



# All Tangled In The Nets On The Columbia

*Threatened salmon are dying, sportfishing is crimped and an outdoor retail chain goes belly up.*

*Courtesy of The Oregonian*

It stinks what passes for salmon harvest policy on the Columbia River. Everyone smells it -- lawmakers, gill-netters, sport fishermen, fish commissioners -- but all the Northwest has done is hold its collective nose.

Here's what's going on: Oregon and Washington still allow gill nets, the least selective way to fish, in the main stem of the Columbia River. The gill-netters can't help but catch and kill threatened species of salmon and steelhead. This incidental take of federally protected fish forces the curtailment of sportfishing, gutting a major Northwest industry. Guides, boat dealers and tackle manufacturers are hurting; just this week one of the region's largest retailers of fishing equipment, Joe's Sports, Outdoor & More, went out of business.

Meanwhile, tens of thousands of hatchery salmon roll upriver, flooding into spawning areas and interfering with the recovery of the threatened wild species of salmon and steelhead.

All of this makes no sense, none, yet it keeps going on. The gill-netters, backed by the seafood processors and restaurants they supply, have spent decades now locked in a fierce dispute with sport fishermen over the relative share of fish that each side is allowed to harvest. This tug of war has so poisoned river policy that both sides cannot recognize that their stubborn stances are hurting them both, and damaging wild salmon.

There are better ways. Two proposals in the Oregon Legislature, if properly implemented, promise more salmon, not fewer, to commercial gill-netters and sport fishermen.

Both would help wild salmon recovery by protecting threatened fish from nonselective harvest, and ramp up harvest of hatchery fish, reducing the competition in spawning areas.

One proposal, House Bill 2734, the so-called "SAFE for Salmon" plan, would move gill-netters into off-channel commercial fishing zones. The idea is to accelerate and expand the hatchery practice of taking salmon smolts to bays and side channels, where the young fish imprint and return as adult salmon. Gill-netters already are taking a substantial portion of their fish in these zones -- which are not frequented by wild salmon.



Gill nets lined up along the waters edge.

A second proposal, House Bill 2579, would legalize the use of seines and traps on the lower Columbia. The idea is, over time, to transition commercial fishermen from gill-nets, which kill a high percentage of the wild salmon they snare, to seine nets and traps that allow protected fish to be sorted and sent upriver unharmed.

Down in Salem, these are seen as competing bills. Legislators seem confused by their choices and tempted to call for "more study," pushing salmon harvest issues off for another year or two. In fact, the bills are compatible.

Lawmakers ought to approve them both and give fish managers the tools they need to better manage salmon on the Columbia.

Commercial gill-netters fear being pinned to the shallow bays of the river, and question whether the hatchery fish promised in the SAFE plan would truly be forthcoming. They also are reluctant to swap out their gill-net gear for costly seine nets or other equipment. Lawmakers should strengthen both bills to address their concerns.

There is room now, and always will be, for commercial salmon fishing on the Columbia River, if properly managed. Ultimately, though, gill-nets must be moved out of the main stem of the river. If it ever made sense to allow nonselective fishing on threatened salmon and steelhead, then kick everybody off the river while hatchery fish surge upstream, it doesn't any longer. All it does now is stink. ☹

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Why we Need a Mark Selective Commercial Fishery



Gary Loomis  
Founding Chair, CCA PNW

Fisheries issues are complicated, and there's probably no fisheries issue more complicated than our Pacific Northwest salmon. Salmon management is mired in several jurisdictional issues, ESA listings and impacts, multiple user groups and various biological opinions. In this complex maze of management CCA's strategy is to advocate for the fish, with the fundamental belief that recovering our fish runs is not only the right thing to do, but will also result in the best outcome for all concerned.

It's clear that harvest is an issue and in need of reform, so why do we need a commercial fishery at all? If you are a recreational angler, you likely know that the sport fishery results in a much higher economic value in terms of the overall catch. And, it's worth noting that in other CCA states in the south, the elimination of the commercial harvest has allowed the resource to rebound.

While the issue is complicated, the answer is really quite simple. Recreational anglers can't catch enough of the hatchery salmon to justify the continuation of the hatchery programs and keep surplus hatchery salmon off of the wild salmon spawning beds. There will always be some debate regarding the virtue of hatchery fish and their interaction with wild populations. The science that will influence hatchery funding in the future makes it clear that we must minimize hatchery fish on the

wild fish spawning beds. There are two ways to do this: eliminate hatchery plants, or catch and remove the hatchery fish from the rivers.

I haven't come across too many of our members who want to close hatcheries, so let's consider the option of trying to catch the hatchery fish before they reach the spawning beds. Sport fishing catch rates vary significantly based on the type of salmon, water temperature, location and other factors. However, for most fisheries, recreational anglers can't catch enough of the fish. Many simply don't bite. The only way to catch these excess fish – the ones that don't bite – is with a selective commercial fishery.

This is not a minor problem. Last year the Cowlitz hatchery had approximately 50,000 excess Coho return beyond what was needed for egg take. Gill nets can't accomplish this goal because the nets can't differentiate between abundant hatchery fish and ESA-listed wild fish. Once the ESA impacts are reached, the gill nets come out and the sport fishery is closed down, allowing the surplus hatchery fish to go by, and in many cases stray onto wild fish spawning habitat. Weirs can help, but it's unrealistic to have a weir on every stream a salmon can stray into. Because the sport fishery can only catch a certain percentage of the fish, reducing hatchery plants would significantly reduce opportunity.

Make no mistake about it. In order to have robust sport fisheries and recover our wild salmon populations, we need a commercial fishery that's selective, allows for live capture and sorting, and is capable of targeting specific stocks of harvestable fish. This is what's driving CCA's legislative agenda and why we are certain that an outright ban on commercial fishing is not as good as replacing non-selective gill nets with selective fish wheels, seines and traps. ☹

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Grassroots Involvement Is Key To CCA's Success

Bryan Irwin  
PNW Executive Director

It's hard not to be impressed by the involvement of CCA Oregon and CCA Washington members in this legislative session. While I can't say enough about the great work our impassioned volunteers on the Government Relations Committees do to promote our agenda, without our membership standing strong behind them much of our efforts would fall on deaf ears. CCA members sent literally thousands of messages to legislators and attended public hearings by the hundreds. The Pacific Northwest worked in a coordinated fashion to promote conservation and selective fishing reforms, but given the political landscape in each state we used very different tactics in achieving our goals. In Washington, we have a conservation-minded Fish and Wildlife Commission that is under attack by commercial fishing interests for allocating too few fish to the commercial gill nets. In Oregon, the Fish and Wildlife Commission has the opposite view, and we have taken the need for conservation and selective fishing reforms directly to the Legislature.

CCA Washington has successfully defended the Fish and Wildlife Commission from two separate bills. This legislation was expected by many to pass this session and the active involvement of CCA's lobbyist and thousands of emails, phone calls and CCA member meetings with legislators turned the tide. This was especially noteworthy since both the House and Senate Committee Chairs were strong proponents of the legislation. This is a huge win and it is interesting to note that our CCA colleagues in Florida had the same attack on their commission a few years ago for similar reasons.

CCA Oregon introduced legislation, HB 2579, to re-authorize the use of selective commercial fishing gear and require that fisheries be managed to reduce the harvest rates of wild fish while simultaneously maximizing the removal of excess hatchery fish. We promoted this legislation as a fundamental first step in moving the commercial fishery away from the use of non-selective gill nets. While we are awaiting the final outcome of our Oregon legislation, our success in Salem has already been secured. CCA has raised awareness of the real issues facing our depleted salmon runs and demonstrated our dedication to putting the resource first and leading with best science.



CCA Washington members pack the hearing room in opposition to SB5127



CCA Oregon members in Salem following the first public hearing on our bill

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Design and Layout ~ Jesse Sampson ~ [www.SmallStreamDesign.com](http://www.SmallStreamDesign.com)

Comments or questions? ~ Please contact: [editor@ccapnw.org](mailto:editor@ccapnw.org)

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The Stuff of Legends - Or How I Will Remember My First Springer

**John Stec**  
*Oregon CCA President*  
*The story you are about to read is true with the exception of the parts that are lies and exaggerations. The names have not been changed because there are no innocent to protect. Any resemblance to actual events and living people are purely intentional on the part of the author.*

On the morning of April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009, at approximately 5:15am I joined a long line of fisherman lined up on the Scappoose Bay launch ramp docks. We were passengers - family members, invited guests, paying clients - awaiting our rides out onto the Springer fishing grounds. Here and there a muffled cough and quiet laughter broke through the darkness as red tail lights traced the progress of one trailer after another down the ramp. Drivers emerged from tow vehicles and guided their boats into the water with quick, sure movements. Then, back up the ramp to the parking lot while trusted companions secured the boat to the dock awaiting the return of their skipper. I watched and waited, wondering if today was going to be my lucky day.

Suddenly a hush fell over the assembled fishermen. They stepped back in reverence and awe. An audible sigh swept through the crowd as a great hulk of a man strode down the gangway.

It was Bruce Polley.  
With nary a word he stepped confidently into his boat, scanning his equipment, double checking everything, and fired up his engine. His steely eyes swept over his crew – Jim Carrier and Bill Gettman - and one passenger, myself. Turning his nose to the faint light in the east, he sniffed deeply of the water smells of the Big C and said, “Fish. I can smell ‘em.” With that, he eased the throttle up and we nosed out into the bay.

Soon, we were cruising into the Multnomah Channel. The running lights of other boats dotted the water like red, green, and white fireflies, but faded away behind us as our skipper deftly maneuvered his Willie Predator through the channel flotsam. As he steered us toward our fishing grounds, his hands moved swiftly, flashing white in the gathering light. In less time than it takes to say “G. Loomis” Bruce rigged four rods, plug cut our herring, and baited our hooks – all while piloting the boat and crunching a handful of raw coffee beans. “I ain’t got time to pour no coffee, so I chew it,” he advised with a growl.

By 6:15 we where on location and trolling. Ever attentive to detail, Bruce calmly coached his fishermen through the adjustments he knew to be essential to success. “You’re not on bottom yet, Jim. Bill, bring ‘er up about four – no, make that four-and a half inches. John, too much line out. Take two turns on the reel. And I want to see your lips drawn back at a forty-five degree angle with your head rolled a little more to the right.” I could clearly see that Bruce took this game very seriously.  
As the kicker purred steadily, the anticipation on board began to grow until it hung over the boat like a thin cloud of smoke. With the self-assurance of a man who had faced down many a Springer and lived to tell of it, Bruce softly called out the line adjustments. His acolytes responded in unison to each new instruction, “Thanks be to Bruce.” It was a beautiful thing to behold.

Suddenly, our skipper stiffened slightly, his eyes going all squinty-like. “I can see your flasher, Bill.” Sure enough, Bill’s no. 6 Ruby Tuesday flasher traced an electronic path on the multi-colored fish finder screen. “Look, there’s a fish ahead of it.”

The fish and Bill’s flasher were on exactly the same line. Bruce inhaled sharply.  
“Springer. Around 34 inches. It’s a buck. And a keeper, too. A few sea lice along the left lateral line. A really bright chromer.”

“Thanks be to Bruce,” the apostles murmured in appreciation of his uncanny senses.  
“I’m going to bring your herring about eight inches from his nose, Bill, so when I say so adjust your line. Now, rod left 6, drop one turn.” In the bow, Bill carefully made the adjustments.

“Rod right 1, depth steady.” The kicker purred in the background and we all tensed in anticipation. Suddenly, a boat roared by and its wake smacked our boat. The bow yawed sharply to the left. In one sweeping motion Bruce reached down with his right hand and grabbed a boat hook. His eyes never left the fish finder screen as his arm drew back and hurled the boathook up river. The howl from the skipper of the intruding boat told us that Bruce had found his mark. “Rod left 15, lower the tip 5 degrees. Up 5 turns, then down two as she rolls,” he barked.  
Bill worked feverishly to compensate for the wake’s effect. As the water smoothed out, the fish finder screen revealed that his flasher was still drawing toward the fish on a line straight and true.

“Get ready, Bill. I’m going to drive your herring right up his nose. And... 3,2,1... NOW!  
Bill’s rod drove toward the water as if his line had snagged a submarine. The reel screamed as the fish decided to try to return to the Pacific. Fish on! Bruce grabbed another handful of coffee beans and reached for the net. While Bill battled the fish, Bruce calmly munched on his beans and began to write in his fishing journal. With his free hand, he extended the net over the side, closing it like a trap door after Bill lead his Springer headlong into its waiting maw.

As Bruce had predicted, the fish was a bright buck that had been relieved of its adipose fin. With reverence for the fish and all of its kin, he solemnly welcomed it to the fishing club. As the fish settled into the fish box, Bruce finished his journal entry and resumed our troll.

The day would end with one more fish in the boat and two drive-bys that left tooth marks in the herring but no hook ups. Like all good days, this one came to an end too soon. I truly felt privileged to be part of a day on the water with our own Mr. Polley. He proved to be an excellent teacher, a patient, forgiving host, and a fine spinner of yarns. I am pleased to say that one of the keepers was mine – my first Columbia River Springer. And, while I have caught and dined upon many a fine salmon from the Rogue and the Nestucca, there is absolutely no question that a Big C Springer tastes like no other fish that I’ve ever had.

So once again, let me say, “Thanks be to Bruce.” And thanks also for the fellowship of Jim and Bill. You folks made my day!

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I think you will be able to tell from my story that I had a good time on the trip described. That’s another benefit of CCA membership. In time strangers become acquaintances, acquaintances become friends, and friends may become life-long buddies and fishing partners. When I joined CCA two years ago, I was a newcomer to the Portland area and barely knew if “Columbia” was spelled with a “u” or an “o.” I didn’t know what a URB was, and I thought a Tule was a form of aquatic vegetation. And, while many of the methods and techniques from my beloved Rogue River days worked well in my new back yard, I quickly realized I was a “stranger in a strange land.”

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Determined Fundraising Efforts Garner Results

**Matt Olson**  
*Washington CCA President*  
With the constant headlines about the current state of our economy, it’s hard to not let this topic distract from many other important issues. As a business owner, I share these concerns, and I myself have had to adjust to a new environment.

We have also had to make adjustments throughout CCA’s banquet season as we work hard to achieve our fund-raising goals. We have seen some of our sponsors and supporters – like outdoor retailer Joe’s – fall into bankruptcy and closure, while others are reducing their inventory, workforce and promotions budgets, meaning more competition for the scarce dollars that remain.

While it might be tempting to lower our heads, reduce our expectations and blame it on the economy, my hope is that the current situation makes us more determined than ever to meet our fund-raising goals, and inspires some creativity and plain, old-fashioned elbow grease among us all.

...continued from page 4  
The Stuff of Legends

For me, fishing is about learning and sharing. If you haven’t noticed, CCA members include some of the top fisherman in the Pacific Northwest. Many are guides; many are men and women who have spent years dedicating themselves to the craft of fishing. It doesn’t matter if they fish from boat or shore, for salmon, steelhead, sturgeon, walleye, or small mouthed bass. They may not be willing to share the recipe for their favorite herring or smoking brine, but they sure will open up their hearts – and checkbooks – to preserve and protect our fish.

We are well into our banquet season now. Tillamook, Columbia County, Willamette Falls, and Tualatin Valley have successfully completed their second banquet year. Salem is next in line for May 30<sup>th</sup>, and our other chapters are ramping up their efforts for the months that follow. If you don’t know

I have already seen evidence of both during some of our recent banquets. Washington’s Kitsap chapter held its very first banquet, and more than 200 people packed the room, including a staffer for Congressman Norm Dicks. It was a spectacular start for one of our newest chapters, and is a great example of what we can accomplish when our determined volunteers set their mind on success.

Our Tri-Cities banquet was a huge success in its second year, exceeding fund-raising expectations by about 40 percent. The banquet committee secured a title sponsor for the event – CH2M Hill – and treated their sponsor’s attendees to dinner served at the table instead of lining up at the buffet and gave the attendees gift baskets, little things that add up to a lot when asking for future sponsorships.

A “women’s only” guided fly fishing trip – complete with wine and cheese on the boat – was so popular that two trips were sold, and so were the variety of games. The banquet included an 80-quart cooler overflowing

how hard the banquet committees of these chapters work, that’s probably because you haven’t offered to serve on one. If that is true, let me tell you why you ought to reconsider.

Working on a banquet committee means much, much more than simply attending another meeting. It involves problem solving, decision making, and negotiating. It requires coordination and team work. Most importantly, it involves hands-on effort in support our efforts to preserve and protect our marine resources. It is how CCA members across the entire state put their money where their mouth is. In the process you will meet some of the finest people in the state of Oregon.

Our banquets are the lifeblood of our conservation efforts. In the year 2009 it is a simple fact that it takes money to effect change. But, a banquet is more than a fundraiser. It is a celebration and an expression of unity and dedication. It is a time to kick back and set aside our day-to-

with lures, and whoever guessed closest to the number of lures won the cooler and it’s contents. They also hung a sailfish on the wall, and the person who guessed closes to the weight won a Garmin FF/GPS 3. These and other games of chance raised thousands of dollars that night.

Tri-Cities President Stan Brogdon said that the best thing people can do is to sweep far and wide and just ask, ask, ask for donations and support. “Our banquet was no different than anything else in life; if you really want it, you make it happen,” Stand said. “This crew wanted it bad, and their efforts reflected it!”

Let’s make sure that we carry that attitude and determination with us every step of the way. We need to be creative, to mobilize our efforts and in Stan’s words, hunt far and wide for support. We all want to recover our fish, and given the initiative I have seen over the past few months, I am confident that we will achieve our goals. 🍷

day toils for a couple of hours. It provides an opportunity to tell stories, swap lies and share truths, remember how good things used to be – and come together to help make things better than they are now.

If you haven’t helped out with a banquet committee, please think about doing so. If you can’t serve on a committee, then get your friends and family to accompany you to a banquet. If you can’t attend a banquet, renew your membership and try to sell a few banquet tickets. Because one day we are going to be able to look out at the Columbia and the Rogue, the Siletz and the Umpqua, the Chetco, and all of our Oregon rivers, and celebrate the fact that CCA truly made a difference.

And that’s a party none of us will want to miss.  
*To get involved with your local chapter, please get in touch with your chapter president, whose contact information can be found elsewhere in this edition.* 🍷



## Eating the Elephant, One Bite at a Time

**Jack Smith**  
*Chairman, OR Government Relations*

Founding Chairman Gary Loomis has a saying that I think is applicable when it comes to working toward CCA's goal: while the task ahead is monumental we will succeed by eating the elephant one bite at a time. It is truly remarkable that such a simple statement could actually contain an extremely accurate assessment of how not only to proceed but gauge our progress along the way.

What follows is an assessment of what is currently being accomplished with our legislative efforts in Salem. While we haven't eaten the whole elephant yet we are definitely doing some serious chewing and should not contemplate putting away the silverware anytime soon.

### >>> HB 472

CCA/ Oregon sent a letter of support and testified for Senate Bill 472, introduced by Sen. Jason Atkinson and of great interest to our Medford based Rogue Valley chapter.

This bill would direct the state fish and wildlife commission to further evaluate the hatch box program, pursuant to current Oregon State law, in select Rogue Basin streams after consultation with local communities, STEP groups, NOAA fisheries, and conservation groups working on matters related to the Rogue basin. This consultation must include, but not be limited to hatch box placement, monitoring, data collection, adult returns, and fishery contributions.

The bill has passed out of the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee and is expected to move forward.

ODFW has proposed three projects on the Rogue where access to native fish is currently non- existent or restricted which will be used to re-introduce or jumpstart natural production. Another project has been proposed by the scientists at the Oregon Hatchery Research Center.

The design and intent of this bill is to allow volunteers—especially school children—to play an active role in the conservation and restoration efforts for Rogue River salmon and steelhead through active participation.

### >>> HB 3013

The Marine Reserve issue has taken many turns since the plan was first announced to make vast areas of the Oregon Territorial Sea a complex of permanent “no fishing zones” without any biological need for this restriction being offered.

The Ocean Policy Advisory Council (OPAC) was handed the task of identifying some areas for pilot marine reserves.

It was a contentious process and no one knew quite what the outcome would be. At the conclusion, two sites where designated to become “Pilot Sites” for Marine Reserves. Four other sites will be further reviewed. This plan has a term of five years.

During this legislative session HB 3013 was introduced to take away from coastal stakeholders the ability to have a say in coastal issues through OPAC. HB 3013 has been re-written to keep OPAC safe from that threat and language has been added to address the implementation of the OPAC recommendations for Marine Reserves in Oregon.

This bill will supply temporary funding for development of work plans and a few years of operation. Permanent funding will need to be found and approved to move beyond these pilot sites and limited term.

With the aid of our state lobbyist Shawn Miller, CCA Oregon's Government Relations Committee has been working closely with the ODFW and the Coastal Caucus rewriting this legislation to be sure it includes science-based goals for Marine Reserves, periodic reviews, and that tag and license fees will not be part of the long term funding of these arbitrary, permanent, no fishing zones

As CCA works to protect access for recreational fishermen to all public fishing areas we continue to use the following criteria:

- There is a clear indication that recreational fishermen are the cause of a specific conservation problem and that less-severe conservation measures, such as gear restrictions, possession limits, size restrictions, quotas, or closed seasons will not adequately address the targeted conservation problem.*
- The closed-area regulation includes specific, measurable criteria to determine the conservation benefit of the closed area on the affected stocks of fish and provides a timetable for periodic review of the continued need for the closed area at least once every three years.*
- The closed area is no larger than that which is supported by the best available science.*
- Provision is made to re-open the closed area to recreational fishing whenever the targeted conservation problem no longer exists.*

It's important to remember that CCA-OR has been working closely with other fish advocacy groups, sport fishing groups, and commercial fishing interests on this issue. This current

bill lays some solid groundwork that will assure scientific goals, periodic reviews and protect sport license and tag fees from being used to operate permanent, arbitrary no fishing zones.

### >>> HB 2579

The CCA/Oregon bill HB 2579, as well as every other harvest reform bill, received a public hearing on Tuesday April 21, 2009 before the House committee on Sustainability and Economic Development. This committee is chaired by Rep. Tobias Reed. According to Rep. Reed, and the other committee members, they are, “looking at all the different possibilities and are committed to find a solution that ensures survival of the salmon, while simultaneously maintaining the fishing industry both commercial and sport.” He is hopeful that with continued collaboration we will find a solution that works for everyone.

Whether this bill moves out of committee is up to Rep. Reed. At the same time Reed faces a handful of scenarios that could involve the following:

- Move HB 2579 (CCA's Selective Harvest Bill) out of committee,*
- Move HB 2734 (Safe 4 Salmon Bill) out of committee.*
- Move both bills out of committee.*
- Move some combination of the two bills out of committee.*
- Move an entirely new bill that is made up by the committee.*
- Move nothing at all, at which time harvest reform efforts would end for this legislative session.*

The committee chair also has at his discretion where the bill goes when it leaves his committee. Potential scenarios include, but are not limited to:

- Move the bill directly to the floor for a vote.*
- Assign the bill to the Ways and Means Committee*
- Or again he could fail to move it out of committee and it would die there.*

To summarize once these bills are in committee it is up to the committee chair if they move, in what from, and where. Rep. Reed indicated that he felt that the Safe 4 Salmon proposal (HB 2734) would not make it through the building. He also indicated any bill he moved forward included no part of

.....article continued on page 8

## CCA Washington Goes to Olympia

As the 2009 legislative session began in January, CCA Washington embarked on a new path of advocacy. The team drafted a wild fish conservation bill to begin the transition to selective commercial fishing gear in Washington. Our bill, HB 2266, started in the House of Representatives with strong support from sponsors, but arrived too late to gain a hearing in the Natural Resources Committee. Nevertheless, our bill is “alive” for the rest of the biennium and we will work to gain a hearing in the 2010 session.

Events quickly pulled our focus from supporting our own bill to defeating another, SSB 5127, in a battle that would prove to be our biggest test of the session. This bill would have removed and essentially “neutered,” as Sen. Jacobson described it, the current Fish & Wildlife Commission. Pushed heavily by certain commerical fishing interests, SSB 5127 would have reduced the size, terms of office and authority of the Commission, while eliminating all the incumbent Commissioners.

Senator Joe Zarelli (R-18) raised the objection that the bill as amended would far exceed the “scope and object” of the original bill. Unfortunately, SSB 5127 did pass out of the Senate, so we quickly proceeded to organize the bi-partisan votes to kill the bill in the House

## CCA and North of Falcon 2009

Nearly a year ago, CCA Washington set its sights on the 2009 North of Falcon (NOF) process. NOF is a series of “public” meetings between state, federal and tribal fishery officials to debate fishery alternatives and develop annual harvest management plans for Puget Sound, Coastal Washington and Columbia River fisheries.

CCA Washington started by pressing the WDFW to hold workshops to increase public input into NOF. As a result, WDFW hosted several pre-NOF workshops in the Puget Sound region starting in October 2008. Many CCA members were present and visible at each and every one of those meetings. They consistently delivered our message of conservation, the need for increased escapement of wild salmon and steelhead, and the need for selective harvest of excess hatchery fish.

CCA Washington's participation and conservation message played key roles in shaping this year's WDFW negotiating position relative to the tribal positions, not only harvest limits, but also highlighted the need to expand mark-selective fisheries in Puget Sound.

Natural Resources Committee. When the House Natural Resources Committee heard the bill, a sea of orange CCA hats filled the hearing room and our GRC representatives clearly outlined the cynical motives driving this bill. Miraculously, we stopped a bill that industrial interests would have easily passed under the former *status quo*. How? We gained 14 committee votes in just a few weeks because CCA members stepped up to the plate. Powered by VoterVoice, Emails to Representatives and Senators voicing opposition to SSB 5127 were the lynchpin of this victory. Without *your* action, state representatives might have succeeded in dismantling the Fish & Wildlife Commission, essentially reversing the voter-approved Referendum that created it in 1995.

Meanwhile, Sen. Jacobsen took the worst parts of SSB 5127 and stuffed them into another bill, SHB 1778 dealing with Boards and Commissions. It then passed to the Senate Ways & Means Committee. Once again, Senator Zarelli “scoped” the offending portions of the bill that would have undermined the Commission, and this time Lt. Governor Brad Owen, presiding officer of the State Senate, agreed with him. The offending portions were removed and the Senate then passed SHB 1778 without any reference to the WDFW Commission. ☺

As expected, allocations were hotly debated, as were harvest impacts on non-target species and weak wild stocks. The puzzle included a predicted large return of Pink Salmon to the Puget Sound, a projected large return of ocean Coho to the mouth of the Columbia, and a predicted weak fall Tule run. CCA Washington and other advisors effectively stopped a two week non-selective commercial season for Pink Salmon in Puget Sound.

Apart from these specific wins, CCA has gained stature and influence at NOF generally, and has succeeded in promoting conservation objectives even within this allocation focused activity. The three CCA members who carried CCA's message and interests throughout this cycle were Tom Pollack (Puget Sound), Gary Eastman (Columbia River), and Marty Whitman (Pacific Ocean, Willapa Bay and Gray's Harbor). Tom and Gary carried our flag to the finish line by attending the final NOF meetings in San Francisco in March, 2009. Your support will help us keep this important seat at the table. ☺



## Subscribing Saves Salmon

Why just donate to CCA when you can donate and receive a subscription to *Salmon & Steelhead Journal*?

Subscribe to *Salmon & Steelhead Journal* and half of the cost of your subscription will be donated to CCA to assist in the fight to save salmon in the Pacific Northwest.

**Subscribe online:**  
[www.salmonandsteelheadjournal.com/ccaj](http://www.salmonandsteelheadjournal.com/ccaj)



**SALMON & STEELHEAD**  
JOURNAL



Giving Donations the Easy Way!

Shawn Seeger  
CCA Washington, Sea-Tac Chapter

Put your money where your mouth is; or better yet put your money where your passion is. That's always been my mantra. Which is why I have always contributed money to causes and organizations that I believe in.

I bet I'm not too different from you. I strongly believe in the work we're doing at CCA. But once my paycheck is in my hands, I'm distracted by all sorts of other things to spend it on: a cup of high-priced coffee at the local coffee shop, flowers for my wife, perhaps a movie. But if that money never touches my hands because it's automatically taken out of my paycheck, it goes to the fish instead of a cup of coffee, last week's dead flowers or a really bad movie.

I work for Boeing where it's easy to contribute to any non-profit organization through automatic payroll deduction. Boeing's system allows me set up my regular giving as a recurring deduction or a one-time donation. The great part for me is that I don't see it happens; it just does. Since my donation is taken out before I get my paycheck the opportunity to spend it elsewhere is gone. I also don't have to mess around with writing a check or transferring money from one account to another; it just happens automatically.

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...continued from page 6

Oregon House Bill Updates

HB 2734. Rep. Reed also indicated that he was willing to move forward the portion of CCA/Oregon's HB 2579 that proposed the legalization of alternate gear restricted to current permit holder's assuming all parties agreed but removed the language when Safe 4 Salmon objected unless their language was also included. This resulted in a bill, HB 2579-1 that included no harvest reform language and merely requires the legislated formation of yet another task force.

The work session for the committee to act on these bills was originally scheduled for Thursday April 23, 2009 but at the request of Shawn Miller, CCA's lobbyist and George Okulitch, Safe 4 Salmon lobbyist, it was moved to Tuesday, April 28, 2009 giving all interested parties time to comment on what the chairman was indicating would be a compromise bill that he would move forward.

At that time there was no public testimony allowed, the committee briefly deliberated and reached its decision to move the bill, in it's severely amended form, with a "do" pass

When I first started giving to CCA through payroll deduction, I was a little concerned that my donations might not be supporting CCA in Washington. I think redbfish are important, but my top priority is saving our Pacific Northwest fish. So, I did a little research. It turns out that CCA has just one Federal Tax ID Number, which is 741984482. And since the IRS says this number can only be registered in one place, it's naturally registered in Texas. This got my attention. But I wanted my money to stay in Washington. So, when I had the chance to meet David Cummins, CCA's National President, I addressed this with him. He assured me that even though the money I give is sent to CCA National in Houston, it is sent it back to the state the contributing member lives in. Just to be sure, I followed up with Nello Picinich and Bryan Irwin and they showed how much money had been sent to Washington from my payroll giving. Finally, I checked my pay stubs to see how much I had given to CCA through payroll deduction. Yep, it exactly matched the amount sent from Houston to Washington.

So, check with your employer to see what payroll giving options you have. Your employer might even match your donation. I challenge you to "put your money where your passion is" and use the automatic donation option at your place of employment and give to CCA the easy way. ☺

recommendation and a referral to the Joint Ways and Means Committee for review.

Rep. Vic Gilliam, who introduced the bill, was so dismayed by this development that he asked Rep. Reed to remove his name as sponsor of the bill and offered the only no vote generated by the committee. Rep. Gilliam should be applauded for his help.

This task force, named "Task Force on Lower Columbia River Salmon Harvest Allocation", defines the discussion and ensures that it would revolve around our now century old addiction to over exploitation of the resource and have little to do with conservation. It would resemble, if not duplicate the "task force" known as the Visioning Process, which was professionally moderated, and failed. It didn't fail because any group walked out, but because contrary to its name it was more about protecting current management and harvest practices than a vision of how best to manage the resource moving forward.

The next "task force" situation, the "Columbia River Fish Work Group", which after a year of volunteer and staff effort, with all parties at the table, resulted in a consensus agreement of all, only to have portions of their recommendations arrogantly ignored

Employee Giving Programs

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Many employers encourage their employees to give to charities through employee giving programs, and some even are willing to match their employee's gifts up to a certain percentage or amount. CCA currently receives donations from several members through these programs that range from small businesses of a few employees to large companies such as Boeing.

If you are currently donating through one of these programs, or considering doing so, and would like to direct your contribution to CCA please let us know how we can help.

CCA has recently been accepted into the Combined Federal Campaign for the entire state of Oregon and most counties in Washington. This is the employee giving program for federal employees. If you are a federal employee, please look for CCA as a new option on this fall's campaign! ☺

by a citizen commission, members of which participated on the "task Force". The CRFWG is scheduled to continue in a phase II and III to address issues such as summer Chinook, selective harvest, and hatchery reform. Given the costs associated with a task force, as well as the effort of volunteers, it is unclear at this time if Washington DF&G or the volunteers will be willing to proceed in light of the ODFW Commission's antics which were ultimately responsible for CCA/Oregon bringing this issue to the legislature seeking leadership and vision, not delay and a repeat of past failures.

If we are unable to further amend this bill to reflect our original intent it will be necessary to accept the enormous gains we have made in bringing our issues before the legislature and move forward building on our success while reviewing all options in our toolbox. While the battle is far from over, our advancements have been significant and will continue until we achieve our goal of harvest reform based on best science leading to sustainable fisheries, commercial and recreational, and not only recovery but ideally abundance. ☺

Supporting Chapter Banquets

Mike Abbott  
SEA-TAC Chapter

I've already been to a couple of CCA banquets this year and I've never had so much fun spending a few bucks to help recover our fish. These events are CCA's main fundraising tool, bringing CCA members face-to-face with community businesses who support our work. For instance, my chapter's banquet was sponsored by Local 46 of the IBEW Union, who generously provided a large hall in their new building. Most of their members are sportsmen, so this offering was inline with their members' values.

At most banquets, Gary Loomis spreads his magic throughout the night, charming his fans with his infectious enthusiasm. The banquets I attended were no exception. I had the honor of chatting with Gary to learn more about his vision for CCA in the Northwest. He's got big things in mind! Gary's inspiration has spurred all of us to pull together to make these banquets a success. Volunteers worked for months organizing and gathering donations and thorough planning made the events look seamless and easy. But I also came to realize that everyone who attended and bought something was a

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Texas Outdoor Writers Recognize CCA/Valero Youth Program

CCA Program sponsored by Valero Energy Corp. seeks to bring marine conservation to kids

HOUSTON, TX - The Texas Outdoor Writers Association (TOWA) selected the CCA/Valero Rising Tide youth program as the winner of its Special Projects/Conservation award at its 2009 annual convention. At a time when far more kids are texting than casting, the recognition by Texas outdoor writers emphasizes just how critical the need is to get students more involved in protecting the marine environment. CCA and Valero Energy Corp combined efforts to create this multi-media youth outreach and education program.

"Other than teachers, perhaps no one knows better than outdoor writers how difficult it is these days to get kids thinking about the world beyond their cell phones and video games," said Patrick Murray, CCA executive vice president. "We are honored that TOWA recognized how valuable this program is to getting the next generation ready to assume its role as stewards of our marine resources. The beautiful thing about this program is that it can be accessed so many ways. With the newsletter, website and conservation lesson plan, we are able to bring the message of marine conservation and education to a wide variety of children in an even wider variety of locations."

CCA and Valero Energy Corp. teamed up in 2007 to promote conservation education and ethics in

volunteer. Because if we don't raise money, we can't accomplish our goals.

We had a few good laughs as several good-natured bidding wars ensued for heavily sought-after items. People wanted those fishing trips, goose and duck hunts, fishing tackle, wine, and collectables. There must have been well over a 130 items at each banquet. There might have been as many items as people! Good deals were everywhere. My wife and I did our best to support CCA by bidding on several items and taking a few home. It always makes me feel better when I get a good deal. But when the dollars I spend go to such a great cause, I feel even better!

CCA is still young in the Pacific Northwest and relies heavily on volunteers and community supporters. But our chapter banquets are as much about having fun as they are about raising funds. At the banquets I attended, it was evident that the chapter members had a blast and the business people at the corporate tables wore big smiles all night.

So, the next time your local chapter has a banquet fundraiser, come join your friends. You'll have a lot of fun, find some special deals, and walk out at the end of the night richer for it. ☺

Fish Tales



Eric Clarke caught his first steel-head sidedrifting yarn balls on the Wilson river the day before the first hearing in Salem on CCA's selective fishing bill. Upon landing the fish, his "yahoo" could be heard for miles around! The next day his Grandpa Len Clarke took Eric to Salem to witness how laws get changed, and young Eric's response was "don't they get it? We need to change things!"

Do you have a great fish story and photo to share? If so, we would love to share your "Fish Tale" with CCA PNW members. Please describe your catch in 200 words or less and include a high resolution digital color photo (.jpg or .tif file format). Remember to include your name and your chapter name. Stories might be edited for length. Please send stories and photos to [editor@ccapnw.org](mailto:editor@ccapnw.org).

Read Gary Loomis' Monthly CCA article in



Subscribe at [www.thereelnews.com](http://www.thereelnews.com)



# Contact Your Local Coastal Conservation Association Chapter and Get Involved!

## OREGON CHAPTERS

### COLUMBIA COUNTY

Chapter Location: **St. Helena**  
President: **Ed Rabinowe**  
Contact: **erabinowe@juno.com**  
**503-366-3565**

Meeting Info: **Monthly**  
**2nd Tuesday, 7pm**  
**The Village Inn**  
**St. Helens, OR 97051**  
**503-397-1490**

Banquet Date: **March 20, 2009**

### EMERALD EMPIRE - EUGENE/SPRINGFIELD

Chapter Location: **Eugene/Springfield**  
President: **Mark Seghetti**  
Contact: **thesteelheader@comcast.net**  
**541-968-4665**

Meeting Info: **Please call or email for location and date.**

Banquet Date: **July 31, 2009**

### HIGH DESERT - BEND

Chapter Location: **Bend**  
President: **Gil Muhleman**  
Contact: **541-419-7778**

New Chapter: TBA

### LINN BENTON CHAPTER

(ALBANY AND SURROUNDING AREA)

Chapter Location: **Albany**  
President: **John Elder**  
Contact: **elderjj@hotmail.com**  
**541-928-7818**

Meeting Info: **TBA**

Banquet Date: **TBA**

### MOUNT HOOD - GRESHAM

Chapter Location: **Gresham**  
President: **Wade Radke**  
Contact: **MtHood@ccapnw.org**  
**971-322-5894**

Meeting Info: **Every even month**  
**2nd Wednesday, 6:30 pm**  
**Gresham Golf Course**

Banquet Date: **September 16, 2009**

### NORTHEAST - PENDLETON

Chapter Location: **Pendleton**  
President: **Scott Paul**  
Contact: **goose\_klr@hotmail.com**  
**541-276-1951**

New Chapter: TBA

### PORTLAND METRO

Chapter Location: **Portland**  
President: **John Zell**  
Contact: **jzell@zephyr.net**  
**503-282-9347**

Meeting Info: **Monthly**  
**1st Wednesday, 7 pm**  
**The Kennedy School**  
**Portland, OR**

Banquet Date: **October 16, 2009**

### ROGUE VALLEY CHAPTER

(MEDFORD AND SURROUNDING AREA)

Chapter Location: **Medford**  
President: **Steve Nelson**  
Contact: **steven2873@gmail.com**  
**541-973-6215**

Meeting Info: **2nd Tuesday,**  
**Every even month**  
**Black Bear Diner, Medford**  
**6:00 PM**

Banquet Date: **September 25, 2009**

### SALEM

Chapter Location: **Salem**  
President: **Brian Canini**  
Contact: **bbc0798@comcast.net**  
**503-930-6860**

Meeting Info: **Parrish Middle**  
**School Library**  
**“D” St. at Capitol St. NE**  
**Salem, OR**

Banquet Date: **May 30, 2009**

### TILLAMOOK

Chapter Location: **Tillamook**  
President: **Jack Smith**  
Contact: **asgs@oregoncoast.com**  
**503-842-6313**

Meeting Info: **Monthly**  
**3rd Friday, 6:30 pm**  
**Tillamook Office**  
**of ODFW**  
**(Please contact to verify location)**

Banquet Date: **March 21, 2009**

### TUALATIN VALLEY

Chapter Location: **Aloha**  
President: **Frank Unger**  
Contact: **tualatinvalley@ccapnw.org**  
**503-936-6581**

Meeting Info: **Monthly**  
**3rd Monday**  
**Tualatin Valley**  
**Fire and Rescue**  
**20665 SW Blanton,**  
**Aloha, OR**

Banquet Date: **April 17, 2009**

### WILLAMETTE FALLS

Chapter Location: **Milwaukie**  
President: **Rick Atwood**  
Contact: **watershedboats@molalla.net**  
**503-829-3611**

Meeting Info: **TBA**

Banquet Date: **March 5, 2009**

## Pacific Northwest Leadership

1006 W. 11th Street  
Vancouver, WA 98660  
**877-255-8772**

## OREGON

**Gary Loomis**—Founding Chairman,  
Pacific Northwest

**Dave Schamp**—Chair

**John Stec**—President

**Jack Smith**—Vice President and  
Chair, Government Relations

**Lynn Buerer**—Vice President  
and Treasurer

**Ken Chambers**—Vice President  
and Chair, Membership,  
Chapter Development

**Geana Tyler**—Secretary

**John Stec**—Chair, Management

**Frank Unger**—Chair,  
Budget Committee

**Angela Hult, Bryan Edwards**—  
Co-chairs, Communications

**Jim Marquoit**—Vice Chair,  
Government Relations

## WASHINGTON

**Gary Loomis**—Founding Chairman,  
Pacific Northwest & WA Chairman

**Rob Tobeck**—Vice Chairman

**Matt Olson**—President

**Stan Brogdon**—Vice President

**Glen Johnston**—Vice President,  
Fundraising

**Lance Barrett**—Treasurer

**Carolyn Sork**—Secretary

**Matt Olson**—Chair, Management

**Lance Barrett**—Chair, Budget

**Ed Wickersham**—Chair,  
Government Relations

**Dale Scott**—Chair, Chapter  
Development

**Jim Bain**—Chair, Membership

**Gary Johnson**—Chair, Nominations

**Vacant**—Chair, Communications

## WASHINGTON CHAPTERS

### NORTH SNOHOMISH COUNTY

Established: **September 2008**  
Chapter Location: **Marysville**  
President: **Errol Collins**  
Contact: **(360) 659-5193**  
Meeting Info: **Monthly – 2nd Tuesday, 7 pm**  
**Bayside Marine,**  
**1111 Craftsman Way,**  
**Everett, WA 98201**

Banquet Date: **May 14th, 2009**

### HELLS CANYON CHAPTER

Established: **January 2009**  
Chapter Location: **Clarkston, WA & Lewiston, ID**  
President: **Michelle Peters**  
Contact: **(509) 751-2007**  
**michellepeters@clarkston.com**

Meeting Info: **2nd Wednesday of**  
**odd months, 6:30 pm**  
**Snake River Canyon Lodge**  
**90 2nd Street**  
**Asotin, WA**

### NORTH SOUND

Established: **April 2008**  
Chapter Location: **Bellingham**  
President: **Marcus Schumacher**  
Contact: **northsound@ccapnw.org**  
**(360) 319-6901**

Meeting Info: **Contact Marchus Schumacher**  
**for meeting times & locations**  
**Alternate between Whatcom**  
**& Skagit Counties –**  
**Skagit Co. Location: Sportsman's**  
**Warehouse, Burlington;**  
**Whatcom Co. Location: TBD**

Banquet Date: **May 9th, 2009**

### INLAND EMPIRE

Established: **September 2008**  
Chapter Location: **Spokane**  
President: **Casey Mason**  
Contact: **c.mason@qwestoffice.net**  
**(509) 590-8383**

Meeting Info: **Time/Date TBA**  
**Cabela's, Post Falls**

Banquet Date: **TBA - September, 2009**

### SEA-TAC

Established: **October 2007**  
Chapter Location: **Des Moines**  
President: **Frank Eshpeter**  
Contact: **seatac@ccapnw.org**  
Meeting Info: **Monthly - 3rd Tuesday, 7 pm**  
**Des Moines Masonic Hall,**  
**2208 S. 233rd St., Des Moines**

Banquet Date: **March 13, 2010**

### LEWIS COUNTY

Established: **April 2007**  
Chapter Location: **Centralia**  
President: **Jeff Ashe**  
Contact: **lewiscounty@ccapnw.org**  
Meeting Info: **Monthly - 2nd Thursday, 7 pm**  
**Powersports NW**  
**300 S. Tower Ave., Centralia**

Banquet Date: **April 25th, 2009**

### LOWER COLUMBIA

Established: **September 2007**  
Chapter Location: **Longview**  
President: **Rick Estes**  
Chapter: **lowercolumbia@ccapnw.org**  
**(360) 957-3718**

Meeting Info: **Monthly - 3rd Thurs., 6:30pm**  
**Monticello Hotel , Longview**

Banquet Date: **May 23, 2009**

### KITSAP

Established: **April 2008**  
Chapter Location: **Silverdale**  
President: **Charles Gauthier**  
Contact: **gauthierc@wavecable.com**  
Meeting Info: **Monthly – 4th Thurs., 6:30 pm**  
**All Star Lanes Silverdale**  
**10710 Silverdale Way**  
**Silverdale, WA**

Banquet Date: **April 11th, 2009**

### CAPITOL CITY

Established: **May 2008**  
Chapter Location: **Lacey**  
President: **Frank Betrozoff**  
Contact: **capitol-city@ccapnw.org**  
Meeting Info: **Monthly – 1st Monday, 7 pm**  
**Lacey Fire Dept. #31,**  
**1231 Franz St., Lacey**

Banquet Date: **September 26, 2009**

### SNO-KING

Established: **January 2008**  
Chapter Location: **Woodinville**  
President: **Scott Sypher**  
Contact: **snoking@ccapnw.org**  
Meeting Info: **Monthly – Last Tuesday, 7 pm**  
**Three Rivers Marine,**  
**24300 Woodinville-**  
**Snohomish Rd., Woodinville**

Banquet Date: **TBA Sept. 2009**

### SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON

Established: **October 2007**  
Chapter Location: **Camas**  
President: **Conan Elliott**  
Contact: **swwashingt@ccapnw.org**  
Meeting Info: **Monthly - 2nd Tuesday, 7 pm**  
**Camas Meadows Golf Club,**  
**4105 NW Camas Meadows Dr.,**  
**Camas - call for**  
**directions: (360) 833-2000**

Banquet Date: **June 6, 2009**

### TRI-CITIES

Established: **January 2008**  
Chapter Location: **Richland**  
President: **Stan Brogdon**  
Contact: **tricitie@ccapnw.org**  
**(509) 531-1553**

Meeting Info: **Even Months**  
**2nd Thursday, 7 pm**  
**O'Callahan's**  
**@ The Shilo Inn, Richland**

Banquet Date: **March 27th, 2009**

### YAKIMA

Established: **November 2007**  
Chapter Location: **Yakima**  
President: **Mike Hammond**  
Contact: **yakima@ccapnw.org**  
**(509) 833-1161**

Meeting Info: **Monthly - 2nd Wednesday, 7 pm**  
**Yakima Carpenter's Hall,**  
**507 S. 3rd, Yakima**

Banquet Date: **September 19th, 2009**

## CCA 2009 Summer/Fall Banquet Calendar



Please mark your calendar with the following important dates and plan to attend the banquet(s) in your area.

**Washington Banquets ..... Banquet Date**  
**Southwest Washington.....June 6th**  
**Inland Empire..... September TBD**  
**Sno-King..... September TBD**  
**Yakima..... September 19th**  
**Capitol City .....September 26th**

**Oregon Banquets ..... Banquet Date**  
**Emerald Empire .....July 31st**  
**Mt. Hood..... September 16th**  
**Rogue Valley ..... September 25th**  
**Portland Metro .....October 16th**



# Coastal Conservation Association Membership Application

## MEMBER INFORMATION

☐ Renewal Dues ☐ New Membership

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Associate Member Name(s) (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Member ID# (if renewing) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Gift Membership From: \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ \$25 MEMBER: Membership card, window decal, 2 bumper stickers, TIDE magazine.
- ☐ \$100 MEMBER: All of the above plus CCA print of your choice
- ☐ \$15 ASSOCIATE: Per each family member. All member privileges except TIDE. Send names.
- ☐ \$200 SPONSOR: Bronze lapel pin, print, plus member gifts.
- ☐ \$500 PATRON: Silver lapel pin, print, plus member gifts.
- ☐ \$1,000 LIFE MEMBER: Life Member display piece, print, plus member gifts. Quarterly payment option available.
- ☐ \$10 NEW TIDE: Rising Tide newsletter, three NEW TIDE logo decals, iron-on T-shirt transfer, redfish & speckled trout sticker. For members 17 and younger.



## METHOD OF PAYMENT

☐ Cash Enclosed

☐ Check or Money Order Enclosed

☐ Mastercard ☐ Amex

☐ Visa ☐ Discover

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Associate Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

Complete this form and send to:  
**Coastal Conservation Association**  
1006 W. 11th Street  
Vancouver, WA 98660  
Ph. 877-255-8772  
Ph. 360-694-4300  
[JoinCCA.org](http://JoinCCA.org) | [CCAPNW.org](http://CCAPNW.org)

An angler enjoys a Summer day on a small coastal stream.  
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