

## Curt Stanley

The Chehalis River Chinook Salmon spawning grounds have been badly impacted for years. The idea constructing a dam in place in the upper reaches, will be the end of the end for the Chinook Salmon. The Chinook spawning/habitat in the upper 10-12 miles above the south fork and Pe Ell will mark the end of the line should the Chehalis River Dam get built. We are in the era for removing dams by trying to restore aquatic habitat, water quality and river flow, for rebuilding salmon returns. In recent times, the Quinault Tribe has put a lot of effort re-building their river fisheries for at least the past 60 years. Our salmon runs are cookie cutter/smaller fish now for the past 20 years. Because we are fishing younger fish now. I can recall the early 80's pulling out a few 25-35 lb king and healthy coho & chum during the season. The big ones of a 6-7 age don't make it here anymore. It would be awesome to bring our salmon back, re-building the fish runs. For many years, we all know too well, Salmon have been impacted by obstacles i.e industry, logging, seals, sea lions, other targeting, predators, interception, overfishing, climate change; lack of the ocean feed; a plethora of impacts.

As a Quinault fisherman our families, as well as the commercial fisheries have fished the river for eternity. Let's hope there are healthy fish coming back for eternity.