

Creel Notes from the



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

Website: www.wffc.com

Member of



MMXXI No. 4

April, 2021

President's Riffle

At the April 6th Board Meeting, Dave Spratt presented the WFFC Q1-2021 Budget vs.



Actuals Financials report. The report is posted in the members only side of the website in the Board & Committee Members page under the "Most Recent WFFC Financials" section for the month of April.

The second subject that was discussed at the Board Meeting was when and how the club might be able to hold Dinner Meetings and Outings again now that the Governor has opened up Phase 3 which allows outdoor activities of up to 50 people and dining facilities at 50% capacity.

Dave Schorsh is working the details for our first outing at Lake Hannan in May and the second at Leach Lake in June, so get your fishing gear in order. He will shortly publish the dates and details for the two outings on the Website along with covid safety precautions.

At the next Seattle Tennis Club (STC) Board Meeting on April 29th they will discuss when we will be able to start holding Dinner Meetings at the Club. This decision will be influenced by

the club's covid safety policy restrictions which will establish the maximum dinner attendees, the method for serving meals and beverage services. We will be able to Zoom in the Dinner Speakers at the dinner meetings which will also allow members who choose to not attend to zoom in as well. Hopefully we will know after the STC Board Meeting on the 29th when we might be able to start holding Dinner Meetings, but my bet is that it won't be until at least July.

Ryan Fortier will be the April 20th zoom meeting Speaker and will talk to us about the state's trout planting plans for the Eastern Washington Lakes.

Stay Safe, get your vaccine shot and Tight Lines
- Jim Goedhart WFFC President

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Conservation

All Hands on Deck for some Hands-on Conservation Work

The Washington Council of Trout Unlimited has launched a new and exciting initiative to improve opportunities to recover our iconic but threatened wild steelhead and salmon.

Background: The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that the State of Washington must fund the replacement of culverts on state land that represent a significant barrier to migrating fish. Although the ruling applies only to state lands, all landowners, including federal, county, and private, are now aware that problem barriers should be replaced.

Culverts, like all infrastructure, eventually degrade over time. In many cases they've quietly become fish barriers no one knows much about. There are as many as 40,000 culverts around Washington. While not all are equally harmful to fish, there is an immediate need to assess and prioritize culverts regarding their actual or potential impacts on fish.

T.U.'s 'B.A.T. Team' is born

Around the country, improving fish passage by repairing or replacing problem culverts is one of TU's specialties. The new mandate in Washington provides a great opportunity to get involved with this requirement. Our first steps have been to recruit volunteers to join our BAT (Barrier Assessment Team) to do the assessment work and to purchase necessary survey

equipment.

If interested, click on the following link more information about the TU B.A.T Team's activities and its training classes

<https://wildsteelheaders.org/washington-tu-launches-b-a-t-team/>

FFI Joins Partners to Support Salmon-Steelhead Proposal

by Fly Fishers International

Fly Fishers International is pleased to announce that we have joined Trout Unlimited, the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership and our many other Conservation Partners to endorse a long-needed proposal to restore wild salmon and steelhead populations in the Pacific Northwest.

United States Congressman Mike Simpson of Idaho is the author of this impressive proposal. The proposal, three years in design, is comprehensive in that it proposes to provide social and economic incentives to all stakeholders... native tribes, farmers and ranchers, energy producers and consumers, fly fishers and others who enjoy the out of doors...to make feasible the removal of the four hydroelectric dams from the Lower Snake River. Fishery scientists have long-recommended that removal of these dams is essential to achieve recovery of salmon and steelhead in the Snake and Columbia River Systems. Our endorsement was sent to members of the Northwest House and Senate Delegations, asking for their support for the proposal and eventual

Creel Notes

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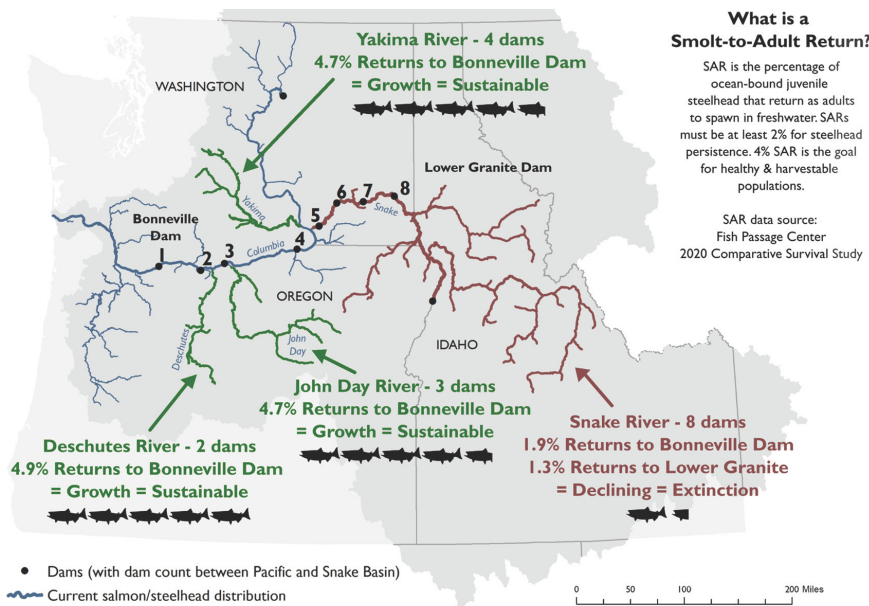
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legislation.

This is not a new conservation issue to Fly Fishers International. Our organization has for decades advocated recovery of wild salmon and steelhead in the Pacific Northwest with removal of the four hydroelectric dams from the Lower Snake River essential to restoration

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Wild Steelhead Smolt-to-Adult Returns in the Columbia River Basin

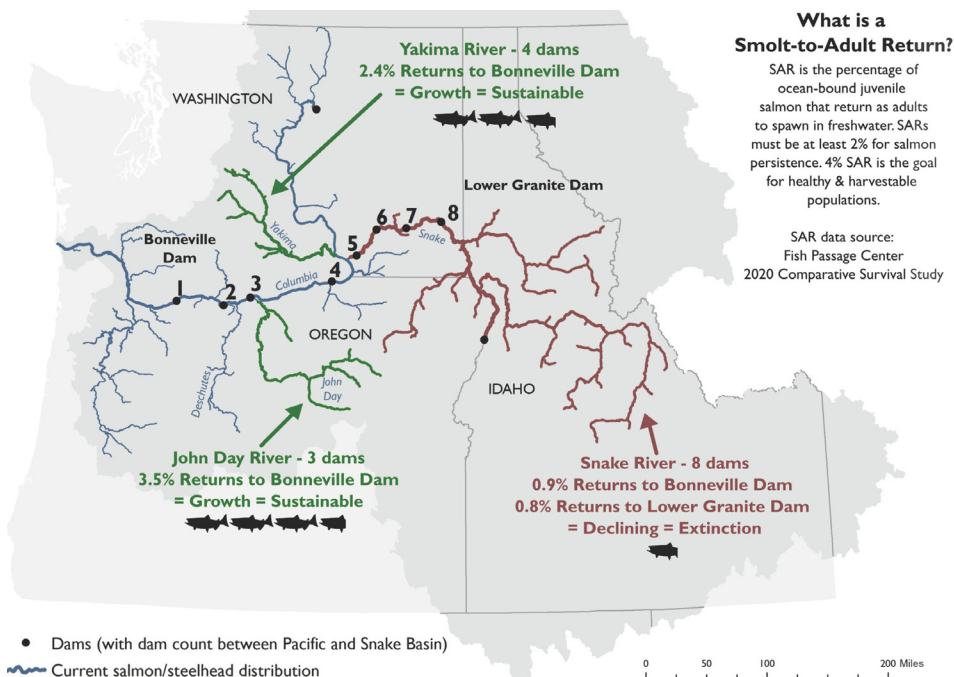


of the migratory pathways for these species. These fishes historically migrate between where they spawn in the upper reaches of the Snake River and return to the Pacific Ocean through the Columbia River system where they grow to adulthood and return to continue their lifecycles. The four dams no longer effectively produce the energy for which they were designed, but continue since construction to pre-

vent sufficient adults from returning upstream to spawn and sustain these populations. Other recovery strategies have failed to date.

The comprehensive Simpson Proposal is achievable and actually offers a realistic future for recovery of wild salmon and steelhead while providing social and economic values to the many stakeholders who depend in some way upon these natural systems.

Wild Chinook Salmon Smolt-to-Adult Returns in the Columbia River Basin



Fly Fishing Classes Free to All Members

Beginning Fly Fishing class which in the past years has been held in a classroom, has been changed to a 3 session zoom webinar format due to the COVID-19 pandemic for the health and safety of the participants.

The class will be held at 7 PM, for one hour, on April 12th, 19th and 26th zoom sessions that will be taught by Chuck Ballard, Neal Hoffberg and Jim Goedhart, in a lecture discussion format.

The class is free to all WFFC Members and \$40 for Non-Members (which can be applied to become a member) who sign up to attend the zoom sessions.

For more deal information on the class content and to sign up, please click on the following link:





<https://wffc.com/event/2021-beginning-fly-fishing-class-three-zoom-sessions-april-12th-19th-26th-at-7pm/>

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.

Mayflies by Roger Rohrbeck

<p><u>Swimmer</u> mayfly - see illustration => They have plate-like abdominal gills, and have developed hairs on their tails, which are used to swim.</p>	
<p><u>Burrower</u> mayfly - see illustration => They excavate a circular tunnel in soft bottoms of lakes and streams.</p>	
<p><u>Clinger</u> mayfly - see illustration => They have flattened bodies and stout legs, which (in combination) allow them to clinging tenaciously to rocks in fast current.</p>	
<p><u>Crawler</u> mayfly - see illustration => They have adapted to browsing along the bottom on rocks and plants.</p>	

During their nymphal lifestage, mayflies need to shed their external skeleton as many as (15-25) times, because their external skeleton does not stretch, so before long, it begins to restrict their growth, and has to be cast off. Mayflies are unique in that they have two winged lifestages.

<p><u>Winged Lifestages</u> In their winged lifestages, mayfly wings (when at rest) are typically held (vertically) above their body, and their abdomen has either (2 or 3) tails extending from it.</p>	
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The first winged mayfly lifestage is referred to as a dun (subimago). It has non-wettable hairs (microtrichia) covering its wings, which helps it escape from its aquatic environment, and gives its wings an opaque appearance. Once the emerging dun has successfully penetrated the water's surface tension, and has inflated its wings, it typically flies off to the shelter of streamside or lakeside vegetation. Winged mayflies don't have functional mouthparts, so they are unable to feed or drink. This lifestage can last from several minutes to several days depending on the genus of mayfly. However, for most mayfly duns, the lifestage lasts for only a single day.

The second winged mayfly lifestage is referred to as a spinner (imago). Once a mayfly dun is ready to transform to a mayfly spinner, it breaks out of its external skeleton and inflates its wings, once again. Being absent the dun's non-wettable hairs on its wings, mayfly spinner wings have a translucent appearance. If the mayfly spinner is a male, it flies off to form a mating flight with other males. If female, it flies off to enter a mating typically falls beneath the mating flight and then expires. The female typically deposits her eggs on the water before expiring. The eggs sink to the bottom and stick to the substrate. After week or two, the eggs have matured sufficiently for the next generation of nymphs to depart their eggs, and to begin feeding and growing. The mayfly lifecycle is typically one year, but some species have as many as (3 or 4) generations per year, particularly in warmer climates.

Featured Fly

April 21

Featured Fly: Klinkhammer



Neal Hoffberg is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. Topic: Neal Hoffberg's Zoom Meeting

Time: Apr 21, 2021 07:00 PM Pacific Time

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/92237670178?pwd=UFJhclRLdOVXFsZHDpdTZ0R1pYQT09>

Meeting ID: 922 3767 0178 Passcode: 639445

Good afternoon, Fly Tyers!

A happy holiday weekend to all! Below is the link to our next fly tying session. (Please note that it will be on the April 21st. I am out of town the week before). The fly will be a the Klinkhammer. This fly was originally designed to imitate an emerging caddis. However, it is easily adaptable to most any mayfly hatch. The materials list is as follows. Feel free to tie the fly for the hatch you will be fishing. i.e., while i tie one in olive, you may prefer tan, etc. Go on line and see colors that have been used.

Klinkhammer:

Hook: Daiichi Klinkhammer #16 or #18

Thread: Olive. 70 denier

Body: Goose biot (or substitute) - olive

Parachute: Poly wing material - white or dun color

Thorax: Dry fly dubbing - olive (try ice dubbing or other flash material. Experiment!)

Hackle: Grizzly dry fly cape

p.s. Klinkhammer hooks are available at Avid Angler. Check your local fly shop or go on line.



Washington Fly Fishing Club
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April 20, 2021

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 the club web pages.

Our Next Virtual Meeting will feature Ryan Fortier to talk to us about the state's trout planting plans for the Eastern Washington Lakes. Take notes; find fish.

- 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.