



Leader Line

Fall Is Coming

It's that time of year. Summer is almost behind us, and we are entering, in my opinion, the best time of the year to be fishing. Most of the hot weather is behind and the Pink Salmon run is nearly over. That means the Coho run should be in full swing. There have been numerous reports about good sized Coho being caught in areas 9 and 13. Hopefully by the time this newsletter is posted area 11 will be open to boat fishing and we will enjoy a few weeks of hard fighting Coho. There are a couple of club outings set for coho fishing. The first being a trip to Dash Point to beach fish for Silvers on September 2nd and then the Cowlitz River outing will be held from September 16 – 18. You

won't want to miss those days. The Cowlitz trip can be for all three days, or you can come for a day and meet up at the Blue Creek Hatchery for a day on one of the best river fisheries anywhere nearby. There is also the opportunity for Cutthroat returning to the hatchery as well. In addition, the Yakima River fishing should be the best of the year, as well, so be sure to take advantage of the fall fisheries.

For those who missed it, our annual picnic was held on August 19th. The weather was great, as was the food. We missed you. Keep the picnic in mind and on your calendar for next year. A special thanks to the set-up and break-down crews as well as to Tess Frazier for her hard work not only putting it together but also for setting out the food and cleaning up after. We could not have done it without Tess.

Next Meeting

September 14

Tower Lanes

6323 6th Ave, Tacoma, WA 98406

Dinner: 6:30

Program 7:15

September brings back our regularly scheduled meetings on the second Thursday, September 14th. We will continue to meet at the Tower Lanes Entertainment Center as always. Social time at 6:00 p.m. and then dinner at 6:30. The presentation will be on the Cowlitz River fisheries, just in time for our outing. I hope to see familiar faces in September.

We are nearing the end of the year and the terms of our officers will be coming to an end. It's time for all of us to begin identifying those willing to serve in the various positions either as a board member or committee chairperson. I have said many times that it "takes a village" to

adequately conduct the business of the club and to provide meaningful activities for the membership. Please consider stepping up to help out. The more folks we have contributing, the easier it is to conduct our business. Most jobs take only a couple of hours each month.

Tight lines everyone. Go fishing and I'll see you at the September meeting.



Steve Saville
Club President

Let's Have an Outing to ...

During this year, I may have asked you to share your thoughts on where the club might go fishing in the future. As 2024 approaches, I'm again set to prepare a calendar that will please as many members as possible. I'm asking for your ideas. I can't guarantee we'll use your idea next year, but I will promise to save it for future consideration. Please message me if you have some suggestions at dfrazier@wavecable.com.

When I look for destinations, I try to take into account the fishing tastes of our diverse group. Some members are more interested in rivers; others in lakes or saltwater. Some want one-day trips; others want get-away waters. Some want weekday outings; others want weekends. Some like tried-and-true destinations; others want new experi-

ences. I could go on, but you get the idea.

Other considerations may include:

Accommodations. Is there a descent campground for multi-day trips that has tent sites, RV sites and cabins?

Weather. That's been difficult this year.

Distance. Is Idaho too far?

Seasonality. Will the famous hatch be on? Are the fish running? Have the waters been stocked recently? Are the waters open for angling?

Rendezvous Point. Is there an easy place to meet up?

Crowding. Can the location handle the size of our group?

Options. Are there other places to fish nearby during multi-day trips?

Finding a good fishing location that interests the greatest num-

ber of fly-fishers isn't easy, but it is kind of fun. To prime the pump, here's a starting list of some of the places members have already mentioned.

Lakes

Beaver Lake (King County)
Blue Lake (Sinlahekin area)
Coldwater Lake
Kokanee Lake
Lenice Lake
Mayfield Lake
Omak Lake
Rattlesnake Lake
Swafford Pond (spiny rays)

Rivers

Cedar River
Deschutes River (Oregon)
Green River
Klickitat River
South Fork Boise River (Idaho)
Tilton River

Saltwater
Egdon

Hoodspout
Narrows Park
Point No Point
Purdy
Shine Tidelands

Etc.

PSFF Annual Rendezvous:
Yakima River instead of Park
Lake?

FFI Fly Tying Expo, Albany (Oregon)

Dash Point Outing

Dash Point Park & Pier, Tacoma, 6 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 2

Let's hear it for odd-numbered years when the pink salmon arrive in Puget Sound. The 2023 run is expected to be the best since 2013. This year's forecast is for a whopping 4 million pinks! And September is also coho time. Get your coffee on and meet us at the Dash Point Park & Pier when the parking lot gate opens at 6 a.m. This is high tide, but a good time to secure your spot on the beach. The tide will be starting to go out and, with a little help from nature, the fish should be on the move on this sandy-bottomed, north-facing beach. The tide will drop from about 9 feet to 1 foot between 8:30 a.m. and noon. Low tide is at about 1:13 p.m.

Flies: For pinks, the favorite color is pink — HOT pink. Top colors for coho can range from hot pink to chartreuse, purple and black, often with white or light-colored bodies. Patterns include Clouser minnows, sand eels, herring patterns and surface flies such as

gurglers and Leland Miyawaki's Beach Popper.

Gear: Fish can range in size from about 2 to 8 pounds in our region. Hook sizes from 2 to 6 are recommended. Rods of 6-8 weight with floating or intermediate-sinking tips or lines. Bring a stripping basket if you have one. Let's hope the wind hasn't foiled and spoiled the beach with tangling weeds as it did in 2022.

The Rendezvous: Dash Point Park & Pier parking lot, 1500 Beach Dr. NE, Tacoma. Dash Point is about 26 minutes northwest from Tower Lanes in Tacoma.

As always, please contact me if you are attending:

David Frazier,
dfrazier@wavecable.com
(360) 265-6963

Cowlitz River Outing

Cowlitz Trout Hatchery (Blue Creek Boat Launch area), Saturday-Monday, Sept. 16-18



Cutthroat with wet fly near Blue Creek on the Cowlitz River

September and October can be an exciting time on the Cowlitz. On an ideal day, you can expect to find steelhead, coho and sea-

run cutthroat trout. During this time last year I was into SRCs on size 8 and 10 wet flies that were swung or stripped. Steelhead were seen being taken and there was much talk of the silvers coming through in the vicinity of the Blue Creek Boat Launch where I was fishing. The weather was also warm and just about perfect. But given the unpredictability of forecasting this past year, please don't quote me on any unrealized promises!

I also took advantage of the overlapping runs to pull out both my 4-weight switch rod for the SRCs and my 14-foot 7-weight spey to chuck heavy line into the deeper runs on the far side of the river where I hoped to find one of bigger species. Single-handed rods would also work, but having the ability to get more distance seemed like a good idea. And it's a blast to cast.

If you plan on preparing for fishing for steelies and coho, bring along a stout rod — about an 8-weight for single-handed rods, or a 6- to 7-weight spey. Have a variety of sinking tips to give you more options. If you're focusing some time on the SRCs, 5- or 6-weight rods with floating or slower-sinking lines should suffice. Trout speys of 3- to 5-weight should be about right. Bring a wading staff and cleated boots if you have them.

I have this outing down for three days, but it can easily be a day trip. I'll be trailer camping at Barrier Dam Campgrounds, about 10 minutes upstream from the Blue Creek launch area. From Tower Lanes in Tacoma, it's only about

1.5 hours to the Cowlitz River Blue Creek Boat Launch section, where trails lead downstream to plenty of enticing water. For info about free dry camping at the site, check out this video: [youtube.com/watch?v=fr4RepX1kgQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fr4RepX1kgQ)

As always, please contact me if you are attending:

David Frazier,
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Upcoming Outings

OCTOBER

Island Lake (Mason County), Saturday, **Oct. 7**, 9 a.m.

NOVEMBER

Johns Creek (chum salmon), Friday, **Nov. 10**, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

DECEMBER

Cady Lake, Saturday, **Dec. 2**, 10 a.m.



*David Frazier
Outings Chair*



Yellowstone River, June 8, 2018

September Speaker Thursday, September 14th

With our 3-day Cowlitz River outing this month, we are happy to host Matt Klaiber the owner of Puget Sound Fly Shop. As with many of us, Matt took to fishing at an early age. It became a big part of his life after 4 years in the Marines when he lived in Spokane. He gained most of his early fly-fishing experience during that time when he and a friend, Jesse, fished in Idaho, Montana, Canada, the Great Lakes and areas in the Midwest for days at a time. Jesse was an excellent fly-fisherman and became Matt's mentor. Matt's two tours in the Middle East had taken a mental toll on him and he found peace when fishing. He and his wife moved to Tacoma where he linked up with Project Healing Waters. The camaraderie with vets of similar military experiences was very therapeutic for him. He worked

with the Black Rifle Coffee Company and established a fly-fishing program for active military. Matt started working at Puget Sound Fly Company over 6 years ago tying flies. He worked his way into sales and management of the shop and eventually became the owner.

Matt has extensive time on the Cowlitz and will discuss his experience with catching Salmon, Steelhead and Trout using single hand and Spey rods. He will discuss and demonstrate specific equipment that has helped him along with the areas he has had his success.



*Mark Paul
Programs Chair*

A Glorious Day at Our Summer Picnic

It was a sunny, gorgeous, warm day for our Summer Picnic. Thank you PSFF President Steve Saville for the use of his family's property at Dash Point. Steve also generously provided tables, chairs and canopies. Approximately 30 folks gathered at this beautiful setting overlooking Puget Sound, to socialize, join in some games and eat lots of food — I mean a lot of food! Members brought tasty appetizers, salads, sides and desserts. Additionally, BBQ2U located in Gig Harbor, DONATED delicious barbecued ribs and chicken, pulled pork, baked beans and mac & cheese. If you are unfamiliar with BBQ2U, drop by and taste their Texas BBQ. They're located very close to the Gig Harbor Ace Hardware. Let them know Puget Sound Fly-Fishers highly recommended them.

I want to thank everyone who showed up early to help set up and those who stayed late to clean up. Steve was very grateful for the help. Wish I could say that fishing for pinks or coho drew a crowd, but everyone spent

their time eating and socializing. A great time was had by all. We'll do it again next year.



FFI/WSCFFI

The following report is on the proposed 2024 program planning for Washington State

The Clark-Skamania Flyfishers have agreed to help host a Casting Fair in Vancouver in the fall of 2024. The target is for September, with the search for a venue and date.

FFI national is engaging with Furimsky Shows to have FFI engaged in each of the 6 regional Fly Fishing Shows the company is hosting in 2024, including Bellevue, Feb. 17-18, 2024. They are looking for support from the WSCFFI/FFI in casting clinics, fly tying demos and classes, knot tying, etc.

The WSCFFI has tentatively reserved Saturday, May 4, 2024 at Ballinger Center for our next casting fair.

NWYCFFAcademy - There is nothing to report at this time.

Business

There are still a number of Board positions that will be vacant at the end of the year: President, Vice-President and Director 1st Year. Please consider how you can contribute to PSFF by serving as either a Board Member, a Committee Chair or a Director. Also, if you feel you can assist someone already in an administrative position, let me or any Board member know. Our club continues to grow. There are now 127 members and we need folks to help run Puget Sound Fly-Fishers. Many of you have filled out your membership application noting that you would like to help with certain aspects of PSFF. Here's your opportunity! Job descriptions can be found under the Members Only section of our website psff.org



Tess Frazier
Membership Chair



Mike Clancy
Legislation/FFI

127

of PSFF Members

Welcome to New Member:

Garrett Herfkens
Craig Murray

Anniversaries/Years August:

Rob Jensen	4
Kara Jensen	4
Nick Rajacich	33
Curt Stoner	6

Fish Kill

Yes, this is a shocking headline, but unfortunately it is occurring in several of our streams now.

Anglers and Biologists have reported finding dead Coastal Cutthroat Trout, Rainbow Trout, and sculpins in many streams in Western Washington during the month of August. The cause is extremely low stream flows. Some streams are experiencing record low flows this year. Fish are becoming trapped in pools that heat up and die due to water temperatures and lack of oxygen.

If you arrive at your favorite stream and you see it is lower than usual, it is best to think about giving the fish a break right now. Hopefully we will start to see cooler weather and some rainfall that should help improve this situation. We all need to do our part to protect this valuable resource.

One last thing, please check the regulations for rivers and streams in Western Washington. Most close October 31, but not all. Some Hood Canal streams closed August 15 and most others closed August 31. WDFW

enforcement will be watching these streams to protect our salmon runs and it would be unfortunate to be ticketed for fishing in closed waters for lack of knowledge of the regulations.



*Greg Shimek
Conservation
Chair*

PSFF - Officers and Committee Chairs

Club Officers

President: Steve Saville
President-elect: Vacant
Vice President: Rob Jensen
Past President: Greg Shimek
Secretary: Amy Weller
Treasurer: Dennis Beardsley
Director, 1st year: Richard Stone
Director, 2nd year: Dennis Ehlers
Director, 3rd year: Bryan Habeck

Committee Chairs

Membership: Tess Frazier
Librarian: Tom Krughoff
Raffles: Jim Baker
Programs: Mark Paul
Education: Rob Jensen (Oct. start)
Outings: David Frazier
Web Site Editor: Bryan Habeck
Newsletter Editor: Bryan Habeck
Legislation/FFI: Mike Clancy
Conservation: Greg Shimek



Get your PSFF hat before they're gone.

Some folks are living in these things. So if you already have one, you might need another for public appearances.

Both unstructured and structured hat styles are available at the meetings for the low price of \$20.

PSFF Zoom Fly Tying for Members only

Fellow fly tiers of all levels and those with an interest to get started, a reminder we started the Zoom fly tying sessions this January.

To date the sessions have been focused on lakes with a couple lake/river patterns. These meetings are more than a few folks watching and listening to me. Think of it as a low budget YouTube session but with interaction across the participants. We discuss the materials, pit falls to avoid, fishing techniques and off topic banter about fishing. Hey, YouTube doesn't offer this.

Process review:

The first week of each month I will post details to the Forum/Fly Tying section.

The post will be the pattern and recipe (required materials).

If interested in attending, contact me, Jim Baker, by either a reply to the post or a phone call/text message. My phone number is available via the **2023 Membership Directory** found in the [Members Only](#) link. I will share the Zoom meeting details via email to those who have signed up the week of meeting.

If the Forum isn't your thing, then check the details, which will be available starting this September, on the PSFF Calendar.

Jim Baker

Having Trouble Joining the Forum?

1) Launch the PSFF.org webpage as shown in **Figure 1** and click on the Log In link (circled in red).

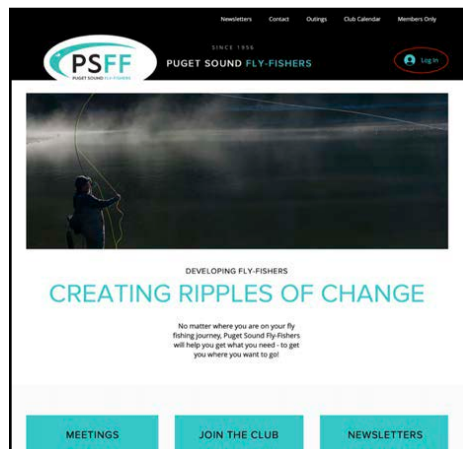


Figure 1

2) Log in or sign up

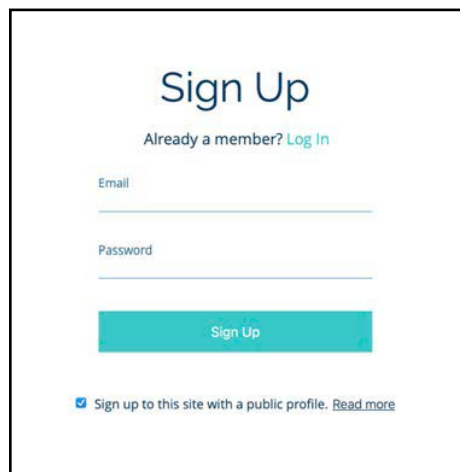


Figure 2

If you are registering as a new FORUM member, Sign Up first as shown in **Figure 2**. Enter your email address and create a password. Once you've done that and have received confirmation that you've been confirmed as a member and now have access,

then log in (clicking the teal type seen in **Figure 2**) and click on the Members Only link as shown in **Figure 3**.

3) Members Only will now available to you

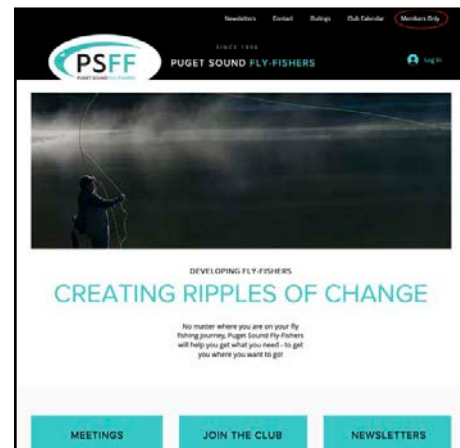


Figure 3

4) The Forum Page

Explore the different categories of discussions and learn about where others are fishing, and what they're tying.

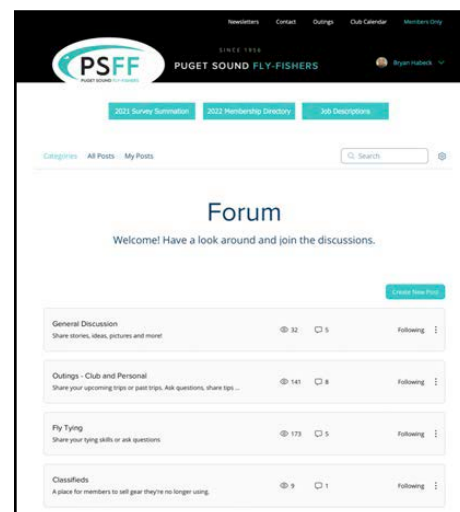


Figure 4