

WASHOON NEWS



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AROUND THE BEND



May Meeting Thursday, May 16, 2013

Farm House Restaurant, La Conner

Wet Fly: 6:00 PM

Dinner: 7:00 PM

Our May presenter will be John Boitano from the Trout Water Fly Shop in Ellensburg. His presentation will be on fishing The Methow river.

Johnny Boitano Bio

I'm a partner/owner at Troutwater Fly Shop, Guide Service & Outfitters in central Washington. Troutwater has fly shops in Ellensburg and Cle Elum. With help from my two business partners Ted Truglio and Jim Gallagher, I get to spend the majority of my time

on the water. I have been guiding for Trout and Steelhead since 2000 on several Washington Rivers. Our home river for trout is the Yakima but we also fish the Naches and Methow. For Steelhead I guide the Klickitat, Methow, Wenatchee and Grand Rhonde. Central and Eastern Washington have amazing fisheries with several different species of fish. We guide for Trout, Steelhead, Bass and everything in between. If you are ever in Washington give us a call, we'd love to take you fishing.

Our Outfitting company allows us the opportunity to take groups of anglers to various destinations around the world. My personal favorites are Mexico and Alaska. You can't beat chasing Permit and Tarpon in Mexico or big rainbows in Alaska.



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MESSAGE FROM THE TIP TOP

(Or Next Guide from the Leader)

The past five months have flown by and I have no idea where all the time has gone all ready. I came into this year knowing that I was taking on a new roll with Fidalgo Fly Fishers and truthfully was a little nervous. I want to thank all of you for working hard, helping in so many ways and making this experience fun. If you all don't know, all of you have had a hand in this and we all make this club what we want it to be. With that, I hope that we all take some time this summer to enjoy life, friends and family. So as the summer goes on, please be watching to see if we can pull it off and have an outing in the month of August. Brian and I are working on trying to get someone to come and talk with us and demonstrate their skills.

As we take the break for the summer to be fish like crazy and catch all those big fish, keep in mind stories, take photos and be ready to share them when we all gather back together in September. Please keep in touch with members and try to take them fishing. This is one way to get to know our new members.

If you made it over to the east side this past weekend and had a chance to check out the Federation of Fly Fishers – Washington Fly Fishing Fair in Ellenburg, WA, you would have seen a few members tying flies and a few in the sun working at the casting course (working on our tans that is). We all had a great time.

We have formed a new committee to work on a proposal for some additional lakes to be regulated as “selective gear” only. Bruce Freet and I have decided that this is worth working on. I really feel if we can get a few

more of these lakes in the area the opportunity for better quality fishing lakes would benefit all fly fishers. This would all so take some of the pressure off the few lakes we already have.

The Swap meet is during this month's general meeting May 16th. Tables will be ready for your stuff to be displayed. So bring items that you would like to sell, trade or give away to other members. Don't forget you can submit a classified ad to sell Fly Fishing Items (ONLY) in the Wahoo.

Please feel free to get in touch with me with any issues that may occur. Also inform me or the board of any events that may be coming up through the year so we can provide the info for people to attend.

Our general meetings will resume September 19th at 6:00pm at the Farm House. Hope to see you all there.

Carl Hendricks, 2013 President

Outings & Events

2013 – Outings / Events:

Events:

1. **Lyman Slough**, Skagit Land Trust – This is being developed as we print – Russ Asbury
2. **Skagit River Salmon Festival** – September 7th – Dick Raisler

Outings:

1. **Ruby Lake** – May 18th – Chuck Smith – Family Day will be held on Saturday May 20th, starting at 9 AM or so. The club is buying the meats (tri-tips, hamburgers, and hot dogs),

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buns, condiments, paper plates and plastic cutlery, soft drinks, and bottled water. A sign-up sheet for pot luck items such as salads, desserts, chips, etc., will be passed around again at this month's meeting. I will give a final update at this May meeting. I will have maps & directions to Ruby Lake available at the meeting for those who need them.

2. Janice Lake – June 6th thru 10th – Tom Fulk
3. Looking at an outing in August!

Skagit River Salmon Festival

The Fidalgo Fly Fishers will be participating as a "Humpy Sponsorship" for the September 7th Skagit River Salmon Festival. This fun filled family event on the banks of the Skagit River, Edgewater Park, includes crafts, educational booths, cultural opportunities, food and lively music. Our club will be providing fly tying and casting demonstrations along with public participation. Last year twenty five Fidalgo Fly Fishers participated in this fun event from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM. Event goes keep all volunteers busy and energized the entire day. Many club members are already planning and tying flies for this year's humpy season. Be sure to include in your plans the Skagit River Salmon Festival. www.skagitriverfest.org/



APRIL MEETING BRINGS NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS

The Fidalgo Fly Fishers initiated three new members and one returning member.

Past president Dan Farmer handled the initiation process and brought all the candidates and one sponsor for each to the head table. Loren Greenwood from Samish Island, Jim Paget from the upper Nookachamp area and Norah and Russ Osenbach who live along the Samish river were introduced and given a folder which contained their name badge, club pin, bylaws, roster and brief club history.



Loren Greenwood

Sponsor Dick Raisler explained that Loren has been fly fishing off and on for many years and is enjoying learning about fishing for sea-runs along the beaches.



Jim Paget

Matt Virata told about Jim's wanting to learn fly fishing when he retired so took the SVC fly fishing class. Matt went on to tell how al-

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most every time he sees Jim he has some new equipment.



Nora and Russ Osenbach

Russ is the returning member after about a twelve year absence. Danny Beatty thought Russ was very fortunate to have grown up with a fly fishing father in Pennsylvania. Russ gradually moved west and met his future wife Norah in Montana where they fished many of the recognized quality streams in that state before moving on to Washington. If you attend the fly fishing shows you will find Russ demonstrating his fly tying techniques to eager watchers.



Silver Doctor, tied by Russ Osenbach



Yakima Chernobyl Ant

Hook: TMC 2312 , sizes 10 to 6.

Thread: Tan 6/0 (140 denier).

Underbody: Tan foam extending to form a tag and head.

Body: Yellow Floss, Pearl Krystal Flash.
Rib: Brown hackle.

Legs: Medium brown rubber legs.

Back: Brown foam 2mm foam.

Wing: White or Tan Poly.

Head and collar: Red Floss .

By Johnny Boitano



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AFFILIATION

The Fidalgo Fly Fishers have been an affiliate club member of the International Federation of Fly Fishers (IFFF) (formerly the Federation of Fly Fishers) since 1975. Our affiliate status was grandfathered two years ago when the IFFF Board of Directors changed new club's membership to Charter Clubs or 100% member clubs. (All club members must also be IFFF members.)

Why is it important that fly fishers join the IFFF? There are many reasons which are important to the fly fisher and to the sport. One important reason was emphasized in the club programs since October 2012.

Three of those programs were about fishing for sea-run cutthroat. At the beginning of each of those programs the presenter made a statement to the effect that "There are lots of sea-runs to fish for both along the salt water shore and in the rivers".

Thirty or more years ago there was a concern about the decreasing numbers of sea-runs. It was through a very concerted effort by IFFF affiliate clubs and individual IFFF members in the greater Puget Sound Region that changes were made in the fishing regulations that brought about our present cutthroat numbers. A sub-group called the Cutthroat Coalition was formed. Fidalgo members participated in fin clipping, recording fish catch, and testifying at Game Commission meetings. These efforts, along with Game Department biologist's research, brought about significant changes in the regulations. Because a sea-run does not reach egg laying maturity until they are fourteen inches long, the minimum size was increased to fourteen inches. This change would give each cutthroat a chance to go through at least one spawning cycle. Allowed catch retention was reduced to two in the rivers and streams. Maybe the regulation that created total catch and release

in the salt water made the biggest impact. The IFFF was an early proponent of Catch and Release and this idea was part of the focus during the time the Cutthroat Coalition was active.

So when you hear program presenters telling you that "There are lots of sea-runs" remember that it was members of the IFFF (both club affiliate members and individual members) that recognized the problem and brought about the changes.

Please be thinking about joining the IFFF as the club develops membership recruitment in September.

Thank you.
Danny

Ban on Barbed Hooks Expands on Columbia River, Tributaries May 1

OLYMPIA - Starting May 1, anglers fishing for salmon or steelhead on the Columbia River and most of its tributaries downstream from Chief Joseph Dam will be required to use barbless hooks.

The new rules extend the ban on barbed hooks another 250 miles upriver on the Columbia River and to dozens of its tributaries, including the Cowlitz, White Salmon, Klickitat, Snake, Yakima and Okanogan rivers.

Anglers fishing those waters will still be allowed to use single, double-point or treble hooks, so long as the barbs have been filed off or pinched down.

Jim Scott, assistant director of the WDFW Fish Program, said the new rule will contribute to ongoing efforts to minimize impacts

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on wild stocks while maintaining opportunities for anglers to harvest abundant hatchery fish.

Fishing regulations requiring the release of wild salmon and steelhead are common in the Columbia River Basin and other Washington waters, especially in areas wild salmon and steelhead are protected by state and federal laws. In those cases, only hatchery fish marked with a clipped adipose fin and a healed scar may be retained.

The Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission, a nine-member citizen panel that sets policy for WDFW, endorsed the barbless-hook requirement as part of a broad-based policy designed to support the recovery of wild salmon and steelhead in the Columbia River Basin.

That policy, adopted in collaboration with the Oregon commission in January, also set the stage for gradually shifting non-tribal commercial gillnets to off-channel areas of the river and developing new, more selective types of commercial fishing gear.

With only a few exceptions, the rule requiring the use of barbless hooks will be in effect on rivers and streams where a Columbia River Salmon and Steelhead Endorsement is required in addition to a current fishing license.

Those waters are clearly marked in WDFW's 2013-14 Sport Fishing Rules pamphlet, now available online at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/regulations/>. The paper version of the pamphlet will be distributed to recreational license dealers around the state by early May.

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