

Creel Notes from the



P.O. Box 639, Mercer Island, WA 98040

Website: www.wffc.com

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International Federation of
FLY FISHERS
Conserving, Restoring, Educating Through Fly Fishing



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August, 2015

President's Riffle

By President Gary Bergquist



As I write this we are, again, experiencing an inordinately warm spell. Can I say "Hot"? Hopefully we are at the tail end of these systems; however some are predicting this warmer than normal weather may last into the spring. From what I read, we are in uncharted territory with respect to the combination of low stream and

river flows and high water temperatures. Most of the ink seems to be spent on the Columbia River and its impoundments (bathtubs?) These waters as well as others are approaching, if not exceeding, lethally high temperatures for salmon and steelhead.

WDFW recently imposed further restrictions on retention of Coho in the first 300 or so miles of the Columbia....seems these silver beauties are way, way early.

A very depressing article in the July 26th edition of the Seattle Times. "Sockeye die-offs in lethal waters". It is worth your time to track it down. One portion of the article relays information on a conference call among fish biologists representing affected state agencies. One of the participants in the call suggested pressure be applied to force the powers that be to release more water in the Columbia system in an attempt to lower water temperatures. The reporter notes this suggestion was met with "we need more information before we can support this". Kudos to Idaho's Russ Kiefer who is reported as saying: "We are at the time that the more we delay, the more sockeye die." Sometimes situations require action. I once read that the wrong action at the right time is, as a rule, preferable to the right action at the wrong time. What good is more information arriving after the fish die?

My guess is the irrigators, those who use the water for barge operations and power generation as well as their hydra-headed regulators have zero interest in releasing any more water for fish than is minimally required absent some heavy

political pressure. As for barge operations, a recent Wall Street Journal article noted the Port of Portland is no longer a port of call for container ships with shippers of agricultural products now being forced to ship through Seattle or Tacoma ports. As I recall, one of the

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August Program

Fly Fishing Destination Seminar (And Fly Fishing Gear and Swap Sale)

By Bob Burdick, 2nd VP for Programs

August is our annual roundtable and recycled fishing equipment exchange.

The roundtable will feature eight different presenters making a presentation on fishing destinations within driving distance of Seattle--Salt Water beaches, NW lakes, Central Washington Lakes, Western Washington rivers, Eastern Washington Rivers, British Columbia Lakes, Oregon Rivers, Washington Steelhead

The program will begin with our usual happy hour at 5:30 pm followed by a barbecue dinner and at 7 pm a speaker at each of 8 tables will discuss his topic area for 2 hours. The members present will be able to rotate through at least 2 presentations as each speaker will be asked to repeat his discussion once.

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Several of the presenters will be employees of local retail fly shops with the majority of presenters being members of the WFFC.

Fly tier: None on this evening



(Continued from page 1) - Presidents Riffle

arguments for retention of dams on the Snake is for barge operations.

Our August meeting is only a few days away. Bob Burdick has put together a great program which will run with our annual Garage Sale. Do not miss it.

One of the downsides of being an officer of the Club is that we are generally pretty busy at club meetings and not only miss out on some of the comradery but the ability to watch our guest tiers. I missed most of Scott Hagen's work at his tying vise during our July meeting; however, Scott was gracious enough to give me one of his patterns at the end of the evening. Very simple pattern but, as I am learning, more than a little challenging to tie.

The July meeting had a full agenda. Among other matters members were elected to the Nominating Committee: The members so elected are:

Craig Crumbaker
Jim McRoberts
Dick Brening
Ron Dion
Chuck Ballard

This committee will be undertaking the chore of identifying club members to serve as officers and/or trustees for the year 2016. All officer positions and two trustee positions will need to be filled for the upcoming year. If you are contacted by a member of this committee please consider the position being offered. This is serious business and the members of this committee treat their charge as such.

Also during the July meeting three new members were inducted: **Greg Smith, Daryl Crockford and Jeff Williamson**. Not only was the induction ceremony "logistically impaired", I scheduled the ceremony late in the program with a dwindling and somewhat inattentive audience. I personally apologize to Greg, Daryl and Jeff. We did not do well by you. Please believe me that you are important, we are happy to have you with us as fellow members and look forward to getting to know you.

Boyd Aigner 2015



2015 Boyd Aigner Results

By Bill Neal, Awards Committee Chairman

It's official now—**Chuck Ballard** is the overall winner in the 2015 Boyd Aigner Fly Tying Competition. The plaque and special pin were presented to Chuck at the July Members' meeting. The Competition was started in 1997. Chuck was also the overall winner in 2012. There were 9 participants this year, including two from the Healing Waters program, Ray Ostman and David Hart.

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Creel Notes

...is the official publication of the Washington Fly Fishing Club. Subscription is free with membership.

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Gary Bergquist

1st Vice President (Membership)

Scott Hagen

2nd Vice President (Programs)

Bob Burdick

3rd Vice President (Christmas Party)

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Ghillie 1

Jim Macdonald

Ghillie 2

Abe Lillard

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Roger Rohrbeck '13 Dave Hawkinson '13
Mark Pratt '14 Ron Dion '14
Walt Swanson '15 Robert Tovar '15

*Club officers and chairmen can be contacted by logging in the WFFC website then selecting **email** (upper right corner). Button selection and message box will appear on scroll down*

Club Aims and Purposes

The purpose of this club shall be:

1. To improve and increase the sport of Fly Fishing in the State of Washington.
2. To promote and work for the betterment of trout streams and lakes.
3. To encourage and advocate the conservation and increase of trout, steelhead, and salmon in state waters.
4. To promote a campaign of education against pollution in streams, lakes or Sound waters of the State of Washington.
5. To encourage and assist others—particularly young persons of high school age—to become fly fishers and true conservationists.

The top three finishers overall and by pattern are:

- **Overall:** 1st-Chuck Ballard; 2nd-Walt Swanson; 3rd-Ray Ostman
- **Chironomid:** 1st-Chuck Ballard and Walt Swanson (tie); 2nd-Robert Tovar
- **Trico:** 1st-Chuck Ballard; 2nd-Hugh Clark, Ron Dion, and Robert Tovar (tie)
- **Intruder:** 1st-Ray Ostman and Walt Swanson (tie); 2nd-Dick Brening

Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all who participated. The Competition is always an interesting event, and it is satisfying to see what exceptional tiers there are in the Club and among those that the Club supports. Special thanks to **Bob Burdick** for his help in selecting the patterns.



Chuck Ballard (L) receives 1st Place
from Bill Neal, Awards Chairman

Project Healing Waters



Project Healing Waters

By Jim McRoberts

On Saturday July 25th we had an outing at Nisqually Trout Farm in Lacey (east of I-5 at exit 114). Our WFFC volunteers were **Art Alton, Bob Birkner, Scott Hagen, James Schmidt, Dave Wands, Bob Young and Jim McRoberts**; also John & Evelyn Templar who volunteer at American Lake were there.

We had eight veterans and one wife and one VA leader from Compass House in Renton, including four veterans from our original Seattle VA group. The American Lake group was six veterans and one VA leader. Everyone was allowed to fish, however, the volunteers mostly helped cast, tie on flies, untangle lines and trees, net fish and

watch a group of very happy people enjoy a day on the water!



Veteran's at the Nisqually Trout Farm

We have **Bob Young** to thank for finding this new place for us. Bob fished here a few weeks prior with a Youth group sponsored by TU. The Manager was very nice to our group and we plan to go back on August 29th. We have plans to repeat in September and October. We kept 14 fish (15" to 22"). Four I took for smoking for the American lake group. The rest were taken home and the reports are that they tasted very nice fresh off the grill!

August Outing

Day Outing Planned, August 22nd

By Mike Wearne

Okay, here is the game plan for one-day hike trip to Slide Lake, which I am putting together for Saturday, August 22.

Slide Lake is off Highway 530, south of Rockport and north of Darrington. It is on page 97 A6 in the Washington Atlas and Gazetteer.



Slide Lake, Skagit County



The hike in to the lake is just over a mile, and the Washington Trails info rates the hike as EASY. However, I have not been to the lake, and I am not informed about the fishing at the lake.

7:30 AM - 8:00 AM. We meet at the Safeway in Arlington. It is located at 204th and State Route 9.

10:00 AM. We should be at the trailhead from Forest Road 18. The trip on Forest Road 18 from State Route

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530 is over an hour. The road is in surprisingly good condition for a "Forest Road"

11:00 AM. We should get to Slide Lake at about 11:00 for a day of fishing.

3:00 PM. I am thinking we are leaving the lake at around 3:00, this gives us an hour to get to the trail head and an hour to get to SR 530.

5:30 PM. I am suggesting that we meet afterward at Birdview Brewery which is located at 38302 State Route 2. just west of Concrete. This is a small establishment on the south side of SR 20. The building looks like a large yurt. There is outside dining. It is sort of a classy Zeke's Hamburger type of joint. They have a website with a menu and the beers that are brewed. This place was recommended to me by **Preston Singletary**.

If you have any questions please contact me at:

(253) 305-1562

Catch of the Day in Anaheim? (Trout of Course)

In a baseball game against Texas a prescient Angels fan brought a huge fishing net—complete with the letters spelling out "**Trout Net**" attached to the rim.

Sure enough, sitting in the right center bleachers the Angels fan Jonathan Plaza snared Mike Trout's six inning grand slam with the net.

"I had a hunch that it was going to be a special moment so I took out the net once Trout walked up to the plate"
"It's in the top two moments of my life, after the my baby was born"

'Reeling' in the Years

An Old WFFC Tale



Grant Putnam was an 'old timer' in the Washington Fly Fishing Club and a mortician by profession.

One meeting he brought in a bunch of small plastic foam cubes about an inch thick and two by four inches in width and length, with a pink plastic ribbon around each cube. These were apparently from his business and offered them to club members as holders of toothpicks so the other end of which a recently-tied fly could be held until the head cement dried. These were placed at each setting prior to dinner.

Just as dinner was ending (in those days at the Edmond Meany Hotel, dinner was served by waitresses and everyone started eatingand finishing at the same time. Earl George stood up and addressed the president with THE question, "Who the hell brought those dry tasteless cookies?"



Chelan Fire, From Stehekin looking down lake to Domke Mt.
From Don Gulliford

New Members



In the Center of the Photo - **Greg Smith** (green shirt) **Jeff Williamson** (short sleeve shirt/tie), and **Daryl Crockford** (tallest) are our newest members presented at July's Meeting—along with their sponsors



Alpine Lakes Wilderness

Good Fishing 40 Miles from Seattle

The Alpine Lakes Wilderness area isn't that far from Seattle and although it can get some crowds it doesn't take long for them to thin out the farther you get away from the main roads.

The last time we three college friends hiked was 14 years ago. My life has changed. All of us are now adhering to the minimalist philosophy when backpacking (all of us 65 years old). Sleeping on the ground (no tents), minimal food (freeze dry) and no extra clothes. I suppose we'd be sunk if some bad weather set in but our backs and legs are not what they used to be. Ibuprofen is now a staple for our jaunts and joints.



Evening Dry Fly Action, '10 cent' Lake, Alpine Wilderness

The lake we targeted, '10 cent' lake, had some substantial surface action in the evenings but well away from the shoreline. I'll bet a 'fly shop worth' of flies and tippets were lost on our backcasts due to the brushy shoreline. Nevertheless, when getting a fly out far enough we were usually rewarded. The majority of the fish were in the 9"-10" inch range, a few larger. This larger 15 inch was kept for eating.

It's nice to know that we still have places like this so close to Seattle.



Alpine Lake Wilderness Trout, 15", note Leatherman tool above

Chilko River, B.C.

Tsylos Park Lodge

July 5-12, 2015.

By Hugh Clark

John Narver and I spent a week at the lodge in early July, timed to match the big stone fly hatch. We were not disappointed although in this warm year the hatch began two weeks early.

We floated the Chilko River each day in our powered boats going down river with jet assist for the up river transport. Each day we hooked 15-30 fish, including one to four 20 inch plus fish, and released all. Small



stone flies, caddis and even an Adams were effective until eleven when the large stones came off like flying snow balls. Then sofa pillows and various Chernobyl patterns floated and skated were productive. The fish were bigger this year than on any of my five prior trips, perhaps due to the huge sockeye return in 2013. One day we took a ride



Chilko River Morning Mist—Tsylos Park Lodge Photo

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up into the gorgeous Chilko Lake for scenery, and to fish the mouths of incoming streams for bull trout. A single 28 incher was taken but as usual the 6000 foot mountains, bright glaciers and azure blue water charmed us.

The amenities are fine, with excellent beds, comfortable lodging, outstanding meals, skilled guiding, and courteous hosts. For non fishers, the horse back trips are reportedly exciting, somewhat challenging, not for beginners but fine for intermediate riders. Google Tsylos Park Lodge for details.

Dean River, B.C.

Dean River Trip Report, 2015

By Scott Hagen

Jim McRoberts, Jay Deeds and I departed Jim's house for our annual Dean River on Stephanie's birthday, July 2. There are advantages to having a wife that is an avid fly fisher, and while she didn't like it, she understood. We had an easy two day drive to Bella Coola, arriving to some record high temperatures. It didn't get better! We saw highs over 100F on a regular basis for the next week. It's a good thing we chose to go early this year instead of the third week of August, I suspect by then the river will be full of glacier melt, with very low visibility, kinda like our White River is now.



Scott, sporting a WFFC hat and a Dean River Steely

I think the hot temperatures led to higher than normal water temperatures and slowed down the numbers of fish entering the mouth of the river. Our hook-up rate on the lower river was much slower than the days we fished the upper river. All that said, we hooked a good number of fish. Jim went four for five on the upper river one morning while I went three for three.

After hooking and landing two fish in the run in the first twenty minutes, the guide sent me up to a small run above, saying "if you hook a fish there, it's gonna be big". I perceived his action as reasonable to "put me in the penalty box", so I wouldn't hog all the fish in the lower run. Five casts in I hooked and landed a red hot sixteen pound hen. Since the river had changed and this was a brand new run, and I caught the first fish in it, per tradition, I got to name it. It will be "Penalty Box" until the river changes again and takes it away. Penalty Box became my "go to" spot for the rest of the week. I fished it four times, hooking at least one fish every time I fished it.



What a place!, Jim McRoberts

My high landing percentage evened out later in the week, when through some strange things happening, I went one for four, losing a couple of beauties. I will be seeing the **Avid Angler** soon about getting a new knob for one of my Hardy reels. I lost track of some of Jay's exploits, but I do know he hooked a bunch of steelhead and had on two Chinook on the lower river one morning, losing a thirty pound fish close to the net and then landing a fifteen pounder. All in all, an average week on the Dean with the three of us landing around twenty fish to eighteen pounds, with almost all of them being between ten pounds and sixteen pounds and "red hot". I believe that if we had had cool and cloudy days instead of glaring sunshine,

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the totals would have been much higher. People can say what they want about “global warming”, but we have decided to return to the Dean in early July for 2016.



Isn't this paradise..... from a "Penalty Box"!

“Can't beat the logic of fisherman when he wants to stay for a few hours. One reason of course is because the fish are biting, the other is because they aren't

-The Notes, Ronald Reagan

Middle Fork Salmon, Idaho

Middle Fork Salmon River Frank Church Wilderness, Idaho

July 17-21

By DeVonne Wells

Years ago, as our sightseeing float trip was ending on the Main Salmon River in Idaho, I saw the Middle Fork confluence just above our takeout. Having recently seen a re-run of the movie by that name, I needed to explore the *River of No Return*, Marilyn Monroe's acting notwithstanding. But the next time I wanted to fish!

That opportunity arose at the 2014 Christmas Party Auction, when *Aggipah River Trips* generously donated a guided trip (thanks to Stephanie Hagan who procured it). Dick and I jumped at the chance, but had no idea of the scope of the white water, incredible wilderness sights of soaring canyon walls, long-abandoned homesteads, rushing creeks crashing into the river, rock fall sever changing the river's course to challenge the river guides. It is difficult to overstate the magnificence of this wilderness and realize it's still very much like it was in the 1800's.

We flew from Salmon, Idaho by Twin Islander, a 30-minute flight barely above Aggipah Mountain, elevation 9200 ft., to a very short dirt landing strip on the river.

There to greet us and start us on our 60-mile trip, was senior guide, Bill Bernt along with his son, John and two fully-loaded rafts they had rowed from a put-in some 3 days upstream. His daughter, Stephanie, also an extremely competent river guide, was on the plane with us. The Bernt's are 30 year residents of Salmon and know the river and territory. We fished from a pre-positioned metal dory manufactured in Eugene Oregon, a style of boat I remembered from times of the MacKenzie River White Water Boat Parade when I was a kid.

We started out fishing immediately. Bill advised on fishing spots along the way he knew were productive. Dick started with a hopper pattern and I used a guide-tied orange/red-bodied elk-hair caddis. The fish are exclusively West-slope cutthroat, not big, maybe 14" max, but fighters and brawlers. On light rods: I had anew 8' Echo 4wt and Dick had a 5 piece 3wt; the fish felt like salmon. The river temps had been raised by a spell of hot weather but still maintained around 60 degrees. In Montana the hoot-owl rules were in effect: no fishing on the rivers after 2 pm, so we abided by that mindset although we didn't need to, and enjoyed the incredible scenery in the afternoon. The fishing was slow - the water somewhat silted from earlier rains. Bill said usually the catch was about 40 a day to a boat and although we didn't get those numbers we caught enough.

White water? I was not expecting so much white water or large rapids! Sitting in the front seats of a dory gives a person the opportunity to cool off in the heat. A big bow-crashing wave in the lap tends to do that! There are some great rapids and drops are substantial, some of class 4. The two inflatable supply boats, with Steph and John at their respective oars, stood by to make sure the dory got through some of the harrier places. At one serious rapid, Haystack, other boat companies also stood by to watch the pro go through, as we were the only dory on the river.



Middle Fork Salmon River

Camp and food? Little did we think we'd have a tent with cots and inflatable mattresses! The Bernt's called it the Geezer tent! At least it wasn't the Old Geezer tent. The food was exceptional. The breakfasts started with cowboy coffee (Brening, you'd love this) scrambled eggs, meat,

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fish, French toast, pancakes, and juice. The lunches were served on assembled tables along the river, always in the shade, a choice of sandwiches, tortilla rolls, all the accretions and one day an incredible taco salad! Dinners were grilled Idaho farmed trout, steak, and Dutch oven lasagna. Steak night we had big baked potatoes with sour cream & butter. The desserts were great - luscious chocolate cake from the Dutch oven and a delicious cheesecake. Each dinner was served with a paired bottle of Idaho wine. We also had ice for beverages, treats and nightcaps around the fire.

The Bernt's, Bill, Stephanie and John worked hard and rowed all day. They are highly organized, concerned about their guests and made sure we had everything we needed. We felt like royalty, as one must on an African safari. Everything was done for us, fast, efficient, with humor, good spirits and wonderful stories of the river and lots of history thrown in. It was a trip of a lifetime and we feel honored to have run the river with the Bernt's.

A footnote: For those who have read *The Emerald Mile*, Bill rowed with Kent Grua down the Grand Canyon for years before settling in Salmon ID some 30 years ago. You can follow his newsletter on:

<http://www.salmonriverwhitewater.com>

*I highly recommend the book **The Emerald Mile**. One of the better outdoor books I've read in the last 20 years—Ed*

And... Those Hatchery Fish

Thousands Of Hatchery-Raised Steelhead Kept Out Of Dungeness River

*From the Sequim Gazette via Don Gilliford
Written by Alana Linderoth*



Like the 10,000 steelhead raised at the Dungeness Hatchery earlier this year, about 500,000 Coho salmon are now being raised in ponds at the facility operated under Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

— image credit: Sequim Gazette photo by Alana Linderoth

Thousands of steelhead raised at the Dungeness Hatchery weren't released into the Dungeness for the second consecutive year.

Instead the 10,000 steelhead, a sea-run rainbow trout, were some of nearly 300,000 that won't be making it to the sea via the Dungeness, Nooksack or Stillaguamish rivers.

Concerns with whether hatchery steelhead negatively impact or weaken the genetics of wild steelhead are at the root of the decision made by officials with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service to keep hatchery steelhead from potentially interacting with wild populations. To ensure the hatchery-raised fish won't have access to Puget Sound and thus wild steelhead, they were planted in lakes. Steelhead typically released in May into the Dungeness River from local hatchery stock were instead transported to Saint Clair Lake in Lacey, according to Steve Thiesfeld, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Region 6 fish program manager.

Waiting on EIS (Environmental Impact Statement)

Despite the National Marine Fisheries Service's conclusion that "the proposed action does not pose unacceptable risk through gene flow to Puget Sound steelhead," in their Draft Environmental Assessment released in March that analyzed three early winter steelhead programs for the Dungeness, Nooksack and Stillaguamish river basins submitted by Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Jamestown S'Klallam, Lummi Nation, Nooksack, Stillaguamish and Tulalip tribes as co-managers of the fisheries resource, the agency opted to pursue an Environmental Impact Statement.

The decision came after more than 2,000 public comments were received in reaction to the draft.

"Because there were so many public comments we decided we needed to take the more thorough route and do an Environmental Impact Statement," Michael Milstein, public affairs officer for NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service West Coast Region, said.

Officials with the National Marine Fisheries Service are in the midst of conducting the Environmental Impact Statement and "hope to have a draft version by the end of the year," Milstein said, but it may not be done until 2016.

Until a decision based on the Environmental Impact Statement is made by the National Marine Fisheries Service, no hatchery steelhead will be released into the Dungeness, Nooksack and Stillaguamish rivers.

Following its release the draft will be available for public

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comment before a final decision is made, he said.

"We realize this is a disappointment to some, but it's our responsibility to ensure Hatchery and Genetic Management Plans are in compliance with the Endangered Species Act," Milstein said.

Puget Sound steelhead are among the four federally threatened species under the Endangered Species Act that utilize the Dungeness River. Other threatened species include Puget Sound Chinook, Hood Canal chum and bull trout.

In doing the Environmental Impact Statement, the agency must make sure Hatchery and Genetic Management Plans also comply with the National Environmental Policy Act.

"The Environmental Assessment is the first stage of the review process under National Environmental Policy Act," Milstein said.

National Marine Fisheries Service officials believe that artificial breeding and rearing steelhead is "likely to result in some genetic change" in hatchery fish and their progeny when they interbreed with fish from natural populations, but genetic analysis by Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife officials aren't showing this.

"We're not seeing any integration from hatchery steelhead," Mike Gross, regional fish biologist with Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, said. "But, the key is the early time steelhead."

Hatchery steelhead have been released in the Dungeness River for decades, according to Gross, however they're released before the natural steelhead runs occur to reduce interaction and chance of interbreeding. Also, the number of hatchery steelhead have been limited to 10,000 to be compatible with wild steelhead.

But, with 10,000 fewer steelhead in the Dungeness River, coupled with the previous year's 10,000 also kept from the river, Gross anticipates a reduction for recreational fisherman.

"There might be a handful of fisherman that would normally fish the Dungeness for steelhead," he said.

Plenty of pinks

The hatchery steelhead fishery may be on pause, but Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife officials are forecasting a large pink salmon run returning to the Dungeness River.

Pink salmon return to the river every two years to spawn,

Gross explained, and because about 29 million were documented leaving the river in spring of 2014, about 1.3 million are anticipated to return depending on how forgiving the ocean was, he said.

"Whether it's 200,000 or 1.3 million, it's still a lot of fish ... it's unprecedented," he said.

Officials aren't entirely sure why there's been a sudden increase in pink salmon returning, Gross said, but two years ago pink salmon also returned in large numbers, resulting in about 400,000 fish.

However, unlike two years ago the drought conditions and thus low river flow coinciding with the large pink run and relatively few federally threatened Puget Sound Chinook salmon forecasted to return are cause for concern.

"It will be interesting to see what happens," Gross said. "The pinks may respond to the low flows and go elsewhere."

The pink salmon are expected to begin their journey up the Dungeness River in mid-July.

To prepare, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife officials have added a new one-month recreational fishery for Pink salmon in Dungeness Bay opening July 16. Carefully monitored tribal and non-tribal commercial fisheries also will be taking place within the bay in response to the pink run.

"We're looking forward to providing people with an opportunity some have been waiting more than 50 years for," Gross said.

A secondary benefit to the special fishery is it may help manage the number of pink attempting to swim up river and in doing so could crowd the Puget Sound Chinook.

"There are specific regulations put in place to avoid Chinook," Gross said.

For example, only single-point barbless hooks are permitted.

Despite potential impacts associated with so many pink salmon returning to the Dungeness River, especially during a drought, Gross expects the event to be an "incredible learning opportunity"

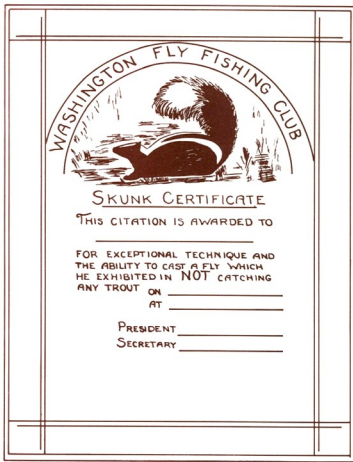
"In these sad and ominous days of mad fortune chasing, every patriotic, thoughtful citizen, whether he fishes or not, should lament that we have not among our countrymen more fishermen."

- Grover Cleveland

Skunk of the Month

'Agony of Defeat'

Nope, no nominations again this month



State Record

Washington Tiger Trout Record

From WDFW Press Release via Don Gulliford

OLYMPIA – Kelly Flaherty of Priest River, Idaho, has set a new state record for the largest tiger trout caught in Washington, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) confirmed today.

The 53-year-old angler caught the 18.49-pound fish measuring 32.5 inches on Cinco de Mayo, May 5, while bait fishing with a worm and egg at Bonaparte Lake, near Tonasket in Okanogan County.



Hold that Tiger

"The fish skyrocketed out of the water," said Flaherty, who was fishing from a boat launch.

"As soon as I hooked it, I was whooping it up, while a crowd gathered around the whole time."

Flaherty estimates it took him 15 minutes to land the fish from the time he set the hook until he pulled his prize onto the boat launch without a landing net.

According to WDFW, the new record exceeded the previous record tiger trout record by 3.45 pounds. The previous record was held by Kirk Herrin on a fish caught in Roses Lake, Chelan County in 2012.

Too bad he didn't catch it on a fly — Ed

Club Notice

Concerning the Fly Plate of Al Knudson's Flies

By Perry Barth

Whoever got the fly plate of Al Knudson and all his fly patterns (tied by Al) that I donated in last years Christmas raffle, please contact me (Perry Barth).

I have a wonderful biographical sketch of Al written by a former WFFC member Robert McLaughlin that I can give to you.

Amazing Photo's



Cougar Caught In the Act of Getting Dinner
British Columbia

Live Music



Open to the Public
Casual Attire

Washington Fly Fishing Club Fly Fishing Destination Seminar
And Fly Fishing Gear and Swap Sale
August 18th, 2015

Join us for a barbecue dinner at the beautiful Seattle Tennis Club and participate in 8 separate 2 hour destination seminars. The seminars will cover multiple fresh and salt water fly fishing destinations in the Northwest and will be led by some of the local areas best fly fishing rockstars (see reverse). Bring your surplus fishing gear to sell or trade and buy other's surplus at tremendous bargains.

**Save the
Date**

- 5:30 pm---Happy hour and barbecue dinner
- 7:00 pm---Seminars begin
- 9:00 pm---Seminars close
- Goal-----Everyone is more knowledgeable

**Bring your
Friends**

Each seminar session will run for 40 minutes, and at the sound of a bell participants will have the opportunity to move to a different seminar or stay put for a repeat of the session. Participants may shop/trade/sell fly fishing flies and gear from 5:30 to 9 pm.

Non-members may sign up by emailing plbecker@gmail.com

Seattle Tennis Club, 922 McGilvra Blvd E, Seattle, Washington 98112

**Gear, Fly
and
Boat Swap Sale**

Buffet Dinner Option
Pulled pork sandwiches,
3 salads, baked beans, corn
on the cob, apple crisp & ice
cream
\$29.00

Entry Ticket
entitles you to enter
Fly Box Raffle

Fishing Destinations Within Driving Distance From Seattle

Table 1: Salt Water Beaches: Ryan Smith, owner of the Avid Angler will discuss best location, access, species, tidal influence and tactics for successfully fishing North, South, and Central Puget Sound beaches for cutthroat and silvers.

Table 2: Washington Streams: Kris Kristopherson and John Schuitemaker of the WFFC will discuss location, access, season and tactics for successfully fishing the Yakima, Naches, Crab Creek, Rocky Ford, the Methow etc. They will provide a handout.

Table 3: British Columbia Lakes: Gene will share the way he wade's through the vast amount of information available on the lakes in British Columbia's Thompson-Nicola region, determines which lakes should hold larger fish, routes to get there, times to go and my favorites which have emerged from this process—think Roche, Glimpse, Hihium, Big OK, Peter Hope, Tunkwa, etc

Table 4: Eastern Washington Lakes: John Callahan and Chuck Ballard of the WFFC will discuss best success, Access, season, size, and tactics to be successful on such E. Washington lakes as Lenore, Lenice, Nunnally, Pigeon Series, Quail, Amber, Coffee Pot, Leech, Rat, etc. John will provide a hand-out.

Table 5: Oregon's Umpqua: Robert Tovar and Rocco Maccarone of the WFFC will discuss topography, season timing, and tactics for successfully catching summer run steelhead on this fabled river. They will provide maps and diagrams.

Table 6: Western Washington Lakes: Brita Fordice of the Avid Angler will discuss best success, location, access, timing, size, and tactics for being successful on Pass, Cady, Lone, Cranberry, Alice, Rattlesnake, and Merrill Lakes. She will be handing out aerial maps, lists and photographs.

Table 7. Washington Steelhead: Dave McCoy of Emerald Waters Anglers will discuss best success, location, access, timing and tactics for being successful on such rivers as, Sol Duc, Skagit, Snoqualmie, Cowlitz, Grande Ronde (OR side), Bogachiel, Hoh, John Day, and Umpqua. Deschutes Dave will run a slide show on his laptop and provide handouts.

Table 8. Coastal Silvers, Chinook, Pinks, Rockfish, lingcod, and Albacore: Anil Srivastava, owner of Puget Sound Fly Co. in Tacoma will discuss tactics and opportunities for pursuing these two species with the fly at such places as Neah Bay and Westport.

Each of these talks will run for 50 minutes, and be repeated once.



Washington Fly Fishing Club
P.O. Box 639
Mercer Island, WA 98040
www.wffc.com

Stamp
here

August, 2015

Meeting Announcement



**Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at the
Seattle Tennis Club, 922 McGilvra Blvd. E.**

**The Wet Fly hour begins at 5:30 PM and dinner is served at
6:45 PM.**

This month:

Washington Fly Fishing Club
Fly Fishing Destination Seminar
And Fly Fishing Gear and Swap Sale