

# Creel Notes from the



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

Website: [www.wffc.com](http://www.wffc.com)

Member of



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August 2016

Around his time last year we were lamenting extraordinary low water in our streams and rivers and related fish mortality. Not saying we will not see the same problems this year but, so far, we are in better shape water-wise.

As of today, August 9 2016, we still await WDFW's decision on identifying Puget Sound rivers as wild steel head gene banks... doing so is included as a requirement in the management plan adopted by the WDFW Commission in 2008. Hmm. Going on EIGHT YEARS with little of evidence of anything being accomplished in this regard. I sent my letter off to the Commission, I hope you have done so as well

National Marine Fisheries Service is being sued for its failure to devise a recovery plan for Puget Sound steelhead which were listed as endangered species in 2007.....my arithmetic says that was NINE years ago. Last month Federal District Judge Simon decided to allow federal agencies an additional Five years to prepare yet another biological opinion in connection with operation of federal dams on the Columbia River system. That litigation, challenging a 2000 biological opinion, was filed in 2011.

A five year extension that will put the life of this litigation at somewhere North of TWENTY years and my bet is it will still not be resolved. Our governments at work. Just kicking the can down the road on salmon and steelhead recovery. Until what? We run out of road. My vote is to move recovery efforts for salmon and steelhead to agencies other than the WDFW at the state level and the Department of Commerce at the federal level. The members of the Nominating Committee for nominating 2017 officers and trustees were elected at the July Membership Meeting.

The members of the committee are Mike Wearne, Doug Schaad, Hugh Clark, Jim McRoberts and Kris Kristoferson. An august crew, by any measure (no pun intended Kris). When a member of this committee contacts you asking you to consider serving in an elected position give it your serious consideration. The "I do not have time" response does not really cut it without some degree of investigation on your part as to the actual duties of the position. I am more than a little concerned when I look around and see who is actually doing what.....there are too few shoulders carrying too much of the weight.

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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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*Club officers and chairmen can be contacted by logging in the WFFC website then selecting email (upper right corner). Button selec-*

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That observation is not only with respect to officers and trustees but committees as well.

Lynda Mapes was our speaker for our July meeting. Lynda, an author and a journalist for the Seattle Times, spoke "on the saga of the Elwha from 1913 when the first Elwha Dam was built through today when fish, plants and animals are starting to thrive new that the 2 Elwha Dams have been removed". If you were not there you missed an outstanding program both the subject matter and presentation were top notch. Lynda's command of the facts on this general subject are unparalleled. (The words in quotes are those of Bob Burdick which I lifted from the WFFC web site.)

Next up is our August Membership meeting which will provide a series of round table presentations and discussions. Last year this program was a huge success. Do not miss this event. We will also have the annual "garage sale" of fly fishing tackle, equipment and related "stuff" all, I am sure, at bargain basement prices. Bring lots of cash money, as Yogi might say.

A heads up for the August Meeting...you may not recall this but the dinner for last year's August meeting was a buffet line with burgers, hot dogs and the like. It seems as though we had quite a few more people moving through the line and eating meals that night than for which we sold dinners. We lost more than a few dollars on that dinner This year the general thinking for the August meeting is those who pay for a dinner will need to present his/her dinner ticket in order to get in the serving line. If you

put your dinner ticket on the table at which you intend to sit you will need to retrieve it in order to move through the serving line. Remember, the Club's goal is not to make money on these dinners, we look to break even.

August 2<sup>nd</sup> a memorial service was held for Dave Round who passed away last month. Dave was a long standing WFFC member. He joined the WFFC in 1970...46 years. By one count, some 18 WFFC members attended Dave's memorial. It was clear the family was touched by the number of WFFC members remembering Dave by attending his memorial.

WFFC library. For the past few years the Board has been looking at disposing of the WFFC library. The library takes up a significant portion of the club's leased storage locker and is, for the most part, not being used. At the August Board meeting it was generally agreed to explore the sale of the more valuable books either by consignment to a broker or direct on lines sales. Those which are not deemed to be of sufficient interest for sale would be donated. Some time ago the board directed the disposition of all items in storage which do not serve the aims and purposes of the club so we will most likely be seeing further dispositions. The club spends a fair amount each year for storage.

In the process of reviewing how the Club currently does business on its web site and integrating (and improving) how we may be able to business on the new web site, the Board had occasion to consider how dues maybe paid in the future paid on time or within a stated grace pe-

## 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.

Presidents Message Continued from page 2

The general consensus was that absent a change in the Bylaws late fees for tardy dues payments will be enforced for 2017.

## Sheep Lake Outing August 27

The one day hike to Slide Lake in 2015 was such a resounding success we are going to do the same thing again. This time we will be hiking to Sheep Lake. The area of the lake is slightly less than 3 acres. Our destination is at 5,750 feet in the Chinook Pass area. The distance is about 2.1 miles each direction. The hike is planned for a Saturday morning, August 27th. We will rendezvous in Enumclaw's Safeway store at 8:00 and travel together to Chinook Pass. I was thinking we could stop in Greenwater for burgers after the hike. If you have any questions please contact me at work, 253.305.1562. Mike Wearne

## Monthly Speakers

Epistle from the 2<sup>nd</sup> VP for programs:

I thought Linda Mapes program at our July meeting was good and enjoyed by everyone with attendance at 55 or 60. Her articles in the Seattle Times on the environment continue to be insightful and I'd like to get her back to talk to us again in the future.

The August 16<sup>th</sup> meeting will be in two parts. We will have two 45 minute sessions and during each of the sessions there will be 6 separate speakers talking on various subjects at 6 separate tables. You can find a list of the lectures on the banquet flyer on a page in this issue of the Creel Notes, and there will be a billboard at the meeting outlining the talks. Starting at 5:30 pm on the periphery of the banquet hall there will be 6 to 8 rectangular tables where each of you may sell, trade, or give away your excess fishing gear and fly tying gear. The used equipment sale will continue throughout the evening and finish at 9 pm. A buffet barbecue Dinner will begin at 6 pm ending at 6:45. Please register as early as you can to help us plan well for what is likely to be a large crowd.



Linda Mapes doing her talk on the Elwah River.

LIVE MUSIC



OPEN TO THE  
PUBLIC

Casual Attire

**Washington Fly Fishing Club Fly Fishing Destination Seminar  
And Fly Fishing Gear and Swap Sale  
August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

Join us for a barbecue dinner at the beautiful Seattle Tennis Club and Participate in 2 of the 9 one hour 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.

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

**SAVE THE  
DATE**

**Bring Your  
Friends**

Each seminar session will run for 50 minutes, and at the sound of a bell participants will have the opportunity to move to a different seminar or stay

<p><b>Gear, Fly and Boat Swap Sale</b></p>	<p><b><u>Buffet Dinner Option</u></b> Pulled pork sandwiches, 3 salads, baked beans, corn on the cob, apple crisp &amp; ice cream <b>\$33.00</b></p>	<p><b>Entry Ticket entitles you to enter Door Prize Raffle</b></p>
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## **FLY FISHING SEMINAR TOPICS**

**Topic 1: Yakima River:** Kris Kristopherson and John Schuitemaker of the WFFC will discuss location, access, season and tactics for successfully fishing the Yakima. They will provide a handout

**Topic 2: Cutthroat:** Brita Fordice, lead salesperson and guide of the Avid Angler will discuss best location, access, tidal influence and tactics for successfully fishing North, South, and Central Puget Sound beaches for cutthroat.

**Topic 3: Stillaguamish River:** Greg Minaker, WFFC member and avid photographer will discuss when, where, and how to fish the Stillaguamish River for steelhead. Handout provided.

**Topic 4: Aquatic Entomology:** Preston Singletary, WFFC member, and outstanding fly tier will review what we need to look for at streamside or lakeside. Preston will provide a handout.

**Topic 5: Dave Schorsch:** “When and how to fish the Owyhee” This storied small river in NE Oregon holds large numbers of big browns. Come listen to Dave unlock it’s secrets. Map and handout provided.

**Topic 6: Missouri River:** Mark Shimazu from the Avid Angler will expound on the secrets of this fabled Montana River and will whet your appetite for an encounter on one of our nations blue ribbon steams.

**Topic 7. The pay to play lakes of the Pacific Northwest:** Bob Burdick. There are many lakes in the NW that meet this definition, each with it’s own fish size and density, cost structure, amenities, and distance obstacles. Think Isaac Lakes, Corbett Lake, Walker Lake, Moccasin Lake, Lund Lake, etc.

**Topic 8. Carp and Bass:** Matt Palch from the Desert Angler in Ephrata will discuss “How, When and Where to fish for carp and bass in the Pacific Northwest”

**Topic 9. Knot Tying:** Richard Embry, WFFC member, will discuss “Which knots are useful to fishermen and how to tie them”

**Each of these talks will run for 45-50 minutes**

## RECENT WFFC FOUNDATION DONATIONS

The WFFC Foundation has recently made two contributions toward land purchases affecting two important streams in the state of Washington. The Western Rivers Conservancy had the opportunity to acquire and forever protect nearly all of the Kennedy Creek stream corridor from its Summit Lake headwaters in the Capitol State Forest, to the mouth of Toten inlet. Kennedy Creek is one of the most productive chum salmon spawning streams in all of Washington, with average fall runs topping 40,000 fish. The WFFC Foundation donated \$2,500 to Western Rivers for the purchase and protection of streamside habitat along this stream.

On the Wenatchee River, where many of our members have fished, access to this River has been declining over the years. Farmers, facing agricultural practices requirements are more reluctant to allow anglers to pass through their property and continuing residential development increasingly limits access. When the Peshastin Mill became available along the banks of the Wenatchee, real estate developers became excited. However a coalition of environmentally and sports oriented focused organizations banded together and started fund raising funds to purchase the shoreline and transfer the property to WDFW in perpetuity for operation as a public recreation area available to hikers and other low impact outdoor enthusiasts. This opportunity was brought to the Foundation's attention by long term Club member John Callahan. The Foundation contributed \$1,000 to this project. Approximately 10 other organizations contributed, including the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board, the Washington State council of the International Federation of Fly fishers, Trout Unlimited, and a number of local fishing clubs in the Wenatchee area. The purchase price of \$435,000 was reached when the grandson of the man who built the mill in 1928 made a contribution to meet the asking price and the 14 acre mill site on the Wenatchee river was purchased and preserved for public use. A very good community and fly fishing endeavor and thanks to WFFC members who donate to the Foundation to make these things happen.

Greg Crumbaker  
WFFC Foundation President 2016



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

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here

**August, 2016**

**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: 6 table fly fishing seminar, barbecue banquet, and used equipment sale**