



NEWSLETTER

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

CCA Connect August 2023

2023 DATES

Back in Action: Fall Banquet Preview



COASTAL CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION WASHINGTON

Let's begin the excitement by sharing some fantastic news about our [CCA Lower Columbia Chapter](#). After a several year hiatus, the CCA Lower Columbia Chapter is making a return. They are set to launch our fall banquet schedule with their fundraising banquet on September 15, 2023, at the McClelland Arts Center. For ticket purchases or table reservations, [CLICK HERE](#).

Following that, we have the [CCA Capital City Chapter](#) Fundraising Banquet scheduled for September 21, 2023, at 5:00 PM, taking place at the Thurston County Expo Center. Last year's banquet was a resounding success, uniting members in an enjoyable and energizing evening. This year's banquet promises to be equally exceptional. Featuring a delectable prime rib dinner from Uncle Jim's Smokehouse in Chehalis, along with an impressive array of raffle and auction items, accompanied by refreshing drinks, we are planning on an unforgettable experience. To secure your tickets or reserve a table, [CLICK HERE](#).

Lastly, our fall calendar concludes with the [CCA North Sound](#) Chapter's Fundraising Banquet on October 5, 2023, starting at 5:00 PM. The event will take place at the Hillcrest Lodge in Mount Vernon. Riding high on the success of the Baker Lake Sockeye Derby, we are planning an evening full of enjoyment, highlighted by an enticing selection of raffle and auction items, as well as a catered BBQ-themed dinner. To purchase your tickets or reserve a table, [CLICK HERE](#).

King of the Reach Coming Soon

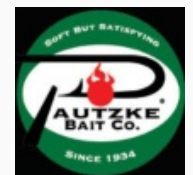
September 15
[Lower Columbia Banquet](#)
(Longview)

September 21
[Capital City Banquet](#) (Lacey)

October 5
[North Sound Banquet](#) (Mt Vernon)

October 27-29
[King of the Reach Derby](#)

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Experience the ultimate Chinook salmon angling adventure at the King of the Reach Live Capture Derby, a renowned fishing event from October 27th to 29th on the Hanford Reach. This derby stands apart by offering participants an exclusive opportunity to fish for hard-fighting upriver bright fall Chinook salmon, all while contributing to future hatchery production and competing for impressive prizes. Evolving from a grassroots initiative, the derby now involves collaboration between CCA Tri Cities, Grant County PUD, and WDFW. Participants aim to catch live wild fall Chinook salmon, which are then transported to the Priest Rapids Hatchery, contributing to the enhancement of hatchery stock quality and the preservation of the iconic Chinook run in the Columbia River.

Secure your spot in this exceptional fishing experience for just \$25 and consider adding a CCA membership for an exclusive drawing. Tickets will be available starting at 12:00 PM on September 5, 2023, [HERE](#). Join fellow anglers in supporting salmon conservation while enjoying a thrilling fishing weekend, all against the backdrop of the breathtaking Hanford Reach.

Willapa Bay Update



On August 3rd, CCA Washington [sent a letter](#) to the Washington Commission which outlined concerns with the draft Willapa Bay Salmon Management Policy and provided concise recommendations for incorporation into the draft policy. We also initiated an Action Alert that generated nearly 300 individual e-mails to the Commission.

The Commission discussed the Willapa Policy during their August meeting. This included a very short presentation by WDFW staff that was severely lacking in substance and, as expected, displayed a bias in favor of non-selective gillnets. While there was no vote, the Commission indicated that they would be moving forward with the draft policy, which is

nothing more than continuing the status quo of overharvest in non-selective gillnets and chronic missed escapement goals on the spawning grounds.

Without any complications with tribal co-management, and no current ESA listings, Willapa Bay is the poster child for how WDFW envisions fisheries should be managed. This is yet another example of why our salmon and steelhead will never recover under the current status quo management regime at WDFW.

2023 Baker Lake Sockeye Shootout



The Skagit River system and Baker Lake experienced a significant return of sockeye this year, resulting in excellent fishing conditions and a successful derby. The total count of sockeye transported to Baker Lake exceeded 31,000 by the end of the season. The successful season, which brought benefits to numerous anglers, can be largely attributed to the early efforts undertaken by CCA North Sound, Puget Sound Energy and our friends at Puget Sound Anglers. Without the dedicated work of our collective volunteer efforts, this year's remarkable returns would not have been possible. A special thanks is owed to Bob Cooper from the CCA North Sound chapter.

At least one group of first-time anglers at Baker Lake not only achieved a "triple," but also had the privilege of landing a tagged fish simultaneously. You can watch the video by [CLICKING HERE](#).

Join us for the derby award ceremony and CCA North Sound's General Meeting on September 12, 2023 at Bob's Burger and Brew located at 9394 Old Hwy 99 North Road in Burlington. The meeting will start at 6:00 PM.

Holding ODFW Accountable



CCA Oregon and Washington appreciate the efforts of the Siletz Angler Association and others to hold the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife accountable for providing sustainable recreational fishing opportunities in Oregon's coastal rivers. The Siletz Angler Association lawsuit complements efforts by CCA and others to reduce the

extensive harvest of Northwest salmon populations in commercial fisheries off the coasts of Alaska, British Columbia, Washington and Oregon.

The need for change has become clearer than ever as ODFW and WDFW continue reducing recreational fishing opportunity in our rivers, including many mark-selective fisheries managed to protect wild salmon populations, while enabling the extensive, non-selective commercial harvest of many of these same populations.

We must come together to hold public agencies accountable for meeting the conservation needs of Pacific salmon populations and providing more equitable fishing opportunity in our coastal waters and rivers through the various regional and international fishery management bodies.

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

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