



March 2020

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

2020 Events

Chapter Meetings held at the **Glenn Otto Park**, 1208 Historic Columbia River Hwy., Troutdale, OR 97060 in the Sam Cox Building



March 4, 2020 - Chapter Meeting – Spinner class. At the **Glenn Otto Park**, 1208 Historic Columbia River Hwy., Troutdale, OR 97060 in the Sam Cox Building We will have spinner stations et up with volunteer members helping others learn. Doors open at 6:00pm, from 6:00pm to 7:00pm members may meet, greet, share stories and techniques. At 7:00pm the business meeting and program begin.



March 28, 2020 – 9:00 am - Sandy River Bank Fish along – More information will be pposted on our Chapter Website - <http://www.sandysteelheaders.org/>



April 1, 2020 - Chapter Meeting – Speaker to be announced – we are trying to get a representative from the Oregon State Police to speak . **Election of Chapter Officers** - Doors open at 6:00pm, from 6:00pm to 7:00pm members may meet, greet, share stories and techniques. At 7:00pm the business meeting and program begin.



May 6, 2020 - Chapter Meeting – Our speaker is **Dave Schamp** representing **Hatchery & Wild Co-exist** <https://hatchery-wild-coexist.com/>. “There are numerous studies that show hatchery supplementation has had a positive effect on wild fish recovery. In fact, not only is there peer-reviewed science confirming hatcheries can be operated without significant negative effect wild stocks, some studies also show that wild fish abundance can benefit from hatchery supplementation.

Doors open at 6:00pm, from 6:00pm to 7:00pm members may meet, greet, share stories and techniques. At 7:00pm the business meeting and program begin.



May 16, 2020, Saturday - Annual Chapter Banquet and Auction – 4:30pm to 8:30pm -
This is our annual fundraising event. Location: Sam Cox Building & Glenn Otto Community Park, Troutdale, OR



June 3, 2020 - Chapter Meeting – Speaker to be announced. Doors open at 6:00pm, from 6:00pm to 7:00pm members may meet, greet, share stories and techniques. At 7:00pm the business meeting and program begin.

One Last Cast

Jim Cathcart (aka Navigator)

There is the act of fishing. Time actually spent wading the river, plying the oars, casting to the spot, reeling in, casting again, baiting, rebaiting, rigging, re-rigging and so on. You are on the river with rod and reel in hand, fishing. But, is this all there is to fishing? No. Any fisher person knows that. For every hour on the river one could spend an equal amount of time – perhaps 2 to 3 times the amount of time – fishing away from the river. This is prep time, time spent in the sporting goods store, time spent reading about fishing, time spent talking to others about fishing, time spent watching *Outdoor GPS* and *Angler's West TV*. Yes, fishing is a passion.



This winter steelhead season I have to adjust to the fact that I just do not have the strength to spend time on the water fishing. But, my experience is that I have not spent any less time fishing. All in all, I may be spending more time fishing this winter steelhead season despite the reduced amount of hours on the water. I am still staying abreast of weather conditions, river conditions, and river forecasts. While actually not possible, I feel like I might be spending too much time watching *Outdoor GPS* and *Angler West TV*. I am getting caught up on my fishing periodicals. Rods are rigged, leaders tied, hooks sharpened and tackle organized. I have many of a trip planned for when I am in better condition to fish.

I have also learned a new dimension to fishing away from the river – fishing vicariously! It started innocently enough with a few text message exchanges with fellow Steelheader Ray. Ray had been reaching out to me for some fishing advice under the mistaken belief that I might actually know something of value. Fortunately for Ray, all my pent up fishing away from the river came streaming out is a litany of advice of where to go, where to stand, what technique to use, where to cast – coming up just short of implying I knew where and when the fish would take Ray's offering. As I texted these messages I could imagine that it was me on the water, making the casts, enjoying the scenery – fishing vicariously!

Ray was an eager participant and I waited anxiously for Ray's reports on how things went. And to prove my point, it was indeed actually me, not Ray that was on the water fishing because each report entailed that all too familiar skunk that I am so capable of executing. But my jinxing of Ray's chance of success with my own advice did not stop these sorties from continuing because as we all know that each trip to the river that ends in a skunk breeds that renewed sense of optimism for success that will precede the next trip on the water. Fishing vicariously!

Annual Chapter Board Election:

Election of Chapter Board Officers will take place at the April 1st, 2020 Chapter Meeting. As required by the by-laws, the Sandy River Chapter needs to notify its membership of the upcoming election of officers. The Chapter Board positions we need to vote on are President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Note the last few years we have run short of nominees for positions. We all want a successful chapter, so please step up and help us in areas you have qualifications to fulfill.

Currently, the following are running for offices.

Position	Name
Co-President	Jeff Stoeger
Co-President	Greg Reed
Vice President	Jeff Boughton
Secretary	Terri Boughton
Treasurer	Vacant

If you would like to run for any of these position all you need to do is contact any current officer or member of the Election Committee. To run for an office you must be a current member in good standing.

So if you have some great ideas we are looking for you to fill one of these positions. You can run for president or vice president with a co-partner. If you have any suggestion of someone who would make a great President, Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer ask them if you can nominate them for the positions. You cannot nominate someone without their permission.

Contact Steve Rothenbucher, Chairperson of our Chapter nominating committee, at 503-257-0039.

2nd Annual John Aho Memorial Steelhead Derby



\$300 First Prize!! Raffle!!

Mar 07, 3:30 PM

Skyland Pub,

3175 S Troutdale Rd, Troutdale, OR 97060, USA

All Fishermen are invited to compete in the John Aho Memorial Steelhead Derby on March 7 in Troutdale. The tournament to raise funds for a scholarship named in John's honor. **John Aho Memorial Steelhead Derby Returns March 7, 2020.**

This annual charity tournament offers a top prize of \$300, plus other awards, food and music. The entry fee of \$75 is due by 8 p.m. March 1. Registration, Rules, sponsorship opportunities, and more information about the event are available at: <https://www.johnaho.fun/event>. The awards celebration, raffle and silent auction beginning at 3:30 p.m. at Skyland Pub, 3175 S Troutdale Road in Troutdale.

Launched last year, the event drew 72 fishermen and raised \$4,000 for scholarships for the Pacific Northwest Section of the American Water Works Association (<https://www.awwa.org>).

Bill Chisholm, bchisholm7212@gmail.com, Cell: 503-789-9311



**22nd Annual
Sandy River Chapter
Potluck Social and Auction
Saturday, May 16th, 2020
4:30pm - 8:30pm**

Regular Meeting Place: Sam Cox Building Glenn Otto Park, Troutdale, Or

This is our primary fundraising event! Bring your family!

Doors open at 4:30pm

Potluck Dinner begins at 5:00pm

Silent auction - 4:30 to 7:30pm

Bucket auction - Tickets are \$1 each!

Dutch Auction - Save a \$20! We only have 20 bags!

Heads or Tails Game - Buy beads for chances to win a great prize

Live auction begins at 7:00pm.

The evening usually wraps up by 8:30pm.

We will be accepting credit cards - with a small 3% surcharge added -NO cash machine on site!

Please join us and be sure to stay until the end to see if you won any silent bid!

Have a donation? The chapter is part of a 501(C)3 tax exempt organization, items you donate to the auction are tax deductible; we will provide a receipt immediately and tax donation letter at the end of the year! There will be no charge for the Potluck Dinner.

There will be a bucket to encourage donations as this is a fundraiser as well!

Want to participate but don't feel like bringing food? Didn't get a chance to sign up at one of our meetings? Please provide the form below or contact Terri no later than April 30, 2020

Come dressed the way you normally come to our chapter meetings and bring your \$\$\$!

**Sandy River Chapter, Association of Northwest Steelheaders
5/16/2020 Auction & Potluck Social**

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Number of Members & Guests: _____

Donations will gladly be accepted! Make checks payable to the Sandy Chapter, ANWS
Indicate in the comments this is for the 2020 Chapter Potluck Social.

Send to: ANWS-Sandy River Chapter
PO Box 301114
Portland, Or 97294-9114

Call or Email: 503-307-2546
Terriboughton@comcast.net

If you include a donation check, we will provide a receipt for your donation.

Help us raise funds for the Sandy River Chapter's operating expenses.

Steelhead 101 workshops, Family Fish Camp tuitions, steelhead and salmon recovery projects, office supplies, newsletter expenses, storage rental fees and Sandy river cleanup projects planned throughout the year are only a fraction of what this auction provides funds for.

2020 Columbia River Salmon Agreement Abandons Protection Principles

<https://nwsteelheaders.org/2020-columbia-river-salmon-agreement-abandons-protection-principles/>

The Oregon and Washington departments of Fish and Wildlife announced an agreement on allocation and gear types for Columbia River salmon fisheries in 2020. Notwithstanding poor run-size forecasts for ESA-listed salmon and steelhead populations, which will severely restrict seasons, the agreement calls for increasing commercial gill net harvests at the expense of public recreational fishing opportunity, and will potentially allow commercial netting on the mainstem during the spring season for the first time since 2016.

Northwest Steelheaders is extremely disappointed in this agreement, which continues a disturbing trend to undermine the fundamental principles and commitments embodied in the 2012 Columbia River Reform package. In past years, we've seen the implementation of the reforms delayed, the recreational priority reduced, and, contrary to the intent of the original package, non-selective gill nets persisting on the mainstem during the fall season. The 2020 agreement will now reduce the recreational share of the spring Chinook catch and allow small-mesh gill nets (aka "tangle nets") to be deployed on the mainstem.

Northwest Steelheaders has consistently supported the full implementation of the original reform package and have repeatedly urged the agencies and commissions to cease the backpedaling and honor the commitments made to sport anglers in exchange for agreeing to pay the Columbia River Endorsement fee. You can read our most recent testimony below.

How can recreational anglers be expected to support the agencies when public fisheries are being cut in favor of private commercial harvests? Why should anglers support reauthorization of the Columbia River Endorsement Fee (which in part funds enhancement of off-channel commercial fisheries), when the reform package is being systematically dismantled? And why do we continue to publicly subsidize inefficient, dysfunctional, and obsolete commercial exploitation of threatened public resources with tax-payer, rate-payer and sport angler dollars?

Reach out to your elected officials and the Washington and Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commissions to express what you think about the 2020 Columbia River salmon fisheries agreement.

The Association of Northwest Steelheaders' last Testimony:



Association of Northwest Steelheaders
6641 SE Lake Rd. • Milwaukie, OR 97222-2161
503-653-4176
www.nwsteelheaders.org • office@anws.org

February 1, 2020

Testimony to the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission concerning Lower Mainstem Columbia River Fisheries Management Reform.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of the Association of Northwest Steelheaders regarding "next steps" in Columbia River fisheries management policy reform.

The Northwest Steelheaders was founded in 1960 and is one of the oldest recreational fishing and conservation non-profit organizations in the Pacific Northwest. We have nine chapters in Oregon and one in Southwest Washington. The mission of the Northwest Steelheaders is to enhance and protect recreational fisheries and fish habitats for today and tomorrow, with our vision being abundant and sustainable fisheries in healthy watersheds.

A great many of our members, including those of the Columbia River Chapter located in Vancouver, Washington, fish for salmon and steelhead on the Columbia River and are deeply concerned about the Commission's policy direction concerning Columbia River fisheries management reform.

The original reform policies were developed and approved by the states of Washington and Oregon in order to resolve persistent conflicts and provide certainty for fisheries in the lower mainstem Columbia. Northwest Steelheaders supported adoption of these policy reforms, and we continue to support their full implementation.

We were thus extremely disappointed with the Commission's decision on March 2, 2019 to abandon fundamental principles embodied in the reform policies, namely (a) to improve the selectivity and conservation value of lower mainstem non-treaty commercial salmon fisheries through the replacement of gillnet fisheries with alternative mark-selective, live-release fisheries, and (b) to optimize the economic and social benefits to our region through the prioritization of recreational fisheries on the mainstem.

The Northwest Steelheaders, including as part of a coalition of recreational fishing, conservation, marine trade, and sport fishing industry organizations, has previously provided you with letters and testimony outlining our numerous concerns with your controversial March 2019 decision. We incorporate those letters and testimony herein by reference¹. We also direct your attention to letters dated October 16, 2019, and October 25, 2019, from the Coastal Conservation Association to the Commission, which make a number of pertinent and persuasive points².

In light of the concerns expressed in the above-referenced letters, we urge you to take advantage of the opportunity provided by the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission's recent decision to suspend the joint Policy Review Committee (PRC) process. Oregon's astute decision to take this "time out" is indeed a blessing in disguise for the Washington Commission, as it provides an off-ramp to the perilous direction the PRC was heading in terms of public support for the agency and its budget.

As you are well-aware, the Commission is facing a host of challenging fisheries issues including Willapa Bay and Grays Harbor fishery management reviews, hatchery management policy review, and the looming Puget Sound Chinook harvest management agreement. With respect to the latter, the agency finds itself between a proverbial rock (the co-managers' tribal treaty reserved fishing rights), a hard place (ESA conservation and recovery mandates for salmon and orca handed down by NOAA), and a sharp object (potential litigation concerning all of the above). All of this while the agency is requesting critical budget support from the state legislature.

¹ March 27, 2019 letter from recreational coalition to Washington State legislators (with cc: to Washington Fish & Wildlife Commission) regarding WDFW policy decisions;

June 18, 2019 letter from recreational coalition to Washington Fish and Wildlife Chair Carpenter and WDFW Director Susewind;

September 30, 2019 letter from Association of NW Steelheaders to Policy Review Committee

² October 16, 2019 letter from Coastal Conservation Association to Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission Chair Carpenter and Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission Chair Finley;

October 25, 2019 letter from Coastal Conservation Association – Washington to Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission

Recreational anglers and sportfishing industry organizations have traditionally been some of the most vocal supporters of the agency and Commission before the legislature. That support is being undermined, however, not only by declining fishing opportunity, but as a result of agency and Commission missteps, such as the Commission's ill-advised March 2019 decision to revive and extend non-selective gill netting on the lower Columbia, and to reduce the public recreational fishery's share of the catch in favor of commercial exploitation by private interests.

Simply put, the March 2019 decision was an ill-timed and unsound policy choice through which the Commission needlessly kicked a hornet's nest. We urge the Commission to avoid repeating this misstep.

Unlike the challenges posed by Puget Sound Chinook harvest management, where outside factors significantly limit viable options, the Commission has significant discretion in deciding how to proceed with the Columbia River reforms. Recognizing that discretion is the better part of valor, we ask the Commission to:

- Rescind your March 2019 decision, which was not expected to be permanent anyway. In the alternative, while we support full implementation of the original reform policy, at minimum, amend your policy so that it is concurrent with Oregon's current policy and administrative rules, while maintaining a commitment to make progress in the future towards full implementation. As Director Susewind has succinctly stated, "gillnets are not the final answer to this problem."
- Then, join Oregon in taking a "time out" on Columbia River Reform policy issues to re-set and re-group; focus instead on other impending challenges before revisiting the Columbia River Reforms; and direct staff to continue advancing the policy objectives of developing alternative mark selective, live-release commercial gear and a commercial license buy-back program.

Thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,

Tom VanderPlaat,

Board President, Association of Northwest Steelheaders

Chris Hager,

Executive Director, Association of Northwest Steelheaders

Donald Hyde,

President, Columbia River Chapter, Vancouver, Washington

"A Place to Fish and Fish to Catch"

CC: Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission

Family Fish Camp!

Friday March 13 @ 5:00 p.m. — Sunday March 15 @ 12:00 p.m.

Join us for a family weekend of fishing and lodging at Camp Angelos on the Sandy River!

Each year, we host Family Fish Camp for folks who are eager to learn how to fish and seek to continue a legacy of salmon stewardship in the Pacific Northwest. Our passionate, experienced anglers teach essential skills for all ages! In addition to fishing in the pond, there will be classes and activities such as casting and reeling, angler ethics and regulations, gear and equipment, water quality testing, fish art projects, and much more!

Learn more at: <https://nwsteelheaders.org/programs/education-2/education/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=807b3846-8e75-4bb6-b660-365647047440>

Are you interested in volunteering? Please contact our Education and Outreach Coordinator Allena Vestal at orhabitat@nwf.org to learn more about becoming a volunteer at camp!

Sandy Chapter Board Members

OFFICERS

Position	Name	Phone
Co-President	Jeff Stoeger	503-704-7920
Co-President	Greg Reed	503-869-1795
Vice President	Tim Maples	503-740-4895
Secretary	Terri Boughton	503-307-2546
Treasurer	Vacant	503-869-1795

DIRECTORS

Position	Name	Phone
Eggs to Frye	Mike Myrick	503-281-6438
Newsletter	Vacant	503-869-1795
River Cleanups	Vacant	
Sales	Rob Bitney	503-320-9821
Angler Education	Vacant	

COMMITTEE HEADS

Position	Name	Phone
Special Events	Steven Rothenbucher	503-257-0039
Website, Content	John Hydorn	503-255-0600



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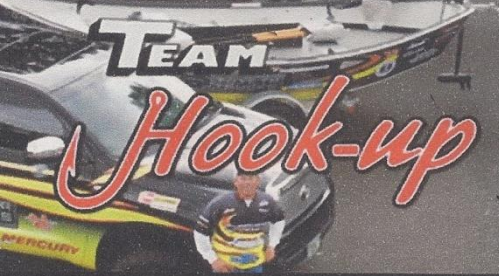
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email: oregontackle@comcast.net



TEAM Hook-up

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Check out the Sandy River NW Steelheaders Apparel!!!

Contact: Rob Bitney
503-692-0180
<http://stancellgraphics.com/sandyriverchapter>




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