

January 2022

*The Association of NW Steelheaders Anglers is dedicated to enhancing and protecting fisheries and their habitats for today and the future.*



**Wednesday January 12, 2022 - 7pm** - Sam Cox building, Glenn Otto Community Park in Troutdale, Oregon. The chapter has scheduled an in person meeting. Our guest speaker is Dave Schamp of **Hatchery & Wild Coexist**. We had 18 attendees last month, hope to see you January 12<sup>th</sup>.




***The city of Troutdale and the State require mask to be worn in public buildings. We require that face mask be worn indoors at all meetings until further notice . Hope to see you all at the next meeting.***

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## **New Sandy River Chapter Facebook Group**

We invite you to visit the new Sandy River Chapter Facebook Group at "**Sandy River Chapter NW Steelheaders**" - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/451895135882897> . Our previous Facebook page did not permit posting by anyone but the Administrator. The move to a "Group" is for public viewing, meaning anyone can visit, like, and follow. As set up, being a "joined" member only adds the ability to post to the site.

Even as a non-joined visitor you can suggest postings through "Messenger" (  Logo in upper right section of home page) at any time and we will review your input for publishing.

We are trying to initially keep those with "joined" membership to this Facebook group to current ANWS members. This is due to the difficulty in managing large numbers of participants, and our need to ensure joiners follow the rules and regulations of the Sandy River Chapter and the ANWS related to fishing conservation.

If you are not already a member of the ANWS consider joining for as little as \$30.00 per year. We would be happy to have you as a member and you can join the Association of NW Steelheaders at : <https://nwsteelheaders.org/get-involved/membership/> . Any further questions, please ask.

Note: There will be redundancies between the Chapter Newsletter and our Facebook Group page in our attempt to share items to followers of both. Due to limited space in our Newsletter there may also be more posts on the Facebook group page than in the Newsletter.

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## One Last Cast

Jim Cathcart (aka Navigator)

The New Year always brings a time of self-assessment and commitment to getting back to or maintaining what is important to you in life. For me, it is a time to recommit to fishing and at this time of year, that means winter steelheading! So, my New Year's resolution is to get back to fishing as I am able and share my experiences through writing. I have been away too long.



"You Know the Spot"

Obviously, the last couple of years have been rough. Fishing has been a much needed escape. But wait, even fishing can take a hit. I mean, my goodness, what happened to NBC Sports Northwest television and my "me time" with Outdoor GPS and Angler West TV? Dang those Portland Trailblazers! While Angler West TV has found a new home on the The CW in Portland – finding the show's listing is harder than hooking a steelhead. Fortunately, Angler West TV's YouTube channel provides access – but YouTube on the phone or computer is just not the same as waking up, grabbing your coffee and turning on the television. My point is – whether it is a global pandemic, climate change or something really serious like the loss of your favorite fishing shows – life is about making adjustments and moving on as best we can. And

New Year's Day is the day to reset and re-emerge.

Of course, the winter steelhead fishing season starts before New Year's Day and I like to think of the Thanksgiving Day to New Year's Day period as the "pre-season". The time for preparation and practice – with no worries if you get skunked because the best fishing is still to come during the regular season - January and February (and March and April .....). My first pre-season outing had to wait until mid-December. I was sitting at home and glanced at the river level forecast for our beloved Sandy River on my not so smart phone; thinking I needed to get out. And then the fish gods called to me. There was a window. With the recent rains having abated for a few days and the Mt. Hood freezing levels dropping, the river had dropped to a prime level for bank fishing (9.8 feet at Bull Run) and the forecast for Troutdale was mild winds from the south! Outside temperatures in the 40's with above freezing early morning temperatures. Conditions. It was a morning window – for that afternoon another atmospheric river and rising freezing levels would certainly blow out the river by the next day.



"Bank Fishing Basecamp".

So I went. Swung a spoon, drift fished a corky. Not at the same time mind you. I made my casts, I enjoyed the comfort of my warm layers, waders that did not leak and the company of a bald eagle. The wind stayed home – the calmness therapeutic. Grey skies, the glow of the winter sun painting a serene backlit overcast sky. Getting ready for the regular season.



# Congressman Simpson's Columbia Basin Fund Modernizes Infrastructure and Communities, Delivers Relief for Fish and Fishermen

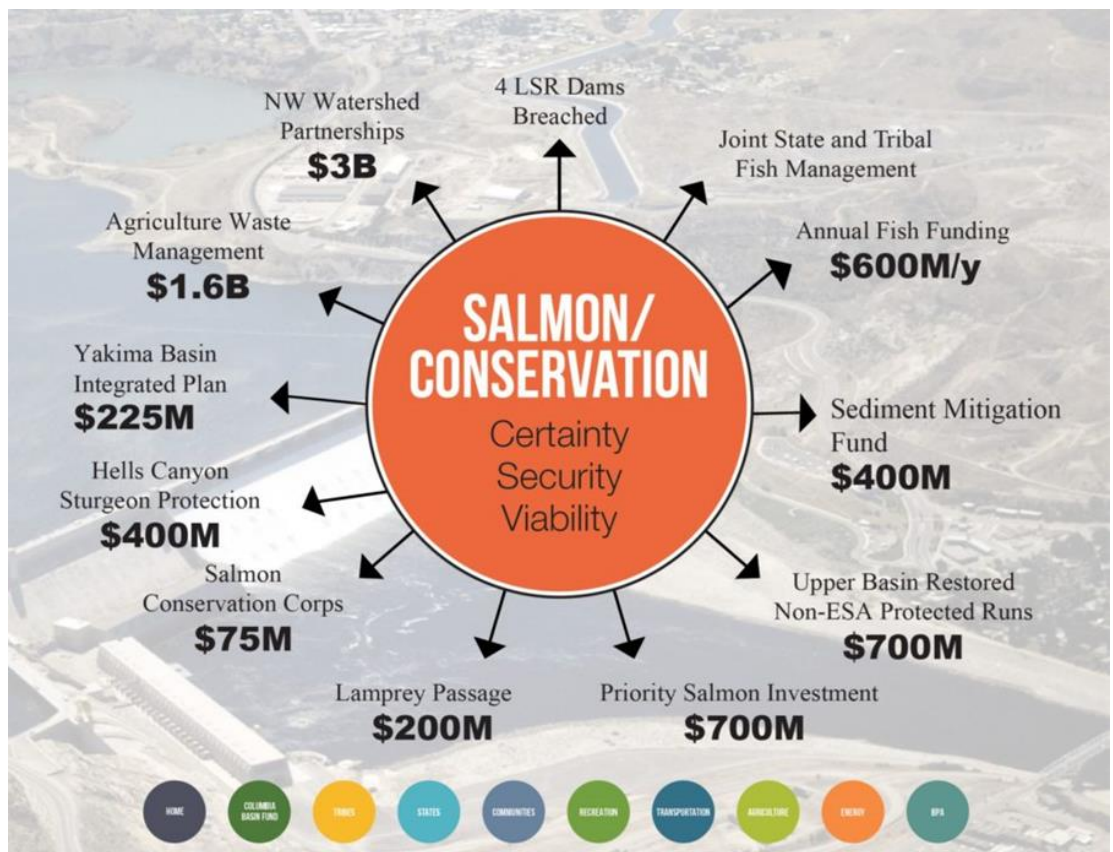
Feb 7, 2021 | 2021, General <https://nsiafishing.org/general/congressman-simpsons-columbia-basin-fund-modernizes-infrastructure-and-communities-delivers-relief-for-fish-and-fishermen/>

Portland, OR — After extensive consultations with Sovereigns, elected officials and stakeholders, on the fishery, biological and economic aspects of the removal of the lower Snake River dams, **Congressman Mike Simpson (R-ID)** has introduced the **Columbia Basin Fund**, a conceptual framework for a bold infrastructure package designed to modernize energy, transportation and agriculture systems, and recover salmon. (Watch Rep. Simpson's **video** discussing his plan.)

**The package includes \$700 million in funding for hatchery infrastructure**, which is critically needed to support fisheries from the Columbia River to Alaska. Guided by discussions with regional tribal leaders and NSIA leadership, which highlighted the vital role that basin hatcheries play for fisheries and recovery, the funding is expected to provide an exceptional and much-needed boost to fishing-related businesses, which have been struggling over lost salmon runs.

"We've spent decades making minor improvements and adjustments that simply haven't worked, and what we really need is serious funding and a major overhaul," said Liz Hamilton, Executive Director of NSIA. "Judge Malcolm Marsh said this about salmon and the Columbia hydroelectric system in 1993 and it's just as true today."

**Removal of the four lower Snake River dams has been long acknowledged as the most cost-effective, biologically sound path to recovery for spring and summer Chinook and steelhead.** The NSIA Board endorsed this approach in the early 2000s, when the first federal study provided the science that clearly demonstrated that salmon recovery was only possible with the removal of the four lower Snake River dams.



NSIA has long advocated for this issue from a business perspective and called for a solution that invests in the other industries that rely on the benefits these rivers provide.

“Rep. Simpson has put forward an approach that supports everyone who depends on the use of the Snake River as it is managed today and makes us all stronger. While there are elements of the proposal we expect will evolve, we are committed to the conversations and work to make this plan to recover salmon and river-based economies a reality.” Added NSIA Board Member Buzz Ramsey, recently retired from Yakima Bait.

Rep. Simpson and his staff conducted well over 300 conversations with Sovereigns and stakeholders from around the region to discern what the critical needs are for infrastructure modernization in a future without the Snake River Dams. His proposal includes guarantees for agriculture transportation and waste management, funding designed to ensure Bonneville Power Administration a secure financial future, funding to replace the firm power needs from the dams with renewable and clean energy, sediment management, and more, including economic development for tourism and riverfront revitalization.

Liz continued, “This has tremendous implications for real salmon recovery. **The modeled results of dam breaching for spring Chinook returns projects one million adults returning in years of good ocean conditions, and 250,000 during low abundance.** It turns Snake River populations around, instead of circling the drain, they can begin to replace themselves and start that important climb to recovery. Most important, more fish means better fishing which will supercharge fishing-related economic activity throughout the region.”

In Rep. Simpson’s Columbia Basin Fund, there are also monies for habitat restoration in Puget Sound and Olympic Peninsula rivers.

NSIA supports Rep. Simpson’s approach, which is an important start to a crucial –and inclusive—discussion and is committed to continue to work for salmon and communities dependent on the river.

Buzz further noted; “We are fortunate to have Pacific Northwest Congressional Delegation members with experience, ability to work with the affected communities, and the courage to take on this challenge. It has been their leadership in salmon recovery that has kept salmon as a national priority when administration-after-administration was ready to walk away. Our regional senators and representatives chair committees that are key to crafting a path to get this economic development plan over the finish line. But it will not happen until and unless they hear from the businesses and nearly 2 million customers who purchase licenses to fish in Idaho, Washington, and Oregon.”



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## ***Election of new Chapter board members will be at the April 2022 Monthly Chapter meeting.***

Please let us know if you are interested in running for any position.

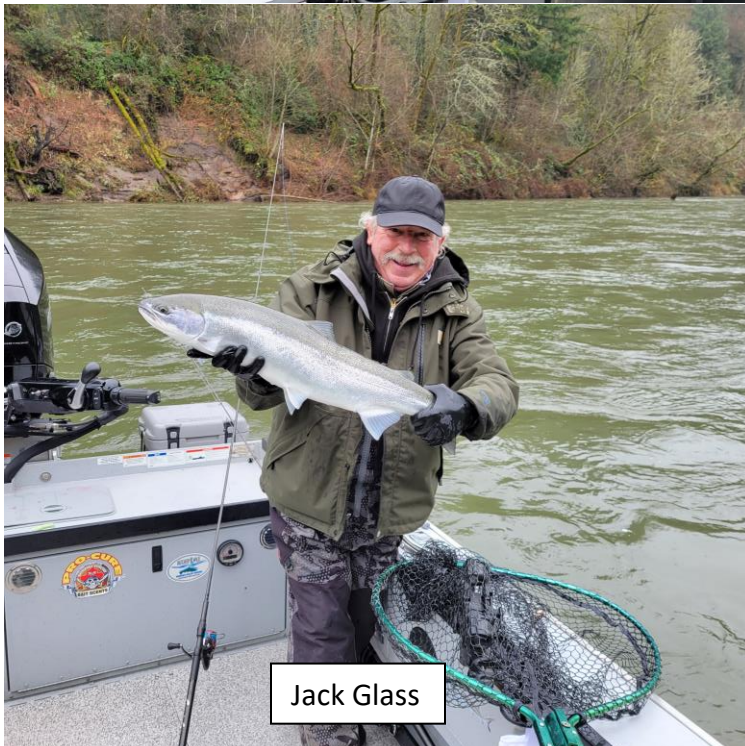
Many of the current board, including President have served for 4 years and while not leaving the Chapter, do not intend on running for office in 2022. Past Officers will help the new Board in the transition.



## **This Sandy River report courtesy Colonel Thomas**

12/22/21 - Boat went 4/4, and we saw one other boat with same number and heard of two others. Good catching day with Jack Glass, but when the rains hit, it got miserable.

Two fish went into the broodstock tank.



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# “Bill” William Ritchie,

Sandy River Chapter, ANWS member passed on November 22, 2021.



Bill is survived by his wife of 55 years Roberta, their son, daughter, 4 grandsons, and 2 great granddaughters.

Bill was born in Portland and grew up in the Woodstock neighborhood. He served 5 years in the Oregon National Guard and had retired after 45 plus years working for Waste Management. He loved fishing. And hunted deer and elk out of the Starkey unit. He could often be seen on the River with Perry Walsh or others of our group.

Bill be missed,  
by all he encountered.



## Sandy Chapter Board Members

### OFFICERS

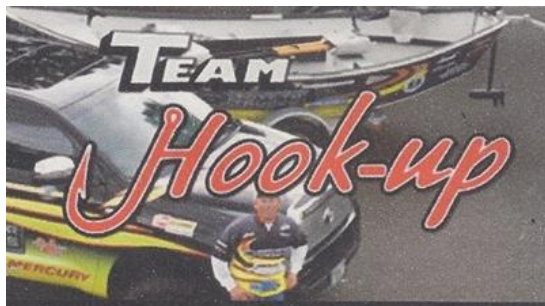
Position	Name	Phone
Co-President	Jeff Stoeger	503-704-7920
Co-President	Greg Reed	503-869-1795
Vice President	Jeff Boughton	
Secretary	Terri Boughton	503-307-2546
Treasurer	<b>Vacant</b>	503-869-1795

### DIRECTORS

Position	Name	Phone
Eggs to Frye	Mike Myrick	503-281-6438
<b>Newsletter</b>	<b>Vacant</b>	503-869-1795
<b>River Cleanups</b>	<b>Vacant</b>	-
Sales	Rob Bitney	503-320-9821
Angler Education	Jim Cathcart	503-287-9616

### COMMITTEE HEADS

Position	Name	Phone
Special Events	Steven Rothenbucher	503-257-0039
Website, Content	<b>Vacant</b>	-



Jack Glass 503.260.2315  
 Brandon Glass 503.260.8585  
[www.hookupguideservice.com](http://www.hookupguideservice.com)



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#### TERRI BOUGHTON

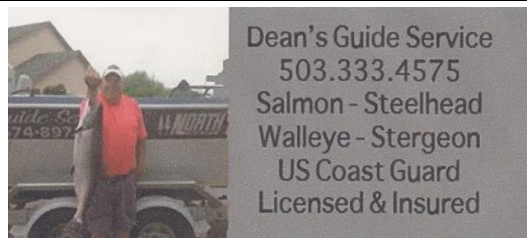
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**Check out the Sandy River NW  
 Steelheaders  
 Apparel!!!**  
**Contact: Rob Bitney**  
**503-692-0180**  
<http://stancelgraphics.com/sandyriverchapter>