

Conversation With A Salmon: Creative Reflections on a Century of Humankind's Most Ambitious Conservation Work

Jay W Nicholas

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Wild Pacific salmon, by government decree, are likely the most "saved" species since their demise commenced with the California Gold Rush in the mid-1800s. As a retired salmon biologist who devoted much of my professional career to writing high-profile salmon conservation plans, I wonder if we're finished; I wonder if we have made the world right for salmon, yet. In this imaginative story, I ask a great hen salmon what she thinks about my life-work and humankind's salmon conservation promise. Conversation With A Salmon is a cautionary tale, accompanied by my original watercolor illustrations. In his Foreword, Jim Lichatowitch (Salmon Without Rivers; Salmon, People and Place) says, "the story is unique, revealing a great truth about the human-salmon relationship that merits a voice alongside every scholarly analysis of the salmon's history and future." This is a book for parents, educators and students: Whether you care deeply or are simply curious about the salmon's future, read-on for a perspective you've never seen in newspaper headlines or scientific journals. This book is a story that considers the Salmon's perspective of humanity's collective efforts to save wild Pacific Salmon, told in a way that is understandable by readers (and listeners) of any age. This surprising perspective should give us all pause to reflect on our future efforts to conserve this magnificent wild species in rivers across the Pacific Northwest. Jim Lichatowitch (Salmon Without Rivers, Salmon, People, and Place). Jim says, "I have read and re-read this story many times, and spent a lot of time thinking about its message. The story is unique, revealing a great truth about the human-salmon relationship that merits a voice alongside every scholarly analysis of the salmon's history and future." Please note: I encourage all who purchase these books to take them to a business like Office Max or Kinkos and get them coil bound with a plastic cover sheet. It is rather inexpensive to do so and it makes it easy to lay the book flat open on a desk and prolongs the "like new" appearance of each book. Thank you very much. JN

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