



Washington Council of Trout Unlimited

P.O. Box 2652 Issaquah, WA 98027



2009 WCTU State Officers TO: WCTU OFFICERS, STAFF, COMMITTEE CHAIRS, COORDINATORS, AND CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

Comment [GWR1]:

Mark Taylor
President / CEO

Paul Sparks
Conservation V.P.

Shirley Vanderveen
Operations V.P.

George Lang
Membership V.P.

Dennis Thireault
Secretary

Bill Abrahamse
Treasurer

Terry Turner
Past President

Robert Stroup
NLC Representative

Minutes of the Washington Council of Trout Unlimited Meeting State Council meeting, held Saturday, May 16, 2009 at the Quality Inn Leavenworth in Leavenworth. Meeting was hosted by the Icicle Valley Chapter.

Chapter and Membership Attendance:

Table with 2 columns: Name, Chapter. Lists names and their respective chapters such as Terry Turner (Olympia), John Muramatsu (Duwamish-Green), etc.

Mark Taylor (WCTU President) called the meeting to order at 9:15 AM.

Welcome and Announcements:

Mark Taylor, President distributed the day's agenda.

Minutes were seconded and approved unanimously.

There were several quick chapter announcements

- Icicle Valley announced their summer calendar of events.
- Steve Beck of Edmonds chapter announced the Kid's Fishing event.
- Terry Turner of Olympia chapter announced the Duck Dodge and sold tickets.
- Mark Taylor pointed out the TU merchandise that was for sale at the meeting

A hearty thank-you to the Icicle Valley Chapter for another outstanding BBQ on Friday Night at the Robert Stroup residence.

Friday May 15, 2009 7:00PM-9:30 Bar B Q and presidents meeting

State Council Meeting-All Members Welcome

Saturday May 16, 2009 9:00-4:30

Host: Icicle Valley

Quality Inn Leavenworth

1-800-693-1225 OR 509-548-7992

WCTU Meeting Schedule FY 2009

State Council Meeting-All Members Welcome

Friday May 15, 2009 7:00PM-9:30 Bar B Q and presidents meeting

Saturday May 16, 2009 9:00-4:30

Host: Icicle Valley

Quality Inn Leavenworth

1-800-693-1225 OR 509-548-7992

Thursday May 21st 7-8 PM

WCTU Officers Monthly Conference Call

1-866-740-1260 Access Code 2002840#

-All Members Welcome

Thursday May 28st 7-8 PM

WCTU Chapter Presidents Monthly Conference Call

1-866-740-1260 Access Code 2002840#

-All Members Welcome

Thursday June 11th 7-8 PM

WCTU Conservation Committee Monthly Conference Call

1-866-740-1260 Access Code 2002840#

-All Members Welcome

Thursday June 18th 7-8 PM

WCTU Officers Monthly Conference Call

1-866-740-1260 Access Code 2002840#

-All Members Welcome

Thursday June 25th 7-8 PM

WCTU Chapter Presidents Monthly Conference Call

1-866-740-1260 Access Code 2002840#

-All Members Welcome

Thursday July 9th 7-8 PM

WCTU Conservation Committee Monthly Conference Call

1-866-740-1260 Access Code 2002840#

-All Members Welcome

Saturday July 18th

Executive Board Meeting

Host: Edmonds Chapter-All Members Welcome

Deer Creek Hatchery

Thursday July 23rd 7-8 PM

WCTU Chapter Presidents Monthly Conference Call

1-866-740-1260 Access Code 2002840#

-All Members Welcome

Friday September 18th, 2009

7:00PM-9:30 Dinner and presidents meeting

State Council Meeting-All Members Welcome

Saturday September, 2009 9:00-4:30 Elections for 2010!

Host: Spokane Falls

Saturday November 21st, 2009

Executive Board Meeting

Host: TBA-All Members Welcome

President's Report:

It's springtime here in Washington, a time of rebirth, renewal and moving forward. I am proud to say that the Washington Council of Trout Unlimited is doing just that this year. We have many chapters doing amazing things across the state. In Spokane important work is being done to save the red band and the Spokane river, here in Leavenworth the new steelhead acclimation pond, steelheading in the Wenatchee, and the successful passage of funding legislation to keep

fishermen fishing the Upper Columbia, the Miller-Walker Creek project in Des Moines has gained national attention, as has the work being done in Issaquah to save the Lake Sammamish kokanee. These are just a few of the things being doing, but it is important to note that they are being done across the state. TU is definitely “on the rise” in Washington.

As you all know, I will be stepping down as president in September. In order to make sure our momentum keeps moving in the right direction we will need a new president that is passionate, is full of positive energy, and won't be haunted by our ghosts of the past. There are very few in our council that have these qualities along with the knowledge of our fisheries and the ability to communicate and inspire our members. I will be speaking to the candidates that have been identified and ask them to step up. The time to decide is now, not at the last minute and not “I'll do it if no one else will”. It is important to start training and mentoring that person now so he/she can hit the ground running come October 1st. This being made more urgent by the fact that I am likely to relocate to Miami in July. I need all of you to look inside yourselves and around you. Is it you or your neighbor? Who can keep leading us forward? We need the answer soon.

The council had a very big legislative session this year. Led by our lobbyist Ric Abbett and supported by Senator Parlett, Rollie, Bob, Paul and many others, we were able to secure funding for selective fisheries all along the Columbia and throughout the state. This funding will keep 75 WDFW employees on the job successfully managing our fisheries. We also were able to walk our own path and work with legislators on fixing the so called “Commission Bill” to be a palatable piece of legislation. The bill was eventually killed, but the stage is set for next year's big battle. We have to decide how we want to approach this and other issues. We can be proactive and start letting the powers that be see our vision and concerns for the future, or we can be taken by surprise and be scrambling for answers while taking hits. In order to be proactive we will need to employ a lobbyist at some level year round. Whether it's Ric or someone else it will cost money and that money will have to come from our members and the chapters. We can also stay completely out of politics and just work projects and go fishing...until they have pissed that away while we weren't looking.

We are also in the sometimes painful process of consolidating and dechartering chapters. As we currently stand, Icicle Valley will be taking in the Upper Columbia Chapter, Olympia will be taking in Grays Harbor, Mason County, Mt. St. Helens, Pacific County and South Cascades, Edmonds will be taking in Mukilteo and ½ of Ballard, Northshore will be taking the other ½ of Ballard, Tacoma gets Gig Harbor and North Kitsap will be taking in Bainbridge and Bremerton. All of the combined chapters will be dechartered except the parent chapter. The following chapters will be dechartered and placed in a Washington “At Large” chapter-Columbia Basin, Stillaguamish, and Anacortes. Members of 2 chapters, Yakima and Free Columbia, have shown recent interest in restarting their chapter. We will do everything we can to support these efforts and will work towards strong healthy chapters in those areas. Tim Gauvin from Yakima is here to observe and be welcomed into the council. I will enter Tim as chapter president now so he can access his chapters' data base and see what he is working with. George is going down to Yakima to meet with the newly active members and talk with them about getting things started.

When we are done the council will look like this:

076 SPOKANE FALLS
094 YAKIMA
101 EDMONDS LAEBUGTON SALMON
109 BELLEVUE ISSAQAQUAH
115 DUWAMISH-GREEN
146 TACOMA
178 WHATCOM CO
189 OLYMPIA
220 NORTSHORE
379 KITTITAS VALLEY
380 FREE COLUMBIA
383 NORTH KITSAP SALMON
391 ICICLE VALLEY
484 KLUCKITAT
541 RAINSHADOW
542 BALLARD TROUT & SALMON
560 CLARK COUNTY
654 SKY VALLEY

It has been noted that some of these chapters are geographically unwieldy and impractical. It's true, but at the same time these areas have been getting no or little TU support. Now these areas will at least get nominal coverage by an active TU chapter, and if members want their own local chapter to be started anew it will be very easy to do. There are still troubled chapters on this list that may need dechartering later, but we know there is at least someone breathing TU breaths, which gives us something to work with. I would like a motion from the floor to accept these changes so I can send them to TU in time for the June BOT meeting. Once approved, TU will merge the appropriate data bases so you can access your new membership base.

I hope that by the time we reach new business today a willing Presidential candidate has appeared so we can start the transition tomorrow.

President, Washington Council of Trout Unlimited
emtckt@msn.com 206-200-2840

Officer's Report:

- **Paul Sparks, VP Conservation**
 - Paul gave a brief update on conservation activities
- **Shirley Vanderveen, VP Operations**
 - The Council is current on required Federal and State filings.
- **George Lang, VP Membership**
 - Spoke of the ongoing consolidation of state Chapters and status.
- **Bill Abrahamse, Treasurer**
 - Presented the financial reports

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Luncheon Guest Speaker:

- Luncheon was provided by the Icicle Valley Chapter. Thank you to the Icicle Valley Chapter for another outstanding luncheon.
- Luncheon Guest Speaker was Rollie Schmitt of the WDFW.

Afternoon Presentation:

Jerry White of Save Our Wild Salmon and TU member spoke on the “Working Snake River Project”. Object is to engage all stake holders in the dam removal project.

For more information, visit the website: <http://www.workingsnakeriver.org/>

Support the Working Snake River Project

The WSR Project reaches out to local communities and towns, recreation and fishing businesses, farmers, shippers, and people with a stake in the future of the lower Snake River and wild salmon.

Please join the WSR Project in calling on our elected leaders to forge a solution to the salmon crisis that works for fishermen, farmers, businesses and Northwest communities.

Sam Mace

Inland Northwest Project Director
509.747.2030
sam@wildsalmon.org

Jerry White

Snake River Landscape Coordinator
509.209.2601
jerry@wildsalmon.org

The Working Snake River (WSR) Project promotes a thoughtful, comprehensive solution to restore wild Snake River salmon that benefits farmers, fishermen, local communities and the Inland Northwest economy.

The project reaches out to businesses, sportsmen, farmers, conservationists and citizens committed to restoring eastern Washington's lower Snake River corridor and endangered wild salmon by replacing four aging and costly dams with modern transportation and clean energy alternatives.

Removing the four lower Snake River dams will restore more than 60 rapids and 30,000 acres of parklands, wildlife habitat and public access. Increased fishing, tourism and recreation along with transportation and energy investments will provide jobs, improve quality of life and expand local economic opportunities.

Join us in supporting a solution to salmon recovery that benefits farmers, fishermen, local communities and the regional economy.

The Working Snake River (WSR) Project brings together businesses, conservationists, sportsmen, farmers, shippers, community leaders and citizens committed to restoring the the lower Snake River corridor and wild salmon by replacing four outdated and costly dams with modern transportation and clean energy alternatives.

As endangered Snake River wild salmon and steelhead runs continue to decline, the Northwest finds itself at a crossroads: keep four expensive, aging dams and risk extinction of once-great salmon runs, or restore a free-flowing Snake River and healthy salmon populations.

The federal government has failed to implement an effective and legal salmon recovery plan to restore wild Snake River salmon to healthy numbers. Declining salmon runs have devastated fishing-dependent businesses and communities. Likewise, farmers and shippers reliant on the Snake River barge corridor face an uncertain future due to rising costs and expensive repairs associated with the four lower Snake River dams.

The WSR Project supports a thoughtful, comprehensive solution to salmon recovery that benefits farmers, fishermen, local communities and the regional economy. Everyone can win with a solution that includes:

A restored 140 miles of free-flowing river with 30,000 acres of restored habitat and public lands.

Thousands of acres of riverside land once supported diverse wildlife, farms, fruit orchards and small communities connected by a powerful river known for its rapids, islands, sandy beaches and plentiful salmon runs. The free-flowing river coursed through spectacular canyons and beautiful shrub stepped desert from Lewiston, ID to Pasco, WA. Local residents and tourists swam, picnicked, played and fished along the river corridor.

Removing the four lower Snake River dams will return rapids, wildlife habitat and abundant fall Chinook to the lower Snake River, and open thousands of miles of spawning grounds in Idaho, Oregon and Washington to wild salmon and steelhead. People will reconnect to the river with parklands, trails and boat ramps. Clarkston, Wash. and Lewiston, Idaho now walled off from the Snake and Clearwater rivers by levees, will be able to develop their city waterfronts and expand tourism and recreation, benefitting the local economy and quality of life.

A modernized transportation system including rail and highway improvements

The lower Snake River dams were built primarily to barge wheat, timber and other products from Lewiston downstream to Portland. Dam removal would relocate the barge terminus 140 miles downstream to Pasco, Wash.

Prior to the dams, goods were shipped by rail and highway. When the last of the four dams, Lower Granite, was completed in 1975, many railroads could not compete against the federally-subsidized river corridor, causing lines to fall into disrepair. The loss of rail crippled towns and cut shipping opportunities for farmers and manufacturers throughout the region.

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While the barge system works well for shipping bulk wheat downstream for export, it is less ideal for other goods including specialty crops and manufactured items. Unlike rail, it cannot be used to ship goods to the large ports in Puget Sound or other destinations.

As part of a comprehensive salmon recovery plan, the region has an opportunity to trade four outdated dams for a modernized transportation system that provides more economic opportunities, restores salmon and saves taxpayer dollars.

Enhanced recreation economy based on a free-flowing restored river.

A restored lower Snake River would provide year-round recreation including hiking, hunting, bird watching, fishing, rafting and canoeing through a beautiful river canyon with rapids, islands and tremendous habitat. A restored recreation economy would pump millions of dollars into towns, cities and rural communities.

Safety from flooding and other problems associated with an aging hydrosystem.

The four lower Snake River dams are facing expensive repairs and a mounting sediment problem. Sediment has filled more than half of the reservoir behind Lower Granite dam. The level of the Snake River is now higher than downtown Lewiston, with the river held back by an increasingly inadequate levee system. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is studying options for addressing the increased flood risk, including expensive dredging and raising levees. A growing number of local business owners and elected leaders are now looking at the benefits of dam removal: a restored waterfront, better transportation alternatives and reduced flood risk.

Further information, visit the website: <http://www.workingsnakeriver.org/>

Committee Reports:

- **Conservation:** Paul Sparks (Chair)
 - See VP Conservation Report
- **Project:** Bart Madison (Chair)
 - Brief status update on current projects
- **Communications:** Mark Taylor (Chair)
 - Brief Update on Website
- **Membership:** Mark Taylor (Chair)
 - Presented the annual report
- **Raffle:** Mark Taylor (Chair)
 - Presented the 2008 Annual Report

- **By Laws:** Terry Turner (Chair)
 - No Updates
- **Nominating:** Tammy Mackey (Chair)
 - No Updates
- **Ways and Means:** Mark Taylor (Chair)
 - No Updates
- **Awards:** Mark Taylor (Chair)
 - No Updates
- **Audit:** Dana Smith (Chair)
 - No Updates
- **Kokanee:** Mark Taylor (Chair)
 - June in Field and Stream Magazine
- **Legislature:** Ric Abbott
 - Funding of hatcheries
 - Need more scientific methods of determining hatchery stock effect on wild fish runs
 - Support for Cap and Trade programs
 - More TU involvement is needed in setting water policy, and storm water planning
- **Fly Fishing Academy:** Dick Nye and Jim Wilcox
 - Jim Wilcox reported on the plans for the Fly Fishing Academy.
 - There will be twenty students this year.
 - In 2010 the Academy will be held in a new location and will be held in July.

Quarterly/Monthly Chapter Reports:

- **076 SPOKANE FALLS**
 -
- **094 YAKIMA**
 -
- **101 EDMONDS LAEBUGTON SALMON**
 -
- **109 BELLEVUE ISSAQUAH**
 - The Bellevue/Issaquah chapter has many projects going right now. We have raised through grants and donations almost \$15000 for the kokanee. Our projects include kokanee fry trapping (150+volunteer hours and \$1300 spent so far), kokanee acoustic tagging project (over \$129 hours and \$9500 spent) this project is

being funded in part by our Adopt a Fish Program and will be in the June edition of Field and Stream as well as an upcoming Trout, invasive plant removal and replanting of natives with the Issaquah High Roots and Shoots Club (over 50 hours so far), educational signage at Lake Sammamish boat ramps to help anglers ID Lake Sammamish kokanee and release them (Eagle Scout project for Ian Kahng). We also are looking at a bridge replacement project 5 homeowners who are willing to let us fix their stretch of stream if we can help replace their old bridge. Cost estimates are \$130-150,000. TU National is looking to help on this one! If that isn't enough we also have an agreement with the Snoqualmie Tribe to sell Lake Sammamish Redd beer at their casino and Rogue has agreed to brew it. The marketing potential here is huge with TU National being very interested in marketing this tasty brew! We are still seeking parents for our kokanee and cutthroat. You can Adopt a Fish with these provided forms or go to our website www.tu-bi.org for more info. Thanks, Mark

- **115 DUWAMISH-GREEN**
 -
- **146 TACOMA**
 -
- **178 WHATCOM CO**
 -
- **189 OLYMPIA**
 - In 2009, the Olympia Chapter:
 - published and maintained our award-winning website
 - changed our meeting location
 - sponsored monthly membership programs
 - published a monthly newsletter
 - added the Lewis County lake property to TU insurance policy
 - attended fisheries conservation forums
 - renewed our Gambling Commission license
 - amended our bylaws
 - led the ongoing process to consolidate several neighboring TU Chapters: South Cascades (195); Grays Harbor (111); Mason County (520); Mount St. Helens (365), Pacific County (341) and Olympia (189).
 - A significant milestone achieved by the Olympia Chapter is the Five-Year Strategic Plan. This living document identifies several objectives and strategies involving the:
 - Quinault
 - Skokomish
 - Nisqually
 - Deschutes
 - Chehalis
 - Cowlitz
 - other local watersheds
 - This plan details Olympia Chapter efforts to reconnect, restore, protect and sustain the wild trout, steelhead and salmon in these vitally-important rivers and

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their tributaries.

- The Olympia Chapter's conservation activities included:
 - South Sound GREEN water quality monitoring
 - Murray Creek invasive plant removal (planning underway)
 - NW Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy (planning underway)
 - "Working Snake River presentation (June 16)
 - Wynoochee River debris removal
- The Olympia Chapter is implementing our community outreach and education strategies by participating in:
 - Washington Sportsmen's Show
 - Cabela's Captains' Days
 - South Sound GREEN Student Congress
 - Timberline High School Fishing Club fundraiser
 - Salmon Habitat Projects Conference
 - Lacey Klassic Family Fish-in
 - Vance Creek Park Family Fishing Derby
 - Great American Duck Dash and Fun and Food Fair (June 6)
 - Project Healing Waters (signed MOU)
 - VA Hospital Fishing Program
 - Washington Youth Outdoor Adventure Expo
 - Barrier-free Fishing Week
 - Olympia Wooden Boat Festival
 - Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy
 - Western Washington Fair.
- **220 NORTSHORE**
 -
- **379 KITTITAS VALLEY**
 -
- **380 FREE COLUMBIA**
 -
- **383 NORTH KITSAP SALMON**
 -
- **391 ICICLE VALLEY**
 - The Icicle Valley Chapter will be hosting a Family Fishing Derby at the Cove Resort, Fish Lake on May 30th. Prizes will be awarded for the biggest fish caught.
 - We will be participating in the CASTS Fishing Derby at the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery on June 6th. The chapter will be cleaning fish for the young anglers. They anticipate over 500 kids to catch fish.
 - On July 18th we will be putting on a youth fishing derby at the Blackbird Pond. We will have released the 50,000 steelhead that were in the pond for acclimation and WDFW will be providing cutthroat for the kids to catch.
 - We will be participating in the Wenatchee River Salmon Festival on September 19th and 20th at the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery. We will be selling barbequed and smoked salmon at the event.
 - The chapter's annual Conservation Banquet will be held on September 28th at the Leavenworth Fest hall. Tickets are \$45 and are available from any board member.

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You can get in touch with me for tickets at mcmahon@nwi.net We will be having a wide assortment of items for live and silent auctions. Prime rib will be served. Our banquet is one you won't forget, please come and join us for a great evening.

- Rollie Schmitt was the guest speaker during lunch. Rollie spoke on the merits of partner shipping with the different organizations that are available to us. He provided examples of what organizations can accomplish when working together.
- Dan Davies provided a presentation on the process the chapter went through in getting our pond designated as an acclimation pond for steelhead. He gave a detailed step by step of what we had to do and the different agencies we worked with.
- **484 KLICKITAT**
 -
- **541 RAINSHADOW**
 -
- **542 BALLARD TROUT & SALMON**
 - Carkeek Park Salmon Education Project
 - 2009 was the second year in which TU members from the Ballard chapter participated in a Chum salmon rearing and imprinting program sponsored by the Carkeek Watershed Community Action Project and the Seattle Parks and Recreation Department. TU members took primary responsibility for maintaining an educational fish tank in the Carkeek Park Environmental Learning Center. In this tank Chum salmon are reared from eggs to serve as an educational asset and as a backup stock of fish for the Salmon in Schools project. Our volunteers spent 15.5 hours setting up, maintaining, and dismantling the tank.
 - This was also the second year in which our members assisted with the feeding of Chum salmon held in an imprint pond at Carkeek Park. As a demonstration project approximately 80,000 fry are imprinted in a tributary of Piper's Creek in Seattle. Their annual release into the stream has been the key to having adult Chum salmon return to Piper's Creek each November. This return is a wonderful opportunity to educate Seattle residents about the salmon and associated conservation needs. Our volunteers spent 13.5 hours feeding fry while they were in the imprint pond.
- **560 CLARK COUNTY**
 -
- **654 SKY VALLEY**
 -

Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 4:30 pm. A motion was seconded and approved.

REMINDER: For meeting reports to be included in the minutes of Council and Executive Board Meetings, all reports must be e-mailed to Dennis_Thireault@hotmail.com or dthireault@gmail.com in WORD as an attachment within one week of the meeting. To ensure the accuracy of a meeting's minutes and reduce the time involved in preparing the minutes for distribution to the Council, the Secretary will no longer summarize "oral" reports that are presented at meetings.

REMEMBER:

The next two meetings and locations are:

Saturday July 18th

Executive Board Meeting

**Host: Edmonds Chapter-All Members Welcome
Deer Creek Hatchery**

Friday September 18th, 2009

7:00PM-9:30 Dinner and presidents meeting

State Council Meeting-All Members Welcome

Saturday September, 2009 9:00-4:30 Elections for 2010!

Host: Spokane Falls

Edmonds and Spokane Falls will be providing directions for the Edmonds and Spokane meetings respectively. Please RSVP as soon as you can.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Thireault
Secretary
Washington Council of Trout Unlimited