

Randy Fisher, Executive Director  
Welcome Speech  
Annual Meeting  
Monday, August 25, 2014

So, last year,

1. We employed 562 people. 511 of those were in the states and our payroll was over \$1.5 million monthly.
2. We managed 153 funding agreements and 97 subcontracts with an overhead rate of 11.7 percent and a pass through rate of 1.7 percent.
3. Our age readers in Newport processed over 27,000 readings in support of stock assessments.
4. We put cameras on 28 fishing boats:
  - 7 on trawlers
  - 13 on fixed gear
  - 4 on mother ships, and
  - 4 on shoreside hake
5. We processed 321,000 CWT data records from reporting agencies, including Canada.
6. We assisted California, Washington and Idaho in surveying and monitoring over 2,000 miles of rivers and streams, conducting redd counts, carcass surveys and creel surveys.
7. In California and Idaho, we worked with officials and inserted over 13 million CWTs, over 3? million PITtags, and fin-clipped over 23 million fish.
8. We trained over 200 people in our watercraft invasive species inspection program.

9. We assisted the California Ocean Salmon Program by sampling 2,600 commercial boats and 38,000 sports anglers. Our port samplers in California covered 18 ports, taking over 38,000 biological samples.
10. We processed 175,000 fish tickets in PacFIN – 5 percent which were electronically submitted.
11. We completed a total platform shift and data transfer in the PITtag program. That database has over 140 million records.
12. We completed the payout on the Yukon Chinook Salmon disaster. That payout to 673 fishermen totaled nearly \$5 million, and this year, we get to do it again.
13. Over the last 23 years, we have hosted, the biannual Steelhead Management Workshop. This year, we had over 100 state, federal, tribal and university managers and researchers attending the workshop.
14. We paid \$1.2 million in Pikeminnow reward money to 874 anglers who caught 161,000 Pikeminnow.
15. We worked with the ODFW shrimp project and were able to reduce smelt bycatch in the shrimp fishery by 90.4%, juvenile rockfish bycatch by 78%, and combined flatfish by 88.8% while reducing shrimp loss by only .7%. Now that's a success story.
16. In 2004, we shifted from the MRFESS estimates of recreational fishery effort to at-sea and dockside sampling. Since then, we have conducted over 1.2 million recreational angler interviews and taken over 1.4 million biological samples. Last year, we interviewed 122,000 anglers and took 176,000 biological samples.
17. We partnered with NWFSC to test a flexible sorting grid excluder designed to retain flatfish species while reducing unwanted catches of overfished species. Pacific halibut bycatch was reduced by 90%, sablefish by 97%, and rock fish by 81.4%. Another success story.

18. Our Three Commission lobbying efforts were successful in reassuring the funding for the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act which provides much needed funding to each of our states.
19. We reimbursed the fleet \$2 million for 9,000 days of at-sea observer time.
20. We passed through to the states a total of \$27 million. The five states put in \$107,000 in dues and got back \$27 million. Not a bad return on investment.

Every year, I get the opportunity to meet with the Executive Subcommittee for the Commission so they can review our annual audit, details of our budget, etc. I also present to them my top 10 objectives for next year and report on how well I did on last year's.

So, here is the list for this year.