

# Creel Notes from the



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

www.wffc.com

Founding Club of the FFF & members active in the FFF



Monthly Meeting Notice

June 18, 2002

LII No. 6

The College Club, 505 Madison St.

Seattle, Washington

Phone: 206-622-0624

Wet Fly Hour 5:30 PM

Dinner 6:45 PM

## Riffle

*Kris Kristoferson, President 2002*

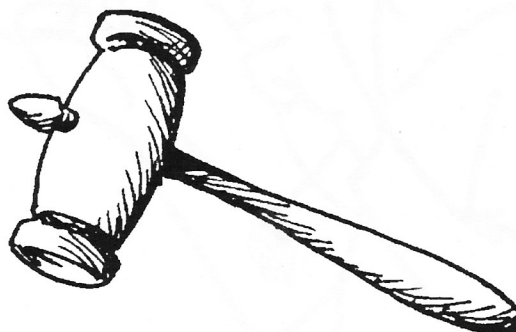
It is June and my kids are eagerly counting down the few remaining days of school. I, on the other hand, am looking forward to a break from cracking the whip on homework and the like. Coming up on the Club calendar is an event where whip cracking is strongly discouraged and maybe even eliminated altogether. It's the annual WFFC Family Picnic and it is fun for fishers and non-fishers of all ages. No homework, just fun, food and games. Some of the Club's veteran casting instructors can lead you through an accuracy casting game and they have been known to throw in a few golden nuggets of casting advice along the way. It is scheduled to begin at 3:00PM Saturday, June 15th at the Good Shepherd Center just south of 50th Street on Meridian. It is a potluck so please bring along a family-sized food item.

Every summer, Pete Baird and others organize a High Lakes Trip. And every year at the Christmas Party, we see great pictures from these trips. The fisherman's anticipation really builds hiking in to an alpine lake and, once there, you cast your offering to eager fish in truly spectacular surroundings. Plans are coming together for this year's adventure so check in with Pete Baird for the details.

Another item to jot on your calendar is the Griffin Creek work outing scheduled for August 24th. Through the hard work of the WFFC, the County indicates the blackberries that had threatened the newly planted trees there are now under control. With your help, the Club's continued efforts are making a real difference on this important nursery stream.

## In This Issue

Club News	2, 3
Conservation	5
Fishing Reports	5, 6
Outing News	4
WFFC Calendar	7



## WFFC Foundation Book Sale

by Dick Brening, WFFC Foundation Member

The estate of Don Sachs has donated his flyfishing library collection to the WFFC Foundation. Books in the collection date from 1904 to 1996 editions. It is the Foundations intent to make these books available for sale to members of the club. We will have a few books on silent auction each month at dinner meetings until we have disposed of all the items. The proceeds will go to the Foundation. A complete listing of the books will be available at the June meeting.

At the June meeting the following books will be for sale:

How to tell fish from fishermen	Ed Zern 1947
The practical fly fisherman	A.J. McClane 1953
The Fire Side Book of Fishing	Raymond Camp 1959
Fishing the nymph	Jim Quick 1960
A Fisherman's life	Charles Ritz 1977
Trout magic	Robert Traver 1983
Fly Fishing (coffee table)	Steven Windsor 1988
Trout the size of footballs (SB)	Richard Anderson 1990
The Game Fishing Bible	John Buckland 1991
The complete angler (Reprint)	Walton



## WFFC High lakes Trip July/ August 2002

by Pete Baird

The WFFC high lakes trip for this year offers a choice of hikes depending on the amount of time participants have, and how many sign up. Following are some of the particulars:

1. Location: Gold Creek drainage of the Methow Basin, east of LakeChelan.
  2. Lake choices:
    - a. Crater Lakes: 13 & 7.5 acres, elevation 6841', trail distance 3.9 mi, elevation gain 2000'
    - b. Eagle lakes: 1.5 & 9 acres, elevation 7110' & 6490', trail distance 7.1 mi, elevation gain 2300'
    - c. Martin lakes: 9 & 5 acres, elevation 6729', trail distance 7.1 mi, elevation gain 1900'  
Also Cooney Lake: 8 acres, elevation 7241', delta trail distance of 2.2 mi
    - d. Sunrise Lake: 11 acres, elevation 7228', trail distance 7.2 mi, elevation gain 3600'
 All lakes contain west coast cutthroat.
  3. Driving time: Approximately 5 hours to trailhead.
  4. Nominal starting date, Friday, July 26; later start times possible.
  5. Return time: Could be as soon as July 28 or as late as Aug 3rd
- As of the May meeting 5 club members had signed up. The sign up list and the Green trails "Prince Creek" Map #115 showing the optional destination lakes will be available at the June and July meetings. If interested in more details or if you just have questions please feel free to give me a call at (206) 232-7682. Note: the phone number in the latest roster is incorrect! — If you can handle the pure mountain air, have or can borrow some key camping gear, and enjoy a little exercise please consider signing on!!

## Club News

### June Program- East Cape of Mexico, Speaker Jim Shuttleworth

by Richard Embry

Jim Shuttleworth will be our guest speaker this Meeting and will be discussing the fishing options around the East Cape of Mexico. Shuttleworth usually leads 3-4 groups of people to the East Cape every year in search of some of the big names in saltwater fly fishing. Tuna, sailfish, dorado, snapper, roosterfish, and skipjack are the main targets of his expeditions.

Shuttleworth will share with us when, where, and what type of equipment is needed for such expeditions. This promises to be a very exciting and educational program. Bring your notepad!

### Ken Jarvis Update

from Pete Baird

During our WFFC outing at Chopaka Lake Ken Jarvis experienced further heart problems and Norm Norlander drove him down to the Tanasket Hospital on Thur, May 23. He was then moved to the Wenatchee hospital by ambulance where he was joined by Joyce and spent the next several days re-cooperating. On Wed, May 29 he had a pacemaker/ defibrillator installed and returned home on the 30th. During his continued recovery he would appreciate a call or visit. Rumor has it we might even see him back in circulation again at our June regular meeting.

### Roster Changes

Please make the following changes to your 2002 Roster:

**Pete Baird:** Phone- 206.232.7682

**Chuck Ballard:** no work phone anymore (retired)

**Lyn Gross:** e-mail- lyndonwgross@yahoo.com

**Gene Gudger:** wife- Marcia (was omitted from roster)

**Scott Hagen-** Home Phone- 425. 673-1355.

**Jim McRoberts-** e-mail- jim4fish@att.net

**Steve Raymond:** e-mail- sraymond@whidbey.com

**Gordy Young:** e-mail- younggoje@attbi.com

Please add all of the following to your notes:

**Webster, Frank N.** (Penny)

5711 61st Ave. NE

Seattle, WA 98105

Hm: 206.526.2633

e-mail: websterfn@aol.com

1986 Ballard Pratt

### Annual Fly Casting Exposition

by Don Simonson

The WCFFF has asked each fly club who participates in the annual fly casting exposition to contribute two fly boxes of flies to be raffled off at the games. This year the games will be held Saturday September 21<sup>st</sup> at Trophy Lakes Golf and Casting in Port Orchard. I am asking all club members to donate 2 or 3 of their favorite patterns to help fill our two boxes. I will accept them at the general meeting or what would be convenient for you.



### What to Expect at Hosmer Lake

by Steve Raymond

As of Memorial Day weekend, there were two feet of snow in the Hosmer Lake campgrounds, but all the snow should be gone before the WFFC outing. If you've been to Hosmer before, but not for the past year or two, be prepared for a shock when you drive in from the Cascade Lakes Highway. The once-virgin forest on the left (north) side of the road has been trashed; last year the U.S. Farce Service gave it their "beetle treatment," removing all lodge-pole pines larger than 8 inches in diameter. This is done ostensibly to retard spread of the northern pine beetle, even though Farce Service ento-mologists say it doesn't work. The real reason is so the Farce Service can sell the timber at a net loss to taxpayers.

As for the Hosmer campgrounds, they also have been stripped of numerous mature trees over the past several years. The Farce Service removed more than 300 of the remaining large trees last fall and probably will cut more this spring. This is all being done for your "safety;" the Farce Service has classified these trees as potentially hazardous (a definition that can be handily applied to ANY tree in ANY national forest), although the real reason—again—is to sell the timber at a loss. Another reason is that when the Farce Service started charging camping fees, it automatically lost its liability exemption and decided it had to minimize the possibility of lawsuits by removing any tree that conceivably could fall on a person or vehicle. So when you pay your nightly \$5 camping fee (most of which goes to a private concessionaire), your money actually is helping destroy the very thing you're paying for: the chance to camp in a natural setting.

So: Expect a lot less shade and privacy and a lot more dust or mud in the campgrounds. Nevertheless, try to get there early (before Friday afternoon) if you want a good spot. Also, bring your own water; none is available in the campgrounds.

The good news is that the upper end of Hosmer Lake is still one of the most beautiful places on earth because it's inside one of those pesky roadless areas the Bush administration wants to abolish. And the upper lake is where the fishing is best. Based on what I saw there last year, I'd guess there will be plenty of Atlantic salmon in the 14-15" class this year, fair numbers around 17-18," and a few around 20-21". Brook trout to 3 pounds with some larger also are available.

The best hatches usually are over by late June but the long, cold, wet spring may draw them out this year. Expect hatches of traveling caddis just before dark, best imitated by a size 8 or 10 Salmon Candy or equivalent. On cool or cloudy days, look for Callibaetis dun emergences, best imitated by a dark gray dun pattern on a size 14 hook. On sunny or breezy afternoons you'll almost certainly see large flights of Callibaetis spinners, and for those you'll need a dark blue upright (or spent-wing equivalent) on a size 16 hook. A couple of hot, still days might bring an ant fall, which provides the most exciting fishing of all. Come prepared with black ants tied on a size 12 hook with a short wing of dark brown deer hair.

Hosmer Lake is NOT a place you want to try fishing with a float tube. The upper lake is very shallow and clear and the fish congregate in small areas. The fishing is entirely visual, and you have to be well up above the water in order to see anything. You can't do that in a float tube, and anyway it's a mighty long kick to the upper lake from the access. Pontoon boats aren't much better for this fishing. To be consistently successful, you need a cartop boat or pram or something that will allow you to stand up. Electric trolling motors are allowed, but outboards are banned on Hosmer.



## Conservation

### Conservation Committee Report

by Doug Schaad

Center for Streamside Studies speaker-Carol Volk

Carol Volk will provide a short presentation on the role of red alder in the riparian ecosystem. In particular, she will contrast the benefits of alder with those of common conifers of the Northwest. For those of us that grew up in a time when alders were considered nuisance trees, her research endeavors will prove enlightening.

By way of background, Carol spent her formative years in Corvallis OR, and then pursued undergraduate degrees in Zoology and Biochemistry at Colorado State University. She came to the University of Washington in pursuit of a Master's degree. At the suggestion of her primary faculty mentors, she was convinced that her area of interest and scope of project was more suitable to a doctoral program. Carol has recently passed her general exams and is now well on the way to her doctorate.

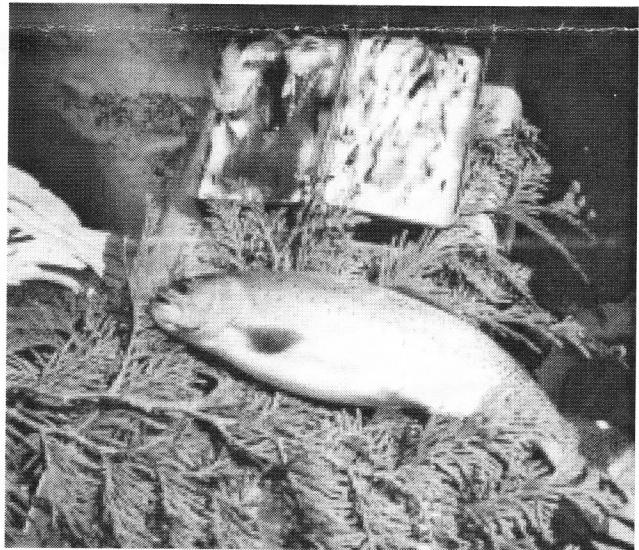
Chopaka Reports – Heather Bartlett would be delighted to receive additional reports from the Chopaka outing. To date, I have one report in which triploids dominated the catch. Please bring your records to the June membership meeting or send them electronically to [dschaad@attbi.com](mailto:dschaad@attbi.com)

Rattlesnake Lake – Recent reports of rampant poaching at Rattlesnake Lake have raised the question whether the WFFC wishes to become an unofficial 'lake-keeper' for this nearby water. Your thoughts on this issue are requested.

## Fishing Reports

*Don Gulliford, Domke Lake, May 30- June 3<sup>rd</sup>*

Three + good weather days at Domke which has had aerial drops of cutthroat fry for several years. It was the best fishing I have had in years, uniformly starting at about 10 AM and peaking at 1-2 PM with cutts predominating about 4:1 with rainbows. Most cutts were 10-16" and gorged with all sorts of black terrestrials, chironomids and other black things. Got fish several times in gin clear water on successive casts. Kept and fried one about 16" which ate delicious. Here is a picture of a live one on wet boughs I released. The Cabelas' fly box is 10 1/2" wide. Emerald Park Creek, which makes this lake one of the few that is self-sustaining, was up to its banks with snow melt and had many spawners. Actually saw some hikers from Washington Trails Assn. Who had cleared Emerald Park-Milham Pass trail mainline up to snow level (now around 4000 or lower for first time in years). Patterns used were green and black Doc Spratleys and Careys, and orange Stimulators dry in afternoon in breezes.



*Domke Lake Cutthroat, Don Gulliford*

The *Creel Notes* is a publication of the Washington Fly Fishing Club. Subscriptions are free with membership. Articles and other materials appropriate for publication in *Creel Notes* may be sent to: *Creel Notes* Editor, 4244 1st Ave NW, Seattle, WA 98107, e-mail to [kylelooney@attbi.com](mailto:kylelooney@attbi.com) (e-mail is preferred). This issue of *Creel Notes* was produced by Kyle Looney. ***Creel Notes is printed by the second Tuesday of the month; article submissions must be received by the previous Thursday.*** Mail roster updates directly to Kyle Looney at [kylelooney@attbi.com](mailto:kylelooney@attbi.com) or the above address. The WFFC may be visited on the internet at <http://www.wffc.com>.

## Fishing Reports

### ARMCHAIR TROUT

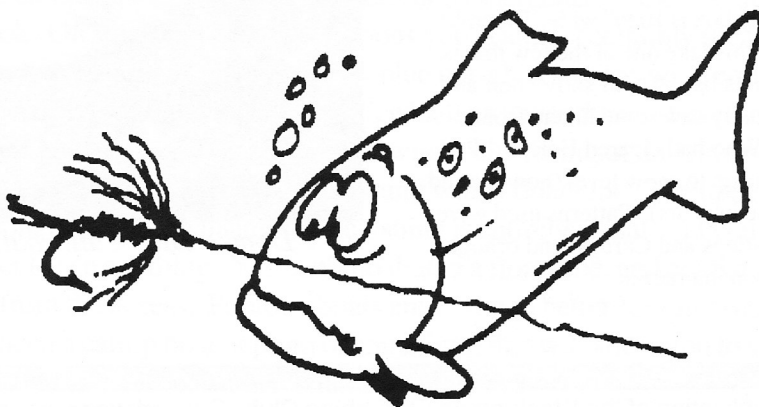
by Leland Miyawaki

All weekend long, trout fed with impunity in front of our camp on Lake Chopaka.

The morning sun, directly across from us, provided perfect conditions for spotting fish. We could see the trout clearly as they cruised along the edge of the submerged weed bed over the light sand and rocks searching for scud. The problem with casting to these fish was that they spooked when you walked up to the shore. But this morning, as we sat on our camp chairs up on the grass knoll enjoying the warm sun and coffee, larger trout than previously sighted were in tight and feeding. It was too much to take.

I tied on a #18 olive scud, walked the 20 feet down to the waters edge and laid out a cast well out into the darker water over the weed bed. I walked backwards while stripping out fly line until I got back up to my chair. I sat down and slowly took up the slack and waited for the trout to return. I couldn't see the fly at this distance but I could see the end of my gray floating line perfectly and I know the length of my leader. I was slowly drawing the fly to the edge of the weeds when the trout began to show again. I paused until one of the larger fish came into view before I made a couple short, subtle strips drawing the fly into the open. The trout caught sight of the movement and immediately turned and dashed to the scud. It was like catching bonefish on the flats. I stood up as the trout jumped and ran out into the lake. I soon got it on the reel, walked down to the water and brought it to hand. It was 18", fat and bright. I caught one more of about the same size and scared away another by giving my shrimp a brain - I stupidly sped up my stripping as the trout turned on the fly. It must have acted unlike any scud that trout had ever seen.

It was a first for me - catching trout while seated in camp - although I hooked a fish two days earlier after I cast out a #16 Parachute Adams and laid down the rod while I was setting up camp. But that's another story.



WFCC  
IMPORTANT DATES

### June

June 15th      WFFC Summer Picnic, Meridian Park  
June 18th      WFFC Meeting, College Club  
June 19th      Luncheon 11:45 Camlin Room  
June 26th      Luncheon 11:45 Camlin Room

### July

July 3rd      Luncheon 11:45 Camlin Room  
July 4th      Happy 4th of July!  
July 10th      Luncheon 11:45 Camlin Room

