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The Boldt Decision

By *Emilie Miller*,
Senior Curator

Hibulb Newsletter

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February 12th, 2024 marks the 50th anniversary of the landmark court case, US v. Washington. This case revolutionized the state fisheries industry and upheld the treaties signed between the federal government and Native American Tribes.

As settlers arrived to Indigenous Lands, they quickly recognized the economic profitability of commercial fishing. Treaty tribes fought tirelessly to have authority over their usual and accustomed waterways to continue to provide sustenance for their communities and to protect against the overfishing that was rapidly increasing.

Over the next century, Washington State ignored the treaties, threatening the salmon population as well as habitats. Washington officials and commercial fishermen grew increasingly hostile towards Native fishermen. Through the growing hostility, many court cases, and public demonstrations, it all came to a head in US v. Washington, in front of Judge George Boldt in 1974.

This case, monikered The Boldt Decision, was the most notable case for Judge Boldt, who was appointed by President Eisenhower in 1953. The Boldt Decision reaffirmed the treaty rights Tribes have while also naming them as co-managers for the fishery industry of the state, allowing them to continue their cultural tradition of protecting salmon ecosystems.

To learn more about this infamous case and the current habitat restoration efforts, please visit the Hibulb Cultural Center and see our temporary exhibit, The Influence of the Boldt Decision and Maintaining Treaty Rights.



Fishing Rights Protest, 1974
Courtesy of Washington State Historical Society, 2010.0.001

Fishing Rights Protest, 1974 *Washington State Historical Society*

Friday, December 3, 1976, Everett Herald 3A

focus / SEATTLE

Indians plan Boldt history

TACOMA (UPI) — After decades of feeling neglected by history, Puget Sound Indians are planning to write their own story of Indian fishing rights.

The history, covering the landmark decision handed down by U.S. District Court George Boldt, would be for use in Washington State's public schools.

Members of the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission said Thursday they are working with Indian educators from eight Western Washington school districts to develop a special curriculum on the Boldt decision.

Jack Wheeler Recalls the Signing of the Treaty of Point Elliot

By Lj Mowrer, Hibulb Librarian

A Message to Our Educators

From Ana Ramirez, Education Curator

With the anniversary of the Boldt decision in February and Billy Frank Jr Day in March, many teachers use these winter months to teach students about local tribes. However, learning from and about Indigenous peoples should take place year round and not only during bigger events such as the Boldt decision anniversary. There is always something to learn from Indigenous peoples and to educate ourselves on.

The Hibulb Cultural Center put out lesson plans and curriculums on a variety of topics on the Tulalip Tribes, for all grade levels. Previous curriculums include Ancestral Territory Map Place Names, Notable Leaders, and The Treaty of Point Elliot. Recently, we have published a curriculum on the Traditional Languages of the Coast Salish people to accompany our tabtabᕐb language exhibit that opened at the end of October 2023. This month, we also

published a curriculum on the Boldt decision for all grade levels. This curriculum includes a packet, a documentary with questions for students to answer, and much more. All of our lesson plans, curriculums, and other teaching resources can be found on the Hibulb Cultural Center website under the Education tab.

There are certain traditional stories and traditional teachings that can only be learned at specific time or under specific conditions, and this still continues to be the case today. But for teachers, educators, and students, there is always something to learn from and about tribes year round. Educating ourselves on local tribes is not done in one lesson plan, it is a lifelong commitment to learn from and work with tribes.

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Jack Wheeler (ca1840-1925) was born at Priest Point, growing up there and also on the Skykomish River, near Sultan. He was the son of Tslose Kanim (Snohomish father) and Seyap To Lo (Kikiallis mother). In January 1855, his father took 15-year-old Wheeler to Mukilteo to attend the Puget Sound tribes' meeting with Washington territory governor, Isaac Stevens to discuss a treaty between the tribes and the federal government. According to Wheeler, Stevens had been there several days before Wheeler and his family got there. Wheeler also recalled that a Mr. Simmons and a Mr. Shaw were there too: Simmons being M.T. Simmons, a Special Indian Agent and a witness of the treaty signing; and Shaw being B.F. Shaw, another interpreter and a witness to the treaty signing. At the meeting, Wheeler said he overheard Stevens, the chiefs and the head men talk into the night. Another interpreter was John Taylor, who spoke Chinook but not English. According to former Hibulb senior curator

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Tessa Campbell, Shaw translated from English into Chinook Jargon, and Taylor, a Snohomish Indian who spoke Skykomish, translated Chinook Jargon into the varying dialects of Lushootseed. In his later years, when asked whether the Indians were fully advised and clearly understood all of the stipulations of the treaty that were made at that time, Wheeler answered, "They all understood. That is the reason that some of them got mad when they found out that they sold this country."



Air Fryer Blackened Salmon Bites

A good air fryer is so convenient for quick and easy weeknight meals. One of my favorites are these blackened salmon bites with lemon aioli. They really can be done in just 15 minutes start to finish! I usually will throw together a salad or some roasted potatoes on the side to make it a more complete meal, so customize it however you'd like. It's also great on its own as an appetizer for a dinner party.

Ingredients:

- 1 pound salmon diced
- Avocado oil
- 1 TBSP Paprika
- ½ TSP Cayenne Pepper
- 1 TSP Garlic Powder
- 1 TSP Dried Thyme
- 1 TSP Dried Oregano
- ½ TSP Mustard powder
- 1 lemon, 1 half juiced & 1 half wedged
- ½ cup Mayonnaise
- 1 clove of garlic, minced
- Salt and Pepper to taste

Instructions:

If you are using frozen Salmon, make sure the salmon has completely thawed before starting.

1. Combine all dried ingredients in a bowl with salt and pepper and set aside
2. Remove the skin of the salmon and dice into cubes. Transfer to a bowl and gently toss the cubes in avocado oil to coat. Then, add the blackened spice mix to your salmon and gently toss again until all salmon bites are evenly coated in a generous amount of spice.
3. Preheat your airfryer to 400. Once heated spray or drizzle a bit more oil in the basket to be sure nothing will stick. Distribute your salmon evenly and cook for 5-7 minutes, until salmon is flakey through to the center and the

outsides are blackened but not burnt. It is easy to overcook salmon in the air fryer so be sure to toss halfway through to make sure they cook evenly on all side and only cook them for as long as they need.

4. While the salmon is cooking, you can prepare your aioli. Add mayonnaise, garlic, lemon juice, salt, and pepper to a bowl and whisk until the lemon juice and mayonnaise combine into a smooth texture. The lemony creamy taste of this dip pairs perfectly with the salmon but is also delicious on potatoes.

5. Serve with a side of your lemon aioli for dipping and an extra lemon wedge if you'd like. Enjoy!



*Recipe From
Braxton
Wagner,
Editor*

