6	97	94%	6%
2018	212	7	219	97%	3%
2017	85	7	92	93%	7%
SUM	388	19	407	95%	5%

* B10-Hwy 395 plus tributary dip-ins

** Includes mainstem and Select Area commercial fisheries

John North

Columbia River Fisheries Manager

ODFW

17330 SE Evelyn St.

Clackamas, OR 97015

971-673-6029

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: No nets
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 9:52:39 AM

RE: Gillnetting @ 15 emails

From: Bob call <bcallski@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 26, 2020 10:54 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: No nets

Please stop the gill netting on the Columbia River

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Sunday, July 26, 2020 8:34:46 AM

Name	Joel Rupley
Email	ruplestix@comcast.net
Address	Longview Wa
Comments	<p>I am one of the founding members of the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board. As we formed, we recognized the need to involve representatives from a lot of different groups and organizations, including Tribes, commercial and sport fishers, environmentalists, and farmers and landowners, so that there would be broad support for our recovery efforts and projects. That necessity continues today and I am pleased with the inclusive scope of Policy C-3620. Please vote in support of it. Thank you. Joel Rupley</p>
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 71.63.214.39 (United States) at 2020-07-26 11:34:43 on Safari 10.1.1
Entry ID: 176

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Sunday, July 26, 2020 5:30:07 AM

Name	Mike Slyter
Email	nofins@comcast.net
Address	Camas Washington
Comments	Do not let the commercial nets into the Columbia River.
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 24.21.90.163 (United States) at 2020-07-26 08:30:04 on iPhone 13.1.1
Entry ID: 175

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 Gill Netting
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 9:55:29 AM

From: Surdyk, Jerry <jerry.surdyk@woodplc.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 26, 2020 4:10 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Columbia River Gill Netting

Dear Commission Members,

There is no good reason for anyone to continue to gillnet Salmon on the Columbia River anymore! The Gillnets catch and or kill all of the fish in the river, not jus a particular species. At a time when Salmon stocks are at such low numbers why would there even be a consideration to allow gillnetting in the river? Please do not allow Columbia River Gill Netting to start back up in the Columbia River!

Jerry Surdyk
5021 Canter St
West Richland, WA 99353

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: End main stream non-selective Gill netting
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 9:29:13 AM

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

From: Jan Wilson <jwilson@olympen.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 26, 2020 5:10 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: End main stream non-selective Gill netting

Non-selective gill nets can limit hatchery production due to bycatch and depletion of wild stocks. As a result, recreational fisheries are diminished and hatchery production cuts can occur when wild salmon returns on spawning grounds become too low compared to hatchery fish spawning in the wild. By removing non-selective gill nets and utilizing mark-selective sport fisheries, it is possible that hatchery production can actually be increased without negative impacts on wild fish.

Rich Wilson

Sent from my iPad

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 Basin Fishing
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 9:52:53 AM

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

From: gregory wright <fishwright103@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 26, 2020 10:29 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Columbia River Basin Fishing

I am dismayed to see that new proposals by the WDFW are once again promoting the likelihood of increasing and/or sustaining gill net fishing. Why? The bottom line is recreational fishing is selective and gill nets are not. Selective fisheries have the potential to create an environment where increased hatchery production will not severely impact wild stocks. The political will of the people is that there is more recreational fishing opportunity. The economic impact of recreational fishing overall outweighs the benefit of commercial fishing by far. The recreational fishing public (taxpayers) in the state of Washington have been held hostage by special interest concerns in both Oregon and Washington regulatory agencies. The promise of gill net removal over a decade ago evaporated. On again off again management techniques have not only confused your constituents, but erode confidence in the your agency. I urge you to follow the science! No where else in the "lower 48" are gill nets allowed to impact recreational fishing and the very survival of our resource. It goes without saying that our fish are under tremendous threat from a wide variety of issues. Lets take one big hurdle out of the way. Lets get a workable plan to ensure future generations have an opportunity to fish and protect the resource.

Greg

Wright

Ridgefield WA

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 Opportunity Support
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 4:01:59 PM

From: Irene_carl carlirene <crciec@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 2:42 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Recreational Fishing Opportunity Support

Commissioners,

Please listen to those you represent in the recreational fishing organizations and individuals who have long been shorted when it comes to equality in our fisheries. It's time that we get what we pay for in relation to the commercials and tribes who seem to have more money and lobbying. Do what is right morally and non-political and support the recreational community as the need is there. If things continue to be unfair for us I'm afraid you will lose a lot of future anglers and many of the traditional/long time fisher men and women.

The more you take away on the Columbia you put extra pressure on other fisheries which will be impacted to the point that they too will be over crowded and ruined for a good outing and time spent with family and friends. Non selective gillnet fisheries are unfairly taking endangered by-catch and moving them to off river netting gets them their hatchery fish and that has proven true. I prefer we buy out the licenses and shut down gill netting permanently and it will benefit all parties involved. It is time for real change and to you all to live up to what was agreed to years ago when we had the Columbia River endorsement fee which was to help with the agreement made with Oregon to ban the nets. Put the endorsement back in the fees and make the fees strictly for the buy back of commercial licenses and you will get recreational support for the fee.

We have no where to turn but to you our commission representatives and legislative representatives. Please be respectful of the majority and implement the recommendations of organizations like CCA.

Thank you in advance for your support of the recreational community of fishers.

We will be monitoring closely what you do/actions regarding our fisheries. There will be change and accountability for those who are swayed by lobbyists and big dollars thrown at the legislature and you folks through the back door. We know the commercials throw a lot of money because they have lost this fight previously only to have some behind the scenes mischief.

Sincerely,

Carl & Irene Carver & Family

From: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Gill netting on the Columbia
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 9:06:06 AM

From: dstaeheli <dstaeheli@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 11:49 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Gill netting on the Columbia

So I hear you idiots now want to take away 25% of the recreational fishing on the Columbia and give it to the gillnetters. Are you people really that stupid? Gill netting should be banned on all Washington rivers and within one mile of the mouths of all Washington rivers if you really truly want to do anything to protect the salmon and steelhead population. Stop the insanity and do whats right for a change.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

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: Bi-state Columbia River Gill Net agreement
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 4:02:13 PM

From: Bob & Bette Krueger <bet2riv@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 2:42 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Bi-state Columbia River Gill Net agreement

I oppose WDFG saying "we changed our minds" and are no longer honoring the agreement we made in 2013 for the management of the Columbia River fish resources.

At a time when all the runs of C R fish are at historic lows, what justification can be made to add additional pressure by adding non-selective gill net fishing?

The agreement made with the ODFG, the commercial gill net industry, and the sportfishing industry was made in good faith by all parties. WDFG now seems to be saying "never mind what we all agreed to", we do not want to live up to the agreement.

If the concern is for the revenue of a few commercial fishermen, everyone acknowledges that that revenue has been more than made up by off-channel fishing opportunities with record dollar income.

Respectfully, Robert R Krueger
619 E 13th St
La Center, Wa 98629
360-442-0361

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 \(DFW\)](#); [Lothrop, Ryan L \(DFW\)](#); [Tweit, William M \(DFW\)](#); [Director \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Contact the Commission: Other
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 7:57:50 AM

From: Margaret Lopic <mlapic@cascadenetworks.net>
Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2020 5:51 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Contact the Commission: Other

Name	Margaret Lopic
Email	mlapic@cascadenetworks.net
Address	7405 Willow Grove Longview WA 98632
Phone	360-425-4922
Subject	Other
Message	<p>There are some proposed policy revisions that are being reviewed regarding Columbia River Salmon Management (specifically Policy C-3620) that would make the rules more fair for the non-fishing public. We would like to be able to purchase local salmon throughout the year. Salmon is food, not game. Non fisher-folk would like to have it available and there certainly seems to be enough to go around. I really encourage you to approve the revisions to Policy C-3620. It is time to make the rules fair for all.</p>
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 209.34.141.122 (United States) at 2020-07-23 20:50:48 on Chrome 84.0.4147.89
Entry ID: 2280

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:
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:07:08 AM

From: Owen Mansfield <owen@ripsomelipsguideservice.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 1:16 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject:

Hello, I cant believe you guys are even thinking of increasing gill nets and decreasing recreational fishing. I own Rip Some Lips Guide Service and pay a lot of taxes. Its laws like the one you are trying to pass that is putting working people out of business and not allowing family to catch their own food. This isn't fair and you know it. Shame on You!

Owen Mansfield

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: Proposed Columbia River increased gillnetting.
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 11:46:54 AM

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

From: Walter McCudden <cnajme123@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 11:34 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Proposed Columbia River increased gillnetting.

Please reject this absurd proposal. The State of Washington has a well earned and shameful record of selling out the citizens of this state to benefit commercial interests. Please start representing those who vote.

WalterMcCudden-Sammamish

Sent from my iPhone

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: Non-selective gill netting on the lower Columbia river
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 4:01:17 PM

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

From: Fred Muehlbauer <muehlbauer406@roadrunner.com>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 3:14 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Non-selective gill netting on the lower Columbia river

Dear Commissioners,

It is hard for me to believe what I have been reading regarding the proposed season long non-selective gill netting of endangered salmon and steelhead on the Lower Columbia River. How can it be that in view of the declining returns of these iconic fish, that the commission can even consider such a destructive course of action? Please consider the facts in this case and act accordingly. Also, there has been a proposal to reduce the gill net size to enable the capture of smaller fish. Needless to say such an action will further decimate fish runs. There can be no justification for the measures being contemplated by the commission. I sincerely hope and urge all commissioners to assist in salmon and steelhead recovery by not allowing gill netting on the Lower Columbia River.

Sincerely,

Fred Muehlbauer

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: Columbia River Recreational Fishing
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 11:09:24 AM
Attachments: [CCA WA.pdf](#)

From: Jeff Norman <jeffnorman77@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 11:08 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Columbia River Recreational Fishing

Please do not approve gillnetting in the mainstem of the Columbia River. Thank you.



Background

The WDFW Commission is considering a policy to reduce recreational fishing opportunity in the Columbia River Basin in exchange for increased mainstem gillnetting. Depending on the season, **the proposed policy cuts recreational fishing opportunity by as much as 25%**! Reducing selective recreational fishing and increasing non-selective gillnetting is a bad idea.

The proposed policy would restore year-round gillnetting to the mainstem Columbia River, which has not occurred since 2016 under the bi-state Columbia River reforms and comes at a time when salmon and steelhead runs are struggling.

Spring Chinook

Proposed policy would restore mainstem gillnetting and reduce recreational fishing opportunity across the Columbia River Basin by up to 20%.

- Gillnets and tangle gillnets pose a serious risk to wild upriver spring Chinook and bycatch species like steelhead.
- The gill net 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-plus spring Chinook landed in the off-channel gill net fisheries in 2017 exceeded the number of spring Chinook harvested in recreational fisheries above and below Bonneville Dam.
- The proposed policy would allow mainstem gillnetting prior to a run update, before the agencies confirm the run is coming in as forecast - a highly irresponsible action.

Summer Chinook

Proposed policy would restore mainstem gillnetting and reduce recreational fishing opportunity by up to 25%.

- Summer Chinook have been prioritized for upriver fisheries in Eastern Washington, including the selective fishing practices of the Colville Nation.
- The recreational summer Chinook fishery is being managed as a mark-selective fishery to help meet escapement goals for wild Chinook to the spawning grounds, which are not being met in some upriver tributaries. WDFW staff recently spoke to the importance of this mark-select fishery.
- Commercial gill nets are incapable of selectively harvesting hatchery summer Chinook and create high levels of by-catch such as ESA-listed sockeye and steelhead.

Fall Chinook

Proposed policy would restore mainstem gillnetting throughout the lower Columbia River (it is currently limited to Zones 4 and 5).

- The fall mainstem gillnet fishery threatens bycatch species like ESA-listed B-run steelhead.
- WDFW claims that fall mainstem gillnetting is selective but has never conducted an actual release mortality study for steelhead.
- Instead, WDFW used non-scientific data to reduce the release mortality rate assigned to gillnets for steelhead – allowing the gillnet fleet to kill up to 35% more steelhead.
- Contrary to claims by WDFW, the gillnet fleet does not help “mop up” hatchery tulle fall Chinook in the lower Columbia River because they are unable to fish selectively.

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 Reforms
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:00:23 AM

From: T Owen <towen15@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 9:59 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Columbia River Reforms

WDFW Commissioners,

Once again I write to implore you to resist any rollback of these reforms. ESA fish should not end up dead in a net. The cost is too great, monetarily and socially.

I don't understand how this issue continues to raise its ugly head. Closures and emergency closures rule the day, yet allow more indiscriminate netting on ESA fish to appease a few who want to profit at the expense of their demise. They have their off channel areas, and do well. If they want more fish, they can pay to put them in the Safe Zones.

What am I missing?

Sincerely,

Thomas C Owen
718 Pierce LN NE
Tacoma, WA
253-677-3405

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Friday, July 24, 2020 12:42:33 PM

Name	alan pilkington
Email	anzacalan@aol.com
Address	Seattle WA
Comments	I oppose increasing commercial gill netting on the Colombia River at the expense of individual anglers. Give the salmon and the individual angler a chance! Are you thee to represent commercial interests, or those of ordinary citizens! Thanks for reading.
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 73.181.231.70 (United States) at 2020-07-24 15:42:30 on Chrome 84.0.4147.89
Entry ID: 160

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 netting Columbia River
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:24:31 AM

From: Rod Reineke <rrod@wcpenvelope.com>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:15 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Gill netting Columbia River

I have been an outdoor enthusiast and fisherman for many years and unfortunately the migration away from Sports Fisheries is adding further frustration. I've endured shortened sturgeon seasons (once an annual trip for myself and 6-10 customers annually. Reduced limits, unclipped hatchery fish, (one year I alone caught 8 wild salmon, all of the same size and appearance, an obvious hatchery fish).

Please do not expand gill netting, if you could see how some off the fish are either wasted or sold off boats for pennies on the dollar. I suspect a sports fisherman spends hundreds of dollars a pound, on lures, gas, boats, boat moorage, tackle, gear, accommodations, restaurants, list goes on and on. Most of these are taxable and require all sorts of fees. In fact I just got back from fishing in Brewster (unsuccessful btw) and there were hundreds of people out there fishing, all spending money to catch these fish.

Please do not make the sportsman pay further!

Sincerely,

Rod Reineke | Division Manager

WCP Envelope

A division of WCP Solutions

p: 425-869-2420 ext 8708 | 425-602-8708 direct
19715 Russell Rd. Kent WA 98032
1-877-WCP-ENVS (927-3687)
info@wcpenvelope.com

Toll Free: 877.WCP.ENVS

From: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: I Oppose reducing recreational anglers
Date: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 8:35:57 AM

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

From: Jerry Rhoads <jerhoads@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 5:20 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: I Oppose reducing recreational anglers

Dear Commission

You have it backwards!!

I strongly oppose reducing recreational anglers Seasons or catch limits in the main-stem of the Columbia River.

Gill net harvesting is non selective for endangered salmonid species. Please Stop that method Of harvesting in the main stem.

Respectfully

Jerral Rhoads
WDFW ID 2250010715
509 528-2941

Sent from my iPhone

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 Gill Netting
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 9:50:29 AM

From: John Westerfield <yeagers.westy@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 9:32 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Columbia River Gill Netting

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Commission,

Once again I am writing on behalf of myself and the many sport fishers I know personally and/or who are customers of our store.

We collectively cannot understand why this issue won't die. Any positive economic impact of allowing gill netting on the Columbia is far outweighed by the economic impact of sport fishing on the river.

We have customers right here in Bellingham, who drive all the way down to the Columbia to fish with guides or who drag their boats down there to fish for salmon, spending a fair amount of money to do so.

If the Columbia River fishery is that attractive then it ought to be the case that you give sport fishing the highest priority, second only to the need to rebuild the runs.

Gill nets are not selective, no matter what the gillnetters tell you and they kill everything that gets into them.

Since Governor Insley has taken a personal interest in rebuilding salmon runs all over the state, to provide more fish for Orcas, it is incomprehensible that you would even consider returning gillnets to the Columbia. Millions upon millions of dollars are being spent all over the state to remove culverts and other barriers to returning salmon, and a gillnet is the ultimate barrier, so it just makes no sense to even consider the proposal to let those nets back into the Columbia.

Please put an end to this debate and keep the nets out of the Columbia.

Respectfully Submitted

John Westerfield

--

Yeager's Sporting Goods
John D Westerfield
Vice President
3101 NW Ave
Bellingham, WA 98225
(360) 733-1080
FX (360) 733-5434

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Friday, July 24, 2020 12:37:38 PM

Name	doug wilson
Email	icebear07@comcast.net
Address	Washougal wa
Comments	Dear Sirs Decreasing recreational fishing on the Columbia to allow more gill netting is just economically stupid. Already many sport fishers are not buying fishing licenses because of decreased opportunity on the Columbia. Decreased lic. sales equal less funds to the department which are in short supply. Whatever funds WDFW receives from gill netting lic. and fees can not even cover the cost overseeing the fishery. Just follow the 2013 reforms and end gill netting in the main stream. Stop the endless controversy and time wasting hearings.
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 174.194.134.219 (United States) at 2020-07-24 15:37:34 on Chrome 72.0.3626.96
Entry ID: 159

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
Date: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 4:09:42 PM

From: Ross Barkhurst <RP.Barkhurst@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 2:46 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Columbia River Policy

I am very familiar with the Lower Columbia fishery. My family and friends have fished it and the Willamette tributary for many decades. Most of us caught our first salmon there. For ten years in the 1970s I maintained and or operated the Trojan Nuclear plant there. We had a very extensive environmental monitoring program at river mile 75 or so. This enhanced my understanding of the biota and my disappointment as the salmon, steelhead, and sturgeon we had have gone the way of the prairies.

We have always thought of ourselves as customers of ODFW and or WDFW, and beneficiaries of what these ecosystems have to provide. The chance of our grandchildren catching their first salmon or steelhead in the Lower Columbia seems very diminished.

The anti conservation and anti recreational fishing bias since the two states abandoning the phase out of non selective gill nets was announced is palpable. ESA fish abound, yet gillnetting is back in some form every year. The "rule" made up for Tules is that sport fishers are allowed UP TO 70% of harvest and commercials are allowed AT LEAST 30%. Need we say more. People think that means sports will always get at least 70%. Not so.

Netted Summer Chinook are treated like Coho in Willapa Bay. Warm Columbia water means many released will die so they keep wild fish. A non selective paradise for no one.

Then there is the unattainable criteria. Under no nets in lower river the made up goal for salmon was the increase of economic benefits to both commercials and sports! Meanwhile Tule production was reduced and production was maximized in off channel safe areas. A major portion of Buoy Ten was closed to sport fishing so sports would not catch " other's fish". Safe zones have been productive, they still kill some main stem fish, so they have a quota for that too.

What were the conservation goals for this net phase out? I cannot say. Not met for certain. Economic output not met seems to be the justification for more 59% mortality gill nets.

In some of his writings Aldo Leopold talks about the problem with conservation being with what he called the "A/B cleavage". He said there are Type A farmers and Type B farmers. Type A see the land as strictly a source of economic output, while Type B see it as a biota.

WDFW has devolved into a farmer of fish. This approach leaves us awash in ESA listed salmon and steelhead. Although the WDFW

" boiler plate" talks about preserving, protecting, and restoring ecosystems, in practice it is mostly a fish farmer, looking mainly at the economic output generated by the farming. The net phase out is seen as failing to do that. WDFW has been reluctant to take the lead in wildlife and fish conservation.

Should the least selective harvest (nets) go back in the Lower Columbia, this would confirm that which much of the public suspects. WDFW has devolved into a Type A farmer. Over-forecast of returns, high mortality of natural, even ESA spawners, is rampant, and all customers would continue to suffer. Please remove gillnets from the Lower Columbia immediately, as the public was led to believe some years ago.

From: [Lothrop, Ryan L \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Contact the Commission: Commission Meetings
Date: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 11:50:46 AM

Ryan Lothrop
Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

From: Hughes, Kirt M (DFW) <Kirt.Hughes@dfw.wa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 11:49 AM
To: Adicks, Kyle K (DFW) <Vincent.Adicks@dfw.wa.gov>; Baltzell, Mark E (DFW) <Mark.Baltzell@dfw.wa.gov>; Hall, Heather J (DFW) <Heather.Hall@dfw.wa.gov>; Niles, Corey B (DFW) <Corey.Niles@dfw.wa.gov>; Tweit, William M (DFW) <William.Tweit@dfw.wa.gov>; Lothrop, Ryan L (DFW) <Ryan.Lothrop@dfw.wa.gov>; Glaser, Bryce G (DFW) <Bryce.Glaser@dfw.wa.gov>; Herring, Chad J (DFW) <Chad.Herring@dfw.wa.gov>; Losee, James P (DFW) <James.Losee@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: FW: Contact the Commission: Commission Meetings

FYI

From: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 10:11 AM
To: Barbara Baker <bbakerwdfw@gmail.com>; Bob Kehoe <rfk@psvoa.org>; Brad Smith <bradley.smith@wwu.edu>; Dave Graybill <fishboy@nwi.net>; Donald McIsaac <donald.mcisaac@dma-consulting.net>; Anderson, James R (DFW) <James.Anderson@dfw.wa.gov>; Larry Carpenter <lc3896@gmail.com>; McBride, Tom A (DFW) <Tom.McBride@dfw.wa.gov>; Linville, Molly F (DFW) <Molly.Linville@dfw.wa.gov>; Thorburn, Kim M (DFW) <Kim.Thorburn@dfw.wa.gov>
Cc: Warren, Ron R (DFW) <Ron.Warren@dfw.wa.gov>; Cunningham, Kelly J (DFW) <Kelly.Cunningham@dfw.wa.gov>; Burley, Craig C (DFW) <Craig.Burley@dfw.wa.gov>; Hughes, Kirt M (DFW) <Kirt.Hughes@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: FW: Contact the Commission: Commission Meetings

From: Dale Beasley <crabby@bakerbay.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 9:44 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Contact the Commission: Commission Meetings

Name	Dale Beasley
Email	crabby@bakerbay.org

Address	1189 Sprue St E Ilwaco W 9824
Subject	Commission Meetings
Message	<p>Dear Commissioners\'</p> <p>Plese read the attached letter that urges you to adopt overall salmon policy that leads to abundant harvest with NO fisherman left behind as good public policy with dnerplate results for all our state citizens.</p> <p>Tank youfor considering and actng in a positie manner to increase salmn abundance in Washington,</p> <p>Sincerely concerned for all the peoplei or Fish Dependent Communities all acros Washinton,</p> <p>Dale Beasley, president CCF & CRCA</p>
Attachment	<p>https://www.123formbuilder.com/upload_dld.php?fileid=c779cf0bed4e72591da7d94a1f2d8712</p>

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Chairman Carpenter, Vice Chair Barbara Baker and WFWC members

Telling it like it is

28 July 2020

For the record my name is Dale Beasley, president of the Coalition of Coastal Fisheries and the Columbia River Crab Fisherman's Association representing both recreational and commercial fishing organizations.

Salmon policy in Washington until fairly recently has omitted the needs of people that have historically depended on salmon for their wellbeing. WFWC needs to accelerate salmon policy change that once again brings economic vibrancy back to Fish Dependent Communities as INTENDED by both our state legislature and congress. The great Senator Magnuson stated the policy of fish management best, "Fish management is to PREVENT the depletion of both fish and fishermen." WFWC should adopt this Magnuson vision of fisheries management and follow through with increased salmon production.

Washington has an expanding human population that has an adverse impact on salmon ecosystems across all of Washington where salmon will continue to lose quality salmon spawning habitat. If Washington is to maintain the legislative mandate in RCW 77.04.012 to enhance both recreational and commercial fishing in this state, there are a number of things that must be done including but not limited to:

1. **Raise more salmon** in all our state salmon hatcheries and dramatically increase production to full utilization
2. **Transport release smolts closer to the ocean than is currently done**
3. **Release smolts at night to minimize avian predation**
4. **Control PREDATION** on salmon – urge congress to modernize the ESA and MMPA to aid salmon with the full INTENT to achieve abundant salmon HARVEST with NO fisherman left behind as the desired OUTCOME of all salmon policies
5. **Control avian populations to reduce predation**
6. **Minimize loss of Natural Production by protecting streams and rivers**
7. **Rehabilitate natural salmon areas all across Washington**
8. **Encourage BPA to Raise More Salmon – they have done enough studies, the \$\$\$ need to go into production both east and WEST of Bonneville Dam**
9. **Encourage congress to better Fund Mitchell Act**
10. **Encourage MORE WDFW/Citizen cooperative salmon rearing**, hatch boxes, in stream incubators, rearing ponds with feeding, etc.
11. **Continue to reduce pollution entering our waterways –**
12. **Dams and salmon MUST coexist – Dams provide too much benefit for society to destroy them**
13. **Keep in mind – without salmon tendency to STRAY there would be NO salmon in Washington, during the last ice age there were NO salmon rivers in most of Washington – they all were solid ice**
14. **WFWC MUST replace the 160 million salmon smolts that have been discontinued from salmon production since 2000 – Both the ORCA and Fish Dependent Salmon Communities are STARVING to death as a direct result of the existing salmon policies.**

Managing salmon is complex and difficult to achieve, BUT one thing is certain, if we are unable to send salmon to sea to mature, they cannot come back to their spawning origin regardless of ocean conditions.

All Washington salmon management measures MUST have as the primary OUTCOME – Abundant salmon for harvest with NO fisherman left behind as good public policy crating JOBS in our Fish Dependent Communities all across Washington. Making Jurassic Park salmon in the wild is a laudable goal but is unrealistic to believe that the “Wild” salmon of the past can produce abundant harvestable salmon is UNREALISTIC in the Anthropocene; ample hatchery production is absolutely necessary in every corner of the state. Some areas of the state including SW Washington in the Lower Columbia River and Willapa Bay are exceptional salmon rearing opportunities that have some of the least human impacts in our state and SHOULD receive a disproportionately high concentration of hatchery production capable of supplying abundant harvests levels of the past that can be repeated if the salmon policies of the WFWC are amplified to encourage historical production levels. Going excessively to “Wild” salmon is in general is a NO FISHING Policy that leaves our state citizen’s dinner plates EMPTY.

Please consider adopting salmon policy that produces dinner plate results for all our citizens, that requires commercial fishing as 98% of our state’s citizens do not fish for themselves but rely on the fish markets to gain access to the salmon all citizens support through their taxes and electrical rates.

Salmon policies under consideration C – 3620, C – 3622, and C – 3619 all need to further evolve toward producing abundant salmon for HARVEST with NO fisherman left behind as good public policy,

Dale Beasley, president CCF & CRCFA

The following has previously been sent to the WFWC and has multiple issues that MUST be addressed ASAP so that ALL Washington Citizens can once again enjoy Washington salmon on their dinner plates.

- ✓ RE: Without completed draft policy publicly available it is difficult to comment constructively
- ✓ C – 3622 - Willapa Bay Salmon Policy & C – 3620 Columbia River Salmon Policy MUST change course aggressively – Raise more hatchery salmon for harvest with NO fisherman left behind
- ✓ Washington salmon policy – citizens/fishermen can’t breathe
- ✓ C – 3619 Under construction – Raise more hatchery salmon for harvest West of Bonneville Dam – replace 75 million lost production
- ✓ Must remove the knee off the neck of commercial fishing
- ✓ Commission Mandate of the Washington State Legislature – RCW 77.04.012 -The department shall promote orderly fisheries and shall enhance and improve recreational and commercial fishing in this state. Further stating, the department shall seek to maintain the economic well-being and stability of the fishing industry in the state.
- ✓ Cares Act MUST receive a workaround for the 35% disaster relief – WFWC can help on this – Fishing is the only industry in the nation with a minimum qualifier
- ✓ WFWC MUST advocate for MODERNIZATION of the ESA/MMPA to benefit salmon and salmon harvest to help Fish Dependent Communities recover from disastrous demographic
- ✓ WDFW draft 25 year Strategic Plan appears to be total elimination of all Commercial Fishing in Washington State with NO mention of commercial fishing or any significant involvement of commercial fishing in the plan development – reprehensible! Needs a complete redraft

- ✓ **Current Washington Salmon Policy is choking the economic lifeblood out of rural and coastal Fish Dependent Communities - Raise more hatchery salmon for harvest**
- ✓ **Reconvene open public meetings ASAP**

Salmon – Fixing the Problem – Raise more Salmon – a Legacy Decision to provide sustainable Washington salmon for ALL our grandchildren’s dinner plates promoting both recreational and commercial fishing, not just in Willapa Bay but across the state. Hatchery production in the Lower Columbia River west of Bonneville Dam has suffered a loss of 75 million smolts annually – these are the salmon that feed not just the Orca whales but also coastal and rural Fish Dependent Communities; these salmon **MUST** be replaced.

Most Reasonable & Prudent Alternative that meets Legislative INTENT for Washington Salmon rehabilitation is to include sufficient harvestable abundance so that **no fisherman is left behind** as good public policy that creates JOBS in natural resource dependent communities, such as those that surround Willapa Bay and other Fish Dependent Communities throughout Washington. The Lower Columbia River Hatchery production needs massive increase to recover salmon JOBS lost in recent decades of neglect.

Willapa Bay and all of Washington Salmon Policy **MUST** take a step back and examine the Big Picture which appears to be happening and comprehend the irrational consequences of loss of 160 million salmon smolt production from our state’s hatchery system that has been an excruciating painful event crushing coastal & rural communities economy and denying Washington citizens **ACCESS** to their salmon, leaving their dinner plates **EMPTY**. Orcas are also starving to death as a consequence of past salmon policies that have reduced salmon smolt production by 160 million/annually. The legislature in the last couple of years has begun to backfill this horrendous loss of salmon production (increases of approximately 15% of recent production losses) which has only been a down payment on the overall **LOSS**. The loss of salmon production is magnified with tremendous increase in salmon predation at multiple levels, while our state population has doubled further exacerbating accelerated loss of salmon rearing and spawning habitat that is disappearing much faster than any can be rehabilitated. Our iconic salmon will continue to decline unless we address the full range of decimation, but without hatchery production increases the rest will not be able to **put Washington salmon back on our dinner plates** for all our citizens to enjoy, nor will the **STARVATION** of the Orcas and Rural Fish Dependent Communities deteriorated **DEMOGRAPHICS** be abated. **ACCESS to salmon for HARVEST takes more than rhetoric**; it takes aggressive **ACTION** at multiple levels; there is **NO** substitute available that is better than increased salmon hatchery production. History has shown us that the ocean can handle significantly more salmon than it is today. If the salmon are not produced, they cannot rear to maturity and provide healthy food for our citizens that need more than a visual experience from our iconic salmon. **ALL** of our citizens deserve the benefits of salmon on their dinner plates; all of our citizens includes the consumer.

The recently released draft WDFW 25 year Strategic Plan **totally fails** to address the security of viable fisheries that **MUST** be sustained and **MUST** continue to provide abundant economic opportunity for our Fish Dependent Communities, commercial, tribal, recreational fishing, that feeds the soul by enhancing quality of life with Omega 3 rich protein that is heart healthy. Over the last three years I have attended several WDFW salmon meetings and **NOT** once have I heard the people of this state clamor for less fish to harvest – every single event rather recreational or commercial interests, every single meeting is vastly in favor of WDFW providing **MORE SALMON for HARVEST**; that harvest **MUST** be abundant enough that **NO** fisherman is left behind and all our Fish Dependent Communities **THRIVE**, not just barely survive or worse go bankrupt. Salmon **MATTER** but so do the people that depend on the salmon for economic

sustenance as well. Fisheries management MUST address conservation not just of salmon but also the conservation of the people that depend on abundant salmon for harvest.

How Do we Fill ALL our Citizens Empty Dinner Plates with Abundant Salmon?

There is NO natural substitute for Significant Hatchery Production INCREASES

ESA/MMPA MUST be Modernized to benefit salmon for HARVEST

Predation on salmon MUST be controlled

Habitat must continue to be regenerated, minimize future Losses

Pollution of all kinds Including road runoff is KILLING our salmon streams

Dams and Salmon MUST Coexist

Useful FACTS

- **1. Manage Salmon for Abundant Harvest** with NO Fisherman left behind as Good Public Policy providing ample **Family Wage JOBS** for Fish Dependent Communities as they have in the past
- **Fact – just telling it like it is – might be hard to hear, but it is much harder for the salmon dependent communities lying in ruin from lost ACCESS to salmon from poor salmon policy changes in recent years – fishing communities that used to THRIVE now can't even survive**
- **Fact - Senator Magnuson's dream is very twisted today where he worked to prevent the depletion of both fish and fishermen, both are disappearing at an alarming rate. Recovering Salmon and all Fishing JOBS will change lives with improvements for the next generation.**
- **Today salmon is a threatened legacy, our grandchildren's dinner plates will be EMPTY due to administrative tyranny that forgets that FISH PEOPLE'S LIVES MATTER TOO!**
- **Fact – Salmon are vital to rural communities just like Boeing, Microsoft, Amazon, and Starbucks are to Seattle and all Pugetropolis – Washington MUST raise more salmon**
- **Fact – Boeing gets massive tax breaks and rural communities get NOTHING as salmon are encouraged to decline from lost hatchery production widening the urban/rural economic divide - – Washington MUST raise more salmon**
- **Raise Abundant Hatchery Salmon mitigating loss of habitat which is never fully recoverable once lost and is exceptionally expensive for dollar invested to dollar returned compared to increased hatchery production**
- **Stop the Bleeding, change course, provide humanitarian rural justice – Raise more Salmon**
- **"Justice for All" does not include Gillnet Genocide – course MUST change – Raise More Salmon**
- **Fact – Washington salmon consumers have the least access to their salmon in history – course MUST change – Raise More Salmon**

- Fact – **Real RISK to salmon is not hatchery evolutionary genetics it is the WFWC salmon policies that have curtailed salmon production by 160 million salmon smolts annually over the last two decades – there is NO SUBSTITUTE for lost hatchery production**
- Fact – the decline in Orca populations correlates directly with loss of these 160 million smolts
- Fact – 95% of all salmon smolts in NOAA offshore smolt surveys are of hatchery origin, even in this depressed hatchery production era, natural gravel salmon are not doing well and not making it to the ocean to mature – change required - **Washington MUST raise more salmon**
- Fact – Less salmon hatchery production out to sea regardless of ocean conditions or predation levels dictates less salmon will be able to return to spawn which will continue to negatively affect starving Orca whales and starving salmon dependent communities
- Fact – Increased salmon hatchery production is in the best public interest
- **Fact Finding Necessary** – why are salmon eggs in the gravel failing, could it be some chemical like DDT that thinned bird eggs that prevented them from hatching, MUST investigate – maybe we should resurrect Rachel Carson’s Silent Spring directed at salmon
- Fact – The Hess Johnson Creek study over 700 miles upstream from the ocean found that the salmon fitness of hatchery and gravel born salmon were returning at approximately the same percentage navigating upstream over fish ladders at 8 dams - significant
- Fact – Predators are eating more salmon than being caught in commercial fisheries = serious need for serious predator control — **Modernize the ESA and MMPA** to help salmon survive for conservation and ample harvest by both recreational and commercial fishermen – advocate with congress for a major change
- Fact – Reduced hatchery salmon production has increased predation on “Wild” salmon
- **FACT** – without hatchery supplementation “wild” salmon will never overcome a growing anthropogenic expansion of our society eating annually at salmon habitat creating empty dinner plates - **Washington MUST raise more salmon**
- Fact – when Mitchell Act Funding is flat for decades the number of salmon reared in our hatcheries has declined dramatically – Increase Funding advocate with congress
- Fact – a lot of the \$500 million annual contribution of the BPA is not going into increased hatchery production and is misplaced – **RAISE MORE SALMON**
- Fact – Washington’s increasing population footprint is devastating to salmon with increasing loss of salmon habitat = Raise More Salmon the ocean has historically proven it can handle millions more salmon than what we are sending to sea today
- Fact – Legislative intent of salmon management was not to put commercial fishing on the “bleeding edge” of extinction = Raise More Salmon
- Fact – as rural salmon communities are denied access to salmon they become victims to decaying demographics that have tanked to the worst in Washington in coastal and rural communities – **WFWC Actions have Consequences** & create rural social injustice with deteriorated wellbeing destabilizing rural economies – **Washington MUST raise more salmon**
- Fact – As our human population footprint expands salmon environmental consequence is a decline of a retreating properly functioning ecosystem – this is not either or, we can have both
- Fact – Salmon Habitat Rehabilitation is expensive and will never mitigate the losses – hatchery enhancement is required to mitigate salmon losses = Raise More Salmon
- Fact – Washington citizens have voted twice to retain gillnetting in Washington, not create rural economic rubble – Reasonable and prudent alternative – Raise More Salmon

- Fact – Misplaced status quo HSRG salmon management with declining hatchery mitigation is seriously undermining legislative intent to “maintain the economic well-being and stability of the fishing industry” – Solution – **Raise More Salmon**
- HSRG is misplaced JUNK science that does not fit the reality on the ground where the natural ecosystem that supports salmon is dwindling much faster than it can support historical levels of salmon and ecosystem mitigation is never a complete fix
- Fact – HSRG “Theory” to make Jurassic park salmon out of salmon mixed blood fish after a century of mixing salmon genetics in our lifetime is pure fiction
- Fact – Global warming started 19,000 years ago after the last Ice Age carved Puget Sound – there were NO rivers or streams, only solid ice which did not support any salmon
- Fact - Salmon straying is the only reason we have any salmon in Washington today
- Fact – Salmon straying is salmon’s survival instinct genetically encoded and necessary
- Fact – Puget Sound seals are eating 10X more salmon smolts today than in 1970 and 6 X more than the combined recreational and commercial harvest – Modernize the MMPA to save salmon and allow for increased harvest potential to feed our citizens healthy seafood
- Fact – Hershel eating all the salmon at Ballard Locks did not ring any alarm bell that the Marine Mammal populations were over abundant and in need of placing a top side to their recovery in the MMPA before they destroy more salmon runs triggering additional salmon ESA listings – ding ding ding ding – Modernize the MMPA before more ESA salmon are triggered
- Fact – avian predation on salmon smolts in the Columbia River are eating over 20 million salmon smolts annually that never get to experience ocean conditions – if they cannot get out to sea, they cannot grow to maturity, they cannot be harvested, they cannot come back to spawn
- Fact – Washington salmon crisis is mostly policy inflicted, critical policy can and MUST change to increase salmon hatchery production to mitigate salmon population degradation from multiple sources
- Fact – 30%+ of BPA power rate is for salmon mitigation, where’s the \$billions going, certainly not enough to salmon production = **REASSIGN Significantly MORE BPA \$\$\$ to Raise More Salmon** we have enough studies to understand the gravity of the situation, we need more salmon to REPLACE the loss that the dams have caused – WFWC MUST speak up NOW!
- Fact – No other state in the nation has had to sacrifice as much fishing opportunity as Washington to federal tribal treaties; Willapa Basin has none – Raise More Salmon
- Fact – Success in salmon management in the past has produced opportunity for both salmon and people including commercial fishing as the legislature intended and recorded in RCW 77.04.012; bringing back that success is still possible - **Raise more hatchery salmon for harvest**
- Fact – Salmon management is about more than salmon, it is about producing Haves and Have Nots - Salmon management is about socioeconomic injustice perpetrated on rural communities with total disregard for the which can be recaptured by a change in course to increase salmon production not only in Willapa Bay but across the state in areas that have the best chance of success to increase harvest rates – stock selection MATTERS.
- Fact – The lower Columbia River hatcheries have cut over 75 million salmon production, these are the salmon that mature on the Washington/Oregon coast and WERE available for harvest by fishermen and Orca whales that are both STARVING to DEATH.
- Fact – the Lower Columbia River hatcheries that have been bulldozed were originally build as salmon JOB mitigation hatcheries – Grays River & Elochoman which is ruthless DEPLORABLE loss of fishing JOBS from this lost production of distorted fisheries management

- Fact – Salmon JOBS matter to rural communities where Demographics have trended worse as salmon have been selectively eliminated – causes Orcas to suffer too
- FACT – the elimination of the Toutle River Coho from multiple lower Columbia River hatcheries proved to be the single greatest stock selection MISTAKE in the history of WDFW – Washington Fish for Washington Fishermen was/is a total DISASTER not only for salmon but also the Fish Dependent Communities that is still driving poverty to higher highs as rural natural resource based communities are unable to attract new entrants into fishing
- Fact – salmon has always been the catalyst that propels young fishermen into the fishing business; that propulsion has been destroyed by errant salmon policies that have overreached and failed to properly negotiate the legislative INTENT to **“maintain the economic well-being and stability of the fishing industry”**
- Fact – Salmon management – MUST become a benefit to as many PEOPLE as possible beyond salmon conservation demands in as many salmon streams as possible and produce abundant hatchery salmon and instream incubators to mitigate lost salmon spawning habitat and **maximize fishing opportunity** for commercial, tribal, and recreational fishermen
- Fact – Washington can make Rural Fish Dependent Communities Great Again creating JOBS
- Fact – Washington citizens are being MUGGED by errant salmon policy that has cut hatchery production and left their dinner plates empty and bank accounts on ZERO or worse, in debt
- Fact – as salmon production has been cut severely Dungeness crab has become the only economically viable commercial fishery on the Washington coast which has also produced the **highest FATALITY RATE** of any occupation in the nation at 466/100,000
- Fact – the young next generation fishermen who only have crab to fish in a dangerous midwinter fishery have a reduced chance of survival as their economic situation becomes more precarious with every additional cut in other fisheries including salmon forcing them into a **“Fish or Go Hungry INSANITY”** in higher and higher winter seas in the area of the nation with the worst weather in the nation – Mass Weather Index at Neah Bay is 131 compared to San Diego at 10
- Fact – Every fatality is extremely significant to the families of those lost to decreased ACCESS to fish – management actions has translated into increased fatalities as an unintended consequence of actions taken - **Raise more hatchery salmon for harvest**
- Fact – fisheries managers MUST become cognizant of these forced Fatalities and provide ample opportunities in other fisheries to relieve the Deadly INSANITY forced into the Coastal Dungeness Crab Fishery
- Fact – Dungeness crab fishery is also faced with tragic lost ACCESS to crab from the ill effects of federal obligations to treaty tribes(Rafeedie Decision 50% loss of access to all fish that NO other state in the nation has to accommodate) , softshelled meat closures, domoic acid closures, and now facing closures to ESA whale entanglements placing more INSANITY into fishing – Modernize the ESA/MMPA relieve the “Fish or go hungry Insanity”
- Fact – Dredging channels into our ports is dependent on commercial tonnage that is decreasing due to lost ACCESS to all fish even though many are sustainable which also places the recreational fleet’s ACCESS to the sea in jeopardy which places our ports in jeopardy
- Fact – ACCESS to abundant harvestable Salmon is critical to the future viability and stability of rural fish dependent communities
- Fact – As ACCESS to salmon has declined the DIVIDE between the urban and rural natural resource dependent communities has widened and especially notable where other economic opportunities are especially limited

- Fact – the consumer of salmon cannot tell the difference between a hatchery salmon or a gravel hatched salmon on their dinner plates, but without hatcheries their plates are empty
- Fact – several NGO’s are weaponizing litigation against fishing and WDFW to enrich their own coffers rather than right a wrong and using a depressed ecosystem in which to demand only “wild” Jurassic park salmon which will never be plentiful in the Anthropocene where man has radically touched every corner of earth and not for the better
- Fact – In my lifetime man has multiplied from 2 billion people to nearly 8 billion with a significant adverse impact on salmon – More people = Less salmon unless we artificially supplement the salmon supply **Washington MUST raise more salmon**
- BIG PICTURE – WFWC needs to CHANGE POLICY so that the citizens of this state can have Washington salmon on their “Dinner Plates” by reversing the OUTRAGEOUS lost salmon production where we have long ago surpassed the Tipping Point for abundant harvest
- Fact – Pugetropolis seafood restaurants need fresh Washington seafood daily and are unable to ACCESS the fresh fish they need to serve their customers and have given up hope of ever obtaining it. **Washington MUST raise more salmon**
- Fact - Eat Wild (includes hatchery origin salmon) Eat Local has faded from reality but can be resurrected.
- Fact – The restaurant seafood trade that consumers demand starts with: #1 Fish are recognized as Healthy, #2 fish must be Sustainable, # 3 fish is wild caught, #4 Fish is FRESH
- Tug of War between increased hatchery salmon or social injustice and economic CHAOS in our coastal and rural salmon dependent communities as production is kept arbitrarily and capriciously LOW- **Washington MUST raise more salmon**
- FORKS CREEK slide in production from over 5 million salmon/year in 1970 to 350,000 is CRIMINAL ACTIVITY perpetrating LOOTING of the Willapa Fishing Economy & for what??? A false premise of making Jurassic park salmon in an attempt to create “wild fish” which is no more than really thick reform SMOKE that makes NO Common Sense forsaking the reality that the Willapa salmon genetics are homogeneous and not distinguishable via single river systems. Really twisted science and indefensible, a travesty that must be corrected.
- **Salmon history MATTERS** and if history is not properly understood by those in charge it is impossible to construct a better salmon future. Today’s Landscape of Conflicts can be resolved by replacing the 160 million salmon that has been taken out of hatchery production
- Fact – **Light bulb moment** - Washington must admit we have been on the wrong track for salmon lately and until we admit salmon policy is off course it cannot be fixed

Washington MUST raise more salmon

For the record my name is Dale Beasley, president of the Coalition of Coastal Fisheries and Columbia River Crab Fisherman’s Association representing the clear majority of Commercial and Charterboat fishermen in this state. I am currently retired from a successful 45 year commercial fishing career spanning most coastal fisheries this state has HAD to offer. I have not fished salmon in Washington since 1979 and do not have a personal stake in the outcome of Washington Salmon Fisheries Management but as president of CCF do have a major responsibility and a moral obligation to ensuring the wellbeing of the overall commercial fishing industry which including but not limited to the Gillnet Salmon Fishery in Willapa Bay, Grays Harbor, the Columbia River, and Puget Sound; Puget Sound Seine Fisheries; and Coastal Troll Salmon reductions are also a MAJOR CONCERN. When these salmon fisheries were allowed to fail it pushed all the major economic stressors into the very dangerous midwinter Coastal Dungeness Crab Fisheries

and forced the fishing fleet into a **“Fish or Go Hungry INSANITY”** that produced the highest fatality rate of any occupation in the nation into Dungeness crab taking a heavy and deadly toll on our communities, so heavy that during my fishing career, 28 of my good friends succumbed to Davy Jones’ Locker who made the WRONG Fish or Go Hungry Decision just to feed their families. How many of your good working associates didn’t come home after a long day’s work just to put the loss of salmon fishing into proper perspective as salmon were sacrificed for electricity and are NOT properly mitigated today.

Today CCF & CRCFA do not believe tearing down the Snake River Dams is appropriate. We cannot justify tearing the heart out of our upriver farmers as a proper fix to our salmon demise. **Dams and salmon MUST coexist.** When the upriver dams were constructed the federal government promised to protect and preserve fishing downstream of the Dams – what happened to that promise. In 1938 the year Bonneville Dam was finished the harvest of salmon decreased to 18.8 million pounds in the Columbia. In 1948 the Vanport Flood cemented salmon’s loss to dams for “flood control” & Congress capitulated to “Exaggerated Rhetoric” and began building dams in earnest where federal actions had local impacts. Commercial fishermen had to fight to include fish ladders so that salmon had any chance of survival. The federal hydroelectric dams fueled urban growth and regional prosperity but, in the end, have decimated salmon dependent communities after the ESA was over exercised cratering fishing as every stream was declared a separate DPS even though hatchery practices and releases had blended genetics reversibly not just in the Columbia/Snake Basin but all over the state. In 1949 the Washington legislature made the Cowlitz River a “fish sanctuary”, another broken promise. As late as 1968 there were 100 million salmon returning to Washington – today 6.5 million and it is NOT from over harvesting the resource. In the 1970’s the ocean troll fisheries harvested over 21 million pounds annually long after all the major dams were in place, today it is < 1% of that historical harvest. In 1971 Washington fishermen harvested 9 million salmon. Today Washington only has just one active trawl vessel, disgraceful. The ocean has far more to offer our citizens in the way of sustainable fish than we are currently taking advantage of. For over a decade the trawl fleet was forced to leave 80% of the recognized available sustainable catch in the ocean due to a couple of “spotted owl” species. History MATTERS and there is much more of it than we are going to repeat today.

It is time for some straight talk that leads to improved wellbeing of not only salmon and salmon fishing in Willapa Bay and across the state but also the fish dependent communities that have been decimated by the current **heinous anti-hatchery bias** state wide and Willapa Bay Salmon Policy that is destroying people’s lives in the 4th most fish dependent community in the nation, Pacific County, as recently as 2012 based on NOAA statistics listed in the Brookings Institute Hamilton Project advancing opportunity, prosperity, and growth. Current Willapa Salmon Policy is severely depressing opportunity, prosperity, and growth and is misaligned with legislative INTENT of salmon mitigation to not only replace lost salmon to advancing societies needs but also decimating the fish dependent communities throughout Washington. Course Change Required to realign with the legislative mandate found in the state RCW’s (77.04.012) that MANDATE enhancement and improvement of commercial fishing which is currently in total FAILURE.

Existing Willapa Salmon Policy in not only failing salmon it is failing the people in Washington and especially the salmon consumer access to their salmon which is the only way that the vast majority of Washington citizens can enjoy the resource that they own. Hopefully C 3622 policy change will result in **Washington raising more salmon for HARVEST.**

WFWC also has a responsibility mandated by the Washington state legislature in RCW 77.04.012 to not only manage the salmon resource so that it is not impaired but also **“the department shall seek to maintain the economic well-being and stability of the fishing industry in the state”**. In addition, **“The department shall promote orderly fisheries and shall enhance and improve recreational and commercial fishing in this state.”**

Willapa Salmon Policy is currently a miserable failure. In recent years the Commercial Salmon Fleet in Willapa has NO economic wellbeing or stability and most certainly has not been enhanced as mandated by the legislature. The legislative intent at the time of this legislation was to maintain salmon JOBS across the state; the Facts show that has been a total failure. As salmon environment is lost, increased enhancement is salmon is required to maintain the intent of the legislature. **Washington raising more salmon for HARVEST - Maintaining “Wild Salmon” should be a goal, BUT not the only goal, people’s HARVEST ACCESS for to their salmon is vital to the future of salmon as well.**

The current Willapa Bay Salmon Policy, and for that matter C – 3619, and salmon policy across the state is TOTALLY FAILING this significant legislative mandate. Continuing the present salmon policy is not only ignoring and flaunting legislative INTENT, it is actively destroying the economic wellbeing and stability of this state’s fishing industry, this is especially heinous in Willapa Bay that should be the crown jewel of commercial salmon fishing in Washington. Willapa Bay has NO ESA listed salmon to rebuild. All the salmon across the Basin are genetically heterogeneous and generically indistinguishable anywhere in the Willapa watershed. There is not one salmon in Willapa that can be genetically identified with its spawning origin stream anywhere in the watershed if randomly selected for genetic coding. The so called “Wild Fish Policy” is nothing more than a charade for the No Fishing Policy and gillnet genocide that is being perpetrated by the past erroneous actions of WFWC that runs counter to the legislative mandate to maintain the economic wellbeing, stability, and enhancement of the commercial fishing industry. Course Change DEMANDED! . **Washington MUST raise more salmon for HARVEST**

Nothing has changed in the Willapa Bay watershed to facilitate the decline of salmon except WFWC policy that has produced failure for not only salmon, but the communities surrounding the Willapa. Failure can be addressed; policy can and MUST change. Raise more Salmon – bring back the economic prosperity that used to be a part of the fish culture in SW Washington that produced the 4th most fish dependent community in the nation. **Salmon can and MUST become KING again.**

The recent Willapa Bay Salmon Policy not only needs serious revision to come into alignment with the legislative mandate and legislative INTENT but also to **stop the serious economic bleeding in rural fish dependent communities that is being heinously perpetrated by the existing punitive no commercial fishing policy** driven by insanity of even considering massive salmon hatchery production cuts. Increased salmon hatchery production was initially put in place to mitigate not only the tremendous adverse impacts and loss of naturally spawning salmon but also to maintain salmon dependent JOBS all across the state. Naturally gravel spawning Salmon’s dramatic decline has been brought on by substantial growth in our state’s population that is all too often highly detrimental to salmon and has had irreversible negative impacts that have NO natural remedy other than increased salmon hatchery production and attempts to rehabilitate nature’s damage at very high costs and moderate to low success at returning salmon to former abundance levels that allow a robust salmon fishery. The list of well-known increasing detriments

caused by increasing human demands that always result in adverse environmental impacts to Washington's salmon is long and will not be repeated here today.

PREDATION on salmon must be reduced if Washington is to ever achieve abundant harvest with NO fisherman left behind. WFWC must advocate strongly with congress to MODERNIZE the ESA/MMPA before we receive more ESA salmon listings.

On 17 May 2017 CCF delivered a Salmon FOIA to WDFW requesting information about current and historical records to have a data driven presentation to bolster our discussion and better drive a FACTUAL presentation about salmon production not just in Willapa Bay but across the state. WDFW requested that the CCF FOIA be withdrawn and that the department would supply the full request. As of 7 June 2020, the FOIA request for information has not been supplied in full and that dramatically shortchanges today's factual presentation.

Facts related to salmon history are vital to understanding and directing the best future ACTIONS and strategies for the future of salmon in Washington to provide ALL our citizens with salmon on their dinner plates of which, far too many are empty today. **FACTS MATTER!**, and are difficult to impossible to assemble and make available to decisionmakers without cooperation of WDFW.

In April of 2017 the board of CRCFA requested that I begin to find help for crab fishermen that are looking down the double barrel of Domoic acid and whale entanglement disasters shutting down the coastal crab fishery for an extended period of time, a crab fishery that supports over 50% of all fishing income each year for our coastal fishermen. Since 2017 the Center of Biological Diversity has THREATENED WDFW with a lawsuit if they did not place additional regulation on the crab fishery to avoid entangling any whales which have recovered dramatically since whale hunting was STOPPED. The fishing industry helped Senator Magnuson understand that whales were in serious decline and needed protection from aggressive foreign whalers in our ocean waters. The commercial fishing industry helped Senator Magnuson create the world's largest defacto whale preserve covering over 3.5 million square miles of NO Whaling Zone covering the entire United States new EEZ, exclusive economic zone. Today these fishermen prefer to change to alternate fisheries if need be to avoid whale entanglement rather than become welfare dependent wards of the state.

WDFW/WFWC to their credit, worked well with the crab industry to place meaningful restrictions into regulation that were proactive to reducing whale entanglement and NOT PUNITIVE to the fishery. Today, Washington is the only state on the west coast with line markings to identify who may have entangled a whale. NOAA Fisheries could take some lessons from WDFW on how to manage ESA listed whales through proper identification of DPS subunits of the Humpback whales where they have currently lumped 3 subspecies into one west coast group where an entanglement could curtail the fisheries instead of genetically identifying the most prevalent Washington coastal Humpback DPS, the Hawaiian subspecies that is unlisted under the ESA and if entangled would not have to close the fishery down. NOAA has some work to do to protect not only ESA listed whales from further depletion but also fishing. NOAA is failing to recognize the major accomplishment of the fishing industry to stop whaling and allow the whale populations to increase significantly. Some whale species like the Gray Whales are now so abundant that they are starving to death as they over graze the available habitat. In the last year over a 100 Grays have washed ashore on west coast beaches from this demise, two more in recent weeks on the Long Beach Peninsula.

Salmon is the most logical alternative to providing an alternative fishery that could be available to Save Fishing families, Save Ports, and Save Fishing JOBS if - . **Washington raises more salmon for HARVEST**. The entire next generation of young high debt fishermen that have the least access to harvestable fish of any generation in history are at stake and at RISK of extinction. The Big Picture is that WFWC/WDFW actions have consequences well beyond the immediate rather small innocuous actions you take at each and every meeting. Today's fishing industry is a highly contracted shadow of its former self and every piece of the fishing industry is extremely valuable to the whole coastal fishing industry success or total failure. Currently the very best fishermen from multiple crippled fisheries have collapsed into the crab fishery increasing the competition for crab in a DANGEROUS midwinter fishery **increasing the INSANITY to "Fish or Go Hungry"**. This Willapa Fish Policy decision has long and consequential tentacles that you are undoubtedly unaware. We'll address those tentacles later in this letter.

Recognize that ports like Ilwaco and Chinook require USACE dredging at federal expense to remain open for business, they requires commercial fish tonnage over the channel; recreational fishing does not count; no commercial tonnage, no dredging to keep these channels dredged for public access including recreational fishermen. Almost no one realizes that without commercial fish tonnage landed federal channels are not dredged. You might ask if inquisitive enough, what do Columbia River ports have to do with Willapa Bay salmon fishing. Easy answer, all commercial fishing in this state has shrunk dramatically over my lifetime; all are necessary to keep fishermen fishing in the future. The commercial fishing industry is now dependent on multiple fisheries to just survive – the next generation of fishermen are highly vulnerable as the highest debt, least access to fish of any generation in history of fishing. When this WFWC manages Washington fisheries you must look at the Big Picture of the health of entire fishing industry as an interconnected fishery with multiple small tentacles feeding the whole. Each time one of the tentacles is truncated the fishery as a whole heads closer toward total industry failure and extinction. Trawl fishing in this state is down to 1 active vessels, disgraceful, on the very edge of extinction. Failure in multiple fisheries including the 50/50 sharing of all fish and crab with the tribes due to federal court decisions has led to the highest fatality rate in Dungeness crab of any occupations in the nation. The crab industry lost another fisherman in Willapa Bay just last week (2018). Continually cutting salmon and other commercial fisheries leads to unintended consequences, at least I hope is unintended insanity in the daily **fish or go hungry decision** making individual fishermen with different individual financial circumstances driving him to fish in a midwinter very dangerous crab fishery in a wild angry ocean. When I started crabbing back in about 1970 we never fished in over 10 foot seas, when I quit fishing, fishing in 15 foot seas was common, today that is inching toward 20 foot seas and wind speeds in excess of 30 knots - RISK of FATALITY increases exponentially as tougher and tougher weather is fished where the young inexperienced fisherman is most at RISK. By failing to recognize that this commission's decisionmaking is driving increased fatality rates in our fishing communities the fatalities will increase in the future. Please recognize that your actions have deadly consequences by not promoting alternative fisheries healthy enough to relieve this **fish of go hungry insanity** from overall lack of access to fish in our state. Salmon is the only fish that Washington can significantly produce to help fish dependent communities THRIVE instead of just barely survive, or worse, face increased fatalities. Giving a meager gillnet season that may not even pay the license fee is not a justified action for this commission. **Washington MUST raise more salmon** for abundant harvest with NO fisherman left behind is good public policy and it will relieve the insanity and provide a prudent alternative to being forced to fish on many days in a dangerous midwinter angry ocean

just to survive financially. The fatality rate will not abate until more alternative viable fisheries are available to reduce the insane pressure on the crab fleet to continue to fish in WORSE weather just to survive.

As you are aware Willapa Bay is the only watershed in the state that is completely under the control of the WFWC. Willapa has NO federal treaty obligation to share the salmon 50/50. Willapa Basin has NO significant industrial pollution. Willapa Basin is the ideal place to increase salmon production and get the best return on investment on increased salmon production that can benefit both commercial and recreational salmon fishermen and close the urban/rural economic divide.

This year for the first time Governor Inslee has begun to recognize this sorry state of affairs and even placed additional salmon enhancement dollars in the governor's budget; a great step in the right direction which this commission should take as a cue that we need to change direction from less salmon to more. There are other state budget additions this year as well that are a cue from elected legislative officials that salmon hatchery operations need to increase production, not just in Willapa Basin, but all over the state where production has been neglected or purposefully reduced by over emphasis on "wild" salmon which will never reach pre-Lewis & Clark abundance.

Just one salmon fishery statistic I'd like to share with you for focus: Between 1965 and 1975 when I did the majority of my coastal troll salmon fishing the fleet sold over an average of over 21 million pounds of salmon on the coast each year; in 2016 the most recent information that I have that troll salmon catch was down to about 200,000 pounds less than 1% of the 1965 to 1975 average ocean harvest. That stat alone points loudly to total fish management failure and a lot of that failure is pegged to dramatic reductions in salmon hatchery production and forgotten mitigation for lost salmon spawning grounds while predation has gone up by at least an order of magnitude or more that has cut a tremendous amount of family wage JOBS from our coastal communities including those of Willapa Bay watershed to an errant salmon policy that has lost its primary purpose –promoting JOBS in rural fish dependent communities needs to become the accepted direction that the WFWC needs to move to better serve the needs of rural fish dependent communities and supply fresh fish to the consumer. Fisheries management is about more than the iconic salmon it is also about properly mitigating serious loss of salmon spawning and rearing habitat across the state and replacing lost fishing jobs that support our communities and pay taxes to support rural state services. **There has been a complete people disconnect in recent years** that is devastating to our rural communities and especially those salmon dependent communities in the Willapa Bay watershed that has been disgraceful. It is time to quit using salmon gillnetting as the boogeyman and utilize them for the necessary tool that they are to keep excess salmon from being sold to a Canadian surplus sales giant for less than appetizing ends where it is reasonably foreseeable that if Washington does not change course in salmon policy to raise more salmon the future is bleak for sustaining salmon on our citizen's dinner plates.

I attended WFWC meeting the day the commission began the genocide of gillnetting on the Columbia River, one of the saddest days of my life to witness this travesty cutting off one of the vital limbs fishing needs to survive in this state, the blood is still flowing from that wound and needs to stop. I've witnessed the general failure of fisheries management to meet not only the needs of fish but also the needs of fish dependent communities over my lifetime of fishing. Why, what has changed to forget the purpose of salmon mitigation was not just about fish, it was also about the people that depended on those fish to feed their families and support the broader community whose LIVES MATTER TOO. The needs of fish dependent people have been arbitrarily and illicitly removed from salmon management. The WFWC must face the REALITY

that salmon will continue to decline precipitously and significantly if Washington fails to meaningfully supplement them with hatchery production, **Washington MUST raise more salmon for HARVEST**. CCF is not giving up on “wild” salmon just facing the reality that the salmon spawning habitat is disappearing much faster than it is being rehabilitated as our state’s population continues to expand putting salmon killing pollution into our rivers. A legacy of past industrialization of our rivers cannot be remedied without increased hatchery production that is free of endocrine disruptors found in nature produced by the industrial world we need for our modern day lives. Endocrine disruptors preventing salmon eggs from hatching can take many forms, some we have not yet discovered. We need to investigate more thoroughly.

The very existence of salmon hatcheries in this state was to not only mitigate for anthropogenic destruction of salmon spawning and rearing grounds from a multitude of significant adverse impacts that will never be rehabilitated but also to maintain the JOBS in our state’s fish dependent communities. Population growth demanding a high quality of life in Washington has produced dams that have removed 1000’s of miles of spawning and rearing habitat, massive road construction that produces TOXIC runoff that kills even returning adult salmon before they can spawn, past logging practices that silted spawning beds making them unproductive, industrial pollution, raw sewage dumping into our waterways – Seattle comes to mind with over 400 millions of gallons of sewage per day for over a week recently; and unchecked predation on our salmon from Sea Lions, Harbor Seals, Caspian terns, cormorants, pike minnow, and other predators that are increasingly and uncontrollably cutting into the salmon population that people need to survive. **Predator control is a must if fishing communities are to survive let alone THRIVE.**

What happens to fish dependent communities when WFWC fails to raise the salmon that we did in the past and those communities lose fishing JOBS. Those consequences can be reflected in recent coastal demographics that have dramatically declined with loss of hatchery salmon production and increased predation in recent years that has resulted in inhumane adverse impacts to victimize fish dependent communities with lost family wage fishing jobs resulting in:

- **Highest unemployment rates**
- **Highest poverty rates**
- **Poorest health outcomes**
- **Lowest life spans** *Rural Coastal Communities the forgotten people matter too!*
- **Highest suicide rates**
- **Increased drug and alcohol abuse**
- **Increased child abuse**
- **Hungry children**
- **Lower median family incomes** – antidote = more salmon production = more family wage JOBS

Loss of ACCESS for abundant salmon for harvest by our Fish Dependent Communities has Dire CONSEQUENCES witnessed in these disastrous Demographics that are linked closely with salmon supply!

Washington MUST raise more salmon for HARVEST

Washington has done far better for rural fish dependent communities in the past; we must do better for these communities today. Lost family wage seafood jobs matter to the communities; rural & coastal communities and those **ALL forgotten people matter too**. Salmon management

is not just about salmon, it is about managing salmon for abundance with NO fisherman left behind as good public policy to adequately mitigate the losses that a growing urban society inadvertently perpetrates on salmon and salmon dependent communities. Existing heinous salmon policy in Washington that has suppressed salmon hatchery production for harvest has also suppressed the legislative mandates found in RCW 77.04.012 ignoring the vast majority of Washington citizens that have NO ACCESS to Washington salmon, leaving them with “empty dinner plates” and has pierced the heart of Fish Dependent Communities producing the worst demographics in the state as the only tangible result has been to severely destroy economic prosperity in our rural communities.

If we use 1975 as a good starting benchmark to judge success or failure of Washington salmon management, we should compare Washington to Alaska over the same time frame. In 1975, Alaska was at a low point in salmon harvest with approximately 20 million fish harvested. Alaska changed salmon policy and began to increase salmon production and by the 1990's the state was harvesting over 200 million salmon per year; a harvest rate that has held steady for years; lots of that harvest was hatchery produced. Alaska salmon harvest up 10 times while Washington is down a deplorable 10 fold – something wrong with this picture; something that can be turned around if Washington fish policy is changed toward production. This so called wild fish policy is nothing more than a NO FISHING POLICY and the proof is in the numbers. The facts are undisputable; Washington fish policy is not only failing fish it is failing the people of Washington as well. **Washington MUST raise more salmon for HARVEST**

Fishermen are hardworking people that need ACCESS to FISH to not only feed their families but to supply income to a substantial number of other local rural business and also feed the people of our state. Pacific County is the 4th most fish dependent community in the nation; Willapa Bay Salmon fishing can be a significant portion of that fish dependency if salmon production is significantly increased as the legislature is providing increased budget to RAISE MORE SALMON. Willapa Bay is relatively pristine and should be one of the largest salmon producing areas in our state to help mitigate the state-wide losses of salmon. Other areas of the state also need serious increases in salmon mitigation, but no other area has the advantages found in Willapa Bay watershed with low level of population the associated low levels human impacts of added hard surfaces or industrial and municipal wastes.

When the Heinous Kitzhaber Columbia River Gillnet Genocide began the fishermen were promised NO loss of income – that promise is now broken and needs to be corrected. Substitute fishing styles were going to be the panacea, after much ado about nothing, those failed substitutes slipped off the shelf useless compared to the selective nature of the gillnet. FACTS are important and gillnet fishing is important to the overall salmon fisheries that cannot catch the fish that swim past their hooks and in recent years end up as surplus for a few cents each to a **Canadian Fish Company** and NO benefit to the Washington citizens that paid to raise the salmon in the first place, how pathetic; promoting the salmon go to cat food or fertilizer instead of the Washington consumer; senseless wastage of a valuable resource that could be used to support our rural communities and shrink the urban/rural divide which will continue to widen unless **Washington raises more salmon for harvest** by our rural Fish Dependent Communities.

Increased salmon production in the Willapa Bay with associated increase in commercial and recreational harvest is warranted to begin addressing those gaping wounds now draining the

lifeblood out of the commercial fisheries and our communities for no good reason due to failed policy that is manifested in our downtrodden fishing fleets that are miniscule compared to the past. All through the 1970's the coastal troll salmon fleet harvested over 21 million pounds of salmon annually, today, less than 1% of that amount. It is impossible to run a salmon dependent community on less than 1% ACCESS to historical levels of fish. We can assume the gillnet landings are similar but WDFW has not supplied that information requested in the FOIA that CCF withdrew because it was not our intension to cause the department trouble but to get accurate information to present to the WFWC so that history could help guide a resurrected fishing industry based on increased ACCESS to sustainable fish in every corner of Washington.

Willapa Bay is a small subset of Washington salmon policy that is subverting the will of the people in the Northwest. This all started with the heinous Kitzhaber plan by a fish commission that was overly influenced by a now disgraced Oregon governor that was forced to resign for actions unbecoming the office of the governor, a governor that perpetrated override actions of the supermajority vote of the people of the state of Oregon that voted to keep salmon gillnetting viable on the Columbia River by an extremely wide margin, over 60%. **When unelected officials override the vote of the people through illicitly conceived rule making our basic democratic system is edging toward failure as well.** Willapa Bay is just a microcosm of this overall failed salmon policy that needs to be corrected across the state and reinstated in the Columbia River to bring prosperity back to rural communities. **Washington MUST raise more salmon for HARVEST**

You commissioners today can begin to correct these past misdeeds and increase salmon production across the state beginning with a drastic change in course to increase hatchery production to benefit the people of Washington a endeavor well worth the effort. But we cannot let the excessive number of marine mammals and voracious salmon hungry birds gobble up all the increased production. We must look closely at modernizing the ESA and MMPA to allow the increased salmon that we do produce in the future to grow to maturity and return in fair numbers after significant fishing harvest by both recreational and commercial fishermen at levels capable of turning around the terrible DEMOGRAPHICS in our salmon dependent communities. The ESA is 47 years old and 1660 species have been listed as endangered or threatened – only 3% have been delisted. Currently the Western Congressional Caucus has 17 proposed amendments to the ESA and not one of those proposals are to help salmon survival. But the ESA has produced a cottage industry of lawsuits to make lawyers rich litigating ESA cases which are escalating out of control to where we are litigating elderberry bushes to save a rare beetle and many other frivolous legal actions that take dollars away from salmon's resurrection.

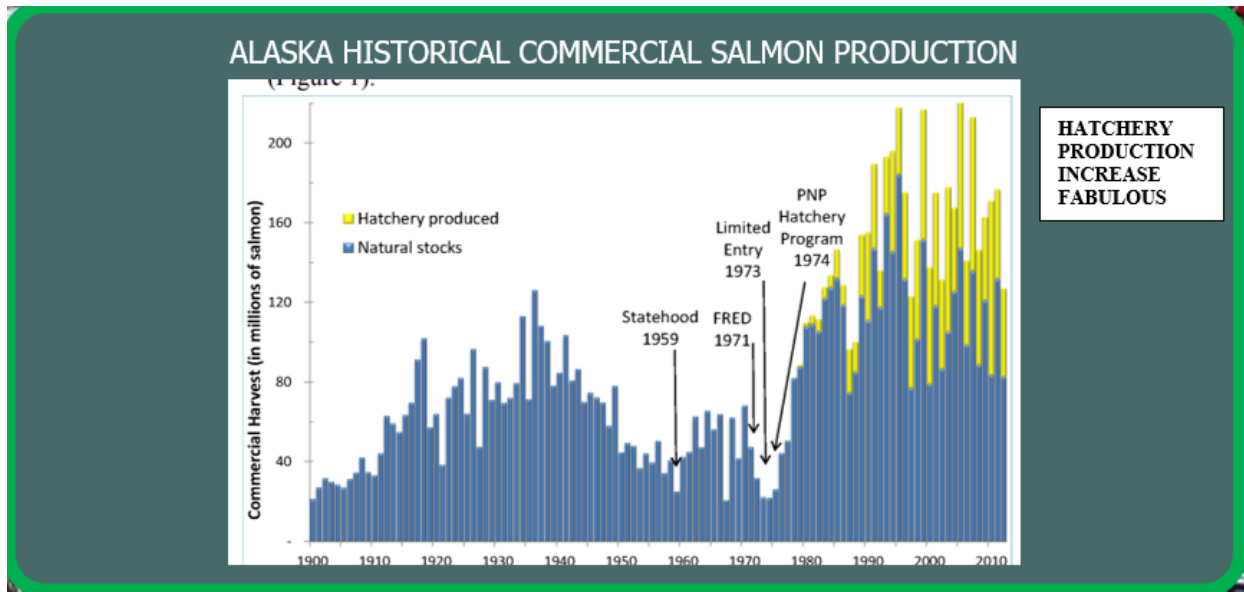
CCF/CRCFA supports the WFWC REFORMATION of Washington Salmon Policies to increase Washington salmon for HARVEST. We also promote the recovery of "Wild" salmon BUT not at the loss of our Salmon Dependent Communities who are natural resourced based and have NO other realistic family wage JOBS which are disappearing with the past reductions in salmon hatchery productions of 160 million salmon smolts annually which also has a devastating adverse impact on Puget Sound Orca whales. WFWC MUST begin to advocate for congress to **MODERNIZE the ESA and MMPA** in such a manner that **"ALL PEOPLE MATTER"** including our Fish Dependent Communities need for ACCESS to sustainable salmon, even if that ACCESS is driven by increased salmon hatchery production to maintain good family wage salmon JOBS in

our rural and coastal communities with **NO fisherman left behind** as good public policy. Both ROBUST commercial and recreational fishing are necessary to bolster our lagging deplorable demographics in our coastal and rural Fish Dependent Communities all across Washington.

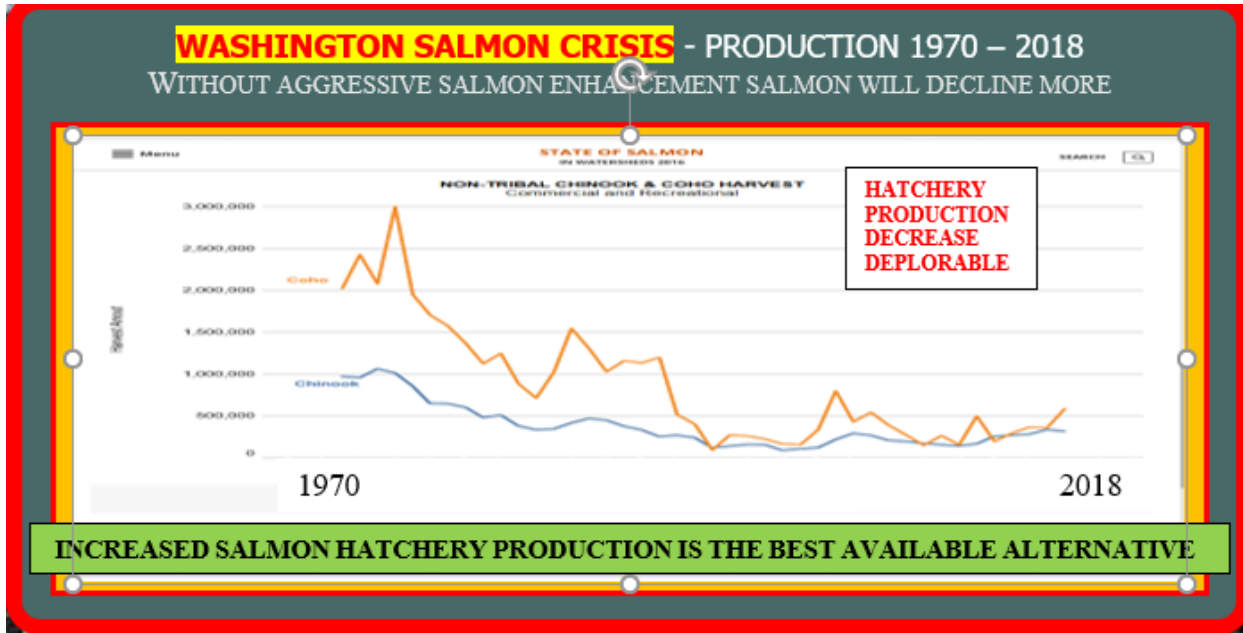
This presentation cannot possibly be conveyed in a 3 minute public ZOOM presentation and the real gravity of the loss of salmon fishing by our coastal and rural Fish Dependent Communities has had severe adverse impacts on our communities and severely limits the next generation of fishermen that have economically supported our communities for over 160 years are at more RISK of extinction than our endangered salmon.

Below are a few graphics to help you visualize the decimation of our salmon fisheries.

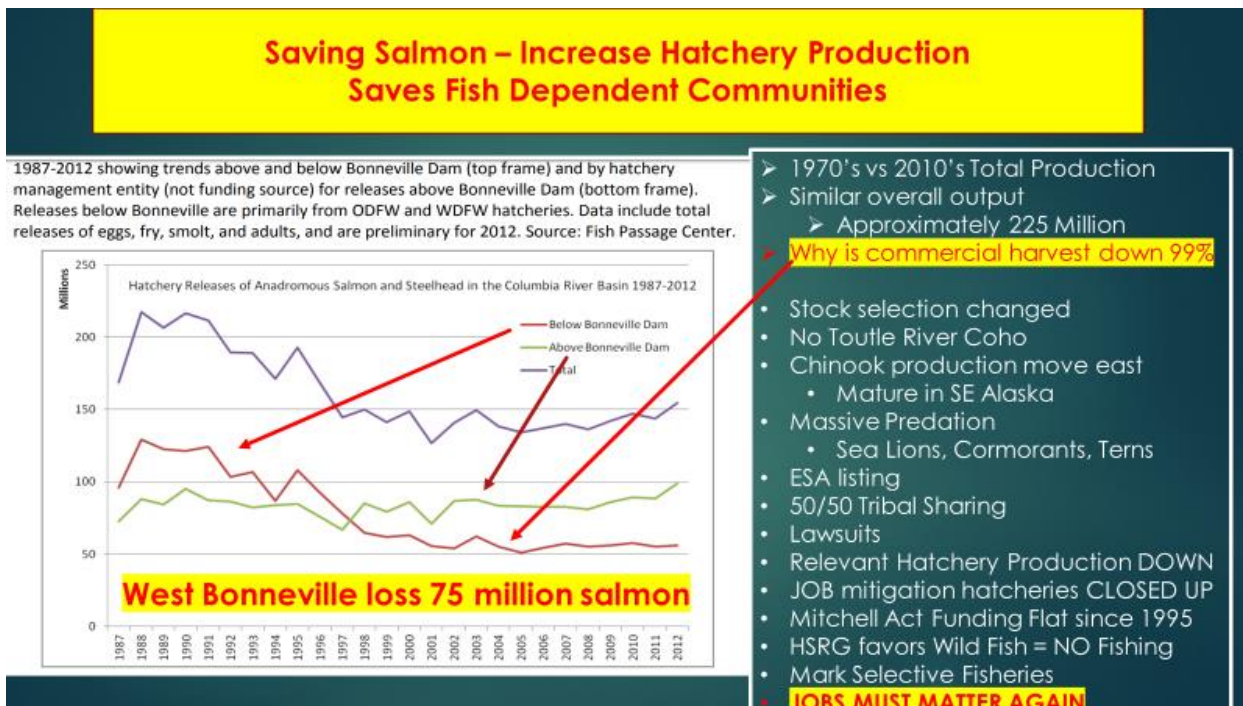
Alaska up 10 X since 1975



Washington down 10 X since 1975

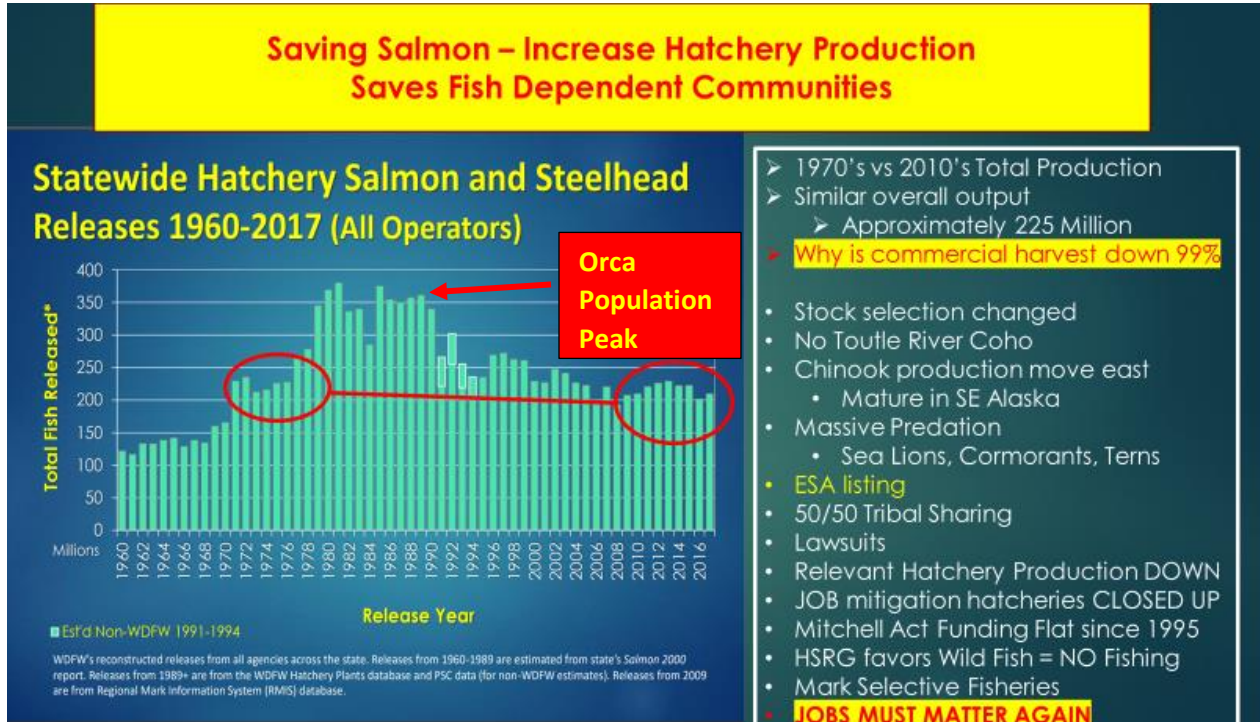


There are many valid reasons for this disparity, but the primary difference is Salmon Policy.



As salmon production was cut Orca's and Fish Dependent Communities **SUFFERED**
 Increase salmon production, control predation, improve and save salmon habitat

Change Salmon POLICY - **Washington MUST raise more salmon for HARVEST**



We do not need more studies; Marine Mammals are over abundant devouring our salmon

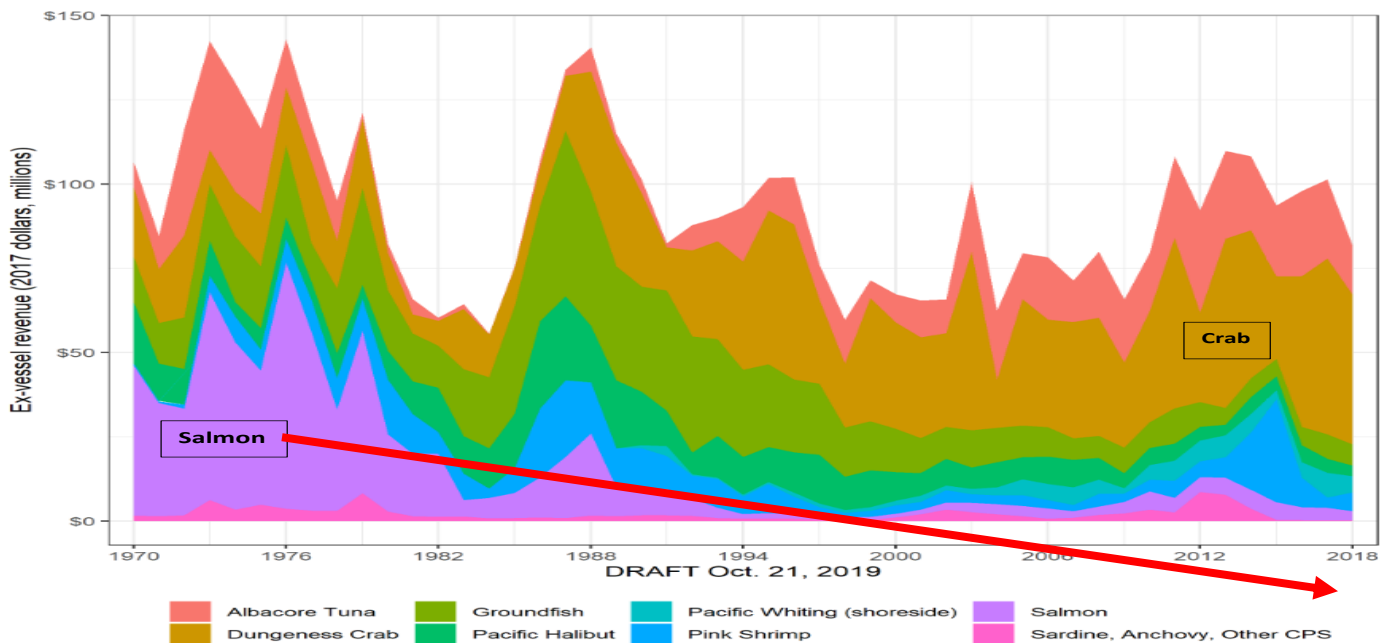


Expansion of the Bonneville/Willamette Sea Lion Control is absolutely necessary to save salmon



Economic picture Washington commercial fisheries to 2018 – We must do better for salmon

Washington Fish Landings in Dollars 1970 - 2018



The faces of CCF – many seafood organizations and support businesses at Seafood Day 2020
CCF supports REAL CHANGE to fish policy that increases harvest for ALL our state citizens



Please note that the Orca populations were increasing and peaked at the top of graph 4 above and receded accordingly as their favorite food supply was lost due to loss of hatchery produced salmon, which was cut significantly starting in 1990. The loss of adequate salmon for harvest by the Orca is still adversely affecting and dampening their population today. Loss of the Lower Columbia hatchery production is the primary fish that matures on the Washington coast where Orcas search for food. The upper Columbia salmon stocks mainly migrate toward SE Alaska and are out of the Puget Sound Orca's hunting range most of the upriver salmon's lifecycle and unavailable for the Orca or our state's coastal fishermen causing both to seriously decline.

This Washington Salmon Crisis is self-induced by salmon policy; policy can be corrected. Let us pray that the WFWC gets it RIGHT this time to benefit both fish and fishermen as the father of modern fish management envisioned, Senator Magnuson put us on the RIGHT track, we have been sidetracked for a while cutting hatchery production with adverse consequences for salmon. for Orcas, and for our people.

Washington MUST do more not less to protect, preserve, and enhance salmon for HARVEST with NO Fisherman left behind, instead of gutted Fish Dependent Communities by undue severe hatchery reductions that have disproportionately impacted our coastal and rural fish dependent communities by agency soft despotism's tyrannical blatant overreach that has sabotaged and dismantled legislative clear INTENT to maintain the economic well-being and stability of the fishing industry in the state found in RCW 77.04.012. Increased salmon production can help take the deplorable knee off the neck of fish dependent people that are smothering and cannot breathe. Increased salmon production can provide a better quality of life for our rural communities by instituting common sense salmon reforms that work for people that increase hatchery production to the benefit of not only salmon but the vulnerable rural people that depend on salmon for a

livelihood that have been forsaken by loss of accountability reflected in recent salmon policies that has shown up in really poor demographics in our communities. **Tequila was speaking as a cannery** of the sea to the WFWC/Legislature, and anyone that would listen as she pushed her dead Orca calve around Puget Sound parading for all to see for 17 days – Tequila’s calf was a true victim of past repressive salmon policy and was crying out for more salmon production for harvest not only by the Orcas but also salmon dependent people facing a similar fate – **PEOPLE MATTER TOO!** Tequila got the word out that Washington needed to increase hatchery production as only she could as the mournful cries for help from salmon dependent people were not heard. The legislature answered with ACTION of an upsurge of sunlight by beginning to increase funding for increased salmon production, but the increase was only a down payment on what is necessary to replace the loss of 160 million salmon smolts in the last couple of decades to prevent the Orca from continuing to starve from the past sinful campaign of salmon hatchery repression that has stolen the soul of our rural communities and driven the Orca toward extinction. The Washington legislature realized that they MUST become the solution for salmon recovery providing direction from the top of the regulatory system as they increased the salmon production state budget. Continued increases in salmon production today will pay dividends for decades to come. The Orca and Rural Fish Dependent Communities can recover, BUT it will take more salmon maturing in our local coastal ocean to accomplish.

Salmon can and MUST become KING once again. A major shift in salmon policy toward increased salmon hatchery production for harvest, increased predator controls, modernized ESA/MMPA that benefit salmon recovery, improved salmon habitat, and increased fish harvest capacity, as these improvements are all necessary working together this can be accomplished. Salmon is the only fish species that Washington has the built infrastructure capacity to influence abundance in nature. We must utilize our hatchery production capability to provide economic safeguards for our fish dependent communities; we MUST change course to utilize our hatchery production so that fishing can THRIVE and no longer rest on the knife edge of economic survival or worse, bankruptcy. We shall overcome, we shall have sustainable salmon for abundant harvest once again with NO fisherman left behind but only by utilizing our full salmon hatchery production so that our salmon dependent people can THRIVE not just barely survive on the edge of extinction.

The thriving of abundant salmon in Washington is inexorably linked to a much larger issue in our state, “Quality of life” for ALL our citizen’s but especially Fish Dependent Communities that have been abandoned along with the environmental degradation brought on by social and economic injustice perpetrated against unmitigated salmon lost to industrialization impacts on our spawning rivers which have succumbed to the law of unintended consequences where salmon struggle to survive has been sacrificed over and over again for raw misuse phishing for other industrial profit with total disregard for the health of our salmon industries.

Concerned for the welfare of our fish dependent communities, salmon policy can change to benefit not only salmon but also the people that should be depending on them as well, Senator Magnuson had it right when he stated clearly that **the primary goal of fisheries management is to prevent the depletion of both fish and fishermen,**

Respectfully submitted, praying for more salmon to harvest with NO fisherman left behind, praying for all recreational and commercial fishermen to link arms and be heard by WFWC that REAL change is necessary to protect and preserve both

fish and ALL fishermen as intended by our state legislature and found in RCW 77.04.012,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dale Beasley".

Dale Beasley, president of CCF & CRCFA
Coalition of Coastal Fisheries
Columbia River Crab Fisherman's Association

From: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Gill Nets
Date: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 8:33:12 AM
Attachments: [Gillnets on the main stem of the Columbia River..msg](#)
[Contact the Commission Questions for Commission Staff.msg](#)

From: Blagg, Wade (American Rock Products) <Wade.Blagg@americanrockproducts.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 7:02 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Gill Nets

Reducing selective recreational fishing and increasing non-selective gillnetting is a bad idea.

Thank You,

Wade Blagg
General Manager

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Pasco, Wa 99301

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E wade.blagg@americanrockproducts.com

www.americanrockproducts.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: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: FW: Proposal on Increasing Gillnet Fishing on the Columbia River
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:25:31 AM

From: jerry <jerryb68@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 25, 2020 1:05 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Proposal on Increasing Gillnet Fishing on the Columbia River

Has WDFW gone nuts! We know the current head of WDFW is love with the gillnetters, which is understandable since he worked with them most of his career and I am sure they are all his drinking buddies. Since this is so obvious, we rely on you Commissioners to stop the insanity. The whole Columbia River Reforms signed in 2012 have been the biggest betrayal I have ever seen in my life - first by the governor of Oregon who proposed them to stop the ballot measure banning gillnets - then by the gillnetters who signed it and then ran to courts in both states to stop what they just signed (thankfully both stated court systems said the reforms were legal and binding) - and then the head of the WDFW sneaks off to Spokane last year to secretly vote Washington state out of the Agreement.

Recreational Fishermen are NOT ANOTHER USER GROUP!!!!!!!!!! We are the general public which includes you and your children. We should (and do in most all other "public" resources like air and fresh water) have first claim on fish that can be harvested. If we don't harvest all the excess (not talking about the 50% the Native Americans own), the commercial fishermen can then step in. Also, please don't buy the BS about the gillnetters are the way the non-fishing public has access to the resource. With that kind of thinking I claim all the air and you better start paying me for access to this resource or quit breathing (sounds crazy doesn't it - well saying the commercial fishermen are the non-fishing public's access to the available fish is just as crazy!). There are plenty of commercially harvested salmon for the non-fishing public, (Bristol Bay Alaska had 25 million Sockeye commercially harvested last year.)

I have been a WA resident most of my life and retired three years ago. Due to the mismanagement of WDFW I decided not to buy a new fishing boat (that would have been made here in WA), and I am spending that money going to Alaska a few times each summer. The only fishing I still do in WA is on the Columbia River for Salmon. Looks like I will stop spending that money too. Almost all the salmon fishermen around have given up totally on WA and go to Canada or Alaska. I will continue to fish in Alaska, but I will now start going to California. It is unbelievable that CA now has much better river salmon fishing than WA, but that is what happens when the CA managers took their heads out of their butts. I just wish

the WA "managers" would do the same.

Jerry Britain
Camano Island

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 Netting
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 9:54:07 AM

From: KC Burns <KCBurnz@live.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 26, 2020 7:36 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Gill Netting

Hi,

The fisherman and women of this state are already oppressed by your terrible rules and regulations don't punish us more. Just to raise the price of licenses, our four fathers would be disgraced by your actions. The gill nets must be controlled and regulated we need LESS gill netting in the mainstem columbia river and the gill netters need to be regulated just as strictly as any other sport fisherman. DO YOUR JOB!

Thanks,

Casey Burns

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 3:08:51 PM

Name	Herman Fleishman
Email	herman@fish-norhwest.com
Address	Tigard Oregon
Comments	<p>I am a native Oregonian and local river guide. I have spent most of my life fishing on the Columbia River. The Columbia River reforms need to continue to be enforced and not allow the commercial gill nets to go back and fish on the main stream. The many years of implementation and efforts by both Oregon and Washington need to go continue with buying of licences and subsidies to the Gill Net fleet and continue fishing the the designated safe areas. Seek efforts of alternative gear. Recreational Columbia River fisherman and guides do not need less opportunity or allocation. The reforms were passed by both states. Please continue with your efforts to keep your promise and promote the terms of the reforms. Do not make amendments to allocation of the estimated returns.</p> <p>Sincerely, Herman Fleishman Northwest Fishing Adventures LLC NWGAA</p>
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 50.45.248.204 (United States) at 2020-07-28 18:08:46 on Chrome 84.0.4147.105
Entry ID: 181

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: Contact the Commission: Commission Meetings
Date: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 12:46:06 PM
Attachments: [2.1.20.ANWS.ltr.WA.Comm.pdf](#)

From: Chris Hager <chager@anws.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 12:09 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Contact the Commission: Commission Meetings

Name	Chris Hager
Email	chager@anws.org
Address	6641 SE Lake Rd Portland Oregon 97222
Phone	603-770-2175
Subject	Commission Meetings
Message	For reference to our 7/28/20 testimony, I am resubmitting our feb. 1st testimony on "next steps" for Columbia River Fisheries Management, on behalf of the Association of Northwest Steelheaders.
Attachment	https://www.123formbuilder.com/upload_dld.php?fileid=d3708a9b3fcada6d254dfa2034259c9b

The message has been sent from 73.11.86.135 (United States) at 2020-07-28 15:09:19 on Chrome 84.0.4147.89
Entry ID: 2291



Association of Northwest Steelheaders

6641 SE Lake Rd. • Milwaukie, OR 97222-2161

503-653-4176

www.nwsteelheaders.org • office@anws.org

February 1, 2020

Testimony to the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission concerning Lower Mainstem Columbia River Fisheries Management Reform

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of the Association of Northwest Steelheaders regarding “next steps” in Columbia River fisheries management policy reform.

The Northwest Steelheaders was founded in 1960 and is one of the oldest recreational fishing and conservation non-profit organizations in the Pacific Northwest. We have nine chapters in Oregon and one in Southwest Washington. The mission of the Northwest Steelheaders is to enhance and protect recreational fisheries and fish habitats for today and tomorrow, with our vision being abundant and sustainable fisheries in healthy watersheds.

A great many of our members, including those of the Columbia River Chapter located in Vancouver, Washington, fish for salmon and steelhead on the Columbia River and are deeply concerned about the Commission’s policy direction concerning Columbia River fisheries management reform.

The original reform policies were developed and approved by the states of Washington and Oregon in order to resolve persistent conflicts and provide certainty for fisheries in the lower mainstem Columbia. Northwest Steelheaders supported adoption of these policy reforms, and we continue to support their full implementation.

We were thus extremely disappointed with the Commission’s decision on March 2, 2019 to abandon fundamental principles embodied in the reform policies, namely (a) to improve the selectivity and conservation value of lower mainstem non-treaty commercial salmon fisheries through the replacement of gillnet fisheries with alternative mark-selective, live-release fisheries, and (b) to optimize the economic and social benefits to our region through the prioritization of recreational fisheries on the mainstem.



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The Northwest Steelheaders, including as part of a coalition of recreational fishing, conservation, marine trade, and sport fishing industry organizations, has previously provided you with letters and testimony outlining our numerous concerns with your controversial March 2019 decision. We incorporate those letters and testimony herein by reference.¹ We also direct your attention to letters dated October 16, 2019, and October 25, 2019, from the Coastal Conservation Association to the Commission, which make a number of pertinent and persuasive points.²

In light of the concerns expressed in the above-referenced letters, we urge you to take advantage of the opportunity provided by the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission's recent decision to suspend the joint Policy Review Committee (PRC) process. Oregon's astute decision to take this "time out" is indeed a blessing in disguise for the Washington Commission, as it provides an off-ramp to the perilous direction the PRC was heading in terms of public support for the agency and its budget.

As you are well-aware, the Commission is facing a host of challenging fisheries issues including Willapa Bay and Grays Harbor fishery management reviews, hatchery management policy review, and the looming Puget Sound Chinook harvest management agreement. With

¹March 27, 2019 letter from recreational coalition to Washington State legislators (with cc: to Washington Fish & Wildlife Commission) regarding WDFW policy decisions;

June 18, 2019 letter from recreational coalition to Washington Fish and Wildlife Chair Carpenter and WDFW Director Susewind;

September 30, 2019 letter from Association of NW Steelheaders to Policy Review Committee

² October 16, 2019 letter from Coastal Conservation Association to Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission Chair Carpenter and Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission Chair Finley;

October 25, 2019 letter from Coastal Conservation Association – Washington to Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission



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respect to the latter, the agency finds itself between a proverbial rock (the co-managers' tribal treaty reserved fishing rights), a hard place (ESA conservation and recovery mandates for salmon and orca handed down by NOAA), and a sharp object (potential litigation concerning all of the above). All of this while the agency is requesting critical budget support from the state legislature.

Recreational anglers and sportfishing industry organizations have traditionally been some of the most vocal supporters of the agency and Commission before the legislature. That support is being undermined, however, not only by declining fishing opportunity, but as a result of agency and Commission missteps, such as the Commission's ill-advised March 2019 decision to revive and extend non-selective gill netting on the lower Columbia, and to reduce the public recreational fishery's share of the catch in favor of commercial exploitation by private interests.

Simply put, the March 2019 decision was an ill-timed and unsound policy choice through which the Commission needlessly kicked a hornet's nest. We urge the Commission to avoid repeating this misstep.

Unlike the challenges posed by Puget Sound Chinook harvest management, where outside factors significantly limit viable options, the Commission has significant discretion in deciding how to proceed with the Columbia River reforms. Recognizing that discretion is the better part of valor, we ask the Commission to:

- Rescind your March 2019 decision, which was not expected to be permanent anyway. In the alternative, while we support full implementation of the original reform policy, at minimum, amend your policy so that it is concurrent with Oregon's current policy and administrative rules, while maintaining a commitment to make progress in the future towards full implementation. As Director Susewind has succinctly stated, "gillnets are not the final answer to this problem."
- Then, join Oregon in taking a "time out" on Columbia River Reform policy issues to re-set and re-group; focus instead on other impending challenges before revisiting the Columbia River Reforms; and direct staff to continue advancing the policy objectives of developing



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alternative mark selective, live-release commercial gear and a commercial license buy-back program.

Thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,

Tom VanderPlaat
Board President

Chris Hager
Executive Director

Donald Hyde
President, Columbia River Chapter, Vancouver, Washington

Association of Northwest Steelheaders
A Place to Fish and Fish to Catch

CC: Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission

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: Contact the Commission: Commission Meetings
Date: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 12:46:31 PM
Attachments: [7.28.20.ANWS.ltr.WA.Comm.pdf](#)

From: Chris Hager <chager@anws.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 12:06 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Contact the Commission: Commission Meetings

Name	Chris Hager
Email	chager@anws.org
Address	6641 SE Lake Rd milwaukie Oregon 97222
Phone	603-770-2175
Subject	Commission Meetings
Message	Please find attached testimony on behalf of the Association of NW Steelheaders to the Commission regarding "next steps" in Columbia River fisheries management reform. Please also find our Feb. 1st submitted testimony, for reference.
Attachment	https://www.123formbuilder.com/upload_dld.php?fileid=71c2058936b9aaf4129621d7cb1ed692

The message has been sent from 73.11.86.135 (United States) at 2020-07-28 15:06:04 on Chrome 84.0.4147.89
Entry ID: 2290



ASSOCIATION OF NORTHWEST STEELHEADERS

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July 28, 2020

Testimony to the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission concerning proposed revisions to Columbia River Salmon Fisheries Management Policy

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of the Association of Northwest Steelheaders regarding the proposed revisions to Columbia River non-treaty salmon fisheries management policy.

The NW Steelheaders oppose the revisions set forth in the Public Review Draft recommended by the Columbia River Workgroup (CRW) and urge you to reject them.

We have previously provided testimony and comments to the Commission concerning Columbia River non-treaty salmon fisheries¹ and our position remains unchanged: the NW Steelheaders support full implementation of the original bi-state Columbia River Reform management agreement and policy (C-3620).

The Columbia River Reforms were adopted by both Washington and Oregon to resolve persistent conflicts and provide stability for non-treaty fisheries management in the lower mainstem Columbia. In this regard, the Reforms sought to improve the selectivity and conservation value of lower mainstem non-treaty salmon fisheries through the replacement of gillnet fisheries with fisheries capable of mark-selective, live-release fishing practices; to optimize the economic and social benefits to our region through the prioritization of recreational fisheries on the mainstem; and to maintain the viability of the commercial fishery through the enhancement of commercial fisheries in off-channel areas and the implementation of alternative,

¹ Reference our February 1, 2020 testimony to the Commission.



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selective commercial fishing gears. These essential objectives of the original Reform package remain as valid and in the public interest today as they did when the Reforms were first adopted.

Unfortunately, the CRW's proposed revisions would abandon completely the objective to remove gillnets from the mainstem and significantly reduce the recreational fishing priority, all the while significant increases in hatchery enhancement is continuing in off-channel areas (funded by taxpayers and fees on Oregon recreational anglers) for the benefit of commercial fisheries. If adopted, this attempt to dismantle the Reforms would be a dramatic step backward in favor of entrenched and publicly subsidized private commercial interests that exploit public resources at the expense of public recreational use.

Especially concerning are the proposed revisions to allow wild-kill, non-mark selective gillnetting of spring and summer Chinook. Recreational anglers are restricted to mark-selective, live-release fisheries on these stocks in order to conserve wild fish while providing for harvest of abundant hatchery fish. Fisheries scientists, including WDFW managers, have publicly emphasized the importance these mark-selective regulations play in achieving conservation objectives while allowing for meaningful fisheries. In particular, we understand from WDFW managers that the recreational fishery for summer Chinook is prosecuted under mark-selective, live-release regulations in order to help achieve conservation goals related to the proportion of hatchery fish spawning in the wild. Allowing a wild-kill commercial gillnet fishery on spring and summer Chinook would undermine these important management objectives, along with recreational angler support for them.

To put it bluntly, how can it be good public policy to require recreational anglers – i.e., public users of a public resource – to carefully release wild spring and summer Chinook in furtherance of conservation objectives, while at the same time allowing non-treaty commercial



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gillnetters – who exploit a public resource for private profit – to kill these wild fish? These proposed revisions are truly the product of out-dated thinking and represent poor public policy choices. And we fail to see how these recommendations are consistent with WDFW’s newly-minted strategic plan goal of charting a “path for a new era.”

In addition, the NW Steelheaders believe that recreational mainstem fisheries are a higher and better public use, and produce greater public economic and social benefits, than commercial non-treaty mainstem fisheries. We therefore oppose the revisions that would reduce sport angler allocations in favor of greater allocation of public salmon fisheries resources to private commercial fishing interests. In this regard, we note that the non-treaty commercial salmon fishery in the lower Columbia River already benefits from significant direct public subsidies in the form of management, enforcement, research and SAFE area enhancement, and we call on the Commission to request WDFW management conduct a full benefit-cost accounting of the direct and indirect public costs and net public benefits (or losses) of this private fishery. It is unfortunate, but telling, that despite months of meetings the CRW (and formerly joint Policy Review Committee) never took this fundamental step necessary for the Commission to fulfill its public trust stewardship duty.

Thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom VanderPlaat". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tom VanderPlaat
Board President



ASSOCIATION OF NORTHWEST STEELHEADERS

6641 SE Lake Rd. Milwaukie, OR 97222

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Hager".

Chris Hager
Executive Director

Donald Hyde
President, Columbia River Chapter, Vancouver, Washington

Association of Northwest Steelheaders
A Place to Fish and Fish to Catch

CC: Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission

From: [Nate Jensen](#)
To: [Commission \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Gillnets on the main stem of the Columbia River.
Date: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 6:45:47 AM

In no way do gillnets belong on the main stem of the Columbia.
Sent from my iPhone

From: [123ContactForm](#)
To: [Dobler, Myrtice C \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: Contact the Policy Review Workgroup
Date: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 4:31:13 PM

Name	Chuck Stevens
Email	reelfunfishn@comcast.net
Address	16016 NE 83rd Circle Vancouver Washington
Comments	Please continue to support fish stock recovery and sport fishing by implementing the original bi-state Columbia River Reform agreement. Reject the proposed revisions to policy C3620 Thank You Chuck Stevens
Attachment	

The message has been sent from 73.11.67.118 (United States) at 2020-07-28 19:30:58 on iPhone unknown
Entry ID: 182