

# PROJECT CROOS

## Collaborative Research on Oregon Ocean Salmon

[www.PacificFishTrax.org](http://www.PacificFishTrax.org) & [www.ProjectCROOS.com](http://www.ProjectCROOS.com)

### Quarterly Newsletter (*February 2010*)

#### *Updates*

- Project CROOS is working with the West Coast Salmon Genetic Stock Identification Collaboration (WC-GSI) to standardize data collection so that data from Washington, Oregon and California can be pooled and shared. A data sharing agreement is scheduled to be reviewed at the March 26, 2010, WC-GSI meeting.
- A scientific research permit request was submitted by the NOAA Northwest Fisheries Science Center to the NOAA Fisheries Northwest Regional Office. This permit request is to allow boats to conduct non-retention GSI sampling of Chinook salmon in closed areas. It includes sampling plans with varying levels of impacts, and will be used to guide the WC-GSI Collaboration's request for allocation of Chinook impacts to research during the PFMC season setting process. The scientific research permit request will be included in the March PFMC briefing book.
- Support for Project CROOS and the West Coast Genetic Stock Identification Collaboration is being pursued through a number of sources including competitive grants, fiscal year 2011 Federal Appropriations and a line-item in the President's budget.
- The Pacific Fish Trax website now lists current research projects and two-page project descriptions: <http://www.pacificfishtrax.org/resources/reports-and-publications>
- The Project CROOS workshop (2/25/2009) report is posted online: <http://www.pacificfishtrax.org/media/2009CROOSworkshopreport.pdf>

#### *Upcoming events*

Bobby Ireland, Oregon State University Graduate Student, will be giving a presentation at The American Society of Limnologists and Oceanographers conference on Wednesday February 24 from 1:55 p.m. in room PB255 (Oregon Convention Center). You can learn more about his oceanographic analysis of Project CROOS catch data at

[http://www.pacificfishtrax.org/media/2paggers/OCEANOGRAPHY\\_ReptSpr2009v4.pdf](http://www.pacificfishtrax.org/media/2paggers/OCEANOGRAPHY_ReptSpr2009v4.pdf).

The West Coast Salmon Genetic Stock Identification Collaboration (WC-GSI) is scheduled to meet March 26<sup>th</sup> at the National Marine Fisheries Service Southwest Fisheries Science Center, Santa Cruz, California. At this meeting, the Collaboration will review the tri-state sampling plan in light of PFMC options, finalize standardized data collection methodologies, and adopt the Collaboration's strategic plan.

#### *Plans for 2010 Sampling and Continued Projects*

The three options for the commercial troll Chinook fishery will be announced at the March Pacific Fisheries Management Council (PFMC) meeting. You can monitor PFMC events by following a front-page Twitter feed that will provide real-time agenda updates during Council meetings, meeting notices as soon

as they are posted, and relevant news headlines as they occur, and a "blog" where Council staff will post interim updates and useful information on Council activities (<http://www.pcouncil.org/>).

Many of you may have seen the at-sea data entry system with the touch-screen design at the February 25, 2009 Project CROOS workshop in Newport Oregon. A new, simpler prototype is also under development, which consists of a small waterproof box 10" long, 7" wide, and 4 ½ " deep. The top of the box has five small LCD screens and buttons for data entry and contained inside the box is a small single-board computer that has a wireless connection, via ZigBee interface, to the laptop computer (housed in the wheelhouse). Season permitting, we will be testing both these prototypes at-sea during 2010.

In 2008 and 2009, Chinook salmon were sampled Pacific Whiting shoreside fishery. Results for 2009 are in-progress, while the 2008 report can be found at:

[http://www.pacificfishtrax.org/media/Chinook\\_bycatch\\_in\\_whiting.pdf](http://www.pacificfishtrax.org/media/Chinook_bycatch_in_whiting.pdf)

Project CROOS is working with Advanced Research Corporation, Newport, Oregon, to develop the Project CROOS database and online data-entry tools. After this phase of database development has been accomplished, a "distributed database system" will be developed to connect databases from WC-GSI partners and provide access to Oregon, Washington and California genetic stock identification data via the Pacific Fish Trax website. The Pacific Fish Trax website will also serve as a portal for traceability and marketing Oregon seafood.

Regards,

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