



The Tippet

September 2020

Clearwater Fly Casters

www.clearwaterflycasters.com

A Federation of Fly Fishers Club



Message from the Executive Committee:

Your Executive Committee met via Zoom on August 12 and have some information to share with the membership:

- (1) Due to COVID concerns, all regular meetings are cancelled for the remainder of 2020 (Best Western has been notified of this and are hopeful of seeing us back there in 2021)*
- (2) Dues for the 2020-21 year will not be required, but nonetheless appreciated for those who wish to contribute (\$25 single/\$35 family). Checks should be sent to CFC, PO Box 394, Pullman, WA 99163. Please indicate on your check if you want your dues to go towards memberships or scholarships. Members who are paid up for 2019-20 will still be considered in good standing, but the Club still has financial obligations including memberships in Trout Unlimited, FFF International, and Pullman Chamber of Commerce, as well as Web Registration fees, Post Office Box rental, WA state nonprofit registration, etc.*
- (3) Current Treasurer's Report shows \$4600+ in the operating fund and \$1600+ in the Scholarship Fund. The Scholarship Fund was enhanced by donations in memory of Sylvia Evers totalling \$400. We have just enough money in that fund to cover just one scholarship for this coming spring.*
- (4) The biennial auction, scheduled for this coming February, has been postponed to February, 2022.*
- (5) The club sponsored Film Festival, originally scheduled for this fall will be rescheduled for Spring 2021.*
- (6) We hope to continue publishing the Tippet during our "shutdown", but will be dependent upon club members providing updates on fishing expeditions and pictures of past fishing adventures. Submit to Fred Muehlbauer at f.muehlj@gmail.com*
- (7) Reluctantly, the club will not sponsor fish Outs this year due to Covid 19 but we expect to resume in the coming year.*

It's a challenging time for all of us and we miss renewing our friendships at our regular meetings, but to quote one of our erstwhile and loquacious members, Ray Dacey, upon learning of our plans to hold off on meeting for a while, "I will miss seeing my old friends, but by not meeting for a while, this should assure that I will continue to see those friends down the road."

Lynn Youngblood, for the Executive Committee

Picture Page: The way it was...



General meetings with great presentations



Fish Outs in all the best places



and of course fishing, teaching fly casting, awarding scholarships and much more. Stay safe and we will be back at it soon.

Conservation Committee:

Pebble Mine Report: Today is a day to celebrate



Yesterday (August 25, 2020), federal decision makers announced that they cannot issue a permit for the Pebble mine as proposed under the Clean Water Act, sending the company back to the drawing board and setting up a major hurdle for the ill-conceived project.

After more than 15 years of working to protect Bristol Bay, together we have taken great strides toward stopping the proposed mine—but the permit decision isn't final, and until then, our work isn't done.

The sigh of relief is shared by Bristol Bay businesses, local Tribes and communities, and every one of us who has been captivated and united by this unique and awe-inspiring region and its epic salmon and trout fisheries.

I am so immensely grateful for your persistence, your generosity and your time. But we still need you to make your voices heard. And we need your continued support. Here's why:

Trout Unlimited has always had two goals when it comes to Bristol Bay.

1. Stop Pebble. We took a giant step toward accomplishing that yesterday.
2. Work with local communities to secure up-front, permanent protections against large-scale mining for the Bristol Bay region.

Today, we celebrate our progress toward #1 and we commit to #2. Your financial support is needed to get us there.

We look forward to moving the Bristol Bay conversation beyond Pebble and toward permanent protections that ensure this special place, and all the communities, people, and fisheries that depend on it, can continue to thrive.

For more than 15 years, Trout Unlimited has helped to connect local people, commercial fishermen and women who rely on the region's salmon fisheries, as well as anglers and hunters across America, to protect Bristol Bay. We applied the best of what TU has to offer: organizing tools, science-backed policy expertise, a nationwide grassroots network, and legal acumen.

From King Salmon, Alaska to Washington, D.C., we never wavered in our defense of Bristol Bay.

We will continue to work toward the denial of Pebble’s permit, while supporting the protections this one-of-a-kind place deserves. Just as we will continue to work to protect rivers and streams in communities near you—in all corners of this country—to make fishing better and water healthier.

Join us today in celebration, and join us tomorrow in keeping up the good work that gets the job done.

In gratitude,



Increased non-tribal gillnetting on the lower Columbia River



General Information

The Washington Commission is [planning to vote](#) next Friday, September 11 on a proposed **policy change that will reduce recreational fishing in exchange for increased non-tribal gillnetting on the lower Columbia River**. You can [participate remotely](#) via Zoom. Public comment will be allowed Friday at 8:30AM and the Columbia River discussion will start at 1:30 (no comments will be taken at 1:30).

Public opposition to the proposed policy change has been overwhelming. Recently, [100+ organizations and businesses sent a letter](#) to the WDFW Commission expressing their concerns. Collectively, these organizations and businesses employ thousands of Washingtonians across the state.

Additionally, we developed [a document that consolidates key quotes](#) from legislators, county officials, recovery boards, conservation groups and other organizations that have recently submitted comments on the Commission’s proposed policy. The document includes links to the comment letters, which are consistent with CCA’s position, to not abandon the guiding principles of the Oregon-Washington Columbia River fishery reforms.

Lastly, during a [Commission workshop](#) earlier this week, WDFW Director Kelly Susewind was asked about the nearly 40 [House](#) and [Senate](#) members who have written with concerns and the potential legislative

ramifications for the Department if the Commission adopts the proposed policy. The key part of his answer is available [HERE](#).

This serves as a reminder about the importance of communicating with your legislators! **Now is a good time to reach out and schedule a phone call or virtual meeting** with them. If your legislator was one of those who signed onto the letters, which you can find by [clicking here](#), please take just a moment to send them an email thanking them for their support. If they did not sign on to the letter, reach out and let them know about the conservation, economic and social benefits of recreational fishing. [Click here](#) to find your district number as well as your state senator and representatives.

Thank you,

Nello Picinich, Executive Director
CCA Washington

Fly of the Month: "Panfish Gurgler"

This fly pattern is courtesy of Fly Fishers International. Details and steps for tying this fly can be found on their website: <http://fedflyfishers.org/Tying/FlyoftheMonth.aspx>

The Gurgler was created by the late Jack Gartside to fish for Stripers as a top water fly. Simple and easy to tie. The fly lip extends past the hook eye to help push and pop the water on the surface. We can scale it down for bass and panfish. Jack Gartside's Gurgler may very well be one of the most famous topwater patterns ever developed. The Gurgler is a simple foam pattern that can be tied in a broad range of sizes to target a wide variety of fish. The fly has been successfully used for everything from bluegill to large saltwater species and everything in between!

Materials -

Hook: 2XL Nymph hook (but any hook can be used)

Thread: Color to match foam 6/0

Tail: Bucktail or Calf tail any color, you can even add Krystal Flash to the tail

Legs: Rubber Legs or palmer rib a hackle through the body

Body: Dubbing, chenille, Braided Ribbon use your imagination

Over Body: 2 mm foam. And add a second layer for easy to see sight



Edition: August 2020
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Tier: Jerry Coviell

WDFW Fishing Rule Changes

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
1111 Washington St. SE, Olympia, WA 98501
<https://wdfw.wa.gov/>

Aug. 31, 2020

Snake River steelhead fishery change

Action: Opens steelhead fishing on the Snake River.

Effective date: Sept. 1, 2020, until further notice.

Species affected: Steelhead.

Locations and daily limits:

- **Regulatory Reach 1:** From the mouth of the Snake River (Burbank to Pasco railroad bridge at Snake River mile 1.25) to Lower Granite Dam.
 - Daily limit 1 hatchery fish.
- **Regulatory Reach 2:** From Lower Granite Dam upstream to the Idaho-Oregon state line.
 - Daily limit 2 hatchery fish.

Reason for action: The 2020 Columbia River preseason forecasted return of upriver steelhead was 95,500 (85,900 Group A and 9,600 Group B). Based on in-season tracking, Snake River stocks appear to be returning at or slightly above the forecast. However, WDFW has concerns with tributary stocks, particularly the Tucannon and Touchet River stocks, necessitating lower limits in the mainstem Snake River downstream of Lower Granite Dam.

WDFW will continue to monitor the steelhead run. If additional conservation measures need to be taken to curtail the harvest fishery, or additional harvest opportunity can be offered without negatively impacting wild or hatchery steelhead abundances, seasons and harvest rules may be adjusted in coming months.

Additional information: All steelhead with unclipped adipose fins must be immediately released unharmed. In addition, anglers must use barbless hooks when fishing for steelhead and must stop fishing for steelhead once the daily limit has been retained. Anglers should be sure to identify their catch and know regulations for other salmonid species that are in these areas. Anglers cannot remove any Chinook, coho or steelhead from the water unless it is retained as part of the daily bag limit.

Anglers are reminded to refer to the 2020-21 Washington Sport Fishing Rules pamphlet for other regulations, including possession limits, safety closures, etc.

Please continue to check emergency rules if you are planning to fish for steelhead within the affected area.

Information contact: Jeremy Trump, District 3 Fish Biologist, 509-382-1005.

Aug. 31, 2020

Grande Ronde River steelhead fishery change

Action: Changes the steelhead daily limit to two hatchery fish.

Effective date: Sept. 1, 2020, until further notice.

Species affected: Steelhead.

Location: Grande Ronde River, from mouth to the Washington-Oregon state line.

Reason for action: The 2020 Columbia River preseason forecasted return for upriver steelhead was 95,500. Current predictions of steelhead returning to the Grande Ronde River are insufficient to operate fisheries with a three fish daily limit. With concerns for broodstock needs and impacts to wild fish, it is important to reduce daily limits to protect steelhead within the Grande Ronde River.

Additional information: All steelhead with unclipped adipose fins must be immediately released unharmed. In addition, anglers must use barbless hooks when fishing for steelhead and must stop fishing for steelhead once the daily limit has been retained.

Anglers should be sure to identify their catch as Chinook and coho salmon may be present during this fishery and are not open to harvest. Chinook, coho, and steelhead may not be removed from the water unless they are being retained as part of the daily bag limit.

Refer to the 2020/2021 Washington Sport Fishing Rules pamphlet for other regulations, including possession limits, safety closures, etc., and please continue to check emergency rules if you are planning to fish for steelhead within the affected area.

Information contact: Jeremy Trump, District 3 Fish Biologist, 509-382-1005

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Clearwater Fly Casters

September 2020

Clearwater Fly Casters Officers & Committee Chairs 2020

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Membership and Monthly Meeting:

CFC membership dues are \$25/yr. for individuals, \$35/yr. for families, \$10/yr. for students, \$50/yr. sustaining, \$300/lifetime. Meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday, September through May, at the Best Western University Inn, 1516 Pullman Rd, Moscow, Idaho. Wet Fly Hour 5:30 PM, Dinner at 6:30 PM and Program at 7:30 PM.