

**Exhibit A**

**Public Correspondence  
as of August 13, 2012**

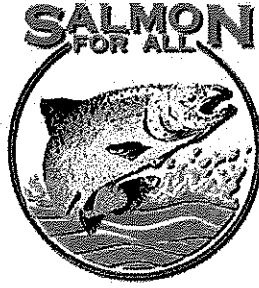
**Teri Kucera**

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**From:** Salmon For All [info@salmonforall.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 13, 2012 4:55 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission  
**Subject:** Salmon For All statement regarding Governor Kitzhaber's proposal  
**Attachments:** SFA Statement 8-13-2012, final.pdf

Salmon For All's response to the Governor's proposal is attached.

Hobe Kytr, Administrator  
Salmon For All



August 13, 2012  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Contact: David Reinhard

## Salmon For All Statement Regarding Governor's Kitzhaber's Proposal

We're certainly willing to sit down to discuss science-based management of Columbia River fisheries, as Governor Kitzhaber proposes. While we disagree with some particulars of Governor Kitzhaber's approach, we agree with him that the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission is the appropriate venue to address these issues. We have encouraged the Commission to fully vet these issues in the past, and we have participated in those discussions.

We also agree with Governor Kitzhaber that proposals that fail to enhance benefits for commercial and sport fishermen within a conservation framework are unacceptable. That's why we oppose Measure 81. Not only is it poor fishery management policy, it would also cost jobs in Oregon's commercial fishing industry and deny Oregon consumers access to Columbia River salmon while allowing Washington commercial fishermen to continue gillnet fishing in the Columbia River. It wouldn't save a single salmon or sturgeon, just let sports fishermen and Washington commercial fishermen catch them instead.

Mainstem commercial fisheries are an integral part of our member's livelihoods and need to be continued in a responsible manner, as they have been under current management practices. We do not believe off channel areas can be enhanced enough to replace mainstem commercial fisheries. As this process moves forward, we will oppose proposals not based in science that remove fishing opportunities for our members to continue to provide high quality fish to Oregon consumers.

Salmon for All remains committed to sound management of the lower Columbia River that protects fish, Oregon jobs, and the ability of all consumers to enjoy Columbia River salmon. Collaboration among tribal, sports and commercial fishermen working with state, federal and tribal officials is the best way to develop fisheries policy. Special interest ballot measures like Measure 81 are about politics, not policy. Salmon for All will, of course, continue its campaign to defeat Measure 81. We will make sure Oregonians understand that it's a special interest sport fishing group's bid to monopolize Columbia River salmon at the expense of our state's consumers and commercial fishing families.

For further information, please contact David Reinhard at 503-363-7084.

**Teri Kucera**

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**From:** Jim Myron [myrons@canby.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 11, 2012 11:59 AM  
**To:** odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Cc:** Roy Elicker; BROWNSCOMBE Brett \* GOV  
**Subject:** Governor's proposed solutions for lower Columbia River fisheries mangement  
**Attachments:** Gillnet Initiative Analysis.pdf; BM 81 Commission letter.doc

Attached is a statement from the Native Fish Society for consideration by the Fish & Wildlife Commission.



**Native Fish Society**

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*The Native Fish Society is a forward-thinking organization guided by the best available science to advocate for historically abundant wild, native fish and promote the stewardship of habitats that sustain them*

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August 11, 2012 (via email)

Memo to: The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission  
Subject: Governor's Proposal on Gillnetting  
From: Mike Moody, Executive Director

The Native Fish Society looks forward to working with Governor Kitzhaber, the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and other interested parties in finding a viable alternative to Ballot Measure 81.

Attached is our analysis of the ballot measure. Please let us know if you have any questions about our position on this issue.

## THE NATIVE FISH SOCIETY'S STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE GILLNETTING BAN

- Gillnetting on the lower Columbia River, even as currently practiced with the use of tangle nets in some fisheries, is not a selective fishery. The Native Fish Society supports efforts to transition the gillnet fleet to truly selective fishing methods.
- While eliminating gillnets from the lower Columbia River could allow more salmon, both wild and farm-raised, to migrate further up the Columbia River, they would still have to avoid Washington gillnetters, who will be allowed to continue fishing. If the fish are successful in doing that, they then need to avoid the recreational anglers as well as the Tribal gillnets. Simply removing gillnets from the lower Columbia will do nothing to assure increased escapement of wild fish to spawning grounds in upstream tributary streams. This initiative is being characterized by the proponents as a way to save wild salmon and steelhead when in reality it's just another attempt to get more fish for the recreational fishing industry.
- One provision in the ballot measure that doesn't seem to be getting much discussion is the one that would establish a harvest floor for the recreational fishing industry. Recreational anglers would be assured of a minimum harvest level based upon their average catch for the period 2007-2011. It appears that this harvest level would have to be maintained even if wild fish stocks continue to decline and even if that level of harvest would further depress those wild stocks. This provision in the measure would take away the ability of the fish management agencies to restrict future recreational harvests even if that would be biologically necessary to assure the recovery of depressed wild salmon and steelhead stocks. The Native Fish Society believes that establishing this guaranteed harvest level in state law for the recreational industry would be an extremely foolish action to take.
- While the proposed ballot measure would make it legal to again use certain selective methods such as seine nets, it provides no financial support to the commercial fishers for this transition. The Native Fish Society believes that lower Columbia River gillnetters should be offered some alternatives to what is proposed in the measure, such as financial support to acquire these new methodologies as well as a voluntary permit buyout program for those gillnetters who, for whatever reason, would rather relinquish their permit rather than transition to other fishing methods. We believe that an alternative like this would provide a valuable off-ramp for those gillnetters who would rather just retire. The Native Fish Society supports a more comprehensive and equitable approach to resolving this issue.
- The effect of eliminating the gillnets and not providing funding to support the change to more selective harvest methods would impose an economic hardship on fishing dependent communities and families in the lower Columbia and will result in the loss of fishing related jobs.
- Tribal interests may view the ballot measure as an attempt by recreational interests to harvest more hatchery farmed fish in the lower river, which further reduces the number of farmed fish available to upstream Tribal fisheries. This will likely increase pressure from the Tribes to decrease the number of farmed fish that are externally marked at hatcheries before they are released. Marking hatchery fish allows those fish to be visually distinguished from wild fish, which facilitates the harvest of the farmed fish with a lower impact on the wild fish that must be released in the sport fishery.
- The Native Fish Society believes that continued improvements must be made in Columbia River commercial fisheries in order to increase the number of wild salmon and steelhead passing through this reach of the river. However, it will take a much more comprehensive solution than

what is being proposed in this ballot measure. Therefore, the Native Fish Society will oppose this measure while continuing to seek ways to resolve the important issue of managing fisheries in the Columbia River in ways that allow increased escapement of wild salmon and steelhead to spawning grounds in their natal streams while harvesting the hatchery fish in the system.

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