



Spring 2012

Strong Runs

Quarterly Newsletter of the Native Fish Society



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GREETINGS!

Dear Members and Friends,

As I type these lines, the last steelhead kelts are finning toward the sea, wild Deschutes reddsides are gulping down salmonflies, and spring Chinook are just beginning to push their way into the deep and cold of their summer holding waters -- Spring has arrived indeed!

First, on behalf of everyone at Native Fish Society, I would like to thank all of our attendees, donors, and volunteers who made this year's Benefit Banquet + Auction our most successful event ever. Without your enthusiasm and support the Native Fish Society could not be the strong voice it is for native, wild fish. Please visit the donor page on our website and consider patronizing the fine businesses that so generously supported wild fish this year.

Inside this quarter's issue you will find that the Native Fish Society remains dedicated to wild, native fish, and our desire to connect you, our supporters, grassroots volunteers, and concerned citizens to the issues that need your attention most. It is my hope that you read, learn, and engage with us to enact the change wild fish need to thrive once again in their homewaters.

After all, healthy wild fish mean healthy watersheds and healthy watersheds are critical to the health of our Northwest communities!

Warmly,



Mark Sherwood
Strong Runs Editor + River Steward Coordinator

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

STRONG RUNS WELCOMES SUBMISSIONS AND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR. SUBMISSIONS MAY BE MADE ELECTRONICALLY OR BY MAIL

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

EVENT CALENDAR

AUGUST 5-7: Pat Furrer Annual Steelhead Event

- See flyer in issue

AUGUST 11-12: Carp-ocalypse 2012 @ Baker Lake, WA

- When life gives you carp...use a carp tournament to raise money for wild, native fish!
- Prizes from Orvis including rods and reels; flies from Idylwilde
- Beer provided by Ninkasi
- To sign up:
 - Visit Portland, Seattle, Bend Orvis Store locations or print out and mail to our office the last page of this quarter's newsletter, including a completed registration sheet, along with your \$25 entry fee.

The domination of nature leads to the domination of human nature ~ Edward Abbey

Cover photos: Salmonfly + Fiberglass by Ken Anderson; Salmonberry Spawning Surveys with Marcy Stone and Randy Stetzer

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK



I would like to introduce myself as your new Executive Director. This is the first of what I hope will be many letters originating from this desk.

I want to extend my warm personal appreciation to the board, and to each of you, for the trust and confidence placed in me.

The NFS is not entirely new to me. As the former head of the Molalla River Alliance I worked side-by-side for four years with NFS staff and board members on the compelling fish and habitat issues on the Molalla.

I long have admired the mission and work of the NFS and the quality of people they attract. I particularly look forward to working alongside of Bill Bakke and staff.

It is truly rare in life that one gets to do something of real significance. Make no mistake; we are embarked on a truly significant mission. I am honored and humbled to be part of this passionate and committed organization.

I believe this is a seminal moment for your NFS and it requires we remain resolute and clear-thinking. We are working on exceedingly relevant issues including our Sandy River campaign to return wild fish to their rightful home waters.

Our Hatchery Accountability Project represents the first ever effort to compel agencies to provide public accountability for both the economic benefits as well as the environmental risks of Oregon's hatcheries.

Your Board has recently redoubled its commitment to strengthening and broadening the geographical coverage of our cornerstone River Steward Program.

At our recent Benefit Banquet and Auction I had an opportunity to meet many of you. In time, I look forward to meeting each of you. Please feel free to contact me anytime with your ideas, comments or suggestions.

Cordially,

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

Mike Moody, Executive Director

RESTRAINT

Words +
Photographs by
Jeff Bright

The following is an excerpt from “The Thousand Volts of Ferment: Thoughts on Steelhead Flyfishing, Choosing Methods and Finally – Restraint,” an essay expanded from its original appearance in California Fly Fisher, where it was published as part of a multi-author piece compiled by Jim Zech and titled “The War in Heaven.”



Given the precarious state and future of the Pacific Northwest’s precious wild steelhead, the time has come for a paradigm shift, both for managers of the resource and practitioners of steelhead angling. If we want these prized, iconic fish to survive the pressures of progress — if we truly want steelhead fishing by any method to survive — there are considerations of conservation and ethics that necessarily will have to influence our practices on the water and the way we think about fishing for steelhead. And these considerations will have to begin influencing our practices very soon, if not immediately.

While some of us may fish for steelhead using traditional techniques for self-involved, sensory reasons, these

traditional methods also (maybe coincidentally) have merit from a conservation standpoint. Steelhead are migratory animals. When returning to their rivers, they carry a finite amount of energy in reserve and have no instinctual intent to replenish that reserve before spawning. Each stressful encounter for the fish will take its toll and perhaps hinder its ability to make more of the fish we love. So, by targeting only the players — only the fish that will move for a fly — the angler is targeting those fish that have the energy reserves to play our game. My feeling is: If a steelhead won’t move for a swinging fly, there’s a good reason it won’t. This fish should be left alone. It needs rest and instinct is telling it to preserve its precious energy for important work ahead.



There was a time, many decades ago, when wild steelhead stocks could withstand indiscriminate angling pressure, perhaps even light harvest. Those days are likely gone forever, at least for our foreseeable lifetimes — too many people, too much pressure from development and progress, too much loss of habitat, too many places much less wild than they used to be. I firmly believe being a steelhead flyfisher today is as much about stewardship and being an advocate for wild fish and their rivers as it about hooking six fish a day. It's up to us to take care of what we love because there are forces that see only dollar signs where wild rivers flow, and these forces have the weight of history behind them.

If we, the steelhead flyfishing community, do not self-regulate our impact by monitoring and possibly reducing our effectiveness, we may be regulated out of flyfishing opportunities all together by agencies responsible for preventing the disappearance of species. It may not directly be our fault runs have diminished and rivers have

closed (Puget Sound), but as has happened before, we will pay the price. Plainly, we need to find new ways to measure success in our days on the water.

The revered angling writer, Roderick Haig-Brown once said (paraphrased) in order to have good sport, one must stack the odds in favor of the quarry. In fishing, if your methods become too effective, you are no longer angling, but harvesting. This is essential to the discussion on the table. The longer you fish for steelhead, the more you may find yourself asking the question, "How many do I need to catch to validate my experience?" My guess is, as time goes by the number will shrink and method and setting will gain in importance. To some degree law will regulate your choices, but at a gut level everyone must make his or her own distinction on where sport ends and where the intent to harvest begins. The genuine art, science and craft in flyfishing for steelhead lies in knowing what tackle and which techniques to employ in any given situation, and how to employ them with skill to

give yourself the opportunity to NOT maximize your catch, but to encounter one or two memorable fish in a day's effort.

If you're nymphing and you've caught a fish in the morning, switch your tactics for the afternoon to provide yourself with a greater challenge. Similarly, if you're dredging leaded flies on heavy sink tips and pick up a fish on the swing, swing lighter for the rest of the day. See if you can tempt a fish to move even further for your fly. Try for a bigger pull and more thrilling experience. Similarly, if steelhead are moving readily to your swinging, subsurface fly, go with a floating line, and so on up the scale of difficulty. And for heaven's sake, if you find yourself in Theodore Castwell's purgatory, where every cast is met with a noteworthy fish, clip the point from your hook and revel in the rise and the initial pull. I personally feel, if on any trip, I can't remember each individual steelhead brought to hand or close, I've crossed the line of respectable practice.

Continued on page 10



ROLE REVERSAL

Willamette Salmonid Recovery: Words by Bill Bakke, Dir. of Science and Conservation



John Larios/Wikimedia Commons

The Army Corps of Engineers (COE) is responsible for recovery of threatened salmon and steelhead in the upper Willamette River related to high dams they built on the best tributaries in the 1940s. These dams blocked the best spawning and rearing habitat for wild spring chinook and winter steelhead. At the time it was assumed that these runs could be salvaged with large hatcheries. The Oregon Fish Commission and Game Commission agreed to this solution. In fact, the runs of wild salmon and steelhead had already been depleted by Oregon and federal agencies in the Willamette by blocking the rivers with weirs, trapping the adult salmonids and transporting their eggs to the Central Hatchery (now Bonneville Hatchery) on the Columbia River for release. The combined effects of unregulated commercial fisheries in the Columbia River, pollution of the Portland Harbor, egg stealing, and habitat alteration of the Willamette River and its tributaries all contributed to the decline of wild salmonids prior to the construction of the high dams.

This history of abuse resulted in depleted runs of wild salmonids in the Willamette by the time the dams were built and mitigation agreements were prepared based on an estimate of the depleted run size not their historical abundance.

This history of depletion means we can work only with what is left over. A recovery plan has been developed under the Endangered Species Act and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is responsible for its success with the help of Oregon agencies and the COE.

So, how's it going?

A major controversy over the impact of hatchery origin fish on wild fish is being debated among the agencies as they formulate a recovery plan for wild spring chinook and winter steelhead protected by the ESA. Hatcheries got an early start in the Willamette basin with the first one opening in 1878 at Clear Creek on the Clackamas River. Others followed with Willamette Hatchery in 1911, Roaring River 1924, Marion Forks 1951, Leaburg 1953, South Santiam 1968, and McKenzie in 1975. According to ODFW fish hatchery reports, about 4.8 million spring chinook and 485,000 Skamania summer steelhead are released into the upper Willamette River annually. This production is mostly funded by the COE and ODFW.

Even though wild winter steelhead are threatened with extinction in the upper Willamette River (above Willamette Falls) the mitigation program for native winter steelhead is based on releases of non-native and non-ESU summer steelhead originally from the Skamania Hatchery on the Washougal River, Washington. Spring chinook have been moved around the basin hatcheries so thoroughly that it is believed that the original stock structure has been entirely homogenized.

Before the wild winter steelhead and spring chinook of the upper Willamette ESU were listed as threatened species, there were a few biologists concerned about their management, but officially, the ODFW was

comfortable with the hatchery mitigation program. This hatchery system was largely constructed, rebuilt, and funded by the COE, so ODFW enjoyed the funding subsidy from their federal partner to produce fish for commercial and sport fisheries. With the ESA listing of wild salmonids, this picture changed. Now it is necessary to determine whether the hatchery program is impeding the recovery of wild fish. Making that determination requires knowing how hatchery and wild salmonids interact, representing a new dimension to management that was not necessary under the mitigation agreement to replace wild salmonids with hatchery fish. All of a sudden the agency knows a lot about the unknowns.

The Known Unknowns:

The conceptual framework, or what can be called the ODFW motive, is based on fish farming so ecological problems related to

the fish management program are not of concern and therefore do not exist. However, in a recent paper by ODFW research a number of ecological unknowns have been identified for steelhead. Interactions between non-native hatchery summer steelhead and wild winter steelhead include the following unknowns.

1. "Large numbers of hatchery-produced steelhead smolts have been shown to negatively affect native steelhead...The characteristics and importance of these effects are currently unknown."
2. The rate of river entry for hatchery fish, residualized hatchery fish, competition and predation of hatchery smolts on wild steelhead juveniles are unknown.
3. The disease load of hatchery steelhead and transfer to wild steelhead is unknown.

4. The physiological condition of hatchery fish is unknown.
5. Hatchery fish density impacts on wild fish are unknown.
6. Distribution in the watershed of hatchery fish and impacts on wild steelhead are unknown.
7. Genetic introgression of hatchery fish with wild fish is unknown.

Hatchery steelhead do not provide a conservation benefit for wild steelhead in the upper Willamette. They are being released only for the purpose of providing license sales and harvest. Rather than spend money on trying to answer the unknown impacts of hatchery steelhead on wild fish, the ODFW should just do the best thing for winter steelhead recovery by ending the hatchery steelhead program.

Continued on page 13



Maps courtesy of UW Recovery Plan, 2011



ROGUE FALL CHINOOK

Rogue SMU Conservation Plan: Words by Peter Tronquet, NFS River Steward Rogue, Umpqua + Illinois Rivers



Illinois River, Chinook salmon C. Frissell

With one notable exception, when we craft salmon conservation plans in southern Oregon we are not focused on recovery but on a structured framework for insuring that current salmon populations remain viable for the next 100 years.

To put this in perspective, the five populations of Rogue River fall Chinook, in the aggregate, are more abundant today than they were in the late 1800's (average 113,00 wild fall Chinook in the last 10 brood years). As you will see, this abundance is a double-edged sword, benefiting one race of Rogue Chinook and threatening another.

Populations of fall Chinook south of the Rogue are also doing well, though probably less abundant than historically. In total, the SMU annually produces more than 120,000 age 3 to 4 wild fall Chinook; ODFW estimates that hatchery fish compose only 2% of the natural spawners. In reality, the hatchery picture is skewed by the fact that the Rogue populations are almost entirely wild fish. The Chetco, on the other hand, has a wild brood stock hatchery program that encourages strays in the lower tributaries. If you average the hatchery strays throughout the Chetco system, you are at 15%. Because of this hatchery program, and pressure from the public to increase it, the Chetco is the basin most at risk in the SMU to be under escaped and overharvested.

The Rogue Fall Chinook Species Management Unit

is comprised of five populations of Rogue River Fall Chinook - Lower Rogue, Illinois, Middle Rogue, Applegate and Upper Rogue. The coastal strata of the SMU include Euchre Creek, Hunter Creek, Pistol River, Chetco River and the Winchuck. With the exception of Euchre Creek that is heavily influenced by Elk River hatchery strays, all of the other populations are considered independent populations, reproductively isolated and genetically unique. For example, life history characteristics are different; all the Rogue populations spawn earlier and mature at younger ages than the coastal populations.

The Native Fish Conservation Policy requires a deliberate process in crafting a conservation plan. While the Oregon Wild Fish policy predated the NFCP, in practice it was unevenly applied. Conservation plans, as defined by the NFCP, hold agency managers (and the public) accountable to defined metrics.

A conservation plan, like a business plan, is common sense: Determine the current abundance of a population (called current status); determine if you wish to accept or improve the current status (called desired status and evaluated in the context of population stability over the next 100 years); evaluate the obstacles that constrain sustainability (called limiting factors); develop a suite of management actions that reduce the effects of limiting factors; and prevent long term negative impacts to desired status by establishing conservation criteria, which are red flag metrics that require you to make a change in management strategies.

The Rogue Fall Chinook plan had to interface with the Rogue Spring Chinook plan (approved by the Fish and Wildlife Commission in 2007). I mentioned earlier that conservation plans in southern Oregon are not recovery plans. The exception is the Spring Chinook plan. When Lost Creek Dam became operational on the upper Rogue in 1980, 30% of historical Spring Chinook habitat was lost. Over time, wild Spring Chinook have spiraled down and we wrote a conservation plan (really a recovery plan) that set desired status at 15,000 wild spawners (one half of the historical average annual run size). Desired status was set at 15,000 because we could not figure a way to replace the habitat now submerged under Lost Creek reservoir. We addressed the limiting factor of lost habitat by adopting a harvest management strategy that required catch-and-release of early run Spring Chinook. (the classic Rogue springer that arrived in the upper Rogue in May and June).

Now for the double-edged sword and irony of Lost Creek and Applegate dams: Spring Chinook have been brutalized by Lost Creek but both the upper Rogue and Applegate Fall Chinook populations have prospered. How can that be? It all comes down to cold-water releases from Lost Creek and Applegate reservoirs. Low, warm autumn flows were historically a limiting factor for the upper Rogue and Applegate Fall Chinook populations. When Congress approved the dams, it allocated water for fish (can you imagine?). So Fall Chinook got cold water and they took advantage of the habitat improvement; abundance increased throughout the system because the Army Corp of Engineers (operators of the dams) followed ODFW water release recommendations. No more major outbreaks of columnaris in the lower river, no rafts of dead pre-spawn adults in the lower Rogue, satisfactory autumn spawning flows.

What's good for the goose, however, is not good for the gander. The dams have given us Fall Chinook in the upper Rogue. They are probably spawning with Spring Chinook and we now risk the genetic integrity of Rogue Spring Chinook. We even have a name for the potential progeny of a Fall and Spring Chinook, we call it a "Sprawl." So we de-emphasized Upper Rogue Fall Chinook in the plan, and we said that in times of drought or future municipal demand, reservoir water would go to the Spring Chinook. This is as it should be for a depressed population like the wild Rogue Springers.

Finally, a comment on stock-recruitment curves and MSY or Maximum Sustained Yield, a modeling method that was used extensively in the Fall Chinook Conservation Plan. Stock-recruitment curves are statistical computations that use spawner/progeny data to estimate the intrinsic growth potential and carrying capacity of the population. They have

historically been used to estimate spawner escapement goals and the harvestable surplus of adults. Because stock-recruitment analyses are "look back" models and based on historical averages, they cannot predict the future. MSY is simply the point on the recruitment curve that defines the maximum number of recruits in excess of the number of spawners necessary to replace themselves. It is a computation fraught with guesswork and typically leads to overharvest and under escapement, if applied uncritically. Maximum sustained yield management also tends to aggregate different populations within the same river system, leaving smaller populations that may be genetically unique at risk from overharvest, or in the worst case, extinction.

Give credit to ODFW for recognizing the weaknesses in stock-recruitment models. In developing conservation criteria (red flag, population in trouble) ODFW built a conservation buffer into their Smsy calculations (spawners required for maximum sustained yield) that was intended to account for the uncertainty in stock-recruit relationships. That being said, the weakness in the plan is the population modeling, not because stock-recruitment curves are incorrect given the available data, but simply because assumptions had to be made for obscure or missing data, including habitat assessments.

The draft Rogue SMU plan is on the ODFW website. Go to Fish Division, click on Native Fish Conservation and Recovery, then Conservation and Recovery Plans, then Rogue Fall Chinook Salmon Plan. You will find metrics we chose for desired and conservation status for each population, a discussion of limiting factors and management actions that will guide implementation of the plan. There is an Executive Summary if your time is short; if not, reading the full plan will give you an excellent understanding of Rogue SMU Fall Chinook populations. If you want to dust off your college statistics book, check out Appendix F for a discussion of Smsy and population viability.



Peter Tronquet represented the Native Fish Society on the Public Advisory Committee for both the Rogue Spring Chinook conservation plan and the Rogue Fall Chinook Conservation Plan. Comments are due June 30, 2012 and may be directed to rogue.fallchinook@state.or.us

RESTRAINT

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Finally, there may come a point in an avid angler's life when it's time to put down the rod and enjoy wild rivers and their wild steelhead in ways outside the predator-prey relationship. Snorkeling, participating in fish counts, or hiking to find and observe spawning fish may overtake the angling urge and provide that vital connection to the magic we all cherish. This may not be for everyone, but for some it has created an even stronger bond with the fish.

I hesitate to present this "scale of difficulty" as an evolution, or even a progression; doing so would imply a linear code of correctness and assumptions of righteousness to which I'm not willing to subscribe or abide. There may be a path and points of enlightenment along the way, but no step on the path is any more or less important than another. There is only where you're at and where you're going. The community of steelhead and salmon anglers has much to gain in terms of healthier fisheries when all, regardless of the methods we employ to participate, are enthused and engaged in enjoying and protecting wild steelhead.

Enjoying is the easy part. But protecting wild steelhead and wielding a fly rod demands restraint and

awareness of the impact your effectiveness may have. Anecdotal evidence has it that steelhead in warmer summer water may drop back several river miles after being caught and released before they gain a state of recovery. Atlantic salmon anglers claim a fish caught and released will not bite again for at least two days. A true scientific grasp on the impacts of catch-and-release angling on steelhead and salmon and their ability to reproduce may be difficult to attain; tracking the myriad variables involved would be daunting. Still, it seems the intelligent thing to do is err on the side of caution.

If we are fortunate enough to continue to be afforded the privilege of angling for steelhead, the line between harmful effect and responsible enjoyment will continue to be difficult to define and maintain. That's the way of all things. Careful balance is a product of cultural wisdom. We are our own culture, defined by our own actions, and we will acquire our wisdom one way or another, in time or too late to find this balance.

Considering the wellbeing of the resource, and that of our own, I suggest we consciously and continuously monitor the effectiveness of our methods and use them sensibly to catch a minimum of fish, but ever better fish, so that in the future we may fish at all.




SANDY SALMON CAMPAIGN Update

Words
by Kaitlin Lovell
NFS Board Co-President

On March 7th, Native Fish Society filed a lawsuit in federal court to compel the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to follow the law on the Sandy River, Oregon. The law is straightforward. In order to protect the four threatened populations of salmon and steelhead in the Sandy River, the agencies must operate the hatchery in a way that contributes to the recovery of those species. It's not enough for the hatchery to "do no harm," it actually has to help. If the agencies could prove it, the Sandy would be the first Oregon hatchery to help recover listed salmon and steelhead.

On May 8th, the agencies released four Hatchery and Genetic Management Plans (HGMPs) to show how the hatchery is trying to recover spring Chinook, winter steelhead, coho and chum. They didn't succeed, didn't even come close. Instead, the HGMPs calcify the status quo. In them, ODFW argues without any proof that continued releases of non-native summer steelhead is not harming wild listed winter steelhead, ignoring a groundbreaking study by their own scientists that showed debilitating direct impacts. ODFW also argues that despite over a 75% stray rate of the non-native, out of basin hatchery spring Chinook showing up on the spawning grounds of the remaining 900 wild spring Chinook, the hatchery is contributing to the recovery of the wild Chinook. Volumes of science have shown that this is the equivalent of a 75% harvest rate on the wild Chinook. The HGMPs lack any monitoring or guaranteed actions if the proposed management fails to protect wild fish in the future. The federal agency in charge of protecting and recovering salmon and steelhead has, so far, failed to find any problems.

For the sake of argument, even if the HGMPs did demonstrate that the hatchery was contributing to the recovery of threatened salmon and steelhead, the agencies must change their definition of recovery to get there. On May 16th NMFS also released the Lower Columbia River Salmon and Steelhead Recovery Plan, which includes the Sandy and was written by ODFW after a four year stakeholder process. In it ODFW and NMFS set recovery goals in the Sandy River. The targets? Spring Chinook: 1,230, Fall Chinook: 1,031, Late Fall Chinook: 3,561, Winter Steelhead: 1,519, Coho: 5685, Chum: 1,000. Up until this year, those abundances were defined as "likely to become endangered" but the recovery plan redefines it as recovered. These new targets range from 29% (coho) to as low as 4.5% (spring Chinook) of the modeled historical abundance and three times lower than ODFW's targets in the Sandy River when Marmot Dam was removed in 2007. The signatories to the Marmot Dam agreement, including NFS, agreed to the dam removal on the promise of hatchery reform and recovery targets that have been abandoned by ODFW and NMFS. With this ability to ignore science and rewrite extinction as recovery, the HGMPs can easily make the case the hatchery complies with the law.

People have frequently asked, "why sue ODFW, why not WDFW?" and "why the Sandy River?" The answer is simple. Because in Oregon we can do better. Oregon's Native Fish Conservation Policy requires it. And ODFW has proven they can make hard decisions to the benefit of wild fish. The John Day, Molalla, Oregon Coast, Metolius and Calapooia, are examples where wild fish are recovering and even thriving, proving that ODFW made the right decision. The Sandy should be next. Two dams were removed and hundreds of thousands of dollars of private and public money is being spent on habitat improvements, from the US Forest Service, PGE, City of Portland and the Sandy Basin Watershed Council, among others. If these investments are being undone and recovery is thwarted because of poor hatchery management, it sends a chill throughout Oregon for dam removal, habitat improvements or changed practices. It's important to note that this doesn't preclude harvest opportunity either. Harvest can and should continue on the hatchery fish returning to the Sandy, and harvest opportunity on wild fish during recovery is possible. Our friends at the Wild Fish Conservancy and Wild Steelhead Coalition are addressing these very issues with WDFW. We need to do the same with ODFW and there is no better place to recover fish than the Sandy River. 

The comment period for the HGMPs ends on July 6th and for the Recovery Plan on July 16th. Stay tuned for an Action Alert in June.



Deschutes Steelhead - Josh Udesen

PAT FURRER ANNUAL STEELHEAD EVENT

August 5-7 ~ \$595 PER ANGLER ~ LIMITED TO 15

John and Amy Hazel of Deschutes Angler and Brian Silvey have rolled out the red carpet for our Steelhead Event and set the dates right on top of the summer steelheading sweet spot.

- **August 5th: Arrive in Maupin**
- **August 6th: Drifting and swinging + hosted dinner**
- **August 7th: Drifting and swinging**

Come along for those magic pre-dawn hours swinging for steel in the canyon and talking story on warm summer evenings under the stars. Good friends, good fishing and all in support of wild fish. What could be better than that!? To sign up call 503-496-0807.



Trip includes:

- Two days guided fishing on the Lower Deschutes River and hosted dinner on August 6th
- Lunch Monday and Tuesday
- Does not include lodging



100% OF PROCEEDS GO TO WILD FISH

SALEM STATE OF MIND

The Changing Face of the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission: Words by Jim Myron, NFS Lobbyist

Since Governor John Kitzhaber took office in January 2011, he has replaced five of the seven members of the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission. All of the five new appointments to the commission bring interesting backgrounds and perspectives that have not been reflected much in previous members. The governor has also added much more diversity to the commission--adding the first person of color as well as putting female members in the majority for the first time in the commission's history.

The governor's appointments include Michael Finley of Medford, President of The Turner Foundation, Holly Akenson of Joseph, Director of the Wallowa Mountain Institute, Krystyna Wolniakowski, Western Director for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Greg Wolley of Portland, a Program Coordinator with the City of Portland, and Laura Anderson of Newport, owner of Local Ocean Seafoods. They join the two remaining members of the previous commission, Bob Webber, an attorney from Port Orford and Bobby Levy, an educator and farmer from Echo.



For further information click on the department's web site at www.dfw.state.or.us



ROLE REVERSAL continued from page 7

Ending the hatchery steelhead program is certainly consistent with the ODFW mission and policy. In 1997 the Oregon Department of Justice said: "The Commission's and Department's overriding obligation is to manage to prevent serious depletion of any indigenous species which thereby enables the Department and Commission to provide optimum recreational and aesthetic benefits." Even though the ODFW commission was handed these encouraging words regarding their authority under state law by the justice department, they refused to abide by them, preferring instead to favor kill fisheries and license sales over conservation. This conservation priority was supported by another Department of Justice opinion in 2002 where it was stated in a letter to the fish program administrator, Ed Bowles, that said: "You have asked whether the Fish and Wildlife Commission has authority to adopt rules as part of the proposed Native Fish Conservation Policy that would establish the conservation of naturally-produced native fish species as the Department's 'overriding obligation,' 'top priority,' or 'principal obligation' for fish management.

We conclude that the fish and wildlife laws confer such authority."

So even though the Oregon Department of Justice ensured the department of fish and wildlife and the commission that they have the authority to establish the conservation of naturally produced native fish species as the department's principle obligation and first priority for fish management, the agency continues to opt for hatchery production, kill fisheries and license sales as their preferred mission.

From that perspective it is not surprising that ODFW continues to defend the release of non-native hatchery summer steelhead in the upper Willamette River and that they continue to promote the release of non-native spring chinook in the Molalla River.

The Army Corps of Engineers is responsible through federal law to recover threatened and endangered species listed under the ESA. But the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is not cooperating. Therein lies the reversal of roles.



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Jake Robinson, Coos Bay
Rob Russell, Nehalem
Mark Schmidt, Molalla
Marty Sheppard, Sandy
Mia Sheppard, John Day
Joyce Sherman, Salmonberry
Rob Sims, Lower Deschutes
Jason Small, S. Puget Sound
Rick Snyder, Grande Ronde
Matt Standsberry, McKenzie
Keith Stonebraker, Clearwater
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Lower Umpqua
Peter Tronquet, Rogue, Umpqua & Illinois
Walt Weber, Lower Columbia Tributaries
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Carp-ocalypse is proven to be 219% more fun than sitting at home doing nothing and is brought to you by:



Northwest Local

Carp-ocalypse 2012

August 11 & 12

Name- _____
(So we know who shows up)

Team- _____
(If you have any friends who will admit to Fly fishing for Carp)

Email- _____
(So we can get in touch with you)

Address- _____

(In case we all become friends and want to hang out together)

By taking part in this activity I admit that I am going to willfully and purposely attempt to catch carp on a fly rod, and that said activity may lead to ridicule from fly fishing elitist or people who deem said fish as trash and therefore unworthy of admiration due to their fighting ability and large average size. Furthermore I understand that catching or attempting to catch fish that may be any or all of the following; large, plentiful, hard fighting, and or challenging to catch may result in my being unable to stop fishing for said fish and result in my being ostracized from some circles of Fly Fishing peers who would not consider this activity to fall within acceptable "norms" of the sport. **I fully accept that I may become a Carp Angler.**