Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission & Salmon Defense present

# BOLDT 40

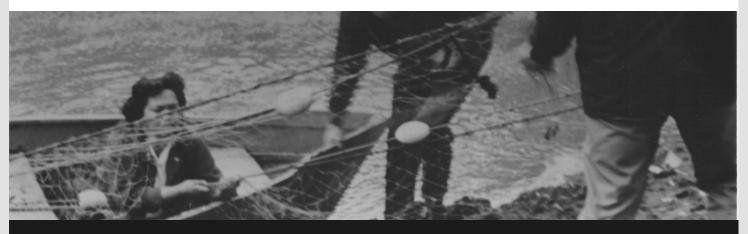
A day of perspectives on the Boldt Decision

February 5, 2014 Skookum Creek Event Center Squaxin Island Tribe, Shelton, WA 98584

## **Boldt 40**

a day of perspectives on the Boldt Decision





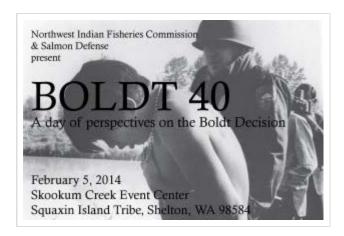
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# Boldt 40: a day of perspectives on the Boldt Decision

Posted on December 10, 2013 by admin

The treaty tribes in western Washington will come together on February 5, 2014 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. to celebrate the



 $\operatorname{sts} \to \operatorname{\#BOLDT40}$  ON TWITTER

@Forksville: RT
 @nwifc: Here is one of the morning speakers from
 #boldt40, Ramona
 Bennett of the Puyallup Tribe

http://t.co/6cnWdQiC Mw

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http://t.co/6cnWdQiC Mw

• @nwifc: Here is one of the morning speakers from #boldt40, Ramona

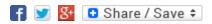
40th Anniversary of the Boldt Decision.

Boldt 40 will be held at the Squaxin Island Tribe's Skookum Event Center north of Olympia. Map:

http://go.nwifc.org/boldt40map

Speakers will take attendees through the history of the case and the development of co-management.

Charles Wilkinson will give a lunchtime keynote address: "Justice at its Truest and Finest: The High Place of the Boldt Decision in American Law." Wilkinson is Distinguished Professor and Moses Lasky Professor of Law at the University of Colorado Law School. He is the author of "Messages from Frank's Landing: A Story of Salmon, Treaties."



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http://t.co/6cnWdQiC

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- @DwayneMeadows: RT @wildwildnw: Arguably the most thoughtful take on the state of WA #salmon & #steelhead I've read http://t.co/qJFyrW9JK I @seattletimes @r...

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- Treaty Rights At Risk and the Future: What Needs To Be Done
- After the Boldt Decision

|                      |                              | <ul> <li>Afternoon speakers: The Legal Perspective</li> <li>Billy Frank Jr.: Nobody knew what the treaty was about</li> </ul> |
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| NWIFC Salmon Defense |                              |   |
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# **Boldt 40**

a day of perspectives on the Boldt Decision



# **The Honor Chair**

Posted on February 7, 2014 by troyal

On the stage at the Boldt 40 celebration, a lone chair was placed stage left, draped in a blanket with small basket in the seat. This was the "Honor Chair". Attendees were asked to contribute names to the basket of people who are important to them and to the treaty fishing rights effort. Those names and groups are posted below. If you would like to contribute to this list, please email troyal@nwifc.org.

Hank Adams Frank Allen Dennis Allen Phil Anderson Jake Anderson Jerry Arca Sr.

B. Tom



@Forksville: RT @nwifc: Here is one of the morning speakers from #boldt40, Ramona Bennett of the Puyallup Tribe http://t.co/6cnWdQiC

Mw

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@nwifc: Here is one of the morning speakers from #boldt40, Ramona

Mw

Jimmy Barn

Earnie Barr

Gloria Bean

Judge Robert C. Belloni

Ramona Bennett

Judge George Boldt and family

Eloise Boldt

Chairman Knuckle Boome

Marlon Brando

Al Bridges

Maiselle Bridges

Valerie Bridges

Dan C. Brown

Pat Brown

Mike Brownfields

Carol Burns

Robert Burrell

Russ Busch

Mary Jo Butterfield

Jim Byrd Sr.

Sam Cagey Sr.

Elizabeth Tunmer Campbell

Ellery Campbell

Horton Capoeman

Rodney Cawston

Colleen Cawston

Chet Cayou Sr. Qw-Tee-Sa-Luq

Sequoia Chargualaf

Vincent Jesus Chargualaf

**Beatrice Charles** 

**Ernie Charles** 

George W. Charles

Jerry Charles Sr.

**Robin Charles** 

Ron Charles

Ed Claplanhoo

Joseph Lawrence Coniff

Chuck "Doghide" Conway

LeRoy Corville Sr.

Bennett of the Puyallup
Tribe

http://t.co/6cnWdQiC

Mw

@soundslikepuget:

RT @nwifc The Boldt

Decision at 40 -

Special Seminar At

@SeattleU

http://t.co/YEi92hcz02 #SalishSea #Boldt40

**#PugetSound** 

@DwayneMeadows:

RT @wildwildnw:

Arguably the most thoughtful take on the state of WA **#salmon** 

& #steelhead I've read http://t.co/qJFyrW9JK

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Rogue Deanas

**David Deanas** 

Joseph B. DeLaCruz

Herman Dillon Sr.

**Dutchman Dillon** 

Shemen Domnick

Lena Dunsdan

George Dysart

Edna Lane DeLaCruz Ebling

John Echohawk

Pattie Elofson

Lee Evenhuis

Lottie Fentoll

Herbert Fisher

Herbert Fisher Jr.

Ray Forsman

Billy Frank Jr. and family

Robert Free

Russ Fulton

Bennie George

Simon George

**David Getches** 

Bernie Kai Kai Gobin

Eugene Goodell

Lew Goodridge

Alison Bridges Gottfriedson

Sue Halpson

Levi Hamilton

Jim Harp

Elizabeth Pomeroy Harvey

Jim Heckman

Kevin Henry

LaVerne Hepfer

John Hottowe

Charlie A. Howeattle

David Rock Hudson Jr.

- Afternoon speakers:The LegalPerspective
- Billy Frank Jr.: Nobody knew what the treaty was about

#### ARCHIVES

- February 2014
- December 2013

Howard Dean Hudson

Ted Hudson Sr.

Ted Hudson Jr.

Shaughnessi Hululani

John Ides Sr.

John Ides

Hillary "Zab" Irving

Uncle Wayne James

Ernest Jefferson Sr.

Eve Jerry

Robert Joe (Wa-Walton)

Herman John (Curly) (Bobe)

Herman Johns

Steve Johns Sr.

Steve Johns

Dale Johnson

Oscar Carl Jones Jr.

Stan Jones Sr. (Scho Hallem)

Victor Jones

James Lawrence Joseph

George Kalama

Georgiana "Porgie" Kautz

Nugent Kautz

Mark Kelly

Curly Kidd (Babe)

Forrest "Dutch" Kinley

Forrest Kinley

Charlene Krise

Claude Kremen-TEO

Zaley Lynn Laramie

Leo LaClair Sr.

Nick Lampsakis

Dr. Barbara Lane

Fred Lane

Nancy Lane

Robert Lane

Boldt 40 | a day of perspectives on the Boldt Decision Vernon Lane Robert Law Connor Little Bill Lopeman Shirley A. Lopeman **Lorraine Loomis** Vernon J. Louie Rene Lozier Michael "Duff" Mail Doreen Maloney **Eveline Matory** Steve Meadows Leo Metcalf Margaret Campbell Meyer Mike Meyer Ralph Meyer Ron Meyer Charles Mike Leroy Mills Sid Mills Jay Minthorn Mason Morrisett Matt Moses Robert Moses Lonni Moses Cecil Moses Stanley Moses Frank Mounts Matt Moses Phil Mundy Janet Renecker McCloud (Yet Si Blue) Don McCloud Jack McCloud Sr. George "Bubby" McCloud Zelma McCloud Ray "Root" McCloud Jimmy McCloud

Francis McCrory Sr.

Guy Raymond McMinds

#### Lester Nelson

Anne Pavel

William E. Penn

Earl Penn

Christian "Jiggs" Penn

Ribs Penn

Calvin J. Peters

**Emory Peters** 

Josephine Peters

Jameson Peters

Charlie Peterson

Gary Peterson

Ron Plant

Stuart Pierson

Loretta Campbell Pomeroy

Randi Purser

Robert A. Purser, Sr.

Dan Raas

Tim Reed

Tommy Reed

Francis O. Rosander

Esther Ross

Larry Rutter

Tahahauent Payne Sablan

Harlan Sam Sr.

Ed Sampson Sr.

Hazel Sampson

Louisa Sampson

Robert Sampson

Dorian Sanchez

Suzanne Satiacum

**Buddy Satiacum** 

Kirk Schmidt

Jack Simmons

Jean Smith

Bill Smith

Adeline Smith

John Luis Solomon

Doralee Solomon Jack Solomon

David Sohappy, Sr.

Anthony and Allen Squally

Chuck Starr

Louis Starr Sr.

Daryll Stepetin

Mike Taylor

Sam Ulmer

Helen Val

Vaude D. Via

John Vigil (Chiquetie)

Rex Ward

Reginald Ward Sr.

**Buddy Wayne** 

Judy Wayne

Reuben F. Well Sr.

Bernice White

Bernie Whitebear

Dr. Richard R. Whitney

Bruce Wilkie

Tandy Wilbur Sr.

Doug Wilbur

Floyd Williams

**Greg Williams** 

Ryan Williams

James "Uncle Jimmy" Wilson

James Woodman

Tammoe Woodman

Doug Woodruff Sr.

Fred Woodruff

Judy Wright

Florence Dossie Starr Wynn

All the wives and families that stayed at home while our warriors were fighting

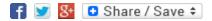
The Native Women (Allison Bridges, Porgie Kautz, Maiselle Bridges, Ramona Bennett)

Elders, spouses, children and families that prayed, cooked and smoked our salmon

Future generations

Descendants of Judge George Boldt

The Indians who were here before the white man came to our shores



Posted in Uncategorized | Leave a reply

# Treaty Rights At Risk and the Future: What Needs To Be Done



Posted on February 5, 2014 by troyal

Fawn Sharp, President, Quinault Indian Nation, speaks to what tribes, their leaders and their supporters need to do to work together for Treaty Rights At Risk

Sharp recalled as a little girl fishing with her family on the Quinault River, and the excitement when she saw a cork sunk, which usually meant a fish had been caught.

"I couldn't imagine myself being separated from that very sacred right."

She spoke to how The Creator put her and her people on this earth for a reason.

We fought the fight. It's undeniable – there was something that bound us to the fight and what bound us was the basic principle – The Creator made us Indian people a certain way. The Creator put us in these lands. The Creator put a spirit in us.

When we signed the treaties – it was a young country in 1855. We were 100 years old in the magnitude of the entire world; it was emerging as a powerful country."

It was this country that tried to assimilate tribes, take away the right to basic things like hunting and fishing but the spirit, with those battles before them – when it seemed like we were losing the battles, we went back to our roots and who we were as The Creator intended.

We see young people in Headstart learning our languages. We see our elders telling our stories and becoming part of writing that history. I was called to remark on the future as a tribal leader.

It seems so daunting.

There are decisions by the feds that diminish the resource and our powers. That diminish the science. The future of the seven generations. The glaciers are melting. It all seems to fall on deaf ears.

We're trying to protect our treaties at risk, and Billy is asking, who is in charge?

With the Creator's wisdom and guideance, when we convene meetings and ceremonies, we bring the Creator in to everything we do. I know that's why Indian people are still here. Even though the most powerful country of the world sought to destroy us.

It's hard to be in the trenches... but we all know the fight is worth the fight and we all know those who dedicate to the litigation and battle and the spirit of Boldt, the individuals who waved the facts and drew a sense of right and wrong and we know nothing more than what the Creator granted to us.

People ask us what we want – we just want to live as the Creator intended for us.



 Bob Perciasepe, Environmental Protection Agency, Deputy Administrator

Bob Perciasepe, Environmental Protection Agency, Deputy Administrator, discusses the value of the tribal relationship to the EPA and working together.

I can't tell you how profound it is to hear about the struggles, which I've heard about, but then to hear about them in person today about the Boldt decision.

But if Boldt reminds us where we've come from, then there are new urgencies – treaty rights at risk.

How can we avoid this risk – what actions can we take to avoid going down the wrong path? Today our struggle to fulfill our responsibilities and obligations to tribes in the region is evermost in our mind. Threats to tribal fishing are real and it's much more about the environmental destruction and habitat and it's the decline of the salmon from all these forces that are play.

The Boldt tribes have that co-management responsibility – but the tribes have forcefully and careful relayed to all of us that co-management authority isn't enough.

But I have to tell you – for the fed government, there are many agencies involved with this and it would be unfair if I didn't tell you there are conflicts within. Different agncies have different legal authorities. These are things you shouldn't worry about ... but we've gotten a lot of good advice on how to be better partners with our federal trustees.

We're working very hard .... we're working on a process to help solve the policies if they're in the way of making progress and this means consulting with tribes.

The Elwha dams – it's been several presidents that have gone by that have been trying to work on this and some have been more ambitious than others to make it a reality. It is a reality and it would not have happened if not for the tribes important careful pushing of the governor. And Norm Dicks. And the colorful voices in DC.

The coho, chinook and pinks are all doing something they haven't done in a long time – not banging their heads up against a dam. (The dams coming down) seems like a simple feat but it's a symbol of what we can do when we come together.

Right here in Washington we're working with the Lummi and Nooksack to evaluate climate impact and how we can protect salmon, for example, in the Nooksack watershed where water temps affect quality of habitat. We know it's high priority for the tribes and for us too.

This spring, we're going to propose EPA regulations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and we need your help to support that.

We need to confront all these problems and the treaty rights at risk. But we can't ignore the air and water and climate issues.

They all come back together and they are all connected.

Tomorrow morning, a letter will find its way from DC to the chairman of the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission ... to BIIIy ... and it will talk how the federal government wants to join in this celebration. And speak of our future together. Our future is what counts and government-to-government is what counts and that letter will be signed by Barak Obama.

The lesson is that we must go forward and carry on the Boldt Decision.



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## After the Boldt Decision



Posted on February 5, 2014 by kneumeyer

Alan Stay, tribal attorney who represented several tribes in *U.S. v. Washington*:

"After *U.S. v. Washington*, every tribal person here had a right to expect a breather. Had a right to expect that once the law was articulated, that it would be followed. That their days of struggle might be coming to an end, and they could go on the water and enjoy the right that was secured to them in 1854 and 1855."

The state was unable to recognize that they lost the case.

The tribes have "tenacity. You don't win once. You don't win twice. You just keep going until finally you beat the opposition down."

When the state said it was unable to manage fisheries following the Boldt decision, "Judge Boldt says, 'I'm going to take over part of the management. The part that affects tribes, even though you can't or say you can't, I will.' "

It was "a monumental change, a courageous decision by Judge Boldt. It hardly ever happens that the court will ... not only enjoin the state, but also take an active role in making sure rules are followed."

Two issues weren't legally defined by Judge Boldt:

#### Habitat:

"When this case was filed, the tribes put into their complaint that habitat must be protected. What good is the right to take fish if there are no fish? They knew that was a hollow, false promise."

Phase 2 decided with the 2001 culvert case, finally resolved in 2013.

"That's a long time to wait for a decision, but it was a decision worth waiting for. When the state acts to build a culvert that harms fish, that's wrong. That's against the treaty. They can't do it."

#### Shellfish:

"In the 1994 Rafeedie decision, the court held that indeed tribes have a right to take shellfish they may never have taken at treaty times: subtidal shellfish. A fish was a fish. All the shellfish in their usual and accustomed areas. The treaty right went to all of that. A tremendously broad and powerful decision."

Bill Wilkerson, former director of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, helped foster comanagement by the treaty tribes and the state.

When he was appointed deputy director of WDFW, Wilkerson said, "I want to put an end to this crap. I'm not interested in being deputy director if you're not interested in putting an end to this embarrassing war."

By 1983, when I became director, I'd pretty much had enough. We were still fighting daily in the fisheries advisory board, something Dr. Whitney oversaw for many years. The court was still basically managing the fisheries. I think Judge Boldt was one of the great judges in the history of the United States, but I don't know that he and Dr. Whitney alone could manage as substantial a fishery as we had.

I was supposed to oversee the management.
Billy thought at that time that he should be
managing fisheries. Billy started it, by the way.
Billy was starting to talk about (the fact) that
the treaty right is the way, but what good is it
doing when we're fighting over a smaller and
smaller resource?

I thought that was our job to protect the salmon. I thought our statute was crystal clear.

In 1983, I had come to a political conclusion myself, and I persuaded Gov. Spellman: We needed to end the fish war. The Boldt decision had the potential to be the most important and best thing that ever happened to the salmon resource in the state's history. In the last 40 years, I think I was right: The best thing that has happened to the salmon in the state of Washington was the Boldt decision.

That was not a popular view. It probably still isn't, but that doesn't matter because it's the law of the land. It has nothing to do with allocation, it has to do with raising the importance of the resource in the public's mind.

We managed our way through a season together

in 1984, at the same time forming the U.S.-Canada treaty together. It was just amazing how much attention we were able to garner for the fish at that time. Billy and I were starting to make speeches to larger crowds. People were sick of the fish wars. People were concerned about the fish.

Why do I say the Boldt decision was good?
Because the Boldt decision triggered all of those things. It forced us to finally get together.
Getting together doesn't mean we were singing kumbaya. We didn't agree with each other on everything, but we worked together. Billy and I started going to to D.C. together and telling the delegation we needed money,

Our society doesn't have a sense of history like the tribes have. One of the things I respect most about what's going on here today is the fact that multiple generations are meeting to discuss how we all got here.

If you ever feel like the Boldt decision can be taken for granted, don't go there. The Boldt decision is the key to protecting the salmon, the key. You're the political leverage. You have the legal leverage, and boy did I want to get on that train. And it was the best choice and I and my two bosses, Gov. Spellman and Gov. Gardner, ever made. We decided to be with you in your commitment to protecting the salmon and shellfish resources in the state of Washington. That proved to be better politics than fighting the tribes and fighting their treaty rights, I'm proud to say to the younger generation that your job is to continue the cooperation we built in in the 1980s because it works and it gives you power and it gives the state power that it would never have had if it weren't for the gentlemen

behind us, Judge Boldt.



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# Afternoon speakers: The Legal Perspective



Posted on February 5, 2014 by kneumeyer

Stuart Pierson served as an Assistant US Attorney during the *U.S. v. Washington* litigation from 1971 to 1975.

Early in his career in civil rights law, he "found that law could be an effective instrument for minorities who had their rights being constantly trampled."

"I came out here to prosecute the bad guys and ended up working with the good guys."

The Fish Wars were an increasingly violent conflict and Pierson was the only one in the U.S. Attorney's office who had experience getting an injunction against the state law enforcement.

The tribes had a clear supreme right: The treaty.

The tribes had a faithful judge.

The tribes had the tools.

"Collectively with the other lawyers for the tribes, we put together a remarkable record....We had a lot of discovery, a lot of interrogatories, a lot of documents. Two things we had were biology and anthropology."

The Fish and Wildlife Service's dedicated biologist was Jim Heckman.

The anthropologist was Barbara Lane. "What we told her we needed was to work with the tribes, go back and develop as much as the true history and anthropology.

"When you interview an expert, you have a fear that they're going to give you the wrong answer. Barbara never gave me an answer, she gave me a full understanding of each tribe, a history of cannery period."

Her work was crucial to all of us and gave us a sense that we could provide Judge Boldt with the fundamental understanding that none of the people outside the court knew until this decision.

John Echohawk, Pawnee, is the executive director of Native American Rights Fund (NARF) and is dedicated to helping Native Americans with legal issues.

"I started in fall of 1970 in California, as part of a project of the Indian Legal Services Program. We wanted to expand our services nationwide and with a grant from the Ford Foundation, we started offering legal advice and assistance to Indian people who didn't have legal representation. It took in nearly all our people but we had substantial rights under the treaties.

"It was a daunting task to look around the country and figure out what was the most priority ... the one that jumped out at the most was what was happening in this area. There were a lot of arrests and violence and and it was national news. So it became pretty clear to us that this was one of the issues that thought we'd see if we could help with."

NARF spent time in this area and had to think big in terms of the treaty.

"It was outstanding what Boldt did. (NARF) was very strong in asserting that very substantial right on behalf of the tribes. It

has because something of a tradition for us, fighting for big issues around the country. Sovereignty issues, federal termination cases. Headlines were all across the country in terms of our people standing up for their rights through the work of NARF. We also worked with Native American leaders to help us determine which were priorities.

These leaders today continue to help address issues across the country. We're involved in all kinds of issues with tribes across the country – tribal sovereignty, human rights, natural resources protection, as a nonprofit we're always looking for ways to raise funds to help those who don't have the resources to fight themselves.

Now in our 44<sup>th</sup> year, it's great to have the tribes step up and provide resources to NARF. Like Billy was saying, these issues go and on and on.

# Patricia Zell is the former staff director/chief counsel, U.S Senate Committee on Senate Affairs

Zell started off with a quote from President Lyndon B. Johnson: "We must affirm the rights of the first Americans to remain Indians while exercising their rights as Americans. We must affirm their right to freedom of choice and self-determination."

She was a part of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights that came to Washington state to examine if there was discrimination was being practiced against Indians, where she first met NW tribal leaders, including Ramona Bennett, Gilbert Kinggeorge and Billy Frank Jr.

Post-Boldt decision showed that backlash from the non-tribal citizens was due to ignorance.

"When people don't know what the laws are and the rights are the rights are, they have to make judgements on what the media says or politicians say."

Native Americans have been treated as a people of the past.

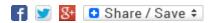
"There's a gross lack of information about us as a contemporary people and people who still live in this country. This is the same message we ask the young people to listen to. It ran through the lives of your parents and grandparents. And it will run through your lives as well.

"That ignorance, that lack of knowledge – many members of Congress think that the treaties signed and approved so many ears ago are not relevant anymore or shouldn't be. It's a challenge you'll have and your children will have. We have to keep on keeping on with the job of education."

Zell spoke to a proposed bill to decommercialize steelhead: "In this case, the members of the different panels represented the state, the tribes, the commercial fishermen, sports fishermen and those who were engaged in management at state, tribal and federal level. They all spoke to senate committee before the hearing and wanted to sit together as one panel. Each witness stood up, which was unusual and gave testimony standing up. '10 years after the Indian wars and now 10 years since Boldt decision, we've decided we work fine as is. We are co-managing the resource, we are working together. We have developed and flourished relationships that we plan to continue."

In the aftermath, it was a remarkable development in a very short time. And that good work goes on.

"The work of the Boldt Decision goes on and that's what the young people, that's the foundation it has stood on and you can do it again."



Posted in Uncategorized | Leave a reply

# Billy Frank Jr.: Nobody knew what the treaty was



## about

Posted on February 5, 2014 by kneumeyer



NWIFC Chairman and Nisqually tribal member Billy Frank Jr.:

This is all an education of who we are. It started a long time ago. It started before me and before my parents. It started before all of our moms and dads and grandpas and grandmas. They knew what they had to do. They lived here, they never moved. This is their home, and that's our food that comes up that river every day.

You take our food away and our water, and we might have to do something like taking over the Game Department building in Olympia, Washington. The night before, the state Game Department came down and took all of our gear from the Nisqually River. They took all of our boats, confiscating everything. Hauled them off into their little backyard in Olympia, the Game Department building.

We have to feed our family like everybody else. Who do we go to? Do I go to Congress? Do I go to the president? Do I go to the governor?

Nobody listens to you because you're an Indian. You have a treaty with the United States and they don't know what the hell that means. They've never implemented it. Never taught it in their schools, so nobody knows what the treaty is about, until we come along and start talking about our five treaty areas.

That took a long time to make that happen, and we're still doing it today. We're having this great celebration. We're talking to our young people, telling them we've got to remember what we're all about.

We'll die for that clean water. We'll die for that salmon. We'll die for everything that flies. We'll die for that mountain. We'll die for those trees. That's what every Indian in this country talks about.



Posted in Uncategorized | Leave a reply

# Remembering the trial



Posted on February 5, 2014 by kneumeyer

Charles Wilkinson, Distinguished Professor and Moses Lasky Professor of Law at the University of Colorado Law School, and author of 14 books on Indian law and history, described the *U.S. v. Washington* trial.

Excerpts:

Through the proceedings, Judge Boldt came to know and feel a high respect for an industrious people who would never surrender their rights to harvest the seas, forests and meadows. He could see how the United States could have concluded that treaty-making with these nations was appropriate.

In 1970, Judge Boldt knew almost nothing about native sovereignty or culture. It was the native people at the council tables, on the river and on the shores who had the strategy, vision and fierce determination to wage a fierce campaign that at the beginning seemed impossible to everyone but themselves.

Outstanding attorneys, first-rate archaeologists, historians and scientists brought compelling facts into the courtroom and they testified for the tribes. Throughout the trial, Indian people kept silent vigil on the wooden benches in the gallery or standing against the wall of the packed courtroom. Tribal elders tool the stand and offered their accounts about aboriginal times, the treaties and the more recent times. Most of them spoke in their own languages and their testimony was based on the rich and accurate oral tradition.

Judge Boldt accepted the elders' testimony and took that evidence into consideration and listened raptly as they spoke. Ask anyone who witnessed that trial, the elders brought the whole story together, and Judge Boldt listened open-mindedly to the case.

Federal judges have to be especially vigilant in protecting what the court has called prejudice against discrete and insular communities. Two opposite notions — majority rule and minority rights — are main building blocks of our constitution. Judges are in the best position to stand up for dispossessed people when majorities come down on minorities.

In the days of the Boldt decision, and appeals, federal judges as a whole took seriously their duty to protect rights of dispossessed people.

The transcendent meaning of the Boldt decision was to uphold the treaty rights of the northwest tribes. It also is a national case, about national obligations and values. The decision was a gift to America.

The decision recognized that the treaties remained in full force, that treaties were supreme over state laws. Tribes were entitled to exclusive fishing rights on reservation and entitled to take 50 percent in their usual and accustomed areas off reservation.

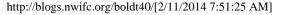
Judge Boldt ruled that the tribes were sovereign governments and had the right to be regulators of the resource.

Your forebears passed the Boldt decision onto you. Now you can preserve it and other values. You can do it, the Boldt decision proves that you can.



Posted in Uncategorized | Leave a reply

# **Morning Speakers:**



# Personal stories from the Boldt Era

Posted on February 5, 2014 by troyal



 Hank Adams, left, Ramona Bennett and Billy Frank Jr. address the Boldt 40 celebration.

# Ramona Bennett, chairwoman of the Puyallup Tribe at the time of the Boldt decision

"With the help of all those various good Indian people and good other people, we were able to get the attention that we needed. The timing was everything. It was during the peace strikes. The civil rights movements. There was change going on. And we got to be part of that change."

"We went to court. The day I heard about decision. I had my feet up on my desk and when I got the decision phone call, I jumped up and ended up in my wastebasket and yelled, 'We lost 50% of our fish!" (Crowd laughs)

#### Leo LaClair - Muckleshoot Tribe

"Hank Adams was one of our guys who got the press releases

and media out there. An idea of the National Indian Youth Council was taking the treaty from Seattle to the governor in Olympia. Wow, that's a long paddle. We made it. Our objective was to get national attention with Hank Adams and it worked."

### Gilbert Kinggeorge – Muckleshoot Tribe

Re: The 1855-56 treaties:

"The old teaching – never say no to a relative. Again, I spoke earlier how history seems to repeat itself. There were only four tribes that responded. In that time of need, Chief Leschi rode back to visit every tribe in here in the state asking for help to come support us in the first treaty war. You could tell what the response was. Again, here we were with the second treaty war, called the Salmon Wars, Boldt Decision. Nevertheless, we are a proud people because those struggles opened the way for everyone to participate with their treaty rights."

"We have nothing to be ashamed of. The tribes are champions of habitat."

#### Hank Adams - Assiniboine Sioux

"We've lost many of the Indian people who love the land and the waters so much to this life of fishing and to this life on the waters and to this life on the land."

"There are many elements to this fight. There are many generations that have made this fight."

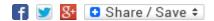
"This crowd would have been larger if there hadn't been a (Seahawks Super Bowl) parade today. This crowd would have been at least this large if this had been a potlach in the 1880s or 1890s. This isn't a big crowd compared to what the Indian crowds were at potlatches were 125 years ago. It wasn't uncommon to see 1,800 canoes on Commencement Bay. For each canoe, you had a multiple number of people. In 1853, coming from Tacoma/Fort Nisqually to Olympia – Ezra Meeker looked out on the Nisqually and saw Indians of all ages and

sexes harvesting their catch, which would have been august, king salmon. There were good numbers involved in this life that the Indian people lead."

"Frank Law was a S'Klallam who went to Puyallup Industrial School. They played the first Thanksgiving Game in 1898 against University of Washington's football team. And the Indian school won.

At Christmas, they had to return for what is called the championship of the PNW. PIS and UW – when the Indian team arrived in Seattle – UW said they wouldn't take the field if Frank Law played since he'd play some semi-pro basketball pick up games. And he beat them in the first game. So they benched him. And UW narrowly won the championship game. Those are the first two games of UW football history."

"Part of the joke at the time was if you just leave it up to us Montanians, we'll settle this issue. Thankfully Boldt did and for the long term."



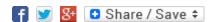
Posted in Uncategorized | Leave a reply

# Pictures of opening ceremonies and speakers at Boldt 40



Posted on February 5, 2014 by dpreston

http://tinyurl.com/pglf4fc



Posted in Uncategorized | Leave a reply

# Here's our agenda for Boldt 40 plus our livestream link



Posted on February 5, 2014 by eoconnell

For those who aren't able to make it today, here are our livestream and agenda links. Just a warning about the livestream, we're taking it from a smaller webcam, so the quality will be limited. We are also recording the day's events, so we can share a much higher quality recording later.

Boldt 40 agenda

Boldt 40 livestream



Posted in Uncategorized | Leave a reply

# A timeline of important moments



Posted on February 5, 2014 by dpreston





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# **Boldt 40**

a day of perspectives on the Boldt Decision





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