

# Sport anglers cheated, again



If you, your children, or grand children, want to fish any stream that eventually flows into the Columbia River, you will pay an additional \$10 that will go to the Columbia Rivers gillnetters. For a family of five, that's \$50 (on top of your license and tags) that goes to the gillnetters for an agreement they refuse to honor. Governor Kate Brown, and her appointees to the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission, have allowed it to happen. (The Commission appointed by the governor, not the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW).) The Commission not only allowed it to happen, they promoted it.

Guess what? ODFW will continue to take your \$10 for the netters.

You, your friends, and family, will continue to pay for fish gillnetters harvest to sell, while you have fewer fish to catch.

ODFW's 2017 sport regulations state on page 8: Columbia River endorsement

funds will help fund the transition to eliminate non-tribal commercial gillnets on the lower mainstream Columbia and provide additional salmon and steelhead for sport fishing.

How do you explain to your teenager who wants to fish for trout, on a local creek, that they have to pay an extra \$10 to subsidize a group of commercial fishermen that have decided to renege on an agreement they made three years ago?

Problem is: It was all a lie. The \$10 Columbia fee was part of an agreement in Senate Bill 830 to fund moving the nets off the lower river. The agreement also gave the gillnetters salmon smolts, raised for the sport fishery, to fisheries not open to sport anglers.

Now, three years later, the ODFW Wildlife Commission has given permission for the netters to back out of the agreement.

A brief history: Sportfishing groups became concerned over gillnetters harvesting steelhead and salmon in the

lower Columbia. In 2012, the Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) developed Measure 81 which would have prohibited commercial non-tribal nets in the main stream lower Columbia.

Three months prior to the election Governor John Kitzhaber developed a plan that became House Bill 830. CCA, steelheaders and other sport fishing groups agreed, as did the gillnetters.

The plan was to move commercial gillnetting to off-channel locations allowing for a greater split of lower river fish for sport anglers. Sport anglers would purchase a Columbia River Endorsement stamp to help gillnetters transition to alternative gear. This would cover a three-year period.

Gillnetters have done nothing toward a transition. Now they want to renege on the deal with the help of the two commission members appointed by Gov. Brown.

The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission, and Gov. Brown's two appointees, have "put the interest of a few hundred part-time gillnetters, over 400,000 sport anglers," according to Bob Rees, ex-

ecutive director of Association of NW Steelheaders.

ODFW has projected this will result in the net loss of 11,489 sport fishing trips per year, while increasing commercial netter revenue 44.5 percent. This will give the gillnet industry a 61 percent increase in profits through increased gillnetting, and place a priority on commercial netting, putting our salmon and steelhead fisheries at risk.

Other areas of the decision are equally egregious. For three years salmon smolts raised in state hatcheries—raised for sport anglers—were released in Youngs Bay solely for netters to harvest and sell.

Armed with the commission's new decision, netters will continue to get those smolts reared with your tax dollars. They will be released in areas closed to sport anglers.

More good news: For the first time in 99 years the Oregon commission has decided to have different regulations for the Columbia than Washington State. Washington will continue the agreements of three years ago.

Can you imagine the chaos of trying to enforce two different sets of rules on the same

river? The same fishery? The increased costs in enforcement?

Bottom line, Gov. Brown appointed a longtime lobbyist, for the gillnetters, to the commission. Talk about the old "fox in the hen house."

Every sport fishing group in the state tried to object. Buckmaster had made it clear his goal was to abolish the agreement made three years ago. Mission accomplished, thanks to the governor.

Gov. Brown assured the steelheaders—in person—that part of the reason she appointed Buckmaster, was "so he could quell the animosity between the recreation groups and the gillnet fleet." It was all a lie, and has failed miserably.

Anglers and hunters have paid for most of ODFW's funding for many years. More fee increases are coming. Yet, the governor and the commission continue to not be honest and fair with us.

The Columbia River Endorsement—your \$10—has generated \$13 million in license, endorsement and taxes. And the sport angler still got cheated.

Update: The sport community has united and taken

action: made calls, sent out letters, emails, action alerts, held rallies and meetings. They appeared on TV and radio and showed up in force at a "reception" for the commission at the Sportsmen's show.

On February 7, Gov. Brown admonished the commission that its January decision was "unacceptable" and to honor the bi-state agreement of Senate Bill 830.

On March 9, the Steelheaders delivered to Gov. Brown a petition signed by 5,891 citizens, with renewed request that she ensure the commission keep the promise made to sport anglers and adopt the rules agreed to in Senate Bill 830.

The commission will meet again on March 17 in Corvallis. Sport anglers will be there in force. It is believed that the commission, and the netters, will continue to fight the order.

Your support is needed in this effort.

Email the commission, the governor, and your district legislators.

Remember, the next license and fee increase is only nine months away. Will you get what you're paying for?

## CLOSED, continued from Page 12

Keeker wasn't as pleased with the Celtics offensively.

McNary scored 14 runs but only had six hits, taking advantage of 10 walks and three Barlow errors.

Tyler Covalt was 2-for-3 with two runs and three RBIs. Tyler Ellertson was 2-for-3 with three runs and two RBIs.

Joshua Benson also scored three runs and Brendan Frizelle added two RBIs.

McNary's hitting struggles were more obvious against Grant as the Celtics had just one hit by Jacob Jackson in the loss.

"We're going to have to get better at the plate," Keeker said.

"We've been able to hit quite a bit but it's mostly inside and a lot of times that doesn't translate to live game scenarios and part of it is, we need to get to the point where we're seeing a lot of live pitching. We just haven't seen it yet. I believe our guys can hit. I think it's been more of our mental preparation go-

ing into our at bats."

On the mound, Kyle McAllister allowed one hit and one earned run over four and one-third innings as McNary led 1-0 before an error in the bottom of the fifth led to four runs.

Playing in the Coach Bob Invitational March 27-31, the Celtics found much better weather in Arizona.

McNary lost its first game 12-5 to Millennium.

The Celtics fell behind 5-1 but scored two runs in the fourth and two more in the fifth to tie the game 5-5.

However, the host Tigers

scored seven runs in the sixth. McNary finished with four errors in the loss.

Frizelle was 3-for-3 with one run and one RBI.

Hays was 2-for-2 with an RBI.

The Celtics also lost their second game, 8-2, to Heritage, Colo.

Josiah Gilbert got his first start from the mound of the season but was chased with

one out in the fourth inning after allowing three runs on seven hits and three walks.

Heritage scored four runs in the fourth and added three more in the fifth.

McNary scored both of its runs in the sixth.

The Celtics are scheduled to open league play at home on Tuesday, April 4 against North Salem.

First pitch is at 5 p.m.

## JESUIT, continued from Page 12

Witt was 2-for-3 with a double at the plate. Duran, Bingenheimer and Sabella Alfaro also had hits.

"I was really, really happy with what we did there," Wise said of the tournament. "We still have some improvement to make."

McNary begins Greater Valley conference play at Forest Grove on Tuesday, April 4 and returns home Friday, April 7 against North Salem at 5 p.m.

## crossword

### Personas

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CREATORS NEWS SERVICE

By Charles Preston

### ACROSS

- 1 Find fault
- 5 Firmly fixed
- 9 Scourge
- 13 James \_\_\_
- 14 Bread spread
- 15 Dismay
- 17 Insignificant one
- 19 Indian corn
- 20 Agony
- 21 Chose
- 23 Region of Greece
- 24 Snow, in Scotland
- 25 Olympian
- 26 Boxed
- 28 Stir
- 30 Wife of Saturn
- 31 Carol
- 33 Pacific island
- 37 New Guinea port
- 38 Ineffectual
- 40 Wallop
- 41 Zealous
- 43 Noun suffixes
- 44 Before
- 45 Views
- 47 Monsters
- 49 Asian land
- 52 Man's name, for short

### DOWN

- 1 Nav. officer
- 2 Exchange premium
- 3 Subdued
- 4 Mortar's partner
- 5 *Petits* \_\_\_: cakes
- 6 In shelter
- 7 Yellow or Red
- 8 Souvenirs
- 9 Disable
- 10 Western U.S. Native Americans
- 11 Ill will
- 12 Harasser
- 16 Castor's mother
- 18 Busybody
- 22 *Dernier cri*
- 24 Tarnished
- 26 Soft drink

- 27 Armadillo
- 28 Social insect
- 29 Ropers
- 32 Belgian port
- 34 Consequently
- 35 Ireland
- 36 Highways: abbr.
- 39 Letter
- 42 Intrinsic nature
- 46 Snuggle
- 48 Vouchsafes
- 49 Young woman
- 50 Garden pest
- 51 Express beliefs
- 53 Metric measure
- 55 *Desideratum*
- 56 Card game
- 57 English college
- 58 Hardens
- 61 Roman money

## KEIZER CLASSIFIEDS

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