



Salmon Defense News

Protecting Salmon for Our Common Future

As Long As the Rivers Run:

Updating a documentary film about the struggle for treaty fishing rights

Tribal fishers, leaders and others active in the treaty fishing rights struggle are being interviewed for the second phase of the "As Long as the Rivers Run" documentary.

The first phase documented the Fish Wars of the late 1960s and early 1970s. The film, directed by Carol Burns and co-produced by Hank Adams, was acquired by Salmon Defense in September 2009.

The "As Long as the Rivers Run" project is aimed at conserving, updating and redistributing the film as an educational tool. The new interviews will be integrated into the film to help today's viewers understand the struggle for recognition of tribal treaty fishing rights. A discussion guide will be included. The film will be remastered to meet today's digital standards, and will be distributed to tribes, schools and others. 🐟



Photo courtesy of the NWIFC

Norma Frank is arrested on the banks of Nisqually River for exercising her treaty fishing rights.

Legal Challenge of Municipal Water Rights

Salmon Defense is supporting a legal challenge of the 2003 Municipal Water Law (MWL) passed by the Washington State Legislature that threatens instream flows critical to salmon.

The MWL retroactively expands water rights held by public and private water purveyors at the expense of stream flows important for salmon and steelhead habitat.

During its 2010 winter term, the Washington State Supreme Court heard a challenge to the MWL brought by the Makah Tribe, Quinault Indian Nation, Squaxin Island Tribe, Tulalip Tribes, Lummi Nation and Suquamish Tribe.

Key sections of the MWL were ruled unconstitutional in June 2008 by King County Superior Court Judge Jim Rodgers. Tribes defended Judge Rodgers' ruling before the state Supreme Court and will seek invalidation of other sections within the MWL that are harmful to salmon.

"The MWL represents an unconstitutional attempt by the legislature to rewrite Washington

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salmon
DEFENSE

MISSION

Protect and defend Pacific Northwest salmon and salmon habitat.

GOAL

Increase public awareness and education, and support legal actions to turn the tide on salmon habitat degradation.

get
INVOLVED

For more information about how you can help protect salmon and salmon habitat, contact Salmon Defense today:

7205-A Martin Way E., Olympia, WA 98516-5535
contact@salmondefense.org 360.528.4308
www.salmondefense.org

Salmon Defense is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organization. Donations to Salmon Defense are tax deductible.

Salmon Defense Goes on the Road

by Lois Allen, Salmon Defense Volunteer

Salmon Defense took to the road recently to talk about our region's precious salmon resources and build funding to protect them. Our road trip to the Rumsey Rancheria in Brooks, Calif., was quite an adventure. We started out by meeting at the headquarters of the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission in Lacey on a sunny Saturday morning. On hand for the trip were Billy Frank Jr.; his son Willie and his girlfriend Peg; Mowit, Billy's nephew; and myself.

We made our way to the Cascade Locks area to acquire fresh salmon for a Salmon Defense salmon dinner fundraiser at the rancheria. As we were driving along the Columbia River, we started to notice several vehicles parked along the water and fishermen out along the river bank. It was such a beautiful drive along the river with the sun glistening off the blue-green water and I couldn't help but think that it looked like sparking silver coins lying on the water.

Mowit had friends who were fishing and we were on the lookout for them. We pulled off into an area a few miles from the Locks and started walking along the riverbank looking for fishermen with salmon. We end up buying several fish from Mowit's friends.

While we were watching the fishing, a young Indian woman who was there with her family pulled two salmon from



Photo by Donna Madsen

The Rumsey Tribe serves up salmon contributed by Salmon Defense.



Photo by Peggan Hines

Billy Frank Jr. spreads the word and requests support for the work and vision of Salmon Defense at the Rumsey Rancheria.

the river. We bought those plus a few other fish from her.

It was really wonderful watching our people fishing, a tradition that we have enjoyed for many thousands of years. The tribal fishermen use wagons or garden carts to pull their coolers along the riverbank. They can become pretty heavy once they get a few salmon in there.

Needing more salmon for the dinner, we drove into Cascade Locks where Mowit's friend had a roadside stand selling fresh salmon. We got the rest of our 300 fish there. We were lucky that they were catching fish that day.

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Nisqually Tribe Invests in Salmon Future

The Nisqually Tribe awarded Salmon Defense \$25,000 to support the updating and repackaging of "As Long as the Rivers Run" and invest in the growth of Salmon Defense as a regional organization important to protecting and recovering our region's salmon.

This generous contribution, combined with others from the Muckleshoot Tribe and the Lummi Nation, helps ensure that the memories, lessons and stories of the pre-Boldt decision Fish Wars will be brought forward and become part of people's understanding throughout the region.

With this gift, the Nisqually Tribe has demonstrated a commitment to support Salmon Defense for 100 years by creating an endowment for salmon today.

Thank you to the Nisqually Tribe for supporting Salmon Defense and this important project. 🐟



Photo by Peggan Hines

Willie Frank; Billy Frank Jr.; and Fran Wilshusen at the Nisqually Tribe's charitable event.

THANK YOU



Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

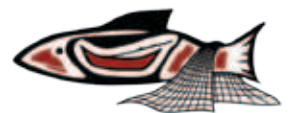


Lummi Nation

The Bullitt Foundation



Muckleshoot Indian Tribe



Nisqually Indian Tribe

CALENDAR



Photo by Debbie Preston

PADDLE TO MAKAH

An inter-tribal canoe journey and celebration of tribal cultures.

LOCATION: Neah Bay

DATE: Canoe landing and protocols begin July 19

MORE INFORMATION:

tribaljournays.wordpress.com/2009/09/04/tribal-journey-2010

STILLAGUAMISH FESTIVAL OF THE RIVER AND POW WOW

Celebration of all the communities in the watershed: fish, wildlife and people.

LOCATION: River Meadows County Park, Arlington, WA

DATE: August 14 - 15, 2010

TIME: Saturday, 10am - 6pm; Sunday, 10am - 8pm

MORE INFORMATION: www.festivaloftheriver.com

5th Annual Salmon Defense Golf Tournament Scheduled for May 14

The Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe is once again sponsoring the Salmon Defense Golf Tournament at their beautiful Cedars at Dungeness golf course.

Last year's tournament was a great success. A full field of 144 golfers participated in the event, raising \$10,000 to aid the work of Salmon Defense.

Tribes from as far as Kalispel and Warm Springs participated, along with a strong contingent of tribes from western Washington. A foursome from the Swinomish Tribe near La Conner, Wash., was the winning team from last year.

Please mark your calendar for May 14, 2010 to swing a club and save a salmon.


For more information contact Aaron Youckton at 360.528.4308. 



Photo by Debbie Preston

Tom McCloud swings for the salmon at the 3rd Annual Salmon Defense Golf Tournament.

DONORS

- Rumsey Rancheria
- Potlatch Foundation
- Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
- Squaxin Island Tribe
- Swinomish Tribe
- Suquamish Tribe
- Kalispel Tribe
- Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission
- William Ruckelshaus
- Northwest Indian College
- Puyallup Tribe of Indians
- Puyallup Emerald Queen Casino
- Swinomish Northern Lights Casino
- Nisqually Tribe Red Wind Casino
- Regence Blue Shield
- Miami Tribes of Oklahoma Indians
- Paul Steadman Family Trust
- Washington Indian Gaming Association
- Quinault Indian Nation
- Skookum Creek Tobacco
- Nisqually Indian Tribe
- Washington Forest Practices Association
- Stillaguamish Tribe
- Frank's Landing Trade Post
- Northwest Straits Commission / State Department of Ecology

LEGAL CHALLENGE
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water law to benefit politically powerful water interests,” said John Arum, lead tribal attorney on the case. “The tribes’ case seeks to hold the line on these illegal raids on the water resources needed to sustain treaty fisheries.” 🐟

ROAD TRIP
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The rest of the trip to the Rumsey Rancheria was filled with stories, music and laughter. Once we arrived, we phoned ahead to alert the chef and find out where to deliver our fish. It took a forklift to move the tote from the back of Mowit’s truck to the loading dock.

The Rumsey Rancheria’s Cache Creek Casino and Hotel is huge, similar to Tulalip Tribes’ facility. The first evening we caught up with Marshall McKay, chairman of the Rumsey Band of Wintun Indians. We had dinner with Marshall and a group of his friends that included professional golfer Notah Begay and Olympian Billy Mills. Notah was there on behalf of his foundation (Notah Begay III Foundation) and put on a golfing clinic

for Rumsey children. He also took time to provide a demonstration at the Salmon Defense salmon dinner the next evening. We were fortunate to meet Donna Madsen, Marshall’s assistant, who is a member of the Quinault Indian Nation. Donna told us she tries to come home to Quinault at least twice a year and promises to pay us a visit the next time she is in the area.

Our Salmon Defense salmon dinner was held in conjunction with the Rumsey’s grand opening of a new golf clubhouse that overlooks an 18-hole golf course adjacent to the tribe’s vineyard.

Chef Stephan and his crew created a huge salmon ice sculpture featuring salmon we brought. The tribe provided a feast of grilled salmon, crab legs, oysters, etc., along with their own bottled wines.

Billy provided a rousing speech about Salmon Defense and how important salmon and our natural resources are to Indian people, as well as everyone else, and the need to preserve our natural resources for future generations.

We were there for three days and drove home in the rain. We came home with a

donation in hand for Salmon Defense, as part of our successful effort. We hope it was an opportunity to plant seeds that will bear fruit in the future. 🐟

SALMON DEFENSE FOUNDING BOARD MEMBERS

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*Nisqually Tribe, Northwest Indian
Fisheries Commission*

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