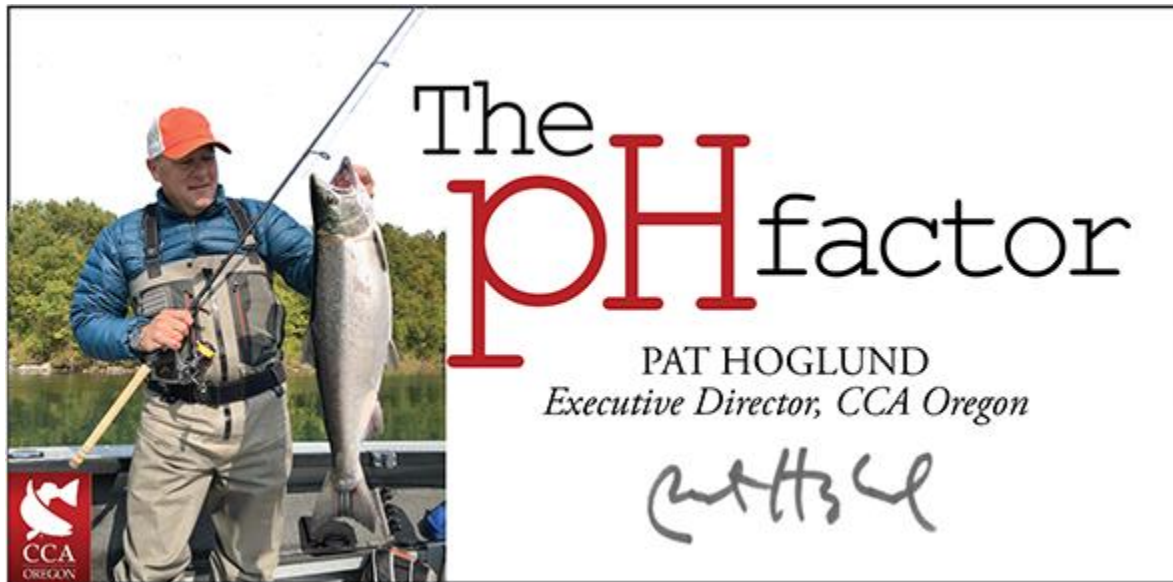




Spring 2025

CCA OREGON STATE SPONSORS



SAVE OUR HATCHERIES DAY AT THE CAPITOL APRIL 2nd

Oregon Governor Tina Kotek presented the Oregon Legislature her preliminary proposed budget for 2025-27 in late December. The legislature will soon consider House Bill 5009, the budget bill for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). We must ensure that legislators make our hatcheries a priority when it comes to approving ODFW's final budget!

On Wednesday, April 2nd we're asking CCA Oregon members to show up in Salem to voice your support of key bills that will ensure proper funding for hatcheries in Oregon, including HB 5009.

We're asking that you arrive in Salem at 2 p.m. where you will be given some handouts to deliver to your legislators. Shortly thereafter, the Joint Committee of Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources will meet at 3 p.m. where two CCA Oregon board members will testify (Dave Schamp, Bruce Polley) in support of HB 5009. You will be instructed on where the hearing will take place.

As you will read in Chairman Schamp's letter hatcheries remain our highest priority. HB 5009 is one part of ensuring that hatcheries receive the proper funding within the Governor's budget constraints.

Now, more than ever we need your presence in Salem. As we have said many times in the past, there's strength in numbers. If you have a red CCA Oregon hat, please wear it. If you don't have one, I'll make sure you have one once you arrive in Salem.

Please know that Shawn Miller, our lobbyist in Salem, has been working overtime to make sure our hatcheries are funded. There's too much riding on it and again your support in solidarity will be felt throughout the Capitol.

Please join me on April 2nd at 2 p.m. in Salem.

Pat Hoglund, Executive Director CCA Oregon

[CLICK HERE FOR Capitol, Rules, Guidelines](#)



Make No Mistake: Hatcheries Remain Our Priority

Hatcheries are the lifeblood of recreational fisheries in the Pacific Northwest. So much that 70 to 80 percent of the salmon and steelhead harvested in Oregon begin their lives in hatcheries and almost 90 percent of the trout caught throughout the state are the product of hatcheries. Without hatcheries there would virtually be no retention of salmon, steelhead or trout in Oregon.

The majority of hatcheries were constructed to mitigate for the loss of natural production. As man altered, destroyed and blocked access to much of the prime natural habitat the only way to ensure viable fisheries was to replace naturally spawned fish with hatchery fish.

Currently the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) operates 33 hatcheries. Throughout the state there are 14 state-owned, 18 federally owned and 1 owned by Portland General Electric. Collectively they produce about 35 million salmon and steelhead and about 5 million trout annually for release into Oregon rivers and lakes. Some of these releases rely on additional facilities operated by

tribes, the Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program (STEP) and other local entities.

Many of those hatchery facilities are decades old and as a state we have not adequately funded improvements or maintenance. Currently the estimated deferred maintenance needs are almost \$200 million. Combined with climate changes, increasing threat of wildfire, and a political system focused on social issues, our hatcheries are in trouble.

CCA Oregon has made the funding and operation of our hatcheries its #1 priority. The 2025 legislative session and the final stages of ODFW's Hatchery Resiliency Study (HRS), initiated in 2024, has provided several recent opportunities to exercise our influence.

Early in the legislative session CCA Oregon waded in on HB2345, which redirects the funds generated by an existing license surcharge toward hatchery maintenance and monitoring. Currently, dollars collected from the surcharge are used to fund the Oregon Hatchery Research Center (OHRC). For a variety of reasons ODFW plans on shuttering the OHRC and arguably it has not operated in accordance with the guidelines established by the legislation authorizing the funding. CCA Oregon supports redirecting the funding to the newly established Oregon Hatchery Monitoring and Maintenance Fund.

HB2342 proposes a significant increase in hunting and fishing license fees. In its testimony CCA Oregon said, "This is a tough issue for our membership. We recognize that costs are going up, the legislature has not approved a fee increase since 2015 and a well-funded agency is important. It is also true that fishing opportunities are decreasing, and restrictions are expanding which makes it challenging to encourage support for HB 2342. 'Pay more and get less' is not appealing but seems an accurate reflection of what is currently happening."

CCA Oregon did not endorse the fee increases. Instead, we laid out our priorities for ODFW to gain our support. There are three, beginning with a commitment to increase hatchery production. This includes funding for operations and addressing the deferred maintenance deficit.

Second, ODFW must prioritize recreational fishing. We pay the bill and it's time the department and legislature take steps to resolve policy issues that continue to reduce recreational fishing opportunities, including the failure to fully implement the Columbia River fishery reforms first enacted by this legislature in 2013.

Finally, increased state investments need to be made in ODFW. Historically the burden of funding ODFW has been on the backs of hunters and anglers. All Oregonians have a responsibility to help fund ODFW and mitigate the impacts of development on our fish and wildlife. More state funding is needed to meet that obligation.

CCA Oregon also provided testimony in support of HB2977 which if approved would increase the statewide Transient Lodging Tax (TDT) by 1 percent. The funds generated by this modest increase would support ODFW's efforts to protect and recover Oregon's most at risk species and habitats, and provides an important step toward moving some of ODFW's funding needs away from hunters and fishers.

CCA Oregon does not support closing hatcheries, period. Regardless of the reason, once they are off-line there is little chance they will ever go back into production. Wildfire destroyed a significant portion of the Rock Creek hatchery in southern Oregon and based on results of the HRS there was serious doubt that the facility would be rebuilt. In fact, ODFW's proposed budget does not include funding for the Rock Creek hatchery. The ongoing loss of the Rock Creek hatchery would be a big blow to spring Chinook and winter steelhead and coho production in the Umpqua River basin.

ODFW has pulled a rabbit out of the hat in the form of forging a cooperative arrangement with the Cow Creek Tribe of the Umpqua Indians (CCBUTI) to fund hatchery production in southwest Oregon. CCA Oregon tips its hat to both parties for working toward an arrangement that benefits all stakeholders and most importantly our fish.

The proposal will provide fish production, conservation and monitoring throughout the North and South Umpqua for state, tribal, and community benefit throughout the southwest hatchery system. The arrangement will afford rebuilding a portion of the Rock Creek facility to allow year-round use and also construct new infrastructure at a Canyonville site. The best news is hatchery production will remain at current levels.

There is still work to be done and of most importance is providing bridge funding for the Rock Creek facility. SB512 is currently in the amendment process to facilitate the agreement between the parties and provide needed funding. CCA Oregon stands ready to put its shoulder forward in support of the necessary legislation to help bring this important agreement to fruition.

ODFW's budget will be front and center in the coming weeks and CCA Oregon is planning a big presence at the Capital on April 2nd to show our involvement in the legislative process. Please put the date on your calendar as a place holder and plan on joining us. Pat Hoglund has more information in his report.

One thing that is certain, CCA Oregon continues to make a positive difference in Salem and your support is critical. Our staff and volunteers are committed to doing everything we can to ensure a bright future for our fisheries and the sport we love. We're in this together!



FROM THE TRENCHES

CCA Oregon Advocacy Update

By Heath Heikkila
CCA Pacific NW Fisheries Director

The Oregon Legislature convened on Tuesday, January 21 for its "long session," which lasts up to 160 days as lawmakers work to pass a two-year budget for state government. Democrats have an 18-12 majority in the House and a 36-24 majority in the Senate after picking up additional seats in the last election.

While state revenues are up, Governor Tina Kotek and state lawmakers face a challenging budget year as they look to make investments in transportation, education, and homelessness, while also bracing for potential reductions in federal funds as the Trump Administration cuts the size of the federal budget. As a result, budget writers have made it clear that spending on new programs is unlikely.

Hatchery Funding. ODFW's hatchery system faces serious budget challenges as operation costs continue to rise and its deferred maintenance backlog has ballooned to an estimated \$200 million. CCA Oregon was heavily involved in ODFW's hatchery resilience process, including in depth discussions about the challenges and the need for significant state investments this year and beyond. Spending on hatchery production currently represents about 13% of ODFW's budget – one of the largest program expenditures in the agency.

CCA is working to secure at least \$20 million in state capital funding this session to begin addressing the backlog. CCA is also supporting [HB 2345](#), which redirects an existing license surcharge for the Oregon Hatchery Research Center to instead create a Hatchery Monitoring and Maintenance Fund. However, without significant investments in state funding ODFW will face difficult choices as it attempts to maintain its current facilities and rebuild a facility at Rock Creek.

ODFW License Fee Increase. The legislature last passed legislation to increase recreational fishing and hunting licenses in 2015. The agency now faces a large budget shortfall as its revenues have not kept up with increasing costs. ODFW receives very little support from the state general fund, which makes it heavily reliant on license revenue.

[HB 2342](#), ODFW agency request legislation, would increase recreational fishing and hunting licenses fees several times over the next six years. You can find a chart outlining the proposed increases [HERE](#). The biggest sticker shock will be for ocean anglers, who would see a 44% increase between a higher license fee and a new ocean endorsement fee.

Dave Schamp, Chairman of CCA Oregon, provided [testimony](#) at a February 24 committee hearing highlighting what CCA members need to see from ODFW and the legislature: improved hatchery production, increased fishing opportunities, and addressing stubborn policy issues like gillnetting in the mainstem lower Columbia River.

Columbia River Basin Salmon and Steelhead Endorsement. ODFW has also proposed [HB 2343](#) to extend the Columbia River Endorsement that funds the Columbia River fishery reforms. CCA Oregon supports an extension since the endorsement has played a key role in keeping ODFW from agreeing with WDFW's pro-gillnet policy, which calls for restoring year-round gillnetting in the mainstem Columbia River. However, we also need to see greater progress implementing the gillnet reforms, including overcoming WDFW demands to reduce the Columbia River recreational spring Chinook fishery by 15-20%.

Gillnet Bill. [HB 3827](#) was recently introduced by Representative Mark Owens, Senator Fred Girod, and others to ban non-tribal gillnets in the mainstem lower Columbia River. The bill would also require licenses to have recent landings in order to be renewed in an effort to reduce the number of licenses

overall. It is not clear if the bill will be scheduled for a hearing.

Many had expected some kind of gillnet bill to be introduced this session, perhaps including a buyback to reduce the number of licenses and continued transitioning to more selective fishing practices, including mark-select recreational fisheries. However, money is very tight this session and there are also questions about the potential effectiveness of a buyback after WDFW enabled gillnetters to abuse the \$14.4 million Washington gillnet buyback.

Columbia River Spring Chinook Action Alert. CCA recently launched an [action alert](#) in Oregon and Washington highlighting how the recreational fishery spring Chinook fishery has been reduced by 15-20% in recent years while the nontribal commercial gillnet fishery has caught 250% more spring Chinook than the recreational fishery across hundreds of miles of the Columbia and Snake rivers.

What was old is new again: Charlie Parker's '39 Johnson Seahorse

By Don New, CCA Oregon Director of Communications

Last year I visited Charlie Parker and his wife Margo at their home nestled in their famous pear orchards. I was there to take his picture and write a short story on Charlie for the Riffle Effect.

While I searched for a place to take a good photo, I saw a small boat motor hanging on the spent a little time searching for a place to get a good shot.

Hanging on the garage wall was Charles M. Parker's 1.5 hp Johnson *SeaHorse*. This old dog was a natural conversation starter.



Charles M Parker
1931 - 1962

As a federal Fish and Wildlife enforcement officer for the state of Arkansas, Charlie's father packed his 1939 Johnson into many remote lakes where he mounted it on "borrowed" fish camp skiffs. Charlie, a CCA life member and member of the Columbia River Gorge Chapter, is pretty sure his dad not only was there to control illegal fishing and hunting, but the "bobber fishin' was probably pretty dang good," as well.

The motor was pretty rough around the edges and most of the original paint was missing. But what would you expect from an almost century- old boat motor used to chase down poachers in the deep backwoods of Arkansas? I admired the faded and cracked surfaces, dented gas tank and missing parts. I was especially infatuated with the history behind the motor and Charlie's adventuresome father that used it so well.

An hour later I felt we had a nice shot in the orchard and wrapped up the interview. I headed for my truck ... and there it was!

Somehow Charlie had sneaked Charles M. Parker's "SeaHorse" onto my truck bed. He refused to let me return it to its rightful place on the garage wall in spite of my half-hearted objections. Those who know Charlie or have spent just a few minutes with this extraordinary CCA volunteer, know *that's just how he rolls*.

Since then, I've spent many evenings working to restore this classic to its original poacher-chasing glory. After enlisting help from my neighbor buddy Avraham, we pulled and cataloged every piece. Next we degreased, power washed and soap-scrubbed dozens of parts. We ordered custom-mixed paint to match a Johnson ad from a 1930s Outdoor Life Magazine. Next came primer, three coats of custom paint and two layers of satin clear coat. After assembly, we created decals based on the same 1930s ad and carefully applied them. Next, I had 3-D chrome metal badging laser-cut in the exact font used on the original.



Today Charlie's rejuvenated "SeaHorse" lives in my office in a strategic place that allows me to enjoy it from my desk. For me and Avraham, the journey was as important as accumulating another really cool fish-related toy. Ultimately, I sincerely tried to return the shiny "SeaHorse" to Charlie at his 2024 banquet. He wouldn't even consider it.

Again, *that's just how Charlie rolls*.

Don New
CCA Oregon
Director of Communications



2025 Banquet Schedule

Mark your calendars and plan to attend your local CCA Oregon chapter banquet. Below is a list of the upcoming banquet schedule. As a reminder, all the money raised at our chapter banquets stays in Oregon and is used to fund our lobbyists, paid staff, and our operating budget. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

All of our banquets include a great meal, a chance to visit with friends and make new ones. Expect games, live and silent auctions, plus numerous chances to win something from our raffle buckets. More importantly, it's a night to enjoy yourself and help raise money for the fish.

WILLAMETTE FALLS BANQUET

Date: Saturday, April 5th

Start Time: 4:30 p.m.

Location: Monarch Hotel & Conference Center Address:
12566 SE 93rd Ave., Clackamas, OR 97015 Banquet Chair:
Julie Monroe-Falk (jmonroefalk@gmail.com)

SALEM BANQUET

Date: Saturday, April 12th

Start Time: 4:30 p.m.

Location: Willamette Heritage Center – Mission Hill
Address: 1313 Mill Street SE, Salem, OR 97301
Banquet Chair: Ken Chambers (kensalemcca@gmail.com)

TILLAMOOK BANQUET

Date: Saturday, April 19th

Start Time: 4:30 p.m.

Location: Tillamook Elks Lodge
Address: 1907 3rd Street, Tillamook, OR 9714
Banquet Chair: Travis Moncrief
(travis@westernhuntingjournal.com) or

Jerry Massey (jspwcabin@gmail.com)

MOUNT HOOD BANQUET

Date: Saturday, May 3rd

Start Time: 4:30 p.m.

Location: Gresham Elks Lodge

Address: 3330 NE Division Street, Gresham, OR 97030

Banquet Chair: Wade Radke (wade.radke@gmail.com)

COLUMBIA COUNTY CHAPTER BANQUET

Date: Saturday, May 17th

Start Time: 4:30 p.m.

Location: Columbia County Fairgrounds

Address: 58892 Sausler Road, St. Helens, OR 97051

Banquet Chair: Mindy Sass (mindy.nwps@gmail.com)

TUALATIN VALLEY BANQUET

Date: Saturday, May 31st

Start Time: 4:30 p.m.

Location: Holiday Inn Wilsonville

Address: 25425 SW 95th Avenue, Wilsonville, OR 97070

Banquet Chair: Alex Brauer, (alexbrauer999@gmail.com)

SOUTH WILLAMETTE VALLEY BANQUET

Date: Friday, June 20th

Start Time: 4:30 p.m.

Location: Shadow Hills Country Club

Address: 92512 River Road, Junction City, OR 97448

Banquet Chair: Danny Raymond (drayguides@msn.com)

PORTLAND BANQUET & GOLF TOURNAMENT

Date: Saturday, September 6th

Start Time: 9 a.m.

Location: Colwood Golf Center

Address: 7313 NE Columbia Blvd., Portland OR 97218

Banquet Chair: John Zell (jzell@cgpdx.com)

COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE BANQUET

Date: Saturday, September 27th

Start Time: 4:30 p.m.

Location: Columbia River Hotel

Address: 3223 Bret Clodfelter Way, The Dalles, OR 97058

Banquet Chair: Jon Farquharson (farquharson.jon@gmail.com)



Thanks to our Statewide Donors!
Because of your generosity, our events are successful and fun.



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



CCA Oregon

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