

Creel Notes from the



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

Website: www.wffc.com

Member of



MMXX No. 9

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President's Riffle

It's fall and the rains have finally come and the smoke is gone. I hope that you have had a chance to fish the lower water streams and rivers and to walk and wade for rising fish. I am really going to miss our November Wet Buns South Sound Outing this year that is held at the Penrose Pont State Park, fishing for Chum, Coho and Sea-Run Cutthroats and eating the great Seafood Bouillabaisse that Dave Schorsch creates for our enjoyment. I'm going there anyway, anyone what to go with me?



This month's October 20th Zoom Speaker is Rich Hafele, he will present tips and techniques for fishing trout in lakes based on his over 50 years of experience fly fishing in the Pacific Northwest and work as a professional aquatic biologist. He has also co-authored five trout fishing books, produced many fly fishing instructional DVD's and is a frequent speaker at Fly Fishing Shows. For more information about Rick, go to our website and click on the October 20th Zoom Meeting. Rick's presentation will help us all improve our skills on catching more fish in lakes. I hope to see many of you at the Zoom Meeting!

The major topic at this month's Board Meeting was how best to keep our Membership engaged remotely during this pandemic. The pandemic obviously prevents us from gathering for our normal Dinner

Meetings, Outings and Education classes. Our conclusion was for us to continue to offer top notch Zoom monthly Speaker on Fly Fishing and Conservation, the Zoom Fly Tying Forum and sending out email blasts on conservation information. It was also recommended that we educate the membership on how to use the website's little used Members Only Forum feature. The Forum can be used to: request fly fishing advice and offer assistance, post fishing reports and photos, offer or swap fly fishing gear and arrange small group fishing trips (Forum Instructions to be send out shortly).

So for now, we will all need to connect together using Zoom sessions, email blasts, the club's website and through the great monthly Creel Notes newsletter that Dave Ehrich creates for us, thank-you for your input.

Stay Safe and Tight Lines – Jim Goedhart WFFC President

Inside this Issue

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Fishing Report

Fishing near Chelan

by Chuck Ballard

I began the fall season with multiple outings some good, others not so good.

The first outing was on Friday October 2nd at Jameson lake. One day after full moon. Fishing was tough only four small fish under 12" and although small put up a good battle! It was windless and very hot 83F .

The big fire there blackened all the area from Mansfield to the lake and beyond.

Day two I went to Davis lake near Winthrop. What a difference! Caught over 30 fish, most 14" and one or two 16". Most were caught on a Gil's Monster with a type six sinking line on the bottom. Once again very hot! In the low 80's.



On Monday Ron Tschder and I headed north to Blue lake in the Sinlahekin valley. Still very hot and fishing was tough! I managed four fish, two small 8" planters and one 17" plus the one that got away

probably 20+ . It came unpinned after 20 seconds or so.

I saw many bigger fish in the very clear water. They were in schools and apparently trying to find a spawning place because they were circling gravel bars and fighting with each other .

We spent the night there and drove up to Chopaka the next morning.

Met up with Dick Brening and his son Kevin, who had been there all week. He warned us that fishing was very slow. Well he was correct, as we both had NO bites all day! Still very hot 76F no wind and NO fish!

I will be back next week to try Davis once again.

P.S. All these lakes are very low on water and with the exception of Chopaka , and are subject to winter kills because of the low water, bummer!



Creel Notes

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Davis Lake shows her colors while Dick Brening shows off a nice rainbow on and his new Walker Bay skiff to Ron Tschder at Lake Chopaka.

On the Fly

This Time Last Year

by David Ehrich

I have tried to combine motorcycling with fishing a few times to mild success. It's easy enough to throw in a pack rod, reel, lanyard, and some flies into the crowded packs, but things like waders, wading boots, and other river and lake luxuries can't be packed.

As I set out last summer for a cross country trip, I had visions of dipping into waters across the west, hitting a spring creek in Wisconsin and netting a brookie in Vermont, and even trying out fish in the deep south.

Alas, I got in one day of wading on the Blackfoot river. By the time I go to Minneapolis, I sent back the rod kit, threw away my rotting sandals, and gave up on the idea all together.

Why? Fishing takes a bit of time and daylight hours are precious and the day shortens. Camp is rarely on fishing waters, and the roads that appeal to a 163 hp sport touring



The author runs afoul with the SP



machine don't always line up to great fishing spots. I tried. A report:

Near Plains, MT to Wilsall, MT

My friend Dave Sweezey maintains that motorcycle travel is not such much about road as it is about people. And so after fueling, I took an unlikely recommendation - The Biscuit in Arlee, Montana. A bit forlorn on the outside, inside a long table held two people. I got bold and sat down at what must be the regulars' table. Before the coffee was ready for a refill, seven people surrounded me. We talked of my travels, someone else's trucking business, and David told me about his three BMW airheads in the garage, invited me to see them and promised me the latest New Yorker which he had just finished.

Breakfast came with fresh local melon home-made biscuits, gravy, a mess of potatoes. When I came back from the rest room, I found my meal paid for. Our cook said, "the table calls the right people together." I had to duck out quickly before she saw me cry.

Nothing quite that successful followed as I made poor progress on a so-so route after breakfast. Fishing the Blackfoot off MT 209 produced a few rises, but nothing on the hook. The water fouled my sandals for the rest of the trip.

I did make the right call about checking tires in Helena and found the pressure low and the front starting to cup. Shopping and a cool

drink in the Townsends city park got me back in form as I hit some nice roads east of Helena.

By time I rolled into Wilsall, north of Livingston, I was desperate to find a campground before the deer started to migrate onto the blacktop. Montana provides. A little cabin/camp option in town featured a fake fort, a tent space, a shower and a view of the Rockies. The real bonus was The Bank bar and restaurant down the street. Simple. Ask for the steak (local beef) and whatever comes with it, all accompanied by Jake on guitar.

Boy, o'boy, people are nice here.



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.



Washington Fly Fishing Club
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Meetings have been temporarily cancelled in person at the Seattle Tennis Club, but club life goes on with new members joining, zoom meetings, fly-tying webinars, board meetings, and regular updates to the club web pages.

Keep in touch at <https://wffc.com/>

Send you thoughts and fishing reports to davidehrich@rocketmail.com for the next issue of Creel Notes. Please include a photo (.jpeg preferred) with your article.

Until then copy these links into your browser and keep up with fishing in Washington:

<https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/environment/the-elwha-dams-are-gone-and-chinook-are-surging-back-but-why-are-so-few-reaching-the-upper-river/>

Or check out the current Adipose newsletter The Fall Osprey Newsletter Edition articles on:

Washington's plan to Increase Gill Nets in the Columbia River;

WSC's Perspective on the Quicksilver Plan for Puget Sound;

New Regional Collaboration for Columbia-Snake Recover

https://wildsteelheadcoalition.salsalabs.org/AugustAdiposeo_copy1_copy1?wvpld=6d-f8e789-d2f4-43f9-9c23-c17d79ee4583