

Conservation Tactics

Use tackle appropriate for the size and strength of the fish and play fish as quickly as possible.

A fish out of water is suffocating and can suffer permanent damage. Leave fish in the water as much as possible.

Use soft knotless nets, or better yet, no net at all. If the fish must be handled, wetted bare hands are best. Gently cradle the fish with one hand under its belly, and the other at the tail.

Use hook release tools, needle-nose pliers or hemostats for effective hook removal. Never force a hook out. If a fish is deeply hooked, or the hook can't be easily removed, cut your leader and leave the hook to rust away.



To release fish, hold upright in the water, and point it into the current. Gently move the fish back and forth until its gills are functioning normally and it maintains balance. Once the fish recovers adequately, allow it to swim away from your hands.

Take all of your used monofilament leaders and tippet materials with you and dispose of them properly, as they will harm fish and wildlife.

Always try to leave the areas where you fish better off than when you arrived by picking up and packing out as much garbage as possible – every piece counts!

About Us

The Washington Fly Fishing Club is a social organization of fly fishing anglers whose mission is to provide resources to members, improve fisheries and habitat, and develop a public conservation ethic through fly fishing.

Founded in 1939, is one of the Northwest's leading voices for conservation and sportsmanship and offers public classes in fly tying and fly casting for adults and youth.



The Washington Fly Fishing Club is active in the restoration and improvement of local fisheries and provides financial grants for fisheries research and enhancement

Based in Seattle, the WFFC meets once a month throughout the year. It sponsors outings for members and their families on Northwest streams, lakes, and the Puget Sound.

Contact Us

If you have questions about classes, meetings, membership or conservation issues, contact The Washington Fly Fishing Club at:

info@wffc.com
www.wffc.com

The

Washington Fly Fishing Club



Fly Fishing Ethics and Conduct

Email: info@wffc.com
Website: www.wffc.com

Rotational Angling

Avoid entering the water in front of another angler who is already fishing unless invited to do so. Observe which way the angler is moving, and enter behind.

Leave adequate room between any angler and yourself, but do not remain stationary unless no one is following you.



If you are not sure about local etiquette, avoid problems by first inquiring about procedures from anglers already on the water.

Do not motor up onto a shoal. Cut the motor well short of the shoal and either drift or row in.

Do leave at least 200 feet between boats – this allows each angler to cast 100 feet in any direction without tangling lines.



Do not motor or row directly through moving fish. Anchor on the periphery and cast into them.

Do show your fellow angler some courtesy: often one will be rewarded for this consideration with helpful advice.

Do help others when you're having success and they are not– there will always be days when the reverse is true.

Do not cut in between an angler (who is working the shallows) and the shoreline.

Do keep noise to a minimum- ship oars and deploy anchors quietly.

Do not carry on loud conversations.

Do not tie-up launch site if others are waiting.

Responsible anglers respect the environment.

As Ethical Anglers

We do not spill or dump gasoline, oil or other pollutants on land or into the water.

When fishing, we never leave trash behind, including worn or discarded line, old hooks, or leader material.

We leave our fishing site as clean or cleaner than we found it.

We report environmental damage and pollution to the relevant authorities.

When boating or anchoring, we take care to avoid damaging sensitive areas.

We do our best to prevent spread of exotic plants and animals.

We use only legal tackle, attend to our gear and value our catch.

We keep no more fish than needed for consumption and legally allowed, and never wastefully discard fish that have been retained.

We practice conservation and use proper release methods for fish not retained.

We use tackle and techniques that avoid the capture of (or minimize the harm to) unwanted fish or fish prohibited for retention.

We learn and comply with all angling regulations.

We report any illegal fishing activities we observe to the appropriate authorities.

We treat other anglers, boaters, and people we might meet in the field with courtesy and respect.

We obtain permission from land-owners and never trespass on private lands or waters.

We respect the space of other anglers when fishing from shore or in a boat and give room to all anglers playing a fish.

We observe all boat operator and safety regulations.

We watch our speed and our wake and keep a safe distance from shore-based anglers, jetties, and other boats.

We educate fellow anglers, especially new participants about fishing ethics.

We promote ethical behavior in the use of aquatic resources through education and example.

We maintain and promote public awareness and understanding of the issues surrounding responsible fishing.

We promote public awareness of the measures taken by anglers to conserve the resources and protect the environment.

