

# 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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Earlier this year, February 4<sup>th</sup> to be precise, a number of right-minded organizations, Wild Fish Conservancy, Wild Steelhead Coalition, The Conservation Angler, International Federation of Fly Fishers and the WFFC, filed suit in Federal District Court against the Department of Commerce and the National Marine Fisheries Service due to its failure to implement a recovery plan for Puget Sound Steelhead which has been listed as a threatened species since 2007. In mid-August a settlement agreement was reached and filed. Under the settlement agreement National Marine Fisheries Service has agreed that it will have available for public comment on or before December 31, 2018 a proposed recovery plan for Puget Sound steelhead and will publish a final recovery plan on or December 31, 2019. So, let's see. Listed in 2007, a recovery plan promised to be published 2019....12 years and only after being dragged into court in front of a Federal District Judge. Anyone taking bets on when a plan will actually be implemented?

Another government agency kicking the can down the road. This time the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

. Earlier this summer WDFW announced that the Elwha and Nisqually Rivers have been selected as wild steelhead gene banks, well, OK but where the Hell is the Skagit? How the WDFW can ignore the Skagit River system as a wild steelhead gene bank is pure politics. Nothing to do with science.

But Wait. There's more!

On September 1<sup>st</sup> the WDFW closed applications for, you guessed it, ANOTHER advisory group. The Puget Sound Steelhead Advisory Group. Ok, one goal of this group will be to "help identify a new wild steelhead gene bank in north Puget Sound." WDFW will meet with the new advisory group in bimonthly meetings through December. Assuming the members of the group are identified by October 1<sup>st</sup> that means the Department will meet no more than 6 times with this group. Do we really need another advisory group to answer that question? WDFW assures us it has on staff all the scientists necessary to determine the biological merits of a selection. If that is so, what is the purpose of forming yet another committee?

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Camera

## Creel Notes

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

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by logging in the WFFC website then selecting  
email (upper right corner). Button selec-*

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This appears to me nothing more than a poorly disguised delaying tactic to push an announcement until the end of the year. Why would that be the case?

Let me begin another discussion. For the moment, we can put the frustration of government inaction, obfuscation, side-stepping, unaccountability and the like aside. Let's consider something we can all do something about and one that is based on reality. What is going to happen to your stuff when you die?

In a prior life I had a pretty active law practice in wills/trusts/estate planning/probate. While today one can pretty much take care of business over the telephone and internet exchanging ideas and drafts on line. That has obviously not been always the case. "Back then" meeting with clients face to face was standard practice. Generally clients would meet me at my office and after getting settled in a conference room and the exchange of small talk we approached the business at hand. Often times after asking the client what he/she had in mind for his/her will I was met with "If I die I want"... Raising my hand I would stop the client mid-sentence and make sure he/she understood that continuation of his/her life was not necessarily an elective state of being.

So with that happy thought in mind. What will happen to your stuff? Some of you will have already given this consideration and perhaps even put something in place. For those of us who have descendants or colleagues who appreciate good tackle the answer is perhaps clear. For those of you who have not consider this or have no one who

is engaged in the sport of fly fishing to take your stuff keep this in mind. The WFFC and the WFFC Foundation are the best organizations to put your stuff in the right hands. The right hands? Yes, getting your stuff...that would be fishing and outdoor gear tackle and art work into the hands of enthusiasts who know what it is and will put it to good use or, if nothing else treat it with respect.

It could be some of your stuff is better offered for sale by the Club or Foundation at the WFFC Annual Garage Sale while perhaps the better quality items would be offered at auction or, in certain cases, placed with a museum In order for this to be accomplished in the manner you desire you will need to make "arrangements" such that upon your death your family understands what it is you want done with your stuff. Do you really want your angling gear and tackle included in an "estate sale" or subject to a grab fest among family members and collateral relatives who do not know the difference between a Rapala lure and an orange stimulator? You have a couple of other choices here. The Club or the Foundation and while the ultimate disposition is likely the same, that is a sale, use of the proceeds will likely vary. The Foundation makes grants to or for the benefit of other charitable (read conservation) organizations. The Club uses its funds for its operations and, from time to time, donations to or for the benefit of groups supporting the Club's aims and purposes.

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## 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.

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I am not going to act as your lawyer and tell you how to accomplish this. If this is something which interests you, talk to your lawyer and let him/her put in place the means to accomplish this; however, I will advise you to let your family know what it is YOU have decided. Oh. In case you were wondering, the Club and Foundation will accept cash which, as Yogi observed, is just as good as money. (I will leave for another day the story of the client who, when I asked him the manner in which he wanted his estate distributed, told me with a certain air of certainty that he would provide me with detailed instructions which would arrive after he had been dead for a specific period of time.)

Just a short comment to report that the WFFC Conservation Committee voted to provide grants to Western Rivers Conservancy for its Kennedy Creek project in South Puget Sound (\$4,000.00) and to the Peshastin Mill conservation project on the Wenatchee River (\$500.00). Although these grants are within the budget for 2016, and perhaps not required, the Board unanimously approved these grants at its September meeting. Michael Moscynski, board member who also sits on the Foundation Board, reported the Foundation has made grants to Western Rivers for the Kennedy Creek project (\$2500.00), the Peshastin Mill conservation project (\$1,000.00) and the Fly Fishing Academy (\$500.00).

After being off the water most of this summer, I am going fishing tomorrow.

## New Member



**Doug Larson, our newest club member**  
Doesn't .....Talk Fish..... He Catches em'!

## Lose Your Camera?

At a WFFC membership meeting at the Seattle Tennis Club earlier this year a video camera recorder was left at the end of the meeting. The camera has made several guest appearances at the Ghillie Desk during the course of the year in the hopes it would be recognized and re-united with its owner. If you believe this may be your camera, contact the Ghillie.”



**Washington Fly Fishing Club**  
**P.O. Box 639**  
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**www.wffc.com**

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**September, 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.**

**The presenter at our September 20th meeting will be Jaimie Glasgow (Chief Scientist and Research Director, Wild Fish Conservancy), whose presentation is titled: All About Net Pens and their effect on migrating salmon smolts**