Celebrating 65 years of service with a look at the history of west coast fisheries

February 9, 1871

U.S. Commission on Fish and Fisheries created by Congress

The predecessor to today's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, published an annual bulletin from 1881-1903 (link).

R/V Fish Hawk 1880-1926

NOAA

July 3, 1890

Idaho becomes the 43rd state

1901

British Columbia Commissioner of Fisheries complains...

that salmon canneries on both sides of the border discard more salmon than are canned.

CDC Archives, used for educational purposes.

1915 — 1921

The R/V Albatross conducts research off the U.S. West Coast

During World War I, the vessel patrolled the Gulf of Mexico and Carribean under direction of the U.S. Navy

NOAA

1913

Railroad construction-caused landslide blocks Fraser River

...and threatens salmon runs in the entire river system

Clearing rock slide at Hells Gate, Fraser River

April 8, 1918

Columbia River Compact adopted

...a partnership between the fish and wildlife departments of Washington and Oregon that sets commercial fishing seasons on the lower Columbia River

Seining salmon on the Columbia River, 1914

Wikipedia

1929

California State Legislature...

...adopts resolution urging coastwide cooperation with Oregon, Washington and the federal government on salmon fisheries.

CDC Archives, used for educational purposes.

Sunset, Golden Gate Park - San Francisco

March 10, 1934

Congress adopts the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act...

defining a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service role in protection of fisheries (link)

CDC Archives, used for educational purposes.

Fall Chinook Salmon - 1936

May 26, 1930

U.S. and Canada sign Fraser River Convention to protect sockeye run

Convention Link

Sockeye Salmon (NOAA)

1870 — 1900 — 1910 — 1920 — 1930 — 1935

Events leading up to the creation of the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission

November 11, 1889

Washington becomes the 42nd state

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

Washington Statehood Telegram

Washington State Archives

April 18, 1906

The Great 1906 San Fransisco Earthquake

Scientists now rate the earthquake as a 7.9 magnitude event and estimate 3,000 perished in the quake, its aftershocks and the subsequent fire.

Steinbrugge Collection of the UC Berkeley Earthquake Engineering Research Center

San Francisco residents amidst the ruins on Sacramento Street, April 1906

April 6, 1917

U.S. declares war against Germany, joins Allied forces in World War I

Wartime demand for canned seafood spurred the expansion of salmon, sardine and tuna canneries along the U.S. West Coast

University of Washington Libraries, Special Collections Division

Fishermen unloading salmon at cannery, Nushagak, Alaska - 1917

August 18, 1920

19th Amendment gives women the right to vote

"The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

Officers of the National Woman's Party, June 1920

January 5, 1933 — May 27, 1937

Construction of San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge

Built during the Great Depression, it was once the longest suspension bridge in the world

Underwood Archives/Getty Images

Fisherman on Baker Beach during bridge construction.

1870– 1935