



# NEWSLETTER

Protecting the resource *and* anglers' access to it.

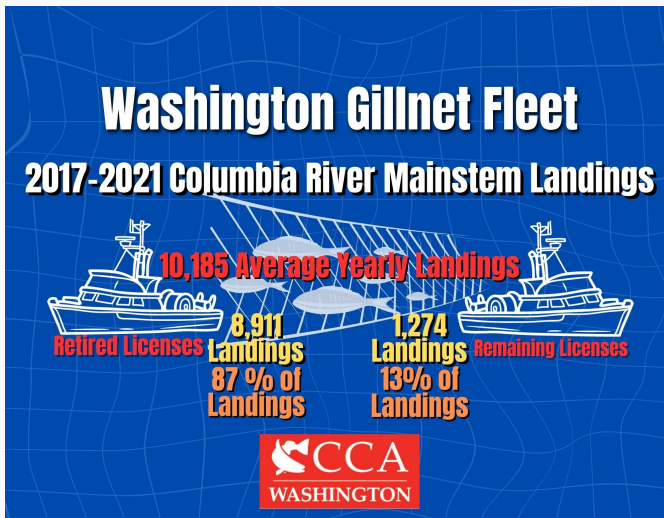
## CCA Connect June 2023

### Advocating for Wild Chinook Populations in Oregon and Washington



Earlier this month, CCA Oregon and CCA Washington [sent a letter](#) to state fisheries managers, urging them to support the recovery and conservation needs of Pacific Northwest wild salmon populations by advocating for reductions in harvest of the commercial troll fishery in southeast Alaska. With a long track record of prioritizing commercial overharvest ahead of conservation, and an intrinsic desire to maintain the status quo, it is still vitally important for ODFW and WDFW to realize that their silence on this important conservation issue is not helping in the restoration of our Pacific Northwest salmon runs.

### Gillnet License Buyback Update



As part of the \$14.4 million buyback of Washington gillnet licenses funded by taxpayers, the licenses that were retired account for at least 87% of Columbia River gillnet landings from 2017 through 2021. In other words, if WDFW followed through with the language in the legislation, they would reduce the Washington gillnet fleet's allocation by 87%.

Not surprisingly, to maintain the status quo of overharvest in commercial fisheries, WDFW continues to obfuscate the issue by pretending that the calculation of reduced allocation needs to be much more complicated. CCA [spearheaded a letter](#) to WDFW that clearly articulates the need to provide useful information for the Washington

## 2023 DATES

### July 14 & 15

Pete Flohr Memorial Wenatchee Salmon Derby

### July - August

Baker Lake Sockeye Derby

### September 15

Lower Columbia Banquet (Longview)

### September 21

Capital City Banquet (Lacey)

### October 5

North Sound Banquet (Mt Vernon)

### October TBD

King of the Reach Derby

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## CHECK US OUT

Legislature and Commission, so they have the necessary tools to reduce the Washington gillnetters allocation, as prescribed in the legislation. Preliminary feedback from WDFW is that they do not have the “policy direction” to produce more useful and valuable information for the Legislature and Commission.

[www.CCAWashington.org](http://www.CCAWashington.org)



## Two Thrilling Fishing Derbies, One Purpose!



We are excited to bring you news of not one, but two exhilarating fishing derbies that are set to take place this summer while supporting the invaluable work of CCA Washington. Mark your calendars for these must-attend events that offer a unique blend of angling adventure and environmental stewardship.

### **10th Annual Pete Flohr Memorial Salmon Derby:**

**Date:** July 14-15, 2023

**Location:** Shores of the Columbia River, North Central Washington

<https://ccawashington.org/wenatcheesalmonderby/>

Prepare your fishing gear and get ready to join anglers from across the region for the 10th Annual Pete Flohr Memorial Salmon Derby. Taking place on the picturesque shores of the Columbia River, this event promises an unforgettable experience for anglers of all ages and skill levels. As we celebrate a decade of conservation efforts, this derby stands as a testament to our shared commitment to preserving the natural beauty and abundance of our waters. Don't miss the chance to be part of this incredible event.

### **2023 Baker Lake Sockeye Shootout:**

**Date:** To be announced

**Location:** Baker Lake, Washington

<https://ccawashington.org/bakerlake/>

The 2023 Baker Lake Sockeye Shootout, hosted by CCA North Sound, in collaboration with Puget Sound Energy (PSE) and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), is a premier fishing event that will captivate enthusiasts throughout the Pacific Northwest. What sets this derby apart is that it is the only tagged sockeye derby in the entire PNW, offering a truly unique and thrilling fishing experience. With collaboration among esteemed organizations, this event showcases the power of partnerships in promoting conservation initiatives while embracing the joy of angling.

Whether you are a seasoned angler or new to the sport,

these derbies welcome everyone to participate. So, grab your fishing gear, register for the events, and get ready for an exhilarating fishing experience while making a positive impact on the environment.

Remember, spaces are limited, so be sure to secure your spot early.

Tight lines and see you at the derbies!

### **River Closes, Ocean Commercial Fishery Continues Overharvest**



While much of the Columbia River is closing to retention of Chinook to anglers, the ocean troll fishery hammered these fish over the past several weeks. Even with Chinook returns being well under forecast, the commercial troll fishery gets to keep on hammering Chinook in the ocean while the in-river fishery bears the conservation burden.

To put these numbers below into perspective, the total summer Chinook mortalities for recreational fisheries from the mouth of the Columbia River upstream to Priest Rapids

Dam through June 30 are projected to be 2,488 fish. The troll fleet caught 17,534 Chinook in the month of June alone and fished non-selectively! Most of these fish were destined for the Columbia River, where both the spring and summer Chinook runs are struggling.

This is yet another example of commercial overharvest being prioritized over conservation.

### **Inspiring the Next Generation: Support the Youth Coastal Fishing Program Act**



Exciting news! Representatives Salazar (R-FI) and Sydney Kamlager-Dove (D-CA), along with Senators Roger Wicker

(R-MS) and Maria Cantwell (D-WA), have reintroduced the Youth Coastal Fishing Program Act. This bill aims to create opportunities for minority youth by establishing a grant program at NOAA. The grants will support community-based programs that actively promote and inspire youth participation in fishing and outdoor activities.

CCA, along with several other national organizations, [wrote a letter](#) supporting this legislation.

The bill recognizes that fishing is a healthy and enjoyable activity, and exposure at a young age is crucial. Currently, there is no program within NOAA specifically catering to youth engagement with marine and aquatic environments. To view and read the full bill [click here](#).

### **Recreational Boating is Big Business**



The National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) [recently announced](#) the economic impact of the recreational boating industry across the United States. “Recreational boating and fishing are a major economic engine in the U.S. and the latest economic analysis underscores the extraordinary growth and demand our industry has experienced coming out of the pandemic,” said Frank Hugelmeyer, NMMA president. According to their data, Washington ranks as the 8th highest state in economic activity and job growth at \$8.1 billion.

Your CCA Membership ID # is %%IMIS||NAME||ID%%

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