Public Correspondence

Public Correspondence received as of June 28, 2007
May 29, 2007

Oregon Fish & Wildlife Commission
3406 Cherry Avenue NE
Salem, OR 97303-4924

Dear Fish & Wildlife Commission Members,

The Oregon Salmon Commission, representing the Oregon Salmon Troll Industry, requests that the Oregon Fish & Wildlife Commission suspend the troll salmon lottery for the current year.

The Salmon Commission has held discussions with the fleet regarding the lottery and permit limited entry. Coast-wide meetings were held in November 2005, with another meeting on February 28, 2007, and an industry survey. Consensus of the fleet and vote of the Salmon Commission was to reduce the number of permits and restructure the lottery system.

HB 3541 was the result. This bill reduces the number of permits from 1,200 to 1,000 through natural attrition. It passed the House on May 16, and the Senate on May 24.

Until this bill becomes law, we ask that the lottery be suspended.

Also, due to the Klamath situation in 2006, the troll fishery faced a drastically curtailed season with huge closures and no fishing south of Florence. Even though the fishing season is improved for 2007, the salmon are not yet present and fishermen are still trying to recover.

We feel that suspending the lottery for 2007 would be appropriate, due to the recent salmon seasons and HB 3541.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Sincerely yours,

Nancy Fitzpatrick, Administrator
Oregon Salmon Commission

cc Curt Melcher
Ron Boyce

The Oregon Salmon Commission is an industry-funded state commodity commission under the Oregon Department of Agriculture