

DC: For the recording I'm just going to go through a couple of things. So it is June 27th, we are here in Newport. This is Deanna Caracciolo and I am here with, could you please state your name for the record?

HG: Oh my name? Herb...Herb Goblirch

DC: Good. Fantastic. So we can just jump right in here. So do you have any stories to pen up with? Anything to get going. I would love to hear how you go into fishing.

HG: Oh jeeze. How I got into fishing. Well I was thinking about that on the way here and I started in '71 when I got out of the army, and I had always liked fishing and hunting. I grew up fishing and hunting in Oregon like most kids my age. And so...the two things I liked when I went to college I was majoring in advertising art because I liked art, besides fishing and hunting. And I thought well, I'll try that advertising art to make a living. So my junior year my head instructor told me that okay the place to be in the advertising world is New York or San Francisco when you get done. And I'm thinking why do I want to go there because I would be leaving all this fishing and hunting here in Oregon. So I finished my degree, then I went to Oregon State as a second degree senior in fisheries and wildlife. And while I was there...well I worked for the fish commission. My first job after graduating the first time was at a fish hatchery down on the Alsea, Fall Creek Fish Hatcher, and we handled...I work for a cycle of silvers. We worked 20,000 silvers that year. Hatcheries were in their heyday in the mid 60's and 70's and the ocean was literally full of fish, full of silvers. So anyway, you know I always wanted to go to Alaska because that the big picture of where all the fish and game are. That's kind of paradise. So I got some recommendations and went up there and work for a couple of years for fish and game and got drafted out of Alaska actually. They wouldn't let me...if your past 25 you're out of the draft back in those days. I was still 25 so they nailed me. So anyway, all I could think of was...in that 2 years in the army was getting back to Alaska. When I got out...just before I got out my dad had had a heart attack and we still don't know...he still wasn't out of the woods when I got out. So I passed up my reinstatement to go back to Alaska. My dream job. Well no what am I going to do? And you know I had heard of some guys fishing out of Pacific City where they launched a dory through the surf making 10,000 bucks in the summers fishing silvers with a dory. That was pretty good money back in '71. So I bought a dory for 1500 dollars and started out. And you know, I was a pretty good sport fishermen because I was paying attention. That's what it take to be a good commercial fishermen. You have to go with the flow, adapt, change all the time. And, so anyway, I still remember my first day of commercial fishing. I caught 2 4 pound silvers that first day. And as I'm unloading I'm thinking to myself wow this is harder than I thought [laughing]. So anyway I was still living at home so I barely broke even if that the first year. And I thought to myself, well I'll try it one more year and if I can't make it then that's that. So the next year I picked up a little information and learned a little more and it was a good year, so I made a profit. So I fished dory for 4 years and put what money I could make away, living at home of course was helping. And, so in '75 I bought a real trip boat. A 40 foot troller. And the way it used to be, opening day of silver season, which used to be June 15....you know this was before regulations. I mean we had a season and nobody worried about in season closures or BS like that. June 15 was the opening day of silver season. Chinook season opened 15th of April. So on opening day, god at 9 o'clock in the morning there's these trollers trip boats unloading under the hoist with full loads. It's all I could think about dory fishing. We were a day boat and we would come in and unload every day and you miss the evening bite by leaving early and so all I could think of was oh boy when I get a trip boat. June 15th comes and the week before a season I and a whole bunch of other guys, I stop and we go out and as soon as we pass the jetties, we start throwing silvers aboard. Of course the season isn't officially open but that's the way it was those years. Anyway, I was fishing along because I always fished on alone, and I noticed that all these other

guys put crewman on for silver season. So after I got started I understood why [chuckles] So make a long story short, that was the last year they let us do it. They cracked down after that. That was the last year that you could get away with doing that. And after that it was against the law to go out and do that. But basically I paid for my boat the first year I had it. It was a 40 foot double ender called the Sea Biscuit, built in 1939, and it was name after the famous race horse of that era. It was built at Columbia Boatworks in Astoria. I bought her from a young guy up there who had fished it for 5 years and he told me that most of the guys in Oako got their start on the Sea Biscuit. It was an easy boat to fish. I mean it just caught fish like a magnet. So I'm pretty green on trollers, and I'm thinking is only got a 371 diesel in it, jimmy, I need to put a 671 in it. And he just calmly said to me - just try it first [chuckles] and he was right. You know the 670 would have made a lot of noise but it didn't go any faster. and he said he could go from Oako to Eureka where we started in Eureka or farther south even down to Monterey salmon fishing, and worked them up in spring. Anyway he said he could go to Eureka and fish for 8 days on what he had in his tanks and he was right. I mean talk about an economical troller. I mean when I started trolling diesel was 17 cents a gallon so it wasn't even a factor in your overhead [chuckles]. So anyway I fished the Sea Biscuit for 2 years and I wanted to crab and that was pre-lights, forward lights on crab boats. So I was watching the guys crabbing out of Crescent City, which is a real easy bar in the wintertime and the crabs bite fast down there. Seemed like every morning there would be some of these wood trollers up on the ways with sprung planks from running into big redwood trees in front of the Kalamoth River out there floating. So I'm thinking I don't want a wooden boat, I need a steel boat. I'm thinking- look how much money I can make in that 40 footer, what could I make in a 50 footer. So I bought the Easy Sea, a 50 foot steel boat, and I found out you catch the same amount of fish, your overhead is just higher [chuckles] So anyway that's how I got started fishing. And I gotta thing that there were an awful lot of school teachers that started fishing in those years because they had their summers off, and all they did was got a small troller, got a commercial license, and went out and paid for their summer. You know? Their summers off. And a lot of them discovered that they liked fishing better than they liked school teaching and the money was good so they just quit teaching and went fishing full time. You know, there was pretty good money, and actually there still is in fishing. But it's kinda like farmers. You talk to a good fisherman and they tell you - oh man we are scrapping, I mean it's terrible, just like a farmer, but they are rolling in bucks [chuckles] Not to say that everybody is rolling in bucks, but there's still money in it if you pay attention. But times have changed now. The regulations, oh my god. If I were fishing now I would be in so much trouble, because it's like when they drafted me into the army at 25, and they wanted to tell me how high to just, I'd ask them why, not like the 17 and 18 year olds all around me, yeah how high should I just. I mean...why should I jump that high? Well why do we need all these regulations when it's not necessary, but the answer was always - we have to air on the side of conservation. So we bought into that and in the old day I had some fisheries background so when we would go to the early meetings for regulations, which started in '78 for silvers, the old timers would say don't give an inch because we will never get it back. And I would say - well these managers are looking after the welfare of the resource and us, and when the resource comes back we will be fishing again. We will be back to where we were. Well you know what, now I'm an old timer and I see those guys were right. And to air on the side of conservation, well that's always the answer, who can argue with that? But it gets to the point of absurdity [chuckles] It's kinda like the sea lion situation, that California Sea lion situation. You know I read all the reports and they have been at optimum sustain populations since '92. The reports said that you could kill 6,000 of them a year and it would have no effect on the resource. And in the old days when we could harass them, we didn't have a problem. We taught them, and their smart, they learn. But now when you can't touch them. When you can get a 10,000 dollar fine for throwing a rock at one, it's a whole different story. It's just so far out of control I think it will probably take nuclear weapons to get it back into control again. I don't think we can ever

solve it, just because...don't ask me how the environmentalists get so much power, but here it is. But anyway ask me another question.

DC: Yeah, so you have actually hit on 3 of my questions already so thank you.

HG: [chuckles]

DC: So what about your family? What has your family's role been in fishing?

HG: Oh that's a good question. Early on when I had the Sea Biscuit and just after I got my steel boat, I had a girlfriend that fished with me for 5 years. That's the idea situation. Having a husband and wife team, or a man and wife team. Compatible together on the boat, because crew has always been a problem. It wasn't so much in those early years because there was money in it. So anybody with any brains was stepping up and pretty soon they had their own boat. But...with the advent of drugs, holy cow, it's hard to find a crewman anymore that has a driver's license because they are DUI'ed out or drugged out and that might be a little harsh but it's true. It's really hard to find good crew. But anyway, my family. So anyway, my girlfriend finally getting so seasick that she couldn't go on anymore and we eventually split up, but I met my wife who was working at the science center as an administrative assistant at the OSU Hatfield Marine Science Center and I met her through Bob Jacobson, who was the first marine extension agent in the country. Here in Newport. I was talking to him one day and he said - you know there's this girl over there that likes to fish steel head but she doesn't have anybody to take her, and she ties up her gear and goes out and loses all her gear over the weekend and doesn't catch any fish. And I said - wow there's a girl that actually wants to fish steel head? So I went over and met her and that was our first date. And of course it was kind of rigged because I knew a place that you could catch a steel head real easy. Just cast behind that rock and you've got your steel head. So anyway she was a really good fisherman when she went fishing with me. She out fished some pretty good fishermen that were around at that time. I think it was after we were married that she went out on the boat commercial fishing. It was a little bit snarly, short trip. When she got back she said when Herb I see this is for you [chuckling] But anyway, she tried it, she kept working at the science center and eventually got promoted to Bob Jacobson's old job when he retired. She became the marine extension agent for Newport and put in an illustrious career if you talk to anybody around here that knew of her or knew her or whatever during that time period. She did a lot of things. She helped bring the helicopter here the first time and survival suits. She used to say - well fishermen, pretty macho, we know how to handle ourselves, we don't need safety training, we don't need survival suits, well she said the way to get them to put them on the boat is to talk to their wives [chuckles] and the safety training then, before the coast guard had mandatory safety training she was approached by some Alaska boats...there's quite a few Alaska families...fishermen from Newport started the king crab fishery in Alaska. And there's still quite a few families from here that fish Alaska. Anyway, some Alaska guys approached her about safety training for their crews. So she started it made it for everybody who wanted it. And got some for most experts, and she made me take the first class and of course I'm thing - god what do I need that for? You know with all the stuff I need to know. It was a 5-day class and I learned something every day. Then it was a 3-day class and I don't know what it is now, but I'll tell you that everybody that goes on the ocean should take it. Because you learn so much about stuff you don't have a hint about. And when the stuff hits the fan it's too late to start learning. You need to be thinking about stuff [chuckles] So anyway, we had a couple of kids, a couple of girls, and about that time a new fishery started in the south pacific, Albacore fishery. What was happening was in the...after the Magnusson act, it displaced the Japanese gillnet fishery off of Alaska. They used to fish up to 12 miles and they would just catch the heck out of Alaska salmon. With the Magnusson Act it kicked them to 200 miles, and so they went after...they

targeted neon flying squid, but their second target was Albacore. So it got so bad, the three nations of South Korea, Japan, and Taiwan, I think at one time they had over 1700 boats, and they all fished 25 miles of net, so you could circle the earth twice with the amount of net they had in the water. Pretty soon we were seeing a difference. A ton a day used to be what you shot for good Albacore fishing, and pretty soon we could catch more than a thousand pounds in a day and they were bleeding from gill net marks, and missing fins. Basically we were catching what was straying out of the gill nets. And they were fishing a couple blocks outside of us, and it wasn't good. A couple of guys from San Diego drove down to the same latitudes we fish up here, the 40's, and threw out jigs, surface troll jigs, just like we do here. Ah, they were catching a thousand fish a day. And so began a new fishery. So the word was that you go down to the gulf and buy a shrimper, the biggest on you could afford because you have time for 2 trips in a season. And you deliver into Samoa, which is like we are fishing 2000 off New Zealand, and Samoa is 11 days north of us. So you've got time for 2 trips, so you better have a big boat. The bigger the better. It took 11 days to run back to American Samoa, and the Vancamp, and the Star-Kist canneries are there. And you would be unloading between the 1800 ton super seiners. SO it took a long time to unload. Sometimes it took 2 maybe 3 weeks to unload because they were plugged up with those guys. And then it took another 11 days to get back. So basically 2 trips and that's all you had time for before the winter came there. So I'm thinking about it, talking about it, wishing I could do it, and the head of Sea Grant at the time, my wife's boss, was in her office one day and I was tell him about this new fishery developing, and he said - you know I'm getting ready to retire and I'd kind of like to do that with you. He was in the tail end of world war 2, and saw the south sea islands a little bit and thought it would be fun. So anyway, I said well are you sure? Because having a boat is like having a big ball and chain on your leg. You have to think about that boat all the time. Well eventually he and I went to the Gulf and spent a week going from the tip of Florida to Boluxen, Mississippi looking at boats. We had a lot of surveys already to give us ideas of what we are looking for. We ended up buying one in Biolabatory; 5 year old boat, 80 footer called The Little Ricky. We renamed it...we couldn't see driving around in The Little Ricky, so we named it The Dolphin Free because of the politics at the time. The yellow fin legislation. And that's why we were seeing all those 1800 ton super seiners out of Samoa because they were kicked out of Southern California where they were fishing on dolphin. And if they wanted to be American yellowfin seiners, now they had to go to the mid pacific and fish juvenile fish. But anyway that's a whole different story. So anyway we went 50/50 and I still had my 50 footer, The Easy Sea, and Howard went with a friend of ours down to the gulf, picked up the boat, ran her through the Panama Canal, brought it around and we rigged it here in fall. When he got here I stopped fishing and we started rigging the boat. So we left the 10th of November, my birthday, to go down there and there was a storm coming and it was going to be a 5 day blow. We were trying to get out ahead of it and we actually pulled our wives off the shopping carts at JC Market to leave because we were already 2 hours into the ebb [chuckles]. So when they saw us leave; when they watched us leaving the boat was just standing on its head and tail you know going across the bar and getting out. And so they didn't know whether we were going to live or die on the bar [chuckles]. So anyway Howard was sick for probably the first week, but he got over it and was fine. We made it down there and , you know funny story involving this...things 80 feet long, 22 feet wide, and it came with the great big heavy shrimp outriggers, 52 feet long each, and so I'm trying to figure out whether to take them off and get a set of 30 or 40 foot trolling poles on it...wood poles, like we fish Albacore with up here, or to leave those outriggers on. And now one of the pluses of leaving the outriggers on was we had 4 foot stabilizers and they were out on the very end. So it makes a 150 foot boat, or not quite, you know with your outriggers...your 4 foot outriggers...not outriggers...stabilizers out on the end, and so we soon found out about them on Christmas day when it's blowing 80, we are on the tuna grounds off New Zealand, it's blowing 80, and every other wave one of those 4 foot stabilizers is flying around in the air [chuckles] So my partner came to me and he said, you know he was like 65, he said well Herb this is the first time in my life that I

have been away from my family on Christmas day and so, you know, god here we are experiencing all this new stuff and I could see it was bothering him a little bit, but he put up a brave effort and did everything he was supposed to do, but when we got back he said - well Herb, I see this isn't for me. SO get back on the dock at Newport. So the next...let's see I think it was 3 years that I had to take it myself, and so I've been away from home salmon fishing up to 3 months at a time and that's manageable. I can stand that and the family can. But now I'm gone 6 months, and that's big time. That's big. I've got 2 little girls growing up without me. All the holidays, all the important things. And I get home and I start giving orders again and my wife says - who the hell are you. She had to replace the water heater and how many things in the house that I wasn't there for and he father died, and lots of things. So we put her up for sale. And you know...I enjoyed that fishing probably more than any other kind just because all you had to worry about was keeping the machinery running and where your next fish was coming from. The ideal situation again is the husband and wife team. We only needed one crewman...a husband and wife team could actually do it, but most people put on a third crewman for that production fishing down there. But you know there were probably 10...maybe 40 American boats fishing down there and about 10 Kiwi boats that we got acquitted with. So if anybody needed help, everybody was there to help them. A couple guys put out eyes with tuna jigs. There was one appendix burst, and some other miscellaneous stuff, but as far as I remember nobody died. The guys that put out eyes, it was 7 days back to Tahiti or New Zealand to get a doctor, but you know they had pain killers, different stuff on the boats. But anyway, these 10 American families that fished down there in their summer, you know the Albacore season would span the winters down on that country. They'd either go to Thailand or somewhere, or most of them went to New Zealand, and you could have a 3-month visa and renew it once so you could spend 6 months in New Zealand and have no problem. They told us about how neat it was in Kiwi land, that you run into a Kiwi on the street...bump into a Kiwi on the street and they hear your accent and they would invite you home for dinner, and it was true, it was true. They just love Americans, and they are really great people. They are just like us. I gotta say that since...well, how I found out was one year while I had 2 crewmen, and I always tried to pick guys that were compatible, because you hear about the mutinies; guys tied up in fish holds and captains locked out of the wheel house, and all kinds of things. You would hear these dramas on the radio [chuckles]. But anyway, so you would try and pick good crew. Well, I miss quid one. God, he couldn't get along with the other guy and one day came into me and said - I want off this boat right now. You have gotta take me to New Zealand, so I did, I had to. So 7 days and nights running into New Zealand to drop him off and we spent a week while we were there. I learned about New Zealand. Now I don't remember all the fish that I caught down there, but I do remember that week I spent in New Zealand, and it was terrific. I just can't say enough good things about it. So anyway, another Kiwi fishermen had his wife bring his pickup down, and of course they drive on the wrong side of the road down there. Brought his little Toyota pickup with the steering wheel on the right, and I tried driving that thing and as soon as I started talking to somebody I would be in the wrong lane looking at somebody head on. So I quit driving. That's it, I can't do that. So I was hitchhiking back to the boat and Kiwi picked me up, and the subject came around of hunting and he said - yeah I've got a big stag right up on that hill right there last weekend. If you are going to be here I will take you hunting next week. I mean that's as friendly as they are. So anyway I kept thinking about that and now I have flown back 4 times to hunt stag, at a differnt place everytime. And I'm going back next April again. But god it I could talk my wife into it with the political atmosphere here I would love to...it would be great [laughing].

DC: Thats fantastic

HG: Yeah, so anyway we sold the baot to a Kiwi cooperation and they came up here to pick it up. You know I asked him - you know theyve...as long as I can remember fishing, the manager here always

wanted us to have limited entry. Instead of having 60 fishermen on a spot or on a resource, 6...have 6. Well they must be getting lazy because thats...if you dont want to do anywork, I mean, you get mad at 6 guys instead of 60. Of course that 54 less complaining to you, but...so they would being these biologists from New Zealand here to tell us how good their limited entry program was. So I'm asking this guys about it and he says - well we have lobster quota on an area where there used to be 60 guys, and now there are 6. And I asked - what happened to the other guys? He said - they just went away... and so what happened was it is so tempting to sell their little piece of quota for big money, that most guys did then after it was done - well what do we do now? I guess we will go to work for these guys. For guess what? Minimum wage. And now...Sanford and Peter Tally own all the quota down there. One on the North Island, one on the South Island. Big fish companies. And they pretty much dictate how things go. Being an independant fishermen just went away. SO thats what happends. And you know I have to say that I'm a stanch conservative, but I dont beleive in whats happening up here with different fishereis like halibut, black cod, shrimp, anything you want to name, drag fish, that your permit to fish becomes...what would you call it...a retirmnt fund. Better than that...all these guys are locked out of fishing. Only certain people can have them and so...how does that work? That you can buy and sell these permits and pass them onto your heirs and it's a public resource. I'ts everybodies resource. It dosnt belong to these guys. So basically thats what happened min New Zealand and thats whats happening here. You know? Capitalists would say - hey thats great, put it in privet hands. No, thats not right. Thats not right. How do these guys, these individuals, these few guys come to own the whole resource. It's not right. It's everybodies. You can't, as a young person like I did, become a fishermen now. You either have to grow up in a fishing family, or be wealthy, or have a backer, to get you into the fishing buisness. Albacore is the last wide open fishery. Theres no season on it. There will be someday. Everything else is so strictly controlled now. And only certain people can be fishermen. I just dont like the way things are going. Ask me another question.

DC: So you said that young people, it's hard to get into the fishery now?

HG: Mhmm [nodding]

DC: Thats the cost or the permits or both? Whats the exact reason?

HG: Everything. Cost and permits. The permits cost money. It used mto be...lets see, a salmon permit was 25 dollars. Same thing for shrimp or dragginf or whatever. Of course it's gone up. Management had increased that price, but that permit give you an exclusive right to fish, and of you dont have a crab permit you dont fish crabs. Like when I sold my boat, the guy that baught it was buying the permits. I mean the permits were worth most than the boat ad all the equipment now. Just to be able to fish. And it's getting worse, and worse, and worse, because pretty soon, as in New Zealand it will all be in the hands of a few wealthy people that distribute the people that work for wages. Thats whats happening.

DC: So going off of that, what would be the most challenging aspect of being a fishermen from when you started until now?

HG: Most challenging aspect, the regulations without a doubt. You know thats why Albacore was my very, very favorite. Nobody told you what to do. And they come and go on their own schedule. Like this year was an early year. We re going to have a barbaque on the second of July. Some years they wouldnt have even been anybody fishing the second of July, but this was a warm water year and we knew that they were here. You know and they leave the same way. In fall after the equanox. I learned about the seasons fishing. After equanox, summer time, theres nothing really dangerous there. Some

snarly northwest 45 or something, but nothing really dangerous. But after equinox you get your westerly swell; and you get these big storms from the central pacific start rolling in. And that's when the fish leave, when the water cools down to a certain degree. They head back from Japan. And while I'm on that subject I might as well tell you about the difference between an Albacore. It's kind of a fishery made in heaven because we don't have any bycatch and it's just a wonderful clean fishery. Albacore in a life cycle, at 2 years old they're about 6 pounds so we call them peanuts and we try to get off peanuts if we can. Sport fishermen they don't care. But that's next year's marketable size. In 3 years it will be a 12 pounder, 4 years 20, 5 years 30. and after 5 years, 5 and a half years they get big enough to start spawning. Then they go to the central pacific and go deep in the water. They don't surface feed anymore like they do as juveniles during their Japan west coast migration every summer. They can live to be 16 years and get up to 100 pounds. I know a guy that caught a 100 pounder. But that's how you fish for them, with baited hooks and go deep for them. It's mainly Asians that do that, but in recent years a lot of Americans have switched over from jig fishing just for the money. Now that's the fish that the major canners prefer because number one they are leaner, they don't have as much fat because they don't do that surface feeding migration, and number 2 they are bigger, they get a better recovery off the fish from the scrap, off the skin and the bones. The reason that is important is because the canneries have to pre-cook the fish before they can eat it. The reason for that being, it's a cheap, cheap test for histamine poisoning. There's an expensive test, but the cheap one is to just cook the fish and inspect the loins after it's cooked. If they are honey combed they are histamine bearing fish, throw them away. You can look it up. Albacore is of the scomberd family and all the scomberds, the bill fish, the tunas, can catch histamine poisoning. It comes from being dead and exposed to heat, or not chilled below 40 degrees for a reasonable amount of time is the best way to explain it. Albacore for instance swims around at about 87 degree body temperature, in 60 degree water. So they are a hot blooded fish. So when you take that fish out of the water, you need to chill it below 40 degrees because histamine poisoning is cumulative. You can give it a little on the boat, a little at the fish plant, a little somewhere else, and when it's got it you can't save it. You've got to throw it away. And what histamine poisoning does...nobody dies from that. You don't see it on the birth certificate...I mean on the death certificate, but what you see it triggers a stroke, or heart attack, stuff like that. And the symptoms are kind of flu like. Maybe 36 hour flu. We know about it. There's one place in Newport that has a bad reputation for...you know that's why the canneries don't like buying iced fish. because they can't tell how long iced fish...they just don't know. This one guy has poisoned a lot of people twice. he is famous for pounding the docks with a little wood ice boat that's been selling for 10 days on the dock and he wants to go fishing again, he will buy his fish cheap and then will fillet them, vacuum bag them and sell them to restaurants and stores. But I won't tell you who that is, but anyway he has been caught twice and he won't change. So that's just giving Albacore a bad name that it doesn't deserve. But the major canners in order to avoid this histamine poisoning, they would be having recalls every week. That's why they don't like buying iced fish. But they pre-cook it just to make sure because they don't have quality standards for the fleet. They buy everybody's fish. The big fish recovery...the fat when it's pre-cooked goes down the drain as lost weight. SO I used to belong to the...I used to be on the board of the West Coast Tuna Association and the vice presidents of the big 3 would tell us every fall about how they hated buying out little jig fish and if they had enough long line fish they wouldn't buy our fish. And so it's happened. That the long line fleet has increased to where all of a sudden, that's why you see everyone selling their own fish...you know, their own markets. I started doing that before anybody else did because I could see the handwriting on the wall. The year they stopped buying, we used to fish the major water break about 1000 miles out. It would be where most of the fish stopped, and when you would go out there, it took 7 days to get out there and it would be like plowing a field. people used to ask me how many fish I would catch in a day or what's the most you ever caught? I'd say I could freeze 2 tons a day. That's when I would stop. I probably spent a quarter of my fishing time just shut down just letting my freezer keep up. Because

youve gotta go by the book on refrigeration. You cant stretch it [chuckles] ot wont work. So anyway, lets see I got side tracked with where I was going with that. So anyway, ask me another question.

DC: So did you encourage your daughters to go into fishing? Or discourage them?

HG: Say again?

DC: Did you encourage or discourage your daughters to go into fishing?

HG: Well, no, no. You know I watched this coming up in fishing, that I had friends who's kids would be on the boat. Salmon fishing was big everybody fished salmon and I remember particularly a guy from Brookings and his 2 young teenage sons were on the baot and there was a time when we bail fished for salmon. Punch bait we called it. We fished 10 spreads per wire, 10 wires in the water, and so they had these things called crowbars and easy baiters. It's a little thing you put in with a pina nd a rubber band and you just snap them on and you run a line and that the fish and scratch the bait off anf put a new one on. So we would buy cases like 5, 6, 7 cases....like what is it 48 trays, a dozen in a tray to the case, and it was a lot of work. So anyway here are these 2 high school kids. Their job was punching bait. They hated it. How far away from fishing do you think they are now intheir adult life [laughing] So the same thing happened to me on a smaller scale. i took my daughters sport fishing so of course youve gotta be there in the dark of the morning bcause that's the morning bite, and you have to be there in the dark leaving becasue thats the evening bite, and so after a couple of times of that in the boat they didnt want to go with me anymore [laughing]. So now I've got 2 grand sons. The oldest is 5, so I've gotta figure out a new approach [chuckles].

DC: But you would like them to go into fishing?

HG: Uhm...you know if it's for them...if it's for them yeah, but please don't go fishing with your dad [laughing]

DC: For young folks going into fishing, what are some big motivators?

HG: Going into fishing now? ...You've gotta like to fish. You've gotta like adventure and the unknown. There's so many things to see out on the ocean that you just can't imagine. And the freedom of it more than anything I think. Although as I said, I would be in so much trouble if I were still fishing salmon and crab and all of that in shore permit stuff. But tuna fishing is still there and you know you dont actually need a permit. All you need is a state licence to go tuna fishing. So it is the last free, wide open fishery. It's the last buffalo hunt. But...ah god, theres so many things but you know what? In the past I have run across so many guys who have dipped their toe in the water ans started fishing and then they couldnt fish, you know? They had to keep oming back. Theyed quit when things go tough and...oh I was telling you about this storm [points to a newspaper clipping on the table discussing a historic storm that hit the coast which he breifly mentioned duing our initial phone call] I remember a nother fishermen that was in the storm told me...I think it was this boat right here [points to photo in article] an older timer had it and when he got in after that storm he packed his bag an left for the summer, he didnt come back to the boat the rest of the summer [chuckles] So I just thats what you say when things get tough you think about another occupation [laughing]

DC: Well-deserved vacation

HG: Yeah, you I really never thought about the danger part. It was just too exciting. It was kinda...It's just...You know I don't know, there's just something to it that keeps pulling you back. But the money is good too. You can't make money in something, you better be doing something else. You know you can make as much money as the time you want to put into it. You pay attention and... you know some many times you will see guys - the fish aren't biting so let's go tie into the dock and listen to the radio and see when they start biting again, then we will go. And the same thing with storms. Fishing the south pacific storms don't bother me. After I got back there wasn't anything that I couldn't live through. And so I would just stay on the grounds and drift it out and as soon as it calmed down enough the gear would go out on the water and they always bite good right after. And all those guys that are waiting back on the doc... well they probably didn't hear it from me because I didn't turn the radio on [laughing]

DC: I like your style. I like the way you roll [chuckles]

HG: [laughing]

DC: So have you seen any changes in the age of fishermen?

HG: Ages?

DC: Yeah

HG: Yeah...quite...you know I don't know many fishermen now, they're all young guys so you know some of them may know me but I don't ... an awful lot of fishermen I know are gone. Sometimes I'll be mowing the lawn or doing something and I'll think of one of those guys and how he passed. You know just out of the blue. But you don't try and think about it while your fishing or when it happens. I guess it's still the most dangerous occupation. But you really don't think about it. It will always happen to the other guy. But the age...it has to be young guys, but to tell you the truth, the young guys I know were the kids when I used to fish. So now they're coming up and fishing families. So it's really hard for a young guy...you know now what's happening is there are a lot of guides, sport guides, taking people fishing for adventure trips. That's...it used to be...well it's just like the fisheries and wildlife school. It used to be that you came from a fishing hunting family and that's why you went into fish and wildlife. To make a living in that business because you liked it. And now it seems like that's been taken over by environmentally minded kids that learn early on not to step on a bug, and everything needs to be protected, and there is not...I consider conservation a wise use of the resource, but now everything is more preservation. So now that's where your managers are coming from now. It's reflected in the business. There are regulations that we don't need that shouldn't even be in place. I mean we don't need them if they are useless. For god sake harvest the resource to a manageable degree. And it's good for people. It's jobs. It's just like timber, it's just like farming, it's just like everything now. You know I just heard recently...the American economy is suffering to the tune of 2 trillion, with a T, dollars a year from federal regulations. That means when a law is passed there is an average of 16 regulations that go with the law. And we have more laws every year. In fact what I read was the federal registrar is where all these laws appear. Last count I think is about 74,000 pages long per year, and 5 of the 6 top years have come during the Obama administration. So tell me it's not getting worse. You know that's just stifling the economy, and everybody pays for it. I was surprised to read that 27% of an American household, everybody's household, goes to the regulatory hurdles that everybody has to go through in order to get a permit to do things. Yeah. It's like...let's see, the mean household income is 51,000 dollars. And this was like 11,000 or 13,000 dollars. 13% of 51,000 dollars. And nobody knows that. So here we are, fishermen, farmers, loggers, complaining about regulations, but it's costing everybody. So

every time I go across the north Santé Ames summit and I look at all those but trees rotting and I think that they could have been salvaged, right after the burn they could have been salvaged, and made jobs and taxes for the state, and now they're just rotting homes for bugs. And I'm thinking what's wrong here? I mean holy cow. Is this where it's going? Where's it going to end? So I forgot what your question was...

DC: Oh it was talking about the age of fishermen

HG: Oh, age of fishermen. yea

DC: But I like your digression

HG: Yeah, well you know that's pretty true. I don't know many fishermen that came from anywhere else than fishing families to tell you the truth. That might be something to do a masters or PhD on [laughing]

DC: So do you think that lack of external young people coming into the business is having an impact on the fleet, or Newport, or the community as a whole? Do you think there is any impact?

HG: Run that by me again.

DC: Do you think there's any impact coming from the fact that external young people, like young people from none fishing families, aren't really coming in?

HG: I don't think it would be a good thing. I don't think it be good. Diversity is good. To have people from different walks of life. Plus, it's playing into the thing of pretty soon just a few people will own the resource.

DC: What about Newport specifically. Since Newport is a fishing community, do you think that if all the boats were sold to one enterprise what kind of impact would that have?

HG: You can guess [chuckles]

DC: I want to know what you think though [chuckles]

HG: Well it's like this place, Englund Marine, that sells to fishermen. So how do you think they can stay in business by selling to 6 fishermen instead of 60? And who's to say that big cooperation's don't just buy their stuff whole sale out of Seattle. So that's what it means. All the support businesses. The whole town. You know I gotta say that I got into fishing early enough that salmon ran the coastal economy and it was all because of hatcheries, and the ocean was full of salmon. the sport fleet, the charter fleets where healthy, and everybody spent money in town. the commercial fleets, everybody was buying new pickups every year. Now there's a wild fish program where hatcheries are bad and only wild fish are good, but oh by the way you can't keep a wild fish, you've gotta throw it back. So what's going to happen? It's like I remember in '66 - '67 at Fall Creek Hatchery we sent silver eggs to Michigan for the Great Lakes, and so how many generations of hatchery fisher were those hatchery fish we sent. And now I read that they are closing down hatcheries because they don't need them anymore back there. Because those dumb hatchery fish that couldn't find their way home are doing so well they have established runs in all the creeks. So tell me again what's wrong with hatchery fish? Nobody wants to

answer that question. But it's political now. Everything is political. It's like what I can see, come back in 20 years it may not take that long, I see this in game too with the introduction of wolves, and with no control on the cougars. It's like the eviros [environmentalists] want the management of the cavemen days. They want the predators to do the management. And forget about man. He doesn't deserve to be here I guess. But sea lions and the birds will manage the salmon resource. The wolves will manage the big game resource, and we don't need those cattle ranchers, their interlopers. So I can see that there are big things, big wheels turning. Lots of money behind it to eliminate fishing and hunting. There are fewer people acquainted with guns an hunting these days. And pretty soon, maybe 20 years, it will be gone. So I guess we can all buy our food from China then. It all comes from the store, I mean what happens when the store closes? [chuckles] We won't know how to create food anymore.

DC: yeah...but meat grows in that Styrofoam package don't it? [laughs]

HG: Mhmm [chuckles]

DC: So you think Newport is in danger of losing its fishing fleet?

HG: Well Newport is the most...not in a political term, but progressive fleet on the coast that i know of. Fishermen know it. Astoria, Coos bay, California ports...California ports are just a shell of what they used to be. I mean when I used to go down there to fish salmon, you would pull into a port, you'd pull into San Francisco and there's barely any place to get support stuff. In order to get a bottle of propane you had to drive all the way across town. They have one place on the other end of town that's got propane. And support, you need a new trolling pole? Forget it. That's California now, the ports. Newport, you know fishermen and local people that work hard to keep fishermen a fishing port. Just coming in today I noticed that there used to be a fish plant and then a fish market where you come down by the coast guard station and make the turn by ...let's see what is that? ...used to be the...well you know where I'm talking about. Where you make the turn to turn onto the Bayfront. And that first building used to be a fish plant and a fish market is now a place that sells soap. And it's on the bay side of bay boulevard. So what's wrong with that picture? They've got a dock. They need a dock to sell soap for god sake. So but we are doing our best to hold onto what we have. But one of the last times I went into San Francisco I sold at Standard Fish which had been there for 100 years, next to fishermen's wharf right in the middle of town. They had a petition on their counter that said - save Standard Fish. City council wanted to bulldoze their fish plant and put in condominiums because they could make 16 times the revenue. Well no doubt, but at the same time they hire, I mean they pay those old times with those little 32 foot Monterey boats down there lined up for people to take pictures of. They never leave the dock. They pay them to be there just so people could take pictures of them. SO is that what we want in Newport someday? No. Well who knows. It's bigger than us. But anyway, Newport will be one of the last places to fall because we have a pretty healthy fleet and there's some money in fishing here.

DC: Interesting. Well that was my last actual question for you, but I want to make sure that I don't miss anything. So is there anything that I didn't ask that you think I should know? I'm sure you have plenty of things...

HG: Oh yeah. You know that's a sample.

DC: Okay

HG: That will get you thinking. Think of some more questions [chuckles]

DC: You got me thinking alright!