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# The Snoose Junction Journal

## Ballard Trout & Salmon Club Newsletter

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Volume 11 Issue 2

February 2001

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### Details:

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Chapter Trout Unlimited  
P.O. Box 17549  
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## Next Meeting...

### Thursday -- February 8, 2001

Doors open at 7:00 pm

**Meeting starts at 7:30 pm**

Northwest Senior Center  
5429 - 32nd Ave NW in Ballard  
"1 Block North of the Locks"

Are you a FLY-FISHING fanatic, or just a beginner? It doesn't matter! Come to hear past WA Council VP, Des Moines past President, Earth Day Co-chair, and IGFA world record holder Andy Batcho's presentation on the what, when, why, and where of fly-fishing trips to the Idaho, Montana and Wyoming region. This promises to be a fun evening with interactive gear choices, trip photos, and maybe a fish story or two. Also, Georgia Batcho will show some of the items available at this year's Earth Day Banquet & Auction. She'll give you an early opportunity to get in on the "screaming reel" alarm clock raffle. It's a must have for those who "dream" of catching the big one!

### Last Meeting:

The attending members thank guide Jim Tuggle, of the Olympia chapter and operator of Tug's Tours, for his outstanding steelheading presentation at our January meeting. His top 10 tips for winter steelhead are: 1) Fish the good water, 2) Wade more carefully, 3) Try a soft (steelhead rag) lure, 4) Use a scent on your lure, 5) Tie a good knot, 6) Shorten your leader, 7) Use a stiffer rod, 8) Keep a good rod angle, 9) Avoid a big line belly (use enough weight), 10) Change tactics (jigs & spoons). You can book a guided fishing or sightseeing trip by calling Jim at (360)754-1734.

### BTSC Membership

Our chapter stands at **333 members** with the addition of 10 new and 4 transferred-in members. There were also 19 renewals and 22 due for renewal. Please check your address label for hi-lited renewal date.

Welcome aboard to **new members**: Ryan Berry, Eli Bland, Dennis Boothroy, Tim Brown, Jules Haglund, Scott Hughes, Terry Johnson, David Probart, Kent Sundberg, and to our transfers: Fritz Wollett, Petros Fotopoulos, Ralph Kamm, Brian Mathieson, and Paul Singer. We hope to meet you at a meeting in

the near future. Remember: numbers equals clout! Please renew in a timely fashion. You can renew on-line at [www.tu.org](http://www.tu.org).

### Steelhead Capture

We have been informed that Trout Unlimited's, Ballard Chapter, will for the sixth year, participate in a Ballard Locks wild steelhead capture on **March 12th, 13th and 14th**. Fred schedules 2 shifts: 8am-Noon and Noon-3pm. Call now to select a time, or for more information.

## Outdoors Now...

**Cowlitz river smelt** fishing is just starting. Sat's only, 10# limit, sharpen your dip nets.

**Razor Clams** Late day tides make teamwork fun; 15 clam limit makes great chowder

**Spring Kings** 40,000 excess fish expected to return to Wind River Hatchery, a glistening opportunity for sportsmen! A possible BTSC outing in February.

**Puget Sound Blackmouth** Fishing Season Opens February 16.

*“They  
are coming  
up the  
Columbia River  
in numbers  
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in  
30 years.”*

## Drano Lake Spring Chinook

They are coming up the Columbia River in numbers that have not been seen in 30 years. This is the conclusion of Washington state biologists.

One such popular fishing area is **Drano Lake**, a backwater of the Little White Salmon River, located 54 miles east of Vancouver WA. It is fished with plugs, flatfish, spinners, and herring. It's a large fishery in a small area with results that range from 10 - 30 pounds.

Even the **experts don't know** an exact date, but you can monitor it on the web. Try Vancouver's newspaper, [www.columbian.com](http://www.columbian.com) or after March 15 the fish counts are registered at the Bonneville Dam's site [www.bpa.gov](http://www.bpa.gov) or check the fish counts in the local paper.

Larry would like to **plan an outing** to Drano Lake in early April. If you are interested, contact him at the next meeting. Remember that the tribes and sportsmen from Washington and Oregon all get a chance at these fish, and the state determines when it will close. I will attend the Sportsman show and ask the reps for more information and advise.

*-- Fred Zingleman*

## WCTU January Meeting

Saturday morning (January 13, 2001) came with wet weather and stayed showery all day long - a perfect day to be indoors with friends, going over the **accomplishments** of the prior year, adjusting the budget, and meeting new officers & committee persons.

The **new area directors** are: SW - Terry Turner, Olympia; Mid Sound - Doug Soehl, Rainshadow Chapter Pt. Townsend; NW - Pinkie Pilkenton, Northshore; East WA - open.

**Committee chairs** are: Projects - Bart Madison, Tacoma; Steelhead & Salmon - Jim Tuggle, Olympia and Joe Durham, Aberdeen; Trout - Jim Derry, Vancouver (USA); Aquatic Ed. - Red Mattison, Tacoma; Grants - Joseph Madrano, S. King Co.; Environment & Hydro - Don Schluter, PeEll.

A very well qualified and diverse group who are eager for your input and help on this year's issues. **Charles Cottone** has stepped up to a chapter board position, and co-chair on the

salmon / steelhead committee for our chapter. Who will join him? YOU maybe?

A segment of the day was devoted to organizational development where chapters received handbooks and advice to enhance **communications** throughout the council, and increase member participation in doing fun stuff along with our conservation efforts.

Getting out our message and increasing our exposure this year will be accomplished via radio. A proposal was discussed and voted to use a regional **environmental news** service to reach listeners in all markets of the state. Keep your ears tuned for a sound bite during your commute soon.

There were a number of new proposals put forth for ways to fund this venture and other council operations. One is very simple and extremely generous: Wilcox Marketing will **donate all profits** from your on-line purchases through them to the council.

There is a program being formulated with a local supplier to make **rod building kits** available through chapters.

The meeting ended with the Annual Awards Banquet where the **Ballard Trout & Salmon Club** received the **Most New Members Award** (72 new members!). Also our mentor, **Doug McGar**, received the prestigious **Sportsman of the Year Award!** Hopefully Doug will share its beauty with us at the next meeting.

*-- Larry O'Neil, WCTU VP, Membership*

## A New Sign at Ray's

If you've been to Ray's Boathouse or looked at the picture in last month's newsletter, you can see our Ballard Trout and Salmon Club sign. It is more than out of date. Doug McGar and Don Miller are in the process of updating the reader board. The **new sign** by the net pen will be a welcome addition in the spring. Thank You!

## ISE Show & Raffle Tickets

Mike Kelly has scheduled the Ballard Chapter to sell Trout Unlimited's Washington Council Raffle tickets on **February 10th**. It's a fun event. While you're there you can book that dream trip you deserve.

**Free** admission to ticket sellers to view the only outdoor sports show in Seattle. Call Mike Kelly at 706-8807 to volunteer your services for a time slot.

Remember 40% of tickets sold, remain in the chapter and fund the projects and the newsletter. Also please return your **vendor passes** to the show office so your next shift replacements can get in.

## Kudos

The officers wish to thank all the **feeders** who have done such an outstanding job, and the always ready **crew** who did the cleaning and maintenance of the net pen and the releasing and receiving of our fish.

We also extend our thanks to the gracious **staff at Ray's Boathouse** restaurant for hosting our impromptu meeting with WDFW & other project managers.

**John Olson** gets a BIG ATTA BOY for stepping up to be BTSC President when Mike Kelly's shift changed and for returning again this year as VP.

## Native Plant Salvage

Saturday, February 3rd, Trossachs Development, Sammamish. 9:00am - 12:30 PM. Contact Greg Rabourn at (206) 296-1923 for more information. **Volunteers** must be 16 years old or with a parent or guardian.

**Directions:** From I-5 or I-405. Take I - 90 East and exit at the Front Street/ East Lake Sammamish Pkwy. Exit in Issaquah. Turn left onto E. Lake Sammamish Pkwy. And then take a right onto Issaquah - Fall City Road and stay on it as it becomes SE Duthie Hill Road (Issaquah - Fall City Road will turn off to the right). Turn left on Trossachs Blvd. SE and follow the signs to the salvage site.

## Farewell and Good Luck

Our year is off to a high charged start; releasing **20,000 Chinook** from the rearing pen on Jan 3rd @ 8 per # & 8" in length -- quite an increase from the 25 per # when we received them on Oct. 3rd 2000. Any of our members who volunteered to feed this batch will attest to their voracious appetite and desire to dance!

Jan 4th there was a meeting of rearing pen project managers and the WDFW at Ray's Boathouse. It was **not good news**. The ESA listing of Puget Sound Chinook, the genetic origin of our project fish stock, and the associated dilution of those stocks have combined to put an end to our Chinook program as well as most others in the region.

We are looking into an alternative species such as **steelhead** or **sea run cutthroats** to rear in the future. Any persons interested in working on this project should come to the meeting with ideas and concerns.

## Coho Installed

January the 11th, after a through scrubbing and re-attachment of the containment net, we received **30,000 Coho** smolts. Employees from the Wallace Falls Hatchery shot the new fish (24 to the pound) into the net pen. Doug McGar, Don Miller, and Larry O'Neil were present to assist and secure the covers.

Though the new coho have been slow to adapt to the colder and brackish water, their desire to feed will start increasing soon. Call Don Miller to schedule your week in March to **feed the coho**, or to be trained. It is so much fun to watch the fish boil when the pellets hit the water.

## Education Alert

The WDFW has more information in a pamphlet called **Partners in Science**. This is to convince us that now all policies pertaining to fish are rooted in science. View the material at the Mill Creek office or on the web [www.wa.gov/wdfw](http://www.wa.gov/wdfw).

Another part of wild salmon education is **Project Wild/Wet**. The goal is to teach the teachers (K-12) about water, watersheds, and salmon. When teachers have a better understanding they can pass that along to the students. It's their future.

## Upcoming Events...

**Feb 3** Native Plant Salvage -- *see article*.

**Feb 7-10** Outdoor Emporium's 5th Annual Sportsman Sale. Best sale of the year!

**Feb 7-11** International Sportsmen's Exposition (ISE), Exhibition Hall -- *see article*.

**Feb 17** Tacoma Banquet, La Quinta Inn, Portland Ave. & I-5 by the Dome. Tickets \$25 (\$45/ couple). Contact Ray Evans: [windjmr1@earthlink.net](mailto:windjmr1@earthlink.net).

**Mar 3** Native Plant Salvage again!

**Mar 10** Ex Comm. Meeting; host S. King Co. chapter.

**Mar 10 & 24** Naturescaping workshops. Call Greg Rabourn or visit: [www.salmoninfo.org](http://www.salmoninfo.org).

**Mar 12-14** BTSC Wild Steelhead Capture -- *see article*.

**Apr 21** Earth Day Banquet and Auction -- *see article*.

**May 5** Gray's Harbor Chapter Banquet, in Aberdeen, to support "Friends Landing" Disabled Persons Fishing Access project.

**May 18-19** Council Spring meeting, in Tacoma.

**Aug 14-19** TU National Convention, Portland OR. Volunteers needed for various jobs. Also items for auction. Booth space available. Contact either Chairman Jim Derry at (360) 896-6967 e-mail: [ohio12@qwest.net](mailto:ohio12@qwest.net), or Marketing Director Jim Wilcox (888) 820-1164 e-mail: [jimwilcox@wwdb.org](mailto:jimwilcox@wwdb.org).

## Celebrate Earthday

Join the Washington Council of Trout Unlimited in celebrating the 17th annual Earthday on Sat April 21st. Support conservation of our valuable steelhead, salmon, and trout resources here in Wash. Tickets to this prestigious Banquet and Auction at the Wash State Convention and Trade Center are \$50. Many cool auction items. Call Fred Zingleman 364-5082 to reserve your seat. Check site at [www.halcyon.com/earthday](http://www.halcyon.com/earthday).