



Volunteers Raising Salmon  
Curry Anadromous Fishermen  
Gold Beach, Oregon

# THE RIFFLE

An Official Publication of Curry Anadromous Fishermen  
P.O. Box 903  
Gold Beach, Oregon 97444



November 2023

Issue #136

**INDIAN CREEK HATCHERY IS RUN BY CURRY ANADROMOUS FISHERMEN,  
AN ALL-VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION**

## Next GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, November 18, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.  
at the Gold Beach Community Center. All you  
can eat Breakfast will be served.  
Further meeting notice will be given by email to  
all members.

Come get involved with raising and releasing  
Chinook Salmon for the benefit of us all. You  
can help keep our fishing tradition alive.

## Next BOARD MEETING

Thursday, December 14, 2023 – 10:00 AM

## MEMBERSHIP DUES Join Today!

**\$20.00 - Individual Membership or**

**\$30.00 - Immediate family**

**\$72.00 - annual sponsorship**

## Upcoming Events

Nominations for board member positions for  
2024 are now open.

Board elections meeting to elect next year's  
board will take place the second week of  
December. The exact date and location will be  
sent out by separate correspondence once the  
information is available

Please email your nominee votes to CAF asap.

## CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE

"News and Events" - Keep up to date on the  
latest happenings at the hatchery. Go to

[www.rogueriversalmon.org](http://www.rogueriversalmon.org)



2023 Fish Release

Photos by Bruce Beck

## **President's Corner**

By Roger Lindquist



Welcome to Fall/Winter!

Thank you to all the Volunteers/Members for your support of the recent events over the last few months. We have had our first very successful rummage sale, worked the entry gates at the Curry County Fair, and executed our 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Salmon Derby. As fall descends upon us our fish are starting to return to the Rogue estuary and hopefully with some well-timed rain, we will get returning fish to the hatchery as well. This can only mean one thing for the hatchery, the collection and spawning of brood stock is right around the corner. We will keep all informed as to that schedule when we know more.

With the last of the fish recently released out to the Rogue our efforts have turned to working on some maintenance projects around the hatchery. We, with the help of ODFW, have removed the two fiberglass tanks from behind the hatchery building that had been abandoned from fish production. We are currently working on that space to make it more usable for all. We are also refurbishing all the signage around the hatchery. Our resident painter, Bill Budd, is in the process of completing this task.

As had been reported, Raceway 2 had a problem retaining fish. With some extensive investigative work by Gary Underhill and his team we were able to find a tear in the pond liner. That has now been repaired and

ODFW has authorized us to use all three raceways for this coming year for rearing of fish. Thank you to Gary and his team for all their hard work!

Hope to see you around the hatchery!!  
Roger

## **World Record Rogue Chinook**

Have you ever wondered about that giant fish we use every year on our salmon derby poster? Well here is an accounting of a real fish story for you to share with anyone who is curious about that photograph. You can still get a good look at a true specimen, and know how it landed on the wall at the Rogue Outdoor Store.



71 pounds 8 ounce  
(Caught on Rio Brand 7.2 leader line)  
By Grant Martinsen of Grants Pass, Oregon

Photo by Jim Carey.

Here is the true story of an amazing fish as told by Jim Carey, Rogue Outdoor Store.

Mr. Marinsen was fly fishing from the bank, in the clay banks, just inland from the mouth of the Rogue River. He just finished tying up a black and chartreuse mylar wrap pattern fly on a size 8 hook. He cast out and hooked this absolute monster chinook. A boater caught Grant struggling to land the fish and came over to pick him up. The boater assisted in getting the fish in the boat, and several people were witness to the great fight.

Now the rest of the story:

Grant Martinsen's salmon was about to create a big splash in the angling world. The fish was eight and a half pounds heavier than the record for flycasters, set in November of 1987 on the

northern Oregon's Trask River. The next step was to get the fish certified by the International Game Fish Association.

"Man, that thing was so impressive," said Jim Carey, proprietor of Gold Beach's Rogue Outdoor Store. The excitement has stretched all the way to Florida, where the International Game Fish Association was fielding inquiries about the possible new record. (For reference, the all-tackle salmon record is a 97 1/4-pound chinook taken in Alaska's Kenai River in May 1985.)

"We had had a lot of big fish that year," Carey said. "After we got that 66-pounder, I guessed out loud that we'd get a 70-pounder, but I didn't actually believe it. I thought it was too late. And I would have never guessed it would come on a fly."

Most of the big salmon have already run up the Rogue for spawning, so most lower Rogue anglers are heading elsewhere or trolling the estuary for smaller coho salmon. Martinsen, a retired biology teacher and football coach, bucked the conventional wisdom. Fishing alone, he launched his one-man pram at a popular lower Rogue hole called the Clay Banks. He tied that black-and-chartreuse fly onto 7½ pound leader, light enough to escape detection in the clear-water conditions.

Martinsen told Carey that, as he waited for his fly to sink after a cast, he felt a bite and a few headshakes before setting the hook. The fish chugged downstream and the fight was on.

Martinsen eventually won a lengthy, but hard fought tug-o-war when another angler in a boat was able to corral the chinook in an oversized net, Carey said.

Martinsen immediately went to shore, plopped the salmon in his pickup and drove to Carey's seaside store four miles away. When Martinsen dropped the tailgate in Carey's parking lot and the salmon's enormous tail flopped out, Carey said, "I snapped 24 pictures before the guy could ask if he could put the fish down." "People who saw it pulled out their camera's and the next thing you know people were filling my parking lot."

The fish, which measured 48 inches long, was weighed at a certified scale at a nearby store and paraded around town before Martinsen handed the fish to Carey, who planned to have it mounted and displayed in his store.

"He was like a big kid, really proud," Carey said of Martinsen. "But I think it was a little overwhelming. We kind of took over telling his story for him."

As for Martinsen's take on his success? Well, he is a bit shy, his son Travis Martinsen said, and he is unavailable for comment. While Martinsen is a no-show, the salmon has garnered celebrity status. The salmon had been whisked away to an undisclosed freezer to separate it from adoring fans.

"Everybody wants to see it and get a picture of it," Carey says. "I'm still fighting the temptation to get my picture taken with it."

And there you have it! What a fantastic catch! Thanks to Jim Carey for sharing his story and for keeping this world record chinook salmon available for all of us to view with awe.

## Volunteer Spotlight



Bill Budd, CAF Board Member

Bill was born in Salem, Oregon in 1956, the youngest of seven children. He grew up in Woodburn, Oregon and enlisted in the Army. He served twelve years, and retired from the Army after becoming a specialist five Calvary Scout. He attended college and received his associates degree in counselling.

As a young man he had plenty of opportunity to work for his older siblings in the construction business. He began his painting career, and has achieved a Level Seven Journeyman, so essentially a "master" painter. He "retired" and moved to Gold Beach Oregon in 2011, to start his second life, as a laid-back master painter who plays a lot more than he works these days. If you get a chance, get involved in the next fundraiser and you will find out how fun is done.

He joined the hatchery in 2011 and became a board member in 2022. Throughout his involvement with CAF he has helped in almost all aspects of the hatchery daily duties, and been an organizer/coordinator of many past events for fund raising and hatchery maintenance/upgrades.

Above all that somewhere along this journey Bill met the love of his life Kari, and they decided to "tie the knot" in a sweet cliff side ceremony at Otter Point. The Underhill's and the Duncan's were witness to the event on May 29, 2021. The rest is history. Bill and Kari are both volunteers at the hatchery and look forward to seeing everyone at the next event.

### Sponsor's Corner



Karen Kennedy of RE/MAX Ultimate Coastal Properties and her team of experienced and knowledgeable agents offer extensive marketing plans for sellers that promote their properties to give them maximum exposure to ANY buyer in not only the local markets, but nationally and world-wide. When representing buyers, they have the top producers in the area. They pride themselves on finding just the right property for each buyer and negotiating on their behalf.

For all your real estate needs, give Karen Kennedy at RE/MAX Ultimate Coastal Properties a call at 541-425-7494. Check out their website at [www.ILoveCoastalOregon.com](http://www.ILoveCoastalOregon.com) or come see Karen, Katie Hensley, Gloria Eide, Denise Sanchez, Greg Floyd or Rob and Kathleen Workman at 29555 Ellensburg Ave in Gold Beach.

### **Rummage Sale held in June was a huge success!**

Special Thanks to everyone who contributed and helped Bill Budd and his team with donations and support. We raised a good chunk of change to help feed our fish.

### **Salmon Derby Results**

All went well at the annual CAF Salmon Derby held in August. The sign up was a little less than most past years, with the fires running wild up river, hot weather, wind, and water temps' way too high for happy fish in the bay. By some happenstance the fish showed up, and made several of the derby days very exciting. Competition was intense with a good number of fish entered daily to the "fish boards" located at the Port of Gold Beach.

The 2023 Blind Bogey number was drawn from a hat at the Derby Banquet at 15.98 pounds.

The 1st Place winner was Trish Waters with a 16.1 chinook salmon that was 33.25"  
2nd Place went to Deanna Page for her 15.8 lb. chinook salmon with a length of 29.5"  
3rd Place was Leonard Krug with a 15.6 lb. 31" long chinook salmon  
The Mike Kopec Award went to Kevin Abbott for his 18.6 lb. 32.25" long chinook salmon.

Thank you to all those who participated and helped plan and coordinate this year's derby.

**CAF Thanks Our Sponsors Who Contributed to the 2023 CAF Salmon Derby**  
Submitted by Hassie Taylor

The Curry Anadromous Fishermen and Indian Creek Hatchery are most appreciative of the

support received for the 2023 Salmon Derby. We thank all businesses and individuals who donated to this year's derby to make it a huge success.

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Jerry's Rogue Jets, Inc.  
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## Lifelong Friends of the Hatchery

Submitted by Mary Duncan

We are blessed to have North Country Lures and Flies donating amazing fishing gear for the annual Salmon Derby year after year. Pat and Dean Hendricks, (pictured below with their best buddy and helper Leroy, and Mary Duncan - CAF representative for gear pick up and delivery to Gold Beach for the event each year). They also contributed to the scholarship program, matching CAF funds for high school seniors with college goals. Pat and Dean own and operate North Country Lures and Flies of Florence Oregon. [www.nclaf.com](http://www.nclaf.com)



Photo submitted by Mary Duncan



Fish caught using a Silent Auction Guide Trip

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### **Officers:**

President: Roger Lindquist  
Vice President: Aaron Duncan  
Secretary: Joe Janowicz  
Treasurer: Jerry Turner  
Members at Large: Gary Underhill, Gene Trinkler, Bill Budd, and Bruce Blanthorn

### **Support:**

O.D.F.W. Biologist John Weber  
Raffle Editor Mary Duncan  
Hassie Taylor article contributor  
Scholarship Coordinator Jack Sheehan  
Fish caught using a Silent Auction Guide Trip  
Meeting Raffle Gene Trinkler



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RES: 707-262-0985  
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EMAIL: msananos@yahoo.com

**Edward Jones**

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Financial Advisor

29294 S Ellensburg Ave/ PO Box 686  
Gold Beach, OR 97444  
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## **Thank you for your support of the Curry Anadromous Fishermen and The Indian Creek Hatchery.**

Every year the Indian Creek Hatchery places 90,000 salmon in the Curry County creeks and rivers.

The hatchery is run by volunteers and supported in large measure by membership dues.

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