



The Flypaper

May/June 2019

Spring and Summer Fishing is Here!

NFA has some great trips and conservation opportunities on the horizon. Many of our trips are full, but all day trips are still wide open. [Check online](#) for registration opportunities.

May 11— Camano Island Salt Water Day Outing

May 17-19— Crooked River Outing

May 31— Jun 2—Chopaka Lake Outing (full)

Jun 8—Local Lake Day Outing

Jun 15—Local Lake Day Outing

Jun 22-29—John Day Summer Superfloat

Jul 6—Local Lake Day Outing

Jul 19-28—Crazy Horse Lake (BC, Canada)



John Day River

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Fly tying Class

February 26, 2019 marked the first class session of the NFA introductory fly tying class team, taught by Eric “Meat Ball” Olson and David Paul Williams. After getting a sense of the experience level of the class, then covering some terminology, the students got right to work ending the night having successfully tied a Carey Special, an essential lake fly for the Central Basin and elsewhere.

The class is a lively blend of new club members—Shannon and Walt Shields, Sally Thompson, and Norm Hill plus several longer term members—Wytold Lebing, Brett Schormann, Russ Shropshire, and Wayne “I finally did my homework” Balsiger, plus Emily Watrous who ties flies so her husband can fish. Jim Higgins who taught the class for several years is the genius behind the fly pattern selection that each week builds on skills learned the prior week. It’s a plan that works well and provides the students with several flies that catch fish.

By the second class, when the students were faced with the challenge of tying two patterns, one big—a black Woolly Bugger and one little—a chironomid, it was clear that these new fly tiers were up for a challenge. The instructors added a Muddler Minnow in Week 5 where the class got to spin, then shape deer hair to form that well-known bullet head. They closed out the six-week course by tying the Comparadun and Dun Parachute—two more challenging patterns. These new tiers are well on their way to being skilled at their craft.

Planet Fly Fish Videos Free on Amazon Prime

Planet Fly Fishing is a three-part documentary series available on Amazon Prime. The award winning videos take you into “adventuring into wild places .”



Memorial Award Nominees

Each year the NFA chooses a conservation organization to receive the Memorial Award for Conservation from a group of nominees. Sound Salmon Solutions and Long Live the Kings are the first 2 nominees for 2019. Look for the others in the next Flypaper. Voting will occur at the November meeting:

Long Live the Kings (<https://lltk.org>)

“Migrating from remote wild streams through estuaries like the Puget Sound, to the Pacific Ocean and back, salmon connect our communities, bringing the mountains to the sea. Along their journey, they interact with fishers, ferries and freighters, with boaters and swimmers, and with the multitude of other species ... Protecting and preserving salmon requires connecting the dots between the myriad impacts they face during their epic life-cycles.”

Founded in 1986, Long Live the Kings has worked to restore wild salmon and steelhead and to support sustainable fishing. Their programs—combining on-the-ground fieldwork with scientific innovation and broad partnerships—help decision-makers advance salmon recovery while balancing the needs of fish and people.

LLTK is implementing solutions to rebuild salmon and steelhead populations in Hood Canal and Puget Sound, unraveling the mystery of low salmon survival in the Salish Sea, advancing science and retooling management throughout the Pacific Northwest.

What They Do:

- IMPLEMENT SOLUTIONS to the barriers of Salmon recovery in the Puget Sound basin
- ADVANCE SCIENTIFIC UNDERSTANDING of Chinook to fill critical gaps in our knowledge of Chinook
- IMPROVING MANAGEMENT by working with agencies, tribes, and others to develop a cohesive Chinook recovery plan

Support Long Live the Kings online or by purchasing some clothing or gear at: <https://lltk.org/product-category/clothing/>



See the second nominee on the next page

Memorial Award Nominees (continued)

The second nominee for the Memorial Award is:

Sound Salmon Solutions (<http://www.soundsalmonsolutions.org/>)

“Can you imagine the Pacific Northwest without salmon? Yet, over the past 150+ years salmon have been on the decline. The watersheds they depend upon for spawning and rearing have become less wild, less welcoming to their needs. Some watersheds have lost 90% of their historic salmon runs and may lose them entirely.”

Sound Salmon Solutions, formerly the Stilly Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force, was founded in 1990 as one of 14 Regional Fisheries. They have supported salmon recovery in the Stillaguamish, Snohomish, and South Island County watersheds. It takes our whole community to help salmon return to our watersheds. Through interactive education, hands-on stewardship, and state-of-the-art habitat restoration SSS nurtures the relationships between people and our wild spaces to support salmon recovery.

Their programs include:

- EDUCATION – in schools, public events, targeted programs for community groups...
- RESTORATION - partner with landowners, Tribes, government agencies... for restoration of streams...
- STEWARDSHIP – organizes volunteer work parties for planting and weeding, connecting people to their watersheds through hands-on stewardship
- WILLOW CREEK SALMON WATERSHED EDUCATION CENTER – run by SSS as a place where local community can learn about the salmon life cycle and appreciate the need for salmon conservation to support a robust fishery for generations to come.



Written by Wytold Lebing



Miller and Walker Creeks Stewardship

On Saturday March 2, 2019 six members of NFA showed up in Burien on a cool but comfortable morning. The group included Tom Beaulaurier, Wytold Lebing, Scott Martini, David Preston, Peter Rubenstein, and Jim Watson.

The Miller and Walker Creeks Stewardship program monitors and improves the two main streams, Miller and Walker, which drain the northern and western drainage basins adjacent to SeaTac Airport. They join together and empty into the Lower Puget Sound west of SeaTac below Three Tree Point.

Each fall returning Coho and Chum salmon maintain an almost miraculous hold in these small creeks. But large rain and run off events can kill up to 60% of the Coho and wash out any fish redds.

The day's job was spreading mulch around the native trees and shrubs we had planted previously. Mulching is important because it helps to inhibit weed growth, retain soil moisture, moderate soil temperature, reduce erosion. We were joined by additional volunteers and set up a bucket brigade to haul the mulch from its pile to the plants. In a few hours we had mulched all the plantings.

The volunteer work which has been done is beginning to make the site look like a well-tended natural area. The knotweed and blackberries that once choked the native plants have been removed. Native trees and shrubs are becoming established.



Controlling run off is key to restoring these salmon runs. From left to right: unknown photo bomber, T Beaulaurier, D Preston, S Martini, P Rubenstein, W Lebing, J Watson

NWFA/CELP 'Lobby Day' Report

Olympia, WA 03/19/2019

NWFA was invited by the Center for Environmental Law and Policy (CELP) to participate in Water Lobby Day in Olympia. CELP is working with a loose knit coalition of fishers, environmentalists and activists concerned with mismanagement of Washington state water resources and its implications for salmon and orcas. Wytold Lebing and Alan Pilkington joined a group of about fifteen individuals on March 19. "Water Lobby Day" allowed our group to serve as lobbyists on behalf of our water resources. The day allowed Washington State Representatives and Senators to hear our views about water issues and provide input about the individual's and group's concerns. Included in the group were two fishermen's clubs (NWFA and a Vancouver, WA fly anglers club), a water scientist/environmentalist, an environmental lobbyist, an environmental attorney, two League of Women's Voters reps and a concerned private citizen.



The overarching concern of the group is that over appropriation of state water resources and climate change has created a crisis requiring bold action, now, to recover our streams for the salmon, orcas, and people that depend on them.

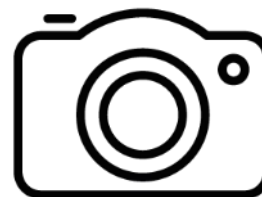
CELP briefed the group on current Washington water issues being addressed by legislators. Several key state legislators had been selected (by CELP) for group meetings, and the CELP group was divided into smaller groups of 2-6 individuals for meetings with the individual congressmen.

Read the entire Lobby Day Report along with all of the recommendations [HERE](#).





FISHOTS



Submit your fishots to Brian at
stauroo@gmail.com. Include your name,
fish caught, and location.



Jim Hopper, Rainbow, Coffee Pot Lake, April 2019



SERVING

Quote of the Month

"Things fishermen know about trout aren't facts, but articles of faith."

~ John Gierach

OFFICERS

Carl Johnson, President

Phil Friend, Vice President

Bill Gibson, Secretary

Peter Maunsell, Treasurer

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Matt Moore, Alan Pilkington, Michael Olson
Nominations

Susanne Staats, Membership

Peter Rubenstein, Outings

Wytold Lebing, Conservation

Larry Belmont, Librarian

Kim Kreidler & Helsa Petersen, Fly Box

Maura Johnson, Hospitality

Brett Schormann, Webmaster

Michael Olson, Awards

Vance Thompson, Education

Open Position, Raffle Coordinator

Wayne Balsiger, Holiday Raffle/Auction

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Please send stories, photos, edits, and updates.

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