



Covering The Drift

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Editor: Bob Bates

Leader's Line

By Bob Shirley,
WSCFFF, President

April 8 will be the date for the Council's annual membership meeting in Ellensburg - 10:00 am at the Rodeo City BBQ. We invite representatives from any and all fly fishing clubs in Washington and any Federation member who wishes to attend. The nomination of Council Officers and Directors will take place during this meeting. We will discuss past achievements, future plans, upcoming activities,

and we will ask for reports from the clubs in attendance and input from our FFF members. Please, let us know by note or e-mail if you plan on being there so we can make arrangements to accommodate everyone. There will be a little raffle so clubs are encouraged to bring donations to help cover our costs. Flies tied by members, trips hosted by members, or other items will be gratefully accepted.

support.

The Federation of Fly Fishers is continuing to emerge as the national and international leader in fly fishing education. There are several new programs and opportunities for us to further the sport and to influence those entering fly fishing through our continuing casting, tying and fly fishing education efforts. The *Flyfisher* magazine and the FFF web site www.fedflyfishers.org are rich sources of information on our education and conservation activities. In a recent e-mail, Ron Cordes told me the number of 'hits' on the FFF site has gone from around 20,000 per day to over 57,000 per day! Don't forget to check the 'Members only' page, the new fly tying contest, and keep looking for information on Conclave 2006.

We just finished The Fly Fishing Show in Bellevue, and I welcome the 34 newest members of the Federation to our organization. We had 32 from Washington, one from Alaska and one from Montana sign up. Thank you to all of the volunteers from across the state who helped make the booth a huge success. Thank you to all of our friends and supporters who bid on silent auction items and bought raffle tickets to help us cover the cost of the space and the expense of the various printed material we distribute. We produce material about the Northwest Fly Casting Exposition, club contact information slip for all of our clubs in Washington and our own brochure/application/club contact info sheet. It was great to get to reconnect with all of our friends from the region who we don't see nearly often enough. Thanks for stopping by and lending your

The 'grab bag' program might end at any time so help your friends and fellow club members by telling them about the over \$50 Scientific Angler or Cortland equipment which comes with any new FFF membership. And don't forget to indicate whether they want a freshwater or saltwater grab bag. This is proving to be a great way to ease someone into becoming an FFF member. Thanks for your help!

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Washington State Council

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(Number of years after name is their term of office)

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VP, Communication,
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Bob Bates (3-yrs.) (509) 328-7327
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Advertising

By Bob Bates,
VP Communication

The WSCFFF Board has decided to permit limited advertising in Covering the Drift. As planned there will be one page of business card size ads. in each issue. They might be slightly reduced to fit the format dictated by the newsletter publishing program. However, they are easily readable. At the editor's discretion they might be all on one page or used as fillers where articles do not fill a page or column.

Cost: \$100.00 for 1 year (4 issues)

Start: June, 2006 issue

Deadline: Material, camera ready, must be submitted by May 15, 2006

Send copy and a check, made out to WSCFFF, to Carl Johnson, Treasurer, PO Box 1206, Monroe, WA 98272-1206. For more information: (425) 308-6161 or flyfishalso@verizon.net



Running of the Bulls



By David Williams,
WSCFFF Director at Large

This is a bull story. Bull trout that is. Bull trout, one of three west coast chars with much confusion reigning in distinguishing between Dolly Vardens and bulls. Flyfishers are starting to recognize bulls as a wonderful gamefish and according them much deserved respect.

Bulls occupy the food chain pinnacle which allows them to bulk up. The current Oregon record is over 23 pounds. Washington Fish & Wildlife river surveys have found fish over 30 pounds.

Bulls, just like teenagers, follow the food. River fish will stay in the river year round if there is sufficient food to support the population. Otherwise, they go out to eat. Much like teenagers.

Bulls can be found hanging below salmon redds filling up on salmon eggs washed out by the current. Fish an egg pattern. As the salmon complete their spawn and their

bodies start to deteriorate, try an oh-so-appetizing flesh fly.

Typically, the bulls spend a couple years in the river, then as they begin to mature, many will run to the salt (does this sound like Hemingway) in the spring, gorging on chum fry and Preston Singletary's Hubert Humpy in size 4. They spend several months in saltwater, eating everything smaller than them, now between 17 and 19 inches long, the fall rains bring them upstream for their first spawning run. The Washington 20-inch minimum size limit gives these fish one free get out of jail card. Even though there is a two-fish limit, catch and release is encouraged.

If you have six weight rod, a floating line and a nine-foot leader tapered to 2x or 3x, then you've got a bull trout rig. Cast across or quartering downstream, retrieve in short, erratic 4- to 6-inch strips as soon as the fly sinks and fish the cast even after it is directly downstream. Look for bulls in cobbled water. Pay close attention

(Continued on page 3)

VP, Membership

Irv Conner (1-yr.) (509) 663-7054
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(Continued from page 2)

to current seams at the head and tail of pools and behind obstructions that create current breaks.

For the dry fly purists amongst our readership, I've saved the best for last. In March and April, rumor has it that bulls can be taken on blue-winged olives and Skwala stonefly adults. There, something for everyone.

Ed. Note: Bull trout as a threatened species is carefully controlled. It is legal to take them from some western Washington rivers. Where there is no mention of bull trout in the regulations, I consider the water closed for bull trout. Read the regulations carefully.



Teach a Person to Fish

This came through e-mail with the above picture
Your editor did not change wrong words, misspellings or punctuation.

Yo Buddies,

Give a person a fish and she/he has food for a day.

Teach a person to fish and she/he has to purchase several graphite rods, matching high-end reels & spools, backing, both float and sink-tip lines, ultra-clear leaders & tippets, rod holding tubes, Gore-tex waders, a wading belt, wading boots with interchangeable souls, gear bags, landing nets, float tubes, a fishing boat and trailer, a creel, tackle boxes, about 300 flies for streams, lakes, salt, and fresh water, barbless hooks and about 300 different kinds of materials for tying flies, a good vice, a magnifying light, and approximately 16 tying tools, a vest with 20 pockets filled with every fly fishing thingie and doodad ever invented including forceps, pliers, a knot-tying tool, nippers, a fly patch, a wading staff, a head lamp, magnifiers, sun screen, bug repellent, a waterproof camera, a personal flotation device, a water purifying water bottle, strike indicators, non-lead sinkers, a hook sharpener, a bug net, a thermometer, and a depth/fish finder and GPS system, a cool fishing hat, wicking underwear, socks, pants, and shirts, thermal underwear, socks, pants, and shirts, a hooded rain jacket, spin gear for when the flies aren't working, airline tickets to Alaska and other exotic destinations, guide fees, fishing licenses in at least four or five states and/or nations, and two bags full of snacks and beverages strictly prohibited by all cardiac physicians across the world.

Tight lines,

Certified Fly Casting Instructors in Washington

NAME EMAIL	CERT.*	PHONE	CITY
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STEVE RAJEFF SRAJEFF@GLOOMIS.COM	BG	360-263-6035	BATTLE GROUND
WAY YIN SPEYCASTER@BIGFOOT.COM	THCI; MA	360-714-5172	BELLINGHAM
LARRY IWAFUCHI LARRY_IWAFUCHI@HOTMAIL.COM	CI	425-402-1055	BOTHELL
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PEG VAN NATTER SLOWSNAP@ATT.NET	CI	425-485-1410	BOTHELL
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F. TOMLINSON WHITE JR NONE	CI	206-324-7956	SEATTLE
LANCE PETERSON NONE	CI	360-683-1390	SEQUIM
MIKE THORSON NONE	CI	715-762-5492	SEQUIM
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HANK ROLFS H.ROLFS@COMCAST.NET	CI	360-828-1210	VANCOUVER
BILL MANDELL BEMANDELL@WMCONNECT.COM	CI	509-967-6622	WEST RICHLAND
STEVE BUCKNER STEVE@NORTHWESTFLYFISHERMAN.COM	CI	360-864-6850	WINLOCK

2006 Northwest Fly Casting Exposition

This is the first page of several NWFCE web pages at <http://www.washingtoncouncilfff.org/NWFCE.htm>



Washington State Council Federation of Flyfishers presents the 6th annual Northwest Fly Casting Exposition (NWFCE)

When?: Saturday, September 23, 2006

Where?: Tolt MacDonal Park, Carnation, Washington

Who? Everyone is invited! If you have ever had an interest in fly fishing this event is a great way to get introduced to the sport. Whether you want to just hang out

and watch, participate in the casting games, take classes or enter the competition, there is something for everyone. Watching the Northwest's best fly casters compete might get you hooked on this great sport!

We will be updating these page frequently so check back for new information.

Updated 2/14/06

Many great fly casting instructors have agreed to participate in the classes.

**Classes --- Beginner, Intermediate/Advanced, Spey and Youth [Click Here](#)
Games**

Danish Casting Games Rules [Click Here](#)

Competition Distance and Accuracy [Click Here](#)

Fly Tying Demonstrations

2004 and 2005 casting results still available [Click Here](#)

Return to WSCFFF main page [Click Here](#)

These "[Click Here](#)" items don't link to anything, but the ones on the website do so check us out.

Spey Days 2006



Two-Day FREE Seminar
 March 18-19, 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Casting Demonstrations by:

Simon Gawesworth Steve Choate Ed Ward Dana Sturn Scott O'Donnell
 Mike McCune Nobou Nodera Al Buhr George Cook

Several manufactures will set up dozens of rods and reels for test casting!

Lunch will be provided. Barbecue courtesy of Sage, George Cook, and Rio.

Chili courtesy of Mike Peruse of G. Loomis. Starbucks Coffee provided by Kaufmanns'.

Location: High Bridge/Big Eddy Park on the Skykomish,
 eight miles east of Sultan on Highway 2

Parking: \$5.00 per vehicle without Washington Fishing License (free with license)

For information, Call Kaufmanns' Streamborn

Bellevue Seattle Portland
 (425) 643-2246 (206) 448-0601 (800) 442-4359

Leslea Steffel-Dennis New Board Member

Leslea Steffel-Dennis from Winthrop, WA, was appointed to the Washington State Council Board at its Fall meeting. She commented:

“As a woman board member, I am pleased to join this enthusiastic group, and look forward to some

exciting planning for the future. I really encourage other women to apply to the board for membership.”

For more information contact me 509-996-2784, e-mail flyrod ranch@methow.net or contact President Bob Shirley 253-581-1271,

email: b.shirley@juno.com.

Ed. Note: Nominations for WSCFFF officers and board members will be presented at the April board meeting. If you are interested in a board position tell us.

Federation of Fly Fishers Membership Application

Full Name _____
Address _____
City / State / Zip _____
Phone home / work _____
Club Affiliation _____
Birth Date _____

Referred by: _____

Apply online at www.fedflyfishers.org

Please mail or call us at

Federation of Fly Fishers
 215 E Lewis 406 222-9369
 Livingston, MT 59047 406 222-9369 fax

Please check membership category

- Canadian memberships add \$5 per year All other countries add \$10 per year*
- Individual Membership (\$35)
 - 3-year individual (\$85)
 - Senior Membership (\$25)
for those age 65 and over
 - Family Membership (\$45)
spouses and children under 14
 - 3-Year Family Member (\$100)
 - Youth Membership (\$15)
for individual members under 14
 - Disabled Veterans are Free
(Proof of 50% disability required)
 - Individual Life (\$500)
payment plans available
 - Couple Life (\$750) pymt. plans available
 - Retail Membership (\$75)
small fishing equipment stores
 - Sustaining Membership (\$200)
commercial / manufacturing businesses

Check Enclosed (checks payable to F.F.F.) US Funds
 Credit Card Visa MasterCard Discover
 Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Ringer Road Project

After a lot of hard work the Northwest Women Flyfishers received enough money for the Ringer Road Project on the Yakima River. As they said in their December 2005 Newsletter they "... received tremendous support from the fly fishing community."

They ordered the permanent toilet, and have started working on the permits. There should be no problems. Reportedly, all officials in the permit chain are in favor of putting in the toilet. They have hopes for an early spring dedication.

Congratulations on a job well done.

Pictures From The Fly Fishing Show



Bob Bates talking to a young boy about raffle prizes and the FFF.



Gloria Reid and Michelle Tuengle at the Northwest Women Flyfishers table.



Carl Johnson and Bob Bates talking about the FFF to visitors at the WSCFFF booth.



Gary Grant, Chairman FFF Board of Directors, with a few raffle tickets.



**Federation of Fly Fishers™
Washington State Council**

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