

2007 Annual Report

W A S H I N G T O N C O U N C I L T R O U T U N L I M I T E D

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Conservation Academy
- Council financial summary
- Chapter highlights



Council President Mark

A MESSAGE FROM OUR COUNCIL PRESIDENT

2007 was a year filled with an overwhelming amount of activity. With our membership down 33% over the last 2 years to 4620, we are faced with the daunting task of trying to conserve, protect and restore 9 species in dozens of populations in thousands of watersheds. Our chapters and council are currently involved in restoration work on the Little Klickitat, the Yakima, the Spokane, the Skykomish, the Wenatchee, the Chehalis, the Wynoochee, the Satsop, Salmon Creek, Miller Creek, Barr Creek, Lewis Creek, and the list goes on! We are also involved with projects like the Elwha River Dam removal, stopping the Pit to Pier Project on Hood Canal, over development around Swift Reservoir, fighting potential mining on Goat Mtn. near Mt. St. Helens, restoring wild fish to the Cowlitz, trying to inject thought and reason to shellfish aquaculture "gold rush style" expansion in Puget Sound, getting fish passage over Howard Hanson Dam on the Green, saving Lake

Sammamish kokanee, FERC relicensing throughout the state, fighting the Columbia Basin Storage Plan, keeping a white water park off of red band spawning beds in Spokane, Snake River Dam removal, pushing the CoE to make the Ballard locks fish friendly and trying to get more habitat consideration in the US/Canada Salmon Treaty.

This impressive list of projects only scratches the surface of what is going on out there. It also shows how out manned we are. There are questions of the relevance of TU in Washington. Do we really make a difference in the vast landscape of salmon/steelhead recovery? We have certainly lost a lot of ground over the last decade with in fighting, splinter groups and the big blow of the suspension, but I am also seeing forward progress. We have reinvigorated chapters in Spokane, Ellensburg, and Issaquah working with local jurisdictions for fish friendly results. We have young people attending our Conservation Camp and moving on to take ownership of their rivers and streams. We are being heard by officials on a number of issues. We do what we can and we keeping pushing forward.

The key to doing more and being more relevant is engaging our membership. For all of our work to continue we need our members to step up and take an active role in protecting their favorite fishing spot, local water shed, and/or wild place. We don't do this work for ourselves, but for the generations that come after. Please contact us and get involved.

We have accomplished a lot. We do good work. We need to keep going, because as Gov. Dan Evans told us, the work is always satisfying, but the job never ending. We can only succeed if we all work together. Thanks for your support. Mark

A MESSAGE FROM OUR COUNCIL VP CONSERVATION



VP Tammy and her constant companion Keta

The WCTU invested a big effort in developing a quality conservation agenda. It is realized we won't be able to get to every item on the agenda every year, but it is a good plan for where we will focus our attentions when the opportunities arise. It has been my pleasure to serve the council and I look forward to returning to a more active role when my schedule allows.

Tammy Mackey
2006-2007 VP Conservation

CONSERVATION ACADEMY BY DICK NYE

While some of the best stewards of our aquatic resources are anglers, the last decade has seen a decrease in the number of people, primarily youth, becoming involved in the sport of fishing. Fewer people fishing might well imply a smaller number of advocates and less political influence when it comes to environmental and conservation concerns.

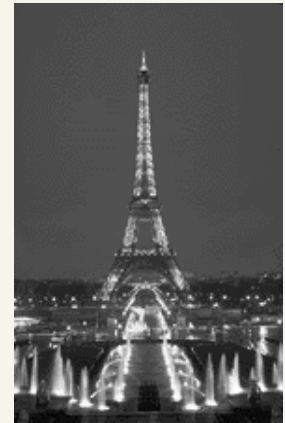
Recognizing the critical need



for a new generation of educated, concerned, and dedicated stewards of our natural resources, delegates to the July 2000 Trout Unlimited National Convention adopted an initiative to promote youth natural resource stewardship education nationwide. In response to the initiative the Washington Council Trout Unlimited established the Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy.

The sport of fly fishing is an ideal vehicle for educating youth about stewardship and to ascertain a more positive future for our coldwater resources. It is an activity that can immerse one in nature and bring about a passion for the care and respect of all our natural resources.

Upon completion of the Academy, students will have gained an understanding, appreciation, and awareness of Washington's coldwater resources and habitat of trout and salmonids. In addition, they will have developed essential fly fishing skills, knowledge of outdoor ethics, and an awareness of sport fishing opportunities in Washington State. The Academy experience will truly prepare its participants to become the next generation of resource stewards and future leaders in conservation.



**Camp Director and Founder
Dick Nye**

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES FOR 2007

NORTH KITSAP

"Kids and change" summarize 2007 for our TU Chapter. The prior year we learned that our resources for acquiring salmon fry, both Chinook and Coho, were in short supply due to hatchery problems and we would not be able to stock our Dove and Webster Ponds to ultimately release these salmon into Dogfish Creek near Poulsbo, WA. The Chapter decided to stock Webster's Pond with Rainbow Trout provided by the WDFW instead. 150-200 Rainbow trout were placed in the pond and fed daily by TU members while we arranged a number of "FishIn" experiences for youth and scouts in the community. Rods were provided thanks to the Poggie Club of Bremerton and many of the boys and girls caught their first fish. We talked to the youth about catching only those fish you

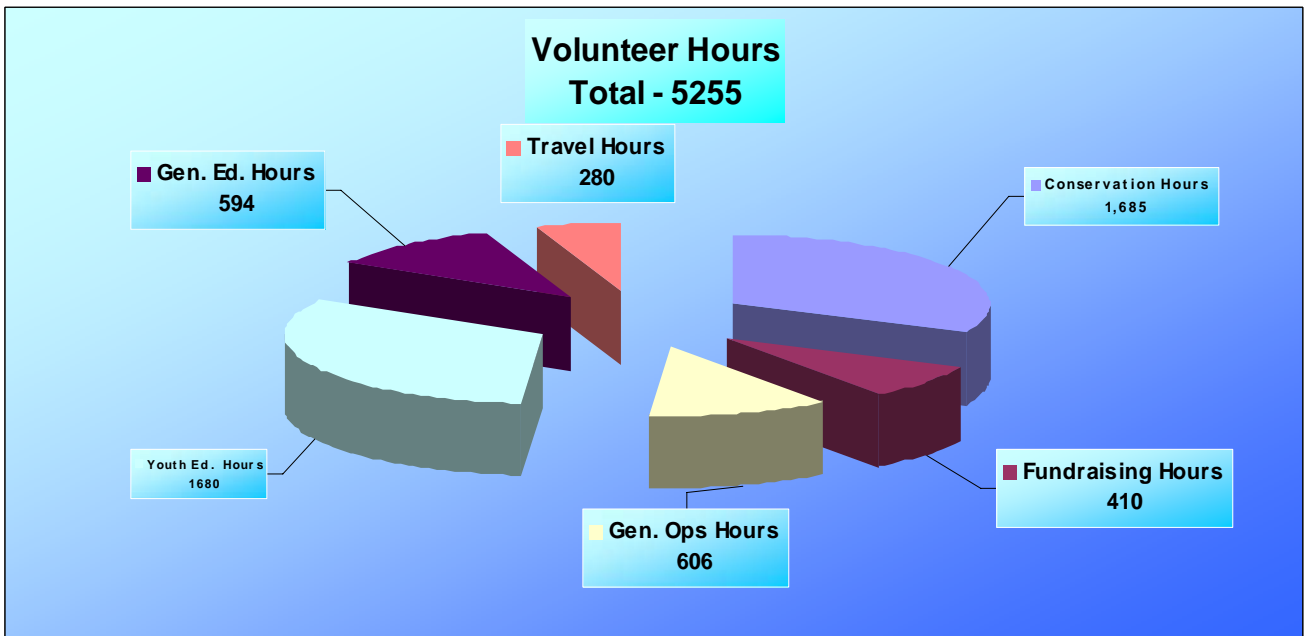
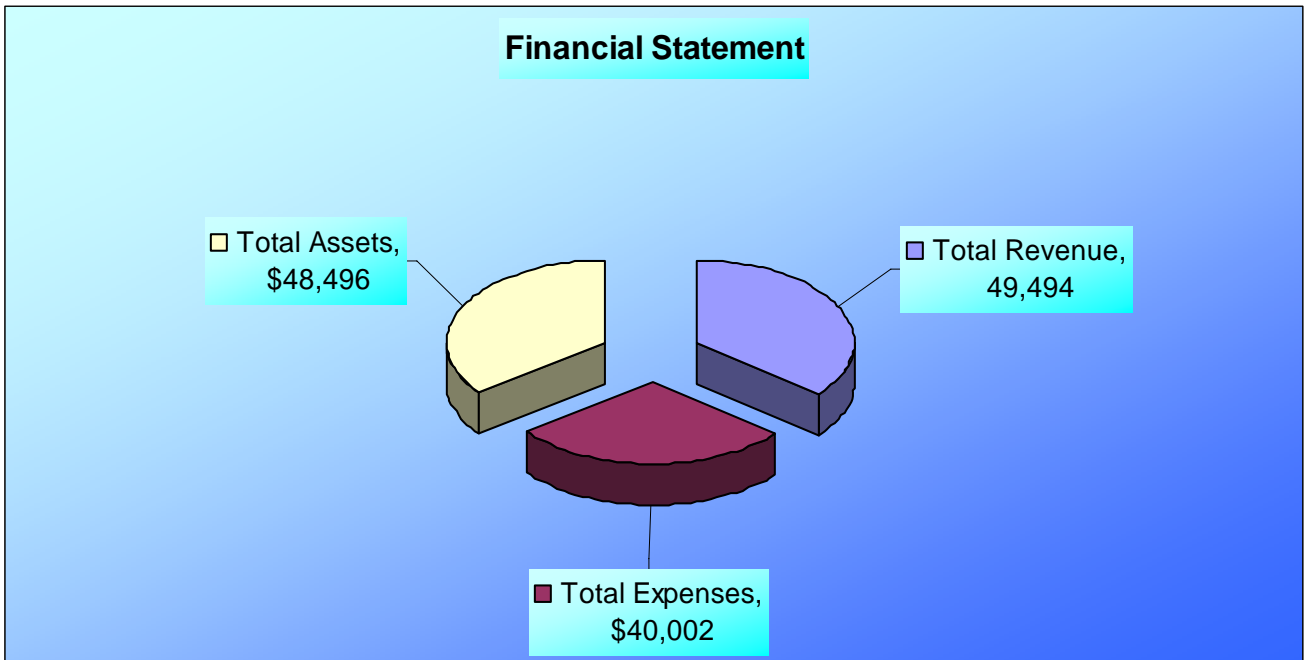
want to eat and the importance of taking care of streams and habitat. In late Fall, the Chapter decided to return to its primary objective which is to raise and release salmon into Dogfish Creek. We arranged with the FlyFishers Club of Port Ludlow to net the remaining trout and transport them to Teal Lake which is becoming a "fly fishing only" resource for West Sound. We were happy to provide some sizeable trout that will serve as brood stock for this developing fishery.

The year of "change" addresses our organizational life as a Chapter. For many years we met at the Indianola Club House for monthly meetings. Wanting to widen the circle of meeting participants, we moved to the Poulsbo Library community room. This move expanded the number of

attendees. We visited fishing clubs and groups around the area to determine their approaches to developing participation and observed that their activities were primarily for fun and sport. Trout Unlimited's objectives are more directed to habitat and stream maintenance and stewardship. Our Chapter decided that beginning in 2008 we would suspend monthly evening meetings and focus our gatherings on four areas: our monthly noon planning and conversation meeting at Central Market; developing an electronic newsletter; special programs that interest members and inform us about all aspects of habitat maintenance of our fish resource; and scheduling sport fishing outings for members, family and friends to have fun together.

Bob Winkel, President

2007 FINANCIAL INFORMATION



CHAPTER ACTIVITIES FOR 2007

The Des Moines Chapter has continued its "Salmon in the Classroom" projects with three schools this year, including field trips with the 6th grade classes where Salmon life-cycle & the environment are highlighted. The Classroom projects and Stream Restoration Projects are supported by the small Chapter run Stream restoration Hatchery, the only one known to be located in a Sewer District! Stream restoration, including design & installation of in-stream structures, invasive plant removal, native plantings, bug studies & salmon counts continue. The Chapter works with several Communities, their officials, Fisheries, & Eagle Scouts in addition to writing environmental articles for newsletters.

Rainshadow Chapter has been relatively quiet for the past year, primarily due to Doug Soehl's Navy Reserve duty in Afghanistan. Jim is attempting to get the Port Angeles area TU members incorporated into Rainshadow. We held our 4th annual Olympic Peninsula Fly Fishing Expo in early 2007 at the Jefferson Co. Fairgrounds, and sponsored a youth for the Youth FF and Conservation Academy. Our Kids Fishing Day was cancelled due to toxic algae in Lake Leland, and a county closure. Dave Bailey VP/secretary

Tacoma Chapter. We participated in the January Sportsman's Show. Picked up eggs for Anderson Island, Salmon in the Classroom. In February we held our Chapter Banquet. In March we released Anderson Island Salmon in the Classroom fish. In April we participated in the Sportco Kid's Fishing event. In May we did the American Lake Park Fishin' Kids event, the GOPAW Expo in Longview. In June we held Olympia Chapter Sturgeon Trip, Ilwaco. Casting for Recovery (Women in the Wild) fly fishing training was held in July at

the Adventure Center in Fort Lewis. We held another Sportco Kid's Fishing event, the Chapter Picnic, the Chapter Salmon Fishing Trip, and the Wild Turkey Federation Jake's Day in August. September was the time for our Puyallup Fair, selling WCTU raffle tickets. Chapter Election of Officers, the CEI and Financial and Activity reports were submitted in October. We ended the year with our Chapter Christmas Party. Ray Evans

Sky Valley Chapter We raised/spent \$6,000 for trout for our annual Kid's Fishing Day in April when we hosted over 1,000 children under the age of 12 to a free day of trout fishing at Lake Tyee in Monroe. We raised enough money to do it again in 2008. We raised 55,000 juvenile coho from egg to smolt, including fin-clipping. These fish were then released into the Skykomish River to help supplement selective coho fisheries which target hatchery fish while allowing wild fish to be released.

We sponsored a youth to the T.U. Fly Fishing Academy and sold \$2,400 of WCTU raffle tickets. Gary Bee President

Iceicle Chapter. We are currently in the process of converting our kids fishing pond located near Leavenworth into a combination kids fishing pond and acclimation pond for steelhead. We are also continuing our Salmon in the Classroom project with fourth graders at the Osborn Elementary. This has been a great year with increased membership and positive feedback from the local media. We look forward in the next year to growth and involvement with multiple agencies to improve conservation efforts and return fish to a friendly environment. Robert Stroup

Bellevue/Issaquah Chapter

The past year has been very eventful. We have completed our first kokanee project and helped our first scout reach his goal of Eagle Scout! Members have participated in fry trapping on Lewis creek, attended a number of kokanee recovery meetings, helped numerous kids experience fishing at 3 local events, helped raise funds and recruit new members at fairs and fishing shows, and even caught a few fish along the way. 3 young members of our chapter participated in the WCTU Youth Conservation Camp and Fly Fishing Academy. We filed a petition with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to protect our Lake Sammamish kokanee under the Endangered Species Act with the Snoqualmie Tribe, King County, Save Lake Sammamish, the Wild Fish Conservancy, and the City of Issaquah. We hope with this partnership and others that we can recover our little redfish.

I will be stepping down as President of the chapter to focus on the kokanee and my other job as state council president. New officers have been elected so we can continue to build on our accomplishments. New Chapter President Mark Getzender along with VP David Probart, Secretary Charlie Mallory, and Treasurer Shirley Vander Veen will be leading us towards more projects and a smoother running chapter. There are plans to do stream surveys of spawners, more fry counting in the spring, habitat restoration on Lewis, Ebright, and Laughing Jacobs Creeks with the Boy Scouts and others. Rogue Brewery and the Issaquah Brew House has agreed to support us with our own beer label (and a naming contest!), a night for the kokanee as well as providing us with a place to meet! We will be staff-

ing a booth with our Save Lake Sammamish partners at Salmon Days.

The work is rewarding, the fun is ongoing and the friendships are lifelong! For the fish!
Mark Taylor President

Ballard Chapter. Participated in the Greenlake CAST Fishing Kids Event. We hosted up to 500 children, ages 5-14 years old, for annual Green Lake Fishing Kids event. Children received a brand new Zebco 33 rod and reel and Fishing Kids t-shirt. They went through an educational session put on by the WDFW and the Seattle Police Harbor Patrol Unit about boating and water safety. They then fished in a net off area stocked with 2,500 trout. TU members prepared the 600 rods n reels for the kids to use, kept them in repair, helped kids with casting & landing fish, cleaning catch & answering questions. We also promoted WCTU projects & sold Council raffle tickets & helped with the clean up & removal of containment net & trash. Dennis Thireault

Clark County chapter. We were very busy this year. We volunteered with the CPU StreamTeam, WSU Watershed Stewards, the USFS Kids Fishing event at Merwin Dam, and with the Fish First Dean creek annual snorkel surveys. We were fortunate enough to receive an Embrace a Stream grant to work with Fish First and Friends of the East Fork on a restoration project in the East Fork Lewis River watershed. We contributed to the Fly-fishing and Conservation Academy by sponsoring a youth, providing a girls camp counselor and providing the supplies for the Friday BBQ. Tammy Mackey

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
EXAMPLE.MICROSOFT.COM

WASHINGTON
COUNCIL TROUT
UNLIMITED

The mission of Trout Unlimited (TU) is to protect, restore, and conserve coldwater resources and the watersheds on which they depend.

OUR SPONSORS, CONTRIBUTORS AND
SUPPORTERS

WCTU 2007 CONSERVATION AGENDA

Pacific Salmon Recovery: Engage actively in protection and restoration efforts of the State's wild salmon resources by addressing factors affecting their ability to survive and thrive, Harvest, Hatcheries, Hydro and Habitat issues (including natural river and marine productivity cycles) identified as the most significant areas where recovery efforts can have the greatest impact.

Planning:

Support the goals and objectives of the Governor's Salmon Recovery Office as well as continued funding for all recovery efforts through participation in the development of statewide recovery plans and strategies.

Implementation:

Participate in regional and watershed development and evaluation of salmon recovery projects and advocate for continued funding for these efforts at all levels of government.

Harvest:

Advocate for conservation oriented harvest management by participating in decision making processes.

Urge incorporation of sound scientific practices designed to minimize impact upon wild fish survival.

Advocate for sound implementation of the U.S Canada Agreement and Magnusen-Stevens Act.

Advocate for and continue to support selective harvest.

Advocate for protection of parr, smolts and resident forms of all salmonids from mortality caused by harvest fisheries and by non-selective gear.

Advocate for escapement goals before harvest and stress the importance of recovery, not status quo.

Hatcheries:

Support state efforts to minimize the negative effects of production hatcheries on wild fish survival.

Combine Hatchery Reform with Genetic Management.

Participate in the Hatchery Reform Coalition and support hatchery reform measures based upon the Hatchery Scientific Review Group recommendations.

Advocate for comprehensive studies of hatcheries using wild brood stocks and the monitoring of all integrated/supplementation and brood stocking programs.

Advocate for a robust system of monitoring and evaluation (M&E) for all hatcheries performance and for adaptive management.

Advocate for wild fish only management zones (significant river basins having no hatchery releases of any salmonids) (1) to study the natural productivity, abundance, life history, genetic diversity, and aerial distribution of all wild salmonids in natural systems, (2), to preserve the gene pools of wild fish, and (3) to understand how to restore natural levels (and what natural levels are) of marine derived and river basin cycling nutrient levels.

Support adoption of genetic management and reform practices designed to minimize impact of hatchery fish on wild fish survival.

Stocking Policy:

Support funding at state and federal levels for scientific research and monitoring of hatchery produced salmonids and their potential impacts on wild fish.

Advocate for the reduction or elimination of hatchery production in river systems that are depleted (depressed or critical) and/or in which hatchery production is making adverse impacts on wild stock escapement goals, basing these decisions on the best available science after a sound biological assessment.

Support the continued marking of all hatchery-produced salmonids.

Advocate for the removal or management of non-native species wherever they impact native salmonid species from PNW waters.

Hydro:

Support efforts to correct the adverse impacts of hydro and storage projects on native fish and encourage measures to enhance native fisheries.

Hydro Reform:

Participate in re-licensing negotiations to achieve organizational conservation goals and objectives.

Seek opportunities to mitigate for identified adverse impact and incorporate operational regimes that serve to enhance wild fish survival and passage.

Obsolete Dams:

Advocate for removal or remediation of obsolete dams that impede fish passage or otherwise adversely affect wild fish survival, including, but not limited to, the four lower Snake River dams, Condit Dam, and the Elwha dams.

Advocate for fish passage and fish friendly designs in any new dam construction or re-licensing process.

Habitat:

Encourage chapters to participate in programs and engage in activities that preserve existing essential fish habitat, enhance habitat that is degraded, expand the habitat available for healthy fish populations, and protect water quality for all beneficial uses based on best-available science. Support enforcement of the provisions of the Shoreline Management Act and Critical Areas Ordinances wherever they have an impact on habitat and oppose attempts to reduce current standards for habitat protection.

Protect and support flow regimes that will contribute to healthy populations of trout and wild salmon.

Advocate for revision of the standards of the Growth Management Act to protect critical watersheds and aquifers.

Pollution Abatement:

Advocate for and support federal, state and local water quality, non-point pollution, and TMDL programs (Total Maxim Daily Loads).
Encourage efforts to implement and fund plan recommendations.

Habitat Protection and Enhancement:

Engage in activities that serve to protect, preserve, and restore suitable habitat for wild fish.
Encourage chapters to participate in TU programs such as the Embrace-a Stream and Home Rivers initiatives, and the state TU project funding program initiative.
Encourage chapters to seek grants and donations to support habitat protection, preservation, and enhancement projects within their watersheds.
Continue support and involvement with Regional Fisheries Enhancement Groups and other watershed restoration programs.
Support efforts to preserve, expand, and enhance the functionality of nearshore habitat that supports critical salmonid life history stages.
Advocate for and support the ESA, Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, and other federal, state, and local laws that help to protect, preserve, and restore fisheries.
Advocate for removal or remediation of barriers to fish passage presented by inadequate or perched culverts, obsolete water management structures and diversions that hinder access to spawning and rearing habitat.

Wild Salmonid Restoration:

Protect, restore, and enhance the state's wild salmonid resources throughout their range.
Support TU initiatives to protect and restore salmonids and their coldwater habitat on federal state, county, and public trust lands.
Support and participate in management measures aimed at control of invasive and nuisance species.
Support federal, state, local, and public trust lands and Trout Unlimited efforts in preserving wild western trout. Devote particular efforts to bull trout/dolly varden, redband, rainbow, sea run and west slope cutthroat trout, and wild steelhead.
Support efforts to increase salmonid conservation funding.

Wild Steelhead Conservation:

Support efforts to recover and protect wild steelhead throughout the state.
Continue to advocate for wild steelhead release in all areas.
Participate in efforts to develop recovery and protection plans.
Support innovative co-manager efforts to develop specific watershed restoration and preservation programs.
Review and comment on the WDFW Steelhead Science paper (Oncorhynchus mykiss, Assessment of Washington Populations and Programs) and new Steelhead Management Plan.
Continue to participate in the Steelhead Summit Alliance and the implementation of a conservation based Wild Steelhead Management Program.

Conservation Education:

Maintain an education and outreach program for members and the public to highlight significant initiatives and conditions that affect the health and survival of cold water fisheries and their habitat.
Maintain a conservation education section on the webpage with a library of links to appropriate conservation, recovery, and fisheries reference materials.
Assist chapters in selecting venues for conservation presentations to the public where support could be elicited for TU conservation efforts.
Encourage member and chapter participation in TU workshops related to water usage, conservation, stream flow remediation and restoration.
Continue to keep abreast of research regarding global warming and ocean conditions.
Support educational projects such as student research/activities.

Aquaculture:

Advocate for a science based inter-agency management system that establishes and enforces the best management practices to avoid impact on native resources.

Enforcement:

Advocate for adequate funding and improved enforcement on all wild salmonid waters.
Become engaged in "Eyes In the Woods/Stream Watch" programs to assist WDFW and Federal enforcement efforts.