

Creel Notes from the



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

Website: www.wffc.com



MMXIV No. 6

June, 2014

President's Riffle

By President Michael Moscynski



Thanks to **Patricia "Pat" Becker** for taking over as Youth Committee Chair and Photographer! Please join me in helping and encouraging Pat as she takes over these important jobs.

Mike Wearne and **Bob Young** have already volunteered to help Pat with Youth Committee work. Hey, this is from where some of our future members may come. Of course I have to

take this opportunity to also thank **Dick Brening** as Youth Chair and **Jim MacDonald** as Photographer for their long service in these jobs. Our member's willingness to volunteer their time for the benefit of the club is what makes the club go so well.

Coming Events:

- June 17, Membership **Meeting**, STC
- **Jim MacDonald**, 1st Ghillie
- June 21-22, **Leech Lake Outing**,
- **Dave Schorsch** organizer
- August 18-24, **Montana High-Lakes Outing**, Crazy Mountains
- **David Ehrich** organizer
- October 21, **WFFC 75th Anniversary Gala**, STC
- **Dave Schorsch** organizer

Conservation is one of the main tasks of the WFFC. Our mission statement includes the words, "improve fisheries and habitat, and develop a public conservation ethic through fly fishing." The mission statement is the easy part. Actually doing something to fulfill the mission is a lot harder and a bit daunting for all of us.

Doug Schaad and the Conservation Committee do their best to stay abreast of current issues and coordinate efforts and responses to proposals and legislation from the WFFC to government organizations and other fly fishing clubs. **Bob Burdick** has brought many speakers before us who have presented facts, ideas and opinions on conservation issues. Doug and Bob help to keep us in-

formed. It is up to us to do what we can as individuals too, now that we have this knowledge. Conservation is a long and hard task. Keep thinking about what you can do within your comfort zone, whether that is writing a personal letter, donating money or time to a conservation group or just sharing facts with a non-fishing friend about the issues.

Many go fishing all their lives without knowing that it is not fish they are after. **Henry David Thoreau**

Be well.

June Program

Fly Fishing Opportunities in Central Oregon with Marc Williamson

by **Bob Burdick**, 2nd VP for Programs

Marc Williamson, our presenter for June hails from Scappoose, Oregon, and is a guide, fly casting instructor, fly tying demonstrator, and professional speaker. His topic for our June 17th meeting is "Fly Fishing Central Oregon", one of his favorite talks from a repertoire that includes "What fish eat", "Fly Fishing the Fall River", "How to fish Stillwater" and "The Crooked River". He will highlight lakes and rivers near Bend, Oregon including East and Paulina Lakes in the Newberry Crater, and Big and Little Lava Lake. Rivers covered will be Fall River, Crooked River, the upper Deschutes and the Metolious.

This is an area we don't hear much about and it should be an interesting evening.

Inside this Issue

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June Speaker

Marc Williamson's Biography *From Bob Burdick, 2nd VP for Programs*

My love of fly-fishing began on Fall River, in Central Oregon. My dad, my best friend, and I, we always did everything together. He bought me a JC Higgins fly rod and reel. It's has been a love affair with fly- fishing ever since.

I got my start in the fly fishing industry in 1983 at Stewart's Custom Tackle. In that time I taught fly tying classes from beginning to advanced. I instructed fly fishing seminars. In those seminars I did in-store demonstrations on knot tying, entomology, reading streams. I co-taught the on-the-river portion which covered instruction on casting and general fishing techniques.



I am currently the Director of Masters of Arts in Teaching and Professor at Warner Pacific College. As an educator I recognize the importance of teaching and learning. As a Fly Fishing Instructor I present both substance and styles of fly fishing to all of my students. It is also of the utmost importance that they enjoy, have fun and want to come back to the sport.

I was contacted by ISE Fly Tying Director, Pete Parker, to present in the International Sportsman Exposition, Video Theatre. I did so for seven years. I joined with other tiers and demonstrated techniques in the "how to" area during the years the show was in Portland. I presented at the ISE shows in both Portland and Seattle until they left the area.

I have presented fly tying and fly fishing at clubs, and shows throughout the Pacific Northwest and Montana.

I am a co- founders and Director of the Northwest Christian Fly Flyfishing Inc. We put on a complete fly fishing camp every year in May. It is a complete fly-fishing event with casting, fishing, flies tying, knot tying and discussion groups. You can view more about the camp at www.cffr.info.

I am on the Professional Staff for the following companies: Daiichi Hooks, Temple Fork Outfitters, Peak Vice and Whiting Feathers.

May 20, 2014



'On the Fly'

A Synopsis of Last Month's General Meeting
By David Ehrich

President **Michael Mocynski** chummed the waters with an invitation to the salad bar, stripped 'em in with honey-almond chicken, and hooked 'us for the usual mix of fishing reports, outings and all the other sorts of announcements that the members who leave need to know. A fairly light crowd showed up with a few guests who included some military brass, retired, hoping to settle down and prove whether or not the colonel angles better than the colonel's wife, a couple guests with membership intentions, and some old friends who have returned to the river's edge from the wide world.

Fishing reports started and ended with a bird's nest release on the mighty Yakima. **Dave Schorsch** invited us to the many joys of Chopaka. The next trip is Leech Lake steak BBQ. Check out the calendar. Also I reminded members of our 2014 High Lakes Trip in Montana's Crazy Mountains. The closest town is Big Timber, and the rendezvous point is the Big Timber Creek Campground on August 18. We should establish a couple base camps and fish several high lakes for Golden Trout and other more common trout. Call me at 206-498-7214 or davidehrich@rocketmail.com.

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Creel Notes

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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.

(Continued from page 2) - On the Fly

Our speaker, Joseph Bogaard, from Save Our Salmon, discussed efforts in the Columbia River Basin, an area the size of Texas and the lower forty-eight's most pristine habitat for our nation's salmon population. It is also a network of dams, irrigation channels and heavily messed up salmon barriers. SOS includes over 50 organizations, acting as coalition leader to sort out the mess of competing objectives related to "the good life" in the Northwest.

The studied opinion of SOS would like to create legislation to require the federal government to restore wild salmon and steelhead over the "dead body" of our beloved Bonneville Power Administration. BPA has no interest in sharing the river with salmon and all 11 plans which BPA has helped write have been ruled illegal, essentially stalling the process. Refusing to spill lucrative water over the dam to help smolt and adults, BPA has spent 15 years improving tributary habitat, having little over all success.

SOS and its allies have decided to step away from litigation and bring the constituencies together and find out what works for everyone. But it has turned out that everyone does not include BPA, who enjoy their "large and in charge" position in terms of the Columbia. Thus, SOS hopes to build a large enough public base to put pressure on the powers to be. The main drivers of the gridlock are the PUDs and BPA. The fight is on, so what do we do, members asked? The answer, seems to be collaboration. But how to get over the hump?

Members weighed in; put the muscle up front and let the collaboration come along. SOS agrees; head to the courts, put pressure on elected leaders, get the tribes off the BPA payroll, and keep BPA on the defensive. Then perhaps, collaboration will like the lesser of two evils.

Dams. Part shipping and part power, the four lower dams on the Snake have to go. Fortunately, the economic reality of river versus rail transportation is shifting and might take the barges out of the equation. In addition, the age, wear and tear of these dams start to make poor economics between cost and power revenues. SOS welcomes a simplified debate between power and fish. If one of you don't blow the dams up first, they might just go the way of the Sandy River and Elwha dams.

Hope always seems to go back to the courts. Nothing's working, so SOS believes we will need to push, push, push. The Columbia River Treaty of 1964, brokered by BC Power and BPA, created three dams in Canada to serve American markets and control the river from floods. This treaty is up for renegotiation and BC wants a much bigger slice of the pie for the valuable work they do keeping water from rushing down and flooding Portland and the lower Columbia. SOS hopes to highlight the benefits of working together with Canada, the tribes and other environmental groups, to add a third goal to the river: power, flood control and river health (aka, fish).

I don't usually leave talks like this feeling much better and tonight was no exception. SOS talks collaboration, but doesn't have the magic word: leverage. Hopefully, as things shift in terms of treaty priorities, tribal priorities, climate change and local economies. SOS will find the magic tool. Member's questions seemed to imply otherwise as a litany of "woe is me" observations flooded the podium. In answer, Joseph gave out postcards designed to encourage our political mothers and fathers a nudge toward a reasonable compromise.

President Mike ended things there, gave members a well needed break and bid us to return swiftly for business of the day. I got distracted by rabid interest in the High Lakes Trip, so I missed a couple committee reports, but I caught the tail waters of **Doug Shaad's** remarks with a list of issues that come across his desk daily. **Pete Baird** followed with pertinent of **Art Alton's** recent health slip. Give him a call. Pete also reminded us to vote on our favorite fly in the fly tying contest. **Pat Peterman**, Education Chair, has headed a strong, sequential curriculum,

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High Lakes Outing

High Lakes Trip 2014 Crazy Mountains, Montana August 18 to 23 By David Ehrich

The High Lakes Planning trip was sparsely attended (Mike and Mike, president and past president) and interest in the trip at the May meeting was the sort of interest that comes peppered with advice about how I should have done this sooner, better, and the like. Frankly, after another depressing "Our Rivers are Screwed" talk and scant interest of the sort I just described, I was ready to give up. But then, when I got home the map I had ordered from mytopo.com came in the mail. One look at the terrain and I said to myself (and perhaps, only to myself), "Game on!"

The Crazies are a range of 11,000+ foot peaks, that create a significant basin chocked full of big lakes with, I hear, lots of trout. We start hiking above 6400', hike about 1900' vertical total in four miles to Blue Lake and we should have the entire basin at our reach. With over two dozen lakes, feeder and outlet streams and even a river or two, fishing terrain will not be a problem. I think a couple base camps will do, and the rest of the time will be pack free, rod in hand day hiking. You would have to be crazy to miss it if you are still healthy enough to hike.

Details:

Where: Meet at Half Moon camp ground on Big Timber Creek, accessible from the Big Timber Creek road, west off Highway 191 which comes off I-90 in Big Timber, Montana.

When: The evening of August 18. Maps and Guides available at all the fly shops in Livingston and can be purchased through www.mytopo.com.

Call **David Ehrich** at 206-498-7241 or email at daveehrich@rocketmail.com.



June Outing

Leech Lake, June 21, 22 By Dave Schorsch

Hey folks! The world famous Leech Lake outing is happening June 21 and 22! We've bumped it up two weeks this year to miss the crowds from other fly clubs, and because the lake is already open, and fish-



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(Continued from page 3) - On the Fly

leading to a fly fishing class to take the skills we're taught out to the water. So Pat is looking for members to help with these topics and get them on the water. Heed the call when you see Pat's name on the caller ID.

With that, we ended with a call for someone to take over the role of the club photographer and chair of the Youth Committee.

Late Flash: I think we've got both our photographer and youth chair according to our President...Patricia "Pat" Becker!

EPA Pebble Mine Assessment

Environmental Protection Agency Report on Proposed Pebble Mine Alaska

From Fly Fisherman Magazine

After three years of research, the EPA (Jan 15) released its final watershed assessment describing how the proposed Pebble Mine would impact salmon and other ecological resources along the Nushagak and Kvichak rivers, as well as native cultures.



The report, "An Assessment of Potential Mining Impacts on Salmon Ecosystems of Bristol Bay, Alaska," concludes that normal mine operations would destroy 24 to 94 miles of salmon-supporting streams and 1,300 to 5,350 acres of wetlands, ponds, and lakes. An additional 9 to 33 miles of salmon-supporting streams would experience altered streamflows. To make the assessment, the EPA considered mine scenarios proposed by the owner Northern Dynasty Minerals Ltd., and submitted to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. The report also indicates that the mine would generate millions of tons of waste requiring treatment and storage, and that storage failures could have additional massive impacts. Bristol Bay supports the largest sockeye salmon fishery in the world with a value of \$1.5 billion annually, producing nearly 50 percent of the world's wild sockeye salmon with runs averaging 37.5 million fish each year. The Pebble Mine is the world's largest low-grade copper deposit with gold and other minerals valued at more than \$400 billion.

The scientific report produced by the EPA has no regulatory effect, but provides decision makers with data they need to process future permit applications. Also, section 404(c) of the Clean Water Act allows the EPA administrator to prohibit, withdraw, deny or restrict the discharge of dredged or fill materials into the waters of the United States if such discharge "will have an unacceptable adverse effect on fishery areas (including spawning and breeding areas), wildlife, or recreational areas." EPA may do so "before a permit application has been submitted to the Corps." Section 404(c) has been used 13 times; 11 of these have been by Republican administrations. "The EPA's assessment makes it clear that the Pebble Mine would deal a huge blow to the sportsman's paradise we have in Bristol Bay," said Tim Bristol, of Trout Unlimited. "Bristol Bay is the last place you should put a mine like this. The EPA needs to act now to protect Bristol Bay and Alaskan jobs."

Bragging may not bring happiness but no man who has caught a big fish goes home through an alley

-Lord Byron

(Continued from page 3) - Leech Lake Outing

ing well.

The mayflies are already hatching, and the blue damselfish should be on the reeds by outing time. If you haven't fished this alpine weed bed, you've been missing out! Last year we had great action on big triploid rainbows and some pretty husky brook trout. A head head beige mayfly nymph worked well, along with the usual comparaduns and emergers. Black leeches are always good.



Leech Lake

We'll be having a barbeque at the White Pass Village Inn on Saturday, at happy hour, around 5:00. Bring your best appetizer to share, maybe a side dish too! Sign up on the website for headcount, so the club can provide steaks. The inn has lots of rooms available for 115.00/nite, that sleep 4 to 6. Their phone number is (509)-672-3131. There's camping at the lake too, though sites are limited.

We will be having a pancake breakfast at the inn Sunday morning, with all the fixins, so you can keep your strength up for another day on the pond. Come join us! This trip is becoming a favorite, and is always fun! Only an hour and a half from Seattle! See you there!

Please see Page 8 for a 'tutorial' on fishing Leech Lake



Hart Lake, Pierce County

Not All Big Fish Are East of the Mountains!

From Don Gulliford

Last Thursday (~May 8, 2014) or so, Hart Lake produced this beauty for my colleague Dick Pierson and we need more reports in the Creel Notes. Tight Lines from **Don Gulliford**.



Note the Pocketknife

Lower Isaak Lake, Douglas County

Isaak Ranch, Lower Isaak Lake

May 13, 2014

By Bob Burdick

On May 13th Joe Kristoff (former WFFC member) and I sampled Lower Isaak Lake for the first time. Nestled in a shallow depression on farmland near Coulee City this 100 acre private lake has been on my bucket list for some time as Denny Westover (former club member) annually titillates me with wild tales of rainbow trout to 10 pounds for the modest price of \$225/day.

Open annually about April 1st and closed June 1st for the summer, and again for most of September and October the owners allow only 6 rods per day on the lake, and only on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.

Booking through the Desert Angler in Ephrata, we were on the lake by 9am armed with 2X and 3X leaders on a sunny day with about ½ the lake in turnover. And the lake did not disappoint! On chironomids from 10am until 12:30 I boated about 12 fish running from 3 to 6 pounds and saw others that could easily run 10 pounds. Every fish ran me into my backing as they leaped and raced around the lake. After lunch things slowed down but we continued to catch the odd fish on leaches and buggers, leaving about 4 pm when things went really dead.

Commiserating on the way home that afternoon we agreed that the catching was worth the price of admission once, but the cow pasture ambiance left us a little wanting.

Corbett Lake, British Columbia

Corbett Lake

May 18th through May 23, 2014

By Bob Burdick

From May 18th through May 23 I, **Gary Bergquist, Walt Swanson** and 9 other fly fishermen made our annual pilgrimage to Corbett Lake, BC, near Merritt. Peter McVeigh, the former owner, sold the resort last year and we had some apprehension about whether his absence was going to affect the fishing and the costs of the trip.

Upon arrival we learned that Peter is still managing the stocking program for the lake and although the fishing wasn't as good as in previous years, the fish density visually appeared to be little different.

The current resort personnel indicated that they had had a very warm Spring, possibly affecting the midge and callibaetis hatches which were anemic at best, and that that might have had something to do with our catch rate. At any rate, everyone caught at least one fish per day, some days as many as 15 running 17 inches to 6 pounds. Everyone enjoyed the challenge of trying to figure if the fish were onto Damsels, buggers, leaches, chironomids, Callibaetis nymphs or Callibaetis dries, and everyone is eager to return next year.

For a private lake in a beautiful mountain setting with big fish, this remains a very inexpensive trip. We averaged \$650 apiece in fishing/lodging costs for the 6 days we fished by sharing one of the lodges big cabins and cooking for ourselves.



Corbett Lake

Upper Wheeler Reservoir

Upper Wheeler Reservoir, Chelan County

May 28, 2014

By Dick Stearns

At the Chopaka outing, I said **DeVonne** and I would check out this new fly fishing only lake south of Wenatchee on the way home. I should know better than to make such promises.

Using GPS and Google Maps, one would think getting from a known highway to a known lake would be easy, right? Unknown miles and four hours later, we were about to give up, having concluded that some of the roads Google directed us to were not really roads but snowmobile trails, the foundation of which consisted mainly of ruts and boulders. Deep ruts and Big boulders. Thanks to 4WD and a short wheelbase, we could maneuver around most, and finally found the lake. It was behind a locked gate, so we walked the last 3-4 hundred yards and cast from shore.

By this time we were so tired, staying to make a fishing report wasn't of interest, so instead we took observations from several day-before catch records left at the WDFW kiosk. Here's what we found: Catching seemed to be fair, around 2-3 fish per hour from 10 to 15", mostly rainbow but some browns and brookies. The survey questions implied there were also tiger trout in the lake, but none of the



(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5) - Upper Wheeler Lake

catch records we looked at included these. We also found a better way to get back to our camp trailer (that thankfully, we left in Wenatchee), other than from whence we came.

In reverse order then, here's directions:

- Go south via Wenatchee Ave and Malaga-Alcoa Hwy to Stemilt Creek Rd., turn right.
- Go 5.3 miles to Stemilt Loop Road, turn right.
- Go 5.4 miles and look for dirt road on left. Note: there'll be a huge round boulder on the left just a few hundred yards before the dirt road. Geologists call them erratics, but this one looks like a black burned-out asteroid. I'm surprised this hasn't been touted as a tourist attraction, but I regress:
- Go 2.6 miles up the dirt road to a fork, turn right and go 0.2 miles to a gate.



Upper Wheeler Gate

- Park a hundred yards back from the gate and walk to the lake. Note #2: This dirt road, while steep and rough, can be traversed via 2WD if it's dry. The last 3 hundred yards past the gate might be negotiated w/a wheeled pontoon boat or float tube.

Oh, and if you use a GPS-map to get there, don't rely on the map unless you're flying.

Chopaka Lake, Okanogan County

Tempura, Fishing and "Rod Security Advice"

By Ron Dion

First, thanks to everyone for hauling all the stuff to make this annual affair so enjoyable, especially **Jim McRoberts & Scott Hagen** for the Sunday evening tempura feed, and **Dick Brening** for the Sunday morning pancake, sausage, cowboy coffee breakfast. The afternoon Callibaetis hatch performed as expected, some days lasting several hours and some days was quite short. The rainbows were mostly 15" - 18" with a few 19" - 21". These trout lived up to expectations, often running into my backing.



One day as I was looking for a place to anchor, and not paying attention to my fly rod, it suddenly went skipping out the rear of my boat. I immediately turned the boat around and tried to follow it. Well it sank to the bottom in about 9 feet of water. I was able to locate it a couple times, and each time it scooted along the bottom, being pulled by the fish, until I could no longer see it. So I gave up the pursuit and proceeded to find a good spot to anchor and entice the rainbows with a comparadun.

About 1/2 hour later my son came by to see how fishing was. I told him what had happened and showed him about where I had last seen my rod. He told me he would try retrieving it. He lowered his stern anchor to the bottom, pulled it up about a foot and proceeded to row around pulling the anchor. In less than 5 minutes, when he pulled up the anchor, there was my fly line wrapped around the anchor. Pulling the line he got my rod. Just then, his wife hooked a fish. So they landed/released her fish and proceeded to reel in the 17" rainbow that had pulled my rod out of my boat.

From now on I'm taking the advice to secure fly rod with a lanyard when trolling.

Chopaka Memorial Day Weekend Photos



Chuck Ballard and Charlie Bohlin Provide Musical Entertainment



Dion, Ballard and Brening
"That ain't workin', That's the way you do it"



Jim MacDonald, Dick Sterns and Dick Brening
These guys worth \$15.00/hr?



Kevin Brening, Dick Brening, Tim Bohlin, Charlie Bohlin? and
Ron Little

Potential B.S. from this bunch.....Unlimited !

Chopaka / Big Twin Lake

Chopaka (and Side Trip to Big Twin)

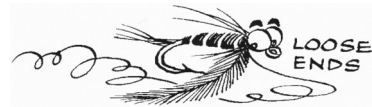
By Chuck Ballard

Chopaka Lake . People the lake is "back "from the past rehab effects . The Mayfly hatch was great and the fish were healthy with some to 20". There were about 30 people from the club including guests.

The Saturday dinner was great as well as the Sunday breakfast by **Brening, Ballard** and others who pitched in in **Pete Baird's** absence due to a tranny failure at the top of the hill just before arriving at the camp ground. After a tow back to Omak and a couple of days waiting for a replacement transmission **Pete** and **Lynn** came home with an empty pocketbook.

Sundays tempura by **McRoberts** and the **Hagen's** finished out a great weekend. There was even some questionable entertainment in song by yours truly.

I returned to Big Twin lake this past Sunday and did well on adult Chopaka may dries even though the fish were only interested in adult Damsels ? go figure? I caught 5 fish all in the 14" size. They were very healthy and this should make for a great place to fish in the fall if we chose to go there.

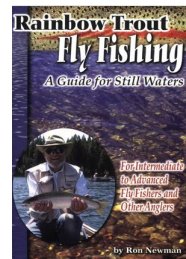


Book Review

Rainbow Trout Fly Fishing

Fellow newsletter editor (Kamloops Fly Fishers) Ron Newman, has a great book out on still water fly fishing.

Rainbow Trout Fly Fishing provides serious anglers with a fresh look at their prey and their sport. The book is directed at fly fishing for insectivorous Rainbow Trout in pristine lakes. However, the information is useful to all trout anglers regardless of their choice of tackle or location.



Starting in 1976, Ron Newman has kept detailed records of virtually anything that may have affected the fishing on a certain day, including: weather, water, fish activity, hatches, moon position, fishing successes. But for Ron, all of this data just brought up more questions, so he spent 25 years also researching books, articles, research papers, Internet sites, and so on. This book is the result of Ron's meticulous studies of the rainbow trout; whatever you'd like to know about rainbow trout and fishing this book is it!

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Our 'Scarce Resources' at Work

Agency: Saving Sucker Fish to cost \$135 million

From the Columbian, Vancouver WA via Don Gulliford

GRANTS PASS, Ore. — Federal biologists say it will take \$135 million and 30 to 50 years to save two endangered species of sucker fish that figure in the water battles in the Klamath Basin.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service issued a final recovery plan Monday for the Lost River and shortnose sucker. One of the key places they live is Upper Klamath Lake, which is the main reservoir for a federal irrigation project.

Irrigation was cut off to most of the project during a drought in 2001 to maintain water for the suckers and threatened Coho salmon in the Klamath River.

The plan says that despite a lot of progress on habitat restoration, the fish have not seen a substantial number of new adults join the population in 10 years.

Wasting Resource Dollars? More than one kind of Suckers????
- Don Gulliford

'Reeling' In The Years



Tutorial on Leech Lake

By Steve Raymond—From the Creel Notes July 1971

Leech Lake, at the summit of White Pass, is one of the finest fly lakes in the state. It's small, shallow and easy to cover. The water is usually clear, weed growth heavy and hatches plentiful. The trout, eastern brook, are not large but there are lots of them and they make wonderful eating. *(I might add that there are now triploid rainbows that add to the fishing bonus, some in the 18+ " range —Ed)*

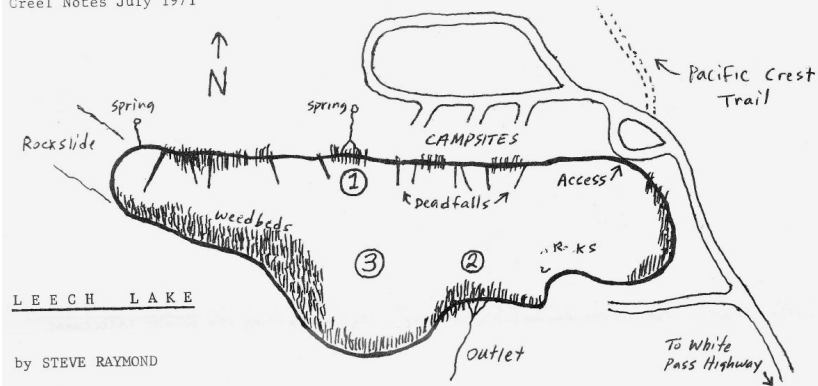
Leech is at an elevation of 4,700 feet. Usually the snow is gone and the lake is accessible by Memorial Day. The best fishing is usually the last 2 weeks of July and all of August no matter when the snow goes off.

In most areas the lake is 3 to 5 feet deep. Because of the clarity of the water, it's often possible to see the fish rise or strike at the end of a long cast. The trout average is about 10 inches, but you can count on picking up several 12" to 13" fish in a day's fishing. I like to use a 6 foot, 2 ounce midge rod with a sinking line. Even a 10 incher will put a good bend in such a small rod. *(but the triploids are good size and more than make up for smaller average brookies—Ed)*

There are campsites all around the lake, maintained by the forest service. Get there early on the weekends. There are outdoor toilets and good fresh water from the springs. However, check around before taking the water from the spring nearest the campground; last year some people were using it instead of the outdoor toilets.

Gas, food and booze are available at the White Pass Summit, about 1/2 mile from the campground.

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The best spots are numbered:

1. The hottest place on the lake. Brookies congregate off the mouth of the spring where the cool water comes in. Anchor close to shore and put your fly near weed bed or along the windfalls. I once caught and released 106 trout in this spot during a five hour period.
2. Best spot for bigger trout. The brookies spawn in the outlet and the bigger fish tend to lie off the weedbed during the summer months before they move into the creek to spawn in the fall.
3. Good when others fail

Best all around pattern is a damsel fly nymph, light green, tied on size 8 4X long hook. A self Carey works sometimes. On bright days, a size 12 TDC on a thin leader sunk deep works well. Of course, the most elective pattern of all

is Raymond's Reliable, but most of you guys are too clumsy to tie it.

Hannan History/Big Brookie

From article 'The Book on Brookies'

From the Creel Notes March 1967

Hannan Lake (Snohomish County) T27N-R7E, Section 23; formally a fly only lake.

There are a few brookies left in Hannan but those who remain are worth trying for. A **dead brook trout of about 7 pounds** was found in the shallows near the outlet of the lake last spring.

Rainbows also present, some holdovers to 14 inches Closes September 4.

An Extra Tip

Zipper Pull



Some knots seem like they require another set of fingers.

Two of my favorite knots to tie tippet to fly are the fisherman's knot and Eugene bend knot, and both are easier to tie if you can use both hands to work the tag and standing lines without worrying about the fly. Other knots, such as the Kreh's non-slip loop, are a lot easier to tighten if you can secure the fly and put tension on the standing line while pulling the tag tight with forceps or pliers.

I learned the zipper pull from an old Art Scheck book and in lieu of a zipper, I often use the looped leg of a small black binder clip, which I can attach anywhere on my fanny pack or vest.



Elk
"October Swim"
Henry's Lake Idaho



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June, 2014

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:

Marc Williamson

Flytyer, Flycaster, and Guide

Fly fishing Opportunities In Central Oregon