



**Washington Council of Trout Unlimited
Annual Council Meeting
Hosted by Edmonds Salmon Chapter January 30, 2016**

Attendees

Officers

Rosendo Guerrero **Tacoma** (Chair), Chris Taylor **Kitsap/Olympic Peninsula** (Vice-Chair), Dave Moazed **Icicle Valley** (Secretary), Tim Gavin **Yakima** (National Leadership Council representative), Mark Taylor **Bellevue/Issaquah** (TU Board of Trustees member) Heather Hodson, WI Chair

Bellevue/Issaquah: Bill Gerdtts (Council Webmaster), Brad Throssell, Shirley Vanderveen

Duwamish/Green: Larry Burnstad (Conservation Committee Chair)

Edmonds Salmon: Dick Lunt, Greg Beach, Ray Crawford

Icicle Valley: Mike Wyant

Kitsap/Olympic Peninsula: Stephen Burns, Julie Kelner, Jeff Wasterlund

Olympia: Paul Sparks, Pat Prichard, Bob Leingang

Sky Valley: Jim Howard, Gary Bee, Max Jones

Spokane Valley: Bill Abrahamse

Trout Unlimited Staff: Justin Bezold, Lisa Baranek, Kyle Smith, Nick Chambers

Guests:

Spokane Women on the Fly: Julie Cyr

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife: Brendan Brokes Region 4 Habitat Manager

08:30 Welcome & Introductions of Officers & Staff

09:00. Council Business

- Approval of Minutes from Bainbridge meeting - approved
- Financial Report – Year to date, income is \$67,897, expenses are \$61,694, leaving \$6, 203 for the remainder of the fiscal year. The complete financial report is attached to the minutes.
- Conservation chair – Larry Burnstad
"Larry Burnstad was introduced to the Council and TU Staff as the newly appointed Conservation Committee Chairperson by Rosendo. Larry provided the group with brief synopsis of his professional career as a fisheries and wetland habitat biologist as well as a member of TU for nearly 50 years. Larry thanked Rosendo and Chris Taylor for the appointment and briefly discussed his goals and objectives for the committee. He mentioned his plan to meet with every chapter in the State and encourage a member of each chapter to serve on the Conservation Committee. Larry discussed his visit to the Icicle Valley Chapter in January 13th to attend a meeting regarding the Boulder Field project in Icicle Creek. He also discussed his attendance at a Senate Natural Resources and Parks Committee Hearing in Olympia to hear testimony for and against SB 6287, a bill that would drastically change the meaning of the term "hydraulic project" as in appears in the RCW and WAC."
- NLC report – Mark Taylor reported that CFO Hillary Coley has left TU, a replacement to be named. Mark encouraged us to take advantage of TU's training opportunities.
- Grant Committee – Tim Gavin reported that the committee has been using the revised WCTU grant policy to evaluate the applications received to date, with total requests for \$2625. The Grant committee membership is now Pat Prichard, Max Jones, Andy Batcho and Tim Gavin, with Tim as chair
- Fundraising Committee – Mark Taylor and Bill Abrahamse volunteered as members, but no chair was named.
- PNW Coordinator – Lisa Baranek, our new WA/OR TU coordinator, introduced herself. Lisa has a natural resource



management degree, a non-profit and public administration certificate and 10 years of experience coordinating volunteers to protect cold-water fisheries. **Welcome Lisa!**

09:45 Strategic Planning for 2016 – Rosendo Guerrero led a review of the Council strategic plan draft. We made a couple of changes to the draft plan, and Rosendo will be distributing the approved plan in the near future.

10:15. TU Staff – Crystal discussed several TU Staff initiatives, most important to our Council is that TU has secured \$200k to fund the hiring of a Project manager to lead the Lake Sammamish Kokanee restoration effort. In addition, she highlighted the other key initiatives:

- Olympic Peninsula Steelhead restoration
- Abandoned mine restoration
- National Forest restoration
- Suction Dredge Mining bills before the Washington State Senate and House
- Proposed Washington State Senate changes to the Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) jurisdiction held by WDFW.
- The recently passed Washington State Invasive Species legislation

10:30 Women's Initiative – Heather Hodson and Julie Cyr from Spokane spoke on their efforts to attract female members, especially fisherwomen, to TU. **A motion was approved by the Council to provide \$3,000 to fund Women's Initiative events in the state.**

11:00 Brendan Brokes WDFW Region 4 Habitat Manager – Brendan made a lively and interesting presentation focusing on the Department's Hydraulic Project Approval program and recent changes to it. His presentation is included with these minutes.

12:30 TU Staff Presentations and Discussion – Justin Bezold and Kyle Smith reviewed the TU staff initiatives in the state that were not covered by Crystal earlier in the morning. Justin spoke at length about the Yakima Basin project that the Washington Water Project staff have been working on for several years. Kyle noted the upcoming TU Western Regional meeting, to be held the second weekend of April in Eugene, OR. **The Council approved a motion to pay the Western Regional registration costs for one representative for each chapter.** We also received clarification on the Council and Chapter insurance policies Council has purchased the insurance again for this year for all chapters less Edmonds and BI.

12:30 Wild Steelhead Initiative – Chris Taylor and Nick Chambers provided an update on this important effort. They highlighted:

- Angler Science initiatives each chapter should consider. In both the OP and Skagit watershed, Chapter volunteers are conducting redd surveys.
- The Wild Steelhead Gene Bank program
- Olympic Peninsula initiatives such as the new OP guide regulations.

2:00 Presidents Forum:

- Bill Abrahamse provided a comprehensive update on the new chapter that spans the Washington and Idaho borders, the Clearwater/Snake chapter. This first of its kind chapter will require significant changes to chapter and council bylaws and has the full support of the National Leadership Council. Initially the chapter will be considered an Idaho chapter. **The Council approved a motion to support the new Clearwater/Snake chapter and provide \$125 in startup funds.** In addition, the Council asked our chapters to consider supporting the new chapter as well.
- Each of the chapter provided updates on their upcoming events.
- Finally, the Council scheduled our next meeting for Leavenworth on June 10&11, and agreed that the September meeting would be held in Yakima.

Submitted by Dave Moazed, Council secretary