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Launching through the Surf Traveling Exhibit Panel 04: Historical Highlights Continued

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Launching through the Surf: The Dory Fleet of Pacific City

Historical Highlights continued

1994 - The Dory Derby celebration transformed into Dory Days. The annual event still takes place on the third weekend in July.

1996 - The current Pacific City Dorymen's Association was formed. Its mission is to "protect, defend and promote the traditional cultural and economic values of the dory fleet."

Jeff and Mary Schons opened the Pelican Pub and Brewery at Cape Kiwanda.

1998 - The Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation considered ways to more effectively manage non-dory and dory traffic and parking at Cape Kiwanda.

1999 - First Blessing of the Fleet was held.

2000s - The dory fishery expanded to Albacore tuna, Dungeness crab, rockfish, and an improving Coho salmon resource.

2007 - Pacific City was the fastest growing area in Tillamook County.

The Cottage at Cape Kiwanda was built on the dune overlooking the Cape.

2008 - A young surfer was hit by a dory. The incident was ruled an accident and no charges were filed.

2008 recession began to curtail growth in Pacific City.

2009 - The Pacific City Dorymen's Association's Memorial Wall at Cape Kiwanda was dedicated.

- In a civil trial, the doryman involved in the 2008 accident was found “not negligent.” The surfer was found 30% responsible for his injuries while the state of Oregon was deemed 70% negligent. The surfer was awarded 3.8 million from the state.

2013 - In the Territorial Sea Plan amendments, the state of Oregon approved an offshore area south of Pacific City as one of four Renewable Energy Facility Areas.

2014 - In a civil trial, the doryman involved in the 2008 accident was found "not negligent." The surfer was found 30% responsible for his injuries while the state of Oregon was deemed 70% negligent. The surfer was awarded 3.8 million from the state.

The number of fishers and does in the fleet continues to increase. The membership mailing list for the Dorymen's Association numbers almost 600, not all of those on the list are dory fishers. But, the fleet has changed from one focused on commercial fishing to one centered on recreational angling. Increased surfing, kayaking, and tourism at Cape Kiwanda continue to fuel the tension between fishing and tourism—between a sleepy fishing village and a bustling, more gentrified tourist center—that seems inherent in the village's DNA. While the dorymen advocate for use by all for Oregon's public beaches, the increased number of persons involved with varied activities on the beach creates challenges. The Pacific City Dorymen's Association, the Pacific City-Netarts Valley Chamber of Commerce, and the local surfing community collaborate on educating the public about the dangers at the Cape, including the development of brochures explaining the multiarea.