

Creel Notes from the



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



May, 2004

President's Riffle *By Jim McRoberts*

Jay Deeds and I fished the Yakima on May 6th & 7th. We used our "classic" 1973 Wooldridge drift boat. We drove to Red's Fly Shop to sign up for a shuttle and get the latest "hot fly" information. Caddis #14 and caddis #16 emergers (both in tans) were the flies of choice by the man behind the counter, Steve. We thought we had that combination in our boxes. We put in at Bighorn about 11am and it was a nice morning. We started seeing plenty of egg-laying caddis hovering over the water and some small fish chasing them. For me the first fish that attacks my fly always gets a frantic hook set! Well the first one was all of five inches long. He had a lot of "hang time" before reentry! The river was full of young salmon parr.

When the salmon hatchery was first put in at Cle Elum, the biologist told our TU chapter that they would study the effects of all those young salmon on the resident trout population. We were concerned that the food source would not support that many fish. They said they would study it for ten years and use "adaptive management" practices to make adjustments.

Back to fishing. We soon encountered a small pod of larger fish tight against the bank feeding on something! We picked off a few and missed several more. They were 12-15 inches. We missed the "big" ones! A bothersome upstream wind began to blow. This made casting and progressing downstream difficult. When we could find places out of the wind it was more fun. The parr were all over the flies at times. It reminded me of the "Good Old Days" (when I was neither good nor old) growing up in Ketchum, Idaho, fishing for brook trout in beaver ponds. The fish were 5-9 inches long and a fish 6 inches or better was a "keeper" and 20 were the limit. Lady mites and Sandy mites were the flies of choice back then. We only encountered a few more pods of larger fish that day and the final one was just at the takeout at Red's.

Friday we arranged for the same shuttle and bought some of the "guides choice" flies. We launched again at Bighorn about 10am. Hot and sunny this time and still lots of caddis. The emerger pattern made a big difference. The ones we used the previous day were not as effective. We had more sun less wind and more pods of larger fish. We still missed the biggest ones! The upstream wind returned but soon turned to a downstream wind. Our casting was all messed up during this transition. Then it happened! About 2pm we saw large fish starting to rise allover the river not just along the banks. The downstream wind was really blowing now! We anchored and cast to many rises and saw what was the cause of all this action. It was the "mother" of all caddis hatches! There was either one or several caddis or their shucks on every square inch of the river surface. We could see fish near the bottom picking off caddis starting toward the surface. Still they took our silly imitations. We still missed the big ones!

It was two great days on a great river. I guess I do not need to worry if there are enough bugs to feed all the salmon parr and the resident trout!

Inside.....

| | |
|---|---|
| Gov't to count hatchery fish as wild | 2 |
| WDFW to open Wild steelhead hearings | 3 |
| King Co. "Thank You" for Griffin Cr. Work | 4 |
| Fishing Reports | 4 |
| Outings | 6 |
| Understanding the Cast, Pt. 7 | 7 |
| Brian O'Keefe biography | 8 |
| Yakima River access | 9 |
| July meeting notice | 9 |

Hatchery Salmon To Count as Wildlife

By Blaine Harden
Washington Post Staff Writer
Thursday, April 29, 2004; Page A01

SEATTLE, April 28 -- The Bush administration has decided to count hatchery-bred fish, which are pumped into West Coast rivers by the hundreds of millions yearly, when it decides whether stream-bred wild salmon are entitled to protection under the Endangered Species Act.

This represents a major change in the federal government's approach to protecting Pacific salmon -- a \$700 million-a-year effort that it has described as the most expensive and complicated of all attempts to enforce the Endangered Species Act. The decision, contained in a draft document and confirmed Wednesday by federal officials, means that the health of spawning wild salmon will no longer be the sole gauge of whether a salmon species is judged by the federal government to be on the brink of extinction. Four of five salmon found in major West Coast rivers, including the Columbia, are already bred in hatcheries, and some will now be counted as the federal government tries to determine what salmon species are endangered. "We need to look at both wild and hatchery fish before deciding whether to list a species for protection," said Bob Lohn, Northwest regional administrator for the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Lohn added that the new policy will probably help guide decisions this summer by the Bush administration about whether to remove 15 species of salmon from protection as endangered or threatened. From Washington state to Southern California, the decision to count hatchery-bred fish in assessing the health of wild salmon runs could have profound economic consequences.

In the past 15 years, the federal government's effort to protect stream-bred wild salmon has forced costly changes in how forests are cut, housing developments are built, farms are cultivated and rivers are operated for hydroelectricity production. Farm, timber and power interests have complained for years about these costs and have sued to remove protections for some fish.

They are enthusiastic advocates of counting hatchery fish when assessing the survival chances of wild salmon. Unlike their wild cousins, hatchery fish can be bred without ecosystem-wide modifications to highways, farms and dams. "Upon hearing this news, I am cautiously optimistic that the government may be complying with the law and ending its slippery salmon science," said Russell C. Brooks, a lawyer for the Pacific Legal Foundation, an industry-funded group that has challenged federal salmon-protection efforts in court. Word of the new policy was greeted by outrage from several environmental groups. "Rather than address the problems of habitat degraded by logging, dams and urban sprawl, this policy will purposefully mask the precarious condition of wild salmon behind fish raised by humans in concrete pools," said Jan Hasselman, counsel for the National Wildlife Federation. "This is the same sort of

(Continued on page 3)

Creel Notes

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

Leland Miyawaki...Co-editor
206-264-0609 miyawaki@iswnet.com
Preston Singletary...Co-editor
206-524-3151 psinglet@gte.net
Bob Young...Publisher
206-782-7544 fishbum@seanet.com

President

Jim McRoberts jim4fish@comcast.net

1st Vice President (membership)

Bill Kuper billk@digitalfarm.com

1st Vice President

Rocco Maccarrone maccarrone@email.msn.com

2nd Vice President (Programs)

Keith Robbins flymooch@aol.com

Secretary

Walt Swanson wvsiii@aol.com

Treasurer

Steve Sunich qualitypacific@cs.com

Ghillie

Don Schroder donschr99@yahoo.com

Trustees

| | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Dick Brening '02 | Jerry Sammons '02 |
| Jim Hanson '03 | Dave Schorsch '03 |
| Hugh Clark '04 | Paul Lingbloom '04 |

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 work to the outlawing the use of salmon eggs in any form during the regular trout season.
3. To promote and work for the betterment of trout streams and lakes.
4. To encourage and advocate the conservation and increase of trout in state waters.
5. To promote a campaign of education against pollution in streams, lakes or Sound waters of the State of Washington.
6. To encourage and assist boys -- particularly of high school age--to become fly fishermen and true sportsmen.

(Continued from page 2)

mechanistic, blind reliance on technology that got us into this problem in the first place," said Chris Wood, vice president for conservation at Trout Unlimited. "We built dams that block the fish, and we are trucking many of these fish around the dams. Now the administration thinks we can just produce a bazillion of these hatchery fish and get out from underneath the yoke of the Endangered Species Act."

Six of the world's leading experts on salmon ecology complained last month in the journal Science that fish produced in hatcheries cannot be counted on to save wild salmon. The scientists had been asked by the federal government to comment on its salmon-recovery program but said they were later told that some of their conclusions about hatchery fish were inappropriate for official government reports. "The current political and legal wrangling is a sideshow to the real issues. We know biologically that hatchery supplements are no substitute for wild fish," Robert Paine, one of the scientists and an ecologist at the University of Washington, said when the Science article was published in late March.

Federal officials said Wednesday that the new policy on hatchery salmon -- to be published in June in the Federal Register and then be opened to public comment -- was in response to a 2001 federal court ruling in Oregon. In that ruling, U.S. District Judge Michael R. Hogan found that the federal government made a mistake by counting only wild fish -- and not genetically similar hatchery fish -- when it listed coastal coho salmon for protection.

To the dismay of many environmental groups, the federal government chose not to appeal that ruling, though it seemed counter to the reasoning behind the spending of more than \$2 billion in the past 15 years to protect stream-bred wild salmon. "There was an inescapable reasoning to Judge Hogan's ruling," said Lohn, chief of federal salmon recovery in the Northwest. "We thought his reasoning was accurate." He said the Bush administration will continue to spend hundreds of millions of dollars on habitat improvement for salmon. "We have major problems to overcome, both with habitat and with improving the way hatcheries are operated," Lohn said. "Run right, hatcheries can be of considerable value to rebuilding wild fish runs."

NEWS RELEASE

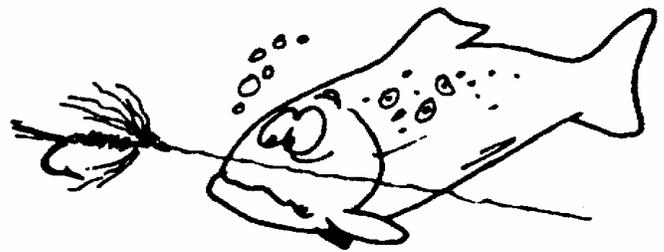
WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE April 29, 2004

Public hearing, formal rule-making process to be held on wild steelhead moratorium

OLYMPIA-- The Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission today voted to hold a hearing this summer to take public testimony on the commission's recently imposed two-year moratorium on wild steelhead retention.

The 5-1 vote came after the City of Forks filed a petition with the commission requesting that a formal rule-making process be initiated on the moratorium issue. Such proceedings require a public hearing. Commissioner Bob Tuck voted against initiating the formal rule making process. Commissioner Lisa Pelly was absent from the meeting.

Following the public hearing, which is expected to be held in August or September, commissioners could let their earlier decision stand, or they could modify or rescind the decision. Commissioners voted 5-3 in February to impose the moratorium, which takes effect May 1. Wild steelhead retention already had been permanently banned in much of the state, but was still allowed on several Olympic Peninsula river systems where stocks are relatively strong. Following the moratorium vote this winter, officials with the City of Forks and others voiced objections to the commissioner's action, saying the ban would pose economic hardships for their community, a popular destination for steelhead anglers.





Thank You from King County

On behalf of King County, David Kimmitt and I would like to express our gratitude to the WFFC for their

ongoing commitment to maintaining the restoration planting at the Griffin Creek Natural Area. Fifteen volunteers joined us on April 10th. Special thanks to **Jim McRoberts, Jim MacDonald, Scott Hagen, Dan Dion, Don Schroeder, Dick Levinthal, John Callahan, Bill Neal, John Gravendyk, Dick Brening, Ronald Dion, David Schorsch, Mike Wearne, Hugh Clark, Mark Pratt, Garrett Schaad, and Doug Schaad.** David and I want to especially thank **Doug Schaad** for his help organizing the work parties and for the lunch that has earned a loyal following. The planting is looking great and we're staying ahead of the blackberries. Thank you WFFC for your consistent support. We couldn't do it without you.

Kirk Anderson
Snoqualmie Steward
King County Dept. of Natural Resources & Parks
201 South Jackson Street, Suite 600
Seattle, WA 98104
206.296-1948

Membership Committee *By Rocco Maccarrone*

Ron Little

This Tuesday, we will be voting on Ron Little. Ron started fly fishing in northern Michigan when he was 14 years old. It was opening day and he caught quite a few yellow perch plus pneumonia. Ron has fished all over Michigan until he went away to college where he began fishing in New England. Later he moved to Aspen, Colorado where he fished at least 200 - 250 days a year. In the 70's, he discovered he had friends in the Livingston, Montana area and began spending two weeks every fall on a loop that included the Clarks Fork, Bitterroot, Big Hole, Madison, Firehole, Yellowstone, and the spring creeks around Livingston. Ron has fished in British Columbia, including Kamloops, but didn't have any

luck fishing lakes until our club outing at Dry Falls. Three years ago, Ron fished the Yakima for the first time. It was a "pushover" and he caught fish on almost every cast. The next weekend, he dragged his son back, of course, they didn't catch a thing. He found out that fishing on the Yakima is more "humbling than golf." I am hoping that if I am admitted to WFFC someone can help me.

Sponsors - **Frank Vuillet & Dave Schorsh**

Dietmar Lang

Dietmar came to us on his own, seeking out a quality club to join to enrich his fishing experience. He is a native of Germany and lives in Kirkland with his wife. Dietmar is employed by Microsoft.

He is probably the only one at Club meetings with a German accent, and most assuredly is the only one who has caught fish in a real moat surrounding a Chateau in Bavaria.

Dietmar's sponsors are **Jim Morrison** and **Bill Kuper**.



WFFC Dry Falls Lake Outing, April 16 - 18, 2004 *By Ron Dion*

The water level being its usual high this time of year I spent 90% of my time fishing the aquarium. Friday, I fished 6 hours, caught 7 fish; Saturday, fished 5 hours, caught 1 fish; Sunday, the only day I fished outside the aquarium, fished 4 hours, caught 0 fish. My first two fish on Friday were caught on a #10 water boatman - a 16" brown trout & a 19" rainbow. The other 5 fish were rainbows (2 were 11"-12", 3 were 18"-20") all caught on various size 16 chironomids. Saturday's fish was a 20" rainbow caught on a #16 silver chironomid tied by **Norn Norlander**. The only fish hooked and LDR'd on Sunday was hooked on a #16 black mayfly. There are plenty of fish visible in the lake but catching is a real challenge.

Thanks to **Mark DeWitt** for hauling all the gear and setting up for the Saturday evening festivities. I counted only 13 members present, but we were almost matched in attendance by the **Fran Wood** clan.

Rattlesnake Lake Report, April 26, 2004

By Ron Dion

Warm breezy day - the water level was low and there were quite a few fisherman on the lake. Fished from 11:30 -5:30, caught and released 23 rainbows, all on a #102XL olive green fly (maribou tail with a few strands of krystal flash, med.chenille body, dyed green pheasant rump hackle, red-bead head). Fished this same fly all day on a sink-tip line.

First fish hooked while rowing toward the stumpy south end of the lake. I anchored in about 9' of water near the stumps. The next 5 fish were caught by casting, allowing the fly to sink and retrieving with plenty of pauses, as that usually was when the fish would hit the fly. After a while with no action, I ate lunch and then rowed toward the west, just beyond the stumps. Again I anchored in 10' of water and proceeded my casting/retrieve scenario, catching and releasing 17 more rainbows. The fish were all smaller than last year; 1 - 12" and all the rest were 7" - 10".

Puget Sound Report, April 26, 2004

By Capt. Keith Robbins

On April 26 at 2:45 PM it happened. After fly fishing for about six hours for Searun cutthroat trout and Dolly Vardon in Puget Sound, we (Paul Johnson Sage Mfg. and myself) had one twelve inch cutthroat to show for it. By now the tide, current and wind had stopped and nothing was happening. We looked offshore and saw a bunch of birds working and decided to run out and take a look. We ran about two miles offshore got there and saw nothing. We flailed away for a short while in the middle of nowhere and more nothing was happening so we decided to sit back and have a green and silver can.

Paul asked me what that thing was and being the know it all guide I informed him it was a stick just as it sank below the surface. A few minutes later it came back up. I then speculated it was a bird swimming very slowly with its head below the surface (wrong again Mr. Guide). We decided to take a closer look. I approached slowly, put the boat in neutral both ran to the bow to look and drifted toward it. As we approached what looked like the stubby back of an Alligator we proceeded to drift right on top of it sending it to the depths. We now realized what it was and what had just happened.

We had just seen something that I had never seen in my twenty-eight years of having a boat and my whole life of fishing in Puget Sound.

No one would believe us. No Photos.

So, after kicking ourselves we just sat back down to our green and silver cans and looked and waited. Then, about five minutes later Nessie came up again.

This time we were ready. Paul had the fast glass and I had the fast graphite. We slowly approached the laid up reptile and Paul started shooting and I started casting.

He had the evidence and now we needed to get up close and personal. I made what would have been a very good cast for any laid up Tarpon. But not for this laid up dinosaur. The next cast was a little too close (behind him) and the third cast seemed to be an adequate cast but the glare was a little tough. Two strips and then the big bend. No way, it was not possible.

Is it possible to land this thing with a seven weight, a clouser and seven pound tippet?

The fight was more like a slow pull down and out. No screaming runs just slow and steady to the backing. Then Paul fired up the engine and he tried to stay within the flyline as I didn't want to trust one more knot. After a tug of war. The big dark mass started to appear and the how were we going to land it? Paul tried to grab it only to realize that his scutes were way to sharp. Then he grabbed the net and made several valiant attempts and finally got about two-thirds of the fish in the net. We both grabbed both sides of the net and lifted. Thank god for rubber nets that stretch.

It was hooked in the other mouth.

We measured, documented and released our fish story.



Chopaka Lake Outing - May 29-31

The Washington Fly Fishing Club will hold its annual Lake Chopaka outing on May 29-31. This is usually the best-attended of all of the club's events; the weather is frequently good but can be temperamental and the camaraderie is always excellent. Volunteers are needed for firewood duty, for hauling gear and for the tempura fry. We will also need some people to go up a few days in advance to secure a site for the club's activities. Experienced help for the tempura fry would be particularly welcome.

We will have the traditional campfire each evening with *hors d'oeuvres* and cocktails beginning at about 5:00 pm. The club will provide pop, beer and some selection of wine. Those who wish to participate in the gathering of firewood should be ready to go on Saturday at 9:00 am. Saturday evening will be the Grill and Potluck so bring your own steak to barbecue, an *hors d'oeuvre*, a side dish and/or a dessert. Sunday morning we will have a pancake and sausage breakfast, on the club, so bring your appetite. On Sunday evening at about 5:00 pm the traditional halibut tempura will be provided -- but again -- your contributions to the table are always welcomed. Sign up at the meeting if you plan to attend so I can get an accurate head count for provisions. Those who wish to volunteer for the duties outlined above can also sign up at the meeting or contact **Mark DeWitt** at 425-255-7580 or at mdewitt@wolfenet.com.

Bring your mayfly, chironomid and damselfly, nymph, emerger and adult patterns. In twenty years of fishing this lake in the spring I have found that it is not really a morning fishery. Prime hatch time is usually between 11:00 am and 3:00 pm. I've also had some success with black ants and a dry, size 10, green caddis in the early evening. Some real fun starts at about 10:00 pm stripping or trolling size 10 black woolly buggers with lots of Krystalflash in the shallows. You'd better have your fly rod tied off for this! Many rods have been lost while night trolling at Chopaka. Hope to see you there.

High Lake Trips Update *By Pete Baird*

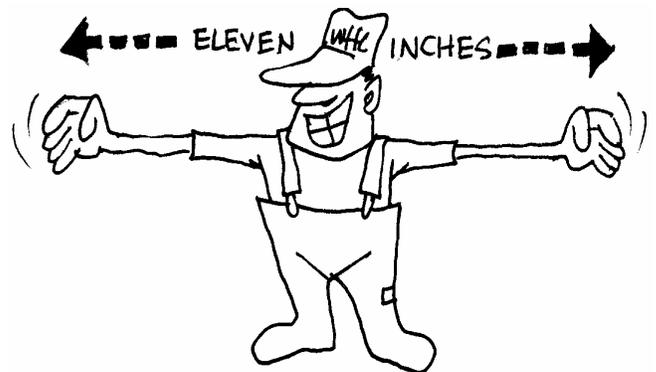
There are two high lakes trips planned for the summer of 2004. There is some firming of details yet to be accomplished, but I at least wanted to get something published to stimulate further feedback and dis-

ussion. Following are some of my thoughts and what came out of the planning meeting discussion held back in early March.

Trip #1: A one day trip on Saturday July 24 to a nearby lake off either the I-90 or Hwy 2 corridor. The purpose of this trip is to stimulate some involvement by others in the club that have not been on one of our high lake outings by keeping it of short duration and no requirement for a heavy pack. Don't expect large fish but the camaraderie, exercise, and fresh mountain air should be well worth the commitment. Candidate lakes with a round trip distance of not more than 10 miles, and less than 2000 vertical feet of elevation gain are: Annette Lake, Scout Lake, Valhalla Lake (Chelan County), Mason Lake, and Thompson Lake. Other recommendations as well as preferences among these lakes are welcome! I propose a 6:00 AM at trailhead start time.

Trip #2: This one is planned to be a 4 to 7 day trip depending on destination. the target time period is **July 29 thru Aug 5**. Candidate destinations for this trip include: Chain & Doelle Lakes in Chelan County (3 or 4 Days, accessible from Mill Valley off of Hwy #2); -- Square Lk (a long hike but worth the effort, good fishing & a scenic spot); -- Hart Lk (near Isabel and accessible from the Reiter Ponds Rd on the Skykomish. No trail to this one, but not a difficult hike past arsenic Lk.); -- Spark Plug Lk (Very, very steep hike but offering large brookies.); -- Gold Lake (just past Chetwood lake up the Foss River Rd. Return via Lake Dorothy.); -- Hidden Lakes in the Pasayten Wilderness (We did this last in Yr 2001. It's 16 miles one way to the 1st hidden Lake)

I will have a sign-up sheet at the May meeting to access interest, and go from there with the final destination decisions and other details.



UNDERSTANDING THE CAST

PART 7

Perfecting our distance casting

I find it amazing how most of us fly fishers have this obsession about trying to throw our fly's into the next county. In order to accomplish consistent accurate long distance casts (80 ft. to 100 ft.) several areas need to be discussed.

- **Grip:** Normally we want to move our casting hand as close to the reel as possible. This gives us more leverage allowing more rod bend. We either use the thumb on top grip or the three-point grip. If you elect to use the index finger on top grip you might want to consider changing as you probably will not have enough arm strength to accomplish good distance.
- **Stance:** Opening our stance by moving our right foot back (for right handed casters). Left foot for left handed casters. Then rocking the body during the cast to allow the use of our major muscles.
- **Rod tip path:** Straight-line path of the rod tip to create a narrow tight loop both on the back cast and forward cast. We keep emphasizing a straight-line rod tip path now more than ever it becomes ***REAL IMPORTANT***.
- **Line speed:** In order to arealize more line with a tight energy efficient loop, the faster the rod tip needs to travel during part 2 of the stroke along with the abruptness of the stop.
- **Rod bend:** Remembering that the rod is nothing more than a flexible lever and can only do one thing by itself. That's un-bend. We need to load or bend this lever as far down into the butt as we possibly can. To accomplish this we must rely on the single or double haul.
- **Back cast:** If you have watched any of the great distance casters you noticed that they all watch their back cast. They are insuring they are forming a tight narrow loop. 80% of the success of any cast is determined by the result of the back cast.
- **Amount of line in the air:** In order to cast 80 ft. the caster usually needs to aerialize 55 ft. to 60 ft. of line. This means the caster will shoot 20 ft. to 25 ft. Normally most of us will be able to shoot no more than 20 ft. of line, so if you strive to cast over 100 ft. you will need to be able to aerialize about 80 ft.

The following are some things that can contribute to ineffective distance casts.

- Trying to aerialize too much line for the ability of the caster. Resulting in wide inefficient loops mostly on the back cast.
- Hauling to early in the casting stroke. Normally will show up as a tailing loop.
- Pushing the stroke instead of pulling thru the stroke.
- Convex path of the rod tip instead of a straight line path
- Not casting in the same plane on the back cast and forward cast.
- Going for the gold on the final cast. The casting arm motion should be just like the prior false cast. The only thing that should change is the velocity and length of the hauling hand on the final cast.

I hope this article will help you achieve good consistent distance in your casts.

Don Simonson
FFF Master Certified Casting Instructor



May Speaker: Brian O'Keefe "Whatever the hell he wants to talk about."

Brian has been serious fly fisher for the past thirty-five years. He developed an interest while spending summers in Montana with his grandparents. There he was taught the art of fly casting and fishing by a Montana dry fly purist, his grandfather, Fred Johnson. Brian began fishing the world in 1973. Just out of high school, Brian began his adventures with a solo trip through New Zealand and Australia, and a brief trek into the Himalayan Mountains to fish for brown trout. After returning from this two-year adventure, he began guiding in the Northwest and Alaska for trout, salmon and steelhead. At age 30, Brian began his career as a fly fishing tackle rep and angling/outdoor photographer. He is also an accomplished fly casting instructor, earning the title of Master Certified Fly Casting Instructor from the Fly Fishing Federation. Brian has also placed in, and won many fly casting competitions.

Brian has traveled to some of the wildest and most remote angling destinations in the world, including: Bikini Atoll, the Seychelles, Kenya, Sierra Leone, Tonga and Kashmir. He has also traveled to more accessible locations, such as: the Bahamas, Belize, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Venezuela, Chile, New Zealand, Christmas Island and more. In many of these locations he again choose to venture off the beaten path, hiking, floating, sea-kayaking or taking a Zodiac into the backcountry.

Brian lives with his wife and fishing partner, Judith in Powell Butte, Oregon and continues to work as an angling and outdoor photographer, having had photographs published in periodicals such as: Los Angeles Times; New York Times; Miami Herald; USA Today and many others. He has had cover shots in: Field & Stream; Outdoor Life; Fly Fisherman; Fly, Rod and Reel; Fly Fishing Salt Waters; Fly and Fish Magazine; Outside Magazine and Men's Journal. Brian works in the fly tackle business for both Scientific Anglers and Idylwilde Flies. Today, you could just as easily run into Brian on his way to a slide show presentation at your local fly fishing club as you could in an airport on his way to Mozambique.



Is anybody in charge here?

Greenlake

The following is an explanation by Jack Mitchell and Jeff Brazda of Riverside Adventures regarding their purchase of Bighorn and Umtanum on the Yakima River.

Riverside Adventures (RA) is a small company working closely with The Evening Hatch. RA needed a place to put our Tent Lodging facilities and we did a bit of investigating into some properties and found this particular one available.

When talking with the land owner, who by the way owns three parcels, Bighorn, Lower Umtanum and the Beavertail (Mile Post 19) we found out that he was a bit CONCERNED with the usage of his property of which he pays a good sum of money in taxes each year. We were looking for our own location for our camp and he was looking for a way to defer some of his tax liability as well as general liability. The camping public that has utilized the locations he owns pose a threat in that his properties could literally burn up due to negligence... people could get hurt and material goods destroyed. The land owner had considered closing the properties all together due to the above reasons, as he did with the North Bighorn area. This was a win-win for all of us.

The Bighorn Site

This location will have a user fee for launch/recovery. This location will also have a fee for basic unimproved campsites as we will open the North Bighorn area. (In the past, this land wasn't available to the public and now it will be) The fees will be used to pay expenses that are incurred with the site. ie. Sanikans, Garbage dumpsters, Signage, Labor. The fee will be available in two manners.

Launch Fees:
Daily Launch use: \$5.00
Yearly Pass: \$100.00

Camping Fees (Currently not open yet):
Daily use: \$ 5.00 Per Tent

The Umtanum Site

The properties to the South of the actual launch will be where RA will have the Tent Lodging Facility. This camp will be available hosted or non hosted for a fee.

It is unclear if the actual launch will be part of the RA operation. If Umtanum is part of package, the launch/recovery fee to float from Big to Ump will only be a single \$5 charge. If it is part of our operation we most certainly will not close down the access to the public. The usage fee will be similar to that of Bighorns usage price structure for launching/recovery.



July Meeting Notice

The invitations for the July meeting with the five other flyfishing clubs featuring Tim Borski will go out this week. We are asking each member from the other clubs to RSVP by July 6th to their club president or to the names on the invitation. We are asking WFFC members to sign up at the May or June meeting or RSVP to either of the 1st VP's or myself by July 6th. We will have one of our regular menu dinners with the salad bar. The price will be the normal \$21.00. You do not have to pay for dinners in advance but we need to let the College Club know how many to expect. Bar drinks will be paid at the bar just like the December Holiday Party and the price of drinks will be the same.



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

Stamp
here

Meeting Announcement



Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at The College Club, 505 Madison St.

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

THIS MONTHS SPEAKER IS BRIAN O'KEEFE. PLEASE SEE BRIAN'S BIO. ON PAGE 8 AND YOU WILL UNDERSTAND WHY WE INVITED HIM TO SPEAK ON WHAT EVER THE HELL HE WANTS TO TALK ABOUT. DON'T MISS IT.