



# The Adipose

*The Bi-Monthly Newsletter of the Wild Steelhead Coalition*

December 2003

Volume 3, Issue 6

## The President's Run

*“Fisheries Management: Everyone wants to go to heaven, but no one wants to die to get there.”*

I heard this quote in conversation on a recent steelhead adventure and as I rode home I thought long and hard about that quote. Two years ago the WSC was still developing as an organization and many of us united to request and convince Washington Wildlife Commission with solid information to enact a statewide policy of “Statewide release of wild steelhead, year around, no exceptions”. As many know the Commission, after much discussion and debate narrowly voted 5-4 not to enact such a policy, but agreed to reduce the harvest of wild steelhead from a original proposal of 20 to 5 per year on rivers deemed healthy enough to allow harvest. In a “compromising situation” you never get all you request, but you always work hard to get the best you can. No matter how we looked at it wild steelhead still won, but more **important** is the positive **attention** it brought to steelhead issues and how we engaged a community of supporters. These supporters and the relationships we have also cultivated with the Steelhead Summits will without doubt enable us to take a leadership role on other important issues regarding wild steelhead- more on that in a minute. After the last WSC general meeting with Commissioner Pete Van Gytenbeek and his feedback regarding the WSC's reputation and after our last Steelhead Summit, I firmly believe the WSC is providing a leadership role and is well respected. All this as a volunteer organization which is not that huge and is well distributed geographically; just think what we can do if we simply get others involved.

Right now the WSC Board of Directors (BOD) is focused on developing decisions on the current WDFW rule proposals, as well as our strategy for the Commission testimony in Port Townsend, WA. We will submit WSC recommendations for the various proposals to our membership and other supporters by the time you receive this issue of the Adipose. For those not able to travel to Port Townsend, we **urge** you to submit your proposal letters as they are due no later than Dec.

5th. This is our last chance until 2006 with the new WDFW 3-year cycle for input. This is the most timely and relevant thing we can do for wild steelhead as an organization and we could use our members' organizational skills to convince the Commissioners to again take more of a proactive approach that will benefit wild steelhead. They could easily compromise again and reduce the kill of wild steelhead and this would be another victory for wild steelhead. It is not enough to say we don't have a chance for change. I have been reminded many times, "If you don't ask, the answer is always no!"

After the Commission testimony the WSC will move forward from wild steelhead release to other very important issues regarding wild steelhead. Don't get me wrong, we will always press for wild steelhead release, but we have to remember that wild steelhead release is not the end of the WSC mission. For example, one issue that has been recently brought to my attention by a WSC member is the need to figure out why the wild steelhead populations in the Puget Sound and Straits of Georgia basins are continuing to crash? How can the WSC help solve this mystery? Personally I think it is something to address as we update our Action Plan after the upcoming proposals. If you are member and have other ideas for issues the WSC to address please contact your BOD or better yet volunteer to help lead with your idea. If it fits the WSC mission the BOD will support it.

Also in order for the WSC to move forward to other important issues, we are going to need more involvement from our membership, to become more engaged with our legislators as an organization, develop financially and to garner support from a majority of the alliances we have cultivated through the Summits. In the mean time we have a WSC legislative committee forming to work with Rob Masonis of American Rivers to help our organization become mobilized politically. We also recently completed a fundraiser, which increased the funds in our budget, and had a very successful meeting with Pantagonia regarding a grant to the WSC as well as their support for our mission. We have just completed our third successful Steelhead Summit which has grown in participation and enthusiasm. Some changes are also in store for our general meetings which will include periodic presentations regarding the celebration of fish and rivers to go along with the great scientific speakers and presentations we have. We will also have a membership drive for our January meeting at REI in Seattle with a very special guest speaker to be announced along with some great prizes, so make plans to attend and bring a friend. The Board is looking ahead and we hope you will join us on our journey to steelhead "heaven."

Sincerely,

***Rich Simms***  
***President, Wild Steelhead Coalition***

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## **Steelhead Summit III Deemed a Success!**

*The article below is the written report recorded at the Steelhead Summit-ed.*

### **Pacific Northwest Steelhead Summit III**

Bellevue Hilton, Bellevue, WA, November 8, 2003

**Rich Simms**, Wild Steelhead Coalition Board president, welcomed attendees.

**Dave Bailey** thanked everyone for coming, noting that WSC is again hosting the Summit "by popular demand," not trying to run the show. Dave reminded that we are always open to additional organizations that are advocates for steelhead and their habitat.

Those in attendance:

**Gordon McKay**, Evergreen Flyfishers, **Bob Johnson**, Washington Wildlife Federation  
**Clint Muns**, Puget Sound Anglers, **Larry Doyle**, Greywolf Flyfishing Club  
**Beth Kuhn**, NW Women Flyfishers, **Stacy Stratton**, NW Women Flyfishers  
**Rob Masonis**, American Rivers, **David Moryc**, American Rivers  
**Bill Redman**, FFF Steelhead Committee, **Harold Boswell**, FFF Steelhead Committee  
**Bill MacKay**, Overlake Fly Fishing Club, **Greg Stephens**, Little Bear Creek Protective  
**John Kober**, National Wildlife Federation, **Ramon Vanden Brulle**, Washington Trout  
**Brian Simonseth**, Fidalgo Flyfishers, **Mike Gilchrist**, Recreational Fishing Alliance  
**Ron Nanney**, Willapa Anglers, **Dave Carlson**, Lower Columbia FF, Umpqua Foundation  
& Steamboaters, **J. D. Love**, Olypen Guides Association, **Dick Burge**, WSC and WCTU  
**Dave Bailey**, WSC and WCTU, **Wild Steelhead Coalition**: Jack Berryman, Dee  
Norton, Rich Simms, Bob Young, **Ken Ashley**, University of British Columbia (guest  
speaker)

**Jack Berryman**, moderator, reviewed the history of the summit organization, including recent liaison with the Patagonia Company, which is very supportive of this steelhead advocacy group. **Dick Burge** led off the summit committee reports.



*Steelhead Summit III*

*photo by Rich Simms*

### **HABITAT COMMITTEE:**

**Rob Masonis** led discussion, saying comments made at last summit were incorporated into a revised report, including riparian zone, tide gates, instream flows, and water quality. Rob noted that Gov. Locke has said he wants a bill to set instream flows, but that it will probably take 15 years to do this. Must have sport fishing community speak to legislators on this issue, along with other conservationists. We don't have gauging of river instream flows. We need to have people to talk with their legislators about this and write letters to the editor and guest editorials.

**Bill Redman** said the summit group needs to set up a clearing house for issues, such as this one. If groups cannot sign onto a position, their individuals still can.

On the Clean Water Act, **David Moryc** emphasized that we need to get help because we can't do it alone. We can build a network to protect natural resources that includes many organizations. We can't wait, we must start now because it will soon be too late. Federal proposals are particularly troubling, exempting many from enforcement of regulations. Got 50 people out on short notice for a hearing in Portland. Head water streams, protection. 44 % of streams would be called intermittent.

**John Kober** spoke on Skagit River problems, in estuary, tide gate issues. Has been involved in F.E.M.A. insurance issues. Also exploring wild salmon protective area, a tidal dike district at Dry Slough, a sanctuary in watersheds that would be provided for wild fish. Trying to determine what they would look like. Key issue in Skagit is rearing habitat. One of the problems in the Skagit is the large number of entities. Need a streamlined process where everyone comes to the table and works until the problem is solved. It is not going to happen soon.

**Greg Stephens** discussed projects with highways in the Maltby area. Working to incorporate city of Maltby, and trying to move county government with little success, so try to take away property along highway 9. Hoping to use root wads for improving habitat, spelled out in contract language. If it happens it will have statewide significance because the NW Region of state DOT is a trend setter. Could be applied to all other cities in Snohomish County. Want 300 foot buffers on all fish bearing streams, hoping to grab 43 square miles of habitat. Also working for bottomless culverts for putting under highway 522, now trying to find federal money for it. \$3 million is cost.

**Brian Simonseth** briefed attendees on a new landslide at mile 20 of the N.Fork Stillaguamish. Rep. Rick Larsen is working for \$3 million to remove the slide and the organization needs to come up with 35 %. Need help from many organizations.

### **E.S.A. LISTINGS COMMITTEE:**

E.S.A. delisting, discussed by **Rob Masonis**. NOAA Fisheries (ex-NMFS) is now reviewing 26 rivers for delisting, after avoiding it for years. A draft rule is due out in March, public commitment period coming up before next summit. If we lose this we lose all of the protection for the rivers. There is a document floating around NOAA about rainbow and steelhead; genetic similarity could let steelhead die out. Very troubling by leading to delisting. Review the rules for delisting and definition of recovery.

### **HARVEST COMMITTEE:**

**Dick Burge** stated we are not seeing any upward recovery on steelhead escapement goals. All the rivers on the coast are on downward trend. Goals being rewritten; hope to see out by Christmas. **Jack Berryman** said more wild fish than hatchery fish are being caught and killed on coastal Washington rivers!



*John Kober, National Wildlife Federation photo by Rich Simms*

#### **HATCHERIES, GENETICS, DIVERSITY COMMITTEE:**

**Ramon Vanden Brulle** noted that the committee has not done much new on this but Nate Mantua, chair, gave Ramon information to be discussed at summit. One is hatcheries designed to augment harvest. Will be working from existing documents rather than do new research. **Dick Burge** said Keonings and Gibbons (WDFW) are working on plan to build wild fish sanctuaries. Washington Trout believes there should be quantitative ways of measuring hatchery output. Want to see what impact thresholds will be, but no details yet.

#### **Lunch**

##### **Ken Ashley, guest speaker**

##### **"The Role of Nutrients in Salmonid Ecosystems: Are We Running On Empty?"**

- \*Keystone species concept - salmon in the coastal areas and in the interior areas.
- \*At least 137 species depended on salmon. (Cedarholm et al, 2000)
- \*Stable isotope tracking studies for carbon and nitrogen atoms.
- \*Salmon carry the marine derived nutrients inland, as anadromous "nutrient pumps"
- \*Now have only 5-7% of historical pre-European marine nutrients in PNW systems.
- \*Effect of nutrient loss: fewer predators and scavengers, timing of mink reproduction, complete loss of eagles in Montana
- \*Sources of nutrients----live salmon, salmon carcasses, organic nutrients (some salmon) and inorganic nutrients, n and p
- \*Keogh River is site of nutrient studies, using "artificial" nutrients due to shortage of salmon carcasses. Studies show amazing improvements with added MDN.
- \*Natural MDN losses, along with forest practices, hydro, urbanization, climate change and changes in ocean survival, all contribute to depressed fish stocks. We're all to blame.
- \*Nutrient sources: 1. Live salmon; 2. Pacific salmon carcasses, 3. Organic nutrients, and lastly 4. Inorganic nutrients (N & P)
- \*While nutrient enhancement is helpful, it is only an interim measure, effective only if all components of ecosystem recovery (e.g., habitat) and key external factors (e.g., overfishing) are conducted in a coordinated program.
- \*\* Note: For more info on nutrients, the Proceedings from the 2001 Eugene Salmon Nutrient Conference are available from AFS at [www.fisheries.org](http://www.fisheries.org).

**EDUCATION & PUBLIC OUTREACH:**

**Beth Kuhn** referred to this committee's existing position paper and discussed some new ideas for getting the steelhead "word" out to the public and, maybe more importantly, to our elected officials and agencies. She recruited four new committee members: Harold "Boz" Boswell, Bob Johnson, Stacy Stratton, and Greg Stephens, so the committee now numbers nine.

**WILD SALMONID POLICY:**

**Harold Boswell** reported that this committee has not been very active, to date. Need to get to legislature, go public with a salmon recovery report card. The agencies are not using the policy.

**SUMMIT STEERING COMMITTEE:**

**Dave Bailey** announced the formation of a "steering committee" within the Steelhead Summit organization, necessary in the formulation of the group's direction. For example, we need to define "who we are;" determine what "deliverables" we might expect as a coalition or alliance of steelhead advocates; draft a "manual" of procedures to follow in pooling our clout; and refine our summit communications "network."

Nine summit reps have signed on to this committee, and ideally it would have a representative from each of the 30+ member organizations.

This committee has many more possibilities, e.g., looking at the feasibility of a lobbyist, at least a part-time paid position, determining when or whether to include co-managing agencies in our summit meetings, and locating an internet forum for summit news.

Dave passed around the current list of committees and members, requesting additional members, and soliciting suggestions for other new committees. Enforcement was raised as a candidate, and six reps volunteered to form that committee.

Thanks to those who have accepted committee duties, especially the chairs. We encourage each summit group to participate on each committee, to whatever degree practicable, if only as a liaison to his/her home organization. We have numerous success stories, from liaisons formed under the summit umbrella or multi-laterally between member organizations, but we can do much more for the fish if we unite en masse. In other words, "united we bargain, divided we beg!"

**WDFW MAJOR CYCLE RULES PROPOSALS:**

**Dick Burge**, WCTU Steelhead chair and WSC Conservation VP, led a discussion on proposed rules changes by WDFW, to be the subject of a Fish & Wildlife Commission hearing on December 6 in Port Townsend. Items pertaining to steelhead were raised and summit attendees offered viewpoints to be offered to the Commission.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The summit meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m., to reconvene in spring, 2004.

**Note:** Thanks to **Dee Norton** for transcribing the summit proceedings, **Frank Amato** for sponsoring the Summit Speaker and **Beth Kuhn** of NW Women Flyfishers for providing a projector for our speaker.

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## **November 5, 2003 Membership Meeting Report**

### ***Pete Van Gytenbeek presents to the Wild Steelhead Coalition***

WDFW Commissioner Pete Van Gytenbeek offered those attending the November 5 2003 Wild Steelhead Coalition members meeting some of his views on how to effectively access and communicate with the WDFW Commission. It seemed to me that Pete's main message was this: the Commission system works for those people that are willing to participate.

Pete started his presentation by stating that the Commission's charge is to represent its constituents, namely the licensed hunters and anglers in Washington state. He continued with a bit of background information on some of the key challenges that WDFW is now facing. Among those challenges are operating with shrinking budgets, reduced staffing, and a growing number of projects aimed at responding to Federal Endangered Species Act requirements.

Pete noted that effective enforcement of fish and game laws continues to be a major challenge. The good news, he said, is that the State Patrol and WDFW game wardens now work together. The bad news is that within this cooperative agreement, game wardens sometimes find themselves working on cases that have nothing to do with fish and game violations. The "Eyes in the Woods" program has been very helpful for catching violators of hunting regulations, and he believes it is worth expanding that program to also include assistance with the enforcement of fishing regulations in our lakes, streams, and marine waters.

When it came time to talk about the current rules proposals, Pete encouraged us to stay involved. Just because a proposal request did not make it onto the recommended list does not mean that it is necessarily dead. The Commissioners get to see all the proposals that were submitted, so the entire process of public input to department recommendations is now very transparent. There will be a public hearing on rule proposals December 5-6 at Fort Warden in Port Townsend, and the Commission will make its final decisions February 6-7 in Olympia (see <http://www.wa.gov/wdfw/do/oct03/oct3103c.htm> for more details). If we hope to influence the Commission's decisions, we need members to attend and testify at this hearing.

Pete also encouraged us to do a better job working with our legislators in Olympia. They control the state budget, and we can make a lot of progress in shaping WDFW policies by improving our communications with the legislature. Pete suggested we simply make appointments with our representatives and tell them why we value wild steelhead, and why they should make protecting and restoring wild steelhead populations a high priority. To that end, Pete suggested that we develop a new white paper on the value of wild steelhead, and then get that white paper to our legislative representatives and WDFW Commissioners.

He also suggested we take a fresh look at WDFW's Wild Salmonid Policy, and critically evaluate how well the state is doing in following its directives. Wild Steelhead Coalition members were enthusiastic about taking on a project to issue a "Report Card on the implementation of WDFW's Wild Salmonid Policy." So stay tuned for more information on the development of this effort.

In closing, Pete repeated these words: "Get into the system because it does work—even though it may be slow, it will work for you if you're willing to get involved."

Speaking for those in attendance, I'd like to thank Pete one more time for attending our meeting and sharing his time and insights into how we can be more effective at

influencing WDFW policies. Pete's support for our cause, and his enthusiasm and optimism for improving the welfare of Wild Steelhead in the Northwest were obvious. For all those things we owe him our gratitude. Thank You Pete!

*Nate Mantua, WSC VP of Science and Education*

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### **WDFW Sportfishing Regulation Proposals!**

The following comments are the final positions decided upon by the Wild Steelhead Coalition Board of Directors. They were compiled from recent science, comments received from the Membership and Board of Directors. These comments will be sent to WDFW representing our organization. We urge each member to send in their comments as well. They can and should be your own comments and recommendations and do not have to follow ours. What's most important is that you do send in comments and that they are received in Olympia before the December 5 deadline. If you feel differently on any of these proposals, we hope you will state your own opinion. In some cases the BOD will not have the local knowledge that you have on a river or a specific issue. Your comments are important and should be heard.

WDFW has asked for the written comments to be sent to Evan Jacoby, WDFW Rules Coordinator, 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, Wa 98501-1091. If you attend the hearing in Port Townsend, you can submit your written comments there.

If at all possible, please try to make the hearing on Dec 6. It will be at the Fort Worden State Park, Port Townsend, WA. The starting time hasn't been announced yet, but we will get the exact time to you at least a few days before the hearing. It will probably be around 9 AM. When you arrive, sign in so you will be called to testify. We are hoping for a good turnout of our WSC members and friends to tell the commissioners that wild steelhead need better protection and to state our goals. Other organizations supporting wild steelhead are also planning to attend and together we should provide a strong and important voice for wild steelhead to the Commission.

### **The Wild Steelhead Coalition Recommendations to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission on the 2004-05 Sportfishing Rule Proposals.**

The Wild Steelhead Coalition (WSC) commends the WDFW staff for their efforts in these proposals to provide improved conservation and protection for wild steelhead. We hope to continue working with the Department and the Commission in their efforts to recover and conservatively manage wild steelhead in a manner that restores healthy wild populations to all rivers and streams. The following comments are the WSC's recommendations for additional protection of the wild steelhead stocks.

**Proposal #27.** Removing Steelhead and Salmon From Fresh Water. **Support**

**Proposal #30.** Increasing the Daily Limit of Steelhead in SE Washington to 3 Hatchery Steelhead. **Oppose.** Hatchery production should be decreased to levels that the fishery can utilize at a 2 fish limit. The money saved should go towards hatchery reform and habitat improvement in the general area. Increasing production and/or limits is a bad practice while wild fish are listed or depleted. We do support emergency regulation changes to 3 fish during years when the returns of hatchery fish are large. In place of this regulation proposal, we ask the commission to reconsider the second report card proposed last year, provided no wild fish are allowed to be harvested after the first report

card is filled. Further, we suggest a \$10 fee for the second card dedicated to hatchery reform.

**Proposal # 31.** Upper Grand Ronde River Steelhead. **Oppose.** Bait fishing should be kept from this river until Oct 31 as the present rule states. Selective gear rules will allow wild fish fry (1,2,3 year old parr), resident rainbow trout/steelhead and wild steelhead recruits a better chance of survival until recovery is in place.

**Proposal #34.** Mill Creek Closed Area. **Support.**

**Proposal #40.** Chelan River. **Support**

**Proposal # 41.** Clear Creek closed year-round. **Support.**

**Proposal # 53.** Cle Eum River. **Support.**

**Proposal #62.** Cedar River Catch and Release Fishery. **Support with caution.** An alternate proposal would be to approach this fishery by emergency regulation the first year with a one-month season to understand the impacts to the rainbow/steelhead population. These rainbow/steelhead are the remaining genetic type steelhead of the Cedar River and must be preserved. The Cedar River is suffering from the same problems, magnified, as the Georgia Basin/Puget Sound steelhead runs. This remaining resident population of steelhead is the spawning population that will someday produce surviving smolts and sufficient recruits to rebuild healthy steelhead runs in this river. A CnR selective gear fishery on this population is risky and must be monitored. The impacts to the population must be studied to assure protection of the indigenous population of the rainbow/steelhead complex.

**Proposal #64.** Sammamish River Season Extension. **Support.**

**Proposal #72.** Cowlitz River. **Support all three proposals.**

**Proposal #74.** Close Klickitat River Tributaries. **Support.**

**Proposal #75.** Upper Klickitat River Season Extension. **Support with caution.** Additional enforcement is needed to assure wild fish are not targeted for harvest during the winter period when fewer fishers and eyes are on the river.

**Proposal #81.** Big Beef Creek. **Support.**

**Proposal #82.** Big River. **Support**

**Proposals #83/90/94.** Dickey, Bogachiel, and Calawah Seasons; the Quillayute River Season; and Sol Duc River (comments combined). **We do not support these three proposals as written.** Request a December and January Wild Fish Release fishery on all 5 rivers. This will allow rebuilding of wild fish runs during these early run months. A recent WDFW report and a private report state a significant decline has occurred during these early months in comparison to historical runs. This harvest closure will help restore the run timing diversity to these rivers, and provide improved population resiliency, stability, and productivity. We do support additional seasons as determined by WDFW as needed for conservation of wild steelhead. Continued on next page-

**We further request changing these rivers to wild fish release, not allowing the 1 wild fish per day retention, to assure they do not follow the run depletion trends that have occurred in most other rivers of Washington (as well as the Georgia Basin).**

**Proposal # 84.** Dungeness River Season. **Oppose at this time.** Regulation is written to allow clean up of hatchery fish. Hatchery run is presently so low that the Dungeness Hatchery is not making egg take numbers. The wild fish runs are in a depressed condition, and should not be subjected to any additional fishing pressure.

**Proposal #85.** Hoko River Hatchery Steelhead. **Support.**

**Proposal #86.** Hoquiam River and all Forks. **Support.**

**Proposal #87.** Kalaloch, Cedar and Mosquito Creeks Wild Steelhead Retention. **Support and request Goodman Creek** be added to this list with selective rules for the same reasons.

**Proposal #88.** Naselle River Season. **Support**

**Proposal #89** Puyallup and Carbon Rivers. **Support.**

**Proposal #90.** Quillayute River Season **Covered under # 83.**

**Proposal #91.** Upper Quinault River Season. **Oppose as written.** The states catch comes from the area above the Quinault Lake and in the ONP. The river has traditionally made escapement. Support with the request of the addition of wild steelhead release and selective rules to provide this upper section of the Quinault River the same protection given to wild steelhead in the upper reaches of most of the other major ONP rivers.

**Proposal #92.** Salmon River Wild Steelhead Release. **Support.**

**Proposal #94.** Sol Duc River Season. **Covered under #83.**

**Proposal #95.** Tahuya River, Dewatto River Seasons. **Support**

**Proposal .#96.** Union River Season. Support

**Proposal #97.** Wishkah River Season. Support

**Proposal #99.** Wynoochee River Selective Rules Removal. **Oppose.** We recommend retaining the selective rules during June 1 to October 31 to protect parr, resident rainbow/steelhead, and early run wild steelhead. As recommended on the Grand Rhonde River, bait should be kept from this river during the summer/fall months.

**Final Proposal Request.** The Wild Steelhead Coalition recommends changing all rivers to wild steelhead release, no exceptions, statewide. Until all the depressed runs are sufficiently recovered from their listed or depletion status, and all stocks are considered in a healthy status, we believe all wild steelhead should be released by sport fishers to assure the remaining healthy stocks are not further jeopardized by the directed harvest of even one wild steelhead.

The WSC believes that our proposed changes when merged with the proposals presented by WDFW staff will add considerably to the recovery and protection of wild steelhead.

We urge the Fish and Wildlife Commission and the WDFW to give our recommendations careful considerations. Thank-you for the opportunity to comment and make suggestions to these regulation proposals.

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## **News & Bits- What's going on in & around the WSC?**

### **WDFW Public Meeting**

December 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission will hold a public meeting at Fort Worden State park in Port Townsend to discuss 2004-2005 sport fish rule proposals . Public testimony will be taken along with written testimony and the rules adoption meeting is scheduled for early 2004)

### **Thompson River Update**

The Thompson River was scheduled to close to steelhead fishing November 1<sup>st</sup> and then the government delayed that to November 17<sup>th</sup> and now because of three more fish caught in the test fishery the BC government has decide to keep the River open through the end of the year. The Kingfishers Rod and Gun Club have asked their members to respect the fish and limit their impact. The estimated run size was 800 and with those three extra fish it is now 1100 which is one of the lowest run size in 25 years of records.

### **Scary but True**

Ex-WSC president Duggan Harmon flipped his pontoon boat on the Kispiox in September. All is fine as only equipment was lost.

### **WSC Scholarship**

The WSC Board is in the process of putting together Scholarship for students that are working towards the preservation of Wild Steelhead. Jack Berryman is working on finalizing this and more information is to come.

### **WSC Brochures**

In case you didn't know the WCS has had new brochures printed up if you need any of them to distribute please send email to [wscmembership@yahoo.com](mailto:wscmembership@yahoo.com)

### **Some useful information**

The link to get to the Wild Salmonid Policy is <http://www.wa.gov/wdfw/fish/wsp/wsp.htm>  
There is some very useful information in this document.

### **Thank You for the Fundraiser**

We would like to thank the people whom attend the WSC dinner\auction fundraiser. A special thanks go to all the people whom donated items to the auction. **Thank you Peter Dorn for being the organizer.**

### **WSC Send Letter of Support for NF Stilly Habitat**

At the last WSC general meeting by Brian Simonseth the Stillaguamish Implementation Review Committee (SIRC) is trying to get the funding they need to from the state to by pass the Steelhead Heaven Slide on the NF Stillaquamish River. The WSC sent a letter of support urging the State Representatives and Senator to support and insure that matching funds from the Washington State Ecology's Centennial Grant or Salmon Recovery Funding Board are provided this year for the Restoration of the Hazel/Steelhead Haven slide on the North Fork of the Stillagaumish.

### **The WSC would like to welcome the new members who have recently joined the WSC:**

**Jeff Swift**, Member, Seattle, WA

**Kent Morris**, Sponsor, Bellevue, WA

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**Meeting Announcement**  
**December 3, 2003 Meeting Speaker**  
**Bothell American Legion Hall 19213 Bothell Way NE (hwy 527)**

**"Puget Sound and Coastal Washington Hatchery Reform: The scientific review and implementation of the basic principles and system-wide recommendations"**

**Lee Blankenship, vice-chair of the Hatchery Scientific Review Group and Michael Kern, project manager for the Long Live the Kings Puget Sound and Coastal Washington Hatchery Reform project**

**Lee Blankenship** is a Senior Research Scientist with Northwest Marine Technology and a member of the HSRG's Independent Science team. In 2002 he retired after 30 years at the WDFW. He was instrumental in the development of the coded wire tag and has spent most of his career developing and evaluating stock identification tools. He has authored numerous publications dealing with stock identification and marine stock enhancement. He has served 5 years as an associate editor for the "North American Journal of Fisheries Management" and is an Adjunct Scientist with Mote Marine Laboratory, Florida.

**Michael Kern** is the Project Manager for Long Live The Kings Puget Sound and Coastal Washington Hatchery Reform project.

For more information about our December 3rd speakers, see the website at [www.wildsteelheadcoalition.com](http://www.wildsteelheadcoalition.com) or phone 425-880-4254

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**Chili Feed and Fundraiser a Success!**

The Wild Steelhead Coalition held it's first Annual Fund Raiser this past October at the American Legion Hall in Bothell. This year we had a Chili Feed and Auction. Many outstanding items were auctioned including; guided trips, artwork, fly plates, rods and reels. It was a great success raising over four thousand dollars.

We would like to thank the following individuals and companies that graciously donated their valuable time and many items for the auction. You made the evening a success.

**Mike Chamberlin**  
**Mike Combs**  
**John Posey**  
**Norm Norlander**  
**Rich Simms**  
**Jeff Johnson**  
**Ryan Petzold**  
**Rob Tibbets**  
**Dennis Worley**  
**Nathan Keen**  
**Steve Worley**  
**Kent Alger**  
**Scott Weedman**  
**Todd Ripley**

**Pat Graham**  
**Bob Aid**  
**Bob Young**  
**Maria Marabella**  
**Robert Triggs**  
**Bill & Susan Brager**  
**John Farrar**  
**Mike & Linda Cummins**  
**Frank Amato**  
**Jim Lichatowich**  
**Richard Hunt**  
**Stephan Ostberg**  
**Leland Miyawaki**  
**Peter Dorn**

**To these Companies we sincerely thank:**

**Kaufman's Streamborn  
Outdoor Emporium  
Lamiglass  
Orvis  
The Avid Angler  
Worleybugger Fly Shop  
Three Rivers Marina  
Miller Tree Inn Bed & Breakfast  
Red Shed Fly Shop  
Patrick's Fly Shop  
Amato Publishing  
North Umpqua Foundation**

**A special thanks to Keith Robbins, our energetic auctioneer for the evening.**

**SEE YA NEXT YEAR!!**

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### **Legislative and Political News**

The WSC is in the process of forming a Legislative Committee, who will act as liaison between the WSC and the state legislature, creating and maintaining relationships and dialogues with our state legislators and the various congressional natural resources committees. Greatly appreciated assistance with drafting the policies and actions of this committee is being provided by Rob Masonis of American Rivers. If you have an interest in serving on or assisting this committee, please contact the committee chair, Todd Ripley, WSC VP of Political Affairs, at [c\\_n\\_r\\_nates@hotmail.com](mailto:c_n_r_nates@hotmail.com).

In January the WDFW will be releasing the new Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed Grandy Creek Acclimation Pond project. When it is released the Board will review the document and share the document and the Board's assessment of it with the WSC membership. You can also request your own copy of the document through the WDFW website, <http://www.wa.gov/wdfw>.

WSC member Brian Simonseth, as you may remember, is a member of the Stillaguamish Implementation Review Committee. The SIRC and the Army Corps of Engineers have designed an engineered log jam/bypass system to divert the North Fork of the Stillaguamish River around the massive landslide at Steelhead Heaven that has sent, and will continue to send, tons of gravel clogging sediment down this premier steelhead and salmon stream. The SIRC urgently requests that every interested person please contact their local state representatives and ask that this project be fully funded in the interest of wild steelhead habitat rehabilitation.

While the WSC as an organization has sent such a letter, it is vital that as many individuals do so as well. A suggested draft of a letter is on the WSC website.

***Todd Ripley, WSC VP of Political Affairs***

## WSC Board Establishes Two New Awards

The WSC Board discussed the establishment of two new awards to be given out at the discretion of the BOD. "Conservation Award" Presented to an individual or group that, through their actions and/or accomplishments, have made significant and noteworthy contributions to the protection and propagation of wild steelhead. "Scholarship Award" Presented to an individual or group that, through their research and scholarship, recognizes the significance of wild steelhead for Northwest culture and/or the scientific importance of wild steelhead in the management of all steelhead for optimal propagation and survival. The wording of these two awards is still being finalized, but the general areas have been agreed upon. The BOD just made its first Scholarship Award to Jon Honea and the UW's Center for Water and Watershed Studies to support his research on stream nutrients for salmonids. Jon had presented this research at one of the WSC's General Meetings.

*Jack W. Berryman, WSC Past President*

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*Olympic Peninsula Wild Steelhead*

*photo by Tom Hanson*

## Thanks For Supporting Wild Steelhead!

*The Wild Steelhead Coalition (WSC) is an organization dedicated to increasing the return of wild steelhead to the waters and rivers of the Pacific Northwest.*



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