



FLY PAPER

September 2024

wenatcheevalleyflyfishers.com

Looking Upstream

- Sept. 5 WVFF Zoom Board Meeting
Sept. 19 WVFF General Meeting – Eagles Lodge Wenatchee
 6:00 pm Buffet Dinner if you wish
 Presenter - Mike Sherer of the Wenatchee Fly Co.
Sept. 19 – 21 Wenatchee River Salmon Festival at Rocky Reach Dam
Sept. 21 Washington Council of Fly Fishers International - Fly Fishing Fair
 Clark College, Vancouver WA (more info on Page 3)
- Oct. 3 WVFF Zoom Board Meeting
Oct. 17 WVFF General Meeting – Presenter David P. Williams
 Fly Fishing Washington from Desert to the Coast
- Nov. 7 WVFF Board Zoom Meeting
Nov. 21 WVFF General Meeting – Presenters – Conservation Grant Recipients
- Dec. 5 WVFF Board Zoom Meeting
Dec. 19 WVFF General Meeting – We are the Presenters
- January 18 WVFF Banquet** at Wenatchee Valley College Social Hour 5:00 / 6:00 Dinner

September Meeting Presentation



Mike Sherer, the Owner and Lead Guide at Wenatchee Fly Co. Guide Service, started fly fishing in the lakes and rivers of the Midwest at a very young age. He was determined to cultivate his passion for fly fishing into a life-long profession. For 4 years, Mike was a Guide and Manager for a premier fly fishing club in Colorado. He loves the sport of fly fishing because one can dedicate their entire lives to learning more about it, but can never truly "know it all"; and yet, Mike dedicates over 200 days each year on the water, determined to master the art. He moved to the Wenatchee Valley in 2019. He will be presenting how to fish the area lakes, fish for Tiger Muskie in Evergreen Lake and river fishing at our next general meeting.

September: Reconnecting

By Dan Hammond

September is the time that we club members gather again after a summer break. Many of our members have traveled to other parts of the country to fly fish. Some have traveled to other countries to do the same. A few have even traveled to exotic destinations for that 'dream of a lifetime' trip. When we meet again, we'll have the opportunity to share our adventures with each other and, most likely, stretch the truth a little. This gathering is also an opportunity for our newer members, in particular, to learn from our more experienced members.

The fact is we are lucky to have hundreds of years of accumulated experience to draw from in our club. There are more than several of our members who have been fly fishing for forty years, fifty years, sixty years and maybe even more. What a wonderful opportunity to tap into this knowledge base. I've found that our senior members are more than generous with their knowledge. They want to see our newer members hone their skills and succeed in the craft of fly fishing. They want to see the art of fly fishing continue to thrive.

The message to our newer members is to be assertive and ask questions about the craft. Our senior members may not give away the exact location of their favorite 'honey hole' but they are typically very generous with sharing strategies and pearls of wisdom to improve skills.

We look forward to seeing you all at our September meeting.

FFI ~ FLY FISHING FAIR

Saturday Sept. 21, 2024 9 am ~ 4 pm

Clark College 1933 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver WA

Tying Demos and Classes ~ Atlantic Salomon Fly Tying

Casting Demo by Tim Rajeff designer of Echo Rods

Casting Classes for beginners / Intermediates / and Advanced

Walk-In Casting Clinic ~ Casting Skills Development Course



Seek inspiration and understanding,
Embrace all on their individual spiritual journeys,
Serve our local and world communities.

Cascade Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

1550 Sunset Highway, East Wenatchee, WA 98802 | (509) 886-4023 | www.cascadeuu.org

May 3, 2024
Bruce Merighi, Conservation Chair
Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishers
PO Box 3687
Wenatchee, WA 09907-3687

Dear Bruce,

We have noted that you could not join us in accepting the Share the Plate donation to the Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishers due to your wife's birthday on April 21st. However, we are pleased to inform you that Mark Ingman from Cascadia Conservation District did a great job representing your organization and the work you do together during the service and the subsequent forum.

We sincerely appreciate your organization's work with Cascadia, Trout Unlimited, and Cascade Fisheries to restore beavers and wild fish to North Central Washington. This collaboration is a testament to the power of effective community collaboration in our region.

Cascade UU Fellowship (CUUF) promotes justice, equity, and compassion for all. We draw inspiration and guidance from various sources and work together and individually towards the greater good. The interconnected web of life makes this possible; beavers are experts in weaving this web. Therefore, we extend our gratitude for your contribution to helping them.

We hope our donation of \$759 will benefit your cooperative program. You will find it enclosed with this letter.

Best Regards,

Reverend Thomas Perchlik

The 2024 NW Fly Fishing Academy thanks the Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishers for their support.



2024 -2025 Winter Forecast for the Upper Columbia

by Ryan Niemeyer, Science Manager, Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board

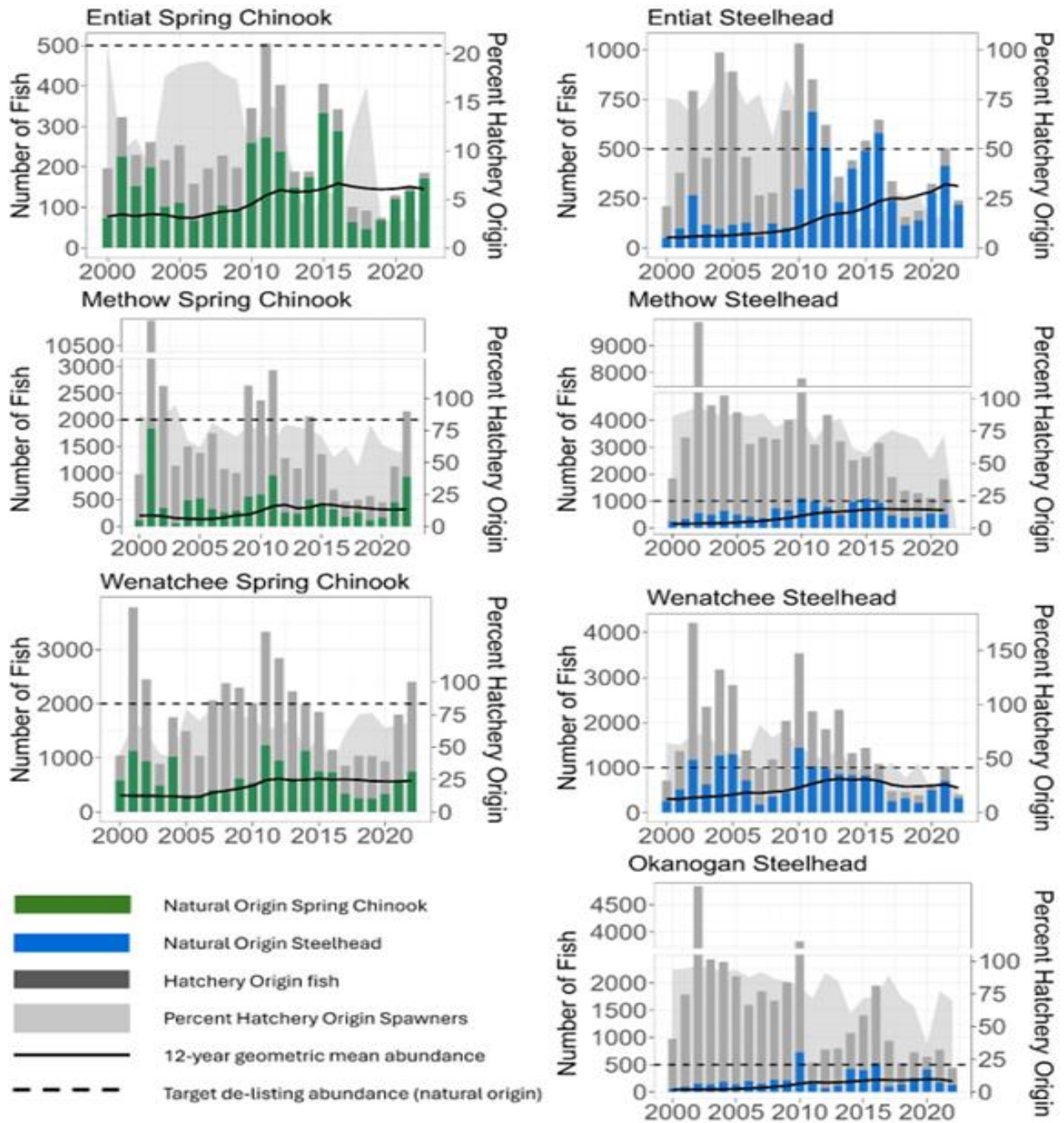


Last winter was an El Niño winter, where our region typically receives less snow and less overall precipitation. True to form, our snowpack last winter was 35% below normal due to receiving precipitation 10% below normal levels. Additionally, a warm winter where average temperatures were 1.9° F above normal meant that even when our region receives precipitation, that precipitation is more likely to fall as rain instead of snow. Last winter, this played out as near peak flow for the entire hydrologic year in early December due to a rain event. If the precipitation had fallen as snow instead of rain, it would have been stored as snow and released later in the hot summer when salmon need adequate flows.

Fortunately, ocean temperatures indicate a high likelihood of a La Niña winter. In general, a La Niña winter has the opposite consequences of an El Niño winter – cooler temperatures, more precipitation, and more snowpack. While this is not a guarantee and there is a chance of ocean conditions maintaining an El Niño phase or a dry La Niña winter, there is a 74% chance that winter months will experience La Niña conditions. Hopefully winter provides plenty of snow and snowmelt to fill our streams for summer salmon habitat.

2022 Annual Implementation Report

Environmental Conditions and Fish Metrics



Upper Columbia spring Chinook salmon and steelhead returns (left axis) between 2000-2022 for natural-origin (colored bars) and hatchery-origin (gray bars) fish and percent hatchery-origin spawners (right axis; light gray fill) by year. The black line indicates the 12-year geometric mean of natural-origin spawners, and the dashed line is the abundance delisting target for natural-origin fish. Note the difference in axes among plots and a break in the y-axis for Methow Chinook and steelhead and Okanogan steelhead. Source: WDFW 2022 SPI data

Minutes

Virtual Board Meeting

May 2, 2024

Attendance: Present: John Richmond, Dan Hammond, Tod Treat, Derek Corder, Bruce Merighi, Gary Anderson, Mike Wyant Absent: Fred Kunzman, Allan Warman

Call to order: 7:02 p.m.

Board Meeting Minutes from April 4, 2024 (recorded by Mike Wyant)

Motion to Approve: John Second: Bruce

Vote: Unanimous

President’s Report: No board meeting in June, July or August. Compliments to Gary for April’s excellent program at the membership meeting.

Education Report: Bruce reported that Lisa Foster from the Trout Unlimited office in Wenatchee will present to the membership in November. Other grant recipients may present that month as well but are not yet scheduled.

Conservation Report: Cascade Unitarian Universal Fellowship collected money at one of their church services to donate to the club to support the beaver analog projects. Grant money for salmon recovery projects will be available in the near future.

Treasurer’s Report: Reported by John Richmond: \$12,750 in the bank. \$8,300 in the community foundation account. No outstanding bill as of the date of the board meeting.

Outings Report: Reported by Derek Corder: The Lake Lenore outing was cold and windy. The Blue Lake outing was windy with some reported fishing success. The Big Twin outing is pending. There is an outing on the St. Joe River in July. There will be an outing at Beehive Reservoir on June 1 for the students from the fly-fishing class. There is an outing scheduled for Georgetown Lake in Montana but no details were available.

Membership Report: Allen is working on getting current members to pay their dues. Allen met with the Plain Adventure Women about providing an introduction to fly fishing at some point.

Program Chair Report: Mike Scherer from the Wenatchee Fly Company (guide service) is scheduled to present at the May membership meeting. Topics may include Methow River walk and wade fishing, carp fishing, and fishing at Evergreen Reservoir for bass and pike and possibly some information about local waters. Dan suggested that Mike Scherer be encouraged to invite his followers (the group of fly fishers who attend his tying sessions and other events) to his presentation to the club so that they can see what the club is all about. Other board members agreed.

Old business: None

New business: Discussion about lost electronic equipment, particularly cords. Tod will acquire replacements. A comment was that it is hard to understand how the equipment is being misplaced.

Dan reported on the situation with the portable toilet at Grimes Lake. The previous vendor will no longer supply a unit because the access to the site is so rough. Dan sought other vendors without success and will contact WDFW about their role in providing a unit. There is a question about whether access to the privately owned land on which Grimes Lake sits is dependent on the presence of a portable toilet.

Misc. Dan requested that invitations to Zoom board meetings be sent a few days in advance of the meetings.

Gary commented on the value of the fly-fishing course that is taught each spring at Wenatchee Valley College. He noted that he and Tom will not be able to continue to teach the class indefinitely and the club will need to look at who will step up to teach the class in the future.

Adjournment Time: 8:03 p.m.

Motion to Approve: Dan Second: John Vote: Unanimous

