

# Creel Notes from the



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

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



MMXXV No. 5

May, 2025



*President's Riffle*

## No Riffle this Month

Danferd Henke, President,  
Washington Fly Fishing Club

No Riffle this month, but next months Riffle promises to be a barnburner!

## Gala Fundraiser Committee

### Your Help Is Needed Now!

From Suzanne Johnston—3rd VP  
(Christmas Party)

Here's the truth: While the WFFC Gala Fundraiser committee is working hard to identify donors and items for our December 16 LIVE AND SILENT auctions, and raffle, **we can't do it without you!** Longtime members have connections to a variety of businesses, fly fishing outfitters, guides, suppliers, homes, cabins, and general events. If **YOU** don't ask the people you do business with, our fundraiser will fail. Period. The committee can make lots of cold calls, but nothing beats your connections to the fly fishing and every day businesses that you support.

Do you eat at a restaurant? Ask them to donate a gift certificate. Do you use a yard service? Will that service donate a few hours? Do you like to camp, boat? If they support us, we'll support them. Businesses

are encouraged to provide pamphlets that describe their work. We will place their pamphlets on tables with bid sheets and raffle cans so everyone who attends our event, not just item winner will learn about the business. We will offer items for auction that aren't directly related to fly fishing. **We are only limited by your imagination.**

Additionally, our event success will depend on the friends you invite to join you at the December fundraiser. If we have enough fun vacations to sell, weekend get-aways, good wine, yard service, restaurant gift cards, etc. even our non fishing friends will want to bid! The more the merrier – and successful - we'll be.

You again will find a laptop next to the

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## Creel Notes

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

### **President**

Danferd Henke

### **1st Vice President (Membership)**

Jim Beck

### **2nd Vice President (Programs)**

Neal Hoffberg

### **3rd Vice President (Christmas Party)**

Suzanne Johnston

### **Treasurer**

Dale Lange

### **Secretary**

Coreen Wilson

### **Ghillie 1**

Peter Schuitemaker

### **Ghillie 2**

John Duffy

### **Trustees**

Chapin Henry, Jerry Kindinger,  
Tom Neu, Deborah Katz,  
Mike Moscynski, John Gravendyk,  
Dave Spratt (Past President)

### **Creel Notes Editor**

batribble@juno.com

## May Program

### Evening with George Pess Watershed Program Manager

#### Background

George works for NOAA Fisheries as a Watershed Program Manager and has been in the fisheries science and management field since 1989. His primary research interest during that time has been the examination of natural and land-use effects on salmon habitat and production.

George has conducted research on historic and current land use impacts on salmon habitat and production, the influence of wood in forested stream channels, the development of a wood recruitment model to determine the relative influence of forestry activities, what role watershed analysis plays in ecosystem management, and how landscape characteristics and land use affect salmon abundance and distribution.

George has a B.A. in Economics and Environmental Science (Bowdoin College 1987), an M.S. in Forest Science (Yale University 1992), and a Ph.D. in Aquatic and Fishery Sciences (University of Washington, 2009).

#### Current Research

George's main current research projects include:

- Ecosystem response to the removal of the Elwha River dams.
- Long-term, watershed-scale response of salmon populations and associated habitats to stream and watershed restorative actions, and how life history strategies, genetics, and associated habitats influence salmon and steelhead recovery.



### 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.



## Hugh Jennings Memorial Event

## Monthly Meeting



### Celebration of Life

for

### Hugh Jennings

Please join family and friends  
for a celebration of Hugh's life  
*reception following*

**Friday, June 27  
1:00 PM**

Bellevue Presbyterian Church  
Main Sanctuary  
1717 Bellevue Way NE

family contact:  
landline: 425-746-6351  
alanhjennings@gmail.com

In 2024, the Club's monthly meetings will be held at the Seattle Tennis Club, 922 McGilvra Blvd. East, Seattle, WA 98112.

Wet Fly and fly tying commence at 5:30, dinner 6:15, with a program commencing at 7:00.

Please sign up early on the website.



## Recap of Awards for the Year 2024

### Recap of Awards for the Year 2024

*By Bill Neal, Awards Committee Chair*

While January is awards month at the WFFC, we could not connect with the Empty Creel Award recipient and make the announcement and presentation until the April meeting. Now that we have accomplished that, here is a report on all Award recipients for activities in 2024.

The Empty Creel Award recognizes a member of the Club for exceptional dedication and contribution to the purposes of the Club. For 2024, we presented this Award to Mike Nolan for his outstanding service as Outings Chairman. Mike stepped in after the death of our colleague Dave Schorsch and has very ably filled this position.

The Tommy Award recognizes a member for exceptional service to the community in the furtherance of the purposes of the Club. We presented the Award to Marcie Kindinger for her leadership role as a Director of the Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy. The Academy conducts a week-long in-residence camp for boys and girls ages 12 to 16, instructing them on the many aspects of fly fishing, ethics, and conservation.

The Club is fortunate to have a number of long term members. One of them, Bill Redman, was present at the January meeting, and we presented to him a 60 Years of Membership plaque. Bill was President of the Club in 1968. He received the Empty Creel Award in 1967, the Tommy Award in 1968—the first recipient, and in 2014, the Half-assed Award—no one is perfect!

The Awards Committee also recognized two newer members of the Club for quickly stepping into responsible roles in the Club's operations. Fast Start Awards were presented to Jim Beck for service as First Vice



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President, responsible for membership, and Peter Schuitemaker for service as First Ghillie.

The last Award was a special one—the Hat's Off Award. This was presented to Dan Henke and Adair Dammann for restarting and hosting the annual Chopaka Lake outing. They have also initiated impromptu fishing outing and undertaken other activities to get us members out fishing.

Finally, Chuck Ballard was again recognized as the winner of the Boyd Aigner Fly Tying Competition for 2024. We started the 2025 Competition early, and Marcie Kindinger was the winner—see separate article in last month's Creel Notes.

### **Boyd Aigner Fly Tying Competition Award Winner 2025**



Marcie Kindinger receiving the Boyd Aigner Fly Tying award for 2025  
Bob Burdick made the presentation for Bill Neal who was on travel



## Empty Creel Award Winner 2024



Mike Nolan receives the Empty Creel Award from Pete Baird

## Upcoming Chopaka Outing



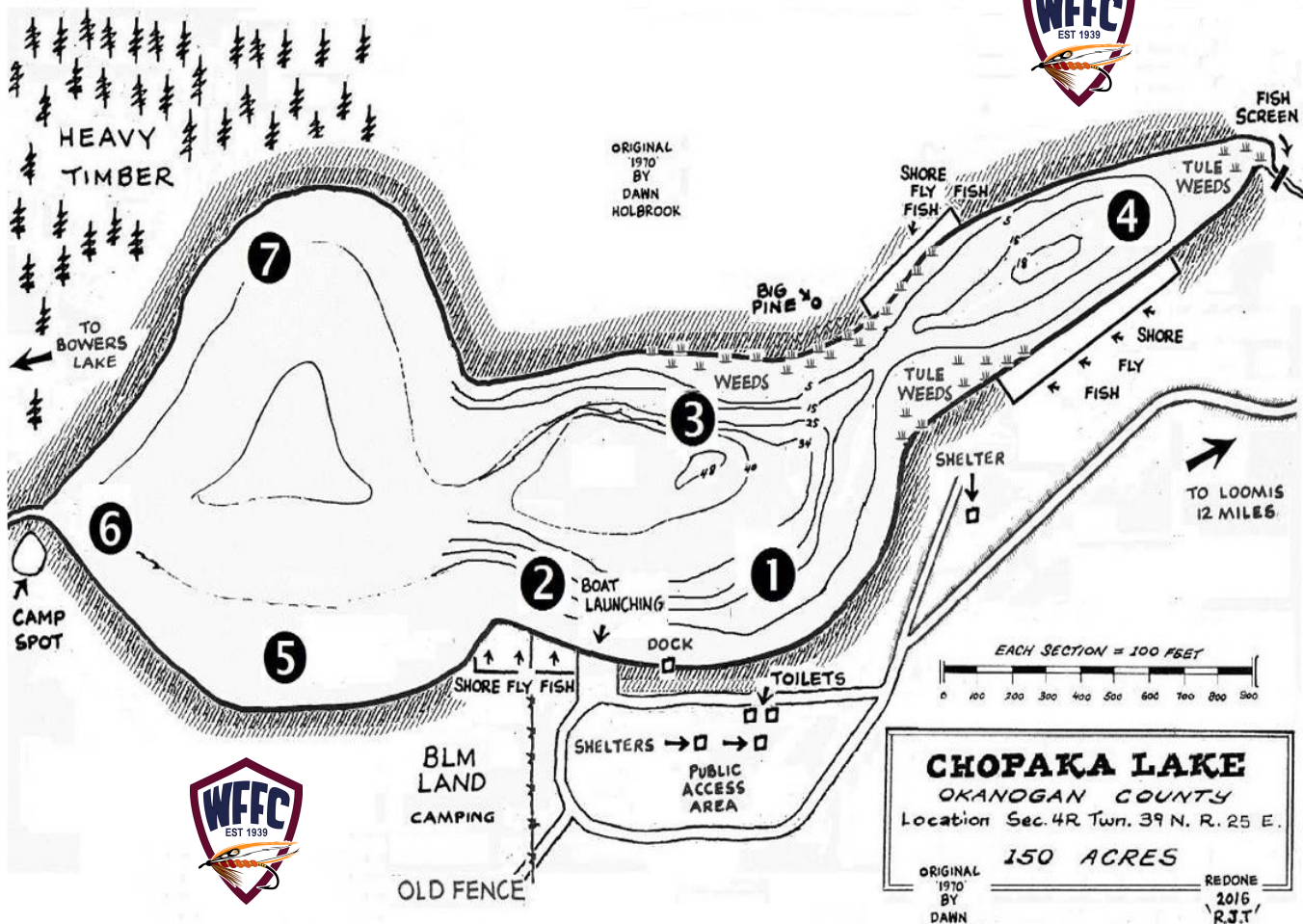
### Washington: Chopaka Lake Hatch Chart



Fly	Size	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Callibaetis	14 - 18												
Leeches	4 - 10												
Midges (various)	14 - 20												
Scud	12 - 16												
Streamers (various)	2 - 8												
Caddis (various)	14 - 16												
Damselfly	4 - 12												
Grasshoppers	4 - 8												



# Chopaka Map - by (Dawn Holbrook)



## BEST SPOTS ARE NUMBERED

- 1 The water at this area is 10 to 15 feet deep and is excellent for drifting and casting or trolling a fly. Frequently overlooked by many anglers. It has produced well for me.
- 2 This should probably be included with area 1 as this also produces well and at times has been very good dry fly fishing from the bank. Stand back from the shore (20 feet or so) - Fish will feed within 10 feet of the shore.
- 3 Area 3 is my favorite area. Both wet and dry are very effective. Out from the north shore is a deep hole which produces well in hot weather. Cruising fish take dries right in on shore. You should anchor about 110 feet from shore and lay your fly right on the bank. The shore provides very good dry fly action on down to Area 4.
- 4 The water is very shallow at this end of the lake and offers some very challenging angling both wet and dry. Sometimes when the wind has been right it has been possible to drift along within casting distance from the shore and fish all the way to the end of the lake
- 5 These areas hold fish and are not subject to the pressures of the other end of the lake. There is a very nice camping place at Area 6, where the inlet stream is found. A good way to cover this water is for one angler to cast the shore while the other trolls a fly.
- 6
- 7



*"Great people plant trees they'll never sit under"*  
-Alfred North Whitehead



## New Members for 2025



Two new inductees to the Washington Fly Fishing Club  
**Graham Worley** is on the right and **Lindsey Ebert** on the left  
Jim Beck and Pete Baird did the presenting

## Project Healing Waters

### First Outing of the Year



*From Neal Hoffberg – Second Vice President*

**Project Healing Waters** had its the first outing of the year at Beaver Lake. There were 19 boats with two veterans in each boat plus a volunteer and every veteran caught their limit

**From a participating veteran's perspective.....**

Our boat had two veterans with limited exposure to fly fishing and it was the first healing waters event even attended. We did pretty good, caught 10 rainbow, thought it was beginners luck.

Huge thanks to the **Daughters of the Revolution** for bringing us breakfast, Jim McRoberts for outfitting us with all the gear we needed and teaching us how to use it. Last but not least, my boat buddies Captain Greg and Luis, my fishing partner. This is one of the best days I've had in a long time.





## Fishing Reports



### Lake Chelan Cutthroats

*From Chuck Ballard*

**April 13, 2025**

Manson City Dock on Lake Chelan was a great and easy outing for me on Sunday April 13. From noon till about 2PM I caught 9 beautiful native cutthroat all 12" on a full sink line with a leech pattern that had a hot bead on it. Just cast into the deeper water and slow strip. Beautiful windless day!



### Lake Tour—Chelan and Okanogan Lakes

*From Chuck Ballard*

**May 3 to May 7**

Well after a bad hair day from some water damage in our condo my coping skills approach was to go fishing !!!!

First trip was to Big Twin Lk and as Ryan Fortier said the winterkill was minimal and that proved to be true. Caught several 15"-17" all on small nymphs including hairs ears.

I returned on the next day and it fished even better same flies but a lot of wind to shield the fish being able to see me in the shallow waters.

The next day I went to Green lake near Omak and also had a good day. Smaller fish to 14" and fewer takes on a strike indicator and Zebra nymph.

Some Damsels were beginning to hatch as well as a mayfly hatch. Never really saw much activity on

these hatches so in another week or so the fish will be on them.

The next lake I fished was Rat lake and it was a complete bust! There is a water quality

problem and weed growth that seems to be affecting this lake ??? Perhaps chemicals flowing in from Whitestone creek that feeds the lake?

After leaving Rat lake my Granddaughter's husband and I came back to Chelan and cast from the local public docks and did well on native Cutthroat. The male fish were in spawning colors and just beautiful. □

Please remember all Cutthroat must be released in Lake Chelan if you are fishing there.

### Lake Hannan Outing Report

*From Mike Nolan - Outings Chair*

**April 19, 2025**

The Lake Hannan Outing on 4/19/25 was attended by eleven people including Mark Pratt, Sean Pratt, Ben Davidson, Jim Beck, Larry Karlovich, Tom Neu, Doxey Kemp, Danferd Henke, Suzanne Johnston, Dick Brenning and me.

The morning weather presented partly cloudy skies and calm winds producing a mostly still lake surface. The fishing for most of us was slow except for Ben Davidson who landed five fish to the net before our chili feed lunch. I landed a small trout using a full sinking line and a streamer fly pattern. Danferd landed a nice 15" trout near the launch access to the lake.

A chili feed lunch with all the toppings, cornbread, chips and assorted beverages was served in the afternoon. Desserts and chips were also provided by some of the members.

A few of us went out after lunch in the afternoon and a brisk wind came up that blew my float tube clear to the end of the lake. I had to pull hard on the oars in a headwind and whitecaps in a slow row back to the launch area. The wind stopped and the lake's surface calmed just as I was loading the last of my fishing gear into the truck. We were relieved that we experienced no rain as was originally forecasted for the day. Perhaps the variable weather made the fish uncooperative in taking our flies. Or at least that's my explanation for only catching one fish and for a few others that caught none.



## Hannan Lake Outing



WFFC Hannan Lake Outing Participants

## Fly Fishers International Casting Clinic—Issaquah WA



Volunteers that made the Skills Development courses a big success



Marion Hiller, C.I. and Ruth Sims, C.I. at the start of the Women's Casting Class



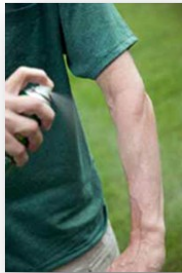
## Healthy Fishing

### Avoid Bug Bites

From Kirk Mathew

*As a group, we are getting to the time of year when we get outdoors more. This reprint from the CDC website gives some guidelines to allow for more casting and less swatting.*

Bugs (including mosquitoes, ticks, and some flies) can spread a number of diseases. Many of these diseases cannot be prevented with a vaccine or medicine. You can reduce your risk by taking steps to prevent bug bites.



### What type of insect repellent should I use?

**For Protection Against Ticks and Mosquito's:** Use a repellent that contains 20% or more DEET for protection that lasts up to several hours. Products containing DEET include Off!, Cutter, Sawyer, and Ultra-thon.

**For Protection Against Mosquito's Only:** Products with one of the following active ingredients can also help prevent mosquito bites. Higher percentages of active ingredient provide longer protection.

- \* DEET
  - \* Picaridin (also known as KBR 3023, Bayrepel, and icaridin. Products containing picaridin include Cutter Advanced, Skin So Soft Bug Guard Plus, and Autan [outside the US])
  - \* Oil of lemon eucalyptus (OLE) or PMD (Products containing OLE include Repel and Off! Botanicals)
  - \* IR3535 (Products containing IR3535 include Skin So Soft Bug Guard Plus Expedition and SkinSmart)
- Always follow product directions and reapply as directed.

If you are also using sunscreen, apply sunscreen first and insect repellent second.

Follow package directions when applying repellent on

children. Avoid applying repellent to their hands, eyes, and mouth.

Consider using permethrin-treated clothing and gear (such as boots, pants, socks, and tents). You can buy pre-treated clothing and gear or treat them yourself.

Treated clothing remains protective after multiple washings. See the product information to find out how long the protection will last.

If treating items yourself, follow the product instructions carefully.

Do not use permethrin directly on skin.

### What other steps should I take to prevent bug bites?

#### **Prevent mosquito bites.**

Cover exposed skin by wearing long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and hats.

Stay and sleep in screened or air-conditioned rooms.

Use a bed net if the area where you are sleeping is exposed to the outdoors.

#### **Prevent tick bites.**

Cover exposed skin by wearing long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and hats.

Tuck in shirts, tuck pants into socks, and wear closed shoes instead of sandals to prevent bites.

Avoid wooded and brushy areas with high grass, brush, and leaves. Walk in the center of hiking

## The Unusual

Sent from Connecticut friends—billboard ad for Old Bay Seasoning, popular on the East Coast







## Fly of the Month

### Pink Lady(s)



### Pink Lady Dry

**Tail:** Golden Pheasant Tippets

**Rib:** Flat silver tinsel

**Body:** Pink Floss

**Wing:** Mallard Flank

**Hackle:** White badger

### Pink Lady Wet

**Tail:** Golden Pheasant Tippets

**Rib:** Flat Gold Tinsel

**Body:** Pink Floss

**Wing:** Slate

**Hackle:** Brown

**Tag:** Flat Gold Tinsel

**Hook:** Mustad 3399, 8 and 10

## Recipe of the Month

### Lemon Baked Cod

From <http://www.food.com/>

#### Ingredients:

- 1 lb cod fish fillet
- 1/4 cup butter or 1/4 cup margarine, melted
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon white pepper
- Paprika

#### Directions:

1. If fish fillets are large, cut into serving pieces.
2. Mix butter and lemon juice.
3. In another bowl, mix flour, salt and white pepper.
4. Dip fish into butter mixture; coat fish with flour mixture.
5. Place fish in ungreased square baking dish, 8x8x2 inches.
6. Pour remaining butter mixture over fish; sprinkle with paprika.
7. Cook uncovered in 350 degree oven until fish flakes easily with fork, 25-30 minutes. Garnish with parsley sprigs and lemon slices if desired.

