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# Transcript of The Origins of Dory Fishing in Pacific City

Paul A. Hanneman

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Title: The Origins of Dory Fishing in Pacific City

Storyteller: Paul A. Hanneman

Interviewer: Brenda DeVore Marshall

Interview Date: 2011-07-28

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PAUL A. HANNEMAN: Paul Hanneman.<sup>1</sup>

I, uh, well, most of the 10 or 12 boats that fished in the '50s—late '40s and '50s—when, when I started, most those guys never fished the river very much. If they did, of course, since commercial was closed, they, they just recreational fished. But, uh, the Nestucca River was closed 1926, to inland fishing, and, and so, actually, our dory boats, uh, uh, were mainly river boats that were used back then. And uh, but, but the ocean was the next challenge because the river was closed to commercial fishing.

A statewide initiative, uh, uh promoted by urban people—urban at that time, was Portland and uh, uh, McMinnville, umm, uh, West Linn, Oregon City, and that, that area. And, uh, they, they were opposed to commercial fishing. And, started with the Nestucca River because nearly all the vacation people who fished here came from Yamhill-Carlton area, what's now Sheridan, Willamina, um—Salem. And uh, um, um—around Monmouth, Independence, of course, and, and that area, and so this was their primary recreation area for fishing. And so, they chose the Nestucca as the first one to close. Um, in about five or six years as the subsequent state legislatures met, there were attempts by coastal, uh House and

Senate members especially from Tillamook County and Clatsop County, to re-open the river legislatively. Uh, but, uh, those efforts failed by at least 10 votes in the House each time. And so the river remained closed and was the first one to ever be closed on the Oregon coast.

After 1926 when the river was closed, the Depression came, and there wasn't a lot of effort by four or five dories at that time. In, in the Depression, a lot of the effort [Pause] was to get enough ground fish to supply the mink farms back then and uh, mink production was number four in Tillamook County in the '30s, '40s, and even into the '50s. And there were mink farms, um, I could count eight or nine just in south county. And, um, we like mink farms because I started trapping in the '50s and there, there were escapees, that, uh, that, that we could get along the river.

Anyway, uh, in the '30s, um, I, I think there weren't more than four or five boats that fished then because there was no road to the Cape, and of course there wasn't when I started, either. Uh, but, uh, but the older vehicles were hard to pull boats to the Cape with, and, and, uh, it, it was uh, a lot of, of work getting there each morning. Uh, but—yeah, there's records of, of people fishing from Cape Kiwanda in—in those gill-net boats beginning in 1898. Um, it may have been a novelty, and uh, and, just something they wanted to do at that time.

#### NOTES:

<sup>1</sup> Paul Hanneman began dory fishing in 1948.