



CCA Welcomes Brett Larson and Nello Picinich

In less than two years, CCA has quickly grown to nearly 10,000 members and 23 chapters in the Pacific Northwest, creating a need for more staff. To help us successfully continue our membership, fund-raising and advocacy efforts, earlier this year we welcomed to new members to the CCA team.

Brett Larson and Nello Picinich were hired as Assistant Directors for Oregon and Washington. Both are based out of the Pacific Northwest regional office in Vancouver, WA, allowing for greater efficiencies in our region.

Brett has been hired as the Assistant Director for Oregon, and just across the border to the north, Nello has taken on the role of the Assistant Director for Washington. Their primary responsibilities will be to provide

support for each chapter's annual fund-raising banquet, grow CCA membership and provide a consistent level of communication within and between the various state chapters. The first banquet of the year, Oregon's Willamette Falls chapter, occurred on March 5 and both Brett and Nello will be busy supporting 16 more banquets over the next four months!

Brett brings a wealth of outdoor, fund raising and management experience to CCA, with a background in retail management. For the last eight years Brett has worked for Sportsman's Warehouse in the Pacific Northwest. Most recently he managed the Vancouver, WA store for three years, and prior to that Brett managed the Salem, OR store for five years. During his time at Sportsman's, Brett was involved with literally hundreds of fund-raising events and has already made a positive

impact on structuring banquets here in the Pacific Northwest.

For the past three years Nello served as the Operations Director at the Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group, a volunteer-based, non-profit organization focused on salmon and steelhead restoration projects. Prior to that, Nello worked for almost seven years as a project manager for a consulting firm in the airline industry. His business background and fisheries expertise have already proven to be of value in his new role at CCA. Born and raised in West Seattle, Nello and his family now reside in Southwest Washington.

Please join us in welcoming Brett and Nello to CCA Pacific Northwest. 🍷



CCA PNW welcomes new State Assistant Directors, Brett Larson (left) and Nello Picinich (right).

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Standing on Strong Shoulders



Gary Loomis
Founding Chair, CCA PNW

As you know, Coastal Conservation Association has been around for about 30 years, and collectively the organization and its 100,000 members have a tremendous amount of experience – and success – in fighting some of the largest and most dangerous marine conservation battles our country has seen.

In February I was able to experience some of that history and success first hand when I visited CCA Louisiana’s state convention in New Orleans.

Let me tell you, those guys know how to throw a party!

I was honored to be asked to speak at their state convention, and even more excited about listening to what other people had to say. In addition to some of the best barbecue and shrimp I have ever tasted, the organizers packed the event with a lot of great information. I listened to many impressive speakers from CCA Louisiana and across the country, and the topics ranged from local coastal restoration to national conservation



Gary Loomis is congratulated by CCA Louisiana executive director David Cresson.

issues. I learned a lot and I came back even more inspired than I was before – if you can believe that.

Let me explain my renewed inspiration. I have always been determined to restore and protect our native and wild fish – nothing will ever change that and I can’t imagine that anyone is more impatient than me about the urgent need for harvest reform. I returned from my trip with renewed inspiration and respect for the CCA model. In short, it works. I found proof that it works in every conversation that I had with CCA members, Louisiana legislators and other public officials who attended the event.

They also had a message for me: Keep doing what you’re doing.

I was amazed when people started to thank me for all of our work in the Pacific Northwest. Folks half way across the country – almost a different world than the Pacific Northwest – were thanking us for our efforts to protect and preserve our native and wild fish. And that’s what makes the difference, and what makes CCA successful; it’s not about my river, my stream, or even my state and species of fish. It’s about all of us working together – no matter where we live – to promote the conservation of our marine resources. I came home with the understanding and gratitude that the folks in Louisiana care as much about our salmon as they do their redfish. And we have their support.

That collective commitment, and the support we gain by being part of a large, successful organization, is already making a difference. The fact that states like Louisiana have been there before us and successfully banned gill nets in state waters and established redfish as a game fish makes our efforts stronger, and will help us to succeed in the Pacific Northwest. And, hearing from these same folks that we are on the right path in terms of our structure, our chapter development and our advocacy efforts was very exciting to me, although they seemed just as excited about all that we are doing!

Recreational anglers have traditionally been a pretty fractured group. It’s one of the key reasons our past conservation and advocacy efforts have failed. CCA is changing that in the Pacific Northwest, and I for one am grateful to know that we have 90,000 strong and skilled shoulders to stand on as we continue our battle to save our marine resources.

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Catching Up With Our Growth

Bryan Irwin
PNW Executive Director

In less than two years CCA-PNW has developed into a very significant organization in the Pacific Northwest with thousands of members and professional staff, including lobbyists in both states. We are fast becoming the one thing our region has lacked in the past, a unified voice for recreational anglers standing up to protect our fish.

But there’s one problem: We don’t have enough oars in the water. I can’t say enough about the people who have stood up and become involved in the leadership and development of CCA. But, there aren’t enough of them. The critical need for CCA in the PNW has resulted in fast membership growth, but the number of leaders has not grown in the same manner. Over the past 12 months our membership has grown by 40%, but we have virtually the same number of leaders doing an ever-increasing amount of work.

I’ve spent hours pondering the difference between the type of person that gets involved and takes responsibility and those who do not. I don’t think I’m any closer to the answer, but I can tell you what its not. It’s not how busy you are or how much you like to fish. We have leaders that love to fish and those that hardly ever go. We have leaders that run multiple companies and are among the busiest people on the planet and others who are retired and have significant “free time”.



I know it’s not easy to figure out how to get involved. That’s why it’s going to be my goal to make that easier for our volunteers by focusing our ongoing efforts on providing members with specific actions or activities that could benefit from their time and efforts. For example, at our chapter meetings we provide a lot of great information, but we don’t do enough to provide our members with the actions they can take to help us advance our cause.

If you are reading this and thinking, “How can I get involved?” I’ve achieved my goal. The first step is asking yourself where you can help the most. There are four aspects that make CCA successful, they are: Membership, Advocacy, Communications and Fundraising. Consider which of these areas are the most appealing to you, and get involved with your local chapter. If you are interest in opportunities outside of your local chapter, or are interested in starting a chapter, call our CCA office and ask for Brett in Oregon, or Nello in Washington and let them know where you want to get involved. They can help provide direction and CCA will benefit from your involvement. Remember, you are CCA.

CCA 2009 Spring Banquet Calendar

CCA Spring banquet season is nearly upon us! Please mark your calendar with the following important dates and plan to attend the banquet(s) in your area. Oregon and Washington banquets that will take place this Spring are listed in the chart below.

Washington Banquets	Banquet Date
Kitsap Chapter	April 11th
Lewis County Chapter	April 25th
North Sound Chapter	May 9th
North Snohomish Chapter	May 14th
Southwest Washington	June 6th

Oregon Banquets	Banquet Date
Tualatin Valley	April 17th
Salem	May 30th

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John Stec
Oregon CCA President

March seems to have been full of “teaser” days. You know them when you see them... blue sky, temperature in the mid-to-high fifties, light breezes. They take our minds off the fact that there are still blustery days ahead, and give us incentive to inventory our gear, clean up our reels, and try to forget that the world around us seems to be completely out of our control. Reports of early springers and the occasional steelie increase our anticipation; some of us take to the water in spite of temperatures still running on the cold side. After all, someone is going to get into the first fish; why not you or me?

CCA Oregon has also seen a fair number of teaser days lately. One of the first was our extremely visible and successful legislative outreach with respect to the ODFW Commissioners’ spring allocation decision that left nearly everyone stunned and angered. Following that, we took a stand on budget cuts proposed for the Oregon State Police Wildlife Enforcement Division that would have greatly impaired fish and game law enforcement capabilities statewide.

Another important and exciting development was the emergence of a candidate for one of the seats on the ODFW Commission who truly understands selective harvest reform and the need to place conservation before allocation. Stan Steele is tremendously qualified to bring intelligence and balance to complex issues such as the ODFW budget and Marine Reserves – all elements of our legislative agenda. Additionally, there is not one but three bills related to selective harvest heading to committee review in this legislative session. Representative Vic Gilliam introduced one of these bills – H2749 – on behalf of CCA Oregon. We have also declared our support for other legislation, Senate Bill S472, introduced by Senator Jason Atkinson. This bill requires ODFW to utilize hatch boxes on the Rogue and other Oregon rivers and is consistent with the objectives of CCA Oregon’s position on hatchery reform.

I choose to refer to these specific actions as “teasers” because the legislature has yet to act on any of them. This is because the session has really just begun and the processes of budget review and approval, administrative appointment, and law enactment, are by design slow and methodical. In the days ahead, our lobbyist, Shawn Miller, will be instrumental in working with our legislators on behalf of these important issues, for all of us.

Recently, CCA members were on the move in Salem as well. On February 24th, many of us had the opportunity to visit the state house and our local legislators. Shawn and Ken Chambers (CCA Oregon Salem chapter and state Vice President), and Bryan Irwin (CCA PNW Executive Director) spent many hours in coordination and collaboration to make CCA Legislative Day an extremely educational and productive event. Shawn presented the attendees with an excellent refresher course on the legislative process. Senators Fred Girod and Jason Atkinson generously took time away from their hectic schedules to provide further perspective and insight. There was no mistaking their passion and commitment to correcting the flaws in our fish management policies and practices. After a good discussion of our legislative agenda, we fanned out to the house and senate offices to meet with legislators from our local districts, leaving each of them with a copy of the agenda.

Here is a couple of impressions from this event. First, as I noted earlier, the legislative process is slow. That this is so should come as no surprise to anyone. For those seeking change it can be a source of deep frustration. Yet, the elaborate process of drafting, introducing, and reviewing legislation is painstaking by design. The path through house and senate is loaded with checks and balances to require our legislators to perform due diligence before a law is passed. Part of the process must include

the gathering and evaluation of information and consideration of multiple points of view, and this takes time.

Secondly, although it may seem that whoever shouts the longest and loudest gets the attention of our legislators, that approach is more likely to have an opposite effect. Ideally, decision making ought to be based upon fact and logic. This is why CCA places so much emphasis on science in determining its positions and priorities. It is also why the quiet presence of forty or fifty CCA members adorned in CCA shirts and hats, sporting CCA buttons as they move to and from legislative offices, has potentially more impact than three hundred shouting, banner waving “activists.”

Finally, know that we are all being well served by Shawn Miller. Not only is he a very visible and recognized presence in Salem, but he continues provide us with solid advice on tactics and strategy. As we move deeper into the legislative session he will let us know when and where the presence our membership can be most effectively rallied. We are indeed fortunate to have him as an advisor and ally.

I would like to leave you with one more thought. At some point during the year, most of you will receive a membership renewal notice. Around twenty percent will not renew, and the reasons will vary. Some will have moved away or simply lost interest. Some may find themselves forced to make a hard choice between groceries, health care or housing, and membership renewal. We all pray that there are few of us so affected. And some will hesitate to renew, asking first, “What has CCA accomplished so far?”

I would reply by returning to the developments outlined at the top of this commentary. Each of these “teasers” can be likened to a move in a game of chess. Each is a deliberate step in a complex sequence of activities. At any given time a single move may appear to be random and unimpressive, even though it is part of a broader winning strategy. Watching the game unfold may be rather boring as there is no real time limit on the moves. Along the way, the strategy may need to be rethought in the face of opportunities and threats. There will also be temptations to abandon the strategy in a bold and dramatic move in response to an opponent’s cleverly set trap. In the end though, a patient, well-played game leads to an inevitable conclusion.

So if you’re not sure if you should renew, here’s where we stand. The chess board has been set and the play initiated. This is not a game for the restless and impatient, who might be better suited for a good string of bowling. There the results are immediate and obvious. There is simple and instant satisfaction in the crushing delivery of a heavy ball, followed by the thunderous impact and chaotic scattering of pins. Score keeping is very easy – you just count the number of “survivors.”

I ask you, then. Would you rather go bowling? If the answer is yes, you’ll probably want to save your membership fee. On the other hand, if you would care to play chess, renew your membership now. Better yet, sign up for the next level of membership. And after the game is over, let’s go fishing. 🐟

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Leadership and Focus Key to Long Term Success

Matt Olson
President, CCA Washington

There are two themes I want to touch on this time around: Leadership and focus. Both are critical to the success of our efforts in the Pacific Northwest.

As we grow, identifying and cultivating solid leaders throughout our organization needs to remain a top priority. On the staff side of the equation we continue to build our leadership team through the hiring of Nello Picinich, who is our Assistant Director for Washington.

During our first two years in the Pacific Northwest we grew much faster than anyone in CCA had ever anticipated or seen in the history of the organization. In hindsight we probably grew a little too fast, and we are just now catching up on the staffing side. This year we hired staff to not only manage our existing organization, but to help fuel additional growth. We have an aggressive expansion plan for Washington in terms of

membership and fund raising, and Nello is an important part of that equation.

Leadership also extends to our volunteers, who fuel the CCA engine. We could not have made such huge progress in so little time without the hard work and dedication of those who stepped up and took charge of a variety of responsibilities, from chapter development to raising funds and securing sponsorships. In Washington, we have worked hard to cultivate a strong network of leaders throughout the state, and two great examples of that success are Rob Tobeck, who was recently appointed Vice Chair of CCA’s Washington State Board, and Stan Brogdon, who was recently appointed Vice President of the Washington State Board. Rob is from the Seattle area and Stan is the President for the Tri-Cities chapter. Their outstanding contributions and leadership have helped to strengthen CCA throughout the state as they build committees and grow membership.

Focus is an important part of leadership, and that’s where each one of us needs to be

engaged. There will be plenty of short-term issues along the way that will capture our attention, but if we take our eye away from the ultimate goal of harvest reform – and banning gill nets – we will not succeed.

Recently, much has been made over the anticipated large return of adult upriver spring Chinook to the mouth of the Columbia River. Fisheries managers are touting the predicted run as a measure of success in their management of the resource. While this is good news, let’s not be distracted by a short-term – and short-sighted – gain. This “bonanza” of fish is still not even close to where the runs used to be. While it’s nice to see more fish, we are not even close to where we need to be. In fact, we still have a very long way to go toward the development of a sustainable fishery.

For CCA to be successful, we cannot turn our attention away from our long-term goals. Please continue to attend chapter meetings, join committees and be engaged in this fight. Winning will take our collective leadership. 🐟

Membership Renewal Process

Now that our fund-raising and banquet season has kicked off, we have received several calls regarding membership renewals. Here’s a reminder about how that process works.

A Standard Member is defined as someone who signs up with CCA outside of a banquet. Standard Members may receive up to six renewal notices. The first renewal notice should arrive in the mail one to two months prior to the membership expiration, with follow-up renewal notices being sent approximately every 45 days thereafter. Every Standard Member should receive at least one renewal notice before their membership expires.

A Banquet Member is defined as someone who signs up with CCA at one of the annual fund-raising banquets and was recorded as such in the membership database. Each banquet member is given a 12-month membership period. However, renewal notices are not sent until after the current year’s banquet. For members who attended the previous year’s event and not this year’s event, their membership will automatically expire unless they renew through other means. CCA has no way of tracking who will or will not be attending each banquet, so notices are not sent until after the event. Therefore, as a general rule of thumb, Banquet Members will receive a renewal notice only after their membership has expired.

Also, e-renewal notices are being sent via e-mail approximately two weeks before regular renewal notices are sent through regular mail. If you do not currently receive e-mails from CCA, please log onto **www.joincca.org** and click on the “Update Your Address” link.

Lastly, there is one way you can eliminate the need for annual renewals and renewal notices – by becoming a life member. **Please call 877-255-8772 to become a life member today!**

Oregon CCA Makes Waves at the Capitol

Jack Smith
Chairman, OR Government Relations



It has been an extremely busy and exciting time for CCA/ Oregon and the GRC committee with the legislature in session and several harvest reform issues being discussed including gill net bans, terminal area only commercial fisheries, our selective gear bill, changes in the food fish law, restoring balance to the ODFW commission, and the ODFW budget/ fee increase. Every day seems to bring new challenges as well as opportunities to advance our call for conservation based management utilizing the best available science where the resource comes first.

Lobbyist Shawn Miller in addition to meeting with senators and representatives is working daily to keep us focused and multiply the results of our volunteer efforts. Fisheries Director Heath Heikkila makes sure we stay on message while moving forward with a workable strategy that ensures results and keeps us advancing towards our goal of harvest reform and a management system that places conservation over exploitation.

Being involved in the advocacy portion of this effort you can truly see the beauty of the CCA model and how it utilizes every member to some degree and how all efforts are inter connected and essential.

Membership: Membership not only provides volunteers to be leaders, officers, and committee members they just as importantly multiply the efforts of volunteers and staff. Our message representing 4,000 has a much greater effect than if we represent 40 or 400. This effect will be further multiplied when we represent 8, 12, 16,000 or more.

Oregon Legislative Day at The Capitol: On February 24th approximately 50 CCA Oregon members met at the state capitol for a morning of presentations followed by an afternoon spent contacting their legislators and expressing support for CCA/Oregon and our legislative agenda. Each participant received a folder that included an agenda for the day, a copy of our selective gear bill, Columbia River Compact testimony by the Colville tribe on selective harvest, a copy of the letter to the Washington Commission from Washington Governor Christine Gregoire concerning selective harvest, a summary of Hatchery Scientific Review Group (HSRG) findings calling for a move to selective harvest, and three copies of the CCA Oregon Legislative agenda to drop off at their senator and representative's office. A joint legislative schedule for the day was also provided.

The day kicked off with a presentation given by lobbyist Shawn Miller consisting of a detailed legislative overview utilizing the information contained in the joint legislative schedule, discussing CCA/Oregon's legislative agenda, and explanations of the various handouts that were provided. A great deal

of time was spent answering a long list of great questions from those members that did attend.

Guests included Senator Jason Atkinson who provided information on his bill concerning hatch boxes, Senator Fred Girod about several bills he is introducing, including one that would ban gill nets in Oregon, and others that address predation as well as hatchery issues, and assistant Director of ODFW Curt Melcher on the ODFW budget.

During a brief break attendees were encouraged to visit the house and senate floor sessions for a first hand look at how those bodies operate.

A box lunch was provided after which participants from as far away as Medford and the Rogue Valley Chapter were free to visit their representatives and senators and voice support for CCA/Oregon and our legislative agenda.

This was a great event which not only helped to raise our profile in Salem but also provided a great educational opportunity, for those members involved, as to exactly how the system works.

Lobbyist Shawn Miller did a great job of organizing the agenda and leading the event. Ken Chambers and the Salem chapter provided on the ground organization while members from nearly every chapter in Oregon attended to help make this team effort the great success it was. ☺

Poker Tournament Fundraiser a Success

On February 21, 2009, our Mt Hood chapter hosted a No Limit Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament fundraiser at Persimmon's Country Club in Gresham, OR. It was the 1st fundraiser of its kind for CCA in the Pacific Northwest. The event was open to anyone who wished to attend, including non-members of CCA. This created an opportunity for our chapter to introduce our organization to those who may not yet be aware of what CCA represents.

We were able to sign a few new members, including the tournament winner, Shane Fackrell. Shane was the guest of a fellow chapter member, and through a series of well played hands of cards, he took home 1st place, including a Traeger Texas BBQ. Everyone involved thought that it was a wonderful event. We are expecting this to become an annual tradition for the Mt Hood Chapter. Hopefully we can write your name as the winner on next year's trophy. ☺



Poker Champion Shane Frackell accepts his awards and prizes from Mt Hood President Wade Radke." Photo - Bryan Edwards

Legislature Hostile Toward Conservation and Citizen Oversight

Ed Wickersham,
Chair, CCA Washington GRC

CCA Washington kicked off the 2009 legislative session with a positive effort to promote the need for mark-selective commercial harvest gear. Not surprisingly, commercial friendly committee chairs make progress in this area difficult and together with commercial fishing interests have launched an attack on our Fish & Wildlife Commission seeking to dislodge it from the principled conservation stance it has taken in recent years.

Despite the rhetoric of our detractors, CCA Washington actively supports commercial fishing for salmon and sturgeon in the Pacific Northwest, as long as it remains sustainable, safe to marine resources and is mark-selective. Unfortunately, destructive indiscriminate gear such as the gillnet is virtually the only gear permitted by law for salmon harvest. To support development of selective gear, your Washington GRC with the expert assistance of Heath Heikkila and our top flight lobbyist, Mike Ryherd crafted HB 2266, a bill compelling WDFW to authorize commercial salmon gear that is designed for the live capture and sorting of salmon before harvest.

The bill provides a five year period for Washington fisheries to become mark-selective, and it directly supports HSRG and Governor Gregoire's conservation directives. You can see our bill online at <http://tinyurl.com/ablz9d>. While it is unlikely that pro-commercial Rep. Brian Blake's committee will consider the issue during this session, it represents an important first step towards changing the debate. Proponents of the status quo will always seek to delay, but awareness of the need to retool Washington's commercial salmon fishery for a sustainable, selective future is gaining momentum.

We have turned our energies toward an urgent struggle to protect the infrastructure of our citizen Fish & Wildlife Commission. By standing up for conservation in Puget Sound and Columbia River fisheries, the Commission has drawn fire from commercial fishing interests in the form of SSB 5127, a bill that would gut the current citizen Fish & Wildlife Commission and effectively undo the 1995 mandate of Referendum 45. Our contract lobbyist, fisheries director and many members of the GRC have rallied to attend meetings with legislators and have helped develop two rounds of action alerts. We are bringing the grassroots power of CCA to bear against this hostile attack on the Commission.

HB 5127 is our main concern now, but we are active on many fronts in this session. Other bills we are tracking on your behalf are HB 5421 concerning recreational salmon and steelhead fisheries in the Columbia River and the WDFW's budget proposal concerning a 10% increase in sport and commercial license fees. We seek and receive many opportunities to carry your message to elected officials and the public. Ed Wickersham, Andy Marks, and Frank Urabeck joined lobbyist Mike Ryherd at a reception at the Governor's mansion where we briefed several key legislators and Commissioners on the dangers of SSB 5127. Andy Marks gave an hour long interview about the bill on KJR 950 AM's "NW Wild Country" radio show on March 6th. He explained CCA's position and alerted citizens that without their concerted action now, they might lose the Washington Fish & Wildlife Commission as they know it.

Coalition work with almost 20 other former and retired law enforcement officers led to a comprehensive appeal by to end to night gillnetting and impose effective commercial catch reporting regulations for the gillnet fleet. Sparked by the \$150,000 plea bargain

of the Heuker brothers after being caught red-handed in over 50 violations of these lax catch-reporting rules, our letter has made significant waves in both capitols. We sent it to the Commissioners and Governors of both states and gained significant positive coverage of this effort in the Columbian, The Reel News, and Bill Monroe's blog. See our letter online at <http://tinyurl.com/bu48uv>.

Harry Barber and Ginny Ross continue their ongoing advocacy with the Department to re-implement mark-selective fishing for Upper Columbia River Summer Chinook. The four major indicators suggesting that mark-selective fishing is key to restoring this run are clearly outlined in a power point presentation they developed and have been presenting to the Commission, to WDFW officials and CCA Chapters. At one hearing, the Colville tribal delegation was pleased to see their live capture purse seining project highlighted and endorsed in our testimony. Watch for an article on our Summer Chinook restoration project in an upcoming issue of TIDE.

Besides testifying at key hearings and leading our Puget Sound group, Andy Marks continues to ably lead our efforts in the 2009 North of Falcon process now underway. He has attended key meetings with WDFW leaders, lobbyists, and citizen advocates to hear WDFW's priorities for Puget Sound. Here is a sign that our efforts are bearing fruit: WDFW has proposed significant increases in mark-selective fishing in Puget Sound including converting non-selective areas to mark-selective areas and increasing season length in those areas. After many discussions and meetings, our team is now set for active engagement in this year's North of Falcon process and ready to carry CCA's banner of conservation, recovery, and selective harvest by all fishers. ☺

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Spring Bonneville Sea Lion Circus Continues

Brad Damm,
CCA Oregon.

In a sure sign of spring coming back to our region; the Bonneville Dam annual spring sea lion circus has started again. Fisheries managers, wildlife biologists, tribal officials, and the Corps of Engineers hosted a media event at the dam to update the public on sea lion monitoring, hazing, and removal operations. Officials also intended to showcase new precautions designed to avoid an incident similar to the one in 2008 where six sea lions died in the traps over a weekend as an unintentional consequence of problems with release mechanisms on the trap doors. Trapping could restart as soon as March 2nd, 2009.

The event today had the beginnings of all the drama of years past. Officials only invited members of the accredited media into the secure area of the dam to answer questions and take a close look at the new trap modifications. ID's were checked and hard hats were issued. A serious safety briefing was held.



The Sea Lion/Salmon conflict at the base of Bonneville Dam continues as the Spring salmon arrive.

Under sunny skies and snowcapped hills the tour started. Several California sea lions tossed a Sturgeon back and forth for the cameras. The new electronically triggered doors on the traps wouldn't work properly for the officials, and an animal rights activist (posing as media) snuck into the event and interrupted the various official briefings and interviews. Protesters waited outside the

gates and holding signs to save the sea lions. Yup, spring is almost here and all the signs point to salmon coming soon.

According to the US Army Corps of Engineers, there were 103 different sea lions identified in quarter-mile area at the base of the dam last year, and those sea lions ate or killed the highest number of salmon and steelhead ever recorded in modern times. Several Endangered Species Act (ESA) listed stocks of these fish migrate past the dam each spring, and the hazing and removal operations are a part of a larger overall effort by state, federal, and tribal authorities to recover these endangered fish.

Despite the spring circus at the dam, it seems likely lethal removal operations will move forward. The Humane Society of the United States had sought an injunction to stop the removal operations that was denied on February 26th by the US Ninth Circuit Court of appeals. No further litigation is pending. The traps are currently in place and the sea lions are using them. Although a zoo in Chicago has offered to take the first two animals trapped, it seems wildlife managers have limited options to send the problem predators into permanent captivity.

Several animals were relocated to zoos and aquariums last year, but there are simply not enough facilities and too many animals that need to be removed.

Before any specific sea lion can be euthanized, it first has to be observed and documented killing or consuming endangered salmon. Stellar sea lions are protected under the ESA, so only California sea lions can be removed. If authorities are unable to place a trapped animal in permanent captivity, it will be given a lethal injection. If the worst offenders will not enter the traps they can be shot under the permit issued last year by NOAA-Fisheries. If it gets that far, sharpshooters from Washington law enforcement agencies have already been recruited. Only animals within 50 feet of shore (or on land) can be shot, and any carcasses that result from those actions would be recovered and removed from the river.

Authorities can remove up to 85 specific problem California sea lions in 2009. Over the last few years we have seen that hazing operations using rubber buckshot and pyrotechnics have only had limited success with California sea lions, and the underwater acoustic deterrence devices installed by The Corps have been a failure at keeping them away. Although it is unfortunate that we once again at the point of lethal removal, there are simply no other options. The number of fish consumed by sea lions at the dam increases every year, and the wild ESA listed salmon and steelhead that pass Bonneville Dam each spring need this protection. These fish are far too valuable to lose. ☹

Read Gary Loomis' Monthly CCA article in

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Fish Tales



Editor,
This native trophy buck was landed and quickly released back into Lake Creek (Siuslaw River) February 2007 while fishing with guide Monte Wills. In our rush to return this fish after an exhausting battle the approximate measurements were 42 x 25 (my waterproof disposable camera did not do this fish justice). This was my third steelhead of the day, fifth of my lifetime! He fell for yarn and eggs under a float. It took me a few passes in that slot to finally set the hook, but I persisted and he put up one heck of a tug-of-war fight!

CCA members must fight to ensure that our children's children get the same opportunity we have had!

Christopher "Doogie" Douglass
Emerald Empire Chapter

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.

A Special Thanks from Corey Eshpeter



Corey is the daughter of Frank Eshpeter the Sea-Tac CCA president and President of the South King County Puget Sound Anglers.

Corey is a senior at Tahoma HS in Maple Valley WA. For her senior project she put on a salmon dinner for 90+ at Ronald McDonald House in Seattle. She would like to give special thanks to the CCA and PSA members that donated their extra salmon and to Meadowsweet Dairy for the dairy products to help finish things off.

Corey said this was a very rewarding project and wished they all could have been there to experience it. She really appreciated all the help as well as their support.

A very special thanks from Corey Eshpeter, Tahoma HS senior; CCA and PSA volunteer



Come fish the Clearwater River, located in North Central Idaho. The Clearwater River is home to robust runs of B-run Steelhead. The average Clearwater River Steelhead is 13 pounds with numerous fish over 20 pounds being landed each season. The Clearwater offers ample angling opportunity from September through March. Come experience this phenomenal fishery!

Clearwater River Company is also affiliated with West Coast Anglers. West Coast Anglers has guides located throughout Oregon and Washington.

All Clearwater River Company and West Coast Angler guides are full-time professionals and are licensed, bonded, and insured.

Clearwater River Company and West Coast Anglers will put you on the fish!



Clearwater River Company: <http://clearwater.wcafsh.com>
West Coast Anglers: <http://www.wcafsh.com>
Toll Free: 1-866-846-4240
info@wcafsh.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**
541-206-7694

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

Banquet Date: **Tentative - August, 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, 2009**

ROGUE VALLEY CHAPTER

(MEDFORD AND SURROUNDING AREA)
Chapter Location: **Medford**
President: **Nathan Grimm**
Contact: **ngrimm50@gmail.com**
206-406-9040

Meeting Info: **TBA**
Banquet Date: **TBA**

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
Jim Bowen—Vice Chairman
Jack Smith—Vice President
Lynn Buerer—Treasurer
Geana Tyler—Secretary
John Stec—Chair, Management
Jim Marquait—Chair,
Government Relations
Frank Unger—Chair, Chapter and
Membership Development
Jack Smith—Chair, Nominations
Angela Hult, Bryan Edwards—
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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



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WASHINGTON CHAPTERS

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**

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 28, 2009**

SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON

Established: **October 2007**
Chapter Location: **Camas**
President: **Steve Koch**
Contact: **swwashington@ccapnw.org**
(360) 606-0623

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**

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**

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: **June 12th, 2009**

TRI-CITIES

Established: **January 2008**
Chapter Location: **Richland**
President: **Stan Brogdon**
Contact: **tricitities@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**

NORTH SOUND

Established: **April 2008**
Chapter Location: **Bellingham**
President: **Jason Cross**
Contact: **northsound@ccapnw.org**
Meeting Info: **Monthly - 2nd Wednesday, 7 pm**
(September to June)
Alternate between Whatcom
& Skagit Counties –
Skagit Co. Location: Sportsman's
Warehouse, Burlington;
Whatcom Co. Location: TBD

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

KITSAP

Established: **April 2008**
Chapter Location: **Silverdale**
President: **Charles Gauthier**
Contact: **gauthiere@wavecable.com**
Meeting Info: **Monthly – 4th Thursday, 7 pm**
Sportsman's Warehouse,
Ridgetop Blvd.
NW #150, Silverdale

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

CAPITOL CITY

Established: **May 2008**
Chapter Location: **Lacey**
President: **Don Freeman**
Contact: **(360) 951-7086**
Meeting Info: **Monthly – 1st Monday, 7 pm**
Lacey Fire Dept. #31,
1231 Franz St., Lacey

Banquet Date: **October 3, 2009**

INLAND EMPIRE

Established: **Board Approval Pending**
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**

NORTH SNOHOMISH COUNTY

Established: **Board Approval Pending**
Chapter Location: **Marysville**
President: **Errol Collins**
Contact: **(360) 659-5193**
Meeting Info: **Monthly – 2nd Tuesday, 7 pm**
North River Marine,
12505 Smokey Point Blvd.,
Marysville

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

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 | CCAPNW.org

Swinging flies on the Oregon Coast for winter steelhead
© Small Stream Outfitters photo

The Ripple Effect
Spring issues in a new season of the
political fight to conserve salmon and
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